

Swedish Country Cooperation Strategy with Guatemala 2008-2012

In 2009, the Swedish government commissioned SADEV to conduct a series of evaluations of Swedish cooperation strategies. This evaluation focuses on the country cooperation strategy with Guatemala. It concentrates on a selection of results generated from Swedish support and on the functioning of the strategy as a management instrument. The purpose of the evaluation is to contribute to learning regarding the preparation and the implementation process of the strategy and regarding the results of different interventions in Guatemala. This can serve as a foundation for the future design of bilateral development cooperation.

Swedish development cooperation with Guatemala goes back to the early 1980s when Swedish support was given to alleviate the humanitarian consequences of the internal conflict that lasted for 36 years. Since then Sweden has been an active partner in supporting the consolidation of peace and democracy. The overall objective of Sweden's current development cooperation strategy with Guatemala is to create the conditions for durable peace and poverty reduction from a rights based and poor peoples' perspective on development. The strategy identifies three sectors of cooperation: Democratic governance and human rights; sustainable poverty oriented economic growth in poor regions; and health. The evaluation assessed a selection of interventions in each sector according to the DAC criteria relevance and effectiveness (goal attainment). The assessment

of the functioning of the strategy as a management instrument consisted of assessing whether the guidelines of the Swedish government have been complied with during the preparation and implementation process. Primary data has been collected through review of documents and to some extent through interviews with Sida and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

KEY FINDINGS

Regarding the evaluation criteria of *relevance*, the interventions in each sector are deemed relevant in relation to the sector goals.

Concerning *goal attainment*, each intervention has either attained their goals, partly attained them or has good prospects of attaining them. Furthermore, the interventions have contributed to the attainment of the sector goals.

The thematic priorities of Swedish development cooperation have been integrated into the intervention documentation. However, the integration varies depending on the focus of the intervention.

Regarding *the cooperation strategy as a management instrument*, the government's guidelines have been complied with during the preparation process of the strategy. However, because of limited access to material, it is not possible to assess whether the guidelines have been complied with during the implementation process.

SOURCES AND FURTHER INFORMATION

This SADEV Evaluation Brief is based on the report *Swedish Country Cooperation Strategy with Guatemala 2008-2012*, SADEV Report 2012:5. This and other SADEV publications are available at www.sadev.se