


TRANSFORM



UN Women Flagship Programme Initiatives and Thematic Priorities of the Strategic Plan 2018–2021

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Dear Readers,

UN Women introduced Flagship Programme Initiatives (FPIs) in 2015 as a new programming modality for UN Women to move away from a tradition of numerous, small-scale and fragmented interventions towards strategic, multi-year engagement frameworks delivered coherently across regions and countries, and at a requisite scale to achieve transformational changes in gender equality and women's empowerment.

As part of its implementation of the UN Women Corporate Evaluation Plan, the Independent Evaluation Service, in collaboration with the Internal Audit Service, assessed the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and coherence of the 12 FPIs (and their integration as thematic priorities of the Strategic Plan 2018–2021) as a partnership, operational, resource mobilization and programming model to deliver high-impact and transformative results within the context of implementing the UN Women Strategic Plan.

The evaluation took place at a critical point as UN Women celebrates its 10 year anniversary, along with the 25 year anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and a 5 year milestone towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals. At the same time, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge the world in unprecedented ways, requiring UN Women to adapt and rapidly respond to the existing and emerging needs of women and girls worldwide. At this time, it is crucial for UN Women to look critically at the evolution of its work to draw on important lessons to enhance organizational learning, reinforce programmatic priorities and adapt to a dynamic and challenging external landscape.

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

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Think Beyond. Stay Ahead.

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DISCLAIMER

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ON THE COVER Rima Sultana Rimu is a young Bangladeshi activist living in Cox's Bazar, which hosts one of the world's largest refugee settlements. She has made literacy of Rohingya women and girls her mission.

Photo ©UN Women/Mahmudul Karim



Photo ©UN Women/Luke Horswell

Why evaluate UN Women's Flagship Programme Initiatives and the Thematic Priorities of the Strategic Plan 2018–2021?

Flagship Programme Initiatives represent both operational and programming instruments, as well as a roadmap for the implementation of the Strategic Plan's Thematic Priorities.

The UN Women Independent Evaluation Service (IES) conducts corporate evaluations to assess UN Women's contribution to achieving gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE). In fulfilment of the UN Women corporate evaluation plan, the evaluation focused on the programmatic effectiveness and efficiency of the UN Women Flagship Programme Initiatives (FPIs) and the Thematic Priorities of the Strategic Plan 2018–2021.

The FPIs were envisioned as a new programming modality for UN Women to consolidate the young Entity's numerous, small-scale interventions to develop strategic and scaled, multi-year engagement frameworks to be operationalized at the global and regional levels in order to amplify impact and achieve transformational changes in the advancement of GEWE. The FPIs also aimed to further boost UN Women's resource mobilization and strategic partnership endeavours.



Photo ©UN Women/Ryan Brown



Photo ©UN Women/Kith&Kin

The purpose of the evaluation was to:

- Analyse whether and how the FPIs have realized their stated intent to ensure that UN Women fully leverages its triple mandate in an integrated manner to become “fitter and funded for purpose” to deliver against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the ideals of UN system reform.
- Inform organizational learning and accountability for past performance.
- Provide useful lessons to feed into future corporate programmatic thinking and practice and serve as key inputs to the development of the UN Women Strategic Plan 2022–2025.
- The evaluation is intended to be used primarily by UN Women's leadership, policy thematic divisions and other headquarters divisions that support different aspects of UN Women's programme implementation at the global, regional and country levels.

CONTEXT



10th anniversary of the establishment of UN Women



25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action



20th anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325



5 year milestone for achieving the SDGs



COVID-19 pandemic

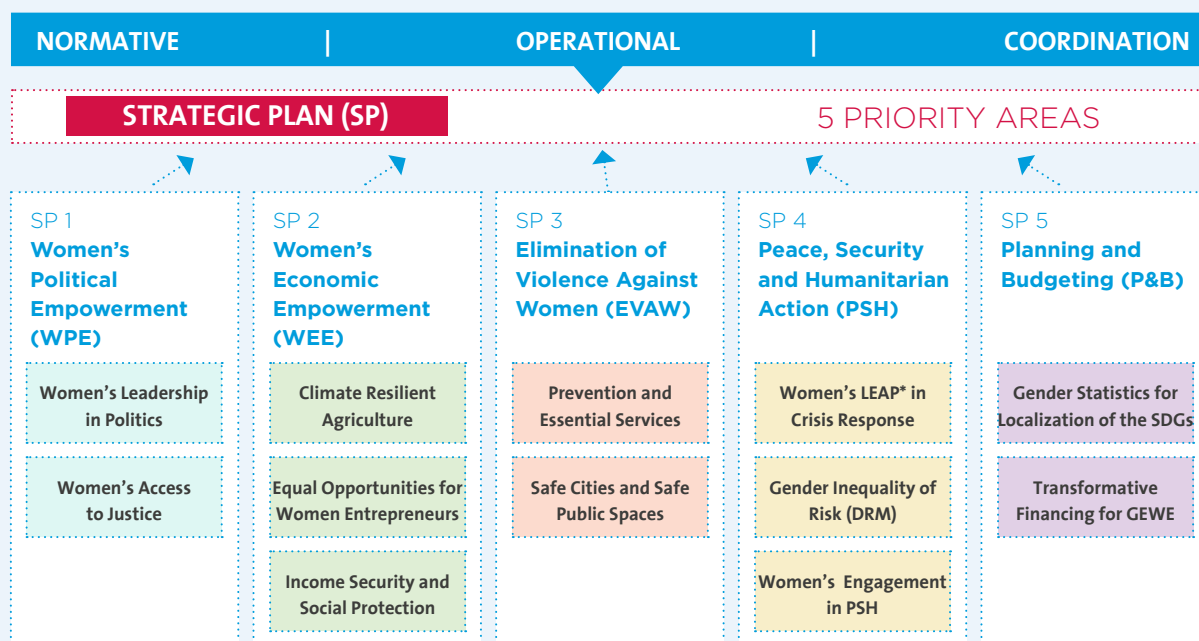


Photo ©UN Women/Christopher Herwig

EVALUATION OVERARCHING QUESTIONS:

1. To what extent have FPI/TP approaches improved and focused **strategic programming**?
2. To what extent has the FPI approach **strengthened governance, quality assurance, monitoring and knowledge management**?
3. To what extent has the FPI approach enhanced **engagement of partners** around common GEWE goals?
4. To what extent has the FPI approach enhanced collaboration and **system-wide coordination on GEWE** among United Nations agencies at the global and country levels?
5. To what extent has the FPI approach enhanced **resource mobilization and donor relations** and provided flexible and predictable funding?

FPIs MAPPED TO UN WOMEN STRATEGIC PLAN 2014–2017 PRIORITY AREAS



* Women's Leadership, Empowerment, Access and Protection (LEAP)

Source: UN Women Flagship Programme Initiatives – A vision for coherence (Presentation), September 2015

What methods and tools are available to advance gender-responsive evaluation?

What can we learn from successful gender-responsive evaluation approaches?

How can we empower rights holders and maximize their participation?

GOOD PRACTICES IN GENDER-RESPONSIVE EVALUATIONS

Download the interactive PDF [here](#)





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