



Partnership Risk Management – Top Ten Tips

- 1 **PRIORITISATION AND OBJECTIVES** – make sure that you concentrate enough resource on the most important issues by doing a risk based assessment of your objectives, projects and partnerships and prioritise on that basis. Make sure that the objectives are clear, transparent and communicated to all the stakeholders;
- 2 **PLANNING** – you can never allow enough time for planning, so build in buffers here;
- 3 **SELECTION** – choose your partners in partnerships wisely on the basis of their capability and compatibility and with lots of thought. Consider having an event prior to OJEU to invite all possible partners along so you can set out the rules of the game, your objectives and your aspirations for success;
- 4 **OWNERSHIP** – sharing of risk and reward is central to gaining ownership by the whole team and partners;
- 5 **TEAMWORK** – ensure that the team(s) is/are motivated by having incentives for success as well as penalties for failure and don't be afraid of talking about culture; it's often another glue to stick things together when everything else is falling apart;
- 6 **INDEPENDENCE** – use independent people like Liz Taylor Risk Consulting to help you through the process, especially if things need getting back on track. We use Risk Management tools to help the teams take ownership of the barriers to success in a careful and deliberate way;
- 7 **DISCIPLINE** – project management disciplines are to be upheld by ALL in the team;
- 8 **DECISION MAKING** – shorten the process for important decisions by setting up or strengthening your delegated authority process;
- 9 **COMMUNICATION** – It's not just the partnership team or Board that need to know what's happening. Have a communication campaign and bulletin board, use e-learning or a website for the programme with webcams and blogs;
- 10 **EXIT PLAN** – plan the exit at the beginning. It is so embarrassing to get into something you can't get out of. Have a contingency plan in hand for critical risks, such as exit by a key partner.

Article

