

Next Steps

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Why this seminar?

- In the context of the crisis, it is important to widen the set of policy options

From RG's presentation:

“The seminar today concentrates on the discussion of the need for active policies in labor markets beyond physical infrastructure investments already announced by many Governments that are too often big projects and not the necessary community-based infrastructure or social infrastructure. The latter can have a faster execution and welfare protection impact, and in any case we know that infrastructure has a very limited effect, for example, on female employment.”

Also, it is part of a series of activities

- Meeting about impact of crisis on MDGs (Panama, last month)
- Preparation of the “guidance note” on social protection in times of crisis (with Nora Lustig)
- Seminar on banking sector and regulation (Madrid, July)
- Seminar on Social policies in times of crisis (Asuncion, August)

Thus...

- The seminar has presented experiences of ELR and EGS in different countries, in order to trigger a discussion at the country level, based on specificities of local reality
- Countries are exploring this as a policy option, in the context of the crisis (El Salvador, DR,)

Issues

- We need to produce a diagnostics tool to address specific issues in each case
 - Nature of labor market and potential effect of crisis on employment
 - Regional heterogeneity
 - Demographics
 - Responsible financing – scale of program
 - Wage setting and targeting
 - Project selection
 - Level of decentralization
 - Basic institutional setting

Next steps

- Making all materials of conference available
- Getting information on specific countries' interest and nature of the demand
- Development of the diagnostics tool
- Creation of local capacity to apply the framework

Comments...
