

UN Women 2024 contribution to:  
Report of the Secretary-General on Implementation of the Third United Nations  
Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018-2027)

Areas of focus and reporting:

**1) Structural transformation, productive employment, and decent work in the context of a changing global scenario.**

UN Women recognizes that a gender-responsive and integrated approach to employment and economic policies is needed to achieve the SDGs, including improving women's access to decent and productive employment and eradicating poverty.

- UN Women and FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNICEF, and WFP are jointly implementing the Global Accelerator for Jobs and Social Protection. UN Women continues to bring its global expertise on gender equality to ensure that partners have the tools to identify existing gender gaps and that policy implementation addresses those gaps.
- UN Women and partner agencies on the Technical Support Facility of the Global Accelerator, provided technical support to several countries<sup>1</sup> to develop their country roadmaps and apply for funding under the Joint SDG Fund. These efforts are helping accelerate progress on SDG 1, 2, 5, 8, and 10. As a member of the Operational Steering Committee of the joint SDG Fund, UN Women is advocating for the use of gender markers in the evaluation of joint programme proposals under the Jobs and Social Protection Transition window and Food Systems and Digital Connectivity Transition windows.
- UN Women takes a systems approach to decent work and entrepreneurship and champions gender-responsive procurement (GRP) as a key lever. In Nigeria, UN Women supported a focus on GRP in the national women's economic empowerment policy. In Senegal, UN Women worked closely with government to integrate gender-responsive principles into regulatory frameworks, resulting in the adoption of Decree No 2022-2295, which introduced a clear definition of women-owned enterprises and a quota system for them in public procurement, as well as preferential clauses for women entrepreneurs to promote gender diversity and inclusion. In Viet Nam, UN Women helped advance policy provisions enabling more procurement from women-owned SMEs.
- UN Women published [Legal frameworks for gender-responsive procurement: A comparative review of regulatory and policy measures and international and national legal norms](#) to help countries improve procurement systems to be more gender responsive.

**2) Expanding social protection systems to underpin inclusive poverty-reducing development.**

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<sup>1</sup> Albania, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malawi, Namibia, Nepal, Rwanda, Senegal, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.

UN Women's work on gender-responsive social protection, poverty eradication, and the care economy covers UN system coordination, data, evidence and knowledge production, technical assistance, capacity development and catalytic programming. Examples of our work include:

- The Women Count programme builds the technical capacity of national statistical systems and provides financial support to improve data collection and analysis on gender equality and the SDGs. During COVID-19, we rolled out [rapid gender assessments](#) in over 50 countries which included questions on access to social protection and other forms of emergency support.
- Together with UNDP, we monitored the gender-responsiveness of social protection and labor market response to the pandemic, assessing almost 3,000 measures adopted by 226 countries and territories in response to the pandemic, revealing important gaps as well as good practices that were used to advocate for adjustments at the national level.
- UN Women developed several reports, policy briefs and guidance documents on 'what works' to integrate gender considerations into social protection, most recently an assessment and checklist for integrating gender into national social protection strategies, with a focus on sub-Saharan Africa, and on linking social protection with gender-based violence prevention and response.
- Recognizing that women's disproportionate responsibility for care is a key driver of their poverty and exclusion in labour markets, UN Women continues to promote investment in the care economy to expand access to care services and create millions of decent jobs for women. UN Women led the development of UN System policy guidance on transforming care systems to harmonize and coordinate UN Agency efforts on care by providing key definitions, guiding principles, approaches, and policy options that can be contextualized to socio-economic realities. UN Women's leadership was instrumental in the proclamation (A/RES/77/317) of an International Day of Care and Support on 29 October.

### **3) Human capability development: addressing the non-income forms of poverty (access to basic needs such as quality education and healthcare, clean water and sanitation, decent housing, and security, etc.).**

- UN Women's Making Migration Safe for Women programme provided comprehensive rehabilitation services to migrant women returnees, including survivors of trafficking and gender-based violence, in Ethiopia. Rehabilitation services included temporary shelter, provision of basic items (such as sanitary materials, dignity kits, and clothing), access to basic health care and education, psychosocial support, and life skills and basic business skills training. Additionally, the women received information and services on sexual and reproductive health, family planning, HIV and AIDS and management of STDs.
- To reduce inequalities experienced by migrant women in Niger, UN Women's Making Migration Safe for Women programme and the Niger's National Institute of des Statistics

conducted a survey of 1200 women on their experiences at all stages of migration, yielding insights on how migrant women access information, the availability of services at different stages of migration and the specific risks they face, including the propensity to use smugglers.

#### **4) The future of food and sustainable agriculture.**

UN Women seeks to transform food systems for people and planet by putting women and girls at the center of its normative, coordination and programmatic work to address food security and nutrition.

- UN Women supported the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in the development of the intergovernmentally agreed [Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's and Girls' Empowerment in the Context of Food Security and Nutrition](#) on how to advance gender equality, women's and girls' rights, and women's empowerment as part of national efforts to eradicate hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.
- As a leader of the Making Food Systems Work for Women and Girls Action Coalition of the Food Systems Summit, UN Women works with Global Health 50/50 and IFPRI to produce the annual Global Food 50/50 report to monitor progress and hold food system organizations accountable for achieving intersectional gender equality in leadership, adopting gender-equitable internal workplace policies, and implementing strategies that advance progress toward gender-just and equitable food systems.
- UN Women, together with the Rome-based Agencies, implements the Joint Programme 'Accelerating Progress Towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment' (JP RWEE), a global initiative with an overarching goal to secure rural women's livelihoods, rights and resilience in the context of sustainable development. Now in its second phase, the programme has climate resilience as a cross-cutting goal across four outcome areas.

#### **5) Reducing inequalities.**

- UN Women continues to advocate for gender equality within international financial systems, including deepening engagement with reforms in development finance institutions (DFIs). Since 2020, UN Women has co-chaired the Coalition on GEWE within the Finance in Common Summit (FICS), bringing together 44 signatories of the Paris Development Banks statement on GEWE. Seven signatories have mobilized over USD 21 billion for gender equality from 2020 to 2023.
- In 2023 UN Women collaborated with the Inter-American Development Bank on a global survey of 54 DFIs and their support to women-owned SMEs. UN Women's influenced the World Bank's Gender Strategy (2024 – 2030), by contributing to gender-responsive approaches for Risk and Resilience Assessments, the Fragility, Conflict, and Violence Strategy, and proposing stronger linkages with Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) commitments.

- UN Women supports countries in aligning financing strategies with gender equality and provides technical advice on sustainable finance taxonomies, for example, Mexico's is the first taxonomy globally to include gender objectives, directing capital to address social gaps and vulnerabilities. Iceland developed a Gender Equality Annex to its Sustainability Finance Framework, including financing for women's welfare, preventing gender-based violence, and addressing unpaid care.

## 6) Addressing climate change and the intensification of natural hazards.

As the world nears irreversible climate tipping points, women, girls and gender diverse people are bearing the brunt of the climate crisis. Gender inequalities intensify vulnerability to climate change impacts, and the failure to take gender into account in climate policy exacerbates the problem.

- UN Women's [Gender Equality Accelerator on Gender-Responsive Climate Action and Green/Blue Economies](#) fosters [gender-responsive just transitions](#) to sustainable green/blue economies and work in the [climate/care nexus](#) to protect people and the planet for present and future generations. In the Asia-Pacific region, the [EmPower: Women for Climate Resilient Societies](#), implemented with UNEP, is now in its second phase (2023-2027) in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Indonesia and the Philippines. UN Women Papua New Guinea is implementing the entity's first Adaptation Fund project in the region, in partnership with the Global Green Growth Institute.
- Through its Gender Equality Accelerator based on the [Women's Resilience to Disasters programme](#), UN Women contributed to gender-responsive disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resilience in 61 countries through technical and policy support, provision of gender expertise to DRR mechanisms and processes, advocacy and knowledge management, and implementation of projects and programmes. UN-Women works with 1045 women's organizations focused on disaster and climate resilience as well as national governments, resulting in 34 countries with gender-responsive DRR legislation, policies, strategies, plans and assessments. UN-Women also co-led the development of the Gender Action Plan for the Sendai Framework in support of Member States, civil society and the UN system.
- UN Women convenes the [Generation Equality Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice](#) bringing together Member States, international organizations, private sector, civil society, and grassroots and youth-led organizations to consolidate efforts, set concrete targets and create costed frameworks for multi-stakeholder implementation, driving collective action to achieve gender and climate objectives by 2026.