Executive Board Informal Session on the Mid Term Review of the UN Trust Fund’s Strategic Plan 2015-2020

Friday, 21 June 2019
United Nations Headquarters – New York
♦ Welcome from Maria-Noel Vaeza, Director Programme Division, UN Women
♦ Introduction from Aldijana Sisic, Chief of the UN Trust Fund, UN Women
♦ Mid Term Review presented by Zaira Drammis, Independent Mid Term Review Consultant
♦ UN Trust Fund reflections on the Mid Term Review (Aldijana Sisic)
♦ Roadmap to the next Strategic Plan (2021+) (Aldijana Sisic)
The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women
The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

United Nations inter-agency mechanism established by Member States in 1996 by the UN General Assembly Resolution 50/166

Reports annually to the Commission on Status of Women and the Human Rights Council

Administered by UN Women on behalf of the UN system

Mandated to support demand-driven initiatives to prevent and end violence against women and girls in ODA recipients' countries
- **21 years** of grant-giving through annual call for proposals
- **493** grants - **139** countries/territories - **US$ 140** millions
- Over **24 UN bodies and organs and civil society** involved in consultative processes and grants decision-making
The UN Trust Fund Strategic Plan 2015 - 2020
Strategic Plan Outcomes

- Improved access for women and girls to essential, safe and adequate multisectoral services
- Increased effectiveness of legislation, policies, national action plans and accountability systems
- Improved prevention of violence against women and girls through changes in practices, behaviors and attitudes
UN Trust Fund
Highlights from 2018
In 2018, the UN Trust Fund continued to reach out to small and women-led organizations and to support projects working to ensure efforts to prevent and address violence against women and girls “leave no one behind”.

At least
37 projects supported by the UN Trust Fund focused on those women and girls who have historically been marginalized and underserved. Among those directly served by these projects were:

- At least 1,530 women and girls with disabilities
- 8,107 indigenous women
- 7,718 refugee and internally displaced women and girls

At least 328,412 women and girls benefited directly from services, including 29,979 survivors of violence.

The UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women managed 125 projects aimed at preventing and addressing violence against women and girls in 70 countries and territories.
In the 2018 UNTF partner survey, 85 grantees in all regions participated in a survey about their experience of partnership with the UNTF.

64% of respondents already mobilized additional resources in 2018:

54 organizations had mobilized a total of $37.8 million.

Of that, $8,166,226 was mobilized by 23 organizations to continue or upscale the project funded by the UNTF.

92% believed that securing a UNTF grant will help their organization to mobilize additional resources in the future.
• In 2018, **22,383** women and girls used specialist support services to EVAW/G supported by UN Trust Fund grantees, and **4,160** service providers improved their provision of services to survivors.

• **135,665** women and girls gained knowledge of at least one available and accessible service that can provide help in cases of violence

• Last year, **45,757** women and girls accessed free legal aid or advice in cases of violence supported by UN Trust Fund grantees

“With the help of a legal counsellor and classes at the centre, I feel confident about myself and my future”. Noura who received services at a Arab Women’s Organization

“I learned that we could do something against [...] the violence they exert against us women.” Claudia Ajú, who attended a WJI legal literacy course
Resource Mobilization and Advocacy

- In 2018 the UN Trust Fund increased revenue by 35%
- Strategic Plan RM target of USD 20 million is expected to be achieved and surpassed in 2019
- Renewed commitment of all 2018 donors (retention rate at 100%)
- New donor Member States on board
Mid Term Review of the UN Trust Fund Strategic Plan 2015 - 2020
Methodology and Approach

Inception
- Adaptation of OECD DAC Criteria for Evaluating Development Assistance
- Assumptions and mid-term review questions

Data collection
- 160 internal and public documents
- 47 semi-structured interviews, 51 people
- 266 grantees reached through survey in 3 languages; 101 responses received

Validation
- Data triangulation
- Validation through additional documentation

Inspired by participatory and utilization-focused approaches
Grantee organizations, donors, PAC members, women’s rights organizations, UN Women staff
Findings and Conclusions

Strategic Plan Delivery
- Delivery on track
- Excellent reputation
- Addressing sustainability
- Different Pillars and sub-strategies
- Under-resourced

Grant Giving
- Fair and transparent
- Attracts large number of applications
- Outreach challenges of demand-driven approach
- UNTF = More than a donor
Findings and Conclusions

Coordination

- Strategic alignment with UN-Women
- Common UN Women / UNTF resource mobilization and knowledge management strategies
- Suitability of programmatic and financial policies for grantees and coordination between HQ and country offices
- Global PAC= potential
- Inter-agency mechanisms vs part of UN Women alone

EVAW Landscape

- Relevant
- Niche: focus on women-led and women’s rights organizations
- Effectiveness of special funding windows
During the UNTF’s mid-term review of its Strategic Plan,

101 organization representatives responded to a survey.

**THEY SAID:**

- **87%** agreed or strongly agreed that being a UNTF grantee enabled their organization to achieve results on EVAWG.
- **84%** agreed or strongly agreed that being a UNTF grantee enabled their organization to generate knowledge and evidence on what works to EVAWG.
- **82%** said that what they had learned from the UNTF will help them to continue their work around EVAWG.
- **77%** agreed or strongly agreed that being a UNTF grantee responds to the needs of their organization beyond funding.

**Besides funding, the most valuable elements of being a UN Trust Fund grantee include:**

- **TOOLS PROVIDED**
- **TRAINING SESSIONS**
- **REPUTATION OF THE UN TRUST FUND**
- **KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE EVENTS**

**Capacity Building helped organizations in their:**

- **PROJECT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION**
- **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**
- **ETHICS AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS**
- **EXPERTISE ON EVAWG**
Findings and Conclusions

“We have found the UN Trust Fund staff to be extremely responsive and supportive of our work. They treat partners with respect and professionalism.”

Grantee
Mid Term Review Recommendations

The UNTF Strategic Plan in the EVAW landscape
• Capitalize on unique focus on small women’s rights and women-led organizations
• Take a stance on an inclusive definition of “woman” (complexity of gender identities)

Strategic Plan Delivery
• Development of sub-strategies for priority/around sustainability
• Creation of harmonized evidence hub
• Diversification of funding base
Mid Term Review Recommendations

**Coordination**
- Communication of complementarities and concerted UN-Women/UNTF resource mobilization strategy
- Review of policies and procedures for grant-giving
- Explore innovative collaboration between global PAC and UNTF
- Keep investing in HQ / country office coordination

**Grant giving under the Strategic Plan**
- Assessment of how to best reach and support small women’s rights and women-led organisations
- Continue capacity development for grantees
- Review call for proposals process (increase of outreach/bigger picture)
UN Trust Fund reflections on the Mid Term Review
UN Trust Fund Reflections on the Mid Term Review

• The UN Trust Fund has already implemented some actions that respond to the MTR findings.

• The UN Trust Fund Secretariat will complete a management response to the MTR by 31 August 2019.

• The response will be developed in consultation with other sections in UN Women and the Global PAC, amongst others.

• The response will outline what will be addressed in the remainder of this SP (before end 2020) and what will be taken into account in the development of the new SP (2021+).
Roadmap to the next UN Trust Fund Strategic Plan 2021+
Kick-off of consultative process to the next SP (21 June 2019)

Internal scoping on the scope of the next SP (July – Oct 2019)

Consultation at the Grantee Convention (November 2019)

Series of Consultations with Partners (Jan – June 2020)

Draft Strategic Plan 2021+ (by September 2020)

Final external consultative meetings on the new SP (November 2020)

Final Strategic Plan 2021+ (launched January 2021)

Roadmap to the next UNTF Strategic Plan
Thank you