

DESIGN AND DELIVERY

Program components are delivered in all World Bank (WB) regions using a combination of approaches that includes face-to-face meetings, videoconferences through the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN), and electronic discussion fora.

All program courses are organized in modules that can be flexibly assembled for different audiences and allow partner institutions replicating the courses at the national level to select appropriate modules and adapt them to meet local learning needs.

Communication activities, including the sharing of knowledge and information through websites, print materials, and CD-ROMs, complement each learning event to ensure continuity and a longer term learning impact.

PARTNERS

To achieve its objectives, the program relies on broad-based constituencies and partnerships for sustainable reduction of rural poverty, and promotes knowledge networks for WB clients and staff.

Partner institutions that operate at the national and/or regional level are key to developing program components and reaching out to stakeholders. They are equally crucial to ensure the continuity and improvement of the program activities under local leadership.

Partners include public institutions, regional think tanks, academic centers, and donor agencies.

AUDIENCE

Target participants include policy makers and analysts in government ministries and other public institutions; national PRSP teams; community leaders and NGO representatives; managers from the private sector; trainers and academics; staff from international organizations including the World Bank; and other stakeholders involved in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of rural development programs and poverty reduction strategies.

To learn more about our learning program on Rural Poverty and Development, visit us at:

<http://www.worldbank.org/wbi/sdruralpoverty/>

For additional information on specific learning activities, please contact:

World Bank Institute
Rural Poverty and Development program
Att.: The Program Leader
The World Bank Group
1818 H Street NW,
Washington, D.C. 20433
Fax: +1 202 676 0977
Email: wbirural@worldbank.org



WORLD BANK INSTITUTE

Promoting knowledge and learning for a better world



Rural Poverty and Development Program

Program overview and activities

RURAL POVERTY AND DEVELOPMENT AT WBI

WBI's learning program on Rural Poverty and Development aims at addressing challenges prevailing today in rural areas through the promotion of knowledge and learning for people and institutions committed to poverty reduction and sustainable development.

Knowledge and learning have become crucial drivers of sustainable development, and opportunities and growth have become increasingly dependent on access to information and technology.

In this context, the program offers a comprehensive approach for rural poverty reduction by focusing on the elements identified as key principles for increased rural well-being and broad-based rural development, taking into account all dimensions of poverty in rural space.

Aligned with the World Bank's rural strategy *Reaching the Rural Poor*, the program takes a holistic and multi-sectoral approach to sustainable rural development. Moreover, the program helps disseminate the World Bank's analytical work and supports the World Bank's operational activities in rural development. Overall, the program seeks to enhance the capacity of countries to reach the targets set in the Millennium Development Goals.

OBJECTIVES

Within a knowledge-sharing framework, and under the overarching theme of poverty reduction, the program aims at:

- Promoting the integration of rural poverty and agricultural development issues into national poverty reduction strategies
- Advancing the policy dialogue and disseminating best practices on rural poverty reduction themes
- Strengthening rural institutions by providing staff with cutting-edge knowledge and developing their skills
- Developing new and strengthening existing partnerships with local institutions to scale-up knowledge dissemination
- Improving the capacity of stakeholders to develop, implement, and monitor rural development and poverty reduction strategies.

FOCUS AREAS

The program offers modular courses, policy workshops, and knowledge-sharing seminars. All courses include specific sessions on cross-thematic topics, specifically gender and governance. Learning events are delivered in the following sub-programs:

- **Country programs**
The program runs capacity enhancement initiatives specifically designed for Brazil, China, Madagascar and Burkina Faso.
- **Land Policies for Poverty Reduction**
Land is one of the key assets for sustainable rural livelihoods. This sub-program seeks to advance and contribute to the dialogue on land policy and the reform of institutions for greater tenure security and more equitable access to productive land.
- **Rural Services for the Poor**
This sub-program covers infrastructure (transport, water and sanitation, energy, communications), research and extension. It reviews financial and institutional pro-poor arrangements, and highlights the importance of local participation in the planning, provision, maintenance and monitoring of such services.
- **Agricultural Growth & Rural Development**
Focusing on domestic and international factors that can impact agriculture, horticulture, and the rural poor, these learning activities give an overview of good practices on relevant policies and institutional issues. They also look into supply chain management issues, as well as food safety and quality standards.
- **Strategies for rural Poverty Reduction**
Designed as a series of face-to-face sub-regional events to support and encourage the exchange of experience and best practices for countries embarked on the PRSP process and/or in the design of a national agricultural strategy, these workshops revolve around the four PRSP core elements: participation, diagnostic, monitoring, and priority public actions.