



Planet 50-50 by 2030
Step It Up for Gender Equality

Management response: Corporate Evaluation of UN Women's Contribution to Women's Political Participation (WPP) and Leadership



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The evaluation finds that UN Women is:

- A **highly relevant** actor with a clear vision and strategy on WPP
- **Well-situated** in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Viewed as the main UN actor and **thought leader** on WPP
- Considered an **impartial and highly credible** actor on WPP
- **Responsive to country contexts** and well-adapted to political opportunities and challenges
- **Effective** in assisting Member States to strengthen norms, policies and implementation.

The evaluation notes areas for further action:

- Tackling **social norms** on gender equality
 - Institutionalizing **knowledge management** across the organization
 - Addressing staff **capacity gaps** at all levels
 - Remaining vigilant with **fundraising** efforts
 - Ensuring inclusion of **marginalised groups** of women in all programmes
- ✓ The **6 recommendations** provide further guidance, all of which are accepted in the management response

In a context of wide-ranging demands & limited resources, UN Women needs to strengthen its prioritization capacity at the country level to contribute strategic & sustainable results on WPP

UN-Women's **Strategic Plan 2018-2021:**

- supporting legal and policy reforms to promote women's electoral participation;
- strengthened capacities of women to engage in political life;
- supporting parliamentary bodies to deliver gender equality reforms,
- monitoring and preventing violence against women in politics, and
- improved data and statistics on women's representation, including in local government (SDG indicator 5.5.1b).

✓ **Action: Evidence-based programme guidance on WPP priority areas in the Strategic Plan is developed to support implementation at the regional and country levels.**

To strengthen implementation of its coordination mandate, UN Women should establish a clear division of labour with other UN agencies around potentially overlapping mandates & provide thematic operational guidance on planning and implementing its coordination role at the country and regional levels

- UN reform process will provide further guidance on inter-agency coordination
- The Common Chapter to the Strategic Plans of UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and UN-Women already provides a basis for strengthening coordination among UN agencies
- UN Women is working on producing operational guidance for the implementation of its coordination role and functions across the themes and contexts
- UN-Women will continue to coordinate with UN agencies, as it has done, especially with UNDP and DPA

Key Actions

- ✓ Protocol for cooperation and partnership on gender mainstreaming in election support at country and regional levels is developed and shared
- ✓ Procedures and arrangements as per the UN reform process are complied with.
- ✓ Develop operational guidance for clarifying the implementation of the Entity's coordination mandate

Recommendation 3

UN Women should develop a long-term WPP capacity strengthening plan to enhance its ability to deliver results and meet stakeholder requests.

- UN-Women will invest in capacity-strengthening of personnel
- Undertake an organizational staff mapping of needs which will inform in-person training, peer-to-peer learning, thematic webinars and development of additional tools.
- Prioritize investing in knowledge management to grow and maintain a community of practice, which will facilitate exchanges between regions and will continue making knowledge accessible to staff at all levels.

Key Actions

- ✓ An organizational staff mapping and assessment on WPP conducted
- ✓ In-person trainings and thematic webinars convened to address capacity needs, facilitate peer-to-peer learning and promote a coordinated approach to WPP priorities and implementation at country level
- ✓ A knowledge management specialist on WPP recruited to grow and maintain a thematic community of practice, codify lessons learned and assist with sharing good practices with regional and country offices

UN Women should invest in a thematic resource mobilization approach that builds on existing innovative, flexible, and longer-term funding mechanisms and that addresses regional priorities

- The Structured Dialogue on Financing Report (2016) first highlighted the need for further capitalization of the WPP portfolio
- UN-Women has increased funding on WPP programming through the flagship programme and country level investments
- Led to an increase in funding allocated to political participation from \$24 million in 2015 to \$39.4 million in 2016
- Funding Pipeline Management System indicates similar trend

Key Action

- ✓ **Action: Multi-country flagship programme initiatives on WPP to support regional-level fundraising efforts and ensure programming and reporting coherence in alignment with SP 2018-2021 are developed**



UN Women should prioritize “Leave No One Behind” within its WPP programming consistently at the global, regional, and country levels and build an evidence-base that can feed into its global normative and advocacy work.

- LNOB adopted after the first strategic plan and is therefore mainstreamed into current strategic plan
- SP and flagship programme on gender statistics provide basis for monitoring support to women of all ages and living with disabilities

Key Actions:

- ✓ Following RMS review, **disaggregated data** on Leave No One Behind as per Strategic Plan methodological notes related to Strategic Plan Output 4 are captured and reviewed.
- ✓ Methodological tools **and UNDG Operational Guide** for UNCTs on LNOB are finalized and socialized widely.

UN Women should invest in new programming on social norms change that complements its WPP work and develop effective methods to monitor and report on progress in the long-term

- Social norms programming is included as a cross-cutting theme in the current Strategic Plan under Outcomes 1, 2 and 4
- The theory of change on WPP addresses social norm change as one of its four pillars: that *women are perceived as equally legitimate and effective political leaders as men.*
- UN Women country programming will be enhanced, such a:
 - community dialogues to increase civic understanding,
 - media capacity building and
 - leveraging the HeForShe campaign to encourage more political leaders to publicly promote women's leadership

Recommendation 6

Key Actions

- ✓ Good practices of innovative programming on social norm change and engagement with men are codified
- ✓ Donor interest and support for large-scale survey on WPP and social norms change over time in partnership with UN-Women's innovation facility explored.



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THANK YOU