



What makes for a good research partnership? A view from Tanzania

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Meaningful partnership: What does it mean

➤ Partners are collaboratively and fully involved in designing and implementing projects, processing results and feedback (through monitoring and evaluation)





What are the issues

- 1. Setting the research agenda
- ➤ Problem: Predetermined research agenda that do not answer issues in the context of local problems
- ➤ Why does it not work: lack of relevance in local context, difficult to advice policy and practice, extractive research rather than inclusive and collaborative





Setting the research agenda...

➤ Solution: Working together to define the research problem, implementation, and processing of results (examples of UDOM – collaborating partners – INASP - RW, Global Partnership for Education – Improving primary education in Tanzania, OSU – water and renewable energy)





What are the issues...

- 2. Building sustainable capacity
- ➤ Problem: Predetermined budgets, minimal capacity development, no plans for supporting the local partners to continue work into the future
- Solution: Local and North partners to work together in establishing models that are cost effective and sustainable





What are the issues...

3. Effective engagement with policy makers

- ➤ Problem: Policy makers are not fully engaged in the process (predetermined agenda, fixed budgets, fixed time frame etc)
- Solution: To engage policy makers and local partners in identifying the problem, and implementation and how the expected outcomes will help solve the problem (like what we did with the Ohio State University (OSU) involved ministries, institutions and the community to identify need).





- How did this work: Requires effective coordination, it was inclusive/participatory
- respective stakeholders

Challenges: An effective and committed coordinator required (DRP,CIC in place)





➤ What was successful – (i) With OSU Resaerch results informed policy in the Planning and construction of water wells based on project results (Planning and implementation level, training of workforce)





➤ What was successful – (ii) With INASP – identified need in both RW & Gender mainstreaming – embedding activities – capacity building, monitoring & evaluation, value for money





- Engagement with policy makers continued beyond project time frame (local partners in country have a crucial role in monitoring and evaluation, re-plan and re-design)
- ➤ Policy makers/implementers able to allocate budget locally for sustainability.





➤ What was successful — (iii) Local and North partners to work together in establishing models that are cost effective and sustainable (like what we did in developing the SPHEIR project —involved several institutions in EA, policy makers and HE regulatory authorities).





Conclusion

The local partner

Takes financial responsibility (economy/value for money, effective, efficient, equity)

This **fosters accountability** in donor funded projects



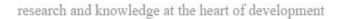


Conclusion

The North partner

- >Understands the problem in local context,
- ➤ Understands the local stakeholders challenges and strengths
- ➤ Understands how policy systems work in the country,

This is important for future funding plans







Thank you for listening

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