



**Executive Board of the
United Nations Development
Programme, the United Nations
Population Fund and the United
Nations Office for Project Services**

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UNFPA – Country programmes and related matters

**United Nations Population Fund
Extensions of country programmes**

Summary

The present note contains information on the extensions of UNFPA country programmes. First-time extensions of country programmes up to one year are approved by the Executive Director, and presented to the Executive Board for information. All other requests for extensions of country programmes are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to take note of the first one-year extensions of the country programmes for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Madagascar, Timor-Leste and Tunisia, as presented in table 1, and may wish to approve the first two-year extension for the country programme for Afghanistan, the second one-year extension of the country programme for Comoros, and fourth one-year extension of the country programme for Yemen, as presented in table 2.



Table 1
Extensions of country programmes approved by the Executive Director

| <i>Country</i> | <i>Original programme period</i> | <i>Period approved for extension</i> | <i>Reason for extension</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 2015-2019 | 2020 | The Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the United Nations country team (UNCT) agreed to extend the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for one year to align it with the national election cycle as well as the country's roll-out and prioritization process on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Extending the current country programme for one year will allow sufficient time to develop the next country programme in consultation with the newly elected Government on the emerging national priorities. |
| Madagascar | 2015-2019 | 2020 | Following the elections of a new Government in December 2018, the formulation of the National Development Plan (Madagascar Emergence Plan 2019-2023) has been deferred. Accordingly, the current UNDAF has been extended by one year to allow time for the UNCT to engage with the new administration on national priorities. |
| Timor-Leste | 2015-2019 | 2020 | The Government and the UNCT agreed to extend the UNDAF for one year to align it with the national planning cycle and allow for a process that considers options for Delivering as One. |
| Tunisia | 2015-2019 | 2020 | The Government and the UNCT agreed to extend the current UNDAF to allow the new country programme to synchronize with the cycles of the national development plans. |

Table 2
Country programme extensions for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

| Country | Original programme period | Period proposed for extension | Reason for extension | | |
|--------------------|--|---------------------------------|--|--|---|
| | | | In-country development | United Nations harmonization | Implementation or other issues |
| Afghanistan | 2015-2019 | 2020-2021 (first extension) | The United Nations agencies and the Government agreed to align their interventions more closely with national development priorities, as stated in the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework (ANPDF). Accordingly, the current UNDAF and the “One UN document for Afghanistan” were extended for two years (2019-2021). | The Government requested UN agencies to align the UN work more closely with national development priorities, as laid out in the ANPDF, and agree to extend the current UNDAF for two years in order to harmonize it with the ANPDF (2017-2021). The extension should also apply to the corresponding programmes of the relevant UN agencies. | Upstream interventions will be prioritized at the national level and targeted policy implementation at subnational levels. UNFPA will promote joint programmes in common areas identified in the Delivering as One approach. Guided by the common chapter of the UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, and UN-Women strategic plans, UNFPA will work together with the wider United Nations system for stronger coherence and collaboration. Due to security constraints, the Socio-Demographic and Economic Survey cannot be completed. |
| Comoros | 2015-2018 2019 (first extension) | 2020-2021 (second extension) | The Government and the UNFPA had previously agreed to extend the country programme (2014-2018) for one year, in order to align it with the UNDAF (2015-2019) and the national Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (2015-2019). | The Government and the UNCT have agreed to extend the current UNDAF for two years (2020-2021) to align it with the national Accelerated Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy, which has been extended until 2021 and revised to reflect new priorities, to aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals. | For the proposed two-year extension, the results framework has been revised to better align with the UNFPA Strategic Plan, 2018-2021. |
| Yemen | 2012-2015 2016 (first extension) 2017 (second extension) 2018-2019 (third extension) | 2020 (fourth extension) | Over the past four years, Yemen witnessed major political developments, and is now divided into two, with a de facto government based in Sana’a led by Houthis, and an internationally recognized government based in Aden controlling the southern part of the country. The continuous armed conflict has completely disrupted basic social service delivery, caused displacement of 3.3 million people and left government institutions unable to respond to the increasing needs. More than 24 million people or 80 per cent of the population now need | In response to the humanitarian situation, the UNCT decided to extend the UNDAF until the end of 2020. | Given the ongoing conflict, there are challenges to programme implementation in terms of access and the national execution implementation modality. To reduce financial risks, the UNFPA is conducting direct implementation of activities that require significant funding. Using reimbursement modality as much as possible, the country office is relying on non-governmental organizations that have access to different parts of the country for the provision of reproductive health and gender-based violence services. In supporting the expanded programme, UNFPA is expanding its |

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|----------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | <i>In-country development</i> | <i>United Nations harmonization</i> | <i>Implementation or other issues</i> |

humanitarian assistance, of whom 14 million are in acute need. The country is totally dependent on the humanitarian assistance provided by the UN and other humanitarian actors.

resource base and mobilizing additional funds from both traditional and non-traditional donors and strengthening joint programming and resource mobilization with other United Nations agencies. The office operations will continue to pursue joint UN common services and long-term agreements, support the harmonized approach to cash transfers and develop mitigation measures.