Presentation of UN Women Evaluation Policy
Second Regular Session of the Executive Board

30 November 2012
Overview

- Evaluation Policy Background
- Preparation and Consultation Process
- Contents of Final Policy Document
- Text of Draft Decision
- Policy Implementation Plan
Evaluation Policy Background

- UN Women Evaluation Policy:
  - Acts as the framework for the operation of an independent, credible and useful evaluation function
  - Provides clear communication of evaluation function to internal and external stakeholders
  - Alignment with UNEG norms and standards

- Preparation & Approval Process
  - Review, analysis and consultation
  - Reviewed and cleared by the USG/Executive Director
  - Consulted with Executive Board: two informal briefings (21 Sept; 14 Nov) and written comments
  - Final policy document submitted for EXB approval at Second Regular Session 30 Nov
Policy Content: Introduction

- Applies to all UN Women supported initiatives and administered funds and enters into force on 1 Jan 2013
  ExB Decision 2012/5, Para. 2

- “Looks forward to the development of the UN-Women evaluation policy consistent with GA resolutions 64/289, 62/208 and UNEG Norms and Standards, and requests the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director to submit it for the consideration of the Executive Board at its 2012 Second Regular Session. In this regard, further requests UN-Women to update and consult with the Board about the development of the evaluation policy prior to its 2012 Second Regular Session”

- Responds to mandate for developing evaluation policy (e.g. General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 62/208, UN Women Strategic Plan commitments, etc.) and for gender mainstreaming in UN System
- Outlines role of evaluation function regarding accountability, decision-making, learning
- Clarifies the distinction/relation to other oversight and management functions

- Aligns Evaluation Policy with the UN Women mandate outlined in founding GA resolution (64/289):
  “to provide normative support functions and operational activities, guidance and technical support to all Member States, across all levels of development in all regions, at their request, on gender equality, the empowerment and rights of women and gender mainstreaming”

- Establishes a requirement to enhance internal capacity in the areas of design, monitoring and evaluation (para. 1) and reinforces UN Women Financial Rules and Regulations (para. 3)
Policy Content: Guiding Principles and Standards

- National Ownership and Leadership
- UN System Coordination and Coherence on GEWE
- Innovation
- Fair Power Relations and Empowerment
- Participation & Inclusion
- Independence and Impartiality
- Transparency
- Quality and Credibility
- Intentionality and Use of Evaluation
- Ethics
Policy Content: Coordination on System-Wide Evaluation

- Promote the integration of gender equality into system-wide evaluation
- Address gaps in accountability and support the evaluation of progress on implementation of UN commitments on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment

Four main strategies:
- Contributing to the UNEG and regional/country evaluation groups
- Promoting joint evaluation initiatives
- Supporting gender responsive evaluation capacity within UN system
- Building evidence based knowledge
Policy Content: UN Women Evaluation

- Assessment of operational, normative support and coordination work undertaken at different points in the intervention life cycle (Corporate / Decentralized)

- Strategy/policy, organizational, normative support, thematic, regional, country and programme evaluation; joint evaluation is also promoted (types)

- Reinforcement of distinction between corporate and decentralized evaluation modalities

- Evaluation criteria to be used are those proposed by (but not limited to) UNEG, including those based on gender equality and international human rights principles
Policy Content: Quality Assurance & Capacity Development

- Quality Assurance Mechanisms:
  - EO will develop and maintain Quality Assurance Mechanisms for corporate and decentralized evaluation

- Capacity Development:
  - Developing national capacities (National governments, National and regional evaluation associations and networks)
  - Enhanced internal evaluation capacity (UN Women staff, UN organizations)
  - Evaluation Partnership and Capacity Development Strategy
Policy Content: Evaluation Planning

- Biannual corporate evaluation plan and decentralized integrated Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Plans

- Eight selection parameters aligned with SP with two levels of prioritization:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Priority</th>
<th>Second Priority</th>
<th>Cross-cutting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Relevance</td>
<td>4. Demand for accountability</td>
<td>7. Feasibility</td>
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<td>3. Significant Investment</td>
<td>6. Potential for joint or UNDAF evaluation</td>
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- Revision included prioritization of parameters and UN Women EXB request of evaluation based on parameters
Policy Content: Evaluation Requirements

- Strategy/Policy/Organizational; Normative support; Thematic; Regional/Country
- Mid-term and Final Programme evaluation
- Move beyond minimum when feasible given capacity
- Budget recommendation: 3% for evaluation; 3 – 10% for monitoring
Policy Content: Management of Evaluation

- Independent corporate evaluations are *undertaken* by the independent Evaluation Office

- Decentralized external evaluations are *managed* by programme offices


- Abide by EO established quality assurance standards and subject to quality review
Policy Content: Use of Evaluation

- Inform design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of UN Women interventions, UNDAFs/CCPs, system-wide action plans, programmes, etc.

- Management Responses/Action Plans for all independent evaluations

- Global Accountability and Tracking of Evaluation Use (GATE) System

- Inclusion in performance appraisal systems and investment in evaluation capacity development.

- System-wide and external use through gender equality evaluation knowledge hubs
Policy Content: Disclosure and Dissemination

- Disclosure of all evaluation plans, independent evaluation Terms of Reference, final reports and management responses/action plans (UN Women Evaluation Resource Center (ERC)/GATE System)

- Final evaluation plans to be disclosed *one month* after finalization; reports are to be disclosed concurrently with their management responses/action plans *within six weeks*.

- Dissemination Strategies to be developed and resourced for all independent evaluation.
Policy Content: Roles and Responsibilities

- Executive Board
- CSW and other inter-governmental bodies
- USG/Executive Director
- EO
- Evaluation Committee
- Senior Management
- M & E Specialists/Focal Points
- Evaluation Task Managers
- Human Resource/Procurement Divisions
Policy Content: External Evaluation

- Peer Review of the implementation of the evaluation function in 2014
- External Review of the implementation of the evaluation policy in 2015
- External Evaluation of UNW by UNOIOS and JIU
Annex: Evaluation Types

- Types
  - Corporate and Decentralized

- Levels
  - Strategy/Policy, Normative Support, Organizational, Thematic, Regional/Cluster, Country and Programme

- Points in Time
  - Evaluability Assessment, Mid-Term, Final and Meta

- Joint Evaluation
Text of Draft Decision

The Executive Board may wish to:

- **Welcome** the development of the UN-Women evaluation policy consistent with General Assembly resolutions 64/289, 62/208 and United Nations Evaluation Group Norms and Standards,

- **Endorse** the document of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on the UN-Women Evaluation Policy UNW/2012/15 as the policy statement on the evaluation function of UN Women,

- **Acknowledge** with appreciation the steps taken by UN Women to ensure an independent, credible and useful evaluation function, and

- **Request** UN-Women to ensure compliance with the evaluation policy through the establishment of mechanisms for the implementation of its principles and commitments, the increased capacities on programme design, monitoring and evaluation, and to regularly report on the progress made to continue strengthening the evaluation function and improve the use of evaluation.
Policy Implementation Plan

- Dissemination and Communication of Evaluation Policy
  - Executive Directive on Evaluation Policy
  - Dissemination to Internal/External Stakeholders

- Enhancing Accountability Framework
  - Evaluation Committee Constitution
  - Launch and Roll Out of GATE System

- Enhancing EO Role to Implement Policy

- Update and Development of EO Strategies
  - Partnership and Capacity Development Strategy
  - Strategy for Supporting and Promoting System-wide Evaluation
  - Updated KM and Dissemination Strategy
Evaluation Resource Centre

Evaluation Resource Center - UN WOMEN

ERC is an online-based Information Management System, which facilitates UNDP’s effort to strategically plan and effectively use evaluations for accountability, management for results, and knowledge management.

Search Evaluation Reports

Agency/Operational Unit: Select
Type: Select
Completion Year: Select
UN Women Goals: Select

G1: To increase women’s leadership and participation
G2: To increase women’s access to economic empowerment
G3: To prevent violence against women and girls
G4: To increase women’s leadership in peace, security
G5: To strengthen the responsiveness of plans and policies
G6: To a comprehensive set of global norms, policies and
Policy Implementation Plan

- Update and Development of Guidance and Management Protocols and Quality Assurance Mechanism
  - Update of UN Women Evaluation Manual to align with Policy
  - Revision of Quality Criteria
  - Meta-evaluation

- Knowledge Management Platforms
  - Update of Evaluation Resource Center (ERC)
  - Launch of Gender and Evaluation Roster

- Enhancing Decentralized Evaluation Function
  - Improve process for MERPs

- Improving Evaluability
  - Update Programme and Operation’s Manual
Global Repository of Evaluations

Gender Equality Evaluation Database encompass all evaluations, papers and training materials that have a specific focus on evaluation and the promotion of gender equality and women’s rights in a range of themes, including gender mainstreaming.

BROWSE RESOURCES

**By Region**
View evaluation reports from different regions

**By Country**
View evaluation reports for over 200 countries

**By BAC – Beijing Area of Concern**
View evaluation reports by Beijing area of concern

**By 1st Level – Type of Evaluation**
View evaluation reports by 1st level – type of evaluation

Key Statistics

**By BAC – Beijing Area of Concern**

**By Region**

**By Type of Evaluation**
Corporate Evaluations 2012-2013

1) Joint Evaluation of Joint Gender Programmes in the UN System

2) Evaluation of UN Women’s contribution to Prevent Violence against Women and Expand Access to Services

3) Evaluation of UN Women’s contribution to Women’s Leadership and Participation in Peace and Security and Humanitarian response
2012 Corporate Evaluations