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University of Bern to be location of World Bank programme

For the very first time, the world's leading training programme for evaluation will be taking place in Switzerland. The World Bank has chosen the University of Bern, together with the Centre for Evaluation in Saarbrücken (CEval), as the provider of the International Programme for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET).

For 15 years, the University of Bern has been the only university in Switzerland to offer a comprehensive range of advanced training in evaluation. And now the combined efforts of the capital's uni, its Centre for Continuing Education (ZUW) and its Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), are paying off: The University of Bern, together with the Centre for Evaluation (CEval) in Saarbrücken, has been chosen by the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) of the World Bank as the provider of the new version of the International Programme for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET). IPDET is the world's leading advanced training programme for evaluation in development cooperation. From summer 2018, the courses of the IPDET programme will be offered by international renowned experts at the University of Bern.

Professional evaluations are becoming more and more important

The importance of the IPDET programme is continually increasing. This is partly because all nations are obliged to evaluate their contribution to the achievement of the goals set out in the UNO 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. "The significance of this task for the University of Bern can therefore not be overstated – apart from international visibility and networking, the university will gain prestige and recognition in the field of evaluation, due to the programme's uniqueness," says Programme Director Stefanie Krapp.

University of Bern wins against more than 40 competitors

The University of Bern and CEval have come out on top against more than 40 competitors in an intensive, multi-stage selection process. The IEG was especially impressed by the vision that was presented: The programme is being gradually further developed and modernised in line with the changing requirements in the field of evaluation and contextual conditions in countries of the Global South. For example, new themes in evaluation, new teaching and learning modalities (especially blended learning formats) and new ways of introducing stakeholders in the Global South are to be introduced.

Information on the training programme

From 1999 to 2016, IPDET was based at the Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada, and during this time established itself as the world-leading continuing education programme for evaluation in development cooperation, with a total of more than 3,500 participants from 125 countries. IPDET provides managers and practitioners with the tools to evaluate development strategies, programmes, and projects at local, national, regional, and global level. The range of further training is aimed at development professionals who carry out, manage or use evaluations. The attendees can come from ministries or authorities in developing countries, development banks, the non-profit and foundation sector, the system of the United Nations and from bilateral development agencies, universities, think tanks and private-sector consulting firms specialising in development evaluation.

Until 31 May 2018, it is still possible to enrol for the first course programme from 16 to 27 July (further information at www.ipdet.unibe.ch).

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