

ANNEX 2. UNFPA funding architecture

The UNFPA is voluntarily funded through public (governments), private (private sector, foundations, individual giving etc.), and other international sources, such as IFIs. UNFPA funding architecture is structured around the following funding sources and instruments:

Core (or regular) resources. This refers to un-earmarked funding used at the discretion of UNFPA, under the guidance of its Executive Board. These constitute the bedrock of UNFPA operations;

Non-core (or co-financing) resources. This refers to funding instruments with various levels of earmarking, and includes the following:

Thematic funds. These consist of thematic single-agency commingled contributions to a single-entity funding mechanism designed to support high-level outcomes within a strategic plan, of which UNFPA is the fund administrator. UNFPA has operationalized four thematic funds in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan: the UNFPA Supplies Partnership, the Maternal and Newborn Health Thematic Fund, the Humanitarian Thematic Fund, and the Population Data Thematic Fund.

United Nations pooled funds and inter-agency transfers. These consist of inter-agency pooled funds and other transfers, which are commingled contributions to a multi-entity funding mechanism and not earmarked for a specific United Nations entity. Funds are held by a United Nations fund administrator; fund allocations are made by a United Nations led governance mechanism for activities specifically aimed at promoting the sustainable development of programme countries, with a focus on long-term impact. These include joint instruments such as the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage; the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation; the Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls; and the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund;

Other earmarked funds (country, regional level, or projects). All other forms of funding that are directed by donors towards specific locations, themes, activities and operations, which do not meet any of the above listed categories, such as the World Bank Sahel Women Empowerment and Demographic Dividend project (SWEDD) and the European Union supported Global Programme to Prevent Son Preference and the Undervaluing of Girls; and country-level pooled funding instruments, which facilitate multi-year delivery of UNFPA country programmes.

UNFPA Funding Architecture (2022-2025)

