



## **Annex 3. Global and Regional Interventions in 2016**

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## **A. Introduction**

1. In its decision 2014/16, the Executive Board invited UNFPA to include an assessment of the implementation progress of Global and Regional Interventions (GRI) as an annex to the annual report of the Executive Director.
2. This annex presents the progress made and selected results achieved in 2016 by the GRI by UNFPA strategic plan outcomes. It highlights the main challenges and achievements of the 2016 GRI and presents, through scorecards, the achievement of output indicator targets. Information is also provided on the financial resources spent per outcome. The achievement of annual targets by global and regional interventions at indicator level is presented in Annex 3a.

## **B. Progress and achievements of the global and regional interventions**

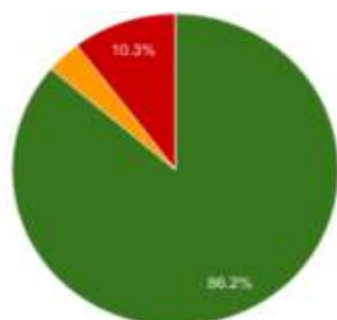
3. In 2016, the global and regional interventions supported strategic partnerships, the development and roll-out of technical tools and development frameworks, and policy and technical advisory services to governments and intergovernmental processes to promote implementation of the agendas of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The interventions were instrumental in supporting and strengthening UNFPA country offices to deliver country programme results, with a focus on achieving the primary goal of the strategic plan, namely, universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. The global interventions are supported from UNFPA headquarters while the regional interventions operate from each of the respective UNFPA regional offices to support member States.

4. Each of the global and regional interventions has a results and resources framework that was approved by the Executive Board, in line with the UNFPA strategic plan 2014-2017. These frameworks are based on the strategic plan's four outcomes, and the organizational efficiency and effectiveness outputs. The global results framework has 15 outputs while the regional framework has 25 outputs. There are one to five indicators under each output. The achievement of an output is based on the average achievement rate of the indicators. The annex provides further details about achievement of indicators or the challenges in implementation that explain the achievement or non-achievement of an output. Outputs with an average achievement rate of indicators measured at 100 per cent or above are considered fully achieved, those achieved between 99 per cent and 60 per cent are partially achieved, and those below 60 per cent are considered as not achieved.

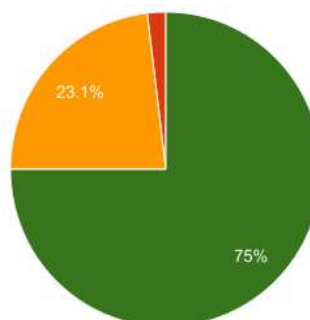
### **2016 Global and Regional Interventions results**

5. Overall the global interventions posted a strong performance. Of the 15 outputs, 13 were fully achieved, and two were partially achieved. Of the 29 indicators of global interventions, targets for 25 indicators were fully met, one target was 60 per cent met, and targets for three indicators were not met in 2016, as shown in Chart 1. Regional interventions fully achieved 17 of the 25 outputs. Seven outputs were partially achieved, and one output was not achieved. At indicator level, 39 targets (75 per cent) of 52 indicators were fully met, 12 targets (23 per cent) were partially met, and one indicator target was not met (see Chart 2).

**Chart 1. Indicator target achievement by global interventions, 2016**



**Chart 2. Indicator target achievement by regional interventions, 2016**



● Achieved by 100% or more ● Achieved between 60% and 99% ● Achieved by less than 60%

### Global and Regional interventions performance, by UNFPA strategic plan outcome

***Outcome 1: Increased availability and use of integrated sexual and reproductive health services (including family planning, maternal health and HIV) that meet human rights standards for quality of care and equity in access***

6. Performance in this outcome area was very strong. All outputs of global interventions were fully achieved, as shown below in Table 1. Four of six outputs of regional interventions were fully achieved and two outputs were partially achieved, as shown in Table 2. Lack of financial resources was the main reason cited for non-achievement of the two outputs.

7. Global interventions operationalized global strategies to facilitate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly the Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health. The interventions focused on capacity development of country programmes and offices on using different programmatic tools. A lesson learnt was that addressing the specific needs and vulnerabilities of key youth populations requires further tailored programming guidance. Both global and regional interventions played a critical role in humanitarian coordination and preparedness by building capacity of countries to implement the minimum initial services package for reproductive health in emergencies at the onset of humanitarian crisis.

**Table 1. Scorecard for global interventions outcome 1**

Output	Performance in 2016
Global specific-output: Increased national capacity to deliver integrated sexual and reproductive health services	●
Global specific-output: Increased national capacity to strengthen enabling environments, increase demand for and supply of modern contraceptives and improve quality family planning services that are free of coercion, discrimination and violence	●
Global specific-output: Increased national capacity to deliver HIV programmes that are free of stigma and discrimination, consistent with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) unified budget results and accountability framework commitments	●
IRF output: Increased national capacity to provide sexual and reproductive health services in humanitarian settings	●
Total outcome expenditure, in US dollars	\$4,364,582

● 100 per cent and above ● 60 per cent to 99 per cent ● below 60 per cent

8. Although funding constraints prevented the achievement of some indicator targets, notable work supported by regional interventions, which is pivotal to the achievement of SDGs, was accomplished in the area of sexual and reproductive health of women and girls, including:

- (a) 31 countries utilized regional interventions’ methodology on costing national sexual and reproductive health action plans and programmes;
- (b) 70 countries of the Asia and the Pacific (AP), East and Southern Africa (ESA) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) regions were provided with technical expertise for development/revision of guidelines, policies, protocols and standards for delivery of high-quality sexual and reproductive health services, including for adolescents and youth; and
- (c) 35 countries, exceeding the target of 28, now have humanitarian contingency plans that include elements for addressing the sexual and reproductive needs of women, adolescents and youth, including services for survivors of sexual violence in crises.

**Table 2. Scorecard for regional interventions outcome 1**




Output	Performance in 2016
IRF output: Increased national capacity to deliver integrated sexual and reproductive health services	●
IRF output: Increased national capacity to strengthen enabling environments, increase demand for and supply of modern contraceptives and improve quality family planning services that are free of coercion, discrimination and violence	●
IRF output: Increased national capacity to deliver comprehensive maternal health services	●
IRF output: Increased national capacity to deliver HIV programmes that are free of stigma and discrimination, consistent with the UNAIDS unified budget results and accountability frameworks commitments	●
IRF output: Increased national capacity to provide sexual and reproductive health services in humanitarian settings	●
Regional-specific output: Improved management of sexual and reproductive health resources through increased focus on value for money and systematic risk management	●
Total outcome expenditure, in US dollars	\$10,607,091

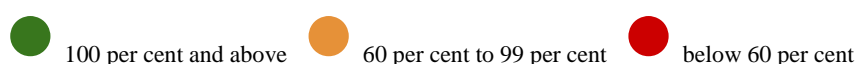
● 100 per cent and above   ● 60 per cent to 99 per cent   ● below 60 per cent

***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 services***

9. As shown in table 3, the global interventions fully achieved two of the three outputs that were planned for increasing prioritization on adolescent and youth issues in development and peacebuilding frameworks. The output on increasing capacity to design comprehensive programmes to reach marginalized adolescent girls, including those at risk of child marriage, was not achieved due to the humanitarian crisis in Yemen, which was one of the priority countries.






**Table 3. Scorecard for global interventions outcome 2**

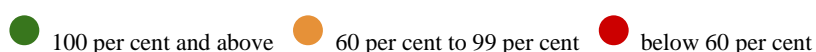
Output	Performance in 2016
Global-specific output: Increased national capacity to conduct evidence-based advocacy for incorporating adolescents and youth and their human rights/needs in national laws, policies and programmes, including in humanitarian settings	
Global specific-output: Increased national capacity to design and implement community and school-based comprehensive sexuality education programmes that promote human rights and gender equality	
Global specific-output: Increased capacity of partners to design and implement comprehensive programmes to reach marginalized adolescent girls, including those at risk of child marriage	
Total outcome expenditures, in US dollars	\$960,960



10. Regional interventions made steady progress in this outcome area. Three out of five outputs were fully achieved, one output was achieved by 83 per cent, and one output was achieved by less than 60 per cent, as shown in table 4. The lack of financial resources affected achievement of the output on strengthening partner capacity to implement comprehensive programmes, including sexuality education, in order to reach adolescent girls, especially those at risk of early child marriage. As a result of this challenge, the Western and Central Africa (WCA) regional office strengthened the capacity of eight out of nine target countries. Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) regional office involved six new private-sector partners in youth-related initiatives, falling short of the target of 13, due to staff turnover and the shifting of priority attention to mobilize youth networks in the context of the Youth Voice regional campaign. The shift ensured broad consultation and engagement of young people in the preparation and adoption of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

**Table 4. Scorecard for regional interventions outcome 2**

Output	Performance in 2016
IRF output: Increased national capacity to conduct evidence-based advocacy for incorporating adolescents and youth and their human rights/needs in national laws, policies, programmes, including in humanitarian settings	
IRF output: Increased national capacity to design and implement community and school based comprehensive sexuality education programmes that promote human rights and gender equality	
IRF output: State institutions, NGOs, academia and communities of countries have knowledge, skills and resources to advocate for, support, design and implement programmes to reach marginalized adolescent girls, including those at risk of child marriage	
Regional-specific output: Increased capacity of partners to scale up comprehensive adolescents and youth sexual and reproductive health programmes, including sexuality education, in order to reach adolescent girls, especially those at risk of child marriage	
Regional-specific output: Improved mobilization of financial and non-financial resources for youth programming across all thematic areas	
Total outcome expenditure, in US dollars	\$3,843,365



11. Global and regional interventions supported youth-led platforms to advocate for comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) and increased investment in marginalized young people within development health policies and programmes. Seven global and regional women's and youth networks facilitated youth-led advocacy, including the roll-out of operational guidance for CSE. The roll-out led to the establishment of the CSE advocacy hub for communication among CSE advocates and experts, and

collaboration and knowledge sharing on CSE at global, regional, national and local levels. While 2016 global interventions on CSE focused on in-school formal education, they will focus on out-of-school youth in 2017 to reach the most marginalized youth, and leave no one behind.

12. Regional interventions strengthened advocacy for prioritization of adolescent and youth issues in development frameworks at regional levels, including supporting institutionalization of youth participation in regional dialogues. Increasing youth participation in peacebuilding, and incorporating this agenda into the UNFPA 2018-2021 strategic plan by building on lessons learned from country offices, was a strategic priority for global interventions in 2016. UNFPA was tasked by the Secretary-General to co-lead, with the Peacebuilding Support Office, the Progress Study on Youth, Peace & Security, which was mandated by Security Council resolution 2250 (2015). The report, to be provided to Member States in early 2018, will provide evidence of young people's contributions to peace and recommendations to ensure their further active engagement.

13. Regional interventions brokered and disseminated knowledge, advocacy and technical tools to support prioritization of adolescent and youth issues in national policy and action frameworks.

14. Orchestrated opposition, politicization and existing misconceptions about sexuality education constitute obstacles faced in promoting CSE and aligning curriculum to international standards. This challenge is compounded by the need for constant investment to sustain and support youth-led organizations.

***Outcome 3: Advanced gender equality, women’s and girls’ empowerment, and reproductive rights, including for the most vulnerable and marginalized women, adolescents and youth***

15. Global interventions fully achieved all four outputs for outcome 3, as shown in table 5 below. Whereas, regional interventions fully achieved four outputs and partially achieved the rest, two outputs, as shown in table 6. The main reason for not fully achievement of outputs was the changes in national priorities of targeted countries by regional interventions.

16. Both interventions played a key role in providing technical support to countries in reporting to the Universal Periodic Review sessions. Detailed analysis of the recommendations related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for each country was developed, identifying key advocacy and programming opportunities for UNFPA at the country level to support member States in turning recommendations into concrete actions.

**Table 5. Scorecard for global interventions outcome 3**

Output	Performance in 2016
Global specific output: Strengthened international and national protection systems for advancing reproductive rights, promoting gender equality and non-discrimination and addressing gender-based violence	●
Global specific output: Increased capacity to prevent gender-based violence and harmful practices and enable the delivery of multi-sectoral services, including in humanitarian settings	●
Global specific output: Strengthened engagement of civil society organizations to promote reproductive rights and women's empowerment, and address discrimination, including of marginalized and vulnerable groups, people living with HIV and key populations	●
Total outcome expenditure, in millions of US dollars:	\$3,042,199

● 100 per cent and above    ● 60 per cent to 99 per cent    ● below 60 per cent

17. In partnership with governments, civil society, and communities, and within the framework of the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on FGM, global interventions intensified efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation. These efforts increased high-level political commitments to end harmful practices against women and girls announced at a series of high-level advocacy events. One such event at the 60th Commission on the Status of Women entitled, *"Time is Now! Let's end harmful practice against women and girls by 2030,"* was supported by Burkina Faso, the United States, Norway, and UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador Ms. Ashley Judd.







18. Global interventions were also key in convening global coalitions to promote the rights of marginalized and excluded populations, in particular persons living with disabilities. This was achieved through various advocacy efforts and the development and launch of the UNFPA "WE DECIDE" youth and disability initiative that conducted the first ever global study on youth and disability. Emphasis was placed on SRH and GBV and the development of standards to address the needs of women and youth living with disabilities.




19. Regional interventions supported the roll-out and adoption of tools and guidelines, which are necessary to integrate GBV prevention, protection and response into national sexual and reproductive health programmes.

20. A behavior change communication (BCC) strategy focused on child marriage was elaborated by the Arab States regional office in Kurdistan/Iraq after which seven country offices expressed interest in developing BCC strategies in the future, showing the relevance of the regional office support on this issue. Capacities of GBV sub-clusters in three countries (Yemen, Iraq and Jordan) were enhanced using a training manual developed by the AS regional office on GBV programming and coordination in humanitarian settings.

22. In EECA and LAC, regional interventions helped in mobilizing resources and targeting support to prevent and address gender-based violence. In these two regions a total of 20 countries, exceeding the target of 12, were able to prevent and address gender-based violence through multisectoral services.

**Table 6. Scorecard for regional interventions outcome 3**

Output	Performance in 2016
IRF output: Strengthened national and regional institutions capacity to address gender-based violence and harmful practices and to enable the provision of multisectoral services, including in humanitarian settings and fragile contexts	
Regional-specific output: UNFPA country offices, and their supported partners, are better equipped to advance sexual and reproductive rights, promote gender equality and non-discrimination, and address gender-based violence	
IRF output: Increased capacity to prevent gender-based violence and harmful practices and enable the delivery of multisectoral services, including in humanitarian settings	
Regional-specific output: Capacities of policy makers, advocacy groups, and UNFPA country offices are strengthened to prevent, protect from and respond to gender-based violence, including child marriage, female genital mutilation/cutting, and other harmful practices, through better-equipped multisectoral systems, including in humanitarian settings and fragile contexts	
IRF output: Strengthened engagement of civil society organizations to promote reproductive rights and women's empowerment, and address discrimination, including of marginalized and vulnerable groups, people living with HIV and key populations	
Regional-specific output: Increased visibility of UNFPA in the region and strengthened capacity of country offices to develop and implement communications strategies, with the focus on gender issues	
Total outcome expenditure, in US dollars	\$3,462,541

 100 per cent and above    60 per cent to 99 per cent    below 60 per cent

***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***

23. Global interventions fully achieved all three outputs for this outcome, as seen in table 7 below. However, the indicator on the number of countries undertaking small area estimation and mapping of vulnerable youth and adolescents was achieved only by 60 per cent, mostly because time constraints made covering the targeted 15 countries a challenge. Another indicator on the number of countries supported with development of monitoring and evaluation frameworks for their interventions on family planning, disability, child marriage, and female genital mutilation and cutting was achieved by only 50 per cent, because requests for support from six countries came in when the design of programmatic interventions was completed, which created challenges in supporting them.

**Table 7. Scorecard for global interventions outcome 4**

Output	Performance in 2016
Global-specific output: Strengthened national population data eco-systems, including capacity and infrastructure to generate, archive, analyse, disseminate, and use data to advance ICPD objectives and achieve the 2030 agenda.	●
Global-specific output: Increased capacity to integrate population dynamics and health and social data into policies and programmes to advance human rights, redress inequalities and achieve equitable sustainable global, regional, national and sub-national development.	●
Global-specific output: 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	●
Total outcome expenditure, in millions of US dollars:	\$3,597,770

● 100 per cent and above    ● 60 per cent to 99 per cent    ● below 60 per cent

24. Regional interventions posted a strong performance in this outcome area. Five of the six outputs were achieved in full, and one output was achieved partially (see table 8). The interventions launched the strengthening of capacity for collecting, analyzing, and using data to monitor progress on the 2030 Agenda; and major strides were made in developing analytical tools that would enable, during implementation of the agenda, identification of those left behind.

**Table 8. Scorecard for regional interventions outcome 4**

Output	Performance in 2016
IRF output: Strengthened national population data eco-systems, including capacity and infrastructure to generate, archive, analyze, disseminate, and use data to advance ICPD objectives and achieve the 2030 Agenda	●
Regional-specific output: Capacities of regional partners are strengthened to promote and assist countries to generate and disseminate national and subnational data on population dynamics, disaggregated by sex and age	●
Regional-specific output: UNFPA country offices and national partners are provided with knowledge and tools to collect and disseminate census data and population statistics	●
IRF output: Increased capacity to integrate population dynamics and health and social data into policies and programmes to advance human rights, re-address inequalities and achieve equitable sustainable global, regional, national and sub-national development	●
Regional-specific output: UNFPA country offices and partners are better equipped to advocate for policies that integrate population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health, HIV and gender equality and their linkages to sustainable development	●



Regional-specific output: Strengthened partnership with strategic institutions, civil society and academia to advance implementation of the ICPD agenda across the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region	●
Total outcome expenditure, in US dollars	\$6,357,590

● 100 per cent and above   ● 60 per cent to 99 per cent   ● below 60 per cent

25. Global interventions were key in strengthening partnerships aimed at the follow-up and review of the International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014 and the integration of ICPD issues into the 2030 Agenda follow-up and review processes at global and regional levels. The interventions facilitated engagement of member States, civil society organizations and UN entities across platforms and processes, such as in the Inter-Agency Expert Group Meetings on SDGs, functional commissions such as the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Population and Development, civil society organizations consultations, regional forums on sustainable development, the intergovernmental negotiations on the General Assembly resolution related to the Follow-up and Review of 2030 Agenda at the global level, and the High-Level Political Forum. At the regional level, a regional task force on population-related SDGs indicators was formed by the Arab States regional office to adopt a priority list of indicators for the region.

26. Regional interventions built-up partnerships to address the challenging issue of data availability that requires joint efforts at global, regional, national and sub-national levels. A partnership of LAC and ESA regions with the Caribbean Development Bank, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP), African Population and Research Centre (APHRC), and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) trained 42 countries on Retrieval of Data for small Areas by Microcomputer (REDATAM), civil registration and population projections.



27. Population Situation Analysis (PSA) of countries is crucial for development planning, and requires the expertise of the regional office. In 2016, regional interventions supported 35 countries (target was 41) with technical advisory expertise and guidance in EECA, ESA, LAC and WCA regions to conduct population situation analysis. However, the target was not achieved, mainly because six countries did not, as part of the revision of their national plans, prioritise the PSA.




***Organizational effectiveness and efficiency***

28. Global and regional interventions contributed to enhancing UNFPA organizational effectiveness and efficiency in 2016. The global interventions fully achieved the output on increased adaptability through innovation, partnership and communications, and partially achieved the output on enhanced programme effectiveness (see table 9), which was largely due to the fact that the Strategic Information Dashboard was not completed due to the need to factor in additional testing time for system stability and its launch and roll-out is now scheduled for June 2017.

29. Regional interventions partially achieved the output on increased adaptability through innovation, partnership and communications and fully achieved the output on enhanced programme effectiveness by improving quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation, as shown in table 10. The reason is that only 64 per cent out of the targeted 80 per cent of the EECA regional office’s staff managed to complete at least 75 per cent of learning activities in their annual learning plans due to significant budget cuts to staff learning as part of the corporate austerity measures. All country offices of EECA and AP regions rates as 100 per cent the relevance, quality and timeliness of support received from their regional offices.

**Table 9. Scorecard for organizational effectiveness and efficiency of global interventions**



Output	Performance in 2016
Enhanced programme effectiveness by improving quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation Total output expenditure, in US dollars: \$4,002,158	
Increased adaptability through innovation, partnership and communications Total output expenditure, in US dollars: \$5,822,179	




 100 per cent and above  60 per cent to 99 per cent  below 60 per cent

30. Global interventions enhanced programme effectiveness through: a) engaging in the programme quality assurance process, which resulted in the “satisfactory” rating of all country programme documents submitted in 2016 to the Programme Review Committee; b) rolling out of the myResults system, which ensures that programmes systematically plan, monitor and report programme results; and c) enhancing the Global Programme System, which ensures that implementing partners work plan are effectively managed.

31. In the area of innovation, partnerships and communication, global interventions focused on rolling-out the guidelines for communicating in emergencies, which are currently used in 35 high-priority countries affected by humanitarian crisis. Global visibility of UNFPA was increased with the use of social media and diverse communication channels that enabled the Fund to nearly double the targeted number of mentions of UNFPA in the media and reach three million followers on Facebook and 130,000 Twitter followers in 2016. Regional interventions set up six new private-sector partnerships in the LAC region. The number of UNFPA followers in both AS and AP regional Facebook accounts reached 17,354 and the AP website had 13,200 visitors, exceeding the target of 12,000. The EECA regional interventions increased UNFPA visibility by implementing communication strategies that resulted in 91,100 website viewers and 2,232 Facebook followers.

**Table 10. Scorecard for organizational effectiveness and efficiency of regional interventions**

Output	Performance in 2016
Enhanced programme effectiveness by improving quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation Total output expenditure, in US dollars: \$3,054,578	
Increased adaptability through innovation, partnership and communications Total output expenditure, in US dollars: \$2,105,097	

 100 per cent and above  60 per cent to 99 per cent  below 60 per cent

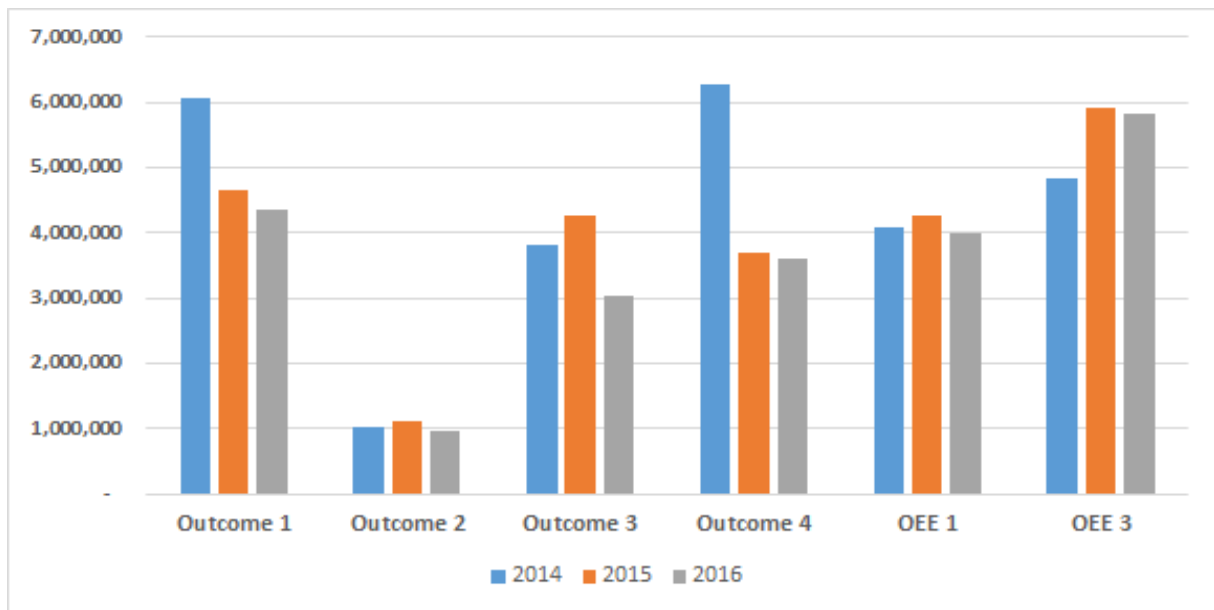
### C. Financial performance of GRIs

32. The global and regional interventions resource allocation for 2016 adhered to the initial Regular Resource Distribution Plan for 2016, based on the contribution payment estimates. Interventions received USD 52.72 million, a reduction of USD 15.55 million from the originally planned 2016 allocation approved by the Executive Board decision 2013/31. The 2016 and future year ceilings are subject to change yearly as the income situation and business requirements evolve.

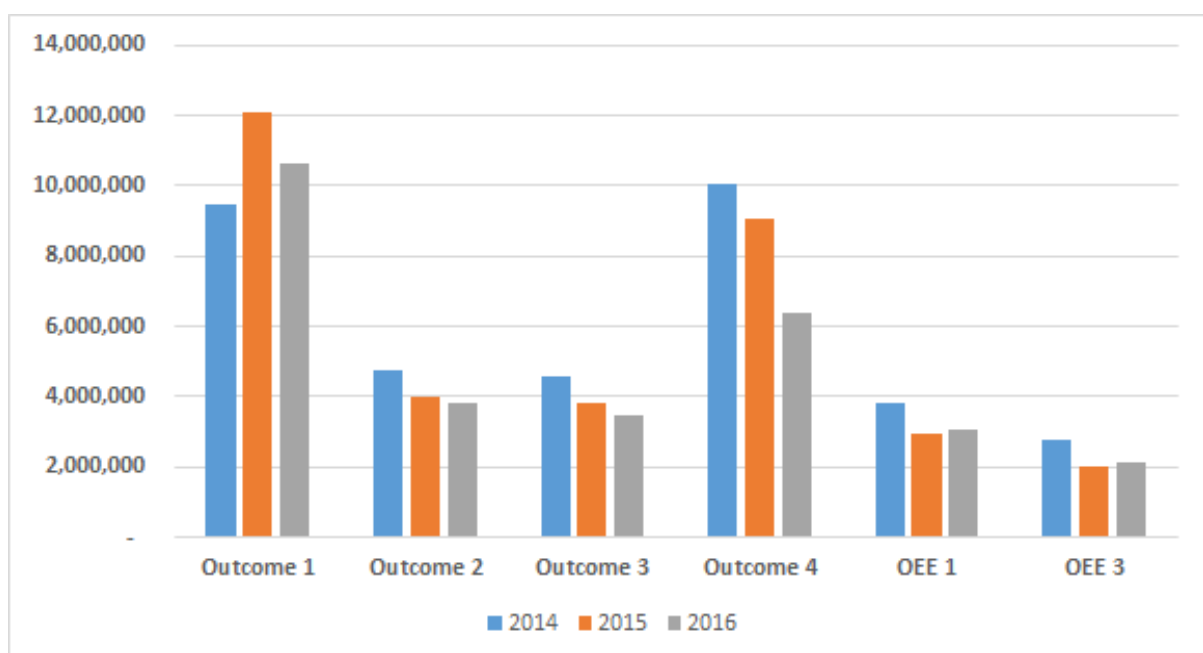
33. The expenses incurred by the global and regional interventions mirror the focus on universal access to sexual and reproductive health, with evidence-based prioritization and programming. Most resources were spent on strategic plan outcomes 1 and 4, which is a pattern that continues across the years of the strategic plan, irrespective of reductions in funding.

34. With regard to OEE, regional interventions spent more on OEE output 1 -- Enhanced programme effectiveness than on OEE output 3 - Increased adaptability through innovation, partnership and communications, while the opposite is true for global initiatives. Regional interventions focus on providing operational and programmatic support to country offices including for quality assurance (see chart 3 and chart 4). In 2016, the proportion of expenses between the global and regional interventions stood at 42 per cent and 58 per cent respectively (see chart 5).

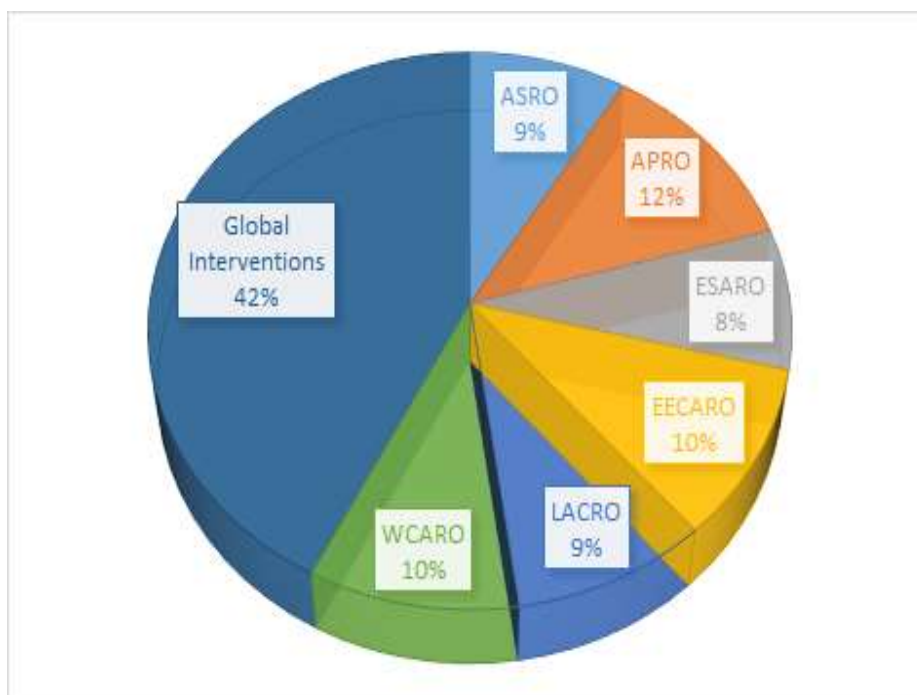
**Chart 3. Global interventions expenses by strategic plan outcome and OEE output, 2014-2016 (in US dollars)**



**Chart 4. Regional interventions expenses by strategic plan outcome and OEE output, 2014-2016 (in US dollars)**



**Chart 5. Proportion of expenses by global and regional interventions, 2016**



#### **D. Monitoring, evaluation and oversight**

35. The implementation and monitoring of the GRI continued to follow the UNFPA programme policy framework and detailed work plans that were captured by the UNFPA GPS. In addition to regular monitoring, the individual units' quarterly reported data were centrally consolidated and presented to the Executive Committee in the form of a semi-annual performance report. The report demonstrated how implementation of action plans was progressing, particularly in terms of the achievement of quarterly targets, and provided an opportunity to discuss emerging issues. This approach enabled the Executive Committee to execute its oversight function to ensure that corrective actions were taken.

36. The revision of results and resources frameworks of global and regional interventions was finalized as a follow-up to the approval of the revised integrated results framework of the strategic plan by the Board decision 2016/9. The revision resulted in improved quality of indicators, revision of some targets based on progress, trends and reductions in funding, dropping and introduction of additional indicators to better reflect the work and assistance provided by the GRI for 2016-2017. Findings of the SP architecture evaluation inform the development of the 2018-2021 GRI.

## E. Selected success stories of global and regional interventions

### I. Partnership for UNFPA programmes



European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development @UNFPA

Through global advocacy, significant support from parliamentarians from donor countries resulted in increased political will and financial support for UNFPA. The decision-makers asked their Governments to increase funding for UNFPA programmes, following study missions to Greece, India, the Philippines, Kyrgyzstan and Sierra Leone. During the missions, they saw first-hand the impact of UNFPA's programmes for sexual and reproductive health and rights and family planning and benefits to the lives of people.

### II. Humanitarian action



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To enable timely humanitarian action in 30 countries, USD 5 million was allocated by the UNFPA emergency fund, supported by global interventions. With a focus on capacity development and operations, global interventions increased the number of surge roster members by 75 per cent, from 118 to 206, and facilitated deployment of 56 personnel in 2016. About a third of deployments were a result of stand-by partnerships with the Danish Refugee Council, Norwegian Refugee Council, CANADEM, and RedR Australia.

UNFPA conducted humanitarian operations in 54 countries in 2016 to meet the needs of women, adolescent girls and young people. This was reflected in the UNFPA Global Humanitarian Action Overview, launched with an appeal of USD 311 million, of which USD 152 million was received.

### III. Supporting population and development



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Following consensus on the SDGs, global intervention teams and regional offices carried out regional workshops to strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices to monitor the SDGs. Focusing on the 16 SDG indicators closely linked to the UNFPA mandate, the workshops enhanced common understanding of definitions and metadata among national statistical officials, UNFPA staff, regional bodies and other UN agencies. More than 80 governments benefited from this engagement.



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In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, an International Advisory Panel on Population and Development was established in 2016 to assist governments in developing evidence-based policies focused on the rights and needs of people and response to complex population challenges. The internationally-recognized experts provided advice and recommendations to Georgia and Moldova to develop national policy frameworks in population and development and sexual and reproductive health and rights.



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Collaboration of the East and Southern Africa regional office with the West and Central Africa regional office, the Addis Ababa Liaison Office and country offices on a demographic dividend for Africa helped place the issue high on the continental agenda. This led to political momentum around youth resulting in the African Union declaring that the theme of the 2017 AU Summit will be *Investments in Youth and Harnessing the Demographic Dividend*.

#### **IV. Advancing sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights**

By leveraging global expertise, UNFPA provided thought leadership in advancing sexual reproductive health and reproductive rights through platforms such as the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, maximizing collaboration through the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) and the United Nations Health Organizations (H6).



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Due to support from regional interventions during 2016, the Arab States Midwifery Network was admitted as a member of the International Confederation of Midwives.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, regional interventions strengthened the capacity of midwifery institutions to apply competency-based standards and integrate intercultural perspectives, in partnership with the Latin American Federation of Obstetrics.

With support from the MacArthur Foundation, regional interventions enhanced the national movement of midwives in Mexico through a leadership program, training midwifery teachers in competency-based education, and facilitating a visit to Chile where a group of policy makers and midwives from four Mexican states learned about the policy, education and practice dimensions of the successful Chilean midwifery model.

Two new types of female condoms were pre-qualified with a view to better serve the needs of women and adolescent girls to protect their health, rights and dignity.



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With support from the Government of Japan and in coordination with country offices, the Latin American and Caribbean regional office positioned sexual and reproductive health and rights at the forefront of the response to Zika in the region. Working with governments, UN agencies, civil society networks and other partners, advocacy, technical support and communication campaigns increased access to vital reproductive health information, services and commodities in Zika-affected communities.

In Eastern Europe and Central Asia, regional interventions supported development of the first European action plan for sexual and reproductive health, adopted by member States at the 66th WHO Regional Committee for Europe. National strategies and action plans are supported by UNFPA with WHO and other partners.



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West and Central Africa regional interventions established regional and national pools of trainers and providers of long-term postpartum family planning methods. These health workers are now able to provide support in all countries, including in the most remote areas of the region.

## V. Supporting South-South and triangular cooperation



In 2016, UNFPA continued to promote South-South and triangular cooperation to support countries in the implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action and the SDGs. These efforts were reinforced by the launch of a new corporate strategy and online training for 70 UNFPA focal points to promote stronger South-South and triangular cooperation to support member States to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

## VI. Advancing Gender Equality and Empowering Women and Girls

In the Arab States, regional interventions brought together influential Muslim and Christian faith-based organizations to agree on how to advocate against female genital mutilation. A joint agreement was reached by the groups to end FGM through their direct work with communities.



In collaboration with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Asia Pacific regional office is leading a landmark multi-year initiative to measure the prevalence of violence against women (VAW) in the region. Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Bangladesh and Viet Nam now have evidence-based data on violence against women, some for the first time. Viet Nam used the data to develop guidelines for implementing the domestic violence law.



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EECA regional interventions advanced the prevention and response to gender-based violence by rolling out the UN Inter-Agency essential services guidelines on gender-based violence (GBV) in 2016. More than 300 professionals engaged in the events, which resulted in the multisectorial approach being rolled out in 11 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

## VII. Empowering Youth



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The Arab States regional office, UNDP, UNESCO and the Peacebuilding Support Office convened a regional consultation and high-level dialogue on “Youth, Peace and Security” in Jordan, engaging 65 young people from 18 Arab countries, decision makers, and partners from civil society organizations and international and regional organizations. The meeting supported a strategic dialogue on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2250 to support concrete change.

In the Asia and Pacific region, UNFPA partnered with UNESCO, UNICEF, UN-Women and WHO on comprehensive sexuality education advocacy and programming. Joint strategies were developed and used for advocacy among the ministries of education and key stakeholders to include CSE and gender in the core curriculum.



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The East and Southern Africa regional office in collaboration with the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation and UNESCO advanced the institutionalization of comprehensive sexuality education by rolling out a regional online training platform, including teaching materials, scripted lesson plans and guidelines for in-school and out-of-school CSE. Efforts reached more than 15,200 teachers in eight countries with training, and more than 3.2 million learners gained comprehensive sexuality education.

The Latin America and Caribbean regional office and the International Youth Organization for Ibero-America conducted a study, *Investment in Youth: Is it a reality?*, that examined public social expenditure on youth in four countries: Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico and Uruguay. The findings informed policy dialogue around the demographic dividend, sustainable development and the need for targeted investment in youth. The innovative methodology piloted for the study can be replicated in



other countries and repeated periodically to support monitoring of investment in youth over time.

### **VIII. Enhancing organizational effectiveness**

In Asia and the Pacific, capacity building of UNFPA country offices on audit, compliance and procurement management led to the reduction of qualified audits of nationally executed projects from 8.3 per cent in 2015 to 4.4 per cent in 2016. Only 4 of 90 implementing partner audits resulted in qualification, and 38 of 43 outstanding internal audit observations were closed by 2016.

The East and Southern Africa regional office initiated capacity building of country offices on inventory management. This resulted in increased procurement of RH commodities by 18 per cent and reduction of inventory balance from 30 per cent in 2015 to 25 per cent in 2016. Regional interventions enhanced country office capacity that led to significant reductions in the number of qualified audits; out of 151 total audits only 5 had qualified opinions (3 per cent). These initiatives improved efficiency in country offices and collaboration in conducting stock counts and spot checks.

To improve the quality of country programme documents, the Western and Central Africa regional interventions strengthened the capacity of country offices. This led to a significant improvement of country programme documents, as demonstrated in the 100 per cent satisfactory rating received from the global Programme Review Committee, up from less than 50 per cent in previous years.

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