

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND SOCIAL WORK

INTRODUCTION

The analysis of causes and consequences of poverty and inequality between North and South constitutes one of the fundamental pillars in considering the social reality of a globalized world. From the nations with greater socioeconomic wellbeing, various public and private activities are being carried out to promote fairer and more equitable socioeconomic development in more impoverished countries. Development is understood as the means to increase the effective freedom of people and to consolidate their rights. The traumatic situations experienced by many people and ethnic minorities require immediate and effective action to promote a peaceful context, within which communities that meet needs and allow groups to freely express their wishes can be developed.

This subject has the basic objective of analysing development as a global economic, social, cultural and political process in the context of the complex North-South reality. Students should acquire competencies that allow them to effectively intervene in international contexts, within which they can work to achieve greater social justice and increased observance of human rights. The content and competencies that social workers acquire in their degrees will allow them to integrate into interdisciplinary cooperation teams.

COMPETENCIES

- Evaluate needs and available alternatives to guide an intervention strategy.
- Respond to crisis situations evaluating the urgency of situations, planning and carrying out actions to address them and reviewing the outcomes of the actions.
- Establish and act to resolve at-risk situations having previously identified their nature.
- Analyse, evaluate and use current knowledge regarding best practices in social work to review and update knowledge on working practices.

CONTENT

1. Poverty and inequality in a globalized world.
2. Concept and historical evolution of development cooperation. Approaches and theories.
3. Agents of international cooperation: official development aid and the participation of civil society in development cooperation.
4. Spanish development cooperation: genesis and evolution.
5. Strategies for sustainable, integral and participative development. Gender and ethnic group criteria in development cooperation policies.
6. New trends in development cooperation: co-development, microcredit and fair commerce.
7. Projects as the common form of cooperation. Reflections on stages in all development activities.
8. Social work and development cooperation.
9. Description and analysis of contemporary societies. Dynamics and factors of social inequality in complex societies: processes of change and social transformation since the 1980s. Globalization and social exclusion.
10. Factors and social processes related to exclusion: technological revolution, transformation of systems of production and the Welfare State.
11. Transformation of labour markets and social exclusion: temporary employment, precarious employment and casual work.
12. Social exclusion and social groups. Interethnic relations and social exclusion. Gender and social exclusion. The labour market as a platform for development of social exclusion.