

Policy for development aid through PYM

2013 - 2017

History

Already in 1910 the first missionaries were sent out from the Pentecostal churches in Norway. And at the entrance to 1920-ies, Norwegian Pentecostal missionaries were represented on four continents. In the hundred years since its inception, over a thousand missionaries have been sent out from the Norwegian Pentecostal churches. Social commitment has always been strong, and work among the poor has been a major focus. Establishment of health- and school activities have been extensive. Today there are about one hundred delegated missionaries and there are missions in over 50 countries. Cooperation with sister churches has increased and most of the development work is being implemented by these partners.

Character

The Pentecostal Movement in Norway is network-based and consists of some 300 local congregations. Legally, every church is registered as a separate church. In practice these appear as a relatively cohesive movement. The Pentecostal movement has, through its joint conversation - forum chosen a Lederråd (Leaders' Council). This Council has an advisory capacity to the churches and its mission is to represent the movement to the outside world.

Mission

The Pentecostal Mission of Norway (PYM) was created with the intent to coordinate the member churches' mission work. This means that Pym has a service function related to the work undertaken, both missional and diaconal. All development work, with government support, is legally deferred to Pym. All aid work is carried out in cooperation with our partners.

Vision

PYM will, through their activities, contribute to the liberation of individual and community resources so that the target group is able to develop themselves and their communities.

Values

The Bible's humanity and the responsibility implied in stewardship are the basis for everything Pym undertakes. We want everything we do to be characterised by commitment, credibility, respect and competence.

Involvement

With the commitment we mean burning hearts to show Jesus' love in action. We hope that this excitement will lead to action and dedication to our work.

Credibility

We want to work honestly, reliably and responsibly. The work we do, is committing us and should lead to tangible results.

Respect

We will show each other respect and recognize that all people are equal before God. We will show this through dialogue and cooperation.

Competence

We will use the collective knowledge, skills, abilities and attitudes that make it possible to perform the relevant functions and duties in accordance with defined requirements and goals. We benefit from our experience and network, are willing to learn and adapt.

Goals

All projects shall aim to combat poverty. Measures aimed at food security and income-generating activities should be consistent in all projects. This can be either in the form of creating awareness, skills or activities.

Concern for the environment and the local milieu should be reflected in all project plans. It is important that goals are verifiable, so that by the end of the five year period it will be possible to say whether we have achieved what we wanted or not.

In this five-year period we will particularly focus on the following objectives:

- Strengthened anchoring and commitment
- Increased awareness and competence
- Increased quality control, corruption prevention and follow-up
- Ensured verified results and sustainability

At the end of the period of five years:

- All Pentecostal churches in Norway, who are engaged in missionary work, are aware of PYM's assistance policy and the possibilities and limitations of projects with governmental support.
- All Pentecostal churches in Norway have access to regularly updated information on aid projects.
- All officers, managers and members of the PYM-committee related to aid work, have appropriate skills at an acceptable level.
- Every major event under PYM's auspices has at least one contribution related to development work.
- All PYM supported projects have their basis in a local need. An application has been submitted by a partner in a development country.
- All PYM supported projects have plans to ensure sustainability. For new projects, the application shall also include plans for how sustainability can be achieved.
- All projects must document the results for the target population, relevant to the written goals,
- All PYM's partners and their staff in the field have the necessary expertise and receive regular follow-up in management, finance and stewardship.

Critical success factors

Pym has accumulated decades of experience in international project work. In cooperation with our partners at home and abroad, we have identified some factors that we consider to be essential for successful work and good results. These we will emphasize in all ongoing and new development work.

These factors are:

- Local ownership
- Contractual Partnership
- Good and clear leadership at all levels
- Clear and delimited targets with performance indicators
- Adequate and well-planned progress plan
- Good stewardship and financial management
- Adaptability and flexibility

Criteria for country selection:

It is important to have good procedures for the selection of countries where PYM will conduct projects. Digni has its own criteria for what is required to start or operate a project in a country. PYM wants to adapt these. On the basis of these, and at its own discretion, PYM has determined that the choice of a country shall meet the following criteria:

- PYM has work or collaboration with a local partner in the country
- PYM has experience over a certain period of time in the country
- PYM helps to increase the opportunities and / or improve conditions for poor and marginalized people

Criteria for choice of themes

Pym has extensive experience in many subject areas. It is important to us that the needs, skills and possibility of sustainability are guidelines for what we choose to focus on in each country. It might be shifting in official focus of public aid, which probably will affect the development portfolio of PYM to a certain extent. This should not overshadow a thorough assessment, in cooperation with local partners, of what we consider to be the right investment. In the coming period PYM will use the following criteria for the selection of themes:

- That the initiative will benefit poor and / or marginalised groups
- The real need for investment in this subject area and that we should not compete with other serious players
- That PYM has a collaborative partner who has expertise and or can acquire the necessary expertise in the theme
- That PYM has the basic competence in the theme that this initiative will help to promote the values PYM is responsible to.