

CROP ANNUAL REPORT 2014



CHR.
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INSTITUTT

Bergen ressurscenter
for internasjonal utvikling



UNIVERSITETET
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FOREWORD & HIGHLIGHTS

Foreword

by Thomas Pogge, Chair of CROP and Alberto D. Cimadamore, Scientific Director of CROP

This is the last annual report to be presented before the CROP Strategic and Communication Plans begin to guide us for the 2015-20 period. The elaboration of both plans was at the core of institutional discussions in the period covered by this report. From now on, a new approach to the allocation of resources and measurement of results will become part of our daily work as we implement these plans.

The Strategic and Communication Plans both provide a clear understanding of our mission and priorities, as well as ways to achieve them. They will also allow our small secretariat to maximize the use of existing resources in order to facilitate the impact we want to have on science and society. The plans were embraced by UiB, ISSC, the Scientific Committee and the Secretariat at CROP's Annual Meeting in 2014.

The new sense of direction is very relevant for a growing organisation. By the end of 2014, we counted 780 scholars actively participating in our network activities, showing an annual increase of 24.2% in our membership. Implementing both plans and responding to the diversity of demands posed by a fast-growing and diverse network is going to be a challenge for CROP. However, there is a clear understanding of the responsibility we have to make our evidence-based critical voices effective in the contemporary debate on poverty eradication and prevention.

We would like to keep this report as a concise instrument to describe CROP's activities and direction. We have tried to avoid an "inflation of words" and hope that in so doing, we will be fulfilling the readers' expectations.

CROP in numbers 2014



Highlights in 2014

- CROP's new "Strategic Plan 2015-2020" with a "Communication Plan 2015-2020" was approved by the Scientific Committee in June.
- A project on "Visualising Poverty Research" was launched - on CROP's own YouTube channel.
- Membership in the CROP Network grew by 24% in total, while the number of female members increased by 32%.
- CROP organised 10 public events which attracted a total of 429 people.
- The CROP-Zed book series on poverty research was relaunched. The first books will be published in 2015.
- CROP organised three academic workshops, in addition to activities related to the PoLAme project.
- The CROP Secretariat in Bergen was finally re-staffed with 4 permanent staff members.
- The call for new CROP Fellows attracted great interest worldwide, and 22 fellows were appointed for the period 2014-2018, including 6 re-appointments.
- Two joint winners of the CROP Prize 2014 were announced.

INSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

Scientific Committee and Secretariat

The core organisation of CROP is made up of a permanent secretariat hosted by the University of Bergen, and a Scientific Committee made up of renowned scholars in the field of poverty research.

The Scientific Committee that was appointed in 2013 served until the end of 2014 (when most of them chose to renew their term for another period). In 2014 the Annual Business Meeting was held in Bergen on 30 June with most of the Scientific Committee members present. During this meeting CROP's new Strategic Plan 2015-2020 with associated Communication Plan 2015-2020 were discussed and approved (see www.crop.org/About/StrategicandCommunicationPlans/default.aspx).

The CROP Fellows

CROP Fellows are ambassadors of the CROP programme and constitute a core resource group of committed scholars and/or activists who can lend ideas and help promote the CROP network.

2014 marked a year of transition as the 16 CROP Fellows who had been appointed in 2010 came to the end of their term. An open call for new fellows was launched and CROP received almost 60 applications from all over the world in response. 22 CROP Fellows were officially appointed by the International Social Science Council (ISSC) for the period 2014-2018.



Scientific Committee and Secretariat during the Annual Business Meeting in Bergen 30 June/1 July 2014: Back row from left: Norman Duncan (Univ. of Pretoria), David Hulme (Univ. of Manchester), Inge Tesdal (CROP), Etienne Nel (Univ. of Otago), Alberto Minujin (New School), Alberto Cimadamore (CROP), Thomas Pogge (Yale), Varun Gauri (World Bank), Mathieu Denis (ISSC). Front row from left: Charlotte Lillefjære-Tertnæs (CROP), Elma Montana (IAI), Gro Lie (UiB Global) and Maria Sollohub (CROP). Dag Rune Olsen (Rector, UiB) was not present when the picture was taken.

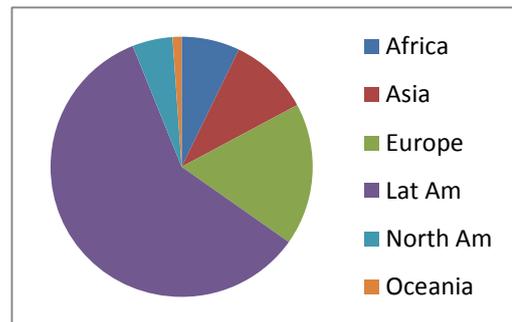
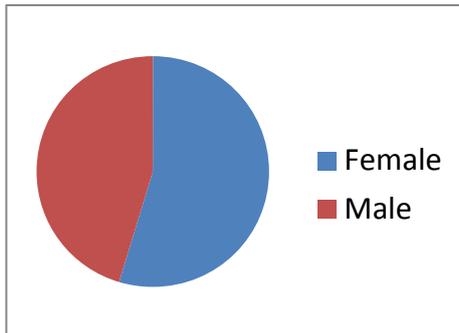
Juliana Martinez-Franzoni (Univ. of Costa Rica) and Michiel Baud (CEDLA) were unable to participate in the meeting.

CROP NETWORK

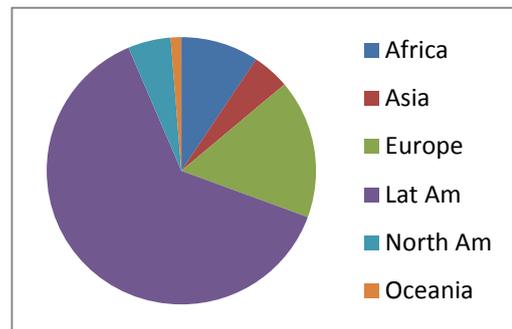
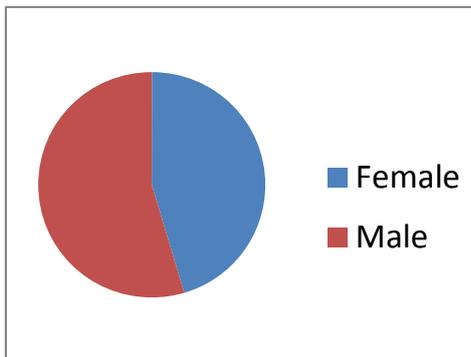
CROP's network is made up of scholars in the field of poverty research – in its widest definition. New members are included in CROP's database when they a) present papers at CROP events; b) submit proposals through CROP's open calls; or c) participate in CROP events and/or related activities or projects. The audience at public events or people who have signed up for the mailing list are not included.

181 scholars, 55% of them female, participated in CROP activities in 2014. The regional distribution shows that a majority (59%) come from Latin America and the Caribbean. Of the 181 participants in 2014, 26 were already network members while 155 were new to CROP, making the new total **780 members**. We thus experienced a membership increase of 24.2% in total, while the female membership increased by 32.6%

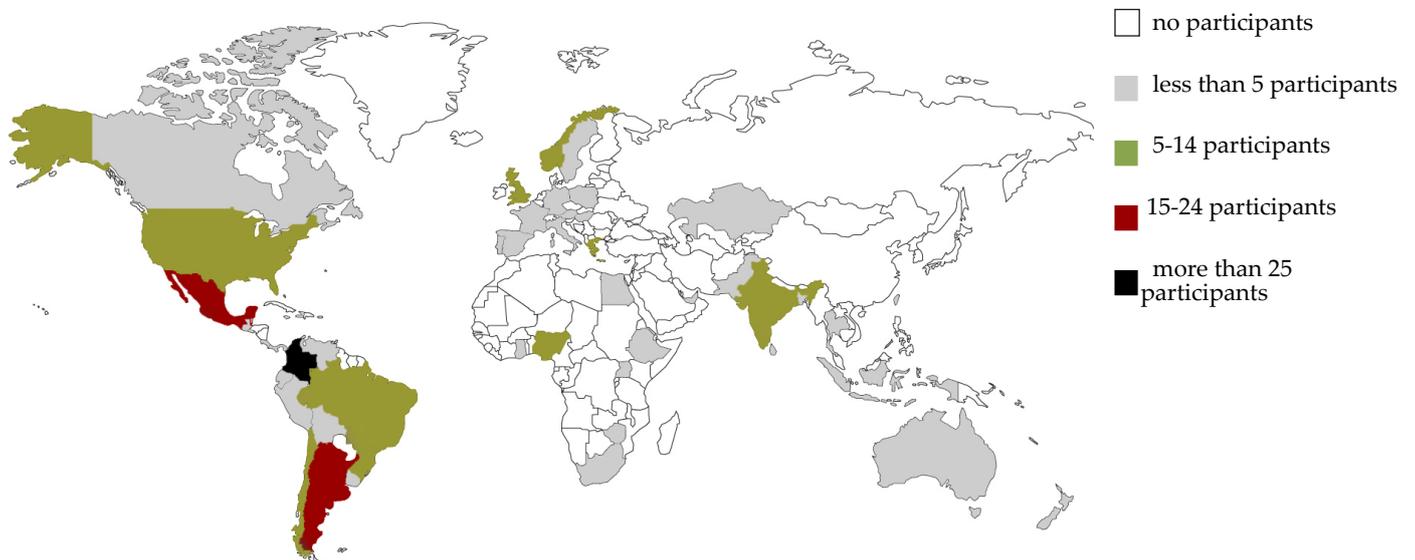
Participants in CROP events in 2014



The CROP Network - total membership including new additions for 2014



CROP participants in 2014 - by country of residence



CROP INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS

“Poverty, Language, and Media” (POLAME),

Workshop in Foz de Iguazu, Brazil, 16-17 January 2014

Kick-off event for the POLAME project. Hosted by UNILA (Federal University for Latin American Integration). **20 participants.**

“Sustainability Science and Human Development”

Workshop in Bergen, 28-29 January 2014

Organised with UiB Global and HEMIL – UiBs department of Health Promotion and Development. **14 participants.**

“Child Poverty, Public Policies and Democracy”

Workshop in Mexico City – 19-21 February 2014.

Organised in collaboration with Equity for Children - Facultad Latino Americana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO) (Mexico) and the Instituto de Investigaciones Juridicas (IIJ)-UNAM. **24 participants.**

“Child Poverty, Youth (un)employment and Social Inclusion”

Workshop in Athens, Greece, 19-21 November 2014

Organised together with the Democritus University of Thrace and the Institute of Labour in Greece. **21 participants.**

CROP **ILM** **Democritus University of Thrace**

“Child poverty, youth (un)employment, and social inclusion” - workshop
Organized by CROP, the Institute of Labour, and Democritus University of Thrace
Athens, November 19-21, 2014

This workshop will focus on child and youth poverty and raise the question of what policy strategies are needed to break the brutal cycle of intergenerational poverty transmission. The lack of protection against child poverty not only constitutes a violation of basic human rights but it also entails high social and economic costs. Living in poverty has a negative impact both on current family and social life as well as for the generations to come.

Critical assessment of the progress made in terms of child (and youth) poverty reduction and their access to decent labour conditions is needed. Such an evaluation can be enriched by new theoretical approaches on both causes and consequences of child poverty, with a particular emphasis on decent labour as a main factor of social inclusion.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Papers for this workshop may address questions such as:

- What is the long-term impact of child poverty; how should it be measured, and which factors are relevant?
- To what extent does child poverty reduce future accomplishments (education, career etc.)?
- What are the best strategies to reduce the structural dependency between child poverty, youth unemployment and poverty in adulthood?
- How can we reduce youth unemployment and how should training programmes to improve the employability of poor young people be designed?

We welcome papers from all over the world with preferably (but not exclusively) comparative approaches to the above issues.

DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS: MAY 30th, 2014
For the complete call of abstract, visit our website www.crop.org or contact us on crop@uib.no

ISSC

OTHER ACADEMIC EVENTS

SANORD day at the University of Bergen, 14 May 2014

CROP contributed to a seminar on the role of universities in the promotion of the MDGs and how academia can contribute to future work in the fight against poverty.

Meeting with a Ukrainian group of graduate students, 23 May 2014

Seven postgraduate students from the National Academy of Public Administration in Kiev, Ukraine, gathered at the CROP secretariat to analyse global poverty. They were part of the “Youth Generation Will Change Ukraine” programme.



Academic panel at the LASA conference in Chicago, 24 May 2014

CROP co-sponsored a panel entitled “Social reform and segmented incorporation in Latin America: dead end or transit to social equality?” as part of the twenty-second International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association in Chicago.

SANORD international symposium in Karlstad, Sweden, 10-12 June 2014

CROP and UIB Global participated with papers in the panel “Sustainability and the re-shaping of the democratic developmental states in the 21st century” at the SANORD symposium hosted by the University of Karlstad in Sweden.

Scientific Committee Meeting and workshop on SDGs, in Bergen 30 June – 1 July 2014

The members of the CROP Scientific Committee met in Bergen for the 2014 Annual Business Meeting on 30 June. 1 July was set aside for an academic workshop on the new Sustainable Development Goals.

World Social Sciences Fellows seminar Taiwan, 2-8 November 2014

CROP was one of the partners in ISSC’s 2nd World Social Sciences Fellows seminar on Sustainable Urbanization that took place in Taipei, Taiwan.

PUBLIC EVENTS

	Title	Venue	No. of People
29.01.2014	"Health, Poverty & Sustainability Science"	Bergen Resource Centre	20
20.02.2014	"Development and Building of Citizenship in the Childhood"	Mexico city	120
21.02.2014	"Poverty, Inequality, and Democracy: from knowledge to action."	Mexico city	35
25.04.2014	"Publishing on Development" Re-launch of the CROP-Zed book series	Bergen Resource Centre	8
27.06.2014	"Responding to Poverty in South Africa: An overview of local and region development responses"	Bergen Resource Centre	30
01.07.2014	"The New Development Agenda: Eradicating poverty by 2030?"	Bergen Resource Centre	85
02.09.2014	"Poverty, Language and Media in Latin America"	UNILA, Brazil	51
24.10.2014	"The Representation of Poverty in Latin American Newspapers"	Bergen Resource Centre	25
20.11.2014	"Children in the Era of Austerity"	Athens, Greece	40
03.12.2014	"Welfare, Social Risks and Poverty in Puerto Rico"	Bergen Resource Centre	15

VISITING RESEARCHERS

Professor Etienne Nel

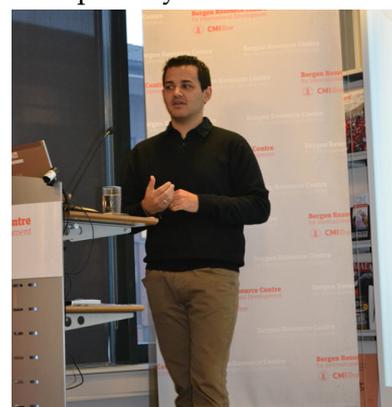
from the University of Otago, New Zealand and a member of the CROP Scientific Committee, was a guest researcher at CROP in June/July 2014. His focus is on aspects of community development, local economic development and urban survival primarily in Africa. As one of the editors of the CROP Poverty Briefs, his stay at the secretariat gave ample opportunity to discuss the further development of the brief series.



Gibrán Cruz-Martínez

from Universidad Complutense de Madrid was a guest researcher at CROP in November and December, 2014. His main research area is the emerging welfare state and poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean.

During his stay at CROP, he met with researchers and professors from UiB to present the results of his dissertation. He also gave a public lecture at Bergen Resource Centre.



PROJECTS

PoLame - Poverty, Language and Media in Latin America

“Poverty, Language and Media” (POLAME) is a joint project among CROP, the Department of Foreign Languages (UiB), and a consortium of nine Latin American and Norwegian Universities (1). It is funded by the Research Council of Norway.

This is a three-year project to research how agenda-setting media convey and construct notions of poverty in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico. The study focuses on ideologies and interests expressed through the notions, conceptions, and definitions of poverty transmitted by agenda-setting media.

The launch event of the project was held at the University of Antioquia, Colombia in September 2013. A follow-up workshop was hosted by the Federal University for Latin American Integration (UNILA) in Foz de Iguazu in **January 2014**. In addition to issues related to the general project framework, this meeting focused on the Brazilian cluster and its coordination with the Argentinean and Colombian partners.

The third workshop took place at UNILA in **September 2014**. Participants discussed the results of the first analysis of the corpus containing articles published by mainstream media in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico between 2000 and 2014. Among decisions made to define the second phase of the project, the representatives

of the consortium decided to publish a book in Spanish containing the results of this first phase.

On **24 October 2014**, POLAME organised two events in Bergen. The first one was a seminar hosted by the Department of Foreign Languages (UiB) while the second one took place at the Bergen Resource Centre. In these events, researchers presented their preliminary analysis of representations of poverty in Latin American media based on studies of samples of agenda-setting newspapers in Colombia, Argentina, Brazil and Mexico.



1) Universidad de Antioquia, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Universidad Nacional de Salta, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Universidad Nacional de San Juan, Universidad Federal de Integración Latinoamericana, Universidad de Guadalajara, Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, and the Norwegian School of Economics.

Sustainability Science and Human Development

Sustainability Science is a research area that CROP seeks to develop further, taking advantage of the research efforts already undertaken at UiB, as well as at partner institutions. After a first international workshop in Bergen in May 2013, a follow-up workshop was held in **January 2014** at the University of Bergen; CROP Secretariat/UiB Global. The long-term objective was to consolidate a network that would build on previous international cooperation, for example within the framework of the Worldwide University Network (WUN).

CROP, UiB Global and HEMIL – UiB’s department of Health Promotion and Development - were the organisers of the two-day exploratory workshop in January 2014. Participating in the discussions, either present in Bergen or via Skype, were academics from Norway, Canada, Brazil, Nigeria, Australia, Argentina and Kazakhstan. Participants presented their research topics focusing on how transdisciplinarity and participatory research methods can provide new ways to address sustainability in the framework of the social

sciences. Over the course of the two days, the group explored the opportunities for joint research projects, PhD programmes or other collaborative activities in the broader field of sustainability science and participatory research methods. During the last half of 2014, the Bjercknes Centre for Climate Research was included in the initiative and a seminar series on sustainability science as a response to global challenges was planned for the spring semester 2015.



PUBLICATIONS

Six new CROP books approved

The CROP book series 'International Studies in Poverty Research', published by Zed Books, London was re-launched during the spring 2014. No books were published in 2014, but six book proposals were approved by Zed's editorial board:

1. "Water and Development. Good Governance after Neoliberalism", edited by Ronaldo Munck et al.
2. "Protecting the Health of the Poor: Social Movements in the South", edited by Abraar Karan & Geeta Sodhi
3. "Poverty & Inequality in Middle Income Countries", edited by Gemma Wright, Einar Braathen & Julian May

4. "Development and Sustainability Science: The Challenge of for Social Change", edited by Alberto D. Cimadamore, Maurice Mittelmark, Gro Th. Lie & Fungi Ottemöller
5. "Poverty & the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): A critical assessment and a look forward", edited by Alberto D. Cimadamore, Gabriele Kohler, & Thomas Pogge
6. "Peasant and Poverty Persistence in the 21st Century", edited by Julio Boltvinik & Susan Archer Mann

These are all anthologies coming mostly out of CROP workshops held over the last few years. The first three manuscripts were submitted in late 2014 and the first books will be published in 2015

CROP International Studies in Poverty Prize 2014 announced joint winners

The CROP International Studies in Poverty Prize, organised in co-operation with Zed Books, London, is awarded annually to outstanding monographs contributing to research on global poverty eradication or prevention.

The 2014 CROP prize was shared between two excellent submissions: "An Analysis of Changes in Child Poverty in the Developing World" by Shailen Nandy, research fellow at the School for Policy Studies at



the University of Bristol and "Towards a Heterodox Economic Theory of Poverty Production" by Barbara Schaller of the University of Birmingham. Both manuscripts receive the opportunity to be published as monographs in the CROP-Zed Books series 'International Studies in Poverty Research', in addition to a monetary award.

Barbara Schaller has subsequently had to decline the offer, while we hope to see Shailen Nandy's book published in 2016.

CROP Poverty Briefs

The CROP Poverty Briefs are a series of short research notes highlighting recent poverty research, policies and strategies related to alleviating poverty. The brief series is edited by Etienne Nel (University of Otago) and co-edited by Enrique Delamonica (NICEF Nigeria).

Two new poverty briefs were published in spring 2014:

- **New Developments in International Poverty Law: The UN guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights**, by Camilo Pérez-Bustillo, New Mexico State University, USA
- **The Individual Deprivation Measure: A new approach to multi-dimensional, gender sensitive poverty measurement**, by Sharon Bessel, Australian National University

During the second semester of 2014, three additional poverty briefs were published:

- **Big Holes in the SDG Draft**, by Gabriele Köhler (UNRISD), Thomas Pogge (Yale University,

USA) and Mitu Sengupta (Ryerson University, Canada).

- **How Moving Beyond GDP May Help Fight Poverty in Africa**, by Lorenzo Fioramonti (United Nations University).
- **Separating and Combining Child and Adult Poverty: Why? How**, by Enrique Delamonica (UNICEF, Nigeria).



COMMUNICATION & DISSEMINATION

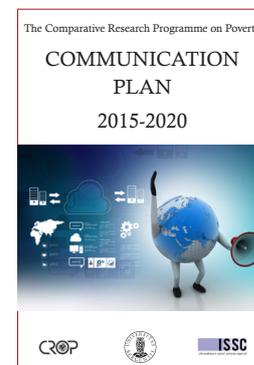
CROP's communication and dissemination work

To "Disseminate relevant knowledge on poverty and sustainable development to a wide audience in order to increase the general understanding of the reasons behind and solutions to world poverty" is one of the strategic activities defined in CROP's Strategic Plan for 2015-2020.

Effective and professional distribution of research results and other information is a key resource in disseminating CROP's message. At the Annual Meeting in June, the Scientific Committee approved a communication plan for CROP that outlines the strategies for achieving this.

CROP's channels for communication include publications like the books and poverty briefs, as well as more general forms of dissemination, such as the website, the newsletters and the newly established YouTube channel.

You can read the communication plan at <http://www.crop.org/About/StrategicandCommunicationPlans/default.aspx>



Status of the project "Visualising Poverty Research"

Visualising Poverty Research is a new project, launched by CROP in 2014. It seeks to disseminate poverty research to a wider audience using video interviews published on CROP's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/user/CROPSecretariat).

Academics and researchers in CROP's network are invited to answer three standard questions related to poverty and the causes and actions to eradicate it – based on their research.

The first 7 interviews, conducted with members of the Scientific Committee, were published on 11 September. By the end of 2014, there were 12 interviews available, in addition to a video presenting the project.

From 11 September to 31 December, the channel yielded the following results:

- A total number of views of 1130

- The site has been visited from 53 different countries around the world, although Norway, US, UK and Argentina alone account for 70% of the visits.
- The two most popular interview had more than 160 visits each, but the remaining 5 videos published in September all had 50 or more viewings

We are satisfied with the result from these first three months. It has served as a period of learning and motivation to continue expanding the project. We believe that the use of YouTube as a communication channel is a key to reach a wider audience and to develop a path of communication between researchers and the general public, enhancing the input for policies against poverty and generating concrete actions towards the eradication of poverty – a main objective for CROP.

COMMUNICATION & DISSEMINATION

Launch of the CROP International Studies in Poverty Prize 2014

The CROP International Studies in Poverty Prize 2014 was launched on 25 April 2014 during an event at the Bergen Research Centre for International Development. The call was simultaneously announced on the CROP and ZED websites and through ISSC's communication channels.

For this prize, CROP, in cooperation with Zed Books, sought original and high-quality manuscripts that could challenge the dominant thinking. Poverty had to be the central focus of the monograph and the aspiration was to receive

innovative manuscripts from all disciplines of the social sciences and the humanities.

The winner, in addition to having their manuscript published by Zed Books, receives a price of NOK 50'000.

CROP International Studies in Poverty Prize 2014

CROP Zed Books



The Comparative Research Programme on Poverty (CROP), in cooperation with Zed Books, requests entries for the CROP International Studies in Poverty Prize 2014.

We seek original, high-quality, alternative and critical academic manuscripts. Works challenging the dominant thinking and knowledge about poverty and providing sound contributions to the eradication and/or prevention of poverty in our world are especially welcomed.

Poverty must be the central focus of the monograph. Innovative manuscripts are accepted from all disciplines of the Social Sciences and the Humanities. CROP is especially (but not exclusively) interested in the themes of Poverty and Human Rights, Gender Disparity, Policy Innovation, the MDG process, and Global Justice.

CLOSING DAY FOR SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES IS
31st of August 2014

The winner of the CROP International Studies in Poverty Prize 2014 receives NOK 50,000 (€ 5,000). The manuscript will be published in the CROP International Studies in Poverty series by way of Zed Books. The winner also receives 10 copies of the book.

For further entry guidelines please see reverse.

The CROP newsletter

The CROP newsletter is sent out twice a year, at the end of each semester, to the recipients of the regular CROP mailing list. It is sent out as an interactive pdf file.

The focus of the newsletter is to report on past events and projects and in that respect it is more of a magazine than a typical newsletter. From 2014 we have invited members of our network to write 1-page articles on projects or events.

- The August newsletter was sent to 1039 recipients.
- In December, the newsletter was sent to 1051 recipients.
- In addition to this comes the number of direct downloads of the newsletter from our website.

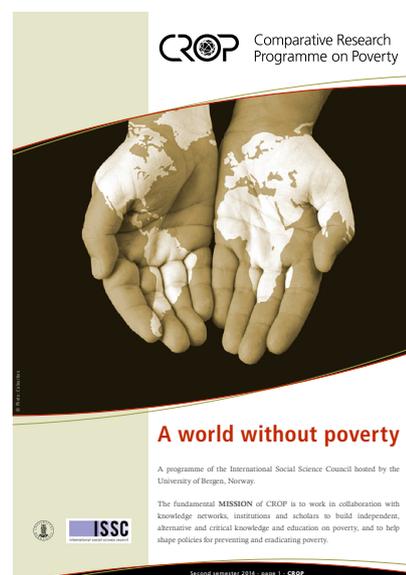
The CROP website

The CROP website www.crop.org is CROP's main communication channel. In addition to news and announcements from CROP and its extended network, the website also includes electronic versions of all CROP's publications (books, briefs, newsletters etc.).

From 1 January to 31 December 2014, the website had the following results:

- 24'832 visits to the website, an average of 478 per week.
- The site visits generated a total of 93'928 page viewings
- We had 19'622 unique users.
- 69% of the users only visited one page before leaving the site, although the average user visited 3.8 pages.

- The average time spent on the site was just over 2 minutes
- The users came from 182 different countries. The four largest were the US (3500 users), UK (1644), India (1447) and Norway (948). There are 8 countries with more than 500 users and 39 countries with more than 100 users.



Country	Sessions	% Sessions
1. United States	3,992	16.08%
2. Norway	2,581	10.39%
3. United Kingdom	2,036	8.20%

CROP's vision:
"A world without poverty"



Comparative Research
Programme on Poverty