

2. The Department's Mission and Objectives

As the department's strategy must be an integrated part of the Institute's global strategy, reflecting its needs and interests, the mission and the objectives of the department must be connected to the general and specific objectives of the Institute.

Activity area

* **elaborating** theoretical-applicative studies and researches in the national interest field of social development and social protection in Romania

Scope

* the continuous **development** of excellence research in the social area

Mission

* **grounding** and **participating** to the development strategy of the social protection area

* **reaching** the scientific objectives of the national and European programs

* **elaborating** studies and research both with fundamental theoretical nature and with practical-applicative nature, that will answer the requests regarding the grounding and the development of legislative, institutional, methodological and procedural base in its research area

* **elaborating** studies and research answering to its own research area demands

General Objectives

* **promoting** the social management, nationally as well as regionally and locally, by applying the most significant research and studies' results

* **developing** an efficient system of social security

* **stimulating** the partnership approach for the solving of the problems raised by the economic reform in the field of social assistance

* **harmonizing** the Romanian legislation to the UE legislation in the area of social protection

Specific Objectives

* **designing** indicators, criteria, models and methods of evaluation, both of the social environment and of the social policy on the short, medium and on the long term

* **elaborating** variants of strategies and action programs in the social area, in order to achieve a social environment that will be competitive from the European point of view

* **proposing** mechanisms and politics for their instrumentation in order to create a viable and efficient market economy

* **elaborating** both diagnosis of the social phenomenon and social risks and prognosis of these phenomena in order to ground the social policies in an efficient and efficacious manner

* **proposing** methods, techniques and strategies of social risks' prevention and elaborating programs for the improvement of living conditions

* **evaluating** and structuring the impact of economic, environmental, legislative and institutional factors on the social area

The approached scientific area

* research in the social protection field (1)

Main research directions

* policies regarding social inclusion and social cohesion

* social indicators (1)

Specific expertise area

* studying the social phenomena – poverty and its extreme forms: severe poverty, extreme poverty, marginalization and social exclusion

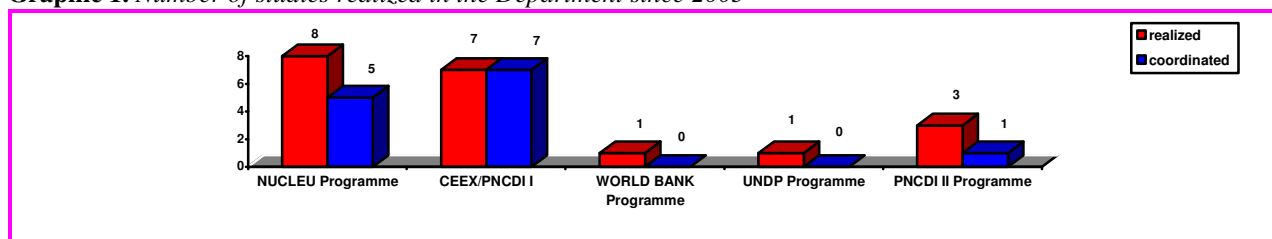
* methodology of normative evaluation of the minimum of decent living/the minimum of surviving

* policies of poverty reduction and promoting the social inclusion

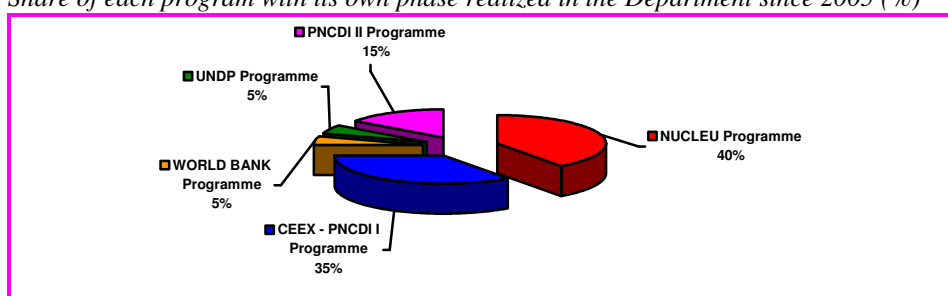
* other competences: "training the trainers" lectures in this area

- (1) The research studies elaborated in this Department were not focused exclusively on social indicators and on the policies of social inclusion and social cohesion (according to the research areas of the Department), but they also approached aspects from related research areas, such as social assistance and social insurance. The department offers certain interdepartmental support to other Departments of the Institute.

Graphic 1. *Number of studies realized in the Department since 2005*



Graphic 2. *Share of each program with its own phase realized in the Department since 2005 (%)*



NOTE: It is possible to omit some studies realized by some researchers that are not working in the Department in the present time.

Graphic 3. *Share of each in the Department since 2005 (%)*

