UN WOMEN

Independent Evaluation Service

TRANSFORM

Corporate Formative Evaluation of UN Women's Support to Gender Statistics

Dear Readers,

As you all know, we live in an era of data and statistics. Data constitute a great resource for organizations, as they provide a comprehensive understanding of many aspects of our lives – work, families, consumption, habits and much more. Data and statistics open new frontiers and provide key information for policymaking. For UN Women, data and statistics are a fundamental part of the Entity's work, providing the foundation to build all our interventions.

Despite the outstanding progress made in recent years to produce, share and use gender statistics, the path to obtaining comprehensive data remains, as many gender data gaps still exist. For this reason, UN Women has prioritized gender data and statistics across the organization, from global to regional and national levels, by integrating data and statistics as a systemic outcome cross-cutting all impact areas, and through a gender equality accelerator "Women Count" to speed up progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. In this magazine issue, you will find a snapshot of UN Women's work on gender statistics, which is only a part of what we do to increment the availability and usability of data.

In line with the corporate evaluation plan for 2022–2025, IES conducted a corporate thematic evaluation of UN Women's Support to Gender Statistics 2018–2022. The evaluation assessed UN Women's work on gender statistics and provided forward-looking recommendations, with a particular focus on work undertaken at national level. What emerged is a comprehensive understanding of what UN Women already does and how it can strengthen its own organizational processes to be as effective and efficient as possible with the resources it has. The evaluation also provides relevant insights on UN Women's partnerships, internal structure and the sustainability of its gender statistics efforts.

We hope you find this new TRANSFORM issue engaging and the information within it useful for strengthening UN Women's gender statistics work, and that of its partners, in the Entity's pursuit of transformative results and further advancement to better deliver on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Inga Sniukaite

Chief, Independent Evaluation Service
Independent Evaluation and Audit Services (IEAS)

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Why evaluate UN Women's support to gender statistics?

Gender statistics are defined as statistics that adequately reflect differences and inequalities in the situation of women and men in all areas of life.

Gender statistics are defined as statistics that adequately reflect differences and inequalities in the situation of women and men in all areas of life. Global efforts to increase the availability, quality and use of gender statistics align with key global normative frameworks and international commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW and others in their pursuit of gender equality.

The demand for gender data and statistics has increased over the years due to the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and gender mainstreaming policies. In addition, gender statistics have a crucial role in all statistical systems due to the importance of data disaggregation by different variables (e.g. age, disability etc.) to meet the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda to "Leave No One Behind".

Despite the progress made in recent years to produce, share and use gender statistics, gender data gaps remain and can be linked to three challenges: weak policy space, and legal and financial environments; technical and financial challenges; and lack of access to data and limited capacity to utilize gender statistics to inform policies (see following box).

UN Women's work on gender statistics is conceptualized in UN Women's Strategic Plans for 2018–2021 and 2022–2025, and aims to address the challenges in the production, sharing and use of gender statistics. This was also articulated in Women Count, the UN Women initiative developed to support Member States in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

GENDER DATA GAPS & CHALLENGES

Weak policy space, and legal and financial environments are barriers to progress.

In many countries, the production of gender statistics is not specified in statistics laws or national policies beyond disaggregation by sex and, as a result, the sector is under-prioritized and under-funded in national budgets.

Technical and financial challenges limit the production of gender statistics.

Areas such as violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and unpaid care and domestic work are important to measure but are under-resourced at country level. Emerging areas such as gender and poverty, gender pay gaps and women's participation in decision-making are also at risk of not being adequately resourced, with more methodological work and data collection exercises needed.

Lack of access to data and limited capacity to utilize gender statistics to inform policies.

Where data are available, they are not made accessible or shared in user-friendly formats, impeding their use in informing evidence-based advocacy in decision-making. When data are not used to inform policy and advocacy, this leads to low demand which, in turn, reduces the incentive to produce gender statistics.

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Milestones of UN Women's work on gender statistics from 2009 to 2022

2009

UNIFEM becomes a member of the **Interagency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS)**, an interagency group set up under the aegis of the UN Statistical Commission to coordinate work on gender statistics, with the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) serving as its Secretariat.

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2012–2015

UN Women and the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) in collaboration with the World Bank, OECD, the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank partner to create the **Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) joint programme**, that seeks to accelerate existing efforts to generate comparable gender indicators on health, education, employment, assets and entrepreneurship.

EDGE EVIDENCE AND DATA FOR GENDER EQUALITY

2016–2020

UN Women's flagship programme, Making Every Woman and Girl Count, is created. The programme provides technical and financial support to countries to improve the production and use of gender statistics in order to monitor the implementation of gender equality commitments in the 2030 Agenda. It is implemented through path finder countries in which specific projects are established but provides fund and support to other countries.

WOMEN COUNT

2022–2025

Women Count Phase II is the continuation of the flagship initiative and it aims to improve how gender data are collected, accessed and used. It sustains the important gains achieved under Phase I and continues to strengthen investments in gender data that contribute to global efforts to accelerate progress towards the SDGs by 2030. It includes country programs and regional programs.

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2022–2025

2022-2025 Strategic Plan includes **Systemic Outcomes 6**, which states that *«Gender Statistics, sex-disaggregated data, and knowledge are produced, analysed and used to inform policymaking, advocacy and accountability for delivering gender equality and women's empowerment results»* , supporting countries to improve their work on gender statistics.

©UN Women

5 GENDER EQUALITY

2022

Gender Equality Accelerator 10: Making Every Woman and Girl Count (Women Count). The Accelerator seeks to deepen partnerships with United Nations entities, civil society and Member States to fill data gaps and enable gender-responsive SDG monitoring as well as position UN Women as a thought leader in this arena.

GENDER EQUALITY ACCELERATORS

The corporate thematic evaluation of UN Women's Support to Gender Statistics covered the period 2018–2022 and was intended to inform and strengthen organizational learning and accountability in this area.

The purpose of the evaluation was threefold, to:

• Assess the strategic positioning of UN Women's gender statistics work across the global field of statistics.

• Evaluate the effectiveness of UN Women's gender statistics work with an emphasis on the Entity's support at national and regional levels; the efficiency of available financial and human resources to deliver transformative results; and the sustainability of UN Women's work in gender statistics.

• Develop lessons and recommendations to strengthen UN Women's gender statistics work, particularly at the field level.

KEY EVALUATION QUESTIONS

Relevance
To what extent does UN Women's work on gender statistics respond to stakeholders' needs at national, regional and global levels and is aligned with global frameworks?

Strategic Positioning
What is UN Women's strategic positioning in gender statistics vis-à-vis the UN system and other organizations working in the same field? What is UN Women's added value?

Effectiveness
How effective have UN Women's approach and interventions been in terms of tangible results?

Efficiency/ Sustainability
To what extent do UN Women's human and financial capacities deliver sustainable results to support gender statistics? To what extent is work on gender statistics sustainable?

Human Rights and Gender Equality
To what degree are human rights, leave no one behind, disability inclusion and gender equality principles integrated in support to the production and use of gender statistics?

Learning
How does UN Women identify, consolidate and share knowledge and learning on gender, data and statistics to achieve its goals?

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CORPORATE EVALUATION OF UN WOMEN'S SUPPORT TO WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWEREMENT

EVALUATION REPORT AND BRIEF (2023)

Read the full report and brief here

Findings and conclusions: What does the evaluation evidence tell us?

CONCLUSION 1.

UN Women's work on gender statistics is relevant, but the organization needs to more effectively leverage the successes of its gender data work to date to strengthen and scale up implementation at all levels.

UN Women's work on gender statistics responded to global and regional commitments and country-level partner needs, policies and priorities for the production and use of gender statistics. However, UN Women's work in gender statistics needs to leverage the Women Count programme beyond the programme level to operationalize Systemic Outcome 6 of UN Women's Strategic Plan.

Women Count played a large role in UN Women's recognition as a leader in the gender statistics space. While less visible, other efforts beyond Women Count have also fostered transformational change. In order to increase the coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and visibility of UN Women's important contributions to gender statistics, there is a need to expand upon the common global vision for how UN Women approaches gender statistics and build from Women Count to scale up implementation of the Entity's gender statistics work.

UN Women's work related to the production, analysis, availability and use of gender statistics responded to national, regional and global needs by (a) facilitating reporting and monitoring of the SDGs and national plans and commitments; (b) aligning with relevant global frameworks (e.g. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, CEDAW, Women, Peace and Security Agenda, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction); (c) providing on-demand technical support; and (d) creating knowledge products on gender statistics to promote data use. However, stakeholders reported that the lack of a corporate gender data strategy hindered appropriate and consistent approaches to UN Women's work on gender statistics. Stakeholders also expressed that the lack of alignment among UN agencies in some areas (e.g. data and statistics as they relate to ending violence against women) has led to duplication of efforts and recognized the need to develop a common vision.

Photo: ©UN Women/Ben Ahhi UNGA74-gender-data-portal-launch

Photo: ©UN Women/Ryan Brown

CONCLUSION 2.

Roles and coordination at the global level are effective. Coordination efforts at the country level in gender, data and statistics had mixed results. Further guidance at the country level on mechanisms to support coordination are needed in some contexts.

While evidence of fruitful cooperation exists among UN and multilateral agencies, CSOs and academia, case study countries encountered issues related to duplication of efforts; challenging relationships; lack of clarity regarding which organization is responsible for leading certain efforts; and missed opportunities or lack of engagement with relevant actors. Further guidance is needed for UN Women Country Offices on mechanisms (e.g. using gender strategies, mapping and methodologies) to improve coordination support to national governments; create common visions for how gender statistics should evolve; and clarify how actors engage and cooperate within their countries, including clarity around duties and functions. More in-depth support is needed in some country contexts, where there has been less direct programme support.

UN Women has a proven track record of convening stakeholders and building partnerships to increase coordination of efforts. The skills acquired over time can be applied to supporting national government efforts on consensus building around strategy, and the duties and functions of actors working in gender statistics. Evidence of fruitful cooperation included UN Women's partnership in the World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Surveys and UN Women's joint work with the African Development Bank on country gender profiles in Kenya and Niger. There was also evidence that, in many country contexts, UN Women's convening role (e.g. as chair or co-chair in various development partner groups) led to new partnerships, joint work and improved coordination of gender-related activities.

CONCLUSION 3.

UN Women is well positioned to take on a leading role in gender statistics, but both technical and financial resources must be effectively distributed for the Entity to successfully execute a leading role in this area.

Photo: ©UN Women Centre of Excellence for Gender Equality

UN Women's triple mandate, comparative advantage and evidence of effective gender statistics work creates the opportunity for UN Women to become a reference and convening organization for gender statistics. However, financial and technical resources must be effectively distributed for UN Women to successfully execute a leading role in gender statistics. A focus on ensuring (a) adequate technical capacities of UN Women personnel; (b) effective distribution of UN Women personnel at global, regional and country levels; and (c) financial resources are effectively distributed to support gender statistics work across all Impact Areas is critical. All these elements should be detailed in the common global vision referred to in Conclusion 1.

While distribution of UN Women personnel and effectively distributed financial resources are crucial components, adequate technical capacities are also critical as UN Women explores taking on a leading role in gender statistics at the global level. While UN Women personnel in general will not require deep technical expertise in gender statistics, relevant UN Women personnel would benefit from basic technical capacity related to gender statistics to engage with and commission work. Therefore, it is essential that learning opportunities are built into professional roles (and are mandatory).

While there was evidence of UN Women's comparative advantage and proven track record in taking a leading role in gender statistics work (see Conclusion 5 for a summary of relevant evidence on this point), the evaluation found cases where key stakeholders

in select case study countries questioned UN Women Country Offices' technical credibility, which undermined the offices' capacity to convene key stakeholders. Further, country case studies revealed challenges in Country Offices' ability to deliver support to gender statistics and highlighted the need for increased learning on gender statistics. Regional Statistical Specialists and consultants helped to fill capacity gaps. In terms of gender statistics-related human resources, most were funded by non-core resources. The level of staffing from core resources was unevenly distributed across regions (e.g. no gender statistics-related positions were funded by core resources in the West and Central Africa region). Positions funded by non-core resources were also unevenly distributed: most positions were located within the East and Southern Africa region and the Asia and Pacific region. There were no gender statistics-related positions funded by non-core resources in the Arab States region. Stakeholders felt more personnel were required at the country level (e.g. 82 per cent of survey respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that "the number of personnel working in gender statistics is sufficient to support UN Women's work in gender statistics"). Limited financial resources were also highlighted as one of the main constraints to work in gender statistics (e.g. 64 per cent of survey respondents disagreed or strongly disagreed that "financial expenditure and human resources combined are adequate to achieve the results in different outcome areas").

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CONCLUSION 4.

National priorities and government buy-in underpin the success of larger-scale gender statistics work and are a core component of effective gender statistics work. However, sufficient government capacity (both financial and technical) is required for sustainable results.

Effective partnership strategies between UN Women and government counterparts led to enhanced government capacities and tailored and contextually appropriate gender statistics monitoring systems and mapping tools. However, high dependency on outside resources to support national efforts related to gender statistics remains a major challenge to sustainability.

UN Women activities such as building government capacity and supporting government ownership of gender statistics methodologies, tools and products is important to fostering sustainability, but national financial sustainability to fund this work is a more complex issue to tackle.

National interests as outlined in SDG commitments, national strategies and plans, and meeting other targets (e.g. meeting European Union accession requirements in Albania) were major drivers of government buy-in related to gender statistics.

In case study countries where there was a lack of clear government leadership or commitment to gender statistics, country teams were unsuccessful in mobilizing and coordinating support agencies. Survey results supported these findings: respondents noted that the top two enabling factors for the sustainability of UN Women's work on gender statistics were national priority/interest of national statistics systems (17.2 per cent) and Women Count financial support (13.4 per cent). Importantly, evidence also suggests that national statistical offices require financial support for gender statistics as approximately half of gender-focused surveys depend on donors and have high associated costs. Building national government capacities – and especially the capacities of national statistical offices – offers a more sustainable pathway than reliance on external consultants.

UN Women has effectively contributed to the creation of stronger enabling environments and supported data production activities, but results were variable between countries that were supported by Women Count and those that were not. In all evaluation case study countries, there was a need to better track the impact of data utilization on women and girls' lives.

Support through Women Count – both country-level programming and regional technical support – was key to creating stronger enabling environments, supporting data production activities and data utilization. Capturing the impacts of data utilization in both Women Count and non-Women Count evaluation case study countries remained a challenge due to complexities around measurement.

Additional research is required to understand the potential of regional support to accelerate progress in gender statistics efforts, especially in areas without dedicated budgets to support additional on-the-ground personnel focusing on gender statistics.

Findings indicated countries that received large-scale support from Women Count exhibited more progress in the evaluation's higher-level outcomes (i.e. gender data utilization and systems strengthening). Countries that received some regional-level support through Women Count and had some investment in gender data activities also made strong progress towards the higher-level outcomes. Countries that had limited external support exhibited very early-stage progress in these higher-level outcomes.

Findings indicated that UN Women personnel were effective in advocating for the inclusion of a gender lens in both data collection activities and strategies, and provided the requisite technical guidance at both global and regional levels (e.g. the World Bank's Living Standards Measurement Surveys; monitoring framework for the African Union on Women, Peace and Security; Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Handbook for Humanitarian Action; Women's Resilience to Disasters Knowledge Hub) and at the country level (e.g. reprocessing of health and economic survey data in Viet Nam). UN Women's convening and coordination work (e.g. with UN Country Teams or Gender Theme Groups) helped to strengthen enabling environments and contributed to gendered data collection and analyses by (a) improvements in alignment of partners; (b) data sharing; and (c) joint work on situational analyses. However, there were examples from some case study countries where UN Women was less effective in its convening role as key stakeholders questioned the technical credibility of UN Women Country Offices.

Photo: ©UN Women/Ryan Brown

Specific key achievements related to the enabling environment included the capacity-building of national statistical office staff on different methodologies using UN Women normative guidance and the development of specific methodologies for monitoring gender-specific SDGs. In terms of data production, UN Women made good progress in reprocessing existing data sets from a gender perspective, time-use surveys, surveys related to ending violence against women and other thematic surveys, as well as investments in specific policy-focused gender disaggregated analyses.

While UN Women pushed for greater transparency in gender statistics via dashboards, there was mixed evidence of the effectiveness of this approach. Some of the demand for these dashboards was top down and, in some cases, they became semi-parallel systems to other gender reporting. While UN Women was generally good at pushing for much needed data transparency, there appeared to be less fruitful collaboration on dashboard development with wider stakeholders. Stakeholders reported a reluctance to capture data utilization due to the complexities of measurement.

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CONCLUSION 6.

While there is evidence of integrating intersectionality into gender statistics work, UN Women does not have a clear strategy or set of approaches to systematically employ Leave No One Behind principles. This led to uneven coverage of marginalized groups within gender statistics efforts, particularly at the country level.

UN Women successfully integrated marginalized groups and performed intersectional analyses in gender statistics interventions during the period covered by the evaluation. However, the lack of a strategy to systematically employ Leave No One Behind principles as they relate to gender statistics meant that efforts were often opportunistic and consisted of independent studies that did not inform official government statistics. The lack of concerted efforts around intersectionality, inclusivity and equity within gender statistics led to uneven coverage across the case study countries and highlighted the need for further clarity and socialization across the organization.

Data on marginalized groups were gathered, analysed and disseminated; however, these efforts were often opportunistic, varied across countries and were not undertaken in an intentional or comprehensive manner. Between 2018 and 2022, there was uneven coverage and a lack of concerted effort around intersectionality, inclusivity and equity, as they relate to gender statistics within UN Women. For example, independent studies and efforts were undertaken (e.g. data on LGBTIQ+ communities in Lebanon and female migrants in Niger), but they did not inform official government statistics. In Tanzania, in partnership with the government, UN Women reprocessed existing survey data to generate statistics by sex, residence, region, district, age, education and disability which led to an increase in the data available for 34 of the 54 gender-related SDG indicators.

UN WOMEN'S EVALUATION HANDBOOK

How to manage gender-responsive evaluation

(2022 Edition)

HOW TO MANAGE GENDER-RESPONSIVE EVALUATIONS:
EVALUATION HANDBOOK

Download the interactive PDF here

Opportunities for improvement and the way forward

The following recommendations are based on the evaluation findings and conclusions. See the full evaluation report for steps to be taken, timelines and the key actors responsible for implementation of the recommendations

Recommendations

UN Women should build on the results of Women Count and use the UN Women Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count as the organizational road map to guide global, regional and country efforts in supporting enabling environments, and the production and use of gender statistics.

The evaluation demonstrated that Women Count has been an effective global programme for advancing work in gender statistics. Drawing from this programme, the UN Women Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count provides the vision needed to scale up gender statistics work to all UN Women supported countries. Associated guidance developed as part of the Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count should be used to provide practical steps that business units at headquarters, regional and country levels can follow to implement the gender statistics agenda.

At global level, Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count clearly articulates all work and approaches related to gender statistics conducted at headquarters, linked to the Strategic Plan's systemic outcome on the production, analysis and use of gender statistics.

Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count should clearly consider UN Women's placement within the larger system of work in statistics; reflect consideration of partner coordination and cohesion; address all contexts within which UN Women operates, including development, conflict or crisis affected and humanitarian settings; and develop clear guides for countries with varying levels of capacities and resources. The supporting guidance should also include products related to quality assurance mechanisms as well as programmatic guidance. The goal of utilizing the Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count and associated guidance should be to provide a common vision that encapsulates and guides all UN Women's efforts related to gender statistics at headquarters, regional and country levels, both within and beyond Women Count efforts.

UN Women should strengthen its coordination and convening support role to national governments to consolidate its strategic position, particularly at country level.

UN Women should strengthen its support to national governments, in line with national ownership and at Member States' request, to coordinate and convene with other relevant actors to clarify and agree on respective roles to advance gender statistics work across all thematic areas (e.g. ending violence against women;

governance and participation; economic empowerment; gender and climate change; and women, peace and security, humanitarian and disaster risk reduction). This will ensure that gender statistics activities at country level are coordinated and coherent to support national gender priorities.

3

UN Women should strengthen emerging areas of work in gender statistics to consolidate its strategic positioning.

UN Women should strengthen emerging areas of work in gender statistics such as gender and climate change; humanitarian action; women, peace and security; disaster reduction and resilience; intersectionality; and artificial intelligence to reinforce and strengthen its competitive advantage and further consolidate its strategic positioning in the space. UN Women should investigate the feasibility of leading on intersectionality, inclusivity and equity in gender statistics. Areas of focus should be agreed in consultation with thematic units and within the framework of Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count and the UN Women Strategic Plan 2022–2025.

Photo: ©Adobe Stock

4

UN Women should strengthen its internal human and technical capacities, and strive to further diversify its funding sources to advance gender statistics work.

In order for UN Women to consolidate its position in gender statistics, the Entity should strengthen both its financial and technical resources. UN Women should ensure that field offices have the appropriate level of technical expertise and knowledge to lead and commission gender statistics work and meet other objectives as detailed in the road map (see Recommendation 1). UN Women should also ensure that gender statistics specialists are strategically placed at both regional and country levels to support this area of work. UN Women should ensure sufficient financial resources through resource mobilization strategies to further diversify sources of funding for gender statistics.

Perspectives from management

This article was developed based on UN Women management's response presented to the UN Women Executive Board.

UN Women management welcomed the findings and agreed with the evaluation recommendations. There is a commitment to make use of the findings and recommendations, including in the context of the Midterm Review of the 2022–2025 Strategic Plan.

UN Women echoes the findings of the evaluation that the Entity has made significant strides in gender statistics over the past several years. However, important gaps remain, and the Entity has yet to fully realize its potential in this area. Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count, which builds on the successful namesake programme, provides a unique opportunity to scale up UN Women's work in this area.

Through a mix of the short, medium and long-term actions suggested by the evaluation, UN Women will leverage its triple mandate to support Member States to produce and use gender statistics; enhance coordination and collaboration with key regional and global actors; while continuing to build its own capacity in key areas, including for instance in humanitarian action and conflict settings, and gender and the environment. UN Women will continue leveraging lessons and results from the Women Count programme to strengthen Gender Equality Accelerator 10 – Women Count. This initiative will serve as a pivotal organizational road map to guide UN Women's efforts in supporting the production and utilization of gender statistics at global, regional and country levels.

UN Women will continue to leverage the vast technical resources generated through the Women Count programme, including the variety of technical guidance, gender statistics training materials and other resources available on the Women Count Data Hub. The Research and Data Section will also initiate an internal UN Women monthly seminar dedicated to specific gender data topics to build staff capacities and promote knowledge exchange, including with experts outside of UN Women.

UN Women also gives critical importance to reinforcing its support and coordination role with national governments to advance gender statistics. This will ensure that efforts to advance gender statistics are aligned with national gender priorities while leveraging the strengths of others, particularly in the UN system. UN Women will continue diversifying and deepening its work in gender statistics to maintain and enhance its strategic position in the field. Efforts will be strengthened in emerging and critical areas such as gender and climate change, humanitarian action, intersectionality and artificial intelligence as they are essential for addressing the multifaceted challenges of gender inequality.

The management response also notes that some of the recommendations contained in the evaluation are not resource neutral and UN Women's ability to fully implement them depends on the availability of resources. Addressing these challenges in a sustainable way will require both short and longer-term efforts, including reviewing and reprioritizing core resource allocation for critical staff positions and concerted non-core resource mobilization at national, regional and global levels. Requiring integration of gender statistics objectives more systematically in all Strategic Notes and project documents will be key. In addition, in line with the current Strategic Plan, gender statistics needs to be an integral part of the next strategic plan (2026–2030).

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UN WOMEN COUNTRY PORTFOLIO EVALUATIONS (CPE)

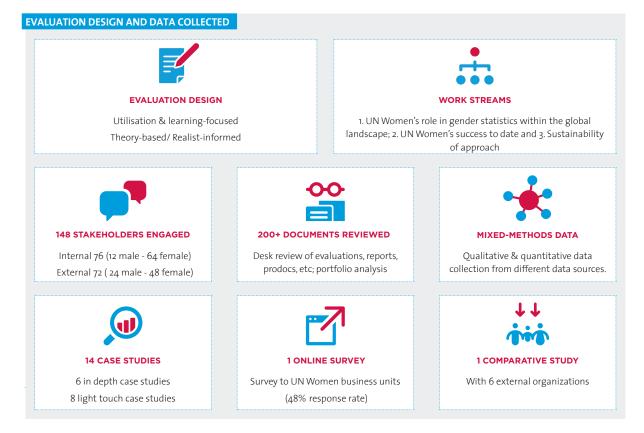## CPE REVISED GUIDELINES

(2022 Edition)

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Comprehensive methodology for the evaluation

The evaluation was utilization-focused and intended for strategic decision-making and organizational learning.

The primary intended users of the evaluation are UN Women senior management and programme and policy programmatic personnel working directly, or with an interest in gender statistics. The evaluation is also intended to be useful for other actors that work in this area, including country-level statistical offices, civil society, UN entities, NGOs, national partners, and international and regional development partners.

The evaluation applied a utilization and learning-focused approach, combined with a realist-informed evaluation approach and contribution analysis to assess the support to gender statistics across UN Women. The evaluation used a theory-based model; applied gender-responsive evaluation principles; and incorporated a "no one left behind" perspective,

including disability inclusion. The evaluation used a cross-comparative approach, using both in-depth and light-touch case studies which allowed comparison across country contexts and thematic areas, as well as across countries which were financially supported by the global Women Count programme, partially supported or not supported. The evaluation design was heavily informed by an understanding of data utilization for achieving development goals, particularly for gender outcomes. The key stakeholder inception interviews were also influential in determining the approach. The figures below show the overall evaluation design (including the approach, workstreams and methods used) and the sources and methodology for data collection.

EVALUATION DESIGN AND DATA COLLECTED

EVALUATION DESIGN

Utilisation & learning-focused
Theory-based/ Realist-informed

WORK STREAMS

1. UN Women's role in gender statistics within the global landscape; 2. UN Women's success to date and 3. Sustainability of approach

148 STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGED

Internal 76 (12 male - 64 female)
External 72 (24 male - 48 female)

200+ DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

Desk review of evaluations, reports, prodocs, etc; portfolio analysis

MIXED-METHODS DATA

Qualitative & quantitative data collection from different data sources.

14 CASE STUDIES

6 in depth case studies
8 light touch case studies

1 ONLINE SURVEY

Survey to UN Women business units (48% response rate)

1 COMPARATIVE STUDY

With 6 external organizations

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