# Format for comments to the Strategic Partnership model for civil society organisations

Organisation:

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| **Topic** | **Comments** |
| **Rights** |
| The right to submit a simplified application for calls for proposals that Norad announces for civil society organisations, in the areas where the strategic partner’s thematic and geographical expertise has been assessed. |  |
| Right to more flexible financing. |  |
| Arrangements for results management is agreed at the corresponding overarching level. |  |
| Right to follow-up at a more overarching level. |  |
| **Obligations** |
| Obligation to inform Norad of changes of material significance for the status of strategic partner. |  |
| Obligation to assist with Norad’s need for statistical reporting. |  |
| Obligation to facilitate control measures by Norad. Control measures are normally carried out as spot checks during the agreement period. |  |
| Obligation to provide information about programme activities in the strategic dialogue. |  |
| **Follow-up** |
| Interaction with Norad |  |
| Localisation |  |
| Strategic dialogue |  |
| Application process |  |
| **Criteria** |
| 1. The applicant has expertise in one or more of the thematic and geographical priority areas in Norwegian development policy and Norad’s thematic portfolios.
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| 1. The applicant takes an overarching strategic programme approach to its development cooperation work. Norad will emphasise its previous experiences with the partner’s ability to focus on the effect for large target groups (outcome level) and to organise the project portfolio into overarching thematically and logically structured programmes.
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| 1. The applicant has an established and sound results management and learning system (for example, documented in an MEL plan).
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| 1. The applicant has integrated climate and environmental considerations throughout its operations. The applicant has a plan which allows for documenting year-by-year progress in reducing its principal negative impact on climate and the environment and to increase its positive environmental impact. The documentation focuses on actual compliance.
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| 1. The applicant has good procedures on risk assessments and appropriate controls, to prevent, detect and respond to misuse of funds and corruption in projects and programmes. Norad will emphasise concrete examples of handling corruption and misuse, with a zero-tolerance policy and concrete improvement measures having been implemented and followed up.
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| 1. The applicant has holistic and documented corporate governance, including strong financial management and risk management procedures where risks are analysed, managed, and monitored. Norad will especially focus on the management of risks associated with human rights, women’s rights and gender equality, climate and environment, anti-corruption, and partner follow-up. The establishment of an internal audit function will be viewed favourably.
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| 1. The applicant’s participation in and leadership of civil society consortia as well as experience cooperating with other development aid actors (including public agencies, research institutions, the UN, and the private sector) will be viewed favourably
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| 1. The applicant will be favourably considered if in possession of valid, internationally recognised certifications (e.g., the EU Humanitarian Partnership Certificate) and/or have achieved good results in partner assessments by other major international donors.
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| **Other issues** |
| Kindly provide any other comments that are not directly linked to the topics above.  |  |