



Norwegian Ministry of
Foreign Affairs



Fish for Development





Why Fish for Development?

Fish, other marine resources and the oceans themselves are becoming increasingly important as a source of both income and nutrition, particularly for developing countries but also globally.

Norway has substantial expertise in these fields, and we want to make even greater use of this in our development policy. Norway is establishing the Fish for Development programme to achieve a more strategic approach to development cooperation in the areas of fisheries and aquaculture.

Development policy goals:

The overall objective of the Fish for Development programme is to reduce poverty through food security, sustainable management and profitable business activities.

This is in keeping with the new sustainable development goals that are being launched in 2015. Two of the goals are particularly relevant in this context:

- › *Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.*
- › *Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.*



What will it include?

Fish for Development is divided into three main areas. Projects in these areas will be developed over time, but initially the programme will include the following projects and activities:

1. Research and development (including the EAF-Nansen programme)

Education is an important element of Norway's development policy, and is also a key part of the Fish for Development programme. Marine research will continue to be a cornerstone of our fisheries-related aid, as it has been for many years.

By building on the good work that has already been done and on the leading position Norwegian marine research institutions have developed, the Fish for Development programme can assist developing countries to improve their expertise in this field considerably.

- › Vocational training centres for fisheries disciplines (small-scale fisheries, aquaculture, etc) in Africa (tentatively Mozambique)
- › Continue and expand the EAF-Nansen programme (phase 2).
- › Expand the Hjort Centre for Marine Ecosystem Dynamics (a research cluster in Bergen) so that researchers from developing countries can visit and receive training in the use of existing data from EAF-Nansen research cruises.
- › Research and development on fish health and the development of new aquaculture species (focusing particularly on Asia).

2. Business development (including aquaculture)

Norway's own experience shows that it is possible to make a good profit from the commercial use of fish and other marine resources. This requires the development of business-oriented projects that are both sustainable and financially sound, a process that requires both expertise and capital. The Fish for Development programme will be able to make expertise and capital available to institutions in selected developing countries that are well-placed to build up a viable fisheries industry.

- › Smaller projects to improve profitability in small-scale fisheries, focusing for example on reducing losses, improving catch processing and increasing market access, and on preventing deterioration of product quality so that it is possible to obtain higher prices.
- › Microcredit arrangements are a natural accompaniment to projects of this kind, and steps are being taken to establish them.
- › Support the development of plants that can use waste and trimmings from industrial fisheries.
- › Large-scale aquaculture is a highly technological industry that requires expertise and takes time to develop. In particular, there is a need to train a local labour force. The legal framework for aquaculture activities also needs to be developed. Both of these elements will be included in the Fish for Development programme. Smaller-scale aquaculture can be established as part of projects for small-scale fisheries. It is essential to build up expertise in this area as well.
- › Investment fund for small and medium-sized enterprises in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. Norway will seek to establish a fund in cooperation with large financial institutions such as the regional investment banks.

3. Resource management and legislation

Norway's own administrative authorities will be heavily involved in projects in this area, and the scope of the projects will depend on the capacity available. Recipient countries will have to demonstrate a clear need for projects, and projects in this area must support the other work being done within the Fish for Development programme.

- › **Fisheries management:** Projects to improve harvesting patterns. Reporting systems and management of fisheries data. Organisation of cooperation at bilateral level and in regional fisheries management organisations. Improving management at all stages. Control and enforcement.
- › **Developing the legislative and administrative framework:** Development of legislation and an institutional framework. Development of management plans and harvesting rules. Development and implementation of a risk-based inspection and enforcement system. Competing uses of sea areas: development of legislation, institutional framework. Development of marine spatial planning for aquaculture, oil and gas activities, etc. Dealing with conflict between fisheries and other commercial activities. Collection, storage and use of spatial and species data. Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM), in which management and use of land and sea areas in coastal regions is coordinated.
- › **Combating fisheries-related crime:** Strengthen information and intelligence sharing within, with and between countries with a high level of organised crime and/or weak jurisdiction. Strengthen and develop legislation and judicial systems to deal with fisheries-related crime in these countries.

The Fish for Development programme may be expanded over time, and other sectors and projects (with a particular emphasis on the environment and climate change) may be included.



The new R/V Dr. Fridtjof Nansen. Presently under construction.



Where will it operate?

In line with the Government's policy of concentrating development assistance in fewer countries, the Fish for Development programme will initially be involved in two of Norway's focus countries (Mozambique and Myanmar) and in two regional initiatives, the Benguela Current Commission (BCC) and the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project.

Countries on the list of approved partner countries may also be included at a later date.

It is vital to select countries/regions and projects on the basis of natural conditions. In some areas there is a basis for industrial capture fisheries, in others only for small-scale fisheries. In some cases, geographical and climatic conditions are suitable for aquaculture operations in coastal waters, whereas in others only land-based operations can be recommended. It is essential that countries themselves express a need and desire to cooperate with Norway in this field.

Multilateral projects funded through Fish for Development (for example the EAF-Nansen programme) will not necessarily be in line with the Norwegian policy of concentrating development assistance.



❖ Who will be involved?

It will be important to involve many of the Norwegian institutions and organisations that have fisheries expertise, and to include both the public and the private sector.

- › In addition, NGOs will be important partners in the programme.
- › International partners will also be drawn into the programme.
- › The most important partners will be the developing countries and regional organisations themselves.

❖ How will it be organised?

The secretariat for the programme will be established in Norad. It will report to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which has overall political responsibility. The interministerial group for fish and development aid will be expanded and will function in an advisory capacity for the Ministry.

Performance management and performance monitoring are an essential part of the projects.

❖ How long will it last?

The programme is being launched in 2015 with the establishment of the secretariat in Norway, and will initially last for a five-year period from 2016 onwards. The programme and its projects will be evaluated with a view to adjustments and possible continuation after this period.

❖ How much funding?

The annual budgets for the programme will be determined by the Storting (Norwegian parliament) as part of the budget process, and funding for the programme is expected to increase from 2017.



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