

## **Annex J: Links between findings, conclusions and recommendations**

Findings
<p><b>Targeted action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Denmark reduced its engagement in climate change assistance at a time where the international community increased its ambitions and commitments</li> <li>□ Adaptation was in particular funded through bilateral financing, the Climate Envelope focused more on mitigation</li> <li>□ The extent to which a robust approach to climate change adaptation was applied varied significantly, even for the Climate Envelope – with little guidance from Danida, this depended on the individual implementing partner's interests and capacities</li> <li>□ The nature of the adaptation engagement varied significantly among the countries in response to the particular context and national priorities, but also as a result of Denmark's historic engagement and existing partnerships</li> <li>□ A significant proportion of the Danish adaptation engagement was implemented outside the government system</li> <li>□ The community-level interventions were in general effective at targeting and empowering vulnerable people</li> <li>□ Overall, the Danish support was effective in reducing the vulnerability and enhancing the climate resilience of the direct beneficiaries while contributing to poverty reduction, through livelihoods diversification and provision of income opportunities</li> <li>□ Community empowerment and engagement at the sub-national level were major factors for success, as was facilitation of dialogue and cooperation between local actors</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mainstreaming</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Danish priority to support climate change adaptation fluctuated, climate change adaptation mainstreaming was not part of overall or sectoral strategic guidance, and earlier operational guidance fell out of use.</li> <li>□ Mainstreaming of climate change adaptation into non climate-specific interventions was generally prioritised in the highly climate sensitive sectors of water, agriculture and natural resources.</li> <li>□ Mainstreaming of climate change adaptation through primarily private sector-oriented interventions was more challenging, including in the agriculture sector.</li> <li>□ Mainstreaming of climate change adaptation was not prioritised in sectors such as human rights, governance, peacebuilding and security.</li> <li>□ As a result of limited strategic guidance, few interventions adopted climate change adaptation mainstreaming as a primary objective, and Danida support to climate change adaptation mainstreaming was driven by partners' strengths and priorities.</li> <li>□ Danish engagement did not prioritise nor significantly contribute to mainstreaming climate change adaptation in monitoring systems.</li> <li>□ Danish engagement contributed to increasing partner countries' commitment to mainstreaming climate change adaptation and to enhanced planning and budgeting processes.</li> <li>□ The gap between policy and practice remains wide: implementation of climate change adaptation mainstreaming into national and local investments was limited by institutional, capacity, and political constraints.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Transformation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Attention to securing transformational change towards a climate resilient economy is a recent emphasis in Denmark's international support for climate change adaptation.</li> <li>□ The opportunity to support transformation towards climate resilience in a partner country is heavily conditional on the local and national context, and ultimately is politically determined.</li> <li>□ Securing strengthened climate resilience of those beyond the direct project beneficiaries has not been an explicit goal of most Danish development cooperation projects in the countries sampled, although elements of transformational intent are present in several interventions (and in the 2016 theory of change for the Climate Envelope).</li> <li>□ The alignment principle of the aid effectiveness agenda is being respected in Denmark's support for climate change adaptation and is an early enabling condition that increases the potential for transformation.</li> <li>□ Consideration over how to design for the sustainability of investments in the context of climate change is the weakest dimension of transformational change in the project sample across all countries.</li> <li>□ Interventions that have aimed to adopt a programmatic approach that includes multiple stakeholders from the design stage onwards appears to be a promising strategy for contributing to transformation.</li> <li>□ Some apparent 'stand-out' interventions have been identified where the prospects for transformation appear promising and offer potential for broader lesson learning.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Global landscape</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Denmark's engagement with the global landscape was based on a clear and well-documented policy dialogue agenda.</li> <li>□ The policy agenda was well-founded.</li> <li>□ There is evidence of influence in the WBG across all the main policy agenda points and a key target on climate co-benefits was exceeded.</li> <li>□ Denmark strongly exerted influence in the GCF through its strong support to the implementation of the GCF Indigenous Peoples' policy.</li> <li>□ Although the policy agenda was not new for the World Bank or the GCF and LDCF at an operational level, the main value added, particularly for the World Bank support, was the influence on other member countries, both borrowers and funders.</li> <li>□ The Danish engagement was timely and used appropriate entry points that coincided with key processes at the UNFCCC and within the WBG, LDCF and GCF.</li> <li>□ Close coordination with other funders and borrowers was an important aspect of ensuring influence.</li> <li>□ There are a range of factors behind the positive influence both within WBG and the international funds supported. Senior WBG staff in particular emphasise the importance of the development of trust at the operational level and the mobilisation of political capital to influence other board members.</li> <li>□ There are inevitable trade-offs in the strategic approach to influencing change. These include: the level of Danish monitoring, the degree of compromise accepted to reach common positions and, balancing the breadth and depth of the policy engagement given the resources available.</li> <li>□ Some learning has taken place, but it is not easy to trace and MFA's institutional memory was weak.</li> <li>□ Lack of resources within the ministry was the main constraint to learning and this also affected the contribution to the global adaptation and development agenda.</li> <li>□ Danish capacity and readiness to influence the global adaptation and development agenda, although threatened by dwindling resources, shows potential through mobilising Danish public and private sector experience.</li> </ul>

Conclusions
<p><b>Conclusion 1)</b> Danish policy priority to climate change varied over the evaluation period. Such evolving priorities, combined with the inherent institutional challenges to addressing climate change adaptation resulted in weakening strategic focus.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 2)</b> Climate change adaptation is complex, subject to uncertainty and its specific challenges were often insufficiently understood. This weakened and complicated efforts to both mainstream and engage directly in climate change adaptation.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 3)</b> Danish engagement effectively supported increasing partner country commitment to mainstreaming climate change adaptation. There was a stronger focus on planning and budgeting than on strengthening implementation and monitoring. It was challenging for the support to contribute to reducing an important gap between policy and practice.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 4)</b> The extent to which a robust and comprehensive approach to adaptation was applied varied significantly in the Danish funded development engagements and depended on the individual implementing partner, even for the Climate Envelope.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 5)</b> The community-level interventions were in general effective at targeting and empowering vulnerable people and led to increased livelihood resilience and poverty reduction.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 6)</b> Making a significant contribution to transformation proved challenging to achieve with the resources available to Denmark and was dependent on committed national and local leadership in partner countries.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 7)</b> The most promising potential for transformation appeared when a programmatic approach has been adopted that responded to national incentives. However, the sustainability of many such initiatives often remains in doubt without continuing external assistance.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 8)</b> Danish engagement with the global landscape has demonstrated influence on the multilateral interventions that it contributed to.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 9)</b> There was relatively little learning within Danida, due to missing mechanisms for sharing and resource constraints.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 10)</b> Danish capacity and readiness to influence the global adaptation and development agenda, although threatened by dwindling resources, showed potential through mobilising Danish research as well as experience within the public and private sectors.</p>
<p><b>Conclusion 11)</b> The range of funding modalities enabled Danish cooperation to reach different target audiences and different levels and respond to different objectives and contexts, but the potential of the modalities has not yet been fully utilised.</p>

## Conclusions

Conclusion 1) Danish policy priority to climate change varied over the evaluation period. Such evolving priorities, combined with the inherent institutional challenges to addressing climate change adaptation resulted in weakening strategic focus.

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Conclusion 5) The community-level interventions were in general effective at targeting and empowering vulnerable people and led to increased livelihood resilience and poverty reduction.

Conclusion 6) Making a significant contribution to transformation proved challenging to achieve with the resources available to Denmark and was dependent on committed national and local leadership in partner countries.

Conclusion 7) The most promising potential for transformation appears when a programmatic approach that responded to national incentives was adopted. However, the sustainability of many such initiatives often remains in doubt without continuing external assistance.

Conclusion 8) Danish engagement with the global landscape demonstrated influence on the multilateral interventions that it contributed to.

Conclusion 9) There was relatively little learning within Danida, due to missing mechanisms for sharing and resource constraints.

Conclusion 10) Danish capacity and readiness to influence the global adaptation and development agenda, although threatened by dwindling resources, showed potential through mobilising Danish research as well as experience within the public and private sectors.

Conclusion 11) The range of funding modalities enabled Danish cooperation to reach different target audiences and different levels and respond to different objectives and contexts, but the potential of the modalities has not yet been fully utilised.

## Recommendations

Recommendation 1) Develop a long-term and realistic ambition for increasing Denmark's contribution to climate change adaptation at global, regional and country level.

Recommendation 2) Make greater strategic use of the Climate Envelope for interventions that are highly additional, innovative, experimental or strengthening the climate change adaptation approaches under the bilateral support.

Recommendation 3) Gain greater clarity over what climate change adaptation is and how Danish development cooperation can best support both mainstreaming and transformation.

Recommendation 4) Seek opportunities to reduce uncertainties on how best to adapt to climate change through enhancing climate-related knowledge, information and planning routines.

Recommendation 5) Adopt a programmatic approach that is informed by the political economy context of each partner country when aiming to contribute to transformation.

Recommendation 6) Develop internal sharing mechanisms and enhance the learning from and contribution to the global landscape.