

## Assessing Partnership Readiness Worksheet

Whether or not to join a collaboration can be a complex decision. Organizations should engage in critical and strategic thinking internally, before agreeing to join a collaborative venture. This worksheet may help you and your team assess your organization's readiness to join a partnership, before agreeing to do so. It is helpful to have a clear understanding about the potential partner/partnership before completing this worksheet.

### Directions:

1. Respond to items below using the following point scale:

#### Point Scale:

- 1 = Definitely not able/willing to do this
- 2 = Possibly, but would seriously stretch our capacities
- 3 = We could do this sufficiently
- 4 = Definitely able and willing to do this quite well

2. Total up your points.
3. Interpret your score and discuss with your team. The total scores below reflect the degree of confidence in your readiness.

#### Score Interpretations:

- 10 to 20 points = Real concern, perhaps the partnership is not right for you now.
- 20 to 30 points = Some concerns. Give special attention devoted to what concerns you most.
- 30 to 40 points = Very good partnering opportunity for you

Score	Question
	Is it clear how joining this partnership will facilitate the achievement of our strategic goal(s)?
	Does our organization have the resources—financial, people and technology—needed to contribute our portion of the partnership being considered?
	Can we honestly say resources can be accessed when required?
	Are we willing and able to work in collaboration and mutuality with the other organizations that comprise this partnership?
	Have we worked with any of these other organizations before, and was that a positive experience?
	Are we willing and able to share control and participate in shared decision making with these particular organizations?
	Are we willing and able to be flexible about how things get done and not be insistent that it be done our way, and will this meet our expectations of quality work?
	Have we in the past and are we now able to work with our less resourced partners with mutual respect, avoiding any sense of domination and superiority? Would these organizations give us a high rating in this regard?
	Is there support for this project within our organization, and would this partnership become a valuable part of our organization’s portfolio?
	Can we commit to devote the leadership and management time required of us in this partnership effort?
	Have we had sufficient experience in working in partnerships so that we can say that our “partnering” competencies are good enough to carry out our performance commitments?
	Will partnership contributions fall within the allowable activities of the GLS grant? If not, are other resources available to cover those contributions?