

Evaluation Department

Evaluation programme

2012-2014

Norad
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The Evaluation Department in Norad

EVALUATION PROGRAMME 2012-2014

Activities in Norad's Evaluation Department are regulated by a special mandate issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.¹ This department is responsible for initiating and implementing independent evaluations of Norwegian development work. Our programme consists of three-yearly rolling evaluation plans that are revised once a year. The department determines what will be evaluated, and it also prepares and quality-assures the evaluation process and the products. The evaluations are conducted by independent researchers and consultants who are chosen following international tendering competitions.

In accordance with the Norwegian State's regulations for financial control, the Evaluation Department places special emphasis on evaluation of measures that are significant, innovative or that might entail particular risk. We also aim to achieve a healthy balance between topics, mechanisms, countries/regions and institutions over an evaluation cycle of four to five years.

In line with the Paris and Busan declarations on more effective international cooperation on aid, the new programme will focus more on results and impact. Real time evaluations will be a priority, particularly with regard to major investment areas related to climate, forestry and renewable energy. These evaluations follow initiatives from their beginning and will thus be able to provide sound background and baseline data as well as findings and recommendations that will be helpful for the decision-makers at an early stage. The evaluation programme will also focus on tracking the funding, especially in the studies on multilateral organisations, NGOs and bilateral aid. The programme is also putting aid 'under the microscope' by including studies and evaluations of evaluation activities, learning culture, incentive structure and quality assurance systems in Norwegian aid work and in selected cooperation partners.

We have also allowed for additional evaluations in 2013 and 2014. The Evaluation Department would like to start at least two impact evaluations each year, and these will be selected in consultation with our partners and the embassies.

The programme may be changed if new needs arise, and this might also lead to changes in the timing. A monthly update on our planned and ongoing evaluation studies is available on our website, www.norad.no/evaluating.

¹ 'Instructions for the evaluation activity in Norwegian aid management', 29 May 2006.

1. AID UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

In progress 31 December 2011	In charge
A study on the use and consequences of payment for attending meetings and seminars in aid work	Eirik G. Jansen
Start-up 2012	
A study of the learning culture in MFA/Norad, with focus on follow-up and the use of evaluations	Beate Bull
Peer review (DAC evaluation network) of Norad/MFA's evaluation activity	Hans Peter Melby
A study of aid from the local population's point of view	Eirik G. Jansen
Start-up 2013	
An assessment of the evaluability of and quality assurance systems for projects managed by the embassies	N/A
Start-up 2014	
The incentive structure in aid work	N/A

2. HEALTH AND EDUCATION

In progress 31 December 2011	In charge
Evaluation of support for Results-Based Financing (RBF) for health (a health fund in the World Bank)	Siv Lillestøl
Evaluation of Norwegian support to the health sector in Botswana	Balbir Singh
Start-up 2012	
Impact evaluation of NIPI, maternal/child health programme in India	Siv Lillestøl
Evaluation of the Norwegian role in the work of achieving support for reducing child mortality and improving maternal health (Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5)	Siv Lillestøl
Evaluation of aid for education through multilateral channels	Vibecke Dixon
Real time evaluation of NORHED ²	Vibecke Dixon
Start-up 2013	
Evaluation of education interventions through the major NGOs	N/A

² NORHED is a new programme for capacity building in higher education and research in low and medium income countries.

3. CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

In progress 31 December 2011	In charge
Real time evaluation of the Government's international climate and forestry initiative - <i>multiannual</i>	Ida Hellmark
Start-up 2012	
Real time evaluation of the Government's "Energy+" initiative (focusing on impact evaluations of pilot projects) - <i>multiannual</i>	Ida Hellmark
Systematic reviews of topics related to climate and environment	Ida Hellmark
Climate-adapted agriculture	Eirik G. Jansen

4. MULTILATERAL ORGANISATIONS

In progress 31 December 2011	In charge
A study of cash flows in the UN system	Balbir Singh
Start-up 2012	
Evaluation of aid for education through multilateral channels (also mentioned under Topic 2)	Vibecke Dixon
Evaluation of Norwegian aid through the WHO	Balbir Singh
Start-up 2013	
Evaluation of the control function and handling of economic fraud in the UN system	N/A

5. CIVIL SOCIETY

Start-up 2012	In charge
Evaluation of Norad's support for umbrella organisations and other networks/associations in civil society	Anette Haug
An assessment of the evaluation function in the major Norwegian NGOs	Anette Haug
Start-up 2013	
Evaluation of education work through the major Norwegian NGOs (also mentioned under Topic 2)	N/A
Evaluation of the funding for information on aid and development, with an emphasis on the activities of RORG ³	N/A

³ RORG (short for RammeavtaleORGAnisasjoner – Framework organisations) is a collaboration between Norwegian NGOs that receive government funding to keep the Norwegian public informed about key development issues.

6. VULNERABLE STATES

In progress 31 December 2011	In charge
Evaluation of Norwegian development work in Afghanistan	Balbir Singh
Start-up 2012	
Real time evaluation of Norwegian work in South Sudan	Beate Bull
Evaluation of the Training for Peace programme (tracer study)	Beate Bull

7. EXPOSED GROUPS

In progress 31 December 2011	In charge
Evaluation of support for the rights of disabled people	Anette Haug
Start-up 2012	
Evaluation of the Norwegian Refugee Council's humanitarian programmes	Sigurd Endresen
Impact of aid in the field of women, peace and security	Beate Bull

8. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In progress 31 December 2011	In charge
Evaluation of Oil for Development	Jon Teigland/ Balbir Singh
Start-up 2012	
Evaluation of aid to the agricultural sector and food security	Hans Peter Melby
Evaluation of results achieved concerning equal opportunity and women's rights	Siv Lillestøl
Evaluation of arms reduction work as a part of Norwegian development policy	Hans Peter Melby
Impact evaluation of mixed credit projects for water supply and sanitation in Vietnam	Vibecke Dixon
Start-up 2013	
Evaluation of Norfund's work and government/private sector cooperation	N/A
Evaluation of Tax for Development	N/A
Start-up 2014	
Evaluation of whether Norway's development cooperation with emerging economies (BRICS) contributes to a reduction in poverty and inequalities	N/A

9. Partnership and membership agreements

<u>Ongoing activities under our partnership agreement with Independent Evaluation Group (IEG), the World Bank</u>	In charge: Balbir Singh
The Evaluation Department is currently supporting the following IEG evaluations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study of impacts of IEG evaluations • Evaluation of the Bank's aid to Liberia (particular focus on capacity building, equal opportunity and environmental management) • Evaluation of the Bank's aid to Afghanistan • Management of forest resources for sustainable development • Review of global programmes • Youth employment (focus on identification of factors that affect young job-seekers' access to work) 	
<u>Ongoing activities under our partnership agreement with the Evaluation Department, UNDP</u>	In charge: Beate Bull
The Evaluation Department is currently supporting the following UNDP evaluations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of UNDP's support for countries affected by conflict. Report in September 2012 • Evaluation of UNDP's role in and contribution to the strengthening of election systems and processes. Report in June 2012 • Country evaluations of UNDP's assistance for development results in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nepal and Liberia. Reports in February 2012. 	
<u>Ongoing activities under our partnership agreement with the International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie):</u>	In charge: Vibecke Dixon
<p>Norad, represented by the Evaluation Department, is a member of 3ie and attends the 3ie board meetings as an observer. Through its membership, Norad supports all 3ie's ongoing activities which include more than 70 impact evaluations in over 30 countries in all development-related sectors, as well as nearly 50 systematic reviews of knowledge status for selected development initiatives.</p> <p>In addition to this, the Evaluation Department is in considering contributing to the funding of a thematic window for climate-related and environment-related impact evaluations, as well as systematic reviews on the same topic, as part of our development cooperation.</p>	

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