

WHERE DO INTERNATIONAL 'EVALUATION QUALITY STANDARDS' FIT IN THE AUSTRALASIAN LANDSCAPE?

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EVOLUTIONS

- From ground level to birdseye to space station view
- Forum conversations yesterday
- Result – 4 ways of looking at ‘standards’
- Inviting your views

4 TARGETS FOR STANDARDS

- Individual evaluators (CES, sort-of AES)
- Evaluation teams (ANZEA)
- Processes (ethics for all, gov.za, UNEG)
- Products (gov.za, RAMESES)

APPROACHES TO STANDARDS

- Defining (AES 'competencies', AEA principles)
- Enabling (AES workshops, mentoring)
- Regulating (AES ethics, CES PDP)
- Judging (peer review – UN Gender Equality or prospective, uni \$\$, training assessments?)

PROS AND CONS

- Defining – avoiding shonksters vs ‘whose definition for whom, where and when’?
- Regulation – consistency vs potential stifling of innovation
- Judging – bias, resourcing
- NOTE: two common themes in standards are ‘rigour’ and ‘respect’; one much easier to judge than the other!

AES NOW AND POTENTIAL STEPS

- Focus on individual evaluator rather than team, product or process (except for ethics)
- Competencies 1.0 – move to competencies 2.0 or maybe standards?
- Training with no assessment of application (or anything else)
- maybe a defined role for mentors?
- No formal mechanisms for QA other than ethics (enabling and complaints only) – time for further steps?

OZIA UTOPIA VS DYSTOPIA

- **UWORLD** - all evaluators, evaluation teams and their processes/products consistently demonstrate rigour and respect
- **DWORLD** - reports align with peer review requirements rather than client needs, we are so closely defined and regulated it hampers responding to new developments or we lose members, we struggle to resource professionalisation/quality systems

SOUTH AFRICAN GOVT NATIONAL EVALUATION PLAN

- South African Dept of Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Guideline 2.2.2
- Peer review at many points – from evaluation design to final report
- 3-7 days, depending on size and complexity, roles for ‘methodology expert’ and ‘sector expert’

WHERE TO FROM HERE?

- *OVER TO YOU...*

CES PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATION PROGRAM

- Volunteer resourced with a paid admin position
- Quals (or equivalent) and portfolio – reflective paragraphs on multiple aspects of evaluation domains
- Judged by two with mechanisms for appeal

UN WOMEN

- Professional Peer Review of the Evaluation Function of UN Women
- Carried out May-June 2014, report Spt 2014
- Reviewed multiple products and processes
- As one element, used UNEG Quality Checklist for Evaluation Reports