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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to Save the Children Denmark programme in Mali

Denmark provides support for Save the Children Denmark (SCD) as a strategic partner of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. SCD received approximately DKK 20.9 million during the period 2018-2021 for civil society interventions for the programme. Activities from SCD are implemented through Save the Children International (SCI) by a local partner, Mali Enjeu, that has received DKK 123,585.

A financial report from the local partner raised concerns that an employee had falsified supporting documents related to an expense of DKK 17,096.

SCD and SCI initiated an internal investigation, which revealed that the activities were not carried out according to the agreement and that the partner had provided false invoices. The partner denies any wrong-doing. The case has therefore been transferred to the local court to recover the loss from the partner. Save the Children International will cover the loss while pursuing the case.

The local partner has been blacklisted and the case has prompted Save the Children to review the design of partnership agreements to avoid similar cases in the future.

A follow-up report will be forwarded when there are further developments in the case.