

THE RIGHT TO ART AND CULTURE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT



“*The Right to Art and Culture*” is based on “*The Right to a Better Life*” – Strategy for Denmark’s Development Cooperation 2012, applying a human rights based approach to development cooperation. Guided by the principles of non-discrimination, participation & inclusion, transparency and accountability The Right to Art and Culture provides strategic guidance and inspiration for the integration of art, creativity and culture within Denmark’s development cooperation.

Strategic Priorities

Based on challenges in the current global context, Denmark’s international commitments in relation to the human rights framework, and the experience from Denmark’s earlier engagement in culture and development, future Danish support to culture and development will primarily focus on the following strategic priorities:

1. Empowering people through active participation in art and cultural activities

Strengthen the voice and creative expressions of marginalised groups through active participation in cultural activities by supporting the accessibility to cultural activities through the development of inclusive cultural and art infrastructure.

2. Ensuring freedom of expression for artists and cultural actors

Promote open spaces and democratic platforms while strengthening the capacities and opportunities of artists and their organisations.

3. Enhancing economic growth through creative industries

Support local job creation and sustainability of creative industries through capacity development for cultural entrepreneurs in business development.

4. Strengthening peace and reconciliation in post-conflict areas through art and cultural activities

Strengthen the access of conflict affected and displaced populations to cultural activities as means for re-establishing a normal life, and support art and cultural initiatives as means for establishing trust and mutual understanding.

5. Promoting intercultural dialogue and intercultural collaboration

Widen the common professional ground in Denmark and abroad by creating dynamic meeting places for international and regional exchanges in the area of art and culture. Support artistic collaborations focusing on new creations reflecting contemporary trends in society in Denmark and developing countries.

Implementation modalities

A **human rights based approach** will be adopted in all interventions in accordance with Danida’s overall development strategy and Danida’s modalities for practical implementation of this approach. The values laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will underpin the implementation of the strategy, which will be guided by accountability, transparency, participation and inclusion, and non-discrimination. A situational analyses at country level is part of the programme preparation.

Programmes and projects will be **driven by demand in partner countries** to ensure relevance to the intended beneficiary groups and to enhance prospects of impact and sustainability. Strong focus will be placed on local ownership and sustainability and with respectful partnerships as the essential modality of implementation. All support will be based on local relevance and demands and highly competent national and international partners.

Outreach in combination with capacity development will be a key focus area in future programmes at country level. Activities need to be relevant to – and reach out to – broader population groups. Artists and cultural operators need to be supported to ensure high artistic quality standards and innovation in the cultural sector. This is often achieved through involving a combination of different types of partners in a programme.