



# Annual Report 2012

**CROP's objectives:**

- (1) Developing a critical global poverty research agenda.
- (2) Developing and coordinating interdisciplinary South - South - North collaborative research.
- (3) Building and extending the global reach and impact of the CROP network while facilitating knowledge exchange.
- (4) Strengthening of poverty research capacities through educational activities.
- (5) Promoting dialogue with policy and decision makers, opinion shapers and civil society.
- (6) Developing an effective outreach and information strategy.

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**C**ROP's Annual Report summarizes, for a broad public, the main poverty research activities developed by the programme during the past year. It also highlights facts and events with a substantial impact on our institution's existence.

2012 was particularly important for our institution. The Programme's long term sustainability was substantially reinforced with the signing of a new contract between the University of Bergen (UiB) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC) on CROP. This agreement reveals the growing interest of the sponsors to support the Programme and to intensify their co-operation and commitment in the field of poverty research. The agreement is also consistent with UiB's long term strategy to promote development-related research and its decision to "invest in academic groups that have a high international profile" as CROP does (UiB "Strategy 2011–2015"), thus paving the path towards its incorporation "into the academic programme of the UiB" as it is formally stated in the contract.

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Within this context, the Programme has intensified its collaboration that resulted in short and medium term projects with other UiB units, like the Department of Health Promotion and Development (HEMIL); the Department of Foreign Languages (IF); UiB Global; and the Bergen Resource Centre for International Development (BRC). With these units as well as with the Christian Michelsen Institute (CMI), we organized public events, elaborated proposals for fundraising and obtained resources to implement joint activities (like international workshops, seminars, round tables, and conferences). In addition, CROP has closely collaborated with the International Social Science Council in the organization of three international seminars for the World Social Science Fellows Programme.

The first event is planned for next year in Quito, Ecuador, in cooperation with a long term CROP partner, the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar. A module on poverty was specially designed to address the central theme of the initiative: the challenges of sustainability in an urban age. The election of a new Scientific Committee (SC) has also been part of CROP's reinvigoration. An open call for candidacies was issued during the second semester of 2012. As a result, CROP –with the enthusiastic support of UiB and ISSC- brought into the programme a diverse group of scientists coming from different institutions, disciplines, backgrounds, and perspectives; however, all united by a common purpose: to promote and produce high quality research with relevance to poverty eradication and prevention. This novel procedure proved to be successful since it has mobilized many scholars all over the world within and outside the ISSC

network. Thus, a new SC was selected for the period 2013-2014 to continue the work of its predecessor and to revitalize CROP's strategy and make it suitable for the challenge of eradicating poverty in the near future.

The number and quality of joint initiatives carried on by CROP provide the reader with a sense of CROP's impact in the field of poverty research. They also show the synergies produced by day-to-day collaboration with our partners in CROP's academic environment (UiB) and with the world's most important social science network: the ISSC.

We expect this is succinctly shown by this report which highlights main activities developed during 2012. Four international workshops held in three continents that produced 53 original research papers, a dozen international seminars and lectures held in different parts of the world, and the publications shown in the next pages will give the reader an idea of what CROP has been doing during the covered period. Likewise, the Report indicates an increase in the number of active members participating in our international network. We expect to continue building with them a body of relevant knowledge for our field of study to fulfill our mission to mobilize critical research for eradicating and preventing poverty.

Thomas Pogge – Alberto D. Cimadamore



## Poverty and Peasant Persistence in the Contemporary World

### Workshop

Mexico City, MEXICO

13-15 March

In cooperation with *El Colegio de México, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM) Xochimilco* and *Asociación Nacional de Empresas Comercializadoras del Campo (ANEC)*.

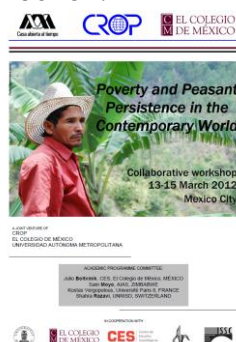
**13** papers were discussed and reviewed for publication purposes



"Peasant poverty is like a tragedy which crosses every current world crisis: economic, financial, ecologic, and climatic", states Luis Arizmendi, editor of the journal *Mundo Siglo XXI*. This is one of the expert observations that encouraged the organization of this high level workshop held in Mexico by CROP and *El Colegio de México* in March 13-15. The researchers who attended to this workshop have individually, over the years, made substantial contributions within this field.

One of the key questions put forward at the workshop was why the persistence of poor peasants has defied all the predictions about their disappearance. The classical conception of the development of capitalism in agriculture suggests, for instance that, as in industry, the agrarian class-structure will tend to polarize and the small commodity producers will tend to disappear. This is because the development of market and the social relations of production tend to concentrate income and wealth in the hands of the "most successful" economic and social agents. However, this argument has, apparently, been falsified by history.

Several presentations revolved around a background paper written by Julio Boltvinik, CROP's Scientific Committee member and local organizer. There was a particularly interesting theoretical debate around the characteristics of agricultural production and its differences with the industrial production; seasonality on peasant work; Marxists approaches on the agrarian question and Marx's theory of value, as well as some reviews and updates on classical and contemporary works in the field. Other topics discussed were the relation among environment, food crisis and peasants; policy, self-reliance and its link with peasant poverty; and also some historical and empirical approaches with relevance for current situation.



As a part of the workshop, a public meeting was held at the Press Club of Mexico City. This was made in cooperation with *Asociación Nacional de Empresas Comercializadoras de Productores del Campo (ANEC)* and had an audience of more than 150 persons. The panel, coordinated by Julio Boltvinik, counted on interventions by Víctor Suárez, coordinator of "Sin Maíz no hay País"; Armando Bartra, UAM-Xochimilco; Luis Arizmendi, editor of the journal *Mundo Siglo XXI*, Araceli Damian, *El Colegio de México*; Farshad Araghi, Florida Atlantic University and Henry Bernstein, University of London.

The academic committee for the workshop consisted of two CROP Scientific Committee members Shahra Razavi (UNRISD) and Julio Boltvinik (Mexico) as well as Sam Moyo from AIAS (Zimbabwe) and Kostas Vergopoulos (France). A publication with a selection of the papers presented is under preparation. The editorial team is integrated by Julio Boltvinik and Susan Archer Mann.

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## The MDG's and Poverty Reduction in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: a Critical Assessment

### Workshop

Bergen, NORWAY

23-24 August

In cooperation with *UiB Global*

7 papers were discussed  
and reviewed for publication purposes

Coinciding with its 2012 SC meeting, CROP organized the workshop "The MDGs and Poverty Reduction in the 21st Century: A Critical Assessment". Held at UiB Global, this event evaluated in a constructive way the impact the MDGs have had and could have on reducing poverty around the world. The following interrelated questions guided the debate: (i) Has poverty really declined in a way consistent with international legal and political commitments and moral responsibilities? (ii) What direct role have the MDGs played in producing these changes? (iii) Which are the main lessons from the joint analysis of the workshop towards conceptualizing a post-MDG agenda or a new development agenda?

SC members (Pogge, Deacon, Boltznivik, St. Clair and O'Brien), sponsors representatives (Sigmund Gronmo and Françoise Caillods) and special invitees (Sakiko Fukuda Parr, Gabriele Köhler, and Gro Lie) addressed the first two questions by

elucidating how poverty was defined and measured according to the original international commitments and how poverty, so understood, had evolved since that time. The complexity of the task was evident, and the participants vigorously discussed the great controversy about the accuracy of the MDG poverty statistics and about the baseline used to measure progress against. Some participants stressed the close link of poverty to inequality at both the national and international levels: rising inequality dilutes the benefits of economic growth for the poor and it also diminishes the capacity of the poor to articulate and defend their interests in the political arena. Isabel Ortiz (SC member / UNICEF) and Jomo Kwame Sundaram (FAO) participated in the discussions via teleconference.

A synthesis of this debate was published in a CROP Brief under the title "Poverty & the MDGs: A critical assessment and a look forward".



## Poverty and Politics in Middle Income Countries

### Workshop

Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA  
21-23 November

In cooperation with *University of Western Cape (UWC)* and the *Southern Africa/Nordic Center (SANORD)*.

**19** papers were discussed and reviewed for publication purposes.



The workshop was a unique opportunity to discuss the theme from the perspective of various academic disciplines and to generate critical and alternative knowledge on this increasingly important topic. Its main objective was to enhance critical understanding of poverty politics in middle-income countries (MICs) through discussions centered on papers written by scholars from Mexico, Tunisia, India, Nigeria, Thailand, Argentina, Denmark, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Norway and the UK.

The call for papers addressed questions raised within the topics of social development, public policies and politics, enquiring whether poverty reduction and prevention in MICs was distinctive and therefore, how this would affect research, understanding, and policy in this complex matter. Since traditional thought, strategy and action on poverty had focused mainly on the circumstances and realities of the low-income countries (LICs), the principal question that naturally arose was how this new reality of massive poverty in the MICs should lead us to rethink anti-poverty strategies and policies. There was a consensus that a better understanding of the characteristics, causes and future impacts of the poverty increase in the MICs is needed.

As a result of this workshop, CROP has sought to address this relatively under-explored topic through participant contributions to a book publication in the International Series of Poverty Studies by CROP and Zed Books (London), and with the formation of a working group on poverty politics (launched on the occasion of this workshop) thus initiating a new focus on, and production of academic research into this increasingly relevant topic. Indeed, at the heart of this lies the role played by politics and public policy in shaping social development policies and their impact on well-being in MICs.

The workshop was preceded, on August 21, by a public seminar on "The Politics of Poverty and Research and Poverty Reduction" organized by UWC and Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS) with participation by CROP and some of its workshop participants. The seminar was formally opened by Dr. Chesepe Mphaisha, Director of UWC's School of Government, and chaired by Julian May, Director of the Institute for Social Development. The invited panelists were Chifa Tekaya who until recently was the coordinator of UNESCO Programme on Poverty and Human Rights, Andries du Toit, Director of PLAAS, Einar Braathen, Senior Researcher at the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR), and Camilo Pérez-Bustillo, Research Professor of the Graduate Programme in Human Rights and the Faculty of Law, Autonomous University of Mexico City (UACM).

## The Political Economy of Poverty and Social Transformation of the Global South

### Workshop

Cairo, EGYPT

10-12 December

In cooperation with *the Arab and African Research Centre (AARC)*, *the American University in Cairo (AUC)*, *the Council of Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)* and *the South-South Exchange Programme for Research on the History of Development (SEPHIS)*.

**14** papers were discussed and reviewed for publication purposes.

An International Workshop on “The Political Economy of Poverty and Social Transformations of the Global South” took place in Cairo, December 10-12. This place and time were certainly relevant and stimulating for holding a vivid debate, as the local co-organizers pointed out when the workshop commenced: “You are joining us at one of the most exciting moments this country has ever been living through.” This was the opening statement and sentiment shared by the representatives of the AARC and the AUC when they welcomed participants from eleven countries in Latin America, Africa, Asia, North America and Europe.

Participants presented their papers in five sessions, which examined the multiple links between Social Transformation, Human Rights, Development, Poverty, and Social Movements from different case studies. Although contextual differences were highlighted, social transformation — as defined in the call for papers — was found as the obvious structural response to the persistence of poverty in the South. There were case similarities that



demonstrated that poverty is a structural problem inseparable from power relations that have defined the making and re-making of political economies and society historically — and which have been magnified over the past century. A relational view of poverty emerged through the analysis of socio-economic systems which have produced goods in unprecedented quantities and a high standard of living for a small proportion of the world's population, while keeping the vast majority in poverty. Poverty was contextualized under the existing patterns of accumulation and distribution of wealth and power, conveying a vivid sense of how difficult it is to eradicate poverty without altering the ideological, material and institutional basis of social systems in the South as well as the still North-dominated global patterns of production, circulation, and consumption.

Hanan Sabea (AUC) and Aaron Rosenberg (El Colegio de México) integrate the editorial committee that will produce a book with selected papers.

## Poverty and Politics in Latin America

### Lecture

Bergen, NORWAY

17 April

In cooperation with *Norwegian Latin American Research Network (NorLARNet)*, *UiB Global*, *Bergen Resource Centre for International Development* and the *CLACSO-CROP Programme*.

The first 2012 CROP-UiB GLOBAL lecture on Latin American poverty and politics was given by the Argentine-Mexican philosopher Enrique Dussel on April 17 in Bergen. Dussel addressed what he sees as the false separation between economics and politics when deal with the concept of power. He argued that a negative definition of political power as domination cannot be legit and called for an "obedient power" based on moral respect for life, drawing upon Latin American experience and thinking.

In this context Dussel highlighted the various crucial contributions of Latin American scholars by way of the Sociology of Liberation (Orlando Fals-Borda), Pedagogy of Liberation (Paulo Freire), Philosophy of Liberation (Enrique Dussel) and the Theology of Liberation (Gustavo Gutiérrez). He strongly criticized Weber's view of politics as legitimate domination of people, suggesting as an ethical alternative the obedient power by serving the people as exemplified by Bolivia's president Evo Morales.

For Dussel, poverty has always been a central question for politics and the fundamental idea is to do justice to the poor in the old tradition of Hammurabi's Code of Laws - delivering justice to those perceived as 'non-beings' in this world. The material needs of human beings (food, drink, clothing and housing) should be central for politics that presume to affirm life itself. Failure to do so means that life itself is being threatened – the tragic end result of poverty.



According to Dussel today's 'non-beings', the poor, are victims of an immoral structural order that denies them the possibility to be fully human. The ongoing financial crisis is a manifestation of the dictatorship of transnational financial capital, and capitalism as such, which produces poverty. He suggested that Latin America has already lived the crisis Europe is now facing and that the Latin American liberation outlook can contribute to understanding and criticizing what is currently happening in Europe with the financial crisis. He anticipated that an organized participatory democracy will be the revolution of the 21st century, paving way for a world free of poverty and a real possibility to be human.

Following the lecture by Dussel, CROP also initiated its first working group (WG) on Poverty, Religion and Social Justice.

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## Poverty, Religion and Social Justice: the Latin American Contributions

### Seminar

Bergen, NORWAY

17 April

In cooperation with *Norwegian Latin American Research Network (NorLARNet)*, *UiB Global*, *Bergen Resource Centre for International Development* and the *CLACSO-CROP Programme*.



This was an agenda-setting seminar focusing on Latin American and Nordic perspectives on poverty, religion and social justice. It drew upon contributions from Fortunato Mallimaci, University of Buenos Aires /CEIL-PIETTE; Enrique Dussel, UAM, with comments from Benedicte Bull, University of Oslo, Einar Berntzen, University of Bergen, and Patricia Lorenzoni, University of Gothenburg.

### On liberation in Latin America

#### Roundtable

Bergen, NORWAY

17 April

In cooperation with *Norwegian Latin American Research Network (NorLARNet)*, *UiB Global*, *Bergen Resource Centre for International Development* and the *CLACSO-CROP Programme*.

This was a conversation between Enrique Dussel and Gunnar Skirbekk about the role of philosophy in the midst of the Latin American reality.



Bergen Resource Centre  
for International Development

CMI

Literary salon  
**On liberation in Latin America**  
Gunnar Skirbekk (UiB) in conversation with  
Enrique Dussel (MAU, Mexico)  
Organized in cooperation with NorLARNet and CROP (Comparative Research Programme on Poverty)

**Wednesday April 18, 14:30-16:00**

Jekteviksbakken 31 [www.resourcecentre.no](http://www.resourcecentre.no)

### Religion, Development and Social Justice

#### Seminar

Oslo,  
NORWAY

19 April

In cooperation with *Norwegian Latin American Research Network (NorLARNet)* and the *CLACSO-CROP Programme*.



A seminar on "Religion, Development and Social Justice" was held in Oslo, 19 April. The main speakers included Enrique Dussel, Fortunato Mallimaci as well as Sturla Stålsett, the Secretary General of the Church City Mission in Norway and currently a guest researcher at the University of Glasgow. The aim of the seminar was to discuss the main Latin American intellectual contributions to the current debate about religion in development. Bernt Guldbrandsen from Caritas; Arnhild Helgesen, School of Theology; Maren Christensen Bjune, University of Bergen and Lars Kirkhusmo Pharo, Harvard University, participated as commentators in the panel discussions.

## Basic Universalism and Poverty Eradication in Latin America: Lights and Shadows

### Panel

San Francisco, USA

27 May

Panel at the XXX International Congress of the *Latin American Studies Association* (LASA)

In the context of the Latin American Studies Association, on May 27, 2012, CROP sponsored a panel on “Basic Universalism and Poverty Eradication in Latin America: Lights and Shadows”. This panel was organized by Juliana Martínez (Universidad de Costa Rica and CROP fellow), chaired by Victoria A. Lawson (University of Washington, also a CROP fellow), and had papers presented by Francesca Bastagli (London School of Economics), on “Brazil’s Bolsa Familia reform: Towards selective universalism?”, Enrique Valencia Lomeli (Universidad de Guadalajara), on “Ideas, actors y conflicts in the design of conditional cash transfers programmes: the cases of Bolsa Familia and Oportunidades”, and Armando Barrientos (University of Manchester), on “Social Protection and Taxation Systems in Latin America”.

Juliana Martínez drew on all three papers to present preliminary thoughts on how to assess progress towards universalism. Despite an early start on the last day of the conference, the panel was well attended by about 30 participants. Questions and comments revolved around how to define universalism and the role played by controversial social assistance in this regard. Follow-ups to this involve two additional panels, also sponsored by CROP under the Second ISA Forum of Sociology on Social justice and democratization, Buenos Aires, Argentina August 1-4, 2012. We expect to have a good selection of papers to work towards publication and make a larger impact in the public debate regarding lights and shadows of universalism in contemporary Latin America.

## Religion, Politics and Society

### Panel

Stockholm, Sweden

26-28 April

Panel at the VI conference of the *Nordic Latin American Research Network*, in cooperation with the *Department of Comparative Politics, University of Bergen*.

As a part of its ongoing initiative with the CROP working group on poverty, religion and social justice, CROP was pleased to sponsor a panel dealing with religion, politics and society at the 6th Nordic Latin American Researchers Network (NOLAN) Conference at the University of Stockholm 26-28 April. The session was coordinated by Maren Christensen Bjune and Einar Bertzen, University of Bergen.

It contained presentations by Virginia Garrard-Burnett (University of Texas Austin), Jakob Egeris Thorsen (Aarhus University), Andrés Pérez-Baldotano (The University of Western Ontario), Live Danbolt Drange (NLA University College), Turid Hagene (Oslo University College), Rickard Lalander (University of Stockholm), Martin Lindhardt (University of Copenhagen), Hans Egil Offerdal (CROP) and Hans Geir Aasmundsen (Södertörn University College / CROP-UiB Global).

## Poverty and Human Rights from Below: An Alternative History and Approach

### Lecture

Bergen, NORWAY  
19 June  
In cooperation with  
*Bergen Summer  
Research School, UiB  
Global and Bergen  
Resource Centre for  
International  
Development*



CROP Fellow Camilo Pérez-Bustillo, Research Professor, Autonomous University of Mexico City (UACM), visited Bergen to give a series of lectures. A session jointly organized by CROP and UiB Global took place at the Bergen Resource Center for Development on June 19, 2012. Pérez-Bustillo argued for a new theoretical approach on Human Rights. He stated that hegemonic versions of human rights discourse and practices undermine contemporary struggles for social transformation and for the prevention, reduction, and eradication of poverty in the Global South, so it is needed to explore the potential contributions, “from below”, from counter-hegemonic movements and alternative paradigms rooted in its most excluded sectors.

He also referred to the close relation among poverty and human rights when he affirmed “poverty can only be effectively addressed and overcome if it is approached from a perspective that understands it to be a violation of human rights”.

## Integrated Science for Sustainable Development

### Lecture

Bergen, NORWAY  
26 June  
In cooperation with  
*UiB Global and  
Bergen Resource  
Centre for  
International  
Development*



On June 26th, John Crowley, editor of the International Social Science Journal, UNESCO, gave a lecture on “Integrated Science for Sustainable Development” in Bergen, Norway. He argued that while it is now widely recognized that science and policy challenges relating to such complex systems as the environment require an integrated approach, a rather traditional division of labour still tends to prevail between the natural and social sciences. The natural sciences study systems and describe how they might evolve, whereas the social sciences are expected to provide a basis for action to do what science requires. This division of labour has failed in practice, most spectacularly with respect to climate change, and is indefensible in theory.

Crowley’s presentation re-examined the nature of the systems that are of concern to integrated science - emphasizing the key role of humans within them - and the of challenges that the world faces, which are not always best understood in terms of failure to act on unquestionable knowledge. Finally, he affirmed that social science has a crucial role to play within integrated science - and in doing so will face significant challenges in terms of theories, concepts and methods.

## The MDGs and Poverty Reduction in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: A Critical Assessment

### Roundtable (Part I)

Bergen, NORWAY

22 August

In cooperation with UiB Global and the Bergen Resource Center for International Development.

On the evening of the first day of the workshop (August 22), CROP and the University of Bergen held a joint public round table seminar on “The MDGs and Poverty Reduction in the 21st Century: A Critical Assessment” at the Bergen Resource Centre (BRC) with main speakers Julio Boltivik, Professor Centro de Estudios Sociológicos, El Colegio de México; Bob Deacon, Professor of International Social Policy at the University of Sheffield; Karen O'Brien, Professor in the Department of Sociology and Human Geography at the University of Oslo, and Thomas Pogge, Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs at Yale University. This first round table was designed to share some of the conclusions of the debate highlighted in the day's workshop and was manifestly appreciated by a wide audience of students and researchers from the Bergen academic area.



### Roundtable (Part II)

Bergen, NORWAY

23 August



The second public event organized around the SC Meeting and Workshop was also on “The MDGs and the Political Economy of Development: A Critical Assessment”. This event took place at the Bergen Resource Centre, and the main speakers were two distinguished specialists: Sakiko Fukuda-Parr of The New School's Graduate Programme in International Affairs, New York, USA and Gabriele Köhler, Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK. Although this debate was thematically connected to the first round table and the workshop, discussion was centered on a critical analysis of the MDGs narrative from its inception to the current time. During the presentation and debate it was pointed out that the methodology and implementation of the MDG framework tend to oversimplify the development narrative while simultaneously excluding much of the broader policy agenda such as the systematic issues of sustainability, empowerment of people, equality, human rights, social inclusion and fair rules in the global economy. The event drew scholars and students from different disciplines within the university who actively engaged in the critical debate initiated by the speakers.

## The Latin American Integration: Current Trends and Social Changes

### Lecture

Bergen, NORWAY

28 August

In cooperation with UiB Global

On August 28th, Gerónimo De Sierra, Vice-Rector of the Brazilian Federal University for Latin American Integration (UNILA) visited the CROP Secretariat and gave a lecture at the UiB Global premises on integration policies within the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR), with special focus on Venezuela's full incorporation into the block and the social challenges of the integration process. MERCOSUR has been widely considered the main integration initiative in contemporary Latin America, marking an important trend in the recent political development of the region. It has raised great expectations about the potential of economic integration to address social issues such as poverty and inequality affecting the countries of the region. The challenge now is to transform these expectations into policies capable of delivering real progress. Although gains have reportedly been made at the national level (mostly poverty and inequality reductions, notably in Argentina, Brazil, and Venezuela), a regional institutional response has not yet been articulated at the level of the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) and by the blocks that are an integral part of this initiative: MERCOSUR and the Andean Community (CAN). Scholars and students working within the Latin



American Group at the University of Bergen participated in the event and actively discussed the social and political aspects of Latin American Integration.

De Sierra's visit to the University of Bergen was a first step towards the formalization of a co-operation agreement between CROP and UNILA later on signed by the Rector of the Brazilian University, Helgio Trindade, and the Director of the Programme, Alberto Cimadamore.

## Childhood, Poverty and Inequalities

### Roundtable

San Juan, ARGENTINA

15-19 October

Roundtable at the V World Congress for the Rights of Children and Adolescents

On October 15-19, CROP has participated actively in the [Fifth World Congress for the Rights of Children and Adolescents](#) which took place in San Juan, Argentina. This participation is one of the results of the institutional links with Equity for Children and the joint interest to work on the multiple relations between poverty and childhood. Under the theme "A World Fit for Children", adopted from the General Assembly United Nations Special Session for Children (2002), the event hosted discussions on situations, structures and approaches on inequalities and poverty affecting children and adolescents in Latin America and elsewhere.

More than 10,000 people from 38 countries attended to the Congress, including scholars, artists, NGO's members and representatives responsible for Childhood and Adolescents' areas from public and private institutions. The main objective of the conference was to produce knowledge suitable to eliminate and prevent child poverty, provide equal distribution of wealth and opportunities for children and adolescents worldwide as well as to advocate a cooperative relationship between state and civil society for children's rights to be acknowledged and be exercised. Within this framework, it took place seminars and roundtables on: children, youth and social change; public policy and measurement approaches; living conditions of children and adolescents; children, adolescents and the challenge of equity, among others. The [Declaration of San Juan](#), final document of this Congress, signed by CROP's representative, is available online.<sup>ly</sup>

Previously to this event, a workshop was organized in Buenos Aires with the support of the Secretariat for the Childhood of the Argentine Republic. On October 12<sup>th</sup> several national and international scholars (including the Director of Equity for Children and the Director of CROP) and government officials gathered to analyze public policies and life conditions of child and adolescents in Latin America and the Caribbean. The debate had a focus on poverty measurements and the right approach as a tool to eliminate child poverty. As a result of this experience, a closer collaboration with Equity for Children and other like-minded institutions is being promoted. A joint international workshop focused on child poverty is expected to be organized during the following 18 months.



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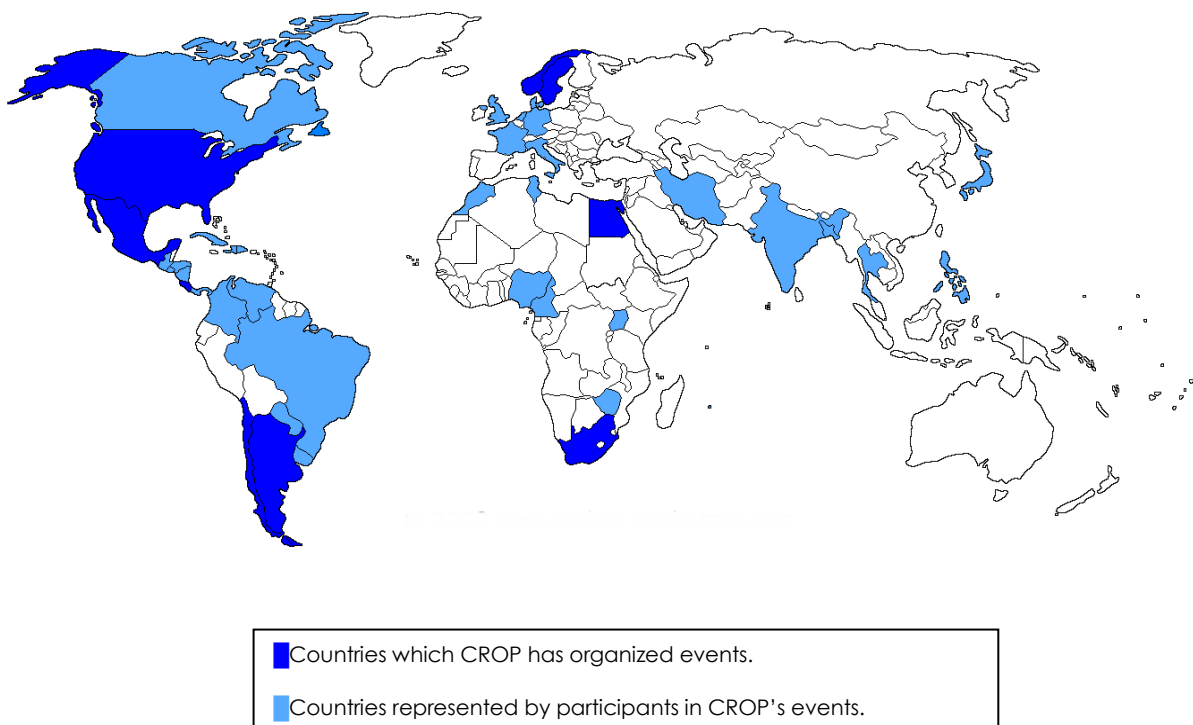
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## NETWORKING

In 2012, CROP has organized and sponsored several activities in Europe, America and Africa continuing in the objective of expanding and consolidating its worldwide network. As a result, working links with new members were established and these persons were included in CROP's mailing lists and communications system. Consequently, CROP's active membership has increased by 10% in relation to the previous year.

Also relevant was the expansion of cooperation with two international scientific institutions that made possible the organization of the workshops that took place in AFRICA: South African-Nordic Centre (SANORD) and South-South Exchange Programme for Research on the History of Development (SEPHIS). These institutions were crucial not only to help to finance CROP's workshops in South and North Africa but also to provide scientific inputs and to solidify links with the local organizers, the University of Western Cape in the first case, and the American University at Cairo and the Arab-African Research Council in the second event. Moreover, it was kept on going the cooperation and links with our traditional international partners like the International Social Sciences Council, UNESCO, ASAP among others, that resulted in joint activities and plans for the future.

During 2012, CROP has continued working in Latin America. New discussions started with the University for the Latin American Integration (UNILA), in Brazil, and the Andean University Simon Bolivar (UASB), in Ecuador, to launch new regional projects. In the case of UNILA it was signed an agreement aimed to collaborative work and future activities. Besides were organized events jointly with *El Colegio de México*, a panel at the Latin American Sociology Association's Conference and, within the framework of the CLACSO-CROP Programme, a workshop in Chile. ➔



Another important topic in our work plan was to reinforcing existing membership, especially in the case of CROP Fellows. It was launched a call for guest researchers funded through the Strategic Programme for International Cooperation in Research and Education (SPIRE). As a result, two CROP Fellows will visit the University of Bergen during 2013 for a period that ranges from one to three months. Fellows were also encouraged to participate in planned activities and projects.

Finally, there was a close local cooperation with the Christian Michelsen Institute, the Bergen Resource Center for International Development and, in the University of Bergen's environment, with the Department of Health Promotion and Development (HEMIL), the Department of Foreign Languages (IF) and especially UiB Global, among others. It is also important to mention some Nordics networks on Latin American Studies as NOLAN as well as NorLaNet which have several years continuously working with CROP.

In numeric terms, CROP activities reached 37 countries in four continents. One point that emerges of the 2012's numbers is a moderate raise from Africa and Asia that equilibrated the historical unbalance towards Latin American that was induced by the great impact the CLACSO-CROP programme had in the decade previous to its end in December 2012.

## CLACSO-CROP PROGRAMME

The joint venture between CROP and the Latin American Council of Social Science (CLACSO), the CLACSO-CROP Programme, ended in December 2012 after a decade of fruitful work in the field of Poverty Research in Latin America.

Between May and July 2012, it was carried out a self-evaluation based on information collected from the Programme, from the surveys for fellows and seminar participants, and from interviews with fellows, scholars participating in the Program and Directors of Latin American research centers. The evaluation shows an appreciation of operational aspects of the Program as well as of its results, highlighting it was very successful and showed "a strong performance with respect to carrying out planned activities and the quality of their outputs" (Self Evaluation, CLACSO-CROP Program for Poverty Studies, 2012).

Furthermore, two events were organized by the Programme in 2012. By 28th May-1<sup>st</sup> June, it was held the annual CLACSO-CROP *Capacitation Workshop for Young scholars in Central America and the Caribbean*. The event took place in San José, Costa Rica, and it was organized jointly with a wide network of local institutions. As usual, young scholars from different Central American and Caribbean countries were selected to participate in the course.

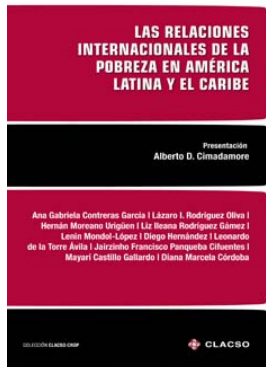
Within the framework of the programme was organized an international workshop on that took place in Chile on "Multidimensionality of Poverty: Scopes for its definition and evaluation in Latin America". On November 23-24, twenty researchers from nine countries met in Santiago to discuss the topic mentioned.

The Programme will organize a closure workshop during 2013 and it will continue with the publication of books containing the results of the activities organized before its end.



## PUBLICATIONS

### CLACSO-CROP SERIES ON POVERTY IN LATIN AMERICA



#### **LAS RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES DE LA POBREZA EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE**

CLACSO-CROP Series. CLACSO. Buenos Aires, February 2012



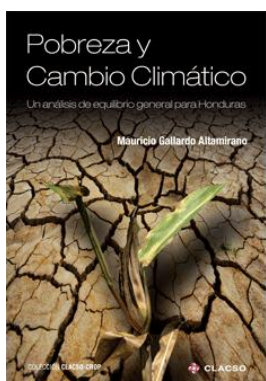
#### **POBREZA Y ALTERACIONES DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE EN PARAGUAY**

Ramón FOGEL. CLACSO-CROP Series. CLACSO. Buenos Aires, March 2012



#### **VIEJOS PROBLEMAS, NUEVAS ALTERNATIVAS. ESTRATEGIAS DE LUCHA CONTRA LA POBREZA GESTADAS DESDE EL SUR**

Ana María Pérez Rubio & Nelson Antequera D. (Coordinators) CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO, Buenos Aires, July 2012.



#### **POBREZA Y CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO. UN ANÁLISIS DE EQUILIBRIO GENERAL PARA HONDURAS**

Mauricio GALLARDO ALTAMIRANO. CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO, Buenos Aires, November de 2012.

Introduction

Workshops

Panels & Seminars

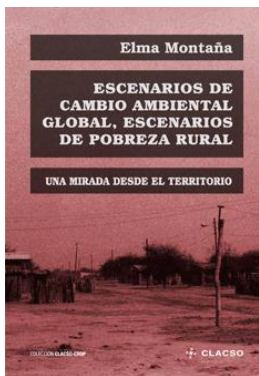
Networking

Publications



**TRANSFORMACIONES EN LAS POLÍTICAS DE LUCHA CONTRA LA POBREZA. DISEÑOS DEL NORTE Y ALTERNATIVAS DEL SUR**

María Mercedes DI VIRGILIO, Paula BONIOLO & María Pia OTERO. CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO, Buenos Aires, December 2012.



**ESCENARIOS DE CAMBIO AMBIENTAL GLOBAL, ESCENARIOS DE POBREZA RURAL. UNA MIRADA DESDE EL TERRITORIO**

Elma MONTAÑA. CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO, Buenos Aires, December 2012.

**CROP POVERTY BRIEFS**

**Poverty Brief 12:**

Sebastian Lipina & Michael Posner, Developing Poor Connected Brains

**Poverty Brief 11:**

Bob Deacon, The Social Protection Floor

**Poverty Brief 10:**

Scott Wisor, World Development Report 2012 - A Review



## ANNEX I

### **CROP- ZED BOOKS SERIES “INTERNATIONAL STUDIES IN POVERTY RESEARCH”: Books in production and/or under peer-review (December 2012)**

**TITLE: Poverty and Peasant Persistence in the Contemporary World.**

*Editorial team: Julio Boltvinik, Mexico & Susan Archer Mann, USA.*

**CHAPTERS:**

Controversies on Peasant Poverty and Persistence.  
Julio Boltvinik, Mexico.

Re-thinking Rustic Issues. Contributions to a Theory of Contemporary Peasantry.  
Armando Bartra, Mexico.

From Field to Fork: Revisiting the Mann-Dickinson Thesis Three Decades Later.  
Susan Archer Mann, Gordon Welty, James Dickinson & Emely Blumenfeld, USA.

The 'Agrarian Question' in the Rear View Mirror – Some Personal Reflections.  
Göran Djurfeldt, Sweden.

Around the Types of Domination of Peasant Work by Capital as Key to Decipher its  
Historical Function in the XXI Century.  
Luis Arizmendi, Mexico.

Agriculture/Industry, Rural/Urban, Peasants/Workers: Some Reflections on Poverty,  
Persistence and Change.  
Henry Bernstein, UK.

Employment and Rural Poverty in Mexico.  
Araceli Damián and Edith Pacheco, Mexico.

From Indian-peasants Ecologism to Sustainability of Life.  
Enrique Leff, Mexico

South American Peasants and Poor Farmers Facing Global Environmental Change: A  
Development Dilemma.  
Elma Montaña, Argentina

Food Conundrum.  
Kostas Vergopoulos, France.

The Dismantling of the Agrarian Welfare State.  
Farshad Araghi, USA.

From Import Substitution to Bio-Energetics' Capitalism. A Large Period of  
Discrimination Against the Peasant Economy.  
Alicia Puyana and Andrea Santos, Mexico.

Overcoming Rural Poverty from the Bottom Up.

David Barkin and Blanca Lemus, Mexico.

Information on post-event processes to publication of papers as a Zed Book volume in the CROP series

**TITLE: Poverty & the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): A critical assessment and a look forward”**

*Editorial team: Thomas Pogge, USA, Gabriele Kohler, Germany, & Alberto D. Cimadamore, Argentina-Norway.*

CHAPTERS:

The MDGs and Poverty Eradication?

Gabrielle Kohler, Germany.

Main Forces Determining Global Poverty Trends and the MDGs.

Julio Boltvinik, Mexico.

From the Global Politics of Poverty Alleviation to the Global Politics of Social Solidarity.

Bob Deacon, UK.

Beyond the MDGs and the SDGs: The Transformation of Poverty Research in a Changing Climate.

Asuncion St Clair & Karen O'Brian, Norway.

Other authors to be included are (titles to be confirmed):

- Jomo Kwame Sundaram, FAO
- Maria Ivanova, USA
- Meera Tiwari, UK
- Mariama Williams, Jamaica
- Deborah Rogers et al., USA
- Romulo Paes de Sousa, Brazil
- Wael Hmaidan, Lebanon
- James Fishkin, USA

**TITLE: The Political Economy of Poverty and Social Transformations of the Global South.**

*Editorial team: Hanan Sabea, Egypt & Aaron Rosenberg, Mexico.*

CHAPTERS:

The Making and Remaking of Human Rights: Contemporary Limits and Potential Contributions of Human Rights to the Eradication of Poverty and Social Transformation, from the Perspective of the Global South

Camilo Pérez-Bustillo, Mexico.

Civil Society Movements and Rights Discourse in Post-Apartheid Socio-Economic Transformation.

Christopher Thomas, South Africa.

The Scope and Effectiveness of 'Right to Information' as Anti-Poverty tool: Case studies from Bangladesh  
Kazi Haque, Bangladesh.

On a Shoestring: Exegetical Interpretations of City-Edge Dwelling and Social Transformation in Africa.  
Innocent Chirisa, Zimbabwe.

The Development and Sustainability Paradox: When Equity is Eclipsed  
Noelyn Dano, Philippines.

Neodevelopmentalism in Argentina: its Contradictions, Barriers and Limits to Poverty Reduction and Social Change.  
Mariano Félix, Argentina.

Dysfunctional Political Economy, Restructuring Public Sphere and Social Transformation in Africa: A Polycentric Privatisation and Poverty Reduction Perspective New Policies to Combat the Poverty in Comparative Perspective.  
Samson Ranti Akinola, Nigeria.

Alternative Paths to Poverty Alleviation: a Case for Poverty Alleviation Programs by the Poor  
Jude Ssempebwa, & Jaqueline Nakaiza, Uganda.

Living with Job Informality and Lack of Social Protection in Egypt: The Urgency for Policy Focus  
Ghada Barsoum, Egypt.

Changing Social Arrangements as Philippine Artisanal Fishers Fine Tune Customary Fishing Practices with the Fisheries Law  
Cynthia Zayas, Philippines.

Analysis of Women's Movements as Drivers of Gendered Social Transformation and Poverty Reduction: Experiences from Zimbabwe  
Manase Kuzdal Chiwesche, Zimbabwe.

"I'm Gonna Get My Share of What's Mine": Narratives of Poverty and Crime in Postcolonial Jamaica and Kenya  
Aaron Rosenberg, Mexico.

Multidimensional Inequality, Polarization and Poverty in the formal Cameroonian Economy  
Charlie Yves Ngoudji Tameko, Cameroon.

**TITLE: Poverty and Politics in Middle Income Countries**

*Editorial team: Gemma Wright, UK, Einar Braathen, Norway, & Julian May, University of Western Cape, South Africa.*

Policy relevant measurement of poverty in low, middle and high income countries  
Shailen Nandy and David Gordon, United Kingdom

Public Policies and Politics: less important than economics? Moroccan experience as example MIC's  
Mehdi Lahlou, Morocco

Policies and Politics to address Urban Inequality in Brazil and South Africa  
Einar Braathen, David Jordhus-Lier, Berit Aasen, Norway, and Catherine Sutherland, South Africa

Public Policy and Inequality in South Africa and Botswana: redistributive impacts of social and economic interventions  
Marianne S. Ulriksen, South Africa

Recent Social Policy Developments in Africa  
Gemma Wright and Michael Noble, United Kingdom

Adults who live in the streets of Buenos Aires: public policies provide solutions or contribute to the social segmentation?  
Martin Boy, Argentina

Transformation of Social Protection System in a Transforming Economy and Society of Uzbekistan  
Kamila Mukhamedkhanova, Uzbekistan

The construction of gender inequality within households in the context of demographic dispensation in rural areas: a case of Makanye village  
Ngoako Mokoele, South Africa

Children of Iran: born into a middle-income state, caught between war, embargo and rising social indicators  
Sepideh Yousefzadeh and Franziska Gassmann, The Netherlands

The hidden realities of child well-being in a middle income country context – the case of Kazakhstan  
Keetie Roelen, United Kingdom, and Franziska Gassmann, The Netherlands

The world is a ghetto: counter-hegemonic approaches to poverty eradication, racism, and human rights in Latin America  
Camilo Pérez-Bustillo, Mexico  
Poverty in African MICs and LICs: do human rights matter?  
Chifa Tekaya, Tunisia

Justifying the failure of development interventions: the politics of hunger deaths in Odisha, India  
Rajakishor Mahana, India

Democratization, disempowerment and poverty in Nigeria: Exploring the link between politics and poverty reduction in middle income countries  
Samuel O. Oloruntoba, Nigeria

Counting the costs of politics in the poverty discourse  
Oliver Mtshali, South Africa

Is poverty behind the Jasmine Revolution?  
Sofiane Bouhdiba, Tunisia

The OECD/South Africa development model – the growth of inequality  
Tor Halvorsen, Norway

Exploring inclusive growth and poverty reduction strategies in the BRICS economies:  
a multi-country study of Brazil, China and South Africa  
Samuel Aderemi Igbatayo, Nigeria

Poverty in the 'kitchen of the world': the case of Thailand  
Mokbul Morshed Ahmad, Thailand

#### **OTHER MANUSCRIPTS / COMPILATIONS IN PREPARATION AND/OR EVALUATION FOR PUBLICATION**

**TITLE: *A new approach to poverty founded on the human essence and on measurement principles***, by Julio Boltvinik Kalinka, El Colegio de Mexico, Mexico.

**TITLE: *Protecting the Health of the Poor: Social Movements in the South***, edited by Abraar Karan, Yale University, USA, Geeta Sodhi, Swasthya Trust, India A volume on the relationship between health, poverty and social movements. The book is a result of a CROP, ASAP, University of Delhi workshop, fall 2011.

**TITLE: *Poverty, Water and Local Development***, edited by Elma Montaña, Universidad Nacional de Cuyo Mendoza, Argentina; David Barkin, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco, Mexico and Edward K. Kirumira, Makerere University, Uganda. This publication is a drawn upon a joint CLACSO-CROP, Makerere University, Nile Basin Research Programme, The Nordic Africa Institute workshop, fall 2011.

