

## Forms of Development Cooperation and Social Work tasks

### *Formas de Cooperación al Desarrollo y funciones del Trabajo Social*

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#### **Abstract**

*This work is a review and analysis of the different forms or models of international development cooperation and a proposal on the tasks that Social Work can perform in each of them. We can justify our review of these two themes, because, in the first topic, we find a great theoretical dispersion. Regarding the second topic, there is a growing presence of social workers in this new social environment. The goals of this work are to analyze the different forms of cooperation and describe the functions of social work in each of them. The process used has been carried out in two ways. On the one hand, we have drawn on the authors' own experience in the field of international cooperation. And on the other, we have reviewed the different models offered by development institutions. The results of the analysis are the evaluations made in the article on each of the forms of international cooperation for development.*

#### **Keywords**

*Development, development actors, international cooperation, social work, forms of cooperation, cooperation actors.*

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### **Resumen**

El presente trabajo es una revisión y análisis de las diferentes formas o modelos de la cooperación internacional al desarrollo y una propuesta sobre las funciones que puede ejercer el Trabajo Social en cada una de ellas. Lo primero se justifica por la dispersión teórica existente. Lo segundo por la creciente presencia de los trabajadores sociales en este nuevo entorno social. Los objetivos de este trabajo son analizar las diferentes formas de cooperación y describir las funciones del trabajo social en cada una de ellas. El procedimiento empleado ha sido doble. Por un lado, se ha recurrido a la propia experiencia de los autores en el campo de la cooperación internacional. Y por otro a los diferentes modelos ofrecidos por las instituciones de desarrollo. Los resultados del análisis son las valoraciones que se realizan en el artículo sobre cada una de las formas de cooperación internacional al desarrollo.

### **Palabras clave**

Desarrollo, actores del desarrollo, cooperación internacional, trabajo social, formas de cooperación, actores de la cooperación.

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## **Introduction**

For years, Social Work has focused on the defense of human rights and the fight against social inequalities. This has happened, both in developing and developed countries, affected by various social conflicts, economic and political crises, and open to the reception of immigrants. A clear expression of this is the leading role that Social Workers have in the different forms of international development cooperation. This article describes the different forms that international development cooperation has and offers a proposal on the specific functions that the Social Worker can perform in each of them. It is intended to clarify a very confusing professional field in terms of the professionals involved and promote a field of intervention belonging to Social Workers.

Before describing each of the current forms of international development cooperation, it is useful to clarify three fundamental elements. The first is the context in which we move when speaking of forms of development cooperation. We are situated within the framework of international relations

since what we are raising are not local issues, but processes with an international scope.

The second element is the actors involved in international cooperation. These are the cooperating governments of developed countries, the national and international development agencies of those countries, and organized citizens. Governments and social development organizations (NGDOs, cooperatives, trade unions, and other organizational forms) of the countries receiving aid are also actors in international development cooperation.

The third element is the resources generated to promote development. We refer to monetary financing, technical personnel, and the physical means necessary to launch development actions, peculiar to each project. Let's see, next, the different modalities that international development cooperation has at this time. We will, in some respects, follow the model of the Inter-món Oxfam Foundation. In the description of each one of them, we will develop these points: the identification, the characteristics, the objectives, and the valuation of advantages and disadvantages of each one of the forms of cooperation. Finally, a proposal will be made on the specific role that social workers can play in each of these forms of cooperation.

## **Humanitarian aid during emergencies**

The expression of Humanitarian Aid during Emergencies has been developing for a long time with the triple meaning of relief offered to populations in need; humanitarian aid that refers to the moral motivations that activate it, and in a serious emergency situation for a population or a country as a whole.

It is an aid that is given to a population that is in imminent vital risk or in a serious situation of lack of the most basic elements for survival. We are talking about natural catastrophes in general; of floods due to the overflowing of rivers and seas or tsunamis, which radically alter the daily life of a population. But also, wars and armed conflicts between countries and between governments and insurgent groups in the struggle for power in the same country.

Humanitarian aid in emergencies has some characteristics of its own, which we describe below. It is an immediate aid that is given to a population by governments or social organizations, generally from developed countries, after a natural catastrophe. So that, once the catastrophe in question occurs in a

population, the entire aid protocol is immediately put into operation. Second, it is an aid that we can qualify as mediatic, in the sense that it is activated, maintained, and diminished by the influence of the mass media, which alert the population of developed countries about what happened. It is also a punctual help, that is, it takes place at a certain time, and after this, it disappears. It is not an indefinite help. And finally, it is a diminishing aid, which means that it is aid that is gradually reduced in actions as time passes until its final disappearance.

The fundamental objective of humanitarian aid during emergencies is to provide an adequate response to the emergency in question. Be it protection and shelter of the population through prefabricated houses or tents and the delivery of clothing; be food and drinking water; be medicines and sanitary instruments; or the defense of the population against armed groups. And all this with personnel specially trained for this task.

In this form of development cooperation, the tasks of the Social Worker are specified, above all, in the assessment of needs, in the search and management of resources for the population, and in the accompaniment of the victims. During his university training stage, the Social Worker has acquired, precisely, training and skills in these three indicated issues: needs assessment, search and management of resources, and support for victims. In addition, their training includes learning the crisis intervention model, which is the most suitable for understanding professional practice in the described context. Lastly, it is also part of the competences to activate the communication and solidarity networks with the victims and to establish a system for recruiting, training, and organizing volunteers.

## **Cooperation in development projects**

Cooperation in Development Projects is a form of aid well known by the population, surely the most frequent in the world of cooperation. Long before specialized nongovernmental organizations emerged, some governments transferred funds to promote the development and many churches made collections to help people in countries in need.

Precisely, because this is an old, experienced, and well-known type of aid, it has been refined over time in its management, both in its fundraising phases and in the structure of projects, as well as in the phase of execution and transfer of monetary funds or in kind.

Perhaps the most important thing about this type of cooperation is to know that it is a planned, rational aid in accordance with established guidelines and modes of action that are coherent between development needs and actions.

It means that the Development Projects have as their starting point the analysis of social reality, of the shortcomings of the population and of the precariousness of life, of social inequalities in relation to resources and means of life, of social, economic, and political conflicts existing among the population.

As a consequence of the analysis, the Projects detect the problems and needs of the population, diversifying their severity and urgency, in order to set the priorities for the Project's actions.

A third, fundamental step is to identify the causes of the population's needs. It is well known that the problems of the population can have the most diverse causes. Sometimes, in rural areas, it will be the characteristics of the terrain, especially unproductive. Others will be the unequal distribution of land, with large landowners, on the one hand, and smallholders and even landless workers, on the other. On other occasions, it will be the performance of ancestral, wrong, and unprofitable agricultural practices, the lack of knowledge of more efficient production means, and, even, the lack of means to stimulate production.

A fourth stage of the Development Projects is the proposal of alternatives to respond to the identified needs and problems. At this point, a basic distinction should be made between comprehensive projects and sector projects. The first term refers to development projects that try to respond to a large part of the needs of a population. These are projects that include actions in infrastructures such as roads, irrigation canals, etc., but at the same time actions on education with the creation of schools, the provision of teachers and school resources, and the implementation of adult literacy plans and the preparation of primers for literacy. They also include actions on health with the implementation of health centers and vaccination plans, health education, etc. We call sector projects those that address only some of the various problems that a population may have.

A fifth aspect in the implementation of Development Projects is the attainment of resources appropriate to the needs to which one wants to respond. At this point, the practice of international cooperation has been changing. From an initial phase in which the resources, mainly monetary, came from an institution in a developed country, it has passed to a situation like

the current one in which, in addition to the resources from abroad (governments, international development institutions, etc.), the promoters of the projects require the existence of counterparts from the country receiving the aid, who also make contributions to the financing and management of the Project. We are talking about financial aid, but also aid in the form of project executing personnel and material resources.

We are not going to dwell here on describing the different sources of financing for Development Projects, because it is a matter of great complexity that would require an article dedicated exclusively to this issue.

The sixth point of great interest is what we have called Permanent Evaluation of the execution of Development Projects. This unused practice in many cases is essential. It is simply a matter of establishing permanent control over the execution process of Development Projects, from the beginning until the end of its execution. This period of time between the beginning and the end is variable. It depends mainly on the number and complexity of the actions to be carried out.

The most immediate objective of the Development Projects is to improve the living conditions of the population through the implementation of specific health, education, credit, infrastructure, etc. programs. In the case of education programs, it will be about building schools, getting state teachers, obtaining school resources and materials, creating adult literacy cards. In the case of health programs, the objectives will be to diagnose diseases, vaccinations, create health centers, equip them, and provide health professionals in a stable manner. A third example is to provide credits to promote development, be it through the legalization of land ownership, the acquisition of seeds, and the opening of regional or provincial markets for the commercialization of products.

But the ultimate goal of Development Projects is to promote and drive social change. It is not only the improvement of the living conditions of the population. In every Development Project, there must be two complementary effects. One is the improvement of people's living conditions. And two, social change from a structural perspective.

In both types of projects, the ultimate goal is to improve people's lives. In the first case, a structural change is sought, in the second it is intended to achieve a more limited or partial change. In any case, there is a very accepted saying in the world of cooperation, which is usually formulated like this: think globally and act locally. In other words. You have to think about so-

cial problems in all their local, national, and international interconnections. But you have to act in concrete human communities and improve the lives of concrete people. There are many questions that we could raise in relation to Development Projects due to our participation and knowledge of some of them in Ecuador, but what has been said gives a precise idea of the meaning of this form of Development Cooperation.

In Development Projects, the participation of Social Workers has different possibilities according to their academic training. In the first place, a Social Worker can act in Development Projects in the need's detection phase. Their academic training in identifying problems and needs of the population supports them for this task. Precisely, social diagnosis, needs evaluation, and hierarchization, are a fundamental part of their training. Their training in group dynamics and in the participation of users in managing their problems justify this task in Development Projects.

Second, a Social Worker has competencies for the design of Development Projects in all their phases. They are prepared to carry out an analysis of conflicts and their social, political, or economic causalities. In addition, they are trained in the search for adequate resources to respond to the needs of the population.

There is, thirdly, a Social Worker skill of great interest in Development Projects. We refer to the permanent evaluation and the final evaluation of them. In their basic academic training is the principle that all social action has an agenda with a beginning and an end. And that, consequently, all social action must be evaluated in all its aspects, both at the end of its execution and during the duration of its execution, whether it is the fulfillment of the initial objectives, or the assessment of conflicts and their causality, be it the proper use of resources or the end result of the action. This aspect of collaboration in external evaluation, necessary in every Project, is fundamental. Regardless of the scope of intervention of the Social Worker, they can exercise a decisive role in the evaluation of the Projects that may receive subsidies, whether from the private sphere or in public institutions.

Finally, the participation of the Social Worker in the Projects is also important, in everything that refers to social mobilization and the participation of the population in them. Their training in the humanist model enables them to do so (Martínez-Martínez, 2012).

## **Cooperation through fair trade and responsible consumption**

Development Cooperation through fair trade and responsible consumption is a new form of cooperation, which is based on the defense of the dignity of small producers, which aims to break the wheel of dependence on the external, opening access routes to markets from which they were absent, and proposing new consumption patterns to people in developed countries, precisely of fair trade products. Cooperation through fair trade and responsible consumption is a relatively recent form of development cooperation. In Spain, it has existed for just over twenty years. It was introduced by the non-governmental organization Intermón, which had the collaboration of a group of laypeople, from schools, parishes, and university centers, who have subsequently assumed responsibility for its direction and management in Barcelona and in most of the provinces of Spain. The central thesis of this movement is that trade and consumption are an alternative form of development cooperation. Let's see some of its characteristics and how this new proposal is justified. In the first place, fair trade involves a valuation of human labor and the goods produced. This movement is based on direct support to producers through the purchase of their products, thus facilitating access to markets.

Second, this movement is also a criticism of the uncontrolled consumption of goods, characteristic of our developed societies, and proposes responsible consumption. This concept of responsible consumption refers to consumption based on people's needs. It implies, therefore, a critique of our practice of unlimited consumption. The justifying reasoning of the theorists of capitalism has been that the capitalist economic system is sustained and maintained by the practice of permanent consumption.

Thirdly, it must be taken into account that fair trade and responsible consumption are not initiatives of local scope, but have become a social movement of international solidarity with initiatives and actions in many countries of the world, especially in European countries.

However, this movement of fair trade and responsible consumption has had several criticisms, both within and outside the environment of cooperation. One of them has been formulated this way. Fair trade is not free trade, but protected trade. It is a criticism that comes mainly from the economists who defend capitalism and the free market economy. Indeed, it is a protec-

ted trade, but the answer that can be given is that in a context of production and markets controlled by the large monopolies, there is no alternative for small producers than to start walking down the path of protected trade.

A second criticism is that it has little relevance in global consumption as a whole, that is, it has little importance in the global economy. Indeed, when fair trade began to operate in our country it was consumption restricted to the environment of cooperation and not economically relevant. But for years this has radically changed. This has happened when products such as coffee, cocoa, and sugar are sold in fair trade stores, which are products of maximum worldwide consumption.

Finally, we want to refer to the fair trade clauses. These clauses indicate the social characteristics of fair trade products. It is possible to distinguish between the physical properties of the products and the social properties. Physical properties are the materials from which products are made and the qualities derived from them. Instead, social properties refer to the social quality of products.

Briefly, we are going to list some of these social clauses, following Intermón's proposal. They are the following: It is about improving the working conditions of producers in the countries of the South; facilitate access to markets by small producers; inform and sensitize consumers in developed countries about fair production conditions; manage organizations in a transparent manner and promote their participatory and collective management; promote fair business relationships through fair payment to producers; respect the environment in the production process and gender equality in salary relations, which implies non-discrimination against women in the workplace. Therefore, when there have been women workers of these goods, they have not suffered employment or salary discrimination. The rule of "equal work, equal pay" prevails. Fair trade organizations respect and promote the right of their workers to associate in trade unions or any other form of association and collective negotiating.

Finally, another very important clause of fair trade is the non-exploitation of children. Perhaps this clause may come as a surprise in countries where child labor is even eliminated by law. However, until recently, children performed auxiliary tasks in our peasant societies of farmers and ranchers (Caring for livestock, collaboration in planting and harvesting, etc.). But in developing countries, child labor is a form of collaboration with the family economy. Accepting that this tradition exists in other countries, this

clause demands the non-exploitation of children. Their living conditions, whether on the looms, in the field, or in any other environment, must exclude exploitation.

In this context, the responsibility of a Social Worker is concentrated on the following tasks, according to their training. The first is to promote the social participation of the population in defense of their rights. The second task may be to support the organization of the members of the producing communities to respond collectively to their problems. Their training in group dynamics and in the participation of users in the management of their problems, justify this task of the Social Worker in the fair trade movement. But, in addition, social workers are directly trained to carry out awareness and education projects to the community regarding the consumption of fair trade products and responsible consumption in the developed world. They can support the formation of production and marketing organizations (Cooperatives) in developing countries. And they can activate the dissemination of fair trade and responsible consumption in developed countries in the most varied ways (department stores, educational centers, universities, and, above all, in the mass media).

## **Cooperation through the cancellation of foreign debt**

The origin of this proposal for Development Cooperation was during the world economic crisis of the 1980s. The usual practice in the financial world is and has been the generation of credits from the large international agencies based in developed countries to developing countries. This has been and is common practice. Rich countries lend money to poor countries. Or put another way, the large financial corporations of developed countries (IMF, OECD, WB, the Inter-American Development Bank, etc.), make loans and sometimes donations to developing countries, under the assumption that Poor countries have natural resources (forests, precious metal mines, land for cultivation, etc.), but they do not have the means either for their exploitation or for their transformation and commercialization processes. For this reason, their governments and development institutions are forced to borrow from the developed world.

It is in the midst of this situation that the world economic crisis of the 1980s appears. And Mexico is the first country in the world that refuses to

pay its debt because its economy does not allow it. The accumulation of successive loans was so great that they were unable to pay the debt. Other countries followed the example of Mexico.

In this world situation, the alert promoted by many economists to the refusal of Mexico and other countries to pay their debt, was to draw the attention of countries and governments to the risk of a deep crisis in the world economic system and, especially, in the Finance system.

Faced with this situation, several alternatives were presented. The most radical, perhaps, was the position of the Episcopal Conference of Spain (1999). The Spanish bishops, after assessing the economic situation of the debtor countries, asked the creditor countries to cancel the debt of the poor countries. The reasoning of the bishops was quite simple but very radical. They came to say "The poor countries have already paid enough." By this they wanted to indicate that poor countries have been colonized, have been exploited for centuries and, consequently, should not pay more.

On the contrary, the position of a large part of economists was to continue to maintain the demand for the payment of the debt of the debtor countries to the creditor countries, to avoid the bankruptcy of the world financial system. According to many of these economists, widespread debt forgiveness would have catastrophic effects on the world economic system.

The third position, in Spain, was that of the Intermón Foundation, which synthesized its proposal regarding the external debt of the debtor countries with the expression "Debt for development". This is to say, the canceling of the debt of a country by requiring the government of that country to promote development by investing in its own country amounts of money similar to the value of the forgiven debt.

A concrete initiative took place in Spain. The Intermón Foundation proposed to buy the debt that Mozambique owed to Spain from the Ministry of the Economy, and then forgive the Mozambican government on condition that it invest the amount in education.

"Spain has already written off 85% of Mozambique's debt, which now stands at around 2,500 million pesetas", stated the general director of Intermón in 1998 in an interview. And he added: "What we negotiated with the Ministry of Economy was that they sell us that debt worth 10%, that is, 250 million pesetas, which Intermón will request from Spanish society, that is, from its donors and collaborators. The operation will be completed when we forgive those 250 million to Mozambique, on the condition that

this amount is invested by the Mozambican government in education.” The operation would take place when Spain and Mozambique signed a bilateral agreement, in which the Intermón Foundation would appear as a financial intermediary, which would also give it the authority to supervise compliance with the agreements by the Government of Mozambique. In this new form of Development Cooperation, the Social Worker has, first of all, a clear function of sensitizing the population of developed countries so that they support this new way of helping with development with their disinterested donations. It is undoubtedly a more complex type of cooperation than others because it requires basic knowledge of the donors’ economics, as well as great sensitivity towards poor countries.

The second task of the Social Worker, consistent with the previous one, is to energize the population. It is not only a matter of facilitating the understanding of this form of development cooperation but, above all, of activating the awareness of donors’ participation in high-level economic processes and decisions with palpable effects on large populations.

## **Cooperation through the reception and integration of immigrants**

This type of Development Cooperation through the reception and integration of immigrants is also quite new. It arises from the evidence of growing immigration in our country. The question to focus the issue and from which this proposal starts is the following. Why is the reception of immigrants and their integration in our country a form of development cooperation? The answer is this: because immigrants work and generate wealth in our country and transfer remittances to their families in their countries of origin.

About immigrants, some undocumented topics are frequently handled. It is often said that immigrants do not solve problems in the destination country, but cause problems. Thus, it is said that too many immigrants come in an uncontrolled way and that, therefore, their entry should be restricted. It is indicated that their presence among us has increased robberies and crime in general. It is also affirmed that immigrants take jobs away from Spaniards, and it is even said that because of them there are lower wages, as they work for misery wages. Before each one of these uncontrolled affirmations, we could respond in detail, but we are only going to respond with two incontestable pieces of evidence.

The first is that indeed, immigrants produce wealth in the country of destination they have reached. There is a case that we know well, it is that of the Region of Murcia. In this region, more than 50% of agricultural production comes from immigrant labor, especially in the countryside of Cartagena. Some studies raise that percentage to 70%. It means that, if these data are correct, as we believe, without the immigrant workforce, a crisis, perhaps irreversible, would occur in Murcia in the economy of exporting agricultural products to the European Union. The conclusion is that without immigrant labor the Murcian economy could not survive, it would enter into a collapse with unforeseeable consequences. In other words, Murcia needs immigrant labor.

The second piece of evidence is that immigrants send remittances to their country of origin. It is already known that remittances are the surpluses that immigrants send to their relatives in their countries of origin (Montes del Castillo et al., 2017). There is very important data for the last years, regarding Ecuador. In the last crisis in Ecuador, it was shown that the second inflow of foreign currency to the country, after the sale of oil, came from remittances from migrants, above exports of coffee, cocoa, sugar, bananas, and others. To survive, many families of Ecuadorian emigrants have partially or totally depended on receiving remittances.

One of the most original theoretical proposals, and at the same time more consistent with these data, is Co-development. According to Sami Nair (1997), to whom the concept is attributed, co-development is:

A bilateral, state-to-state policy in which exchange relations participate in the well-understood interest of each one. The co-development policy is part of this process, but it deepens by adding the interest of mandatory solidarity. It means overcoming cooperation for the establishment of common goals.

This means that co-development becomes a proposal that allows the integration of immigrants in the destination country, at the same time that development is promoted in the countries of origin. This bilateral relationship generates a mutual benefit for both actors.

For Co-development to fulfill its function correctly, it must have two effects. The first is that development must take place in the migrants' countries of origin by sending remittances, and not only in the destination countries. It is necessary for immigrants to produce surpluses and to be able to send remittances to their countries of origin. The second effect is the integration of migrants in destination countries through work and fair wages. It is not enough that

their entry be authorized and their presence allowed in marginalized conditions. It is necessary for migrants to be integrated into work and receive fair wages and in accordance with the country's labor legislation.

In addition to what was mentioned regarding the reception of immigrants, we should also mention here the importance of serving the world of refugees. People who are forced to flee their own countries for reasons of persecution in its various forms and are completely uprooted. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) in its article 14. recognizes the right of asylum, and later in 1951, the Convention on the Status of Refugees is created.

In this new context such as immigration, the Social Worker has fundamental academic training. In fact, the entire curriculum for the Degree in Social Work is aimed at offering students theoretical training in all fields of social exclusion and marginalization, and at providing them with methodological instruments to carry out their social intervention work with any type of disadvantaged groups. It is evident that immigrants, until now at least, are a group that requires a preferential dedication from the Social Worker. They are essential in this form of cooperation since they are experts in the assessment of needs, in the search for social resources of all kinds, and also in group and individual dynamics to accompany the process of social incorporation, in all its dimensions, to a world completely unknown to migrants and refugees. Their role is fundamental in what is called humanitarian aid in refugee camps, residences, day centers, reception centers, etc. This distinction between immigrants and refugees seems fundamental to us when planning social intervention, although the final objective is the same in both cases, which is social integration and the satisfaction of needs in a dignified manner.

## **Cooperation through political advocacy**

Cooperation through political advocacy is the most recent modality that has been formulated in the world of development and cooperation. According to the information we have, its main promoter in Spain has been the Intermón Foundation.

Political advocacy to achieve social justice is very old, and in developed countries, it has always gone hand in hand with political parties and unions. But putting Development Cooperation on the stage of political incidence is something new. In reality, it is not a foreign body outside the world of Co-

peration, because the demands of Development NGOs have always had a political aspect, but putting political advocacy in the foreground is the first time that has happened. Therefore, we say that it is surprising. And it is because Intermón is not a political party, nor a union, but a non-governmental organization for the development of peoples, whose functions are quite limited. It can be argued that all social action always has a political dimension and that, ultimately, all development action has political effects, but making the political dimension explicit in the field of cooperation is a novelty.

Political advocacy has quite definite characteristics. In the world of development cooperation, the following appear to be priorities. The first is political pressure on the government by filing complaints and holding demonstrations against the government's policy on cooperation (for example, on issues such as the budget for cooperation, the requirements for access to calls for aid, government priorities for cooperation, etc.). The second characteristic is the denouncement in the mass media of the events mentioned above and others such as the mismanagement of cooperation. The third characteristic is the negotiations with the government in the offices on issues such as the regulations on access to calls for grants, the amounts of money dedicated to cooperation, the selection of priority countries to receive aid, and others. And, finally, there are the actions in the parliaments, national or regional, to promote legislative initiatives in relation to Development Cooperation.

All these actions seek to promote changes in the political orientation of political parties and in government action regarding their development cooperation actions, always under the assumption of improving people's living conditions. It is intended to change existing norms and introduce laws favorable to development cooperation in its different aspects. However, the main question is to answer the question of why a development cooperation agency explicitly assumes this political orientation and, consequently, why does it pursue explicit political ends, without being a political institution. The only answer that comes to mind lies in the evidence of the political dimension of poverty and, consequently, in the political dimension of development processes.

But from our point of view, the justification that is most consistent with the analysis of poverty in the world is acting on the causes of poverty and social inequalities. Social, economic, or political problems always have causes. The question is to identify them and see how to act against them. There is no doubt that political advocacy is one more way of acting on the causes of poverty and social inequalities.

In this new context of Development Cooperation, the tasks of the Social Worker are concentrated on several fronts. The first is to act on the mass media. The second is to support NGOs in their claims to the Government. The third is to participate in the negotiation teams of the companies with the Government to promote an adequate subsidy system. And, finally, promote legislative initiatives favorable to Development Cooperation.

Whether one form or another of Development Cooperation is chosen, what is evident to us is that “cooperation cannot wait” and that Social Workers must join interdisciplinary teams with specificity in the same terms as has been described.

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