

# Bilateral cooperation under the EEA Grants and NGO Fund

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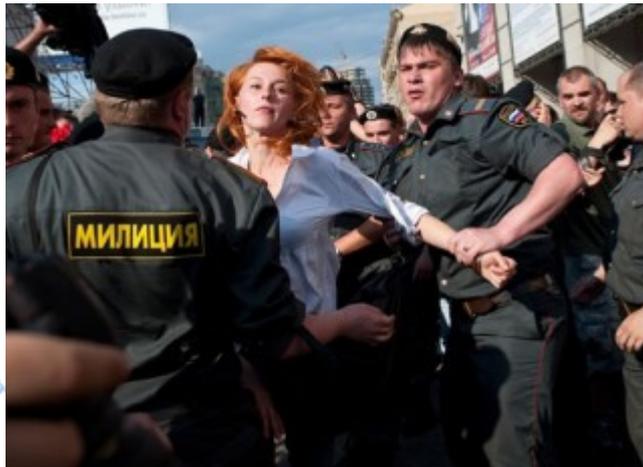
Norwegian Helsinki Committee

18/09/2013



NORWEGIAN  
HELSINKI COMMITTEE

# The Norwegian Helsinki Committee



# Role of the Helsinki Committee

- Facilitate bilateral partnership
- Distribute information
- [www.ngonorway.org](http://www.ngonorway.org)
- NGO Fund launches
- Arrange seminars, workshops
- Voice interests and needs of Norwegian civil society



The screenshot shows the homepage of the NGO Partnership Portal. The header includes the EEA Grants and Norway Grants logos, and the title "NGO Partnership Portal". The main content area features a welcome message, a search bar, and a list of countries (Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein). There are also sections for "How to apply" and "Bilateral partnerships". A sidebar on the left contains navigation links like Home, About, and NGO Funds. A footer section mentions a call for proposals for medium and large projects in Slovenia, dated Monday, 03 June 2013 13:14.



# Why a Norwegian partner?

NGO sector characterised by:

- Professionalism
- Large membership base
- Advocacy and lobbying
- Interest-representation
- Umbrella organisations
- Volunteerism
- Resource mobilisation



# Volunteering and professionalism combined

- 115 000 NGOs
- 80 % of are members of an NGO
- Half of the population participates in voluntary work annually
- Professional staff + active members



*Norway would probably not have had the world's most developed and open democracy without the voluntary sector.*

PM Stoltenberg, 2006



# Financial overview and funding

60 000 organisations have annual budgets below € 6250

Paradox: Many NGOs rely on state and government funding, but are also the most critical to the government

Central and local governments:

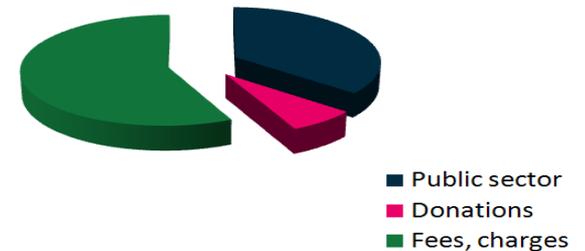
36 %

Private donors:

7 %

Membership fees and sales:

57 %



# Role of civil society organisations

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- Channels of political influence
- Evaluate and criticise the government
- Interest representation
- Provide services
- Education
- Schools of democracy



# Benefits of partnership?

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- Share knowledge and best practices
- Create greater dynamism and innovation
- Capacity-building and transformational learning
- Legitimacy
- Greater impact
- Common European challenges need common approaches



# Before you start...

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- What is your capacity?
- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- What would you like to learn?
- What can you offer?
- Are you compatible with the partner?



# Where to find a partner?

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- Build on existing contacts
- European and International networks
- NGO Fund launching conferences
- Conferences and workshops
- [Ngonorway.org](http://Ngonorway.org)



# Establishing contact with a partner

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- Good information about your project
- Specification of requested competence
- What kind of partner you want
- Clear and specified project idea
- Partner's role and contribution to the project



# Experiences from 2004-2009

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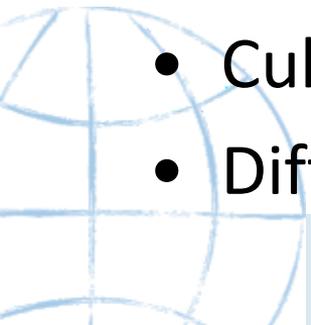
- Large numbers of partnership requests
- Voluntary work dedicated to project development
- 30% of projects in Slovenia had partners
- Role of Norwegian partners:
  - Provide expertise and training
  - Mutual competence building
  - Exchange of experiences



# Challenges

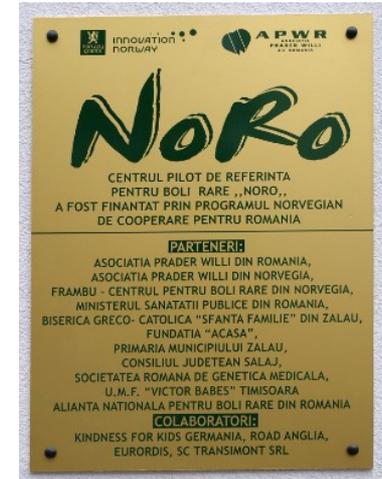
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- Language issues
- Different administrative and bureaucratic cultures
- 3 donor countries - 15 beneficiary countries
- Pro-forma partnerships
- Lack of clear goals and/ or of coordination
- Difference in philosophy, working methods
- Price level
- Cultural differences
- Different capacity and capability



# Norwegian Romanian (NoRo) Center for Rare Diseases

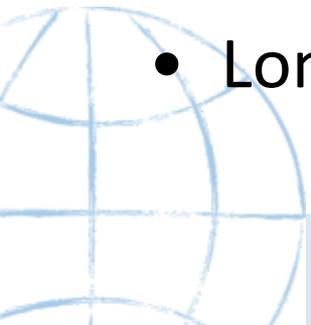
- NO partners: study visits, advice and guidance.
- Shared goal, background and values
- Benefit for partner: new knowledge contacts and ideas
- Project promoter: *Woman of the Year 2011*



# Key elements for success

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- Common values
- Building trust
- Common understanding of content and strategy
- Joint project development and planning
- Involvement of partners in all stages
- Agreement on budget
- Sustainable relations
- Long-term perspective



# www.ngonorway.org

**NGO**  
Partnership Portal



Finding partners

Search and find your partners

Search...

[Home](#) [About](#) [NGO Funds](#) [Norwegian NGOs](#) [Bilateral partnerships](#) [Countries](#) [Resources](#)



## All NGO Programmes

NGO Programmes will be set up in all the 15 beneficiary countries. Click on the links below to read more details about the NGO Programmes in each country



### How to apply

Want to apply? Get tips and advice on how to apply for grants under the NGO



### Bilateral partnerships

Strengthening of bilateral relations with the 15 beneficiary states in



### NGO Funds

NGO Programmes will be set up in all the 15 beneficiary countries. Click to



# More information and contact

[www.ngonorway.org](http://www.ngonorway.org)

[www.eeagrants.org](http://www.eeagrants.org)

[solheim@nhc.no](mailto:solheim@nhc.no)



**Partnership portal**  
@ngopartnership  
NHC twittering for partnership in Europe. Relevant and updated information on all NGO funds under the EEA Grants/ Norway Grants 2009-2014  
Oslo · <http://www.ngonorway.org/>

Edit your profile

67 TWEETS  
279 FOLLOWING  
98 FOLLOWERS



**NGO Partnership Portal**  
602 liker · 10 snakker om dette · 3 har vært her

On this page can you find information about the NGO funds (EEA/ Norway Grants), how to become a partner and how to apply for grants.

602

White Paper on the EEA Grants  
The Norwegian Government submit

Om Bilder Liker Kart Notater 3

