

## Second Empowerment Community of Practice Meeting

### Summary of Discussion

*Monday, April 21, 2003*

*2.30 – 4.00 pm*

- Following the introduction of Reidar Kvam, the SDV counterpart to PRMPR for oversight of the Community of Practice, and Abbie Somma, the new JPA supporting the Community's Secretariat, the meeting was opened up to a discussion on the role the Community of Practice will play and the areas of action on which it should focus.
- While the four potential areas of action (country level action - support and analysis, macro-economic investment climate/private sector, cross-sectoral approach and scaling-up) identified at the previous Community of Practice meeting represent important areas of work, the Community will develop gradually and not take on overly ambitious tasks initially.
- Consensus was reached that the Community will serve in a facilitating role and that it will provide a forum for networking, information exchange and knowledge generation among staff who are working on related issues (CDD, Social Capital, Participation and Civic Engagement, etc...)
- Meeting participants agreed that the Community of Practice will focus on a demand-driven approach and develop organically, where specific activities will gradually emerge.
- Vehicles for virtual information exchange and coordination include the [empowerment website](#), the [database on empowerment related activities](#) and an empowerment newsletter.
- The discussion also revealed that there is a need for capacity building and learning activities both among the Community of Practice members and task managers. Such activities should provide practical information on how to operationalize empowerment

throughout the Bank. Some ideas raised were: interactive brown bag lunches, topical Community of Practice meetings (for example, on participation in the PRS process), learning clinics, and Quality Enhancement Reviews. It was suggested that some of these learning activities could be carried out in collaboration with [CESI](#) of WBI.