

**XXI National Congress**  
**Italian Evaluation Society - Associazione Italiana di**  
**Valutazione AIV**

5-7 April, 2018  
GSSI – Gran Sasso Science Institute  
School of Advanced Studies  
Viale Francesco Crispi 7, L'Aquila (Italy)



**EVALUATION FOR EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE**  
**DEVELOPMENT**

**CALL FOR PAPERS AND PANEL**

International scientific debate on equitable and sustainable development is wide and varied and focused on some key concepts – such as equity, participation, resilience, growth, well-being, social cohesion, cultural identity – generating different definitions over time that mix economic, social and ecological dimensions of sustainable development differently.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, launched in 2015 by the United Nations, is crucial to this debate and a big challenge for all the countries involved in the definition of a new territorial development model that consistently includes environmental issues along with economics, social and cultural ones, in an integrated perspective.

*The new agenda is a promise by leaders to all people everywhere. It is an agenda for people, to end poverty in all its forms – an agenda for the planet, our common home”*  
(Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations 2007-16).

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 associated targets of the Agenda, to be met by 2030, represent macro objectives - within which it is already possible to include policies, projects and measures – that need to be analyzed and evaluated with specific attention to the effects and changes obtained in order to combat poverty, reduce different forms of inequality, and build safe, inclusive and resilient cities, just to mention some.

The AIV 21<sup>st</sup> National Congress is an opportunity to discuss the role of evaluation to promote a more equitable and environmentally sustainable development and how it should take into account ‘the voices’ of the territories, analyzing the actions’ planning and assessment attributable to the 17 SDGs.

Aim of this National Congress is to attract the attention of experts and everyone interested in the plurality of approaches that evaluation may assume with the aim of intercepting the needs of the territories, and associate them with the 17 ones set by the United Nations.

Therefore, AIV proposes a debate on the experiences of programs and policies implemented or being designed referring to the mentioned SDGs and on ways to set up their assessment.

The Congress will take place at L’Aquila *Gran Sasso Science Institute School of Advanced Studies* from 5 to 6 April 2018 on the territory that represents a symbol of development and strengthening social cohesion, pursuing the reconstruction and its ‘rebirth’ after the earthquake of April 6, 2009.

AIV National Congress is an important opportunity to promote the debate on the evaluation of initiatives that choose to focus on the common good, the well-being of the territories, the reconstruction of communities through processes of innovation and social development, as well as the protection for the territories and the environment, given the increasing risks, promoting a cultural change and a bottom-up demand towards political and economic leadership for decisions (private and public) geared to sustainable development.

The Congress - open and widely shared with representatives of national and local institutions, companies, citizenship and associations - represents an opportunity to provide conceptual thinking and practical proposals regarding the 2030 Agenda macro proposals, as well as suggest to guide the action of policy makers, and improve the results achieved by policies and services in the perspective of a more equitable and sustainable development.

Initiatives and thematic working groups activities will be enhanced in thematic sessions.

Therefore, the Scientific Committee of the 21<sup>st</sup> AIV National Congress invites to submit sessions’ proposals, theoretical or empirical papers that have as focus:

- Evaluation of policies to combat poverty and inequalities;
- Evaluation for inclusive, equitable and high quality education;

- Evaluation of post-crisis reconstruction policies, preservation of biodiversity, climate change and hydrogeological instability, as well as reduction of energy consumption;
- Evaluation of urban and territorial regeneration policies and complex programs;
- Evaluation of the administrative capacity, Public Administration performance, and the human resources development for the development of the country's productivity;
- Innovative forms of governance and multi-level and inclusive governance;
- Assessment of the social impacts generated by the tertiary sector institutions and social enterprises;
- Relationship between universities and territories, and Third Mission evaluation;
- Dissemination of scientific knowledge and public engagement of public research organizations;
- Use of open and big data for evaluation;
- The evaluation of social innovation processes in the internal areas.

And, more generally, topics concerning the theory and practice of evaluation regarding these issues.

You can submit an abstract proposal by February 2, 2018. Abstracts will be anonymously evaluated by the Scientific Committee members. Acceptance by March 2, 2018.

Evaluation criteria:

1. Relevance of the contents
2. Clarity of objectives
3. Approach and methodology appropriateness
4. Robustness of the results and arguments
5. Originality of contributions

The most interesting papers that will contribute to the scientific debate during the Congress can be published on the *RIV Rassegna Italiana di Valutazione* Journal – if they meet the scientific quality standards of the Journal.

### **CONDITION FOR PARTICIPATION**

Abstracts, reports, and session proposals can be sent. Abstract must be sent no later than February 2, 2018 to: [segreteria@valutazioneitaliana.it](mailto:segreteria@valutazioneitaliana.it) indicating in the email subject: “Abstract Congresso AIV 2018”. In the abstract (max 500 words) please indicate:

- Author first and surname/family name, and affiliation
- Area of interest / topic
- Kind of contribution: theoretical, methodological, assessment report, research.

Participation in the Congress is restricted to AIV member up-to-date with 2018 membership.

### **DEADLINES**

- *Call for paper launch:* **December 4, 2017**
- *Abstracts deadline:* **February 2, 2018**
- *Paper acceptance:* **March 2, 2018**
- *Submission of paper proposals to session coordinators:* **March 23, 2018**

## THESIS PRIZE

As every year, during the Congress the best thesis on aspects related to evaluation will be given an award. The theses types allowed to participate are:

- *Degree dissertations under the old system and specialist / master's degree thesis;*
- *Second level Master's and Ph.D. theses;*

The theses put forward for the nomination must fulfil the following criteria:

- *Be explicitly related to issues revolving around evaluation;*
- *Have already been discussed;*
- *To be developed for the following academic year: 2014-2015; 2015-2016; 2016-2017*
- *Do not have applied to the same award previously.*

Interested students have to send an e-mail to [segreteria@valutazioneitaliana.it](mailto:segreteria@valutazioneitaliana.it) by **February, 2 2018** indicating in the subject "Thesis Prize". In the e-mail please indicate name and surname, title of the thesis, name of the student's university supervisor, Faculty and University, Academic Year; the file thesis must be attached to the email. Two winners, one for each thesis type, will be notified by **March 2, 2018** and will be given the opportunity to publish in the journal AIV-Italian Review of Evaluation an article focused on the thesis provided that this meets the editorial and reporting criteria of the journal itself.

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