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Partnerships in Action

Guidelines for North-South Co-operation

This document is based on text developed by the North-South Network of the European Region, formerly published on the European Scout web-site.

4. Traps: What to Avoid in a Partnership

1. Decision-making: making decisions without involving the other partners.
2. Developing a partnership without establishing the NEED; basing partnership on "personal friendship" and not expressed need.
3. **ASSUMING**: Lack of preparation by partners to learn about other others culture and way of doing things.
4. Not respecting NSOs structures. Developing a partnership as a "parallel" unit, and not part of the Association's decision-making structure.
5. Negative attitudes: "Paternalistic" by "Donor" Partner.
6. Getting into "Action" without an agreement and hence no understanding on how to solve problems.
7. Starting without time-frame/ Action plan.
8. Assuming the partner NSO has the capacity to implement a partnership/project.
9. Forgetting the CORE business of Scouting and hence forgetting the Educational component and use of the Scout Method.
10. Lack of transparency. Only a few people who know the details of the project.
11. Changing the agreed objectives without consultation with the partners.
12. Reporting: NOT sending reports as agreed.

