

The main aim of DeFiPP is to promote research of excellence in economics and finance, with a strong international visibility.

The use of the economic methodology, both in theory and in empirical research, is the uniting link between the poles.

Cross-fertilization will occur through the common sharing of new methods or approaches.

It consolidates research work done in three pre-existing centers, **CRED**, **CEREFIM** and **CERPE**, each of which represents one of the three main research lines: development economics, public policies and regional economics & finance and monetary economics.



## 1. CRED

CRED carries out economic research with a particular focus on informal social and economic institutions in developing countries, combining a micro-theoretical approach with primary data from original field surveys.

It includes, for instance, questions of land access and property rights, common property resources and collective action, family arrangements and their transformation, caste affiliations, informal insurance and microcredit, religion, culture and social norms, relations between the state and the society or aid effectiveness...

## 2. CEREFIM

The research agenda of the Center for Research in Finance and Management (CeReFiM) is articulated around four main axes:

- The first research domain concerns financial markets and institutions, risk management (especially systemic risk and contagion) as well as corporate finance, among others.
- Secondly, some members of the center also focus on Macroeconomics and Monetary Economics. In this branch, professors and researchers are particularly interested in issues pertaining to central bank behavior and communication as well as the understanding of the movements and interrelations of macroeconomic aggregates.
- The third main axe of the center covers the broad theme of International Finance and Economics: foreign exchange market, international lending and investment, micro- and macroeconomic aspects of international finance.
- Finally, the last main axe is composed of more technical research domains such as financial econometrics, DSGE modeling, as well as financial networks. In addition, the center has developed econometric and statistical methods to apprehend high-frequency data.

## 3. CERPE

The research at CERPE focuses on two areas: regional economics and economic policy.

The research combines theoretical work (in economic geography, labor and entrepreneurial economics, regional policy, ...) and more applied work in regional economics and economic policy with a privileged view on the Walloon Region in the Belgian institutional landscape.

## Emerging research – Future prospects

At this stage, future prospects are specific to the different poles as the institute is new, meaning that inter-pole research themes have not yet been identified.

The sharing of common methods and approaches will certainly help develop synergies between the members of the Institute.

### STRONG POINTS

The Integration of various research domains around the use of models and quantitative analysis in economics and finance.

This will be carried out through the development of common activities, in particular a weekly international research seminar in Namur, as well as a joint bi-annual PhD Workshop (with UCL and Saint-Louis) or a Summer School on Big Data and Development.

The three centers also participate to the joint Doctoral School with other universities in Belgium, which offers a number of high-level courses to any doctoral students in economics.

Strong position in the three poles, rather unique in Belgium. In particular, CRED is one of the leading centers in development economics in Europe. CERPPE is widely known for its advising role to public policies in Belgium.

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