Advisory Fund for Structural and Regulatory Policy Reforms (FSRP)

The context

Many partner countries of German development cooperation are undertaking fundamental reforms of their administrative and economic systems. The Federal Republic of Germany has many years of experience in implementing effective reforms in these areas. In our partner countries there is a high level of interest in analysing the specific structural and regulatory approaches taken by Germany, and in using elements of these and lessons learned in their own reform projects. Many partner countries are interested, for instance, in how Germany's federal system works, in political participation and accountability within the state, in Germany's tax administration, public financial management and (green and inclusive) economic policy.

Nevertheless, the experiences with structural and regulatory policy approaches taken by Germany are not used systematically when it comes to advising reform initiatives in partner countries of German Development Cooperation. Knowledge holders, experienced specialists and institutions in Germany, be it within administrative authorities, the scientific and research community at national and state level, the private sector or civil society are at best involved in an unsystematic manner. Yet their expertise and experience would be valuable resources partner countries could draw on when planning and realising their own reform projects.

Objective of the project

The FSRP is working to make German policy experiences in the areas of decentralisation, political participation, public

finances and green economic policy available to partner countries. The objective of the program is to help shape reform initiatives in selected countries by making use of German structural and regulatory approaches that are considered relevant by policy makers in these countries.

Procedure

To this end between 2016 and 2018 the fund is establishing and developing networks of German experts, active and former policy makers and administrative authorities in the fields of *decentralisation*, *political participation*, *public financial management and (green and inclusive) economic policy*. Through these networks, partner countries' abilities to implement reforms are being enhanced.

Support for the partners in shaping and implementing reform processes is demand-driven and takes the forms of study trips, moderated exchanges at specialist level and twinning arrangements with German administrative authorities. High-ranking experts and German practitioners, who have themselves developed and implemented reforms in Germany, also support the design and implementation process in partner countries within the scope of short-term expert assignments. With the fund, they reflect on their experience under the specific conditions prevailing in partner countries so as to make it possible to draw on German achievements in the respective context.

Partner countries

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has selected six bilateral programs

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with which the project will be cooperating until the end of its term:

Bolivia | Priority area: fiscal decentralisation
Myanmar | Priority area: social and ecological market economy
Pakistan | Priority area: decentralisation
Palestinian territories | Priority area: participatory development and regional planning
Peru | Priority area: public management schools
Serbia | Priority area: regional planning

Results

In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, mutual learning and knowledge transfers play a very important role. The sharing of knowledge, experiences and expertise is a precondition for capacity building, sustainable development and achieving the sustainable development goals.

A whole series of joint conferences, workshops and shortterm expert assignments bring the identified knowledge holders from the realms of politics and administration, science and research, the private sector, the media and civil society in Germany together with their counterparts in partner countries. These formats for exchange foster a knowledge transfer and mutual learning, and raise the awareness of actors and organisations in Germany and of the general public in Germany of the value of development cooperation that is clearly seen as being 'made in Germany'.



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