

Norad Programme in Arts and Cultural Education
2006 – 2008/9

Programme Document

1. Background

1.1 The Norad Programme in Arts and Cultural Education

The Norad programme in Arts and Cultural Education (ACE) is a programme for cooperation between institutions for cultural education in the South and partners in Norway.

The Programme aims to contribute to the strengthening of cultural education institutions in the South by means of joint activities and professionalisation of artists and art forms.

The ACE was launched in 2003 for a three year period. The Programme portfolio included eight projects. A review of ACE was undertaken in the autumn of 2004. Recommendations from the review and current development cooperation policy formed the basis for development of a set of guidelines for the next programme period. The guidelines were agreed upon in the biannual meeting between Norad and SIU on 27th June 2005 and are incorporated in this Programme document.

The second three-year period, with a possible extension to five years, will start in the second half of 2006.

2. Goal and objectives

2.1. Goal

The goal of ACE is to contribute to the strengthening of cultural education institutions in the South and to the professionalisation of artists and art forms.

2.2. Objectives

Objectives for the ACE Programme are:

- To establish models for cultural education that lead to formal qualifications for the students
- To contribute to the development of art and culture as sources of income for graduates and cultural institutions
- To strengthen the competence and independence of cultural institutions involved, by contributing to the development of professional cultural arenas and networks in Norway's main partner countries and between countries in the South
- To contribute toward gender balance among students

3. Cooperation, commitment and responsibility

3.1. Basic principles of cooperation

ACE supports long-term institutional cooperation and cooperation projects between at least one institution in the South and one institution in Norway based on the following principles:

1. The needs and priorities of the institutions in the South.
2. The selected areas of cooperation should reflect key areas in the institutions' strategic plans and priorities.
3. The cooperation is based on the principle of equality between the partners and should be characterised by transparency at all levels.

3.2. Institutional commitment and responsibility

Institutional cooperation, projects and activities should be anchored at the leadership level of the participating institutions. Projects and activities should be implemented and monitored by the institutions and reported on an annual basis to SIU, according to the objectives.

ACE supports projects with funding for education of Bachelor and Master students from the South, whereas basic salaries and basic infrastructure should be covered by the partner institutions.

Courses leading to a Diploma can only be supported in special cases where the institution in the South is in the process of developing programmes at BA and MA level.

PhD degrees can only be supported in special cases where permanent staff at cooperating institutions in the South need upgrading.

4. Strategic directions for the Programme

4.1. Cooperation agreements

Cooperation agreements between the involved institutions will secure commitment to the projects at all levels. In addition, the cooperating institutions will be encouraged, as far as possible, to develop binding contracts for the students involved. Experiences from the current projects show that such contracts are good tools for formalising the students' and institutions' rights and obligations and for securing sustainability within the institutions.

4.2. Building of network

An important part of contributing to building strong institutions for art and culture in the South is to strengthen their capacity and independence-. This is among other things done through the development of professional arenas and the building of relationships with other institutions in the cultural sector. Such relations should be established both between Norwegian institutions and their partners in the South and through developing networks at different levels between countries in the South.

4.3. Sustainable capacity and competence

All projects supported by ACE should be directed towards building sustainable capacity and competence in the partner institutions in the South. To secure this, the Programme should offer educational opportunities resulting in formal qualifications in the form of Bachelor and Master degrees, relevant for job opportunities in the students' home countries. The institutions are encouraged to utilise a course model based on joint

degrees or a sandwich model where course work is partly done at the partner institution in the South and partly in Norway .

4.4. Employment opportunities for graduated students in art and culture

In order to raise the status of cultural workers and performing artists, the Programme should contribute to the development of art and culture as sources of income for students and cultural institutions. This aspect needs to be taken into consideration in all phases of the Programme and be closely related to the situation in the countries involved.

4.5. Coordination at national level

Projects will be encouraged to coordinate their activities with other Norwegian funded activities in the cultural field in the relevant countries in the South. SIU will provide web-based information concerning on going projects funded by Norad and/or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Possibilities of mutual staff exchange organised by the Norwegian Peace Corpse should be explored.

4.6. Plans for sustainability of projects

All project applications need to reflect on and plan for termination of the proposed projects, and to present plans for how to achieve sustainability after termination of support (“exit strategies”).

4.7. Gender

The second phase of the ACE programme will have a focus on gender mainstreaming. Gender balance among the students should be pursued.

5. Eligibility

5.1. Eligible institutions

Norwegian institutions shall preferably be colleges or universities which are members of the UHR, working in the art and cultural education sector.

If partners at university or university college level cannot be found in the South, Norwegian institutions may sign cooperative agreements with relevant bodies at a lower level, if these intend to develop formal degree courses.

Institutions for cultural education in the South within the following geographical areas are eligible for support by ACE:

1. Countries with which Norway has signed a Memorandum of Understanding in the cultural sector
2. Norway’s main partner countries¹. Special priority will be given to those countries with which Norway is already involved in cultural cooperation

¹ Norway’s main partner countries are: Tanzania, Mozambique, Uganda, Zambia, Malawi, Bangladesh and Nepal. This list is valid as of 1 Desember 2005, but changes can be made due to political decisions. An updated list can at all times be found on Norad’s web-page: www.norad.no

3. Consideration may be given to partner countries in which Norway is active in the cultural sector, if special reasons for such cooperation exist

5.2. Eligible thematic fields

The following thematic subjects are eligible for support:

- Visual arts/sculpture
- Dance
- Design
- Music
- Theatre/drama
- Cultural heritage
- Professionalisation of cultural workers in marketing and management, when these are operating in the cultural sector

6. Application procedures

6.1. Preparation of joint project proposals

Eligible institutions should prepare and submit joint applications to SIU – under the signature of the Vice-Chancellor/Rector. The applications should be based on proposals prepared jointly by the collaborating partners, in which objectives, activities, work plans, budget requirements, etc., are clearly stated.

All project proposals should be submitted electronically as well as in paper version. Further information, guidelines and application form will be available at www.siu.no no later than 9th February 2006. Deadline for submission of project proposals for projects starting up in the second part of 2006 will be 6th April 2006.

6.2. Applications

Applications to ACE will be welcomed from both new and on going bilateral cooperation projects from the first period of ACE.

6.2.1. New bilateral cooperation projects

Bilateral projects are long-term cooperation projects between at least one institution in the South and one institution in Norway. Applications may comprise a period of three plus two years, where the funding for the last two years is dependent on a positive review of the individual projects and the Programme as a whole, after three years.

6.2.2. Ongoing bilateral cooperation projects

Capacity and competence building usually develop through different project phases where three years may be insufficient in order to achieve sustainability. Projects that obtained support from ACE's first period may therefore apply for a second period of support. Extended support is dependent on satisfactory progress and results from the first period.

7. Selection procedures

7.1. The selection process

The selection process for the second period of ACE will be as follows:

1. Joint project proposals for ACE are submitted electronically and in paper version.
2. A peer group consisting of persons with an artistic and academic background in the selected subjects will assess the quality of the proposals.
3. SIU shall consult Norad on development aspects at country level in the process of selection of projects eligible for funding
4. The Programme Board for Scholarship Programmes (The Board), administered by SIU, will undertake the final selection of projects that will be granted support from ACE based on the strategic concerns listed under paragraph four.

7.2. Peer group

The Board will apply a system of external assessment by impartial evaluators of all eligible proposals.

The peer group should have an academic background in the relevant disciplines. The members should have working experience from cultural projects, courses or programmes in the South.

The members of the peer group will be recruited by SIU, based on recommendations from the Board.

Specific Terms of Reference (ToR) for the peer group will be developed by the Programme board. The members of the peer group will be asked to comment on the following issues:

- Achievements in previous period (if applicable)
- Quality of proposed teaching programme
- Expected achievements vs. costs (effectiveness and efficiency)

7.3. The Programme Board for Scholarship Programmes

The Board shall make the final decision of applications that will be granted support. The Board will look into all aspects of the application and the assessments made, including the composition of the total Programme portfolio.

8. Programme outputs and indicators of success

ACE is based on long-term cooperation between institutions. The success of the Programme will be reflected in the achievement of the following outputs to be fulfilled at the end of the programme period:

- To the largest possible degree have established education models based on joint degrees or sandwich models
- To have developed opportunities for a formal education within the eligible thematic fields

- To have developed binding contracts between the institutions and the students
- To have contributed toward coordination between the projects in the Programme and other Norwegian funded development projects within the field of culture
- To have contribute to the development of art and culture as sources of income for graduated students and cultural institutions
- To have established and/or developed professional arenas and networks in the cultural sector in Norway's main partner countries and between countries in the South
- To have stimulated participants to increase the number of female students taking part in the programme.

However, the success of ACE can also be measured by relevant quantitative indicators for the individual project relating directly to the stipulated outputs above. Reporting on these indicators will be presented annually during the programme period, and at its end. Specific programme indicators can only be presented after the final composition of the programme portfolio is made.

Such quantitative indicators are:

Capacity building:

The number of candidates graduated under ACE

The number of working positions established as a result of support by ACE

Scientific quality:

If relevant: the number of activities that have been organised, nationally and internationally

Gender balance:

The number of females and males participating in the Programme

The number of women and men recruited and graduated with a Bachelor and Master Degree Programmes.

9. Reporting procedures

Institutions participating in ACE are responsible for implementation and monitoring of activities in their respective projects. Joint annual progress reports should be submitted electronically and in paper version from the institutions to SIU, which is responsible for the overall reporting from the ACE Programme to Norad. The reporting both from the institutions as well as from SIU should assess achievements against agreed objectives and indicators

Reporting procedures are continuously updated at www.siu.no, and instructions are every year forwarded to the project coordinators.