

## January 2014

## Mobilizing critical research for preventing and eradicating poverty

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### FOREWORD

*By Thomas Pogge and Alberto Cimadamore*

CROP celebrated its Secretariat's 20<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2013 and moves into 2014 full of energy and expectations. We are not teenagers any more. But we still have youthful vitality, with a great deal of accumulated experience, which may make our plans and actions more assertive. The next year will be a test for this metaphor, particularly when the Scientific Committee meets in Bergen to discuss the institutional strategic and communication plans for 2015–2020.

We are also full of expectations because this year we will relaunch the CROP Prize. We are happy to announce that Zed Books (London) is supporting this initiative, and together we will launch a call for manuscripts during the first semester of the year. This is a friendly prompt to all members (current and – why not? – future) of our network to bear this in mind and to pass on the message, so that everyone can be ready when the deadline is announced. As with the previous call, we will seek original, high-quality, alternative and critical academic manuscripts that challenge the dominant thinking about poverty and provide sound contributions to its eradication and/or prevention.

Our post-teenage enthusiasm is now being supported by a substantive reinforcement of the Secretariat team. We are very pleased to announce that from January 2014 CROP has an administrative coordinator, Charlotte Lillefjære-Tertnæs. The strengthening of the Secretariat team makes the institutionalization process more robust in the sense that we will be more able not only to manage the administrative routines in our relationships with our sponsors (the University of Bergen, UiB, and the International Social Science Council, ISSC), but also to consolidate and expand our worldwide academic activities.

This issue of our *Newsletter* provides the usual overview of CROP's main undertakings during the past semester and a calendar of the main events for the next semester. As you will see on the pages that follow, we have continued to work with strategic partners and topics in different parts of the world. It is our intention to consolidate our relationships with these partners by working on the niches in which CROP is increasingly concentrating its activities, to enjoy the beauty of our maturity. After all, we are not teenagers any more.

Photo: © Kim E. Andreassen





## INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE COUNCIL GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WORLD SOCIAL SCIENCE FORUM

[October 9–12, 2013, Montreal, Canada]

**CROP is one of the ISSC's three Scientific Programs. As such, it participated actively in the 29<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (GA) of the Council, reporting on activities developed after the 2010 GA celebrated in Japan and presenting the plan for 2014. The meeting was followed by a World Social Science Forum (WSSF) on "Social Transformation and the Digital Age."**

The first session was devoted to the presentation of reports from the different authorities, boards, and partners of the Council. Among them, Olive Shisana (ISSC president) and Heide Hackmann (ISSC executive director) shared their views on the past achievements and future challenges for the ISSC as well as for the social sciences. Following those presentations, the *World Social Science Report 2013* entitled "Changing Global Environments" was pre-launched. This third edition of the report issues an urgent call to action for the international social science community. As it states:

*Global environmental change changes everything for everyone on this planet – our life support systems, our livelihoods, our ways of life, our actions and interactions with each other [...]. Social scientists need to collaborate more effectively with colleagues from the natural, human and engineering sciences to deliver relevant, credible knowledge that can help to address the most pressing of today's environmental problems and sustainability challenges.*

(The full-report can be found at: [www.worldsocialscience.org](http://www.worldsocialscience.org)).

On the second day, CROP participated in a fruitful meeting dedicated to the Council's Scientific Programs and Networks. During that session CROP's chair and director jointly introduced the program's activities and presented an overview of current and future plans. CROP's reports were endorsed by the

General Assembly, and members emphasized the importance of poverty and inequality in the Council's agenda, particularly in relation to the next WSSF to be held in 2015 in Durban, South Africa.

On the third day the resolutions were presented, and new authorities and boards were elected. The reports and results debated during the intensive three-day agenda are available at: [www.worldsocialscience.org](http://www.worldsocialscience.org).

From October 13 to 15 the Second WSSF, entitled "Social Transformation and the Digital Age," took place. More than 750 experts from different areas of the social sciences and other disciplines gathered to discuss how digital technologies can influence diverse aspects of social life and to consider some of their impacts on the social sciences. Among the main topics discussed were the role of social media before, during, and after the Arab Spring; e-health and the digitization of medical files; redefining journalism and activism (considering Wikileaks, Anonymous, IdleNoMore, and the Occupy movement); transformation of war (drones, robots) and diplomacy; and the use of digital games to enhance seniors' quality of life. [For more information visit [www.wssf2013.org](http://www.wssf2013.org)]

The next World Social Science Forum, "Transforming Global Relations for a Just World," will be held in Durban, South Africa, on September 13–16, 2015.



The Yale Global Justice Program, Global Financial Integrity, and Academics Stand Against Poverty Present



## Human Rights and Economic Justice

*Essential Elements of the Post-MDG Agenda*  
October 18-20, 2013  
Sudler Recital Hall in Harkness Hall, 100 Wall Street, Yale University

Friday, October 18	Saturday, October 19	Sunday, October 20
Financial Transparency Post-2015, <i>featuring:</i>	Global Health & Impact: Global Poverty, <i>featuring:</i>	Impact: Global Poverty, Continued, <i>featuring:</i>
Raymond Baker (GFI), Thomas Pogge (Yale), Lena Diesing (OECD), Pascale Dubois (World Bank), Gail Hurlley (UNDP), Rafael Espada (Former VP of Guatemala), Jose Cuisia, Jr. (Philippine Embassy), Jarmo Viinanen (Finnish Mission), Itai Grinberg (Georgetown), Ebrahim Rasool (S. African Embassy), Susan Rose-Ackerman (Yale), Lee Sheppard (Tax Notes), Peter Ackerman (ICNC), & Shazka Beyerle (ICNC)	Steven Hoffman (McMaster), Thomas Pogge (Yale), Harvey Rubin (UPenn), Martha Chen (Harvard), Andries Du Toit (U of Western Cape), Juliana Martinez-Franzoni (CROP), Nidhi Sadana Sabharwal (IIDS), Teddy Cruz (UCSD), Jonathan Morduch (NYU), Alberto Minujin (CROP), Alberto Cimadamore (ICSSR), Sukhadeo Thorat (ICSSR), & David Hulme (BWPI)	Teddy Cruz (UCSD), Fonna Forman (UCSD), Tim Hayward (U of Edinburgh), Heather Widdows (U of Birmingham), Darrel Moellendorf (Goethe University), Jill Coster van Voorhout (THIG), & Thomas Pogge (Yale)
		For the conference agenda and registration, visit: <a href="http://yale.edu/macmillan/globaljustice">yale.edu/macmillan/globaljustice</a>

ASAP Academics Stand Against Poverty CROP Mobilizing critical research for preventing and eradicating poverty Yale MACMILLAN CENTER

## HUMAN RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE: ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE POST-MDG AGENDA

[October 18–20, New Haven, CT, USA]

CROP co-sponsored a conference on “Human Rights and Economic Justice: Essential Elements of the Post-MDG Agenda”, organized by Academics Stand Against Poverty (ASAP), an international professional association, as well as the Yale Global Justice program and Global Financial Integrity. The event, part of ASAP’s *Impact: Global Poverty* initiative, took place at Yale University. Leaders of poverty and global justice research centers from around the world congregated to share their views and work on policy-making regarding some of the most urgent problems in international development, particularly global health disparities and illicit financial flows. The positive impacts of academics on poverty alleviation policies and practices were also presented as a main focus for the debate [some of them can be consulted at: [academicsstand.org](http://academicsstand.org)].

Besides providing support as sponsor, CROP was represented on the panels by several members of the Scientific Committee: Thomas Pogge (chair of the SC), Juliana Martinez Franzoni, Alberto Minujin, and David Hulme. All of them were involved as speakers, as was Alberto Cimadamore, on behalf of the Secretariat.

This initiative has been another relevant step forward in the institutional collaboration built up with ASAP, an organization that shares CROP’s goal of engaging academics in the fight against global poverty.

## 2013 SANORD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN MALAWI

[December 1–4, Malawi]



The Fourth Biennial Southern African-Nordic Center (SANORD) International Conference was hosted in Lilongwe by the University of Malawi. CROP was represented at the event along with more than a hundred delegates from Nordic and Southern African institutions. SANORD promotes collaboration between higher education and research institutions in those two regions [For more information, visit: [www.sanord.uwc.ac.za](http://www.sanord.uwc.ac.za)].

The focus of the conference was on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and their relation to higher education, research, and the production of knowledge. CROP was directly involved in three of the conference sessions. On the first day Alberto D. Cimadamore, director of CROP, participated in a panel billed as an “Interactive dialogue session on higher education and MDGs,” along with Astri Andresen (UiB and SANORD’s chairperson), and Chris Nhlapo (Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa). The panel was chaired by Dr. Wilson Mandala (University of Malawi).

On the second day, Cimadamore chaired a session on the future of international cooperation and post-MDG activity. On a closely related subject, on the third day, Cimadamore presented CROP’s critical analysis on the MDGs and the post-MDG agenda. This was contained in the latest issues of the *CROP Poverty Briefs* [see [page 5](#)], and an edited volume on the topic will be published later in 2014.

The meeting was a good opportunity to strengthen partnership ties among organizations with the shared mission of “promoting both North–South and South–South dialogue and academic linkages.” CROP and SANORD collaborated in the past in organizing an international workshop on poverty in middle-income countries [see the programme at [www.crop.org](http://www.crop.org)]. Now, as result of this conference, a new proposal was submitted to the Board of SANORD: to organize a workshop on “The democratic developmental state – Southern African and Nordic experiences,” a topic of mutual interest.

# KICK-OFF SEMINAR FOR THE "POVERTY, LANGUAGE AND MEDIA IN LATIN AMERICA" PROJECT

[September 25–27, Medellín, Colombia]

As was mentioned in the last issue of this newsletter, the Research Council of Norway is supporting a project on "Poverty, Language, and Media" (POLAME). The kick-off meeting for this project took place at the University of Antioquia, Colombia.

POLAME is a three-year project to research how agenda-setting media convey and construct the 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, in order to understand the theoretical and practical implications of the linguistic framing of poverty.

During the first day of the conference, representatives of the different institutions met to plan the subsequent phases of the project. Agendas, sources, approaches, concepts, methodology, and practicalities, among other important issues, were debated extensively during the three-day workshop.

On the second day, an open event was held in the auditorium of the University of Antioquia to present the project to a wider audience, including the local academic community. The panel was composed of Elena Rojas Mayer (University of Tucuman) and Sonia Álvarez Leguizamón (University of Salta), both from Argentina; Gerónimo De Sierra (University for Latin American Integration, Brazil); Alberto Cimadamore (CROP); and Gabriel Quiroz Herrera (University of Antioquia, Colombia). Ana B. Chiquito (UiB) was the moderator of the event, which was attended by students and graduates of the host University of Antioquia.

## PRESENTATION OF POLAME AT THE NORWEGIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL

[November 21, Oslo, Norway]

The Latin American Programme of the Norwegian Research Council invited researchers who have been awarded grants to present the current status and results of their projects to the Board of the Programme during a seminar in Oslo on November 21.

Alberto Cimadamore (CROP) and Ana B. Chiquito (UiB) delivered a presentation on "Poverty, Language, and Media in Latin America." The event offered also the opportunity to discuss the current situation and perspectives of research on Latin America in Norway with Norwegian researchers, the Norwegian Research Council's officers and members of the Board of the Latin American Programme.

The Latin American Programme is an initiative of the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs which seeks to stimulate research and enhance knowledge and competence in Norway on Latin America. In 2013, the Programme launched its last call. More information about the projects included can be found here: [www.forskningsradet.no](http://www.forskningsradet.no).



© Photo: Universidad de Antioquia.

## PANEL ON "DISCOURSES ON POVERTY, MARGINALIZATION AND VULNERABILITY"

[November 28–29, Oslo, Norway]

Within the framework of the Seventh Conference of the Nordic Latin American Research Network (Norlarnet) hosted at the University of Oslo, Alberto Cimadamore (CROP) and Ana B. Chiquito (UiB) presented the theoretical framework behind the Poverty, Language and Media Project. Inaugurating the panel on "Discourses on poverty, marginalization and vulnerability," which was chaired by Jon Askeland (UiB), POLAME's presentation served as the general framework for the following expositions, which addressed how poverty and social exclusion have been (and still are) reproduced in the media and Latin American cinema.

The panel presentations and discussions focused on the contemporary role of Latin American agenda-setting media and the film industry in both constructing and representing different discourses about social and political marginalization.

Jon Askeland's paper was entitled "The discourse of *the other* in Fernando Solanas' film *La dignidad de los nadies*." Håkon Tveit (UiB) analyzed the post-revolution poverty discourse in movie production in contemporary Cuba. Audun Solli (University of Oslo) examined the representation of poverty in Venezuelan popular films, then Neyla Pardo Abril (National University of Colombia) discussed the representation of dispossession in the digital media. Finally, Nora Fernández (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina) presented a paper entitled "Bohemians, bandits, rebels in Latin America: an interpellation to Modernity."

The audience listened to the panelists with interest and participated enthusiastically in the debate session. This panel at the Norlarnet Conference was seen by the organizers as the first of a series of collaborative endeavors between POLAME, as a Nordic–Latin American project, and the Norlarnet members who actively participated in the event.



# SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

CROP, jointly with the Department of Health Promotion and Development (HEMIL) and UiB Global, applied for, and was granted, funds from the University of Bergen with the purpose of consolidating and expanding a network based on previous international cooperation within the framework of the Worldwide University Network (WUN) on Sustainability Science and Human Development. The requested funds will be used to revitalize the network that CROP, UiB Global and HEMIL have been constructing during the past year and to explore the conditions for the formation of a consortium to participate in the European Commission framework programme Horizon 2020, which is scheduled to start in January 2014.

CROP, HEMIL and UiB Global organized an international workshop in Bergen on May 13–15, 2013, as a scientific as well as a practical step toward forging a new international collaboration between the University of Bergen and other national and international institutions. Its goal was to work toward connecting social and environmental sciences for a definite purpose: to enhance the well-being

of people and their environments where it is most needed, namely in the places where severe poverty stubbornly continues to hamper sustainable human development.

The seminar focused on the emerging discipline of *sustainability science* as a way of forging broad-based and critical transdisciplinary research that supports transitions to green economies or other social models conducive to social change towards sustainable and equitable development. The seminar was organized within the framework of the WUN, and the workshop included participants from, among others, the Universities of Western Australia, Auckland, Rochester, Leeds, Sheffield, Southampton, Alberta, Bristol, Sydney, Nottingham, Manitoba, Toronto, Trace, Abia, and Rio Grande do Sul, alongside the ISSC which is based at UNESCO, Paris.

As a result, a peer-reviewed book is currently under preparation and scheduled to be published in 2014, and the initial movement toward the formation of a vibrant international network on sustainability science, human development, and transdisciplinary knowledge was enthusiastically supported by all participants.

The requested funds will be used to hold an exploratory meeting to work towards the construction of a consortium that should eventually compete for Horizon 2020 funds.

## POVERTY BRIEFS

Four publications in the CROP *Poverty Brief* series have recently been issued. The post-MDG agenda and the European economic crisis were the main topics. [The Briefs can be found at CROP website: [www.crop.org](http://www.crop.org)].



## POVERTY BRIEF 18: SOCIAL POLICY ARCHITECTURE AND POVERTY ERADICATION IN THE POST-MDG AGENDA

By Juliana Martínez Franzoni and Diego Sánchez-Ancochea

## POVERTY BRIEF 17: THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA: THE WAY FORWARD

By Thomas Pogge

## POVERTY BRIEF 16: POVERTY AND THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA: A REACTION TO THE HIGH-LEVEL PANEL REPORT (HLPR).

By Thomas Pogge, Gabriele Köhler, and Alberto Ciniadamore; edited by Etienne Nel

## POVERTY BRIEF 15: AUSTERITY AND THE SPECTRE OF "IMMISERATION" ON THE PERIPHERY OF EUROPE

By Maria Petmesidou

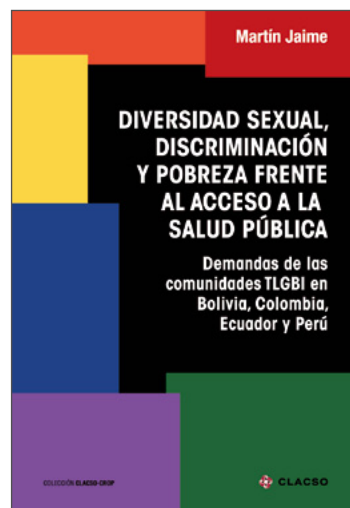
## NEW BOOKS IN THE CLACSO-CROP SERIES

Although the CLACSO-CROP programme officially ended in 2012, several pending publications were published to meet one of the programme's main goals: the dissemination of research-based knowledge on poverty developed by senior and junior researchers from Latin America. The latest titles published offer insightful perspectives on topics such as inequalities, climate change, health and universal protection systems, religion, and methodological approaches to poverty studies. All books, listed below, are available for free at the CROP website: [www.crop.org](http://www.crop.org).



### Pobreza, desigualdad y salud en América Latina

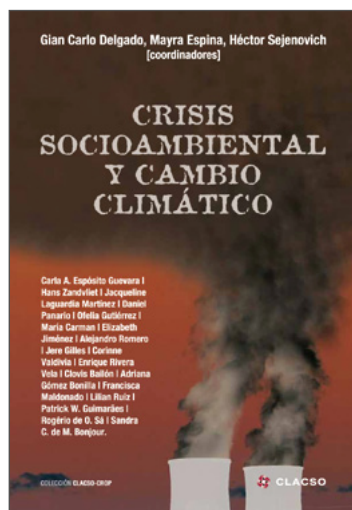
Laura Tavares Ribeiro Soares [Comp.]  
CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO,  
Buenos Aires, June 2013



### Diversidad sexual, discriminación y pobreza frente al acceso a la salud pública.

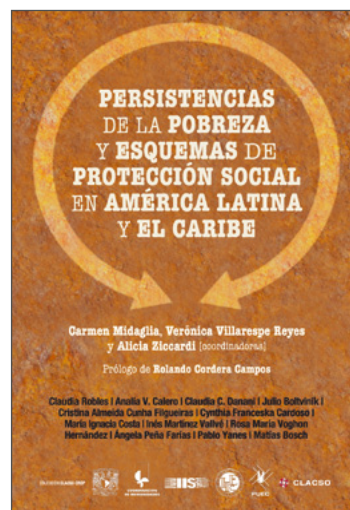
Demandas de las comunidades TLGBI en  
Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador y Perú

Martín Jaime.  
CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO,  
Buenos Aires, June 2013



### Crisis socioambiental y cambio climático

Gian Carlo Delgado Ramos, Mayra Paula  
Espina Prieto, and Héctor Sejenovich [Eds.]  
CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO,  
Buenos Aires, June 2013



### Persistencias de la pobreza y esquemas de protección social en América Latina y el Caribe

[Compilation] CLACSO-CROP Series,  
CLACSO, Buenos Aires, June 2013

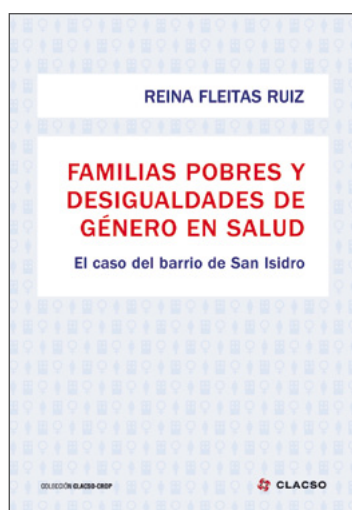
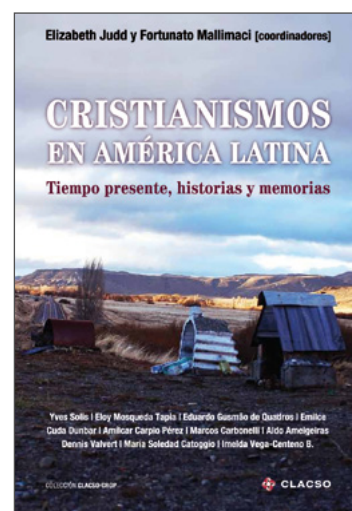


## Multidimensionalidad de la pobreza Propuestas para su definición y evaluación en América Latina y el Caribe

[Compilation] CLACSO-CROP Series,  
CLACSO, Buenos Aires, June 2013

## Cristianismos en América Latina. Tiempo presente, historias y memorias

Fortunato Mallimaci and Elizabeth Judd [Comps]  
CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO,  
Buenos Aires, July 2013.



## Familias pobres y desigualdades de género en salud.

El caso del barrio de San Isidro

Reina Fleitas Ruiz.  
CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO,  
Buenos Aires, June 2013.

## Impacto del seguro popular en el sistema de salud mexicano

Asa Cristina Laurell.  
CLACSO-CROP Series, CLACSO,  
Buenos Aires, June 2013.



## La construcción social de la pobreza en América Latina y el Caribe Perspectivas, alternativas y críticas

[Compilation] CLACSO-CROP Series,  
CLACSO, Buenos Aires, June 2013

## First semester 2014: Main activities

Updates about these activities can be found at: [www.crop.org](http://www.crop.org)

### January 14–17

Panel and Working Group Meeting on “**Childhood, poverty, inequality and public policies**,” First Latin American Congress on Childhood and Public Policies. SANTIAGO, CHILE.

### January 16–17

Workshop on “**Poverty, language and media in Latin America**” at the Federal University for Latin American Integration (UNILA, Brazil). FOZ DE IGUAZU, BRAZIL.

### January 28–29

Workshop on “**Development and sustainability science: exploratory meeting**” jointly organized with HEMIL (Department of Health Promotion and Development, UiB) and UiB Global. BERGEN, NORWAY.

### February 19–21

Workshop on “**Child poverty, public policies and democracy**”, jointly organized with Equity for Children, FLACSO (Mexico) and IIJ-UNAM. MEXICO CITY, MEXICO.

### May 23

Panel on “**Social reform and segmented incorporation in Latin America: dead end or transit to social equality?**” in the Track on Politics and Public Policy, 2014 LASA Congress. CHICAGO, USA.

### June 30 – July 1

Scientific Committee meeting and workshop. BERGEN, NORWAY.

