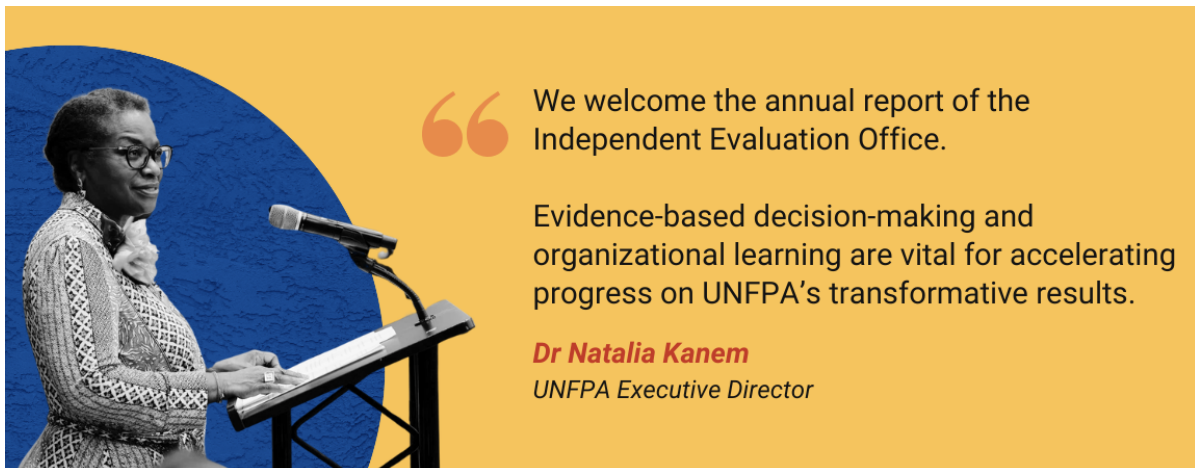




2024 Annual Report on evaluation presented to the Executive Board



On 4 June 2025, the [2024 Annual Report on the evaluation function](#) along with its management commentary were presented at the Executive Board Annual Session 2025.



“ Evaluation remains a cornerstone of accountability and learning at UNFPA.

It is not simply a compliance mechanism. It is a catalyst for strategic decision-making and a driver for evidence-based programming.

Diene Keita

UNFPA Deputy Executive Director (Programme)



A [joint statement](#) by 25 Member States (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Moldova, Norway, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, and the United Kingdom) welcomed the 2024 Annual Report on the evaluation function.

“ We commend the Independent Evaluation Office for maintaining a strong, strategic and adaptive evaluation function during another complex year.

Virginie Poyetton

Deputy Head of UN & MDBs Unit

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)



Member States commended the IEO for maintaining a strong, strategic and adaptive evaluation function during another complex year, highlighting that the outcomes in the annual report reflected both the robustness of the evaluation function and a growing organizational culture of evidence-based decision-making. Member States further applauded the IEO for its leadership and transparency in the evolving area of responsible AI integration in evaluation. They also valued the IEO's active contributions to inter-agency evaluation, the United Nations

Evaluation Group (UNEG), and the System-Wide Evaluation Office. The joint statement further supported the continued prioritization of youth engagement in evaluation.

The statement reaffirmed Member States' shared commitment to a strong, independent and well resourced evaluation function at UNFPA. Furthermore, it emphasized that a time of reform and change, decisions need to be informed by evidence. Member States noted that the strong relationship between the IEO and UNFPA management continues to drive progress, accountability, evidence-based decision-making, and learning, contributing to the effectiveness of the both the organization and the broader United Nations development system.



From the Director's desk

Marco Segone | Director, UNFPA Independent Evaluation Office

I'm pleased to share the [2024 Annual Report on the evaluation function](#), which provides a comprehensive overview of the performance of UNFPA evaluation at centralized and decentralized levels, highlighting key accomplishments, innovations, and opportunities for further development.

Despite a challenging global context, UNFPA evaluation demonstrated continued relevance and adaptability in 2024, providing crucial and timely evidence to drive progress towards the UNFPA Strategic Plan, the ICPD Programme of Action, and the Sustainable Development Goals. Drawing on the 2024 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) and the Pact for the Future, UNFPA evaluation was consistently strategic, responsive, innovative and collaborative.

The first year of implementing the [2024 Evaluation Policy](#) yielded important results, notably strengthening evaluation independence, quality, and coverage. This included rebranding the Evaluation Office as the Independent Evaluation Office, reinforcing its independent positioning.



The decentralized evaluation function was further bolstered by capacity development initiatives, streamlined M&E job descriptions, and a phased integration of project-level evaluations into the quality assurance system. Humanitarian evaluations were prioritized with dedicated support, and the IEO began centrally managing selected humanitarian country programme evaluations.

In 2024, the IEO continued to be at the forefront of digital innovation, pioneering the ethical use of generative artificial intelligence to improve evaluation effectiveness, efficiency, timeliness, and utility. The responsible use of AI was piloted in the evaluation of the Strategic Plan 2022-2025 and the inter-agency meta-synthesis of the United Nations Youth Strategy. Furthermore, the IEO played a key role in shaping the global discourse on ethical and responsible use of AI within the evaluation and evidence community.



The UNFPA evaluation function demonstrated sustained high performance in 2024, with eight out of ten indicators meeting or exceeding targets. The implementation of centralized evaluations continued to be at 100%, with 59% either joint or inter-agency exercises, exceeding the commitment under the QCPR framework.

This continued growth can be attributed to the IEO's strategic restructuring, strengthened collaboration, significant capacity development initiatives, and responsible digital innovation. Despite this progress, challenges persist in decentralized capacity for evaluation management and quality assurance, the availability of skilled national evaluators, humanitarian evaluation capacity, and ensuring the timely completion of country programme evaluations.



In 2024, the IEO further enhanced its collaborations with UN entities and cultivated strong multi-stakeholder partnerships. Prioritizing youth engagement in evaluation, notably through the [Eval4Action](#) advocacy campaign, remained a key focus. Further, the IEO actively promoted the Youth in Evaluation manifesto and standards and supported the EvalYouth Network.

This resulted in significant uptake, with over 1,200 signatories to the manifesto and 56 organizations reporting their self-progress on the standards. These contributions were recognized with IEO receiving the [Youth in Evaluation Super Champion award](#) in 2024.

2024 Annual Report on the UNFPA evaluation function

[Report](#) | [Presentation](#) | [Management commentary](#)

[Statement by the Director, UNFPA IEO](#)

[Joint statement by 25 Member States](#)

[Full video](#) of the Executive Board session

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