

Working Effectively in a Consortium Structure

Consortium Management I

Definition

A Consortium is when...

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- organizations operate in **Partnership** ...

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- according to a **Formally Stated Agreement** ...

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- organizations operate in **Partnership** ...
- according to a **Formally Stated Agreement** ...
- and in recognition of their **Enhanced Ability to Compete for Resources** as a formal association.

Session Objectives

By the end of this session, you will be able to:

- **Share some promising practices, approaches and tools** that can improve the quality of consortium management
- **Identify three actions** that you can take to improve the effectiveness of the management of your consortium

Task

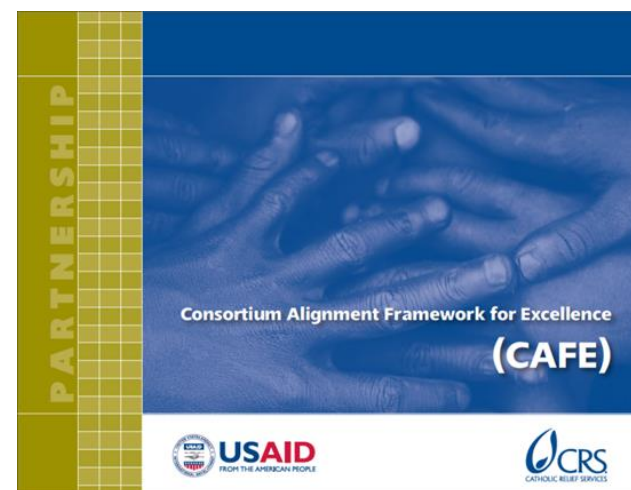
- Individually, think of ONE word that comes to mind when you hear “consortium”
- Write this on a sticky note
- Share your word with a partner
- Explain why this word came to mind

You have 3 minutes, then we will discuss answers in plenary

Consortium Alignment Framework for Excellence

CAFE assists CRS and partners to:

- form and maintain strong consortiums
- meet donor requirements
- make the managerial, financial, and administrative functions of a consortium effective, efficient, and supportive of project goals, community needs, and donor intent



CAFÉ continued

- **CAFE Standards**: Describes the **essential principles** for forming and working in an effective and efficient consortium
- **CAFE Reference Sheet**: Suggests **tools and good practices** for forming and operating a consortium
- **CAFE Implementation Guide**: Provides step-by-step activities and tools and best practices for pre-consortium planning and implementation
- **CAFE Glossary**: defines the terms most commonly used in consortium

CAFÉ Standards Rating Sheet

- Think about your current consortium experience or project partnership.
- Rate these management components on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (great) against the standards listed in your handout.
- Mark the ratings on your sheet.

You have 5 minutes, so work fast!

CAFÉ Standards Rating Sheet

- Using **dots**, show your rating of each component on the flip charts.

Tools, best practices and approaches to consortium management

1. In your experience, what tools, best practices and/or approaches worked well to improve consortium performance in this component?
2. Of these, identify the tool, best practice or approach you all agree is MOST effective to improving consortium performance in this component.