

Analysing and Measuring Social Inclusion in a Global Context

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The aim of this paper is to demonstrate the analytical and operational relevance of the measurement of poverty and social exclusion, and to describe how such measures can be developed and used in a global context. The paper deals with general concepts and principles of social indicators construction; it seeks to shed light on the possible scope and usefulness of indicators in the field of social inclusion. While it tries to provide examples from around the world, it draws particularly on experiences in the construction of social indicators in the European Union and in their actual use in the policy process. A key objective of the paper is to spell out the main issues that need to be debated and resolved.