Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled
WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health and rights agency, delivers a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled. By 2030, within the context of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UNFPA aims to:

- **End maternal death**
- **End the unmet need for family planning**
- **End harmful practices and violence against women and girls**

Reproductive & Maternal Health

**Issues**

- A high maternal mortality ratio:
  - 661 deaths per 100,000 live births
- A low percentage of skilled birth attendance: 58.8%

*Source: 2015 UN Estimates & the Afghanistan Demographic Health Survey 2015*

**How we do it**

- Establishment of community-based Family Health Houses (FHHs)
- Training of community midwives
- Integration of FHHs into the Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) for sustainability

**Achievements**

- 121 FHHs established; over 28,000 safe deliveries through trained community-based midwives
- Government has initiated policies for the integration of FHHs into the BPHS
## Reproductive & Maternal Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issues</th>
<th>How we do it</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High prevalence of obstetric fistula: 3% - 2015 DHS</td>
<td>Advocacy and awareness raising at all levels</td>
<td>Fistula repair centers established in Kabul and regional hospitals (Herat and Jalalabad) and to be expanded to Kandahar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstetric fistula is not integrated into the health care service delivery system</td>
<td>Capacity building of medical staff (international standards)</td>
<td>Nine medical team members trained on obstetric fistula treatment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Data collection for decision-making</td>
<td>Fistula repair surgery for 640 patients</td>
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<td>Surgical treatment and reintegration into communities</td>
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</table>

## Family Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>How we do it</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High total fertility rate: 5.3 children per woman</td>
<td>Advocacy with religious leaders, community elders and the population to create demand for family planning services</td>
<td>Religious and community elders adopted a declaration promoting family planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low contraceptive prevalence rate (20%) and high unmet need for family planning (25%)</td>
<td>Capacity building of public and private health service providers</td>
<td>94,000 averted unintended pregnancies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provision of family planning commodities (contraceptives, supplies &amp; equipment)</td>
<td>146 averted maternal deaths</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technical support to the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) and implementing partners</td>
<td>USD 3.1 million in direct health costs saved by the government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gender

Issues

56% of ever married women have suffered from spousal abuse

46% of women suffered from physical abuse; 6% from sexual abuse and 34% from emotional abuse

53% of women have experienced physical violence since age 15

(Source: 2015 AFG Demographic Health Survey)

How we do it

Advocacy and awareness raising; influencing policies to address GBV

Establishment of Family Protection Centers (FPCs) in health facilities

Awareness and capacity building of law enforcement agencies on GBV

Establishment of the GBV information management system (MoPH)

Achievements

Policy to end early child marriage adopted by government

42,116 GBV survivors benefited from GBV services (including law enforcement support) through 25 Family Protection Centers

Investing in Youth

Issues

63.7% of Afghanistan’s population is under the age 25 and 46.1% is below age 15 (Source: CSO. 2014)

Address the youth bulge to avoid long-term instability as well as harness the demographic dividend

Only 6-8% of youth have access to SRHR information and services (Source: ASYR. 2014)

80% of young people believe they are not involved in decision-making (Source: Samuel Hall 2013)

How we do it

Advocacy and awareness raising; influencing policies on youth issues

Policy and strategy development on harnessing the demographic dividend

Establishment of Youth Health Corners and the Youth Health Line

Empowerment of young people as development drivers

Achievements

The National Youth Policy and Strategy, including youth placement component adopted by government; policy brief on the Afghanistan Demographic Dividend developed

About 415,000 young people provided with counselling as well as information and referral services through UNFPA-supported Youth Help Lines

About 20,000 youth provided with adolescent, sexual and reproductive health services through UNFPA-supported Youth Health Corners

Championed youth issues and opportunities to influence policies and resource allocation through the annual mock youth parliaments
### Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Humanitarian Issues</th>
<th>How we do it</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An estimated 6.3 million people in need of humanitarian and protection assistance</td>
<td>Ensure the needs of women in reproductive health are factored into humanitarian response, including border areas</td>
<td>328,628 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and returnees (82,156 of child-bearing age) provided with SRH/GBV services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women make up 51% of the 6.3 million people in need</td>
<td>Ensure government adopts services and policies to support sexual and reproductive health for women in humanitarian plans and responses</td>
<td>458,000 people benefited from 458 emergency reproductive health kits in crisis affected areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerability of women and girls at the Afghanistan borders with Iran and Pakistan</td>
<td></td>
<td>The MISP guideline revised and adopted for the Afghanistan humanitarian context</td>
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</table>

### Population and Data

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<th>How we do it</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lack of up-to-date data</td>
<td>Building the capacity of the National Statistics and Information authority (NSIA) for data generation, management and utilization</td>
<td>Socio-Demographic and Economic Survey conducted; remote sensing completed and data made available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited capacity for data generation</td>
<td>Integration of data and statistics at the central and provincial levels</td>
<td>58 ministries and provinces have functional data corners in place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited capacity for data utilization</td>
<td>Knowledge management of population related issues</td>
<td>Publication of key thematic reports (fertility, nuptiality, disability, education, labour force, migration, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2015 AFG Demographic Health Survey
CALL TO ACTION

Advocate to integrate Family Health Houses into the Basic Package of Health Services, universal health coverage schemes and the citizen charter programme

Complete impact analysis of contraceptive distribution in health facilities to meet the unmet need for family planning

Sustained investment for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation around obstetric fistula

Sustained advocacy on GBV to influence policies and on Family Protection Centers to support GBV victims in 80% of all health facilities

Invest in population projection and its implication on health, education, labour, wealth

Reinforce and expand Youth Health Lines and Youth Health Corners to at least 30 provinces

Support the government to formulate and implement a road map for harnessing the demographic dividend

Invest in emerging cross-border humanitarian sexual and reproductive health services

KEY PARTNERS

- Government
- NGOs
- Civil society
- Communities

DONORS

UNFPA and the Government and people of Afghanistan appreciate the valuable support of the following donors:

- Department for International Development of the United Kingdom (DFID)
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia (DFAT)
- European Union (EU)
- Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
- Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (IADC)
- Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)
- World Food Programme (WFP)

2019 marks 25 years of the Cairo International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and UNFPA turns 50. Join us in Nairobi from 12 to 14 November to celebrate ICPD at 25.

UNFPA invites other donors to join us in reaching those furthest behind, ending the unmet need for family planning, ending maternal death as well as ending violence and harmful practices against women and girls in Afghanistan.