

# North-South partnerships: Issues and concerns

Global Connections Relief & Devt Forum  
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# ISSUES

No sense of participation, being valued

Decisions made somewhere else

Really about money, not relationship

Abuse of power (unintended)

Cultural differences not understood

Task versus relationship focus

Not understanding what's important to the other person (incl. risk)

# ISSUES

Communication incl. language, translation

IT connectivity

Direction of accountability – all South to North

Lack or imbalance of transparency

Positioning (esp. in regard to institutional donor)

# ADDRESSING

Scriptural base – our identity

Changing the power relationships

Breadth of North-South relationships

Behaviour

Structural change

Different approach to accountability

# RISKS

Unconcerned about unity

Uncorrected cultural misunderstanding

Protective 'buffer' layer removed too soon

Powerful take control

Failure of 'dual citizenship' – of the global fellowship as well as own country

Uncorrected damaging behaviours

Contradictions in governance in South

# RISKS

Never getting past the transitional stage

Type	Dependent	Independent	Interdependent
Reality	Limited partnership	Growth potential (self-interest)	Deep partnerships
Feel	Dominated	Isolated	Shared vision and purpose

Worldwide recession

Budgeting complications

Task-based relationship rather than person-based and Christ-based

Turning inward – focus on structures rather than ministry

# SYSTEMS FOR MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Shared spiritual base – accountable to Christ

Centrality of mutual prayer

Shared vision, values, purpose

Keeping our eye on the ultimate goal

TLM Charter

Global decision-making forums:

- Members' meeting
- Member working groups

# SYSTEMS FOR MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Peer review processes

Global teams in evaluation etc

Technology: global extranet

TLM International role: coordinator, facilitator,  
monitor, global overview

Invitations South to North, not just North to  
South

Build trust by working 'as if'