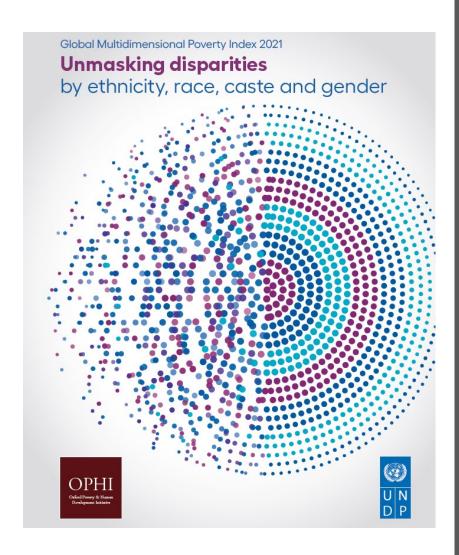
Multidimensional Poverty
Index 2021:
Unmasking disparities by
ethnicity, caste and gender

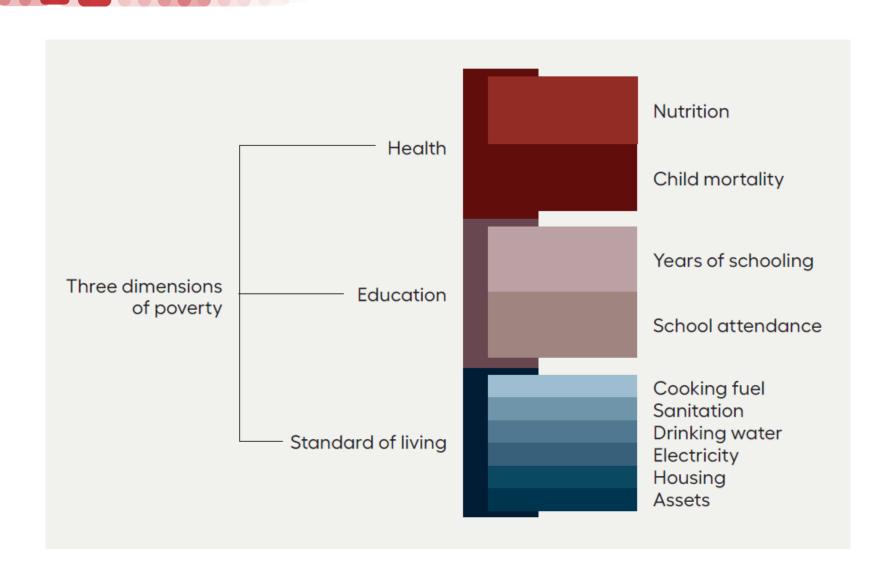
Cecilia Calderon
Human Development Report
Office / UNDP

**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe** 

Conference of European Statisticians

Group of Experts on Measuring Poverty and Inequality





# Building back with equity: Where are we now?

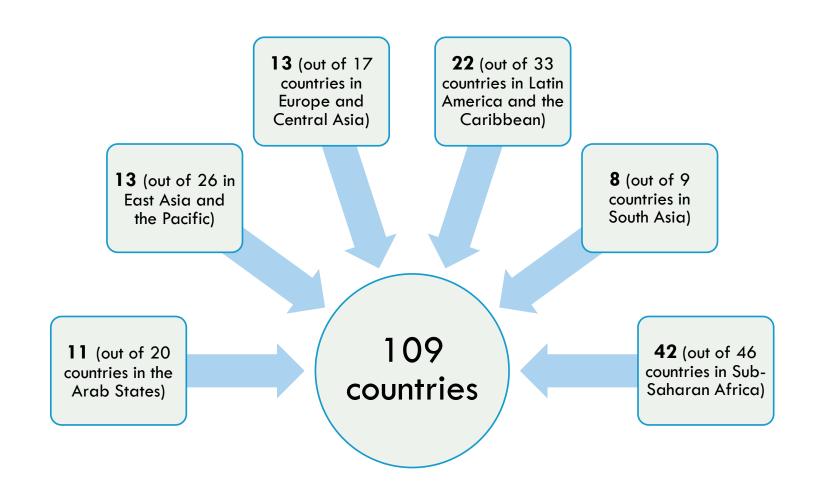
109 developing countries

- 5.9 billion people
- 77% of the world's population
- 92% of the population in developing countries

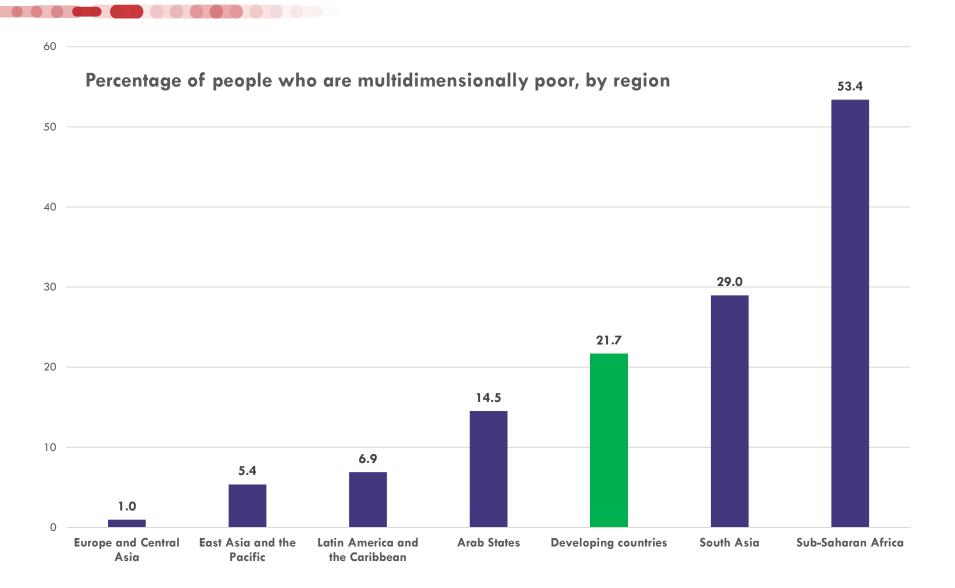
#### Surveys are dated:

2009 (Syrian Arab Republic)

2019/2020 (Guyana, Liberia, State of Palestine)



# Where do multidimensionally poor people live?



# Multidimensional poverty, ethnicity, caste and gender: Revealing disparities

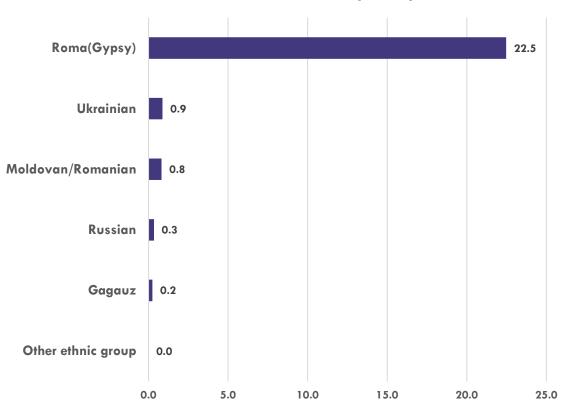
#### Multidimensional poverty, ethnicity and caste

- Among the 109 countries covered by the global MPI, results can be disaggregated
  - by ethnic or racial categories in 40 countries
  - by caste in India
  - covering 291 ethno-racial categories and five caste categories
- These 41 countries belong to five regions:
  - East Asia and the Pacific (4 countries),
  - Europe and Central Asia (6 countries),
  - Latin America and the Caribbean (11 countries),
  - South Asia (3 countries) and
  - Sub-Saharan Africa (17 countries).
- They are home to more than 2.4 billion people
  - almost 690 million (28.2%) of whom live in multidimensional poverty.

# Multidimensional poverty and ethnic groups in Europe and Central Asia

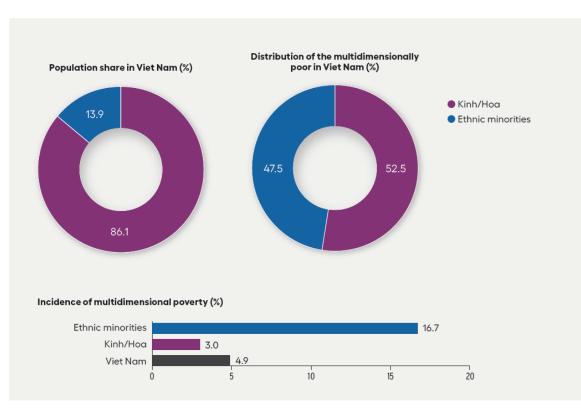
- In the Republic of Moldova, the Roma (Gypsy) group shows the highest incidence of multidimensional poverty.
- Though this group represents less than 4% of Moldova's population.
- Based on 2012 MICS data.

#### Incidence of multidimensional poverty (%)



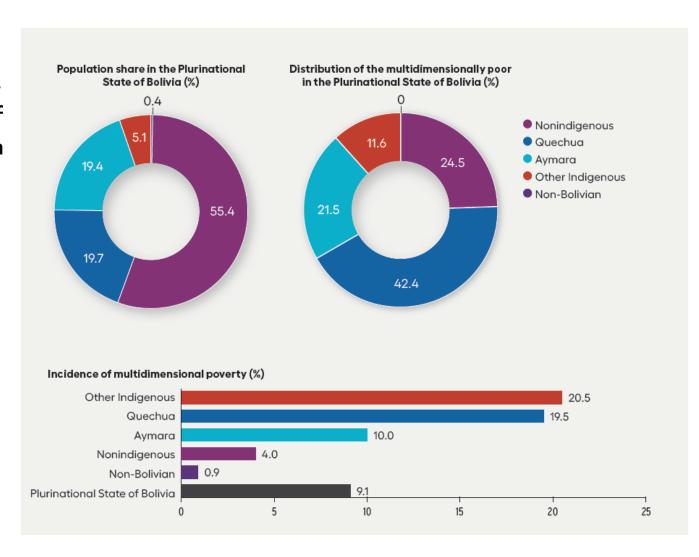
# Ethnic minorities in East Asia and the Pacific show higher levels of multidimensional poverty

- In Viet Nam MPI values differ starkly between:
  - the majority Kinh/Hoa group (0.011) and
  - ethnic minorities (0.071).
- While ethnic minorities account for only about one-sixth of the population, they account for nearly half of people living in multidimensional poverty.
- Based on 2014 MICS data.



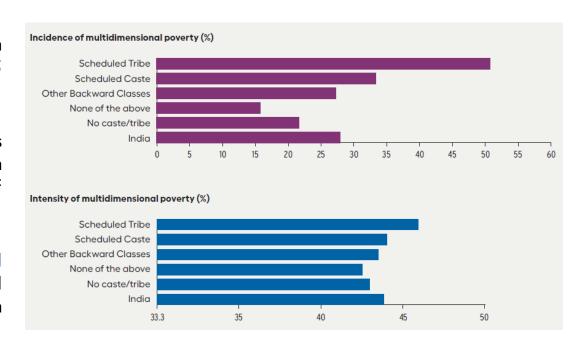
#### Indigenous peoples in Bolivia

- Indigenous peoples account for 44% of Bolivia's population but 75% of those who live in multidimensional poverty.
- Based on 2016
   DHS data.



#### Multidimensional poverty by caste in India

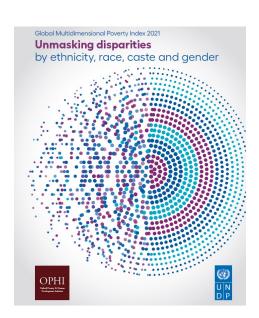
- Castes and tribes are a more prevalent line of social stratification in India.
- Five out of six multidimensionally poor people are from lower tribes or castes.
- The Scheduled Tribe is the poorest (highest incidence and intensity):
  - more than half live in multidimensional poverty (65 million of 129 million people).
- The Scheduled Caste group follows with 33.3% of people living in multidimensional poverty (94 million of 283 million people).
- And 27.2% of the Other Backward Class group lives in multidimensional poverty (160 million of 588 million people)
  - lower incidence but a similar intensity compared with the Scheduled Caste group.



#### Future work on the MPI

# We are continuously working on improving the MPI methodology:

- to better measure the multidimensional aspect of human's deprivations,
- to reflect the needs of policy makers, and
- to refine and incorporate new indicators or components.



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Health

Education

Standard of living

Indicator	Deprived if	Weight
Nutrition	Any adult under 70 years of age or any child for whom there is nutritional information is undernourished.*	1/6
Child mortality	Any child under the age of 18 has died in the family in the five-year period preceding the survey.	1/6
Years of schooling	No eligible household member has completed six years of schooling.	1/6
School attendance	Any school-aged child <sup>+</sup> is not attending school up to the age at which he/she would complete class 8.	1/6
Cooking fuel	The household cooks with dung, wood, charcoal or coal.	1/18
Sanitation	The household's sanitation facility is not improved (according to SDG guidelines) or it is improved but shared with other households.**	1/18
Drinking water	The household does not have access to improved drinking water (according to SDG guidelines) or safe drinking water is at least a 30-minute walk from home, round trip.***	1/18
Electricity	The household has no electricity.	1/18
Housing	At least one of the three housing materials for roof, walls and floor are inadequate: the floor is of natural materials and/or the roof and/or walls are of natural or rudimentary materials.****	1/18
Assets	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.	1/18

### Poverty in all its dimensions

The **Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)** complements monetary-based measures of poverty, expressing deprivations that are manifested in people's daily lives in ways that go beyond the ability to purchase goods and services.

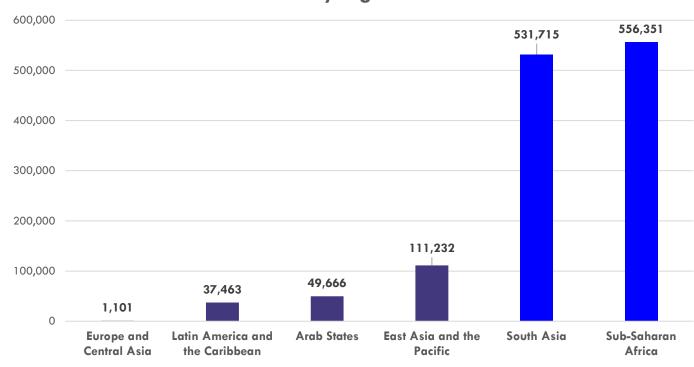
- It assesses the incidence and intensity of poverty at the individual level, by directly measuring the overlapping deprivations people experience.
- It provides a picture of how and where people are poor, within and across countries, enabling policymakers to better target their resources and tackle the many different aspects of poverty together.

# Where do multidimensionally poor people live?

1.3 billion poor people in the 109 countries covered

About 84.5% of multidimensionally poor people live in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa

## Number of multidimensionally poor people (thousands), by region



#### Multidimensional poverty, ethnicity and caste

- When disaggregated by ethnic group, MPI values range from 0.000 to 0.700, wider than across all 109 countries and all other disaggregations.
- In the nine poorest ethnic groups -all in Burkina Faso and Chad- more than 90% of the population is multidimensionally poor.
- The smallest differences between the ethnic groups with the highest and lowest incidence are in Cuba, Kazakhstan, and Trinidad and Tobago (less than 1 percentage point).
- The largest differences (more than 70 percentage points) are in Gabon and Nigeria.

# Indigenous peoples are the poorest in most Latin American countries covered

- In 7 of the 11 Latin American countries covered indigenous groups are the poorest
  - Belize, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana and Paraguay
- But in Peru and Suriname some indigenous groups fare better.
- In the Plurinational State of Bolivia indigenous peoples account for about 44% of the population but 75% of people living in multidimensional poverty.
  - The incidence of multidimensional poverty varies across indigenous groups:
  - 10% among the Aymara, the least poor
  - 19.5% among the Quechua
  - 20.5% among the Other Indigenous group.
  - The incidence of multidimensional poverty among the Aymara and Quechua groups in Peru is lower.
- Plurinational State of Bolivia: Regression analysis shows that, on average, each indigenous group has a larger deprivation score than the nonindigenous group
  - even after geographic region and urban or rural area is controlled for.
  - the Aymara have the lowest average deprivation score among indigenous groups.