



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION AGENCY

Sida's Evaluation Guidelines & Evaluation Plan 2010

The Secretariat for Evaluation (UTV)

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1. Sida's Guidelines for Evaluation

The purpose of these evaluation guidelines is to clarify the role and mandate of the Secretariat for Evaluation (UTV), and provide strategic guidance for how:

- Sida plans and commissions evaluations¹ and reviews²,
- Consultants carry out evaluations and reviews,
- Relationships to partner countries, beneficiaries and other donors shall be taken into account in development evaluation financed by Sida.

The guidelines are built on the evaluation principles of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD. It is complemented by UTV's Arbets- och beslutsordning (ABS), Sida's Evaluation Manual, and the OECD/DAC Evaluation Quality Standards.

These evaluation guidelines will replace Sida's evaluation policy, and are applicable both to evaluations and reviews financed by Sida. The guidelines will be updated annually, as part of the operational planning cycle of UTV. The latest version will be included in the annual evaluation plan of Sida, which is subjected to decision by the Director General.

Principles underpinning evaluation at Sida

The objective of Swedish development cooperation is to contribute to an environment supportive of poor people's own efforts to improve their quality of life. Development evaluation – defined as a systematic and objective assessment of a policy, strategy, theme, sector or an ongoing or completed project or programme – is a key tool for contributing to that objective. It:

- Is a source of evidence of what is working and what is not and elaborates why things are working or not. Hence it can play a credible role in supporting mutual accountability between stakeholders in development interventions. It also contributes to evidence based decision making by development partners, including Sida.
- Is a prerequisite for accountability for development results by providing impartial, unbiased information, which is accessible to the public both in Sweden and in partner countries.
- Is crucial for generating general knowledge on development.
- Contributes to building a culture of learning among development partners.

¹ *Evaluations* are evaluations which are included in Sida's central evaluation plan. The plan is coordinated by UTV, and decided upon by the Director General. Evaluations typically cover policies, strategies, sectors, thematic areas and aid modalities. On occasion they may also be employed in place of reviews for large programmes and for lessons learning from innovative programmes. All Sida financed evaluations are coordinated and subjected to quality assurance by UTV. All evaluations financed by Sida are published in the series *Sida Evaluations*.

² *Reviews* are evaluations commissioned or financed by Sida's teams and included in every team's annual operational plan. They are often of operational character, and feed into the decision making processes of Sida financed projects, programmes or strategies. All reviews financed by Sida are electronically published in the series *Sida Reviews*.

In order to support high quality evaluation within Sida as well as in development partnerships Sida adheres to the internationally recognised evaluation quality principles of independence, credibility and utility. Evaluations are undertaken with the purpose of being useful to the intended users. If they are to be used they need to be credible, and to be credible they need to be sufficiently impartial and independent. These principles are integrated into Sida's work processes in the following way:

Utility and use

Sida recognises that the Paris Declaration for Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action commit development partners to use the countries' own monitoring and evaluation systems to the maximum extent possible. Hence, Sida is committed to always use country systems for monitoring, reviews and evaluations whenever feasible and appropriate.

However, currently governments in developing partner countries often lack the institutional framework and the technical capacity to design, commission and manage reviews and evaluations. Furthermore, there is a lack of skilled local evaluation consultants. Therefore Sida will increase its efforts to support partner countries' capacities in monitoring and evaluation. This shall be done both in capacity building projects and programmes, and within joint evaluations.

When local capacity is lacking, or when an evaluation topic is of more relevance to donors than to developing partner countries, Sida promotes donors to coordinate joint reviews and evaluations, with leadership or participation of partner countries whenever feasible.³ Sida-specific reviews and evaluations should only be undertaken in exceptional cases, when other alternatives have been explored with development partners.

Reviews and evaluations financed by Sida shall be utilization-focused. This means that they should be designed in a manner which puts the intended use by the intended users in the forefront of the evaluation process. This requires a participatory approach to the evaluation process, since intended users are more likely to use evaluations if they understand and feel ownership of the evaluation process and findings⁴.

In order to increase the utility of evaluations at Sida, senior management will ensure that there is a strong system for management response to evaluations and reviews, and that action plans are properly followed up. When relevant Sida will promote other intended users of Sida financed evaluations to formulate Management Response's.⁵

Sida recognises that reviews should be integrated into programmes at the outset, and that lessons learned from evaluations should be taken into account into development of policies and strategies, as well as in project and programme planning. To enhance Sida's performance in this regard UTV will participate in Sida's Decision Advisory Committee, Sida's Policy and Strategy Committee and Sida's Result Assessment Committee.

³ Joint evaluations shall be guided by the principles set out by OECD/DAC in Guidance for Managing Joint Evaluations.

⁴ For reference see Patton, Michael Q, *Utilization-focused Evaluation*, Sage Publication, 1997.

⁵ Sida's Management Response System is guided by the guidelines for management response at Sida.

Credibility

If evaluations are to be used properly they need to be credible. The credibility of an evaluation relies both on its quality in terms of process and methodology, and the integrity and impartiality of its conclusions. The methodological quality of Sida evaluations is ensured by quality assurance provided by UTV. UTV designs evaluation processes in accordance with the Sida Evaluation Manual and assesses all evaluation reports in accordance with the OECD/DAC Evaluation Quality Standards.

Quality assurance on reviews is provided by the commissioning department at Sida and the Sida Evaluation Manual and the OECD/DAC Evaluation Quality Standards apply to these as well. UTV offers advice on reviews upon request from the teams, and monitors the quality of reviews by regular reviews. All Sida financed evaluations and reviews shall be posted at Sida's website.

In order to increase the quality and credibility of evaluation findings and conclusions Sida shall strive to incorporate the opinions and views of all relevant stakeholders in a development intervention. Sida will, whenever appropriate, strive to incorporate the views of beneficiaries in reviews and evaluations.

Impartiality and independence

According to the evaluation principles of the OECD/DAC impartiality contributes to the credibility of evaluation and the avoidance of bias in findings, analyses and conclusions. Independence provides legitimacy to evaluation and reduces the potential for conflict of interest which could arise if policy makers and managers were solely responsible for evaluating their own activities.

Thus, in the process of designing and conducting evaluations in ways that make them relevant and useful to intended users, it is important to apply mechanisms that ensure both impartiality and independence. To strike a good balance between independence and use Sida has established a Secretariat for Evaluation (UTV). The core tasks of the Secretariat are to:

- Coordinate evaluation planning at Sida.
- Propose an annual evaluation plan for Sida. The evaluation plan includes evaluations of particular strategic interest for Sweden and shall over a time period of three to five years cover the sectors and thematic areas where Sweden is active.
- Provide quality assurance of, publish and disseminate all evaluations on the evaluation plan.
- Electronically publish and upon request provide advice on reviews.
- By regular reviews monitor the quality of reviews.
- Contribute to building a culture of learning and evaluation at Sida. This task includes capacity building in evaluation at Sida.⁶

To ensure independence from operational and policy departments UTV formally reports to the Director General. The Director General also takes the decision on UTV's budget.

⁶ The work at UTV is guided by the secretariat's Arbets- och beslutsordning (ABS). Further details on how the core tasks are implemented are found in that document.

UTV is placed at Sida's Management Pillar, as evaluation forms an integral and crucial part of Sida's system for results based management since:

- Reviews of projects, programmes and strategies provide essential results information which complements and may provide a deeper analysis of regular monitoring data.
- Evaluations can go beyond the project or programme level and test general development hypotheses. Furthermore, they can generate general lessons about what works and what doesn't in terms of thematic areas, aid modalities etc.

An aspect of impartiality is that evaluations and reviews financed by Sida generally are conducted by consultants. Consultants who carry out evaluations and reviews financed by Sida shall not have been involved in the activities they are evaluating. Although Sida and other stakeholders have the right to comment on the accuracy of draft reports, it is essential that all parties respect the integrity of the consultant. UTV plays an important role in assuring both the quality and impartiality of the evaluation process and evaluation findings in Sida financed evaluations.

2. The Evaluation Plan

This evaluation plan for Sida for 2010 was developed in close cooperation with Sida's operational and policy teams. Other inputs to the evaluation planning process have been provided by colleagues in the OECD/DAC Evaluation Network and the Nordic Plus Evaluation Group. The plan has been presented for comments by Sida's management group and Sida's advisory board.

Evaluations on the plan are either joint evaluations conducted in partnership with other countries and organisations, or evaluations initiated and managed in cooperation between UTV and operational and policy teams at Sida. Joint evaluations, which have become more common in recent years, meet an increasing demand for information about development co-operation results at aggregated levels. Such evaluations provide results information and lessons for future operations that cannot be generated through studies that focus on Sida's own contributions to projects and programmes. Moreover, by participating in joint evaluations and promoting a joint approach to evaluation generally, Sida seeks to contribute to the implementation of the Paris Declaration.

Important as they are, however, joint evaluations cannot provide answers to every evaluation question regarded as important to Sweden. In the present plan there are ten international ongoing joint evaluations, and nine ongoing evaluations managed by Sida alone. The plan also includes three "lessons learned studies". These studies will provide an overview of the results of development cooperation in countries where Sweden is currently phasing out from long term developing cooperation. Thus, the plan consists of 19 on-going evaluations and three "long-term cooperation studies". Six of these evaluations are planned to be concluded in 2010. These will subsequently be replaced by six planned evaluations. UTV will make an assessment of the value and evaluability of all planned evaluations prior to a decision on either starting the evaluation process or removing the evaluation from the plan. Based on such evaluability assessments the plan will be presented to the Director General for an update in June 2010.

In the long term, Sida seeks evaluate the full range of policy areas, aid modalities, countries and country categories where Sida is active. At any particular point in time, however, it can only deal with a small portion of that range. In the present plan the following thematic issues are included: human rights (the rights of the child, gender equality, social sector in Moldova), health (HIV/Aids), economic development (aid and trade, land rights, rural development), good governance (public finance management, effectiveness of anti-corruption initiatives, public sector governance reforms), democracy (democracy in authoritarian states, support to media, support to parliaments) climate change, conflict (Sudan, transboundary water management) and research cooperation. In terms of aid modalities and aid effectiveness the joint evaluation of the Paris Declaration, the joint evaluation of budget support in Zambia, the evaluation on policy dialogue, and the evaluation which looks at the relevance and effectiveness of the regional approach in South East Asia are included in the plan. Further details are provided below.

UTV estimates that the cost of evaluations on the 2010 evaluation plan will amount to 13 million SEK. In addition, UTV plans for disbursements of 8 million SEK for two capacity building projects in evaluation, and 3 MSEK to set up and maintain a helpdesk in monitoring and evaluation in cooperation with DFID, CIDA and NZAid.

On-going Evaluations

1. Joint Evaluation of the Paris Declaration phase 2

The 2nd phase of the evaluation of the Paris Declaration will address questions on whether the implementation of the Paris Declaration increases aid effectiveness and whether increased aid effectiveness leads to improved development results. Evaluations, lead by partner countries, will be undertaken in about 20 partner countries. These will be complemented by 7 donor evaluations, and possibly supplementary thematic evaluations. All of these evaluations will be analysed in a synthesis report which will be presented at the next high level forum in Seoul in 2011. The evaluation is financed by about 20 donors and is the largest evaluation so far on development cooperation. UTV will participate in the management group of the evaluation and is the co-chair of the reference group.

The purpose of the evaluation is to provide donors and partner countries information about how the implementation of the Paris Declaration is proceeding, and whether the implementation of the Paris Declaration principles increases aid effectiveness and leads to poverty reduction. The evaluation will serve as an important input to the high level discussions in Seoul in 2011.

2. Joint Evaluation of Anti-Corruption Efforts

Sida, SADEV, Danida, DFID and AsDB have joined Norad for an evaluation on anti-corruption efforts. The evaluation is formative, focused on lessons learned and looks at anti-corruption efforts in partner countries. Countries that have been selected for case studies are Tanzania, Zambia, Nicaragua, Vietnam and Bangladesh. Sida has offered to facilitate the Tanzania case study. The final reports (country case studies and synthesis) are due by the end of 2010.

The purpose of the evaluation is to find out which anti-corruption strategies and interventions have proven to be successful, under which circumstances and to develop conclusions and lessons for future work in the area.

3. Joint Evaluation of support of Children's Rights in Bilateral Development Co-operation

The evaluation was initiated in 2009. It is carried out jointly with Norad's Evaluation Department and in close collaboration with policy specialists in Sida and Norad. The evaluation will assess the effects of support to children's rights (and a child rights perspective) on both the implementation process and results of bilateral development co-operation. It will encompass both long-term and humanitarian support. The evaluation will include four country case studies in Latin America and Africa.

The purpose of the evaluation is to: a) summarise results in order to account for resources invested in support of children's rights. b) contribute to the continuous learning and development of policies, strategies and methods for the support of children's rights in long-term and humanitarian development co-operation.

4-5. Joint Evaluation of Public Finance Management Reforms

Public Finance Management Reform is the theme of two joint donor evaluations during 2010 - 2011. The overarching evaluation question is how PFM can be successfully strengthened in partner countries and how donors can best contribute to this? One evaluation will focus on the African region and the other will focus on support to PFM reforms in Europe.

- **PFM Africa**

A pre-evaluation literature review has been completed and a draft evaluation approach developed. During the next phase a number of country case studies will be carried out as well as a quantitative study exploring cross country variations in international PFM-related data.

- **PFM Europe**

The work will commence during 2010 and will build on the methodological work already carried out for African study referred to above. PFM reform in Europe is an under-studied field. The European study will be similar to the African study but with somewhat less focus on poverty and more on issues related to transition.

6. Joint Evaluation of Mitigation Efforts in Climate Change & Development

Sida is financing a joint meta-evaluation on mitigation, which will summarise and assess the knowledge to-date and develop a framework of best practices for different sectors. The evaluation will be carried out jointly with GEF EO and members of the network. At the same time, Sida is supporting a pre-study for a future joint evaluation of adaptation with the same partners.

The purpose of the evaluation is to analyse and summarise the knowledge to date on mitigation efforts in relation to climate change & development and to identify knowledge gaps in preparation for future evaluations on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

7. Joint Evaluation of the Swedish-Norwegian Regional HIV/AIDS Team for Africa

Since 2001 the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NMFA) have collaborated through a joint Swedish/Norwegian Regional HIV/AIDS Team, which was first established in Harare, Zimbabwe, and then moved to Lusaka, Zambia, in 2002. Since the start the team's two main tasks have been to provide technical assistance to the embassies in the region and to manage the regional HIV/AIDS programme. In 2008 the team handled a portfolio with 71 regional contributions, amounting to 318 million SEK. The evaluation is one of a series on regional approaches. The evaluation report is expected to be published by the end of 2009.

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the joint Swedish/Norwegian Regional HIV/AIDS Team in Lusaka with regard to the regional approach, the cooperation between NMFA/Norad, Sida and the team,

coherence with the respective HIV/AIDS policy, the team's organisation and management, and selected regional partners' activities.

8. Joint evaluation of support to conflict prevention and peacebuilding in Southern Sudan

The scope of the evaluation is comprehensive taking into account conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities directly and indirectly supported as part of humanitarian, reconstruction, development and diplomatic interventions during the period 2005 – 2009. Commissioning and funding donors and agencies include: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands (lead), Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOCHA, WFP and the World Bank. Sida's Department for Evaluation will participate in the Steering Committee of the evaluation.

The evaluation is furthermore one of a series of evaluations covering countries characterised by fragility and post-conflict situations, including the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti and Sri Lanka. These evaluations are part of an ongoing process to pilot the draft *DAC Guidance on evaluating conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities (2007)*, which will provide feedback on the usefulness and further development of the DAC Guidance.

The main purpose of the evaluation is to provide insights into the effects of donor supported conflict prevention and peacebuilding interventions as well as to provide lessons that can be applied to ongoing and future engagement in Southern Sudan. Moreover, will the evaluation serve an accountability purpose by providing insights into how donor funding have been used, and to what effect.

9. Joint Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Budget Support in Zambia

During the past decade aid modalities have shifted increasingly from a project approach to a programme based approach and general and sector budget support. There is an increasing demand to show results from these types of aid modalities. As a response to this, several donors have developed a methodology for the evaluation of budget support that will be piloted in a number of countries (Mali, Tanzania, Zambia) during 2010 – 2011. The approach is to use a mix of methods, including qualitative research as well as quantitative impact analysis. A number of sector studies will be conducted as part of the evaluation, including health, education, water and agriculture.

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess to what extent and under what circumstances budget support operations have successfully given means to countries to implement national and sector policies fostering economic growth and the eradication of poverty. These policies include, for instance, strategies to promote trade and investment flows to create favourable business environments as well as social policies (health and education).

10. Joint Evaluation on Public Sector Governance Reform

This evaluation endeavours to improve the understanding of results and effectiveness of public sector governance reforms (PSGR). Since PSGR to a large extent is assumed to create conditions for development, the evaluation will especially focus on impacts on service delivery for the poor. Case studies will reflect different country contexts

and approaches to PSGR. Sida's Democracy and Public Administration Team and UTV are represented in the evaluation's steering committee and management group. A mapping exercise has been carried out and an approach paper is initialised to enhance partner country participation and to refine objectives.

The purpose of the evaluation is to inform PSGR policies and operations and provide input at the High Level Meeting in Seoul in 2011.

11. Sida's Trade Related Assistance

The evaluation consists of a program of studies exploring 1) correlations between aid and trade at the macro level and 2) Sida's trade related Results Based Management system (what results information does it contain and how is the information used). The evaluation is coming to its end. Two papers have been published.⁷ What remains before this project can be closed is to brief a wider audience through the UTV Newsletter, arrange a concluding dissemination seminar at Sida HQ and to finally hand over the evaluation for Management Response.

12. Gender Mainstreaming

An evaluation of Sida's work with gender mainstreaming was initiated in 2009 and will be completed in 2010. The evaluation assesses how and to what extent Sida has made use of the three different approaches of gender mainstreaming (integration of gender, direct gender targeting and gender dialogue). It also attempts to assess the development results (in terms of gender equality) of mainstreaming gender in a selection of Sida supported programmes and projects. The evaluation is based on the country programme in Kenya and involves two country case studies. The evaluation is a collaborative effort between UTV and Sida's Gender Team.

The purpose of the evaluation is to contribute to our understanding of conditions for successful mainstreaming and results within the area of gender equality. The evaluation is to offer direct input to the elaboration of a new Swedish Gender Policy.

13. Evaluation of the Regional Strategy for Cooperation with South East Asia 2005 – 2009

The current regional strategy for cooperation with South East Asia expires at the end of 2009. Sida therefore aims to conduct an evaluation of the current strategy as an input to the work on a new strategy for the period 2010 – 2014. The evaluation will focus on the regional aspects of cooperation, including an analysis of the possible benefits and drawbacks of working with regional interventions.

The purpose of the evaluation is to clarify what constitutes the added value of a regional approach to developments efforts and to inform preparations of the new regional strategy for Asia 2010-2014.

⁷ "Sida's Trade-Related Assistance: Results and Management", Karlis Goppers and Claes Lindahl, *Sida Evaluation* 2009:01; "The Relation Between Aida and Bilateral Trade", Lars Johansson and Jan Pettersson, *UTV Working Paper* 2009:1

14. Impact of Social Sector Reform in Moldova

Sida with partners are phasing out their assistance to social reforms in Moldova and will evaluate the impact of their support to provide lessons learnt to partners who continue working in the sector. Sida's Moldova and Georgia Team is leading the evaluation. Moldovan and donor partners will actively participate through steering and consultation groups and UTV is part of the management and steering groups. The evaluation will target ownership and sustainability of the reforms in particular.

The purpose of the evaluation is to learn from impacts of long term development cooperation in the social sector, and for phasing out in a responsible manner ensuring sustainability of results.

15. Evaluation of Sida's Humanitarian Assistance

Sweden's humanitarian assistance is guided by the Government's humanitarian policy (2004). Sida's humanitarian work is guided by its humanitarian strategy for 2008 – 2010. The strategy requires that an in-depth results analysis of Sida's humanitarian assistance is conducted towards the end of the strategy period (2010).

The purpose of the evaluation is to carry out an independent assessment of Sida's humanitarian assistance during the period 2005 – 2010, including, Sida's strategy for humanitarian assistance, organisation, management, and mechanisms for implementation of humanitarian assistance. The evaluation will provide lessons for policy, strategy and programme improvement and primarily serve as an input for the revision of Sida's strategy for humanitarian assistance, including its linkages with other relevant policies, strategies and cross-cutting issues. It will furthermore provide an input for the MFA's revision of the Government's humanitarian policy during 2010.

16. Rural Development Programs and the Role of Women

The overall objective of evaluation is to increase the understanding of how development assistance in agriculture should be designed, implemented and funded to ensure that female farmers are reached, that their needs as producers are met and that they are able to benefit of the support to achieve a positive impact on their livelihoods. The evaluation's first phase includes a literature review and a Sida HQ based study. The research during the first phase will inform phase two that includes field work in up to five major Agriculture Development programmes to which Sida has contributed. Consultants have been contracted and the evaluation is currently in the inception phase and phase one will commence by the end of 2009.

17. Rural Electrification

- **Experience from Three Countries**

What can be learnt from Sida's work on rural electrification? Have approaches been relevant and what are their outcomes? Findings will be based on case studies of rural electrification projects in Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda. The purpose is twofold: to examine if existing support has worked and to

provide a strategic input to further improve Sweden's further support to RE.

- **Makambako-Songea Transmission and RE Impact Evaluation**

The RE theme includes RE impact evaluation sub-project. Jointly with Stockholm University,⁸ UTV explores whether a more rigorous quantitative evaluation can be built into the Sida funded Makambako-Songea Transmission and Rural Electrification Project in southern Tanzania. If a rigorous impact evaluation design is found to be feasible it will give Sida results evidence of impacts of the intervention that can attributed to the intervention itself as well as be an important learning exercise on the gains and limitations of applying rigorous impact evaluation designs to projects, an experience that Sida is lacking today.

18. Transboundary Water Management

Sweden has a history of long term commitment to Transboundary Water Management (TWM) as a means to achieve sustainable development. Sida will conduct an evaluation with the purpose of generating knowledge about how to further increase the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and results of TWM. Taking stock of existing experiences and examining results, the review will be forward looking and provide a strategic input to further improve Sweden's further support to TWM. Key questions are not just if existing support have worked, but also what made it work and how it can be made to work better.

19. Land Administration and Governance

Sida has contributed substantial support to land administration and management in several partner countries. It is assumed that these interventions secure people's access to land on the one hand, and strengthen markets on the other hand, although no systematic evaluation has still been made on this topic. This evaluation will take a holistic view on support to land administration to identify linkages between interventions and development effects. During the initial phase, the sector will be mapped out and consultation held with partners on relevant evaluation questions.

The purpose of the evaluation is to provide knowledge for policy and operations as to how support to land administration and governance may enhance development.

20. Lessons Learned Studies of Long Term Development Cooperation Between Laos, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Sweden

In 2007, the Swedish government decided to reduce the number of countries with which Sweden had development cooperation. For Laos and Sri Lanka, cooperation with Sweden will end in 2011 and 2010, respectively, while the cooperation with Vietnam will change into partner-driven cooperation. In accordance with the Swedish development cooperation strategies, Sida and the embassies/country teams have decided to document and assess results and experiences from decades of development cooperation with these

⁸ Professor Jakob Svensson at the Institute for International Economic Studies at Stockholm University is an advisor to Sida on this initiative.

countries. Sida's Department for Evaluation will commission and coordinate the studies for Laos, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

An important principle is that the studies are carried out jointly with the respective partner country. Regional workshops with partner country representatives will therefore end phase one ('documentation') of the study, and feed into the design and Terms of Reference for phase two ('analysis'). Reference groups with partner country representatives will be established for each study.

The main purpose of the studies is to give an overview of the inputs, outputs and outcomes of Swedish development cooperation, and to generate general lessons that may be used in instances where the development programs and interventions are continued by partner countries alone, or with the support of other donors.

Planned Evaluations

21. Policy Dialogue

Dialogue is a well-established component of development co-operation. However the methods by which it is carried out and the objectives to which dialogue is to contribute, are rarely clarified or dissected. Policy dialogue has never been the subject of a specific evaluation at Sida. An evaluability study was carried out by Channel Research in January 2008. The evaluation will involve a number of case studies of dialogue carried out in Sida-funded projects and programmes. The focus will be on assessing dialogue from the perspective of both Sida and its partners in an attempt to better understand how dialogue is used as an instrument and what its effects are perceived to be.

The purpose of the evaluation is to contribute to learning about dialogue as an instrument of development co-operation and to develop means of assessing the effects of policy dialogue.

22. Public Infrastructure Utilities

Sida will carry out a thematic evaluation of its experience from providing support to institutional reforms and capacity building directed to public utilities. What can we learn from different approaches to governance of supported institutions/sectors, both with regard to accountability as well as to operational and financial sustainability? The evaluation should preferably cover the energy, water, transport and telecommunications sectors. It will be *ex-post* and hence based on information on utility performance and developments after the completion of Sida's support.

23. Parliamentary Strengthening

The evaluation is a follow-up of the evaluation of support to parliaments carried out in 2005. The 2005 evaluation resulted in a Position Paper (*Parliamentary Strengthening*, June 2006) which was to be evaluated in 2010. The current evaluation is first and for most a policy evaluation which will assess how, and to what extent, the Position Paper has guided Sida's support to parliaments. The relevance of Sida's support will be assessed in relation to research findings and lessons learnt by other donors in the area of

parliamentary strengthening. Recommendations on what constitutes relevant support to parliaments in different political contexts will be formulated.

The purpose of the evaluation is to contribute to the development of revised Position Paper on Parliamentary Strengthening.

24. Democracy Support in Authoritarian States

Democracy support in authoritarian contexts is a difficult subject with little evaluation carried out. The evaluation will focus both on lessons learnt on how results can be achieved (primarily through civil society) and on developing methods for evaluating results of such support. Valuable experience can potentially be learnt from Sida's long-time co-operation with civil society actors in Latin America. The evaluation will include a comparison of both more historic cases from Latin America and current cases in Africa and the former Soviet Union.

The purpose of the evaluation is to contribute to learning on what works in the difficult endeavour to support democracy in authoritarian contexts, and to develop methods for evaluation of such support.

25. Supporting Media as Mechanism for Accountability

A strengthened media sector is both a goal in itself and a means to achieving the objective of enhanced aid effectiveness. The evaluation is hence highly strategic as it will a) contribute to our understanding of what works in regard to Swedish focus area (i.e. freedom of speech and independent media) and b) to lessons learnt on the contribution of Swedish development co-operation to enhanced transparency and accountability (i.e. conditions for greater aid effectiveness). The ambition is to carry out the evaluation jointly with other development partners.

The purpose of the evaluation is to contribute to our understanding of what works in supporting media as a sector and in particular in supporting media as a mechanism for enhanced accountability.

26. Multi-Stakeholder Evaluation on the Role of Research in Capacity Development and Innovation

Sida is one of few donors with long experience in supporting research capacities in developing countries. One unique component has been the promotion of innovation through partnerships between universities and the public and private sectors. A new strategy has been developed and will be complimented by guidance, on the basis of lessons learnt, for supporting research capacities and innovation. As new donors enter into this sector it is important to build on the experiences of previous research cooperation and to align and coordinate interventions.

The purpose of the evaluation is to overall objective is to learn about effectiveness and to enhance alignment and coordination of research cooperation. A specific objective is to provide input to guidelines for support to research capacities and innovation.

Evaluation Plan Matrix 2010

jan feb mar apr maj juni juli aug sep okt nov dec jan feb mar apr maj juni juli aug sep okt nov dec

ON-GOING EVALUATIONS

1. Paris Declaration
2. Anti-corruption
3. Children's Rights
4. Public Finance Management Africa
5. Public Finance Management Europe
6. Climate
7. HIV/AIDS
8. Sudan
9. General budget support Zambia
10. Public sector governance reforms
11. Sidas Trade Related Support
12. Gender mainstreaming
13. Sida policy for the Asia region
14. Social sector Moldova
15. Sweden's humanitarian assistance
16. Gender equality in agriculture
17. Rural electrification
18. Transboundary water management
19. Landadministration and governance
20. Lessons learned studies in Asia



PLANNED EVALUATIONS

21. Policy dialogue
22. Public infrastructure utilities
23. Parliamentary strengthening
24. Democracy in authoritarian states
25. Media and accountability
26. Research cooperation

