

MONITORING AND EVALUATION



As part of the UN Secretariat, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) adheres to a number of accountability systems. Along with implementing different UN Secretariat-wide policies and practices for performance management, DPPA also supports several internal and external audits and evaluations.

In addition to these, the Department has invested in establishing a robust performance feedback system by:

1 Agreeing on Goals to monitor and evaluate:

The **DPPA 2020-2022 Strategic Plan** serves as a practical management tool to guide the Department's work. As DPPA's primary extra-budgetary instrument, the **Multi-Year Appeal (MYA)** is key to translating the priorities set out in the Strategic Plan into action.

2 Developing a Results Framework to accompany the Strategic Plan and the MYA:

DPPA's contribution to conflict prevention and sustaining peace is measured through key performance indicators for which divisions set annual targets. All MYA projects must show a clear linkage to the **Results Framework**, including the estimated MYA funds required to deliver outputs under the selected expected accomplishments.

3 Alignment with the reform benefits tracker:

DPPA has ensured substantive alignment between the **peace and security reform benefits tracker** and its own Results Framework. This has helped in monitoring the reform benefits, while reducing the overall reporting burden on divisions.

4 Gathering data against the Results Framework:

As an added initiative to improve monitoring, DPPA has started collecting quantitative data against its Results Framework on a six-monthly basis. To supplement this information, divisions provide qualitative reporting against the Results Framework on an annual basis.

5 Monitoring for risks, use of MYA funds and results:

DPPA conducts quarterly reviews of its MYA projects to monitor risks, project implementation, and budget utilization. Unspent funds are quickly re-programmed to respond to new and emerging needs. DPPA also included COVID-19 as a separate risk category in the work plans of the divisions. A newly introduced gender-marker also helps track resource allocation to advance DPPA's Women, Peace and Security commitments.

6 Conducting evaluative exercises:

Complementing the information collected via monitoring, DPPA undertakes a range of evaluative exercises to independently validate results achieved, and to collect evidence on how/why these were achieved (or not).

7 Disseminating and utilizing the knowledge:

Since 2019, DPPA produces **annual reports summarizing its evaluations and lessons-learned studies**. The systematic dissemination of summaries marks a major step forward to leverage knowledge and promote transparency. To ensure that knowledge learned is put to use is crucial for DPPA. As such, the Department tracks the implementation of all evaluation recommendations.



Purpose

DPPA undertakes a series of evaluative exercises for learning and accountability. The overall aim is to use the knowledge gained to improve decision-making for the delivery of results.



Structure

To ensure the evaluation function at the Department is operationally independent, a dedicated evaluation team sits within the Office of the Under-Secretary General (OUSG) in DPPA.



Reporting Line

To the Under-Secretary-General of DPPA via Chief, OUSG.



Leadership

The joint DPPA-DPO Guidance Development and Learning Steering Committee (GDLSG) guides the evaluation work of DPPA. Ultimately, the overall evaluation work-plan is reviewed and approved by the Head of the Department.

SUMMARY OF EVALUATION SYSTEM IN DPPA



Budget

Is entirely funded by extra-budgetary resources.



Types of evaluative exercises

Lessons Learned studies (undertaken by divisions) and self-evaluations (undertaken by OUSG)



Targets for evaluative exercises

Each year, to conduct a minimum of:

- ▶ two self-evaluations.
- ▶ four lessons learned studies.