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## Conference Flash of the Final NOPOOR Conference

Brussels, June 2017



### Towards a world free of poverty:

### New scientific evidence from Africa, Asia and Latin America

Aiming to not leave anyone behind in the fight against poverty, the EU-funded research programme Nopoor presented main policy implications based on five years of scientific research during its final conference.

Researchers from 15 countries, discussants from FAO, UNCTAD, various Directorate Generals and other institutions, and the audience discussed and debated the many facets of Nopoor research and the arising policy challenges.

## Three Panels, Multiple Insights

Three main panels were held: international aid, trade and finance; local governance in poor areas; and anti-poverty policies. 18 policy briefs were presented and discussed (all presentations available at <http://www.nopoor.eu/events/nopoor-final-conference>). Here are some of the main questions that were raised, answered and debated:

### 1. International Trade, Aid and Finance

- How can core labour standards be more successfully implemented through trade agreements?
- Are sovereign bond issues supporting sustainable development or being diverted to raise ready cash for governments?
- The Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the EU and West Africa – what conditions can make it beneficial for West Africa?
- Why do emerging donors such as China, Brazil and India contribute foreign aid, and what implications does this have for the current global aid system?

### 2. Local Governance in Poor Areas

- How can state institutions become more trustworthy for citizens, especially in critical situations such as domestic violence against women?
- Are migrants and returnees able to improve democratic progress in their home countries?



- Can forest degradation be reduced when local communities take control of the management of their natural resources?
- Why does democratic governance not automatically lead to the successful implementation of an inclusive and pro-poor development agenda?
- What is the role of elites in the socio-political progress towards pro-poor development?

### 3. **Anti-Poverty Policies**

- How critical are the high school years to improve social mobility? Can more teaching hours reduce inequality amongst pupils? Why do additional funds for schools not necessarily lead to improvement in results?
- What about the impact of large employment programmes such as the Guaranteed Employment Scheme (NREGS) in India?
- Can local agents improve agricultural production by supplying farmers with innovation and credit?
- Is a minimum wage an effective tool for poverty reduction?
- How can a country better prepare for natural disasters?
- Under which conditions can programmes lead to real and long-lasting women's empowerment?

**Find answers on these and many more questions in the Nopoor policy briefs, papers and working papers at <http://www.nopoor.eu/publication-list>**

**Find a concluding document of the conference and information on speakers and discussants at <http://www.nopoor.eu/events/nopoor-final-conference>**

**More information needed? Please contact us at [info@nopoor.eu](mailto:info@nopoor.eu)**



## The EU Project NOPOOR

### Five years of research, four continents, one vision

The research project *Nopoor* aims at strategies that lead developing and emerging countries out of poverty. Over a period of five years, scientists from all over the world work together in this most relevant EU research programme dedicated to fighting poverty in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

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### Funding scheme:

Collaborative project (large scale integrated research project) for specific cooperation action dedicated to international cooperation.

**EU contributions:** 8 000 000 EUR

**Duration:** 5 years, April 1st 2012 – September 30th 2017

### NOPOOR research countries:

Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Togo, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Haiti, Mexico, Peru

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