Development Cooperation of Finland

Development policies
The aim of development policy is to support developing countries’ efforts to reducing poverty and inequality and promote sustainable development. In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Finland takes part in resolving the great global challenges facing humankind – such as mitigating climate change, reducing poverty, food security, and access to clean water and sustainable energy. The priorities of Finland’s development cooperation also include peacebuilding, democracy and development of the rule of law as well as building the country’s own economy. In all its international cooperation, Finland emphasizes human rights and the position of women and girls.

Priority countries
- Bilateral partner countries:
  - Long-term partner countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Nepal, Tanzania, Vietnam and Zambia
  - Partner countries/territories recovering from crises: Afghanistan, Myanmar, the Palestinian Territories, Somalia and South Sudan
- Under its Wider Europe Initiative Finland’s bilateral development cooperation in Eastern Europe and Central Asia covers the following 11 countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan
- Regional development cooperation: supporting regional integration
- Multilateral cooperation: working through international organisations and development financial institutions, international environmental cooperation and climate financing.

Priority areas
Priorities areas for Finnish Development Cooperation include the following:
- Innovation
- Peace-building
- Rights of disabled persons
- Equality promotion
- Energy
- Sustainable use of natural resources

Coordination and implementation
The main responsibility for Finland’s development policy rests with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Many other ministries also have a role in development policy. These include, for instance, security, trade, agriculture, environment and migration policies. Coherence between the various policy sectors is a central principle of development policy. The implementation of development policy is guided by the Development Policy Programme approved by the Government in February 2012.

For more information please visit: http://formin.finland.fi