

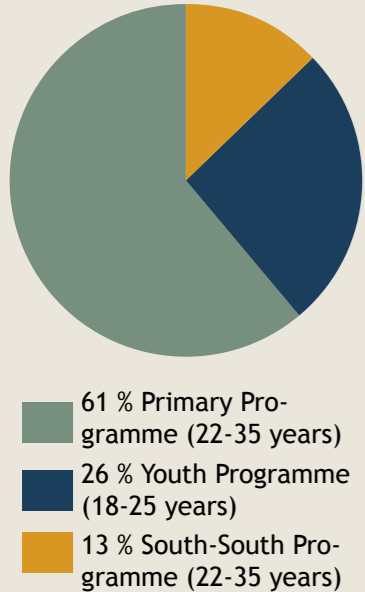


f r e d s k o r p s e t

partnership for development

Where people met 2003

Figure 1: The dispersion of participants in our different programmes:



The first meeting

The signs at this paper. The number 0 and the rest of the mathematics. The money. The democracy. The coffee maker and the digital watches. We would have to manage without all this if it hadn't been for the immanent quality within a culture to bring people together. At meetings at home, at the hunting grounds, at the village well, in the church, at school, in the city, at the university and at the workplace, culture emerged through the sharing of knowledge.

Fredskorpset likes the thought of sha-

ring knowledge. This is why Fredskorpset, from 2001 till the 31st of December 2003, has sent 671 young people to most corners of the world with one task in mind: To share knowledge.

The Fredskorpset participants ensure the creation of new business ideas, methods of working, products and places of meeting which will not disappear when the participants leave to go back to their home countries.

Back and forth is not the same distance.

The global workplace

Until today, man has spent about half the time awake at his workplace.

The Fredskorpset participants are recruited by their own company or organisation. They work in a corresponding and co-operating business abroad for a longer period. The exchanges go both ways: Norwegians travel to Africa, Asia and Latin-America. Young people from the South comes to Norway. Fredskorpset's Primary Programme is for young people between 22 and 35 years who travel from North to South or from South to North. We also have the exchange between people in different countries in the South, for example between Tanzania and Kenya. We call that a South-South Programme.

Out of a total of 875 participants who have been approved to travel by Fredskorpset, 671 have travelled. How the participants are divided between the programmes is shown in figure 1.

North-to-South and South-to-North is the trademark of Fredskorpset: The exchange of people and knowledge has to go both ways. Companies and organisations that receive support from Fredskorpset meet not only their own limitations, but the opportunities of others, through working with people from of a different backgrounds.

How the direction of travel for all our participants is dispersed, is shown in figure 2.

It is actually more Fredskorpset partici-

pants from South than Norwegians, when we include both the participants in the South-South Programme and participants who go from South to Norway. It would have been even more South-leaning, if it hadn't been for the fact that at the beginning of the Fredskorpset Youth Programme (18-25 years) in 2003, it almost exclusively sent out Norwegians.

This will change during 2004, when the exchange from South to North will ensure mutuality in the partnerships.

Who, what, where

Where do our participants come from? We already know that almost half of them come from Norway. Those who travel from countries in the South to other countries in the South or to Norway, come from large parts of the non-Western world. Our participants come from 65 countries on several regions. This division is illustrated in figure 3.

Half of Fredskorpset's programme activities will happen in so-called LDC-countries (least developed countries), as defined by the UN. In 2003, Fredskorpset had a share of 54.5 percent of its activities in programmes that have at least one or more partners in LDC-countries.

Look at the world map at the central spread for a complete geographical overview of where our participants were placed as of 31st December 2003.

The Fredskorpset participants are given a natural place in the company or organisation where they are posted. The participants' assignments are adapted

Figure 2: This is how the participants travelled through our programmes:

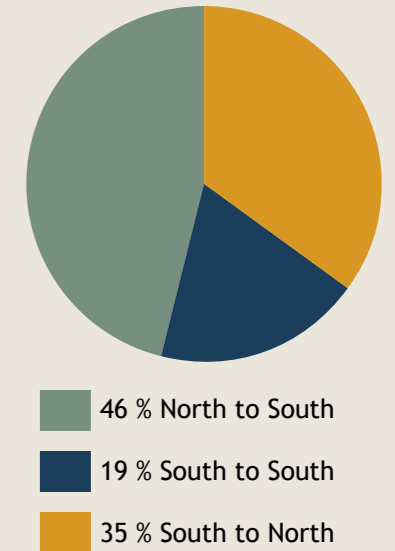
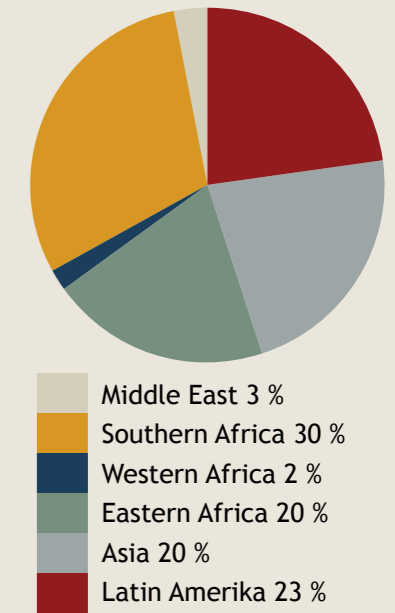


Figure 3: Participants, divided by continent:



Fredskorpset world-view New Year's Eve

Figure 4: A snapshot of Fredskorpset. The map shows where the various participants were situated on New Year's Eve 2003.

Naturally, Norway is the largest country by far when it comes to the number of participants. The participants who are exchanged to Norway are exclusively from countries in the South.

The participants in South may come from Norway, through the Primary Programme and the Youth Programme and from other countries in the South through the South-South Programme.

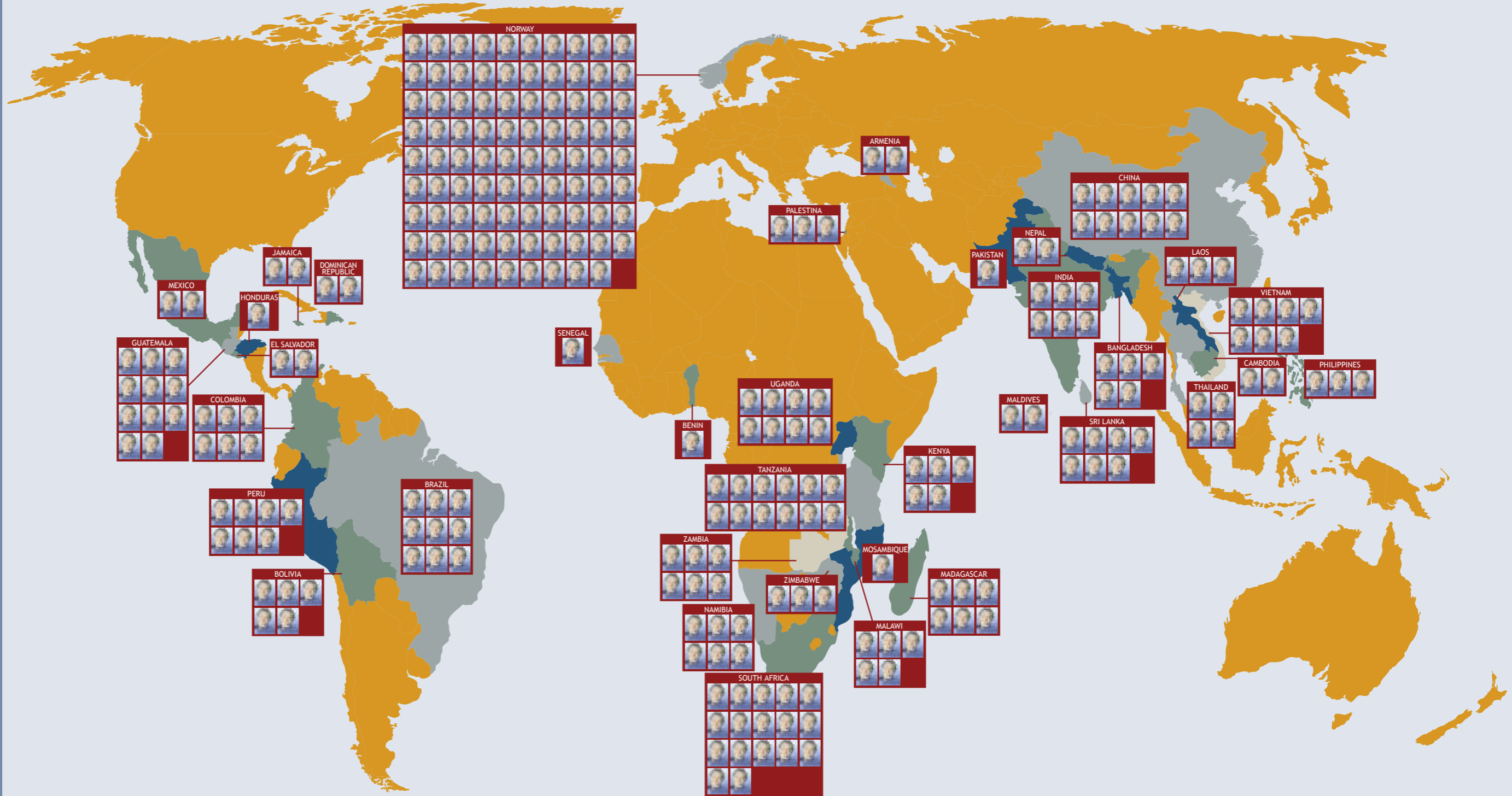


Figure 5: Gender division, by direction of travelling:

Direction	Female	Male
South South	52	67
South North	96	43
North South	184	129

according to their individual level of education and work experience.

What the Fredskorpset participants actually do depends on what kind of company or organisation they are affiliated with. Most of the participants are recruited within their own company or organisation and return to their workplace after being posted abroad. It is, amongst other, in this way that the sharing of knowledge continues, also after the Fredskorpset participants has returned to their homes.

Several occupational groups and sectors of society are represented in our programmes. The largest occupational groups till now in Fredskorpset are (numbers of participants in brackets):

1. Social workers (143)
2. Organisational developing (114)
3. Education (107)
4. Communication (102)

The remaining participants are divided between environment, agriculture, health, sports, culture, engineering, governing of resources, human rights, information technology, peace and conflict work, media, estate, trade, water and sanitary, fishing, veterinary, research, statistics, transport and tourism.

Fredskorpset's participants are evenly divided by gender: So far, 51 percent of the participants have been female and 49 have been male. It has been a certain bias towards men from South and an opposite bias of women from Norway, while the South-South programmes has the most equal division of gender, as shown in figure 5.

In 2003, Fredskorpset only offered exchange through the Fredskorpset Youth Programme for people between 18-25 years old, and Fredskorpset Primary Programme for people between 22 and 35. The first exchange of participants of the Fredskorpset-Senior Programme, which is for people with management qualities between 55 and 70 years, will happen during 2004.

It therefore comes as no surprise that young people set their mark on our programmes in 2003. The participants are from 18 to 41 years old, but most of them are within the age limits for the Youth Programme (18 to 25 years) and the Primary Programme (22 to 35 years). The median age is 21 years for Fredskorpset's Youth Programme and 29 years for the Primary Programme.

How is the money spent?

Fredskorpset is a governmental administrative body, under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is exclusively funded by the national budget.

We are still developing and have had a moderate increase since 2000. The government transferred 120 million Norwegian kroner in 2003, and will transfer 135 million in 2004.

Fredskorpset gives economic and professional support to what we call partnerships. Partnerships are a binding cooperation of exchange between two or more activities in Norway and countries in the South. It is the partnership itself which recruits participants and follows up the



exchange, while Fredskorpset contributes with financial aid and ensures quality.

The support from Fredskorpset goes to economical compensation of participants, travel, stay, insurance, training and administrative expenses for participants and partners. The transferrals to Fredskorpset's various programmes in 2003 were dispersed as shown in figure 6.

Fredskorpset has 20 employees in the secretariat in Oslo, while three regional representatives work in Tromsø, Bergen and Kristiansand. Two employees are hired on a consultancy basis working in Kampala, Uganda and Bangkok, Thailand.

Does it help?

Fredskorpset is a small, but important piece of Norwegian developmental politics. The easiest way of measuring the effect of our operations is to look at what the partnerships have achieved through the exchange of participants.

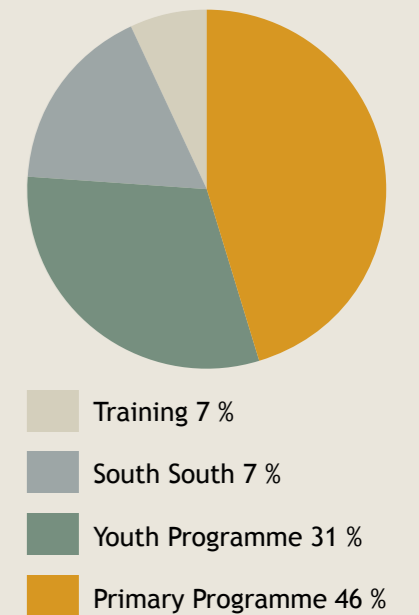
Many organisation and companies have learned a lot through having foreign participants working with them. The

cooperation between the companies and organisations is often considerably strengthened. The new employees are carrying with them work methods and ideas which can change the everyday life of all employees. The key to success is to manage to take advantage of these new impulses in the best possible way.

In addition to the exchange of work, Fredskorpset contributes to establish professional networks across the borders of countries and cultures.

Fredskorpset has agreements to collaborate with 300 companies and organisations in the world. On average, each Norwegian partner is cooperating with two partners in the South. These partnerships establish new bonds between Norway and countries in the South, and old bonds are strengthened. An important condition for a more justified world is that poor and rich countries are mutually dependant on each other. Fredskorpset shows organisations and companies the advantage of cooperating across the poverty wedge dividing the world. This is how meetings arranged by our participants is a step in the right direction.

Figure 6: This is how the budget is divided between the various programmes:





Fredskorpset's annual report 2003

Unless otherwise stated, all figures are from 31st December 2003.

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