

Policy Research Alert

FROM FLASH-IT, A DISSEMINATION PROJECT RELATING EUROPEAN POLICY PRIORITIES TO EU-FUNDED RESEARCH IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

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Perennially poor? A major reassessment of poverty in developing countries gets underway

A five-year project exploring the nature and extent of poverty in developing countries has officially begun. Accompanying the EU's anti-poverty agenda and aligned with the Millennium Development Goals, NOPOOR's principle aim is to deliver new knowledge for policymaking. Of the 19 institutions involved in the project, 10 are from emerging/developing countries in Africa, Latin America and South Asia.

Setting out to explore 'new and uncharted dimensions' of a perennial policy challenge, NOPOOR hopes to identify 'key mechanisms that explain the persistence and exacerbation of poverty'. The consortium is utilizing a wide variety of empirical and analytical tools in pursuit of its goal. Numerous surveys, econometric studies and case studies will be generated. Special attention is being paid to the impact of globalization. While assessing factors such as trade, aid, foreign direct investment and migration, the consortium will conduct comparative studies of poverty reduction policies in multiple countries.

NOPOOR's objectives:

1. Improve the measurement of poverty.
2. Evaluate how globalisation and international aid and assistance policies have transformed the poverty issue.
3. Utilize lessons from the past and different experiences to improve effectiveness of domestic policies.
4. Draw attention to the role of local interactions between poverty and politics.
5. Forecast major events in a post-Millennium Development Goal environment and assess the role of new technologies.
6. Provide recommendations and raise awareness.

In addition to its research and policy advisory activities, NOPOOR also plans to train researchers in selected developing countries and set up a permanent network of National Institutes of Statistics.

Learn more about NOPOOR at www.nopoor.eu

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