Evaluating the Environment as a Global Public Good

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Overview

- The Environment as Global Commons
- Evaluating the Environment as a Global Public Good
- Contributions of Evaluation to Policy making
- Factors driving Evaluation Influence in Policy Design
The Environment as Global Commons

- Global environmental resources are public goods that are non-excludable and non-rivalrous across borders.

- No individual country can effectively address global environmental problems by acting alone.

- Brunt of the impacts of global environmental problems borne by poorer nations.

- Breaching planetary boundaries.
The Global Environment Facility

- Set up in 1992 to address global environmental issues
- Financing Mechanism for Conventions on Biodiversity, Land Degradation, Climate Change and Chemicals
The GEF Independent Evaluation Office

- Evidence on GEF performance -- what works, where, under what conditions and why
- Advanced methodologies and approaches to measure the results and impacts of the GEF portfolio
- Focus on Behavioral Changes and Broader Adoption
- Assess co-benefits or socio-economic benefits of projects in addition to environment
- Recommendations to the Governing Council to improve program and policy design and implementation
Sources and Methods to address impacts....

Real World

Problem Driven

To assess
• Impacts
• Causes
• Trends

GIS Model

Satellite data
Data from field visits
Data from e-devices
Socio-economic conditions
Infrastructure
Physical environment
Location and boundaries

Cloud Computing
Evaluation Influence on GEF Policy

- High level of use of IEO evaluations predominately to inform policy and program design (84%)

- Influence on several GEF policies
  - Mid Term Review of the Resource Allocation Framework → changed allocation of resources to recipient countries
  - Fourth Overall Performance Study → streamlined cross-cutting gender policy in GEF operations, resulting in a Gender Mainstreaming Policy (2011), gender review and monitoring of the portfolio in the annual monitoring review process
IEO Influence ...contd

- **Country Portfolio Performance Report → Integrated Multifocal area approaches, transboundary issues.**

- **The GEF M&E Policy 2010 set minimum standards of GEF Operational Focal Points’ involvement in evaluations, which provides more direct feedback from evaluations to the country policy-makers.**

- **The OPS5 informed and has already started contributing to policy changes in GEF-6 (2014-2018). Examples: Revision of the results-based management system, approval of the gender action plan to implement the gender mainstreaming policy, changes in the co-financing policy.**
Factors Contributing to GEF IEO Policy
Influence of Evaluations

- Stakeholder engagement at all stages

- Consultative approach to work program development and throughout evaluation process

- Relevance, Timeliness and Credibility

- Demonstration of impacts of GEF interventions (Protected Areas, Climate Change Mitigation, International Waters)