2014 is the end of a transitional period.

The end of a political, economic and social transition process for Tunisia which started with the January 2011 Revolution and which is currently ending with the legislative and presidential elections. But also and logically a transition for the UNFPA in Tunisia. Indeed, due to the context, the 8th cooperation cycle between Tunisia and UNFPA (2007-2011) was extended until 2014. This cycle is now ending and a new cooperation programme will start in 2015 until 2019.

The new cycle of cooperation will focus on three main components: a quality sexual and reproductive health essential package for women and young people; the promotion of reproductive rights and gender equality; data’s generation to drive advocacy efforts in the areas of population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, HIV, adolescents and youth, and gender equality.

This third newsletter will give more details about the new Country Programme Action Plan. Will also be developed in this issue: the 16 days of activism to fight gender based violence, the World AIDS Day and Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Gender Based Violence (GBV) in emergency situations.

The UNFPA Tunisia’s team wishes you a good reading and a very happy festive season!
The security situation in Libya continues to be highly volatile. It is therefore very important for Tunisia to get ready and undertake preparedness actions, including developing a contingency plan in case the situation deteriorates further. Within this context, Tunisian institutions, civil society organizations and some UN agencies worked together in 2014 to prepare a contingency plan.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) focused on Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Gender Based Violence (GBV) in humanitarian settings.

Following the training of trainers on the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health in crisis situations organized in June 2014 (see newsletter N°02), UNFPA Tunisia and its partners developed two training modules: one on Gender Based Violence prevention and response in humanitarian settings and another on youth peer education in humanitarian settings for young people. After these trainings a consultative meeting took place (17 October 2014) in order to finalize the operational local contingency plan for Medenine and Tataouine on SRH and GBV.

Trainings on Gender Based Violence prevention and response and youth peer education in humanitarian settings for young people

Two trainings were organized by UNFPA and its partners in September 2014 in Zarzis. The first workshop (9-11 September) allowed to better appraise capacities of humanitarian actors from Medenine and Tataouine and to provide institutions, and civil society organizations with tools for being better prepared to potential crises, developing preventive strategies and effective response to address GBV in humanitarian settings. The second workshop (12-14 September) aimed at strengthening the capacities of young peer educators of both regions to enable them to work with young people affected by a humanitarian crisis.

A consultative meeting to finalize the local contingency plan (Medenine and Tataouine)

A final meeting took place in October 2014 in order to finalize the local contingency plan for 2015 in which have been included the plans made during the MISP training and the GBV training ; and the recommendations that came up from the training on SRH for young people. Almost 30 people from public institutions, non-governmental organizations and United Nations System who worked at the central and the regional levels attended the consultative meeting and worked on the development of a local contingency plan for Medenine and Tataouine on SRH and GBV and on a 2014-2015 action plan to prepare for emergency.

For more information: www.unfpa-tunisie.org
The 16 Days of activism against gender violence campaign took place as usual from 25 November (International Day for the elimination of violence against women) to 10 December (Human Rights Day).

Among those activities, UNFPA Tunisia and some partners worked on the draft of a comprehensive GBV law in Tunisia in a meeting organized by the Secretary of State for Women and Family Affairs on 8 December 2014. UNFPA Tunisia’s team also worked with some students specialized in management, ICT and human development at the University and organized an information session about GBV. Following this session, some students attended activities organized within the context of the 16 Days of activism against GBV and wrote articles or prepared videos and interviews on the event.

For more information:
www.unfpa-tunisie.org
https://www.facebook.com/16JoursTunisie?fref=ts

YOUTH & ADOLESCENTS
Preventing HIV/AIDS among young people

To celebrate the World AIDS Day, UNFPA, in partnership with the Y-PEER Network* and the Higher School of Digital Economy, organized on December 5th a peer education session on youth sexual and reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Thirteen of the students enrolled in the E-commerce Master/ Option “NICTs, Management and Human Development” took part to the session. Three young peer educators from the Y-PEER Network co-facilitated the session and interacted with the participants through edutainment methods (video projections, quiz, role plays, group work, etc.). The participants got information about STIs and HIV transmission, prevention (including a demonstration of correct male condom use), testing and HIV-related discrimination.

During the session, a short video about young people’s perception of HIV/AIDS produced by some of the students was screened and discussed. The session was concluded with a certification session for both participants and co-facilitators.

For more information: www.unfpa-tunisie.org
FACEBOOK PROFILE YPEER TUNISIA: https://www.facebook.com/ypeer.tunisia?fref=ts

*Y-PEER Network (Youth Peer Education Network) is a network of young peer educators and youth NGOs working on empowering young people to take informed decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health.
II/ Strengthened capacities of national policy makers and civil society organizations to advance reproductive rights and promote gender equality:

To achieve this output, UNFPA will focus on advocacy for the implementation of international instruments and recommendations related to reproductive rights and gender equality (including gender-based violence); develop capacity of NGOs (nongovernmental organizations) and GO (Governmental Organizations) on monitoring the implementation of international recommendations related to reproductive rights; and the establishment of networks of civil society organization, parliamentarians, media, religious leaders and artists to promote reproductive rights and gender equality (including the fight against gender-based violence).

III/ National policies in the areas of population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, HIV, adolescents and youth, gender equality, are reinforced on the basis of evidence:

To achieve this output, UNFPA will focus on data’s generation and analysis to drive advocacy efforts related to population dynamics and access to sexual and reproductive health; developing policy briefs development to inform policy makers and opinion leaders; and evaluation of strategic interventions to better inform policy.

UNFPA and its partners will also conduct, regularly, rapid assessments on the situation and possible risks in terms of humanitarian crisis, adopt risk mitigation measures and update regularly the contingency plan of UNFPA. In case of a potential crisis, UNFPA may, in consultation with the national party, reschedule activities to emergency response interventions.

A Participatory Approach

A new cycle of cooperation between the Tunisian Government and UNFPA will begin on 2015 and runs through 2019.

In 2013, UNFPA Tunisia Country Office engaged the planning process of the country programme. By June 2014, the Country Programme Document (CPD) of UNFPA Tunisia was developed and approved. Then, the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) between the Tunisian Government and UNFPA was prepared.

These two documents were developed in consultation with all partners of UNFPA, based on national priorities, the United Nations Development Action Framework 2015-2019 (UN-DAF) and the global strategic plan of UNFPA 2014-2017.

Content Of The Cpap

The new action plan has three main components:
I/ Quality sexual and reproductive health essential package for women and young people is developed and integrated in targeted areas:
UNFPA will work to achieve this output by supporting advocacy efforts for the adoption and costing of an essential package of integrated sexual and reproductive health services and the testing of the essential package of SRH services in at least 24 centers (DSSB / ONFP) in 3 areas that will be identified based on analysis conducted in the project.

For more information and to download the document: www.unfpa-tunisie.org
Interview with Leila Saiji Joudane, Assistant Representative, UNFPA Tunisia

Can you briefly present the new country program action plan (CPAP)?
The new country program action plan will focus on advocacy for the adoption of sexual and reproductive health package that is essential for everyone as well as its costing. The contents of the SRH package must be defined in a participatory way with a wide spectrum of both governmental and non-governmental partners. In order to provide stakeholders with necessary tools and guidance for better political and strategic choices to define the sexual and reproductive health essential package, UNFPA will focus on data generation in terms of population dynamics and sexual and reproductive health through studies and evaluation of field experiences.

In addition, efforts will be focused on strengthening the capacity of national policy makers and civil society organizations to advance reproductive rights and promote gender equality in order to ensure universal access to SRH.

If you had to sum it up in three key words, what would they be?
Universal SRH coverage; SRH Equity; Reproductive rights without discrimination

What will be, in your opinion, the challenges of this new programme of cooperation?
As the expected change is at a structural level, it is expected that changes will take a long time to yield results that can be measured. This is why communication and an open and transparent dialogue between stakeholders, based on scientific evidence, should be conducted in order to demonstrate the gain that will benefit the population if these reproductive rights are realized.

DID YOU KNOW?

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

WORLDWIDE
1 IN 3 WOMEN experience physical violence.
More than 64 million of girls and adolescents are married.

Of the 7.3 million girls below age 18 who give birth each year in developing countries, 2 million of them are under age 15.
Almost 140 million girls and women have experienced some form of female genital mutilation (FGM).

38% of women killed are by partners

Women aged 15-44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria, according to World Bank data.

IN TUNISIA

1 in 2 Tunisian women experience violence in their lifetime
1 in 3 women would have experienced violence during the last year
47% of women aged 18-64 would have experienced physical violence
78.2% of sexual violence against Tunisian women are inflicted by an intimate partner
43% of physical violence against Tunisian women are inflicted by a family member

Data: National Survey on Violence against women in Tunisia, UNFPA/AECID 2010
UN WOMEN/ WHO / Unite to end violence against women
AGENDA

- **January 2015**: Launch of the State of the World Population Report & presentation of the new cooperation programme between Tunisia and UNFPA

- **25 - 27 February 2015**: UNFPA Global Senior Management Meeting

- **8 March 2015**: International Women’s Day

- **16-20 March 2015**: 4th University of Public Health in Maghreb

---

The United Nations Population Fund – UNFPA, is an international development agency that plays a unique role with the United Nations system in promoting the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person’s potential is fulfilled.

---

**More Information:**
UNFPA Tunisie - 54, Av Tahar Ben Achour, Mutuelleville, 1082 Tunis
Tel: (216)71 282 383/384 - [www.unfpa-tunisie.org](http://www.unfpa-tunisie.org) - PHOTO CREDIT - UNFPA Tunisia - Sophia Baraket