Global Progress on Multidimensional Poverty

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Multidimensional Poverty
Poverty as a Multidimensional Phenomenon

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted in the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and explicitly identify poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon:

“We recognise that **eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions**, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development” (Preamble to 2030 Agenda)

**Goal 1**: End **poverty in all its forms** everywhere

**Target 1.2**: By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in **poverty in all its dimensions** according to national definitions
Poverty as a Multidimensional Phenomenon

Third United Nations Decade on for the Eradication of Poverty reaffirmed commitment to SDG 1 and the 2030 Agenda preamble.

It also “Remains deeply concerned that, while the prevalence of extreme poverty continues its decades-long descent, progress has been uneven, 1.6 billion people still live in multidimensional poverty, the total number of persons living in extreme poverty remains unacceptably high and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns”
Global Multidimensional Poverty Index
What is the Global MPI?

The global MPI is an internationally comparable measure of acute multidimensional poverty.

- Same dimensions, indicators, weights, deprivations and poverty cut-off for all countries
- Covering over 100 countries
- Launched in 2010 by OPHI & UNDP (revised in 2018)
- Updated once a year to include newly released datasets
- Uses mostly DHS and MICS datasets
- All result tables, country briefings, reports, methodological notes, Stata dofiles, interactive databank, etc. are freely available on OPHI website
How is the Global MPI Computed?

1. Define indicators & cut-offs

2. Build a deprivation score for each person

3. Identify who is poor

A woman's deprivation profile or deprivation score is

One dimension (33.3%) = poverty cut-off

Two dimensions (66.6%)

Three dimensions (100%)

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## How is the Global MPI Computed?

### Table 1. Global MPI – Dimensions, Indicators, Deprivation Cutoffs, and Weights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimensions of poverty</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Deprived if...</th>
<th>SDG area</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health</strong></td>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>Any person under 70 years of age for whom there is nutritional information is undernourished.¹</td>
<td>SDG 2</td>
<td>1/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Child mortality</td>
<td>A child under 18 has died in the household in the five-year period preceding the survey.²</td>
<td>SDG 3</td>
<td>1/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td>Years of schooling</td>
<td>No eligible household member has completed six years of schooling.³</td>
<td>SDG 4</td>
<td>1/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School attendance</td>
<td>Any school-aged child is not attending school up to the age at which he/she would complete class 8.⁴</td>
<td>SDG 4</td>
<td>1/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Living Standards</strong></td>
<td>Cooking fuel</td>
<td>A household cooks using solid fuel, such as dung, agricultural crop, shrubs, wood, charcoal, or coal.⁵</td>
<td>SDG 7</td>
<td>1/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sanitation</td>
<td>The household has unimproved or no sanitation facility or it is improved but shared with other households.⁶</td>
<td>SDG 6</td>
<td>1/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>The household’s source of drinking water is not safe or safe drinking water is a 30-minute or longer walk from home, roundtrip.⁷</td>
<td>SDG 6</td>
<td>1/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>The household has no electricity.⁸</td>
<td>SDG 7</td>
<td>1/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>The household has inadequate housing materials in any of the three components: floor, roof, or walls.⁹</td>
<td>SDG 11</td>
<td>1/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assets</td>
<td>The household does not own more than one of these assets: radio, TV, telephone, computer, animal cart, bicycle, motorbike, or refrigerator, and does not own a car or truck.</td>
<td>SDG 1</td>
<td>1/18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global MPI 2022 Results
Global MPI 2022 Results
Trends in Global MPI
Global MPI 2022 Trends Results

• Nearly every country saw a decrease in MPI between 2000-2021 (with the datasets available)
• Greatest annualized absolute reduction was Sierra Leone (2013-2017)
• 28 countries saw statistically significant improvements in the percentage of people poor and deprived in every indicator in at least one time period
• Greatest annualized relative reduction was Kyrgyzstan (2014-2018)
• Togo (2013/14-2017) had largest annualized reduction in intensity of poverty
• India had more than 415 million people leave poverty (275 million from 2005/06-2015/16 and 140 million from 2015/16-2019/21). Its poverty reduction was pro-poor
• Rural areas are nearly always poorer, but rural-urban gaps were generally decreasing
• Tambacounda region in Senegal (2017-2019) had the largest annualized absolute reduction of any subnational region, going from 80% poor to 60% poor in just 2 years
Global MPI 2022 Trends Results
Sierra Leone (2013-2017)

Absolute Reduction in Censored Headcount Ratios
India 2005/06 - 2019/21

In the 15 years 2005/06 to 2019/21...

415 million people left poverty in India (229 million still poor)

Percentage of people who are multidimensionally poor (H)
India 2015/16 - 2019/21

Note: The size of the bubble is proportional to the number of poor people in 2015/2016.  
Source: Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa 2022c.
Thank you!

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