Maintaining Partnership: Best Practices

How does your collaboration measure up? Consider these issues:

Communication

- Establishing a system of regular partner communication and visits
- Maintaining ongoing institutional leadership contact and buy-in
- Supporting a clear decision-making process and responsibilities

Management

- Increasing an environment of collaboration and trust: getting to know your partner’s institution, culture, environment, and people
- Identifying disagreements and difficulties and agreeing on a process for resolution
- Identifying new projects, resources, and funding opportunities
- Sharing strategies and timing for ending projects or affiliations when appropriate

Assessment

- Reporting progress toward specific joint goals on a regular schedule
- Identifying and tracking measures of mutual benefit, equity, capacity building, and community buy-in
- Identifying and addressing shortfalls
- Assessing satisfaction of all parties involved in the collaboration