

**United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Division for Social Policy and Development  
Social Perspective on Development Branch**



**Expert group meeting**

**Policies and strategies to promote empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all**

10 - 11 September 2013

Conference Room S-2728/2727, United Nations Secretariat Building, New York

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

Tuesday, 10 September

**9:00 – 9:30      Registration**

**9:30 – 10:15      Opening session:**

Overview and expected outcomes of the meeting

**Ms. Daniela Bas**

Director, Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Introduction of participants

**Ms. Sarah Cook**

Director, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

*"Pathways to empowerment: issues arising from the 2012 Expert Group Meeting"*

**10:15 – 11:30      Session I: Creating an enabling environment for the empowerment of people**

**Moderator: H.E. Mr. Carlos Enrique García González**, Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations

**Mr. Duncan Green**

Senior Strategic Adviser, Oxfam GB

*"Creating an enabling environment for the empowerment of individuals and groups living in poverty and exclusion"*

**Mr. Jeremy Holland**

Social Development Consultant, Oxford Policy Management

*"Participatory governance and institutional change"*

**Discussion**

**11:30 – 11:45**     *Coffee break*

**11:45 – 13:15**     **Session II: From voice to action: empowerment through participation**

**Moderator: TBC**

**Ms. Ghazala Mansuri**

Lead Economist, The World Bank

*"Can socio-economic policies induce participatory development? Participation for what purpose and in what terms?"*

**Ms. Elia Armstrong**

Chief, Development Management Branch (DMB), Division for Public Administration and Development Management, DESA

*"The role of active participation and citizen engagement in good governance"*

**Mr. Jon Hall**

Head, National Human Development Reports Unit, Human Development Report Office, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

*"Empowering at-risk groups through engagement in human development analysis and policies"*

**Discussion**

**13:15 – 14:30**     *Lunch break*

**14:30 – 15:45**     **Session III: Strategies and programmes to address discrimination**

**Moderator: Mr. Jeremy Holland**

**Ms. Savitri Goonesekere**

Emeritus Professor of Law, University of Colombo

*"Reflections on national implementation of international human rights instruments, social inclusion and empowerment of people"*

**Mr. Fabio Palacio**

NGO Committee on Social Development; International Movement ATD Fourth World

*"Addressing discrimination against people living in poverty"*

**Mr. Patrizio Civili**, Permanent Observer

**Ms. Judit Arenas**, Director, Communications and Public Affairs and Deputy Permanent Observer of International Development Law Organization (IDLO) to the United Nations

*"Removing obstacles to justice"*

**Discussion**

**15:45 – 16:00**     *Break*

**16:00– 17:30      Session IV: Strategies and programmes to improve access to employment, resources and assets**

**Moderator: Mr. Babken Babajanian**

**Ms. Bettina Prato**

Research Coordinator, Strategy and Knowledge Management Department,  
International Fund for Agricultural Development

*"Supporting poor rural people's empowerment through policy solutions for natural resource management and agriculture"*

**Mr. Henri Dommel**

Director, Inclusive Finance, United Nations Capital Development Fund  
(UNCDF)

*"The role of access to financial services in the empowerment of people living in poverty"*

**Mr. Vincius Carvalho Pinheiro**

Deputy Director, ILO Office for the United Nations, New York Office

*"Empowerment through employment, decent work and social protection floors"*

**Discussion**

**17:30 – 17:45      Wrap-up of discussions from Day One: Ms. Bettina Prato**

Wednesday, 11 September

**9:30 – 9:45**      Recap of Day One conclusions

**9:45 – 11:30      Session V: Strategies and programmes to strengthen capabilities and access to knowledge and information**

**Moderator: Ms. Savitri Goonesekere**

**Mr. Anil Deolalikar**

Co-Director, One Health Center; Professor of Economics and Founding Dean,  
School of Public Policy, University of California

*"The relationship between empowerment and quality education and health services"*

**Mr. Babken Babajanian**

Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute

*"Social protection and its contribution to social inclusion"*

**Ms. Dianne Forte**

Director, Office of Agriculture, Food Security, Enterprise and Gender, Africare

*"The impact of health and nutrition programmes in promoting the participation of marginalized groups"*

**Mr. Amine Lamrabet**

Division for Social Policy and Development, DESA

*"Outcome of the UN expert group meeting on empowerment of social groups and e-Governance" (23-24 July 2013, Geneva)*

**Discussion**

**11:30 – 11:45** *Coffee break*

**11:45 – 13:00** **Session VI: Pathways to empowering social groups – case studies**

**Moderator: Ms. Amleset Tewodros**

**Ms. Patience W. Stephens**

Director, Intergovernmental Support Division, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)

*“Lessons learned from strategies to promote women’s empowerment”*

**Ms. Catalina Devandas**

Programme Officer, Disability Rights Fund

*“Empowerment of persons with disabilities”*

**Mr. Paul Kanyinke Sena**

Chair, United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

*“Empowerment of indigenous peoples”*

**Discussion**

**13:00 – 14:30** *Lunch break*

**14:30 – 15:30** **Session VII: Pathways to empowering social groups – case studies**  
*(continued)*

**Moderator: Mr. Paul Kanyinke Sena**

**Ms. Amleset Tewodros**

Country Programme Director, Tanzania, Help Age International

*“Experience of policies and practices of empowering older people in Africa”*

**Ms. Satvika Chalasani**

Technical Specialist, Technical Division, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

*“Empowerment of youth”*

**Discussion** *(continued)*

**15:30 – 16:45** **Wrap-up of Day Two discussion: Mr. Jon Hall**

**Conclusions and recommendations**

**Moderator: Mr. Anil Deolalikar**

**Presenter: Ms. Dianne Forte**

**16:45 – 17:00** **Closing session**

**Ms. Daniela Bas**

Director, DSPD/DESA