

Costed Evaluation Plan Timor-Leste Country Office

Programme cycle	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Timor-Leste 5th Country Programme (2026-2030)
Indicative budget	US\$ 21.36 million
Country programme priority areas (outputs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Output 1: By 2030, the health system at national and subnational levels is strengthened to ensure universal access of women and adolescent girls, especially the most vulnerable, to integrated sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence response services in alignment with international and national standards across the humanitarian development continuum. ● Output 2: By 2030, access to SRHR and prevention and response to gender-based violence is fully integrated into evidence-based national and sub-national policies, strategies, plans, budgets, and accountability mechanisms in line with international and national commitments. ● Output 3: By 2030, government agencies, non-government institutions and communities have strengthened capacity to address discriminatory gender and social norms and to implement the National Action Plan against gender-based violence (2022-2032) at national and subnational levels across the humanitarian development continuum. ● Output 4: By 2030, young people in Timor-Leste, including the most vulnerable, are empowered through coordinated, multi-sectoral youth programmes, including comprehensive sexuality education, to fully participate in society and contribute toward harnessing the demographic dividend.
Previous country programme evaluation	<p>Period covered: 4th Country Programme (2021-2025)</p> <p>Year of completion: 2025</p> <p>Evaluation quality assessment rating: Highly satisfactory</p>
Gap mapping/analysis of relevant evaluative evidence and knowledge gaps that are strategically important to inform the design and implementation of the upcoming country programme	<p>In 2024, the Country Office conducted a comprehensive Country Programme Evaluation (CPE), building on recent evaluative efforts, such as the evaluation case study on the Spotlight Initiative—supported by the European Union to combat gender-based violence (GBV) against women and girls (2024), and other types of evidence, such as the Endline Survey for the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) funded joint project on addressing GBV (2024).</p> <p>The CPE results have underscored significant gaps in the programme design and implementation across several strategic areas. These include a limited focus on adolescent sexual and reproductive health services, which is concerning given the youth bulge; gaps in integration of sexual and reproductive health services and accessibility of vulnerable populations including adolescents and persons with disabilities; inconsistencies in inclusivity and grassroots ownership in GBV prevention; varied standard operating procedures resulting in mixed messaging; and an overreliance on external funding that compromises long-term sustainability and exit strategies. Furthermore, the evaluations highlighted deficiencies in rights-based family planning policy advocacy, as well as limited reach of the comprehensive sexuality education programmes or gaps in preconception care, and cervical cancer screening and management. In the area of maternal health, the newborn care component of basic emergency obstetric and newborn care showed inadequate screening during pregnancy, insufficient antenatal contacts, and lapses in postnatal care.</p>

	<p>The CPE is an important exercise to provide evaluative evidence on how UNFPA’s country programme contributed to the achievement of the UNFPA’s transformative results, given the “data-drought” in Timor-Leste: the last Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) was completed in 2016 and the next DHS is planned in 2025/2026, which is yet to be confirmed. The forthcoming DHS is expected to provide long-awaited, robust impact-level data, offering invaluable insights that will further inform the CPE and ensure that future programme development is grounded in comprehensive, high-quality evidence.</p> <p>Timor-Leste's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is impeded by inadequate or unavailable data, especially for gender equality (Goal 5), according to the SDG 2024 Annual Report. Half of the SDG indicators do not have sufficient data. This challenge justifies the following interventions in the fifth country programme, which are supporting the implementation of the National Strategy for Development of Statistics, which includes the utilization of administrative data in relevant sectors to inform policies and development programmes, conducting a review of current GBV prevention initiatives implemented by stakeholders at national and sub-national levels to identify accelerators for evidence-based GBV prevention, generating evidence on the drivers and forms of technology-facilitated GBV and advocate for solutions to address it and for increased domestic resource allocations for the three transformative results.</p> <p>More generally, evidence gaps are observed in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights, especially related to vulnerable populations like HIV and youth data, which emphasize the need for stronger data collection (unlocking the data dividend). There is a lack of data on humanitarian preparedness and response interventions, especially on the integration of the minimum initial service package for sexual and reproductive health into disaster preparedness and risk reduction plans.</p> <p>These findings provide essential evidence for refining the next Country Programme Document and aligning future interventions with the evolving needs of the population. Looking ahead to the 2026-2030 country programme, a CPE is needed to assess the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and sustainability of the country programme (2026-2030) that is designed to address the major gaps specified above. Thus, a CPE is planned for the penultimate year (2029) and will contribute to the UNSDCF (2026-2030) evaluation.</p>
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Evaluations								
Evaluation title	Intended use of evaluation findings	Type of evaluation	Humanitarian evaluation (yes; partially; no)	Joint evaluation (yes; no), including partners where applicable	Programme/ project budget in US\$	Evaluation estimated budget and source of funding (regular resources (RR); other resources (OR)) in US\$	Timeframe (month and year)	Evaluation manager

Country Programme Evaluation (5th cycle, 2026-2030)	Inform the design of the new country programme; refine the targeting of strategies and interventions under the new country programme, ensuring they reach and benefit the furthest left-behind groups; determine the scale up or discontinuation of strategies and interventions under the new country programme; inform decision-making and the strategic positioning of UNFPA in the country; enhance accountability towards the national government, donors, and rights holders	Country programme evaluation (CPE)	Partially	No	21.36 million	100,000 (RR)	Preparation phase: September 2028 - December 2028 Implementation phase: January - September 2029	CO Monitoring and Evaluation Focal Point
United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) evaluation (2026-2030)	Inform the development of the next UNSDCF and its alignment with national needs and priorities; strengthen UNFPA's strategic positioning and added value within the UN Country Team; refine UNFPA's contributions within joint UN initiatives to maximize impact; enhance accountability to the national government, donors, and rights holders	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation (UNSDCF) evaluation	No	Yes Resident Coordinator Office (RCO), all UN Country Team members	60.66 million (estimated)	10,000 (RR) (UNFPA's contribution to the RCO)	January 2029 - December 2029	RCO with support of UN entities

Evaluation Capacity Development						
Evaluation capacity development activity	Objectives of evaluation capacity development activity	Category of evaluation capacity development (internal; national)	Type of evaluation capacity development (individual; institutional; enabling environment)	Estimated budget and source of funding (regular resources (RR); other resources (OR)) in US\$	Timeframe (month and year)	Targeted stakeholders

Participation in the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO)-led cross-regional evaluation capacity building workshop	Develop the knowledge and skills of CO staff to plan, manage, conduct, disseminate and use a country programme evaluation	Internal	Individual	USD 3,200 (RR)	June 2028	CO Monitoring and Evaluation Focal Point
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