

Facts about the Danish engagement in Nepal

Danish aid to Nepal

In 2015, the Danish Government – as part of its refocusing of Danish official development aid (ODA) – decided to phase out a number of country programmes, among them Nepal, which had been a recipient of Danish aid since 1973. Danish aid amounted to DKK 3.5 billion 1998-2016 and covered a wide range of sectors including agriculture, education, energy, environment, justice and peace, rights and governance.

The Danish embassy in Kathmandu was closed in 2017, but Denmark maintains a representation office in Nepal until 2019 to oversee the phasing out of the development cooperation.

The evaluation

The evaluation focuses on the period 1991-2016 and was done by consulting company FCG International Ltd by a team including Julian Caldecott as team leader, Finn Hansen, Muriel Vissner, Pamela White, Govinda Basnet and Aino Efraimsson as experts. The process included a field visit of 15 days in Nepal, interviews with 193 individual informants and 123 members of beneficiary groups and a desk review of numerous reports and evaluations.

An unusual report

The evaluation report is quite extraordinary in many ways. First of all due to its size (403 pages). It should be added, though, that the main report is of 65 pages only with a 10 pages summary. The rest of the report is mostly made up of detailed annexes that point-by-point support the findings to provide specific evidence for *every* statement for easy reference.

Box: Nepal facts and figures

	1990	2016
Population (million)	18.75	29
GNI per capita (2011 PPS USD)	780	2,520
Life expectancy at birth	54	70
Child mortality (deaths under age 5 per 1,000 live births)	141	35
Mean years of schooling, female	0.8	3.2
Mean years of schooling, male	3.3	5
Foreign Direct Investments, net inflows (current USD millions)	6	106
Net ODA received (current USD millions)	422.8	1,065.9
Personal remittances received (current USD millions)	55	6,612

Source: *The World Bank and UNDP*