

# ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Evaluation will be complied with rigorous ethical guidelines, which will be applied at all stages of the assessment, including a complete adherence to the UNICEF's guidelines on ethical standards in evaluation, UN Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards and the UNEG ethical guidelines. Data collection and processing will be carried out in full compliance with the following principles:

- Intentionality: consider the usefulness and the need for the evaluation from the beginning.
- Conflict of interests: exercise the commitment to avoid conflicts of interest in all aspects of work, thus maintaining the principles of independence, impartiality, credibility, honesty, integrity, and responsibility.
- Interactions with the participants: appropriate and respectful involvement with the participants in all data collection processes, maintaining the principles of confidentiality and anonymity and their limitations; dignity and diversity; human rights; gender equality; and damage prevention.
- Accountability: ensuring accuracy, integrity, and reliability; inclusion and non-discrimination; transparency; and fair and balanced reports that recognize different perspectives; and
- Finding irregularities: discreetly reporting the discovery of any apparent misconduct to a competent body.

The evaluation will consider the integration of cross-cutting elements – human rights-based approach (HRBA), equity and gender equality-, based on the *Guiding Document Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations* and the *United Nations System Wide Action Plan for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN-SWAP)*. Specifically, the Consultant took the following steps to respect these ethical principles:

- Ensure informed (oral) consent by key informants and beneficiaries.
- Request permission to record audio and / or photographs in all program interactions.
- Respect confidentiality and anonymity.
- Include specific questions to address the issues of equity, gender, and human rights in the design of the Evaluation, definition of the respective indicators and sources in the study matrix and integration of them in the information collection instruments within the scope of the analysis.