



Newsletter 2011.2 – May

The importance of education as a key area in the work of the Education and Solidarity Network was confirmed at the first "Social Security Week" in the Americas.

From now on, the last week in April is Social Security Week on the American continent. The Education and Solidarity Network was closely involved in launch events for this initiative coordinated by the INTERAMERICAN CENTER FOR SOCIAL SECURITY STUDIES. The aim of the event is to create a "culture of social security" through educational programmes.

Meetings on the launch of Social Security Week were held between 27 and 29 April in Mexico. Latin American and the Ibero-American stakeholders are rallying together (through the CISS, the CIESS and the International Social Security Organization) with the support of the International Social Security Association and the International Labour Organization.

As Eduardo Murro, president of the Uruguayan Social Institute pointed out, "A silent revolution is on its way from the south". This revolution puts solidarity, expressed through social protection systems, back at the heart of public policy. It is remarkable to see people rallying to this movement, among whom there are social security stakeholders, private stakeholders from the education and mutual society sectors and public authority representatives (senators, MPs, ambassadors etc).

Besides the ceremonies and plenary meetings, daytime sessions were largely devoted to practical work on the social security education programme initiative. A strong commitment from the public authorities was of particular note, with the Argentine parliament currently in the process of incorporating Social Security Week into the country's official calendar, soon to be followed by other countries from the region (Bolivia, Uruguay etc).

The Network was closely involved in work on implementing educational initiatives. For example, we joined the programme's Scientific Committee and were allocated specific tasks such as mobilising and liaising with education and mutual society professionals to deploy programmes in the various countries. The CIESS, SOLIDARITE LAIQUE and the Network will work together on an

initial pilot operation involving education professionals in Haiti.

The CIESS has also confirmed its commitment to a Network project to set up an international network of social protection training and education centres (see article on this topic).

A MAJOR NEW PROJECT FOR THE NETWORK AND ITS PARTNERS: A NETWORK OF SOCIAL PROTECTION TRAINING AND EDUCATION CENTRES

The Network is the originator of a project which aims to share tools and experience from social protection training centres and provide national stakeholders with support in deploying programmes and strategies on social protection education.

This network will be formed in the coming months and has already been given official support by the International Social Security Association (ISSA), the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de la Sécurité Sociale (EN3S, France) and the Inter-American Center for Social Security Studies, and is also in close contact with the ILO training centre in Turin.

The network will use this to take action on:

- An online information and training platform
- A scientific publication entitled "The Network Journal" ("Les cahiers du Réseau") the first issue of which has just been completed and was presented at the 3rd network regional days in Buenos Aires (see below)
- Teams of experts to select and evaluate tools and provide support for national programmes and strategies on social protection education

Thierry WEISHAUP
28 April 2011



Participants in the inaugural session of Social Security Week.

SEMANA INTERNACIONAL DE LA SEGURIDAD SOCIAL 2011.
PROMOVIENDO UNA CULTURA GLOBAL DE PREVENCIÓN
27, 28 Y 29 DE ABRIL 2011. MÉXICO D.F.

The scientific committee chaired by Martin Gomez from the CIESS.



Dr Pastor, head of the CIESS, Victoria Giroud-Castiella and a Bolivian representative taking part in the steering committee for the "Social Security for All" campaign.

The CEO of the Network talking to Dr Pastor, Martin Gomez and Victoria Giroud-Castiella

