

2010
European Year
for Combating
Poverty and
Social Exclusion

Research Seminar

The use of indicators and targets in social inclusion policy: National and European perspectives

Wednesday, 3 November 2010
(9am – 1pm)

Venue:
ESRI
Whitaker Square
Sir John Rogerson's Quay
Dublin 2



Social Inclusion Division
An Rannán um Chuimsiú Sóisialta
An Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail,
Comhionannais agus Gaeltachta
Department of Community, Equality
and Gaeltacht Affairs



ESRI @ 50 : Providing Evidence for Policy
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Purpose of the Seminar

The aim of the seminar is to examine and debate the increasing use of indicators and targets in social inclusion policy at national and European levels. The seminar will focus on the recent adoption by the EU of a social inclusion target in the Europe 2020 strategy and how this target will be expressed at national level. In addition, the seminar will consider how indicators can be used to monitor the implementation of social inclusion policy in a tangible and objective manner. The seminar is co-hosted by the Social Inclusion Division of the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs, the Economic and Social Research Institute and UCD Social Science Research Centre.

Programme

08:45 Registration and Coffee

09.30 Welcome and introduction Professor Frances Ruane, Director, ESRI

Session 1: The development of poverty targets at European and national levels

Chair: Dr Helen Russell, ESRI

09.35 Paper 1: *The European poverty target*
Olivier Bontout, Vice-Chair and French Government Representative of the Indicators Sub-group of the Social Protection Committee and DREES - Direction de la Recherche, des Etudes, de l'Evaluation et des Statistiques

10.05 Paper 2: *The Irish approach to poverty targets*
Jim Walsh, Social Inclusion Division, Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs

10.35 Questions and Answers

10.50 Coffee

Session 2: Supporting the use of poverty targets in policy-making

Chair: Catherine Hazlett, Social Inclusion Division, Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs

11.10 Paper 3: *Targets and poverty policy: challenges and opportunities*
Professor Brian Nolan, School of Applied Social Science, University College Dublin

11.40 Paper 4: *Indicators for Poverty Impact Assessment*
Professor Tim Callan, ESRI

12.10 Questions and Answers

Session 3: Panel Discussion

Chair: Professor Christopher T. Whelan, School of Sociology, University College Dublin

12.25 Dr. Seán Healy SMA, Social Justice Ireland
Helen Johnston, National Economic and Social Council
Catherine Hazlett, Social Inclusion Division, Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs

12.45 Open discussion

13.00 Closing Remarks

Light lunch provided for participants

Organising Bodies

The Social Inclusion Division of the Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs is responsible for coordinating the implementation of Government strategies for social inclusion including the *National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016*. It has a particular remit to monitor poverty trends and policy outcomes. The Division co-ordinates Ireland's programme for the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion 2010.

The Economic and Social Research Institute is one of Europe's leading research centres in the social sciences, established 50 years ago this year. Its main focus is research on economic and social change in Ireland in the new global context. The ESRI produces research that contributes to understanding economic and social change and that informs public policymaking and civil society in Ireland and throughout the European Union.

The mission of the UCD Social Science Research Centre is to facilitate and support research excellence and interdisciplinary research collaboration in the College of Human Sciences, and to strengthen UCD's national and international profile in social science research. The SSRC brings together researchers from a wide variety of disciplines across UCD to develop UCD social scientists' disciplinary and interdisciplinary networks and linkages, to support and stimulate PhD social science research, and to enhance UCD's prominence and visibility in global social science scholarship.

Booking and Venue

Booking details

Attendance at the event is free but must be pre-booked. There are a limited number of places available and early booking is encouraged. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. In the event of a high demand, late-booking participants may be placed on the waiting list.

The seminar takes place in the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) which is located at:-

Whitaker Square
Sir John Rogerson's Quay
Dublin 2.
Telephone +353 1 863 2000
Web site: www.esri.ie

To book a place [click here](#) and register by **29 October, 2010** at the latest.

If you have any query regarding the booking procedure please contact: Mary Dowling, Economic and Social Research Institute, Telephone +353 1 863 2000.

Getting There

The ESRI is located at **Whitaker Square, Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2**. This is a pedestrian only Square that is not immediately visible from the surrounding streets.

There are pedestrian entrances from Sir John Rogerson's Quay (beside the large white O2 building), from Cardiff Lane (directly beside the Maldron Hotel) and from Hanover Street East (just east of the junction with Lower Erne Street).



Public Transport

The nearest Dart is Pearse Station in Westland Row and the nearest Luas (red line) is Mayor Square. The area is currently not very well served by buses but the 74 B runs from Cardiff Lane to Templeogue and there are a number of buses running along Pearse Street.

Parking

There is on-street disk parking in Cardiff Lane, Hanover Street East and Erne Street. A public car park is located at Gallery Quay and can be entered on Chimney View, just off Pearse Street. Other car parks are available at: Connolly Station, Jury's Custom House, the NCI, Dawson Street and Setanta place (off Nassau Street).

Accommodation

The nearest hotel is Maldron Hotel Cardiff Lane. Accommodation must be booked directly with the hotel and will be at the expense of the delegate.

Speakers and chairpersons

Professor Frances Ruane has been Director of the ESRI since December 2006. Prior to moving to the ESRI, she was an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at Trinity College. Earlier in her career, she held positions in the Central Bank and Queen's University (Ontario).

Dr Helen Russell is an Associate Research Professor at the ESRI. She is the Programme Coordinator for research on Social Inclusion, and is joint Programme co-ordinator for Equality Research. She is also a member of the *Growing Up in Ireland* management team. Her research covers a range of inter-connecting issues relating to equality, the family, the labour market and poverty/social inclusion.

Jim Walsh is Assistant Principal Officer in the Social Inclusion Division, Department of Community, Equality and Gaeltacht Affairs. Jim's professional background is research and policy analysis.

Catherine Hazlett is Principal Officer in the Social Inclusion Division in the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. Catherine has worked, for most of her career in the Department of Social and Family Affairs and has a wide range of experience of policy and service development.

Helen Johnston joined the NESF as Senior Social Policy Analyst in July 2007. Helen previously worked at the Combat Poverty Agency where she was Director for 6 years and Head of Research for the 8 years previously. Helen has worked on all areas of poverty and social inclusion policy, in particular the development, implementation and evaluation of the Irish National Anti-Poverty Strategy and its subsequent permutations.

Professor Tim Callan is a Research Professor at the ESRI. He coordinates the Institute's research programme on Taxation, Welfare and Pensions, which is geared towards developing the evidence base to inform policy decisions in these crucial areas. Much of the work of the ESRI team is based on the Institute's tax-benefit model, SWITCH (Simulating Welfare and Income Tax Changes) which has been used to address a wide range of policy issues including some aspects of the recent Commission on Taxation.

Professor Brian Nolan is Head of the School of Applied Social Science at University College Dublin. He previously worked in the Economic and Social Research Institute, where he was Head of the Social Policy Research Division, and in the Central Bank of Ireland.

Professor Christopher T. Whelan is Head of the School of Sociology at University College Dublin. He was formerly a Research Professor at the ESRI. He is currently Chair of the European Consortium for Sociological Research, a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, associate editor of the *European Sociological Review* and a member of the editorial board of *Longitudinal and Life Course Studies*.

Dr Seán Healy SMA is Director of Social Justice Ireland, which is a research and advocacy organisation of individuals and groups, lay and religious, throughout Ireland who are committed to working to build a just society where human rights are respected, human dignity is protected, human development is facilitated and the environment is respected and protected.

Olivier Bontout has been deputy sub-director for synthesis, economic studies and evaluation at the DREES (Directorate for Research, Studies, Evaluation and Statistics) at the French Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs since 2008 and vice-chair of the Indicators sub group (ISG) of the Social Protection Committee (SPC) since 2010. He has been in charge in the European Commission of the development of the Open Method of Coordination in the field of pensions (DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, 2004-2008), and formerly economist at French Council for Employment, Incomes and Social Cohesion (Conseil de l'emploi, des revenus et de la cohésion sociale, CERC, 2001-2004), at the DREES (1999-2001) and at the Center for prospective studies and international information (Centre d'études prospective et d'informations internationales, CEPIL, 1998-1999). Olivier Bontout is a public servant from the European Commission and the French Ministry of Finance (INSEE).