



GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
Relief and Development Forum
Partnership, paternalism and power – building accountable
North-South relationships
Tuesday 1 November 2011

Making Partnerships Accountable in Practice

Introduction- Partnership & Accountability

I define partnership as a '**mutually beneficial relationships of two or more autonomous bodies who share a common vision and are working towards a common goal**'.

Accountability

"We recognise that we are primarily and fundamentally accountable to God for all our actions and thoughts, and it is in this context that we are also accountable to one another (Romans 14.7–12). Therefore, in our partnerships we cannot treat lightly our mutual accountability, nor can we divorce it from humility, patience and grace. So we aspire to a fulsome and transparent accountability, and to making what we do consistent with what we say."

I will divide this short Presentation into 2 sections:

1. Principles which assist in ensuring good accountability and
2. Some Methods to facilitate Accountability

Principles

1. Relationship
2. Compatibility of Mission, Vision, Values and Goals.
3. Clarity about:
 - The scope of the Partnership
 - Duration
 - Responsibilities within the partnership
 - Reporting, monitoring and Evaluation.

- Visits
- Prayer and fellowship
- Legalities
- Expectations related to Governance
- Termination of the Partnership
- Documentation of the Agreement

Methods to Facilitate Good Accountability

1. Good Partnership Process

- Pre Partnership Relationship Building
- **Selection - clear and transparent**
- Potential Partnership: assessments, initial activities normally 6 months
- **Endorsement of the Partnership- full commitment**
- Full Partnership- 3 years
- **Evaluation**
- Extension/Phase Out- important it is given time for good closure
- **Post Partnership- some arrangement about ongoing relationship**
- Post- Partnership

2. Partner Forums

3. Social Audit/Accountability