

2016



Norad

RESULTS REPORT

Civil society



Foreword

There are 800 million reasons to work with development aid. There are 800 million people who live in extreme poverty. This report presents a lot of facts and figures. We must remind ourselves that behind these statistics are people with dreams and hopes, and with possibilities for a better future.

The road to a life out of poverty may seem long, but fortunately we do see significant progress being made. There is reason to be optimistic! We can reach the ambitious goal we set in 2015 to eliminate absolute poverty by 2030. But only if we utilise all our resources – and utilise them well. Civil society plays an important role in achieving this goal. Civil society plays many different roles, and this report shows how they can be instrumental for social development. History shows many examples of this. Desmond Tutu's fight against apartheid in South Africa. The Tunisian quartet, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2015. They are both examples of the power of civil society in the development of strong and independent societies.

In a debate on the role of civil society in poor countries, we must learn from our own history in Norway. Civil society contributes in holding governments accountable for their actions. It was civil that contributed in developing the Norwegian welfare state, through the Norwegian Women's Public Health Association, the trade union movement as well as religious associations. We bring these experiences with us in our development cooperation. At the same time, it is important to remember that the Norwegian organisations were precisely that. They were Norwegian. Countries cannot be developed from the outside and by external actors. Local ownership in partner countries is important, and local voices must be empowered. When the voices from partner countries become stronger and clearer, partners from donor countries must find new roles.

Development aid also involve values. In the fight against discrimination and for greater transparency, economic, social and politics rights, civil society is a particularly important partner.

This years' results report shows that many individual projects produce good results and are of great importance to individuals. Some of the examples presented may seem small and their contribution to social development may seem remote. This is one of the dilemmas of project support to civil society organisations. It can provide good and important results for many individuals, while at the same time the contributions to social development may be difficult to measure.

This year's report presents 25 examples of how civil society throughout the world achieve results with support from Norway.

This does not represent the total picture, but it provides a good illustration of the results, challenges and diversity of Norwegian support.

Oslo, 09.12.2016

JON LOMØY
Director General



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Key messages

Civil society support is an important aspect of our Norwegian development cooperation. Norway uses approximately 20 per cent of its overall aid on support to, or through, civil society. This is above average for a donor country.

1 CIVIL SOCIETY REACHES THE POOREST PEOPLE. The sustainable development goals guide the world's development agenda up to 2030. The first goal is to eliminate extreme poverty. Civil society implements development initiatives, empowers vulnerable groups and monitors whether national governments progress towards these goals.

2 CIVIL SOCIETY PROVIDES NECESSARY SERVICES. Civil society contributes in providing necessary services, especially in fragile states. Advocacy towards and cooperation with the authorities is important in order to ensure coordination and common standards, and to ensure that governments fulfil their obligations.

3 CIVIL SOCIETY HOLDS GOVERNMENTS ACCOUNTABLE. Civil society contributes in strengthening transparency of and participation in democratic processes. The Norwegian Climate and Forest initiative and Oil for Development complement bilateral development cooperation with funding of civil society to hold authorities and companies accountable for the management of natural resources.

4 POLITICAL SPACE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IS RESTRICTED IN MANY COUNTRIES. The rights of participation, association and freedom of expression are constantly being challenged. There is a continuous need to defend these rights and to protect actors who experience violations of them.

5 LOCAL LEADERS ARE IMPORTANT AGENTS OF CHANGE. Grassroots organisations, traditional and religious leaders are trusted local actors with influence. They are important agents of change to address harmful attitudes and practices. Religion and tradition can be manipulated to create conflict, or it can be utilised constructively to promote human rights, peace and reconciliation.

6 POWER MUST BE TRANSFERRED TO CIVIL SOCIETY IN LOW AND MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES. Civil society in developing countries should have a stronger voice in development cooperation. Funding modalities should be assessed, and the management of programmes be transferred to local or national actors in the long-term perspective.

7 CIVIL SOCIETY'S DEVELOPMENT WORK IS TOO DEPENDENT ON PUBLIC FUNDING. Many organisations are financially dependent on public funding. In order to ensure greater financial sustainability, the organisations need to diversify their funding base.

8 BOTH PROFESSIONALS AND GRASS ROOTS ACTORS ARE NEEDED. Professional organisations help ensure adequate management of development aid. On the other hand, there are grass roots movements in partner countries that do good work, even if they cannot satisfy the donors' administrative requirements. New forms of partnership should be developed to ensure that the grass roots organisations and movements are included.





Results map

NICARAGUA
Agricultural products did not reach the market.

NICARAGUA
Attitudes and behaviour changed around use of violence among parents, youth and children.

COLOMBIA
Local health committees have contributed in increasing knowledge about basic health care in local communities. This is important to prevent spreading of common diseases.

COLOMBIA
A student organisation plays an important role in prevention of forced recruitment of youth to armed groups.

PERU
International cooperation between civil society organisations, governments and Interpol contributed in seizure of illegally cut timber.

MALAWI
The entrepreneurship business Kumudzi Kuwale has provided more than 10.000 people with solar powered electricity.

WEST AFRICA
Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger
Children who have dropped out of school return to school. More than 140.000 children have participated in Speed schools.

WEST AFRICA
Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone
Young women who have been trained as entrepreneurs start their own businesses and have together created 1.000 jobs.

SIERRA LEONE
Religious leaders created awareness about Ebola and contributed to reduce spreading of the epidemic.

DRC
Training of local communities and organisations has empowered forest dependent communities to negotiate social development contracts with forestry companies.

ANGOLA
Training of local budget monitoring groups has contributed towards increased transparency and improved governance of local development budgets.

ZAMBIA
More than 300 local organisations joined forces to influence the constitutional reform process.

MALAWI
Training of local trade union representatives has contributed towards improved negotiations and conditions for salary increase and social benefits for workers in the water sector.

NORWAY

Civil society contributes to responsible investments from the Norwegian Pension Fund Global.

AFGHANISTAN

Changes in attitudes towards the right of women and refugees among religious leaders and officials in the justice sector contribute to improved legal protection. The justice sector has become more effective and professionalized.

PALESTINE

Organisations working for the rights of people with disabilities have successfully advocated local authorities to take responsibility for social integration of people with disabilities.

SUDAN

Increased number of births take place with support from trained birth attendants. This contributes to improved healthcare and health for children and mothers.

MYANMAR

Youth between ages 15 and 25 attend vocational training and business skills. They have started their own business and increased their family income.

SOMALILAND

Cooperation between diaspora and local organisations has contributed in improving agricultural production and the livelihood for 2.430 households.

SRI LANKA

120 villages experience reduced level of alcohol induced violence and injuries.

SOMALIA

In areas where the public school system had broken down, local communities and parents cooperate with authorities to organize educational opportunities for children, including children with disability.

ZIMBABWE

Organizing workers in informal sector has contributed towards improved working conditions for street vendors.

BURUNDI

The Burundi Red Cross has developed into a national organization with local ownership that mobilise a substantial part of the population in basic medical care and humanitarian work.

UGANDA

Advocacy by local communities towards local authorities has led to construction of an access road, which has increased the communities' access to markets and public services.

UGANDA

Oil extraction near Africa's oldest national park has been halted due to international and national advocacy efforts from civil society.



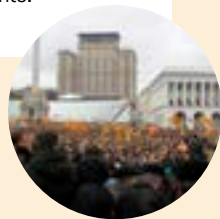
Examples of actors in civil society

Civil society structures often originate from groups of people who are connected to each other based on their identity, culture, religion, family, social status, needs or interests. Civil society consists of networks, voluntary organisations, trade unions, independent media, political parties, student organisations and religious communities, as well as sports, arts and cultural groups. This includes formally registered organisations, informal grassroots organisations and social movements. The market, commercial actors and public agencies are not regarded as part of civil society. Examples of some of the most prominent types of organised actors in civil society are presented in this illustration. It is not a complete list, and there are some overlaps.

SOCIAL MOVEMENTS

mobilise a large number of people, often across social, ethnic and religious affiliations, to advocate for political change. The Tiananmen Square protests in Beijing, China in 1989, the Orange Revolution in Ukraine in 2004 and the Arab Spring in 2011 are examples of known mass movements.

PHOTO: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

include sports and cultural organisations that offer activities for their members. Some of these actors provide aid through cooperation with sister organisations in other countries.

PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATIONS

represent, or are spokespersons for, groups and individuals who experience that their rights are violated. For example indigenous people, women, children, youth and people with disability. Human Rights organisations often engage in political advocacy locally and internationally.



All the actors can be local or international



LOCAL ORGANISATIONS
refer in this report to organisations based in recipient countries. They can be large or small organisations based in local communities, or they can be national organisations. Local organisations are often referred to as Community Based Organisations (CBOs) or Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). The organisations often originate from special interest groups; social networks; ethnic, religious or other group affiliations. Others are established by individuals.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
are organisations that have offices and projects in multiple countries, often as an alliance or federation of national organisations. These organisations are often referred to as International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGOs). Some of them are based in recipient countries, but most of them originate from the donor countries.



FAITH-BASED ORGANISATIONS

have been engaged in development aid for a long time. Social norms develop from religion, culture and tradition. In many countries, these elements are interconnected and religious leaders often have considerable influence in both civil society and politics.

PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN



FREE MEDIA

disseminate information and contribute to public debate. Support of free media in developing countries often involves capacity building for improved quality of content and coverage of sensitive issues in the news. Support is also provided to protect journalists who are threatened and assaulted, especially in countries where freedom of expression and information is limited.



TRADE UNIONS

are associations of employees whose primary purpose is to safeguard the interests of their members and contribute to decent working conditions. Trade unions are supported through international solidarity work. International support to trade unions aim to contribute to capacity building in order to enable trade unions to play an active and constructive role in their respective sectors of work.



DIASPORA

are people who live in a country other than their country of origin. Many diaspora maintain strong ties with their home countries, and send substantial amounts of money to family and relatives at home. Some establish their own groups or organisations and join forces to support development projects in their home country with funds they raise among diaspora groups. Some organisations receive public funding for their projects.

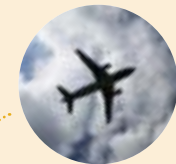


PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK



1

Civil society as a watchdog and partner in development cooperation

Civil society is described as an arena where citizens, alone or together with others, can promote interests and needs on behalf of themselves and others. The goal for the Norwegian government has been to contribute to a strong and independent civil society in developing countries. Secondly to strengthen the capacity of civil society to play a constructive role in development of their own country. A strengthened civil society is both a goal in itself and a means of achieving results.





Interaction between civil society, the public sector and the private sector is essential for positive social development. A diversified and dynamic civil society contributes to good governance in key areas. A strong and active civil society can also be a corrective to the commercial power of trade and industry, both in poor and rich countries. Civil society is fundamental to a well-functioning democratic society.

Civil society organisations can also be important providers of basic services, such as education and health, especially in weak and fragile states.

Civil society organisations are important partners for the promotion of good governance. Over half of the aid channelled directly to local civil society organisations involves advocacy work. Civil society can create greater awareness of the citizens' duties and rights on the one hand, and of the authorities' obligations on the other hand. How, and to what extent, civil society has space to participate in the formulation of national and international policy varies from country to country. Civil society can also include actors that play a negative role for social development. In this report, we focus on the positive role that many civil society organisations play, in addition to illustrating some of the challenges and dilemmas related to civil society.

Norway aims to strengthen the role of civil society as an independent and constructive actor in socio-economic development. As part of the focus on poverty reduction in Norwegian aid, priority has been placed on supporting low-income countries. In addition, a great deal of Norwegian aid to fragile states is channelled through civil society organisations.

CIVIL SOCIETY'S ROLE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN NORWAY

Norwegian civil society organisations laid much of the foundation for the development of democracy and welfare in Norway. Civil society in developing countries play an equally important role in the development of their own countries.

From the mid-1800s until the emergence of the Norwegian welfare state, the voluntary organisations were the main providers of health services, social services and humanitarian work. Some of them also worked for poverty reduction. Most of the organisations originated from the temperance, mission and labour movements. They were financially independent of the government and public funds, and collected funding through fund-raising, donations and contributions from members. With the emergence of the modern welfare state in the 1950s, the responsibility of the public sector expanded to areas in which voluntary organisations previously dominated. Their roles changed. Many of the organisations are now important actors in Norwegian aid.

Norway is by far a society in which civil society organisations have an established and legitimate place in negotiations with the government.

In many instances, it is also an important partner in policy development and implementation. The organisations have taken this tradition with them in their work in developing countries.¹

IMPORTANCE OF A LOCAL CIVIL SOCIETY

In many countries, civil society has an uncertain and unclear relationship with the government. Membership is less common than in organisational life in Norway. Informal organisational structures and affiliations based on place of residence, kinship, religion, common interests and culture, often play more important roles than formally registered organisations. Trade unions and faith-based organisations are often key actors that gather and organise many people in civil society.

Actors such as civil society organisations or local leaders, who represent, and are trusted by the local population, are important agents of change. They can represent local needs and interests in relation to the government. They can also contribute to changes in peoples' attitudes and behaviour. An example of this is the result presented from Sierra Leone (p. 74).

Norwegian and international civil society organisations that cooperate with local organisations in developing countries must have an understanding of local informal structures and norms, and also an understanding of challenges and policies in order to achieve planned results. Strengthening civil society in partner countries requires that the local organisations have ownership of the planned results.

NORWEGIAN CIVIL SOCIETY IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FROM THE 1960S TO THE PRESENT

Civil society organisations have been a part of Norwegian development aid since the beginning. They worked with international development aid even before the directorate Norwegian Development Aid was established in 1962. The first allocation to civil society organisations in 1962 was at NOK 0.5 million. In 1963, NOK 3 million was allocated and distributed to seven organisations. At the time, this accounted for five per cent of the total development aid budget.² In 1974, the allocations increased to NOK 14 million, and it was almost doubled to NOK 25 million in 1975.

¹ Norwegian Official Reports (NOU) 1995:5 – Norwegian South Policy for a Changing World.

² Ibid.

AID TO CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT BUDGET (Prop. 1 S 2015–2016)

Norwegian support shall contribute to strengthening civil society in developing countries, and its ability and capacity to promote democratisation, the realisation of human rights and the reduction of poverty. Special emphasis is placed on the following:

- > Human rights, including the rights of faith minorities and the rights of persons with disabilities, freedom of expression and fight against all discrimination
- > Well-functioning and democratic party organisations
- > The right of children and young people to education, particularly in conflict areas
- > Health-promoting measures
- > Gender equality and women's rights
- > Job creation
- > Sustainable management of natural resources and transparency of capital flows
- > Cultural rights, capacity building in the cultural sector, cultural infrastructure and protection of cultural heritage
- > A strong commitment in Norway to global environmental and development issues that in the long run can contribute to sustainable development effects in poor countries.



Norway is by far a society in which civil society organisations have an established and legitimate place in negotiations with the government. In many instances, it is also an important partner in policy development and implementation. The organisations have taken this tradition with them in their work in developing countries.

EXAMPLES OF THE WORK OF TRADE UNIONS TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY

Trade unions played an important role in the fight against Apartheid in South Africa. In Zambia, the trade union Zambian Congress of Trade Unions played an important role in promoting multi-party democracy. In Zimbabwe, the trade union Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions established the political party Movement for Democratic Change.

In 1977, the requirement that organisations contribute with 50 per cent of the project costs was reduced to 20 per cent. This resulted in an increase in the number of organisations that applied for support.³ In 1978, Norad supported 34 organisations with just under NOK 50 million. That same year, Norway started to grant support directly to local and national organisations in partner countries.⁴

Support to civil society organisations increased considerably in the 1980s, both in terms of amount and the number of actors. In 1982, Norad signed framework agreements with some of the Norwegian organisations for the first time. From 1980 to 1987, the funding of the organisations' long-term development cooperation increased from NOK 60 million to NOK 400 million. In 1991, the funding totalled NOK 1,334 million.⁵ In addition to long-term development, substantial funding went to humanitarian aid.

In the 1990s, the number of Norwegian organisations receiving public funding increased to around 150. At the same time, Norway supported several hundred local organisations in the partner countries and around ten international organisations. At the same time, Norway challenged Norwegian and international organisations to contribute more to the strengthening of local civil society, in addition to providing services in various sectors.

In the 2000s, democratisation became an important goal of aid to civil society. One goal was that local civil society themselves put pressure on governments for increased democratisation, respect for human rights

and a fair distribution of resources. Political advocacy became an important area of work.

In 2015, 992 organisations received funding from the Norwegian government, with a total amount of more than NOK 7 billion. Of this amount, close to NOK 3 billion was paid out by Norad. The requirement for own contribution to project costs is currently at 10 per cent. However, several grant schemes are exempt from this requirement.

The Norwegian organisations that are involved in development cooperation differ greatly. The mission organisations have a long history of international work. Most of the largest aid organisations, the Red Cross, Save the Children, Norwegian Refugee Council, Norwegian Church Aid and Norwegian People's Aid, originated from relief work in Europe after the First and Second World Wars and after the Spanish Civil War.

Solidarity organisations, such as the Norwegian Afghanistan Committee, Norwegian Council for Africa, Norwegian Burma Committee and the Norwegian Palestine Committee, started as political support groups focusing on information and advocacy work in Norway. They later became international development aid actors. Some special interest organisations in Norway cooperate with sister organisations in developing countries. This applies, for example, to the Union of Education Norway, the Norwegian Sports Association, Norwegian Nurses' Association and the member organisations in the Atlas Alliance. In recent years, as climate changes are increasingly related to challenges of poverty, environmental organisations are increasingly engaged in development aid. As an example, they support local environmental organisations' work to safeguard natural resources.

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS' AREAS OF WORK

Much of the debate around the role of civil society organisations in development cooperation concerns the balance between service delivery, advocacy and capacity building. Most organisations have strategies that combine several of these areas of work in both long-term development cooperation and humanitarian aid.

Service Delivery

Civil society organisations take responsibility for delivering a substantial portion of the social services in some countries, especially health and education services. Civil society organisations provide 25 per cent

3 Norad (2014) Added costs. Added value? Evaluation of Norwegian support through and to umbrella organisations in civil society.

4 Norwegian Official Reports (NOU) 1995:5 – Norwegian South Policy for a Changing World, p. 61.

5 Rattsø (2006), new roles for voluntary organisations and development cooperation.



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The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) runs a three-month vocational life skills and education programme for youth aged 15-25 years in Kayin state in Myanmar. Each year the students gather to share their experiences. Tun Ming Naing shares his experience from running a motorbike workshop.

PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN

of health and education services in Ethiopia and 10-15 per cent of the education services in Nepal.⁶ The local health organisation, Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM), provides 35 per cent of the health services in Malawi.⁷ Even before the earthquake hit Haiti in 2011, civil society organisations provided 70 per cent of the health services and 85 per cent of the education services in the country.⁸

In accordance with the UN Human Rights Conventions, the public authorities bear the primary responsibility for respecting, protecting and fulfilling human rights, including the right to health and the right to education. In some countries, the authorities do not have sufficient capacity or resources to provide such services. At the same time, there is a risk that the service delivery from external actors lead to aid dependency and that authorities disclaim their own responsibility. Aid can contribute to authorities using public funds for causes less beneficial to the public at large rather than to basic services such as health and education.

In a long-term perspective, the authorities must resume primary responsibility for ensuring that basic social services benefit the entire population, even when civil society organisations or private actors provide the services. It is therefore important to combine service delivery with advocacy and capacity building for strengthening the authorities' capacity to assume responsibility. The work of the Norwegian Association of the Disabled in Palestine (p. 50) is an example of combination of working methods. In addition, the examples from Norwegian Church Aid's health work in Sudan (p. 42) and the Strømme Foundation's work with education in West Africa (p. 40), as well as ADRA's work in Somalia (p. 48) show how organisations and authorities cooperate in service delivery.

The examples from the work of the Red Cross in Colombia (p. 44) and Burundi (p. 82), show how civil society organisations provide health services in areas where the authorities do not have access or control. Capacity building of local organisations has contributed in developing local solutions to local problems.

6 Norad (2012) Tracking Impact: An exploratory study of the wider effects of Norwegian civil society support to countries in the South.

7 The International Association of National Public Health Institutes.

8 Laura Zanotti (2010) Cacophonies of Aid, Failed State Building and NGOs in Haiti: setting the state for disaster, envisioning the future. *Third World Quarterly* 31, 5.

Advocacy

Many civil society organisations are involved in advocacy work towards authorities and decision makers. The goal of political advocacy is often to ensure the realisation of human rights, participation and access to resources. The establishment of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) is an example of civil society organisations achieving important international results. Many actors from civil society were also involved in the development of the UN's new Sustainable Development Goals, adopted in 2015.

In countries with weak or limited authority structures and a limited room for exchange of ideas between those in power and the population, opportunities to influence the political processes are limited. Organisations can act as spokespersons for groups of people that have limited influence over political decisions, and they can contribute to increased participation from people in decisions affecting them. Examples of the results of such work include the cooperation between 300 organisations to change the constitution in Zambia (p. 56).

Civil society can play an important role as advocates to strengthen the corporate social responsibility of private corporations through mobilising consumers for or against products or services. The campaign against the use of palm oil in Norway and exposing the poor working conditions among subcontractors to manufacturers that Norwegians buy clothes from, are examples of this.

In spite of the many confrontations between civil society, trade and industry, there are also examples of constructive cooperation. Some civil society organisations contribute information and knowledge to the private sector. The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment's (ForUM) efforts to influence the investment practice of the Government Pension Fund Global (p. 64), also referred to as the Petroleum Fund show how some civil society organisations influence changes in the private sector industry.

Many organisations document human rights violations and disseminate such information in their advocacy work. One example of this is the Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund's (SAIH) cooperation with a student organisation in Colombia (p. 86). Human rights work often involves a safety risk for the activists. Many are threatened and assaulted due to their work. International cooperation in civil

society can help protect activists by influencing the authorities and private actors. International attention is another way of protecting activists from persecution.

In some countries, human rights work and political advocacy is difficult and in some cases illegal. Elsewhere, it may create greater tension between civil society on the one hand and the authorities and other actors on the other. Political advocacy can also create tension between civil society actors with different interests. One example is civil society actors who disagree on the rights of sexual minorities.

Capacity building

Support to civil society should contribute to building the capacity of local organisations so that they can promote and participate in social development in their own country. Building the capacity of the local population, organisations and authorities is often a prerequisite to achieve results in advocacy and service delivery.

One of the goals of capacity building is to mobilise the population to demand that authorities and private industry respect human rights. Greater knowledge and capacity can result in changes in behaviour as well as broader participation in public debate and democratic processes. The result from WWF's work in the DRC (p. 70) is an example of how knowledge and capacity has enabled local communities to negotiate with private forestry companies.

The work of the local Red Cross associations in Burundi and Colombia (pp. 82 and 44) are examples of capacity building contributing to local communities assuming greater responsibility for social welfare and the provision of services.

Capacity building can also contribute to organisational development and democratic governance within organisations in civil society. The cooperation between Norwegian People's Aid and a trade union in Zimbabwe (p. 72) is an example of this. Capacity building should contribute to viable, strong and independent partners. This may entail that organisations become financially independent actors without need for external support.

Paung Ku¹

Civil society: Gaining or losing ground in Myanmar?

Political transitions in Myanmar in the last five years have brought the country into the world spotlight. After the 2015 elections, the reality of impact of new political changes on civil society space has been mixed, and has not always met with expectations. The increase in Western aid to Myanmar has not always helped to support the role of civil society, in fact, at times it has undermined it.

During the previous government under President Thein Sein 2011-2016 there were significant changes to liberalise the country. Media freedom grew, and many political prisoners were released. Pressure from citizens and from the international community for the government to demonstrate their legitimacy drove many of the changes.

Civil society was given more space and influence during this period. For example, EITI² proved to be useful in expanding opportunities for civil society groups to engage with local communities, the private sector, and government on natural resource issues. Civil society groups mobilised and formed the Myanmar Alliance for Transparency and Accountability (MATA). Civil society groups supported farmer's associations to engage with development of the National Land Use Policy and advocated on issues such as human rights and environmental and social impacts from trans-boundary investments.

Civil society groups played a crucial role in supporting the success and credibility of the 2015 election process and a new Government came into power in 2016. While it was a long awaited political breakthrough, it is uncertain whether the formal mechanisms of civil society engagement over the last five years will continue. The status of the EITI process under the new government has become uncertain due to rearrangement of ministries and delegation of responsibilities between them. Meanwhile, the avenues for formal civil society engagement in the peace process set up by the previous government have narrowed.

In some geographical regions, the positive developments have been maintained and continue to grow and new opportunities have developed. For example, two irresponsibly run mining projects were recently suspended after local complaints led to a joint assessment by the regional government and civil society representatives. Yet in other places, the new government has been less encouraging of interaction with civil society groups.

In the midst of these current challenges and opportunities for civil society in Myanmar, international organisations including UN programs have both strengthened, and at times undermined, the work of local organisations and networks. International agencies favour partnerships with organizations which have the systems and structures that can manage their funds, leaving little room for smaller self-organised community groups to access funding. For example, an education consortium funded by several western donors selected organisations that accepted a subcontracting approach with pre-set program objectives and outcomes. As a result, local knowledge and traditional participatory models, such as local contributions for monastic education,³ have been ignored or undermined.

International organisations also tend to work with Yangon, urban based groups that can speak English and write proposals and budgets. Where training is provided for groups outside the larger established NGOs, the training focus on transforming organisations to look like the established NGOs. International aid has also, at times, been counter productive. For example, attempts by international agencies at networking around the topic of 'civil society and governance' has led to duplication of efforts and, caused divisions among local groups. In some cases, international initiatives prefer partnership with local groups who have pre-existing links to the government bureaucracy and this has led to marginalisation of more advocacy-oriented organisations.

¹ Paung Ku is a Burmese network organisation that works to improve the space for local civil society.

² The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is a certification scheme that requires that the government publish information on how they regulate extractive industries. Member countries must have national multi-stakeholder forums in which representatives for civil society, the private sector and the authorities participate.

³ Monastic education is education offered at Buddhist temples and often supported financially by the local community.

Main features of civil society support

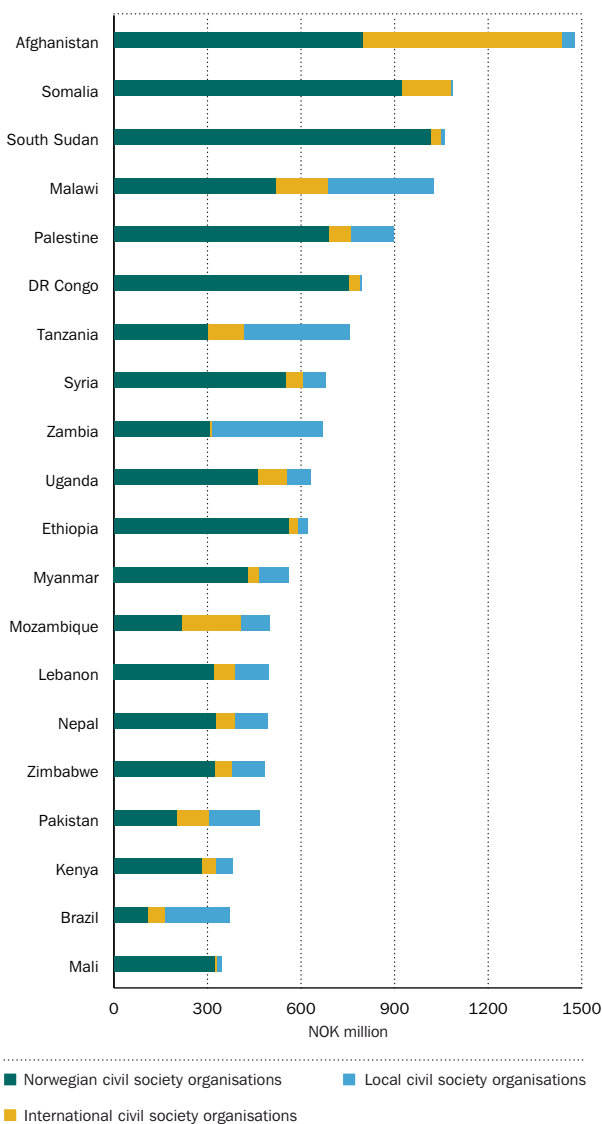
Norway supports a multitude of civil society actors, from large organisations with a broad thematic and geographic area of work to small organisations with narrower and more limited outreach. The Parliament (Storting) and the Government determine the general conditions regarding the use of Norwegian tax revenues in development aid. Local needs and priorities should form the basis for decisions on what activities to support and how they are organised.

Norway supports local civil society directly, but also to a great extent through Norwegian and international organisations as intermediaries. Special initiatives by Norway, such as Oil for Development and the Norwegian International Climate and Forest Initiative, have special allocations for civil society that complement other bilateral aid.

The majority of the Norwegian civil society support is channelled through Norwegian organisations that cooperate with partners in developing countries. Some of the Norwegian organisations are members of umbrella and network organisations. Digni is one of these and consists of 20 Norwegian church-based organisations that engage in long-term development cooperation. Their 20 members have a total of 120 projects in several countries. The Atlas Alliance is an umbrella foundation consisting of organisations representing people with disabilities and their families. They work with sister organisations in developing countries to promote the rights of and improve the living conditions for people with disabilities. FOKUS is an umbrella organisation for members working with international women's rights and gender equality issues.

The justification for the use of Norwegian and international organisations as intermediaries is that they have important thematic and technical expertise. Many have good local knowledge that enables them to evaluate needs, partners and strategies for the best possible implementation of development aid. In addition, it is required that they have sound financial

FIGURE 1 // NORWEGIAN AID TO CIVIL SOCIETY DISTRIBUTED TO DIFFERENT TYPES OF ORGANISATIONS



Development aid among the top 20 recipient countries of Norwegian civil society aid, distributed according to type of organisation. [Source: Norad]

management and quality assurance systems in following up projects and partners.

Continuous assessment is made of the value added of using Norwegian or international organisations as intermediaries.



Partnerships with local civil society may therefore contribute to both access and legitimacy for international organisations.

Figure 1 shows how aid to civil society is distributed geographically and to what type of organisation. It shows that local civil society organisations receive a larger proportion of the aid to civil society in stable countries compared with fragile states. This applies to for example Brazil, Zambia, Tanzania and Malawi. In fragile states, a very small proportion of the aid is channelled directly to local organisations. In these countries, much of the aid is humanitarian assistance. The vast majority of aid in fragile states is channelled through international organisations or Norwegian organisations. This applies to for example South Sudan, Somalia and Afghanistan.

Models for partnerships with local organisations varies among the Norwegian and international organisations. Some work with local actors through their own national offices in partner countries, while others cooperate directly with local partners from the donor country.

Local offices of Norwegian and international organisations can contribute with coordination, local expertise and a higher level of quality for the projects. They have local employees who can contribute to ownership and continuity in the local community. Physical presence also enhance building close relationships with local partners, which may contribute to improved monitoring and mutual understanding. On the other hand, national offices of international organisations can pull away resources, competent personnel and power from local organisations. In their opinion piece (p. 17), Paung Ku points to some of the challenges associated with the emergence of international organisations in Myanmar.

Some external actors lack the legitimacy and trust from the local population that is necessary to get access to project areas and be able to implement a project. Local organisations often have easier access to restricted areas. Local personnel and local organisations may themselves originate from restricted areas and thus have easy access. International organisations are also restricted from certain areas due to their own security policies for staff. Partnerships with local civil society may therefore contribute to both access and legitimacy for international organisations.

Cooperation with Norwegian and international organisations can contribute to strengthening the expertise within local organisations. But it also enhance the knowledge and expertise of Norwegian and international

UMBRELLA ORGANISATIONS:

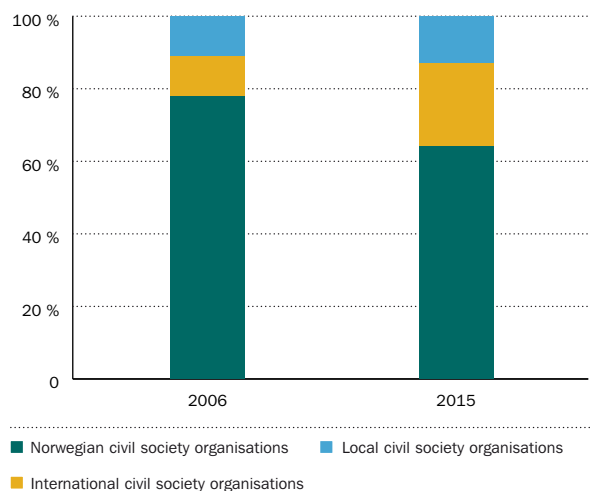
Umbrella and network organisations for organisations with shared interests or areas of work account for a significant portion of Norwegian aid to civil society.

Digni (formerly the Norwegian Mission Aid Committee) received its first framework agreement with Norad in 1984. Subsequently, several umbrella and network organisations have entered into agreements with Norad. They manage and transfer funds to their members. Many members of umbrella and network organisations cooperate directly with local partners.

organisations. Knowledge of local needs and interests provide valuable input to information and advocacy work in donor countries. This work often aims at changing attitudes among the population at large and influence government policies on aid.

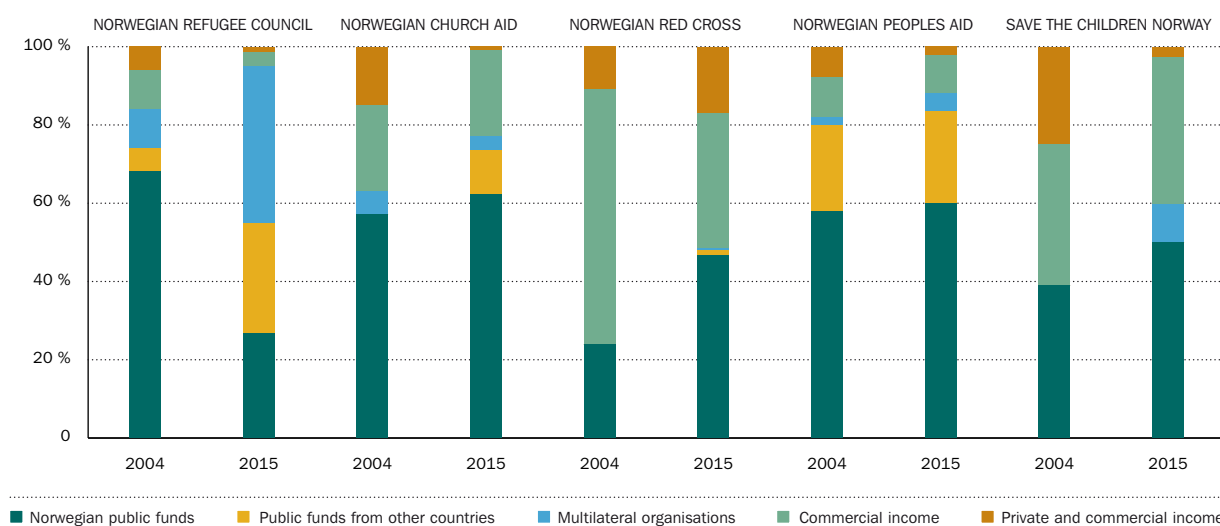
Equality is an important principle of partnerships. Preferred partnership model should take into account an assessment of cost-effectiveness and sustainability in achievements of results. Additionally it is important to assess how a partnership potentially may affect local power dynamics and the labour market.

FIGURE 2 // NORWEGIAN SUPPORT TO INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY AS SHARE OF TOTAL CIVIL SOCIETY AID HAS DOUBLED OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS.



Development aid distributed according to type of organisation. The total amount in 2006 was NOK 4.1 billion and in 2015 the amount was NOK 7.1 billion. (Source: Norad)

FIGURE 3 // SOURCES OF INCOME AMONG THE TOP 5 NORWEGIAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS



Sources of income among the 5 largest Norwegian NGOs in 2004 and 2015. The total amount varies between the organisations.

[Sources: Rattso 2006 and Survey among organisations in 2016.]

NORWEGIAN SUPPORT TO CIVIL SOCIETY

Norwegian aid to civil society as a percentage of total development aid has increased from 5 per cent in 1981 to over 20 per cent in the past decade. The total budget for development aid has increased over the same time.

A smaller share of the civil society aid was channelled through Norwegian civil society organisations in 2015, compared with 10 years ago. Support to international civil society organisations doubled from 11 per cent in 2006 to 23 per cent in 2015. This is largely due to an increase in climate and forests initiatives, mainly channelled through international organisations. However, support to international organisations, as percentage of aid to civil society, has increased in most sectors during this period.

The percentage of aid to civil society channelled directly to local organisations has been relatively stable over the last 10 years, with a slight increase until 2012, followed by a slight decrease towards 2015. Of the total support to civil society amounting to NOK 7.1 billion in 2015, NOK 0.9 billion went directly to local organisations in the recipient countries. This represented 13 per cent of the aid to civil society.

Funding of Norwegian and international organisations is often distributed further to local partners. Thus, the actual amount that goes to local organisations is higher than what these receive directly from the government donors as stated in the statistics. The percentage and amount that is distributed to local partners varies considerably between the organisations.

Grants from the Norwegian government are an important source of income for most Norwegian organisations. A recent survey found that support from the Norwegian government accounted for between 5 and 95 per cent of the total income among 17 Norwegian civil society organisations in 2015.⁹ The greatest variation in share of government funding as part of total income is found among the medium-sized organisations. Plan International Norway and SOS Children's Villages varies from other organisations with a very large percentage of their income coming from private donors.

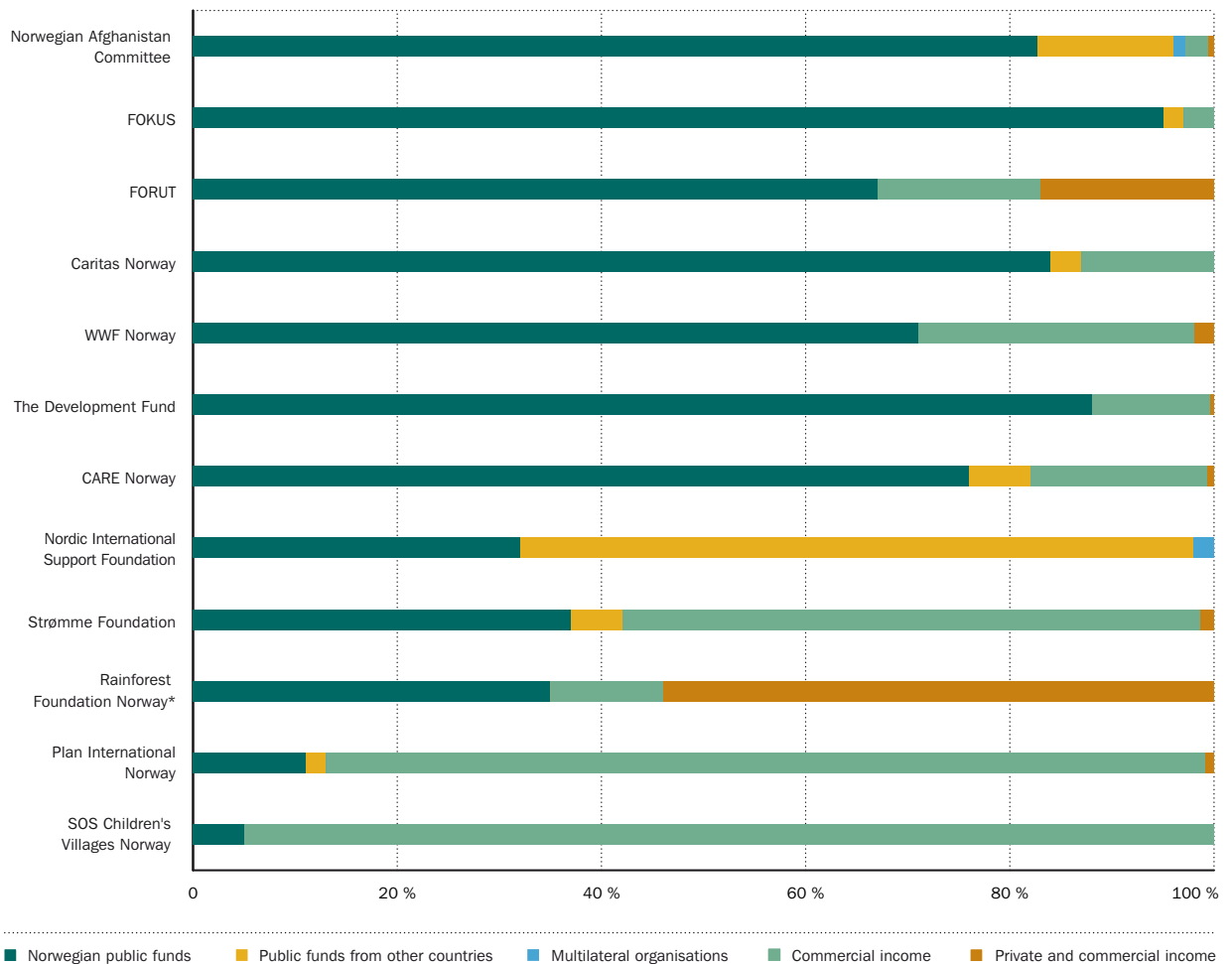
Among the five largest organisations, government funding as a percentage of total income ranges from

⁹ The data is collected through a survey administered by Development Initiatives on behalf of Norad in autumn 2016. It was sent to the 25 organisations that received the largest grants from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Norad. A total of 17 of the organisations responded. This included the five largest NGOs and 12 medium-sized organisations measured by the amount of government funding.

13 %

13 percent of Norwegian support to civil society in 2015 went to local organisations.

FIGURE 4 // DIFFERENT SOURCES OF INCOME AMONG THE MID-SIZED NORWEGIAN ORGANISATIONS



Source of income for 12 Norwegian civil society organisations in 2015. The total income for each organisation varies. * The Rainforest Foundation Norway had the national TV telethon fundraising campaign in 2015, which accounts for a large percentage of the organisations income that year labeled as "other income". (Source: Survey administered by Development Initiatives 2016)

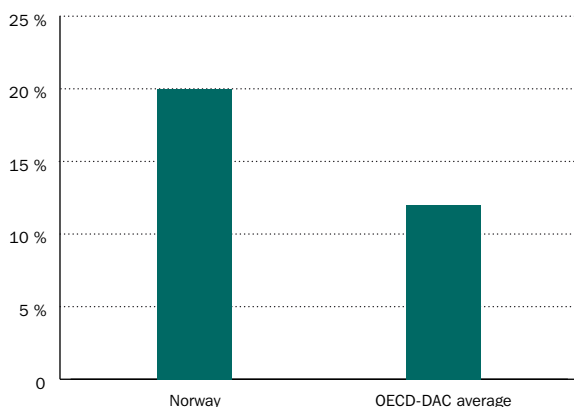
27 per cent for the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) to 62 per cent for Norwegian Church Aid (NCA). Compared with the figures from 2004, income from the Norwegian government as a percentage of total income increased among four of the five largest organisations (Figure 3). Only NRC has a reduced share of its income from the Norwegian government. A higher percentage of NRC's income in 2015 came from other government donors and multilateral organisations. Among their largest donors were The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), European Commission (ECHO) and Dfid.¹⁰

Norwegian public funding represent the majority of the income of Norwegian network and umbrella organisations' secretariats.¹¹ The picture looks different for their members and as such the financial overview of these structures is more complex. Hence, the statistics in figure 4 do not reflect the overall picture for the umbrella organisation FOKUS. Digni and the Atlas Alliance is not included in this overview. A survey conducted by Digni in cooperation with the Norwegian Council for Mission and Evangelisation (NORME), shows that public funding

10 www.nrc.no

11 Norad (2014) Added costs. Added value? Evaluation of Norwegian support through and to umbrella organisations in civil society.

FIGURE 5 // NORWAY CHANNELS A LARGER PERCENTAGE OF ITS AID THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS THAN THE AVERAGE FOR OECD-DAC.



The figure shows aid through civil society as percentage of the total development aid in 2014. A total of NOK 18.5 billion was channelled through civil society organisations from member countries of OECD-DAC. Norway's support in 2014 amounted to NOK 1 billion. Net disbursements. [Source: OECD stat.]

accounted for 29 per cent of the income of the members' international work in 2014 whereas Digni's secretariat is fully funded by public funds.¹²

OTHER COUNTRIES' SUPPORT TO CIVIL SOCIETY

Support to civil society is an important aspect of Norway's development aid policy. The same applies for many other donor countries. Norwegian support to civil society as share of the total development aid was eight percentage points above the average among the member countries in OECD-DAC in 2014.

Of the total development aid from member countries in the OECD-DAC in 2014, 12 per cent went to and through civil society organisations. In addition to government funding, the civil society organisations based in member countries in the OECD-DAC raised almost USD 30 billion from private sources in 2013.¹³ Aid to civil society varies between countries. This is due to different ideologies, traditions and culture for charity and fund-raising as well as the available public funding.¹⁴ Similar to Norway, support from other members of

OECD-DAC goes primarily through organisations based in the donor country. In 2014, 70 per cent of aid to civil society from the member countries in OECD-DAC went to organisations based in donor countries. Six per cent went to local organisations.¹⁵ The rest went to international organisations and organisations without categorisation. Norway distributes a higher share of its aid to civil society through local organisations than what is the average for members of OECD-DAC. In actual amounts, the support from Norway to local organisations was stable from 2011 to 2013, while it increased considerably from the UK and EU institutions during the same period.¹⁶

Donor countries have to a varying degree, set goals for how much of their funding that should go directly to local organisations. Certain donors have in accordance with recommendations from the OECD, developed new modalities for funding of local organisations, in addition to direct funding. Multi-donor trust funds is one of these modalities that government donors use to fund local organisations. Some OECD-DAC countries use third parties to manage the funding of civil society organisations in developing countries.¹⁷ These mechanisms can contribute to increased coordination among donors. On the other hand, an intermediary – in the form of a fund or actor in the donor country – may also entail additional costs and administration.

Several government donors have recently reviewed their agreement models with civil society organisations. In 2015, the Netherlands changed their cooperation models from framework agreements to strategic partnerships with significantly lower budgets than earlier. There is increased emphasis on supporting political advocacy and supporting civil society through consortia where local organisations may take a leadership role. The Netherlands and Sweden require greater cooperation between international and local organisations in order to provide project support. The UK has advertised funding for consortia. Belgium requires coordination between the Belgian organisations that work in the same country.¹⁸

¹⁵ See the statistics, Part 3.

¹⁶ OECD (2015) Aid for CSOs.

¹⁷ United Kingdom, for example, uses PwC for an education programme for girls and Tripleline for a civil society fund, KPMG for an accountability project and Coffey for M&E.

¹⁸ HIVA, Research Institute for Work and Society (2015), *New Trends in Governmental Funding of Civil Society Organisations. A Comparative Study of 9 OECD-DAC Donors.*

¹² Members' statistics Digni and NORME 2014.

¹³ OECD (2015) Aid for CSOs.

¹⁴ See, inter alia: Bond (2015) *Fast Forward: The Changing Role of UK-based INGOs.*



Mobile technology opens new avenues for money transactions. PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN

NEW SOURCES OF FUNDING

Civil society organisations also receive support from multilateral organisations, often through their national offices. An overview of this support is difficult to obtain because of the decentralised administration of the support.

Traditional forms of fund-raising, in addition to government funding, include fund-raising campaigns and contributions from members and sponsors. A survey among Norwegian organisations in 2016 shows that income from private and commercial sources represented between 4 and 38 per cent of their total income. Among the 12 medium-sized organisations, private and commercial income accounts for 2 to 95 per cent of total income.

Social media has opened up new opportunities for funding of individual projects and organisations. These fund-raising methods are particularly effective for disaster response where media coverage contributes to increased attention. Technology and social media also enable fund-raising from individuals directly to target groups in the recipient countries. One example of this is the crowd funding mechanism “Global Giving”, which has raised over USD 232 million from over 500 000 individuals for 15 000 different projects in 165 countries.

Social entrepreneurs have emerged as an alternative to enhance financial sustainability in projects. They combine business development with support to cover social needs. In several such initiatives, the target group for a development aid project change roles to become customers who pay a lower price for products than they would have paid to other commercial actors.

Transfer of money from the diaspora in many countries exceeds the total income through development aid and trade. Globally, the diaspora transfer a total of USD 600 billion to their home countries. Unofficial statistics from Somalia estimate that 40 per cent of the population is dependent on transfers from the diaspora. The funds are mostly channelled to the migrants’ own families. However, these contributions also have larger socio-economic impact. Many diaspora groups join forces to organise development projects in their home country. Some of them also enter into cooperation with development aid organisations. One example of this is the Development Fund’s work in Somalia (p. 76).

NEW DONORS

Emerging economies have become new donors. Estimates show that development aid from the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) has grown 10 times faster than aid from the wealthiest

countries (G7). Support from these countries generally involves exchange of mutual benefits, where the aid transferred gives something back to the donor country. Brazil and Arab countries represent an estimated 75 per cent of the development aid provided by countries other than the members of the OECD-DAC. Even though the BRICS countries have grown as donors of development aid, they themselves experience high level of poverty and domestic inequality. Hence, many civil society organisations from these countries work on domestic challenges in their own country. However, this is about to change, especially related to humanitarian aid, in which for example organisations from India and Brazil, have provided assistance after the earthquakes in Nepal and Haiti in recent years.¹⁹

Arab countries have grown as donors, and are particularly active in countries with significant Muslim populations. Most of the development aid from Arab countries goes through Arab civil society organisations.²⁰

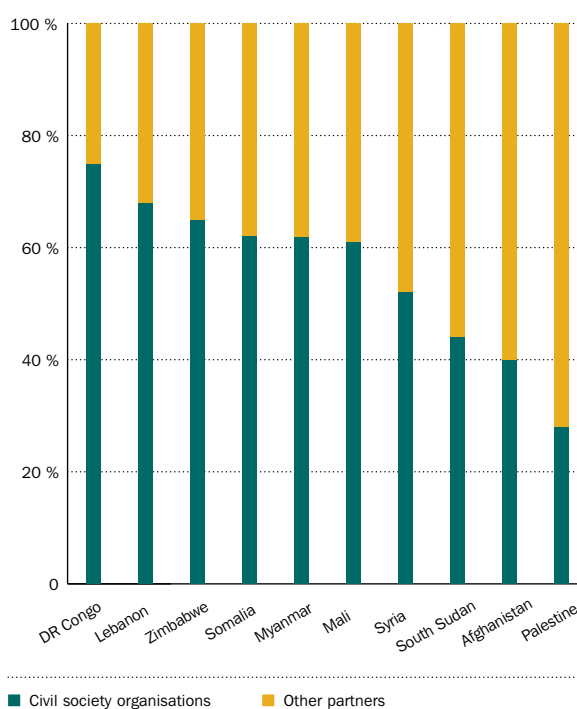
CIVIL SOCIETY – IN FRAGILE STATES AND HUMANITARIAN AID

The donors' choice of partners in development cooperation is influenced by their confidence in the system of governance and public administration in the recipient country. A significantly larger share of development aid to fragile states is channelled through civil society organisations compared to aid in more stable countries.

Half of the 20 largest recipient countries of international aid to civil society from OECD-DAC members in 2014 were fragile states. Similarly, half of the 20 countries that received the most support to civil society from

In recent years, the OECD and the World Bank have changed the classification and approach to fragility, from focusing on “fragile states” to “fragility dimensions”. Fragility is defined as a phenomenon that affects all states to a varying degree, not just those that are traditionally defined as fragile or afflicted by conflict. Middle-income countries may have a high degree of fragility. The same applies to specific areas within a country. An estimated 43 per cent of people living in the most fragile areas live below the poverty line. This percentage will most likely increase. (Norwegian Parliament Budget Proposition S 2016-2017)

FIGURE 6 // SUPPORT TO CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENT A LARGE PERCENTAGE NORWAY'S AID TO FRAGILE STATES



Distribution of Norwegian development aid to fragile states during the period 2011-2015. These are the ten fragile states receiving most aid from Norway. The countries are on the world bank's 2016 list over fragile states. [Source: Norad]

Norway during the period from 2011 to 2015 were fragile states.²¹ Figure 6 shows the ten fragile states that received most aid to civil society from Norway during the last five years. On average, almost half of the aid to these countries was aid to civil society.

Fragile states are characterised by weak regimes with inadequate control of their own territory and limited institutional capacity. One and a half billion people live in fragile states. Seventy per cent of these countries are or have been in conflict during the period from 1989 up to the present. Fragile states achieved less progress compared to countries in their efforts to achieve the UN millennium development goals by 2015.

Figure 6 shows that 75 per cent of the aid to the Democratic Republic of Congo was aid to and through civil society organisations during the period from 2011

19 Adele Poskitt et al. (2016), Civil Society from the BRICS: Emerging Roles in the New International Development Landscape. Institute of Development Studies.

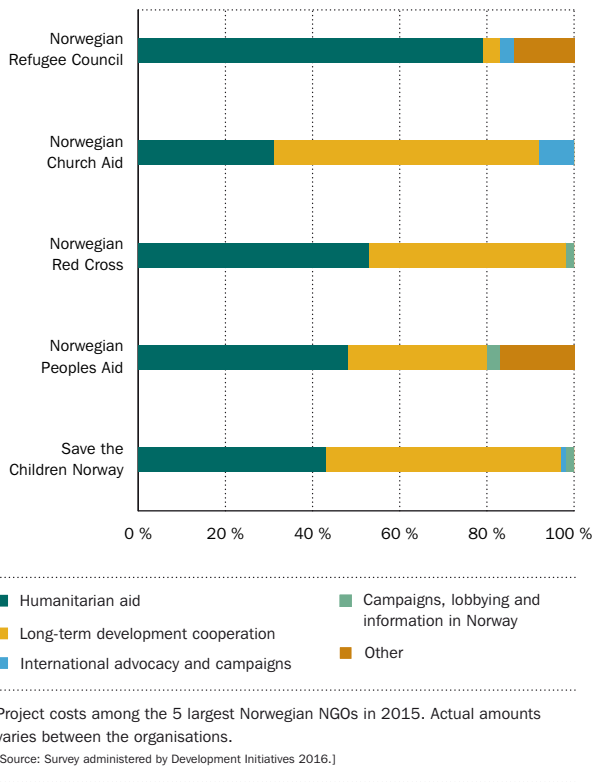
20 IRIN (2011): Arab and Muslim Aid and the West - "two china elephants".

21 Classification of fragile states has been determined in accordance with the World Bank.



Estimates show that development aid from the BRICS countries (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) has grown 10 times faster than aid from the wealthiest countries (G7).

FIGURE 7 // HUMANITARIAN AID IS AN IMPORTANT AREA OF WORK AMONG THE FIVE LARGEST NORWEGIAN NGOS.



to 2015. The corresponding percentage for Somalia was 62 per cent. The remaining aid to the Democratic Republic of Congo was channelled primarily through multilateral organisations.

In 2015, 48 per cent of Norwegian humanitarian aid was channelled through civil society organisations. The most recent figures from the OECD are from 2014 and show that 29 per cent of the total humanitarian aid from the OECD-DAC was channelled through civil society organisations.²² Humanitarian aid is channelled primarily through organisations that are based in donor countries. Compared with long-term aid, less of the humanitarian aid goes directly to organisations in the recipient country. Of the humanitarian aid from Norway channelled through civil society organisations in 2015, 93 per cent went to Norwegian organisations, 5 per cent directly to local organisations and 2 per cent to international organisations.

22 Development Initiatives (2015) Global Humanitarian Assistance Report 2015.

FIGURE 8 // THE MEDIUM-SIZED ORGANISATIONS WORK MAINLY WITH LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT

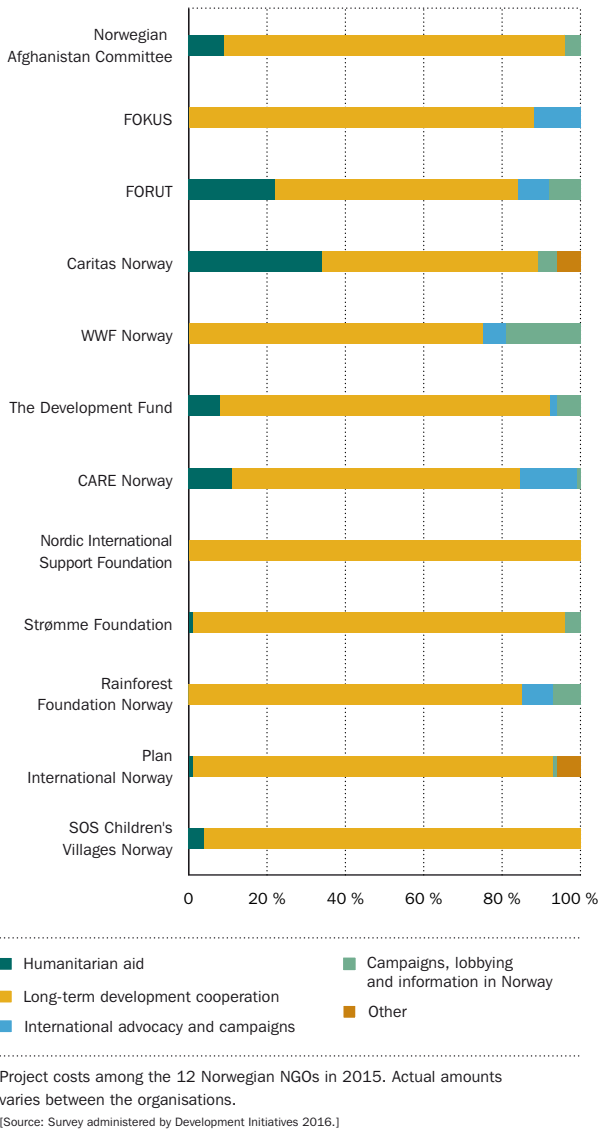
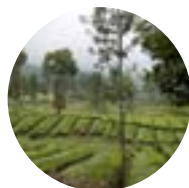


Figure 7 shows that humanitarian aid accounts for a significant share of the activities of the five largest Norwegian organisations. Among the medium-sized organisations, only a few work with humanitarian aid. Only three of the medium-sized organisations use more than 10 per cent of their funding on humanitarian aid work.²³ Advocacy is an integral part of both long-term development cooperation and humanitarian aid among many organisations. This is not reflected in Figures 7 and 8.

23 Norad (2016) Questionnaire among 17 Norwegian organisations, conducted by Development Initiatives for Norad 2016.



Interview with Samdhana, Indonesia

Samdhana is a bridge of trust between donors and the local communities

Samdhana Institute is a South East Asian NGO that supports indigenous peoples and local communities' in securing their land rights and access to resources and appropriate development. The organisation facilitates connections between work of local groups with different levels of government. It also provides small grants and capacity development support to local NGOs in Indonesia, the Philippines and the rest of Southeast Asia.

How is your work financed?

The majority of our donors are international funding institutions. Although there is sufficient funding to cover our programs in Indonesia for the time being, priorities in the donor countries might change over time. Therefore, we need to diversify the funding base.

Access to funding from Indonesian funding institutions is only nascent. There are just a few national funding mechanisms that fits our strategy and where Samdhana is eligible. Only recently, two of our projects received funding from an Indonesian funding program, the Millennium Challenge Account Indonesia, managed by the government with funds from international donors. Private foundations could also be an alternative, and we are planning to look into that option.

We know that several private companies have introduced support to civil society organisations as part of their corporate social responsibility policy. It is not in line with our strategy to apply for funding from actors who are involved in activities or sectors that have a negative impact on the life, territory and rights of indigenous people and local communities. The local communities trust us, and it could conflict with our mandate to receive support from such companies.

Does the financial support affect your organisation?

The donors do not influence our vision and mission. However, they might have priorities that coincide with ours. Different donors have different approaches to their grant recipients though. Some donors are responsive to our views and suggestions, whereas others are more rigid. We have to make sure that we don't become donor driven, although it is a very fine line. We need to meet the donors' requirements and ensure that they trust us. At the same time, it is crucial that we have the trust of the local communities as they are the people we work for and with. We see ourselves as a bridge of trust between local communities and donor institutions.

Influence from the donors is negative if they make the recipients focus on areas that are not consistent with the strategy of the organisation or recipient country. On the other hand, international institutions can give the necessary push to prioritise an important topic such as improving on the gender sensitivity of projects. As an organisation, we must carefully investigate the donors' focus areas and requirements before we apply for funding. We will only apply for funding if the priorities and requirements are aligned with our work and capacity.

Sometimes it is challenging to maintain the high financial and management standards required by the donors and at the same time ensure that we adhere to the limitations for administrative costs. We need to maintain and build our capacity, and also that of our local partners. We believe that solid institutional capacity is key to make sure that we see the impact on the ground in the long term.

Challenges and opportunities for civil society

Changes in the world economy affect civil society in areas of politics, economy and organisational development. In recent years, the funding of civil society has come under pressure due to the global financial crisis, changes in political priorities and an increased critical focus on development aid. The critics request documentation of results and increased accountability from the organisations.

FINANCIAL DEPENDENCY

Balancing between financial dependency and the ability to be a critical voice may be challenging. Most Norwegian civil society organisations are dependent on government funding. At the same time they have the political space that enable them to be critical of the same authorities that fund them. Civil society in many other countries do not have the same political space. Even with enabling political space, strategic and operational choices may be influenced by donor preferences given financial dependency.

All organisations must adapt to the political landscape in which they operate. This may entail compromises regarding working methods and thematic areas of work. External funding, whether it is public or private, often comes with conditions. Some conditions may compromise the organisation's legitimacy and reputation, as well as the confidence among the target group and supporters.

Some organisations choose to avoid certain sources of funding if there are too many conditions from donors, or they avoid donors that would compromise the values and legitimacy of the organisation. An example of this is environmental organisations that do not accept funding from companies that contribute to deforestation and pollution. It may also be ethically difficult to be associated with actors who are perceived controversial by the target group of an organisation, as expressed by Samdhana (p. 26).

CHANGES IN POLITICAL PRIORITIES

In 2015, the refugee situation affected the development aid budgets in Europe, including Norway. Finland reduced its 2015 development aid budget by 40 per

cent compared to the previous year. One of the significant cuts was aid to civil society.²⁴ Denmark cut more than 40 per cent of its development aid budget from 2015 to 2016, and funding of civil society was reduced by 31 per cent.²⁵ Sweden has slightly increased its aid to civil society during the last five years. Statistics from the OECD show that civil society support from the Netherlands has declined since 2010.²⁶ In 2015, the funding modalities changed significantly and the level of funding reduced.

Because of reduced funding, civil society organisations in the Netherlands and Denmark have terminated partnerships and agreements with local partners. They have reduced the number of employees at their head offices, reduced and focused their international work, and closed national offices in developing countries.

NEED FOR GREATER PROFESSIONALISATION

The organisations are unavoidably affected by access to funding. Strict requirements from donors have contributed to the professionalisation of project management and reporting, as well as financial and performance management. This is necessary for proper monitoring and management of public funds. Many civil society organisations welcome the requirements for quality and accountability. Some see it as a way to improve their work, in addition to the fact that it weeds out fly-by-night and opportunistic actors. On the other hand, there is a risk that organisations and actors that lack this expertise will not qualify for support, even if they achieve results in social mobilisation and local change.

For donors, it is administratively easier to fund large organisations that have systems in place to follow their requirements and report on large portfolios covering several countries and sectors in a single agreement. It is more demanding to manage many small organisations with small agreements. It is also important to have professional actors that have knowledge of the relevant coordination mechanisms.

The criticism of professionalisation is concerned about the increased formal organisation of local civil society without this necessarily entailing increased participation

²⁴ Georgi Gotev, Finland slashes development aid by 43 per cent amid fears others may follow, in *The Guardian*, 11 June 2015.

²⁵ Timbuktu Fonden (2016), an independent analysis of Danish development aid 2014-2016.

²⁶ Baobab (2015) Briefing No. 3, Civil society and aid trends 2015.

Local ownership concerns the extent to which an organisation's work is defined by local needs. This includes to what extent projects are developed by, or in cooperation with the local population.

and local ownership. The requirements for professional expertise can risk increasing the gap between the target groups and those who are working in the organisations. An organisational urban elite with higher education, is established while projects are carried out to benefit people that lack formal education and live in poor rural or urban areas.

Civil society organisations are experiencing increased competition for funding and qualified employees. Large international organisations are criticised for hiring the best activists, who could otherwise act as strong voices in their own local communities. International organisations also attract government officials and teachers by higher salaries and international career opportunities. These trends may pull away resources for local development.

Some of the criticism against international organisations is that they are perceived to be more concerned about their accountability to donors rather than to local partners and target groups. Furthermore, the organisations are criticised for establishing parallel structures instead of finding solutions that can strengthen the local structures that already exist. Paung Ku (p. 17) points to the challenges associated with international organisations preferring to cooperate with those who are most similar to themselves. Alternatively that they try to change the local organisations so that they resemble the international organisations to the greatest extent possible.

Local civil society organisations can be important agents of change with strong local support. In order to access funding, they often have to cooperate with organisations that are based in donor countries. Funding streams affect partner relations and power balances between organisations based in donor countries and recipient countries. The intermediary organisations often determine how the funds will be distributed. The choice of local partners by the intermediary organisations can shift the power balance between local groups and interests. In some cases this is a desirable and intended shift but not always. There is a risk that some international organisations follow their own strategies rather than be

guided by local needs. It is also a risk that they prefer to listen to the voices that they themselves agree with and help bring them up to the international arena.

One strength of long-term partnerships between organisations from donor countries and recipient countries is the development of mutual trust and understanding, and a partnership that may endure even without the transfer of money. Sometimes, however, such established relationships may get in the way of innovations and entering into cooperation with new partners.

CIVIL SOCIETY AS A POLITICAL INSTRUMENT

Civil society consists of a multitude of groups and networks, including actors that oppose human rights and the development of democracy. An example of this are international and local organisations that fight against the rights of minorities or the sexual and reproductive rights of women.

Local civil society is often organised along political alliances or affiliation to social groups. Political allegiances may determine the existence of, or financial support to the organisations. In some countries, the country's elite or people with a strong connection to the political leadership establish so-called GONGOs ("Governmental Non-Governmental Organisations"). Such organisations are often established in order to gain access to financial support, without being genuine civil society actors.

There exist a vast number of civil society organisations, internationally and in individual countries. Internationally, the number of organisations has increased in recent decades. Even before the earthquake struck Haiti, many referred to the country as the "Republic of NGOs". It is estimated that the number of organisations in Haiti before earthquake was 10,000. This made Haiti the country in the world with the greatest number of organisations per inhabitant. After the earthquake, the number of organisations increased considerably. Humanitarian crises often lead to an increase in the number of organisations.²⁷

The challenges associated with a large number of organisations involved in development of a country is the fact that a lot of the aid is fragmented, and it is difficult to keep track of the overall efforts. It is also difficult to ensure that everyone receives the assistance

²⁷ Laura Zanotti (2010) *Cacophonies of Aid, Failed State Building and NGOs in Haiti: setting the state for disaster, envisioning the future*. *Third World Quarterly* 31, 5.

HUMANITARIAN ACCOUNTABILITY PRINCIPLES

The Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) provides guidelines for accountability and ethical practice in humanitarian aid and long-term development work. The CHS replaces the earlier Humanitarian Accountability Project (HAP) and has 60 international organisations as members. Governments and multilateral organisations also support the initiative. The standard comprises nine commitments to quality, responsibility, accountability and good practice. In addition, it provides guidelines for planning, implementation, assessment, improvement and approval of quality and accountability. Participation by local communities, and accountability in relation to the recipients of aid, are key issues. Organisations are certified according to CHS through a process of self-assessment, peer-assessment or external evaluation.

needed and according to agreed standard of quality. The recipient countries may face a heavy administrative burden by having to negotiate and coordinate with a large number of organisations.²⁸

CORRUPTION AND LACK OF TRANSPARENCY IN THE ORGANISATIONS

Corruption and a lack of transparency also exist in civil society. With access to substantial amounts of funds, the establishment of structures to prevent corruption is an important part of professionalisation. Internal control to uncover irregularities and corruption must be institutionalised. In order to contribute to greater transparency and accountability, many organisations have established systems for accountability, transparency and ethical guidelines.

Some organisations adhere to certification schemes of accountability and codes of conduct. These schemes also contain requirements for participation and feedback from the target group in planning, implementation and monitoring.²⁹

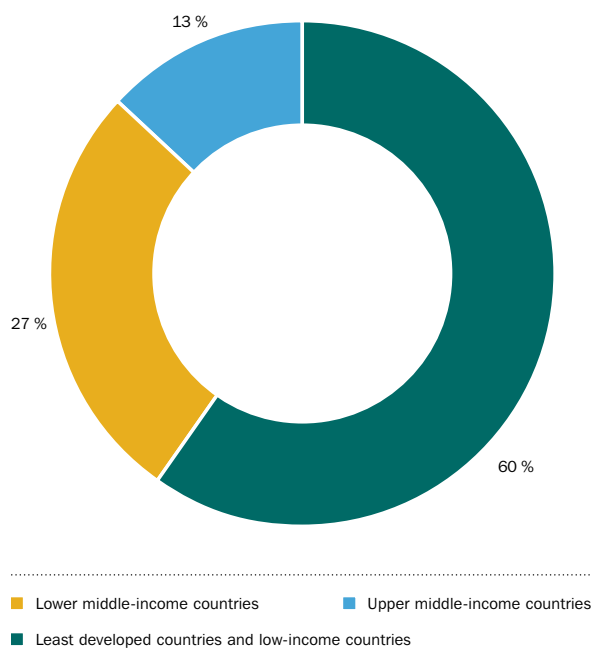
SOLUTION TO THE POVERTY PROBLEM: REDISTRIBUTION AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE

In Norway, as well as other OECD-DAC countries, most of the aid to civil society goes to the least developed countries and lower middle-income countries.

²⁸ Norad (2015), Evaluation of Norway's Support to Haiti after the 2010 Earthquake.

²⁹ We make reference to two international standards. In addition, there are ethical guidelines for employees through the Red Cross Code of Conduct, that many international organisations use.

FIGURE 9 // MOST OF THE INTERNATIONAL AID THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS REACH THE POOREST COUNTRIES



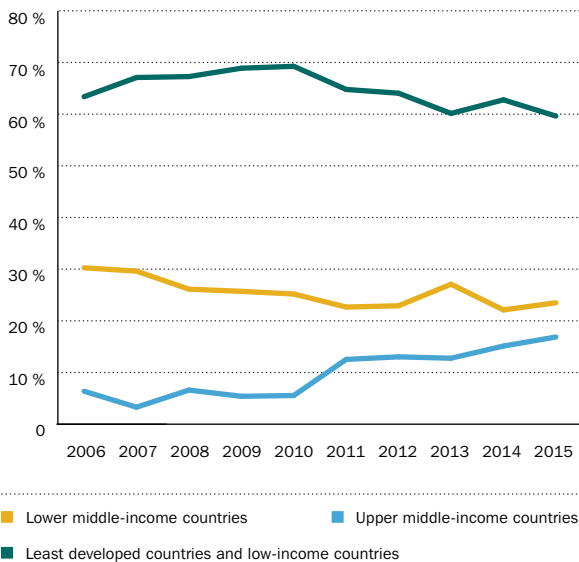
Country allocated aid through civil society organisations, distributed per country from members of OECD-DAC. [Source: OECD stat.]

Norwegian support to middle-income countries has increased since 2010. The increased focus on climate and forestry is one of the reasons for this. Funding for this area of work is mainly channelled to projects in middle-income countries, who are those with remaining rainforest. In addition, some of Norway's partner countries have changed their status from low-income to middle-income country.

In 1990, 93 per cent of the world's poor people lived in low-income countries. This has changed dramatically. As many as 73 per cent of the world's poor people now live in stable middle-income countries. Forecasts towards the year 2030 show that this will change. In the future, a greater percentage of poor people will once again live in the poorest countries.

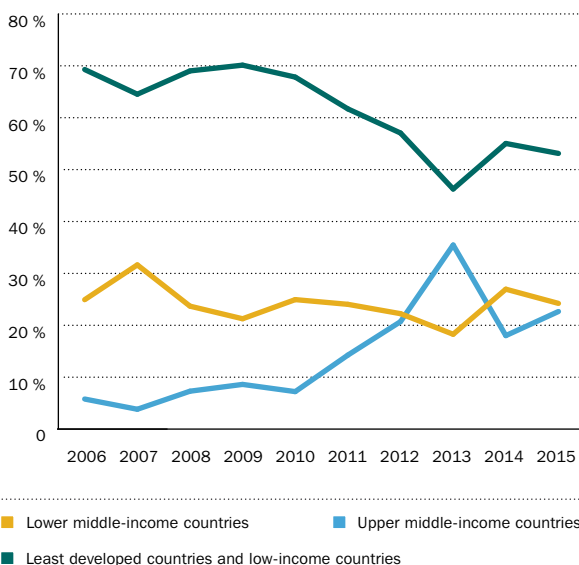
Even though many countries become wealthier, this does not necessarily mean that the entire population benefits. There is considerable economic inequality in many emerging economies. The World Bank recently published a report stating that since 1990, the level of inequality has increased in 34 out of the 83 countries

FIGURE 10 // NORWEGIAN AID THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY PRIMARILY GOES TO THE POOREST COUNTRIES



Country allocated aid through civil society organisations distributed according to income category 2006-2015. Total aid to civil society in 2006 was NOK 3.1 billion and in 2015 the total amount was NOK 4.9 billion. [Source: Norad]

FIGURE 11 // THE PERCENTAGE OF AID TO MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES HAS INCREASED



Total country allocated aid distributed per country (all channels) according to income category, 2006-2015. [Source: Norad]

included in their study. The income of the wealthiest 60 per cent of the population increased more than the income of the poorest 40 per cent.³⁰ In 23 countries, the poorest 40 per cent of the population also experienced an absolute decline in income. Inadequate distribution of resources and lack of good governance are some of the reasons for this. There are also often close relationships between the political and economic elite. This shows that it is necessary to challenge power structures and reduce the marginalisation within each country.

Civil society can and should play an important role in advocating for fair distribution of resources and reduced inequality. When a country's national economy and governance improves, the role of civil society also changes. In countries that have recently undergone a democratisation process, the role of civil society as a democratic corrective and spokesperson for vulnerable groups is even more important.

THE POLITICAL SPACE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY IS LIMITED

Freedom of expression and association are basic human rights. The right to participate is also an important human rights principle. The World Alliance for Citizen Participation (CIVICUS) evaluates freedom of association throughout the world. Their report from 2015 shows that there is a negative trend for the political space of civil society in 101 countries. As much as 60 per cent of the world's population live in countries where it is illegal to criticise the government.³¹ The political space and lobbying power of civil society is related to the degree of democracy and system of government. Threats against civil society also occur in democracies. In the wake of stricter legislation around money-laundering and anti-terrorism, several organisations have been shut down or criminalised.

Limitations of the freedom of association take place in spite of the fact that there are international agreements on minimum standards for the right of association and participation. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states four legitimate grounds for government restrictions on the right to freedom of association:

- > National security or public safety
- > Public order
- > Protection of public health or morals
- > Protection of the rights and freedoms of others

30 World Bank (2016) Tackling Inequality Vital to Ending Extreme Poverty by 2030.

31 CIVICUS (2015) State of Civil Society report.



Illustration photo from election campaign in Indonesia 2015. PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN

SHRINKING SPACE FOR ORGANISATIONS IN INDIA:

In India, civil society organisations face stricter regulations than private companies. In an open letter to India's Prime Minister, a group of civil society leaders expressed concern for this development in May 2015: "Funds are being frozen, intelligence reports are being selectively released to paint NGOs in poor light, disbursement of funds are being subjected to case-by-case clearance, and their activities are reportedly being placed on watch lists. As a result several NGO projects have shut down, donors are unable to support work, and there is an overall atmosphere of State coercion and intimidation in India's civil society space."

Restrictions must be based on existing legislation and executed by a legitimate government authority.

According to the Special Rapporteur for Human Rights Defenders, these grounds are used excessively as an excuse to limit the activities of organisations and activists, particularly those who are critical of the government and power elite.

Coordination and control of the work of civil society organisations may be appropriate. The same applies to legislation and guidelines that regulate organisational life. Organisations should be transparent about their work and financial situation. In some countries however, where the authorities violate human rights, transparency may involve a risk to organisations and activists.

Civil society organisations experience that government and private actors ignore their concerns or employ various methods to limit their activities. This includes restrictions on funding as well as strict and complex rules for registration, often combined with legal obstacles.

MORE SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL OF INFORMATION

The International Centre for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) analyses legislation for civil society and historical trends in various countries. They report that freedom of association and the right to participate in groups, not registered as associations has become more restricted.³²

32 ICNL (2012), *Defending Civil Society*.

In Kenya, a large number of organisations were threatened with deregistration in 2016, because they did not satisfy the requirements for registration or had not provided sufficient information. The case went all the way to the country's High Court, and the organisations were successful in their claim for continued registration. In 2011, Malawi introduced a new law that anyone organising a demonstration had to pay a deposit of 2 million kwacha (equal to NOK 25.000) to the authorities. The law was repealed after reactions from civil society. In China, over 10.000 organisations' registration was annulled in 2015, on grounds that they had not submitted the necessary information for registration.

Social media and new technology represent new opportunities, also for civil society. Social media, for example, can be used to distribute information on human rights violations and violation of ethical and environmental guidelines in the private sector. Information and documentation can be shared quickly and to a larger number of people than previously, including to the international community. Hence, local issues can gain international attention in an instant.

An increased flow of information also contributes to opportunities for the manipulation of information. This can expose activists and organisations to surveillance, negative campaigning and the control of information. Governments may want to control social media. During the recent elections in Uganda and Zimbabwe, Facebook was closed, and many activists experienced that their activities in social media were monitored.

CONCERN FOR POLITICAL INFLUENCE

Even though authorities are positive of the role of civil society as a service provider, they are often more sceptical towards their role in political advocacy. This scepticism is even more prevalent when advocacy is funded from abroad.

Foreign funding of political advocacy has contributed to accusations of promoting the political and economic interests of other states. Hence, restrictions on foreign funding can partly be justified by not allowing other countries to exert political influence over one's own system of government. Restrictions on foreign funding appear in the legislation of a number of countries, including Norway, in order to maintain national sovereignty. In recent years, restrictions on funding have

nonetheless gone beyond statutory restrictions and may be an indication of governments' interests in restricting the political space for civil society actors.

PERSECUTION, DISAPPEARANCES AND MURDER

Extreme examples of the shrinking space of civil society are persecution, disappearances and murder. This is used both to get rid of certain individuals and to scare others to silence. According to Front Line Defenders (FLD), 156 human rights activists were killed in 2015. 33 Over half of these deaths occurred in Latin America. According to FLD, activists who fight for land rights in areas with extractive industries and forestry in Latin America are particularly at risk. This human rights work often involves the promotion of land rights for indigenous people. The International Federation of Journalists reports that 109 journalists were killed while at work in 2015, most of them in targeted attacks on journalists. In addition to being murdered, activists and journalists are threatened, arrested and assaulted.

33 FLD works to protect human right activists. The organisation has observer status at the UN and cooperates with the UN Special Rapporteur for Human Rights Defenders.



Mr. Michel Forst,
UN Special rapporteur on the situation
of human rights defenders

Shrinking space for humans rights defenders

Part of my mandate is to assess the situation of human rights defenders throughout the world. Over the past two years, the manipulation of laws and the legal system has increased. This has resulted in a restriction of civil society's space of action, reduced funding and an emergence of complex processes for the registration of non-governmental organisations. Human rights activists are increasingly at risk and at times they run an extremely high risk by risking their lives in the fight for human rights.

Unfortunately, large multinational companies often work against important organisations and human rights defenders who work for the realisation of rights to land and environmental protection. The human rights defenders are depicted as protesters against economic development and prosperity, but what they are fighting for is that their rights are respected in important development processes. It is important to acknowledge the desire to contribute to respect for human rights and sustainable development. This has far more long-term effects than the immediate economic gain from the projects. Human rights defenders do not wish to stand in the way of development, but they would like to have a say in how development should occur.

In this regard, the resolution submitted by Norway and adopted during the Human Rights Council in March this year is very important. It emphasises the importance of human rights defenders that work on economic, social and cultural rights.

Countries that support human rights globally must do more to emphasise the importance of civil society and human rights activists and condemn threats and human rights violations. National governments have signed international conventions, and are thereby obliged to respect freedom of expression, freedom of association and the right to participate.

Civil society must be included in the design of international tools that will affect future development. Human rights are included in the introduction of the Paris climate agreement that was signed in Paris in the autumn of 2015. I consider it a victory that a new climate agreement devotes an entire section to human rights. Climate change will significantly affect countries' capability to protect human rights.

In my last report to the Human Rights Council in March 2016, I included examples of good practices for the protection of human rights defenders. I emphasised the importance of a rights-based approach to development. Human rights defenders are a very diversified group, and there is no one form of protection that is appropriate for everyone. Every situation must be assessed independently. This applies in particular to gender issues and risk assessment for vulnerable groups. Human rights defenders and civil society can contribute together for their own protection by the establishment of networks and by exchanging experiences.

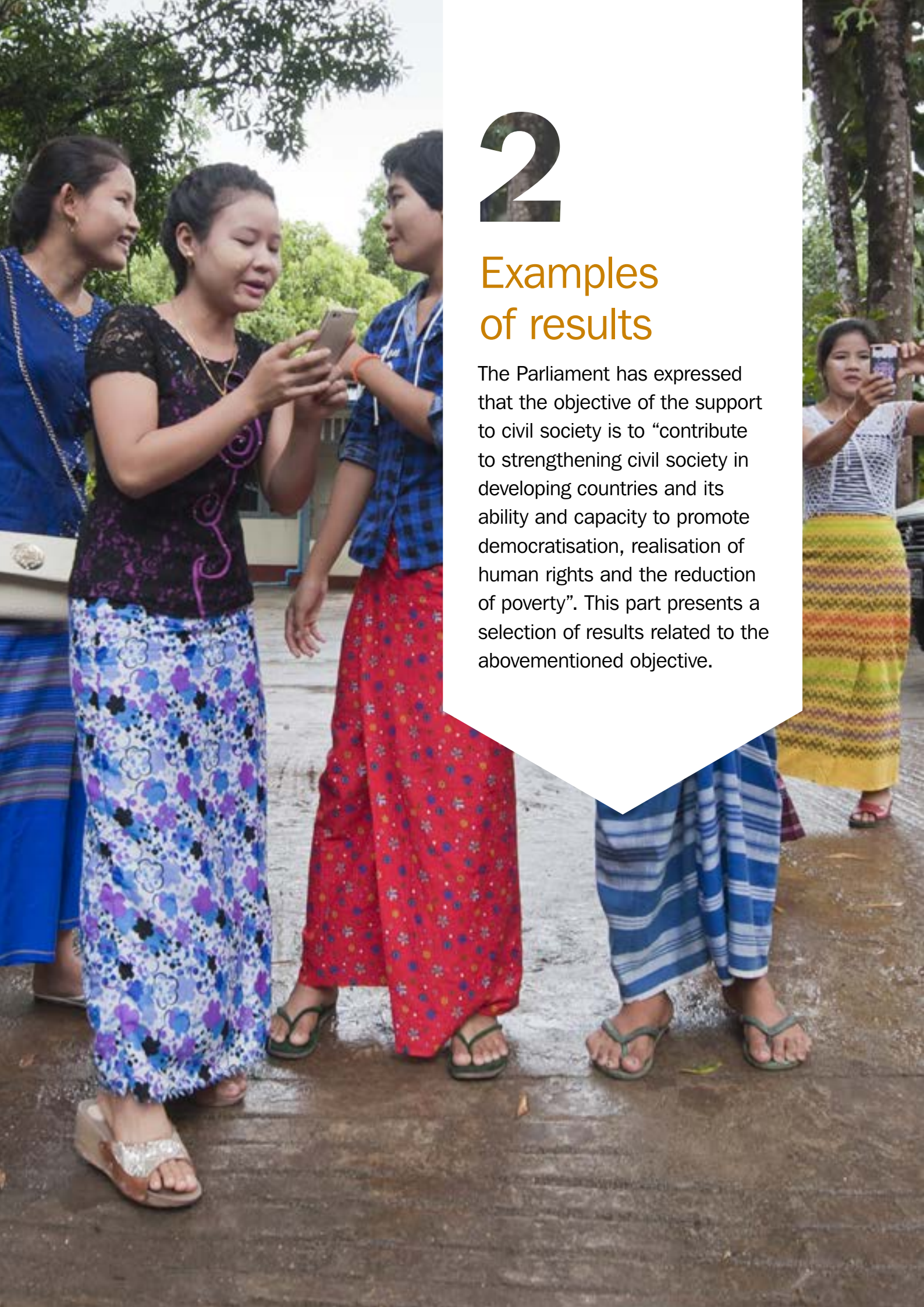
It is important that civil society and human rights defenders are allowed to participate in processes that concern them. This applies to political processes connected to legislation and protection mechanisms as well as development and climate policy. Governments must create more room for dialogue with civil society and those who fight daily to protect our common human rights.



2

Examples of results

The Parliament has expressed that the objective of the support to civil society is to “contribute to strengthening civil society in developing countries and its ability and capacity to promote democratisation, realisation of human rights and the reduction of poverty”. This part presents a selection of results related to the abovementioned objective.



Results based management

Results based management entails to decide on intended results and thereafter design projects and working methods to achieve the results. There must be a logical connection between the planned results at different levels and the initiatives and activities that are carried out in order to achieve them.

A project or programme that receives development aid funding must contribute to achieving development goals. A plan must clearly state what problems the project aims to address, for whom, how to solve the problem, and describe the desired situation when the problem has been solved. Local ownership means that it is important that the target group itself is involved in defining problems, the desired results and the methods for achieving them.

Planning for results also involves planning for how to monitor and collect information in all phases of the work, assigning responsibility for information gathering and where to collect information. For our own learning and that of others, it is also important that the results achieved are communicated in a comprehensible manner to donors, target groups and other actors who are working on similar projects. Monitoring and reporting should provide information of whether the project is progressing towards achieving the planned results or whether there is a need for adjustments of activities, time-frame, or other.

We need to distinguish between reporting on what has been done and what has been achieved. Reporting on results involves describing what has been achieved as a consequence of activities carried out in a project. Activities and deliveries are often reported on to a greater extent than their effects. Examples are reporting of how many have received training or have been given access to services, without an analysis of the effect of the training or access to services. An analysis of the effects may be assessing changes in behaviour, health, quality of life or the realisation of opportunities.

The planned effects from projects implemented by many civil society organisations are social changes. Such changes are complex and are often affected by factors other than the initiative taken. There is often a need for additional actors who contribute in various ways. Even though it may be challenging, it is always possible to say something about the relevance of the initiative to the changes, and to demonstrate the probability of whether the initiative has made a contribution.





The examples in this chapter are divided into three groups. The first group focus on results related to job creation and realisation rights to health and education. The second group focus on results from advocacy towards decision-makers for accountability, good governance and democratisation. The third group focus on results from capacity building and the mobilisation of civil society.

The groups of examples are not mutually exclusive categories. Results are often achieved through a complex combination of different working methods and cooperation between different actors. In some cases results are achieved through cooperation between civil society and authorities, international organisations and the private sector.



Health, education and employment



Access to health and education are basic human rights. Civil society organisations often provide services where authorities do not provide such basic services. The work is often carried out through cooperation with the authorities or private actors. In many cases, civil society organisations help authorities fulfil their obligations of providing health and education services.

The examples in this chapter show the contribution of some civil society organisations to the realisation of basic human rights, such as access to work, education and health services. The examples also show how capacity building contributes to the local authorities safeguarding the needs and rights of marginalised groups.

The right to decent work is laid out in several human rights conventions. The percentage of youth as part of the world population will increase drastically in the coming years. This poses major challenges for health and education systems, as well as employment opportunities for youth. Civil society can play an important role in vocational training, job creation and market access. There is great potential in cooperation with private trade and industry. This chapter provides some examples of the above.

Job creation by young female entrepreneurs in West Africa

Young women who have participated in an entrepreneurship course have started their own businesses. The young entrepreneurs have increased their incomes. In addition their businesses have created jobs for others.

RESULTS: Women have created jobs and increased their own incomes

A total of 446 businesses were started by participants in the “Be the Change Academy (BTCA)” provided by Peace Child International. Two years after the course as many as 80 per cent of the participants were self-employed. Before attending the academy, 48 per cent of participants were self-employed.³⁴ The businesses have created jobs for 1,057 people. Monitoring of participants who have graduated from the training, show that 50 per cent of the jobs created have been sustained for more than a year.

Two years after the course, 27 per cent of the participants earn more than USD 100 per month, compared with 1 per cent earning at this level before attending the course. A many as 40 per cent earn between USD 50 and 100, compared with 11 per cent before attending the course. In the control group, 3 per cent earned more than USD 100 and 21 per cent earned between USD 50 and 100.

WHY: Young women have limited opportunities in the labour market

It is difficult to access financial support to start a business. There are limited opportunities for training in how to set up a business for those who cannot read or write. The project’s target group are young women from ages 16 to 35. Most of them work in the informal sector with uncertain and unstable income. Young women from poor families are locked into a continuous cycle of poverty and

Marie planned to start selling petrol. After participating in the BTCA, she saw the need for conducting a market analysis. She found that too many were selling petrol and there was a lot of competition. In the area where she lives, there is a lot of construction activity, and she saw that there was a great need for sand for concrete. She used her start-up loan to buy a piece of land with a lot of sand, and she now earns a good income from the sale of sand. Now she can pay for her oldest daughter to go to university, and to build her own house. PHOTO: PCI



marginalisation, with challenges ahead. Of the women who participated, 35 per cent had completed upper secondary school. 22 per cent did not have any formal education.

WHAT: Entrepreneurship course

5,347 young women have been trained in the period 2013-2015. The training consists of a ten-week course facilitated by local organisations and volunteers. The curriculum is adapted to local conditions and include financial management, business plan development and marketing. Local community network groups have been established to provide feedback on business plans and support the local businesswomen. Decisions on who to grant start-up loans are based on assessment by the network groups and PCI’s employees. Some of the women who started their own business have become mentors for others.

In Liberia, the work has developed further into a pilot to scale up the work and integrate the teaching methods into formal vocational training programmes.

The courses financed by Norad were held in Guinea (Conakry), Liberia (Paynesville) and Sierra Leone (Kenema) with three local partners: Youth Crime Watch Liberia, A W.I.S.H. Sierra Leone and Jatropa Microfinance Bank in Guinea.

HOW MUCH: Norad supported PCI’s work in West Africa with NOK 3,329,000 in the period 2013-2015.

Sources:
> Impact report from Peace Child International.

³⁴ According to PCI’s final report, this is based on a selection of 20 per cent of the participants.

Speed schools bring children back to formal school in West Africa

Cooperation between Strømme Foundation's local partners and the authorities in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger has contributed in bringing out-of-school children back to formal schools.

RESULTS: Children return to school

Speed schools started as an initiative by the Strømme Foundation in Mali in cooperation with local education experts. It has subsequently developed into a cooperation between civil society organisations and the authorities in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger. The aim of the programme is to get children who have dropped out of the school system back into public school.

As many as 81 per cent of the students in Speed schools finished the education programme, and 74 per cent of them transferred into the fourth grade in public school. The rest of the students started at a lower grade because they did not pass the admission test for the fourth grade. Of those who were transferred to public school, 75 per cent completed the first year.³⁵ During the period from 2005 to 2015, the programme organised 5,278 speed schools with more than 141,500 children attending. More than half of the students are girls.

An evaluation of the programme shows that children who have participated in the speed school programme quickly catch up with their fellow students in French and Mathematics. They also receive roughly the same grades. The evaluation also shows that parents with children at speed schools are more satisfied with the quality of the education than those who have children in public schools. The teaching method is one of the reasons for this.

WHY: Lack of education is a poverty problem

There are nearly three million out-of-school children in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger. These countries are

among the poorest countries in the world.³⁶ According to an evaluation of the programme, only half of the children in the project area in Mali attend school. 11 per cent of children aged eight to twelve go to school. In the same project area, 90 per cent of the women and 80 per cent of the men have no schooling. The national average shows that 77 per cent of children attend school.

Those who attend speed school are children who either have dropped out of the formal school system or have never attended school. They need customised teaching and close follow-up.

Many children drop out of the school system due to poverty. Their parents cannot afford school materials or school fees. Some depend on their children's income as part of the family economy. On the other hand, lack of education reduces their opportunities to enter the labour market and to have a stable income.

WHAT: Participatory teaching methods in local languages

Through a nine month accelerated learning course, the children are prepared for transfer into the fourth grade of primary school. During the first months, the children are taught in local languages and thereafter in French, which is the language of instruction in the public schools. The students at the speed schools are followed-up more closely than those in the public schools. This is possible as there are fewer students in each class. In addition, the school is in regular contact with parents. A local school committee facilitates contact between teachers and parents and monitoring of the students.

³⁵ Innovations for Poverty Actions (2015), impact evaluation of the programme.

³⁶ UNESCO (2011) "Out-of-School Children: New Data Reveal Persistent Challenges."



More than 140.000 children in the period 2005-2015 have received education at Speed schools in order to return to public schools in West Africa.
PHOTO: EGIL MONGSTAD/STRØMME FOUNDATION

Local school committees, established as part of the programme, contributes in creating local support for education. The committees encourage children and their parents to participate in school activities. They also cooperate with teachers and are responsible of finding premises for the school.

The programme also provide information about children's rights for the local community. Parents learn about the importance of children starting school at the appropriate age. Mothers are often invited to participate in savings and loan groups where literacy training is provided. In the groups, women also learn about how to prevent common diseases, such as malaria. Participation in savings and loan groups can give the mothers an income, which enables them to pay for their children's continuing education.

The programme is implemented by the Strømme Foundation in cooperation with ten local partners and the governments of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger. Local ownership is a key factor for the success of the programme.

HOW MUCH: In 2015, support from Norad totalled NOK 7.6 million. The programme is also funded by national authorities, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Erikskjelpen, and the EU.

Sources:

- > Reports from the Strømme Foundation.
- > Innovations for Poverty Actions (2015) Evaluation d'impact du programme, Strategie de scolarisation accélérée, conçu et promu par. - (Impact Evaluation of the programme).
- > UNESCO (2011) "Out-of-School Children: New Data Reveal Persistent Challenges."

3 million

More than 3 million children
in Burkina Faso, Niger and Mali
have never attended school.

Increased number of births attended by trained health staff in conflict areas in Sudan

Cooperation between local organisations and the authorities resulted in the renovation of health clinics and recruitment of health personnel. 75,000 people in a conflict area now have access to health services. Increased number of women give birth assisted by trained health personnel. This contributes to better health for children and their mothers.

RESULTS: Increased number of safe births

In cooperation with two local partners, Norwegian Church Aid offers health services to internally displaced persons and the local population living South Kordofan, an area hit by conflict. The number of births assisted by trained health personnel increased from 247 in 2012 to 3,623 in 2015. Births carried out with assistance from trained health personnel contribute to a lower mortality rate among children and mothers. Birth complications are taken care of. The mothers and children also receive ante-natal and post-natal care. This contributes to reduced risk of diseases and malnourishment.

The work is implemented in an area where people have low confidence in modern health care. This is partly due to poor public services and long travel distances and partly to a strong belief in traditional medicine. Many prefer traditional medicine instead of or in addition to modern medicine. Henceforth, an important factor in improving public health is to increase the trust and utilisation of modern health care.

The authorities did not have sufficient funds to renovate the health clinics in the area. They agreed to recruit health personnel if the organisations would renovate the clinics. The organisations renovated the clinics, and the authorities hired 24 health staff. The area now has a health service which did not previously exist.

Local health committees have been established as part of the programme. Their members have been

trained and play an important role in providing information about the importance of seeking health care in their communities. In addition, they have successfully advocated the authorities to renovate the local hospital. One of the health committees has established a revolving medical fund for medicines. The local population contributes financially to this fund, something that indicates an increased local ownership and responsibility for health services.

WHY: Superstition and the lack of health services prevent the use of modern medicine

South Kordofan is located in the Nuba Mountains in Sudan. An armed conflict broke out in the area in 2011, and many people have fled. The project is implemented in an area that is calmer than surrounding areas and to which many have fled.

National health statistics from 2010 in Sudan show that the maternal mortality rate is 216 per 100,000 births, and the mortality rate for children under five years is 83 per 1000 live births. Many qualified health workers have fled from South Kordofan due to the conflict and most of the infrastructures for health services have been destroyed.³⁷ Due to the damages to health infrastructure there is reason to believe that the maternal and child mortality rate in this state is higher than the national statistics.

Prior to the renovation of the local health clinics, the local population had to travel 100 kilometres to the nearest clinic. The supply of medicine from the

³⁷ WHO (2012).



Water pump by the Aldubaiba health clinic in Sudan. PHOTO: NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID

authorities normally last for three of the twelve months of the year. This leaves the population to purchase medicines for themselves the remaining part of the year.

Lack of information combined with traditional beliefs about why people become sick and die make people avoid using modern health services. This means that women give birth at home unaccompanied by trained midwives and birth attendants. Traditional methods are preferred. There was little medical follow-up of pregnant women and newborns.

WHAT: Information and access to modern health services

The programme provides basic information of and training in preventive health care. The training includes how to prevent common diseases, such as malaria, diarrhoea and water-borne diseases, as well as how to ensure proper nutrition for small children. Information is disseminated through trainings at the health clinics and the use of health committees, in addition to home visits and health campaigns. Health clinics have been renovated and offer health services. Employees and volunteers at the health clinics have received training. This includes 18 midwives, six doctors and four nurses. Four health committees, each with 10 members have been established. Members are often local leaders. The area is difficult to reach due to the conflict and

as the authorities require a travel permit if one travels from outside of the area. The project is implemented by two local organisations.

HOW MUCH: Norwegian Church Aid received NOK 3,285,340 for the project during the period 2013- 2015.

- Sources:**
- > WHO (2012), Sudan – Preparing communities responding to health emergencies. Working towards recovery.
 - > REACH, (2013), Qualitative study on attitudes towards health and medicine in unity state.
 - > Norwegian Church Aid’s project information to Norad, 2016.

Health services and prevention of diseases in conflict areas in Colombia

Local communities have increased knowledge of how to prevent common diseases. This is important in order to reduce the prevalence and spread of common diseases. Local health committees have contributed to the results.

RESULTS: Health services are provided and awareness of prevention from diseases has increased

An important result of the health work of the Colombian Red Cross (CRC) is the establishment of local community-based health committees. The committees provide first-aid and information on disease prevention. The work is carried out in conflict areas on the Pacific Coast of Colombia.

The percentage of people who could identify at least three symptoms of malaria increased from 32 in 2013 to 62 per cent in 2015. Knowledge of at least two methods of preventing malaria increased from 28 to 55 per cent. Such knowledge is essential to reduce the prevalence and mortality rate of the disease. Knowledge of three important situations in daily life where hand washing is important in order to prevent the spreading of disease increased by 20 per cent.

As a result of the project, 3,000 people have access to clean water through water treatment, safe storage and use. Safe hygiene practices and access to clean water is important in reducing the prevalence of water-borne diseases.

WHY: Limited access to health services in conflict areas

Death due to water borne diseases is more prevalent on the Pacific coast than other areas of Colombia. The areas also score poorly on important development indicators. The Afro-Colombian population in the area is poor and highly affected by the armed conflict of recent decades. There are no health services provided by the authorities and access to health services is very limited. Health staff are at risk when working in the area as they often receive

threats. Hence, health personnel have left the area, and it is difficult to recruit new personnel. The areas are also affected by repeated small and medium-sized natural disasters.

The Red Cross is trusted among local communities and are therefore given access to all areas of the country, even areas where others do not have access. This includes both areas that are under the control of the government and those controlled by non-state armed groups. Volunteers and employees of the Colombian Red Cross are from the communities themselves and are motivated to engage in the provision of health services. These are people who are trusted by neighbours and the local population. They know the local problems and what people are concerned about.

WHAT: Training of local volunteers

The pillars of the Red Cross programmes is to assist people in organising locally and to increase the knowledge of health risks and of simple measures to reduce these risks. In addition, the local community's ability to claim their rights to health care is strengthened and they call on local authorities' responsibility to provide this. The CRC cooperates with local leaders who support the local teams and make provisions so that they can carry out the work. The CRC has trained its volunteers on the principles of neutrality in providing humanitarian aid. This impartiality has been demonstrated through many years of humanitarian assistance to actors on all sides in the conflict.

Volunteers are trained in first aid, water purification, oral rehydration, household visit, hygiene promotion and simple methods of detecting and preventing the



Luz Maria Caceide (left) is a volunteer for the local health committee in the poor neighbourhood of Buenas Aires in Tumaco by the Pacific Coast of Colombia. She provides advice on new-born health and nutrition to Cindy Rosales (to the right). "Before the Red Cross came in I did not have access to safe water, but now I get clean water from the pipe that they have installed", Rosales says. She lost her first baby eight years ago, due to dehydration after diarrhoea. She now feels safer that her son Emanuel will survive. "I have learned about hygiene and how to rehydrate the baby; in addition I have access to safe water." PHOTO: MARTE LID/NORAD

spread of disease. In 2015, the local teams had 190 trained members. The work is implemented in the cities of Buenaventura and Tumaco on the Pacific Coast.

In 2015, the CRC was awarded the UNAIDS Red Ribbon award for their work with sexual and reproductive health among youth in vulnerable communities.

HOW MUCH:

The Norwegian Red Cross has received NOK 6 million from Norad for their work in Colombia during the period 2013- 2015.

Sources:

- > Red Cross baseline and midterm survey.
- > UN OCHA (2014) Humanitarian Needs Overview 2015.

Vocational training creates new opportunities for young people in Myanmar

Through its vocational training programme, the Norwegian Refugee Council help youth aged 15 to 25 in receiving vocational training and knowledge to start small businesses.

RESULTS: Increased income for youth and their families

The Norwegian Refugee Council runs a three-month vocational life skills and education programme for youth aged 15-25 years in Kayin state in Myanmar. Tracer studies run at 3 and 6 months after graduation showed that in 2015, 100 per cent of the youth who graduated successfully from the programme were involved in livelihood activities, and 97 per cent indicated that they had started their own business. Their average monthly income six months after graduation was NOK 4,312 for a tailor and NOK 5,808 for a motorcycle mechanic. This is a significant increase in the family economy for 291 families. Before the start of the project, none of these youth had any income.

Youth informed their mentors that they use the extra income for individual and family needs such as food, health and education. Through their new businesses, the youth not only increase their own income, they also provide goods and services for their communities.

WHY: Decades of armed conflict have left youth with few job opportunities

During the 60 years of armed conflict and military dictatorship, basic services and socio-economic infrastructure collapsed. Kayin is located in the south-eastern region bordering to Thailand, and continues to suffer deeply from the conflict. Many internally displaced persons and refugees who have returned from Thailand live in this area. The majority of the population make a living from subsistence farming. Industry and livelihoods opportunities beyond subsistence farming largely disappeared as the security, economic and political context was unable to support the production of marketable goods or services during the conflict.

The census from 2015 show that the unemployment rate among youth aged 15 to 19 is over 18 per cent. According to figures from 2010 only 38 per cent of the youth in Myanmar enrolled in lower secondary school, and only a third of these youth enrolled in a vocational programme.³⁸ This indicates that many young people are without any education beyond the primary school level.

Vocational training has not been centrally regulated, and the authorities have not had the capacity to develop vocational training opportunities that meet the market demand. There is a great need for trained and qualified labour to develop the country. Institutional frameworks for vocational training are still under development. The responsibility for education is spread across various ministries, and there is a need for greater coordination.³⁹ Much of the vocational training offered is provided by civil society organisations.

WHAT: Training of young people

The youth who participate in the programme live together at the training centre during the three-month training period. A maximum of four youth per community are selected to ensure that when they return home to begin their small business the market is not oversaturated with the same businesses. Priority is given to youth who have not completed formal education, as well as single parents, people with disabilities and young people who are heads of households. A total of 242 youth participated in 2015, 122 men and 120 women. Since 2012 up until today 1,181 youth have completed the vocational training.

³⁸ OECD (2013).

³⁹ Ibid.



In Hpa-An, the capital of Kayin state, the Norwegian Refugee Council provides vocational training for youth at age 18-25. 100 students are admitted to the training three times a year. Half join the motorbike mechanic class and the other half join the class to become tailors. When they pass the graduation exam, the students receive a start-up grant of kyat 30.000 and a sewing machine (for tailors) or a toolbox (mechanics).

PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN



After graduation, the average income is NOK 4,312 for a tailor and NOK 5,808 for a mechanic. Before the project started, none of these youth has a steady income.

Following graduation, the youth receives a start-up grant and equipment to start a business. They continue to receive coaching and mentoring support at home in their villages. Mentors from NRC provide support the first three months, followed by support from volunteer village coach mentors. All trainers have participated in a 20 day Certificate III Training and Assessment qualification. The close follow-up contributes in ensuring sustainability of business development. The follow-up also makes it possible to document the participants' development, such as their business results and increase in income. The Norwegian Refugee Council participate in meetings concerning the national development of vocational training and in coordination meetings with other organisations that offer vocational training in Myanmar. The goal is to expand the vocational training programme in Kayin and have this approved by the authorities when a certification scheme has been established.

HOW MUCH: Norad has supported the Norwegian Refugee Council's project in Myanmar with a total amount of NOK 2.9 million in 2014 and 2015

Sources:

- > The 2014 Myanmar Population and Housing Census, Kayin State.
- > OECD (2013), Multi-dimensional review of Myanmar, initial assessment.
- > Project information from the Norwegian Refugee Council.

Local communities join forces to increase educational opportunities for children in Somalia

In areas where public schools do not function, local communities and parents are cooperating with the authorities in providing education to children, including those with disabilities.

RESULTS: Increasing number of children attend school

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency's (ADRA's) work among vulnerable groups in southern and central areas of Somalia has contributed to increasing the number of children that enrol in schools. As a result of ADRA's work, 7,443 children started school in 2015, compared with 5,644 in 2014. The percentage of children starting school in the region as a whole increased from 22 per cent in 2014 to 38.6 per cent in 2015.⁴⁰ In addition to a general increase in children attending school, 61 children with disability (39 boys and 22 girls) started school for the first time.

Community Education Committees have successfully promoted awareness of the importance of education for girls and marginalised groups. Parents now support their children's education to a greater extent than before. People in the local communities maintain that the committees' work has been decisive with regard to an increasing number of children attending school.

Employees in the Ministry of Education have improved skills in planning and implementing monitoring visits to schools. Quality standards for educational facilities have been introduced. There is more financial transparency from the authorities, and staff capacity has improved.

WHY: Lack of educational services and support of children's education

In southern and central regions of Somalia as many as 1.8 million children at school-age never start school.⁴¹

Of those who do enrol in school, 29 per cent do not graduate. 36 per cent of the students at the primary school level are girls. Some of the reasons for not sending girls to school are lack of facilities, funds and motivation as well as cultural stereotypes among the parents.

More than 75 per cent of the public schools in the area were destroyed during the 20 years of civil war. Education was not prioritised by families because they used their limited resources to survive on a day-to-day basis.

The authorities lack resources to follow up teachers and funds to pay their salaries. There is also a lack of quality control and coordination of curriculum, teacher training and school buildings.

WHAT: Involvement of parents, local community and the authorities

ADRA Somalia works with poor people and internally displaced persons in 20 local communities where the central authorities have recently gained control.⁴² The authorities in these areas are eager to develop the education and health services as they consider the availability of these services as key factors in stabilising the area. The programme is implemented in cooperation with local communities, three regional school administrations⁴³ and the central authorities in Mogadishu. The local communities commit to maintain peace locally and support activities. They have among other things, contributed with manpower and construction materials, as well as salaries for teachers in local schools.

⁴⁰ National Development Plan, 2016.

⁴¹ Joint Review of the Education Sector (JRES), 2015.

⁴² In the newly established federal states of Galmudug, Jubbaland and South-West Banadir, in the regions Lower Juba, Lower Shabelle, Middle Shabelle, Bay, Gedo, Hiran, Mudug and Galgaduud.

⁴³ Jubbaland, Galmudug and South-West State.



Some of the school children in class in one of the schools where ADRA works in Somaliland. PHOTO: FRANK SPANGLER/ADRA NORWAY-ADRA SOMALIA

31 new classrooms have been built, in addition to offices for teachers, water reservoirs and separate toilets for girls and boys.

146 teachers, 22 of whom are women, have received pedagogical training to improve the quality of their teaching methods. Courses alone did not show adequate results for improved teaching and a mentorship programme was started. Mentors observed the teachers' performance in the classroom and provided feedback. The curriculum for teacher training and the mentioned mentor guidance was developed in cooperation with two local universities.⁴⁴ The teachers that have been trained work at 20 primary schools, six speed schools and ten centres for informal education.

The education programme is adapted to various target groups:

- > Accelerated learning for children under the age of 14 who have not started school, adapted to age.
- > Speed school for children who have dropped out of school or have not started school at the ordinary school age, in order to return to formal school.
- > Literacy training for children over the age of 14 and adults, in order to prepare them for vocational training.
- > Vocational training of young people and adults, adapted to the needs of the local market.

A total of 20 local school committees have been established and received training. They have contributed to the local community discussing topics such as conflict, the rights of people with disabilities and equality between boys and girls. The committees manage the schools and are responsible for registration of enrolments, monitoring of student and teacher attendance, as well as disbursement of teacher salaries. They also assess the quality of the school buildings. The committees have organised 40 community dialogues on expansion of the school programme and fundraising. The dialogues are facilitated between the authorities and local communities.

Employees in the Ministry of Education have been trained. The programme has seconded technical personnel to the Ministry in order to establish quality standards for classrooms, standardisation of curriculum and certification of informal education programmes.

HOW MUCH: Norad has supported ADRA's education work in Somalia with a total amount of NOK 14.3 million in 2014 and 2015.

Sources:
 > National Development Plan Somalia, 2016.
 > Joint Review of the Education Sector (JRES), 2015.
 > Annual Report 2015, Audit Report 2015.

⁴⁴ Galkayo University and Somali National University.

Municipalities in Palestine increasingly assume responsibility for people with disabilities

Civil society organisations have successfully advocated towards local authorities to assume responsibility for the needs and social integration of people with disabilities in Palestine.

RESULTS: Local authorities assume increased responsibility for realising the rights of people with disabilities

The Norwegian Association of the Disabled has, together with local partners, contributed in making the local Palestinian authorities take responsibility for the social integration of persons with disability. A total of 240 local communities now administer basic services to people with disabilities. The work is organised through local rehabilitation projects that support the inclusion of people with disabilities in health, education, vocational training and other services. The local authorities cover the costs of the programmes for people with disabilities, while civil society organisations offer professional help and guidance. By the end of 2015, the local authorities assumed financial responsibility for 98 employees who work with social integration and access to services for people with disabilities.

Nearly 4,400 children with disabilities (55 per cent boys and 45 per cent girls) have been included in preschools and primary schools on the West Bank and in Gaza as a result of the programme. A total of 972 people with disability became self-employed, 601 became permanently employed and 1,688 had temporary employment.

A national strategy for inclusive education was completed in 2015. The civil society organisations contributed with input on how to safeguard the rights of people with disabilities. The strategy will be an important tool for the coordination of efforts to include people with disabilities.

WHY: Municipalities with limited capacity to offer services for people with disabilities

Around 7 per cent of the population in the Palestine areas are disabled. Fewer than half of them can read

and write, and less than 10 per cent are employed.⁴⁵ According to organisations that work with people with disabilities, 73 per cent of young people with disabilities have experienced discrimination. This often happens when seeking assistance from schools and health services.⁴⁶

The number of people with disabilities increase as a result of the ongoing conflict. At the same time it destroys the social infrastructure and basic services. Many of the services for people with disabilities in Palestine are provided by civil society organisations without any overall coordination. In the long run, the local authorities should assume responsibility for safeguarding rights and providing services.

WHAT: Capacity building and increased awareness among local authorities

Since 2008, the programme has assisted local authorities to safeguard the rights of people with disabilities through local rehabilitation programs. 16 local organisations on the West Bank and in Gaza, Jordan and Lebanon are involved in this work.

At the end of 2015, 111 active self-help groups existed. This was an increase from 89 in 2014 and illustrates increased mobilisation of people with disabilities in the local communities. Women account for 57 per cent of the members in the groups. Self-help groups works as ombudsmen to ensure that the local authorities include the rights of people with disabilities in their work. In addition, the programme has worked for increased inclusion and decreased discrimination of people with disabilities. Research has collected information on why children with disabilities do not attend or leave school. Self-help

⁴⁵ Palestinian Central Statistics Agency / Ministry of Social Affairs (2011).

⁴⁶ East Jerusalem YMCA.



Parents and children often use the activity centre in the Palestinian refugee camp al-Fari'ah. They gather to exchange experiences and to play. Mohamad Abu Hantash and the activity leader Mays Soboh play together during the activity day. PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN



Support from Norwegian Association of Disabled in partnership with Diakonia, enjoys great recognition in Palestine because it has changed the lives of numerous persons with disabilities across West Bank and Gaza. Their work also has great impact beyond disability.

Governor of Ramallah and al-Bireh
DR LAILA GHANNAM

groups visit parents and motivate them to send their children to school and contribute in solving obstacles that prevent them from sending their children to school. Examples of obstacle faced is transport, something that self-help groups can assist in providing.

The programme has used various methods to disseminate information, such as theatre, art, photography, dance, media and film. Journalists have received training in how to refer to disabled persons in ways that avoid using discriminatory language.

HOW MUCH: The Norwegian Association of the Disabled (NAD) received NOK 5,032,914 for this programme from Norad in 2015. NAD is a member organisation of the Atlas Alliance. The programme also receives funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through Swedish Diakonia.

Sources:

- > Results Report from the Atlas Alliance 2010-2015.
- > Final Report Evaluation of the Diakonia/NAD supported rehabilitation programme in Palestine – NIDS Development Services – Ms. Annika Nilsson and Dr. Malek Qutteuneh – 10 March 2014.
- > World Bank (2015) West Bank and Gaza, Disability in the Palestinian Territories, Assessing Situation and Services for People with Disabilities (PWD).
- > Palestinian Central Statistics Agency / Ministry of Social Affairs (2011).

New jobs created and electricity available in Malawi

An exchange project between Malawi and Norway has resulted in establishment of a private enterprise, Kumudzi Kuwale, which sells solar energy solutions to the local population.

RESULTS: 17 jobs created and electricity provided to more than 10,000 people

In 2013, the Nkhotakota Youth Organisation (NYO) established the solar energy company Kumudzi Kuwale.⁴⁷ This came as a result of an exchange program between the NYO and Flora Upper Secondary School in Sogn og Fjordane in Norway.

The company now has 17 employees. Most of the employees at Kumudzi Kuwale are graduates from the vocational training at NYO. By offering work experience in its subsidiary, the NYO contributes to students receiving both vocational training and relevant work experience. Half of the employees are women, and many of them are technicians who install solar cell panels. The female technicians are important role models for women who would like to pursue non-traditional jobs.

Kumudzi Kuwale has already supplied more than 10,000 people with electricity from solar energy, in addition to eleven schools in six villages. Access to clean and cheap energy has impact on social, environmental and financial aspects of life. Lighting makes it possible to conduct school classes after dark and students can do their homework in the evening. Access to energy and lighting has also improved access to health services in the evening. Solar energy provides more stable access to lights than the unstable power grid. Access to stable lighting makes it possible to extend the opening hours of shops. With greater access to radio, TV and mobile phones people have increased access to information.

In September 2014, Kumudzi Kuwale received the "SEED Africa Award" from UNEP/UNDP as the best start-up company with a social entrepreneurship

focus. The award is given as a recognition to businesses that prove to be sustainable entrepreneurs in Africa.

WHY: The lack of electricity is an obstacle for education, businesses and health services

Lack of electricity provides for challenges in the health and education sector in Malawi. Only 10 per cent of the population in Malawi have access to electricity at home. The Nkhotakota District, where the solar business is established has a population of over 350,000 and only 3 per cent of the households have access to electricity. Without access to electricity it is hard to do activities after the sun sets at 7 o'clock in the evening. School children cannot do their homework, health personnel cannot perform surgeries or simple clinical procedures. Housework is also challenging in the dark. The lack of street lights and lighted public areas threaten the safety of women and children in the evening.

Job opportunities and economic development with profitable local businesses are key factors for sustainable development. Globally, there is a great need to create jobs, particularly for youth. According to the International Labor Organisation (ILO), more than half of Malawi's youth are unemployed or employed in low-paying jobs. The official unemployment rate is 12.6 per cent. There is a need to develop relevant vocational training. The goals of the exchange programme from the onset was to improve the vocational training locally and to create job opportunities for local youth.

WHAT: Training in vocational skills and entrepreneurship

The cooperation between NYO and Flora Upper Secondary School began in 2005, and has largely been managed by students. From 2012, the exchange has been financially supported by FK

⁴⁷ The name means "light in the village" in the local Chichewa language.



17 year old Atifa Livona live in the fishing village of Kapeta by lake Malawi. The solar powered lamp is often used in her home. She explains that the lamp has made it much easier to cook at night and makes it easier to find her way through the dark. She is now able to do her homework after sunset. PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN

Norway. The programme involves exchange of vocational teachers and experts in renewable energy and entrepreneurship. Four persons participate in the exchange programme every year.

NYO is based in Nkhotakota Boma. Since 2010, they have offered vocational training for young people in electrical installation, carpentry, welding, tailoring and computer technology. The courses qualify the participants to pass national tests and receive nationally approved certificates. Between 90 and 100 students receive training every year. They also have a cultural centre and a training program for human rights.

Kumudzi Kuwale sells equipment for solar energy and their staff install this in private households, schools and in public areas. They also have commercial customers. The company's shop sells lamps, solar panels and batteries, as well as all relevant equipment for solar energy installations. In addition, they sell locally manufactured clay ovens for cooking, as an alternative to the use of open fire. This is an

attempt to contribute to reduced indoor air pollution and reduce the consumption of coal. Kumudzi Kuwale works primarily in the Nkhotakota District, but has increased its customer base to neighbouring districts and the rest of the country.

The company's profits are reinvested in the operations in order to secure financial sustainability. The company focus on gender equality and has introduced paternity leave for its staff and offer longer maternity leave than required by law in Malawi.

HOW MUCH: FK Norway has supported the project from 2012 with a total of approx. NOK 9.2 million. The Norwegian Embassy in Malawi contributed NOK 1 million for equipment during the start-up phase.

Sources:

- > Kumudzi Kuwale website.
- > FK Norway Annual Report 2015.
- > NYO website.
- > WHO: Country profiles of environmental burden of disease by WHO regions.
- > FK Norway (2015), Film about the project.
- > ILO (2013) Malawi Labour Force survey.



Interview with Civicus Leader Danny Sriskandarajah

The political space for civil society is shrinking

CIVICUS works to increase social engagement and improve the working conditions for civil society throughout the world. The members of CIVICUS report that the political space for civil society is shrinking in more than 100 countries. A number of activists and civil society leaders have disappeared or jailed. Organisations no longer dare speak out when human rights are violated. International companies are getting away with environmental crimes.

“Civil society is important for political and social development. We have focused too much on perceiving organisations in developing countries as service providers, and not focused enough on how to build empowered and active civil societies,” says Danny Sriskandarajah. He is renowned for criticising that too much of the funds for civil society development remain in the donor countries. Large international organisations can not take back the political space of civil society in a country. Only national and local organisations in each individual country can do that.

How can Norway and Norad contribute?

I would like to see funding schemes where donors cooperate to provide more support to organisations that work with political advocacy. Additionally that decision-makers of funding are located closer to the reality. It is just as important that donors who support civil society financially also do so politically. In many countries where the authorities receive large amounts of aid, it is the same authorities who are responsible for human rights violations against activists and organisations. Norway must show political support for organisations that are under pressure from governments in countries receiving aid from Norway.

Service providers and watchdogs

Many countries have less government funds to provide services now than they previously did, or they have privatised services such as health and education. Some organisations have budgets in the billions, investment strategies and brand building and provide services for entire regions in a country. At the same time, there are companies that provide services without necessarily

putting profit first. With regard to civil society as a provider of services, I foresee that the traditional distinction between civil society, commercial industry and the state will change. In 20 years, we will no longer have a clear distinction between commercial industry and civil society.

Who will then hold companies and governments accountable?

Segments of civil society will still do it. Most organisations do not engage in the provision of services. They fight for human rights, or against the negative effects of international investments. It is therefore important to strengthen the legitimacy of these organisations. We must create synergies between the informal and spontaneous civil society and the more traditionally organised organisations. Look, for example, at the Arab Spring, which arose spontaneously. It is very important that organisations with infrastructure and organisational experience participate in furthering such initiatives.

In a world where the political space for local organisations is shrinking, and several foreign organisations are evicted from countries in which they operate, what role can Norwegian organisations play?

The world can no longer be explained as North and South. We must define what our common goals are. In order to achieve these we need strong and vibrant civil societies, both in developing countries and in wealthy countries like Norway. Norwegian organisations must mobilise the Norwegian population to address global issues that concern us all. International cooperation between organisations is important, but decisions must increasingly be made in the developing countries, not in Norway.

Professional organisations with employees who have a high level of expertise are very important. At the same time, we must assess how these organisations mobilise people and create meeting places for people who want to get involved. Volunteerism is the foundation and perhaps the essence of all civil societies. This is where their legitimacy lies.

Advocacy towards decision makers



Working for democratisation and the realisation of human rights involves advocating for changes in behaviour as well as changes in structures of power, governance and the economy. Achieving results from advocacy work often takes long time and lasting change is achieved through cooperation between many actors and use of a variety of working methods.

The examples presented here show that civil society groups can influence policy development and law enforcement. Civil society organisations have achieved results from their advocacy work for improved governance, respect for human rights, transparency, and fair distribution of resources. Some governments have become more transparent about public expenditure. Civil society has influenced guidelines for corporate responsibility. Examples from the Norwegian climate and forest initiative show that civil society can influence companies to introduce standards for environmental protection. Investigations carried out by civil society actors has also resulted in exposing illegal trade of timber followed by persecution of those responsible.



300 organisations joined forces to change the constitution of Zambia

Civil society's long fight for constitutional reforms in Zambia has contributed to important changes, such as greater transparency in the reform process and the inclusion of democratic principles in the constitution.

RESULTS: Constitutional amendments adopted by the Parliament

The Grand Coalition on the Campaign for a People-Driven Constitution mobilised more than 300 organisations in Zambia to work together for increased transparency in the constitutional reform process. The work led to broad participation from civil society in a process that was initially closed. When the new Constitution was adopted by the Parliament in December 2015, it contained several amendments that the coalition had fought for. Spokespersons for the coalition maintain that the amendments will contribute to strengthening the development of democracy in Zambia in the years to come.

Some of the amendments that civil society advocated for are majoritarian vote for election of the President and a second election round if no candidate receives more than 50 per cent in the first round. In previous constitutions, the Vice President was appointed by the President, and citizens had no say. However, in the 2016 elections the vice President was elected as a running mate of the winning presidential candidate. If the President dies or is incapacitated, the Vice President takes over as President without the need for a by-election. This instils a level of stability if the President dies or is incapacitated.

A constitutional court was established to hear matters relating to the interpretation, violation or contravention of the Constitution. This is the first time in the history of Zambia to have a constitutional court.

The changes in the constitution provide that if any presidential contestant disputes the outcome of the election, they can file a petition with the constitutional court within seven days after announcement of

results, and the court is required to hear the petition within 14 days. Inauguration of the new president can only take place after the hearing and determination of the petition. When the 2016 election results were announced, the opposition petitioned the outcome and the matter was resolved within two weeks. This resulted in the speedy resolution of the petition, compared to previous years where petitions took many months or years to finalise and often led to paralysis of the authorities.

The constitutional amendments provide for the election of mayors and council chairpersons by citizens, through a general election. This is the first time in the history of Zambia that citizens are the ones who decide on who should preside over a local authority.

The new provisions in the constitution provide for gender balance in the leadership of Parliament, with clear provisions that the two deputy speakers must be a man and a woman. As a result of this provision, Zambia has a new female deputy speaker.

One million more people voted in the election in 2016 compared with the last election in 2011. The number of registered voters increased by 1.5 million.⁴⁸ There is reason to believe that the level of interest in the election increased due to the constitutional changes and introduction of an absolute majority vote. The majoritarian vote raised the stakes for the election of President. As a result, all the contesting parties put maximum effort to mobilise voters.

⁴⁸ International IDEA (2016), country review.



300 organisations joined forces to change the constitution. Lillian Kiefer (left) is the Executive Director of Panos Institute of Southern Africa (PSAf) and worked in the secretariat of the coalition. McDonald Chipenzi, executive director of Foundation for Democratic Process was one of the spokespersons for the coalition. PHOTO: MARIT HVERVEN/NORAD

WHY: Weak constitution and inadequate balance of power for the country's governing bodies

Zambia's constitution was based on the same system as their colonial rulers. Subsequent amendments to the Constitution after independence have increased the power of the President and Government. The civil society organisations advocated for amendments to safeguarded constitutional rights and the distribution of power.

One of the weaknesses of the Constitution was the lack of a balance of power between the judicial, executive and legislative powers. There was no clear definition of the power of the Parliament, independence of the courts and the legal protection of the citizens. The Constitution also gave disproportionate powers to the president. When President Michael Sata died in 2014, it was not clear who would take his place, which resulted in violent conflicts after his death. There has also been an inadequate regulation of elections.

WHAT: Mobilisation of the population for changes

The campaign for a people-driven Constitution started in 2011. The Panos Institute of Southern Africa (PSAf) initiated a coalition of more than 300 actors from civil society across the country. In order to mobilise the population, meetings across the country were organised. A song about the need for constitutional amendments was composed with lyrics in five local languages. The Coalition used

The use of songs and music is an effective method of informing and mobilising people in countries with high illiteracy rates. This method has been used in civilian struggles over centuries, such as the civil rights movement in the United States and the fight against apartheid in South Africa. Many of the old songs from these movements are still popular today.

traditional and social media to get their messages across. They also held regular press conferences.

The coalition demanded transparency in the reform process, including publication of updated drafts of amendments. They aimed at broad participation and consultation through public meetings. In order to exert pressure on the authorities, the Coalition organised lobby meetings, demonstrations and various campaigns. The coalition also advocated for a plan to operationalise the constitutional amendments in order to ensure that the amendments in fact would take effect.

HOW MUCH: The PSAf received a total of NOK 450,000 from Norad for their work in Zambia during the period 2012-2016.

Sources:
 > The Grand Coalition on the Campaign for a People-Driven Constitution in Zambia (2015), The Quest for a People-Driven Constitution 2011-2015.
 > The Quest for a people-Driven Constitution 2011-2015.
 > International Idea (2016), country review Zambia.

Angolan churches demand more transparency in the use of public funds

Training of local groups in how to analyse public budgets and expenditure has contributed to increased transparency and improved management of local public funds in Angola.

RESULTS: Mismanagement of public funds is revealed and followed up

Training of local communities in monitoring of public budgets and expenditure has resulted in establishment of local budget monitoring groups. The groups advocate for transparency in local public budgets and expenditures so that communities can access information on how public funds are used. The Council of Christian Churches in Angola (CICA) is at the forefront of this work. Six local districts have so far publicised their poverty and development budgets as a result of this work. The local district administrations have not traditionally shared their budgets publicly. Now, the local districts where CICA work publish their budgets.

Initially, the local authorities were not receptive to the groups' work as they perceived the activities as interference with government business. In many cases, the local government refused to provide relevant budget information. With time, the number of members involved grew and the local authorities began to cooperate with them, providing information on budgets, development plans and public projects. The groups now also provide input in the planning process of local budgets and plans.

The monitoring groups have identified public projects that have halted due to mismanagement or misappropriation of funds. As a result of these findings, public projects have been restarted or completed. Two schools and a health clinic were completed in 2015. Another local district had their water pumps installed.

CICA publishes annual poverty analyses based on local consultations. This has been the first time that many communities have been actively involved in identifying the problems they face in their day-to-day lives. Civil society organisations, parliamentarians

and politicians use the reports as documentation in their work for increased transparency and accountability in the use of public funds.

Within five years the project has doubled in its reach. Social monitoring is now taking place in six municipalities and the work has gained much positive recognition. In 2014, the President's Office sent a letter to the Ministry of Finance and several Provincial Governments, which were the focus of CICA's social monitoring activities, stating that they should take account of the recommendations made by CICA in the local development plans for 2015. There are several examples of recommendations taken into account in local plans.

WHY: Uneven distribution of public resources

Angola is a country with economic growth due to substantial oil revenues. Nevertheless, the majority of the population in rural areas have insufficient or no access to public services such as health care or education. In addition, there is a lack of clean water and safe sanitary conditions. In 2015, Angola was rated as one of the world's least transparent countries with regard to public budgets and management of public funding.⁴⁹ Transparency around public funds provide an opportunity for the population to monitor whether funds are used according to plans and whether plans are based on local needs. Angola has a strongly centralised governance system, with no tradition of public participation in governance processes.

An evaluation of the programme in 2013 emphasises the important role played by the churches in budget monitoring. Due to their strong position in Angolan society, the churches have a greater political space

⁴⁹ International Budget Partnership, Open Budget Survey (OBS) 2015.



Local church groups fight against corruption in their own communities. The groups monitor public budgets and expenditure and also monitor how public oil revenue benefit the population at large. PHOTO: HÅKON HAUGSBØ / NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID

than other organisations in civil society. The churches are not perceived with the same suspicion as political and social activists who are seen as political opponents. Additionally, the authorities are careful about disagreeing with the churches due to the level of support they have in the population. Through the monitoring work, the church has increasingly acknowledged their role as an important change agent.

WHAT: Budget monitoring and monitoring of public projects

Since the start of this work in 2010, CICA has trained 182 persons (45 per cent women) in budget monitoring. The participants have learned about the different sources of revenue, such as oil, which finance the State Budget, its main budget lines and how the budget is managed, from national to local levels. Social monitoring groups were formed and began the complex task of obtaining budget information from the local authorities in their municipalities. The participants in the groups come from various social backgrounds and various occupational categories. The groups consist of 20 to 25 members who have visited 227 public projects over a three-year period. The groups have visited public projects, such as the construction of schools and clinics, to monitor progress and quality. Each project has been visited on average three times a year to monitor progress.

CICA estimate that they have consulted around 7,500 persons pr year in their poverty assessments since

2010. The broad public participation is in itself a good result as this has been the first time that communities have been consulted. CICA has published six poverty assessment reports. The reports are shared with the authorities as input to poverty plans and local budgets. In 2015, the groups organised 50 meetings with local and national politicians.

In 2013, CICA started cooperating with the Justice and Peace Commission of the Catholic Church. This ecumenical cooperation has given more leverage to the work. The Protestant churches and the Catholic Church together represent 79 per cent of the population and as such account for a powerful voice, which cannot be ignored by the authorities.⁵⁰

Norwegian Church Aid has contributed with training and quality assurance in the project. In addition, the organisation has facilitated cooperation with other actors through international exchanges and exposure visits as well as contact with the Catholic Church.

HOW MUCH: Norad has supported the work with NOK 3.0 million during the period 2013-2015.

- Sources:**
- > Norwegian Church Aid (2015), Final report 2013-2015 Oil for Development.
 - > Norwegian Church Aid's application to Norad 2016-2019.
 - > Ananda Millard (2013) Mid-term review of Norwegian Church Aid's country programme in Angola.
 - > International Budget Partnership (2015), Open Budget Survey.

⁵⁰ Census 2014 shows that 41.1 per cent of the population is Catholic, 38.1 per cent is Protestant, 12.3 per cent is non-religious, 0.6 per cent is animistic, 0.4 per cent is Muslim, 0.2 per cent is Jewish, 7.4 per cent is "other". The CICA is the largest Protestant umbrella organisation in Angola.

Seizure of illegal timber from Peru

International cooperation between civil society organisations, authorities and Interpol contributed to the confiscation of illegally cut timber from Peru. International political pressure has contributed to the Peruvian authorities increasing their supervision of forest management.

RESULTS: Seizure of illegal timber

Advocacy towards the Peruvian authorities by the environmental organisation Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) has contributed to reactions against organised crime and the seizure of illegal timber. Advocacy towards American authorities to exert political pressure on Peru has been an important aspect of the work.

In September 2015, the ship Yacu Kallpa was stopped by border control in Houston. It contained large amounts of Peruvian illegally logged timber. Approximately 90 per cent of the timber was documented, by the Peruvian authorities, as illegally harvested. The cargo was seized, but not the vessel. In January 2016, the vessel was again stopped and the cargo was seized in Mexico, before it reached its final destination, USA. The result was the seizure of over 1.2 million cubic meters of illegal logs worth 4.2 million USD. The seized cargo of the two shipments are equivalent to approximately 5 Olympic swimming pools or 800 trucks full of timber. The seizure was a result of international cooperation in following the cargo from Peru to its final destination. The US, Peruvian authorities, Interpol, EIA and the authorities in the transit countries participated in this cooperation.

As a result of the seizures of the cargo at Yacu Kallpa, illegal logging and trade has been a political priority on the free trade agenda between the US and Peru. Trade of illegal timber is in conflict with the US Lacey Act and the Free Trade Agreement between the US and Peru. Because the US is a large market for Peruvian timber, reactions from the US receive attention. US authorities have requested Peru to improve control of their forest resources, including strengthening the role of forest guards and adopting electronic systems for monitoring.⁵¹

Following the seizure of shipments and international pressure, Peruvian authorities have strengthened their actions in the forestry sector. The number of inspections has increased and revealed illegal logging and trade. For example, the Peruvian authorities raided a network engaged in illegal logging and sale of timber. For the first time in Peru, a court has accused perpetrators of being part of an organised crime scheme to harvest and launder illegal timber. Organised crime carries a higher sentence than other forms of crime.⁵²

WHY: Illegal logging contributes to degradation of the rainforest

According to the World Bank, 80% of the timber exported from Peru derives from illegal logging. This means that they are logged in protected forest areas or indigenous reserved land, or anywhere else but in the authorized areas. Peru is the world's fifth largest rainforest country. Two thirds of the country is covered by rainforest, with many animal and plant species threatened with extinction. Deforestation of the country corresponds to one and a half times Norway's annual CO2 emissions.

Organized criminal groups control much of the illegal timber trade, and profits are high. Corruption and forgery is widespread and there is limited control by the authorities. Documents may seem in order, but the timber is logged illegally in non-authorized areas and is then laundered with fraudulently obtained documents to make it look as if harvested from an authorized area. It is difficult for inspectors to stop much of the illegal logging because the origin has been concealed and false documentation is presented.

⁵¹ Interagency Committee on Trade in Timber Products from Peru.

⁵² According to the EIA, Peruvian law (30077) defines organised crime as when three or more persons coordinate their criminal acts.



Rainforest in Peru. PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN

Illegal trade contributes not only to deforestation, but also undermines the state and its economy in terms of lost tax revenues. It also provides increased income for organized criminal networks. Illegal logging involves human rights violations and abuses against those who work in the field, including law enforcement officials.

WHAT: Documentation of violations of the law and political lobbying

EIA has cooperated closely with the Peruvian authorities and contributed to capacity building of the staff responsible for forest management. In addition to working with the Peruvian authorities, EIA has worked with representatives in the U.S. Department of Justice, Department of Commerce and Members of Congress. Coordinated efforts have been important in order to achieve the results. EIA has investigated and documented that significant amounts of timber is illegally logged in Peru. In one of its reports they revealed how trade in timber covers the various stages of the supply chain from harvesting to export. The report shows widespread

use of false lists of suppliers and fake approvals from corrupt government officials. EIA has also provided information and materials to numerous media reports in Peru and internationally about Peru's illegal logging. EIA has developed an investigative method to document illegal trade in timber. Interpol and the authorities used this method in their investigation of the supply chains for the cargo on Yacu Kallpa.

HOW MUCH: Norway has supported EIA's work in Peru with approximately NOK 9 million during the period 2013-2015.

Sources:

- > EIA press release, U.S. Government Report Confirms Imports of Illegal Timber from Peru, August 18, 2016.
- > EIA (2012) The Laundering Machine, How Fraud and Corruption in Peru's Concession System are Destroying the Future of its Forests.
- > EIA report to Norad for the period 2013-2015.
- > Al Jazeera (2015): "Peru's rotten wood".
- > Marilyne Pereira Goncalves et al. (2012), Justice for forests: improving criminal justice efforts to combat illegal logging, World Bank study.

Advocacy from local communities towards authorities in North Uganda contributes to improved standards of living

Advocacy by local communities resulted in the construction of a road that improved their access to markets and public services.

RESULTS: Increased access to markets and services

In 2015 an access road was constructed and connected three villages with a total of 1,200 households in the Nebbi District in North Uganda with access to markets, hospitals and schools. 7,991 people live in these villages. This is a result of several years of systematic advocacy efforts to persuade the authorities to build the road. The road has provided farmers with better access to markets. The road has led to increased prices of agricultural produce since the trucks now reach the villages to collect the produce. Previously, the farmers had to walk to the main road to transport their goods. The construction of the road has eased the communities' access to health services. People who fall sick can now be transported by car to the hospital and thereby reach qualified health care faster in cases of emergency.

Road access has resulted in greater demand and higher prices for the local goods. Price of cornflour at the local market is sold at 250 shillings, while it is sold at 500 to 600 shillings in markets further away. Household income and hence the general welfare of the households has increased. One indication of this is the increased number of children starting and completing school. According to a 2015 external mid-term evaluation of the Caritas Uganda country programme, 29 per cent of the target group has increased their annual income from USD 60 to between USD 90 and 300.

WHY: Lack of access to markets, hospitals and schools

Before the upgrade, the road was a path only suitable for cyclists and pedestrians. Women who were about to give birth either had to go by bike or walk as it was not possible to navigate the path with a car or hand trolleys. In cases of medical emergency, such as complicated births, the patient had to be carried on a traditional stretcher to the main road in order to get to the hospital.

It was difficult to transport agricultural products from the villages to the market and the cost of transport was high. As it also took a long time to transport goods to the market, the produce was no longer fresh as it arrived at the marketplace. This resulted in reduced prices for the products. With limited opportunities to sell their produce, the families' sources of income were limited. The majority of the population in the three villages are small-scale farmers who cultivate durra, coffee and vegetables, such as beans, corn, cabbage and carrots. The area was hard hit by waves of violence during the era of the Lord's Resistance Army in the 1980s and 1990s.

WHAT: Increased awareness and training in human rights

Caritas has contributed with training in human rights and how people themselves can work for the realisation of rights in a democratic system. The organisation facilitated meetings between the local population and local leaders. The local communities were also trained in how to demand local authorities to safeguard the rights of people. The community established a local conflict management council that chaired the meetings with the authorities.



The road before construction. PHOTO: CARITAS NEBBI

In October 2013, village representatives sent their first letter to the city council to request that the road be upgraded. 1,240 persons signed the letter. In 2014, the community established a committee for local advocacy. The committee led the villages' advocacy activities towards the local authorities and ensured access to relevant documentation during the process. In early 2015, the road was constructed and officially opened.

HOW MUCH: Norad supported Caritas' work in Uganda with NOK 452,435 in the period 2013-2014.

Sources:

- > Mbabazi, J., et al., (2011). Local Government Councils' Performance and Public Service Delivery in Uganda: Nebbi District Local Government Council Score-Card Report 009/10.
- > ACODE Policy Research Series, No. 54, 2011. Kampala.
- > Project information from Caritas.



The access road after construction. PHOTO: CARITAS NEBBI

Civil society contributes to responsible investment by the Government Pension Fund Global

Norwegian civil society organisations have contributed to the formulation of guidelines for ethics, environmental protection and human rights in the Government Pension Fund's investments. The introduction of new instruments for exercising ownership and risk management are important steps on the road to achieve changes in investment practice.

RESULTS: Respect for human rights an important principle for Government Pension Fund investments

Norges Bank Investment Management (NBIM) is responsible for managing the assets of the Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global. In the spring of 2016, a document was published by NBIM that set out the ways it expects companies to respect human rights, and address human rights issues in their business practices. This is currently the last in a series of policy instruments for the Government Pension Fund's exercise of ownership. Several organisations in Norway have advocated for stronger focus on the ethical management of the Government Pension Fund's investments. Many of the recommendations from the organisations have been included as input from the Parliament for management of the Government Pension Fund. Input from the organisations have also been included in the political programmes of several political parties in Norway. Upon invitation from NBIM, the Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment (ForUM), participated in the development of the document expressing human rights expectations towards companies⁵³ together with three of its member organisations (the Rainforest Fund, Norwegian People's Aid and SAIH).

The human rights expectations outlines that companies in which the Government Pension Fund invests have a responsibility to respect human rights and a responsibility to prevent the violation of human rights in their activities. As the Government Pension Fund has invested in over 9,000 companies, these

expectations cover many actors in the private industry sector. Companies are expected to have policies to ensure respect for human rights and have relevant measures integrated into corporate business strategy, risk management and reporting. This will also affect the subcontractors to these companies. Past experience demonstrate that policy guidelines for corporate governance do have an impact on investment practice. Over the last four years, the Government Pension Fund has withdrawn its investments in 187 companies negatively affecting social conditions and risks associated with corruption or environmental destruction. For this reason, it is expected that the recently published human rights expectations will lead to increased assessment of human rights in future investment decisions.

WHY: Guidelines for investments are decisive for a change in investment practice

The Government Pension Fund is one of the world's largest investment funds and has influence over the companies in which it invests. Studies and reports prepared by civil society organisations have shown that the fund has invested in companies that destroy rain forest and important local water sources. Investments have also been made in the weapons industry and in companies that violate human rights. The main arguments from the organisations have been that the Norwegian people should not earn money through the Pension Fund at the expense of other people.

WHAT: Information, knowledge and input

Civil society organisations started their advocacy work for responsible investments shortly after the Government Pension Fund was established. Since 1996, ForUM has coordinated working groups on responsible

⁵³ Norges Bank is responsible for the management of the Government Pension Fund – through Norges Bank Investment Management.



Civil Society organisations have exposed investments by the Government Pension Fund in companies that cause environmental damages.

PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN

investments with representatives from several Norwegian organisations. Together these organisations have submitted proposals for ethical guidelines for the Pension Fund in addition to reports, studies, conferences and campaigns to raise the knowledge of politicians and the population at large. They have documented human rights violations in companies in which the Government Pension Fund invested. Parliamentary seminars have been organised, in addition to consultative inputs to the Parliament.

One of the milestones of ForUM's work was submission of a complaint against the Korean company POSCO; the investment funds ABP (the Netherlands) and the Government Pension Fund for violation of the OECD's Principles of Corporate Governance. The complaint was submitted in 2012 together with Indian, Korean and Dutch civil society organisations. Based on the complaint, the OECD's national contact point for responsible business expressed that NBIM has "violated the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and does not have a strategy for identifying and handling possible violations of human rights in the companies they invest." It recommended that NBIM "expand human rights due diligence to address the whole range of human rights relevant to its investments", and also "identify which human rights risks are prevalent in the various sectors or types of investments and develop a strategy to address these". The case received media coverage in a number of national and international media and contributed to increased media attention towards human rights in the investment portfolio of the Norwegian Pension Fund.

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Without your continuous efforts, the document "human rights expectations towards companies" would not have become a reality. Congratulations!

TORSTEIN TVEDT SOLBERG, spokesperson of the Storting's Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs to the Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment

HOW MUCH: Norad has supported the Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment since 1998, with an annual amount of NOK 5-6 million over the last five years.

Sources:

- > Øystein Kløvstad, Government Pension Fund is investigated for violations of ethical standards, in Aftenposten 23 January 2013.
- > Kristian Skårdalsmo, FN ber Oljefondet skjerpe seg [UN requests that the Government Pension Fund improve]. Dagsavisen December 3rd 2013.
- > UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2013): Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of Norway.
- > Norges bank Investment management, Human rights expectations towards companies.
- > 2015 Annual Report of the Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment.
- > RORG-network, timeline of civil society organisations' input to and political decisions on the Government Pension Fund.
- > Ministry of Finance (2015): Report No. 23 (2015-2016) to the Storting – Management of the Government Pension Fund in 2015.
- > Asle Olav Rønning, Government Pension Fund sharpens its human rights requirements. Bistandsaktuelt February 2016.
- > OECD's national contact point for responsible business.

Oil extraction halted near Africa's oldest national park

In March 2016 the government announced that none of the companies shortlisted did in fact bid for extracting oil in the Ngaji Block in Uganda. This was a great success for Global Witness' campaign to save the Greater Virunga area from oil exploration and exploitation by highlighting how the Ngaji block would be a "toxic" investment.

RESULTS: Provisional shutdown of oil production

In August 2015 UNESCO reasserted the incompatibility of oil exploration or exploitation with the World Heritage status of Virunga National Park to the Ugandan authorities.⁵⁴ In December 2015, the European Parliament passed a resolution calling on member states to prevent drilling in Virunga and surrounding areas. The resolution mentions the threat posed by the Ugandan oil licencing round and specifically refers to Global Witness' work in providing information. Any progress in the plans for oil extraction in the area has been halted for the time being. This provides a greater opportunity to enact laws and establish an institutional framework for oil extraction that Uganda does not currently have. This may also contribute to future production of oil taking place within the tolerance limits of the environment. In addition, it increases the chances of consultation with the local communities and affected parties in the process for the development of new production areas. For the local population, this means reduced threats against jobs and access to food in Lake Edward.

The results were achieved after pressure from local and international civil society. Ugandan and international organisations were critical of the authorities planning to allocate licenses in these areas. International political advocacy contributed to the decisions made by UNESCO and the European Parliament. Training of journalists has resulted in increased local media coverage and public awareness about the consequences of oil exploration. Increased media

attention and international political pressure may have contributed to the companies' decisions not to embark on oil exploration in the area.

WHY: Weak legal framework for the allocation of oil licences

Uganda has not established regulations nor a framework for contracts with oil companies. The country does not have a Petroleum Safety Authority. The lack of transparency reduces the opportunity for public control. There is a risk that oil companies can be awarded licenses on a weak decision-making basis, and without assessment of environmental risks.

In spite of protests from civil society in Uganda, the authorities announced six licensing areas in protected nature reserves in February 2015. One of them is located in Lake Albert, close to Virunga National Park. Lake Albert is protected by UNESCO as a world heritage area. Elephants, lions and some of the last mountain gorillas in the world live in the area near the lake. A total of 200,000 people's livelihood depend on fishing in the lake. According to the newspaper Bukedde, the lake's fish stock reduced after the oil company SOCO International performed test drilling in the lake in 2014.⁵⁵ This has resulted in a loss of income for the local fishermen. Water from the lake flow downstream into the River Nile. Hence, oil production may negatively affect the ecosystem in the Nile, including animals and people who use water from the Nile.

⁵⁴ Virunga National Park was placed on UNESCO's World Heritage list in 1979, and it was defined as threatened in 1994, after the genocide in Rwanda created a stream of refugees to the area.

⁵⁵ Bukedde has a total daily readership of 114,000.



Mountain gorillas in Virunga national park. PHOTO: HELLE BISETH/NORAD

WHAT: Increased media coverage and international advocacy

Several actors contributed to the results. Civil society organisations have advocated for strong environmental protection provisions and transparency in the allocation process so that competent oil companies are selected through a fair and transparent process which is open to public scrutiny.

Local organisations and journalists have played an important role in increasing public awareness of the challenges associated with oil exploration in Virunga. The Thomson Reuters Foundation (TRF) has trained journalists and editors in understanding oil exploration and its consequences so that they may write and publish articles about the challenges associated with the oil sector in the local media. The training has contributed to an increased number of newspaper articles, television and radio broadcasts, about the real and potential consequences of activities from the oil sector. According to the TRF, fewer than nine articles and stories were published before the training took place. After the training, 25 articles and stories were published.

Global Witness conducted an extensive campaign to avoid oil drilling in Virunga National Park and the adjacent areas, together with Ugandan civil society

organisations. The purpose was to increase public awareness of the consequences of oil exploration in the areas and make it more difficult for the authorities and oil companies to start up oil production. Global Witness held meetings with the Ugandan government, donor countries, and international organisations, including UNESCO. The organisation also used film and social media, including an animated film, which was viewed over 40,000 times, and a campaign aimed at the media. This work has resulted in over 700 articles through-out the world, about the threat to Lake Albert.

HOW MUCH: Norad supported TRF's work in Uganda with NOK 1 million during the period 2014-2016, and the work of Global Witness with NOK 1.3 million.

Sources:

- > European Parliament (2015): Protection of Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- > Frederic Musisi, Oil companies shy away from Ngaji block bid, in the Daily Monitor February 2016.
- > Edward Saekika, Civil society turns up heat on Ngaji oil, in the Observer February 2016.
- > Energypedia (2015): Uganda announces first petroleum licensing round.
- > Global Witness (2016): Virunga: A new threat.
- > Global Witness (2016): Joint statement in support of moratorium on all oil activities in the wider Virunga area.



Building local knowledge and capacity



An empowered local civil society assume responsibility and contribute to development. This includes both the organised and the un-organised parts of civil society. Capacity building involves raising public awareness of the rights and duties of individuals in a democracy. It also involves raising awareness of the obligations of governments to develop policy and legislation as well as private companies' corporate responsibility. Increased awareness is often catalytic for people's participation in public debate and democratic processes. The goal of capacity building is often connected to ensure protection of human rights, combined with increased participation and democratisation. The results presented in this chapter illustrate some of the changes achieved through capacity building.

Among the examples are changes in behaviour as a result of awareness raising and mobilisation of communities. There are also examples of how capacity building has contributed to organisational development, which has enabled organisations or communities to address local problems and improved conditions of living.

Improved legal assistance for women in Faryab, Afghanistan

Systematic efforts to change attitudes and increase awareness of human rights in the local community has contributed to protecting the rights of women and men.

RESULTS: Rights of women and refugees protected

Attitudes around women's rights have changed and the rights of internally displaced persons and returned refugees are safeguarded to a greater degree. Increased knowledge of rights has also affected the day-to-day and social life of women. Information from focus groups shows that women are more self-confident and enjoy increased respect in their families. Domestic violence has gone down.

Increased number of cases have been filed with the formal and traditional courts after refugees and internally displaced persons have been trained on human rights. The justice sector has become more effective and professional. Of the 639 cases reported to the Norwegian Refugee Council, 436 have been resolved and concluded. The cases primarily concerned property rights and family law. A total of 257 people received identity cards. After three years of work, 1,386 cases concerning women's rights have been registered. Before the project, no local courts had registered any cases concerning women's rights.

WHY: Women's rights are not respected

Women and internally displaced persons face legal challenges related to settlement, land rights and discrimination. Women have limited rights to property and inheritance. The reasons for this are cultural norms and the lack of knowledge of rights. The legal system does often not support women's rights, and women have little confidence in the legal system. Conflicts often arise with male relatives when women attempt to assert their inheritance rights.



PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN

Before the project, interest in acquiring an identity card was low and few women had an identity card. There was a lack of information about the benefits of having an identity card. Corruption, extensive bureaucracy and spouses who did not allow their wives to acquire an identity card also influenced the low request for identity cards.

WHAT: Training, information and support

The Norwegian Refugee Council's legal aid programme helps internally displaced persons and returned refugees. The aim is to ensure that their rights are respected and that permanent legal protection is established. A total of 22,300 people have been reached through the programme in eleven provinces in the Faryab District. Information is distributed through village meetings and focus group discussions. Individuals are also assisted during trials.

The Norwegian Refugee Council has arranged 52 workshops about laws and rights for employees in the justice sector, village leaders, mullahs and the leaders of traditional courts. The workshops cover Islamic law and moral code based on the Koran, as well as Afghan law, ownership rights, human rights and family law.

HOW MUCH: The work was part of a larger project during the period 2013-2015. The legal assistance part had a total budget of NOK 3.5 million. Norad was the only donor.

Sources:

- > Norwegian Refugee Council (2014), Strengthening Displaced Women's Housing, Land and Property Rights in Afghanistan.
- > Norwegian Refugee Council's website, www.nrc.no.

Increased community awareness secures education and health services in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Education of local organisations and local communities has resulted in capacity to negotiate good agreements with logging companies for social development projects.

RESULTS: Civil society monitoring of forest estates secures compliance with the law

Training of local NGOs and local communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has built skills to negotiate contracts for social development with forest companies. Congolese legislation require that forest companies that are awarded a forest title must pay compensation and develop agreements for social development with the local communities affected by logging. As a result of the training, local communities have successfully negotiated agreements for local development projects.

Today, 57 forest concessions have entered into an agreement with local communities for the signature of 85 social contracts. WWF-DRC facilitated 45 social contracts between forest companies and local communities. Most importantly, the social contracts negotiated between forest companies and communities have avoided potential conflict over forest resources and generated USD 16 million in funds for social development. Among the agreed development projects are construction of schools, health clinics, marketplaces, wells, roads and other infrastructure. The agreements vary in form, some involve a direct transfer of money from the logging companies to the community whereas others are based on companies taking responsibility for the construction and implementation of projects.

Having an agreement in place does not guarantee fulfilment of commitments on the behalf of companies. Only fifty per cent of the funds were disbursed to communities and civil society organisations therefore cooperate with the local communities in monitoring and advocating for companies to respect their contractual obligations. Thus far, 27 schools, 7 health centres, 14 administrative centres and 19 kilometres of road have been constructed.

The WWF observes that in areas where the companies fulfil their obligations and implement development projects, increased number of children go to school and more people have access to and use health services. The forest communities affected by logging are areas where there is little or no investment in infrastructure from the central authorities. In absence of the government, the contracts with logging companies are the only way for forest dwelling communities to receive the basic social infrastructure and services they need.

16 million people live in the forest areas in which the results are achieved, covering a total area of 107,000 square kilometres – an area larger than the Netherlands and Denmark combined.⁵⁶

WHY: Companies do not respect the law

The rainforest in and around the Democratic Republic of Congo is the second largest rain forest in the world, after the Amazon in South America. Over half of the forest is located in the DRC. 40 million people in the DRC are directly dependent on forests, which mean that this is where they secure for example food, medicines and construction materials.

According to Congolese legislation, logging companies have to sign an agreement with the local community affected by their logging when they are awarded a forest concession. The agreement must be accompanied by a plan for social development. The system of local contracts for development awarded by forest companies is established as an alternative to the companies paying tax to the central government.

⁵⁶ This includes 7 out of 26 provinces in the country: Mai-Ndombe, Kasai-Central, Ituri, Tshopo, Mongala, Équateur and Tshuapa.



Negotiations of social development contracts between local communities and forestry companies in Bankaie in the Inongo area. PHOTO: WWF-DRC

Few companies comply with the law on having a plan and contract for local development with the local community. They often see the local agreements as an expense they would rather avoid. Monitoring of logging on the part of the authorities is weak. They do not have adequate capacity to monitor compliance with the law, and there is a high level of corruption in the forest management. Compliance of the law and fulfilment of contract obligations therefore depends on monitoring and engagement from the local community. Local contracts can potentially contribute to sustainable logging and provide the local community with a share of the profits. Well-managed concessions are often certified.

WHAT: Training in human rights and negotiation skills

WWF-DRC has supported local civil society organisations in four states in northern DRC. 2,800 people have been trained. 21 local organisations have cooperated in distributing information on human rights, participated in negotiations and monitoring of local contracts. These efforts has reached a population of 38,000 people. In addition, the organisations have provided training on the benefits of good contracts, that may safeguard the rights and income of the local population.

WWF has supported the authorities in improving their forest management through reviews of legislation, technical support and training of personnel. Additionally, WWF has develop a manual for the negotiation of local agreements, and guidelines for sustainable forestry. At the national level, WWF has helped establish the first and largest national coalition to combat illegal logging composed of +100 members from local civil society organisations, as well as private and public sector. This coalition has campaigned and flagged 15 cases of illegal timber trafficking and contributed to the drafting of 5 forest regulations in DRC.

HOW MUCH: Norad has supported WWF’s work in the DRC with approximately NOK 9 million during the period 2012-2015. This represents 4.5 per cent of WWF’s annual budget in the DRC.

SOURCES:
 > WWF’s Results Report to Norad 2012-2015.
 > CIFOR (2014), Social Impacts of the Forest Stewardship Council certification. An assessment in the Congo basin.

Street vendors in Zimbabwe enjoy improved working conditions

Official recognition and registration of workers in the informal sector contributes to protection against harassment. It also contributes to legalisation of their businesses. In 2015, 7,200 street vendors were granted an official licence.

RESULTS: Trade union contributes to the protection of rights

The informal sector is now recognised as part of the official economy by the government of Zimbabwe. This recognition is achieved as a result of the work of the trade union Zimbabwe Chamber of Informal Economy Association (ZCIEA), which represents workers in the informal sector. The recognition is an important milestone in the efforts to improve conditions for workers in the informal sector. Protecting the rights of workers in the informal sector, through policies that allow small business to grow into registered companies may benefit the economy in the long term.

The organisation has been successful in advocating towards local authorities to give or sell land to street vendors so that they may have permanent market stands. As a result 300-400 new market stands have been allocated to street vendors in the cities of Mutare and Chitungwiza. The local authorities have built toilets and water pumps. This provides street vendors with access to clean water and safe sanitary conditions in their workplace. Trained ZCIEA members have confronted police officers and the local authorities who accuse the workers of illegal activities, remove marketplaces and harass the street vendors.

ZCIEA's is a democratically governed organisation with local associations throughout the country. The number of members has increased from 43,000 in 2008 to 177,000 today. Women hold 65 per cent of the ZCIEA's management positions. Most workers in the informal sector are women.

WHY: Harassment of workers in the informal sector

Of the 6.3 million people in the Zimbabwean workforce, more than 85 per cent work in the

informal sector.⁵⁷ Employment in the formal sector has decreased by 40 per cent since 2011 due to country's financial crisis. Resultantly more people joined the informal sector.

Most of the workers in the informal sector work as street vendors or in agriculture. As they are not registered as part of the formal economy, they do not pay tax and do not enjoy social services. Their income is low and unpredictable. The police and local authorities often harass them and there is no legislation that protect their business. Merchandise is confiscated, which results in loss of income and investments. Marketplaces are often not equipped with toilets or clean water, which increases the risk of diseases spreading.

As many as 81 per cent of the ZCIEA's members state that they have been harassed, half of them by the police.⁵⁸ Harassment tend to increase during election periods. Street vendors have been vocal critics of the authorities through demonstrations this past year. They are therefore regarded as being in opposition to the regime and threatened of further harassment.

The legislation for regulation of the informal sector is outdated. Permits for marketplaces have become politicised. Often, only those who are members of the ruling party receive a permit to have a marketplace. The price for renting a marketplace is not standardised nationally, and the prices differ from one city to the next and with the governing authority.

⁵⁷ The Economist Intelligence Unit 2015.

⁵⁸ Zimbabwe Chamber of Informal Economy Associations, ZCIEA (2015) Informal Economy Workers Cases of Harassment Survey, Snapshot Report.



Aerial photo of the market in Chitungwisa where ZCIEA won a court case on the street vendors' right to keep their market stands. PHOTO: ZCIEA

WHAT: Lobbying and information

ZCIEA was established in 2002 to protect the interest of workers in the informal sector. 60 per cent of the members are women. Their objectives are to contribute to improved working conditions, safeguarding rights and reduced harassment. An important aspect of their work is to provide members with training about their rights to run a business and not being harassed.

In 2014, ZCIEA undertook an initiative to petition relevant ministries and government departments to review and align current by-laws with the new constitution. They also launched a campaign and petition to stop the harassment of vendors through review of the old by-laws. The campaign received 78,000 signatures. Interviews with ZCIEA were broadcasted at national radio stations and the organisation was invited to meetings with various ministries to share information on the situation for the workers in the informal sector.

ZCIEA documents harassment of its members and discusses these matters with the authorities. One example is a case of 2000 vendors evicted from their market stands. ZCIEA assisted the street vendors in taking the case to court in 2009. ZCIEA and the vendors won the case and they were allowed to keep their stands. The authorities have later attempted to remove the vendors, but the street vendors have used the judgment to defend their rights.

ZCIEA has started separate programmes for women, youth, and people with disabilities, in order to protect the needs of all members. One of the achievements in protecting special needs is the establishment of specially assigned market stands for people with disabilities.

In addition to financially supporting ZCIEA's activities, Norwegian People's Aid (NPA) has contributed with training in organisational development, financial management, report writing, human rights and advocacy. NPA has also assisted ZCIEA to strengthen and increase its membership base, and to develop a communication strategy. Cooperation also entails networking with sister organisations in other countries.

HOW MUCH: ZCIEA received NOK 2.25 million during the period 2008-2015 in support from Norad, through Norwegian People's Aid.

Sources:

- > Norwegian Institute of Urban and Regional Research (NIBR) 2014 mid term, evaluation NPA.
- > Norwegian People's Aid (2011), Tar et oppgjør med korrupsjon [Confronts corruption].
- > Norwegian People's Aid (2013) Rettighetsløse arbeidere får et sted å bo [Workers without legal rights are given a place to live].
- > African Development Bank (2013), Recognising Africa's Informal Sector.
- > The Economist Intelligence Unit (2015), Zimbabwe's informal employment dominates.
- > Zimbabwe Chamber of Informal Economy Associations, ZCIEA (2015) Informal Economy Workers Cases of Harassment Survey, Snapshot Report.

Religious leaders took the lead in the fight against Ebola in Sierra Leone

Religious leaders in Sierra Leone raised awareness about Ebola and played an important role in preventing further spreading of the disease. The Bishop of the Methodist Church called for the first press conference on Ebola in the country. This contributed to increased international awareness and assistance, while the authorities awaited the situation.

RESULTS: Vital information on Ebola distributed throughout the entire country

Religious leaders reacted when they understood that public information about the Ebola epidemic delayed. Bishop John K. Yambasu of the Methodist Church together with other religious leaders called a press conference in which they informed about the Ebola crisis and requested international support. Several international media, including Reuters covered the press conference. Attention to the crisis increased after the press conference, followed by intensified response from the national authorities and international organisations.

An interfaith working group, coordinated by Bishop Yambasu was established. The group coordinated the efforts from different religious groups. The inter-religious cooperation was strong and yielded important results. The Methodist Church estimates that the information about Ebola from the religious communities reached more than a million people through visits to 550 congregations.

The local communities now have knowledge on how to respond to a similar crisis in the future. Important changes in behaviour and rituals have taken place, which have been crucial in preventing the spread of the disease. Examples are changes in funeral rituals and the fact that more people seek medical help when they have symptoms of the disease.

WHY: The population needed information to protect itself against Ebola

When the Ebola outbreak hit Sierra Leone in May 2014, neither the authorities, the health system, nor the population was prepared. There was lack of knowledge about the transmission of the virus, and

how to protect oneself. The authorities delayed sharing information as they thought it could create panic. They were also concerned about the political and economic consequences.

The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention has estimated that the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone claimed the lives of 3,956 people. The centre has also estimated that the number of persons infected in Liberia and Sierra Leone would have increased to 1.7 million if preventive measures had not been implemented. The work of the religious leaders was one of several important preventive measures. Sierra Leone lost 7 per cent of its health workers in the epidemic. The country was declared free of Ebola on 7 November 2015.

At the start of the epidemic, the situation was chaotic and rumours spread about the causes behind the disease. In this situation, it was important that correct information came from leaders who people trusted. Religious leaders are trusted actors who have power of influence in local communities. Hence, they were important agents of change. In many local communities, the population believed that international visitors were responsible of spreading the disease. For this reason, international medical personnel were in some cases denied access to villages.

WHAT: Awareness raising in communities by bishops and religious leaders

Sierra Leone has a strong tradition of inter-religious cooperation. Imams and Muslim laypersons visited churches to talk about Ebola. On the other hand, bishops and pastors visited mosques. The Methodist Church had an important network in many villages



Bishop John Yambasu from the Methodist church took the initiative to lead a religious leaders task force on Ebola. In this picture his shoes are disinfected after visiting a family infected with Ebola in the particularly affected community of Deep Wai Yata. PHOTO: PHILEAS JUSU

through their rural village development projects. There are numerous churches and mosques throughout the entire country. These became important venues for information dissemination. Priests, preachers and project employees started a major effort to disseminate information about Ebola prevention.

A total of 520 religious leaders, priest and laypersons received training through the project. Additionally, the Methodist Church trained 200 health workers and made two of their ambulances available. The church also contributed with cleaning of four hospitals and they followed up health personnel in the field. The Methodist Church has 225,000 members in 225 congregations in Sierra Leone. All of the congregations were visited. Among the information disseminated was the importance of changing how one greeted people, as well as new rituals for funerals.

In 2014 and 2015, priests and imams travelled around to areas closed off due to Ebola, risking their own lives and health. They informed the local population about prevention and protection against Ebola. They brought with them buckets and soap, as well as staple food such as rice, oil and meat. Information was disseminated through radio broad-

casts, brochures, T-shirts and posters. They also drove through villages in cars with speakers that played songs with information on Ebola. In areas without access roads, they cycled or made house visits to inform people.

HOW MUCH: A separate project was not started to fight Ebola, but funds were reallocated from a project already funded by Digni and Norad. In 2014, NOK 104,846 was used. The Methodist Church's international relief office and the Methodist Church in Norway also raised funds for the Ebola efforts in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire.

Sources:

- > Centre for Disease Control and Prevention 2015.
- > United Methodist Church (2015). Post Ebola Recovery Response Strategic Plan 2015-2017.
- > Christian Aid, CAFOD, Tearfund, Islamic Relief (2015). Keeping the Faith: The Role of Faith Leaders in the Ebola Response.
- > United Methodist Church (2014), Sierra Leone task force targets Ebola, press release, 28 July 2014.
- > Digni (2015) After Ebola, Interview with Bishop John. K. Yambasu.
- > Reuters (2014) "Sierra Leone religious leaders criticise government handling of Ebola", 21 July 2014.
- > Digni's annual reports to Norad.

Sustainable agriculture contribute to improved livelihood in Somaliland

Cooperation with the diaspora and local organisations has improved the livelihood for more than 2,430 households in Somaliland. The crops have improved yields, animal health has improved, and there is reduced loss of crops from erosion and flooding.

RESULTS: Increased income and reduced costs

Access to water combined with training in sustainable agriculture and animal health has contributed to increased household income among 2,430 households or 17,000 people.⁵⁹ The household income increased on average 32 per cent in two years, from USD 599 in 2012 to USD 789 in 2014.

Production of animal fodder, combined with access to water and training of animal health workers contributed towards improved animal health. Access to locally adapted seeds yield larger crops in addition to enabling farmers to be self-sufficient with seeds.

The construction of wells and water reservoirs has contributed to easier access to water for many people. Women's walking distance to fetch water is reduced by 2.2 kilometres. 35 per cent of the women state that they have started to participate in decision-making processes. Before the project started, the percentage of women stating that they participate in decision-making was 12 per cent. The installation of solar pumps saves families USD 60 a month in diesel expenses. The transition from diesel pumps to solar pumps contribute to utilisation of green energy and less emissions in addition to the reduction of costs. Flood protection has contributed to fewer crops being lost during flooding.

WHY: Drought and poor soil combined with lack of locally adapted seeds

In the areas of Somaliland where the Development Fund works, nearly 40 per cent of the population does not have sufficient agricultural production for their own consumption. The main challenges

are drought, poor soil and the lack of local technical expertise. Before the civil war, this area alone produced around 65 per cent of the food in Somaliland. Today it produces less than 7 per cent.

Somaliland is located in a dryland area, with sparse and unstable rain. Drought occurs every fourth or fifth year. The lack of access to water means that crops cannot be cultivated and the soil is impoverished. People and animal's health is threatened. Due to soil erosion and drought there is also high risk of flooding when the rain finally arrives. As much as 60 per cent of the population in Somaliland depend on animal husbandry as their main source of income. When drought and animal disease strikes, their income and livelihood is under threat.

The civil war cleared the area of local plant species. Good quality seeds that are adapted to the local conditions have not been available. Imported seeds are not adapted to the local conditions and thus yield smaller crops. The seeds are often manipulated to create plants that are unable to reproduce. This results in unstable yields and makes the farmers financially vulnerable. They become dependent on supplies of imported seeds, and the prices fluctuate significantly. It was important to establish a local seed bank, with high quality seeds that are adapted to local conditions such as drought.

WHAT: Access to water and training in sustainable agriculture and animal health

Together with local partners, the Development Fund has provided training in sustainable agriculture that provides methods to retain soil moisture and prevent erosion. Model farms provide training to farmers. Nine wells and several water reservoirs have been constructed to improve the supply of water.

⁵⁹ A household in Somaliland has an average of seven people, according to FSNAU (2013) Family Ties: Remittances and Livelihoods Support in Puntland and Somaliland.



A boy keep guard against birds in a field. PHOTO: A. ENNALS/THE DEVELOPMENT FUND

In addition, sand dams have been built to raise the ground water.

In order to improve the livelihood for those who depend on animal husbandry, the project facilitated production of animal fodder and cooperation around sustainable use of pastoral land. 14 animal health workers have been trained, half of whom were women. In addition, the project has contributed veterinary equipment and medicines for household animals.

Seed banks have been established in cooperation with the authorities and educational institutions. Farmers have been trained in how to run the seed banks. Different types of seeds are stored in the seed bank, such as durra, corn, bean, barley and wheat, in addition to vegetable and fruit seeds. Farmers can borrow seed and pay back with additional seeds as interest.

Diaspora organisations in Norway have supported the project financially through the Development Fund. In emergencies such as during drought or flooding, the Development Fund and the diaspora have jointly organised fund-raising campaigns. The diaspora contribute with approximately 20 per cent of the total funding of the Development Fund's work

in Somaliland. The diaspora organisations that have contributed are Sumbul Norway, Odweyne Voluntary Committee, SAMO and Batalaale.

Local partners in the project include the Agricultural Development Organisation (ADO), Candlelight for Health, Education and Environment (CLHE), Horn of Africa Voluntary Youth Committee (HAVOYOCO) and the Modern Agriculture Development Organisation (MADO).

HOW MUCH: The Development Fund has received NOK 18.7 million from Norad and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their work in Somalia in the period 2012-2015. Diaspora organisations in Norway have contributed approximately NOK 1 million to the project during the same period.

Sources:

- > FAO (2016) The Road to Resilience is Paved with Good Governance.
- > FSNAU (2013) Family Ties: Remittances and Livelihoods Support in Puntland and Somaliland.
- > Espen Røst, Frøbank skal bedre matsikkerheten i Somaliland [Seed bank will improve the food security in Somaliland] in Bistandsaktuelt, 16 October 2015.

Changes in alcohol consumption reduced alcohol related violence in Sri Lanka

120 rural villages in Sri Lanka experience a substantial reduction in violence and injuries caused by alcohol.

RESULTS: Reduction in violence caused by alcohol

According to data collected by FORUT's local partners, the number of accidents and cases of violence caused by alcohol dropped from almost 10,000 in 2009 to just under 2,000 in 2013 in an area of villages with a total population of 155,000.⁶⁰ Capacity building and efforts to change attitudes have contributed to this result. Attitudes and expectations towards alcohol have changed and there is an increased understanding of the negative consequences of substance abuse. In an area of 65 villages, the number of children who drop out of school due to alcohol abuse declined from 1,056 in 2009 to 40 in 2012.⁶¹

The number of illegal sales outlets for alcohol in the project area has declined from 465 in 2014 to 307 in 2015, according to FORUT's partners. This indicates that there is less acceptance among the population to sell alcohol illegally. The price of alcohol has increased due to advocacy from civil society organisations.⁶² This is an important factor to reduce alcohol abuse, as recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Over a five-year period, alcohol expenditure as share of family economy reduced from 35 per cent to 28 per cent.⁶³ Household economy is improved when there is less money spent on alcohol and health problems related to a few persons' alcohol abuse. This means that family income can be used for education, food and health services for the whole family. The project has also contributed to increased openness about domestic violence.

⁶⁰ Data is collected annually from information provided by the village leaders, police, children's rights workers, advisers for women's rights and local leaders.

⁶¹ Healthy Lanka Association for Development.

⁶² A 13 per cent increase in bottled spirits and 23 per cent increase in bottled beer. Source: Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment (FORUT) Annual Report 2015.

⁶³ FIRD project information.

Because of their positive results, FORUT's local partners take part in the national programme for poverty reduction and have become leading actors in the fight against alcohol abuse. The authorities have followed up their recommendations for improved legislation on alcohol by amending the legislation. Inspections of alcohol outlets have increased, and the shop owners ask for proof of identity for purchases more often than before.

WHY: Alcohol abuse is a poverty problem

Alcohol and substance abuse are one of many causes of poverty and crime. Sri Lanka has made it a national goal to reduce alcohol and substance abuse. Poor families are hardest hit by the financial consequences of alcohol abuse. The consequences are not only financial, but also related to social security, physical and mental health. Children drop out of school because their families cannot afford school when a large percentage of their income is used to purchase alcohol and drugs.

Domestic violence has normally not been an issue talked about in public and there were few places to go to to report violence.

A survey on compliance with the alcohol law showed that it was practically not observed at all, and that alcohol often was sold to children under the age of eighteen. Only 2 per cent of alcohol sales and 21 per cent of tobacco sellers observed the law. There was no official system to control observance of the law.

WHAT: Locally adapted methods to change culture and behaviour

Information was disseminated to the local population through methods adapted to the local culture. This made it possible to discuss topics that have traditionally been too sensitive to discuss in Sri Lankan culture. Gender roles are discussed along with what



Community gathering in the village Ambewella. PHOTO: FORUT

causes violence. Examples of the methods used are developing family budgets where alcohol expenses are included, thus illustrating how much of the family income that goes to buy alcohol.

The target groups in the project are villages that statistically has shown the highest consumption of alcohol, tobacco and drugs. Children's' clubs, women's groups, youth groups and groups for men have been established to reach out with information to all groups.

The local groups received training in how they can cooperate with the police, the healthcare system, welfare services and the national development programme, Samurdhi. This cooperation contributes to increased knowledge of what public services to expect and how to claim support from these. Local

offices have been established that receive reports on domestic violence.

FORUT has worked for the reduction of substance abuse in Sri Lanka since 1981, and cooperate with three local partners: FID (Foundation for Innovative Social Development), HLAD (Healthy Lanka Association for Development) and WODEPT (Women's Organisation for Development Peace and Temperance).

HOW MUCH: Norad has supported the programme with NOK 5.8 million during the period 2013-2015.

Sources:

- > FORUT's Results Report to Norad 2009-2013.
- > FORUT Nytt, No. 1, 2013.
- > NDDCB Handbook on Drug Abuse Information in Sri Lanka 2015.
- > WHO Global Status Report on Alcohol and Health 2014.

Education of young people changed attitudes towards violence in Nicaragua

Reflections among youth on gender roles, power dynamics, violence and upbringing of children show positive results in the form of changes in attitude. Data that compares the attitudes among participants before and after participating in the programme show significant changes in attitude.

RESULTS: Reduced acceptance of physical punishment of children

Traditional gender roles and a widespread macho culture are some of the reasons that domestic violence is prevalent in Nicaragua. A project aiming at changing attitudes and behaviour has shown positive results. Changes in attitudes are registered among children and young people around gender roles, birth control and violence against children.

The share of participants who agreed with the statement “adults are entitled to hit children to correct them” declined from 40 per cent to 6 per cent after the training. This means that more than 90 per cent no longer agree with the statement. The percentage who answered yes to the statement “the mother alone is responsible for caring for children”, declined from 28 per cent to 9 per cent. The percentage who disagreed with the statement “when the girl says NO, she really means YES” changed from 44 per cent before training to 75 per cent after training. The percentage of parents who answered yes to the statement “they punish their children so that they will respect adults” declined from 34 per cent to 10 per cent after the training. This indicates that the attitudes towards violence against children have changed.

Interviews have been conducted to check whether these changes in attitudes has contributed to a change in behaviour. Some participants answered that they have changed their behaviour and act differently after having participated in the programme. Examples mentioned by participants is that they listen to their children to a greater extent and no longer hit their children. Others state that they have changed the way they talk to their children, and that

they respect the opinions of their children to a greater extent. Some of the boys stated that they have started to participate in housework. The work is expected to have an effect beyond the rather small direct target group by creating role models that affect the attitudes and behaviours of others.

WHY: Macho culture contributes to violence

Macho culture is based on an unequal balance of power between the genders, in which men are regarded as superior to women. Men are expected to be active, strong and determined, while women are supposed to be submissive, weak and passive. Children are socialised into the traditional gender roles from an early age, in which the boys are exposed to public life with a future in paid employment and independence, while girls are socialised to work in the private sphere with unpaid housework and dependence on a man. It is socially accepted that men punish, exercise violence and humiliate women and children. There is a very high prevalence of domestic violence, sexual abuse and femicide.

As many as 22 per cent of the girls and 23 per cent of the boys have seen their father exercise violence against their mother. Research has shown that men who themselves were subjected to violence or witnessed violence as children are more apt to exercise violence themselves later on in life.⁶⁴ Boys who have a positive role model at home are more apt to have an equal relationship, be present for their children and use less violence. The project is carried out in areas of poverty and social exclusion. These areas have a high prevalence of violence and sexual abuse.

⁶⁴ Buka et al. (2001), Youth exposure to violence: Prevalence, risks, and consequences. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 71: 3, 298–310.



Father and son. PHOTO: DAVID GOMEZ/REDMAS

Half of the reported sexual harassment in the country involve children under the age of 18. Of the sexual abuse reported, 90 per cent concern girls and 74 per cent are below the age of 18.⁶⁵ In Nicaragua, more than 28 per cent of the girls become mothers before they reach the age of 18.

WHAT: Children and youth discuss gender roles and violence

The organisation La Red de Masculinidad por la Igualdad de Género (REDMAS) has implemented the project “Growing Up Together” in cooperation with Save the Children. REDMAS is a network of 20 organisations who work with gender, equal opportunities and masculinity. Their objective is to contribute alternatives to the violent macho culture.

The project started in 2007 and has created arenas where young people between the ages of 12 and 19 can discuss and reflect on gender, identity, the role of parents, sexual and reproductive rights and masculinity. By working with the young people who are the adults of tomorrow, the project aims at changing attitudes towards violence in the local community and contribute to reducing teenage pregnancies. Teachers have also been involved in training.

The direct target group for the project is 260 youth and 140 young parents in five local districts in

north-western Nicaragua.⁶⁶ The participants are expected to share the knowledge with a larger number of people, and the indirect target group is 2,600 people. The people in the direct target group are active members in organisations that are a members of REDMAS.

HOW MUCH: Norad has supported Save the Children’s programme in Nicaragua since 2010. Between 2010 and 2014, the programme received approximately NOK 1.4 million.

Sources:

- > Baseline and follow-up report from Save the Children.
- > Save the Children (2016) Estudio Exclusión Social de la Niñez y la Adolescencia en Nicaragua.
- > Instituto Nacional de Información de Desarrollo and Ministerio de Salud (2012), Encuesta Nicaragüense de Demografía y Salud 2011/12 (National health and demographic survey 2011/12).
- > Buka et al. (2001), Youth exposure to violence: Prevalence, risks, and consequences. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 71: 3, 298–310.

⁶⁵ National health and demographics survey 2011/12.

⁶⁶ The local districts are: Totogalpa, El Cuá, La Dalia, El Viejo and Distrito IV (Managua).

Development of a national organisation to address local problems in Burundi

Over a period of ten years, the Burundi Red Cross has grown from being a small organisation to a nation-wide organisation with volunteers throughout the country. The organisation has become an important actor that bring local solutions to local challenges.

RESULTS: Local challenges are solved by the local communities themselves

Ten years ago, the Burundi Red Cross was regarded as yet another foreign organisation providing services without any local ownership. The Burundi Red Cross is now seen as an organisation in which the local population participate and take responsibility to solve their own problems. The organisation is now regarded as one of the most important humanitarian actors in the country.

Through training of trainers, knowledge such as the importance of clean water, has spread. More than 110,000 people have changed their behaviour in areas that are important to prevent communicable diseases.

Knowledge of disaster prevention has resulted in the local communities being better equipped to prevent and respond to crises when they arise. The risk of landslides has been reduced in 110 villages as a result of a reduced logging combined with terracing of vulnerable terrain. During the recent crisis, which started in 2015, local volunteers in the capital of Bujumbura provided vital first aid, medical assistance and transport of the injured. Local associations throughout the country have stocked up with first aid equipment and goods should the crisis spread wider. The organisation cooperates with several ministries, including the civil defence force on emergency plans and risk management in connection with national disasters. The Burundi Red Cross is one of few actors that is trusted across most parts of the population, and who still have access to areas that have been recently affected by armed conflict.

The fundraising capacity has also increased, from 7 per cent self-financing in 2014 to 18 per cent in 2015. As much as 60 per cent of the local associations have established income-generating activities to fund their own operations.

WHY: Lack of local organisations that could contribute to solving local problems and challenges

When the twelve year long civil war ended in 2005, the population started to hope for a new future for the country. A new crisis with violent clashes started in 2015.

In the wake of the civil war, Burundi needed to build up infrastructure and social services. The absence of public services has made the role of civil society organisations extra important. Several organisations without local ownership provided goods and services such as health and education. This created a dependency culture in which foreign organisations defined the premises and priorities for delivery of services. The expectations to the authorities were low. According to Afrobarometer 2012, only 12 per cent of the population expected authorities to take responsibility for the access to safe water and sanitary conditions of its population.

The Burundi Red Cross has grown from being a small group of employees in the capital to becoming a large membership-based organisation, with activities throughout the country. In ten years, the organisation grew from less than ten employees to over two hundred employees and 426,622 volunteers in 2015. The Burundi Red Cross now has 2,900 local associations across the country. An estimated five per cent of the entire population work as volunteers in the organisation. 65 per cent of the volunteers are women.



As part of a national traffic safety campaign, volunteers are stationed by a road with heavy traffic in Rugombo. Around 20 volunteers work in shifts. Anne Nizigiyimana (21) is one of the volunteers. PHOTO: MARI A. MORTVEDT/NORWEGIAN RED CROSS

WHAT: Building up a Red Cross organisation with local ownership

An important part of the work of the Norwegian Red Cross is to support the development of local Red Cross organisations. When a new local association is established and ready to start work locally, the national office provides support in conducting vulnerability and capacity surveys. Activities and training is designed according to the findings in the surveys. Responsibilities are delegated to volunteers. In this way, help is near when the need for help arises.

Burundi Red Cross has provided access to clean water and improved sanitary conditions. In cooperation with the local authorities, it has also provided information on preventive health measures and emergency preparedness. The employees and volunteers are trained on appropriate nutrition for infants, how to purify water, hand washing and signs of cholera. The organisation has also distributed equipment to build toilets and install and repair water pumps. Local water committees are responsible for maintaining the water pumps and disseminate information about hygiene promotion.

From 2013 to 2015, more than 1.2 million people in 60 villages participated in activities to reduce the negative consequences of climate change. This included planting trees, excavation of ditches to limit destruction from flooding and the removal of stagnant surface water, which often contributes to the spreading of water-borne diseases. The introduction of alternative forms of fuel has contributed to reduced deforestation and thus the vulnerability to flooding as well.

HOW MUCH: The total budget for the Norwegian Red Cross's work in Burundi was NOK 8,150,000 in 2015, of which NOK 4,140,000 was granted by Norad.

- Sources:**
- > Red Cross Results Report to Norad 2013-15.
 - > Red Cross, video of the work in Burundi.
 - > Afrobarometer (2012), Burundi round 5.

Increased wages and improved working conditions in the water sector in Malawi

Training of union representatives in negotiations has contributed to a new industry agreement that regulates wages, wage growth and social rights for workers at the five major water works in Malawi.

RESULTS: Worker rights are respected and the wages are regulated

The trade union movement in the water sector in Malawi (WETUM) entered into a new joint industry agreement for the five major water works in the country in 2015.⁶⁷ The agreement was signed after two months of negotiations. The new industry agreement will affect 779 workers and will regulate competition between the five water works to a greater degree through the coordination of conditions for wages and working conditions. The agreement is a good example of how cooperation between the local union clubs and can contribute to regulate fair wage growth.

The new industry agreement gives all employees an index-regulated wage increase corresponding to NOK 6.6 to 8.0 per hour, an increase of 21 per cent. In addition, the new agreement entails a wage increase of 85 per cent for low-paid jobs and contributes to equal pay. Social welfare benefits will be identical at the five water works.

WHY: Large differences in wages

Up until 2015, there was no joint industry agreement for the major water works in the country. Each water work had its own local wage agreement and local negotiations. Due to a lack of engineers in the country, many engineers have been able to price themselves high, according to WETUM. As a result of this, the unskilled workers have received a very small portion of the growth in wages, while the engineers receive good offers by switching from one water work to another. This results in an unstable distribution of competence and wage adjustments. The industry agreement can contribute to a more regulated development of wages, which ensures that all of the occupational groups in the water works will benefit.

⁶⁷ Blantyre Water Works, Lilongwe Water Works and the water works in the southern, northern and central regions.

The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions has supported Malawi's Confederation of Trade Unions (MCTU) since 1995.

The aim is to strengthen the role of the trade union. Zeka King Banda (26) started as an apprentice with the Central region Water Board four years ago. He says that one positive aspect of being organised is that it contributes to an improved work environment. PHOTO: KEN OPPRANN



WHAT: Education of union representatives

The main activity of the project is the training of union representatives in negotiations. Union representatives are trained in understanding the importance of collective wage agreements. They learn about topics such as analysis of employer status, negotiation strategies and knowledge of laws. WETUM representatives participated in the courses and after participating, they developed the idea of a sector-based collective agreement.

WETUM is a union affiliated with the Malawian Congress of Trade Unions (MCTU). Staff from the MCTU assists the local union representatives in negotiations. The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO) has supported the MCTU since 1995 in its efforts to strengthen the role of the parties in working life. LO contributes 70 per cent of the budget for the MCTU, and the funding contributes to the wages for eight of their twelve employees.

HOW MUCH: The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO) has received Norwegian support for its work in Malawi since 1995. Norad supported LO's work in Malawi with NOK 3.6 million during the period 2013-2015.

Sources:

- > Reports from MCTU and LO's International Department.
- > Evaluation by MCTU 2012-2014.
- > Collective Bargaining Agreement between Water Boards and Water Employees Trade Union of Malawi (WETAM), 2014 Reviewed Edition.

Agricultural products did not reach the markets in Nicaragua

PLANNED RESULTS: Increased agricultural production and market access

The goal of one of the Development Fund's projects in Nicaragua was to give poor farmers improved access to markets so that they could sell their produce. In spite of good preparations, few farmers were able to sell their produce.

WHY: Poor farmers with a potential to produce for the market

The target group in the project came from three different population groups in Nicaragua: the Misquitos, Garifunas and Creoles. They produce enough food for their own consumption, but they are poor and have no income. Many of the farmers have an opportunity to produce more than they currently do, but they lack knowledge of how they can sell their goods. Increased production and sale of agricultural products was seen as an opportunity to increase incomes, if market access was secured.

WHAT: Products adapted to market needs and marketing

The Development Fund's local partners conducted market surveys to identify the demand for various products. Processed coconut products pointed themselves out as good products, and the farmers were given training in how to process coconut into various products such as coconut oil, coconut milk and desiccated coconut. In addition, the farmers were given equipment and machines to process the products. The products were marketed, a shop was established and the products were presented at trade fairs.

WHY IT DID NOT GO AS PLANNED: Too little focus on the organisation of farmers and development of a distribution system

No cooperation or system was established for deliveries between the shop that was to sell the products and the farmer organisations that were to deliver the products. This made it difficult to ensure the volume and quality of the products. The shop did not have the capital to pay the farmers when they delivered the goods. Not much was done about

Illustration photo of coco plants in Nicaragua.
PHOTO: GUNNAR ZACHRISEN/NORAD



contact with distributors who could distribute the goods to additional shops and markets.

The local organisation that carried out the project has good knowledge of working with the rights of minorities, environmental protection and research, but it did not have expertise in marketing and sales. Many different activities aimed at the target group may have resulted in the efforts to increase incomes not being given enough priority.

LESSONS LEARNED: Need for local organisation and cooperation with distributors

The farmers should have been organised in cooperatives to stand stronger together and sell in larger volumes. This will be improved in the next phase of the project. Farmers will also be linked with national cooperative networks that can contribute with expertise and connections with distributors. This will provide training and support for the further processing of products, better market access and access to capital.

HOW MUCH: Norad supported the Development Fund with NOK 540,000 annually in Nicaragua during the period 2012-2014.

Sources:
> Development Fund's website.
> Development Fund's Annual Report for 2015.

Student organisation in Colombia prevents forced recruitment of students to armed groups

Through education programmes and information campaigns, the Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (SAIH), and their local partners, have prevented forced recruitment to military groups and the Colombian Army.

RESULTS: Students prevent forced recruitment to the army and guerrilla forces

The Colombian student organisation ANDES (Asociación Nacional de Estudiantes de Secundaria) has documented, reported and prevented the forced recruitment of young people from schools to the guerrilla forces and the army in Colombia. Students who have completed a course with ANDES carry an identity card for conscientious objectors and have in many cases prevented the army and military groups from recruiting students illegally.

Human rights committees established by ANDES members have successfully advocated management at upper secondary schools to prepare guidelines for creating greater awareness of the right to conscientious objection and a ban on school administrations from handing lists of students over to the army.

At an international level, and parallel to the work in Colombia, the Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflicts were launched in December 2014.⁶⁸ Norway hosted a conference in 2015 where countries could endorse the Safe School Declaration as a follow up of the guidelines. Norwegian and Argentinian authorities have taken the leadership role in development of the guidelines, while SAIH and other civil society organisations have been important supporters, both nationally and internationally.

WHY: Schools and universities become military bases during armed conflicts

The recruitment of children under the age of 18 is banned by international law. The recruitment

of children under the age of 15 is regarded as a war crime by the International War Crimes Tribunal. Nevertheless, the UN Special Rapporteur on Children and Armed Conflict reported 289 forced recruitments in Colombia in 2015. All armed groups in the conflict have recruited children, most of them between the ages of 15 and 18. The armed groups include guerrilla forces, national security forces and paramilitary groups.

In 2015, eleven schools in Colombia were destroyed by crossfire or explosives.⁶⁹ In many countries with armed conflict, the schools and universities have become part of the battlefield, and they are used as military bases. This makes the educational institutions military targets that expose the teachers, students and infrastructure to danger. The presence of the military at the schools negatively affect access to school.

The attacks on schools and universities in Colombia and in other countries shows that there is a need for guidelines for parties in armed conflicts.

WHAT: Documentation of assaults combined with training on the right to object recruitment

ANDES works in particular to ensure that the schools are an arena for learning and not military recruitment.

ANDES has conducted a campaign against the militarisation of young people, and on the right to be conscientious objectors. They have printed and distributed guides on education for peace and created identity cards for conscientious objectors. In 2014, ANDES established human rights committees at 18 different educational institutions.

⁶⁸ The Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflicts.

⁶⁹ Special Reporter on Children and Armed Conflict (2016).



The leader of ANDES, Deisy Aparicio (right) facilitates a workshop for a group of students at the Nuevo America school in Bogota. ANDES advocates for a law that provides the right for conscientious objection rather than military duty. They also advocate that education should get a central place in the peace agreement between the government and FARC. PHOTO: MARTE LID/NORAD

The committees teach students about the right to be a conscientious objector, and they document and follow up cases of illegal recruitment. In 2015, 372 students participated in courses offered by the human rights committees. Several illegal attempts of recruitment have been documented and reported to the police.



Being successful at protecting schools and school children in the future will require increased political effort and commitment compared to what we have today. Several organisations, such as Save the Children, the Norwegian Refugee Council and SAIH, deserve recognition for the important work they have done over several years to promote the protection of children and youth and promotion of the right to education.

**MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
BØRGE BRENDE**
in Adresseavisen, 11 May 2015

ANDES is one of the youth organisations represented in the National Peace Council in Colombia. They give young people a voice in the development of policies and laws on military service, demilitarisation and the right to education. ANDES has recently signed an agreement with the authorities in Bogota that they shall ban the military from entering schools and conducting recruitment raids. Recruitment still takes place in Bogota and elsewhere in the country.

In the wake of the peace agreement between the Colombian authorities and the FARC guerrilla in August 2016, SAIH and ANDES are continuing their capacity building and advocacy work. It remains to be seen to what extent the international guidelines will contribute to preventing the recruitment of children and young people in Colombia.

HOW MUCH: Norad supported SAIH with a total amount of NOK 514,566 million during the period 2013-2015.

Sources

- > Annual reports from ANDES to the Norwegian Students' and Academics' International Assistance Fund (SAIH) (2014-2016).
- > Baseline report from ANDES "Baseline Study for teachers and students in the education sector - SAIH". Elena Ray and Elena Granados 2013.
- > Report/documentation ANDES: "Informe ANDES: En contra de la militarización. Por una educación para la emancipación, 2013-2014".
- > SAIH (2009), "Colombian Students at Risk".
- > The Guidelines for Protecting Schools and Universities from Military Use during Armed Conflicts.
- > Human Rights Watch (1998) Child Soldiers Used by All Sides in Colombia's Armed Conflict.
- > Special Rapporteur on Children in Armed Conflict (2016): report to the 70th General Assembly in April 2016.



3

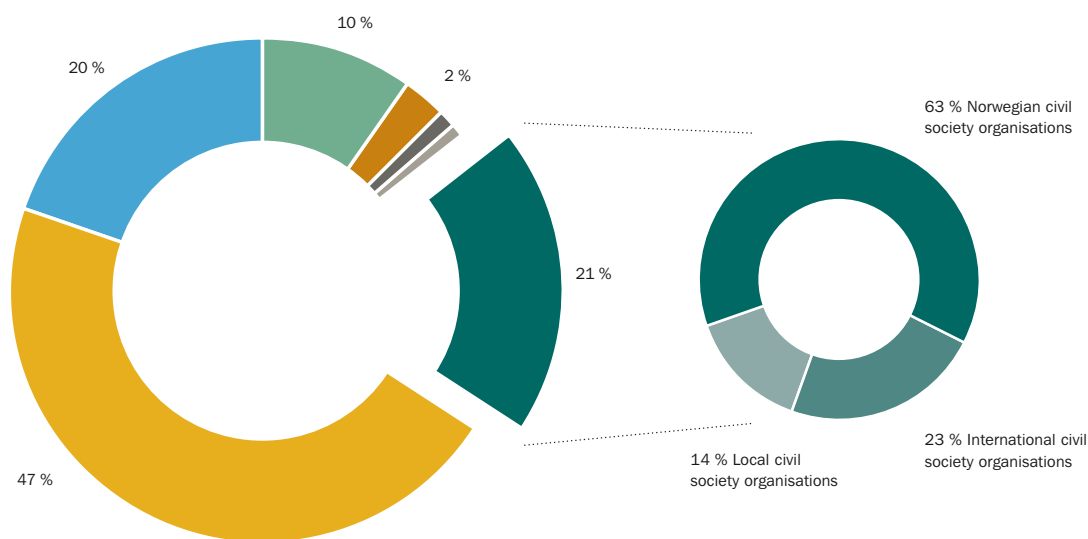
Facts and figures

During the period from 2011 to 2015, nearly NOK 33 billion of Norwegian aid was channelled through civil society organisations.



Support to civil society organisations ⁷⁴

FIGURE 12 // 21 PER CENT OF NORWEGIAN AID DURING THE PERIOD 2011-2015 WENT TO CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS



■ Civil society organisations
 ■ Public sector in Norway/other donor countries
 ■ Private sector
 ■ Unspecified
■ Multilateral organisations
 ■ Public sector in recipient country
 ■ Public-private partnerships

Total Norwegian aid by group of agreement partner, 2011-2015. A total of NOK 153.6 billion in aid was disbursed during the period, of which NOK 32.7 billion was channelled through civil society organisations. (Source: Norad)

Support to civil society in the period 2011-2015 represent 21 per cent of the total Norwegian development aid in that period. Of the total aid, 13 per cent went to Norwegian organisations, 5 per cent to international organisations and 3 per cent to local organisations in aid recipient countries.

“Support to civil society organisations” entails all the aid channelled to and through civil society organisations. This aid includes humanitarian aid, support to local civil society in recipient countries, earmarked support to politically prioritised initiatives, support to international organisations and core support to Norwegian organisations.

The US was by far the largest government donor to civil society organisations in 2014, with donations of USD 6.6 billion. The US was also the largest aid donor overall in the OECD. The sector with most support from the USA was the health sector, and almost half of the civil society support went to Africa.

HOW ORGANISATIONS ARE CLASSIFIED IN THE STATISTICS

The OECD divides civil society organisations into three types:

- > Donor-country based NGOs: organised at the national level, based and operated either in the donor country or another developed (non-ODA eligible) country.
- > International NGOs. Some INGOs may act as umbrella organizations with affiliations in several donor and/or recipient countries. Organisations based in donor countries other than Norway fall into this category in the Norwegian statistics.
- > Developing country-based NGOs: organised at the national level, based and operated in a developing (ODA-eligible) country.*

* We also find local offices of Norwegian or international organisations in this category. During the period 2011-2015, around 7 per cent of the aid to local organisations in the Norwegian statistics related to local offices of Norwegian or international organisations.

⁷⁴ The figures in Part 3 have been obtained from Norwegian Aid Statistics and from the CRS reporting at OECD.Stat.

OECD'S DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT COMMITTEE (DAC)

The overarching objective of the DAC is to promote development co-operation and other policies so as to contribute to sustainable development, including pro-poor economic growth, poverty reduction and improvement of living standards in developing countries.

The Development Assistant Committee has 28 member countries, in addition to the EU. The DAC is open to countries that have appropriate strategies, policies and institutional frameworks for development co-operation, and that have established a system of performance monitoring and evaluation.

The last year of available OECD aid statistics is 2014.*

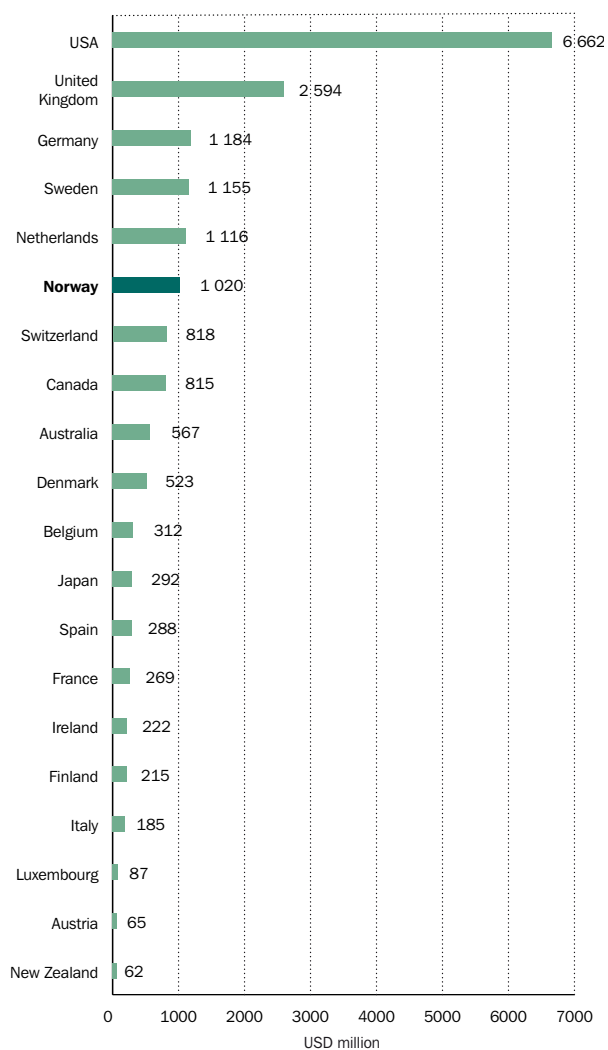
For more information, see oecd.org.

* There may be some minor discrepancies between the figures based on the OECD data and those based on Norad's data, as some data are registered somewhat differently in the two databases.

6.6 billion USD

The USA was by far the largest government donor to civil society organisations in 2014.

FIGURE 13 // USA IS THE LARGEST DONOR TO CIVIL SOCIETY

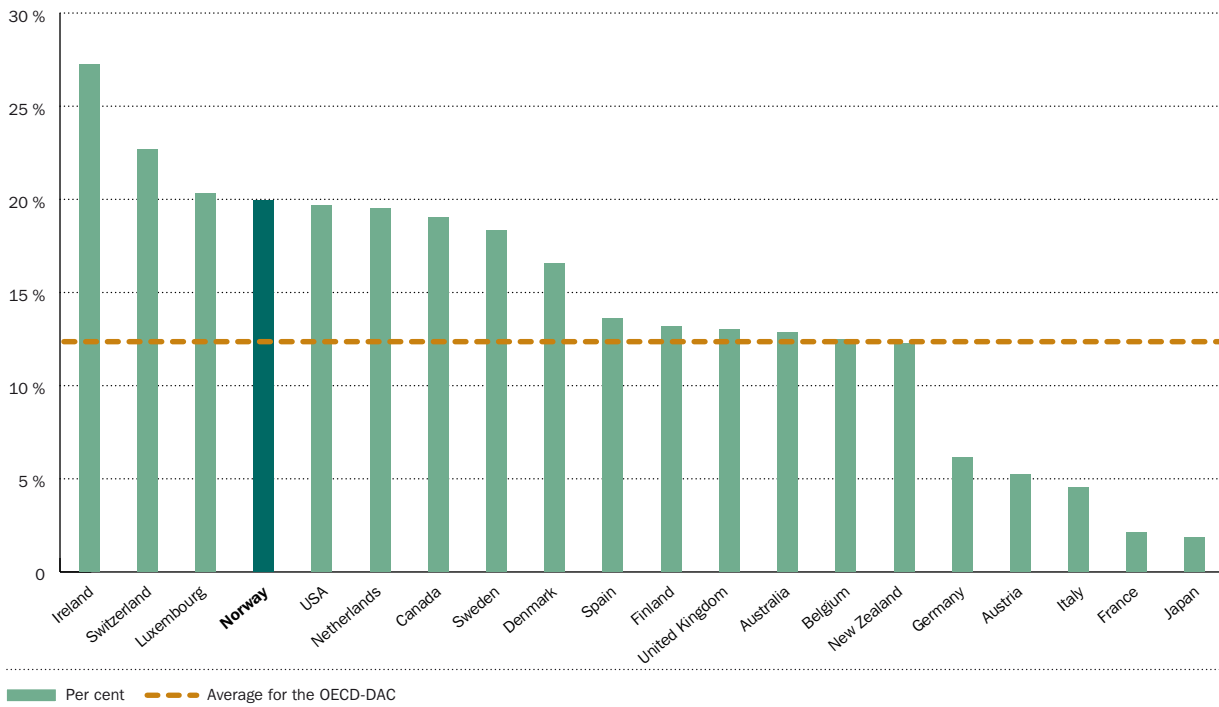


Aid from the 20 largest OECD-DAC donors to civil society in 2014. Total of USD 18.5 billion. Gross disbursements. (Source: OECD.Stat)

12 %

12 percent of the development aid from OECD-DAC members was channelled through civil society organisations.

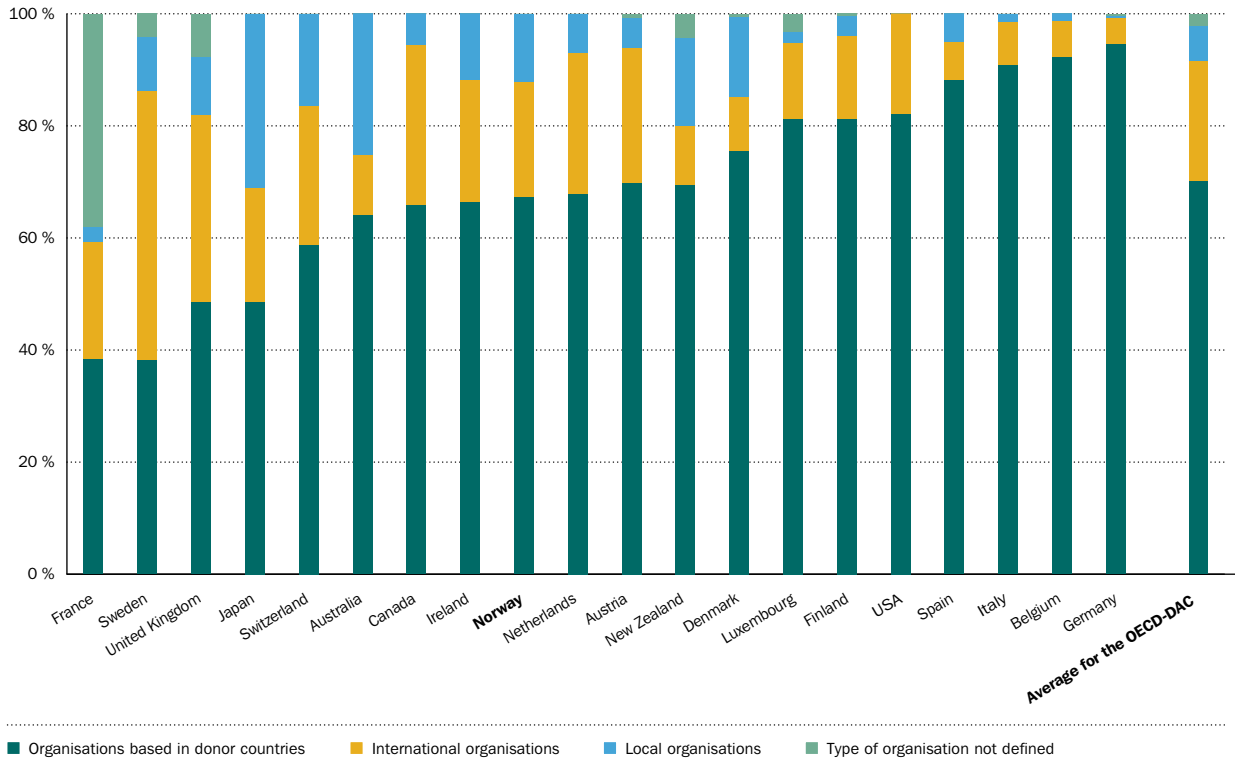
FIGURE 14 // LARGE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OECD-DAC MEMBERS IN THE PROPORTION OF AID THAT IS CHANNELLED THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS



Aid through civil society organisations as a percentage of total aid. 2014. A total of USD 150.9 billion in aid was disbursed, of which 18.5 billion was channelled through civil society organisations. Gross disbursements. The figure shows the 20 member countries of OECD-DAC that channelled most aid through civil society organisations. [Source: OECD.Stat]

Figure 13 shows that Norway was among the major donors of aid to and through civil society organisations in 2014. Aid to civil society organisations as proportion of the total aid from Norway is also high, as illustrated in Figure 14. Ireland, which ranks quite low on the list of the total amount disbursed to civil society organisations, ranks highest on share of aid channelled to civil society organisations in figure 14.

FIGURE 15 // LARGE DIFFERENCES IN THE PERCENTAGE OF AID TO CIVIL SOCIETY THAT IS CHANNELLED TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

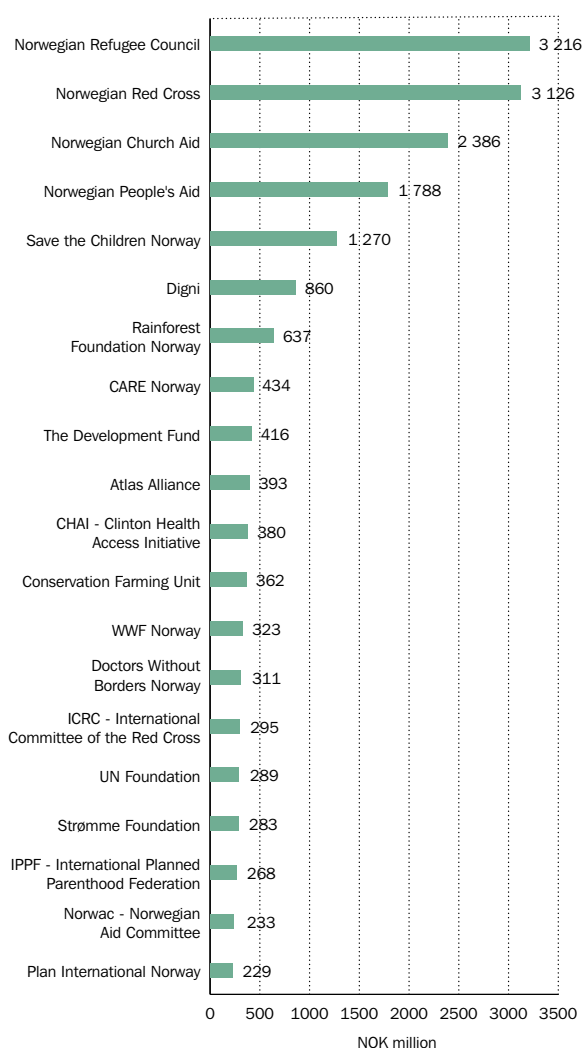


Aid through civil society organisations, broken down by type of organisation. In 2014, a total of USD 13 billion was channelled through organisations based in donor countries, USD 4 billion to international organisations, USD 1.2 billion to local organisations and USD 0.4 billion to civil society organisations undefined. Gross disbursements. The figure shows the 20 member countries in the OECD-DAC that channelled most aid through civil society organisations. [Source: OECD.Stat]

How much of the civil society support that goes to local civil society organisations differs considerably between OECD-DAC members. The United Kingdom, which is the second largest donor of civil society organisations, channelled 10 per cent of its civil society support to local organisations. This makes the United Kingdom the largest donor of local civil society organisations in 2014. Many countries channel aid to local organisations through intermediary organisations based in a donor country or organisations defined as international. The statistics only show the organisation that is direct recipient of funds from a donor. Hence, more of the funds than shown in Figure 15 reach local partners. This also applies to Norwegian aid. Please see page 19 for a description of the various models for partnership.

Figure 15 shows a breakdown of the civil society support from member countries in the OECD-DAC by organisations based in donor countries, international organisations and developing country-based organisations. The donor countries define the different types of organisations somewhat differently, but the figure nonetheless illustrates what types of organisations are given priority of funding from the various countries. As the figure shows, most of the member countries in the OECD-DAC channel most of their funding to organisations based in donor countries.

FIGURE 16 // MOST OF THE NORWEGIAN AID TO CIVIL SOCIETY IS CHANNELLED THROUGH NORWEGIAN ORGANISATIONS



From 2011 to 2015, Norway supported nearly 2,000 different civil society organisations. The largest recipients were Norwegian organisations. Among international organisations, the largest recipients were the Clinton Health Access Initiative, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the UN Foundation and the International Planned Parenthood Federation. These are also among the 20 largest recipients of Norwegian aid to civil society. In addition, the local organisation Conservation Farming Unit is on the list. The Conservation Farming Unit focus on conservation of agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa.

Figure 16 shows that the Norwegian Refugee Council was the largest recipient of Norwegian aid to civil society during the period 2011-2015. The organisation primarily works with humanitarian aid, but also works in other sectors.

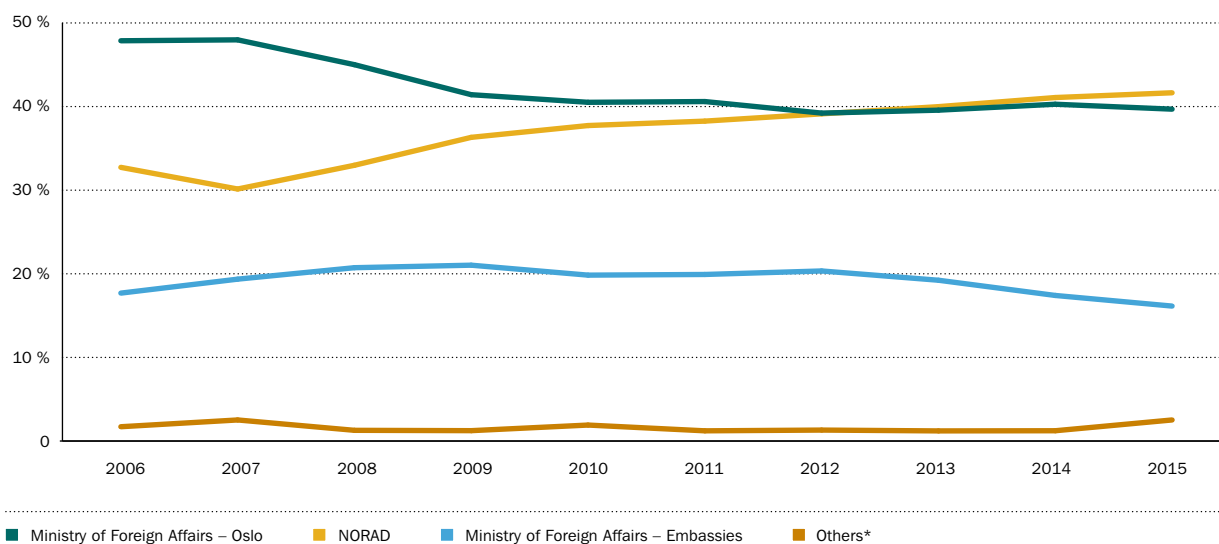
In addition to the Norwegian Refugee Council, the Norwegian Red Cross, Norwegian Church Aid, Norwegian People's Aid and Save the Children Norway are the five largest Norwegian civil society organisations working within development aid.

2,000
 From 2011 to 2015, Norway supported nearly 2,000 different civil society organisations.

The 20 civil society organisations that received the most Norwegian aid during the period 2011 - 2015. A total of NOK 32.7 billion was channelled through civil society organisations during the period. [Source: Norad]

Who administers the Norwegian aid to civil society?

FIGURE 17 // NORAD MANAGES AN INCREASING SHARE OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY AID



Norwegian aid through civil society organisations by managing unit/extending agency, 2006-2015. From NOK 4.1 billion in 2006 to NOK 7.1 billion in 2015.

* "Others" include FK Norway, Ministry of Climate and Environment, Office of the Auditor General and Norfund. [Source: Norad]

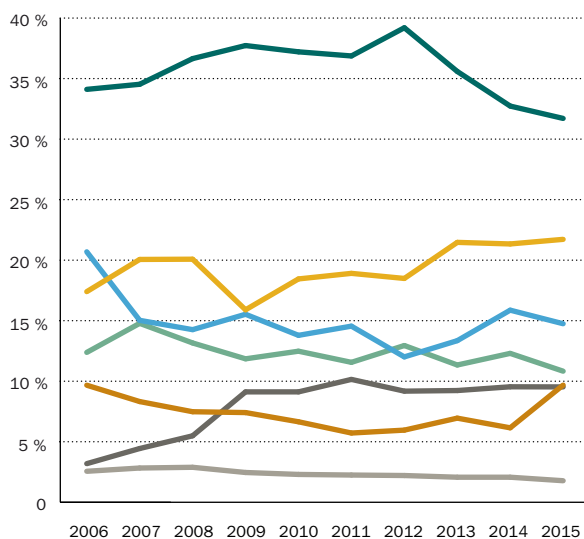
Figure 17 shows that Norad and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs managed around 80 per cent of the aid channelled to civil society organisations during the last ten years. While in 2006, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs managed the largest share of the civil society support, Norad's share has increased during the period, and in 2015 it managed a slightly larger share than the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The embassies managed between 16 and 21 per cent of the civil society support during the period. In addition, civil society organisations received funds managed by FK Norway, the Ministry of Climate and Environment, Norfund and the Office of the Auditor General of Norway.

In recent decades, more than 70 per cent of the civil society support from both Norad and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been channelled through Norwegian organisations. Only 4 per cent was channelled directly to local organisations. The embassies channelled 53 per cent of their civil society support to local organisations during the period. More than 70 per cent of all aid given to local civil society organisations was managed by the embassies.

How is support to civil society used?

FIGURE 18 // GOOD GOVERNANCE HAS BEEN THE MOST IMPORTANT SECTOR GROUP OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS

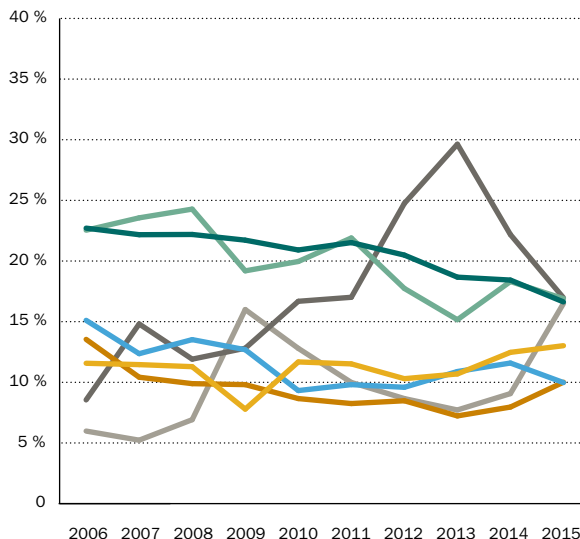


■ Good governance
■ Humanitarian aid
■ Health and social services
■ Economic development and trade
■ Education
■ Environment and energy
■ Costs in Norway and unspecified

Norwegian aid through civil society organisations by sector. 2006-2015. From NOK 4.1 billion in 2006 to NOK 7.1 billion in 2015. [Source: Norad]

Norwegian aid to civil society organisations focus on a number of sectors. Figure 18 shows that more than half the aid through civil society organisations during the period from 2006 to 2015 went to good governance and humanitarian aid. On average, 36 per cent went to good governance and 20 per cent to humanitarian aid during the period. These are higher percentages than shown for the total bilateral aid from Norway (see Figure 19), of which 20 per cent went to good governance and 11 per cent to humanitarian aid.

FIGURE 19 // NORWEGIAN AID BY SECTOR GROUP



■ Good governance
■ Humanitarian aid
■ Health and social services
■ Economic development and trade
■ Education
■ Environment and energy
■ Costs in Norway and unspecified

Total Norwegian bilateral (including multi-bilateral) aid by sector. 2006-2015. From NOK 12.7 billion in 2006 to NOK 24.7 billion in 2015. [Source: Norad]

Funding of the Government's climate and forestry initiative is allocated from the budget of the Ministry of Climate and Environment. This accounted for 6 per cent of all aid through civil society organisations in 2015. Of the total funds, 11 per cent or NOK 428 million, disbursed from the Government's climate and forestry initiative in 2015 went through civil society organisations. Norad managed more than 80 per cent of these funds. The largest recipients of these funds were the World Resources Institute, the Rainforest Foundation Norway, the Centre for International Forestry Research and the Amazon Environmental Research Institute.

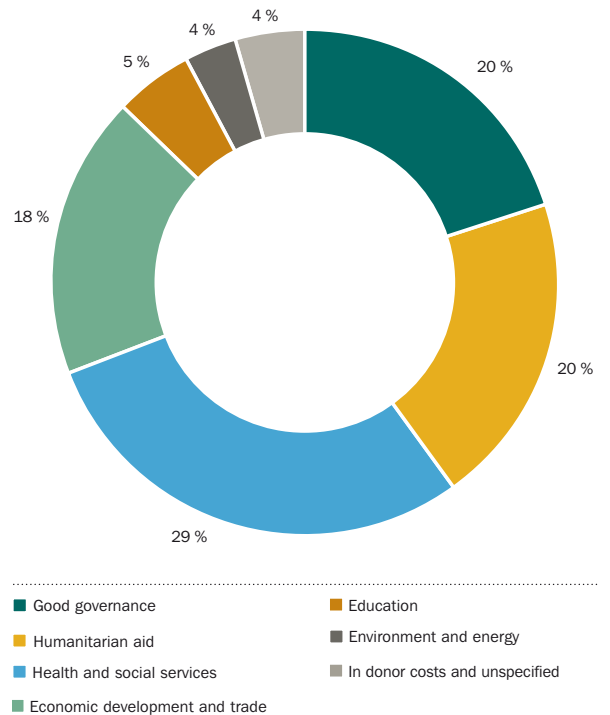
Figure 19 illustrates that funding of initiatives related to environment and energy reached a peak in 2013. This was due to the extraordinary disbursements to Brazil as part of results-based financing to reduce deforestation.

The health sector received a total of nearly USD 5.4 billion through civil society organisations from member countries in the OECD-DAC in 2014. Health was the sector that received most international civil society aid in 2014. This is attributed, among other things, to the fact that the US, which is the largest donor country, channelled 44 per cent of its aid through civil society organisations to projects in the health sector.

Good governance and humanitarian aid were the largest sectors following health. Figure 18 illustrates that these sectors were also the largest sectors of Norwegian aid through civil society. On average, the countries in the OECD-DAC allocated nearly twice as much of their civil society aid to the health sector than Norway in 2014. Norwegian civil society aid gave more than ten percentage points more to good governance than the OECD-DAC average, while the percentage to humanitarian aid was approximately the same for Norwegian and international civil society aid in 2014.

Only Slovenia, the Netherlands, Sweden and Germany allocated more of their civil society support to good governance than Norway. The Netherlands, which is one of the largest donors to civil society organisations, allocated 56 per cent to good governance. Sweden allocated 46 per cent of its support to civil society to good governance.

FIGURE 20 // MORE THAN A QUARTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL AID THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS GOES TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES



Aid from OECD-DAC member countries through civil society organisations by sector in 2014. Total of USD 18.5 billion. Gross disbursements.
[Source: OECD.Stat.]

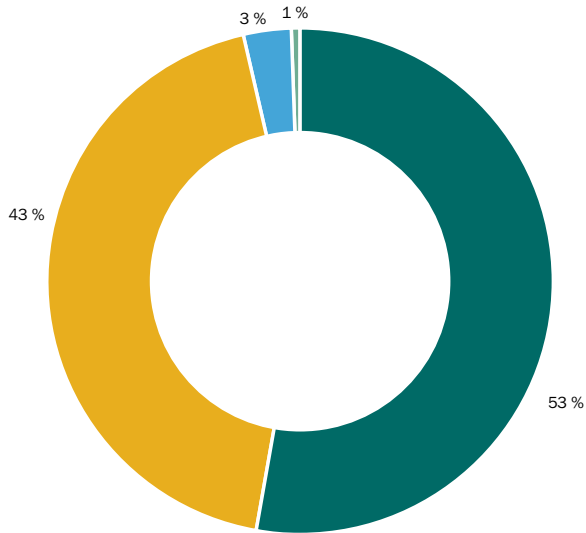
1/4

More than a quarter of the international aid through civil society organisations is related to health and social services.

53 %

More than half of Norwegian humanitarian aid was channelled through civil society organisations.

FIGURE 21 // MORE THAN HALF OF THE NORWEGIAN HUMANITARIAN AID WAS CHANNELLED THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS



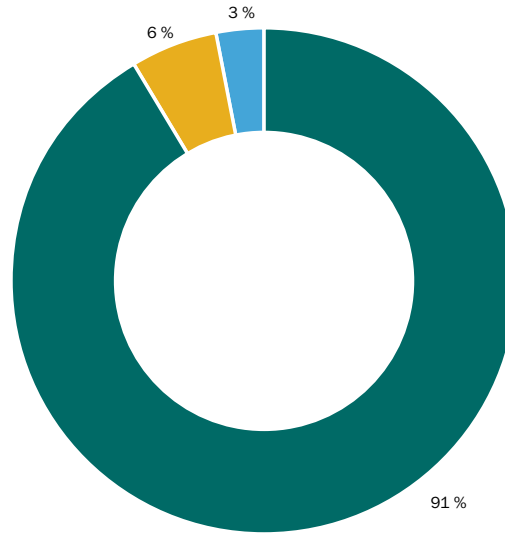
■ Civil society organisations ■ Public sector in Norway/other donor countries
■ Multilateral organisations ■ Others*

Total humanitarian aid distributed by agreement partner 2011-2015. Total of NOK 12.6 billion during the period, of which NOK 6.7 billion went through civil society organisations. Humanitarian aid is defined as aid under DAC sectors 720, 730 and 740. Core support to multilateral organisations is not included. * "Others" include the public sector in the recipient countries, private sector and unspecified. [Source: Norad]

Civil society organisations are important partners in humanitarian aid. Figure 21 shows that more than half of Norwegian humanitarian aid has been channelled through civil society organisations over the last five years. In comparison, the member countries in the OECD-DAC channelled 29 per cent of their humanitarian aid through civil society organisations in 2014.

Humanitarian aid is primarily managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

FIGURE 22 // NEARLY ALL NORWEGIAN HUMANITARIAN AID THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY IS CHANNELLED THROUGH NORWEGIAN ORGANISATIONS

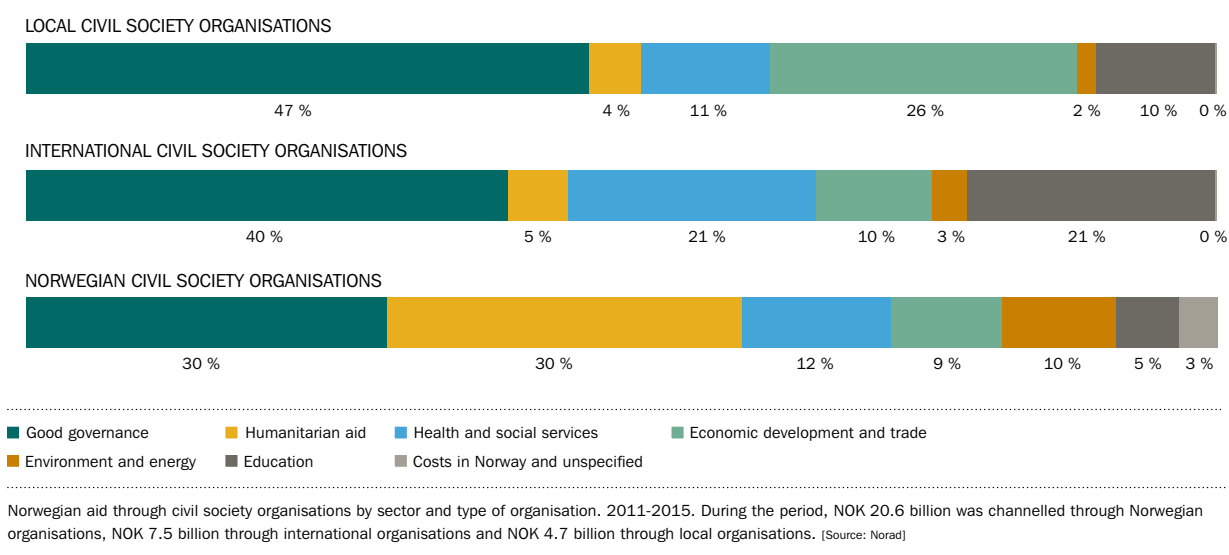


■ Norwegian civil society organisations
■ International civil society organisations
■ Local civil society organisations

Humanitarian aid through civil society organisations, broken down by type of organisation. 2011-2015. A total of NOK 6.7 billion during the period. Humanitarian aid is defined as aid under DAC sectors 720, 730 and 740. [Source: Norad]

More than 90 per cent of all Norwegian humanitarian aid through civil society organisations over the last five years was channelled through Norwegian civil society organisations. A total of 73 per cent of the emergency aid through organisations during the period went through the Norwegian Red Cross and the Norwegian Refugee Council.

FIGURE 23 // NEARLY HALF OF THE AID TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOCUS ON GOOD GOVERNANCE



The different types of organisations work differently. All of them have a considerable focus on contributing to good governance. Of all the aid through local organisations, nearly half went to this purpose during the period 2011-2015. The sector area good governance encompasses a number of sub-sectors, such as democratic participation and civil society, human rights, gender equality, civilian peacebuilding and conflict prevention and resolution.

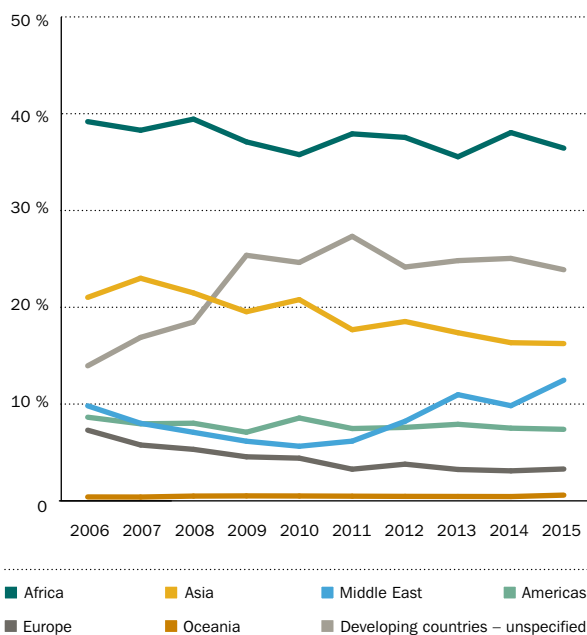
Economic development and trade also accounted for a large proportion of the work of local organisations. Agriculture was the largest sector in the category of economic development and trade.

Half of the civil society aid to environment and energy is channelled through international organisations. Most of the funds are distributed to projects within environmental protection and environmental management.

The international organisations also have a considerable focus on health and social services. A large share of these funds go to the reduction of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, health policy and health administration.

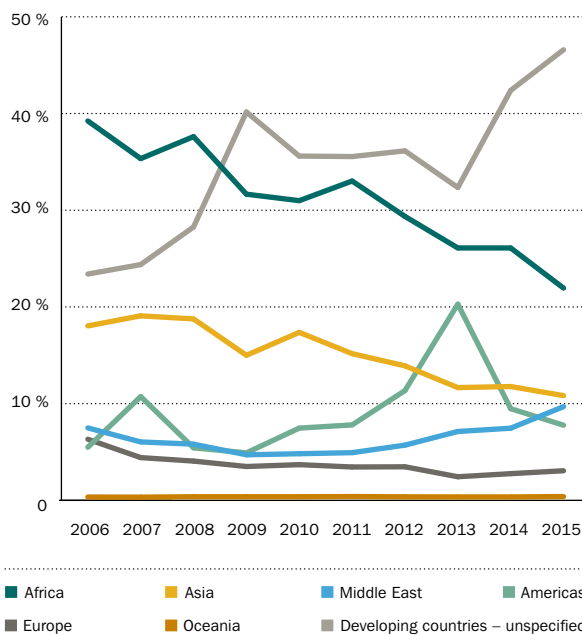
Geographic distribution of civil society support

FIGURE 24 // MORE THAN HALF OF THE AID THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY GOES TO AFRICA AND ASIA



Norwegian aid through civil society organisations by region. 2006-2015. From NOK 4.1 billion in 2006 to NOK 7.1 billion in 2015. [Source: Norad]

FIGURE 25 // PERCENTAGE OF NORWEGIAN AID TO AFRICA HAS DECLINED OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS



Total Norwegian bilateral (including multi-bilateral) aid by region. 2006-2015. From NOK 12.7 billion in 2006 to NOK 24.7 billion in 2015. [Source: Norad]

Figure 24 shows that projects in Africa and Asia received more than half of the civil society support over the last ten years. A smaller proportion went to the Middle East, the Americas and Europe. The percentage of aid that was not distributed geographically increased from 14 per cent in 2006 to 24 per cent in 2015. Aid that is labelled as not distributed geographically include core support to organisations that work globally, information support and global projects. In relation to other Norwegian bilateral aid, more of the civil society aid is distributed by country or region.

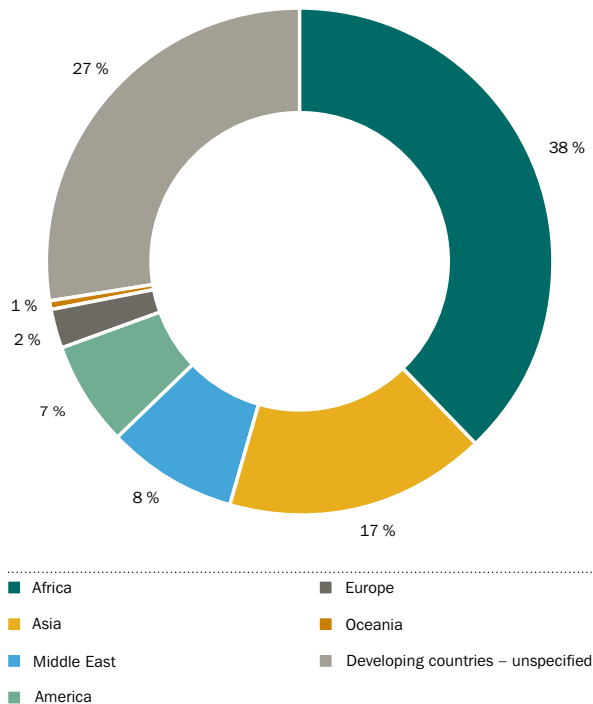
Bilateral aid to Africa as share of total aid has gone down. This reduction is not as significant for aid to civil society.

Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar were the largest recipients of civil society aid in Asia during the period. There has been a decline in aid to Sri Lanka in recent years, but the country has been among the eight largest

recipients of civil society aid throughout the entire period. In Afghanistan, economic development and trade was the largest sector, and most of the funding went to rural development. Good governance was the largest sector in Sri Lanka, and most of the aid went to civilian peacebuilding, conflict resolution and prevention. In Myanmar, a total of 40 per cent of the aid went to humanitarian aid during the period. Humanitarian aid also accounted for a large percentage of the aid to Afghanistan and Sri Lanka.

Aid to the Middle East has increased in recent years, both as a percentage of civil society aid and of the total bilateral aid. The increase is partly attributed to an increase in humanitarian aid related to the crisis in Syria. Bilateral aid to Syria has increased from NOK 7 million in 2011 to NOK 516 million in 2015. NOK 256 million of this was aid to civil society. As a result of the flow of refugees from Syria, aid to other countries in the region has also increased.

FIGURE 26 // NEARLY 40 PER CENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL AID TO CIVIL SOCIETY GOES TO AFRICA



Aid from OECD-DAC member countries through civil society organisations by region. 2014. Total of USD 18.5 billion. Gross disbursements. (Source: OECD.Stat.)

Figure 26 shows the regional distribution of civil society support from the member countries in the OECD-DAC in 2014. Africa received more than USD 7 billion in development aid to civil society that year. This was higher than any other region. With 38 per cent of the aid, Africa received more than twice as much as the second largest region, Asia. The geographic distribution of civil society aid from the countries in the OECD-DAC in 2014 was quite similar to the Norwegian distribution for the same year.

Donor countries from Asia and Oceania gave a significantly greater share of their civil society aid to recipient countries and regions in Asia than the rest of the member countries in the OECD-DAC. 57 per cent of the civil society aid from Australia, Japan, Korea and New Zealand went to countries in Asia and Oceania.

With USD 562 million, Afghanistan was the largest recipient of civil society support from the member countries in the OECD-DAC in 2014. Afghanistan was also Norway's largest recipient country that year. Over 40 per cent of Norway's assistance to Afghanistan in 2014 was channelled through civil society organisations. This is a significantly higher percentage than among other members in the OECD-DAC for the same year. An average 14 per cent of international support to Afghanistan went through civil society organisations.

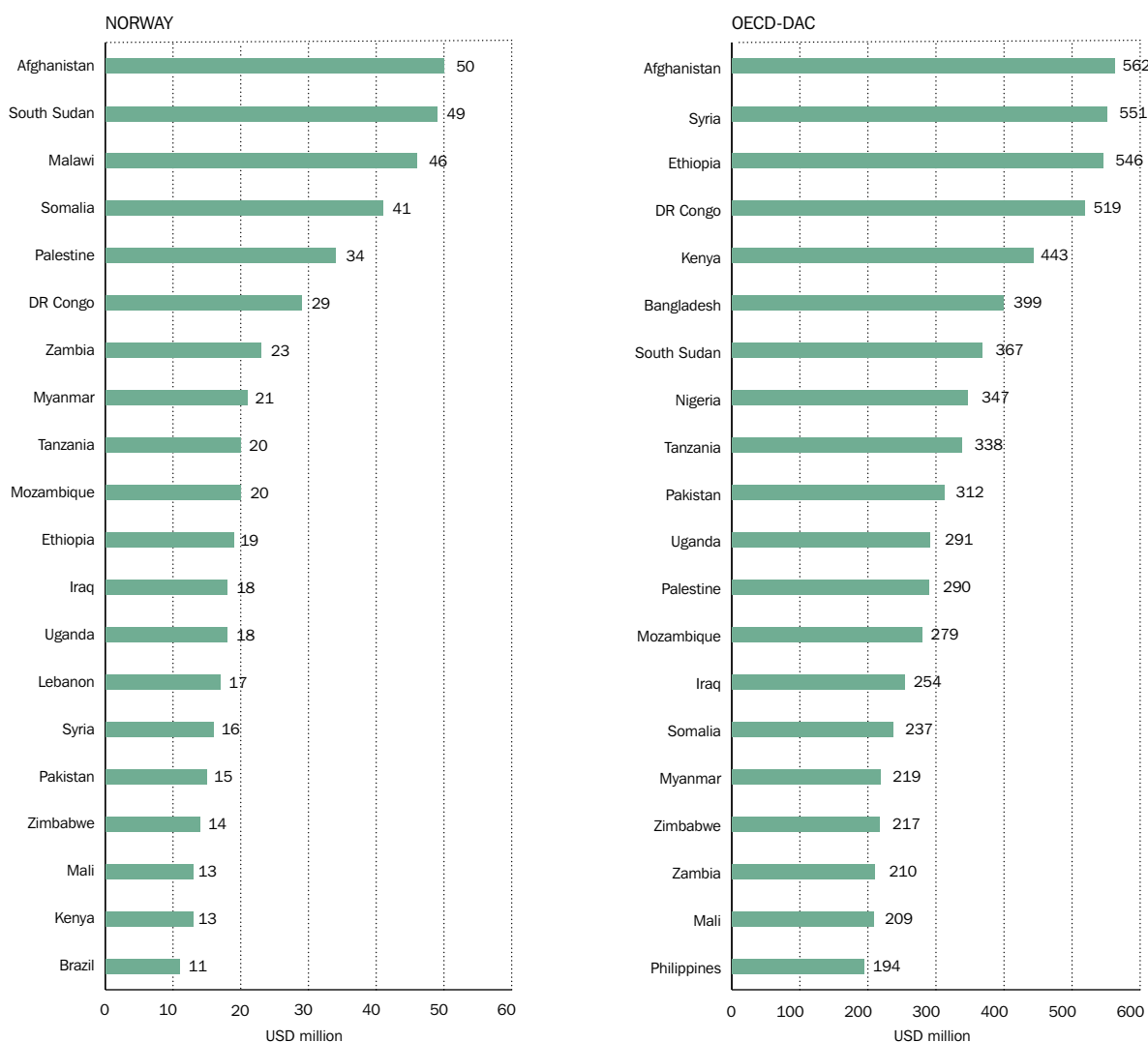
40 %

Nearly 40 per cent of the international aid to civil society goes to Africa

40 %

40 per cent of Norway's assistance to Afghanistan in 2014 was channelled through civil society organisations.

FIGURE 27 // AFGHANISTAN WAS THE LARGEST RECIPIENT COUNTRY OF NORWEGIAN AND INTERNATIONAL AID THROUGH CIVIL SOCIETY



The 20 largest recipient countries of aid to civil society from Norway and member countries in the OECD-DAC. 2014. Gross disbursements. (Source: OECD.Stat)

South Sudan and Malawi followed Afghanistan as the largest recipients of Norwegian civil society aid. Half of the aid to South Sudan was humanitarian aid, while aid to Malawi mainly went to health and agriculture.

17 of the 20 largest recipients of civil society aid from the members of the OECD-DAC were also among the 20 countries that received the most civil society support from Norway in 2014.

Syria, which was the OECD-DAC's second largest recipient, was the 15th largest recipient of Norwegian aid in 2014, and the third largest recipient in 2015.



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Norad

Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

Postal address: P.O. Box 8034 Dep, NO-0030 OSLO

Office address: Bygdøy allé 2, 0257 Oslo, Norway

Tel: +47 23 98 00 00 / Fax: +47 23 98 00 99

postmottak@norad.no / www.norad.no