UN Women’s Contribution to Women’s Economic Empowerment (WEE)

Marco Segone
Director, UN Women Independent Evaluation Office
Formative (forward looking)
501 Stakeholders consulted

372 Women
129 Men

Stakeholders consulted

6 Local women
trained in participatory video

SURVEYS
61 People
28 Countries
22 Orgs

EVALUATION TEAM
4 Evaluators
1 Feminist economist
1 Organizational coach
1 Participatory video specialist
4 Researchers
1 Photographer

IEO
3 Evaluation management team
2 Evaluation specialists

7 co-evaluators from UN Women country offices and civil society partners

SURVEYS
61 People
28 Countries
22 Orgs

7 Months

Documents analyzed

300 +

7 co-evaluators from UN Women country offices and civil society partners

27 Country portfolio review
6 Country visits
5 National participatory evaluation workshops

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Documents analyzed

6 Local women trained in participatory video

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Evaluation Report

41 Findings
10 Conclusions
5 Recommendations
• Well positioned to influence Women Economic Empowerment at the global, regional and country level

• Comparative advantage: policy and normative work

• Potential role to bring gender-responsive empirical evidence into mainstream economic debates
UN Women’s mission is best served by moving decisively in the macroeconomic space.
Effectiveness

- Normative mandate has enabled UN Women to effectively influence international norms and standards
- Coordination and joint programming have made a cautious but important contribution to advancing Women Economic Empowerment within the UN system, especially at country level
- UN Women’s operational work makes the most effective contribution where it identifies and addresses structural barriers and bottlenecks
- More strategic and selective partnerships for enhanced effectiveness
UN Women should provide clarity on its commitment to leading through partnership
Women’s economic rights stand in a disadvantaged position to the dominant economic paradigm. In this context, UN Women needs to mobilise and give voice to all the allies it can – including men, civil society, and the private sector.
Rec 3: rights-based approach

UN Women’s work should explicitly be based on and guided by a rights-based approach
Need to consolidate and strengthen a consistent approach to leadership at all levels within the organisation to enhance contribution to Women Economic Empowerment
UN Women needs to strengthen leadership across the organization in order to support work on Women Economic Empowerment
Rec 5: knowledge-led organization

- UN Women needs to equip and organize itself in line with becoming a knowledge-led organization
- Systemic approach to integrate the wealth of evidence and multiple knowledge management initiatives
Thank You