

CROP PUBLICATIONS

☞ *Environment and Urbanization Vol. 7 No. 1 and 2, 1995*. These volumes of the IIED journal are dedicated to the issue of "Urban Poverty". Most of the papers were presented at the CROP workshop by the same name (October 1994). The papers include micro-case studies, and studies of urban poverty at a national or global level. They are available from the CROP Secretariat and prized at USD 15, per volume, including postage.

☞ *"Poverty: Research Projects, Institutes, Persons"*, by Tinka Ewoldt-Leicher & Arnaud Marks (Eds.). IDIN, CROP, ICSSD, Tilburg, Bergen, Amsterdam 1995. The book containing data on poverty research projects and poverty researchers. Prize: 50\$. NB: *There is a limited number of copies.*

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CROP is a world-wide network of researchers and experts on poverty. The aim of **CROP** is to establish an arena for interdisciplinary and comparative research on poverty in developed and developing countries. **CROP** organises regional workshops, symposia and international conferences, promotes joint research projects, links poverty researchers and disseminates information about poverty research. **CROP** is developing an international database on poverty researchers, and documentation of ongoing research. **CROP** is chaired by professor Else Øyen, University of Bergen, Norway.

If you wish to have your name listed in **CROPnet**, you are welcome to write the **CROP** Secretariat and request a copy of the **CROP Questionnaire**. For further information please contact:

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CROP POLICY OF DISTRIBUTION

Please note: We can no longer answer the increased demand for copies of single papers presented at CROP seminars. However, if you have the patience, most of the papers become available through the publications that follow the seminars and will be duly announced. We still supply the authors addresses, phone & fax numbers.

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Comparative Research Programme On Poverty

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 No. 1 March, 1996

B-Post

The CROP Newsletter is published four times a year by: CROP Secretariat,
Fosswinckelsgate 7, N-5007 Bergen, NORWAY.

GROWTH, POVERTY AND EQUITY: AS SEEN FROM CHILE

The relationship between economic growth, poverty and equity comes up time and time again. There is a widespread belief that a simple relationship exists among these three elements of society, indicating that if a country experiences constant economic growth, poverty in general is reduced, as is the number of poor people, and more equitable conditions increase. However, this relationship has proved to be much more complex.

Chile began a period of continued economic growth in the mid-1980s. In 1992 an estimated 5,2 million people lived below the poverty line (40% of the population). Between 1990 and 1992, almost 800.000 people improved their situation and by-passed the poverty line, and between 1992 and 1994 another 400.000 people followed. From 1990 to 1995, poverty levels were technically reduced with 1.3 million people.

In the first period, during the last years of Pinochet's regime, the human resources already at work were fully utilised, but salaries remained the same. The great majority of workers were still unemployed and excluded from the formal economy.

In the second period, during president Aylwin's government, the economy absorbed more workers and salaries increased. In many cases also the woman in the family entered the labour force, which explains the family's transition to a technical condition of non-poverty.

The third period, i.e. present time, is called the «hard-core-stage». Since 1992, market mechanisms have been increasingly less efficient in resolving the poverty problem. Economic growth figures must be still higher in order to bridge the poverty gap and improve the poor sectors. But economic growth by itself is not enough, if it is not followed by deep institutional changes, especially in the use of technology, education, worker's training and principally - the income distribution.

Out of an overall 13 million inhabitants, Chile still has 4 million people below the poverty line. Another 2 million people live just above the line, and will return below the poverty line if confronted with a crisis. The country's challenge is therefore to keep on promoting economic growth, combined with strategies for the elimination of poverty, in order to build a more equitable, just, and caring society.

Guest editor: Prof. José Bengoa, member of the CROP Standing Committee. Centro de Estudios Sociales, SUR, Santiago de Chile

NEW CROP PUBLICATION

☞ *Poverty: A Global Review: Handbook on International Poverty Research*, by Else Øyen, S.M. Miller, Syed Abdus Samad (eds.) Scandinavian University Press, Oslo 1996. Prepared by a group within the CROP network, this book is a state-of-the-art report on poverty and poverty research in different regions of the world.

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OTHER RECENT PUBLICATIONS

☞ *Beyond the threshold: the measurement and analysis of social exclusion*, Graham Room (ed.) The Policy Press, Bristol.

The book targets three areas: (a) What is the definition of poverty and social exclusion? (b) How can it be measured? (c) How can the effectiveness of policies for combating social exclusion be monitored?

FELLOWSHIP

The Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Programme brings accomplished professionals from developing countries, East and Central Europe and the former Soviet Union to the United States at the midpoint of their careers for a year of study and related professional experiences. For more information on the 96/97 programme, contact the US Embassy in your home country.