



ZAMBIA ANNUAL REPORT | 2022

DELIVERING ON THE
TRANSFORMATIVE RESULTS



CONTENTS

- 02.
Message from the Representative
- 04.
Country Context | UNFPA in Zambia
- 05.
Towards ZERO Unmet Need for Family Planning
- 08.
Towards ZERO Preventable Maternal Deaths
- 11.
Towards ZERO Gender-Based Violence and Harmful Practices
- 14.
Strategic Focus Areas

Message from the Representative



"Through our 9th Country Programme with the Government of Zambia (2023-2027), we reaffirm our commitment to contribute towards the Zambia we envision for women and young people" - Mr. Seth Broekman, UNFPA Representative



Every year, UNFPA recommits its efforts to our core mission of *"delivering a world [and a Zambia] where every pregnancy is intended, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled"*.

With 2 in every 10 women (20%) unable to fulfill their right to decide if, when or how often to have children; 252 mothers in every 100,000 live births dying from preventable causes; 4 in every 10 women (36%) having experienced physical violence; and 28,000 new HIV infections per year; UNFPA remained firmly committed to intensifying efforts and partnerships towards improving health and development outcomes for women and young people in Zambia.

The year 2022 registered key accomplishments in many areas of our work. Critical development outcomes for maternal health and family planning were among key priorities outlined in Zambia's 8th National Development Plan (2022-2026), which is Zambia's medium-term blueprint for sustainable and inclusive national development.

The UN system in Zambia, including UNFPA, committed to sustain its partnership with the Government of Zambia, through the launch of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2023-2027), which presents the collective offer of the UN system to strengthen Zambia's progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

This is UNFPA Zambia's commitment for its new 9th Country Programme of Cooperation with the Government of Zambia (2023-2027), which was also developed and approved in 2022.

Our collective achievements for 2022 with the Government of Zambia and partners are presented in this report, that UNFPA is pleased to share with you.

These milestones could not have been achieved without the contribution of our partners on the ground, as well as the indispensable support of our donors at national, regional and global levels, whose resources are invested in all that we do for women and young people.

As we kick-start the implementation of our 9th Country Programme in 2023, we will continue to prioritize the use of data and evidence, invest in innovative strategies in all our supported programmes, and contribute to building resilience and adaptability amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and other humanitarian challenges, towards achieving the Zambia we envision for women and young people.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Seth Broekman'.

**Mr. Seth Broekman,
UNFPA Representative**

UNFPA in Zambia





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 Zambia, UNFPA is currently implementing its 9th Country Programme of Cooperation with the Government of Zambia (2023-2027).

The Programme is aligned with Zambia's 8th National Development Plan (2022-2026); Zambia's Vision 2030; and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2023 – 2027).

UNFPA's collaboration with the Government of Zambia also advances the ICPD Programme of Action, as well as supports the implementation of African, East and Southern Africa and SADC commitments related to sexual and reproductive health, gender equality, and population and development, amongst other strategic frameworks.

Through the Country Programme, UNFPA will contribute to accelerating the achievement of four main results by 2027:

-  Reduce **unmet need for family planning** from 20% to 15%.
-  Reduce **maternal mortality ratio** from 252 deaths per 100,000 live births to at least 160 per 100,000 live births.
-  Reduce the proportion of women and girls who experience **gender-based violence**, including a reduction in child marriage from 29 per cent to 25 per cent.
-  Reduce the **sexual transmission of HIV**, as a regional priority.





**19.6
Million**

Total population of Zambia (2022).
The average annual population
growth rate is 3.4%. Average
household size is 5



82%

Of the total population is aged
below 35 years



54.4%

Population living below the poverty
line of \$1 per day

Country Context

2 in 10 (20%)

Of married women would like
to use family planning, but
are unable to access it

Sexual and reproductive health remains among
key development priorities for Zambia

8 in 10 (80.4%)

Live births are delivered
by a skilled provider

252

Maternal deaths
per 100,000 live
births

3 in 10 (29%)

Adolescent girls
become pregnant by
age 18 years

36%

Of women experience
physical violence

11.1%

Overall HIV prevalence rate, of
which 14.2% is among females
and 7.5% among males



1 TOWARDS **ZERO** UNMET NEED FOR FAMILY PLANNING



SNAPSHOT

Key UNFPA supported results in 2022

90,000



Additional users of modern contraceptives were reached, bringing the total number of women using a modern method of contraception in Zambia to 1,840,000 as at the end of 2022

690,000



Unintended pregnancies were averted, due to the use of modern methods of contraception. This achievement was 30,000 higher than the 2021 estimate of 660,000

172,000



Unsafe abortions were averted due to the use of modern methods of contraception in Zambia

85%



Of service delivery points reported no stock-out of three or more contraceptives

In 2022, UNFPA continued to partner with the Government of the Republic of Zambia towards ending unmet need for family planning, through the procurement of 68% of the country's reproductive health commodities, funded through the UNFPA Supplies Partnership and bilateral donors.

With significant contribution from UNFPA at national level, an estimated 690,000 unintended pregnancies and 172,000 unsafe abortions were averted due to the use of modern methods of contraception in Zambia.

Through ongoing support supervision visits by UNFPA, 85% of service delivery points reported no stock-out of three or more contraceptives as part of their regular services. This was an increase from 65% in 2021.

UNFPA also contributed to enhanced knowledge and skills among service providers in various districts to deliver a method mix of family planning services, as part of ongoing efforts to increase demand for life saving reproductive health commodities.

To further strengthen sub-national level capacities for the management of reproductive health commodities, UNFPA facilitated data review meetings with targeted health facilities in 4 districts, to enable submission of accurate data through Electronic Logistics Management Information Systems (eLMIS).



Investments in RMNCAH reflect positive results for women and adolescents

Implemented over a period of 5 years from 2017 to 2022, the "Health System's Strengthening Programme for Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) and Social Accountability" has made notable progress towards achieving universal health coverage in Western and Central Provinces of Zambia.

A joint initiative of the Government of Zambia and the United Nations in Zambia, with funding from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the Programme focused on two areas aligned to key national priorities namely:

1. Family planning and adolescent sexual and reproductive health, implemented by UNFPA
2. Mother, child health and nutrition interventions, implemented by UNICEF.

The Programme evaluation highlighted increased utilisation of sexual and reproductive health services among women and adolescent girls through high quality, public sector delivery channels,

as well as improved capacity among health workers to deliver quality and integrated family planning and comprehensive abortion care services.

During the implementation phase, the Programme facilitated the procurement of reproductive health commodities estimated at over US\$ 5,286,373.27, thus contributing to over 60% of public sector commodity needs, and more than 1,990,354 Couple Years of Protection.

Additionally, the Programme was able to enhance the delivery of adolescent friendly sexual and reproductive health services, enabling all the targeted 138 health facilities to provide a standard package of adolescent friendly services that reached an estimated 200,306 adolescents (107,200 girls and 93,106 boys).

The Programme further supported Level II hospitals (provincial hospitals) and Level III hospitals (district hospitals) in 28 Districts with enhanced capacity to deliver Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) services and avert maternal deaths, through the setting up of high dependency units, as well as the procurement of utility/ambulance vehicles, motorbikes, medical equipment and supplies.





2 TOWARDS **ZERO** PREVENTABLE MATERNAL DEATHS



SNAPSHOT

Key UNFPA supported results in 2022

1,000 +



Maternal deaths were averted due to the use of modern methods of contraception, as well as maternal and perinatal death surveillance and response (MPDSR), and emergency obstetric and newborn care (EmONC)

40



Public health facilities are providing integrated SRH/HIV/GBV services in UNFPA supported provinces, representing a 100% increase from 20 health facilities in 2021

137



Women with obstetric fistula underwent successful surgical repair, thus restoring their health and dignity

68



Midwives enrolled in in-service midwifery training with support from UNFPA

In 2022, UNFPA continued to support national actions aimed at safeguarding the rights of women and girls to access quality maternal and newborn health services, as key towards reducing preventable maternal deaths.

Specifically, UNFPA remained committed to partnering with the Government of Zambia and stakeholders in the implementation of the National Health Strategic Plan (2022 - 2026), whose goals include the reduction of maternal mortality from the current 252/100,000 live births to less than 100/100,000 live births by 2026.

During the year, UNFPA supported 180 health facilities in the provision of basic and comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) through the procurement and distribution of EmONC equipment in targeted districts.

At policy level, UNFPA supported the Ministry of Health in the development and dissemination of the investment case for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH-N), developed in response to the need for accelerated actions to meet the targets of the National Health Strategic Plan (2022-2024).

Other specific interventions for the year included the training and onsite mentorship of midwives; the prevention and treatment of obstetric fistula; the undertaking of maternal and perinatal death surveillance and response (MPDSR); and other essential sexual and reproductive health services to ensure “no woman dies giving life”.



STORIES FROM THE FIELD

The ePartograph: an innovative tool to help reduce maternal mortality and morbidity in Zambia

Regular and timely monitoring of maternal and fetal wellbeing during labor is essential to prevent prolonged and obstructed labor, as well as reduce maternal and fetal mortality and morbidity. For over two decades, the paper-based partograph has been used globally as a tool to improve the documentation of intrapartum maternal and fetal measurements, identify abnormalities, and inform appropriate labor management.

However, the routine use of the paper-based partograph in many resource-constrained settings across Zambia remains low and inconsistent, with Partographs often completed retrospectively for recordkeeping purposes only.

To address documented challenges in the use of paper-based Partographs, UNFPA Zambia in collaboration with the UN Clinic in Zambia, is investing in the development of an electronic Partograph (ePartograph), which is a phone-based application used to improve care for women in labor.

The ePartograph is being tested for use in 2023, and designed to mimic the flow of the paper-based Partograph and aims to provide real-time decision support, improve data entry, and increase access to information for appropriate labor management. The application has 3 stages: Registration of patient information; monitoring of the patient in terms of periodic data entry of key health metrics; and assessment of the patient's condition. The third stage uses established rules recommended by WHO on the management of pregnancy and childbirth complications.





3 TOWARDS **ZERO** GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND HARMFUL PRACTICES

SNAPSHOT



Key UNFPA supported results in 2022

7,693


Survivors of GBV (6,778 female; 915 male) accessed an integrated package of services through One Stop Centers for GBV

64


Traditional, community and religious leaders were engaged as champions in promoting zero tolerance towards GBV

34,719


Adolescents affected and at risk of child marriage were reached through life-skills mentorship programmes in target districts

In 2022, UNFPA sustained its support towards increased multi-sectoral capacity to prevent and respond to Gender Based Violence (GBV) and provide post GBV support to survivors in all settings, with a focus on promoting zero tolerance to GBV.

Through the Government of Zambia/United Nations (GRZ-UN) Joint Programme on GBV, UNFPA contributed to the operationalization of the Anti-GBV Act No. 1 of 2011, which provides for the prevention and management of GBV.

At service delivery level, UNFPA's support, implemented through the Young Women's Christian Association of Zambia, contributed to the provision of health, counselling and para-legal services, as well as temporary shelter and linkages to economic empowerment support for survivors of GBV.

At community level, UNFPA's support facilitated the engagement of 64 traditional, community and religious leaders as champions in promoting zero tolerance to GBV in their communities, thus building a social movement of change agents.

Based on a UNFPA led analysis of GBV statistics from selected national data sources, the number of GBV cases per 100,000 population reduced in 7 provinces (Copperbelt, Central, Luapula, Western, Lusaka and North-Western) between 2016 and 2022. This positive change reflects the gains achieved from sustained investments in multi-sectoral responses to GBV in Zambia, including those attributed to the GRZ-UN Joint Programme on GBV.

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Engaging men and boys in the prevention of violence against women and girls

"In my village, I see many girls dropping out of school due to pregnancy or child marriage. We also hear of cases of violence against women and girls every day. I became a community activist to help raise awareness among my fellow men, as well as the entire community, that violence is never a way of life" – says Hansel Siamwiinde, a community activist in Gwembe district of Southern Province.

Hansel is among 30 male community activists in Gwembe district, who use the SASA! (Start, Awareness, Support and Action) model to sensitize and mobilize communities to take action against GBV and other harmful social norms and practices. Using the SASA! approach, Hansel aims to inspire, enable and structure effective community mobilization to prevent violence against women and girls, as well as child marriage and adolescent pregnancy.

The approach is being implemented by the Young Women Christian Association of Zambia (YWCA), as part of the UNFPA supported Gender, Adolescent Pregnancy and Social Norms (GAPS) Programme that is funded by the Government of Sweden.

"In our engagements with community members, we strive to question the negative cultural norms and challenge the attitudes, behaviors and cultural practices that negatively impact women and girls around five villages of Hauma, Lukonde, Kalama, Malobe and Siampande. It is important that issues surrounding gender and social norms are addressed at the grassroots level where power is the root cause of negative cultural practices" says Hansel.

Through the GAPS programme, the male GBV activists reached more than 4,500 community members between July and December 2022, including chiefs, religious leaders and traditional initiators.

"I also encourage my fellow men to become champions for the empowerment of our women and girls" explains Hansel.

IN THE PICTURE: Hansel illustrating how negative cultural norms can impact women and girls health and wellbeing, during a community dialogue session.





4 STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS

Taking Bold Initiatives to Reach Young People

To ensure young peoples' potential is fulfilled, as they transition from childhood to adulthood, UNFPA sustained its partnership with the Government of Zambia, young people and civil society organizations to deliver comprehensive policies and programmes that protect the health, rights and well-being of young people.

Key Results

2022



330

Public health facilities provided adolescent friendly integrated sexual and reproductive health services in UNFPA supported provinces. This was an increase from 221 facilities in 2021



53,822

Adolescents and young people accessed a comprehensive package of sexual and reproductive health services in target districts



228

Schools in target districts effectively implemented age appropriate comprehensive sexuality education, reaching more than 720,000 in and out of school youths



Harnessing Data for Development

In 2022, UNFPA Zambia sustained its support towards strengthening national capacity to generate and utilize statistical data and evidence critical for development planning, implementation and monitoring. Specific milestones for the year included the following:

Key Results

2022



District profiles were generated to highlight key development indicators at the sub-national level to inform targeted interventions



With significant technical and financial support from UNFPA, the Zambia Statistics Agency (ZamStats) successfully undertook the first-ever electronic Population and Housing Census in 2022. This milestone was significant as Census data remains a critical building block for Zambia's social and economic development



Humanitarian Action

To ensure continuity of sexual and reproductive health services amid crisis and in humanitarian settings, UNFPA continued to leverage partnerships to establish and conduct emergency preparedness processes and activities to help mitigate risks in the event of an onset of a crisis.

Key Results

2022



97 Community based volunteers, change champions and peer educators in Mantapala Refugee Settlement increased their skills to provide sexual and reproductive health information



UNFPA conducted a Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) readiness assessment, which contributed to strengthening national capacities implement sexual and reproductive health interventions during humanitarian situations



UNFPA sustained the pre-positioning and distribution of essential relief supplies (dignity and mama kits), as part of its support to humanitarian emergencies occasioned by severe drought and floods, as well as in refugee settlements

UNFPA Zambia extends appreciation to the donors, trust and thematic funds listed below, who contributed to the overall resource envelope for UNFPA's 8th Country Programme with the Government of Zambia (2016-2022).



SWEDEN



AREAS OF COLLABORATION WITH UNFPA

- Midwifery
- Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Sexual and Reproductive Health, Gender Based Violence and HIV Linkages

UNITED KINGDOM



AREAS OF COLLABORATION WITH UNFPA

- Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child, Adolescent Health & Nutrition
- Scaling-up Family Planning
- Ending Child Marriage

IRELAND



AREAS OF COLLABORATION WITH UNFPA

- Ending Gender Based Violence

CANADA



AREAS OF COLLABORATION WITH UNFPA

- Maternal and Neonatal Health
- Adolescent Sexual & Reproductive Health

EUROPEAN UNION



AREAS OF COLLABORATION WITH UNFPA

- Scaling-up Family Planning
- Emergency Obstetric & Neonatal Care
- Maternal Death Surveillance & Response
- Sexual and Reproductive Health, Gender Based Violence and HIV Linkages
- Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health

SWITZERLAND



AREAS OF COLLABORATION WITH UNFPA

- Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Ending Child Marriage

REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEONATAL AND CHILD HEALTH (RMNCH) TRUST FUND



- Supported by Governments of Norway and United Kingdom

THE MATERNAL HEALTH THEMATIC FUND



- Supported by Governments of Sweden, Germany and Luxembourg

UNFPA SUPPLIES



- Supported by Governments of the United Kingdom, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, European Union, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

UNIFIED BUDGET, RESULTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK (UBRAF)



- Co-sponsored by UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, UN Women, ILO, UNESCO, WHO, World Bank

TOP CONTRIBUTORS TO UNFPA (GLOBAL - 2021)



Sweden, Norway, United States of America, The Netherlands, Denmark, Canada, Germany, European Commission, Finland, Australia, Bangladesh, Republic of Korea, Japan, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, France, Democratic Republic of Congo



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