



International Geneva
Directory of Geneva Global Health Actors

United Nations Population Fund | UNFPA

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) works towards the realisation of reproductive health and rights among all people, striving towards a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person can fulfill their potential. The organisation focuses on women and young people, expanding their possibilities to lead a healthy and productive life. Additionally, it focuses on population matters such as demographic patterns, dignity in ageing, migration and urbanisation. UNFPA supports countries in conducting population censuses, aiming to make sure that information is gathered systematically and can provide a sound base for policy decisions. UNFPA is also one of the ten UNAIDS co-sponsors. In 2018, UNFPA launched efforts to end unmet needs for family planning, preventable maternal death and gender-based violence and harmful practices.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Reproductive health and rights
- Safe pregnancy, childbirth and motherhood
- Supporting adolescents and youths
- HIV/AIDS among women and youth in particular
- Promoting gender equality and human rights
- Health-related emergency assistance in humanitarian crises

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The work of UNFPA focuses in particular on the following health topics; family planning and sexual and reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, maternal health and midwifery, and the cure and prevention of obstetric fistula. The organisation advocates for policy change in support of family planning, provides adequate supply of contraceptives and strengthens health systems in order to ensure access to reproductive health and family planning for all women. UNFPA trains midwives and advocates for resource investment in their training in order to achieve its goal of each birth globally being attended by a skilled health worker, as well as provides training, medical equipment and funds for fistula prevention and repair surgeries. In all its operations UNFPA respects cultural and traditional values while also adhering to the human rights standards. Fundamental part of its work is in the area of promoting and improving gender equality, and includes not only empowerment of women and girls, but also working with men and boys to ensure sustainable and coherent impact. Therefore UNFPA addresses many of the social determinants of reproductive and maternal health, paving a way for full achievement of population health globally.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

President of the UNFPA Executive Board is H.E. Mr. Jagdish D. Koonjul and the Executive Director is Dr. Natalia Kanem. The organisation is headquartered in New York, with liaison offices in Addis Ababa, Brussels, Copenhagen, Geneva, Tokyo and Washington D.C. Worldwide, UNFPA has over 2500 staff members. The Director of the office in Geneva is Monica Ferro.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

UNFPA is funded by governments, foundations, private sector and individuals. The funding is divided into core budget, mainly donated by governments, and thematic and earmarked funding, which comes from more varied sources. Contributions amounted to USD 848 million in 2016.

PUBLICATIONS

See: <http://www.unfpa.org/publications>

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