What can we learn from UN Women evaluations?

A Meta-analysis of evaluations managed by UN Women in 2017
Outline

- Methodology
- Results of the Meta-analysis
- Conclusions and Recommendations
• Total universe of good quality evaluations managed by UN Women in 2017

• Applied structured analysis against:
  ▪ OECD-DAC development effectiveness criteria
  ▪ Development and organizational effectiveness and efficiency results in the UN Women Strategic Plan 2018-2021
  ▪ Contributions made by UN Women to humanitarian response
Results of the Meta-Analysis

- Continuing improvement in overall development effectiveness
- Convening power, partnerships and the integrated mandate contributes to achieving positive outcomes
- Securing multi-year funding, scaling up innovative approaches and strengthening RBM systems can be further expanded and improved

Conclusions and Recommendations
- Development effectiveness (3)
- Operational effectiveness and efficiency (2)
- Humanitarian action (1)
Conclusion 1

Despite constrained human and financial resources, evaluations found that UN Women’s interventions at all levels have been effective, with most achieving the expected results.

Nevertheless, UN Women should continue to improve its efforts in achieving resources targets and refine methods and systems to track and capture outcomes and impacts.

Recommendation 1

Strengthen RBM systems to support adaptive programme management with progress on interventions along the pathways to outcomes.

Use evidence of progress towards outcomes to advocate for longer-term and more stable resources to scale and accelerate successful interventions.
Knowledge management is reliant on the role of regional offices to connect country-level practitioners and ensure knowledge is translated into results. However, limited value is being added by ‘multi-country’ programme structures beyond learning and exchange that is already supported by regional advisors.

Reduce duplication of country-level programme management functions within regional programmes, directing this capacity to support the enabling environment for participating countries.

Strengthen the knowledge exchange function of regional offices, including with human capital for translation of knowledge resources into regional languages.
Effective UN coordination and joint programmes have been a strong driver of effective programming at the global and country levels. However, joint programmes are often “joint” in planning more than they are in implementation.

Realising the potential of UN reform to support GEWE requires building from ‘planning-as-one’, to implementation-level ‘delivery-as-one’.
Conclusion 4

Strategic partnerships have delivered substantive normative and operational results for UN Women, and are the heart of programme sustainability. Nonetheless, there is a need to establish a mechanism of ‘small scale funding agreement’ with lower levels of compliance requirements for partnering with small and low-risk women's CSOs.

Recommendation 4

Institutionalize a range of responsive (fit-for-purpose) governance practices for working with different sizes and types of partner.
Conclusion 5

UN Women is overcoming barriers to advancing gender equality and Women’s empowerment through building alliances and networks of partners. Achieving outcomes is found to be subject to both internal and external factors that affect performance.

Recommendation 5

Focus country-level partnerships and programming to overcome barriers for gender equality and Women’s empowerment.
Conclusion 6

UN Women is uniquely positioned to address the provision of economic empowerment and access to justice for women and girl survivors of GBV in humanitarian response. Building a case for UN Women making a wider contribution to humanitarian coordination requires the deployment of sufficient in-country technical expertise in emergencies.

Recommendation 6

Build experience and demand for UN Women work in humanitarian action through delivering concrete results with partners in economic empowerment, access to justice, and disaster preparedness.
Thank you for your attention!