Report on the evaluation function of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2017

2018 Annual Meeting
Executive Board

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Director a.i
UN Women Independent Evaluation and Audit Services (IEAS)
Global Evaluation Strategy (2018-2021)

- Articulates the strategic direction of UN-Women’s evaluation function
- Use of gender-responsive evaluation for learning and strategic decision-making elevated

Corporate Evaluation Plan (2018-2021) – new areas to be included:

- Joint evaluation of the Common Chapter of the Strategic Plan 2018–2021
As per the Executive Board’s decision in August 2017

- Independent Evaluation and internal audit functions co-located under one oversight umbrella
- New Charter for Independent Evaluation and Internal Audit (IEAS)
- Synergy and complementary while maintaining its operational and functional independence and integrity
Corporate Evaluations

Corporate evaluations ensured comprehensive coverage of UN Women Strategic Plan 2014-2017

In 2017, 3 evaluation reports presented to the Executive Board

Evaluation approaches and methodologies

- 7 corporate evaluations
- 4 meta-analysis
- 2 joint reviews on gender policies and practices in the UN System and beyond

Evaluation approaches and methodologies

- Inclusive System Evaluation for Gender Equalities, Environments and Marginalized Voices (ISE4GEMs)
- Exploratory study on big data to improve evaluation
Decentralized evaluation ensured comprehensive coverage of Strategic Notes

• 116 decentralized evaluations completed 2014-2017

• Coverage of CPE reached 27 per cent since 2015

• 9 CPEs completed in 2017, representing 75 per cent increase over 2016

• 37 decentralized evaluations completed in 2017
Steady progress achieved in all Key Evaluation Performance Indicators

Submissions of management responses reached 100%

All field offices appointed either officer or focal point for M&E

89% of offices conducted at least one evaluation

95% of evaluations were externally assessed as ‘meet’ or ‘exceeding the established standards’

86% offices reported use of evaluative evidence
9 out of 9 KPI achieved/made good progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key performance Indicator (KPIs)</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>Target 2017</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial resources invested in evaluation</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>2.9%*</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Resources for Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation Coverage</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<td>Evaluation Implementation Rate</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality of evaluations (satisfactory and above)</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
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*The figure for 2016 & 2017 is calculated using a new methodology, and therefore it’s not comparable to previous years.
### Key performance Indicator (KPIs)

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<td>Achieved</td>
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<th>Management response submission to the GATE</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
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<th>2017</th>
<th>Target 2017</th>
<th>Overall assessment</th>
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<tr>
<td>85%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>94%</td>
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<tr>
<td>88%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>On track</td>
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| Use of evaluations                        | -    | 71%  | 75%  | -    | 86%  | 90%          | On track           |

9 out of 9 KPI achieved/made good progress
Enhanced communication to facilitate use of evaluation

- Use of evaluation elevated as key pillar
- Innovative communication and knowledge management
- IES web traffic increased
- Transform remained the most accessed evaluation product
UN Women advanced the integration of gender dimensions into UN entities evaluation systems

Gender Responsive Evaluations strengthened UN system-wide accountability for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

- Co-convened the UNEG professional peer reviews of the evaluation function of UN organizations
- Co-convened the Human Rights and Gender Equality Working Groups
  - 72% entities either exceeds or meets the UN SWAP EPI standards
  - UN Women made significant increase in performance of UN SWAP EPI
- UN Women supported 12 UNDAF evaluation and 4 Joint Evaluation
• Global and regional multi-stakeholder partnership, e.g. EvalGender+ (co-chair)

• Country-led gender responsive M&E systems and country-led evaluations (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Zimbabwe and Argentina)

• Global and regional exchange and capacity development on gender responsive evaluation in the framework of the SDGs

• Case studies on national evaluation policies and systems in Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia
Global Advisory Committee’s assessment of the evaluation function in 2017

The committee acknowledged:

• Impressive performance of the evaluation function
• Extensive use of evaluation evidence by UN Women

The committee recommended:

• Capture stories of change and impact of UN Women
• Functional integrity of audit and evaluation functions
• Facilitate use of evaluation findings
• Influence system-wide practice and gender responsive national evaluation capacity development
• Significant progress achieved across all Evaluation Performance Indicators

• Investment made in enhancing knowledge, learning and communications increased the influence and uptake of evaluation insights

• Evaluation Strategy and Corporate Evaluation Plan 2018-2021 fully aligned to support UN Women’s strategic directions to strengthen development effectiveness

• Support from Management of the UN Women created a more conducive environment for greater absorption of lessons and recommendations generated by evaluations.

• UN Women’s continuous investment helped to influence integration of gender equality perspectives both within UN System and beyond