UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled ensuring rights and choices for all.

UNFPA has been operating in India since 1974. The India Country Office collaborates extensively with a range of stakeholders such as the Government (centre, state and local), civil society, private sector, academia, the medical community, media, judiciary, and most importantly, communities.

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UNFPA will focus its efforts in four states of India - Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan. These four states account for:

- 25% of India’s population (332 million people)
- 40% of total maternal deaths
- 22% of young people
- 25% of unmet needs for family planning
- 31% of India’s poorest districts
- 27% of spousal violence faced by women

The 10th country programme envisions an India where every woman and young person, including those from the most vulnerable groups, enjoys gender equality, fully realizes sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, and fully contributes to sustainable development.

The new country programme will galvanize efforts to accelerate the achievement of the three transformative results of UNFPA by 2030:

- Ending preventable maternal deaths
- Ending unmet need for family planning
- Ending gender-based violence and harmful practices
AcCELERATORS

The country programme will scale up efforts and drive accelerated progress towards the three transformative results through the following accelerators:

Promoting human rights-based, gender transformative and evidence-informed approaches to improve access to quality sexual and reproductive health services

Mapping and multiplying partnerships with influential and wide-reaching youth and women-led civil society movements, initiatives and organizations to leave

Strengthening data systems and promoting greater use of data and evidence to design and advocate for impactful policies and programmes

Developing and building ownership of investment cases to strategically shift the focus from funding to financing

Focusing on engaged, adaptable, and dynamic private sector and innovative technology firms

UNFPA is expanding new partnerships with diverse stakeholders:

- parliamentarians, key policymakers
- youth and women-led civil society organizations
- organizations working with and for persons with disabilities
- dynamic private sector and innovative technology firms

UNFPA will reinforce its collaboration with other United Nations organizations to accelerate and scale up interventions to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

PROGRAMME OUTPUTS

UNFPA works closely with the Government of India in order to respond to India’s national priorities articulated by the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog). Key priorities include achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the unfinished agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

The main focus of the programme is to support national efforts in achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, and to promote gender equality.

The 10th country programme aims to achieve four high-level outcomes and six strategic partnerships that enhance gender equality and women’s empowerment.

Output 1

Strengthened health systems to deliver comprehensive rights-based and high-quality sexual and reproductive health services at the national and subnational levels, with a focus on scheduled castes, tribes (SC/ST) and other vulnerable groups

Output 2

Increased skills and opportunities for adolescents and youth, particularly adolescent girls from the populations furthest left behind, to ensure their right to bodily autonomy, leadership and participation

Output 3

Strengthened national and subnational systems and capacities of institutions and communities to address discriminatory norms and harmful practices, and promote gender-responsive and rights-based laws, policies and programmes that enhance gender equality and women’s empowerment

Output 4

Strengthened use of demographic intelligence and disaggregated population data for national and subnational policies, plans and programmes to enable India to harness the demographic dividend, advance the ICPD Programme of Action and achieve the 2030 Agenda

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

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AMBITIONS

By 2027...

- 15,000 maternal deaths averted
- 9.3 million additional users of modern methods of family planning
- 156,000 teenage pregnancies averted

Established active knowledge exchange partnerships between India and other countries through South-South Triangular Cooperation initiatives

- 222,000 child marriages prevented
- 9.8 million less women facing spousal violence

- Reduced number of girls missing at birth by 240,000
- Increased sex ratio from 904 to 919

- Created 4 focus states

- Reduced proportion of women facing spousal violence from 29.3% to 25%

- Increased sex ratio from 904 to 919

- Reduced number of girls missing at birth by 240,000

9TH COUNTRY PROGRAMME EVALUATION

The evaluation of the 9th country programme (CP9), 2018-2022, recognized the pivotal role played by UNFPA in redefining the family planning programme to promote rights and choices for women, addressing gender-based violence and harmful practices, and institutionalizing life skills education for adolescents. The evaluation also noted UNFPA’s strategic role in generating evidence and informing policy discourse on population dynamics and ageing.

Key recommendations from the evaluation included advancing UNFPA’s foothold in advocacy at the national level on the sexual and reproductive health and rights agenda, expanding work in its focus states, and strengthening midwifery in India.

In addition, UNFPA is recommended to retain its particular niche in institutionalizing large-scale programmes for young people and in enhancing access to sexual reproductive health services for them.