

ANNUAL REPORT



1998



UNFPA

United Nations
Population Fund

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FOREWORD



FOREWORD



The year 1998 was a crucial one in UNFPA's efforts to advance the agenda agreed to by the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), held in Cairo. In all of the 155 countries where the Fund was active in the past year, our support to developing countries reflected the goals and priorities laid out in the ICPD Programme of Action. These include integration of population and development strategies, universal access to comprehensive reproductive health services, information and services for young people and promotion of gender equity and women's empowerment.

A central activity in 1998 was a global review of progress achieved so far in implementing the ICPD agreement, with a view to identifying successful approaches, ongoing constraints and key future actions. UNFPA and the United Nations Population Division jointly organized a series of "ICPD+5" round tables and technical meetings involving governments, non-governmental organizations, various United Nations organizations and members of civil society, and participated in regional consultations.

In addition, the Fund undertook a Field Inquiry to obtain country-level feedback on the progress made and problems encountered during the course of ICPD implementation efforts. All of these review activities were intended to provide inputs to a UNFPA-organized international forum in The Hague in February 1999 and to the United Nations General Assembly's Special Session on ICPD, held from 30 June to 2 July 1999.

The inquiry found that actions taken since Cairo are producing positive results. With UNFPA assistance, many countries have taken steps to integrate population concerns into their development strategies. Many are focusing on quality reproductive health care, as envisioned in Cairo, including improved access to family planning, prenatal and postnatal care, screening and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and appropriate care during childbirth.

In the area of adolescent reproductive health, the Field Inquiry found that countries around the world are formulating programmes and policies to meet the needs of young people. Many countries are reporting high teenage pregnancy

rates. For the young mothers, this often means increased health risks and curtailed educational and job opportunities. This year's *Annual Report* spotlights a number of innovative initiatives that are addressing this problem.

There has also been marked progress regarding the status of women. Several countries have created laws and policies that target harmful traditional practices like female genital mutilation as well as gender-based violence. Many are also passing or strengthening laws to protect women's rights in the areas of marriage and divorce, property, inheritance, and political and economic participation. This report details many UNFPA-assisted projects aimed at empowering women. UNFPA Goodwill Ambassadors continued to help raise awareness of issues affecting women's status and well-being.

In addition, many civil society groups are contributing to the formulation and implementation of policies, programmes and projects on their own or in partnership with governments and the private sector, as called for by ICPD.

However, the ICPD+5 review also showed that for some countries and regions, progress has been limited, and in some cases setbacks have occurred. Women and girls continue to face harmful discrimination. The HIV/AIDS pandemic is more severe than was anticipated in 1994, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Far too many women in poor countries die or become ill as a result of pregnancy and childbirth. Young people remain especially vulnerable to unwanted sex and pregnancy, STDs and sexual exploitation. And millions of couples and individuals still lack access to reproductive health information and services, including quality, voluntary family planning.

At Cairo, governments agreed to provide a wide range of reproductive health services, including but not limited to family planning, through the primary health care system. The challenge for most countries is how to expand or merge services, given resource constraints and in the context of ongoing health-sector reform. A shortage of resources adds to the difficulties involved. UNFPA is continuing to work with governments, NGOs and other development organizations to help countries overcome such obstacles.

Also in 1998, the Fund stepped up its collaboration with other partners to provide reproductive health services to people displaced by armed conflicts or natural disasters. UNFPA also collaborated in efforts to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS, supporting awareness and prevention activities among young people, promotion of condom use, efforts to reduce mother-to-child transmission, and research into the effect of hormonal contraceptives on the progression of the disease. And as a partner in the Safe Motherhood Inter-agency Group, which proclaimed 1998 as the "Year of Safe Motherhood", UNFPA helped develop an action agenda of measures needed to reduce the world's unacceptably high levels of maternal mortality and morbidity.

I am confident that the lessons learned from these efforts and from the ICPD+5 exercise will provide invaluable input as the Fund continues to help governments develop programmes to meet current and future needs in the areas of population and reproductive health, to achieve the goals of the 1994 Cairo Conference.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Nafis Sadik'.

Dr. Nafis Sadik
Executive Director
United Nations Population Fund

UNFPA IN 1998

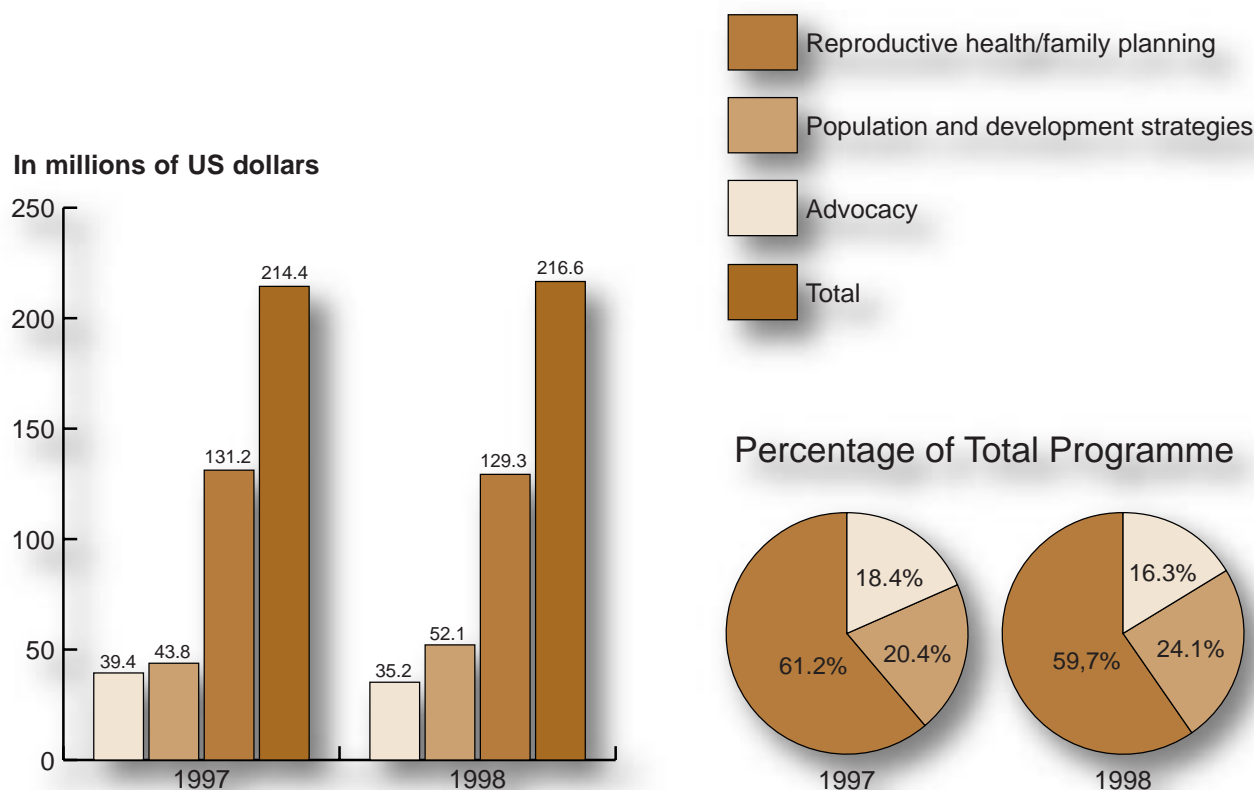
PROGRAMME AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



UNFPA IN 1998

PROGRAMME AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

UNFPA ASSISTANCE BY MAJOR FUNCTION*



* Figures and percentages may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Pledges and contributions

Regular income in 1998 totalled \$277.0 million**, a decrease of 5.3 per cent compared to the 1997 income of \$292.5 million.

Pledges to UNFPA's general resources in 1998 totalled \$269.2 million, \$18.1 million less than in 1997, a decrease of 6.3 per cent. At year's end, cumulative pledges through 1998 totalled about \$4.5 billion from a cumulative total of 172 donors. The number of donors in 1998 totalled 93.

An additional \$32.3 million was provided through multi-bilateral co-financing arrangements.

Total income in 1998 (provisional) was \$309.3 million, compared to \$322.7 in 1997.

Expenditures

Total (provisional) programmable resources for 1998 were \$305.1 million, compared to \$306.8 million in 1997.

Project expenditures in 1998 totalled \$216.6 million, as compared to \$214.4 million in 1997. The 1998 figure includes \$174.7 million for country programmes, compared to \$175.0 million in 1997; and \$41.9 million for intercountry (regional and inter-regional) programmes, compared to \$39.4 million for 1997.

Technical support services under the successor support cost arrangements approved by the Governing Council in decision 91/37 were \$22.3 million. Administrative and operational services (AOS) costs amounted to \$9.1 million.

** This figure does not include \$3.6 million in cost-sharing.

The resource utilization rate (expenditures divided by programmable resources, as approved by the Governing Council in decision 89/46 B) was provisionally 102 per cent in 1998 compared to 95 per cent in 1997.

For expenditures in 1998 by executing agency, by geographical area and by country category, see data on pages 7 and 8.

Country categories

Executive Board decision 96/15 endorsed the procedure for allocating resources according to categorization of countries into groups and approved the relative shares of resources to groups as follows: Group A, 67-69 per cent; Group B, 22-24 per cent; Group C, 5-7 per cent; countries with economies in transition, on a temporary basis, 3-4 per cent; and other countries and territories, 0.5 per cent.

The breakdown of resources expended for country programmes and projects in 1998, by group, is as follows: Group A, 62.5 per cent; Group B, 27.4 per cent; Group C, 3.2 per cent; countries with economies in transition, 4.8 per cent; and other countries and territories, 2.1 per cent.

Total expenditures in 1998 to Group A countries amounted to \$109.3 million, compared to \$106.0 million in expenditures in 1997.

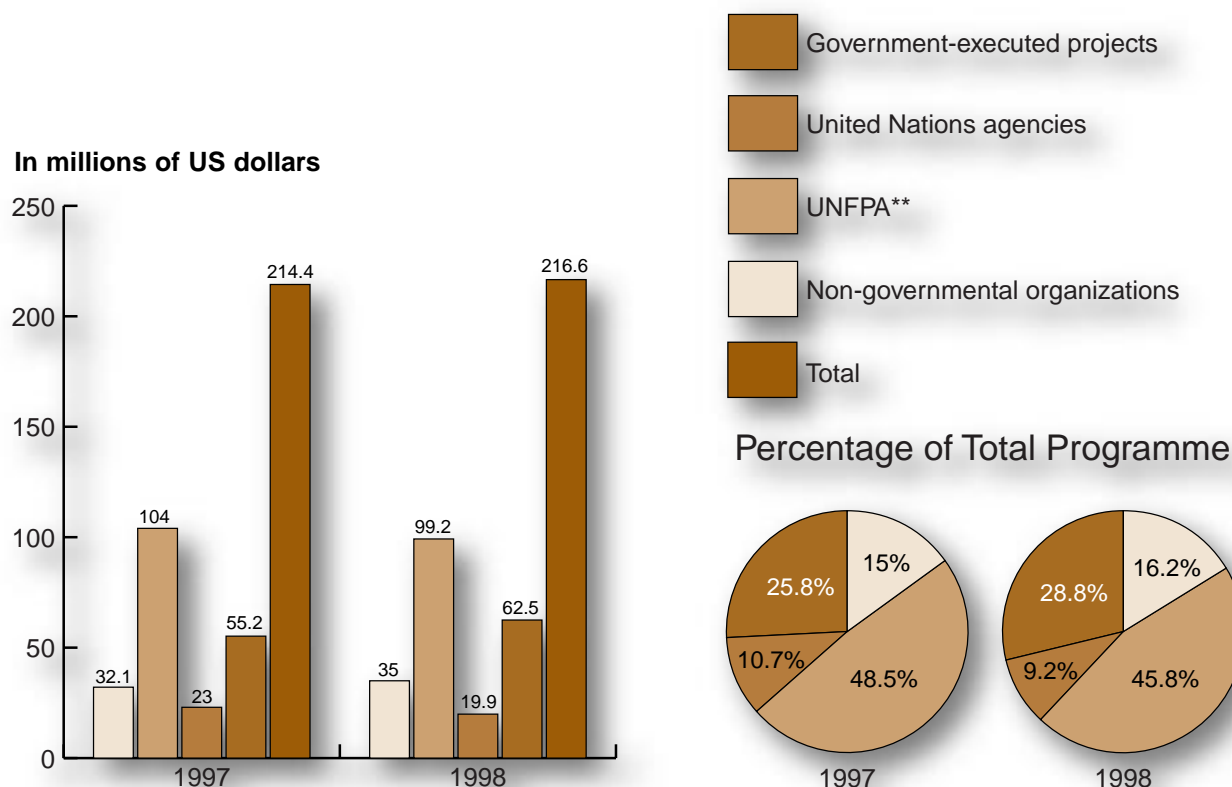
Intercountry activities

Expenditures for intercountry activities (regional and inter-regional) totalled \$41.9 million in 1998, compared to \$39.4 million in 1997. By category of activity, these expenditures were:

UNFPA IN 1998

PROGRAMME AND FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

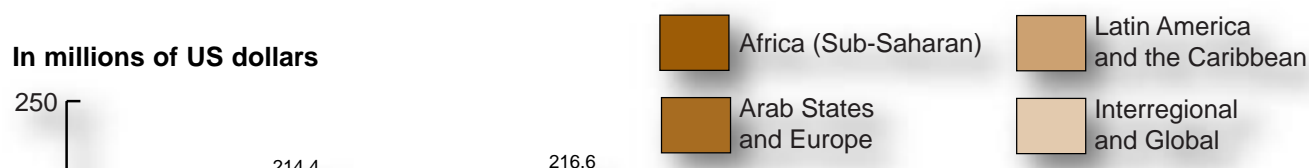
UNFPA ASSISTANCE BY EXECUTING AGENCY*



* Figures and percentages may not add up to totals due to rounding.

** Includes assistance to procurement for government projects as follows: \$42.8 million in 1997 and \$69 million in 1998.

UNFPA ASSISTANCE BY GEOGRAPHICAL REGION*



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