










## UN WOMEN

Multilateral Aid Review Update (MAR) 2013 progress rating



**MAR 2011: Not Assessed. UNIFEM (predecessor) was Poor Value for Money for UK aid**

<b>Progress assessment</b>	
<b>Summary</b>	<b>UN Women has taken reform seriously and has shown commitment to addressing its reform priorities, especially in relation to contribution to results.</b>
<b>Baseline</b>	
<p>UN Women's role is to improve the impact of the UN system's collective response on gender equality and women's empowerment and to set global norms, policies and standards on gender equality. The 2011 MAR did not assess UN Women because it did not become operational until January 2011. The organisation was introduced to overcome the lack of coordinated and coherent support by the UN to Member States to advance gender equality and women's empowerment, and under-resourcing of gender equality in the UN system.</p> <p>The organisation resulted from the merger of four UN organisations which previously worked on gender. Of those, UNIFEM was the largest and its staff made up 86% of UN Women's workforce when the new agency was created. UNIFEM's mandate was also very similar to that of the newly created UN Women. UNIFEM was found to be poor value for money in the MAR 2011. The challenges identified in the UNIFEM MAR assessment were agreed as areas we wanted to see addressed in the new organisation, UN Women.</p> <p>DFID's reform priorities for the MAR Update were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of providing technical assistance and policy support to deliver on its strategic priorities and a stronger collective UN country team effort – assessed under <u>contribution to results</u>;</li> <li>• Development of a well-defined results framework and monitoring and reporting of results at the country and HQ level – assessed under <u>strategic and performance management</u>;</li> <li>• Implementation of IATI and clear disclosure policies – assessed under <u>transparency and accountability</u>;</li> <li>• Evidence of a focus on cost control and reporting against efficiency targets – assessed under <u>cost and value consciousness</u>.</li> </ul>	
<b>Summary of overall progress</b>	
<p>Special consideration has been given to UN Women's situation as a new organisation facing legacy issues. Reasonable progress has been made: UN Women's reform to give more authority to regional and country offices should improve performance in developing countries; and systems are in place to strengthen its results focus and evaluation culture. It has improved its cost and value consciousness and has set up systems to promote internal and external transparency and accountability.</p>	

<b>Progress against reform priorities</b>			
<b>MAR reform component</b>	<b>UNIFEM MAR 2011 score</b>	<b>UNWOMEN progress rating</b>	<b>UNWOMEN MAR Update score, if any change</b>
<p><b>Contribution to results</b> Evidence of better management of country offices leading to better results; evidence of stronger support to strengthening global commitments for gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment and coordination role (including the adoption of the UN System Wide Action plan on gender).</p>		 Reasonable progress	
<p><b>Strategic and performance management</b> Stronger results framework leading to more robust reporting and adoption of an evaluation policy.</p>		 Reasonable progress	
<p><b>Cost and value consciousness</b> Use of Long Term Agreements to achieve volume discounts in procurement and systems in place to control cost at HQ and in country offices.</p>		 Some progress	
<p><b>Transparency and accountability</b> Signatory to IATI. Disclosure policy in place and evidence it promotes accountability and transparency with its delivery partners.</p>		 Reasonable progress	