



TOGETHER FOR A BETTER WORLD

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR DENMARK'S PARTICIPATION IN EU DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The EU as a platform for Danish key priorities and values

The development policy landscape has changed radically in recent years, and in the future Denmark's influence in the world will increasingly manifest itself through a strong and united EU. Despite its size, Denmark is highly respected for its development cooperation and has good experience of exerting influence in the EU.

The EU is present in approximately 140 countries. Together with the Member States, the EU is the largest development actor and has a wide range of instruments and policies at its disposal. By using the EU as a platform, Denmark can contribute in countries and in areas where Denmark itself does not have the resources or capacity to be present.

Therefore, Denmark has a great interest in a strong and dynamic EU that can provide an even more effective voice for Danish values and key priorities globally.

Strategic priorities

'Together for a Better World' focuses on three areas where Denmark can help make a significant difference in the development field through the EU:

1. The EU as a global force for human rights

The EU must incorporate human rights in all its relations and policies with developing countries through a human rights-based approach to development. By viewing human rights as both a means and an end, action can be taken to address the fundamental causes of poverty.

2. The EU as a stable partner in fragile states

The EU must unfold its full potential in terms of preventing conflicts, creating security and building stable and legitimate states. Denmark already plays an important role in relation to fragile states. The EU's involvement must be strengthened and the synergies between EU policies must be utilised to an even greater degree.

3. The EU as a driver of green growth and employment

The EU must prioritise green growth and employment as a key to prosperity and as a precondition for sustainable development. The EU must use its influence in international negotiations to ensure that development, environment and climate are addressed in a coherent way. The EU must also promote equitable exploitation and use of natural resources as well as access to food.

Strong cooperation and coherence

The EU cooperation must be an integrated part of Danish development cooperation. Therefore, Denmark will focus on three approaches to promote its objectives:

a. Shared results through coherent policies

The EU must take care to ensure that policies in areas other than development do not have an adverse effect on the growth and development opportunities in the world's poorest countries. All countries play a role in driving the global economy and development forward, and Europe's long-term prosperity is therefore also dependent on the ability to improve living standards in developing countries.

b. Joint analyses and programming

The effectiveness of the development cooperation is improved by using joint analyses, approaches and interventions. It also generates added value for Denmark. Denmark will not lose relevance or influence by increasing coordination in the EU on development cooperation, or by allowing the EU to take leadership when it strengthens common goals.

c. Budget support, ownership and accountability

Denmark wants greater coordination and harmonisation with the EU in connection with the allocation of budget support. Denmark also aims to strengthen the EU's use of state-building contracts in fragile states. This promotes governments' accountability to their citizens and strengthens national control mechanisms.

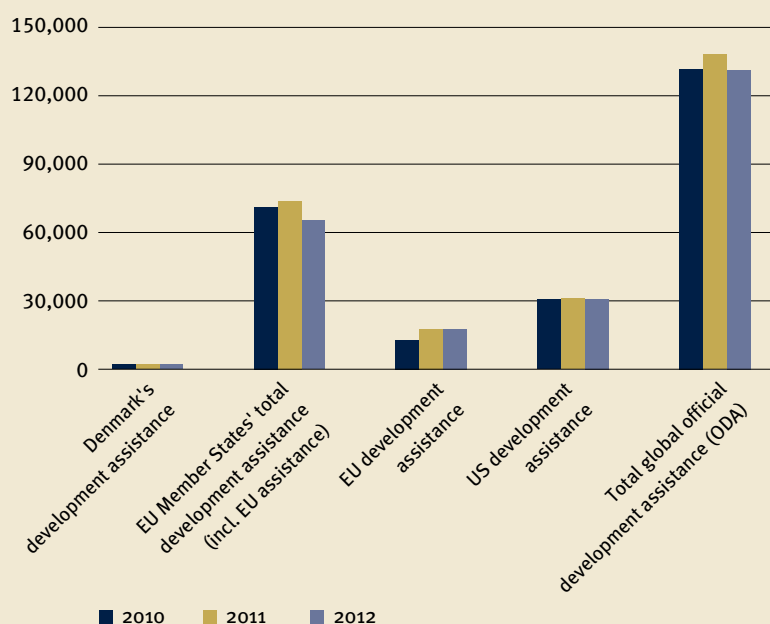
Influence and results

The results of EU development cooperation must be made more visible. Denmark will be aware of the EU's comparative strengths and weaknesses. Stronger focus must be placed on identifying in which areas greater EU cooperation will benefit Denmark. Denmark will seek influence by contributing to policy formulation and implementation at both capital and country level, by strengthening alliances with relevant actors and by strategic placement of Danish staff in Brussels and at EU delegations around the world.

In this way, Denmark can be ambitious in its approach to EU cooperation within the development field.

GLOBAL OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE 2010-2012

Millions USD



Source: OECD International Development Statistics Online Databases.