
AGENDA ITEM 5: EVALUATION

Elisabetta Pegurri

Joel Rehnstrom

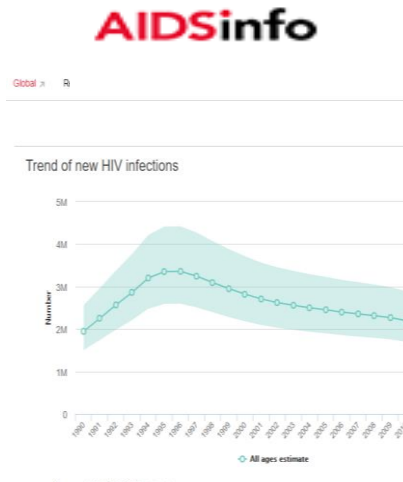
ANNUAL REPORT ON EVALUATION AND EVALUATION PLAN 2022–2023

Independent Evaluation Office

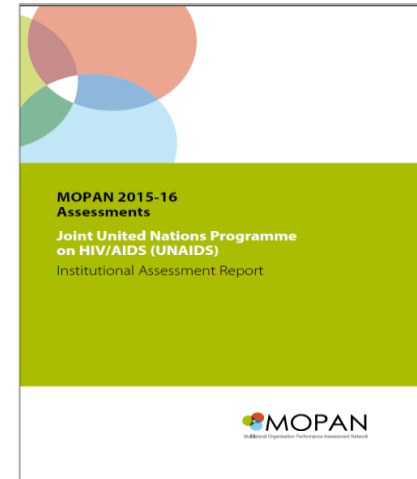
Evolution of UNAIDS evaluation function



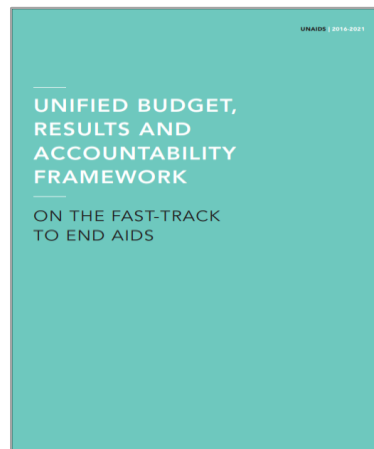
Tracking the epidemic and response



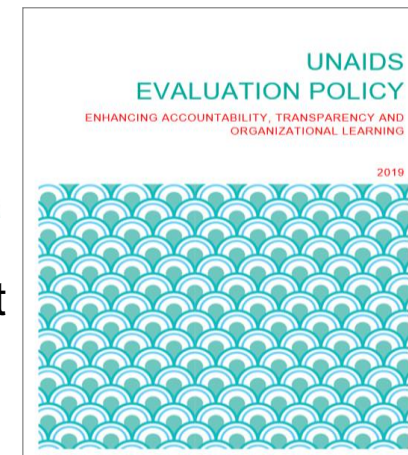
MOPAN and other reviews of UNAIDS



Ongoing performance monitoring

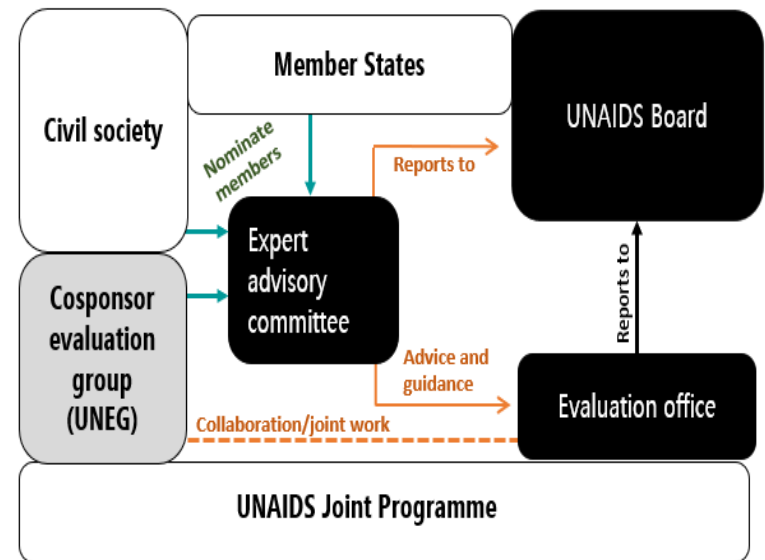


Independent evaluation function



Evaluation policy

- Developed through a consultative process
- Peer reviewed by the evaluation offices of UNAIDS Cosponsors
- Key issues considered:
 - i. Institutional architecture of evaluation function
 - ii. Composition of Expert Advisory Committee
 - iii. Budget equivalent to 1% of organisational expenditures



Evaluation office

Functionally independent

Guided by the policy

Reports to and accountable to the PCB

Annual Report on Evaluation

2021 Highlights

i. Evaluations of the Joint Programme

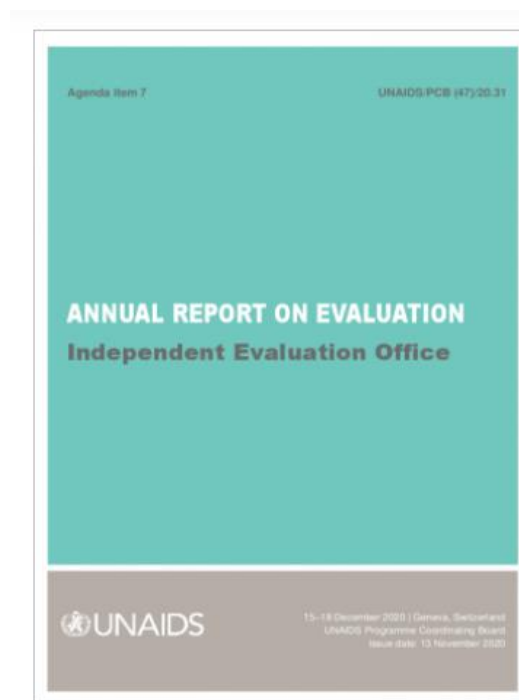
- *Violence against Women and Girls*
- *Efficient and Sustainable Financing*
- *Key Populations*
- *Benin, Brazil, DR Congo, Gabon and Ghana*

ii. Evaluations of UNAIDS Secretariat

- *Gender Action Plan*
- *Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems*

iii. Key activities

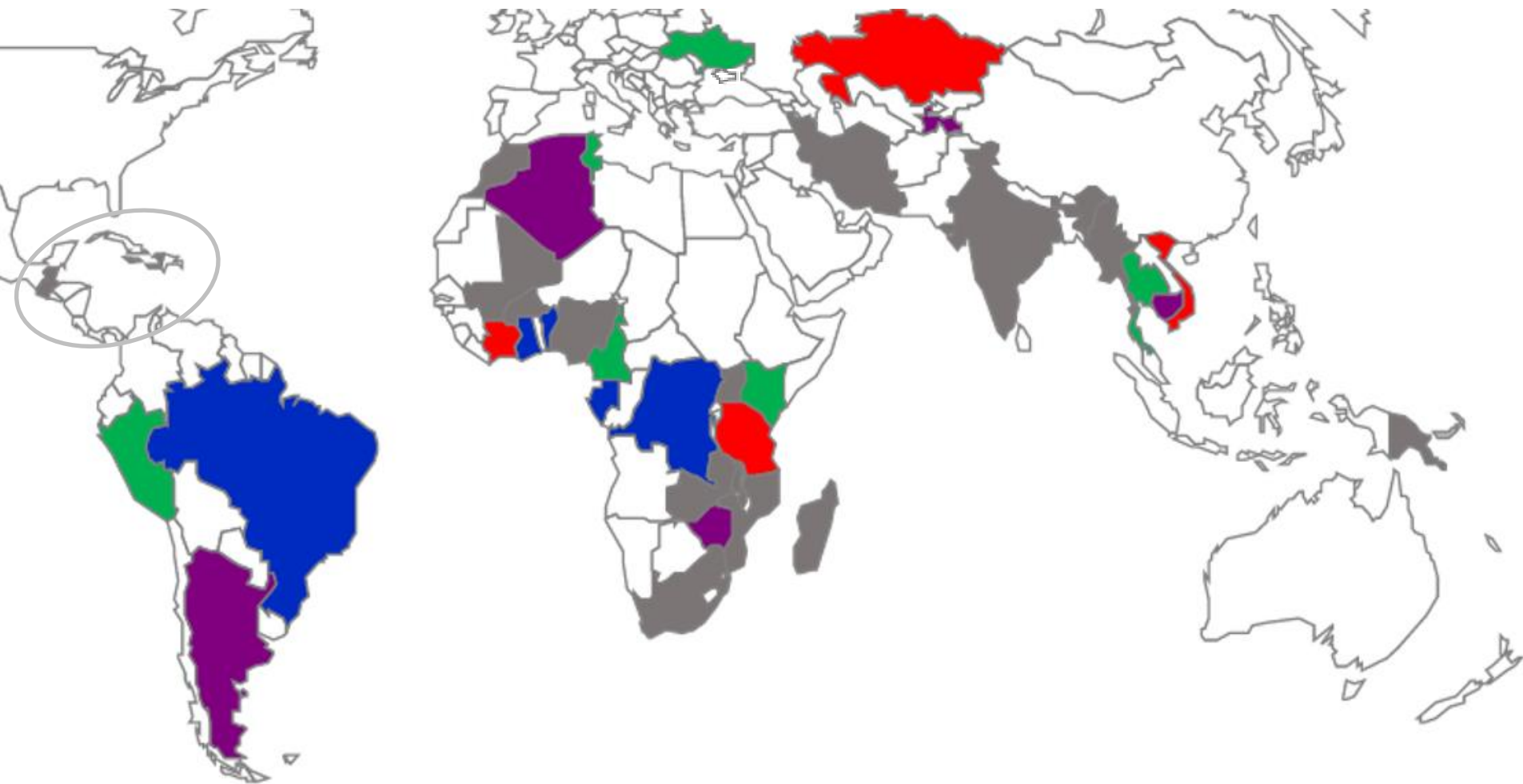
- *Follow up to evaluations*
- *Culture, capacity and quality*
- *Dissemination ([webpage](#))*
- *Interagency collaboration*



[UNAIDS 2020 Annual Report on Evaluation](#)



Countries covered by evaluations in 2020-2021

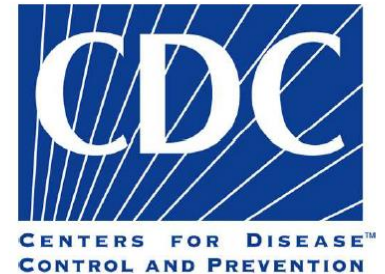


- Efficiency and sustainability
- Key populations
- VAWG
- Joint Programme evaluations
- 2020 evaluations (UN System Response, UNAIDS-CDC Coop., HSR, Joint Programme)

Note: VAWG evaluation in DRC & Tanzania, Joint Programme in Viet Nam, UN System Response in Kazakhstan & Ukraine, UNAIDS-CDC Cooperation in Cote d'Ivoire and Health Situation Room in Kenya & Zimbabwe; Guatemala, Haiti and Jamaica difficult to see on the map

Utility of evaluations

- Informed the development of the **2022-2026 UBRAF, workplans of Joint Teams on AIDS** and new **cooperative agreements**.
- Enhanced **sharing of experience, cross-fertilization of ideas** and **collaboration** with **Cosponsors** and other partners.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Center for Global Health

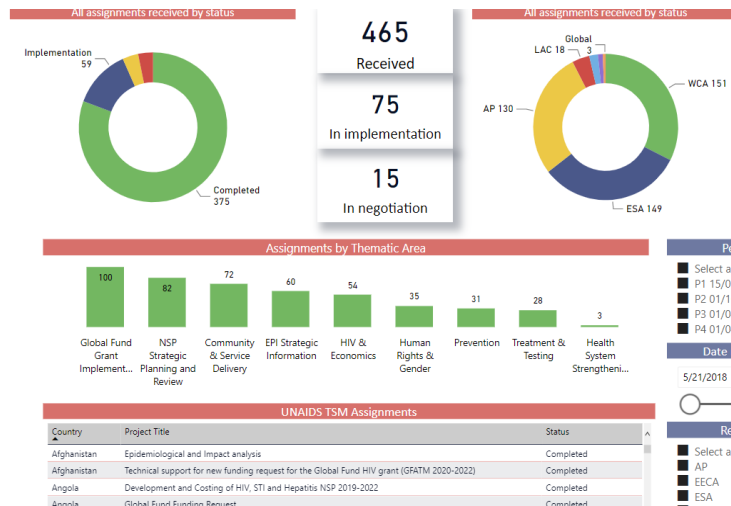
Strengthening Public Health Capacity, Strategic Information Systems, and Community Engagement through Cooperation and Support Services from the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) under PEPFAR

CDC-RFA-GH21-2120

04/19/2021

- Raised the **importance of keeping AIDS on the UN agenda** at country level and helped **position the Joint Programme in UN Cooperation Frameworks**.

UNAIDS
Technical Support
Mechanism



Impact of COVID-19

- Evaluations have primarily been conducted **remotely** and using **national consultants** with country missions introduced in the second half of 2021.
- Overall, the impact of COVID-19 has not been felt as much as last year; however, the work of the **Expert Advisory Committee** has been affected.
 - Mr Raymond Yekeye (Africa)
 - Mr Zunyou Wu (Asia-Pacific)
 - Ms Elizabeth Moreira dos Santos (Latin America and the Caribbean) [Chair]
 - Mr Till Bärnighausen (Western European and Other Countries)
 - Mr Marco Segone (Cosponsor Evaluation Offices)
 - Ms San Patten (PCB NGO Delegation)

Budget implementation in 2020-2021 (US\$)

Main categories	Budget	Expenditures*	Implementation
Staff costs**	1,593,000	1,317,677	83%
Evaluations/Activities	1,959,000	1,288,042	66%
Unanticipated needs***	400,000	-	
Total	3,952,000	2,605,719	66%

* Expenditures to date and projected expenditures until 31.12 2021.

** Two professional positions filled against three positions budgeted for.

*** Funds kept in reserve, which have not been utilized.

Quality assessment of evaluation reports

Quality Assessment Tool and Checklist



Institution carrying out assessment:

Center for Evaluation and Development (C4ED)

Year of report:

2020

Title of evaluation report:

Evaluation of the UN Joint Programme on HIV in Viet Nam

Overall quality of report:

Good

Date of assessment:

15.04.2021

Assessment Levels

Very Good

strong, above average, best practice

Good

satisfactory, respectable

Fair

with some weaknesses, still acceptable

Unsatisfactory

weak, does not meet minimal quality standards



Quality assessment criteria

1. Structure and Clarity	Yes No Partial N/A	Assessment Level:	Good
<i>A comprehensive and user-friendly report</i>			
The report is structured in a logical way and there is a clear distinction made between findings/analysis, conclusions and recommendations.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report provides section headings and sub-headings but does not number them (except in the Findings section); the structure and flow of the report is not affected by this. 	
2. Evaluation Process	Yes No Partial N/A	Assessment Level:	Good
<i>An evaluation process that is credible, independent, and participatory</i>			
Relevant stakeholders were given an opportunity to contribute to the design of the evaluation and comment on the draft report.	Partial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The report includes a stakeholder mapping exercise; it does not state who was specifically involved in contributing to the evaluation design or commenting on a report draft, and in what capacity. 	
<i>Respect of ethical principles</i>			
3. Design and Methodology	Yes No Partial N/A	Assessment Level:	Fair
<i>Clarity of evaluation context and purpose</i>			
The objective and purpose of the evaluation are clearly described.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose and objectives of the evaluation are clearly outlined (on multiple occasions) in the main body of the report. 	

Quality assessment criteria

4. Analysis and Findings	Yes No Partial N/A	Assessment Level:	Fair
<i>Sound analysis and credible findings</i>			
<i>The analysis is presented against the evaluation questions and the findings are substantiated by evidence.</i>	Partial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluators clearly present the evaluation questions against the four evaluation criteria; findings structured along the evaluation process developed from the restructured ToC. 	
5. Conclusions	Yes No Partial N/A	Assessment Level:	Good
<i>The conclusions provide a thorough understanding of the issues being evaluated and meet the knowledge needs of users.</i>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conclusion indicates a good understanding of the underlying issues being evaluated, although on a summary level (of the three “Rights” approach). 	
6. Recommendations	Yes No Partial N/A	Assessment Level:	Fair
<i>Usefulness and clarity of recommendations</i>			
<i>The recommendations are relevant to the purpose and objectives of the evaluation and appear balanced and impartial.</i>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations are clearly substantiated with reasoning drawn from interviews and document review. • Recommendations appear balanced and impartial. 	
7. Human Rights, Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women	0 1 2 3	Assessment Level:	2



Joint evaluation of the UN Joint Programme on AIDS on preventing and responding to violence against women and girls

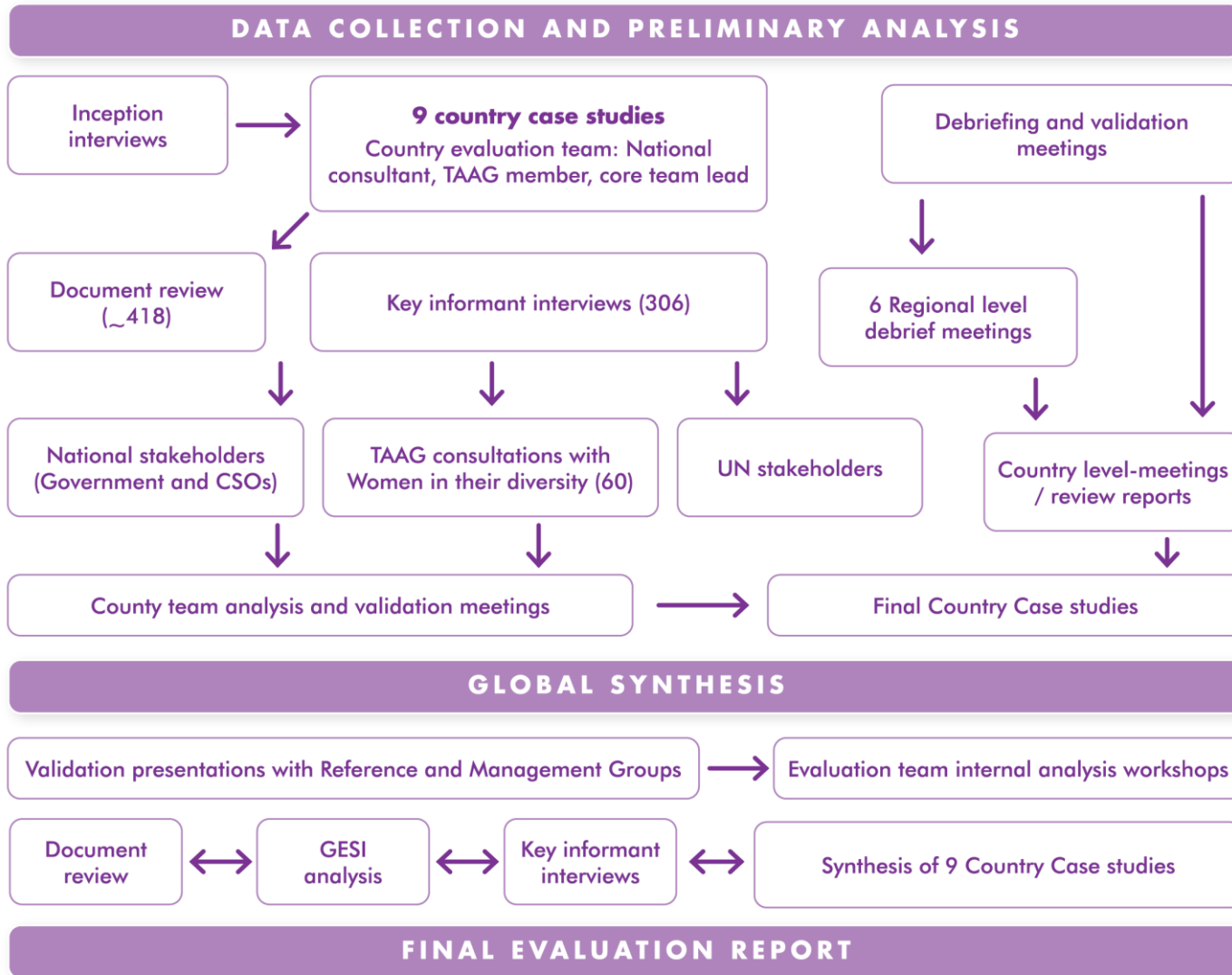
Evaluation Offices of UNAIDS, UNHCR, UNFPA, ILO and UNESCO



Access the report

www.unaids.org/en/whoweare/evaluation

Methodology



Governance and implementation

Management group

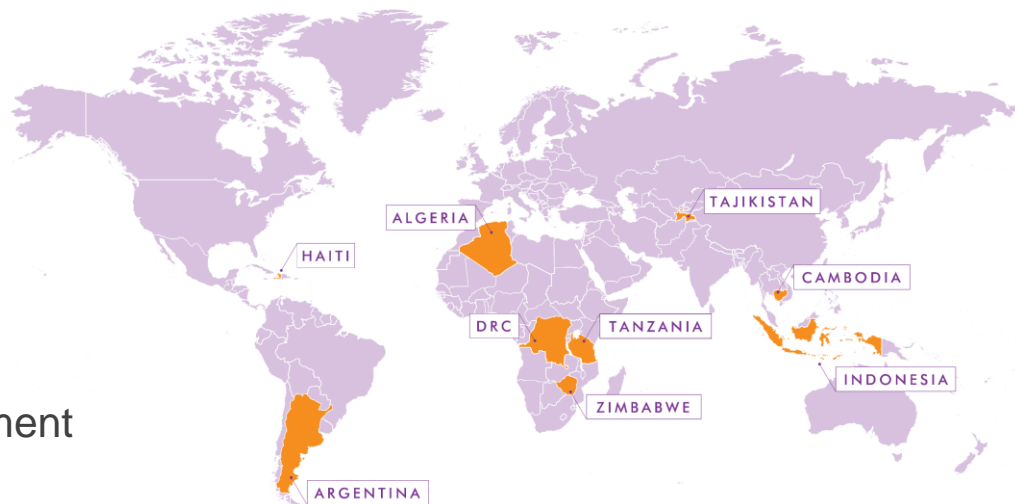
UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNESCO
and ILO Evaluation Offices

Evaluation Team

Seven evaluators from Social Development
Direct plus nine national consultants

Reference group

Global AIDS Coordinators/Focal Points
GBV Experts from UNICEF, UN Women
UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS Secretariat
Representatives of the PCB NGO
Delegation from Eastern Europe and
Central Asia as well as Latin America and
the Caribbean



Accountability and Advisory Group

- El Hayet
- Athena
- ICW / Y+
- ICW West Africa
- ICW
- IPPi
- Network of WLHIV
- ICW Argentina
- Fondation Esther Boucicault Stanislas

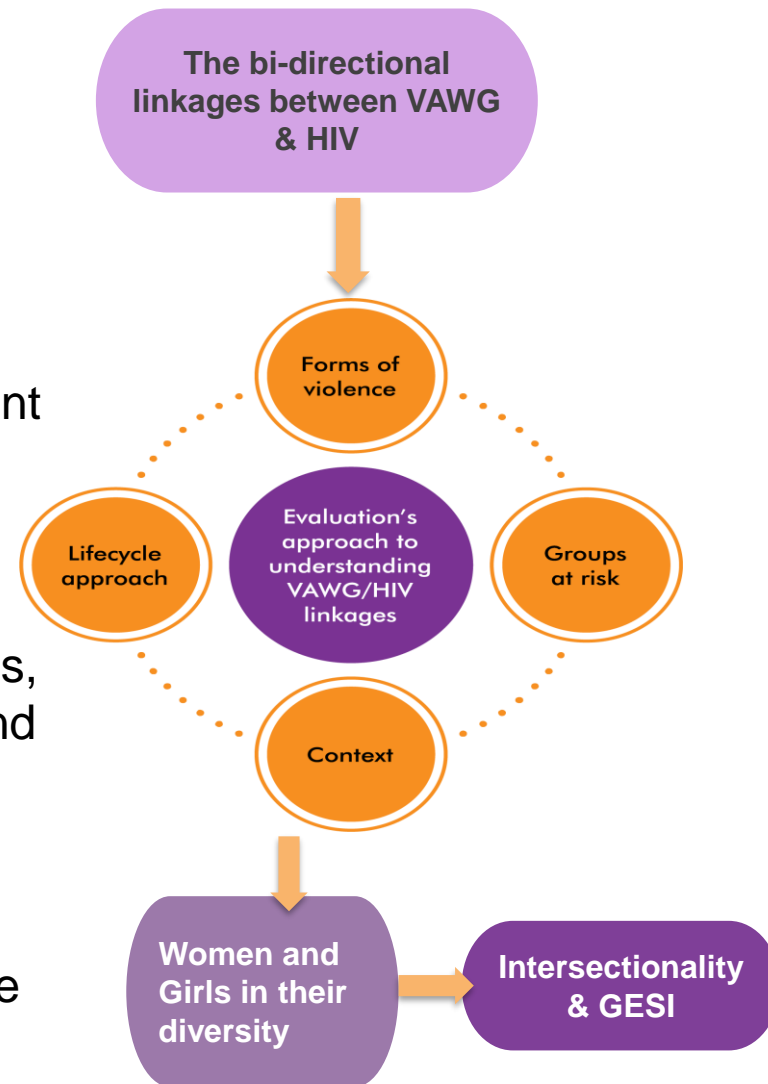
Role of The Accountability and Advisory Group (TAAG)

- The TAAG included three global and ten country members; it advised on topic guides and stakeholders to be interviewed and validated findings.
- The TAAG members conducted all interviews with key informants and focus group discussions with women in all their diversity.
- The TAAG enabled participation of women who are often left out – transgender women, female drug users, female sex workers, and women living with HIV.
- The TAAG gave women in all their diversity the space to speak and highlight key issues related to HIV and VAWG that they felt are often neglected.

“The TAAG has the closeness with the community. It was an important experience because it gives the community connection, and the experiences that are being brought to light.”

Findings

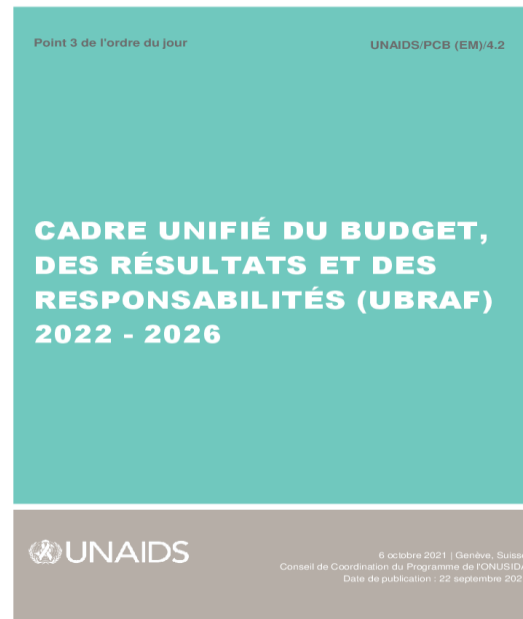
- The Joint Programme has contributed to improved national strategies, protocols and government take up of programmes to address violence against women and girls.
- The Joint Programme has played an important role in strengthening the capacity of civil society and creating spaces for dialogue.
- More can be done for more voices to be heard, also from women from key populations, and to develop leadership skills of women and girls living with HIV in all their diversity.
- Interventions that address stigma and discrimination should systematically address aspects of institutional and structural violence in relation to women and girls.



Evaluation Plan for 2022-2023

Development of the 2022-2023 Evaluation Plan

- Developed based on the guiding principles in UNAIDS Evaluation Policy with the new [Strategy](#) and new [UBRAF](#) as the overall conceptual framework.
- Topics, scope and key questions of evaluations identified through a consultative process involving UNAIDS Cosponsors and Secretariat staff.
- Evaluation topics discussed with Cosponsor Evaluation Offices and Advisory Committee and then narrowed down based on their relevance and utility.



Criteria considered in selecting evaluations

- **Strategic significance** - *Does the evaluation cover strategically significant issues and/or have the potential to inform critical decisions?*
- **Risk associated with the subject** - *Are there major performance issues or concerns related to the achievement of results?*
- **Level of investment** - *Is the level of investment significant relative to UNAIDS overall budget?*
- **Knowledge gap** - *Is there an important knowledge gap in relation to UNAIDS mandate or work that needs to be filled?*
- **Feasibility** - *Is it possible from a methodological point of view to evaluate the subject? Are resources available?*
- **Organizational requirements** - *Are stakeholders requesting the evaluation (e.g., PCB, CCO, member states or donors)?*

Contents of the 2022-2023 Evaluation Plan

Areas covered that are also areas of intensified focus in the new UBRAF

- Leadership and support for innovative approaches to achieve more inclusive HIV services
- Empowerment and resourcing of communities for stronger community-led responses
- Societal enablers, including social protection, enabling legal environments and eliminating stigma and discrimination
- Availability and financing of sustainable systems to achieve the 2025 HIV targets (evaluation ongoing)
- Tackling of inequalities to ensure equitable access to HIV services *as a cross-cutting theme in all evaluations*

Evaluation Plan for 2022-2023

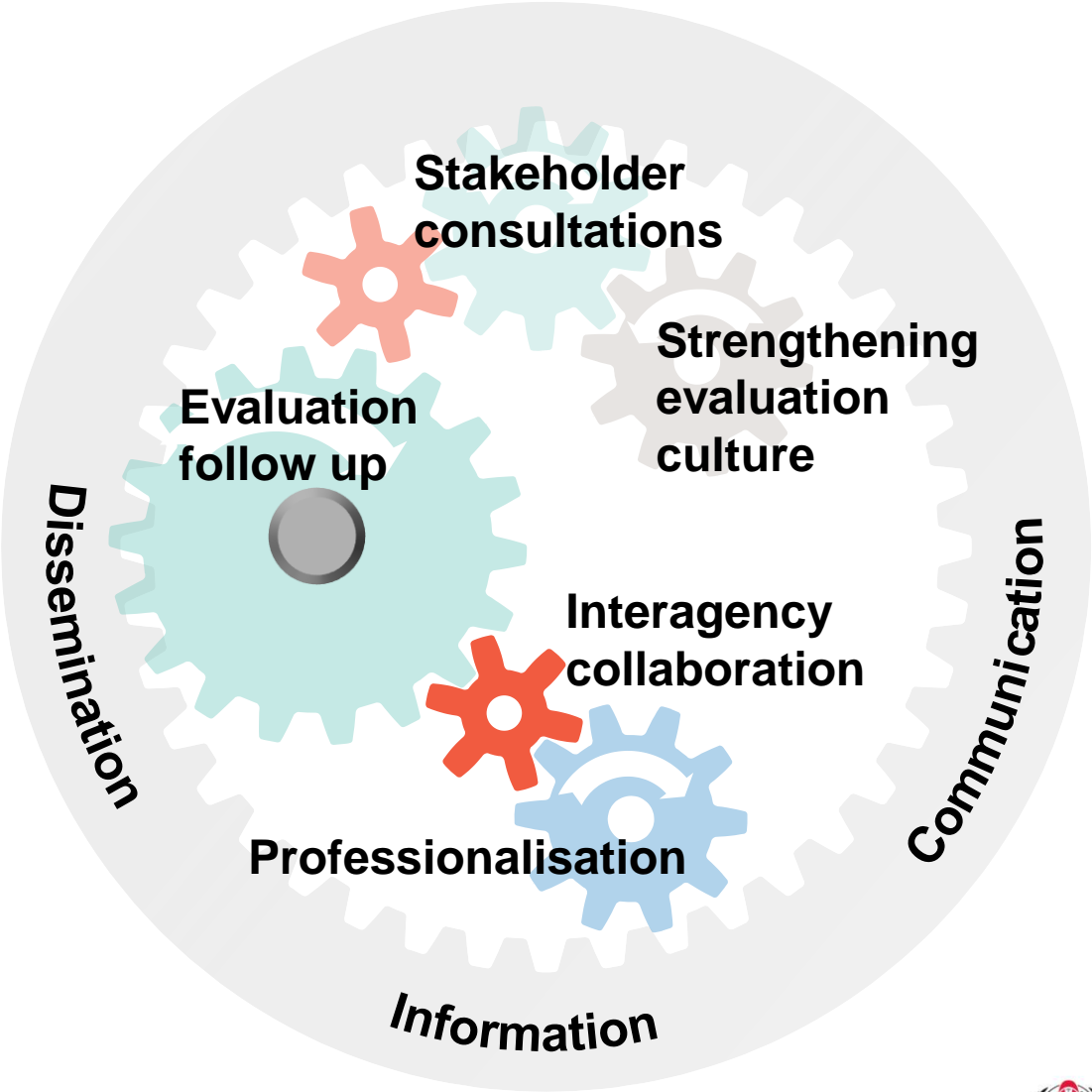
i. Joint Programme evaluations

- *HIV and Social Protection*
- *HIV and Human Rights*
- *Integration of HIV in Primary Health Care*
- *Country Envelope Funding Mechanism*
- *Country Level Cooperation*

ii. UNAIDS Secretariat evaluations

- *UNAIDS Policy Work and Influence*
- *Support to Community-led Monitoring*
- *Collaboration with the Global Fund*
- *Impact and Implications of Covid-19*
- *Data Hub in Asia-Pacific and Other Regions*
- *UNAIDS Programme Review Committee*

Other activities



Implementation and reporting

The UNAIDS evaluation office is responsible for implementation and reporting on the evaluation plan.

This requires an evaluation office with **behavioural and organizational independence**

- positioned **independently** from management functions
- able to carry out evaluations **without undue influence**
- provided with **adequate resources** to conduct its work

The **Expert Advisory Committee** provides advice and guidance to the evaluation office on a continuous basis.

A **semi-annual update** on evaluation is provided to the PCB Bureau and an **annual report** is presented to the PCB.

Joint Programme evaluations

The Work of the Joint Programme on Social Protection

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Strategic Priority 2—Break down barriers to achieving HIV outcomes**

The evaluation will assess results of the Joint Programme on social protection, taking stock of the level of HIV (and TB) integration into social protection programmes across regions, people who are left behind and current practices.

Q1: What are the key lessons from the HIV and social protection assessment tool?

Q2: What models of social protection are feasible in resource-constrained environments (e.g., cash transfers)?

Q3: What have been the main lessons emerging from COVID-19 related social protection services?

Q4: How can partnerships with and capacity of stakeholders be improved and how is the Joint Programme contributing to tracking progress?

The Joint Programme Contribution to Integration of HIV into Primary Health Care

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: Strategic Priority 3—Fully resource and sustain efficient HIV responses and integrate them into systems for health, social protection, humanitarian settings and pandemic responses

The evaluation will assess what the Joint Programme has done to integrate HIV into primary health care and what can be learned from different epidemic contexts.

Q1: How has the Joint Programme been able to leverage primary health care for HIV outcomes?

Q2: How can the Joint Programme learn from HIV programming to enhance primary health care?

Q3: What is the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic? Are there best practices from the COVID-19 mitigation response that showcase the benefits of integration?

Q4: What elements of primary health care need to be strengthened to be able to support HIV programming? What role can the Joint Programme play?

The Work of the Joint Programme on Human Rights

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Strategic Priority 2—Break down barriers to achieving HIV outcomes**

The evaluation will focus on the work of the Joint Programme on reducing stigma and discrimination, law reform, decriminalization and how to prioritize work on human rights.

Q1: What are the results of Joint Programme efforts and partnerships to shift social norms and influence removal of punitive laws, policies and practices that perpetuate inequalities and undermine human rights?

Q2: How is the Joint Programme increasing collaboration among key stakeholders, supporting legal literacy programmes, increasing access to legal support and representation?

Q3: What are the main barriers and what are some of the best practices to address them at country and regional levels?

The Joint Programme Country Envelopes

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Across three strategic priorities**

The evaluation will assess the UBRAF country envelope mechanism and look at the fund allocation, planning, coordination, monitoring and reporting processes as well as the efficiency and results of the mechanism.

Q1: What has changed in the work of the Joint Programme and in countries following the introduction of country envelopes in 2018?

Q2: How do joint plans and country envelope allocations score on: relevance to country needs; prioritization; results-based, joint action; catalytic nature and innovation; articulation of SMART deliverables?

Q3: To what extent are the country envelopes addressing structural drivers of the epidemic? How are civil society and communities engaged?

Q4: What are the key recommendations for changes under the next phases of UNAIDS Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF)?

Secretariat evaluations

UNAIDS Secretariat Policy Work and Influence

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Across three strategic priorities**

The evaluation will cover policy development and country uptake (i.e., how policy at the country level is influenced). It will provide recommendations on how to shape the policy function in UNAIDS and how to improve the effectiveness of UNAIDS policy work in countries.

The Impact and Implications of COVID-19 on the Work of UNAIDS Secretariat

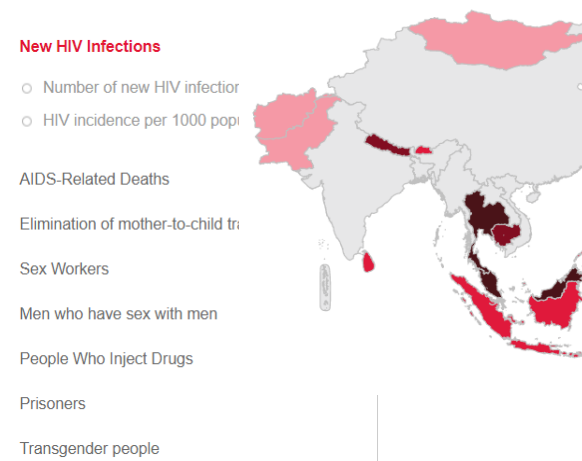
2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Across three strategic priorities**

The evaluation will document how countries have adapted HIV responses to the COVID-19 crisis and support provided by UNAIDS. It will also review how the COVID-19 response has been supported, drawing on the learning from AIDS, within broader UN efforts (i.e., the Socio-Economic Response Plans). It will look at internal implications, such as adapting ways of working.

UNAIDS Data Hub in Asia-Pacific and in Other Regions

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Across three strategic priorities**

The evaluation will take stock of the regional data hubs on AIDS. Emphasis is on the data hub in Asia-Pacific which was the first one to be established and is the most institutionalized. It will look at what the requirements for setting up and maintaining a successful data hub.



UNAIDS Secretariat Support to Community-led Monitoring

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Strategic priority 2—break down barriers to achieving HIV outcomes**

The evaluation will take stock of progress, challenges and gaps in community-led monitoring at the country level and identify areas of community-led monitoring in which UNAIDS can be most supportive going forward.

UNAIDS Secretariat Programme Review Committee (PRC)

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Across three strategic priorities**

The evaluation will assess the effectiveness of the Programme Review Committees at global and regional level and how to improve their functioning. The Committees are an internal control function to ensure efficiency and accountability in programme implementation (i.e., that financial/administrative processes conform with rules, regulations and procedures).

UNAIDS Secretariat Partnership with the Global Fund

2021–2026 UNAIDS Strategy: **Across three strategic priorities**

The evaluation will assess the partnership under UNAIDS memorandum of understanding with the Global Fund as well as more recent initiatives and the financial agreement between UNAIDS and the Global Fund. The evaluation will assess how well the partnership has worked, what the results of the partnership are and what could or should be improved.

Conclusion

1. Progress in implementing the 2020-2021 evaluation plan has been **steady** and organizational **learning and accountability** have been strengthened through evaluations at the **global level, in all regions and in 25 countries**.
2. An ambitious **evaluation plan** for 2022-2023 has been developed which will require **additional capacity** in the evaluation office and/or **Cosponsors taking the lead** on joint evaluations where HIV is a component.
3. A **strong evaluation office** is needed for evaluations to play a role in enhancing **accountability** and **transparency** and **improving policies, programmes, decision-making and governance**.