



Researchers Alliance for Development

Work Plan

June 2007 – June 2008

From Slovenia to South Africa

DRAFT



RAD Annual Meeting 2007, May 16, Bled, Slovenia

About the RAD

The Researchers Alliance for Development (RAD) is an informal, action-oriented, multidisciplinary network of researchers and academics that provides a platform for dialogue and exchange of ideas on international development. The RAD currently comprises more than 600 representatives of academic institutions, research centers, as well as research units in NGOs, bilateral agencies, the private sector and trade unions from over 100 countries of the world. Its main objective is twofold:

1. *Facilitating interaction between the academic community and the World Bank;*
2. *Mobilizing the academic and student community on development issues and curricula, facilitating mutual flow of knowledge.*

RAD Steering Committee 2007-2008:

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Proposed RAD Activities 2007-2008

Objective 1: Facilitating interaction between the academic community and the World Bank.

- **Working Group on Higher Education**

In June 2007 Diane Stone, RAD's Chair, and Kristian Weise, RAD Steering Committee member, participated in a Study Visit of Heads of Academic Networks to World Bank Headquarters. Senior Representatives of approximately 11 international academic networks spent two days in bilateral meetings and working sessions with World Bank staff of various units. As a result, a proposal was put forward to establish a Working Group on Tertiary Education, bringing together leaders of academic networks and experts in higher education from the World Bank (and possibly other international organizations) for a series of videoconference discussions.

- **Working Group on Labor Markets**

The RAD Working Groups provide a forum for dialogue by establishing a platform for debate and direct interaction between researchers in the World Bank, other bilateral and multilateral agencies and the research community at large. The WG on labor markets is a product of collaboration between the RAD and the Global Union Research Network (GURN).

- **ABCDE South Africa**

The Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics (ABCDE) is one of the best known series of conferences on development, and an opportunity for many of the world's finest development thinkers to present their ideas. The ABCDE 2008 will take place in South Africa in the spring of 2008 (date and topic to be determined). The RAD has traditionally been actively participating in the organization of the ABCDE, by contributing to the program of the conference and is organizing parallel sessions.

- **PhD Workshop on the World Bank**

The PhD Workshop on the World Bank allows doctoral students whose main study area is the World Bank to present their work to World Bank staff and other researchers sharing similar interests. Previous workshops were held in 2005 (Budapest), 2006 (Singapore) and 2007 (Slovenia). The last two workshops were supported by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

- **Visit of academic networks to World Bank II**

After a successful two day program of meetings in Washington D.C. in June 2007, a proposal was put forward to set up a regular program of Visits to the World Bank intended for leaders of international academic organizations.

- **Share University Papers on the World Bank (SUP)**

The “Share University Papers on the World Bank” project aims to give students the opportunity to share the papers they have prepared as part of their university curricula and which have a focus on development and on the actions of the World Bank. It also gives the possibility to read and discuss what other students around the world have written on the World Bank.

The papers written by Bachelor, Master and PhD students are continuously posted on the website <http://www.worldbank.org/sup>, after a review process involving prominent academics from inside and outside the World Bank.

Objective 2: Mobilizing audience on development issues and curricula & knowledge transfer.

- **From Research to Policy Lecture Series**

The ‘*From Research to Policy*’ lecture series will invite prominent speakers who have made a transition in their professional careers from development research work to policy making, to comment on the links between research and policy, constraints and emerging opportunities. It is jointly organized by the World Bank, the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKY) at the National University of Singapore and the RAD. The inaugural lecture will take place in September/ October 2007, with Sciences Po Paris, France, London School of Economics, the LKY, Tsinghua University, China, Beijing University, China, Graduate School of Public Policy (GrasPP) at University of Tokyo, Japan, Hertie School of Government, Germany, and Korean Development Institute, South Korea.

- **Essay Competition 2008**

Young people all over the world are working to solve community problems, such as lack of access to education or jobs, the spread of HIV/AIDS or conflict. Yet, the impact of their work does not always receive enough exposure and recognition. With the International Essay Competition, the World Bank and its partners invite youth aged 18-25 to share their experience and ideas on community work and participation in public life. Essay Competition 2006 was supported by the Japanese Bank for International Cooperation, and the 2007 edition was funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

- **Model Development**

The Model Development is an interactive game (simulation) of the work done by a country and donor agencies (World Bank, UN agencies, multilateral development banks, cooperation agencies of developed countries, etc.) during the preparation and the implementation of strategies to reduce poverty at the country level.

- **Global Issues Seminar Series**

The World Bank has initiated the Global Issues Seminar Series to promote better understanding of global issues, and to trigger discussion among students of social sciences, international development, public policy and business. It is a semester-long series of weekly lectures that bring together staff from the World Bank and other international organizations with students of 5-7 universities in different parts of the world, using the videoconferencing technology.

- **PhD dissertation prize (linked to ABCDE)**

Other Opportunities:

- Consultations over the Bank's long term strategy (winter 2007/9)
- Annual meetings of academic networks

TENTATIVE	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
From Research to Policy Lecture Series										
WG Higher Education										
WG Labor Markets										
WB-IMF Annual Meetings										
RAD SC bi-annual meeting										
ABCDE South Africa										
RAD Annual Meeting										
Essay Competition 08										
PhD Workshop on WB										

