

Research management: Online Directory of International Capacity Development Programmes

Introduction

The water for development sector has a human resource capacity deficit which hinders progress on the attainment of the MDGs. The large number of initiatives and their disparate nature means that it is difficult to have an overview of the range of capacity development activities in the sector.

It is difficult to gain an overview of capacity development activities due to a large number of disparate initiatives.



The purpose

The directory provides an overview of international capacity development initiatives in the sector. This fits in with the SPLASH objective of coordinating existing programmes to minimise duplication and identify gaps. Capacity development is defined as the process by which individuals acquire adequate technical, managerial and financial skills to enable them to do their job. It also refers to the process by which organisations take deliberate steps to construct an enabling environment to support their staff in performing their duties. For the purposes of this directory, a capacity development initiative is deemed to be a systematic approach to capacity development and is considered to be 'international' if it either operates in more than one country or develops the capacity of nationals of more than one country. This fact sheet describes the main elements of the directory.

Please visit: <http://www.splash-era.net/cbd/>

Directory facts

- There are few initiatives devoted exclusively to capacity development. For this reason, the definition of capacity development used to identify initiatives for inclusion in the directory is deliberately broad to encompass as many relevant entries as possible.
- The directory is available on the SPLASH website with a facility whereby users can add information about initiatives that they know of, which are not included in the directory.
- The directory can be used to give an indication of where expertise in various topics in the sector lies. It is worth noting that the directory can provide only a partial picture as it is not comprehensive. However in terms of identifying expertise, it is safe to presume that those offering capacity development are experts in their domains.



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- The directory can also be used to identify sources of information on given topics, as well as organizations with expertise in different national or regional contexts.
- Finally, the directory can be used to identify potential research collaborators, based on research topic and /or international, regional or national footprint.

A sample entry is given below:

IDRC: International Development Research Centre	
Scope of capacity development activities: Their support is directed toward creating a local research community whose work will build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies.	
Subject areas covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resources • Water supply 	Geographical area of operations: Africa, Middle East, Asia, Latin America and Caribbean
Who can participate? Researchers	Programme start date: Not scheduled
	Programme end date: Not scheduled
Contact details: P.O. Box 8500 Ottawa, ON K1G 3H9 Canada	t: (+1-613) 236-6163 f: (+1-613) 238-7230 e: info@idrc.ca w: http://www.idrc.ca/



Further information

A series of SPLASH fact sheets are available on the SPLASH website www.splash-era.net

If you would like to receive the quarterly SPLASH newsletter 'Making a SPLASH', please contact era-net@dfid.gov.uk

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