

## BACKGROUND BRIEFING

This background briefing covers information on the focus of German development funding, recent demographic trends in Germany and the recently announced International Health Partnership.

### GERMANY DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

Germany is currently the third largest economy globally (behind US and Japan) and the largest economic power in Europe. Although Germany is a relatively large contributor to international organizations (4<sup>th</sup> largest to UN, 3<sup>rd</sup> largest to WHO) overseas development assistance (ODA) remains short of the European Union 0.5% 2010 target. The aim is to reach 0.7% by 2015.

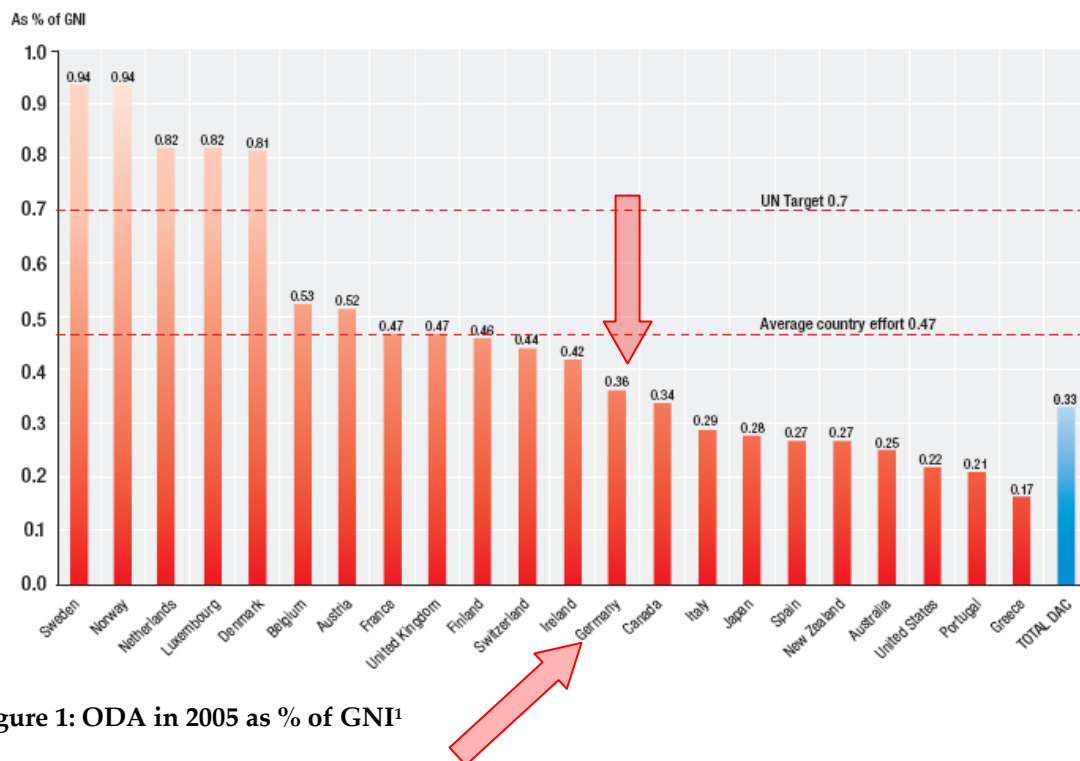


Figure 1: ODA in 2005 as % of GNI<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/8/7/38940434.pdf>



# Stop TB Partnership

Although not the only European country to have a large public deficit in excess of the maximum limit allowed for Euro zone members, Germany is working towards reducing the deficit to meet agreed limits. Achieving this in the immediate future may constrain Germany's ability to also meet the 0.5% ODA target in the foreseeable future.

## GERMAN DEVELOPMENT FOCUS (GEOGRAPHICAL AND TOPICAL)

Germany used its presidency of the G8 to reiterate its strong development focus on Africa, the summits' motto being "*Africa: good governance, sustainable investment, peace and security.*" Sub-Saharan Africa is a focal point of German bilateral aid and many high burden countries are located in this region. There is considerable overlap between partner countries for German development cooperation and the 22 high-burden TB countries (65% of the high burden TB countries are partners of German development cooperation, 22% of German partner countries are high burden TB). It is surprising then that little German attention is directed specifically towards TB, especially as TB is a major barrier to overcome for successful and sustainable economic development in Africa.

HIV/AIDS is considered an important topic for German development. TB receives little attention compared to HIV, for example TB is mentioned twice in the *Action Plan to implement the strategy of the Federal Government to fight HIV/AIDS*. The BMZ states on its website that "the BMZ has also promoted WHO special programmes serving in particular to combat infectious diseases, especially HIV/AIDS, and polio by using trustee funds."<sup>2</sup> Given HIV-TB co-infections are a major problem in Germany's development focal region sub-Saharan Africa, there is considerable scope and need for expanding focus to include TB and/or mainstream TB into HIV/AIDS programs.

Supporting TB programs reinforces and strengthens the success of HIV/AIDS programs. TB is the leading killer among HIV infected populations with weakened immune systems. Preventing deaths from TB, which is achievable in 95% of cases would therefore increase the success of HIV programs.

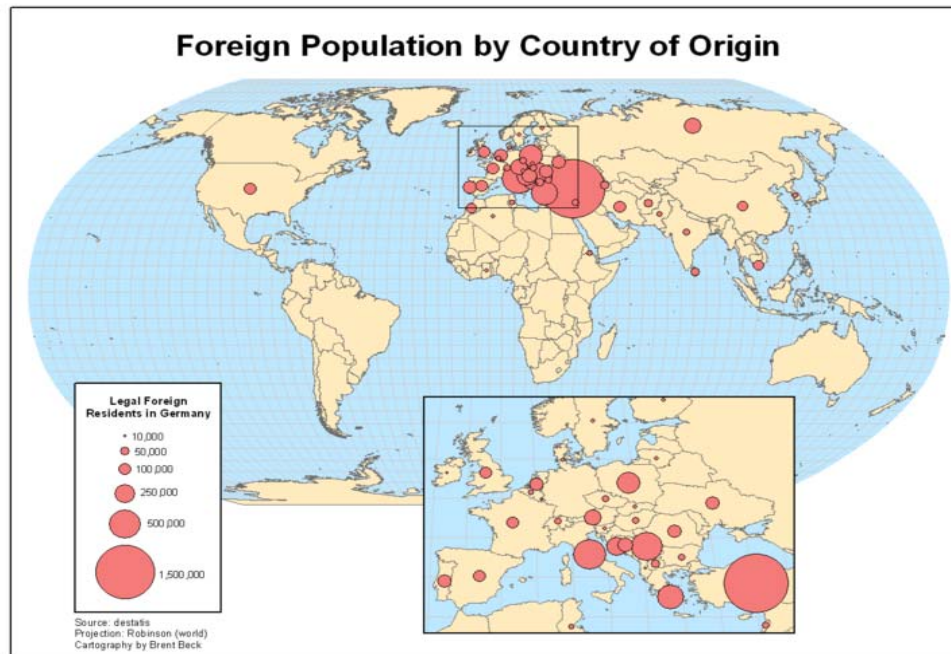
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<sup>2</sup>

[http://www.bmz.de/en/approaches/multilateral\\_cooperation/players/UnitedNations/WHO/index.html](http://www.bmz.de/en/approaches/multilateral_cooperation/players/UnitedNations/WHO/index.html)

## RELEVANT DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS

Germany would be experiencing negative population growth if it were not for migration to Germany. In 2003 nearly 10% of the total population were foreign born legal residents.



**Figure 2: Germany's foreign born population**

As can be seen from Figure 2, the largest single group of foreign born is Turks. However Germany is a favoured destination for migrants from Eastern European and former Soviet countries. There is little or no information on the number of illegal immigrants present in Germany.

Following the accession of 10 countries to the European Union in 2004, Germany chose to limit the freedom of movement due to concerns that the German social system would be inundated with migrants. These restrictions remain in place until 2011.

TB is not eliminated in Germany, but still occurs in 8.7 people out of 100 000. 44% of TB incidences in Germany are among foreign-born populations. With increased immigration from Eastern Europe where the burden of MDR-TB and HIV -related TB is high, there is potential risk of a rise in incidence in Germany.



# Stop TB Partnership

Furthermore there is evidence that it will be impossible to eliminate TB in Europe without TB being controlled globally.

## **INTERNATIONAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP**

In a joint statement on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2007 Chancellor Angela Merkel and Prime Minister Gordon Brown called for "urgent action" to improve health care in Africa, saying progress towards the health related Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) were "off-track." A new **International Health Partnership** was announced which will bring together major donor countries (including Germany) and key international agencies (including the WHO) to address health related MDG's including tackling specific diseases such as HIV/AIDS.

Merkel and Brown stated that "the TB epidemic is on the verge of decline" in public recognition of progress in the fight against TB. The Coordinating Board could request commitment specifically to TB to support this public declaration to ensure progress continues.

For more information on the International Health Partnership please refer to document: 2.07-4.2.

## **GLOBAL FUND REPLENISHMENT**

Germany hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of The Global Fund's Second Voluntary Replenishment in Berlin, 26 - 28 September 2007. Germany pledged €600 million (US\$ 849.1 million) for 2008 - 2011. Additionally Germany has projected contributions for Debt2Health amounting to €200 million (US\$ 283 million).