

# THE MARCH CONTINUES



 UNFPA NAMIBIA  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

*A pregnant woman at the Kazetjindire Angelika Muharukua Maternity Waiting Home in Opuwo received a dignity kit from UNFPA with essential supplies.*

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## Message from the Representative

As the world slowly begins to realign itself and build back better from COVID-19, there is much work to be done in order to ensure positive, meaningful outcomes with an emphasis on people-centered recovery that focuses on well-being, improves inclusiveness and reduces inequality. One key area of focus is inclusivity, and in Namibia due to the vast landscape and population density (standing at three per square kilometer) it is of utmost importance to cast our sphere of influence on a wider scale.

During my tenure in Namibia, I have been privileged to travel to the outskirts of the country where we engaged with marginalised communities, such as the friendly and lovely Himba people in Kunene Region and the San people in Omaheke Region. Engaging in communities that are often overlooked due to distance barriers and underdeveloped infrastructure cannot be over emphasised in our quest to make sure that no one is left behind.

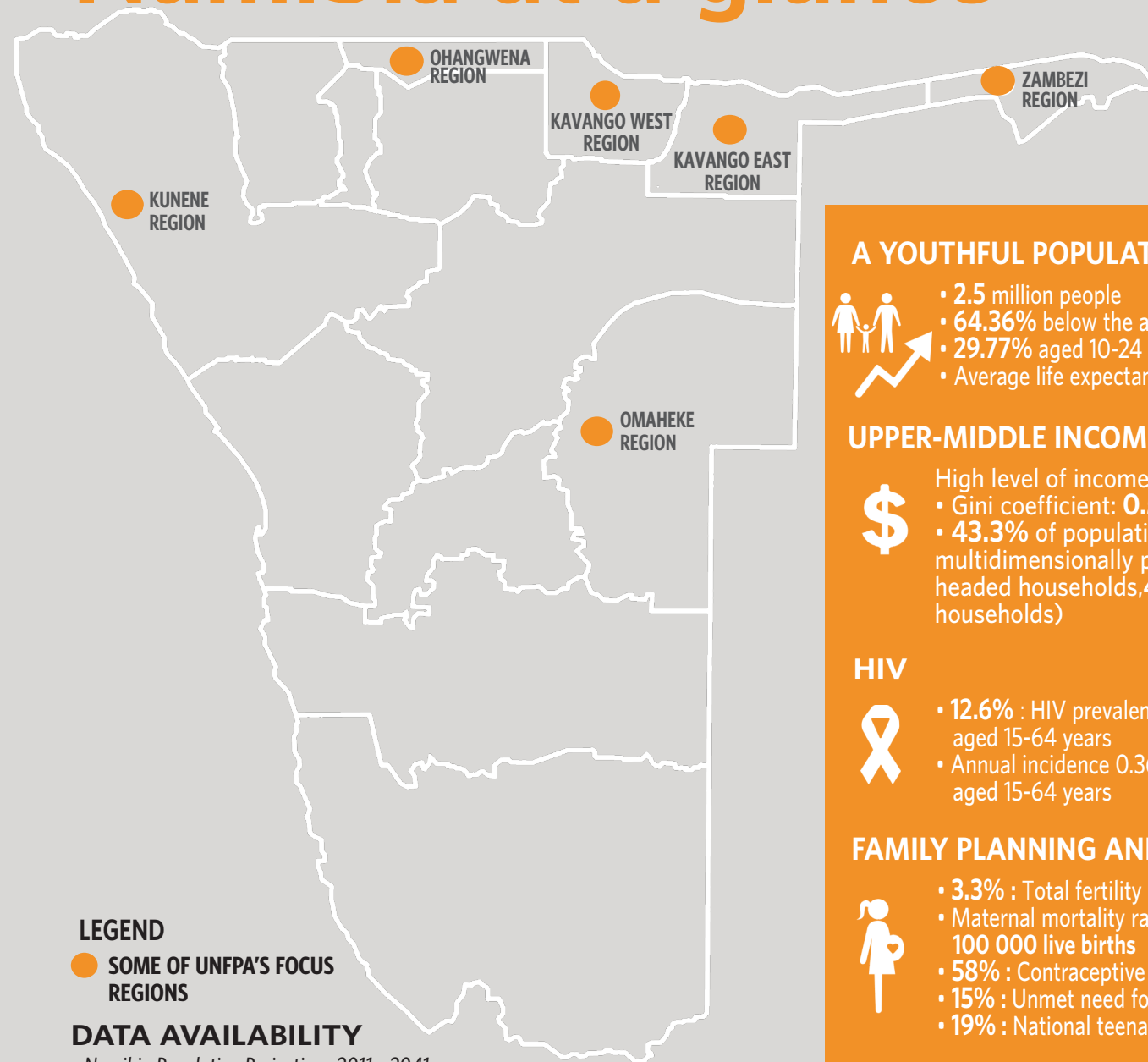
In 2021 the Country Office continued to work with the Government of Namibia and other UN agencies and partners to strengthen sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services, empower adolescents and youth to access adolescent SRH and rights information and services, promote gender equality and bolster national capacities to prevent and respond to gender-based violence (GBV).

UNFPA supported the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service with the launch of the Third National Youth Policy and its translation into braille to ensure accessibility for all including youth with disabilities. Support was also provided to the validation and finalisation of the Menstrual Health study. The Country Office in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the University of Namibia Medical School developed capacity for health care workers on Comprehensive Clinical Post Abortion Care (CPAC). In order to strengthen key institutions to deliver essential GBV services, we supported the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare in procuring Dignity Kits for women and adolescent girls in eight regions. These are just a few of the many examples of the work that the Namibia CO supported over the past year.

We could not have achieved this alone, and we are grateful to all our partners, donors, and UN sister agencies for their collaboration including technical and financial support. The Namibia CO team remains committed to fulfilling the promise that was made to the world in 1994 at the Cairo Conference and the 2019 Nairobi ICPD Summit by the international community. We look forward to a successful 2022!

**MS. SHEILA ROSEAU**

# Namibia at a glance



### LEGEND

● SOME OF UNFPA'S FOCUS REGIONS

### DATA AVAILABILITY

- Namibia Population Projections 2011 - 2041
- 2021 Namibia Multidimensional Poverty Index (MIP) Report
- 2022 Health Sector Performance Review Synthesis Report
- 2021 Namibia Investment Cases Towards Ending Unmet Need for Family Planning and Gender-Based Violence Report
- 2017 Namibia Population-based HIV Impact Assessment
- 2015/2016 Namibia Household Income and Expenditure Survey

### A YOUTHFUL POPULATION



- 2.5 million people
- 64.36% below the age of 30
- 29.77% aged 10-24
- Average life expectancy: 63.4 years

### UPPER-MIDDLE INCOME STATUS



- High level of income inequality
- Gini coefficient: 0.59
- 43.3% of population are multidimensionally poor: 46% female-headed households, 41% male-headed households)

### HIV



- 12.6% : HIV prevalence rate among adults aged 15-64 years
- Annual incidence 0.36% for persons aged 15-64 years

### FAMILY PLANNING AND FERTILITY



- 3.3% : Total fertility rate
- Maternal mortality rate : 195 deaths per 100 000 live births
- 58% : Contraceptive prevalence rate
- 15% : Unmet need for family planning
- 19% : National teenage pregnancy rate

### GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



- 54% of first sexual experiences are unwanted among girls
- 32% of adolescent girls aged 15-19 and 35% of girls aged 20-24 have experienced physical violence from a partner

# Who we are

We are **the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), 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



# Our partners

**Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS)**  
**Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare (MGEPEWSW)**  
**Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service (MSYNS)**  
**Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MOEAC)**  
**National Planning Commission (NPC)**  
**Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA)**  
**National Youth Council (NYC)**  
**Namibia Planned Parenthood Association (NAPPA)**  
**Society for Family Health (SFH)**  
**Regain Trust**  
**One Economy Foundation (ONE)**  
**African Youth and Adolescents Network Namibia (AfriYAN)**  
**Namibian Organisation for Youth with Disabilities (NOYD)**  
**Various Embassies**  
**United Nations (UN) Organisations**  
**Members of the Press**  
**Civil Society Organisations**  
**Parliamentary Committees**  
**Academic and Professional Associations**  
**Media**

# Responding to Covid-19

In 2021, UNFPA provided support to the Ministry of Health and Social Services to maintain the delivery of essential services during COVID-19. The Country Office also supported the ministry of health in generating data

for key indicators to be monitored during the pandemic. Weekly statistics were produced which guided the regions on how to strengthen programming on sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and maternal health.

## KEY RESULTS



**21,347**

young people in nine (9) regions reached with SRH, HIV, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) services through mobile and static facilities in partnership with the Namibia Planned Parenthood Association and Society for Family Health.



**4**

laptop computers donated to the Ministry of Health and Social Services towards the COVID-19 emergency response.



**55**

life skills teachers trained on counselling techniques amidst COVID-19 to equip them to support learners and fellow colleagues infected and affected by COVID-19.



*Mobile outreach in Dordabis in Khomas Region during International Youth Day commemoration with the Society for Family Planning and Namibia Planned Parenthood Association.*

# Towards ending preventable maternal deaths



With an aim to improve maternal health care in Namibia, UNFPA in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Services and the University of Namibia Medical School conducted trainings for health care workers on Comprehensive Clinical Post Abortion Care (CPAC). The four-day training equipped and strengthened the capacity of **62** health care workers from Khomas and Kavango East and West Regions with knowledge and skills to improve the quality of care available to women seeking uterine evacuation services. Health workers were equipped with skills on how to perform manual vacuum aspiration which they practiced at facilities in their regions.

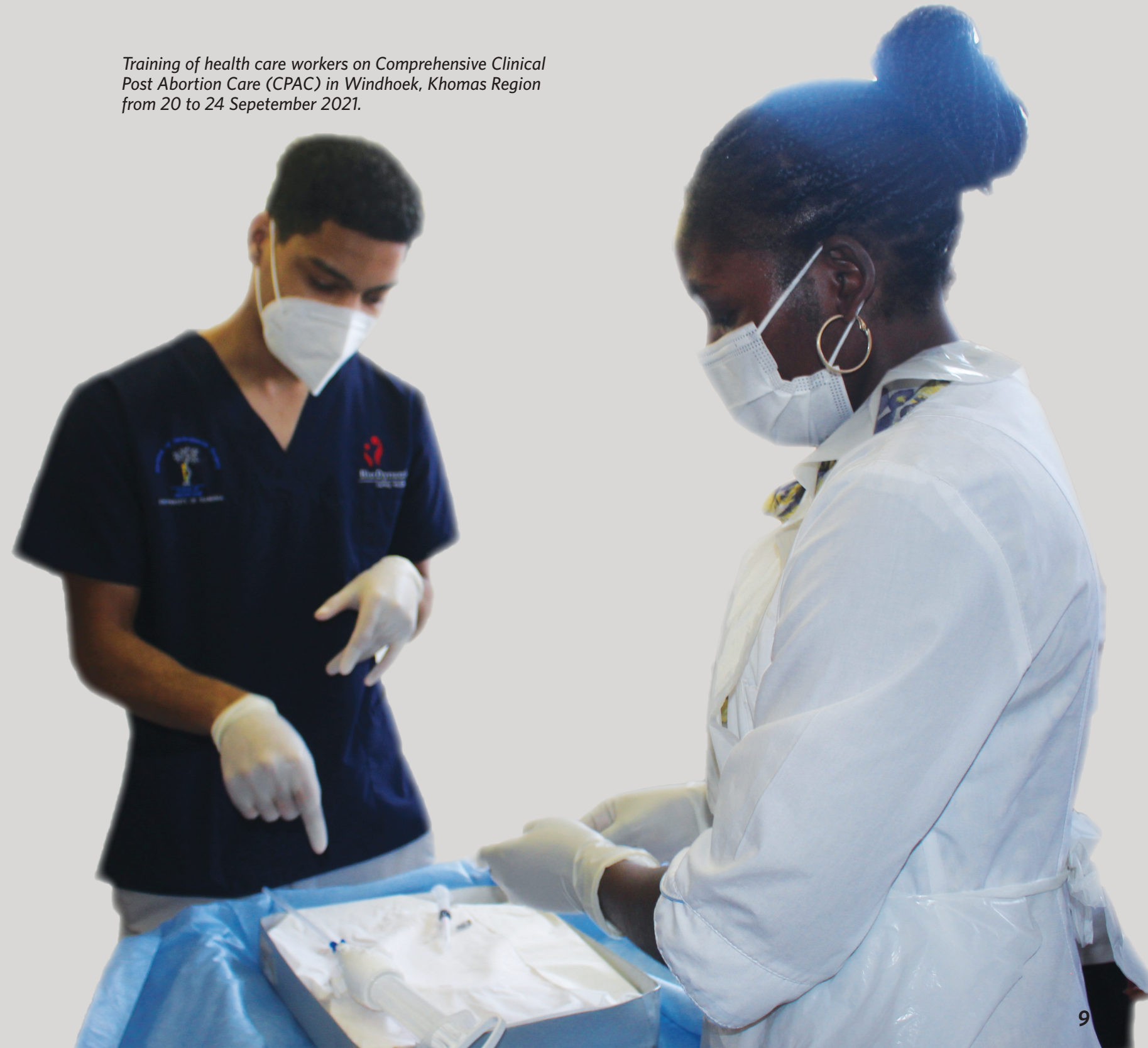


The Country Office also partnered with UNESCO and the National Assembly to organise a capacity-building workshop for Members of Parliament (MPs) and staff. The aim of the capacity building initiative was to enhance the knowledge and skills of MPs and National Assembly staff on sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV and AIDS in line with national, regional, and global instruments. The workshop engaged a total of **75** participants that included **32** MPs, two (**2**) members of the children's parliament, and **41** National Assembly staff members including civil society organisations.



In addition, UNFPA supported MPs to undertake public hearings on the **Abortion Bill** in three regions, Oshana, Otjozondjupa, and Omusati regions. The public hearings gathered community perceptions and opinions regarding the Abortion and Sterilisation Act. No 2 of 1975.

*Training of health care workers on Comprehensive Clinical Post Abortion Care (CPAC) in Windhoek, Khomas Region from 20 to 24 September 2021.*



# Towards ending unmet need for family planning

## KEY RESULTS



**81** health care workers from Oshikoto and Omusati regions trained in Family Planning particularly long term acting reversible methods. As a result **607** implants were inserted to women and girls during the practicals.



**45** Ministry of Health and Social Services staff across all 14 regions equipped with skills on forecasting and quantification of reproductive health commodities.



**14** regions developed action plans to be implemented in 2022 based on the findings of the global health supply chain maturity assessment undertaken for Namibia. The assessment highlighted key areas of improvement.



**3,000** copies of the Family Planning flipchart printed for use by healthcare workers when providing family planning services., and **1,000** Family Planning posters printed for health facilities.



**720,000** pieces of male condoms and **5,000** Jadelle implantable contraceptives donated to the Ministry of Health and Social Services.

**23**

#Condomize campaigns conducted in seven (7) regions reaching **5,132** youth with sexual and reproductive health information and services.

Executive Director of the Ministry of Health and Social Services, Mr. Ben Nangombe received on behalf of his ministry a consignment of reproductive health commodities and laptop computers from UNFPA Namibia Representative, Ms. Sheila Roseau. The donation consisted of 720,000 pieces of male condoms, 5,000 Jadelle implantable contraceptives and four laptop computers.



# Towards ending gender-based violence and all harmful practices

## KEY RESULTS



**4,320**

young people, service providers, gender-based violence survivors, artists, parents reached through #BreakFree anti-violence platforms with information and services.



**35**

Shelter volunteer workers are knowledgeable and skilled in managing gender-based violence survivors in the eight (8) shelters.



**160**

Women and adolescent girls who are survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and housed at the safe shelters received dignity kits in eight regions through the Ministry of Gender Equality, Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare.



**70**

Medical doctors, nurses and social workers from the ministries of gender and health equipped with knowledge and skills on how to clinically identify/respond to survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual violence in the Erongo and Karas regions.



**103**

adolescents and young people trained as facilitators to create awareness and mobilise peers to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights and prevent sexual gender-based violence in Khomas, Erongo, Omusati and Oshana regions.



**112**

men from targeted communities in the Erongo, Omusati and Khomas regions reached through male engagement sessions on toxic and positive masculinities.



Male engagement sessions on prevention of toxic masculinities.





# Towards ending HIV transmissions

#Condomise Campaign during the Menstrual Hygiene Day in Rehoboth, Khomas Region on 1 June 2021.

## KEY RESULTS



**156,322**

condoms distributed.



**5,129**

young people tested for HIV, **52** tested positive and linked to care.



**182**

young people enrolled on pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).



**406**

key populations reached with sexual and reproductive health and HIV information and services.



# Investing in the next generation



In collaboration with UNESCO and Society for Family Health, UNFPA hosted a **consultative meeting on the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) Ministerial Commitment** with young people from all 14 regions. The consultation prompted the acceleration of progress by member states, including Namibia, to address the needs of adolescents and young people with respect to ensuring access to life skills-based HIV and Health Education.



The Namibian Organisation for Youth with Disabilities was supported with a **workshop on the development of the organisation's strategic plan and orientation of its board members on the ESA Commitment**.



UNFPA supported the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service with the **launch of the Third National Youth Policy and its translation into braille** to ensure accessibility for all including youth with disabilities.



In partnership with the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service, **successfully piloted the Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) module that integrates Climate Change**, with close to **25** young people representing nine (**9**) regions out of the 14 Namibian regions participating in the pilot.



UNFPA together with UN Women, Embassy of France, Embassy of Mexico and the Namibia Government hosted a **high-level virtual event on Generation Equality**, under the theme "Protecting, Educating, Promoting and Empowering for Generation Equality, 25+1 Years of Beijing". The event attended by the RT Prime Minister attracted close to **100** participants.

*Teen girls have been empowered to stay in school by receiving dignity kits comprising sanitary pads, bathing soaps, face cloth, underwear, sitenge, washing powder, torch, toothbrush and toothpaste.*



# Generating evidence

UNFPA supported several activities including capacity building as well as conducting several studies. UNFPA supported the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) to conduct the following studies and reports:



**Impact of COVID-19 on Household and Job tracker Survey**



**Vital Statistics and Causes of Deaths Report**



**Namibia Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2021**

Through technical assistance, UNFPA supported the NSA with the development of **tools and guidelines for the Post Enumeration Survey (PES) and 2021 Population and Housing Census.**

In the fight towards disability inclusion and the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UNFPA together with UNDP and UNICEF supported the National Federation of People with Disabilities (NFPDN) in conducting **10 regional consultative meetings with organisations of persons with disabilities in order to produce the Shadow Report.** More than 100 persons with disabilities participated and the report was submitted to the United Nations Committee on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

UNFPA in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Services and WHO supported the process of undertaking the **strategic assessment on unintended pregnancies, contraception, and unsafe abortions.** As a result, a **Namibia background paper was developed and a research project proposal submitted** to the health ministry for ethical clearance.

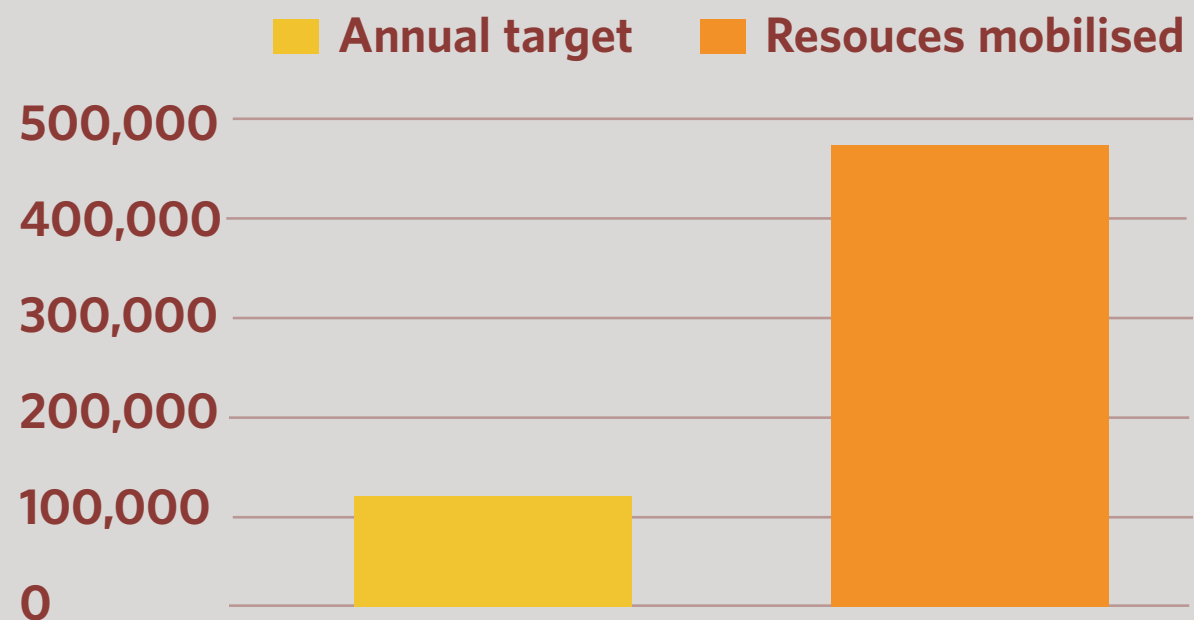


*Some of the participants who attended the Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities strategic planning workshop in Swakopmund from 28 to 30 September 2021.*

# Resource mobilisation

**In 2021, UNFPA surpassed the annual target of US\$120,000 by mobilising US\$462,962.00 from Japanese Supplementary Budget.**

The Country Office mobilised financial resources from the Government of Japan to implement a project on Leaving No One Behind: Filling the gaps in health, addressing gender-based violence (GBV) in eight targeted regions of Namibia namely Khomas, Omaheke, Erongo, Otjozondjupa, Zambezi, Ohangwena, Omusati and Kunene. The project's primary target groups are most vulnerable adolescent girls and women including survivors of GBV, living with disability, pregnant and lactating migrants, and youth in and out of school.



*Ester Ndumba was diagnosed with tuberculosis at the age of 8 years which resulted in paraplegia (paralysis from the waist down). However, this did not prevent her from completing high school and pursuing activities that brought her fulfillment. She advocates for the rights of young people with disabilities through the Namibian Organisation of Youth with Disabilities (NOYD). She wants to enroll at a university next year to pursue her dream of becoming a human resource practitioner.*



Ensuring rights and choices for all

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