

## Annex VIII: Implementation of recommendations made in annual report on evaluation for 2014 (DP/FPA/2015/6)

| Recommendations  | Follow-up  |
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| <b>Planning and coverage of evaluations</b>  |  |
| <p>UNFPA should clarify the range of evaluations to be conducted, at both central and decentralized levels, to ensure appropriate coverage to meet organizational accountability and learning needs. Comprehensive guidance is required to inform evaluation planning, management and use at all levels.</p>                         | <p>(i) The quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan (2016-2019) presents a strategic approach to support a balance between strategic coverage and utility of evaluations. It also provides a geographically balanced coverage of UNFPA interventions.</p> <p>(ii) In 2016, the Evaluation Office will prepare and disseminate guidance for the conduct of programme-level evaluations to respond to evolving needs.</p>  |
| <b>Financial resources and budget allocation</b>   |  |
| <p>(a) Financial investment in evaluation should be commensurate with a level of coverage that is appropriate and with the necessary alignment with UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2014-2017 and business model.</p>  | <p>(i) The quadrennial plan 2016-2019 is aligned with the outcomes and outputs set out in UNFPA Strategic Plan 2014-17 and business model. It provides a detailed list of corporate and programme-level evaluations with d provisional budgets.</p> <p>(ii) However, the current volatility of the resourcing environment could adversely affect UNFPA evaluation coverage (at both thematic and geographical levels) and requires close monitoring in 2016-17.</p>  |
| <p>(b) Evaluation expenditure should be monitored for the decentralized evaluation function. Evaluation should be coded as a discrete cost item and reported on a yearly basis.</p>  | <p>An evaluation-related activities tag is currently being developed as part of the UNFPA Global Programming System. This will allow for close monitoring and reporting on programme-level evaluation budgets and expenditures. The tag will be operational in 2016.</p>   |
| <p>(c) Establish a clear normative framework to guide resource allocation so that programmes funded on non-core resources allocate funds to evaluation as appropriate (predictability). When the programme is subject to a corporate evaluation, the evaluation budget line should be directly managed by the Evaluation Office.</p> | <p>(i) The quadrennial budgeted evaluation plan (2016-2019) has established key principles for resource allocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) All evaluations are properly budgeted for at the design or planning phase;</li> <li>(b) The Evaluation Office has management authority over the evaluation budget contained in the decentralized evaluation plan as a means to quality assure the subsequent evaluation process;</li> <li>(c) Efforts are made to pool evaluation resources as a more efficient and effective means to evaluate cross-cutting issues of strategic value to UNFPA;</li> <li>(d) Full transparency on the allocation of resources for evaluation is provided to all key stakeholders through annual reporting to the Executive Board.</li> </ul> <p>(ii) The quadrennial plan recommends that evaluations should be funded from a blend of institutional budget, regular, and extra budgetary resources.</p> |

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| <b>Recommendations</b>  | <b>Follow-up</b>  |
|---|---|
| <hr/> <b>Human resources dedicated to evaluation</b> <hr/>  |   |
| <p>UNFPA needs to ensure that staffing and structures at both central and decentralized levels are able to respond flexibly as the evaluation function evolves. This should be framed within a comprehensive capacity development strategy for monitoring and evaluation staff.</p> | <p>In 2016, the Evaluation Office will undertake a systematic review and needs assessment across the Organisation with view to developing a comprehensive capacity development strategy (in consultation with the Division for Human Resources, Programme Division and Regional Offices).</p> |
| <hr/> <b>Management response tracking system</b> <hr/>  |   |
| <p>UNFPA should strengthen the system for evaluation follow-up with reference to good practices in other organizations.</p>   | <p>In 2015, the Programme Division undertook a review of the evaluation management response and follow-up systems in other UN Funds and Programmes. The identified good practices will serve as a basis for a revision of the UNFPA Management Response Tracking System in 2016.</p>          |