



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DG Employment and Social Affairs

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Social protection and inclusion policies

EU policy in the field of social inclusion

Screening chapter 19

9 February 2006

A variety of EU instruments for tackling social inclusion

- Legislation
- Structural Funds (and in particular the ESF)
- Dialogue with social partners and other stakeholders
- The Open Method of Coordination (OMC)
- The Community Action Programme against social exclusion (2002-2006) → part of 'PROGRESS' (2007-2013)

Open Method of Coordination

- Common Objectives
- Commonly agreed indicators
- National Action Plans
- Reporting, monitoring and evaluating
- Mutual learning and exchange of good practice

New overarching OMC objectives for social protection and social inclusion

1. Promote social cohesion and equal opportunities for all through adequate, accessible, financially sustainable, adaptable and efficient social protection systems and social inclusion policies

New overarching OMC objectives for social protection and social inclusion

2. Interact closely with the Lisbon objectives and with the EU's Sustainable Development Strategy
3. Strengthen governance, transparency and the involvement of stakeholders in the design, implementation and monitoring of policy

Objective: Social cohesion and equal opportunities for all

'Making a decisive impact on the eradication of poverty and social exclusion'

1. Ensure the active social inclusion of all by promoting participation in the labour market and by fighting poverty and exclusion among the most marginalised people and groups

'Making a decisive impact on the eradication of poverty and social exclusion'

2. Guarantee access for all to the basic resources, rights and social services needed for participation in society, while addressing extreme forms of exclusion and fighting all forms of discrimination leading to exclusion

'Making a decisive impact on the eradication of poverty and social exclusion'

3. Ensure that social inclusion policies are well-coordinated and involve all levels of government and relevant actors, including people experiencing poverty, that they are efficient and effective and mainstreamed into all relevant public policies, incl. economic, budgetary, education and training policies and structural fund programmes and that they are gender mainstreamed

The common indicators

- Initial set of 18 primary indicators agreed in Laeken (December 2001)
- Complemented by secondary and third-level (national) indicators
- Further developed since then by the Indicators Group (in-work poverty, illiteracy)
- Under continuous development (material deprivation)
- 'Absolute' Poverty?

The National Inclusion Action Plans

- July 2001 1st NAPs EU15
- July 2003 2nd NAPs EU15
- *December 2003* *Joint Memoranda on Social Inclusion (JIM)*
- July 2004 1st NAPs EU10
- *September 2006* *NAPs 2006-08 EU25*

Further Information

- DG Employment and Social Affairs web site on social inclusion:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/social_inclusion/index_en.htm