



FAQ

Q.1. Which are the three main international agencies? Briefly highlight their initiatives.

Ans. The World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are the three key specialized international health agencies. The functional nature of the health agencies are generally divided into three types: multilateral organizations, bilateral organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). One of the primary themes that connects the interventions of WHO, UNICEF and UNDP are its commitment to themes of the UN Resolution (A/RES/67/296) which aims at establishing an umbilical link between health care issues and physical fitness from the early childhood.

Q.2. What is the significance of International Day of Sport for Development and Peace?

Ans. In order to raise awareness of this potential, 6 April has been declared as the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP) by the UN General Assembly. The adoption of this Day signifies the increasing recognition by the United Nations of the positive influence that sport can have on the advancement of human rights, and health, development and peace.

Q.3. What is meant by multilateral agencies?

Ans. The term multilateral means that funding comes from multiple governments as well as from non-governmental sources. The World Health Organization (WHO) is the premier multilateral international health organization as it is an internationally consented agency. The World Bank is an inter-governmental organisation.

Q.4. What is meant by bilateral agencies?

Ans. Bilateral agencies are governmental agencies in a single country which provide aid to developing countries. The largest of these is the

United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Theoretically, most of these agencies are meant to be autonomous organizations which, by special agreements, work with the UN and each other through the coordinating machinery of the Economic and Social Council. According to ECOSOC's constitution (1948), its principal goal is "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health."

Q.5. Discuss the role and interventions of World Health Organisation in the field of health.

Ans. The World Health Organization was established as a specialized agency of the UN in 1948. More than half of the UN members ratified the WHO when it came into existence officially on 7 April 1948 which is today celebrated as the World's Health Day. The founding charter of WHO is known for its high ambitions as it objectively declares for "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health," with health being very broadly defined as "state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." WHO supervises and coordinates health initiatives around the world. WHO initiatives on health cover the eradication of smallpox, cholera, HIV and typhoid, etc. WHO adopts a holistic approach to health issues as it pays equal attention to an overall healthy environment through awareness to prevent chronic diseases, people friendly medical policy, proper sanitation, cleanliness, fighting drug abuse and addiction.

Q.6. What are the key areas of interventions initiated by The United Nations Development Programs (UNDP)?

Ans. The United Nations Development Programs (UNDP) are at present operational at least in 166 countries. UNDP is the UN's global development network, focusing on the challenges of good governance, poverty reduction, energy and environment, and HIV/AIDS, etc. UNDP also coordinates national and international efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals aimed at poverty reduction. UNDP is credited for regularly publishing the annual Human Development Report which consists of an overall statistical report on the state of affairs in the world. UNDP's work on rule of law, justice and security seeks to enhance physical and legal protection of people and communities, ensuring legal representation, access to justice and empowerment of communities and civil society.

Q.7. Which are the countries where UNDP has mainly initiated health related interventions?

Ans. UNDP's consolidated health programmes have been developed in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, Iraq, Kosovo (UN administered territory), Liberia, Nepal, the occupied Palestinian territory, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Sudan (North and South), etc.

Q.8. What has been the main focus of UNDP's Global Programme on Accelerating Access to Justice for Human Development?

Ans. UNDP's global programme *Accelerating Access to Justice for Human Development* was launched in 2009. The main focus has been to strengthen and expand its on-going engagement and contribution to rule of law and access to judicial services for poor and vulnerable in over 90 countries worldwide. Another focus has been on ensuring rights of people from a bottom-up paradigm. The objective is to increase people's legal protection, opportunities and choices so that they are empowered to defend themselves and improve their lives and economic sustainability.

Q.9. What has the role of WHO in the context of sports and physical health?

Ans. Since 1984 the World Health Organization has been organising sporting events all over the world to encourage healthy lifestyle. WHO's commitment's to sporting events is associated with its fight against drug abuse, unhealthy lifestyle and tobacco use. WHO's vision also sees crucial link between sport, physical activities and health. Under the aegis of WHO significant programmes like the 2008 Action Plan on Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and the 2004 Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health (DPAS) have been developed and endorsed by the World Health Assembly.

Q.10. Elaborate the role of United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP) in the field of sporting activities.

Ans. Aptly responding to the initiatives of UN, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), also known as private voluntary organizations (PVOs), provide approximately 20% of all external health aid to developing countries. The largest NGO devoted to international health in the United States is Project Hope, with an annual budget exceeding \$100 million. Worldwide, the most important NGO in long-term international health is probably Oxfam, International. Founded in the United Kingdom in 1943, it now has affiliates in 10 other countries, including the United States. Recognizing the importance of sustaining momentum around the development potential of sport, UNOSDP performs the following duties:

- Holds conferences and issues reports
- Spread awareness about the benefit of sports
- UNOSDP was instrumental in organising the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Beijing in 2008.