

Analysis of IMS: Gender Equality (SDG 5) in UN Joint Programmes 2021

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Introduction

This report presents a rapid gender analysis of Joint Programmes (JPs)¹ reported in the UNSDG Information Management System (IMS) exploring the extent to which gender and SDG 5 are reported as a focus of the JPs and what the proportion of overall funding is to JPs with a gender or SDG 5 focus. The analysis was developed by the UN Women UN System Coordination Division to strengthen evidence-based analysis, provide a baseline for similar follow-up analysis of IMS data from 2022 and identify trends with the overall objective to inform UN System policies and engagement with UNCTs on strengthening gender equality in JPs.

Reform of the UN development system places emphasis on joint programming. The 2020 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) ‘*Recognizes the need to further support the UNSDCF by substantially increasing common resource mobilization and distribution for joint programmes at the country level [...]*’². This is supported by the Funding Compact³ to increase development spending on JPs to enhance ‘*coordination, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency*’ of development actions by the UN system in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁴ The QCPR also calls on the UNDS to enhance and accelerate gender mainstreaming through [UNCT-SWAP accountability frameworks](#) which includes a dedicated performance indicator (2.1) to track progress on JPs that mainstream gender equality.

¹ A joint programme is a cooperation strategy. It is a way to achieve a development result that depends upon the comparative advantages of two or more UN organizations working together with country partners as a team in a highly coordinated and integrated manner. The joint programme has a strategic intent and strong programmatic rationale: Expected results: a) contribute to one or more CF outcomes and related SDGs and b) focus on one or more policy levers, with *the potential* to catalyse systemic change. A JP can be at country, regional, or global levels, involving two or more regions or countries (forthcoming UNSDG JP Guidance Note)

² UN General Assembly, Quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, [A/RES/75/233](#), 30 December 2020. (UNGA, QCPR 2020). Based upon ‘repositioning’ resolution [A/RES/72/279](#) 31 May 2018.

³ General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, Implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the QCPR of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, 2019, [A/74/73/Add.1–E/2019/14/Add.1](#), 02 April 2019.

⁴ UNGA, QCPR 2020, *ibid.*, para 70.

The [UNSDG Information Management System](#) (IMS) is a dynamic web application designed to capture UN system-wide reporting on contributions and support to the SDGs for the 132 UN Country Teams (UNCTs) globally. IMS is administered by UNDCO and is tailored to enable data to be entered, collected, and analyzed for a global set of users. The Resident Coordinator's Office is responsible for incorporating data in IMS. There is no indicator methodological note to guide RCO respondents when sharing data in IMS.⁵ IMS is organized into four different sections collecting information on: *DCO Regional Office & UNCT Composition; Common Country Planning; Programmatic and Coordination Areas; Normative Areas, comprising the Human Rights Profile, Gender Equality Profile, Youth Profile and Persons with Disabilities Profile*. Data on programmatic and coordination areas as well as on normative areas are reported annually at year end, while other data is collected more frequently. IMS data is used to inform the Secretary-General's report on the [Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review \(QCPR\)](#)⁶ and other system-wide reports, such as the [Report of the Secretary-General on Mainstreaming gender perspective in the UN System](#), the 2022 reports of which both include the key summary of the analysis presented below.

This report will present an analysis of IMS data reported under the Coordination and Programmatic Areas-section and the sub-section on Joint Programmes which is based on the responses provided by RCOs to the following four questions in IMS 2021:

1. *"C.1.9.1.2 - Please select the Sector/Thematic areas of the Joint Programme [QCPR: 1.4.17]"*

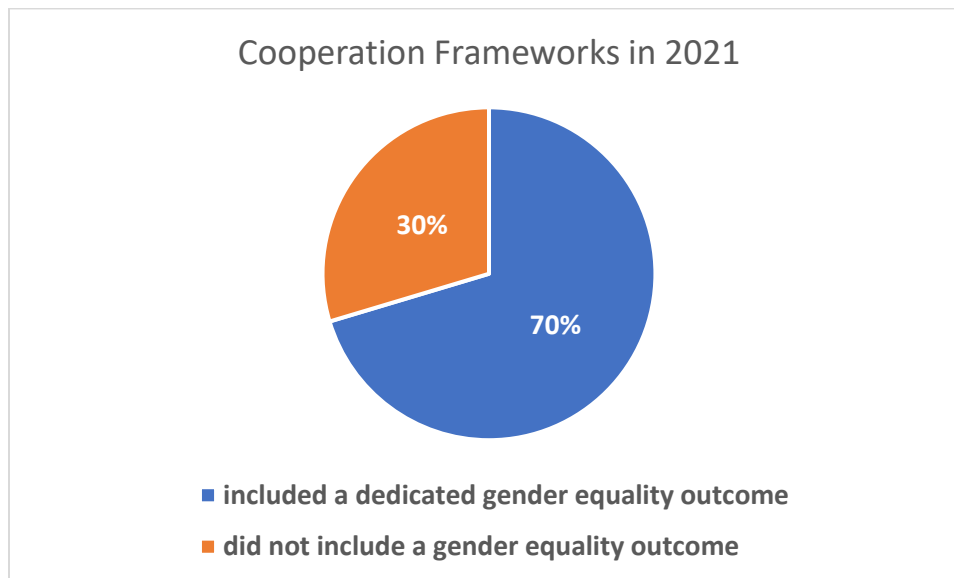
When reporting, RCO focal points need to select for each joint programme all thematic areas and/or which SDGs that apply to the joint programme. `Gender` is one of the thematic options together with SDG 5, as such RCO focal point can select for joint programmes both `SDG 5` and `Gender` as a thematic area. This analysis only includes JPs where `SDG 5` is selected to avoid duplication in count of JPs with a SDG 5/gender focus.

2. *"C.1.9.1.3 - Total Budget (currency USD) [QCPR: 4.5.13]"*
3. *"Region Name"*
4. *"Workspace Name [UNCT]"*

⁵ Data is provided by each individual UNCT user and there is no indicator methodological note to guide the respondents when sharing data in IMS.

1. Global Overview of Joint Programmes

IMS data⁷ shows that 19 out of 27 (70 per cent) of country teams that developed a Cooperation Framework in 2021 reported the inclusion of a dedicated gender equality outcome. As the cooperation frameworks captures the entire footprint of the UN System, the high proportion of gender equality outcomes in new Cooperation Frameworks confirms the centrality of gender equality and its reflections in UN joint programmes.



Altogether, 38 per cent (356 out of 927) of all Joint Programmes reported in IMS were identified as incorporating a Goal 5 focus. However, only 8 per cent of funding for Joint Programmes focused on Goal 5 despite making up 38 per cent of the total number of Joint Programmes.

⁷ Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Georgia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Madagascar, North Macedonia, Panama, Serbia, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yemen

Table 1.1

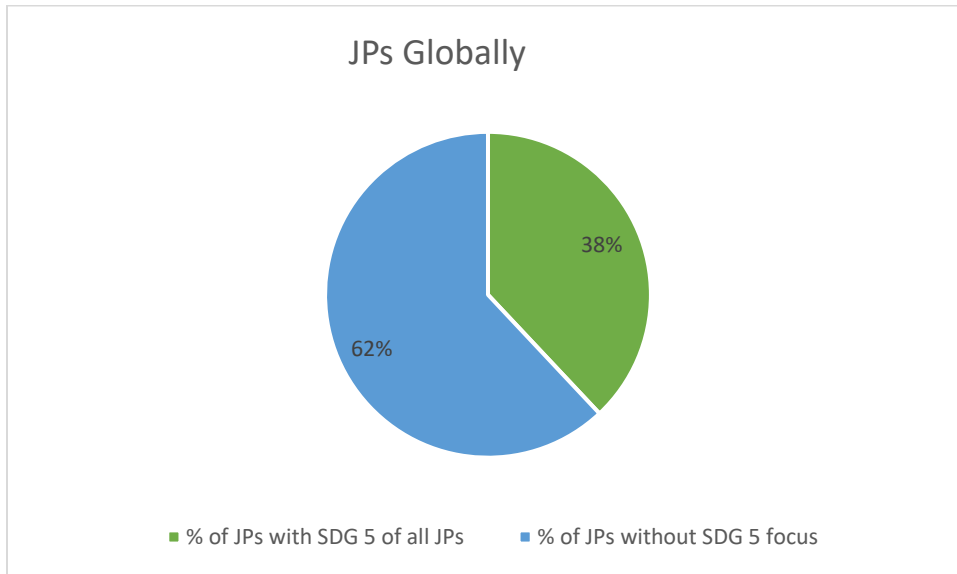
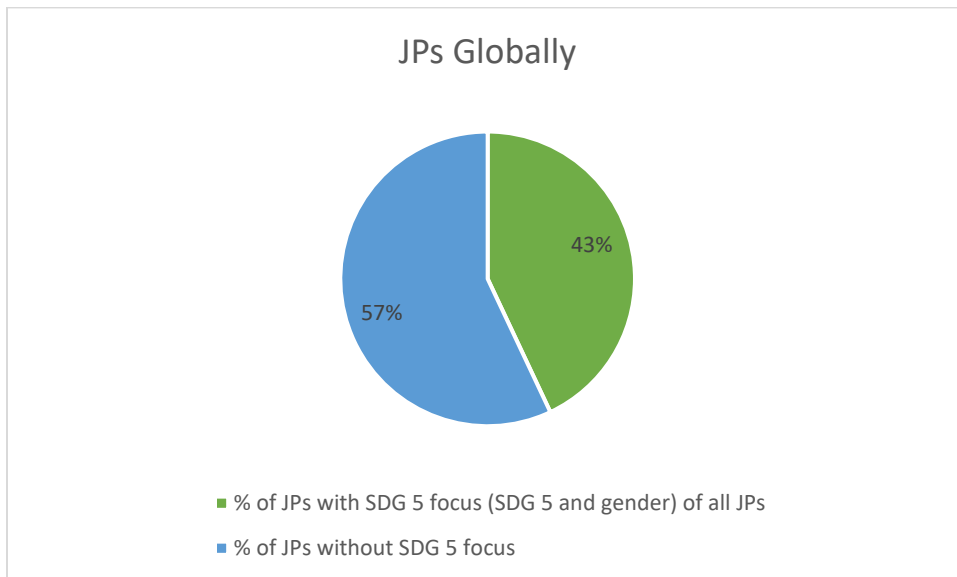
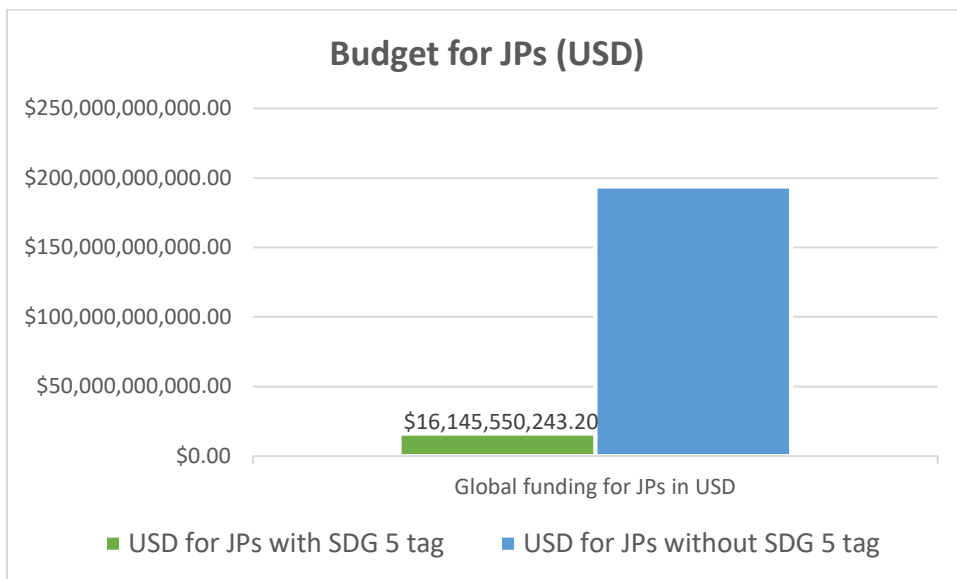
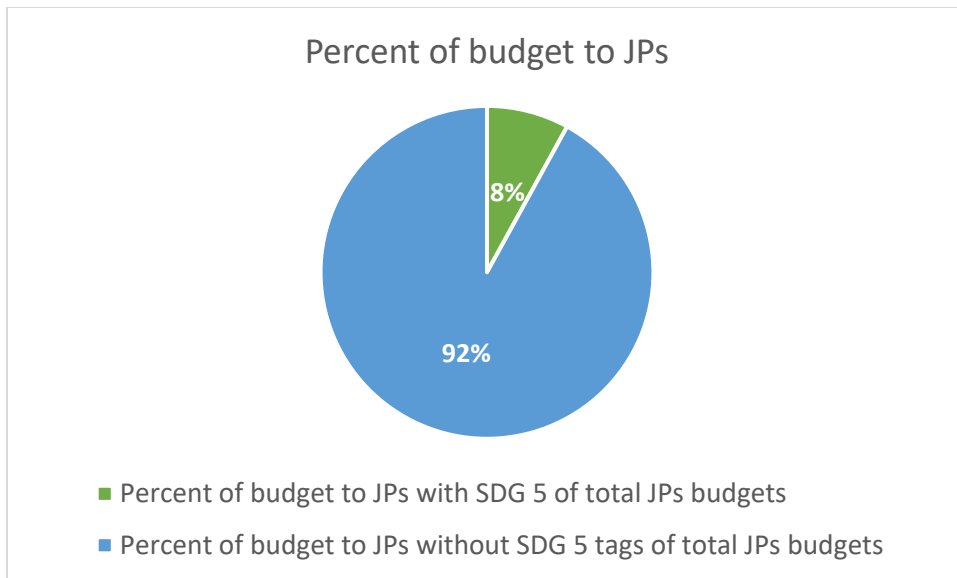
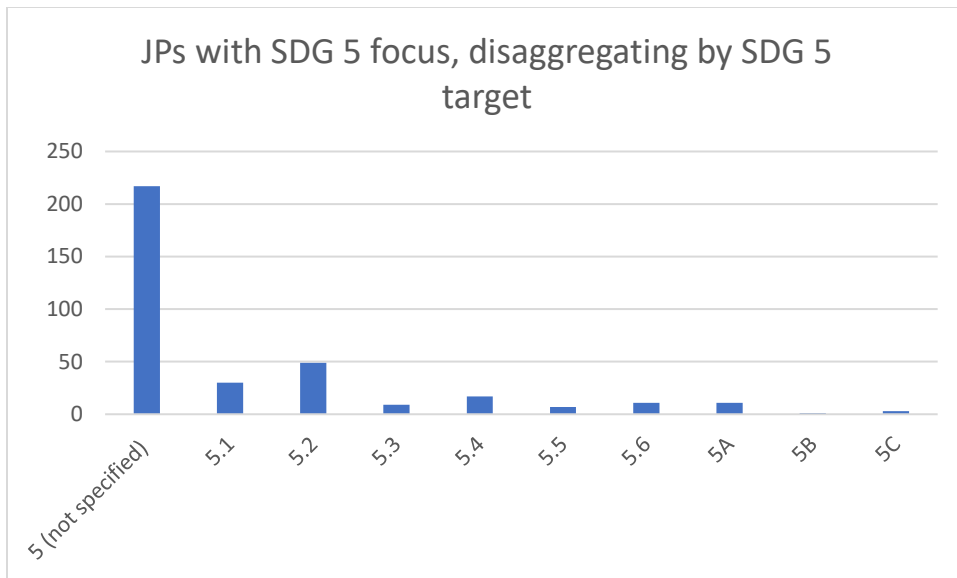


Table 1.2



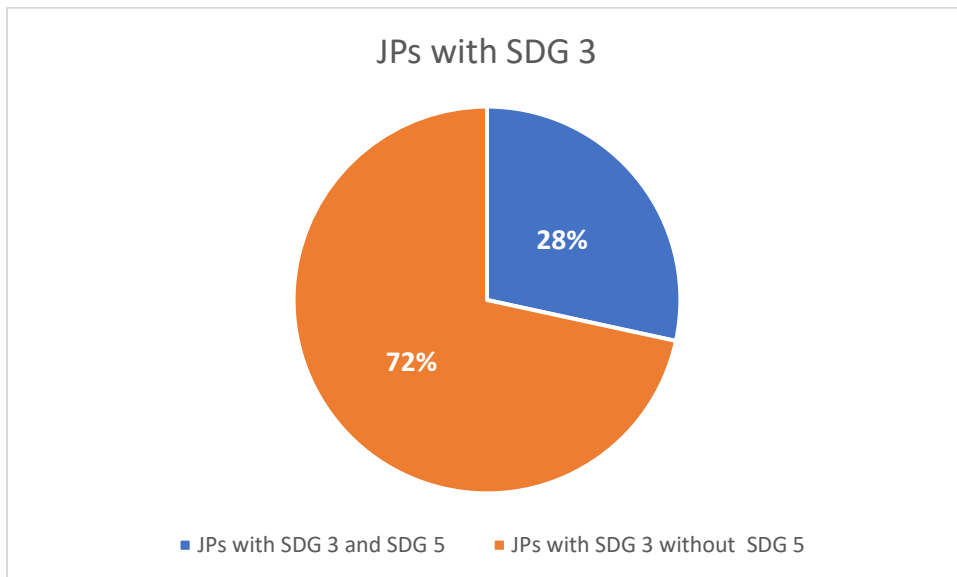


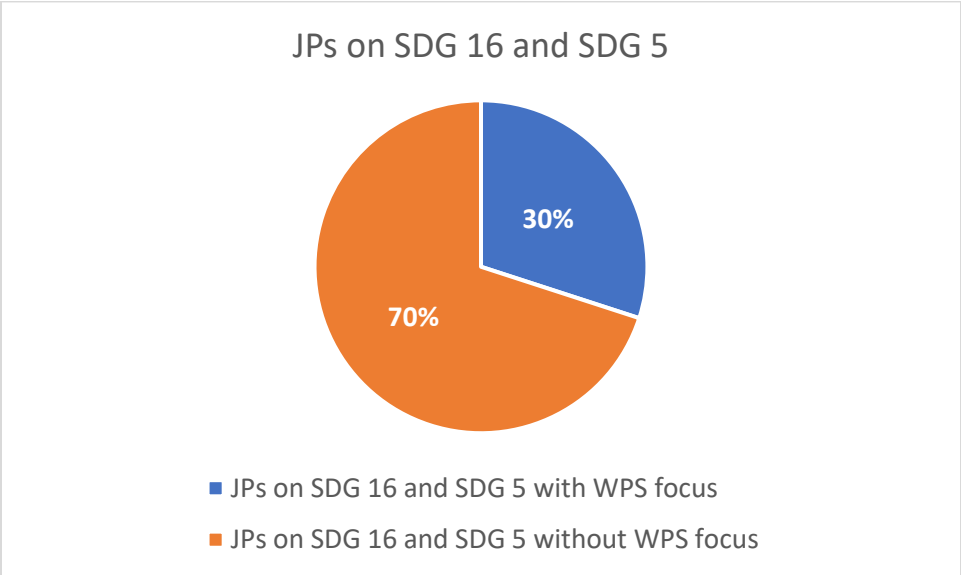
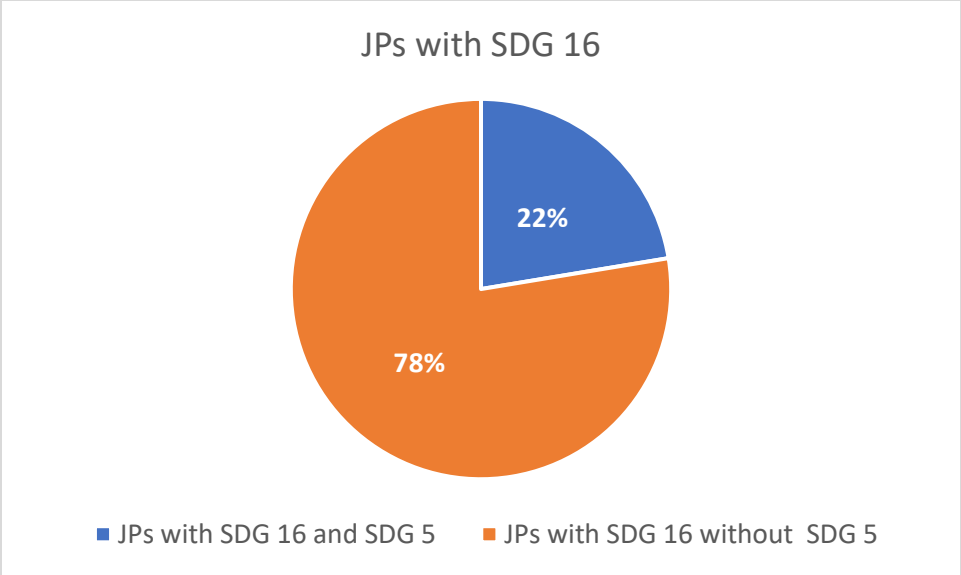
For Joint Programmes with SDG 5, the most common themes based on an analysis of the JP title structured under SDG 5 targets, comprised ending violence against women, ending discrimination against women and girls, and recognizing unpaid care and domestic work.

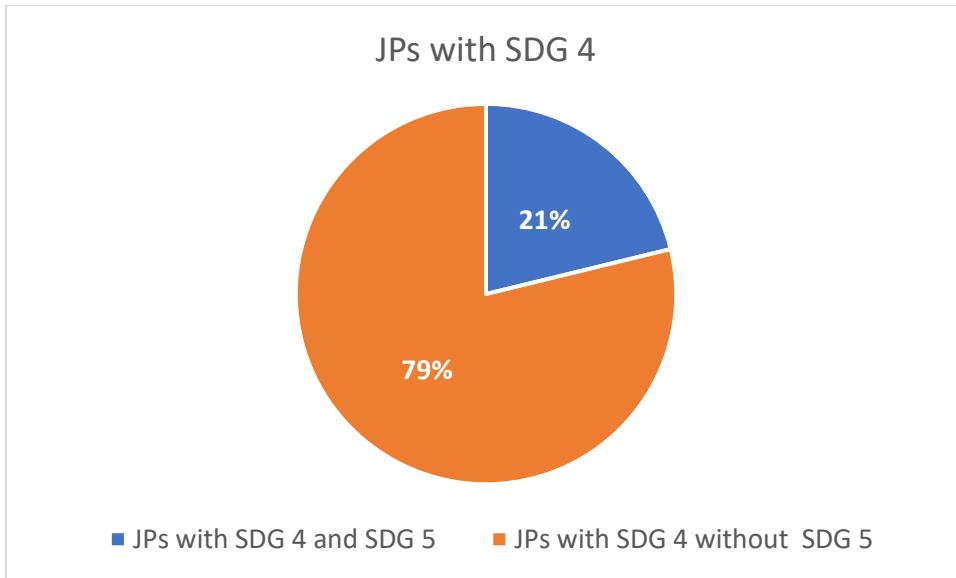


2. Integration of SDG 5 in Joint Programmes on SDG 3, SDG 4 and SDG 16

29 per cent of Goal 3 (Health), 22 per cent of Goal 16 (Peace and Justice) and, 21 per cent of Goal 4 (Education) focused Joint Programmes also reported incorporating a focus on Goal 5.







3. Regional Distribution of SDG 5 tagged Joint Programmes

