Since October 2010, the responsibility for the “One-World”-policy in North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) has been in the hands of the State Chancellery section of the Ministry for Federal Affairs, Europe and Media. In December 2012, the Cabinet passed on a new “One-World”-Strategy, through which North Rhine-Westphalia underlines its global responsibility as the most populous federal state in Germany. The new “One-World”-Strategy functions as the basis for the future development work in North Rhine-Westphalia and for its development cooperation with partners in countries of the South. The strategy states the six strategic fields of action of the development contribution of North Rhine-Westphalia: education and youth; science and research; climate protection; economy; Good Governance and administrative action; participation of the civil society. Basic principles of the North Rhine-Westphalian involvement are global justice, sustainability, inter-departmental coherence and concentration.

To implement the new strategy and to support civil society activities (in NRW there are approximately 3,000 developmental NGOs), North Rhine-Westphalia offers comprehensive aid arrangements: It finances the joint program of the federal and state governments called “German Promoter Program for Development Education” (Promotorenprogramm für Entwicklungspolitische Bildungsarbeit), which is being conducted in NRW by the One-World-Network NRW (Eine-Welt-Netz NRW) and the branch of Global Engagement in Düsseldorf. Altogether 15 regional coordinators and 11 specialized coordinators are currently being financed. In addition, North Rhine-Westphalia supports the Concrete Peace Service (Konkreter Friedensdienst NRW - KFD), a program aimed at helping annually about 400 young adults until up to the age of 27 spend time in developing countries. In 2012, the service was complemented with the REVERSE-Program, which enables young participants from NGOs in countries of the Global South to come to North Rhine-Westphalia for advanced training. The federal state also has its own programs that support projects of NGOs working together with partner organizations in developing countries as well as programs for development policy activities of the municipalities in NRW and development educational and information work of NGOs. The branch of Engagement Global in Düsseldorf implements all these programs. The Foundation for Environment and Development NRW (Stiftung Umwelt und Entwicklung Nordrhein-Westfalen), also financed by the federal state, is a further actor in NRW supporting development policy projects.

North Rhine-Westphalia sets an example as a leading venue for Fair Trade with the nationwide trade fair „FAIR and Friends“, which has been taking place in Dortmund since 2010. More than 160 exhibiting companies from about 20 countries participate to the fair every year in September. North Rhine-Westphalia is also particularly involved in the school sector (Fair Trade Schools) and in the municipal sector (Fair Trade Towns; Fair Metropolis Ruhr). On 1 March 2013, the project “new trade nrw - Office for sustainable procurement“ (Büro für
Nachhaltige Beschaffung) took up its work with the goal to success-
vivably implement a sustainable, meaning an eco-social fair public
procurement of goods on the basis of the NRW’s law on collective
bargaining and public procurement.

North Rhine-Westphalia has maintained partnerships with Ghana
(since 2007) and Mpumalanga/South Africa (since 1995). Furthermo-
re, North Rhine-Westphalia supports the advancement of the City of
Bonn as the German centre of development policy and of North-
South-dialogue. For this purpose NRW cooperates intensively with
numerous actors in Bonn.