Leaving No One Behind

Programme for the advancement of the rights of people of **African descent** in Latin America and the Caribbean

UNFPA

JAN - DEC 2020

v 2021
The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) continues to advance the transformative promise of Leaving No One Behind within the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This commitment not only means reaching the people who is living in poverty; it also involves working against exclusion and discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or any other dimension of identity.

UNFPA’s 2018-2021 Strategic Plan has involved significant efforts for the development of key and concerted interventions to reach the furthest behind populations, such as people of African descent, in Latin America and the Caribbean.
In 2020, our organization committed to making its best efforts and using its human and financial resources to engage in community work with Afrodescendant people. The objective of these actions, implemented as part of the first five-year period of the International Decade for People of African Descent, to accelerate progress and advocate rights such as those to education, employment and active political participation.

These efforts to uphold the rights of people of African descent, fight racism and racial discrimination, have been possible thanks to the coordination between States, the United Nations System, civil society and academia promoted by our organization.
Six interventions.
Inclusion, participation and visibility of people of African descent.

UNFPA has simultaneously implemented strategic actions in Latin America and the Caribbean to advance equality and the rights of people of African descent.
Table of Contents

**Statistical visibility**
- of the Afro-descendant population:
  - Study Afro Descendants and the matrix of social inequality

**Universal access**
- to Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) rights and gender equality
  - Ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health services for people of African descent. Colombia, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Peru projects.

**People of African descent:**
- Amplifying the voices
  - Mojalac (Mapping of Afro-descendant Youth Organizations)
  - Mapping of Afro-descendant Leaders
  - Regional Study of Afro-descendant Youth
  - EscuelAfro
  - Afro-descendant Youth Initiatives

**Gender violence**
- An approach in Afro-descendant communities
  - Gender-based Violence Regional Assessment

**Regional Afro-descendant Dialogues**
- Series of global conversations
  - Women of the Diaspora: A Global Summit
  - Peace Through Music: A Global Event for Social Justice
  - Online conversations: impact of COVID-19
  - Promotion and protection of the rights of people of African descent.

**Communication and advocacy**
- Visibilization Strategy
  - Afro-descendant agenda webpage
  - Technical brief on the implications of COVID-19 for the Afro-descendant population
  - Short documentaries
Statistical visibility of the Afro-descendent population
Study Afrodescendants and the matrix of social inequality in Latin America.

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and UNFPA conducted this study in Latin America.

This document provides up-to-date information about the socio demographic context of people of African descent in the region and analyzes their situation in terms of infrastructure, education, employment and social protection.
Universal access to Sexual and Reproductive Health rights and gender equality
Ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health services for women of African descent

As part of UNFPA’s initiative for the provision of Sexual and Reproductive Health services and the reduction of maternal deaths, three innovative projects were developed in the region.
Colombia Startup Project: Partera Vital / Vital Midwife

A pioneering social innovation project in the country that integrates community knowledge and institutions so that midwives can notify and record information about childbirths, mainly among Afro-Colombian and indigenous populations in the Chocó department.
Peru Startup Project:  
**Measuring maternal** mortality and follow-up on inequalities through ethnicity-based data:

This project was implemented in several Afro-descendant communities in Peru, in coordination with the country’s National Institute of Statistics. It follows up on maternal mortality and inequalities through race and ethnicity-based data.
Haiti and Dominican Republic Startup Project: Madres Campeonas/Champion Mothers:

This is a binational project with the objective of reducing maternal mortality and adolescent pregnancies, and improving sexual and reproductive health services. It also provides remote gynecological assistance, equipped ambulances to transfer pregnant women, care during childbirth, training for health providers and equipment for health centers.
Population of African descent
Amplifying the voices
This study, conducted by UNFPA, identified Afro-descendant youth leaders in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, how they are organized and the efforts of their social movements.

94 organizations from 20 Latin American and Caribbean countries participated in it.

* This research will promote the exchange of information and increase coordination between Afro-descendant youth organizations at the local, national, regional and global levels.
This mapping, conducted by UNFPA in the Latin America and the Caribbean region, is a tool to identify civil society organizations and Afro-descendant leaders, as well as their role in the promotion and formulation of measures to address inequalities among the Afro-descendant population.
Regional Study:
Afro-descendant Youth in Latin America and the Caribbean: Rights, Inequalities and Policies

ECLAC and UNFPA prepared this report as a consultation tool that includes comparative data about rights, inequalities and policies for countries in the region. It is also a political advocacy tool for the Afro-descendant youth.
This initiative, promoted by the Ashanti Peru Youth Organization and UNFPA, focused on educating and empowering Afro-descendant young people in the areas of political advocacy and participation for the fulfillment of regional and international commitments such as the Montevideo Consensus and the International Decade for People of African Descent. 80 young people aged 15 to 29 from 18 different countries received training.
Eight projects, eight initiatives for the future in Latin America and the Caribbean
Eight projects, eight initiatives to advance the rights of people of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean

**Argentina**

**Project:** Afro-Argentine Youths

This project addresses the current situation of the Afro-Argentine community with a youth and gender approach, considering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

A study of the situation of Afro-descendant youth in Argentina.

**Brazil**

**Project:** Redes & Raízes

The objective of this project is to increase the participation of young people of African descent in the development of the country to address racism and gender-based violence.

The life stories of Matheus Valois and Tatiana Anjos reflect the importance of building a fairer society with better opportunities for young people of African descent.

**Colombia**

**Project:** Quibdó Youth Social Innovation Lab

The objective of this project is to increase the participation of young people of African descent in the formulation of innovative communication ideas. The project promotes initiatives to bridge gaps in the realization of their rights.
Eight projects, eight initiatives to advance the rights of people of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean

**Ecuador**

**Project: Afro-descendant School “Getting to know myself through my identity”**

This is a project led by the network Red Encuentro de Palenque Afro ecuatorianos EPA-Somos Semilla, with support from UNFPA’s Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. Its objective is to empower young people, help them learn about their rights and provide them with training on social, political and cultural leadership strategies.

Daniela Villalba’s story is an example of the recognition of their rights and the historic demands of the Afro-Ecuadorian population.

**Peru**

**Project: “Identifying gaps and proposals for the realization of the sexual and reproductive rights of Afro-Peruvian Youth”**

The objective of this project, developed by UNFPA, was to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the sexual and reproductive rights of Afro-Peruvian young people (ages 15 to 29) in 7 departments and the Callao Constitutional Province. One of its main outcomes was the study entitled “The Impact of COVID-19 on the exercise of the Sexual and Reproductive Rights of adolescents and young people of African descent.”

**Dominican Republic**

**Project: “Afro Youth”**

The objective of this project was to strengthen awareness-raising processes and the construction of Afro identities in the Dominican Republic.

*What does being an #Afro-descendant mean?*
Suriname

Project: Review of the social determinants of adolescent pregnancy among the Maroon youth in Suriname

This project, developed by UNFPA in Suriname, involved a systematic analysis of the social determinants of adolescent pregnancy, especially among Maroon populations in several districts of the country. One of its main outcomes was the study A review of the social determinants of adolescent pregnancies among Maroon youth in Suriname.

Uruguay

Project: “Zooming in on your voice”

The objective of this project is to create self-knowledge spaces so more Uruguayan Afro-descendant young people can gain access to tools to realize their rights, amplify their voices and work for their Afro-descendant communities.

Nancy Elvina Méndez’ Life Story

“Zooming in on your voice” with the feet in Uruguay and open arms in Latin America
Gender-based Violence
An approach in Afro-descendant communities
UNFPA conducted this study to document the gender-based violence conditions and circumstances that affect people of African descent. The study gathered data on the magnitude of violence experienced by women of African descent in the region, which can later be used as evidence for the formulation of public policies in favor of girls, adolescent and Afro-descendant women.

The tools used in this study were also applied in eight national studies in the following countries: Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru.
Regional Afro-descendant dialogues
In 2020, UNFPA organized a Global Series of thought leadership conversations, What’s Next? Accelerating our commitments to women and girls: A series of global conversations on ICPD25 and the Nairobi commitments.

These conversations addressed different strategies to achieve sustained progress on the United Nations Population Fund’s three transformative results: zero unmet need for family planning, zero preventable maternal deaths and zero gender violence and harmful practices.
Series of global conversations to accelerate the commitment to Afro-descendant women and girls

What's Next?
Accelerating our commitments to women and girls

June 10
10:00 - 11:30 am

A series of global conversations on ICPD25 and the UNCT commitments

Strengthening health systems responses to gender-based violence: Ensuring continuity of essential health services & promoting equality and rights

June 25
9:00 - 10:00 am

"Money in Our Pockets: COVID Socio-economic Consequences"

July 9
8:00 - 9:30 am

Generation Equality and Bodily Autonomy: Empowering Adolescent Girls in the time of COVID-19

July 23
9:00 - 10:30 am

Once Again - We Shall Overcome: COVID-19 and People of African Descent

August 27
9:00 - 10:30 am

Indigenous Peoples and COVID-19: The Disparate Impact

ICPD through the Lens of Reproductive Justice

Women's agency and poverty eradication in Small Island Developing States

LEARN MORE HERE
Click on each image to see the video of each global conversation
Women of the diaspora: A virtual global summit on gender and racial discrimination

The Summit focused on SDG 5: achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, especially those of the African diaspora.

The discussions addressed different aspects related to justice, development and the recognition of people of African descent.

UNFPA, together with the African Renaissance and Diaspora Network (ARDN) and the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica, organized the event Women of the Diaspora: A Global Summit on Gender and Racial Discrimination. The purpose of this Summit was to amplify the voices of women and girls, so they can pave the road and make real decisions regarding all aspects of their lives.
Through the universal language of music and storytelling, *Peace Through Music: A Global Event for Social Justice* launched a global call for equality, human rights and an end to all forms of discrimination. With this online event and concert for peace and justice, UNFPA and Playing for Change celebrated the 75th anniversary of the United Nations.

Its global premiere on December 1st was one of the official activities of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. In its second special edition, on December 10, it was part of the celebration of Human Rights Day.
Peace Through Music: A global event for social justice

DEC 10 2020
12 PM PST | 3 PM EST

FEATURING
ALOE BLACC • ANGÉLIQUE KIDJO • ANNIE LENNOX • BECKY G • BRANDI CARLILE with MIKE McCREADY of PEARL JAM • CARLOS SANTANA and CINDY BLACKMAN SANTANA • GABI MELIM • GARY CLARK JR. • JACK JOHNSON • JIM JAMES • KEB’ MO’ • MAVIS STAPLES • NATHANIEL RATELIFF • PETER GABRIEL • RHIANNON GIDDENS • RINGO STARR • ROBBIE ROBERTSON • ROBERT RANDOLPH • RUN THE JEWELS with JOSH HOMME • SHEILA E. • SKIP MARLEY and CEDELLA MARLEY • THE WAR AND TREATY • YO-YO MA

SPECIAL APPEARANCES
BILLIE EILISH • ELLIE GOULDING • KILLER MIKE • MEGAN RAPINOE and SUE BIRD • NORMAN LEAR • PRINCE EA • SARA BAREILLES

PEACETHROUGHMUSIC.LIVE
Peace Through Music: A global event for social justice

Peace Through Music Festival


December 10, 2020

12 PM PST
3 PM EST

Peace Through Music Global Event

Drum, Sing, Dance for Social Justice!

Playing for Change

UNFPA

UN75

Corning | Gorilla Glass

Watch on YouTube
Dialogues / Global Dialogues

Peace Through Music:
A global event for social justice

aloeblacc

aloeblacc
Peace Through Music
Join me for a global virtual fundraising event in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. Let’s stand together for social justice. (Link in bio)
#PeaceThroughMusic #UN75
#LeavingNoOneBehind
#GivingTuesday #GibsonGuitar
@epiphone @garyclarkjr @kebomomusic
@shellaedrummer @iambeckyg
@jackjohnson @runthewevels
@removador @killermike

officialannie lennox

officialannie lennox
United Nation’s 75th Anniversary!
It’s the @unitednations 75th Anniversary! Join me today, December 1st along with more than 200 artists from all over the world including Peter Gabriel, Brandi Carlile, Keith Richards, Billie Eilish, Gary Clark Jr., Mavis Staples, Ringo Starr, & Jack Johnson for #PeaceThroughMusic, as we call for social justice and greater access to human rights globally. Exclusively on Facebook Live. Links over at @playing4change #UN75 #PFC

mickeyhart

mickeyhart
Proud to partner with @playing4change and the @unitednations Population Fund for #PeaceThroughMusic, a global virtual fundraising event in celebration of UN75. Tune in to the Playing For Change Facebook Page on #GivingTuesday, December 1st at 12pm PST/3pm EST/8pm GMT! Let’s drum, sing and dance for social justice.
#LeavingNoOneBehind #GivingTuesday

bobmarley

bobmarley @cedellamarley @skipmarley @officialkeef and musicians around the world cover bobmarley classic “Get Up Stand Up” as part of @playing4change & @unfpa’s #PeaceThroughMusic global event for social justice! Watch the full stream and learn more at link in story.
#cedellamarley #skipmarley

pearljam

pearljam @MikeMcCreedyPJ tomorrow at 12pm PT along with more than 200 artists including @BrandiCarlile, @itsPeterGabriel, @OfficialKeef, @BillieEilish, @OfficialAnnieLennox, & @JackJohnson for #PeaceThroughMusic, as we call for social justice and greater access to human rights globally. Exclusively on Facebook Live. #UN75
Peace Through Music: A global event for social justice

The main achievements of the event:

**Connected and inspired millions of people**
in 193 countries through music and appealing human stories.

**Accumulated more than 4 million views**
within 48 hours of its exclusive Facebook premiere.

**Received major donations from the audience and multinational companies**
in support of UNFPA's programmes for social justice.

**Brought together more than 200 musicians and celebrities**
celebrities from all over the world such as Peter Gabriel, Annie Lennox and Ringo Starr around songs and messages for peace, justice, equality and a call to end to all forms of discrimination.

**Consolidated a new strategic partnership between UNFPA and Playing for Change**
which, each year, will bring attention to core issues of the global agenda, raise funds to address those issues, and connect the world through the universal language of music.
Online conversations:
COVID-19 impacts through the lens of population and development

In 2020, the Government of Peru, ECLAC and UNFPA organized a series of online conversations to analyze the impacts of the pandemic on the most vulnerable population groups, including people of African descent.

This series of online conversations included the event:
“The Impacts of COVID-19, an opportunity to reaffirm the realization of the human rights of people of African descent in sustainable development”
Promoting and protecting the rights of people of African descent and their communities in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UNFPA, Afro-descendant leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean and human rights experts from the United Nations and the Inter-American System, analyzed the situation of the rights of people of African descent over three days of conversations that focused on development, recognition and justice for people of African descent within the context of COVID-19, in addition to making a call to put an end to racism.
Communication and advocacy

Global Visibilization Strategy
UNFPA developed the global website *Advancing Equity and Social Justice for People of African Descent*. The aim of this technological tool is to bring attention to creative and transformative initiatives to accelerate the fulfillment of the rights of people of African descent.
This document, produced by UNFPA, analyzes the main risk factors that must be urgently addressed to prevent potential negative effects on the life, health and well-being of people of African descent, which have increased due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
UNFPA produced a series of short documentaries to bring attention to the valuable cultural and musical heritage of people of African descent, raise awareness and increase the understanding of its influence and impact on the culture and development of modern societies. This is in addition to raising awareness of the challenges in terms of recognition, justice and development that people of African descent face all over the world.
Short documentaries

Portobelo - Panama

Montevideo - Uruguay

Palenque - Colombia

Azuei - Haiti
Leaving No One Behind.

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