



Presentation to the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP

Evaluation Office of UNEP (EOU)

March 2026

- [Independent Office](#) – The independence of the Evaluation Office derives from the fact that the Head of Evaluation reports directly to the Executive Director (*i.e. there is no common line management between the Evaluation Office and the work that it evaluates, as UNEP projects and programmes report through Divisions to the DED*)
- Produces [high-quality evaluation reports](#) that are **not** subject to any management approval before their release
- All UNEP evaluation reports are [publicly disclosed](#) - available on [WeDocs](#).
- All evaluation reports [require a formal management response](#)
- All evaluation recommendations are subject to a [compliance assessment process](#)
- The Evaluation Office [regularly reports to the CPR](#)

- **Evaluation Policy**: first approved in 2009, revised in 2016 fully updated in 2022
- **Mandate**: all projects, programmes, policies and initiatives under the scope of the Programme of Work / Medium Term Strategy. Conforms to all rules and regulations set out in formal UN documents e.g. ST/SGB/2018/3 and ST/AI/2021/3. In UNEP, **only the Evaluation Office has the mandate to carry out evaluations.**
- **Ascribes to the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards for evaluation:**
The UNEG has set out important evaluation principles norms and standards including:
 - Utility
 - Credibility
 - Independence
 - Ethics
 - Transparency
 - Professionalism
 - Human Rights and GE
 - Environmental and Social Impact (Adopted in 2025)

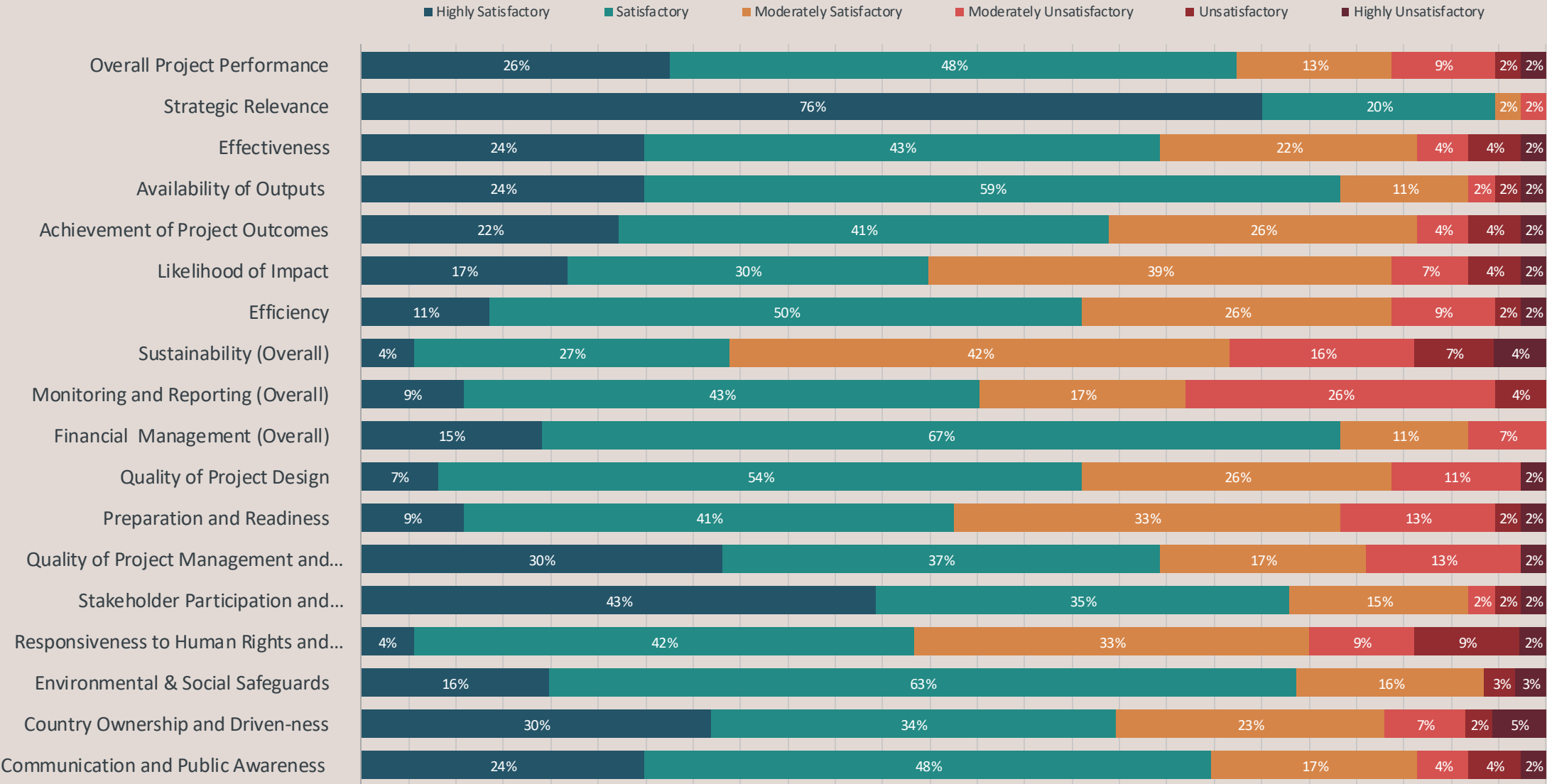
Types of Evaluation (and Review)

- **Terminal Evaluations (TEs)** are a summative assessment of performance, when a project reaches completion, that is carried out as a process managed by the UNEP Evaluation Office, normally by contracting external consultants;
- **Management-Led Terminal Reviews (MLTRs/TRs)** are a summative assessment of performance, when a project reaches completion, that is carried out as a process managed by the UNEP Project/Task Manager, normally by contracting an external consultant. The Review Report is quality assessed and validated by the Evaluation Office;

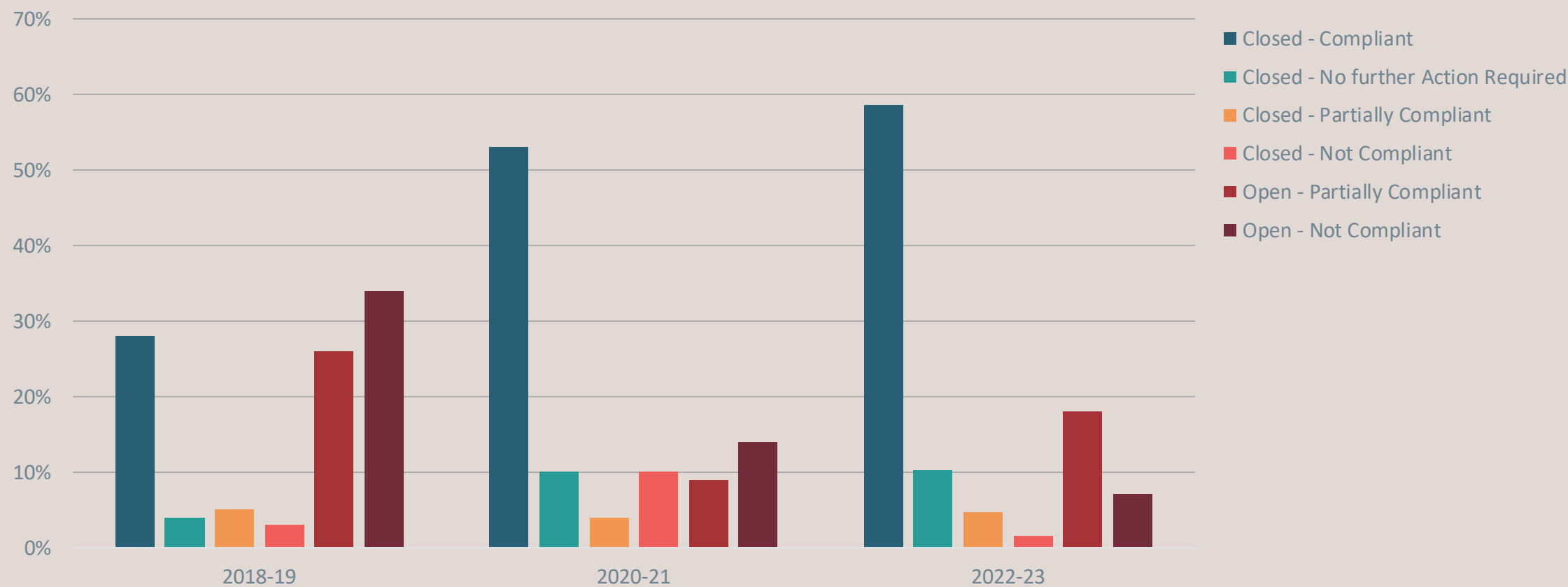
Types of Evaluation (and Review)

- **Subprogramme Evaluations** – All UNEP Subprogrammes must be evaluated within a period of 6 years. For example, this includes the recent evaluation of the Chemicals and Pollution Action subprogramme and the ongoing evaluation of the Nation Action subprogramme
- **Thematic / Issue-based / Cross-cutting evaluations** a recent example include the Formative Evaluation of UNEP Delivery Model and associated Programmatic Approach.
- **Meta-Evaluations** these are evaluations based on aggregated information, for example the Biennial Evaluation Synthesis Report 2022-2023 summarized UNEP project performance using information from completed project-level evaluations.

Summary of project performance against evaluation criteria 2022 -2023



Recommendation compliance status by biennium 2018-23



Performance of the Evaluation Office and Evaluation Quality

- **2023 OIOS evaluation dashboard study of the UNEP Evaluation Office**
 - UNEP recognized as having **all elements of a strong evaluation system**.
 - Improvements since last assessment: evaluation planning, report quality, and recommendations quality strengthened.
 - UNEP produced the highest number of evaluation reports (41) in the UN Secretariat (2020–2021).
- **2023 OIOS Report A/78/70 to the General Assembly**
 - UNEP evaluations praised for: **Excellent quality; clear linkages** between findings, conclusions, and recommendations; and inclusion of **cross-cutting issues**: gender, human rights, and environment.
- **2025 UN-SWAP Compliance:**
 - Of the 31 evaluations reviewed, **64% of reports met requirements** (↑ from 23% in 2024).
- **2025 JIU Review of Management and Administration in UNEP**
 - The 2025 JIU review gave an **overall positive assessment** of UNEP's evaluation function.
 - The Evaluation Office was **recognized for its effective workload approach**, combining directly managed terminal evaluations with quality-assured management-led reviews.

About the Evaluation Office

- **UNEP website:** <https://www.unep.org/evaluation-office>
- **Evaluation reports:** <https://wedocs.unep.org/> (Evaluation Office section)
- **Evaluation Tools:**
<https://communities.unep.org/spaces/EOU/pages/64487428/Evaluation+Office+of+UNEP>

Thank you



Evaluation
Office

Contacts:

Janet Wildish, Director (janet.wildish@un.org)

Cecilia Morales, Evaluation Officer (cecilia.morales@un.org)

Evaluation Office of UNEP

Nairobi, Kenya

<https://www.unep.org/about-un-environment/evaluation>