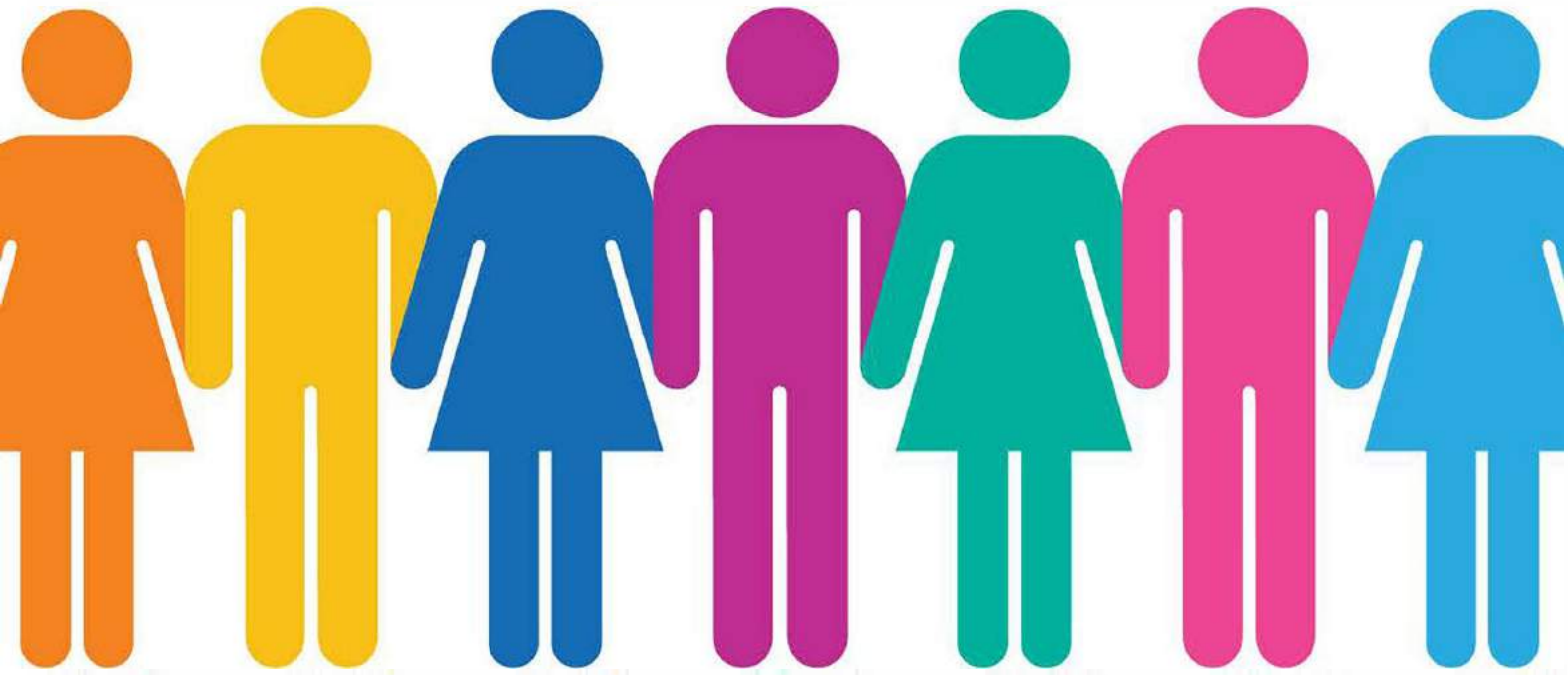


UN-SWAP 2.0 ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR GENDER MAINSTREAMING

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
FOR GENDER EQUALITY
AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF
WOMEN FOR UNITED NATIONS
ENTITIES

GENDER EQUALITY MARKERS
2020 LEGISLATIVE BASIS



GENDER EQUALITY MARKERS LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

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2006: 2006/2 Chief Executive Board of Coordination

CEB Second regular session of 2006 New York, 27 October 2006

United Nations system-wide policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women: focusing on results and impact

A. United Nations system-wide action plan that includes indicators and timetables, allocation of responsibilities and accountability mechanisms and resources is essential to make the strategy of gender mainstreaming operational.

The main elements of the strategy include:

(d) *Human and financial resources.* To achieve desired outcomes, adequate human and financial resources will be allocated to the implementation of gender mainstreaming. This will entail better utilization of current resources, the assignment of additional resources where required and the alignment of resources with expected outcomes. The development of common-system approaches whereby the entire United Nations system will apply agreed-upon norms and standards, indicators and targets, and evaluation frameworks will considerably reduce duplication of efforts, especially at the country level. At the same time, opportunities for joint programming, including with Member States through the United Nations country teams, will be created. Applying these strategies will contribute to the optimal use of both human and financial resources, since competing system-wide organizational priorities will be significantly reduced.

2011: ECOSOC Resolution 2011/6

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies and programmes in United Nations system

14 July 2011

7. *Requests* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes within their respective organizational mandates, to continue working collaboratively to enhance gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by:

(d) Enhancing and strengthening the various accountability frameworks of the United Nations system to ensure more coherent, accurate and effective management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of each United Nations entity's gender equality results, including tracking of gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, and results-based approaches within the United Nations system;

2012: ECOSOC Resolution 2012/24

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

6 September 2012

5. Welcomes the development of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, under the leadership of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN- Women), and its adoption by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on 13 April 2012, as an accountability framework to be fully

implemented by the United Nations system, and calls upon the United Nations system to actively engage in its roll-out;

8. *Requests* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates and in line with existing rules and regulations governing selection and recruitment processes in the relevant organizations, to continue working collaboratively to enhance gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by:

(d) Ensuring that the various existing accountability mechanisms of the United Nations system provide for more coherent, accurate and effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting on gender equality results and on the tracking of gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the promotion of the use, where appropriate, of gender markers, and encouraging the use by United Nations country teams of gender accountability mechanisms to assist and improve their performance at the country level;

2012: QCPR Resolution A/RES/67/226

Adopted by the General Assembly, 21 December 2012

89. Requests the United Nations development system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates and in line with existing rules and regulations, to continue working collaboratively to enhance gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, **including by ensuring that the various existing accountability mechanisms of the United Nations system provide for more coherent, accurate and effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting on gender equality results** and on the tracking of gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the promotion of the use, where appropriate, of gender markers, and encouraging the use by United Nations country teams of gender accountability mechanisms to assist and improve their performance at the country level;

2013: ECOSOC Resolution 2013/16

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies and programmes in United Nations system
24 July 2013

10. *Requests* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates, **to continue working collaboratively to enhance and accelerate gender mainstreaming** within the United Nations system including by:

(d) Ensuring that the various accountability mechanisms of the United Nations system provide for more coherent, accurate and effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting on gender equality results and common indicators on gender equality and the empowerment of women, and on the tracking of gender related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the use of gender markers;

2014: ECOSOC RESOLUTION 2014/2

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies and programmes in United Nations system
12 June 2014

6. Requests the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolution 2008/34 of 25 July 2008, and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 67/226, including by:

[...] (f) Mainstreaming gender-responsive planning and budgeting and intensifying the use of gender marker systems, including in the humanitarian programme cycle;

2015: ECOSOC RESOLUTION 2015/12

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies and programmes in United Nations system
10 June 2015

7. Calls upon the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 67/226, including by:

[...] (f) Mainstreaming gender-responsive planning and budgeting and intensifying the use of gender marker systems, including in the humanitarian programme cycle;

14. Calls upon the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to enhance and accelerate gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by:

[...] (i) Tracking gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the promotion of the use of gender markers that apply similar standards and principles to allow for comparability and aggregation;

2016: ECOSOC RESOLUTION 2016/ 2

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies and programmes in United Nations system
2 June 2016

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, **to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective** in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 67/226, commensurate with the gender-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind that gender equality is essential for the implementation and achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals, including by:

(f) **Mainstreaming gender-responsive planning and budgeting, harmonizing gender marker systems and enhancing system-wide capacity for their increased implementation**, including within the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, or their equivalents, and intensifying their use, including in the humanitarian programme cycle;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to enhance and

accelerate gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by:

[...] (i) Tracking gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the promotion of the use of gender markers that apply similar standards and principles to allow for comparability and aggregation;

2016: QCPR Resolution A/71/243

Adopted by the General Assembly, 21 December 2016

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 21 December 2016 [on the report of the Second Committee (A/71/468/Add.1)] 71/243. Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

13. Calls upon all entities of the United Nations development system to continue to promote women's empowerment and gender equality by enhancing gender mainstreaming through the **full implementation of the System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, developed under the leadership of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), as well as the United Nations country team performance indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women (the "scorecard")**, in particular with regard to gender-responsive performance management and strategic planning, the collection and use of sex-disaggregated data, reporting and resource tracking, and drawing on available gender expertise in the system at all levels, including in UN-Women, to assist in mainstreaming gender equality in the preparation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, or equivalent planning framework;

016 QCPR Resolution:

<https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/qcpr/SGR2020-Annex-QCPRFramework-5May2020.pdf>

Annex – Implementation of General Assembly Resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR): Monitoring and reporting framework

# ¹	Name	Baseline value ²	Latest Value & Year		Source of data collection
193	Fraction of entities of the UNDS that track and report on allocations and expenditures using gender markers	11/26 (2015)	20/39	2019	UN-Women
194	CF/ UNDAF gender marker methodology piloted through UN-INFO	n/a [new]	Yes	2019	DCO/ UN-Women

2017: ECOSOC RESOLUTION 2017/ 9

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies and programmes in United Nations system,
7 June 2017

7. Calls upon the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the United Nations system at the global, regional and country levels, in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 71/243, commensurate with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development, bearing in mind its universal nature and that the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is essential for the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals, including by:

[...] (g) Increasing the investment in and focus on outputs and outcomes relating to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through enhanced **common budgetary frameworks, gender-responsive planning and budgeting**, common methodologies for reporting on contributions to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, **joint funding mechanisms**, including **pooled funding**, and **joint resource mobilization efforts**;

(h) Collaborating with UN-Women to harmonize **gender marker** systems to allow for comparability and aggregation to set and meet **financial targets** on resources to be allocated for this purpose and to assess the resource deficits for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, also in the context of United Nations Development Assistance Framework common budgetary frameworks;

2018: ECOSOC RESOLUTION 2018/7

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into policies and programmes in United Nations system
12 June 2018

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the United Nations system at the global, regional and country levels, in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 71/243, commensurate with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind its universal nature and that the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is essential for the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals, including by:

[...] (g) Increasing the investment in and focus on outputs and outcomes relating to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through enhanced common budgetary frameworks, gender-responsive planning and budgeting, joint funding mechanisms, including pooled funding, and joint resource mobilization efforts;

(h) Collaborating with UN-Women to harmonize gender marker systems to allow for comparability and aggregation to set and meet financial targets on resources to be allocated for this purpose and to assess the resource deficits for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, also in the context of United Nations Development Assistance Framework common budgetary frameworks;

2019: UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework - Internal Guidance

3 June 2019

1.3. Guiding Principles for the Cooperation Framework

[...] 20. Gender equality and women’s empowerment are integral to realizing the 2030 Agenda and all of the SDGs. To integrate a focus on these issues throughout the Cooperation Framework, UN development entities should put gender equality at the heart of programming, driving the active and meaningful participation of both women and men, and consistently empowering women and girls, in line with the minimum requirements agreed upon by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) in the **UNCT System-wide Action Plan (SWAP) Gender Equality Scorecard**.

5.5. UN INFO

90. UN INFO is an online planning, monitoring and reporting platform that digitizes each Cooperation Framework and its corresponding joint workplans. It reflects the UN development system’s effort to improve coherence, transparency and accountability, and to better address the needs and priorities of United Nations Member States. Initially conceived at the country level, UN INFO provides an overview of country level progress as well as regionally and globally aggregated information, both for the UN development system under the Cooperation Framework and individual entities. This includes how the UN development system in each country is channeling resources towards national priorities, thematic issues (including based on cross-cutting gender, human rights and humanitarian markers) and the SDGs. It encourages more regular monitoring of joint workplans so that all development activities are on track to deliver results. This enables senior leadership to make corrections to programming or shift resources in real-time. The public can also see a full picture of UN development system activities through public dashboards linked to UNCT websites.

6.4. Evaluating the Cooperation Framework

[...] 106. Given the importance of robust accountability, the Cooperation Framework evaluation must adhere to international best practices for evaluation and the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards. It should also aim to reflect the evaluation indicators in the Funding Compact, the **UN-SWAP** and the United Nation Disability Inclusion Strategy. Evaluation procurement, design and all other processes should build on and, wherever feasible, strengthen national and regional evaluation capacities in partnership with voluntary organizations for the professionalization of evaluation.

2019: ECOSOC RESOLUTION 2019/2

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
6 June 2019

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 6 June 2019 [on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2019/L.10)] 2019/2. Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

7. Calls upon the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the United Nations system at the global, regional and country levels, in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 71/243, commensurate with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind its universal nature and that the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is essential for the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals, including by:

[...] (g) Increasing the investment in and focus on outputs and outcomes relating to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through enhanced **common budgetary frameworks, gender-responsive planning and budgeting**, common methodologies for reporting on contributions to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, **joint funding mechanisms**, including **pooled funding**, and **joint resource mobilization efforts**;

(h) Collaborating with UN-Women to harmonize **gender marker** systems to allow for comparability and aggregation to set and meet **financial targets** on resources to be allocated for this purpose and to assess the resource deficits for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, also in the context of United Nations Development Assistance Framework common budgetary frameworks;

2020: Annex – Implementation of General Assembly Resolution 71/243 (2016) on the QCPR Monitoring and Reporting Framework

5 May 2020

Annex – Implementation of General Assembly Resolution 71/243 (2016) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR): Monitoring and reporting framework

#	Name	Baseline value ^a	Latest Value & Year	Source of data collection
iii.	A gender scorecard exercise in the past four years, and met or exceeded requirements in at least half of the performance indicators [target (2020 onwards): 75%	5% (6/131) 1/6	54% ²⁹	
		n/a		

2020: QCPR Resolution 75/233

Adopted by the General Assembly, 21 December 2020

12. *Emphasizes* that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, and calls upon all entities of the United Nations development system to continue to promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by enhancing and accelerating gender mainstreaming through the full implementation of the **System-wide Action Plan** on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, developed under the leadership of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), as well as the United Nations country team performance indicators for gender equality and the empowerment of women (the **UNCT SWAP “scorecard”**) in particular with regard to gender-responsive performance management and strategic planning, and to enhance the collection, availability and use of sex-disaggregated data, reporting and resource tracking, and drawing on available gender expertise in the system at all levels, including in UN-Women, to assist in mainstreaming gender equality in the preparation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, through a gender equality outcome, where appropriate and relevant in the country context and ensuring that gender equality expertise is available throughout the United Nations development system at all levels;

2019 ECSG Decisions 2017/71 and 2019/73 on the HLTF on Financing for Gender Equality

Decision 2017/71: Gender priorities for the UN

Decision 2017/71: Gender priorities for the UN

Under the overall lead of UN Women

The UN to consider establishing a light and time-bound Task Force on Financing for Gender Equality to review UN budgets/ expenditures for programmatic activities across the system and make recommendations on how to increase financing for gender equality, including by:

- identifying structural and operational changes required to **enable budget tracking**;
- establishing a **baseline** as an important first step to reallocation of resources
- defining the **scope of the investment required** to strengthen the gender architecture system wide;
- proposing innovative recommendations for Member States to **incentivize increased spending** on gender equality and women's empowerment

The **Secretary-General High-Level Task Force on Financing for Gender Equality** established in its Recommendation 6 the use of financial targets in pooled funding mechanisms, as follows,

Recommendation 6: *To strengthen the resource base for GEWE, the UN System will:*

1. *integrate GEWE criteria into the design, selection, implementation and monitoring of pooled funds, including those managed by the MPTF Office and standalone (pass-through and pooled) Joint Programmes;*
2. *establish a GEWE minimum financial target across all pooled funds;*
3. *mainstream gender equality, including performance indicators into the Joint SDG Fund; and*
4. *explore the use of innovative financing mechanisms, including modification of UN rules and regulations to diversify funding modalities and partners.*

Decision 2019/73: Financing for Gender Equality

Decision 2019/73: Financing for Gender Equality

On 9 December 2019, the DC/EC approved recommendations of the High-Level Task Force on Financing for Gender Equality (Established as per EC decision 2017/71) through its Decision 2019/73: Financing for Gender Equality, as follows,

- High-Level Task Force on Financing for Gender Equality to develop an implementation plan for its recommendations, including on tools and guidance needed. A first outline of this work to be presented at the Deputies Committee retreat in January 2020, to be followed by a presentation to the Executive Committee in 2020.
- All entities to engage fully in the next phase of the work of the High-Level Task Force and the subsequent implementation phase.

Gender Marker guidance in the UN system, endorsed by the UNSDG and by the CEB Finance and Budget Network

Gender Markers

UNSDG guidance and background note:

<https://unsdg.un.org/resources/gender-equality-marker-guidance-note>

<https://unsdg.un.org/resources/steps-develop-gender-equality-marker>

<https://unsdg.un.org/resources/financing-gender-equality-and-tracking-systems-background-note>

UNSDG guidance for UNCT-SWAP Gender Markers:

<https://unsdg.un.org/resources/unct-gender-equality-marker-guidance-note>

CEB FBN network Guidance Notes on Coding Definitions and on Quality Assurance:

<https://www.unsystem.org/content/working-group-un-swap-gender-marker-implementation>

<https://www.unsystem.org/content/guidance-note-coding-definitions-gender-equality-markers>

<https://www.unsystem.org/content/guidance-note-quality-assurance-gender-equality-markers>

UN system-wide accountability frameworks for Gender Mainstreaming

- UN-SWAP Technical Guidance for [Financial Resource performance indicators](#)
- [UNCT-SWAP Technical Guidance](#) (including Indicator 6.1 on Allocation and Tracking of resources for gender mainstreaming)