



GLOBAL COOPERATION NEWSLETTER **September 2009**

In this edition
North South Project
UN Economic and Social Council ECOSOC July 2009
New from the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth
After Accra: Progress despite the turndown
World Bank: Improving effectiveness and outcomes for the poor in
health, nutrition and population

North South Project

The project in development cooperation between the Finnish Federation for Social Welfare and Health (STKL, Finland) and the Tanzania Council for Social Development (TACOSODE), Tanzania has started. ICSW is a partner in the project.

At the 31st International Conference of ICSW held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in September, 2004 the Executive Committee of ICSW adopted the programme **"Globalizing Social Policy"** as part of its measures to reduce global poverty. The North South component of the project is to encourage ICSW councils from the global North to partner global South national councils. The North councils are to work to strengthen the South Councils.

Countries of North and South are seeking ways to adapt effectively to global changes that include the availability and use of natural resources, division of labour, demographic changes, new technologies and environmental issues including climate change.

The overall objective in the Finnish/Tanzanian project is to create a stronger TACOSODE to support its more than 250 member organisations in their work to reduce poverty. By strengthening TACOSODE there will be a stronger civil society and enhanced opportunities for citizens to participate and make a difference in the reduction of poverty levels in Tanzania. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland is making a substantial financial contribution to the project.

The steering group for the project met in Dar es Salaam in September. The group met with TACOSODE Board members and project staff to review the progress of the project. The project director Uwe Ottka reported that the baseline study on the situation of TACOSODE member NGOs in Dar es Salaam and Southern Tanzania has been completed. Project staff have been recruited and logistical issues resolved. This included installing a stable internet connection at TACOSODE. It is interesting to note that Tanzania has only recently had a cable connection to the rest of the world. Until then Tanzania relied on unstable satellite connections.

While in Dar es Salaam steering committee members participated and spoke at a seminar on *Land policy in Tanzania: current issues and social aspects*.

The purpose of the seminar was to discuss the land policy reforms currently underway in Tanzania and to promote a dialogue and understanding of the issues. Officials from the Government and Ministries, NGOs and academics participated. Denys Correll said in his speech, "The acquisition of large tracts of farming land raises new issues for governments, civil society organisations and citizens. To what degree do foreign owners or leaseholders require control of production, control of land and control of the water supply? Investors expect a return on their investment which encourages the farming companies to quickly exploit the land. This militates against the use of existing "low tech" farming in favour of intensive farming with high technology." (The full paper can be found on the ICSW website).



UN Economic and Social Council ECOSOC July 2009

The draft ministerial declaration coming out of the ECOSOC meeting in July 2009 has much that is of interest to civil society. The declaration was in relation to *Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health*. Some of the content follows. ECOSOC recognises "the role of social determinants in health outcomes and takes note of the conclusions and recommendations formulated by the Commission on Social Determinants of Health which aim to improve living conditions, tackle the inequitable distribution of resources, and measure, understand and assess their impact.

In clause 22 ECOSOC stressed "the importance of multisectoral and inter-ministerial approaches in formulating and implementing national policies that are crucial for promoting and protecting health. We reiterate that Governments will play the central role, in collaboration with civil society organizations, including academia, and the private sector, in implementing national strategies and action plans on social services delivery, and in making progress towards ensuring more equitable health outcomes."

In clause 29 ECOSOC acknowledged " the contribution of aid targeted towards the health sector, while recognizing that much more needs to be done. We call for the fulfilment of all official development assistance-related commitments, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance by 2015 and to reach the target of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance by 2010, as well as the target of 0.15-0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to least developed countries, and urge those developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments."

The full text can be found at <http://www.un.org/ecosoc/>

New from the International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth

Title: HIV and Income Inequality: If There Is a Link, What Does It Tell Us?

Author: Göran Holmqvist **Series:** One Pager # 83

Download: <http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager83.pdf>

Title: HIV and Income Inequality: If There Is a Link, What Does It Tell Us?

Author: Göran Holmqvist **Series:** Working Paper # 54

Download: <http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCWorkingPaper54.pdf>

The author argues that there is a positive association between income inequality and HIV prevalence. However, the link is another illustration of how unequal societies with large social divides pay a price in terms of public health.

Title: The 2015 Debt Crisis **Author:** Paul Ladd **Series:** One Pager # 84 **Download:** <http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager84.pdf>

Title: The Global Economic Crisis Hampers Human Development. How?

Author: Degol Hailu **Series:** One Pager # 95 **Download:** <http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager95.pdf>

Title: Do CCTs Lessen the Impact of the Current Economic Crisis? Yes, but...

Author: Fábio Veras Soares **Series:** One Pager # 96 **Download:** <http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager96.pdf>

The two One Pagers (Numbers 95 and 96) discuss the current financial and economic crisis. The first highlights the impact of the crisis on human development. The second argues that conditional cash transfers can lessen the impact, only if the programmes are well established.

Title: Do Poorer Countries Have less Capacity for Redistribution? **Author:** Martin Ravallion **Series:** One Pager # 97 **Download:** <http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager97.pdf> . In this One Pager the author discusses the possibilities of reducing poverty through income redistribution

After Accra: Progress despite the turndown

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/43/52/43150493.htm#accra>

In September 2008, the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF3) http://www.oecd.org/document/3/0,3343,en_2649_33721_41297219_1_1_1_1,00.html sent out a clear message: it is urgent that we change the way we finance development. The validity of the agreed roadmap to achieve this – the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) – was reaffirmed in December at the Doha Review Conference on Financing for Development. Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members reconfirmed their commitments to the AAA, promising to keep up peer pressure for progress in implementing a series of “beginning now” issues, five actions for which the stakeholders committed to putting in place immediate change. In this context, the DAC-hosted Working Party on Aid Effectiveness

http://www.oecd.org/department/0,3355,en_2649_3236398_1_1_1_1,00.html

has not stood still. The Working Party includes an ever-growing number of donor and developing countries, as well as civil society institutions, foundations and parliaments.

Since the High Level Forum in Accra, the Working Party’s programme has not only been refocused to concentrate on key roadblocks and opportunities identified there; it is also looking at critical issues that were not sufficiently addressed at Accra. A series of new “clusters” and networks will focus attention where it is most urgently needed: ownership and accountability; country systems; transparent and responsible aid; assessing progress; managing for development results; sector approaches to aid effectiveness; and South-South co-operation. At the same time, these groups will act as political drivers of change.

The Working Party is already beginning to prepare the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF4), which will be held in the Republic of Korea in 2011. This forum – and the analysis that feeds into it – will enable us to assess how countries have performed in delivering on their commitments.

World Bank Improving effectiveness and outcomes for the poor in health, nutrition and population

http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTOED/EXTWBASSHEANUTPOP/0,,contentMDK:22163572~menuPK:6080533~pagePK:64829573~piPK:64829550~theSitePK:4422776,00.html?cid=IEG_AnnouncementsEN_P_EXT_MISC_CCHNP1

The World Bank Group's support for health, nutrition, and population (HNP) has been sustained since 1997-totalling \$17 billion in country-level support by the World Bank and \$873 million in private health and pharmaceutical investments by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) through mid-2008. This report evaluates the efficacy of the Bank Group's direct support for HNP to developing countries since 1997 and draws lessons to help improve the effectiveness of this support.

The content of this Global Newsletter may be freely reproduced or cited provided the source is acknowledged. Views do not necessarily represent policies of ICSW.

Newsletter Editor: Denys Correll – Executive Director.

ICSW C/- MOVISIE Netherlands Centre for Social Development

PO Box 19129

3501 DC Utrecht

Netherlands

Website www.icsw.org Email: icsw@icsw.org

[If you wish to cease receiving this newsletter, please click 'here' and give us your name and email address](#)

GLOBAL COOPERATION NEWSLETTER

October 2009

In this edition

UNESCO examines global financial crisis
World Bank position on social protection condemned
OECD Development Assistance Committee speaks out on conflict
New Head of UN Research Institute for Social Development
Global Governance
Puzzled by acronyms?

UNESCO examines global financial crisis

The UNESCO Management of Social Transformations (MOST) programme examined the impact of the global financial crisis (GFC) in its recent meeting in Paris. ICSW was represented by Charles Abbey – ICSW Vice President and Denys Correll – ICSW Executive Director.



ICSW delegates with Zola S. Skweyiya, Former Minister of Social Development of South Africa who was President of the Intergovernmental Council of the MOST Programme from 2005 to 2009.

Part of the MOST mission is to create a nexus between research, policy and practice. ICSW supports this mission.

Professor Zaki Laidi presented the keynote address. He said it was too early to tell what the consequences and impact of the global financial crisis will be on the role of the state. "We don't know what type of crisis we are dealing with. We don't know what is going on. We are at a critical point where there is a confluence of a financial crisis and an environmental crisis. We don't know if this is a turning point." Professor Laidi suggested that the current global governance institutions are inadequate to meet the current challenge. The first signs of this are the demise of G8 and the rise of G20. The nub of the debate is that more governments want a say in global governance.

Pierre Sanè, who is in charge of the MOST programme, spoke of the interconnection of social, fiscal and economic factors in the current crisis and the need to focus on the most vulnerable – those people living in developing countries.

Katja Hujo Research Coordinator at the UN Research Institute for Social Development outlined the impact of the GFC on developing countries. Ms. Hujo then went on to look at four areas of social policy responses. The first area was health and education where she spoke of maintaining and expanding social infrastructure in health, education and care services which would create job opportunities for women who are suffering more than men in this GFC. The second area was investment in water, sanitation, transportation, housing etc which all have beneficial impacts on health. The third area was social protection where governments should expand and create cash transfer and employment programmes with wider eligibility conditions, increased amounts of benefit or increasing their duration. Fourth was the expansion of labour market policies by combining short-term with long term measures.

Ms Hujo spoke of six areas where governments could go beyond short term responses. First, create affordable and accessible social services (health, education, water/sanitation etc.) for all; second to protect people against income loss (social insurance and assistance) and poverty; third to protect and promote employment (decent work); fourth to adopt a smart targeting approach by having special support schemes for excluded and vulnerable groups (this complements universal programmes); fifth to have the state resume its role in providing public goods and increase state capacity; and sixth to create sustainable and fair financing schemes. Ms Hujo reinforced points made by Pierre Sanè talking of transformative social policy contributing to economic development, social cohesion and empowerment of people.

Mr. Harjeet Singh, Under Secretary of Policy Division Malaysia in the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development provided some inspirational comments on the measures Malaysia have implemented to counteract the social consequences of the GFC. The impact on Malaysia includes a decline in exports, a fall in commodity prices (gas, oil and palm oil), a fall in FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) and a decline in the stock exchange. Stimulus measures are aimed to reduce unemployment and ease the burden on the most vulnerable. The Social Safety Net has been expanded by increasing the allowable household monthly income. This measure is expected to result in the number of eligible households to rise from 54,000 to 110,000 and a rise from 14,000 to 40,000 of elderly citizens who will become eligible. The ministry launched a project in October 2008 to identify those in need of welfare assistance. There are three types of assistance. First, financial aid for the commercially unproductive group including seniors and single mothers; second, incentives for the productive group e.g. farmers who produce more rice will receive more incentives; and third, subsidies to reduce the cost of living increases on petrol, rice, sugar, flour and cooking oil.

The Latin American perspective was presented by Mr. Martin Hopenhayn, Director of Social Development Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). In his speech Mr Hopenhayn, examined the global financial crisis from a social point of view which he sees as the "tip of the iceberg". There are a multitude of other consequences. Ideologies that supported the privatisation of services have predominated in Latin America over the last decades. The Washington consensus once seen as the only economic model is now questionable as the sole economic model.

Mr Hopenhayn maintains that financial self regulation of the market will not go further, saying: "it does not work." In the past twenty years, exclusion played a dominant role. During that time, Latin America has paid a high price on environmental and social protection. The Washington Consensus has left a huge divide in social protection with huge inequalities.

Pierre Sanè summed up the feelings of many in the conference. He is alarmed that due to the GFC donor governments will not meet their commitments to Official Development Assistance (ODA). These governments were not even meeting the targets before the crisis.

The governments used public money to bail out banks which has reduced money available for other expenditure including ODA. Governments in developing countries are experiencing reduced revenues because of the GFC. The only thing that will prevent the reduction in ODA is popular mobilisation. The questions we need to ask are: Will children have education? Will people have access to health care?

The response to the GFC must involve civil society organisations and thus enable people to feel empowered. This leads to the core aim of the MOST programme which is to strengthen research/policy linkages. The complementarities between UN agencies need to be strengthened. We can all learn through the exchange of good practices and good initiatives e.g. Ecuador, Malaysia and Jordan. We need to strengthen regional cooperation and cooperation between regions.

For more information on the MOST Programme visit [UNESCO's MOST Programme](http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=3511&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-](http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=3511&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

[URL_ID=3511&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/shs/en/ev.php-URL_ID=3511&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

For a film on the MOST Programme [Watch the film "MOST: A "think tank" for nations"](#)

World Bank position on social protection condemned

Even though most, if not all, UN agencies have supported the push for universal social protection in every country, the International Trade Union Confederation denounced the World Bank for its stand on social protection. The ICTU said in a statement in September: "Even though the World Bank has endorsed improved social safety nets to protect the millions of workers who have lost their jobs due to the global economic crisis, the latest edition of the Bank's highest circulation publication discourages countries from adopting social protection schemes by designating governments that do so as anti-business. Doing Business 2010, launched on 9th September 2009 by the World Bank, also recommends that countries should reduce severance pay for dismissed workers and reduce or eliminate requirements for prior notice about job cuts. For the full statement visit <http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article4275>

OECD Development Assistance Committee speaks out on conflict

The October 2009 *DACnews* focuses on *Conflict and dialogue: What can the development community do better?* The DACnews takes a look at how the reality of conflict impinges on development and vice versa. It also focuses on the growing complexity of the development landscape and how increasing dialogue is helping to build a road on common ground.

Topics covered include:

➤ Challenges and opportunities in the Central African Republic

The situation in the Central African Republic (CAR) is too disturbing for donors to ignore. Yet its chronic, complex and deep-seated nature makes it difficult to identify a straightforward response that will have a fair chance of success. The DAC, through its International Network on Conflict and Fragility ([INCAF](#)) is preparing a report on CAR as part of the [Fragile States Principles Monitoring Survey](#). [Read more...](#)

➤ Armed violence and development

The United Nations Secretary-General's report "*Promoting Development through the Reduction and Prevention of Armed Violence*" cites increasing evidence on the complex ways in which armed violence acts as both a cause and consequence of underdevelopment. It recognises and draws from the armed violence reduction work underway in the DAC. [Read more...](#) www.oecd.org/dac/newsletter.

New Head of UN Research Institute for Social Development

UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, has appointed Dr. Sarah Cook as the new Director of UNRISD. Dr. Cook, who joins UNRISD from the UK Institute of Development Studies, is a development economist and China specialist whose recent work has included research on social protection in Asia, social welfare in rural China, the informalization of employment and the gender impacts of economic reform. She is the first British national to take the

helm at UNRISD. ICSW extends its congratulations to Dr. Cook and looks forward to working with her and learning of the directions she will set for UNRISD.

Global Governance

The Friedrich Ebert Foundation has issued a briefing paper by Marc Saxer, "*The Comeback of Global Governance. Ways out of the crisis of multilateral structures*" DoG Briefing Paper N°4, FES Berlin, April 2009. After years of crisis, in the face of genuine global problems the climate seems to be changing in favour of global governance. Marc Saxer provides an overview of recent major reform initiatives, but also warns against exaggerated optimism. The author identifies the lack of representativeness and effectiveness of multilateral structures along with differing conceptions of global governance among key actors as the main obstacles to overcome the crisis and advocates for a more realistic reform approach for the multilateral architecture. This Briefing Paper N° 4 can be found directly at <http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/iez/global/06319.pdf>.

Puzzled by acronyms?

<http://www.acronymfinder.com/>

New on the ICSW Website

Content	Link
Global Cooperation Newsletter September 2009	http://www.icsw.org/doc/09_Global_Cooperation_Eng_Sep_2009.pdf
Global Cooperation Newsletter September (Es)	http://www.icsw.org/doc/09_CooperationMondiale_FR_Sep_2009.doc
Global Cooperation Newsletter September (Fr)	http://www.icsw.org/doc/09_CooperacionMundial_ESP_Sep_2009.doc
European Newsletter September 2009	http://www.icsw.org/doc/ICSW_European_newsletter_September_2009.doc
South East Asia and the Pacific Newsletter	http://www.icsw.org/doc/SEAPNewsletter_2_October2009.doc
East and Southern Africa Newsletter October 2009	http://www.icsw.org/doc/ESA_Newsletter_2009_Oct_Eng.doc

The content of this Global Newsletter may be freely reproduced or cited provided the source is acknowledged. Views do not necessarily represent policies of ICSW.

Newsletter Editor: Denys Correll – Executive Director.
ICSW C/- MOVISIE Netherlands Centre for Social Development
PO Box 19129
3501 DC Utrecht
Netherlands

Website www.icsw.org Email: icsw@icsw.org

If you wish to cease receiving this newsletter, please click '[here](#)' and give us your name and email address