UN Women’s Strategy to Leverage Innovation & Technology to Accelerate Efforts towards Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment
1. Why innovate?

2. UN Women’s Strategy to leverage innovation to accelerate gender equality and women’s empowerment

3. Current proof of concepts

4. Implementation approach, partnerships & knowledge management
1. Why innovate?

Innovations in policies, management, finance, science and technology that disrupt “business as usual” are increasingly recognized as a precondition to accelerate achievement of the SDGs for all.

Current trajectories towards gender equality and women’s empowerment...

- 50 years = parity in politics
- 81 years = parity in women’s participation in the economy
- 95 years = parity in girls lower secondary education for the poorest 20%
1. Innovation is not gender neutral

- Innovation is not necessarily available to women and men equally
- When available, innovation can be gender blind and fail to benefit men and women equally
- Innovation can unintendedly entrench gender bias and inequality
UN Women’s Innovation Strategy focuses on four objectives:


GLOBAL INNOVATION COALITION FOR CHANGE

MEMBERS HANDBOOK 2017-2019

GENDER EQUALITY AND BIG DATA
3. Embed Innovation in UN Women’s programming: Current proofs of concept for digital solutions

To leverage innovation & technology to accelerate efforts towards gender equality and the empowerment of women.
Mobile Prototype - Women Farmer

**Buy From Women**
Provide access for women farmers and cooperatives to markets, information & finance.

**We Learn - Agriculture**
e-Learning platform with access to capacity development content

**Ending Violence**
Mobile App to address gender based violence

**Wallet-Blockchain**
Enable transformative changes in transferring digital assets, and building economic identity for women
“Buy from Women” app available on the App Store

An app to empower coop agent to register farmer and perform various actions including but not limited to farmer registration and harvest management.
Mobile Prototype - Women in Humanitarian context

**E-Identity**
Provide a distributed and secure database for digital records

**E-Wallet**
Enable transformative changes in transferring digital assets, and building economic identity for women

**Ending Violence**
Mobile App to address gender based violence

**We Learn- 2nd Chance Education**
e-Learning platform with access to capacity development content

*Cash-for-work programme empowers Syrian refugees*
Proofs of concepts

- Micro-grants
  - Donate button
- E-payments
- Social investment

Sustainable Digital Finance Alliance
4. Implementation Approach, Partnerships and Knowledge Management

- **Internal Capacity Building**
  - Development of a webinar series on innovation and technology accessible to all staff.
  - Learning exchanges offering practical skills and competencies on ‘how to’ innovate and embed innovation in UN Women’s programming
  - Hands on trainings on specific innovative solutions to challenges facing various departments within the organization.

- **Partnerships**
  - Member States: Government of Denmark, Innovation Norway and Government of France
  - UN agencies
  - Civil society and private sector

- **Knowledge management**
  - Monitoring the impact of innovation investments
  - Documenting and disseminating and sharing lessons learned and best practices
Thank you