

COUNTING TO ZERO

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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Acronyms & Abbreviations

ANC	Antenatal Care	RMNCAH	Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health
CIP	Costed Implementation Plan	SDGS	Sustainable Development Goals
CYP	Couple Years of Protection	SE	Sexuality Education
DD	Demographic Dividend	SIF	Strategic Investment Facility
ELA	Empowerment and Livelihood for Adolescents	STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections
EMAP	Engaging Men in Accountable Practice	SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
ESARO	East And South Africa Regional Office	SRHR	Sexual And Reproductive Health and Rights
FC2	Female Condoms	TMA	Total Market Approach
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation	UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
FP	Family Planning	UDHS	Uganda Demographic Health Survey
GBV	Gender Based Violence	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment	UNV	United Nations Volunteer
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	USAID	U.S Agency for International Development
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development	UWOPA	Uganda Women Parliamentarians Association
MAGS	Male Action Groups	VAC	Violence Against Children
NGBVD	National Gender Based Violence Database	VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
PIASCY	Presidential Initiative on AIDS Strategy to Youth	VHTS	Village Health Teams
PLHIV	People Living with HIV		

MESSAGE FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE

UNFPA Uganda Country office is pleased to share with you its 2022 Annual Report 'Counting to Zero.' This report is a snapshot of the achievements of the Country office on the journey to achieving the three transformative results – ending the unmet need for family planning, ending preventable maternal deaths and ending gender-based violence and harmful practices in Uganda.

At UNFPA Uganda, we are currently implementing the 9th Country programme which is aligned to the third Uganda National Development Plan 2020/2021–2024/2025, National Vision 2040, African Union Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021–2025.

In 2022, we are proud to have worked with the government of Uganda, implementing partners and the United Nations system in advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights spanning the development and humanitarian nexus.

With concerted efforts with the government of Uganda, cultural and religious institutions, civil society organizations including youth organizations, and the private sector, we have realized successes with more women having pregnancies by choice and not by chance, more women delivering under skilled care and more young people accessing sexual and reproductive information and services to enable them make healthy and informed choices.



Through these efforts, in 2022, over 500,000 women delivered under skilled care and we procured USD 6,396,816 worth of contraceptives to support the family planning programme in Uganda, providing over 2.8 million Couple Years of Protection (CYPs) through provision of family planning methods.

We continued to work towards ensuring that young people, including those in hard-to-reach communities and those most at risk, are empowered to make informed choices and utilize high-quality, integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services.

These are the small, but steady steps we are taking towards realizing reproductive rights for all and accelerating the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and realizing the 2030 global goals.

These milestones could not have been achieved without the support of our implementing partners on the ground, and the generous financial support from our donors.

As we enter the 3rd year of the implementation of our 9th Country Programme, our commitment to achieving the three transformative results by 2030 remains resolute. In line with the UNFPA new strategic plan (2022–2025), we commit to accelerate our efforts to promote and protect human rights and prioritize the needs of people left furthest behind, especially the most vulnerable women and girls.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mary Otieno', positioned above a thin horizontal line.

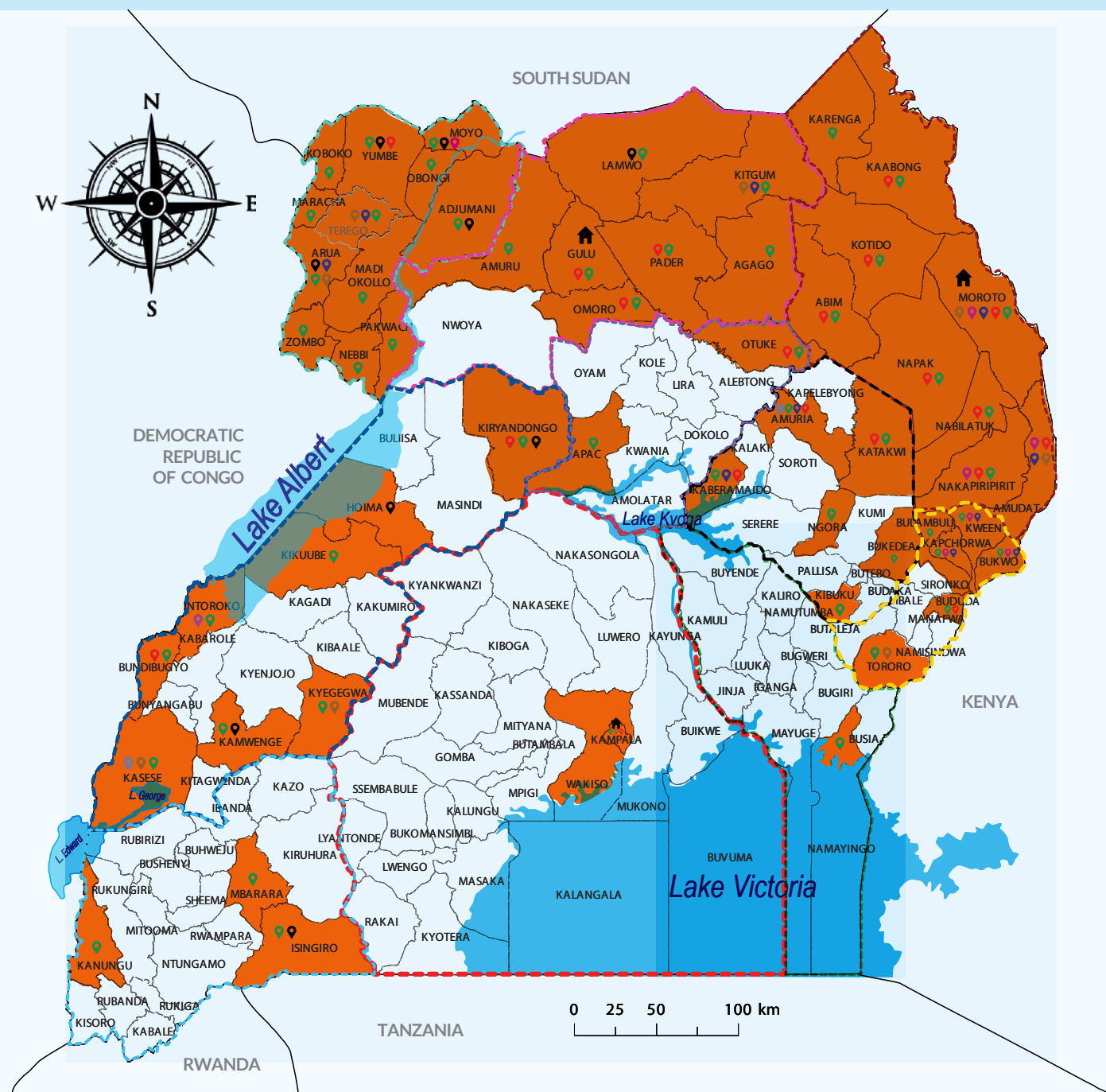
DR. MARY OTIENO
UNFPA UGANDA REPRESENTATIVE.

“

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GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA - UNFPA 9th COUNTRY PROGRAMME 2021 - 2025



KEY

UNFPA Supported Districts

UNFPA Offices

Joint Programme on Gender Based Violence in Uganda (JPGBV)

Integrated Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (ISRHR)

The UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage (GP-ECM)

The UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme to Eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (JP-FGM)

Spotlight Initiative to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), including SGBV and HP, in Uganda (EU-Spotlight)

Refugee Hosting Districts

West Nile
Western
South Western
Central
Lango
Teso
Acholi
Karamoja
Elgon
East Central

UNFPA IN UGANDA

UNFPA's mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

In Uganda, UNFPA is currently implementing its 9th Country programme aligned to the third Uganda National Development Plan 2020/2021–2024/2025, National Vision 2040, African Union Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021–2025.

The overall vision of the programme is to ensure universal access, for women and young people in Uganda to high-quality, integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services, which will support achievement of the three transformative results in UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2018–2021 (end unmet need for family planning, end preventable maternal deaths, end gender-based violence), and the East and Southern Africa regional priority of ending new HIV infections. By 2025, the programme will contribute to reducing the unmet need for family planning in Uganda by 15 percentage points. This will contribute to a reduction in unintended pregnancies and maternal deaths.

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COUNTRY CONTEXT

(UDHS, 2016)



44.2 million

Total population of Uganda in 2022

78%

of the population is below 30 years of age



The average population growth rate is 3 %



The total fertility rate is 5.4 children per woman



51 per cent of women aged 15–19 years have ever experienced physical violence.



One quarter (25%) of women aged 15–19 have begun childbearing.



Three quarters (74%) of births delivered by a skilled provider



1.4 million people living with HIV/AIDS



28% married women and 32% of sexually active unmarried women have an unmet need for family planning.

INTRODUCTION:

Access to quality sexual and reproductive information and services care is a human right! In 2022, UNFPA Uganda continued to accelerate and scale up implementation of high impact interventions, contributing to the UNFPA Strategic Plan 2022–2025 with a focus on accelerating the achievement of the three transformative results of ending preventable maternal deaths, ending unmet need for family planning and ending gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation, early and child marriage and ending new HIV transmissions. This Annual Report is a snapshot of UNFPA Uganda’s 2022 journey towards ending preventable maternal deaths, ending unmet need for family planning and ending gender based violence and other harmful practices.

Progress Towards Zero Preventable Maternal Deaths

To ensure a world where every childbirth is safe. In 2022, UNFPA continued to expand access to and strengthen an integrated people-centered package of sexual and reproductive health rights through a human rights-based approach towards achieving the transformative result of ending preventable maternal deaths by 2030. UNFPA worked to ensure that pregnant women and their babies have a chance of a healthy life.

Through community interventions like pregnancy mapping and SRHR outreaches, pregnant women were mapped and linked to health care, leading to an increase in ANC visits, institutional deliveries and a reduction in institutional maternal deaths.

01



UNFPA also supported strengthening of health systems including training health workers in particular midwives in provision of Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC), and procurement of and delivery of essential medicines and equipment including ambulances.

There was an enhanced focus on improving the maternal health quality of care through capacity building and adoption of continuous quality

improvement (CQI) and Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response (MPSDR) approaches. In 2022, UNFPA also provided programmatic, technical and financial support to strengthen the legal and policy framework for maternal health, by supporting the development of key strategic documents to generate evidence for decision-making for better maternal health outcomes including prevention and management of obstetric fistula.

KEY UNFPA SUPPORTED RESULTS IN 2022



549,425: Women delivered with skilled birth attendance in 53 UNFPA supported districts.



161,234: People reached through integrated SRHR community outreaches in humanitarian settings.



73,431 pregnant women were mapped and linked to skilled health care



155,938: Health facility deliveries recorded in 2022 according to the Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response report (2021/22).



44,514: pregnancies in humanitarian settings mapped and linked to care, including using the pregnancy mapping app



1,797: Women and adolescent girls living with obstetric fistula who received surgical repair in 2022.



1,236 people benefitted from the strengthened referral system in refugee-hosting communities.



70: Number of Midwifery Tutors trained on use of Midwifery Training manuals



Built capacity of 23 hospitals to repair obstetric fistula (trained fistula repair teams)

POLICY DOCUMENTS SUPPORTED:

- The first-ever Nurses and Midwives Scope of Practice.
- The National Obstetric Fistula Strategy (2020/21 – 2024/25)
- The Safe birth and Obstructed labour Prevention Framework.
- The Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance Report (MPDSR) 2021/22
- The Essential Maternal and Newborn Clinical Guidelines (EMNC)

BLOOD IS LIFE

Strengthening blood products management and storage for improved maternal and obstetric care



SUCCESS STORY

Fosca Ayiorwoth, 25, with her baby after benefiting from a blood transfusion at Nebbi Hospital. PHOTO: UNFPA

NEBBI, Uganda – Postpartum hemorrhage is the leading cause of maternal deaths in Uganda. According to hospital statistics, 8 out of 13 maternal deaths that occurred in Nebbi Hospital between July 2020 and June 2021, were due to postpartum hemorrhage and lack of blood for transfusion.

However, ensuring full availability of these supplies is still a challenge, due to several factors. Health workers from Nebbi hospital previously had to make the long journey to Arua (80

kilometers) and Gulu regional referral hospitals (248 kilometers) to access blood products. Given that the two regional hospitals serve several health facilities, stock-out of blood products was frequent until a refrigerator, a freezer and cold boxes to strengthen the capacity of Nebbi Hospital to collect, process and distribute blood as one of the strategies to save mothers' lives was procured by UNFPA with funding from The Kingdom of the Netherlands through the Embassy of the Netherlands in Uganda, Nebbi Hospital now

supplies blood to three health Center IVs of Warr, Pakwach and Madi-Okollo, as well as Nyapea and Angal Hospitals. The Hospital also serves as a referral point for the districts of Zombo, Madi-Okollo, Pakwach and Buliisa. The availability of blood and other products at the hospital has helped improve capacity to provide maternal health services including provision of safe blood transfusion service.

Additionally, blood products management and storage was strengthened with UNFPA's procurement of three additional blood fridges for Maracha HC VI, Warr HCIV, and Pakwach HCIV in the West Nile sub-region. As a result, the met need for blood improved from 34 percent in July 2021 to 87 percent in June 2022, while the health center IVs that provided blood transfusion services increased from 41.8 percent in 2020/21 to 55.4 percent in 2021/22.

The blood bank has also made a tremendous impact on the community; improving service delivery and reducing cases of maternal deaths due to severe anemia and postpartum hemorrhage, said Dr. Jackline Akello, Nebbi Hospital medical superintendent.

"We have not lost a mother due to lack of blood or shortage of blood products since December 2021 when our blood bank was revamped," she says.

Today, one beneficiary, Fosca Ayiorwoth 25, can testify. She gave birth to a bouncing baby girl by cesarean section at St. Luke Hospital, Angal in her local district of Nebbi in northwestern Uganda. Ten days after giving birth, Ayiorwoth said she nearly died from severe bleeding known

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as postpartum hemorrhage (PPH), a condition that can occur within 24 hours to 12 weeks after delivery.

"I was discharged from hospital and went home. But three days later, I started bleeding heavily and was rushed back to the hospital. The doctors then referred me here (Nebbi General Hospital) for blood transfusion," says Ayiorwoth who delivered on June 29 2022.

Initially, Ayiorwoth was transfused with two units of blood and the bleeding stopped briefly, but later continued. She was then rushed to the theater for an emergency operation. The doctors removed her uterus in order to stop the bleeding and save her life. Ayiorwoth was transfused with seven units of blood. But this could not have been possible at this same hospital one year ago due to a shortage of blood products and lack of equipment to collect and store blood.

"I am so grateful the doctors managed to save my life. I thank God that the blood was readily available. Otherwise I could have died," she said from her High Dependency Unit bed.

Progress towards zero unmet need for family planning

A world where every pregnancy is wanted. In 2022, UNFPA Uganda continued to ensure that access to sexual and reproductive health including family planning remained central to the ability of everyone, everywhere to exercise their right to choice, bodily autonomy and agency.

02

UNFPA supported the government of Uganda in procurement of contraceptives to support the family planning programme and improve commodity security; strengthening of the national supply chain management system through the Alternative Distribution Strategy (ADS) mechanism and the roll-out and scale-up of the eLMIS system code. UNFPA also supported programmes to build the capacity of frontline health workers to provide comprehensive rights-based family planning services to respond to sexual and reproductive health needs within the humanitarian context. In 2022, UNFPA contributed to 45 percent of all reproductive health commodities in Uganda.

KEY STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS SUPPORTED:

- The 2nd National Family Planning Costed Implementation Plan 2020/21 – 2024/25 (FP CIP II);
- The National Family Planning Advocacy Strategy and Costed Implementation Plan (2020/21–2024/25)
- The National Total Market Approach (TMA) Strategy 2020–2025 for Sustainable Financing.
- Development of the Country Multi-sectoral Action/Implementation Plan for the Ugandan Government FP2030 Commitments.



KEY UNFPA SUPPORTED RESULTS IN 2022

**USD 6,396,816**

worth of contraceptives procured to support the family planning programme

**3,594,263**

the total number of family planning users by the end of 2022.

**2,818,436**

Couple Years of Protection (CYP) provided.

**1,776,001**

new users of modern contraceptives were reached.

**31,892 young people** (10–24 years) reached with family planning services through outreaches**47,158 young people** (10–24 years) with modern contraception (FP) through VHTs.**Nationally, 738,840 mothers** received postpartum family planning, of these, 279,593 in UNFPA-supported districts.**23,000 PLHIV** received Family Planning services in UNFPA supported districts**25,000,000 million condoms** distributed to hotspots, mapping 7,000 new hotspots during the process.**145 VHTs** oriented on the new digital community health information system through a national Training of Trainers training**620 health workers** mentored on Comprehensive Family planning reaching 2,547 clients with modern contraceptives districts in humanitarian districts.

Expanding choices for family planning

As part of the Uganda FP2030 Commitments, the Government of Uganda committed to annually ring-fence 50 percent of domestic resources allocated for procurement, warehousing and distribution of the reproductive health commodities budget to Family Planning commodities by 2025. To implement the commitments, the Government apportioned 25% of the UGX 22 billion allocated to procurement of Reproductive Health commodities towards procurement of different family planning methods for the financial year 2022/2023.

For UNFPA and partners who have been consistently engaged in the advocacy efforts, this was a significant gain and a positive step as we move to implement the UNFPA Supplies Partnership and the Compact. This commitment is also a boost towards ensuring UNFPA's three transformative results of zero maternal deaths, zero unmet need for family planning and zero gender based violence and other harmful practices are met.



KEEP IT ON, KEEP IT SAFE

Sharing successes in condom programming



In 2022, UNFPA worked with the Ministry of Health and other partners to ensure that condoms are readily available to all those who need them, either free or at an affordable cost. Guided by The Ministry of Health's National strategy and Implementation Plan for Comprehensive Condom Programming 2020–2025. The programming broadly focuses on Stewardship, Supply chain management and commodity security and demand creation.

UNFPA supported the Ministry of Health to develop a condom total Market Approach Vision and Implementation plan to increase the market share of commercial and Social marketing for a sustainable condom market. With support from the Supplies programme and Condom strategic initiative and working together with USAID, UNFPA supported implementation and institutionalization of innovation on condom last mile distribution to the GIS mapped community hotspots. In one and a half years, the initiative distributed 51 million condoms, boosting distribution by 30 percent in 2022.

KEY UNFPA SUPPORTED RESULTS



14, 421,278 people reached with condom awareness and education messages through various channels including Virtual platforms targeting young people.



265,860 Female Condoms distributed beyond the annual target of 60,000.



148,163,323 Male condoms distributed from national warehouses.

Progress towards achieving zero gender based violence and other harmful practices

In 2022, UNFPA continued to work towards achieving zero tolerance to gender based violence and other harmful practices. Through the UN Joint Programmes on Gender Based Violence, Female Genital Mutilation, Child Marriage and The EU-UN Spotlight Initiative to end violence against women and girls, UNFPA supported the government of Uganda to strengthen national, sub national and community capacities to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence and other harmful practices, including female genital mutilation and child marriage and increase access to justice for survivors of sexual and gender based violence.

At the national level UNFPA supported key ministries in the development and implementation of laws, policies and guidelines on elimination of GBV and Harmful Practices and promotion of SRHR, strengthened approaches to transform gender norms towards achieving gender equality and expanding the engagement of cultural and religious leaders, men and boys in promoting gender equality.

03

KEY UNFPA SUPPORTED RESULTS IN 2022



214 communities publicly declared the abandonment of GBV and Harmful practices including child marriage and FGM.



Over 214 school administrators, teachers, District Education Officers and district focal persons empowered in the deeper understanding of Sexuality Education



The cumulative number of young people (10 to 24 years) in school reached with Sexuality Education increased from 4,379 in 2021 to 219, 207 in 2022.



Over 990,222 people reached with gender transformative information through SASA! Social norms change approaches.



142,745 vulnerable girls, at risk of violence or gender-based violence, and their families accessed gender-transformative messages on child and forced marriage through community platforms including the Empowerment and Livelihood for Adolescents (ELA) clubs, women safe spaces, village savings groups and economic empowerment clubs.



42,118 people reached with integrated SRH/HIV/GBV services and information through community mobilization approaches (ELA, MAGS, SASA! EMAP, Women safe spaces, religious and cultural leader's activities).



15,735 GBV/VAC/FGM cases reported through the harmonized NGBVD/SAUTI -116 systems.



2,650 GBV survivors provided with GBV services in humanitarian settings (ERH kits, PEP kits).



Supported increase in disposal rate for SGBV case from 86 percent in 2021 to 88 percent in 2022.



Supported increase in conviction rates of SGBV cases from 63.6 percent in 2021 to 74 percent in 2022.

KEY POLICY DOCUMENTS SUPPORTED:

- The Revised National Policy for Persons with Disabilities (2022) aligned to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and SDGs and other national instruments.
- Two UNFPA- supported districts (Amudat and Kaboong) developed ordinances on GBV prevention and alcohol abuse.

Men combating Gender Based Violence in Karamoja



SUCCESS STORY

MOROTO: Agnes Kuno was so surprised and excited over her husband's new found interest in domestic chores and roles. Kuno expressed that it came with shock at how her previously abusive 22-year-old husband, Tadeo Lokwang suddenly changed his behavior and embraced helping her with household chores.

"All of a sudden, I saw him fetching water, firewood, cooking, washing clothes and cleaning the compound which he never did before," narrates 19-year-old Kuno from her home in Kanakomol village,

Nadunget sub county in Moroto district, north-eastern Uganda. In Karamoja, the social and cultural norms socialize communities that household chores are exclusively reserved for women and a taboo for a man to be seen supporting his wife with household chores.

This sudden behavioural change in Lokwang was as a result of a training dubbed 'Engaging Men in Accountable Practice' or EMAP, an engagement strategy that provides a platform for men and boys to address root causes of violence against women and girls.

Agnes Kuno and her husband Tadeo Lokwang at their home in Kanakomol village in Nadunget sub county in Moroto district. Photo: UNFPA Uganda

The intervention aims at challenging traditionally held notions, encouraging positive male masculinity, which encourages men and women to work together to build families, ending gender-based violence (GBV) and promoting access to Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) services in six selected districts in Karamoja region. Lokwang said that through the EMAP mentoring programme, he appreciated why he should be caring, respectful and non-violent. Knowing that consumption of alcohol triggered him to abuse his wife, he made a decision to stop drinking.

“Before joining the EMAP programme in 2021, I used to wake up in the morning to go to the trading centre to drink alcohol and return back home late to harass my wife about food and even abuse her,” recalls Lokwang. “We are now leaving peacefully. I do share domestic chores with my

wife and make joint decisions together,” he says.

Kumo gladly reaffirms: “That is true. We now do house chores together and there is peace in the home. He has also stopped drinking alcohol and abusing me,” she says. Between 2019–2022, a total of 2,913 beneficiaries from 150 groups have undergone 16 weeks of EMAP sessions and 22,312 men and boys mentored.

“The violence has reduced in our village due to the role we play as male champions to reach out the community with information on GBV, child marriages and teenage pregnancies,” notes Lokwang.

“The men are now helping their spouses in household chores such as; cooking, laundry, fetching firewood, providing for family basic needs like soap and food, as well as embracing family planning unlike before,” he said.



Lokwang, an EMAP Male champion, helps with the laundry at his home. Photo: UNFPA Uganda

Population change and data

In 2022, UNFPA continued to engage the government of Uganda at national and subnational levels to strengthen the population data systems to address inequalities, and advance the commitments of the ICPD Programme of Action and to inform rights-based policies, programmes, and accountability.

The strategic interventions implemented aimed at advocating for the integration of population dynamics in planning and formulation of policies and programmes, including evidence-based investments to harness the demographic dividend and providing technical support for data analytics to better understand and create linkages between sexual reproductive health, harmful practices, including in humanitarian settings.

UNFPA interventions also aimed at providing technical support to strengthen platforms for youth and women's participation in policy, planning, monitoring and accountability, including working with beneficiary-led civil society organizations, to engage in evidence-based advocacy to hold duty bearers accountable for sexual and reproductive rights. Technical support was also provided towards the initial stages of the preparations of the Uganda Population and Housing Census, and the Demographic Health and other population surveys.

04

Supporting generation of data for planning and policy-making

Supporting Uganda's first digital census

In 2022, UNFPA continued to engage the government of Uganda at national and subnational levels to strengthen the population data systems to address inequalities, and advance the commitments of the ICPD Programme of Action to inform rights-based policies, programmes, and accountability. Among them, providing technical support towards the initial stages of the Uganda National Population and Housing Census through the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) to ensure efficient national census planning, implementation, and use of the resulting data. UNFPA CO with support from UNFPA ESARO also provided technical assistance to UBOS to accelerate census mapping including fast tracking of key preparatory activities. By the end of 2022, twenty-eight districts were fully mapped and another thirty-eight, partially completed.

Supporting the UDHS -7

In 2022, UNFPA supported the commencement of the conducting of the Uganda Demographic and Health Survey (UDHS-7) through data collection efforts. The survey findings will be used by policy makers to evaluate the demographic and health status of the Uganda population in order to formulate appropriate population and health policies and programmes. In addition, leveraging from UNHCR, support was provided to the

Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) to conduct data collection in the refugee settlements as part of the UDHS-7, constituting a major step towards full inclusion of refugees in national official data production in Uganda. The Demographic and Health Survey will provide the much-needed data on fertility and family planning, mortality and nutrition and on health service utilization.

KEY UNFPA SUPPORTED RESULTS IN 2022:



GBV/SRH Data System harmonised in 21 districts



88 districts were compliant in terms of entrenching drivers of achieving the demographic dividend in national planning and budgeting processes, up from 63 in 2021.

KEY STRATEGIC POLICY DOCUMENTS SUPPORTED:

- Study on "The Cost of Inaction on Teenage Pregnancy"
- The State of Uganda's Population Report (SUPRE, 2022)
- Budget Analysis of Investments for Demographic Dividend Pillars in Uganda (2020/21 – 2022/23)
- The SDG metadata handbook to guide on reporting and monitoring of the SDGs.



Deputy Speaker of Parliament Hon. Thomas Tayebwa (c), Ambassador of Sweden to Uganda H. E. Maria Hakansson (4th right), State Minister, Mineral Development and Chairperson UWOPA Hon. Sarah Opendi (6th from right) and other members of parliament during the high level dialogue at Parliament on December 7, 2022. PHOTO: UNFPA/ Evelyn Matsamura Kiapi

Strategic partnerships to advance the ICPD agenda

In 2022, UNFPA continued to strengthen strategic partnerships with Parliamentarians, religious and cultural leaders to advance the ICPD agenda. UNFPA supported the Parliamentary Research Department to produce compelling evidence to inform evidence based advocacy, oversight and legislation. This included a study on maternal health and gender based violence conducted during the reporting period, a motion on ending gender based violence as an activity to mark the 16 days of activism was tabled on the floor of parliament to influence action on ending Gender Based Violence. Through the Uganda Women Parliamentarians Association (UWOPA), a high level meeting was organized to advocate for accelerated actions to implement

policies and frameworks to end gender based violence.

KEY RESULTS



Four FGM –practicing districts reached through parliamentary calls to action to end Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Kapchorwa, Kween, Bukwo and Amudat districts.



23 engagements organized at district and national level to roll out the Family Planning advocacy strategy.



170 Parliamentarians oriented on resource allocation to SRHR/GEWE/DD.

Adolescents and young people

In 2022, UNFPA continued to work towards ensuring that every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA worked through implementing partners towards ensuring that young people, including those in hard-to-reach communities and those most at risk, are empowered to make informed choices and utilize high-quality, integrated sexual and reproductive health and rights information and services and are free from child marriage, teenage pregnancy and other harmful practices like female genital mutilation (FGM).

UNFPA also contributed to creating an enabling environment by financially supporting the drafting of policies and frameworks to advance adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

05

KEY RESULTS



1,130 teachers trained on Sexuality Education and PIASCY based curriculum in primary and secondary schools.



224,677 young people in school reached with SRH information according to the PIASCY and SE-Framework).



3 guidelines and policies on SE approved (school health policy, school health operational guidelines, MHM guidelines, SE out-of-school).



23,503 marginalized adolescent girls and boys reached through life skills programmes.



166 youth champions and 502 peer educators (including refugees) trained on SRHR, HIV and GBV.



1,476,505 young people aged 10–24 received SRHR services representing 49.6% of the people served in UNFPA supported districts.



61,131 young people (boys and girls) reached through young people empowerment clubs



29,526 young people accessed protection services with 1,175 received SGBV services while 28,351 accessed GBV related services.



A total of 215 teachers including senior women and men teachers trained on how to use MHM management and reusable pads.



At least **30,390 young girls** were supported with menstrual health management.

KEY STRATEGIC POLICY DOCUMENTS SUPPORTED:

- The National Adolescents Health Policy
- The Draft National Health Policy (NHPIII)
- The National School Health Policy
- Sexuality Education Out-Of-School guidelines
- The National Adolescent Health Strategy and Implementation Plan 2021/22–2025/26.

Moroto Live Your Dream camp inspires change among young people

“I am extremely happy about the Live your Dream Youth camp; It has changed our lives. In our community, my friends and I have used the knowledge we learnt from the camp to kill the stigma about contraceptives. Now I am using a contraceptive method for 12 months,” says Melisa Longes.

In her community, Melisa has become a teenage pregnancy champion. She uses forums like a village saving group, which she initiated, and community gatherings to teach fellow young mothers, adolescent girls and women about contraceptive use as a way of preventing teenage pregnancy.

“With the knowledge I gained from the camp on financial literacy and small business setup, I started a saving group called Young Mother’s Elites in the Northern Division – ” Melisa Longes

At the age of 17, Melisa conceived her first baby, while she was in senior three. In her community, speaking about contraceptives was taboo. In fact, a lot of myths and misconceptions surround contraceptive use to the extent that one would be divorced by her husband if he got to know that she was taking family planning methods.



Melisa Longes, a young mother and beneficiary of the Live Your Dream youth camp.

“Many of us in the community initially knew nothing about contraceptives. Due to cultural practices, girls used to get pregnant as young as 12 and 13 years old, until we started learning about teenage pregnancy and family planning methods through sensitization programmes,” Melisa narrates.

However, Melisa says, the topic of family planning was met with strong opposition from their parents and local leaders who blamed it on the desire by external forces to ‘make young girls and women barren in order to take over their land in the future’. This kind of stigma, she says, made many scared to even think about family planning.

But for Melisa, the doors opened in 2021, when with support from UNFPA, the Uganda Youth and Adolescent Health Forum (UYAHF) organized the first ever sexual and reproductive health youth camp in the region.

During the camp, Melisa recalls learning quite a lot, including topics on contraceptive use, SGBV, preventing HIV and STIs, safe motherhood, personal hygiene, body growth, and seeking government opportunities, among others. She explains that it was at the camp that she discovered the right information about contraceptives.

“The lesson about contraception and family planning was really good. The trainers told us everything and gave us good information on the family planning methods. They explained the different types, how to use them, when and where to get them, and dispelled myths, misconceptions, and stigma surrounding family planning,” she says.

Melisa says many girls in the community later approached her, asking questions about what the camp was about, and she used that as an opportunity to share information and knowledge she had gained throughout the camp. Now, she says, many of the girls have now enrolled in different family planning methods.

“With the knowledge I gained from the camp on financial literacy and small business setup, I started a savings group called Young Mother’s Elites in the Northern Division. We meet every Wednesday to save a little money.”

“We also engage in SRHR sessions like discussions on teenage pregnancy, SGBV, contraceptives, and peaceful resolution of conflicts in our homes,” Melisa said.

Melisa is one of many young beneficiaries of the Live Your Dream Youth Camp, which aims to empower young people, especially adolescent girls and young women, both in and out of school with knowledge and information on their sexual and reproductive health rights so that they are able to speak against the restrictive cultural norms and harmful practices of SGBV, teenage pregnancy, and child marriages in their communities and create urgency for the uptake of family planning methods.

With the support of Brac Uganda and funding from UNFPA, the Uganda Youth and Adolescent Health Forum has carried out three youth camps in Karamoja and one in Yumbe, where they have reached over 600 young people between 2021 and 2022.



Expanding the possible:

INNOVATIONS AT UNFPA UGANDA

In 2022, UNFPA continued to support the leveraging and development of game-changing new technologies and innovations aimed at accelerating achievement of the transformative results in the lives of women, adolescents and young people. UNFPA continued to support the following innovation initiatives:

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Rich Baby, Healthy Family: A behaviorally driven mobile money maternal health savings account platform, to enable pregnant mothers and girls and their partners of reproductive age (15–49 years) to save for maternal health costs.

- **5,972 expectant mothers** and their spouses subscribed to the service
- **5,772 expectant mothers** registered saving for their maternal costs
- **2,159**, have utilized the savings to pay for maternal and other health care services at different health provider facilities.

GetIn Mobile: A mobile app for community health workers and midwives to map (register) and follow up pregnant women to attend antenatal care.

- **6,781 pregnant women** mapped and 1,011 followed up to access services to date.
- **In all the six focus districts** there was an increase in the use of sexual and reproductive health services, among pregnant women, an improvement in attendance of four or more ANC visits during previous pregnancy increased by 20 percent and health facility delivery improved by 15%.

mScan: is a low-cost mobile ultrasound device that scans the risk factors of maternal mortality among pregnant mothers in rural areas aiming at reducing maternal mortality through early detection of complications arising in pregnancy.

- UNFPA supported pilots in six other districts realized a total of **532 pregnant women** scanned, with over **88 complications** detected.

Babykit: A social enterprise producing quality and unique products made out of the locally grown cotton that acts as a baby warmer to reduce newborn (0–3 months) deaths due to hypothermia for mothers living in refugee settlements.

- **Over 200 mothers** have purchased and referred other mothers/parents from different zones within the settlement to purchase the Sifo baby warmers.

EcoSmart Pads: Innovative low and environmentally friendly sanitary pads for women and girls from low income households and in refugee settlements to increase access to and affordability of menstrual health supplies for every female. UNFPA has supported the engagement of Uganda Industrial Research Institute (UIRI) to support Eco Smart to resolve the outstanding challenges of product improvement and machine functionality.

UNFPA Uganda selected for Strategic Investment Facility funding to improve access to maternal healthcare services

In 2022, under the Strategic Investment Facility (SIF) that supports programme countries shift from a development “funding” model to a “financing” model, Uganda CO was among the few countries awarded \$497,250 by HQ to scale up the Rich baby, Healthy Baby innovation in 11 districts over four years (2022–2025).

The proposed project is a mobile money maternal health savings solution, that will empower over 150,000 poor and vulnerable expectant mothers and teenage girls to afford quality and timely maternal healthcare services. In 2023, UNFPA will work with a private sector partner (ClinicPesaUganda Limited) to scale up the mobile money savings service for mothers and teenage girls, covering eleven districts including eight newly created cities in upcountry districts.

The project will address limited financial preparedness by pregnant mothers and teenage girls through promoting savings towards healthy pregnancies and safe child births using a mobile money account platform. With the mobile medical bank, someone is able to save on their mobile phones, with or without internet access so that they are able to use this money at their time of need.

The proposed project is a mobile money maternal health savings solution, that will empower over 150,000 poor and vulnerable expectant mothers and teenage girls to afford quality and timely maternal healthcare services.

The project aims to ensure expectant mothers are able to meet the cost of delivery, transportation to the health care facility, as well as purchase of the birth preparedness kits and also some money for upkeep. About 400 maternal units have participated in this programme and over 1,000 expectant mothers served. In partnership with Clinic Pesa, the project intends to scale up this model to reach 150,000 expectant mothers to bring a wider coverage and reduce maternal mortality.

The Strategic Investment Facility (SIF) is UNFPA’s concerted move to support programme countries shift from a development “funding” model to a “financing” model. The SIF is a mechanism that provides modest amounts of regular resources catalytically, bringing projects to scale by leveraging far greater sums of domestic government resources, IFIs, aligned external financing, in-country donor contributions, and investments from the private sector.

Key donors and resources:

In 2022, the Uganda Country Office mobilized a substantial amount of new resources up to a tune of \$12,350,296 in co-financing resources, exceeding the annual target of USD 5,000,000. This result was achieved through signing new agreements and cost extensions with different donors and other funding sources.

The new resources include:

- **US\$10,201,219** from bilateral donors (Embassy of Denmark, Embassy of Norway, and Austria Development Agency);
- **US\$2,149,077** from the UNFPA Emergency Fund (EF) and Humanitarian Action Thematic Fund (HATF), and the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

UNFPA Uganda recognizes and extends appreciation to the donors and Trust Funds who contributed to the overall resource envelope for UNFPA- Government of Uganda 9th Country Programme in 2022.

Austrian Development Agency
Embassy of Norway
Embassy of the Kingdom of Denmark
Embassy of Japan
Embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands
Embassy of Sweden
EU/UN Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls
Maternal and Newborn Health Thematic Fund
UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM
UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on Child Marriage
UN Joint Programme on GBV

United Nations Population Fund

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