



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**



## DFAT Management Response – December 2018

### Independent Mid-Term Evaluation of the Shaping Inclusive Finance Transformations (SHIFT) in ASEAN Program

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) welcomes the Independent Mid-Term Evaluation's (the Evaluation) assessment that the United Nations Capital Development Fund's (UNCDF) Shaping Inclusive Finance Transformations (SHIFT) in ASEAN program is achieving intermediary targets and with some adjustments, will be on track to achieve end of program outcomes.

DFAT supports the Evaluation's recommendations to UNCDF. As a SHIFT Board Member, DFAT takes note of the recommendations flagged for the Board's attention. These include that UNCDF strengthen resource mobilisation; increase the focus on policy/advocacy and learning/capacity building with a continued emphasis on gender and inclusion; improve the effectiveness of SHIFT challenge funds and improve tracking of beneficiary outcomes.

The Evaluation was commissioned by UNCDF and independently conducted by IPE Global and M-CRIL evaluation consultants. The Evaluation included a desktop review of relevant documents and consultations with relevant program staff, partners and beneficiaries including in-country missions to Cambodia and Myanmar. The Evaluation adopted inclusive and gender equality approaches to review the extent of impact on disadvantaged groups, men and women.

DFAT provided input to the Evaluation's terms of reference, inception report, draft and final reports which was incorporated into these products. Key evaluation outputs were also quality assured by an internal DFAT reference group and evaluation experts Clear Horizon. Both found the Evaluation to be of good quality.

