

Portfolio Overview

Sida's support to United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) 2013

Sida contributes to the work of UNFPA in the area of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, including Gender Based Violence. In 2013, Sida contributed to 16 UNFPA projects and programmes, with a total amount of 199 MSEK. In addition, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) provided 427.8 MSEK in core support and 3 MSEK in Multi-Bi support, totaling Sweden's funding of the agency to 630 MSEK. Sweden is one of the largest donors to UNFPA.

Financial Overview

Sida's support to UNFPA has steadily increased over the years, as illustrated in Table 1. The sharp peak in disbursements during 2012 was mainly due to a large multi-UN contribution, H4+, channeled through and administrated by UNFPA (Chart 1). H4+ is a joint effort to improve the health of women and children by the United Nations and its related programmes and agencies. The support targets service delivery, in accordance with the national plans for maternal, new-born and child health, for the period 2012–2015. This particular contribution somewhat skews the picture regarding Sida funding to UNFPA, as only part of the contribution remains with the agency.

Geographical and Thematic Distribution

As can be seen in Chart 1, the contributions to UNFPA are predominantly categorized as health support. The health sector relates to all health interventions, including Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and HIV/AIDS. However, a number of programmes are within Democracy, Human Rights and Gender Equality, a sector referring to programmes where UNFPA promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes for poverty reduction and ensuring that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.

Definition of Multilateral and Multi-Bi support (Core and non-Core contributions)

Contributions from Sida to UNFPA for programmes and projects are often entitled "multi-bi" (multilateral bilateral) support or earmarked, non-core contributions. These should be distinguished from non-earmarked contributions to the organisation's regular budget, usually called core support and also labelled "multilateral aid". The latter type of support is processed and decided upon by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The largest contribution in 2013 was to the Maternal Health Thematic Fund (69 MSEK). It aims at strengthening midwifery and has the objective to reduce maternal mortality and increase national capacity for maternal health. Sida also finances Swedish Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) through the Maternal Health Thematic Fund. The JPOs in UNFPA are midwives, and in this capacity they are an important part of the support to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). In 2013, there were four Swedish JPOs in UNFPA, working as midwives in South Sudan, Nepal and Bangladesh.

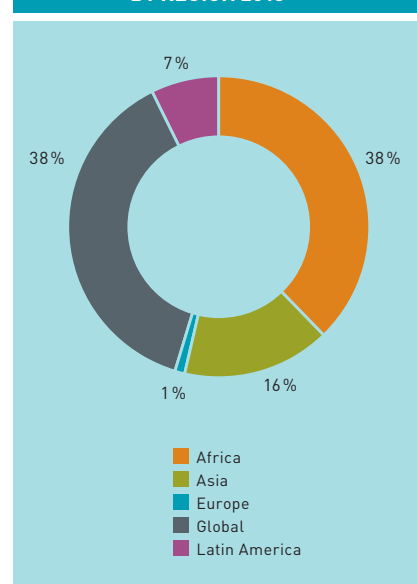
TABLE 1: SIDA'S ANNUAL DISBURSEMENTS TO UNFPA 2008–2013

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of Contributions	12	15	10	13	13	16
Total Amount (MSEK)	37	83	110	84	461	199

CHART 1: SIDA'S SUPPORT TO UNFPA BY SECTOR 2009–2013 (MSEK)



CHART 2: SIDA'S SUPPORT TO UNFPA BY REGION 2013



MANDATE AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

As the population agency of the United Nations, UNFPA promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. UNFPA supports countries in using population data for policies and programmes to reduce poverty and to ensure that every pregnancy is wanted, every birth is safe, every young person is free of HIV/AIDS, and every girl and woman is treated with dignity and respect.

UNFPA is guided by the Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)

in Cairo. The Strategic Plan for 2008–2013 set the framework for UNFPA support to programme countries to achieve their nationally-owned development objectives in three interrelated areas: (1) Population and Development, (2) Reproductive Health and Rights, and (3) Gender Equality. UNFPA focuses on supporting national ownership, national leadership and capacity development, as well as advocacy and multi-sectorial partnership to promote the ICPD agenda.

Results

Global Trends

Global trends indicate a reduction in maternal mortality and improvements in universal access to reproductive health. Maternal deaths have fallen by nearly half over the past 20 years, but approximately 800 women still die every day from childbirth and the complications of pregnancy. Over 50 countries reduced maternal mortality during 2000–2010 at a faster rate than during the previous decade. The use of skilled birth attendants increased from 63 per cent in 2010 to 67 per cent in 2011. However, out of the 74 countries where more than 95 per cent of maternal deaths occur, only nine countries are on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goal on improved maternal health (MDG 5). Evidence indicates that there has been steady progress in accessing reproductive health services, although only 51 per cent of women receive the recommended minimum

four antenatal care visits, and 220 million women have unmet need for modern contraception and family planning. In 2013, UNFPA enhanced its focus on addressing emerging issues in population dynamics, especially the bulging age group of young people in many developing countries and the ageing population in many developed countries.

UNFPA continued to implement its strategy for mainstreaming humanitarian response. In 2013, UNFPA emergency funds to country offices enabled UNFPA to scale up operations in a timely manner. As a result, UNFPA provided life-saving sexual and reproductive health services and implemented gender-based violence protection initiatives that reached more than 500,000 women in 17 countries.

Projects and Programmes

During 2013–2017, Sida supports the global Maternal Health Thematic Fund (MHTF).

With the support to MHTF in 2013,

- UNFPA strengthened midwifery by: (a) improving and expanding midwifery training in 30 countries; (b) completing midwifery gap analyses in six countries; (c) launching four multimedia online training modules; (d) establishing or strengthening midwifery associations in 26 countries; and (e) advocating and achieving better laws and policies that support midwifery work in 30 countries.
- UNFPA thus helped to improve the teaching and life-saving skills of over 1,000 midwifery tutors and provided support for over 190 midwifery schools through the provision of clinical training models, equipment and supplies.
- In Ethiopia, the availability of midwives increased by 35 percent; from 4,700 in 2012 to 6,325 in 2013.