From the Director's desk

The HIV epidemic is far from over with several regions experiencing sharp increases in new infections across the world. Today about 1.7 million people acquire HIV every year and 10 million people await treatment.

UNFPA, as a founding Cosponsor of UNAIDS, is a key partner in the global response to HIV, working at global and regional levels, and on the ground in over 140 countries advocating for sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and for a scale-up in SRHR services, intensifying HIV prevention, supplying male and female condoms, and tackling gender inequalities.

This evaluation was undertaken to assess the performance of UNFPA in integrating its support to the HIV response within the broader context of SRHR, population dynamics, gender equality and human rights.
The evaluation highlights that UNFPA has been able to leverage the UNAIDS Division of Labour to guide its support to the HIV response at global, regional and country levels and has made an important contribution to meeting the needs of the most vulnerable. However, it also indicates that the absence (at corporate level) of a clear strategy conveying a strong priority for realizing the rights of, in particular, key populations, has inhibited UNFPA from fully deploying its capacities to support the HIV response.

The evaluation finds that UNFPA has well demonstrated that linking and integrating SRHR, HIV and sexual gender-based violence services is an effective approach to meeting the needs of the most vulnerable and key populations. The evaluation points to the need to develop and strengthen guidance to regional and country offices on piloting and scaling integration at national level.

Among several recommendations, the evaluation highlights that UNFPA should develop a strategy for HIV response with appropriate human and financial resources. UNFPA should increase support for regional and national networks to engage in policy dialogue and to access funding, strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations, and further collaborate with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the implementation of HIV programmes.

I hope the lessons and recommendations from this evaluation will strengthen the organization’s HIV response, to deliver stronger results during the United Nations Secretary-General’s Decade of Action to achieve the SDGs. The evaluation results are also particularly relevant as UNFPA channels its efforts to align its programming to respond and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

For further information on the evaluation, please write to me (segone@unfpa.org) and Louis Charpentier (charpentier@unfpa.org).

Marco Segone
Director, UNFPA Evaluation Office
L'objectif de cette évaluation est de déterminer la mesure dans laquelle l'UNFPA est parvenu à intégrer son soutien à la lutte contre le VIH au contexte plus large de la santé et des droits sexuels et reproductifs, de la dynamique démographique, de l'égalité entre hommes et femmes et des droits fondamentaux. L'évaluation porte sur la période 2016-2019 et sur tous les types d'interventions et de mesures prises pour lutter contre le VIH aux niveaux mondial, régional et national.

Lire le résumé en français
El propósito de esta evaluación es analizar el desempeño del UNFPA al integrar su contribución a la respuesta del VIH en el contexto más amplio de la salud y los derechos sexuales y reproductivos, las dinámicas de población, la igualdad de género y los derechos humanos. La evaluación abarca el periodo 2016-2019 y todos los tipos de intervenciones y respuestas en materia de VIH respaldadas por el UNFPA a nivel mundial, regional y nacional.

Lea el resumen ejecutivo en español