UNDP Regional Scoping Study
Approaches to Measuring Multidimensional Poverty in Europe and Central Asia

Geneva, Switzerland, 28-29 November 2023
UNECE meeting of Experts on Measuring Poverty and Inequality

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The purpose of the study is to provide practical recommendations for the development of a national Multidimensional Poverty Index (N-MPI) in countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

**Scope:** Review of multidimensional poverty measurement in 52 countries
- MICs (middle income per capita according to the World Bank classification)
- Latin America, Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe and Central Asia

**Rationale:** Why was our research focused on Middle-Income countries?
- Most of countries in Europe and Central Asia are MICs
- Going beyond measuring acute deprivation
Timespan and Validation Process

June-October 2023
Drafting and 1st round of peer-review

24-26 October 2023
UNDP-OPHI High-level Regional Workshop on Multidimensional Poverty Measurements
Istanbul, Turkiye

28-29 November 2023
UNECE meeting of group of experts on Poverty and Inequality, Geneva, Switzerland

December 2023 – February 2024
Final peer-review and release of the publication

2-4th Qtrs. of 2024
Series of webinars
Design and development of on-line digital N-MPI tool for countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Goals and Objectives

❖ Review of country National Multidimensional Poverty measurements’ designs and methodological approaches and identify the most common patterns in the all components;

✓ Compile a “universe” of MPI indicators (400+) derived from 52 middle-income countries

❖ Links of National Multidimensional Poverty Index (N-MPI) with policy development and monitoring based on practices from countries in the region.

❖ Description of approaches for the development of N-MPI in the region of Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA).

✓ creating a kind of menu/set of the most common indicators (20+) for the Eastern Europe and Central Asian countries to:

  - assist countries in defining and monitoring national measure of SDG indicator 1.2.2; and
  - help establish complementarity with other SDG targets.

❖ Building partnerships between countries and key development partners
Data Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Official Sources</th>
<th>Unofficial Sources</th>
<th>OPHI and Other UN Agencies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National reports on MP Measurement from:</td>
<td>• Independent Studies</td>
<td>Reports and briefs from UNDP, the World Bank, UNICEF, and UNECE staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>• NSOs</td>
<td>• Academic Production</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Other Gov. Departments</td>
<td>• Journalistic Investigations and Reports</td>
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In most cases, the complete set of documents is not publicly available:

(i) a legal document introducing N-MPI
(ii) the methodology/methodological note itself
(iii) latest N-MPI reports in researched countries
# Key methodologies for measuring national multidimensional poverty in the region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Method opportunities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AF-method based MPI</td>
<td>The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)</td>
<td>Monitoring multidimensional poverty of the population and various groups (including children) of the country Use for policy formulation, coordination and monitoring of its results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODA – Child poverty</td>
<td>UNICEF Innocenti</td>
<td>Measuring and monitoring the multidimensional child poverty Use for advocacy purposes to highlight children's rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>AROPE</td>
<td>'Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs' (EPSCO) EU Council of Ministers</td>
<td>Monitoring the country's poor or at risk-of-poverty, or severely materially deprived, or living in households with very low work intensity</td>
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Multidimensional poverty measurements (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Methodology</th>
<th>Countries</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AF-based method (24)</td>
<td><strong>Latin America</strong>: Belize, Chile, Columbia, Costa-Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras?, Panama, Paraguay</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>South, East and Southeast Asia</strong>: Bhutan, India, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Europe and Central Asia</strong>: Armenia, <strong>Kazakhstan</strong>*, Kyrgyzstan, <strong>Republic of Moldova</strong>*, <strong>Uzbekistan</strong>*</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* work-in-progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AROPE (5)</td>
<td><strong>Europe and Central Asia</strong>: Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Other/mix multidimensional poverty measurement (5) | Cuba: Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (IVM) methodology  
Mexico: CONEVAL methodology  
Fiji: Individual Deprivation Measure (IDM) methodology  
Myanmar: Multidimensional Disadvantage Index (MDI) methodology  
Vietnam: other/mix + Alkire-Foster methodology |
The “universe” of indicators used by MIC countries to measure multidimensional poverty

- Metadata source
- Data status
- Year of methodology
- Supporting partner
- Periodicity
- Method
- Source of indicator
- Unit of identification
- Poverty cut-off
- Dimension: total number, weights
- Indicators: total number, weights,
- Grouping in dimensions
- Disaggregation: variables
- Reporting; National MPI report, VNR or VLR
Common Indicators for Measuring Multidimensional Poverty in ECA

- **Indicators**: 25-30 potential indicators

- **Dimensions**: common dimensions (education, health, housing, living standards/basic needs, (un)employment, access to public services) and less common dimensions (environment, social security, social protection, affordability)

- **Searching for missing dimensions**: digital gap, habitat quality, food security, financial security, etc.

- **Poverty cut-off**: definition of several lines: poor, moderately poor, vulnerable

- **Data sources**: Household surveys, Labour Force surveys, MODA/MICS, EU-SILC, etc.
Thank you!