



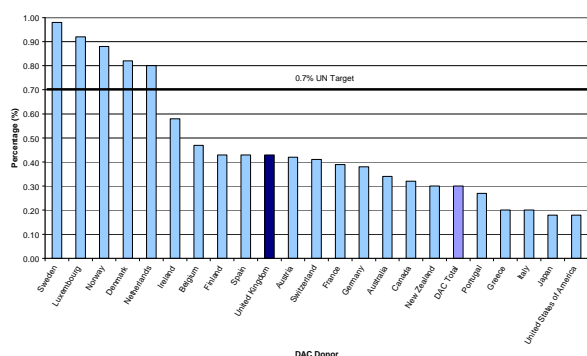
ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP ON POPULATION DEVELOPMENT AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

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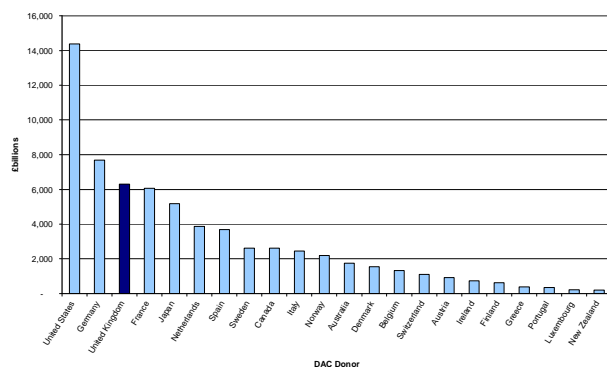
FUNDING

DfID Official Development Assistance

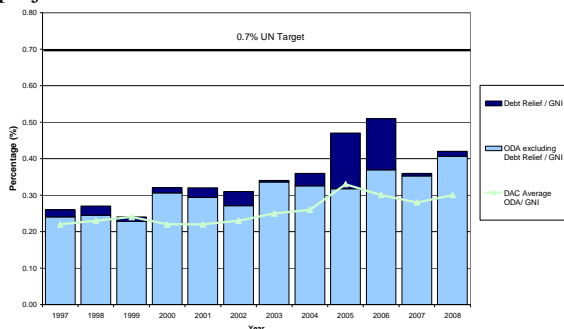
Provisional Net ODA/GNI ratios for DAC donors 2008



Provisional Net ODA from DAC Donors to Developing Countries 2008



ODA/GNI ratios for the UK 1997-2008 and projections to 2010



DfID bilateral expenditure directly targeting reproductive health has increased from £ 41.4 million in 2002/2003 to £108.8 million in 2008/2009.

DfID core funding to UNFPA for 2008 – 2011 started at £20 million in 2008/09 and increase to £23.74 million in 2010/11. In October 2007 an additional £100 million was

pledged to UNFPA over five years for reproductive health commodities.

In 2008 DfID approved IPPF core funding for five years of £8.5 million each year.

Belgium meets ODA of 0.7% of GNI

The Belgian Government has met the United Nations goal to provide 0.7% of GNI to International Development, earning it membership of the so-called '0.7% Group'. Luxembourg, Sweden, Denmark and Norway are among the European nations that also spend at least 0.7% of GNI on International Development.

Danish Government approve €4.4 million to Marie Stopes International

The grant will support MSI's voluntary contraception and safe abortion services until September 2011.

LEGISLATION/POLICIES

Important Council of Europe victory on International Conference on Population and Development at 15 Report

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, representing Europe's 47 Member States has adopted a landmark resolution and Report on ICPD at 15.

The Report was written by UK MP Christine McCafferty and was the subject of the most aggressive anti-choice campaign ever witnessed in the Council of Europe. The voting had to be re-scheduled twice, the representative of the Holy See formally protested against the report and a band of anti-choice, parliamentarians from Italy, Ireland, Malta and San Marino introduced over 60 anti-choice amendments for the plenary debate. In the voting all amendments were soundly defeated and the report overall gained a significant majority of over 2/3 of votes cast, meaning that it will be sent to the Committee of Ministers for formal consideration and a response. While Parliamentary Assembly Resolutions are non-binding, they do offer crucial benchmarks by which the performance of

Council of Europe Member States can be measured.

The full report is available on below link:
<http://assembly.coe.int/Main.asp?link=/Documents/WorkingDocs/Doc09/EDOC11992.htm>

Bangladesh to introduce family planning policy

Bangladesh is going to introduce "one couple, one child" population planning policy soon without making it mandatory in a bid to contain the growing population of the country which is creating pressure on basic rights of people like education, health, housing and food.

The directorate drafted the policy to popularise the slogan "*No more than two children, one is best,*" an official said. Couples having one child would be given preferences in different state services like financial grants and other areas.

"We are eager to develop relationship with Chinese population planning authorities for training our men, using modern contraceptive and other related matters," an official said.

Bangladesh is the most densely populated country in the world with more than 1,000 people living in one square kilometre area, and the population growth rate is now at 1.39%. According to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimate, Bangladesh's population is now at 162.2 million though the Bangladeshi government estimates it at 140 million.

HUMAN RIGHTS

European Parliament - Clear Legal Basis Needed To Combat Violence Against Women.

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on a Europe-wide legal basis for dealing with violence against women, especially domestic violence, with recommendations including automatic prosecution.

The resolution recognises the main cause of male violence is due to the unequal power relations between men and women, and seeks to do away with all culturally based mitigating factors e.g. in the case of FGM, honor crimes and forced marriages.

According to the resolution, sexual violence should be recognised as a crime by all EU

Member States, and offenders should automatically be prosecuted.

Furthermore, the resolution calls for a targeted and coherent EU policy plan to combat all forms of violence against women, as stated in the EU Roadmap for Equality between women and men.

Direct Link to European Parliament Resolution on Violence Against Women -
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2009-0098+0+DOC+XML+V0//EN&language=EN>

By 2015 FGM will be outlawed in Uganda

The Ugandan Parliament has passed a Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Bill. The law outlaws the practice which is mainly carried out in eastern Uganda among the Sabiny in Kapchorwa and Bukwo districts and the Pokot in Amudat District.

It now awaits presidential assent to become an Act of Parliament.

End of FGM campaign event will be co-hosted with FORWARD on 22nd March, 09:00 – 11:00, Jubilee Room, HoC.

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Manifesto for Motherhood

A number of UK based NGOs have produced a manifesto for the Next UK Government to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth safe and every child healthy and it reads:

1. Scale up financing for maternal, newborn and child health

- Ensure the UK spend 0.7% of GNI on ODA by 2013, and enshrine this target in law.
- Ensure ODA is long term and predictable.
- Focus ODA where mortality rates are highest, such as in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia, as well as on fragile states.
- Support the Currency Transaction Levy and other innovative financing mechanisms to increase funding including for social determinants of Health.

2. Place maternal, newborn and child health at the heart of health system Strengthening

- Make maternal, newborn and child mortality key indicators of DfID's performance on health system strengthening and improve transparency on how UK health aid is leading to progress in these areas.
- Advocate for the inclusion of robust targets on maternal, newborn and child health in national health strategies, and support countries to overcome barriers to progress among the poorest, most vulnerable and marginalised people.
- Assist countries to develop and implement costed national human resource plans including recruitment and training of skilled birth attendants, midwives, obstetricians, paediatricians, clinical officers and community health workers.
- Actively encourage civil society participation in health system strengthening and support sustainable and resilient community responses to improving maternal, newborn and child health including monitoring health systems and holding service providers to account.
- Strongly discourage any promotion of user fees in international institutions like the World Bank and support developing countries to make healthcare free at the point of use.
- Push for a focus on maternal, newborn and child health within the new WHO-coordinated Health Systems Strengthening Platform.

3. Realise the UK's international commitments on sexual and reproductive health and rights and advocate for other countries to do the same

- Continue work to increase global recognition of MDG5b as well as the commitments contained in the ICPD Programme of Action and the Beijing Platform for Action, among developing country governments, donors and the international community.

- Encourage governments to protect, respect and fulfil women's rights and sexual and reproductive health and rights - including the rights of adolescents - in line with their international commitments.
- Increase UK funding for the realisation of sexual and reproductive health and rights and provide data on how DfID's health systems expenditure is improving sexual and reproductive health and rights. Actively support the integration of sexual and reproductive health and rights and HIV services in international institutions and at country level.
- Support popular education on health related rights, including sexual and reproductive rights.
- Increase funding and capacity building support to community-based organisations, NGOs and networks focused on securing women's rights.

New research on the new emergency contraceptive pill ellaOne®.

New research published in The Lancet shows that ellaOne® (ulipristal acetate) is effective in preventing pregnancies. The advantage of ellaOne is that it can be taken for up to five days after unprotected sex. The five day window may be beneficial to women who can not access emergency contraception promptly, for example women who have unprotected sex whilst on holiday or over the weekend when doctors surgeries and pharmacies may be closed.

For references and more information contact: APPG Population, Development and Reproductive Health Parliamentary and Policy Advisor Ann Mette Kjaerby, e-mail: kjaerbym@parliament.uk or telephone: 0207 219 2492 ☺