

## The SPP Assessment Criteria

The Swedish Partnership Programme (SPP) has a set of criteria that are looked at during the assessment of an application. The criteria are closely tied to one another and the assessment of one may require considering the assessment in another. The criteria therefore focus on key aspects of a project while assessing its potential as whole. An application may therefore be rejected or approved though certain criteria are assessed as sufficient or in need of improvement.

Next to the criteria it is important to note a few things. First, the assessment process also includes reviewing the applying organisations history within ForumCiv, including applications, projects, reports, organisational assessments, evaluations, past conditions, recommendations and communication etc. Second, applications are reviewed in two steps during the assessment process, first based on the criteria and second in comparison to other applications. This is to ensure that the programme supports a diversity and representation of partnerships and does so in the most qualitative and efficient way possible. Third, the programme is currently developing the assessment criteria and other aspects of the assessment process. Changes to the information in this document should be expected. Kindly revisit the instruction and template page to be up to date in this regard.

### **Relevance**

Relevance looks at the focus and objectives of an application and the extent to which they are consistent with the SPP goals and requirements. This includes assessing the project's Rights Based Approach, its relevance for ForumCiv's results framework and its relevance for target groups and the context. In turn, relevance for target groups and the context implies looking at the local ownership of the project. This means assessing whether the planning, implementation and follow-up of the project is owned by the target group and the local partner and based on their interests.

### **Effectiveness**

Effectiveness looks at the goals of the project, the likelihood of achieving them, and if the implementation strategy and logic are effective in doing so. This includes assessing whether the change the project wants to achieve is clear; whether analyses of the problem/issue, context and actors explains the project logic and implementation plan; and whether the monitoring and evaluation of the goal achievement is clear.

### **Cost effectiveness**

Cost effectiveness looks at the connections between the work plan, the project goals and the budget and if they are clear and consistent. This includes assessing the distribution of the budget lines and whether costs are motivated in regard to the project logic and the contextual conditions.

### **Sustainability**

Sustainability looks at the project's focus on and ability to create sustained long-term change. This includes assessing the likelihood of planned changes to remain after the intervention when it comes to rights-holders and duty-bearers and the continued strengthening of local civil society.

### ***Added value***

Added value looks at the contribution of the Swedish organisation to the partnership, for example, in terms of knowledge, networks and sustainability.

### ***Coordination***

Coordination looks at the coordination between other donors and how this is handled by the partnership.

### ***Feasibility***

Feasibility looks at the practical conditions, required capacities and resources and how they influence the project implementation and the goal achievement. This includes assessing whether external conditions are restrictive or supportive; whether the partnership has sufficient capacities and resources to manage the project; whether any planned support or capacity development improves the conditions for successful project implementation. In turn, the assessment also looks at the risks connected to the project implementation, how they have been considered in the project logic and the partnership's plan for managing them.

### ***Risk management***

Risk management looks at the potential risks that are taken by ForumCiv in supporting the partnership and the measures that may manage the risks. The assessment looks at internal and external risks, the relation between them and what relevant risk management measures should be ascribed if necessary.