Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

About NORAD

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) is a directorate under the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Its task is to ensure effective foreign aid, with quality assurance and evaluation. Between 2006-2009, Norway allocated 1% of its gross national income for official development assistance (ODA).

NORAD used to be the official development assistance organization in Norway. As of mid-2004, the responsibility for state-to-state official development assistance has been transferred to the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, while NORAD continues to fund NGO activities in developing countries, contributes to the management of development funds, and endeavors to ensure that the Norwegian development cooperation is evaluated and efficient. One of the most prominent programs is Oil for Development, launched by the Norwegian government in 2005. NORAD is coordinating and implementing the program to help petroleum-producing developing countries use oil and gas revenues to promote economic growth and improve the welfare of their people.

Areas of work

NORAD works in the following areas:

- **Climate Change and the Environment** (climate proofing, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change)
- **Health and AIDS** (linked to the health-related MDGs)
- **Macroeconomic and Public Administration** (public finance management, budget support, taxation in developing countries, and statistics for development)
- **Energy** (oil for development and clean energy)

Eligible countries and organizations

NORAD provides funding mainly to countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and Asia. The list of beneficiary countries in the UNECE region includes the following: **Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo** (SC Resolution 1244), **Republic of Moldova, Serbia**, and **Tajikistan**.

As for organizations eligible for funding, they include Norwegian and international NGOs, which work globally or regionally in themes prioritized by the Norwegian government. The priority is given to NGOs with locals partners. In addition, many embassies in Norway’s priority countries have a budget to support national and
local NGOs. All projects should have a high degree of replicability and/or applicability, “paving the way for new practices”.

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