

## Prioritizing gender, marginalized voices and ecologies

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Presented at the, Perth, 17-21 September 2016

### ABSTRACT:

This year marks the start of the SDG era: a global commitment to achieve 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 that are universal, integrated and indivisible and highlight the link between sustainable development and the social, economic and environmental fields. A systemic evaluation guide that integrates gender equality, environments and voices from the margins (the GEMs) is being developed and piloted by the UN Women Independent Evaluation Office, in collaboration with Australian and American researchers and an international advisory group. It builds on existing evaluation practices using a methodology informed by feminist systems thinking, critical systems thinking and intersectionality theory, and involves stakeholders in an effort to locally define, analyze and implement evaluations as a means to contribute to social change and national capacity development within the SDG context. This presentation will provide an overview of the 'GEMs Approach' methodological and theoretical background and of the pilots in which it is currently being tested.