



# Building Support

Helping to fulfil the commitment of world leaders to keep gender equality, HIV/AIDS and reproductive health at the top of the global development agenda.

Population and reproductive health moved to the heart of the global development agenda at the 2005 World Summit in September as a result of strong support by the United Nations Member States. UNFPA was actively involved in supporting the Member States as they prepared for this largest-ever gathering of world leaders. It helped identify the key linkages between the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). UNFPA also forged partnerships with parliamentarians and NGOs to define key messages and strategies that would ensure a successful outcome.

The outcome was an endorsement at the highest level of the critical role that reproductive health plays in the achievement of the MDGs. The agreement reached at the Summit represents a big step forward. World leaders committed themselves to: “Achieving universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development, integrating this goal in strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV/AIDS and eradicating poverty”.

## GOVERNMENTS

More countries contributed to UNFPA in 2005 than in any year since the Fund began operations in 1969, bringing the number of donor nations to 172, compared to the 2004 record of 166. Every nation in sub-Saharan Africa pledged funds to UNFPA in 2005. Contributions to the UNFPA regular resources last year were also the highest ever—increasing to \$351.2 million (provisional) from the previous year’s level of \$322.5 million. The top six donors (regular funds contributions) were the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Japan, United Kingdom, Denmark and Germany.

The governments of 148 countries, areas and territories requested UNFPA assistance in 2005 to address reproductive health and population issues, and to raise awareness of these issues.

- Throughout 2005, UNFPA organized briefings for parliamentarians from all regions on the Millennium Declaration review process and other ICPD issues. The Fund also highlighted the importance of the linkages between the ICPD and the MDGs at meetings hosted by various parliamentary groups, including the African Speakers of Parliament Conference in May in Chad, the G8 International Parliamentarians’ Conference on Development in Africa, in June, in Scotland, and the Asian Women Parliamentarians and Ministers Conference on “Engendering the MDGs”, in August, in Sri Lanka.
- The African Parliament, a multinational legislative entity of the African Union, established a committee in 2005 to encourage parliamentarians to

make population issues a priority. UNFPA made plans for future cooperation with the new Committee on Population and Development of African Speakers of Parliaments, and continued to enhance the skills and capacity of the Regional Network of African Women Ministers and Parliamentarians in advocacy, resource mobilization and leadership.

- Strategic partnerships were formalized in 2005 to support the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) Plan of Action and ensure a focus on reproductive health and population issues. A Memorandum of Understanding was entered into effect between UNFPA and the African Union.
- UNFPA implemented a joint work plan with UNICEF and the City Council of Nairobi, Kenya, to make motherhood safer and improve infant health in the city’s urban settlements, and addressed drug abuse and HIV/AIDS with other United Nations partners. At a regional conference on youth in the Middle East and North Africa, held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, UNFPA advised local municipal authorities on ways to involve young people in their work.
- The ongoing partnership between UNFPA and the League of Arab States resulted in the integration in 2005 of the Pan Arab Project of Family Health (PAPFAM) into the League’s organizational structure. PAPFAM—a multi-country reproductive health and demographic survey supported by UNFPA, the Arab Gulf Programme for United Nations Development Organizations (AGFUND) and other United Nations

organizations—has become an established regional reference centre for credible, detailed and in-depth information on the health, social and environmental status of the Arab family.

### NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Partnerships with non-governmental organizations represent a valuable source of support for UNFPA. NGOs mobilize political will and raise funds that advance the ICPD agenda and progress towards the MDGs. UNFPA provided technical support to NGO-sponsored meetings throughout the year. Activities focused on the ICPD and MDG linkages. The Fund also worked with regional networks, such as the European NGOs for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Population and Development (EuroNGOs), as well as the Asia-Pacific Alliance: Advancing the ICPD Agenda.

### UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS

UNFPA is committed to a more effective and cohesive United Nations system. As a member of the United Nations Development Group, UNFPA played a leadership role in speeding up United Nations reform and making sure it has a meaningful impact on United

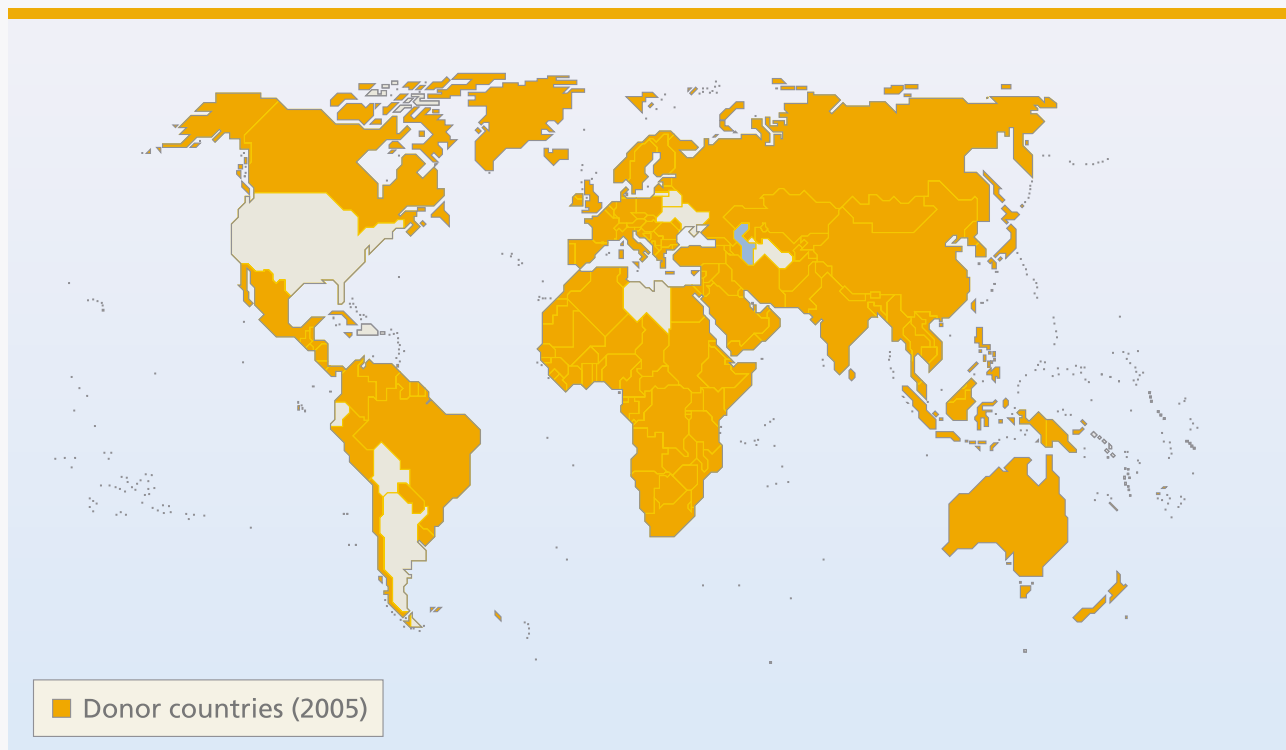
Nations country teams as they serve their national counterparts. UNFPA worked to align the organization's internal culture with overarching goals for reform and teamwork, such as better coordination, less duplication, a rational division of labour based on comparative advantages, and reduced transaction and administration costs. In particular, UNFPA welcomed progress in the common country programme, joint offices and joint programmes, and the strengthened Resident Coordinator system, as important steps forward.

### FOUNDATIONS

- The United Nations Foundation (UNF), established in 1998 by U.S. media entrepreneur Ted Turner, continued to support UNFPA through grants, advocacy and partnership. UNF, together with the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and Zonta International, approved \$450,000 for UNFPA work in post-tsunami reconstruction in Indonesia and the prevention of gender-based violence in tsunami-affected areas of Sri Lanka. Zonta International worked with UNFPA to develop another project to prevent gender-based violence among the Darfur refugees in Chad.



## A World of Support for UNFPA



With 172 donor countries, UNFPA enjoys the broadest base of support of any United Nations agency. This includes commitments from every country in sub-Saharan Africa and each region of the world.

- UNF disbursed \$4 million in 2005 for a dozen UNFPA projects to strengthen advocacy, ensure commodity security, support women affected by the tsunami, improve quality of care in Nepal, license reproductive health clinics in Honduras, and train health workers in Afghanistan.
- To raise awareness of child marriage, UNF promised to match funds raised by Domini Global Giving for a UNFPA campaign in Ethiopia to find alternatives to child marriage. UNF also joined with the Nike Foundation in a three-year \$1.5 million project developed in 2005 by UNFPA and the Population Council to discourage child marriage.
- The OPEC Fund for International Development continued to collaborate with UNFPA in a three-year programme to prevent HIV/AIDS among vulnerable youth in six countries of Central America and the Caribbean and seven countries in the Arab region. In 2002, the OPEC Fund pledged a total of \$4.2 million towards the two campaigns. Also, in June 2005, the OPEC Fund approved a grant of \$250,000 to co-finance the second phase of PAFAM survey, which is supported by UNFPA, AGFUND and other United Nations organizations.

## CELEBRITIES FOR UNFPA

UNFPA Goodwill Ambassadors use their performing arts skills and celebrity status to reach vast audiences, particularly young people, around the world with information about population issues and reproductive health.

- Mpule Kwelagobe of Botswana, Miss Universe 1999, took the stage in New York City along with musicians, artists and speakers from around the world on 1 December 2005 to commemorate World AIDS Day at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. She also spent August in Botswana urging support for youth and community volunteer programmes.
- Portuguese actress Catarina Furtado, 32, became the youngest person ever to be awarded Portugal's "Ordem de Mérito—Comendador" for outstanding community service.
- Japan's Yuko Arimori, an Olympic marathon runner, engaged in an extended goodwill mission



Photo: UNFPA Cambodia

UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador and German television host Alfred Biolek (far right) during a January 2005 visit to UNFPA-supported projects in Cambodia. The trip generated widespread media attention, including from the German TV programme "Brisant" and the newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

through Kenya and Tanzania, drawing attention to the need for youth education and health care. Her messages reached tens of millions of Japanese newspaper readers and television viewers.

- Australian singer, actress and model Natalie Imbruglia became spokesperson for the UNFPA-led Campaign to End Fistula. She visited fistula hospitals in Nigeria and Ethiopia in January and returned in August with journalists, photographers and filmmakers from the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia.

## POPULATION AWARD

The United Nations Population Award goes each year to individuals and institutions for outstanding work in population and in improving the health and welfare of individuals.

In 2005, the award went to a leading demographer, Mercedes Concepcion of the Philippines, and Guatemala's largest private family planning provider, Asociación Pro-Bienestar de la Familia de Guatemala.