



JPFP Newsletter

Secretariat of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)
Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

August 2024

Regional Parliamentarians' Conference on Gender Empowerment for a Green Economy Held in Pakistan

On 12 August, the Regional Parliamentarians' Meeting on Gender Empowerment for a Green Economy was convened in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan, which was attended by over 300 delegates, including parliamentarians, government officials, representatives from international organizations, NGOs, youth groups, and media from Asia and around the world. The opening ceremony was addressed by H.E. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Hon. Abe Toshiko, State Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology of Japan who represented JPFP, and other dignitaries. Hon. Abe noted that gender equality and environmental sustainability are deeply interconnected and that gender equality and women's empowerment are crucial to the achievement of the SDGs. Given that progress has been uneven, with certain countries lagging behind in specific areas, she encouraged participants, through parliamentarians' networks such as this, to unite and drive progress in these areas by sharing policy initiatives and legislation against gender inequality and forming partnerships.

The thematic sessions that ensued underscored the importance of the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action with a focus on gender equality, women's critical role and empowerment in responding to global crises such as climate change, and promotion of women's economic participation. The discussions raised persistent barriers, as well as legislative frameworks and policy reforms that were needed to address these challenges. The conference concluded with the adoption of the Islamabad Declaration as a course of action toward a gendered green economy. On the following day, 13 August, the delegates visited the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Pakistan's premier agency responsible for overseeing disaster management activities, and paid a courtesy call to H.E. Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, Chair of the Senate. The two-day event was widely covered by various media.

This meeting took place AFPPD Standing Committee Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, co-hosted as by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; Secretariat of JPFP), Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), and Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination of Pakistan, with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Japan Trust Fund (JTF) and the cooperation of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).



Parliamentarians' Regional Meeting on Ageing Preparedness and Care Economy in Asia in Malaysia

On 18 July, the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), together with the AFPPD Malaysia and with support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Asia and the Pacific Regional Office (APRO), organized the Regional Parliamentarians Meeting on Ageing Preparedness and Care Economy in Asian Region in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. More than 70 participants from 8 Asian countries, including parliamentarians, government officials, civil society organizations, and experts, attended the meeting to discuss not only how to address issues associated with population ageing, but also how to leverage ageing as an opportunity through technological innovations such as AI.

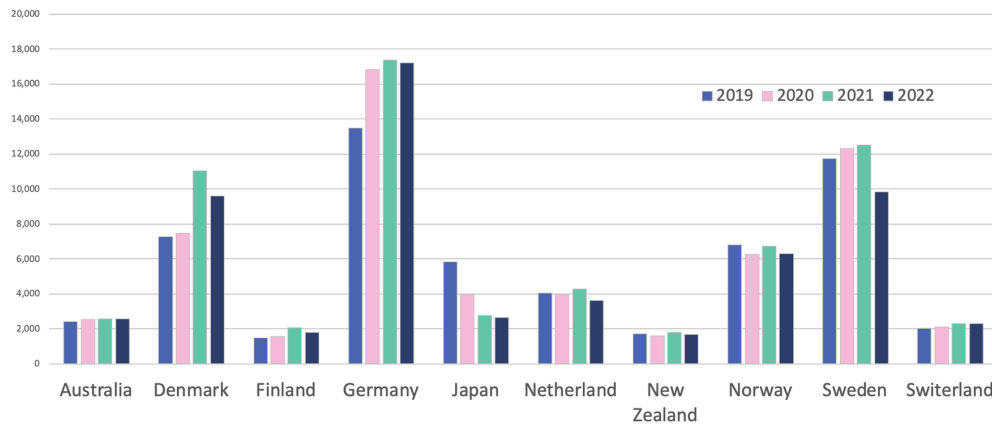
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IPPF's Humanitarian Responses

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), established in 1952, is an international NGO that is the world's leading service provider and policy advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). IPPF has a close working relationship with Japan, with Madam Kato Shidzue, one of the first female Japanese parliamentarians and one of Japan's family planning movement leaders, among its founders. In 2023, IPPF delivered SRH services to over 13 million crisis-affected people globally. For example, in Ukraine, IPPF provided comprehensive SRH services to 123,032 women and trained 5,850 healthcare providers. As of 2024, stronger support is urgently needed to address the SRH needs of 48 million people, especially women and girls, who are in humanitarian settings in 58 countries worldwide.

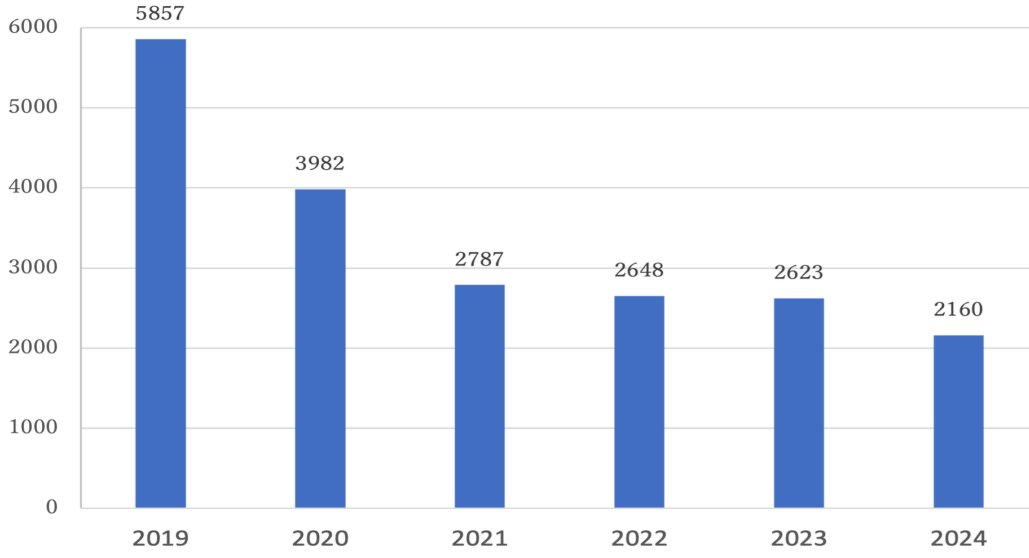
Japan's leadership in the field of population and SRH has been highly appreciated by the international community, but its support (unrestricted grants) to IPPF has been decreasing year by year. Japan's further support and collaboration with IPPF and UNFPA working in this field is highly expected in order to make meaningful international contributions, as well as address population- and SRH-related challenges in Japan.

IPPF Top 10 Donor Government, Unrestricted Grants, 2012-2022



(IPPF data 2024)

Japan's unrestricted grants to IPPF (2019-2024, USD '000)



(Adapted from IPPF data 2024)

JPPF

Established in 1974, JPPF has the longest history in the world as a supra-partisan parliamentary group on population and development. JPPF, in concert with APDA, has created a network of parliamentarians on population and development, through which a diverse range of knowledge and experience has been shared to accomplish concrete results.

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APDA

APDA since its establishment in 1982 has served as the secretariat of JPPF.

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Supported by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

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APDA is a certified public entity for the Medal with Dark Blue Ribbon.
This is awarded to individuals or organizations that
donate substantial funds to a certified public entity for
the benefit of the public.

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