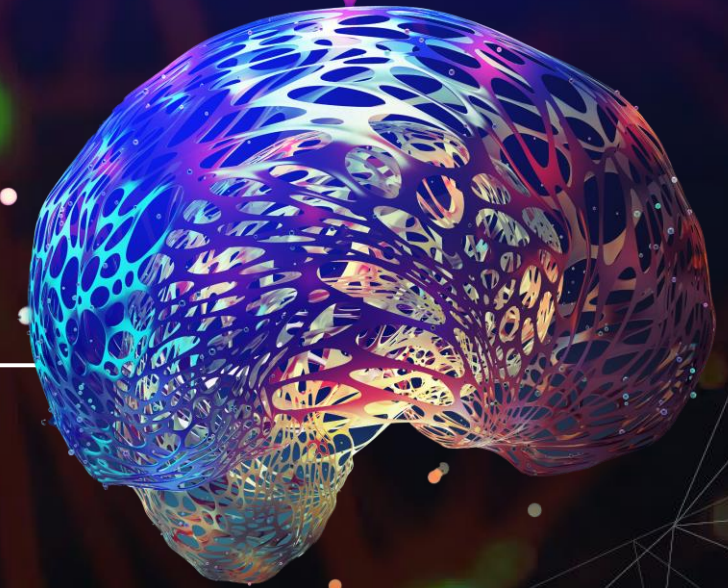# GenAI-powered evaluation function at UNFPA

Strategy for leveraging the benefits of responsible
and ethical generative artificial intelligence
while minimizing risks

Neha Karkara
Team Lead, Communications, KM and AI
UNFPA IEO

The journey

1

How did we begin?

Mapping use cases of AI tools
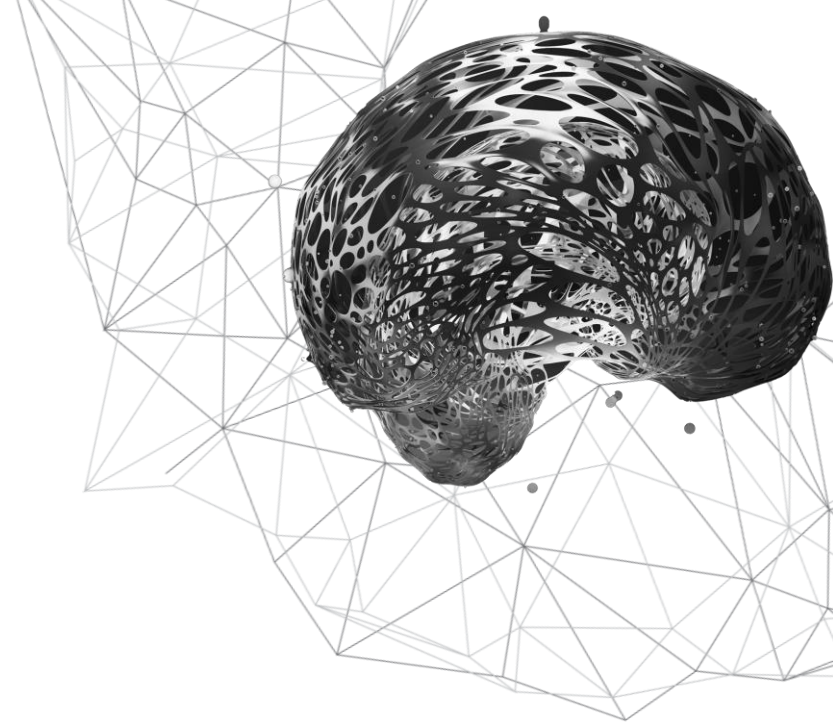
Needs assessment across the evaluation lifecycle

Solution exploration study, based on UNFPA approved Google tools and platforms (Duet AI, Gemini)
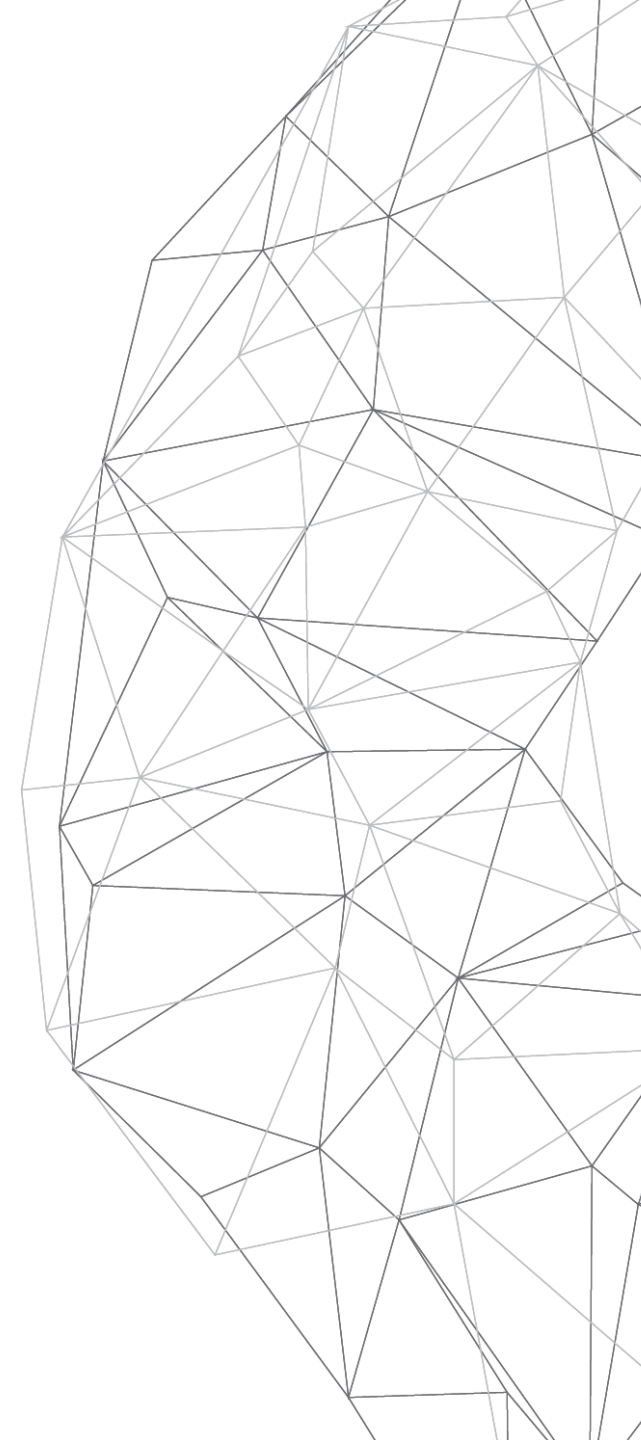
5 prioritized use cases of AI tools

Information synthesis

Initial report writing

Inclusive dissemination

Evidence synthesis

Qualitative data analysis

2

What is our approach?

Strategy for Gen-AI powered evaluation function at UNFPA

- A pioneering strategy for leveraging the benefits of responsible and ethical GenAI while minimizing risks

- Draws on the AI use cases in evaluation

- Outlines a roadmap to optimize evaluation processes and products with ethical and responsible use of GenAI

- Focused on achieving greater efficiency, effectiveness, and timeliness in evaluations
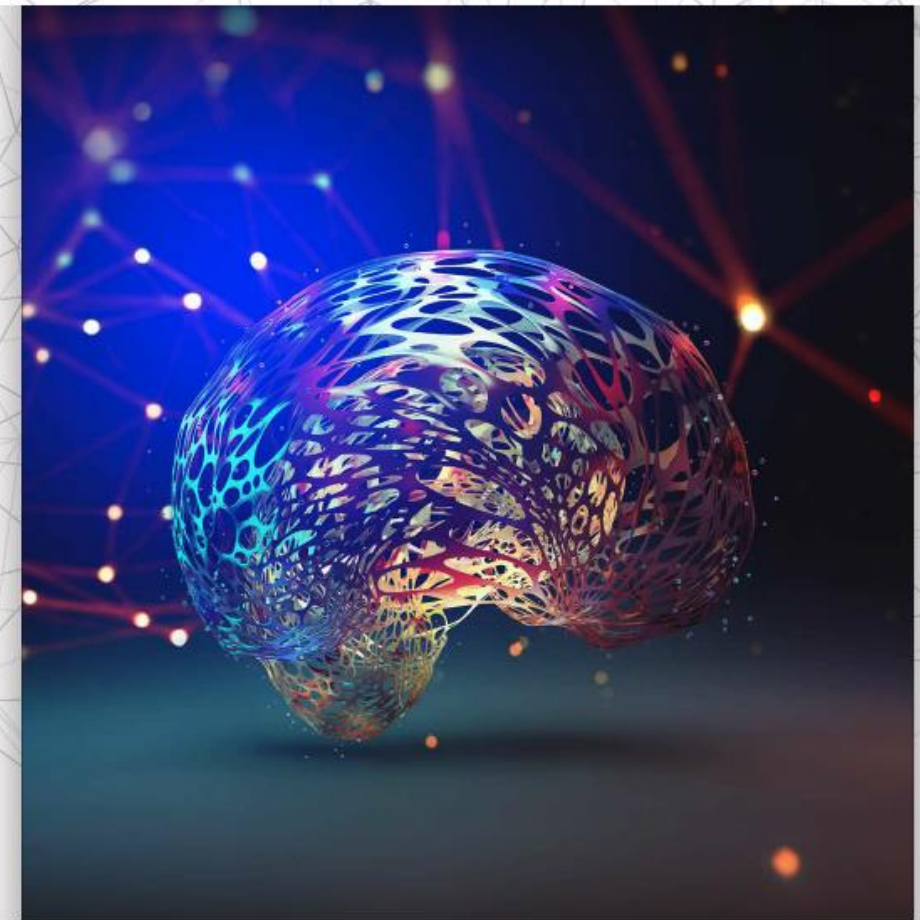
GenAI-powered evaluation function at UNFPA

Strategy for leveraging the benefits of responsible and ethical generative artificial intelligence while minimizing risks

April 2024

Key features of the strategy

Provides a framework for recognizing and mitigating challenges and risks in GenAI use in evaluation, e.g.

Upholding data protection & privacy

Mitigating biases

Upholding accuracy & reliability

Transparency, explainability & accountability

Overreliance on GenAI

Aligned to UNEG ethical principles for AI use in evaluation (Draft)

Do no harm

Privacy & Data Protection

Transparency & Accountability

Accuracy & Reliability

Fairness & Mitigation

Human-Centered Approach

Participation & Inclusiveness

Upholding Human Rights

Strategic principles for leveraging GenAI in evaluation

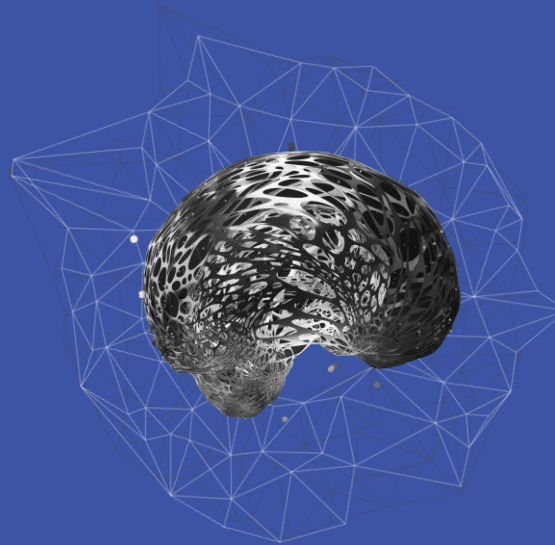Demand-driven approach for GenAI-powered evaluation

Diversification and innovation of GenAI tools

Upholding quality and credibility in evaluation

Maximizing the use of evaluation with GenAI

Adhering to an ethical and human rights-based approach to GenAI use in evaluation

Cultivating GenAI capacity in evaluation, especially in the Global South

Implementation roadmap for GenAI-powered evaluation
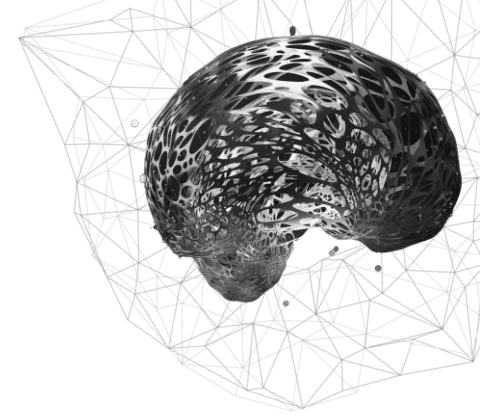
- Phased approach to GenAI adoption and deployment

- Developing custom GenAI solutions for evaluation

- Change management and communication

- Iterative and adaptive approach to digital transformation

- Long-term sustainability of GenAI-powered evaluation effort

3 Where are we headed?

Tool: AILYZE

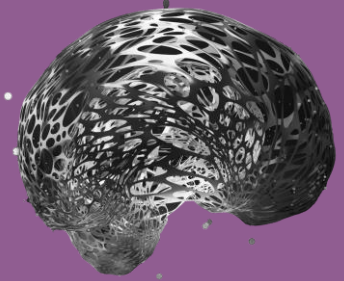- Pilot of AI use in evaluation of UNFPA strategic plan

- Pilot of AI use in an inter-agency meta-synthesis exercise

1. Pilot of AI use in evaluation of UNFPA strategic plan

Use case

Qualitative analysis of 75 CPDs over two strategic plans to determine:

- If strategic shifts and accelerators have been included in the current CPDs

- If there is an increased focus on the shifts and accelerators

Tips for ethical use and risk mitigation

- Ethical AI use contractual clauses

- Human and AI collaboration

- Strong human oversight

- Managing subjectivity

- Data protection

2. Pilot of AI use in interagency meta-synthesis of evaluation reports on youth education and employment, to advance the UN Youth Strategy
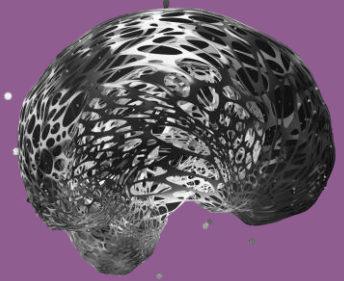
Use case

1. Report extraction – completed!

   - Keyword search to distil 1350 reports from evaluation databases of 46 UNEG agencies

   - AI analysis further extracted 250 reports

   - 97% accuracy based on human verification

   - Final dataset of 300 reports from 13 agencies, with manual addition

2. Coding and synthesis work – Underway

Tips for ethical use and risk mitigation

In addition to the previous tips:

- Planning & aiding human verification: Report extraction aided by summaries of beneficiaries, interventions, key findings & verbatim quotes, supporting human check

- Inclusion criteria and analysis framework aligned for AI use
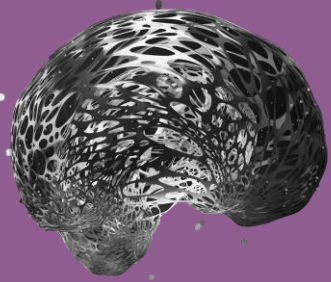
Practical considerations for the evaluation manager

- Setting up a team with AI capacities

- Evaluation team's time in developing an analytical framework fit for AI use

- Upskilling: Training on prompt engineering

- Assigning adequate time for accuracy check

- Include AI disclaimer in report, explain AI use in methodology

- Keeping track of efficiency gain, to support scale up of the tool

UNFPA | IEO Independent Evaluation Office

Access the strategy
GenAI-powered evaluation function at UNFPA

United Nations Population Fund
Independent Evaluation Office

605 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10158 USA

🌐 unfpa.org/evaluation
✉ evaluation.office@unfpa.org
🐦 @unfpa_eval
▶ @UNFPA_EvaluationOffice