In 2022, the world hit a major milestone as the population reached 8 billion people. This marker signifies a time to reflect on the quality of life for those 8 billion and witness the major transformations happening worldwide and in Mozambique. With youth under 30 accounting for 80% of the population, the country stands ready to reap the benefits of the demographic dividend, but only if the right investments are made in health, education, and employment. UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency, is part of that change, with 2022 being a year of agility and ingenuity to ensure women, girls, and youth safely access quality sexual and reproductive health services, exercise their bodily autonomy, and build their capabilities to achieve their full potential.

2022 marked the first year of UNFPA Mozambique's 10th country program document (CPD), which puts inclusion, innovation, strategic partnerships, data transformation, and analytics at the core of our work, particularly as UNFPA supports the Government in achieving the ambitious goals of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda. Our partnership with youth was at the heart of our programming, as illustrated through public consultations involving 100 youth organizations on the National Development Strategy (ENDE), and active youth participation in the design and implementation of our programs.

In line with the new CPD, UNFPA invested in data policy and thought leadership through multi-stakeholder partnerships to co-create and share knowledge and innovations to facilitate high-level political dialogue and action between partners and the Government, including with parliamentary committees. Advocating for the timely and effective use of data and analysis remained a key priority for UNFPA to position population dynamics as a core development issue and advance the youth and demographic dividend agenda.

In a 2022 analysis, UNFPA globally estimated that for every dollar invested in family planning and maternal health in developing countries, the return on investment to families and societies would be $8.40 USD. Recognizing that family planning is the foundation of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), with multiplier effects across education, skills and work, gender equality, health, and more, UNFPA was the main United Nations partner supporting the achievements of Mozambique’s Family Planning 2030 Commitments (launched in 2022), and focused its advocacy toward ensuring the Government’s commitment to allocating domestic funding towards family planning. Scaling-up availability and access to family planning remains a
priority to achieve the transformative results of zero unmet need for contraception and zero preventable maternal deaths. In 2022, 'UNFPA Supplies' provided 38% of the contraceptives needed in Mozambique.

We also strengthened our triple nexus (humanitarian-development-peace) programming in Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Niassa, supporting the Government’s Strategy for Resilience and Development for the North (ERDIN) to strengthen health and social systems, build community resilience and support peacebuilding efforts. Concurrently, we deployed humanitarian specialists on SRH and GBV to Pemba, Nampula, and Maputo to better respond to the impact of the conflict and natural disasters on women and girls.

Working in hard-to-reach areas with limited health and social services, UNFPA procured and deployed mobile clinics, ambulance boats, and containerized operating theaters to ensure those most affected receive lifesaving care. As the primary agency leading on GBV in emergencies, UNFPA co-led the first-ever GBV Area of Responsibility and the roll-out of the inter-agency GBV information management system, a first for the country and a key tool to scale-up advocacy and GBV programming in the north. UNFPA further strengthened emergency prevention, risk mitigation, and response interventions by promoting access to multi-sectoral GBV services through one-stop centers and by reinforcing partner capacity on GBV case management.

Through these efforts, nearly 400,000 women, adolescents, and youth gained access to SRH and GBV prevention and response services in the northern provinces in 2022.

UNFPA developed new partnerships while nurturing existing ones, through strategic engagements, agreements, and collaborations, including, for example, through south-south cooperations. Reinforcing the impact of data for decision-making, UNFPA worked with Government partners to develop thematic studies that provide in-depth analysis based on the 2017 Population and Housing Census data. The year 2022 marked a significant milestone in data for development as the enumeration for the family budget survey and demographic and health survey was complete. Data analysis is set to take place in 2023.

Through UN joint programs such as Rapariga Biz, the Spotlight Initiative, and the Global Programme to End Child Marriage, 2022 focused on strengthening young people’s agency and decision-making power over their bodies, lives, and future through increased mentorship that reached some 322,000 youth nationwide. Lastly, to end one of the most devastating and preventable childbirth conditions, UNFPA played a leading role with the Government to convene medical experts, researchers, and advocates from around the world for the 8th International Conference of Surgeons for Obstetric Fistula in Maputo. A first for the region and a lusophone country, the conference reinforced the Government of Mozambique’s commitment to End Fistula by 2030.

Working hand-in-hand with Government and civil society, and through the support of our development partners, UNFPA helped avert 1.1 million unintended pregnancies and 3,100 maternal deaths in 2022 - and we hope to double those figures in 2023. UNFPA worked with some 40 national partners to jointly and effectively deliver a program budget of $32.5 million USD.

We hope our ‘2022 Year in Review’ newsletter will provide a useful visual snapshot of our achievements and efforts. Let’s continue the momentum in 2023 and deliver a Mozambique where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled.
Where We Work
Highlights and Achievements

Quality of care and services:
57% of health facilities nationwide did not experience a stock-out of contraceptives at any given time, surpassing the target of 45%.

139,000 adolescent girls and young women accessed gender-based violence (GBV)-related services, surpassing the target of 119,000.

90% of integrated GBV assistance centers operated according to national protocols.

Gender and social norms:

480,000 adolescent girls and young women increased their knowledge and awareness of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and GBV prevention and response services.

28,600 adolescent boys learned about gender equality, SRHR, and positive masculinities through mentorship sessions.

460 local leaders led community dialogues on the SRHR of adolescents.

Data and policy:

17 thematic studies are under development based on the results of the 2017 Census.

Data enumeration completed for the demographic and health survey.

Impact due to the use of modern methods of contraceptives:

1.1 million unintended pregnancies averted

252,000 unsafe abortions averted

3,100 maternal deaths averted

Reaching the 3 Transformative Results
Ending Preventable Maternal Deaths

UNFPA worked to protect the lives of pregnant women and their newborn children through activities ranging from increasing access to life-saving emergency obstetric and neonatal care in rural communities to strengthening the health system workforce through the development of a new national Maternal and Child Health curriculum, and more.

In 2022, UNFPA facilitated the development of a new National Obstetric Fistula Strategy and costed operational plan (2023-2033) and served as a leading technical and financial partner to the Government as they hosted the 8th International Conference of Obstetric Fistula Surgeons and Working Group with participants from 32 countries, of which, half were from Mozambique.

UNFPA supported the organization of a maternal mortality annual national committee, with 90% of cases reviewed for action, and the strengthening of an EmONC (Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care) network of health facilities to scale up the availability and quality of such services and support the reduction of maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity. With increased advocacy, the Ministry of Health committed to an investment case on family planning and maternal deaths, reinforcing their priority within the national development agenda.
Ending the Unmet Need for Family Planning

Through close collaboration with the Government and with support from development partners, UNFPA implemented a range of activities aimed at reducing the 23% unmet need for family planning in Mozambique and increasing access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information, modern contraceptive methods, and youth-friendly family planning services.

To strengthen supply chain tracking, and to the last mile, UNFPA strengthened the operationalisation of the Government’s Logistic Management Information System (LMIS) through capacity building. As a result, 96% of the country’s health facilities are now using the electronic LMIS, reinforcing the Government’s commitment to identify and prevent stock-outs of commodities in health facilities and take immediate corrective measures. In addition, through UNFPA’s support and advocacy, Mifepristone was integrated into the electronic LMIS as part of the national drug list, representing a critical step towards improving access to quality healthcare in Mozambique.

Lastly, UNFPA is a crucial partner in achieving Mozambique’s Family Planning 2030 Commitments, which were officially launched in July 2022. One commitment made is the allocation of domestic funding for family planning. As part of joint advocacy to advance this commitment, the UNFPA
Supplies “Compact Agreement” was signed in December 2022, and endorsed by the Ministry of Health. Through this agreement, the Government of Mozambique commits to increasing domestic budget allocations by committing a minimum of 1% of state budget to meet contraceptive needs.

Ending GBV and All Harmful Practices

By their 17th birthday, four in 10 girls in Mozambique will be married (Census 2017). While this alarming statistic represents a disheartening reality for many, it constitutes just one of the ways in which women and girls are affected by gender-based violence (GBV) and harmful practices.

From expanded access to GBV services through the rehabilitation and furnishing of remote-based Integrated Assistance Centers (CAIs) and Adolescent and Youth Friendly Services (SAAJs) to mass media campaigns that reached more than six million people and the capacity building of healthcare professionals in survivor-centered GBV response, UNFPA led and supported efforts to ensure survivors received timely and integrated care.

In 2022, adolescent girls and young women were better able to identify and report cases of GBV, and increased their awareness of related topics, through mentorship-based programming. As a result, 200
cases of rights violations were referred to victim support services, and 5,000 girls began using related SRH services. UNFPA helped build the capacity of Government officials from the Health, Gender, Social Affairs, Police, and Justice sectors to better provide the essential services package - leading to 20,000 GBV survivors receiving assistance in health centers and SAAJs.

UNFPA helped improve the quality of GBV data collection tools for case management and the use of accurate and timely information by expanding the digital platform - InfoViolência - and harmonizing the Single Form (Ficha Unica). Following the training of 164 police officers, and the expansion of InfoViolência in the capital city and select provinces, the number of GBV cases entered into the platform tripled from 2021 to 2022.

**Strategic Enablers**

**Investing in Youth**

Mozambique has a youthful population, with 79% of the population aged 0-35, making young people the fastest-growing age group between the last two Censuses of 2007 and 2017, and key to the country’s economic and social development. To ensure Mozambique can benefit from this “demographic dividend”, UNFPA - under the leadership of the Government of Mozambique - works
UNFPA helped reach 287,000 girls and young women and 35,000 boys and young men through a peer-to-peer mentorship in safe spaces approach, internationally recognized as a best practice to obtain important gains in social and behavior change outcomes. “I see positive transformation in the behavior and attitude of the group I mentor. They realize the equality and equity that must exist between girls and boys,” explains one male mentor. The impact of the sessions is also evident through the remarkably low rates of early pregnancy and child marriage among girls aged 10-19 that are enrolled in the programme, 0.9% and 0.7% percent, respectively, in 2022.

With a focus on leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first, UNFPA also implemented several initiatives to benefit young persons with disabilities (PwD) in 2022. One example was through the Disability and Inclusion Hackathon where young PwD teamed up with developers to find solutions to challenges linked to access to services and information, particularly concerning their sexual and reproductive health and bodily autonomy. Three winning teams received professional support to develop prototypes for their solutions and were invited to present these ideas at various national government meetings and global webinars.
Data for Development

In 2022, UNFPA worked closely with the National Institute of Statistics (INE) and the Ministry of Economy and Finance to support evidence-based decision-making, public policy, and social infrastructure planning. This year saw the ongoing development of 17 thematic studies based on the 2017 Census and the publishing of the Mozambique Human Development Index, 2011 - 2021.

On topics ranging from urbanization to population dynamics, the thematic studies better address the demand for in-depth thematic analysis of census data by identifying geographical disparities and inequalities. UNFPA also helped build the capacity of INE and government staff on gender statistics and geospatial data analysis. With technical support from UNFPA, INE completed the Family Budget Survey and the Demographic and Health Survey. Data analysis will take place in 2023, with survey dissemination to happen later that year.

In addition, UNFPA supported the Government to produce and disseminate demographic atlases and district statistics through Census geospatial coordinates to guide public policy development. Lastly, UNFPA played a key role in coordination, to both set the stage for the 2027 electronic census planning and to also use data and statistics to develop Government-led policy briefs, including on the investments needed to achieve and benefit from a demographic dividend.

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Humanitarian Assistance and the Triple Nexus: Humanitarian - Development - Peace

In 2022, insecurity and violence in Cabo Delgado displaced nearly 1 million people across the northern provinces, with two-thirds being women and children. Despite this challenging environment, in 2022, nearly 400,000 women, adolescents, and youth received sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services supported by UNFPA in the north of Mozambique.
Considering the large closure of maternity wards, UNFPA procured and installed containerized surgical units for basic and emergency obstetric care, and procured and deployed ambulance boats to transport pregnant women from remote islands to city hospitals for life-saving care. Mobile clinics scaled up their operations in 2022, traveling to remote areas and in locations with high concentrations of displaced persons to provide basic and emergency obstetric care, ante- and post-natal care, family planning, HIV service provision, and screening for cervical cancer.

As the primary agency working on GBV in humanitarian crises and the provider of last resort, UNFPA addressed emergency prevention, risk mitigation, and response needs while strengthening GBV coordination mechanisms and promoting timely access to multi-sectoral GBV services by establishing one-stop centres and reinforcing partner capacity on GBV case management. UNFPA also strengthened data collection and analysis through a GBV information management system that is being rolled out in 2023.

UNFPA focuses as much on building resilience and prevention as it does on providing life-saving services. The agency's humanitarian-development-peacebuilding approach addresses the unique needs of women and girls, builds and strengthens health and social systems, enhances individual and community resilience, and contributes to disaster risk reduction and peacebuilding.

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Communications Corner

**Engaging boys to promote and protect girls' rights**

**Hackability4Moz: Innovation to leave no one behind**

**“The blood that runs in our veins is the same”**

**UNFPA Reaffirms its Commitment to End Fistula**
Partnerships

**Development partners:**
Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, European Union, Flanders, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, World Bank/UNOPS, Zonta International, United Nations CERF and multi-donor trust funds and emergency funds managed by UNFPA.

**Non-governmental partners:**
AIFO, AMODEFA, CAM, Coalizão da Juventude, DKT, Focus Fistula, Fórum Mulher, Fundação Wiwanana, Fundo para o Desenvolvimento da Comunidade (FDC), Good Neighbors, IPAS, Kutenga, MULEIDE, NAFEZA, PSI Mozambique, Right to Play International, and Rede Hopem.
Government partners: