

PCDI

Clermont International Development Hub

FERDI
FONDATION POUR LES ÉTUDES
ET RECHERCHES
SUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT
INTERNATIONAL

GDN Global
Development
Network



UCA
ÉCOLE D'ÉCONOMIE
UNIVERSITÉ
Clermont Auvergne

Influencing global policies, supporting local solutions

The Clermont International Development Hub (PCDI) brings together three partners based in Clermont-Ferrand: an academic centre, Université Clermont Auvergne, through its School of Economics and the Centre for Studies and Research on International Development (CERDI); a think tank, the Foundation for Studies and Research on International Development (FERDI); and an international institution, the Global Development Network (GDN). Together, they work to foster synergies between research, responses to global challenges, and policy decisions.

Their shared ambition is to ensure that research findings inform development policies in countries in the South and the North, as well as at the international level.

The PCDI builds on fifty years of expertise in development economics and strong international recognition, symbolised by the establishment of the GDN in Clermont-Ferrand. Rooted in its local territory yet broadly open to the world, the PCDI engages with a wide range of actors involved in international cooperation — public administrations, local authorities, businesses, civil society, and the academic community.

Three complementary goals:

- » **To influence development and cooperation policies** at both local and international levels through analyses based on research results and rooted in local realities;
- » **To strengthen access to knowledge and expertise** in development research by supporting social science research systems in the Global South and fostering international collaboration;
- » **To promote the networking** of an international community of alumni, researchers, and development practitioners by creating spaces for dialogue and influence.

Three institutions working in synergy in the heart of Auvergne

Based in Clermont-Ferrand and part of a large international network, the institutions that make up the PCDI combine their expertise in pursuit of a common goal.

Partner institutions

- » **Université Clermont Auvergne** through its **School of Economics** and **CERDI**, a joint UCA-CNRS-IRD research unit founded in 1976. As France's leading research centre specialising in development economics, CERDI provides doctoral training to a large number of students, many from the Global South particularly Africa, who are highly sought after by international and development institutions. The School of Economics is the only economics faculty in France dedicated to development economics at Master's level and has offered a Master's degree in this field since 1986.
- » **FERDI**, a recognised public interest foundation created in 2003, acts as a think tank on sustainable development policies based on research findings. It also provides professional training and capacity-building through the Institute for Advanced Studies in Sustainable Development (IHEDD).
- » The **Global Development Network (GDN)**, based in Clermont-Ferrand since 2021, is an international public organisation that strengthens research systems in the Global South, advances development research and links scientific knowledge and public policy through global collaborations.

An initiative supported by the State, local authorities and the University

The establishment of the GDN in Clermont-Ferrand and the development of the cluster's activities were made possible thanks to multi-year financial support provided to FERDI and the GDN by the Ministry of the Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty, **via the French Development Agency**. The initial investment by FERDI and GDN was supported by the Puy-de-Dôme Departmental Council, Clermont Auvergne Métropole, the Auvergne–Rhône–Alpes Region, and Université Clermont Auvergne — confirming the PCDI's structuring role in enhancing the region's international standing.

A broad range of actions for sustainable development and international cooperation

Actions for more effective international cooperation with the Global South

Through its extensive publications, its participation in major global development events related to development, and the numerous seminars it organises, the PCDI — notably through FERDI — contributes to identifying the most effective solutions for the growth of countries in the Global South, particularly the least developed countries (LDCs). Its influence stems from the work of its permanent staff as well as its many fellows in both the South and the North, and through its academic chairs. Its objective is to inform public debate with reliable data and to propose innovative solutions that can inspire the international agenda.

Capacity building in the South: three main avenues

» *Targeted and professional training*

The PCDI contributes to two Master's programmes at Université Clermont Auvergne in development economics (Economic Policy Management - GPE and Development Project Management - MODEV) and to around fifty short, certified training courses aimed at young researchers and local or international development practitioners. These programmes combine academic rigour with field experience.

» *Promoting knowledge produced in the South*

The PCDI provides opportunities for expression and publication, enhancing the global visibility of the work of researchers in the South. International blogs (GlobalDev, Entreprenante Afrique), scientific journals (*Revue d'économie du développement*), publications of working papers and brief notes on the FERDI, CERDI and GDN websites, research grants and mobility grants for young researchers — all contribute to reshaping how knowledge is produced and circulated globally.

» *Networking and global dialogue*

Regularly, the PCDI hosts the GDN's Global Development Conference in Clermont-Ferrand, an international event that brings together researchers from the South alongside decision-makers and practitioners. It runs a global alumni network (CERDI Alumni, GPE, CEFEBB-Modev, etc.) and provides numerous opportunities for dialogue (conferences, workshops, high-level meetings in Chatham House format) to strengthen links between research, public decision-makers, civil society and the private sector.

A vision of development rooted in the South

The PCDI promotes a **conception of development policies** grounded in partnership with researchers and decision-makers from the Global South, particularly from younger generation. It draws on **an exceptional network of alumni, researchers and policymakers** active on every continent. It collaborates with all public and private actors involved in cooperation, including those engaged in decentralised cooperation and the private sector.

The PCDI is developing work on **four key themes of the international agenda**: the role of development finance institutions, domestic resource mobilisation, country vulnerability and resilience, and the impact of internal and external financing, while the range of work carried out by partner institutions remains broader.

***Because global challenges also call
for local responses, the PCDI is
a crossroads of ideas and actions
for building the future.***

Funding bodies

