

Proposed Symposium on Social Security
with an emphasis on Sustainability, Social Inclusion and elimination of extreme poverty
to be presented as a side-event during the Commission on Social Development meetings

Description:

Social security systems are the most important intergenerational policy initiatives that have been implemented programmatically around the world. They have had a major impact on poverty in countries that have successfully implemented them, though poorly informed programmes are now showing signs of inadequate sustainability and beginning signs of intergenerational discord [note the “Greedy Geezer” syndrome in the USA]. This symposium will discuss the primary competing models - the pay-as-you-go and the mandated savings models – from the viewpoints of intergenerational social integration, sustainability and impact on economic and social development. Suggestions for improvement by building on existing intergenerational social commitments and thoughtful economic policies will be made.

The Purposes are to:

- familiarize participants with the various models of social security systems that are available currently
- contrast these systems in terms of sustainability and impact on poverty levels, especially amongst the young and the old
- examine the contribution that appropriate systems can make towards economic as well as social development
- consider the contribution to social integration that carefully planned systems can make when the inherent intergenerational engagement is fully recognized
- address concerns of governments of emerging economies that contributions to a social security system could undermine their economic growth

Invited speakers:

- Jose Pinera, the architect of the modern social security system in Chile
- Dr, Eric Kingson, sociologist and author of “The Ties that Bind”, referring to intergenerational social ties
- Dr. Nuriel Rubini, a senior economist at New York University and one of the few international economists to accurately predict the Great Recession

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