

What we do

The provision of direct advisory services to local organisations is SNV's core business. These services, either by our own advisers or by subcontracted local capacity builders, help our clients to grow their capacity to achieve impact and improve governance.

In order to further improve the quality of our advisory services we focus on impact, especially with regard to generating income and employment, and providing greater access to basic services. Our work is aligned to the UN Millennium Development Goals and national development strategies and we seek to work with a variety of organisations in order to more effectively deal with the issues in a particular sector or theme.

SNV has developed and adopted the Triple A-model (analysis, action and assessment) for quality assurance and learning, and has expanded the result measurement system for its advisory services into other areas of its operations.

Imparting knowledge

Knowledge brokering involves the developing, facilitating and networking of knowledge. Its aim is to produce explicit knowledge, learning processes or networks of clients and other actors. Knowledge brokering aims to enable local organisations and local capacity builders to access, apply and continuously renew knowledge. It can be specific for a basic services sector or value chain, but also relate to cross-sectoral themes such as rural development, capacity development and governance. It also forms the evidence base for influencing policy and advocacy.

Local capacity development

Local capacity builders are a vital resource for effective and sustainable local development and collaborating with them is part of the SNV way of achieving lasting development results. Improving the environment for local capacity development is an essential element in our strategy.

SNV initiates and supports the establishment of effective funding mechanisms for local capacity development, providing support to local organisations tailored to their individual issues and needs. The capacity development funds stimulate both supply and demand of local capacity development services through self-standing local mechanisms that are independently governed.

Influencing ideas, decisions and actions

SNV's advocacy agenda is fed by our advisory practice and knowledge brokering activities and in turn feeds back into our practice. Enhanced collaboration with local capacity builders, knowledge and advocacy organisations, donor agencies and other partners is essential to increase the impact of our work.

Our advocacy activities are aimed at the regional and global level. We aim to influence the thinking, decisions and actions of key national and international players. What we hope to achieve is more effective local capacity development for impact, generically as well as in specific basic services sectors and value chains. We help to develop effective coalitions that bring poor people and their concerns as well as effective practices into the policy making and regulatory processes.

In 2008 the corporate advocacy agenda is focused on the Aid Effectiveness Summit in Accra in September 2008, where the state of affairs regarding the Paris Declaration was reviewed.