

EU DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

Ensuring EU Support for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Family Planning (SRH/FP)

EUROPE, A KEY PLAYER IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The European Union (EU) is a unique actor in the development cooperation field: contributions from EU institutions and its 28 Member States make it the biggest multilateral provider of Official Development Assistance (ODA) worldwide.

According to data from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), in 2016, the EU and its Member States reached the highest level recorded to date of ODA, amounting to **75.5 billion Euros** and representing an increase of 11% when compared to 2015¹. The European institutions alone remained the fourth biggest donor globally, with an indicative contribution of **15.6 billion Euros**, following the United States, Germany and the United Kingdom.

WHY IS EU SUPPORT FOR SRH/FP IMPORTANT?

The EU has been, and still is, one of the strongest supporters of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) overall, and Family Planning (FP) in particular. The EU institutions are committed to promoting SRHR in EU's international cooperation and development policy, as reflected in various major policy documents. Most notably, SRHR is recognised as an important area of investment in the 2017 European Consensus on Development, the main policy paper defining a shared vision and framework for action in development cooperation for the EU and its Member States and part of the political basis for the next 7-year EU budget (the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027). In the Consensus, the EU reaffirms its commitment to the "promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and to the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the outcomes of their review conferences and remains committed to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)"².

Moreover, the EU's promised to play a leading role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which also includes commitment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 3 and 5. Both goals clearly highlight the importance of universal access to SRH (target 5.6), including FP, information and education (target 3.7). Adding these commitments to the fact that the EU institutions are one of the biggest donors worldwide and the enormous needs on SRH/FP, it is crucial that the EU commitments are reflected in budget allocations and expenditure.

EUROPE'S SUPPORT TO SRH/FP IN 2016

According to the EU's "2017 Annual Report on the implementation of the European Union's instruments for financing external actions in 2016"⁴, the EU disbursed a total of **13.104 billion Euros of ODA**, in comparison to **10.36 billion Euros in 2015**. From these, **100 million Euros** were spent on population assistance and **854 million Euros** on health (over twice as much as in 2015). Disbursement to these two sectors hence increased in 2016, as did total ODA spending. African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) states received one third (**33 out of 100 million Euros**) of the total ODA for "population policies/programmes and reproductive health" from the EU institutions⁵.



INVESTING IN SRH/FP IS CRUCIAL:

EACH YEAR, IN DEVELOPING REGIONS²:

→ **MORE THAN 200 MILLION WOMEN** want to avoid pregnancy but do not have access to modern contraception

→ **MORE THAN 45 MILLION WOMEN** receive inadequate antenatal care, or none at all

→ **MORE THAN 30 MILLION WOMEN** deliver their babies outside of a health facility

EACH YEAR, WORLDWIDE:

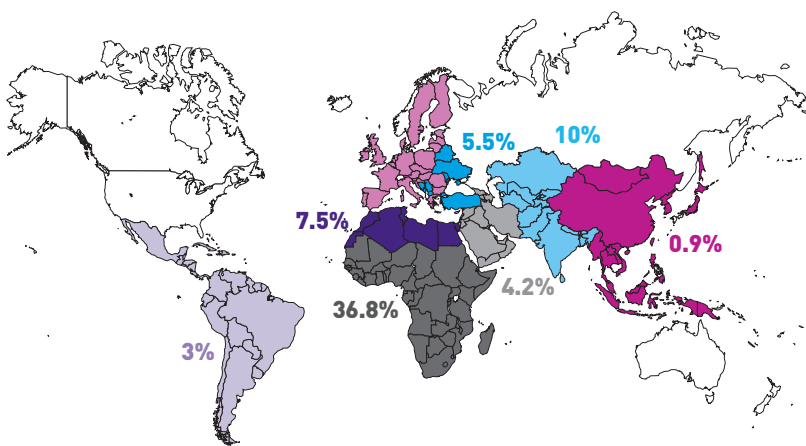
→ **AS MANY AS 180 MILLION COUPLES** MAY BE AFFECTED BY INFERTILITY

→ **APPROXIMATELY 266,000 WOMEN** DIE FROM CERVICAL CANCER

→ **303,000 WOMEN** DIE FROM CAUSES RELATED TO PREGNANCY OR CHILDBIRTH

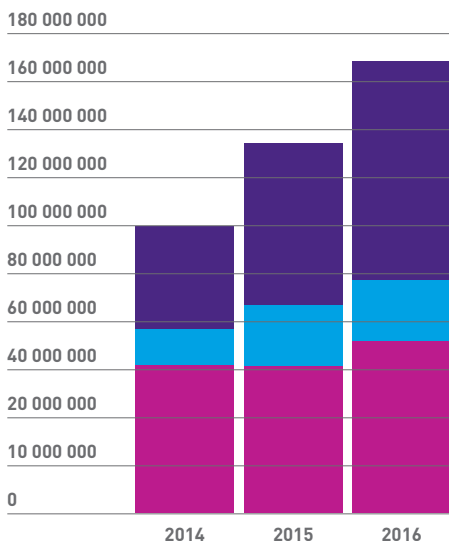
→ **AT SOME POINT IN THEIR LIVES, ABOUT ONE IN THREE WOMEN** EXPERIENCES GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, most often from an intimate partner.

EU INSTITUTIONS' REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION POLICIES/PROGRAMMES AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AID IN 2016⁶



- Sub-Saharan Africa
- South and Central Asia
- North Africa
- East and South Europe
- Middle East
- Latin America
- Far East Asia
- European Union

EU INSTITUTIONS' DISBURSEMENTS TO SRH/FP UNDER THE CURRENT MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK (MFF) 2014-2020



- **Core Multilateral Funding for FP**, represents contributions to UNICEF, UN Women, UNDP, WHO, World Bank, UNAIDS.
- **Earmarked Multilateral for SRH/FP**, representing contributions to UNFPA.
- **Specific SRH/FP organisations & initiatives**: This data has been drawn from EU's CORDIS.

METHODOLOGY

These multilateral funding figures depict contributions drawn from annual reports of international organisations (UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, UNDP) to which weighted percentages have been applied, based on method agreed between UNFPA and the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI). This analysis is part of the Countdown 2030 Europe annual tracking.

DISBURSEMENT VALUE IN EUR

KEY SOURCES/DOCUMENTS:

- Lisbon Treaty: the main legal EU framework
- European Consensus on Development Cooperation
- Cotonou Agreement: overall agreement between EU and African, Caribbean and Pacific states
- Agenda for Change - European Commission document on the future of EU development policy
- 2017 Annual Report on the implementation of the European Union's instruments for financing external actions in 2016
- OECD DAC Development Co-operation Report 2017
- Accelerate progress—sexual and reproductive health and rights for all: report of the Guttman-Lancet Commission

1. <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/-/EDN-20170817-1?inheritRedirect=true>
2. <http://www.who.int/pmnch/media/news/2018/guttman-lancet-commission/en/>
3. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/european-consensus-on-development-final-20170626_en.pdf
4. https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/2017-annual-report-implementation-european-unions-instruments-financing-external-actions-2016_en
5. OECD definition of "population policies/programmes and reproductive health": <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/aidtohealth.htm>
6. Source: OECD database: <http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=CRS1>

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EU

In the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF), **THE EU MUST INCLUDE EARMARKED FUNDING FOR SRHR, INCLUDING FAMILY PLANNING**, in accordance with the 2017 European Consensus on Development, regardless of the format that will be chosen for the "external action" instrument(s), either through:

→ **AN EXPLICIT SRHR BUDGET LINE**

OR

→ **SRHR AS AN OBJECTIVE UNDER VARIOUS BUDGET LINES (HEALTH, EDUCATION, YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS, GENDER).**

This should be done through both thematic and geographic programmes.

REGARDLESS OF HOW SRHR WILL BE TACKLED IN TERMS OF BUDGET LINES, THE EU SHOULD HAVE A SPECIFIC COMMITMENT IN TERMS OF FUNDING LEVELS, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT SRHR ARE CONSISTENTLY TAKEN UP EVERY YEAR THROUGHOUT 2021-2027.



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