



UN



WOMEN



Financing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Results

Executive Board Informal Briefing
Structured Dialogue on Financing
New York, 25 August 2020

Summary

1

COVID-19 is a public health and economic crisis that has changed the development financing landscape, but investment in gender equality is essential to support effective recovery.

2

Impressive growth in other resource revenue in 2019 is unlikely to be matched in 2020 and declining regular resource revenue is widening the core/non-core imbalance, which affects our ability to deliver our specific mandate. In this context, UN Women is taking steps to be fit-for-purpose in 2020 and beyond.

3

Next to regular resource revenue, other resources that are flexible and predictable offer funding partners, the UN development system and partner countries the best value for money and return on investment.

Presentation Outline

1. Global financing environment
2. Investment in results
3. Financing picture 2019
4. Expenditures 2019
5. Implications of funding gaps
6. UN Women's response
7. Meeting 2020 challenges and beyond

The COVID-19 pandemic is a major setback for gender equality and women's empowerment. Shrinking global GDP is reducing available ODA and the financial outlook in developing economies is being further affected by reduced inflows of external private finance. In the context of a global economic recession, financing for gender equality is crucial because:

Global financing environment

- Even before the pandemic, gender equality progress was uneven. Rollbacks for women and girls will increase existing inequalities and vulnerabilities and the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on women will further feminize poverty.
- Gender inequality is economically costly. A gender-regressive scenario of inaction could cost global GDP growth \$1 trillion, while gender-responsive action could add \$13 trillion to global GDP in 2030.
- UN Women is acting to be fit-for-purpose in a post-COVID world, including through corporate-decision making and programme portfolio reviews, and MTR-driven strategic re-prioritization.

“This is the time to step up, not step back...”

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
*United Nations Under-Secretary-General and
Executive Director, UN Women*



Investment Results

Leadership & Governance

OVER
158
THOUSAND women and girls received legal aid support



49
COUNTRIES

Ending Violence against Women

scaled up support for women and girl survivors of violence



24
COUNTRIES

developed or improved guidelines, protocols and standard operating procedures for quality services for women and girl survivors of violence

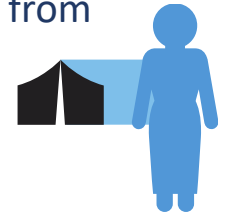
16
THOUSAND

women from diverse backgrounds received training and gained leadership skills

Peace & Security

181
MILLION

people in **40 countries** benefit from gender-responsive disaster risk reduction strategies and policies



Economic Empowerment

82

laws and policies were adopted in **40 countries** to empower women in the economy

OVER
3400

companies have signed up to the Women's Empowerment Principles globally



OVER
500
THOUSAND

women and girls received humanitarian assistance and benefitted from disaster risk reduction and resilience work in **48 countries**



NORMATIVE

Where we are

From 2018-2019, UN Women supported **118** countries to conduct the 25-year reviews and appraisal of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action



RESULT HIGHLIGHT

BPfA +25 reviews led to a **global synthesis report** and a **strong political declaration** supported by UN-Women and a **multi-stakeholder hearing**, led by the President of the General Assembly, that highlighted the impact of COVID-19 on women and girls

COORDINATION

Where we are

UN Women coordinated **19** UN entities on GEWE COVID-19 guidance in UN frameworks and is participating in COVID-19 system-wide Cluster Coordination in over **18** countries



RESULT HIGHLIGHT

UN Women's proposal to integrate the **Gender Equality Marker** in the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund was **unanimously accepted** and UN Women launched the UNCT **Gender Equality Marker helpdesk**

OPERATIONAL

Where we are

UN Women is supporting rapid-action COVID-19 response and recovery actions in over **75** countries.



RESULT HIGHLIGHT

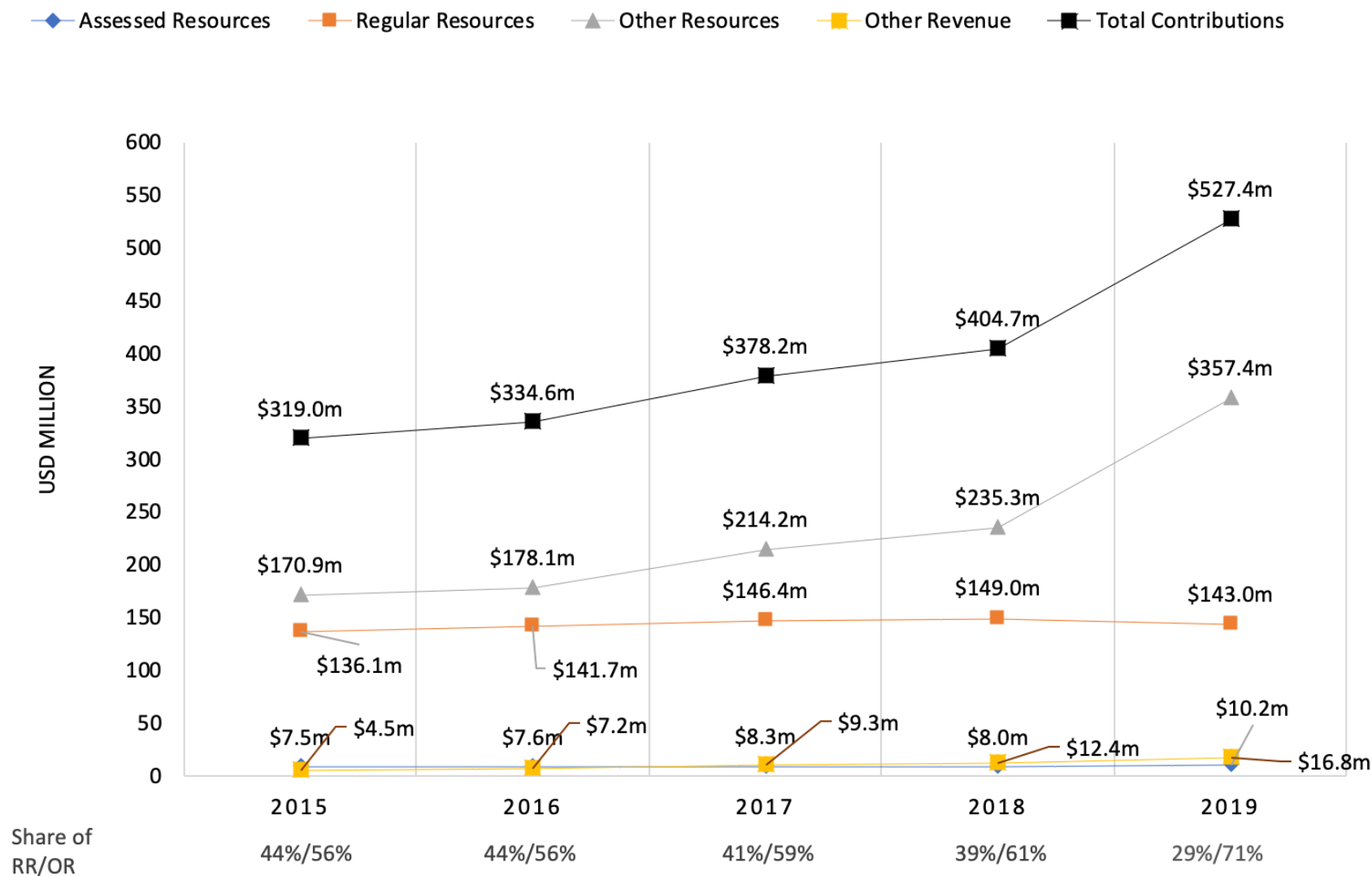
Rapid, agile, direct COVID-19 response, such as provision of personal protective equipment to over **66,900** women's organizations and **frontline violence against women service providers** in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.



Financing Picture

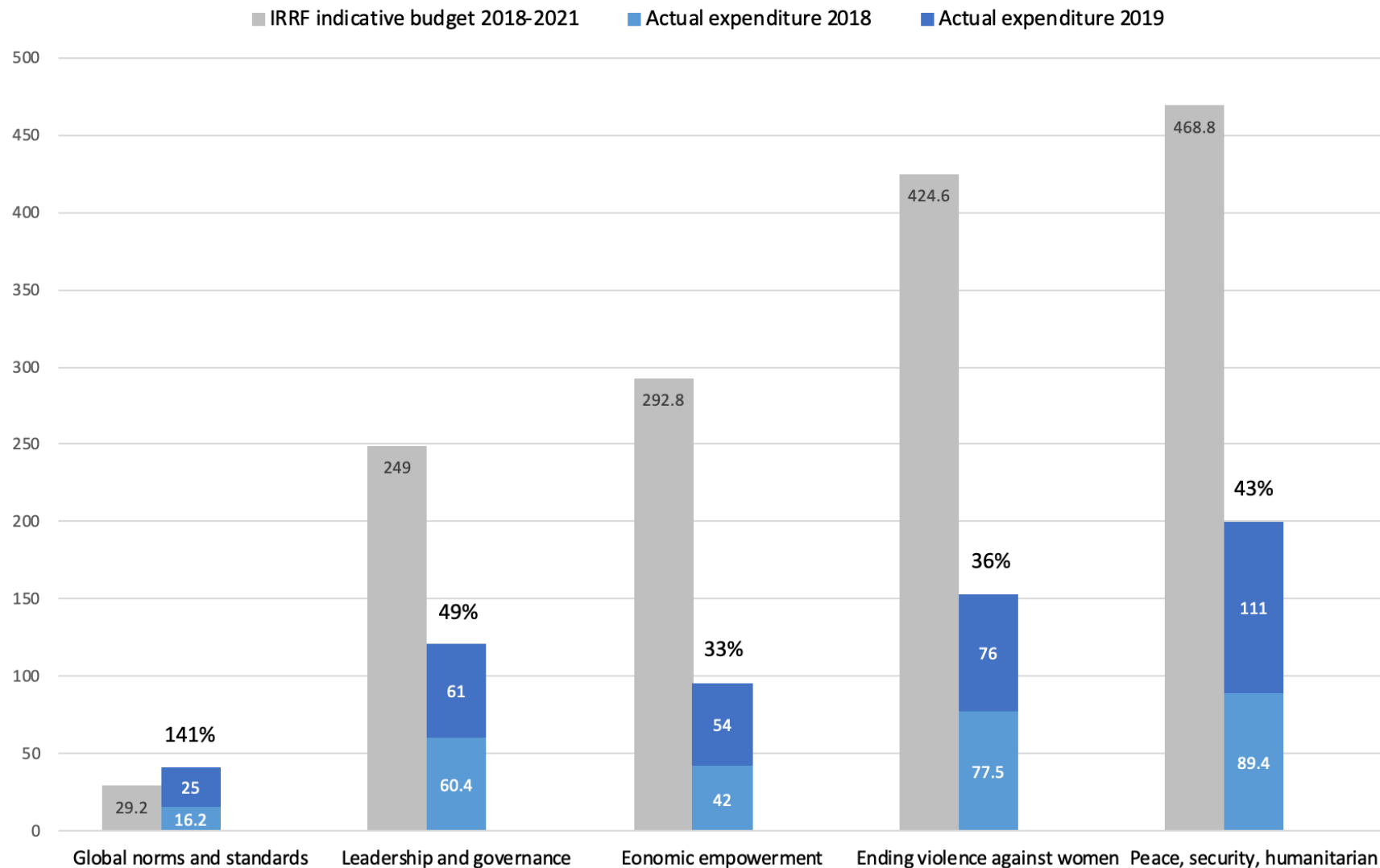
- Revenue from all sources reached an all-time high in 2019 of **\$527.4 M**
- Other resources grew by **52%** but growth is unlikely to be sustained. Regular resources decreased by **4%**
- Improved predictability of resources: in 2019 **54% of RR and 68% of OR agreements were multi-year** compared to 21% and 65% in 2016
- Average agreement value increased: **6% of OR contributions >\$5 M** in 2019 compared to 2% in 2016 and between 2016-2019 **23% fewer <\$150 K** contributions

Revenue by Funding Type, 2015-2019



- Total programme expenditure reached a record high in 2019 of **\$326 M**, a 14% increase from 2018.
- At the regional level, programme expenditure reached **\$246 M**, representing 75% of overall programme expenditure.
- The **largest proportion** of resources contributed to SP **Outcome 5** on WPS, followed by SP **Outcome 4** on EAW.
- SP Outcomes 2 and 5 expenditure are in line with the IRRF, while Outcome 1 reflects higher than anticipated demand and Outcomes 3 and 4 are falling behind as of the mid-point of the SP.

Planned 4-year allocation vs. Outcome expenditure 2018-2019



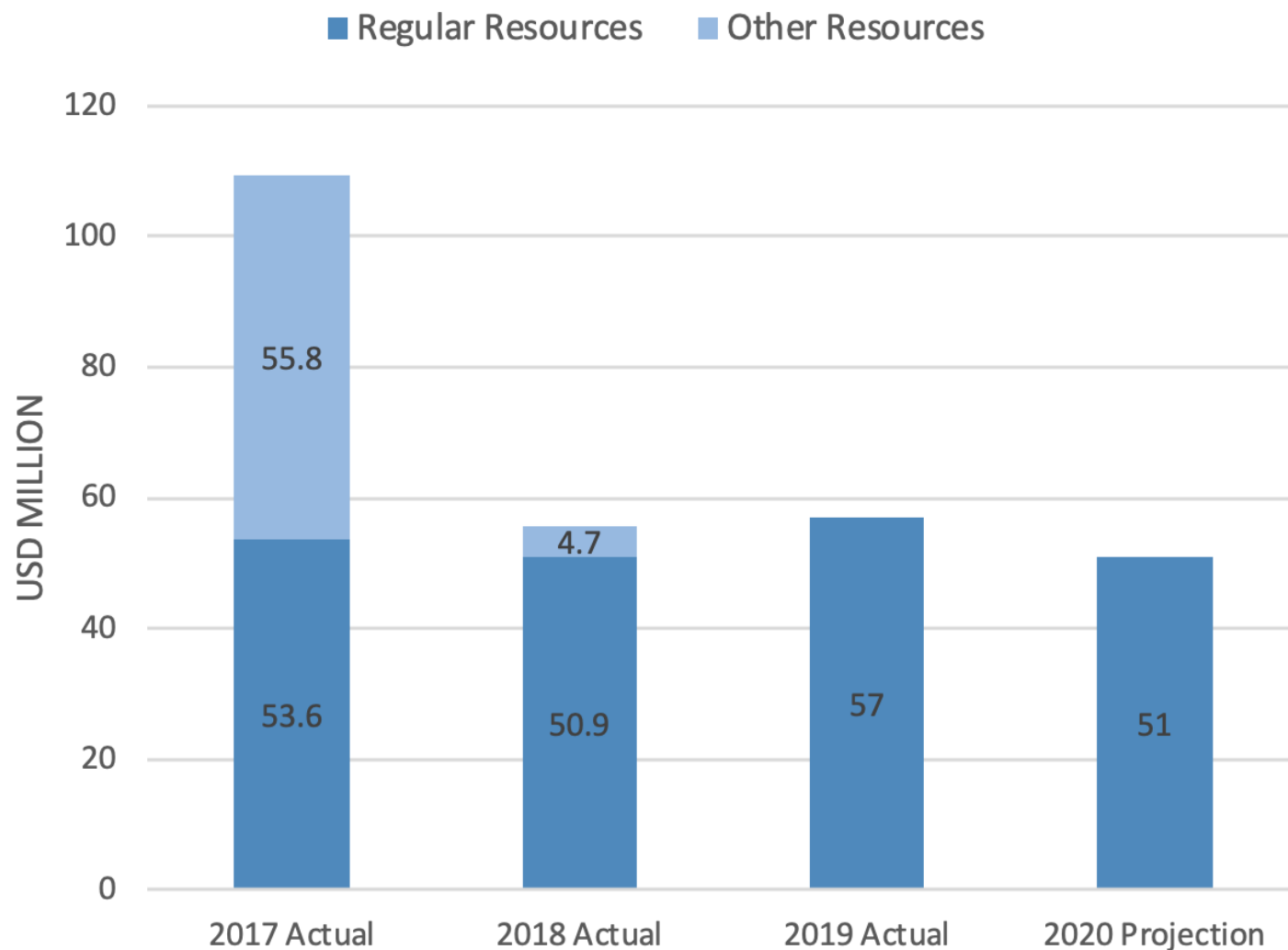
2019 RR funding gap widened in 2019 to **\$57 M** from \$50.9 M in 2018, while the 2019 OR funding gap closed

2020 projections indicate UN Women is in line to meet \$285 M OR integrated budget estimate but **anticipates a \$51 M RR gap** or **25.5%** of the \$200 M RR integrated budget estimate

Despite foreign exchange losses in **2020, RR projections indicate the RR funding gap will narrow** compared to 2019 given increased contributions/pledges from several partners

The **share of voluntary contributions received as RR is declining**, from 44% in 2015 down to 28.5% in 2019, falling below the Funding Compact threshold of 30% for the first time. The **projected share of RR in 2020 is 32%**, primarily due to an anticipated reduction in OR

Funding gaps against integrated budget estimates





Implications of Funding Gaps

UN Women is unique because our normative and coordination mandate depends on RR

Regular resources are **unearmarked** and allow funds to be used where they are needed most



Enables UN Women to carry out our **full mandate** as the global champion, convenor and catalyst for gender equality and women's empowerment.

Offers **stability** to plan and achieve long-term strategic objectives

Provides **flexibility** to respond quickly to crises

Ignites **innovative** and **catalytic** programming that leverages other resources

Limits coordination capacity and restricts capacity to engage in UNS processes

← RR Funding Gaps Affect Normative and Coordination Mandate the Most →

Limits ability to hire technical expertise to provide policy support to Member States at country level

NORMATIVE



\$5M over 3 years would allow UN Women’s leadership and expertise to support 15 national governments to develop and implement gender-responsive governance and national planning.

COORDINATION



\$1M over 2 years in additional regular resources would support the ongoing, dedicated coordination with International Financial Institutions on the integration of gender in COVID-19 related government stimulus packages.

OPERATIONAL

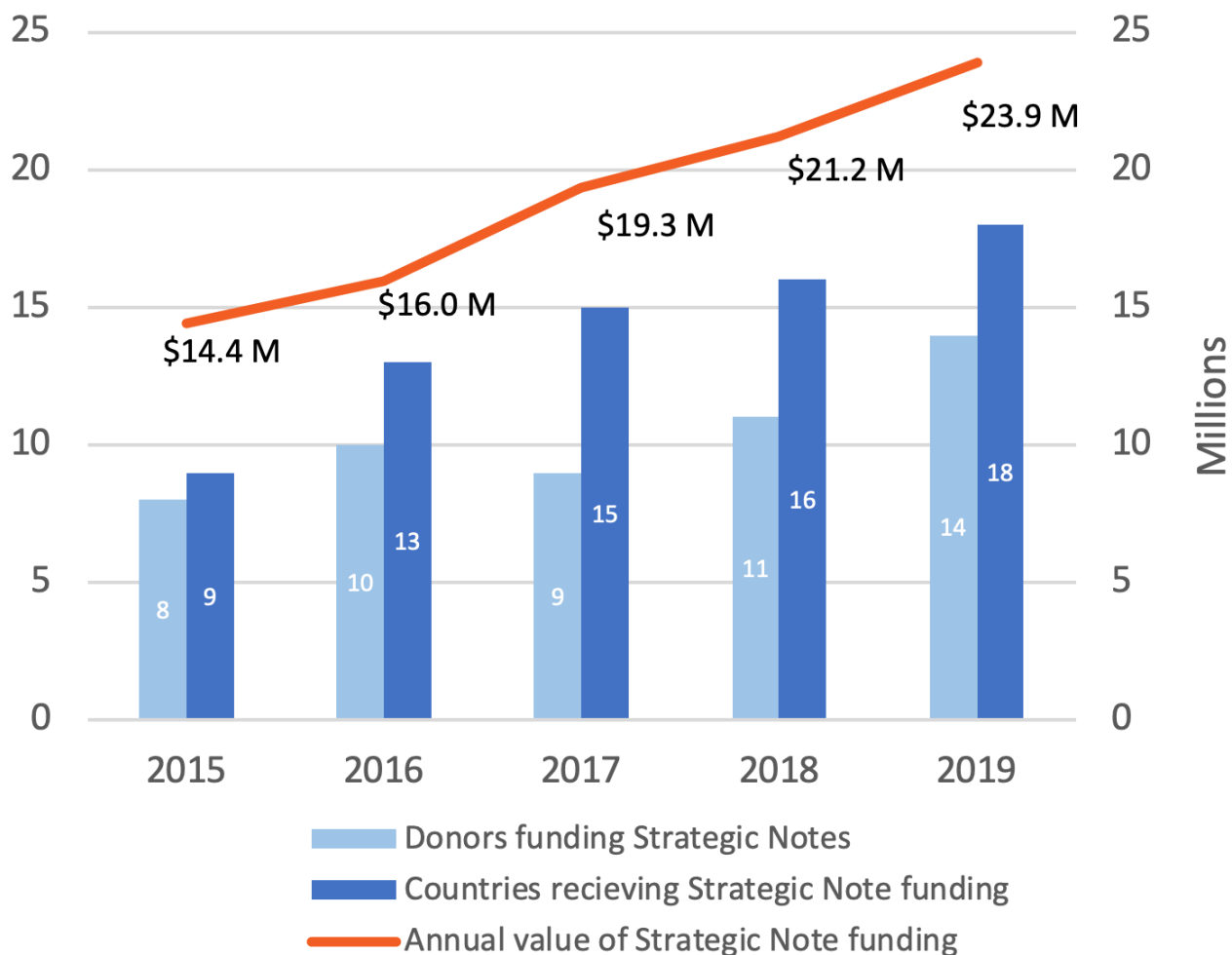


\$12M would have enabled UN Women to pivot programming in 20 countries to invest in women’s economic and social protection as a key evidence-based strategy to prevent violence in the context of COVID-19.



UN Women's Response in Partnership

Strategic Note funding trends, 2015-2019*



*extracted from DAMS, agreement value has been annualized

Growth Trend

2015-2019 increase in number of donors, number of country SNs funded and annual value of investment

2020 YTD indicates continued positive trend, with \$19.8M mobilized from 13 donors for SNs in 17 countries, with almost \$25 M mobilized for the period 2021-2024

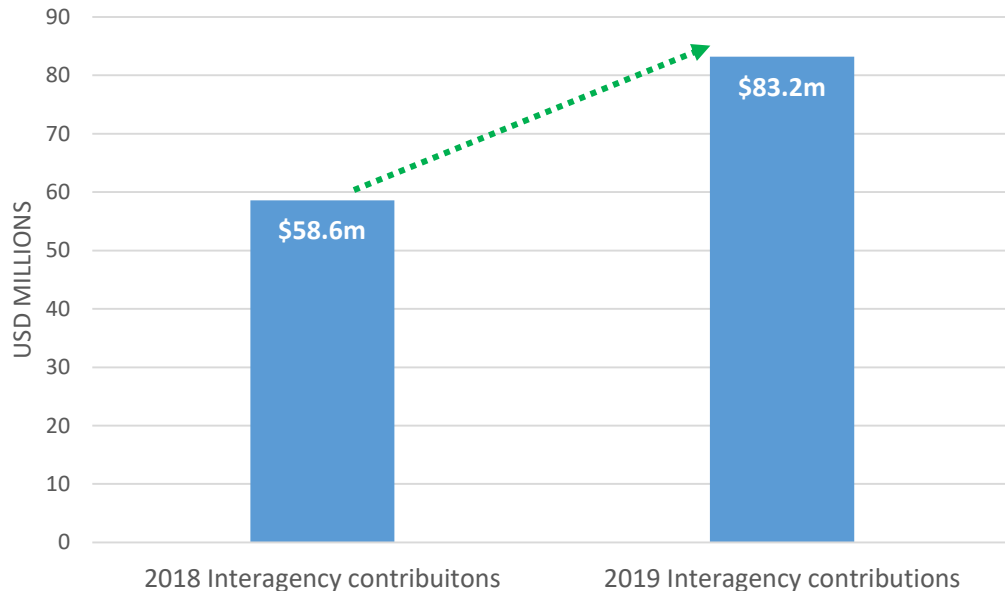
2020 Donors

Alwaleed Bin Talal Foundation, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, UNOPS, United States, US National Committee, Zonta

Advantages

- aligns with QCPR recommendation to provide un-earmarked and multiyear funding.
- allows for more strategic allocation of resources to reach transformative results
- reduces transaction costs, such as streamlining of reporting

- SG set a target of **\$3.4B** in pooled funds by 2023.
- Funding Compact calls on Member States and UNDS to do more and better in interagency pooled funding
- UN Women had an increase of over **40%** in 2019 compared to 2018



- UN Women participated in **305** joint programmes in 2019 (mainly in the Africa region and on WPS / HA)
- In 2019, UN Women participated in joint programmes in **70 of 101** UNCTs and in **74%** of UNCT joint programmes targeting gender equality
- **14%** of total programme expenditure (\$45.7M of \$326M) was through joint programming, with a QCPR target to reach 25% by 2021

➤ **UN Women partnership with the Peace Building Fund led to allocation of 40% of funding in 2018-2019 to projects integrating a gender perspective**

➤ **UN Women is active in newly developed pooled funds, such as the Joint SDG Fund, the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund and the Spotlight Initiative to End VAW**



National Committees raised **\$7.3M** in 2019, **up 30%**, with **\$2.3M** in regular resources



UN Women launched a **new governance framework** in 2019 and restructured National Committees

National Committees currently have close to **15,000** monthly donors



Monthly donors generated **\$2.16M** in gross revenue



We know there is RM potential in the individual giving sector **but we do not have** the funds required to invest in it in 2020

Aligns with UN system

Thematic funds **align** with Funding Compact and are used by the other New York-based UN Funds and Programmes.

Offers flexibility & predictability

Thematic funds offer **predictable support** over the entire SP funding period and enables partners to earmark funds to priority geographic locations or sectors, while allowing UN Women to direct resources where they are most needed.

Increases effectiveness & efficiency

Thematic funds **lower cost** recovery so that more funding is directed to programmes, through reduced contribution management, M&E and reporting costs, and improves long term planning and programme sustainability.

Enhances collaboration

Thematic funds encourage **joint partner collaboration**, visibility and dialogue around UN Women impact.



Challenges and Opportunities in 2020 and Beyond

UN reform demonstrates UN Women’s pivotal role as the only entity that can offer a holistic approach to promote gender equality, bringing programme expertise together with gender equality norm setting and system-wide coordination.

Promoting GEWE in 2020 and beyond

- UN Women is operationalizing UN reform for a more **effective and transparent** organization, able to support the achievement of the SDG by 2030, with the Funding Compact as a key partnership framework driving better results from a more secure financial footing.
- UN Women’s rapid and targeted response to COVID-19 demonstrated our capacity to extensively **convene and coordinate the UN system** for a GEWE crisis response, leveraging partnerships and supporting women’s leadership.
- UN Women is **promoting Financing for Development** (FFD) through a seat on the FFD Committee, participating in several workstreams to ensure gender equality in the Build Back Better agenda and collaborating with the MPTF.
- UN Women’s new Strategic Plan 2022-2025 design process will be guided by four key principles: relevant, evidence-based, highly consultative and coordinated with other sister agencies. The plan will clearly define **WHAT** changes in women’s lives UN Women can catalyze, and **WHY**, **WHERE** and **HOW** it will contribute to changes most effectively, with emphasis on partnerships and joint action.
- UN Women is at the **forefront of innovative financing**, partnering with Multilateral Development Banks and private financial institutions to catalyze FFD for governments’ own funding needs for SDG 5 and is collaborating with UNDP on embedding a gender lens into the SDG Bond Principles for Private Equity and Corporate SDG Bonds.

COVID-19 represents the largest economic shock the world has experienced in decades, with global GDP expected to contract by 5.2% in 2020, despite government efforts to counter the economic downturn.



UN Women is practicing cost containment in 2020 to ensure the organization is in the strongest possible financial position in 2021



UN Women is demonstrating its added value in COVID-19 responses, including through extensive UNS coordination; leveraging public and private partnership; scaling up communications and advocacy; and adjusting policy, programme and RM



UN Women is working with donors to better understand their financing situation in order to plan accordingly and inform decisions on how best to use resources based on alternative scenarios, including the possible scenario of a severely-reduced RR income in 2021

Top 15 Government Donors, 2019

| COUNTRY | Regular Resources (Core) | Other Resources (Non-Core) | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| 1. European Commission ¹ | - | 84,427,239 | 84,427,239 |
| 2. Sweden | 13,051,394 | 43,089,537 | 56,140,931 |
| 3. Norway | 11,700,012 | 19,550,780 | 31,250,792 |
| 4. United Kingdom | 16,224,386 | 10,515,059 | 26,739,445 |
| 5. Finland | 11,123,471 | 8,952,907 | 20,076,378 |
| 6. Switzerland | 16,032,064 | 3,328,743 | 19,360,807 |
| 7. Japan | 3,926,139 | 13,724,712 | 17,650,851 |
| 8. Denmark | 8,999,704 | 6,462,470 | 15,462,174 |
| 9. Canada | 4,887,229 | 9,554,462 | 14,441,691 |
| 10. Australia | 5,539,455 | 8,845,771 | 14,385,226 |
| 11. United States of America | 7,225,000 | 6,947,939 | 14,172,939 |
| 12. Germany | 8,905,800 | 5,262,022 | 14,167,822 |
| 13. Netherlands (the) | 4,444,444 | 5,357,021 | 9,801,466 |
| 14. Italy | 2,200,220 | 6,499,062 | 8,699,282 |
| 15. United Arab Emirates (the) | 5,108,903 | - | 5,108,903 |

1. The European Commission is a Government member organization. This amount includes funding towards the Spotlight Initiative (USD 59.21 million).

Funding partners stepped it up for gender equality in 2020 by:

➤ Making regular resource payments earlier in the year, **with 26% more RR received as of July 2020** compared to last year. Early RR payments were received from **19 countries**, including: **Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom**

➤ Increasing regular resource payments in 2020, including from the governments of **Finland, Germany, the United States, France, Denmark, Luxembourg, and Italy.**

Thank You

