

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DONOR PROFILE 2023

UNITED
FOR
GLOBAL
MENTAL
HEALTH

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

KEY FACTS:

% GNI/ODA 2022	2021 ODA	2021 DAMH
0.22%	US\$ 55.3 billion	US \$ 5.7 million

While the US is the largest official development assistance (ODA) donor in real terms, ODA represented 0.22% of its gross national income (GNI) in 2023. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Strategic Plan for 2022-2026 does not reference mental health but contains objectives around global health security and improving equitable access to health care. Within global health, USAID has identified [three strategic priorities](#): 1) preventing child and maternal deaths; 2) controlling the HIV/AIDS epidemic; and 3) combating infectious diseases. The US remains the largest global health donor and is a significant bilateral source of development assistance to mental health (DAMH) according to the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation. USAID has committed to integrate [Mental Health and Psychosocial Support](#) (MHPSS) into their programmes as part of an inclusive development approach.

GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

The United States’ support for mental health is largely integrated into larger programmes, including humanitarian projects and HIV/AIDS programming. Examples of support [include](#):

- The integration of MHPSS into all USAID humanitarian responses, including for example funding a MHPSS project in Nepal following the 2015 earthquake, and providing crisis response experts to assist with mental health services in disasters (via the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance)
- Funding WHO and UNICEF to create a training tool for organizations globally to deliver MHPSS.
- Strengthening rehabilitation programs in torture treatment centers globally by supporting the integration of mental health care. USAID manages the Victims of Torture Fund, which supports mental health service providers and funds research in low- and middle-income countries
- Integrating mental health into HIV services
- USAID funded the World Bank’s first mental health advisor
- The US has also announced support for the WHO’s Special Initiative on Mental Health with a US \$3 million pledge.



USAID does not have a stand-alone mental health strategy however one is in development and mental health is integrated into the new USAID primary healthcare strategy. USAID also has a MHPSS Coordinator and a dedicated team that are working to increase action on mental health. The US hosted the fourth G7 Dementia Legacy event held in 2015 following a two-day conference on the state of the science at the National Institute of Health (NIH).

DOMESTIC MENTAL HEALTH

There are a variety of organisations work on improving mental health services within the US, including [Mental Health America](#), the [National Alliance on Mental Illness](#), the [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#), the [National Institute of Mental Health](#) and the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA).

The US' 2023 budget included a proposal from President Biden to spend \$51.7 billion over 10 years on behavioural health care in America including funding for a crisis hotline, prevention and early intervention services, and mental health workforce development.

A new initiative signed by Executive Order, the President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide ([PREVENTS](#)), will investigate US veterans' mental health and seek to reduce the group's suicide rate.

As a response to the increased mental health burden during the Covid-19 pandemic, the Biden-Harris Administration is [committed](#) to continuing progress made in children's mental health coverage and strengthening the quality of care. President Biden's 2022 budget called for a more than [doubling of funding to address mental health and substance use conditions](#). These resources will be used to support young people with behavioral health needs and their families, partner mental health providers with law enforcement, expand suicide prevention and support the hiring of school-based health professionals.

To raise awareness for mental health issues among young people, MTV Entertainment Group will host a [Mental Health Youth Action Forum](#) in 2022 in coordination with the Biden-Harris Administration. The aim is to engage young people from across the US, and encourage them to present their ideas to a diverse audience of media and technology professionals, government officials, and non-profit executives at a White House event. Their input will inform future public mental health campaigns.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS



The [US Department of State](#) sets out international policy and strategies and is headed by the Secretary of State.

[USAID](#) leads on implementing development programmes, and supports strategy. The US Department of Health and Human Services ([HHS](#)) implements global health programmes. The HHS includes: the National Institutes of Health ([NIH](#)), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([CDC](#)), the Food and Drug Administration ([FDA](#)), and the Health Services and Resources Administration ([HRSA](#)).

The National Institute of Mental Health ([NIMH](#)) is the lead federal agency for research on mental disorders, and is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the largest medical research agency in the world.

The Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance ([OFDA](#)) is responsible for leading and coordinating the US government's response to disasters abroad.

The US is a member of the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership ([IIMHL](#)) and a member of APEC, but not a core contributor to the digital hub for mental health.

KEY DECISION MAKERS

Secretary of State: [Antony Blinken](#)

USAID Administrator: [Samantha Power](#)

US Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Secretary: [Xavier Becerra](#)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The US has the largest ODA budget globally and is the largest global health donor; according to [Donor Tracker](#) in 2020, 41% of all OECD health ODA was provided by the US. The majority of US funding for global health is channelled through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief ([PEPFAR](#)). This includes bilateral funding for HIV/AIDS programmes, as well as contributions to multilaterals. The majority of US ODA is channelled bilaterally; 84% US ODA was bilateral in 2020.

Funds supported by the United States:	
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.



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.
UNHCR	The UN refugee agency.
WHO	The United Nations agency for health.
Global Financing Facility	The Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents (GFF) is a multi-stakeholder global partnership housed at the World Bank that is committed to ensuring all women, children and adolescents can survive and thrive.
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.
IOM	The International Organization for Migration is the leading inter-governmental organization promoting humane and orderly migration for the benefit of all
UNAIDS	The UN agency for HIV/AIDS
UNDP	UN lead agency on international development.
UNICEF	UN agency for children.



KEY RESOURCES

- [USAID Joint Strategy Plan 2022-2026](#)
- USAID. [Global Health Policy Requirements](#)
- WHO Mental Health Atlas 2020 [Country Profile](#)
- WHO [MiNDbank](#)

