

REPORT ON THE EVALUATION FUNCTION

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



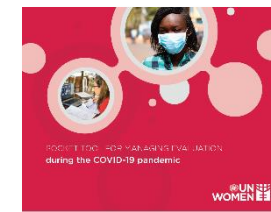
Evaluations during the COVID-19 pandemic

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



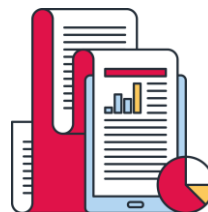
Review of evaluation planning

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.

Corporate and decentralized evaluations

CORPORATE EVALUATIONS

3 COMPLETED IN 2020



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



- UN Women's support to **National Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security**



- Meta-synthesis** of 2019 UN Women evaluations

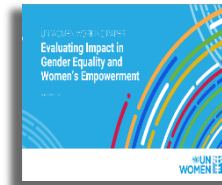
3 INITIATED IN 2020

- 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

DECENTRALIZED EVALUATIONS



GUIDANCE AND TOOLS on gender-responsive evaluation



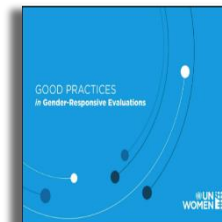
Impact evaluation guidance note

Working paper and guidance note on evaluating impact on gender equality and the empowerment of women



Rapid assessment tool

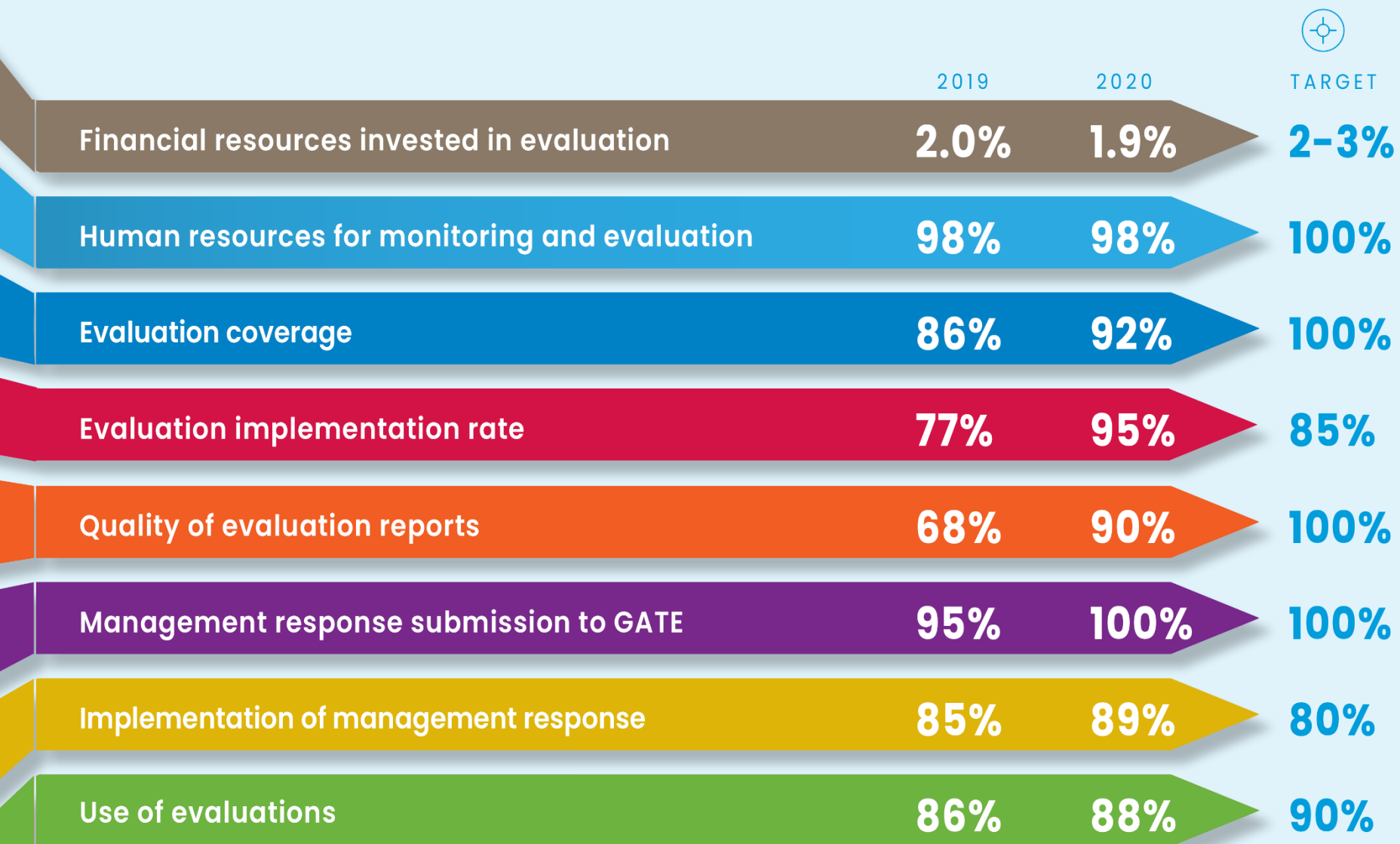
A rapid assessment tool to assess gender equality and the empowerment of women results in humanitarian contexts



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

PERFORMANCE OF THE EVALUATION FUNCTION



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

Working in partnership for gender-responsive evaluation

UN SYSTEM-WIDE COORDINATION



UNEG : Co-convened the Gender Equality, Disability and Human Rights and Humanitarian Evaluation groups & UN Evaluation Development Group for Asia and the Pacific (UNEDAP).



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



UN-SWAP : Continued to serve as the Secretariat of the UN-SWAP evaluation performance indicator.



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.

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'Evaluation (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

CORPORATE EVALUATION OF UN WOMEN'S UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
**COORDINATION AND BROADER CONVENING ROLE IN
ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

June 2021



EXAMPLES OF KEY RESULTS



Joint programmes and interconnected programmes on EVAW

- Joint Global Programme on [Essential Services for Women and Girls](#) Subject to Violence (with UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, UNODC)
- Joint Programme on [VAW data](#) (with WHO and UNFPA)
- [Partners for Prevention, Stepping Up and Blueprint for Prevention](#): the Pacific Partners for Prevention (UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNV), Blueprint for Prevention, as a global initiative, and Stepping Up – a multi-country programme in the Asia and the Pacific region
- The [Safe Cities and Public Spaces for Women and Girls](#) Global Programme



Regional and multi country engagements

- AS: [Gender Justice Study Initiative](#) (UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and ESCWA)
- ECA: [‘Implementing norms, changing minds’](#) (UN Women-UNDP joint programme) in Western Balkans and Turkey and a sub-regional dialogue: [“Turning policies into action: eliminating gender-based violence against women and girls in Central Asia”](#) (UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, Resident Coordinators Office Kyrgyzstan)
- AP: [Safe and Fair Migration joint programme](#) (UN Women, ILO, UNODC and ASEAN institutions, under the Spotlight Initiative umbrella) in the ASEAN



Collaborative knowledge products and advocacy campaigns

- [The RESPECT framework](#) (with WHO, UNFPA, OHCHR, UNDP and UNODC)
- [Handbooks to Address Violence against Women](#) (sports, media, workplace, law enforcement) (with UNESCO, ILO, UNODC, UNDP, others)
- [Essential Services Package](#) (with UNDP, UNFPA, WHO, and UNODC)
- UN Secretary-General’s [UNiTE by 2030 to End Violence Against Women](#) campaign (UNiTE Campaign)

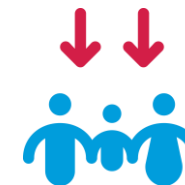
Key Lessons Learned



Having a coordination mandate is a necessary but insufficient condition for ensuring effective coordination to mainstream gender perspectives in development results.



Coordination in thematic areas **is intertwined with the normative and operational roles** of UN Women's mandate.



Coordination is as much about people skills and building trust as it is institutional arrangements.

CONCLUSIONS

1



UN Women's mandate to 'lead, promote and coordinate' mainstreaming of GEEW across the UN system **is a strong strategic asset.**

2



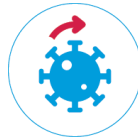
There is a lack of articulation of **a concrete value proposition** of coordination in thematic areas.

3



Despite the challenges, UN Women has achieved **successful results with significant linkages** to its UN system coordination and collaborative actions.

4



The COVID-19 response is a **strong example of the power of a coordinated UN system response.**

5



The value and contribution of coordination to outcomes remains undetermined and underrecognized as these are **not systematically captured in coordination-related plans.**

6



Successes are achieved more through individual leadership, motivation, charisma and other interpersonal skills.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1



Reaffirm the UN system coordination mandate for results in key thematic areas (i.e. beyond its promotion of gender mainstreaming in UN organizations).

2



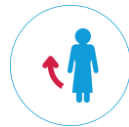
Clearly articulate the value proposition of coordination to accelerate ERAW outcomes and the risks and costs of non-coordination. UN Women should also propose a 'coordination for ERAW results' framework with clear results and indicators.

3



Appropriately recognize and reflect coordination and convening functions in the thematic areas of its Strategic Plan for 2022–2025 with specific results indicators and resource requirements at the global, regional and country levels to present a full picture of actions and funding gaps.

4



Lead and strengthen inter-agency mechanisms for coordinated actions in the thematic area of ERAW towards accountability for development results as envisioned in UN-SWAP and internationally agreed goals on ERAW, especially SDG 5.2.

5



Strengthen in-house coordination mechanisms to better represent thematic area highlights and coordination challenges in inter-agency mechanisms and reporting.

6

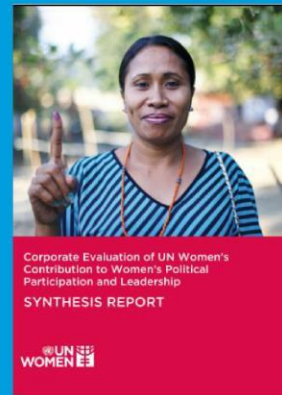
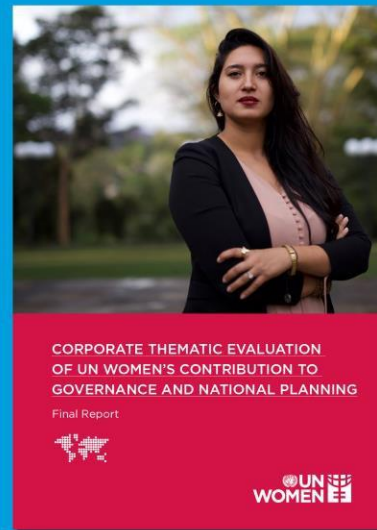


Systematically document and compellingly communicate the impact of coordination to the UN system, donors and national stakeholders through high-level messaging of the value proposition of its coordination work, using metrics and case studies suitable for external audiences.

THANK YOU

Find all corporate evaluations at:

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



Find us on Twitter



@unwomenEval