



CONCEPT NOTE

Launch of the updated system-wide accountability frameworks for gender mainstreaming: UN-SWAP 2.0 and the UNCT-SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard

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| Co-hosts: | UN Women and UNDP |
| Date: | 21 June 2018 from 11:40-13:00 |
| Venue: | Conference Room 3, United Nations Headquarters, New York |

Background:

Despite significant normative advances, progress for women and girls remains uneven and slow. The systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective is critical for the implementation and success of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As a standard setting organization, the United Nations has the duty to lead by example and to ensure the equal and active participation of women at all levels and in all fields.

Responding to the lack of adequate progress in gender mainstreaming across the UN system, the UN CEB issued a system-wide policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women in 2006 to address gaps and challenges to progress. The Policy envisaged a three-part inter-connecting mechanism to establish a comprehensive multi-level accountability framework for gender equality and the empowerment of women: 1) the UN-SWAP which focuses on processes at the corporate levels; 2) the United Nations Country Teams (UNCT) Performance Indicators for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNCT Scorecard) which focus mainly on joint processes and institutional arrangements at the country level; and 3) an accountability mechanism for development results at the country and normative levels.

In April 2012, in response to the 2006 system-wide Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) endorsed a UN System-wide Action Plan (UN-SWAP) for implementation. The Action Plan, to date, has focused on processes and functions at the corporate levels and responds to the first level of the multi-level accountability framework for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The Gender Scorecard was endorsed by the UNDG in 2008 in response to the 2006 system-wide Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. To date, the Scorecard has responded to the second level of the multi-level accountability framework for gender equality and the empowerment of women by assessing the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming by UN Country Teams.

Over the past 18 months, both the UN-SWAP framework and the UNCT Scorecard have been revised and enhanced to fulfil the third level of accountability recognized in the 2006 system-wide Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women that called for an accountability mechanism for development results at the country and normative levels.

UN-SWAP 2.0 was developed through an 18-month participatory process involving over 50 UN entities, coordinated through an 11-member inter-agency Working Group on Results, chaired by UN Women, and including piloting by 10 entities. It extends the reach of UN-SWAP 1.0 by including new Performance Indicators on gender-related and SDG relevant results, and leadership, as well as updating existing UN-SWAP 1.0 Performance Indicators. UN-SWAP 2.0 builds on five years of experience and is based on the input from the entire UN system. It has been developed within the overall context of UN reform and the planned move by the UN to system-wide reporting

The updated UNCT-SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard (UNCT-SWAP Scorecard) was developed by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group Task Team on Gender Equality (UNSDG TTGE) under the UNSDG Results Group on Voice, Values and Norms (UNSDG VVN) in partnership between UN Women and UNDP. The framework was piloted by six UNCTs in 2017 and is expected to be rolled out in approximately 17-20 countries in 2018. The updated document is aligned with the corporate UN-SWAP 2.0 and the 2017 UNDAF guidance, ensuring a coherent accountability framework at country, regional and HQ levels. Common reporting on the UNCT-SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard will allow for both enhanced accountability and comparability across UNCTs and for tracking collective progress on the achievement of gender-related UNDAF outcomes.

Objective:

The event will bring together key stakeholders of the gender equality mainstreaming accountability frameworks to share experiences and lessons learned to-date, to introduce the new elements of the frameworks. and discuss the way forward.

Programme:

Opening Remarks:

- **Ms. Åsa Regnér**, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director, UN Women
- **Mr. Abdoulaye Mar Dieye**, UN Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau of Policy and Programme Support, UNDP

Moderated Panel Discussion:

- **Moderator: Ms. Aparna Mehrotra**, Director Coordination Division, UN Women
- **Ms. Claire Van der Vaeren**, Former Resident Coordinator & Chief, CO Liaison and Coordination UNDP.
- **Ms. Raquel Lagunas**, Senior Policy Advisor on Gender Mainstreaming, UNDP
- **Ms Noreen Khan**, Gender Planning & Programme Specialist - **Ms. Shreyasi Jha (by video)**, Senior Gender Advisor -- Gender, Results and Measurement, UNICEF
- **Ms. Leyla Sharafi**, Gender and Youth Specialist, Gender, Human Rights and Culture Branch, UNFPA

Interventions from the floor