

7º Programa Marco de Investigación y Desarrollo Tecnológico de la Unión Europea (FP7)

Objective

The objective is to understand how European and other socio-economic development trajectories have fared in combining the objectives, the conditions under which this occurred, their ability to confront new challenges, and to draw lessons for policy. It is also to explore some broad but fundamental questions that are relevant for understanding how economic, social and environmental objectives might be combined, and their implications for European sustainable development strategies, including at the EU level.

Expected impact

Projects will advance the knowledge base that underpins the formulation and implementation of economic, social and environmental policies in Europe by throwing light into a) economic and social concepts and tools needed to address global challenges in a long time perspective b) challenges of sustainable development and related governance issued in cities with rapid population growth in developing/emerging countries c) the impact of Corporate Social Responsibility on EU economies and societies.

SSH-2009 - 2.1.2. Cities and sustainable development

All the future population growth of the world is projected to take place in cities of the developing/emerging countries, which are undergoing rapid growth, much of it in slums, presenting major issues for sustainable development and related governance. The objective is to produce an enhanced understanding of the key issues for sustainable development of these cities, taking the economic, social, cultural, political and environmental aspects into account. The research should focus on cities with a population of 1 million or greater undergoing rapid growth in population. It should include an understanding of the agglomeration benefits and costs (socio-economic and environmental) in cities of various sizes. It should

differentiate between the challenges faced by different kinds of city, such as between those with a very dissimilar economic base. The implications of the analysis for governance options in relation to sustainable development and for the policy of various actors, should be brought out. Sustainable development should be considered in a broad sense. Cities from more than one world region should be included.

Funding scheme: Collaborative projects (small or medium scale focused research projects) for specific cooperation actions dedicated to international cooperation (China, India, Mexico, Brazil, African countries)