

Multistakeholder Collaboration: Characteristics and Challenges

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MS Collaborations at the Global Level

- Rationale
- Focus
- Stakeholders
- Range of Actors
- Knowledge Imperative

Global Multistakeholder Networks

- **Education for All**
- **Building Partnerships for Development in Water and Sanitation**
- **Ethical Trading Initiative**
- **Forest Stewardship Council**
- **Forests Dialogue**
- **Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization**
- **Global Compact**
- **Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade**
- **Global Forum for Sustainable Energy**
- **Global Funds to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria**
- **Global Knowledge Partnership**
- **Global Learning Portal**
- **Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict**
- **Global Reporting Initiative**
- **Global Village Energy Partnership**
- **Global Water Partnership**
- **Healthy Cities International**
- **International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements**
- **International Youth Foundation**
- **IUCN - World Conservation Union**
- **Marine Stewardship Council**
- **Microcredit Summit Campaign**
- **ProVention Consortium**
- **Social Accountability International**
- **Sustainable Food Lab**
- **Transparency International**
- **UN Working Group on Internet Governance**
- **World Links**
- **World Water Council**
- **Youth Employment Summit Campaign**

Collaborative Activities

- Discussion about the problem and what could be done about it
 - Agenda-setting that sets priorities, advocacy, learning and building the capacity for action learning
- Solutions development and delivery
 - Establish rules (standards, policies, etc)
 - Provide or Mobilize Financing
 - Provide Services/Technical Support OR Build capacity for those who would
 - Provide Coordination Support

Challenges (1) - Organizational

- Sustainability
- Legitimacy
- Democratic imperatives (transparency, participation and accountability)
- Effectiveness (efficiency, adaptability, scalability, speed of response)
- Resources for solutions delivery (knowledge, capacity and competence, right delivery partner, etc.)
- Key skills (glue) in multistakeholder initiatives
 - process management and facilitation
 - skills for correctly estimating the difficulty in reaching common goals and activities

Challenges (2) - Stakeholders

- Balancing stakeholders interests (ensuring no over-dominance of one)
- Representing the interests of those who are marginalized and voiceless
- Fair level of contribution from each partner/stakeholder
- Sustainable working relationship based on trust, mutual respect, open communication and understanding about each other's strengths and weaknesses
- Ensuring that the long-term interest of the public is not harmed by negotiated outcomes among stakeholders