Our vision and work

The UN Women Evaluation Strategy aims to provide evidence for a more relevant, effective and efficient UN Women with greater impact on the lives of women and girls it serves. Through evaluations, capacity building, partnerships and UN system-wide coordination UN Women asks: “Are we doing the right things for gender equality? Are we doing those things right? Are we doing them on a scale that makes a difference?”. We look both inward to evaluate UN Women activities and outward to strengthen the evaluation community at large. We work at country, regional and global level to fully engage with the opportunities and challenges by the Sustainable Development Goals and UN Women’s Strategic Plan.

We champion gender responsive evaluation – an evaluative lens that considers and challenges the structures that contribute to gender inequality and contributes to the realization of equality for all. We assess progress toward creating a world where no women, no girl, no one is left behind.

Objectives

1) Improve use of gender-responsive evaluation (GRE) by UN Women and its partners for learning, strategic decision making, policy and programme development
2) Provide timely and relevant evaluative evidence on UN Women’s contribution to development and organizational effectiveness and efficiency results
3) Increase demand and conduct of GRE to support accountability for GE commitments in SDGs and beyond

Strategic focus

Key Activities 2018-2021

- Conduct 8+2 corporate studies
- Provide technical assistance to 12 HQ-led evaluations
- Joint evaluation of gender equality results
- Expand methodological developments (gender responsive and impact evaluation, big data and system approach)
- Co-manage 100% of Country Portfolio Evaluations and regional evaluations
- Provide technical assistance to 100% of country office led evaluations
- Support professionalization initiatives
- Maintain a gender experts roster
- Oversight, quality assurance and accountability systems: GATE, GERAAS, GEOS
- Promote SWAP (System Wide Action Plan) reporting and analyze its results
- Collect and disseminate good practices and lessons learned in gender responsive evaluations
- Develop guidance on evaluation of gender policies
- Contribute to UNEG strategy and activities
- Leverage existing partnerships on national evaluation capacity development for gender responsive evaluation and evaluating the SDGs with a gender lens (EvalPartners, EvalGender+)
- Establish new partnerships with learning institutions on gender responsive evaluations and impact evaluation
- Deepen engagement with key internal and external stakeholders on the focus, timing and follow-up to evaluations
- Invest in substantive knowledge sharing through knowledge and learning partnerships
- Transform IES into a “knowledge hub” for GRE

Drivers of Change

Partnerships

2013 Created an evaluation policy
2015 Published the UN Women Handbook on Gender Responsive Evaluation
2015 Launched EvalGender+ with external partners
2016 Lead efforts to update UNEG Norms and Standards, including new norms on gender equality and human rights
2017 Created new evaluation strategy (2018-2021)

Networks

During the Strategic Plan period 2013-2017
Conducted 8 corporate evaluations covering the integrated mandates and SP impact areas
Conducted 4 meta-analyses on all UN Women evaluations
Conducted 2 joint reviews on gender policies and practices in the UN System and beyond
104 decentralized evaluations

Innovation

Knowledge Hub

Evaluation use facilitated through effective evaluation communication, advocacy and knowledge management