

Expanded 'Professional Evidence and Applied Knowledge Services' for DFID

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IDD has been supporting evidence-based policy and practice in international development for over ten years. This has involved delivering syntheses of research findings on governance, social development and conflict issues to donor agency staff online and on demand.

With UKaid funding, IDD led the Governance Resource Centre (2001-2005), and has since led the expanded **Governance and Social Development Resource Centre (GSDRC)** (<http://www.gsdrc.org/>). The GSDRC has provided research and knowledge services to many donor agencies, including AusAID, the OECD, the UNDP, the European Commission and the World Bank.

Further expansion as part of two new DFID programmes

Building on this success, the GSDRC team has been selected by DFID to provide an even broader range of 'Professional Evidence and Applied Knowledge Services' (PEAKS) through two research and consultancy contracts. We will produce more professional development resources and cover additional humanitarian, economic and private sector topics.

Leading on governance, social development, conflict, and humanitarian research and knowledge transfer

Under the Governance, Social Development, Conflict and Humanitarian PEAKS contract, the GSDRC team will deliver an expanded range of 'core services': a rapid-response research helpdesk, topic guides, a document library, professional development resources and a monthly ebulletin. IDD's **Dr Heather Marquette** (</staff/profiles/government-society/marquette-heather.aspx>) (GSDRC Director) is Core Services Director, and IDD's **Brian Lucas** (</staff/profiles/government-society/lucas-brian.aspx>) (GSDRC Manager) is Core Services Manager. The **four GSDRC Research Fellows based at IDD** (<http://www.gsdrc.org/go/what-we-do/staff-profiles>) have already begun delivering research reports to DFID under the new framework.

IDD's current GSDRC partner IDS (University of Sussex) has been joined by HCRI (University of Manchester) and by ODI. With this larger pool of expertise, we will provide broader coverage of humanitarian as well as governance, social development and conflict issues.

In addition, we will work closely with lead contractor Coffey International Development and thirteen other partners to provide DFID with specialist 'call down' consultancy and knowledge transfer services. These services include training, advice and longer-term research to inform project and programme planning, implementation and evaluation.

Supporting economic and private sector development research and knowledge transfer

Further, IDD will provide research and knowledge transfer services as part of the Economic and Private Sector PEAKS. Our core research partners will be ODI, LSE, and Nathan Consulting.

We will also collaborate with the University of Birmingham's Department of Economics to help DFID access specialist consultancy and knowledge transfer services. Together, we will work with lead contractor Coffey International Development and a consortium of sixteen consultancy partners.

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