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**UNFPA – Country programmes and related matters**

**UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND**

**Final country programme document for Ghana**

Proposed indicative UNFPA assistance: \$51 million: \$18.8 million from regular resources and \$32.2 million through co-financing modalities and/or other, including regular resources

Programme period: 5 years (2012-2016)

Cycle of assistance: Sixth

Category per decision 2007/42: A

Proposed indicative assistance by core programme area (in millions of \$):

	Regular resources	Other	Total
Reproductive health and rights	8.7	25.2	33.9
Population and development	4.6	6.0	10.6
Gender equality	3.1	1.0	4.1
Programme coordination and assistance	2.4	-	2.4
Total	18.8	32.2	51.0

## I. Situation analysis

1. The population of Ghana was 23.5 million in 2010, and the annual population growth rate was 2.2 per cent. Females account for 50.5 per cent of the population. With regard to population age distribution, 37.9 per cent are 14 years and under; 57.4 per cent are between the ages of 15 and 64; and 4.7 per cent are 65 years and above. Young persons aged 10-24 account for 30.9 per cent of the population, and urban residents represent 51.5 per cent. Migration primarily occurs from rural to urban areas and from the north to the south. The discovery of oil in the western region is expected to increase migration into that area.

2. The economy grew at an average rate of 6.8 per cent between 2006 and 2008. Ghana attained the status of a lower-middle-income country in 2010. Although oil revenue is expected to boost economic growth, Ghana still needs external assistance to improve the welfare of its vulnerable population groups.

3. Ghana enjoys relative peace and stability. However, some areas of the country are affected by internal conflicts and natural disasters, which displace populations. There is a need to strengthen humanitarian responses to address issues related to sexual and reproductive health, gender-based violence and HIV.

4. With 18 per cent of the population living in extreme poverty in 2006 (compared to 27 per cent in 1999), Ghana is on track to achieve the first Millennium Development Goal, which seeks to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. There are disparities between rural and urban areas, and inequality between genders. Over 70 per cent of the people living below the poverty line reside in the three northern regions.

5. The gender parity index at the primary school level increased from 93 per cent in 2003 to 96 per cent in 2007, indicating that Ghana is on track to achieve gender equality by 2015. However, the number of women in Parliament

declined from 25 in 2004 to 20 in 2008. One in three women suffers from domestic and gender-based violence. This violence is underreported and not adequately addressed, a situation attributable to the weak national capacity for policy coordination, gender mainstreaming, and the enforcement of rights and laws.

6. The maternal mortality ratio decreased from 500 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2000 to 350 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 2008. This decrease is due to improved implementation of safe motherhood initiatives. In 2008, 41 per cent of pregnant women delivered without skilled attendance, because of inadequate access to emergency obstetric and newborn care and to the prevalence of negative sociocultural beliefs and practices. The low contraceptive prevalence rate (17 per cent in 2008) is exacerbated by stock-outs of injectables and condoms, which lead to a high number of unwanted pregnancies and abortions. Abortions accounted for 11 per cent of maternal mortality in 2008.

7. Adolescent pregnancies account for 12.4 per cent of all pregnancies, with 16 per cent of them resulting in abortion. Programme interventions are required to address the limited availability and use of youth-friendly services, and the low resource allocation to adolescent reproductive health programmes.

8. The HIV prevalence rate among pregnant women fell from 3.2 per cent in 2006 to 2.2 per cent in 2008, but increased to 2.9 per cent in 2009. Although the national HIV prevalence rate among people aged 15-49 years is 1.9 per cent, the prevalence rate among female sex workers and other vulnerable groups in two regions of the country is 25 per cent, a situation that calls for intensified, targeted prevention strategies.

9. The regular production of national annual reports has led to improved monitoring and evaluation of national development plans. Population variables have also been integrated

into the national development framework. This achievement needs to be sustained through the use of integration modules for the training of relevant ministry and district planning staff. There is limited availability of gender-disaggregated data for evidence-based decision-making, monitoring and evaluation, especially at the decentralized level.

## II. Past cooperation and lessons learned

10. The fifth country programme, which covered the period 2006-2011, facilitated the enactment of the law on domestic violence; the drafting of the national policy on the aged; the adoption of the national youth policy; and the ratification of the African Youth Charter. The programme also supported the establishment of a state-of-the-art fistula centre in northern Ghana.

11. In 2010, the Government conducted an emergency obstetric and neonatal care needs assessment and carried out the enumeration phase of the 2010 population and housing census. The programme assisted with the reorganization of the Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs. The programme also ensured the involvement of young people so that it would be responsive to their needs. Challenges remain in enforcing the law on domestic violence and in implementing youth-sensitive policies and programmes.

12. Lessons learned include: (a) partnerships and advocacy efforts are critical strategies to effect change; (b) a strategic focus for programme interventions in terms of subjects and geographical locations will yield visible results; and (c) building institutional capacity is critical for improved performance.

## III. Proposed programme

13. This programme contributes to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), 2012-2016. It is aligned with the

priorities of the Ghana shared growth and development agenda, 2010-2013.

14. The programme supports the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, responds to the UNFPA strategic plan, 2008-2013, and will be implemented within the context of the United Nations 'delivering as one'. In developing the programme, UNFPA and the Government applied the principles of human rights and results-based management and emphasized capacity development, gender mainstreaming and culturally sensitive approaches.

15. The programme has three components: (a) reproductive health and rights; (b) population and development; and (c) gender equality.

### *Reproductive health and rights component*

16. The reproductive health and rights component contributes to two UNDAF outcomes: (a) women and children have improved and equitable access to and utilization of high-quality, high-impact maternal, neonatal and child health and nutrition interventions; and (b) there is a strengthened and scaled-up national, multisectoral and decentralized AIDS response to achieve universal access targets by 2016.

17. The reproductive health component has one outcome: men, women and young people, including female sex workers and other vulnerable groups, have improved and equitable access to reproductive health and rights as well as to HIV prevention services. This component has two outputs.

18. Output 1: Improved health systems in selected districts and in crisis situations, for the provision of maternal and newborn care as well as family planning services. This will be achieved by: (a) strengthening institutional capacity by training service providers,

refurbishing facilities and providing equipment for improved emergency obstetric care and youth-friendly services; (b) advocating improved human resources for health; (c) building partnerships with communities and non-governmental stakeholders in support of maternal health care and family planning; (d) repositioning family planning on the national development agenda; and (e) strengthening intersectoral collaboration.

19. Output 2: Reduced risky sexual practices among youth, female sex workers and other vulnerable groups. This will be achieved by: (a) scaling up partnerships between the Ghana AIDS commission, faith-based organizations, traditional leaders, policymakers and law enforcement agencies; (b) evidence-based advocacy to promote behaviour change, including efforts in selected regions to reduce the stigma surrounding AIDS; and (c) empowering target groups through training and the provision of services to protect against HIV infection.

#### *Population and development component*

20. The population and development component will contribute to two UNDAF outcomes: (a) ministries, departmental agencies, local governments and civil society organizations have effectively developed, funded, coordinated and implemented national and sectoral policies, plans and programmes aimed at reducing poverty and inequalities, and promoting inclusive socio-economic growth by 2016; and (b) by 2016, population and development data as well as monitoring and evaluation systems exist at all levels for policy, planning and budgeting processes.

21. The population and development component has one outcome: enhanced coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national population programme. The component has two outputs.

22. Output 1: Improved capacity of the Government to coordinate the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national population programme. This output will be achieved by: (a) strengthening the capacity of the national population council to coordinate, monitor and evaluate the national population programme; (b) fostering partnerships with development partners and the Government to revise the national population policy and develop a national plan of action for implementing the population policy; and (c) integrating population variables into development plans.

23. Output 2: Improved availability and utilization of data disaggregated by age and gender. This output will be achieved by: (a) producing user-friendly census monographs, thematic reports, fact sheets, fliers, pamphlets, maps and microdata sets; (b) providing technical and financial assistance for further analysis and dissemination of the population and housing census data and the conducting of a demographic and health survey; and (c) updating *GhanaInfo*, the management information system, as well as the integrated management information system databases to ensure the availability of data for planning in UNFPA-supported districts.

#### *Gender equality component*

24. The gender equality component will contribute to two UNDAF outcomes: (a) the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in Ghana benefit from at least four social services in an integrated social protection system; and (b) by 2016, key national democratic institutions are effective, accountable and gender responsive, and promote peace, inclusive governance and human security, with a focus on vulnerable groups.

25. The gender equality component has one outcome: improved institutional and social frameworks that promote and advance the rights

of women and girls as well as gender equity and equality. The component has two outputs.

26. Output 1: Increased capacity of the Government, civil society and communities to implement the domestic violence policy and plan of action. This will be achieved by: (a) building partnerships with the media to raise awareness of the domestic violence act; (b) strengthening judicial, law enforcement and protection systems to prevent and respond to domestic violence; and (c) advocacy with opinion and traditional leaders to address negative traditional beliefs and practices that fuel domestic violence.

27. Output 2: Enhanced capacity of the Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs to coordinate and monitor gender responsiveness within sectoral plans. Strategies will include: (a) capacity-building for sectoral gender desk officers; and (b) ensuring that there is a functional gender-monitoring unit within the Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs.

#### **IV. Programme management, monitoring and evaluation**

28. The Government and the United Nations country team agreed in 2010 that Ghana will become a self-starter 'delivering as one' country. UNFPA and the Government will implement the sixth country programme through the United Nations development action plan. The monitoring and evaluation of this programme will be undertaken within the monitoring and evaluation plan of the UNDAF and within the context of the UNFPA monitoring and evaluation guidelines. In 2011-2012, UNFPA and the Government will establish baseline values for the indicators.

29. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning will be responsible for the overall coordination of the programme, and the national population council will coordinate the technical aspects. The United Nations will establish a common fund in the office of the resident coordinator, with resources mobilized by the

United Nations system to support programme delivery. This fund will be in addition to UNFPA core and country office resources.

30. The country office in Ghana consists of a representative, a deputy representative, an assistant representative, an operations manager, 11 programme staff and 12 administrative and support staff. UNFPA will establish additional local and international posts as required, and will regularize the decentralized office posts. The UNFPA country office will work with implementing partners and will collaborate with other United Nations organizations to implement the programme. The Africa regional and subregional offices, as well as units at UNFPA headquarters, will provide technical support in programme implementation.

**RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK FOR GHANA**

<p><b>National priorities:</b> (a) sustainable natural resource management, energy and human settlement; (b) human development, productivity and employment; (c) transparent and accountable governance, and (d) an enabling environment for effective plan preparation and implementation, monitoring and evaluation</p> <p><b>UNDAF outcomes:</b> (a) women and children have improved and equitable access to and utilization of high-quality, high-impact maternal, neonatal and child health and nutrition interventions; and (b) there is a strengthened and scaled-up national, multisectoral and decentralized AIDS response to achieve universal access targets by 2016</p>				
<b>Programme component</b>	<b>Country programme outcomes, indicators, baselines and targets</b>	<b>Country programme outputs, indicators, baselines and targets</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Indicative resources by programme component</b>
Reproductive health and rights	<p><u>Outcome:</u> Men, women and young people, including female sex workers and other vulnerable groups, have improved and equitable access to reproductive health and rights as well as to HIV prevention services</p> <p><u>Outcome indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National institutional maternal mortality ratio</li> </ul> <p>Baseline: 170 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births Target: less than 120 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of female sex workers and other vulnerable groups who have access to information on reproductive health and rights</li> </ul> <p>Baseline: to be determined Target: 20 per cent increase</p>	<p><u>Output 1:</u> Improved health systems in selected districts and in crisis situations, for the provision of maternal and newborn care as well as family planning services</p> <p><u>Output indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of hospitals providing comprehensive emergency obstetric and neonatal care</li> </ul> <p>Baseline: to be determined; Target: 100 per cent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of facilities providing at least three modern family planning methods</li> </ul> <p>Baseline: to be determined; Target: 100 per cent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of health centres providing basic emergency obstetric and neonatal care</li> </ul> <p>Baseline: to be determined; Target: 100 per cent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of districts with staff trained in the minimum initial service package</li> </ul> <p>Baseline: to be determined; Target: 40 districts</p> <p><u>Output 2:</u> Reduced risky sexual practices among youth, female sex workers and other vulnerable groups</p> <p><u>Output indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of target population reporting consistent condom use</li> </ul> <p>Baseline: to be determined; Target: out-of-school youth (female) 37%; (male) 67%; 80% each for female sex workers and other vulnerable groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of police officers sensitized on the rights of populations that are most at risk</li> </ul> <p>Baseline: to be determined; Target: an increase of at least 50 per cent</p>	Civil society organizations; faith-based organizations; government organizations; private health institutions	\$33.9 million (\$8.7 million from regular resources and \$25.2 million from other resources)

<p><b>National priorities:</b> (a) transparent and accountable governance; and (b) an enabling environment for effective plan preparation and implementation</p> <p><b>UNDAF outcomes:</b> (a) ministries, departmental agencies, local governments and civil society organizations have effectively developed, funded, coordinated and implemented national and sectoral policies, plans and programmes aimed at reducing poverty and inequalities, and promoting inclusive socio-economic growth by 2016; and (b) by 2016, population and development data, as well as monitoring and evaluation systems, exist at all levels for policy, planning and budgeting processes</p>				
Programme component	Country programme outcomes, indicators, baselines and targets	Country programme outputs, indicators, baselines and targets	Partners	Indicative resources by programme component
Population and development	<p><b>Outcome:</b> Enhanced coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national population programme</p> <p><b>Outcome indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of ministries, departments and agencies reporting to the national population council Baseline: to be determined; Target: 100 per cent</li> <li>Number of monitoring reports Baseline: to be determined; Target: 5 per agency in the programme period</li> </ul>	<p><b>Output 1:</b> Improved capacity of the Government to coordinate the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national population programme</p> <p><b>Output indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of ministry and district plans certified as population responsive Baseline: to be determined; Target: 27 ministries, 170 districts</li> <li>Number of national evaluation reports Baseline: none; Target: 1</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 2:</b> Improved availability and utilization of data disaggregated by age and gender</p> <p><b>Output indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of census data dissemination products Baseline: none; Target: 7</li> <li>Number of survey reports. Baseline: none; Target: 3</li> </ul>	Faith-based organizations; government organizations; non-governmental organizations; research institutions	\$10.6 million (\$4.6 million from regular resources and \$6 million from other resources)
<p><b>National priorities:</b> (a) human development, productivity and employment; (b) transparent and accountable governance; and (c) an enabling environment for effective plan preparation and implementation, monitoring and evaluation</p> <p><b>UNDAF outcomes:</b> (a) the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in Ghana benefit from at least four social services in an integrated social protection system; and (b) by 2016, key national democratic institutions are effective, accountable and gender responsive, and promote peace, inclusive governance and human security, with a focus on vulnerable groups</p>				
Gender equality	<p><b>Outcome:</b> Improved institutional and social frameworks that promote and advance the rights of women and girls as well as gender equity and equality</p> <p><b>Outcome indicator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of plans and budgets with gender mainstreamed Baseline: 10 per cent; Target: 50 per cent</li> </ul>	<p><b>Output 1:</b> Increased capacity of the Government, civil society and communities to implement the domestic violence policy and plan of action</p> <p><b>Output indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of reported cases on domestic violence Baseline: to be determined; Target: at least 70 per cent of domestic violence cases</li> <li>Number of domestic violence cases successfully concluded Baseline: to be determined; Target: at least 25 per cent of reported cases</li> </ul> <p><b>Output 2:</b> Enhanced capacity of the Ministry of Women's and Children's Affairs to coordinate and monitor gender responsiveness within sectoral plans</p> <p><b>Output indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of gender desk officers trained Baseline: 3; Target: at least 50</li> <li>Number of gender monitoring unit staff trained Baseline: none; Target: at least 5</li> </ul>	Government organizations; Federation of Women Lawyers; Parliament	\$4.1 million (\$3.1 million from regular resources and \$1 million from regular resources) <hr/> Programme coordination and assistance: \$2.4 million from regular resources