

The United Nations in IRAN



UNITED NATIONS

Contents

Foreword	5
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	6
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)	8
United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)	10
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	12
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	14
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)	16
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	18
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	20
United Nations Information Centre (UNIC)	22
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	24
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	26
World Food Programme (WFP)	28
World Health Organization (WHO)	30
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	32
Addresses of Agencies	34



The United Nations in Iran
Published by the United Nations System in Iran, 2011
1000 Copies, 3rd edition
ISBN: 964-5681-27-8

Designed by: Behnaz Mashatian
Printed at: Printing and Publishing Organization



Foreword



As one of the 51 founding members of the United Nations in 1945, the Islamic Republic of Iran has played a significant role in the development of the organization and actively participates in the work of the UN and its funds, programmes and specialized agencies.

UN has been present in Iran since 1950. Starting in a small way in 1950, today 14 UN agencies and funds are based in Iran, working in areas as diverse as environment, education, children, refugees, agriculture, industry, drugs, health, culture and disaster risk reduction. The aim of these agencies is to support the government's efforts to reduce poverty, protect environment, foster sustainable development, augment production in agricultural and industrial sectors, fight HIV/AIDS and other diseases, assist in increased recognition of Iranian cultural heritage, strengthen anti-narcotics trafficking efforts and judicial reform and support the government's effort in hosting one of the largest refugee populations in the world.

The United Nations offices in Iran work in partnership with the government to respond to national development priorities and emerging needs of the country. They agree on programmes of cooperation with the government according to their development and humanitarian mandates. UN works not only with the government, but also with partners in the non-governmental sector as part of the projects and programmes agreed with the government.

As a middle income country with continuing improvement in its human development indicators, Iran is poised to achieving the Millennium Development Goals set by world leaders at the 2000 Millennium Summit, in which Iran too participated.

As in other countries, work of UN agencies in Iran is guided by the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). The UNDAF is based on and aligned with the national development priorities and strategies and is designed and agreed with the government. It is a tool which allows the different UN agencies in the country to harmonize and assess its capacities, projects and programmes, in order to best support the country's development efforts.

“As the Resident Coordinator of the UN System in Iran, I would like to present this updated version of this publication, which provides information about the UN agencies working in Iran to our partners and other interlocutors.”

Consuelo Vidal
Resident Coordinator in the Islamic Republic of Iran



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

History of Agency in the World and Iran

- 1943: FAO was founded by 44 governments who met in Hot Springs, Virginia, US.
- 1945: the 1st Session of FAO Conference was held in Quebec City, Canada and established FAO as a specialized UN agency.
- 1951: FAO Headquarters moved from Washington, DC, US to Rome, Italy.
- 1953: Effective December 01, Iran is a member to FAO.
- 1981: The first World Food Day observed on 16 October.
- 1992: Effective May, the FAO Representation Office was re-opened in Iran.
- 1996: World Food Summit, Rome, Italy.
- 1997: FAO launched campaign against hunger initiative TeleFood.
- 2002: “World Food Summit 5 Years Later” was held to review WFS achievements.
- 2008: High Level Conference on World Food Security, the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy, Rome, Italy.
- 2009: World Summit on Food Security, Rome, Italy.

FAO’s Vision and Global Goals:

FAO’s vision is a world free of hunger and malnutrition where food and agriculture¹ contribute to improving the living standards of all, especially the poorest, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner. To foster the achievement of this vision and of the Millennium Development Goals, FAO will promote the continuing contribution of food and sustainable agriculture to the attainment of three global goals:

Reduction of the absolute number of people suffering from hunger, progressively ensuring a world in which all people at all times have sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life; Elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods; Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources, for the benefit of present and future generations.

FAO’s Strategic Objectives:

Sustainable intensification of crop production; Increased sustainable livestock production; Sustainable management and use of fisheries and aquaculture resources; Sustainable management of forests and trees, land, water and genetic resources, and improved responses to global environmental challenges affecting food and agriculture; Improved quality and safety of food at all stages of the food chain; Enabling environment for markets to improve livelihoods ; Improved food security and better nutrition; Improved preparedness for, and effective response to, food and agriculture threats and emergencies; Gender equity in access to resources, goods, services and decision-making in rural areas; and, Increased and more effective public and private investment in agriculture and rural development.

1 Agriculture encompasses all aspects



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Main projects/activities in Iran

In line with the priorities of the Government for sustainable agriculture and rural development, FAO’s focus, in the medium term is to seek enhanced investment in agriculture, especially, at the value-chain level, to increase income and employment opportunities for the rural poor.

FAO has assisted Iran in the preparation of Framework for Sustainable Agriculture Development Strategy in June 2005. Similarly, the National Strategy and Action Plan on Drought Preparedness, Management and Mitigation in the Agriculture Sector was prepared in 2007 to enhance the capacity of Government in disaster management.

The 3 to 5 years Country Programming Framework (CPF) is being finalized to contribute to the Government’s endeavors towards sustainable agriculture and rural development. CPF aims at: (a) mainstreaming the rural and low-income farmers in the development process to improve their livelihood, food security and nutritional status; (b) harnessing the network of research and academic institutions and high quality expertise of Iran to assist other countries of the region through the South-South Cooperation; (c) promoting agri-commercialization and export oriented agriculture.

FAO has assisted Iran Fisheries Organization to develop a comprehensive programme of fisheries development to ultimately achieve per annum target of 1.5 million tons of production as per the Vision 2025 Document.

FAO’s technical assistance within the framework of sustainable fisheries development and ecosystem based approach could be given in the following possible areas:

- Marine fisheries development;
- Aquaculture development;
- Value chain investment to capture the export markets; and,
- Institutional and capacity strengthening.

Assistance in the seed sector has also been provided to ensure:

- more efficient seed production, distribution and marketing systems; and
- enhanced plant variety protection capacity in the country.

FAO has also introduced a novel participatory and environmentally friendly approach through Farmer Field Schools to promote organic agriculture and biological control of pests and diseases in various crops including wheat, cucumber, tomato, olive, etc. A project to protect pistachio crop and industry from aflatoxin contamination is also being implemented.

FAO has assisted the Government in preparing an important project document for submission to and review/consideration by GEF Secretariat: “*Rehabilitation of Forest Landscapes and Degraded Land with Particular Attention to Saline Soils and Areas Prone to Wind Erosion*”.

In the animal health sector, FAO is assisting the Government to combat Foot-and-Mouth Disease and institute measures for prevention and control of Avian Influenza.

FAO, through international communication campaigns, such as World Food Day and Telefood, plays an important role in raising public awareness of hunger and poverty in mobilizing support for achieving food security.



UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, brings together the efforts and strengths of ten UN system organizations to the global AIDS response. UNAIDS Cosponsors are UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and the World Bank.

Based in Geneva, the UNAIDS Secretariat works in more than 80 countries worldwide under the over all supervision of UN HIV/AIDS Theme Groups. UNAIDS Iran was established in 2005 and is covered by the Regional Support Team for the Middle East and North Africa which is located in Cairo, Egypt.

Established in 1994 by a resolution of the UN Economic and Social Council and launched in January 1996, UNAIDS is guided by a Programme Coordinating Board with 22 government representatives from all geographical regions, the UNAIDS Co Sponsors, and five representatives of non - governmental organizations, including associations of people living with HIV. Iran was recently elected to PCB for 3 years, starting year 2008.



- By bringing together the efforts and resources of its Cosponsors, UNAIDS supports the scale up of intervention for HIV prevention, care and treatment of those infected, and epidemic impact reduction activities worldwide;
- The objective of UNAIDS is to have global support for an exceptional response to tackle the epidemic.
- 2001 was a very important year in the history of HIV and AIDS, when Heads of State and Government from 189 nations, including the Islamic Republic of Iran, met at the first ever UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on HIV/AIDS and adopted the declaration of commitments on HIV/AIDS.

- To stop AIDS, UNAIDS supports strategic information and better profiling of the epidemiologic situation of the country in order to enhance design and implementation of interventions for different groups of population. The most-at-risk groups which UNAIDS is concerned about include injecting drug users, prisoners, sex workers and men who have sex with men.
- UNAIDS sensitizes the policy-makers through an evidence-informed advocacy strategy.
- UNAIDS supports national AIDS Commission as the one and the only national AIDS coordinating body and aims for fulfillment of “the Three Ones” principle; “One” national multi-sectoral AIDS authority, “One” national strategic frame-work for action, and “One” national comprehensive monitoring and evaluation plan.
- UNAIDS coordinates UN response and harmonizes UN actions based on a jointly identified key-result matrix and an agreed technical support division of labour
- UNAIDS supports people living with and affected by HIV and tries to reduce stigma and discrimination against them towards universal access to care, support, treatment and positive prevention interventions.
- UNAIDS makes partnership with civil society and non-governmental sectors to promote their role in a more comprehensive response.





UNAMA

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

History of Agency in the World and Iran

- United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) is a political mission, directed and supported by the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations.
- Its headquarters are in Kabul, with eight regional and 23 provincial offices throughout Afghanistan. In addition, UNAMA has liaison offices in Islamabad, Pakistan, Tehran, Iran, and Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.
- UNAMA's mandate was established on 28 March 2002 through UN Security Council Resolution 1401. On this day, the Tehran UNSMA (UN Special Mission to Afghanistan) liaison office, which had been established in May 2000, was renamed as the UNAMA liaison office in Iran.
- The mission is directed by a Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Afghanistan who also acts as the Head of UNAMA.
- UNAMA's key role is to promote peace and stability in Afghanistan by leading the efforts of the international community.
- Together with the Government of Afghanistan the mission supports the rebuilding of the country, the strengthening of the foundations of peace and a constitutional democracy.
- The UNAMA mandate is defined by resolution 1662 (2006), and has been extended and amended by other resolutions through the Resolution 1917 (2010).
- The UNAMA office in Tehran was actively involved in preparations towards the Bonn Agreement (2001), the Emergency Loya Jirga (2002), the Constitutional Loya Jirga (2004), and the Presidential elections (2004). The current focus: implementation of the Afghanistan Compact (2006), the Paris Declaration (2008), and the Afghanistan Conferences in London and Kabul (2010), in particular the subject of regional cooperation.

Activities of UNAMA are strictly limited to Afghanistan and include:

- Strengthening the cooperation with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF);
- Providing good offices in support of Afghan-led reconciliation programmes;
- Supporting efforts to improve governance and the rule of law and to combat corruption;
- Playing a central coordinating role to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid;
- Monitoring the human rights situation of civilians and coordinating human rights protection;
- Supporting the electoral process in Afghanistan by providing technical assistance and funds and coordinating other international donors;
- Supporting regional cooperation in working for a more stable and prosperous Afghanistan.

UNAMA



United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

Main projects/activities in Iran

- Ensuring regular dialogue with the Islamic Republic of Iran (especially the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) concerning the ongoing peace process in Afghanistan and regional cooperation;
- Acting as a conduit for information between UNAMA HQ and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and
- Serving in an advisory and liaison capacity to the diplomatic community and to the UN Agencies in Tehran with Afghan-related programmes.



UNAMA

UNICEF is the world's leading agency for children, working in 190 countries to help children realize their rights to survival, development and protection. It was created as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund in 1946 to provide emergency help to children suffering from the aftermath of World War II. In the 1950s, UNICEF's mission grew from a post-war emergency fund to a development agency for children.

UNICEF is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and strives to help establish children's rights as enduring ethical principles and international standards of behaviour towards children. UNICEF is committed to ensuring special protection for the most disadvantaged children, victims of war, disasters, extreme poverty and all forms of discrimination, violence and exploitation.

UNICEF's history in Iran goes back to 1950, when Iran's Government turned to UNICEF to fight tuberculosis. Opening an office in the country, UNICEF focused its programmes on child health and nutrition in the early years of its activities in Iran. Later on, education, child protection and Juvenile Justice, HIV/AIDS, child rights monitoring and child poverty reduction were added as additional fields of cooperation. UNICEF is also active in providing humanitarian assistance following emergencies and assisting national partners to prepare for, and reduce the risk of, sudden onset disasters.

In association with other UN agencies, UNICEF is committed to assist national stakeholders in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Six out of eight MDGs are directly related to children and women. At the international level, UNICEF has prioritized five focus areas in relation to key elements of the MDGs which guide UNICEF development assistance around the world. These are;

- 1) Young child survival and development, 2) Basic education and gender equality;
- 3) HIV/AIDS and children; 4) Child protection from violence, exploitation and abuse;
- and 5) Policy advocacy and partnerships for children's rights.

In doing so, UNICEF seeks to address the rights and needs of children most in need first by applying a so-called equity-based approach. For UNICEF, equity means that all children have an opportunity to survive, develop, and reach their full potential, without discrimination, bias, or favoritism. This interpretation is consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

An equity-based approach to UNICEF's programmes and policies seeks to understand and address the root causes of inequity so that all children, particularly those who suffer the worst deprivations in society, have access to education, health care, sanitation, clean water, protection, and other services necessary for their survival, growth, and development.

The primary role of UNICEF in Iran is as a provider of technical assistance and as a bridge between Iranian policy makers and practitioners and their peers abroad, ensuring knowledge on social development and child rights becomes available in Iran and part of national policies. In addition, UNICEF commits itself to assist national authorities and other partners in response to natural or man-made disasters to help ensure the basic rights and needs of children are met during and following any instance of humanitarian emergencies.

Currently, UNICEF works in Iran under a Basic Cooperation Agreement, operationalized by an agreed five-year programme of cooperation. This programme focuses on reducing regional disparities in child health and nutrition, girls' education and women's empowerment, child protection, HIV/AIDS and Adolescent Friendly Services and monitoring the Convention on the rights of the Child. UNICEF Iran currently implements projects in these areas in three Iranian provinces: Sistan and Baluchistan, Hormozgan and West Azerbaijan. These projects include:

Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD): The Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD) works in partnership with the Ministry of Health, State Welfare Organization, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Welfare and Social affairs and Civil Registration Organization. The programme seeks integrated approaches to the development of the young child and consists of three projects: Child Health and Nutrition, Birth Registration and Early Childhood Development.

Girls' Education and Women's Empowerment: The Education Programme works in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Interior, Bureau of Aliens and Foreign Immigrants (BAFIA). It aims to ensure quality primary education services for marginalized and at-risk girls, boys and women and empower women to participate in community development through capacity building activities in 12 selected districts in three disparity provinces. The cooperation with BAFIA comes in the framework of a project designed to advocate for and support Basic Education for Refugee Children and Women.

HIV/AIDS prevention: In close partnership with the Ministry of Health and Iran University of Medical Sciences, the HIV/AIDS programme aims to empower most at risk children, youth and women to protect themselves from HIV and related risk factors by providing information, education, counseling and referral services in Health Centres and also creating an enabling environment in the community. The programme also aims to develop workable models for providing effective HIV prevention interventions.

Child Protection: UNICEF's Child Protection Programme works in partnership with the Judiciary, the State Welfare Organization, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs. It is designed to protect girls and boys of all age groups from abuse, exploitation and violence, within the household, school system and community, and strengthen the protective environment for children in Iran. The programme includes two main projects that intend to ensure a protective environment for all children: 1) Legal Reform and Policy Development 2) Prevention of Child Abuse

Child Right Convention Monitoring: UNICEF in partnership with the Ministry of Interior, through District Approach project advocates for and supports to strengthen the capacities of the local government and local communities, enabling and empowering them to develop formal mechanisms for child rights monitoring, build alliances and leverage resources for children, generation of knowledge on children's situation, bringing children's best interest to the centre of policy making, and to serve as a possible model to be applied and brought to scale at national level.



United Nations Development Programme

History of Agency in the World and Iran

UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. UNDP is on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop capacity, they draw on UNDP's assistance and its wide range of partners. UNDP was founded in 1965 and its Headquarters is located in New York.

UNDP has had a representative office in Iran since 1966 and has worked closely with its major development partners – the Government, local councils, civil society, academic institutions, and the private sector – to promote sustainable human development in the country.

In each country office, the Resident Representative of UNDP normally also serves as the Resident Coordinator for the United Nations system as a whole. Through such coordination, UNDP seeks to ensure the most effective use of UN and international aid resources.

World leaders have pledged to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), including the overarching goal of cutting poverty in half by 2015. UNDP's network links and coordinates global and national efforts to reach these Goals. UNDP's focus is to help countries build and share solutions to the challenges of democratic governance, poverty alleviation, crisis prevention and recovery, energy and environment, and HIV/AIDS.

The annual Human Development Report, commissioned by UNDP, focuses the global debate on key development issues, providing new measurement tools, innovative analysis and often controversial policy proposals. The global Report's analytical framework and inclusive approach carry over into regional, national and local Human Development Reports, also supported by UNDP.

Priorities Globally and in Iran



United Nations Development Programme

Main projects/activities in Iran

UNDP undertook a broad MDGs initiative in Iran to mainstream the goals in the country's national plans, localize successful community-based techniques, and institutionalize the MDGs reporting process to help the country achieve the goals. In partnership with UNDP, Iran launched its National MDG Reports (2004 and 2006) which highlight the country's achievements particularly in the areas of health and education as well as development challenges in achieving the goals.

UNDP has been working in partnership the Government of Iran to strengthen institutional capacities to implement an Automated System for Customs Data Administration (ASYCUDA) developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) which is currently being implemented in more than 80 countries around the world. The ASYCUDA World software has helped ease existing customs procedures while developing the technical capacity needed to further integrate the country with global trade.

UNDP piloted a poverty alleviation initiative in Sistan-Baluchistan, the poorest province in Iran. The lessons-learned from the results of this experience can be introduced into future community empowerment activities at the provincial level using the area-based development approach.

UNDP helps Iran address its environmental challenges and meet its commitments to international environmental conventions on combating desertification, protecting biodiversity, reducing greenhouse gases, managing Persistent Organic Pollutants, ensuring sustainable management of land and water resources and eliminating ozone depleting substances. UNDP is also helping Iran concentrate on energy efficiency, and mitigate the environmental consequences of development plans and programmes. The UNDP Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP) works to conserve the global environment through local action and local participation.

UNDP is also working closely with the government on reducing the impact of natural disasters on economic and social development. It strives to strengthen national capacities for disaster risk management and coordination, and has actively contributed to the reconstruction programmes in the earthquake-affected areas in Bam and Lorestan.

Working in close partnership with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), UNDP helps place HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria at the centre of national development dialogue in Iran and build partnerships among the Government, civil society and private sector to coordinate an effective response to these diseases, which represent development challenges in this country.



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

History of Agency in the World and Iran

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was founded on 16 November 1945. It was established as an international laboratory of ideas and a standard-setter with the aim “To Build Peace in the Minds of Men”. UNESCO places emphasis on policy improvement, capacity building and provision of technical assistance in the fields of Education, Sciences, Culture, and Communication & Information. The UNESCO Tehran Cluster Office was established in Tehran in January 2003 servicing four countries: Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkmenistan.



Priorities Globally and in Iran

Education:

Education for All (EFA), Education Planning, Statistics, Curriculum and Textbooks, Literacy, Lifelong Learning, UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD), Technical & Vocational Education, School Health, Physical Education and Sports, Early Childhood Education (ECE), General and Higher Education, Languages, Arts in Education, HIV/AIDS and Drugs Prevention Education, Human Rights Education, Disaster Management Education.

Science:

Sustainable Water Management, Biodiversity and Ecological and Earth Sciences, Biosphere Reserves, Basic Sciences and Engineering Sciences, Science Policy for Development, Oceanography and Marine Hazards, Natural Disaster Preparedness, Renewable Energy.

Culture:

Cultural Diversity, World Heritage, Tangible and Intangible Heritage, Inter-cultural and Inter-faith Dialogues, Handicrafts, Traditional Arts and Cultural Industries, Arts & Creativity, Copyright, Museums and Cultural Tourism.

Communication/Information:

Access to Information, Content Development, Freedom of Expression, Media Development, International Programmes for Development of Communication (IPDC), Information for All and Narrowing the Digital Divide.

Social and Human Sciences:

Ethics of Sciences, Human Rights, Poverty Alleviation, Social Transformation and Philosophy.

Cross-cutting Themes:

Gender, Youth, HIV/AIDS, Culture of Peace, Dialogue among Civilizations.



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Main projects/activities in Iran

Education:

National Education for All (EFA) Programme, with EFA Policy Document prepared and EFA Bureau established, and EFA Mid-Decade Assessment carried out; Contribution, translation, publication and distribution of EFA Global Monitoring Report (GMR) in Farsi in 2008, 2009 and 2010; Development of Iran UNESCO National Education Support Strategy (UNESS) Document; National and Provincial Education Planning Model (ANPRO-Iran) established and Training of Education Planners at national level; Initiating and equipping Bam Teachers' Research Centre (BTRC) and establishment of Bam Model School Complex (BMSC) through national and international partnership and Inclusive Education emphasized; Establishment of Education Disaster Management Bureau in Iran Ministry of Education at National and Provincial levels; Support to policy enhancement and continuous capacity-building for Education for Sustainable Development; School Wall Journalism project implemented in the schools and the Guidelines produced in Farsi; Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) study on HIV/AIDS and Drugs in schools carried out in Tehran Province; Support to Afghan Education System reconstruction including Technical and Vocational Education in co-operation with Iran MoE.

Sciences:

Enhanced management of water resources, particularly shared waters with neighboring countries in arid and semi-arid zones; Support to three centers established under the auspices of UNESCO: the Regional Centres on Urban Water Management [Tehran], the International Centre on Qanats and Historic Hydraulic Structures [Yazd] and Isfahan Regional Centre for Technology Incubators and Science Parks Development [Isfahan]; Establishment of UNESCO Sheikh Bahai International Prize on Techno-preneurship and technical assistance and capacity building for science parks; Better understanding of the Climate Change impacts on the river basin and climate change adaptation; Documentation of historic hydraulic systems and their application in addressing today's emerging global needs; Improvement of management of 9 Biosphere Reserves and nomination of new areas for Biosphere Reserve cooperation; Capacity building toward enhanced early warning for natural disasters; Promotion of Geo-parks; Development of a Chair on Bioethics; Research on human rights related subjects via UNESCO Chair; Participation of Iran research communities in Asian forum on gender and youth.

Culture:

Support to the ten UNESCO World Cultural Heritage and Tentative Listed Natural and Cultural Heritage in Iran; Comprehensive Management Planning for World Heritage or Tentative List Properties; Capacity-building for national consultants, professionals and policy makers for cultural heritage management; Capacity-building for safeguarding tangible and intangible heritage; training for strengthened museum management and curbing illicit trafficking of cultural heritage objects; Promotion of inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue in the region; Support for development of handicraft, traditional arts and cultural industries, marketing and design protection; Advocacy and training for integrated approach to heritage conservation, disaster management, and sustainable urban development.

Communication & Information:

The use of media to address development issues and to support the UNESCO mandates; Supporting key media institutions participating in regional and international dialogues and forums; Commemorating the annual World Press Freedom Day; Promoting the use of ICTs for new initiatives on youth, science and technology and environmental protection; Promotion of the “Memory of the World” programme; Trainings journalists and media workers on journalism and technical aspects on global issues such as climate change, HIV/AIDS, environmental concerns, earthquake and other natural hazards and UNESCO Conventions.



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), established in 1950 by the UN General Assembly, is mandated to lead and coordinate international action for the worldwide protection of refugees and other persons of concern and for the resolution of their problems. The legal status of refugees is defined in two international instruments: the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. These two tools together with the UN General Assembly Resolution 428 (V) that established the UNHCR Office and its Statute, have been the foundation of both international refugee law and UNHCR's mandate to help and protect refugees. The annual Conclusions adopted by UNHCR's Executive Committee (ExCom) form part of the framework of the international refugee protection regime. They represent the agreement of more than 50 Countries. During its lifetime the Refugee Agency has assisted an estimated 50 million refugees to successfully restart their lives. Based on statistics given on the UN Treaty Collection website, in 2010 a total of 144 states are party to the 1951 convention and 145 to the 1967 protocol. The Islamic Republic of Iran acceded to both the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol on 28 July 1976, with reservations to article 17, 23, 24 and 26. UNHCR first opened an office in Iran in 1984. The Refugee Agency expanded its presence and scope of activities in Iran with the massive influx of Iraqi refugees following the Persian Gulf War in 1991, and the start of a mass voluntary return movement to Afghanistan in 1992. Today, UNHCR has its country office in Tehran and three sub-offices in Mashad, Kerman and Ahwaz. It has three field offices in Esfahan, Shiraz and Dogharoun which is also a border crossing station.

Based on government statistics, as of 01 October 2010, there are 1,029,320 Afghan registered refugees and some 42,854 Iraqi registered refugees residing in Iran. Refugee settlements in Iran are: 7 for Iraqi Kurd, 3 for Iraqi Arab and 5 for Afghan refugees. Less than 3% of the registered refugee population live in settlements.

UNHCR's Responsibilities within Its Mandate are as Follow (The Work of UNHCR is Entirely Non-Political, Humanitarian and Social):

- Assist asylum countries' governments with refugee and asylum/migration related issues in an advisory capacity;
- Protect refugees by ensuring that their basic rights are respected in the host country;
- Ensure that governments respect the rule of non-refoulement (not returning refugees to a country where they may be persecuted);
- Find durable solutions to the problems of refugees through voluntary repatriation, local integration and resettlement.



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Promote refugee rights in Iran; enhance protective environments for refugees in accordance with international refugee law and relevant Iranian legislation; Maintain its advocacy to ensure the continued access of all re-registered refugees to valid refugee resident cards (Amayesh) through inclusive re-registration exercises conducted by the Iranian authorities; Continue its advocacy dialogue for more predictable and sustainable issuance of Temporary Work Permits (TWPs), as well as for the issuance of work contracts to registered refugees holding TWPs. This would also include Iraqi registered refugees who do not yet have access to these permits. TWPs have the potential to assist the self-sustainability of registered refugees in Iran until the situation becomes more conducive for return; Ensure assistance interventions in Iran are organized in a way to emphasize developmental approaches for refugees. UNHCR focuses on enhancing refugees' livelihood also through vocational trainings to enable them acquire skills for gainful employment; Work with the Ministries of Education and Health to facilitate the access of urban registered refugees to education, primary health care and emergency medical assistance; Continue to ensure that registered refugees have access to free legal services without any discrimination; Enhance the well-being of refugee women, children and men through implementation of the Age, Gender, and Diversity Mainstreaming (AGDM) strategy. This will be done by means of an annual Participatory Assessment (PA) exercise to identify the pressing protection risks to the livelihood, health, education and repatriation of registered refugees, which are to be addressed in the annual plan. It also includes increasing the active participation of refugees at all levels of the programme cycle, through the community-based approach (a way of working in partnership with persons of concern) and right-based approach (this approach promotes change to enable individuals and communities to exercise their rights and comply with their duties); Ensure protection of refugee women, girls and boys by applying the "Sex and Gender Based Violence" Protocol and HIV/AIDS awareness raising programmes; Develop partnership with relevant actors including the Iranian Government, UN, NGOs and Community-Based Organizations to mobilize the current mechanism and capacities for enhanced out-reach and service delivery to refugees; Facilitate voluntary repatriation of Afghan and Iraqi registered refugees from Iran in safety and dignity; Ensure respect for the voluntary character of repatriation. Following resumption of the Tripartite Commission Meetings on the Voluntary Repatriation of Afghan registered refugees, re-establish Dispute Settlement Committees in order to facilitate the resolving of repatriation applicants' legal disputes prior to departure; Enhance emergency preparedness; Provide One Time Assistance to the most vulnerable refugees; Pay part of the hospital bills of refugees on an emergency and life saving basis; Cover insurance fees of refugees suffering from Thalassaemia, Hemophilia or Renal failure; Continue its "Relief from Disability" assistance to refugees (wheel-chairs, hearing aid, etc)

From the start of the voluntary repatriation programme (2002 for Afghans and 2003 for Iraqis) until 30 November 2010, 873,566 Afghan registered refugees and 25,877 Iraqi registered refugees returned to their homeland with assistance from UNHCR Iran. Since 2000, UNHCR has also helped resettle in average around 800 refugees per year.

UNHCR's Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) budget requirement for the year 2010 is USD 36,826,564.



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) was established in 1966 and became a specialized agency of the United Nations in 1985. As part of the United Nations, UNIDO is responsible for promoting industrial development throughout the developing world, in cooperation with its 172 member states. Its headquarters are located in Vienna, Austria.

The UNIDO Country Office in I.R. of Iran was established in 1999 to support the Government in its industrialization priorities with a view to establishing close ties with various ministries, Governmental bodies, civil and research institutes as well as the private sector.

UNIDO is the specialized agency of the United Nations that focuses its efforts on relieving poverty by fostering productivity growth. It helps developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their fight against marginalization in today's globalizing world. It mobilizes knowledge, skills, information and technology to promote productive employment, competitive economy and a sound environment.

With a number of country and regional offices, investment and technology promotion offices related to specific aspects of its work, UNIDO maintains an active presence in the field, in order to promote growth in industrial products and encourage and improve industrial and technological skills.



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

UNIDO's new Integrated Program/Country Program (IP/CP) for Iran maintains its focus on reducing poverty by creating employment opportunities and generating income through fostering sustainable development and promoting industrial development of non-oil sectors and thus contributing to the alleviation of social hardship.

The new (IP/CP) is oriented around six strategic cooperation areas:

- Globalization;
- Regional development through strengthening small and medium enterprises and local industries;
- Business environment improvement and private sector development;
- Modernization of agro-based industries;
- Energy-related subjects, and
- Environmental and climate-change related issues.

UNIDO is also in charge of the implementation of a number of environment-related programs in Iran, including the Montreal Protocol Program, which is designed to reduce the use of ozone depleting substances (financed by the Montreal Protocol Program). Negotiations are under way with the Government of Iran to also develop a program on reduction of Persistent Organic Pollution (POP's), under the Stockholm Convention, and with financial support from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

Some of the UNIDO projects implemented in Iran are:

- Industrial clustering project;
- Modernization of dates processing and packaging;
- Capacity building and technology management at enterprise level;
- National strategy for energy efficiency and conservation, and
- Montreal Protocol Projects, relevant to the reduction of ozone depleting substances and reduction of methyl bromide, used in agriculture.

It is worth mentioning that one of the unique tools developed by UNIDO is the Computer Model for Feasibility Analysis and Reporting (COMFAR). COMFAR III is a valuable aid for the analysis of investment projects. COMFAR III packages can be easily ordered in Iran through the UNIDO Field Office in Tehran.



United Nations Information Centre

History of Agency in the World and Iran

In 1946 the first UN General Assembly established the Department of Public Information (DPI) and set out the general guidelines for its activities. One of these guidelines called upon DPI to establish “branch offices...in order to ensure that peoples in all parts of the world receive as full information as possible about the United Nations”. Iran, as a founding member of the United Nations, was among the first countries to have a United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), which began its operations within a few months of its establishment in May 1950. However, the Centre’s operations were suspended in 1980. It was revived in 1991.

Priorities Globally and in Iran

UNIC is the principal local source of public information about the United Nations system in Iran and around the world. As an active link between the UN and the local media, educational institutions, government organizations and the civil society, the Centre provides up-to-date public information on the aims and activities of the United Nations in political, economic, social and humanitarian fields. The Centre’s priority themes recently have been advocacy on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), UN reforms, human rights, particularly the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and peacekeeping.

UNIC



United Nations Information Centre

Main projects/activities in Iran

UNIC assists in meeting the Secretary-General’s requirements, especially during visits to the country, as well as providing professional, logistical and administrative assistance in the field of information dissemination to UN offices and operations in Iran, depending on their needs and circumstances.

As Chair of the UN Communications Group (UNCG)-Iran and the focal point for UN’s public information activities, UNIC projects a unified approach and image of the UN Country Team in Iran.

UNIC is linked to UN Headquarters and receives a daily roundup of news on UN activities at its Headquarters and around the world as well as news on UN agencies’ activities in Iran. Items that are of the most interest to the Iranian people are selected and translated into Persian and dispatched to all the major print and electronic media. UNIC Director also gives interviews on important UN issues. UNIC also organizes press conferences for UN officials.

In order to reach a larger audience, UNIC translates major UN documents, books, brochures and publications into Persian and distributes them free of cost to the media, universities, government organizations, ministries, NGOs etc.

UNIC staff members respond to requests from NGOs and educational institutions on the work of the United Nations. UNIC organizes special events to mark UN observances such as the UN Day, the International Day of Peace and so on. UNIC also assists NGOs when they organize their own activities on issues of concern to the UN or want accreditation with the DPI/NGO section.

UNIC promotes teaching about the UN through direct contact with teachers and students in schools and universities by speaking to them and answering their questions, in organizing Model UN sessions and in making available documents, publications and videos geared to young audiences.

UNIC helps and organise workshops on issues such as MDGs, disaster risk reduction and other relevant topics, for journalists, teachers and any other group interested in such workshops.

UNIC’s bilingual web site features key UN documents in Persian and English.

UNIC answers all public inquiries on the UN, including requests for UN documents or any relevant information.

A well-stocked library is one of the main features of UNIC. It contains United Nations official documents and books, including on peacekeeping and peacemaking, human rights, economic and other social developments, disaster relief, environment and other reference materials such as reports, debates and resolutions from the General Assembly and the Security Council. A collection of UN photographs, videos in VHS format, DVDs and posters are also available.



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

History of Agency in the World and Iran

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was established in 1997 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to address the interrelated issues of drug control, crime prevention and international terrorism in all its forms. The UNODC headquarters is located in Vienna, Austria. It has national and regional field offices covering over 150 countries.

The UNODC programme for the Islamic Republic of Iran was launched in 1999. The Iran programme opened a new page in the Iranian drug control policy making and marked the participation of the international community in the Iranian drug control, legal reform, drug prevention and HIV control efforts, which were combined with advocacy initiatives.

UNODC has been working with national counterparts and international donor community to launch a new Iran country programme on drugs and crime for 2011-2014.



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Priorities Globally and in Iran

UNODC implements measures that reflect the three international conventions on drug control and the conventions against trans-national organized crime and corruption.

Working directly with governments and non-governmental organizations, the UNODC field offices develop and implement drug control, crime and terrorism prevention programmes, always adapted to the local necessities of the countries involved. The three pillars of UNODC's work are:

- Field-based technical cooperation projects to enhance the capacity of Member States to counteract illicit drugs, crime and terrorism.
- Normative work to assist States in the ratification and implementation of the relevant international treaties, the development of domestic legislation on drugs, crime and terrorism, and the provision of secretariat and substantive services to the treaty-based and governing bodies.
- Research and analytical work to increase knowledge and understanding of drugs and crime issues and expand the evidence base for policy and operational decisions.

UNODC in the Islamic Republic of Iran is focused on delivering quality and scientific based services to the country on three thematic areas of illicit trafficking and border management; drug demand reduction and HIV control, and crime prevention, criminal justice and anti-corruption. Moreover, the Office acts as the interlocutor and promoter of regional cross-border cooperation among Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan to tackle serious organised crime and drug trafficking challenges.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Main projects/activities in Iran

The new framework of UNODC cooperation and assistance for the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2011-2014 aims at enhancing and promoting cooperation between national stakeholders and international donors in drug control and crime prevention. Moreover, the new UNODC country programme extends its umbrella of cooperation to actual end-users namely non-governmental organisations, academia and research institutes. The programme covers three main clusters and includes:

Illicit (drug) trafficking and border management

- Assist and support national authorities enhancing border management, drugs, precursors and amphetamine type stimulants interdiction capacities through national, regional and international initiatives, and
- Assist authorities in the process of identifying and acting against organized crime drug networks and serious operatives;

Drug Demand Reduction and HIV Control

- Support implementation of comprehensive drug demand reduction, HIV control and harm reduction programmes;
- Support programmes for easy access of intravenous drug users, their sexual partners, and prison inmates to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care services, and
- Support various national authorities and non-government entities in the implementation of innovative approaches on drug demand reduction.

Crime, Justice and Corruption

- Support the national process to introduce legislative and institutional regulatory frameworks under the United Nations Convention against Trans-national Organized Crime (UNTOC), including through regional and international cooperation;
- Support national anti-corruption bodies on effective measures to counter corruption under United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), and
- Support national authorities in actions to counter trafficking in cultural properties, art and antiquities in accordance with international standards.

South-South Cooperation

UNODC Iran is a promoter of South-South Cooperation in the country and global levels. The Office has arranged study missions from 35 Asian and African countries to Iran since 2007 for capacity-building initiatives including exchanges of experiences on injecting drug use, methadone maintenance, and needle-syringe exchange. In the area of crime prevention, the Office assists in upgrading Financial Intelligence Units cooperation between Iran and developing countries against financing of terrorism and anti-money laundering.



United Nations Population Fund

United Nations Population Fund



The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity.

UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect. UNFPA began operations in 1969 as the United Nations Fund for Population Activities and was placed under the UN General Assembly's direct authority in 1972, raising it to the same status as UNDP and UNICEF. In 1987, the name of UNFPA was changed to the United Nations Population Fund, but the acronym, UNFPA, remained the same. In 1994, UNFPA was designated the lead United Nations organization for the follow-up and implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action. UNFPA is a founding member of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) and a founding co-sponsor of UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. UNFPA supports programmes in over 140 countries, areas and territories. UNFPA's collaboration with Iran began in 1970 on a project basis. The collaboration on the basis of five-year country programmes began in 1990. The current country programme, the fourth since 1990, was launched in 2005 in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) UNFPA's support has yielded tangible results which are well manifested in population and reproductive health indicators. Since 1990, maternal mortality ratio has been cut by 80 %; contraceptive prevalence rate has increased from 64% to 79% for all methods; and prenatal care and attended deliveries at hospitals and maternity centres is now almost universal. Such achievements would not have been possible without Government commitment, decisive national population policies, support of religious leaders and the strong partnership between UNFPA, government and civil society. UNFPA is currently preparing its 5th Country Programme according to the priorities of the 5th National Development Plan with close collaboration and coordination with the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran.

UNFPA works in partnership with governments, as well as with other agencies and civil society broadly, to advance its mission. Two frameworks serve to focus its efforts: The Programme of Action adopted at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Because the dates for achievement of these interconnected sets of goals and related targets are fast approaching, considerable work has been done in analyzing what has worked, and to galvanize support and a redoubling of efforts. The three core areas of our work - reproductive health, gender equality and population and development strategies are inextricably related. Population dynamics, including growth rates, age structure, fertility and mortality, migration and more, influence every aspect of human, social and economic development. Reproductive health and women's empowerment powerfully affect, and are affected by, population trends. UNFPA helps governments, at their request, to formulate policies and strategies to reduce poverty and support sustainable development. The Fund also assists countries to collect and analyze population data that can help them understand population trends. UNFPA's current 4th country programme in Iran is in line with the 4th National Development Plan. All the priority interventions are addressed in a culturally sensitive manner ensuring national ownership and leadership of development programmes. In light of the Iran's significant achievements in the area of population and RH, UNFPA's cooperation attaches priority to: sustaining the achievements of the past two decades with special focus on capacity development of local institutions; Bridging regional disparities in RH indicators; Improving quality of RH care and programme delivery in general; Addressing areas of ICPD Programme of Action which have not been adequately addressed, such as adolescent RH, HIV/AIDS, emerging population issues (aging, environment, urbanization, etc) and gender; Incorporating RH/FP issues to the Humanitarian programmes of the country including Emergency and Disaster plans; Promoting exchange of knowledge and experiences between Iran and other countries.

The 4th UNFPA Country Programme for Iran builds on previous achievements and contributes to enhancing the quality of life of the Iranian people. The goals of the programme are threefold:

- (A) increased availability of and access to quality reproductive health information and services;
- (B) improved production of gender-sensitive data and increasing national capacity to monitor the implementation of ICPD goals and MDGs; and
- (C) enhanced institutional mechanisms and socio-cultural practices that promote and protect the rights of women and girls and advance gender equity.

There are eight outputs and a number of interventions associated with the three goals as follows:

- Increased availability of quality RH services and commodities through: production of protocols and guidelines on safe motherhood and family planning; promoting the concept of mother-friendly hospitals; training of midwives and gynecologists on natural birth; and developing integrated monitoring and evaluation systems of RH services
- Improved youth friendly RH information and services through: development of national strategy and plan of action on adolescent reproductive health; developing and piloting youth -friendly RH services and supporting parent-student association
- Improved STI/HIV/AIDS information and services through: development of guidelines on STI prevalence assessment, management and reporting and promoting prevention of STI/HIV among high risk groups
- Increased awareness and capacity relating to RH, reproductive rights and gender issues
- Strengthened national capacity and preparedness to address RH concerns in emergency and post conflict situations through: development of a national plan of action and protocols on RH in emergencies, establishment of rapid response teams and stockpiling of emergency RH commodities and supplies
- Increased capacity to monitor ICPD goals and MDGs through: generating gender-sensitive data, harmonizing data systems and improving coverage and quality of vital statistics
- Research and training in population and development through development of research agenda in RH, population and gender and addressing emerging population issues and population dynamics and their linkages with sustainable development
- Evidence-based advocacy for legislation that protects against gender-based violence

These interventions are implemented at the national levels with a few pilots in selected geographical areas. The responsibility of implementing the programme rests with a number of Government institutions and Civil Society, such as the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, Statistical Centre of Iran, Civil Registration Organization, Tehran University and Shiraz University and the Organization on Defending Victims of Violence. In addition, UNFPA has succeeded to establish collaboration with the Parliament of the I.R. of Iran in the area of Population and Development. Upon establishment of the Population and Development Committee in the Parliament, both sides plan to focus their collaboration on addressing the changing population issues in Iran.

UNFPA attaches priority to documenting Iran's experience in the population field and promoting sharing of knowledge between Iran and other countries through south/south cooperation modalities including regional networks.

In November/December 1961, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the UN General Assembly adopted parallel resolutions establishing the World Food Programme (WFP). The three-year experimental programme was not due to enter into operation until January 1963. In reality it was up and running several months early, as an earthquake hit Iran, a hurricane swept through Thailand and newly independent Algeria was overwhelmed by five million returning refugees. Food aid was needed urgently and WFP was tasked to supply it.

Ever since its foundation in 1963, WFP headquarters has been based in Rome, Italy. WFP fights hunger in least-developed and low-income countries where victims of natural disasters, refugees, displaced people and the hungry poor face severe food shortages. The frontline stretches from sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East to Latin America and Asia Pacific.

Each year, on average, WFP feeds more than 90 million people in more than 70 countries.

The first ever WFP assisted emergency operation in Iran was directed to the victims of the earthquake which killed more than 12,000 people in the area of Boein Zahra, Qazvin Province in September 1962. WFP first opened an office in Iran in 1971 and was active in several projects concerning food assistance until 1979. Upon the request of the Government, WFP resumed activities in 1987 by providing food assistance to Afghan refugees and later to Iraqi refugees.

WFP is the food aid arm of the United Nations system. Food aid is one of the many instruments that can help to promote food security, which is defined as access of all people at all times to the food needed for an active and healthy life. The policies governing the use of World Food Programme food aid must be oriented towards the objective of eradicating hunger and poverty. The ultimate objective of food aid should be the elimination of the need for food aid.

WFP strategic objectives are:

- Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies;
- Prevent acute hunger and invest in disaster preparedness and mitigation measures;
- Restore and rebuild lives and livelihoods in post conflict, post-disaster or transition;
- Reduce chronic hunger and under-nutrition;
- Strengthen the capacities of countries to reduce hunger, through hand-over strategies and local purchase.

Private Sector Partnership

WFP welcomes new and innovative partnerships with the private sector. These partnerships align WFP's core strengths as the largest humanitarian agency with the expertise and strategic objectives of some of the world's most outstanding corporate citizens. In turn, by helping WFP, corporations can engage their employees, customers and stakeholders in a life-saving mission.

WFP is providing food assistance and education incentive for Afghan and Iraqi refugees in the Islamic Republic of Iran through a Protracted Relief and Recovery Programme (PRRO).

The food basket currently provided consists of wheat flour, rice, sugar, oil and pulses and is distributed on a monthly basis to up to 38,000 Afghan and Iraqi refugees living in 18 settlements.

Under this programme, approximately 2,500 refugee schoolgirls attending primary and secondary schools and 190 female teachers receive about 4 kg of vegetable oil per month as an education incentive.

WFP has continued to assist in emergency operations (EMOP) in Iran, the last of which was in December 2003 when a massive earthquake measuring 6.3 on the scale of Richter struck the historic city of Bam in Kerman province, in the Southeast of Iran. WFP provided emergency food assistance to up to 100,000 needy people who were living in Bam and its surrounding villages within a radius of 16 km. The EMOP 10332 was planned for a period of three months, during which time the beneficiaries were able to gradually re-establish their livelihoods or find other sources of support.

The World Health Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations. Founded in 1948, it works for the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Its constitution came into force on 7 April 1948, which is celebrated every year as the World health Day.

The collaboration between WHO and I.R.Iran started in 1955 through an agreement of cooperation. However, the collaboration was increased when the country office has become operational in 1984. Its main counterpart in Iran is the Ministry of Health and Medical Education, and the primary objective of this partnership is to provide technical support to the country, within the overall scope of WHO's global, regional and country priorities.

Definition and scope of health

Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. WHO recognizes that the health of all peoples is fundamental to the attainment of peace and security and is dependent upon fullest cooperation of individuals and states. The constitution of WHO states that "the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition".

WHO has six core function's built into its mandate:

- 1) Providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed;
- 2) Shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation and dissemination of valuable knowledge;
- 3) Setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation;
- 4) Articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options;
- 5) Providing technical support, catalyzing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity, and
- 6) Monitoring the health situation and assessing health needs.

Health in a changing global environment

The target year for achieving the improvements set out in the Millennium Development Goals is 2015, but the trends for goals relating to health are not encouraging. The missing elements can be summarized as:

- Gaps in social justices;
- Gaps in responsibility;
- Gaps in implementation; and
- Gaps in knowledge

The strategic directions of WHO's work in Iran (2010-2014) are as follows:

- 1) Improving Health Equity and Social Determinants;
- 2) Strengthening Primary Health Care;
- 3) Achieving universal coverage and improving equity in health care financing;
- 4) Enhancing capacities for improving leadership and governance;
- 5) Strengthening health security;
- 6) Managing the demographic and the epidemiological transition.
- 7) Strengthening partnership for development.

Highlights of WHO's current work in the country:

WHO current work is focussed on Development of Health Policy and Health Systems, Social Determinants of Health, Environmental Health, HIV/AIDS and Communicable Disease, Health Protection and Promotion, Emergency and Humanitarian Action and Advocacy and Knowledge Management.

Challenges:

- Risk of compromising the effectiveness of the welfare system due to policies influencing the country's socio-economical status and need of innovation according to demographic and epidemiological transition;
- Regional disparities in certain critical health indicators such as under five mortality and maternal mortality rates;
- Risk of importation of certain communicable diseases from neighboring countries that have been controlled in Iran;
- Coping with harmful effects of the epidemiological transition and rapid urbanization;
- Need to upgrade the PHC system to meet the expectations and needs of the communities in view of their evolving social and economic situation;
- Reform of health care financing to make it more equitable and efficient, improving the leadership and governance function of the health sector;
- Need to develop links and lines of communications with countries in the region and in the rest of the world;
- Promoting international human rights standards and principles and advocating for human rights as a common UN value in dialogue and interactions with national actors.



International Organization for Migration

History of Agency in the World and Iran

Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental partners. IOM is growing rapidly and currently count 132 states as members and further 97 states are holding observer status and it has 460 offices in over 100 countries.

IOM started its activities in Iran in July 1990 by focusing on evacuation of third country nationals caught in the Iraq-Kuwait conflict. By the end of 2000, IOM, jointly with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), repatriated approximately 370,000 Afghan nationals voluntarily to Afghanistan.

The Islamic Republic of Iran had joined IOM as an observer in 1995. Iran was accepted as a full member in IOM Governors Council in 2001. Since 2004, IOM has changed its refugee-oriented approach and adopted a guiding program/policy-oriented approach with the purpose of assisting Iran in migration management issues and tackling the new challenges the country is exposed to.

Priorities Globally and in Iran

With over half a century of experience and many field locations on every continent, IOM: Promotes good practice and the use of new technologies to facilitate legal migration and reduce irregular migration; Helps people to work and settle abroad, temporarily or permanently; Trains government officials in migration management; Supports international policy dialogue on migration among key stakeholders; Promotes awareness of international migration law and assists governments in the development of national migration legislation; Advocates the integration of migration in development planning and programs; Encourages links with diasporas, including through out-of country voting, knowledge and skill transfer programs, temporary and virtual returns, and remittance facilitation; Mounts mass information programs; Implements and advises on medical and public health programs; Assists victims of trafficking; Carries out post-emergency relief, rehabilitation and claim programs, and Conducts applied research.

IOM's strategic approach is now based on four pillars:

Capacity enhancement for government officials with respect to the most recent migration issues; Policy advocacy and identification and development of effective policies for addressing those challenges and to identify comprehensive approaches and measures for advancing international cooperation; Policy oriented research to further scrutinize migration related issues and develop appropriate policies, and Regional cooperation in order to contribute to the economic and social development of States through research, dialogue, design and implementation of migration-related programmes aimed at maximizing migration's benefits.



International Organization for Migration

Main projects/activities in Iran

In order for the Islamic Republic of Iran to benefit from international experiences in the area of migration management, IOM emphasizes the promotion of quality management potential and the perpetuation of broad-based strategies. To this end, the following activities have been undertaken:

- Technical cooperation with the government entities of the I.R. of Iran in the area of migration management;
- Voluntary return and reintegration;
- Facilitated movement service;
- Return and Reintegration of Qualified, Skilled and semi Skilled Afghan Nationals (RRQSA), and
- Cultural Orientation (CO).

*Note: While not part of the United Nations at the headquarters level, the International Organization for Migration operates as a member of the UN Country Team in its member states.





1-United Nations Resident Coordinator Office (UNRC)

Address: No. 8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darrou, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

P.O. Box 15874-4557, Tehran, Iran

Tel: (98-21) 2286 0691-4

Facsimile: (98-21) 2286 9547

E-mail: rc.office.iran@undp.org

website: www.un.org.ir

2-Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Address: Room 1701,17th Floor, Ministry of Jihad-e-Agriculture,Keshavarz Boulevard,Tehran, Iran

P.O. Box 15875/4557

Tel: (98-21) 8136 3701-2/8896 0731

Facsimile: (98-21) 8896 4104

E-mail: FAO-IR@fao.org

website: www.fao.org

3-Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

Address: United Nations Building No. 8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darrou, Tehran, Iran

P.O.Box: 15875/4557

Tel: (98-21) 2286 0691-4/2286 0925 - 8/2285 8950

Facsimile: (98-21) 2285 8951

E-mail: iran@unaids.org

website: www.unaids.ir

4-United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) Liaison Office

Address: United Nations Building No. 8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darrou, Tehran, Iran,

P.O. Box 15875/4557

Tel: (98-21) 2286 7968

Facsimile: (98-21) 2286 9187

E-mail: unama-iran@un.org

website: www.unama-afg.org

5-United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Address: No. 7, Nezami St., Ghoba St., Shariati Ave., Tehran 19449, Iran

P.O. Box 19395/1176

Tel: (98-21) 2259 4994

Facsimile: (98-21) 2259 4948

E-mail: tehran@unicef.org

website: www.unicef.org/iran

www.unicef.org/iran/fa

6-United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Address: United Nations Building No. 8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darrou, Tehran, Iran,

P.O. Box 15875/4557

Tel: (98-21) 2286 0691-4/2286 0925 - 8

Facsimile:(98-21) 2286 9547

E-mail: registry.ir@undp.org

website: www.undp.org.ir

7-United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Address: Bahman Building, Sa'adabad Cultural Complex, Darband Square, Tajrish Square, Tehran,

P.O. Box: 19894

Tel: (98-21) 2275 1315-7

Facsimile: (98-21) 2275 1318

E-mail: tehran@unesco.org

website: www.unesco.org

8-United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Address: No. 3, East Emdad St., North Shiraz Ave., Vanak Sq., Tehran, 19917

Tel: (98-21) 8805 7201-11

Facsimile: (98-21) 8805 7212

E-mail: irnte@unhcr.org

website: www.unhcr.org

9-United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Address: United Nations Building No. 8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darrou, Tehran, Iran,

P.O.Box 15875/4557

Tel: (98-21) 2286 691-4/2286 8044/ 2286 7693

Facsimile: (98-21) 2286 7362

E-mail: office.iran@unido.org

website: www.unido.org

10-United Nations Information Center (UNIC)

Address: United Nations Building No. 8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darrou, Tehran, Iran,

P.O. Box 15875/4557

Tel: (98-21) 2287 3837 (Direct)/2286 069-4/2286 0925-8

Facsimile: (98-21) 2287 3395

E-mail: unic.tehran@unic.org

website: www.unic-ir.org

11-United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Address: No. 2, Behesht Dead-end, Eram Alley, Vanak St., Vanak Square, Tehran

Tel: (98-21) 8887 8377-81

Facsimile: (98-21) 8879 6700

E-mail: fo.iran@unodc.org

website: www.unodc.org/iran

12-United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Address: United Nations Building No. 8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darrou, Tehran, Iran

P.O. Box 15875/4557

Tel: (98-21) 2286 0691 - 4 /2286 0925-8/ 2285 2583 (Programme)/2285 7110 (Adm./Fin)

Facsimile: (98-21) 2285 7485

E-mail: iran@unfpa.org

website: http://iran.unfpa.org

13-World Food Programme (WFP)

Address: United Nations Building No.8, Shahrzad Blvd., Darrou, Tehran, Iran,

P.O. Box 15875/4557

Tel: (98-21) 2286 7640/ 2286 7480 / 2286 3499

Facsimile: (98-21) 2286 3211

E-mail: wfp.tehran@wfp.org

website: www.fa.wfp.org

14-World Health Organization (WHO)

Address: 12th Floor, Building of the Ministry of Health & Medical Education,

Simaye-Iran Street, Phase 5, Shahrak-e-Qods, Tehran-1467664961

Islamic Republic of Iran

P.O. Box 14665/1565

Tel: (98-21) 88363979, 88363980, 88363718

Facsimile: (98-21) 8836 4100

E-mail: whoteh@ira.emro.who.int

website: www.who.int, www.emro.who.int/iran

www.whoiran.org

15-International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Address: No. 3, Ladan Alley, Khorsand St. Vali- e- Asr Ave., Tehran, IR Iran, 1966733111

Tel: (98-21) 22054244/22045364/22048886-7

Facsimile: (98-21) 22044929

E-mail: iomtehran@iom.int

website: www.iom.int