



TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

2017 INTEGRATION SEGMENT

“Making eradication of poverty an integral objective of all policies: what will it take?”

8 – 10 May 2017

ANNOTATED PROGRAMME

DAY I (Monday, 8 May)

10:00 – 11:30

Opening of the Integration Segment

Opening remarks by the Vice-President of the Council, the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General

Keynote Addresses

Featuring high-level speakers from Member States and other stakeholders including private sector, civil society, innovators, youth.

11:30 – 13:00

Session 1: An integrated agenda towards achieving SDG1

This session will set the stage for the rest of the Segment. It will feature expert analysis of poverty and sustainable development as a multi-dimensional phenomenon. Poverty is not merely an income-related problem, and social policy alone cannot eradicate poverty. As other policies have direct or indirect impacts on poverty results, poverty eradication objectives must be included in the design of public policy in a cross-cutting manner. Eradication of poverty requires an integrated approach across policies and SDGs that captures the three dimensions of sustainable development.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- How can we move towards integrated decision-making and policy design that maximizes synergies across social, economic and environmental dimensions to eradicate poverty?
- In which ways are issues such as fighting inequality, access to livelihood, resilience and poverty inherently integrated?
- How can policies be designed so that nobody is left behind?
- What structural or other factors affect the ability to pursue policy integration?
- What impact can the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs have on global efforts towards poverty alleviation?

13:15 – 14:30

Side events

Organized by Member States, UN system and civil society

15:00 – 16:30

Session 2: Policy Integration Across Borders

In most governmental structures, water, energy, land, agriculture and food production are managed by different agencies. However, these sectors are physically,



economically and socially related, especially in sustaining people's livelihoods. The "nexus" approach promotes the links between these areas. The cross-boundary nature of these issues, as well as the magnitude of resources needed for initial investments, mean that solutions for developing them that are limited to the national level will not suffice. Such investments may include: sustainable energy and other infrastructure; sustainable food chains; protection of biodiversity reserves integrated with regional economic and social development; mitigation, adaptation and building resilience to climate change, among others. —These areas will impact poverty eradication results, both on the probability of getting out and remaining out of poverty. The session will consider the question of climate change mainstreaming in poverty eradication initiatives, as the poorest people are disproportionately affected by its impacts. The session will feature examples of cross-border initiatives in Central America, East Asia and Africa, as well as perspectives from institutional parties engaged in addressing global challenges, such as the Green Climate Fund.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- Given the cross-boundary nature of the water-land-energy-climate nexus, how might policy actions be aligned regionally and internationally?
- What pre-conditions are required to implement a nexus approach?
- What are the challenges, benefits and trade-offs of implementing a nexus approach?
- What are the best practices and lessons learned that can be assessed from the existing cross-border initiatives?

16:30-18:00

General Debate

Member States have the opportunity to present focused statements on the theme of the 2017 ECOSOC Integration Segment, with its overarching link to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Member States may also wish to reflect on their experiences in pursuit of poverty eradication, within broader national development objectives.

DAY 2 (Tuesday, 9 May)

10:00 – 13:00

Session 3: National Experiences

This session will feature concrete case studies taken mainly from national examples. High-level policy makers from countries representing various geographical regions will present national cases in designing and implementing integrated programmes and policies to address poverty. Inputs received in the preparation of the Segment may be shared in this session, including from the ECOSOC functional commissions whose work support national implementation. A Conference Room Paper based on those inputs will be available as background.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- How have countries formulated policies to address poverty reduction taking into account other national policy objectives?
- What instruments or initiatives can facilitate the integration of economic, social and environmental concerns in the formulation of sustainable development policies?
- What trade-offs have been encountered in addressing competing demands of poverty alleviation between the various sectors of the economy?
- What approaches or incentives have proven effective in enabling the participation of non-governmental stakeholders such as civil society organizations, the private sector, or academia in actions to eradicate poverty?
- How can the United Nations and the ECOSOC system better support countries in establishing and implementing integrated policies to eradicate poverty in all its forms?

13:15 – 14:30

Side events

Organized by Member States, UN system and civil society

15:00 – 16:30

Session 4: Policy instruments for an integrated approach to poverty eradication

This session will more deeply explore innovative instruments used for poverty eradication, as well as the policy environment and capacities that are necessary for their effective deployment. The session will explore the applicability of such policy instruments to a wide variety of sectors, thus contributing to integration in practice. Discussions will connect the work of relevant parts of the ECOSOC system in promoting policy coherence in development cooperation and standard-setting.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- What policy instruments have been key in triggering poverty reduction?
- What mechanisms can ensure that innovative initiatives inform policies in a bottom-up approach?
- Has the quality of data or technology impacted policy design and implementation for eradication of multidimensional poverty? If so, in what ways?
- What are the key enablers at the international level that could leverage the effectiveness and sustainability of national policies and initiatives on poverty eradication?

16:30-18:00

Continuation of the General Debate**DAY 3 (Wednesday, 10 May)**

10:00 – 13:00

Session 5: Eradicating poverty in Africa

This session will address the particular opportunities and challenges of Africa and the variety of complex situations that confront the continent. The session will highlight efforts to adopt an integrated and holistic approach to poverty and sustainable development against a backdrop of economic growth, climate change impacts, political fragility and structural constraints. The panel will also address the alignment of the Agenda 2063 with the 2030 Agenda. Forward-looking measures will be presented and discussed.

13:15 – 14:30

Side events

Organized by Member States, UN system and civil society

15:00 – 16:30

Session 6: Bringing the ECOSOC System Together

Representatives of functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council will present highlights of the conclusions of their respective bodies, on the overall theme of the Council and of the Segment.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- How has your Commission or subsidiary body addressed the overall theme of the 2017 session of the Council of “Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges”?
- What conclusions have been drawn from your deliberations?
- How has your Commission or subsidiary body addressed the “Making eradication of poverty an integral objective of all policies: what will it take?”

- What lessons can be learned from your work in integrating these conclusions, and forwarding them to the High-Level Segment and the High-Level Political Forum?

16:30 – 17:30**Session 7: A Multi-stakeholder Approach: Roles, Responsibilities and Results**

In this session, participants will discuss the role of partnerships at local, national, regional and international levels, including the role of the United Nations system, in furthering poverty reduction policy integration objectives. Presentations will contain examples of horizontally and vertically integrated policy-making and norm-setting for poverty eradication, particularly reflecting the work of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies. The session will feature holistic initiatives in which multiple stakeholders are involved and their possible replication and scaling-up.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- How can innovative partnerships contribute to integrated policymaking to leave no one behind?
- What are the policy requirements for effective partnerships? What are the risks that should be avoided in building partnerships?
- What role can the ECOSOC system play in setting new norms to leverage partnerships to eradicate poverty?
- What collaborative platforms can be put in place or built on, including at the regional level, to enhance multi-stakeholder partnerships for poverty eradication and sustainable development?

17:30 – 18:00**Closing of the Integration Segment**

Address by the USG/DESA

Closing remarks by the Vice-President of ECOSOC
