

MAIN FINDINGS

2014 Assessment: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)¹

CONTEXT

THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND...

...has as its mission to “deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, and every young person’s potential is fulfilled”, guided by the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action adopted in Cairo in 1994 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) established in 2000 at the Millennium Summit.

...gives special attention to sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights in its 2014-2017 Strategic Plan.

...has since the 2010 MOPAN assessment taken a number of initiatives aimed at strengthening the organisation’s mandate and its focus on results, and to improve accountability.

...was also assessed by MOPAN in 2005, 2008 and 2010.

KEY STRENGTHS OF UNFPA

- UNFPA has a **clear and targeted mandate**, and aligns its strategic plan with the guidance and priorities of the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR).
- UNFPA has worked to instil a **results-oriented organisational culture**, including by adopting a robust integrated results framework, theories of change and improved country level monitoring and evaluation.
- UNFPA is **pursuing results that are relevant** to its mandate and aligned with global development trends and priorities, and the needs of beneficiaries.
- The organisation **aligns its country programmes** with government priorities in programming countries, and with the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).
- UNFPA has policies and processes in place for **financial accountability**. It has strengthened its internal audit function and updated its methods for allocating resources.
- UNFPA makes appropriate **use of country systems** and is seen to contribute to mutual assessments of progress with its implementing partners.
- UNFPA is recognised for its valuable role and contributions to **policy dialogue** at the global and country levels. As the leading multilateral agency on population and reproductive health, it is seen to add value both in terms of content and respect for partner views.
- The organisation has appropriate policies to guide its **humanitarian response** and is seen to respect humanitarian principles while delivering assistance.

KEY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT FOR UNFPA

- The policies and systems in place to **manage staff performance** are not yet used to full advantage.
- Further effort could be made in **providing evidence of progress towards the organisation’s stated results at the country level**. UNFPA is in the process of strengthening the availability of data on its contributions to outcomes.
- UNFPA could strengthen its strategies to **identify, mitigate, monitor and report on risks**.
- Procedures could be improved to **respond to partners and to changing circumstances** in a more timely manner at the country level.

1. This document presents the main findings from MOPAN’s 2014 “Synthesis Report” of the UNFPA assessment. The full assessment with technical annexes and the organisation’s management response are available at: www.mopanonline.org