



## The 2<sup>nd</sup> Development Forum for the G8/G20

October 24-25<sup>th</sup> 2011:

### “Exploring Alternative Development Strategies”

Jointly organised by Pax Romana and UNRISD

Supported by Caritas France and Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung



The unanticipated scale and intensity of multiple crises have produced various forms of international and regional cooperation. Increasingly important are informal public spaces such as the Basel Committee for Bank Supervision (with Basel III) and the G8/G20 which are informal but influential in terms of setting agenda and framing development discourse. In addition to problems of representation and legitimacy, several other problems have been associated with these informal policy spaces. Firstly, despite the magnitude of the impact on the economic and social development of developing countries of the agendas they deal with, the developmental perspective has been paid less attention or has been applied to the discussion in a very much silo approach, that is to say with a focus on particular issues without offering a more comprehensive and coherent alternative strategy. Although the G8/G20 has performed better than the Basel Committee on this front, their approach also has been characterized by a lack of synergy between the issues raised and the lack of implementation. Secondly, the approach taken in dealing with development issue is still centred on the neo-liberalistic assumptions such as the market-centred development, trickling down of economic growth and marginalisation of the role of universal social protection in the development strategy. It does not reflect the global demand for a fundamental re-examination of the current pattern of growth and development. Thirdly, participation of the international organisations and civil society is very much limited. In particular, the organisational structures in which the synergy between international organisations, such as UN agencies and international civil society from both the North and the South, on the one hand, and these informal inter-governmental organisations, on the other, are not well established. Although there is a process of civil dialogue, originally a G8 institution and was applied to the G20 in Seoul in 2010, this is not a sustainable participatory mechanism due to its segregation from the working groups of the G8/G20.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Development Forum for the G8/G20<sup>1</sup> France entitled “**Exploring Alternative Development Strategies**” attempts to overcome these limitations of the G8/G20 Summit and to provide stakeholders, in particular international civil society, with a space for discussing the relevant development issues and formulating joint strategies through a holistic and comprehensive discussion. In order to strengthen synergies within and between international organisations and NGOs, this year’s forum, co-organised with Pax Romana, an international NGO with consultative status with ECOSOC, will be held in Paris, France from October 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> 2011, and invites government officers, experts of international organisations, civil society activists, and academics.

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<sup>1</sup> Following the 1st Development Forum for the G8/G20 Seoul” co-organised by UNRISD with Seoul National University.

The main objective of the forum is two-fold. Firstly, it aims to deepen understanding of the nature and the interdependence of the issues of innovative financing for development, universal social protection, food security and climate change. Secondly, it explores alternative policy options and development strategies to deal with these issues in a holistic and comprehensive manner. The forum will inform and strengthen the voices of stakeholders, in particular southern actors involved in the debate about various policy options related to these issues. Achieving this objective will contribute to maintaining and strengthening the current momentum for development within the G8/G20 and beyond. In detail, the conference will:

1. posit the norms, values, and the political and theoretical basis for innovative financing for development
2. identify and discuss the social drivers, institutional mechanisms and practices necessary to secure and employ the so-gained resources for innovative development strategies to deal with social security, food security, and climate change at the global level
3. identify policy opportunities and challenges to alternative development strategies at the global as well as national levels, particularly in developing countries
4. identify the key policy linkages between food security and climate change, on the one hand, and universal social protection system, on the other, referring to new initiatives such as a New International Development Architecture (LDC Report) and the Social Protection Floor (ILO)
5. produce a declaration based on the discussion to be sent to the G20 summit
6. produce a framework for further discussion in the Civil Dialogue G8/G20 in Paris and a full report of issues, proposals and areas for further debate and wider dissemination
7. produce a framework for discussing development issues at the G20 Mexico 2012

#### **Expected Results**

- A declaration to be sent to the G20 summit
- A framework paper for Civil Dialogue for G20 France and toward G20 Mexico
- Action plans for participants' organizations and institutions
- A proposal for future collaboration

## Programme:

**Day 1: Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

### **I Registration and Opening of the Seminar 9:00-09:40**

**9.00: Registration**

**9.10: Opening speeches** by Mr. Armando De Negri (World Social Forum on Health and Social Security), Ms. Lawrencia Kwark (Pax Romana) and Mr. Ilcheong Yi (UNRISD)

### **II Sessions 09:40-13:00**

**Session 1: *The G20 Agenda – An Overview***

**09.40 – 11.10**

The G20 meeting will be held in Cannes, France on November 3 and 4 2011. The agenda of such a meeting represents the result of a difficult negotiation between the G20 members. The chair of the meeting, President Sarkozy, has proposed the following issues to constitute this meeting's agenda:

- 1) Reforming the International Monetary System (IMS)
- 2) Strengthening financial regulation
- 3) Combating commodity price volatility
- 4) Supporting employment and strengthening the social dimension of globalization
- 5) Fighting corruption
- 6) Working on behalf of development

The influence of President Sarkozy as the chair is real but limited and NGOs and academics have their own view on what should be put on the agenda and what should become the future development strategies of the so called "international community" but their voice is rarely taken into account. Although international institutions are considered by the G20 as supporting bodies and certain agencies are invited to attend the meeting e.g., the WB, IMF, WTO, ILO and OECD, it is not clear who is supporting which points of the agenda and the extent of their influence on the final decision. In this respect, it is valuable to the formulation of alternative development strategies to be aware of who is supporting which points of the agenda, to explore the reasons why certain points were put on the agenda and others were excluded; and to eventually identify the potential for collaboration to foster joint alternative development agendas and strategies that have not sufficiently been addressed by the G20 process so far.

**Chair:** Fr. Antoine Sondag, Secours Catholique-Caritas France

#### **Speakers and Discussants:**

- Mr. Roberto Bissio, Civil Society Reflection Group on Global Development Policies
- Mr. Thomas Fues, Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)/German Development Institute
- Mr. Samuel Pommeret, CCFD-Terre Solidaire

**- 11.10 -11.30: Coffee Break -**

**Session 2: Innovative Development Strategy I: Innovative Financing and Financial Transaction Tax  
11.30 – 13.00**

Providing concrete solutions to development problems has been part of the G20's agenda since Seoul (with the adoption of the Multi-Year Action Plan on Development) and will continue in France in November 2011. The French Presidency announced interest to make specific efforts to support infrastructure development and to ensure food security in the most vulnerable countries. Within this framework, the French Presidency has proposed to discuss development financing at the G20 level, via innovative financing and in particular a tax on financial transactions. While the first two points of President Sarkozy's agenda, i.e. "Reforming the International Monetary System (IMS)" and "Financial Regulation" clearly point out the support of the French Presidency for alternative ways of financing, less clearly formulated are the linkages between innovative financing and the last point of the French Presidency's agenda "Working on behalf of development". In drawing explicit attention to the financing aspect of development for obvious reasons, the other side of the coin, addressing the question of how the revenues will be administered and spent, remains more or less untouched. The session will deal with five issues related to FTT; the redistribution aspect, feasibility, potential revenue for development, administration and management, and expenditure. The focus will be placed on the linkage between the revenues and development and the interaction between national and global development strategy including aid architecture in relation to FTT.

**Chair:** Mr. Heikki Patomaki, University of Helsinki

**Speakers and Discussants:**

- Mr. Stephen Spratt, IDS
- Ms. Francine Mestrum, Global Justice Movement
- Mr. Markus Henn, WEED

- **Lunch break 13:00-14:00** -

**III Sessions 14.00-17.45**

**Session 3: Innovative Development Strategy II: Universal Social Protection System  
14.00 – 16.00**

Interests in universal social security and assistance have re-emerged, particularly in developing countries during the economic crisis since 2008. Debates on the future direction of social policy within development contexts, in the midst of demographic transition and increasing inequality under economic growth, have been more stimulated by new initiatives from international organisations such as the New International Development Architecture and Social Protection Floor. The emerged interests demand us to move beyond the discussion on the virtues of different approaches largely within the framework of the technical dichotomy of universalism and a targeting approach and address the issue of how society transform itself from a fragmented and inequality generating welfare system to a comprehensive and universal welfare system, reducing inequality and poverty.

The session will examine institutional drivers of universalism at local, national, regional and global level and suggest strategies to promote a universal social protection system. It will pay attention to the international level strategy as well as to the national strategy.

**Chair:** Mr. Bob Deacon, Emeritus Professor of International Social Policy

University of Sheffield and UNESCO-UNU Chair in Regional Integration, Migration and Free Movement

**Speakers and Discussants:**

- Ms. Kate Carroll, Action Aid International
- Ms. Christina Behrendt, ILO
- Ms. Thelma Narayan, People's Health Movement India
- Mr. Armando Negri, World Social Forum on Health and Social Security
- Ms. Tina Ebro, Asia Europe People's Forum
- Mr. Ilcheong Yi, UNRISD

- 16.00 - 16.15: *Coffee Break* -

**Session 4: *Innovative Development Strategy III: Social policy responses to climate change***

**16.15-17.45**

Policy solutions to risks of climate change are sought in different sectors. One of the neglected areas in these endeavours is social policy. How social policy can be utilised to respond to uncertainties created by climate change is not well researched. This is particularly so in the area of disaster mitigation which is in most cases regarded as a technological issue rather than in terms of socio-political adaptation. As researches on the effects of disaster education on people's preparedness and disaster mitigation actions show, social policy has a great potential to play a significant role in responding to climate change risks in mitigation as well as in adaptation. The session will address the role of social policy in relation to climate change in both adaptation to disaster and disaster mitigation. It will pay special focus to the role of social services in both adaptation and mitigation. It will also examine the roles of the state, private companies and the community.

**Chair:** Mr. Francois Gemenne, IDDRI

**Speakers and Discussants:**

- Mr. Farouk Braimah, People's Dialogue on Human Settlements and Shack/Slum Dwellers International
- Ms. Aurélie Ceinos, CARE France
- Ms. Hindou Oumarou, AFPAT, Chad

**Day 2: Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

**I Sessions 9:00-12:30**

**Session 5: *Innovative Development Strategy IV: A Rights-based Approach to Food***

**09.00-10.45**

According to the FAO estimates in 2009, today close to 1.02 billion people around the world are suffering from chronic hunger. Although prices have fallen from their peak in 2008, they remain higher than the 2006 average and the underlying trends indicate that global agricultural production, under current prevalent production and consumption patterns, cannot keep up with rising demand. The international community is thus far off -track on meeting its commitments to securing the right of all persons to food, and the achievement of MDG 1 of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by 2015.

There have been numerous political declarations as well as institutional and financial initiatives since the explosion of food riots in 2008, all professing commitment to alleviating the immediate impacts on affected communities, and to finding long-term solutions to the crisis have produced disappointing results. Despite a number of positive developments identified over the course of the political debate, there is yet a lack of recognition of the fact that the food price crisis was not the result of one or two isolated policy failures, but of the promotion over the past two decades of a broad set of policies inspired by a market based approach to food and agriculture that did not and could never ensure global food security. This approach left millions of rural poor in developing countries in a state of chronic hunger for years, long before the effects of the price hike of 2008 hit, and has contributed to severe environmental degradation which has been undermining the long-term agricultural productive capacity.

The session will deal with three issues related to “The Right to Food” as an alternative development strategy, its feasibility and bio-diverse agricultural eco-system, and ways to build global governance for food security, including fighting price volatility. The focus will be on the linkage between the policy framework and various methods of financing for development such as ODA and FTT. Special attention will be given to the reshaping of the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union.

**Chair:** Ms. Lawrencia Kwark, Pax Romana

**Speakers and Discussants:**

- Ms. Saoudata Aboubacrine, Comité de coordination des Peuples Autochtones d'Afrique
- Mr. Zeremariam Fre and Mr. Bereket Tesfa, The Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa
- Mr. Tommy Pratama, Institute for Crisis Studies and Alternative Development

- **10.45-11.00: Coffee Break** -

**Session 6: “Summary and Conclusions”**

**11.00-12.30**

This session aims at stimulating dialogue between the thematic sessions and formulating holistic and coherent policy recommendations out of these discussions. Rapporteurs will summarise the discussions and conclusions drawn from each session and one panellist from each session will discuss other themes from the perspective of his/her own session. Policy conflicts and opportunities to make synergies are expected to be identified. Recommendations will be formulated to arrive at a set of joint statements and opinion pieces to be submitted to the G20 and participants’ own institutions/organizations.

**Chairs:** Mr. Ilcheong Yi, UNRISD and Ms. Laurencia Kwark, Pax Romana

**Speakers and Discussants:** Round table with panelists and rapporteurs from each session

**- Lunch break 12:30-14:00 -**

**II Session**

**Session 7: “Advocacy and Implementation: Organizing the Roles of and Synergies between International Organisations and CSOs and Movements”**

**14:00-17:30**

Based on the summary and conclusions that were derived from the previous sessions, the objective of this roundtable is to formulate joint future strategies and proposals for collaboration. A working group will be built with the aim of producing the following results:

- A declaration to be sent to the G20 summit
- A framework paper for Civil Dialogue for the G20, France and Mexico
- Action plans for participants’ organizations and institutions
- A proposal for potential future collaboration

**Chairs:** Ms. Anne Ellersiek and Ms. Olive Cocoman, UNRISD

**Speakers and Discussants:**

- Ms. Phelisa Nkomo, GCAP South Africa
- Ms. Maris De La Cruz, Network for Transformative Social Protection
- Mr. Armando Negri, World Social Forum on Health and Social Security
- Mr. Tommy Pratama, Institute for Crisis Studies and Alternative Development

*- Optional group dinner (Registration by participants is mandatory)-*