

## **Examples of the mainstreaming of ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) in Danish programme development activities.**

### **Support to the legal system in Uganda**

*Project status: Ongoing*

*Grant: 19 millions USD*

*Goal:* Through support to the legal system in Uganda the project aims at bettering the public security, including human and social conditions in the country.

*Approach:* Information and Communication Technologies are used to secure transparent and efficient structures and procedures in the legal system. Additionally, the project renovates and rebuilds the courts of law, trains and develops the human resources in the legal administration, and supports general activities to support the legal system.

*Expected outcome:* A transparent and well functioning legal system in Uganda.

### **Programme for Good Governance in Bhutan**

*Project status: Ongoing*

*Grant: 6,7 millions USD (first phase)*

*Goal:* The programme supports the government of Bhutan with setting up an efficient public sector.

*Approach:* The Division of Information Technology (DIT) is upgraded so it is able to function as a centrally coordinating body for all computer activities in the country. Additionally DIT is aided in developing a countrywide ICT strategy. Other activities include education of employees at the Royal Institute of Management (RIM), strengthening of Parliamentary auditing, and reinforcement of the Inland Revenue department.

*Expected outcome:* A well functioning system of governance, including collection of taxes and dues and the use of ICT as an integrated part of the public administration.

### **Support to the media in Bhutan**

*Project status: Ongoing*

*Grant: 18,8 millions USD*

*Goal:* To increase the level of information and education in Bhutan through support to the weekly newspaper “Kuensel” and the daily radio programmes of Bhutan Broadcasting Services.

*Approach:* The weekly newspaper “Kuensel” is supported with digital equipment and computer aided administration systems. In addition to the paper version of the newspaper, Kuensel is established as an Internet publication. The web page of the newspaper has created a new standard in Bhutan for public debate and transparency.

The radio station is supported through purchase of technical equipment for increased range of transmittance and number of listeners.

*Expected outcome:* A well functioning system of governance, including collection of taxes and dues and the use of ICT as an integrated part of the public administration.

### **Support to production of weekly television programme in Nicaragua**

*Project status:* 1999-2001

*Grant:* 572.000 UDS

*Project description:* Through the production of a weekly critical and independent TV programme the projects wants to encourage the general debate about the development of the Nicaraguan society. The project is a coordinated effort of the Scandinavian countries.

*Approach:* The television media offers a possibility to deal with political and economical issues of national importance in a popular way. Themes like poverty, corruption, transparency in the public administration, good governance, decentralisation, debt, new technology, use of pesticides i.e. are dealt with in this very popular programme. Training seminars for journalist students have also been carried out.

*Expected outcome:* A higher level of public participation in the political debate in the country, including a higher percentage of voters in the electoral processes.

### **Sector programme support to infrastructure in Nicaragua**

*Project status:* Ongoing

*Grant:* 99,9 millions UDS

*Goal:* Support to the social and economic development by reducing the cost of transportation in Nicaragua.

*Approach:* One of the tools used to develop the infrastructure in Nicaragua is to establish a computer based road maintenance programme (PMS) as well as a bridge maintenance programme (BMS). Other modalities are work intensive methods and local participation in the infrastructure programme.

*Expected outcome:* Increased trade and improved economy through access to and from productive areas in poor regions of Nicaragua.

## **Education and information project in Nepal**

*Project status: 2000-2006*

*Grant: 494.000 UDS*

*Goal:* To raise the level of education and awareness about health issues in Nepal, specifically in three districts South of Mount Everest.

*Approach:* Production of information and educational radio programmes for the 50.000 persons who can receive the radio programmes. Instruction and tuition on how to a low cost radio station is also included in the project. Other elements of the programme aim at addressing 40 women's groups with issues of human rights, health, and alphabetisation through radio programmes.

*Expected outcome:* Improved health conditions and level of alphabetisation.

## **Support to the start up of the Danish IT company Metrocomia in Uganda through the Private Sector Development (PSD) programme**

*Project status: 2000-2002*

*Grant: 467.000 UDS*

*Goal:* Establishment of a joint venture "NetGuide East Africa" between the Danish IT company Metrocomia with the company Ugandan Mail-Net. The PSD Programme's Start-up Facility supports the project.

*Approach:* The new company "NetGuide East Africa" will work with design and programming of Internet web pages as well as IT solutions for private businesses. Additionally, the company will be base for training of staff from other joint ventures in neighbouring countries.

*Expected outcome:* The joint venture between the two firms is expected to profit from the lower production costs in Uganda. Metrocomia can make use of the experience from Uganda to establish new PSD cooperation projects in Bangladesh and Vietnam. 25 new jobs to be established in Uganda and in the region. Transfer of ICT competencies to the local employees.