



The GDN Bridging Research and Policy project, will improve understanding of the research-policy nexus in order to produce and provide practical advice to both researchers and policy makers. The key questions are: how can policy-makers best use research, and move towards evidence-based policy-making; how can researchers best use their findings in order to influence policy; and how can the interaction between researchers and policy-makers be improved? The main outputs will be:

- Increased awareness among policy makers of the value of research.
- An international coalition of policy makers, researchers and communicators interested in collaborating to improve linkages between research and policy.
- Enhanced understanding of how to improve research-policy links and impact.
- Lessons, recommendations and practical tools for researchers and policy makers.
- A cutting edge web site "learning platform" for researchers and policy makers.

The 4-year, \$3 million project is guided by a Steering Committee chaired by Montek Ahluwalia, Director of the newly created Independent Evaluation Office at the International Monetary Fund, who formerly served in the Planning Commission in New Delhi and on the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India. The project is managed by the Economic Education and Research Consortium, GDN's Regional Hub for Russia and the CIS countries, with advice from the Overseas Development Institute in the UK.

Key activities in the first phase included:

- Surveys of policy makers and researchers;
- A literature review and development of a conceptual framework to guide further research;
- Establishing "RAPNet" - a "Research And Policy" knowledge web site;
- Commissioning, then synthesising critical themes and issues from 50 preliminary case studies of existing experience on research-policy linkages from around the world;
- Establishing an active network of policy makers, researchers and communicators;

With the aim to identify hypotheses and themes to guide new research.

For the second phase, GDN will invest US\$1 million in research to assist the GDN community to promote research-informed policy and practice. The research will include:

- Four background papers to map out current understanding on how to assess impact in policy relevant research; approaches to measuring capacity and capacity-building for policy-research; a review of how external agencies influence research agendas and research-policy links; and a review to develop a simple tool to characterize political/institutional contexts.
- Three major Comparative Studies on: 1) Policymaking Organizations (ministries) and the impact of their context and characteristics on the use of research in policymaking and practice; 2) Research Institutes and their impact on use of research in policymaking and practice; and 3) Intermediary organisations, processes and networks and their impact on the use of research in policymaking and practice.
- Further Summary Case Studies focusing on case studies from policy-makers, from the media, from non-democratic contexts, from regional and international levels or on theoretical issues.
- A range of detailed research projects including Action-Research; Country Case Studies; Episode Studies; Sector Studies and Good Practice Studies, selected through a competitive process, which have now been selected (see over).

A range of information and training materials and approaches will be developed and tested during the second phase in preparation for the third and final phase of the project – promoting uptake of the results within the GDN, and other development and policy-research institutions.

Second Phase Research Studies:

Action-Research Studies:

- Bridging Research and Policy Towards Innovation in Public Sector Organization: The Case of the Philippine Department of Agrarian Reform: *Gadaza Fe Sanchez, Policy, Planning and Legal Affairs Office, Department of Agrarian Reform. Government of The Phillipines.*
- Evidence Based Health Policy in Cuba: *Humberto Seuc Armando, Instituto Nacional de Angiologia y Cirugia Vascolar, Cuba.*
- Overcoming Rigidity to Innovations: Development of Innovative Potential of Young Scientists Applying Institutional Methods within the Novosibirsk Scientific Center (Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Science): *Olga Vladimirovna Valieva, Novosibirsk, Russia*

Episode Studies:

- Knowledge producers, knowledge users and the World Bank as a Research-broker: Research-Policy Dynamics in Argentina's Judicial Reform since the 1990s: *Maria Pia Riggiozzi, Warwick University, UK.*
- Research, Policy and Implementation Links: Development of Financial System in Ukraine: *Igor Vladimirovich Eremenko, EERC, Kiev, Ukraine.*
- Right to Education and Constitutional Amendment: A Case of India: *Archana Mahesh Mehendale, Koramangala, India*
- The Pension Reform in Bulgaria: Bridging Social Policy Research and Policy Making: *Georgi Shopov, CLUB, Sofia, Bulgaria.*

Sector Studies:

- Bridging the Gap between Existing Research, Policy and Practices in the Health Sector: A multi-country study addressing selected health related Millennium Development Goals: *Ritu Sadana, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland.*
- Identify effective factors for transforming research results into policies in health related sectors: *Changhai Yuan, Center for Health Management and Policy Research, Shandong University, China*
- Impact of Research on the Monetary Policy Sector in Transitional Countries: *Dario Cziraky, Center for Policy Studies (CPS), Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.*
- Research and Policy Linkages in the Energy Sector of Eastern and Southern Africa: *Stephen Karekezi, African Energy Policy Research Network Ltd, Nairobi, Kenya.*
- The Impact of Research on Trade Policy A Sector Study in South America: *Miguel Lengyel, LATN, Buenos Aires, Brazil.*

Country Studies:

- Bridging Research and Policy in Morocco: Analytical and Empirical Approaches: *Ibrahim Mansouri, Faculty of Law and Economics, Marrakech, Morocco.*
- Complements or Substitutes? Public Research Institutions and Private Sector R&D Departments in Uganda: *Julius Kiiza, Makerere University, Faculty of Social Sciences, Department of Political Science & Public Administration, Kampala, Uganda.*
- Linkages between development researchers and policy makers: A case study on India: *Archana Mahesh Mehendale, ICRIER, India.*
- Research/policy linkages in the Baltic states: comparative analysis of a natural experiment: *Alfred Helmut Vanags, BICEPS, Riga, Latvia.*
- The linkage between research and public policy in Nigeria: *Aderibigbe Stephen Olomola, NISER, Ibadan, Nigeria.*

Good Practice Studies:

- A Comparison of Different Policy Relevant Research Initiatives in Chile: Three Case Studies: *Rafael David Epstein, CEA/CGO, Santiago, Chile.*
- From Research To Policy: The Case Of Fundacion Mediterranea In Argentina: *Oswaldo Giordano, IDESA, Ciudad Buenos Aires, Brazil.*
- Researchers and local government - a win-win alliance: *Jose Molinas, Instituto Desarrollo, Asuncion, Paraguay.*
- Strengthening Linkages Between Research and Policy: Impact assessment of the International Policy Fellowship program on policy research capacity development: *Vinay Tandon, Center for Policy Studies at the Central European University, Budapest, Hungary.*