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RESEARCH-POLICY LINK(AGE)S

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Relevant Links

Organizations

The **Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research** (http://www.alliance-hpsr.org/jahia/Jahia/**)** aims to promote the generation, dissemination and use of knowledge for enhancing health system performance. It has recently set up a section of the site with a range of information on how to promote impact of research on policy. (http://www3.alliance-hpsr.org/aspfiles/production/rtophomems.asp?language=en).

Bridging Research and Policy - Delhi
(http://www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Meetings/BR&P_FRP_Delhi/Index.html).
A seminar and workshop for researchers, policy makers and practitioners involved in the FRP R8171 project to consider how to improve the policy impact of the project. The project is focused on the intersection between water, watershed and forestry policies in India and faces the challenge of generating and using evidence to overturn the prevalent narrative that planting trees is enough to protect water resources. (Meetings).

Bridging Research and Policy - Marrakech
(http://www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Meetings/BR&P_Marrakech/Index.html)
A one-day workshop on how to improve policy impact for researchers attending the ERF 10th Annual Conference in Marrakech in December 2003. The workshop provided an opportunity for researchers to discuss research-policy links in the Northern Africa and Middle East Region, learn about the emerging findings from GDN and ODI work so far, and consider how they might be improved. (Meetings).

Bridging Research and Policy Project Seminar (October 2003)
(http://www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Meetings/Bridging/Index.html)
ODI's Bridging Research and Policy project (http://www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Projects/R0040a/index.html) has been researching how research-based evidence contributes to policy processes in developing countries.
The project included a literature review
(http://www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Projects/R0040a/Biblio_Intro.html), the development of a new framework (http://www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Projects/R0040a/Framework_Intro.html) for analyzing and strengthening research-policy links and four in-depth case studies. This seminar provided an opportunity to learn about and discuss the results. (Meetings).

Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives http://www.policyalternatives.ca/.

Canadian Policy Research Network http://www.cprn.com/.

Centre for development studies: Bridging Research And Policy: Introduction and Key Themes. http://www.swan.ac.uk/cds/ARCHIVED-RESEARCH/SDRC/bridgingresearch.htm.

University of Edinburgh, **Centre of African Studies' Project**: Learning to Make Policy. http://www.cas.ed.ac.uk/

The Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs **Commission on Development-Related Research** (http://www.um.dk/en) was established to learn what could be done to improve learning for policymaking. It emerged from the strong belief that policymaking should be based on solid knowledge.
With regards to political programs, such as development aid, the Commission points out that legitimacy depends not only on whether policies are well intended, but on whether they will work and whether public resources are frugally used.

The **Council for Health Research for Development COHRED** (www.cohred.ch/) was established to improve links between research and policy in health sector. COHRED has undertaken important work in this
field over recent years in both developed and developing countries.

The UK **Department for International Development DFID** (http://www.dfid.gov.uk/) is active in sharing its knowledge such that policy makers and practitioners can use it to have a positive impact on people's lives. DFID has set up a Knowledge Policy Unit (KPU), whose purpose is to enhance the use of knowledge by DFID and others in support of the elimination of poverty. The KPU seeks to coordinate DFID's existing knowledge activities more effectively and to initiate new activities that will add to the impact of DFID's knowledge programmes.

Evidence Network. The Network for Evidence-Based Policy and Practice (http://www.evidencenetwork.org/) was established in 1999 by the Economic and Social Research Council, the UK's largest funding agency for research and postgraduate training in social and economic issues to bring social science research much nearer to the decision making process.

The **Getting Research into Policy and Practice (GRIPP)** (http://www.jsiuk-gripp-resources.net/gripp/do/viewPages?pageID=1) website is a practical resource to support researchers maximize the impact of their research on policy and practice. While the tools are generic, the case studies are mostly on the topic of family planning.
Reports and Papers: http://www.jsiuk-gripp-resources.net/gripp/do/viewPages?pageID=10

The **Global Applied Research Network GARNET** (http://www.lboro.ac.uk/garnet/) at the Water, Engineering & Development Centre (WEDC), Loughborough University is a mechanism for information exchange in the water supply and sanitation sector using low-cost, informal networks of researchers, practitioners and funders of research.

The **Global Development Network (GDN)** (http://www.gdnet.org/) was established in 1998, with the goal of supporting and linking research and policy institutes involved in the field of development and whose work is predicated on the notion that ideas matter. RAPNet is the web site of GDN's Bridging Research and Policy Project (http://www.gdnet.org/rapnet/index.html)

The **Global Knowledge Partnership** (http://www.globalknowledge.org/) is a "network of networks" with a diverse membership base comprising public, private and not-for profit organizations from both developed and developing countries. The Partnership was born as a result of the 1997 Global Knowledge Conference in Canada, hosted by the World Bank and the Government of Canada. At present there are 45 members and 48 pending members.

Information and Discussion Forum on Environment: Research–Policy Linkages.
http://www.isnar.cgiar.org/fora/enviro/

The **International Development Research Centre (IDRC)** (http://web.idrc.ca/en/ev-26266-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html) is a public corporation created in 1970 to help developing countries find long-term solutions to the social, economic, and environmental problems they face. IDRC's architects believed that the powers of science and technology could be harnessed to promote economic growth and development in the South.

The **Institute for Development Studies** (http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/) at the University of Sussex host several useful resources. The Environment team (http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/env/) works on policy processes and policy learning as related to livelihoods and environmental issues. id21 (http://www.id21.org/) is a fast-track research reporting service and ELDIS (http://www.eldis.org/) is a gateway to information on development issues, providing free and easy access to wide range of high quality online resources

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) (http://www.ifpri.org/) is exploring the impact of economic policy research and ways of evaluating this. They have held a workshop on assessing the impact of policy-oriented social science research in November 2001, in which a number of ways for enhancing impact were identified. These included identifying a communications strategy, understanding policy processes, strengthening national and international research capacity, and presenting research as policy options.

Knowledge Utilization – Utilisation des Connaissances (KU-UC). http://kuuc.chair.ulaval.ca/english/index.php.

Learning and Skills Development Agency (LSDA) (http://www.lsda.org.uk/home.asp) is a strategic national resource for the development of policy and practice in post-16 education and training'. Its headquarters are located in London. They have set up a Research and Development Programme called Research Impact, and the first paper to be produced was Walter & Nutley's literature review, 'Models of Research Impact', in April 2002.

Making Research Count in the personal social services http://www.uea.ac.uk/swk/research/mrc/welcome.htm.

The **Netherlands Development Assistance Research Council (RAWOO)** (http://www.rawoo.nl/home.html) was established to (1) issue recommendations regarding research priorities and to put forward proposals for long-term research programs, and (2) foster communication among the various parties involved in research for development: researchers, policy-makers and end users, both in the South and in the North.

ODI Overseas Development Institute http://www.odi.org.uk/rapid/
Click on the following links for more information on
lessons (http://www.odi.org.uk/rapid/Lessons/Index.html) so far:
programme background; (http://www.odi.org.uk/rapid/Background/Index.html)
current, and past projects (http://www.odi.org.uk/rapid/Projects/Index.html);
bibliographies (http://www.odi.org.uk/rapid/Bibliographies/Index.html); and
links to related work (http://www.odi.org.uk/rapid/Links/Index.html).
Overseas Development Institute (ODI), UK, Research and Policy in Development (RAPID) Programme (http://www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Index.html)
Second Global Development Network Bridging Research and Policy Workshop, Dakar, 21-23 January 2005 http://www.odi.org.uk/RAPID/Meetings/GDN_2005/Index.html

The **Policy Research Initiative** http://policyresearch.schoolnet.ca/main-e.htm

The **Program in Policy Decision-Making** at McMaster University in Canada maintains a comprehensive Web site. The site describes the program's work to improve understanding of factors that influence policy decision-making and to suggest ways to transfer and facilitate the use of research knowledge in policy decision-making environments: http://www.researchtopolicy.ca/

Research in practice http://www.rip.org.uk/

Research mindedness in social work and social care http://www.resmind.swap.ac.uk/index.htm

The **Research Unit for Research Utilisation (RURU)** (http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~ruru/home.htm) was recently set up by the University of St Andrews affiliated to the ESRC Network for Evidence-based Policy and Practice. They aim to look at how to enable evidence to inform policy and professional practice, and their main areas of interest are key public sectors such as health care and social care.

Strategic Research and Review (CIC) http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/srr/index.html

The **Support for Analysis and Research in Africa (SARA)** (http://sara.aed.org/) project is managed by the Academy for Educational Development, Washington DC. Its aim is to improve policies and programs in health and basic education. Together, AFR/SD and SARA aim to improve the link between research, policy development and program design and implementation in Africa.

The **United Nations Research Institute on Social Development (UNRISD)** (http://www.unrisd.org/) has ongoing work on Improving Research and Knowledge on Social Development in International Organizations (http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BB128/(httpProjects)/5CCCB80CEC61136380256B5D0045 A6EF?OpenDocument) and recently held a conference on Social Knowledge and International Policy Making: Exploring the Linkages (http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BD6AB/(httpEvents)/A22EAFB757CBFAA4C1256E7700425 840?OpenDocument).

The **World Bank** (http://www.worldbank.org/) has a number of useful resources. The World Development Report 1998/99 focused on 'Knowledge for Development' (www.worldbank.org/wdr/wdr98/index.htm), and dealt with the broad issues of narrowing knowledge gaps, addressing information problems, and policy priorities. The World Bank also has a Knowledge Sharing webpage (www.worldbank.org/ks), and is a member of the Global Knowledge Partnership (GKP) (www.globalknowledge.org) The Poverty Reduction Group's approach to Poverty and Social Impact Analysis (PSIA) (http://lnweb18.worldbank.org/ESSD/sdvext.nsf/81ByDocName/PovertySocialImpactAnalysis) aims to improve links between research and policy for poverty reduction.

Conferences/Meetings

2005

Conference: **Bridging the gap between policy, research and intervention**, 10 - 14 October 2005, Senegal
Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS Research Alliance (SAHARA) / Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS Research Alliance (SAHARA), 2005
The 3rd annual SAHARA (Social Aspects of HIV/AIDS Research Alliance) conference will be held in Dakar, Senegal from 10 – 14 October, 2005.
The conference will bring together stakeholders interested in social aspects of HIV and AIDS research in Africa. Key themes include: cultural and socio-economic environment of vulnerability and access to treatment; social, economic and psychological impact of HIV/AIDS on African women, communities and countries; gender inequalities and access to prevention, treatment and care; stigma and social aspects of prevention, voluntary testing, treatment and care; and the burden of HIV/AIDS on the health care systems and the involvement of the private sector in the fight against AIDS.
The deadline for abstract submission is 15 May 2005. Guidelines on how to submit your abstract and more information on the conference can be found on the Conference website

International Forum on the Social Science – Policy Nexus (IFSP)

5-9 September 2005, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Effective use of rigorous social science is essential if the first truly global society in human history is to meet the challenges of contemporary transformations. For this to be possible, the gap must be bridged between academic social science and policy communities. In conjunction with the Government of Argentina, and with the support of a wide range of academic, policy, and NGO partners, UNESCO proposes an innovative format to build precisely that bridge.
Programme
Registration Form
Contact information:
Secretariat of the IFSP International Steering Committee/attn: Christina von Furstenberg
UNESCO
SHS/SRP
1 rue Miollis
75732 Paris CEDEX 15 France
e-mail: ifsp@unesco.org http://www.unesco.org/shs/ifsp

2004

Baltic International Centre for Economic Policy Studies (BICEPS) • **Research/policy linkages in the Baltic States: comparative analysis of a natural experiment.** January 2004 – January 2005
Research team: Alf Vanags; Alari Purju; Mark Chandler; Julia Alasheyeva; Valts Kalnins; Kaarel Kilvits; Vita Terauda
Financial support from the Global Development Network (GDN).
Description
The project is interdisciplinary study of research/policy linkages in the three Baltic countries - Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The project is carried simultaneously in three countries by local research teams but with a common methodology and with the final aim of producing a cross-country study.
The expected output include:
- comprehensive data bases of the research community and policy makers in the three countries;
- in-depth studies of policymaking institutions focusing on the cause-effect relationships in the research/policy nexus;
- an important part of the project is its communication strategy that aims to increase awareness of the potential of research-based policy in the three countries.
http://www.biceps.org/

Department for International Development (DFID) and Overseas Development Institute (ODI).
Annual Conference 2004**, Bridging Research and Policy**, Saturday 6 November 2004
http://www.devstud.org.uk/conference/conference-04.htm