

Following up the Evaluation of Norwegian Development Cooperation in the Fisheries Sector

THE NORWEGIAN FISHERY FORUM SEMINAR 7-8 April 2010,
onboard "*Crown of Scandinavia*".

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**Firstly, let us not forget
the **OBJECTIVE** of Norwegian development cooperation**

- The objective of Norway's development policy is to fight poverty and bring about social justice. (MFA website)
- Norwegian development assistance shall contribute to sustainable improvements of the economic, social and political conditions of the population in developing countries, ensuring that the assistance benefits the poorest. (Norad's website)

Based on this objective, it is our view that ...

- to use Norwegian fisheries and aquaculture expertise is not a goal in itself, but a means to reaching the developmental objective;
- the best and most relevant expertise should be used and that also applies to Norwegian institutions;
- the share of fisheries and aquaculture in the overall annual budget for development cooperation is irrelevant as a development success indicator.

CORE FINDINGS

of the EVALUATION OF NORWEGIAN DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION IN THE FISHERIES SECTOR, by MRAG, London, & al (Norad Evaluation Report 6/2008):

Results

- Generally positive, although not easy to measure direct impact
- States that the support to fisheries law and regulations has directly contributed to growth within the fisheries sector
- Increased productivity in the aquaculture sector – development of new strains of tilapia; addressing disease problems; better operational procedures; directly benefiting poorer farmers

CORE FINDINGS (contd.)
of the EVALUATION OF NORWEGIAN DEVELOPMENT
CO-OPERATION IN THE FISHERIES SECTOR, by MRAG,
London, & al (Norad Evaluation Report 6/2008):

Good results attributed to:

- ✓ The recipient country owns the project. Norway assists;
- ✓ Long term approach;
- ✓ Flexibility and responsiveness to changing conditions;
- ✓ Often protracted project development phase - and close partner dialogue;

**CORE FINDINGS (contd.)
of the EVALUATION OF NORWEGIAN DEVELOPMENT
CO-OPERATION IN THE FISHERIES SECTOR, by MRAG,
London, & al (Norad Evaluation Report 6/2008):**

- ✓ Same people/institutions take part in project development and implementation
- ✓ Regular governmental institutions implement the project – have not established parallel project coordination structures
- ✓ Strengthening of national fisheries institutions

Follow-up from the Evaluation

- **Official presentation by the authors - with discussion (febr 2009)**
 - In general positive conclusions, proving that the old negative stereotypes about fisheries development assistance are not valid today.
- **Exchange of letters Norad-MFA (Spring 2009)**
 - Norad asked to discuss the way forward with Norwegian and other partners - with focus on poverty alleviation, good governance and gender.
- **Discussions with Prof. Hersoug, UiT (Summer-fall 2009)**
 - To identify areas to concentrate the discussion on,
- **Seminar with Norwegian institutions (Hurdalssjøen Nov 2009)**
 - Broad range of observations, arguments, proposals. The representatives of the sector seemed to agree that it is necessary to pay attention the political signals and engage in a dialogue with the political decision makers;
- **Meeting at MFA (March 2010)**
- **FFF Seminar (April 2010)**
 - Conclusions of this seminar?

Other Ramifications (in addition to the Evaluation)

- Strategiske prioriteringer for næringsutvikling på fisk i utviklingsland (Notat UD Nov 2007)
- Stortingsmelding nr. 13 (2008-2009) Klima. Konflikt. Kapital. -
- The Soria Moria (II) Declaration of the reelected Government (Autumn 2009) – *”bidra til at utviklingsland kan utvikle fiskeriforvaltning og –kontroll som et ledd i global innsats mot overfiske”*.
- Statsbudsjettet (regionalbevilgning, faglig samarbeid, næringsutvikling)
- Arbeidsfordeling mellom ambassade, UD, Norad. Aktører: statlige fagetater, privat næringsliv, frivillige organisasjoner.
- Retningslinjene for utvikling, gjennomføring og oppfølging av utviklingsprosjekter (div. håndbøker, hefter)
- Avtaleverket med utviklingslandene, bi- og multilateralt, internasjonale avtaler, bl.a. *Tusenårsmålene : fattigdom/sult, skole, likestilling, helse, miljø og handels- og finanssystem;*

Conclusions?

- Fisheries development cooperation - more targeted towards poverty reduction (economic growth, equitable distribution of wealth, food security)
- Focus on local ownership and priorities, sustainability, exit strategies;
- Continue to do what works well (inc. institutional strengthening, promote commercial activities)
- Support to fisheries management and control - and.....;
- Give preference to Norwegian institutions when they have the required expertise;
- Tendering – or use the same institutions in planning as in implementation of projects?