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Dear Readers,

We are pleased to present you our seventh issue of Transform, addressing another critical topic: UN system coordination on gender equality and the empowerment of women (GEEW). This subject is important not only for achieving gender equality but also for overall development of a more coherent and fit for purpose United Nations.

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) Independent Evaluation Office undertook a corporate evaluation of UN Women contribution to UN system coordination on GEEW. The main purpose of the evaluation was to inform strategic decision making, organizational learning and accountability, as well as generating knowledge on what works and what doesn't in key aspects of UN coordination to advance GEEW at global, regional and country levels.

The evaluation assessed the relevance, effectiveness and organizational efficiency of UN Women's UN coordination mandate on GEEW. The report provides seven main conclusions and eight recommendations. Highlights of its findings and next steps are included in this issue.

We hope you find this new TRANSFORM issue engaging and the information within useful for strengthening the work of UN Women and its partners worldwide.

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Think Beyond. Stay Ahead.

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UN coordination work of UN Women: What is it?

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The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) was established by General Assembly Resolution 64/289 on system-wide coherence to assist Member States and the United Nations (UN) system in progressing more effectively and efficiently towards the goal of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women (GEEW). The entity was designed “fit-for-purpose” in that its mandate cuts across the three pillars of the United Nations and integrates normative support, coordination functions and operational activities.

As defined in its founding resolution and subsequent strategic documents, UN Women’s UN coordination role includes three aspects: leadership and advocacy related to “agenda setting” in the United Nations; promoting accountability of the UN system in relation to its GEEW commitments; and coordinating by engaging in system-wide and inter-agency efforts that promote and advance GEEW at global, regional and national levels. Furthermore, UN Women has the responsibility to

follow up on gender parity commitments in the UN system.

UN Women’s UN coordination role is its newest role, as it was not formally included in or adopted from the mandates of any of its predecessor entities, although some GEEW coordination existed prior to the establishment of UN Women. The UN Women coordination role is an “organizational” mandate that is not limited to any one division, unit or level of the organization, including decentralized level.

The entity was designed “fit-for-purpose” in that its mandate cuts across the three pillars of the United Nations and integrates normative support, coordination functions and operational activities.



Milestones in the UN reform process

2006

The Secretary-General's High-level Panel on UN System-wide Coherence recommended that the UN system should "Deliver as One" at the country level with one leader, one programme, one budget and, where appropriate, one office.

2008

General Assembly Resolution 62/277 stated that subsequent consultations on system-wide coherence would focus on harmonization of business practices, funding, governance, GEEW, and "Delivering as One" at country and regional levels.

2010

Resolution A/RES/64/289 established UN Women in response to acknowledged weaknesses in the UN system's ability to effectively and coherently address issues of GEEW.

2012

Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review Resolution (67/226), which provided the UN system its mandate for development operations for 2013-2016, highlighted several areas for improved functioning in relation to system coherence, e.g., related to the Resident Coordinator system, "Deliver as One", and simplification and harmonization of business practices.

2014

UN Development Group standard operating procedures were developed to support a second generation of "Deliver as One" for countries wishing to adopt the approach.

WHAT DO I NEED
TO KNOW TO
MANAGE OR
CONDUCT AN
EVALUATION AT
UN WOMEN?

HOW CAN
EVALUATION BE
A DRIVER FOR
CHANGE TOWARDS
GENDER EQUALITY
AND WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT?

HOW IS GENDER-
RESPONSIVE
EVALUATION
DIFFERENT
FROM OTHER
EVALUATION?

HOW TO MANAGE GENDER-RESPONSIVE EVALUATION

EVALUATION HANDBOOK



Find out how UN Women manages gender-responsive evaluation
with the new UN Women Evaluation Handbook:
How to manage gender responsive evaluation.

The Handbook is available at:
<http://genderevaluation.unwomen.org>



Independent
Evaluation Office



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