IPDET: A Global Community

Two hundred and eighteen participants from seventy-nine countries attended one to four weeks of the 2010 program at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. They came from a range of workplaces including government agencies, NGOs, private consulting firms and international organizations such as the World Bank, UNFPA and UNICEF, with the largest percentage of participants coming from the public sector. This year, due to the generous support of sponsors including CIDA, DFID, Dutch IOB, IDRC, UNFPA, Norad, SDC and Sida, IPDET was able to award more than 60 scholarships. Thanks to all for helping make this year a success.

IPDET Celebrates its Tenth Anniversary!

Pictures and slideshows from all four weeks of IPDET 2010 can be found on the IPDET website’s alumni page. You can also join the International Program for Development Evaluation Training Program’s Facebook group to connect with IPDET alumni and share pictures!

IPDET 2011!

Next year’s IPDET will take place June 13- July 8, 2011 at Carleton University.

The panelists highlighted changes that have occurred globally since IPDET was created in 2001, as well as many of the challenges and opportunities that exist now for evaluators. Both Mary and Indran emphasized the importance of adapting evaluations to the ‘imperatives of the local environment’ and the urgency of ensuring that the knowledge acquired through training, networking and evaluating is translated into action. Michael spoke about the importance of acknowledging the complexity and unpredictability of change processes and reminded evaluators to “face complexity, not deny it or simplify it.”

A collaboration of the World Bank and Carleton University

www.ipdet.org
You are welcome to submit brief articles or items. Please send them to Paul Glover at paul_glover@carleton.ca.

Comments from 2010 Participants

“IPDET has helped me to acquire the latest knowledge in development evaluation, which I found very practical. It also exposed me to evaluators from other parts of the world- this I think is a great resource!”

-Osaretin Adonri, Nigeria

“The course has given me the right tools and the right language to ensure that I do not just report numbers [but] what is really behind the numbers…demonstrating accountability by providing EVIDENCE.”

-Brenda Kambaila, Zambia

“I have already made two presentations to my division and the Gross National Happiness Commission In-house meeting on the concept of monitoring and evaluation. Now I am confident to conduct evaluation on programmes and projects here in Bhutan.”

-Dawa Wangchuk, Bhutan

“I learnt tips used to manage change ... IPDET has empowered me.”

-Grace Muzila, Botswana

Alumni Update

Francisca Gonzalo Puebla (IPDET alum, 2007) wrote to say that she is leaving EuropeAid at the European Commission in July to join AECID, the Spanish Agency for International Development and Cooperation.

V.Sivagnanasothy (IPDET instructor, guest speaker and 2003 alum) has been promoted to Secretary of the Ministry of Traditional Industries and Small Enterprise Development.

Patricia N. Laverley (IPDET alum, 2001) recently joined the African Development Bank in Tunis as a Principal Results Specialist.

Dr. David Wilson Internationally renowned AIDS expert and IPDET workshop instructor was recently appointed by the World Bank as the new Global HIV/AIDS Program Director.

We want to hear from you! If you are an IPDET alum, let us know how things are going in your home country and workplace and we’ll include it in our quarterly newsletter.

American Evaluation Association Annual Conference, November 2010

The American Evaluation Association Annual Conference will take place November 10-13 in San Antonio, Texas and will include a workshop chaired by IPDET co-director Linda Morra Imas. The workshop will examine Capacity Building to Monitor and Evaluate Development Policies, Programs, and Projects: Everyone Wants to do It, but How Should It Be Done to Ensure High Quality? An IPDET alumni reception is in the works and volunteers are needed to help out at the IPDET display booth. Email paul_glover@carleton.ca if you have a few hours during the conference to help out.

Videos

Videos of some of IPDET 2010’s guest speakers can be viewed at www.ipdet.org/page.aspx?PageId=speakersPresentations2010

These include:

- IPDET/IDRC Anniversary Panel Discussion: Building the Field of Development Evaluation for the Next 10 Years: Learning Across North and South. Please click here

- Suresh Balakrishnan, Chief Technical Advisor to the UNDP, on the Citizen Report Card. Please click here

- Sulley Gariba, Executive Director of the Institute for Policy Alternatives and senior policy advisor to the president of Ghana: “Ex-ante Evaluation of Public Policy: A policy practitioner’s experience.” Please click here

- Indran Naidoo, Deputy Director-General: M&E, Public Service Commission of South Africa: the State of Readiness of South Africa’s Public Service and its use of M&E. Please click here

IPDET’s Impact

IPDET’s five-year impact evaluation for the period 2005-09 is underway. The evaluation, which is being conducted by Drs. Brad Cousins and Catherine Elliott of the University of Ottawa, examines the extent to which IPDET has met its objectives of knowledge and skill development and its networking role in the broader evaluation community. The evaluation also looks at the transfer of knowledge and skills to the home workplace.

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