



Management of Social Transformations Programme

From MOST Ministerial Fora to Regional Social Policy Fora



A world map with several regions highlighted in different colors: South America in light green, East Africa in yellow-green, West Africa in green, and Southern Africa in red. The rest of the world is in grey.

19 January 2008, UNESCO HQs



A map of Southeast Asia with the region highlighted in blue.



A map of South and East Asia with the region highlighted in light green.



A map of East Asia and Oceania with the region highlighted in light green.

OBJECTIVES

- *Provide a space for a regional dialogue at Ministerial level on regional strategies on social policy*
- *Exchange experiences and best practices on national policies and the formulation of horizontal cooperation projects*
- *Establish links with social research*

A green-tinted map of Latin America, showing the outlines of the continent and its major islands.

LATIN AMERICA

- 2007, Chapadmalal, **Argentina** (15 participating Countries)
- 2004, Santa Clara, **Peru** (17 participating Countries)
- 2003, San Esteban, **Chile** (13 participating Countries)
- 2002, Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil** (15 participating Countries)
- 2002, Mexico City, **Mexico** (12 participating Countries)
- 2001, Quito, **Ecuador** (8 participating Countries)

A green-tinted map of Asia, showing the outlines of the continent and its major islands.

ASIA

- 2006, Bhurban, **Pakistan** (7 participating Countries)

AFRICA

SADC

2004, **South Africa** (12 participating Countries)



ECOWAS

2006, Mali, **Bamako** (15 participating Countries)



Maghreb region and Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria

2007, Marrakesh, **Morocco** (7 participating Countries)



For further information about each regional forum of Ministers, please see

www.unesco.org/shs/most/socdevforum

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Regional/subregional Fora of Ministers foreseen to be organized during 2008-2009

LATIN AMERICA



2008, September, **Venezuela**, seventh Forum of Ministers.

CARRIBEAN



2008-2009, **Guyana**, Launching of the First Forum of Ministers of Social Development in co-operation with CARICOM

SOUTH ASIA



2008, March, New Dehli, **India**, *Second Forum of Ministers of this region.*

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Regional/subregional Fora of Ministers foreseen to be organized during 2008-2009

A map of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, with member states highlighted in green and red.

SADC

2008 and 2009, possibly organized together with **South Africa**

A map of the East African Community (EAC) region, with member states highlighted in yellow.

East African Community (EAC)

2008, **Arusha, Tanzania**. Inaugural/launching meeting
at the HQs of the EAC

A map of the Maghreb region and surrounding countries, with member states highlighted in green.

Maghreb region and Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria

2008, **Jordan**, Second Forum of Ministers of this region

A map of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, with member states highlighted in green.

ECOWAS

2008, **Senegal**.

Possibly in cooperation with the ECOWAS Secretariat.

Common aspects / guidelines

- Main focus or theme for each Forum meeting is decided, in *consultation* with UNESCO, by the Country hosting the Forum
- *Declaration* adopted at each Forum meeting establishing action plan
- *Follow-up* assured by President and a rotating secretariat

Interregional exchange

- Working group-meeting at UNESCO’s Liaison office with Ministers from Latin-America, Africa and Asia (New York, 2005).
- Workshop “Fora of Ministers of Social Development and Regional Research Priorities and Networks – their synergies” (International Forum on the Social Science-Policy Nexus) *Argentina / Uruguay, 2006.*

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Interregional exchange



- Round Table of Ministers of Social Development (Buenos Aires, Argentina).
- Technical meeting of the regional Focal Points of each Regional Forum of Ministers, (UNESCO Headquarters, November, 2006).
- Round Table of Ministers of Social Development; South Africa, Argentina, Greece, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Pakistan and Venezuela (Kenya, *Nairobi, 2007*).
- Participation of 19 Ministers of Social Development in the eight session of the MOST Intergovernmental Council (Paris, 2007).
- *During all the regional Fora of Ministers (biennium 2006-2007), at least one Minister from other regions have participated.*

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- **Need for renewed national commitment decision makers and research communities**
- **UNESCO as a catalyst of regional visions and provider of international trends**
- **Need for an inter-regional dimension**



- A space sensible to *regional* realities
- Seeking to *enhance* the quality of policies
- **Towards regional social policy Fora ?**
Ministers, Academics, NGOs