

# DFPA

THE DANISH FAMILY  
PLANNING ASSOCIATION



Danish Family Planning Association

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



## 2022 WAS A YEAR OF BOTH GREAT VICTORIES AND GIANT STEPS BACKWARDS

In Denmark, we were able to celebrate compulsory sexuality education in upper secondary schools finally becoming reality. This was announced during "Uge Sex", our annual CSE campaign, when Pernille Rosenkrantz-Theil, Minister of Education at the time, promised to meet the demands of students during an event arranged by the DFPA and the Union of Danish Upper Secondary School Students.

Comprehensive sexuality education strengthens the ability of young people to make choices for themselves and each other when it comes to gender, body, sexuality and health. It strengthens their ability to form good, respectful relations with one another – whether it being as friends, partners or lovers, and regardless of it being online or offline. Adolescence is the time when most people have their first sexual experiences, and it is also when the risk of contracting an STI is greatest.

When the school year 2023 to 2024 begins, sexuality education will be on the schedules of all upper secondary schools in Denmark. This is an important step towards securing comprehensive sexuality education as part of all secondary education, but we have not yet reached that goal, and so our work continues!

Unfortunately, 2022 will also be remembered as a dark year in relation to the right to bodily autonomy.



While Denmark will celebrate 50 years of legal abortion in 2023, American women entered a new, gloomy reality in June when the US Supreme Court overturned the Roe v. Wade verdict, which had secured the right to abortion since 1973. Soon after, several US states decided to limit or completely ban the right to abortion. Worst case, this rollback forces women to give birth to unwanted children or ultimately drives them to risking their own lives through unsafe and illegal abortions. This will cost women's lives.

The right to decide over your own body is a battlefield. Not just in the USA, but also in Europe where likeminded anti-gender actors put women's rights

under increasing pressure. We need not look further than Italy and Spain to meet women forced to travel far to get an abortion because doctors will not perform them. Or Poland with one of the strictest abortion laws in Europe today. A well organised and well financed opposition to gender and body rights is advancing, and we must not think that Denmark is an exception. What has happened in several Western countries in the last few years is clear evidence that the rights that we have won previously, must be defended continuously – otherwise we risk losing them.

*Majbrit Berlau,  
General Secretary*



## NEW INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Two new international grants were launched in 2022: Danida's Danish Arab Partnership Programme 2022 to 2027 and Strategic Partnership Agreement (SPA) 2022 to 2025. In collaboration with our sister organisations ATSR and AMPR, we aim to mobilise young people in Marocco and Tunisia to increase access to and knowledge about sexual and reproductive rights, health services and lower inequality between genders.

During 2022, we also launched the SPA in Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya as well as globally. Here, we work with a number of national organisations and engage in global negotiation processes to eradicate violence against women and girls and discrimination against LGBT+ people, to secure better inclusion of young people in political work, to protect the rights of women and minorities in private businesses and to promote equality in climate action.

## EQUALITY IN CLIMATE ACTION

The DFPA works to promote equality, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, in climate action, and under this mandate, we participated in the global climate summit in Egypt. However, our experience is that a systematic approach to equality in climate action is lacking as the parties negotiating are unable to address the critical issues.

In Uganda, the recognition of the importance of private sector involvement in human rights work is increasing. At a symposium on business and human rights in Kampala, the DFPA facilitated a session on decent work, in which our partners explained to the 100 participants how working conditions for women and minorities could be improved in practice in the workplace. This was the first session of the symposium, and we experienced great commitment from businesses, non-governmental organisations and civil servants alike.

## NEW GENERAL SECRETARY OF DFPA

After 24 years as the general secretary of the DFPA, Bjarne B. Christensen resigned in 2022, having made a huge contribution to the organisation over the years. Majbrit Berlau took over as general secretary of the organisation. Before joining the DFPA, Majbrit was the vice-chairperson of the Danish Trade Union Confederation and, prior to that, chairperson of the Danish Association of Social Workers.

Majbrit aims to place gender, body and sexuality on the political and public agendas. As general secretary, Majbrit also wishes to promote the alliances of the DFPA and its visibility as an organisation.



## 23,000 TEACHERS PART OF UGE SEX

In 2023, the annual Uge Sex (Week Sex) CSE campaign was entitled "Body, Myths and Misconceptions", focusing on bodily development and functions with the young pupils, while the older pupils worked with myths surrounding contraception, sex, bodies etc.

A new survey by Voxmeter on behalf of the DFPA showed that 41 per cent of young people have misconceptions or have been misinformed about whether the hymen bursts during intercourse – one of several myths that the campaigns aimed to bust. More than 23,000 teachers from all over the country signed up to the 2023 Uge Sex campaign.



## FIRST EVER STROLLER MARCH

Funded by the CISU (Civil Society in Development) engagement reserve, the DFPA arranged the "March for the world's mothers!" stroller march in collaboration with the UNFPA, focusing on global maternal mortality. 287,000 women die each year from complications related to pregnancy or childbirth.

300 people gathered at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs offices in Copenhagen on Mother's Day on May 8th, 2022. Following speeches and live music, we all marched along the harbourfront, carrying balloons, ending the day with children's entertainment and activities. The day was a success – and despite the serious topic, there was a cosy, positive atmosphere. There will also be a stroller march in 2023, and in collaboration with Momunity, a community for mothers, there will also be local stroller marches in the cities of Elsinore and Frederikssund.



## VOLUNTEERING FOR SAFER NIGHTLIFE

The DFPA volunteers work in five largest cities of Denmark, aiming to create a more consent-based party culture and a safer nightlife. As part of the campaign "Safe nightlife", the volunteers have arranged events focusing on the issue, have developed activities promoting dialogue and a social media campaign featuring "voices from the nightlife", and have entered into alliances and conversations with various organisations, municipalities and other relevant partners.

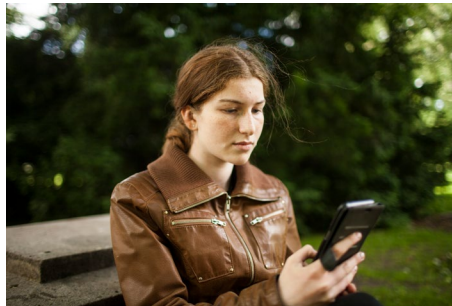
In addition, at events including the Democracy Festival of Denmark, the Roskilde Festival and Copenhagen Pride week, DFPA volunteers have arranged activities highlighting sexually discriminating and transgressive behaviour in Danish nightlife. The activities were all well received.



## CSE IN UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

In 2022, the signatory political parties to the upper secondary school agreement agreed that comprehensive sexuality education should be compulsory in all upper secondary schools starting from August 2023. This was announced after many young people had made it clear that they want to learn about subjects like consent, gender, the body and sexuality while they are young. The DFPA has been working on this for more than a decade, and we are very pleased that it has now been enacted.

Earlier in the year, the DFPA published an inspirational catalogue for upper secondary schools, explaining how CSE in upper secondary schools can be undertaken. The catalogue also focuses on consent which was the theme of the 2022 Uge Sex CSE campaign. In 2023, an updated version of the catalogue will be published, including the new compulsory framework for CSE.



## THE "SEXLINIEN FOR UNGE" HOTLINE TURNS 30

Sexual activity and puberty remain a challenge to children and young people. And even though it is now easier for young people to find information and stories online about other young people in similar situations to their own, there is still a need for counsellors who can help them with a perspective, an ability to act, knowledge and support.

The "Sexlinien for Unge" hotline celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2022, and the hotline continues to be a vaccine against myths, misinformation and ignorance among young people that can cause a failure to thrive or poor sexual health. Over the course of 30 years, we have counselled more than 200,000 children and young people by telephone, online chat and our virtual letterbox. Moreover, the Sexlinien.dk website has had more than 9 million visits since its launch in 1997.



## UKRAINE WAR TRIGGERS RECORD SUPPORT

The Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 caused mass destruction of the country and sent millions of people on the run. 80,000 pregnant Ukrainians were due to give birth within a short time, but the country's hospitals were hard hit, and many people were staying in underground shelters and cellars or were fleeing to other countries.

The DFPA sent out a cry for help to the Danish public, who fortunately responded promptly and provided support on a massive scale. In record time, we raised over DKK 200,000 to help pregnant Ukrainians to safety and provide safe births. The donations were passed on to our sister organisations working in and around Ukraine, carrying out vital emergency aid during the war. A huge thank you to everyone who donated!



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The financial development of the DFPA follows the progress of 2021, and the annual result was positive, showing a profit of DKK 1.9 million. This despite a 2 per cent drop in the gross income, ending at DKK 55.7 million. This is mainly due to 2022 being a year of transition in which a number of major grants were settled and new grants were allocated. The annual result was influenced in a positive way by two factors in particular: an increase of sales income from sexuality education activities and a change to the demands by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for self-financing of the Strategic Partnership.

The decline in activities and income mainly relates to the international activities, dropping by 9 per cent to DKK 26.4 million. The new partnership period of the Strategic Partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs began in 2022 with an annual budget of DKK 22 million. The first six months were spent developing projects and entering contracts with 14 partners in Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia. The Ministry

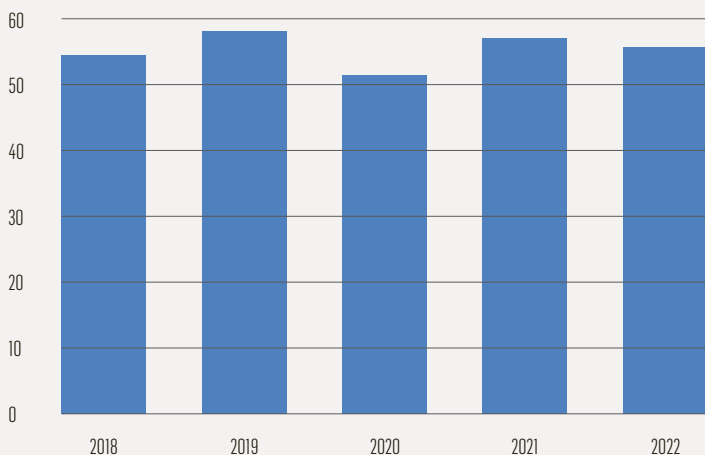
of Foreign Affairs is the largest donor to the association, covering 30 per cent of the total gross income. In addition, the first period of the Danish Arabic Partnership Programme (DAPP) in North Africa ended, and a new appropriation was granted in July 2022, while the funds raised during Operation Day's Work in 2021 were turned into a project supporting young sex workers in Ethiopia from 2022 to 2024.

The national activities have increased slightly by 3 per cent, constituting DKK 22.1 million in total. Our total allocation from the Danish Health Authority and the Ministry of Education makes up half of the funding of the national programme and was primarily spent on the Uge Sex campaign, teaching activities, counselling, and prevention in collaboration with municipalities all over the country.

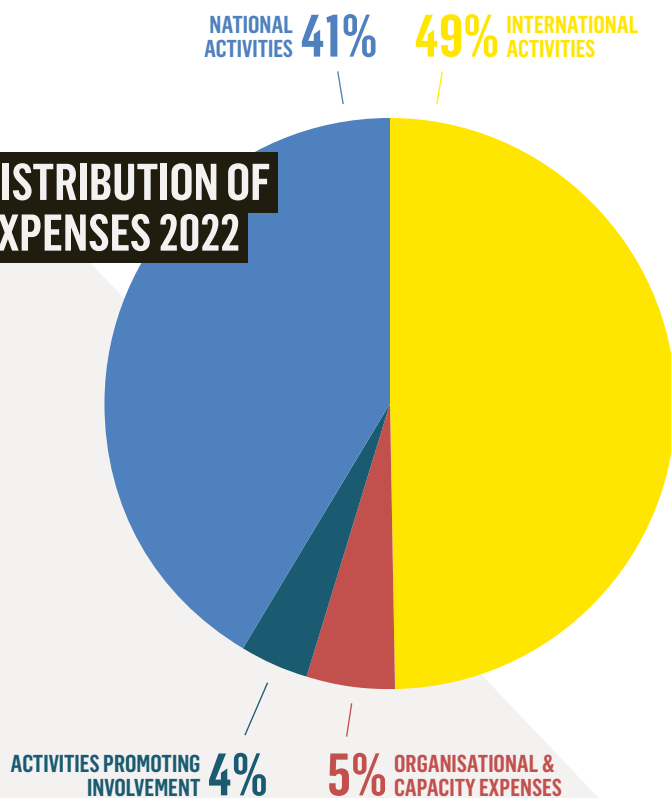
The income from private donations in 2022 is level with 2021 and thus amounts to DKK 3.4 million in 2022. We have ensured an even greater financial backing from private donors for the work of the DFPA, especially consent-related activities, LGBT+ rights and the fight for abortion rights in the EU, Poland and USA. In addition, DKK 233,350 were raised in support of pregnant and birthing Ukrainians fleeing from the war. This has resulted in a 45 per cent increase in the annual fundraising result.

## TURNOVER 2018-2022

Million DKK



## DISTRIBUTION OF EXPENSES 2022



## DFPA IN DENMARK

The DFPA is the strongest civil society organisation in Denmark in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights. We fight for the right of everybody to make free, informed choices about gender, body and sexuality as well as health, family planning and abortion. We fight to prevent STIs, unwanted pregnancies and sexual assault.

## DFPA WORLDWIDE

For more than 20 years, the DFPA has worked with local partner organisations in Africa, South-East Asia and globally in relation to political processes within and outside of the UN system. We collaborate with grassroot movements and national and international organisations. We work across sectors, and our partnerships, alliances and networks include government bodies, civil society organisations and the private sector.



The International Planned Parenthood Federation is a global provider of health services and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. The DFPA is the Danish member association of the IPPF, which has more than 20,000 employees and 143 member associations working in more than 140 countries in total.