



UTTANRÍKIS- OG MENTAMÁLARÁÐIÐ
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND CULTURE

Requirements and Priorities of the Faroese Government for Development Assistance

The overall objective of Faroese development assistance is to improve standards of living in the societies with whom we cooperate. Guided by the *United Nations Millennium Development Goals*, the Foreign Service of the Faroe Islands gives principal budgetary priority to programmes and projects that support *education, health and sustainable fisheries*. Good health and wellbeing is a precondition for effective learning and that is why health and education are inextricably linked.

Programmes and projects of which the aim is to develop sustainable fisheries are given priority as it is within this particular area that the Faroe Islands can provide a developing country with expert knowledge and core competencies.

The Foreign Service of the Faroe Islands will also give priority to programmes and projects that allow for active involvement by Faroese organisations or other partners who can provide either professional or technical assistance or expertise.

Grants are given to both international governmental institutions and non-governmental organisations (Faroese and Foreign) and up to 80% of the total budget. Priority is given to applications which can demonstrate self-finance and co-finance by other parties.

Development assistance is restricted to programmes and projects in countries designated by the OECD as developing countries. The OECD classifies developing countries into four groups: 1) Least developed countries, 2) Other low income countries, 3) Lower middle income countries and territories and 4) Upper middle income countries and territories. The criteria for grants apply to all four types of countries. First priority is, however, given to group 1 and 2 and second to group 3 and 4, provided that the application otherwise complies with the criteria and requirements for development assistance. Further information is available on the website of the Foreign Service.

The end objective of all development assistance is to contribute to the empowerment of the beneficiary to improve his livelihood beyond the formal termination of the project. In the assessment of the application the Foreign Service therefore attaches great importance to the fact that the beneficiary's involvement and perceived ownership of the project can be demonstrated in the application. This is to ensure that the development assistance is allocated in accordance

with the beneficiary's perceived need for assistance and to secure the continuation and sustainable development of the project beyond the financial assistance.

- In addition hereto it is also required that the applicant organisation meets the criteria for development assistance cited below:
- The applicant organisation must be registered in the Faroe Islands or elsewhere.
- The applicant organization must demonstrate knowledge and cultural understanding of the country in which the project will be based.
- Projects supported by the Foreign Service must be politically and religiously neutral.
- Community involvement and collaboration with local partners in setting of aims and objectives for the project is encouraged and should to the extent possible be documented.
- To ensure effective project and programme management the applicant organization must document commitment to carry out monitoring and evaluation practices.
- The applicant organization must address the sustainability of the programme beyond the requested funding.
- The applicant organization must document that administrative costs will be contained within reasonable limits, and that as much funding as possible is to meet the end objective of the project.
- Applicants should consider ways to promote the Faroe Islands as part of the project.
- Priority is given to applicants who demonstrate a willingness to consider Faroese participation in the implementation of the project e.g. by way of voluntary work, technical support etc.

To ensure effective processing of the application it is of great importance that the project and programme is duly described and that all questions on the application form are addressed. For further information please see the guidance notes at the back of the application form for development assistance. Applicants are also welcome to contact the Foreign Service.