



## BACKGROUND

As per Census 2011, 364 million people in India, or almost one-third of the country's population, are young people aged 10-24 years and contributing 34% to the GDP. While economic growth has been unprecedented, levels of inequality and social exclusion remain significant. India ranks 122nd out of 183 countries in the 2021 Global Youth Development Index. There is increasing recognition of the need to invest in the health and development of young people, in order to harness the benefits of this demographic dividend. India's youth face several development challenges, including access to education, gainful employment, gender inequality, child marriage, youth-friendly health services and adolescent pregnancy.

## WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE



Equip adolescents and young people with life skills education to make informed decisions for their lives.



Ensure availability of adolescent and youth-friendly and responsive health and well-being services.



Create a conducive environment for adolescents and young people for adopting healthy behaviour and practices.

## WHAT WE DO

- Provide technical assistance to national and state governments for adolescent health and well-being programs
- Capacity development of key stakeholders
- Generate evidence for advocacy
- Promote and pilot testing of evidence-based practices and innovations
- Support in knowledge management and cross learning

In 2022, 5 million adolescents and youth across four UNFPA priority states (Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha and Delhi) of India were intensively engaged with Life Skills Education enabling them to make informed and responsible decisions about their health, education, and career choices with support from UNFPA.

## HOW DO WE SUPPORT NATIONAL FLAGSHIP PROGRAMMES

### *Ayushman Bharat - School Health and Wellness Programme*

- Lead technical implementing partner for Bihar, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi. UNFPA supported the rollout of the program in 32,216 schools to reach 30,00,000 students by training of 50,025 teachers as Health and Wellness Ambassadors (HWA) across the 5 states of India during 2022.
- Developed job aids, training modules, E-course, and resource packages for key stakeholders for effective implementation of the SHWP curriculum in schools.
- Support organizing national and state level review cum experience sharing workshops.



### *Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (RKSK) National Adolescent Health Programme*



- In 2022 UNFPA reached 2.06 million adolescents with life skills education through trained Peer Educators in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Odisha.
- Development of training resource material, E-course, job aids and communication materials for Peer Educators (PE), Medical Officers and adolescent health counselors and other health functionaries.
- Capacity building and training for key stakeholders such as 35,000 Peer Educators (PE), 1300 Medical Officers and 200 counselors.

# INNOVATIVE PROJECTS TO STRENGTHEN LIFE SKILLS, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



## Implementing Life Skills Education in Madhya Pradesh

- Umang life skills programme is implemented in over 9,200 government secondary and senior secondary schools benefitting over 2 million adolescents across the state.
- Umang Kishor Helpline, a technology based tele-counseling service supplemented with barefoot counselors benefitting 634,000 adolescents along with teachers and parents.
- UNFPA developed the training manual called "Ujjwal" on promoting positive masculinity amongst adolescent boys in school settings.
- Life skills education is implemented among the students of 223 Government Industrial Training Institutes.

## Life Skills for Adolescent Girls in Rajasthan

- Technical Assistance to 316 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) to implement life skills education to reach 20,000 adolescent girls.
- 191 teachers were trained on the life skills curriculum along with this, they were also provided with thematic videos and relevant job aids.
- As part of innovation, five "e-Pankh Centers", an online Demonstration and Learning Sites, have been established in 5 KGBV Schools to promote infotainment, online transactions and online counseling for adolescent girls.



## Adolescence Education Programme in Madrasas in Bihar

- In 2019, Adolescence Education Program integrated in the context of Islamic theology and life skills in over 2000 Madrasas benefitting over 1 million adolescents.
- Capacity building of 3913 madrasa teachers, 1678 principals and 205 field staff on implementing life skills was completed this year.
- Operationalised one State Resource Center, nine Regional Resource Center and forty Madrasa Resource Centers to improve quality of education including life skills education.

## Life Skills Education for Adolescents with Disabilities in Odisha

- Samarthya is life skills education to Adolescents with Disabilities (AWDs) to promote their health, especially Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights, and wellbeing is being implemented in 155 Special Schools through 200 trained teachers benefitting over 8,500 adolescents.
- Development of resource materials and teaching tools for adolescents with Visual Impairment, Hearing and speech impairment, Physical Disabilities and Intellectual Disabilities.
- A Disability Innovation Lab is set up in Jatni, Odisha to offer assistive technology for creative learnings for persons with disabilities.



## Strengthening Agency of Tribal Adolescents in Odisha

- Since 2015, in partnership with the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Research and Training Institute (SCSTRI), Government of Odisha, to implement life skills education across 1,150 Tribal Residential Schools of Odisha benefitting 1,50,000 adolescents.
- 1,479 school principals, 2,477 teachers, 1,962 matrons and 231 ANMs (Auxiliary Nurse Midwives) were virtually trained for providing psychosocial support to students in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.



## Enhancing Life Skills Education of Women Entrepreneurs

In 2022, a pilot project was scaled from 4 states to 28 states in collaboration with USHA Silai School to integrate life skills education with vocational courses benefitting 5500 young women entrepreneurs.

