

Danish Development Research Network (DDRN)



Progress 2007

Main report

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Annexes 1–6 in separate document

List of accronyms and abbreviations

DANIDA	Danish Institute for Development Aid
DCCD	Danida's Centre for Competence Development
DDDs	Danida Development Days
DDRN	Danish Development Research Network
DFC	Danida Fellowship Centre
EFARD	European Forum for Agricultural Research for Development
EIARD	European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development
ERA-ARD	Dimension of the European Research Area – Agricultural Research for Development
FARA	Agricultural Research in Africa
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
ODI	Overseas Development Institute (England)
PAEPARD	Platform for African-European Partnership on Agricultural Research for Development
RAPID	Research and Policy in Development (group under ODI)
PRNGO	Project Counselling Service (Projektrådgivningen)
RED	Rural Economic Development
RUFORUM	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SANORD Conference	Southern African Nordic Conference
TAS	Technical Advisory Service (BistandsFaglig Tjeneste, BFT)
UEM	Urban Environmental Management
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification
VTU	Ministeriet for Videnskab, Teknologi og Udvikling (Ministry for Science, Technology and Development)
WB	World Bank

0. Introduction

This report describes the achievements made and the challenges met in implementation of the activities outlined in the DDRN work plan 2007. It covers the period from the start of DDRN in February 2007 to December 2007. During the first quarter of 2007 the activities were characterised by establishment of the network secretariat, including recruitment of staff and branding the new network. An operational information system was established and ideas collected from members and collaborators. A work plan including targets for 2007 was developed incorporating the comments contained in the grant letter from Danida recommending greater emphasis on the South and enhanced collaboration with research institutions and other key actors in partner countries, including other donors.

In the following sections of this report, progress is assessed *vis-à-vis* the objectives and targets set for 2007. Targets and indicators at output level for 2007 are indicated in the revised Logical Framework Analysis Matrix (Annex 1).

1. Activities related to objective 1: Dissemination and exchange of information between development and research community – Achievements and Challenges

Overviews and catalogues of competence profiles

Targets 2007: 1-3 overviews, 1-3 briefs

Accomplished: 2 overviews, 2 catalogues of competence profiles, 1 memo

During the reporting period 2 research overviews of results from research with Danish involvement were produced, covering agriculture and environment in Nicaragua and governance in Uganda, respectively. As something new, DDRN, in consultation with the Danish Embassy in Pretoria, South Africa, and TAS has compiled 2 catalogues with competence profiles of Danish resource persons and researchers within urban environmental management (UEM) in South Africa and governance in Uganda, respectively. Both these catalogues are currently being extended to include profiles of Southern DDRN members with expertise within the relevant areas. In the case of Southern Africa a desk review/consultancy on research, institutions and expertise related to UEM in Southern Africa, primarily with Danish involvement, has been commissioned; and the consultant is currently finalising his report.

The feed-back from authorities, institutions and staff involved in development programming, who are the main target groups for this activity, has generally been positive. In South Africa the UEM programme has included the competence profiles into its own data base; and one of the profiles included in DDRN's catalogue has been contacted by the programme for a short term assignment. In Uganda the profiles were used as an important input to a Danida seminar and the DDRN workshop on governance. With regard to Nicaragua, it has been difficult to get feed back from the embassy and the relevant programmes on the use of the research overview. Embassies and programmes seem to find catalogues with competence profiles more useful than research overviews; and to prove the importance of including and using research results and applied as well as long-term research in development programming remains a challenge. This needs to be taken into consideration in the further refinement of the tools and activities under this objective. Attention also needs to be given to the issue of whether and how to update the produced overviews and catalogues. All overviews and catalogues of profiles are posted on the DDRN website.

A thematic brief on governance research areas in Uganda prioritised by Ugandan researchers and the outcomes of the DDRN_RUFORUM (The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture) workshop in Uganda October 19, 2007 was submitted to Danida and FFU. The memo is posted on:

http://www.ddrn.dk/index.php?side_id=104

Finally a draft concept paper meant to guide the production of policy briefs in 2008-2009 is currently being developed by the secretariat.

Briefing of development and Danida staff and visits to the South

Targets 2007: 5-10 briefing meetings

Accomplished: 5 major briefing sessions and briefing of more than 40 individuals

25 embassy staff was introduced to DDRN at a preparation course for embassy staff organised by the Danish Centre for Competence Development (DCCD) in June 2007. The presentation went well, although the participants were tired and overloaded with information. DDRN was also presented at Danida seminar on governance; and a one-day DDRN_RUFORUM workshop on Governance research was successfully conducted in Uganda in October 2007. The presentation of DDRN at the Danida seminar on Governance was well received and among other things led to an increase of new members of DDRN. The presentation was positively evaluated in the overall evaluation of the seminar by the participants. During the visits to South Africa in June and December, including two workshop sessions and several meetings, DDRN was also presented to the participants and persons met. Finally, DDRN was introduced at a meeting for BFT headquarter staff in Danida in October 2007. Around 20 Danida staff participated in the meeting. In summary many technical advisers, Danida staff and local institutions involved in programme implementation have been briefed about relevant research expertise and competences among the DDRN member base in 2007.

Experiences with briefings in 2007 show that briefing of advisers and embassy staff on knowledge related issues and options seem to be better understood and appreciated by the target groups when 'in the field' than during the pre-departure period. Based on this assessment more emphasis will be put on 'in-field' briefings in 2008.

Visits to developing countries

Target: 1-3 visits

Accomplished: 3 visits

The three visits - to South Africa (two visits) and Uganda (one visit) – during 2007 by DDRN members and members of the secretariat served multiple purposes, including information collection on institutions, programmes, research priorities and policies, meetings and workshops on research collaboration, and branding of DDRN. As a result of these visits, links between DDRN members in the South and in Denmark and between members South-South have been strengthened, which has led to an increase in Southern members of the network. The contacts to programmes, institutions and embassies in the countries visited have also been strengthened; and in the case of both Uganda and South Africa, new activities and collaboration modalities are currently being explored. The visits have also resulted in better information regarding the knowledge and research needs of partner institutions, donors and development programmes. The travel reports from the visits to South Africa (1st visit) and Uganda are available on the DDRN webpage. The travel report from South Africa (2nd visit) is forthcoming.

Other inputs to development

Target: 1-5 inputs to strategies, seminars etc.

Accomplished: 5 strategy inputs

Contribution to Danida Development Days (DDD): DDRN members have provided inputs to this new, annual Danida event, held 10-11 June 2007, as facilitators, discussants and reporters, especially in connection with sessions related to agriculture (economic growth), governance (fragile states) and environment (climate). Inputs were also provided to Danida in

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connection with the revision of the Africa Policy, the strategy for the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Good Governance Strategy.

At European and international levels, and upon request from Technical Advisory Service (TAS), DDRN has commented on the European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD) Strategy document (2007-2012). The chief coordinator of DDRN also represents European Forum for Agricultural Research for Development (EFARD) in the steering committee of the Platform for African-European Partnership on Agricultural Research for Development (PAEPARD); and she participated in a 'write shop' on developing the project concept note for PAEPARD II in Montpellier in September 2007.

Too short notice in connection with hearings of Danida strategies has been a challenge and made it difficult to mobilise researchers to submit their comments. Furthermore, the involvement of the resource base at a rather late stage in the development of new strategies has raised doubts among the contributors about the impact of the submissions. The fact that their inputs are sometimes not reflected in the final strategy has also been a demobilising factor.

2. Activities related to objective 2: Foster an engaged and committed network of members - Achievements and Challenges

Member driven groups/activities and member nurturing

Target: 3-4 groups/group activities.

Accomplished: 4 working groups, 9 member driven activities granted (out of which 5 were carried out in 2007).

Guidelines and procedures related to the fund for member driven activities and calls for establishment of working groups and member activities have been developed and made available on the website.

Working groups

During the reporting period 4 working groups were formed. These are all still active. The secretariat assists working groups by offering to provide meeting rooms at the Department of Geography and Geology, announcing activities, providing internal areas on the website for information sharing and information on DDRN funding opportunities. The secretariat has ongoing contacts with the working groups to monitor activities.

The involvement of members in working groups is fluctuating. In periods of low member activity the right balance between pushing and pulling, and between facilitating and monitoring the working groups still provides a challenge to the secretariat. The outcome of the work done by working groups during the reporting period is best concretised in connection with funded member driven activities.

Member driven activities

Two calls for member driven activities were issued during the reporting period. A total of 14 applications were received, out of which 9 were granted (See Annex 2). The activities granted were: 2 large conferences, 4 workshops, 2 seminar series (3 one-day meetings for each of the seminar series) and 1 afterwork meeting with participation of an international key speaker.

The average time from the application assessment to the date of an activity was approximately of seven months. Out of the 9 granted activities, 6 were granted under the 2007 budget with a total amount of DKK 139,160, whereas the other 3 were applied for to be implemented in 2008. By the end of 2007 five member driven activities had been held, and one was postponed to 2008.

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One of the two large conferences granted in 2007 was the 17th annual FAU conference on the competing flows of financial development resources. 65 participants attended the conference. The average number of participants in the rest of the completed workshops and seminar series was around 30. The secretariat was represented at most of the funded workshops and used this opportunity to briefly introduce the network to the participants and to recruit new members (at least 25 new members were recruited in connection with member driven activities). With the exception of one meeting in a seminar series, which did not focus on development, the issues and themes of the workshops were relevant to development and to the thematic areas covered by DDRN.

All granted applications for member driven activities were from Danish members. The few applications and enquiries received from Southern members met neither the criteria of the Fund, nor the objectives of DDRN. As a consequence, the secretariat will put more emphasis on informing members in the South about funding opportunities for member driven activities.

Member nurturing

The secretariat has continuously received emails from members requesting information, indicating their interest in specific subjects, asking about funding etc. After the DDRN-RUFORUM workshops in Uganda and South Africa, a number of participants sent emails related to their new affiliation to DDRN on different matters (e.g. additional research ideas to those presented within the workshop, requests of contact with other DDRN members working on similar themes, funding etc.). Answering this kind of enquiries has proven to be a time consuming activity of which the secretariat has started taking record.

DDRN workshops and seminars

Target: 2-4 seminars

Accomplished: 4 seminars

Workshop on shaping the new network: DDRN as a key agent of change or service provider? This workshop, held on 13 March 2007, was the first major activity of DDRN. The main purpose of the workshop was to engage members in the process of shaping the network by contributing ideas for themes and activities. Enrique Mendizabal, a researcher from the Research and Policy in Development (RAPID) group at Overseas Development Institute (ODI), facilitated the workshop. [Workshop proceedings](#), [presentation](#), [hand out](#) and [working paper](#) "Building Effective Research Policy Networks: Linking Function and Form", by Enrique Mendizabal are available on the DDRN website.

Governance Workshop in Uganda: In close collaboration with the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and DDRN members from Denmark and Uganda, the secretariat organised a one-day DDRN workshop on knowledge, research and development related to governance in Uganda October 19, 2007. The workshop was held in Kampala and had 44 participants mainly drawn from research institutions in Uganda. There were also participants from development programmes, NGOs, funding agencies and the Parliament. From Denmark participated the two network coordinators and two DDRN members from Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS) and University of Roskilde (RUC). The presentations and results of the workshop, including next steps, are documented in the workshop report and the brief on outcomes, available on http://www.ddrn.dk/index.php?side_id=104

Two workshops on Urban Environmental Management (UEM) in South Africa: These workshops were held in Cape Town, South Africa on December 5, 2007 at University of Cape Town and on December 6 - 7 at University of Western Cape, respectively. The latter workshop event was organised within the framework of the [SANORD conference](#) on Nordic/Southern African collaboration within Higher Education and Development. The University of Aarhus and the University of Southern Denmark are members of the SANORD group. 20-25 people attended each of the workshops. DDRN sponsored the participation of two Danish researchers/members, two South African and two Mozambican members/researchers. The

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participants included researchers from South Africa and development practitioners, including staff from the Danish Embassy in Pretoria, the UEM programme and the South Africa Cities Network. The reports from these workshops will be available on the website in the beginning of 2008.

The DDRN-Danida conference on Rural Economic Development (RED), originally planned to take place in November 2007, was postponed by Danida and will be held in April 2008. Several preparatory meetings have been held.

DDRN has also had a meeting with "Universitets- og Bygningsstyrelsen" about possible DDRN involvement in the VTU/WB/Danida conference on Applying Technology and Innovation to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in May 2008. A follow-up meeting with the focal point in "Universitets- og Bygningsstyrelsen" is planned for late January 2008.

Member database, Information Needs Assessment and Communications strategy

Target: Member database, information needs assessment, communication strategy, new website, 8-10 newsletters and various promotion pamphlets and posters, min. 50 new members, including at least 10 students

Accomplished: Member data base, data collection for information needs assessment and communications and recruitment strategies, new website, 8 monthly newsletters, 25 newsmails, DDRN poster and leaflets, since July 1st, 2007 - 170 new members, including 76 students

Member database: By mid 2007 a member database was established on the DDRN website with a twofold aim, i.e. to allow members and other visitors of the website to identify DDRN members who work within specific areas, and to provide a tool for facilitating a targeted information flow. All members have been registered with functioning email addresses in the new database and members have started registering their profiles. During 2007 the number of registered individual members has grown from around 1000 to more than 1200. Besides, DDRN has now 9 institutional members: 3 from developing countries – Foundation for Human Rights Initiative, Uganda, Ugandan National Academy of Sciences, Uganda, and Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand – and 6 from Denmark/EU. The increase of members in Denmark is primarily a result of the inspiration seminars for master students, which took place in September-October 2007, but several Danish researchers have also registered as new members, not least due to the member driven activities. New members from the South have mainly registered after the workshops in Uganda (October 2007) and in South Africa (December 2007). 150 members have made their profiles available on the website. In order for the database to be a really useful tool, a much larger number of profiles still needs to be registered, and special efforts to make members register their data will have to be made.

Information needs assessment and communications strategy: A questionnaire assessment was carried out by the secretariat in May 2007 to identify information and communication needs in DDRN. In June 2007 the results from the questionnaire sent to a selection of members in April and May regarding information and communication within DDRN, were collected and used in the preparation of the new website. In October and November a number of interviews were carried out with focus groups, groups of same stakeholders, and individuals. The majority of interviews were carried out in Denmark and a few in Uganda in connection with the DDRN-RUFORUM workshop. The number of persons interviewed amounts to 33. Most of the interviews were carried out with registered members, while a few included persons who are not registered, but expressed an interest in becoming members. Due to intense activities in preparation of the UEM workshop in South Africa, the needs assessment has not yet been compiled. The report, as well as the communications strategy and the recruitment strategy, will be compiled in early 2008. A challenge in the compilation of the strategies is the lack of a formulated vision for the network, which could be a more operational goal and frame of reference than the formulated objectives of the network.

Website, Newsletter and promotion material: The new DDRN website was launched on July 4, 2007. The new website was developed by Framemakers in close collaboration with DDRN's communications officer. From July and onwards, Newsletters have been sent through the website. The website is updated and adjusted continuously. A new feature was introduced in October which shows the location of visitors of the website. This was introduced to make the Southern members more visible. The world map posted on the website shows many visitors from Europe, then Africa, USA, Asia and less in Latin America, amounting to a total of 7,700 visitors from mid October to end December. In October the secretariat started sending targeted monthly newsletters according to thematic areas selected by network members. Members who have not yet selected thematic areas still receive all thematic news in a single newsletter. Due to the preparation of the UEM workshop, there has been no time for updating thematic news in November. Thus the November newsletter only included DDRN activities and general news. During 2007 8 monthly newsletters and 25 newsmails have been produced. Framemakers has given MF access to a system for monitoring when members open newsletters and links. This tool will be very useful when developing the communications strategy.

Brochures and posters: Two brochures have been finalised and printed; and a series of posters were produced. Furthermore, a standard format for power point presentations has been developed. The design of the brochure is developed by the graphic designer at the Department of Geography and Geology.

3. Activities related to objective 3: Stimulate and promote the production and exchange of high-quality research and research-based knowledge relevant to development assistance within agriculture, environment and governance – Achievements and Challenges

Participation in other networks and organisations at national, regional and international levels

Target: An updated list of contacts, DDRN participation in national and international events for 'linking purposes'

Accomplished: A number of new contacts at national, regional and international levels, strengthened links to Danish NGO networks and organisations

DFC (Danish Fellowship Centre) and DCCD (Danida's Centre for Competence Development): Several meetings have been held with staff at the Danish Fellowship Centre (DFC) and Danida's Centre for Competence Development (DCCD) to discuss possible areas of collaboration, especially with regard to student oriented activities, briefing of development staff and coordination issues.

As an outcome of a meeting between DDRN and the Danish Fellowship Centre (DFC) held in August, two PhD students from Kenya participated with introductions at the inspiration meetings for Master students (cf. below) at Roskilde University and University of Copenhagen, respectively. Various information and promotion material have also been exchanged. During the Danida seminar on governance in Uganda in October DCCD, DFC and DDRN had a joint session under the heading 'Danish options'.

Other Danish knowledge and research networks: During the reporting period three coordination meetings were held among the coordinators of the Danish knowledge and research networks: the first two in connection with the calls for Danida Travel Grants for Danish master students, and the last one related to joint activities in 2008.

The formats for network members' contributions to thematic research reviews on governance and UEM were also sent to the other Danish knowledge & research networks within health and water with the purpose of broader coverage of the Danish resource base, but no contributions

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were received. DDRN (chairman and coordinator) has participated in preparatory meetings with Danish Water Forum/Network and the Health network on the creation of a joint 'Climate Task Force', which could become a one-stop consulting facility to Danida and other institutions in questions related to climate.

Danish NGO-networks: DDRN has held two meetings with the Project Counselling Service (Projektrådgivningen, PRNGO). PRNGO showed great interest in the network and invited DDRN to attend the next meeting on cooperation among all Danish NGO networks on December 13, 2007. The chief coordinator attended this meeting, but there was not sufficient time to discuss the proposed ideas and suggestions for joint activities in detail. A follow-up meeting, where a smaller group will further explore these ideas is scheduled for mid-January 2008.

Participation in Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa ([FARA](#)) Conference in SA. The chief coordinator participated in FARA's 3rd conference 10-16 June 2007 in Johannesburg, SA. The Conference provided a unique opportunity to meet and network with researchers and other stakeholders within Agricultural Research for Development and to strengthen DDRN links in the South. The travel report from the chief coordinator's visit to South Africa in June 2007 is now available on the DDRN website. The report contains reflections and recommendations from participation in the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa ([FARA](#)) Conference in South Africa and from the meeting with the Danish Embassy in Pretoria.

EFARD (European Forum for Agricultural Research for Development). The chief coordinator is member of the EFARD steering committee representing the Danish Forum/DDRN. During the reporting period EFARD was evaluated by a team of external consultants. The evaluation report raised a number of critical issues to be addressed in the organisation and future work of the Forum and among other things recommended that the Steering Committee develop a strategic plan for EFARD. Such a plan of action is currently being developed.

ERA-ARD (Dimension of the European Research Area – Agricultural Research for Development): The travel report from the participation of a staff member in the ERA-ARD mid term conference in Brussels, June 2007, is available on the DDRN website. The report is written in collaboration with Alex Percy-Smith (representative of the Danish resource base in ERA-ARD working group). The conference focused on working towards a common vision of ARD among participants from the North and the South; and it demonstrated much support to ARD from the European Commission.

PAEPARD aims to mobilize African and European resources to achieve the objectives of the African Union/ NEPAD and the European Union Strategy for Africa. It is a tool for the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and the European Forum for Agricultural Research for Development (EFARD) to strengthen their constituents' capacity to deliver agricultural innovations for Africa and Europe. The final proposal for a three-year project was submitted to EC by the end of 2007.

EuroAfrica-ICT Group Meeting The communications officer attended the 3rd EuroAfrica-ICT Group Meeting which was held on September 27, 2007 in Brussels, Belgium. The EuroAfrica-ICT initiative aims to address science and technology cooperation between Europe and sub-Saharan Africa in the field of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). At the meeting contacts were established with several European and African organisation working with ICT and development. After the meeting, the secretariat coordinated inputs from a few network members working with ICT to the [EuroAfrica-ICT Manifesto](#).

Overview of development-oriented focus areas in new, merged university structure: With a view of contributing to an enhanced coordination of activities between universities and DDRN, information on focus areas within development in the new, merged university structure is being collected. The finalization of the overview only waits for all universities to provide the required information. Likewise, an updated annotated list of key contacts, networks and institutions working with research for development within the three main areas covered by

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DDRN (Agriculture, Environment and Governance) is under elaboration and will be finalized in 2008.

Danida Travel Grants and student related activities

Target: 2 calls, 2-4 lists of thesis topics and 4 inspiration seminars for students

Accomplished: 2 calls. Out of 80 travel stipends distributed to Danish Master students in 2007, 57 were within the field of DDRN. 3 inspiration seminars for students successfully conducted. 6 lists of trends and/or relevant thesis topics contained in the presentations from the seminars, posted on the website.

Travel grants. In connection with the call May 2007, it was agreed that applications registered under the thematic field of 'Other' were to be dealt with by DDRN. May call: 43 applications were received, out of which 33 received a grant of DKK 9,000 each. The distribution of DDRN grants/applications, including Other Areas, was: 9/15 Governance (DDRN), 4/6 Environment (DDRN), 6/7 Agriculture (DDRN) and 5/6 Other Areas. November call: 60 applications received for November 2007, out of which 47 were granted 6,800 each. The distribution of DDRN grants/applications was: 11/15 Governance, 14/16 Environment and Agriculture, and 8/11 Other Areas. For details, see Annex 3.

Inspiration seminars. The objectives of this activity are to inspire students to work with themes relevant to Danish development aid and to facilitate their contacts to Danida supported activities in developing countries. The meetings also supply information on Danida's travel grant scheme for MSc students. During the reporting period three meetings were held: at Roskilde University, at the University of Copenhagen, and at the University of Aarhus. The meeting programmed at Aalborg University was postponed to spring 2008. After the meetings DDRN had more than 80 new members. For the November call there was a rise in applications for the Travel Grants of more than 70 % compared to the former call in May 2007. DDRN has earlier proposed the idea of joint inspiration seminars to the other Danida supported knowledge and research networks, but this idea was not supported by the other networks. The health network preferred to continue to organise separate seminars for students related to health issues and the water network had not planned for this type of meetings. The presentations at the seminars offered a number of relevant trends and topics for master students. These topics have been listed and published at the DDRN website.

International Market day. DDRN was represented at the International Market Day of Copenhagen University on September 10, 2007. The main objective of the market was to introduce students to the possibility of studying at foreign universities. The number of students showing interest in DDRN and Danida's Travel Grants was limited.

4. Administration, monitoring and reporting

During the reporting period the DDRN secretariat has continued to carry out the administrative tasks related to the network, including preparation of the General Assembly, which was held on May 9, 2007, preparation of and follow-up on Board meetings, and reporting to Danida. The new board, which was elected at the General Assembly in May, has had 4 board meetings during this reporting period. Annex 4 contains a list of the present members of the Board. Monitoring was carried out according to the indicators outlined in the LFA matrix for the project; and results are documented in reports, publications, lists of members etc. In addition to this annual progress report, progress in implementation of the 2007 work plan has regularly been reported on in brief written updates prepared by the Secretariat prior to each board meeting. These updates also contain information on the meetings and seminars that members of the secretariat have participated in for networking, lobbying and information purposes. Minutes of general assemblies and board meetings as well as travel reports and other documentation, are all available on the website.

Strategies and 'Lessons learnt' in the South. In order to learn and gain from the first year's experiences with implementation of activities, the DDRN secretariat has written brief 'lessons learnt' papers on 'member led activities' and 'activities in the South'. In addition DDRN has produced a draft concept paper on workshops in the South. All three papers have been discussed at board meetings and have served to guide members and secretariat in the further development of the activities and the network.

5. Conclusion

2007 has been a very busy and challenging year for DDRN. Despite a very ambitious business plan we have managed to meet practically all the set targets at the same time as being able to accommodate new priorities and unplanned activities related to research and development; Flexibility to accommodate new situations brought about by changes in the institutional, economic and political environment for research for development has remained a key guiding principle in implementation of the workplan. By the end of 2007 DDRN has established itself with a well functioning and needs based information and communication system, a new fund for member driven activities and a database with around 1200 registered members. The activities in the South have been very successful and have led to new activities, new linkages and research related initiatives with involvement of new and old members in Denmark and the South. These positive experiences from participation in and organising/co-organising events in developing countries are used as building blocks in developing a more coherent strategy for activities in the South; and they have provided important inputs in developing the draft work plan for 2008. The draft workplan for 2008, including LFA matrix, and budget for 2008 are attached as Annexes 5 and 6.