

Overview of DPRN facilitated processes and implementing organisations

Processes

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Processes started in 2010, following the third call for proposals

The knowledge triangle in developing countries: a missed opportunity in university development cooperation?



A one-year process building on the consensus that science and technology are crucial for development and that the knowledge triangle – education, research and innovation – is important for a knowledge-based society. By taking cooperation between Dutch, Flemish and Southern African Universities as a case in point, a workshop is to be organised to discuss to what extent the (potential) role of African universities in relation to the knowledge triangle is sufficiently acknowledged and supported. While exploring how the aspect of innovation and service to society can be incorporated more effectively into academic development programmes, the process includes a review of policy strategies in the Netherlands, Flanders and South Africa, and of examples of best practices. The envisaged outcome is a proposal for an innovation strategy that promotes synergy between academia and regional development and private initiatives. To maximise the involvement of African stakeholders, the workshop is going to be held in South Africa.

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Civic Driven Change: implications for policy-makers and practitioners



A one-year process aimed at stimulating dialogue and learning between development experts from policy, practice, science and business about what Civic Driven Change (CDC) implies for the policy and practice of international cooperation. The process encompasses three thematic sessions that focus on bringing CDC into practice in local politics, private enterprise and development policies respectively. Finally, a public event is going to be organised to synthesise the outcomes of the thematic meetings, disseminate the findings to a wider public and define ways forward. The process is intended to raise interest in CDC among a wider public and to stimulate and enlarge communities of practice in the Netherlands and Belgium. The ultimate goal is to devise strategies for the further promotion of the CDC concept in policy and practice beyond 2010.

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Afghan–Central Asian water cooperation on management of the Amu Darya river: connecting experts and policy makers in the low lands



This one year process focuses on cross-border cooperation between Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan on management of the Amu Darya basin's water resources. The aim is to promote information exchange between academia, private sector experts and Dutch and Belgian policymakers whose work is related to Afghanistan and Central Asia,

thereby building important connections and enhancing awareness of a subject that is of critical importance to sustainable development. The project will:

- Connect experts and officials in the development and hydrological sectors;
- Collect, summarise and communicate current national policy priorities of key stakeholders;
- Collect, summarise and communicate academic suggestions for improved policies;
- Organise two 2-day policy review seminars (one in the Netherlands and one in Belgium) in the summer and the fall of 2010;

Based on these activities, the process is intended to produce policy recommendations that support ongoing reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in Afghanistan. The improved connections between relevant actors that the proposed process seeks to establish will facilitate better informed policies.

Website: <http://www.amudaryabasin.net>

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Strengthening monitoring and evaluation in development projects that deal with complex social contexts



A one-year process that aims to develop a better understanding about the effectiveness of outcome mapping in development projects that deal with complex social systems. An important means to achieve this is through the development of a sustainable platform where development practitioners, researchers and policymakers can discuss, exchange information and seek cooperation. The process also includes a detailed survey of latest literature, policy

and practice related to innovative monitoring and evaluation (M&E) methods and an international workshop. Based on practical lessons learned, this process can generate policy recommendations for government ministries and development actors on planning, monitoring and evaluation in development projects that deal with complex systems.

Website: <http://pme.global-connections.nl>

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Processes started in 2009, following the second call for proposals

Commercial pressures on land: rethinking policies and practice for development (*process completed*)

Commercial Pressures on Land

Rethinking Policies and Practice for development

A one-year process aimed at providing an evidence base for influencing global, regional, and national policy processes on rural land. The ultimate aim is to enable secure and equitable access to land for the vulnerable poor who face increased commercial demand for their land. The process includes the setting up of online interest groups, the review of relevant literature and key policy documents, the preparation of papers and presentations, the organisation of a one-day workshop, and the facilitation of post-workshop discussions. The process is designed to lay the basis for a pilot initiative that promotes community-private-sector partnerships in at least one developing country.

Website: <http://pressuresonland.global-connections.nl>

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Phosphorus depletion: the invisible crisis (*process completed*)



A one-year process aimed at increasing global awareness of the depletion of phosphorus, an irreplaceable and indispensable nutrient for plant growth. This issue is being dealt with by an umbrella platform of various actors from different sectors, namely the 'Nutrient Flow Task Group'. The Group investigates possible mitigation options to avoid major socioeconomic distortions resulting from food insecurity. The process includes the preparation of an urgency paper, four case studies, a stakeholder analysis, an online communication platform, the presentation of a policy memorandum, a seminar at European level, and preparations for a documentary.

Website: <http://phosphorus.global-connections.nl>

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Singing a new policy tune



A one-year process aimed at improving the quality of policymaking in international DC in the Netherlands and thereby revitalising the ways in which policy theories are formulated. The ways in which policy theories are formulated can thereby be revitalised. The process includes the organisation of a series of debates, an assessment of previous policy-formulation initiatives, a web-based discussion forum, and the writing of position papers.

Website: <http://singinganewpolicytune.nl>

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Supporting developing countries' ability to raise tax revenues (*process completed*)



A one-year process aimed at enhancing the exchange of information and cooperation among relevant actors whose aim is to support developing countries' ability to raise tax revenues and to formulate recommendations on how to address any hindrances. This includes overviews of policies, research and interventions, position paper writing, the setting up of a web portal and the organisation of a seminar and activities aimed at embedding the outcomes in existing initiatives and networks.

Website: <http://taxrevenues.global-connections.nl>

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Fuelling knowledge on the social and ecological impacts of agrofuel production (*process completed*)



A one-year process aimed at generating intersectoral debate and interdisciplinary analysis of the social and ecological effects of agrofuel production and expansion, with a view to enabling informed decision-making designed to minimise the negative effects. This includes drawing up an inventory and synthesis of research on the social and environmental effects of agrofuel production, taking stock of background data on policies, investment decisions, market trends, shifting land use patterns, food prices and food distribution, organising a multi-stakeholder meeting, translating knowledge into policy relevant and hands-on information and tools and the development of a close-knit national forum on agrofuels.

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Processes initiated in 2008, following the first call for proposals

Value chain governance and endogenous growth: how can NGOs, firms and government achieve social inclusion and poverty reduction?



A two-year process that aims to improve the development and poverty reduction outcome of policy measures and development interventions in value chain governance. The process includes an academic and position paper write shop, the setting up of a digital library, a policy review of the intervention theories used by firms, NGOs and governments, and the translation of these into intervention strategies through online discussion and an agenda-setting conference.

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Gender mainstreaming trajectory



A three-year process on gender mainstreaming that aims to improve policy and practice that is oriented around gender equality. The process includes two thematic meetings based on five electronically discussed position papers, field exchanges with leading gender research institutes and NGO partners in the South, and gender mainstreaming institutional assessment and the use of gender programming and policy laboratory tools.

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Stimulating business development: another side of microfinance? (*process completed*)



A one-year process including three seminars and ongoing online discussions aimed at investigating the link between microfinance and business development. More specifically the

discussions are to focus on the role of microfinance institutions (MFIs) in providing non-financial services to their clients (small entrepreneurs).

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Risks and benefits for sustainability and livelihoods of genetically modified soy in Latin America (*process completed*)



A one-year process aimed at a constructive, informed and science-based debate of the benefits and risks of genetically modified soy in Latin America. The process includes research with stakeholder involvement (through a steering committee and a conference), scientific and popular reports, and an interactive website with relevant scientific material.

Website: <http://gmsoydebate.global-connections.nl>

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Learning to understand development better (*process completed*)



A one-year process aimed at increasing aid effectiveness through enhancing a solid understanding of the complexity of development processes among civil society organisations and other actors involved in DC . This included the setting up of a Community of Practice (CoP), position paper writing, summaries of policies, relevant books and research findings to be posted on the CoP web portal, a three-day seminar and an internet-based discussion platform.

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