

## Activity 8.4: Europe in the world

### Area 8.4.1 Interactions and interdependencies between world regions and their implications

#### **SSH.2011.4.1-1. „Tackling poverty in a development context”**

##### **“The Challenge**

In order to tackle poverty, it is now widely accepted to go beyond a preoccupation with income and quantitative economic growth and see poverty as multi-dimensional, involving also such mutually reinforcing aspects as health and life expectancy, access to education, discrimination, access to water and sanitation, vulnerability and insecurity, unemployment and underemployment, inequality, and the power to actually achieve one's rights. The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) reflect such a wider view of poverty, though it appears that, despite progress, many will be missed. There is also an increasing shift to addressing the “agency” of the people in poverty, and enabling them to acquire the resources of various kinds needed to get out of poverty. This can only be achieved if the institutional environment and the mix between public policies and reliance on market mechanisms allow such a development. The increasing recognition of the significance of gender issues has also been a key development. Possibilities for the use of appropriate, sometimes simple, technologies have also been seen in this context. These developments are obviously taking place in a world where international connections intensify through trade, investment, finance, and migration, where global challenges such as climate change and resource depletion require concerted international efforts, and where the balance of power is changing, including through the rise of China, India and other major countries outside the G7. All these factors affect the context in which poverty is tackled.

##### **Why it matters for Europe**

Europe is clearly affected in a major way by poverty in developing countries and the impact this has on the world, from migration to security issues including inter-state conflict, to trading opportunities, and it clearly has a major interest in a more benign world where poverty is sharply reduced and enhanced mutually beneficial relationships developed (including cultural exchanges among many other possibilities). Also, Europe's role in the world could be enhanced by an improved contribution to tackling poverty, and finding good means to do so.

The EU action in the field of development is based on the 2005 European Consensus on Development and it is important to assess how this strategy will actually help alleviate poverty in the developing countries.

##### **Addressing the challenge**

Research dimensions to be taken in consideration:

- A lot of the developing countries do not have sufficient "policy space" to implement optional policies, facing strong internal and external constraints. It is thus important to assess the issue of "policy space" and the building of institutional effectiveness and state legitimacy (such as, for instance the ability to raise tax revenues in the face of sharply reduced import taxes or ensure education and health, or the capacity to enhance the resilience to external economic shocks). The issue of fragile states should be addressed in this context.
- There is still a lot of debate as to how Official Development Aid (ODA) has impacted the design and implementation of domestic policies of developing countries. A quantitative and qualitative comparative analysis of the impact of ODA on poverty since the 1980s would be

important. This could also help build the post-2015 scenarios of the development paradigm and how they can help tackle poverty.

- The international aid architecture has grown more diverse and complex, with new players and new forms of aid. It is important to identify the weaknesses and strengths of the international governance in addressing in a coherent way global challenges, including poverty eradication. This could include an analysis of the mandates of international organizations, their capacity to take and enforce collective or other decisions and their effects, their interaction, their internal functioning, their financing as well as their relation to stakeholders, such as NGOs and economic interest groups. - Developing countries face heavy environmental problems, in particular because, with exceptions, their natural wealth is used in international trade without fair benefits to the local populations or exploited at unsustainable rates (land, water, forestry...). Research could investigate how the politics and economics of natural wealth depletion affect poverty in developing countries, and how these countries can actually better control the knowledge, the technologies and the policies concerning this wealth.

- Migration from rural to urban areas in developing countries is forecast to continue at a high pace. What are the consequences of such a trend on poverty and what is the current record and prospects of urban policies? Research could analyse poverty in the urban context, including dimensions such as gender, the informal economy, employment, under- and unemployment, service availability and housing/shelter. The implications for the policies of aid that would be most helpful in various contexts may also be analysed.

- Comparative lessons could be drawn from the experiences of countries which have succeeded or failed to embed technological progress and their link with the fight against poverty. The interplay of education, research and other public policies, including the regime of Intellectual Property Rights, as well as of market and network mechanisms and cultural constraints for the generation and diffusion of knowledge could be analyzed.

- Tackling poverty in a development context has also to take into account the political dimension of poverty, in particular how democracy/non democracy, rights and power affect poverty. Research could thus study the links between political systems and poverty. Besides, the practical effect of the new emphasis on rights-based approaches, the experience of agency-based approaches in practice, the role of civil society and gender in these, as well as social inequalities in a wider political context may be included.”

**Funding scheme: Collaborative project (large scale integrated research project) for specific cooperation action dedicated to international cooperation**

**Additional eligibility criteria: targeted ICPC countries - Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean.**

Für dieses Förderthema ist als Förderinstrument ein **Collaborative project<sup>1</sup> (large-scale integrating project) for specific cooperation action dedicated to international cooperation** vorgegeben.

**Die minimale Fördersumme für Projektanträge in diesem Topic liegt bei 6,5 Mio. € pro Antrag.**

Diese Summe stellt eine Mindestanforderung dar. Projektanträge, die eine finanzielle Unterstützung der Europäischen Kommission unterhalb dieser Grenze beantragen, werden nicht zur Evaluierung zugelassen.

An Projektanträgen müssen mindestens 7 voneinander unabhängige Partner aus mindestens 7 Mitglieds- oder Assoziierten Staaten beteiligt sein, von denen 2 aus zwei unterschiedlichen Mitglieds- oder Assoziierten Staat stammen müssen. Von den übrigen Partnern muss mindestens je einer aus Afrika, Süd-Ost Asien und / oder Latein-Amerika und den Karibischen Staaten stammen.

Dieses Topic ist unter dem **Call-Identifizier FP7-SSH-2011-1** ausgeschrieben. Projektanträge mit diesem Förderinstrument müssen bis zum **02. Februar 2011, 17:00 Uhr** (Ortszeit Brüssel) per [EPSS \(„Electronic Proposal Submission Service“\)](#) eingereicht werden.

Alle notwendigen Unterlagen zur Einreichung von Anträgen zu diesem Topic finden Sie auf der [Cordis-Webseite](#).

Bitte wenden Sie sich bei Fragen zur Antragstellung jederzeit an die Nationale Kontaktstelle Sozial-, Wirtschafts- und Geisteswissenschaften!

Unsere Kontaktdaten finden Sie unter:  
<http://www.nks-swg.de/de/ansprechpartner.php>

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<sup>1</sup> Verbundprojekte („*Collaborative Research Projects*“, CP) sind Forschungsprojekte, die von Konsortien mit Partnern aus verschiedenen Ländern und dem Ziel durchgeführt werden, neues Wissen, neue Technologien, Produkte, Verfahren oder Dienstleistungen zu entwickeln. Größe, Gegenstandsbereich und interne Organisation der Projekte können je nach Förderbereich und thematischem Schwerpunkt unterschiedlich gestaltet sein. Prinzipiell unterscheidet man zwischen kleinen bis mittelgroßen Verbundprojekten („*small or medium-scale focused research projects*“) und großen integrierten Projekten („*large-scale integrating projects*“).