

The Knowledge Bank



We share
knowledge
and Norwegian
experiences



OUR VISION

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in cooperation with partner countries.



OUR GOAL

To strengthen the competencies and capabilities in public institutions in partner countries through knowledge programmes.



OUR MANDATE

To strengthen and coordinate technical cooperation in areas where Norwegian expertise and experience are in demand.

THE KNOWLEDGE BANK IN BRIEF

Many partner countries need knowledge rather than funding.¹ An increasing number of public institutions in Norway are therefore sharing their experiences in areas where Norway has sought-after expertise.

In order to strengthen and coordinate the technical cooperation on the Norwegian side, the government established the Knowledge Bank in Norad in 2018. The technical cooperation will help foster good governance and the national mobilisation of resources for sustainable

development, in line with the 2030 Agenda and UN Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17.

This strategy defines shared long-term goals for the Knowledge Bank and how we will work to achieve them.

HOW WE WORK

The Knowledge Bank encompasses programmes in several sectors.² Long-term cooperation between institutions is at the heart of all programmes.

PROGRAMMES IN THE KNOWLEDGE BANK

- ▶ Agriculture for Development
- ▶ Anti-corruption and Good Governance
- ▶ Digitalisation for Development
- ▶ Fish for Development
- ▶ Gender Equality for Development
- ▶ Higher Education and Research
- ▶ Oceans for Development
- ▶ Oil for Development
- ▶ Renewable Energy for Development
- ▶ Statistics and Registry Cooperation
- ▶ Student Financing for Development (under preparation)
- ▶ Tax for Development

1 'Making Development Co-operation Fit for the Future: A Survey of Partner Countries', OECD, Working Paper 20, 2015.

2 In addition to the knowledge programmes, Norad also facilitates the sharing of experiences in other areas, such as health, and provides financial support for cooperation between knowledge communities in the state sector and partner institutions.

Norwegian public institutions – government agencies, supervisory authorities or universities – and similar institutions in partner countries identify needs, formulate plans and support interventions. The cooperation is based on a mutual relationship. By exchanging experiences and learning from each other, the partners can co-create something new together.

The institutional cooperation is complemented by:

- ▶ Cooperation with local and international **non-governmental organisations** to strengthen transparency and accountability.
- ▶ Cooperation with **multilateral organisations** such as the UN, IMF, World Bank and regional development banks.
- ▶ Mutual exchange through the **Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation (Norec)**.
- ▶ Participation in and support to international cooperation to further develop norms, standards and operational measures.
- ▶ **Triangular cooperation** (North-South-South) between institutions in two or more partner countries.

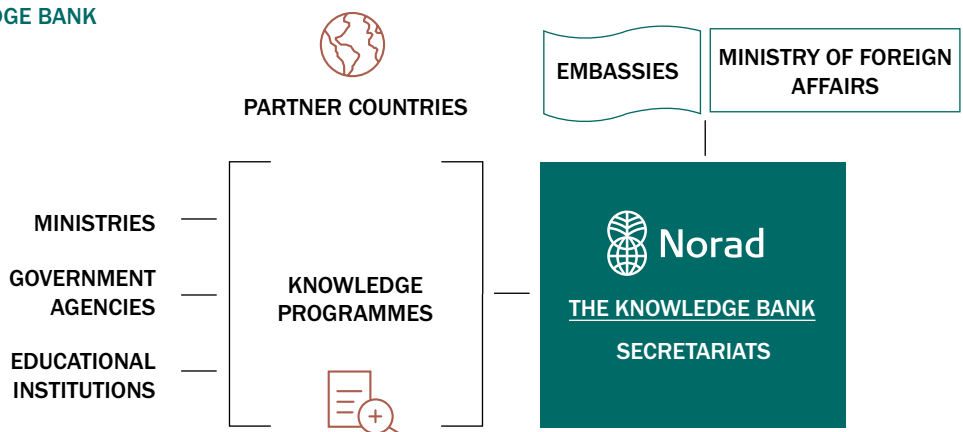
These activities are to varying degrees relevant to the different institutional cooperation programmes. In some programmes, knowledge cooperation can also involve research, higher education and the private sector.

PARTIES INVOLVED

Successful technical cooperation requires involvement from numerous actors:

- ▶ **Norwegian public institutions** are responsible for the quality of the knowledge programmes.
- ▶ **The partner institutions** are responsible for ensuring commitment to and for implementing the programme in line with the country's priorities.
- ▶ **The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs** has the overall responsibility for the Knowledge Bank and for steering the knowledge programmes together with the relevant sector ministries.
- ▶ **The embassies** initiate cooperation, political dialogue, management and follow-up.
- ▶ The secretariats for the knowledge programmes are located in **Norad**. Norad is responsible for the quality assurance and coordination of the development aid aspects of the knowledge programmes.

OVERVIEW OF THE KNOWLEDGE BANK





STRATEGIC AREAS

The Knowledge Bank in Norad is a platform that promotes:

1. RESULTS IN PARTNER COUNTRIES

The Knowledge Bank's most important efforts take place in partner countries. There are often several knowledge programmes being carried out in the same partner country. The Knowledge Bank facilitates interaction and coordination through meetings on country level and joint plans and profiles. A joint approach on the Norwegian side strengthens the results.

2. ARENAS FOR LEARNING AND COOPERATION

The Knowledge Bank has an overview of what works and what does not work in institutional cooperation. We facilitate the

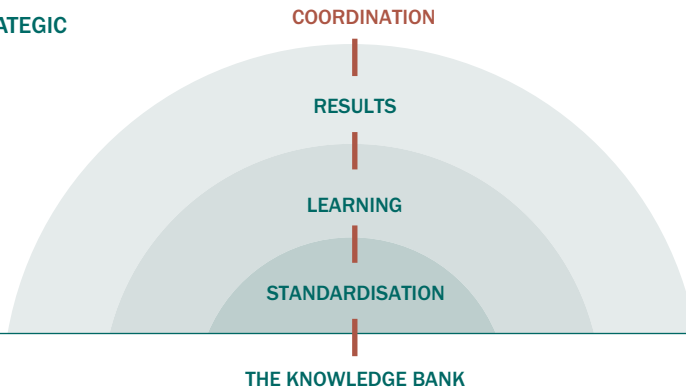
exchange of experiences between Norwegian public institutions and offer these institutions customised training for knowledge cooperation.

3. STANDARDISATION AND SIMPLIFICATION

Clearly defined roles and responsibilities, standardisation and simplification of routines all help to free up resources for the knowledge programmes' technical cooperation. The Knowledge Bank therefore develops common routines and tools for use in the knowledge programmes. In addition, the Knowledge Bank facilitates cooperation through digital platforms.

The Knowledge Bank draws up annual action plans that operationalise the strategic areas.

THE THREE STRATEGIC AREAS



OUR PRINCIPLES

- ▶ We share knowledge and experiences, not ready-made solutions
- ▶ Our cooperation is driven by demand and needs
- ▶ Our cooperation is knowledge-based and innovative