

ROAD MAP FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY FOR DEN- MARK'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN 2011

FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Introduction

Freedom, democracy and human rights constitute one of five political priorities in the Strategy for Denmark's Development Cooperation: "Freedom from Poverty, Freedom to Change". The promotion of democracy and human rights is a key element of the Danish Government's value basis which is also reflected in the strategy for the Government's approach to International Human Rights Cooperation launched in 2009. The Strategy for Denmark's Development Cooperation stresses that Denmark will be at the forefront of promoting people's freedom, rights, and democratic development and use all relevant instruments in an innovative manner as part of this endeavour. This ambition was carried into action by the swift launch of Denmark's Freedom Initiative in support of the struggle for freedom and dignity of the populations of North Africa and the Middle East, initially in Egypt and Tunisia.

A variety of instruments and multiple partners will be involved in implementing the goals of the strategy. As the priority area is first and foremost about ideas changing minds, political dialogue with partners, including critical dialogue, is crucial. This comprises dialogue with governments of partner countries at all levels, with civil society and other non-state actors as well as with other donors and actors in regional and international forums. It involves active outreach to convince partners to support and respect human rights as universal values which should serve as a common normative basis for cooperation – normally in close collaboration with like-minded partners like the EU.

The priority area also encompasses support to more effective and more accountable public-sector management that can ensure good governance. This includes support to local service delivery and governance, public financial management, anti-corruption efforts as well as to stronger tax systems that can generate funds to finance public services. Corruption is a symptom of bad governance and support to the fight against corruption is an integral part of all efforts to ensure good governance.

Sub-strategy papers such as "Democratization and Human Rights for the Benefit of the People (2009)", "Effective and Accountable Public Sector Management (2007)", "Strategy for Danish Support to Civil Society (2008)" provide more detailed guidance on concrete core areas of support. At the operational level a number of "How to Notes" providing advice on possible entry points for support and key support elements have been published in order to ensure that new interventions are based on the new development strategy. A new Anti-Corruption Policy for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was launched in February 2011. The new Anti-Corruption Policy applies to all staff members home and abroad and replaces Danida's Anti-Corruption Code of Conduct from 2008. The activities launched with the Danida Action Plan to Fight Corruption from 2003 have now been mainstreamed as standing operation procedures in Danida's efforts to prevent and fight corruption. Priority will be given to continue and consolidate efforts and systems already in place and supplement existing efforts by a few focused, additional activities.

Danish efforts to ensure the respect for the freedom and rights of individuals takes place on several levels: through political dialogue in the framework of EU partnership agreements with third countries (e.g. Cotonou Agreement, Stabilisation and Association Agreements, Partnership and Cooperation Agreements etc.), through negotiations within the UN, i. a. in the Human Rights Council, and through direct support to partner countries. A major part of support will be large bilateral programmes in support of human rights, democracy and good governance. Programmes tend to be mixed, i.e. they cover several areas at a time, as problems are often interconnected and interventions need to take this into account. These large programmes have a timeframe of 5 years and budgets in the range of approx. 50-200 million DKK. In addition, most embassies support local NGOs and other non-state actors working in the field of democracy and human rights or contribute to multi-donor trust funds for civil society support.

Support is also provided to multilateral organizations' efforts in this field and to international NGOs and Danish institutions and NGOs working to promote respect for human rights, freedom of expression, freedom of association, the prevention of torture, indigenous peoples' rights and so on. The separate budget line for democracy and human rights on the Finance Act, which amounts to 150 million DKK in 2011, is used to finance such initiatives.

The roadmap highlights some of the most important actions undertaken to promote the ambitious agenda of the new strategy in 2011 but cannot fully capture the multitude of interventions, initiatives and activities Denmark undertakes to support and promote freedom, human rights and democracy in partner countries and through multilateral cooperation.

1. Strengthen international cooperation to promote freedom, human rights, democracy, good governance and the fight against corruption

Goal	Actions for 2011	Indicator
1.1. Strengthen international and regional institutions and forums with mandates to protect and promote human rights	a) Use the review of the Human Rights Council to push for improvements of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council	a) Candidates for membership of the Human Rights Council produce pledges that show that they live up to international human rights standards.
1.2. Promote human rights and democracy within the UN and other standard setting forums and ensure common high standards for good governance.	a) Support the independence of the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights and the UN Special Procedures/Special Rapporteurs against attempts to dilute their independence and ability to monitor, document and call attention to violations of human rights	a) No resolution or presidential statements that limit the independence of the OHCHR and the UN Special Procedures/Special Rapporteurs adopted during 2011

2. Prioritise respect for the freedom and rights of individuals and democratic development in the dialogue with developing countries

Goal	Actions for 2011	Indicator
2.1. Be at the forefront of promoting people's freedom, rights and democratic development. Rights must be respected and government's failures to uphold them must have consequences.	a) Promote the inclusion of a human rights and good governance criterion in the assessment of eligibility for EU budget support.	a) Respect for human rights and good governance included as eligibility criterion for EU budget support in the Commission Communication on the Future of the EU's Budget Support to Third Countries due in the fall of 2011.
2.2. Work to further partners' willingness and ability to observe human rights obligations and assist countries which are willing to guarantee basic rights and freedoms, but do not have capacity to do so.	a) Follow up on EU Council conclusions on freedom of religion and belief from November 2009	b) Freedom of religion and belief is an integrated element in all EU's human rights country strategies completed in 2011 for countries where minorities suffer discrimination due to their religion or belief

3. Strengthen efforts to develop free, democratic societies based on the rule of law, equal rights for all, open political processes and public participation, and an efficient and responsible public sector

Goal	Actions for 2011	Indicator
<p>3.1. Work to strengthen the basic rule of law and contribute to the development of well-functioning legal systems in partner countries.</p>	<p>a) Approve and initiate Programme to Support Human Rights and Rule of Law in Iraq 2011-13 with components on 1) human rights and 2) rule of law.</p> <p>b) Fight impunity by promoting adherence to the International Criminal Court and strengthening national jurisdictions' ability to prosecute persons responsible of committing serious crimes, i.e. positive complementarity.</p>	<p>a) Iraqi journalists publish at least three in-depth investigative stories in Iraqi media during 2011</p> <p>a) Iraqi policy created by cross-ministerial group to address family protection and gender based violence</p> <p>b) Report on implementation of resolution on positive complementarity presented by Danish and South African facilitators for positive complementarity during the Conference of the Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in New York in December 2011.</p>
<p>3.2. Work against discrimination against poor and marginalized groups, including indigenous peoples, and for their equal rights and access.</p>	<p>a) Review the implementation of the Danish strategy for support to indigenous peoples from 2001 to 2010 in collaboration with the Government of Greenland and formulate and implement future approach to support.</p> <p>b) Continue efforts to fight discrimination and criminalization of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender individuals at the normative level in the UN (General Assembly and Human Rights Council) by concerted outreach in cooperation with like minded countries (i.a. EU and U.S.A) and support local initiatives against homophobia in partner countries.</p>	<p>a) Review report and "How to Note" on future approach to support made public by mid 2011.</p> <p>a) Indigenous peoples' rights included in UN and World Bank REDD programmes (Reduced Emissions of Deforestation and Degradation) and other forest programmes adopted in 2011.</p> <p>b) Denmark speaks up against criminalization and discrimination of LGBT individuals in relevant bilateral and multilateral forums and undertakes demarches at country level when needed.</p>
<p>3.3. Offer assistance to local, national and regional human rights institutions and civil society organiza-</p>	<p>a) Start implementation of phase III of Bangladesh programme (2011-2016) on public sector management and human rights.</p>	<p>a) Number of complaints to National Human Rights Commission which are received and resolved through</p>

<p>tions working to promote open societies and respect for human rights and democracy.</p>		<p>adequate handling mechanisms increased from 141 in 2010 to 150 by end of 2011.</p> <p>a) Number of people with enhanced access to justice through legal aid/alternative dispute resolution increased from 10748 in 2010 to 13900 by end of 2011.</p>
<p>3.4. Contribute to ensuring respect for the rights of children and young people, including ensuring that children who have to work do so under decent conditions.</p>	<p>a) MFA and Save the Children, Denmark and UNICEF-DK will host an international conference and workshop on June 1st 2011 on Child Labour, Children's rights and CSR in close collaboration with UN Global Compact.</p> <p>b) Launch a new initiative aimed at ensuring respect for the rights of children working in the informal sector, building on experiences from e.g. Bangladesh.</p>	<p>a) The conference and workshop deliver recommendations and input to Global Compact's development of guidelines regarding "Children's principles for business".</p> <p>b) Agreement signed with implementing partners.</p>
<p>3.5. Contribute to strengthening democratic societies that ensure that political processes are open and allow for equal participation and freedom of expression. Support political parties to fulfill their democratic functions and represent the population.</p>	<p>a) Danish Institute for Parties and Democracy (DIPD) supports the development of multiparty systems in partner countries.</p> <p>b) Freedom Initiative (Frihedspuljen) supports, firstly, human rights and civil society organizations, preparation of new constitutions as well as free and fair democratic elections in North Africa and the Middle East, initially in Egypt and Tunisia. Secondly support will be provided to collaboration with institutions promoting rule of law and good governance, growth and efficient labour market as well as social and economic initiatives.</p> <p>c) Continuation of the Partnership for Dialogue and Reform which aims to establish a basis for improved dialogue, understanding and cooperation between Denmark and the Arab region and to support existing local reform processes in the Middle East and North Africa. Support is provided to fundamental freedoms and good governance, the development of knowledge-based societies as well as the promotion of gender equality and women's participation in social, political and economic life.</p>	<p>a) DIPD has developed and delivered training modules for Joint Donor Mechanism for Support to Political Party Reform in Nepal.</p> <p>a) DIPD has involved Danish political parties in developing and delivering training modules as part of a consortium led by Danish Egypt Dialogue Institute in Egypt during 2011.</p> <p>b) Project activities amounting to 100 mio. DKK for 2011 launched and funds committed through signed agreements.</p> <p>c) Project activities amounting to 100 mio. DKK for 2011 launched and funds committed through signed agreements</p>

3.6 Support freedom of expression and independent media	a) Initiate implementation of programme on good governance in Tanzania (2011-2015) with components on 1) civil society and media; 2) justice sector; and 3) public financial management.	a) A grant making mechanism (Tanzania Media Fund) through which at least 20 individual journalists are supported to generate public interest journalism outputs established.
3.7. Work to ensure good governance in partner countries through support to decentralization, administration of societal resources, and tax systems. Emphasize need for transparency, responsibility and auditing by independent authorities.	<p>a) Support more effective tax mobilization and improved public financial management as well as the fight against corruption as part of support to reform programme of the public financial management in Burkina Faso.</p> <p>b) Co-fund tax and development initiative in Bangladesh that aims to increase own source revenue mobilisation by local government through simplified tax assessments and an improved tax collection and management system.</p>	<p>a) 1000 key staff members of the general tax directorate trained in the implementation of the new tax laws from 2010.</p> <p>b) Revenue collection by 388 targeted local governments enhanced by 5% in 2011.</p>

4. Strengthen independent and multi-faceted civil societies in the developing countries working to promote open societies, human rights and democracy

Goal	Actions for 2011	Indicator
4.1. Assist in developing strong, independent and inclusive civil societies, through e.g. direct assistance to civil society organizations and dialogue with partner countries concerning legislation and conditions for freedom of association.	<p>a) Support the implementation of the resolution on the rights to freedom of peaceful association and assembly adopted by the Human Rights Council on September 30, 2010 and the work of the designated Special Rapporteur on the subject</p> <p>b) Danish civil society organisations increasingly apply relevant principles in the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action, such as local ownership, use of local systems, harmonisation and coordination of efforts as well as results-orientation.</p> <p>c) Promote the involvement of civil society in the implementation and further development of the Paris Declaration, nationally and internationally.</p>	<p>a) Issue of implementation of rights to freedom of peaceful association and assembly is raised in in-country High Level consultations.</p> <p>b) Report on the monitoring of the implementation of the Civil Society Strategy through Danish organisations shows progress on the application by civil society organisations of Paris/Accra principles.</p> <p>c) Through active participation in the Donor Group on Aid Effectiveness and the Task Team on CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment a com-</p>

		mon position presented for consideration by participants in the HLF4 meeting in Busan.
5. Fight all forms of corruption at all levels of society		
Goal	Actions for 2011	Indicator
5.1. Fight corruption in all its forms and at all levels of society, insist on accountability of authorities in partner countries and back international and national institutions in their efforts to fight corruption. Insist on the implementation of initiatives to eliminate corruption, and help to ensure that corruption does not go unpunished.	a) Review Denmark's strategic approach to its support to international anti-corruption organizations in light of new development strategy with a view to assess their relevance and whether support should be continued, refocused or channelled to other relevant initiatives.	a) Denmark's support to international anti-corruption organizations in 2011 refocused on those that deliver the most effective results.
6. Monitor improvements in political rights, the rule of law and the fight against corruption and formulate targets for development in these areas		
Goal	Actions for 2011	Indicator
6.1. Monitor improvements in political rights, the rule of law and the fight against corruption and formulate targets for development in these areas.	a) Implement research project on synergy between normative human rights efforts at multilateral level and specific multilateral and bilateral development interventions aiming at improving the human rights situation in a number of countries to be carried out by the Danish Institute of Human Rights. Project aims at identifying approaches that can be used successfully to promote a value based development policy with concrete results on the ground. b) Develop methods to measure results on a sound methodological basis	a) Inception report on methodology of research project finalized in June 2011, including preliminary overview of voting patterns in Human Rights Council for Danish partner countries. b) Research questions on good governance, human rights and democracy developed for international research programme on results and sub-projects initiated.