

## Country Programme Performance Summary

<b>A. Country Information</b>		
<b>Country name: Paraguay</b>		
<b>Category per decision 2013/31: Yellow</b>	<b>Current programme period: 2014-2019</b>	<b>Cycle of assistance: 7th</b>

<b>B. Country Programme Outputs Achievement</b> <i>(please complete for all your CP outputs)</i>			
<b>CP OUTCOME 1:</b>			
<b>Output 1: Strengthened capacity of government institutions and civil society organizations to improve access to and demand for youth-friendly services, family planning, HIV prevention with human rights, gender and culturally sensitive approaches.</b>			
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>End-line data</b>
Percentage of health units in selected health regions that have health care providers trained to implement updated norms on family planning and HIV.	0%	50%	80%
Number of health regions, supported by UNFPA, with adolescent friendly health services.	1	6	12
Number of UNFPA- supported civil society organizations by that promote young people's rights to demand high-quality health services	2	8	8
<b>Key Achievements:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ The country has improved its capacity to offer sexual and reproductive health services with a rights-based, gender-sensitive and differentiated approach for adolescents. One of UNFPA's relevant contributions to the system has been the capacity generated for self-management and self-financing of contraceptive methods.</li> <li>→ In a consistent manner, the Paraguayan Government has been purchasing 100% of the contraceptive supplies distributed in the public health system, with its own funds. In 2018, the range of contraceptive supplies was expanded by introducing the subdermal implant for adolescents, around which a strong advocacy and strategic communication campaign was developed to promote them, obtaining positive results against anti-rights groups.</li> <li>→ UNFPA has engaged in the generation of evidence, technical support, advocacy and strategic communication activities in partnership with the Ministry of Health, which have made it possible to position the issue of adolescent pregnancy on the country's political agenda. It promoted the establishment of an intersectoral roundtable on the subject, comprising the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare, the Ministry of Children and Adolescents, the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, which is leading the development of the future National Plan for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy. Addressing adolescent pregnancy will be one of the key areas of UNFPA work over the next cycle, along with the family planning programme and comprehensive care for adolescents, in particular sexual and reproductive health. This process began with the development of the Southern Cone Adolescent Fertility and Maternity Report led by UNFPA Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (LACRO), and its socialization in the country through a strategic communication plan for its dissemination and generation of partnerships, reaching the three branches of government, civil society, academia and the private sector. The development and presentation in Paraguay of the Regional Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy in June 2016 was a landmark event for the positioning of adolescent pregnancy at the political level, and the mobilization of stakeholders around the issue in the media, academia, NGOs.</li> <li>→ The CO has successfully engaged the private sector in promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights through various initiatives. One of them is the one-year long campaign "Justified Absence", in which UNFPA, jointly with the Ministry of Health, Itaipu Binational, a private advertising agency called "Ojo de Pez", the NGO CEPEP (affiliated to IPPF), and the communication holding company linked to RPC (channel 13 and its other media), promoted the use of a one-day justified leave to have a Pap test. Another initiative, still underway, is a project with Farmacenter Chain, through which employees of the company are trained in the promotion of sexual and reproductive health rights, also through peer trainers.</li> <li>→ Political dialogue and strategic communication actions to strengthen joint initiatives between government actors, with the leadership of the Ministry of Public Health, for the denaturalization of sexual abuse and its communicational approach in an interdisciplinary manner.</li> <li>→ Strategic partnerships with academia and scientific societies for the defense and promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights.</li> </ul>			

**Output 2: Strengthened capacities of regional health institutions and civil society organizations to implement and monitor policies, norms and protocols on maternal health, family planning and HIV prevention, including in humanitarian settings.**

Indicators	Baseline	Target	End-line data
Percentage of health services in selected health regions that adequately implement norms and protocols for maternal health.	10%	50%	50%
Number of selected national institutions trained on the implementation of the Minimum Initial Service Package for reproductive health in crisis situations.	0	5	5

**Key Achievements:**

- The joint support of UNFPA, UNICEF and PAHO to the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare, in alliance with other key local actors, has contributed to strengthening capacities for the resolution of obstetric and neonatal emergencies through the application of the clinical red code, the provision and use of pneumatic anti-shock suits, the provision of instruments and medical equipment, the training in Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO), the improvement of family planning and the monitoring of maternal morbidity and mortality. All these efforts led to a 48% reduction in maternal mortality according to the new estimates of child and maternal mortality published on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Trends of Maternal Mortality 2000 to 2017- Estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division.
- UNFPA advocated to reposition maternal mortality reduction on the political agenda. In 2019, the CO provided timely and qualified technical assistance to support the development and implementation of a plan for accelerated reduction of maternal mortality to be implemented by December of the same year, focusing actions in the 4 regions with the highest maternal mortality rates.
- However, reduction of maternal and newborn deaths remains a challenge in order to achieve the goals of the Agenda 2030. The current figures still position Paraguay as the country with the highest rates in the Southern Cone.
- Response to emergency situation in 2015, with relevant results at the level of response: coordination of the different actors, political dialogue with authorities, advocacy with communities and their participation in processes, strategic communication actions to raise awareness of key actors (community, authorities, opinion leaders) and alliance with journalists and mass media. This experience, duly systematized, lays the foundations for the development of the Strategy for Addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Shelters.

**CP OUTCOME 2:**

**Output 1: Increased capacity of government institutions to design, implement and monitor public policies and programmes for adolescents and youth, on sexual reproductive health and rights, including comprehensive sexuality education, with gender equality and culturally sensitive approaches.**

Indicators	Baseline	Target	End-line data
Number of public policies and programmes for adolescents and youth supported by UNFPA developed with the participation of civil society organizations.	2	5	7
Number of health technical schools that have provided comprehensive sexuality education for adolescents and youth	3	12	12

**Key Achievements:**

- With regard to HIV prevention, UNFPA supported the National Response Plan to HIV 2015-2019, advocating for the inclusion of the adolescent and youth population as a target group. UNFPA also supported the regulation of HIV Law 3940/09.
- Support to civil society organizations with the initiative of "Traveling Little Schools", for promotion and advocacy in favor of the incorporation of comprehensive sexuality education in the curricula of the country's formal education.
- Incidence on public policies with the participation of adolescents and young people in the development of the National Adolescent Health Plan, in the validation of the new National Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan 2019-2023 and in the Guide to Children and Adolescents' Rights in the Health Services of the Ministry of Health.
- The technical baccalaureate in health from 2015 onwards extends to all the technical health schools (currently 112 registered), the new curriculum that incorporates the CSE at the national level in formal education, thus surpassing the original target of 12 schools.
- Development of programs and contents that incorporate CSE for violence prevention in the national curriculum, with emphasis on sexual violence.

<b>CP OUTCOME 2:</b>			
<b>Output 2: Strengthened engagement of civil society organizations to promote the rights of adolescents and youth, with emphasis on sexual and reproductive rights, especially those of marginalized and excluded groups.</b>			
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>End-line data</b>
Number of youth networks, supported by UNFPA, that actively promote and track policies and programmes addressing the rights of adolescents and youth.	0	3	7
Number of civil society organizations supported by UNFPA, advocating for sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescents and youth, and non-discrimination.	5	10	20
<b>Key Achievements:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Set up and implementation of the UNFPA Adolescent and Youth Consultative Council, a mechanism for active participation, with key results in political advocacy with authorities and candidates for the Presidency of the Republic and strategic communication on the issues of the organization's mandate and on policies and programs focused on adolescence and youth, with the production of innovative communication pieces and large-scale communication formats (TV programmes, platforms on social networks, etc.), in addition to the systematization of the process.</li> <li>→ Articulation of student organizations with the youth and adolescent network "Somos Pytyvóhara" advocating in favor of sexual and reproductive rights and CSE.</li> <li>→ Strategic alliance with a relevant network of CSO working on children and adolescents' rights (Coordinadora por los Derechos de la Infancia y la Adolescencia, CDIA) to promote the rights of adolescents and advocate for greater social investment in this population.</li> <li>→ Strategic alliance with the Ministry of Children and Adolescents, through the National Commission for the Prevention and Attention of Violence against Children and Adolescents (CONAPREA) and the Direction of Risk Management and Reduction in Emergencies.</li> <li>→ Strengthening the social capital of adolescents and young people to take advantage of the demographic dividend in 50 localities, through the Sounds of the Earth programme and its project "Transforming Musical Communities".</li> <li>→ Launching of the flagship regional initiative "165 million reasons to invest in adolescence and youth" in the country, mobilizing the support of four ministries (Health, Children and Adolescents, Youth and TPS) and going down to the local level adding the commitment of people with a high social profile in their various expressions, such as influencers, journalists, opinion leaders, youth activists, social actors from the arts and entertainment world, fashion, economy, universities and the private sector.</li> </ul>			

<b>CP OUTCOME 3:</b>			
<b>Output 1: Improved capacities of government institutions and civil society organizations to provide a coordinated response to prevent and address gender-based violence, with emphasis on sexual violence, promoting non-discrimination, including in humanitarian settings.</b>			
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>End-line data</b>
Number of health services in selected health regions that implement the comprehensive care protocol for victims of gender-based violence, focusing on sexual violence.	0	18	30
Number of civil society organizations supported by UNFPA advocating for a coordinated response to gender-based violence, focusing on sexual violence and non-discrimination.	4	7	17
<b>Key Achievements:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Health services with trained personnel and incorporating the protocol for comprehensive care for victims of sexual violence, widely surpassing the goal initially proposed. In addition to emergency contraception, this protocol also includes post-exposure prophylaxis for HIV and other STIs.</li> <li>→ Strategic alliance with the Ministry of Women to strengthen the inter-institutional roundtable of violence against women and the adoption of the package of essential services for women and girls victims of violence, being Paraguay a pilot country for its implementation.</li> <li>→ Design and implementation of inter-institutional intervention routes for comprehensive care for women, girls and adolescents victims of violence.</li> <li>→ Strategic alliance and incorporation of the Minimum Standards of care and prevention of GBV in emergencies, through the Strategy for the Prevention of Sexual Violence in Shelters, in the context of emergencies.</li> <li>→ Civil society advocating and generating evidence on equality and non-discrimination with training of spokespersons and capacity building of organizations working on human rights, LGBT and non-discrimination.</li> <li>→ UNFPA's technical and financial support on gender and GBV issues, highlighting the strengthening of the gender department of the Military Forces, the achievement to address the issue with the Secretariat of National Emergencies</li> </ul>			

and Military Forces and the articulation of executive and judicial authorities to address sexual violence, through intervention routes.

- “*Ley de protección integral a las mujeres contra toda forma de violencia*”, (Law for the integral protection of women against all forms of violence) Law 5777/16, drafted and enacted in inter-agency cooperation with UN Women.
- UNFPA, in partnership with the Ministry of Women and Itaipu Binational, developed and implemented the project “*Noviazgo sin Violencia*”, (Dating without Violence), which involved working with adolescents through the development and application of a methodology aimed at adolescents to transfer tools and promote the development of skills in the construction of dating relationships free of violence, gender equality, new masculinities and the empowerment of girls and adolescents, reaching almost 814.000 people. A total of 6,340 Facebook followers joined the Ministry of Education and 184 facilitators were trained in the methodology.
- Approach to intercultural communication in alliance with the Ministries of Health, Women and Children and Adolescents for the prevention of sexual abuse and sexual violence. As a result, radio spots in 19 indigenous languages were produced with leaders of various indigenous peoples to raise awareness of the issue and advocate for the reporting of cases.
- Strengthening of the Network Against all Forms of Discrimination in order to carry out advocacy, strategic communication and political dialogue processes in favor of the "Julio Fretes" bill and for the construction of a critical mass in favor of it and its defense.
- Support for the strengthening of the “Rohendú” telephone line for psychological and legal assistance to LGBTI people and their families, implemented by the NGO “Aireana”. Promotion of non-discrimination and the rights of LGBTI people, through cultural actions undertaken by the aforementioned organization.
- Strengthening of key actors of the feminist movement for the defense, promotion and positioning of sexual and reproductive rights in the agenda, through support for feminist national meetings that take place every two years.

**CP OUTCOME 4:**

**Output 1: Strengthened capacity of government institutions and civil society organizations to ensure the availability of socio-demographic data on gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive rights, and adolescents and young people for the formulation and implementation of evidence-based policies and programmes.**

Indicators	Baseline	Target	End-line data
Number of research studies and surveys conducted on socio-demographic issues, adolescent pregnancy, maternal mortality, gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive rights of adolescents and young people.	2	6	9
Number of institutions using data and evidence, obtained with UNFPA support, for the formulation of policies and programmes.	0	8	8

**Key Achievements:**

- Positioning in the public agenda of the situation of adolescent pregnancy, as well as the urgency to take advantage of the demographic dividend and increase the investment in adolescence and youth, with emphasis on education, health and social protection.
- Preparation and dissemination of various analytical documents on the situation of adolescents and young people and the public investment in this population group: “Paraguay Joven”, “Countdown”, “Public social spending on adolescence and youth”. Actions of political incidence in the Executive and the Legislative branches developed for the disclosure of the results of these studies and their ownership and in mass media for their wide dissemination and positioning.
- Support for the preparation, in a participatory and inter-institutional manner, of the Plan of Action for Population and Development 2018-2019, harmonized with the National Development Plan 2030 and the Montevideo Consensus. In addition, its implementation has been accompanied.
- Stigma Index in people with HIV, developed in alliance with civil society organizations, enabled to generate advocacy actions based on evidence to eliminate discriminatory barriers.
- Atlas of indigenous Guaraní and Guaicurú populations, based on the 2012 Indigenous Census, published for the elaboration and implementation of policies in favor of this population.
- Guidelines for a Youth Comprehensive Public Policy -Young People 2030-, built collectively with young people from 17 of the country's 18 departments.
- Strategic alliance with the Technical Planning Secretariat and the General Directorate of Statistics, Surveys and Censuses to strengthen the national statistical system, which includes the production of administrative records and national transfer accounts, coordinating actions with ECLAC on this last topic.
- Process initiated for the design and strategic planning of the National Population and Housing Census for the 2021.

- Since 2016, the CO has ventured into innovative and creative processes in order to seek new approaches and solutions. It began with LACRO funds with the Innovation Day and later the CO itself has allocated resources for two i-lab (demographic dividend and adolescent pregnancy), and one of its results was the creation of the UNFPA Adolescent and Youth Advisory Council. Along these lines, in 2018 the CO leveraged resources to participate in the Gramo-fest (festival to celebrate change, which mixes a lot of music and inspirational talks, different types of fairs and activities for the whole family in a single event) with a stand up proposal on demographic dividend. In 2019, a non-traditional public was reached (with more than 1,300 participants from the private sector, academia, think-tank, students) and the brand and agenda were positioned exponentially, framed in ICPD25. Strategic communication for the promotion and defense by national allies of the population and development agenda (Census, Montevideo Consensus), sexual and reproductive rights (subdermal implants, family planning, adolescent pregnancy), gender and youth (CSE, demographic bonus). Production of discursive frameworks for high authorities and technical personnel, training of spokespersons and joint communication actions with key allies.
- Strategic communication with journalists and mass media, on an ongoing basis, to build a critical mass of leaders and influencers favorable to ICPD issues, with an emphasis on demographic dividend, adolescent pregnancy and sexual abuse. Strengthening of a network of journalists at the country level, as well as inter-agency work with UN Women for these actions.
- Press monitoring and follow-up for active listening to issues related to UNFPA's mandate, reorientation of strategies and timely intervention to control risks in the face of possible communicational crises.
- Support to the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture for the implementation of the Istanbul Protocol with judges, prosecutors, defenders and doctors to improve the registration of torture in the first moments of detention, as a fundamental part of the full exercise of human rights.
- Positioning of ICPD 25, through actions of political dialogue, advocacy and strategic communication strengthening government and civil society alliances for the defense and promotion of relevant issues at the country level, in particular for the follow-up and monitoring of public policies.

C. National Progress on Strategic Plan Outcomes <sup>1</sup>	Start value	Year	End value	Year	Comments
<b>Outcome 1: Increased availability and use of integrated sexual and reproductive health services (including family planning, maternal health and HIV) that are gender-responsive and meet human rights standards for quality of care and equity in access</b>					
Percentage in which at least 95% of service delivery points in the country have seven life-saving maternal/reproductive health medicines from the WHO priority list	SD	2014	SD	2018	
Contraceptive prevalence rate (total)	79,4	2008	68,4%	2016	The prevalence of modern contraceptive methods was 66.5 per cent by 2016. The 2016 survey includes the Chaco (the most unequal region of the country), while the 2008 survey does not.
Proportion of demand for contraception satisfied (total)	12%	2008	12,1%	2016	The 2016 survey includes the

<sup>1</sup> The format is aligned to the UNFPA Strategic Plan outcomes, 2014-2017.

					Chaco (the most unequal region), while the 2008 survey does not.
Percentage in which at least 60% of service delivery points in the country have no stock-out of contraceptives in the last six months	60%	2014	80%	2018	
Percentage in which at least 80% of live births in the country are attended by skilled health personnel	91%	2014	91%	2018	
Number of adapted and implemented protocols for family planning services in the country that meet human rights standards including freedom from discrimination, coercion and violence	10	2008	17	2018	Compliance: 130%
Percentage of women and men aged 15-49 who had more than one sexual partner in the past 12 months who reported use of a condom during their last intercourse (female/male)	ND		ND		
Has the country increased the national budget for sexual and reproductive health by at least 5 per cent?	0%	2014	<b>5.9%</b>	2015	Between 2014 and 2015, the goal of increasing the national budget for SRH by 5% was achieved, with an additional 0.9 percentage points, i.e., the approved budget was 5.9% and was used for the purchase of contraceptive supplies, which continues today.
<b><u>Summary of National Progress:</u></b>					
<p>The Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (MPHSW) has succeeded in institutionalizing access to sexual and reproductive health as one of the health priorities in the political agenda. This is materialized in the plans and programmes that guide actions in this area, and that are developed in a sustained manner. Thus, there are: the fourth edition of the National Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan 2014-2018 (approved by Resolution No. 340/13), the Strategic Plan for the National Response to HIV/AIDS and STIs 2014-2018 (approved by Resolution No. 204/14), the National Adolescent Health Plan 2016-</p>					

2021 (approved by Resolution No. 506/2016), the Regional Strategic Framework for the Prevention and Reduction of Unintended Adolescent Pregnancy (2017), the Plan for the Accelerated Reduction of Maternal, Fetal, and Newborn Mortality 2019, and the new National Sexual and Reproductive Health Plan 2019-2023, to be launched in November 2019.

Progress has been made in the provision of free sexual and reproductive health services, resulting in increased coverage. For example, in 2016 some 84.5 per cent of pregnant women received timely prenatal care (4 or more prenatal controls) (MPHSW, 2017). However, access to adequate prenatal care is not universal and there are still challenges in access for women living in rural areas, mainly indigenous, poor and generally with lower levels of education (MPHSW, DGEEC, UNICEF, 2016). In addition, there has been an increase in institutional births, from 84.5 per cent in 2000 to 97.6 per cent in 2016 (MPHSW, 2017).

Although maternal mortality continues to be one of the highest in Latin America, it is important to note that in 2014 Paraguay achieved a reduction in the maternal mortality ratio as a result of the implementation of the National Mobilization for the #ZeroEvitableDeaths Campaign, under the leadership of the Ministry of Health. The maternal mortality ratio declined from 150 to 86.4 per 100,000 live births between 1990 and 2016, a reduction of 42.4 per cent (MPHSW, 2016b). Strong government commitment with the establishment of Family Health Units (FHU), the abolition of health services fees, the strengthening of the family planning program and a considerable increase in the budget for medicines over the past 10 years have contributed to this significant reduction rate.

In recent years, changes in the maternal death surveillance systems have contributed to better maternal deaths records. However, there are still challenges related to possible errors in the classification of causes of death, due to incorrect filling out of death certificates. In 2016, the model of comprehensive care for adolescents was developed and the regulations on care for this population have been updated and expanded; 29 services have been established to implement the model, which includes sexual and reproductive health counseling and contraceptives delivery.

The total fertility rate (TFR) decreased from 3.4 in 2002 to 2.5 children per woman by the year 2017, and it is projected to further decline to 2.3 children per woman by 2024. Under Law 4113, the Ministry of Health purchases 100 per cent of contraceptive supplies with its own funds; the budget allocated to this has increased by 5.9 per cent during this programme cycle. In 2018, the subdermal implant has been incorporated into the basket of contraceptive supplies of the health services under the Ministry of Health.

In terms of contraceptive prevalence, 68.4 per cent of women 15-49 years old use some method of contraception, with 66.5 per cent using modern methods such as injectables, pills or male condoms. According to the MICS Paraguay Survey (DGEEC, 2016c), unmet need among women who wish to space births and do not use any contraceptive method is 12.1%.

#### **UNFPA's Contributions:**

In **sexual and reproductive health**, the following stand out:

- Sustainability of sexual and reproductive health public policies: the CO has supported the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and plans on sexual and reproductive health, adolescent health and HIV, contributing to their sustainability. With regard to universal access to these services, UNFPA actively supported the development and updating of maternal and adolescent health standards and protocols.
- Expansion and strengthening of family planning services with a rights-based approach: technical support, advocacy and strategic communication actions contributing to the expansion of contraceptive methods, the strengthening of capacities of the Ministry of Public Health and the advocacy and defense of the programme.
- Adolescent health: advocacy, political dialogue, generation of evidence and technical support to position adolescent sexual and reproductive health in health policies, achieving commitment to reduce adolescent pregnancy and the establishment of comprehensive services for adolescents. The successive national plans for the health of the adolescent population were all elaborated with UNFPA support. The National Plan for the Promotion of Quality of Life and Health with Equity for Adolescents 2010-2015 and the National Plan for Adolescent Health 2016 - 2021, are geared towards the construction of public policies for adolescents, considering interventions aimed at this population, based on their needs and their health situation according to social determinants. UNFPA's support has been key in: strengthening capacities for advocacy and defense of issues related to family planning and adolescent health, particularly adolescent pregnancy; the development of discursive frameworks and strategic communication; transferring spokesperson's tools to government and civil society partners; positioning family planning and adolescents' health issues in the public and political agenda.
- Reduction of maternal mortality: technical support for the reduction of maternal mortality and the strengthening of maternal death surveillance. The joint support of UNFPA, UNICEF and PAHO to the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare, in alliance with other key local actors, has contributed to strengthening of capacities for the resolution of obstetric and neonatal emergencies, the improvement of the offer of family planning supplies and the monitoring of maternal morbidity and mortality. All these efforts led to a 48% reduction in maternal mortality according to the

new estimates of infant and maternal mortality published on 19 September 2019, Trends of Maternal Mortality 2000 to 2017- Estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and the United Nations Population Division. UNFPA's advocacy actions contributed to keep the reduction of maternal mortality at the center of the public agenda. As a result, the Plan for the Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality was designed in 2019.

- Prevention of adolescent pregnancy: through the presentation of evidence, the CO has managed to position the issue on the country's political and media agenda. In this regard, despite the difficulties that have arisen, work has continued in the Inter-Institutional Roundtable for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy. Important evidence of UNFPA's sustained work on this issue is the project approved in 2019 by the India UN Development Partnership Fund, that will be implemented with the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Children and Adolescents and the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security. The general objective of the initiative is to "contribute, by the year 2022, to the reduction of pregnancy in girls and adolescents under 19 years of age, with emphasis on the prevention and treatment of violence and sexual abuse".
- Reproductive Health Commodity Security: CO's support for contraceptive procurement processes through a co-financing project with the Ministry of Health, for strengthening the capacity to estimate drugs and sexual and reproductive health supplies, including contraceptives, and for improving the logistics system was key in this programme cycle.
- Involvement of the private sector in advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights: as already mentioned, the CO has been able to generate new partnerships with non-traditional sectors, including the private sector, to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights.

**Outcome 2: Increased priority on adolescents, especially on very young adolescent girls, in national development policies and programmes, particularly increased availability of comprehensive sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health**

Percentage of young women and men aged 15-24 who correctly identify ways of preventing the sexual transmission of HIV and who reject major misconceptions about HIV transmission (female/male)	SD	2014	SD	2018	The did not take this SP indicator for its CPD
Does the country have laws and policies that allow adolescents (regardless of marital status) access to sexual and reproductive health services?	Yes	2014	Yes	2018	---

**Summary of National Progress:**

The establishment of the National Youth Secretariat in 2013 is a testimony to the government's commitment to mainstream youth issues in public policies (SNJ/UNFPA, 2018), thus providing an opportunity for UNFPA to influence through partner institutions in the improvement of public policies for the sector.

On the other hand, since September 2018, the Secretariat for Children and Adolescents has been upgraded to the rank of Ministry, with the mission of guaranteeing access to the rights of children and adolescents through public policies of protection and promotion elaborated by the National System of Integral Protection and Promotion. Adolescents, especially those between 10 and 18 years of age, are protected by **Law 1680/01** "Childhood Code", in line with the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by Paraguay through **Law 57** of 20 September 1990.

Important legal advancements were made with the amendment of the Civil Code, which raised the legal age for marriage to 18 years (**Law 5419/15**), and the amendment of the Criminal Code for increasing the penalty for sexual abuse (**Law 6002/17**); in addition to the enactment of Law No. **5659/2016** "Promotion of good treatment, positive upbringing and protection of children and adolescents against physical punishment or any type of violence as a method of correction or discipline" and Law **6202/18**, which adopts norms for the prevention of sexual abuse and comprehensive care for child and adolescent victims of sexual abuse.

**UNFPA's Contributions:**

The analysis of the documentary review and the interviews carried out by the CP evaluation indicate that the current Country Programme 2015-2019 responds to the needs of priority groups, placing SRH, adolescence, youth and gender, demographic dividend and investment in youth on the public agenda. There is evidence that UNFPA has contributed to the development of diagnoses, studies, evaluations, research that identify inequalities, factors of exclusion and discrimination.

UNFPA CO generated evidence on the social investment in adolescence and youth. The National Youth Secretariat, with support from UNFPA, collected data on the situation of youth (2016) and public expenditure for the sector (2018), highlighting



that investment in this age range represents only 0.9% of the country's total GDP. This is despite the fact that the country has a significant demographic dividend with 28% of the population between 15 and 29 years of age.

During the institutional strengthening process of the National Youth Secretariat, UNFPA support has been critical for the updating of the National Youth Plan 2016-2030.

On the other hand, the CO has strengthened the advocacy and monitoring capacities of civil society organizations, particularly adolescents and youth networks, for increased participation in local and international spaces. Likewise, the Technical Planning Secretariat has been strengthened for the construction of common indicators between the SDGs and the Montevideo Consensus.

<b>Outcome 3: Advanced gender equality, women's and girls' empowerment, and reproductive rights, including for the most vulnerable and marginalized women, adolescents and youth</b>					
Does the country have the gender equality national action plans that integrate reproductive rights with specific targets and national public budget allocations?	2014	Yes	2018	Yes	The country has the Fourth National Plan for Equality between Men and Women, which refers to access to comprehensive health care and the denaturalization of adolescent pregnancy.
Proportion of taken actions by the country on all of the Universal Periodical Review (UPR) accepted recommendations on reproductive rights from the previous reporting cycle	2014	SD	2018	SD	CO did not take this SP indicator for its CPD. Paraguay presented in 2016 the Report to the UPR and received several recommendations among which it requests the country to take measures to reduce maternal mortality, prevent adolescent pregnancies, access to comprehensi

					ve sexuality education and approval of a legal framework against all forms of discrimination.
Percentage of women aged 15–49 who think that a husband/partner is justified in hitting or beating his wife/partner under certain circumstances	2014	SD	2018	SD	
<p><b>Summary of National Progress:</b> Approval and regulation of the comprehensive law against violence against women, Law 5777/16. It has also been approved the Fourth Equal Opportunities Plan 2018-2024 and the Second National Plan to Combat Violence against Women 2015-2020.</p> <p><b>UNFPA’s Contributions:</b> Although the Country Office has initiated its support for the area of risk management and reduction in the present Country Programme, this was not an obstacle for the response when it was needed to be timely, adequate, rapid and of quality, which enabled a set of actions that were organized and implemented based on the public policy of the National Emergency Secretariat, through the capacity to generate and manage resources. Moreover, it has led to the institutionalization of the emergency response with a strategy with a gender and rights perspective, including GBV, SRHR and incorporating the UNFPA Minimum Standards of Care and Prevention of GBV in Emergencies.</p> <p>UNFPA has positioned gender and GBV issues on the public agenda, strengthening the gender department of the Armed Forces, the incorporation and attention of the subject by the National Emergency Secretariat and the Military Forces and the articulation of executive and judicial branches to address sexual violence, through intervention routes.</p> <p>The CO contributed to giving visibility to indigenous peoples, with the printing and publication of three volumes of the Atlas of Guaraní and Guaicurú Indigenous Peoples (2015) with the DGEEC; to the HIV/AIDS issue (2017) in cooperation with “Fundación Vencer”, UNAIDS, MPHWS and the Network of NGOs working on HIV/AIDS with the Stigma Index for people with HIV; and the non-discrimination with the National Survey of Equality and Non-Discrimination in Paraguay.</p> <p>With an integrated support of UN Women and UNFPA, through technical assistance, advocacy and political dialogue, the “Law for the integral protection of women against all forms of violence”, Law 5777/16, was developed, approved and regulated.</p> <p>In partnership with the Ministry of Women and Itaipu Binational, UNFPA CO developed and implemented the project “Dating without Violence”. The project involved adolescents in the development and application of a methodology for transferring tools and promoting the development of skills in building violence-free dating relationships, promoting gender equality, new masculinities, the empowerment of girls and adolescents, and a communication campaign on social networks. The Ministry of Education and Science was involved and 184 facilitators were trained in the methodology.</p>					
<p><b>Outcome 4: Strengthened national policies and international development agendas through integration of evidence-based analysis on population dynamics and their links to sustainable development, sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, HIV and gender equality</b></p>					
Has the country had at least one census of good quality that was processed, analyzed and disseminated following internationally agreed recommendations (during the last 10 years)?	2014	Yes	2018	No	Paraguay conducted its last census in 2012. However, it did not have national coverage due to problems

					with the political situation at the time of data collection.
Has the country collected, analyzed and disseminated a national household survey that allows for the estimation of key population and reproductive health indicators (in the last 5 years)?	2014	SD	2018	Yes	In 2016, the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) was carried out, containing data on reproductive health and HIV/AIDS.
Has the country completed evaluations on strategic interventions around sexual and reproductive health and adolescent and youth?	2014	No	2018	No	
Proportion of new national development plans that address population dynamics by accounting for population trends and projections in setting development targets	2014	100%	2018	100%	The country has a National Development Plan 2030 and a National Population and Development Plan 2018-2019.

**Summary of National Progress:**

The Paraguayan State has expressed its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) for the year 2030, with the creation of the Inter-Institutional Coordination Commission for the Implementation, Follow-up and Monitoring of the International Commitments assumed by the country. According to the Commission's report (2018), in these first years the country achieved 45% alignment of the National Development Plan with the SDG. In the current situation, challenges remain in institutional alignment to the SDG, the construction of selected indicators, the production of statistics and greater involvement of civil society.

In the III Meeting of the Regional Conference on Population and Development, Paraguay presented its voluntary report on national progress in the implementation of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development, which includes the process of constructing a National Action Plan on Population and Development for the period 2018-2019, together with the government's actions that have had a positive impact on the achievement of the desired results, and some key tools for its implementation. The National Plan of Action on Population and Development 2018-2019 represents an important advancement for the fulfillment of the commitments taken up by the country in 2013 in the framework of the Montevideo Consensus.

**UNFPA's Contributions:**

- Strengthening of national capacities for the preparation and implementation of the National Development Plan in line with Agenda 2030 and the Montevideo Consensus.
- Generation of evidence to influence public policies that promote the full use of the demographic dividend and the importance of investment in adolescence and youth, with decision makers, including government officials and parliamentarians.

- Positioning the use of the demographic dividend and investment in adolescence and youth, with emphasis on education, health and social protection, in the public agenda.
- In coordination with the Regional Office, the Country Office has provided technical and financial support to the ongoing national efforts to prepare the Census 2021 and to ensure its alignment with international standards.
- In addition, the CO has provided technical support for the conduction of National Transfer Accounts and the improvement of administrative records in health and education.

<b>D. Country Programme Resources *</b>						
<b>SP Outcome</b> <b>Choose only those relevant to your CP</b>	<b>Regular Resource (Planned** and Final Expenditure)</b>		<b>Others (Planned and Final Expenditure)</b>		<b>Total (Planned and Final Expenditure)</b>	
Increased availability and use of integrated sexual and reproductive health services	1.5	1.2	4.1	0.8	5.6	2.0
Youth policies and programmes, and increased availability of comprehensive sexuality education	0.8	0.9	0.2	0.0	1.0	0.9
Advanced gender equality, women's and girls' empowerment, and reproductive rights	0.7	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.8	0.9
Strengthened national policies and international development agendas through integration of evidence-based analysis on population dynamics	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.9	0.3
Programme coordination and assistance	0.4	0.3	0	0.0	0.4	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>4.5</b>

\* Source CP 2015 -2019 (Sept. 30th, 2019)

\*\* Total Regular Funds received in 7th Programme Cycle 2015 - 2019: \$3.7