

Directory of statistical services of international organisations

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)

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| Brief description of the organisation | UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is an international development agency, created in 1968 to support the execution of projects and programmes in the area of population and sexual and reproductive health. At present, UNFPA has field offices in 140 countries, in addition to Headquarters in New York, 5 regional offices in Bangkok, Bratislava, Cairo, Johannesburg, and Panama, and several sub-regional offices. |
| Mission | <p>The mission of UNFPA is to promote the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect. UNFPA seeks to improve the lives and expand the choices of individuals and couples. Over time, the reproductive choices they make, multiplied across communities and countries, alter population structures and trends.</p> <p>UNFPA helps governments, at their request, to formulate policies and strategies to reduce poverty and support sustainable development. The Fund also assists countries to collect and analyse population data that can help them understand population trends. And it encourages governments to take into account the needs of future generations, as well as those alive today.</p> <p>The close links between sustainable development and sexual and reproductive health and gender equality, the other main areas of UNFPA's work, were affirmed at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, where 179 countries agreed that meeting needs for education and health, including reproductive health, is a prerequisite for long-term sustainable development. They also agreed on a roadmap for progress with the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universal access to reproductive health services by 2015• Universal primary education and closing the gender gap in education by 2015• Reducing maternal mortality by 75 per cent by 2015• Reducing infant mortality• Increasing life expectancy |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing HIV infection rates <p>UNFPA is guided in its work by the Programme of Action adopted at the ICPD. Reaching the goals of the Programme of Action is also essential for achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Consequently, UNFPA brings its special expertise in reproductive health and population issues to the worldwide collaborative effort of meeting the Millennium Development Goals.</p> |
| Field of Statistics | <p>While UNFPA is not directly responsible for the collection of primary statistics, it plays an important role in the technical and financial support to statistical activities in countries, such as population censuses and thematic surveys, particularly in the area of reproductive health (DHS) and, to a lesser extent, household and living conditions surveys. UNFPA also provides support to a number of UN and non-UN organizations active in the field of population statistics and analysis, such as the UN Statistical Division, CELADE/ECLAC, etc. In addition, UNFPA is actively involved in the development and monitoring of indicators in its area of action, particularly with respect to the MDG 5 target on universal access to reproductive health, maternal mortality, gender statistics, etc.</p> |
| Mandate | <p>In collaboration with technical partners, ensure the production and analysis of relevant data and analyses in the areas mandated by the Programme of Action of ICPD, especially basic demographic data on fertility, mortality, and – to a lesser extent – migration, family planning coverage and quality, access to reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, and gender issues, including statistics on violence against women and the disaggregation of relevant socio-economic data by sex.</p> |
| Statistical work programme | <p>Most of the global work on statistics and indicators is concentrated in the Technical Division. One of the important activities of this Division is the tracking of national and international resource flows for the execution of the ICPD Programme of Action. The Technical Division also represents UNFPA in the CCSA and other inter-agency groups, such as the IAEG. The Programme Division is responsible for developing indicators to monitor and evaluate programme execution. Many of the country offices sponsor activities at the national level related to censuses, surveys, and integrated socio-economic and demographic information systems. Finally, UNFPA has a Special Census Initiative for the 2010 Round of Censuses, under the direct responsibility of the Executive Director, that offers technical support to countries and helps in mobilizing resources for census execution. The Human Response Branch bears special responsibility for the support of data collection efforts in crisis and post-crisis situations.</p> |
| Number of staff <i>Total / Statistical division</i> | <p>At present, UNFPA has a staff of about 1900, divided between an international staff of 560 and 1340 national staff members, mostly in its 140 country offices. It should be pointed out, however, that only a relatively small percentage of the staff is directly involved in statistical</p> |

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| | activities. The exact number is hard to quantify due to the decentralized nature of the organization and the multiplicity of staff responsibilities, but it probably does not exceed 200. |
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| Flagship Publications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual State of the World Population Report ▪ Annual Report on Financing the ICPD Programme of Action (short document) ▪ Annual Report on Financial Resource Flows for Population Activities (full report) ▪ Annual Report for the Executive Board ▪ Country Profiles for Population and Reproductive Health: Policy Developments and Indicators ▪ Adding it up: the Benefits of Investing in Sexual and Reproductive Health Care |
| Website | www.unfpa.org |

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