

Normative dialogue addresses Swedish values and priorities and is part of Sida's global advocacy work to get better development results to reduce poverty and promote a human rights based approach, gender equality, conflict prevention and the integration of the environment and climate change perspective. This brief is an example of a normative dialogue on environment and climate change between Sida and the Coffee and Climate Initiative.

BACKGROUND

Sustainable practices and improved adaptation strategies make smallholder coffee farmers more competitive and resilient to climate change. This is the aim and strategy of the global Coffee and Climate Initiative (CCI) that works with producers and service providers along selected green coffee supply chains in key coffee regions in Brazil, Trifinio (Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras), Tanzania and Vietnam. CCI is a partnership between International Coffee Partners (ICP)¹, and Sida², a so-called Public Private Development Partnership (PPDP) implemented by the non-for profit foundation Hanns R Neumann Stiftung (HRNS).

DESCRIPTION OF THE DIALOGUE

Safe management of pesticides was identified as a priority dialogue question for Sida early in the cooperation with CCI. Due to concerns over pesticide-related risks to health and the environment, Sida intensified the communication in various meetings, video calls and workshops with HRNS, ICP, embassies and other relevant stakeholders, including the Swedish Chemicals agency (KemI) on possible ways forward. A concrete action was the health and environment risk assessment of the CCI carried out in 2016. The risk assessment report recommended

better understanding, management, and monitoring of pesticide-related risks under the governing principles of national legislation, the FAO Code of conduct, and EU norms on banned pesticides.

With the results of the risk assessment as a starting point, Sida engaged KemI, as an independent expert support, to guide HRNS in the development of activities and guidelines. The aim was to strengthen knowledge about chemical management, risks and identifying sustainable practices.

In Tanzania, KemI acted not only as a resource for HRNS but also as a facilitator. Together they created a platform, a place for dialogue, mutual learning and collaboration, between HRNS and the national authority, the Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI)³, who is the country authority responsible for registration of pesticides in Tanzania.

An important opportunity for dialogue is that Sida holds a seat as an observer in the steering committee of the CCI. In this position, Sida has been able to get to know the ICP partners involved and their challenges. Hence, Sida has been able to identify windows of opportunities to push for several of Sida priorities and contribute to a transformation not only of the CCI but also of other initiatives financed by the ICP.

Sida intends to continue to pursue a coordinated approach to a normative dialogue especially on biodiversity, sustainable agriculture and food security with the partner and other actors in the cooperation, primarily through participation in the steering group (the Sida programme manager) and the expert group (the Sida thematic expert), thereby contributing to the long-term self-sustaining of the initiative.

¹ International Coffee Partners (ICP) is a partnership between eight private family-run coffee companies (Neumann Gruppe, Lavazza, Löffbergs, Paulig, Tchibo, Joh. Johansson Kaffe, Franck and Delta Cafés) The Partnership was established in 2001, with the aim of improving the livelihoods of small-scale growers, including making them more competitive, thereby helping to strengthen the ability of coffee companies to continue to purchase coffee beans in the future. www.coffee-partners.org

² For the first years GIZ (The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH) was also part of the initiative

³ TPRI works under the Tanzania Government through Parliament Act No. 18 of 1979. The Institute conducts research in tropical pests affecting plants, livestock and human health. www.tpri.go.tz



Women coffee farmers in Tanzania.
Photo: Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung (HRNS)

MAIN RESULTS

HRNS has acknowledged the value of the learning and guidance from the risk assessment. The collaboration with Keml has been most instrumental for the CCI and HRNS and has helped them to a more structured and responsible approach to agro-chemicals and pesticide management. Further, the knowledge and recommendations in the training material developed in Tanzania has been incorporated and rolled out to other CCI partners in other countries.

Through the support from Keml, The Tropical Pesticides Research Institute and HRNS has gained increased understanding for each other's arguments and also realised benefits in mutual learning from the exchange of experiences e.g. from fieldwork and research cooperation and they have continued the dialogue on their own.

Moreover, increased knowledge about safe handling of pesticides and climate adaptation issues has now been integrated into the entire ICP's operations.

KEY TAKE AWAYS

- Engaging an authority such as Keml, which has no self-interests in the particular project, but international experience and a long-term strategic collaboration with Sida, is of great value. The authority can thereby allow itself to be proactive (as a Team Sweden player) in the dialogue with partners, and has vast experience to share from other relevant contexts.
- Engagement in steering group's meetings gives strategic opportunities for sharing of information and learning. It also gives an important opportunity to promote Swedish priorities to a wider audience.
- Through the engagement of Sida's thematic experts in expert committees, Sida has an additional opportunity to contribute with knowledge and initiate a normative dialogue on for Sida relevant issues.

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