

# Briefing

Gender; Monitoring, evaluation and learning

Keywords:  
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), monitoring and evaluation (M&E), gender



Issue date  
February 2019

Policy  
pointers

The evaluation  
community needs to

## Equity-focused, gender-responsive evidence: a blind spot in VNR reporting

Benjamin Kachero

Economist

Directorate of Monitoring and Evaluation, Office of the Prime Minister

Uganda





# EFGR in VNR(s): Ghana 2019

Category	Main findings
<b>General VNR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mixed performance registered, with poverty, malnutrition, maternal mortality, and under-5 mortality all declining (good progress) unlike unemployment that has increased, especially among the youth and urban population.</li> <li>Some indicators under environment were not captured due to lack of data.</li> <li>Strength of M&amp;E system is not clear (require more capacity development)</li> <li>Role of VOPE is not brought out clearly</li> <li>More research required on indicators not captured under national statistical framework</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General political stability for acceleration of SDGs</li> <li>Implementation Coordinating Committee exists that includes Ghana Audit Services, CSOs among other government institutions.</li> <li>There are other structures that feed into the ICC such as National Development Planning Commission and regional coordinating council</li> <li>Legislative framework and institutional architecture to promote gender equality are in place, including a gender policy, and establishment of a Ministry of Gender, children and Social Protection</li> <li>Availability of a Policy on coordination or M&amp;E is not clear</li> </ul>



# EFGR in VNR(s): Ghana

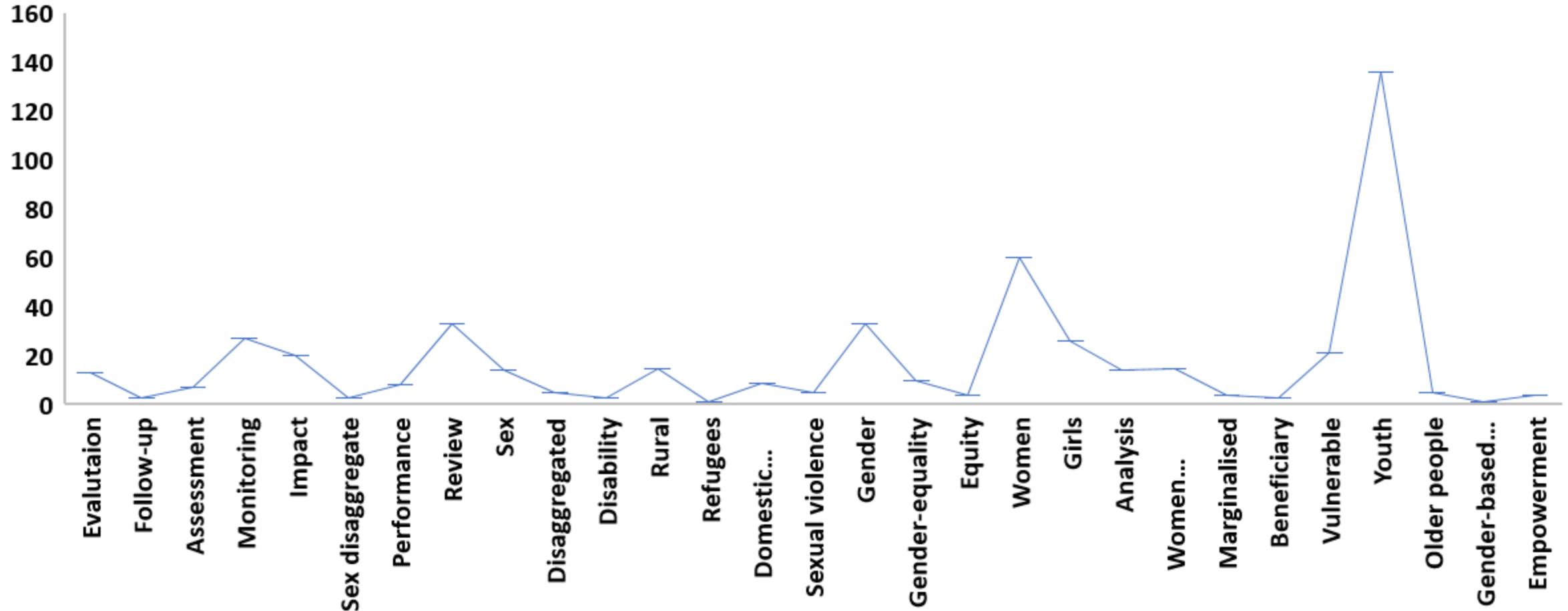
Category	Main findings
<b>Methods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methodological framework used for assessing the SDGs implementation process</li> <li>• The report integrated elements of gender responsive assessments e.g. under SDG 1, 3,4, 5 and 16, highlighted some disaggregated data.</li> </ul>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Country planned for mid-term evaluation to be conducted in 2024 and,</li> <li>• Post-hoc evaluation in 2031 assess the overall outcomes of the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.</li> <li>• No evidence on VOPES involvement</li> </ul>
<b>Frameworks, Strategies, Polices</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ghana plans to pass into law the Affirmative Action Bill to increase women’s participation in decision making ,</li> <li>• There is National Strategic Framework on Ending Child Marriage,               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Child and Family Welfare Policy,</li> <li>○ Social Protection Policy, National Ageing Policy,</li> <li>○ Early Childhood Care Development Policy,</li> <li>○ Justice for Children Policy,</li> <li>○ the Domestic Violence Act; and the Human Trafficking Act</li> </ul> </li> <li>• However, capacity development required to create synergies of implementation.</li> </ul>



# EFGR in VNR(s): Ghana

Category	Main findings
<p><b>No one left Behind</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perspective of the deaf are mentioned in the report</li> <li>• There are interventions such as Children and Youth Engagement in the SDGs</li> <li>• Green Fund to support the scaling up of interventions in the renewable energy - use of solar power.</li> <li>• Other initiatives mentioned:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ flagship programmes of Free Senior High School education policy,</li> <li>○ “One District - One Factory” initiative,</li> <li>○ programme for “Planting for Food and Jobs”,</li> <li>○ “One Village, One Dam” initiative</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There is need for more research to generate evidence on the subject of leaving no one behind</li> </ul>
<p><b>Looking Ahead</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategies exist for looking forward to reviewing SDGs and evaluative evidence on gender.</li> <li>• The linkage between monitoring and evaluative evidence is lacking</li> </ul>

## Key Words in Ghana VNR report





There is visible commitment and political will on acceleration of SGDs in Ghana.

*“For us as a country, the SDGs are indispensable. We must continually remind ourselves that there are too many precious lives at stake – the survival of the current generation and generations yet unborn .....We must do everything within our power to make it happen; achieve the goals, and save our people from the indignity associated with poverty and under-development”*

**Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo: President of the Republic of Ghana and Co-Chair of the UN Secretary-General’s Eminent Group of SDGs Advocates**



## Reflections/Conclusions: Uganda

- *Uganda has adequate institutional (Governance) set up/structures to steer the SDGs.*
- *The role of Parliament in fast tracking implementing of SDGs is critical and seen in both Uganda and Ghana. However, in Uganda there is a more robust SDG Desk in Parliament, The speaker is very passionate about SDGs.*
- *National Policy on M&E in Uganda does not bring out clearly disaggregation of data in gender-lense. In the Policy mid-term review, there will be proposals for some changes. The Policy was passed in 2013 but SDGs came on board later on.*
- *The involvement of Development Partners and Civil Society has been key.*
- *Multi-sectoral coordination is critical*
- *In terms of living no one behind, localization of SDGs is part of the Uganda SDG roadmap and Office of the Prime Minister through the coordination M&E framework is working closely with local governments to make SDGs known to all citizens in the simplest way. Uganda through the National Standard Indicators framework reviews KPIs to ensure capturing of gender disaggregated data. The 2018/19 Government Performance Assessment captured aspects of progress of some SDG indicators across sectors including those social development. This is in addition, several intervention benefiting the vulnerable.*
- *There will be more emphasis on further alignment of disaggregated data in the NDP3 M&E framework.*
- *The Evaluation Agenda is being aligned to NDP3 proposed programmes and SDGs and all crosscutting issues are being considered.*



## Reflections/Conclusions: VOPEs and evaluators

- *VOPEs (Uganda Evaluation Association-UEA) collaboration with Government is also very strong Current UEA is President Commissioner M&E in OPM. Upcoming country VNR will bring out some lessons.*
- *The role of VOPE now has to focus on popularization of the evaluation standards and advocating of their use in entirety including the equity section.*
- *UEA has representation to the Evaluation Subcommittee that is housed in the Office of the Prime Minister, hence when reviewing the ToRs, evaluation designs and reports for evaluation, they ensure compliance to EFGR. This will be strengthened further.*
- *Uganda has the Equal Opportunities Commission that assesses compliance to gender budgeting by government institutions. UEA can team up with such institutions to champion EFGR – through capacity building*
- *Inclusion on CSOs into the National M&E system - reporting*