Gender-biased sex selection:

Armenia

In 2016
The UNFPA Armenia Country Office won a global competition for “UNFPA Good Practice in Advocacy, Policy Dialogue/Advice” in the category of newly emerging practices, for its advocacy work aimed at combating gender-biased sex selection in Armenia.

Advocacy

UNFPA initiated an alliance consisting of:
- the Government;
- civil society organizations;
- Ombudsman offices;
- faith-based organizations;
- international donors;
- the media.

Challenges/Opportunities

- Weak law enforcement and monitoring mechanism
- Remaining social pressures
- Traditional gender inequalities and patriarchal stereotypes
- Lack of access and availability of early childcare services

State Program and Action Plan to Prevent Sex-selective Abortions for 2015-2017

The Government of Armenia has made significant efforts to fully address convention obligations and align national legislation.

The 2016 amendment of the Law on Reproductive Human Rights and Reproductive Health outlaws GBSS.

Policies/Framework/Government Response

In 1993
Armenia ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

Armenia signed the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and as such pledges to eliminate discrimination against the girl child, including son preference.

In 2016
The sex ratio at birth was 111 boys per 100 girls, according to birth registration

Sex Ratio at birth

early 2000s
- Ratios as high as 120 boys per 100 girls were observed according to the Statistical Committee of the Republic of Armenia.

early 2010s
- The ratio stabilized at 114 boys per 100 girls.

2018
- The sex ratio at birth was 111 boys per 100 girls.

2019
- 110 boys per 100 girls.

and the very recent data is at 110 boys per 100 girls.