



European Year for Development in 2015

2015 is a landmark year for international aid and development cooperation as the Millennium Development Goals come to their conclusion. Based on these, the world will come together to agree on a new course of action and post-2015 development agenda. Each month, the EYD2015 will focus on a different theme involved in development around the world, to raise awareness of the benefits of the EU's development cooperation in that field, and encourage direct involvement, critical thinking and active interest of EU citizens.

APRIL THE MONTH OF HEALTH

Around the world, the EU actively works to strengthen countries' overall healthcare systems and promote research and development in healthcare.

Health is a right for all. It is the foundation for inclusive economic growth and development, and is intrinsically linked to a wide range of development issues. When the international community set the Millennium Development Goals in 2000, many of them referred directly and indirectly to health.

Much progress has been made towards the three MDGs directly related to public health; however much more remains to be done:

- **Reduce child mortality:**
Global under-five mortality dropped by 49% between 1990 and 2013; but 17,000 children under the age of five still die every day, and inequalities persist, as four out of every five deaths of children under five occur in Sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia.
- **Improve maternal health:**
The maternal mortality ratio fell by 45% to 210 deaths per 100,000 live births from 1990 to 2013; and antenatal care increased from 65% to 83% in the same period. However, the maternal mortality ratio in developing regions is still 14 times higher than in developed regions.
- **Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other priority diseases:**
The number of people dying of AIDS-related causes fell to 1.7 million in 2011, down from a peak of 2.2 million in the mid-2000s. In 2010 there were 99 countries affected by malaria; mortality rates have fallen by 47% globally since 2000 and by 48% in Africa alone.



Mothers and their children in the Central Highlands of Vietnam accessing maternal health services, where the EU has provided support.

FACTS & FIGURES

- The EU provided comprehensive health sector support to 39 countries in 2012 alone, with child health a primary target.

Thanks to European Union support:

- Between 2004 and 2012
 - More than 8,500 health centres and facilities were built, renovated or furnished;
 - 18.3 million children were vaccinated against measles;
 - Over 7.5 million births were attended by health personnel;
 - Almost 17 million consultations on reproductive health took place.
- 18 million insecticide-treated bed-nets, an effective protection against malaria, have been distributed.

European Union and Health

The EU has greatly contributed to the tremendous improvements made in health, and continues to be a major contributor.

EU assistance provides comprehensive health sector support and helps countries achieve universal health coverage, focusing on reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. By integrating these goals into its development policy, the EU has made significant advances in achieving its global healthcare objectives since 2000.

In 2011, the EU confirmed its commitment to health, announcing that at least 20% of its 2014–2020 aid budget would be allocated to support human development and social inclusion, including health.

The EU maintains that one overriding goal of the post-2015 development agenda should be to achieve universal healthcare, accessible to all, with governments being accountable to their people for health outcomes.

As a complement to its country-level support, the EU also supports global health initiatives such as the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the GAVI Vaccine Alliance, as well as UN organisations such as the World Health Organization.



Sâa Yawo Koumassadouno, an Ebola survivor turned community health worker at an EU supported health facility in Guinea. Read his story on europa.eu/eyd2015

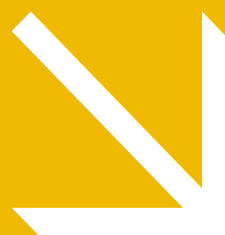
DID YOU KNOW THAT?

A Eurobarometer on citizens' views on development cooperation and aid (January 2015) found that a big majority of EU citizens feel that access to medical care when needed is the most important element for leading a life in decent conditions (65%). Moreover health is considered the most pressing challenge for the future of developing countries by 39% of Europeans.

THEMATIC MONTHS

Each month during the campaign will focus on a different theme involved in development around the world:

- January:* **EUROPE IN THE WORLD**
- February:* **EDUCATION**
- March:* **WOMEN AND GIRLS**
- April:* **HEALTH**
- May:* **PEACE AND SECURITY**
- June:* **SUSTAINABLE GREEN GROWTH, DECENT JOBS, BUSINESSES**
- July:* **CHILDREN AND YOUTH**
- August:* **HUMANITARIAN AID**
- September:* **DEMOGRAPHY AND MIGRATION**
- October:* **FOOD SECURITY**
- November:* **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE ACTION**
- December:* **HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE**



SPREAD THE WORD!

Join the EYD2015 campaign online!

Join the EYD2015 campaign online! Stay up to date with information and news on the official campaign website, join the conversation on Twitter (#EYD2015) and have your say on Facebook.

Infographics, online banners, campaign trailers and more materials can be downloaded from the EYD2015 website. You can also join the group "European Year for Development 2015" on capacity4dev.eu to join the debate and get the latest news.

To get more involved, you can join us at events across the EU, and spread the impact of the campaign by co-branding with the EYD2015.

europa.eu/eyd2015

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