



PARTNERS FOR CHANGE



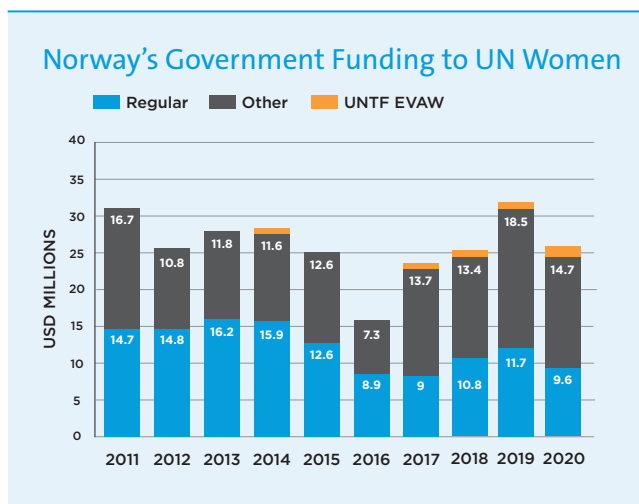
UN WOMEN AND NORWAY

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 second 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.



Banner photo: Amal Baraka (left), Bayda Misbah Omar (centre) and Asya Al-Shuwaidi (right) have worked tirelessly to reconcile the civil war between Misrata and Tawergha in Libya. Photo: Courtesy of Malek Elmaghreb

Norway has also been a strong proponent of women’s participation in peacebuilding processes. During the Generation Equality Forum in Paris on 2 July 2021, Prime Minister Erna Solberg delivered Norway’s commitments to gender equality. She announced that Norway, as a proud member of the **Compact on Women, Peace and Security and Humanitarian Action**, would be increasing its funding four-fold by 2022 to promote women’s participation in peace processes. Additionally, as a current member of the UN Security Council (2021-2022), Norway is also committed to promoting the women, peace and security agenda.

During the Forum, Norway also joined the Action Coalition on Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.

In 2020, Norway was the fourth largest contributor to UN Women’s total resources with USD 25,5 million and the eighth largest contributor to regular resources with USD 9.6 million.

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.

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Scenes from a rehearsal session with Colombia's Cantadora Network, a network of singers using traditional Afro-Colombian music to preserve their culture and promote peace.

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. Between 2011 and 2020, approximately 100,000 women per year enhanced skills to participate in the economy, including as entrepreneurs.

Governance: Inclusion and Participation

In Brazil, through the generous support of the Norwegian government, UN Women is working with the indigenous and Quilombola women in Maranhão and Pará to facilitate their inclusion and meaningful participation in policy-making, state and municipal planning and budgeting. Thereby, enhancing capacities of the duty bearers to implement their state obligations and the capacity of the rights holders to demand accountability for their human rights.

The programme aims to prevent and eliminate discrimination and inequalities based on gender, race and ethnicity. It also aims to address the compound inequalities and discrimination that often prevent women from fully contributing to climate-related planning, policy-making and implementation, additional barriers which indigenous and Quilombola women face.

Empowering Women in Malawi

The Women's Empowerment Programme in Malawi focuses on three areas - gender and governance, women and youth in enterprise development, and ending violence against women and girls. Specific objectives include the strengthening of capacities of stakeholders to implement normative and policy frameworks, women's participation and leadership in decision-making processes, women's access to financial and other resources to support enterprise development including agriculture, and transforming social norms, attitudes and practices harmful to women and girls.

Norway's support for UN Women's work extends into all thematic areas and geographic regions. Some of these lifechanging collaborations focused on women's economic empowerment in Georgia; supporting the implementation of global norms, policies and standards in south-east Asia; women's leadership and political participation in southern Africa; inclusion of women in peace processes in Myanmar and Mozambique; and ending violence against women in Ukraine as well as supporting the work of the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women.