1. Why innovate?

2. UN Women’s strategic approach to innovating for gender equality

3. Highlights from UN Women’s existing innovation portfolio

4. Moving forward: Maturing UN Women’s innovation pipeline
1. Why innovate?

Current trajectories towards gender equality and women’s empowerment...

- 50 years = parity in politics
- 81 years = parity in women’s participation in the economy
- 95 years = parity in girls lower secondary education for the poorest 20%

...will not create the world we want
2. UN Women’s strategic approach to innovating for gender equality and women’s empowerment

- *Increasing women’s engagement in innovation*: Co-identifying potential high impact innovations
- *Addressing the status quo risk*: Testing, prototyping and piloting following a rigorous M&E framework
- *Addressing the financing gap*: Scaling up to increase impact in the lives of women and girls
3. Highlights from UN Women’s existing portfolio: Co-identifying potential high impact innovations

- **Internal Innovation Incubator**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Project Focus</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Project Focus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moldova Country Office</td>
<td>In partnership with the local government innovation lab and various stakeholders at the community level, prototyping a project on Ending Violence Against Women using a Co-creation Positive Deviance approach. These approaches inform the project design and implementation through 1) active engagement of key stakeholders and service-providers and 2) involving survivors of violence as subject experts.</td>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office</td>
<td>Control trials on the use of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in the prevention of Violence Against Women and Girls in Panama in partnership with Panamanian cognitive therapists.</td>
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<td>Georgia Country Office</td>
<td>Prototyping a project in partnership with the head of government administration on the use of an empathetic design approach to develop a course on prevention of workplace sexual harassment for public servants in Georgia. This project is being rolled out both through practical trainings and also in the form of an interactive, electronic course.</td>
<td>East and Southern Africa Regional Office</td>
<td>Conducting customer journeys to establish the economic factors that influence acquisition of post-harvest loss technologies by rural women farmers. The aim is to support women’s economic empowerment through uptake of such technologies.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan Country Office</td>
<td>Project focuses on the use of technology to economically empower women in the informal food industry. Home-based women workers are linked to new markets through a technology-based food ordering platform where they showcase their home-made meals to prospective customers.</td>
<td>UN Women headquarters (Fund for Gender Equality)</td>
<td>The fund for Gender Equality is in the process of opening an innovation lab within the fund to capture and support grantee innovations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mali Country Office</td>
<td>Business development boot camp as well as digital entrepreneurship skills training for young women. The entrepreneurs will afterwards be incubated for a year by the Agency of Information Technologies and Communication (AGETIC), receiving capacity building and individual coaching and skills development to support them build business prototypes that would be introduced into the market through digital platforms. Businesses range from an application to alert and prevent violence against women to digital business models.</td>
<td>UN Women headquarters (Private Sector)</td>
<td>Development of a digital platform to encourage and increase individual giving as a supplementary resource mobilization strategy for UN Women.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Global Champions for Women’s Economic Empowerment**
3. Highlights from UN Women’s existing portfolio: Testing, prototyping and piloting

- Buy From Women Enterprise Platform
- Digital Funding Raising
Example: Enterprise Platform in Rwanda

Economic empowerment and greater resilience of women farmers in a changing climate

Access to climate smart goods & technologies

- Access to land
- Access to climate smart information & skills
- Access to affordable finance
- Access to markets

- Land Mapping & Titling; Harvest forecasts & regular updates
- Text messages / links to trainings & resources
- Asset information, sales contract & investment track record increases bankability
- Access to suppliers, customers, financiers (digital funding, social impact investment)

Buy from Women Enterprise Platform
3. Highlights from UN Women’s existing portfolio: Scaling up innovations

- Scaling up through replication: expanding awareness, reaching new target groups, influencing the broader innovation community and larger public

- Scaling up through access to finance (concessional public finance, digital crowdfunding, social impact investment, diaspora finance, etc.)
4. Moving forward: Maturing the innovation pipeline

• **Moving to scale 2017-2018**
  - From co-identification to prototyping, testing, piloting: Virtual skills school, behavioural science, cash transfers for humanitarian assistance
  - From prototyping to scale: enterprise platforms, digital fundraising
  - Facilitating financing to scale: Social impact investment

• **Organizational development**
  - Continued investment in strengthening internal innovation capacity and partnerships
  - Investment in strengthening monitoring, measuring and evaluating results
  - Embedding lessons learned and best practices into UN Women’s new strategic plan
Thank you