Putting social cohesion into public policies: Why, how and who?

STRATEGIES FOR INTEGRATING SOCIAL COHESION IN PUBLIC POLICIES

Development Centre-OECD
Paris, 20-21 January 2011

FIIAPP
The “International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public policies” (FIIAPP) works in almost 60 countries all over the world.

<table>
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<th>9,000 Spanish officials seconded in overseas projects</th>
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<td>One of main European public operator in public technical assistance:</td>
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<td>256 twinning programs by a total amount of 160 M. Euros.</td>
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<td>70 international technical assistance projects for a total amount of 100 M. Euros.</td>
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<td>Management of 450 bilateral projects worth 40 M. Euros</td>
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<td>150 employees</td>
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<td>Alliances with 60 partners in all continents</td>
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The aim of FIIAPP is to support the consolidation of social cohesion as a mainstream element of political dialogue, trade relations and development cooperation between the European Union and Latin America.
• Technical Assistance Program of the European Commission

- 459 activities
- 2,212 institutions
- 160 public policy processes
- 11,188 people
- 36 M. Euros
EUROsociAL I Networks

Redes creadas con el apoyo del programa

Redes ya existentes apoyadas por el programa

Red de Educación en Contexto de Violencia y Violencia en Contexto Educativo

Unión Interamericana de Colegios y Asociaciones de Abogados

Asociación Internacional de Trabajadores de Fiscales Públicos

Red de Atención Primaria de Salud

Unión Interamericana de Hospitalarios

Asociación Internacional de Trabajadores de Fiscales Públicos

Red de Educación Fiscal

Red Latinoamericana de Formadores de Fiscales Regionales

Asociación Interamericana de Defensores Públicos

Red Regional de Defensorías Públicas de Centroamérica, Panamá y el Estado de Veracruz

Instituto Centroamericano de Estudios Fiscales

Consejo Interamericano de Administradores Tributarios

Instituto Centroamericano de Estudios Fiscales

Red de Comunicadores del Área Judicial

Redes para la inclusión social de personas con discapacidad

Centro Interamericano de Administradores Tributarios

Red Latinoamericana de Educación Rural

Consejo Interamericano de Administradores Tributarios

Red de Escuelas Judiciales de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos

Consejo Interamericano de Administradores Tributarios

Redes para la elaboración de una guía para el desarrollo e implementación de marcos nacionales de cualificaciones
EUROsociAL I Consortia
Messages

• 1- SC has become a conceptual frame of reference increasingly used in policy making and in the political discourse in Latin America.

• 2- SC can be seen as a guiding principle for the public action.

• 3- Concept of SC gives coherence to different sectoral policies.

• 4- SC requires a combination of political will and institutional strength.

• 5- Action is needed at the political, policy and management levels.
Social cohesion is an attribute of societies which implies equality of opportunity so that people can exercise their fundamental rights and ensure their welfare, without discrimination of any kind and in response to diversity. From an individual perspective, it assumes the existence of people who feel part of a community, participate in decision-making areas and can exercise active citizenship. It also involves the development of public policies and mechanisms of solidarity between individuals, groups, territories and generations.
Definition of “social cohesion” by FIIAPP

More than a mean or an end (a goal), social cohesion is a **guiding principle** for the public action. It aims at the creation of a social fabric that structures the different communities and groups in a country. It promotes the consolidation of democratic institutions and the implementation of sustainable public policies that provide the citizens with **opportunities**; ensure their **protection** and enable them to develop their **abilities**. It aims at **consolidating both institutions and policies** that improve the social welfare and the living conditions of citizens,
Putting social cohesion into public policies: Why?

Because the concept of social cohesion can give coherence to scattered multiplicity of actions of various public agencies responsible for providing opportunities and skills and for protecting the citizens.

The coordination between different sectoral policies is one of the great needs to promote social cohesion. The first phase of EUROsociAL revealed that a goal -as large and complex as social cohesion- needs to be addressed from a comprehensive approach, interconnecting all levels of public action and all policies that affect the deepening of social cohesion.
Putting social cohesion into public policies: How?

The success of the policies depends on the appropriate combination of the different public action levels. They include the decision-making level, it means Politics; the design and policymaking level, it means Policy; and the implementation and execution of the interventions, in other words public management.
The FIIAPP’s intervention strategy promotes actions in these three acting levels: political level, policy level and public management level.

This intervention strategy has, then, three target groups:

• Political and social agents who take part in the negotiations of the social cohesion integration in policies.

• Policy makers in charge of public policies design and implementation to enhance social cohesion.

• Public institutions responsible of implementing these policies and ensuring effective carrying out of their tasks.
Problem: Social Inequality in Latin America

Social Cohesion Initiative for Latin America (ICSAL)

Government’s agenda

Public Agenda

Policies

Plans

Programmes

Projects

Legal Framework

Institutional Framework

EUROsociAL II
FIIAPP’S INFLUENCE ON THE LIFE CYCLE OF PUBLIC POLICIES

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<th>PROCESSES</th>
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<td>CONSTRUCTION OF THE AGENDA</td>
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<td>PRODUCES ICSAL</td>
<td>LEADS TO POLICY PROPOSALS: PURPOSES, GOALS AND EFFECTIVE MEANS OF ACTION</td>
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<td>POLICYMAKING</td>
<td>POLITICAL NETWORKS PEER EXCHANGES</td>
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<td>PRODUCES PUBLIC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</td>
<td>LEADS TO</td>
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<td>IMPACT ASSESSMENT</td>
<td>PRODUCES DECISIONS ON THE FUTURE OF THE POLICY</td>
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Conclusions

- SC has become a conceptual frame of reference increasingly used in policy making and in the political discourse in Latin America.
- SC can be seen as a guiding principle for the public action.
- Concept of SC gives coherence to different sectoral policies.
- SC requires a combination of political will and institutional strength.
- Action is needed at the political (multi-party agreements), policy (public policy networks) and management levels (peer exchanges and technical assistance).
Thank you

From an For the Public Sector

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EUROsociAL II Levels

Niveles