

# Employment, Social Protection and Decent work

EuropeAid

Dir E/OQS

Unit E3

Regional Seminar for ACP countries  
EC - ILO

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## Setting the scene

Sergio Piccolo  
Europe Aid/E3  
ESIP

Employment, Social Inclusion and Protection



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION <sup>1</sup>

# But, what is actually Employment, Social Protection, Decent Work?

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**My perspective...**

**... a purely personal one!!**

....but, this is hardly  
typical....

....Half of all workers worldwide  
earn less than two dollars a day....

...Half of the world's population  
has no social protection

# A more formal definition of DW as global process

**DW is an integrated approach covering**

- **productive and freely chosen work**
- **rights at work**
- **social protection**
- **social dialogue**

**With gender as a cross-cutting issue**

***.....Leading to the respect of...***

# Core labour standards

- **Freedom of association and collective bargaining**
- **Elimination of forced and compulsory labour**
- **Elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation**
- **Abolition of child labour**

Who is responsible for  
advocating DW and its  
standards all over the world?

**ILO under UN mandate**

*The EU fully adhere*

But aren't just growth,  
market and trade the magic  
sticks ?

*After the **Global Crisis** we sadly  
know that it's **NOT** the case !*

*" Greater equity and protection can underpin faster growth ... but such a complementary relationship between equity and aggregate development is often not exploited"*

*World Development Report 2006 (among others)*

**Not just "moral" arguments** for social protection

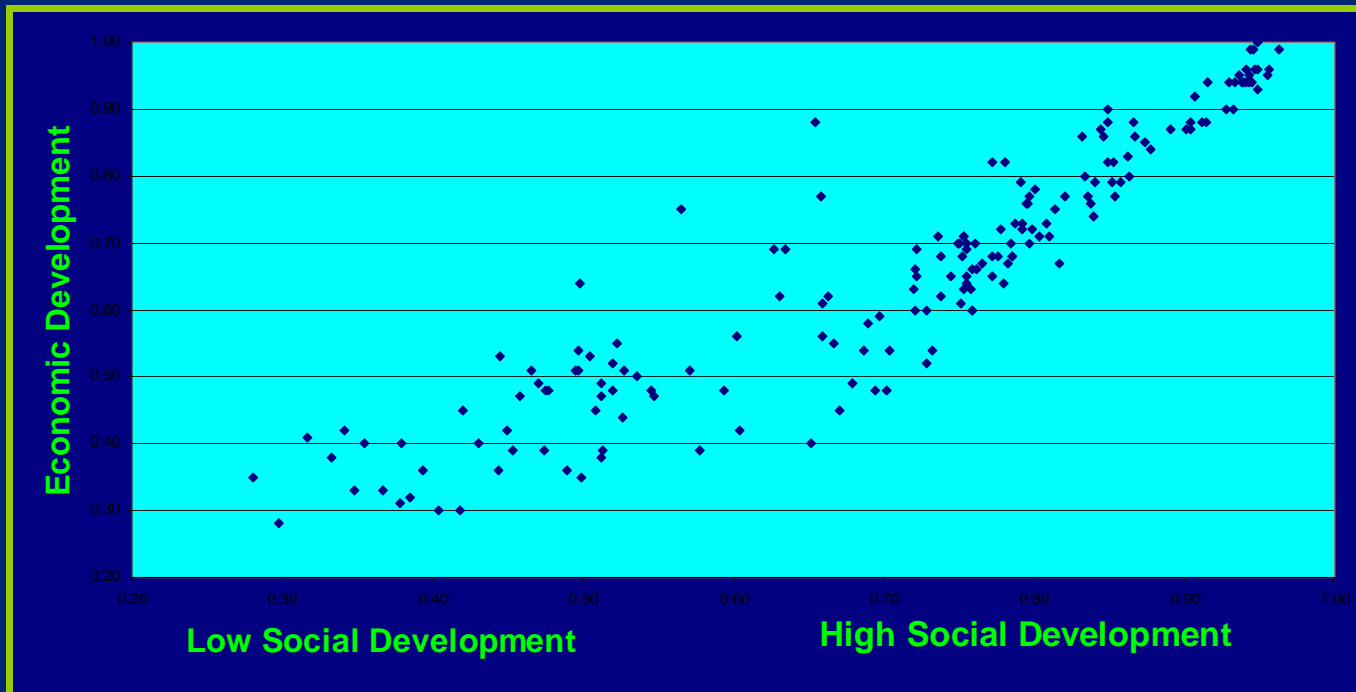
- ✓ Enhance economic growth
- ✓ Compensate those losing from growth
- ✓ Reminder that EU MS's set up social protection systems in their worst periods

# Positive link between economic and social development, but large variation for MICs

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**Source: Human Development Report 2006**, using human development and economic development indices

# BUT, WHY THIS REGIONAL SEMINAR/S?

## **EC/ILO strategic partnership since 2004**

### **Annual High Level Meetings**

**HLM 2005: transfer global partnership at local/operational level**

**Call for awareness raising seminars with delegations:**

***2006 (Asia/Beijing)***

***2007 (Latin America, Brussels)***

***2009 (ACP, Brussels)***

***2010 (ENP, ?)***

# How does the EU/EC promote Employment and Decent Work?

## Several communications/resolutions since 2001

<i>2001</i>	<i>Promoting Core Labour Standards</i>
<i>2004</i>	<i>Social dimension of globalisation</i>
<i>2005</i>	<i>Policy coherence for development/MDG</i>
<i>2005</i>	<i>European Consensus on Development</i>
<i>2006</i>	<i>Decent Work and Conclusions</i>
<i>2005/2009</i>	<i>ENP Rolling Action Plans</i>
<i>2007</i>	<i>Investing in People</i>
<i>2005–2006</i>	<i>Resolutions of the European Parliament</i>
<i>2007</i>	<i>Council Conclusions</i>
<i>2009</i>	<i>EC response to the Global crisis</i>

**Do EU/EC only 'communicate' ?**

...apparently perhaps, yes ...

**...but on a closer look we do more  
than that !!**

**EC cooperation is not starting from scratch !!**

***ESIP support programmes***

**(*E*mployment, *S*ocial *I*nclusion and *P*rotection)**

***are usual in EC cooperation!***

# What do we mean with ESIP?

**Fiscally:** Employment and Social Protection are two faces of the same coin (*contributing to Social Cohesion*)

**Socially/economically:** an integrated approach of employability, more and better job creation leading to more fiscal revenue, better social protection and safety nets (*by caring for public finance affordability, accountability, transparency*)

**ESIP is the core  
of the European Social Model**

*All those who are **not** included through LM/employment policy/operations have to be protected....*

# How do we work at practical level?

## EC ESIP:

- WHAT? **Feasible operational external aid** aiming at reaching **all** included and excluded, formal and informal economy
- WHOM? **formal institutions** (GvT, line Ministries, international organisations etc.) **but also a large multitude of civil society actors** (*NGOs, cooperatives, civil society*)
- Systematic consultation/critical mass with **EU Member States**

## ILO DECENT WORK agenda:

- WHAT? **policy enforcement** through integrated approach
- WHOM? **the tripartite** (GvT, employers, trade unions)

# EC ESIP typical cooperation interventions

**Employment** (*demand driven VT, employment services social funds ...*) (**ENP, LA, Asia**)

**Social Inclusion** (*post war rehabilitation, basic services, urban inclusion, short informal training, women empowerment....*) (**ACP, LA**)

**Social Protection** (*supporting SP reforms, maternity leave/child care, tackling child labour...*) (**ENP, Central Asia; ACP on the rise**)

**Investing in People:** *DW monitoring and impact of trade on LM; labour market information, Community development, vulnerable groups; (all areas, innovation, added value to bilateral/regional cooperation)*

**Broad calculation of EC allocations  
only to ESIP programmes/projects**

**since 1999**

**1.9 bln ongoing estimated  
interventions**

**ENP = 810 M€**

**LA = 300 M€ ongoing**

*(+330 € planning 2007-10)*

**ASIA = 120 M€**

**ACP = 680 M€**

**Investing in People 07-12 = 40 M€**

# EC/ILO collaboration towards critical mass

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**ESIP donor approach:** demand driven extensive support but pragmatic attention to **feasibility** due to strong pressure for **quick results** and **accountability** (EP, EU MSs...)

**ILO approach:** enforcement of standards, DW integrated approach, tripartite approach, One UN....

# Some questions to debate

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*What is the difference between the agenda of the ILO offices and of EC delegations ? Are both operational? Any convergence?*

*Are the 'clients' or 'beneficiaries' of ILO and EC the same? Are formal clients (GvTs, Social Partners) reliable?*

*Do both EC/ILO carefully care for **public finance stability and sustainability** when setting up sector programmes (DEL) and DWCP (ILO)?*

*Are DW/ESIP concerns constantly in mind even when negotiating non social programmes? (**mainstreaming**)*

*Can we introduce these issues also when we discuss at other levels (policy dialogue, MS, donors, PRSP....)?*

# CONCLUSIONS

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We can improve EC-ILO synergies at ground level by enhancing CRITICAL MASS for

**better ESIP-DW mainstreaming**

**In this seminar the floor is mainly yours...**

**EC Delegations and ILO Local Offices**

# THANKS