Measuring the Reduction of Poverty in All its Forms and Dimensions Using National Definitions

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Sabina Alkire & Jakob Dirksen
Background

- SDG Target 1.2: “By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women, and children living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.”
- 2023: Half-Point in the Agenda 2030
- Indicator 1.2.2. only SDG Indicator with National Governments as Custodian Agencies
- Absence of Progress Reports / Assessments of Trends
  - Only available for global MPI (Alkire et al. 2017; UNDP & OPHI 2020; etc.) or other international measurement frameworks (Pomati & Nandy 2019; World Bank 2023)
This Study

❑ Reviews data and metadata availability on SDG 1.2.2
❑ Presents the first trends of “poverty in all its forms and dimensions according to national definitions”
❑ Assesses progress against SDG Target 1.2
  ❑ Comparing various methods and points in time
❑ Offers back-of-the-envelope ‘projections’ towards 2030
Data

We use

- Data officially reported towards SDG 1.2.2 (78 countries, of which 36 EU-AROE* excl. MODA) SDG Database
  - Based on UNDP/UNICEF/World Bank Reporting Process for SDG 1.2.2
- National Multidimensional Poverty Indices (for 41 countries, of which 28 have trends, i.e. at least 2 harmonised points in time)
  - As reported in official statistical reports, presentations, or data tables
- Trends ranging from 2 – 24 points in time
- 2023 Global MPI Trends for 60 countries (those without NMPIs or NMPI trends; 2-4 points in time)
- UN DESA Population Division Estimates, including Projections for time point closest to surveys and 2030

*incl. Switzerland, Türkiye, & UK
Methods

- Trends over time in headcount ratio (% of population multidimensionally poor)
- Trends over time in number of poor

- Linear, absolute annualised change = \( \frac{(H_t - H_{t'})}{t - t'} \)

- Exponential, constant relative (%) annualised change = \( H_t - H_{t'} \left( \frac{1}{t - t'} \right)^{-1} \)

- 2015-Baselines; 2030 Goals \& 2030 ‘Projections’, based on past relative and absolute trends
South & South East Asia

- **Viet Nam**
  - 2016: 0.0
  - 2017: 0.0
  - 2018: 0.0
  - 2019: 0.0
  - 2020: 0.0

- **Thailand**
  - 2013: 0.0
  - 2015: 0.0
  - 2017: 0.0
  - 2019: 0.0
  - 2021: 0.0

- **Philippines**
  - 2016: 0.0
  - 2017: 0.0
  - 2018: 0.0
  - 2019: 0.0

- **Pakistan**
  - 2004-2005: 0.0
  - 2006-2007: 0.0
  - 2008-2009: 0.0
  - 2010-2011: 0.0
  - 2012-2013: 0.0
  - 2014-2015: 0.0

- **Maldives**
  - 2009: 0.0
  - 2016-2017: 0.0

- **Bhutan**
  - 2007: 0.0
  - 2012: 0.0
  - 2017: 0.0

- **Nepal**
  - 2006: 0.0
  - 2011: 0.0
  - 2014: 0.0
  - 2019: 0.0

- **Malaysia**
  - 2016: 0.0
  - 2019: 0.0

- **India**
  - 2015-2016: 0.0
  - 2019-2021: 0.0

- **Maldives**
  - 2009: 0.0
  - 2016-2017: 0.0
Projections of the Proportion of People in Multidimensional Poverty According to National Definitions, 2015-2030*
Projections of the Proportion of People in Multidimensional Poverty According to National Definitions + Global MPI, 2015-2030*

2015 Baseline Abs Local
2015 Baseline Rel Local
Projection Lin Local
2015 Baseline Abs All
2015 Baseline Rel All
Projection Lin All
2030 Goal Abs Local
2030 Goal Rel Local
Projection Exp Local
2030 Goal Abs All
2030 Goal Rel All
Projection Abs All
Projections

❑ NMPI (28 countries)
  ❑ 15 (54%) unambiguously ‘on track’ (Mali; El Salvador; Maldives; Philippines; Paraguay; Armenia; Nepal; India; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Thailand; Colombia; Viet Nam; Bhutan; Morocco; Malaysia)
  ❑ 7 (25%) unambiguously ‘off track’ (Honduras; Malawi; Guinea-Bissao; Ghana; Ecuador; Chile; Uganda)
  ❑ Remaining 6 (21%) ‘ambiguous to varying degree and extent (Rwanda ‘mainly on track’)

❑ AROPE (36 countries)
  ❑ 5 (14%) unambiguously ‘on track’ (Albania; Hungary; Iceland; Poland; Serbia)
  ❑ 23 (64%) unambiguously ‘off track’
  ❑ Remaining 8 (22%) ‘ambiguous’ to varying degree and extent (North Macedonia and Portugal ‘mainly on track’)

❑ Global MPI (60 countries)*
  ❑ 30 (50%) unambiguously ‘on track’
  ❑ 13 (22%) unambiguously ‘off track’
  ❑ Remaining 17 (28%) ‘ambiguous’ to varying degree and extent (Suriname and Turkmenistan ‘mainly on track’)

*Albania, Ecuador, Honduras, North Macedonia ‘on track’ in Global MPI
Concluding Remarks

- National MPIs and AROPE reported towards SDG Database and elsewhere allow for first large-scale assessment of progress towards SDG Target 1.2
  
  "By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women, and children living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions."

- Valuable evidence-base to track trends over time (and continue to do so)

- National MPI add more nuanced insights (disaggregation; breakdown by indicator) for more policy-salient analyses and guidance

- Complicated relationship of headcount ratio and demographic trends (esp. population growth)

- Recent period with global pandemic + its socio-economic implications; + conflicts or disasters

- National MPIs show their effects, whom they affect, and which deprivations

  → Continued analyses (incl. disaggregation) over time to inform *Leave No One Behind* Agenda
References


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