



Technical Evaluation  
Reference Group  
ADAPTATION FUND

# Adaptation Fund Evaluation Policy and Guidance Notes

Presented by: Debbie Menezes, Chair AF-TERG  
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## Evaluation Policy (2022) replaces the Evaluation Framework (2012)



A stand-alone document that frames the Fund's evaluation function by providing high-level strategic guidance. The purpose of this Evaluation Policy is to identify the fundamental expectations, processes, and protocol to support a reliable, useful, and ethical evaluation function that contributes to learning, decision-making, and accountability for the Adaptation Fund to pursue its mission, goal, and vision effectively.

**Effective: April 2022**

**Operational: October 2023**

# Key messages



1. **Rationale for policy – linked to impetus of climate crisis** – need for more agility, real-time learning, responsive to evolving contexts
2. **Fit for purpose - Organizational Performance Enhanced** (Fund operations)
3. **Moving from 'Compliance' to 'Value'**
  - Streamline processes and provide guidance to help bring consistency, high quality
  - Designed to help project learning, country learning, and country reporting on evidence
4. **Incremental (not radical) changes** – for quality improvement, utilization, learning and accountability
5. **Whole of Fund approach:**
  - Applicable at all stages of the Project Cycle
  - Relevant to all Fund stakeholders; emphasis on IEs
6. **Focus on Evaluation** – but intended to strengthen synergies of Monitoring-Evaluation-Learning (MEL)

# Common challenges

Lack of consistency  
in quality and  
robustness of  
reporting

Lack of a Theory of  
Change; robust  
indicators

Limited availability  
and quality of data

Limited evaluation  
capacity at local  
levels (personnel,  
systems, budgets)

Need for flexibility  
to changing  
conditions on the  
ground

Level of ambition is  
out of sync with  
actual reporting

What to measure?  
How to measure  
qualitative  
indicators

How to approach  
it? Which  
methodology to  
use?

Usefulness and  
utility of the data  
and findings, and  
lessons?

## EP: Quality improvements - from Compliance to Value

**1. Elevates the evaluation function to Policy** (connects evaluation to Fund mission and policies, engages all stakeholders, relevant across all project stages)

**2. Encourages utilization of evaluative evidence and learning** – organizational performance, effective planning, adaptive management, real time learning; scaling up and replication

**3. Expands levels and types of evaluation** – strengthen Fund performance and learning; includes non-mandatory evaluations, coherence

**4. Seven Evaluation Principles and nine Criteria** –add to the Fund's uniqueness and niche, standards

**5. Country-driven and Systems thinking approach**  
opportunity to synchronize MEL with national systems

**6. Encourages evaluation capacity development for all**

**7. Contribution to Paris Agreement and GGA**  
(promote Fund expertise / visibility, inform national, regional, global discussions)

**8. Guidance Notes and suggestions for evaluation function budget**



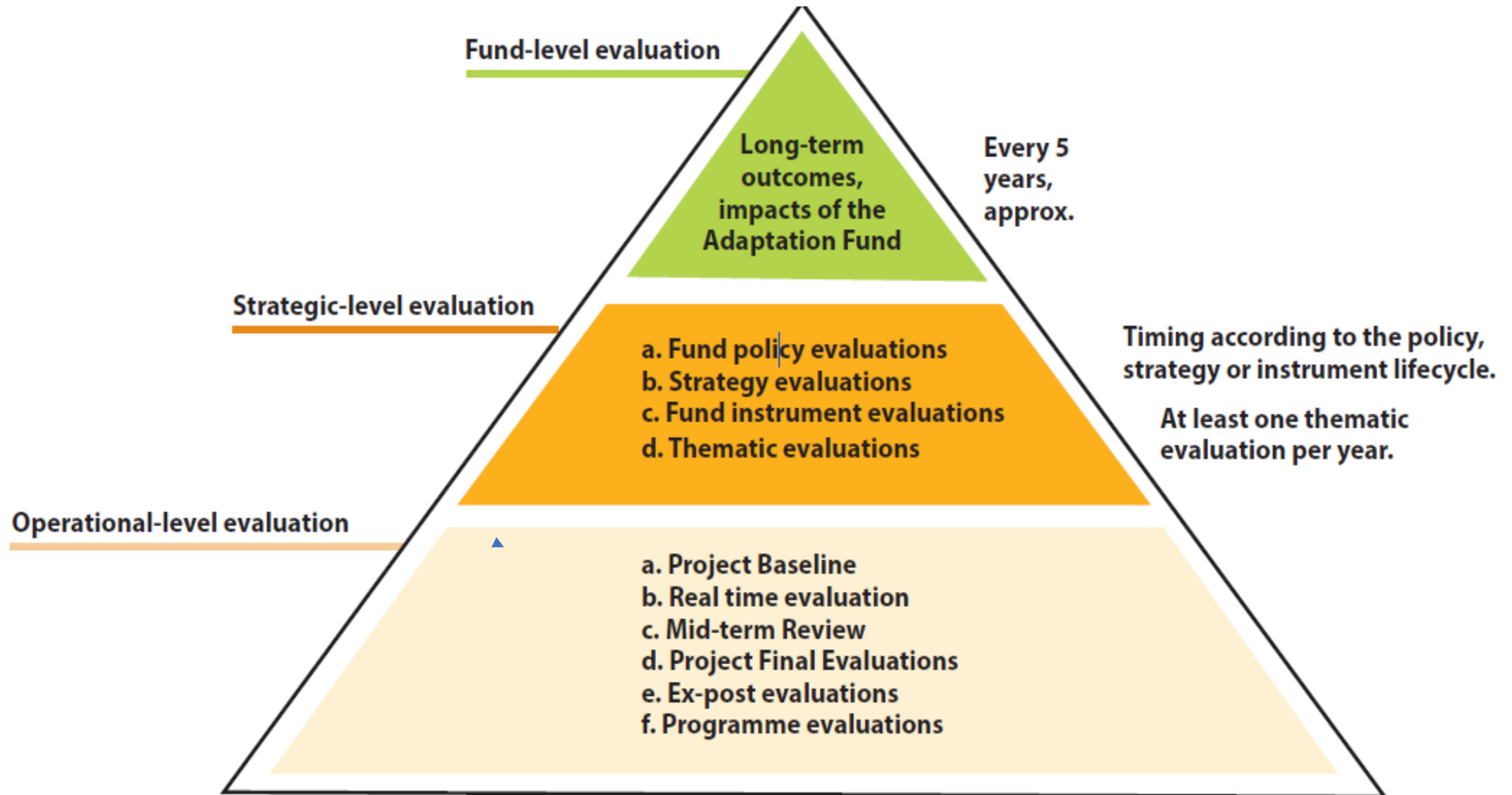
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# Understanding the Role of the Evaluation Policy (EP)

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# Three Levels of Evaluation



# Three Core Functions for all



## Generation of Evaluations

1. Conduct **mid-term evaluations** (for project of 4 or more years)
  - Management response
2. Conduct **final evaluation**
  - All IEs.
  - Management response



## Utilization of Evaluations

1. **On-going projects:** Use of evidence for learning and adaptive management
2. **New proposals**, evolution of CCA-related strategies and plans
3. Use of evidence in **communication products**
4. **Share insights** with relevant partners and peers (national, international)



## Evaluation Capacity Development

1. Review own capacity and learning **needs**
2. Identify relevant **opportunities** for professional learning and development
3. Contribute to **Fund development** of new evaluation techniques



# Mandatory – for IEs



## Baseline data

Purpose: Design, Targets, Monitoring

Required for all projects

No later than submission of the  
1<sup>st</sup> PPR

Independent, semi-independent, self-conducted



## Mid-Term Review

Purpose: Adaptive management, learning, decision-making

Required for Projects  $\geq 4$  years  
No later than 6 months after the project mid-point

Management response within 6 months of MTR report

Independent or semi-independent



## Final Evaluation

Purpose: Assess impact, learning and accountability

Required for all completed projects and programmes

Within 9 months of completion (to the Sec and DA)

Management response within 6 months of final report

Conducted as Independent

# 7 EVALUATION PRINCIPLES – represent Fund's Values and Niche

## How to conduct evaluations

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Relevance and Utility

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Credibility and Robustness

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Transparency

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Impartiality and Objectivity

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Equitable and gender-sensitive inclusivity

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Complementarity

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Complexity

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**Remember: These apply at all stages of evaluation processes**

## 9 EVALUATION CRITERIA – guide the focus of evaluations

The basis on which evaluative judgements are made

Relevance

Coherence

Effectiveness

Efficiency

Impact

Equity

Adaptive Management

Scalability

Human and Ecological Sustainability and Security

OECD  
DAC

Fund-specific:  
Learning,  
Accountability,  
Utilisation

# Relevance of Evaluation throughout the project cycle



# Thank you

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