

RISKING IT WEBINARS

DIVERSE PARTNERSHIPS

This is a summary of the conversations had on the Risking It webinar about starting and maintaining Diverse Partnerships.

Starting partnership work

- Understand where the money comes from.
- Understand the organisational structures and where power lies.
- Identify the assets of the organisations and your own. I.e.. access to trusted relationships with young people and communities is an asset.
- Know what your leverage is and what you are willing to trade.
- Do your values match or match enough? What values won't you compromise on?
- Unaligned values, or values which aren't mutually respected will become points of conflict. This requires clear communication of the vision, the expectations and the issues from the start.
- Be aware that whilst partners all might have an understanding of the needs they might want to meet them in different ways.
- Identify the tensions early on and navigate them accordingly
- Be aware of the assumed agenda.

Maintaining Partnerships

- Be brave enough to have the difficult conversations
- Trust that everyone will pull their weight
- Going slow can be frustrating but you can go further together
- Prevent collapse by overlapping organisations rather than just one personal contact. Partnerships can fall apart if that particular person who believed in the vision moves on. Be aware that it takes time to rebuild and reestablish when change happens.
- Know your red lines that you won't cross. Don't compromise on values.

Are meetings worth it? If in doubt get the minutes, see who attends and who has the actions. Work out the movers and shakers and go to them directly.