At the Executive Board first regular session 2020, UNFPA Evaluation Office presented its first, developmental evaluation of results-based management at UNFPA. This was followed by the presentation of the management response to the evaluation. Member States in their remarks welcomed the pioneering evaluation and took note of UNFPA efforts to create a better balance between accountability and learning.

A few excerpts from the Member States remarks

"Switzerland attributes a high importance to the evaluation function within UNFPA... It is our understanding that with this evaluation, UNFPA has taken on a pioneer role within the UN, as it's the first developmental evaluation in the system."

- Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the United Nations

"Norway would like to welcome this kind of evaluation. We are very pleased to see that UNFPA is continuously improving its results-based management. We are encouraged to see that UNFPA is working to improve and the balance between accountability and learning better."

- Permanent Mission of Norway to the United Nations
From the Director's desk

We are pleased to share the results from the first developmental evaluation of results-based management (RBM) at UNFPA. The main purpose of the evaluation was to provide real-time evaluative input for decision-making and learning, in order to develop the next stage of RBM at UNFPA.

The evaluation is in line with the recommendations of the external independent strategic review of the UNFPA evaluation function 2017, which encourages the evaluation function at UNFPA to adapt evaluation approaches to support UNFPA mandate in rapidly changing and challenging contexts. Further, the evaluation responds to specific demand by senior management, and is in alignment with the Evaluation Strategy 2018-2021.

The evaluation involved identifying progress and challenges in RBM at UNFPA and providing evidence to inform solutions and courses of action in the area of RBM. These include development of a shared conceptual framework on RBM; revising RBM system requirements, procedures and tools; increasing use of evaluations; revamping human resource competency and recruitment frameworks; behavioural transformation; and dialogue with the Executive Board on accountability and reporting.

The evaluation was marked by high level of engagement within UNFPA, and we hope this momentum continues as RBM solutions are rolled-out and brought to scale at UNFPA, towards achieving sexual and reproductive health and rights for all by 2030.

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For further details, please reach out to UNFPA Evaluation Office