

# **UNDSG System-Wide Evaluation Office**

## **QCPR 2024: Accelerating Action for the Sustainable Development Goals**

QCPR Training Module 4  
2 October 2024

# System-Wide Evaluation Office: Purpose

To strengthen **oversight, transparency, and accountability**, to incentivize **joint work and collective learning** among the United Nations development system entities, and to conduct and advance **system-wide evaluative evidence** on the United Nations Development System contribution towards implementing the 2030 Agenda

## System-wide evaluation

**Conducting** system-wide evaluations designed to complement the evaluation work of United Nations entities, focused on activities that cannot be adequately addressed through existing accountability mechanisms

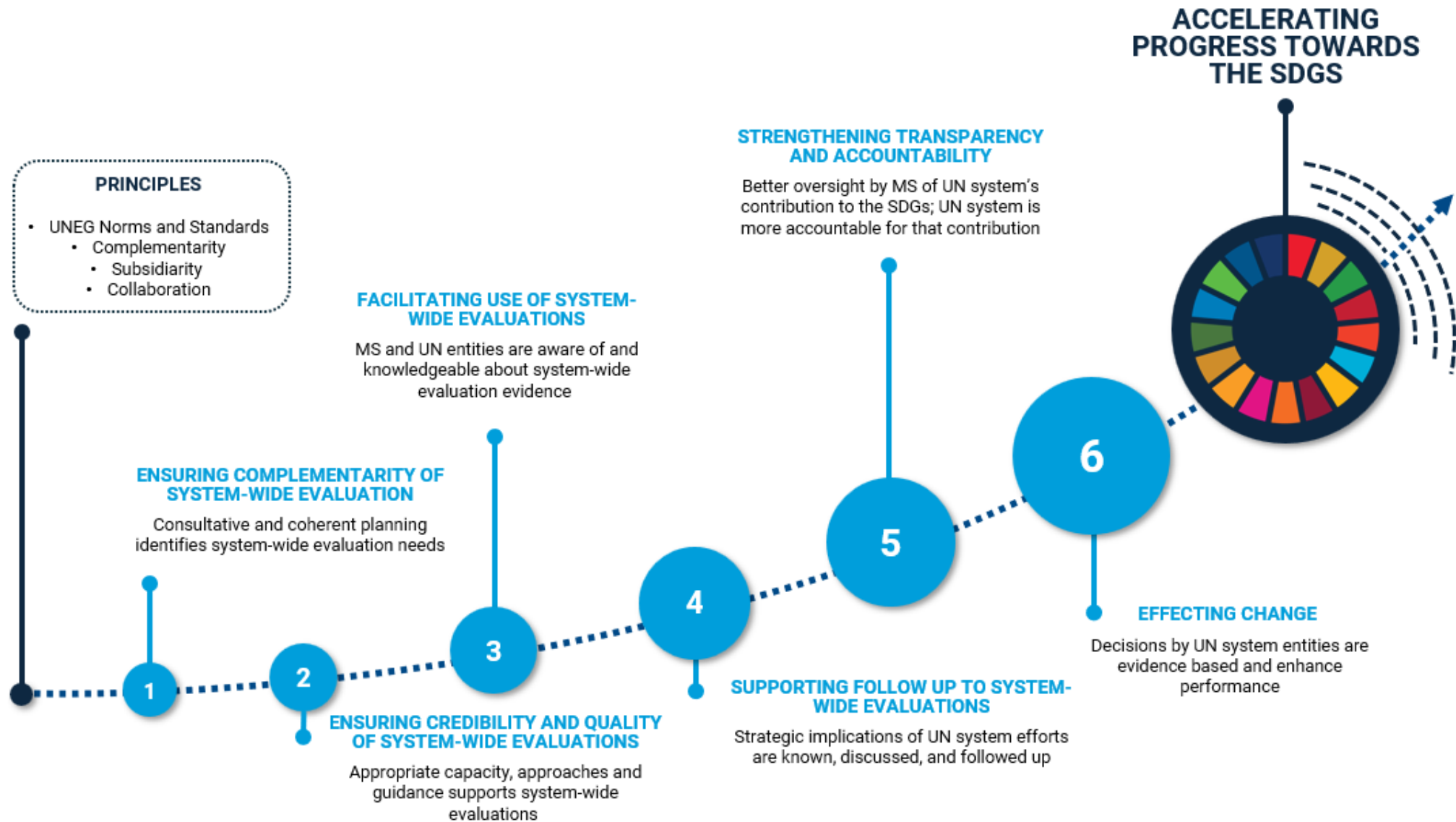
**Managing** the evaluation of pooled funds and joint initiatives (in which a number of United Nations entities are working towards a common objective)

## Collaboration & collective learning

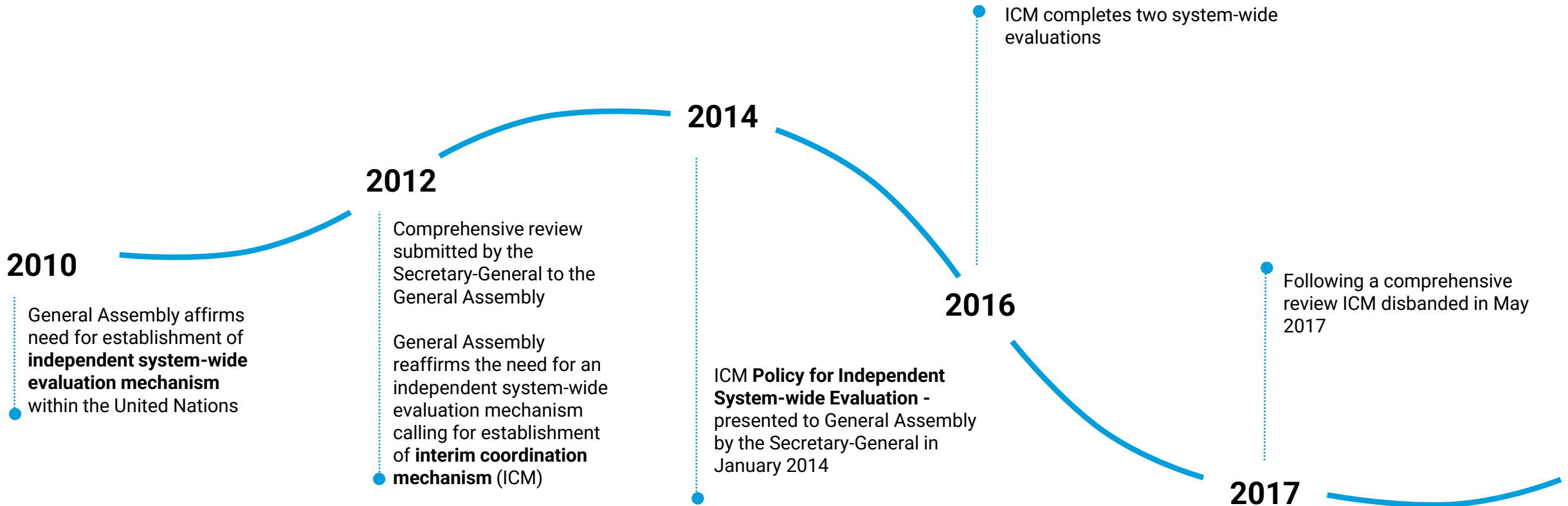
**Promoting** increased collaboration on United Nations system-wide evaluation, to improve the quality and availability of evaluation evidence on progress achieved to implement the Sustainable Development Goals



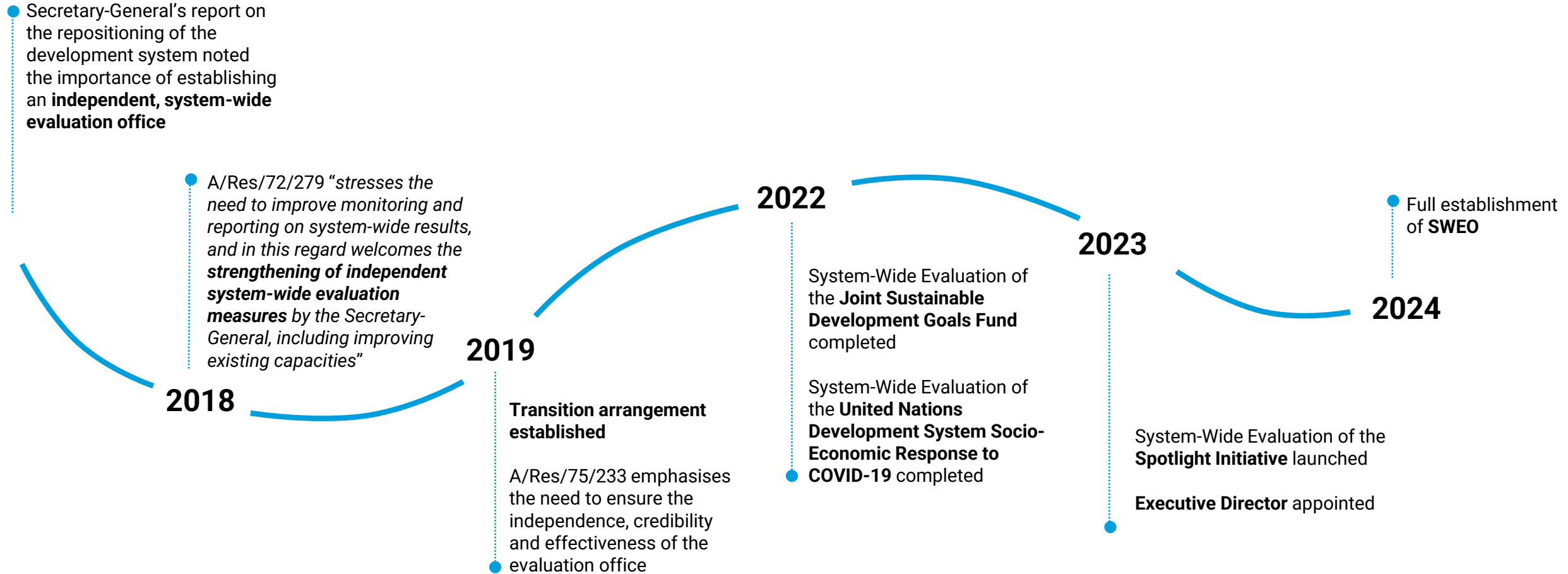
# Value of System-Wide Evaluation



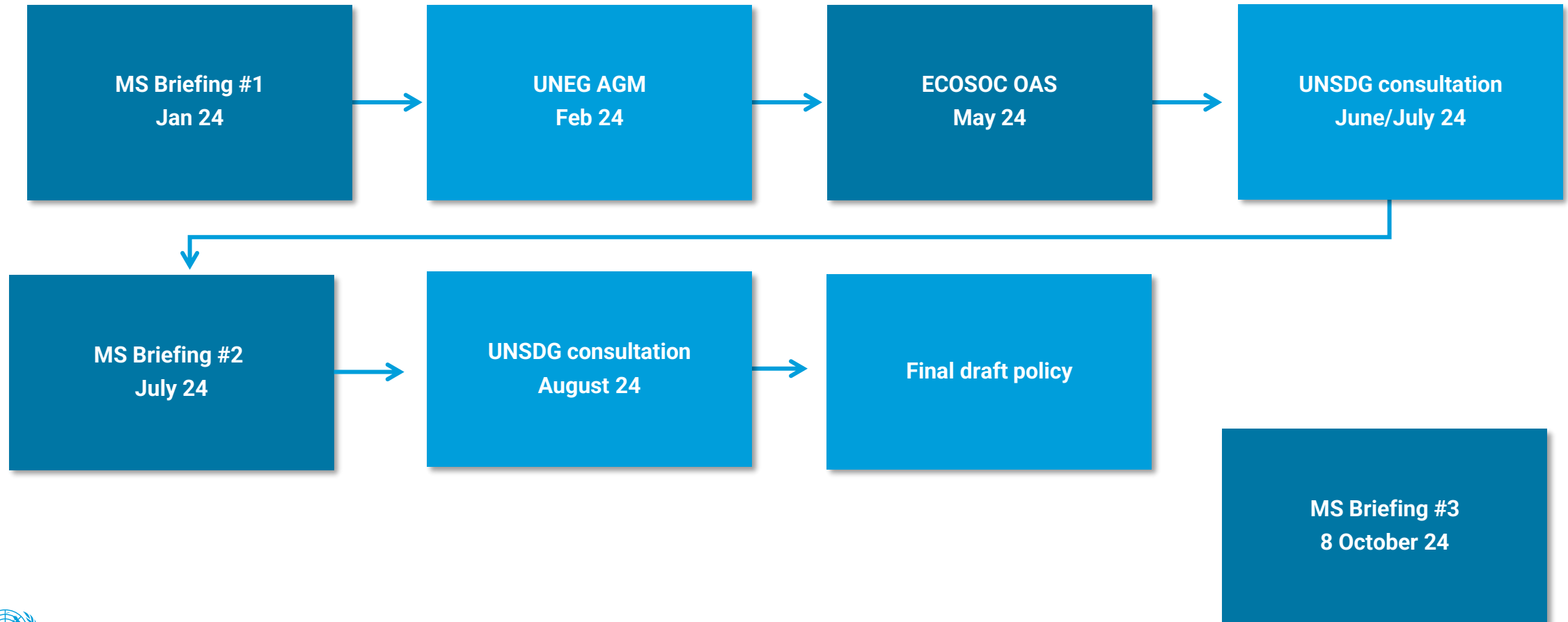
# System-Wide Evaluation Timeline 2010 - 2017



# System-Wide Evaluation Timeline 2018 - 2024



# System-Wide Evaluation Policy: Roadmap

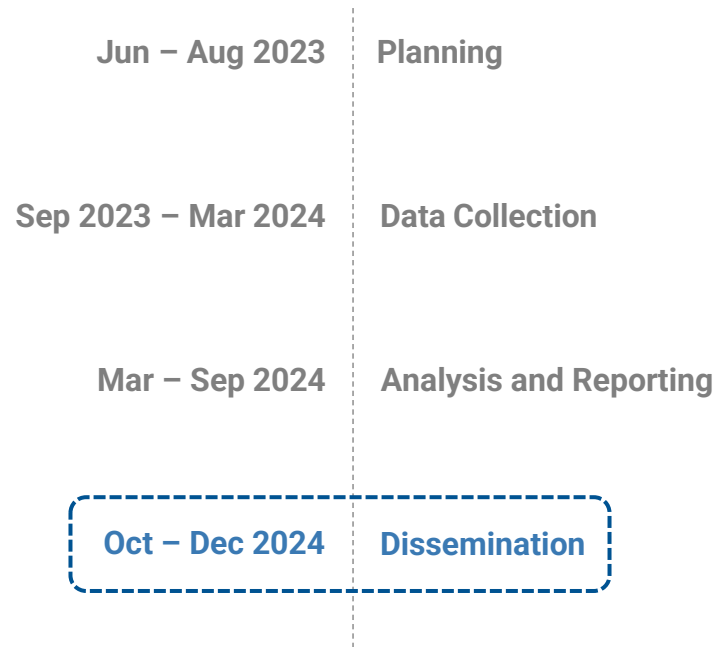


# Spotlight Initiative

**Flagship programme** of the Secretary-General to end all forms of violence against women and girls and a model fund for UN Development System Reform to accelerate progress towards achievement of SDGs.

**Objective:** Assess overall performance of the Initiative, including its contribution to UN Reform.

- Case Studies
- Counterfactual Missions
- Regional Missions



# Value for Money Assessment of the Spotlight Initiative

## *Value-for-Money assessment*

- a) assesses the economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity of the Spotlight Initiative*
- b) Provides inputs to the evaluation of the Spotlight Initiative*
- c) Provides action points on how to integrate VFM dimensions for Spotlight Initiative 2.0*



## Overview

- VFM assessment **responds to observations** in the European Court of Auditors (ECA) Special Report on the Spotlight Initiative
- **Informed by the final evaluation of the Spotlight Initiative and other primary and secondary data and assessments**





# UNSDCF – Country Programmes – Alignment, Derivation and UNCT Configuration

## Context

UNSDCFs now rolled out in almost all programme countries, but implementation and impact of the guidance is understood to be uneven. Request by UNSDG for an **independent system wide evaluation**

## Purpose

Identify **best practice / opportunities for improvement** on country programme derivation from and alignment with CFs and (related) UNCT configuration. **Inform revision / recalibration** of the CF guidance (2019), and Management and Accountability Framework (2021)



### Timeframe

July 2024 – June 2025



### Status

ToR preparation ➤ Inception phase ➤ Data collection

### Required Resources

~450,000 USD (XB)

### Stakeholders

**Funding:** DCO, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP  
**Management Group:** UNDP, UNICEF, UNODC, WFP

# Evaluation of UN Disability Inclusion Strategy

## Context

Disability Inclusion Strategy launched in June 2019 as the first ever system-wide mechanism for disability inclusion in the United Nations. The strategy calls for an **external assessment** after five years of implementation.

## Purpose

- 1 Assess relevance, coherence, progress and results and operationalisation of the Strategy across the UN System
- 2 Facilitate learning, capture good practices, identify opportunities and provide recommendations for the improvement of the Strategy and its implementation across the UN System



## Required Resources

~500,000 USD (XB)

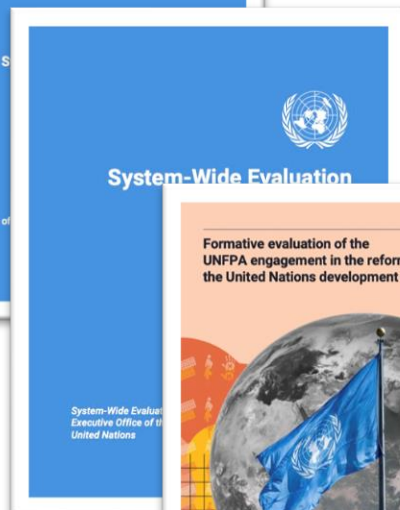
## Timeline

Jun - Sep 2024	Preparatory Phase
Sep – Nov 2024	Inception Phase
Nov 2024 – Feb 2025	Data Collection
Feb – Jul 2025	Analysis and Reporting

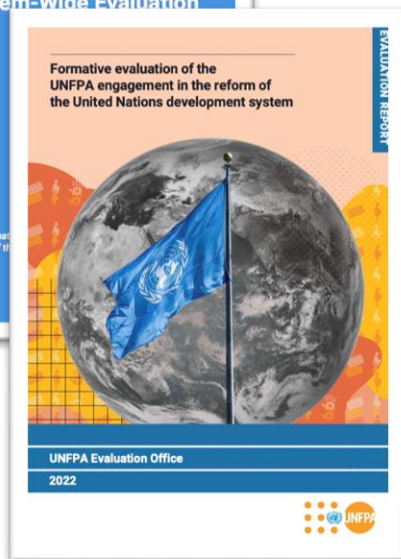
# Further evaluations on UN development system reform



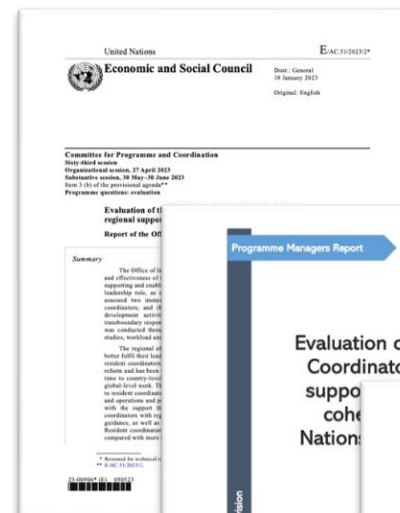
**System-wide evaluation of United Nations Development System Response to COVID-19**



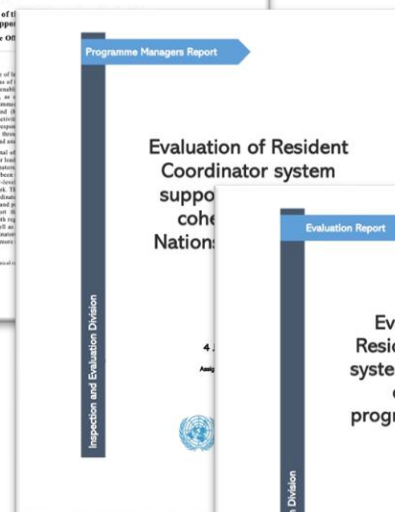
**System-wide evaluation of the Joint Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Fund**



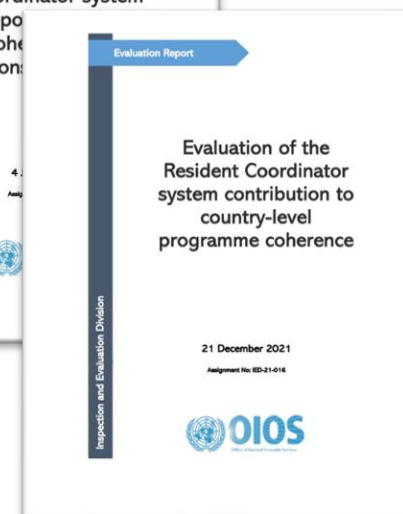
**Formative evaluation of the UNFPA engagement in the reform of the United Nations development system**



**OIOS evaluation of the Development Coordination Office regional support**



**OIOS evaluation of Resident Coordinator system support to enabling coherent United Nations policy advice**



**OIOS evaluation of the Development Coordination Office: contribution of the Resident Coordinator system to country-level programme coherence**



**Forthcoming (late-2024) - OIOS evaluation of the Resident Coordinator System in Complex Settings**

# QCPR – UN evaluation evidence mapping and summaries

## Purpose

- Contributes to GA 78/166 request for **additional reporting** on development results and QCPR provisions in 2024
- Very **large body of UN evaluation evidence** but limited use of UN evaluation in reporting on implementation of resolutions/mandates (e.g QCPR)
- **Fragmented and relatively inaccessible** evaluation evidence
- Opportunity to review '**state of evaluation**' across the system and identify evidence gaps

## Pilot Outputs (2024)

### 1 UN EVALUATION INTERACTIVE EVIDENCE MAP

- Against the 2020 QCPR priorities / monitoring framework

### 2 FIVE SHORT, USE-FOCUSED EVIDENCE SUMMARIES

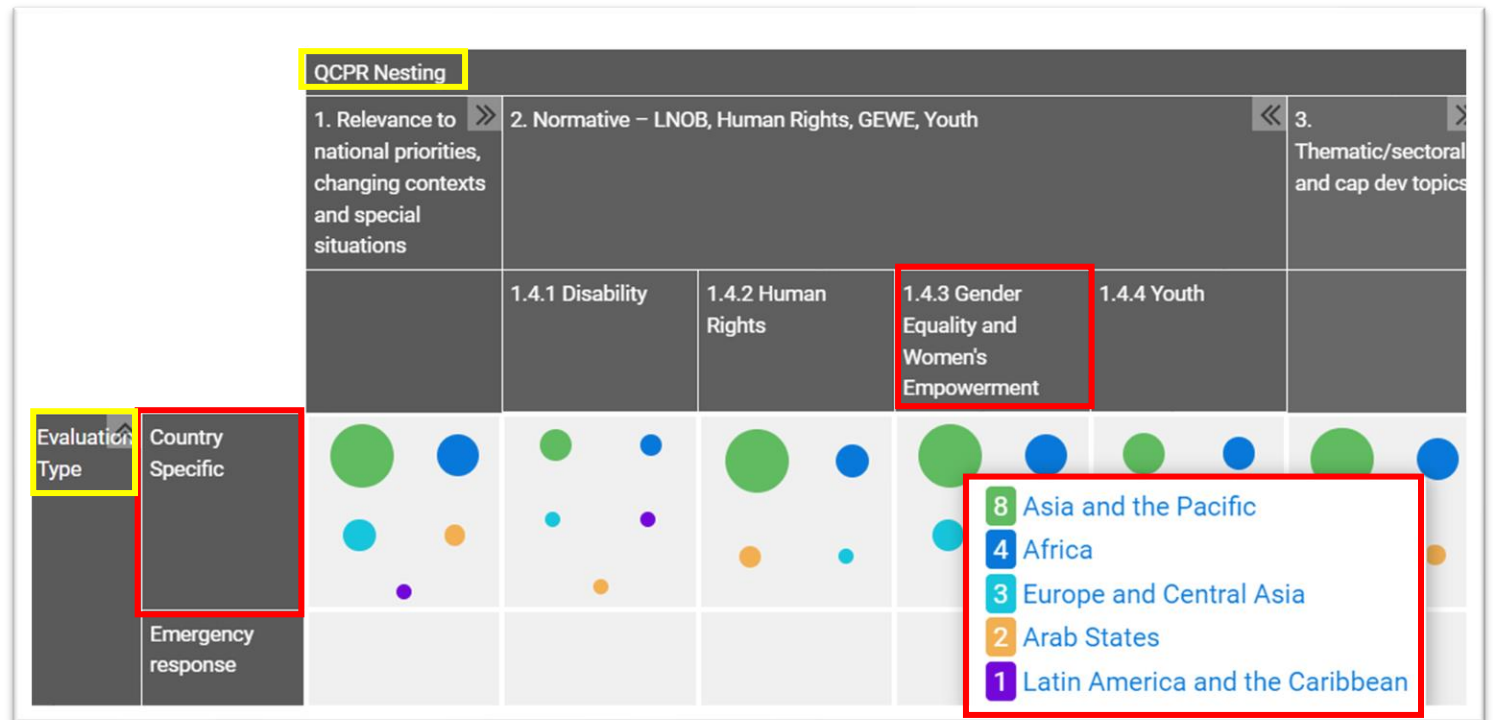
- Topics: Funding quality, food systems, UNDS regional architecture, the RC System, humanitarian-development-peace linkages



**Funding / in-kind support:** IFAD, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP  
**Management Group:** UNDP, UNFPA, WFP

# Interactive evaluation evidence map (2021 -2024)

- 950+ evaluations published across the UN system between 2021 and 2024
- Visualisation/presentation by evaluation type, QCPR priority, and SDG
- Various filtering options (inc. country/region)



# Evidence summaries

- Evidence mapping allows for **rapid summary of evidence & identification of key insights**
- Summaries draw on samples of 30-50 UN evaluations and present 5-10 “**insights**” in a **short period of 4-6 weeks**
- **Testing potential to further leverage AI assistance to expand samples and/or reduce timeframes**



UNSDG SYSTEM-WIDE EVALUATION OFFICE

Unlocking quality funding



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**Towards Sustainable Food Systems**

How to feed, not deplete, the world



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**Building a whole of system response to complex settings**

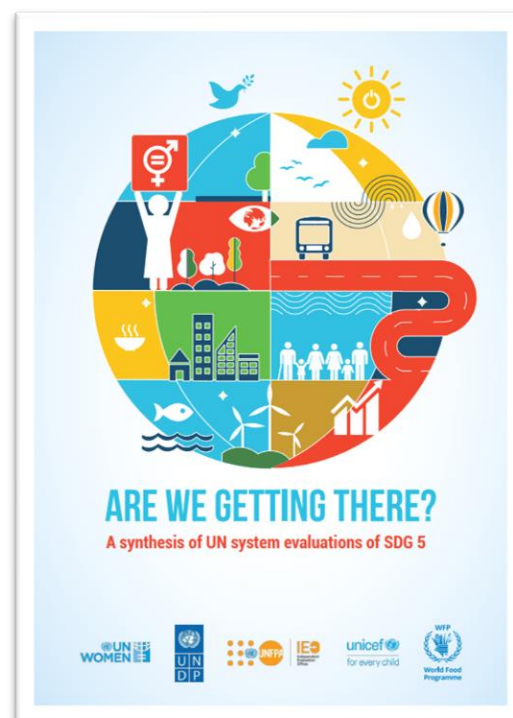


# Relevant inter-agency evaluation & evidence syntheses

Global SDG Synthesis Coalition –  
Partnership Pillar (2023)



Synthesis of UN system evaluations  
of SDG 5 (2024)



Global SDG Synthesis Coalition-  
Peace Pillar (2024-25)



**Forthcoming (2025)** - Global SDG Synthesis Coalition on People Pillar (focus: Social Protection)

## Resources

Available at:

<https://ecosoc.un.org/en/what-we-do/oas-qcpr/2020-qcpr-status-reporting>

## Reminder

Informal briefing:

**8 October 10am**  
**Conference Room 8**

# Thank you

