September 2026

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

FACTSHEET

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Its mandate is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

The UNFPA produces key demographic data to assist in the development of policies and programmes for combating poverty. Its efforts are guided by the Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), which reaffirms that sustainable development is not possible without prioritising human rights, including reproductive rights; empowering women and girls; and addressing inequalities as well as the needs, aspirations and rights of individual women and men. The programme of action has been adopted by 179 countries.

Strategic Objectives

In 2018, UNFPA launched efforts to achieve three transformative results by 2030, also known as the three zeros.

1. Ending unmet need for family planning by increasing the availability to contraceptives and dismantle barriers to services.
2. Ending preventable maternal death by strengthening health systems, training and educating health workers and midwives, and improving access to a full range of reproductive health services.
3. Ending gender-based violence and harmful practices by working with policy makers, justice systems and health systems, engaging men and boys and protecting survivors of gender-based violence, including humanitarian crises.

The new strategic plan (2026-2029) has led UNFPA to establish a new outcome focusing on resilient demographics:

4. Adapting to demographic change through evidence and rights-based policies.

Key Results and Challenges

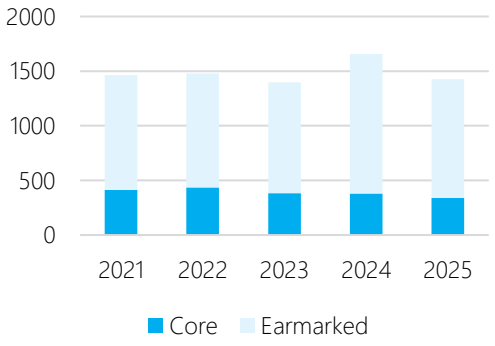
Between 2022 and 2025, UNFPA provided 295 million years of contraceptive protection to individuals and partners, averted 66 million unintended pregnancies, assisted 8.5 million safe deliveries in crisis-affected countries, as well as averted 142 000 maternal deaths. The programs saved 820 000 girls from female genital mutilation and offered treatment to over 50 000 women and girls with obstetric fistula. Eventually 70% of the global population was counted in the 2020 census round.

In 2019, UNFPA established its humanitarian office in Geneva, assuming a distinctive role in advocating for protecting women and girls in humanitarian crises. UNFPA is also a leader in localising humanitarian aid: around 40% of its humanitarian spending are directed to local and national partners.

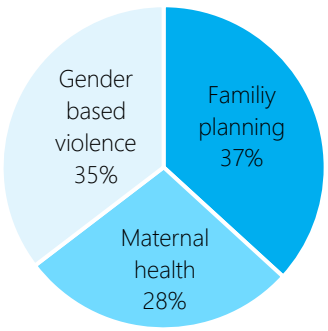
FACTS AND FIGURES

Type of organisation
Specialised agency with double mandate: development and humanitarian
Head of organisation
Diene Keita (Guinea)
Headquarters
New York (USA)
Country offices
150
Total Personnel
approx. 4,000
Established in
1969
Steering
Executive board with rotating membership (Switzerland: board member in 2026-27)

Revenue 2021-2025, in USD million



Expenditure 2025 per thematic area (%), Total: USD 1,231 million





In the Rohingya camp in Cox's Bazar, this young woman longs for safety, dignity and a future of opportunity. @UNFPA Bangladesh/Peter Rozario

Switzerland and UNFPA

Switzerland's strategic priorities

For the period 2026-2029, Switzerland will pursue the following objectives in relation to UNFPA:

- Accelerating universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), ending preventable maternal deaths, eliminate gender-based violence and harmful practices, and (newly) strengthen adaptation to demographic change.
- Improving access to and use of sexual and reproductive health services, particularly in crisis affected contexts.
- Strengthening the institutional effectiveness of UNFPA, with a particular focus on improving financial sustainability and innovation.

These priorities align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 3 (Good Health and Well Being) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and the ICPD Programme of Action. Switzerland also contributes to improving UNFPA's accountability and evaluation structures, and interagency coherence.

Cooperation at country level

Switzerland collaborates with UNFPA to strengthen sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), with a particular focus on women and young people in fragile and conflict-afflicted regions. It contributes to initiatives that improve maternal and child health, prevent gender-based violence, and empower women and girls across Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

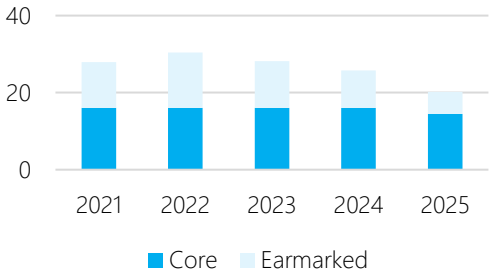
Switzerland works with UNFPA on youth development programmes, census and housing data, humanitarian activities, women and girls' empowerment and health, prevention and response to gender-based violence, and the abandonment of female genital mutilation.

In addition to country-level engagement, Switzerland supports UNFPA's work to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in humanitarian contexts, helping to ensure the protection, safety, and empowerment of women and girls in times of crisis. It also collaborates with UNFPA's Independent Evaluation Office, which strengthens its capacity to support evidence-based decisions and reinforces its accountability.

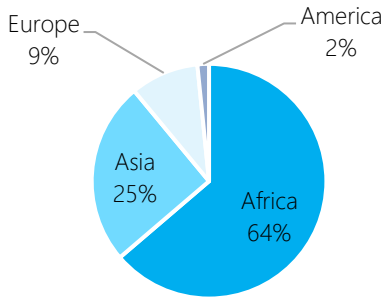
SWITZERLAND and UNFPA

Contributions (2025)
Total: CHF 20.2 million
Core: CHF 14.5 million (8th)
Earmarked: CHF 5.7 million (21th)
Number of Swiss staff
6
Involved Swiss government entities
SDC (UN&MDB), FDHA (FOPH)

Swiss Contributions 2021-2025, in CHF million



Swiss Contributions 2025 per region (%)
Total: CHF 5.3 million



Support to Rohingya Women and Girls

UNFPA programmes in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char Island in Bangladesh stand as examples of the life-saving impacts of humanitarian aid, reaching thousands of women and young people through services funded by Switzerland and other donors. In 2024 alone, over 335,000 people accessed life-saving sexual and reproductive health and rights services in Rohingya camps and host communities, while 535,000 individuals were engaged in community mobilization efforts against gender-based violence.

Contact:
UN & MDB Section
Multilateral Affairs and NGOs Division
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC
Email: sdc.UNO-MDB@eda.admin.ch
Website: https://www.sdc-multilateral.ch