

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-IND_D_1.1

By 2027, people will benefit from and contribute to sustainable and inclusive growth through higher productivity, competitiveness and diversification in economic activities that create decent work, livelihoods, and income, particularly for youth and women

Fostering sustainable and inclusive growth across diverse sectors through advancement in economic participation and empowerment of women and youth in targeted regions viz. employment, entrepreneurship, education, and policy influence. In 2023, UN Women, through vital partnerships with government bodies, civil society, and the private sector, has made significant strides in promoting sustainable and inclusive growth, focusing on boosting productivity, competitiveness, and economic diversification for women and youth. Here are the key impacts:

- **Employment and Skills Enhancement:** In Maharashtra, Odisha, and Bihar, UN Women successfully facilitated employment opportunities, including jobs, apprenticeships, and internships, for 832 women in diverse sectors such as banking, finance, textile, sales, marketing, beauty, wellness, garment production, and engineering.
- **Entrepreneurship Development:** A total of 627 women in Bihar, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra launched individual and group enterprises, demonstrating the effectiveness of the Second Chance Education and Women in Action projects in fostering female entrepreneurship.
- **Education and Training:** Women and girls' enrolment in Industrial Training Institutes and Polytechnics in Koraput, Bargarh, and Gajapati — some of the most backward districts in the state of Odisha in eastern India, increased by 15% from 2021 to 2023, thanks to UN Women's mobilization efforts.
- **STEM Empowerment:** In collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh, UN Women secured funding to enhance STEM skills among 2,000 women from tribal and marginalized communities. The project, which started in December 2023, has already enrolled over 600 young women, with training and placement drives set for completion in 2024.
- **Handicrafts Initiative:** In Maharashtra, UN Women's support enabled women in Nandurbar and Jalgaon to produce banana fibre handicrafts, earning the One District One Product (ODOP) tag. ODOP, a Government of India initiative, provides a 35% credit-linked capital subsidy to women-run businesses. This initiative led to an order of 1,000 products worth INR 2.5 Lakh (USD \$3,300), promising a 30% profit margin, with delivery expected in February 2024.
- **Educational Policy Influence:** UN Women played a pivotal role in the formulation of the Gender Policy of the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), to address a 33% gender enrolment gap. The policy focuses on improving women's enrolment, retention, and academic performance. NIOS, with a cumulative enrolment of 4.3 million in the past five years, has a substantial impact on the education of future women learners.
- **Private Sector Engagement:** The commitment to women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace, and community was reinforced with 45 new private sector companies pledging their support, bringing the total number of Indian signatories to 383.

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By 2027, a strengthened and more coordinated, inclusive, and accountable governance system is in place at the national and local levels enabling all people, especially most marginalised and vulnerable, to be protected, empowered, engaged, and enjoy human rights and social justice, and lead their lives with respect and dignity.

The work on Gender Responsive Budgeting, Inter- governmental processes and Ending violence against women has led to GEWE being integrated in governance processes including in the G20 Leader's declaration of India. UN Women's work through its various programmes has also resulted in creating significant change in the lives of women and girls by contributing to women empowerment and growth in economic, social and human development along with strengthening capacities of state and central institutions on gender analysis, safety and accessibility in services and gender-based violence. In 2023, UN Women ICO provided critical technical support to several state governments (Goa, Assam, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, and Rajasthan), significantly enhancing institutional capacities for addressing violence against women (VAW). Key impacts included: Enhancing Governance Capacities and Institutional Frameworks: Quality inputs in governmental processes, SDG and policy level interventions, developing a framework and facilitating training needs of governments and other stakeholders connected to schemes and policies. Development of roadmaps and facilitation of training needs for government functionaries. India's classification of domestic violence shelter and support services as "essential" post-COVID-19, with 708 One-Stop-Crisis centers remaining operational, aiding over 540,000 women across 35 states and Union Territories. Approval of 758 One Stop Centres in 734 districts nationwide. Adoption of Mission Shakti guidelines to offer survivors of gender-based violence integrated support to facilitate immediate, emergency and non-emergency access to a range of services, including medical, legal, psychological and counselling support. Training of 973 first-hand responders in understanding gender-based violence and case management. Outreach to 13,144 women workers in Assam's tea sector for health, wellness, and safety programs. Collaboration with SEWA BHARAT for cash-for-care initiatives in Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, benefiting 900 women with cash transfers. Significant contributions to policy development and capacity building in various Indian states, as evidenced by: In Kerala, the revision of the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy, a major milestone in promoting gender equity, with its final version set to be released in March 2024. In Rajasthan, the impact of UN Women's study on Mahila Shakti Kendras [1] (MSKs) and One Stop Centers (OSCs) led to a substantial increase in the number of MSKs from 41 to 246. This expansion marks a significant advancement in the state's commitment to women's empowerment and support services. In Punjab, the country office conducted a rapid assessment study for OSCs in Jalandhar and Kapurthala districts, at the request of the Department of Social Security and Women and Child Development. The study culminated in a comprehensive report with actionable recommendations, which was presented to the Department. UN Women built the capacities of 465 government officials from the Ministry of Skill Development and the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, 440 government officials from 20 Departments and 11 Implementing Partners of the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board, 359 government officials from Kerala, and 140 government officials from Rajeevika Rajasthan, on effective implementation of Prevention of Sexual Harassment at workplace, Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal. Strengthening Safety and Advocacy: The country office's advocacy work and safety initiatives included: Partnerships with Pracademic Lab, Police Department of Madhya Pradesh, and the Tourism Department of Uttarakhand for enhancing women's safety in tourism destinations. The 16 days of Activism campaign (#AbkoibahanaNahi) reached 1,130 participants through health camps, 271 through art competitions, and registered substantial social media engagement (with 4.28 million reach and 19.3 million impressions). Technological Innovation for Support: Regular monitoring and testing ensured the effectiveness of the Sambal Chatbot, a supportive tool for survivors of violence and their allies. UN Women country office launched SAMBAL on the UN Regional Office website on 29th November 2022. The app is a repository of resources and tools to address violence against women. It has been specifically designed to close the information gap for survivors and allies, and help them understand and navigate various issues related to such violence, such as mental health, medical needs, and legal procedures. Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) Achievements: UN Women India through its GRB work at central and state level was able to scale the outreach for GRB engagement to more central ministries/departments and at state level to 6 new states. UNW ICO strategy is to institutionalise the GRB mechanism at both the levels effectively. One of the significant outcomes of the partnerships of the GRB work by UN Women ICO was the establishment of the project management unit (PMU), at the central nodal ministry- MWCD; which has contributed and supported gender budget analysis of 43 ministries.

Government partners at national and sub-national levels gained enhanced knowledge and skills in gender budgeting. Four states (Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Manipur) adopted and institutionalized Gender Budgeting in state policies, marking a significant step in mainstreaming gender in fiscal policies and practices. Inter-Governmental Processes: providing key advisory support to the Government of India on normative frameworks and addressing crucial gender issues in line with the 2030 Agenda. UN Women in India has been at the forefront of advancing global commitments for gender equality and women's empowerment/GEWE. ICO collaborated with several ministries and intergovernmental bodies, for providing technical advisory and support to integrate gender considerations into critical G20 priority areas, through its contribution as: The New Delhi Leaders' Declaration, a landmark move under India's G20 presidency, which further highlights the G20 leaders' unequivocal commitment to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment across key parameters, including education (particularly science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), emerging digital technologies, women's entrepreneurship, labour force participation, gender pay gap, care infrastructure, gender-based violence, workplace safety, and financial inclusion, using a life-continuum and "whole of society" approach. The creation of a Working Group on Empowerment of Women is another substantial outcome of ICO during the India's G20 leadership. Continued advocacy from the highest levels of the organization, through the UN Women Deputy Executive Director's Office, pushed for an increase in and adoption of gender-specific radical commitments at the New Delhi Summit. [1] Women's Empowerment Centres