



United Nations Population Fund

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# BRIEF REPORT 2016

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**MALAWI COUNTRY OFFICE**



A photograph of a woman and a man in a clinical setting, overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. The woman is on the left, looking down. The man is on the right, wearing a white short-sleeved shirt with a UNFPA logo on the chest, and is looking down at something in his hands. In the background, other people are visible in a room with medical equipment.

**UNFPA**

Delivering a world where  
every pregnancy is wanted,  
every child birth is safe and  
every young persons'  
potential is fulfilled

## UNFPA in Malawi

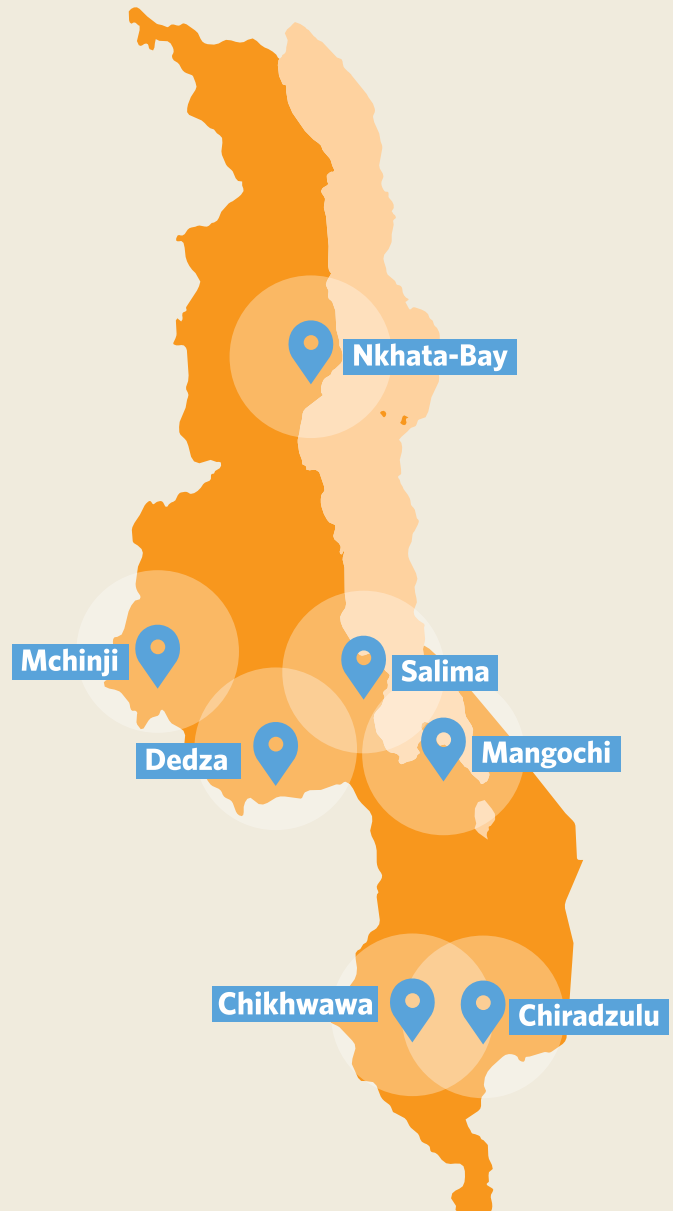
UNFPA works with the Ministries of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, Labour, Youth and Manpower Development, Health, Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare among other government institutions and non-state actors.

While the Government Ministries implement some of the strategic activities on policy and guidelines, most of the community and facility based interventions at the service delivery level are implemented by District Councils and local non-governmental organizations. UNFPA Malawi strategically supports seven districts of Chiradzulu, Salima, Mangochi, Mchinji, Dedza, Chikhwawa and Nkhata-bay.

### UNFPA's focus areas are in:-

- Sexual and reproductive health such as family planning, HIV and AIDS, Fistula, and Maternal Health
- Population and Development
- Young people
- Gender and GBV including ending child marriages and
- Emergencies

In the next pages, we provide a summary of progress made in the year 2016.





© UN Photo

**I would like to thank all partners and donor agencies for their support** (financial and technical) in the implementation of the activities in the year 2016.

— Dan Odallo, PhD

## Message from the UNFPA Representative

I am pleased to share with you the summary report of the year 2016 for UNFPA Malawi country office. The year 2016 has been an exciting and eventful where we have seen significant changes and progress made in several areas of our operation.

At the end of 2016, we have seen:

- **183 women** with obstetrical fistulae successfully repaired through the fistula camps that we supported in Chikhwawa, Mangochi and Lilongwe
- more than **200,000 young people** reached with information and counselling on CSE through Youth friendly health facilities, social media and out-reach events
- The demarcation of wards and enumeration Areas in preparation for 2018 Population and housing census completed. A total of **91 TAs/Wards** were updated. To date, **92%** of TA maps have been updated.
- More than **2,695 girls** (29% of them being teen mothers that were either in marriages or raising children as single mothers) returned to school through the work of the mother groups
- That through the strengthened District Health Information Software (DHIS-2) web based system in Malawi, we were able to establish:
- Couple years of protection estimated at **1,188,500**,
- maternal death averted at **1,640** and
- Unintended pregnancies averted estimated at **354,780**.

Despite this progress, it is important to acknowledge that more work lies ahead of us because:

- Teenage pregnancies are on the rise **(26% to 29%)**
- Child marriages are on the rise coupled with school drop outs for girls (about **47% of girls** marry before their 18th birthday and **25% of girls** never finish primary school)
- Slow reduction in maternal mortality
- Resource constraints continue to affect scale and impact
- The threat of emergencies still exist
- Culture of silence and decisiveness in eliminating harmful cultural practices that disadvantage women and girls
- A large population of young people **(more than 70% of the population)** require significant investment in education, skill and health (family planning) to harness demographic dividend for Malawi

Therefore, as we begin 2017, we carry the impetus of the preceding year and the same desire to address these challenges that exist among us. Young and marginalized adolescent girls must be kept in school and ensure they receive quality education, including comprehensive sexuality education.

Every girl, no matter where she is born should have an opportunity to reach her potential. We must safeguard her from child marriage, harmful cultural practices, HIV and teen pregnancy and build her as an agent of change in the society by ensuring universal access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR).

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Above all, **we must put young people at the heart of development** and leave no one behind on the road to 2030.



## PROMOTION OF SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS SERVICES

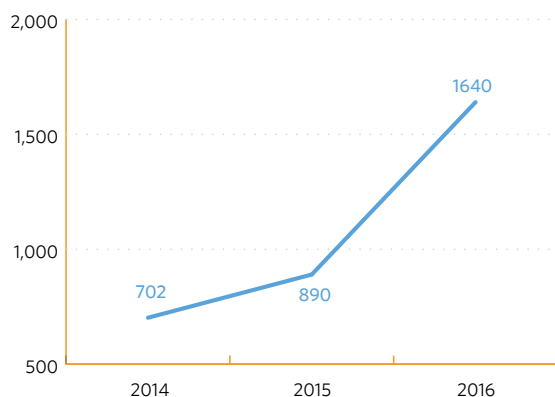
An estimated **1,640 maternal deaths** were averted in 2016

UNFPA Malawi promotes increased availability and use of integrated sexual and reproductive health services (including family planning, maternal health and HIV) that are gender-responsive and meet human rights standards for quality of care and equity in access in the five districts of focus.

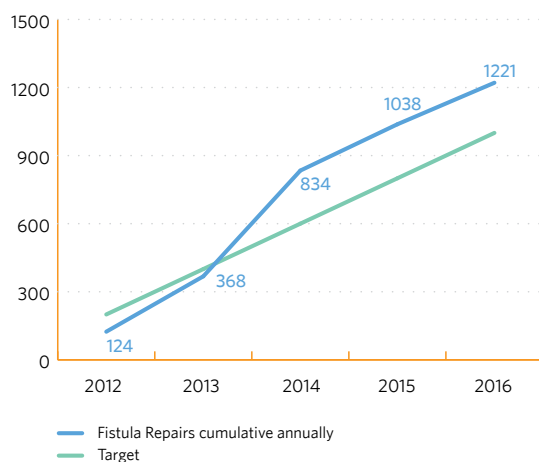
### Progress 2016

- 40 Maternal death and Surveillance Response committee including the National Confidential Inquiry Committee were supported and are functional to audit maternal deaths; provide recommendations and follow up.
- 183 women with obstetrical fistulae successfully repaired.
- 17 midwifery students were offered scholarships at the University of Malawi- Kamuzu College of Nursing to increase the number of skilled birth attendants at service delivery level.

## Number of maternal deaths averted



## Fistula Repairs cumulative annually



### Ending AIDS through integrated care: Combining sexual and reproductive health and HIV services in Malawi

Five years ago, people living with HIV could only receive HIV services and antiretroviral therapy (ARV) at Mzenga Health Centre in Malawi's Nkhata Bay district on Tuesdays. As a result, anyone seen entering the clinic on that day of the week was branded as living with HIV and subjected to stigma and discrimination by the community.

"It was so pathetic that at times people pretended to come to draw water at the borehole close to the hospital, but their main intention was to see us come and get the [HIV] drugs," says Amos Banda, age 31, who began receiving ARV at the Mzenga clinic in 2008.



#### Read more of this story:

<http://www.unfpa.org/news/ending-aids-through-integrated-care-combining-sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-hiv-services>

- National SRH/HIV integration strategy to guide the scaling up of HIV and SRH integration was finalized and disseminated.
- With strengthened District Health Information Software (DHIS-2) web based system in Malawi, it was made possible to generate the following:
  - Couple years of protection estimated at 1,188,500,
  - maternal death averted at 1,640 and
  - Unintended pregnancies averted were estimated at 354,780.



## ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR WOMEN

Through various programmes such as the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, GEWE project, UNFPA facilitated the creation and supporting of an enabling environment for women to claim and exercise their right to enjoyment of SRH, mitigation of Gender Based violence and participation in decision-making in the public and private sectors as well as being economically empowered.

### Progress 2016

- National Gender Policy and was approved, launched and is now operational. The policy will guide the implementation of all gender activities in Malawi and will hold stakeholders accountable to their commitment to mainstreaming Gender in their programmes.
- A web based Integrated Gender Management Information System (GMIS) for Gender, Children,

Youth and Sports Sector was finalized to support evidence based response and programming (<http://www.childaffairs.gov.mw>).

The GMIS includes a module on Gender Based Violence that enables users to generate real time data on GBV incidences across all the 28 districts of the country.

- Gender studies (Diploma, Bachelors and Master's Degrees) were institutionalized at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) and Chancellor College where 160 students have been offered scholarships. This will broaden the pool of Gender experts in the country, thereby strengthening the capacity of Gender programming.
- Additional 22 mother groups were established in 13 target districts bringing the total number of groups established to 128 with an estimated total membership of 1,299 women.

- 75 secondary school girls including teen mothers were provided with education bursaries as one way of promoting girls' education.
- Simplified and translated GEA and other Gender related Laws such as the Prevention of Domestic violence Act, Deceased estates, Wills and Inheritance Act, Marriage Divorce and Family relations Act were disseminated and distributed.
- 38 new legal literacy clubs were established in 2016 bringing the total number of clubs established so far to 127.
- A total of 65 mobile court sessions were undertaken in 2016 where a total of 308 cases were handled. Out of the total cases 66% were successfully concluded.

In 2016, UNFPA completed a five year Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Project funded by the European Union and UNFPA. The project was implemented across 13 districts in Malawi. The overall objective of the Programme was to contribute towards acceleration of efforts to advance gender equality and equity as a human right for the reduction of HIV/AIDS and poverty in line with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) and the National Gender Policy (NGP).



#### Community One Stop Centre brought my family back

Having dropped out from Domasi Secondary school in Zomba while in form three in 2007, Daniel Kasekwe, 32 years old, had no other option but getting married to her long-time girlfriend, Jane. They lived together for five years and had two children in Namahara village in Chiradzulu district. Through hard work and enterprising, Daniel started to get more money. However, instead of supporting his family, it was time to have fun. He hardly recalls the number of friends he would go drinking beer with because they were many. Things started to change in their family because he no longer found it necessary to support his wife and two children. "I used to leave my home early morning together with friends and go drinking: I thought I was having fun and it was all good for me" he narrates.



#### Read more of this story:

<http://malawi.unfpa.org/news/community-one-stop-centre-brought-my-family-back>



## NEW TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE HIV PREVENTION SERVICES

Condom uptake among sex workers increased from below **50% in 2015 to 74% in 2016** in the impact districts.

### Engaging Malawi Police Service to promote access to SRH and rights for female sex workers

UNFPA and Pakachere Institute organized a two day workshop on sex workers rights and access to sexual and reproductive health services by engaging senior police commissioners within the Malawi Police Service (MPS). The meeting was convened with an aim of facilitating the creation of an enabling environment for the reduction of vulnerability and addressing structural barriers to accessing sexual reproductive health and rights including HIV services among female sex workers.

UNFPA in Malawi strives to ensure that National institutions have the capacity to use new and innovative technologies and evidence- informed best practices to deliver cost-effective, high-quality, gender-sensitive HIV- prevention services to key populations.

### Progress 2016

- National Sex Work Alliance, Malawi Police Service, the Judiciary and networks of adolescents and young people living with HIV were trained to strengthen their capacity to respond to HIV/AIDS.
- Sex work networks were reconstituted in Dedza, Mchinji, Nkhata Bay, Mangochi and Chiradzulu to enable Sex workers access services at 'friendly' drop-in centres.
- Condom uptake among sex workers increased from below 50% in 2015 to 74% in 2016 in the impact districts.



**Read more of this story:**

<http://malawi.unfpa.org/news/engaging-malawi-police-service-promote-access-srh-and-rights-female-sex-workers>



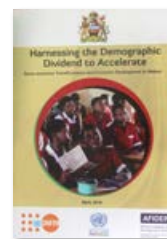
## POPULATION DATA INTEGRATED INTO POLICIES

UNFPA ensures that National institutions have the capacity to generate data and integrate population dynamics into development policies and programmes.

### Progress 2016

- The demographic dividend study was successfully completed. A study report and six policy briefs on DD were produced. This was followed up by dissemination of the DD report at the national level and in the three regions of the country: South; Centre; and Northern regions. If implemented, the DD policy and investment recommendations are set to enhance responsive programming with respect to population dynamics for sustainable development.
- The Curriculum of the Department of population studies at Chancellor College was revised and will soon start to offer a Bachelor of Social Science in population studies and a further possibility of a Masters degree in Population Studies.
- Seven National Statistical Office staff were trained in Geo referencing preparation for 2018 national population and housing census.
- The demarcation of wards and enumeration Areas in preparation for 2018 Population and housing census was also successfully completed. A total of 91 TAs /Wards were updated. To date, 92% of TA maps have been updated.
- DHS key indicators were released and Info graphics on Nutrition, Sexual and Reproductive, Child Health and education were completed.

The demarcation of wards and enumeration Areas in preparation for 2018 Population and housing census was also successfully completed. **A total of 91 TAs/Wards were updated.** To date, 92% of TA maps have been updated



**Download the Malawi DD Report on:**

<http://malawi.unfpa.org/resources/malawi-demographic-dividend-report-2016>



## ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE



### Joint Programme on Girls' Education

**79 schools in the three districts** are linked to 21 JPGE-supported Health Facilities where youth both in and out of school are able to access a variety of YFHS and Youth recreation.

UNFPA aims at improving programming and increasing access to essential sexual and reproductive health services to marginalized adolescent and young people in and out of school.

### Progress 2016

The country office is currently coordinating two projects, Safeguard young People and the UN Joint Program on Girls Education.

Therefore under the UN Joint Program on Girls Education, below is the summary progress:

- Improvements in pass rates and the decline in dropout rates have been recorded in the supported districts (see the graph on page 13).
- 79 schools in the three districts are linked to 21 JPGE-supported Health Facilities where youth both in and out of school are able to access a variety of YFHS and Youth recreation.

- 56.33% of Young people in Salima, Dedza and Mangochi Districts are now accessing youth friendly health services.
- 100 % of girls (Standard 5-8) are participating in comprehensive sexuality education sessions in the three targeted districts.
- 30.9% of girls (Standard 5 to 8) hold positions of leadership in school clubs compared to 16.8% at baseline.
- 105 clubs have been established and strengthened (in and out of school).
- 100% of girls in targeted schools were trained and have knowledge on sanitary pads production.

### Girls drop out trend JPGE

	Salima	Mangochi	Dedza	Total
2013/14	874	1028	531	2433
2015/16	250	669	331	1250
Change	624	359	200	1183

Under the One UN Policy Initiative and safeguard young people project, below are the highlights:

- By the end of 2016, more than 200,000 young people were reached with information and counselling on CSE through Youth friendly health facilities, social media and out-reach events.
- Simplified version of the Marriage Act 2015 were translated into Tumbuka and Chichewa.
- Cultural Study Report was disseminated in the six SYP districts and action plans developed.
- The Youth Status Report was launched in January by H.E Prof Arthur Peter Mutharika as a UN Youth Champion during National Youth Conference.
- An online CSE programme was provided to 563 teachers from respective schools who were oriented through face-to-face on In School CSE curriculum content with an expected potential of reaching 281,500 students.
- 191 people accessed HTC during the CONDOMIZE Campaign (84 males and 107 females between ages of 14-24).
- A song campaigning to end child marriages and harmful cultural practices titled 'champweteka chimanga' by SYP music Artist was launched and enjoying extensive airplay on the local radio and TV stations and downloads.

### Periods not a problem thanks to pad-making club in Malawi

After finishing class for the day, Fatima Muhammed and Deborah Chavula head to their school's sewing room to make sanitary napkins. It is an unusual after-school activity, but a vital one: They distribute the pads to their fellow female students, helping to keep girls from missing class or dropping out because of their periods. Fatima and Deborah, both 13, began leading this activity at their school, All Angels Primary in Senga Bay, Salima District, after attending a week-long training session on reproductive health and hygiene. The session included lessons on how to make the pads using sewing machines.



#### Read more of this story:

<http://www.unfpa.org/news/periods-not-a-problem-thanks-pad-making-club-malawi>



**563 teachers were oriented** through face-to-face on In School CSE curriculum content with an expected potential of reaching 281,500 students



#### Launch of the Tune-Me mobile site

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, Youth and Manpower development under the Safeguarding Young People Programme recently launched the Tune-Me mobile site ([mw.tuneme.org](http://mw.tuneme.org)) for Malawian Youth to have access to sexual reproductive health information. The site allows young people ask questions on relationships; find out information on the best options of family planning methods as well as facts about HIV and AIDS and many more.



#### Read more of this story:

<http://malawi.unfpa.org/news/tune-me-mobile-site-srh-information-launched>



## ENHANCED COUNTRY OFFICE PARTICIPATION IN DELIVERING AS ONE UN AND UN REFORMS

UNFPA promotes Country Office participation in UN Reforms.

### Progress 2016

- The country office continued to participate in the seven interagency technical working groups (in which UNFPA's mandate is operationalized); OMT, HACT, UNICTWG, M&ETWG, Human Rights, UNCG, Gender TWG, Social protection TWG and UN Humanitarian TWG.
- The CO implemented three Joint UN programmes, Joint UN Programme on Adolescent Girls (JPAG), Joint UN Programme on Girls Education (JPGE) and Joint Gender AWP.
- The CO operationalized the planning, monitoring and reporting tools as jointly developed in various clusters and have been functional in web based real time monitoring for implementation of UNDAF Action Plan [www.un-mw-rms.prome.web.com](http://www.un-mw-rms.prome.web.com).

The country office continued to participate in the **seven interagency technical working groups** (in which UNFPA's mandate is operationalized); OMT, HACT, UNICTWG, M&ETWG, Human Rights, UNCG and UN Humanitarian TWG



## EVIDENCE BASED PROGRAMMING

### **116 (87 male and 29 female)**

District Civil Protection Committees (CPC) members Area and Village CPC members were trained in M&E skills on Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to Gender -Based Violence during Emergencies.

Enhanced programme effectiveness through improved results and evidence based programming.

### **Progress 2016**

- 116 (87 male and 29 female) District Civil Protection Committees (CPC) members Area and Village CPC members were trained in M&E skills on Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to Gender -Based Violence in Emergencies. The training targeted the 4 districts likely to be affected by food shortage due to the El Nino effects.
- In the course of the year, the CO supported the mid-term evaluation of the regional programme for Safe Guard Young people.
- Designed the mid-point impact evaluation of the joint programme on girls education.
- Facilitated the impact evaluation of the gender Equality and Women Empowerment Programme.



## INCREASED ADAPTABILITY THROUGH INNOVATION, PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION

### Progress 2016

- 42 media personnel were trained in Human rights, family planning and demographic dividend.
- More than 55 UNFPA media mentions recorded in the print and online media up from 28 in the year 2015. On average, UNFPA was mentioned at least every week by the print or online media.
- Increased number UNFPA country office website users (more than 3200) with about 76% being new users.
- On social media, impressions have increased from 96.2K to 196K over a period of one year.
- UNFPA partnered with Nation Publications Limited to support the yearly advocacy event of Mothers' day Fun Run in Mzimba district in support of preventing maternal death in Malawi.

**42 media personnel** were trained in Human rights, family planning and demographic dividend

#### Malawi set to harness demographic dividend

Malawi's youthful and unproductive population, though currently a burden for the country to provide them with social services, could be turned into an opportunity if the country makes necessary investments in it. This realisation—popularly termed as demographic dividend—will be subject of discussion in Lilongwe from Tuesday to Thursday next week as the country convenes the 2016 National Conference on Population and Development.



**Read more of this story:**

<http://mw.nation.com/malawi-set-to-harness-demographic-dividend/>

**Core funds:** (also known as “un-earmarked” or “unrestricted” or “core”) mean resources available to UNFPA that are commingled and untied. These include revenues, contributions, other governmental or intergovernmental payments to UNFPA, other contributions from non-governmental sources, including foundations, private-sector organizations and individuals and interest earnings.

**Non core funds:** also known as other resources are earmarked or restricted resources of UNFPA other than regular resources (core funds), which are received for a specific programme purpose consistent with the mandate of UNFPA and for the provision of specific services to third parties.

## Resources in 2016

Contributions to UNFPA Malawi country office programme totalled \$11, 006 433 in 2016. Below is breakdown.

Description	Amount (\$USD)	Percentage (%)
Core funds	3,982,768	36.19%
Non-core funds	7,023,665	63.81%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,006,433</b>	<b>100%</b>



Core funds  
**36.19%**

Non-Core funds  
**63.81%**

## Partners

1. Development Aid From People to People
  2. Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation
  3. Church and Society- Livingstonia Synod
  4. Creative Centre for Community Mobilization
  5. Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace
  6. Government of Malawi –Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development
  7. Ministry of Labour, Youth and Manpower Development
  8. Ministry of Health-RH Directorate
  9. Ministry of Gender, Disability, Children and Social Welfare
  10. Salima District Council
  11. Mchinji District Council
  12. Mangochi District Council
  13. NkhataBay District Council
  14. Dedza District Council
  15. Chiradzulu District Council
  16. Malawi Law Commission
  17. National Statistical Office
  18. Pakachere Institute of Health and Development Communication
  19. Malawi Interfaith Aids Association
  20. University of Malawi- Chancellor College
  21. Family Planning Association Malawi
  22. Ecumenical Counselling Centre
  23. Malawi Girl Guides Association
  24. Youth Net and Counselling
  25. Malawi Human Rights Centre
  26. Women's Legal Resource Centre
- 

## Donors

1. European Union
  2. Norwegian Government
  3. Switzerland Government -Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)
  4. One UN (Delivering Results Together - DRT)-MPTF Office
  5. DFID
  6. UN Foundation
  7. Trust Fund
  8. Sweden
- 



The background of the top half of the page is a photograph of a woman and several children riding bicycles. The woman, wearing sunglasses and a light-colored t-shirt, is in the center, looking towards the right. To her left, a young boy in a white shirt with a yellow collar is smiling. To her right, another boy in a dark shirt with a yellow collar is looking down. In the background, other children in similar white shirts with yellow collars are visible. The entire image has a warm, orange-yellow tint.

**UNFPA**

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every pregnancy is wanted,  
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