FRIENDS OF UNFPA

2015 Annual Report

For the health and dignity of women and girls everywhere

Photo: UNFPA/Sawiche Wamunza

Our Mission

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, is delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person's potential is fulfilled. Friends of UNFPA is a non-profit organization that advances this global effort by mobilizing funds and actions for UNFPA's lifesaving work.

Photo: UNFPA/David Brunetti

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For all other inquiries, contact us at 646.649.9100 or at Donations@FriendsofUNFPA.org

Thank You to Our Supporters

Dear Friends,

2015 marked the end of one era and the beginning of another. The United Nations Millennium Development Goals formed the foundation for the most successful anti-poverty effort in history. Their successor, the Sustainable Development Goals, form an agenda for the way forward, an agenda that seeks to leave no one behind. To meet these goals it will be necessary to ensure that women and girls are healthy; that they are able to exercise their human rights; and that they enjoy equal opportunities.

We witnessed incredible progress thanks to the Millennium Development Goals and the great work that preceded them. Maternal deaths dropped by 44 percent since 1990. The number of births attended by skilled health personnel increased from 59 percent in 1990 to 71 percent in 2014. The proportion of young women who married before age 15 declined from 12 percent in the 1980's to 8 percent in 2014.

Without the work of UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, this progress would not have been possible. Around the world, UNFPA trains midwives, supports emergency obstetric and newborn care facilities, and provides family planning services. From the remote mountains of Nepal to the conflict zones inside Syria, UNFPA works with local health systems to make sure expectant mothers receive the care they need.

However, despite all of this progress and tremendous work, it is clear that more needs to be done – and with urgency. Over 830 women die every day from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. An estimated 225 million women who want to avoid a pregnancy are not using an effective contraceptive method – because of difficulties regarding access and myths and misunderstandings regarding their use. These figures, and the tragedies they represent, are unacceptable. In this new era we can and must do better.

Inside you will read how UNFPA pursued equitable and sustainable progress in 2015 and how Friends of UNFPA supported that work by promoting the health, rights, and dignity of women and girls everywhere.

None of those achievements would have been possible without generous contributions from our supporters. Thanks to your commitment, Friends of UNFPA has been able to help increase UNFPA's reach and affect greater change for women and girls around the world. As achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will not be possible without the lifesaving work of UNFPA, the full scope of UNFPA's work would not and will not be possible without the help of its champions.

We believe you will find this report as inspiring as we do. We deeply appreciate and thank you for your continued partnership with Friends of UNFPA in ensuring the health and dignity of women and girls everywhere.

Sincerely,

Melissa A. Kuklin
Executive Director
Friends of UNFPA

Minh Ngo
Chair of the Board
Friends of UNFPA

Friends of UNFPA: Mobilizing Resources and Action for UNFPA's Lifesaving Work

Friends of UNFPA works to promote the health, rights, and dignity of women and girls everywhere by mobilizing resources and action for UNFPA's work. Through support from individuals like you – our donors, advocates and partners – we bring hope to women, families, and communities around the world. Here are some of the successes from 2015 made possible with your support.

Friends of UNFPA raised funds for UNFPA's core activities including family planning and maternal health. In particular, Friends of UNFPA, working with corporate partner Johnson & Johnson, continued to help UNFPA and WHO, the World Health Organization, improve maternal and newborn health by developing training and educating health care workforces in Tanzania and Ethiopia, respectively.

Friends of UNFPA also supported UNFPA's humanitarian efforts. The Ebola Virus outbreak in West Africa began in 2014 and continued to devastate the region in 2015, threatening to roll back progress made in reducing maternal deaths in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Friends of UNFPA utilized the crowd-funding platform GlobalGiving in order to reach a wider audience to raise support for UNFPA programs that trained and deployed midwives, distributed clean delivery kits, and increased access to family planning in West Africa. Generous funding from corporate partner Google Inc. also helped to re-establish maternal health services in Liberia, one of the countries hardest hit by the outbreak.

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal in April of 2015. Another devastating earthquake struck only days later. Thousands died and millions were affected. Hospitals were overwhelmed and supplies were depleted. Two million women and girls of reproductive age were among those affected. Immediately following the earthquakes, Friends of UNFPA began mobilizing resources for UNFPA's humanitarian relief operations that addressed the reproductive health needs of women and girls. UNFPA distributed supplies and personnel to rebuild the country's health system. In the months after the earthquake, UNFPA-supported Female Friendly Spaces (FFSs) provided safe shelter for victims of gender-based violence.

Also in 2015, an unprecedented number of conflicts in places such as Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Eritrea, Nigeria, and Somalia continued to displace the largest number of people since World War II. Scores of people, including women and girls of childbearing age, traveled and continue to travel throughout Eastern Europe in order to reach destinations where they can rebuild their lives. Friends of UNFPA raised funds contributing to UNFPA's work providing these refugees with the reproductive health services and supplies they need. By deploying mobile health clinics and by distributing contraceptive supplies throughout routes traveled by refugees, UNFPA worked to reduce unintended pregnancies and maternal deaths.

"In too many places around the world, women and girls are more vulnerable to poverty, lack of opportunity, education, and do not have access to reproductive health services. I have had the opportunity to see firsthand how UNFPA contributes directly to strengthening health systems, preventing unwanted pregnancies, ensuring safe births, advocating against child marriage and gender-based violence, and performing life-changing procedures for women who suffer from obstetric fistula. It is amazing to me how an organization like UNFPA connects and works hand-in-hand with grassroots organizations on the ground wherever the need exists. I am a donor and a member of Friends of UNFPA's Board of Directors because I have witnessed UNFPA's impact on the ground and am dedicated to catalyzing more support for this lifesaving work."

– Connie J. Smith, CA

2015 Highlights

In 2015, UNFPA helped 18 million women gain access to modern contraceptives and reproductive health services.

In 2015 with UNFPA support, 13,404 women had surgery to treat obstetric fistulas.

In 2015 UNFPA helped protect the health and rights of 5.1 million people in 43 crisis-affected countries, including Iraq, Nepal, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen.

In 2015, UNFPA reached thousands of young people with information about human rights, sexual and reproductive health, and the consequences of child marriage and adolescent pregnancy.

Photo: UNFPA, Priscilla Mora

"We are donors to Friends of UNFPA because of the profound impact UNFPA makes in promoting the well-being of women and girls the world over. Too often, girls are forcibly pushed into adulthood and women are abused and disempowered. Through advocacy, education, and direct assistance with expertise and resources, UNFPA makes sure that girls are given the opportunity to grow into healthy, empowered, and secure women, and that women have control over their lives and their bodies. We believe that work like this provides the greatest opportunity to promote human well-being and unlock human potential, and as the sole supporting organization for UNFPA, Friends of UNFPA allows us to ensure this work continues."

– Jacob & Martine Hyde Onufrychuk, NY

Reproductive Health and Family Planning: By Choice, Not By Chance

Sexual and reproductive health are the foundation for a fulfilling life. When an individual is empowered to make informed decisions they can reach their full potential and be contributing members of their communities, countries, and the world. When expectant mothers are healthy and receive the care they need, including prenatal care and safe delivery, their families are stronger, their children have healthier, richer lives and their communities thrive. At the foundation of sexual and reproductive health and rights is a women's ability to determine, on her own, if and when she will have children.

Family planning is a human right and is central to gender equality. Thanks to UNFPA's work, there were 23.3 million users of modern family planning methods in 2015.

When women decide to become pregnant, they should be able to deliver safely. In spite of recent gains, an average of 830 women die every day from causes related to pregnancy or childbirth. Making motherhood safer is a human rights imperative and it is at the core of UNFPA's mandate. In 2015, UNFPA supported tens of thousands of prenatal care visits and safe deliveries. UNFPA also continued to provide midwives with training and education. More midwives now have the skills to manage normal deliveries and can recognize the onset of complications so women can be referred for facility-based deliveries.

For every woman who dies, 20 or 30 women encounter complications with serious or long-lasting consequences. One of the most devastating childbirth injuries is an obstetric fistula, a tear between the birth canal and bladder or rectum caused by prolonged, obstructed labor. Obstetric fistula leaves women leaking urine, feces, or both, and often leads to chronic medical problems, depression, social isolation, and deepening poverty. Through the Campaign to End Fistula, UNFPA provides medical supplies, training and funds for fistula prevention, treatment and social reintegration programs. In 2015, UNFPA supported more than 13,000 fistula repairs.

2015 Highlights

- UNFPA provides global leadership in increasing access to voluntary family planning by convening partners to develop evidence and policies and by offering programmatic, technical, and financial assistance to developing countries.
- In 2015, UNFPA procured and supplied nearly 700 million male condoms and 14.7 million female condoms.
- Contraceptives provided by UNFPA in 2015 are estimated to have saved $710 million in direct health care costs to families and health systems.
- The contraceptives provided in 2015 had estimated potential to avert:
  - 34,000 maternal deaths;
  - 12.3 million unintended pregnancies;
  - 4.4 million abortions (including 3.9 million unsafe ones); and
  - 220,000 child deaths.
- As of 2015, thanks in part to UNFPA's work, there were 73 countries with national comprehensive sexuality education curricula aligned with international standards.

Youth Empowerment: Securing Young People's Place at the Center of Development

With roughly 1.8 billion people between the ages 10 and 24, never before have there been so many young people in the world. However, too many young people are unable to participate fully in society and are prevented from making informed and empowered decisions. Astounding levels of unemployment and illiteracy mean much of the world's youth population may be left out of global development progress. Too many young people face barriers to reproductive health information and care. For young girls, the barriers to full participation in society are even higher than for their male peers.

One of the largest barriers for girls is child marriage. Being forced into marriage at a young age drastically limits a girl's future prospects and puts her health greatly at risk. Girls who are married off young often become pregnant while still adolescents, increasing their chances of experiencing complications in pregnancy or childbirth.

UNFPA programs around the world in 2015 aimed to protect the health and rights of adolescents to ensure a safe and healthy transition to adulthood. UNFPA also continued to partner with young people, helping them participate in decisions affecting their lives. In Zambia, for example, UNFPA data-mapping supported the government's development of a national strategy to end child marriage. UNFPA's maps showed where child marriage is most prevalent and linked the practice to key socio-economic factors, such as poverty.

As a result of child marriage and multiple other factors, 7.3 million girls under 18 give birth each year. UNFPA works with partners around the world to empower girls, reducing adolescent pregnancy and advocating for girls who become pregnant so they can return to school and reach their full potential.

Photo: UNFPA/Micka Perier

2015 Highlights

- Nearly nine of ten young people in the world today live in less developed countries, where the highest barriers to their development exist.
- In developing countries, one in every three girls is married before reaching age 18. One in nine is married under age 15.
- As of 2015, 89 countries had laws and policies in place to enable adolescents, regardless of marital status, to access sexual and reproductive health services.
- In East and Southern Africa, through the Safeguard Young People Program, UNFPA reached about 1.7 million young people with comprehensive reproductive health and sexuality education and distributed 7.5 million condoms.
- In Nigeria, 275 women and girls who were rescued from Boko Haram in 2015 received psychological, medical and trauma care at safe spaces established with UNFPA support.

Humanitarian Action: Dignity, Safety and Health for All Women and Girls in All Circumstances

UNFPA stands for the dignity, safety and health for all women and girls in all circumstances. Nowhere and at no other time is UNFPA's leadership more important than in the aftermath of humanitarian crises. Sexual and reproductive health needs are easily overlooked and take a back seat to other urgent needs, like food and shelter. Yet, reproductive health needs in disaster settings are staggering.

During and after a crisis, one in five women of childbearing age is likely to be pregnant. Because the delivery of health services has been disrupted by natural disaster or conflict, these women face an increased risk of life-threatening complications.

UNFPA works closely with local governments, UN agencies, community organizations, and many others to ensure that the reproductive health of women and girls is sustained during emergency responses. UNFPA delivers hygiene supplies, obstetric and family planning services, and deploys trained personnel and support.

In 2015, UNFPA helped protect the health and rights of 5.1 million people in 43 crisis-affected countries, including Iraq, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. In response to conflicts in every region, UNFPA provided 7,769 reproductive health kits that included life-saving medicines, supplies, and equipment needed for emergency obstetric care. Additionally, UNFPA supported 119 hospitals, health centers and mobile clinics as well as 148 safe spaces for women and young people in response to the Syria crisis. In any humanitarian situation, these services are crucial in protecting the health and rights of the most vulnerable women and young people.

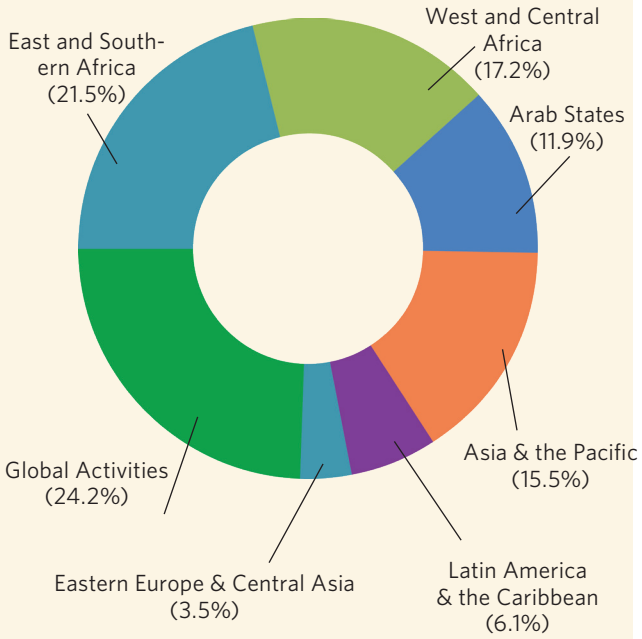
Photo: UNFPA/Nake Batev

2015 Highlights

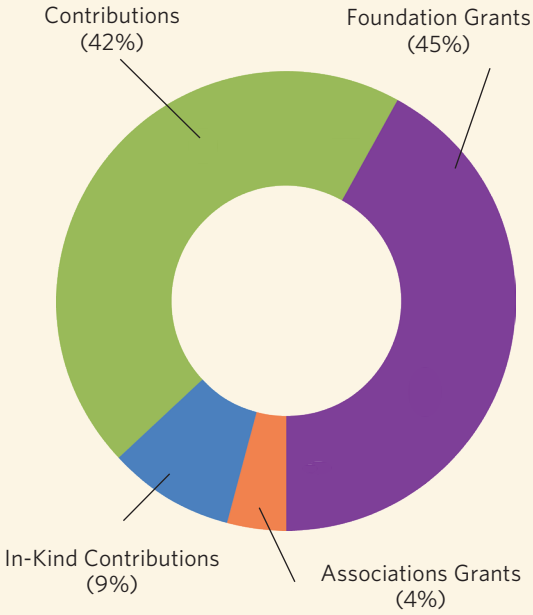
- Today 60 percent of maternal deaths occur in during humanitarian emergencies.
- As of 2015, 87 countries had integrated gender-based violence prevention, protection and response, into national sexual and reproductive health programs.
- UNFPA provided monthly vouchers for access to free maternal health care in response to Syria crisis.
- In Nepal, UNFPA and partner organizations established 132 mobile health camps, 80 maternity units, and 14 transition homes that provided temporary shelter and services for pregnant and postpartum mothers and their newborns.
- In early 2016, 55 percent of refugees arriving in Greece were women and children. Many of these women and girls were pregnant. With its partners in Greece and the Balkans, UNFPA supported and continues to support refugees and migrants by distributing dignity kits, operating mobile clinics, and supplying critical medical equipment.

2015 Financial Highlights

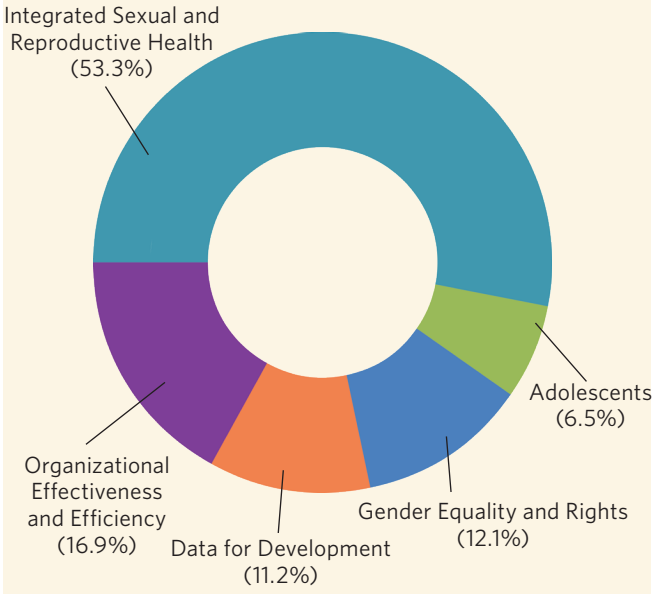
UNFPA
2015 Total Income: Approximately $1 billion
UNFPA Assistance by Geographic Region



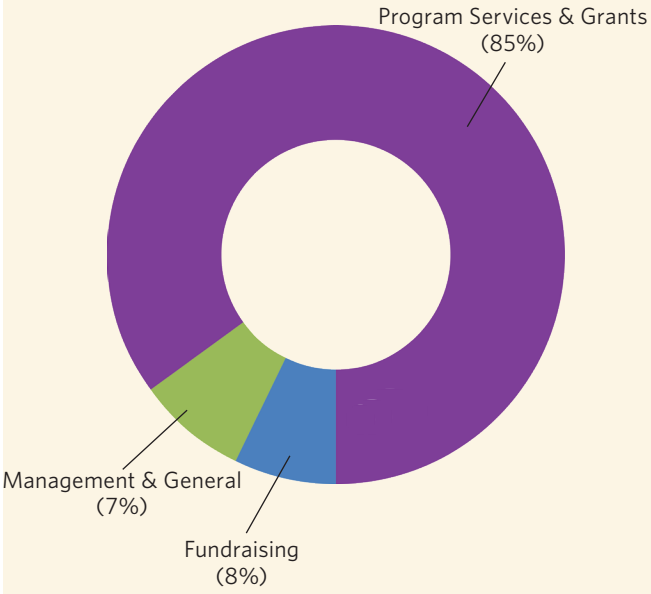
Friends of UNFPA
2015 Total Income: $2 million



UNFPA
Assistance by Program Area



Friends of UNFPA
2015 Total Expenses: $3.1 million



Statement of Activities

For the year ended December 31, 2015 (with summarized financial information for the year ended December 31, 2014)

	2015	2014
Support & Revenue		
Foundation Grants	925,852	13,579
Association Grants	89,555	29,787
Individual Contributions	875,268	1,136,973
Special Events	—	47,203
In-Kind Contributions	176,832	180,000
Other Income	2,222	1,452
Total Support & Revenue	**2,069,729**	**1,408,994**
Expenses & Grants		
Program Services & Grants	2,634,569	2,077,075
Management & General	217,199	300,144
Fundraising	249,263	204,699
Direct Cost of Special Events	—	7,708
Total Expenses & Grants	3,101,031	2,589,626
Change in Net Assets	**(1,031,302)**	**(1,180,632)**
Net assets - beginning of year	2,312,190	3,492,822
Net assets - end of year	**1,280,888**	**2,312,190**

Note 1: The above information represents a summarized view of Friends of UNFPA's financial statements. For the complete audited financial statements, including the auditor's report and related notes, please go to: www.friendsofunfpa.org/financials.

Photo Credit: UNFPA/Guadalupe Valdes

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Photo Credit: UNFPA/Maks Levin

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