

MANDOBIDE, 6-3°  
48007 BILBAO  
T: 94 405 64 50

idazkaritza@sabinoarana.org  
www.sabinoarana.org

PROPOSED PROGRAMME OUTLINE  
**SEMINAR**  
***“EUROPE AND THE CHALLENGES OF DEVELOPMENT: BEYOND THE  
MDGS”***

3 thematic blocks:

Thursday 17th November – afternoon (16:30 – 19:00)

1. **Inauguration and presentation.**
2. **Introductory block - The current situation: Where are we with respect to the MDGs after 11 years? (1 hour)**
  - Degree of fulfilment of the MDGs (with particular focus on the 2011 Report of the UN and the Global Monitoring Report 2011 of the World Bank and the IMF).
  - Brief summary of what is new and important in the current scenario since the year 2000: essential transformations in international geopolitics and geo-economy (new players, a more polycentric world with reduced relevance of Europe, context of the current crisis, etc.)
3. **Assessment and critique block (2 hours)**
  - The MDGs as an agenda of social globalisation and an essential reference point for progress, based on the human development model.
  - Revision of the goals and targets as they were formulated - Were/are they adequate? What was missing?:
    - .i. Only social development aims?
    - .ii. Only focused on the final products of development and not on the economic and social processes behind social transformation and modernisation?
    - .iii. The real internal dynamics of countries?
    - .iv. Democracy?
    - .v. The transnational dimension of development?
    - .vi. The role of commerce, technology transfer (technologies for development), safety (overcoming violent conflicts), etc.?
  - The governance of the MDGs: the role of donors and beneficiaries – an asymmetrical relationship

- Evolution of Official Development Assistance (ODA) during recent years – Proliferation of donors (emergence of new donors), increasing privatisation and fragmentation of aid (the non-system of development assistance?)
- Failure of cooperation policies?
- The role of Europe: the EU and European countries - will it take the opportunity?
- Increasing inequality: At an international level (the growing gap between the average income of countries) and at an internal level within countries.

Friday 18th November - morning

4. **Alternatives and proposals block** (9:30 – 13:30)

- Alternative financing of the development agenda in this scenario of global crisis – How do we finance the MDGs?
- How do we tackle the threat of growing inequality? How do we promote a greater distribution of income among countries?
- The protagonism of societies themselves as the active subjects of their own development
- What is working? Good practices to take into account (microfinance; inclusive businesses at the base of the pyramid; taking advantage of business opportunities and emerging growth when/where it takes place; social entrepreneurship; public-private partnerships for development; incorporation of ICTs to commerce, etc.)
- New paths and policies for development (beyond the traditional paths of donations and aid): incorporating commerce processes and results, direct foreign investment and other financial flows, environmental policies, the consolidation of peace, global regulations on migration flows, etc.
- Post-2015 strategies: Towards a “MDG+”? A general redefinition or additional goals?
- Is a multi-level system of governance possible for global social cohesion? With what foundations?
- Specific proposals for European development cooperation: linking aid to issues related to trade, investment and the changes that the economies of many developing countries are going through; taking the lead in new initiatives and unleashing its full potential with the different instruments it has and with coordination among member States.
- What can the European model of welfare, of inclusion, of democracy, offer in opposition to the emerging model of *authoritarian State capitalism* with high rates of economic growth and large inequalities?: Europe as a reference of development.

**Conclusions and closure.**