

Press release: 15 March 2012
For immediate release



Science and Development Network

SciDev.Net appoints its next Director

The Board of SciDev.Net is very pleased to announce that Nick Perkins has accepted its invitation to be the next Director.

Nick comes to SciDev.Net as a trained journalist with nearly 20 years of international experience in media development, strategic support to campaigns and assessment of communication initiatives. He has delivered award winning results on several projects and trained hundreds of media professionals across the global South. He has a proven record as a manager for media networks and in leading multi-country, multi-stakeholder teams and in fund raising. Nick will be leaving the Institute of Development Studies where he is Head of Research Communication.

Nick will take up his appointment in mid-March 2012.

In welcoming Nick to SciDev.Net, Andrew Bennett Chairman of the Board said, "we are most grateful to its founding Director, David Dickson and interim Director Tracy Irvine, SciDev.Net who over the first 10 years of its existence, have established a dedicated and extensive network of reporters across the world. SciDev.Net has earned a well deserved reputation for high quality objective reporting of science and the role that it can play in development. However over the coming years it will need to work with others to improve the policy and institutional environment that will facilitate the uptake of science in sustainable development. In Nick we feel confident we will have someone who will lead SciDev.Net on this exciting agenda."

Nick said, "SciDev.Net has made a real contribution to the communities of science and international development since its inception so it is an honour to join the team. I am looking forward to building on the network's success. We have the opportunity to draw on some potent lessons about how online communication relates to popular culture and public policy. I think this will be an exciting time for the SciDev.Net team and our global partners."

Notes to Editors

SciDev.Net

SciDev.Net – the Science and Development Network – is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing reliable and authoritative information about science and technology for the developing world. Through our website www.scidev.net we give policymakers, researchers, the media and civil society information and a platform to explore how science and technology can reduce poverty, improve health and raise standards of living around the world. We also build developing countries' capacity for communicating science and technology through our regional networks of committed individuals and organisations, practical guidance and specialist workshops. Our main office is based in London but we have a worldwide network of registered users, advisors, consultants and freelance journalists, predominantly from developing countries, who drive our activities and vision.

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