

REPORT ON THE EVALUATION FUNCTION

of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2020

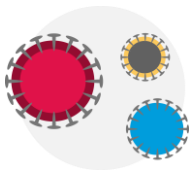


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2020 Annual Report on the Evaluation Function

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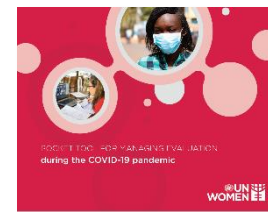
Evaluations during the COVID-19 pandemic

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, IES undertook several initiatives to provide continuing support for evaluation globally and at the decentralized level



Review of evaluation planning

and provision of advisory and quality assurance support to management and conduct of strategic regional, thematic and country portfolio evaluations (CPEs)



COVID-19 Evaluation Pocket Tool

Development of pocket tool to provide practical guidelines for gender-responsive evaluation management and remote data collection



Two rapid assessments

to inform UN-Women's COVID-19 response: (i) the Rapid Assessment of UN Women ACRO response to the COVID-19 crisis; and (ii) the Rapid Assessment of Cash-based Interventions (CBIs) together with IAS



UN system-wide efforts

through the evaluation advisory group for an assessment of the UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund (COVID-19 MPTF), and contributed to the COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition managed by OECD.

Focus area 1: Corporate evaluations

COMPLETED IN 2020



Effectiveness and efficiency assessment of UN Women **Flagship Programme Initiatives** and Thematic Priorities of the Strategic Plan 2018-2021



Corporate thematic evaluation of UN Women's support to National Action Plans on **Women, Peace and Security**



Meta-synthesis of 2019 UN Women evaluations

INITIATED IN 2020

- Corporate evaluation of UN Women's coordination and convening role in **ending violence against women**
- Formative evaluation of UN Women's approach to **innovation**
- Joint study with UNU: Gender equality for **health and well-being**: Evaluative evidence of interlinkages with other SDGs

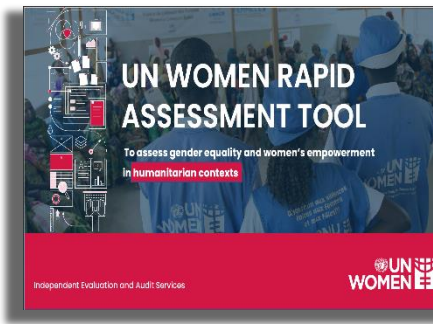
FOCUS AREA 1:
**Gender responsive
evaluation
guidance and tools**

In partnership with the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, IES produced new gender responsive evaluation guidance



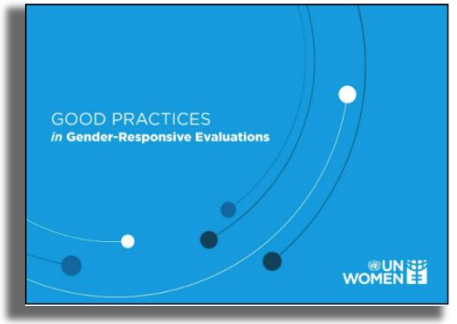
**Impact evaluation
guidance note**

Working paper and guidance note on evaluating impact on gender equality and the empowerment of women elaborating the steps for planning and conducting impact evaluations at UN-Women



**Rapid assessment
tool**

A rapid assessment tool to assess gender equality and the empowerment of women results in humanitarian contexts



**Good practices
booklet**

good practices in gender-responsive evaluations in the context of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Focus area 2: Decentralized evaluations

29

Evaluations completed in 2020

17

Programme - project evaluations

2

Joint Evaluations

7

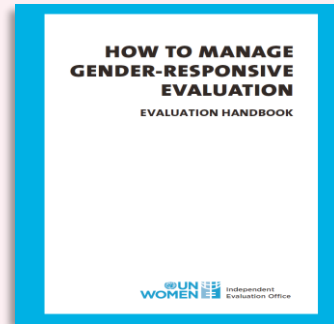
Country Portfolio Evaluations (CPE)



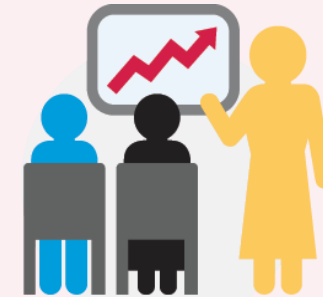
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including three IES-led CPEs

**INTERNAL
EVALUATION
CAPACITY
DEVELOPMENT**

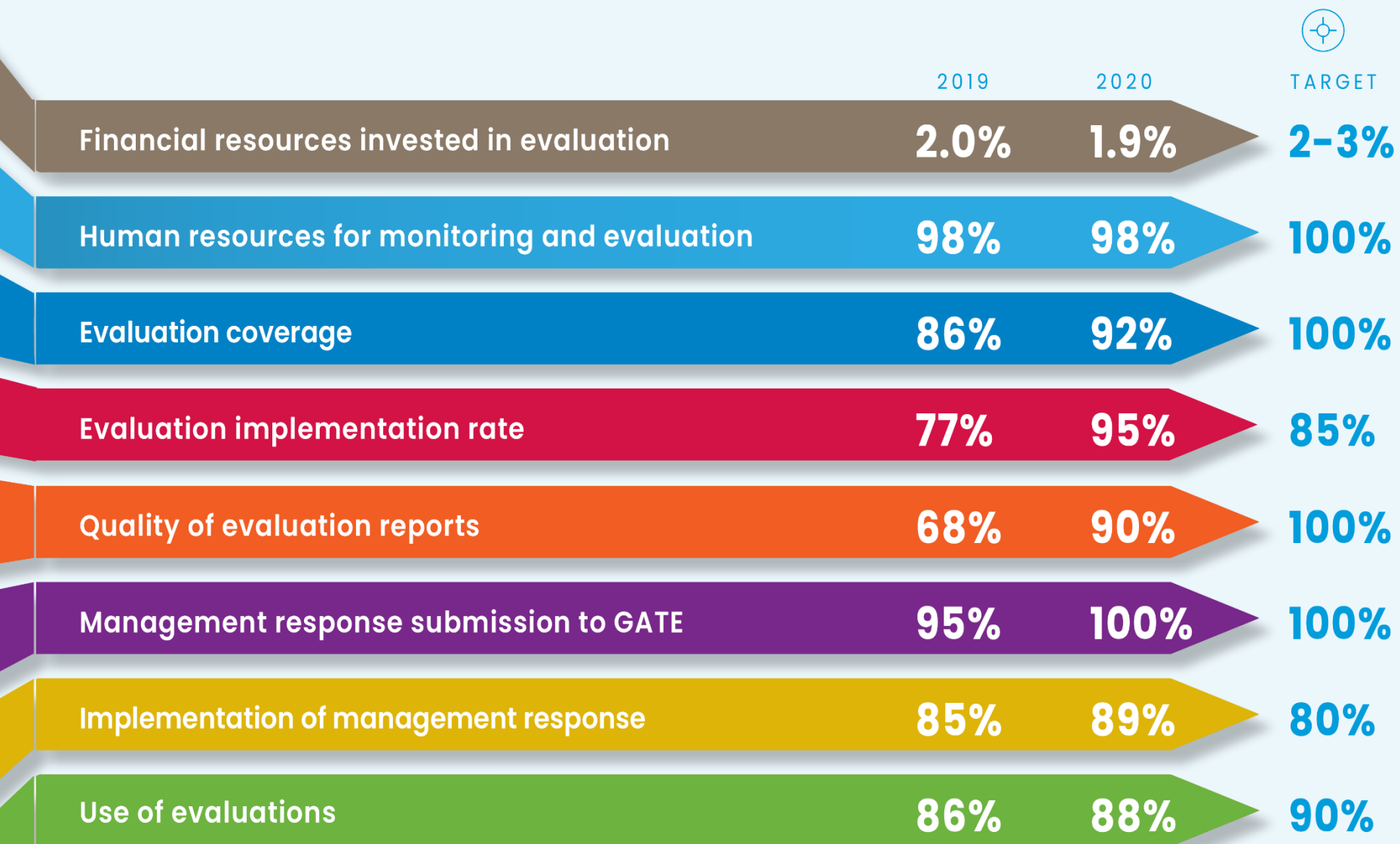


Update of the handbook "How to Manage Gender-Responsive Evaluation"



Trainings and coaching for M&E focal points/UN Women staffs at regional and country level

PERFORMANCE OF THE EVALUATION FUNCTION



Overall, there has been sustained progress on the key performance indicators of the UN-Women Evaluation Function

FOCUS AREA 3:
**UN System-wide
coordination**



UNEG

Co-convened the Gender Equality, Disability and Human Rights and Humanitarian Evaluation groups, and continued to co-chair UN Evaluation Development Group for Asia and the Pacific (UNEDAP)



UN-SWAP

Continued to serve as the Secretariat of the UN-SWAP evaluation performance indicator and prepared the annual report documenting progress and highlighting best practices for improving gender mainstreaming in evaluations.



UNDAF/UNSDC evaluations

13 joint evaluations were either jointly managed or supported by UN-Women in 2020. UN Women contributed to several UNDAF/UNSDCF evaluation processes and delivered training to UN Country Teams (UNCTs) on evaluation



UN Country Teams Training

UN-Women delivered training for participants from UNCTs on integrating gender perspectives in UNSDCF evaluations and on the UN-SWAP evaluation performance indicators.

FOCUS AREA 4:
**National Evaluation
Capacity
Development**



EvalGender+

UN-Women continued to co-chair EvalGender+, a global partnership for promoting gender-responsive evaluations



Knowledge sharing:

disseminated findings from 2018 and 2019 analysis assessing the extent to which the Voluntary National Reviews use gender-responsive evaluative evidence to inform SDG reviews.



Partnerships at the regional level

CLEAR South Africa, Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Association Sénégalaise d'Évaluation (SenEval), Asia Pacific Evaluation Association (APEA)

Independent Evaluation Service **2021** programme of work

STRATEGIC EVALUATIONS AND ACTIVITIES AT CORPORATE LEVEL IN 2021



Corporate evaluation of UN-Women's coordination and convening role in ERAW



Formative strategic evaluation on UN-Women's approach to Innovation



Corporate evaluation of UN-Women's policy advocacy work



Formative strategic evaluation on UN-Women's approach to Climate Change



Formative strategic evaluation on UN-Women's approach to Engagement of men and boys



A joint study with the United Nations University on gender equality for health and well-being



Meta-synthesis: lessons on the types of UN-Women support 2018–2020



Development of the Corporate Evaluation Plan (2022–2025) and Evaluation Strategy (2022–2025)

DECENTRALIZED EVALUATIONS

- IES-led CPEs and regional evaluations (planned 15 CPEs and 2 regional evaluations)
- Quality assurance and technical support to other decentralized evaluations
- Internal training and coaching of M&E focal points
- Evaluation systems (public evaluation data base, external quality assessment, KPIs)

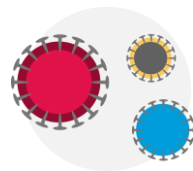
UN COORDINATION - NATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- UNEG
- EvalGender+ and selected regional partnerships

EVALUATION USE AND COMMUNICATION

Conclusions

In terms of evaluation for learning and accountability, UN Women saw overall progress despite of the challenges imposed by the global pandemic.



Evaluations during the COVID-19 pandemic

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, UN Women provided guidance to support the conduct of evaluations and launched several rapid assessments to respond to emerging evaluative evidence needs at global and regional levels. Evaluation planning and implementation stressed the principle of "do no harm".



Maintaining a high-quality UN Women evaluation function to promote accountability and learning

In 2020, UN Women continued to deliver timely and relevant evaluations to incorporate evidence into UN-Women's COVID-19 response as well as to strengthen UN Women's development and organizational effectiveness.

Lessons and recommendations were used to inform key strategic planning processes including the development of the new Strategic Plan 2022-2025.



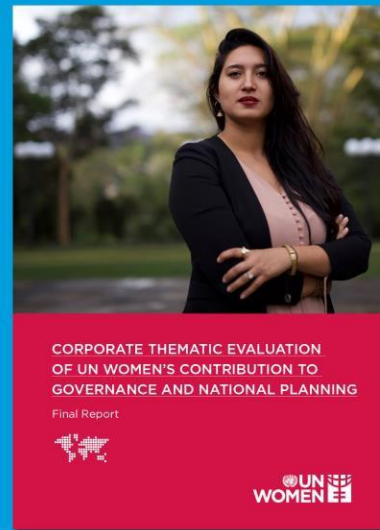
Integration of gender equality perspectives within UN System and beyond

UN Women advanced the integration of gender equality perspectives through its work within UNEG, and contribution to the UNSDCF/UNDAF evaluation processes. Further, UN Women continues to work in the national gender-responsive evaluation capacity building development.

THANK YOU

Find all corporate evaluations at:

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



Find us on Twitter



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