

## Alert: Round II Systematic Reviews for International Development

The UK Department for International Development (DFID) is piloting an exciting systematic review project that aims to strengthen evidence-informed decision making. A set of systematic reviews were commissioned during Round I in April 2010. This alert is to disseminate awareness of the upcoming call for Round II of the systematic review competition.

Systematic reviewing is a well-established methodology that aims to bring the rigour of primary studies to secondary studies and surveys. In brief, they systematically map the evidence base, critically appraise the evidence and produce a synthesis of the best available evidence.

DFID will commission **20 systematic reviews in August 2010 focusing on 5 thematic areas:**

- Agriculture and Food
- Climate and the Environment
- Governance and Social Development
- Growth
- Human Development

DFID is currently developing a set of **priority systematic review questions**. DFID will encourage a broad-based approach to systematic reviewing that incorporates theory and uses qualitative and/or quantitative data.

**DFID will be commissioning reviewers and review teams in August 2010 and expects the review process to involve 1 or 2 lead researcher and 2 research assistants.**

The systematic reviews should be suitable for publication in a peer review journal and will also provide a timely and rigorous assessment of the evidence base for key DFID policy questions. Delivery of systematic reviews should be between **March – July 2011**.

**To find out more and download the call materials available at the end of July 2010 please go to:**

<http://www.research4development.info/SystematicReviewFeature.asp>