



How we work

The United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA, is a voluntary-funded international organization with a presence in over 150 countries, including Nepal. UNFPA is guided by the 1994 Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the actions and recommendations identified in its 20-year review and she Sustainable Development Goals, – in particular Goal 3 on health, Goal 4 on education and Goal 5 on gender equality.

The work of UNFPA is based on the premise that all human beings are entitled to equal rights and protections. We focus on women and young people because these are groups whose ability to exercise their right to sexual and reproductive health is often compromised. Our work is informed by an understanding of population dynamics, human rights and cultural sensitivity.

Sources: 1 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, Government of Nepal and UNICEF 2014 2 National Population and Housing Census, CBS 2011

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United Nations Population Fund Lalitpur, Nepal

+977 1 5523880 +977 1 5523985 registry-np@unfpa.o

UNFPA Nepal





UNFPA is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

Established in 1971 in Nepal, UNFPA has been working with the Government of Nepal, development partners, parliamentarians, civil society, young people and other stakeholders to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, ensure that no woman dies giving life and enable marginalized, poor and hard-to-reach people to live in dignity and enjoy their human rights.

UNFPA works both at national and at local level through five-year programme cycles under the framework of the UN Development Assistance Framework. Our priorities are aligned with the country's priorities as spelled out by the Government of Nepal in three key interrelated areas: reproductive health, gender equality and reproductive rights and population dynamics.

Delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted

Sexual and Reproductive Health

Few things have a greater impact on the life of a woman than their right to decide freely the number and spacing of her children. Yet, 25% of women (15-49) in Nepal who want to avoid or delay childbearing still lack access or are prevented from using quality services and supplies needed to prevent pregnancy. We respond by:

- Strengthening adolescent-friendly sexual and reproductive health programmes
- Strengthening family planning and safe motherhood programmes, including supply chain management for reproductive health commodities
- Strengthening quality of care of reproductive health morbidities: uterine prolapse, obstetric fistula, cervical cancer
- Promoting comprehensive sexuality education
- Working on humanitarian preparedness and responding to emergencies (Minimum Initial Service Package: sexual and reproductive health in emergencies, sexual and reproductive health/gender-based violence linkages)
- Establishing and strengthening comprehensive sexual and reproductive health training sites
- Supporting midwifery education

every childbirth is safe

Gender Equality

Gender equality is a human right. Women are entitled to live with dignity and with freedom from fear. Still, girls and women face more challenges than their male counterpart in enjoying the same opportunities and rights such as financial independence, education and realizing their personal ambitions. Violence against women and girls is one of the most prevalent human rights violations in Nepal. It undermines the health, dignity, security and autonomy of its victims, yet it remains shrouded in a culture of silence. We respond by:

- Improving the health response to Gender Based Violence by strengthening District Hospitals, One Stop Crisis Management Centers and strengthening the multi-sectoral response to GBV (through psycho-social support, safe houses, referrals to police, legal aid, etc)
- Building the capacity of health workers in the clinical management of Gender Based Violence including management of rape
- Empowering and mobilizing women and young people to eradicate harmful practices such as child marriage
- Contributing to the availability of data on Gender Based Violence including through the Gender Based Violence Information Management System (GRVIMS)
- Mobilizing men and boys, influential leaders and parents to end Gender Based Violence

and every young person's potential is fulfilled

Population Dynamics

Never before have there been so many young people in Nepal. Young people (10-24) constitute 33% of Nepal's population.² Accurate collection and analysis of population data is fundamental for good development planning. Empowering the youth with knowledge and skills can help them make informed decisions, realize their full potential and contribute to economic and social transformation. We respond by:

- Supporting the national census and periodic surveys on Nepal's demographic trends
- Formulating evidence based policies on population and youth issues
- Building national capacity for data analysis and research methodologies
- Localizing Sustainable Development Goals through local-level level planning
- Empowering youth networks to influence local planning and youthfriendly budgeting