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Suspicion of irregularities in a DIPD supported project in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides support for the Danish Institute for Multi-Party Cooperation (DIPD) with DKK 30 million annually to promote cross-political cooperation and dialogue. As part of the development programme, DIPD supports a collaboration between the Danish Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the party Swadepa in Eswatini. The funding was agreed to DKK 600,000 of which DKK 544,025 was transferred to Swadepa.

As part of a capacity building assignment with the participation of a Danish consultant, inadequate procedures and a lack of documentation for a large part of expenses were established, including payment vouchers without approval, expenses with no receipt and no proof of goods and services received. Funds lacking full documentation amount to approximately DKK 334,000.

The cooperation has been suspended, both as far as programmatic support and financial assistance is concerned. A forensic audit has been undertaken to gather information. Concrete steps for follow-up are now under consideration, including legal action.

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