

# HRP ANNUAL REPORT 2018

WHO Department of Reproductive Health and Research including the UNDP-UNFPA-UNICEF-WHO-World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP)



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Organization



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# 01

## ABOUT US

**HRP has been providing leadership on sexual and reproductive health and rights for over 45 years. Founded in 1972, we have a unique mandate within the United Nations system to lead research and to build research capacity for improving sexual and reproductive health and rights through generating high-quality evidence.**

HRP is based at the World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, within the Department of Reproductive Health and Research. We work collaboratively with partners across the world to shape global thinking on sexual and reproductive health and rights by providing new ideas and insights. We support high-impact research, inform WHO norms and standards, support research capacity-strengthening in low- and middle-income settings, and facilitate the uptake of innovations and new information – including through digital and mobile technologies. An ethical, human-rights-based approach is integrated throughout our work. HRP's vision is the attainment of the highest possible standard of sexual and reproductive health for every single person across the globe. We strive for a world where human rights that enable sexual and reproductive health are safeguarded, and where all people have access to quality and affordable sexual and reproductive health information and services.

## 02

## WHY SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS?

**The importance of universal sexual and reproductive health for sustainable development and for the well-being of individuals, families, communities and countries has been internationally recognized.**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, WHO's Reproductive Health Strategy, and the aims of the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development all reflect a collective vision, which underlines the importance of protecting all people's human rights to access sexual and reproductive health information and services – to ensure physical and mental health as well as economic development.

While great progress has been made, huge challenges remain. Too many women and infants continue to die or suffer health problems from preventable causes.

Better data are key. Accurate service statistics help front-line health workers to provide better care; rigorously collected evidence improves estimates of health conditions; and information from research on interventions informs policy, budgeting and health programming. Without continuing investments in research, as well as in improving the capacity of countries to conduct and use research, it is unlikely that national health systems will be able to effectively implement globally agreed norms and standards of care, or to achieve the goal of universal health coverage.

For over 45 years, HRP has been conducting research with national and international partners to improve

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