

Thematic timeline featuring the evaluation Zeitgeist (spirit of the times) of each decade



ENLIGHTENMENT

With regard to evaluation in the ILO, the 1960s were analogous to the period of enlightenment in world history. The third resolution adopted by the 51st session of the International Labour Conference shows that the ILO was becoming aware of evaluation and of the need to conduct evaluation.



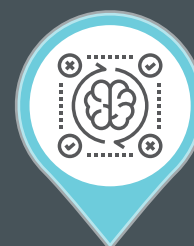
EVALUATE

Faux pas, stock taking and correction
The beginning of the 1970s, the ILO was strongly aligned with UNDP draft evaluation guidelines. After realizing that they did not fulfil its management needs, the ILO discontinued its alignment and conducted a stock taking exercise that ultimately led to the establishment of an evaluation unit called PROG/EVAL.



EXPAND

Scaling-up and institutionalization
PROG/EVAL staff increased 200% (from one to three) and the ILO began to institutionalize evaluation by refining methodological materials, establishing evaluation schedules, providing technical backstopping and quality control for the evaluation system, and disseminating evaluation information to users.



REFORM

During the 1990s there were renewed calls from member States for the United Nations system as a whole to become more relevant and effective. In the case of the ILO, the constituents demanded enhanced transparency and accountability of the Organization's activities.



REBIRTH

In November 2000 and 2002, the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee (PFAC) set out a new evaluation framework. A key development was the 2005 policy inspired by UNEG Norms and Standards and the creation of a central Evaluation Unit. Shortly thereafter, an Evaluation Advisory Committee was established to oversee the use and implementation of and follow-up to lessons learned and recommendations.



TRANSFORMATION

Independence and Modernization
After an independent evaluation of the evaluation function, major organisational changes were made to ensure its structural independence. Reorganized into an ILO Evaluation Office and equipped with a time-bound strategy bold steps were taken to harmonize procedures, improve compliance, quality and use, while modernizing operations through web-enabled guidance and tools.

1960s

1970s

1980s

1990s

2000s

2010s