

The project “Building of Rural Development Resources in Balkan region - No BoRDeR” is supported by:



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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Definitions of ‘partnership’

“Partnership is a cross-sector collaboration in which organisations work together in a transparent, equitable and mutually beneficial way. The partners agree to commit resources, share the risks as well as the benefits to work together towards a sustainable development goal.” *Definition of ‘partnership’ currently used by The Partnering Initiative, January 2005*

„A partnership is a strategic alliance or relationship between two or more people. Successful partnerships are often based on trust, equality, and mutual understanding and obligations. Partnerships can be formal, where each party’s roles and obligations are spelled out in a written agreement, or informal, where the roles and obligations are assumed or agreed to verbally. You may be able to choose your partner or, as is often the case, your partner may be assigned to you.”

Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Northern Illinois University, <http://www.seasite.niu.edu>

„A multi-sector partnership describes a strategic alliance between organisations drawn from the three sectors of society - government, business and civil society - who commit to work collaboratively on a project or programme to pursue sustainable development goals, and in which all partners contribute from their core competencies, share the risks, and benefit by achieving their own, each others, and the overall partnership’s objectives”

Partnership Brokers Accreditation Scheme, www.odi.org.uk

„A relationship between individuals or groups that is characterized by mutual cooperation and responsibility, as for the achievement of a specified goal.”

The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition 2006

„Partnerships are not an end in themselves – they are formed to achieve other goals, with the implicit or explicit recognition that by acting together partners can accomplish more than by acting alone.”

Ken Caplan, David Jones, Partnership Indicators. Measuring the effectiveness of multi-sector approaches to service provision, 07.2002

„A partnership brings together institutional capabilities and human resources in the form of skills, experiences and ideas to tackle common problems that are often beyond the capacity of a single organization or group.”

A Handbook for Trainers on Participatory Local Development, RAP publication 2003/07

„Multi-sector partnerships for sustainable development are complex. They critically depend on establishing strong working relationships between key individuals often from radically different working cultures.”

Ros Tennyson, The Brokering Guidebook, The International Business Leaders Forum 2005

„It is probably not love that makes the world go around, but rather those mutually supportive alliances through which partners recognise their dependence on each other for the achievement of shared and private goals.” *Fred Allen (American comedian, 1894-1956)*

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„Partnerships are commonly defined as voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both State and non-State, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task and to share risks, responsibilities, resources, competencies and benefits.”

UN General Assembly, Enhanced Cooperation between the UN and all Relevant Partners, in particular the Private Sector, Report of the Secretary-General, 18 August 2003