M&E CHALLENGES AND THE WAY FORWARD FOR YOUNG AND EMERGING EVALUATORS

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Talking Points

- Youth as SDGs Partners
- What employers are looking for
- Challenges of the emerging evaluator
- Way forward for emerging evaluator
- M&E capacity building opportunities, resources
- Why choose a career in M&E
- Questions and Discussion
Youth as SDGs Partners

• About 1.8 billion young people (10-24 years) globally, 90% reside in LDCs

• 17 SDGs, 169 targets adopted in 2015

• More than 1/3 concerns empowerment, participation or well-being of young people

• There are 20 youth-specific targets spread over six key SDGs: **Goal 2 (hunger)**, **Goal 4 (education)**, **Goal 5 (gender equality)**, **Goal 8 (decent work)**, **Goal 10 (inequality)** and **Goal 13 (climate change)**.
Youth as SDGs Partners cont.

• Youth holds the key for the future- potential social and economic development
• By 2030, current leaders in evaluation will be gone. YEEs will be the SDGs evaluation leaders
• By 2030, if YEEs do not contribute to SDGs evaluation and better outcomes, the SDGs targets and global goals will not be achieved
• Need for YEEs to be aware about the SDGs
• Increasing demand for evaluators for the SDGs
• If YEEs don’t get on board, SDGs will end in the ditch
EvalYouth International Mentoring Program

We received

852 Applications from 114 Countries

Over 25,000 likes

with high engagement on

Mentees:
702 applications
31 years - average age
34% members of VOPEs
55% males 44% females

Mentors:
150 applications
10 years- average experience in evaluation
69% males
31% females

2% Canada
2% USA
8% Europe & EuroAsia
9% MENA
56% Africa
9% Latin America & Caribbean
12% Asia
Australia & Pacific
1%
Young People vs YEEs

Credit: https://evalpartners.org/evalyouth
What Employers are Looking For

Evaluative mindset:
- Inquisitive, analytical, objective, independent

Evaluation methods/theory:
- Qualitative, Quantitative, TOC, Logic models

Social Research skills:
- Data collection
- Quantitative, Qualitative
- Statistical analysis
- Proposal writing

Soft skill:
- Communication
- Contextual knowledge
- Interpersonal skills
- Negotiation

Experience and ability to deliver and connect with stakeholders using evidence

Experience and ability to deliver and connect with stakeholders using evidence
Challenges

- Work and internship opportunities
- Mentoring opportunities
- Network opportunities
- Contact with experts
- Limited capacity building opportunities
Insights for Emerging Evaluators

- Build your capacity (degree, certificate, conferences, workshops)
- Find an M&E mentor or mate
- Seek internships and volunteer opportunities
- Get the experiences
- Join an evaluation association GMEF, AfrEA, AEA, EES, SAMEA
- Join a community of practice (LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook)
- M&E News
- Know your evaluand (development, gender, health, academia, research, policy, climate change etc)
# M&E Opportunities in Ghana

## Institutions that Offer M&E Programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Programmes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Service University</td>
<td>MSc, Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>GIMPA</td>
<td>Certificate in M&amp;E</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Master of Development Mgt</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diploma in M&amp;E (pending)</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Cape Coast</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Ghana</td>
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## Existing Programmes with M&E Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programmes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural Extension</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public/Social Policy</td>
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# Online Training Opportunities

## EVALPARTNERS.ORG
- Equity-Focused and Gender Responsive Evaluations
- National Evaluation Capacity Development for Country-led M&E
- Emerging Practices in Development Evaluations
- Introduction to Evaluating Humanitarian Action
- Advocating for Evaluation
- Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation

## MEASURE EVALUATION
- M&E Fundamentals
- Data Quality
- Gender M&E
- Economic Evaluation Basics
- M&E For HIV/AIDS Programs
- GIS Techniques for M&E of HIV/AIDS Related Programs
- M&E Frameworks for HIV/AIDS Programmes

## MOOCS
- edX.org
- Udemy
- Coursera
- Open2Study
- Fao.org/elearning
- Webinars
Why Choose a Career in M&E

• Contribute to national development
• Understand and Solve problems
• Pioneer
• Recognition and awards
• Reduce unemployment
• Build local and international networks and collaborations
CONCLUSION

• “Evaluation involves ongoing learning. The practice of evaluation builds on science and theory, but ultimately, evaluation is a craft that is shaped by experience and expertise, and conditioned by specific contexts of an evaluation” – (Rog, 2015: 235)

• The emerging evaluator has to be open to constant learning and unlearning – from literature, peers and from experts and from personal experience

• The emerging evaluator comes with some competency and some of that competency could prove useful to evaluation assignments

• We practice evaluation – evaluation is a practice
References


• EvalYouth: [https://evalpartners.org/evalyouth](https://evalpartners.org/evalyouth)

• GMEF website: [http://ghmeforum.org/ghmef17/](http://ghmeforum.org/ghmef17/)