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D P R N
Development Policy Review Network

Websites:

<http://www.dprn.nl>

<http://www.global-connections.nl>

■ WHAT IS DPRN?

The Development Policy Review Network (DPRN) is a platform for development experts, practitioners and policymakers. It organises regional and thematic meetings and is currently developing a virtual community portal to provide access to development expertise in the Netherlands and Belgium.

■ WHY A NEW NETWORK?

DPRN aims to bridge the gap between the scientific community, policymakers and development practitioners. This requires more interaction between them and better opportunities for regular contact. With this in mind, the Research School for Resource Studies for Development (CERES) initiated the DPRN in 2003.

■ OBJECTIVES

The DPRN aims to:

- Promote mutual feedback, information exchange and dialogue between scientists, policymakers and development practitioners in the Netherlands and Belgium;
- Stimulate informed debate and a discussion of issues related to the formulation and implementation of development policies;
- Foster a climate of open debate and the exchange of ideas;
- Enhance the impact of research-based knowledge on the political debate relating to development;
- Align the contributions of research and practice to policy formulation;
- Promote synergy between development policy, practice and research;
- Stimulate shared analyses and recommendations for research, policy and practice;
- Access development expertise in the Netherlands and Belgium via a searchable web portal.

■ DPRN'S ACTIVITIES

Thematic meetings:

DPRN regularly organises thematic seminars and workshops on topical issues, such as 'The Millennium Development Goals as a challenge for scientists and development practitioners' (2005) and 'Measuring results in development' (2006).

Regional expert meetings:

DPRN organises annual expert meetings for 13 world regions at which scientists, policymakers and practitioners exchange views, knowledge and experience in order to increase synergy. The meetings provide a platform to meet each other, find out about each other's activities and discuss relevant developments and issues in the various regions.

Virtual community portal:

Together with the African Studies Centre, the DPRN is developing a virtual community portal with a search facility to locate thematic and regional development expertise in the Netherlands and Belgium ([http://www. Global-Connections.nl](http://www.Global-Connections.nl)).

■ ORGANISATION

The DPRN is affiliated with (but not part of) the Netherlands Research School for Resource Studies for Development (CERES). The CERES secretariat and directorate act as facilitators and service providers to the DPRN. AMIDSt, an institute within the University of Amsterdam and part of CERES, is responsible for coordinating the regional expert meetings. A Task Force made up of various representatives from scientific, policy and development organisations monitors the administrative organisation and internal control of the DPRN.

■ JOIN US

Scientists, policymakers and development practitioners affiliated to Dutch and Belgian organisations who wish to be kept informed about DPRN can subscribe to the mailing list by sending an e-mail to info@dprn.nl.