Gender Responsive National Evaluation Capacity Development in the context of the SDGs and GA Resolution on NECD: *UN Women* approaches and practices

Messay Tassew, Evaluation Specialist - UN Women Independent Evaluation Office

Stream 3 – National Evaluation Capacity Development
Context: National evaluation capacity development (NECD) in the context of SDGs and Gender Equality

- Strong normative basis – GA resolution on NECD, SDGs, EvalAgenda
- Renewed optimism
- Gender equality – standalone goal and mainstreamed across 11 of the 17 SDGs (53 gender sensitive indicators)
- Increased demand for gender responsive NECD
SDG5 & SDG10 + 11 SDGS with gender sensitive targets

53 gender sensitive indicators but 19 of them are tier III & 20 Tier II

80% of indicators in SDG5 (11 out of 14) tier III and II
Why Gender Responsive NECD?

- GE is key to achieving the SDGs for everyone, including poor women and girls

- Current trajectories requires approaches that dramatically accelerate progress

- Go beyond aggregate indicators — A rising tide does not mean that all boats are lifted up

---

**Current trajectories**

50 years = parity in **politics**  

81 years = parity in women’s participation in the **economy**  
(World Economic Global Gender Gap Report, 2015)

95 years = parity in girls **lower secondary education** for poorest 20%  
(Education for All Report, 2014)
Why Gender Responsive NECD in the context of SDGs

- The habits of gender responsive NECD should be brought to bear at an early stage and should be the ‘Norm’
- Not think only about 2030 but about 2017, 2018, 2019 because every year requires reporting on the progress
- To raise alarm bells when the pace of progress is too slow so that we can course-correct
UN Women’s approach to gender responsive NECD

- **NECD** - key pillar of the UN Women IEO’s work (10% budget)
- A comprehensive framework: Strategy for developing GR NEC (2016)
- Leveraging existing strong multi-stakeholder partnership (EvalPartners, EvalGender, UNEG etc)
- Systematic approach: enabling environment, institutional capacities and individuals and strong inter-linkages
- **SDGs** - point of entry to reinforce gender responsive NECD initiatives
What has worked well?

**Global and Regional**

- **Global multi-stakeholder partnership** – leverage resources, knowledge, reduce duplication, high impact
- **Leverage existing initiatives** to drive the demand, supply and use of gender responsive evaluations (ReLAC, APNODE, EvalMENA)
- **Comprehensive set of guidelines and knowledge products** for systematically integrating gender in NECD
  - National Evaluation Polices for Sustainable and Equality Dev’t: How to integrate GE
  - Training modules
  - Knowledge, learning and experiences

**National**

- **Focused and integrated initiatives in 11 countries**
  - Local needs and interest in integrating gender lens into National Evaluation Policy and/or System
  - Joint proposals - parliament, government, women's organizations and CSOs/VOPEs
  - Technical assistance and training package to support guidelines usage in national evaluation systems
- **Engendering evaluation systems and policies, eg.** Zimbabwe, Cambodia, Colombia
- **Evaluation of National Gender Plan, Dominican Rep.**
- **Mobilize strong political ownership, leadership and commitment**
Key advocacy messages

• **Multi-stakeholder partnership**
  - Avoid isolated initiatives and enhance coordination with UN agencies and other partners - alliance building and inter-agency coordination

• **Move beyond box ticking and ensure words become actions**
  - Engage and become an advocate for GRE
  - The habits of gender responsive NECD should be the ‘Norm’
  - Go beyond aggregate indicators, progress overall doesn't mean progress for all

• **NECD is far more than just training**, requires complementary improvements - new thinking, innovation, technology, shifting mindsets