

REPORT ON THE EVALUATION FUNCTION

of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women



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1 FOCUS AREA CORPORATE EVALUATIONS

COMPLETED IN 2025



1
Independent corporate evaluation of **UN-Women’s approach to violence against women prevention and response**: Navigating changes in global and regional contexts



2
Formative evaluation of **UN-Women’s work in sustainable finance**



3
Corporate evaluation of **UN-Women’s support to women’s participation in peace processes**



4
Evaluation synthesis: **UN-Women’s performance against the 2022–2025 Strategic Plan**

INITIATED IN 2025



Corporate evaluation of **UN-Women’s support to intergovernmental processes**

KEY CORPORATE EVALUATION FRAMEWORKS AND ACTIVITIES COMPLETED IN 2025



UN-Women Evaluation Strategy
2026–2029



UN-Women Corporate Evaluation Plan 2026–2029



UN Women Evaluation Use Strategy (2025–2030)



Evidence Gap Mapping
2025



External Independent Assessment of the Implementation of UN Women’s Evaluation Policy (2020–2025)

CORPORATE EVALUATION PLAN 2026-2029

STRENGTHENING COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

Support UN Women's strategic pivot to the field and UN80 reform agenda by prioritizing regional and country-level evidence.



PROVIDING COVERAGE OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Provide balanced coverage across impact areas, outcomes and organizational effectiveness, aligned with Evaluation Policy and Coverage Norms.



SUPPORTING UN WOMEN WITH EVIDENCE

Generate evidence that supports real-time learning and strategic decision-making, including through flexible and rapid evaluation approaches.



40

Regional and Country Portfolio Evaluations (IES-led)

5

Corporate Evaluations

4

Evaluative Syntheses and 1 Joint System-Wide Synthesis

4-6

Rapid Assessments

2026

- Corporate evaluation of UN Women's **support to intergovernmental processes**
- Corporate evaluation of UN Women's **support to Civil Society** and Women's rights organizations
- Synthesis UN Women's support to **making institutions accountable** for gender equality

2027

- Corporate evaluation of UN Women's **UN system coordination**
- Synthesis of UN Women's support to **norms and standards**
- Joint system-wide synthesis on women and girls in **digital environment**

2028

- Corporate evaluation of UN Women's support to **humanitarian action**
- Synthesis of UN Women's support to **women's agency and access to quality services, resources and assets**

2029

- Corporate evaluation of UN Women's **programme effectiveness and results-based management**
- Synthesis of **performance against the Strategic Plan**

59

decentralized evaluations

conducted in 2025 (thematic evaluations, programmatic and project, joint evaluations)



27

completed in 2025



22

IES-led strategic evaluations

were conducted at regional and country levels in 2025



13

completed in 2025

INTERNAL EVALUATION CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATION



Internal evaluation capacity development through training, technical support, integration of evaluation into programme and project planning, and coaching sessions for UN-Women personnel and M&E specialists at the regional and country level.



Enhancing knowledge-sharing and evaluation use through the development and implementation of the Evaluation Use Strategy, including user-friendly evaluation products, targeted briefings, and improved dissemination of findings to inform decision-making.

PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING ITS CORPORATE EVALUATION PLAN 2022–2025:

Implementation surpassed planned targets, achieving :



- 15 corporate evaluations and synthesis reports against a target of 13
- 49 regional and country portfolio evaluations against a target of 30

PERFORMANCE OF THE EVALUATION FUNCTION

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	DESCRIPTION	2022 (%)	2023(%)	2024(%)	2025(%)	TARGET (BY 2025)
Financial resources invested in evaluation function	Evaluation expenditure over UN-Women programme expenditure	1.9	2.3	1.6	1.5	Between 2-3%
Human resources for monitoring and evaluation	Offices that appointed an M&E focal point or officer	98	97	99	100	100%
Evaluation coverage	At least one evaluation per Strategic Note cycle	93	98	96	99	100%
Evaluation implementation rate	Percentage of evaluations being implemented (completed and initiated)	92	84	87	99	100%
Quality of evaluation reports	Percentage of evaluation reports rated “Good and above”	86	100	100	95	100%
Joint evaluations	Percentage of joint evaluations contributed by UN-Women	29	27	35	33	25%
Management response submission to GATE	Percentage of completed evaluation reports submitted with management response to GATE	100	100	100	100	100%
Implementation of management response	Percentage of management response key actions being implemented	91	92	86	89	95%
Use of evaluations	Percentage of offices that reported using evaluation	87	89	90	90	95%

Overall, progress on the key performance indicators of the UN-Women Evaluation Function has remained largely on track.

4

FOCUS AREA

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP FOR GENDER RESPONSIVE EVALUATION

UNEG

Co-convoked the Gender Equality, Disability and Human Rights working group and co-convoked the UNEG Evaluation Synthesis Working Group. The group produced UNEG Evaluation Synthesis Guidance, providing a framework for conducting evaluation syntheses practice.



UN SWAP

Served as Secretariat of the UN-SWAP Evaluation Performance Indicator. Contributed to the development of Guidance on UN-SWAP 3.0 Evaluation Performance Indicator Technical Note and Scorecard, and support to system-wide reporting and quality assurance.



UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM-WIDE EVALUATIONS

Engaged in UN system-wide evaluations, including through the System-Wide Evaluation Office, the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation Group and UN Cooperation Framework Evaluations at the country level.



GLOBAL SDG SYNTHESIS COALITION

Continued to serve as co-chair of the People Pillar (SDGs 1-5) of the Global SDG Synthesis Coalition.



NATIONAL EVALUATION CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT



Strengthened its partnership with the Global Evaluation Initiative (GEI) and EvalGender+.

Provided technical support to country-led evaluations of national gender strategies and policies (Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique), and contributed to learning, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing initiatives at regional and country levels.

5

FOCUS AREA

INDEPENDENT EVALUATION SERVICE 2026 PROGRAMME OF WORK

STRATEGIC EVALUATIONS AT CORPORATE LEVEL IN 2026



Corporate evaluation of UN-Women’s support to intergovernmental processes
(completed; to be presented to EB in 2026)



Corporate evaluation on UN-Women’s support to civil society and women’s rights organisations
(ongoing; to be presented to EB in 2027)



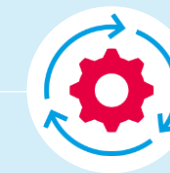
Synthesis of UN-Women’s support to making institutions accountable for gender equality
(planned for 2026)



Rapid assessment of UN-Women’s work related to HIV/AIDS
(ongoing)



Rapid evaluation Synthesis on UN Women's Coordination Mandate
(completed in Q1 2026)



Rapid Assessment **(topic TBC, planned for 2026)**

DECENTRALIZED EVALUATIONS

- Approx. 20 IES-led CPEs and regional evaluations
- Quality assurance and technical support to approx. 70 decentralized evaluations
- Internal training and coaching of M&E focal points

UN COORDINATION - NATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- UNEG
- People Pillar of the Global SDG Synthesis Coalition.
- UN System-wide evaluations (including inter-agency humanitarian evaluations and UNSDCF evaluations)
- EvalGender+ and country-led evaluations

STRENGTHENING EVALUATION USE AND COMMUNICATION

through Evaluation Use Strategy (2025-2030)



IES RESOURCES IN 2026

- In 2026, IES staffing is maintained, but the non-staff budget is reduced by 20%.
- As a cost-saving measure, IES is relocating 3 Evaluation Specialists positions to Bonn by the end of 2026.

6 FOCUS AREA CONCLUSIONS

1

IES continues to play a **key role in supporting the Strategic Plan 2026–2029** through the implementation of the UN-Women Evaluation Strategy and Corporate Evaluation Plan 2026–2029.

2

Implementation of the Corporate Evaluation Plan 2022–2025 exceeded its targets, with the completion of 15 corporate evaluations and synthesis reports and 49 regional and country portfolio evaluations across all regions, significantly strengthening evaluative coverage, strategic relevance and organizational learning.

3

The evaluation function's **Key Performance Indicators remained largely on track**, including those related to human resources, evaluation coverage, joint evaluations, implementation, management response and use. However, some indicators—notably evaluation expenditure and evaluation quality—showed slight declines, highlighting areas requiring continued attention.

4

Further, **UN Women leverages its gender-responsive evaluation expertise** to promote the integration of gender equality perspectives within the UN system and beyond. This was evident in its increased engagement in UN system-wide and joint evaluations, as well as its technical support to country-led evaluations.



CORPORATE THEMATIC EVALUATION OF UN WOMEN'S SUPPORT TO WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION:

INSIGHTS FROM THE FIELD

EVALUATION REPORT

MAY 2024



FEMINIST COLLABORATIVE EVALUATION OF UN WOMEN'S APPROACH TO SOCIAL NORMS CHANGE



THANK YOU

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/accountability/evaluation/corporate-evaluations>