



CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR
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March 7 2005

Ms Gisele Morin-Labatut
Senior Program Officer
IDRC
250 Albert Street, P O Box 8500
Ottawa
ON K1G 3H9

Dear Gisele,

Re: Partnering for Sustainability – CIELAP: IDRC Centre File: 101926-011

Please consider this our final technical report for the above project. Five copies of this report will be mailed to you today. We have appreciated the support and flexibility provided by IDRC regarding this project.

Project Methodology:

A project team was assembled, which included researchers and reviewers. The project set out to answer four questions on partnerships and then leverage concrete action to promote sustainable development. The questions are:

- What are the characteristics of a meaningful partnership?
- What policy framework would lead to the development of the most meaningful partnerships?
- What are the current policies in Canada that affect the formation of partnerships?
- How can the benefits of already existing partnerships be maximized?

Considerable time was taken in discussion between researchers and reviewers on how to focus the research questions. Through web-based research, visiting libraries, reviewing government documents and interviews, tools were developed to respond to these questions. These tools took the form of a searchable database and four research papers. During the review process, considerable effort went into a process to focus the papers.

As well as the papers, a conference entitled *Partnering for Sustainability* was organized to explore issues of governance and accountability for partnerships for sustainability.



Deliverables:

Partnering for Sustainability Conference: This conference took place, May 13 and 14 2004 at the Holiday Inn on King in Toronto. The conference focused on governance and accountability issues related to partnerships to promote sustainable development. Two hundred people attended the conference with an international roster of speakers and panellists. The Proceedings from the *Partnering for Sustainability* conference are on our website. A feature article on partnerships for sustainability and an advertisement for the *Partnering for Sustainability* conference appeared in the April 26 2005 issue of Canadian Business.

Tools on partnerships: Several 'tools' on partnerships were developed as part of this project:

- i) Searchable Database: A research database on policy that affects partnerships for sustainable development was developed and is on our website. This database is a useful tool for those interested in Partnerships for Sustainable Development.
- ii) Research Reports: We also researched and published four papers on partnerships for sustainability topics:
 - a) Developing Canada's Federal Partnerships: Policy Considerations in the Resource and Environmental Fields, 2005 – Report
 - b) How to Make a Partnership Work, 2005 – Report
 - c) A Guide to Policy for Partnerships in Canada, 2005 - Report
 - d) Getting the Most Out of Partnerships, 2005 - Report

Outcomes:

At the Partnering for Sustainability conference, 200 people engaged in conversation about sustainable development and the role that partnerships could play to achieve the goals of sustainable development. Several commented that we were able to attract high caliber international and national speakers and panelists. Others commented that we were able to provide an atmosphere where representatives from industry, government and communities, who often have opposing views on sustainability issues, were able to hold a conversation and develop a better understanding for each other's views.

This project has already resulted in an additional project to update our Sustainable Development in Canada: A New Federal Plan, published in 2001. This publication will also be released in March 2005. Discussions on sustainable development have been initiated with 20 different Federal government departments and committees.

CIELAP now has a suite of publications on sustainable development and the role of partnerships. These publications will be on our website and available to be downloaded free of charge. As well, these publications will be a resource for further work on sustainable development. In particular, we are planning a 3rd Partnering for Sustainability conference for the fall of 2005. The conference will focus on how partnerships can assist us in achieving our proposed sustainable development priorities. These were identified by CIELAP in our Sustainable Development in Canada: A 2005 Update. Four of the priorities were featured in the 2005 Federal Budget. CIELAP's priorities are: Kyoto Protocol; Addressing Child Poverty; Cities Agenda; Green Investment; and Homelessness.

Workplan: The workplan for this project was as follows:

Project Component	Task	Time Line	Objective
research database of sources that address partnerships for sustainability	conduct research in libraries and databases throughout Toronto	weeks 1-3 Completed	a list of all readily available resources (between 50-200) that deal with policy around forming partnerships is compiled
	compile the resources into a database and compose descriptions of the available resources	weeks 3-4 Completed	short descriptions of all resources are written and the database is compiled in an organized and useful way
	publish the database online	Completed	the database is easy for the public to access and use through CIELAP's website
guide to policies in Canada that affect the formation of partnerships for sustainability	identify and acquire sources in the database that are appropriate and compose the guide	Completed	a clear and understandable 10-25 page guide is written that identifies all policies in Canada that affect the formation of partnerships and demonstrates how they affect their formation
	publish the guide online	Completed	the guide is easy to access through CIELAP's website
framework for evaluating policy in terms of how it may affect the formation of partnerships	identify and acquire sources in the database that are appropriate and compose the framework	Completed	a 10-25 page, easy to use framework exists that enables the evaluation of policies in terms of how they may affect partnerships for sustainability

	publish the framework on line	Completed	the framework is easy to access through CIELAP's website
checklist for how to increase the effectiveness of already existing partnerships	based on CIELAP's past work with partnerships and research materials compose and explain the checklist	Completed	an easy to use, effective checklist enables existing partnerships to increase their effectiveness
	publish the checklist online	Completed	the checklist is easy to access through CIELAP's website
Partnering for Sustainability Conference	plan and prepare for the conference	completed	an interesting, effective, informative conference is held in an appropriate setting with all guests well cared for
	Hold a press conference to release papers	A feature article on Partnerships appeared in Canadian Business as well as a major promotional piece about the conference	Through 2-10 press hits the public is more aware of partnerships for sustainability, the outcomes of the WSSD, and the Partnering for Sustainability Conference
	hold the conference	completed	200-300 guests and presenters attend the conference all four tools are presented and publicized and other issues of partnerships for sustainability are explored
	write the conference proceedings	Completed	the ideas and concepts explored during the conference will be available for further research and discussion purposes
	publish the proceedings on line	completed	the proceedings are easy to access through CIELAP's website

Variances from the Original Proposal

There are two major variances from the original proposal.

First, the project turned out to be much more complex than we originally anticipated. Therefore, it took much longer than anticipated. As well, one of the principle researchers was no longer able to work on the project. In addition, the reviewers had major issues with the papers which we had to address. As a result, the research papers were not finalized until eight months after the *Partnering for Sustainability* conference. CIELAP is grateful to IDRC for agreeing to an extension.

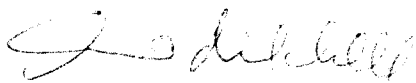
Second, a press conference to release the papers was not held. This was mainly because the papers were not ready to release publicly prior to the Partnering for Sustainability conference. Instead considerable work with the press was carried out in the lead up to the *Partnering for Sustainability* conference. A major feature article was prepared for the April 26 2004 edition of Canadian Business. As well, a large supplement was included in Canadian Business advertising the conference. One of the most successful panels at the Partnering for Sustainability conference was the media panel. The draft papers were presented at the *Partnering for Sustainability* conference.

Financial Report:

A final financial report for this project will be forwarded to you within 30 days.

Once again, thank you for continuing to support this work towards sustainability and your relationship with CIELAP.

Yours sincerely



Anne Mitchell
Executive Director