

Session C:

EU Indicators for Poverty and Social Exclusion

Outline

Progress to Date

The Statistical Base

Enlargement

Refining and Extending the Indicators

Presentation and Use of the indicators

Children Mainstreaming

Concluding Comment

Progress to Date

Agreeing on and adopting Laeken common indicators a major step forward

Key for monitoring progress and supporting mutual learning

Development of indicators a dynamic process – progress made since Laeken

Now looking to future, in light of experience, data and Enlargement, to highlight key issues

The Statistical Base

Reliable, timely indicators key

EU-SILC launched in 2003, data for all MS by end-2006

Common framework not common survey

Strengths and potential weaknesses

Implications of transition need careful study

Alternative approaches needed for specific groups – potential of administrative data

Different income concepts for different purposes?

Implications of Enlargement

Income-based indicators - EU threshold?

Contextual information on living standards and purchasing power at the 60% income threshold

Non-monetary indicators

Subjective indicators

Equivalence scales

Refining and Extending Indicators

Working poor – position of full-time full-year workers

Education and literacy – literacy for working-age population

Regional dimension – breakdowns for existing indicators

Migrants and ethnic minorities - breakdowns of existing indicators where possible, using national categories, national background indicators, treat migrants/ethnicity separately

Refining and Extending Indicators

Homelessness – agree definition, measure, explore best way to gather data

Housing adequacy – index from EU-SILC

Health – capturing premature mortality by SES in a common framework a key priority

Non-monetary indicators – esp. valuable post-Enlargement index of broad living standards with common items, unweighted and weighted, from EU-SILC

Presentation/Use of Indicators

Prune Primary set – headline indicators for each area

Drop some from Secondary set

Extend common indicators to cover USA?

Use indicators to link across EU processes – e.g. premature mortality by SES

Children Mainstreaming & Indicators

Children as major concern and case-study

Coverage of dimensions other than income limited

Life-course approach, and look at poverty and exclusion from child perspective

Child health, early education, public services, inter-generational transmission

Child-focused Primary Indicator

Concluding Comment

Laeken first step in dynamic process

Significant progress since then, but important gaps
(homelessness, health)

EU-SILC potential, implications

Income indicators well developed, focus on non-income ones
Regular pruning process needed