



UNEG
United Nations Evaluation Group

Working
Paper

UN-SWAP Evaluation Performance Indicator 2021 Reporting Cycle Results

This report is issued by the UNEG Working Group on Gender Equality, Disability and Human Rights and was drafted by Tara Kaul, UN Women Evaluation Specialist and UN-SWAP Evaluation Performance Indicator Focal Point.

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FOREWORD

The UN-SWAP Evaluation Performance Indicator (EPI) annually assesses the gender responsiveness of evaluations undertaken by various entities. This report presents results, trends and insights from the 2021 reporting cycle for the EPI.

2021 was the fourth year of reporting on the revised UN SWAP 2.0 guidelines. Compared with previous years, the upward trend in the proportion of reporting entities exceeding requirements for the UN-SWAP EPI continued in 2021, and a majority of entities used the UNEG-endorsed scorecard to undertake their EPI assessments. In terms of modality, self-assessments remain the predominant choice, and we hope more entities will be encouraged to undertake peer reviews, or external assessments in the coming year.

While fewer entities reported COVID-19 related disruptions to the gender responsiveness of evaluation activities in 2021, methodological challenges with conducting remote evaluations remain. Good practices reported by entities included curated databases to highlight high-quality, gender-responsive evaluations, targeted knowledge products, and updates to key frameworks and guidance.

In its role as secretariat for the UN-SWAP EPI, UN Women Independent Evaluation Service (IES) prepares and presents this annual report. We gratefully acknowledge comments and review provided by members of the UNEG Working Group on Gender Equality, Disability and Human Rights. We hope colleagues will find the report informative and a useful snapshot of progress towards gender responsive evaluations.



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Table of Contents

FOREWORD	i
Acronyms	1
Executive Summary.....	3
1. Background	4
United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP)	4
UN-SWAP Evaluation Performance Indicator (EPI).....	5
Evaluation Performance Indicator Methodology	5
2. Evaluation Performance Indicator Results.....	8
Key Insights	8
Insight 1: An upward trend in the proportion of reporting entities exceeding requirements for the UN-SWAP EPI continued in 2021.	8
Insight 2: 60 per cent of reporting entities employed the UNEG-endorsed scorecard and reported an overall improvement in ratings.....	10
Insight 3: There was a wide variation in the number of evaluations included in the assessments and a majority of entities undertook self-assessments.....	12
Insight 4: A lower proportion of entities reported COVID-19 related disruptions to evaluation activities in 2021.	13
Good practices to advance integration of gender equality in evaluations.....	14
3. Way forward	16

Acronyms

COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
DCO	Development Coordination Office
DESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs
DGACM	Department for General Assembly and Conference Management
DGC	Department of Global Communications
DPPA	Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
DSS	Department for Safety and Security
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EPI	Evaluation Performance Indicator
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
HR&GE	Human Rights and Gender Equality
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IEAS	UN Women Independent Evaluation and Audit Services
IES	Independent Evaluation Service
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITC	International Trade Centre
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OECD -DAC	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development - Development Assistance Committee
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights

OHRLLS	Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
OIOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services
OLA	Office of Legal Affairs
OSRSG-SVC	Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNOCT	United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOV	United Nations Office in Vienna
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UN-SWAP	United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UNW	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

Executive Summary

The UN-SWAP Evaluation Performance Indicator (EPI) assesses the extent to which evaluation reports of an entity meet the gender-related United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards and demonstrate effective use of the UNEG Guidance on integrating human rights and gender equality during all phases of the evaluation.

This report presents insights from the 2021 reporting cycle, based on reports and documents submitted to the online UN-SWAP database by reporting entities. The key insights from the 2021 reports are as follows:

Insight 1: An upward trend in the proportion of reporting entities exceeding requirements for the UN-SWAP EPI continued in 2021.

Insight 2: 60 per cent of reporting entities employed the UNEG-endorsed scorecard and reported an overall improvement in ratings.

Insight 3: There was a wide variation in the number of evaluations included in the assessments and a majority of entities undertook self-assessments.

Insight 4: A lower proportion of entities reported COVID-19-related disruptions to evaluation activities in 2021.

Similarly to 2020, the demand for evaluations in 2021 remained high, even within the context of the COVID-19 crisis. Based on the UN-SWAP EPI reporting, there was an increase in the proportion of reporting entities exceeding requirements. While the ratings of the UNEG-endorsed scorecard using entities improved, more entities need to be encouraged to adopt the scorecard for their assessments and this remains an area for improvement.

A smaller proportion of entities reported COVID-19-related disruptions to evaluation activities in 2021. While evaluation teams were better prepared for remote evaluations, methodological challenges remained and are likely to impact the quality of evaluations conducted in 2022.

Reporting entities highlighted a number of good practices in gender mainstreaming, including creating databases of high-quality, gender-responsive evaluations and lessons learned; implementing new and innovative methods for gender integration; producing relevant knowledge products; and updating frameworks and guidance.

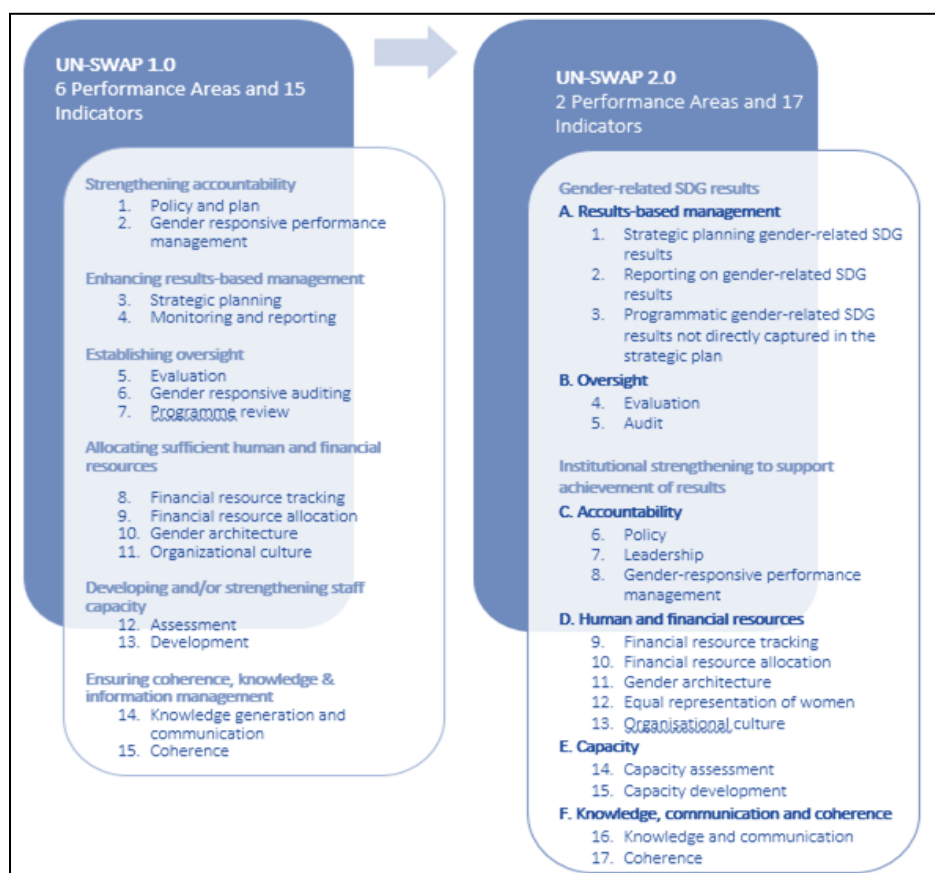
In 2021, the UNEG working group on Gender Equality, Disability and Human Rights worked on a gap analysis of the UNEG Guidance on the Integration of Human Rights and Gender Equality, in preparation for a revision and update to be conducted in 2022.

1. Background

United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP)

UN entities annually report progress on the UN-SWAP accountability framework on gender equality and the empowerment of women. In 2018, a revised UN SWAP 2.0 was launched and included improvements in the guidance documents for each of the 17 performance indicators (see Figure 1). The technical note for the Evaluation Performance Indicator¹ (EPI) was revised to improve coherence in reporting across entities and minimize subjectivity in applying scoring criteria. Based on feedback received from reporting entities, the EPI technical note was further updated in 2020 with the support of the UNEG working group on Gender, Disability and Human Rights to enhance the clarity of assessment criteria. 2021 is the fourth year of implementation for the UN-SWAP 2.0.

Figure 1: Transition from UN-SWAP 1.0 → UN-SWAP2.0



¹ To view the revised technical note, please download at: <http://www.uneval.org/document/download/2148>

UN-SWAP Evaluation Performance Indicator (EPI)

The UN-SWAP EPI assesses the extent to which evaluation reports of an entity meet the gender-related United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards² and demonstrate effective use of the UNEG Guidance on integrating human rights and gender equality during all phases of the evaluation.

The UN-SWAP EPI technical note and scorecard establish guidance and a minimum set of criteria to capture the overall elements related to mainstreaming gender equality in evaluation. The requirements are aligned with UNEG norms, standards, and guidance on how to integrate gender and human rights into evaluations. The technical note also encourages all reporting UN system entities to conduct at least one evaluation to assess corporate performance on gender mainstreaming every 5-8 years. This might constitute, but is not limited to, corporate evaluations of gender policy, mainstreaming, and strategy³.

UNEG GENDER-RELATED NORMS, STANDARDS AND GUIDANCE

The UNEG norms and standards for evaluation were updated in 2016 and for the first time, included a stand-alone norm on human rights and gender equality. The new norm on human rights and gender equality calls on evaluators and evaluation managers to ensure that these values are respected, addressed, and promoted, underpinning the commitment to the principle of ‘no-one left behind’.

Evaluation Performance Indicator Methodology

In line with other UN-SWAP indicators, the EPI is linked to a five-level rating system, with the following categories: “not applicable”, “misses requirements”, “approaches requirements”, “meets requirements”, and “exceeds requirements”. The three reporting criteria for the EPI are as follows:

- **Approaches requirements**
4a. Meets some of the UNEG gender-related norms and standards in the UNEG guidance on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation
- **Meets requirements**
4bi. Meets the UNEG gender-related norms and standards
and
4bii. Applies the UNEG guidance on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in evaluation during all phases of the evaluation
- **Exceeds requirements**
4ci. Meets the UNEG gender-related norms and standards
and

² To view a full list of UNEG Norms and Standards, please download at: <http://www.uneval.org/document/detail/1914>

³ UN Women IES provides help desk services and support to the UN system for reporting on the UN-SWAP EPI.

4cii. Applies the UNEG guidance on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in evaluation during all phases of the evaluation

and

4ciii. Conducts at least one evaluation to assess corporate performance on gender mainstreaming or evaluation of its gender equality policy/strategy every 5-8 years

An entity is expected to report “not-applicable” if there is no evaluation unit and no evaluations are conducted by the entity. In case an entity has conducted evaluations previously, but not in the reporting year, the last rating completed should be used with a clear note indicating the year upon which the rating is based. This approach avoids confusion with those entities that do not have an evaluation unit.

In order to assess overall progress against the criteria, entities undertake an assessment of individual evaluations. Entities are advised to employ the accompanying scorecard⁴ and guiding questions mentioned below in Table 1. The use of the scorecard ensures harmonized reporting across entities and a more rigorous EPI assessment. Thus, the EPI is primarily based on an assessment of evaluation reports completed in the reporting year.

Table 1. UN-SWAP EPI criteria for assessing evaluation reports (scorecard)⁵

Scoring Criteria		Guiding questions for assessing integration
Criterion 1	GEWE is integrated in the evaluation scope of analysis and evaluation criteria and questions are designed in a way that ensures GEWE-related data will be collected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Do the evaluation objectives and/or scope include analysis of the extent to which HR&GE were taken into consideration in the design of the programme/project/policy being evaluated and the achievement of HR&GE-related results? b. Does the evaluation assess whether sufficient information was collected during the implementation period on specific indicators to measure progress on HR&GE? c. Was a stand-alone criterion on gender and/or human rights included in the evaluation framework or mainstreamed into other evaluation criteria by being gender-disaggregated, gender-specific (relevant to a specific social group), or gender-focused (concerning relations between social groups)? d. Is there a dedicated evaluation question regarding how GEWE has been integrated into the design, planning and implementation of the intervention and the results achieved or integrated throughout other questions?
Criterion 2	Gender-responsive methodology, methods, tools, and data analysis techniques are selected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Does the evaluation methodology employ a mixed-methods approach, appropriate to evaluating HR&GE considerations? Are a diverse range of data sources and processes employed (i.e., triangulation, validation)? Was data disaggregated by sex? b. Were methods used for ensuring meaningful participation and the inclusion of women’s voices as well as underrepresented

⁴ To view the scorecard, please download at: <http://www.unevaluation.org/document/download/2149>

⁵ The first three criteria are based on an assessment of evaluation reports.

		<p>groups, including the most vulnerable where appropriate, throughout the evaluation process (inception, data collection and reporting phases)?</p> <p>c. Does the sampling frame address the diversity of stakeholders affected by the intervention, particularly the most vulnerable?</p> <p>d. Were ethical standards considered throughout the evaluation and were all stakeholder groups treated with integrity and respect for confidentiality?</p>
Criterion 3	Evaluation findings, conclusions and recommendations reflect a gender analysis.	<p>a. Does the evaluation have a background section that includes an intersectional analysis of the specific social groups affected by the issue that is being addressed by the evaluation?</p> <p>b. Do the findings include data analysis that explicitly and transparently triangulates the voices of different groups, and/or disaggregates quantitative data?</p> <p>c. Are unanticipated effects of the intervention on HR&GE described?</p> <p>d. Do the findings, conclusions and recommendations explicitly address the gender and human rights dimensions assessed by the evaluation?</p> <p>e. Does the evaluation report provide specific recommendations addressing GEWE issues and priorities for action to improve GEWE of the intervention or future initiatives in this area?</p>
Criterion 4	At least one evaluation to assess corporate performance on gender mainstreaming is conducted every five to eight years.	In order to “exceed requirements”, an evaluation report’s average score must “meet requirements” and the entity must also conduct an evaluation of its corporate gender policy or equivalent.

Three modes of assessment for the UN-SWAP EPI are recommended in the technical note. These include self-assessment, peer-review, and external review conducted by an independent consultant. In 2021, 21 entities (out of the 49 reporting entities) reported conducting an external/independent assessment, and the remaining entities opted for self-assessment. For the purpose of the assessment, entities were advised to include a representative sample of evaluation reports. Some entities chose to include all evaluations, while others included a sample of corporate and decentralized evaluations. In 2021, 21 entities.⁶ The samples draw on different thematic and geographic areas to provide appropriate coverage.

⁶ The number of evaluations included in the reporting sample ranged from 1 to 178 in 2021.

2. Evaluation Performance Indicator Results

Key Insights

Insight 1: An upward trend in the proportion of reporting entities exceeding requirements for the UN-SWAP EPI continued in 2021.

In the 2021 reporting cycle, 49 out of 71 entities reported progress on the UN-SWAP EPI, while 22 entities submitted a rating of “not applicable”. By comparison, in 2020, 42 entities reported progress on the UN-SWAP EPI. Table 2 presents a disaggregation of ratings by entity type. The classification of entities is described below in Table 3.

Table 2. Disaggregated results for UN-SWAP entities in 2021: by EPI rating and entity type (N=71)

		EPI Rating				
		Exceeds requirements	Meets requirements	Approaches requirements	Not Applicable	Missing requirements
Entity Type	Training Institute		1		4	
	Technical Focus	2		2	3	2
	Specialized	3		1		1
	Secretariat	9	12	3	14	
	Funds and Programmes	10	3		1	
	Grand Total	24	16	6	22	3

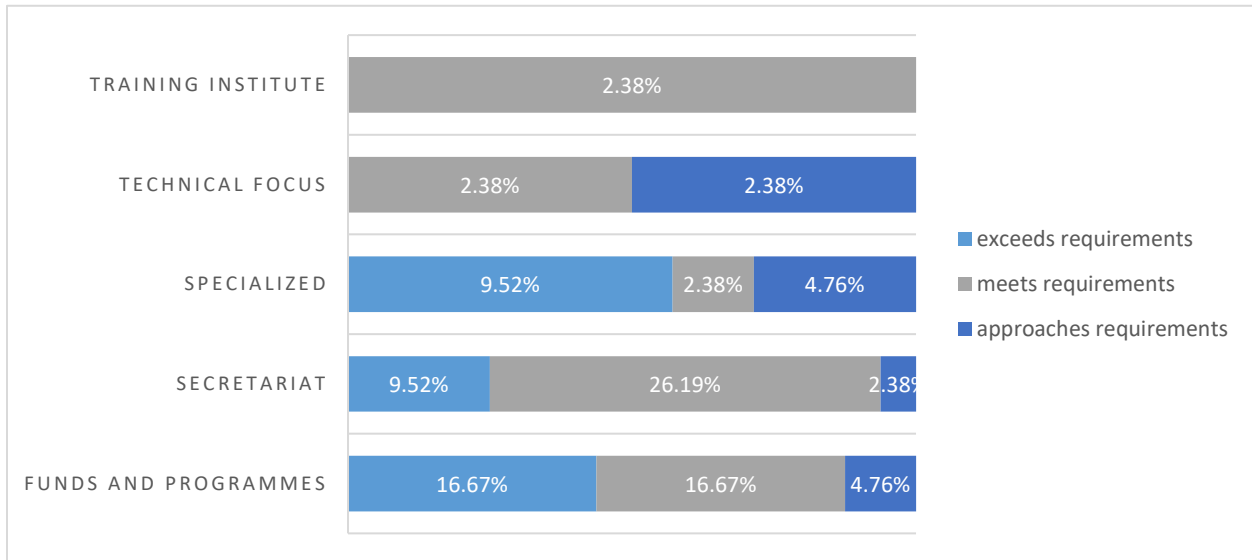
Table 3. Classification by type of UN-SWAP entities

Entity Type	Entity Short Name
Training Institute	UNICRI, UNITAR, UNSSC, UNU, UNRISD
Technical Focus	CTBTO, IAEA, ICAO, IMO, ITU, UNIDO, UNWTO, UPU, WIPO
Specialized	CAAC, DCO, DESA, DGACM, DGC, DMSPC, DOS, DPO, DPPA, DSS, ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA, OAJ, OCHA, ODA, OHCHR, OHRLS, OIOS, OLA, Ombudsman, OSAA, OSRSG-SVC, OSRSG-VAC, UNCCD, UNCTAD, UNDRR, UNEP, UNFCCC, UNGC, UN-HABITAT, UNOCT, UNODC, UNOG, UNON, UNOV,
Secretariat	FAO, ILO, UNESCO, WHO, WMO
Funds and Programmes	IFAD, IOM, ITC, UNAIDS, UNCDF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNRWA, UNV, UN Women, WFP

Of the 49 reporting entities, 82 per cent reported meeting or exceeding requirements in 2021, which is similar to the percentage in 2020. There was an increase in the proportion of entities exceeding

requirements in 2021 (48 per cent), compared with 2020 (36 per cent). Twelve per cent of the entities reported approaching requirements and six per cent of the entities reported missing requirements. This is in line with the continuing upward trend in this metric. Figure 2 presents the results by entity type.

Figure 2. Disaggregated results (percentage) for UN-SWAP EPI reporting entities in 2021: by EPI rating and entity type (N=49)



Insight 2: 60 per cent of reporting entities employed the UNEG-endorsed scorecard and reported an overall improvement in ratings.

Twenty-nine out of 49 reporting entities employed the UNEG endorsed scorecard in 2021. This number is slightly lower than 2020 and is a potential area for improvement. The scorecard enables a harmonized approach to assessing the comparative performance of entities that vary by size, mandate, and capacity. In an effort to improve and encourage the use of the scorecard, the EPI technical note was updated in 2020 by the UNEG working group on Gender, Disabilities and Human Rights to improve the clarity of the guidance. The entities that did not use the UNEG-endorsed scorecard based their self-assessments on a combination of evidence from evaluation reports, evaluation guidance documents, capacity building and awareness initiatives, as well as gender mainstreaming policies⁷.

As shown in Figure 3, only 60 per cent of entities employed the scorecard. Seventy per cent of scorecard users “exceed requirements”, 24 per cent report “meeting requirements”, and only 7 per cent report “approaching requirements” (Figure 4). This represents a substantial improvement in ratings for scorecard users, as 45 per cent reported exceeding requirements in 2020. Overall, 93 per cent of scorecard users reached the established benchmark in 2021, compared with 88 per cent in 2020.

⁷ Entities that did not conduct any evaluations in 2021 (but did conduct evaluations in previous years), used their 2020 rating, if available, as advised in the EPI technical note.

Figure 3. Disaggregated results for UN-SWAP reporting entities in 2021: by scorecard use and rating (N=49)

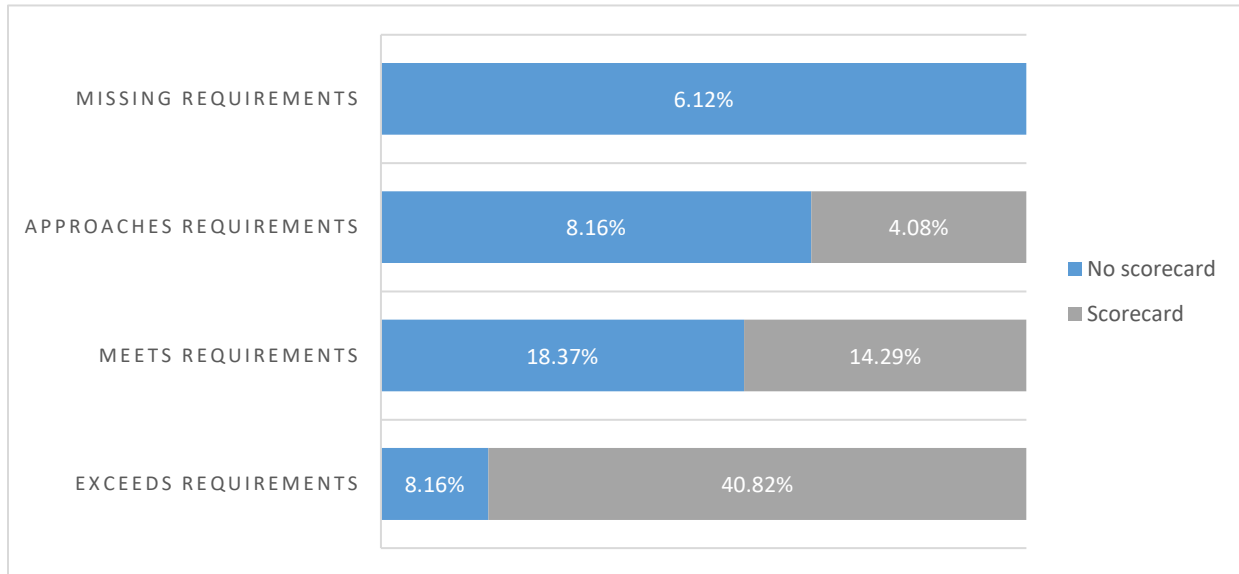
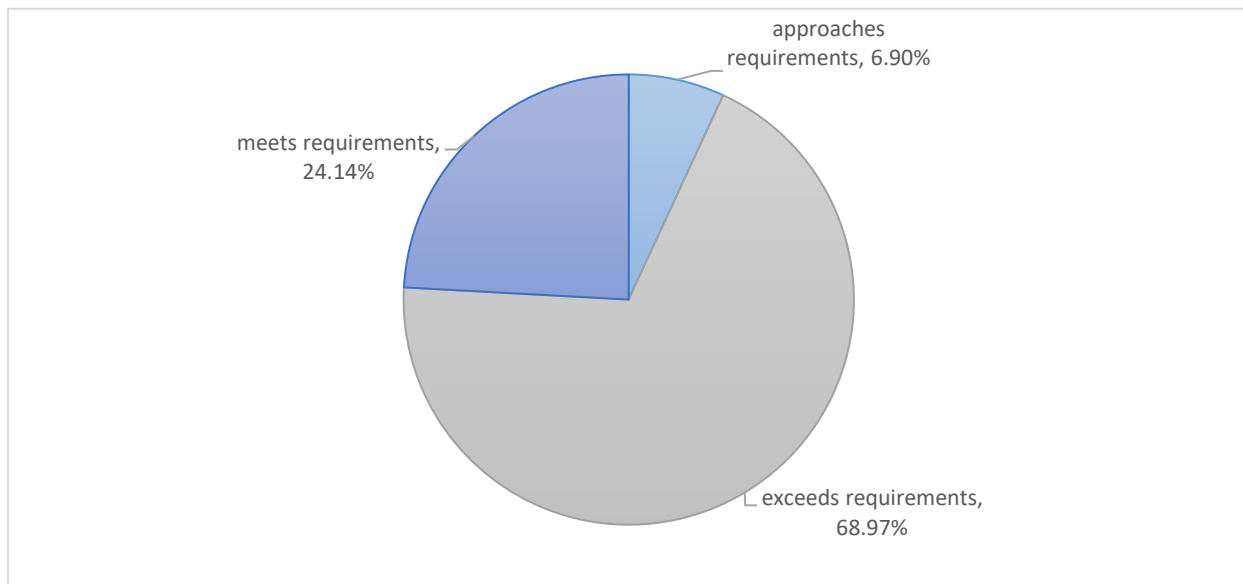


Figure 4. Disaggregated results for UNEG Scorecard users 2021: by rating (N=29)



Insight 3: There was a wide variation in the number of evaluations included in the assessments and a majority of entities undertook self-assessments.

Table 4 presents details on the number of evaluations that were included by entities in their reporting and scoring sample. The pattern in sample sizes is similar to 2020, with most entities including five or fewer evaluations. This reflects the diversity of mandates, capacities, number of evaluations conducted, and types of evaluation across entities.

Table 4. Disaggregated results for UN-SWAP EPI reporting entities in 2021: by number of evaluations in reporting sample (N=49)

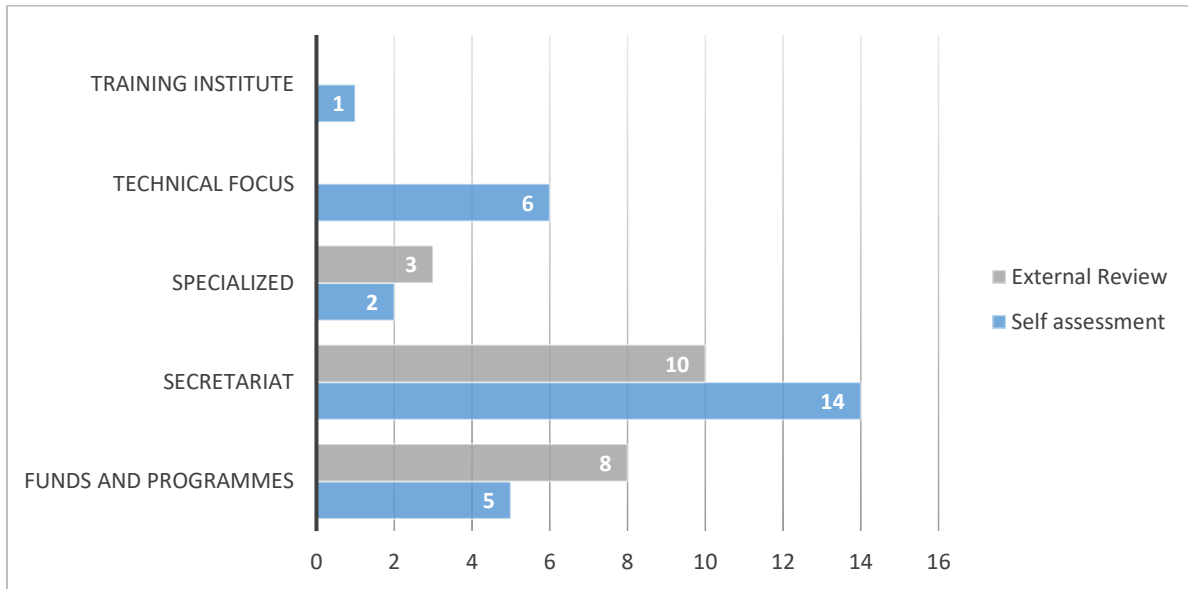
EPI Rating	Number of evaluations					
	1-2	3-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21 or more
Exceeds	UN-HABITAT*, DGC, DPPA*, UNV, ECLAC, ESCWA	UNAIDS*, UNCDF*, UNODC, UNOV, OHCHR, WIPO, UNESCO	ECE, IAEA, IFAD, WHO	IOM		UNFPA, WFP, FAO, UN Women, UNICEF, UNDP
Meets	DCO*, DESA*, DGACM, DSS, OSRSG-SVC*, UNHCR*, ITC, UNOCT*, OCHA*, OLA*	UNCCD*, UNITAR*, UNRWA, ESCAP	OIOS, UNCTAD			
Approaches	ECA*, IMO*, OHRLLS*			UNIDO	UNEP	ILO*
Misses	ICAO*, UPU*, WMO*					

*Entities did not upload scorecards to the UN-SWAP portal

Note: The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is not an official UN-SWAP entity. However, as part of its continued commitment to gender-responsive evaluation, GEF voluntarily reports annually against the UN-SWAP EPI by applying the UNEG-endorsed reporting process. As per the scorecard for 2021, GEF's aggregate rating is "meeting requirements" based on scores from nine evaluations.

In line with the reporting in 2020, entities continued to provide detailed reporting for the EPI and fewer entities sought clarifications on the criteria. In terms of modality used for assessment, as shown in Figure 5 below, a majority of entities (28 out of 49) employed self-assessment. While budgetary considerations may be preventing an external assessment, it is recommended that entities explore peer-reviews modality.

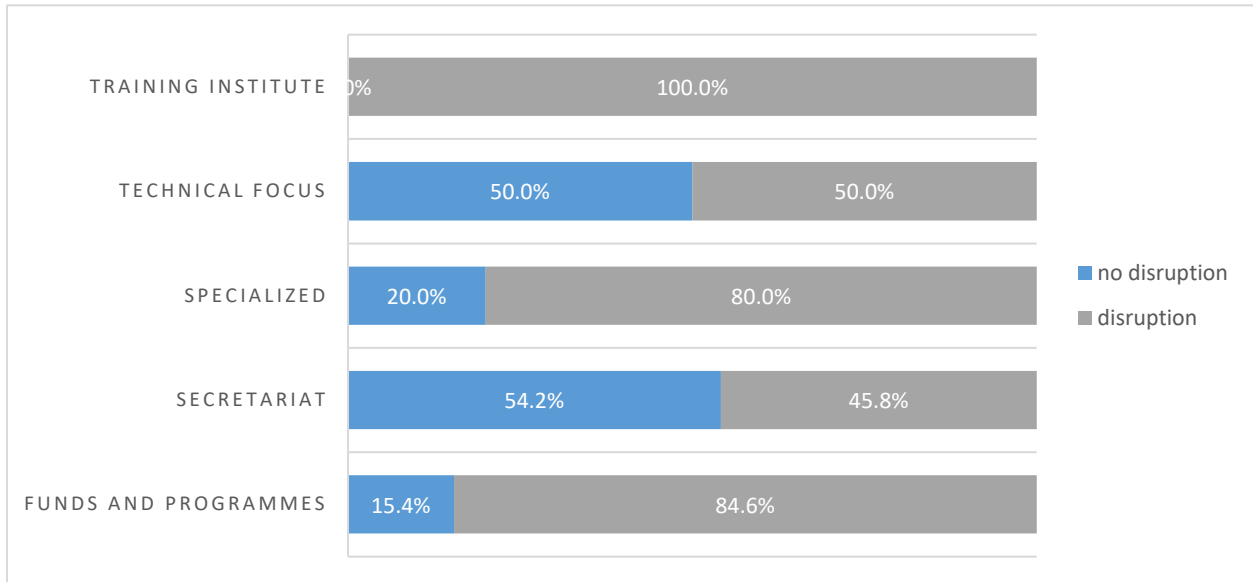
Figure 5. Disaggregated results for UN-SWAP reporting entities in 2021: by modality of assessment (N=49)



Insight 4: A lower proportion of entities reported COVID-19 related disruptions to evaluation activities in 2021.

Sixty per cent (down from 75 per cent in 2020) of all reporting entities indicated disruptions to their evaluation activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Figure 6 below presents the reported disruptions by entity type.

Figure 6. Disaggregated results for UN-SWAP reporting entities in 2021: by reported disruption to evaluation activities due to COVID-19 pandemic (N=49)



Similarly to 2020, the demand for evaluations in 2021 remained high, even within the context of the COVID-19 crisis. To some extent, evaluation teams were better prepared for digital data collection in 2021, but methodological challenges remained. These included increased reliance on online survey data/secondary data and limited fieldwork/observations from visiting and interacting with end-beneficiaries. Evaluation scoping missions, workshops, enumerator trainings and other activities that are usually conducted in-person with the Country Offices were done online. Validation meetings were also impacted or cancelled due to COVID-19, possibly affecting the extent to which findings were co-produced with implementers and beneficiaries. Delays in evaluation activities due to the pandemic-related travel restrictions were also reported by a number of entities. Thus, continuous adjustments to the evaluation approach and methodologies were required and, in some evaluations, this reduced the depth of analysis on gender.

The entities that were able to return to the field, reported that this had improved the quality of evaluations, and particularly strengthened gender mainstreaming.

Good practices to advance integration of gender equality in evaluations

The UN-SWAP EPI reporting for 2021 included a range of good practices adopted by entities to improve and advance gender mainstreaming in evaluations. Some examples of these good practices are given below:

- **Creating databases of high-quality, gender-responsive evaluations and lessons learned**

UNICEF's Evaluation Office compiled a list of outstanding evaluations from the 2020 portfolio to showcase evaluations that performed well on incorporating gender into their evaluations. It is envisaged that this will be a resource that evaluation managers can use to identify good practice that can be incorporated into evaluations that are currently underway.

In the UNITAR-wide lessons learned database, lessons are classified by categories, and the "gender Inclusivity" category currently includes seven lessons. In 2021, UNITAR published a "Lessons learned from evaluations - Series 1" in which Gender inclusivity was one of the four categories examined. In addition to the paper, an internal learning forum was organized during which the paper was presented, and programmes could share experiences.

- **Conducting internal learning sessions on the inclusion of gender in evaluations**

IFAD placed gender-transformative evaluations and feminist evaluations within discussions in the Independent Office of Evaluation, notably articulated in the revised 2021 IFAD Evaluation Policy. The office also built knowledge and internal capacity of staff on gender-responsive evaluation through internal coffee talks on intersectionality, engaging with stakeholders, exploring masculinities in evaluation, evaluations in a complex scenario, and ethical principles; within which gender equality and women's empowerment were woven in.

In 2021, the UNFPA Evaluation Office together with Regional M&E Advisors organized the first virtual global evaluation retreat, which brought together 60 participants from Evaluation Office, Regional offices, country offices and relevant HQ business units. The retreat featured a dedicated session on the integration of Leaving No One Behind and GEWE issues into evaluations. The retreat provided an opportunity for participants to share examples and lessons to ensure that human rights, gender equality, and disability inclusion principles are integrated into all stages of the evaluation processes.

- **Updating frameworks and guidance**

The UNEG working group on Gender Equality, Disability and Human Rights, co-convened by OHCHR and UN Women, worked this year on a gap analysis of the UNEG Guidance on the Integration of Human Rights and Gender Equality, in preparation for a revision and update to be conducted in 2022.

In 2021, UNDP updated its Evaluation Guidelines which include additional information on integrating gender and disability and explains the UN System-Wide Action Plan (for gender) Evaluation Performance Indicator.

UNESCO will publish its new Evaluation Policy and Evaluation Manual in 2022, which will include guidance on the integration of GE in evaluation.

- **Producing relevant knowledge products**

In 2021, UNODC maintained previously identified good practices for gender-responsive evaluations and even further increased its efforts to make progress in mainstreaming gender equality in all evaluation-processes, guidelines, templates, and evaluation-based knowledge

products including in the Toolkit for Evaluating Interventions on Preventing and Countering Crime and Terrorism. The newly developed toolkit ensured gender-responsive evaluation approaches and processes were appropriate and contextualized for the specific UNODC mandated areas of work.

In 2021, WFP updated its guidance on centralized evaluations ensuring that gender was mainstreamed. WFP also led the work on the publication on “Evidence pathways to gender equality and food systems transformation”, a joint publication between FAO, IFAD, CGIAR and WFP.

- **Implementing new and innovative methods for gender integration**

DPPA has initiated an independent systematic evaluation to assess the Department’s performance on mainstreaming gender in what constitutes one of DPPA’s core areas of work. For this very complex evaluation that involves assessing over 3,000 analytical products, the Department will be using supervised Machine Learning (a subfield of Artificial Intelligence) to better understand to what extent gender is integrated into DPPA analyses, what the challenges are, and how it can do better.

The WIPO Evaluation Section has included in its 2022 annual plan consultancy services aiming to promote gender equality by using behavioral insights and nudges to improve gender equality in WIPO.

3. Way forward

Similarly to 2020, the demand for evaluations in 2021 remained high, even within the context of the COVID-19 crisis. Based on the UN-SWAP EPI reporting, there was an increase in the proportion of reporting entities exceeding requirements. While the ratings of the UNEG-endorsed scorecard using entities improved, more entities need to be encouraged to adopt the scorecard for their assessments and this remains an area for improvement.

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