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Suspicion of irregularities in relation to Action Aid Denmark's activities in Myanmar

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark provides support for Action Aid Denmark (AADK) through a strategic partnership for the period 2022-2025 with a yearly grant of DKK 129 million. AADK cooperates with a local partner, Action Aid Myanmar (AAM), with the aim of empower young people in Myanmar and the Burmese diaspora in Thailand to engage in democratic and humanitarian efforts, build resilience to conflict and crises, and promote peace, social cohesion, and gender-responsive, youth-led development in their communities. DKK 11,048,019 has been disbursed to AAM for the period 2022-2025.

In June 2025, Action Aid International (AAI) received a complaint via their whistleblower system with allegations against the AAM management of unethical practices, mismanagement, and potential conflicts of interest in relation to the involvement of two local partners. The complainant claims that one of the local partners has received funding from AAM as part of the Myanmar Earthquake response in late March 2025 supported by Danish funds. However, AAM's reporting to AADK does not list the local partner as a recipient.

The Internal Audit Team of AAI initiated an investigation, which took place from September to November 2025. The investigation included a review of relevant documentation and a number of interviews. The investigation concluded that an initial potential conflict of interest did exist but that it was mitigated through the disclosure in line with the AAI Conflict-of-Interest Policy. According to the investigation report, no funds were found to have been lost. However, the report highlights significant shortcomings within the AAM management team and puts forward several recommendations aimed at promoting more inclusive decision-making, improving partnership processes, and strengthening the management of conflicts of interest. AAM has accepted and implemented these recommendations. AADK will continue its partnership with AAM.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thus regards the case as closed without loss of Danish funds.

