



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

WORKING TO ACHIEVE TRANSFORMATIVE RESULTS



Cassia Kamonde, a grade 3 learner, delivered closing remarks at the #BeFree dialogue on 9 Jul 2022. In 2022, UNFPA supported 12 #BeFree dialogues on HIV, gender-based violence, menstrual hygiene, positive life skills, substance abuse, sexual and reproductive health, masculinity, and gender equality which reached 38 487 adolescents and young people. #BeFree is an initiative of the First Lady of Namibia, which seeks to amplify the voices of adolescents and young people in the resolution of the issues that affect them.

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Message FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE

This year's report gives an overview of how UNFPA Namibia has impacted vulnerable women, adolescents, young people and marginalised groups, including persons with disabilities, which is our strategic focus. By putting them first, we keep realigning and repositioning ourselves to lessen extreme vulnerability and develop effective programming.

UNFPA has set forth three world-changing results for achieving the 2030 agenda on Sustainable Development: ending unmet need for family planning, ending preventable maternal deaths, and ending gender-based violence and harmful practices, while the region has included ending sexual HIV transmission as a regional priority. Partnering with the Government, development partners, civil society organisations, UN sister agencies, and other stakeholders enabled us to collaborate and advocate for greater impact.

I would like to extend my sincerest

gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Namibia, our partners, and our donors for their invaluable support, which has enabled us to reach more vulnerable and marginalised populations.

Together, we have made great strides in fulfilling our vision of a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. I also would like to thank the communities, especially young people themselves, who continue to collaborate with us in bringing about lasting change.

As we look ahead to the coming year, I am confident that we will continue to build on the progress made and tackle new challenges with determination and a commitment to excellence.



Ms. Gift Malunga
UNFPA Namibia Representative a.i.



WHO WE ARE

We are UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency in Namibia.

Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

We work to



end unmet need for family planning



end preventable maternal deaths



end gender-based violence and harmful practices



end sexual transmission of HIV (regional priority)



OUR PARTNERS

-  **Government**
-  **United Nations Agencies**
-  **Development Partners**
-  **Civil Society Organisations**
-  **Private Sector**

*We value your devoted support. As a team, we are growing stronger
and improving the lives of thousands of women, adolescents,
and young people in Namibia.*

COUNTRY CONTEXT

YOUTHFUL POPULATION

- **2.64** million people (male: **48.64%**; female: **51.36%**)
- under 30 years: **64.36%**
- 10 to 24-year-olds: **30%**
- Average life expectancy: **64 yrs** (male: **53**; female: **61**)

UPPER MIDDLE INCOME STATUS

- High level of income inequality: GINI index: **57.2**
- **43%** of population multidimensionally poor: **46%** female-headed households, **41%** male-headed households
- unemployment rate: **33.4%**, youth aged 15 – 34 yrs: **46.1%**; young women: **48.5%**

FAMILY PLANNING

- **3.3%**: Total fertility rate
- **58%**: Contraceptive prevalence rate
- **15%**: Unmet need for family planning
- **19%**: National teenage pregnancy rate

MATERNAL DEATHS

- **215 Maternal deaths per 100,000 live births**
- **93%** of pregnant women accessed antenatal care services (ANC)
- **9 in 10** women received ANC services from a medical professional

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- **33%** of ever-married women aged 15-49 have experienced violence from their partner
- **32%** of adolescent girls 15-19 yrs and **35%** of girls 20-24 yrs have experienced violence in their lifetime

HIV

- **12.6%**: HIV prevalence rate among adults aged 15-64 yrs
- **31%** of new infections among young people
- prevalence rate among pregnant women 15 to 49 yrs: **16.9%**

DATA AVAILABILITY

1. Namibia Population Projections 2011 - 2041
2. 2021 Namibia Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) Report
3. 2022 Health Sector Performance Review Synthesis Report
4. 2021 Namibia Investment Cases Towards Ending Unmet Need for Family Planning and Gender-Based Violence Report
5. 2017 Namibia Population-based HIV Impact Assessment
6. 2015/2016 Namibia Household Income and Expenditure Survey
7. Trends in maternal mortality 2000 to 2020



1

TOWARDS **ENDING**
UNMET NEED FOR
FAMILY PLANNING

Access to safe and voluntary family planning is an inalienable human right that cannot be denied. In 2022, UNFPA continued to work with Government and partners to make this a reality in Namibia by providing strategic support to the national family planning programme and ensuring universal access to quality services for all.

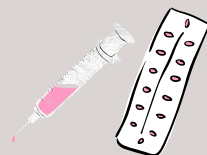
- Support was provided to the Ministry of Health and Social Services to conduct a national workshop to strengthen supply chain management of reproductive health commodities. Participants' knowledge and understanding of forecasting and quantification was enhanced. As a result, a global supply chain maturity assessment was undertaken. The assessment highlighted key areas of improvement in supply chain management.
- A follow-up workshop on forecasting and quantification led to the development of a reproductive health commodity forecast plan for 2022/23 to 2024/25 using consumption, services, and demographic data. The quantification data has guided the central medical stores in the procurement of reproductive health commodities.
- Additionally, UNFPA facilitated the signing of an agreement between the Ministry of Health and Organon. The agreement will allow the ministry to purchase implants that are in high demand in public health facilities.
- UNFPA procured reproductive health commodities for public health facilities, enabling 9 125 young women to access the contraceptive methods of their choice. Through this support, 4 237 unintended pregnancies were averted.
- The Country Office also supported the launch of the updated national family planning guidelines. All public health facilities that offer family planning services follow the guidelines. This has enhanced the availability of family planning services including counselling at facilities.

KEY RESULTS

1



Revised National Family Planning Guidelines launched and healthcare providers oriented on the new guidelines



2

9 125

Young women accessed contraceptive methods of their choice



4

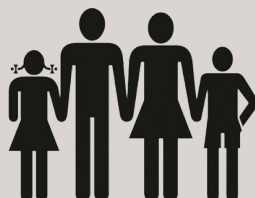
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Unintended pregnancies averted, due to the use of modern methods of contraception

3



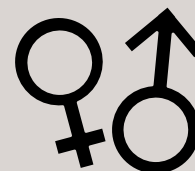
Family Planning Commodity Forecast Plan for 2022–2024 developed to aid Ministry of Health in forecasting and procurement



6



Quantification of reproductive and maternal health commodities strengthened



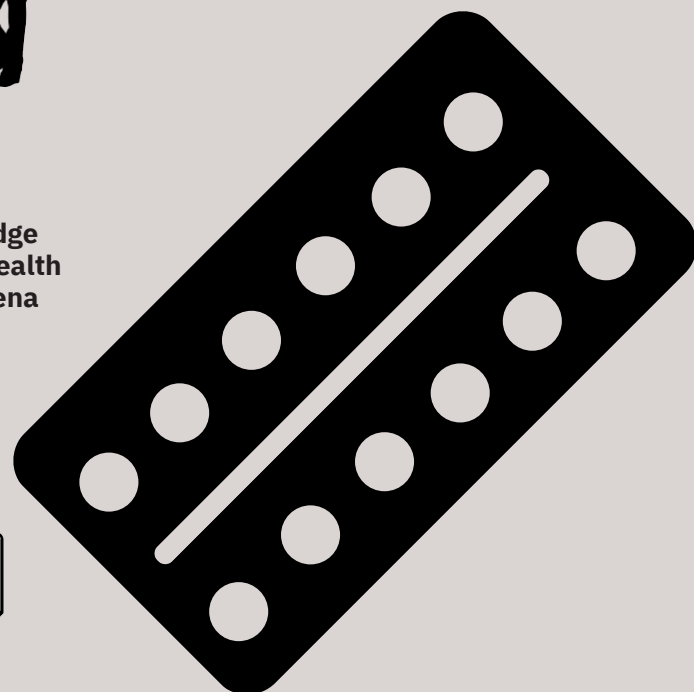
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900

Girls' and boys' knowledge enhanced on menstrual health and hygiene in Ohangwena region

7

FP2030 commitment for Namibia developed and launched



FP
>>>2030

Making sexual and reproductive health care safe, accessible to young people



Laili Sheetekela, Rebekka Kasupi's favorite nurse, explains how she should take the conception pill.

Rebecca Kasupi, 18, is poised to complete her grade 11 education and move a step closer to fulfilling her dream of becoming a lawyer. Rebecca is distressed, not by the impending task at hand, but rather by a lingering worry of becoming pregnant—a fate to which some of her classmates have fallen prey.

“My classmates fell pregnant not because they were careless, but because no one ever talked to them about reproductive health and sex education,” said Kasupi, who lives in Groot Aub with her parents and eight siblings.

For Kasupi, the Groot Aub community clinic became a safe space through the generous aid of nurses like Sister Laili Sheetekela, who is the chief nurse at the establishment.

“Many young people have a fear of being judged for seeking services related to sexual and reproductive health. The implementation of integrated services at the clinic has helped reduce the fear because the clinic has become a one-stop shop for all medical needs,” said nurse Sheetekela.

Open communication with the nurses is key for Kasupi, who has since been able to receive contraceptive pills from the clinic.

“The nurses here are very friendly and honest with me; I can talk to them about any problem I have, and they will be willing to be open with me, which makes it even easier for me to talk to them.

The Groot Aub community clinic is one of the clinics supported by UNFPA and partners to ensure that more young people have access to sexual and reproductive health services.



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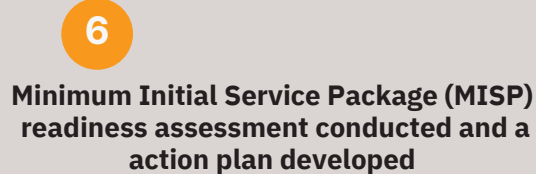
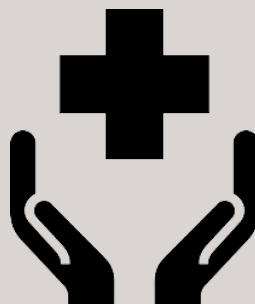
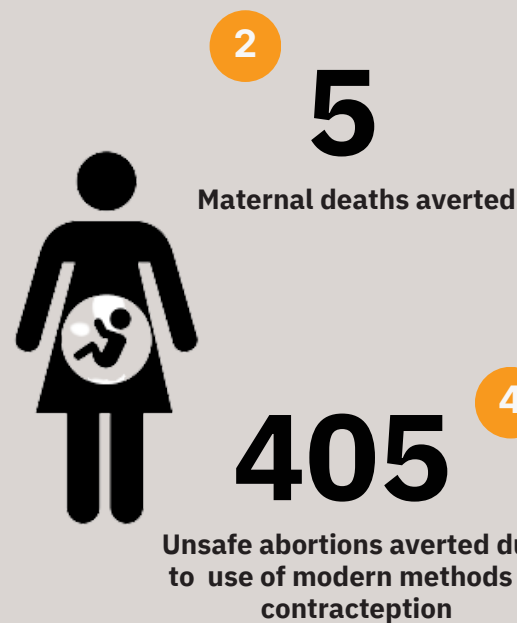
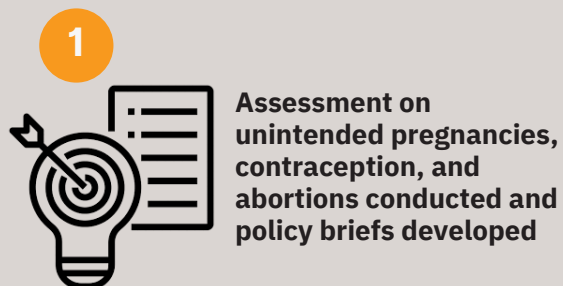
TOWARDS **ENDING**
PREVENTABLE
MATERNAL DEATHS



UNFPA's goal of ending preventable maternal deaths by 2030 is not only ambitious but attainable if the right investments are made. In 2022 UNFPA and its partners remained committed to supporting the Government to reduce maternal deaths while prioritizing the most vulnerable women.

- The Ministry of Health and Social Services in partnership with UNFPA and partners conducted a strategic assessment on unintended pregnancy, contraception, and abortion. The results of the assessment will enhance service delivery and inform the current legal reform process of the Abortion and Sterilisation Act of 1975.
- As a further step towards reducing high maternal deaths related to complications due to unsafe abortion, 35 healthcare workers were equipped with the knowledge and skills to perform comprehensive abortion care.
- Through the distribution of essential hygiene products and nutritional food, the dignity and health of 800 pregnant and lactating women were strengthened.
- Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) readiness assessment was conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Health and an action plan with priority activities was developed. The action plan is being implemented to address the challenges identified in improving SRH in emergency and humanitarian context.

KEY RESULTS



Preserving dignity of expectant mothers



Mr. Koji Hase, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Namibia handing over a dignity kit to mom-to-be, Beverly Simasiku.

Every woman has the right to a safe and positive childbirth experience. To secure the dignity of expectant mothers, the Leaving No One Behind Project implemented by UNFPA and funded by the Government of Japan handed over dignity kits to the Maternity Ward at the Katima Mulilo State Hospital on 28 July 2022.

Each dignity kit contained essential items enabling the women to maintain their hygiene and dignity – vaseline, toothpaste, toothbrush, face cloth, washing powder, bath soap, sanitary pads, underwear, a malong (wraparound fabric), and diapers for the baby.

The Zambezi region is one of the eight regions where the project is implemented to secure the continuity of essential lifesaving interventions and safeguard vulnerable women and girls' rights,

particularly pregnant and lactating women.

“I am very grateful and honoured. This is a surprise for us. Women like us really need this in our lives. This can encourage other women in our situation to never give up because there is always hope and someone to help us,” said Beverly Simasiku who is expecting her first child.

Simasiku, who is 18 years old, is one of many young expectant mothers who must travel great distances to give birth at the hospital. She is from Kasita, a village located about 100 kilometers away from Katima Mulilo.

A total of 3 498 dignity kits were distributed to pregnant and lactating mothers and adolescents in 2022.

#ThankYouJapan!



3

TOWARDS **ENDING**
GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE AND ALL
HARMFUL
PRACTICES

Violence against women and girls is a human rights violation, and the immediate and long-term physical, sexual, and mental consequences for women and girls can be devastating. UNFPA worked with a multitude of partners to support interventions to end violence against women and girls.

- As healthcare facilities are among the first places survivors of gender-based violence seek assistance, UNFPA leveraged this critical opportunity to reach affected women and girls. A wide range of support, including training of healthcare personnel, procuring life-saving reproductive health services and supplies, dignity kits, psychosocial services, legal support, and food parcels, were provided to over 6 878 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence as well as at-risk women and girls.
- As part of strengthening the enabling environment for promoting gender equality, and equity and preventing gender-based violence, UNFPA supported the development of the 2023-2030 National Gender Policy and its Action Plan. The new policy will serve as a vehicle to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in Namibia.
- UNFPA also supported the development of the Strategic Plan 2022-2026 of the International Women Peace Centre. The plan will direct its efforts to advance Namibia's agenda for women, peace, and security.
- Over 4 548 men and boys were empowered on positive masculinity, and social and cultural norms to end violence and harmful practices and their role as champions and agents of change.
- As part of addressing the root causes of gender-based violence, UNFPA supported pregnant women and vulnerable young people, including those living with disability, to improve livelihood skills and opportunities in four targeted regions.

KEY RESULTS

1

11 461



People's knowledge about violence and harmful practices prevention and response services improved



2



Health sector's capacity to respond to sexual and gender-based violence strengthened through procurement of reproductive health kits and commodities procured including condoms, contraceptives

3

30

Youth networks equipped with skills and knowledge to advocate for youth's sexual and reproductive health, rights, and development



4

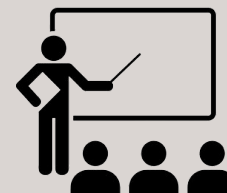
New national gender policy, including its action plan drafted



530

5

Pre-and in-service teachers equipped with comprehensive knowledge and skills necessary to deliver effective sexuality education in schools



6

Safety and security of three government shelters for gender-based violence survivors and their families strengthened



1 063

8

Service providers equipped with knowledge, skills and confidence to prevent, identify and manage sexual and gender-based violence survivors including those with disability



7



International Women Peace Centre Strategic Plan 2022-2026 developed



Using dance to raise awareness against gender-based violence

In 2022, the OYO dance group, with the support of UNFPA educated 3,974 learners in the Khomas region about GBV, gender norms (particularly those that send young men to prison), and how to be a better man (positive masculinity). The young man in the picture illustrates (in the form of art) physical abuse, which is one of the most prevalent type of GBV in Namibia.



A red ribbon, a symbol for HIV/AIDS awareness, is shown in a looped fashion, partially overlapping a large orange circle.

4

TOWARDS **ENDING**
SEXUAL
TRANSMISSION
OF HIV

Stigma and discrimination continue to impede the realisation of people's rights, including access to essential information and services to prevent and treat HIV.

UNFPA's approach to HIV is based around three strategies: promoting human rights and reducing inequalities, integrating HIV responses into sexual and reproductive health care, and preventing sexual transmission of HIV.

- UNFPA supported partners to enhance delivery of sexual and reproductive health (SRH), sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and HIV services through static and mobile outreach clinics. During mobile outreach, 21,347 young people including 406 key populations were equipped with information and services to help them make informed decisions.
- Additionally, 4 090 young people were reached through the Condomize campaigns, and 156 322 male and female condoms were distributed during the campaigns. A total of 5 708 (3 453 young people) were tested for HIV, with 33 (19 young people) positive and referred for treatment. 285 people were enrolled in pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) of which 138 were young people.
- Over 24 000 people provided with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) treatment

KEY RESULTS

1

21,347

Young people reached through mobile clinics with sexual and reproductive health & HIV services

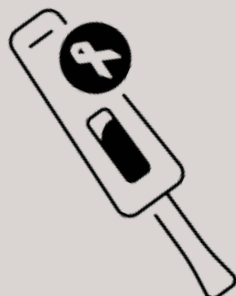


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156 322

Male and female condoms distributed through Condomise campaigns



5

3 453

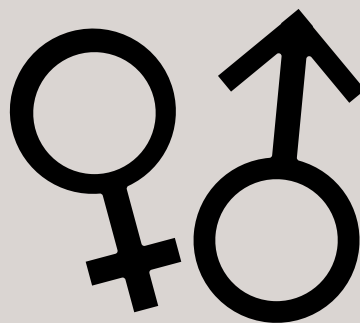
Young people tested for HIV and 19 tested positive and referred for treatment.



24

6

Young people provided with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) treatment



18

3

Young people initiated on antiretroviral therapy (ART) through mobile outreach



4

138

Young people enrolled on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)





Male engagement session on sexual and gender-based violence in Kavango West. In the photo, the Society for Family Health team demonstrates the correct use of condoms.

GENERATING EVIDENCE

Having reliable, quality data on the population is a pre-requisite for good governance, effective planning and accountability.

- As ways to improve the production of quality statistics in the country, UNFPA supported the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) in producing the first National Strategy for the Development of Statistics through a government-led stakeholder consultative process. This strategy will enable the country to build a reliable statistical system that produces data necessary to inform designing, implementation, and monitoring of national development policies and programmes.
- Through continuous efforts to support data generation in the country, and with efforts to produce quality and internationally recognised 2022/2023 NDHS survey, UNFPA facilitated capacitation of the established steering committee with knowledge and skills in preparation for the first-ever digitalised DHS through South-South Cooperation which included a benchmarking tour to the Kenya Bureau of Statistics in October 2022.
- UNFPA strives to support the Government in strengthening the CRVS system in the country to ensure the production of quality and reliable administrative data. Through UNFPA support, two (2) government officials were capacitated with knowledge and skills at the 6th Conference of African Ministers held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia towards the strengthening of CRVS system in the country. The participants formed part of the steering committee that provided oversight towards the produced Annual Vital Statistics and Causes of Deaths Reports. Through these reports, stakeholders are able to assess how well the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics system is developed and functioning to inform future programming.
- In order to maximise the use of statistics by all policy developers and planners, UNFPA supported the dissemination of the 2021 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report to regional stakeholders which was conducted in 12 of the 14 regions of the country.
- In order to ensure the generation of high-quality, disaggregated, and digitalised population data for the 2023 Population and Housing Census, a PES technical adviser was recruited to support the undertaking of the pilot Post Enumeration Survey (PES) and pilot census activities. This resulted in the successful undertaking of both pilot census and PES, a process towards the undertaking of the main census and PES which are planned for August 2023.

KEY RESULTS

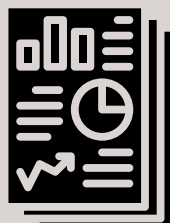
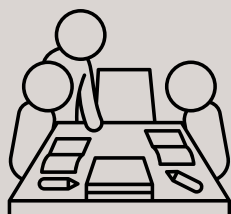


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Pilot Census conducted, a step towards the 2023 Namibia Population and Housing Census

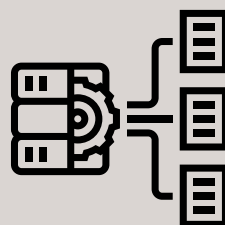
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Through South-South Cooperation, 2022/2023 Namibia Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) steering committee established and capacitated to provide oversight and coordination for the planned 2022/2023 NDHS



3

First-ever Pilot Post Enumeration Survey (PES) conducted



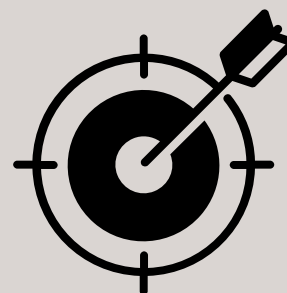
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2021 Annual Vital Statistics and Causes of Deaths reports produced. This is a building block towards socio-economic development



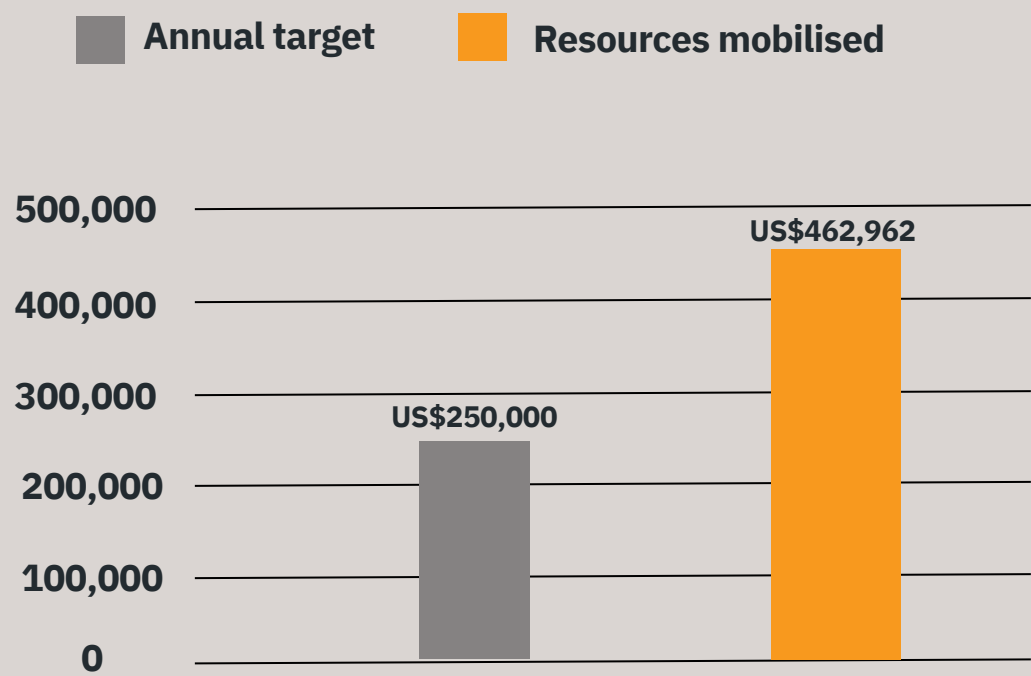
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Regional stakeholders in 12 regions of the country oriented on the 2021 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report



RESOURCE MOBILISATION

In 2022, UNFPA surpassed the annual target of US\$250,000 by mobilising US\$462,962 from the Japanese Supplementary Budget to implement the Leaving No One Behind: Filling the gaps in health, addressing gender-based violence (GBV) in eight regions of Namibia.



Kamuti the tailor taking on the fashion world

On July 28, 2022, Mushongo Kamuti received a sewing machine and materials from the UNFPA Leaving No One Behind Project funded by the Government of Japan. But it has been a long road for the girl who loved to play soccer.

When Kamuti Mushongo arrived at Cheshire home 16 years ago she was a little girl just coming to terms with her disability. Today she is a young woman who is using her exceptional talent to make clothes to generate income and work for herself.

Kamuti was diagnosed with spinal tuberculosis, also known as Pott disease, the most dangerous form of TB that causes spinal deformity and paralysis.

“Before this condition got me I was free. I was able to run around and play with my friends. At that time my favourite thing was playing soccer,” said Kamuti.

After received the sewing machine, Kamuti spent a lot of time learning how to use it. Mr. Mundia Martin an experienced tailor who was identified to train her.

“She was truly natural and caught on fast on how to sew trousers, make adjustments, and other important tailoring skills,” said Sister Faustina Haushiku, the Matron of Cheshire Home.



“The Kamuti we know today is an entrepreneur and seasoned tailor ready to take on the fashion world with her new sewing machine,” she added.

On 3 August 2022, a week after she successfully delivered a consignment of Shitenges (skirt wrapped around the waist by women), Kamuti bought a double bed.

Determined youth

With a flourishing vegetable business and the ability to employ her own farm workers, Maria Shilongo (33) is changing stereotypes about what Namibian youth can accomplish when given the right support and opportunity.

In 2020, Shilongo started the Namapopo Irrigation Project, a small farm to grow tomatoes, green peppers, butternuts, small chilies, watermelons, sweet potatoes (red and white), and onions. Today she is able to make a good income from her two-hectare plot. The young businesswoman supplies Spar Supermarkets in Ongwediva and Oshakati.

But Shilongo is not yet done and she has her sights set on bigger things. She hopes to acquire more land so that she can plant more vegetables and serve the entire country as well as export to other countries. A self-taught farmer, Shilongo employs two men to help her in her fields. “I need support to acquire more land so that I can plant more vegetables and employ more people. Currently, the land that I have is too small and does not allow me to do that,” she said.

Shilongo was exhibiting her business alongside other youth agri-preneurs during the National Youth Day and Youth Week held in Lüderitz from 26 - 29 April 2022 under the theme, “Promotion of Youth Agri-preneurship: An Avenue for Self-Employment and Work Readiness.”



The National Youth Week was organised by the National Youth Council of Namibia with technical and financial support from UNFPA and other partners.

UNFPA Namibia is committed to gender equality, women's rights and leadership, bodily autonomy, inclusive participation, and empowerment, as it is not only the right thing to do; it is also a prudent investment to make. Shilongo is proof that it is never too late to make a change and follow your dreams.

She advised other youth: “Believe in yourself, and understand that age is not a barrier when it comes to agriculture. Start small and grow as you learn. There are fantastic opportunities out there, look for them and grasp them with both hands.”



Hon. Theofelus receives the 2022 UN Population Award

Hon. Emma Theofelus, Deputy Minister of Information, Communication and Technology was presented with the 2022 UN Population Award medal and diploma as the individual laureate during the World Population Day commemoration held in Rundu on 11 July 2022. Hon. Theofelus was awarded for her work advocating for women's empowerment and adolescent sexual and reproductive health in Namibia, during a virtual award ceremony held on 13 June 2022. The award was handed over to her by the former UNFPA Namibia Representative, Sheila Roseau. In her acceptance speech, Hon. Theofelus praised her family and UNFPA for being a powerful support system.

UNFPA and partners supported the Ministry of Sport, Youth, and National Service to launch the YouthConnekt Namibia initiative on 21 September 2022. YouthConnekt Africa is a Pan-African programme established by the African Union to support intergovernmental knowledge exchange on policy, initiatives, and collaborations as well as co-design and accelerate suitable solutions for youth socioeconomic development.





Ensuring rights and choices for all

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