

# **ROAD MAP FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY FOR DENMARK'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN 2012**

## **FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

## **Strong priority to the promotion of freedom, democracy and human rights**

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 in 2011 of Denmark's Freedom Initiative in support of the struggle for freedom and democracy by the populations of North Africa and the Middle East, initially in Egypt and Tunisia. In 2012 efforts to support the democratic forces and human rights defenders in the region will continue.

Freedom of expression is a cornerstone of any democratic society and a universally accepted human right. The Danish Government will launch a new initiative to promote free media which will be implemented in 2012. Danish support to freedom of expression and a free and diverse media is intended to contribute to the development of a platform for democratic debate, to allow citizens to hold authorities and politicians accountable and to further peace, dialogue and stability by creating a public sphere which allows for conflict in society to be expressed, and argued, in a non-violent manner.

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 fora. 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 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.

Danish efforts to ensure the respect for the freedom and rights of individuals take 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), 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 normally 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 organisations' 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 etc.

The road map highlights some of the most important actions undertaken to promote the ambitious agenda of the new strategy in 2012, 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.

### **Financial framework**

In addition to substantial disbursement expected within the framework of on-going programmes new allocations in 2012 will be made for the Freedom Initiative (125 million DKK) and the Partnership for Dialogue and Reform (125 million DKK). Funds will also be allocated for the promotion of democracy and respect for human rights in Niger (50 million DKK) and Burma (25 million DKK) and for good governance and state building in Afghanistan and the Palestinian National Authority (142 million DKK). Around 1 billion DKK will be provided to Danish NGOs working to support the development of capacity of civil society in developing countries.

### **Priority areas within Freedom, Democracy and Human Rights**

- Strengthen international cooperation to promote freedom, human rights, democracy, good governance and the fight against corruption.
- Prioritise respect for the freedom and rights of individuals and democratic development in the dialogue with developing countries.
- 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.
- Strengthen independent and multi-faceted civil societies in the developing countries working to promote open societies, human rights and democracy.
- Fight all forms of corruption at all levels of society.

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

Goal	Actions in 2012	Indicator 2012
<p>1.1. Strengthen international and regional institutions and forums with mandates to protect and promote human rights.</p>	<p>1.1.1. Provide core support to The Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR – the Institute), an autonomous international academic institution for the promotion of human rights and democracy in the Americas. IIHR is unique as it is tied both to the promotion of the Inter-American human rights mechanism and standards, and it includes members from the Inter-American human rights bodies and independent experts in its governing bodies.</p>	<p>1.1.1. The IIHR has contributed to improving curricula for human rights education among the Latin American States signatures of the Inter-American Pact on Human Rights and recorded progress in its annual Inter-American Report on Human Rights Education.</p>
<p>1.2. Promote human rights and democracy and ensure common high standards for good governance within the UN and other standard setting forums.</p>	<p>1.2.1. Support efforts by the UN’s Funds and Programmes to promote human rights and good governance in their work and strategic planning, including in the run-up to the new strategic plan of UNDP.</p> <p>1.2.2. Strengthening of the enhanced political cooperation with Ghana as part of outreach and alliance building with developing countries regarding human rights.</p>	<p>1.2.1. Proportion of independent evaluations and surveys that rate UNDP contribution to democratic governance outcomes as positive.</p> <p>1.2.2. Ghanaian support to key human rights resolutions in the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council obtained.</p>

<b>2. Prioritise respect for the freedom and rights of individuals and democratic development in the dialogue with developing countries</b>		
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Actions in 2012</b>	<b>Indicator 2012</b>
2.1. Be at the forefront of promoting people's freedom, rights and democratic development. Must be respected and government's failures to uphold them must have consequences.	2.1.1. Present annual omnibus resolution on torture in 3rd Committee of the UN General Assembly in order to promote the eradication of torture.	2.1.1. 2012 resolution adopted by consensus with at least as many or more co-sponsors as in 2011.
<b>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</b>		
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Actions in 2012</b>	<b>Indicator 2012</b>
3.1. Work to strengthen the basic rule of law and contribute to the development of well-functioning legal systems in partner countries.	3.1.1. Strengthen capacity of lawyers in Vietnam by development of curricula and training courses for preparatory and continuing professional training as part of the Justice Partnership Program co-founded by Denmark, the EU and Sweden to support justice sector reform in Vietnam.	3.1.1. Curricula developed and 5 training sessions held in 2012.
3.2. Work against discrimination against poor and marginalized groups, including indigenous peoples, and for their equal rights and access.	3.2.1. Implement support to new UN Indigenous Peoples' Partnership Fund (8 million DKK for 2011-2012).  3.2.2. Promote women's human rights in Niger by stimulating and supporting dialogue between men and women on women's rights within Islamic civil society organisations.	3.2.1. Indigenous peoples' rights mainstreamed into UN's Common Country Assessments in UNIPP pilot countries. i.e. Bangladesh, Nicaragua, Republic of Congo and Central African Republic.  3.2.2. At least 85 Islamic lecturing sessions and 8 radio broadcast sermons on promoting gender equality undertaken.

<b>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</b>		
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Actions in 2012</b>	<b>Indicator 2012</b>
3.3. Offer assistance to local, national and regional human rights institutions and civil society organizations working to promote open societies and respect for human rights and democracy.	3.3.1. Support the Afghan organisation Da Qanoon Ghushonky (DQD) in its efforts to provide free legal aid for women and youth.	3.3.1. The number of women with increased access to justice and defence lawyers due to the assistance of DQG enhanced by 10% by the end of 2012 compared to 2010.
3.4. Contribute to ensuring respect for the rights of children and young people, to protecting children against violation, betrayal, and exploitation and so that children who work do so under decent conditions.	3.4.1. Continue support to Danish NGOs' concrete efforts to improve the quality of life for Children at Risk.	3.4.1. 600 child workers in Egypt covered by health insurance by end of 2012 (Danmission project in Egypt).
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 and an independent media.	3.5.1 Freedom Initiative (Frihedspuljen) supports, firstly, human rights and civil society organizations, preparation of new constitutions as well as free and fair democratic elections, initially in Egypt, Tunisia, and Indonesia. 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. In addition, there will be a need for support of initiatives that aim to support anti-radicalization in Africa and Asia.  3.5.2 Continuation of the Partnership for Dialogue and Reform which aims to	3.5.1. Funds committed through signed agreements and project activities amounting to 125 million DKK for 2012 launched.  3.5.2. Funds committed through signed

	<p>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>agreements and project activities amounting to 125 million DKK for 2012 launched.</p>
<p><b>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</b></p>		
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Actions in 2012</b>	<b>Indicator 2012</b>
<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 and an independent media.</p>	<p>3.5.3. Implement second phase of good governance programme in Kenya (2010-2015) with components on 1) good governance, incl. support to electoral reforms and women's participation in politics; 2) public financial management ;and 3) conflict solution in coastal areas.</p> <p>3.5.4. Support the Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency in its efforts to instil democracy in young Pakistani by funding its activities.</p> <p>3.5.5. Strengthen women's participation in political life and in elections in 2012 by means of support to the parliament of Mali.</p>	<p>3.5.3. In Kenya, improved rating in the Voice and Accountability Index (from baseline of – 0.16 in 2009 to 0.0 in 2012).</p> <p>3.5.4. Fourth “Youth Parliament Pakistan” organized with at least as many young participants attending actively as during last “Youth Parliament”.</p> <p>3.5.5. Number of female candidates increased in elections in Mali in 2012 compared to elections in 2007.</p>

3.6 Support freedom of expression and independent media	3.6.1. Launch of new initiative to support the promotion of free media in developing countries.	3.6.1. New media Initiative launched.
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.	3.7.1. Initiate support to Good Governance programme in Uganda (2011-2016) with components on 1) Joint Democratic Governance Programme; 2) Support to the Justice, Law and Order Sector, and 3) accountable local service delivery.	3.7.1. A 9% increase in the number of local governments with clean audit reports compared to 2010 (from 37% to 46 %).
<b>4. Strengthen independent and multi-faceted civil societies in the developing countries working to promote open societies, human rights and democracy</b>		
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Actions in 2012</b>	<b>Indicator 2012</b>
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>4.1.1. Promote the involvement of civil society organisations in advocacy work – locally, nationally, regionally and internationally (ref. Civil Society Strategy Goal No. 1.2.3.).</p> <p>4.1.2. Civil society actors in developing countries increasingly assume ownership and independent responsibility for preparing and implementing activities through capacity development by Danish organizations (ref. Civil Society Strategy Goal No.1.2.3.).</p> <p>4.1.3. In cooperation with the Danish civil society organizations work for establishment</p>	<p>4.1.1. Common modalities for core funding of the World Alliance of Citizen Participation (CIVICUS) together with relevant likeminded donors established.</p> <p>4.1.2. Report on monitoring of the implementation of the Civil Society Strategy through Danish organizations shows progress on increasing partner responsibility for preparing and implementing activities.</p> <p>4.1.3. Follow-up on the recommendations of the joint donor</p>

	of a better framework for civil society's participation and work in developing countries in relation to e.g. national legislation, cooperation processes and public financing (ref. Civil Society Strategy Goal No. 1.2.1).	Evaluation of Civil Society Engagement in Policy Dialogue elaborated together with the Danish civil society organisations through the Danish NGO forum
<b>5. Fight all forms of corruption at all levels of society</b>		
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Actions in 2012</b>	<b>Indicator 2012</b>
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.	<p>5.1.1. Support to the development of a National Anti-Corruption Action Plan in Ghana through the Good Governance and Human Rights Programme II.</p> <p>5.1.2. Support international advocacy for transparency and for the fight against corruption.</p> <p>5.1.3. Strengthen transparency and monitoring of anti-corruption efforts in Danish partner countries through the general budget support policy dialogue and performance assessment frameworks.</p>	<p>5.1.1. National Anti-Corruption Action Plan submitted to the Ghanaian Parliament before end of 2012</p> <p>5.1.2. New multi-annual agreement to fund the work for transparency and anti-corruption of Transparency International based on its new Strategy 2015 signed.</p> <p>5.1.3. The annual assessments of the 10 Danish budget support criteria in Danish partner countries clearly outline progress or set-back in partner countries' anti-corruption efforts and its possible consequences for the provision of general budget support. These assessments are made public on the Ministry's homepage.</p>