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MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC STABILIZATION AND NATIONAL POLICIES

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Date }

**Project Management and Monitoring Circular No: 01/2024**

Secretaries of all Line Ministries  
Chief Secretaries of all Provincial Councils  
Heads of Special Spending Units  
Heads of all Departments  
Chair Persons of State Corporations, Statutory Boards and State Owned Companies  
All District Secretaries

**Roles and Responsibility of all state institutions for the implementation of the National Evaluation Policy Implementation Framework of Sri Lanka**

1. Achievement of the expected objectives of investments and policies that have been implemented for decades aiming at the multi-faceted development of Sri Lanka, is being seriously discussed. Therefore, your attention is drawn to the implementation of the National Evaluation Policy approved by the Cabinet of Ministers in 2018, which aims to establish the most updated and appropriate system for reviewing reliable and scientifically verified information related to the success and failure of both completed and ongoing policies and development interventions.
2. In view of this, utilization of lessons and recommendations of evaluations should be made compulsory in economic planning, as well as at the selection of highly feasible projects and development investments, to provide sustainable remedies for the prevailing economic crisis in Sri Lanka. As the accountability and transparency is ensured through this process, timely delivery of expected results will be possible.
3. The National Evaluation Policy Implementation Framework, which contains the strategies and technical guidelines required for the successful institutionalization of the National Evaluation Policy within the state institutional mechanism, was introduced in 2023. Awareness creation and training programmes are being continued since then, covering state institutions at all levels. As a result, it is expected that

evaluation will become a common and widely accepted practice across all sectors, enabling establishment of a culture of evaluation in the country, gradually.

4. All state sector institutions are compelled to undertake evaluations in conformity with this framework. The NEPIF in Sinhala, English and Tamil languages is available to download using the following web link (web link: <https://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/national-evaluation-policy-implementation-framework-2023> ). The Department of Project Management and Monitoring of the General Treasury should be consulted for technical support in respect of development evaluation.
5. Establishment of any new institution or creating cadre positions with salary and allowances will not occur for the practical implementation of evaluations. However, as per the Cabinet decision number 23/2283/604/223 heads of all state institutions are responsible for inclusion of the concept of development evaluation as a part of the role to be performed by state institutions. As the provisions under section 9 of the Right to Information Act No.12 of 2016 are in conformity with the process of development evaluation, Heads of all state institutions are responsible to take actions for maintaining a reliable, quality and updated repository of development related data and information, as per the provisions of the National Evaluation Policy.
6. Department of Project Management and Monitoring will issue a Call for Proposals for development evaluation, at the beginning of each year. Since the decisions will be made to approve allocations for conducting proposed evaluations in the following year, all state institutions are responsible for ensuring early preparedness to conduct evaluations, accordingly.
7. Amidst a challenging socio-economic condition prevailing in the country, upliftment of the living conditions of the citizens to a better level is a specific need, through successful and timely completion of projects and programmes which have been initiated by state institutions including ministries. Hence, during the selection of development interventions for evaluation, steps should be taken to prioritize projects aimed at generating a high level of impact on the lives of citizens. In addition, until the concept of evaluation is fully institutionalized within the state mechanism, all development evaluations will be conducted jointly by the Department of Project Management and Monitoring and respective line ministries, by managing prevailing financial difficulties.
8. Mid-term evaluations will be conducted in order to determine the future pathway of mega-scale development projects of which, 50% of the approved project period has elapsed, yet the actual progress remains below 25%.
9. Development evaluations will be selected by the “National Evaluation Steering Committee” which has been already appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers. Subsequently, the evaluation findings and recommendations as determined by the Committee will be submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers, along with its observations, suitable findings and recommendations will be tabled in the Parliament, with the approval of the Cabinet of Ministers.

10. Given the challenges of allocating provisions through the state budget for all proposed evaluations, especially amidst the pressure faced by the General Treasury when prioritizing allocations amidst the prevailing economic crisis, it is necessary to identify suitable alternative funding sources for evaluations, whenever possible. Eligibility and credibility of the alternative funding sources should be verified with the support of relevant departments of the Treasury, by adhering to the appropriate procedures. Furthermore, attention is called for planning more joint evaluations with suitable stakeholder who are capable in funding and technical support, with a view to exchange of knowledge and experience on evaluation and minimize required allocations through the state budget for evaluations.
11. With the aim of establishing a culture of evaluation within the country, the implementation of the National Evaluation Policy is anticipated to generate results expected from public investments while ensuring the accountability of public sector. Therefore, evaluation should be recognized as a key area in the Annual Action Plan of the state institutions which are responsible for the implementation of evaluation proposals approved by the National Evaluation Steering Committee.
12. It is recommended to contact Director General of the Department of Project Management and Monitoring, for necessary technical support to clear any ambiguity or issue in respect of the usage of NEPIF, through either the following email or telephone number.

12.1 email - dgpmm@pmmd.treasury.gov.lk

12.2 Telephone - 011-2151444

**Sgd. K.M.Mahinda Siriwardana**

Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Economic Stability and National Policies and  
Secretary to the Treasury

Copies :

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2. Secretary to Prime Minister
3. Secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers
4. Auditor General
5. Secretary General, Sri Lanka Parliament