UNAIDS 2022

# United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA)

Unified Budget Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) 2016-2021

Organizational report 2020-2021

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## Key strategies and approaches to integrate HIV into UNFPA's mandate

UNFPA strives for a world in which every pregnancy is wanted, every child-birth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. Approved in 2021, the new UNFPA 2022–2025 Strategic Plan includes key shifts for scaling up the provision of high-quality comprehensive SRH information and services (inclusive of HIV), as part of UHC plans; incorporating the multisectoral needs of women, adolescents and youth along the continuum of care; and addressing structural inequalities, such as discriminatory gender and social norms, that hinder the achievement of the Fund's three transformative results<sup>1</sup>.

Actions will include the scale-up of national interventions for equitable access to essential SRH packages. This includes, among others, comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) and the prevention and treatment of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). The plan also includes actions to identify vulnerable populations experiencing inequities in access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) information and services along the continuum of care. This work feeds into UNFPA's continuing co-convening roles in HIV prevention and SRHR/HIV integration within the UNAIDS Division of Labour.

Since 2021, preparations and consultations have been underway for UNFPA's new strategy on preventing HIV and STIs and improving sexual health.<sup>2</sup> The Strategy frames the organization's work on HIV and other STIs as part of ensuring good sexual health and wellbeing and as a foundation for good reproductive health. It will outline how promotion of sexual health is part of <u>UNFPA's Strategic Plan 2022–2025</u>, how UNFPA's efforts contribute to the <u>Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026</u>, and how it links with other internal and external strategies and initiatives. Using an integrated approach, the Strategy will position this work within <u>UNFPA's comprehensive framework on SRHR</u> across the life course, produced for the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 in 2019.

#### Top achievements on HIV in 2020-2021

Global HIV Prevention Coalition. UNFPA co-convenes the Global HIV Prevention Coalition and the Global Prevention Working Group, which strengthened HIV prevention programming and policy in 28 focus countries and beyond in 2020–2021. The Prevention 2020 Roadmap external review found that the Coalition had restored attention to primary HIV prevention in the global health agenda and in national HIV responses, built consensus on a unifying narrative around five pillars of primary HIV prevention, and intensified focus on subnational locations and populations at highest risk. The external review recommended the continuation and expansion of the Coalition. Along with other lessons learned it also fed into the framing of the development of the 2025 Road Map. Global Prevention Coalition scorecards backed by guidelines and tools helped strengthen national AIDS council leadership and management of multistakeholder prevention programmes. A focus on topics of concern for key populations and young key

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UNFPA primary focus is on three transformative results by 2030: (a) ending preventable maternal deaths; (b) ending unmet need for family planning; and (c) ending gender-based violence and all harmful practices, including FGM and child, early and forced marriage.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See the six UNFPA Accelerators in p.12 of the <u>UNFPA Strategic Plan 2022–25</u>. UNFPA strategies and initiatives include <u>Youth Strategy (My Body, My Life, My World)</u>, <u>Gender Equality Strategy</u>, Maternal and Newborn Strategy, Family Planning Acceleration Strategy - under development; also Global Partnership on Comprehensive Sexuality Education, the <u>Global HIV Prevention Coalition</u> and <u>Education Plus</u>.

populations bolstered the 2021 launch of the key populations community of practice, which increased reach to national AIDS commissions, relevant government ministries, key population organizations and allied NGOs, and focused initially on scaling up combination prevention programmes and addressing structural barriers to key population programmes. It complements the South-South Learning Network.

Out-of-school CSE guidance. In 2020, the UNFPA-led UN international technical and programmatic guidance on out-of-school CSE was published in English, French, Russian and Spanish. Promoted by the Global Partnership Forum on CSE, the guidance has been distributed through multiple channels, including a promotional video, a social media campaign and a brochure. It provides guidance for delivering out-of-school CSE to specific groups of children and young people, recognizing that many children and young people may belong to one or more vulnerable groups. In 2021, UNFPA continued to implement its global programme on CSE in Colombia, Ethiopia, Ghana, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Malawi, reaching out to adolescents and young people who are furthest left behind (those living with HIV, with migrant backgrounds, with disabilities, those who sell sex, and those in detention). In Malawi, the programme supported CSE training for young people living with HIV and young people with disabilities. Consultations took place with UNFPA global, regional and country teams to design and shape a strategy (expected in 2022) to respond to rising opposition to CSE, especially in Africa.

Key UNFPA achievements for adolescent and youth empowerment	t, 2021 (cumulative 2018–2021)
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	Logistics information system 65 countries had a logistics management system reaching the last mile	۲	Marginalized girls 10.6 million marginalized girls reached by life skills programme	In-school sexuality education 57 countries operationalized school- based comprehensive sexuality education curriculum
Ø	Out-of-school youth sexuality education 42 countries delivered out-of-school comprehensive sexuality education		Policy In 91 countries, at least two sectors apart from the health sector, have strategies that integrate SRH of adolescents and youth	Participation 96 countries had institutional mechanisms for the participation of young people in policy dialogue and programming.

Human rights and gender. In 2020, UNFPA published, for the first time, global data on SDG 5.6.1 (the proportion of women aged 15–49 years who make their own, informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care) and 5.6.2 (the number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education).<sup>3</sup> The data are particularly encouraging on HIV: on average, countries have achieved 87% of enabling laws and regulations for HIV counselling and testing services; 91% for HIV treatment and care services; and 96% for HIV confidentiality. Findings also show that increasing levels of education have the greatest effect on women's decision-making on SRHR.

Key UNFPA achievements in gender equality and the empowerment of women, 2021 (cumulative 2018–2021)

۲	3.8 million women and girls subjected to violence accessed essential services	نع	61 000 disabled women and subjected to violence accessed essential services		7.6 million girls received support from UNFPA, prevention and/or protection services and care to child, early and forced marriage
	45% of countries in humanitarian crisis had a functioning inter- agency gender equality-based violence coordination		19 864 communities developed advocacy platforms, with support from UNFPA, to eliminate discriminatory and socio-cultural body under the leadership of UNFPA	<b>İ</b> İ	49 countries have a national mechanism to engage men and boys in advancing gender and reproductive right norms

Condoms and other reproductive health commodities. In 2020–2021, UNFPA programmes and partners supplied almost 1.5 billion condoms (male and female) to lowand middle-income countries, with total procurement cost of US\$ 41.0 million. UNFPA aims to obtain the best price possible of quality-controlled condoms and lubricants, promoting holistic total market approaches. In 2020, the Fund spent over US\$ 19 million to procure and ship 724.6 million male condoms and 5.5 million female condoms. In 2021, UNFPA spent approximately US\$ 22 million to supply over 744 million male and almost 8 million female condoms, 41% of which were donated to countries in eastern and southern Africa. Lubricants shipped to the countries markedly increased from 69.5 million in 2020 to almost 180 million in 2021. In 2021, UNFPA and WHO finalized the specifications for plain lubricants as a fundamental element of SRH programmes. In addition, UNFPA and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2020 began collaborating on the design of a new condom. UNFPA and the UNAIDS Secretariat are partnering in the Global Fund's strategic initiative to boost condom programming in four eastern and southern African countries, with the aim of improving national and subnational condom programming.

#### Key UNFPA achievements in utilizing integrated SRHR services, 2021 (cumulative 2018–2021)



61 countries have a national and reproductive health workplan prioritizing services for marginalized people services



116 million women and young people reached integrated sexual and reproductive health

SRHR integration. Across regions, UNFPA is building co-ownership of integrated SRHR (including HIV and CSE) and gender equality through advocacy, training and innovation. Direct engagement and training of young people for outreach and social media platforms expanded the reach of these efforts in 2020–2021. As an example, Project Bora Saber (Get to Know), a community-based outreach programme promoted by UNFPA in Brazil, assists in locating and linking adolescents and youth from key populations to appropriate information on HIV/STI combination prevention, voluntary HIV testing and health care services for immediate ART and STI treatment. Thirty-four youth community leaders were trained and, in two cities, almost 3,000 people who are vulnerable to HIV were reached with combination prevention and access to testing in the last half of 2021. In eastern and southern Africa, Sweden supported the multi-UN agency 2gether 4 SRHR programme, which aids countries in testing and scaling up models of integrated SRHR

services, including for key populations. It also initiated regional tracking of the impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of SRHR services, highlighting effects such as increased gender-based violence, as well as positive aspects, including implementation of multimonth dispensing. Multi-agency support to the Southern African Development Community resulted in approval of its 2021 SRHR milestone scorecard, which identifies gaps that need to be closed to meet the SDG targets. In partnership with WHO, 194 country SRHR snapshots were completed providing an overview of national data relating SRHR, including HIV.

## Contribution to progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

SRHR is a key delivery platform for HIV and STI prevention and it is vital for reaching human rights, gender equality and health targets in the SDGs. UNFPA, governments, partners and other UN agencies contributed in a variety of ways towards the SDGs (<u>https://www.unfpa.org/sdg</u>)—in particular Goal 3 on health, Goal 4 on education and Goal 5 on gender equality as illustrated in higher-level results in 2020–2021 below.

#### Key UNFPA results in 2020-2021



### HIV in the context of the COVID-19 response

At global and regional levels, UNFPA is part of the coordinated UN response under the Inter-Agency Standing Committee COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan to assist development and humanitarian actors, youth-led organizations and young people themselves across sectors. In alignment with the UN Framework for the Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19, UNFPA organized a number of webinars to enable countries, particularly those from the global South, to share knowledge and experience on how to respond to the pandemic, especially as it related to ensuring continuity of SRH services including HIV prevention. US\$ 37.8 million in personal protective equipment was delivered to 102 countries; 1,409 women's organizations in 70 countries and 1,539 youth organizations in 66 countries were empowered to respond to the COVID 19 pandemic. With support from UNFPA and other partners, 83% of countries included SRHR in their national response plans. In collaboration with UNICEF, the Pan-American Health Organization and the UN Office for South-South Cooperation, UNFPA mobilized experts from different continents to share their scientific knowledge and experience and indicate their expectations of the UN agencies during and post COVID-19 to assist them in combating the virus. This effort has also strengthened knowledge on how to deal with affected health systems.

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