



Reflections on a Human Rights Based Approach to Evaluation: *Focus on Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Participation*

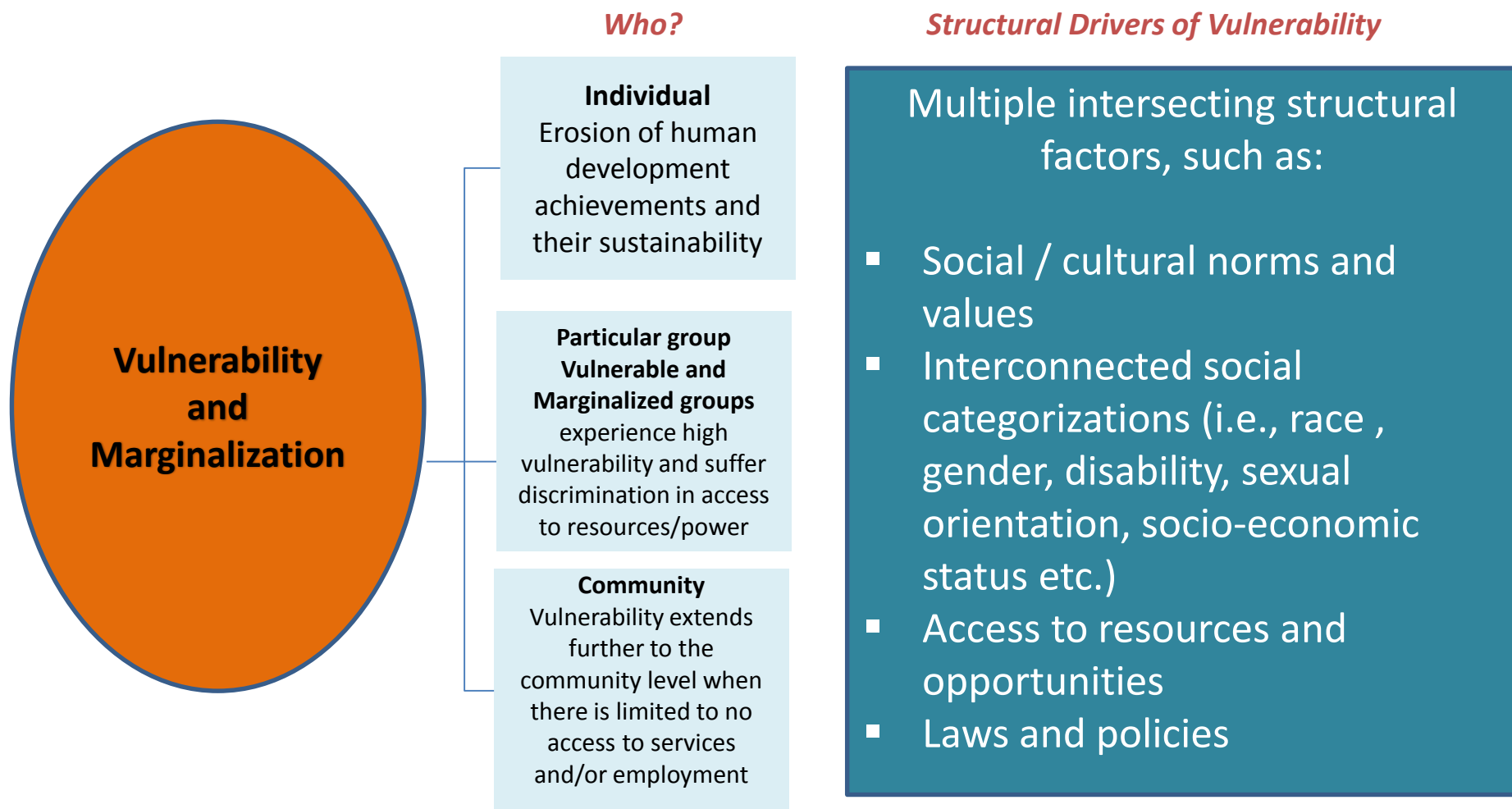
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Content

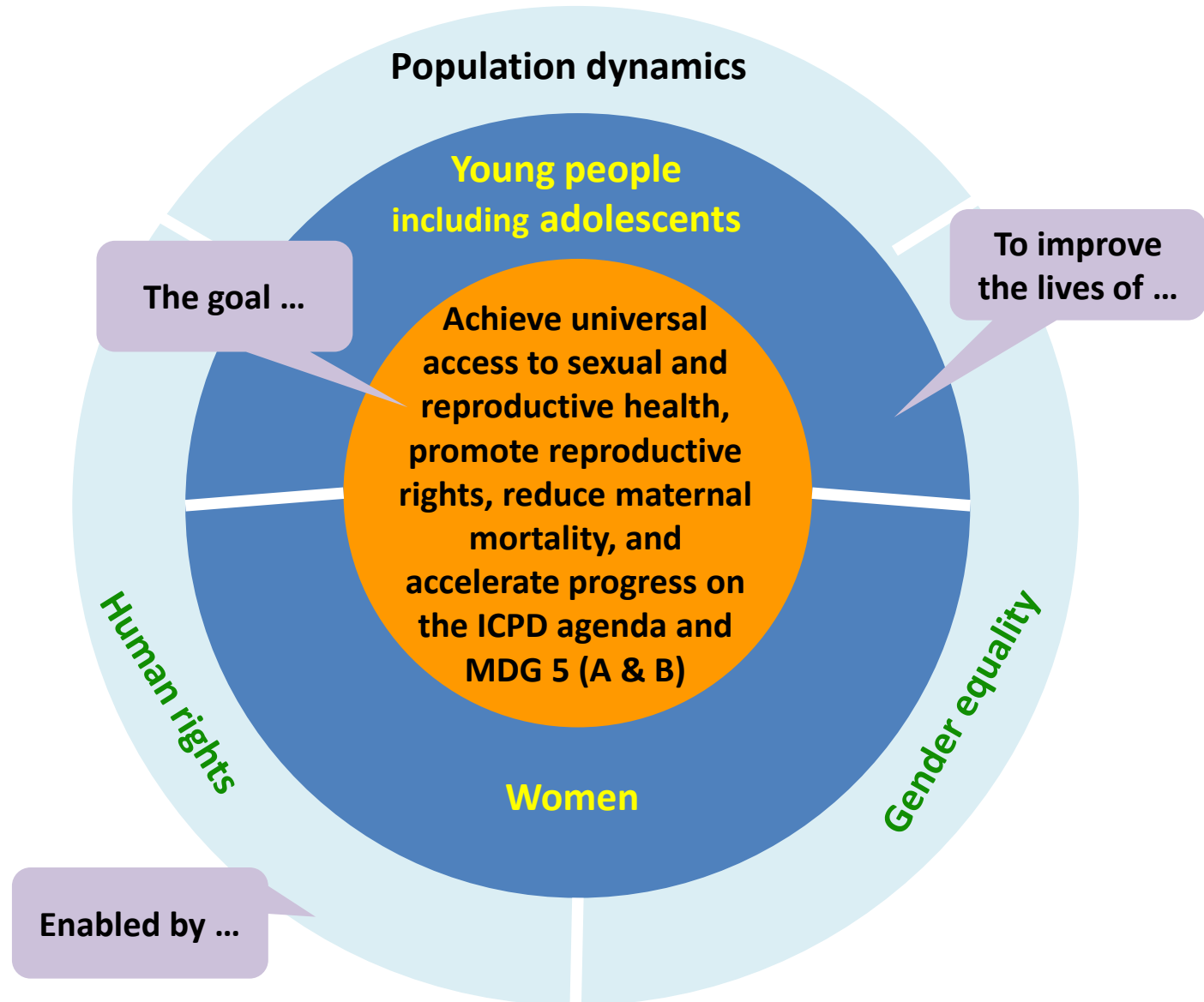
- ▶ **Definitions**
- ▶ **Evaluation Findings**
- ▶ **Evaluation Practice at UNFPA EO**
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Definitions

Defining “vulnerable and marginalized”



At the Center of UNFPA Bull's Eye



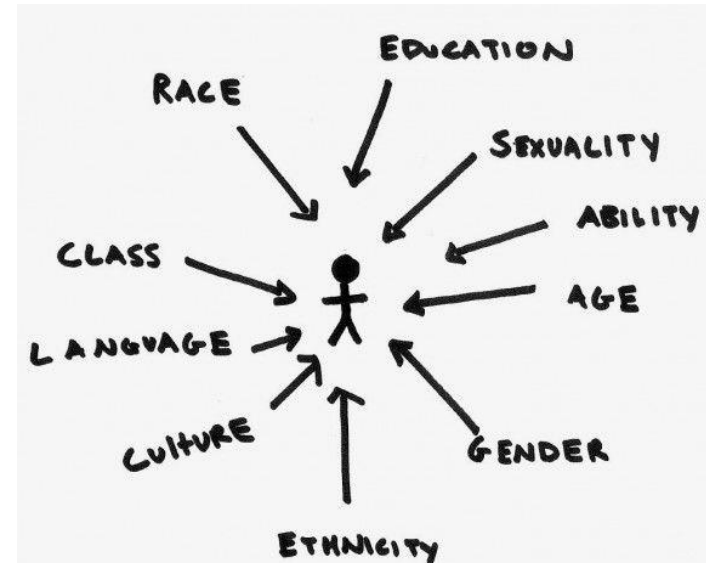
Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups within the Context of Family Planning

- The poorest of the **poor** and women living in poverty
- **Adolescents** and **youth**
- Women survivors of **violence**
- People living with **HIV** and women living with HIV
- Female **sex workers**
- **Minorities** and indigenous people
- Women living with **disabilities**
- **Refugees** and internally displaced persons
- Women living under **occupation**
- **Ageing** populations and “populations of **humanitarian concern**”



Vulnerable and Marginalized Adolescents and Youth

- Adolescents and youth are a heterogeneous group
- Face multiple and intersecting vulnerabilities along various dimensions of identity:
 - Location (rural/urban)
 - Gender
 - Sexual Orientation/Gender Identify (other)
 - Age
 - In/Out of School
 - Marriage status
 - Pregnancy status
 - HIV/AIDs status



Evaluation Findings



Human rights-based programming

- Emphasises the process as well as the outcome of programming
- Draws attention to the most marginalised populations
- Extends and deepens participation
- Interventions should lead to equitable benefits
- Ensures local ownership of development processes
- Strengthens accountability of all actors

FP Evaluation Focus and Corresponding HR principles

- Ensuring access for all (*non-discrimination*)
- Commodities, logistics and procurement (*availability*)
- Organisation of health facilities (*accessibility*)
- Quality of care (*acceptability, quality, informed decision-making, privacy and confidentiality*)
- Comprehensive sexuality education (*accessibility*)
- Humanitarian context (*right to accessible services*)
- Participation by potential and actual users (*participation*)

Family Planning

Visible and vocal global **leader as advocate for human rights-based approach** to programming and for **rights and needs of VMGs** (mainly youth)

Lack of shared understanding on how to operationalize and implement a HRBA for family planning at country level

- ▶ In some contexts, issue of balance between the **push for accelerated family planning results** and promotion of a human-rights based approach
- ▶ Focused programme attention on **rights to access/expanded method mix** with less attention to quality and voluntary choice in contraceptive service delivery
- ▶ Resource constraints hinder systematic situation analyses to support to **vulnerable and marginalised groups** programmes, despite commitment to meet VMG needs
- ▶ Operational implications of the objective to “**target the needs of the most vulnerable**” is unclear including how to manage trade-offs between allocating resources to reach VMGs and contributing to FP2020 targets



Adolescent and Youth (1/2)

UNFPA has been at the vanguard of calling for the respect, protection and fulfillment of the human rights of adolescents and youth

- ▶ Long-standing commitment to meeting needs of marginalised and vulnerable adolescents, yet **lack of conceptual clarity on “vulnerable” and “marginalized”**
- ▶ **Stronger in identifying (via needs assessments) VMG**, with continued challenges in ensuring systematic participation of VMG in consultation, programme design, and reach
- ▶ Nonetheless, efforts to incorporate marginalised and vulnerable A&Y in programming, particularly adolescent girls, has increased since 2008
- ▶ Programming has a particular focus (and strong results) on two VMG: **adolescent girls and young populations at risk of HIV**
- ▶ However, adolescents and youth programming has **not focused sufficiently on young adolescent girls aged 10 to 14 years**, with more support needed in the collection, analysis and use of data (on this group)



Adolescent and Youth (2/2)

UNFPA has contributed to the increased availability and use of sexual and reproductive health services and the availability of SRH education for A&Y

- ▶ Increased availability of SRH education and information and availability and use of SRH services for A&Y generally
- ▶ Reduced legal and policy barriers to sexual and reproductive health services increased use by young people
- ▶ Similarly, **multi-sectoral and mainstreamed service programmes that engaged communities** improved accessibility for young people and comprehensiveness of services
- ▶ Particularly important contributions to increasing the use of youth-friendly health services and SRH education and information for **in-and out-of-school youth**
- ▶ However, gender based violence services – critical for GBV survivors (a identified VMG) – were not regularly integrated in youth-friendly health services



Evaluation Practice

Principles to Ensure an Ethical, Human Rights and Gender Responsive Approach to Evaluation

2. Respect for dignity and diversity

1. Respect for confidentiality

3. Equality, inclusion and non-discrimination

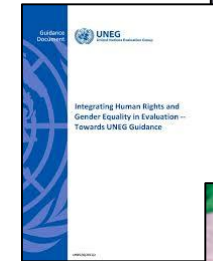
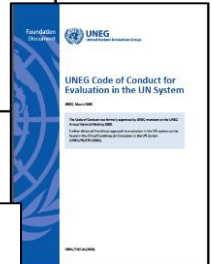
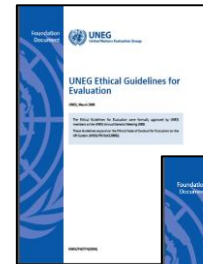
4. Participation by those involved in the intervention as well as those directly affected by rights violations, including vulnerable and marginalized communities

5. Wide ranging and broad consultation with consideration for gender balance

6. Transparency and reporting back to stakeholders

7. Avoidance of harm

8. Avoidance of conflict of interest



Translating Principles into Action

Gender and HR expertise incorporated in the **evaluation team** and **reference group** which includes **representatives of VMGs**

Stakeholder Analysis is performed, and diverse groups identified (including beneficiaries and those most affected by rights violations)

Methodology
use of mixed methods, data triangulation, and participation of stakeholders in evaluation, including in validation

Data collection:
stakeholders groups consulted and awareness of bias in privileging certain ways of “knowing”; social and communicating skills

Evaluation questions on HR and GE including vis-a-vis VMGs

HR and GE is a **crosscutting theme** running through other areas of investigation

Indicators and data disaggregation: incl. indicators that specifically address HR and GE. Disaggregating data by gender, race/ethnic group, age, rural/urban, disabilities, sexual orientation, income, HIV/AIDS status, literacy and education level etc.

Dissemination planned with VMGs and directed at diverse groups



Gender and HR expertise incorporated in the **evaluation team** and **reference group** which includes **representatives of VMGs**

Evaluation Team

- In A&Y Evaluation, youth consultants were core team members in each of 5 country case studies
- Yet, challenges remain in reflecting the plurality and diversity of A&Y in team

Criteria

Women and men

Local and international evaluators

Evaluation knowledge and experience (quantitative and qualitative methods)

Knowledge and experience in the thematic area under evaluation

Commitment to gender equality, and knowledge and experience in evaluating gender equality interventions

Commitment to human rights, and knowledge and experience in evaluating human rights interventions

Understanding and application of UNFPA mandate and programmes

Experience in and knowledge of participatory approaches and methods

Research and relational skills, including cultural competence

Knowledge of regional/country/local context and language

Absence of conflict of interest and adherence to UN Ethical Guidelines and Code of Conduct

GE and HR expertise
incorporated in the
evaluation team and
reference group which
includes representatives of
V&M groups

Evaluation Reference Group

UNEG Guidance: Ensure participation of a range of stakeholders notably **NGOs** and **community groups** at the forefront of advancing the work in communities and, ideally, final **beneficiaries**



Evaluation Reference groups contained to: participation of UNFPA business units at headquarters, regional and country levels and external partners (e.g., other UN agencies; development cooperation agencies)



NGOs, representatives of VMGs directly affected by rights violations are not included in the ERG

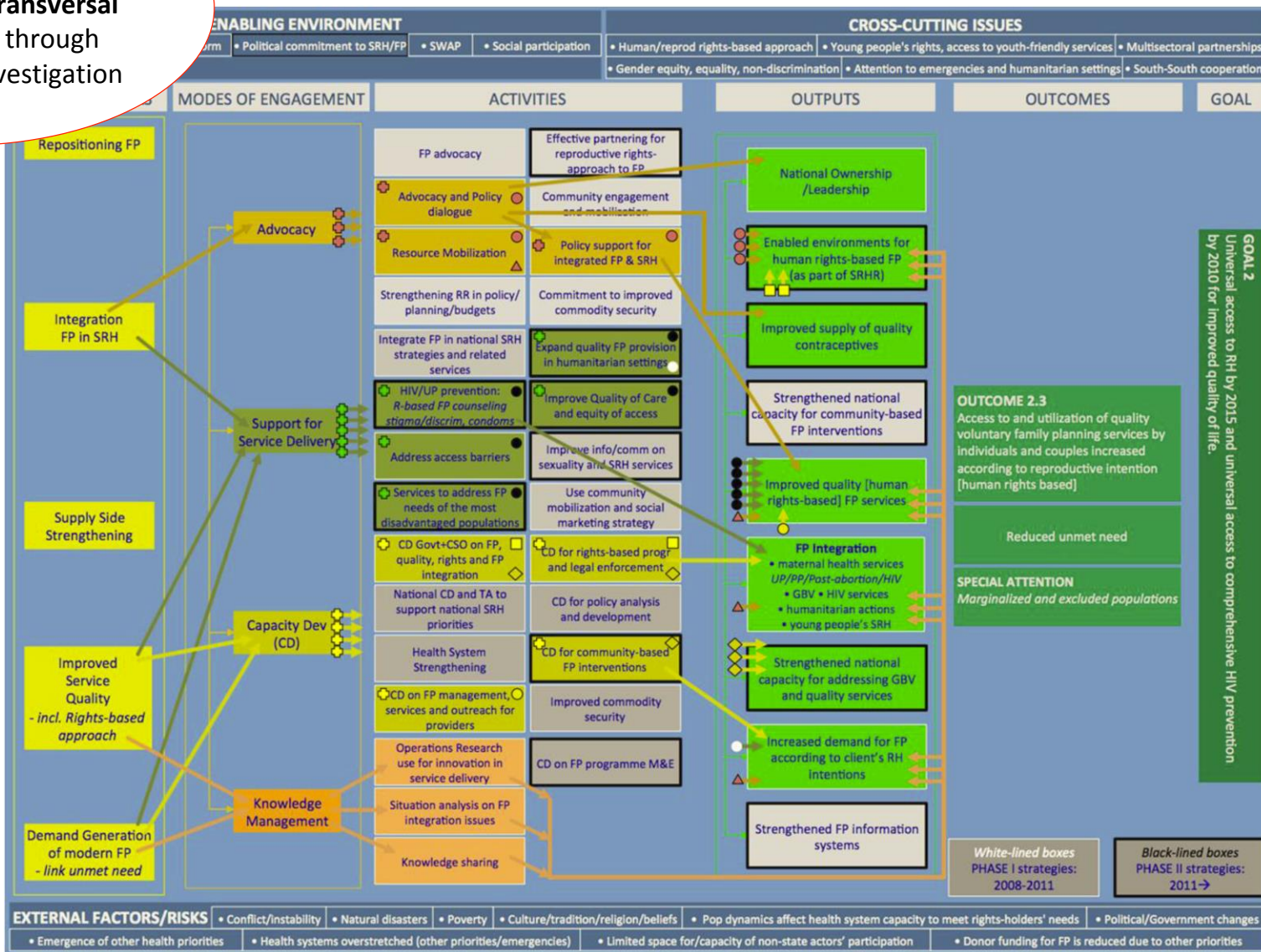
- Setting up of *national* reference groups (countries selected as case studies) in currently ongoing evaluations (RMNCAH/H4+ ; GBV evaluations): *inclusion of national NGOs and CSOs*

Theory of Change: Pathways of Change (2/2)

Evaluation questions on HR and GE including vis-a-vis VMGs

HR and GE is a **transversal theme** running through other areas of investigation

Area 5: VULNERABLE AND MARGINALISED GROUPS



Evaluation questions on HR and GE including vis-a-vis VMGs

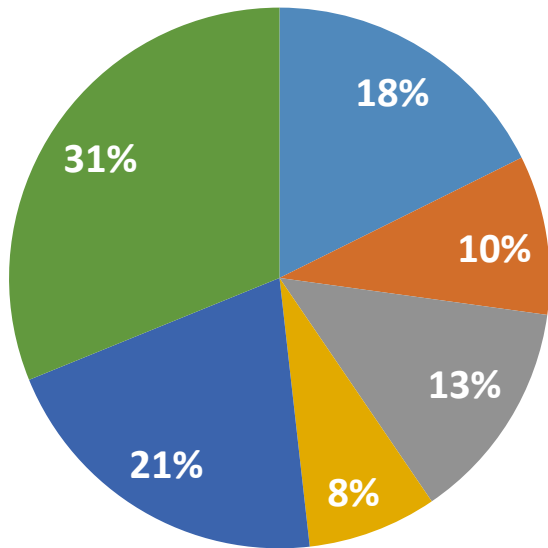
HR and GE is a **cross-cutting theme** running through other areas of investigation

Evaluation Questions

Evaluation questions		Evaluation criteria
FP	Enabling environment to ensure family planning information and exercise of rights	Relevance, effectiveness
FP	Vulnerable and marginalised groups ; identify needs, resource allocation and promotion of rights	Relevance, effectiveness, efficiency
FP	Rights-based approach ; access, quality of care, and support to CO for rights-based approach	Relevance, effectiveness
FP	Supply-side activities improving access to quality voluntary family planning	Relevance, effectiveness, sustainability
A&Y	Support to A&Y, particularly the most marginalized and vulnerable , aligned with UNFPA policies, government priorities, and needs/plans of A&Y	Relevance
A&Y	Human rights, gender responsive and culturally sensitive approaches to A&Y programming , with marginalized and vulnerable A&Y, particularly young adolescent girls, prioritized	Relevance
A&Y	Evidence-based policies and programs incorporate the needs and rights of A&Y, with increased priority on adolescent girls in national development policies and programs	Effectiveness and Sustainability
A&Y	Increased leadership, participation and empowerment , especially for VM A&Y, particularly adolescent girls	Effectiveness and Sustainability

Stakeholder Mapping/Analysis (1/3)

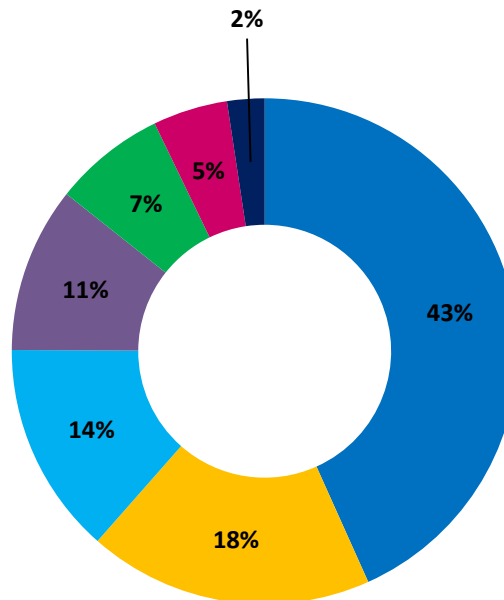
Family Planning



- UNFPA
- UN agencies and international DPs
- Central Government bodies
- Reg/ District govn bodies
- INGOs/NGOs/ CSOs
- Users

Stakeholder Analysis is performed, and diverse groups identified (including beneficiaries and those most affected by rights violations)

Adolescents and Youth



- A&Y beneficiaries
- UNFPA
- National NGOs, CSOs & academia
- Government partners
- International NGOs and CSOs
- UN
- Donors

Stakeholder Mapping/Analysis (2/3)

Stakeholder Analysis is

performed, and diverse groups identified (including beneficiaries and those most affected by rights violations)

Guidance: (1) Systematically consider **gender and geographic** balance in stakeholder make-up; (2) Aim to deepen the level of **disaggregation** of stakeholders; (3) **Genuinely engage** with a range of stakeholders (rights bearers, women's rights groups etc.)

- Binary gender (female/male) systematically considered; geographical spread driven by interventions
- Depth of disaggregation constrained by obstacles/limitations during the country visits
- Participation of VMGs largely based on incentives and structured around evaluator's communication skills set/style; engagement largely limited to the data collection

Stakeholder Mapping/Analysis (3/3)

Evaluation of UNFPA Support to Prevention, Response to and Elimination of GBV: An expanded stakeholder mapping

In line with the human rights-based approach, a systems-based approach used to map the key stakeholders in UNFPA's interventions, disaggregated by human rights roles and gender analysis where relevant.

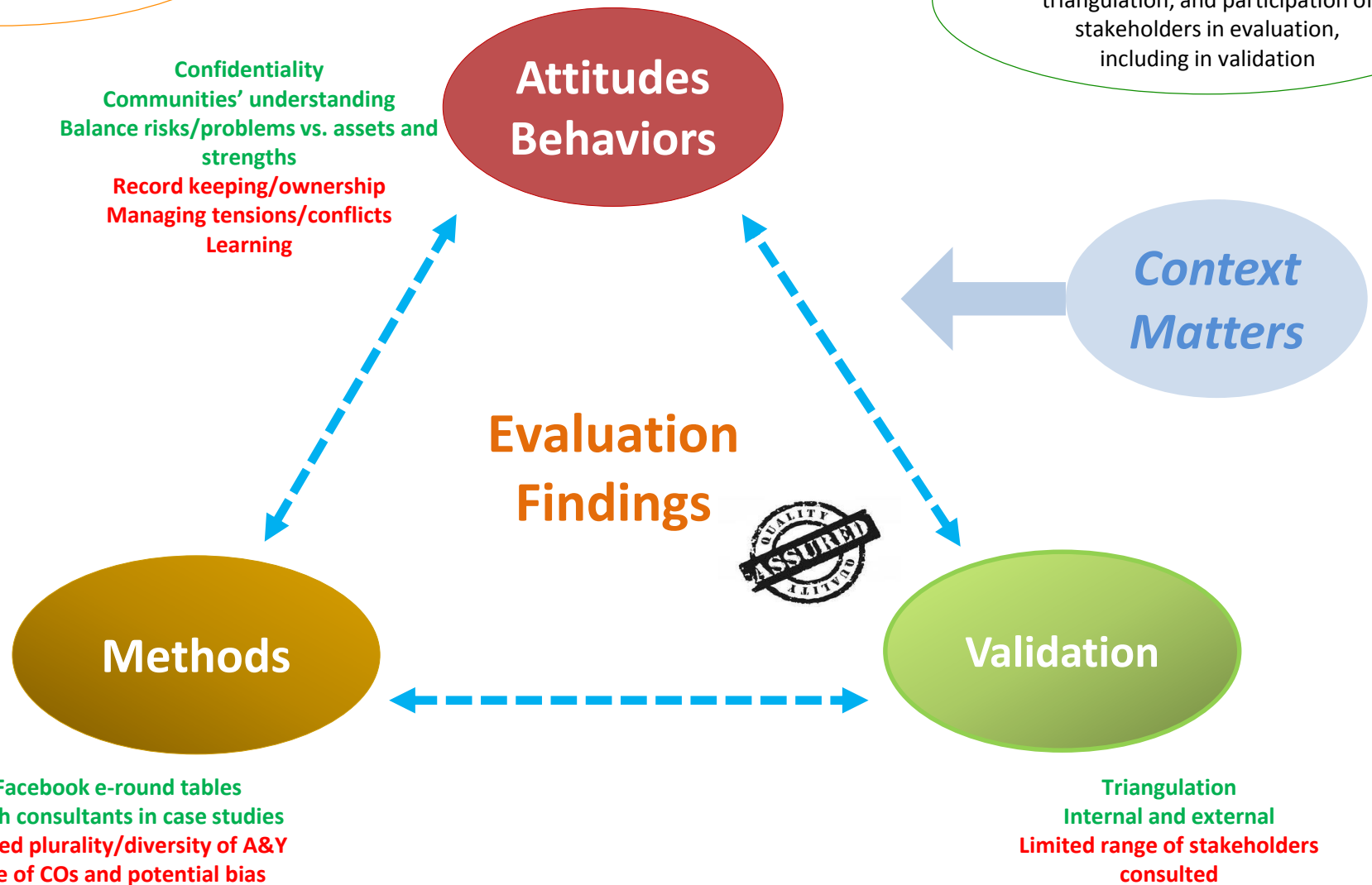
Table 11: Identification of stakeholders using Critical Systems Heuristics

Stakeholding role and challenge	Stakeholders	Human rights roles	Gender analysis
Sources of motivation (intended ultimate beneficiaries and agents for change)	Women-Across the life cycle	Rights holders	Gender identities (M, F, L, G, B, T, I)
	Young women (20-30), Adolescent girls (15-20), Young adolescents girls (10-15)	Primary duty bearers (as agents of change, as heads of households and assumed/traditional decision-makers)	Intersectional identities
	Older women		- Educational level (non, in, out, post, public/religious)
	Men-across the life cycle		- Marriage / union (divorce, head of household de facto/de jure)
	Young men, Adolescent boys, Young adolescent boys		- Motherhood / fatherhood (parenthood i.e. beyond childbearing)
	Older men		- Legal registration (at birth, census, marriage)
	Young girls Under 5	Rights holders	- Race; ethnicity; origin; caste
	Young boys Under 5		

Data Collection

Data collection: stakeholders groups consulted and awareness of bias in privileging certain ways of “knowing”; social and communicating skills

Methodology
use of mixed methods, data triangulation, and participation of stakeholders in evaluation, including in validation



VOICES OF YOUTH

"UNFPA does a great job in collecting age-disaggregated data, but should do more in presenting and spreading it."

Aulone Kadriu, 21, Kosovo

"Y-PEER faces challenges with each new generation of peers. A follow up programme could fill this gap by encouraging Y-PEERs to continue their activism (after they age out of the programme) and remain connected to the UNFPA mandate."

Irina Janevska, 31, Macedonia

"Youth programming has to involve young people in all phases of the programmes de-sign, implementation, M&E to go beyond punctual meetings with always the same 5 young people to get their advice."

Mayssa Rekhis, 26, Tunis

"UNFPA established Youth Advisory Panels in countries in Asia such as Nepal, Cambodia, Indonesia, and Bangladesh and also supported the establishment of National Youth Peer Education Networks in China and Myanmar"

Myat Sandi Min, 24, Myanmar

"Training and capacity building forums come and go but to empower young people they need mentorship."

Leila Wanjiru, 27, Kenya

"UNFPA works through youth centers and other youth organisations to identify marginalised and vulnerable youth."

Christian Ngomenzey, 23, Democratic Republic of Congo

"Sexual and reproductive health is a basis to guarantee many other things in adolescence, but sometimes young people need something else and this requires widening the focus to meet our needs."

Jennifer Viñas, 29, Uruguay

"In Botswana, UNFPA has been able to reach youth on a large scale though the CONDOMISE campaign training them on condom use and how to keep safe."

Peter Yuri Tlometane, 23, Botswana

- Selected quotes from the eRoundtable discussion with 82 past and current UNFPA youth advocates
- Countries covered by the eRoundtable discussion (total 63)

Dissemination

UNEG Guidance: (1) Reflect collectively on **dissemination plan** and work to ensure that final beneficiaries/rights help inform the dissemination plan; (2) Further explore how to ensure that results of the evaluation **reach/are accessible to final beneficiaries** and community groups; (3) Disseminate results through **multiple mediums** (and **tailor information** accordingly).

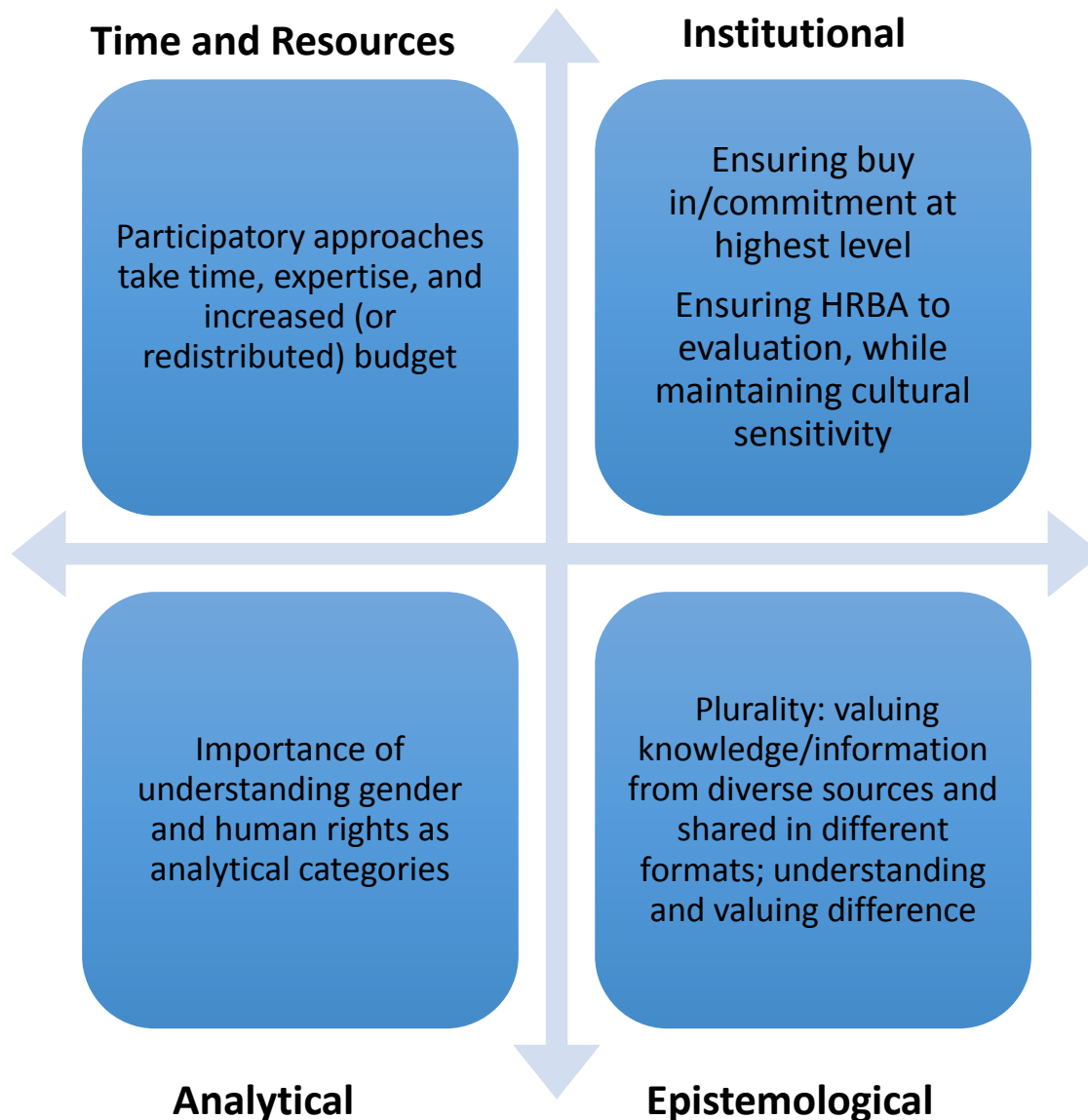
Dissemination to:

↓ VMGs not involved in elaboration of dissemination plans from the onset ; at times discussions in-countries with some groups

↓ Results of evaluations are not actively disseminated to VMGs ; Use of multiple mediums yet not accessible to VMGs nor tailored to cultural contexts → **Use of e-round tables (A&Y)**

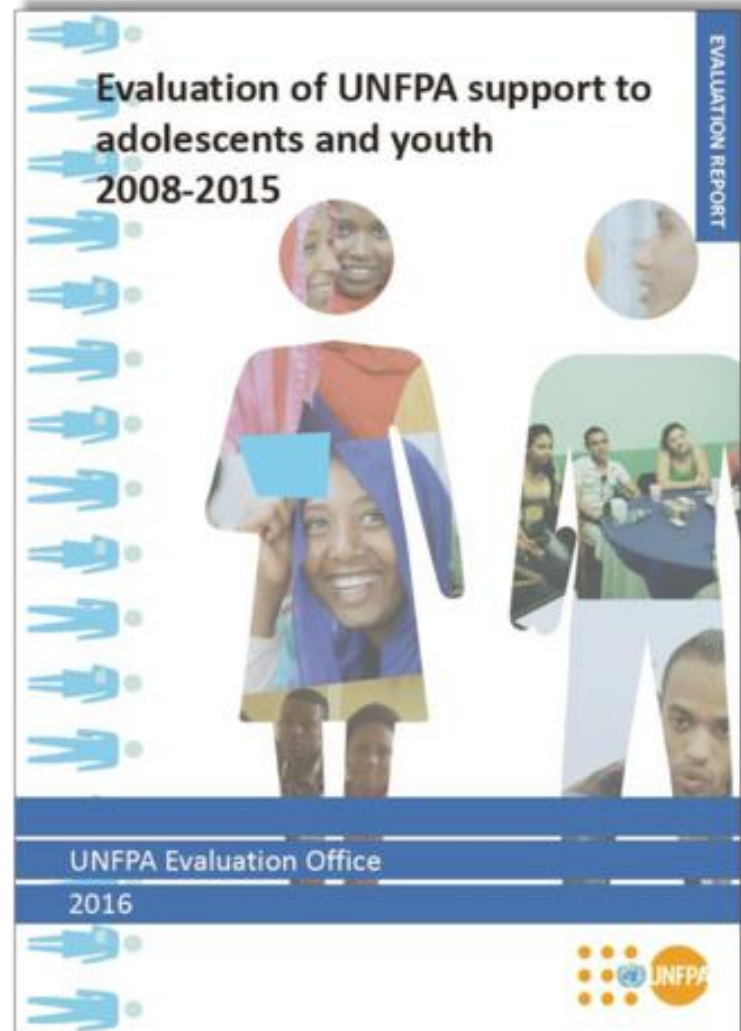
*Dissemination **about** VMGs' Sexual and Reproductive Rights: opposition based on use of "progressive" language in independent evaluation reports*

Underlying challenges to the Participation of VMGs

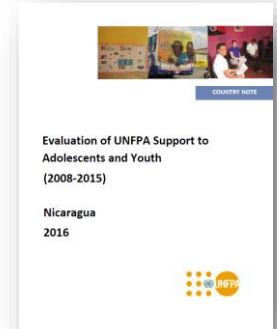
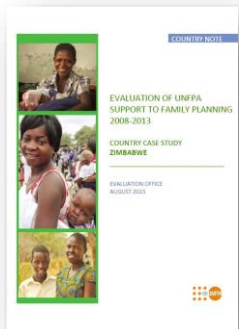
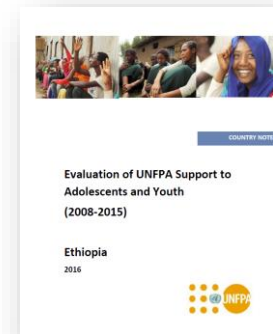
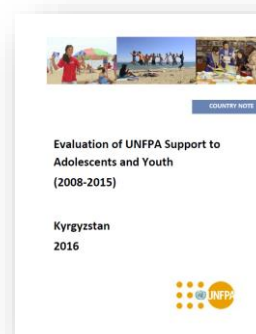
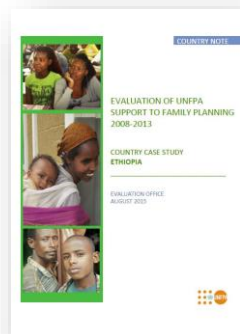
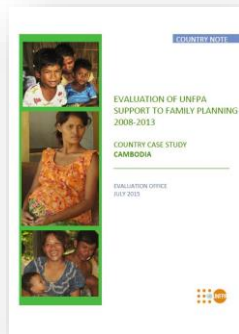
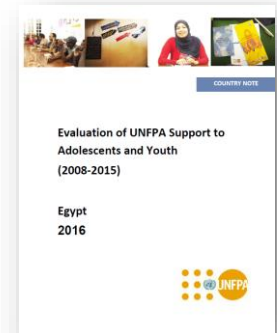
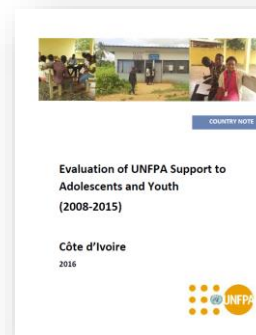
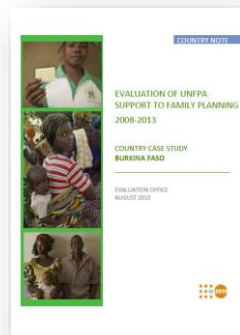


Evaluation Reports

Evaluation Reports (1/2)



Evaluation Reports (2/2)





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Visit UNFPA Evaluation Office webpage at <http://www.unfpa.org/evaluation>