

Abstract

Risk Management in New Models of Collaboration

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Collaboration within government or between the public and private sectors for the delivery of public services involves partners from different organizations pursuing different, sometimes conflicting, objectives. The participating organizations are usually engaged in large-scale projects that address very visible problems, making significant use of new processes and technologies. All these components are potential sources of risk. Fortunately, most risks can be managed if they are identified and understood early in the process. We offer a typology of risks associated with the delivery of public services by multiple partners. We distinguish external risks that come mainly from the socio-economic, political, and technological environments, from internal risks that stem from the nature of the project, the participants, and their relationships.