

NETHERLANDS

DONOR PROFILE 2023

**UNITED
FOR
GLOBAL
MENTAL
HEALTH**

NETHERLANDS

Key facts:

% GNI/ODA 20222	20222 ODA	2021DAMH
0.67%	US\$ 6.5 billion	US\$ 30,000

In 2022, the Netherlands allocated 0.67% of its gross national income (GNI) as official development assistance (ODA), a decline since 2010 when ODA represented 0.81% GNI. The [2023-2030 Dutch Global Health Strategy](#) contains significant mental health commitments, including a recognition of the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health with state obligations to support access to healthcare services; a commitment to become a global advocate for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS); and an acknowledgement of the impact of COVID-19 on mental health and psychosocial wellbeing with particular emphasis on women and young people. The Netherlands focuses its ODA on low-income countries and specifically those in Sub Saharan Africa

GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

The Netherlands has a strong interest in MHPSS and has hosted numerous global mental health events, including the second Global Ministerial Mental Health Summit and an international conference on MHPSS in 2019. The Netherlands is a member of the Alliance for Mental Health and Wellbeing, and co-chairs the MHPSS donor group.

The Netherlands has supported [several global mental health projects](#). These include:

- Funding MHPSS services in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen and South Sudan
- Supporting Education Cannot Wait in the development of the WHO-UNICEF Minimum Service Packages (MSP) on MHPSS
- Supporting peacebuilding programmes with psychosocial elements in Myanmar.
- Training over 17 million Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency responders in psychosocial first aid
- Launching [Dutch Surge Support \(DSS\)](#). In response to requests from international humanitarian organisations, it deploys MHPSS experts to assist in relief efforts for anything between a few weeks to several months, during or after a humanitarian crisis.



DOMESTIC MENTAL HEALTH

Within the Netherlands the government supports a shift towards community-based care. It committed mental health institutions to reducing the number of their beds by a third by 2020 compared with 2008, as part of a shift towards deinstitutionalisation. In 2021 Parliament passed a Bill entitling people with severe psychiatric disorders to care under the Chronic Care Act.

Organisations working in mental health include [Trimbos Institute](#), [GGZ Nederland](#) and [113 suicide prevention](#). Dutch NGOs such as War Child are also very active in supporting the mental health needs of children affected by war and conflict globally.

The Dutch government has introduced a new reimbursement system for mental health care which aims to cut waiting times for services, an urgently needed step after the Covid-19 pandemic lengthened waiting times for children and young people. As part of its focus on the mental health of children and young people, the government used its [annual budget](#) day in September 2021 to announce an additional €1.3 billion, on top of the €300 million already committed to child and youth mental health care in 2019. Other priorities on the policy agenda are suicide prevention and e-health.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

There is no Dutch implementation agency. Rather, Dutch Embassies are responsible for implementing bilateral programmes with partner countries. The [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) leads on strategy.

In June 2021, the Dutch Queen Máxima, who is Patron of the [Orange Foundation](#), [announced she](#) will focus on mental health for the upcoming 10 years. Together with [Foundation MIND](#), the Orange Foundation will develop a programme to support mental health and wellbeing projects, with a specific focus on tackling mental health stigma.

KEY DECISION MAKERS

Prime Minister: [Mark Rutte](#)

Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation: [Liesje Schreinemacher](#)

Minister of Finance: [Sigrid Kaag](#)

Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport: Ernst Kuipers



FINANCING GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH

According to [IHME](#) data, the Netherlands contributed US\$30kin development assistance to mental health (DAMH) in 2021. This figure is only representative of government resources. The Netherlands tends to distribute ODA as grants and tends to focus on gender equality as a principal objective as well as peace and aid for trade. In 2020, 26% of ODA was channelled through multilateral institutions. Bilateral grant opportunities for NGO applicants are published on the Government of the Netherlands [website](#).

Funds supported by the Netherlands:	
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.
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.
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.



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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.
Central Emergency Response Fund	CERF enables humanitarian action by helping to kickstart relief efforts in a coordinated way when a new crisis emerges.
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.
UNHCR	The UN refugee agency.
World Food Programme	The World Food Programme is the world's largest humanitarian organization saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity, for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.
OCHA	OCHA coordinates the global emergency response to save lives and protect people in humanitarian crises.
IFAD	The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is a specialised UN agency investing in rural people to increase food security, improve nutrition and increase incomes. France is a founding member of IFAD and focused on the priority areas of climate change, gender equality and rural finance.
Education Cannot Wait	UN fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises. Funding windows are published on the ECW website .
Global Financing Facility	A country-led global partnership committed to ensuring all women, children and adolescents can survive and thrive. The facility is not a fund per se but uses small amounts of grant resources to catalyse larger sums of government investments.

KEY RESOURCES

- [Investing in Global Prospects: For the World, For the Netherlands](#)
- [Dutch Global Health Strategy 2023-2030](#)
- Sigrid Kaag's [Speech](#) at Global Ministerial Mental Health Conference 2019
- [Amsterdam Conference Declaration](#)
- [What is the Netherlands doing to increase the focus on MHPSS in crisis situations?](#)
- OECD Mental Health Analysis Profiles (MhAPs) [Netherlands](#)
- WHO Mental Health Atlas 2014 [Country Profile](#).
- Government website [grant opportunities page](#)