

BELGIUM

DONOR PROFILE 2023

UNITED
FOR
GLOBAL
MENTAL
HEALTH

BELGIUM

% GNI/ODA 2022	2022 ODA	2021 DAMH
0.45%	US\$ 2.7 billion	US \$ 1.1 million

Spending 0.45% of its gross national income (GNI) on official development assistance (ODA) in 2022, Belgium partners with 14 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa and the Middle East. Health is a priority sector for the Belgian Development Cooperation, and access to universal health care is a guiding principle. About 15% percent of Belgium's ODA budget goes to healthcare. Its health interventions focus on strengthening health systems, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and combating HIV/AIDS.

GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Global mental health programmes supported by the Belgium development agency Enabel include psychological support for sexual assault victims in the Eastern Congo, a partnership with the NGO Auto-Développement Afrique to provide psychosocial counselling as part of a holistic approach to lift people out of extreme poverty in Rwanda and Burundi, and support for UNICEF to provide psychosocial support to children living in refugee camps in Jordan.

Belgium's leadership in global mental health is demonstrated by the 2018 high-level event in New York to share best practices on psychosocial rehabilitation and the psychosocial well-being of children affected by armed conflict, organised by Belgium

As a trained psychologist, Her Majesty the Queen Mathilde has been a staunch supporter of mental health and since 2016, has been a UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Advocate with a focus on mental health.

DOMESTIC MENTAL HEALTH

Belgium's mental health care system has undergone [many reforms](#) working towards deinstitutionalization. Belgium has a high rate of suicide in comparison to other OECD countries and has supported numerous suicide prevention campaigns.



KEY STAKEHOLDERS

[Enabel Development Agency](#) implements development strategy

The Directorate-General for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid ([DGD](#)) leads on strategy

KEY DECISION MAKERS

Prime Minister: [Alexander De Croo](#)

Minister of Development Cooperation and of the Major Cities Policy: [Caroline Gennez](#)

Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Affairs and Foreign Trade and the Federal Cultural Institutions: [Hadja Lahbib](#)

Minister of Social Affairs and Public Health: [Frank Vandenbroucke](#)

Minister of Finance: [Vincent Van Peteghem](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Enabel, the Belgium development agency, publishes grant opportunities on their website. Currently (by May 2023) there is an [active call for proposals](#) to enhance the availability and accessibility of mental health and psychosocial support for youth and their caregivers in Palestine. This follows previous calls for proposals for mental health awareness campaigns in Palestine.

According to [IHME data](#), Belgium spent US\$1.1 million on development assistance to mental health (DAMH) in 2020. This figure is only representative of government resources.

Funds supported by Belgium:	
UNFPA	UNFPA calls for the realization of reproductive rights for all.
Global Fund	The Global Fund invests US\$4 billion a year to defeat HIV, TB and malaria. The Global Fund strategy includes a significant commitment to mental health as a comorbidity and key point of intersectionality with the 3 diseases. You can apply for funding on their website.
GAVI	Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, is focused on increasing the sustainable and equitable use of vaccines worldwide. The current strategy (2021-2025) is narrowly defined with no reference to mental health.



Global Environment Facility	The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a multilateral fund dedicated to confronting biodiversity loss, climate change, pollution, and strains on land and ocean health. They fund government projects.
Green Climate Fund	The GCF is the world's largest climate fund, mandated to support developing countries raise and realize their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) ambitions towards low-emissions, climate-resilient pathways. Like the GEF, the GCF is also driven by government-identified national priorities.
Food and Agriculture Organisation	The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. FAO specialises in providing research and analysis to support policy making.
WHO	The United Nations agency for health. Belgium is a strong supporter of the WHO's mission to achieve Universal Health Coverage for all by 2030.
UN Women	UN Women delivers programmes, policies and standards that uphold women's human rights and ensure that every woman and girl lives up to her full potential.
UNEP	The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the UN system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment.
UNAIDS	The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) is the lead multilateral organization coordinating the global effort to end HIV/AIDS as a global threat by 2030.
CGIAR	CGIAR is the world's largest global agricultural innovation network. We provide evidence to policy makers, innovation to partners, and new tools to harness the economic, environmental and nutritional power of agriculture.
ILO	The International Labour Organization. Belgium are partnering with the ILO to finance the implementation of the ILO Programme on Social Protection Floors in West Africa for the period 2023-2025.
OHCHR	The leading UN agency for human rights.
UNDP	UN lead agency on international development.
UNICEF	UN agency for children.

KEY RESOURCES

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- WHO 2020 Mental Health Atlas [Country Profile](#)
- WHO [MiNDbank](#)
- [Mental Health Care in Belgium](#)
- [Enabel](#), Belgium's development agency, website.