

Enhancing the Effectiveness of Partnerships: Lessons from Experience

CSD-17 Event
UN Headquarters, New York

06 May, 2009
10:00am-1:00pm
Conference Room 6

Abstract of Session

With globalization has come the realization that sustainability of both human populations and environmental systems requires that a continuous process of scientific innovation and learning will be needed to develop and put into use the technologies that can address problems confronting us. The U.S. National Academies has recently completed a two-year effort to explore the track record of multi-stakeholder partnerships in harnessing science and technology for sustainability. Speakers will discuss the results of this effort and the 11 case studies commissioned, as well as share their own experience with science- or technology-based partnerships for sustainability to consider (1) the incentives for partnership; (2) the implementation of partnerships; and (3) the relative effectiveness of different organizational structures for partnership.

Additionally, panelists will elaborate on the process which has shaped this project. Consultations with numerous international stakeholders (including a Side Event at CSD-15) helped shape the initiative, dozens of academics and researchers drafted insightful analyses, and partners from the practitioner side (and their supporting institutions) all provided input so that the final product would become a tool which is of some value to the diverse array of stakeholders engaged in partnerships.

Agenda

- 10:00** Welcome and Overview of the National Academies project
Robert Stephens, Multi-State Working Group on Environmental Performance
- 10:30** Presentations and discussion of case studies
Lee Paddock, The George Washington University Law School
Liliana Andonova, The Graduate Institute for International Studies, Geneva
- 11:30** Discussion of broader lessons
Derek Vollmer, The U.S. National Academies
- 12:00** Question and Answer with audience
Emmy Simmons, U.S. Agency for International Development (retired)
- 1:00** Conclude