Message from Hind JALAL, Equatorial Guinea Resident Representative

I am pleased to introduce UNFPA Equatorial Guinea first half-yearly 2023 Newsletter, which marks the first six months of implementing of the fifth and last year of our 7th Country Program Document 2019-2023. This newsletter focuses on our journey with our partners to accelerate the three transformative results: zero unmet need for family planning; zero preventable maternal deaths; and zero gender-based violence.

UNFPA launched the elaboration of its new 8th CPD 2024-2028 early February. The 8th Program is being developed in line with the national priorities identified by the Government in its Agenda 2035 and in line with the National Health Development Plan 2021-2025. The new Program is also aligned with the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework UNSDCF 2024-2028 and the UNFPA Strategic Plan 2022-2025.

Several activities were carries out to implement the Office 2023 Annual Work Plan. UNFPA Equatorial Guinea CO celebrated relevant International days. International Women’s Day was celebrated together with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Gender Equality and UN Sister agencies. Various activities were carried out from March 1st to March 10th ranging from conferences, awareness-raising talks, business fair, colloquiums, empowerment parade, soccer matches and hospital visits. The July 11th celebrations of World Population Day 2023, were organized together with the Ministry Planning, UN Sister Agencies, the Private Sector, academia and NGOs. The main findings of the State of World Population Report 2023 were presented. International Youth Day, was celebrated on August 12. Activities were organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Youth NGOs.

Following the development of the national reports, UNFPA Equatorial Guinea in partnership with the Ministry of Planning organized a workshop on July 26 to validate, together with its partners, the National evaluation Report on the level of compliance with the plan of action of the ICPD+30 and the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development in Africa (AADPD) beyond its 10th anniversary.

UNFPA launched the 4th Campaign to end Obstetric Fistula in Equatorial Guinea on July 26th, 2023. Surgeries were performed to beneficiaries at the Bata Regional Hospital by a national medical-surgical team trained to repair obstetric fistula.

As Chair of the M&E Group, UNFPA CO together with the RCO, successfully launched the 2019-2013 UNDAF evaluation. A dedicated team composed of international and national consultants are on board. Findings informed the ongoing new UNSDCF 2024-2028.

I wish to express my most sincere gratitude to all our partners. I look forward to build on these achievements and to work closely with our partners to help transform the lives of women and young people in Equatorial Guinea to leave no one behind, and to reach the furthest behind first.

At UNFPA, we use population data to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person’s potential is fulfilled. UNFPA helps countries find proactive and transformative pathways to thrive in a world of rapid demographic change.

With gratitude,
Hind Jalal
UNFPA Congratulates the Government of Equatorial Guinea for the Appointment of the Prime Minister in charge of Administrative Coordination

Malabo February 01, 2023. His Excellency the President of Equatorial Guinea signed yesterday Tuesday January 31st, the decree number 43/2023 on the nomination of the first woman Prime Minister, in charge of the Administrative Coordination, Her Excellency Mrs Manuela ROCA BOTEY, is thus the first Equatoguinean woman to occupy this post in the history of the country.

The United Nation Population Fund of Equatorial Guinea-UNFPA, led by the Resident Representative Ms. Hind JALAL, congratulates and applauds warmly the appointment for the first time of a female Prime Minister and wishes her every success in her new role leading the county to achieve the objectives set in its Economic and Social Development Plan (Agenda 2035). This key milestone will definitely step-up the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda 2030, especially Sustainable Goal 5 on Gender Equality.

Her Excellency Mrs. Manuela ROCA BOTEY, has held several leadership positions in the public administration, before her appointment as Prime Minister, such as Vice Chancellor of the National University of Equatorial Guinea, Minister Delegate of Education, University Education and Sports years ago and Sister Militant of the District Commission for the Follow-up of the PDGE in Baney.

Her Excellency Mrs. Manuela ROCA BOTEY is a native of Barriobe, Baney district. She holds a PhD in Educational Planning and Innovation from the University of Alcalá de Henares, a degree in Missiology from the Urbaniana University of Rome, a degree in Educational Sciences with a major in Organization and Management of Educational Centers from the UNED, a certificate in University Teaching from the University of Alcalá de Henares-Spain, and a Diploma in Advanced Studies.
The United Nations Population Fund-UNFPA Equatorial Guinea launched its National Consultations prior to designing its eighth Country Program Document (8th CPD 2024-2028)

Malabo 14-15 February 2023. The Seventh Country Program Document CPD7 between the Government of Equatorial Guinea and UNFPA, which covers the period 2019-2023, ends in December 2023 and UNFPA launched the elaboration of the 8th CPD 2024-2028. Against this backdrop, key ministerial departments representatives, donors, Civil Society Organizations and Sister UN agencies were invited to a workshop from 14 to 15 February at the Anda China Hotel in Malabo to initiate national consultations and conduct the periodization exercise for the formulating of the eighth Country Program Document (CPD-8).

The eighth program covering the period 2024-2028 will be developed in line with the national priorities identified by the Government in its Agenda 2035 and in line with the National Health Development Plan (PNDS) 2021-2025. This new program of cooperation will also be aligned with the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2024-2028 and the UNFPA Strategic Plan 2022-2025.

CPD-8 ambitions to represent UNFPA contribution to the achievement of the national priorities, objectives and results established in the UNSDCF with an indication of 5 years resources required to achieve these results. It will include information on program management, monitoring, evaluation, risk management, implementation modalities and partnerships to be developed. After its endorsement by the Government, it will be presented to the Executive Board in September 2023.

To this end, UNFPA shared its roadmap and its methodological note framing the entire CPD-8 preparation process, in line with the UNSDCF and national priorities.

The CPD-8 formulation process will be informed by the lessons learned from the already completed external evaluation of the UNFPA seventh Country Program Document 2019-2023, from the ongoing 2019-2023 UNDAF evaluation, from the Common Country Assessment (CCA), and the prioritization exercise under the next UNSDCF cycle.
In partnership with the Ministry of Gender Equality and Social Affairs and UN sister agencies UNFPA Equatorial Guinea, celebrates International Women's Day - 8 March 2023

Malabo, 1-10 March 2023. The 2023 theme of International Women's Day, March 8 is "For an Inclusive Digital World: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality", in line with the priority theme of the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls".

Technology is increasingly being misused and weaponized against women and girls on the basis of gender. Known as technology-facilitated gender-based violence, it takes many forms, including sextortion (threatening to publish sexual information or images), image-based abuse (sharing intimate photos without consent), doxxing (publishing private personal information), cyberbullying and harassment. It carries significant health, safety, political and economic consequences for women and girls and their families, and for society overall.

Including women and girls in the creation and advancement of technology is key to ensuring the safety, usability and inclusivity of digital tools and products. With that in mind, for International Women’s Day this year, we are celebrating women and girls who champion the advancement of transformative technology. Technology is not the enemy. It holds tremendous power for good — expanding networks, education, opportunities, minds. We must prevent it from being misused as a tool of subjugation and violence.

UNFPA is combating digital violence by providing survivors with response services when and where they need them. We are also building awareness of the issue to empower survivors — including through our interactive feature The Virtual Is Real and our bodyright campaign. And we are working to prevent digital violence at the outset by transforming harmful social and gendered norms — and by supporting technology development that includes women and girls and builds in safety and privacy by design.

In this context, UNFPA Equatorial Guinea, together with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Gender Equality and the UN Sister agencies organized various activities from March 1st to March 10th ranging from conferences, awareness-raising talks, business fair, colloquiums, empowerment parade, soccer matches, hospital visits, masses and an official reception. Talks and conferences were held in different schools, conference rooms and radio and television programs by officials of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Gender Equality at the national level on the theme of the year. A two-game soccer match, Trophy 08 March 2023, was played at the La Paz stadium in Malabo. It is important to highlight that the women of Equatorial Guinea organized a solemn parade of sectoral representation on the empowerment of women, led by MINASIGE and the Specialized Organization of Women of the P.D.G.E (OEMPDGE) with the participation of women from different sectors of society (private, civil society, government, business, agriculture, etc...).
The colloquium at the National University of Equatorial Guinea-UNGE was organized under the theme "For an inclusive digital world: Innovation and technology for gender equality". The event was chaired by H.E. the Minister of Social Affairs and Gender Equality, Maria Consuelo Nguema Oyana, who gave the opening remarks. UNFPA Resident Representative Hind Jalal, delivered a statement on behalf of UN Resident Coordinator Anna Martinen Pont, to raise awareness on the issue of the elimination of online digital violence against women and girls.

The internal reflection and discussion dialogue/breakfast event was organized with all UN staff, with the participation of the RCO office, UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, WB, ILO, UNAIDS and UNFPA. Bata colleagues joined online.

The celebrations culminated on March 10, at UNFPA office with a talk between the Staff and the Resident Representative on the theme of the year: For an inclusive digital world, innovation and technology for Gender Equality. The event was concluded with a breakfast enjoyed by all.
Malabo 28 April 2023. The UNFPA Country Office organized a learning afternoon on the Minimum Emergency Preparedness Actions (MPA) for all staff, within the framework of the follow-up of the actions to be carried out in the road map developed for the preparation of the emergency plan jointly with other organizations of the United Nations system, governmental institutions and NGOs.

During this activity, the participants (4 women and 5 men) were informed about the process of preparing the MPA, the different stages of its design, the basic elements of an emergency plan, as well as the crucial role of UNFPA ability to implement, timely and effectively, measures to safeguard the lives of the affected people, focusing on the most vulnerable groups, mainly women and adolescent girls.

By the end of the session, capacities of all staff were strengthened in MPA plans and procedures to ensure humanitarian preparedness and assistance to those in need as well as in the participation and inclusion of UNFPA’s mandate in the humanitarian response (MISP: FP, ASRH, HIV, GBV and Data), which consists of sexual and reproductive health, protection against gender-based violence and sexual violence, and that there are capacities for the management of socio-demographic data in emergencies.

Having an Emergency Action Plan in place allows us to react appropriately and quickly to humanitarian crises.
Malabo, 11,12 July 2023. The United Nations Population Fund celebrates 11 July, World Population Day 2023, with the theme "Unleashing the power of gender equality: Raising the voices of women and girls to unlock the infinite possibilities of our world". UNFPA has been bringing its data, experience and stories to support the girl child since the age of 10 in a world of 8 billion through a variety of means. World Population Day 2023 gives us another opportunity to do so in force, as part of our ongoing narrative of rights and choices to create a world of infinite possibilities.

The official launch of the activities took place at the Colinas Hotel in Malabo co-chaired by the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development represented by the Secretary of State of the Ministry, the Civil Society led by the NGO Biriaelat and UNFPA, with the presence of the Government, Diplomatic Corps, Development Partners, Private Sector, SNU, Civil Society, cultural, women and youth led associations.

The key activity was the presentation of the main findings of the State of World Population Report 2023, released last month 19 April by UNFPA. Report: State of World Population 2023. Other activities included theater performances under the them "Conceptual gender differentiation between older and younger people as a challenge towards achieving gender equality". Various recitals by artists and poets from the OMAL theatre group and awareness-raising activities for the population were carried out in Malabo and Bata with NGOs and youth and women led associations. Activities included a round table and dialogue on "The challenges of gender equality in Equatoguinean society".

Also with the framework of this celebration, Ms. Hind Jalal Resident Representative of UNFPA, participated in the TV program "HEBDOMADAIRE" of TVGE to talk about the World Population Day 2023 as well as the recommendations and conclusions of the UNFPA report: State of World Population 2023 published under the title "8000 million lives, infinite possibilities, arguments for Rights and Freedoms".
UNFPA presents the National Report on the achievements in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea following the International Conference on Population and
Malabo 26 July 2023. Next year 2024, the world will celebrate 30 years after the landmark International Conference on Population and Development of Cairo 1994. The ICPD+30 review will take place immediately after the global review of the SDGs at the 2023 HLPF Summit. Member States have already finalized the form of the ICPD30 Review, through the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) and in the General Assembly, adopting the special theme: "Assessing the state of implementation of the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development". As in previous review cycles, the Commission is expected to adopt a negotiated outcome. This outcome will be sent as a report to ECOSOC, which will then be forwarded to the General Assembly.

Following the finalization of the validated national reports, member states will also actively participate in expert and ministerial-level meetings to agree on Africa's successes, gaps and challenges, as well as commitments to further implement the Addis Ababa Declaration on Population and Development in Africa (AADPD) beyond its 10th anniversary, which coincides with the 30th anniversary of the ICPD. The ICPD@30/AADPD+10 review mutually reinforces key African Union decisions and frameworks, such as the roadmap to harness the demographic dividend, peace and security, the Maputo Plan of Action, CARMMA and the eradication of child marriage, among others, in order to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs and Agenda 2063 (the Africa we want). In this regard, the United Nations Population Fund-UNFPA Equatorial Guinea in partnership with the Ministry of Planification and Diversificacion Economica organized a workshop on July 26 at the Anda China Hotel to validate, together with its partners, the National evaluation Report on the level of compliance with the plan of action of the ICPD @ 30 and the AADPD+10.
UNFPA supports the Obstetric Fistula Repair Campaign in Equatorial Guinea under the leadership of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare

Bata, 26, 27, 28 July 2023. UNFPA provides strategic vision, technical guidance and support, as well as medical supplies, trainings and funds for fistula prevention and treatment, and for fistula-related social reintegration and psychosocial support to survivors. UNFPA also strengthens reproductive health services and quality emergency obstetric care to prevent obstetric fistula from occurring. The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare through the National Reproductive Health Program (PNSR) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) launched the 4th Campaign to end Obstetric Fistula in Equatorial Guinea on July 26th, 2023. Surgeries were performed at the Bata Regional Hospital by a national medical-surgical team trained to repair obstetric fistula.

Four women with obstetric fistulas benefited from the surgery during this first week aged respectively 45, 33, 30 and 26 years old. Survivors were provided psychological and social support. UNFPA’s Sexual and Reproductive Health Officer Donaciano Francisco Eyegue Mangue, accompanied the surgical interventions of the patients in the operating room together with other doctors from the Bata hospital. They expressed their gratitude to UNFPA for the technical, material and financial support provided for the successful completion of this activity.

This activity was concluded with the visit of H.E. Mr. Minister of State of MINSABS Dámaso Mitoa Ondo Ayecaba and Mrs. Hind Jalal UNFPA Resident Representative of to the newly operated women who will remain under observation for 30 days after the operation. The beneficiaries expressed gratitude to UNFPA and to the Ministry of Health for this opportunity.
Testimonies of beneficiaries during the operations of the Obstetric Fistula Repair Campaign in Equatorial Guinea

Bata, 26,27, 28 July 2023. My name is Maribel Andeme Evuy, I am 30 years old, I had my first home birth 10 years ago. I suffered a tear in my uterus which resulted in a fistula. During the last 10 years, I lived with the fistula without being able to have surgery because both my husband and I could not afford to pay for the surgery. I thank the Ministry of Health and UNFPA for operating on me free of charge and for the economic support they offered me for my recovery.

I recommend that gynecologists and doctors, when attending births, give women a good, thorough and meticulous check-up to detect if there are any complications that could cause a fistula to the patient.
My name is Mª Fé Abegue Obiang, I am 45 years old, and after my operation for a fibroid (myoma) 9 months ago, I had a complication after the caesarean section that caused an obstetric fistula. As I cannot afford the surgery cost, the doctor in the hospital told me that sometimes they carry out free fistula repair campaigns and that when the time came he would inform me and he did. I thank the authorities of the Ministry of Health and UNFPA for operating on me free of charge and for the help they have given me, may they continue to give us their support.

My name is Monserrat Ayetebe Michá. I am 33 years old, and after having a caesarean section 12 months ago, I suffered some damage to my bladder during the operation, causing obstetric fistula. I did not have the financial means to pay for the surgery as I do not work. I would like to thank all the doctors and authorities who made it possible for me to have my operation free of charge and for the financial support they offered me.
SOCIAL MEDIA

UNFPA Guinea Ecuatorial @UNFPA_EQGuinea - Jan 19
Yesterday @UNFPA_EQGuinea received a commission from the African Development Bank-ADE, headed by Mr. Mothuri in ZANGA with the objective of addressing Mrs. RRI Hind Jalal, aspects related to the construction of the bridge over the NTEM river between Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea.

Flora Isabel Mangue Obama and 3 others

UNFPA Guinea Ecuatorial @UNFPA_EQGuinea - Jan 19
Strengthening ties, today @AECID_en visits @UNFPA_EQGuinea to discuss partnership issues between both institutions in order to see how to work together in different areas of Social development. Ms. Coordinator of AECID, led the Delegation.

Hind Jalal and 4 others

Hind Jalal @Hindjalal7 - Feb 1
Warm congratulations to Exz. Manuela ROCA BOTEY for being appointed Prime Minister in charge of Administrative Coordination. First woman to hold this responsibility in the history of @govguinea. #breakthegerm #AfricanWoman

You and ONU Guinea Ecuatorial

Hind Jalal @Hindjalal7 - Feb 7
This week marks the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, with an urgent call to engage men & boys in the fight against the HARMFUL practice, which puts around 4.3 million girls at risk in 2023. Let us join efforts to consign FGM to the history books.

You and ONU Guinea Ecuatorial
Reforzando alianzas con la ONG Internacional Aldeas Infantis SOS. Las diferentes acciones en curso y los acuerdos entre ambas instituciones, fueron los temas objeto de la reunión entre el Director del mismo José Gala y la RR Hind Jalal del UNFPA, todo en beneficio del 6º CDP.

You Retweeted
Donaciano Francisco Eyegue Mangue @DEyeguemangue - Feb 11
Un equipo de multisectorial entre el Ministerio de Salud y Bienestar y las agencias del Sistema de las naciones están en una gran nacional de monitoreo de datos de VIH para el Informe mundial 2022.

You Retweeted
Hind Jalal @HindJalal7 - Feb 28
I was delighted to meet with Ex. Maria Cruz EVUNA ANDEME, the new Equatorial Guinea State Secretary of Foreign Affairs in charge of International Organizations. We exchanged on the best ways to achieve the objectives of our CDP and thus contribute to the achievement of Equ Agenda 2035.

You Retweeted
@UNFPA_EQGuinea - Feb 8
La Secretaría de Estado de Organismos Internacionales del @MCoperaion @Exmo. Sra. María Cruz Evuna ha tomado contacto hoy con la RR del @UNFPA_EQGuinea Sra. Hind Jalal para hablar sobre el Programa País2024-2028 entre UNFPA y Gobierno, en el Marco de asistencia de NUE (UNSDC)
Se realizaron partidos de fútbol en el estadio la Paz de Malabo los días 4 y 6 por el Trofeo 8 de Marzo 2023, Día Internacional de la Mujer. El equipo ONUGuineaEcuatorial con MINASIGE y MP de Justicia llevaron la copa de Subcampeones frente al SEMU, siendo estas las Campeonas.
Every 2 min, a woman dies giving birth. As the clock counts down another year, 297,000 more women will meet this tragic fate. Most of these deaths are preventable. 257 million women face unmet needs for IR. World Health Day is a moment to join the global call of HEALTH FOR ALL.

Launched today, 10 Apr, UNFPA’s State of World Pop. Report 2023, "8 Billion Lives, Infinite Possibilities" calls for a radical rethink of how pop numbers are framed. The question is whether women, are able to freely make their own reproductive choices? The answer too often, is NO.

24% of mothers and girls don’t have the ability to maintain a sexual relationship.

Las mujeres pueden ofrecer hasta el 90% de los servicios esenciales de salud, sexual y reproductiva.

TheInforme del UNFPA 2020, Titulado “8 mil millones de vidas, infinitas posibilidades” reúne datos de encuestas sobre cuestiones de población como las desigualdades, juventud, salud etc... en un mundo de zihuitimilenio

Se ha realizado una sesión de trabajo del subcomité evaluación del MANLO 2010-2023. La SRA. HU. UNFPA RR en su calidad de Coresidente/Gerente de la evaluación y con RCO, agradició a todos por sus comentarios enriquecedores y felicitó a los consultores por la calidad del informe.
Gestión Basada en Resultados presentada y dada por Donaciano, NPO SR, y Jaime Nawa Representante Auditar, es un a los colegios de la Oficina UNFPA.

UNFPA Guinea Ecuatorial @UNFPA_EGuine | May 8
UNFPA Guinea Ecuatorial organizar el pasado 23 de abril, una sesión informativa a su personal sobre el Plan Mínimo de Acción en caso de emergencia-MPA, es el marco del seguimiento de las acciones a llevar a cabo en la hoja de ruta de dicho Plan, entre el Gobierno, SNU y ONU.

UNFPA Guinea Ecuatorial @UNFPA_EGuine | Jul 10
En el marco de la celebración del Día Mundial de la Población2023, La RR del UNFPA Guinea Ecuatorial Sra. Hind Jalal habló sobre los Resultados y las Recomendaciones del Informe UNFPA Estudio de Población Mundial2023, el pasado día 6 de julio en el programa "HEBDOMADAIRE" de TVGE.

UNFPA Guinea Ecuatorial @UNFPA_EGuine | Jul 12
Official Launch Event of #WorldPopulationDay2023 yesterday July 11 in Malabo, between the @jmgby23 and the UNFPA office in the presence of the Government, Diplomatic Corps, Development Partners, Private Sector, UNIS, Civil Society, cultural, women and youth associations.

Hind Jalal @Hindjalal7 | Jul 12
On #WorldPopulation Day 23, UNFPA presented in Malabo the 2023 State of World Population Report. Too many people? Too few? What’s the right number? The world is asking the wrong questions. Instead, we should protect women choices & rights for a reproductive health justice for all.

8,000 millones de vidas, INFINITAS POSIBILIDADES argumentos a favor de los derechos y libertades.

UNFPA Equatorial Guinea, Airport Highway, United Nations building Malabo II
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