



United Nations Population Fund

UNFPA Management Response to Evaluation

Country, Region or HQ Division/Unit that Commissioned the Evaluation	Albania-EECA
Evaluation Title	UNFPA Country Programme Evaluation Albania 2012-2016
Year of the Evaluation	2015
Type / Focus Area of Evaluation	CountryProgEval
MR Submission Date	February 05, 2016
Approved By	
Evaluation Manager	Manuela Bello,Assistant Rep.,Albania

General Management Response

UNFPA Albania CO management has reviewed and accepted most of the CPE recommendations. The detailed information on the follow-up strategies and actions to ensure full implementation of all recommendations is provided in the management response.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1 : To better ensure that larger scale trainings, such as training PHC staff on GBV, will actually lead to the desired outcomes, the next CP should make a provision for in-depth qualitative assessments and stakeholder consultations as part of the planning process before

implementation of large training programs.

Management Response : Partially Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments

1. CO will advocate for these trainings to be managed by the government in a coordinated manner with other UN agencies, ministries and CSO-s in Albania.	December 31,2016	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
			May 31,2018,Completed	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
			December 05,2017,Completed	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017 Each respective ministry will take on the the specific SOP on GBV to improve staff capacities for a multi sectoral response to GBV
			November 14,2017,Completed	National Inter-sectorial mechanism training action plan road map discussed with EECARO colleagues and Ministry of Health and Social Protection.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
			May 24,2017,Completed	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017.
			May 24,2017,Completed	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
			December 20,2016,Completed	National Multi-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	National Multi-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
			February 05,2016,Completed	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
			February 01,2016,Completed	National Inter-sectorial mechanism and training action plan established by 2017
2. UNFPA has submitted the MSR essential Guidelines and SOP-s to GBV to the national coordination mechanism for GE.	December 31,2017	CO	December 05,2017,Completed	

Recommendation 2 : The next program cycle should attempt to restrict the number of sub-activities within outputs to address a narrower set of priorities and thereby reduce management time and cost and potentially increase the quality and effectiveness of sub-activities.

Management Response : Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments
1. CO will carry out priority setting exercise with Government and IPs in the context of development of new CP. Progress will be monitored and reported in the context of MTR 2019	December 31,2016	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Up to December 2016
			December 05,2017,Completed	Up to December 2016
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	CO has started discussion and briefing of the new ministers following June 2017 elections to inform about the CO set priorities as per CPD 2017-2021.
			May 24,2017,Completed	2017 AWP's reflect this specific recommendation
			December 20,2016,Completed	Action to be undertaken within first quarter of 2017 and reflected in 2017 WPs
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	Action to be undertaken within first quarter of 2017 and reflected in 2017 WPs
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	Up to December 2016
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	Up to December 2016

Recommendation 3 : Actual expenditure performance needs to be compared with planned budgets for each sub-activity and the appropriate action needs to be taken for those sub-activities that are not proceeding according to plan. This can be achieved by taking advantage of the new GPS financial monitoring system capability to track expenditures at the level of sub-activity.

Management Response : Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments
1. Regular close monitoring of IPs and NEX/DEX execution through existing corporate system.	December 31,2021	All CO Staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Throughout the Programme Cycle 2017-2021
			May 31,2018,Completed	Throughout the Programme Cycle 2017-2021
			May 31,2018,On Schedule	Throughout the Programme Cycle 2017-2021
			November 14,2017,Completed	Throughout the Programme Cycle 2017-2021. Two IP Macros Assessments are planned for 2017 to comply with corporate rules and regulations (HACT).
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	Throughout the Programme Cycle 2017-2021
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	UNFPA will follow HACT procedures and respectively perform Micro Assessment for the selected IP-s for the new programme cycle 2017-2021
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	Throughout the Programme Cycle 2017-2021. CO closely monitors IPs and DEX execution through existing corporate system.
			February 01,2016,Completed	Throughout the Programme Cycle 2017-2021

Recommendation 4 : UNFPA Albania should consider more outsourcing for evaluation to provide independent quality assurance for the work done in fieldwork for the most significant sub-activities.

Management Response : Rejected

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments
1. CO will track CPE recommendations through Evaluation Management process and next CPE will act as independent evaluation. Thematic evaluation may be undertaken in consultation with Regional Office/HQ.	December 31,2016	CO Management Staff	May 31,2018,Completed	Up to December 2016
			December 20,2016,Discontinued	CO uses standard corporate UNFPA rules and regulations on M&E. Sub-activities represent budget lines rather than major interventions hence rejection by CO. However we will always ensure evaluations of major interventions considering the value for money in a limited financial environment.
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	Up to december 2016

Recommendation 5 : In the current and next cycle, as part of its policy focus, UNFPA Albania should support technical assistance to provide cost-effectiveness or cost-benefit analysis to provide compelling objective economic arguments in favor of greater investments in preventive health care related to SRH and FP, such as cervical cancer screening or sexual and reproductive health promotion.

Management Response : Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments

1. Drawing on the recent NIDI survey and additional research (eg Guttmacher Institute), CO will advocate for cost-benefit analysis of key ICPD/CP interventions	December 31,2021	All CO Staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	CSE cost benefit analyses done with the support of RO in 2017
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	CO is coordinating ADHS 2 which will also provide important information on the demographic and health of the population. It will also provide information for evidence based policy and advocacy work.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	Albania CO is currently supporting an health economic study on CSE. 2017 NIDI survey will be carried out with stronger financial and technical support from the government
			December 20,2016,Completed	Programmatic provision have been made and reflected in the new programme cycle.
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	Programmatic provision have been made and reflected in the new programme cycle.
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	UNFPA CO has advocated for greater investment in SRHR through key recommendations in the new SRH strategic document and in the new national Contraceptive Security Strategy.
			February 01,2016,On Schedule	

Recommendation 6 : Given the evidence that the ACA program has increased demand and access for SRH services in rural areas, in the current and next program cycle, UNFPA Albania should expand the ACA Initiative to link PHC services with the community through community health promotion to all rural districts where feasible.

Management Response : Partially Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments

1. CO will advocate to improve organization, structure and financing of health promotion in Albania through the development/review of the National Action Plan of Health Promotion; National Reproductive Health Strategy; contributing in developing National Health Sector Strategy	December 31,2016	Programme staff	May 31,2018,Completed	All strategic docs developed and endorsed by the MoHSP in 2017
			December 05,2017,Completed	Up to December 2016
			December 20,2016,Completed	New CP takes into consideration this approach
			June 20,2016,Completed	UNFPA CO has provided guidance and support in the development of the new SRH Strategic Document and Health Promotion Action Plan. UNFPA has also been an active member in the process of developing the new health sector strategy.
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	Up to December 2016
2. CO will support replication of the good practices to advocate for expansion/continuation.	December 31,2016	Programme staff	December 20,2016,Completed	Actions reflected in the new CP.
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	CO has supported replication in 3 other districts.
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	Up to December 2016
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	Up to December 2016

Recommendation 7 : Rec 7.1: Develop effective strategies to reach men and couples to encourage switching from withdrawal to more effective methods.

Rec 7.2: In the current and future program cycle, support a strong well-funded high-quality demand creation campaign that uses state-of-the-art theory-based SBCC combination prevention approaches that is firmly based on qualitative research that provides insights to how to develop effective strategies to reach men and couples to encourage switching from withdrawal to more effective methods. UNFPA Albania should consider launching this demand creation as a joint campaign with UNWomen and UNICEF.

Management Response : Partially Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments
1. CO will advocate with MoH, Health Insurance Fund and IPH to allocate funds for SBCC campaigns	December 31,2021	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle (2017-2021)
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle (2017-2021). The advocacy efforts for GoA to support behavior change campaigns continues. UNFPA CO is using different sources of evidence to support this effort. A KAP survey on child/early marriage findings will also be one of the latest evidence that should be used as a tool to support the argument to invest in behavior change communication programmes that deserve attention and investment by the government.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle (2017-2021) DHS is underway and will provide more evidence-based advocacy efforts
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle (2017-2021)
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle (2017-2021)
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle (2017-2021)
2. CO will better utilize the joint UN advocacy campaign for the implementation of the National Action Plan for men and boys involvement to address GBV, to create demand generation among these groups.	December 31,2017	Programme staff	May 31,2018,Completed	January 2016-December 2017
			December 05,2017,Completed	January 2016-December 2017. this is well reflected in the joint advocacy work on 16 days of activism for GE
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	January 2016-December 2017. UN GTG is the right environment for joint advocacy efforts for implementation of NAP for men and boys involvement. A lot of joint efforts that address GbV, GE, Human Rights and International Normative Standards continue.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	January 2016-December 2017
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	January 2016-December 2017
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	January 2016-December 2017

3. CO will support social marketing at a larger scale; such support will also include SBCC and will be reflected in the new CPD.	December 31,2016	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On hold	Due to lack of funding, UNFPA support to SM has been very limited. However, UNFPA CO is advocating through Global Fund, to strengthen SM in Albania.
			December 05,2017,Completed	December 2016. Consideration has been made in the 2017-2021 CP, pending availability of funds
			December 20,2016,Completed	New CP addresses this specific recommendation.
			June 21,2016,On Schedule	CO continues to support social marketing. One key advocacy effort concerns the removal of VAT for condoms.
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	December 2016

Recommendation 8 : Rec 8.1: In the current and future program cycle, continue to support the promotion of FP within an integrated package of services while supporting the development of health promotion strategy

Rec 8.2: In the current and future program cycle, provide ongoing support for LMIS, and abortion surveillance.

Management Response : Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments

<p>1. CO will continue supporting the consolidation of the basic package of primary health care services where RH / FP places an important position:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development, implementation and monitoring of guidelines and protocols in Family Planning; Youth Friendly Services; Cervical Cancer Screening; - Development of training packages (including virtual platforms for family planning) and aid materials for PHC providers in delivering integrated SRH services at the primary care level; - Complete costing for SRH services (as per the newly developed protocols); 	December 31,2021	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 -2021
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 -2021. This continues to be one of the important interventions of the CP 2017-2021.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 -2021 So far, guidelines and protocols on FP developed and endorsed by MoH, virtual learning platform finalized and implemented for the first cohort of students, guideline and protocols on cervical cancer screening developed and endorsed by MoH. Standards , guidelines and protocols developed and endorsed on Youth friendly services at PHC.
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 -2021
			June 21,2016,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 -2021
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 -2021

2. CO will advocate for budget allocation, implementation and monitoring of the action plans within the National Reproductive Health Strategy and National Action Plan of Health Promotion.	December 31,2020	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Throughout the implementation of two Strategic Documents: On Reproductive Health and on Health Promotion (2016 - 2020)
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	Throughout the implementation of two Strategic Documents: On Reproductive Health and on Health Promotion (2016 - 2020). Advocacy for government budget allocation in areas related to SRH, ASRH is of great importance throughout CP cycle implementation.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	Throughout the implementation of two Strategic Documents: On Reproductive Health and on Health Promotion (2016 - 2020) Health promotion national action plan and strategic document on SRH finalized and endorsed by MoH including the costing of both documents
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	Throughout the implementation of two Strategic Documents: On Reproductive Health and on Health Promotion (2017 - 2021)
			June 21,2016,On Schedule	Strategies and Action Plans are costed. The real advocacy for budgeting the activities starts from now on.
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	Throughout the implementation of two Strategic Documents: On Reproductive Health and on Health Promotion (2016 - 2020)

3. CO will provide support in quality assurance interventions aiming a functional and effective LMIS system in Albania.	December 31,2021	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 - 2021 LMIS is owned by the Ministry of Health / Institute of Public Health, and presents a success story regarding institutionalization and sustainability of interventions.
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 - 2021 LMIS is owned by the Ministry of Health / Institute of Public Health, and presents a success story regarding institutionalization and sustainability of interventions.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 - 2021 LMIS is owned by the Ministry of Health / Institute of Public Health, and presents a success story regarding institutionalization and sustainability of interventions.
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 - 2021 LMIS is owned by the Ministry of Health / Institute of Public Health, and presents a success story regarding institutionalization and sustainability of interventions. Intentions are to move to CHANNEL which will help to better monitoring and forecasting.
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	Throughout Program Cycle 2017 - 2021 LMIS is owned by the Ministry of Health / Institute of Public Health, and presents a success story regarding institutionalization and sustainability of interventions.

4. CO will determine the level of support to the Abortion Surveillance System in the country. Dialogue with national stakeholders will be supported in defining issues, priorities and future steps.	December 31,2021	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Abortion Surveillance system has received support from UNFPA during the programme cycle 2007 – 2011. Value of past interventions and results produced will be considered while planning future interventions.
			December 05,2017,Completed	Abortion Surveillance system has received support from UNFPA during the programme cycle 2007 – 2011. Value of past interventions and results produced will be considered while planning future interventions.
			December 20,2016,Completed	Such issue has been addressed in the new CP.
			June 21,2016,On Schedule	Based on consultations with stakeholders, strengthening Abortion Surveillance System is seen as priority for future interventions. One important area of advocacy with policy institutions will be that the System includes all levels of care, private and public.
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	Abortion Surveillance system has received support from UNFPA during the programme cycle 2007 – 2011. Value of past interventions and results produced will be considered while planning future interventions.

Recommendation 9 : In the current and future cycle, UNFPA Albania should invest additional funds to maintain the WHO Quality of Care Program in selected maternity hospitals. This investment should only be made with the understanding that, a) it is not duplicating any other alternate quality of care initiatives, and b) that an exit strategy to secure ongoing MoH/HII financial support will be developed.

Management Response : Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments
1. CO will provide support in the coordination of the regional and national efforts under four pillars (the Regional Capacity Building for Evidence based SRH Guidelines Development, Beyond the Numbers –BTN, the Regional Inter-agency Reference Group –RIRG, the cooperation with the European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynecology) aimed at improving maternal health.	December 31,2021	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle 2016-2021
			May 31,2018,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle 2016-2021
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle 2017-2021.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle 2016-2021
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle 2016-2021
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle 2016-2021
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	Throughout the programme cycle 2016-2021

2. CO will support the process of validating / updating guidelines and protocols for EPC based on the packages developed with the support of WHO.	December 31,2019	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	National Center for Quality, Safety and Accreditation of Health Institutions is committed to provide leadership in this process. This initiative aims sustainability and institutionalization of efforts taken so far with the support of WHO and UNFPA. MoHSP in 2019 will establish technical working groups in developing guidelines and protocols at maternity hospital. 2018 is focused on strengthening capacities of national stakeholders o clinical guidelines development
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	National Center for Quality, Safety and Accreditation of Health Institutions is committed to provide leadership in this process. This initiative aims sustainability and institutionalization of efforts taken so far with the support of WHO and UNFPA. UNFPA continues these advocacy efforts to ensure sustainability of the supported intervention.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	National Center for Quality, Safety and Accreditation of Health Institutions is committed to provide leadership in this process. This initiative aims sustainability and institutionalization of efforts taken so far with the support of WHO and UNFPA.
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	National Center for Quality, Safety and Accreditation of Health Institutions is committed to provide leadership in this process. This initiative aims sustainability and institutionalization of efforts taken so far with the support of WHO and UNFPA.
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	National Center for Quality, Safety and Accreditation of Health Institutions is committed to provide leadership in this process. This initiative aims sustainability and institutionalization of efforts taken so far with the support of WHO and UNFPA.
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	National Center for Quality, Safety and Accreditation of Health Institutions is committed to provide leadership in this process. This initiative aims sustainability and institutionalization of efforts taken so far with the support of WHO and UNFPA.

<p>3. As part of its new CP and advocacy efforts, CO will support promotion of best practices and lessons learned exchange with focus on BtN, standards/guidelines development and implementation, and EPC quality improvement initiatives, as part of the exit strategy in securing MoH and Health Insurance Fund support in rolling out the model and in making it sustainable.</p>	<p>December 31,2020</p>	<p>Programme staff</p>	<p>May 31,2018,On Schedule</p>	<p>CO is working closely with MoH, HIF, NCQSA, NCCE, and regional health authorities in defining future steps to ensure sustainability of interventions at the level of the maternity hospitals where the model has been introduced and the institutionalization at the level of MoH and HIF level aiming roll-out of the model at national scale, and planning and financing quality improvement initiatives for maternal and newborn health.</p>
			<p>November 14,2017,On Schedule</p>	<p>CO is working closely with MoH, HIF, NCQSA, NCCE, and regional health authorities in defining future steps to ensure sustainability of interventions at the level of the maternity hospitals where the model has been introduced and the institutionalization at the level of MoH and HIF level aiming roll-out of the model at national scale, and planning and financing quality improvement initiatives for maternal and newborn health. The work and efforts continue as planned.</p>
			<p>May 24,2017,On Schedule</p>	<p>CO is working closely with MoH, HIF, NCQSA, NCCE, and regional health authorities in defining future steps to ensure sustainability of interventions at the level of the maternity hospitals where the model has been introduced and the institutionalization at the level of MoH and HIF level aiming roll-out of the model at national scale, and planning and financing quality improvement initiatives for maternal and newborn health.</p>
			<p>December 20,2016,On Schedule</p>	<p>CO is working closely with MoH, HIF, NCQSA, NCCE, and regional health authorities in defining future steps to ensure sustainability of interventions at the level of the maternity hospitals where the model has been introduced and the institutionalization at the level of MoH and HIF level aiming roll-out of the model at national scale, and planning and financing quality improvement initiatives for maternal and newborn health.</p>

			June 20,2016,On Schedule	CO is working closely with MoH, HIF, NCQSA, NCCE, and regional health authorities in defining future steps to ensure sustainability of interventions at the level of the maternity hospitals where the model has been introduced and the institutionalization at the level of MoH and HIF level aiming roll-out of the model at national scale, and planning and financing quality improvement initiatives for maternal and newborn health.
			February 05,2016,On Schedule	CO is working closely with MoH, HIF, NCQSA, NCCE, and regional health authorities in defining future steps to ensure sustainability of interventions at the level of the maternity hospitals where the model has been introduced and the institutionalization at the level of MoH and HIF level aiming roll-out of the model at national scale, and planning and financing quality improvement initiatives for maternal and newborn health.

Recommendation 10 : With the understanding that UNFPA Albania should not support services in a middle income country, given UNFPA’s mandate to support efforts to prevent STIs and HIV, UNFPA should consider alternative options to assist the cervical cancer program effort. One option might be to provide international consultant for additional short-term targeted support to re-invigorate the cervical cancer screening program, to identify the most timely and efficient next steps to increase progress toward a national program.

Management Response : Partially Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments

1. Relevant aspects of the need to sustain progress in STIs, HIV and Cervical cancer will be reflected in the new CP	December 31,2016	Programme staff	May 31,2018,Completed	
			December 05,2017,Completed	
			December 20,2016,Completed	New CP fully addresses such issues with particular focus on youth and young key population .
			June 21,2016,Completed	The new CPD includes this.
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	
2. CO will prioritize CSE in next CP to further advance progress and overcome bottlenecks.	December 31,2016	Programme staff	May 31,2018,Completed	
			December 05,2017,Completed	CO has continued to support CSE expansion. Advocacy work has also focused on improving the teaching faculty curriculum. It is also included in the academic guidance to pre-university teachers. An economic cost benefit analyses has taken place with support of RO
			December 20,2016,Completed	CSE reflected in the new CP. The effort intend to prioritize CSE within the formal interventions to develop an enabling environment for young people
			June 21,2016,Completed	The new CPD reflects this.
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	

Recommendation 11 : Rec 11.1: UNFPA/Albania should build upon and expand support to IPs that work with key populations and vulnerable youth to ensure genuine inclusive participation in preventive programs with emphasis on an integrated SRH service delivery package and reduction of bias and discrimination.

Rec 11.2: Encourage greater cooperation among IPs that work with key populations and vulnerable youth (such as Action Plus, Stop AIDS and ACA), to achieve greater impact.

Management Response : Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments
1. CO will advocate with UN agencies for participation of CSO-s working with key populations in the Albania Global Fund program implementation	December 31,2018	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Due to new dynamics with GF implementation, the activity is still ongoing.
			December 05,2017,Completed	
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	Actual status of Global Fund Project is: The Grant Agreement of Funds Disbursement has reached the Ministry of Health and will be signed in the coming days. During the month of November, the Call for Sub-Recipient of GF will be issued. UNFPA is working closely with CSOs whose mandate relates to HIV/STIs prevention and with particular focus YKP. UNFPA will advocate for the CSOs working in these areas and with these population groups.
			May 24,2017,On hold	Global fund is facing serious delays in kicking off the process which has impacted the work with key population and CSOs working with those communities
			December 20,2016,Completed	Global fund programme becomes operational in 2017 and UNFPA will coordinate efforts of including CSO-s in the implementation of the GF
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	

2. CO will support joint proposals from IPs addressing issues of these groups.	December 31,2017	Programme staff	December 05,2017,Completed	
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	CO will support and encourage joint proposals from IPs and other CSOs working in these areas.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	CO will continue to support the advocacy efforts in CSOs inclusion in the GF
			December 20,2016,On Schedule	Strategic interventions of the new CP addresses this issue and in a comprehensive manner.
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	

Recommendation 12 : GBV Rec 12.1: UNFPA Albania should not invest in a) further GBV training for PHC workers and b) further revision of the GBV Training Manual based on the WAVE report, until the environment is more conducive to referrals.

GBV Rec 12.2: Consider re-allocating funds designated for the GBV training and for revision of the GBV training manual to fund proven interventions with young men that address both GBV and SRH, including the encouragement of the use of modern methods of contraception.

Management Response : Accepted

Recommendation 13 : In the current and following cycle, UNFPA Albania should advocate for the inclusion of additional SRH content (including condom promotion and family planning) in ongoing programs for men and boys.

Management Response : Partially Accepted

Recommendation 14 : Strengthen UNFPA leadership on PD and ADHS issues. For example, consider building the PD focus area by recruiting a dedicated staff member with statistical demographic/ economics background to handle PD issues as the demand for more data in the future will increase with SDGs

Management Response : Partially Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments
1. Within the context of the new UN PoC and new UNFPA CP, CO will incorporate and advocate for more reliable, accessible and updated data and statistics on health and population issues.	December 31,2016	Programme staff	May 31,2018,On Schedule	Progress will also be reviewed in context of PoC MTR 2019. UNFPA is supporting the implementation and financing of DHS and 2020 census. UNFPA co-chairs the UN-INSTAT joint data group and advocates for strengthening data system in Albania
			December 05,2017,Completed	Progress will also be reviewed in context of PoC MTR 2019
			December 20,2016,Completed	This approach has been duly reflected in the new CP and PoCSD. Progress will also be reviewed in context of PoC MTR 2019
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	Progress will also be reviewed in context of PoC MTR 2019

Recommendation 15 : Develop indicators to track the use of in-depth UNFPA-supported studies to be sure they are actually utilized to inform policy and strategy development.

Management Response : Partially Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments

1. Next CP will incorporate indicators and interventions that will address linkages between generation and use of evidence in key result areas.	December 31,2016	Programme staff	May 31,2018,Completed	
			December 05,2017,Completed	
			December 20,2016,Completed	Duly reflected in the 2017-2021 CP and PoCSD.
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	

Recommendation 16 : While the next ADHS may not take place until the next UNFPA program cycle, UNFPA Albania should be active in preparing for the next ADHS to ensure the availability of accurate SRH indicators, including accurate data on abortion. One option would be to support intensive technical assistance from international experts, with a provision for careful pre-testing of internationally validated data collection instruments, to ensure that accurate national SRH data, including data for abortion, will be collected for Albania.

Management Response : Partially Accepted

Key Actions :

Key Action(s)	Deadline	Responsible unit(s)	Semiannual implementation status updates (reports will be generated on June 30 and December 31)	
			Status	Comments

1. CO will advocate for next ADHS to take place	December 31,2017	Programme staff	December 05,2017,Completed	CO has successfully advocated for the implementation of DHS, which is now at middle implementation, Funds are raised to cover almost full DHS cost. DHS field work planed to be finalized mid 2018.
			November 14,2017,On Schedule	ADHS 2 continues as planned. CO has carried out a lot of fund raising efforts, including advocacy among stakeholders, UN agencies to ensure that the funding gap is filled. UNW, UNICEF have also provided financial support to address the funding gap. Also it looks like the MoH will also provide funds through the Co-Financing Modality between MoH and UNFPA. If all these efforts result positive as hoped for, ADHS 2 is expected to conclude as planned in 2018.
			May 24,2017,On Schedule	ADHS process has already started and the sampling and questionnaire design has been finalized, Purchasing of needed equipment for DHS implementation underway,
			December 20,2016,Completed	ADHS will take of January 2017
			June 20,2016,On Schedule	The process has been initiated. The field work to start within 2016.
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	
2. CO will support piloting of a selected set of health indicators within the Manual of Core Health indicators developed recently.	December 31,2016	Programme staff	December 05,2017,Completed	CO has been closely working with WHO and MoH for inclusion of essential SRH indicators in the HMIS led by MoH
			May 24,2017,Completed	
			December 20,2016,Completed	
			June 20,2016,Completed	
			February 02,2016,On Schedule	