Partners for progress
As a longstanding champion of gender equality, Norway has been a key supporter of UN Women from its establishment to date. Norway is UN Women’s third largest aggregate contributor and continues to be a vital provider of both regular and other funding. Norway is also a strong political ally for the integration of gender equality in UN Reform processes. These two partners hold annual consultations to review the partnership and progress in related areas.

Sharing common goals
Norway and UN Women share a strong commitment to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. This commitment is embodied in Norway’s development policy and some of our common priorities include ensuring education for girls, women’s political participation, women’s economic empowerment, the elimination of violence against women, and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Norway’s support of UN Women’s mandate and work allows for enhanced coordination of gender equality in the UN-system, more streamlined support to intergovernmental processes and to regional and national processes, impacting women and their communities.

In 2018, Norway was the third largest contributor to UN Women’s total resources with USD 25.38 million and the fifth largest contributor to regular resources with USD 10.8 million.

Banner photo: Female voters in Timor-Leste show IDs outside the voting booths in the 2012 elections. With support from Norway, UN Women spread the message that voting is a right for all citizens over the age of 17 through creative efforts, including T-shirts, bags, hats and posters emphasizing women’s and men’s equal right to vote.
Together we achieved:

**Involving Women in Sustainable Peace**

Norway’s support has been instrumental in UN Women’s work to ensure women are involved at all levels of peace and reconciliation. In Syria, for example, Norwegian support has enabled the project ‘Syrian Women in the Lead for Peace and Reconciliation.’ The goal of this project has been to enable Syrian women’s civil society to meaningfully participate in the political process to influence peace, reconciliation and any future rebuilding processes for an end to the crisis in Syria. It aims toward sustainable peace that integrates Syrian women’s perspectives, rights and needs.

In Colombia, Norway’s support has also been invaluable in the establishment of the project ‘Fulfilment of women’s rights through a sustainable peacebuilding process in the Colombian Pacific Sub-Region.’ The goal of this project is to strengthen the role of women in peacebuilding and reconciliation processes. In addition, it aims to strengthen the role of women in the process of emergency response, promoting their resilience, protection and opportunities for a smooth transition to contexts of post-crisis through early recovery strategies.

**Empowerment of Women Home-Based Workers**

In Pakistan, Norwegian funding supports a project that has helped to empower female home-based workers and excluded groups. The programme supports the development of government and corporate policies that promote women’s economic empowerment. Further, women home-based workers are given opportunities to develop their entrepreneurial skills and to participate in community decision-making. This programme supports the most vulnerable women in the targeted communities, including women with HIV/AIDS, transgender women, and women with disabilities.

**Gender-responsive Governance**

A Norwegian-funded UN Women programme in India and Bhutan centres on promoting gender-responsive governance in order to promote improved access to rights for women. The programme has led to high-level commitment to gender-responsive governance from a number of different ministries in India, as well as strengthened accountability towards normative frameworks on gender equality. In Bhutan, the programme has resulted in the strengthening of various pieces of legislation through the institutionalization of tools such as training modules on gender-responsive governance and the dissemination of gender-sensitive awareness-raising media.

**Claiming Space in the Economy**

With Norway’s generous regular resource support UN Women has made significant progress on empowering women to break down discriminatory barriers in the economy. In 2018, more than 50,000 women have increased access to, and control over, productive resources in 26 countries.