

PARTNERING WITH DENMARK

Danish Authorities in International Cooperation

Annual Report 2015-2016



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Danish Authorities in International Cooperation, First Annual Report 2015-16



Partnering with Denmark

The Danish Government launched the initiative *Partnering with Denmark – Danish Authorities in International Cooperation* on 1st January 2015.

The *Partnering with Denmark Initiative* entails two closely tied elements: a) strategic sector cooperation (SSC) projects between Danish authorities and partner authorities addressing high priority sector challenges identified by the partner authority and within areas where Denmark has relevant experience and expertise to offer, and b) posting of growth counsellors with strong sector expertise to the Danish embassies in the same countries with a primary responsibility to facilitate and contribute to the authorities' SSC projects. In order to facilitate Danish enterprises' commercial activities in the sectors and countries, the growth counsellors also share networks and sector insights on market potentials, investment needs and business opportunities with colleagues in the Danish Trade Council, organisations and businesses.

The Initiative aims at meeting the international demand for sharing Danish experiences with establishing a conducive policy, planning, and regulatory framework, which promotes responsible and sustainable growth, employment and social welfare. A framework that rests on the unique Danish blend of state and market, and the ability of Danish public and private sector actors to cooperate, innovate, and provide advanced solutions in pursuit of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Initiative also promotes the long term internationalisation of Danish business, and improves the cooperation between Danish ministries in Denmark's international engagement. Finally, the Initiative aims at strengthening Danish bilateral relations with a number of emerging economies facing important decisions for the moulding of their future societies.

See [website](#) & [guidelines](#) for more information.

Result Areas

The *Partnering with Denmark Initiative* has three key results areas: i) to contribute to sustainable development results for the partner country through improved policies and regulatory frameworks and cooperation between the public and private sector; ii) to improve the opportunities for the Danish private sector through increased network, knowledge and cooperation, and hence facilitate its contribution to development, and iii) to improve cooperation between

Danish ministries for promotion of Denmark's international cooperation and global economic interest.

Implementation of the SSC projects have two phases: a preparatory phase of up to 1 year and a full implementation phase of 3-5 years duration. The growth counsellors are posted for a 3-year period.

Partners

Participating Danish ministries and agencies are part of the *inter-ministerial working group*. The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs contributes with its international experience, diplomatic network and knowledge of country contexts along with its development experience from long-term institutional cooperation projects with sector ministries in partner countries and with its knowledge of Danish companies and trade and investment promotion. The Danish sector ministries contribute with sector expertise on policies and planning, regulations, standards, enforcement and what works and what does not work in forming a conducive environment for sustainable development based on the Danish experience and context.

The following Danish ministries with their agencies implement the Initiative together with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Danish embassies:

Partner Country	Denmark	
	Ministry	Specialized Agency
Brazil China Ghana	Ministry of Business and Growth	Danish Maritime Authority Danish Business Authority MindLab
Vietnam	Ministry for Children, Education and Gender Equality	
Indonesia Turkey	Ministry of Energy, Utilities and Climate	Danish Energy Agency
China Colombia Kenya South Africa Turkey Vietnam	Ministry of Environment and Food	Danish Environment Authority Danish Veterinary and Food Administration Danish Agency for Water and Nature Management
Bangladesh Myanmar	Ministry of Employment	Danish Working Environment Authority
Brazil Mexico Vietnam	Ministry of Health	Danish Health Authority Danish Medicines Agency Danish Health Data Authority, SerumInstitut
South Africa Turkey Vietnam	Ministry of Higher Education and Science	Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation Danish Agency for Higher Education

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Secretariat

The *Partnering with Denmark Secretariat* is overall responsible for the progress, activities and results of the Partnering with Denmark Initiative. The Secretariat heads the inter-ministerial cooperation and provides sparring and quality assurance to the Danish authorities and their partners in the development of their SSC projects prior to appropriation by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Secretariat is also in charge of overall monitoring, outreach to business organisations and communication of activities and lessons learnt. The growth counsellors and their colleagues at the Danish embassies and the staff of the Danish ministries and agencies cooperate closely with the partners at country level.

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On the following pages, the Secretariat and the Danish ministries and agencies together with the growth counsellors and Danish embassies present activities and achievements for the period January 2015 to mid-2016 sector-by sector in each of the 12 countries. Two overview tables of countries, sectors, focus areas, partners and status are also provided.

The Initiative is still in the start-up phase. The progress in 2015-16 holds promise for the future. Results are expected in the years to come with a continued dedication by the Danish ministries to work together and release staff and resources to respond to the demand from their international partners, and with Danish business organisations and companies picking up on this opportunity to use the sector insights of growth counsellors, the Trade Council and the participating Danish authorities in their assessment of business opportunities. Better policies and regulatory frameworks will promote sustainable development. Moreover, Danish companies will hopefully increase their activities in these new markets and contribute to sector development and the UN Sustainable Development Goals with their investments, technologies and products.

The Danish Government suggests a continuation and expansion of the *Partnering with Denmark Initiative*. The ambition is to open up for more countries, more ministries and participation of Danish municipalities, regions and local authorities in the Initiative. The ambition is also to provide room for an extension of the growth counsellor positions at the embassies in the 12 countries and for a potential continuation of successful SSC cooperation projects after the present funding comes to an end.



Danish ministries, growth counsellors, business organisations and other stakeholders gathered in The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in November 2015.

Main Events and Achievements to mid-2016	
<i>Forming of inter-ministerial working group, joint development of the design of the Initiative</i>	Autumn 2014
<i>LAUNCH of Partnering with Denmark Initiative</i>	January 2015
<i>Inter-ministerial working group, training and experience sharing</i>	Regular meetings throughout the year
<i>Selection of sectors and countries based on strategic match-making with ministries, embassies and business organisations</i>	February 2015
<i>Guidelines published</i>	March 2015
<i>First Preparatory SSC- project approved</i>	March 2015
<i>First growth counsellors posted to embassies</i>	April 2015
<i>Inter-Ministerial Session at Annual Ambassador's Meeting hosting 10 Danish ministers and 14 ministries</i>	August 2015
<i>All 17 growth counsellors completed introduction and competence development</i>	August 2015
<i>All 17 growth counsellors posted to embassies</i>	September 2015
<i>Growth counsellor seminar in Copenhagen</i>	November 2015
<i>Meeting between business organisations, ministries, growth counsellors et. al.</i>	November 2015
<i>First full SSC projects approved</i>	December 2015
<i>All 20 preparatory SSC projects approved</i>	February 2016
<i>Input on the Initiative to new Danish Development Strategy and Finance Bill 2017</i>	Spring 2016
<i>7 full SSC projects approved 3 additional full SSC projects ready for approval in August 2016</i>	Mid-2016

Contact:

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