



MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS | DIRECTORATE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

# ICELANDIC DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION





## History – Framework

- **1971** Act on Iceland's Assistance to the Developing Countries (No 20/1971)
- **1981** Act on ICEIDA, Icelandic International Development Agency (No 43/1981)
- **2001** Iceland Crisis Response Unit
- **2007** Act on the Icelandic Crisis Response Unit and its Participation in International Crisis Response (No 73/2007)
- **2008** Act on Iceland's International Development Cooperation (No 121/2008)
- **2009** Regulation No 894/2009 on the implementation of International Development Cooperation
- **2009** Directorate for International Development Cooperation (at the MFA)



## LEGISLATION

- Act No 121/2008 on Iceland's International Development Cooperation
  - Entered into force October 1, 2008
- Comprehensive framework for Iceland's international development cooperation
- Increase transparency and accountability
- Increase the role of the parliament
- Emphasize civil society and cooperation with NGOs
- Clear reference to international agreements and declarations
- Policy making: Strategy on Iceland's development cooperation



## Implementation of Act No 121/2008 (1)

- The main objective of Iceland's international development cooperation
- Achieving the MDGs:
  - Fight against Poverty and Hunger
  - Human Rights
  - Education
  - Improved Health
  - Gender Equality
  - Sustainable Development
  - Sustainable use of Natural Resources



## Implementation of Act No 121/2008 (2)

- ICEIDA – Icelandic Development Agency
  - Separate agency under the authority of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
  - Director General appointed by Minister for Foreign Affairs
- Council on International Development Cooperation
  - Consultative body
  - 17 members: chairperson, 5 from NGOs, 2 from academia, 2 from social partners, 7 members elected by Parliament
- Development Cooperation Committee
  - 7 members elected by Parliament





## Implementation of Act No 121/2008 (3)

- Regulation on the Implementation of Icelandic International Development Cooperation (No 894/2009)
  - Steering Group on International Development
  - Operates within the MFA
  - 5 members: Permanent Secretary of State (chairman), DG of the Directorate for Intl. Dev. Cooperation, DG of ICEIDA, Director of the Department for International Development and Head of ICRU
- Harmonisation of procedures with regards to planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Strategy for Iceland's International Development Cooperation
- Reporting to Parliament



## Organisational Structure

- Ministry for Foreign Affairs
  - Overall responsibility for Icelandic international development cooperation
- Directorate for International Development Cooperation
  - Department for Multilateral Development Cooperation
    - Multilateral Organisations: UN agencies, World Bank Group
    - Policy: DAC, Nordic+
    - Statistics
    - Cooperation with NGOs
  - Iceland Crisis Response Unit
    - Peace building
    - Secondment of staff to International Organisations
    - Emergency Response
    - Humanitarian Aid
- ICEIDA – Icelandic International Development Agency
  - Bilateral Agreements with Partner Countries
  - Regional/Cross-country Cooperation

**Council on International Development Cooperation**







# ICELAND'S STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION 2011 - 2014

- Stipulated by Act no. 121/2008
- In June 2011 the Althingi (Icelandic parliament) adopted a parliamentary resolution on a Strategy for Iceland's Development Cooperation 2011-2014.
- Comprehensive Approach
  - Multilateral and bilateral cooperation
  - Humanitarian assistance
  - Peace-building efforts
- Key principles:
  - **Responsibility**
    - Transparency and mutual responsibility
  - **Results**
    - Administration, procedures, methodology to maximise results
  - **Reliability**
    - Strive for professionalism and to be a reliable partner

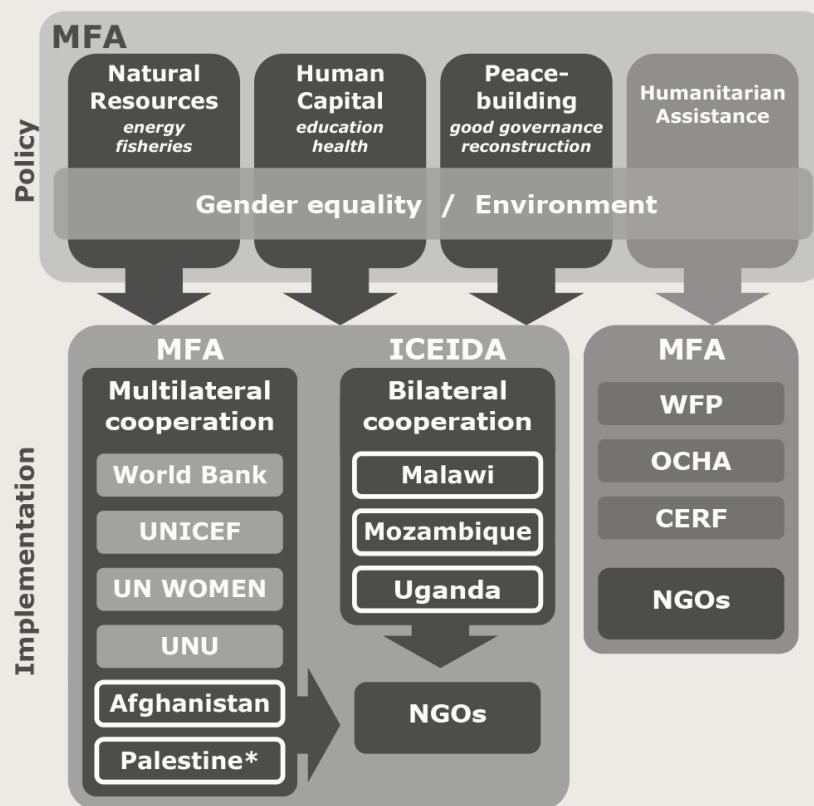


## POINT OF DEPARTURE

- ***International development cooperation is one of the key pillars of Iceland's foreign policy***
- **Focus**
  - Fight against poverty and hunger, human rights, gender equality, democracy, peace and security
- **International commitments**
  - The Millennium Development Goals
  - Monterrey Consensus
  - Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action
- **Other International Agreements**
  - UN Agreements on Human Rights, UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, CEDAW, CCD, UNFCCC, UNCLOS



# ICELAND'S STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION 2011 - 2014





## Strategy 2011-2014: Development Effectiveness

- Emphasis on international agreements on results and aid effectiveness
  - Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action
- Full Membership of the OECD/DAC
- Joint Human Resource Policy for the MFA and ICEIDA
- Joint working groups of experts
  - Gender Equality
  - Natural Resources
  - Aid Effectiveness
- Policy Formulation
  - Gender Equality Strategy
  - Environmental Strategy
  - Country Strategies



## ICELAND'S ODA - TARGETS

- **Iceland's ODA**
  - 2000: 0.12% of GNI
  - 2008: 0.37% of GNI
  - 2010: 0.28% of GNI
  - 2011: 0.21% of GNI
- **Strategy envisages gradual increase**
  - 0,5% of GNI by 2017 and 0.7% by 2019
- **Revision of target**
  - Accelerated in 2013 when the Strategy comes up for review
  - If GNI grows faster than predicted



# ICELAND AND THE EUROPEAN CONSENSUS

- **The Millennium Development Goals**
  - Poverty focus
  - Gender equality and empowerment of women
  - Environmental sustainability
  - Global partnerships
- **Common Values and Principles**
  - Respect for human rights, equality, peace and democracy
  - Mutual accountability, ownership and participation
- **Development Effectiveness**
  - Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action
  - HLF Busan 2011
- **Official Development Assistance (ODA)**
  - 0.7% target





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# THANK YOU!