UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency.

Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled.

Despite the negative impact of COVID-19 around the world, posing enormous challenges to health systems and spurring widespread lockdowns, school and business closures, as well as job losses where nearly all countries are currently facing an unprecedented economic downturn, UNFPA continues to work with partners to ensure the following:

(1) Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services are available so women can deliver safely and access contraception.

(2) Vulnerable women and girls have access to lifesaving gender-based violence (GBV) services and the necessary measures are in place to mitigate the risk of GBV throughout humanitarian responses.

(3) Medical supplies and commodities are available, including for menstrual hygiene management.

(4) The humanitarian response is informed by strong data and evidence.

(5) The specific needs of women, adolescent girls and young people are addressed, including mental health and psychosocial support.
52,000 people living in remote areas of the West Bank were provided with access to essential primary health care services through mobile clinics. The services integrate gender-based violence response and youth friendly services in addition to sexual and reproductive health services.

Essential SRH supplies including medical equipment, drugs, disposables, and personal protective equipment were procured for 76 health facilities covering an estimated 300,000 people.

595 health care providers received training on essential sexual and reproductive health services including family planning, preconception care and infection prevention and control for SRH service centres.

Essential national protocols were developed: SRH-COVID-19 assessment and SRH emergency plan.

Information on SRH and the impact of COVID-19: 4 videos and 3 motion graphics, including sign language, developed and disseminated.

UNFPA has a leading national role in improving work policies based on those of the International Confederation of Midwives. We now have a clear job description that is unified across the country.

Laila Masharfa, Head of nursing and midwifery at Al Shifa Hospital in Gaza, and a midwifery lecturer.
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

2020 KEY FIGURES

352,000
People reached with essential sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services

595
Healthcare providers received capacity building and training

67
Health facilities received essential SRH supplies
“On a personal level, I am proud to be part of this initiative where I was able to serve my country and its people during the COVID-19 pandemic. I felt highly satisfied and proud to support patients and their families during their fatigue and fear.”

Nadeen – a 22 year old youth activist.
Adolescent and Youth Health

• An advocacy brief on adolescents and COVID-19 has been published.

• An Adolescent health unit was established at the Ministry of Health.

• A three-year strategic framework on adolescents & youth SRHR was developed and endorsed by the Ministry of Health and the Palestine Adolescent Health Coalition.

• Youth friendly health services strengthened through 4 mobile clinics in the West Bank. The model have also been adopted by 4 universities.

• Mustashari (“My counsellor”) the first mobile app on sexual and reproductive health dedicated for adolescents and youth was developed and launched.

• A pool of young researchers on sexual and reproductive health and rights in Palestine has been established.

Young People’s Leadership and Participation

• National Volunteer Service programme signed with Prime Minister’s office in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP under the umbrella of Generation Unlimited.

• More than 5,000 Palestinian youth along with several other organizations participated in online and offline consultations for the 75th anniversary of the UN.

• A number of knowledge products have been published and disseminated including the situation of Youth in East Jerusalem, youth and COVID-19.

• 1,000 youth participated in a virtual Hackathon and Global Youth Challenge as part of Generation Unlimited initiative in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP and other UN partners.

• More than 100,000 young people were reached with empowerment programs through community-based initiatives, capacity development interventions and community awareness sessions.

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)

• Adolescent heath teacher’s manual developed.

• 12,000 school girls and boys were reached through the virtual character “Majd” - the Brave Student. Majd is a 12-year-old adolescent boy/girl, representing a ‘typical’ adolescent Palestinian (40.7%) of the Palestinian society. The Majd character was incorporated in schools’ manual and was also broadcasted on Palestine TV, as a means of helping adolescents access information useful to navigating this time in their lives.

• 200 Y-Peer volunteers mobilized for COVID-19 outreach and awareness.

Coordination

• UNFPA coordinated joint UN interventions and advocacy with and for young Palestinians within the UN Theme group on Young people.
118,299 youths reached with youth friendly health services and other empowerment programmes

4 Knowledge products produced and disseminated

43 New partnerships with youth-led and community-based organizations
“I was shown the meaning of life and felt valuable for the first time in a long time”

Amal, a gender-based violence (GBV) survivor from Gaza, a beneficiary of UNFPA Economic Empowerment Programme within the women and girls safe spaces
GENDER AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

• **23,000** women, girls, men and other vulnerable children and adolescents (orphans, juveniles) received GBV services and case management through 10 “safe spaces” across Palestine.

• **3,000** vulnerable women benefitted from cash and voucher assistance to alleviate financial pressure and prevent GBV.

• **30** GBV family counselling rooms in Primary health care centres established and equipped.

• **490** women GBV survivors received vocational training and small grants to enable them to start their own business and generate income.

• **40** school teachers from 3 directorates in the West Bank received training on GBV prevention, detection and referral inside schools.

• **15** GBV service providers were supported to put in place contingency plans for emergency preparedness.

• **70** male perpetrators were provided with individual and couple counselling services.

• GBV sub cluster, under UNFPA’s leadership, grew to a total of 118 members - with around 15% increase in membership in 2020 - ensuring coordination of GBV prevention and response, including in the context of COVID-19, as well as maximum coverage of GBV services across Palestine.

GBV COVID-19 RESPONSE

• **5,800** women including women with disabilities, girls and children in quarantine (home and/or quarantine centres) received protection, prevention and mitigation services.

• **210** frontline service providers were trained on prevention and treatment of GBV cases in quarantine centres.

• **5,000** dignity kits distributed. More than **10,000** women and girls including women with disabilities who are in need were provided with essential hygiene and protection products.

• UNFPA supported a major shift to online counselling service provision for GBV survivors through capacity development for **70** service providers from NGOs, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Development on remote service provision.

• Around **2,500** women and girls received support through the helpline and other awareness raising sessions.

• An online repository of Gender/GBV resources for COVID-19 response was established and key GBV messages were circulated.

• **2** shelters were equipped with quarantine facilities in order to be able to receive new cases during the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Policy note on sheltering services developed in partnership with UN Women.
GENDER AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT

2020 KEY FIGURES

- 44,790 people reached with GBV services (GBV survivors and those at risk)
- 295 Healthcare providers received capacity building-training
- 5,000 Dignity kits distributed
- 2 Newly established isolation rooms
- 30 Fully equipped GBV family counselling rooms
Special Thanks goes to our generous donors for their continuous support, with their help we are able to pursue our mission “ensuring rights and choices for all as we work to end preventable maternal death, unmet need for family planning and gender-based violence and harmful practices”