



“Graduating” out of extreme poverty in Bangladesh

I was recently in Bangladesh at the behest of SDC to support a process of learning from a very interesting programme that has just ended. The EEP/Shiree (Economic Empowerment of the Poorest, widely known by the Bangla name Shiree, which means “steps”) was a large, 8 year, nearly £84 million programme. It was primarily supported by the governments of Britain and Bangladesh – respectively through DFID, the Department for International Development, and the Rural Development and Cooperative Division of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives. In a demonstration of donor coordination, SDC contributed to the programme in its final phase. [Read full article »](#)



Jane Carter, Gender & Social Equity Coordinator, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation

RECOMMENDED »



Reporting from the third Roma Inclusion Seminar, Albania June 2016

Building on last year’s seminar in Bucharest, this event focussed on the themes of effectiveness, sustainability and transformation in relation to Roma inclusion. Over 40 participants engaged in four days of field visits, case studies, presentations, discussions and debate. The full report is now available on the Seminar’s Shareweb page, along with complementary social reporting that includes audio and video contributions from participants. [Learn more»](#)

Laurent Ruedin, Jane Stevens



Ensuring Equity and Inclusion in Health

The reduction of inequalities within and among countries is also central in the SDGs agenda. Equity and inclusion are core principles of SDC general mandate and almost all country strategies and corresponding health programs target the poorest and most marginalized people, and aim at ensuring their access to quality and affordable services and resources for their health. With the support of IDS, SDC embarked in a reflection aiming at raising awareness and providing a common and practical understanding of equity and inclusion in a rights-based approach to health. Based on concrete case studies within SDC programs, the idea is to define some guiding principles for inclusive approaches to health to be applied in programme implementation, and establish a common set of minimum equity- and inclusion-related standards and indicators. [Read full article »](#)



Erika Placella, Health Advisor Eastern Europe and Central Asia, SDC



[VIDEO] Les inégalités sont-elles une fatalité? Solutions proposées par la société civile



Impact assessment by the stakeholders in the water sector in Haiti

For 20 years, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation and SDC have fostered access to water and sanitation in rural areas in Haiti. The closing of the 5th phase of the “Eau Potable et Assainissement” project in June 2016 offered a good occasion for the responsible persons and users of the service to draw a balance on the achieved changes. The stakeholders used a “Beneficiary Assessment” to analyse the project. It consisted of initiating a dialogue between peers in order to evoke the changes in their lives and how they perceive the impacts of the project. The statements made by the actors (users of the service, management committee, technical maintenance and local authorities) on how they perceived the changes allows us not only to understand the project’s impacts on their lives, but also to be aware of our approaches and to adapt the project implementation modalities considering the different situations and how they are perceived by them. Click here to download the [methodology](#) and [evaluation](#) or here to visit all [BA reports and resources](#) »

Antoine Kocher, Advisor, HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation



The Human Rights-Based Approach to Social Protection

This Issue Brief by UNRISD introduces readers to the human rights-based approach to social protection. It highlights the fundamental principles of this approach, which are explored in detail at socialprotection-humanrights.org, and directs readers to the key human rights instruments and other tools that are available to help policy makers and practitioners advocate for and operationalize a rights-based approach to social protection. [Learn more »](#)



Approaches and policies for reducing inequalities

The international expert workshop organised by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in Berlin on 5-6 September 2016 brought together more than 70 scholars, policy makers and practitioners to discuss approaches and policies for reducing inequalities. [Read full article »](#)



Anne Moulin, Policy Advisor Poverty Reduction and Social Development, SDC Bern

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