



## **CALL FOR INDEPENDENT EVALUATOR**

### ***Independent Evaluation of the Global Development Network (GDN)***

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Board of Directors of the Global Development Network (GDN), an independent not-for-profit organization focused on building research capacity in developing and transition economies seeks an evaluator or a team to conduct an independent evaluation of GDN's activities. This evaluation is intended to provide stakeholders and donors with an overall assessment of GDN's performance and potential in achieving its objectives since its last external evaluation completed in March 2004 and comprehensive pilot internal evaluation in 2005. The independent evaluation is also meant to identify potential areas for improvement in GDN's role as a capacity-building organization and the suitability and comprehensiveness of the current portfolio of activities for the consideration by GDN management.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE EVALUATION**

The evaluation will focus on a critical examination of the stated objective of GDN to build capacity within the developing and transition countries to generate, share, and apply to policy social science research for the purpose of development. The evaluation will assess the extent to which GDN has positioned itself to achieve its objectives, its performance to date, and its potential for further development.

Specifically, the evaluation is expected to:

- Measure the impact (on participants as well as on policy), the relevance and the effectiveness of GDN's capacity-building activities in generating, sharing and applying knowledge.
- Assess the cost-effectiveness and sustainability of GDN.
- Examine GDN's operational effectiveness as a global network of research and policy institutes, including its internal organizational performance and its interaction with its regional network partners (RNPs). Both the governance structure and day-to-day management processes will be examined.

Detailed **Terms of Reference** for this evaluation are available on GDN's website, [www.gdnet.org/2007evaluation](http://www.gdnet.org/2007evaluation). The evaluation will begin in June 2007 and should be completed by the end of November 2007 with the submission of the report of findings and recommendations to GDN's Board.

#### **CRITERIA FOR RECRUITMENT**

Candidates for conducting the independent evaluation should not be directly involved either in the formulation of GDN's objectives and strategies or in implementation and/or management of GDN. Also, they should not directly benefit from GDN's activities or actions resulting from their recommendations in the evaluation report. Candidates should generally be regarded as objective and reliable.

Candidates for the position should meet the following requirements:

- Expertise in evaluation methodologies and experience in conducting evaluations.
- Interest in and familiarity with programs for building research capacity in developing/transition economies.
- Excellent research and writing skills (in English) as evidenced by academic degrees (Ph.D. preferred) and a record of scholarly and policy publications.
- Experience in conducting interviews and/or surveys as well as excellent oral communication skills.
- Willingness to travel.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES AND RESOURCES**

As explained in the Terms of Reference, the evaluator will be responsible for:

- Finalizing the methodology based on previous evaluations of GDN.
- Overseeing the generation of relevant data. Most of data collection, however, will be undertaken through GDN's routine reports and by a specialized data collection company approved by the evaluator(s).
- Conducting interviews as necessary.
- Conducting all data analysis.
- Drafting and finalizing the report.

The evaluator will be expected to visit GDN's headquarters in Delhi twice. A research assistant based in New Delhi will assist the evaluator(s), who will participate in recruiting the research assistant. GDN will offer a flat fee of up to \$30,000 for the evaluator(s) and will cover separately the costs of travel, research assistance and miscellaneous items.

## **PROCEDURE**

Interested candidates should send their cover letter, CV, and the names of three referees to [applications@gdnet.org](mailto:applications@gdnet.org). Indicate "Independent Evaluation Application" in the subject line of your email message. Deadline for receipt of the applications: May 20, 2007. The Evaluation Sub-Committee of GDN's Board of Directors will short list and rank candidates. GDN management will conduct telephone and/or face-to-face interviews with the top candidates and finalize the process before end-May. GDN will only inform short-listed candidates.