



## Good and bad practice in participatory research

By Cynthia Dittmar

GRIN Verlag Jul 2009, 2009. sonst. Bücher. Book Condition: Neu. 210x148x1 mm. This item is printed on demand - Print on Demand Neuware - Seminar paper from the year 2008 in the subject Politics - International Politics - Topic: Development Politics, grade: distinction, University of Manchester (Institute for Development Policy and Management), course: Development Research, language: English, abstract: Development research serves different purposes - from informing policy-making on a macro level, to conducting large scale poverty assessments of countries and regions, and planning, managing, evaluating and impact assessment of development projects and programs. Since the 1970s, participatory research methods have become increasingly important in this field. Whereas initially they were used to inform project practice on the micro-level, they are now also used to inform policy making and enhance governance. 'They moved from the margins of development practice to the very heart of development mainstream' (Mikkelsen 2005: 58). Participatory research can be seen as the methodological basis of participatory development. However, there is ongoing debate on whom those methods inform - the instrumental practice of aid/ governmental agencies ('participation as means') or the local communities themselves, providing them with the means to conduct their development ('participation as end'). This ambiguity...



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