



# ANNUAL REPORT 2010



# UNFPA

**OUR MISSION:** UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is an international development agency that promotes 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 and AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.

*UNFPA—because everyone counts.*

## PHOTOS

**Cover:** Midwife with obstetric fistula survivors at hospital in Dili, Timor-Leste. ©VII Photo/Ron Haviv

**Foreword:** Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations. ©UN Photo/Mark Garten

**Contents:** School near Gaza City. ©UNICEF/Giacomo Pirozzi

Woman takes part in a forum on the sidelines of the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Cancùn, Mexico. ©Reuters/Jorge Silva

Women in Turkmenistan. ©Panos Pictures/George Georgiou

**From the Executive Director:** Babatunde Osotimehin. ©UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

**Population and Development:** Kolkata, India. ©UN Photo/Kibae Park

**Reproductive Health and Rights:** Maternal health care for survivors of flood in Pakistan. ©Jameel Ahmed/Walkabout Films

**Gender, Culture and Human Rights:** Self-defense training in Monrovia, Liberia. ©VII Photo/Marcus Bleasdale

**Resources and Management:** Cash-for-work programme in Haiti. ©UN Photo/Sophia Paris

## Foreword



The work of UNFPA is fundamental to our drive to reach the Millennium Development Goals and improve the status of women worldwide. As poverty and other entrenched challenges are exacerbated by threats such as natural disasters, economic shocks and conflicts, this contribution becomes even more indispensable.

This was clearly the case in Haiti during the year covered by this report. The country's development and security challenges were already severe when a powerful earthquake caused widespread devastation in January. As Haitians struggled to recover, UNFPA quickly mobilized to provide emergency support to pregnant women and newborns. The Fund supplied hospitals, mobile clinics and non-governmental relief agencies with safe delivery and reproductive health kits, enabling them to meet the needs of 150,000 women. This critical support saved lives, prevented injuries and helped to restore some measure of normalcy.

The events in Haiti served as a stark reminder of the importance of ensuring that UNFPA has sustained and predictable funding for its work throughout the

world. While progress in reaching the Millennium Development Goals is lagging in key areas, particularly maternal health, we have the necessary knowledge and tools to reverse this trend. That makes this a propitious time for greater investment in UNFPA and its agenda. The Global Strategy on Women and Children's Health launched in September 2010 has generated important momentum, attracting both the engagement of all key stakeholders as well as an impressive \$40 billion in concrete commitments for the next five years.

If we can truly make real the new steps in policy-making, funding and service delivery called for in the Strategy, it will mark a major step forward in protecting the health of vulnerable women and children worldwide.

Progress will do more than help individuals; it will uplift whole societies. Women's well-being can drive economic growth, promote peace and advance development and social justice. Children who are nourished and cared for today can usher in a better future tomorrow. Gender equality is not just a matter for women; it will benefit all people.

By documenting UNFPA's many achievements in 2010, this report should help all those supporting its work to ensure even greater success in the years to come.

Ban Ki-moon  
*Secretary-General of the United Nations*



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## From the Executive Director



In 2010 many of the countries served by UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, continued to make strides toward improving access to reproductive health, empowering women, and taking account of population dynamics in formulating development policies.

In the area of maternal health, the number of women dying from complications during pregnancy and childbirth worldwide decreased 34 per cent over the past two decades.

While this progress is notable, the decline is still less than half of what is needed to achieve Millennium Development Goal 5 to improve maternal health. Greater action is needed to reach the two targets to reduce maternal deaths by 75 per cent from 1990 levels, and achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015.

While significant progress has been made in expanding access to reproductive health services, progress remains uneven across regions and income groups and within countries, where disparities often persist among the wealthiest and poorest women, the best-educated and the least-educated, and among women who live in urban and rural areas.

Young women and adolescents continue to face high risks to their health, and lack access to information and services. As a result, adolescent birth rates remain high, especially in the least-developed countries. And an estimated 215 million women, who want to plan or space their pregnancies, do not have access to modern contraception.

The Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development aims to empower women to make their own reproductive decisions and promote equal rights and opportunities for women and men. UNFPA is committed to supporting countries' efforts to realize these important objectives, and the international donor community has rallied behind us, with a record \$850 million in support of our programmes in 2010.

In December, the General Assembly extended the International Conference on Population and Development's Programme of Action beyond 2014. In accordance with this decision, the General Assembly will convene a special session in 2014 to review progress of the implementation of the Programme of Action and to renew political support. In the words of my predecessor, Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, "the United Nations Member States have again acknowledged the importance of fully implementing the International Conference on Population and Development agenda to improve the lives of people around the world."

Another important highlight of 2010 was UNFPA's development of a second-generation humanitarian strategy to strengthen preparedness, response and recovery, and in that same year, UNFPA responded to emergencies including floods in Pakistan, the earthquake in Haiti, a severe winter in Mongolia, civil unrest in Kyrgyzstan, a volcano eruption in Indonesia and a cyclone in Myanmar. UNFPA support ranged from providing maternal and reproductive health care to the protection of women and girls from gender-based violence.

As UNFPA's new Executive Director, I will build on the organization's accomplishments so that UNFPA will become a more efficient and effective organization. I will strive to improve performance throughout the organization. I will work to further strengthen the human resources at UNFPA so that staff members are highly skilled and motivated, speak with one voice, and share a common vision and unity of purpose.

I will strengthen the capacity of UNFPA to provide strategic, programmatic and technical guidance, transparent and accountable program formulation, and stronger monitoring and evaluation. We will improve critical analysis and research so that all we do is evidence-based to provide better support to countries.

And in 2011, as we approach a world of 7 billion people, UNFPA will further strengthen our vast network of partnerships with governments, women's organizations and youth groups, faith-based institutions, media, parliamentarians and many others, to accelerate efforts in pursuit of our shared objectives.

Babatunde Osotimehin



## POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Drawing on population data to make informed decisions and formulate policies that promote sustainable development, reduce poverty and empower women

**G**ood policymaking requires reliable data about people. Information and knowledge about growth, movement, structure, living conditions and spatial distribution of a country's population are vital for policy formulation, planning and implementation and monitoring and evaluation.

Collecting, analysing, using and disseminating population data are critical to development policies and programmes that make a difference to people's lives. Data can inform and increase the effectiveness of investments in reproductive health, women's and youth empowerment, HIV prevention, sustainable development and poverty reduction. Success in achieving the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development, as well as the Millennium Development Goals, depends in large part on reliable, complete and accurate data. To make people count, you must count people.

In 2010, as in the past 30 years, UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, helped build countries' capacities for data collection and analysis.

## COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

"To be counted is to become visible," United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on World Population Day 2010. "I call on decision makers everywhere to make each and every person count," he said. The Secretary-General added that a census is "the only statistical operation that covers the whole population and all areas of a country."

UNFPA supports countries in the collection of data through censuses, surveys and other means and the development and application of tools to promote data analysis and dissemination.

UNFPA's support for the 2010 global round of population and housing censuses helped meet the demand for quality data essential for measuring progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and for providing an evidence base to guide policymaking towards sustainable development and poverty reduction. UNFPA supported censuses in 76 countries in 2010. Fifty-two

of these countries received UNFPA support through the organization's Special Initiative on Census, which provided technical assistance as well as assistance with advocacy, training, resource mobilization and dissemination of data to planners and civil society. The Special Initiative brings together UNFPA's technical resources at headquarters and at the organization's regional and country offices to support national initiatives. The Special Initiative also ensures that 2010 census data are widely disseminated and used in the formulation of development plans and programmes and in monitoring and evaluation.

Drawing on census data in six African countries with a high incidence of HIV and AIDS, UNFPA in 2010 also assisted in an analysis of the impact of mortality on development, health and education, and on youth and the elderly. In addition, UNFPA provided support to Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Iraq and Sudan in carrying out censuses in humanitarian crises. Census staff in 38 countries received training in census administration and budgeting.

In 2010, UNFPA produced a *Census Planning and Costing Guide* to assist national statistical offices, governments, UNFPA field offices and donor agencies to prepare budgets for carrying out censuses and analyzing data.

Surveys are an important vehicle for collecting demographic and socio-economic data because they provide up-to-date information between censuses. Surveys can provide more information and conceptual clarity than censuses since they can explore issues in finer detail. And unlike censuses, which provide a snapshot of a population at one point in time, surveys can track people over time. UNFPA supported surveys in 20 countries in 2010.

## Highlights

**Armenia**, with support from UNFPA, carried out its first nationwide survey on gender-based violence. The findings will be used to promote changes in attitudes and to develop new Government policies to address the problem.

In **China**, UNFPA advocated the national statistical system's collection of data related to the International Conference on Population and Development's Programme of Action.

UNFPA supported the development of **Ecuador's** population and housing census, carried out by the National Institute of Statistics and Census. The census not only counted people but also yielded data on ethnicity, income, poverty, fertility and consumption. Civil society organizations led a campaign to encourage participation by ethnic groups.

In **Ethiopia**, UNFPA helped the Government increase the capacity of its Central Statistical Authority to collect, process, analyse and disseminate gender-disaggregated data.

In **Iraq**, UNFPA supported capacity development for data collection, analysis and monitoring. The

expertise will enable the Government to carry out censuses.

With support from UNFPA, **Morocco** made a national database on gender-based violence available to the ministries of health, social development and justice, the national security institution and the Gendarmerie Royale, all of which are involved in various aspects of preventing gender-based violence or in assisting survivors.

**Togo** received support from UNFPA for the country's first population and housing census in 29 years.

## POPULATION DYNAMICS AND PUBLIC POLICY

Government policies that promote development and reduce poverty are more likely to succeed if they are guided by or take into account population trends and dynamics, such as the rate of urbanization or

### INDONESIA COUNTS ITSELF

Throughout May 2010, some 700,000 enumerators fanned out across 90,000 villages in 33 provinces to give a more precise figure to the estimate of the country's population.

Data collected in May 2010 are the basis for demographic projections for the next 10 years and will be used as a baseline

variables than the last census, in 2000. For instance, questions about disabilities, energy sources, drinking water, languages and telecommunications access were included this time. The 2010 census was also more "granular," providing data at the level of hamlets, while



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