

Future Today: Empowering women, youth and children for deepening democracy in Armenia**Duration:** 01.01.2020 - 30.11.2023**Countries:**
Armenia**Total budget:** € 3 100 000**Implementer:**

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND, UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

**Project description:**

The FUTURE TODAY project is designed to enhance democracy in Armenia through the empowerment of women, promoting gender equality, strengthening youth and adolescent participation, ensuring inclusive engagement in all sectors of society and further expanding government accountability and transparency mechanisms. The project will work in an inclusive manner with children below 7 years and their parents, caregivers and teachers, girls and boys, women and men in 5 regions of Armenia. Some activities will be implemented on a broader national scale, while others will be concentrated in one or fewer regions.

Expected results:

The component "Increased trust in Government" will enhance open governance and broader civic participation. This component will build on the history of open government reforms in Armenia, expanding accountability and engaging new actors. The project will make sure that these initiatives are inclusive and available for all sectors of society. The project will help to implement Armenia's Open Governance Action Plan 2018-2020 and beyond with oversight over its implementation from Armenian women and men and civil society organisations. This will be done through introduction of online feedback loops for public services, as well as empowerment of all segments of citizenry to act proactively.

The component "Deepening civic engagement in Armenia" will expand the understanding of participatory democracy and tools to engage as an active citizen; empowering citizens to become knowledgeable about national and local governance processes, including key aspects of the political and national budget decision-making process; and supporting accountability at national and local levels. Through this component, we hope to ensure that citizens and civil society, including young Armenians, aged 12-18, provide their expertise and views to the government in the process of policy design and reform implementation.

Actions advancing gender equality and strengthening the civic participation of women will provide access to early