

The COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition brings together the evaluation units of countries, multilateral organisations and UN agencies who share an interest in evaluating pandemic response and recovery efforts to support learning and accountability. The Coalition’s collaborative approach provides broader scope to cover important issues that could not be covered by individual evaluation units alone, such as understanding collective sustainable development results and coherence. The Coalition facilitates learning, communicates evaluation findings and improves evaluation quality to strengthen credibility. Finally, the evaluation units involved benefit from reduced costs by avoiding duplication and sharing resources.

**WHAT DOES THE COALITION DO?**



The COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition is an independent voluntary project supporting COVID-related evaluations conducted by participating institutions: project evaluations, institutional evaluations, and thematic studies. The Coalition produces learning products, and provides **technical guidance, communication and co-ordination** support.



Through a partnership with the **Global Evaluation Initiative (GEI)**, the Coalition also provides capacity support to a limited number of country-led evaluations.

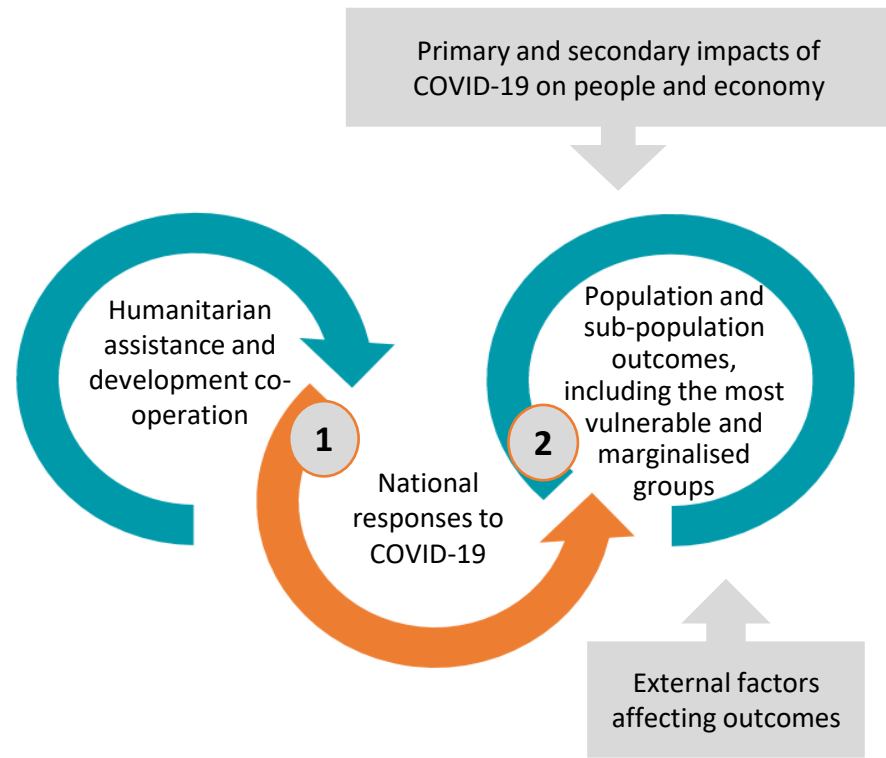
As with other types of humanitarian and development co-operation, COVID-19 response efforts represent a contribution by international partners to the efforts of national governments and local communities, who are the primary and first responders to the crisis. While focusing on the role of international development co-operation, the Coalition’s multi-stakeholder approach supports mutual learning and collaboration that reflect this reality. **(Figure 1)**

→ Collaborative evaluations supported under the umbrella of the Coalition provide a more comprehensive and holistic perspective on outcomes compared to evaluations focused on just one project or institution.

**THE COALITION’S COLLABORATIVE APPROACH:**

- Provides credible evidence and insights to inform future crisis responses
- Improves collaboration among partners to support collective learning and optimise the use of evidence
- Supports mutual or multidirectional accountability
- Improves our overall understanding of the collective global response
- Strengthens participants’ capacities to lead, conduct and co-ordinate evaluative work

**FIGURE 1.** Conceptual framework: Evaluating COVID-19 responses



**FOCUS EVALUATION QUESTIONS**

- 1 Relevance, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of international support to national responses (including alignment, capacity effects, distortionary effects, timing)
- 2 Early results of the collective effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and address the secondary effects of the pandemic

**KEY INITIATIVE: STRATEGIC JOINT EVALUATION OF THE COLLECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

The COVID-19 pandemic was an unprecedented test of all governments’ abilities to react quickly, adapt to shifting priorities, mobilise and reallocate resources, and sustain a co-ordinated global response. The international development and humanitarian assistance community was called on to complement national measures to address the immediate health and humanitarian crises, mitigate the negative socio-economic consequences of the pandemic, and support recovery. Understanding the role of international development co-operation is crucial to learning lessons and informing future co-ordination and crisis preparedness.

The Coalition will assess the overall international response through its **Strategic Joint Evaluation of the Collective International Development and Humanitarian Assistance Response to the COVID-19 pandemic**. This global evaluation is guided by Coalition participants through a representative Steering Group, and includes case studies of the response in select countries, with a focus on the role of international development co-operation. It will draw on institutional evaluations and other individual and joint evaluative work. **See the next page for details on the evaluation.**

**INDICATIVE TIMELINE**



# STRATEGIC JOINT EVALUATION OF THE COLLECTIVE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE RESPONSE TO COVID-19

## SUBJECT & SCOPE

- Overall response to the COVID-19 pandemic – including both the direct and indirect impacts of the pandemic – with a focus on the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, and efficiency of international development and humanitarian assistance in supporting national responses
- Global in scope, with a series of in-depth case studies and a thematic focus on equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and vaccination-related efforts
- Reference period : 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2021

## OBJECTIVES

- Document the collective response to the COVID-19 pandemic of state and non-state actors with a focus on where support was concentrated, how, and why
- Answer evaluative questions about the overall response effort, covering a diverse range of actors (national and international)
- Generate useful lessons and good practices to inform future co-operation and crisis preparedness for governments, communities, development agencies, humanitarian actors and others

## DRAFT EVALUATION QUESTIONS

**Descriptive:** How did national governments, and development and humanitarian actors respond to the COVID-19 pandemic?

**Relevance:** To what extent did COVID-19 support meet local needs and priorities?

**Coherence:** To what extent did responses align to ensure coherent approaches at global and country levels?

**Effectiveness:** What are the early results of the collective (national and international) response to COVID-19?

**Efficiency:** To what extent were funding and programming decisions and interventions timely and informed?

**Forward looking:** What good practices, innovations and lessons learned emerged? How might they inform future crisis preparedness?

## APPROACH & METHODOLOGY

- **Learn by doing:** This collaborative project is a unique opportunity for exchange and learning for all involved. The evaluation process will seek to maximise opportunities for learning-by-doing to help partners increase their capacities for evaluation
- **Utilisation-focused approach**, planned and conducted in a way that enhances the use of evaluation findings and lessons. The evaluation is grounded in the learning needs of policy and decision-makers across the Coalition's diverse participants
- Identify what worked, in which contexts, and why, the evaluation will assess the collective response to the pandemic at the country level – inclusive of national, bilateral and multilateral responses – through a set of **partner country case studies** in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Georgia, Kenya, Lebanon, Mozambique and Nicaragua, and the global study on Large Ocean States/SIDS
- Rely on a combination of **primary** (i.e., key informant interviews, surveys, validation workshops) and **secondary** (i.e., completed evaluations and syntheses, and financial statistics) **data collection and analysis methods**
- Apply an **appreciative inquiry lens** throughout the evaluation to highlight the strengths of both individual and collective responses to identify next practices and inform future co-ordination and crisis preparedness

## GOVERNANCE

- The evaluation will be managed by the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate with support from GEI and ALNAP, as the Secretariat of the COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition
- The terms of reference, scope and approach were developed and agreed on by COVID-19 Coalition participants, in consultation with their respective stakeholders to ensure the evaluation responds to priority evaluation questions to achieve its goals of learning and accountability
- A **steering group** will provide oversight and guidance to the evaluation. The group is comprised of individuals representing the diverse participants in the Coalition and includes a necessary base of expertise. Members will help inform the evaluation's scope and design, and support uptake of findings and response to the recommendations across their respective institutions and networks
- The evaluation team will also engage with the intended users of the evaluation throughout the evaluation process to ensure it meets their needs

## Want more information?

Find additional details, including the terms of reference for the Strategic Joint Evaluation, on the Coalition website:

[www.covid19-evaluation-coalition.org](http://www.covid19-evaluation-coalition.org)

## Want to learn more?

Contact the Secretariat: [COVID19evaluation@oecd.org](mailto:COVID19evaluation@oecd.org)

## JOIN THE COALITION TODAY!

The Coalition is open to any institution interested in credibly evaluating COVID-19 humanitarian and development co-operation. There is no one-size-fits-all approach to participation in the COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition. Participation is voluntary and should reflect your organisation's capacity, experience and areas of interest.

## Here's what participation may look like in practice:

- Conduct a case study
- Share information about the COVID-19 response of your organisation
- Use information from the Secretariat to inform your individual work
- Adjust plans and engage in collective evaluative activities

