

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH STAKEHOLDERS & NGOS: DO'S AND DON'TS

Building effective and meaningful partnerships between NHRIs and NGOs is key to ensuring success as emphasized by the SDGs (Goal 17). Different agencies work differently, use different language and have different expectations of partnerships. Therefore it is important for NGOs as well as NHRIs to strategise their approaches in initiating and building these partnerships to ensure that it is mutually beneficial for both parties. Listed below are some of the DO's and DONT's to building partnerships.



Ensure that there is understanding and respect of NHRI's distinct role and responsibilities and inquire if you are not aware of this.



Involve NHRI in activity planning and in other platforms especially in relation to human rights.



Ensure that community groups actively take part in activities carried out by the NHRI in relation to human rights and not to pick and choose.



Ensure that there is understanding that NHRI needs to maintain its independence by collaborating with a diverse range of groups.



Avoid last minute requests to attend workshops etc., as well as delays in reporting back on projects where NHRI is involved.



Avoid being insincere about the needs and wants of the community group - there needs to be a link between proposed work with NHRI work.



Avoid establishing a working relationship solely in reaction to the community group's priorities or deadlines.

NOTE: The above also applies to NHRI'S when building partnerships with external stakeholders.