



GLOBAL COOPERATION NEWSLETTER **September 2009**

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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-](http://www.ipc-undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager97.pdf)

[undp.org/pub/IPCOnePager97.pdf](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_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.

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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

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