

# EUROPEAN DONOR SUPPORT TO SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & FAMILY PLANNING

TRENDS ANALYSIS 2019-2020  
JANUARY 2021



Countdown 2030  
EUROPE

Advance human rights  
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**All data is also accessible  
through our online dashboard.**

# SETTING THE SCENE

**C**ountdown 2030 Europe (C2030E) is a consortium of European NGOs advocating to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and family planning (FP) in developing countries through holding European governments to account on their international policy and financial commitments on SRH/FP. There are fifteen partners, based in twelve European countries as well as the European Institutions in Brussels, with the secretariat at the International Planned Parenthood Federation European Network (IPPF EN).

To achieve its mission, the consortium partners track policy and financial trends in their respective countries, amongst other activities. The dual feature of the C2030E methodology, which sees European donor SRH/FP policy trends presented alongside financial expenditure flows, allows for a more nuanced and contextualised view of donor trends in SRH/FP financing, thereby supporting advocacy and accountability efforts with a stronger evidence base. Please see Annex 1 for information on the methodology.

This report presents the outcomes of the policy and financial tracking for the year 2019-2020<sup>1</sup>. As in previous editions, the first section (A) presents a summary of the key data trends on both the policy and financial side, providing a view across all C2030E countries. Section B takes a more qualitative perspective on the policy trends, drawing out key events and important dynamics influencing SRH/FP resource flows from European donors. This is then complemented by Section C which looks at where the money is going. Lastly, Section D concludes by highlighting key issues to consider in the year ahead based on this trend analysis.

**1. Financial data presented in this report corresponds to 2019, while policy updates already reflect changes from 2020. The exceptions are the UK, whose reporting period refers to the financial year 2019-2020 (12 months), and the European Institutions, for which financial data for 2019 was not available at the time of writing of this report. For more information, please see Annex 1.**

## 1. OVERVIEW OF SRH/FP GLOBAL POLICY AND FINANCING ENVIRONMENT 2019-20

The period 2019-2020 was one of contrasts: on the one hand, 2019 broke new ground for overall European support to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and family planning (FP). On the flip side, the new Coronavirus that spread across the world in 2020 will most likely have drastic impact levels on Official Development Assistance (ODA), including for SRH/FP.

This period witnessed a significant increase of financial contributions to SRH/FP in the context of international development: most European donors (eight out of 12) analysed in this report either increased or maintained their level of funding. This is of relevance considering that overall levels of ODA were largely remained the same in 2019.

2019 offered global momentum with the 25th anniversary of the ground-breaking International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) to escalate efforts towards universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). At the Nairobi Summit, 12 European Donor Governments and the EU reaffirmed strong political and financial support to complete the unfinished business of the ICPD Programme of Action. This was achieved despite the ongoing objection to SRHR and gender equality both in Europe and worldwide.

But not long after this landmark, the world became stage of an unprecedented global pandemic, responsible for disrupting access to life-saving essential commodities, increasing risks of gender-based violence and deepening poverty and inequality levels. According to Guttmacher's predictions<sup>2</sup>, a 10% decline in use of SRH services resulting from COVID-19-related disruptions would prevent 48.6 million additional women in low-and-middle-income countries to access modern contraceptives, leading to 15.4 million additional unintended pregnancies. The COVID-19 pandemic may reverse many of the health, social and economic gains achieved to date, particularly if SRHR is not considered instrumental in countries' responses.

Despite significant advances, also celebrated at the Nairobi Summit, universal access to SRH/FP was still far to be achieved in 2019: about 218 million women and girls in low-and-middle-income regions still had an unmet need for FP<sup>3</sup>. 2019 estimations also indicated that the annual FP funding gap has been growing, expected to reach 237 million Euros in 2025<sup>4</sup>. Conscious of the exacerbated challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, European donors have reaffirmed on several occasions their political support to SRHR as a critical means to 'build back better'.

This report analyses 2019 European funding data and political stances adopted in 2020. As such, it does not attempt to measure the financial impact brought in by the pandemic over SRH/FP funding. It is however possible to refer to available projections, which indicate that the pandemic will most certainly affect levels of European development assistance, including support to SRH/FP. Several European donors are expected to undergo serious budget cuts in the next years, given the economic crisis the COVID-19 pandemic has created. A detailed analysis, based on expenditures, will be shared in the 2020-2021 edition.

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2. Estimates of the Potential Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Sexual and Reproductive Health in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. The Guttmacher Institute. Available [here](#).

3. Guttmacher Institute. Adding It Up: Investing in Sexual and Reproductive Health 2019. Available [here](#).

4. As per the 2019 Gap Analysis the annual FP funding gap will reach \$266m in 2025. Author: Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition. Figures converted with exchange rate 1 EUR = 1,1234 USD. Available [here](#).

## 2. HIGHLIGHTS ON EUROPEAN DONORS MOST RECENT SRH/FP FUNDING AND POLICY TRENDS

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Funding for SRH/FP increased in seven countries between 2018 and 2019, namely Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Norway, Switzerland and the UK, and sustained at similar levels in the Netherlands. Belgium, Ireland, Spain and Sweden reported lower levels of funding. Some of these decreases were expected, due to a change of approach to funding SRH/FP in 2019.

The combined figure for all 12 European donor countries gives an estimated support of 1.17 billion Euros for 2019, an overall increase of 13% when compared to 2018 and 74% compared to 2012. Germany brought in the most significant increase in percentage growth of funding for SRH/FP since 2018, equivalent to an additional 50%. This was mainly observed through enlarged support to UNFPA, whose core contributions increased by 50% compared to 2018, and to international organisations and initiatives, such as the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM). Increased support to SRH/FP was followed by the UK (29%) and France (28%). The UK, Norway, the Netherlands and Sweden remain the largest donors in absolute terms. Among these, both Norway and the UK increased 2018 levels, with the latter showing the largest surge in nominal value. The decrease reported by Belgium and Sweden comes as no surprise. Belgium decreased funding to UNFPA earmarked programmes, to be offset by multi-annual programmes with partner governments; bilateral, government-to-government cooperation is however not accounted for under the current tracking methodology. Sweden's reduction was also expected due to the different disbursements of the country's multiannual pledges to the multilateral system.

The combined figure for UNFPA funding from all 12 European donor countries gives an estimated support of nearly 644 million Euros for 2019, which is an increase of 19% compared to the previous year, and of 57% compared to 2012. Overall funding to UNFPA increased or was maintained at similar levels to 2018 in nine countries, except for Belgium, Spain and Sweden. The biggest rise in relative terms was observed in contributions to the UNFPA Supplies programme.

European donors also continue being vocal about SRH/FP at the policy level. Eight new policy and strategy documents from European institutions, Finland, France, Germany, Norway and Switzerland are testament to this. In addition to political pledges in several international fora, European governments also re-instated the importance of SRH/FP in official responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and in humanitarian aid.



**TABLE 1** presents a snapshot view of SRH/FP policy and financial trends across C2030E partner countries and EU Institutions. The table has been formatted to facilitate a snapshot view of the trends:

- text in red indicates a negative trend;
- text in green indicates a positive trend;
- and text in black has been used to indicate levels have been maintained to the previous year or present neutral data<sup>5</sup>.

**TABLE 1: SNAPSHOT VIEW OF EUROPEAN TRENDS IN SRH/FP POLICIES AND FINANCING**

| C2030E COUNTRY | GENERAL ODA TRENDS <sup>6</sup>  | SRH/FP POLICY STANCE  | SRH/FP FINANCING <sup>7</sup> 2019 <sup>8</sup> (EUROS) <sup>9</sup> - PROPORTIONAL CHANGE 2019-19 |                      |                    |                                     | PAST YEAR OR UPCOMING POLITICAL IMPACTS  |
|----------------|--|---|--|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
|                |  |   | OVERALL FUNDING TO UNFPA   | MULTILATERAL FUNDING | ALL SRH/FP FUNDING | TRANSPARENCY OF BILATERAL FUNDING   |  |
| <b>BELGIUM</b> | Spent 1.9 billion Euros in ODA in 2019, a slight decrease of 4% compared to 2018. This represents 0.42% of its GNI.  | In his 2014-2019 Policy Declaration, the Belgian Minister for Development Cooperation, and current Prime Minister, committed to supporting SRH/FP. This is a priority in operational development policy documents on health and gender. SRH/FP is also included in the response strategy note to COVID-19.  | 12 669 272<br>-24%   | 12 879 122<br>-25%   | 18 484 545<br>-13% | High transparency and accessibility | The new Belgian government was confirmed in September 2020, and brought the Flemish liberal Alexander de Croo, previous Minister of Development Cooperation, as Prime Minister. The social-democratic party provides the new Minister of Development Cooperation, Meryame Kitir. |
| <b>DENMARK</b> | Danish net ODA was kept at the same level in 2019 as in the previous year, amounting to 2.3 billion Euros. This represented 0.71% of GNI. Denmark is one of the few European countries overcoming the UN target to keep ODA at or above 0.7% of its GNI. | In 2019, the new Danish government kept gender equality and education, including, according to the government, "record high" investments in SRH/FP, in its 2020 priorities for Danish development cooperation. Denmark was a co-host of the ICPD+25 Summit in Nairobi, and will co-lead the Action Coalition on SRHR and Bodily Autonomy under the Generation Equality Forum. | 65 582 547<br>+3%  | 60 854 734<br>+2%    | 96 554 192<br>+10% | Low transparency and accessibility  | General elections were held in 2019. Denmark now has a one party government, led by the Social Democrats. Parliamentary work on SRH/FP continues to stand strong.  |

**5.** Idem footnote 3: sustained funding is considered to cover the range -5% to +5% variance from the previous year.

**6.** Sources of ODA figures come from C2030E partner Policy Updates and/or DAC Member (<http://www.oecd.org/dac/>) and/or OECD net ODA tracking (<https://data.oecd.org/oda/net-oda.htm>). ODA figures are in current prices and originally presented in USD; for purposes of this report, figures have been converted to Euros using an exchange rate of \$1 = €0.873. The exchange rate used for 2017 has been corrected for the purpose of this exercise, so some of the relative increases might slightly change. ODA figures are here reported against the so-called 'flow basis method', a reporting method used by OECD DAC that is being replaced by the 'grant equivalent method'. These two differ in the way ODA loans are reported against, but, for comparability purposes, this report refers to the flow basis method only.

**7.** The four indicators presented in this table are the four core indicators for C2030E from 2017 onwards, they are: 1) core funding to UNFPA + UNFPA project funding + funding to the UNFPA Supplies Programme; 2) multilateral funding for SRH/FP (core funding + earmarked funding for SRH/FP); 3) all SRH/FP funding (through all streams except country to country bilateral funding); and 4) transparency of bilateral funding, as measured using a 3-point scale (high/moderate/low) – see pages 14 and 15 for more details

**8.** Total values in Euros for 2019 are presented for each country for each indicator alongside the percentage variance compared to reporting for 2018.

**9.** In some cases, there are discrepancies when calculating European donors' contributions in local currency, with a variance of around 1% for the cases of Norway (increase) and Sweden (decrease), between +1% and +4% for Switzerland, and +6% and +9% for the UK. These differences are due to the currency exchange rate and do not affect the key trends expressed below.

| C2030E<br>COUNTRY                | GENERAL ODA TRENDS <sup>6</sup>  | SRH/FP POLICY STANCE   | SRH/FP FINANCING <sup>7</sup> 2019 <sup>8</sup> (EUROS) <sup>9</sup> - PROPORTIONAL CHANGE 2019-19          |   |   |  | PAST YEAR OR UPCOMING<br>POLITICAL IMPACTS   |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|
|                                  |  |  | OVERALL<br>FUNDING TO<br>UNFPA  | MULTILATERAL<br>FUNDING   | ALL SRH/FP<br>FUNDING   | TRANSPARENCY<br>OF BILATERAL<br>FUNDING        |  |
| <b>EUROPEAN<br/>INSTITUTIONS</b> | European institutions were the fifth biggest donor globally in 2019, with a total amount of 13.2 billion Euros, and following Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom and Germany. ODA from EU Institutions has decreased by 6% compared to 2018 (- € 0.6 million).   | The EU is a strong supporter of SRHR overall, and FP in particular. Most notably, SRHR is recognised as an important area of investment in the 2017 European Consensus on Development, a shared vision for action in development cooperation, in the EU's new Action Plan on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (2021-2025) and as part of the political basis for the next 7-year EU budget. This commitment is also translated into its partnerships. | <i>EU data for 2019 has not been fully validated yet. Please see section 3b below for more information.</i> | <i>EU data for 2019 has not been fully validated yet. Please see section 3b below for more information.</i> | <i>EU data for 2019 has not been fully validated yet. Please see section 3b below for more information.</i> | <b>Moderate transparency and accessibility</b> | European elections took place in 2019, with the new Commission taking office in November. UK's exit from the EU is expected to impact SRH/FP dynamics, as the UK is a leading supporter of SRH/FP in the EU development budget and policies. A new seven-year development budget will start in 2021. |
| <b>FINLAND</b>                   | Finland's ODA increased by 17% in 2019 when compared to the previous year, amounting to 1 billion Euros or 0.42% of its GNI.   | Comparably to his predecessor, the new Minister of Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade is a vocal SRH/FP advocate at national, European and UN level. The Minister emphasizes the importance of SRH/FP in his public speeches and announcements. The country remains actively involved in the SheDecides movement.   | <b>26 950 000</b><br><b>+19%</b>  | <b>24 982 205</b><br><b>+18%</b>  | <b>29 815 921</b><br><b>+19%</b>  | <b>Low transparency and accessibility</b>      | The general elections in 2019 changed the governmental parties and the new Government is very vocal on development cooperation and SRH/FP.   |
| <b>FRANCE</b>                    | ODA slightly increased by 2% to 10.8 billion Euros in 2019, representing 0.44% of GNI. This follows the announcement of an increase of 1 billion Euros for the French development agency as from 2019, with half of it dedicated to Interministerial Committee for International Cooperation and Development (CICID) priorities. | France adopted an international strategy for gender equality in 2018 (2018-2022). The five-year Development Law (2021-2025), to be approved in the first semester of 2021, confirms gender equality, health, education as priorities. France will start implementing its feminist foreign policy, in the context of which it will co-host the Generation Equality Forum, for Beijing+25, and co-lead the Action Coalition on SRHR and Bodily Autonomy.       | <b>4 370 000</b><br><b>+4%</b>  | <b>13 709 775</b><br><b>+1%</b>   | <b>40 358 775</b><br><b>+28%</b>  | <b>Moderate transparency and accessibility</b> | The current government and president are in place since May 2017, committing to allocate 0.55% of GNI to ODA by 2022. Political environment is currently volatile, and changes may take place in the near future.  |

| C2030E COUNTRY         | GENERAL ODA TRENDS <sup>6</sup>  | SRH/FP POLICY STANCE  | SRH/FP FINANCING <sup>7</sup> 2019 <sup>8</sup> (EUROS) <sup>9</sup> - PROPORTIONAL CHANGE 2019-19 |                      |                     |                                     | PAST YEAR OR UPCOMING POLITICAL IMPACTS   |
|------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
|                        |  |   | OVERALL FUNDING TO UNFPA   | MULTILATERAL FUNDING | ALL SRH/FP FUNDING  | TRANSPARENCY OF BILATERAL FUNDING   |   |
| <b>GERMANY</b>         | German ODA remained stable, having slightly increased by 3% in 2019. This amounted to 21 billion Euros, or 0.61% of its GNI. Germany remains the largest European donor in absolute figures.                                       | Germany became a more vocal actor on SRHR during the negotiations of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In 2018, Germany joined the SheDecides Initiative. The structural reform process "BMZ 2030", concluded in 2020, includes family planning as one of ten 'initiative themes' for ministerial bilateral cooperation.   | 34 200 000<br>+46%   | 37 702 875<br>+38%   | 68 202 875<br>+50%  | Low transparency and accessibility  | Federal elections were held in 2017 with Minister Dr. Gerd Müller (CSU) remaining in charge of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. New elections are planned for 2021. |
| <b>IRELAND</b>         | Ireland's total ODA spend increased by 10% to 870 million Euros in 2019. The country has committed 868 million Euros to ODA for 2021.  | The Irish government launched a new international development policy in 2019, entitled 'A Better World'. This strongly signals that Ireland will take a proactive, rights-based approach to SRHR.   | 5 989 634<br>+1%   | 5 992 934<br>-13%    | 6 717 934<br>-11%   | Low transparency and accessibility  | A new Prime Minister took office in 2020 and the new government has commitment to increasing the ODA budget in the years ahead, with the aim of achieving 0.7% by 2030.                           |
| <b>THE NETHERLANDS</b> | ODA amounted to 4.75 billion Euros in 2019, a level sustained from the previous year and now representing 0.59% of GNI.  | In the 2018 policy "Investing in Global Prospects", which combines development cooperation with trade and investments, SRHR continues to be a policy priority and gender (SDG5) is considered as a cross-cutting goal. In 2020 the Netherlands co-sponsored a joint statement with 82 countries stating the importance of SRHR for Beijing+25.  | 69 907 574<br>-1%  | 95 473 294<br>+7%    | 144 581 714<br>-4%  | High transparency and accessibility | In March 2017 the last general elections took place and a new government was installed the same year. While new elections were planned for March 2021, the Dutch government resigned in January.  |
| <b>NORWAY</b>          | ODA remained stable at 3.8 billion Euros in 2019, an increase of 3% when compared to 2018. This represented 1.03% of GNI, making the country the largest European donor (under analysis) in proportion to the size of its economy. | Norway has stepped up support to SRHR following the reinstatement of the USA 'Mexico City Policy'. This was done partly through SheDecides and FP2020. Norway has seen a strengthening of the SRHR policy over the past three years. The GFF is presented as the major new Norwegian commitment to global health system strengthening and SRHR, with 2019 being the fourth year of Norwegian funding. | 101 126 989<br>+23%  | 101 638 971<br>+22%  | 183 848 622<br>+16% | High transparency and accessibility | The last elections took place in September 2017 with the right-wing coalition holding onto power for four more years. New elections are planned for 2021.   |



| C2030E<br>COUNTRY  | GENERAL ODA TRENDS <sup>a</sup>  | SRH/FP POLICY STANCE  | SRH/FP FINANCING <sup>7</sup> 2019 <sup>8</sup> (EUROS) <sup>9</sup> - PROPORTIONAL CHANGE 2019-19 |                                  |                                   |  | PAST YEAR OR UPCOMING<br>POLITICAL IMPACTS  |
|--------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
|                    |  |   | OVERALL<br>FUNDING TO<br>UNFPA   | MULTILATERAL<br>FUNDING          | ALL SRH/FP<br>FUNDING             | TRANSPARENCY<br>OF BILATERAL<br>FUNDING        |   |
| <b>SPAIN</b>       | ODA in 2019 remained stable, amounting to 2.6 billion Euros, having increased by 2%. This represented 0.21% of Spanish GNI. Funding levels are still far from reaching the legislative target of 0.5%, expected to be reached by 2023.   | Spain's masterplan for development cooperation 2018-2021 stresses the importance of mainstreaming crosscutting issues such as human rights and gender equality, in line with the 2030 Agenda. It also establishes seven strategic goals including health and SRH/FP. SRH/FP also features in Spain's Humanitarian Action Strategy of the Spanish Cooperation 2019-2026.                         | <b>2 418 000</b><br><b>-22%</b>  | <b>2 189 000</b><br><b>-51%</b>  | <b>4 231 093</b><br><b>-41%</b>   | <b>Moderate transparency and accessibility</b> | 2019 general elections brought into office a coalition between the socialists, the left-wing Podemos party, Basque and Catalan parties and minority regional forces. Support for conservative and far-right parties has however grown exponentially.  |
| <b>SWEDEN</b>      | Sweden decreased ODA by 7%, the equivalent of 5 billion Euros in 2019. This decrease is due to the currency exchange rate, as in fact Sweden reports a slight increase (+5%) of ODA in SEK. Sweden is another country that fulfils the UN 0.7% target, with ODA representing 0.96% of its GNI. | SRHR is one of six objectives of the Swedish feminist foreign policy. The 2020 Action plan for Feminist Foreign Policy points out that the foreign service will work for everyone's access to SRHR in all relevant forums. It also includes stronger language than ever on SRHR in humanitarian settings.   | <b>84 044 875</b><br><b>-13%</b>   | <b>89 263 148</b><br><b>-16%</b> | <b>130 373 540</b><br><b>-12%</b> | <b>High transparency and accessibility</b>     | In January 2019 a new minority government with the Social Democrats and the Green Party was voted in. In his Government declaration, Prime Minister Stefan Löfven stated that SRHR remains a top priority for the Swedish feminist foreign policy. This has been re-confirmed by the new Ministers for International Development Cooperation and for Foreign Affairs. |
| <b>SWITZERLAND</b> | ODA remained stable at 2.8 billion Euros in 2019 or 0.44% of GNI.  | Switzerland's Health Foreign Policy (2019-2024) aims at promoting maternal and child health in partner countries and places SRH/FP and related rights as an integrative part of person-centred health care. The new Dispatch on International Cooperation, approved in 2020 and applicable to 2021-2024, also refers to the global programme on health, which asks for the promotion of SRH/FP. | <b>14 741 109</b><br><b>+4%</b>  | <b>17 260 072</b><br><b>+3%</b>  | <b>32 419 670</b><br><b>+12%</b>  | <b>Moderate transparency and accessibility</b> | Switzerland held federal elections in October 2019. These elections brought in a shift to the left with gains at the parliament level for parties such as the Greens and higher participation of women and young people, now representing 42% of seats.   |



| C2030E<br>COUNTRY | GENERAL ODA TRENDS <sup>6</sup>   | SRH/FP POLICY STANCE  | SRH/FP FINANCING <sup>7</sup> 2019 <sup>8</sup> (EUROS) <sup>9</sup> - PROPORTIONAL CHANGE 2019-19 |                         |                       |   | PAST YEAR OR UPCOMING<br>POLITICAL IMPACTS   |
|-------------------|---|---|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|
|                   |   |   | OVERALL<br>FUNDING TO<br>UNFPA   | MULTILATERAL<br>FUNDING | ALL SRH/FP<br>FUNDING | TRANSPARENCY<br>OF BILATERAL<br>FUNDING   |  |
| THE UK            | ODA was steady in 2019, amounting to 17.2 billion Euros, a small increase of 2% compared to 2018. The UK continues to meet the target of 0.7% GNI to ODA, after the International Development Act enshrined this ongoing commitment in law in 2015. | The UK continues to work towards the commitment of 24 million additional FP users between 2012 – 2020. In 2020, the country joined the Ouagadougou Partnership, which is focused on family planning and unmet need for modern contraception in West Africa. | 222 482 326<br>+61%  | 259 237 062<br>+23%     | 414 631 655<br>+29%   | High<br>transparency<br>and accessibility | Following UK elections in December 2019, the Conservative party secured a majority. One year after, a Trade and Cooperation Agreement finalising Brexit was concluded between the parties. Also in 2020, the Department for International Development (DFID) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office merged into the new Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and the UK's legal commitment to 0.7% ODA will be reduced to 0.5% for 2021 and beyond. |

Despite steady levels of net ODA in 2019, most European donors increased funding to SRH/FP. Only Belgium and Spain curtailed their investment, despite having kept the same amount of development assistance.

European governments' contribution to SRH/FP has also relied in different channels. The 2019 significant increase of 13% in overall SRH/FP funding was mainly due to international organisations (21%), excluding research, and earmarked multilateral projects (17%). Overall funding to UNFPA also increased by 19% when compared to 2018. These trends are discussed in more detail over the following sections.

# POLICY TRENDS AND HIGHLIGHTS

## 2019-20 SNAPSHOT



8 NEW POLICY DOCUMENTS



3 COVID-RELATED DOCUMENTS



1 ELECTION



HUMANITARIAN AID/  
FRAGILE STATES

European donors continue to be vocal about the importance of SRH/FP in international development. Further to FP2020<sup>10</sup> and SheDecides<sup>11</sup> pledges, all European donors made policy, and in some cases financial, commitments to at least some of the ICPD25 key areas.

The Nairobi summit represented a political breakthrough and was preceded by some positive building blocks. An example of joint efforts that led to this outcome include the joint statement introduced in the UN High-Level meeting on Universal Health Coverage (UHC), on September 2019, and which made the case for SRHR as a 'cornerstone' of UHC. Despite the turmoil brought in by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 was also stage for new European policy commitments.

## EUROPEAN VOICES FOR SRH/FP WITHIN THE BROADER DEVELOPMENT ARENA

European countries and institutions remain vocal about prioritising SRH/FP within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)<sup>12</sup>. The 2030 Agenda encourages active engagement by countries through Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), a regular follow-up of progress. In 2020, Finland was the only European country carrying out its VNR, which featured efforts in defending and promoting SRH/FP and the associated rights in the country's development policy<sup>13</sup>.

European donors continue to champion SRH/FP in the UN Commission on Population and Development and the UN Commission on the Status of Women. As an example, the Netherlands issued a statement during the 53rd session of the CPD reinstating its support to SRH/FP.

**10.** FP2020 is an outcome of the 2012 London Summit on Family Planning where more than 60 governments made commitments to address the policy, financing, delivery and socio-cultural barriers to women accessing contraceptive information, services and supplies. Another Landmark Family Planning Summit took place in 2017 and reinforced these commitments at the global level.

**11.** SheDecides is a global movement that aims at supporting the right of every girl and woman to decide what to do with her body, life and future. It was created in 2017 as a response to the reinstatement of the 'Mexico City Policy' by the U.S. government.

**12.** 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 <https://www.countdown2030europe.org/storage/app/media/JoiningVoices/SDG-and-FP2020.pdf> and here <https://www.thelancet.com/commissions/sexual-and-reproductive-health-and-rights>.

**13.** [https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26265VNR\\_Report\\_Finland\\_2020.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26265VNR_Report_Finland_2020.pdf).

2020 marked the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+25). After being postponed due to the COVID-19, the Generation Equality Forum (GEF) will take place in 2021 with France as a co-host. This marks the country's political stance towards a feminist foreign policy. The Forum will launch a set of concrete, ambitious, and transformative actions. Together with Denmark, France will be a co-lead of the action coalition on SRHR and Bodily Autonomy - one out of six multi-stakeholders coalitions for the GEF. Some other European donors have put themselves forward to lead on other action coalitions, in which SRH/FP will be further leveraged, such as Technology and Innovation, Gender Based Violence and Economic Justice and Rights. The mainstreaming of SRH/FP as a key issue in the different coalitions, not just in terms of good practices but also commitments, will be further supported through civil society representatives, including the French Consortium partner and IPPF.

On the occasion of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly celebrating Beijing+25, the Netherlands co-sponsored a joint statement delivered by Denmark on behalf of 81 other countries, including all European donors. This statement addressed the importance of SRHR for Beijing+25 and called on all governments around the world to safeguard SRH services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## ANOTHER YEAR OF POLITICAL CHANGE

**IRELAND** was the only European country analysed in this report with general elections in 2020. As a result, a new coalition of two major centre-right parties and the Green Party came into office. The Programme for Government states that Ireland will continue to 'reinforce ambition' in development assistance to address the potential impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Global South.

Two other relevant changes occurred in 2020, as a result of general elections from the previous year:

→ A new government in **BELGIUM** took place, after over 1.5 years of delay. The Flemish liberal Alexander de Croo, previous Minister of Development Cooperation, is now serving as Prime Minister and Meryame Kitir the new social-democrat Minister of Development Cooperation.

→ Following the victory of the Conservative party in **THE UK**, the Department for International Development (DFID) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office merged into the new Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). The UK's legal commitment to ODA as 0.7% of GNI will be reduced to 0.5% for 2021 and beyond.

## EUROPEAN SRH/FP POLICIES

**EIGHT NEW SRH/FP RELATED POLICY DOCUMENTS WERE ENDORSED IN 2020:**

### HUMANITARIAN POLICY FINLAND

The policy includes SRH/FP as one of the central focus areas. The predecessor humanitarian policy did not include any reference to SRH/FP.

### NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON CONTINUED REDUCTION OF TERMINATION OF PREGNANCIES 2020-2024 NORWAY

Includes an obligation to follow-up on the country's international commitments to SRHR.

### GENDER EQUALITY HIGH COUNCIL'S REPORT ON THE FEMINIST DIPLOMACY FRANCE

Defines feminist diplomacy, including the focus on SRHR, and provides recommendations.

### DISPATCH OF FEDERAL COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SWITZERLAND

Dispatch of Federal Council on International Cooperation with SRHR mentioned in Global Programme on Health.

### FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (BMZ) 2030 GERMANY

The structural reform process "BMZ 2030" includes family planning as one of ten 'initiative themes' for ministerial bilateral cooperation.

### TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY WITH AFRICA EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

The different institutional positions towards a new partnership with Africa recognise the need to promote SRHR.

### 2020-2025 SUBSIDY FRAMEWORK FOR CIVIL SOCIETY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THE NETHERLANDS

SRH/FP is included in this new Subsidy Framework.

### GENDER ACTION PLAN III EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

The third generation of this Action plan, which aims at promoting gender equality through EU external action, includes SRHR as a thematic area for possible engagement, with specific objectives and indicators.

## OTHER RELEVANT POLICY AND PROGRAMMATIC POLICY TRENDS IN 2020 INCLUDE:

- **EU INSTITUTIONS AND AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES** have reached a political deal on the new agreement framing the parties' relations. As with its predecessor, the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, the new accord is expected to continue protecting SRHR. No information has been published at the time of writing of this report.

- **THE UK** joined the Ouagadougou Partnership, which is focused on family planning and unmet need for modern contraception in West Africa.

## EUROPEAN RESPONSES IN A YEAR OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC

From the beginning of its outbreak, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented impacts to global social and economic wellbeing. Existing forecasts indicate that several European donors will undergo serious budget cuts, including for development assistance and support to SRH/FP. The financial crisis in 2008 showed that, if ODA and development are not high on the agenda, these can easily become the hardest hit sectors during and after a financial crisis. Further, other types of income in low-and-middle-income countries are projected to fall substantially as a result from COVID-19, such as domestic public resources, foreign direct investment, remittances, and tourism - making ODA even more important to avoid a discontinuation of healthcare services. Understanding the severe effects that the pandemic is already having in poverty and inequality levels worldwide, movements have been striving to build support for international solidarity and equality, including the centrality of SRH/FP therein. European governments have been responding to and joining these calls.

In May 2020, ahead of the World Health Assembly, all European donors under analysis joined another 47 countries in a joint ministerial press release about 'Protecting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Promoting Gender-responsiveness in the COVID-19 crisis'. This was a prompt reaction that called for coordinated efforts in the global health crisis and for which 'funding sexual and reproductive health and rights should remain a priority'.

Some European governments specifically prioritised SRH/FP in their international financial response to the COVID-19 pandemic, while others reaffirmed their commitment to safeguard support to SRH/FP as part of their overall ODA, despite the crisis. Examples include Denmark, Finland, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the UK.

Also, in response to a joint C2030E partners' letter targeting the Nordic countries on the response to COVID-19, Ministers from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden reaffirmed their commitment to lead, develop and further expand the focus on SRHR in the context of 'Building Back Better'. Moreover, on September 2020, the Danish Crown Princess has accepted to becoming a member of the ICPD High Level Commission.

In addition to various official statements, some European governments' adopted strategies that include SRH/FP to address this crisis:

- **Belgium:** The Belgian Directorate for Development Cooperation developed a 'response strategy note', with a specific note on integrated health care, including SRH care and access to FP.
- **Spain:** The Spanish Cooperation Joint Strategy to Fight COVID-19, with priority interventions including a special focus on gender equality and to guarantee universal access to essential health such as SRH/FP.
- **European institutions:** the Joint Communication on the Global EU response to COVID-19 recognises that meeting SRHR needs is a key challenge to be addressed, followed by Council Conclusions that reinstate the need to uphold EU commitment in promoting, protecting and fulfilling SRHR.

## AN ONGOING FOCUS ON HUMANITARIAN AID AND FRAGILE STATES

In addition to the already identified humanitarian policy from Finland, there was increased European focus on SRH/FP in humanitarian settings in 2020. Some examples include:

- **Denmark** has committed to become the Lead of the 'Call to Action' on Protection from Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Emergencies, a multi-stakeholder initiative and key vehicle for SRHR in humanitarian aid. This followed the country's ICPD25 commitment to new funding to UNFPA's readiness programme for humanitarian crises.
- In a parliamentary question, the Development Minister of **the Netherlands** confirmed that humanitarian NGOs working with the government should use both the Gender and Age Markers, an important step in including SRH/FP in humanitarian plans.
- In **Sweden**, the 2020 Action plan for the Feminist Foreign Policy included stronger language than ever on SRHR in humanitarian settings.
- In **Spain**, the Basque Country Government continues to support the Joint Programme on Essential Services for GBV and will start to contribute in 2020 to UNFPA programme 'Addressing GBV and SRH needs of women and youth as part of mixed migration humanitarian response' in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Furthermore, given the current difficulties in tracking humanitarian funding for SRHR, civil society in Norway is engaging with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to safeguard adequate monitoring of these flows, following the Ending SGBV in Humanitarian crisis conference in 2019. This concern also remains integrated in C2030E's work, as recent research led by the Consortium reinstated this challenge and called for further improvement of indicators and reporting on SRHR humanitarian funding<sup>14</sup>.

14. More information about this research can be found [here](#).

# WHERE IS THE MONEY GOING? TRENDS IN EUROPEAN DONOR FINANCING FOR SRH/FP

## 2019-20 SNAPSHOT<sup>15</sup>

### FUNDING TO UNFPA

(core funding + UNFPA projects + funding to UNFPA Supplies):  
**644 482 326 EUROS (19% INCREASE COMPARED TO 2018<sup>16</sup>)**



**4 COUNTRIES  
REPORTING AN  
INCREASE**



**5 COUNTRIES  
WITH FUNDING  
SUSTAINED<sup>17</sup> AT  
2018 LEVELS**



**3 COUNTRIES  
REPORTING A  
DECREASE**

### FUNDING TO SRH/FP

(reporting through all streams excl. bilateral):  
**1 170 220 535 Euros (13% increase compared to 2018)**



**7 COUNTRIES  
REPORTING AN  
INCREASE**



**1 COUNTRY  
WITH FUNDING  
SUSTAINED AT  
2018 LEVELS**



**4 COUNTRIES  
REPORTING A  
DECREASE**

**T**he C2030E methodology employed to track European donor funding for SRH/FP is centred on the use of a core set of indicators to track trends in SRH/FP financing over time<sup>18</sup>. The consortium analyses trends for the following indicators:

**1. CORE CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNFPA:** Analysis of this indicator includes core funding to UNFPA, funding to earmarked UNFPA projects on SRH/FP and funding going towards the UNFPA Supplies Programme. This measure of funding to UNFPA is seen as a robust proxy measure for tracking funding to SRH/FP.

**2. MULTILATERAL FUNDING OF SRH/FP:** This indicator presents core funding going towards SRH/FP (% of FP and RH funding provided by NIDI) for the multilaterals that are tracked as part of this methodology, plus all earmarked SRH/FP multilateral funding.

**3. SRH/FP FUNDING THROUGH ALL STREAMS:** To present a more comprehensive picture of funding being channelled through all the streams that C2030E partners report on, the analysis also calculates the total of all SRH/FP funding streams reported by partners (i.e. core funding to multilaterals + project funding to multilaterals + funding to international organisations/initiatives/research<sup>19</sup>). This does not include bilateral donor to recipient country funding.

**15.** This analysis excludes funding from EU Institutions as confirmed data was not available at the time of writing. Please see section C3(b) for further information on EU Institutions.

**16.** It should be noted that funding from previous years, namely 2018, was corrected from last year's report. Details can be found in the methodology section.

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

**18.** Please see Annex 1 for an overview of the C2030E financial tracking methodology. Please note that this methodology has been updated for use from 2017 onwards.

**19.** This includes a change to the funding proportion to the GFATM specific to FP based on the proportion agreed at the 2012 London FP Summit, as per the Muskoka Methodology (this was previously 56% but has been updated to 5%). Data for 2018 has this 5% rate applied, but historic data has also been updated with this rate to allow comparability between 2012-2018. This also includes the removal of GAVI funding from trend analysis and other HIV-focused contributions. A final change relates to the number of SRH/FP research initiatives that are funded; this has now been capped at the top 3 most funded research initiatives. For comparability from 2012-2018, the top 3 research initiatives from historic years have also been selected (as opposed to more that were presented prior to 2016)

**4. TRANSPARENCY IN BILATERAL FUNDING OF SRH/FP:** This is a qualitative indicator rather than a numerical indicator like the others. Through tracking transparency in reporting of bilateral funding of SRH/FP, partners are generating a clearer picture of the key challenges, changes and trends in how their country reports on bilateral funding data for SRH/FP. This qualitative indicator is based on a judgement by the partner as to how transparent / accessible their country's data on bilateral funding of SRH/FP is. There is a 3-point scale by which partners can judge this:

**1: High transparency and accessibility:** detailed disaggregated data is available through regular government reports from which it is easy to identify SRH/FP specific bilateral funding;

**2: Moderate transparency and accessibility:** High-Level reporting on bilateral funding is available with some indication of the amount going towards SRH/FP although no further detail on the specifics of programmes or recipient countries is available;

**3: Low transparency and accessibility:** Government reporting on bilateral funding is not disaggregated in sufficient detail to identify SRH/FP expenditure; only general bilateral, or perhaps health sector spend is accessible.

## 1. FUNDING TO UNFPA

Overall, across all C2030E countries there was a 19% increase in funding to UNFPA between 2018-2019, an increase of 102.6 million Euros (see Figure 1 and Table 2). This represents an increase of 57% when compared to 2012 levels.



**INCREASED LEVELS:** Four countries: the UK (61%), Germany (46%), Norway (23%) and Finland (19%) reported additional funds. The most notable increases in monetary terms came from the UK and Norway.



**MAINTAINED LEVELS<sup>20</sup>:** Five countries: (Denmark, France, Ireland, the Netherlands and Switzerland) maintained 2018 levels of funding. Although Denmark increased by around 33% its core contribution to UNFPA, its contribution to the Supplies Programme decreased by around the same rate (31%), so there was no observed change in nominal values. The same was observed in the Netherlands: the 20% increase in earmarked programmes was offset by the 12% decline for the Supplies programme.



**DECREASED LEVELS:** Three countries: Belgium (-24%), Spain (-22%) and Sweden (-13%). This represents almost 18 million Euros less than what was funded in 2018 by these three countries. Comparing to 2012 instead, Belgium's level of funding increased by 120%, Spain's by 61% and Sweden's by 57%.

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

**FIGURE 1: VARIANCE OVER TIME OF EUROPEAN DONOR FUNDING TO UNFPA CORE, SRH/FP PROJECTS AND UNFPA SUPPLIES PROGRAMME COMBINED (EUROS)**

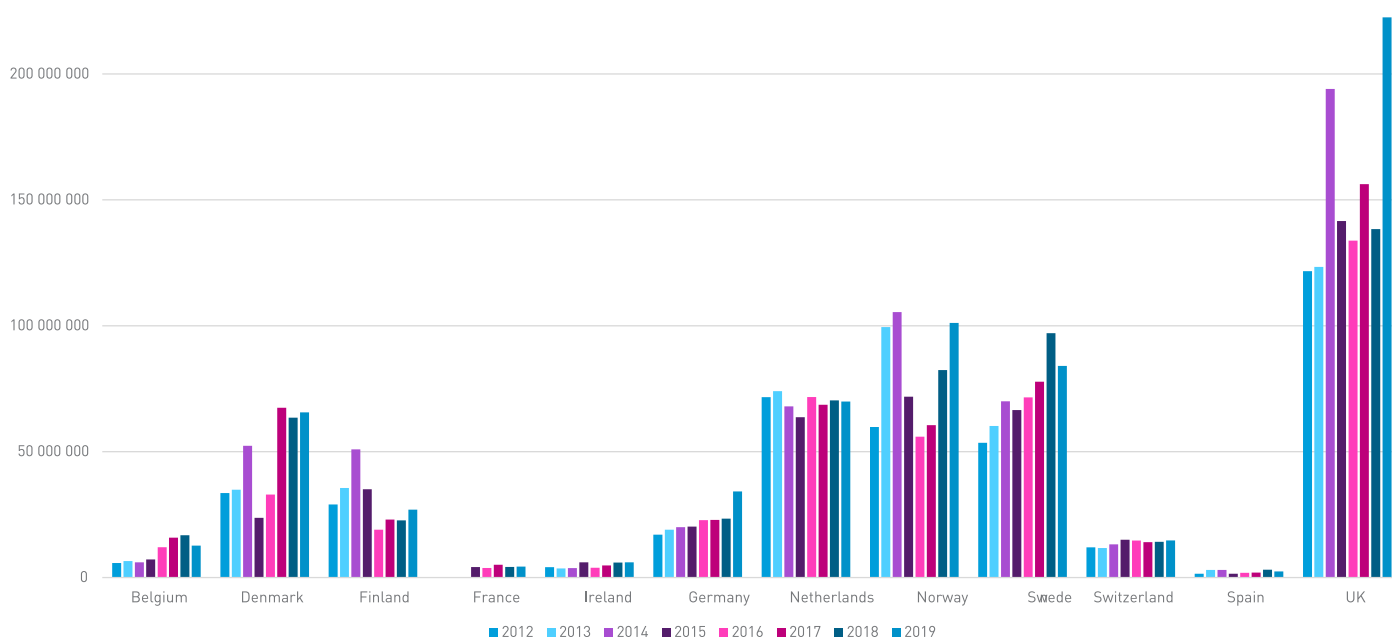




TABLE 2: FUNDING TO UNFPA BY COUNTRY AND YEAR, IN ORDER OF HIGHEST CONTRIBUTOR TO LOWEST. \*Countries contributing to the UNFPA Supplies Programme in 2019<sup>21</sup>.

| COMPARISON OF CROSS-EUROPEAN SUPPORT TO UNFPA (CORE SUPPORT + UNFPA PROJECTS + RH COMMODITY SECURITY PROGRAMME), 2012-2019, IN EUROS |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |                                       |                         |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| COUNTRY  | 2012        | 2013        | 2014        | 2015        | 2016        | 2017        | 2018        | 2019        | % CHANGE<br>[2012-2019] <sup>22</sup> | % CHANGE<br>[2018-2019] |
| UK (CORE)  | 24 664 836  | 23 550 053  | 24 810 202  | 34 442 378  | 23 414 153  | 22 294 484  | 22 279 657  | 23 507 287  | -5%                                   | 6%                      |
| UK (OTHER PROJECTS)  | 20 407 415  | 40 038 841  | 115 405 953 | 51 889 997  | 51 180 499  | 68 253 562  | 61 892 919  | 65 571 183  | 221%                                  | 6%                      |
| UK (RHCSP)   | 76 584 315  | 59 769 304  | 53 840 309  | 55 238 617  | 59 183 656  | 65 678 680  | 54 218 416  | 133 403 855 | 74%                                   | 146%                    |
| UK*  | 121 656 565 | 123 358 198 | 194 056 464 | 141 570 991 | 133 778 308 | 156 226 726 | 138 390 992 | 222 482 326 | 83%                                   | 61%                     |
| NORWAY (CORE)  | 44 414 389  | 51 494 150  | 51 589 717  | 48 158 442  | 43 161 906  | 42 449 585  | 50 259 843  | 53 731 827  | 21%                                   | 7%                      |
| NORWAY (OTHER PROJECTS)  | 15 350 100  | 39 043 740  | 41 894 202  | 23 656 972  | 12 810 891  | 18 050 547  | 26 093 807  | 41 565 765  | 171%                                  | 59%                     |
| NORWAY (RHCSP)   | -           | 8 966 643   | 11 969 772  | -           | -           | -           | 6 031 181   | 5 829 396   | -                                     | -3%                     |
| NORWAY*  | 59 764 489  | 99 504 533  | 105 453 691 | 71 815 414  | 55 972 797  | 60 500 132  | 82 384 832  | 101 126 989 | 69%                                   | 23%                     |
| SWEDEN (CORE)  | 51 182 976  | 49 447 855  | 53 305 349  | 51 852 464  | 53 226 874  | 48 789 932  | 72 063 814  | 53 126 316  | 4%                                    | -26%                    |
| SWEDEN (OTHER PROJECTS)  | 2 323 563   | 10 714 797  | 16 684 956  | 14 646 985  | 18 343 796  | 28 983 543  | 24 963 919  | 30 918 559  | 1231%                                 | 24%                     |
| SWEDEN (RHCSP)   | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           | -                                     | -                       |
| SWEDEN   | 53 506 539  | 60 162 652  | 69 990 305  | 66 499 449  | 71 570 670  | 77 773 475  | 97 027 733  | 84 044 875  | 57%                                   | -13%                    |
| NETHERLANDS (CORE)   | 40 000 000  | 40 000 000  | 35 000 000  | 35 000 000  | 35 000 000  | 35 000 000  | 33 000 000  | 33 000 000  | -18%                                  | 0%                      |
| NETHERLANDS (OTHER PROJECTS)   | 635 901     | 1 003 200   | -           | 2 191 729   | 2 695 047   | 8 609 534   | 12 346 564  | 14 837 574  | 2233%                                 | 20%                     |
| NETHERLANDS (RHCSP)*   | 31 000 000  | 33 000 000  | 33 000 000  | 26 500 000  | 34 000 000  | 25 000 000  | 25 000 000  | 22 070 000  | -29%                                  | -12%                    |
| NETHERLANDS  | 71 635 901  | 74 003 200  | 68 000 000  | 63 691 729  | 71 695 047  | 68 609 534  | 70 346 564  | 69 907 574  | -2%                                   | -1%                     |
| DENMARK (CORE)   | 33 585 520  | 32 850 965  | 47 888 455  | 18 770 040  | 26 057 095  | 36 482 155  | 30 131 373  | 40 152 580  | 20%                                   | 33%                     |
| DENMARK (OTHER PROJECTS)   | -           | -           | 2 414 544   | 3 351 793   | 6 904 067   | 22 899 749  | 11 532 138  | 10 305 829  | -                                     | -11%                    |
| DENMARK (RHCSP)*   | -           | 2 011 284   | 2 012 120   | 1 608 861   | -           | 8 047 534   | 21 828 506  | 15 124 138  | -                                     | -31%                    |
| DENMARK  | 33 585 520  | 34 862 249  | 52 315 118  | 23 730 693  | 32 961 162  | 67 429 437  | 63 492 017  | 65 582 547  | 95%                                   | 3%                      |
| GERMANY (CORE)   | 16 000 000  | 18 000 000  | 19 000 000  | 19 000 000  | 22 000 000  | 22 000 000  | 22 000 000  | 33 000 000  | 106%                                  | 50%                     |
| GERMANY (OTHER PROJECTS)   | 1 000 000   | 1 000 000   | 1 000 000   | 1 200 000   | 750 000     | 900 000     | 1 400 000   | 1 200 000   | 20%                                   | -14%                    |
| GERMANY (RHCSP)  | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           | -           | -                                     | -                       |
| GERMANY  | 17 000 000  | 19 000 000  | 20 000 000  | 20 200 000  | 22 750 000  | 22 900 000  | 23 400 000  | 34 200 000  | 101%                                  | 46%                     |

21. Contributions from the UK here reported refer to financial year 2019-2020 (12 months).

22. When calculating the percentage of change between 2012-2019 in local currencies, some differences can be found: Norway's core contributions to UNFPA have in fact increased by 37% since 2012; in SEK, Sweden's overall support to UNFPA grew by 89%, with a rise of 25% in core funding and 1497% for UNFPA earmarked projects; Switzerland increased UNFPA core funding by 11% in CHF in that period; and, compared to 2012 the UK enlarged overall support to the agency by 92% in GBP, kept the same level of core funding and increased support to earmarked projects by 237% and 83% to the Supplies Programme. These changes are due to the conversion exchange rate and do not impact the general trends here reported.



| COUNTRY                             | 2012               | 2013               | 2014               | 2015               | 2016               | 2017               | 2018               | 2019               | % CHANGE<br>[2012-2019] <sup>22</sup> | % CHANGE<br>[2018-2019] |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| FINLAND (CORE)                      | 29 000 000         | 35 550 000         | 45 000 000         | 33 550 000         | 19 000 000         | 17 529 000         | 17 682 000         | 20 000 000         | -31%                                  | 13%                     |
| FINLAND (OTHER PROJECTS)            | -                  | -                  | 5 900 000          | 1 500 000          | -                  | 5 503 000          | 5 007 800          | 6 950 000          | -                                     | 39%                     |
| FINLAND (RHCSP)                     | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                                     | -                       |
| <b>FINLAND</b>                      | <b>29 000 000</b>  | <b>35 550 000</b>  | <b>50 900 000</b>  | <b>35 050 000</b>  | <b>19 000 000</b>  | <b>23 032 000</b>  | <b>22 689 800</b>  | <b>26 950 000</b>  | <b>-7%</b>                            | <b>19%</b>              |
| SWITZERLAND (CORE)                  | 11 947 481         | 11 697 246         | 13 172 822         | 14 983 280         | 14 676 812         | 14 017 873         | 14 198 243         | 14 741 109         | 23%                                   | 4%                      |
| SWITZERLAND (OTHER PROJECTS)        | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                                     | -                       |
| SWITZERLAND (RHCSP)                 | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                                     | -                       |
| <b>SWITZERLAND</b>                  | <b>11 947 481</b>  | <b>11 697 246</b>  | <b>13 172 822</b>  | <b>14 983 280</b>  | <b>14 676 812</b>  | <b>14 017 873</b>  | <b>14 198 243</b>  | <b>14 741 109</b>  | <b>23%</b>                            | <b>4%</b>               |
| BELGIUM (CORE)                      | 5 700 000          | 5 700 000          | 5 700 000          | 7 000 000          | 7 000 000          | 9 000 000          | 9 000 000          | 9 000 000          | 58%                                   | 0%                      |
| BELGIUM (OTHER PROJECTS)            | 57 085             | 842 785            | 357 225            | 158 949            | 5 060 080          | 4 829 656          | 5 762 723          | 1 669 272          | 2824%                                 | -71%                    |
| BELGIUM (RHCSP)                     | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | 2 000 000          | 2 000 000          | 2 000 000          | -                                     | 0%                      |
| <b>BELGIUM</b>                      | <b>5 757 085</b>   | <b>6 542 785</b>   | <b>6 057 225</b>   | <b>7 158 949</b>   | <b>12 060 080</b>  | <b>15 829 656</b>  | <b>16 762 723</b>  | <b>12 669 272</b>  | <b>120%</b>                           | <b>-24%</b>             |
| IRELAND (CORE)                      | 3 100 000          | 3 100 000          | 3 100 000          | 2 800 000          | 2 800 000          | 2 800 000          | 3 500 000          | 3 500 000          | 13%                                   | 0%                      |
| IRELAND (OTHER PROJECTS)            | 500 000            | -                  | 645 000            | 3 265 000          | 1 097 992          | 1 525 000          | 2 403 322          | 2 489 634          | 398%                                  | 4%                      |
| IRELAND (RHCSP)                     | 500 000            | 500 000            | -                  | -                  | -                  | 500 000            | -                  | -                  | -100%                                 | -                       |
| <b>IRELAND</b>                      | <b>4 100 000</b>   | <b>3 600 000</b>   | <b>3 745 000</b>   | <b>6 065 000</b>   | <b>3 897 992</b>   | <b>4 825 000</b>   | <b>5 903 322</b>   | <b>5 989 634</b>   | <b>46%</b>                            | <b>1%</b>               |
| FRANCE (CORE)                       | -                  | -                  | -                  | 550 000            | 750 000            | 550 000            | 550 000            | 1 100 000          | -                                     | 100%                    |
| FRANCE (OTHER PROJECTS)             | -                  | -                  | -                  | 3 600 000          | 3 000 000          | 3 500 000          | 3 635 000          | 3 270 000          | -                                     | -10%                    |
| FRANCE (RHCSP)                      | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | -                  | 1 000 000          | -                  | -                  | -                                     | -                       |
| <b>FRANCE</b>                       | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>           | <b>4 150 000</b>   | <b>3 750 000</b>   | <b>5 050 000</b>   | <b>4 185 000</b>   | <b>4 370 000</b>   | <b>-</b>                              | <b>4%</b>               |
| SPAIN (CORE)                        | 1 500 000          | 1 500 000          | 1 500 000          | -                  | -                  | 450 000            | 500 000            | 500 000            | -67%                                  | 0%                      |
| SPAIN (OTHER PROJECTS)              | -                  | 1 000 000          | 1 500 000          | 1 150 000          | 1 658 000          | 1 418 000          | 2 519 479          | 1 718 000          | -                                     | -32%                    |
| SPAIN (RHCSP)                       | -                  | 500 000            | -                  | 350 000            | 200 000            | 100 000            | 100 000            | 200 000            | -                                     | 100%                    |
| <b>SPAIN*</b>                       | <b>1 500 000</b>   | <b>3 000 000</b>   | <b>3 000 000</b>   | <b>1 500 000</b>   | <b>1 858 000</b>   | <b>1 968 000</b>   | <b>3 119 479</b>   | <b>2 418 000</b>   | <b>61%</b>                            | <b>-22%</b>             |
| <b>SUB-TOTAL CORE</b>               | <b>261 095 202</b> | <b>272 890 269</b> | <b>300 066 546</b> | <b>266 106 603</b> | <b>247 086 840</b> | <b>251 363 028</b> | <b>275 164 930</b> | <b>285 359 120</b> | <b>9%</b>                             | <b>4%</b>               |
| <b>SUB-TOTAL OTHER PROJECTS</b>     | <b>40 274 064</b>  | <b>93 643 363</b>  | <b>185 801 879</b> | <b>106 611 424</b> | <b>103 500 372</b> | <b>164 472 591</b> | <b>157 557 671</b> | <b>256 894 500</b> | <b>348%</b>                           | <b>15%</b>              |
| <b>SUB-TOTAL SUPPLIES PROGRAMME</b> | <b>108 084 315</b> | <b>104 747 230</b> | <b>100 822 201</b> | <b>83 697 477</b>  | <b>93 383 656</b>  | <b>102 326 214</b> | <b>109 178 103</b> | <b>102 228 706</b> | <b>65%</b>                            | <b>64%</b>              |
| <b>TOTAL (EUROS)</b>                | <b>409 453 581</b> | <b>471 280 862</b> | <b>586 690 626</b> | <b>456 415 505</b> | <b>443 970 867</b> | <b>518 161 833</b> | <b>541 900 705</b> | <b>644 482 326</b> | <b>57%</b>                            | <b>19%</b>              |

It is also important to disaggregate the three different flows that make up this composite indicator, to highlight in particular European donor support to UNFPA Supplies<sup>23</sup>. Operating in 46 countries with high rates of maternal mortality and low levels of modern contraceptive use, the thematic fund enters its third phase in 2021 until 2030 as the 'UNFPA Supplies Partnership'. With the transition to a new phase, the Partnerships governance is being re-designed and is expected to ensure stronger representation of civil society, including from the Consortium.

**TABLE 2** shows that the overall increase of 19% to UNFPA is partially due to a larger contribution to the Supplies programme (64%) between 2018 and 2019<sup>24</sup>. The biggest increase in relative terms came from Spain, who doubled the amount, followed by the UK. As part of its ICPD25 commitments, the UK made its first disbursement to a new Reproductive Health Supplies Programme, fully channelled to UNFPA Supplies in 2019. These funds represent 60% of UK overall support to UNFPA and confirm the country as the largest donor to the Supplies programme, followed by the Netherlands. Increased contributions from Spain and the UK counterbalanced reductions coming from Denmark, the Netherlands and Norway. The programme did not receive funds from new European donors in 2019, keeping as other supporters Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway and Spain. New contributions are expected in 2020, namely from Germany.

A slight rise of UNFPA core funding (4%) was also observed, mainly due to Germany's increase of 11 million Euros, equivalent of 50% of the country's contribution in 2018. Denmark also increased its core funding by 33%. In Sweden, what appears to be a lower total multilateral core support 2019 compared to 2018, is in fact a consequence of a multiannual pledge with amounts fluctuating over years. It followed a 25% increase in core funding reported by Sweden in 2018.

Finally, funding to UNFPA earmarked SRH/FP projects also grew by 15%. The largest increase came from Norway (59%), followed by Finland (39%) and the Netherlands (20%). The biggest reduction in relative terms came from Belgium, with earmarked programmes curtailing by two thirds. This reduction was nonetheless expected and will be offset by Belgium's support to SRH/FP through bilateral channels; starting in 2019, Belgium's multi-annual programmes with partner governments and serving 'She Decides' will become more significant financially. These funds, however, are not captured under the current tracking methodology.

## 2. MULTILATERAL FUNDING TO SRH/FP

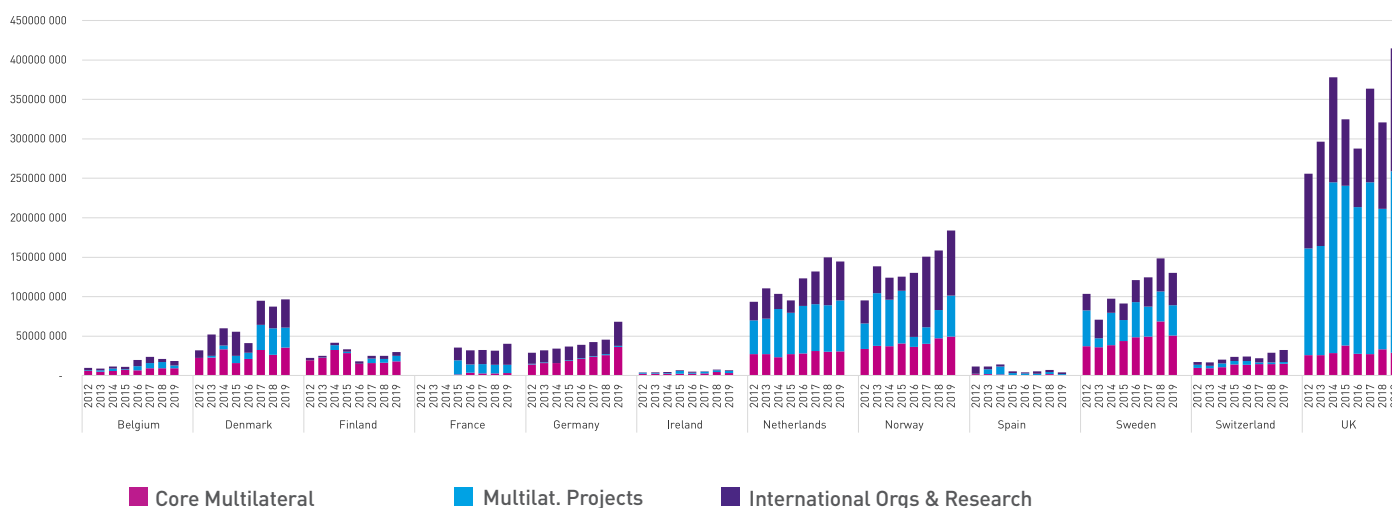
Overall, in 2019 there was a 10% increase in multilateral funding to SRH/FP, compared to 2018 (Figure 2). Based on core funding to multilaterals plus all earmarked SRH/FP multilateral funding, a total of 721 million Euros was allocated to multilateral funding in 2019; this represents an increase of 64 million Euros from the previous year. 2019 funding levels also bring in a 56% increase of multilateral funding to SRH/FP compared to 2012. The overall trends are presented below.

The following C2030E donors have increased their respective contribution to multilateral funding, including both core and earmarked projects: Germany (38%), the UK (23%), Norway (22%), Finland (18%), and the Netherlands (7%). Figure 2 also shows how C2030E country's multilateral support has differed over time, with some countries prioritising contributions to earmarked projects, such as the Netherlands, Norway and the UK, while others focus on core funding, like Finland, Germany and Switzerland.

**23.** This programme was previously called the UNFPA Global Programme on Reproductive Health Commodity Supplies (GPRHCS)

**24.** This does not include possible contributions from the EU institutions in 2019 or 2020.

**FIGURE 2: COMPARISON OF EUROPEAN SUPPORT TO SRH/FP, BY CATEGORY OF FUNDING 2012-2019 (EUROS)**



### 3. OVERALL FUNDING TO SRH/FP THROUGH ALL FUNDING STREAMS

Between 2018-2019, funding to SRH/FP through all streams that C2030E partners report on (excluding bilateral country to country funding) increased by 13%. Overall, C2030E countries contributed 1.170 billion Euros in funding to SRH/FP through all funding streams in 2019, an additional 138 million Euros compared to the previous year. The difference between 2012 and 2019 is even more notable: funding to SRH/FP increased by 74%, amounting to an additional 496 million Euros.

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



**INCREASED LEVELS:** Seven countries: Germany (50%), the UK (29%), France (28%), Finland (19%), Norway (16%), Switzerland (12%) and Denmark (10%) increased their funding. The biggest nominal increase came from the UK, by over 93.5 million Euros, mostly provided to UNFPA Supplies programme. This was followed by Norway, who supported earmarked UNFPA multilateral programmes by an additional 45%. Denmark, France and Germany increased core multilateral contributions and support to international organisations. Four countries enlarged SRH/FP support through all three streams: Finland, Norway, Switzerland and the UK.



**MAINTAINED LEVELS<sup>25</sup>:** The Netherlands was the only country sustaining the level of funding. The drop in support to international organisations was compensated by larger contributions to the multilateral system (core and earmarked) and research.



**DECREASED LEVELS:** Four countries: Spain (-41%), Belgium (-13%), Sweden (-12%) and Ireland (-11%). It should be noted that Ireland had increased its support to SRH/FP in 2018 by 34%. Spanish contributions, which had increased by 33% in 2018, were curtailed this year mainly due to overall core funding<sup>26</sup>. As above-mentioned, Belgium is focusing more on bilateral funding, not reflected in this snapshot, while Sweden's reduction was due to disbursements of changeable multiannual pledges.

**25.** For the purposes of this analysis, sustained funding is considered to cover the range -5% to 0% variance from the previous year

**26.** To be noted that information about Spanish funding in 2019 to the World Bank was not available at the time of writing.

This contribution had significantly increased in 2018.

TABLE 3: COMPARISON OF CROSS-EUROPEAN SUPPORT TO SRH/FP, 2012-2019, IN EUROS. RANKED BY TOTAL AMOUNT IN 2019.

| COMPARISON OF CROSS-EUROPEAN SUPPORT TO SRH/FP, 2012-2019, IN EUROS<br>RANKED BY TOTAL AMOUNT IN 2019 |             |             |             |             |             |             |               |               |               | VARIANCE<br>BETWEEN<br>2012-2019 |      | VARIANCE<br>BETWEEN<br>2018 - 2019 |      |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------------------|------|------------------------------------|------|
| Rank  | Country     | 2012        | 2013        | 2014        | 2015        | 2016        | 2017          | 2018          | 2019          |                                  |      |                                    |      |
| 1   | UK          | 255 870 476 | 296 307 201 | 378 331 775 | 324 797 239 | 287 773 023 | 363 856 165   | 321 021 263   | 414 631 655   | 158 761 179                      | 62%  | 93 610 392                         | 29%  |
| 2   | NORWAY      | 95 288 447  | 138 600 868 | 124 182 575 | 125 516 679 | 130 159 942 | 150 762 003   | 158 315 884   | 183 848 622   | 88 560 175                       | 93%  | 25 532 738                         | 16%  |
| 3   | NETHERLANDS | 93 432 570  | 110 619 359 | 103 450 593 | 95 473 279  | 123 195 075 | 132 126 118   | 149 842 054   | 144 581 714   | 51 149 144                       | 55%  | -5 260 340                         | -4%  |
| 4   | SWEDEN      | 103 507 334 | 70 931 919  | 97 545 456  | 91 228 544  | 121 167 614 | 124 629 719   | 148 716 845   | 130 373 540   | 26 866 206                       | 26%  | -18 343 305                        | -12% |
| 5   | DENMARK     | 32 204 574  | 52 308 069  | 60 133 680  | 55 722 472  | 41 091 811  | 94 932 929    | 87 426 236    | 96 554 192    | 64 349 618                       | 200% | 9 127 955                          | 10%  |
| 6   | GERMANY     | 29 046 859  | 31 867 671  | 34 225 719  | 36 621 173  | 38 938 807  | 42 372 065    | 45 552 680    | 68 202 875    | 39 156 016                       | 135% | 22 650 195                         | 50%  |
| 7   | FRANCE      | 0           | 300 000     | 0           | 35 365 116  | 31 930 439  | 32 638 612    | 31 651 966    | 40 358 775    | 40 358 775                       |      | 8 706 809                          | 28%  |
| 8   | SWITZERLAND | 17 072 086  | 16 741 638  | 20 192 080  | 23 771 966  | 24 047 213  | 21 898 534    | 28 822 581    | 32 419 670    | 15 347 584                       | 90%  | 3 597 089                          | 12%  |
| 9   | FINLAND     | 22 192 978  | 25 221 346  | 41 704 874  | 33 415 190  | 18 164 162  | 24 988 207    | 24 981 953    | 29 815 921    | 7 622 943                        | 34%  | 4 833 967                          | 19%  |
| 10  | BELGIUM     | 9 938 610   | 8 883 215   | 11 312 072  | 11 163 155  | 19 924 546  | 24 572 231    | 21 225 628    | 18 484 545    | 8 545 935                        | 86%  | -2 741 083                         | -13% |
| 11  | IRELAND     | 4 215 800   | 4 190 800   | 4 636 500   | 6 645 767   | 4 909 773   | 5 598 265     | 7 508 344     | 6 717 934     | 2 502 134                        | 59%  | -790 410                           | -11% |
| 12  | SPAIN       | 11 462 247  | 11 410 516  | 14 183 541  | 5 420 771   | 4 111 367   | 5 379 407     | 7 137 302     | 4 231 093     | -7 231 154                       | -63% | -2 906 209                         | -41% |
| TOTAL   |             | 674 231 980 | 767 382 603 | 889 898 865 | 845 141 351 | 845 413 773 | 1 023 754 255 | 1 032 202 736 | 1 170 220 535 | 495 988 555                      | 74%  | 138 017 799                        | 13%  |

## A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE...

The **COVID-19 pandemic** will likely affect European ODA budgets and possibly respective support to SRH/FP. This may be due to both shrinking European economies or a shift of priorities in countries' development assistance. Despite existing gloomy forecasts, some European donors **are projecting** increased SRH/FP funding contributions in upcoming years, and in line with announcements from the Nairobi Summit. For example, in 2019 Germany announced that BMZ's Initiative on Rights-Based Family Planning and Maternal Health, currently remaining at 100 million Euros per year, will be prolonged until 2023. Core funding for UNFPA will increase from 33 million in 2019 to 70 million Euros in 2020. Funding to UNFPA Supplies programme and international organisations such as IPPF is also expected to increase as of 2020. Finland has committed to provide 33 million Euros in core funding to UNFPA in 2020. Norway is expected to allocate 1.1 billion Euros to SRHR in 2020-25. This includes 76.4 million Euros to eliminate harmful practices in 2020-23, which is an increase of 7 million Euros compared to the 2018 annual level<sup>27</sup>. The UK has started disbursements of multiannual programmes focused on SRH/FP and Belgium has also started rolling out its strategies with partner governments. Also, several European countries have pledged increased contributions to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria (GFATM) for the period 2020-2022. It remains to be seen if these commitments will not be impacted by the global crisis caused by COVID-19.

European Donor countries and the EU made several financial commitments at the Nairobi Summit with a focus on international development cooperation<sup>28</sup>. While it is too early to track specific financial commitments made on the occasion of **ICPD25**, it is possible to identify some immediate steps undertaken by European donors and in line with their pledges.

**27.** The original commitment in local currency was of 10.4 billion NOK allocated to SRHR, out of which 760 million NOK are earmarked to eliminate harmful practices. This represents an additional 70 million NOK compared to 2018 levels. Figures converted with exchange rate 1 EUR = 9,9483 NOK.

**28.** Full list of European political and financial pledges is available [here](#).

## 4. TRENDS FOR THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

*At the time of writing, full dataset for 2019 on European Institutions spending on SRH/FP was not yet available, so financial data from 2018 was used.*

Due to the EU complex funding architecture, it is not always possible to access full dataset from European Institutions by the time of writing<sup>29</sup>. However, the inclusion of an EU analysis in this report remains valuable, as the EU is a unique actor in development cooperation. The EU Institutions are a key donor worldwide: they remained the fourth biggest donor globally, with an annual contribution of 13.2 billion Euros in 2018, following the United States, Germany and the United Kingdom. In 2019, EU institutions provided the fifth largest ODA amount, equal to 13.2 billion EUR, and having been surpassed also by Japan. In 2018 and 2019, the EU and its Member States remained the world's leading provider of ODA with an overall amount of 74.4 billion and 75.2 billion Euros, respectively. Despite this position, this reported the lowest collective effort on GNI since 2016. 2020 may provide a different picture, as the UK is no longer an EU Member State as of 31 January 2020.

2018 brought in a slight decrease of EU funding to SRH/FP, amounting to 95 million EUR. This decrease of 14 million EUR, or 13%, disrupted the general trend of increased funding from the past years. Since 2014, the first year of the current EU multiannual financial framework (MFF), overall EU support to SRH/FP increased mainly due to larger contributions to UNFPA: from 13 million Euros in 2014 up to 54 million Euros in 2018, a growth of more than 1.5 times.

**29.** A factsheet is usually published in May following this report. The 2018 factsheet can be found [here](#).

### BELGIUM

SRH/FP multi-annual programmes in partner countries have started, with almost 2.5 million EUR spent in 2019 and expected 15 million in 2020.

### DENMARK

Allocated over the promised 325 million DKK in 2019 to UNFPA.

### EU INSTITUTIONS

European institutions launched a call for proposals amounting to 30.5 million Euros and focused on adolescent SRHR.

### FINLAND

UNFPA core funding already increased in 2019 and is confirmed to the level of 33 million Euros in 2020

### FRANCE

Co-host of the Generation Equality Forum (GEF) in 2021, has positioned itself as a co-lead of the action coalition on SRHR and Bodily Autonomy of the GEF.

### IRELAND

The new Programme for Government reinforces the commitment to achieving 0.7% of GNI by 2030.

### NORWAY

Ongoing discussion to ensure adequate tracking of the 1 billion NOK commitment to SGBV in humanitarian crisis.

### SPAIN

The Basque Country Government has increased support to the Joint Programme on Essential Services for GBV up to 140.000 Euros.

### SWEDEN

Support to Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, as a channel for SRH/FP, increased by 14% for the period 2020-2022.

### GERMANY

the BMZ Initiative on Rights-based Family Planning and Maternal Health remains at an annual level of 100 million Euros.

### THE NETHERLANDS

Policy commitments having been confirmed in different multilateral fora, but financial commitments in upcoming years remain far from the annual pledge of 420 million Euro.

### THE UK

Disbursements to the Women's Integrated Sexual Health Programme (WISH) programme have significantly increased.



### ICPD+25 EUROPEAN COMMITMENTS

This is, amongst others, due to a 20 million Euros contribution to the UNFPA supplies programme, part of the EU 2018-2020 commitment of 25 million Euros, and strong humanitarian support channelled via the agency during this period. Overall EU funding to UNFPA was nonetheless curtailed compared to 2017, when it stood at 58 million Euros.

UNICEF and WHO are other multilaterals that remain relevant for EU support to SRH/FP. Funding to organisations and initiatives, including research, was also reduced by 17% in 2018, totalling 21 million Euros. This drop was observed notwithstanding the 2017 launch of the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls worldwide, which targets components broader than SRH/FP. European institutions continue contributing to the GFATM (Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria), with a disbursement of 166.500 million Euros in 2018, of which 8.3 million Euros are counted as contributions to SRH/FP.

Despite the slight decrease of funding observed in 2018, European institutions remain a strong supporter of SRH/FP, as reflected in various major policy documents. In addition to the 2017 European Consensus on Development<sup>30</sup>, EU institutions reinstated strong commitments towards SRH/FP in the negotiations of key partnerships, such as with Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and the African continent. New opportunities for the EU to uphold its commitments towards SRH/FP, particularly in the light of a response to the COVID-19 pandemic, include the finalisation of the negotiation and the programming of the proposed Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), under the next MFF, and the implementation of the new Gender Action Plan (GAP III)<sup>31</sup>.

**30.** Full policy document, that recognises SRHR as an important area of investment, in line with ICPD and Beijing Platform for Action, may be accessed [here](#).

**31.** The [new Gender Action Plan](#) includes a commitment of 85% of ODA going to new programmes with gender equality as a significant or main objective. Civil society, including C2030E,

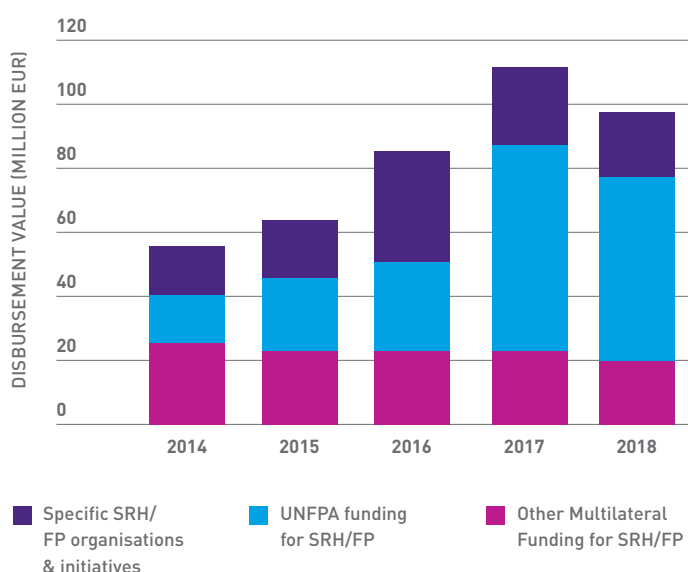
## 5. TRANSPARENCY IN BILATERAL FUNDING OF SRH/FP

Since 2016, C2030E partners have been scoring their country's level of transparency and accessibility of reporting on bilateral funding for SRH/FP.

### WHY BILATERAL FUNDING COUNTS

Bilateral funding in the context of C2030E reporting means government-to-government cooperation. This remains a predominant funding stream for health worldwide and a relevant one for SRH/FP in the case of some European governments. General and sector budget support, in addition to specific projects, can encourage government ownership and support the use of country systems. These are two key indicators of the development effectiveness agenda and the Addis Ababa Agenda for Action, to which all C2030E countries have adhered to. In addition to the significant amount of funding going through this channel, the importance of resource allocation at the national level for SRH/FP has also been acknowledged at global and European levels. The ICPD+25 final statement reinforced this component by stating international donors should not shy away from: "Using national budget processes, including gender budgeting and auditing, increasing domestic financing [...] to ensure full, effective and accelerated implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action". Bilateral funding is also expected to remain a priority channel to at least some European donors, as a recent governmental consultation led by the Consortium confirmed<sup>32</sup>. Such approach is considered by some to better address SRH/FP through health systems strengthening or to increase the involvement of partner country governments in reinforcing positive gender norms.

**FIGURE 3: SRH/FP FUNDING DISBURSED BY EU INSTITUTIONS IN EUROS.**



The Consortium's long-term experience in tracking funding by European donors had already shown that bilateral funding is the most challenging financial data to collect. The reasons for this are twofold: on the one hand, there is often little transparency by donors on their specific contributions to SRH/FP, both in terms of allocation and reporting processes. On the other hand, partner countries do not always offer solid statistical and monitoring systems to track their own detailed expenditure, namely within pooled funds. The Consortium is therefore pushing to increase transparency in the bilateral government-to-government cooperation, and to increase the support to SRH/FP therein.

**32.** Full consultation outcome 'Supporting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Beyond 2020: a European Vision' available [here](#).

Transparency of reporting on bilateral funding has remained stable in the last four years, with only two exceptions: five countries report High-Level transparency<sup>33</sup>, namely Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway, the UK and Sweden. Three countries have consistently reported moderate levels, namely Spain, France and Switzerland, and four countries reported low levels of transparency, namely Denmark, Finland, Germany and Ireland. Belgium and Sweden are the only countries who reported a positive change during the observed period; it should be noted that the former donor will increasingly resort to bilateral aid to support SRH/FP starting in 2019, and following ICPD25 commitments.

The way C2030E countries track bilateral funding varies, with many accessing data via donor-specific online databases or directly from their Ministry of Foreign Affairs. All C2030E partners confirm that their governments fund broader health initiatives/health sector-wide initiatives (such as health system strengthening projects) through bilateral aid and only in some cases it is possible to identify government-to-government funding specifically targeting SRH/FP or reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH). Most partner countries benefitting from this stream are African (80%), with other three countries in Asia and one in the Caribbean. Ethiopia and Mali are the countries that have the biggest concentration of European donors (three) contributing through this channel.

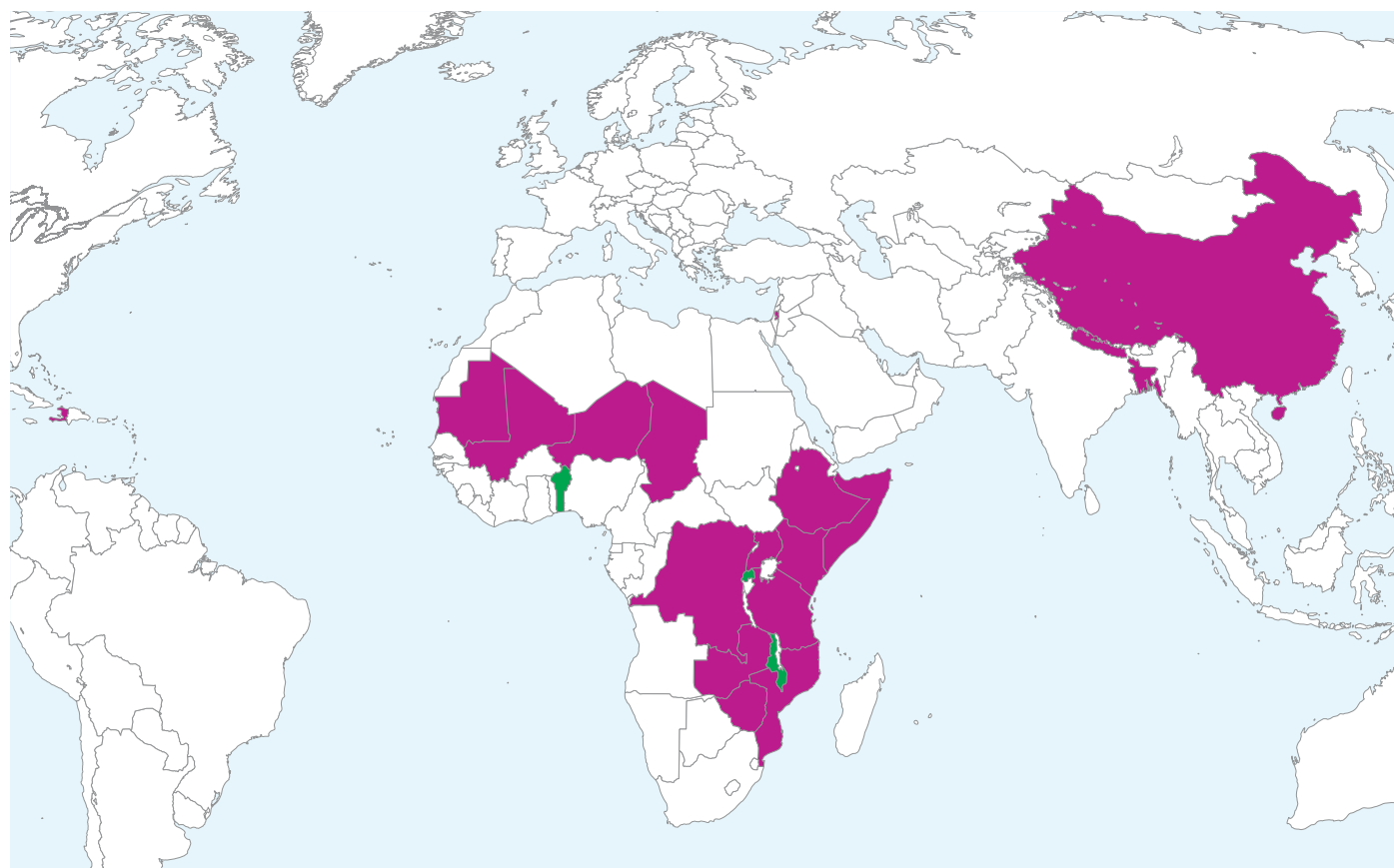
Despite transparency levels remaining consistent over the last four years, it is possible to assess some significant advances of increased support to SRH/FP in European donors cooperation with partner countries – some examples including:

- As above-mentioned, new bilateral multi-annual country strategies from **Belgium**, amounting to 60 million Euros, have started to include 'SheDecides' or SRH/FP support more structurally, starting in 2019. This is not accounted for in the current C2030E methodology, but it shows the Belgian government's commitment to this stream, in detriment of others, as reflected in the findings of this report. Belgian expenditures to be channelled through partner governments have amounted to almost 2.5 million Euros in 2019 and are expected to reach almost 15 million in 2020 and almost 21.5 in 2021.

- **Germany** is also expected to significantly, though not exclusively, rely in this stream to support SRH/FP, given its prolongation of BMZ's Initiative on Rights-Based Family Planning and Maternal Health until 2023, with a yearly amount of 100 million Euros per year.

**33.** The Consortium considers that there is still room for improvement of SRH/FP reporting through bilateral funding, even in the cases where high-level of transparency is identified.

**FIGURE 4: COUNTRIES THAT RECEIVED BILATERAL FUNDS ON SRH/FP, HEALTH OR REPRODUCTIVE, MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH FROM C2030E DONORS IN 2019. IN 'GREEN' THE COUNTRIES REPORTED AS HAVING BEEN RECIPIENTS OF BOTH SRH/FP AND HEALTH.**





## 6. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF C2030E DATA ALIGNED TO THE OECD

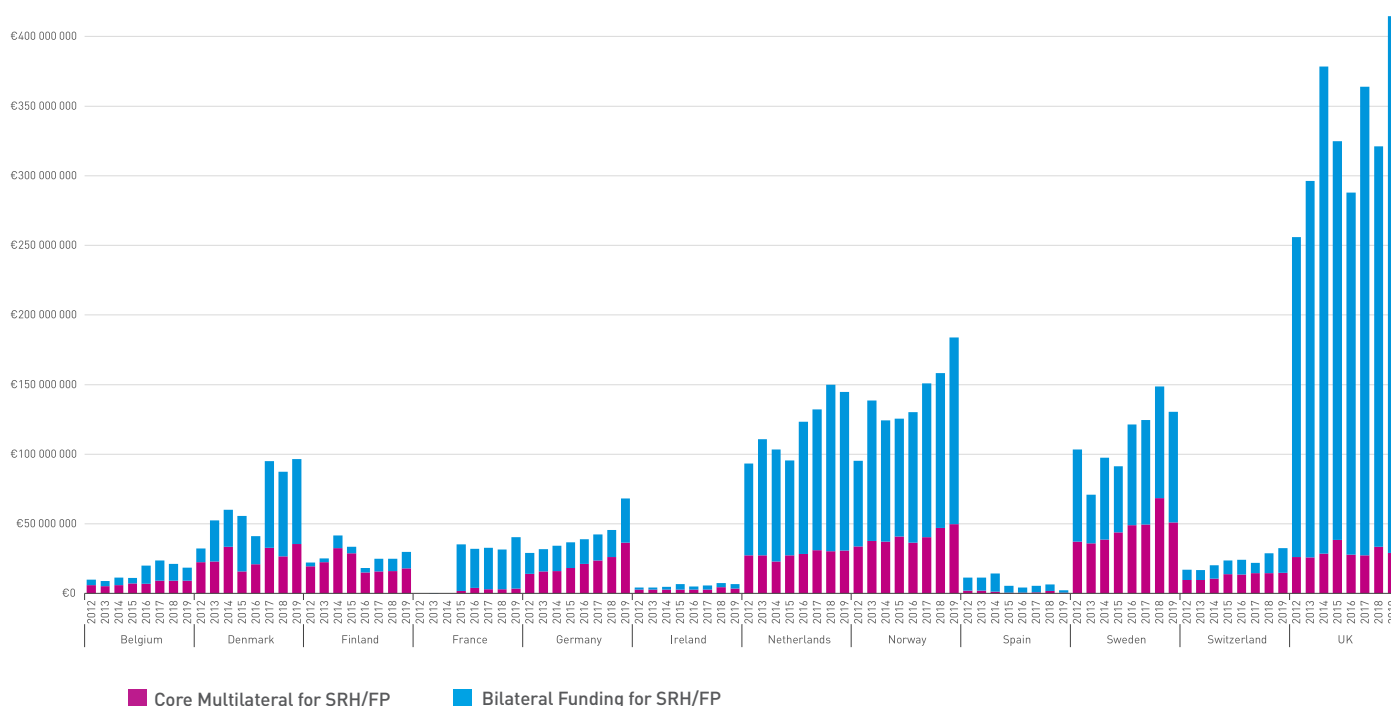
This section presents funding trends of C2030E data, aligned to the OECD DAC definitions, to allow the data to be more comparable to external tracking mechanisms. Analysis of the C2030E data is split into two categories, rather than the four under the C2030E methodology: multilateral and bilateral, the latter of which comprises different channels, as per the divisions below:

| C2030E CATEGORY                      | OECD-DAC CATEGORY |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Multilateral core                    | Multilateral Aid  |
| Multilateral project                 | Bilateral         |
| INGOs/campaigns/initiatives/research | Bilateral         |
| Bilateral                            | Bilateral         |

*Bilateral aid for the OECD-DAC is reported against the CRS purpose code list. Those mostly used for SRH/FP are under the 'Population Policies/Programmes & Reproductive Health' sector code. Some donors also report SRH/FP efforts under the 'Basic Health' code.*

Figure 5 below shows trends in 2019 funding for C2030E countries, in line with C2030E methodology and as per the OECD DAC definitions. It reveals that for most countries, bilateral aid – as in all except for core multilateral funding – is the predominant funding stream, namely Belgium, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the UK, whilst for a few, funding for SRH/FP is given more often through multilateral core channels (Finland and Switzerland). Some countries, Germany and Ireland, have disbursed funding equally through both channels. Figure 5 shows that there have been increased amounts both as core multilateral funding and channelled through bilateral avenues.

FIGURE 5: C2030E DATA ALIGNED TO OECD DAC METHODOLOGY, 2012-2019 (EUROS)





# ISSUES TO CONSIDER FOR FUTURE SRH/FP ADVOCACY

C2030E welcomes the reinforced commitments by European donors in 2019 and coordinated efforts to speak as one voice for SRH/FP in international spaces. The significant increase of financial contributions is commended, as well as European efforts to ensure SRH/FP is integrated in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**2** 021 will introduce the successor of the FP2020 partnership and be stage to the Generation Equality Forum, two opportunities to reinstate commitments to SRH/FP. It will also mark the beginning of the last decade to deliver the SDGs. Denmark, Germany, Norway, Spain and Sweden will be going through the process of Voluntary National Review of progress related to the SDGs. Unsurprisingly, the theme of the 2021 High-Level Political Forum will be linked to sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021 will be a make-or-break occasion for an efficient, effective and inclusive response to the COVID-19 crisis. There is a risk of reversing health and social gains as the COVID-19 pandemic is squeezing budgets globally. While all countries should re-examine policies and systems for enhanced resilience, it will be critical to

build back better. This would imply, not only avoiding business-as-usual approaches that increase vulnerabilities, but safeguarding progress that has already been made and creating opportunities to innovate and advance the SRHR agenda in a more comprehensive way in development cooperation. If SRH/FP and associated rights are not effectively integrated in donors' answers, acute needs that persisted in low-and-middle income countries even before the COVID-19 outbreak will worsen in the future.

The expected new US administration, coming into office in 2021, is likely to shake things up and repeal the Global Gag Rule, and could become an ally again to our European donors in promoting SRHR in international processes. However, this should not be interpreted as a reason to relax efforts on the SRHR agenda. In fact, the situation by the end of 2020 in the US, the biggest global donor, may be symptomatic of the galvanising spread of more adamant conservative movements.

European donors have a key role to play in promoting universal access to SRH/FP. Particularly in low-income countries, where national budgets tend to leave life-saving commodities underfunded and place the burden on out-of-pocket expenditures. Donors' support will hence become more important than ever, considering the multiple demands imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic stressing national budgets. A recent C2030E consultation confirmed that European governments remain committed to this goal in the upcoming decade<sup>34</sup>.

Going forward, advocacy will be key in maintaining this momentum and ensuring a continued focus on the critical issues of SRH/FP. With European ODA budgets decreasing, due the shrinking GNI, European support to SRH/FP should be at the very least sustained not to aggravate global inequalities. Given this scenario, the C2030E consortium is committed to continue its role in encouraging multi-year pledges sustaining investments, while ensuring accountability by tracking when and how respective SRH/FP expenditures are disbursed.

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**34.** Supporting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Beyond 2020: a European Vision. Available [here](#).

# ANNEX 1: METHODOLOGY AND ADDED VALUE OF COUNTDOWN 2030 EUROPE TRACKING

## WHY WAS THE COUNTDOWN 2030 EUROPE METHODOLOGY CREATED?

→ C2030E is a group of European NGO partners working in 12 European countries and with the EU institutions to advocate with their governments for support to SRH/FP. The consortium is led by IPPF European Network.

→ C2030E needed a consistent way to collect national data for local advocates – the C2030E Partners – to track what their national governments were committing and expending to SRH/FP, using national expenditure reports, easily to refer to in national advocacy activities

→ C2030E Partners looked at the SRH/FP financial data available, but none were ideal for the local advocacy partners, namely:

- Funding data categorised under OECD DAC population assistance: Although systematised, official and in the public domain, the data was questioned by many national government counterparts. This is mostly because the data come from official statistical units rather than SRH/FP-specific units within the government, and because there is huge scope for different interpretation and classification of the codes (either due to difficulty in assigning a specific CRS code onto a multi-faceted project, to lack of political motivation, or to lack of sufficient project information), thus affecting the quality of data. There is also difficulty in categorising general budget support that goes to SRH/FP. The data was also not published quickly enough to be useful for national advocates to use for monitoring purposes.

- NIDI UNFPA Resource Flows data: This relies partly on the OECD DAC data, and therefore faces the same challenges as above. In addition, data on population assistance are collected through questionnaires, directly sent to donors. The initial challenge of the data giving too little detail on SRH and FP breakdowns was overcome on the initiative of C2030E, suggesting modifying the questionnaire and ask for specific % on SRH/FP, but the often-low response rate on these details keep the use of these data for monitoring purposes challenging. Nevertheless, the % of a multilateral organisation's budget that goes to SRH/FP as reported by the multilateral agencies themselves is very useful for C2030E partners and part of its methodology. NIDI % rates were updated in December 2018.

- Euromapping reports: Many national advocates found that the presentation of these reports, which refer to the Muskoka methodology, is excellent to depict cross-country comparisons in donor trends. But the data source was again OECD DAC, which was out of date for the purposes of national advocacy and timely monitoring of European donor funding.

→ There was no systemised forum for presenting policy trends in SRH/FP across European donors, for example legislature, common development strategy approaches, or election effects. 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 articulate the context; this made it difficult for them to 'match' policy commitments from their governments with funding allocations, a key component of advocacy and accountability.

## HOW DOES THE COUNTDOWN 2030 EUROPE METHODOLOGY TRACKING WORK?

→ C2030E represent summary data on a dedicated web-based platform: <http://www.countdown2030europe.org>. All data can be changed 'real-time' – i.e. as it happens. So, when elections happen in country X that affect SRH/FP, or when financial commitments are made in country Y, the C2030E partner can alter their national profile. C2030E tracks the past year's financial expenditure, and also provides reflections on future budgets based on commitments in the policy section.

→ Policy data is public; financial data is password-protected, accessible to C2030E partners. This is because some government counterparts do not always feel comfortable with sharing financial data that is not always an official record yet.

→ C2030E partners collect data on their country's financial data to:

- Core support to multilateral organisations providing funding to FP and RH specifically (UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, World Bank). This is automatically categorised as being spent on the ICPD category of SRH/FP, using the proportions updated annually from the NIDI questionnaire to multilateral organisations. The percentages have decreased significantly as, since 2017, the FP and RH percentages were combined instead of using the much broader 'population assistance' percentages, to ensure a clear focus on SRH/FP funding. These percentages evolved over years: UNFPA: from 60,6% to 85,9%, UNICEF: 8,7% to 6,9%; WHO: 2,4% to 2% and the World Bank, reporting 0,5% of total disbursement.
- Project support to the same multilateral organisations that are relevant to SRH/FP. Earmarked funding for UNFPA projects on SRH/FP are now included in the 'overall funding allocated to UNFPA' indicator. This was done retrospectively for previous years as well.
- Funding to international organisations/campaigns/specific initiatives/research on SRH/FP with proportions and amount for SRH and FP.
- Narrative trends analysis with snapshots on bilateral country to country funding trends.
- Sources of data: C2030E partners obtain their data from national annual reports and from online national databases, followed by personal follow up with SRH/FP government counterparts and/or parliamentary questions. A handful of countries use the official statistics of OECD DAC as the starting source of data.
- The most challenging financial data to collect is bilateral funding. This is because many donors do not report disaggregated data and often recipient countries do not track how much of the received bilateral funding (especially through general or sectorial budget support) actually goes to SRH/FP. In several countries, this has led to increased demands from civil society for accountability on how general budget support or support through sector-wide approaches (SwAPs) is going to SRH/FP.
- The report applied the 2017 exchange rates for historical figures back to 2012 to make the data comparable.

→ Gathering the same data, in the same formats, within a network allows advocacy partners to compare their data availability and trends over time; this gives them the information to approach their national counterparts with requests for **more transparency**.

→ Tracking both policy and financial data together allows for **analysis of trends within wider realistic contexts** (i.e. numbers, and increases/decreases in values over time, are not presented in isolation but instead understood within a wider context of what is going on in the country). This has led to significant advocacy gains in a few countries (case-studies available upon request), when budget allocations in recent years had not match political commitment to SRH/FP but were flagged by advocacy partners including C2030E partners.

→ Data collected by C2030E partners is the **most recent financial data available** in the country and **policy data is real-time**. For example, as elections happen, national advocacy partners are able to update the tracking with results and analysis about how results affect the SRH/FP scenario.

→ Financial data is mostly obtained in direct communication with the SRH/FP-relevant point person in the relevant Ministries. This is possible because the **C2030E partners are local advocates** who have pre-existing relationships with the SRH/FP focal points in government, and **who know their national context intimately**. This allows for interpretation and discussion around how data is categorised, unlike OECD DAC data reported on the CRS system which is often completed by Statistics department who are not involved in the context of SRH/FP support.

→ C2030E is unique in actively and routinely using the data it collects for increasing donors' accountability and transparency. C2030E thus **bridges research and advocacy**. Several case studies have highlighted how this has **improved donor accountability and data transparency** over time.

## WHAT ADDED VALUE DOES THE COUNTDOWN 2030 EUROPE TRACKING OFFER NOW?

→ Obtaining data primarily from national annual reports allows for **reporting to be aligned to national reporting and coding systems**, rather than often less-detailed coding into OECD DAC categories. This is nationally-owned and up-to-date data.

→ The process of collecting data helps **build the relationship of trust and communication** between advocacy partner and government SRH/FP point person and broadens networks for advocacy with government departments beyond the traditional SRH/FP ones.

## 2020 REVISION OF DATA

In 2020, full dataset since 2012 was revised to further streamline the methodology across partners, namely in terms of i) what is reported as SRH/FP and ii) how, or which streams are used to report. Percentages provided by NIDI were also updated since 2015. For this reason, the key findings from the 2019-2020 analysis do not always match conclusions from previous editions of this annual report.



All data is also accessible  
through our online dashboard.

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