International seminar

Forging and renewing social compacts for more inclusive social protection: an international perspective on Latin America’s experiences, challenges and outlook

2 and 3 June 2014

ECLAC, Raúl Prebisch conference room, Santiago

Presentation and objectives

Over the past two years, work carried out by ECLAC on the project on social covenants for more inclusive social protection, supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ), has been guided by the question of how to build broad-based consensuses to establish, strengthen or revamp more inclusive social protection systems in democratic contexts.

In March 2013 an international seminar on social compacts was held at which a panel of experts, decision makers and academics from Latin America, Europe and the United States identified useful experiences and challenges and fine-tuned tools for analysis, all contributions which have been included in a compilation. In the meantime, numerous seminars and workshops have taken place in various countries on the development of universal systems of social protection, the establishment of systems of care and the identification of areas for reform of health systems, at which experiences were shared, issues were examined in depth and research conducted as part of the project was discussed in national forums.

The necessity of expanding the effective enjoyment of rights and of decent standards of welfare to all the citizens of the region has brought home the need to move towards a compact for equality as a development objective in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Against this backdrop, the seminar, marking the end of the current phase of this ECLAC-BMZ/GIZ project, will be held in collaboration with the EUROsociAL regional programme for social cohesion in Latin America (EUROsociAL), which is funded by the European Commission and whose work includes...
strengthening and expanding the coverage of comprehensive systems of social protection in Latin America.

The seminar intends to discuss and raise awareness of some of the outcomes of the project and enrich thinking on ways to lay the foundations for and establish more inclusive social protection systems underpinned by rights, with a view to contributing to the integrated development of policies and the accompanying reforms.

From an interdisciplinary perspective, the seminar’s objectives are: (i) to facilitate exchanges of experiences on securing compacts and undertaking social security reforms in various countries of the region; (ii) to examine the development and scope of such compacts and their relationship with social conflict and democratic governance; (iii) to analyse the recent history and current challenges of European welfare States and (iv) to consider conceptual breakthroughs with a view to addressing these issues.

Preliminary Programme

Wednesday 2 June

8.30-9 a.m.  Registration of participants

9-9.15 a.m.  Opening session
Martín Hopenhayn, Chief of the Social Development Division of ECLAC
Rafael Dochao Moreno, Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Chile
Dr. Annette Weerth, First Secretary for Economic, Scientific-Technological and Cooperation Matters at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Chile

9.15-10.15 a.m.  Opening panel

9.15-9.45 a.m.  Compacts for equality as a development objective in Latin America and the Caribbean, Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of ECLAC

9.45-10.15 a.m.  Chile’s system of social protection, Fernanda Villegas, Minister of Social Development of Chile

10.15-10.30 a.m.  Coffee break
Panel 1: Social compacts against a backdrop of swingeing political changes in Latin American countries

Moderator: Daniela Trucco, Social Development Division of ECLAC

10.30-10.50 a.m. Towards a classification of paths of political change and of social agreements, Carlos Maldonado, Social Development Division of ECLAC

10.50-11.10 a.m. Top-down policymaking and technocratic rationale versus social actors: Effects on redistributive policies, Juan Pablo Luna, ECLAC consultant

11.10-11.25 a.m. Comments by Rossana Castiglioni, Diego Portales University

11.25-11.45 a.m. Discussion

Panel 2: Compacts for social protection in Latin America: some ongoing processes

Moderator: Rodrigo Martínez, Social Development Division of ECLAC

11.45 a.m.-12.05 p.m. Ecuador’s strategy for the eradication of poverty and social protection, Ana María Larrea, Technical Secretary for the Eradication of Poverty

12.05-12.25 p.m. El Salvador’s universal system of social protection, Juan Meléndez, Technical Secretariat of the Office of the President of El Salvador

12.25-12.45 p.m. Costa Rica’s Childcare Network Act, Isabel Brenes, Adviser in the Technical Secretariat of the National Childcare Network (REDCUDI), Joint Institute for Social Assistance (IMAS)

12.45-1 p.m. Comments by Pablo Yanes, ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico

1-1.20 p.m. Discussion

1.20-3 p.m. Lunch

Panel 3: Care in the context of social protection

Moderator: Carlos Maldonado, Social Development Division of ECLAC

3.00-3.20 p.m. Linking care policies and social protection policies, María Nieves Rico, Social Development Division of ECLAC

3.20-3.50 p.m. Ensuring quality of care as a mechanism for promoting universal social protection, Luciana Jaccoud, Special Adviser to the Minister of Social Development and Hunger Alleviation of Brazil

3.50-4.10 p.m. Building consensuses on care services for more egalitarian social protection, Rosario Aguirre, University of the Republic, Uruguay, ECLAC consultant
4.10-4.25 p.m. Comments by Monica Boyd, University of Toronto
4.25-4.45 p.m. Discussion
4.45-5.00 p.m. Coffee break
5-5.40 p.m. Conference: Social Pacts, Coalitions, and Changing Welfare States
John Myles, School of Public Policy and Governance, University of Toronto

Presented by Martín Hopenhayn, Chief of the Social Development Division of ECLAC
5.40-6 p.m. Discussion

Thursday 3 June

Panel 4: The economic crisis and the welfare State in Europe
Moderator: Christof Kersting, GIZ
9-9.20 a.m. The political costs of austerity and the welfare States in Europe, Koen Vleminckx, Belgian Federal Public Services
9.20-9.40 a.m. The social investment package as an integrated social protection policy framework, Jacopo Lombardi, Policy Officer, European Commission
9.40-10 a.m. Discussion

10-10.20 a.m. Coffee break

10.20-11 a.m. Conference: Health reform in China: progress and challenges
Yuegen Xiong, Department of Sociology, Beijing University
Presented by Ana Sojo, Social Development Division of ECLAC

11-11.30 a.m. Discussion
Panel 5  The complexity of compacts and dilemmas in health and pensions in Latin America

Moderator: Daniel Titelman, Chief of the Financing for Development Division of ECLAC

11.30-11.50 a.m.  The Single Health System (SUS) faced with the duality of the health system in a federal context: tensions in building universality in Brazil, Telma Gonçalves Menicucci, ECLAC consultant

11.50 a.m.-12.10 p.m.  Equity and judicial safeguards of the right to health in Colombia, Juanita Durán, ECLAC consultant

12.10-12.30 p.m.  Dualist public private mixes as a locus for rivalry and for social protection pacts, Ana Sojo, Social Development Division of ECLAC

12.30-12.45 p.m.  Comments by David Debrott, ECLAC consultant

12.45-1.10 p.m.  Discussion

1.10-3 p.m.  Lunch

Panel 6:  Social protection, new challenges and compacts for the future

Moderator: María Nieves Rico, Social Development Division of ECLAC

3-3.20 p.m.  Social protection and compacts for equality in Latin America and the Caribbean, Martín Hopenhayn, Chief of the Social Development Division of ECLAC

3.20-3.40 p.m.  Crucial aspects of the funding of social protection, Juan Carlos Gómez-Sabaini, ECLAC consultant

3.40-4 p.m.  Demographic challenges to social protection, Andras Uthoff, international consultant

4-4.20 p.m.  Comments by Laura Pautassi, CONICET-UBA, Argentine, ECLAC consultant

4.20 – 4.55  Discussion

4.55-5.15  Closing session

Lessons drawn from recent experience on compacts and social protection, Rodrigo Martínez, Social Development Division of ECLAC

Christof Kersting, GIZ

Martin Hopenhayn, Chief of the Social Development Division of ECLAC