Evaluation Department



Evaluation Programme 2008-2010

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Norad

Direktoratet for utviklingssamarbeid Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

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Evaluation Programme 2008 – 2010

Strategic guidelines

The Evaluation Programme is based on its mandate of May 2006 and the Evaluation Department's own "Evaluation Policy 2006 - 2010". In the programme for 2008 - 2010 we will attach particular importance to:

- the Norwegian Regulations for Financial Management in Government's requirement that the frequency and scope of evaluations must be determined on the basis of three criteria, importance, uniqueness and risk of the activity
- evaluating all of the activities encompassed by the development cooperation budget over time
- areas that are likely to be on the political agenda in the years ahead
- collaborating with other donors and organisations on joint evaluations and in other ways to the extent that this is possible
- focusing on the results in evaluation projects
- continuing efforts to use researchers and consultants from the South
- monitoring the use of funds more closely in selected evaluations

The Evaluation Programme is a rolling programme, and changes may be made. Implementation of the programme will at all times be based on the resources available. New requests for evaluations may result in timetable changes. Information updated every month on planned and ongoing evaluation projects may be found at www.norad.no/evaluation.

Country evaluations and other projects in individual countries

Evaluation of the Joint Donor Office in Juba, South Sudan

The Evaluation Department has undertaken to evaluate this joint office on behalf of the bilateral donors involved. A contract with the English company ITAD was signed in June 2008, and the final report is scheduled to be submitted in November 2008. Responsible officer: Balbir Singh

Evaluation of Norwegian Support to the Western Balkans (former Yugoslavia)

Countries in the former Yugoslavia received NOK 600 million in 2007. No comprehensive evaluation has been carried out of this assistance, and in view of the amount of support provided this should be done. The main objective will be to document the results of Norwegian development assistance over a certain period of time. An evaluation will also identify useful lessons learned with regard to humanitarian aid and development cooperation in a transitional phase. Preparations are now in progress, and the assignment will be put out to tender in October 2008.

Responsible officer: Siv Lillestøl

Evaluation of Norwegian development efforts (and possibly the efforts of other donor nations) in Afghanistan

The assistance provided to Afghanistan by Norway and other countries is comprehensive, and poses special challenges. This development cooperation can be said to be important and unique in nature and to entail considerable risk. We wish to invite other donors to participate in the evaluation, which will be carried out in 2010.

Thematic evaluations

Norwegian support to the fisheries sector

This is an evaluation of development assistance provided by Norway for the fisheries sector in the last 15-20 years, with emphasis on results. The British consultancy firm MRAG is conducting the evaluation in collaboration with ECON-Pöyry and the Natural Resources Institute, London. The report will be presented in 2008. Responsible officer: Balbir Singh

Evaluation of Norwegian support to protection of the cultural heritage

The purpose of this evaluation is to gain insight into and experience from Norwegian efforts to preserve the cultural heritage of partner countries. Based on an assessment of such factors as relevance and the results achieved through the aid provided, the evaluation will provide advice regarding the future direction of aid in this field. The contract will be signed in September 2008, and the report is scheduled to be presented in February 2009. Responsible officer: Anette Haug

Joint evaluation of Nepal's education for all 2004-2009 sector programme

Norway, represented by the Evaluation Department, has been asked by the Nepalese authorities and donors to assume responsibility for coordinating an evaluation of the comprehensive education sector programme in Nepal. The evaluation will cover the period from 2004 to 2009, and the report will serve as the basis for the continued implementation of the programme as from 2010. The evaluation will be carried out in autumn 2008/winter 2009. Responsible officer: Vibecke Dixon

Research programme "Development Paths in the South"

It was previously decided that the final evaluation of this research programme, which is administered by the Research Council of Norway, was to take place in 2008. We will try to use researchers from developing countries in this evaluation, which will begin in autumn 2008.

Responsible officer: Hans Peter Melby

Evaluation of NUFU and NOMA

The purpose of evaluating Norad's master programme NOMA and the Norwegian Programme for Development, Research and Education (NUFU) is to assess results in relation to the goals that were set for these two programmes. The evaluation will be carried out in the first half of 2009.

Evaluation of Norwegian support to private sector development

There has been stronger focus on private sector development in the development debate recently. A better basis is needed for assessing how development assistance can promote business, industry and production in developing countries. The evaluation, which will concentrate on some of the financing facilities offered in this area, will be carried out in 2009. Responsible officer: Jon Teigland

Norwegian support to promoting the rights of disabled persons

Support to both national authorities and organisations that work to improve conditions for disabled persons and safeguard their rights has been a key element of Norwegian development cooperation. A plan for Norwegian development assistance efforts to promote the rights of disabled persons was adopted in 1999. We aim to carry out this evaluation in 2010.

Strategy for Norway's cultural and sports cooperation with countries in the South This strategy, which was launched in 2005 and covers the period 2006-2010, will be evaluated in 2010.

Evaluation partnership focusing on climate and forests

The Evaluation Department has entered into partnership with the World Bank's Independent Evaluation Group to obtain an overview of lessons learned and identify gaps in knowledge with regard to climate-oriented development cooperation in the forestry sector. This collaborative effort, which will begin with a seminar to review results in September 2008, may lead to follow-up that includes evaluation of efforts in this field. Responsible officer: Hans Peter Melby

Development assistance channelled through civil society

Norwegian development cooperation through Norwegian non-governmental organisations in Northern Uganda

In the follow-up of the Rattsø Committee's recommendations regarding support provided through Norwegian NGOs, two evaluations will be carried out of assistance channelled through Norwegian organisations in Uganda. The first will focus on efforts in conflict-torn North Uganda, where Norwegian NGOs will be included in the study. Six Ugandan firms and institutions were invited to participate in limited competitive tendering, and the bid tendered by Image Consult was accepted. The report is expected to be presented in late autumn 2008. Responsible officer: Beate Bull

Long-term Norwegian development cooperation through Norwegian NGOs in Uganda The second study will examine the long-term development assistance provided through Norwegian NGOs. An invitation to tender for this assignment will be issued in Uganda in autumn 2008. The use of expertise in the South for these two evaluations constitutes a pilot effort aimed at increased involvement in the future. Responsible officer: Beate Bull

Strategic partnership at country level

Norad wishes to have an evaluation of the 'strategic partnership' system of channelling development assistance of a country programme or regional programme through Norwegian NGOs. One purpose of such an evaluation will be to find out whether this is a suitable arrangement for Norwegian embassies. The evaluation can also compare activities financed under this arrangement with similar activities financed in other ways. It will be natural to select two or three partner countries in which extensive use is made of this system for such evaluation. The evaluation will begin in 2009.

The Aga Khan network as a partner in Norwegian development cooperation

This evaluation was proposed by an embassy. The Aga Khan is an organisation that receives extensive Norwegian funding and operates in many countries. It will be interesting to assess the organisation both as a dialogue partner and an administrator of Norwegian development assistance. The evaluation will be carried out in 2009. Responsible officer: Anette Haug

Humanitarian assistance, human rights and democracy

Norwegian People's Aid's Mine Action Programme

The goal of this evaluation is to use the lessons learned from the mine clearance efforts as a basis for planning future work. The learning component will thus be more important than the control aspect. The evaluation will begin in autumn 2008. Responsible officer: Siv Lillestøl

Evaluation of Linkages between Relief, Rehabilitation and Development (LRRD 2) This is a joint evaluation, headed by Sida's Evaluation Department, of linkages between relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD) in the tsunami response. The original tsunami evaluation was conducted too soon after the disaster to be able to cover this aspect of the tsunami response satisfactorily. The evaluation will be carried out in autumn 2008, and the report will be presented in the first quarter of 2009. Responsible officer: Anette Haug

Strategies and approaches in the fight against corruption

This is a Norwegian initiative that has been joined by other Nordic countries, DFID and the Asian Development Bank. A pilot study was done by Scanteam, and the main evaluation is expected to start at the end of 2008. Responsible officer: Hans Peter Melby

Evaluation of Norwegian development assistance for the promotion of human rights Promoting human rights (HR) is an area of activity that has been little evaluated. The

Promoting human rights (HR) is an area of activity that has been little evaluated. The Evaluation Department plans to evaluate human rights efforts. Taking a closer look at HR dialogues is one option. The timetable and organisation of this evaluation will be discussed in further detail with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with a view to starting work on the evaluation in 2009.

The Norwegian Centre for Democracy Support

The centre, which has now been in operation for 6 - 7 years, represented a new way of providing support for democratisation by giving government funding for cooperation between political parties in Norway and partner countries in the South. There is a need to assess the work that has been done so far, and the results that have been achieved. The evaluation will be carried out in 2009.

Peace and conflict prevention

Evaluation of Norwegian efforts to promote peace in Haiti

The Evaluation Department has co-chaired efforts within the OECD/DAC's Evaluation Network to develop a guide for evaluation of peace building and conflict prevention activities. Several evaluations will now be carried out to test this guide. Norad will evaluate Norway's contribution to peace building in Haiti. Other donors are also in the process of conducting their own reviews in Haiti. There has been no basis for a joint evaluation, but the partners will exchange information and discuss lessons learned. The evaluation will be put out to tender in September 2008.

Responsible officer: Beate Bull

Evaluation of peace building and conflict prevention in South Sudan

The Netherlands has taken the initiative to a joint evaluation of peace efforts in South Sudan in the past few years. The Evaluation Department has expressed its interest in being a partner in the study, which will be conducted in 2009.

Multilateral development cooperation and global initiatives

Norwegian support to promote democracy through multilateral organisations A large portion of Norwegian support in this field is channelled through multilateral bodies. either at the global level or in Norway's partner countries. The purpose of this evaluation will be to assess relevance, cost effectiveness and the results achieved by Norwegian funding provided through the multilateral channel. The evaluation contract will be put out to tender in September/October 2008.

Responsible officer: Vibecke Dixon

The evaluation function of UN's Office Of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)

The Evaluation Department is participating in a peer review of the evaluation function of Office of Internal Oversight Services, which is responsible for controlling funds channelled through the UN Secretariat. Switzerland has assumed responsibility for heading the review, and the report is expected to be presented at the start of 2009. Responsible officer: Vibecke Dixon

Efforts of International Organisation for Migration (IOM) to combat human trafficking The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Norad wish to have an evaluation of IOM's efforts to combat human trafficking. IOM is by far Norway's main partner in this field of activity. Norad and the Ministry will have done a preparatory study of international trends in this field and a review of documentation concerning Norway's efforts to combat human trafficking. Since this evaluation will examine the activities of IOM as an international organisation, it would be a great advantage to carry it out jointly with other donors. Work on the evaluation will begin in 2009. Responsible officer: Siv Lillestøl

The UN's use of funds

The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to know more about the use of resources and money flows in the UN system, particularly considering that such a large part of the Norwegian development cooperation budget is channelled through the UN. It is not possible for one member country to carry out an in-depth evaluation of the UN, and such a study must be based on information available to the public. The assignment will therefore be carried out as a desk study.

Responsible officer: Balbir Singh

Development support to education through multilateral channels

A large part of Norwegian support for basic education is earmarked assistance provided through multilateral agencies, particularly the World Bank and Unicef. A thorough evaluation of these efforts has been a long-standing objective. This project will start up in 2009.

Development support to strengthen poor countries' capacity for participating in international trade

For many years Norway has provided funding to various multilateral agencies such as UNCTAD, WTO, ITC and the World Bank to strengthen poor countries' opportunity to take part in negotiations on international trade and to increase their exports. Work on an evaluation of this support will commence in 2009.

Miscellaneous

Consequences of budget support for prior thematic efforts

As budget support has become an increasingly important form of development support in many partner countries, prior thematic efforts have been terminated. There is a need for more knowledge about the impact of this trend in individual thematic areas. Two examples are relevant: reproductive health in Mozambique and education in Zambia. This is an evaluation in which the participation of other donors will be advantageous. Work on the evaluation will begin in 2009.

Capacity development in low-income African countries

Scanteam was commissioned by the Evaluation Department to carry out a study of literature and concepts relating to development assistance for capacity development in impoverished African countries. Part of this assignment was to propose a broader follow-up study or evaluation to ascertain what works and what does not. A study of this nature should be conducted in collaboration with other countries. Responsible officer: Balbir Singh

Impact evaluation of earlier long-term efforts

The Evaluation Department has carried out a preparatory project to evaluate the long-term impact of Norwegian development cooperation interventions after their completion. Three such programmes will be evaluated. Health, roads, forests and the environment are relevant thematic areas, and Tanzania, Botswana and India are relevant countries. Responsible officer: Balbir Singh

Comparative evaluation of development assistance provided through different channels No good comparative studies have ever been made of the efficiency, quality and results of development cooperation provided through different channels such as multilateral, bilateral, civil society or global initiatives. Conducting an evaluation of this type will be a major challenge and will necessitate the joint efforts of several donors and organisations. The Evaluation Department will sound out other evaluation units on the idea of cooperating on such a study in one or more countries.

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