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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to DanChurchAid's activities in South Sudan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) supports DanChurchAid (DCA) through a strategic partnership for the period 2022-2025 with a yearly grant of DKK 200 million. DCA cooperates with a local partner in South Sudan named Community Development Support Services (CDSS), to implement a project aimed at addressing multiplied risks, disasters, and vulnerabilities facing women, girls', men, and boys' psychosocial well-being in different ways. DKK 1.1 million has been disbursed to CDSS for the project period of 2024.

In March 2025, DCA received a complaint through its complaint system portal alleging nepotism and corruption in contract execution by CDSS. The complaint stated that part of the management at CDSS had replaced long-serving staff with relatives in key positions without board approval. It was confirmed that all decision-making roles are held by a person in management's family, undermining controls and transparency, and increasing the risk of corruption. A second allegation involved false reporting and forged signatures on a specific project. It was reported that no activities took place from August to December 2024; it is yet to be confirmed whether activities were falsely reported during this period. Additionally, there are suspicions that signatures on the final report were forged. The total amount under suspicion has not yet been determined.

DCA assessed the partner, reviewed the due diligence process, and conducted a financial audit. The audit identified several procurement irregularities. Regarding the forgery allegations, auditors found them unverifiable without a forensic audit, which DCA has not commissioned but will pursue further. Allegations of unimplemented activities and fund misuse were unsubstantiated. The PAT review highlighted serious concerns about the Executive Director's relatives holding key positions and noted cash flow challenges at CDSS. As a result of this investigation, DCA have ensured that internal procedures of financial management have been strengthened in order to prevent a similar occurrence from happening in the future. Currently, DCA has no active cooperation agreements with CDSS, and any future partnership will depend on the investigation's final outcome.

A new report will be forwarded when there are further developments in the case.

