From the Director’s desk
Marco Segone | Director, UNFPA Evaluation Office

The global climate emergency, extreme weather, escalating conflicts, displacement and a global pandemic are adversely impacting the most vulnerable women and girls the hardest. The upcoming World Humanitarian Day on 19 August spotlights these mega crises and the importance of wide-ranging humanitarian action to
save and improve lives. This includes producing and utilizing **high quality evidence** that **integrates social and environmental dimensions** to support decision making and agile programming.

This approach is also captured in the UNFPA strategic plan, 2022-2025, that further places emphasis on mainstreaming social and environmental sustainability in programming, reducing the environmental footprint of its programmes and operations, and pursuing climate neutrality.

In full alignment with this vision, the Evaluation Office is pleased to release guidance on integrating social and environmental standards into evaluations. This guidance is a **progressive step towards supporting centralized and decentralized evaluation managers, to mainstream social and environmental standards** into evaluation.

In particular, this resource provides guidance to:

1. **Integrate social and environmental standards into each phase of the evaluation process**
2. **Integrate environmental standards into evaluation questions**

This resource complements other available guidelines by the Evaluation Office on including **human rights, equity, gender equality, disability inclusion**, and **leaving no one behind** in evaluation processes. The Evaluation Office is also actively involved with the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) in the development of a system-wide guidance on addressing social and environmental standards in evaluation. This guidance will be revised, as necessary, in view of the upcoming UNEG guidance.

For any further information, please reach out to Messay Tassew (tassew@unfpa.org).
Related resources

- UNFPA Evaluation Handbook on how to design and conduct a country programme evaluation at UNFPA
- Country Programme Evaluation Management Kit
- Guidance on disability inclusion in UNFPA evaluations
- Guidance on integrating the principles of leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind in UNFPA evaluations

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