



## Memorandum of Understanding Between the Bureau for Development Policy and the Special Unit for TCDC Concerning the Roster of Experts

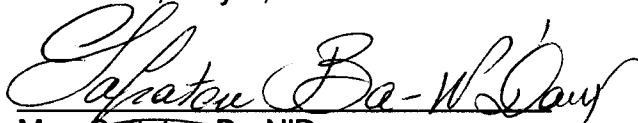
In the context of its corporate responsibility to provide policy support for Country Offices, BDP is charged with referring experts and institutions to requesting Country Offices for consulting assignments. BDP has been unable to successfully introduce the custom-made roster it designed two years ago, and many of BDP's SURF offices have begun building individual homegrown rosters. SU/TCDC, on the other hand, has developed a sizeable roster of experts and institutions, the WIDE database, containing primarily Southern expertise available for employment in South-to-South exchanges. Given this complementarity, it would be advantageous for BDP and SU/TCDC to combine efforts. BDP could tap into the WIDE database, drawing on both the substantial knowledge of SU/TCDC in roster technology, as well as the extensive pool of talent in the database itself. And SU/TCDC could take advantage of BDP's recommendation system to give Southern experts more exposure to UNDP assignments.

The cross-promotional benefits of a BDP and SU/TCDC partnership are therefore substantial for both parties. To this end, BDP and SU/TCDC agree to cooperate as follows:

- BDP will use the WIDE platform to build and maintain its roster of experts. BDP will promote WIDE as a large pool of Southern experts available for assignments in UNDP projects.
- SU/TCDC will support and promote BDP's referral services for locating and identifying relevant expertise. SU/TCDC will ensure that WIDE is a functional platform for the BDP SURFS to manage their rosters, and will make it compatible with international Human-Resources XML standards for easy data exchange and/or exports to other systems.
- SU/TCDC and BDP will cooperate to refine and improve WIDE continuously.

In the longer-term perspective, BDP and SU/TCDC will cooperate to standardize and clean up all roster data so that it will fit in the PeopleSoft "Human Capital Management" module when it becomes available under the ERP in an estimated 24-36 months. The necessary standardization will include a common meta-data structure and a standardized implantation of XML as mentioned above.

New York, May 1, 2003

  
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