



**Executive Board of the
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UNFPA – Country programmes and related matters

UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

Extensions of country programmes in the West and Central Africa region

Note by the Executive Director

Summary

The present note contains information on the second one-year extensions of the UNFPA country programmes for Guinea-Bissau and Mali, and the two-year extension of the UNFPA country programme for Côte d'Ivoire.

In accordance with established procedures, the Executive Director approves the first one-year extension of a country programme, while requests for second one-year extensions and requests for two-year extensions are submitted to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board may wish to: (a) approve the second one-year country programme extensions for Guinea-Bissau and Mali, as indicated in table 1; and (b) approve the two-year country programme extension for Côte d'Ivoire, as indicated in table 2.



Table 1. Second one-year country programme extensions for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	Original programme period	Year proposed for extension	Explanation		
			United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Implementation and/or other issues
Guinea-Bissau	2008-2012 (extended to 2013)	2014	The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), 2008-2012, which is aligned with the national poverty reduction strategy, was extended through 2013. Based on an assessment of the prevailing political situation and a lack of consensus on the political transition, the United Nations country team extended the programme cycle (2008-2012) by two years. A one-year request for extension was approved for 2013. This request is for an additional year, through 2014.	The political and institutional environment remains unstable, and has deteriorated further since the April 2012 coup d'état. During this transition period, the United Nations organizations in Guinea-Bissau will continue to implement their respective programmes of cooperation to avoid a humanitarian emergency.	During 2014, the UNFPA programme will continue to ensure access to and utilization of high-quality family planning services for individuals and couples, especially at the community level. The programme will also contribute to the country's first demographic and health survey in 2014.

Table 1. (continued)

Country	Original programme period	Years proposed for extension	Explanation		
			United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Implementation and/or other issues
Mali	2008-2012 (extended to 2013)	2014	The Government and the United Nations country team agreed to postpone the formulation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) in order to harmonize it with the national planning cycle, 2012-2016. The United Nations country team developed a common strategic framework, taking into consideration emerging challenges. The respective country programmes have been extended accordingly.	Mali has been affected by the institutional crisis created by the March 2012 military coup and the ensuing security crisis. The extension of the country programme will provide the country team with the time necessary to develop a relevant programme, based on new challenges and national priorities.	The second one-year extension will ensure the implementation of ongoing programme components: maternal and newborn health; family planning; the prevention of HIV/AIDS; and gender-based violence. The programme will also address emerging issues related to the humanitarian context and insecurity. UNFPA will ensure the integration of population dynamics into policies and plans, and strengthen data availability and analysis.

Table 2. Two-year country programme extensions for which the approval of the Executive Board is sought

Country	Original programme period	Years proposed for extension	Explanation		
			United Nations harmonization	In-country political development	Implementation and/or other issues
Côte d'Ivoire	2009-2013	2014-2015	The Government and the United Nations country team agreed to extend the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for two years, 2014-2015, to align it with the national development plan, 2012-2015. UNFPA will therefore extend its country programme for two years, 2014-2015, to ensure harmonization with the UNDAF and with the government planning cycle.	In responding to the consequences of the recent crisis, the Government adopted a national development plan for 2012-2015 that addresses humanitarian, early recovery and development issues. The United Nations system decided to align the UNDAF to emerging national issues and to the changes in the national development framework.	The two-year extension will ensure the implementation of the programme in sexual and reproductive health (maternal and newborn health; family planning, including access to community-based services; and the prevention of HIV/AIDS), and the prevention of gender-based violence. Population dynamics and data availability and analysis will complement the programme.