



Tracking What Counts

A Trends Analysis of European Donor
Support to Sexual & Reproductive Health
and Rights & Family Planning

2023 / 2024

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Setting the scene

Countdown 2030 Europe is the 'go-to' cross-country sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) expert Consortium in Europe seeking to increase European SRHR funding in international cooperation and strengthen political support for sexual and reproductive freedom worldwide. The Consortium is made up of 15 European non-governmental organisations and is coordinated by IPPF European Network. To support these advocacy and accountability efforts, partners track since 2009 yearly policy and financial trends specifically for sexual and reproductive health and family planning (SRH/FP) in their respective countries. In 2021, the Consortium started assessing European donors' support to the broader SRHR agenda, allowing to further align this exercise with donors' vision. Please see Annex 1 for information on the methodology. This report presents the outcomes of the policy and financial tracking of both SRH/FP and SRHR for the year 2023-2024¹.

What do we mean by:

- SRH/FP: in line with the categories of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and its Programme of Action, this includes essential interventions as part of comprehensive reproductive health care, namely voluntary family planning, safe pregnancy and childbirth services;
- SRHR: in line with the Guttmacher-Lancet Commission (GLC), it includes SRH/FP; HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), as per the ICPD costed package; prevention and integrated responses to SGBV; comprehensive sexuality education (CSE); initiatives specifically targeting the health and rights of LGBTIQ+ people; safe abortion; other initiatives to foster human rights-based, gender-responsiveness, intersectionality and change of social norms in relation to SRH/FP.

More information can be found in the methodology annex.

C2030E would like to acknowledge the colonial past of many European countries we work in and considers it vital to address the present global legacy of such history. In the framework of past and present global power imbalances, the Consortium views European donor governments' Official Development Assistance (ODA) as a critical contribution to foster and strengthen collaborative partnerships towards mutually beneficial goals such as global stability, prosperity, equity and the full realisation of human rights. By supporting equitable international cooperation in partner countries, European governments can take responsibility, honour our shared history and build relationships rooted in solidarity, while helping to create a better future for everyone.

Highlights on European donors' most recent funding and policy trends

2023-2024 was a period marked by two acute crises across the globe: climate and conflict. If the previous years had tested the human capacity to overcome one of the fiercest pandemics the world has faced, we now more than ever face the need to be reliable and find ways to deal with these two escalating human-made crises that respect no borders nor the integrity of sectors.

This is a scenario of upheaval and disarray. Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022², which had a global impact on food and energy poverty, in 2023, after the October 7th Hamas attack, Israel invaded the Gaza Strip³ causing an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe, for which the International Court of Justice has already issued three orders of provisional measures to prevent the commission of acts within the scope of the Genocide Convention⁴. Over the past year, thousands of Palestinian women and children have been killed or forcibly displaced, while famine, lack of clean water, electricity, basic medical supplies and the destruction of the entire healthcare system in Gaza add further unbearable human suffering to an area of already protracted humanitarian crisis caused by decades of Israeli colonial control, occupation and blockade. Renewed tensions in the Middle East, involving also Lebanon and Iran, add to the numerous protracted emergencies across the globe, such as those in Syria, Somalia, Sudan, Haiti, Yemen, Afghanistan, among many others, which are at the risk of becoming neglected or forgotten. As the world faces the most active conflicts since the Second World War, the erosion of international norms is more acute than ever, leading to the plight of millions of people that hardly make international headlines. In this dire context, European governments must stand for global solidarity, justice and human rights, proactively call for ceasefires and speak up against all violations of international humanitarian and human rights laws, regardless of who the perpetrator is or where this happens.

1. Financial data presented in this report corresponds to 2023, while policy updates already reflect changes from 2024. The exception is the UK, whose reporting period refers to the country's financial year 2023-2024 (12 months). For more information, please see Annex 1.
2. For more information about the SRHR impacts of the war in Ukraine and C2030E's key asks, please see [here](#) and [here](#).
3. For more information about the SRHR impacts of the crisis in Gaza and C2030E's key asks, please see [here](#).
4. For more information, see the ICJ website [here](#).

At the same time, 2023 and 2024 were the warmest years on record. The impacts of the climate crisis are felt across the spectrum, from displacement to livelihoods loss, food insecurity, health challenges and losses of lives. No one is immune to this phenomenon, for which scientific evidence has existed for decades, without unfortunately triggering an adequate response, especially from High-Income Countries, who are largely reliable for this crisis. Some countries and communities therein are more prepared than others to cope with the burden of climate change, with those that contributed least to it being the most severely affected by its impacts and the most deprived of resources to cope with it. The climate crisis is thus underpinned by grave injustice. It is indicative of how entrenched inequalities stemming from deeply unjust global power relations and societal structures compound to further restrain access to resources and opportunity. All countries should identify a path towards a climate-neutral future, but with very different levels of liability – the European donors analysed by this report are no exception. Addressing this fight will require fundamental shifts in distribution of resources, voice, and decision-making power among countries and across societies.

2024 was also considered by many as ‘the’ year of elections, with countries representing about half of the world population going to the polls. Europe was no exception, with people in some of the main European SRHR donors going to vote, namely France, the UK, Belgium, the EU institutions, and Ireland; and with elections in Germany scheduled for the very beginning of 2025. Given the increasing surge in far-right parties across the globe, 2024 paradoxically became a stress test for the very democratic system enabling elections. The outcomes of this year of ballots, which brought into power right-wing extremism in several geographies, while confirming more centrist approaches in others, will set the geopolitical agenda for the coming years. The stakes are high for newly elected leaders and how they will influence crucial global challenges, such as international cooperation, and humanitarian and climate crises.

Ultimately, all these events represent a threat to the rights, freedom and sexual and reproductive autonomy of entire populations. This is telling considering that 2024 celebrated thirty years of the groundbreaking landmark International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), during which the world agreed that sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights are setting stones of global development. In a year of reflection on whether progress has advanced enough, it is possible to conclude that building equitable systems able to mitigate the impact of multiple crisis and unravel inequality has become a running battle, but the most important to fight in the years to come.

According to [UNFPA](#), about 218 million women and girls in low-and-middle-income countries (LMICs) are still grappling with an unmet need for contraception.

The agency also states that spending an additional 244 billion Euros on family planning, maternal health, and countering harmful traditional practices and SGBV by 2030⁵ (which corresponds to the Three Transformative Results), would avert 400 million unintended pregnancies, save the lives of 1 million mothers and 4 million newborns, avert 20 million cases of FGM and 230 of child marriage, and generate almost 6 trillion Euros in economic benefits by 2050. Instead, donors across the globe are projected to provide only 42 billion Euros to these areas by 2030⁶.

Considering the start of a second Trump administration in the US from 2025 and the subsequent reinstatement and expansion of the Global Gag Rule, funds to advance universal access to SRHR will be dramatically reduced, putting many further millions of lives at risk. (For an analysis of the impact of the second Trump administration on SRHR, read the C2030E briefing [here](#))

Everyone in society has the right to live with dignity and it is our collective responsibility to ensure that this is a universal standard. More than ever, we need to focus on redesigning social and health systems to withstand shockwaves and leave no one behind. This is why Europe’s commitments and resolve shouldn’t waver in the face of crises and more importantly people’s dignity and bodily autonomy should remain a priority. In challenging times, European governments should, on the contrary, show increased solidarity with the broader world and play their part in building more equal and just partnerships with countries still enduring the harmful impact of historical and present power imbalances.

This report shows that, faced with this complex reality, European governments have the resources to step up Official Development Assistance (ODA) and significantly support SRHR therein. **In 2023, European donors kept the same level of investments in SRH/FP, amounting to 1.661 billion Euros** through all funding streams (core funding to multilaterals + project funding to multilaterals + funding to international organisations/initiatives/research + government-to-government cooperation).

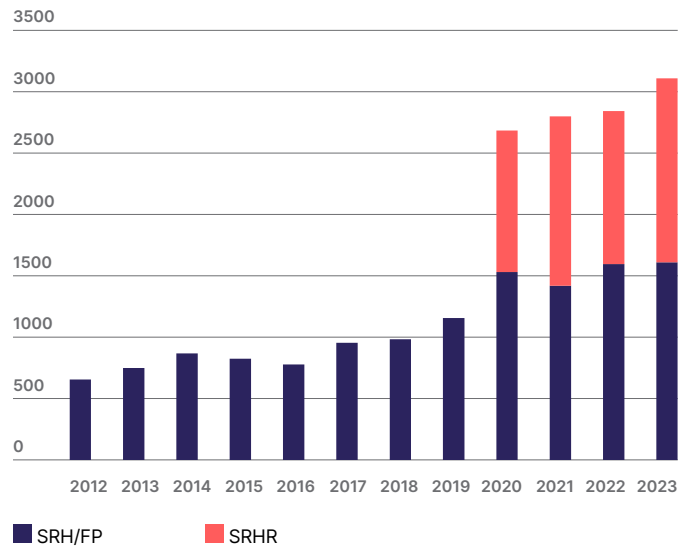
5. UNFPA considers that the total amount needed to end preventable maternal death would be almost 107 billion Euros, 63 billion to end the unmet need for FP, 35 billion to fight FGM and child marriage and 39 billion to end other forms of GBV. Figures converted with exchange rate 1 EUR = 1,0813 USD.

6. Figures converted with exchange rate 1 EUR = 1,0813 USD.

The level of funding to overall SRHR in 2023 has increased by 10% compared to the previous year, amounting to 3.205 billion Euros. Such findings reverse the trends from last year, when European donors had scaled up investment on SRH/FP but kept support to SRHR at the same level as in 2021. However, the report shows for the first time since measuring SRHR funding (2020), that the number of countries decreasing funding in this area is actually higher than the one of those who are increasing it. Of relevance is also the fact that, while overall ODA reached a peak in 2023, this report shows that investments in both SRH/FP and SRHR represented mostly the same ratio as in the past, leaving space to do much more.

This report analyses 2023 funding data and 2024 political stances adopted by thirteen European governments and the EU institutions. As such, it assesses changes in SRH/FP and SRHR funding for those specific donors and for the period at stake only – with other possible trends being observable only in the longer run.

Figure 1 Variance over time (million Euros)



Section 1 of this report introduces a qualitative perspective on the **policy trends**, drawing out key events and important dynamics influencing resource flows from European donors.

Section 2 looks at where European **funding** is going, in support to both SRH/FP and SRHR.

Section 3 links European donors’ support to SRHR in relation to **other political priorities**.

Section 4 analyses whether European donors are on track to implement their **international commitments**.

Section 5 concludes by highlighting key issues to consider in the year ahead based on this trend analysis and the available **forecasts**.



1

Policy trends & highlights

2023-24 snapshot



5 ELECTIONS



10 NEW POLICY DOCUMENTS

With 4 countries plus the European Union (EU) going to the polls, Europe contributed to 2024 being 'the' year of elections. This was yet again **A YEAR OF POLITICAL CHANGE**, resulting in conservative parties gaining power and a general shift to the right across the continent, but also some progressive ones recovering it.

In 2024, Belgium, France, Ireland, and the UK held general elections. 2024 was also a year of EU elections, resulting in the appointment of new EU institutions.

→ In June 2024 the tenth direct elections to the **European Parliament** (EP) took place. Far right or populist radical right parties made gains in several countries, producing a general shift to the right in the European Parliament, and even though these still fell short from some pre-election forecasts. The three main pro-EU groups, namely the European People's Party (EPP), the Socialists and Democrats (S&D) and Renew Europe, maintained a majority of the 720 seats of the EP. The far-right nonetheless made huge gains with this election: a new European political family was created under the leadership of Hungarian President Viktor Orban, called the 'Patriots for Europe' (sovereignists and nationalist parties), who became the third biggest political family in the EP, closely followed by the ECR (far-right) who also gained substantially compared to 2019. A third far-right group, 'Europe of Sovereign Nations' was also founded and became the smallest political group of the new Parliament. Ursula von der Leyen was re-elected as the President of the European Commission, while the portfolio for International Partnerships was appointed to Jozef Síkela, former Czech Minister for Industry and Trade.

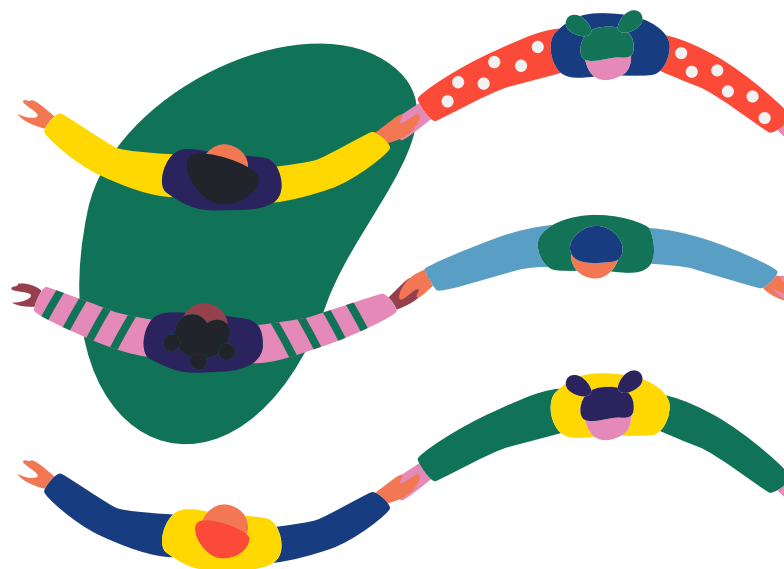
→ At the same time, **Belgium** had the so-called 'super Sunday', compiling regional, national and European elections. The results confirmed the long-standing position of the conservative New Flemish Alliance as the largest parliamentary party, and led to the resignation of Prime Minister Alexander De Croo. Since then, Belgium has a caretaker government. At the time of writing, negotiations for a new government are ongoing. Previous development Minister Caroline Gennez moved to a position at the Flemish level, so the Minister of Health has taken over international cooperation under this caretaker government.

→ After the far-right came in first place in the 2024 European elections, French President Emmanuel Macron decided to dissolve the National Assembly. The **French** general elections resulted in the victory of the leftist coalition (NFP), over the far-right, who came second, and the presidential party. Macron nonetheless appointed conservative Michel Barnier, whose government was ousted after three months in office. The French President subsequently appointed centrist François Bayrou as a successor, who became the fourth French prime minister in 2024.

→ In July, **the UK** held a general election which saw a change in government for the first time in 14 years, with the Labour party winning a landslide majority. There is a new Foreign Secretary and Minister for Development, who both attend cabinet.

→ **Ireland** had a general election in November 2024. As a result, the two major centre-right parties Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil, will once again form a coalition, with either another smaller party or a group of independents. At the time of writing, negotiations are ongoing.

Despite these political changes, European donors continued to be vocal about the importance of SRHR for sustainable development.



European voices for SRHR within the broader international cooperation arena

European countries and institutions remain vocal about prioritising SRHR within the SDGs⁷. In 2024, Spain carried out its Voluntary National Reviews (VNR), a regular follow-up of progress towards the Goals. In its report, the country confirms that sexual and reproductive rights are a fundamental part of human rights, given the perspective of both public health and gender equality, and as outlined in its Law 1/2023 on Sustainable Development Cooperation and Global Solidarity.

2024 celebrated the **30th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development**, which offered a renewed opportunity for European donors to take stock of progress and boldly recommit to the agenda. In addition to several global and regional dialogues, and subsequent set of recommendations, such as the Cotonou Youth Action Agenda⁸, the fifty-seventh session of CPD was thus dedicated to ‘Assessing the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development’. At CPD, Belgium delivered a statement on behalf of the EU and its Member States, which confirmed their recommitment ‘to the ICPD Programme of Action centred around the rights of all persons’. As part of the elements considered to be worth renewed attention, Belgium emphasised ‘human rights, eliminating all forms of discrimination, sexual- and gender-based violence, youth, adolescents, maternal health, HIV services, child and forced marriage, and marginalised communities’. In CPD’s final Declaration, Governments committed to ‘Renew our determination to advance the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Programme of Action, to address its unfinished business with a sense of urgency, duty and responsibility’. To be noted that the 2022-2023 Tracking What Counts report had shown that overall European governments were mostly on track with what they had financially promised to deliver during the 25th anniversary of the ICPD Programme of Action in 2019. However, the multiple global crises after that milestone anniversary led to exacerbated needs and inequalities that were not sufficiently addressed by those pledges. The 30th anniversary of ICPD however did not welcome any new financial commitments.

In 2024, Norway hosted the **8th International Parliamentarians’ Conference on the Implementation of the ICPD Action Programme**. As a result, 172 parliamentarians from 112 countries issued a forward-looking inclusive Declaration confirming their commitment to upholding universal SRHR. In the Oslo Statement of Commitment, the parliamentarians recognized the ICPD Programme of Action as ‘a beacon of hope’, and celebrated the progress that has been in terms of the self-empowerment and self-determination of women and girls in the three decades since it was adopted, while acknowledging growing threats to these gains.

The **68th annual Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68)** had the theme ‘Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective’. Sweden delivered a statement that stressed the importance of safe and legal abortion, contraception and comprehensive sexuality education. In its Agreed Conclusions, Governments underlined, among others, ‘the need for ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education’. The session also led to the adoption of a Resolution on women, the girl child and HIV and AIDS, which includes several calls to accelerate efforts to promote access to SRH.

At the **UN General Assembly**, the UK delivered a Joint Statement on the 30th Anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development. In this declaration, all 13 European countries reaffirmed their commitment to ICPD and its principles and called ‘on everyone – Member States, the UN system, civil society, private sector, young people – to unite around a renewed dedication to accelerating the implementation of the Programme of Action’. The EU also delivered its own statement, on behalf of the EU and its Member States, and with the alignment of candidate countries, recommitting to the ICPD Programme of Action.

7. Within the SDGs, SRH/FP is explicitly mentioned in Target 3.7 within the Health Goal, and Target 5.6 within the Gender Equality Goal. In addition, progress in SRH/FP indirectly contributes to the achievement of many other goals. Further correlations between these can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
8. The Cotonou Youth Action Agenda is a key tool for youth engagement and involvement in the ICPD agenda moving forward.

2024 was also stage to the **'Summit of the Future: Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow'**, a high-level event with leaders around the world to discuss the growing importance of effective global cooperation given the current context of distrust and obsolete governance. Some European countries delivered statements at the Summit, with Ireland and the Netherlands including specific reference to the fight against gender inequality. The Summit led to the adoption of the **'Pact for the Future'** and its two annexes, **'The Global Digital Compact'** and the **'Declaration of Future Generations'**. The Pact includes specific commitments to promoting universal SRH and reproductive rights, in line with the ICPD Programme of Action, and to accelerate action to fight SGBV and conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). Furthermore, the resolution also reconfirms Governments' commitment to the Beijing Declaration.

In 2024, the **G7 Leaders' Statement**, whose Presidency was held by Italy, confirmed the commitment to 'applying a gender transformative, multi-sector approach to our foreign policy, humanitarian aid, and development cooperation'. The Statement failed however to include any reference to SRHR, given the far-right profile of the Italian government. Despite this absence from the Statement, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights was mentioned in both the G7 Equal opportunities and Gender equality and Health Communiqués. The former also specifically mentioned support to UN programmes relevant for SRHR, such as the Spotlight Initiative, the UNFPA/UNICEF Joint Programme on the "Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Accelerating the elimination of an extreme form of violence against girls" and the UNFPA/UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage.

European policies on SRHR

10 new European policy documents that include commitments to SRHR were endorsed in 2024:

Finland

- **Report on Foreign and Security Policy:** As an outline of Finland's international cooperation and ODA throughout the governmental period, it includes women and girls' rights and SRHR as a first development policy priority.

- **Report on International Economic Relations and Development Cooperation:** Complements the Report on Foreign and Security Policy and it also includes women and girls' rights and SRHR as a first development policy priority.

Italy

- **Cooperation and gender equality, Annual Report 2023:** Confirms that the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) has strengthened its actions aimed at preventing the phenomena of harassment, abuse and sexual exploitation in humanitarian contexts.

The Netherlands

- **Global Health Strategy (2023 – 2030):** SRHR is firmly embedded as a priority within this strategy.

Norway

- **Humanitarian strategy:** Commits to giving high priority to measures that promote SRH services in humanitarian crises.

- **Strategy for Norwegian engagement with African countries:** States the need for increased focus over SRHR and SGBV in the context of Norwegian partnerships with African countries.

Spain

- **Report on the implementation of Action Plan for Feminist Foreign Policy 2023-2024:** Confirms that ensuring SRHR has been an important line of action on the Feminist Foreign Agenda in various sectors and geographic areas, linked to gender equality.

- **Master Plan for the implementation of the Law on Cooperation for Sustainable Development and Global Solidarity:** Includes SRHR as one of the basic principles and objectives of Spanish international cooperation.

Switzerland

- **Foreign Policy Strategy 2024-2027:** Includes health as a new priority, strongly connected to gender equality and SRHR/FP.

- **Swiss Strategy on International Cooperation for the years 2025 to 2028:** Includes health as a new priority, strongly connected to gender equality and SRHR/FP.

The overview of these new policies reflects European donors' continuous focus on the inclusion of SRHR in their international cooperation plans.



Erica Borgato

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Where is the money going?

WHO IS TRACKED?



14 EUROPEAN DONORS: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, and the EU institutions. These are the donors where C2030E has partners that can directly access financial data.

WHAT IS TRACKED?



ODA DISBURSEMENTS TO:

- **SRH/FP**, in line with the [categories](#) of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and its Programme of Action, this includes essential interventions as part of comprehensive reproductive health care, namely voluntary family planning, safe pregnancy and childbirth services;
- **SRHR**, in line with the [Guttmacher-Lancet Commission \(GLC\)](#), this includes SRH/FP; HIV/AIDS and other STIs, as per the ICPD costed package; prevention and integrated responses to SGBV; comprehensive sexuality education (CSE); initiatives specifically targeting the health and rights of LGBTIQ+ people; safe abortion; other initiatives to foster human rights-based, gender-responsiveness, intersectionality and change of social norms in relation to SRH/FP.

CALCULATED AND PRESENTED IN:

- **absolute numbers** (million Euros)
- **as a % of ODA** (this allows for an enriched depiction of cross-country and cross-years comparison of the political weight attributed to the SRH/FP and SRHR agenda)

DATA SOURCE?



MOSTLY PRIMARY DATA: Direct governments' contacts, donors' own reporting through national databases or a mix of both.

- Belgium: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Denmark: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Finland: [online database](#) and government contacts
- France: government contacts
- Germany: budgets and government contacts. Also counts with an [online database](#)
- Ireland: government contacts
- Italy: government contacts
- The Netherlands: [online database](#) and budgets
- Norway: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Spain: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Sweden: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Switzerland: government contacts. Also counts with an [online database](#)
- The UK: [online database](#) and government contacts
- The EU institutions: [online database](#)

HOW IS TRACKED (METHODOLOGY)



CORE MULTILATERAL

Calculates a five-year trend of OECD-DAC coefficients from agency's own reporting against relevant sector codes, with a few exceptions, including data directly provided by UNFPA for SRH/FP (please refer to the methodology for more information on other exceptions). Applies such coefficient to the amount of core funding allocated by each donor government to each of the following agencies.

For 2023:

- UNFPA (SRH/FP 75.3% | SRHR 100%)
- WHO (SRH/FP 4% | SRHR 5.8%)
- WB-IDA (SRH/FP 0.8% | SRHR 1.1%)
- UNICEF (SRH/FP 1.7% | SRHR 3.8%)
- UNAIDS (SRH/FP 0% | SRHR 100%)
- GFATM (SRH/FP 5% | SRHR 50%)

EARMARKED MULTILATERAL

- Analyses individual projects/programmes and only accounts for those proven to specifically contribute to SRH/FP and SRHR

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND RESEARCH

- Includes international organisations or platforms, such as the IPPF, MSI, GFF, Amplify Change, among others; donor-country based NGO; NGOs based in partner countries; grassroots organisations; companies; universities and even agencies from other European donors, in the context of delegated cooperation.
- Analyses individual projects/programmes and only accounts for amounts disbursed to a given organisations that are proven to specifically contribute to SRH/FP and SRHR.

GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT

- Identifies contributions directly channelled to public organisations of partner countries, such as Ministries or agencies, reported as specifically contributing to SRH/FP and SRHR.

CURRENCY



EUR: Currency of the majority of the donors to limit conversion inaccuracies.

For further details, consult the methodology section in Annex 1 of this report.

The Tracking What Counts report presents the data collected around European donor funding for SRH/FP and SRHR focusing on overall funding through all streams, both in absolute and in relative terms as a percentage of ODA, and zooming into multilateral funding,

within which it specifically highlights contributions to UNFPA. Based on these focus areas, the table below provides a snapshot of the report findings, which will be further elaborated in the following sections:

EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS' SUPPORT IN 2023			
<p>① Funding through all streams: This includes core funding to multilaterals + project funding to multilaterals + funding to international organisations/initiatives/research + government-to-government cooperation.</p> <p>② Donors' spending as a percentage of ODA: This allows for an enriched depiction of cross-country and cross-years comparison of the political weight attributed to the SRH/FP and SRHR agenda.</p>	OVERALL FUNDING TO SRH/FP	1.660.592.470 Euros	6 countries reporting an increase 3 countries with funding sustained 5 countries reporting a decrease ⁹
	OVERALL FUNDING TO SRHR	3.205.004.414 Euros	6 countries reporting an increase 1 country with funding sustained 7 countries reporting a decrease ¹⁰
	MULTILATERAL FUNDING TO SRH/FP	894.194.276 Euros	3 countries reporting an increase 6 countries with funding sustained 5 countries reporting a decrease
	MULTILATERAL FUNDING TO SRHR	2.178.407.813 Euros	2 countries reporting an increase 5 countries with funding sustained 7 countries reporting a decrease
<p>③ Multilateral funding: This indicator presents core funding (based on own coefficients and reporting systems, depending on each case), plus all earmarked multilateral funding.</p>	FUNDING TO UNFPA SUPPORTING SRH/FP	652.820.119 Euros	3 countries reporting an increase 3 countries with funding sustained 8 countries reporting a decrease
	FUNDING TO UNFPA SUPPORTING SRHR	674.397.573 Euros	2 countries reporting an increase 3 countries with funding sustained 9 countries reporting a decrease
<p>④ Contributions to UNFPA: Analysis of this indicator includes core funding to UNFPA, funding to earmarked UNFPA projects and funding going towards the UNFPA Supplies Partnership. This measure of funding to UNFPA is seen as a robust proxy measure for tracking funding to SRH/FP and SRHR.</p>			

9. This conclusion is only reached after converting local currencies into Euros, as in local currency Sweden kept the same level of investment, while Norway slightly increased it.

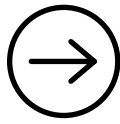
10. The same currency conversion effect applies for the findings related to SRHR, as both Norway and Sweden kept the same level of investment as in 2022 in their local currencies.

Total European donors' funding in absolute numbers

European donors' funding for **SRH/FP** through all streams



6 DONORS REPORTING AN INCREASE



3 DONORS REPORTING STABLE FUNDING



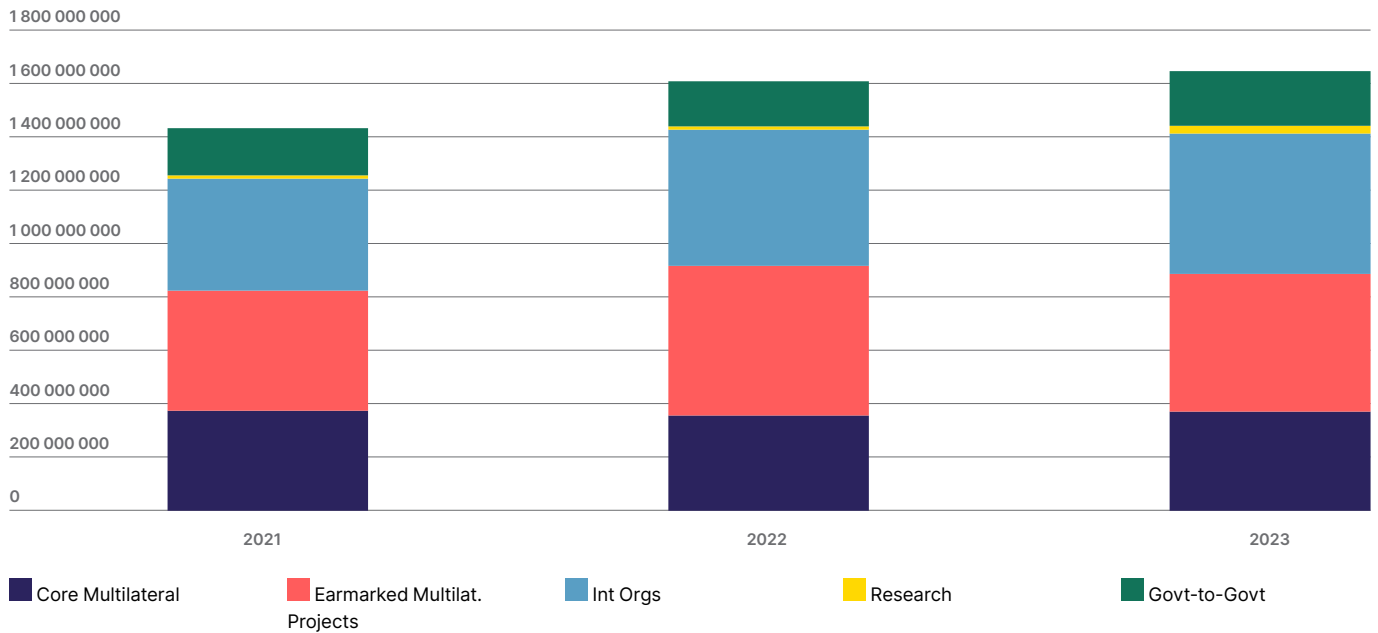
5 DONORS REPORTING A DECREASE

European donors' contributions to SRH/FP in 2023 supported reproductive freedom and helped avert over 4 million unsafe abortions and saved nearly 10.000 women's and girls' lives¹¹.

In 2023, European donors kept the same level of their contribution to SRH/FP as in 2022, providing a total of **1.661 billion Euros**. This brought in 19 million Euros more than in the previous year. This steady support is welcome, given the reductions previously observed between 2020 and 2021.

As in previous years, the multilateral system remains the most used stream for European donors' support to SRH/FP, representing about half of overall investments. This is followed by international organisations and initiatives and government-to-government cooperation. Research is once more the least common channel of investment by far, representing only 2% of total European funding of SRH/FP, and even though research investments more than doubled in 2023.

Figure 2 European donors' support to SRH/FP (Euros)



11. Based on the Guttmacher's Family Planning Investment Impact Calculator. This includes only some projects support by European donors and reported as FP, so the numbers would significantly increase if the broader SRHR agenda was included.

Further disaggregating SRH/FP data provides additional context to some of the notable variances:



INCREASED LEVELS: Belgium, Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands and Spain increased their funding. France was the country that mostly enhanced its investments, be it in absolute terms, with additional 53 million Euros, or relative ones, by 37%. The Netherlands followed with an increase of 46 million Euros compared to 2022, while Belgium registered the second highest relative surge, with 31%.



MAINTAINED LEVELS^{12,13}: Norway*, Switzerland and the UK sustained the 2022 level of funding. To be noted that these findings are observed only after exchanging local currencies into Euros, as in Kronor Norway had increased its level of investment by 7%.

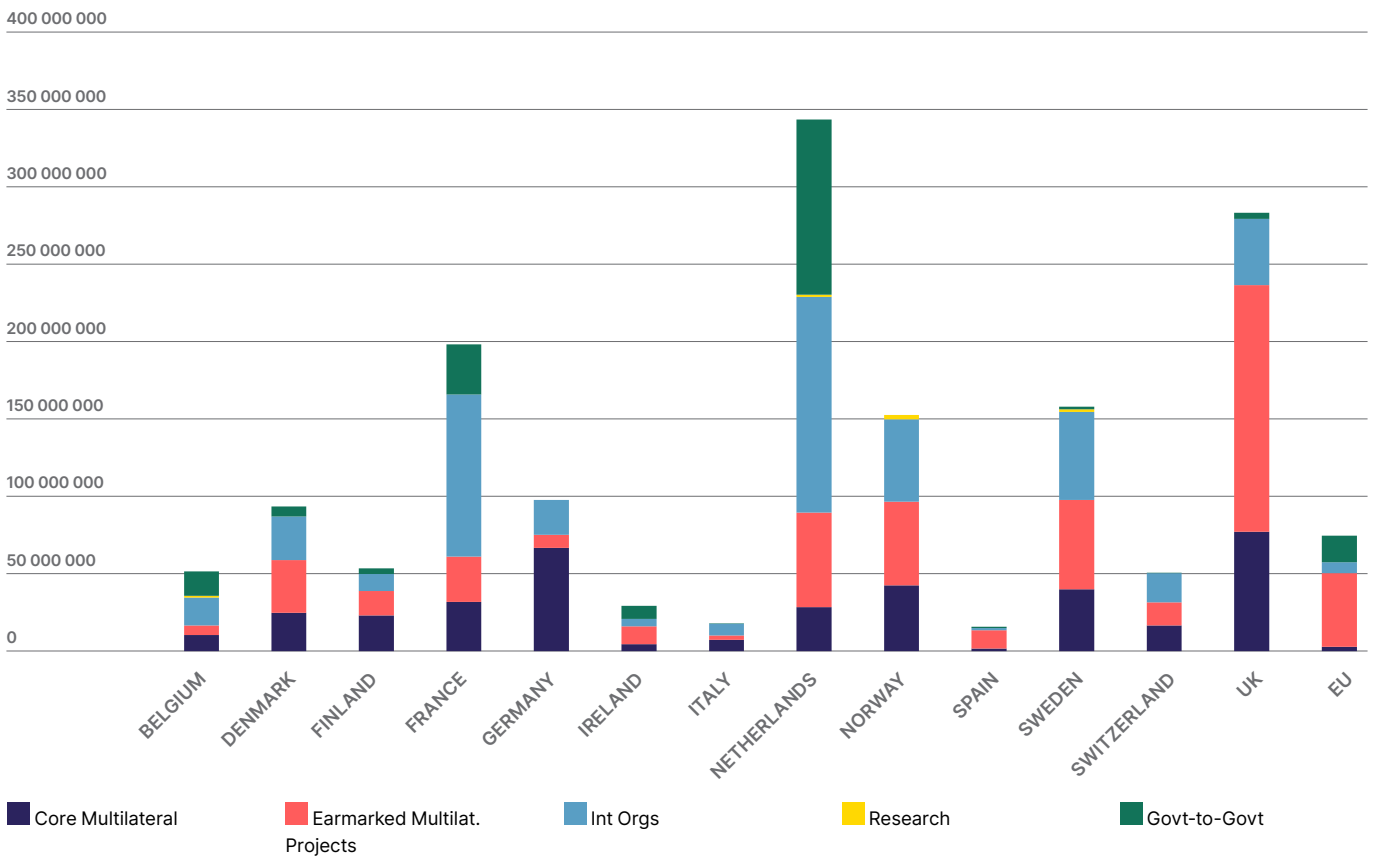


DECREASED LEVELS: Denmark, Germany, Italy, Sweden* and the EU institutions decreased funding compared to 2022. This was a collective drop of about 95 million Euros. Italy's cuts followed a significant surge in humanitarian aid the previous year, while the curtailment in funding from the EU institutions is mostly due to the one disbursement made in 2022 to UNFPA Supplies expected to cover several years. As in the case of Norway above, Sweden decreased funding to SRH/FP only after converting it into Euros, as in Kronor the country kept the same level as in 2022.

Figure 3 illustrates how European donors supported SRH/FP in 2023, considering all funding streams (core funding + earmarked multilateral programmes + international organisations and initiatives and research + government-to-government support). The top three overall contributors to SRH/FP funding in absolute terms were the Netherlands, which recovered this place after falling behind in 2022, followed by the UK and then France, which reaches this position for the first time.

Further details regarding countries' individual trends over time can be found in the respective country pages [here](#).

Figure 3 Individual European donor support to SRH/FP in 2023 (Euros)



12. For the purposes of this analysis, sustained funding is considered to cover the range -5% to +5% variance from the previous year.

13. Countries with an asterisk indicate that respective findings change depending on whether local currency is used instead of Euros: before conversion, Norway would have increased support to SRH/FP rather than maintaining it, while Sweden would have kept the same level of investment in Kronor, rather than decreasing it in. The conversion of currencies did not affect the findings for Denmark, Switzerland and the UK.

European donors' funding for SRHR through all streams

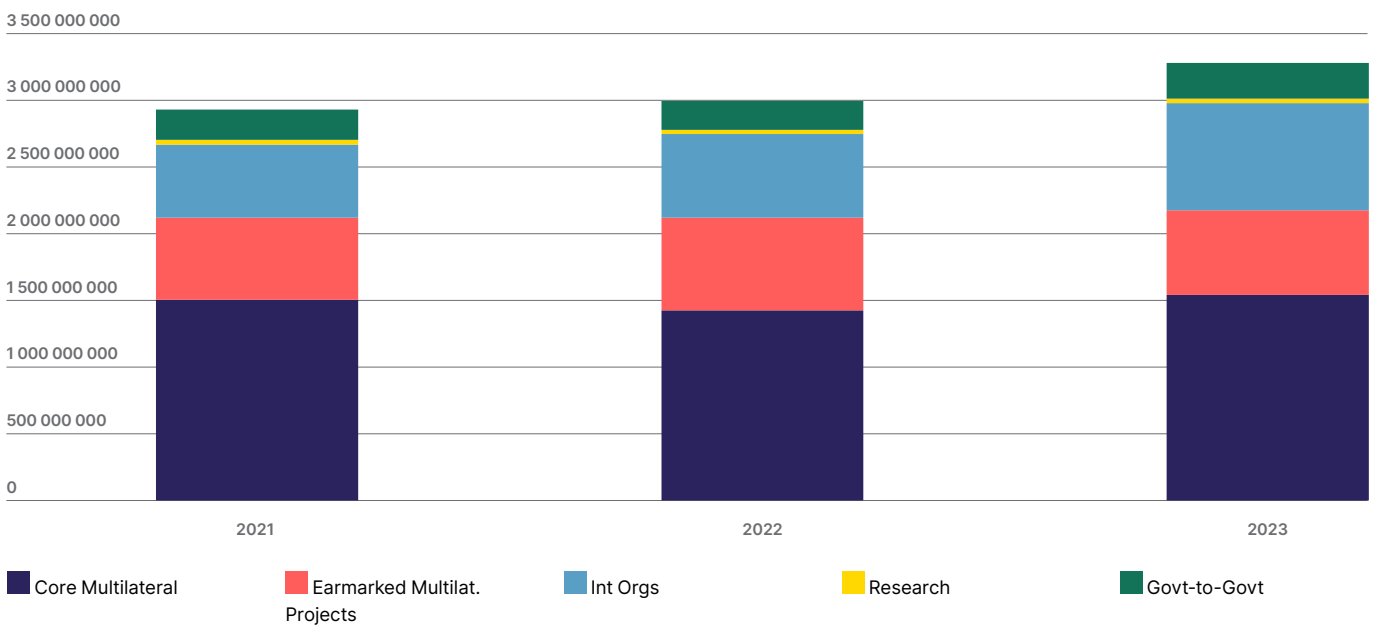


In 2023, European donors increased their overall support to SRHR by 10% compared to the previous year. Data collected by the C2030E Consortium indicates that European donors contributed a total of 3.205 billion Euros to SRHR¹⁴ in 2023, bringing in additional 286 million Euros. This includes the 1.661 billion Euros allocated to SRH/FP. This reveals that in 2023 donors opted to strengthen support to the rights-based agenda or other key SRHR elements such as HIV control, after having prioritised SRH/FP as a core element of this package in 2022. However, even within an overall expenditure increase, the report shows, for the first time since measuring SRHR funding (2020), that the European donors decreasing funding in this area are more than those who are increasing it.

Once more, multilateral funding is the biggest channel for this type of investments. Core contributions to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) and its focus on HIV play a big role in these overall disbursements. Conversely, research is the least used stream by European governments, amounting to only 1% of total SRHR funding. Of relevance is also the increase of funding channelled through Organisations & Initiatives, namely for the fight against SGBV.

Much of European-supported interventions aim to safeguard and advance access to SRH/FP, and at the same time promote a positive environment to sexuality and reproduction that is conducive to overall well-being. Following the integrated approach to SRHR advanced by the Guttmacher-Lancet Commission, and advocated by the Consortium, European donors promote key SRHR elements such as the prevention and integrated responses to SGBV, comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), health and rights initiatives specifically targeting LGBTIQ+ people, safe abortion, and other actions that aim to foster human rights-based, gender-responsiveness, intersectionality and change of social norms in relation to SRH/FP. In addition to this, the fight against HIV/AIDS and other STIs, in line with ICPD costed package, completes the SRHR package that European donors invest on. Overall, the key areas that receive the highest levels of support, in addition to SRH/FP, remain HIV programmes and broader SGBV responses as part of SRHR efforts.

Figure 4 European donors' support to SRHR (Euros)



14. More information about what is considered to SRHR can be found in the methodology annex.

Further disaggregating SRHR data provides additional context to some of the notable variances:



INCREASED LEVELS: Belgium, Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, and the UK increased their funding. In absolute terms, the largest surge in funding came from the UK (additional 273 million Euros), which was mainly due to having more than doubled core funding to the GFATM.



MAINTAINED LEVELS¹⁵: Switzerland was the only country that sustained the 2022 level of funding to SRHR.

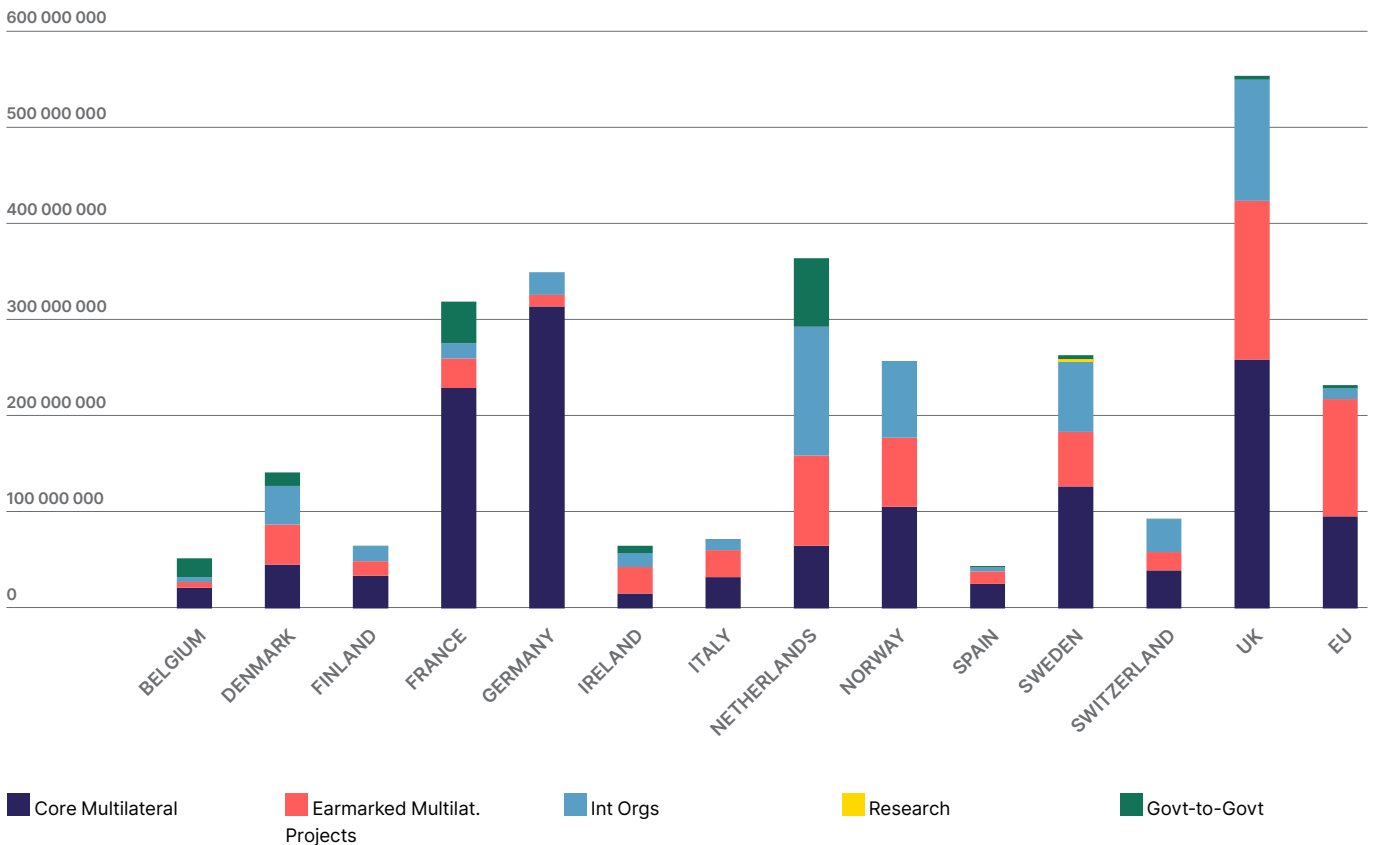


DECREASED LEVELS¹⁶: Denmark, Germany, Italy, Norway*, Spain, Sweden* and the EU institutions plunged levels of funding compared to 2022.

Decreased support to the GFATM is a key variable justifying this trend, in addition to reductions in humanitarian aid coming from Italy. Moreover, when taking into account local currencies, both Norway and Sweden kept their level of investment in SRHR as in 2022, rather than decreasing it.

As Figure 5 shows, and following the trend from previous years, the UK remained the largest contributor in absolute terms to SRHR in 2023, followed by the Netherlands and Germany, which recovered this place after falling behind in 2022. To be noted that the latter country is another key contributor to the GFATM, thus justifying the prominence of core support within its high disbursements.

Figure 5 Individual European donor support to SRHR in 2023 (Euros)



15. For the purposes of this analysis, sustained funding is considered to cover the range -5% to +5% variance from the previous year

16. Countries with an asterisk indicate that respective findings change depending on whether local currency is used instead of Euros: before conversion Norway and Sweden would have maintained the same level of investment on SRHR, rather than decreasing it in. The conversion of currencies did not affect the findings for Denmark, Switzerland and the UK.

Total European donors' funding as a percentage of ODA

There continues to be **significant room to scale up the weight of both SRH/FP and SRHR as a share of ODA**. In 2023, individual European donors allocated **between 0.2 – 5.1% of their ODA to SRH/FP** (against 0.3 – 4.8% in 2022 and 0.3 – 5.7% in 2021) and **between 0.4 – 6.9% to SRHR** (against 0.9 – 5.9% and 0.8 – 7.5% in the previous years, respectively).

This decrease of minimum spending on SRH/FP or SRHR as a part of ODA, while respective volumes of funding have either been kept or increased, is justified by a new historical high of ODA, dating back to 1960. This is partially due to an increase of humanitarian assistance due to the war in Ukraine and the Gaza crisis, among other emergencies. On a positive note, donors decreased the part of assistance staying within their borders, as overall in-donor refugee costs declined compared to 2022. Support to refugee and asylum seekers is extremely welcome, but it should not be the focus of Official Development Assistance in cutting global poverty and inequality, as it seemed to become a practice in 2022. **Despite this absolute decrease of funding staying within borders, donors still allocated a much higher percentage of their ODA to refugee costs than to SRH/FP or SRHR¹⁷**. On the other hand, OECD notes that preliminary data for 2023 showed an increase of ODA going where it is mostly needed. Despite this change in trend, the volume of overall spending both domestically and overseas remains equivalent to the last years, showing that much more can be done to ensure the transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind.

So, while the absolute steady level of 2023 expenditure on SRH/FP and increase for SRHR, as well as the overall ODA rise, are all welcome, it is also clear that **support for SRHR continues not to be prioritised enough**. Significant opportunity exists considering donors' efforts to promote integrated and intersectoral approaches in their international cooperation, to respond to the interlinkages of the 2030 Agenda. Equally importantly, as the anti-rights movements continue to undermine gender equality and to backtrack SRHR progress, which can only be expected to worsen after the reinstatement by the Trump administration of an expanded Global Gag Rule, **European donors should advance their commitments to sexual and reproductive care for all even further**.

COUNTRY	SRH/FP AS % ODA	SRHR AS % ODA	LEVEL OF TRANSPARENCY
NETHERLANDS	5,1%	6,9%	Good
FINLAND	3,6%	4,7%	Fair
DENMARK	3,3%	4,0%	Fair
SWEDEN	3,0%	4,7%	Very good
NORWAY	3,0%	4,4%	Fair
IRELAND	3,0%	5,7%	Fair
BELGIUM	1,9%	2,5%	Good
UK	1,7%	4,7%	Very good
FRANCE	1,4%	3,3%	Fair
SWITZERLAND	1,1%	1,9%	Fair
SPAIN	0,4%	1,1%	Good
ITALY	0,3%	1,0%	Good
GERMANY	0,3%	0,9%	Fair
EU	0,2%	0,4%	Good

As in previous years, the Netherlands emerges as the donor that allocates the biggest share of its ODA to both areas, followed by Finland and then Denmark¹⁸.

The table also provides an overview of transparency of overall ODA per country, which considers how accessible is donors' information on how much they spend, where, when and how. In 2023, two European governments were considered to have very good levels of transparency, namely Sweden, who has consistently ranked as such, and the UK. On the other hand, there are now seven countries considered to have a 'fair' standard¹⁹.

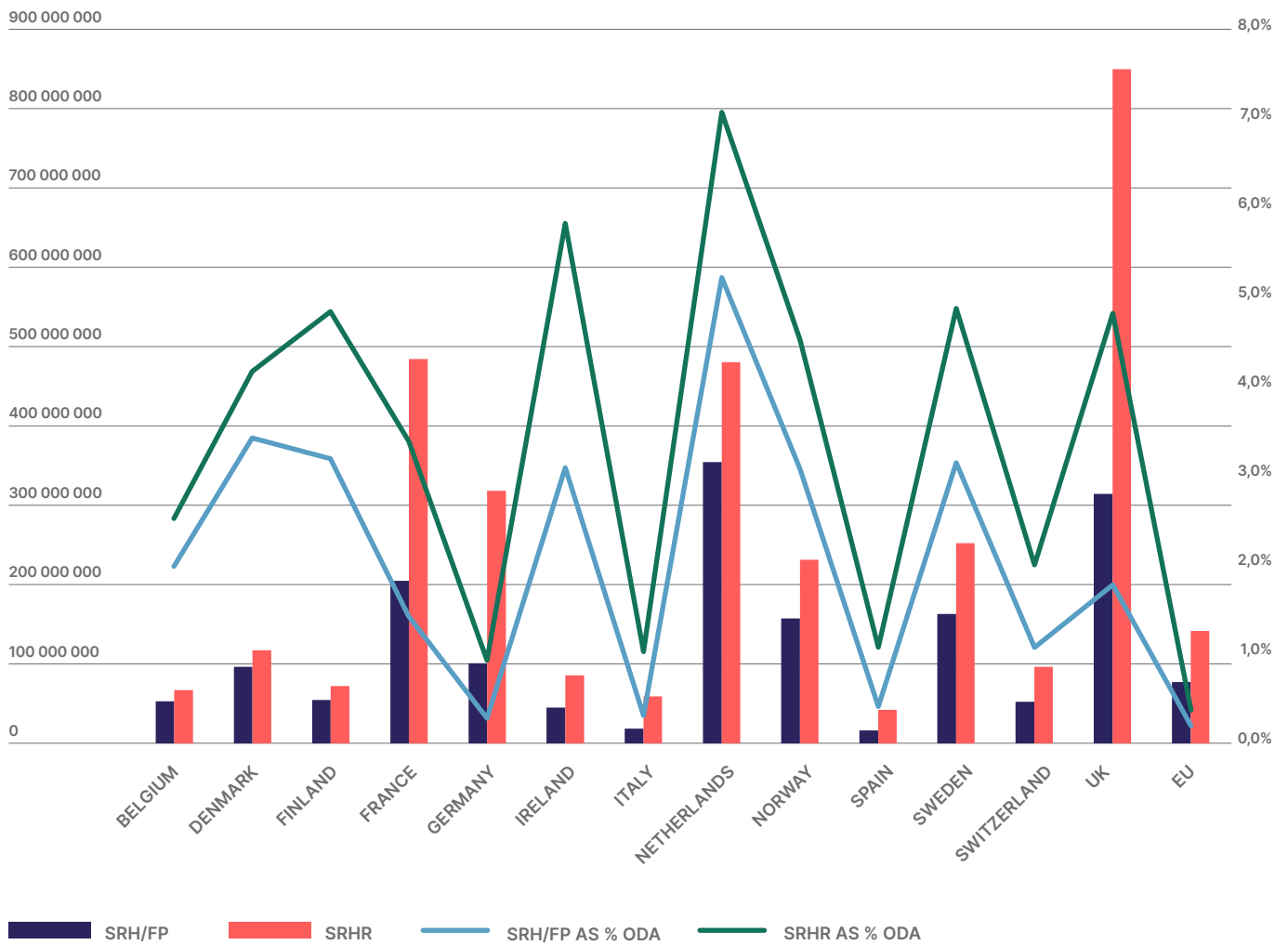
It is paramount that European governments improve respective level of transparency as an important principle of the international cooperation effectiveness agenda. In line with the pledge made at the ICPD+25 Nairobi Summit, the C2030E Consortium will continue to demand transparency from European governments and hold them accountable for the promises made at national, regional and global levels.

17. According to OECD's preliminary data published in April 2024, the European donors considered in this analysis allocated the following shares of their ODA to in-donor refugee countries: Belgium 13%; Denmark 9%; Finland 16%; France 9%; Germany 19%; Ireland 52%; Italy 27%; the Netherlands 18%; Norway 8%; Spain 8%; Sweden 5%; Switzerland 28%; and the UK 28%.

18. To be noted that ODA here considered is as officially reported, so it does not consider elements that can be considered as inflated, such as in-donor refugee costs.

19. These rankings are informed by the Publish What You Fund reports. For more information, please refer to the methodology.

Figure 6 European donors' funding to SRH/FP and SRHR - Absolute figures and % of ODA (Euros)



Zoom in: European donors' multilateral funding

European donors' multilateral funding for SRH/FP

As mentioned, European donors have continued to privilege the multilateral system to support SRH/FP, consisting both of core funding and earmarked programmes. But despite preference for this funding stream to advance access to SRH/FP, **European donors' level of investment through it has stagnated (-5%) compared to 2022**, having disbursed a total of **894 million Euros**, which is 49 million Euros less than the previous year. This amount represented 54% of total spending on SRH/FP. Reductions came from support to multilateral earmarked programmes (11% or less 65 million Euros), including, but not only, due to less disbursements made to the UNFPA Supplies Partnership and multilateral humanitarian efforts. This follows a significant increase in both these programmes observed in 2022. It also represented higher levels than what European donors' spent through the multilateral system in 2021, and about double from 2012. However, as figure 7 shows, **this is the first time since 2016 that European donors actually do not increase support for SRH/FP through the multilateral system.**

Figure 7 European donors' funding of SRH/FP through the multilateral system (Euros)

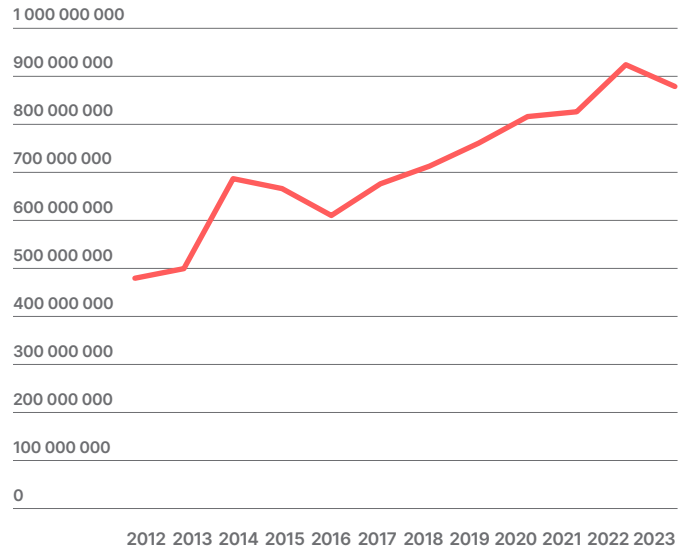
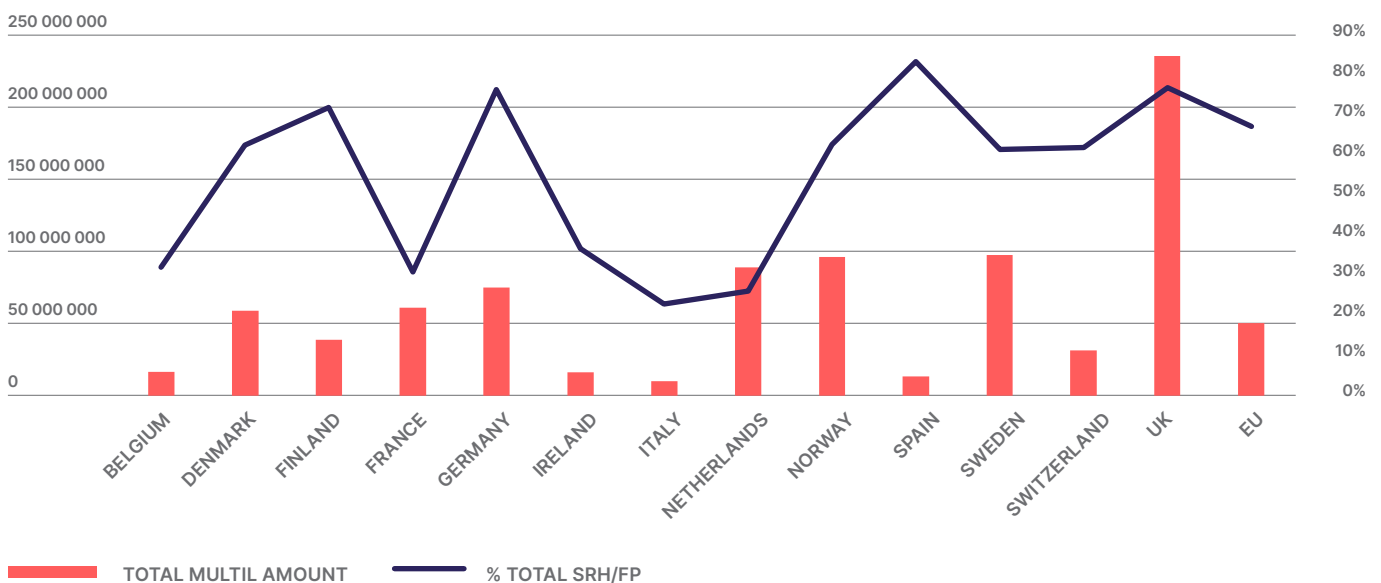


Figure 8 European individual donor spending on SRH/FP through the multilateral system in 2023 (Euros)



European countries' use of the multilateral system continues to vary significantly among countries. As in previous years, the UK is the country by far that mostly contributed to SRH/FP through the multilateral system (237 million Euros), while Spain was the European donor that mostly relied on it, with 84% of its total contribution to SRH/FP being channelled through this system.

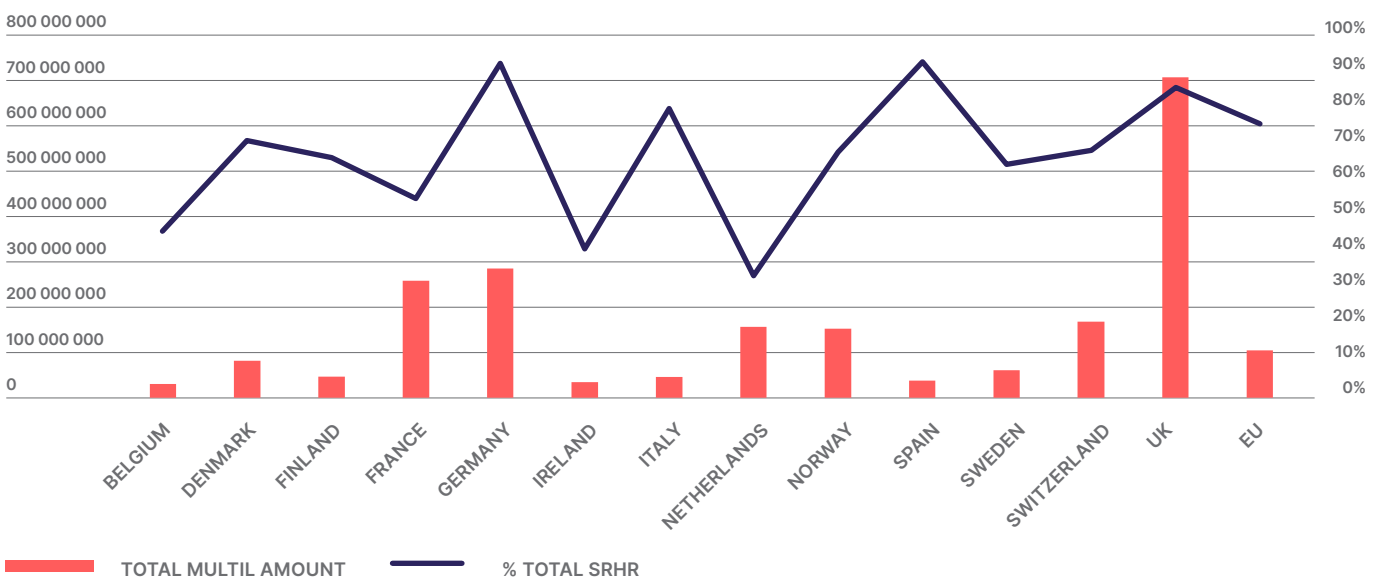
The European donor that mostly increased SRH/FP support in relative terms through the multilateral system was also the UK (24% more than in 2022), due to more than double disbursements as core funding to the GFATM, UNICEF and the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank. Italy and the Netherlands were the countries that resorted the least to this stream to support SRH/FP in relative terms (23 and 26%, respectively).

Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and the EU institutions all curtailed support to SRH/FP through the multilateral system. As above-mentioned, this is mostly due in some cases to a reduction of multilateral humanitarian programmes via UNFPA, or lower disbursements made to the UNFPA Supplies Partnership. To be noted however that for Germany this is also due to updated percentages of core multilateral funding, which indicate that multilateral agencies, namely WHO, UNICEF and IDA, allocated slightly less to SRH/FP as part of their overall ODA in 2023 compared to the previous year, and not necessarily to the donor's decreased investments.

European donors' multilateral funding for SRHR

European governments also kept the same level of investments through this stream: disbursements amounted to **2.178 billion Euros** in 2023 (+4%), bringing in additional 77 million Euros compared to the previous year. This is equivalent of 68% of total spending on SRHR that year, which represents slightly less than in 2022, when European donors had channelled 72% of their investments on SRHR through this system. As with SRH/FP, the UK remains the country with the largest contributions in absolute terms. Other donors also rank relatively high in their expenditure towards SRHR within the multilateral system, compared to their level of contributions to SRH/FP. This difference is due to multilateral initiatives that promote, protect and invest in key comprehensive SRHR interventions that go beyond SRH/FP²⁰. This is the specific case of the GFATM, given the Fund's focus on the HIV component - a key category of the ICPD costed population package. Examples of key contributors to the GFATM include France, Germany and the UK. Another flagship multilateral initiative that supports access to SRHR is the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative, funded by the EU institutions, which aims to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including traditional harmful practices. In 2023, however, disbursements to the Initiative benefitting SRHR represented only a small share compared to the previous years. Germany and Spain were the donors that mostly relied on the multilateral system to advance SRHR (both equivalent to 93% of funding), followed by the UK (86%), while the Netherlands was once again the country that least used it (34%).

Figure 9 European individual donor spending on SRHR through the multilateral system in 2023 (Euros)



20. As already mentioned, in line with the new C2030E methodology to assess SRHR funding, the report considers also funding beyond SRH/FP towards other essential interventions around HIV/AIDS and other STIs or prevention and integrated responses to SGBV, among others, as part of the broader SRHR package. To be noted however that the methodology does not necessarily match donors' internal reporting on SRHR expenditure.

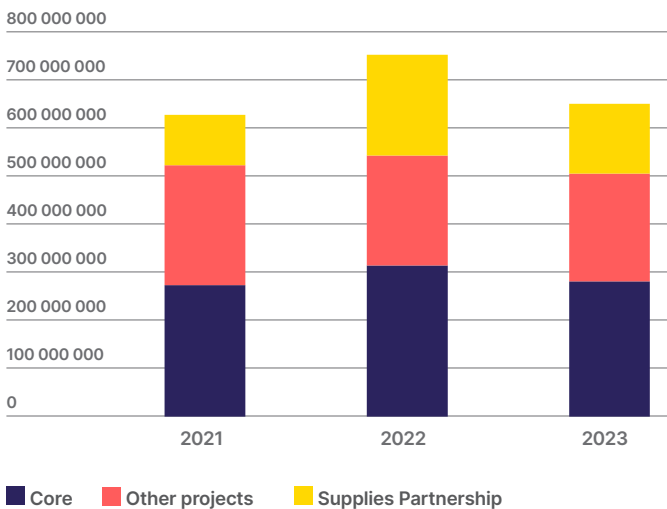
Zoom in: European donors' funding to UNFPA

European donors' funding to UNFPA supporting SRH/FP

This indicator combines European donors' contributions as core funding to UNFPA, UNFPA project funding and contributions to the Supplies Partnership.

For the first time since 2019, European donors decreased funding to this UN agency. Overall, European governments provided over 653 million Euros to UNFPA in support of SRH/FP in 2023, which is 14% or 103 million Euros less than in the previous year. As in the previous years, core funding remained the largest type of contribution to the agency, representing almost half of total investments.

Figure 10 European donors' support to UNFPA - SRH/FP (Euros)



Only earmarked multilateral contributions were kept at the same level. Core funding decreased by 10%, now amounting to almost 283 million Euros. The largest reductions in core support came from Germany and Sweden, which were not compensated by increased funding coming from the UK, Spain and the Netherlands.

Thanks to European donors' core support and investments to UNFPA Supplies Partnerships in 2023, the agency was able to guarantee access to modern contraceptive care for 32 million women and couples, at a minimum, and therefore helping avoid at least 9.5 million unintended pregnancies²¹.

Disbursements to UNFPA Supplies Partnerships dropped by 31%. This is mainly due to the fact that the EU institutions made a payment in 2022 to cover several years, and that both the Netherlands and Norway decreased their level of investment in the programme by a combined amount of about 32 million Euros. To be noted however, that this follows a peak of contributions to the programme in 2022, which represented almost double from the previous year and from 2012. Funding to the Supplies Partnership in 2023 was anyways still higher than in 2020 and 2021. Moreover, the overall contribution to UNFPA Supplies Partnership includes a new three-year funding commitment from Ireland of 2 million Euros per year that began in 2023, to coincide with the 'A Better World' initiative on SRHR.

When analysing individual contributions to all three UNFPA elements, a mix picture is in place:



INCREASED LEVELS: Ireland, Spain, and the UK. The latter brought in the most notable increase in monetary terms, amounting to 12 million Euros, while Spain increased support by 40%. Both Spain and the UK increased contributions in terms of core funding, earmarked programmes and the Supplies Partnership, while Ireland contributed to the latter programme for the first time.



MAINTAINED LEVELS²²: France, Norway* and Switzerland maintained 2022 levels of funding.



DECREASED LEVELS: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and the EU institutions decreased overall funding to UNFPA. The combined reductions coming from these seven countries amounted to 129 million Euros less going to the agency, compared to 2022.

21. According to the Guttmacher's Family Planning Investment Impact Calculator.

22. For the purposes of this analysis, sustained funding is considered to cover the range -5% to +5% variance from the previous year. To be noted that before conversion into Euros, Norway would have increased (+6%) the level of investment on SRHR, rather than maintaining it. The conversion of currencies did not affect the findings for other countries.

The decrease in European funding to UNFPA in 2023 has carried significant implications in terms of impact. **If European donors would have kept the same level of disbursements to UNFPA as in the previous year, they would have reached at a minimum the following additional outcomes²³:**

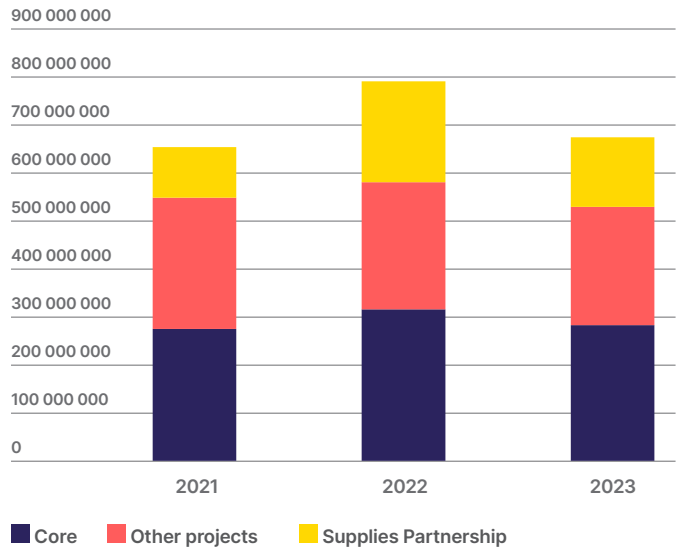


European donors' funding to UNFPA supporting SRHR

A similar trend of funding is observed in 2023 regarding SRHR, as **European governments also decreased disbursements to UNFPA to support the overall SRHR agenda**. In total, European countries spent **674 million Euros on SRHR** channelled through this agency, which is 15% less than in 2022. As with SRH/FP, most European funding to the agency benefitting SRHR was channelled as core funding, followed by earmarked programmes.

The trends of individual contributions to SRHR through all three UNFPA elements across European governments are the same as those observed for SRH/FP, even though with different degrees: Spain increased funding to UNFPA supporting SRHR at a lower rate than for SRH/FP, as in the past the country already invested in programmes focused on other SRHR elements, beyond SRH/FP, namely the promotion of social norms favouring sexual and reproductive freedom;

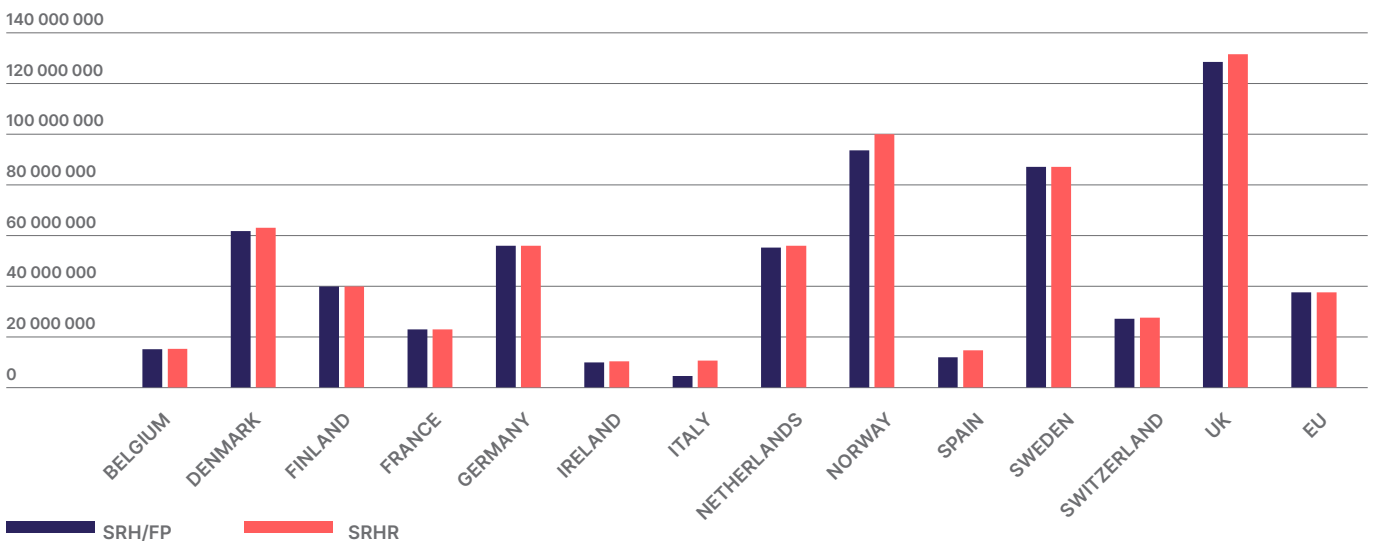
Figure 11 European donors' support to UNFPA - SRHR (Euros)



while the UK increased support by 12% (rather than 10% for SRH/FP), given also the focus on the fight against sexual violence.

As in previous years, UNFPA's SRHR programmes supported by European donors include preventing and responding to SGBV (beyond SRH/FP) or focus on changing harmful social norms and combating gender stereotypes. Analysis of individual contributions confirms that European donors' investments on SRHR through the agency continue nonetheless to be centered on SRH/FP, as shown in the graph.

Figure 12 Individual European donors support to UNFPA in 2023 (Euros)



23. According to the Guttmacher's Family Planning Investment Impact Calculator. It considers the specific amounts disbursed to the Supplies Partnership and the ratio of core funding that benefitting FP in 2023, according to the agency.



3

How SRHR is embedded in other European donors' priorities

FEATURED FOCUS:

European donors' funding linking SRHR and climate adaptation and resilience

The climate crisis significantly impacts SRHR, and at the same time realising SRHR is a robust way to improve climate adaptation and resilience. SRHR are a pre-condition to achieve gender equality and are thus crucial to adapt and build resilience to the climate crisis gendered impacts. When SRHR are fully realised, people are able to make informed decisions about their lives and the life of their ecosystem, to better manage risks, participate in the public sphere politics and engage in collective action.

Already in 1979, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) stated that climate change is a women's human rights issue, given how it disproportionately impacts women. Since the creation of the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Governments have identified the limited access to SRH care and increased exposure to SGBV as key examples of the differentiated impacts of climate change on women and men.

Unfortunately, the link between SRHR and climate action has often led the way towards instrumentalising the provision of contraception, and of women and girls' bodies, as a means to control population growth as a mitigation measure. This approach is unethical and violates human rights. Instead, the connection between access to SRHR and climate must be grounded in a rights-based framework that empowers people to make their own informed choices, while advances evidence-based climate mitigation, adaptation and resiliency efforts.

While all 14 European donors analysed in this report identify both access to SRHR and the fight against climate change as priorities in their framework for international cooperation, research carried out by C2030E shows that the interlinkage between these two areas is seldom acknowledged in respective policy agendas. This thin recognition at the policy level is also reflected into how European donors programme their funds: **only a very small share of resources does in fact target the links between SRHR and climate action.**

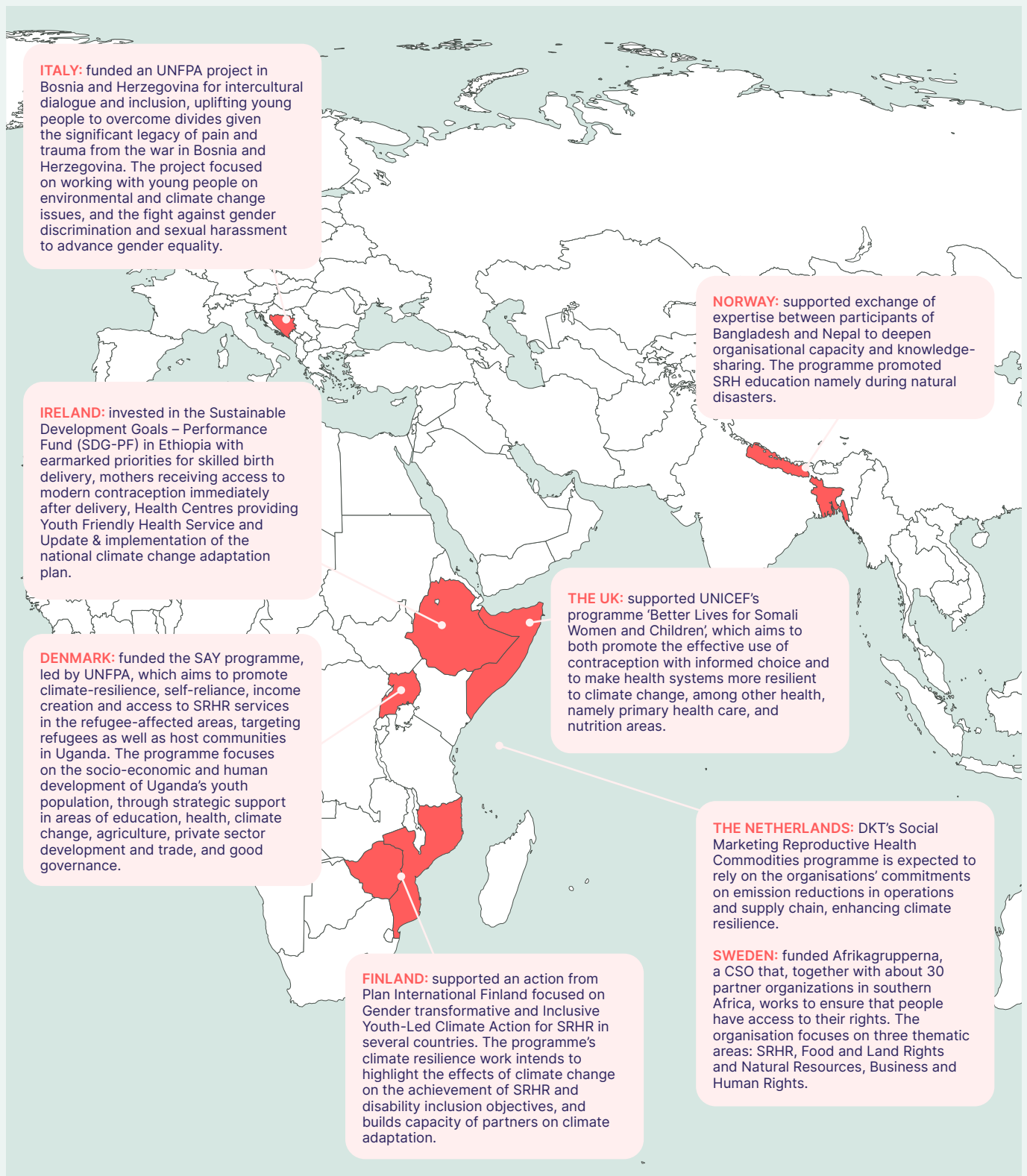
Although there is no predominance of integrated approaches in European funding, this report confirms that **there are several cases that do integrate climate action into SRHR programmes, even though with space to be scaled up.** Examples range from projects that are multisectoral, and include SRHR and climate on top of other areas such as livelihoods, to those that promote evidence and data on the interlinkages between both areas, and to increasing skills and/or infrastructures for climate adaptation from rights-holder groups, such as women and girls, young people and refugees, to the project implementers and partners themselves.

As access to SRHR is put at risk due to climate change, and evidence is clear that this crisis is expected to increasingly worsen in the future, **European donors' financing must adapt to this new reality to ensure that resources are efficiently used and maximised towards the interrelation between both areas.** The 2030 Agenda already encouraged adopting an integrated all-sector approach, given the interconnectedness between the 17 SDGs. SRHR and the fight against climate change should thus be approached under this light: through a multi-sectoral approach grounded in rights-based voluntary services that address deeply entrenched inequalities, while encouraging communities to adopt sustainable practices to preserve their ecosystems and to cope with the impacts of increasing climate change threats.

(For further analysis on European policies and funding interlinking SRHR with climate adaptation and resilience, please refer to the dedicated C2030E report [here](#))



Examples of programmes funded by European donors in 2023 that interlink SRHR and climate adaptation and resilience include:



Going hand in hand with Universal Health Coverage and Health Systems Strengthening

SRHR are a fundamental part of universal health coverage (UHC). The premise of UHC is to offer quality health services to all without financial hardship. The universal availability and affordability of quality SRHR-related products saves lives and is crucial to achieve equality. As such, SRHR is relevant, directly or indirectly, to all four categories used by WHO to monitor progress of UHC²⁴. Countries moving or aiming to move towards UHC therefore cannot exclude comprehensive SRH care from their national package of health services. This entails adopting the full definition of SRHR and providing respective essential package of interventions, which may require additional investments than those currently in place. Acknowledging this importance, in the most recent United Nations General Assembly High Level Meeting (HLM) on Universal Health Coverage in 2023, governments kept the importance of SRHR in the final declaration, and added spotlights on issues related to rights, gender, rates of adolescent mortality from complications in pregnancy and childbirth, and menstrual health.

But despite ongoing efforts, there are still significant gaps in SRH services across the globe, contributing to the deaccelerated progress of respective SDGs. Not only is comprehensive SRH care not fully adopted in some national health coverage plans, but some of the political milestones fall short of agreeing upon such comprehensive vision. For example, despite recognising the importance of SRHR, the final 2023 HLM declaration failed to reference the crucial provision of quality, integrated and comprehensive health care services, access to CSE, the importance of bodily autonomy, and ensuring lifesaving sexual and RH care in humanitarian settings²⁵. This shows that there is still a way to go in the fight against entrenched inequalities in access to health care and the realisation of human rights, including SRHR, despite existing efforts.

According to existing research, an annual package of SRH services of 10.60 Dollars, or 10 Euros, per person would bring multiple co-benefits, namely a 68% decrease in unintended pregnancies, 72% less unsafe abortions and 62% less maternal deaths. This would ultimately lead to enhanced individual agency and self-empowerment, namely of women and girls, supporting them to make their own choices, enjoy their rights, participate in active life, pursue an education and join the labour market.

There is also an international agreement that the cornerstone to achieve UHC is to develop and strengthen all aspects of the health system. Investing in robust health systems, which are a pre-requisite to progress towards UHC, is key for SRHR as much as investing in SRHR is key for sustainable health systems. European donors are cognizant of this connection and have been promoting health systems strengthening (HSS) to advance access to SRH/FP and vice-versa in their policy-making and programming. 2023 brought in continuous European investment in SRHR in direct relation to the six building blocks of HSS:



Health service delivery: France continued to support UNITAID's efforts in developing better tools to reduce maternal mortality, including to prevent post-partum haemorrhage and screening of cervical cancer. Belgium funded PSI in Mozambique to strengthen the country's health system and SRH care within. Italy also financed the INCLUSIVE project, which invested in a referral hospital for all obstetric, neonatal and paediatric emergencies in Ethiopia. Finland supported an IOM's project, which aimed to support and fill the gaps of the national and local actors in providing direct assistance to migrants in need of medical and humanitarian assistance.

24. The four categories are i) reproductive, maternal, neonatal and child health (RMNCH); ii) infectious diseases such as HIV; iii) non-communicable diseases including cervical cancer screening and iv) service capacity and access, which encompasses medicines for RH and perinatal care as part of essential medicines.

25. Learn more about Countdown 2030 Europe's reaction to the HLM [here](#).



Health workforce: Germany and Sweden supported the training of midwives through UNFPA's Maternal and Newborn Health Thematic Fund, while Sweden also funded the International Confederation of Midwives. Ireland disbursed funds to AMREF to recruit and deploy Community Health Workers (CHW) in conjunction with the Ministry of Health.



Essential medicines: Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, and the UK supported the UNFPA Supplies Partnership. The Netherlands and Sweden funded social marketing of reproductive health supplies in sub-Saharan Africa.



Health information: The UK supported the programme Evidence for Health – E4H, which strengthens Pakistan's evidence-based decision making in the health sector and support the implementation of UHC.



Governance and leadership: Norway continued to support NGO projects that used advocacy and litigation to ease the restrictions on SRHR in partner countries. Denmark also continued to fund Amplify Change and its sub-granting work for advocacy efforts towards better governance of SRHR and health systems. Switzerland promoted the adoption, domestication and implementation of policies towards access to SRHR services through UNFPA's Safeguard Young People programme. Spain supported an NGO project on UHC from a feminist perspective in Mali.



Health financing: Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and the UK continued to fund the Global Financing Facility in 2023, which uses public grants to catalyse domestic resources for health, including SRHR. Sweden also supported the programme 'CHAI - Sustainable health financing - Towards UHC'; and the EU institutions funded the NGO project 'Health system strengthening for Universal Health Coverage in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries'.

SRHR acute needs in humanitarian settings

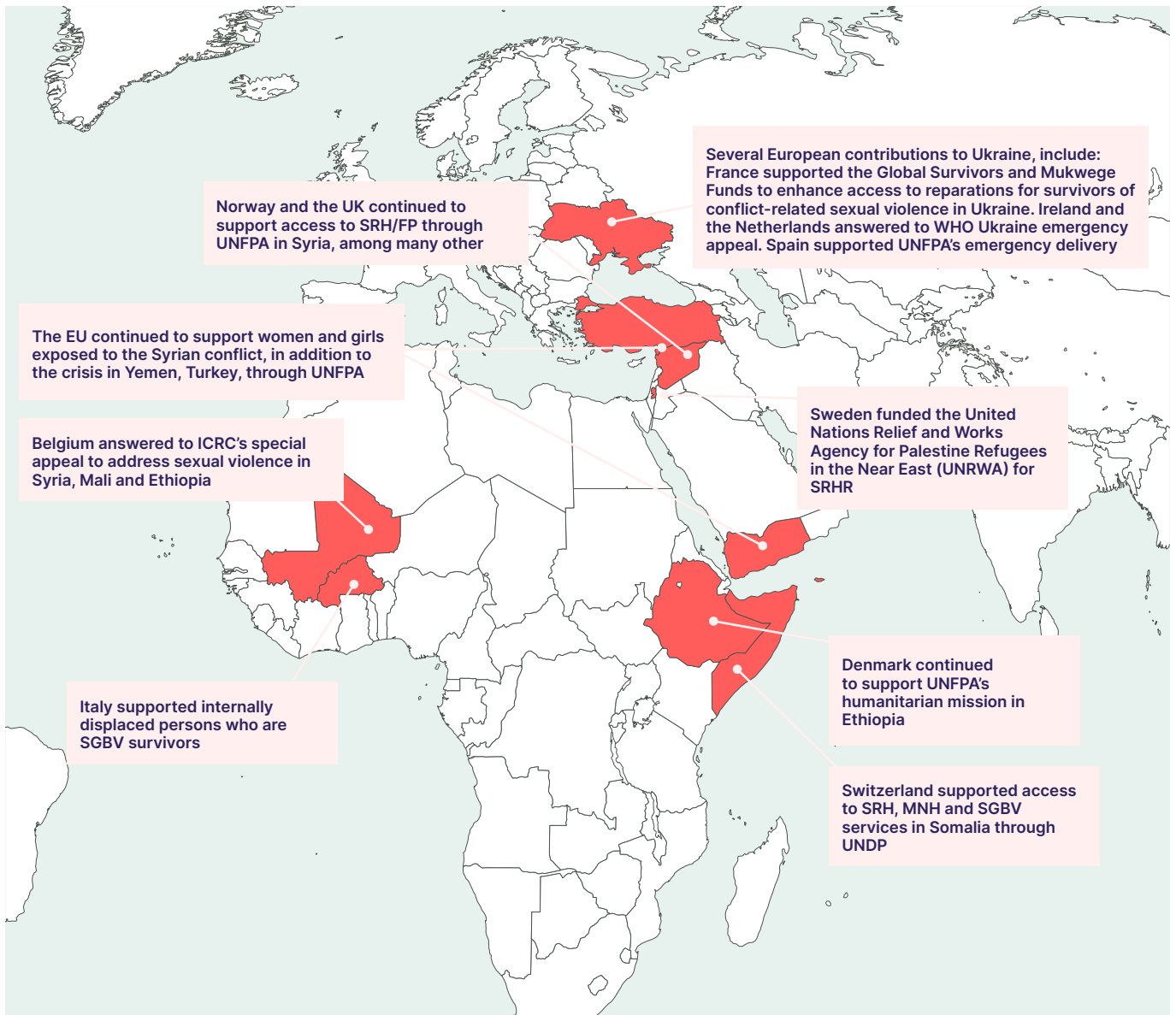
The world is on fire. That is how the [Global Humanitarian Overview 2025](#) defines the trends that have been placing over 305 million people in emergency need around the world. 2023 and 2024 were years marked by conflicts, leading to what is considered to be a normalization of attacks on civilians, and impunity under international humanitarian law. These years also witnessed a rise of disasters fuelled by the climate crisis, at a worse rate than what scientists had predicted, and leading to the rise of complex emergencies across the globe. The war in Ukraine and the Gaza crisis now add up to a long number of acute crisis, some of which may fall victim of some 'donors' fatigue', given their protractedness. This includes humanitarian settings like Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Somalia or South Sudan. The number of new crises unfolding and the unresolved ones worsening led to 2023 registering a **record number of humanitarian emergencies compared to the last years**, with staggering numbers of human lives at stake.

It is widely recognised that women and girls are disproportionately affected by all these emergencies, given the daily threats they face to their health, safety and rights, added to the disruption of lifesaving services. Pregnancies and births are faced with added danger, with exposure to life-threatening risks that can impact mental and physical health. Considering the exacerbated needs for SRHR and SGBV services, UNFPA appealed in 2023 for about 1.14 billion Euros (or 1.2 billion USD) to reach 66 million women, girls and young people in 65 countries affected by humanitarian crisis. This call covers, among others, the provision of the important Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Sexual and Reproductive Health in crisis situations, which is a flagship package of crucial, lifesaving activities required to respond to the health needs of affected populations. Amid the terrifying devastation experienced through humanitarian crises, people need first and foremost safety and protection. SRH services save lives and prevent further suffering. Prioritising these needs of key populations in emergencies is therefore a human rights imperative and should be kept at the heart of the response to all humanitarian crises.

European donors recognise these needs and in 2023 this analysis shows that they kept investing in supporting access to lifesaving SRH/FP and helping to prevent and respond to SGBV in humanitarian contexts – and even though some donors decreased the number of supported humanitarian programmes. This support has been mostly channelled through the multilateral system, namely through UNFPA, but also through some NGO projects which want to tackle, among others, conflict-related sexual violence.

Moving ahead, it would be crucial to allocate even more funding to local, grassroots and community-led organisations who are the forefront of the response during crises.

In addition to contributions to UNFPA Humanitarian Thematic Fund, which aims at making humanitarian responses more flexible and adaptable some examples can be highlighted:





Violeta Noy for Fine Acts

4

Are European donors keeping up with their international commitments?

European donors have proven to be politically and financially committed to SRHR on several occasions. In 2024 the international community celebrated the 30th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), during which European donors took stock of progress and recommitted to the agenda. The [2022-2023 Tracking What Counts report](#) had shown that overall European governments were mostly on track with what they had financially promised to deliver during the 25th anniversary of the ICPD Programme of Action in 2019. The 30th anniversary of ICPD did not welcome any new financial pledges, even though all European donors politically recommitted to the agenda and called for accelerated progress towards its objectives. While it is known that the financial strain created by the multiple crises in recent years has stressed even more the resources needed to match these commitments, the fact that the political landscape has been widely seeing shifts to the right in Europe – and the world –, raises the question of if and how these will be served.

2025 offers another key outlet to take stock of progress made and implementation of commitments, given that it is the **30th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995)**. Indeed, another crucial platform to advance the SRHR agenda was the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+25), celebrated during the [Generation Equality Forum \(GEF\)](#) in 2021. This brought in new commitments, although sometimes these were a reinstatement of pledges done during ICPD+25 and did not necessarily imply additional funding. Moving ahead, it is important to understand the level of progress made so far. **Four years after the GEF and looking ahead towards Beijing+30, how are in fact European governments performing against their own financial pledges?**

The table in the next page shows that overall European donors are on track to fulfil the financial commitments made at the GEF, as per the [Forum tracker](#) and official announcements, and even though at risk of falling behind, given announcements of ODA cuts in some countries. Pledges vary significantly in terms of content, nature and modality of funding disbursement and period of the financial commitment²⁶.

Once again, the analysis shows that **overall European governments are mostly on track with what they promised to deliver** during the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Programme of Action at the GEF. Whether these pledges were ambitious enough or not, it is crucial to note that **the world has changed meanwhile and that SRHR are increasingly under attack**, be it due to the growing crises that hamper access to life-saving services or to a prevailing right-wing shift in power in Europe and worldwide. It is thus more important than ever to raise the level of ambition: on the one hand, European donors must ensure that the promises made at the GEF are indeed delivered, despite announced budget cuts by some governments; on the other, these promises should be scaled up given the undeniable growing SRHR needs across the globe. Furthermore, another reflection arises when considering European commitments to the global SRHR agenda: are priorities and targets self-decided or are they developed in true partnership with the countries who will be impacted by them in order to align strategies and ambitions? Being presented with a new opportunity with the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Beijing in 2025, it is key for European governments to adopt an approach which looks at addressing the long-term structural and systemic issues that contribute to undermine the fulfilment of SRHR and to leave people behind. Such approach also implies stronger scrutiny of how funds are ultimately being used as, according to some [existing research](#), funds from European donors analysed by this report, who champion gender equality and SRHR within their international cooperation, can end up serving some anti-rights movements, namely backers of anti-LGBTIQ laws, and thus contradicting those same human rights principles.

Another crucial platform for SRHR is [FP2030](#), the successor to FP2020. Since its creation in 2021, FP2030 received more than 100 new commitments, reinstating the importance of FP around the globe. The only European government that committed financially to this global initiative so far is [Germany](#), who pledged approximately 200 million Euros of its bilateral funding in 2022 and 2023 to rights-based family planning and reproductive health. Approximately 95 million Euros have been committed in 2022. According to data publicly available for this report, Germany seems to be on track with this commitment for 2022, and even though it is not possible to assess 2023, due to the lack of granular information for the disbursements – more information can be found in the respective country page. The UK is also currently exploring a financial and policy commitment to FP2030, but this may only be expressed in 2025.

26. To be noted that the table outlines only commitments made in the context of the Action coalition on SRHR, while European donors committed more in other Action coalitions, which could also potentially impact access to SRHR.

Are European donors keeping up with their international commitments?

EUROPEAN DONOR	BEIJING+25 COMMITMENT	IMPLEMENTATION (AS OF 2023 FINANCIAL YEAR)
BELGIUM	Committed: Core contributions to UNFPA 2021-2024 amounting to a total of 36 million Euros.	On track
	Core contributions to UNFPA 2021-2024 amounting to a total of 36 million Euros.	Fulfilled
	Contribution to UNFPA Supplies of 4 million Euros in 2021-2022.	On track: although reduced amounts were disbursed in 2023.
DENMARK	Pledged: 13 million Euros (100 million DKK) divided equally between UNFPA Supplies to address needs for modern contraception and IPPF to ensure focus on CSE.	On track: yearly amounts above that and additional allocation of funding to the Supplies Partnership.
	The allocation of 13 million Euros (100 million DKK) for SRHR efforts in Denmark's four COVID-19 relief packages.	Fulfilled
	The allocation of a total of 102 million Euros (755 million DKK) on Denmark's Financial Act 2021 to global SRHR efforts.	Fulfilled
	2.5 million Euros (3 million USD) to a More Inclusive and Accessible Women Deliver 2023 Conference.	Fulfilled
FINLAND	Committed to support comprehensive sexuality education and access to contraceptive services in its international cooperation by allocating at least 21 million Euros (25 million USD) to civil society partnerships in 2021-2026.	On track: funding to CSOs already surpassed that amount
FRANCE	Committed: 90 million Euros (105 million USD) to the UNFPA Supplies Partnership.	On track: 54 million Euros disbursed so far. But at the risk of becoming offtrack, given the announced cuts to UNFPA.
	5 million Euros (6 million USD) to the SEMA initiative.	On track: 3 million Euros disbursed so far. But at the risk of becoming offtrack due to announced cuts.
	5 million Euros (6 million USD) to the Organization for Dialog for Save Abortion (ODAS) programme.	On track: 2 million Euros disbursed so far. But at the risk of becoming offtrack due to announced cuts.
	250 million euros for France's bilateral cooperation on SRHR.	On track: considering funding going through all streams except for core support
	50 million Euros (60 million USD) to the Muskoka Fund.	On track: 30 million Euros disbursed so far. But at the risk of becoming offtrack due to announced cuts.
	120 million euros in total to support to Feminists Movements: half of which earmarked to SRHR (a commitment re-announced at the GEF).	Fulfilled
GERMANY	Committed to support the endeavours of IPPF with a core contribution of 15 million Euros in 2021 and UNFPA with a core contribution of 40 million Euros in 2021.	Fulfilled
IRELAND	Reconfirmed support to access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights, including investing at least 1.5 million Euros (1.8 million USD) in comprehensive sexuality education over the following 3 years.	Fulfilled
ITALY	Committed to (without presenting any quantified commitments): Continue to support multilateral initiatives to eliminate harmful practices, especially female genital mutilations and child, early and forced marriages.	On track
	Continue to closely cooperate with the UN system, in the efforts towards attaining gender equality and the full empowerment of women (UN Women and UNFPA).	On track: as these pledges do not specify amounts; but with funding reduced.
	Earmark resources for actions aimed at eradicating all forms of violence against women and develop new initiatives involving men as key actors in ending violence against women.	
THE NETHERLANDS	Pledged 510 million Euros for the following 5 years for women's rights and feminist organizations and movements as part of the SDG5-Fund.	On track: The SDG5 fund comprises the subsidy instruments Power of Women (EUR 75 m); Women, Peace and Security (EUR 40 m); the SRHR Partnership Fund (EUR 315 m) and Leading from the South (EUR 80 m). The official budget has been safeguarding the resources, but budget cuts were introduced in 2022.
NORWAY	Committed to increase financial contributions in the five years to come, totalling about 10 million Euros (10,400,000,000 NOK). To be noted however that these commitments were not new but rather pledges from ICPD+25.	On track: as about three quarters of that amount have been disbursed.
SPAIN	Committed 9.7 million Euros to the promotion of sexual and reproductive rights (no identified timeframe).	Fulfilled
SWEDEN	Pledged at least 86 million Euros (871 million SEK) to SRHR in 2021, including new support to focus on the neglected areas of comprehensive SRHR such as comprehensive abortion care and new support under the new strategies.	Fulfilled
SWITZERLAND	Did not present any quantified commitments.	Beijing+30 may change this
THE UK	Committed to support and champion universal access to quality and affordable comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services, through additional funding to the multi-donor Safe Abortion Action Fund (SAAF), supporting safe abortion access and advocacy, and amount to 3.5 million Euros or about 4 million USD. This new funding would support grassroots organisations who have the local knowledge and networks to navigate the pandemic in their own settings to deliver this crucial work and support the needs of the most marginalised and vulnerable women and girls.	Fulfilled
EU INSTITUTIONS	No specific financial commitments made that are relevant for SRHR in the external action. The EU institutions reaffirmed the commitments included in the Gender Action Plan (GAP III), to have gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment as a significant objective in at least 85% of all new external actions. EU Institutions also committed to increase funding for women's rights organisations and movements to contribute to gender equality.	On track: according to EU reporting , in 2023 82.7% of external actions had gender equality as a principal or significant objective Funding for women's rights organisations also increased



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Looking ahead















2025 represents a pivotal year to accelerate towards the global realisation of SRHR, gender equality and the support of self-empowerment of all individuals, especially women and girls, everywhere. With only 5 years remaining before 2030, the implementation of SDGs is clearly still lagging behind given that only 16% of the 169 targets are on track to be met. To try to accelerate progress towards the SDGs related to SRHR, in 2020 UNFPA's launched an appeal for the costing of the 'Three transformative results'. Unfortunately, as of 2025, such 'call to wallets' has remained largely unanswered.

At the current rate²⁷ of European funding for SRHR, European donors would take around 350 years to be able to provide what is needed from them by the next 5 years²⁸.

This is even more striking when considering that the other major global SRHR donor, the US, sees in **2025** the start of **the second Trump Presidency²⁹**, which will most likely seek

the expansion of the Mexico City Policy, or the Global Gag Rule (GGR³⁰), to an unprecedented scale. In 2017, President Trump already expanded the GGR's application from abortion service delivery to all global health assistance funding. The expectation is that the second Trump Administration will also attempt to apply these restrictions to all US-based NGOs, UN agencies, and other multilaterals, in addition to other humanitarian programmes. Not only will funding to lifesaving commodities and services be significantly reduced over the next four crucial years, but there is also a high probability that the new US executive will be responsible for bolstering anti-rights movements around the world and accelerate global attacks on the rights, freedom and sexual and reproductive autonomy of entire populations.

When trying to predict how European donor governments will behave over the next few years, while it is not possible to certainly forecast overall European expenditures to SRH/FP and SRHR, there are some available elements that can suggest an indicative prognosis – based on individual contributions, to be found in the country pages:

Belgium		SRHR ODA expected to decrease	The Netherlands		SRHR ODA expected to be sustained in 2024 but decreased from 2025 on
Denmark		SRHR ODA expected to be at least kept at the same level in 2024 and 2025 but, going forward, Danish ODA is expected to further focus on other areas	Norway		SRHR ODA expected to at least be sustained
Finland		Overall ODA expected to decrease, and therefore likely also funds for SRH/FP	Spain		SRHR ODA expected to increase
France		SRHR ODA expected to decrease	Sweden		SRHR ODA expected to decrease
Germany		SRHR ODA expected to decrease	Switzerland		Overall ODA expected to decrease
Ireland		SRHR ODA may increase, also in line with the rise of overall assistance	UK		SRHR ODA expected to be kept in 2024, but with foreseen cuts as of 2025
Italy		Overall ODA expected to decrease, and therefore also funds for SRH/FP	EU institutions		SRHR ODA expected to be at least kept at the same level until a new review of the budget cycle

27. Taking into account the past 5 years of Tracking What Counts reports.

28. Own calculations based on OECD's figures for total European ODA. Total assistance from the 14 European donors represents about 65% of global ODA since 2016. Applying this ratio to the 244 billion Euros identified by UNFPA as needed resources until 2030 to meet the Three Transformative Results would require that European donors would provide almost 172 billion Euros to that end. The projected data is the average of two functions used to predict future values by using existing ones, namely the linear regression and the Holt-Winters method.

29. For more details please see the C2030E briefing for European governments on the second Trump administration [here](#).

30. The GGR was first imposed by the Reagan administration in 1984, and obliges non-US based NGOs to stop abortion service delivery and advocacy using funds from any source as a condition for receiving US funds. This has taken in the past a dramatic toll on the health and lives of millions of women, girls and marginalised populations.

As this forecast shows – albeit being mostly a prediction –, **we may be facing a grim picture regarding future support for people's dignity and bodily autonomy where the need is greater**, given the several announced reductions of European countries ODA from 2025, which add to the difficult US political context. And this, in a time when European governments must comply with their responsibility and scale up support for SRHR more than ever.

The current multiple global crises, from international conflicts to the climate, stress even more the resources needed to match global commitments for sustainable development.

There is a need for further justice-driven investments in promoting universal access to SRHR and European donors should play their part in supporting this, taking it as an opportunity to contribute to addressing the ongoing impacts stemming from past and present global power imbalances.

Beyond this gloomy forecast, 2025 might also offer a few opportunities to scale up European support to SRH/FP and SRHR, namely in synergies with different stakeholders. This year will celebrate the **30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**, which will offer a renewed opportunity for European donors to take stock of progress. More importantly, it will offer a window to boldly recommit to the agenda by being more ambitious regarding individual contributions, and as the global needs have significantly risen since the GEF. Finally, in 2025, Spain will host the **Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development**, which will be an important opportunity to assess the global financial framework and make the adjustments needed to accelerate progress towards the 2030 Agenda. European governments should seize this opportunity to show up as better partners for Global South countries and meaningfully come together to co-create a more equitable international cooperation system.

One thing is clear: in the midst of this scenario, European donors must do more.

While the overall increase of European financial contributions to SRHR in 2023 in absolute terms is welcome, C2030E regrets that, despite European donors were able to reach a new high in their ODA in 2023, there is much room for improvement to scale up the portion of it dedicated to SRH/FP and SRHR. Moreover, the case for access to contraceptive care remains undisputable, and respective support should be as scaled up as possible, especially in the face of exacerbated crises deriving from conflicts, humanitarian catastrophes and climate change, which strain health services and the universal access to life-saving supplies.

Going forward, advocacy will be more critical than ever to safeguard focus on the crucial importance of SRHR and, in that context, SRH/FP. The C2030E Consortium is, as always, committed to continue its role in calling for increased investments in this field, whilst ensuring accountability by tracking financial expenditures and the implementation of policy commitments towards advancing the SRHR agenda.

The C2030E has embarked on a journey towards decoloniality³¹ and in this light, we are trying to do this 'Tracking What Counts' report a bit differently this year. In this framework, we want to acknowledge and question the existence of historical and current power imbalances that are still reproduced and maintained by the social and economic power structures we currently work within and strive towards systems based more on global solidarity and equal partnerships. We hope that, as we continue working together with donors, and European and Global South partners and allies, we will be able to progressively transform the SRHR and 'development' sector, and by extension the nature of this report, towards one analysing more equitable relationships.

31. To know more about it, please consult our blog [here](#) entitled 'Decolonial Futures: Countdown 2030 Europe's commitment to change' and our dedicated page on Decoloniality and SRHR on the C2030E website [here](#).

A Global Citizen Believes in My Power

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Annex 1

Methodology and Added Value of Countdown 2030 Europe tracking

Discovering the Countdown 2030 Europe tracking methodology

WHO IS TRACKED?



14 EUROPEAN DONORS: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, and the EU institutions.

These are the donors where C2030E has partners that can directly access financial data.

DATA SOURCE?



MOSTLY PRIMARY DATA: Direct governments' contacts, donors' own reporting through national databases or a mix of both.

- Belgium: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Denmark: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Finland: [online database](#) and government contacts
- France: government contacts
- Germany: budgets and government contacts. Also counts with an [online database](#)
- Ireland: government contacts
- Italy: government contacts
- The Netherlands: [online database](#) and budgets
- Norway: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Spain: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Sweden: [online database](#) and government contacts
- Switzerland: government contacts. Also counts with an [online database](#)
- The UK: [online database](#) and government contacts
- The EU institutions: [online database](#)

WHAT IS TRACKED?



TWO DIFFERENT SETS OF ODA DISBURSEMENTS REFERRING TO:

► **Sexual and reproductive health/family planning (SRH/FP)**, in line with the [categories](#) of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and its Programme of Action, this includes essential interventions as part of comprehensive reproductive health care, namely voluntary family planning, safe pregnancy and childbirth services;

► **Sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)**, in line with the [Guttman-Lancet Commission \(GLC\)](#), this includes SRH/FP; HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), as per the ICPD costed package; prevention and integrated responses to SGBV; comprehensive sexuality education (CSE); initiatives specifically targeting the health and rights of LGBTIQ+ people; safe abortion; other initiatives to foster human rights-based, gender-responsiveness, intersectionality and change of social norms in relation to SRH/FP.

ODA DISBURSEMENTS TO BOTH SRH/FP AND SRHR ARE CALCULATED AND PRESENTED IN:

► **Absolute numbers:** findings in terms of volume of ODA allocated to both SRH/FP and SRHR are provided individually and for the full sample of donors.

► **Percentage of ODA:** for a more enriched depiction of cross-country comparison in funding trends, the report also calculates the percentage of donors' spending on SRH/FP and SRHR as part of their annual ODA.

European donors tend to increasingly embrace a more comprehensive definition of what is SRHR, going beyond the specific elements of FP and SRH. This expanded definition is aligned with the tendency to further integrate SRH into other services and sector-wide approaches, as both the ICPD Programme of Action and the Sustainable Development Goals call for. This vision is also endorsed by C2030E and is aligned with the new SRHR definition from the Guttman-Lancet Report, which has been already embraced by the majority of European donors. It is however important to note that not all European governments use all these interventions to measure their investments on SRHR, with some completely detaching, for example, expenditures on HIV/AIDS and other STIs, SGBV or even harmful practices.

HOW IS TRACKED (METHODOLOGY)



C2030E partners collect data on their country's financial contributions in current prices to SRH/FP and SRHR, and in reference to different funding streams, namely:

CORE MULTILATERAL FUNDING: these are core resources disbursed to a selection of relevant multilateral institutions, namely UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, the World Bank and the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria for SRH/FP, complemented by UNAIDS for SRHR. Because not all core funding is relevant to SRH/FP and SRHR, this section relies on a calculation of a five-year trend of OECD-DAC coefficients from agency's own reporting against relevant sector codes, and the application of such coefficient to the amount of core funding allocated by each donor government to each of the agencies.

This has a few exceptions, namely: SRH/FP data is directly provided by UNFPA, given the agency's spending in a given year; and GFATM, whose contribution to SRH/FP is identified in line with what had been considered by FP2020 (5%). The SRHR ratio for both these agencies, namely 100% and 50%, respectively, follow the majority of most European donors' own reporting and, in the case of the GFATM, reporting from the Fund itself of how much of its funding is allocated specifically to HIV.

The identified percentages for 2023 are:

- UNFPA (SRH/FP 75.3% | SRHR 100%)
- WHO (SRH/FP 4% | SRHR 5.8%)
- WB-IDA (SRH/FP 0.8% | SRHR 1.1%)
- UNICEF (SRH/FP 1.7% | SRHR 3.8%)
- UNAIDS (SRH/FP 0% | SRHR 100%)
- GFATM (SRH/FP 5% | SRHR 50%)

EARMARKED MULTILATERAL PROGRAMMES: Analyses donors' resources disbursed to multilateral agencies' individual projects/programmes and only accounts for those proven to specifically contribute to SRH/FP and SRHR. A given project/programme can partially or fully contribute to SRH/FP and/or SRHR, depending on how donors report against sector codes, and this is as disaggregated as possible by the report³².

CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFPA: C2030E specifically track overall contributions to this agency, which include core funding to UNFPA, funding to earmarked UNFPA projects and funding going towards the UNFPA Supplies Partnership. This measure of funding to UNFPA is seen as a robust proxy measure for tracking funding to SRH/FP and SRHR.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND RESEARCH: Includes donors' resources disbursed to international organisations or platforms, such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation, MSI Reproductive Choices, the Global Financial Facility, or Amplify Change, among others; donor-country based NGOs; NGOs based in partner countries; grassroots organisations; companies; universities and even agencies from other European donors, in the context of delegated cooperation. Analyses individual projects/programmes and only accounts for amounts disbursed to a given organisations that are proven to specifically contribute to SRH/FP and SRHR. A given project/programme can partially or fully contribute to SRH/FP and/or SRHR, depending on how donors report against sector codes, and this is as disaggregated as possible by the report.

GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT: Identifies contributions directly channelled to public institutions of partner countries, such as central, state or local government or public agencies, and that are reported as specifically contributing to SRH/FP and SRHR.

Quantifying the impact of European donors' contributions

The tracking report includes impact numbers from European governments' investments on FP. Calculations are based on the Guttmacher's Family Planning Investment Impact Calculator, which is an interactive tool for estimating these impacts in LMICs. As it is not always possible to separate donors' investments on FP and SRH, only some of the FP programmes are selected for these calculations, to illustrate the minimum impact reached.

32. For example, one given project might be reported as both 50% family planning and 50% primary education, in which case only the former amount will be taken into consideration. This is however only possible when donors themselves provide this level of granularity.

The added value of Tracking What Counts in 6 points



An accurate analysis of real country expenditures towards SRH/FP and SRHR:

The Tracking What Counts report has the key advantage of providing a **granular and extremely detailed overview** of how European donors programme and report their ODA benefitting both SRH/FP, in line with the ICPD agenda, and SRHR. Thanks to the unique close and trusted connection of C2030E partners with their government focal points and their deep knowledge of how the donors report investments in this agenda, this publication is **accurate and close to what is spent in reality**, as the analysis engages directly with decision makers (primary data source) and considers the list of individual projects of each government expenditure and **only accounts for disbursements/projects/programmes that specifically contribute to SRH/FP and SRHR**. Without going to the project level, it is difficult to precisely and accurately assess what funding is specifically allocated towards SRHR/FP in a given year, since European donors report against the OECD reporting system, which does not include specific SRHR encoding (as it does, for instance, for RMNCH). Tracking at project level limits the resorting to approximations, based on methodologies applying imputed average percentage to broader sector codes. Funding is analysed both in absolute terms and as a percentage of each donor's ODA expenditure.



An important breakdown per funding channels:

Furthermore, the Tracking What Counts report also provides a **unique overview of the key funding streams** that the different European governments use to support the SRH/FP and SRHR agenda, since is the only methodology systematically going at project level. The analysis categorises funding through four funding streams: multilateral system (both core and earmarked funding), international organisations and NGOs, research institutes and government-to-government funding. **This level of detail is crucial to understand the strategic thinking of each donor** and consequently to inform the partners' evidence-based advocacy to ensure a tailored approach to their asks.



A long-term trends analysis through an online interactive data tool:

This yearly assessment has been done for an extended period of time (since 2009), allowing to see **long-term trends of individual donors**. This is made possible also thanks to the innovative [interactive online data tool](#) available on C2030E

website, which allows the user to select the preferred timeframe and explore overall and country/EU trends, including by looking at the different funding streams, as well as highlighting variations on funding for UNFPA and the UNFPA Supplies Partnership over the years.



Matching policy prioritisation with funding landscape:

As funding is not allocated in a vacuum, the Tracking What Counts report provides an in-depth political analysis of the European donors under review, by looking at governmental changes and policy updates on a yearly basis, to provide a contextualisation for the funding analysis. This is possible thanks to the direct involvement of the partners at local level providing **first-hand intelligence and knowledge on their geopolitical environment**.



A qualitative lens on European funding for SRHR/FP:

The report adds to the purely financial analysis also a **qualitative lens**, by highlighting every year a different area of donors' investment intersecting with SRHR/FP (e.g. adolescent SRHR in 2023, comprehensive sexuality education in 2024, climate change in 2025), on top of the annual analysis of the **European SRHR/FP funding also contributing to other key donor interest areas** such as Universal Health Coverage and Health System Strengthening, as well as humanitarian assistance. Moreover, in the run up to global anniversaries (such as ICPD+30 or Beijing+30), the Tracking What Counts report also keeps track of the realisation of European **donors' commitments** to these agendas, to ensure continued accountability.



A success story of trusted relationships and close advocacy with governments:

Since the direct data collection by C2030E partners happens just a few months after the financial year closure, the Tracking What Counts report is able provide granular data very quickly, which proves relevant for **timely advocacy purposes**. Moreover, this long-lasting exercise bridging research and advocacy is unique in contributing to building strong and trusted relationships among C2030E partners and their governments, and has been instrumental in **increasing donors' accountability and transparency over the years**, as several case studies show.

Because of the level of detail it goes into, this in-depth exercise is rather cumbersome and time-consuming, as it requires specific time dedication aimed at identifying and analysing individual projects within governments' expenditures to assess on a case-by-case basis if these are relevant or not to SRH/FP and SRHR. Therefore, to provide the clearest and most accurate possible picture of real expenditure by donors allocated to SRH/FP and SRHR, it is crucial that this demanding and relevant detailed exercise takes place: and since it is challenging for governments to carry it out on their own given the multiple priorities and lack of dedicated time to this, **Countdown 2030 Europe partners fill a key gap by taking up such an expert task.**

Why was the Countdown 2030 Europe tracking methodology created?

Since its creation in 2005, C2030E needed a consistent way to collect national data for local advocates, namely C2030E partners, to hold their national governments accountable towards their commitments to SRH/FP. Such accountability efforts intended to fulfil certain criteria unmet elsewhere, as there was a need for:

- More granular and accurate ODA data reported by governments benefitting SRH/FP and SRHR. Existing tracking methodologies used OECD DAC reporting as the main source which, albeit being the common reporting system to all donors, can be subject to different interpretation and classification, both among donors and within their own administrations, thus affecting the quality or comparability of data. Moreover, some individual donors report non-directly related SRH/FP expenses under codes for population assistance – such as migration –, hence inflating key findings. These shortcomings made it difficult to have an accurate analysis of donors' investments towards SRH/FP, as each donor programmes and reports in different ways.
- More timely data to inform national advocacy. As most methodologies relied in OECD DAC³³, the data was also not published quickly enough to be useful for national advocates to use for monitoring and advocacy purposes.
- Policy analysis and trends to contextualise the funding landscape. C2030E partners had this first-hand knowledge of their local scenes, and wanted to place financial trends within this wider context, but they lacked a forum to do so; this made it difficult for them to 'match' political commitments from their governments with funding allocations, a key component of advocacy and accountability.

Timeline of methodological updates

While Countdown's methodology has remained consistent over time, there have been significant updates in the last five years to improve the accuracy of the tracking.

2020: full dataset since 2012 was revised to further streamline the methodology across partners, namely in terms of i) what was reported as SRH/FP and ii) how, or which streams were used to report funding.

2021: introduced five key novelties:

1. started measuring financial investments in SRHR, in addition to SRH/FP,
2. included government-to-government cooperation as a financial stream,
3. included funding from the EU institutions, previously subject to an independent publication,
4. included funding to SRH/FP and SRHR as a share of total ODA.
5. analysed individual data in country pages that provide background for each donor and to better depict all these trends.

2022: Italy was added to the sample of European donors, which then became 14 in total

Moreover, yearly updates of financial data may lead to retroactive adjustments. Findings from the different yearly reports should thus not be used as a time series.

33. OECD DAC data is only consolidated over one year after the reporting timeframe (eg 2023 data is only published in the beginning of 2025, so respective treatment and analysis could only be published later that year, thus with almost a two-years gap).



About C2030 Europe

Countdown 2030 Europe is the 'go-to' cross-country sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) expert Consortium in Europe seeking to increase European SRHR funding in international cooperation and strengthen political support for sexual and reproductive freedom worldwide. The Consortium is made up of 15 leading European non-governmental organisations and is coordinated by IPPF European Network.

Partners							

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