

How the Nordic NMCA's Contribute in Development Projects

Peter WASSTRÖM, Sweden, Maria LODIN, Norway

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INTRODUCTION

A Nordic Working Group for International Services was established in the spring of 2015. This presentation shows how the Nordic National Mapping and Cadastre Agencies (Nordic NMCA) can contribute in development projects.

The purposes for this group are:

- To create a stronger Nordic International Services for the development cooperation
- Donor cooperation through a common voice to e.g. the World Bank
- Complementary projects
- More resources provides greater expertise
- Skills development
- Better results in the projects within beneficiary countries
- Increase the Nordic development aid and cooperation within the land sector
- Shared competence
- Cooperation on the international arena

BACKGROUND

The Nordic countries NMCA's have since the 1970's worked with different development projects with their sister organisations in the beneficiary countries and contributes to the sustainable development, both nationally and internationally, to the society and its economic development.

The Nordic NMCA's create conditions for building and developing real property and infrastructure. They manages the legal and technical processes for buying, owning and selling real property. They are also, within each country, the national coordinator for geographical data. The Nordic NMCA's does this in collaboration with other central and local government authorities and the private sector both nationally and internationally.

The Nordic NMCA's also contributes to poverty reduction and sustainable development through support to sister organisations in developing countries - mainly within the area of mapping, cadastre and land registration - through the Nordic NMCA's expertise.

Often land management and land administration issues are included as important components of the national development programs in these countries. Through more efficient land

administration and service delivery, economic development can be enhanced, which can contribute to poverty reduction.

The overall target of the Nordic NMCA's development assistance is to ensure that those in poverty have the ability to improve their living conditions and also to work with improving land administration and tenure security. There are following three important areas of priority for equitable and sustainable development:

- Democracy and human rights
- Climate and environment
- Equality and women's role in development

APPROACH

The cooperation between the Nordic MCAs is traditionally strong, both because of the geographical circumstances but also because we are all small countries that can benefit a lot from cooperating. We generally have similar views and approaches to different tasks for our operation and it make sense to join forces. If we can use each other resources, we do not have to reinvent the wheel because somebody might sit on the solution in any of our neighbouring countries. We wish to also transfer this philosophy to the countries we work in with our development projects.

More donors in a development project might not necessary mean a better result but if the donor-coordination is excellent and efficient this might very well be the case. We think we can provide such communication.

CONCLUSION

With multiple well-established mapping authorities supporting an agency in a less developed country, we can ensure capacity building in a coordinated, well-thought through and efficient manner. The key experts/resources that cannot be released from one NMCA could be found within another NMCA.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES: PETER WASSTRÖM

Peter Wasström has a Master of Science in Land Surveying and over 25 years of experience in land and geographic information systems and register, business and strategic planning, project management and international relations at Lantmäteriet, the Swedish mapping, cadastral and land registration authority. Peter Wasström is now the Head of International Services Department at Lantmäteriet.

CONTACTS

Head of International Services Department, Peter Wasström
Lantmäteriet – The Swedish Mapping, Cadastral and Land Registration Authority
Lantmäterigatan 2
S-801 82 Gävle
SWEDEN
Tel. +46 70 672 99 22
Email: peter.wasstrom@lm.se
Web site: www.lantmateriet.se

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES: MARIA LODIN

Maria Lodin has a Master of Science in Land Surveying and over 10 years of experience in land and geographic information systems and register, business and strategic planning, project management and international relations at Lantmäteriet, the Swedish mapping, cadastral and land registration authority. Maria Lodin does now work at Kartverket, the Norwegian Mapping Authority at their International Services.

CONTACTS

International Services Department, Maria Lodin
Kartverket, the Norwegian Mapping Authority
Kartverksveien 21
3511 Hønefoss
NORWAY
Tel. +47 32 11 30 41
Email: maria.lodin@kartverket.no
Web site: www.kartverket.no