
**Knowledge and Learning for Human
Rights and Development**

*Nordic Trust Fund
Progress Report*

September 2009 – October 2010



Abbreviations and Acronyms

DAC	Development Assistance Committee
HRTT	Human Rights Task Team
K&P	Knowledge and Partnership
NTF	Nordic Trust Fund
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OHCHR	UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OPCS	Operations Policy and Country Services
OPCCS	OPCS Country Services Department
UN	United Nations

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Summary of Progress

September 2009 – October 2010

The Nordic Trust Fund (NTF) supports a knowledge and learning program to help the World Bank develop an informed view on how human rights relate to the Bank's core mission of promoting economic growth and poverty reduction.

The NTF Secretariat in the World Bank's Operations Policy and Country Services manages the trust fund and supports the work of the NTF Steering Committee (a Vice President-level group that provides overall direction and guidance) and Advisory Committee (a Director-level group that provides guidance on the scope and content of activities).

Progress from inception to October 2010:

Establishment of an NTF Knowledge and Partnership (K&P) program

Delivery of 18 training and capacity-building activities, 15 of them with global, regional, or national-level partners, attended by some 200 Bank staff. Also, establishment of an NTF website and of an NTF Bank staff network comprising some 80 people, and publication of a research study on human rights indicators.

Launch of an NTF grant program

Identification and launch of 27 pilot activities implemented by task teams across the World Bank Group to explore how human rights can improve existing and planned activities through applied research and studies, knowledge and learning events, and partnerships. NTF financial assistance of \$11 million for the 27 programs is complemented by technical support by the NTF Secretariat. About half of the grants are for the Bank's operational units (the Regions); about a quarter for the Sustainable Development, Human Development, and Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Networks; and the final quarter for the Bank's private sector arm, the IFC, the Bank's research unit, DEC, and the World Bank Institute. Thematically, 11 of the 27 activities focus on discrimination and vulnerable groups, and the rest are evenly distributed across civil and political rights, capacity and institutions, and economic, social, and cultural rights. ■



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Introduction

The World Bank's work to alleviate poverty and promote economic growth contributes to the realization of human rights in different areas. The Bank's work has gradually incorporated many human rights-related concepts, in areas such as human development, governance, environment, and social development. Similarly, Bank practices now include greater consideration of outcomes for specific subgroups, households, and individuals; more emphasis on distributional issues, gender, and geographical disparities to complement traditional aggregate measures of welfare; and a growing concern with the procedural aspects of access, participation, consultation, and accountability.

There is limited knowledge in the World Bank about how a systematic consideration to how human rights can improve development interventions and outcomes. Indeed, a recent survey of Bank staff identified knowledge gaps about the formal and institutional side of human rights—that is, laws, definitions, standards, and institutions governing human rights. Bank teams do not typically have direct contact with the main human rights bodies, are not well informed about how human rights could be applied in their work, may fail to see how the core human rights treaties could be relevant to their work, and are uncertain about how human rights can help provide better concrete answers to the hard questions facing development practitioners about how to set priorities and “what actually works.”

The Nordic Trust Fund

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The Nordic Trust Fund (NTF) aims to help the World Bank develop an informed view on how human rights relate to the Bank's core mission by identifying ways to systematize and improve involvement in human rights-related areas in the overall context of its analytic activities and operations.

Through research, capacity building and outreach, pilot projects, and knowledge sharing and partnerships, the NTF explores how the consideration of human rights in addressing poverty reduction can make the Bank's analytic and operational work more effective. It identifies innovative approaches to work in a range of areas, particularly those that empower vulnerable groups—for example, access to education and health, and justice, rule of law, and greater equity and equality in application of the law and legal rights.

The NTF program is consistent with the Bank's mandate and Articles of Agreement and accords with the priorities of developing country partners. It is primarily a Bank-focused “learning by doing” initiative, but it can also include in-country activities if a government expresses interest.

Conceptual Framework

Conceptually, the human rights content of NTF activities is based on three sources:

- ▶ the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and the human rights treaty obligations enshrined in the nine core human rights treaties adopted by the United Nations;
- ▶ the widely endorsed human rights principles (non-discrimination, accountability, participation and transparency) commonly used in human rights-oriented development programs; and
- ▶ good practices in the UN and broader donor community on how to design and implement human rights-based operations.

Activities

NTF activities fall into two categories:

- ▶ **Knowledge and Partnership program.** The NTF K&P program, implemented by the program Secretariat, helps build capacity, deepen partnerships, and develop knowledge, learning, applied research, and analytic work. Lessons learned from NTF-funded activities and from partners are used to develop learning opportunities for Bank staff: human rights-focused seminars, workshops, and other events.
- ▶ **Grant program.** The NTF grant program provides analytic and financial “learning-by-doing” support for task teams across the Bank to integrate human rights perspectives into their task—a project, strategy, study, or monitoring tool. Activities in these pilot programs, implemented by the task teams themselves, include studies and analytic work, capacity building, knowledge and learning, and promotion of partnerships.

Results

In its first year of operation, the NTF has created opportunities for staff to develop a more informed view on how human rights relates to the Bank's core work and mission through its K&P program and helped identify how human rights aspects can be applied to the Bank's work through 27 pilot programs.

Knowledge and Partnership Program

The NTF K&P program has focused activities across certain key themes:

- ▶ **Capacity building.** An informal NTF network, comprising the teams receiving NTF grants and other interested Bank staff, was established; it now has about 80 members, and continues to grow.
- ▶ **Building knowledge and learning.** Over the last year, the NTF has sponsored 18 learning events,

the majority of which were delivered with international, regional, or national partners (the learning events are listed in Annex A.) These events focused on the following areas:

Human rights and development: This included a three-day training course for NTF recipient task teams, which helped them gain a fuller understanding of the international human rights framework and its relevance to Bank operations. The training course also provided an opportunity for exchanges of experience and discussion around ways to support the implementation of the pilot programs.

Civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights: This included events focusing on human rights in the health sector, on human rights and extreme poverty/social protection, and on other rights, especially access to justice and accountability.

Discrimination and vulnerable groups: Activities dealt with pro-poor growth and issues concerning refugees and internally displaced persons.

Capacity and institutions: IFC's efforts to include human rights in their work with private sector clients and the role of human rights in conflict-affected areas were discussed.

- ▶ **Partnerships.** Working in partnership with key organizations, the UN, donors, think-tanks, academics, and other international experts and civil society organizations is a key element of the NTF knowledge and learning program. Partners included the Human Rights Task Team of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD-DAC),¹ the UN's Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)—a former High Commissioner and the Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty; a range of academics, donors to

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the NTF, and Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development; the Danish Institute for Human Rights in Copenhagen; and the African Commission on Human and People's Rights.

As part of efforts to contribute to the ongoing debate around human rights and development, NTF staff attended international symposiums. The NTF also supported the publication of a World Bank study, authored by two members of the NTF Secretariat, examining the relevance of human rights indicators in a development context.²

The NTF Secretariat maintains and provides regular updates on NTF activities through its webpage at www.worldbank.org/nordictrustfund on the World Bank's external website.

Grant Program

The grant program, too, involves work in several thematic areas.

Pilot activities in analytic and operational work to generate and disseminate knowledge about how human rights relate to the unit's/team's work.

The NTF Secretariat worked with Management and task teams across the World Bank to identify and prepare NTF grant proposals for analytic and operational work to generate and disseminate knowledge about how human rights relate to the unit's/team's work. The process of preparing the proposals proved

¹ The OECD-DAC Human Rights Task Team represents a range of international and bilateral organizations: Canada, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, OHCHR, Sweden, United Kingdom, UNICEF, UNDP, and USA.

² Siobhan McInerney-Lankford, and Hans-Otto Sano, "Human Rights Indicators in Development – An Introduction." World Bank, 2010.

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to be a useful capacity-building exercise for the 50-75 task team members involved. The NTF is now supporting 27 pilots, which are at different stages of implementation, with \$11 million in support of the programs (the grant programs are listed in Annex B). Recipients include regional units in the Bank; the Sustainable Development, Human Development, and Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Networks, which are responsible for knowledge management and training for Bank staff in their respective areas; the Bank's private sector arm, the IFC; the Bank's research unit, DEC; and the World Bank Institute. The majority of the activities focus on discrimination and vulnerable groups, but some proposals deal with civil and political rights, capacity and institutions, and economic, social, and cultural rights.

Monitoring and evaluation of knowledge and learning, partnerships, applied research.

All programs include a knowledge and learning component intended to develop lessons that would be relevant for a broader World Bank audience. Most also include partnership arrangements as well as analytic work and applied research. The Secretariat closely monitors the implementation of all the grant programs.

Outcome Indicators

Part of the monitoring and evaluation of the work of the NTF depends on a set of outcome indicators defined during the development of the program. Table 1 provides the status of work on each of these outcome indicators.

Table 1. Status of Work on Outcome Indicators

Indicator	Status and Future Plans
Dissemination of Annual Progress Reports to donors, Bank staff, and external audiences to raise awareness of activities undertaken, knowledge gained, and results achieved.	This report is the first Annual Progress Report; the next is scheduled for September 2011.
Number of training and capacity-building activities delivered with satisfactory participant ratings.	18 capacity-building activities took place under the NTF K&P program. Evaluation system for events is being developed. Participant evaluation of a 3-day Bank staff training on human rights and development yielded ratings between 3.54 and 3.96 (1=low rating, 5= top rating).
Timely completion of programming and achievement of KPIs according to WPAs for individual activities.	27 NTF grant-supported programs identified, prepared, and approved by NTF Steering and Advisory Committees. KPIs to be monitored as implementation continues.
Frequent traffic on website.	Website established; content to be developed and traffic monitored over the next year.
Increase of human rights awareness among Bank staff based on ex ante and ex post survey results.	Ex ante baseline survey completed. Ex post survey instruments to be developed.
Increased reference to and incorporation of human rights principles in Bank operations, based on portfolio reviews.	Terms of reference for reviews to be developed for later launch.

Looking Ahead

While work during the past year focused on establishing and launching the NTF program, activities over the next year will concentrate on the implementation of the 27 grant programs. In addition, the aim is to deliver 1-2 studies/analytic work and 1-2 knowledge/capacity-building events per grant program. The NTF Secretariat will support the grant receiving teams in achieving this aim.

For maximum impact, most future knowledge and partnership events will be organized and delivered through the 27 grant programs, and the NTF Secretariat will focus on organizing cross-cutting events, including those exploring synergies between grant teams, themes, and sectors and involving partnership work with UN OHCHR, OECD-DAC Human Rights Task Team, and others.

Over the next year, the NTF Secretariat will monitor the recommendations and findings emerging from the NTF activities, aggregate them around broadly applied lessons for analytic and operational Bank work, and design and launch a knowledge/capacity-building resource center to be used for Bankwide learning about human rights during and after the life of the trust fund. Drawing on the lessons learned from the grant and K&P activities,

NTF Management and Governance Structure

- ▶ A Steering Committee of Bank Vice Presidents, chaired by the OPCS Vice President, provides overall direction and guidance.
- ▶ An Advisory Committee of Bank Directors, chaired by the Director of the Country Services Department in OPCS (OPCCS), provides detailed guidance on the scope and content of activities.
- ▶ A program Secretariat, located in OPCCS, is staffed with a Program Coordinator and four senior-level staff.

the Secretariat will develop knowledge and learning modules, including web-based e-learning, and make them available to Bank staff and Management in both country and Washington offices. After the NTF program is completed, these learning modules will make up a “core content” resource for human rights in the World Bank and will be available to the units responsible for staff training, as complements to the Bank’s regular thematic learning programs, to continue supporting Bank units in integrating human rights aspects into their work and learning.

The Secretariat will further develop the NTF’s results and monitoring framework to facilitate the future evaluation of the NTF program. This work will include the development of surveys of staff participating in the grant program and K&P events and of a follow-up survey to the baseline survey conducted in 2009.

Finally, it is expected that the program will consider either another round of grant proposals or follow-up proposals based on the already approved grants. The timing of this would depend on the performance of the original 27 grants, and the findings and recommendations that emerge from them. ■



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Sample Events and Grant Programs

Photo Credit – Scott Wallace



Knowledge and Partnership Events

OECD-DAC Human Rights Task Team Peer-to-Peer Exchange

In February 2010, the NTF hosted a two-day event comprising the regular meeting of the OECD-DAC Human Rights Task Team (HRTT) and a peer-to-peer exchange of experiences on human rights in development work. Participants included some 50 Bank staff and the HRTT members (Canada, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, OHCHR, Sweden, United Kingdom, UNICEF, UNDP, and USA). In an overview session, the NTF was introduced and Bank staff presented human rights-oriented work going on in the World Bank Group. HRTT members shared their experiences of incorporating human rights in their agencies' work. Themes discussed included access to information, social guarantees, human rights and climate change, business and human rights, justice for the poor, and the rights of persons with disabilities.

Following the initial open exchange, the HRTT representatives and Bank staff formed breakout groups to discuss three topics in more detail:

Supporting accountability in development through human rights. Human rights can contribute to promoting accountability in development through shared legal standards; human rights accountability involves both process and outcomes; and human rights can strengthen accountability by anchoring claims in rights and duties, focusing on governments as duty-bearers and citizens as rights-holders.

Human rights and service delivery in the health sector. Human rights can relate to development and health both as principles and norms, and as international treaties and commitments that may be incorporated into legislation. Supporting poor people's access to health services can draw on human rights as principles and norms and as law to support a range of accountability mechanisms in

health service delivery. Increased involvement of the judiciary and public interest litigation can benefit the poor, even if results to date are mixed. It will be important to analyze and learn from experience so that development support for health systems can respond in ways that strengthen the equality of rights and produce more equitable health outcomes.

Pro-poor growth and human rights. Economics can complement human rights approaches by focusing on the productivity of the poorest people and identifying ways that their contribution to growth can be maximized. Key areas for further analysis include redistribution of the benefits of growth among different groups, inequality of opportunities, the barriers that prevent particular groups from accessing basic services, and the impact of increased accountability and governance measures on poverty.

Training Course on Human Rights and Development

A three-day training course for the Bank teams receiving NTF grants was held by the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) in Copenhagen in September 2010 and attended by 34 Bank staff. The two main course objectives were that Bank staff (a) should be familiar with laws, institutions, and standards of human rights and how they are and can be applied in development by international, regional, and national development partners; and (b) should be able to implement the approved NTF grant proposals in accordance with the NTF objectives and design the proposal components, terms of reference, consultancies, events, and reports with a clear human rights perspective.

The course was divided into three main parts. First, representatives from DIHR and York University provided an overview of human rights. Second, a range of partners—UN/OHCHR, the South African Human Rights Commission, the Malawi Human Rights Resource Center, the Norwegian Center for Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on

Human Rights, the Kathmandu School of Law, the International Council on Human Rights Policy/Kenya National Human Rights Commission, DanChurchAid, Danida, and others—explained how they work with human rights. Third, participants and resource persons from the partner agencies discussed the NTF proposals and how they can best be designed and implemented.

An evaluation of the training was done by the World Bank Knowledge and Learning Board. The 25 respondents gave a favorable assessment of the event (see table 2) but also advised that future events should provide more time for participants to engage and devote less to traditional presentations.

Applied Research

Human Rights Indicators in Development: An Introduction

The NTF supported the publication of a World Bank study, *Human Rights Indicators in Development: An Introduction*. The study was supported by the Danish Government and co-authored by NTF Secretariat staff. The study provides a review of human rights indicators in the development context and shows their significance for development processes and outcomes as they connect standards and obligations with empirical data.

The study gives development practitioners a view of the relevance, design, and use of human rights indicators in development policy and practice. It also introduces a conceptual framework about the relationship between rights and development, including in the World Bank context. It then moves to methodological approaches to human rights measurement, exploring different types of human rights indicators and their implications for development. It is intended to help advance the understanding of human rights and human rights indicators among development practitioners and provide a conceptual framework for identifying human rights considerations in specific sectors or countries.

Table 2. Training Course Evaluation Results

(Scale: 1-not at all/low/disagree, 5-very much/high, strongly agree)

Question	Mean	% rating 4 or 5
The training fulfilled my training needs	3.54	71
The training achieved its stated objectives	3.78	83
Rate the content/subject matter	3.92	84
Rate the order of content presentation	3.83	79
Rate the materials used	3.61	65
Rate the overall quality	3.83	74
Rate the overall usefulness	3.61	70
Rate the relevance to the Bank's mission	3.92	79
My knowledge/skills increased	3.92	88
Knowledge/skills gained is directly applicable to my job	3.96	79

NTF Grant Programs

Human Rights and Local Government in Africa

The NTF grant will support the Bank's local government team in the Africa Region in exploring how human rights principles, conventions, and approaches in Bank operations can inform and strengthen the link between citizens and local government institutions and improve existing and future Bank-supported operations. Bank-supported local government projects are often designed to provide incentives for improved performance by establishing criteria that local authorities must meet to access project funding. Independent agencies carry out annual performance assessments against a number of benchmark indicators. Many of the indicators focus on financial and operational capacity, but some also seek to enhance accountability and participation and improve how the authorities interact with residents.

NTF Grant Program Examples

NTF grant activities support the further development of these human rights-related indicators with a view to improving local public service delivery and governance in Bank projects in Africa and promoting access to basic economic and social rights, particularly by poor people.

This grant will initially focus on learning from two or three local government projects as regards participatory budgeting and recourse mechanisms; it is expected that eventually 10-15 local governments will be studied. The rights addressed are procedural rights: the rights to information, to participation, and to seek redress. The aim is to explore the links between human rights and good governance, focusing on accountability, participation, and transparency. The learning from these studies will inform a review of the design of other local government projects in Africa.

Strengthening Human Rights in Colombia's Peace and Development Zones

NTF provides support to the project team of the Colombia Peace and Development Project, a multi-donor community-driven initiative for promoting economic development, enhancing conflict resolution, and addressing the humanitarian crisis in post-conflict settings. There are three components to the NTF-funded activities: first, analytic work to identify links between the project components and human rights to develop good practices on integrating human rights into peace and development; second, pilot activities to apply the good practices in project components in participating regions; and third, dissemination of knowledge and lessons learned among local project beneficiaries and other similar programs in Colombia, and to staff of the Government, other partners, and the Bank.

The analytic work is under way. Field visits and surveys of implementing partner organizations in five of the six Peace and Development Project regions have examined how human rights are used in project activities and how they could be strengthened in the region. Preliminary conclusions include that working with human rights can be complicated, as suspicion and criticism can arise when agencies try to involve human rights in the development work; that it is difficult to look at development without considering human rights; and that there is at times a very narrow understanding and interpretation of human rights, particularly in relation to transitional justice in the wake of the Justice and Peace Law of 2005.

Exploring the Relevance of Human Rights in the Bank's Human Development Work

The NTF is supporting the Bank's Human Development Network (HDN)—comprising Bank staff working in the health, education, and social protection sectors—to increase knowledge among its members



Photo Credit — Arne Hoel

about human rights and how they can be considered and included in the Bank's work. Seminars and workshops, with external speakers from the UN and academia, have been delivered for Bank staff to explore what human rights mean in these sectors and what the implications could be for the Bank's operational and analytic work with clients.

The NTF is supporting the preparation and dissemination of a number of case studies focusing on issues at the intersection of human development and human rights, including improved accountability of public services, ensuring access to services and benefits for vulnerable populations, and targeting of social protection. Activities will also explore the role of human rights in the preparation of HDN sector strategies, especially in the two that are currently under way: Education and Social Protection.

Women, Business, and the Law

This NTF grant supports the ongoing World Bank project Women, Business and the Law (WBL), which in turn is linked to the World Bank Gender Action Plan and Millennium Development Goal no. 3 (poverty alleviation through gender equality and women's empowerment). The WBL program focuses on gender equality in private sector development and examines how national laws are differentiated on the basis of gender. The WBL program has produced a database and a pilot report, both launched in March 2010; publication of its next report is planned for June 2011.

NTF-funded activities include analytic work on how legal gender differentiation can affect women's economic rights by affecting their ability to get jobs and start businesses; this will generate information on how realizing women's human rights may advance their economic empowerment. Outcomes include knowledge generation and dissemination on the intersection of human rights and women's legal treatment in business/economic empowerment, and

increased awareness of how the realization of human rights related to discrimination can affect the Bank's work on gender equality and women's economic empowerment. The first NTF-financed activity is a study on the implications for the WBL program of incorporating human rights aspects into its analytic and dissemination components. Preparations for this study are under way, and the first related dissemination activity for Bank staff is planned for early 2011.

ECA Roma Health Rights Program

This NTF grant assists the Bank's Europe and Central Asia Human Development (ECSHD) team to better address the right to health for Roma in ECA health sector operations; it will provide information on inequities or discrimination against the Roma community in the different dimensions of the right to health (availability, accessibility, acceptability, and quality).³ Activities seek to improve Bank operations by developing the analytic base on Roma health issues, which Bank operations have not explored, and by incorporating human rights perspectives and frameworks into future analytic work. Work will be coordinated with a 2011 ECA Region flagship report on outcomes and equity in health.

The NTF-funded work is centered around four analytic and applied research reports. A *framework report on nondiscrimination and the right to health* will discuss the legal and regulatory framework for the right to health: what rights to health exist, how they are defined, and how they are protected under countries' legislative, regulatory, and administrative frameworks. A *background study on health availability, accessibility, acceptability, quality, and discrimination* will identify the determinants of health disparities among Roma and examine whether these disparities may result from failure to ensure Romas' right to health. A *national survey on health facilities* will evaluate, at the facility level, the extent

³ As described in the UN Committee on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR).

of discrimination and of public sector capability to realize the right to health for Roma, including issues of availability, accessibility, acceptability, and quality in health facilities. A *study of Roma mediators*, finally, will examine the practice of using Roma health mediators as a way to reduce discrimination and improve equity in health in several ECA countries.

Integrating Human Rights Aspects in IFC's Private Sector Development Work

NTF supports work by the World Bank's private sector arm, the IFC, to better help private sector clients address human rights-related risks and impacts in business operations. This IFC initiative includes three parts. First, a "Guide to Human Rights Impact Assessment and Management" has been developed and was launched during the last UN Global Compact Leaders Summit. NTF will support the dissemination of the guide and associated capacity building among IFC staff and clients. Second, NTF is supporting the preparation of an Implementation Guidance Tool for IFC's Voluntary Principles of Security and Human Rights—that is, a set of principles developed for companies operating in fragile and conflict-affected environments. Third, NTF activities support the consideration of human rights in IFC's review and update of its Sustainability Policy and environmental and social Performance Standards. NTF activities to date have included the completion of a Gap Analysis Paper comparing the IFC Performance Standards to international human rights standards.

Vietnam Citizens' Rights Program

With a grant from the Nordic Trust Fund, the World Bank will explore how existing work to strengthen the capacity of the Government to ensure economic and social rights of Vietnamese citizens can be complemented by activities helping Vietnamese citizens to be aware of and understand their rights and how to exercise and claim the rights that are provided by law. With Government counterparts, a four-pronged program has been identified. *Raising awareness of rights through the media*: This component will build on earlier Bank-supported training for journalists on issues like stereotyping and discrimination and extend the training to include citizen rights. *Working with People's Councils*: The People's Councils represent citizens in holding the administration to account and play an important role in Vietnam's accountability framework. This component will explore how to strengthen that role and will provide learning for the Bank on how better to engage with these elected bodies through work with the Training Center for Elected Representatives. *Justice delivery systems and the provision of legal aid*: New legal instruments seek to improve the access of poor and vulnerable groups to the formal justice system. NTF-supported public awareness and capacity-building activities will help give citizens adequate information to make use of the new instruments and support efforts to reliably monitor their effectiveness. *Training local civil servants*: NTF funding will support analytic work and preparation of training materials for the Institute of Human Rights of the Ho Chi Minh Political Academy. The focus will be on the most common citizen's rights issues and on areas where increased awareness of rights would bring the most benefit.

Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa and the Middle East

This NTF grant explores how to integrate human rights perspectives in World Bank-supported activities on forced displacement. The emphasis is on the Africa Region and the Middle East and North Africa Region, which are home to more than half of the displaced populations in the world and where the Bank is currently supporting 21 operations targeting people and communities affected by conflict-induced displacement. The NTF-funded activities seek to increase Bank and client country staff's awareness of and operational knowledge about the integration of human rights in activities addressing forced displacement, and ultimately to improve levels of protection for the internally displaced persons and refugees in these countries.

South Africa: Gender Justice and Women's Economic Empowerment

The NTF is supporting the World Bank's South Africa country team in identifying opportunities to strengthen the Bank's engagement on gender equality and women's rights based on South Africa's strong legal and judicial framework for gender equality. Knowledge and capacity-building activities will focus on how human rights and a gender justice framework can be integrated into the overall Bank-supported program for South Africa—that is, how to incorporate human rights and gender justice issues into operational work in general and into specific project and program documents.

Activities to date include a consultation workshop in Pretoria to identify key issues, challenges, and gaps limiting the realization of gender equality

objectives embodied in international, regional, and national gender conventions and agreements/legislation. Analytic work will include an assessment of the implications of inequitable gender access and participation in the economy. Key dimensions will include women's access to justice, differential impact on business regulations, prohibitions to property and land ownership, labor regime restrictions, and inheritance and intestate rights. ■



Photo Credit – Ami Vitale

Financial Summary

Funding Contributions

As of October 30, 2010, the NTF had received donor contributions equal to US\$11.1 million. Additional contributions in the amount of US\$6.3 million are expected. In addition to donor pledges, the NTF generated investment income of \$0.16 million. Table 3 provides a detailed breakdown of the funding.

Allocation and Use of Funds by NTF Activity

As Table 4 shows, a total of \$12.58 million has been allocated to the different NTF activities, most to the 27 approved proposals in the NTF grant program, with an average grant of \$400,000. By end-October 2010, \$1.02 million of the funds had been used for expenditures under the grant program, the K&P program, the NTF Secretariat, and payment of the World Bank administration fee for the trust fund. As most of the grants were approved in mid-2010, it is expected that disbursements will increase in late 2010 and in 2011.

Table 3. NTF Funds as of October 31, 2010

Source of funds	Contributions received (US\$ million equivalent)	Anticipated pledges (US\$ million)	Total (US\$ million)
Denmark	2.7	1.9	4.6
Finland	2.1	0.7	2.8
Iceland	0.1	0.1	0.2
Norway	3.6	2.1	5.7
Sweden	2.6	1.5	4.1
Total donor contributions	11.1	6.3	17.4
Investment income	0.16		
Total funds, all sources	11.26		17.56

Table 4. Allocation and Use of Funds (as of October 31, 2010)

Category	Allocated (US\$ million)	Amount Used (US\$ million)
Grant Program	10.96	0.47
Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	2.50	0.11
Civil and Political Rights	2.10	0.02
Discrimination and Vulnerable Groups	4.47	0.27
Capacity and Institutions	1.89	0.06
Knowledge and Partnerships	0.70	0.05
Secretariat	0.70	0.28
Administration fee	0.22	0.22
Total	12.58	1.02

Annexes

Annex A. Select Knowledge and Partnership Activities

Partner/theme	Audience/description
Cross-cutting training and partnerships	
September 2010, Danish Institute for Human Rights, Copenhagen.	34 Bank staff. Three-day training for Bank staff/NTF teams covering the principal themes of human rights and development.
February 2010, OECD-DAC Human Rights Task Team (HRTT).	Approx. 50 Bank staff. NTF hosted two-day program with HRTT including (a) the team's annual meeting and (b) a peer-to-peer exchange between Bank staff and the HRTT member organizations on human rights-oriented work.
October 2010, NTF Donors meeting.	NTF Secretariat. Meeting with the five NTF donors to take stock of activities to date and future plans.
October 2009, Professor David Kinley, University of Sydney Law School.	Approx. 20 Bank staff. Discussion on how human rights intersect with global economic relations and the work of the World Bank.
October 2009, Professor Yasunobu Sato, University of Tokyo, and Ms. Sayo Saruta, Human Rights Watch/American University.	Approx. 5 Bank staff. Discussion on human security links with human rights.
Economic, social, and cultural rights	
December 2009, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ): A Human Rights-Based Approach to Health in German Development Cooperation.	Approx. 8 Bank staff. Peer-to-peer exchange on BMZ's experience with integrating human rights into its work in the health sector.
February 2010, OECD-DAC HRTT.	Approx. 20 Bank staff. Peer-to-peer exchange with HRTT member organizations on how human rights relate to service delivery in the health sector.
May 2010, Office of the Chief Economist of the World Bank Human Development Network (health, education, social protection).	Approx. 40 Bank staff. Seminar on human rights and human development and implications for the World Bank. Bank staff and outside experts discussed the relevance of human rights in human development.
June 2010, Paul Hunt, Professor of Law at Essex University (UK).	Approx. 20 Bank staff. Presentation on implementing human rights in the health sector using accountability, monitoring, redress, and adequate remedies.
October 2010, Magdalena Sepulveda, UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty, and the World Bank Human Development Network.	Approx. 25 Bank staff. Discussion on the use of human rights in human development work designed to combat extreme poverty.

Continued on next page

Annex A. Select Knowledge and Partnership Activities (continued)

Partner/theme	Audience/description
Civil and political rights	
African Commission on Human and People's Rights, the World Bank Africa Region.	Approx. 20 Bank staff. NTF and the Africa Region (AFR) co-hosted an exchange between staff from the African Commission on Human and People's Rights and task team leaders of the NTF-sponsored activities in AFR. The group explored such themes as access to justice, the rights of persons with disabilities, and the rights of internally displaced persons.
February 2010, OECD-DAC HRTT.	Approx. 20 Bank staff. Peer-to-peer exchange with HRTT member organizations on how accountability in development can be supported through human rights.
October 2010, World Bank Legal Department: Legal empowerment approaches to the realization of rights.	Approx. 20 Bank staff. Community Paralegals, Justice, and Governance: Reporting on Ongoing Empirical Work in Five Countries.
Discrimination and vulnerable groups	
April 2010, Mary Robinson, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.	NTF Secretariat. Discussion on the NTF activities, potential areas for further work, and the importance of capacity building.
February 2010, OECD-DAC HRTT	Approx. 10 Bank staff. Peer-to-peer exchange with HRTT member organizations on how pro-poor growth is linked to human rights.
October 2010, the World Bank Social Development Network.	Approx. 15 Bank staff. Discussion on proposed NTF activities on operationalizing human rights approaches in development interventions targeting internally displaced people and refugees in the Africa and the Middle East/North Africa.
Capacity and institutions	
October 2009, World Bank and IFC: Incorporating human rights in IFC's Performance Standards.	Approx. 15 Bank staff. Discussion on IFC's experiences of integrating human rights into its work to better serve private sector clients by helping them assess and mitigate human rights-related risks in their business operations.
October 2010, World Bank Middle East and North Africa Region: Human rights and development assistance during violent conflict and social fragility.	Approx. 20 Bank staff. Workshop on human rights and migration, and plans for NTF activities based on the findings of earlier work on human rights and development assistance in the contexts of violent conflict and social fragility.

Annex B. NTF Program Grants

(average amount = \$400,000)

Title, implementing World Bank unit	Area of knowledge generation and dissemination
Economic, social and cultural rights	
Colombia proposed health project. Latin America and Caribbean Region.	The use of human rights in the preparation of Bank-supported health projects.
Reproductive Health among the Youth in Central America. Latin America and Caribbean Region.	How right-to-health considerations can improve youth and reproductive health operations.
Understanding & Exercising Reproductive Rights in Egypt. Middle East and North Africa Region.	How right-to-health considerations can improve reproductive health operations.
Human rights in the Bank's human development work. Human Development Network.	The role of human rights in the Bank's health, education, and social protection work.
Legal Empowerment Approaches to Realizing the Rights to Health, Water and Education. Legal Department.	Using access to justice for better access to services by the poor.
Human Rights and the Social Development Strategy. Social Development Network.	Use of human rights in the Bank's strategy for social development.
Civil and political rights	
Citizens' rights in Vietnam. East Asia and Pacific Region.	How Bank work can support governments' efforts to help citizens claim rights.
Human rights and local government in Africa. Africa Region.	How human rights considerations can improve Bank-supported local government operations.
Human rights and local government in South Asia. South Asia Region.	How human rights considerations can improve Bank-supported local government operations.
Human rights and justice in Central America. Latin America and Caribbean Region.	How human rights considerations can improve work on criminal and justice systems.
Technology for human rights. World Bank Institute.	Use of technology for human rights.
Discrimination and vulnerable groups	
Gender Justice and Women's Economic Empowerment: Identifying Opportunities for Engagement in South Africa. Africa Region.	Opportunities for human rights considerations in gender-based Bank work.
Women's and Children's Rights in Democratic Republic of Congo. Africa Region.	How human rights considerations can improve Bank work in conflict settings.
Right to Health for Roma. Eastern Europe and Central Asia Region.	Use of human rights to promote access to services by minorities.

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Annex B. NTF Program Grants (continued)

(average amount = \$400,000)

Title, implementing World Bank unit	Area of knowledge generation and dissemination
Discrimination and vulnerable groups (continued)	
Operationalizing human rights instruments in the Bank's work targeting internally displaced people and refugees. Social Development Network.	Human rights considerations in working with refugees.
Human Rights and Migration: Identifying Opportunities for Migrant Protection. Middle East and North Africa Region.	Human rights considerations in working on migration issues.
Integrating human rights in to the Bank's work on social protection. Social Development Network and South Asia Region.	Human rights considerations in the Bank's work on social protection.
Right to Education for Children with Disabilities. Legal Department.	Human rights aspects of working with persons with disabilities.
Equality of Opportunity and Economic and Social Rights. Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Network.	How human rights considerations can strengthen equality of opportunity.
Discrimination against Women – How have international conventions and legislation such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) been implemented? Development Economics/World Development Report.	Human rights aspects of discrimination against women.
Voices of the Vulnerable and Human Rights: Promoting Stakeholder Learning on Access to Justice. Legal Department.	Interaction between human rights and access to justice.
Women, Business and the Law. Financial and private sector development Network/IFC.	Human rights and discrimination against women in business.
Capacity and institutions	
Colombia Peace and Development Project. Latin America and Caribbean Region.	Use of human rights in post-conflict development work.
Integrating human rights aspects in IFC's private sector development work. IFC.	Advising private sector clients on human rights as a risk for business operations.
Incorporating Human Rights Principles into Youth Violence Programming and Policy Dialogue. Social Development Network.	Human rights considerations in development work with young people.
Human rights and development assistance in the context of violent conflict and societal fragility. Middle East and North Africa Region.	Use of human rights in development work in conflict settings.
Institutions and Human Rights. Development Economics.	Links between human rights and institutions.

Nordic Trust Fund (NTF) is a knowledge and learning initiative to help the World Bank develop a more informed view on human rights. It is designed to improve existing Bank involvement on human rights in the overall context of the Bank's core mission of promoting economic growth and poverty reduction. The NTF is managed by a secretariat in the Operations Policy and Country Services vice-presidency (OPCS). Financial and staff support for the NTF is provided by Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.



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