



KEY STAKEHOLDERS' PERSPECTIVES FOR UN WOMEN'S NEXT STRATEGIC PLAN

Findings from UN Women Survey on the Development
of the Next Strategic Plan 2022-2025

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CSO - Civil Society Organisation

GDP - Gross Domestic Product

GEWE - Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

LNOB - Leave No One Behind

NGO - Non-governmental Organisation

SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals

UNCT - United Nations Country Team

UNCT-SWAP - United Nations Country Team System-Wide Action Plan

UNSG - United Nations Secretary-General

UN-SWAP - United Nations System-Wide Action Plan

UN Women - United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women



**Introduction and
background**

Methodology

Key findings

**Strategies to address
the deep
under-resourcing of
the gender equality
agenda**

**Strategies to adopt
in the
upcoming Strategic
Plan to best
incorporate citizen
mobilization and
engagement**

**Annex: Findings
by survey
question**



Twenty-five years since the adoption of the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#), 75 years since the founding of the United Nations, 20 years since the landmark UN Security Council resolution on Women, Peace and Security (S/RES/1325), 10 years since the creation of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and in the first year of the Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs) Decade of Action, UN Women is embarking on the development of its next Strategic Plan (2022-2025).

As groundwork to a robust new Strategic Plan, UN Women has been convening an intensive and inclusive listening phase, undertaken through a series of global, regional and country consultations, including an external and internal partner survey. This document presents the results that emerged from the survey.

The survey was conducted in all six UN official languages – Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), English, French, Russian and Spanish, with broad dissemination to key and specialized stakeholders over a 3-week period in November 2020.

The survey included 26 questions feeding into four sections:

1. New and Persistent Challenges to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.
2. UN Women's Strategies and Impact Areas.
3. The Importance of Partnerships.
4. UN Women's Role in the Context of the UN Reforms.

Through these questions, including allowing for open-ended responses where respondents could provide further comments, UN Women collected perspectives on its strengths and weaknesses over the first decade since its creation, opportunities and challenges the entity should focus on in these crucial coming years, as well as what strategies UN Women is best positioned to deploy, especially in responding to the devastation COVID-19 continues to inflict on women and girls. Key findings are presented below and data analysis tables per question are included in the Annex.

The survey secured insights from 1,097 respondents (495 or 45 per cent of which are external to UN Women), representing key stakeholders at global, regional and country levels, including government partners, civil society and UN Women colleagues across the entity.

International/
Global **291**

Europe and
Central Asia **291**

Arab States **117**

Americas and
Caribbean **144**

West and
Central Africa **95**

Asia and the
Pacific **182**

Eastern and
Southern Africa **146**

The survey attracted insights from
1,097 respondents:

Civil Society	232
Government	93
UN partners	94
Other	70
UN Women	608

Please see notes at base of Annex Table 1
for more information on respondent
groupings.

The survey was developed by UN Women in September-October of 2020 and translated into Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), English, French, Russian and Spanish. The survey was entered into a multilingual survey platform for hosting, dissemination and primary analytics. A small, diverse group of stakeholders provided valuable feedback and testing.

The final survey was disseminated broadly to all UN Women's strategic partners at global, regional and country levels.

The survey collected responses from 1,103 respondents over a 3-week period in November 2020. Six partial responses, not amenable to analysis, were excluded, leaving 1,097 responses analysed.

Results were analysed through the survey platform with further analysis in-house, in order to examine perspectives expressed among different respondent groups: civil society, government, UN partners, other and UN Women (please see footnote to Table 1 in the Annex for more details).

“

Very strong messages are needed, backed up with real numbers on how much (GDP) countries lose if they don't invest in advancing gender equality, decision makers need to be bombarded with these messages, at fora such as the World Economic Forum and others [...]”

- A respondent working in a non-governmental organization (NGO) in the Arab States, when asked what strategies the new Strategic Plan should adopt to address the deep under-resourcing of the gender equality agenda

“

I highly appreciate UN Women's normative and coordinative mandate on women's rights and gender equality from local to global level. However, for these mandates to have necessary influence this should be coupled with or be part of a strong UNSG and UNCT leadership, including its engagement with governments. UN Women should continue to be a main supporter of inclusion of a strong women's movement with women- and human rights organisations from local to global level.”

- A representative working at the international/global level in a bilateral donor/agency, when asked if they wanted to add any additional comments at the close of the survey

The survey serves to enrich the understanding of what UN Women is known for. Along with empirical evidence, it helps identify partner perspectives on key areas of strength, and in which ways UN Women, together with partners, can best continue to champion and achieve results for gender equality, and women's empowerment and the resolution of inequality broadly.

In general, the survey responses are very similar between main respondent groups. Where distinctions were identified they are noted (the Annex covers this in depth).

The survey responses are serving as valuable inputs to consultations at the regional and global levels and feeding into the various workstreams shaping UN Women's next Strategic Plan. As such, it provides a strong basis for decision making and the entity's direction for the next four foundational years of the Decade of Action.

In terms of key findings, the following stand out among the survey results:



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