

equality. For this reason, UNFPA seeks to incorporate gender issues into all of its programming. UNFPA's work in the area of gender equality is firmly grounded in international human rights law and guided by major international agreements and instruments, such as the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), in addition to national laws and policies.



## INTEGRATING POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND PLANS

UNFPA's work on population is central to the goals of the international community to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development. Population dynamics, including growth rates, age structure, fertility and mortality, migration and more, influence every aspect of human, social and economic development. Other core areas of UNFPA's work, including reproductive health and women's empowerment, powerfully influence population trends. Governments need to be able to gather information about, track and analyse population trends in order to create and manage sound policies and generate the political will to appropriately address both current and future needs. UNFPA assists countries in every aspect of this, as needed - from developing capacity in data collection and analysis, participating in national, regional and global policy dialogue, to supporting demonstrative programmes for purpose of up-scaling.

### UNFPA Contact Information:

Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean  
52 Knutsford Blvd, Kingston 5, Jamaica.  
Telephone (876) 906 8591

Suriname  
Hereenstraat 17  
Paramaribo, Suriname A.A  
Telephone: (597) 425 148

Trinidad & Tobago  
UN House, 3A Chancery Lane  
Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago  
Telephone: (868) 623 7056

Belize  
4638 Coney drive, Gordon House, 3rd Floor  
Belize City, C.A  
Telephone: (501) 223-1644

Barbados  
UN House, Marine Gardens  
Hastings, Christ Church, Barbados  
Telephone: (246) 467 6135/6137

Guyana  
44 Brickdam  
Stabroek  
Georgetown  
Guyana  
Telephone: (592)-225-4334



Family planning allows women to pursue productive work and enables families to devote more resources to each child, improving family nutrition, education levels and living standards.



For information go to [www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org)

## UNFPA In The Caribbean

## UNFPA : WHO WE ARE

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. It does so by promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality and equity, and supporting the use of population data in the formulation of national policies and programmes.

The UNFPA Sub-Regional Office for the Caribbean serves 22 countries and overseas territories in the English and Dutch-Speaking Caribbean. These include: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and the Turks and Caicos Islands.



### UNFPA AT A GLANCE

The Fund has provided support to the Caribbean since 1969 and remains the largest international source of population assistance

to governments, non-governmental organizations and civil society. Two frameworks guide its efforts: The Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) held in 1994, and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which the international development community committed itself to in the year 2000.

**The Fund provides support to regional governments, non-governmental organizations and civil society to achieve national priorities. Areas of support include:**

- Provide information and services to help couples plan their families
- Provide information and services to prevent, care for, and treat sexually transmitted infections, including HIV
- Provide information, education and counselling, as appropriate, on human sexuality and reproductive health

- Design and support creative policies and programmes that promote the health and inclusion of adolescents and young people
- Promote gender equality and empower women



- Prevent violence against women and take other actions to eliminate gender-based violence
- Facilitate training of health-care professionals and

provide equipment and supplies for ante-natal, safe delivery, and post-natal care

- Raise awareness of women's specific strengths, vulnerabilities and needs in relation to a variety of issues, such as emergencies/natural disasters, climate change and migration
- Promote reproductive health services among under-served populations such as persons with disabilities, youth in especially difficult circumstances and indigenous populations
- Speak up for human rights
- Develop capacity in data collection and analysis to help governments track and analyze population trends in areas such as fertility, mortality, migration and ageing
- Support countries in forecasting, planning and



procuring reproductive health commodities such as contraceptives to ensure that the supply adequately meets demand (reproductive health commodity security)

### SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Everyone has the right to enjoy reproductive health, which is a basis for having healthy children, intimate and equitable relationships and happy families. Reproductive health encompasses key areas of the UNFPA vision – that every child is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect. But reproductive health problems remain the leading cause of ill health and death for women of childbearing age worldwide.



Poor women, especially those living in developing countries, suffer disproportionately from unintended pregnancies, maternal death and disability, sexually transmitted infections including HIV, gender-based violence and other problems related to their reproductive system and

sexual behaviour. Because young people often face barriers in trying to get the information or care they need, adolescent reproductive health is another important focus of UNFPA programming.

The critical importance of reproductive health to development has been acknowledged at the highest level. At the 2005 World Summit, world leaders added universal access to reproductive health as a target in the Millennium Development Goals framework.

### GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Gender equality is, first and foremost, a human rights imperative, which is key to social and economic development. Empowered women are able to claim their



rights and contribute to the health and productivity of whole families and communities and, in so doing, improve the prospects of the next generation. Despite the connection between gender equality and

development, women remain far from achieving parity with men. They still suffer as a result of discrimination, violence and unequal access to education and health services and there is still a gap in data on gender relations for key development indicators. To speed progress in this area, the international community has made gender equality one of the eight Millennium Development Goals. It has been widely acknowledged that success in achieving the other seven goals hinges on the progress made to achieve gender