

## The Role of Urban Centres in Regional Development

### Description of event:

Rapid changes in the spaces where people live, how they make a living and how they interact are blurring the distinction between urban and rural areas. Taking a joint approach to urban and rural development, this session aims to explore both the effects of these changes on regional development and labour markets. The session is a mixture of analysis and practical tools for maximising the benefits and managing the risks of change for poor people. Presentations will be followed by a discussion.

### Name of organization:

Urban and Rural Change Team, Policy Division, UK Department for International Development (DFID)

### Description of organization:

DFID is a UK Government department working to promote sustainable development and eliminate world poverty, focused on achieving the MDGs. DFID's assistance is concentrated in the poorest countries of sub-Saharan Africa and Asia, but also contributes to poverty reduction and sustainable development in middle-income countries, including those in Latin America and Eastern Europe.

### Partner organizations:

Partners at event: Development Planning Unit (University College London), Overseas Development Institute, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, World Bank

Other Partners: London School of Economics, International Institute for Environment and Development, GHK International, International Development Department (Birmingham University), IDS (University of Sussex)

### Confirmed speakers:

Mr. Paul Hildreth, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister  
Mr. Steve Bass, Chief Environment Adviser, Department for International Development  
Ms. Priya Deshingkar, Overseas Development Institute  
Professor Nigel Harris, Development Planning Unit, University College London

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