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# Evaluation Activities of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Annual Report 2001





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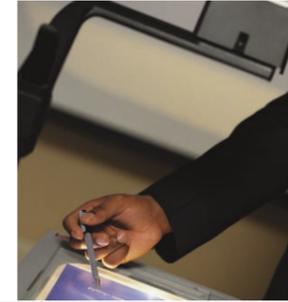
## Evaluation activities of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

In order to ensure control over the use of Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) resources and contribute to the enhancement of ongoing activities and development of future projects, evaluations of the MFA's activities are undertaken on a regular basis. Separate instructions have been drawn up for the evaluation activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in compliance with the Financial Management Regulations for the central government. These regulations require ministries to carry out evaluations of their activities at regular intervals to determine whether the objectives of their activities, supports and guarantee schemes are achieved, and to identify their impacts on society. The evaluations cover the entire range of activities and thus encompass the areas of responsibility of both the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of International Development. The activities of the Norwegian Directorate for Development Cooperation (NORAD) are also evaluated, in addition to those of NGOs and others that receive grants from the MFA and NORAD.

Annual evaluation programmes are approved by the MFA's political management. The programme is prepared on the basis of proposals from the MFA's divisions, the Norwegian Directorate for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and foreign service missions. The programme includes priority policy areas and the MFA's and NORAD's various instruments, working methods and support schemes.

The Foreign Ministry's Evaluation Section is responsible for preparing and following up the evaluations. The evaluation work proper is carried out by professionals who are not linked to the MFA and have not in any other way been involved in the activity that is to be evaluated. The evaluation assignments are outsourced to interested researchers and consultants in Norway and abroad, in compliance with the rules on public procurement.

All of the MFA's evaluation reports are made public and published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a separate report series, which is distributed free of charge. The reports are also distributed via the Internet at <http://odin.dep.no/ud/engelsk/publ/rapporter/032091-990133>. The reports are published in English, with the exception of reports that deal exclusively with activities in Norway and are published in Norwegian.



The evaluations are conducted in contact with relevant persons and organizations in Norway and abroad. Emphasis is placed on organizing the work in the form of seminars and meetings to exchange knowledge and viewpoints so that the process of collecting and preparing the information to be used in the evaluation reports also allows and encourages those concerned to learn from the process as well. All evaluation reports should include follow-up recommendations suggesting improvements and other modifications in projects that are evaluated.

After circulating the report and its recommendations for comment among the parties concerned, the MFA's political management takes decisions regarding the follow-up of each evaluation on the basis of the proposals drawn up by the Evaluation Section. A separate meeting is held between the political management, the divisions concerned and NORAD to discuss the proposals further. Implementation of the decisions is then assigned to the responsible divisions in the MFA and NORAD, which shall report to the MFA's political management on the status of implementation of the decisions within six months. The objective of the evaluations is to contribute to a better and more efficient Foreign Service.

The evaluation activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are carried out in an international context, and the MFA cooperates with other countries in the evaluation of joint international projects and multilateral organizations. In addition, the MFA takes initiatives to organize and participate in international meetings and conferences. In order to develop evaluation expertise in developing countries, the evaluations are also organized to include experts from the relevant countries



## Annual Report 2001

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs published seven evaluation reports in 2001. Report 1 is an Evaluation of the Norwegian Human Rights Fund, prepared by the Danish Centre for Human Rights. Report 2 is a study of the Economic Impacts on the Least Developed Countries of the Elimination of Import Tariffs on their Products in industrial countries. This study was a collaboration between the Foundation for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF) and the Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) in Bergen. Report 3 is an Evaluation of Norwegian NGOs Working in Nicaragua between 1994 and 1999. This evaluation was a collaboration between the International NGO Training and Research Centre (INTRAC) in the UK and Consulting Engineers and Planners AS (COWI) in Denmark. Report 4 is a study of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Cooperation on Poverty Reduction in developing countries, prepared by the ECON Centre for Economic Analysis in Oslo. Report 5 is an Evaluation of Development Cooperation between Bangladesh and Norway from 1995 to 2000. This report was prepared under the leadership of the Centre for Development Studies at the University of Bath, UK. Report 6 is from the international Bergen Seminar on Development 2001: Can Democratisation Prevent Conflicts? The seminar was organized by the Chr. Michelsen Institute and hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Report 7 is an evaluation of reconciliation efforts among young people in the west Balkans, and was also prepared by the Chr. Michelsen Institute in Bergen.

Together with NORAD, the MFA took part in the meetings of the OECD/DAC Working Party on Aid Evaluation (WPE). The Working Party met twice in 2001. The objective of the WPE is to promote the sharing of experience in order to improve evaluation practices and strengthen their use. Current tasks include reviews of international supports to help developing countries decentralize public activities, and reviews of gender-equality activities and other gender-related measures. The WPE is also considering how the evaluation of the international development policies of OECD members may be strengthened, including by the compilation of more systematic information on the results of activities and cooperation with developing countries.

The Utstein Group (Germany, Netherlands, Norway and the UK – named for the place where the development ministers of these four countries first met) is also active on the evaluation front. These four countries conduct joint evaluations. They also carry out joint evaluations with relevant developing countries, other OECD countries and with international organizations in such areas as international support for basic education, the work of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), and in respect of a broad collaboration which the World Bank has initiated in selected developing countries between partners active in these countries (the Comprehensive Development Framework).

In 2001, the MFA supported the development of evaluation capabilities in the field of international development through the Norwegian NGO Development Assistance Forum (Bistandstorget), which provides courses and training in evaluation practices for NGOs. The MFA also supported ALNAP



(Active Learning Network on Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Assistance), an international network of organizations which seek to improve the quality and accountability of humanitarian action.

In keeping with a cooperation agreement with the World Bank, the MFA supported the WB's evaluation activities in 2001 in such priority areas as the environment, review of water and sanitation activities, privatization in the field of energy, and for a study of the effects of the WB's anticorruption activities. The objective is to ensure that the cooperation agreement also contributes to the advancement of expertise in evaluation. Funding was granted in 2001 to a training programme offered in partnership between the World Bank Operations Evaluation Department and Carlton University in Ottawa. This programme was designed for evaluators and development evaluation managers from developing countries and organizations that are not part of the Bank. Funding was also granted to a project working in collaboration with the Government in Uganda to promote goal-oriented and result-based public activity. Norwegian consultants Arild Hauge of Hartmark Iras, Alf Morten Jerve of CMI, the ECON Centre for Economic Analysis, Interconsult and Per Øyvind Bastø of ErgoDialog AS have all taken part in World Bank evaluation activities in 2001.

Four people were engaged in the MFA's evaluation activities at the end of the year and arrangements were pending for one additional full-time and one part-time worker. The Ministry's evaluation activity expenditures totalled around NOK 11 700 000 in 2001, not including personnel costs.



## Assistance through non-governmental organizations

A great deal has been written about the experiences of Norwegian NGOs in the field of development assistance. The latest crop of reports includes:

- A survey of Norwegian development assistance through NGOs 1987–1999 (the report is only published in Norwegian) provides a summary and an analysis of the facts on Norwegian development assistance channelled through NGOs as set forth in the evaluation reports issued between 1987 and 1999.
- Institutional Development promoted by Norwegian Non-Governmental Organisations – an evaluation of the contribution of Norwegian NGOs through institutional cooperation.
- Evaluation of the Public Support to the Norwegian NGOs Working in Nicaragua 1994–1999 – a recent, comprehensive assessment of the official support given to Norwegian NGOs in Nicaragua between 1994 and 1999.

Some of the main conclusions that may be drawn regarding the effects of development assistance channelled through Norwegian NGOs are that:

- They make a positive contribution towards immediate poverty reduction, but have brought few lasting improvements in the standard of living for the relevant target groups.
- They have worked to a large degree in partnership with national organizations and helped raise their levels of expertise.
- These organizations are effective at planning and carrying out individual projects.
- Norwegian NGOs make a positive contribution to the strengthening of civil society in recipient countries, particularly where they maintain a physical presence and have provided effective support over long periods of time to local organizations promoting the influence of civil society.

However, there are a number of deficiencies in development assistance given through Norwegian NGOs:

- The efforts invested in specific projects are not put into the context of the national society.
- The target groups (as opposed to the local partner organizations) are not sufficiently involved in the work.
- The professional/technical background of the Norwegian organizations is not fully up to the task.
- Their work lacks long-term perspective, and their documentation and their evaluation of the long-term effects of their efforts are weak.
- Coordination among NGOs and between the NGOs and the official Norwegian bilateral agencies is weak.



There are already international studies of the NGOs which are quite consistent in their conclusions (Oakley 1999, Ridell and Kruse 1997), and which support the evaluations of Norwegian development assistance.

### The need to know

Norwegian NGOs channel a large portion of overall Norwegian development assistance. It is still important to assess and document the results of their work. A heavy emphasis will be placed in the time ahead on assessing the long-term effects of the work of the NGOs in terms of the development that has actually taken place in the countries in question.

Studies should be conducted to document effects over time, to determine the changes ascribable to the work of the NGOs as well as to collect time series data to provide a basis for measuring change. Various methods and approaches will be tested, and an array of analyses should be performed to determine the factors that contribute to successful projects, and to chart the role of the Norwegian NGOs in developing countries.

### References:

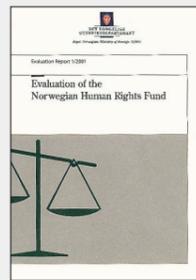
Oakley, Peter (1999). The Danish NGO Impact Study. A review of Danish NGO activities in Developing Countries, INTRAC, UK.

Ridell, R.; Kruse, S.E. (1997). Searching for Impacts and Methods. NGO Evaluation Synthesis Study, OECD/DAC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland.

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs Evaluation Report 3/2001: Evaluation of the Public Support to the Norwegian NGOs Working in Nicaragua 1994–1999.



The Danish Centre for Human Rights, Copenhagen

## Evaluation of the Norwegian Human Rights Fund

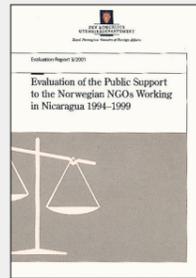
<b>Evaluation of:</b>	The Norwegian Human Rights Fund, Oslo, and its activity from 1996 to 1999. The Human Rights Fund grants assistance to human rights organizations in countries where human rights work is particularly difficult. Approximately 70 per cent of the Fund's activity is financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the rest by Norwegian member organizations. Its annual budget varied between NOK three and six million during the period of the evaluation.
<b>Purpose:</b>	The main purpose was to obtain information on how the Fund managed contributions to local human rights projects in low-income countries; whether the funds were applied in keeping with the project descriptions; and whether they had had the anticipated impact on the HR situation. One additional purpose was to assess the Fund's impact on its member organizations.
<b>Summary:</b>	The evaluation group found the Fund's management policy satisfactory. However, there was very little learning or competence development either within the Fund secretariat or among the member organizations. A heavy work load was the cause. Capacity was being used up on a growing number of applications. Administration costs were around ten per cent, which the evaluation group found reasonable. The evaluation group took a closer look at the activities of the Fund in India, Liberia and Nigeria. The projects supported in these countries were relevant to the local HR situations and consistent with the goals of the Fund. The projects had contributed to substantial benefits for the groups receiving help in Nigeria and India. In Liberia, the projects had a greater impact on national HR awareness than in terms of direct target group benefits. One general deficiency was that the organizations receiving support had no systems for monitoring their own activities.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	The Norwegian Human Rights Fund should concentrate its work on a few countries for extended periods – 8–10 countries for five-year periods, for example. The Fund and its member organizations should work more closely together and have more joint projects. Secretariat staff should be expanded in order to process and disseminate knowledge about the activities that are supported. Uniform criteria should be applied to the financial reporting from recipient organizations.
<b>Follow-up:</b>	It is the wish of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that up to one-third of the resources granted to the Fund should be applied to competence-building in HR organizations which receive funding for more than one year. More systematic monitoring of the application of funds will be facilitated, and the idea of having NORAD on the board as an observer organization was positively received.



The Foundation for Research in Economics and Business Administration (SNF), Bergen and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), Bergen

## Economic Impacts on the Least Developed Countries of the Elimination of Import Tariffs on their Products

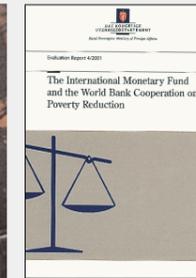
<b>Evaluation of:</b>	The economic impacts on the least developed countries of eliminating import tariffs in industrialized countries.
<b>Purpose:</b>	The purpose was to evaluate the economic impact on the least developed countries (LDCs) of various types of duty-free access to industrialized countries and advanced developing countries. The evaluation emphasized the effects on LDC economies in general, on sectors of special interest and on income distribution.
<b>Summary:</b>	The report focuses on the import barriers faced by LDCs in the EU, the USA, Japan and Canada (the QUAD), which account for over 60 per cent of LDC exports. The benefits of duty-free and quota-free access for LDCs are likely to be modest. The reasons for this are that these countries already enjoy quite liberal market access and that their ability to take advantage of trade preferences is limited. Nevertheless, some LDCs will reap significant benefits in a few product categories. The most important of these are textiles, sugar and tobacco. Duty and quota-free access enables them to raise export prices. It is difficult to say anything for certain on how higher prices may affect future supply capacities. It is likely to take a long time to increase export volumes. The report also examines the situation for LDCs in the regional market in southern Africa (the SADC region). It emphasizes that interregional trade is small and offers limited scope for expansion.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	Duty-free access is important for the LDCs. This applies to all products, but the benefits of duty-free access are concentrated in a few product categories, which typically are sensitive products in the importing countries. Retaining import controls on a few product categories such as textiles, sugar and tobacco can therefore significantly reduce the benefits for LDCs of free market access. The benefits for the LDCs would be enhanced if the importing countries were to make their preferential trade arrangements binding. Moreover, importing countries should not be free to implement safeguards without compensation to the affected LDCs. When a country with rising incomes graduates from the LDC category, trade preferences should be retained until fixed investments are fully depreciated, e.g. for a period of 10–20 years.
<b>Follow-up:</b>	This report was used in the discussion of the dismantling of the last Norwegian trade barriers against LDCs. It was a useful background document for the Norwegian delegation to the 3rd United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries in May 2001 in Geneva.



International NGO Training and Research Centre (INTRAC), UK, and Consulting Engineers and Planners AS (COWI), Denmark

## Evaluation of the Public Support to the Norwegian NGOs Working in Nicaragua 1994 – 1999

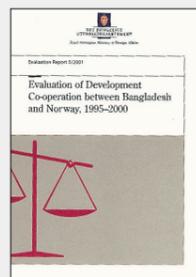
<b>Evaluation of:</b>	Norwegian public support to the Norwegian non-governmental organizations working in Nicaragua.
<b>Purpose:</b>	The purpose of this evaluation was to focus on the Norwegian official support provided through NORAD to Norwegian NGOs between 1994 and 1999. During this period, 27 Norwegian NGOs working in Nicaragua received NOK 225 million. This represents approximately 40 per cent of Norway's total bilateral aid to the country. 200 different projects were implemented during this period. The evaluation concentrated on 15 projects covering the main priority areas (agriculture, health, education, human rights) and the work of those NGOs which have received the most support (Norwegian Church Aid, Norwegian People's Aid, Save the Children, the Royal Norwegian Society for Development, CARE/Norway, the Latin American Health Fund and the Norwegian Union of Teachers).
<b>Summary:</b>	This evaluation gives a positive assessment of the results achieved by the Norwegian NGOs at project level. Their efforts are invested in relevant areas in the fight against poverty and other priority Norwegian development assistance aims. This evaluation points out that there has been a lack of coordination and little exchange of information between Norwegian NGOs, even those working in the same field of endeavour. There has also been a lack of coordination between official Norwegian development cooperation and the assistance provided through NGOs, as well as a lack of an overall strategy for the Norwegian NGOs. The evaluation recommends that "lobbying and the pursuit of political influence" should be given greater weight in cooperation with partner organizations in Nicaragua. The evaluation team has the impression that a "ceiling" has been reached in the amount of support given to Norwegian NGOs.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	NORAD should help the Norwegian NGOs strengthen their organizational development and capacity-building activities among their partner organizations in Nicaragua. The organizations should also view their activities within a broader social and development context in which relevance and long-term effects can be discussed. Further, the organizations should intensify their work on rights issues and support the efforts of their partner organizations toward this aim. The MFA, NORAD and the NGOs should work together to create a system for better coordination and information exchange between all the parties involved.
<b>Follow-up:</b>	NORAD will follow up the report in cooperation with the NGOs, and help them put a greater focus on capacity-building and fitting their activities into the broader social context.



Per Schreiner and Olav Kjørven, ECON Centre for Economic Analysis, Oslo

## The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Cooperation on Poverty Reduction

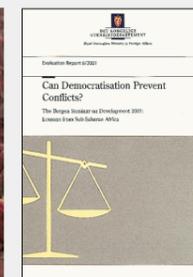
<b>Evaluation of:</b>	Cooperation between the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on reducing poverty, and an assessment of the extent to which they have followed up on the intentions to integrate a stronger poverty-reduction focus in their activities.
<b>Purpose:</b>	Poverty reduction is a central and joint mission of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund – the Bretton Woods institutions. This applies particularly in respect of the Least Developed Countries. The heads of both of these institutions and representatives of many of their member states support this objective, but there are diverging views on the possibility of achieving it which are discussed in the study.
<b>Summary:</b>	The report gives the Bank and the Fund good marks for the most part for cooperating constructively in implementing the new approach to poverty reduction. There are many examples of considerable friction between these organizations both at headquarters and in the field, but many staff members of both institutions report the emergence of a new cooperative spirit. The report underscores how important it is that the recipient countries develop their own strategy against poverty in the form of a Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper. The process of preparing a PRSP will help establish in the national authorities a sense of ownership in the poverty reduction strategy. The report points out that this sense of ownership can be eroded if the Bank and the Fund continue to prescribe detailed conditions to be fulfilled in the strategies of countries receiving debt relief.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization should be active in developing an international economic architecture that provides a more level playing field for developing countries. The basis for this would be the Bank's considerable financing of developing countries.  Better forms of representation in the governing bodies of the international finance institutions should be found for the developing countries together with the owners. This would tend to strengthen their legitimacy in general, particularly with the developing countries.  There is a need for a better balance between the conditions for debt relief and standards of good governance. Because of their capacity, the WB and the IMF tend to dominate the dialogue with developing countries, so other actors must maintain a close dialogue with these institutions, particularly with the WB. This will ensure that their own programs will complement those of the WB. Increased pluralism should be encouraged in the development policy debate in which UN agencies are also involved.
<b>Follow-up:</b>	Norway's policy in respect of the World Bank should be maintained and upheld by improving the process of gathering information from Norwegian embassies in developing countries in preparation for relevant boardroom discussions. Efforts will also be made to promote the influence of developing countries with the bank, and to upgrade knowledge of the international financing system in developing countries.



Centre for Development Studies, University of Bath, England, and SPM Consultants, Sweden

## Evaluation of Development Cooperation between Bangladesh and Norway, 1995 – 2000

<b>Evaluation of:</b>	Development cooperation with Bangladesh between 1995 and 2000.
<b>Purpose:</b>	The purpose was to evaluate development cooperation between Norway and Bangladesh during the period 1995 to 2000. The basis for this development cooperation was a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the two countries in 1995, the main objective of which was poverty alleviation. Support to the educational sector and the productive sector were emphasized, in addition to the strengthening of democracy and human rights. Recipient Responsibility, Concentration and Coordination of development assistance activities were to be the guiding principles of the cooperation.
<b>Summary:</b>	Norwegian assistance has contributed to a reduction of poverty in the three priority sectors. Assistance has contributed substantially to the shaping of development policies that are increasingly poverty-oriented, and it has also provided opportunities for strengthening the poverty-reduction capacity of cooperating organizations. However, it is more difficult to assess the impact of Norwegian assistance on special recipients and target groups.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	Development cooperation with the authorities in Bangladesh should be concentrated further by reducing the number of activities and the number of cooperation partners in Bangladesh. Cooperation should not be started up in new areas for now. The quality of cooperation must be improved by strengthening the professional development of staff members in Bangladesh and Norway through increased employee training. This should include a grounding in the wider social, economic and development policy context of assistance to Bangladesh. Developing relationships and dialogue with representatives of civil society and client groups should also be considered. This would boost staff expertise on problems in poverty alleviation, corruption and human rights. Further cooperation with Bangladesh should be based on a new agreement with Norway similar to the Memorandum of Understanding from 1995. This would assure transparency and predictability. The agreement should include the framework of the cooperation, and it should be formulated with specific goals for cooperation in the relevant sectors. The report recommends better operationalization of the concept of poverty in cooperation.
<b>Follow-up:</b>	This evaluation has been an important contribution to the effort of shaping future development cooperation between Bangladesh and Norway. The recommendations of this evaluation provided the basis for the work on the country strategy.

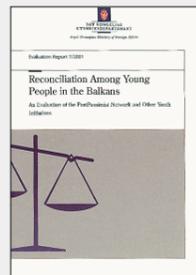


Chr. Michelsens Institutt (CMI), Bergen.

## Can Democratisation Prevent Conflicts?

The Bergen Seminar on Development 2001:

<b>Study of:</b>	The point of departure for this report was the Bergen Seminar on Development 2001, organized by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the CMI. This seminar examined Africa's democratic experiences in the past decade, with a focus on elections, the courts and government. Developments in Ethiopia, Tanzania and South Africa were given special attention.
<b>Purpose:</b>	The main purpose was to determine how much the development of democratic institutions had contributed to conflict prevention. It was also important to gain some idea of the extent to which these institutions were actually working.
<b>Summary:</b>	The seminar focused on elections, the courts and local government, and gave special attention to developments in Ethiopia, Tanzania and South Africa. Although nearly all of the countries of sub-Saharan Africa officially practice democratic politics, they have not been able to stem the continued executive dominance over political processes. The challenge is to ensure that other institutions in addition to the presidency gain capacity, independence and authority to insure an impact on policy-making. It is important that the courts and other institutions of restraint limit the powers of political office-holders.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	At the last session of the seminar, findings were presented which indicated that democracy does not seem to have a significant impact on economic performance in societies that are ethnically homogeneous (e.g., China). However, in ethnically diversified societies, the introduction of democracy makes a big difference to economic growth. Thus, the lack of democracy may be the reason why economic development in Africa, with many different ethnic groups, has been so weak for the past 30 years. Cross-country data sets and regression analysis shows that level of income matters, as the incidence of violence is higher in the poorest countries. There are also more conflicts in countries that are primary commodity producers. The policy implications are that Africa needs economic success. But to achieve success, Africa needs democracy as democracy adds to economic performance. Development aid can help in this process, so the region needs more foreign aid.
<b>Follow-up:</b>	For follow-up we must rely on the delegates to the seminar, which consisted of representatives of national and international aid organizations and representatives of the governments of relevant developing countries and of research institutes. The study has been distributed to all the delegates and to interested persons around the world.



Chr. Michelsen Institutt, Bergen

Kari Dyregrov, Centre for Crisis Psychology, and Gunn Helen Søfting (CMI)

## Reconciliation among Young People in the Balkans:

An Evaluation of the PostPessimist Network and Other Youth Initiatives

<b>Evaluation of:</b>	The work of the PostPessimist network in the Balkans, which promotes increased inter-ethnic contact and reconciliation among the youth of different ethnic groups, and activities to strengthen democratic development in society.
<b>Purpose:</b>	The purpose of this evaluation was to find out how far the PostPessimist network has been able to achieve its targets, and whether the results were in keeping with the allocated resources. The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been supporting the PostPessimist network in the Balkans since 1994. (According to the founding members, the name "PostPessimist" was chosen because "We are not as pessimistic as we used to be, but we are not yet optimists. We are the PostPessimists.") The PostPessimist network consists of a number of youth groups in the former Yugoslavia. One of the priority objectives of these groups is to carry out political, social and cultural activities that promote reconciliation between the various ethnic groups in the Balkans. It has cost around NOK 1 million per year to fund the network. The main facilitator of the project has been the Norwegian People's Aid, and a total of NOK 7 million has been allocated to the project by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
<b>Summary:</b>	The report describes in very positive terms the way the network has carried out its work and the results it has achieved. The network has been able to create places where young people from different ethnic groups can meet, and the evaluation report claims that the youth feel a strong ownership of the PostPessimist network. The evaluation report has identified 158 different activities and groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Yugoslavia and Kosovo. The evaluation report further states that the allocated funds have been well spent, and gives a very positive account of the way the Norwegian People's Aid has operated the network.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	Reconciliation is a long-term effort, and the report recommends strengthening the network through better target descriptions and by stepping up recruitment to the network. The young people should also be given training in mobilizing local resources for operating the network.
<b>Follow-up:</b>	Norwegian support to reconciliation activities in the Balkans will continue. An effort will be made to coordinate these activities so that measures among different population groups can be maintained.

A new committee:

## The Foreign Ministry's Advisory Committee on the Results of International Development Policy

Minister of International Development Anne Kristin Sydnes appointed on 3 October 2001 an Advisory Committee on the Results of International Development Policy.

The purpose of the committee is to help increase transparency with regard to development policy and encourage a broader dialogue about it. The committee will discuss central challenges with a view to modernizing development policy and making it more effective.

### Members of the committee:

#### Chair:

Helge Rønning, professor, Oslo

#### Committee members:

Regine Andersen, researcher, Oslo  
 Per Øyvind Bastøe, managing director, Asker  
 Ingvild Broch, research director, Tromsø  
 Grete Brochmann, professor, Oslo  
 Børne Grimsrud, researcher, Oslo  
 Helga Hjetland, manager, Oslo  
 Ellen Hofsvang, editor, Oslo  
 Torbjørn Knutsen, professor, Trondheim  
 Long Litt Woon, consultant, Oslo  
 Ragnhild Lund, professor, Trondheim  
 Raino Malnes, professor, Oslo  
 Ottar Mæstad, researcher, Rosslund  
 Petter Nore, assistant director, Oslo  
 Sanjeev Prakash, professor, Bergen  
 Anne Hege Simonsen, journalist, Stockholm  
 Stig Utne, secretary-general, Oslo

#### Secretariat:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Evaluation Section

The committee met once in 2001 and will report on its activities at the end of 2002.