

# *Partnership Lessons*

Anne Mitchell and Carolyn Webb  
CIELAP

Achieving Resilient Agricultural Systems  
November 13, 14 2008

# *Lessons: What works*

- Interdisciplinary
- Holistic approach
- Long-term responses
- Include the perspectives of the diversity of stakeholders
- Adequate human and financial resources
- Effective leadership and collaborative management

## *Lessons: What doesn't work*

- Lack of leadership
- Lack of agreement on goal
- Lack of adequate planning and communication
- Lack of accountability
- Inequitable sharing of responsibilities and resources.

# *Useful Principles*

- Joint commitment and understanding
- Clear and detailed plan for achieving goals
- Each partner clearly benefits from the partnership
- Sufficient and appropriate resources committed from all partners
- Agreed on means of making decisions
- Good leadership

# *Useful Principles*

- Clear and enforceable lines of accountability
- Partners communicate in productive and supportive ways
- Trust in the function of the partnership
- Accurate and appropriate indicators to monitor and make improvements to the partnership



# *Why Evaluate?*

- Check the health of a partnership
- Inform decision-making: stimulate growth, remove obstacles & make improvements
- Capture learning, provide good stories to disseminate, capture the story of the partnership's development

From the partnering initiative - <http://thepartneringinitiative.org/>

# *Why Evaluate?*

- Check that benefits of partnership outweigh the costs for all partners
- Demonstrate the above to senior management in all partner organizations / donors / potential partners
- Demonstrate that partnership approach has 'added value' over other approaches

From the partnering initiative - <http://thepartneringinitiative.org/>

# *Evaluation*

- Involve all partners and key stakeholders in the evaluation, including the design and data collection

From the partnering initiative - <http://thepartneringinitiative.org/>



# *Reasons for Governments to Encourage Partnerships*

- Economic efficiency
- Sustainability
- Can address large scale issues
- Coordinated knowledge and energy
- Public Participation can be encouraged and channeled
- Effective way to enforce regulations