


Nabni's Commitments to Equitable Partnerships

Nabni's guiding vision and strategy emphasise both the *what* (outputs) and the *how* (processes through which the outputs are achieved). Enabling delivery of its programmatic objectives by establishing and investing in multi-year partnerships with local civil society organisations and actors in conflict-affected communities in the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region lies at the core of this. This is attested to in Nabni's [Theory of Change](#), forming the first pillar of the Facility's work. That these partnerships are equitable and firmly guided by principles of mutual trust and respect, recognising the value that partners bring to the process, will be a key measure of Nabni's success.

The below are a series of commitments that the Facility seeks to set for itself. They aim to translate its commitment to 'equitable partnerships' from a statement of intent to more concrete and measurable actions that will inform all aspects of its working and for which it commits to be held accountable - including by partners.

Nabni commits to reporting on progress against these commitments periodically, and to seek the advice, feedback and views from partners on its performance against these commitments.



Commitment 1: Transparency

Nabni commits to establishing and upholding a high degree of transparency in all aspects of its work and through all stages of its collaboration with partners.

Specific measures:

- 1.1 All Nabni documents, manuals, decision-making procedures and process guides that impact partners and partnerships are easily accessible on the Nabni website and translated to Arabic wherever possible.
- 1.2 Nabni communicates to existing partners (through the Country Facility Managers) in a timely and proactive manner, decisions around funding - including total budgets available, any restrictions associated with funding, and the availability of additional funding opportunities.

Commitment 2: Equitable sharing of resources

Nabni commits to recognising and supporting partner organisations to cover all legitimate and reasonable direct and indirect costs and ensuring that its systems and processes are responsive to the operational needs of partners.

Specific measures:

- 2.1 Nabni provides all partners with seven percent overheads on all grants - in line with the percentage received from the donor.
- 2.2 Nabni streamlines its disbursement processes and requirements to accommodate partner liquidity and operational considerations to the best extent possible.

Commitment 3: Accessibility and open communication

Nabni commits to fostering a culture and relationship with partners that is open, accessible and encourages constructive feedback and learning.

Specific measures:

- 3.1** Periodic check-ins with partners by the FMU will cover all aspects of the partnerships, not just project deliverables, and will include a range of staff from partner organisations with the aim of providing partners an opportunity to share feedback and suggestions.
- 3.2** Nabni Learning and Knowledge Management processes (including After Action Reviews) actively seek out feedback and suggestions from partners and inform Nabni's adaptive management approach.
- 3.3** Annual partner survey provide partners an opportunity to share feedback, recommendations and suggestions with the FMU anonymously.

Commitment 4: Capacity exchanges and technical assistance

Nabni commits to streamlining partner capacity assessment processes to reduce duplication and burden on partners, to recognising the strengths that partners offer, and to developing technical assistance processes that emphasise a spirit of exchange and to support and invest in partner priorities beyond the scope of contractual activities.

Specific measures:

- 4.1** Organisational capacity assessment processes facilitated by Nabni are genuinely guided by open, two-way communication between Nabni and partners and not the dictates of donor compliance alone.
- 4.2** Capacity assessments are aligned and take into account similar processes that partners have been through previously.
- 4.3** Capacity assessments also note the strengths and relative advantages of a partner—with a view to learning from and supporting these, as well as facilitating exchange and sharing among partners and other actors.
- 4.4** Financing for technical assistance extends beyond supporting partner capacities linked to direct delivery of contractual outputs and includes other longer-term organisational and strategic priorities of the partner.
- 4.5** A range of methods are used for the delivery of technical assistance—not one-off training alone, but also alternate options such as mentoring, staff exchanges, visits, secondments etc.

Commitment 5: Programmes are genuinely co-designed and processes led by partners

Nabni commits to ensuring that all programme design processes are led by partners, informed by their understanding of the local context and needs, and reflect a genuine spirit of co-creation – recognising the mutual strengths and areas of expertise.

Specific measures

5.1 Any decisions, particularly all those linked to programme and activity design as well as implementation, are led by partners, supported and co-validated by Nabni and informed by extensive consultations with relevant stakeholders and all sections of the community.

Commitment 6: Grant management requirements are managed in a fair manner

Nabni commits to ensuring that risk, compliance and grant management requirements placed on partners are commensurate with the value of the partnerships and partner capacity to manage these, while aiming to continually provide support with these tasks.

Specific measures:

6.1 The Nabni Facility Management Unit (FMU) through Facility Managers in country will streamline communication, requests and asks of partners, providing adequate notice and visibility to partners as far as possible.

6.2 The Nabni FMU will maintain simplified reporting timelines and manage asks of partners to eliminate duplication and reduce the level of effort required from partners for these.

6.3 The Nabni FMU will extend necessary support for partners to navigate complex risk management and compliance procedures to manage and reduce burden on partners wherever possible.

Commitment 7: Recognition and visibility for partners

Nabni commits to giving due recognition and visibility for partners in its communications and outputs and promoting their involvement in Facility communication and policy initiatives.

Specific measures:

7.1 Nabni external communications acknowledge the role and contribution of partners, giving them credit where relevant, including through the use of partner logos where appropriate – based on the willingness of partners to be publicly identified.

7.2 Nabni publications mentioning partners are cross-checked with the respective partners for confirmation that they are satisfied with the way they are presented.