



The 9th Uganda Evaluation Week

Theme: Innovate, Include, Impact: Advancing Evidence for Transformative and Sustainable Development

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Submission Deadline: 23rd January 2026

Introduction

The Uganda Evaluation Association (UEA) is a body of professional practitioners that aims to strengthen the knowledge and practices in monitoring and evaluation, research, and learning among its membership. The Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is the lead Government Agency in promoting the culture of monitoring and Evaluation in government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs).

The UEA, in collaboration with the OPM and partners, is organizing the 9th Uganda Evaluation Week. The week is unique as it marks 25 years of commemoration of UEA's existence. The Uganda Evaluation Week is an annual event that provides a platform for evaluation practitioners from Government, Civil Society, the Private sector, Young and Emerging Evaluators (YEEs), academia, and development partners to discuss and share evidence and lessons arising from development evaluation in Uganda and beyond. It is an opportunity to reflect on ongoing initiatives to understand their effectiveness

and impact.

The Week is scheduled to start with **pre-conference workshops** on the **4th and half day of 5th of May 2026**, followed by the **main conference** from the **5th at 2.00pm to 8th of May 2026** in Kampala, Uganda.

Background

Uganda has initiated the implementation of the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV) (2025/26–2029/30), which focuses on sustainable industrialisation, infrastructure development, private sector-led growth, human capital investment, and efficient public service delivery. It is also the first Plan in the implementation of the Government's Strategy to grow the economy tenfold by 2040, a strategy that aims to fast-track the realisation of socio-economic transformation. Evaluation and evidence generation are central to tracking progress and ensuring that interventions are impactful, inclusive, and aligned with the national development goals and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

At the same time, global trends in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) reflect a growing emphasis on technology, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), real-time data analytics, well-being metrics, inclusive participation, and the use of evidence in public decision-making. The 9th Uganda Evaluation Week will convene stakeholders across sectors to explore how these emerging tools and approaches can support Uganda's transformation agenda under NDP IV.

Objectives

- i. Showcase innovations in AI and digital technology for enhanced accountability and learning from evaluation.
- ii. Foster dialogue on how M&E systems can better support inclusive, citizen-centered development.
- iii. Build capacity among government, civil society, and youth in using modern evaluation tools.
- iv. Align Uganda's evaluation practices with global standards and the SDGs in the context of NDP IV.

3.1 Expected Outcomes

- i. Strengthened support for integration of evidence-use in national development initiatives spanning various sectors.
- ii. Improved methodologies in evaluations practices and expanded research prospects for both local practitioners and international

evaluation stakeholders.

Conference Strands

The Week will provide a forum for exploring the conference theme, organised around five main strands:

Strand 1: Innovation & Technology Use: AI, Big Data and Evaluation

- Using AI for Real-Time Monitoring and Decision-Making
- Big Data in Development Evaluation: Opportunities and Challenges
- Anomaly Detection and Predictive Analytics in Public Programs
- AI Ethics and Bias Mitigation in Evaluation Practice

Strand 2: Evidence for NDPIV Implementation (World Café)

- Influencing Uganda's Industrialisation and Infrastructure Agenda
- Monitoring Human Capital Development under NDP IV
- M&E for the Parish Development Model: Tools and Lessons
- Assessing Public Sector Governance and Private Sector Growth

Strand 3: Well-being, Equity and Inclusion in Evaluation

- Measuring Mental Health and Well-Being in Development Evaluations
- Gender, Youth, and Disability Inclusion in M&E Systems
- Citizen-Led and Participatory Evaluations for Local Development
- Localising the SDGs through Subnational Evaluation Initiatives (Barazas)

Strand 4: Capacity Strengthening in MERL

- Digital Tools for Participatory Evaluation and Data visualisation
- Building AI Literacy for M&E Practitioners
- Equipping YEEs for the 21st Century MERL
- Strengthening Local Government M&E Capacity for NDP IV
- Universities and Think Tanks as Catalysts for Evaluation Innovation

Strand 5: Governance, Learning, and Accountability

- Institutionalising Evidence Use in Policy and Budget Cycles
- Promoting Evaluation-Based Accountability in the Public Sector

- Creating a Culture of Learning and Feedback in Public Institutions
- Leveraging on CSO & Development Partners' role in Evaluation.
- Strengthening Multi-Stakeholder Evaluation Partnerships

Guidelines on abstract submissions

Submissions are invited from experts, evaluators, academics, researchers, YEEs, policy makers using evidence for decision-making, and development professionals.

Abstract should be at most 350 words, written in English in MS Word. Submissions will

be made by email to: conference@ugandaevaluationassociation.org. Multiple abstracts may be submitted but should be submitted separately.

5.1 Types of Presentations

These have been categorized into pre-conference workshops, short paper presentations, round table and panel discussions, poster presentations, and exhibitions. Submission of abstracts and proposals should be labeled and aligned to the above. Detailed guidelines for each category are given below.

A. Pre-conference Workshops

As part of the 9th Uganda Evaluation Week, we invite proposals for pre-conference workshops. These are interactive, skills-based sessions designed to equip participants with practical knowledge and tools in the field of evaluation. They provide a unique opportunity for hands-on learning, peer engagement, and capacity strengthening in specialized areas before the main conference begins. We encourage experienced professionals and facilitators to share their expertise and contribute to building a stronger evaluation community in Uganda and beyond.

i. Basic Information

Workshop proposals should include the workshop title, relevant sub-theme(s), proposed duration, and intended participant level. Proposals for intermediate and advanced sessions must clearly state any prerequisites or indicate if none are required. Facilitators should specify the minimum and maximum number of participants, along with how they will ensure active engagement in larger groups. All workshops will be held physically, and any additional technical requirements will be provided by the presenter.

ii. Workshop Description

Each workshop proposal should clearly outline the purpose, content, and anticipated learning outcomes, explaining why the course will be valuable and successful for participants. It should identify the specific target audience, such as M&E practitioners, managers, decision-makers, evaluators, or commissioners of evaluations. Proposals should describe the planned delivery methods and any handout materials to be provided before or during the session, along with their timing. Additionally, facilitators must include a backup strategy in case they are unable to deliver the workshop as planned.

iii. Session length and format

Workshops may be delivered as half-day, full-day, or one-and-a-half-day sessions, with each workshop expected to attract approximately 20 to 30 participants, and a minimum of 10 required for it to be run. Prospective presenters are encouraged to consider various delivery modalities and choose approaches that will offer the greatest value to participants. All workshops should promote key principles of engagement, practicality, and relevance to ensure meaningful learning experiences.

iv. Participant Level

Workshop proposals should specify the intended level of participants, i.e. Beginner/Emerging Evaluator, Intermediate, or Advanced based on the prior knowledge and experience required in M&E. Beginner workshops are designed for those new to the field with little or no prior exposure to M&E concepts. Intermediate workshops target participants with some experience (e.g., over

5 years), such as programme managers or those commissioning or conducting evaluations. Advanced workshops are suited for highly experienced professionals or experts seeking to deepen or update their knowledge in complex evaluation practices.

v. Proposal Submission

Workshop proposals should be submitted through this email with “workshop” in subject line:

conference@ugandaevaluationassociation.org

- i. All proposals should be submitted in English.
- ii. Workshop submissions will open on 10th October 2025 and must be submitted by 23rd January 2026. All workshop proposals will be reviewed, and facilitators will be informed of the outcome by 31 January 2026.

Workshop proposals are expected to cover:

Facilitator’s Short Biography:

- i. Name title, organization/company and contact details, including country, cell phone, and email address
- ii. Summary statements of the trainer’s curriculum vitae (maximum 250 words).
- iii. An abridged curriculum vitae (maximum 1 page) that explicitly identifies both technical and training expertise and experience.

B. Short Paper- Oral Presentations (15 minutes each)

Written papers should define the problem the conference strand seeks to address; and/ or use case studies that critically engage with key evaluation issues (approaches, methodologies or innovations) using quality evidence.

Paper proposals should indicate:

- i. Title of the paper, clearly indicating it as is on the paper presentation
- ii. Name, title, and institutional affiliations, emails and telephone contact of the author(s).

- iii. Indicate on the paper the conference strand to which it aligns.
- iv. The abstract format will include: objectives; main issues involved in the discussion; when relevant, include methodology and conclusions or perspectives

C. Round table and Panel Discussion (45 minutes)

Roundtables and panel discussions accord authors the opportunity to present their draft pieces of work, manuscripts, terms of reference and concept notes, or other draft evaluation products – for debate to clarify, strengthen argumentation, consider next steps, and the like, and aim to assist the author to improve the output. Round Table presentation abstracts should include the following:

1. Indicate the abstract is for a Round Table paper presentation
2. Title of the paper
3. Name, title/s, institutional affiliation and contacts of author/s
4. Abstracts should include information on the context, an overview of the evaluation and intention of the manuscript as work-in-progress, and specific issues for debate in the Round Table.

Once approved, authors will provide their work electronically, highlighting issues they would wish to be discussed in line with at least one of the strands.

D. Infographic Poster presentations

Infographic presentations entail a poster size presentation with visual representation (graphs, diagrams, photos) as well as text. Infographics could depict an evaluation study including: questions asked in the study through methodology, data, findings and conclusion; and may include specific case-study/studies. Infographics will be displayed, and presenters need to be available to respond to questions asked about the infographic when on display.

Abstracts for infographic presentations should include the following:

- i. Indication that the abstract is for an infographic presentations Poster presentation

- ii. Title of the infographic presentations Poster
- iii. Name and affiliation of author/s
- iv. Name, title, E-mail and telephone contact details of author/s who will be at the infographic presentations poster display
- v. It should include information on the *context*, an overview of the *content* of the infographic presentations Poster and a summary of *results/conclusions*.

Posters will be displayed during the conference and presenters need to be available to respond to share their insights and address any questions. Posters should measure approximately 0.95 m in width and 1.5 m in height. Poster presenters are advised to submit the hard copy of their posters to the secretariat a day before/on the first day of the conference.

E. Exhibitions

Exhibitions of branded items and publications will be provided during the conference. The exhibitors will be expected to indicate:

- i. The title of the exhibition
- ii. The name of the member association or organization
- iii. The contact details (including e-mail address)
- iv. Brief description of the exhibition stating the materials required
- v. Confirmations and booking upon payment to be made one month before the conference.

6.0 Review Process and Notification of Acceptance

All submitted abstracts will be scored and passed through a review process after the submission closes. The notification of acceptance, including the presentation details, will be sent to the presenting authors' email address.

Workshop proposals will be assessed by a review panel according to the criteria listed below.

- **Clarity:** Clarity of concept and learning objectives, and how the proposed workshop facilitates the meeting of course objectives.

- Relevance: Relevance of topic to current debates and issues in the evaluation field as well as relevant competencies.
- Target Level: The Extent to which the proposed workshop is relevant to target participants and matches the specified level.

- Participation: Level of participatory engagement as demonstrated through various effective, active learning strategies.
- Workshop Facilitator experience: Demonstrated experience in training/workshop delivery

7.0 Important dates

#	Description	Deadline
1.	Abstract call open	10 th October 2025
2.	Abstract Submissions	23 rd January 2026
3.	Notification of Workshop Acceptance	31 st January 2026
4.	Notification of Paper Acceptance	31 st January 2026
5.	Exhibitions Confirmation Booking and Payment	30 th March 2026
6.	Workshop registration	10 th April 2026
7.	Receipt of Soft copy PowerPoint presentations	15 th April 2026

For further information on the Uganda Evaluation Week, please contact:

conference@ugandaevaluationassociation.org

With a copy to:

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