



TWENDE MBELE



Evaluation Capacity Building for Parliaments: The case of the Philippines, Uganda and APNODE

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What is Evaluation Capacity Building?

Intentional process to
increase individual
motivation, knowledge, and
skills, and enhance a group or
organization's ability to
conduct or use evaluation

Labin, Duffy, Meyes, Wandersman &
Lesesne, 2012, p. 308

SDGs Call for strong parliaments

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Provide peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all

TARGET 16-3



PROMOTE THE RULE OF LAW AND ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE

TARGET 16-6



DEVELOP EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT INSTITUTIONS

TARGET 16-7



ENSURE RESPONSIVE, INCLUSIVE AND REPRESENTATIVE DECISION-MAKING

Why ECB in Parliament?

OVERSIGHT

Parliamentary oversight scrutinizes whether government's policies have been implemented according to legislative intent and whether they are having the desired.

REPRESENTATION

MPs "are responsible for representing the differences in society, and for bringing those differences into the policy-making arena".



LEGISLATION

Parliaments create new legislation as well as amending, approving or rejecting laws put forward by the government.

BUDGETING

Parliaments approve and scrutinize government spending by highlighting waste within publicly funded services. They aim to improve the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of government expenditure.

Use of evaluation in Parliaments



Notable initiatives for Parliamentary ECD

GPFE

Launched at the Parliament of Nepal on 25th November, 2015 aimed at advancing the enabling environment for nationally owned, transparent, systematic and standard evaluation processes to improve the use and demand of evaluations.

APNODE

Founded in March 2014, the Africa Parliamentarians' Network on Development Evaluation (APNODE) is to enhance the capacity of African Parliamentarians to improve their oversight, policy making, and national decision-making by ensuring it is evidence-based.

IPU

Inter-Parliamentary Union in 2008 designed a self-assessment toolkit aimed at assisting parliaments and their members in assessing how their parliaments perform against widely accepted criteria for democratic parliaments and to identify priorities and means for strengthening parliament.





The Colombo Declaration

- 1 We the participants of EvalColombo2018 convened by the Global Parliamentarians Forum in collaboration with the Government of Sri Lanka, and the Sri Lanka Parliamentarians Forum here in Colombo 17 - 19 September 2018 declare to the people that;
- 2 Representing a global partnership of parliaments, governments, international development institutions, United Nations agencies, non-governmental agencies and evaluation professionals from over seventy nations, we have exchanged our views and experiences on the special role for parliamentarians in underpinning the role of evaluation evidence in support of development that brings; an end to poverty and hunger, protects the planet from degradation, and allows human beings to enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives, in peaceful, just and inclusive societies.
- 3 We strongly believe that decision making for such development must be informed by evidence that is credible, objective and timely and that well conducted evaluations are a valuable source of such evidence.

We understand that parliamentarians as representatives of citizens, custodians of parliamentary oversight and lawmakers, can play a leading role in creating and sustaining an enabling environment for evaluation.

- 4 To create such an enabling environment, parliamentarians acknowledge the need to provide guidance, encouragement and to facilitate;
 - i. the establishment of National Evaluation Policies and Systems that consider national context, governance structures as well as international norms and standards,
 - ii. the allocation of budget for the establishing of systems and for carrying out evaluations themselves,
 - iii. the development of technical capacity within parliament and administrative structures to utilize evaluative knowledge as evidence for continuous improvement of development interventions,
 - iv. the professionalisation of evaluation through institutionalising training and developing cadres of professional evaluators.
- 5 We acknowledge that parliaments must evaluate their own institutional performance to build coherence and capture synergies for achieving SDGs while national policies are developed.
- 6 We recognize that the building of collaboration and trust between all development stakeholders but particularly between evaluation professionals, as producers of evaluative knowledge and parliamentarians and program managers as users of that knowledge, is essential to guide development programs and policies to success.

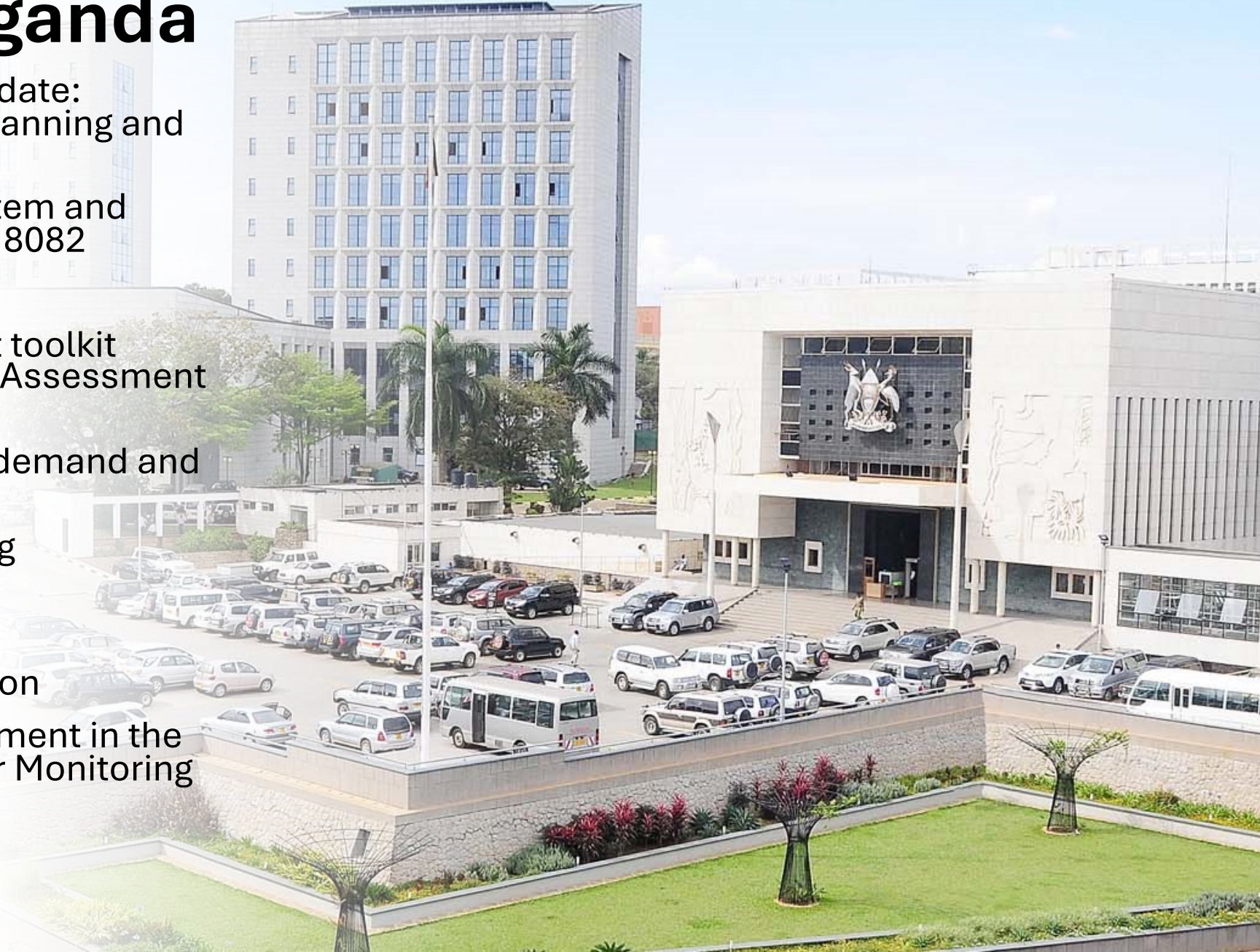
The Younde Declaration

In 2014, parliamentarians from Uganda signed a declaration (Yaoundé Declaration of African Parliamentarians in Evaluation) recognizing the important function of evaluation in national decision making and the crucial role of Parliamentarians in ensuring evaluation evidence is used for strengthening decision-making for greater development effectiveness and inclusive growth



Practices from the Parliament of Uganda

- Departments with M and E Mandate: Research, Budget, Corporate Planning and Strategy.
- ICT infrastructure: Alfresco System and Database drs.parliament.go.ug:8082
- Digitized library.
- M and E Tools: Self-assessment toolkit domesticated from the IPU self Assessment Toolkit.
- Strong committee system with demand and use evaluation.
- Benchmarking and peer learning engagements.
- APNODE Uganda Chapter
- Signatory to Colombo Declaration
- Recognition of the role of Parliament in the National Policy on Public Sector Monitoring and Evaluation, 2013
- Annual reporting systems



Report on the Training Workshop on Research and Evidence Use in the Parliamentary Context, Kampala, Uganda: 23rd to 25th October 2018



AFRICAN MPs, RESEARCHERS CALL FOR ENHANCED EVIDENCE-USE IN PARLIAMENTS

REPRESENTATIVES FROM KENYA, RWANDA, TANZANIA, UGANDA, THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, SOUTH AFRICA, MALAWI, AND GHANA HAVE CALLED FOR IMPROVED RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE USE IN AFRICAN PARLIAMENTS.

The representatives, including Members of Parliament, parliamentary researchers, academics and capacity-building organisations, gathered at the Parliament of Uganda at a regional workshop focused on research and evidence use in the parliamentary context.

“If we’re going to make laws that will really touch the lives of people, they must be backed by evidence.”

These were the words of Hon. Charles Sengabo, MP, Parliament of Rwanda, during the training, where the aim was to share experiences, to learn from one another and discuss good parliamentary practices that enhance the use of evidence in African parliaments.

MPs need to equip themselves with the right information to make the right decisions, said Hon. Olipa Myaba Chiluba, MP, Parliament of Malawi, “You need to have the evidence if you’re going to debate in parliament and if the best decisions are going to be made.” She said greater importance needed to be placed on evidence-based approaches in all African parliaments.

While the participants shared examples of evidence-based practices from their national parliaments, they also shared their challenges and barriers to improving evidence use and uptake.

“From all the interactions we have had from different countries representing Africa, I’ve learnt that we are facing more-or-less the same situations.”

- Hon. Dr Immaculate Sware Semesi, MP, Parliament of Tanzania and APNODE

Hon. Semesi said the group had discussed issues around how, when, and who collects evidence, how it should be synthesised and analysed. This workshop, she said, had provided new avenues for learning and given the participants the opportunity to “think outside the box on who you should involve in getting the right evidence and make decisions based on the evidence”.

The participants agreed that research-based evidence needed to be more common place in parliaments, but continued learning – including more regional peer learning – was necessary to ensure wide-reaching uptake of the practice.

“It is clear that we cannot do our work effectively without evidence.”

- Hon. Olipa Myaba Chiluba, MP, Parliament of Malawi

The participants agreed - unanimously - that workshops or platforms that bring regional parliaments and their staff and representatives together should be promoted so that local knowledge and best practices can be used across borders where the challenges or contexts may be similar.

CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS

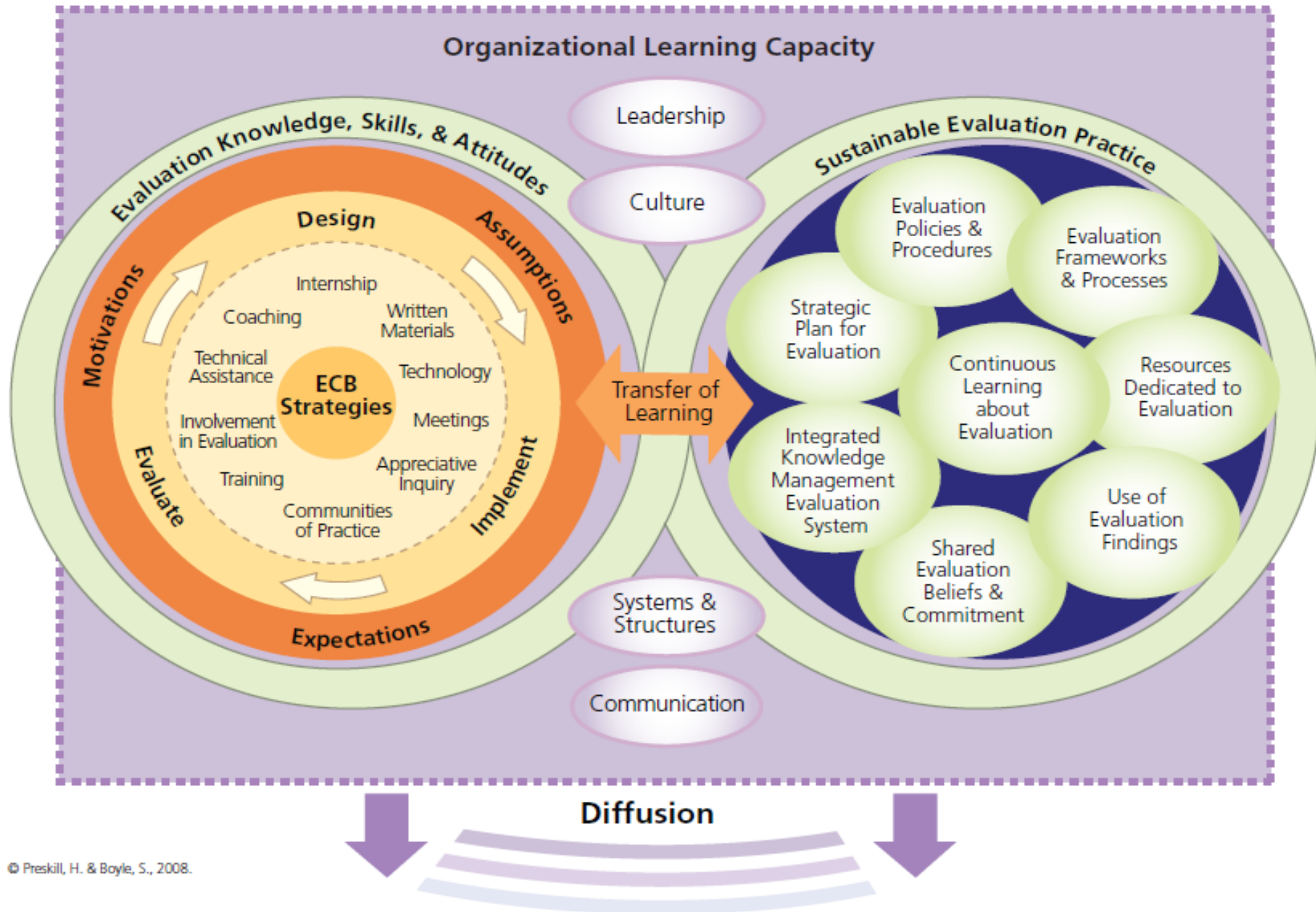


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Thank You



*For God and my
Country*