Created in 2003 and recognized as a public utility, the Foundation for International Development Studies and Research (Ferdi) based in Clermont-Ferrand is one of the leading European think tanks on public policies in the field of development.

With the status of a private higher education institution, Ferdi makes capacity building one of its priority programmes by organising training courses and workshops for sharing experiences through the Institut des Hautes Études de Développement Durable (IHEDD). The IHEDD is the institute for the valorization of scientific productions of the Laboratory of Excellence (Labex) IDGM+ “Designing new international development policies based on research results. Strengthening the Development and Global Governance Initiative”. The Labex is conducted by the Ferdi, combining IDDRI and Cerdi.

Among the training courses organised, Ferdi and IHEDD administer - by agreement signed with the University of Clermont Auvergne (UCA) - the "Economic Policy Management” programme (GPE). A nine-month cycle dedicated to public development policies, the GPE programme is aimed specifically at high-potential public officials and economists in developing countries.

Supported since its launch in 1994 by the World Bank and the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE), the GPE programme is recognised as one of the main French training courses in capacity building, leading to the award of a national diploma, a Master 2 from the School of Economics of the University of Clermont Auvergne.

◆ STRENGTHS
- Tailor-made training for economists from developing country administrations, close to political decision-makers and technical financial partners.
- Content developed from the latest scientific research results, in particular those of Labex IDGM+.
- A teaching team composed of the best experts from the Clermont-Ferrand area (School of Economics of the University of Clermont Auvergne, Cerdi and Ferdi), the major international universities, North and South, the French administration (MEAE, AFD, Treasury, Banque de France) as well as those of the major international and regional institutions (World Bank, IMF, WTO, European Commission, African Development Bank, OECD...)
- Seminars organized within international organizations with development actors, in Geneva with UNCTAD, WTO, ITC, UNHCR, ILO, ICRC.
- A network of 750 former GPE auditors, the vast majority of whom are based in their home administrations, some of whom hold high positions as Director, Director General, Secretary General, Secretary General, Governor of the Central Bank, Minister... others move to the local representations of international or regional organizations, always in the service of development.
- Recognition of the GPE programme as a "Preferred Program" by the World Bank and the Japanese Government through the Joint Japan/World Bank Scholarship Program (JJ/WBGSP).

◆ LOCATION
Clermont-Ferrand, a metropolis of nearly 500,000 inhabitants of the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, offers ideal conditions for studying in the heart of France, close to the largest natural park in France, the Auvergne Volcanoes Nature Park, and Vulcana, European Park of Volcanism. Performing in a large number of sectors such as pneumatics, aeronautics and agribusiness, boosted by its university pole of excellence, the city of Clermont-Ferrand remains human-sized, rich in history, art, culture and sports practices.

www.ferdi.fr