

APRIL 2004 • ENVIRONMENT POLICY DIVISION

Policy and Action Plan for Environmentally Sustainable Development

# Sida's Environmental Management System



# Foreword

Environmental aspects are an integral part of development and thus of development cooperation. If programmes of development cooperation do not take the environment into consideration, they do not contribute to sustainable development.

Together with its partners in cooperation, Sida works actively for sustainable development in a large number of countries and operational areas. In this respect, the most important point of departure is that a permanent reduction in poverty is not possible unless consideration is given to the natural resources and environment that people depend on for their livelihoods, their health and their survival. The importance of this was further confirmed by the Swedish Parliament when it approved "Shared responsibility: Sweden's Policy for Global Development", in which the goal is *equitable and sustainable global development*.

As early as in 1996, as one of the pilot agencies, Sida established a formal environmental management system in order to systematise its work for sustainable development. The environmental management system has proved to be a useful and concrete tool for developing and consolidating the integration of aspects relating to the environment into Sida's operations.

The action plan has now been revised for a third time, as we have now implemented the measures included in earlier versions. Since, in principle, the responsibility for taking the environment into consideration is decentralised at Sida, it is the divisions themselves that have identified the new measures that will be taken. These reflect the breadth of Sida's engagement and show how seriously we take our responsibility to contribute to sustainable development – and the profoundness of our commitment.

Programmes of development cooperation, which are well thought out and have an environmental perspective as their point of departure, are part of the solution to the environmental problems – and thus the development problems – that the world faces.

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# I. Environmental Policy

#### 1. Points of departure and goals

In 1988, Sweden introduced an environmental goal for its programmes of international development cooperation. The Swedish Parliament decided that Swedish development cooperation would contribute to the sustainable use of natural resources and protection of the environment. In 2003, Parliament approved the Government bill: "Shared responsibility: Sweden's Policy for Global Development" – the goal is *equitable and sustainable global development*.

Programmes of international development cooperation are to be implemented within the framework of this overriding goal. The goal is that international development cooperation *should make it possible for poor people to improve their living conditions*. In "Perspectives on Poverty", Sida has expanded its views on poverty reduction. This includes an environmental dimension – poverty reduction is impossible in the long term unless consideration is given to the natural resources and the environment that people are dependent on for their health, their livelihoods and their survival.

Sweden has undertaken to work for sustainable development. Matters relating to the environment and development are to be linked to each other within the framework of Swedish development cooperation in accordance with the undertakings that ensue from Sweden's ratification of *the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21, the Millennium Declaration, the Millennium Development Goals and the declaration and action plan from the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.* 

Sida has been commissioned by the Government to have an *Environmental Management System*, consisting of an environmental policy, an action plan, and annual reports to the Government. The environmental management system has the aim of continuously integrating environmental aspects into all activities pursued by Sida. Sida's environmental management system is an instrument for change that will permit the transformation into practice of a large number of fundamental undertakings on sustainable development.

# 2. Approach

One fundamental point of departure – but a problematic one – is that sustainable development is not a clear-cut concept. Economic growth, in a narrow sense of the term, as an indicator of development is an inadequate and obsolete definition. Nor is it possible to talk about development – let alone economic growth – first, and then the environment. The actual content of development must be defined and specified, and *development and protection of the environment must be regarded as two sides of the same coin.* Development in industrialised countries cannot serve as a norm – we have not yet achieved environmentally sustainable development. It is also clear that local environmental conditions play a decisive role – we cannot speak of just one form of sustainable development.

Sida's environmental management system focuses on *cooperation for sustainable development from the environmental perspective*, but is based on the broad definition of sustainable development, with a close link between ecological/environmental and economic, social, cultural and political aspects. The large number of complex relationships between poverty and the environment must be given special attention, as well as the linkages between environmental issues and other development issues such as economic growth, trade, conflicts, democracy, human rights, gender equality, health and education.

Every country has the ultimate responsibility for its environment and natural resources and for working actively towards environmentally sustainable development. Swedish international development cooperation in itself cannot create sustainable development in the partner countries. One important point of departure for development cooperation is therefore that the *capacity of the recipient countries* to analyse and deal with their own environmental problems should be strengthened and developed. Development cooperation must be based on the needs of the partner countries.

*The development of knowledge, capacity and institutions* – support for the development of the partner countries' capacity to deal with environmental problems and to plan for the environment and natural resources – should therefore be given priority.

Non-governmental organisations, and *civil society* in general, play a particularly important role in the creation of environmentally sustainable development. In supplementing the initiatives with an environmental focus that are made by central government, Sida should attach great importance to providing support for strategically important non-governmental activities in the environmental field.

Sweden is responsible for part of the global utilisation of resources. The ways in which we act with natural resources and the environment – our consumption and production patterns – are of significance for both our credibility – when development issues are the subject of discussion in international contexts – and for the environmental situation, not just in Sweden but also in other countries.

# 3. Principles

#### Development cooperation channelled via Sida for sustainable development should:

- Assist partner countries to identify and implement activities that protect and conserve natural resources and the environment in the countries;
- Emphasise and support sustainability in the long-term perspective;
- Follow the principle that prevention is better than cure;
- Enable partner countries to work with a long-term planning horizon and thereby to achieve a permanent reduction in poverty.

# This has the following consequences:

- The environmental perspective must be included in Sida's overall development analysis and in its country, sector, programme and project analyses;
- Sida should refrain from contributing to activities, projects, and programmes that obstruct sustainable development;
- Environmental awareness and environmental considerations must be integrated in the work of all Sida's departments, field offices, and embassies in which development cooperation activities are integrated.

#### 4. Working methods

*Strategic environmental analyses* are to be made prior to decisions on the overall focus of development cooperation. Environmental impacts of development programmes and projects are to be analysed before a contribution is approved. Environmental impact assessments are to be made for all contributions, in accordance with Sida rules and guidelines.

The country strategies for Sweden's partner countries lay down the focus of development cooperation for the next few years. An analysis of environmental aspects should always be made as part of the poverty analysis when a country strategy is produced. The *environmental analysis* should have a clear poverty perspective and take up environmental aspects of the planned programme of Swedish development cooperation as a whole. In cases where environmental factors are identified as being of central importance, this should be clearly reflected in the final *country strategy*. The strategy should propose the specific environmental contributions that should be given priority, as well as the environmental components that should be included in contributions that have a different focus.

*Environmental economic analyses* should be used to the greatest extent possible.

Sida should participate in *multilateral activities* in the field of the environment and development in close cooperation with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Environment, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and other stakeholders. The multilateral activities include the strategically most important international conventions in the environmental field. In principle, the responsibility for the inclusion of an environmental perspective in programmes of development cooperation is *decentralised* at Sida. All heads of department/divisions, programme officers and others are responsible for environmental issues within their own particular areas of responsibility and for ensuring that there is requisite expertise in the departments, field offices and embassies.

Sida's system for the quality assurance of development cooperation should be used for assessments of the extent to which consideration is given to environmental issues and environmental guidelines in activities, to disclose shortcomings, propose improvements and provide assistance and advice. The central Environment Policy Division is available to provide advice and points of view and is responsible for general policy and methods development in the field.

# II. Environmental Action Plan

# 1. Background

Sida has worked for sustainable development for many years. The work of transforming Agenda 21, the action plan from UNCED in Rio in 1992, into practice has taken place in many different fields. The World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002 has created new challenges. As a result of the conference, the concept of sustainable development, with its three dimensions – the economic, social and environmental dimensions, has been definitely recognised and accepted. The Millennium Declaration also emphasises the importance of environmental issues for future development in the world. The seventh Millennium Development Goal lays down that we shall achieve environmentally sustainable development and that depletion of the environment and natural resources shall have been reversed by the year 2015.

Sida's environmental management system, with its regularly revised action plan, should be seen as one of the tools for fulfilling the intentions expressed in Sida's Perspectives on Poverty. The conclusions drawn at the World Summit and the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals have been taken into consideration in the production of the action plan below.

This is the third action plan, based on the environmental study made by Sida some years ago, since Sida established its environmental management system in 1996.

Almost all the measures listed in Sida's Action Plan for Sustainable Development of 1998 have now been implemented and reported on to the Government. A review was therefore made in 2003 at all the divisions concerned at Sida in order to identify the next steps that should be taken in different fields to further improve Sida's consideration of the environment and environmental work. The divisions' proposals for activities have been compiled into the extensive list of measures that is presented below.

# 2. Conditions and goals

Indirect impact on the environment – i.e. the activities that affect other parties so that the impact on the environment of their activities, products or services is changed positively or negatively – is without doubt the most extensive impact in Sida's operations. Sida's environmental management

system includes both direct and indirect impacts on the environment, but most of the measures mainly refer to indirect impacts. Sida has chosen not to stipulate detailed environmental goals for its programmes of support in various operational areas, since development cooperation is highly diversified with several thousand contributions in a large number of fields. The contributions also cover an extremely wide geographical area and conditions for activities can vary considerably from one country to another. Furthermore, many of the environmental impacts are outside Sida's control since they often take place within the framework of different stages in complicated processes. All the measures in the action plan have the aim of contributing to the overriding goal of *equitable and sustainable global development*. The goal of the activities that concern Sida's direct impact on the environment, i.e. office premises, administration and travel, is to *continuously develop and implement the concept of a "green office*".

# 3. Constraints and structure

The environmental management system merely takes up measures of fundamental importance and which involve further development of Sida's general work with the environment. In parallel with this, Sida supports a large number of projects that focus directly on the environment. Moreover, the environmental perspective is an important component in a number of contributions that have another principal objective than the environment.

The responsibility for integrating the environmental perspective into activities is decentralised at Sida. The actions to be taken are listed by divisions in order to clarify the responsibility for implementation and to facilitate follow-up and reporting. Accordingly, the list does not reflect an order of priorities among the activities. The actions are integrated in each division's plan of operations. Follow-up is performed within the framework of the division's ordinary follow-up of activities and through a special report to the Government made in connection with Sida's annual report. The period for the implementation of the actions varies from one to three years.

# 4. Actions to be taken

#### **Division for Policy and Socio-Economic Analysis (POLICY)**

- Integrate an environmental perspective in the internal promotion of Perspectives on Poverty and in the development of methods for poverty analysis.
- Integrate the environmental perspective in Sida's position to the PRS processes.
- Initiate a discussion on ways in which matters relating to the environment and sustainability should be handled in connection with budget support.
- Assist the IMF to take the issue of sustainable development into account in its activities.
- Highlight the relationships between the environment and gender in the revised policy and action plan for gender equality.

#### Secretariat for Evaluation and Internal Audit (UTV)

- Integrate an environmental perspective into Sida's new evaluations handbook
- Take an environmental perspective, e.g. EIAs, into account in examinations of Sida's management and control environment.
- Follow up the evaluation "Environmental Considerations in Sida's Evaluations Revisited".
- Include environmental considerations in the evaluation of Sida's support for urban development.

#### Division for Legal Services and Procurement Advice (JUR)

- Include a section on green procurement in Sida's courses on procurement and public administration.
- Include environmental considerations in new and revised contract templates and in comments on these templates.

#### Methods Development Unit (METOD)

- Include thematic issues, including the environment, in the work of promoting Sida at Work among Sida staff.
- Produce a booklet on the relationship between corruption and environmental degradation.
- Consider how environment/sustainability issues should be handled in programme support processes.

#### **Division for Multilateral Coordination (MULTI)**

- Investigate the possibilities of developing environmental components within the framework of Sida's support to UNDP's e-learning system.
- Investigate the possibilities of developing environmental components within the framework of Sida's support to the World Bank Institute's e-learning system.
- Initiate discussions with the multilateral agencies on the ways in which these agencies integrate environmental considerations into their work.

#### Field Unit (FU)

- Initiate discussions with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the National Property Board on environmental action to be taken at existing embassies and in new buildings.
- Work to ensure that the greatest environmental consideration possible is taken in purchases of vehicles for embassies.

#### **Quality Assurance (QA)**

 Include environmental considerations in the identification of forms for quality assurance of the field.

#### **Regional Department's Methods Group (REGMETOD)**

 Integrate environmental considerations into the guidelines for country strategy processes in connection with the revision of these guidelines.

#### **Department for Africa (AFRA)**

- Specify the forms in which the so-called cross sector issues, including the environment, should be handled prior to every new country strategy process.
- In relevant cases, conduct a policy dialogue with the partner countries in respect of institution development in the environmental field (legislation, environmental economics, organisational issues etc).

# Asia Department (ASIEN)

 Identify forms in which the so-called cross sector issues, including the environment, should be handled prior to every new country strategy process.

# **Department for Europe (EUROPA)**

- Appoint a person to be responsible for the environment at each division and train these persons in matters concerning the environment.
- Examine a sample of contributions with another principal objective than "environment" from the environmental perspective in order to ascertain the possibility of integrating environmental components.
- Implement Sida's environmental guidelines for development cooperation with countries in the Balkans.
- Increase support for capacity development for dealing with the climate issue and issues under other international conventions, in cooperation with the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency and the National Chemicals Inspectorate.

# **Department for Latin America (RELA)**

- Investigate the possibilities of supporting environment-friendly administration of the drug problem in Latin America.
- Seek to safeguard that Sida's private sector support in the region, mainly in Bolivia, contributes to long-term and environmentally sustainable development.
- Review the possibility of further cooperation with IDB in the natural resources sector in Central America.
- Emphasise disaster prevention contributions in Central America.

#### Division for Humanitarian Assistance and Conflict Management (HUM)

- Integrate environmental considerations in the position paper on the vulnerability of poor people in connection with disasters.
- Implement a study on the links between environmental degradation and natural disasters, as well as the focus of support to contributions, including environment-related initiatives, that can prevent natural disasters.
- Integrate conflict and environment/natural resource issues in the revision of Sida's conflict management strategy.

- Include the relationships between conflicts and environment/natural resources management in the production of guidelines for conflict management for Sida.
- Make an inventory of Sida's contributions portfolio in order to identify contributions with real or potential links between the environment and conflict management.
- Make an inventory of the existence of policies and guidelines on conflicts and the environment among other donors.
- Include the relationships between conflicts and environment/natural resource management in the production of methods support for conflict analysis.

#### **Division for Cooperation with NGOs (EO)**

- Initiate discussions with Forum Syd and one or more frame organisations on the possibilities of arranging targeted training programmes on environmental issues for the member organisations.
- Develop the project database on support to Swedish NGOs in order that information on environment-related contributions can be improved.
- Increase environmental expertise at the Division through targeted environmental training programmes for certain members of staff.

# Sida Civil Society Centre (SCSC)

- Hold a general course on the environment for all members of staff and in-depth training in EIAs for the course leaders concerned.
- Make a review of all courses offered by the Centre with the aim of integrating environmental issues more specifically into the courses.
- Integrate environmental training in preparatory courses for persons taking up positions abroad.
- Develop needs-adapted environmental courses for Swedish NGOs.

#### **Division for Democratic Governance (DESA)**

- Give more support to contributions for the establishment of systems for spatial data (GIS), for example as a basis for the planning of environmental and natural resources management.
- Integrate environmental considerations systematically in new contributions in the field of statistics.

# **Education Division (UND)**

- Take action to ensure that the international course in environmental education in Africa is continued in Asia and Latin America.
- Study the possibilities of starting a regional initiative for environmental education in Asia.
- Take action to ensure that Sida's policy for environmental education is understood and applied at embassies with delegated powers.

#### **Division for Culture and Media (KULTUR)**

- In connection with the production of a new culture policy, report the links between social and cultural issues and environmental issues, with the aim of strengthening local ownership of environmental issues and contributing to greater freedom of speech.
- Take environmental and national resource issues into account in connection with initiatives for cultural contributions in respect of HIV/AIDS.
- Contribute to the international work on the right to freedom of speech and information on environmental issues through "Access Initiative".
- Study the possibilities of providing support for environmental training for journalists in China and within the framework of the Lake Victoria Initiative.

#### Health Division (HÄLSO)

- Place a stronger emphasis on the public health perspective (including environmentally-related ill health) in a dialogue with ministries of health and, to a greater extent, with other ministries.
- Enhance Sida's expertise in environmentally-related ill health and give the issue prominence in international policy work.
- Highlight links between environment, health and poverty when analysing PRSPs.
- Develop the resource base in Sweden for handling the linkages between the environment and health.

#### **Division for University Support and Research Development (UNI)**

- Use, as far as possible, green procurements and recycling in connection with the development of laboratories, investments in IT, and procurements for universities.
- Consider the possibilities of improving expertise and increasing requirements in respect of bio safety, in connection with the development of laboratories.
- Increase support for the development of capacity for environmental research, higher education and environmental economics.

#### **Division for Thematic Programmes (TEMA)**

- Develop a strategy for climate-related research.
- Give priority to support to research into urban development, including environment-related research
- Compile a report on SAREC's support to environmental contributions, including examples of good contributions.
- Develop forms of support for national and regional research and education activities in the field of environmental economics.

#### Infrastructure Division (INFRA)

- Integrate environmental considerations in connection with the revision of Sida's energy policy.
- Contribute to the follow-up of the conclusions from the World Commission on Dams, WCD.
- Work for making energy more efficient and for improvements to the environment in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
- Support the development of energy systems with special reference to the climate issue.
- Integrate environmental considerations into Sida's forthcoming transport policy.

#### **Division for Urban Development (URBAN)**

- Integrate environmental considerations in the development and update of Sida's urban strategy.
- Develop brief guidelines for support in the fields of solid waste management, the air environment and chemicals.
- Develop guidelines for Sida's work with cultural environment issues.
- Develop transport contributions in cities in South and Southeast Asia with the aim of creating sustainable transport systems with smaller emissions of greenhouse gases and a reduction in local pollution.
- Increase urban initiatives in the field of water and sanitation.
- Support the development of municipal expertise and municipal planning systems that focus on sustainable development in urban environmental issues.
- Develop approaches and action programmes for the administration of climate issues and establish a special post of environmental coordinator at Sida.
- Develop financing systems in support of environmental management in slum areas.
- Consolidate and institutionalise support to contributions related to the protection of the ozone layer.
- Increase support to activities to combat air pollution at local, national and regional levels in Asia, and to a certain extent, in Africa.
- Further develop support for contributions in the field of chemicals.

#### **IT Secretariat (ICT)**

 Increase IT support – for example to contribute to improving information on the environment and to reducing pressure on the environment through travel.

#### **Division for Contract-financed Technical Cooperation (KTS)**

 Emphasise the importance of environmental issues in connection with the development of proposals for contributions for training programmes in contract-financed technical cooperation for Sida's inhouse consultants.

- Develop specifications for environmental aspects in terms of reference for in-house consultants.
- Study the possibility of arranging regional and/or national courses for partners in cooperation in the environment/sustainable development, based on ITP's International Training Programmes in environmental issues.

# **Division for Private Sector Development (NÄRING)**

- Support initiatives from the private sector for surveys of environmental problems and improve the understanding of making appropriate adjustments to the environment in private sector activities.
- Support ecological cultivation of export crops and disseminate experience gained from Sida's support to more countries.
- Follow the international discussions on ecotourism in order to understand the possibilities of future support.
- Integrate the environmental perspective into the development of the private sector strategy.
- Follow up and draw conclusions from the support provided for the certification of rain forests in Latin America.
- Support the harmonisation of international marking systems and between environmental marking and ethical marking.
- Support initiatives for entrepreneurship based on sustainable development.
- Integrate the environmental perspective in the production of an agency strategy for Sida's work with trade and development.
- Support contributions that have the aim of increasing the possibilities available to developing countries to handle issues relating to trade and the environment.
- Advise the Government Offices on environmental and trade issues, for example in the WTO context.
- Contribute to the international discussion on the administration of certification and environmental marking systems.

# **Division for Finance and Capital Markets (FINANS)**

- Work actively to ensure that water and wastewater issues are included as a sector for private investments.
- Review the administration of EIAs in connection with contributions within the framework of untied support.

# **Rural Development Division (LUV)**

- Produce a Sida strategy for rural development that includes aspects relating to the environment and natural resources.
- Enter into programme cooperation with FAO on plant-genetic resources, fisheries and forests.
- Develop a coordinated forestry programme with strategically selected contributions in support of sustainable forestry.

- Study the possibility of supporting the development of chemical authorities or processes/networks in the chemicals sector, nationally or regionally.
- Establish regional strategies for environment-related initiatives in Africa and Southeast Asia (RRD, SENSA).

#### Water Division (VATTEN)

- Produce a Sida strategy for water and sanitation.
- Develop systems for ecological sanitation, for example in respect of the interaction between the urban environment and rural areas, and establish a pilot project for large scale use of ecological sanitation.
- Study the possibility of increasing support to issues relating to the climate and water.
- Establish Sida's position paper on marine environment issues.
- Develop contributions at global, regional and national level on the basis of the conclusions drawn in the position paper on marine environment issues.
- Give priority to the relationship between degradation of the environment and fisheries, within the framework of the marine initiative.
- Support programmes that aim at environmental marking of fish and fish products.
- Develop the Swedish resource base in respect of the marine environment and natural resource issues.

# Division for Capacity Development and Exchange Programmes for Swedish Partners (IKU)

- Review the environmental content of Sida's general course in development issues for consultants and the Swedish resource base.
- Study the possibility of providing special environmental courses as part of Sida's courses for consultants and the Swedish resource base.
- Study the possibility of e-learning in the environment field for external partners.

#### **International Training Programmes (ITP)**

- Review Sida's contract documents in respect of course content, including the integration of environmental matters, for procurements of international training programmes.
- Integrate the environment perspective in the wording of the objectives of international training programmes.
- Make a follow-up of the environmental content in international training programmes.
- Add a training programme on climate change to the ITP programme.
- Review the focus and content of international training programmes with an environmental focus, with a view to possible further additions.

# **Division for Organisational Learning (EOL)**

- Develop the environmental content in all preparatory courses for persons taking up positions abroad.
- Consider forms for making it compulsory for Sida staff to attend certain training programmes, including those on the environment.
- Review the environmental content in the introductory course for new members of staff.
- Develop methods for network-based training directed not least towards Sida staff stationed abroad, including NPOs.

#### International Recruitment and Training Division (RIU)

 Strengthen the environmental component in the preparatory training for Bilateral Associate Experts and Junior Professional Officers.

#### Information Department (INFO)

- Ensure that the environmental perspective is integrated in the activities of the new Zenit functions in Malmö and Gothenburg.
- Ensure that sustainable development is presented in the information provided within the framework of Zenit's current activities.
- Develop the environmental content in Zenit's website.
- Develop Sida's website as an important communications tool, for example to reduce the use of paper.
- Develop "Partner Point" to spread information on Sida's environmental thinking and environmental requirements.
- Develop the publications database in the Information Centre in order to make it possible to "print on demand"
- Sign agreements with printers that can print material locally in each continent.
- Specify the environmental requirements in the printing of Sida's publications.
- Develop the environmental content in "Omvärlden".
- Increase the amount of information on the environment in English in Sida-Inside.
- Arrange training in environmental matters for the staff working in the Information Centre.
- Develop the environmental content of Sida's website.
- Investigate the possibility of developing environmental material for schools through the "Global School".
- Develop environmental aspects in cooperation with the "World in the School".
- Integrate aspects relating to the environment in forthcoming years' thematic information programmes: economic growth (2003/4), HIV/ Aids (2004/5) and gender (2005/6).
- Develop virtual library systems with the aim of saving space and paper.
- Provide information on Sida as the green office.

# Division for Office Services, Central Archives and Record Management (SERV)

- Study the possibility of extending the use of video conferences.
- Investigate the possibility of replacing the existing heating system at head office with a system that is more environment-friendly.
- Further improve the sorting of office waste.
- Update the information on the "green office" on Sida's intranet and website.
- Improve internal information on the recycling of waste paper.

# **Environment Policy Division (MIL)**

- Produce a strategy for extending support for the development of environmental institutions.
- Give prominence to the need of a policy dialogue with the partner countries in respect of institution development in the environmental field (legislation, environmental economics, organisational issues etc).
- Increase support for the use of environmental economic analysis and environmental economic instruments.
- Establish an integrated programme for issues relating to biological diversity.
- Improve understanding at Sida of the importance of biological diversity for development.
- Summarise future challenges to research in respect of sustainable development in Sida's partner countries.
- Integrate issues relating to vulnerability and biodiversity in strategic environmental analyses.
- Highlight the relationships between population growth and environmental issues in connection with the 10-year follow-up of the population conference in Cairo.
- Further develop the action plans for the integration of selected environmental conventions in development cooperation.
- Investigate forms for reporting on the Millenium Development Goal on "ensure environmental sustainability" and follow-up of WSSD.
- Investigate the advantages and risks associated with genetically modified organisms (GMO).
- Produce information on the relationships between HIV/AIDS and the environment/natural resource management.
- Hold courses in environmental issues for controllers.
- Participate in the discussions in the EU on the integration of the environmental perspective in EU's international development cooperation.
- Cooperate with the World Bank and other donors to improve the environmental content in strategic analyses.
- Cooperate with the World Bank on the development of environmental indicators.

- Participate in DAC's network for environmental issues on, for example environmental fiscal reforms, strategic environmental analysis and conflicts and the environment.
- Improve Sida's capacity to handle environmental impact assessments.
- Examine the conditions for acceptable inclusion of environmental matters in connection with so-called silent partnerships.
- Produce new basic material for training in environmental issues for Sida staff.
- Hold courses in environmental impact assessments for divisions at Sida.
- Contribute to the design of network-based environmental training programmes.
- Support the publication of newsletters on the environment and sustainable development.

Halving poverty by 2015 is one of the greatest challenges of our time, requiring cooperation and sustainability. The partner countries are responsible for their own development. Sida provides resources and develops knowledge and expertise, making the world a richer place.



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