

Partner Driven Cooperation – A further step in development

More countries are now able to manage without traditional aid and want to develop new relationships. Thus we are investing even more in Partner Driven Cooperation, which builds on mutual interests and shared responsibilities – and can lead to long-term, self-sustaining relations.

Sida can help establish contacts, arrange meetings, disseminate knowledge regarding potential partners and markets and provide initial financial support.

The objective is to create a “win-win-win” situation whereby three groups benefit: the people in poverty, those participating in projects in partner countries and those involved in Sweden.

Do you have an idea or a concrete cooperation proposal? Contact one of our country teams or Team Partnerships and we will guide you.



WHO DO YOU WANT TO COOPERATE WITH — AND IN WHAT COUNTRY?



For a long time, Sida has worked to stimulate cooperation between Swedish entities and their counterparts in our partner countries. Now we will be doing this on a larger scale.

For a long time, Sida has worked in different ways to stimulate cooperation between Swedish entities and their counterparts in partner countries, but on a smaller scale. Now we are taking a further step. We hope to see more people and organisations involved in cooperation projects. In addition, we now have new methods and forms of financing.

We are prioritising seven countries where Swedish aid is now changing – Indonesia, India, China, Vietnam, South Africa, Namibia and Botswana.

Those involved may be authorities, municipalities, non-governmental organisations, institutes, trade unions or private companies. On a smaller scale, Partner Driven Cooperation will also take place in other countries in parallel with traditional support. Our earlier collaboration with countries in Eastern Europe has also been a guide in designing this approach to international development cooperation.

The objective is to create a “win-win-win” situation for the people in poverty and those participating in projects in partner countries and those involved in Sweden.

HOW DO WE WORK?

Our work with Partner Driven Cooperation is based on the partners’ own initiatives and mutual interest in cooperating. Sweden can facilitate contacts and arrange meetings and give financial support. Sida’s country teams are responsible for seeing to it that Partner Driven Cooperation is launched in their respective countries. There is a special team at Sida working with methods and competence development at the Sida Partnership Forum.

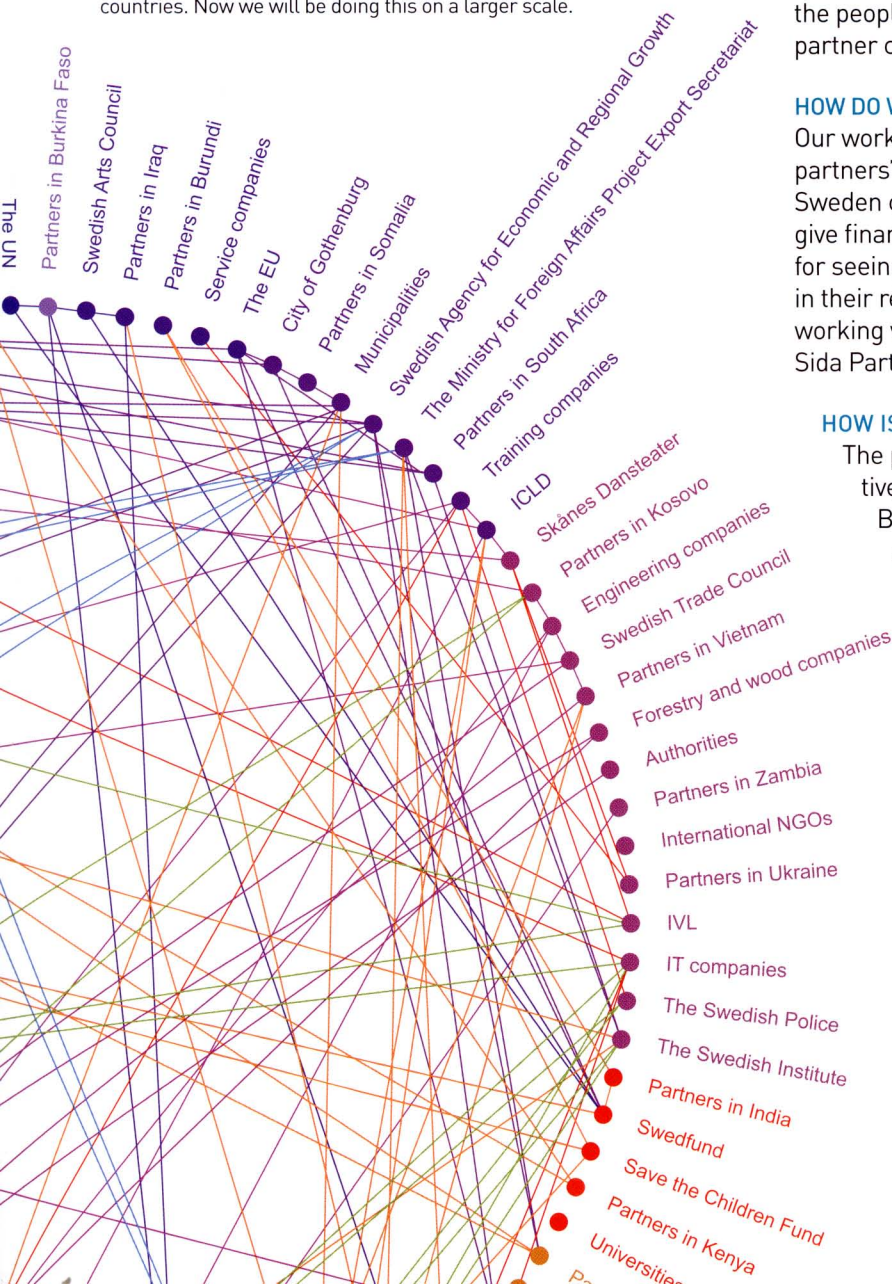
HOW IS PARTNER DRIVEN COOPERATION FINANCED?

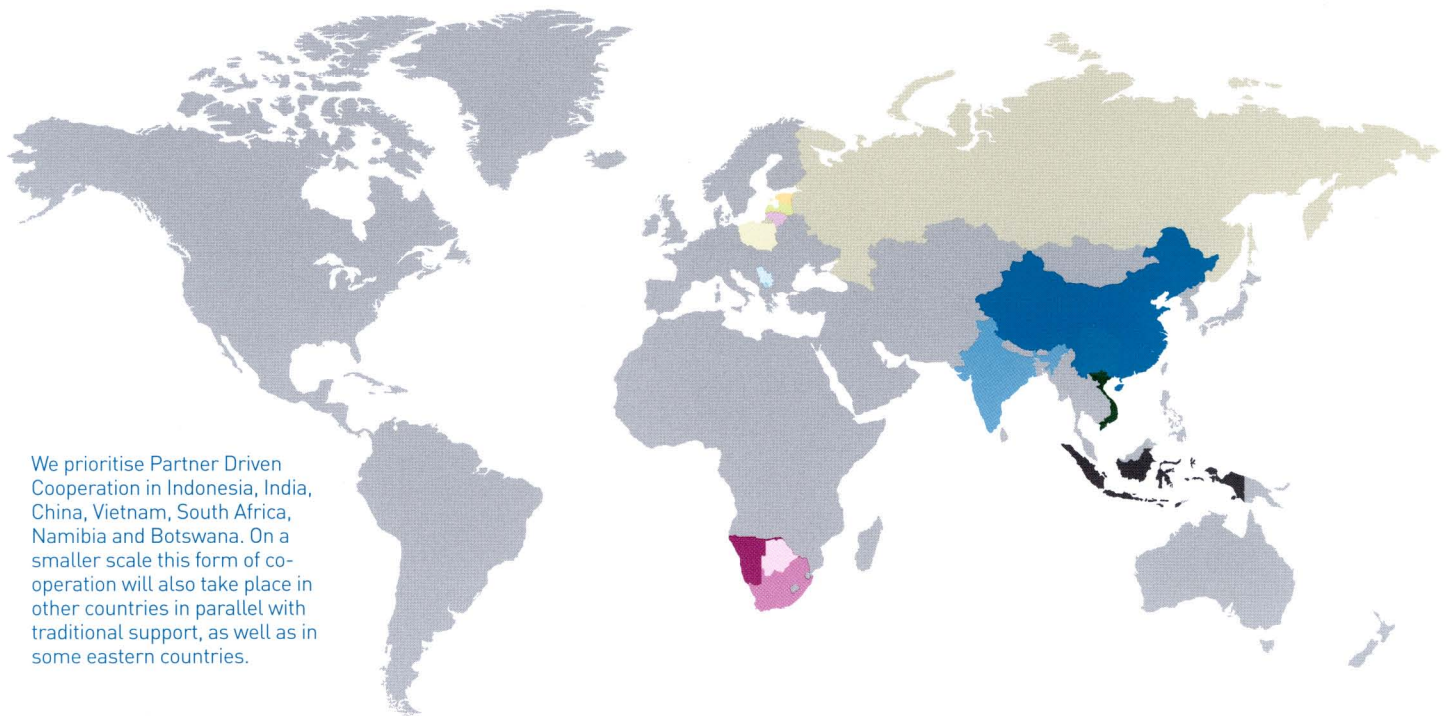
The primary principle is that in the long-term perspective, partners should finance their own cooperation.

But support for limited periods can be offered at start-up. Together with their partners, stakeholders can apply for financial support for activities such as research and cultural exchange.

For innovative solutions in environmental technology there is a special fund – DemoMiljö – established jointly with the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth. Supports are often handled by Sida’s partners, which today include the Swedish Research Council, the Swedish Arts Council and the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth.

For planning and exchanging ideas with a partner in a partner country, one can apply for financial support from Sida through the Planning Grant.





We prioritise Partner Driven Cooperation in Indonesia, India, China, Vietnam, South Africa, Namibia and Botswana. On a smaller scale this form of co-operation will also take place in other countries in parallel with traditional support, as well as in some eastern countries.



We seek to generate mutual development interest, benefiting both sides and the broader community. This reduces poverty.

WHERE DO IDEAS FOR PARTNER DRIVEN COOPERATION COME FROM?

In order to stimulate more people to develop ideas and cooperation, Sida works with a number of meeting places. These include conferences or other fora dealing with a specific field, such as the environment, or a particular country or region. Meetings can take place both in Sweden or in the countries in question.

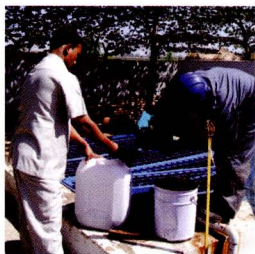
EXAMPLES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR PARTNER DRIVEN COOPERATION

- Swedish Research Links, handled by the Swedish Research Council, awards small grants to research institutions to start up cooperation.
- DemoMiljö is a support administered by the Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth that creates opportunities for government agencies, municipalities, institutions or companies to demonstrate and try out new environmental technology.
- Cultural cooperation with South Africa, handled by the National Council for Cultural Affairs, is based on joint investment by Sweden and South Africa in a cultural fund.
- Municipal cooperation is handled by the International Centre for Local Democracy (ICLD) in Visby.
- Swedfund promotes joint ventures between companies in the partner countries and in Sweden.
- Sida's Baltic Sea Unit in Visby works with Partner Driven Cooperation for organisations, municipalities and regions (though not with aid funds).

CONTACT US:

Do you have an idea for cooperation, but don't know where to start? Contact the relevant country team at Sida. Christina Danielsson, + 46 8 698 57 43, for Botswana, Namibia and South Africa • Calle Svensson, + 46 8 698 50 85, for Indonesia, India and China • Christian Lien, + 84 4 37 26 04 00, for Vietnam • Ola Nilsmo, + 46 8 698 40 12, Team Partnerships.

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION



“THIS REPRESENTS AN EXCELLENT START IN SPREADING THE CONCEPT TO INDUSTRIAL COMPANIES THROUGHOUT INDIA.”

ENVIRONMENTAL WORK IN INDIA PROVIDES JOBS FOR SWEDISH ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY COMPANY

Industrial companies in Hyderabad, India need knowledge and technology to purify waste water. IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute is providing competence and holistic solutions, which is helping open doors for Swedish environmental technology companies seeking to enter the Indian market. The collaboration is financially supported by Sida since several years.

The collaboration includes CII, the Indian equivalent of the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise; JNTU, a technical university in Hyderabad; the environmental institute EPTRI; and Gamana, an organisation promoting environmental debate in society.

Sundaresan Raghupathy, President of the Confederation of Indian Industry, says “the concept of ‘Cleaner Production’ is completely new for us. It offers us opportunities to develop the efficiency of our use of water at our factories. I consider this an excellent start in disseminating the concept among companies throughout India.”

Jonas Röttorp, department manager at IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute, says “We are now studying the possibility of opening an office in India. Many Swedish environmental technology companies will also benefit from this cooperation.”



“TRUST IS BUILT THROUGH EFFECTIVE AND LONG-TERM EFFORTS”

CLOSE PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPS GOTHENBURG AND NELSON MANDELA BAY

Many links between Sweden and South Africa date back to the struggle against apartheid. In the late 1990s, Gothenburg and Nelson Mandela Bay deepened their relations and commenced long-term cooperation. The focus is on developing the local economy, enterprise, gender equality and democracy, as well as on reducing poverty and injustice — in both cities. The cooperation is being conducted on a broad front between universities, business and the public sector through the exchange of knowledge, experience and ideas between people.

“Trust is built through effective and long-term efforts and this allows us to support business relations between our regions,” explains Anki Gustafsson of Business Region Göteborg.

“We are completely certain that this cooperation will develop and grow further, particularly in terms of sustainable urban development, environmental and climate changes, local economic development and culture,” says Hester Botha, Deputy Director of the department of international relations at Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. The cooperation was initially supported by Sida.



“WE ARE ABLE TO CONDUCT RESEARCH NOT POSSIBLE IN SWEDEN BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE CERTAIN DISEASES HERE.”

COOPERATION IMPROVES CARE OF SICK CHILDREN IN VIETNAM AND SWEDEN

Lund University Hospital has commenced a six-year collaboration with a children's hospital in northern Vietnam. The objective is to develop care so that more children in the region can survive severe cancer conditions. At the same time, Swedish doctors and nurses are gaining unique knowledge on paediatric care and research in another country.

Professor Nguyen Thanh Liem, at the National Hospital of Pediatrics in Hanoi says: “The project enables us to develop the quality of both care and treatment, and to improve the structure of our care. In the long term, this will provide a basis for the modernisation of cancer care for children throughout Vietnam.”

“We also benefit greatly from the cooperation,” explains Christian Moëll, a pediatrician at Lund University Hospital and one of the initiators of the cooperation programme. “Our doctors have the opportunity to meet physicians with other experiences, to meet more patients and to conduct research not possible in Sweden because we don't have certain diseases here.”

SIDA'S ASSIGNMENT

Sida works according to directives of the Swedish Parliament and Government to reduce poverty in the world, a task that requires cooperation and persistence. Through development cooperation, Sweden assists countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. Each country is responsible for its own development. Sida provides resources and develops knowledge, skills and expertise. This increases the world's prosperity.

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SIDA, SEPTEMBER 2009

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