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**Friday, 14 May 2008, 12:30 – 4:30PM  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conference Room 6A**

**Abstract:**

**Net-Map Tool-Pool Training for Research and Impact Management**

Net-Map is a visualization approach to Social Network Analysis that was developed by IFPRI post-doc Eva Schiffer in her research on multi-stakeholder water governance in northern Ghana. Net-Map is a tool for understanding and improving complex social situations with multiple actors, diverse goals and unclear distribution of influence.

The process has been shown to be beneficial both for collecting data (research, evaluation) and for facilitating learning and exchange processes. By writing actors on actor cards, drawing different colored links between them, building “influence towers” to indicate their influence and noting the goals of these actors, researchers collect data on the formal and informal influence networks. For more information about the method and some case studies, see <http://netmap.ifpriblog.org>.

Net-Map has attracted the attention of researchers and implementers within and outside IFPRI and is or has been used by such diverse organizations as University of Bonn, African Peer Review Mechanism Council of Ghana, InWent (German development NGO), and IFAD etc. The issues analyzed and facilitated with Net-Map range from local governance of small reservoirs through the development of civil society committees to food safety in the dairy supply chain, the impact of research on policy making and the political processes surrounding changes of national agricultural legislation.

This seminar is geared towards researchers and implementers who want to better understand the complex political realities in the field they work in. **It will be divided in two parts:**

**Part 1: Seminar on Social Network Analysis: An Introduction to Net-Map  
12:30 PM to 2:00 PM (1 hr and 30 min)**

Part 1 of the seminar will be a general introduction of Net-Map in the context of Social Network Analysis as a research approach and a step-by-step introduction of the application of Net-Map in the field. It will give a brief introduction of Social Network thinking, cover the most important network and actor parameters and introduce Net-Map in front of this background. Examples from various case studies will be used to introduce different strategies and identify crucial issues for successful net-mapping.

**Part 2: Practical Training on Net-Map  
2:30 PM to 4:30 PM (2 hours)**

Part 2 of the seminar is especially geared to participants who want to use Net-Map in their own work and want to learn the concrete steps of study design, data collection, entry and analysis. We will

introduce the use of Social Network Analysis Software for visual and quantitative analysis of the data collected. While this cannot be an exhaustive training of quantitative network analysis, the participants will learn first steps and entry points. They will learn how to transform drawn networks into computer graphics and calculate various actor centralities and network parameters. In the exercise the participants will enter a Net-Map example into a matrix, import this matrix into a network analysis computer program and do some basic visual and quantitative analysis. Participants will discuss concrete research questions, evaluation and facilitation tasks that they want to approach by using Net-Map. We will develop Net-Map strategies together; learn how to adapt the tool for specific uses and how to integrate it in a bigger research and/or facilitation strategy.