2.1 Joint Programmes
UNCT Nepal

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Indicator 2.1: Joint Programs

**Approaches Minimum Requirements**

a) Gender equality is visibly mainstreamed into at least 50 percent of JPs operational at the time of assessment.

or

b) A Joint Program on promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women is operational over current UNDAF period in line with SDG priorities including SDG 5.

**Meets Minimum Requirements**

a) Gender equality is visibly mainstreamed into all JPs operational at the time of assessment.

and

b) A Joint Program on promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women is operational over current UNDAF period in line with SDG priorities including SDG 5.

**Exceeds Minimum Requirements**

Meets minimum requirements and

c) A system is in place to ensure gender mainstreaming in JPs.
Indicator 2.1: Joint Programs

- 19 formal joint programmes with GEM coded from 1 to 3 (GEM 1 – 5, GEM 2 – 6 and GEM 3 – 8)*.
- Implementation of GEM – a customized GEM tool by applying available guidance (UNCT GEM Guidance, COVID-19 MPTF GEM and IASC Gender and Age Marker)
- GEM tool integrated in the UNSDCF JWP

*UN INFO data as of Sept 2023 – quality assurance process ongoing
Process

Why?

- Standardize and simplify (GEM questions were developed in close consultation with GEM Helpdesk and endorsed by UNCT)
- Promote ownership among UNCT members
- Use data/evidence for strategic learning
- Ensure UNCT’s accountability on GEWE

Who?

- GEM Focal Point (UN Women and RCO)
- Outcome Results Group (Project Managers)
- UNCT M&E Working Group
- Heads of Agencies and UN INFO Focal Points

How?

- Offline template for UNSDCF Joint Work Plan – integration of GEM questionnaires
- In-house orientation/learning session
- UN agencies provide data for UNSDCF Joint Work Plan – including responses to GEM questionnaires
- Review and quality assurance of GEM application
- Assign GEM scoring to all projects/programmes
Process

- A total of seven questions related to integration of gender in the programme/project have been included in the offline UNSDCF Joint Work Plan (sub-outputs)
- In-house orientation organized on the application of GEM in programmes/projects
- Data collected from UN agencies including on the GEM application
- Quality assurance of GEM application (based on responses from UN agencies)
- Assignment of GEM scores
Joint Programme on Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment

Key lessons from Phase I
- All PUNOs need to be engaged from the planning and targeting
- Synergies among PUNOs need to be translated in the ground (implementing partners)
- National Coordinators role to foster, nurture and facilitate coherence
- Investment in developing/strengthening relationships amongst PUNO focal points
- Multi-year funding for more strategic planning

FAO
- Access to productive resources
- Climate-resilient and labour-saving technologies for increasing the productivity

WFP
- Access to markets
- Creating green recovery jobs (cash for work)
- Behavioral change related to food nutrition

IFAD
- Access to financial services
- Financial and business literacy
- Gender action learning system

UN Women
- Leadership, voice and agency
- Gender responsive policies
- Social care infrastructure - women’s unpaid care work

5,500 Rural women
500 Rural men
Challenges

- Discrepancies on data (GEM application) – GE commitments vs resource allocation
- Over-coding of GEM
- Difficulty in generating data from UN INFO
- Ensuring common understanding of the GE priorities among PUNOs of joint programmes
- Internal contest among UN agencies in case of joint programmes
Lessons Learned

- Learning and sharing culture within UNCT to ensure common understanding of GE issues/priorities
- Invest in developing/strengthening relationships between PUNOs - regular check-ins/follow-ups at technical level (project managers)
- Synergies between PUNOs should be translated on the ground through coordination among implementing partners
Success Factors

- Consultative process – coordination across inter-agency working groups (Outcome Result Groups, UNCT M&E and LNOB GESI WG)
- Ownerships from UNCT members – UNSDCF Joint Work Plan
- Simplified and standardized GEM questionnaires
- Demonstration of jointness – design and implementation of joint programmes
- Learning and sharing culture among UN agencies on what works well and what does not
- Integrated approach to joint programming – bringing comparative advantages together
- Speaking the same language by all PUNOs – Government’s ownership
Key resources

GEM Tool (sample) – Annex 1