UN WOMEN EXECUTIVE BOARD

UPDATE ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (IFIS)

FEBRUARY 2023
2022-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN: 
FINANCING FOR GENDER EQUALITY IS ONE OF SEVEN DEFINED OUTCOMES

FINANCING FOR GENDER EQUALITY:

- **Outcome 0.2.1**: Integrating gender equality in public finance management systems
- **Outcome 0.2.2**: Anchoring gender equality in fiscal laws, policies, and standards
- **Outcome 0.2.3**: Aligning financing with gender equality targets through the budget
- **Outcome 0.2.4**: Catalyzing new sources of finance and financial innovations for gender equality

Advancing partnerships and resourcing, particularly with donors and international financial institutions, is fundamental to sustain the capital direction for SDG 5.
What is UN Women’s Unique Offering?

1. Joint analytical work and strategic advice;
2. Joint data curation;
3. Country-level technical cooperation;
4. Capacity development and training;
5. Convening

In the areas of:

- Gender and Macroeconomic Policy
- Gender responsive budgeting
- Amplifying and convening CSO voices
- Women, Peace and Security
- Women’s Economic Empowerment
- COVID-19 recovery
UN WOMEN’S UNIQUE VALUE ADD

JOINT ANALYTICAL WORK AND STRATEGIC ADVICE
UN WOMEN’S UNIQUE VALUE ADD

JOINT DATA CURATION

Some Examples:

- Building on and collaborating with the World Bank in Kenya, Tanzania, and Nigeria, UN Women supported gender data projects developing national gender statistics plans.
- UN Women and the World Bank have collaborated to produce the first ever global estimates of poverty by sex, updated regularly.
- UN Women contributed to the consultations by the World Bank on the development and promotion of their Gender Data Portal.
- UN Women worked with AfDB in formulating and implementing the regional strategy on gender statistics.
- With ADB and UN DESA, UN Women supported 7 countries to develop global methodological guidelines on measuring asset ownership.

- UN Women has partnered with IFIs in the implementation of the Women Count programme.
UN Women’s Unique Value Add
Country-Level Technical Cooperation

Some examples:

- UN Women has collaborated with EBRD to facilitate new business connections for women entrepreneurs.

- In several countries in Africa, UN Women is working on a Regional Programme on Affirmative Procurement and on Gender and Green Jobs with AfDB.

- UN Women is supporting the World Bank South Sudan Women and Social and Economic Empowerment Project.
Some examples:

**Gender Responsive Budgeting:** longstanding collaboration on capacity development of national counterparts. Country level dialogue between UNW and IMF to align Government support;

- Joint training on **Gender and Macroeconomics** with IMF;

- Jointly developed **gender-responsive policy tools and costing assessments for childcare and social protection** that incorporate financing mechanisms endorsed by IMF.

Photo: UN Women Training Centre
Some examples:

• Since 2020, UN Women convened a series of high-level virtual ministerial roundtables along with the IFIs to highlight best practices and share experiences on ensuring a gender lens in stimulus packages. Our push has led to concrete areas of collaboration identified by UN Women and the Multilateral Development Banks to support more gender-responsive lending.

• Leveraged UN Women’s convening power via platforms such as the Generation Equality Action Coalitions and FiCS and organized high-level events and dialogues during the 66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women to discuss progress made on commitments for a climate-resilient future with gender equality at its heart.

• UN Women co-chairs the Finance in Common (FiCS) Coalition on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Development Banks as a part of the global network of 500+ Public Development Banks (PDBs). This is an opportunity to collaborate and highlight the importance of the financial sector, specifically PDBs. These actors play an influential role in leveraging the power of capital markets and movements of capital to steer improvements in corporate culture and practices, and a business environment that works for everyone and that advances gender equality and women’s empowerment.
SNAPSHOT OF PARTNERSHIP BY INSTITUTION
Key partnership results:

- **SDG Monitoring (e.g. ind. 5.1.1)** – Since 2016, UN Women, the World Bank and OECD are joint custodians of SDG Indicator 5.1.1.

- Jointly conduct surveys in time use surveys Kenya, Tanzania and potentially Nigeria; develop national gender statistics plans (Tanzania); develop and sharing methodologies to conduct COVID-19 rapid assessment surveys.

- **Gender and poverty research** – UN Women and the World Bank collaborated to produce the first ever global estimates of poverty by sex, now updated regularly.

- **UN Women advised on the development and promotion of the World Bank’s Gender Data Portal.**

- **Currently collaborating on gender and childcare research and exploring possible collaboration on gender and climate change research.**
Areas of collaboration identified in the new IMF Gender Strategy, in close consultation with UN Women:

- Building on strong, existing foundation, enhance collaboration on GRB [global and country level] via joint tailored capacity development for government officials; analysis of GRB good practices and entry points for strengthening government implementation; research/analysis of links between gender budgeting and gender equality outcomes with corresponding policy options guidance.

- Joint development/dissemination of capacity development on Gender and Macroeconomics; development of gender-responsive policy tools [e.g., fiscal space assessment tool in the framework of financing childcare and/or social protection]; joint childcare costing assessments that incorporate financing mechanisms endorsed by IMF.

- Joint Data Curation & Use, including UN Women’s contribution to the development of IMF’s internal data hub, data sharing and collaboration at country level

Key partnership results:

- UN Women (via SDG Indicator 5.c.1) has database of comparable data on GRB from 105 countries and areas. Analyze good practices, complemented with IMF GRB data, to support countries to improve GRB practice.

- Long-standing regional/country level GRB capacity development for government officials. More recently, have convened workshops and meetings with IMF at country level which holds potential to ‘speak with one voice’ Government support.

- Lead gender mainstreaming in Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, where collaborate with IMF on areas including domestic public resources. Continue to identify entry points – e.g. gender and taxation - to strengthen gender analysis in FFD, in collaboration with IMF.
**Areas of partnership:**

- EBRD-UN Women MoU signed in 2021 committing to partnership in the areas of economic recovery, gender-focused investments, digitalization and climate resilience. Discussing possibility to work together on gender statistics (following Women Count Roundtable)

- UN Women’s value: Thought leadership/analysis, convening, advancing policy development and implementation

**Key partnership results:**

- ECA region: UN Women-EBRD Partnership during Women Entrepreneurs Expo to facilitate new business connections for women entrepreneurs to maximize business growth.

- EBRD contributed financially to Satellite Women Entrepreneurship Expos in Kyrgyzstan and Georgia and led joint technical sessions with UN Women in Serbia, Moldova and Ukraine

- Albania: UN Women supported the Ministry of Finance and Economy to engage EBRD in the implementation of the National Action Plan on Women Entrepreneurship’s implementation

- Kyrgyzstan: UN Women, EBRD and World Bank partnering to develop National Financial Inclusion Strategy.

- Ukraine: joint EBRD-UN Women private sector policy assessment being explored.
Areas of Partnership:

- Signed a global 5-year MOU in March 2022
  - i) Gender data and statistics, ii) gender-responsive budgeting, iii) women's entrepreneurship and gender-responsive procurement, iv) gender-based violence, and v) climate change.

Key partnership Results:

- Second-round of Rapid Gender Assessment and report in 8 countries.
  - Gender-responsive budgeting project in India (ADB funding to UNW: $1.6 mln).
  - Gender-responsive procurement report.
  - Pacific VAGW prevention hub (ADB funding in parallel: $0.7 mln).

- Future collaboration areas from 2023
  - Climate change, UN Women inputs for ADB OP priority 2 Action Plan mid-term review, CSW67, possible funding*
Areas of Partnership

- MoU signed in 2021
- Women’s Economic Empowerment
  - Women Entrepreneurship - Regional Programme on Affirmative Procurement in West Africa
  - Gender and Green Jobs in Africa
- Gender statistics, data and analysis
  - Development of the Africa Minimum Set of Gender Indicators and Women Count program training and capacity building on gender statistics
  - Joint country gender profiles
  - Joint gender-responsive poverty assessment
  - Gender statistics, data and analysis
  - Capacity development/training on gender and macroeconomics

Key partnership results:

- Published the policy brief “Green Jobs for Women in Africa”
**IDB AND IDB INVEST**

**Areas of Partnership**

- **Public procurement**

UN Women launched the policy brief *"Public Procurement with a Gender Perspective: Achievements and challenges in the revitalization of women led enterprises in Latin America as a driver of the post-COVID-19 recovery"*, which provides examples of good practices in the region for the inclusion of women in public procurement and contracting in LAC.

Joint presentations with IDB on challenges and achievements in public procurement in Latin America and the Caribbean.

- **Gender responsive budgeting**

Joint working sessions on gender responsive budgeting with public institutions

- **Gender Statistics – supporting VAW surveys in the Caribbean**

- **Participation of UN Women in Gender Parity Task Force in some countries in the region.**

Press release: UN Women and Inter-American Development Bank urge governments to integrate gender as a catalyst for economic recovery (COVID-19) in the Caribbean

Caribbean policymakers strategize on gender-related initiatives and the care economy in their post-COVID-19 recovery efforts.

Date: Thursday, 30 July 2020

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30 July 2020 – The UN entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women (UN Women), and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), convened High-Level representatives from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) for an in-depth discussion on the urgency of addressing the care economy and the impact on women, who comprise the majority of unpaid care workers. Participants included ministers of finance, planning, gender and social protection, representatives from the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), members of the diplomatic corps and officials of agencies responsible for gender.

Rising demand for care in the context of the COVID-19 crisis and response has deepened already-existing inequalities in the gendered division of labour, placing a disproportionate burden on women and girls with potential long-term implications for their health, wellbeing and economic empowerment. The full potential and sustainability of the economic recovery requires the care sector to be functioning well. *Global studies* have demonstrated that investments in care services and infrastructure can potentially create up to 2.5 more jobs than investments in regular infrastructure.
UN Women co-chairs the Finance in Common (FiCS) Coalition on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment in Development Banks as a part of the global network of 500+ Public Development Banks (PDBs).

**Key achievements:**

1. Established the work of the Coalition (with co-chairs AFD in 2021 & AfDB in 2022).

2. Increased number of signatories to the Paris Development Banks Statement on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment to 41 PDBs signatories.

3. Aligned various gender equality frameworks (e.g., Women’s Empowerment Principles (WEPs), 2X Criteria, OECD DAC gender marker).

UN Women is uniquely positioned to:

• Develop standards and guidance on financing for gender equality

• Offer thought leadership and programmatic support on gender equality challenges and solutions from a human-rights and economic justice perspective

• Act as a trusted convener of a wide range of global, regional, and local development partners, including civil society and grassroots organizations