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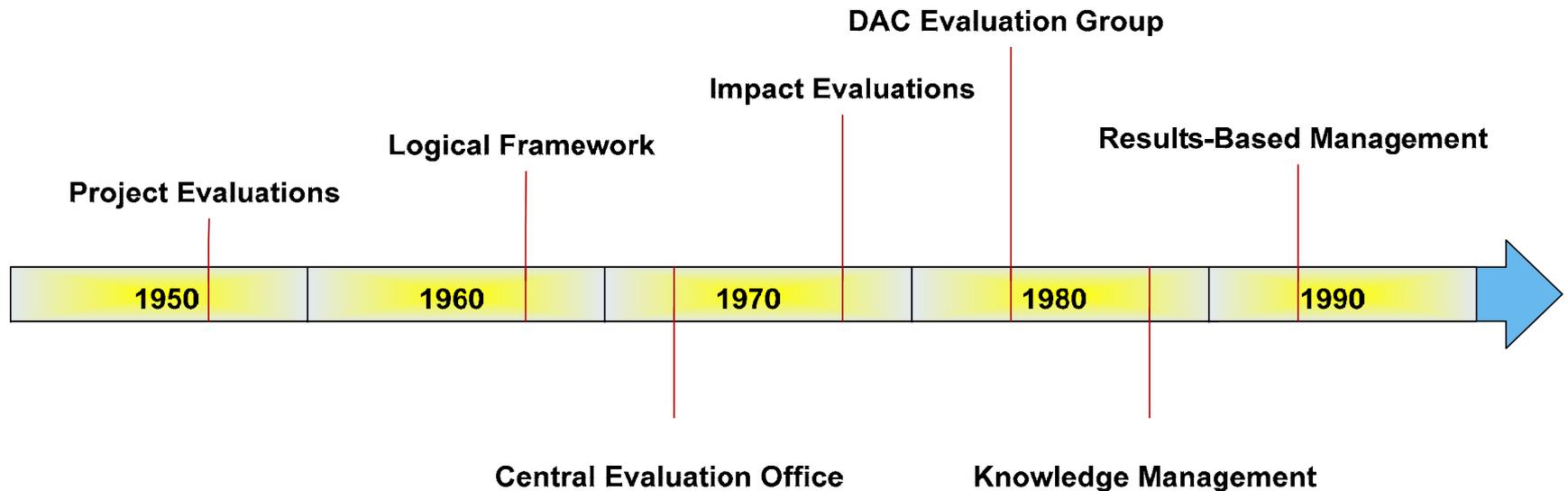
Strengthening Evaluation at USAID

M/MPBP
April 16, 2009



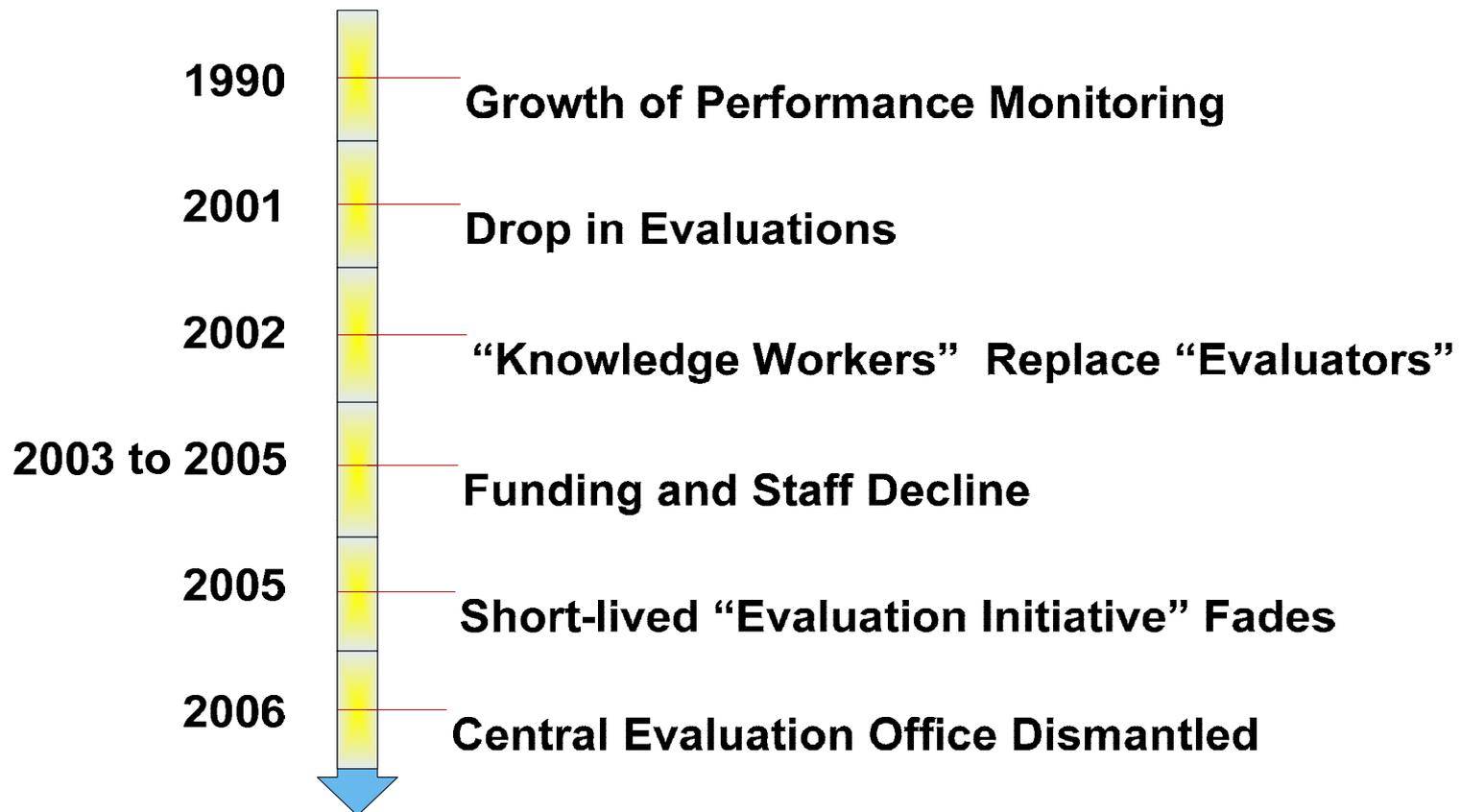
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Evaluation Leadership Timeline





Evaluation Decline





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Revitalizing Evaluation

- “Evaluation is a key aspect of program management, not just for accountability, but as a source of learning”
- “Now is the time to reassert our evaluation leadership in the development community”
- *“This means rebuilding our capacity to conduct the kinds of robust and objective evaluations that are fundamental to effective, evidence-based programming”*
USAID Administrator, November 2008



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Why Strengthen Evaluation?

- To improve development effectiveness based on empirical knowledge of what works & what does not.
- To report more transparently and accountably to Congress and the American People
- To inform resource allocations based on timely information.
- To meet legislative and executive requirements to manage more effectively for results



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Establishing Evaluation Policy

- Issued new Monitoring and Evaluation Directives (ADS 203)
- Published Evaluation Standards & Guidelines
- Crafting an Agency Evaluation Strategy
- Developing Agency Evaluation Agenda
- Planning an Evaluation APCC
- Establishing a Central Evaluation Unit



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Growing Evaluation Resources

- Managing Central Contract Services (IMR2)
- Competing new Evaluation IQCs
- Revitalizing On-line Services (EvalWeb)
- Creating a Public Evaluation Portal





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Strengthening Evaluation Capacity

- Evaluation Certificate Courses (100 trained)
- Program Planning and Performance Management Courses (DC & field)
- Distance Learning Course
- New & Updated Tools (M&E TIPs, Evaluation Wiki)



Promoting More Effective Collaboration

- Established USAID Evaluation Interest Group
- Established Foreign Affairs Evaluation Coordination Group (with State, MCC and PEPFAR)
- Supporting new ACFVA Evaluation Sub-committee
- Working with DoD on Joint Initiatives
(Humanitarian Assistance, Joint PPME Framework, Austere Challenge)



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Asserting Intellectual Leadership

- Effective participation in International Evaluation forums (e.g., EvalNet, 3ie, NONIE)
- Strong presentations at evaluation meetings
- Planned publications on evaluation theory & practice
- Wide visibility on OMB's Evaluation Experts Group
- Leadership role for Paris Declaration Evaluation





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Central Evaluation Priorities

- Supporting Operational-level Evaluators
- Strengthening Evaluation Capacity
- Collaborating with Development Partners
- Implementing Rigorous Impact Evaluations
- Re-establishing Evaluation Leadership



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How Can Senior Managers ?

- By demanding credible, empirically-based evidence about program effectiveness and impact
- By USING evaluations in decision-making
- By strengthening transparency and accountability
- By encouraging learning from experience, both our successes and our failures
- By providing adequate staffing and funding
- By identifying critical issues for the central evaluation unit to address



What's Next?

- Evaluation Unit in Place (imminent)
- IQCs Awarded (late Spring)
- ACFVA Evaluation Panel (June)
- Evaluation Strategy Approved (Summer)
- Evaluation Agenda Implemented (Summer)
- Update Senior Management (September)