TRANSFORMING LIVES
UNFPA 7th COUNTRY PROGRAMME 2013 - 2018
HIGHLIGHTS
UNFPA operated in the West Province in Ngororero, Rubavu, Karongi, Nyamasheke and Rusizi Districts. We supported District hospitals and health centers to provide Adolescents SRH in the Western Province. In humanitarian response, UNFPA supported Mahama, Mugomba, and Kigeme refugee camps.

UNFPA supported policies and research on reproductive health, family planning, behavior change, gender equality, adolescents and youth empowerment, Humanitarian intervention, data generation and use, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Demographic Dividend, and other population related Census and Surveys.
19%  
Unmet need for family planning

47.5%  
Contraceptive Prevalence Rate

91%  
Deliveries with skilled birth attendance

56.4%  
Women who have experienced physical and/or sexual violence

7.3%  
Adolescent childbearing

210 deaths / 100,000 live births  
Maternal Mortality Ratio

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**Key Results Achieved Together**

- Integration of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in the National curriculum.
- Produced Demographic Dividend used in the National Strategy for Transformation.
- Supported elaboration of Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child, Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) Policy.
- Procurement of 50% of Family Planning commodities in Rwanda.
- Supported institutionalization of Maternal Deaths Surveillance and Response (MDSR) Program.
Developed Strategic Plan for Rwanda Association of Midwives (RAM) for Well-functioning of Maternal Deaths Surveillance and Response (MDSR) Program.

240,000 Unintended pregnancies and 500 maternal deaths averted

UNFPA ensures every birth is safe by supporting quality Emergency Neonatal Obstetric Care (EmNOC) provision, promoting midwifery profession and Maternal Deaths Surveillance and Response (MDSR) Program.

Results at a glance

**MDSR program:**
- Supported the Ministry of Health to establish a well-functioning MDSR system.
- Produced guidelines aligned to the WHO recommendations.
- Capacitated 86 health providers

**Fistula program:**
- Supported screening and repairs in Kibogora and Mugonero Hospitals.
- 164 women screened and 48 diagnosed and treated successfully.

**EmONC:**
- 114 health providers trained and 12 new master trainers trained and validated.
- Supported the Ministry of Health to equip 7 District and provincial hospitals in EmONC equipment.
- Development and revision of EmONC guidelines and training tools.
- Scale up of the community Post Partum Haemorrhage (PPH) program in 5 districts by training 490 Community Health Workers (CHW).

**MIDWIFERY**

**Rwanda Association of Midwives**
- Supported the elaboration of the State of World Midwifery report 2014 and 2017.
- Supported the annual International Day of Midwives celebrations.
- Advocated for the promotion of midwifery profession at all levels.

**Education**
- Supported the University of Rwanda in review and adaptation of midwifery competence based academic curriculum according to International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) standards.
- Supported the program with e-learning tools, midwifery books, didactic materials (anatomical models and mannequin), scale up of the program in all the 8 midwifery schools and 96 midwifery tutors oriented.
- 130 midwifery educators trained on EmONC and respectful maternity care.
- Supported the 2nd International Conference of Nurses and Midwives and campaigns to sensitize high school scholars to enrol in midwifery program.
- Launched the Mobile Learning System and mentorship program to improve in-services midwifery skills in our focus Districts.
IMPROVING FAMILY PLANNING

927,000
Number of women using modern methods

50%
Contraceptives provided by UNFPA

76,000
Number of unsafe abortion averted with modern contraception

233,000
Additional users of modern methods of contraception

Increased access to Sexual & Reproductive Health/Family Planning services: Quantification and procurement of commodities and capacity building of health service providers in provision of the whole range of contraceptives led to increased number of new users.

Results at a glance

Coordination and advocacy
- Coordination of FP2020 efforts: FP round table to improve FP agenda in Rwanda, supported the London summit July 2017 whereby Rwanda renewed their commitments.

Policy development and guidelines
- Supported elaboration of Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) Policy.
- Supported the development of costed ASRH/FP and MNC Strategic plans.
- Reviewed and translated FP training manuals with new medical eligibility criteria.
- Development, procurement and printing of community health workers’ data collection and reporting tools and materials.

Strengthening supply chain management
-Supported the supply chain management of commodities to ensure that there is no stock out all levels. The incidence of no-stock out stood at 92.6% in 2016 against 86% in 2015.

- The contraceptive prevalence rate for modern methods among married women (MCPR) increased from 46% in 2013 to 51% in 2018.

Capacity building
- Health service providers skilled on the quality FP service provision and quality data in 5 Districts (119 Health service providers, 1245 health service providers, 408 health service providers)
- Nurses and midwives from all health facilities of five targeted Districts trained on Post-partum Family Planning counselling and service provision with emphasis on the skills for Long Acting Methods (LAM) especially Post-partum Interuterine Device (IUD).
- 38 medical Doctors were trained and validated to perform Tubal ligation and 22 out of them were validated to perform Vasectomy.
- 60 Data managers and store managers from all 30 District pharmacies trained on supply chain management principles, data quality management and e-LMIS use strengthening.

Awareness raising/service delivery
- Awareness raising through celebration of international days such as World Population day, World Contraception Day, World Vasectomy Day, the launch of State of World Population, and radio episodes through PMC/UMC, urunana, TV and radio talk shows, development and procurement of Behavior Change Communication (BCC) materials and FP campaigns across the country and social marketing.
Results at a Glance

- Contributed to the development and implementation of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) and strengthened national capacity for production and dissemination of quality disaggregated data.
- Provided support for the 2012 Population and Housing Census and production of 17 thematic reports and District profiles.
- Supported the production of the 2014/2015 Demographic and Health Survey and related District profiles.
- Supported Service Delivery Points (SDP) surveys 2014, 2015 and 2016 of which results and recommendations informed on various actions that enhance the non-stock-out of commodities at different levels.
- Coordinated and led the UN work in support for data for development.
- Supported the domestication of SDGs and the Integrated household living conditions survey (EICV 2013/2014).

- Produced the Rwanda Demographic Dividend profile and policy briefs which were used to inform the National Strategy for Transformation and Health Sector Strategic Plan and highlight FP as the national priority to reap Demographic Dividend.
- Supported the Family Planning barriers study that impede the uptake of FP methods of which results will allow the health sector to design and implement tailored FP interventions to increase uptake and reduce unmet needs for FP.
- Supported the strengthening of the civil registration system in Rwanda.
- Supported development of Health Sector Strategic Plan IV (2018 – 2024).
- Contributed to the development of the National Strategy for Transformation and District Development Strategies 2017-2024.
- Supported production of Rwanda Statistical Year Books.
- Supported policy and Laws development (RMNCAH Policy, ASRH policy, National M&E policy, Reproductive Health Law).
Results at a glance

- Increased Capacity of 114 health service providers and 490 community health workers to provide maternal and sexual reproductive health services including family planning, HIV prevention and Sexual Gender Based Violence.

- In addition to supplies of condoms, UNFPA has encouraged awareness through discussions on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health targeting Adolescents and Youth.

- Creation of health clubs that distribute condoms and conduct sensitization on HIV/AIDS and prevention of early pregnancies have greatly contributed to safety of adolescent girls and youths.

HIV epidemic

Ending the AIDS epidemic requires long-term investments. Sexual and reproductive health and rights, indeed all human rights, are essential for realizing this vision. Given their higher risk of HIV infection, youth and key populations require focused support.

HIV prevalence in Rwanda is relatively low at 3% in the general population. As a result of political commitment and well-coordinated response to epidemic, 93% of pregnant women receive ARV for PMTCT and 79% of PLHIVA are receiving ARV.

UNFPA’s approach to HIV is based around three strategies: promoting human rights and reducing inequalities, integrating HIV responses into sexual and reproductive health care and preventing sexual transmission of HIV. UNFPA is supporting the Government of Rwanda in the HIV response, with special focus on youth and key populations.

As a result of this political commitment and conducive environment, Rwanda has registered big achievements in the Health and Education sectors.
SHAPING THE FUTURE OF YOUNG PEOPLE

284,006
Adolescents and youth were reached with ASRH information through youth corners

200,000
Adolescents and youth received sexual and reproductive health services

Integration of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in Primary and Secondary schools

Young people make up the largest proportion of the population in Rwanda. If they can realize their potential, this youth population ‘bulge’ could be an opportunity to advance the country’s social and economic capital. UNFPA is committed to fulfilling the human rights of young people, including access to integrated sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services and information.

Results at a glance
- 3,700 Teachers trained in the delivery of Comprehensive Sexuality Education.
- AfriYAN network was established and currently 20 youth-led organizations are participating in the forum.
- The Innovation Accelerator, a youth program was launched to help the youths develop creative solutions to pressing youth-related SRH issues.
- Supported the development of Mobile for Reproductive Health (M4RH) for youth to access SRH information.
- First Time Young Mothers (FTYM) baseline study conducted and the project was initiated in Rubavu district.
- 15 youth corners established in focused Districts.
- 170 health providers trained and 250 local leaders sensitized on Adolescents, Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH).
- 84 health centers were provided with Information, Education and Communication materials (IEC).

Empowering young people to drive change

The Government’s commitment to advancing the rights of A&Y is reflected in the enactment of human rights instruments including formulation of national policies and strategies that recognize the specific needs and rights of young people, women and girls. This includes the 2011 ASRH&R policy and SP, 2014 School Health Policy and 2008 Girls’ Education Policy.

However, young people still face challenges related to their sexual and reproductive health, including teenage pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections and sexual violence. Young people have limited knowledge of HIV, a few sexually active use condoms and other contraceptives. UNFPA works to make SRH information and services available and accessible to all young people including in humanitarian settings by providing medical equipment, materials and capacity building of health workers.

Through various activities, UNFPA works to increase demand for SRH services among young as well as acceptance of their SRH needs and rights on the community level. UNFPA works to strengthen meaningful engagement of youth in development process at all levels, through capacity building of youth-led organizations and supporting their participation in national and international fora.

Despite these efforts, challenges still exist, including;
- 51% of young women (15-24 years old) used a condom at last sexual intercourse.
- Comprehensive knowledge about HIV is about 60% for both girls and boys 15 - 19 years old.
- 7.3% of adolescent girls (15-19) have begun childbearing.
- Modern Contraceptive Prevalence Rate (mCPR) among sexually active adolescents stands at 33%.
In 2016, UNFPA set up a business accelerator to join the innovation ecosystem and tap into young entrepreneurs’ creativity for advancing SRH.

**Results at a glance**

- UNFPA supported innovative approaches to advance sexual and reproductive health to reach young people. Winners in Rwanda were:
  - “Girl District”, a magazine series focusing on SRH through empowering stories
  - “Tantine” (Aunt), a website and mobile application providing SRH information to disadvantaged adolescents and youth
  - “Umbrella”, a mobile application focusing on antenatal care and birth preparedness, and
  - “Tubiganire” (Can we talk?), a TV show that focuses on communication about sexuality and SRH in families.
- The winners went through an intensive training and mentorship program in 2017 and supported them to further develop their ideas.
- Partnered with key Institutions to develop and launch Mobile for Reproductive Health (M4RH) for youth to access SRH information.

**Solutions for young people, by young people**

The Innovation Accelerator is a youth programme launched by UNFPA in partnership with Imbuto Foundation, funded by UKaid. It provides young entrepreneurs with seed funding, mentorship and training to develop creative solutions to pressing youth-related SRH issues.

Our first accelerator cycle kicked off in December 2016. The challenge was to link young people with information and services on SRH.

**What is an accelerator?**

Accelerators are intensive programmes of mentorship and training to support businesses in the start-up phase. Accelerators end with a public pitch event or ‘demo day’, at which prototypes are presented to potential investors and implementers to facilitate them being scaled-up. The main features were:

- an application process that is open to all yet highly competitive;
- provision of pre-seed investment;
- focus on small teams, not individual founders;
- fixed-term support with training and mentoring.
HEALTH AND DIGNITY IN TIMES OF CRISIS

177,551
Adults (men, women, community leaders) reached with SRH, SGBV, HIV prevention messages during sensitization campaigns conducted.

19,714
Dignity kits given to women and girls, pregnant and nursing mothers in Mahama, and Mugombwa to meet their basic hygiene needs.

71,200
People impacted by humanitarian crises were reached with sexual and reproductive health services.

During conflicts, natural disasters and other emergencies, sexual and reproductive health needs are easily overlooked – yet these needs are often staggering. UNFPA works closely with governments, UN agencies, community-based organizations and other partners to ensure that reproductive health is integrated into emergency responses.

Results at a glance

Humanitarian Response

- 203 health service providers were trained on obstetrics and new born care and family planning services provision.
- 232 Community Health Workers, 110 peer educators, were capacitated on MNCH, ASRH and prevention of HIV/STIs.
- Zero maternal death registered in Mahama camp 2016.
- 3 Youth friendly centres providing ASRH services have been initiated in Mahama camp and 1 in Kigeme camp.
- 164 RH kits delivered, Male and Female condoms 613,040, FP users 3860, safe deliveries 5030.
- 27,551 Women and girls used SRH services, including post-rape treatment.
- 150 community leaders increased their knowledge in FP, ANC and SGBV an are able to empower community to use SRH services.

Emergency in Ngororero District.

- 2 facilities were rehabilitated; Maternity and a facility which host laboratory, consultation offices, family planning and immunization services.
- Medical equipment for maternity were procured and IT equipment.
- 37 and 28 Health providers trained on MISP and EmONC respectively, and 33 data managers.
- Emergency Reproductive Health kits and dignity kits pre-positioned.
- IEC materials procured for demand generation of FP services.

Emergency in Gakenke District.

- UNFPA provided support for 3 health centers of Mataba, Nganzo, and Minazi to ensure safety and dignity of the affected population especially women and adolescent girls.
- 600 dignity Kits to support vulnerable women and girls for Gakenke district were provided.
- Life savings commodities were procured and distributed.
- Maternal Health equipment for Mataba health center were donated.
Ambitious Goals, Ambitious Targets

In the 7th Country Programme 2013 – June 2018, UNFPA Rwanda managed USD 19,232,648 Million to carry out its mission and programs.

UNFPA expanded partnerships with a wide range of traditional and new strategic development partners in the Country. We sincerely thank all our partners that allowed us to advance the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Rwanda. UNFPA is committed to operational excellence in managing its resources through effective planning, monitoring and reporting to increase efficiency and financial accountability.

We look forward to continuous support and partnership to deliver the 8th Country Program 2018 – 2023.

Investments

- Improved capacity for population data production and use: 22%
- Improved capacity for supply of quality RH services: 43%
- Increased availability of HIV services: 10%
- Increased demand for RH services: 22%
- Programme Coordination and Assistance: 3%
Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person’s potential is fulfilled.