

GLOBAL POVERTY: CHALLENGES, STATISTICS, AND STRATEGIES FOR ERADICATION

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Annotation: This article provides a comprehensive analysis of poverty, detailing its various dimensions beyond mere financial constraints. It highlights the significant impacts of poverty, including hunger, malnutrition, limited access to essential services, and social marginalization. The text presents statistical insights, such as the number of people living in extreme poverty and the setbacks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, it explores potential solutions, including secondary education, reducing inequality, and addressing climate change-related risks. The role of international organizations, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and global initiatives is also discussed, emphasizing the need for effective policy implementation and sustainable economic growth to eradicate poverty.

Key Words: Poverty, Extreme poverty, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Economic inequality, Social protection, Education and poverty reduction, Climate change and poverty, Global poverty statistics, United Nations initiatives, Microfinance, Policy implementation, Economic growth.

Poverty description (numbers and facts) – Lack of money and productive resources to support sustainable livelihoods is only one aspect of poverty. Hunger and malnutrition, a lack of access to safe drinking water, education, and other basic services, high rates of maternal and infant mortality, social marginalization and discrimination, and a lack of involvement in decision-making are some of its expressions.

Nowadays, poverty is one of the most thought-out and complicated problems in the world. In fact, poverty impacts billions of people of all racial, ethnic, and age groups when they lack adequate access to resources like healthcare, education, sanitation, and nutrition—in other words, when their fundamental needs are not met.

“According to the most recent estimates, in 2023 almost 700 million people around the world were subsisting on less than \$2.15.”¹ The share of the world’s workers living in extreme poverty fell by half over the last decade: from 14.3 per cent in 2010 to 7.1 per cent in 2019. However, in 2020 it rose for the first time in two decades after the COVID-19 pandemic. It is projected that the global goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 will not be achieved, with almost 600 million people still living in extreme poverty. One out of six children lives in extreme poverty. Between 2013 and 2022, the number of children living on less than US\$2.15 a day decreased from 383 million to 333 million, but the economic impact of COVID-19 led to three lost years of progress. In 2021, 53 per cent of the world’s population – 4.1 billion people – did not benefit from any form of social protection.

Some potential ways to combat poverty

Focus on secondary education – “A recent UNESCO policy document stated that if everyone in the world succeeded in finishing secondary education, the poverty rate could be reduced by over 50%².” According to UNESCO study, almost 60 million people would be lifted out of poverty if all adults completed secondary school. Boost equality: One of the main causes of poverty is inequality.

¹ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/overview>

² <https://www.unesco.org/gem-report/en/articles/world-poverty-could-be-cut-half-if-all-adults-completed-secondary-education#:~:text=If%20all%20adults%20completed%20secondary%20education%2C%20420%20million%20could%20be,Saharan%20Africa%20and%20South%20Asia.>

Institutional limitations may result in fewer chances for those who do not participate in their communities. Everyone must be involved in creating community-level solutions, according to Concern Worldwide, a nonprofit organization that works to eradicate poverty in 29 countries in Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean.

Increasing Resilience: Poverty results from circumstances that involve a great deal of risk and inequality. **Address climate change-related issues:** Poor people worldwide, especially in Central Asian countries, are at great risk from climate change. Instability is linked to structural issues, poor government administration, and a deficiency in essential institutional activities. Millions of people could be forced into poverty in Central Asian countries if nothing is done. **Closing the gap between policy aspiration and achievement:** Policies are frequently implemented differently than they are stated. This leads to a discrepancy between what individuals anticipate and what they experience on a daily basis.

For example, basic services may be inaccessible to those in a community with the least influence. The World Bank claims that while policy goals are commendable, there is a good chance that what was stated and what has been done will differ significantly, as will the extent to which communities have truly benefited from the actions taken.

Sustainable Development Goals for poverty alleviating “Ending poverty in all its forms is the first of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”³ Target 1.A, which states, “Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programs and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions,” is the primary SDG reference to addressing poverty. In order to guarantee that all men and women have equal access to economic resources by 2030, as well as ownership and control over land and other types of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology, and financial services, including microfinance, the SDGs also seek to establish sound policy frameworks at the national and regional levels that are based on gender-sensitive and pro-poor development strategies. At current rates of progress, **the world will likely not meet the global goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030**, with estimates indicating that nearly 600 million people will still be struggling with extreme poverty then. Extreme poverty is concentrated in places where it will be hardest to eradicate— among the least developed countries, in conflict-affected areas, and in remote, rural areas.

Global Action - The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development promises to leave no one behind and to reach those furthest behind first. Meeting this ambitious development agenda requires visionary policies for sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work for all, social integration, declining inequality, rising productivity and a favorable environment. In the 2030 Agenda, Goal 1 recognizes that ending poverty in all its forms everywhere is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. While progress in eradicating extreme poverty has been incremental and widespread, the persistence of poverty, including extreme poverty remains a major concern in Africa, the least developed countries, small island developing States, in some middle-income countries, and countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries. In light of these concerns, the General Assembly, at its seventy-second session, decided to

³ https://www.shared-interest.com/gb/blog/working-together-towards-sustainable-development-goals-sdgs?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAiAw5W-BhAhEiwApv4goJRB1M56JXSfLO9TsDXh5cEmiwQR4fl_5dinXKNV0y3UnB0STfIXghoCtwAQAvD_BwE

proclaim the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027). The objective of the Third Decade is to maintain the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) towards poverty eradication. Further, the 3rd Decade is also expected to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Sustainable Development Goals.

Efforts of International departments and organizations In 1995, the World Summit for Social Development held in Copenhagen, identified three core issues: poverty eradication, employment generation and social integration, in contributing to the creation of an international community that enables the building of secure, just, free and harmonious societies offering opportunities and higher standards of living for all. Within the United Nations system, the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs acts as Focal Point for the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty and undertakes activities that assist and facilitate governments in more effective implementation of the commitments and policies adopted in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the further initiatives on Social Development adopted at the 24th Special session of the General Assembly. “A potential game-changer in accelerating SDG progress - At the 2023 SDG Summit held at the UN’s headquarters in New York, the General Assembly adopted a political declaration to accelerate action to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).”⁴ The document aims to drive economic prosperity and well-being for all people while protecting the environment. In addition, it includes a commitment to financing for developing countries and supports the proposal of an SDG Stimulus of at least \$500 billion annually, as well as an effective debt-relief mechanism.

In conclusion poverty is a severe problem that requires quick attention since it impacts people's well-being. Millions of people will not have access to food, safe drinking water, housing, or education if the right steps are not done. excessive rates of maternal and newborn mortality, excessive unemployment, and a generalized sense of powerlessness are further consequences of poverty. Promoting economic growth, which will raise incomes and expand employment opportunities for the impoverished, enhancing education, advancing microfinance initiatives, and putting an end to all hostilities are just a few of the ways that poverty can be decreased.

Foydalanilgan adabiyotlar:

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2. World Bank – Global Poverty Report and Policy Implementation Challenges.
3. UNESCO – The Role of Education in Poverty Reduction.
4. Concern Worldwide – Community-Level Solutions for Poverty Eradication.
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6. World Summit for Social Development (1995, Copenhagen) – Poverty Eradication, Employment Generation, and Social Integration.
7. SDG Summit 2023, United Nations Headquarters, New York – Political Declaration for Accelerating

⁴ <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/ending-poverty>