ICMA Relationship Model
Approved by ICMA Executive Board for International Relationships, December 2023

**Strategic Alliances**
A type of collaborative relationship formed with external organizations to achieve common goals or strategic objectives.

**Characteristics**
+ Long-term commitment of at least three years.
+ Shared resources, expertise, or technology.
+ Mutual benefits.
+ Mutual investment (not necessarily monetary).

**Subcategories**
+ International Strategic Alliances: With organizations based in different countries.
+ Domestic Strategic Alliances: With organizations within the same country as ICMA Headquarters.
+ Corporate Strategic Alliances: With for-profit entities.

**Partnerships**
Formal agreements between two or more organizations to work together on specific projects or initiatives.

**Characteristics**
+ Defined goals and objectives.
+ Shared responsibilities.
+ Limited duration or project-specific.

**Subcategories**
+ International Partnerships: Collaborations with organizations in different countries.
+ Domestic Partnerships: Collaborations with organizations in the same country as ICMA Headquarters.
+ Corporate Partnerships: Collaborations with for-profit entities.
+ Governmental Partnerships: Collaborations with government agencies or bodies.

**Chapters**
Groups of ICMA members around the world.

**Strategic Alliances**
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**Sponsors**
Organizations or individuals providing financial or in-kind support to ICMA or its initiatives.

**Characteristics**
+ Financial contributions.
+ Support for specific programs or events.
+ May receive recognition or benefits.

**Subcategories**
+ Corporate Sponsors: Businesses providing sponsorship.
+ Individual Sponsors: Individuals offering personal support.
+ Governmental Sponsors: Government entities providing sponsorship.

**Branches**
Semi-autonomous staff-driven offices of the parent organization, typically geographically based.

**Characteristics**
+ Local representation.
+ Consistent branding and mission alignment.
+ May have their own governance structure.

**Subcategories**
+ International Branches: Branches located in different countries.
+ Domestic Branches: Branches located within the United States.
+ Student Chapters: Chapters associated with students. These can be domestic or international.

**Key**
△ Information flows both ways
△ Possibility to transform from one relationship to the other

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+ International Chapters: Chapters located in different countries.
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