



2022 UNFPA IN VENEZUELA





UNFPA

The United Nations sexual
and reproductive
health agency



Summary of activities of the components: Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH), Gender-Based Violence (GBV), and Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in the States of Anzoátegui, Apure, Bolívar, Delta Amacuro, Capital District, Guárico, Miranda, Sucre, Táchira and Zulia.

**Our
mission**
is to deliver
**a world
where**



**EVERY
PREGNANCY
IS WANTED**



**EVERY
CHILDBIRTH
IS SAFE**



**AND EVERY YOUNG
PERSON'S POTENTIAL
IS FULFILLED**

Aknowlegements

This publication is dedicated to the Venezuelan women, adolescents, and girls.

To our counterparts, allies, donors, public institutions and social organizations, women and men who work in UNFPA and to implementing partners:

Asociación Civil Aliadas en Cadena, Asociación Civil Niña Madre, Asociación Civil de Planificación Familiar (PLAFAM), Asociación Civil UNIANDES, Comisión para los Derechos Humanos y la Ciudadanía (CODEHCIU), Construyendo Futuro, Dividendo Voluntario para la Comunidad (DVC), Fundación Degania, Premiere Urgence Internationale (PUI), Sociedad Wills Wild, Tinta Violeta y Ven Da tu Mano.

Thank you for your dedication, commitment, and support, which makes our work possible.

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Preface

In 2023, UNFPA celebrates 20 years of uninterrupted operations in Venezuela.

There are many achievements, but also an increasingly deep and conscious commitment to meet the needs of women, adolescents, and girls in this country.

2022 was the year we expanded our work to 3 more states (prioritized locations of the Humanitarian Response Plan -HRP-): Anzoátegui, Apure, Bolívar, Delta Amacuro, Capital District, Guárico, Miranda, Sucre, Táchira, and Zulia **states.**

As a result, UNFPA's presence on the ground has grown to form a team of more than 90 people deployed throughout the national territory,

in addition to alliances with a dozen of NGO'S and other actors, as implementing partners in the aforementioned states.

Thanks to the support of our donors, UNFPA's humanitarian program has contributed to helping those most in need in Venezuela. Since 2018, humanitarian assistance has ensured prevention of – and response and support services to – women and adolescent girls in the country's priority states. The humanitarian assistance in Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Gender-based Violence (GBV) continue to save lives, which is a key priority for UNFPA in Venezuela.



*The designations employed and the presentation of material on maps produced by the Secretariat of the United Nations do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

We know that much remains to be done in the efforts to assist people in need of humanitarian aid in Venezuela. Based on the work we have done so far, we can contribute with expertise and in-depth understanding of the many factors, impacts, and causes of the crisis, which is essential for further humanitarian work in the future.

In this document, we therefore describe the scope of our work in Venezuela and how we promote the achievement of both the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and UNFPA's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan Goals, zero unmet need for family planning, zero maternal deaths and zero gender-based violence and harmful practices.

For 2023, the UNFPA team in Venezuela has outlined an intervention strategy to create the necessary synergy between interventions that save lives, development cooperation, capacity building and the promotion of peace structures. This to address the needs, vulnerabilities and risks faced by women, adolescents, and young people in the country.



Since 2019, 1.1 million people received assistance. Figures from 2022 show that 350 thousand people received assistance that year alone

Advocate for the humanitarian principles in a sustainable manner: Humanity, Neutrality, Impartiality, and Independence.



Programs focused on reaching the furthest behind first.

Promote inter-institutional coordination and synergy.



Provide last mile assurance, ensuring that our supplies reach those who need them.

Monitor and evaluate program implementation in real time.



Promote local associations and strengthen capacities of each locality where we work.

**UNFPA
Work
Model**

Closely assess the perception of quality of care in the communities served.



Understanding the context

Venezuela has undergone a prolonged, cumulative and significant economic crisis the last years, accompanied by episodes of hyperinflation and localized, direct violence in some communities. This situation has generated a number of profound humanitarian needs that particularly affect women, girls and youth in different ways.

The most vulnerable families face challenges in accessing food and essential supplies, as well as health and protection services. The high cost and low purchasing power of Venezuelans prevents women and adolescents in particular from having access to contraceptives and feminine hygiene products.

The deterioration of health centers is evident in continuous limited access to electricity and water, a shortage of medical supplies and a decline in qualified healthcare professionals.



This situation has caused the **migration of more than 6 million people**, which in turn has meant a challenge for taking advantage of the Demographic Dividend (the economic growth potential that can result from shifts in a **population's age structure**) that the country is experiencing.



High maternal mortality rates
125.4 per 100.000
live births



High adolescent pregnancy rate
97.7 per 1000
women between the ages of 15 and 19



Spread of sexually transmitted infections



Increase in Gender-Based Violence, including sexual violence and different forms of sexual exploitation and abuse

Similarly, there is an increase in GBV, including physical, psychological, and sexual violence.

According to a recent needs assessment conducted by UNFPA in border and mining communities in Venezuela, many women and adolescent girls are recruited by illegal groups and forced into prostitution and sexual slavery.

The assessment also shows that women and adolescents in Venezuela are approached with false job offers in other regions and recruited by sex trafficking gangs.

Those who cross legal and illegal checkpoints in border areas on foot face sexual abuse, extortion, and physical violence.



Therefore, today more than ever, it is necessary to strengthen commitment and guarantee continuity of response and assistance. With the support of allies and donors, UNFPA can continue its work and ensure that Venezuelan women, adolescents and girls are not left behind.

**Between now
and the 2030
we expect
ending:**



**UNMEET NEED
FOR FAMILY
PLANNING**



**PREVENTABLE
MATERNAL
DEATHS**



**GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE AND
HARMFUL
PRACTICES**

**Ensuring that
no one is
left behind...**



Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH)

UNFPA Venezuela supports the National Public Health System in providing the population in 13 states access to necessary Sexual Health services (SRH): in Aragua, Anzoátegui, Apure, Bolívar, Carabobo, Cojedes, Delta Amacuro, Guárico, Miranda, Sucre, Táchira, Zulia and the Capital District.

This to ensure timely and high-quality life-saving care for pregnant and postpartum women, prevent maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality, avoid unwanted pregnancies and gender-based violence, reduce the risk of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and provide treatment to victims of sexual violence.

Actions carried out

Improved access to contraceptive methods and family planning services.

Conducted activities in local communities to raise awareness, inform and sensitize on key SRH issues.

Established infrastructure and facilities at the health centers.

Main Achievements



Total population reached

260,414



30,737

Women received contraceptive methods



18,610

Rapid hiv and syphilis tests performed



112,654

People sensitized and informed key messages and available services in SRH



6,134

Health care workers received technical training.



21

Health centers supported for clinical management of rape



35,808

Births attended in health centers supported by UNFPA



16,757

Women attending family planning consultations supported by UNFPA



67,483

Women attending prenatal consultations supported by UNFPA



912

Health care workers who received training in clinical management of rape

Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) management indicators



	1 Amazonas	2 Anzoátegui	3 Apure	4 Aragua	5 Barinas	6 Bolívar	7 Carabobo	8 Cojedes	9 Delta Amacuro	10 Capital District	11 Falcón	12 Guárico	13 Mérida	14 Miranda	15 Monagas	16 Sucre	17 Táchira	18 Zulia	Total
Health care workers received technical training	33	309	425		22	158			696	320	41	362		958		491	594	1,725	6,134
Women received contraceptive methods		829	2,844	192	3	1,520	1,135	404	4,545	7,377		1,100	212	7,266	1,758	1,463	89		30,737
Health care workers who received training in clinical management of rape		132				68			445	30		30		58		41		108	912
People sensitized and informed key messages and available services in SRH		3,674	6,109	10		2,115			5,031	17,188		8,264		34,746		4,244	11,774	19,499	112,654
Rapid hiv and syphilis tests performed			3,191						2,648	896		2,105		3,843		2,179	1,157	2,591	18,610
Births attended in health centers supported by UNFPA		2,970								10,229				9,004			3,280	8,022	33,505
Women attending family planning consultations supported by UNFPA									8,228		189		3,787				869	3,683	16,757
Women attending prenatal check-up consultations supported by UNFPA		38							6,847		664		12,797				1,755	13,707	35,808

Gender Based Violence(GBV)

UNFPA Venezuela provides multi-sectoral GBV response services and strengthens communities in five of the country's states in their efforts to prevent and manage GBV: in Apure, Táchira, Bolívar, Zulia and Miranda.

Actions carried out

Strengthened institutional capacity to ensure survivors' access to justice through training and awareness-raising.

Conducted training programs for community leaders on GBV prevention to facilitate case disclosure and safe referrals.

Communicated the importance of GBV prevention in communities and local media.

Delivered Dignity kits at border crossings and in prioritized communities.

Main Achievements



Total population reached

40,530



30,677

Women were sensitized and received printed materials on the prevention of Gender-Based Violence



725

Officials and security forces strengthened their capacities to improve survivors' access to legal justice



4,117

People with disabilities were cared for in the Gender-Based Violence services



5,327

Men were sensitized and received printed materials on the prevention of GBV



326

Personnel from social organizations who strengthened their capacities to provide care and response services to GBV

Gender Based Violence(GBV) management indicators



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Women were sensitized and received printed materials on the prevention of GBV	27	3,718		4,895		390	7,064	9,974	4,609	30,677
Men were sensitized and received printed materials on the prevention of GBV	4	544		1,387		84	841	1,372	1,095	5,327
Officials and security forces strengthened their capacities to improve survivor's access to legal justice		122	51	131	58	16	195	77	75	725
Personnel from social organizations who strengthened their capacities to provide care and response services to GBV		30		37		10	179	44	26	326
People with disabilities were cared for in the GBV vservices		743		662		264	713	826	909	4,117

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)

UNFPA Venezuela provides technical assistance and coordinates actions with public institutions through the Ministry of Education. This to support the formulation of public policies related to the prevention and reduction of early and adolescent pregnancy, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV, as well as sexual and gender-based violence.

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) projects are carried out in six states: in Anzoátegui, Apure, Bolívar, Distrito Capital, Miranda and Zulia.

Actions carried out

Training of teachers and educational advisors in CSE so that they can be multiplier agents in their schools.

Training and empowerment of adolescents to prevent unplanned pregnancies, gender violence, sexually transmitted infections and HIV.

Training of community leaders to bring CSE to the out-of- school population.

Design and development of training programs and CSE content with a focus on rights and gender for children and adolescents. As well as for educational and health personnel.

Technical assistance to strengthen public institutions to integrate CSE in their educational, health and protection policies.

Dissemination of messages and sensitization on CSE in social media, social networks and other communication strategies.

Main Achievements



Total population reached

29,255



Adolescents trained to be CSE facilitators (peer promoters)

1,658



1,558

Adolescents boys and girls sensitized on pregnancy prevention, sexual and reproductive rights and the exercise of healthy masculinity



30

Differentiated SHR services for adolescents



2

Campaigns on topics of Comprehensive Sexuality Education in social media (radio and television) and social networks (twitter, facebook and instagram).



303

Health personnel trained for differentiated SHR services.



6,779

Adolescents, boys and girls attended in differentiated SHR services



14,600

Adolescents, boys and girls reached for CSE in Schools

Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) management indicators



	1 Anzoátegui	2 Apure	3 Bolívar	4 Distrito Capital	5 Miranda	6 Zulia	Other states	Total
Schools reached with CSE	28	99	150	53	120	61	73	584
Teachers trained in CSE	122	201	755	63	336	362	1,927	3,786
Teachers trained to be CSE facilitators	21	11	59	16	11	22	157	297
Adolescents trained to be CSE facilitators (peer promoters)	186	222	374		127	337	412	1,658
Schools supervised in CSE	12	23	68		102	69	1	275
Differentiated health care for adolescents installed or improved	2	4	9	3	6	6		30
Health personnel trained for differentiated SHR services	29	31	91	15	42	65	30	303
Spaces for CSE training in communities	7	6	24		11	15		63
Community facilitators trained in CSE	13	33	76	1	30	22	99	274
Adolescents sensitized in CSE	536		1,022					1,558
Adolescents boys and girls attended in differentiated SHR services	1,970		4,809					6,779
Adolescents, boys and girls reached for CSE in Schools	560	2,475	3,750	1,325	3,000	1,525	1,825	14,600

“I got pregnant last year on my 19th birthday. To get here (to the UNFPA’S health activity in Apure), I had to walk for four-five hours, and then catch a bus. It almost took me a full day because it was raining, but the activity seemed so important to me. I like that they help people, that they are aware of us and our needs, helping us to fulfill our goals and dreams by offering women options for planned and desired pregnancies”.



Apure: Flor took an informed decision to get a subdermal contraceptive implant.

“Participating in the workshop on violence and disabilities has been incredible! The workshop was excellent for us, because now we’ve gained more knowledge of the law, of women’s rights, and how to support women with disabilities. We’ve learnt about duties and rights, the social integration of women with disabilities, and how to respect everyone – regardless”.



Táchira: Katiuska, who is a young woman with disability, participated in a workshop on violence and disability

“I’ve participated in these training workshops for two years already, and I’m so happy. We used to live lives filled with insecurity. Now we feel capable of taking the destiny into our own hands, by creating and finding opportunities in our own community”.



Zulia: María has participated in workshops and safe spaces in her community, helping with her empowerment and independence.

“I think one has a certain instinct about what’s good and what’s bad, but apart from that we need help and guidance... I used to have doubts and fear of asking questions about sexuality. Now I have lost that fear, and it’s normal to talk about it. The workshop helped me understand more about different sexualities, taking responsibility and to get to know myself”

Bolívar: Adolescent trained to be CSE facilitators (peer promoters)

Moving forward 2023-2026

The United Nations (UN) and the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela have signed a new Framework for UN cooperation for Sustainable Development for the period 2023-2026 in the country. The framework provides a roadmap to achieve substantial improvements in the population's quality of life and access to new development opportunities.

With this signing, the UN and Venezuela confirm their commitment to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions: economic, social and environmental. By integrating the three pillars of the UN, consisting of Humanitarian Action, Development and Peace, UNFPA aims to contribute to reach the ambitious horizon of the 17 Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The Framework focuses on three strategic areas:

1. Peoples well-being and resilience.

2. Transformation to an environmentally sustainable economy.

3. Inclusive and egalitarian social cohesion.

The UNFPA Strategic Plan (2022-2025) invites stakeholders around the world to join the mission of achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, and accelerating progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). Our commitment to achieving the three transformative outcomes by 2030 – ending the unmet need for family planning, ending preventable maternal deaths, and ending gender-based violence and harmful practices – remains our priority.

Likewise, UNFPA and the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela have signed a new Country Programme Document (CPD) 2023-2026, aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).

The programme will be implemented at national and subnational levels, focusing on four interconnected priorities:

1. Quality of care and services.

2. Gender and social norms.

3. Population change and data.

4. Humanitarian action.

To achieve its objectives, UNFPA will employ the following accelerators:

1. Human rights-based and gender-transformative approaches.

2. "Leaving no one behind" and reaching the furthest behind first.

3. Partnerships, coordination, South-South, and triangular cooperation.

3. Resilience, adaption and complementarity among development, humanitarian and peace-responsive efforts, with an integrated approach for lifesaving actions, cooperation to strengthen capacities and promotion of a peace culture.



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