



POLICIES FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION AND TO COMBAT POVERTY

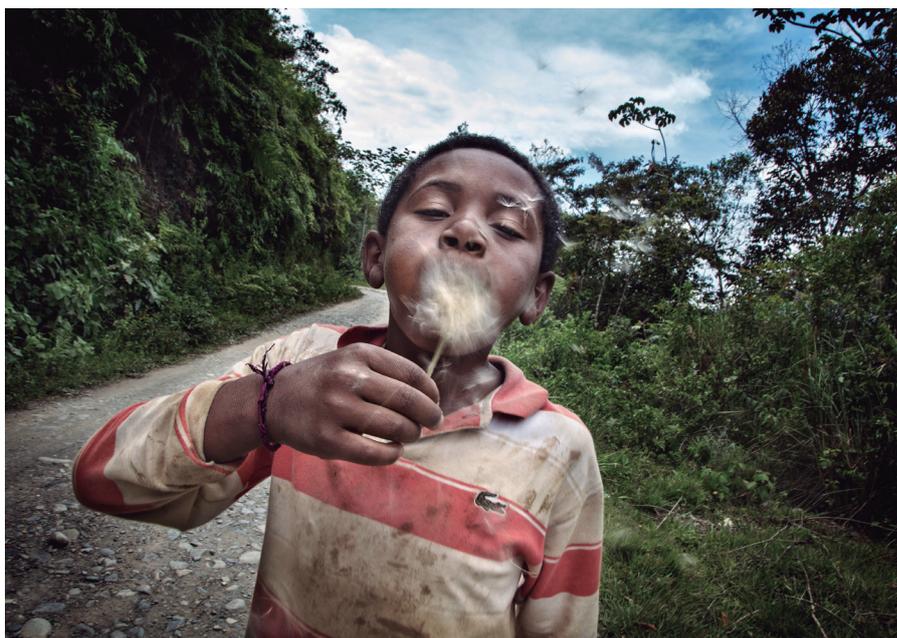


Social policies

This line of action includes requests related to strengthening and innovation in social support programmes to combat poverty. In some countries it also addresses the construction and consolidation of comprehensive systems of social protection and the social inclusion of migrants and indigenous populations. It includes processes which strengthen the institutional nature of the social sector and the adequacy of information systems and reforms inherent to access within the health sector.

WHICH AREAS ARE INVOLVED?

This line encompasses the actions that, in general terms, lead to strengthening and innovation in social protection systems both at the level of institutional architecture and governance and through strengthening social assistance programmes (especially in the fight against poverty). Thus, for example, the actions range from supporting Paraguay to design, implement and govern a new national social protection system, to the strengthening of inclusive education models such as in Uruguay and Mexico; from improvements to the social inclusion systems for migrants in Chile to the strengthening of public mechanisms that encourage the development of businesses with a social impact in Brazil.



WHICH SDG DOES IT INVOLVE?



EUROPEAN CONSENSUS

The eradication of poverty, the fight against discrimination and inequality and the principle of leaving no one behind are at the heart of the EU's development cooperation policy. Poverty is multidimensional and is related to economic, social, environmental, cultural and political aspects. The EU and its Member States will pursue the end of hunger and all forms of malnutrition and promote universal health coverage, universal access to quality education and training, adequate and sustainable social protection and decent work for all in a healthy environment.

Consortium led by:



ACTIONS BY COUNTRIES

- ▶ **REGIONAL:** The 29th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of the MERCOSUR Social Institute was held in Asunción in the Republic of Paraguay on 5th June 2018. The meeting was attended by delegations from Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay and the executive director of the MERCOSUR Social Institute (MSI). Approval was given at the meeting for the design of the Winter School, which has benefited from specialist advice provided by EUROsociAL+. MERCOSUR's social policy school is a commitment to moving towards creating a specialised body of civil servants from its member states with strategic knowledge regarding the Mercosur Social Institute, its strategic challenges and the main public policies that can realistically be implemented to solve the specific problems that still afflict the respective societies of the member countries, and the block itself. The delegations approved the proposal presented and agreed to continue working on the school's format, the methodologies and modules for the specific courses and their financing, as well as certain other issues. At the regional level, the aim is to provide support to better reflect and position the social agenda by disseminating research on social policy priorities through government agendas in the countries, which will intensify bi-regional dialogue.
- ▶ **ARGENTINA:** We are contributing to the creation of the Learning Schools Network in the General Directorate of Culture and Education in Buenos Aires Province.
- ▶ **BRAZIL:** We support the implementation of the Strategy on Investment and

Businesses with a Social Impact, together with the Ministry of Economy.

- ▶ **CHILE:** We support the Solidarity and Social Investment Fund —FOSIS— in developing methodological instruments to apply the intercultural approach in managing social programmes with migrant populations in vulnerable territories.
- ▶ **COSTA RICA:** We are giving technical support to the Costa Rican Ministry of National Planning and Economic Policy —MIDEPLAN— for the creation of the Economic and Social Council. As a complement to this initiative, support has already been given to the design process to coordinate development and inclusion policies by MIDEPLAN. This assistance includes establishing a social dialogue strategy and its methodology; facilitating working groups and public discussion forums; and experience-sharing visits to Uruguay and other countries. All this in order to generate a bill in the Assembly. Recommendations will also be made for a communication and political viability strategy leading to the approval of the bill.
- ▶ **PARAGUAY:** We are contributing (i) to the first stage of the construction process for the social protection system, that is, by supporting the Social Cabinet's Technical Unit in drafting Sectoral Social Protection Notes 1.0 and 2.0, tools that have been key in defining the general features and guiding principles for social protection and the institutional architecture of the system, particularly at a delicate moment in the government's transition; and (ii) in designing the "Vamos!" Social Protection System in Paraguay, whose design was adopted by the Republic of Paraguay's Social Cabinet on 8 May 2019.

PARTNERSHIPS

- ▶ IDB
- ▶ ECLAC
- ▶ SOCIEUX+
- ▶ SISCA
- ▶ EU-LAC Foundation
- ▶ National Organisation for the Blind in Spain (ONCE)
- ▶ Health Services of Frosinone
- ▶ MERCOSUR's Social Institute



Participants in one of the design workshops on the Social Protection System in Paraguay.



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