

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

ESSAYS:

A. There is a growing consensus that social protection is an integral part of attaining sustainable and inclusive social development in developing countries. In the context of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), assess this consensus with particular emphasis on formulating and implementing effective social protection strategies in reducing poverty and hunger.

B. Public-private-civil society partnerships are fast appearing as viable models for delivering social services such as health, education and access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities to the poor and vulnerable groups. What are some of the preconditions for such partnerships to emerge and work effectively? Develop some parameters for making these types of partnerships sustainable and “owner-driven”.

C. Discuss the meaning of social inclusion and outline its benefit to society, communities and those who are excluded

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1. A recent UN report prepared by DESA has warned that, at the present rate of progress, many of the MDG targets will not be met by 2015. Cite three factors which are presently holding back the progress towards achieving the MDGs by 2015.
2. In recent years, remittances sent home by migrant workers working abroad have surged significantly and surpassed all previous levels. Discuss two social consequences that can be directly traced to such movements of labour and financial flows.
3. Discuss briefly three ways in which high maternal deaths in developing countries can be avoided.
4. To what extent bio-fuels are a threat to “food security” and social stability?
5. Discuss two specific ways in which violence against women can be eliminated or reduced.
6. Cite three benefits to governments and societies of using participatory approaches to policy development.
7. Discuss briefly two possibilities where globalization can be said to be “leaving the poor behind”.
8. Cite three “quick wins” in fighting malaria, diarrhoea among children, and hunger among refugees.