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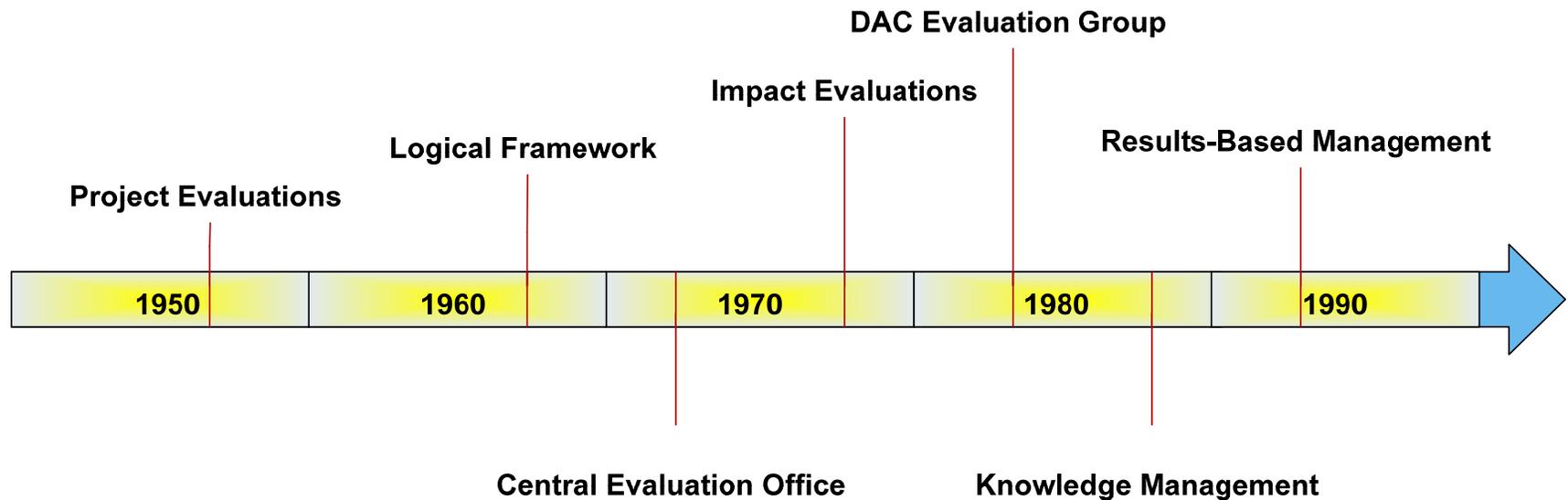
Strengthening Evaluation at USAID

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ACFVA Meeting
June 9, 2009



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Evaluation Leadership Timeline





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Evaluation Decline





Revitalizing Evaluation

- “Evaluation is a key aspect of program management, not just for accountability, but as a source of learning”
- “Now is the time to reassert our evaluation leadership in the development community”
- *“This means rebuilding our capacity to conduct the kinds of robust and objective evaluations that are fundamental to effective, evidence-based programming”*
USAID Administrator, November 2008



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Why Strengthen Evaluation?

- To improve development effectiveness based on empirical knowledge of what works & what does not.
- To report more transparently and accountably to Congress and the American People
- To inform resource allocations based on timely information.
- To meet legislative and executive requirements to manage more effectively for results



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Clarifying Evaluation Policy

- Issued new Monitoring and Evaluation Directives (ADS 203)
- Published Evaluation Standards & Guidelines
- Established a Central Evaluation Unit
- Crafting an Agency Evaluation Strategy
- Developing an Agency Evaluation Agenda



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Growing Evaluation Resources

- Adding new Evaluation Staff
- Maintaining existing M&E support contract (IMR2)
- Competing new Evaluation IQCs
- Revitalizing On-line Services (EvalWeb)
- Creating a Public Evaluation Portal





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Strengthening Evaluation Capacity

- Evaluation Certificate Courses (100 trained)
- Program Planning and Performance Management Workshops (DC & field)
- Distance Learning Course
- DLI Training
- New & Updated Tools (M&E TIPs, Evaluation Wiki)



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Promoting More Effective Collaboration

- USAID Evaluation Interest Group
- Foreign Affairs Evaluation Coordination Group (with STATE, MCC and PEPFAR)
- ACFVA Evaluation Sub-committee
- Joint Initiatives with DoD
(Humanitarian Assistance, Joint PPME Framework, Multi-National Experiment, Austere Challenge)

Asserting Intellectual Leadership

- Returned to International Evaluation forums (EvalNet, 3ie, NONIE)
- Presented at Evaluation Meetings
- Revitalized publications (updated M&E TIPs)
- Participated on OMB's Evaluation Experts Group
- Leadership for Paris Declaration Evaluation





Central Evaluation Priorities

- Supporting Operational-level Evaluators
- Strengthening Evaluation Capacity
- Collaborating with Development Partners
- Implementing More Rigorous Evaluations
- Re-establishing Evaluation Leadership

Some Evaluation “Best Practices”

- Private Sector Impact Evaluation Initiative (Evaluations of GMED & PROFIT)
- Impact Evaluations of Democracy & Governance
- Outcome and Impact Evaluation of the African Education Initiative
- Strengthening Evaluation Capacity (PVC)
- Global Health (PRH, MCH, HIV-AIDS)



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Continuing Issues

- Balancing Learning, Management and Accountability
- Enhancing Rigor
- Assuring Independence
- Increasing Utilization
- Designing *appropriate* evaluations to answer significant program and policy questions