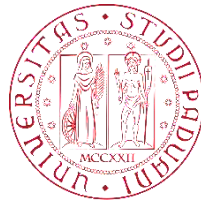# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PADOVA

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, LAW,
AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Master's degree in

Human Rights and Multi-level Governance

THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY: A HISTORY OF

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL n. 1

Supervisor: Prof. LORENZO MECHI

Candidate: DJORDJE MILIC

Matriculation No.: 2025264

A.Y. 2023/2024

Table of Contents

Abstract

From year to year, the same question has been asked repeatedly: can sustainable development be reached? People are aware that the world needs changes in order to create suitable conditions for life on a daily basis. It demands a lot of efforts necessary for the creation of a universal plan which will help all human beings on the planet.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is an essential document whose goals and targets aim to make the world a better place to live. It's a call for taking action on a global level. The United Nations and the European Union contribute with their power, strong desires, and experience to the accomplishment of the task. Moreover, the organizations oblige their member states to implement it in their national systems and to follow the given instructions and rules with the purpose of achieving the goals. There are bodies established by the UN and other organizations that have a duty to monitor and support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

This master's thesis is going to explain the 2030 Agenda, with a focus on SDG no. 1, throughout history. It will follow the UN development program and the EU policy dedicated to the implementation of the agenda and the eradication of poverty. Global poverty is one of the most urgent problems that the world is facing today, affecting around 9% of the world's population. It is measured by the poverty line that calculates the cost of basic needs. A high level of global poverty is worrying and must be eliminated in the following years. Many people can't afford fundamental things such as food, water, medical care, and shelter, indispensable for a decent life. In addition, COVID-19 pandemic, wars, and political unrest have influenced the process of the elimination of poverty negatively.

Looking for answers to questions about how to stop factors that cause poverty, I would pay attention to conferences, forums, and summits where the world's leaders gather in one place with the purpose of finding a method for the rapid implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the eradication of poverty. Still, it is a wide range topic that is seeking for appropriate solutions.

Key words: 2030 Agenda; SDGs; implementation; eradication of poverty; international institutions; global events; solutions

INTRODUCTION

The implementation of the sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda necessitates an integrated strategy, and this can't be accomplished without first recognizing the connections between the SDGs and their targets. The 2030 Agenda is a continuation of the UN Millennium Development Goals which were the first worldwide agreement to address global issues such as eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, as well as improving access to education and continuing to fight against climate change. The eradication of poverty is a long-term problem that affects people in every part of the planet. The world's leaders and organizations are constantly trying to find an appropriate solution that will help everyone get out of living in poor conditions.

In chapter I, I will explain the term "the 2030 Agenda", relying on the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and their interconnectedness. In more detail, the idea is to justify how the concept of sustainable development started. I believe that a lot of people somewhere have heard of the term "sustainable development", but they are not sure what it exactly refers to. Therefore, it will look back on history and compare what has happened since 1972, the Stockholm Conference, to the New York Conference in 2015, in order to present the most important facts in a clear way. My plan is to mention the conferences that have been held, from the first world's conference on the environment as a global problem to the adoption of the principle of leaving no one behind.

Chapter II is dedicated to the United Nations and the European Union's approach to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN General Assembly adopted the agenda at the conference in New York, and it has a responsibility and duty to promote the values and ensure the achievement of sustainable development goals and targets. Furthermore, the United Nations has created a platform called "the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development" to monitor and support the State Members implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In the same way, the European Union (EU) plays a strong global and regional leadership role in achieving the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, but its objectives must be converted into more concrete plans and actions. Additionally, national institutions involvement needs to enhance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda based on the recommendations and guidelines directed by the UN and their endeavor to eradicate poverty. In addition, it will be talking about the general results of the Voluntary National Reviews with the purpose of analyzing the achieved goals and improving those that haven't been accomplished yet.

It leads to Chapter III and 17 SDGs which are meaningful equally, but the thesis will observe the "no poverty" goal as a global issue. Poverty isn't a phenomenon typically only in modern society, but the way it's manifested in modern society and the way of dealing with its occurrence, issues, and process, modern society has some specifics that are different from the manifestation in society in various

periods of time. I mean on the earliest social communities, the ancient period, the medieval period, and the modern period. The context of this term has changed over time, but it usually encompasses the lack of material goods necessary for satisfying elementary needs for an individual, family, or social group.

From a global society point of view, it can be noticed as an enhancement in improving the average living standard, but poverty still presents a large problem in modern society. It's not a characteristic of modern society; it has appeared in all time periods. During the development of human society, there is a need to redefine the term poverty. It's not only the lack of material goods for the satisfaction of human needs anymore; it's a need for sustainable life and health.

There are many factors in modern society that are causing poverty and raising the level from day to day. One of them is individual responsibility of a person for his/her position such as lack of motivation, inability, and laziness. Furthermore, wider society processes and structural factors (education, class affiliation. long-term economic underdevelopment. weak social mobility. unbalanced distribution of incomes. conflicts in some parts of the world. I need to mention national disasters (floods. earthquakes. global warming...) that are one of the leading factors. In the third chapter, the main points will be analyzed, such as goals, instruments, results, projects, statistics, and improvements that have been made or should be made in order to eradicate poverty.

The final chapter will be dedicated to world events, inviting all countries to sit together and try to find a way that points out to a particular solution. While people are reading in a daily newspaper, on internet platforms, or watching TV about how the world is getting better and better, becoming wealthier, and how the average world income per capita is rising, why are there still a lot of people who are extremely poor? The very landscape answer explains that it's connected to the distribution of incomes. I strongly believe that there is enough richness in the world, but it is split out in an improper way. The point is to analyze the adopted decisions by world leaders and potential solutions for eliminating poverty in the world.

CHAPTER I

1. WHAT IS THE AGENDA 2030?

This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. 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. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet.[1]

The prevalence of poverty represents an unmet challenge in modern society. Aspirations towards sustainable development require eradicating poverty in all its forms. It's very demanding to achieve that task because poverty has spread to many countries in the world and encompasses almost 10% of the total population of the world's citizens.

Achieving the 2030 Agenda, given its complex and interlinked nature, requires looking beyond the immediate time horizon and beyond national borders, in order to achieve the SDGs globally. That is why it is important to assess not just the domestic performance of individual countries in terms of achieving the SDGs, but also how they might impact upon other countries' own performance, as well as on those global public goods whose delivery is a collective responsibility of all countries.[2]

In the following parts, there will be a word about the national involvement regarding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the reducing of poverty. States should play a crucial role in accomplishments of the goals and targets. Also, cooperation and empathy need to be on a high level among them. They have to aim to facilitate each other in incorporating the SDGs in national legal systems based on the given instructions.

National approaches for implementing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs vary between countries. The 2016 edition of Better Policies for Sustainable Development concludes with an overview of 18 countries' initial efforts to "nationalise" the agenda and adapt it to their own country context and

---

[1] "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | Department of Economic and Social Affairs," accessed June 12, 2023, https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda.

[2] Junya Ino, Fabrice Murtin, and Michal Shinwell, "Measuring Transboundary Impacts in the 2030 Agenda: Conceptual Approach and Operationalisation" (Paris: OECD, November 16, 2021), https://doi.org/10.1787/62f13e92-en.

priorities. It shows that most of them have begun to align their existing national sustainable development strategies, as well as their development co-operation policies, with the new agenda.[3]

Tackling the 17 goals in the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require new thinking in developed and developing countries alike, among leaders and civil society, in the corporate boardrooms and the village halls. The innovations will require fundamental changes in our patterns of consumption and production, and a recognition that we are all in this together.[4]

In fact, each particular goal, as well as the tools to achieve it, must be seen through the prism of policy coherence. This necessitates the knowledge that judgments taken on one aim will have an effect on others. It is a vision that is less plain and uncomplicated than traditional methods.

The 2030 Agenda also sets out principles that should guide the follow-up and review processes as being people-centred, gender and human rights-sensitive, and having a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind.[5]

1.1. How did came about?

Adopted by world leaders at the United Nations on 25 September 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets out an ambitious plan to achieve transformational shifts in five areas of critical importance for humanity: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership. It aims to: 1) end poverty and hunger in all forms and dimensions; 2) protect the planet from degradation and take urgent action on climate change to support the needs of present and future generations; development 3) ensure that all people can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature; objective of 4) foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies that are free from fear and violence; and 5) mobilise the means to implement the 2030 Agenda with the participation Agenda is un of all countries, all stakeholders and all people.[6]

---

[3] "Better Policies for Sustainable Development 2016: A New Framework for Policy Coherence | READ Online," oecd-ilibrary.org, accessed June 21, 2023, https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/development/better-policies-for-sustainable-development-2016_9789264256996-en.

[4] "Debate the Issues: New Approaches to Economic Challenges | READ Online," oecd-ilibrary.org, accessed June 21, 2023, https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/debate-the-issues-new-approaches-to-economic-challenges_9789264264687-en.

[5] "Leave No One Behind: How Are Development Assistance Committee Members Answering the Pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? | READ Online," oecd-ilibrary.org, accessed June 21, 2023, https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/development/leave-no-one-behind_eadd2f8d-en.

[6] "The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda: Towards a Successful Implementation by Poland | READ Online," oecd-ilibrary.org, accessed June 12, 2023, https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/the-2030-sustainable-development-agenda_9789264287341-en.

People, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnership, also known as the 5Ps, emphasize how the SDGs are an interwoven framework rather than a collection of individual objectives. Also, progress achieved regarding one pillar has to weigh and reinforce progress made on another.

Sustainable development goal interactions: An analysis based on the five pillars of the 2030 agenda
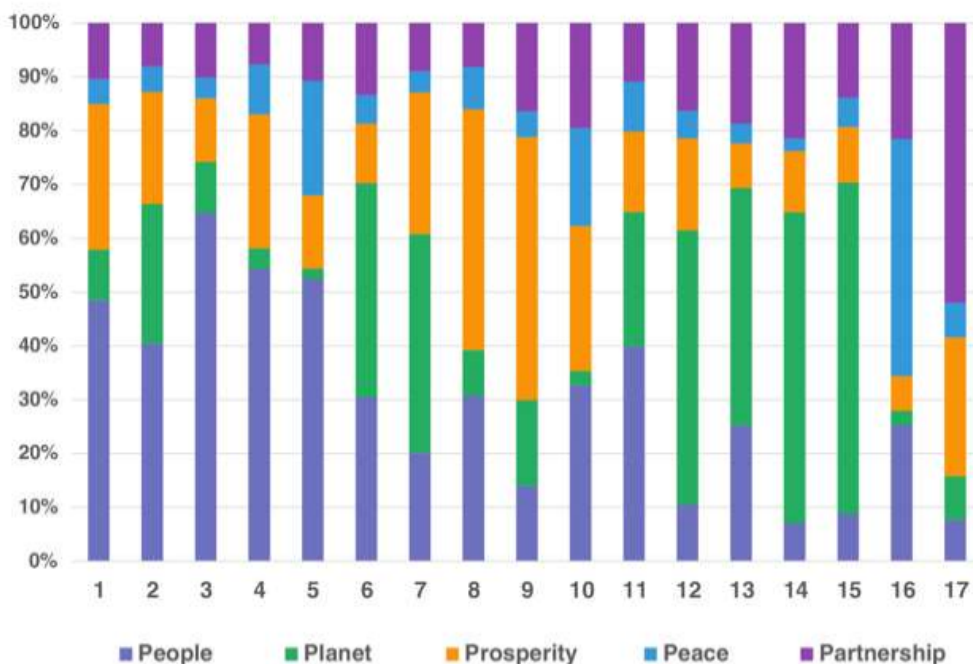
Figure 1

To demonstrate the spread of five pillars among the goals, I'm using the graph (Figure 1) that contains five pillars (presented in different colors), seventeen sustainable development goals (numerated), and percentages to utilize the relative distribution of target results for each sustainable development goal. It can be concluded that all 5Ps are included in all 17 SDGs at the target level.

1.2 Historical part

In the second half of the 20th century, international conferences played a significant role in raising humanity's awareness of the seriousness of environmental problems. One of them is the UN Conference held in Stockholm that became a turning point in the environmental policy of countries and the international community.

The 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm was the first world conference to make the environment a major issue. The participants adopted a series of principles for sound management of the environment including the Stockholm Declaration and Action Plan for the Human Environment and several resolutions.[7]

The Stockholm Conference brought together industrialized and developing countries to describe people's rights to a healthy and productive environment. The Stockholm Declaration defines the principles for the preservation and improvement of the natural environment. After that, there were series of meetings about people's rights to adequate food, safe housing, clean water, and access to family planning. In order to restore the connection between people and nature, global institutions were created within the UN. One of the decisions mentioned in the Stockholm Declaration is the formation of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP).

The action plan contains 109 items which solve organizational, economic, political issues of environmental protection and relations between states and international organizations.

After the Stockholm Conference, in 1982, the second United Nations conference on the environment was held in Nairobi. At that time, it was warned about the uncontrolled industrial development and exploitation of natural resources and the consequences they leave on the environment.

"The World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) was established by the United Nations in 1984. Under the chairmanship of the Norwegian physician and political leader, Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland, it was asked to propose long-term strategies for dealing with the world's environmental and development problems to the turn of the century", stated Brian Keeble.[8]

In 1987, the United Nations Brundtland Commission defined sustainability as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Today, there are almost 140 developing countries in the world seeking ways of meeting their development needs, but with

---

[7] United Nations, "United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm 1972," United Nations (United Nations), accessed June 22, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/conferences/environment/stockholm1972.

[8] Brian R. Keeble, "The Brundtland Commission: Environment and Development to the Year 2000," *Medicine and War* 3, no. 4 (1987): 207–10.

the increasing threat of climate change, concrete efforts must be made to ensure development today does not negatively affect future generations.[9]

The modern understanding of sustainable development was conceived in the 1987 final Report of the World Commission for Environmental Protection and Development, popularly known as the Brundtland Report. The Brundtland report was understood as a desirable continuation of economic growth and formulated a politically acceptable idea of sustainable development.

The primary aim of the report was to address the urgent global environmental and developmental challenges of the time, particularly in the context of increasing environmental degradation and poverty. The report recognized that environmental issues, economic development, and social equity are interconnected and should be addressed holistically rather than in isolation. In addition, it proposed a series of policy recommendations and strategies to promote sustainable development, including the integration of environmental and economic policies, the importance of conserving natural resources, the need for poverty alleviation, and the importance of public participation in decision-making.

The report emphasized that while all nations share a common responsibility for sustainable development, there should be recognition of the different levels of development and environmental impact among nations. This concept later became a central principle in international environmental agreements. The Brundtland Report remains a seminal document in the field of sustainability and continues to influence policies, initiatives, and discussions related to environmental conservation, social equity, and economic development worldwide. It highlighted the need for a more balanced and responsible approach to development to ensure the well-being of current and future generations.

It's important to emphasize that Brundtland has become known as the "mother of sustainability" since the publication of the report, Our Common Future. It defined "sustainable development" and became the basis of many global initiatives. Based on that, the Brundtland Report called on the UN to establish a UN Program of Action for Sustainable Development to implement the guidelines outlined in the report. The report laid the groundwork for the Rio Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, which eventually led to the creation of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development that same year.

The United Nations Conference on Environmental Protection and Development (UNCED), held in June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), was the largest of all United Nations conferences ever held. There

---

[9] United Nations, "Sustainability," United Nations (United Nations), accessed June 22, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/sustainability.

was a huge number of official representatives from around 150 countries attended, including 116 national political leaders.

The 1992 summit was nevertheless generally successful insofar as it connected the issues of development and environmental protection for the first time. In addition, the result is the signing and adoption of several important documents, including:

- Declaration on Environment and Development - better known as the Rio Declaration;

- Convention on Climate Change;

- Convention on Biological Diversity;

- Principle on Management, Protection and Sustainable development of all types of forests;

- Action plan for sustainable development in the 21st century - called Agenda 21.

The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, often abbreviated as *the Rio Declaration*, is a document adopted in 1992 at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) symposium, informally known as the Earth Summit. The Rio Declaration consists of 27 principles aimed at guiding future sustainable development around the world.

Piel wrote that "In 40 chapters, Agenda 21 spells out the tasks necessary to secure "sustainable development." It is a program for husbanding the planet's wasting resources. Along with the roster of problems familiar to environmentalists-the fear of the ozone layer, global warming, deforestation, desertification, soil erosion, and biodiversity-Agenda 21 addresses action to be taken against poverty, infant mortality, malnutrition, epidemic disease, illiteracy, and other afflictions that waste that other resource of the planet: its human population." [10]

Before the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals produced the Millennium Declaration, which was accepted by 189 members of the United Nations in September 2000, in Monterrey. The implementation of the Declaration was discussed at the 2005 World Summit held in New York. The adoption of the aforementioned Declaration is considered a significant moment for cooperation at the global level in the 21st century. The declaration highlighted the key challenges facing humanity in this millennium, provided answers to the mentioned challenges, and set specific indicators for approaching interconnected development goals and objectives, authorities, human rights, peace, and security.

---

[10] Gerard Piel, "ESSAY: Agenda 21: Sustainable Development," *Scientific American* 267, no. 4 (1992): 128–128.

The MDGs represented a shared global commitment among member states of the United Nations to work toward achieving these goals. They were seen as a blueprint for international development efforts. Also, the world leaders recognized the need for a unified global effort to combat these issues.

The Millennium Development Goals represented a significant global effort to address poverty and related development challenges. While they made progress in many areas, they also highlighted the need for ongoing international cooperation and a more holistic approach to sustainable development, which is now embodied in the Sustainable Development Goals.

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with the principle of leaving no one behind. It is the continuation of the Millennium Development Goals, but extended and requiring more financial support. All UN member states agreed to 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure peace and prosperity for all people on the planet by 2030. The SDGs are a package of universal goals, sub-goals, and indicators, according to which the UN member states have committed themselves to developing the framework of both domestic and local development policies.

The sustainable development goals are grounded in the millennium development goals and they have many connections that lead to the same achievement. The MDGs have made big progress in some countries, but there is still a lack of full implementation. Therefore, the plan is that the SDGs, learning from the MDGs lessons and mistakes, continue to reach the goals and be more effective.

2. THE LINK BETWEEN SDGs AND MDGs

After numerous criticisms about the Millennium Development Goals and the failure to achieve the set goals, there was a need to create a new sustainable development plan that would focus on combating inequality, fighting poverty and hunger, and numerous other important but neglected areas.

"The centerpiece of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is the set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals reiterate the global priorities established by the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, the SDGs are far more expansive and ambitious than the MDGs, wrote Michel"[11]

---

[11] James Michel, "Elements of the 2030 Agenda," Beyond Aid (Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), 2016), https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep23313.6.

There are eight Millennium Development Goals, and they are as follows: combat extreme poverty and hunger; achieve universal primary education; promote gender equality and empower women; reduce child mortality; improve maternal health; fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; ensure environmental sustainability; and create a global partnership for development.

While the MDGs focused primarily on social development, the SDGs take a more comprehensive approach. They encompass social, economic, and environmental dimensions of development. This holistic approach recognizes that development is interconnected and that addressing one aspect, such as poverty reduction, requires addressing related issues like environmental sustainability and inequality.

Fukuda-Parr points out that "Many development goals have been set by the United Nations since the first "development decade" of the 1960s. What is new about the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)? First, an unprecedented assembly of the world's heads of state generated them when they met in September 2000. Second, the goals put human development-poverty and people and their lives-at the center of the global development agenda for the new millennium, a shift away from growth as the central objective of development. Third, MDGs are not just aspirations but provide a framework for accountability: they do not simply state ideals but go on to define concrete goals that can be monitored. Fourth, they address not only development outcomes but also inputs from rich countries, thus forming a compact that holds both rich and poor governments accountable for opening markets, giving more aid and debt relief, and transferring technology."[12] Although a big improvement has been made, the Millennium Declaration didn't reach all goals and targets.

Persaud and Dagher emphasize that the MDGs were dedicated to developing countries because "The goals, which were expected to be achieved in countries that the United Nations identified as developing, were conceived and written by developed European and North American countries and presented to governments in developing countries for signing."[13] The United Nations precisely defined states for signing the declaration and automatically eliminated the others. This is one of the major distinctions between the MDGs and SDGs. As we know, sustainable development goals refer to all countries in the world.

Many people feel the Millennium Goals are plagued by a paradox, namely that the Millennium Declaration should be a link between the rich and poor countries of the world, where poor countries

---

[12] Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, "Millennium Development Goals: Why They Matter," *Global Governance* 10, no. 4 (2004): 395–402.

[13] Nadini Persaud and Ruby Dagher, *The Role of Monitoring and Evaluation in the UN 2030 SDGs Agenda* (Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2021), https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-70213-7.

promised to change direction towards the achievement of development goals and rich countries promised to support poor countries in financial, technological, and market terms. It is emphasized that of the eight development goals, only the last goal, Global Partnership, concerns the task of rich countries. In this sense, the Millennium Goals do not contain specific numerical data on the necessary financial aid or any other form of aid from rich countries in numbers or form, while the goals for poor countries are very detailed and numerically set.

In addition, McArthur claims that "The MDGs were not born with a plan, a budget, or a specific mapping out of responsibilities. Many think of the MDGs as the UN's goals, since the agreements were established at UN summits and UN officials have generally led the follow-up efforts for coordination and reporting. But the reality is much more complicated. No single individual or organization is responsible for achieving the MDGs. Instead, countless public, private, and nonprofit actors-working together and independently, in developed and developing countries-have furthered the goals. Amid this complexity, the achievements toward reaching the MDGS are all the more impressive."[14]

Rosenbaum thinks that it's necessary to pay attention to the failures made by implementing the MDGs because "The key to ensuring that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are as successful, or even more impactful, than the MDGs is that there must be a critical analysis of the failings of the MDGs and efforts to address these problems with the creation of the SDGs. Momentum alone will not drive the SDGs. They will be successful only if they reflect on the MDGs."[15]

The process of formulating the SDGs was more inclusive and participatory than that of the MDGs. It involved consultations with a wide range of stakeholders, including governments, civil society organizations, and the private sector. This collaborative approach sought to ensure that the goals reflected the diverse needs and perspectives of different regions and communities. The SDGs continue to use a system of indicators and monitoring mechanisms, similar to the MDGs, to track progress toward the goals. This allows for an ongoing assessment of how countries are advancing in various areas of sustainable development.

It may be concluded that the SDGs represent a natural progression from the MDGs, building on their successes and addressing their limitations. They reflect a global commitment to a more comprehensive and sustainable approach to development, recognizing that achieving prosperity, ending poverty, and

---

[14] John W. McArthur, "Own the Goals: What the Millennium Development Goals Have Accomplished," *Foreign Affairs* 92, no. 2 (2013): 152–62.
[15] Basia Rosenbaum, "Making the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Sustainable: The Transition from MDGs to the SDGs," *Harvard International Review* 37, no. 1 (2015): 62–64.

protecting the planet are interrelated goals that require collective action and cooperation among nations.

CHAPTER II

3. THE GLOBAL APPROACH - THE UN

„The United Nations is an international organization founded in 1945. Currently made up of 193 Member States, the UN and its work are guided by the purposes and principles contained in its founding Charter. The UN has evolved over the years to keep pace with a rapidly changing world. But one thing has stayed the same: it remains the one place on Earth where all the world's nations can gather together, discuss common problems, and find shared solutions that benefit all of humanity."[16]

The United Nations (UN) is a global institution established to promote the enforcement of international law, as well as to address matters pertaining to security, economic advancement, societal improvement, and the safeguarding of human rights among nations globally. Preceding the formation of the UN, the League of Nations served as an international body with the mandate of maintaining peace and fostering collaboration among nations across the globe.

The United Nations were founded in 1919 with the aim of promoting international cooperation and achieving peace and security. The term "United Nations" was then coined in 1942 by Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Declaration of the United Nations. However, the United Nations, as it is known today, was not officially established until 1945, when the United Nations Charter was drafted at the UN Conference on International Organization in San Francisco. The conference was attended by 50 countries and several non-governmental organizations, which signed the Charter.

„The United Nations can take action on a wide variety of issues due to its unique international character and the powers vested in its Charter, which is considered an international treaty. As such, the UN Charter is an instrument of international law, and UN Member States are bound by it. The UN Charter codifies the major principles of international relations, from sovereign equality of States to the prohibition of the use of force in international relations."[17]

The UN Charter's ideals safeguard future generations from conflict, affirm human rights, and promote equal rights for all people. Furthermore, it seeks to promote justice, freedom, and social growth for all members.

---

[16] United Nations, "About Us," United Nations (United Nations), accessed July 9, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/about-us. [17] United Nations, "UN Charter," United Nations (United Nations), accessed July 9, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter.

The UN recognizes poverty as a violation of human rights. It promotes social protection systems that provide a safety net for vulnerable populations, ensuring access to basic services and resources. Also, the UN works to prevent and resolve conflicts, as armed conflict often leads to poverty. Peacebuilding efforts aim to create stable environments in which development can occur, addressing the root causes of poverty.

„As with the League, the UN is based on a tripartite parliamentary structure including a Security Council (as a sort of Cabinet), a General Assembly or debating chamber with one vote for each state member but with few powers (sort of like legislatures), and an administrative Secretariat and secretary-general who, once again, is more secretary than general (a prototype of a public service).“[18]

The UN, with its mechanisms of working, should change in a way to support and help the UN member states in terms of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The United Nations addresses poverty through various programs, initiatives, and agencies aimed at alleviating and ultimately eradicating poverty on a global scale.

„After the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, it became clear that the United Nations development system needed to transform its way of working to help countries meet the SDGs.“[19] Substantive knowledge of the Agenda in its width and depth will be critical to achieving the SDGs. By adopting the Agenda, the UN member states agreed to a plan of action that will necessitate the collaborative efforts of all segments of society, including civil society, development practitioners, and the commercial sector.

The UN fosters partnerships with governments, civil society organizations, and the private sector to mobilize resources and expertise for poverty reduction efforts. These partnerships help coordinate and implement effective poverty alleviation programs. The international institution raises awareness about poverty-related issues and advocates for policies that promote poverty reduction and social inclusion.

Barbier and Burgess note, "the systems approach characterises sustainability as the maximisation of goals across environmental, economic and social systems."[20] While policymakers do agree on the need for a systemic approach, both the appropriation and implementation of this approach remain very modest.

---

[18] John Trent and Laura Schnurr, "Evolving International Organizations: The UN Past and Present," in *A United Nations Renaissance*, 1st ed., What the UN Is, and What It Could Be (Verlag Barbara Budrich, 2018), 22–55, https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctvdf03xp.6.

[19] Jimena Leiva Roesch and Masooma Rahmaty, "The Role of the UN Development System Reform in Localizing the 2030 Agenda," Localizing the 2030 Agenda in West Africa: (International Peace Institute, 2020), https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep25346.8.

[20] Edward B. Barbier and Joanne C. Burgess, "The Sustainable Development Goals and the Systems Approach to Sustainability," *Economics* 11, no. 1 (December 1, 2017), https://doi.org/10.5018/economics-ejournal.ja.2017-28.

The United Nations is deeply connected to poverty through its global efforts to address this pressing issue. It provides a framework, resources, and coordination mechanisms to tackle poverty on a global scale, aiming to create a more equitable and prosperous world for all.

3.1 The EU approach

„The following visionary leaders inspired the creation of the European Union we live in today. Without their energy and motivation, we would not be living in the sphere of peace and stability that we take for granted. From resistance fighters to lawyers and parliamentarians, the EU pioneers were a diverse group of people who held the same ideals: a peaceful, united and prosperous Europe."[21]

The European Union contains two highly important principles as tools for solving a certain issue by the EU or member states in an effective way.

The first one is the principle of subsidiarity implies the exercise of EU competence in problems that member states cannot effectively solve, and vice versa. While this principle notes that it will not apply in areas of exclusive EU competence, it is in fact most applicable there. Because if we characterize the principle of subsidiarity as a tool used by the member states or the EU depending on who can solve the problem more efficiently, and the EU still consists of member states, then this means that the member states solve the problem in the most efficient way possible without fear of violating the sovereignty of other member countries because they use supranational elements.

The principle of proportionality somewhat falls short of its cosmopolitan character because it is a brake on the principle of subsidiarity. A brake in the sense that it guarantees the inviolability of primary (founding treaties) and secondary (acts of EU bodies). The principle of proportionality is a pragmatic element of the EU organization, which testifies to the reluctance of the member states to give up their sovereignty, for the sake of more efficient problem solving and the legitimate idea of cosmopolitanism.

Through the enlargement process, the EU supports candidate countries in strengthening their institutions and harmonizing their policies with EU values and principles. The EU accession process consists of 33 chapters related to the EU acquis.

Cuyvers explains the main point of member states integration in the EU. „For despite the vital importance of good law and institutions, part of the real secret behind integration is that it ultimately forms a win-win for all players involved. For states, citizens and businesses alike, integration can

---

[21] "History of the EU, EU Pioneers | European Union," accessed July 9, 2023, https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en.

provide vital economic and political benefits. What is more, in our globalizing reality, integration is also necessary to retain the economic and political significance of individual states."[22]

The process of joining the EU is very simple and general. It is necessary to respect the rule of law and people's rights for the country to be democratically organized, to belong to the European continent, to equate their rights with the primary and secondary law of the EU, and to accept the euro as the currency of their country.

Thanks to the EU's commitment to sustainable development, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and EU accession produce synergistic effects for both processes. A number of SDGs are linked to the values and principles that candidate countries are trying to achieve through the accession process.

The EU has a strong commitment to social policy and social inclusion, establishing a social policy framework that emphasizes the importance of reducing poverty and promoting social cohesion among its member states. The EU encourages its members to develop strategies and programs to address poverty and social exclusion. Moreover, member states are encouraged to develop national strategies for social inclusion and poverty reduction. These strategies are designed to address the specific needs of vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

The EU provides financial support to its member states to implement social programs and initiatives aimed at reducing poverty. This includes funding for education, healthcare, unemployment benefits, and social welfare programs in order to eradicate poverty. The EU's structural and cohesion funds are used to reduce regional disparities and promote economic development in less affluent regions. These funds are often directed toward projects that create jobs and improve living conditions in areas with high poverty rates.

Child poverty is a particular concern for the EU, and it has established a European Platform for Investing in Children to promote policies and practices that improve the well-being of children and reduce child poverty. The EU is also involved in global efforts to combat poverty through development assistance programs. It provides financial aid and supports initiatives in developing countries to address poverty, promote economic growth, and improve living conditions.

Overall, the European Union recognizes poverty as a significant challenge and has integrated policies and programs aimed at reducing poverty and promoting social inclusion. Its approach involves a

---

[22] Armin Cuyvers, "The Road to European Integration," in *East African Community Law*, ed. Armin Cuyvers et al., Institutional, Substantive and Comparative EU Aspects (Brill, 2017), 22–42, https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1163/j.ctt1w76vj2.6.

combination of financial support, policy coordination, and advocacy to address poverty at the national, regional and global level.

Figure 2

Unlike the EU accession process, the emphasis of the 2030 Agenda is on people and sustainable lifestyles. Although these two policies may seem incompatible, in reality they fit well

together. Namely, sustainable development is at the core of the Europe 2020 Strategy, which is based on three pillars of growth, which reflect three dimensions of sustainable development:

1. Smart growth – focus on encouraging education and innovation;
2. Sustainable growth – focus on a low level of carbon emissions, climate change, and environmental protection;
3. Inclusive growth – focus on reducing poverty and opening new vacancies.

"In March, the European Commission released its Europe 2020 strategy proposal, which strives for "smart, sustainable and inclusive growth" and greater policy coordination between the EU and national governments. While the document was greeted with scepticism in some quarters, others believe it lays out the path to continued European prosperity and social cohesion."[23]

It was conceived as a response to the biggest economic crisis that hit the world since 1930 and that left extremely negative consequences on the lives of people in Europe. The 10-year strategy for the revival of the European economy also shows the great challenges facing Europe.

Better coordination of national and European policies is one of the most important recommendations of the European Council in order to make this ten-year plan as successful as possible. By the way, this strategy builds on the Lisbon Agenda, a very similar document that was the European development strategy in the period from 2000 to 2010. The Lisbon Agenda focused partly on the same things, and its main goal was to make Europe the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world.

In the Agenda, innovation is recognized as the engine of economic changes, and the knowledge economy and social and environmental renewal are determined as the most important elements.

„The Lisbon strategy is built on the idea of a strong synergy between the EC and the Member States. This synergy cannot exist without more commitment by the national governments. The EC is not different from the Member States. The Member States are the EC. This should be said and practiced."[24] The Lisbon Agenda, however, experienced numerous criticisms, from the way the goals were set through the way the Agenda was implemented to the failure to achieve what was planned. The European Commission now responds that some lessons from the Lisbon Agenda have been learned.

---

[23] "Europe 2020 – A Promising Strategy? - Intereconomics," accessed July 2, 2023, https://www.intereconomics.eu/pdf-download/year/2010/number/3/article/europe-2020-a-promising-strategy.html.

[24] Tania Zgajewski and Kalila Hajjar, "The Lisbon Strategy: A Revelator of the Present EU Hubris," The Lisbon Strategy: (Egmont Institute, 2005), https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep06706.6.

Financial support and the responsibility of people in power to make a strategy that will help other countries realize the vision demand a certain amount of effort in order to create a sustainable atmosphere among EU Member States. „The Europe 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth sets out a vision of Europe's economy over the forthcoming ten years. Given the huge infrastructure investment volumes required to implement the Strategy and the pressures facing government budgets, attracting private capital to the financing of infrastructure investment is crucial. There is a need for EU support to make the overall environment in all Member States more conducive to investment by the private sector, concluded Bovis."[25]

It is important to mention a specific index related to the Europe 2020 strategy. Pasimeni discusses index saying that „A specific index for each of the three main dimensions of the Europe 2020 strategy and develops a synthetic "Europe 2020 Index" to allow a quantification of the relative position of each member state towards the objectives of the strategy. This index seeks to give a concrete form to this policy initiative, in a way that accounts for the different dimensions and policy priorities, and in a manner that allows quantification and monitoring of its progress."[26]

The Europa 2020 Index is meaningful to explain the occasions of the member states related to new indicators. As Francesco and Paolo Pasimeni stated "This period mainly covers the years when the Lisbon Strategy was the headline strategy for the EU, however the analysis conducted through the

Europe 2020 Index is relevant because can help us understand the situation of each member state in terms of the new indicators and identify ongoing trends in the key areas of the new strategy."[27]

The European Union establishes regional policy, also known as Cohesion Policy, to promote the economic well-being of regions throughout the Union. It attempts to prevent regional imbalances by assisting underserved regions.

The main purpose of regional policy is to help less developed regions. In theory, the aid is in function of their development, which should harmonize the overall development of the European Union.

"Cohesion Policy targets all regions and cities in the European Union in order to support job creation, business competitiveness, economic growth, sustainable development, and improve citizens' quality of life. In order to reach these goals and address the diverse development needs in all EU regions, €

---

[25] Christopher H. Bovis, "Editorial: The Europe 2020 Project Bond Initiative," *European Procurement & Public Private Partnership Law Review* 7, no. 1 (2012): 3–4.

[26] Pasimeni, Paolo. "The Europe 2020 Index." *Social Indicators Research* 110, no. 2 (2013): 613–35. http://www.jstor.org/stable/24718725

[27] Francesco Pasimeni and Paolo Pasimeni, "An Institutional Analysis of the Europe 2020 Strategy," *Social Indicators Research* 127, no. 3 (2016): 1021–38.

392 billion – almost a third of the total EU budget has been set aside for Cohesion Policy for 2021-2027."[28] It is also an expression of solidarity, given that support is directed to less developed regions and EU member states with the aim of strengthening the economic, social, and territorial cohesion of the Union.

Despite large investments in balanced regional development, large differences, not only between regions but also between entire EU member states, still exist. Certainly, the differences are still the biggest between the regions of the old member states and those that only recently joined the Union. Some studies even claim that the differences are increasing. An administratively and politically based way of increasingly uniform development, i.e., income and the establishment of a higher degree of economic cohesion, has not produced significant results in practice, at least for now.

"The conditions under which the EU and the member states have to address competitiveness issues and low potential growth rates have become much more difficult in the sovereign debt crisis, as the need for budgetary reforms, structural reforms and liberalisation coincides in time."[29]

Finally, stronger economic governance will also be achieved through strict oversight, and clear and measurable targets, both at national and community level. Members will have to submit national reports on reform, progress, and economic stability, and of course, the funds that would make all of this possible are extremely important. Also, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the eradication of poverty need to be in the foreground in order to build a sustainable society.

3.2 The UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

"The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), through its outcome on "The Future We Want", established the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in 2012. The HLPF is the central United Nations platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the global level. It is the apex of the architecture for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda established by the 2030 Agenda and General Assembly resolution 70/299."[30]

The HLPF is the UN's main platform for sustainable development and has a central role in monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. Representatives of all UN member states, as well as representatives

---

[28] "Inforegio - The EU's Main Investment Policy," accessed July 4, 2023, https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/what/investment-policy_en.

[29] "Europe 2020 – A Promising Strategy? - Intereconomics."

[30] "High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development," accessed July 10, 2023, https://hlpf.un.org/.

of civil society organizations, participate in the work of the HLPF, which is held under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The HLPF convenes annual sessions at the United Nations headquarters in New York, bringing together a diverse range of stakeholders, including member states, international organizations, civil society, the private sector, and academia. These sessions provide a forum for in-depth discussions, knowledge exchange, and the sharing of best practices.

Each year, the HLPF focuses on specific SDGs and themes, which provide a structured framework for discussing critical issues related to sustainable development. The HLPF encourages in-depth examinations of these themes through panel discussions, workshops, and side events. The Forum also generates policy recommendations and guidance to inform decision-making and policy formulation at the national, regional, and global levels. These recommendations are based on the lessons learned from member states' experiences and discussions during the sessions.

„The 2020 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), with its many side events, is going ahead, albeit with restrictions."[31]

The last Forum was held in 2022 in New York, and the topic was "Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

The positions and recommendations that the union representatives announced at the meeting in New York are based on the well-known workers' demands for the creation of a new social contract on which the construction of a stable global economy with full and dignified employment would rest.

The first week of the HLPF was dedicated to considering the five Sustainable Development Goals: access to education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), conservation of life in water (SDG 14), conservation of life on land (SDG 15), and partnership for achieving the goals of sustainable development (SDG 17). Although it was not included in the debate program, goal 8 was discussed in most of the discussion.

The second week of the Forum was devoted to national reviews of governments implementation of sustainable development goals in specific countries. An important component of the HLPF's work is the presentation of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) by member states. These reviews offer participating countries the opportunity to showcase their progress, experiences, and challenges in

---

[31] Sustainable Development Solutions Network, "Sustainable Development Policy in Crisis Mode" (Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2020), https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep25837.

implementing the SDGs at the national level. VNRs are intended to facilitate mutual learning and peer support among countries.

Global progress regarding the Sustainable Development Goals will be closely monitored by the HLPF, as the statement notes that the coming year 2023 will be exceptional as the United Nations will convene the second summit of heads of state and government of all UN members on the topic of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The HLPF has a certain responsibility and it "is supposed to deliver: (i) follow-up and review; (ii) a platform for dialogue and action-oriented agenda-setting; and (iii) political leadership and guidance."[32]

I would say that the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development represents a critical academic and diplomatic forum where governments, international organizations, civil society, and the private sector call to assess, discuss, and advance the global agenda for sustainable development, as outlined in the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. It serves as a hub for learning, sharing knowledge, and charting pathways toward a more sustainable and equitable future for everyone in the world.

3.3 OECD monitoring

In December 2016, the OECD Council adopted the Action Plan on the SDGs to assist international society and OECD member and partner nations in the adoption and implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

„The Action Plan aims to: i) support countries to identify where they currently stand in relation to the SDGs and where they need to be, and to propose sustainable pathways based on evidence; ii) reaffirms the OECD role as a leading source of expertise, data, good practices and standards in the economic, social and environmental areas of public policy that are relevant to SDGs; and iii) encourages a "race to the top for better and more coherent policies that can help deliver the SDGs through the use of hallmark OECD approaches (e.g. peer reviews and learning, monitoring and statistical reporting: policy dialogue; soft laws)."[33]

Based on this, the OECD has noticed some crucial fields for taking the action such as:

1. In the OECD's strategies and policy should be implemented the SDGs

---

[32] Marianne Beisheim and Felicitas Fritzsche, "The UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: An Orchestrator, More or Less?," *Global Policy* 13, no. 5 (2022): 683–93, https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.13112.

[33] "The Short and Winding Road to 2030: Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets | READ Online," oecd-ilibrary.org, accessed July 11, 2023, https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/the-short-and-winding-road-to-2030_af4b630d-en.

2. Power and tool to monitor the implementation of the 2030 Agenda
3. The OECD should provide help in creating the strategy on national level in order to reach the SDGs
4. Taking into consideration possible consequences of the SDGs for the OCED's political relationship with other countries

„The OECD reports to its members on the implementation of the OECD Action Plan on an annual basis, supporting their implementation efforts with OECD analysis and recommendations. Much of the OECD's work is relevant to the SDGs. This includes the importance of international co-operation and global governance as well as the Universal Values of the 2030 Agenda, such as the overarching principle of "leaving no one behind" (LNOB) and policy work on the "SPs (ie, People, Planet, Prosperity. Peace and Partnership) that are embedded in the OECD's programme of work."[34]

What is necessary to mention and very useful is the decision of the OECD to create a "Learning Compass for 2030". This document is about what future generations need to learn in order to progress, in what way and why, what attitudes and values will be desirable in the new age, how individuals will realize their full potential, and whether this will affect well-being for all or only themselves. Accordingly, the key components of the "Compass" are the basics: knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values; transformative competencies; and the cycle of anticipation, action, and reflection.

The compass is actually a metaphor, created with the intention of enabling students to meaningfully and responsibly find their way in unknown situations instead of blindly following the instructions and guidelines of their teachers. It is also supported by the concept of students' participation in their environment, both through their relationships with teachers and peers as well as with parents and the rest of the collective (co-agency) in the most diverse contexts, such as moral and economic.

The purpose is to emphasize that the next generation should learn and find a solution in situations meaningful for themselves and others. They need to be educated and well informed (for some field or area) about the most important things that are happening and encourage us to take concrete actions. I strongly believe that education, desire, and a high level of awareness can be the key factors in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda by young people. This document was used to explain the meaningful impact on the coming generations, whose contributions to a better environment and solving particular issues will be noticed. This is a metaphor using young people as the main actors in participating in and solving the huge problems the world is facing.

---

[34] "The Short and Winding Road to 2030."

„Most OECD countries have already adopted or implemented a handful of policy instruments mentioned in the 2030 Agenda. Some of the data series included in this report are so-called "binary measures (i.e. "yes" or "no indicators) that aim at tracking the adoption and/or implementation of various policy instruments and frameworks. For most of these, most OECD countries have already met the relevant targets (i.e. they have already adopted or implemented the various measures).“[35]

The next page will show graphically how far or close the OCED coutries are from acheiving of the 2030 Agenda goals and targets.

---

[35] "The Short and Winding Road to 2030."

Goals

- 1: No Poverty
- 2: Zero Hunger
- 3: Good Health and Well-Being
- 4: Quality Education
- 5: Gender Equality
- 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- 10: Reduced Inequality
- 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- 13: Climate Action
- 14: Life Below Water
- 15: Life On Land
- 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Source: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal

Figure 3

Figure 3 represents the OECD average distance from achieving SDG targets. So, the bars show the current level of achievement for each available target. The higher the bar, the shorter the distance still to be traveled to reach the target. The colors refer to the 2030 Agenda Goals. The outer ring describes the trend using stoplight colors to measure progress towards the target. To be more precise, a green color means that the target has been reached or is on track to be reached. Then, the yellow color says that progress has been made but is insufficient; the red color means no progress or moving away from the SDG targets; and the gray color represents that there is no (or insufficient) data. It can be noticed that many OECD states need to take more steps on their long path to achieving the goals and targets included in the 2030 Agenda. The procedure is demanding, and it takes time to reach a desirable level.

3.4 G20

The G20 Group is important because "As the premier forum for international economic cooperation, the Group of Twenty (G20) plays a critical role in steering the global economy through the significant challenges it faces. The members of the G20 are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Türkiye, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union."[36]

The G-20 was created in 1999 based on a proposal at the G-7 Summit meeting that the group of seven major world economies didn't have enough capacity to include all the key players in the global economy. So, they decided to extend their group and add more states in order to accomplish their goals. "In addition, the G-20 invites guest countries to attend their events. Spain is invited permanently as is the current chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); two African countries (the chair of the African Union and a representative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development) and at least one country invited by the presidency, usually from its own region."[37]

"Because the G-20 is a forum, not a legislative body, its agreements and decisions have no legal impact, but they do influence countries' policies and global cooperation."[38]

The way the Group structure is organized would be demonstrated as the G20 Presidency manages the G20 Agenda in duration of twelve months and hosts the Summit. It's important to list two tracks: the Finance Track and the Sherpa Track. The first one is led by the Ministry of Finance and Central Bank Governors of the member countries. The second is coordinated by the Sherpas of member countries. Talking about the Presidency, the Troika consists of the former, current, and incoming Presidency. The troika will consist of Indonesia, India, and Brazil under India's presidency.

"The G20 Summit is held annually, under the leadership of a rotating Presidency. The G20 initially focused largely on broad macroeconomic issues, but it has since expanded its agenda to inter-alia include trade, sustainable development, health, agriculture, energy, environment, climate change, and anti-corruption."[39] India is the head of the G20 Group for the period from December 2022 until November 2023.

---

[36] "The G20," Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, accessed July 15, 2023, https://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/organisations/g20.

[37] "What Is the Group of 20 (G-20)? Countries, Influence, and Agenda," Investopedia, accessed July 15, 2023, https://www.investopedia.com/terms/g/g-20.asp.

[38] "What Is the Group of 20 (G-20)?"

[39] "About G20," accessed July 15, 2023, https://www.g20.org/en/about-g20/#how-g20-works.

„Since its inception, some of the G-20's operations have drawn controversy. Concerns include transparency and accountability, with critics calling attention to the absence of a formal charter for the group and the fact that some of the most important G-20 meetings are held behind closed doors.“[40] There were some things that haven't been reduced and protected, such as social inequality, global threats to democracy, and membership policy.

The former USA President Barack Obama commented on the G20's controversial membership by stating: „Everybody wants the smallest possible group that includes them. So, if they're the 21st largest nation in the world, they want the G21, and think it's highly unfair if they have been cut out.“[41]

Besides that „The G20 continues to play a significant role in shaping and strengthening global architecture and governance on all major international economic issues.“[42] Also, the G20 is taking the necessary mesaures to adopt the 2030 Agenda and put it into action.

„The international community agreed on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change as a set of key blueprints to chart a better future for all. The G20 made a valued contribution to these global efforts in 2016 by adopting the G20's Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - a policy framework to align the G20 Agenda with the 2030 Agenda and ultimately aimed at contributing to global efforts to achieve all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.“[43]

The G20 Group and the 2030 Agenda have a good cooperation and "The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2015, is a very good starting point for efforts of the G20 to define collective action that addresses the challenges of globalisation. In 2016, the G20 made important progress at the Hangzhou Summit by adopting the "Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". During the 2017 Hamburg Summit, the G20 re-emphasised their commitment to the 2030 Agenda in the official Summit communique and decided to take additional steps to promote the implementation of the 2030 Agenda."[44] It could lead to the accomplishment of the goals and targets.

---

[40] "What Is the Group of 20 (G-20)? Countries, Influence, and Agenda," Investopedia, accessed July 15, 2023, https://www.investopedia.com/terms/g/g-20.asp.

[41] "Spain's Relationship Status with the G20: It's Complicated," Global Policy Journal, accessed July 15, 2023, https://www.globalpolicyjournal.com/blog/30/11/2018/spains-relationship-status-g20-its-complicated.

[42] "The G20."

[43] "G20 Contribution to the 2030 Agenda: Progress and Way Forward | READ Online," oecd-ilibrary.org, accessed July 15, 2023, https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/g20-contribution-to-the-2030-agenda_db84dfca-en.

[44] German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS), "The G20 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," accessed July 16, 2023, https://www.idos-research.de/en/others-publications/article/the-g20-and-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/.

In line with its efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, the G20 Group has been trying to extend its peer learning exercise to countries that aren't their members for the localization of the SDGs.

"In the Action Plan, the G20 has announced it wants to produce added value, in particular, where it can do so well as a global forum for economic cooperation, that is, by helping to adjust the macro-economic framework, thereby creating a global enabling environment for sustainable development."[45]

„Annex B of the Action Plan contains country reports in which G20 states, on a voluntary basis, showcase their individual national actions for implementing the 2030 Agenda. These reports are, so far, rather brief and, correspondingly, their informative value is limited. The reports do not allow for the intended mutual learning and knowledge sharing, nor do they provide a solid basis for mutual accountability. For this, the reports would have to offer more analytical depth."[46] Those kinds of reports can be compared with the Voluntary National Reviews in terms of monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the goals and targets.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ON NATIONAL LEVEL

The development policy of the member states of the UN and the EU in the following period, until 2030, will be focused on the sustainable development goals defined by the UN Agenda for Development until 2030. Reduction of poverty, the number one goal of sustainable development, has been put in the first place, which indicates the great importance attached to this aspect of development.

"National parliaments are crucial in ensuring the 17 Goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are meaningfully translated into national policies and programmes that improve citizens' lives, D'Errico stated."[47]

We must stress the first steps that led to the implementation of the sustainable development goals in the European Union system. These are documents that contain a political character and concern the fulfillment of conditions for joining this European organization. A communication from 2016 titled "Next steps for a sustainable European future: European action for sustainability" is proof of the

---

[45] "The G20 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: How to Strengthen Policy Coherence and Accountability," May 23, 2017, http://unsdsn.org/news/2017/05/23/the-g20-and-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development-how-to-strengthen-policy-coherence-and-accountability/.

[46] "The G20 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

[47] Stefano D'Errico, "The 2030 Agenda and Evaluation: Opportunities and Challenges for Parliamentarians" (International Institute for Environment and Development, 2017), https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep16696.

incorporation of the 2030 Agenda in the EU political framework. Also, it means that the member states need to follow the implementation in order to fulfill the required steps for joining the EU.

"The EU institutions work closely together to set the EU's agenda and to initiate and adopt EU laws, including for the pursuit of the SDGs. The European Commission draws up proposals for new European legislation that contribute to the SDGs and review the implementation by Member States of the legislative acts once adopted by EU co-legislators, the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union, which represents the national governments of the Member States. Both the European Parliament and the Council actively promote the implementation of the SDGs in EU policies, including through regular resolutions, conclusions and legislative acts."[48]

In the beginning, the European Commission had the task of keeping an eye on the realization and continuously monitoring the progress of the SDGs. Later, the Eurostat took on the role, which dedicated itself to the development of the indicators together with other actors in order to achieve goals and targets.

The European Union has included all key players in increasing the level of importance of the implementation and promotion of the SDGs, promoting it as an obligatory element for the EU member states and for countries that want to join the EU.

"The Member States have the primary responsibility for ensuring sustainable development at national, regional, and local level. This includes taking steps to integrate the SDGs into national policies and allocating resources to support their achievement. Member States report regularly on their progress towards the SDGs through their respective Voluntary National Reviews."[49]

The EU created a mechanism to monitor the implementation of the SDGs by all countries using the Voluntary National Reviews, a tool that will present state results and their efficiency based on taken actions.

"Local and regional governments, in particular, are at the forefront of implementing solutions to advance sustainable development. In their sustainability efforts, a growing number of local and regional governments are using Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) as a valuable policy tool to structure the localisation, planning, execution, and follow-up and review stages of SDG implementation.

---

[48] "EU Whole-of-Government' Approach," accessed July 22, 2023, https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/sustainable-development-goals/eu-whole-government-approach_en.

[49] "EU Whole-of-Government' Approach."

Between 2018 and 2020, almost 200 local and regional governments have conducted a VLR process."[50] At first, it may sound like a good statistical result (around 200 local and regional governments), but it's necessary to increase the number in the following period.

"The voluntary national reviews (VNRs) aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments and to mobilize multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals."[51]

Voluntary national reports show the achievements, efforts, and activities related to the fulfillment of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, established by the United Nations, as well as future plans and challenges that the countries of the world face on the way to achieving a more socially sustainable society. The presentation of the report is only one of the steps that should motivate further work and the aspiration to fulfill the goals and promote ideas and practices that contribute to raising the quality of life of every person in the world.

Ortiz-Moya and Reggiani pointed out very important benefits that the Voluntary National Reviews show "Based on the analysis of reports produced by frontrunner cities, prior research and official guidelines by international organisations highlight several benefits of VLRs. These include:

1. Setting local priorities and policy alignment with the SDGs;
2. Facilitating policy integration for sustainable development;
3. Feeding into VNRs by providing on-the-ground data and localisation experiences;
4. Providing evidence-based monitoring tools."[52]

"Having in mind that numerous 2030 Agenda goals are set at the global level, and that the developed countries, including the EU (at the global level) as a union of above-average developed countries, have already achieved many of these goals, and taking into consideration the transformative nature of the Agenda, in the process of adoption of the Agenda the EU has defined its specific goals and indicators

---

[50] Fernando Ortiz-Moya, *State of the Voluntary Local Reviews 2023: Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda at the Local Level*, 2023, https://doi.org/10.57405/iges-13013.

[51] "Voluntary National Reviews | High-Level Political Forum," accessed July 20, 2023, https://hlpf.un.org/vnrs.

[52] Fernando Ortiz-Moya and Marco Reggiani, "Contributions of the Voluntary Local Review Process to Policy Integration: Evidence from Frontrunner Cities," *Npj Urban Sustainability* 3, no. 1 (April 6, 2023): 1–8, https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-023-00101-4.

used to monitor the achievement of the goals. At the Eurostat portal, the EU publishes the data that facilitate monitoring progress in the achievement of all 17 goals and their corresponding targets."[53]

I will present three countries in Europe in order to briefly present their national voluntary reports and goals. "The member states publish voluntary reports on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Here are some of the initiatives resulting from some of them:

- **Spain -** In the fight against poverty, inequalities and social exclusion, approval of a Minimum Living Income has been reported along with an increase in the Minimum Working Wage and help for students with special educational needs. The report also covers the approval of the Climate Change and Energy Transition Bill, which sets a national target to reduce Greenhouse gases emissions by at least 20% by 2030, compared with 1990 levels.

- **Mexico -** Among other short term projects, highlights include plans for a new General Water Law, providing social protection for women domestic and care workers and agricultural day-labourers, and the implementation of biodiversity conservation projects with productive activities for the most vulnerable communities in the country.

- **United Kingdom -** Pursuing the target of "leaving no-one behind", the initiatives detailed in the report include the roll-out of policies in England to tackle the problem of loneliness among the young, infirm and elderly, as well as programs to teach English to immigrants; the approval in Scotland of the Fairer Scotland Duty, which obliges the government to look at how to reduce the inequalities caused by socio-economic disadvantage when taking strategic decisions; and initiatives to eradicate food poverty in Northern Ireland."[54]

Yet, it should take into consideration many factors that can influence the realization of the 2030 Agenda on a national level. Most of them refer to cultural heritage, which is a particular characteristic of people who bring it with them through history. It is something that shapes their way of thinking and lifestyle, and it represents a double track road. Still, cultural heritage varies from individual to individual, and we couldn't generalize things based on some group of people.

Various factors are also connected with people's education and their desire to change something. Many persons enjoy staying in a "comfort zone", doing nothing to make them uncomfortable. I just want to

---

[53] "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Serbia," accessed July 17, 2023, http://mons.rs/2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development-in-serbia.

[54] *See* IBERDROLA CORPORATIVA, "The Importance of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)," Iberdrola, accessed July 19, 2023, https://www.iberdrola.com/sustainability/committed-sustainable-development-goals/what-is-agenda-2030.

underline some facts that need to be considered during national involvement in achieving goals and targets.

However, the capacity of certain countries plays an important role. National involvement in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda couldn't be adjusted the same for all states. There are distinctions that are mirrored in human resources and budgets that are unbalanced when comparing developed and undeveloped countries. It's well known that the EU and the UN support the implementation by giving financial help, but it's still far away for particular countries.

"The integrated and transformative approach of Agenda 2030 places centre stage the interaction between sectoral policies and domestic/foreign policies and demand a paradigm shift in politics and the administration: The requirements of Agenda 2030 must be replicated in a coherent way in the various strategies."[55]

Some people believe that it is simply impossible to erase social differences between people and therefore to equalize their habits, that is, the living and working environments in which they function. On the other hand, there are people who strongly claim that people are the same all around the world and that they need to stick together to achieve the common goals meaningful for dissent life and the eradication of poverty.

"People make up governments, international institutions, civil society, the private sector and scientific and academic communities. People are at the centre of everything people need to work together in partnership and peace, at local, national, regional and global levels to eliminate harm on nature and humanity for current and future generations."[56]

Also, institutions have to be dependable and efficient in order for progress to occur, but why? They are the primary components of social cohesiveness since they constitute the foundation of a society. An orderly state establishes the rules of the game, which apply equally to all residents, do not enable anybody to gain rich at the cost of others, and do not allow individuals in need to go without assistance. Institutions, in addition to their formal work, play an important informal role: they foster values of trust and solidarity in society, creating an environment in which citizens, associations, and businesses are motivated to work, learn, create, and progress.

---

[55] Thomas Breu et al., "Switzerland and the Agenda 2030" (Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2017), https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep16115.

[56] Patrick Paul Walsh, "Implementing the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in Ireland: A Case for Hybrid Sustainable Development Parliamentary Committees," *Irish Studies in International Affairs* 27 (2016): 9–19, https://doi.org/10.3318/isia.2016.27.12.

Technology has been developed very swiftly during the past few years. "Technology and global markets have created large disconnects between people in companies, civil society and governments. This has led to economic and social inequalities, between and within nations, and is changing the quality of air, water and land to a point that they are not capable of supporting human life. Multi-stakeholder partnerships should be formed to reconnect people across companies, households and governments, across location and time, wrote Walsh."[57] Although technology has a big positive impact, at the same time, it has produced many serious negative influences.

One more important thing that can be noticed. The implementation of the Agenda is the required condition for the EU member states and the states that want to join the EU, the EU has the strategy for the implementation and gives necessary support to countries, the EU has a tool for monitoring state progress on the implementation, but the goals and targets are not fully implemented.

Implementing the 2030 Agenda on a national level is a long-term commitment that requires sustained political will, collaboration, and a genuine dedication to achieving sustainable development outcomes. It is a transformative agenda that seeks to balance economic growth, social equity, and environmental protection to create a more inclusive and sustainable future for all.

The 2030 Agenda is not a binding document, which means that there are no consequences if a country doesn't follow the given instructions for achieving the goals and targets. Also, concrete actions demand a huge amount of money to be invested, which presents a barricade for many states. We can add the capacity to the list. From my perspective, the achievement of the goals and targets should be regulated by the EU and UN common rules and sanctions.

5. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (GOALS)

"The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity."[58]

The Brundtland Report is most often cited for its definition of sustainable development as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Implicit in this definition are the concept of needs, which emphasized the goal of providing

---

[57] Walsh.
[58] "Sustainable Development Goals | United Nations Development Programme," UNDP, accessed July 22, 2023, https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals.

for the basic needs of the world's poor, and the idea that technology and social organization impose limits on the environment's ability to provide for the world's current and future needs.

According to another definition, sustainable development implies a balance between the consumption of resources and the ability of natural systems to meet the needs of future generations.

One of the basic concepts of natural resources and the environment is sustainability, or sustainable development. Despite the different interpretations that are often found in books, this concept today has a major role in considering the second-term perspective of humanity's survival and progress.

The concept of sustainable should not be understood as a strictly defined definition but as a process of changes in the relationships that are established between social, economic, and natural systems.

This process can only be realized gradually because the demands placed on human society are also complex. This primarily refers to the formation of a new ecological awareness, the increase in the responsibility of the state administration, the appropriate revision of the existing economic and legal order, and the important involvement of science in the clarification of current development problems.

Sustainable development does not offer a magic solution for solving environmental or social problems or achieving economic growth; rather, it establishes principles or roadmaps to assist in achieving these goals in the most effective and ethical manner possible. Sustainable development entails an integrated approach to economic growth that considers natural resource constraints, i.e., environmental conservation, as well as the need to attain social equity and address global social issues.

The concept of sustainable development is based on three fundamental principles (known as the sustainability triangle):

1. the principle of ecological sustainability, which ensures that development is compatible with the maintenance of vital ecological processes, biological diversity, and biological resources;
2. the principle of social and cultural sustainability, which ensures that development is compatible with the culture and traditional values of human communities and contributes to strengthening their identity;
3. the principle of economic sustainability, which ensures that development is economically efficient and that resources are managed in such a way that they can be successfully used by future generations.

"The basic idea of sustainable development and the new SDGs is to avoid these unhappy dilemmas by shifting the objective - the goals towards which all countries should direct their ambitions. Instead of

aiming at the current unsustainable lifestyles and economies of the developed world, let all countries (rich and poor) aim at a different more sustainable future."[59]

"The SDGs build upon the success of the 8 Millennium Development Goals agreed upon in 2000 to halve extreme poverty by 2015 as a midpoint towards eradicating poverty in all its forms."[60]

The Millennium Development Goals didn't include undeveloped countries in the agenda „While they were solid goals in terms of the needs of humanity, most nations of the world did not have the capacity or enabling environment to achieve the millennium goals. Fifteen years later, the SDGs were articulated and outlined to be more comprehensive and give room for possibilities of meeting many of the goals."[61]

The SDGs address critical issues facing the world today, including eradicating extreme poverty, addressing global inequality and climate change, promoting sustainable urbanization and industrial development, protecting natural ecosystems, and fostering the growth of peaceful and inclusive communities and governing institutions.

"The SDGs are intended to be universal in the sense of embodying a universally-shared common global vision of progress towards a safe, just and sustainable operating space for all human beings to thrive on the planet. They reflect the moral principles that no one and no country should be left behind, and that everyone and every country should be regarded as having a common responsibility for playing their part in delivering the global vision. In general terms, all of the goals have therefore been conceived as applying both as ambitions and as challenges to all countries. All of the goals and targets contain important messages and challenges for developed and developing countries alike."[62]

Why do we need them, and why are SDGs important? Poverty and lack of access to basic health care services, insufficient opportunities for education, social and gender inequalities, population growth and urbanization, pollution, and climate change - all these issues affect the entire world. SDGs are a unique instrument for solving these global issues. This complex task requires effort and commitment,

---

[59] United Nations Environment Programme, "Universal Sustainable Development Goals: A Challenge For The Rich Countries As Well As The Poor - UNEP Perspectives No. 19," January 2016, https://wedocs.unep.org/xmlui/handle/20.500.11822/10004.

[60] Sustainable Development Solutions Network, "Chapter 1: Getting to Know the Sustainable Development Goals," Getting Started with the Sustainable Development Goals (Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2015), https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep15866.5.

[61] Sheriff Folarin, Esther Akinlabi, and Aderemi Atayero, "Introduction," in *The United Nations and Sustainable Development Goals*, ed. Sheriff Folarin, Esther Akinlabi, and Aderemi Atayero (Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2022), 1–5, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-95971-5_1.

[62] Programme, "Universal Sustainable Development Goals."

not only from national governments but also from local and regional authorities. Cooperation with interested parties from the private and civil sectors is of the utmost importance.

"The SDGs are our promise and our responsibility to future generations. They present a unique opportunity for countries to work together to achieve a more inclusive and sustainable future for all."[63]

Weber stated that "The SDGs combine major social and environmental goals to achieve sustainable development and address environmental issues much more prominently to protect the life-support systems necessary for sustainable development. Furthermore, they connect sustainable development and sustainable business issues, such as responsible production and consumption, while still promoting economic growth to create decent workplaces."[64]

Achieving the SDGs requires good communication and high-level cooperation between governments, the private sector, civil society, and citizens in order to ensure that we leave an orderly planet for future generations.

The fact that private sector involvement has the potential to advance SDGs in two ways is often overlooked: by creating the jobs and income needed to overcome poverty, which is widely recognized; and by leveraging the private sector's experience, capabilities, and resources to achieve development at a level that clearly recognizes that the resources and expertise of public actors are insufficient to address the complex challenge of global development.

"While the goals are aspirational, each promotes concrete sets of development objectives, written so that countries may work to accomplish them by the year 2030. This time dimension is matched by a spatial dimension – all of them literally need to "take place" somewhere, Solis and Zeballos wrote."[65]

It's necessary to mention the SDG Dashboard which refers to a tool or platform that provides a visual representation and tracking of the Sustainable Development Goals. The SDG Dashboard typically displays key indicators, progress reports, and data related to each goal, allowing users to monitor and assess the progress made towards achieving the SDGs at local, national, and global levels. It serves as

---

[63] "The Short and Winding Road to 2030: Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets | READ Online," oecd-ilibrary.org, accessed July 22, 2023, https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/the-short-and-winding-road-to-2030_af4b630d-en.

[64] Olaf Weber, "The SDGs," The Financial Sector and the SDGs (Centre for International Governance Innovation, 2018), https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep51881.9.

[65] Patricia Solís and Marcela Zeballos, "Introduction," in *Open Mapping towards Sustainable Development Goals: Voices of YouthMappers on Community Engaged Scholarship*, ed. Patricia Solís and Marcela Zeballos, Sustainable Development Goals Series (Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2023), 1–9, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-05182-1_1.

a valuable resource for policymakers, organizations, and individuals interested in tracking and contributing to the SDGs' implementation.

Indicators are carefully selected based on their relevance to the specific context and priorities of the country or organization. The dashboard allows for customization to ensure alignment with national or organizational goals. It employs a variety of data visualization tools, such as charts, graphs, maps, and interactive displays. These visualizations make complex data more accessible and understandable to a wide range of users.

"The SDG Dashboards show that even the wealthiest countries face major challenges in meeting several of the SDGs, confirming the universal relevance of the goals and the need to consider the full SDG agenda to avoid cherry picking. To meet the SDGs, poor countries must make substantial progress in ending extreme poverty, ensuring access to essential infrastructure, curbing environmental degradation and promoting social inclusion. Richer countries face fewer but nonetheless major challenges in addressing climate change, lowering inequalities, halting the loss of biodiversity and contributing their fair share towards the global partnership to achieve the SDGs."[66]

Many SDG Dashboards are designed to be publicly accessible, promoting transparency and accountability. They serve as valuable tools for engaging citizens, civil society organizations, and stakeholders in the SDG implementation process. Governments and organizations often use the dashboard as part of their reporting mechanisms, including Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) presented at the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. It serves as a means of tracking and demonstrating commitment to the SDGs.

The SDG Dashboard is a powerful tool for monitoring and assessing progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. It facilitates data-driven decision-making, enhances transparency, and engages stakeholders in the shared mission of achieving a more sustainable and equitable future. The dashboard's adaptability and customization features make it a valuable resource for countries and organizations at various stages of SDG implementation.

5.1 The SDG Index

"The annual SDG Index provides a standardized, quantitative, transparent and scalable composite measure of SDG baselines for 149 countries with sufficient data across the goals. It synthesizes 63

---

[66] Guido Schmidt-Traub et al., "National Baselines for the Sustainable Development Goals Assessed in the SDG Index and Dashboards," *Nature Geoscience* 10, no. 8 (August 2017): 547–55, https://doi.org/10.1038/ngeo2985.

global indicators plus 14 additional indicators for OECD countries into an overall assessment of SDG baselines and ranks countries according to their starting points on the 17 SDGs."[67]

In order to evaluate the SDGs Index, it is not disputed that many different factors need to be taken into account in order to obtain certain results. Based on the obtained results, a ranking list of countries can be formed. Also, there are various elements that are, so to speak, in cooperation with the SDGs and work together.

It takes a multidimensional approach to measuring progress, recognizing that sustainable development encompasses economic, social, and environmental dimensions. This approach aligns with the integrated nature of the SDGs. The SDG Index carefully selects a set of indicators that correspond to the 17 SDGs and their respective targets. The indicators are chosen based on their relevance, quality, and ability to reflect progress accurately.

"The SDG Index is correlated with per capita gross domestic product, the most widely used indicator of economic progress; the HDI, a composite measure of health, education and income outcomes; the Global Competitiveness Index, a common index of countries' economic competitivenes; the EPI, which comprises a broad range of environmental indicators; and the Global Peace Index, a broad measure of peace and conflict."[68]

A term of the SDGs Index is important to define in order to better explain its function and the role of states in the accomplishment of the SDGs. When I mentioned states, I meant developed and undeveloped countries in the world. The SDG Index often establishes regional and global benchmarks, allowing countries or regions to compare their performance against peers and global averages. Benchmarking can highlight areas where specific entities excel or face challenges.

Beyond its technical utility, the SDG Index can also serve as an advocacy tool, raising awareness about the importance of the SDGs and mobilizing support for sustainable development efforts.

"The United Nations Sustainable Development Report, previously known as the SDG index, is a one-of-a-kind global study to evaluate the position of all the countries with regards to their achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The SDG, unlike the Millennium Development Goals - SDG

---

[67] Schmidt-Traub et al.
[68] Schmidt-Traub et al.

index's predecessors, set sustainable goals for not only the developing nations but also for the industrial countries."[69]

All United Nations members have resolved to work together to achieve the same purpose, reflected in the eradication of poverty and hunger by 2030. To attain the objectives, each nation's governing authorities apply different legislation to meet the requirements established by the SDG index.

The Sustainable Development Report is a publication that assesses the progress of countries toward achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. "The Sustainable Development Report is calculated according to a nation's progression in achieving all the 17 sustainable development goals and 169 targets laid down by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. 100 is the maximum achievable score, and all the nations are ranked according to the best results achieved."[70] To assess progress toward the SDGs, a set of indicators is selected. These indicators are specific, measurable, and relevant to each goal. The UN has established a global indicator framework to guide countries in selecting appropriate indicators.

The SDG Index is a comprehensive, data-driven tool that plays a crucial role in monitoring and assessing progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. It offers valuable insights for policymaking, accountability, and advocacy, contributing to global efforts to achieve a more sustainable and equitable future.

As an example, in the table below, it will be listed top 10 states in the world that are leading in the SDGs Index. The maximum number of points is 100 per state. So, in the table, scores are presented out of 100, starting with the best score.

---

[69] "SDG Index: Get to Know about What Is SDG Index and Full Form," accessed July 27, 2023, https://byjusexamprep.com/current-affairs/sdg-index.
[70] "SDG Index."

Sr. No.	Rank	Country	Score
1	1	Finland	85.90
2	2	Sweden	85.61
3	3	Denmark	84.86
4	4	Germany	82.48
5	5	Belgium	82.19
6	6	Austria	82.08
7	7	Norway	81.98
8	8	France	81.67
9	9	Slovenia	81.60
10	10	Estonia	81.58
11	120	India	60.07

Figure 4

Source: https://byjusexamprep.com/current-affairs/sdg-index

5.2 17 Goals

Talking about the SDGs, I will list all 17 goals and briefly run through their meaning and purpose of the achievement. Later on, a focus will be on the SDG 1 that is the main topic of my thesis.

As I already mentioned, there are 17 Sustainable Development Goals:

1. **End poverty**: increase access to resources and provide aid to communities most affected by conflict or natural disasters;
2. **Zero hunger**: ensure investment in the infrastructure and technology needed to improve agricultural productivity;
3. **Health and well-being**: reducing inequality and ensuring good health for all people;
4. **Quality education**: promote inclusive, quality education so that all children complete primary and secondary education;
5. **Gender equality**: ensure equal rights, as well as universal access to reproductive health;

6. **Clean water and sanitation**: ensure universal access to safe drinking water and provide adequate sanitation facilities to maintain proper hygiene;

7. **Affordable and clean energy**: improve energy productivity by investing in clean energy sources;

8. **Decent work and economic growth**: stimulate sustainable economic growth by increasing productivity and innovation;

9. **Industry, innovation, and infrastructure**: reduce the digital divide and promote sustainable industries by increasing investment in research and innovation;

10. **Reducing inequalities**: improve market regulation and promoting migration and mobility of people;

11. **Sustainable cities and communities**: ensure access to safe housing and investing in public transportation and urban management;

12. **Responsible production and consumption**: meet consumption needs by creating more efficient production chains and reducing food waste;

13. **Climate action**: adopt measures to reduce the risk of natural disasters and prevent the global average temperature from rising;

14. **Underwater life**: protect marine and coastal ecosystems from land-based pollution;

15. **Life of terrestrial ecosystems**: preserve natural habitats and biodiversity;

16. **Peace, justice, and strong institutions**: exchange ideas to find lasting solutions to conflicts and promote human rights;

17. **Partnership to achieve the goals**: promote cooperation and support international trade to achieve a universal system that benefits all.[71]

From a positive point of view, several SDGs are mutually supportive, meaning that activities toward one target can help accomplish other objectives simultaneously.

The SDGs are interconnected and "To take full advantage of synergies requires scaling up numerous individual programmes and actions; and this calls for harmonising, coordinating, or even in some cases, combining efforts to tackle the different SDGs. Although not everything can or should be harmonised or combined, pursuing an integrated approach will save resources and be an attractive option for governments looking to reduce the high costs of SDG implementation, stated Alcamo and Grundy."[72]

---

[71] "What Is Sustainable Development and What Are the 17 SDGs?," REPSOL, accessed July 27, 2023, https://www.repsol.com/en/energy-and-the-future/future-of-the-world/sustainable-development/index.cshtml.

[72] Joseph Alcamo, Caroline Grundy, and Jorn Scharlemann, *Interactions among the SDGs and Why They Are Important*, 2018.

5.3 Indicators

Indicators of sustainable development are qualitative indicators that provide the possibility of evaluating the state and changes in the ecological, economic, social, and institutional subsystems. Indicators display complex dynamic quantities composed of several simple parameters. They aren't only a condition without which the strategy of sustainable development can't be defined but also the basis for measuring the results of the implementation of the strategy.

"The global indicator framework for Sustainable Development Goals was developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) and agreed upon at the 48th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission held in March 2017. The global indicator framework was later adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2017 and is contained in the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/71/313), Annex."[73]

The global indicator framework contains 231 indicators. Some data shows that the total number of indicators is 248, but we need to pay attention to those that are repeated two or even three times.
Further, the global indicators need to be completed by Member States indicators that will be implemented on a national and regional level. Member States have an obligation to developed the indicators by themself.

What we should all agree on is that the indicators of sustainable development must be harmonized with national statistics.

Indicators of sustainable development offer a comprehensive assessment of development by considering multiple dimensions. They go beyond purely economic measures (e.g., GDP) to incorporate social and environmental factors. These indicators measure economic well-being and sustainability, including metrics like Gross Domestic Product (GDP), income distribution, employment rates, and economic growth. Economic indicators highlight whether an economy is expanding sustainably and if wealth is equitably distributed.

---

[73] "SDG Indicators — SDG Indicators," accessed July 29, 2023, https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/.

"Annual refinements of indicators are included in the indicator framework as they occur. In line with the mandate of the group, the IAEG-SDGs proposed 36 major changes to the framework in the form of replacements, revisions, additions and deletions as part of the 2020 Comprehensive Review, which were approved by the 51st Statistical Commission in March 2020."[74]

It should be explained the role of the indicators, actually their function. Basic functions of the indicators are:

- Assessment (measurement) of progress in achieving the intended goal or goals
- Facilitating communication about positive or negative achievements in the realization of the plan with: (political) decision-makers; administration; public; and the scientific community
- Providing meaningful guidance for the decision-making process.

As it is written, the indicators are used as guidance in the process: progress that measures the accomplishment of the goals and positive and negative achievements in the realization of the plan. Also, there are different schemes for the indicators used for the same purpose.

Sustainable development indicators recognize the interconnectedness of economic, social, and environmental systems. They illustrate how actions in one area can have ripple effects across others, emphasizing the need for integrated approaches. Moreover, they allow for comparisons between regions and countries, helping identify best practices and areas where support and collaboration are needed. Global indicators provide a common framework for international cooperation on sustainability goals and also serve as tools for raising public awareness and advocacy. They can help engage the public, civil society, and businesses in discussions about sustainability and inspire action.

There are international schemes for the indicators that are using by various stakeholders:

1. Eurostat scheme indicator
2. UN CSD scheme indicator
3. Common UNECE/OECD/Eurostat scheme indicator

Eurostat scheme indicator - Sustainable Development Indicators (SDI) are used to monitor the EU Sustainable Development Strategy. It is important to note that out of more than 100 indicators, 11 have been identified as "headline" indicators, which monitor the progress of the EU in reaching the goals of the Strategy. In addition, Eurostat publishes a report every two years.

---

[74] "SDG Indicators — SDG Indicators."

UN CSD scheme indicator – The CSD indicators were derived from a working document adopted by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) in 1995. These indicators represent reference indicators for national sustainable development strategies, either for their selection or revision. The list of indicators should be adapted in accordance with specific national conditions.

Common UNECE/OECD/Eurostat scheme indicator – mutual working group established in 2005, has an intention to develop a wide conceptual network for indicators.

Kim emphasized that "Preventing measures from becoming targets is crucial for achieving desired outcomes. One important way to achieve this is by ensuring a balance between the number and variety of indicators used in relation to the goals or targets they are designed to serve. Having too few indicators for a specific target can lead to an over-emphasis on those indicators and an increased risk of redefining the target to align with the indicators, rather than the other way around."[75]

Indicators of sustainable development provide a structured and evidence-based way to assess and monitor progress toward achieving sustainability goals. They offer a holistic view of development, considering economic, social, and environmental dimensions, and play a critical role in guiding policy, promoting transparency, and fostering a more sustainable and equitable future.

6. DEFINITION OF POVERTY

The term "poverty" was used in the sense of insufficient income to purchase a minimum basket of goods and services. Today, it is considered that poverty is a condition where basic opportunities for a decent life are lacking.

According to the UN "Poverty entails more than the lack of income and productive resources to ensure sustainable livelihoods. Its manifestations include hunger and malnutrition, limited access to education and other basic services, social discrimination and exclusion, as well as the lack of participation in decision-making."[76]

„The "official" United States definition of poverty (as developed by the Social Security Administration) is a prime example of a subsistence approach to poverty in that the poverty line for

---

[75] Rakhyun Kim, "Augment the SDG Indicator Framework" 142 (April 1, 2023): 62–67, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2023.02.004.

[76] United Nations, "Ending Poverty," United Nations (United Nations), accessed August 3, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/ending-poverty.

any family is set at 3 times the income a family requires to purchase a minimally nourishing diet, wrote Jones as a poverty definition."[77]

The Council of Europe stated that "Poverty may be defined as a human condition characterized by sustained or chronic deprivation of the resources, capabilities, choices, security and power necessary for the enjoyment of an adequate standard of living and other civil, cultural, economic."[78]

"There are a number of ways to define and to measure poverty. The differences in definitions and measurement represent not only different ways to collect and analyse statistical data, but also lead to distinct approaches in combating poverty. Poverty is usually measured as either absolute or relative poverty. In both cases, a poverty threshold, or poverty line, is defined, and people falling under this line are considered poor."[79]

"The World Bank's poverty definition says, "A person is considered poor if his or her income level falls below some minimum level necessary to meet basic needs." It sets this minimum level, or international poverty line, as living on less than $2.15 a day, the World Bank has estimated."[80]

---

[77] John D. Jones, "Poverty and Subsistence: St. Thomas and the Definition of Poverty," *Gregorianum* 75, no. 1 (1994): 135–49.

[78] "Poverty - Manual for Human Rights Education with Young People - Www.Coe.Int," Manual for Human Rights Education with Young people, accessed August 3, 2023, https://www.coe.int/en/web/compass/poverty.

[79] "Poverty - Manual for Human Rights Education with Young People - Www.Coe.Int."

[80] "What Is Poverty? The Definitions of Poverty," Compassion UK, October 11, 2020, https://www.compassionuk.org/blogs/poverty-101-what-is-poverty/.

Share of population living in extreme poverty, 2019

Extreme poverty is defined as living below the International Poverty Line of $2.15 per day. This data is adjusted for inflation and for differences in the cost of living between countries.

No data 0% 3% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%
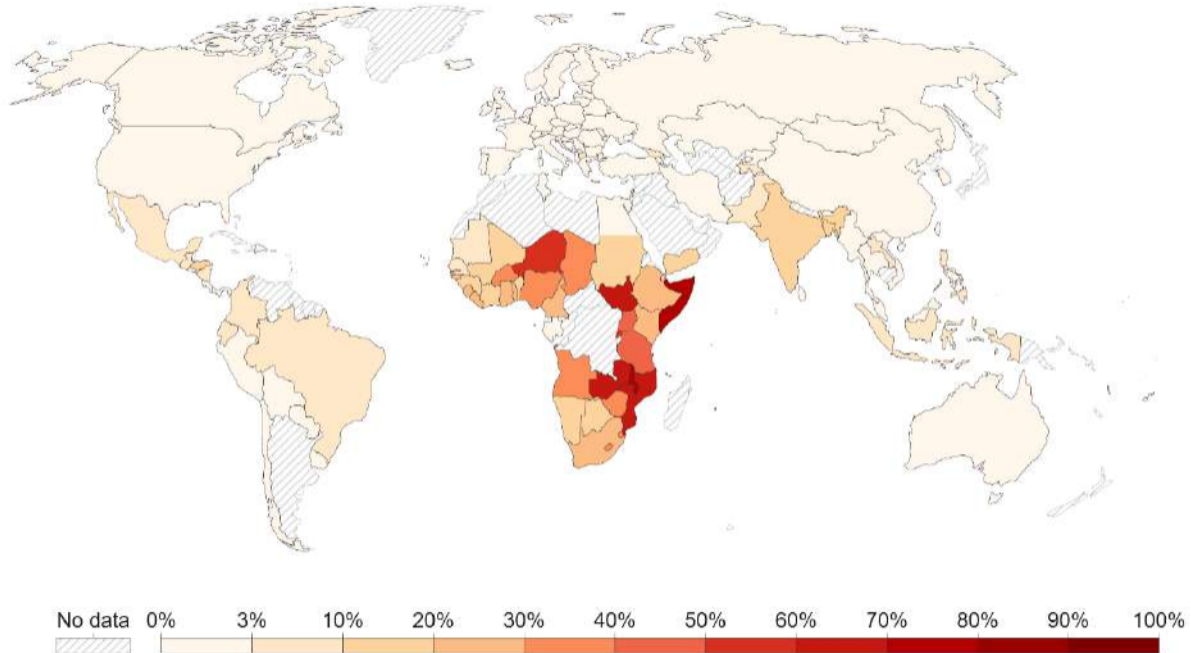
Source: World Bank Poverty and Inequality Platform (2022)   OurWorldInData.org/poverty • CC BY
Note: This data is expressed in international-$ at 2017 prices. Depending on the country and year, it relates to income measured after taxes and benefits, or to consumption, per capita.

Figure 5

Source https://pip.worldbank.org/home

In this graphic view, I used the percentage of the population living in households with an income or expenditure per person below $2.15 a day. It's important to emphasize that the data is from 2019. Also, cost of living differences among states are taken into consideration.

This example presented international dollars as a hypothetical currency that is used to make meaningful comparisons of monetary indicators of living standards. Figures expressed in international dollars are adjusted for initiation within countries over time and for differences in the cost of living between countries. The goal of such adjustments is to provide a unit whose purchasing power is held fixed over time and across countries, such that one international dollar can buy the same quantity and quality of goods and services no matter where or when it is spent.

Some extra explanation: per capita means that each person (including children) is attributed an equal share of the total income received by all members of their household.

There are more poverty definitions. One of them stated that "The term poverty refers to the state or condition in which people or communities lack the financial resources and essentials for a minimum standard of living. As such, their basic human needs cannot be met. People and families who

live in poverty may go without proper housing, clean water, healthy food, and medical attention. Each nation may have its own criteria for determining the poverty line and counting how many of its people live in poverty. Poverty is a socioeconomic condition that is the result of multiple factors—not just income."[81]

Margaret Thatcher, also known as the 'Steel Lady', an experienced Prime Minister and the main figure of the British Conservatives, created her own definition of poverty. She defined poverty as a personality flaw. One of the assumptions about the origin of poverty, which could be based on Thatcher's definition, is that poverty has nothing to do with money. Personality is key, or, in a literal translation - poverty is a lack of character, not money. With this idea, the Dutch historian, Rutger Bregman, has started.

In his works and lectures, Bregman advocates the idea that poverty is a lack of money, not a lack of character. Also, Bregman claimed that if poor people learn what is good, change their habits, and thus their personalities, they will become rich. Respectively, the poor are responsible for their actions. Also, the Dutch historian believed if poor people would listen to rich people, they would get away with poverty and become better.

He was writing that in the previous period, but now, after much research, examination, and analysis, he no longer claims that poverty is a matter of behavior and character. Now, the Dutch historian believes that poverty is a lack of money, not character. He changed his entire way of thinking about poverty after encountering data from a survey in India. The main respondents were sugar cane growers. In short, sugarcane growers in certain areas of India harvest once a year, which brings them about 55% of their annual income. In practice, this means that they are very poor for a period of more than half a year. It means the time left after the harvest.

Bregman analyzed the study with the one of the authors and "A few months later I discussed the theory with Eldar Shafir, a professor of behavioural science and public policy at Princeton University and one of the authors of this study. The reason, put simply: it's the context, stupid. People behave differently when they perceive a thing to be scarce. What that thing is doesn't much matter; whether it's time, money or food, it all contributes to a "scarcity mentality". This narrows your focus to your immediate deficiency."[82]

---

[81] "What's Poverty? Meaning, Causes, and How to Measure," Investopedia, accessed August 3, 2023, https://www.investopedia.com/terms/p/poverty.asp.
[82] Rutger Bregman, "Utopian Thinking: The Easy Way to Eradicate Poverty," *The Guardian*, March 6, 2017, sec. Opinion, https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/mar/06/utopian-thinking-poverty-universal-basic-income.

Psychologists researched poverty, its causes, and its consequences. It is important to say that people from India were measured for intelligence quotient (IQ) before and after the harvest. They got interesting results: the pre-harvest IQ was a certain number of units lower than the measured post-harvest IQ. They concluded that in times of poverty and idleness, intelligence is lower. The data can be compared to alcoholism, which reduce IQ by the same number of units.

6.1 Rutger Bregman's three idea to end poverty

The first idea is "A universal basic income (UBI) is the first of Rutger Bregman's three ideas to end poverty. UBI is an unconditional cash transfer that countries can give to citizens; the concept involves the allocation of a certain amount of funds regularly to cover essential living costs. Recipients of the grant are free to spend it however they choose. The idea has found support from a wide range of credible thinkers, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., economist Milton Friedman and Facebook co-founder Chris Hughes."[83]

"The longest-running UBI experiment is currently happening in Kenya. The charity GiveDirectly is paying more than 20,000 people roughly 75 cents per day. Less than $1 may not seem like a lot, but that amount is roughly what Kenya's poorest make daily. Money from the nonprofit essentially doubles recipients' annual incomes. GiveDirectly's trial began back in 2016 and should span over 12 years. So far, the results have shown a positive impact."[84]

One more idea laid down "In 'Utopia for Realists,' Bregman reminds his readers that at one time the idea of a 15-hour work-week was not as inconceivable as it may sound today. In 1930, British economist John Maynard Keynes predicted that a 15-hour work-week would be inevitable by 2030. In a world where time is money, it is hard to imagine the practicality of working less to earn more."[85]

From one side, a shorter workweek could potentially provide individuals with more free time to spend with family, pursue personal interests, and engage in leisure activities. This could lead to improved overall well-being. A shorter workweek might reduce stress and burnout, which are often associated with long working hours, and lower stress levels could have positive effects on mental and physical health.

---

[83] Jennifer Philipp, "Rutger Bregman's Three Ideas to End Poverty," *The Borgen Project* (blog), April 23, 2020, https://borgenproject.org/rutger-bregmans-three-ideas-to-end-poverty/.
[84] Philipp.
[85] Philipp.

From other side, reducing the workweek to 15 hours could have economic implications, including lower income levels for many individuals. It might require a reimagining of economic systems, including changes to compensation, social safety nets, and taxation. Some scholars argue that reducing work hours may lead to reduced productivity, as people may have less time to complete tasks or meet work demands. This could negatively affect businesses and economic growth. Also, a significant reduction in working hours could lead to job insecurity for many workers, particularly those in industries heavily reliant on full-time employment.

"Bregman insists that "productivity and long work hours do not go hand in hand." Over time, fatigue and stress are causing burn-out in workers all over the world. The problem is so severe in Japanese corporate culture that it has a name for it, Karoshi, meaning death caused by overwork. There comes a point when working more becomes less productive."[86] If people spend more time on their work, it doesn't guarantee higher productivity.

The third idea was regarding „Open borders may be the most radical solution of Rutger Bregman's three ideas to end poverty. Opening up the world's borders to allow the free movement of people across any country makes many skeptical and afraid of societal collapse. Development economist Michael Clemens argues that open borders would double global GDP by allowing the free movement of labor to become more productive."[87]

Bregman is adding "Suddenly the reason so many of our anti-poverty programmes don't work becomes clear. Investments in education, for example, are often completely useless. A recent analysis of 201 studies on the effectiveness of money management training came to the conclusion that it makes almost no difference at all. Poor people might come out wiser, but it's not enough. As Shafir said: "It's like teaching someone to swim and then throwing them in a stormy sea."[88]

On the other hand, there is an opinion expressed by the English humanist. He, "Thomas More hinted at it in Utopia, more than 500 years ago. And its proponents have spanned the spectrum from the left to the right, from the civil rights campaigner Martin Luther King to the economist Milton Friedman. It's an incredibly simple idea: universal basic income – a monthly allowance of enough to pay for your basic needs: food, shelter, education. And it's completely unconditional: not a favour, but a right."[89]

---

[86] Philipp.

[87] Philipp.

[88] Bregman, "Utopian Thinking."

[89] Bregman.

Gupta reminded on a definition before the social science notion and said that "The word 'poverty' and its adjective 'poor' represent an ancient concept which expresses social differences between man and man. It was coined long before the social sciences came up with the notion of social stratification."[90]

"The question, "What does it mean to be poor?" evokes a different response from one person to the next because each one's answer is a reflection of a personal value system. When value systems diverge, wider agreement on any normative issue becomes more difficult, including how best to define poverty. This is not to suggest that defining poverty is a thoroughly arbitrary, personal matter."[91]

Duflo says all economic and social dimensions of poverty must be considered in order to effectively address the problem. "Poverty is made of multiple angles. It's not just lack of money but it's also lack of education, lack of health, lack of information, lack of political inclusion and awareness, et cetera..."[92]

In a pool with so many definitions, similar or different, a question that is usually asked "So what can be done? Modern economists have a few solutions. We could make the paperwork easier, or send people a text message to remind them of their bills. These "nudges" are hugely popular with modern politicians, because they cost next to nothing. They are a symbol of this era, in which we so often treat the symptoms but ignore the causes."[93]

Various conclusions, words of criticism, or words of support can be drawn from his lines. One of the observations on poverty made by George Orwell 100 years ago was that the future will be killed by poverty. It is neither criticism nor support, but a state of affairs.

Bregman claims that eradication of poverty needs to be in center of attention. "That should be our goal. The time for small thoughts and little nudges is past. The time has come for new, radical ideas. If this sounds utopian to you, then remember that every milestone of civilisation – the end of slavery, democracy, equal rights for men and women – was once a utopian fantasy too."[94]

---

[90] Shiv Prakash Gupta, "Conceptualizing Poverty," *Sociological Bulletin* 33, no. 1/2 (1984): 63–74.

[91] "Toward an Improved Definition of Poverty on JSTOR," accessed August 3, 2023, https://www.jstor.org/stable/95a3cd0f-792b-31be-84d9-032e2e435ada?searchText=Definition+of+poverty&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DDefinition%2Bof%2Bpoverty&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3A14c261441fb4360712c11304b616b9c6&seq=1.

[92] "Esther Duflo on Poverty: It's Not Just the Lack of Money," IMF, November 18, 2016, https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2016/11/18/esther-duflo-on-poverty-its-not-just-the-lack-of-money.

[93] Bregman, "Utopian Thinking."

[94] Bregman.

Conceptual definition and measurement of poverty are important not only in order to understand the extent and causes of vulnerability but also in order to formulate social and economic policy measures and measure their effects.

6.2 Poverty types

Based on a number of characteristics, we can classify poverty into one or another type. In this respect, the development of different types of poverty that, based on their characteristics, are present in the world continues.

Social poverty represents the fact that poverty, regardless of the type of poverty, is the situation or social condition of the population in which it occurs. Poverty shows the inability of certain members of society to access certain resources. It is a social condition due to the fact that it refers to society as well as the place that people occupy in it. Therefore, social poverty refers to the poverty that exists in a given society and is subsequently measured by existing types of poverty.

"A social perspective on poverty should contribute to the debate on the effectiveness and limitations of current poverty reduction strategies. Poverty analysis from a social perspective requires thorough examination of the impact of economic and social policies on the poor and other vulnerable social groups."[95]

The perception of the standard of living of individuals is mostly focused on the material dimension and its measurement, primarily within the concept of absolute and relative poverty.

"Absolute poverty refers to when a person or household does not have the minimum amount of income needed to meet the minimum living requirements needed over an extended period of time. In other words, they cannot meet their basic needs. When an individual goes below this threshold their survival is threatened,"[96]

"Relative poverty is the level of poverty that changes based on context – it is relative to the economic climate. Relative Poverty is when a household receives 60% of the average household income in their own economy. They do have some money, however, not enough to afford anything above the basics.

---

[95] "Poverty – Social Policy and Development Division | DISD," accessed August 6, 2023, https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/poverty-social-policy-and-development-division.html.

[96] "Relative Poverty vs. Absolute Poverty - endPoverty," March 2, 2023, https://endpoverty.org/relative-poverty-vs-absolute-poverty/.

This group of individuals cannot afford the normal activities and opportunities that average earners have access to known as an "ordinary pattern".”[97]

The primary difference between absolute and relative poverty lies in their measurement and focus. Absolute poverty sets a fixed and universal threshold based on basic survival needs, while relative poverty measures poverty in relation to the income and living standards of a specific society or community. Relative poverty is more concerned with social inequality and disparities in well-being within a given context, whereas absolute poverty addresses extreme deprivation and the ability to meet basic human needs for survival.

If we are talking about a geographical position, it's important to make a difference between poverty in a village and poverty in a city. Rural poverty is a type of poverty that occurs very often in a large number of countries. It is especially present in those countries that, for various reasons, have less industrial development. Urban poverty is a type of poverty that occurs in cities (urban areas). This is due to the growth of cities, which includes rural territories and suburban areas with lower income levels.

Extreme poverty is known as the condition in which a family finds itself and represents a series of disadvantages that prevent it from participating in all social activities in the community.

Child poverty gets its name from the fact that it refers to poverty that affects a subset of boys and girls. Child poverty is considered until the child reaches the age of 16-the year in which you can enter the labor market.

There is another classification of poverty. Structural poverty, or chronic poverty, refers to the type of poverty in which society lacks infrastructure and income. Also, short-term poverty, in this sense, is poverty that bases its measurement on the measurement of monetary poverty and time period.

Since material poverty is a complex phenomenon, various measures allow its scale and structure to be seen from different perspectives. Thus, the measures can be objective (measurement by income and consumption) or subjective when the individual's perception of his material condition is taken into account. A once-rich individual, reduced by circumstances to a modest income and lower-middle-class lifestyle, may feel poor, but other members of society do not consider him as such, and vice versa, individuals and groups who live in poverty according to the norms of the majority do not feel poor.

---

[97] “Relative Poverty vs. Absolute Poverty - endPoverty.”

According to a different division, the measures can be indirect, such as measuring poverty by income, when actually based on income, it is estimated what someone's standard could be and not what it actually is. Direct measures make it possible to assess the material situation based on consumption or on the basis of indicators that are highly correlated with poverty, such as, for example, extremely unfavorable and inadequate housing conditions. Finally, measures can be monetary (income) or non-monetary (material deprivation indicators).

It is recognizable that poverty manifests itself in various ways, among which are the lack of income and resources sufficient to ensure a sustainable existence; hunger; poor health; limited or no access to education; increased mortality (including mortality from disease); homelessness and inadequate housing conditions; an unsafe environment; social discrimination; and many other factors.

6.3 Poverty line

"Charles Booth never explained why he adopted the particular 'line of poverty' he said he used, in the late 1880s, to divide the people of London into those 'in poverty' and those in comfort'. The incomes describing it, presented with the initial findings of his survey of London at the Royal Statistical Society's meeting in May 1887, became well known:
By the word 'poor' I mean to describe those who have a fairly regular though bare income, such as 18s. to 21s. per week for a moderate family, and by "very poor those who fall below this standard, whether from chronic irregularity of work, sickness, or a large number of young children."[98]

The poverty line represents a number expressed in a monetary unit below which a person is considered poor. The poverty line is also known as the poverty line.

The poverty line, as might be expected, varies from one geographic area to another. A man can be rich in his own country and poor in another. Therefore, organizations that calculate them must take into account this type of data. In order to understand the point and definition of the term, it is important to understand how it is calculated, how it is interpreted, and what it depends on.

„The results of measuring poverty can help to assess important issues such as the impact of policy or where to direct resources or focus efforts to reduce poverty. A mere change in definition and approach for measurement has the capacity to define different people as poor. If the choice of definition and the

---

[98] Alan Gillie, "The Origin of the Poverty Line," 1996, https://www.jstor.org/stable/43d47345-1c17-32a0-babd-41113b635a89?searchText=poverty+line.

measure produce radically different estimates, or estimates that do not reflect reality, they have the capacity to misinform policy-making."[99]

The poverty line is calculated by taking into account the purchasing power necessary to meet basic needs. So if we want to meet basic needs in a country, we need at least $4 a day; that will be the poverty line. In other words, the poverty line is the minimum amount of money that can satisfy the basic needs of an adult. Among these basic needs are food, access to housing, education, health care, access to drinking water, and electricity.

The poverty line calculates what it takes to meet those needs for a year (on average) and then switches to a daily amount. At the same time, inflation and the exchange rate are taken into account so that the measure best reflects reality.

„The method used to arrive at world poverty numbers and comparisons has additional problems arising from the use of purchasing-power parity (PPP) exchange rates. In this approach, an international poverty line is set using an abstract money unit (international dollars)."[100]

Although the poverty line expresses a monetary amount, what we are really interested in is knowing what percentage of the population is above or below the line. In the data that agencies usually provide on poverty, what they indicate is the percentage of the population below this line.

Poverty line, extreme poverty, and risk of poverty are very similar concepts that are interrelated but not the same. I will list them and explain the differences schematically:

- Poverty line: The minimum amount of money that enables the satisfaction of basic needs (food, housing, education, health, water, and electricity)
- Extreme poverty: All those people whose income does not allow them to reach the minimum to feed themselves are in extreme poverty.
- Risk of poverty: The population at risk of poverty includes all those whose income is 60% lower than the median income per unit of consumption of the total population.

---

[99] Sarah Sabry, "Poverty Lines: The Debate from Poverty Lines in Greater Cairo: Underestimating and Misrepresenting Poverty," 2009, https://www.jstor.org/stable/ab93326c-85dc-38f4-89bf-dcc75665ee39?searchText=poverty+line&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Dpoverty%2Bline&ab_se gments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3A53f7d34f4dc6a59fe78b10fd18916cb4.
[100] Sabry.

6.4 Poverty rate

"The poverty rate is the ratio of the number of people (in a given age group) whose income falls below the poverty line; taken as half the median household income of the total population."[101]

The poverty rate shows the share of individuals in society who cannot meet basic needs and whose income or consumption is below the poverty threshold (line). The absolute poverty line is determined based on the minimum income and consumption structure of the poorest households. Usually, the line is fixed at a certain point in time by the consumer price index. However, based on the poverty rate, it is not possible to see how poor individuals are, i.e., what the depth of poverty is. In order to see it, the poverty gap indicator is used.

In the following graph, the poverty rate in various countries in the world among people of different ages will be presented, divided into three categories. Also, the results will show the total amount. On the left, bottom-up side, there is a ratio of the total number of people. This graph is on a yearly basis (the latest data available).

---
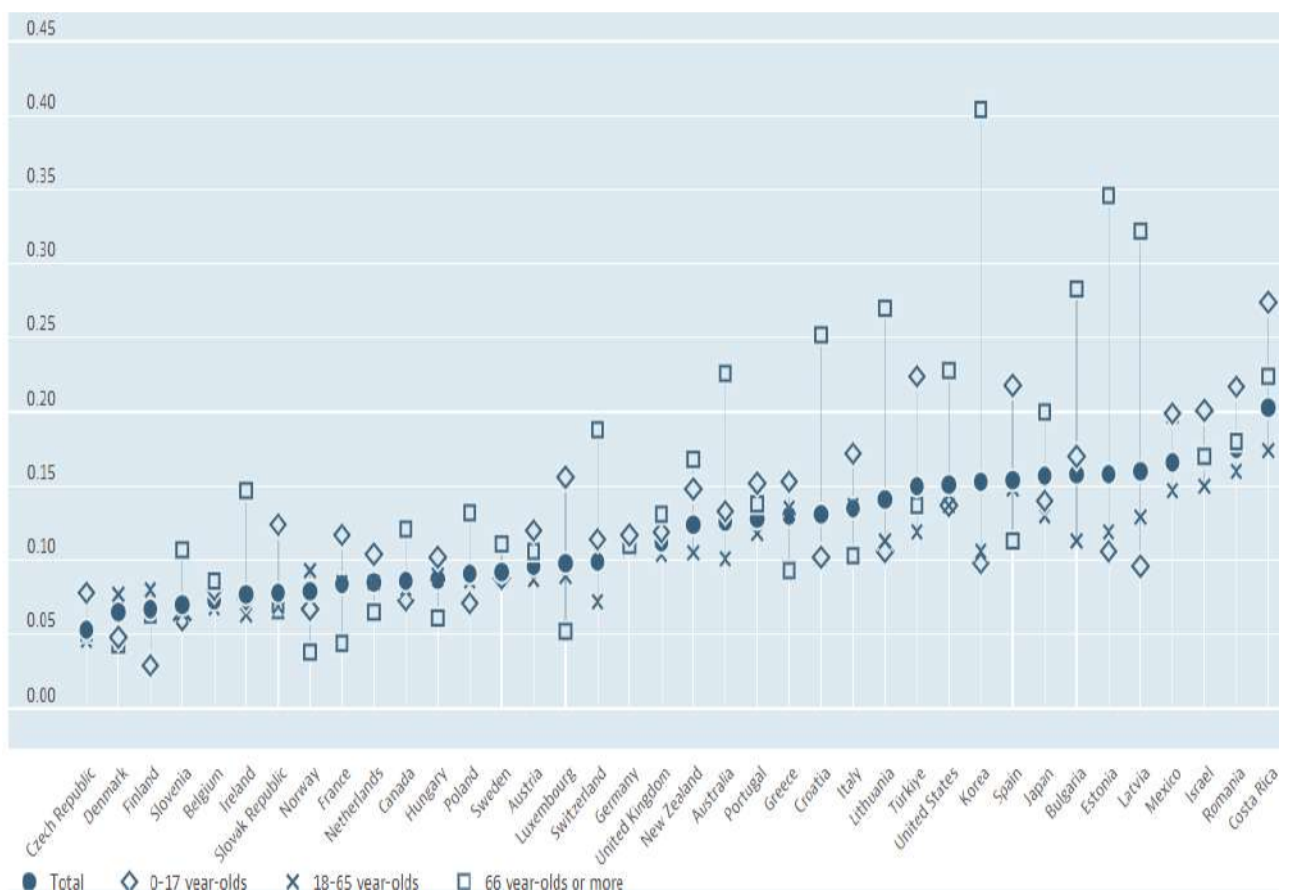
[101] "Inequality - Poverty Rate - OECD Data," theOECD, accessed August 6, 2023, http://data.oecd.org/inequality/poverty-rate.htm.

Figure 6

In this line, it's also necessary to mention and explain the poverty gap. "The poverty gap is the ratio by which the mean income of the poor falls below the poverty line. The poverty line is defined as half the median household income of the total population. The poverty gap helps refine the poverty rate by providing an indication of the poverty level in a country."[102]

The poverty gap (depth) shows how far the consumption and income of the poor are from the poverty line. The total deficit indicates how much money is needed to, under conditions of perfect targeting, raise consumption and income to the level of the poverty threshold for all those who are poor.

"The poverty gap indicator is produced by the World Bank Development Research Group. It measures poverty by looking at household per capita income and consumption. The World Bank seeks to measure all people against the same standard. As such, it sets an international poverty line at periodic intervals, calculating the cost of living at any given time by taking into account the going rate for basic food, clothing, and shelter around the world."[103]

The next graph will show the poverty gap in various states in the world. "This indicator is measured for the total population, as well as for people aged 18-65 years and people over 65."[104] On the left, bottom-up side, there is a ratio of the total number of people. The results are on a yearly basis (the latest data available).

---

[102] "Inequality - Poverty Gap - OECD Data," theOECD, accessed August 6, 2023, http://data.oecd.org/inequality/poverty-gap.htm.

[103] "Poverty Gap: Definition, Measurement, Index," Investopedia, accessed August 6, 2023, https://www.investopedia.com/terms/p/poverty-gap.asp.

[104] "Inequality - Poverty Gap - OECD Data."

Figure 7

Source https://data.oecd.org/inequality/poverty-gap.htm

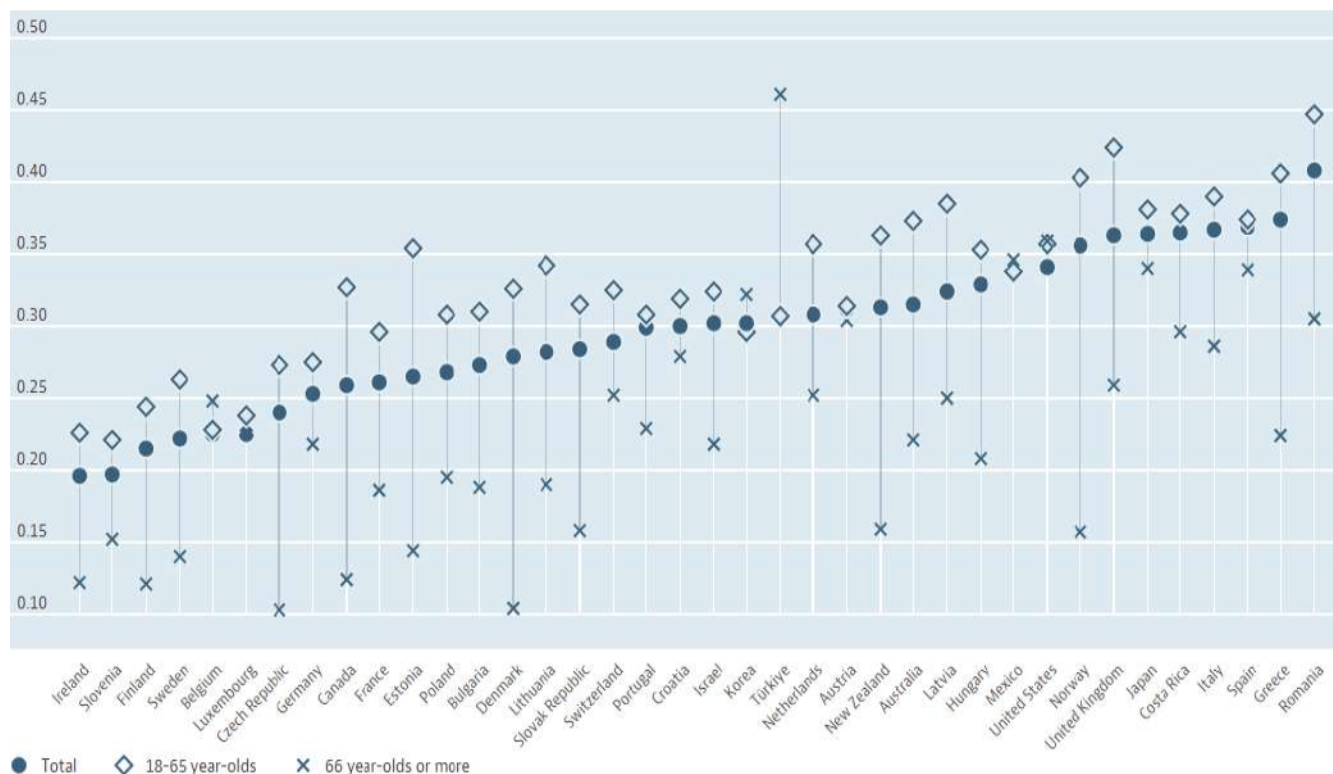## 6.5 Indicators

These seven targets should be a tool for the creation of actions to end poverty in all its forms, all around the world.

Today, the indicators are used more than before which are created in order to encompass interconnectedness among various development aspects on international level. One of the mentioned aspects is Human Development Index (HDI) and it is sorted on a list of sustainable development indicators. The indicator, created in the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), collect health indicators, education, and life standard, and share in ordinary annual reports. Human Development Index is established in 1990, as a part of the UNIPD with a purpose to make a comparison among states and to valuable accomplishments average in fundamental human development.

The second indicator has been developed by the Canadian economist William E. Rees and named him `Ecological Footprint`. This sustainable development indicator values human capacity (for carrying) as a grade of spending resources and making trash that can take so long, but ecosystem productivity is not getting worse progressively.

The responsibility of people in power, on a national or local level, is to accept and implement a national strategy for sustainable development, not only as a plan with an arranged deadline for realization, but as a plan whose realization is a process that has no end and which includes constantly adjusting existing sectoral and local strategies to the needs that the globalization process brings, as well as natural processes.

The indicators are:

"1.1.1 Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural).

1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age.

1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.

1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable.

1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services.

1.4.2 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognized documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure.

1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population.

1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP).

1.5.3 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

1.5.4 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies.

1.a.1 Total official development assistance grants from all donors that focus on poverty reduction as a share of the recipient country's gross national income.

1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection).

1.b.1 Pro-poor public social spending."[105]

Indicators are specific, quantifiable measurements used to assess progress towards achieving each target. They serve as the basis for tracking and reporting on the goals. For each target, there may be one or more indicators that help measure progress. Some of the indicators are considered "global indicators," which are used to measure progress at the global level. These global indicators are designed to ensure consistency and comparability of data across countries and help to provide a global perspective on the goals. In addition to global indicators, countries are encouraged to develop their own national indicators to reflect the specific circumstances and priorities of their regions. These national indicators help track progress at the national level.

The SDG indicators and targets are a critical framework for measuring and tracking global progress towards a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous world by 2030. They provide a roadmap for governments, organizations, and individuals to work collectively towards achieving these ambitious goals.

The targets are:

- **„1.1** By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than $1.25 a day
- **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
- **1.3** Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- **1.4** By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance
- **1.5** By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters
- **1.A** Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for

---

[105] "Goal 1 | Department of Economic and Social Affairs," accessed September 25, 2023, https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal1.

developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions

- **1.B** Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions."[106]

While the global targets provide a common framework, countries are encouraged to adapt them to their specific contexts and needs. This flexibility allows nations to align the SDGs with their national development plans and priorities. It's important to say that clear targets can help mobilize financial and technical resources from governments, international organizations, the private sector, and civil society. Donors and investors are more likely to support initiatives that have well-defined objectives and indicators for measuring impact.

7. SDG 1

The Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations represent a universal call for the implementation of joint activities that will reduce poverty, enable the protection of the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. "SDG 1 aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere. Its objectives include ensuring that the entire population and especially the poorest and most vulnerable have equal rights to economic resources, access to basic services, property and land control, natural resources and new technologies."[107]

„The first Sustainable Development Goal aims to "End poverty in all its forms everywhere". Its seven associated targets aims, among others, to eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty, and implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable."[108]

The 2030 Agenda strives to continue the eradication of poverty as its main goal. As sustainable development goal number one, it represents priority in solving the issue and emphasizes the importance of reducing and eradicating poverty.

---

[106] "Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 1)," United Nations Western Europe, accessed August 8, 2023, https://unric.org/en/sdg-1/.

[107] IBERDROLA CORPORATIVA, "Iberdrola Makes Energy Accessible to the Financially Underprivileged," Iberdrola, accessed August 7, 2023, https://www.iberdrola.com/sustainability/committed-sustainable-development-goals/sdg-1-no-poverty.

[108] "Poverty Eradication .:. Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform," accessed September 25, 2023, https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/povertyeradication.

"Eradicating extreme poverty for all people everywhere by 2030 is a pivotal goal of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Between 2015 and 2018, global poverty continued its historical decline, with the poverty rate falling from 10.1 per cent in 2015 to 8.6 per cent in 2018. Nowcasts suggest that owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the global poverty rate increased sharply from 8.3 per cent in 2019 to 9.2 per cent in 2020, representing the first increase in extreme poverty since 1998 and the largest increase since 1990 and setting back poverty reduction by about three years."[109]

In 2016, just under 10 percent of the world's workers lived with their families on less than $1.90 per person per day, up from 28 percent in 2000. In the least developed countries, almost 38 percent of workers in 2016 lived below the poverty line.

"Eradicating poverty is not a task of charity, it's an act of justice and the key to unlocking an enormous human potential. Still, nearly half of the world's population lives in poverty, and lack of food and clean water is killing thousands every single day of the year. Together, we can feed the hungry, wipe out disease and give everyone in the world a chance to prosper and live a productive and rich life."[110] Recognizing the issue, the United Nations put poverty in goal (SDG) 1 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which committed itself to eradicating poverty everywhere and for all people by the end of 2030.

"As of 2015, about 736 million people still lived on less than US$1.90 a day; many lack food, clean drinking water and sanitation. Rapid growth in countries such as China and India has lifted millions out of poverty, but progress has been uneven. Women are more likely to be poor than men because they have less paid work, education, and own less property."[111] Although the world is experiencing an unprecedented level of economic development, technological means, and financial resources, millions of people live in extreme poverty. Poverty is not only an economic issue but a multidimensional phenomenon that encompasses the lack of both income and basic abilities for a dignified life.

"Progress has also been limited in other regions, such as South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, which account for 80 percent of those living in extreme poverty. New threats brought on by climate change, conflict and food insecurity, mean even more work is needed to bring people out of poverty."[112]

---

[109] THE UN, "Goal 1: End Poverty in All Its Forms Everywhere," *United Nations Sustainable Development* (blog), accessed August 7, 2023, https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/.

[110] "Goal 1: No Poverty," The Global Goals, accessed August 7, 2023, https://globalgoals.org/goals/1-no-poverty/.

[111] "Goal 1: No Poverty | Sustainable Development Goals | United Nations Development Programme," UNDP, accessed August 7, 2023, https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals/no-poverty.

[112] "Goal 1."

Poverty is a serious problem in the world that has existed for many years. Official statistics show that the number of poor people has more than halved since 1990, and the United Nations claims that one fifth of people in developing countries are still poor. For this reason and due to the fact that poverty threatens achievements in all other areas, ending poverty is the primary goal of the 2030 agenda. The sub-goals within this goal are aimed at eradicating extreme poverty, reducing any form of poverty defined according to national criteria to less than half, and strengthening social measures and financial support for the poor.

"Eradicating poverty in all its forms remains one of the greatest challenges facing humanity. While the number of people living in extreme poverty dropped by more than half between 1990 and 2015, too many are still struggling for the most basic human needs."[113] Eradication of poverty refers to the comprehensive and sustained effort to eliminate poverty in all its forms and dimensions within a specific geographic area, typically a country or region. It is a multifaceted and complex goal that encompasses various aspects, including economic, social, and human development. Poverty eradication involves raising the income and consumption levels of individuals and households to a point where they no longer struggle with poverty. This often includes increasing wages, creating job opportunities, and improving access to economic resources.

The eradication of poverty is a multifaceted and ambitious goal that goes beyond simply raising income levels. It involves addressing the root causes of poverty, promoting equality and social inclusion, and ensuring that all individuals have the opportunity to lead dignified lives free from the deprivations associated with poverty. It is a central objective of the global community's efforts to promote sustainable and inclusive development, including the goals.

The Sustainable Development Goals represent a resolute commitment to achieving the ambitious objective of eradicating poverty in all its manifestations and dimensions by the year 2030. This endeavor necessitates a deliberate focus on addressing the needs of the most marginalized and disadvantaged populations, enhancing the provision of essential resources and services, and extending assistance to communities grappling with the multifaceted challenges posed by conflict and climate-induced disasters.

"Priority actions on poverty eradication include:

---

[113] "Goal 1."

- improving access to sustainable livelihoods, entrepreneurial opportunities and productive resources;
- providing universal access to basic social services;
- progressively developing social protection systems to support those who cannot support themselves;
- empowering people living in poverty and their organizations;
- addressing the disproportionate impact of poverty on women;
- working with interested donors and recipients to allocate increased shares of ODA to poverty eradication; and
- intensifying international cooperation for poverty eradication."[114]

7.1 COVID-19 influence

During civilization's development, people mostly died due to contagious diseases. That percentage of people was higher even after wars and natural disasters. The number of pandemics in history is not enormous, but there were several. Those pandemics, with a local character, have appeared mostly in society.

„Controlling the spread is more difficult due to the highly infectious nature of the disease and its ability to cause clinical complications in patients. It has grappled the entire world since its inception in Wuhan, Hubei province of China, reaching every nook and corner and contaminating people from all walks of life. Every person has been impacted in some way, most often negatively."[115]

The COVID-19 has been traveling around the world, from one continent to another, extinguishing a huge number of people, attacking the organisms of millions of people, and scaring billions of people living on the Earth. Why does a corona fear exist when the death rate of people who are infected is mostly lower than other diseases? The pandemic hasn't completely completed its journey, but comments and analyses are going around the globe. It seems that COVID-19 has surprised the world by its swift spread and resistance to the medicine that pharmacies offer.

"Nowcasting global poverty is not an easy task. It requires assumptions about how to forecast growth and how such growth will impact the poor, along with other complications such as how to calculate poverty for countries with outdated data or without data altogether. All of this goes to say that

---

[114] "Poverty Eradication | Department of Economic and Social Affairs," accessed September 25, 2023, https://sdgs.un.org/topics/poverty-eradication.
[115] "Impact of COVID-19 on Children - PMC," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9668239/.

estimating how much global poverty will increase because of COVID-19 is challenging and comes with a lot of uncertainty."[116]

The pandemic outbreak caused by the virus SARS-CoV-2 was a global shock. The Earth stopped for a moment, states were closed, and life, in a social, cultural, and economic sense, was paused. A long-term influence of the Corona crisis and its unpredictable timing made people feel that it was a state, not a fleeting effect.

„Since 2015, global poverty reduction was already slowing down and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic reversed three decades of steady progress with the number of people living in extreme poverty increasing for the first time in a generation. Recovery from the pandemic has been slow and uneven as the world is presently facing multiple geopolitical, socioeconomic, and climatic risks. Given current trends, 575 million people (nearly 7% of the world's population) will still be living in extreme poverty in 2030 compared to 800 million in 2015 (or 10.8%). Eradicating extreme poverty will be particularly difficult in sub-Saharan Africa and conflict-affected areas. Despite the expansion of social protection during COVID-19, over 4 billion people globally remain entirely unprotected. A surge in action and investment to enhance job opportunities and extend social services to the most excluded is crucial to delivering on the central commitment to ending poverty."[117]

One of the specific challenges in terms of COVID-19's influence on demographic processes is related to data availability and reliability on people's death numbers due to the Corona virus. It's a reason why the marking and prediction of changes in demographic appearances, which aren't under direct COVID-19 influence, became a complex assignment whose outcome is unpredictable.

Information on the number of deaths due to the Corona virus was collected and shared by the World Health Organization (previously collected from state members), following a trend of unequal criteria among countries for registration of the number of deaths caused by COVID-19, changes in criteria happening inside states, and a high pace of pandemic spreading. All these elements have influenced the fact that current data about Corona virus death cases can't be taken as a guarantee for estimating its impact on death changes. So, as an indirect method for data validation of death cases, it naturally imposed a method by which changes in total mortality would be determined, i.e., regardless of the cause of death.

---

[116] Nishant Yonzan Christoph Lakner Daniel Gerszon Mahler R. Andres Castaneda Aguilar Haoyu Wu, "Available Data and Estimates of the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Global Poverty," n.d.
[117] "Goal 1 | Department of Economic and Social Affairs."

The COVID-19 has disclosed all weaknesses and failures related to the development strategy of modern society and opened a door for researching many valuable systems in civilization.

"However, the COVID-19 pandemic is reversing the trend of poverty reduction with tens of millions of people in risk of being pushed back into extreme poverty - people living on less than $1.90/day - causing the first increase in global poverty in more than 20 years."[118]

The pandemic virus is still ongoing (but it's not the main topic in the media anymore) and its consequences haven't been registered and measured, but it's obviously that the economy will be impacted first because of production falling, transportation, and offer. In parallel with increased unemployment, consumption will be lower, which will decelerate production. As a consequence of this, the number of poor people will be higher.

„COVID-19 has been a tragedy, killing more than half a million people and bringing the economy and life to a standstill in many parts of the world for a long period. Economic growth has slowed down dramatically and poverty is on the rise everywhere. Questions therefore have arisen whether these setbacks will have a permanent effect, jeopardizing progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)."[119]

The earlier economic consequences appear and will appear in a social context. An increase in unemployment will have an impact on increasing poverty, which will result in a bigger property gap in society. In a society where differences between poor and rich people exist, social cohesion, solidarity, and tolerance debilitate while intolerance grows, and it represents a source of many conflicts. When poor people seek social justice, they organize protests, strikes, and rebellions.

Old-fashioned political divisions are replaced by new ones that are more suitable to questions that impose a new social structure. Social division, which rapidly led to huge property inequality, produced middle-class erosion. In addition, with profit as the main goal and measurement of progress, unsatisfied groups of people have been created all around society, where rich people become richer and poor people become poorer on a daily basis.

All of this leads to the question: Who and what does science use it for? As Newton stated, science is an ocean of ignorance, which shows up in those moments when people think and believe that they have found and perfectly defined everything. The purpose of science should be to benefit all because

---

[118] The United Nations, "No Poverty: Why It Matters?" (The UN, 2020).
[119] The United Nations, *Sustainable Development Outlook* (The UN, 2020).

numerus potentials are included in numerus generations of human species as a legacy to future generations.

There are many various diseases that people have overcame in past years, but there are some that they haven't faced. Encountering ignorance should motivate people to show their creativity for the benefit of the human species, not corporative interests and raising power.

„The COVID-19 experience shows that countries that had made more progress in achieving the SDGs were able to better deal with the COVID-19 crisis. For example, countries that had achieved access to clean water (SDG 6); reduced number of people living in slums (SDG 11); and decreased pre-existing health conditions such as noncommunicable diseases (SDG 3) had more success in mitigating the COVID-19 risk."[120]

„One of the important lessons of the COVID-19 experience is that even low-income countries cannot leave the establishment of robust universal healthcare and social protection systems as goals to be achieved in the distant future. Instead, developing these systems needs to be considered as an urgent current task and should ideally build upon the emergency measures taken during the COVID-19 crisis to overcome the weaknesses of these systems. Countries can then take additional policy measures in the short-, medium-, and long-run to move forward to building robust healthcare and social protection systems with universal access."[121]

---

[120] The United Nations.
[121] The United Nations.

Extreme poverty rate, %

■ Historical poverty rates
■ Pre-COVID-19 projections
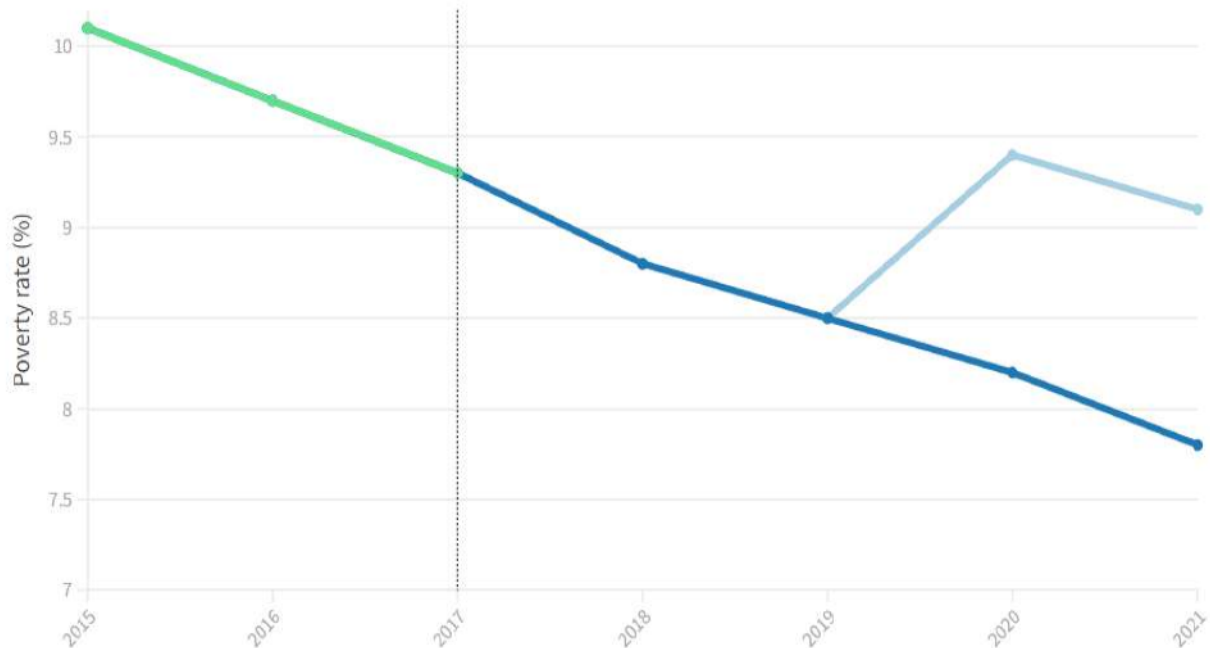■ Post-COVID-19 projections

Figure 8

See:https://blogs.worldbank.org/developmenttalk/covid-19-leaves-legacy-rising-poverty-and-widening-inequality

Note: Extreme poverty is measured as the number of people living on less than $1.90 per day. 2017 is the last year with official global poverty estimates.

The percentage of income loss caused by the COVID-19 pandemic varies significantly from one individual, household, or region to another. However, on a global scale, the pandemic has led to widespread economic disruptions, resulting in income losses for a substantial portion of the population. Many people have experienced reduced earnings due to job losses, reduced work hours, business closures, and decreased economic activity. The exact percentage of income loss can depend on factors like one's occupation, location, and access to social safety nets. In some cases, income loss has been severe, pushing people into poverty or exacerbating existing financial challenges. The next graph will be used with the purpose to show percent of income loss caused by the COVID-19.

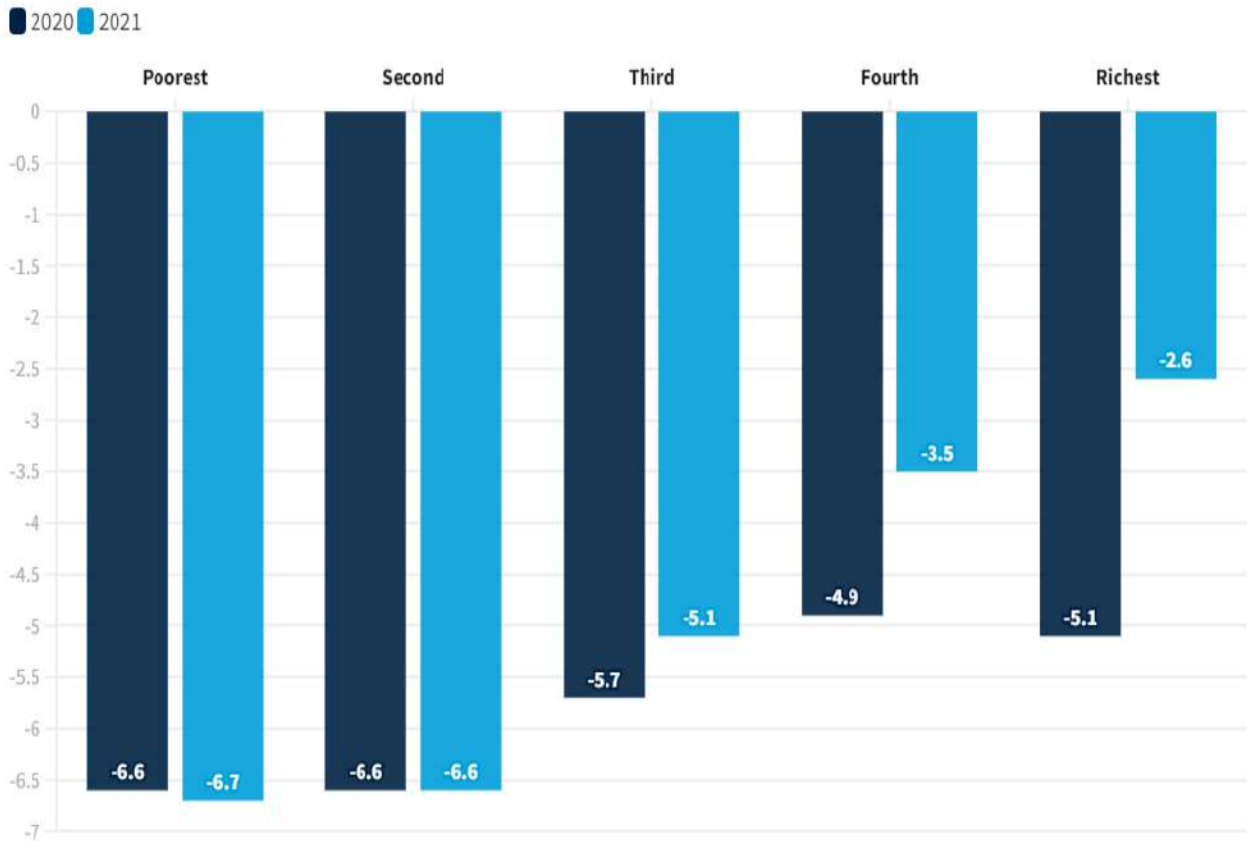## Percent of income loss by global income quintile due to COVID-19

■ 2020 ■ 2021

Figure 9

"Going forward, a greater partnership is necessary among countries and all stakeholders within and across countries for confronting future public health crises such as COVID-19 and for achieving the SDGs."[122]

State governments should promote politics, in situations where pandemics appear, that galvanize human fundamental activities such as education, culture, work, and social-political life as an important element for society. Society was or is on a 'specific' test during Corona virus influence. People need to follow some rules mirrored in the disinfection of space and hands, but I feel there is something more important that keeps society stuck and safe. Relationships among people might be disinfected in terms of value systems and solidarity in developed and undeveloped countries, which aren't at the high level as they should be. Also, thoughts should be more optimistic and creative. A legacy, in all its forms, must be left for the generations that are coming.

---

[122] The United Nations.

Not only undeveloped states struggled with the Covid-19 consequences, also "developing countries will face a devastating social and economic crisis over the months and years to come, with the pandemic pushing millions of workers into unemployment, underemployment and working poverty."[123]

"In some regions the adverse impacts could result in poverty levels similar to those recorded 30 years ago. Under the most extreme scenario of a 20 per cent income or consumption contraction, the number of people living in poverty could increase by 420–580 million, relative to the latest official recorded figures for 2018."[124] Attention should be dedicated to a current state and additional needs of poor citizens and their families. In addition, sensitive and marginalized groups might also include in this process in sense of social, economic, cultural, political, and health situations with the same purpose – solidarity and common benefits.

Lack of resources and possibilities leads poor and socially excluded households to feel the direct impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially families with children, chronic patients, and persons with disabilities. Also, households with low incomes will struggle to pay unexpected costs.

The poorest people in the world have faced a difficult year in which the coronavirus pandemic has removed all efforts and progress in terms of the eradication of poverty in all its forms. Heretofore, poverty is additionally impacted by rising inflation and the war in Ukraine. According to some estimations, these two crises will lead a huge number of people into extreme poverty.

7.2 Children

"Children are not the face of this pandemic. But they risk being among its biggest victims. While they have thankfully been largely spared from the direct health effects of COVID-19 - at least to date – the crisis is having a profound effect on their wellbeing."[125]

The spread of the Corona virus will have long-term consequences with a negative influence on children's poverty, education, and health.

The COVID-19 produces social-economic consequences that mostly impact the most vulnerable children on Earth. Measures that have been implemented in order to support and help children are

---

[123] The United Nations, "No Poverty: Why It Matters?"

[124] "UNU-WIDER : Working Paper : Estimates of the Impact of COVID-19 on Global Poverty," UNU WIDER, accessed September 25, 2023, http://www.wider.unu.edu/publication/estimates-impact-covid-19-global-poverty.

[125] "The Impact of COVID-19 on Children | UNICEF," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.unicef.org/turkiye/en/documents/impact-covid-19-children.

likely to make their situation even more difficult, potentially pushing a huge number of children into extreme poverty. In situations where parental care is missing or has the possibility of being lost, children are further endangered by pandemic challenges caused by an unstable family environment.

"As for the world's children, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) stated in December that the pandemic was the single worst crisis that the UN agency had dealt with in its 75-year history. According to the recently published UNICEF report "Preventing a lost decade: Urgent action to reverse the devastating impact of COVID-19 on children and young people", a shattering 100 million additional children are estimated to now be living in multidimensional poverty due to the pandemic, which is 10 percent more than in 2019."[126]

The World Bank Group former President, David Malpass, said: "One of the best chances for a better future is to invest in education today and make sure each dollar of education spending is put toward improved learning. A silent learning crisis is unfolding that has become a devastating shock to human capital. We need to work to prevent further damage and build more effective systems."[127]

The World Health Organization (WHO) takes care about children putting them at the first place of its strategy. "WHO/Europe continues to show its commitment to children and adolescents and to leaving no one behind as the world continues to grapple with COVID-19. Three areas of work are particularly important to ensure that children access health and social services according to their needs.

1. **Ensuring safe schooling -** WHO/Europe has been engaging with Europe's decision-makers and targeting parents, teachers and school administrators to ensure safe schooling during the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. **Minimizing the disruption of health systems for children -** WHO/Europe has been working with countries across the WHO European Region to minimize the disruption of essential health systems for children.
3. **Safeguarding quality of care -** WHO/Europe has been providing technical guidance to safeguard the quality of care for children affected by COVID-19 or other respiratory infections."[128]

---

[126] internationalbanker, "The Impact of COVID-19 on Global Poverty," *International Banker* (blog), March 28, 2022, https://internationalbanker.com/finance/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-global-poverty/.

[127] The World Bank, "Ending Learning Poverty and Building Skills: Investing in Education from Early Childhood to Lifelong Learning" (The World Bank, October 2022).

[128] "Considering the Impact of COVID-19 on Children," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.who.int/europe/activities/considering-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-children.

The WHO Agenda is one of the tools that protects children's rights and safety in terms of providing necessary help, especially in dangerous situations.

Almost 1.5 billion children in the world faced school closings in the short or long term during the COVID-19 pandemic. The World Bank's analysis shows that school closings and the transition to online lectures caused six months of loss for children. When we are talking about children that had issues before the virus, the loss is even bigger. The same story follows children from families with low incomes.

The Covid-19 pandemic has created a big issue for education. "Children and adolescents of all ages and in all countries are seriously suffering from the consequences of the pandemic. COVID-19-related measures are having a profound effect on their health and well-being and for some the impact will be lifelong. For example, COVID-19 has created the largest disruption of education systems in history, affecting nearly 1.6 billion students in more than 190 countries."[129]

What had a negative impact on children's education were closing schools and libraries, home isolation, and lockdown. For some children, these places were the only ones to get access to the Internet and, in the same way, access to follow lectures, read books, do homework, and prepare for tests. In this situation, a gap exists between children and their education based on financial capabilities.

"Schools provide social and competitive activities that many children enjoy, and interacting with children from various backgrounds helps them adapt to new situations and form social bonds."[130]

Hereto, families are facing financial insecurity during the pandemic period. As a result, child poverty is going up and threatens to lead children to extreme poverty. " Prevent child poverty reaching a record high – especially through ensuring that social security payments increase if earnings fall, that there is emergency financial support available for those who need and to guarantee that no child is left without a safety net."[131]

"Moreover, the harmful effects of this pandemic will not be distributed equally. They are expected to be most damaging for children in the poorest countries, and in the poorest neighbourhoods, and for those in already disadvantaged or vulnerable situations."[132]

---

[129] "Considering the Impact of COVID-19 on Children."

[130] Ulfat Amin Amin and Asmat Parveen Parveen, "Impact of COVID-19 on Children," *Middle East Current Psychiatry, Ain Shams University* 29, no. 1 (2022): 94, https://doi.org/10.1186/s43045-022-00256-3.

[131] The Children's Society, "The Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Young People" (The Children's Society, 2021).

[132] "The Impact of COVID-19 on Children | UNICEF."

For families, costs of living will increase as more children stay at home, while incomes for employed parents (parent) are likely to decrease or uncertainty of job loosing, meaning families will deal with the living cost such as food, water, education, health, and other basic needs. Raising childcare responsibilities while children are not in school, can present a challenge for family, especially without the option of help from grandparents, are likely to put additional financial load on family budget. "Financial instability will rise during the COVID-19 crisis and low-income families already unable to budget for unexpected expenses will be hit the hardest. This short briefing focuses on the likely impact of COVID-19 on young people facing poverty or destitution."[133]

"Keep children and young people safe, whether they are continuing to attend school or staying at home particularly for those at risk of abuse or neglect and those with special educational needs."[134]

7.2.1 Refugee and Migrant Children

People living in fear, moving, and continuously thinking about how to escape from danger had an additional issue dealing with COVID-19.

"For people forced to flee violence or persecution, staying at home to isolate themselves from the virus is not an option. Yet access to asylum and other rights that would protect vulnerable refugees has been significantly curtailed as countries have responded to the disease."[135] +

It's known that particular countries are still struggling with a response to fundamental rights and conditions for refugees and migrants. The virus has made it more difficult to find suitable solutions for the issues. When problems are mentioned, refugee communities have faced serious challenges.

"Refugee communities have faced critical challenges in following recommended risk reduction practices:

- Many refugees live in poor urban areas (60 percent of refugees live in cities) or densely populated camps with inadequate health infrastructure, making physical distancing very difficult;
- The lack of access to face masks, protective gear, clean water and soap makes refugees more vulnerable to COVID-19;

---

[133] The Children's Society, "The Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Young People."

[134] The Children's Society.

[135] UNHCR Agency the UN Refugee, "COVID-19 and refugees," ArcGIS StoryMaps, January 4, 2021, https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/95cc3b65d9264cf3b80fffef0daa0358.

- Refugees have limited access to public health services. For example, Syrian and Palestinian refugees in Lebanon cannot access health facilities without providing identification documents, which is often an issue since most refugees in Lebanon are undocumented;

- Refugee populations often lack the funds to obtain adequate treatment if infected with the virus."[136]

Based on all the listed points, some conclusions can be drawn. In cases where incomes can't afford fundamental needs for daily life, it leads to poverty or extreme poverty. Refugees have the right to get access to elementary services, with special attention in dangerous situations such as COVID-19. States and organizations need to increase tools and improve mechanisms for supporting and helping refugees, especially refugee children, who are exposed to negative impacts. This type of negative impact has long-term consequences.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi stated that "The need to support mental health assistance for displaced populations was critical before the pandemic but now we are dealing with an emergency and a picture of widespread despair."[137]

For refugees and migrants, especially children with no parental care, it is necessary to enhance their conditions of accommodation in those reception centers where there is a high rate of overcrowding and therefore difficulties in maintaining hygiene and providing services. It is necessary to consider and do redistribution of users of reception centers to those centers where the capacities are not fully filled and the creation of quarantine within centers for arrived migrants. Children aren`t affected as much as adults are, but they need to have guaranteed and provided conditions and services in terms of COVID-19 protection.

Although, a financial support and resources were promised, at the Global Refugee Forum (2019), "The COVID-19 pandemic caused unprecedented disruption, closing schools all over the world, and acutely damaged the livelihoods of the most vulnerable in society. As the world struggled to respond to the crisis, the hope for a better future that was promised to refugees was put on hold."[138]

---

[136] "Refugees and the Impact of COVID-19 | UNHCR," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.unhcr.org/media/refugees-and-impact-covid-19.
[137] "Refugees and the Impact of COVID-19 | UNHCR."
[138] Save the Children, "The Price of Hope," 2023.

The UNHCR's Filippo Grandi was trying to warm up the world's leaders by saying that half of the world's population of migrant children has already dropped out of school. He is inviting world leaders to propose solutions for the issue in the hope of reinsuring school attendance for migrant children.

"The COVID-19 crisis is putting immense pressure on such services, meaning these risks are likely to increase for refugee and migrant children during this time."[139]

The progress, of improving migrant and refugee children position, is now extremely endanger by the Covid-19. Number of migrant children is going up, so it means that education needs are raising. "Refugee children around the globe are still waiting for governments to deliver on their promises to secure their futures."[140]

For countries that hosting refugees on their territory, should be ensure support related to reduce refugee crisis (especially in terms of financial support and education). "Resources are massively stretched, and many countries receive little to no international support, despite the global public good that refugee-hosting countries perform by opening their borders and educating the world's refugees."[141]

"Like all children globally, refugee children deserve a fair chance in life, and to see their rights fully realized. Though their lives have been disrupted by violence, displacement and now a pandemic, their chances for a dignified future will be bolstered if they have equitable access to the support and services they need."[142] All children have to be equal in terms of the same possibilities to get access to their fundamental needs, and their rights have to be fully implemented into practice.

7.3 Financial support

„Building on the Policy on Cash-Based Interventions (CBI) 2016-2021, this Policy sets the overall direction for UNHCR's use of CBI from 2022 to 2026 inclusive, with the aim of scaling up and strengthening the use of CBI as a priority modality of assistance, service delivery and protection across the organization and its operations worldwide. The Policy reconfirms UNHCR's commitment to the increased use of CBI, describes the corporate vision and sets out the objectives and the outcomes to be pursued until 2026 for positive change in the lives of persons of concern."[143]

---

[139] The Children's Society, "The Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Young People."

[140] Save the Children, "The Price of Hope."

[141] Save the Children.

[142] "As COVID-19 Pandemic Continues, Forcibly Displaced Children Need More Support than Ever | UNHCR," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.unhcr.org/news/news-releases/covid-19-pandemic-continues-forcibly-displaced-children-need-more-support-ever.

[143] "UNHCR Policy on Cash-Based Interventions. 2022-2026," UNHCR, accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.unhcr.org/media/unhcr-policy-cash-based-interventions-2022-2026.

The UNHCR has put in much effort in order to protect refugee and migrant children, investing money and providing services necessary for a decent life. When I said a decent life, I meant a life out of poverty. Also, the UNHCR is constantly doing its best to ensure a suitable environment for the children.

"It applies to CBI for refugees, asylum-seekers, returnees, internally displaced, stateless people and host communities (hereinafter collectively referred to as persons of concern). The Policy may inform CBI strategies of partners."[144]

"Persons of concern will receive CBI through collaborative cash systems in which UNHCR works in close partnership with governments, the private sector, UN agencies (in line with the UN Common Cash Statement), community-based and local partners, NGOs and development actors. This includes collaboration on procurement of financial services, systems interoperability, data-sharing and collaborative programming for CBI (i.e. feasibility assessments, targeting and monitoring)."[145]

"UNHCR's vision is that people it serves can meet their needs in dignity, are protected and can transition to sustainable solutions through the expanded and innovative use of efficient and effective CBI. Cash-Based Interventions (CBI) are interventions in which cash or vouchers for goods or services are provided to persons of concern on an individual or community basis. The concept does not include cash or vouchers provided to governments or other state actors or payments to humanitarian workers or service providers."[146]

It should be considered to implement a specific money transfer system related to helping people fight COVID-19. I mean, financial support (in an equal amount for all) for the most vulnerable groups of people during the pandemic period. There wouldn`t be some strict criteria; it is only important to belong to a vulnerable group of people. It would be a useful preventive measure to save people from falling into poverty and to help them survive in demanding situations.

The money transfer system should include all key elements for efficient functioning. It means that plans, tools, and mechanisms need to be developed and organized in a way that is approachable for vulnerable groups of people (according to their possibilities, needs, and conditions). I would start at the local level with a strong organizational strategy or program and the financial support of the municipality or even the state. What should be taken into consideration is the capacity of a particular

---

[144] "UNHCR Policy on Cash-Based Interventions. 2022-2026."

[145] "UNHCR Policy on Cash-Based Interventions. 2022-2026."

[146] "UNHCR Policy on Cash-Based Interventions. 2022-2026."

municipality and its capabilities to meet the COVID-19 challenge. As motivation, municipalities or states should be awarded some benefits in order to put more effort into providing help. In cases where a particular municipality has a justifiable reason not to cover all costs, the state can take on a leadership role. All of this must be supported by international organizations as the main sponsors of the strategy or program.

7.4 Right to education

There are always specific challenges in the education of migrant and refugee children. Therefore, it is necessary that school staff be aware of the particular status of children who belong to refugee, migrant, or other groups of vulnerable people. This is very meaningful in terms of including refugee and migrant children in school and their fundamental education. Inclusion in the education system can be helpful in reducing the psychosocial influence of conflicts by providing stability, safety, and hope for a better future.

"For the world's refugees, education is a source of opportunity and hope for a brighter future. Yet almost half of all refugee children are out of school, and there is a real and present danger that a generation of refugee children will be deprived of the education they need to restore their future."[147]

What needs to be kept in mind when drafting a strategy or program for the inclusion of refugee and migrant children in school is the fact that it is a heterogeneous group of children who have been out of school for a long time or even haven't attended school before. Also, it should be kept in mind that there are refugee and migrant children who have been out of school in their countries, but they were included in the educational systems of transit states or states where children have spent more time than in their country of origin. There are refugee and migrant children who have never gone to school or been included in the education system as well.

„Going to school was already a daily challenge or impossibility for many displaced children around the world. Less than half of all school-aged refugee children were enrolled, with that dropping to one in four for secondary school. More displaced children are now likely to be out of school for a prolonged period and some might never return."[148]

School staff have been facing some challenges in the process of integrating refugee and migrant children into a particular education system around the world. One of the biggest issues is a language that can make it even more difficult to communicate with other people. New languages can be an

---

[147] Save the Children, "The Price of Hope."
[148] "As COVID-19 Pandemic Continues, Forcibly Displaced Children Need More Support than Ever | UNHCR."

obstacle for refugee and migrant children in gaining new friendships and sticking with children from the same ethnic group. Besides a language, there is no room for discrimination. The children can deal with some stereotypes, negative opinions, and prejudices manifested by other peers, parents, or, in some cases, teachers. Time for adjustment plays an important role because schools should estimate and pay attention to children's capacity and competence in preparation and drafting strategies or programs.

When talking about strategies or programs for working with refugee and migrant children, there could be some difficulties mirrored in various programs in the country of origin and the host country. The school and teachers should be aware of the fact that some of the children have faced trauma; maybe they lost family or a dear person, experienced unsecure shelter, moved to a new environment, or lacked financial sources. Additionally, these elements are impacting refugee and migrant children's inclusion in education, but schools (teachers) need to know that and take appropriate measures.

"Integrating refugee children into the national education system is the most effective and sustainable way to meet their need for relevant, quality, and accredited education."[149] There is an issue because several states don't include refugees (constantly) in the domestic education system. On the other hand, most countries keep working on the adoption and implementation of national policies that will get access refugees to education. Terms for the accession should be regulated respecting guaranteed rights.

Refugee and migrant children's inclusion in education includes clearly defined and organized key activities with a clear purpose. It should be a simple and unequivocal plan dedicated to children and their basic needs, with reasonable instructions for implementation, monitoring of these actions, and estimation and assessment of their results.

The key activities that include all schools are: teacher preparation for new pupils (refugee and migrant children); preparation of all pupils in school and especially their parents (parents should be highly prepared in order to set an example for their children); peer support; promotion of intercultural values and language diversity; and strengthening relationships among families and communities. The activities have a positive impact on participants motivation and also on future steps related to refugee and migrant children's inclusion in the schooling system. These activities strive to create a comfortable atmosphere for everyone.

---

[149] Save the Children, "The Price of Hope."

Monitoring and evaluation of refugee and migrant children's inclusion in education play a crucial role in the process. On the one hand, it shows how the implications are and what schools must implement in order to benefit all children. On the other hand, monitoring can show the resources and systems necessary for supporting schools and school staff with qualitative and undisturbed work. The condition for the accomplishment of the mentioned functions is that a monitoring and assessment plan should be aligned with the school plan and program in supporting and giving access to education to refugee and migrant children.

With defined goals and activities that are implemented in schools with school staff and children, schools need to have defined indicators. The indicators should be monitored, but first there should be organized methods and tools for their monitoring, regulation of data collection, and reporting.

The monitoring and assessment process includes children, schools, and teachers. Children's monitoring and assessment enable us to understand the adjustment process of all children, test results (previously tested knowledge), and check the strategy's efficiency. In addition, it is very important for the inclusion of refugee and migrant children in different activities in school and for their improvement.

In order to collect data and analyze it ordinarily, it is necessary to organize meetings in school during the same agreed period, including school staff, with the topic of discussing monitoring (positive and negative) results. Also, one more topic for discussion can be the improvement of aspects in a field where space exists.

„Undeniably, the world has been dealt some immeasurable challenges since the last Global Refugee Forum. But the promises made in the Global Compact on Refugees still stand. At its heart, the Compact promises a programme of action – focusing on exactly how host country and donor governments and other stakeholders will improve refugees' access to quality education."[150] More important thing is the implementation in practice. Promises and statements are not strong enough to fight against the issue. It's crucial to transform words into acts.

„Delivering inclusive, safe and quality education for refugees is not just about money – but in many circumstances, a lack of financing remains the biggest bottleneck preventing this from happening."[151]

According to the previous results, refugee and migrant children have faced obstacles in education inclusion, issues with going to school, and making progress to higher education. Comparing the risk

---

[150] Save the Children.
[151] Save the Children.

between refugee and migrant children and children growing in their country, refugee and migrant children are exposed to risk more.

7.5 The child guarantee

The European Child Guarantee 'fights' against children's poverty, trying to make an improvement in their lives. The improvement refers to children's protected status, education, access to health services, child care, shelter, and food. These elements are fundamental, let's say tools, for children's protection from falling into poverty or, even worse, extreme poverty.

"The objective of the European Child Guarantee is to prevent and combat social exclusion by guaranteeing effective access of children in need to a set of key services:

- free early childhood education and care
- free education (including school-based activities and at least one healthy meal each school day)
- free healthcare
- healthy nutrition, and
- adequate housing"[152]

"While most children in the EU already have access to these services, inclusive and truly universal access is vital for ensuring equal opportunities for all children, and in particular those who experience social exclusion due to poverty or other forms of a disadvantage. In order to implement the Recommendation, the Member States have nominated their Child Guarantee Coordinators and are preparing national action plans, covering the period until 2030."[153] For children's health and education, poverty and social exclusion can play an important role in their lives. Health and education are really powerful elements in children's growth that ensure they use their full potential in the future. Poverty, together with social exclusion, makes a bad combination that has negative long-term consequences for children's lives, primarily during their growing period.

"The main purpose of the national action plans is to describe the existing and planned national and subnational policy measures, which aim to improve access of children in need to the set of key services covered by the European Child Guarantee."[154]

---

[152] "European Child Guarantee - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission," accessed September 25, 2023, https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1428&langId=en.
[153] "European Child Guarantee - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission."
[154] "European Child Guarantee - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission."

"On the request of the European Parliament, which called for a child guarantee that would help ensure that every child in Europe at risk of poverty or social exclusion has access to free healthcare, education, early childhood education and care, decent housing and adequate nutrition the European Commission designed a three-phase Preparatory Action to analyse the feasibility, financing, and implementation of such a scheme in the EU."[155]

7.6 War in Ukraine

Russia and Ukraine produce a huge amount of the world's agricultural supply. In addition, they are famous as cheap producers. According to that, their products are popular in the Near East and North Africa. It's well known that Russia and Ukraine are the biggest exporters of cereals in the world (wheat, sunflower oil, etc.).

When the Russian invasion has started, it meant that price of food will increase and in certain period (it was pretty swift) become a nightmare for customers from all around the world who are the main consumers. It may lead straight to a crisis, making the consequences more negative compared with the Corona pandemic and pushing people to the edge of extreme poverty and hunger. The war has caused high prices for food products since 2008, which can make the global problems even deeper.

"While the cost of defence can be high, the cost of war is much higher, as we're currently witnessing in Ukraine. The Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 didn't come as a total surprise to many experts given the massive build-up of Russian forces near the Ukrainian border in the previous weeks. Nevertheless, it shocked much of the world, particularly those who had convinced themselves that war is inconceivable in the modern world because the human and financial cost is so great that no rational leader would deliberately impose it."[156]

Poverty is created as a result or consequence of a big social crisis. Modern society has faced two issues that have caused an increase in the number of poor people. After the Corona pandemic, the world still needs time to put things in the right place, but a new problem and challenge have arisen. The war in

---

[155] "European Child Guarantee - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission."

[156] "The Cost of War from The Cost of Defence ASPI Defence Budget Brief 2022–2023: One Hundred & Thirty-Three Million, One Hundred & Ninety-One Thousand, Seven Hundred & Eighty Dollars & Eighty-Two Cents per Day. on JSTOR," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.jstor.org/stable/fd6df4ca-ad22-3767-9b83-ff484ff28eea?searchText=&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DWar%2Bin%2BUkraine%2Band%2Bpoverty&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&searchKey=&refreqid=fastly-default%3Aed70813fb76406e176cb55b1535674b2.

Ukraine presents a huge problem for everyone in the world that lasts for a long period of time, causing more and more problems and consequences due to various factors.

The inflation of food costs and inflation in general, caused by the war in Ukraine, mostly influence poorer people in society. Poorer households have a tendency to spend their resources more on food than on other basic products. This leads to the conclusion that the poorer households may be harmed the most by the crisis, which will result in increasing extreme poverty in the world.

„The poorer a family is, the greater the proportion of their income that is committed to necessities such as food and fuel. When the costs of basic goods soar, the money available to meet other needs such as health care and education falls. The Ukraine war and subsequent cost-of-living crisis means that the poorest children are even less likely to access essential services and are more at risk of child marriage, violence, exploitation and abuse."[157]

"Daniela Bas, Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, presented the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (document A/77/176). The combined effects of the pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine are expected to lead to a net increase of 75 to 95 million people in extreme poverty by the end of 2022, compared to pre-pandemic projections. Climate change, if uncurbed, will drive up to 130 million people into poverty over the next 10 years, she added."[158]

"In its resolution 72/233, the General Assembly proclaimed the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027). It also considered that the theme of the Third Decade, to be reviewed at its seventy-third sessions, should be "Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty", in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."[159]

Speaking about Russia and Ukraine, it's well known that they are two of the most important exporters of food to countries with low incomes. People living in those states struggled with poverty before the war in Ukraine. Nowadays, that problem is much more demanding. There is a fear of an increasing

---

[157] "The Impact of the War in Ukraine and Subsequent Economic Downturn on Child Poverty in Eastern Europe | UNICEF Europe and Central Asia," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.unicef.org/eca/reports/impact-war-ukraine-and-subsequent-economic-downturn-child-poverty-eastern-europe.

[158] "Combined Effects of War in Ukraine, Pandemic Driving Millions More into Extreme Poverty, Senior United Nations Official Tells Second Committee | UN Press," accessed September 25, 2023, https://press.un.org/en/2022/gaef3571.doc.htm.

[159] "Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty 2018-2027 | Poverty Eradication," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.un.org/development/desa/socialperspectiveondevelopment/united-nations-decade-for-the-eradication-of-poverty/third.html.

number of poor and hungry people all around the world, caused by the war. There would be an issue with delivery and raising the price of food products. The UN is warning that the fifth world's population is going to fall into poverty and face numerous challenges related to hunger.

"The study sets out a framework to help reduce the number of children living in poverty and prevent more families from falling into financial distress:

- Provide universal cash benefits for children and ensure minimum income security
- Expand social assistance benefits to all families with children in need, including refugees
- Protect social spending, especially for vulnerable children and families
- Protect and support the delivery of health, nutrition, and social care services to pregnant mothers, infants, and pre-schoolers
- Introduce price regulations on basic food items for families."[160]

The Ukraine crisis and pandemic consequences affect mainly children, families with low incomes, refugees, migrants, and people who live in rural areas. All of these groups of people are impacted by the same factor and have the same consequences. Also, one thing is in common: an increasing number of people are falling into poverty and fighting against hunger in both undeveloped and developed countries.

„Data from 22 countries across the region featured in the study shows children are bearing the heaviest burden of the economic crisis caused by the war in Ukraine. While children make up 25 per cent of the population, they account for nearly 40 per cent of the additional 10.4 million people experiencing poverty this year."[161]

The war has also a negative influence on children education in Ukraine. "According to the latest survey data, up to 57 per cent of teachers report a deterioration in students' Ukrainian language abilities, up to 45 per cent of educators point to a reduction in maths skills, while 52 per cent report a reduction in foreign language abilities."[162] The statistical data shows that children have an issue to keep their education level on the same pace as before the war broke out.

Due to the war, most children couldn't go to school. "Only a third of children of primary and secondary age are learning fully in-person. Another third of enrolled students are learning through a mixed

---

[160] "The Impact of the War in Ukraine and Subsequent Economic Downturn on Child Poverty in Eastern Europe | UNICEF Europe and Central Asia."
[161] "The Impact of the War in Ukraine and Subsequent Economic Downturn on Child Poverty in Eastern Europe | UNICEF Europe and Central Asia."
[162] "Ukraine: Widespread Learning Loss Continues Due to War, COVID-19 | UN News," August 29, 2023, https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1140157.

approach of in-person and online, and one-third are fully remote."[163] This raise a question about children's access to the Internet and financial availabilities of their families in terms of providing required equipment for following school lessons.

According to the UNICEF words, even more problems exist for the Ukraine's refugee children. "For Ukraine's refugee children, there is yet more uncertainty, with more than half of children from preschool to secondary school not enrolled in national education systems across seven countries hosting refugees. Pre-schoolers and secondary-age students are the most likely to miss out. Language barriers, difficulty in accessing school, and overstretched education systems are among the contributing factors, said UNICEF."[164]

The world is trying to rescue people from poverty and eradicate the issue by 2030, but the war makes things harder. „Falling household consumption leads to greater poverty in all countries, with an additional 27.2 million people being pushed into poverty by the global crisis across the 19 countries. The majority of those that fall into poverty live in rural areas, although urban poor populations are also impacted. Consistent with the consumption result, rising food prices are an important driver of rising poverty in both rural and urban areas. Similar results are seen for food security."[165]

The Covid-19 had produced numerous issues causing negative consequences for the world's and state's economy. "Prior to the invasion, the world was focused on the health and economic challenges caused by the pandemic: reversing the severe loss of human capital and supporting the global economy amid an uneven recovery characterized by lingering supply bottlenecks; the withdrawal of policy support; and rising inflation, including for food and energy. The war has already added an immediate global adverse impact, especially through commodity markets."[166]

During the supply process, all elements should work properly in order for the customer to get his or her commodity. If one element goes off track, the whole supply chain will be endangered in terms of successful realization. We are witnessing high prices for all products today, but we don't know if the main reason for increasing prices is supply chain instability or if it presents an excuse.

---

[163] "Ukraine."

[164] "Ukraine."

[165] "Russia-Ukraine War and the Global Crisis: Impacts on Poverty and Food Security in Developing Countries on JSTOR," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.jstor.org/stable/c4934fe0-1382-390c-a2e4-1ccb166f60a3?searchText=War+in+Ukraine+and+poverty&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DWar%2Bin%2BUkraine%2Band%2Bpoverty&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3A0c0d04d13763db95c741ed802943d24b&seq=14.

[166] Justin-Damien Guénette, Philip Kenworthy, and Collette Wheeler, *Implications of the War in Ukraine for the Global Economy*, EFI Policy Note 3 (World Bank Group, 2022).

"A steep slowdown in Russia and Ukraine will affect neighboring countries through disruptions to trade, financial, and remittance flows; severance of supply chains and transport links; impacts on digital connectivity and associated services; and heightened risk perceptions by investors. Higher energy prices are having important knock-on effects on the affordability and financial viability of electricity and heating services."[167]

In a modern society, the transition to green energy is the most desirable solution for the elimination of air pollution and gaining energy independence. There are many assumptions about the transition to green energy due to insufficient production from renewable sources that can provide supply constantly. In some periods, there is a lack of wind that causes issues connected to electricity production. Because of that, the need for natural gas is higher, and coal prices are increasing, although they are harmful for the environment.

Europe has to deal with many demanding issues in order to find appropriate solutions for everyone. A migration wave from Ukraine and Russia impacted states and their economies in Europe as people sought a safe place to live.

"The wave of refugees from Ukraine will affect Central European economies. It will test their capacity to mobilize aid to meet immediate needs. The health, education, and social protection systems in some host countries already had challenges to deliver services to more remote areas and to include marginalized groups. This could impact host countries' abilities to provide basic services and impact refugees. Support will be needed for both refugees and host communities to avoid overwhelming local public services."[168]

The UN chief, Mr. Antonio Gutteres, was speaking about the Russian invasion currently happening in Ukraine. He described it as a huge tragedy where civilians died in their homes and on the streets, and cities were burned and destroyed. The UN chief commented on the crisis related to migration to Europe, concluding that it's been a fast-growing crisis since World War II.

"The Russian war in Ukraine has catapulted millions into poverty worldwide, highlighting the urgent need for global cooperation to alleviate the horrors of war. The measures proposed by the UNDP have

---

[167] Justin-Damien Guénette, Philip Kenworthy, and Collette Wheeler.
[168] Justin-Damien Guénette, Philip Kenworthy, and Collette Wheeler.

the potential to bring stability and improve the living conditions of millions affected by the war-induced food and energy crisis."[169]

The UN chief mentioned that Russia plays the most important role in natural gas and oil exports. Hereto, the war is making problems for farmers in terms of cultivating their lands, which impacts the supply chain and causes a swift increase in food product prices, he commented. Also, the corona pandemic consequences are still present among people in all parts of the world, adding to the current inflation that poses a huge challenge to deal with.

Mr. Gutteres has openly invited states to keep their markets open and to help others who indeed need help in these situations. It is important not to collect products only for them and not to put limitations on export. The purpose is to provide basic needs to countries that can't survive a crisis. Otherwise, some countries would face extreme poverty and hunger.

In these extremely difficult times, the G20 and the international financial institutions should find a solution to make room for additional financial support to strengthen governments in developed countries. In this way, stronger governments in developed countries would be able to support and help the rest of the world overcome obstacles.

"The position of the United Nations, which I have consistently expressed, is crystal clear: Russia's invasion of Ukraine is a violation of the UN Charter and international law", declared the Secretary-General of the UN. Also, Mr. Antonio Gutteres said the UN is going to keep working hard on reducing the influence of a war "which has caused enormous suffering for the Ukrainian people – with profound global implications."[170]

People are already struggling and fighting against poverty and a lack of food around the world. It was caused by many various elements, but nowadays one of those elements is stepping forward: it's the climate change.

8. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

---

[169] Naida Jahic, "The Effect of The Russian War in Ukraine on Poverty," *The Borgen Project* (blog), June 8, 2023, https://borgenproject.org/the-russian-war-in-ukraine/.

[170] "In Ukraine, Guterres Pledges to Keep Seeking 'Solutions and a Just Peace' | UN News," March 8, 2023, https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/03/1134322.

"Around the world, people are experiencing both the subtle and stark effects of climate change. Gradually shifting weather patterns, rising sea levels and more extreme weather events are devastating evidence of both a rapidly changing climate and an urgent need for solutions."[171]

Climate change is a crucial element of the thesis topic, which has a holistic approach connected to poverty. Climate change is a phenomenon that has no limitations in terms of its action and influence in all parts of the world. It's a fact that the impact will not be the same in each part; some parts will be hit harder or harder, and this problem needs cooperation among states in order to be solved.

„Extreme weather patterns, natural hazards and food and water shortages are threatening the lives of people living in poverty and, the poorer people are, the harder it is to recover from failed harvests, destroyed homes, and health crises."[172]

Geographical position of (poor) countries is extremely important. Some countries are located in particular areas with unsuitable climate (high temperature, amount of rainfall, soil fertility). Good or bad geographical position can be preconditions for countries to be or become poor. Also, some scholars feel that people who live in poor countries can be negatively impacted by increasing of temperature. "Climate change places compounded stress on our environment, as well as the economic, social and political systems people depend on for food, safety and income."[173]

Living in areas with unsuitable climates, people are dealing with weather conditions that are not convenient for less developed countries. If we take into consideration the fact that people do agriculture for a living, weather conditions are meaningful components of a decent life.

"Climate change not only hits people living in poverty the hardest, it can further extend the gap between rich and poor. Families who don't have savings and are already fighting to make ends meet are disproportionally disadvantaged when drought, floods or storms kill their crops or their livestock. They may be forced to sell what they have at whatever price they can get, while those with financial security are positioned to profit in a crisis."[174]

---

[171] "How Climate Change Affects Poverty | Mercy Corps," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.mercycorps.org/blog/climate-change-poverty.

[172] "Climate Change and Poverty | ActionAid UK," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.actionaid.org.uk/our-work/emergencies-disasters-humanitarian-response/climate-change-and-poverty.

[173] "How Climate Change Affects Poverty | Mercy Corps."

[174] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.wvi.org/stories/child-sponsorship/10-facts-about-climate-change-and-poverty.

Comparing the structures of rich and poor countries, there is an obvious difference. Namely, undeveloped states are more impacted by climate change. As a result, cultivating land and using natural ecosystems will be endangered.

"Richer countries tend to have the resources and networks to adapt to the changing climate, and more resilient infrastructure (such as water systems and housing) to cope with erratic weather events and disasters. While poorer countries almost always have fewer resources and weaker infrastructure, making them more vulnerable to the effects of climate change."[175]

Poor countries, due to a mix of various factors, are more exposed to climate change influence, and they will be hit more than wealthier countries.

"The world's poorest communities often live on the most fragile land, and they are often politically, socially, and economically marginalized, making them especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change," said Christina Chan, director of the World Resource Institute's Climate Resilience Practice, for Global Citizen in 2020. "More frequent and intense storms, flooding, drought, and changes in rainfall patterns are already impacting these communities, making it difficult for them to secure decent livelihoods."[176]

"The negative impacts of climate change are felt more severely by low income countries and people living in poverty. That's because they tend to depend on natural resources for their day-to-day survival, and they have limited capacity to cope with the extremes climate change brings. Globally, 75% of people living in poverty in rural areas count on natural resources such as forests, lakes and oceans for their livelihoods – so they are on the frontlines of more frequent bushfires, droughts, cyclones and other disasters driven by climate change."[177]

Scientists stated that the world is facing a huge problem that requires serious attention and concrete actions in order to reduce climate change influence and its consequences.

The United Nations has created the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) as a body estimating the science in order to find solutions for reducing climate change impact. „Created in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the objective of the IPCC is to provide governments at all levels with scientific

[175] "Climate Change and Poverty | ActionAid UK."
[176] "Why Climate Change and Poverty Are Inextricably Linked," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/climate-change-is-connected-to-poverty/.
[177] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."

information that they can use to develop climate policies."[178] The IPCC reports present the most important part of international climate change negotiations.

The IPCC reports that global warming could be out of control soon. It means that the world will keep seeking appropriate answers related to climate change in the following years. The IPCC reports are grounded in tons of scientific work, providing comprehensive analysis and detail about climate change's influence and consequences around the world.

Phillip Alston, the United Nations' special rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, in middle of 2019 warmed the world saying that "Humanity will soon be living in a "climate apartheid" unless dramatic actions are taken to curb climate change."[179]

The term `apartheid`, in this case, refers to climate change and the division of the world's states into poor and rich. Mainly, wealthy states emit harmful emissions into the air that have negative consequences for all countries in the world. Unfortunately, poor (undeveloped) countries are struggling with actionable solutions. Because of that, the consequences last longer due to the lack of tools, mechanisms, and financial power.

"The World Bank reports that the world's 74 lowest income countries account for just one tenth of global greenhouse gases, but will be hit hardest by the impacts of climate change. Already, they have been hit by nearly eight times as many natural disasters in the last decade, compared to the 1980s."[180]

It's important to know that climate change and global warming are not the same thing. Namely, global warming refers to the increasing temperature caused by various factors (for instance, gases caused by the greenhouse effect). On the other hand, climate change means changes in climate over a long period of time, including temperature, wind, rain, and hail. To conclude, global warming is a part of climate change.

"Both war and climate change are two of the biggest causes of poverty. According to the World Bank, by the time Greta Thunberg and her generation are in their late 20s, climate change could force an additional 100 million people into extreme poverty."[181]

---

[178] "About — IPCC," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.ipcc.ch/about/.

[179] "A 'Climate Apartheid' Is Right Around the Corner, UN Warns," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/climate-apartheid-un/.

[180] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."

[181] "How the Effects of Climate Change Keep People in Poverty," Concern Worldwide, March 26, 2022, https://www.concern.net/news/climate-change-and-poverty.

The main factor causing climate change is human activity that constantly violates nature. The anthropogenic factor is a great issue arising from carelessness and negligence and producing direct and indirect consequences. We are witnessing a high level of urbanization, industrialization, forest devastation, and many other negative factors that cause long-term consequences.

"The UNFCCC entered into force on 21 March 1994. Today, it has near-universal membership. The 198 countries that have ratified the Convention are called Parties to the Convention. Preventing "dangerous" human interference with the climate system is the ultimate aim of the UNFCCC."[182]

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is an international agreement with the goal of stabilizing greenhouse gases in order to stop human negative activities. In addition, the Convention includes a transition to a low-carbon economy that should be equal to all with the availability of social justice, economic prosperity, and rights protection.

We can see the importance of climate change in the 2030 Agenda and SDG 13 in order to deal with climate change and its consequences. Also, it's important to emphasize the Paris Agreement, which calls for action in order to stop increasing the average temperature by 1.5 degrees.

"Climate change is a global emergency that goes beyond national borders. It is an issue that requires international cooperation and coordinated solutions at all levels. To tackle climate change and its negative impacts, world leaders at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris reached a breakthrough on 12 December 2015: the historic Paris Agreement."[183]

Before the Paris Agreement, the Kyoto Protocol was adopted in 1997 by the United Nations as the first legally binding international document on climate change. The protocol was seen as a base for building future cooperation in battles against gas emission reduction, but it's not been fulfilled. The distinction between the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement is a subject that their content refers to. The protocol refers to developed countries, while the agreement refers to all countries in the world. It's a global issue, and it's necessary to take action together.

The main issue with all attempts that have been made is the division of individual duties in actions on climate change. Because of that, people took it into consideration when creating the Paris Agreement

[182] "What Is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change? | UNFCCC," accessed September 25, 2023, https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/what-is-the-united-nations-framework-convention-on-climate-change.
[183] "The Paris Agreement | United Nations," accessed September 25, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/paris-agreement.

and chose a soft approach where countries make a decision about goals (in order to reduce gas emissions) voluntarily.

"The Paris Agreement is a landmark in the multilateral climate change process because, for the first time, a binding agreement brings all nations together to combat climate change and adapt to its effects."[184]

The Paris Agreement created a vision how all countries in the world can contribute to fight against climate change and help to find solutions for consequences. "The Agreement sets long-term goals to guide all nations:

- substantially reduce global greenhouse gas emissions to limit the global temperature increase in this century to 2 degrees Celsius while pursuing efforts to limit the increase even further to 1.5 degrees;
- review countries' commitments every five years;
- provide financing to developing countries to mitigate climate change, strengthen resilience and enhance abilities to adapt to climate impacts."[185]

Financial aspect is an important part in global climate politic. It contains plans how to support projects and programs for adjusting to climate change and mitigation their consequences financed by international organizations (mainly).

States all around the world, "In their NDCs, countries communicate actions they will take to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in order to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement. Countries also communicate in their NDCs actions they will take to build resilience to adapt to the impacts of climate change."[186] Unfortunately, the Nationally Determined Contributions are not mandatory, which means that countries should follow the instructions on a voluntary basis. The same rule refers to long-term strategies.

The Paris Agreement ensures (financial and capacity building) support for states that indeed need it in a battle with climate change. In addition, developed countries should provide financial support to undeveloped countries with the purpose of mitigation the consequences of climate change.

---

[184] "The Paris Agreement | UNFCCC," accessed September 25, 2023, https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement.
[185] "The Paris Agreement | United Nations."
[186] "The Paris Agreement | UNFCCC."

"In 2023, the first "global stocktake" will assess progress on Paris Agreement goals. This process will further encourage countries to take ambitious climate actions that keep warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius."[187] The global stockake is very important point in a fight against climate change and make a more efficiency plan related to reducing climate change consequences.

"The global stocktake is an ambition exercise. It's an accountability exercise. It's an acceleration exercise," said Simon Stiell, the United Nations Climate Change Executive Secretary. He also added that "It's an exercise that is intended to make sure every Party is holding up their end of the bargain, knows where they need to go next and how rapidly they need to move to fulfill the goals of the Paris Agreement."[188] The global stocktake is called `moment for course correction.

"The Commission has proposed an initiative to enshrine the EU's climate neutral objectives through a legally binding target of net zero greenhouse emissions by 2050. In April 2021, the European Parliament and Council reached a provisional agreement on the Climate Law Regulation. The Commission will also review and revise relevant policy instruments to reach emissions reductions targets for 2030."[189] It has estimated around 50% gas emission reduction of the greenhouse effect since 1990.

Reluctantly saying, the Paris Agreement hasn't made any progress in the previous years. However, there are promises given by states about reaching carbon neutrality that look so optimistic. In this case, the Agreement goal would be nearly accomplished, and by 2100, warming would be 2.1 degrees. We should not take it for granted, but promises have been given recently. States should share their ideas on how they are going to do that.

8.1 Climate change and agriculture

"According to the World Food Program (WFP), 80% of the world's hungry people live in areas prone to natural disasters and extreme weather. Increasingly frequent and severe droughts and floods impact crop production globally, reducing the availability of food and driving up prices – and again, low income countries are hit hardest. Agriculture accounts for up to a quarter of Gross Domestic Product

---

[187] "The Paris Agreement | United Nations."

[188] "Why the Global Stocktake Is a Critical Moment for Climate Action | UNFCCC," accessed September 26, 2023, https://unfccc.int/topics/global-stocktake/about-the-global-stocktake/why-the-global-stocktake-is-a-critical-moment-for-climate-action.

[189] "European Climate Law – Policies," IEA, accessed September 26, 2023, https://www.iea.org/policies/11705-european-climate-law.

(GDP) in some low income countries and more than 65% of adults living in poverty earn a living through agriculture."[190]

As it's written in previous paragraphs, agriculture depends on climate change to a large degree, such as floods, high temperatures, floods, etc. Weather disasters are the main impact on agricultural products in terms of quality and price. According to this, poor countries economies suffer more than richer countries because they are mainly focused on cultivating their lands as a primary source of income.

Talking about agriculture, it means that people live in a country where they cultivate their land and earn money for their basic needs. They will be impacted the most by climate and ecosystem changes that lead to poverty. People constantly face new challenges in rural areas and decide to move to cities with the hope of a better life. In numerous situations, it turns out that people couldn't find themselves in a new environment because of a lack of social capital and necessary skills.

„Research from 2015 revealed the planet had lost around one-third of its arable land in the previous 40 years, in large part due to climate disasters and poor conservation. And every year more trees and soil are lost."[191]

In situations where droughts are an obstacle to agriculture, irrigation systems present a solution. Planning this activity should take into consideration carefully, paying attention to the availability of water during a certain period. The problem is overcrossing the water annual minimum and increased use of water by citizens and industry. Also, people using the irrigation systems should keep in mind soil structure and quality.

"Farming techniques such as Climate-Smart Agriculture preserve vital topsoil, allowing land to recover from degradation, and better adapt to extreme weather."[192]

"Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) is a set of farming methods designed to increase the resilience and productivity of land affected by climate change. It's a new name for something that has actually been around for quite a long time. But it's now proving especially useful in some of the countries most affected by climate change."[193] It's important to emphasize that Climate Smart Agriculture isn't a

---

[190] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."
[191] "How Climate Change Affects Poverty | Mercy Corps."
[192] "How the Effects of Climate Change Keep People in Poverty."
[193] "Climate Smart Agriculture: Back to Basics to Fight Climate Change and Hunger," Concern Worldwide, February 28, 2022, https://www.concern.net/news/what-is-climate-smart-agriculture.

solution to solve the climate change problem. The CSA could be defined as a tool in order to ensure fundamental need in demanding situations.

For the success of CSA, it's necessary to have a good pre-knowledge of farmers gained from previous generations or learned from previous experience, suggestions, or results. In addition, skills are very important in the whole procedure, and well-being is a tool that is extremely meaningful. A simple and useful way of cultivating arable land can be shared with others (for instance, neighbors). Combinations of all mentioned may provide, but not guarantee, good results in the final agricultural products.

Wunder and others found that "Rural households in developing countries depend on a combination of crops, forest extraction and other income sources for their livelihoods, and that the size and composition of these livelihood contributions are sensitive to climate change."[194]

Farmers have constantly adjusted their land cultivation according to the weather, with the aim of producing a quality product in large quantities. Planning production related to climate change is very important in order to resist negative influence and ensure stability. During planning, it's necessary to consider all risks that may occur and adopt measures that contribute to keeping natural resources safe. A possible solution could be the national program for adjustment to climate change, which determines measures and their implementation.

"If climate change results in more people concentrating in less-favored areas, or increases the size of unfavourable agricultural regions, then poverty reduction could slow down, even if the aggregate rate of per capita income growth is unchanged."[195] The result is useful for measuring the influence of climate change, but it couldn't record the influence that climate change has on poverty.

8.2 Water

The best example of interconnectedness among the elements that create nature is climate change. The Domino effect may be used to describe the whole process. If we imagine the increasing level of gases caused by the greenhouse effect as the first domino, the entire array would follow the path, causing numerous consequences that couldn't be stopped.

---

[194] Wunder, S., Noack, F., & Angelsen, A., "Climate, Crops, and Forests: A Pan-Tropical Analysis of Household Income Generation | Environment and Development Economics | Cambridge Core," 2018, https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/environment-and-development-economics/article/abs/climate-crops-and-forests-a-pantropical-analysis-of-household-income-generation/471559E1C1EC2B792002A8D3BFF6CDDF.

[195] Stephane Hallegatte, Marianne Fay, and Edward B. Barbier, "Poverty and Climate Change: Introduction," *Environment and Development Economics* 23, no. 3 (June 2018): 217–33, https://doi.org/10.1017/S1355770X18000141.

Temperatures rise due to greenhouse gases; due to high temperatures, evaporation is increasing; and a warmer atmosphere could contain more aerated water. These effects change the intensity of rainfall. Changed intensity of rainfall leads to a lack of rainfall during the summer, when it's really necessary, but many rainfalls in the spring are the result of climate change and its influence on the world. Increased rainfall in the following years could cause floods. The biggest task is to ensure access to water for everyone.

"Access to water is already a major challenge for people living in poverty. Climate change has made water access even more difficult by causing more frequent droughts, increased evaporation, and changes in rainfall patterns and run-off that especially impact water availability in areas like the sub-tropics, which already experience water scarcity."[196]

In a society where climate change plays a dominant role, people need to find a way to be supported by clean water, sustainable pumps, and hygiene practices as their primary goal. Many various factors impact access to water and clean water, which raises issues for people living in conditions without the mentioned elements.

Small changes may cause issues with water sources, particularly in areas with no rain or with a very low level of rainfall, and also in areas where pollution and water demand led to water scarcity.

"The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) projected water scarcity will increase from about 1.7 billion people to around 5 billion people by 2025. While scarcity impacts a huge number of the world's poor, on the other side of the extreme, increasing rainfall and flooding events are also set to increase, with equally as damaging effect. For communities with poor infrastructure, the impact of flooding and rising sea levels can be catastrophic."[197]

High number of people are endanger by sea levels rising, especially those people who live near the ocean. In risky situations like that, sea level rising may have serious consequences. For instance, people could lose their place for living.

On the other hand, water demand is impacted by many factors. "Changes in water demand depend on many factors, including population growth, economic development, climate change, lifestyle changes, technological advances, etc. It has become increasingly clear that the pressing problems in this field

---

196 "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."
197 "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."

have to be tackled from an integrated perspective, taking into account environmental, human and technological factors as well as their interdependence."[198]

"It is very clear that climate change will affect both water availability and water demand, and therefore it is necessary to consider both together when proposing adaptation measures."[199]

Many scholars state that water management strategy could help with adjustment to increasing pressure on water sources influenced by climate changes and their consequences.

Some future predictions show that climate change is still going to negatively impact access to water, especially if human activities continue to increase and unavoidable factor, the greenhouse gases. Some of those factors can't be avoid due to their nature and characteristics, but others could be reduce, and maybe stopped, by taking appropriate actions.

It's highly important to emphasize that people have to start changing their behaviour and habits in order to prevent future consequences. Individuals can, direct or indirect, impact on access to (clean) water such as throwing garbage in water and other activities related to water pollution. Also, people awareness of plastic recycling should be increased and each water pollution should be sanctioned by mechanism that actually work in practice. I strongly believe that if all of us do just a small thing in order to protect environment, it will contribute enormously to ensure better life for all people in the world, not facing with water scarcity, hunger, or poverty.

8.3 Health

Currently, people are facing with high temperature, food shortage, water scarcity, and various diseases. Nor developed or undeveloped countries are resilient on climate change which negatively impact on health.

"According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), climate change has a direct impact on increasing illness and disease, including malnutrition from food shortages, deaths and injuries from extreme weather events, diarrhoea linked to excess or scarcity of water, and changes in temperature and rainfall may change the geographic range of vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue fever, exposing new populations to these deadly diseases. In countries with limited access to adequate

---

[198] Pahl-Wostl, C., "Transitions towards Adaptive Management of Water Facing Climate and Global Change | SpringerLink," 2007, https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11269-006-9040-4.
[199] Xiao-jun Wang et al., "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts on Water Demand," *Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change* 21, no. 1 (January 1, 2016): 81–99, https://doi.org/10.1007/s11027-014-9571-6.

health care, increased sickness, disease and injury related to climate change is expected to have dire health impacts."[200]

Studies has shown that the climate change has negative effect on human health. High temperature, together with atmosphere, causes various diseases. Also, as a consequence of a high temperature is an increased level of death, especially people who can't stand with high temperature.

Some research have shown that the world need time to recover from the Covid-19 and climate change impact. When potential solutions be implemented, there will be benefits expressed in improving public health, environmental protection, and suitable economy. It's obviously that there is no space for mistakes, a very small amount of time remains. In case that climate change crisis wouldn't be solved, the Paris Agreement would be breached and temperature would raise over (set) 1,5 degrees. Huge number of people would be exposed to diseases caused by various factors.

Around 55% death cases were connected with high temperature, mostly people over 65 in last decade. However, people life is direct and indirect influenced by climate change which is expressed through aggravation of conditions for work. It's well known that high temperature produce less motivation for workers and negatively influence on their working ability, especially for those working outside jobs. Although, working conditions are almost impossible during periods with high temperature, people need to work in order to earn salary. It's important to satisfy fundamental needs for them and their families.

"Warmer atmospheres lead to an increased amount of smog. This in turn can exacerbate respiratory issues like asthma or heart and lung diseases. The warmer a climate gets, the warmer its freshwater also becomes — leaving it more vulnerable to bacteria and other disease-causing agents that can contaminate drinking water. This can lead to sanitation issues for those who are forced to make the impossible choice between risking waterborne disease or thirst."[201]

Unfortunately, states rarely take actions on preventing climate change impact. It can be said that only particular countries drafted national, health and climate plans/programs in order to react in certain situations in a battle against climate change.

Health systems couldn't deal with climate change effects, especially undeveloped countries. Public health infrastructure, in terms of availability of health services and resources, are more sensitive to

---

[200] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty," accessed September 26, 2023, https://www.wvi.org/stories/child-sponsorship/10-facts-about-climate-change-and-poverty.

[201] "How the Effects of Climate Change Keep People in Poverty."

climate change impact. Lack of resources to get access to public health services presents a sort of poverty people are facing with.

One is for sure, the global politic need to take appropriate actions in order to adopt necessary measures in order to reduce negative effects produced by climate changes. It will be benefit for future generations to live in healthy environment with access to basic needs, out of poverty.

8.4 Displaced people

Climate change consequences may be defined as crop income loss, spreading of diseases, lack of clean water, floods danger, etc. All of the mentioned factors lead to the major issues for people in daily life which force them to move on and leave their place.

"When water dries up, communities are flooded, or food supplies or income earning options run out, desperate families are left with no other choice than to leave their homes. Climate change is causing displacement and forced migration at alarming levels. According to the WFP, extreme weather events displaced 30 million people in 2020."[202]

People, together with their families, can decide to (coercively) move to other states in order to provide and ensure food for family members. The main reason is food shortages that not much choice left.

"People may be unable to escape poverty in a sustainable way because they are affected by shocks that make it more difficult to accumulate assets. But poor people are more constrained in terms of where they live and which occupation they have, and they are therefore more likely to live in less-desirable locations (including places at risk from natural hazards or other environmental stresses) and to have less-desirable jobs and occupations (including those that expose them to risks)."[203]

Also, the Covid-19 and climate change crisis additionally confirmed the fact that the most poorest and marginalized people, such as migrants and refugee, are exposed to the corona and climate crisis consequences.

"The living conditions and lack of reliability of essential services among the displaced populations are increasing their vulnerability to the negative impacts of climate change on their life, health, and security. We recommend incorporating a mitigation and adaptation plan to climate change into

---

[202] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."
[203] Hallegatte, Fay, and Barbier, "Poverty and Climate Change."

humanitarian response plan and strategies, including raising awareness and training, in order to prepare a well-developed contingency plan that takes these factors into account."[204]

Going a little bit wider, there is a word about introducing gender equality on international level related to the climate change, with an idea to put it in the United States framework. It would mean that politics and programs in fields of agriculture, urbanization, public transport, displaced persons, etc. should reduce the factors that cause climate change and also to include gender equality. In addition, politics and programs should provide solutions on people adjustment to the changes, and, at the same time, to be equally implemented on men and women, with no making distinction.

For including gender equality in the climate change area, it's mandatory to develop legal and strategic framework, guidelines, tools and mechanisms in order to people extend their knowledge related to gender aspects; why gender equality is so important, how gender is connected to climate change, and what means implementing gender aspect into practice.

8.5 School

In modern society, there is still lack of understanding children sensitive on climate change impact. There is no pool of information regarding children struggle to deal with the climate crisis or possible actions to solve the climate change effect in order to create resilience on the impact. One the other hand, there are information on huge amount of children dropping out the schools caused by various factors which lead to (extreme) poverty.

"When families lose their incomes, their food or water sources, or are displaced from their homes, a children's educations is often the last or lower priority. Without a reliable income, parents can't always afford to send their children to school and often keep them home to help to grow food, look after livestock or earn money."[205]

Children, doesn't meter on which part of the globe they are coming from, are endanger (not on the same level, but impact is present) by the climate change impact. There is no guarantee for the children future in terms of reducing a negative climate change impact due to negligence by people in power.

One more major problem, which force children not to go to school, is water scarcity. "When water is scarce, children – who are usually responsible for collecting it – need to walk further to find it, often

---

[204] Ayman Ahmed, Nouh Saad Mohamed, Emmanuel Edwar Siddig, Talha Algaily, Suad Sulaiman, Yousif Ali, "The Impacts of Climate Change on Displaced Populations: A Call for Action - ScienceDirect," 2021, https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2667278221000547.

[205] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."

resulting in missed school, or less time for homework or play. But, this loss of education will perpetuate the cycle of poverty for those children."[206]

Poor countries should be more focused on providing good conditions for children including wealthy states that need to reduce the gas emission. Talking about this, in the world is an uneven balance between children. In developed states, children conditions are improved in area of education, food, and water, but for children, living in undeveloped countries, coming up unpredictable future with a risk to live without food, access to water or other fundamental needs as a negative result of the crisis.

"Many families will survive economic downturns brought on by decimated crops through negative coping mechanisms such as pulling their children out of school to save on fees and putting their children to work to make up for the lost income. Severe weather can also destroy or damage classrooms."[207]

Making up the lost money is mainly replaced by forcing children out of school in order to cultivate land and earn money for living. Education sacrifice presents a bad decision for children who will be uneducated. It's well known that education play a major role in children life, it's a base for the future. "A lack of education doesn't just impact an individual's future; it also affects their communities. Education can end poverty. According to UNESCO, 420 million lives could be improved if all adults completed a secondary education. The benefits of literacy alone would result in 171 million people breaking the cycle of extreme poverty."[208]

As it said, "education can end poverty". It means that undeveloped, and of course developed, countries all around the world need to concentrated their resources on children education as the primary goal to be achieved in order to ensure their future. It goes without saying that cooperation among states and international support have to be included in that process.

8.6 Adapt, recover, and help

"Not only are low income communities often hit hardest by climate change, but without strong economies, it is harder to prevent and recover from climate emergencies. Hurricanes, floods and fires are all climate related events that can cause widespread damage and wipe away years of hard fought development gains, like community infrastructure or a family's home, crops and livestock. For families, communities and countries with limited resources, recovery can be painstakingly slow, which

---

[206] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."
[207] "How the Effects of Climate Change Keep People in Poverty."
[208] "How the Effects of Climate Change Keep People in Poverty."

places families and children at increased risk of hunger and other hardship, and can further entrench poverty."[209]

For a variety of reasons, natural catastrophes can have a big influence on poverty. For instance, natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and droughts may devastate infrastructure, houses, agriculture, and revenue sources. This can result in job losses, lower income, and greater economic hardship for people who are already poor.

Natural disasters could cause a big loss related to economies. It negatively impacts a family's budget, which makes it difficult to ensure enough food, water, and other basic needs. In situations like that, people need help to survive and get out of poverty.

"Natural disasters have become more frequent and destructive. In 2019, 396 events — more than the annual average over the previous decade — affected 95 million people globally and caused $103 billion in economic losses. These damages can be nearly impossible for families living in poverty to overcome."[210] It makes a bigger gap among families, excluding many opportunities to get access. Lack of possibility to get access to basic things, on a daily basis, necessary to survive, results in extreme poverty.

Natural catastrophes can trigger humanitarian crises, resulting in population displacement and an increase in the number of refugees. This can put a burden on receiving regions' resources and infrastructure, making it harder to provide basic services like food, water, healthcare, and education. This has a disproportionate impact on the poorest and most vulnerable populations.

"The key to helping the most vulnerable deal with the effects of climate change can be found in the inextricable link between people and their environment. While taking care of the earth will reduce poverty over time, it's also imperative that poor communities build immediate resilience to the climate disasters they are experiencing with greater frequency and intensity. Life-saving disaster response is essential; so is addressing the risk of disasters before they happen."[211]

"According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), climate change is a contributing factor for the 152 million children under the age of 18 working around the world. Climate change is also one of the drivers of child marriage as desperate parents look for ways to reduce the number of mouths to

[209] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."
[210] "How Climate Change Affects Poverty | Mercy Corps."
[211] "How the Effects of Climate Change Keep People in Poverty."

feed in their household – 110 million more girls are predicted to become child brides by 2030."[212] Forcing children to get married is one more factor that characterizes poor countries. It's a way to gain benefits and avoid poverty. Society, which is doing this, needs to recover in terms of changing its mind about pushing young girls to marry at an early age. Children have to be protected in each segment of their lives without exposing them to the risk of falling into poverty.

It's well known that climate change has negative influence, in particular comes to expression in (rural) areas where people and their lives depend on agriculture as a primary source of income. Some weather disasters can make additional load to families, making huge pressure on providing fundamental needs to their families. In those situations, people are seeking appropriate solutions in order to earn money, survive, and get out of poverty.

"As climate events worsen, people are also threatened by more gradual changes, such as climbing temperatures and declining rainfall."[213]

High temperatures and declining rainfall cause harmful consequences, which the most vulnerable people are facing in order to survive. It may also lead to an increasing number of people living in poverty or extreme poverty. Any sort of help would be desirable to prevent and protect people falling into poverty.

People need time to recover from the previous and present harmful events, to recover from all consequences and seek for solutions in order to adapt newly established environment.

8.7 Climate change conclusion
In the previous parts, I was writing about climate change as a global problem that causes various consequences in different fields. The climate on Earth is not simple. Because of that, it's highly recommended to be informed and research a little bit about the global phenomenon that influences all parts of the world. It's important to know which issue we are facing in order to better understand a threat and take appropriate actions.

When people understand the effects of climate change, they should speak about it with others with the purpose of raising awareness of the phenomenon and spreading knowledge. In this way, people should pay more attention to the issue whose influence needs to be reduced.

---

[212] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."
[213] "How Climate Change Affects Poverty | Mercy Corps."

The point is to stick together in situations that endanger our lives and future generations. It should put pressure on people in power to start implementing numerous legal acts and sanctioned each person who breaches the rules.

Apart from influence on people in power, we also need to change our habits and behavior. In the previous periods, people are talking about changes in spending and the importance of personal choices as potential solutions for climate change. Namely, people need to ride bikes and walk instead of driving cars. "Transportation is a top source of greenhouse gases (GHG), so eliminating pollution from the billions of vehicles driving across the planet is essential to achieving net-zero global emissions by 2050."[214] Net-zero global emission is a high priority in the world, directed by the United Nations, which all states need to achieve.

In addition, the emission of harmful gases with the greenhouse effect influences the atmosphere, especially in past years. It should receive more attention and be given more time. It is not a problem that can be solved by one country; there is a need for the world's cooperation among states in finding a common solution.

"Climate change is a long-term process, and most of its impacts will be felt in the decades to come, and even longer. The vulnerability of populations will change over time, in response to technological changes and socioeconomic trends, such as poverty reduction and economic growth, and factors that are only partially related to climate change (for instance, the health of ecosystems, which also depends on local policies and practices)."[215] Each factor should be solved in order to reduce future climate change influence, also including factors that are partially connected to the impact.

A major part of the world's population realizes the harmful impact of fossil fuel burning and wants solutions to save their planet. "Transitioning from fossil fuels to clean energy is the key to winning the fight against climate change. Here are the most common sources of renewable energy-and one source of decidedly nonrenewable energy that often gets included (falsely) in the list."[216]

Clean energy could be a potential solution for climate change. "The move towards a de-carbonised world, driven partly by climate change science and partly by the business opportunities it offers, will need to occur sooner rather than later if an acceptable stabilisation level of atmospheric carbon dioxide

---

[214] "What Are the Solutions to Climate Change?," accessed September 26, 2023, https://www.nrdc.org/stories/what-are-solutions-climate-change#transportation.

[215] Hallegatte, Fay, and Barbier, "Poverty and Climate Change."

[216] "What Are the Solutions to Climate Change?"

is to be achieved. Government policy decisions made now will determine the sort of future world we wish our children to inherit. The renewable energy era has begun."[217]

"To achieve this, we need to end our reliance on fossil fuels and invest in alternative sources of energy that are clean, accessible, affordable, sustainable, and reliable. Renewable energy sources – which are available in abundance all around us, provided by the sun, wind, water, waste, and heat from the Earth – are replenished by nature and emit little to no greenhouse gases or pollutants into the air."[218]

"Renewable energy offers so many benefits, from cleaning the air and reducing the pollution, to lowering prices and taking us off the destructive boom-and-bust merry-go-round of fossil fuel prices",[219] Marty Spitzer said, the Director for US Climate and Renewable Energy Policy (WWF).

The UN Secretary-General stated that "It's time to stop burning our planet, and start investing in the abundant renewable energy all around us."[220]

Renewable sources account for 15% of the world's energy. According to plans, renewable sources should be included in almost all of the third world's energy. Scholars have concluded that climate change will further influence renewable sources by raising temperatures.

"Thus, risk reduction intervention in the form of mitigation and adaptation is required to minimize the impacts of climate change. Mitigation option includes understanding the present and future components of the climate system and interaction among them through coupled modeling system."[221]

"To be able to decide on a mitigation target and a suitable course of action to achieve it, policy makers need information on climate impacts for different temperatures as well as costs and adverse side-effects of mitigation measures."[222]

---

[217] R. E. H. Sims, "Renewable Energy: A Response to Climate Change," *Solar Energy*, Solar World Congress 2001, 76, no. 1 (January 1, 2004): 9–17, https://doi.org/10.1016/S0038-092X(03)00101-4.

[218] "Renewable Energy – Powering a Safer Future | United Nations," accessed September 26, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/raising-ambition/renewable-energy.

[219] "Importance of Renewable Energy in the Fight against Climate Change | Magazine Articles | WWF," World Wildlife Fund, accessed September 26, 2023, https://www.worldwildlife.org/magazine/issues/summer-2015/articles/importance-of-renewable-energy-in-the-fight-against-climate-change--3.

[220] "Renewable Energy – Powering a Safer Future | United Nations."

[221] Mukhtar Ahmed, "Introduction to Modern Climate Change. Andrew E. Dessler: Cambridge University Press, 2011, 252 Pp, ISBN-10: 0521173159," *Science of The Total Environment* 734 (September 10, 2020): 139397, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.139397.

[222] Michael Jakob and Jan Christoph Steckel, "Implications of Climate Change Mitigation for Sustainable Development," *Environmental Research Letters* 11, no. 10 (October 2016): 104010, https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/11/10/104010.

People can adjust to climate change to the extent they have, relatively to their sources. Here is the issue with poor countries because there are many deficiency which bother people in realizing the goal. In the world, there are financial support by international organizations that provide help to poor countries in their fight against climate change. Amount of financial support is still low comparing to any country needs. The biggest problems are corruption on all levels, lack of education, and (weak) communication among countries that makes an obstacle in adjustment to climate change and eradication of poverty.

"What's more, energy efficiency strategies can be applied across multiple sectors: in our power plants, electrical grids, factories, vehicles, buildings, home appliances, and more. Some of these climate-friendly strategies can be enormously complex, such as helping utility companies adopt performance-based regulation systems, in which they no longer make more money simply by selling more energy but rather by improving the services they provide."[223]

Harmful emissions caused by electricity are at a high level, but there are indications that a global transition to electricity is pending. It's important to emphasize that the USA, Germany, Great Britain, and Canada governments are constantly working on raising their share of increased electricity in the following period. In addition, the investments are also coming from the private sector. It is good to know that Amazon and Apple extend their businesses into the renewable energy field.

USA has a fast-growing source that could satisfy a small percentage of need for electricity. For instance, "Solar energy currently accounts for just under 3 percent of the electricity generated in the United States—enough to power 18 million homes—but is growing at a faster rate than any other source."[224]

"Unlike solar panels, which convert the sun's energy directly into electricity, wind turbines produce electricity more conventionally: wind turns the blades of a turbine, which spin a generator. Currently, wind accounts for just above 9 percent of U.S. electricity generation, but it, like solar, is growing fast as more states and utilities come to recognize its ability to produce 100 percent clean energy at a remarkably low cost."[225]

When talking about wind as a renewable source of energy, it can be presented as a potential solution for solving future energy crises. There is doubt about wind efficiency and level of use. The fact is that the wind is not blowing equally and constantly, but we should not underestimate its potential. Also,

---

[223] "What Are the Solutions to Climate Change?," December 13, 2022, https://www.nrdc.org/stories/what-are-solutions-climate-change.

[224] "What Are the Solutions to Climate Change?"

[225] "What Are the Solutions to Climate Change?," December 13, 2022.

the ecological contribution to the globe is enormous. Despite the increased number of renewable sources, the sun's and wind's production of electricity doesn't fulfill the conditions for reaching the Paris Agreement goals.

The main goal of people all around the world is to leave a better planet for future generations. If we succeed, our inheritors will enjoy a healthy environment, a developed and justifiable society, freedom from poverty, and many other possibilities that characterize modern society.

In the words of Nelson Mandela, "Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice."[226] Nelson Mandela, the former president of South Africa and a human rights activist, was well aware of the issue of global poverty. He believed that poverty was unjust and that steps needed to be taken to reduce it. In addition, he advocated for social justice, equality, and access to basic needs for all individuals, regardless of their economic situation. His struggle for freedom and equality in South Africa was closely intertwined with the issues of poverty and inequality.

---

[226] "10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty."

9. SOLUTIONS FOR POVERTY ERADICATION

The global goal is to reduce number of man, woman, and children who are facing with poverty (according to the world's and national's definitions of poverty) for 50% until 2030. It means that, until that year, states need to provide and ensure national systems and adequate safeguards in order to reach a desirable result.

In the next years, it's necessary to secure that poor people and vulnerable groups have access to the same rights and economic resources, to be equal with others. What it actually means is property, control over land, inheritance, access to education and health services, clean water, new technology, and financial services including microfinance.

The UN explains that „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."[227]

With a strong desire, the goal is to strive to increase the resilience of people living in poverty in those situations where people are endangered, with the purpose of reducing climate conditions, social, and ecological catastrophe exposure. Meaningful action is mirrored in ensuring mobilization of resources from various sources, improve cooperation with undeveloped countries to support and help them in order to eradicate poverty. In addition, creation of strong framework for the implementation international plans (to help undeveloped countries) on local, national, regional, and global level, based on strategies which refers to taking actions for the poverty eradication.

The poverty issue is typical for both developed and undeveloped states with increasing number of developed countries that are exposed to fight against poverty. Therefore, researching in this field is understandable because a huge number of people are on the poverty edge. These researches are conducting in order to reduce or eradicate number of poor people.

The constantly problem that has been appearing during the poverty research, is definition of poverty and different way to address the issue. Primarily, this is manifesting through different sources depends on data feeders. Defining the term poverty in different ways, requires different approach to the term

---

[227] United Nations, "Ending Poverty," United Nations (United Nations), accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/ending-poverty.

and different way to measure appearance of poverty in a manner to create and adjust methodology for poverty researching, e.g. find an answer on need for a standardized instrument for data collecting. The standardized instruments could show data on different levels, on different territories, and compare with other results, for instance with results in the neighbor countries or region.

Analyzing literature that I used and a small number of the poverty researching results that are available, it's clear that the authors defined the term poverty in different ways and used various indicators to measure poverty in the world, among people. Many scholars have stated that poverty should not be presented as statistic data, it's not powerful enough (as we saw). The idea is to be in front of the people in power eyes and face them with reality. The world's governments can't take any actions without valid data that provide a real state of poverty and mechanism to fight against it.

Mentioning poverty measure, the World Bank is using a quality system to measure poverty based on demographic and health surveys conducted with the purpose to involve a wide range of poverty term. It showed as a good example in practice. Poverty is measured by quantitative methods which show poverty in numbers, actually present number of people or percentage who living in poverty or extreme poverty. Using quantitative methods for poverty measuring, leads to unclear or hard to understand process and interconnectedness, but it's useful for comparing data in different periods and areas. Because of that, it should be used both, quantitative and qualitative methods in order to avoid their weaknesses and use only advantages.

Analyzing particular sources related to poverty in the world, it could be notice pros and cons. There are statistic data which should be used as a ground for research planning to combine qualitative and quantitative methods. It's well known which basic factors impact on poverty, but it's necessary to conduct deeper research on person's life who are socially endanger. This should provide more information on poverty causes and consequences, and social exclusion. Following a dynamic pace and changes of poverty, should be directive for future researching.

Reading the materials that is used for thesis, the authors are trying to explain that poverty doesn't only mean lack of money, in terms of individual and household income, to fully or barely satisfy fundamental needs, it refers to many other aspects. It's easily concluded that poverty is a wide range topic that is caused by various factors and expose people to unfair life. Poverty is caused by various factors, impacting different states in similar way.

"One of the main causes of poverty is inequality. The systemic barriers that lead to groups of people going without representation in their communities leaves them further behind in terms of resources

and opportunity. In order for a community, or even a country, to alleviate poverty, *all* groups and identities must be involved in creating solutions."[228]

Addressing both poverty and inequality often requires a combination of policies and measures. This may include progressive taxation, social safety nets, access to quality education and healthcare, labor market reforms, and initiatives aimed at promoting economic mobility and reducing discrimination. Reducing inequality can help prevent the perpetuation of poverty and promote a more equitable society.

"One of the main causes of extreme poverty is marginalization - the systemic barriers that lead to groups of people going without representation in their communities. In order for a community or country to work its way out of poverty, all groups must be involved in the decision-making process - especially when it comes to having a say in the things that determine your place in society."[229]

Marginalization is a large problem that need to be cut in order to build system equal for everyone. In addition, people should make their voice hear regarding opinion what it's necessary to be changed and removing risks they are dealing with.

Breaking the cycle of poverty and marginalization often requires addressing both economic and social factors. This can involve implementing policies and initiatives aimed at reducing discrimination, improving access to education and healthcare, promoting economic empowerment, and creating opportunities for marginalized groups to participate fully in society. Additionally, fostering inclusivity and diversity in all aspects of society is crucial for addressing the interconnected issues of poverty and marginalization.

"Poverty is most likely to occur when there is a high combination of marginalization and risk - with risk being its own combination of a person or group's level of vulnerability and the hazards they face."[230]

Poverty could be described through inequality (in terms of education, access to health, gender, social status, age, etc.) and risk (referring to hazards and vulnerability). Practically, if the (listed) problems are solved, poverty will not occur. Theoretically speaking, it's a quite simple thing, but in practice it's a demanding process.

---

[228] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us To 2030 | Concern Worldwide," accessed September 30, 2023, https://concernusa.org/news/solutions-to-poverty/.
[229] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us to 2030 - World | ReliefWeb," September 7, 2021, https://reliefweb.int/report/world/solutions-poverty-get-us-2030.
[230] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us to 2030 - World | ReliefWeb."

The former president of the World Bank Group, Jim Yong Kim, stated that it's possible to achieve SDG 1 until 2030, under the condition that the world's leaders and financial institutions for development take appropriate actions.

The world's leaders and financial institutions for development should put efforts in order to ensure achieving eradication of poverty. From the previous goals, it could be noticed that countries were obliged to reduce poverty, but now, they need to eradicate poverty. The Millennium Development Goals didn't accomplish the mission, the 2030 Agenda has even more demanding goal to reach.

The UN General Assembly adopted the resolution in 1992 and proclaimed the International Day of the Eradication of Poverty on 17th October. "The observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty can be traced back to 17 October 1987. On that day, over a hundred thousand people gathered at the Trocadéro in Paris, where the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was signed in 1948, to honour the victims of extreme poverty, violence and hunger."[231] Poverty is characterized as a violation of human rights and the need to stick together to ensure that the fundamental rights are implemented into practice. "These convictions are inscribed on a commemorative stone unveiled that day. Since then, people of all backgrounds, beliefs and social origins have gathered every year on October 17th to renew their commitment and show their solidarity with the poor."[232]

Various non-governmental organizations and humanitarian groups observe this day by urging the world's government leaders to prioritize the fight for the eradication of poverty in their activities. It's a good way to constantly keep in mind the importance of the poverty issue that the world's population is facing with.

"'Cooperation for development' is a policy that aims to support development and the eradication of poverty. The development cooperation policy has a bilateral nature, being shaped by the donors of development aid and the beneficiaries, i.e. recipients of aid. States, international organisations and private entities can become donors of aid."[233] It's well know that the United nations are the major organization that ensure international actions to eradicate poverty. Apart from that, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development has a huge influence on collecting aid donors with powerful support and help, assisting by its Development Assistance Committee.

---

231 "Ending Poverty | United Nations," accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/ending-poverty.

232 "Ending Poverty | United Nations."

233 Katarzyna Cichos et al., "A Framework of Policies to Combat Poverty," in *SDG1 – No Poverty*, Concise Guides to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Emerald Publishing Limited, 2018), 31–50, https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-78769-625-920181006.

The United Nations has specialize institutions that are assisting and supporting in halting poverty. "The most important is the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The UNDP is the lead UN development agency responsible for national development which works in 170 countries and territories. It outlined its vision in the Strategic Plan 2014–2017, which is focused on helping countries achieve the simultaneous eradication of poverty and significant reduction in inequality and exclusion."[234] The UNDP has very important role and its mission is widespread in a lot of countries with the purpose of giving support and guidelines on how to implement goals into practice. They are doing great job, making a huge progress in particular states, but still not a level that is desirable.

Implementation strategies for eradication of poverty should be coordinated by certain organizations on various levels. "This organisation could be responsible for preparing regional or local strategies for the eradication of poverty with cooperation from representatives from the donors' countries and recipient regions. Such an organisation could also coordinate all donor activity related to poverty elimination. It would also be responsible for preparing the (annual) reports of all development activities in their region and making its evaluation according to accepted and standardised control/complaint mechanisms."[235] Reports are meaningful in the whole process because they are presenting a real state in practice and showing a potential space for the enhancement of poverty eradication.

"Global frameworks for the eradication of poverty should, therefore, be supplemented with action to help provide or assist already established local authorities. However, the most important factor seems to be empowerment of local authorities (by giving them legal rights to decide about such issues as education, health care or infrastructure), access to resources that can be used by them, and an obligation to involve the local community in all financed projects and programmes."[236]

Efforts to eradicate poverty on a global scale have been a central focus of international organizations, governments, and non-governmental entities for many years. Several key global frameworks and initiatives have been established to address poverty and promote sustainable development.

---

[234] Cichos et al.

[235] Katarzyna Cichos et al., "New Horizons for the Eradication of Poverty – Recommendations," in *SDG1 – No Poverty*, Concise Guides to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Emerald Publishing Limited, 2018), 91–100, https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-78769-625-920181009.

[236] Cichos et al.

"Unfulfilled commitments by those with the power and resources to act, not only adversely affect the lives, health, and lifetime opportunities of the target beneficiaries, but also undermine trust and confidence in any future pledges, plans, and programmes."[237]

In premodern societies, the survival of generations of impoverished individuals was intricately tied to the existing inequalities within those societies. This connection was facilitated through various expressions of "sorrowful compassion," which emanated from genuine empathy and sympathy. The less fortunate individuals were integrated into the established social hierarchy, and their well-being depended largely on the goodwill of the affluent. The wealthy had a direct influence on the livelihoods of the impoverished; their actions could significantly impact the destitute.

Offering alms or charitable assistance was fundamentally linked to social power dynamics. Providing aid inherently implied a certain degree of authority or influence. This relationship between the giver and the receiver of aid was an inherent characteristic of philanthropy during that era.

Within the concept of social exclusion, the notion that poverty can be a relative or subjective concept is lost. This concept operates on the assumption that wealth is an absolute and objective measure, while poverty is contingent on context and subject to varying perceptions.

When the impoverished appropriately adhere to the principle of social inclusion, they have the potential to enhance their material well-being and become "wealthier." There exists an objective and historically grounded notion that poverty can be significantly reduced or eradicated.

However, it is important to note that the modern myth (or idea) of the end of history often serves as a form of self-assurance and optimism. This myth (or idea) suggests that society is approaching a state of perfection and that poverty will be overcome. This idea is often a product of an era that believes in continuous progress and views the present as a precursor to a better future.

In sum, the myth (or idea) of the end of history can be understood as a form of self-comfort stemming from the aspiration to perceive the present as a pivotal moment in history, with the hope that poverty and other societal challenges will be overcome in the near future.

---

[237] "Sustainable Development Goals Summit 2023 and the Global Pledge on Disability-Focused Early Childhood Development - The Lancet Global Health," accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(23)00178-X/fulltext.

9.1 Hunger and thirst

Hunger and poverty are intertwined worldwide challenges that have a significant influence on one another. Hunger and poverty have a complicated and mutually reinforcing relationship, with hunger worsening poverty and poverty contributing to hunger in many ways.

Hunger frequently leads to malnutrition, which has serious health repercussions, especially for children. Malnourished people are more prone to sickness, have decreased immunity, and may experience physical and cognitive deficits. These health issues might make it difficult for them to work, go to school, or participate in economic activities, locking them in a cycle of poverty. Chronic hunger and malnutrition can lead to reduced physical and cognitive abilities, making it difficult for individuals to engage in productive work. This can result in lower incomes and economic stagnation for individuals and their communities.

Poverty often leads to food insecurity, where individuals and families do not have reliable access to nutritious and sufficient food. This can perpetuate the cycle of hunger and malnutrition, further exacerbating poverty. Therefore, hunger can lead to economic vulnerability, as individuals may resort to borrowing money at high interest rates, selling productive assets, or engaging in risky activities to secure food or income. These coping strategies can push them deeper into poverty.

One more thing, hunger and poverty have far-reaching consequences for the global economy. Poverty in emerging nations may stifle economic progress and trade possibilities, jeopardizing global stability and prosperity.

"One explanation for why progress on ending global hunger is slow is that efforts to address hunger typically tend to focus on responding to famine and food crisis situations and are not integrated more proactively into development programs."[238]

"After hitting its lowest ever recorded number in 2014 at 784 million, global hunger rose for the third consecutive year and in 2017 affected 821 million people or 11 percent of the world's population."[239] Global hunger and poverty are characterized by their interconnectedness attempting to reduce number of people who are seeking for solutions. One of the roots of poverty is hunger which means that finding solutions to eradicate poverty lays in finding solutions to reduce hunger and help people to survive. Regarding statistic data, a huge number of people don't have or barely have food to eat, one meal per

[238] "Ending Hunger to End Poverty, Ending Poverty to End Hunger," October 22, 2018, https://blogs.worldbank.org/developmenttalk/ending-hunger-end-poverty-ending-poverty-end-hunger.
[239] "Ending Hunger to End Poverty, Ending Poverty to End Hunger."

day. Crushing results may fell us more sensitive and eager to help others and maybe make a certain plan or program useful for creating society without hunger and poverty.

A life example of struggling with a clean water is related to the major part of the world's population, especially women in a particular part. "What's more, improving access to clean water can mean that those who live in rural communities. If you go back to our first point on inequality, you might be able to guess that water is a women's issue. Current estimates suggest that women and girls collectively spend 200 million hours every day walking long distances to fetch water."[240] Generally speaking, who can imagine those numbers steps? We would ask is it possible today? Unfortunately, the answer is absolutely possible. Facing with facts that not occur in front of our eyes doesn't mean it not exist. This is a battle every day and you don't have any other solutions for the access to clean water in order to survive. When a person is aware of that, nothing is too far.

"Simply eating three meals a day and getting a healthy amount of calories and nutrients can go a long way to addressing the cycle of poverty. When a person doesn't have enough to eat, they lack the strength and energy needed to work. Contaminated water can lead to debilitating illnesses."[241]

Creating solutions together refers to no distinction in terms of gender, race, nationality, etc. In modern society, there are still discriminatory influence on women, putting them in a subordination position. Good statement made by the former FAO Director-General, José Graziano da Silva, in 2016: "Women are the backbone of our work in agriculture...when women have opportunities, the yields on their farms increase - also their incomes. Natural resources are better managed. Nutrition is improved. And livelihoods are more secured."[242]

Efforts to address the relationship between women and poverty often focus on promoting gender equality, enhancing access to education and healthcare, improving economic opportunities for women, and combating gender-based violence. Empowering women economically and socially is not only a matter of social justice but also a crucial strategy for reducing poverty and fostering sustainable development worldwide. International organizations, governments, and NGOs often work together to implement policies and programs aimed at addressing these issues and improving the economic status of women.

Combating hunger and poverty frequently entails a combination of methods, such as boosting access to education, healthcare, and work opportunities, as well as providing social safety nets and food

---

[240] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us To 2030 | Concern Worldwide."
[241] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us to 2030 - World | ReliefWeb."
[242] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us To 2030 | Concern Worldwide."

assistance programs. It is critical to address both hunger and poverty concurrently in order to break the cycle and create a more equal and affluent society. International organizations, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and individuals all play a part in these global efforts to address the interrelated challenges of hunger and poverty.

9.2 War

War and poverty are often closely interconnected, mutually reinforcing issues. Here are several key ways in which war and poverty are interlinked:

1. Infrastructure Devastation: Armed conflicts frequently result in the extensive damage of fundamental infrastructure elements, including roads, bridges, educational institutions, medical facilities, and industrial plants. This disruption impedes economic activities and disrupts the ability of individuals to maintain normal livelihoods. The repercussions of infrastructure destruction can be enduring and hinder economic recovery.

2. Employment Disruption: Wars can instigate a significant loss of employment opportunities due to the destruction of businesses and a decrease in economic engagement. Those who experience job displacement face the challenges of poverty and the difficulty of meeting their essential requirements.

3. Forced Displacement and Refugee Crises: Armed conflicts typically trigger substantial population displacement and generate crises involving refugees. Individuals fleeing regions afflicted by conflict often forfeit their homes and livelihoods, placing them in precarious circumstances that frequently lead to impoverishment.

4. Escalating Cost of Living: Amidst armed conflicts, the prices of essential commodities like food and potable water often witness escalation. This added financial burden exacerbates the struggles of impoverished individuals, rendering it more challenging for them to satisfy their primary needs.

5. Constrained Access to Education and Healthcare: Wars have the potential to curtail access to educational and healthcare resources. These restrictions may yield long-term repercussions, including diminished employment prospects and economic advancement.

6. Prolonged Effects: Armed conflicts typically yield enduring implications for a nation's economic development. The destruction of capital, depletion of human resources, and erosion of social cohesion can impede progress and contribute to protracted poverty.

7. Cyclic Relationship between Violence and Poverty: Poverty can provide a fertile environment for the exacerbation of violence and conflict, and, conversely, conflicts can deepen poverty

levels. This dynamic engenders a vicious cycle characterized by a reciprocal relationship between violence and impoverishment.

Generally speaking, war is a bad thing that can happen and influence others. It is not solution for any problem nor excuse for taken action. It produces a lot of consequences that require a long period to recover from. Also, a lot of money (unknown precisely amount) has been spent in order to finance armed conflicts. „Public understanding of the budgetary costs of war is further limited by secrecy, faulty accounting and the deferral of current costs.“[243] This kind of data will never be showed in public.

"No war means that budgets allocated to cover the cost of conflict can be used to deliver public services. It also reduces risks faced by the most vulnerable communities, and ensures that goals towards equality and inclusion can be maintained."[244]

We are living in the world where almost 10% of population is dealing to ensure fundamental needs. Unfortunately, many children are included in this percentage. The world's leaders can explain money spent in the war, but they haven't found solution (funds) to eradicate poverty. Yes, there are many financial programs, help, donors, etc. but it's not enough. There are still millions of people who don't have elementary things. War isn't solution for any problem, it makes poor people struggle more difficult in order to survive.

Many countries in the world are rapidly reach a high level of poverty caused by war, Syria is example of that. "We've seen this play out time and again: While estimates around data for the country vary, Syria's poverty rate has increased from approximately 12% in 2007 to 83% in 2019. Conversely, in Nepal, a decade-long civil war came to a close in 2006, which correlates with a sharp increase in gross national income (GNI) and gross domestic product (GDP) year over year."[245] There is, obviously, raised poverty rate which is a negative factor for one state to deal with it.

The Watson Institute has disclosed interesting information on the USA spending money in wars. "Through Fiscal Year 2022, the United States federal government has spent and obligated $8 trillion dollars on the post-9/11 wars in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq and elsewhere. This figure includes: direct Congressional war appropriations; war-related increases to the Pentagon base budget;

---

[243] "Economic Costs | Costs of War," accessed September 30, 2023, https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/economic.
[244] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us to 2030 - World | ReliefWeb."
[245] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us to 2030 - World | ReliefWeb."

veterans care and disability; increases in the homeland security budget; interest payments on direct war borrowing; foreign assistance spending; and estimated future obligations for veterans' care."[246] The point is to make clear that amount of money would help people to get out of poverty and live a decent life.

The most recent example is the war in Ukraine. "The invasion and Western sanctions on Russia led to steep rises in the prices of fertiliser, wheat, metals and energy, fuelling an inflationary wave and a global food crisis. Russia is the world's second largest oil exporter after Saudi Arabia and the world's biggest exporter of natural gas, wheat, nitrogen fertiliser and palladium."[247] In addition, the war caused high oil price that people don't remember since 2008.

"Furthermore, different actors have different time discount factors, which determine, e.g., the extent to which a war can be debt financed, and different attitudes towards risk, which impact whether a war with for example uncertain economic gains should be initiated."[248]

9.3 Education

One of the most important tools in fight against poverty is education. Access to education provides a lot of benefits fundamental for future steps. "Some of the key areas of focus for making sure that education is truly for all involve breaking down the barriers to education: creating access to school in remote areas, supporting teachers in their work to deliver quality education, and making sure that education is available to children living in fragile contexts."[249]

Poverty often limits access to quality education. Families living in poverty may struggle to afford school fees, uniforms, textbooks, and other educational expenses. As a result, children from impoverished backgrounds may be forced to forgo education or attend poorly funded and poorly equipped schools.

Many scholars claimed that education is an elementary step to reduce a high level of poverty. In addition, it's scaring how many persons in the world are illiterate because of the lack of infrastructure, money, access to the Internet and others factors that play an important role. "According to UNESCO, if all students in low-income countries had just basic reading and writing skills (nothing else), an

[246] "Economic Costs | Costs of War."

[247] "Blood and Billions: The Cost of Russia's War in Ukraine | Reuters," accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/blood-billions-cost-russias-war-ukraine-2023-08-23/.

[248] Kjell Hausken, "Cost Benefit Analysis of War," *International Journal of Conflict Management* 27, no. 4 (January 1, 2016): 454–69, https://doi.org/10.1108/IJCMA-04-2015-0023.

[249] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us To 2030 | Concern Worldwide."

estimated 171 million people could escape extreme poverty. If all adults completed secondary education, we could cut the global poverty rate by more than half. Education develops skills and abilities, corrects some of the imbalances that come out of marginalization, and decreases both risk and vulnerability."[250]

Limited access to quality education can lead to lower educational attainment among individuals in poverty. Lower levels of education often correspond to lower earning potential in the job market, perpetuating the cycle of poverty.

"At its core, a quality education supports a child's developing social, emotional, cognitive, and communication skills. Children who attend school also gain knowledge and skills, often at a higher level than those who aren't in the classroom. They can then use these skills to earn higher incomes and build successful lives."[251] Person has future in his/her hands and decide what the best solution is for him/her. Knowledge and skills are extremely important in creating life path, it should be value more in modern society where the value system is uneven and degraded.

Education equips individuals with the skills and knowledge needed for better job opportunities. People with higher levels of education are more likely to secure well-paying jobs and escape poverty. Education is a powerful tool for poverty reduction. When individuals receive quality education, they are better equipped to secure stable employment, increase their income, and break the cycle of poverty.

For instance, inequalities that mainly impacts on poverty is gender inequality. Gender inequality in school has a negative impact on girls nor only in school, but also in their society/community. A real-story example is Afghanistan where women rights violence fundamental human rights and there is no solution so far. Remember the women protests confronting Taliban over the past years, but there haven't received any responses by international institutions yet.

"Poverty thrives in part on inequality. All types of systemic barriers (including physical ability, religion, race, and caste) serve as compound interest against a marginalization that already accrues most for those living in extreme poverty. Education is a basic human right for all, and - when tailored to the unique needs of marginalized communities - can be used as a lever against some of the systemic barriers that keep certain groups of people furthest behind."[252] Human rights need to be protected into

---

[250] "Solutions to Poverty to Get Us To 2030 | Concern Worldwide."

[251] "How Does Education Affect Poverty? It Can Help End It," accessed September 30, 2023, https://concernusa.org/news/how-does-education-affect-poverty/.

[252] "How Does Education Affect Poverty?"

practice. Although, there are many international and national documents which guarantee the fundamental rights, the reality is completely different unfortunately.

To provide and ensure access to education all around the world, it's mandatory to remove obstacles making sure that children living in far areas get the access to education, give a support to teachers in their work because they are playing a crucial role in education, access to the Internet as a primary tool in rural areas where people live, deliver quality education, and ensuring school uniform and free books to all children in the world (provided by schools, municipalities, states, etc.) in order to not create a gap in terms of material status.

Personally, I strongly believe that creating a gap among children mirrored in financial capacity of a family, leaves consequences on their childhood and presents an unrealistic picture of the value system. There is no doubt that parent's role is earth-shattering in these situations, teaching and giving example to their children. If behavior and education are not grounded in the early beginning of childhood, what can we expect from children in the future?

In a modern society that we live, people are occupied by brands and money with purpose to show what they have or would have usually using social media, the major platform for sharing photos and videos. According to this, children (mostly) imagine the point of life in a completely wrong way, exposed by bunch of information that influence on them. That is one of the unwanted consequences of a fast-growing technology that absolutely impacts children.

To address the connection between poverty and education, efforts should focus on improving access to quality education for all, especially disadvantaged communities. This includes providing financial assistance, improving school infrastructure, and ensuring that schools have well-trained teachers. Education is not only a means to escape poverty but also a crucial component of broader social and economic development.

9.4 Microfinance

Microfinance can be defined as financial support for the most vulnerable people or a part of the population that doesn't have access to bank support.

Muhamed Junus, the creator of microfinance, has put his theory of microfinance into practice, where people with a small amount of money start their own businesses. This principle of financing is successfully being implemented in all parts of the globe inhabited by people who live below the poverty line. Muhamed Junus was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 2006.

„Though some negative issues especially those about over indebtedness and high interest rates are discussed as well, microfinance remains as an effective and innovative tool for reducing poverty and

income inequality. In the recent decades, the issue of poverty and inequality remains one of the major problems in the economic development field, especially in poor developing countries."[253]

Hence, comprehending the significance of innovative microfinance programs in alleviating poverty and mitigating income disparities is a matter of utmost significance for the underprivileged populations in developing nations. In these regions, the provision of financial access, such as microfinance, to the most impoverished segments appears to be a universal remedy for poverty reduction.

Certainly, we can discern the dynamics of innovation in microfinance programs from both social and economic standpoints. Socially, microfinance can benefit impoverished individuals by diminishing hurdles to credit access, thereby expanding their financial service accessibility, establishing safety nets, smoothing consumption patterns, and enhancing opportunities for women's self-employment and access to education. Economically, profit-seeking microfinance institutions assume a noteworthy role in combating both poverty and inequality. One crucial avenue for poverty alleviation lies in addressing income inequality, as income distribution can influence poverty levels by affecting economic growth.

Numerous research studies have contended that one of the foremost obstacles hindering a state's ability to reduce poverty (in the best case to eradicate) and income inequality is the limited access to financial resources for the poverty-ridden persons. Consequently, it can be asserted that microfinance emerges as an exceptionally potent instrument for facilitating pro-poor economic expansion, as it disproportionately advantages disadvantaged individuals. Microloans serve as a viable substitute for conventional financial methods, affording the poor people the chance to augment their earnings through avenues like self-employment and income-generating endeavors.

Microfinance has the potential to contribute to the reduction of income inequality by providing access to financial resources and supporting the poor in improving their economic opportunities. However, this is not a universal solution and requires careful planning and implementation to achieve the maximum positive impact on income inequality.

"The link between microfinance and income inequality still remain controversial as the true relationship has not been identified. We therefore aim to test the significance of microfinance on income inequality using cross-country and panel data set for 57 developing countries for the periods 2000–2006 and 2007–2013. The findings are useful to development agencies, governments and other

---

[253] Kamel Bel Hadj Miled, Moheddine Younsi, and Monia Landolsi, "Does Microfinance Program Innovation Reduce Income Inequality? Cross-Country and Panel Data Analysis | Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship | Full Text," 2022, https://innovation-entrepreneurship.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s13731-022-00195-7.

investors as they have important implications for the potential role of microfinance in reducing inequality at the macro level."[254]

„Using cross-country analysis data for 30 developing countries from 2013 to 2015", Ali and Ghoneim analyzed "the effect of microfinance on income inequality by including two different measures of microfinance intensity, that is, the number of active borrowers and the value of microfinance loans. Their empirical results revealed that both measures of microfinance are still too weak to reduce income inequality."[255]

Castells-Quintana and others have examined "the relationship between aid, microfinance and its effects on income inequality using a panel data set covering 87 developing countries during the period 1995–2012. The empirical evidence revealed that microfinance seems not to be a panacea for reducing income inequality."[256]

Money and microfinance are the most effective options that provide a chance to combat or even eradicate poverty. For poor people it's a way to get out from poverty through loans and other sort of financial support.

„The poor, who do not have this, might, therefore, find it difficult to get loans even when financial markets are well developed, it might worsen inequality. In these circumstances, microfinance may play an important role to benefit poor people and making more money available to low-income households."[257]

„While supplies such as food, water, and shelter may represent the conventional picture of humanitarian aid, cash empowers beneficiaries to choose their own purchases. In addition, investments promote national economies. However, cash availability should come with educational activities to make sure the funds are not spent on consumerism alone but also for savings and investments."[258]

---

[254] Bel Hadj Miled, Younsi, and Landolsi.

[255] Israa Ali Mahmoud Ali and Hebatallah Ghoneim, "The Effect of Microfinance on Income Inequality: Perspective of Developing Countries," *Journal of Economics and Management* 35 (2019): 40–62.

[256] David Castells-Quintana, Jose María Larrú, and Maricruz Lacalle-Calderón, "Aid, Microfinance and Income Inequality: A Global View," *Revista de Economía Mundial*, no. 52 (November 24, 2019), https://doi.org/10.33776/rem.v0i52.3919. [257] Bel Hadj Miled, Younsi, and Landolsi, "Does Microfinance Program Innovation Reduce Income Inequality? Cross-Country and Panel Data Analysis | Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship | Full Text."

[258] "Ten Ways to Reduce Poverty in the World," DevelopmentAid, accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.developmentaid.org/news-stream/post/150910/ten-ways-to-reduce-poverty-in-the-world.

The interconnectedness between poverty levels and economic growth is a complex and dynamic relationship. Economic growth can impact poverty levels, and conversely, the poverty level can influence a country's economic growth.

"As poverty levels remained stagnant or increased despite economic growth, it became clear that growth by itself does not reduce poverty, and macroeconomic recovery does not necessarily translate into significant social improvement. This has forced Governments and multilateral lending institutions to create or support programmes for combating poverty."[259]

Economic growth often results in increased tax revenues for the government. These additional funds can be used to invest in social programs, education, healthcare, and infrastructure, which can directly benefit impoverished communities and individuals.

In addition, economic growth, characterized by an increase in a country's overall economic output (Gross Domestic Product or GDP), can create opportunities for poverty reduction. When an economy grows, it typically generates more jobs and income-earning opportunities for its citizens. This, in turn, can lead to an improvement in living standards and a reduction in poverty rates.

Undeveloped countries and countries in transition have practices that show a space for microfinance as a source for helping people living in poverty. This sort of financial support has an essential role in creating and controlling the development of small businesses, reducing the unemployment rate, and opening new vacancies.

Apart from the financial support, there is another side of microfinance such as client consulting, education, and monitoring that presents useful things in order to help and support people who combat poverty daily.

If a summary were to be made, the interconnectedness between poverty levels and economic growth highlights the importance of addressing both issues simultaneously to achieve meaningful progress. Sustainable economic growth can be a powerful tool for reducing poverty, but targeted policies and investments are also essential to ensure that the benefits of growth reach those most in need. Likewise, reducing poverty can create conditions conducive to long-term economic growth and stability.

---

[259] THE UN, "Poverty Reduction Programmes" (The UN, n.d.), chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/rwss/docs/2010/chapter8.pdf.

CHAPTER III

10. INTERNATIONAL SUMMITS

The Sustainable Development Summit is an international gathering where leaders, politicians, and representatives of various organizations convene to discuss global sustainability issues and the achievement of sustainable development goals. "The 2023 SDG Summit will take place on 18-19 September 2023 in New York. It will mark the beginning of a new phase of accelerated progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals with high-level political guidance on transformative and accelerated actions leading up to 2030."[260]

"The SDG Summit in September must be a moment of unit to provide a renewed impetus and accelerated actions for reaching the SDGs"[261], the UN Secretary-General, Mr. Antonio Guterres stated.

One of the most significant events related to sustainable development is the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development adopted by the United Nations. Sustainable Development Summits are often organized to monitor the implementation of these goals and make progress towards their attainment. "The summit will review the global progress in implementing the SDGs, consider new challenges that arose since 2015, provide updated policy guidance, and mobilise action to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs."[262] These summits serve as a platform for the exchange of experiences, ideas, and resources among nations and organizations to enhance cooperation in achieving sustainable development goals worldwide.

"The SDG Summit marks the mid-point of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It will bring together political and thought leaders from governments, international organizations, private sector, civil society, women and youth and other stakeholders in a series of high-level meetings. They will carry out a comprehensive review of the state of the SDGs, respond to the impact of multiple and interlocking crises facing the world, and provide high-level political guidance on transformative and accelerated actions leading up to the 2030 deadline for achieving the SDGs. The SDG Summit will be chaired by the President of the General Assembly. The outcome of the Summit will be a negotiated political declaration."[263]

---

[260] "SDG Summit 2023 | United Nations," accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023.

[261] "SDG Summit 2023 | United Nations."

[262] "Sustainable Development Goals Summit 2023 and the Global Pledge on Disability-Focused Early Childhood Development - The Lancet Global Health," accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(23)00178-X/fulltext.

[263] "SDG Summit | High-Level Political Forum," accessed September 30, 2023, https://hlpf.un.org/sdg-summit.

The Sustainable Development Summits, such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit, attract diverse participants from around the world. Typically, these summits involve: state leaders and politicians; representatives of international organizations; civil society representatives; business leaders; academic experts; young leaders; and the media. The composition of participants may vary depending on the specific summit, but efforts are usually made to be as inclusive as possible to garner broad support for sustainable development goals and ensure that diverse perspectives are taken into account.

One more important tool for poverty eradication has to be mentioned. Namely, the Action Program of the World Summit for Social Development represents a key document adopted at such a summit. This program sets forth guidelines and actionable steps for achieving social development goals on a global scale. The Action Program of the World Summit for Social Development establishes ambitious objectives in the realm of social development, including poverty reduction, educational enhancement, ensuring access to healthcare, promoting gender equality, and combating discrimination.

The World Summit for Social Development Programme of Action (Chapter 2) prescribed "Among people living in poverty, gender disparities are marked, especially in the increase in female-maintained households. With increasing population, the numbers of youth living in poverty will increase significantly. Therefore, specific measures are needed to address the juvenilization and feminization of poverty."[264]

The program of action highlights the need for inclusive societies that provide equal opportunities and access to all citizens, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, or physical abilities.

"At the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD), held in March 1995 in Copenhagen, Governments reached a new consensus on the need to put people at the centre of development. The Social Summit was the largest gathering ever of world leaders at that time. It pledged to make the conquest of poverty, the goal of full employment and the fostering of social integration overriding objectives of development."[265] The Action Program of the World Summit for Social Development is periodically reviewed and updated to reflect changing circumstances and challenges. This is a general overview, and each specific summit may have its own unique action program with specific focuses and priorities.

---

[264] "Agreements of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen 1995," accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/wssd/text-version/agreements/poach2.htm.
[265] "World Summit for Social Development 1995 | DISD," accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/world-summit-for-social-development-1995.html.

Five years later, the UN General Assembly organized the session in Geneva in order to check the progress and consider new initiations. "The United Nations General Assembly convened a special session in Geneva in June-July 2000 to assess the achievements made at the Social Summit of Copenhagen and to discuss new initiatives. Reducing poverty, promoting job growth, and ensuring the participation of all people in the decision-making process were the main objectives of the agreement. To achieve these goals, countries endorsed actions to ensure improved education and health, including in times of financial crisis."[266] During this conference, various aspects of social development might have been addressed, including issues such as poverty reduction, employment, education, and healthcare. The conference could have provided an opportunity to review the progress made and discuss the challenges that countries faced in achieving social development goals.

Poverty was a prominent topic on the agenda of international conferences and discussions held in the year 2000, including those that took place in Geneva. During this period, global poverty reduction and the alleviation of extreme poverty were significant concerns within the international community. The year 2000 marked a pivotal moment in efforts to address poverty due to the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the establishment of the Millennium Development Goals. The fifth anniversary of the Copenhagen Summit, but the goal hasn't been reached, although the goal of reducing poverty was listed as international and national task number one.

The international community recognized the importance of addressing poverty as a key component of achieving broader social and economic development goals, and this was reflected in the topics and discussions at conferences during that time.

11. ACTORS INVOLVED IN THE DESIGN AND ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGs

This title is, with purpose, put at the end of the thesis. Personally, I strongly believe that actors are contributing the most to SDG efficiency. They present a strong pillar, demanding a lot of work to be done in order to reach the goals.

"Unlike the MDGs, the SDGs were developed in a more collaborative and inclusive manner. As was noted in Chapter 1, while the MDGs focused on the role of states, the SDGs were expanded to include the collaboration of civil society groups and the private sector. Civil society groups, the private sector,

---

[266] "Social Summit +5 | DISD," accessed September 30, 2023, https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/social-summit-5.html.

multilateral banks, and institutions, as well as traditional and nontraditional donors, were part and parcel of the design of the SDGs, have an important role to play in the implementation of initiatives that are meant to achieve the SDGs, and are an important part of the accountability mechanism related to SDG issues."[267] It's important to mention also the United Nations, International Financial Institutions, International Civil Society, International Private Sector, Governments and other Multinational Institutions as crucial actors in creating and reaching the goals.

---

[267] Nadini Persaud and Ruby Dagher, *The Role of Monitoring and Evaluation in the UN 2030 SDGs Agenda* (Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2021), https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-70213-7.

Figure 10

Actors are important in achieving the SDGs because they bring diverse resources, expertise, and perspectives to the complex and multifaceted challenges addressed by the goals.

The SDGs address a wide range of complex and interconnected global challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, health, education, and more. These challenges can't be solved by a single entity or approach. Multiple actors are needed to bring diverse perspectives, resources, and expertise to the table. The SDGs are global in nature and apply to all countries, regardless of their level of development. To ensure progress, cooperation is needed at international, national, and local levels.

Achieving the SDGs requires substantial financial and non-financial resources. Governments, international organizations, and financial institutions can provide funding, grants, and investments to support projects and initiatives aligned with the goals. National governments are responsible for developing policies and strategies to align with the SDGs. They can enact laws, regulations, and programs to advance sustainable development. Effective implementation often requires collaboration with other stakeholders.

Civil society organizations, the media, and individuals help raise awareness about the SDGs, advocate for their importance, and hold governments and organizations accountable for their commitments. I would emphasize the public pressure that can drive action. In addition, many SDGs are best achieved through local efforts and community engagement. Local governments, NGOs, and grassroots organizations are essential for implementing solutions tailored to the unique needs and context of specific regions.

Businesses, both large corporations and small enterprises, have a significant impact on sustainable development. They can contribute through responsible business practices, innovation, job creation, and investment in sustainable technologies and projects. Also, universities, research centers, and think tanks provide valuable research, data, and expertise to inform policy-making and the design of evidence-based strategies for achieving the SDGs. Young people and local communities are essential actors in achieving the SDGs, as they can drive grassroots initiatives, advocate for change, and hold decision-makers accountable.

CONCLUSION

Addressing global poverty is an immensely complex challenge that demands an integrated approach and collaboration among governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. Each country can adapt its approach according to its specific circumstances and the needs of its population. It is crucial that solutions are applied in a coordinated manner, with a focus on long-term sustainable development.

Long-term sustainable development in the context of poverty entails creating conditions and systems that enable poverty reduction in a lasting and sustainable manner while simultaneously preserving the natural environment and promoting social justice. This approach recognizes that poverty is not solely a matter of low incomes but is a complex interplay of social, economic, and environmental factors. Long-term sustainable development recognizes that addressing poverty is not a short-term endeavor but rather an ongoing process that demands a comprehensive approach to both social and economic development while upholding environmental conservation and human rights. This approach aims at creating a better future for both present and future generations.

Disappointing fact is that more than 20 million children in Europe today are at risk of poverty. This risk rises to 25% in bigger households and approaches 30% in children raised by single parents. These figures have not improved in recent years, despite growing political awareness. Poverty inevitably leads to less possibilities and untapped potential, and it has a direct impact on our future. Poverty stifles personal development and has a negative impact on children's health, scholastic achievements, and overall well-being. A youngster growing up in poverty and suffering social exclusion is more likely to become a marginalized adult caught in a generational cycle. To pull children out of poverty, a multifaceted approach is required, but with the key accent on education as a solution for poverty eradication.

We are all familiar with that feeling when we are burdened with an excessive workload or when postponing a lunch break leads to a drop in blood sugar levels. These are moments when our focus narrows down to immediate deficiencies – the sandwich we must obtain right away, the meeting commencing in five minutes, or the bills to be paid tomorrow. The long-term perspective fades from view. This can be likened to a new computer running ten demanding programs simultaneously. The computer progressively slows down, starts making errors, and eventually freezes. This occurs not because the computer is inherently flawed but because it is overwhelmed by too many tasks. Similarly, impoverished individuals face the same predicament. They do not make unwise decisions because of inherent folly, but because they exist within a context where practically anyone would make such decisions to navigate their circumstances.

This pertains to an exceedingly simple concept for eradicating poverty: the provision of a guaranteed basic income. What is it? Well, it's essentially a regular monthly income, sufficient to cover fundamental needs such as food, shelter, and education. This basic income is entirely unconditional, meaning there are no requirements or obligations attached to it, and it is not contingent on any specific criteria. The basic income is not a service; rather, it is a right. There is no stigma associated with it.

Individuals should consistently engage in actions that provide support and assistance to vulnerable populations every day, rather than reserving such efforts solely for International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. By this, I am not referring exclusively to financial contributions, as governments, organizations, donors, and other entities are responsible for those aspects. Even small gestures, such as a simple "good morning," can significantly brighten someone's day. Let's begin performing acts of kindness on a daily basis, without expecting any personal benefit, but simply to bring a smile to people's faces. I believe that is the most valuable reward.

In addition, the international documents for protecting poor and vulnerable groups of people (helping them to eradicate poverty) have to be legally binding, strictly monitored at all levels, and sanctions for disrespecting the rules. It can be implemented using mechanisms, tools, action plans, and strategies for the successful accomplishment of the goals. Also, it has to take into consideration different states' positions, capacities, and needs in order to satisfy various requirements.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships, such as the Global Compact and the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, bring together governments, businesses, and civil society to collaborate on poverty eradication. To conclude, the achievement of the SDGs requires the active participation and collaboration of all listed actors, as well as a commitment to working together to address global challenges related to poverty, including inequality, climate change, health, education, and more.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

"10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.wvi.org/stories/child-sponsorship/10-facts-about-climate-change-and-poverty.

"10 Facts about Climate Change and Poverty." Accessed September 26, 2023. https://www.wvi.org/stories/child-sponsorship/10-facts-about-climate-change-and-poverty.

"2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Serbia." Accessed July 17, 2023. http://mons.rs/2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development-in-serbia.

"A 'Climate Apartheid' Is Right Around the Corner, UN Warns." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/climate-apartheid-un/.

"About — IPCC." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.ipcc.ch/about/.

"About G20." Accessed July 15, 2023. https://www.g20.org/en/about-g20/#how-g20-works.

Agency, UNHCR, the UN Refugee. "COVID-19 and refugees." ArcGIS StoryMaps, January 4, 2021. https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/95cc3b65d9264cf3b80fffef0daa0358.

"Agreements of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen 1995." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/wssd/text-version/agreements/poach2.htm.

Ahmed, Mukhtar. "Introduction to Modern Climate Change. Andrew E. Dessler: Cambridge University Press, 2011, 252 Pp, ISBN-10: 0521173159." *Science of The Total Environment* 734 (September 10, 2020): 139397. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.139397.

Alcamo, Joseph, Caroline Grundy, and Jorn Scharlemann. *Interactions among the SDGs and Why They Are Important*, 2018.

Amin, Ulfat Amin, and Asmat Parveen Parveen. "Impact of COVID-19 on Children." *Middle East Current Psychiatry, Ain Shams University* 29, no. 1 (2022): 94. https://doi.org/10.1186/s43045-022-00256-3.

"As COVID-19 Pandemic Continues, Forcibly Displaced Children Need More Support than Ever | UNHCR." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.unhcr.org/news/news-releases/covid-19-pandemic-continues-forcibly-displaced-children-need-more-support-ever.

Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. "The G20." Accessed July 15, 2023. https://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/organisations/g20.

Ayman Ahmed, Nouh Saad Mohamed, Emmanuel Edwar Siddig, Talha Algaily, Suad Sulaiman, Yousif Ali. "The Impacts of Climate Change on Displaced Populations: A Call for Action - ScienceDirect," 2021. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2667278221000547.

Barbier, Edward B., and Joanne C. Burgess. "The Sustainable Development Goals and the Systems Approach to Sustainability." *Economics* 11, no. 1 (December 1, 2017). https://doi.org/10.5018/economics-ejournal.ja.2017-28.

Beisheim, Marianne, and Felicitas Fritzsche. "The UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: An Orchestrator, More or Less?" *Global Policy* 13, no. 5 (2022): 683–93. https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.13112.

Bel Hadj Miled, Kamel, Moheddine Younsi, and Monia Landolsi. "Does Microfinance Program Innovation Reduce Income Inequality? Cross-Country and Panel Data Analysis | Journal of Innovation and Entrepreneurship | Full Text," 2022. https://innovation-entrepreneurship.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s13731-022-00195-7.

"Blood and Billions: The Cost of Russia's War in Ukraine | Reuters." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/blood-billions-cost-russias-war-ukraine-2023-08-23/.

Bovis, Christopher H. "Editorial: The Europe 2020 Project Bond Initiative." *European Procurement & Public Private Partnership Law Review* 7, no. 1 (2012): 3–4.

Bregman, Rutger. "Utopian Thinking: The Easy Way to Eradicate Poverty." *The Guardian*, March 6, 2017, sec. Opinion. https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/mar/06/utopian-thinking-poverty-universal-basic-income.

Breu, Thomas, Michael Bergöö, Elisabeth Bürgi Bonanomi, and Martin Fässler. "Switzerland and the Agenda 2030." Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2017. https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep16115.

Castells-Quintana, David, Jose María Larrú, and Maricruz Lacalle-Calderón. "Aid, Microfinance and Income Inequality: A Global View." *Revista de Economía Mundial*, no. 52 (November 24, 2019). https://doi.org/10.33776/rem.v0i52.3919.

Cichos, Katarzyna, Amanda Lange Salvia, Katarzyna Cichos, and Amanda Lange Salvia. "A Framework of Policies to Combat Poverty." In *SDG1 – No Poverty*, 31–50. Concise Guides to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Emerald Publishing Limited, 2018. https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-78769-625-920181006.

———. "New Horizons for the Eradication of Poverty – Recommendations." In *SDG1 – No Poverty*, 91–100. Concise Guides to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Emerald Publishing Limited, 2018. https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-78769-625-920181009.

"Climate Change and Poverty | ActionAid UK." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.actionaid.org.uk/our-work/emergencies-disasters-humanitarian-response/climate-change-and-poverty.

131

"Combined Effects of War in Ukraine, Pandemic Driving Millions More into Extreme Poverty, Senior United Nations Official Tells Second Committee | UN Press." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://press.un.org/en/2022/gaef3571.doc.htm.

Compassion UK. "What Is Poverty? The Definitions of Poverty," October 11, 2020. https://www.compassionuk.org/blogs/poverty-101-what-is-poverty/.

Concern Worldwide. "Climate Smart Agriculture: Back to Basics to Fight Climate Change and Hunger," February 28, 2022. https://www.concern.net/news/what-is-climate-smart-agriculture.

Concern Worldwide. "How the Effects of Climate Change Keep People in Poverty," March 26, 2022. https://www.concern.net/news/climate-change-and-poverty.

"Considering the Impact of COVID-19 on Children." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.who.int/europe/activities/considering-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-children.

CORPORATIVA, IBERDROLA. "Iberdrola Makes Energy Accessible to the Financially Underprivileged." Iberdrola. Accessed August 7, 2023. https://www.iberdrola.com/sustainability/committed-sustainable-development-goals/sdg-1-no-poverty.

———. "The Importance of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)." Iberdrola. Accessed July 19, 2023. https://www.iberdrola.com/sustainability/committed-sustainable-development-goals/what-is-agenda-2030.

Cuyvers, Armin. "The Road to European Integration." In *East African Community Law*, edited by Armin Cuyvers, Emmanuel Ugirashebuja, John Eudes Ruhangisa, and Tom Ottervanger, 22–42. Institutional, Substantive and Comparative EU Aspects. Brill, 2017. https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.1163/j.ctt1w76vj2.6.

D'Errico, Stefano. "The 2030 Agenda and Evaluation: Opportunities and Challenges for Parliamentarians." International Institute for Environment and Development, 2017. https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep16696.

DevelopmentAid. "Ten Ways to Reduce Poverty in the World." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.developmentaid.org/news-stream/post/150910/ten-ways-to-reduce-poverty-in-the-world.

"Economic Costs | Costs of War." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/economic.

"Ending Hunger to End Poverty, Ending Poverty to End Hunger," October 22, 2018. https://blogs.worldbank.org/developmenttalk/ending-hunger-end-poverty-ending-poverty-end-hunger.

"Ending Poverty | United Nations." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/ending-poverty.

"EU Whole-of-Government' Approach." Accessed July 22, 2023. https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/sustainable-development-goals/eu-whole-government-approach_en.

"Europe 2020 – A Promising Strategy? - Intereconomics." Accessed July 2, 2023. https://www.intereconomics.eu/pdf-download/year/2010/number/3/article/europe-2020-a-promising-strategy.html.

"European Child Guarantee - Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion - European Commission." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1428&langId=en.

Folarin, Sheriff, Esther Akinlabi, and Aderemi Atayero. "Introduction." In *The United Nations and Sustainable Development Goals*, edited by Sheriff Folarin, Esther Akinlabi, and Aderemi Atayero, 1–5. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2022. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-95971-5_1.

Fukuda-Parr, Sakiko. "Millennium Development Goals: Why They Matter." *Global Governance* 10, no. 4 (2004): 395–402.

Gillie, Alan. "The Origin of the Poverty Line," 1996. https://www.jstor.org/stable/43d47345-1c17-32a0-babd-41113b635a89?searchText=poverty+line.

Global Policy Journal. "Spain's Relationship Status with the G20: It's Complicated." Accessed July 15, 2023. https://www.globalpolicyjournal.com/blog/30/11/2018/spains-relationship-status-g20-its-complicated.

"Goal 1 | Department of Economic and Social Affairs." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal1.

Gupta, Shiv Prakash. "Conceptualizing Poverty." *Sociological Bulletin* 33, no. 1/2 (1984): 63–74.

Hallegatte, Stephane, Marianne Fay, and Edward B. Barbier. "Poverty and Climate Change: Introduction." *Environment and Development Economics* 23, no. 3 (June 2018): 217–33. https://doi.org/10.1017/S1355770X18000141.

Hausken, Kjell. "Cost Benefit Analysis of War." *International Journal of Conflict Management* 27, no. 4 (January 1, 2016): 454–69. https://doi.org/10.1108/IJCMA-04-2015-0023.

"High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development." Accessed July 10, 2023. https://hlpf.un.org/.

"History of the EU, EU Pioneers | European Union." Accessed July 9, 2023. https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/history-eu_en.

"How Climate Change Affects Poverty | Mercy Corps." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.mercycorps.org/blog/climate-change-poverty.

"How Does Education Affect Poverty? It Can Help End It." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://concernusa.org/news/how-does-education-affect-poverty/.

IEA. "European Climate Law – Policies." Accessed September 26, 2023. https://www.iea.org/policies/11705-european-climate-law.

IMF. "Esther Duflo on Poverty: It's Not Just the Lack of Money," November 18, 2016. https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2016/11/18/esther-duflo-on-poverty-its-not-just-the-lack-of-money.

"Impact of COVID-19 on Children - PMC." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9668239/.

"In Ukraine, Guterres Pledges to Keep Seeking 'Solutions and a Just Peace' | UN News," March 8, 2023. https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/03/1134322.

"Inforegio - The EU's Main Investment Policy." Accessed July 4, 2023. https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/policy/what/investment-policy_en.

Ino, Junya, Fabrice Murtin, and Michal Shinwell. "Measuring Transboundary Impacts in the 2030 Agenda: Conceptual Approach and Operationalisation." Paris: OECD, November 16, 2021. https://doi.org/10.1787/62f13e92-en.

internationalbanker. "The Impact of COVID-19 on Global Poverty." *International Banker* (blog), March 28, 2022. https://internationalbanker.com/finance/the-impact-of-covid-19-on-global-poverty/.

Investopedia. "Poverty Gap: Definition, Measurement, Index." Accessed August 6, 2023. https://www.investopedia.com/terms/p/poverty-gap.asp.

Investopedia. "What Is the Group of 20 (G-20)? Countries, Influence, and Agenda." Accessed July 15, 2023. https://www.investopedia.com/terms/g/g-20.asp.

Investopedia. "What Is the Group of 20 (G-20)? Countries, Influence, and Agenda." Accessed July 15, 2023. https://www.investopedia.com/terms/g/g-20.asp.

Investopedia. "What's Poverty? Meaning, Causes, and How to Measure." Accessed August 3, 2023. https://www.investopedia.com/terms/p/poverty.asp.

Jahic, Naida. "The Effect of The Russian War in Ukraine on Poverty." *The Borgen Project* (blog), June 8, 2023. https://borgenproject.org/the-russian-war-in-ukraine/.

Jakob, Michael, and Jan Christoph Steckel. "Implications of Climate Change Mitigation for Sustainable Development." *Environmental Research Letters* 11, no. 10 (October 2016): 104010. https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/11/10/104010.

Jones, John D. "Poverty and Subsistence: St. Thomas and the Definition of Poverty." *Gregorianum* 75, no. 1 (1994): 135–49.

Justin-Damien Guénette, Philip Kenworthy, and Collette Wheeler. *Implications of the War in Ukraine for the Global Economy*. EFI Policy Note 3. World Bank Group, 2022.

Keeble, Brian R. "The Brundtland Commission: Environment and Development to the Year 2000." *Medicine and War* 3, no. 4 (1987): 207–10.

Kim, Rakhyun. "Augment the SDG Indicator Framework" 142 (April 1, 2023): 62–67. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2023.02.004.

Mahmoud Ali, Israa Ali, and Hebatallah Ghoneim. "The Effect of Microfinance on Income Inequality: Perspective of Developing Countries." *Journal of Economics and Management* 35 (2019): 40–62.

Manual for Human Rights Education with Young people. "Poverty - Manual for Human Rights Education with Young People - Www.Coe.Int." Accessed August 3, 2023. https://www.coe.int/en/web/compass/poverty.

McArthur, John W. "Own the Goals: What the Millennium Development Goals Have Accomplished." *Foreign Affairs* 92, no. 2 (2013): 152–62.

Michel, James. "Elements of the 2030 Agenda." Beyond Aid. Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), 2016. https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep23313.6.

Nations, United. "About Us." United Nations. United Nations. Accessed July 9, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/about-us.

———. "Ending Poverty." United Nations. United Nations. Accessed August 3, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/ending-poverty.

———. "Ending Poverty." United Nations. United Nations. Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/global-issues/ending-poverty.

———. "Sustainability." United Nations. United Nations. Accessed June 22, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/academic-impact/sustainability.

———. "UN Charter." United Nations. United Nations. Accessed July 9, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter.

———. "United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm 1972." United Nations. United Nations. Accessed June 22, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/conferences/environment/stockholm1972.

Network, Sustainable Development Solutions. "Chapter 1: Getting to Know the Sustainable Development Goals." Getting Started with the Sustainable Development Goals. Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2015. https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep15866.5.

———. "Sustainable Development Policy in Crisis Mode." Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2020. https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep25837.

Nishant Yonzan Christoph Lakner Daniel Gerszon Mahler R. Andres Castaneda Aguilar Haoyu Wu. "Available Data and Estimates of the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Global Poverty," n.d.

oecd-ilibrary.org. "Better Policies for Sustainable Development 2016: A New Framework for Policy Coherence | READ Online." Accessed June 21, 2023. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/development/better-policies-for-sustainable-development-2016_9789264256996-en.

oecd-ilibrary.org. "Debate the Issues: New Approaches to Economic Challenges | READ Online." Accessed June 21, 2023. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/debate-the-issues-new-approaches-to-economic-challenges_9789264264687-en.

oecd-ilibrary.org. "G20 Contribution to the 2030 Agenda: Progress and Way Forward | READ Online." Accessed July 15, 2023. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/g20-contribution-to-the-2030-agenda_db84dfca-en.

oecd-ilibrary.org. "Leave No One Behind: How Are Development Assistance Committee Members Answering the Pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? | READ Online." Accessed June 21, 2023. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/development/leave-no-one-behind_eadd2f8d-en.

oecd-ilibrary.org. "The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda: Towards a Successful Implementation by Poland | READ Online." Accessed June 12, 2023. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/the-2030-sustainable-development-agenda_9789264287341-en.

oecd-ilibrary.org. "The Short and Winding Road to 2030: Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets | READ Online." Accessed July 11, 2023. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/the-short-and-winding-road-to-2030_af4b630d-en.

oecd-ilibrary.org. "The Short and Winding Road to 2030: Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets | READ Online." Accessed July 22, 2023. https://read.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/the-short-and-winding-road-to-2030_af4b630d-en.

Ortiz-Moya, Fernando. *State of the Voluntary Local Reviews 2023: Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda at the Local Level*, 2023. https://doi.org/10.57405/iges-13013.

Ortiz-Moya, Fernando, and Marco Reggiani. "Contributions of the Voluntary Local Review Process to Policy Integration: Evidence from Frontrunner Cities." *Npj Urban Sustainability* 3, no. 1 (April 6, 2023): 1–8. https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-023-00101-4.

Pahl-Wostl, C. "Transitions towards Adaptive Management of Water Facing Climate and Global Change | SpringerLink," 2007. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11269-006-9040-4.

Pasimeni, Francesco, and Paolo Pasimeni. "An Institutional Analysis of the Europe 2020 Strategy." *Social Indicators Research* 127, no. 3 (2016): 1021–38.

Persaud, Nadini, and Ruby Dagher. *The Role of Monitoring and Evaluation in the UN 2030 SDGs Agenda*. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2021. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-70213-7.

———. *The Role of Monitoring and Evaluation in the UN 2030 SDGs Agenda*. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2021. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-70213-7.

Philipp, Jennifer. "Rutger Bregman's Three Ideas to End Poverty." *The Borgen Project* (blog), April 23, 2020. https://borgenproject.org/rutger-bregmans-three-ideas-to-end-poverty/.

Piel, Gerard. "ESSAY: Agenda 21: Sustainable Development." *Scientific American* 267, no. 4 (1992): 128–128.

"Poverty – Social Policy and Development Division | DISD." Accessed August 6, 2023. https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/poverty-social-policy-and-development-division.html.

"Poverty Eradication | Department of Economic and Social Affairs." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://sdgs.un.org/topics/poverty-eradication.

"Poverty Eradication .:. Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/povertyeradication.

Programme, United Nations Environment. "Universal Sustainable Development Goals: A Challenge For The Rich Countries As Well As The Poor - UNEP Perspectives No. 19," January 2016. https://wedocs.unep.org/xmlui/handle/20.500.11822/10004.

"Refugees and the Impact of COVID-19 | UNHCR." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.unhcr.org/media/refugees-and-impact-covid-19.

"Relative Poverty vs. Absolute Poverty - endPoverty," March 2, 2023. https://endpoverty.org/relative-poverty-vs-absolute-poverty/.

"Renewable Energy – Powering a Safer Future | United Nations." Accessed September 26, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/raising-ambition/renewable-energy.

REPSOL. "What Is Sustainable Development and What Are the 17 SDGs?" Accessed July 27, 2023. https://www.repsol.com/en/energy-and-the-future/future-of-the-world/sustainable-development/index.cshtml.

Roesch, Jimena Leiva, and Masooma Rahmaty. "The Role of the UN Development System Reform in Localizing the 2030 Agenda." Localizing the 2030 Agenda in West Africa: International Peace Institute, 2020. https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep25346.8.

Rosenbaum, Basia. "Making the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Sustainable: The Transition from MDGs to the SDGs." *Harvard International Review* 37, no. 1 (2015): 62–64.

"Russia-Ukraine War and the Global Crisis: Impacts on Poverty and Food Security in Developing Countries on JSTOR." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.jstor.org/stable/c4934fe0-1382-390c-a2e4-1ccb166f60a3?searchText=War+in+Ukraine+and+poverty&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DWar%2Bin%2BUkraine%2Band%2Bpoverty&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3A0c0d04d13763db95c741ed802943d24b&seq=14.

Sabry, Sarah. "Poverty Lines: The Debate from Poverty Lines in Greater Cairo: Underestimating and Misrepresenting Poverty," 2009. https://www.jstor.org/stable/ab93326c-85dc-38f4-89bf-dcc75665ee39?searchText=poverty+line&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3Dpoverty%2Bline&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3A53f7d34f4dc6a59fe78b10fd18916cb4.

Save the Children. "The Price of Hope," 2023.

Schmidt-Traub, Guido, Christian Kroll, Katerina Teksoz, David Durand-Delacre, and Jeffrey D. Sachs. "National Baselines for the Sustainable Development Goals Assessed in the SDG Index and Dashboards." *Nature Geoscience* 10, no. 8 (August 2017): 547–55. https://doi.org/10.1038/ngeo2985.

"SDG Index: Get to Know about What Is SDG Index and Full Form." Accessed July 27, 2023. https://byjusexamprep.com/current-affairs/sdg-index.

"SDG Indicators — SDG Indicators." Accessed July 29, 2023. https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/.

"SDG Summit | High-Level Political Forum." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://hlpf.un.org/sdg-summit.

"SDG Summit 2023 | United Nations." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023.

Sims, R. E. H. "Renewable Energy: A Response to Climate Change." *Solar Energy*, Solar World Congress 2001, 76, no. 1 (January 1, 2004): 9–17. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0038-092X(03)00101-4.

"Social Summit +5 | DISD." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/social-summit-5.html.

Solís, Patricia, and Marcela Zeballos. "Introduction." In *Open Mapping towards Sustainable Development Goals: Voices of YouthMappers on Community Engaged Scholarship*, edited by Patricia Solís and Marcela Zeballos, 1–9. Sustainable Development Goals Series. Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2023. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-05182-1_1.

"Solutions to Poverty to Get Us To 2030 | Concern Worldwide." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://concernusa.org/news/solutions-to-poverty/.

"Solutions to Poverty to Get Us to 2030 - World | ReliefWeb," September 7, 2021. https://reliefweb.int/report/world/solutions-poverty-get-us-2030.

Sustainability (IDOS), German Institute of Development and. "The G20 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." Accessed July 16, 2023. https://www.idos-research.de/en/others-publications/article/the-g20-and-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/.

"Sustainable Development Goals Summit 2023 and the Global Pledge on Disability-Focused Early Childhood Development - The Lancet Global Health." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(23)00178-X/fulltext.

"Sustainable Development Goals Summit 2023 and the Global Pledge on Disability-Focused Early Childhood Development - The Lancet Global Health." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.thelancet.com/journals/langlo/article/PIIS2214-109X(23)00178-X/fulltext.

The Children's Society. "The Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Young People." The Children's Society, 2021.

"The Cost of War from The Cost of Defence ASPI Defence Budget Brief 2022–2023: One Hundred & Thirty-Three Million, One Hundred & Ninety-One Thousand, Seven Hundred & Eighty Dollars & Eighty-Two Cents per Day. on JSTOR." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.jstor.org/stable/fd6df4ca-ad22-3767-9b83-ff484ff28eea?searchText=&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DWar%2Bin%2BUkraine%2Band%2Bpoverty&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&searchKey=&refreqid=fastly-default%3Aed70813fb76406e176cb55b1535674b2.

"The G20 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: How to Strengthen Policy Coherence and Accountability," May 23, 2017. http://unsdsn.org/news/2017/05/23/the-g20-and-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development-how-to-strengthen-policy-coherence-and-accountability/.

The Global Goals. "Goal 1: No Poverty." Accessed August 7, 2023. https://globalgoals.org/goals/1-no-poverty/.

"The Impact of COVID-19 on Children | UNICEF." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.unicef.org/turkiye/en/documents/impact-covid-19-children.

"The Impact of the War in Ukraine and Subsequent Economic Downturn on Child Poverty in Eastern Europe | UNICEF Europe and Central Asia." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.unicef.org/eca/reports/impact-war-ukraine-and-subsequent-economic-downturn-child-poverty-eastern-europe.

"The Paris Agreement | UNFCCC." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement.

"The Paris Agreement | United Nations." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/paris-agreement.

THE UN. "Goal 1: End Poverty in All Its Forms Everywhere." *United Nations Sustainable Development* (blog). Accessed August 7, 2023. https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/.

———. "Poverty Reduction Programmes." The UN, n.d. chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/rwss/docs/2010/chapter8.pdf.

The United Nations. "No Poverty: Why It Matters?" The UN, 2020.

———. *Sustainable Development Outlook*. The UN, 2020.

The World Bank. "Ending Learning Poverty and Building Skills: Investing in Education from Early Childhood to Lifelong Learning." The World Bank, October 2022.

theOECD. "Inequality - Poverty Gap - OECD Data." Accessed August 6, 2023. http://data.oecd.org/inequality/poverty-gap.htm.

theOECD. "Inequality - Poverty Rate - OECD Data." Accessed August 6, 2023. http://data.oecd.org/inequality/poverty-rate.htm.

"Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty 2018-2027 | Poverty Eradication." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.un.org/development/desa/socialperspectiveondevelopment/united-nations-decade-for-the-eradication-of-poverty/third.html.

"Toward an Improved Definition of Poverty on JSTOR." Accessed August 3, 2023. https://www.jstor.org/stable/95a3cd0f-792b-31be-84d9-032e2e435ada?searchText=Definition+of+poverty&searchUri=%2Faction%2FdoBasicSearch%3FQuery%3DDefinition%2Bof%2Bpoverty&ab_segments=0%2Fbasic_search_gsv2%2Fcontrol&refreqid=fastly-default%3A14c261441fb4360712c11304b616b9c6&seq=1.

"Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | Department of Economic and Social Affairs." Accessed June 12, 2023. https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda.

Trent, John, and Laura Schnurr. "Evolving International Organizations: The UN Past and Present." In *A United Nations Renaissance*, 1st ed., 22–55. What the UN Is, and What It Could Be. Verlag Barbara Budrich, 2018. https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctvdf03xp.6.

"Ukraine: Widespread Learning Loss Continues Due to War, COVID-19 | UN News," August 29, 2023. https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/08/1140157.

UNDP. "Goal 1: No Poverty | Sustainable Development Goals | United Nations Development Programme." Accessed August 7, 2023. https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals/no-poverty.

UNDP. "Sustainable Development Goals | United Nations Development Programme." Accessed July 22, 2023. https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals.

UNHCR. "UNHCR Policy on Cash-Based Interventions. 2022-2026." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.unhcr.org/media/unhcr-policy-cash-based-interventions-2022-2026.

United Nations Western Europe. "Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 1)." Accessed August 8, 2023. https://unric.org/en/sdg-1/.

UNU WIDER. "UNU-WIDER : Working Paper : Estimates of the Impact of COVID-19 on Global Poverty." Accessed September 25, 2023. http://www.wider.unu.edu/publication/estimates-impact-covid-19-global-poverty.

"Voluntary National Reviews | High-Level Political Forum." Accessed July 20, 2023. https://hlpf.un.org/vnrs.

Walsh, Patrick Paul. "Implementing the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda in Ireland: A Case for Hybrid Sustainable Development Parliamentary Committees." *Irish Studies in International Affairs* 27 (2016): 9–19. https://doi.org/10.3318/isia.2016.27.12.

Wang, Xiao-jun, Jian-yun Zhang, Shamsuddin Shahid, En-hong Guan, Yong-xiang Wu, Juan Gao, and Rui-min He. "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts on Water Demand." *Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies for Global Change* 21, no. 1 (January 1, 2016): 81–99. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11027-014-9571-6.

Weber, Olaf. "The SDGs." The Financial Sector and the SDGs. Centre for International Governance Innovation, 2018. https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep51881.9.

"What Are the Solutions to Climate Change?," December 13, 2022. https://www.nrdc.org/stories/what-are-solutions-climate-change.

"What Are the Solutions to Climate Change?" Accessed September 26, 2023. https://www.nrdc.org/stories/what-are-solutions-climate-change#transportation.

"What Is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change? | UNFCCC." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/what-is-the-united-nations-framework-convention-on-climate-change.

"Why Climate Change and Poverty Are Inextricably Linked." Accessed September 25, 2023. https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/climate-change-is-connected-to-poverty/.

"Why the Global Stocktake Is a Critical Moment for Climate Action | UNFCCC." Accessed September 26, 2023. https://unfccc.int/topics/global-stocktake/about-the-global-stocktake/why-the-global-stocktake-is-a-critical-moment-for-climate-action.

"World Summit for Social Development 1995 | DISD." Accessed September 30, 2023. https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/world-summit-for-social-development-1995.html.

World Wildlife Fund. "Importance of Renewable Energy in the Fight against Climate Change | Magazine Articles | WWF." Accessed September 26, 2023. https://www.worldwildlife.org/magazine/issues/summer-2015/articles/importance-of-renewable-energy-in-the-fight-against-climate-change--3.

Wunder, S., Noack, F., & Angelsen, A. "Climate, Crops, and Forests: A Pan-Tropical Analysis of Household Income Generation | Environment and Development Economics | Cambridge Core," 2018. https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/environment-and-development-economics/article/abs/climate-crops-and-forests-a-pantropical-analysis-of-household-income-generation/471559E1C1EC2B792002A8D3BFF6CDDF.

Zgajewski, Tania, and Kalila Hajjar. "The Lisbon Strategy: A Revelator of the Present EU Hubris." The Lisbon Strategy: Egmont Institute, 2005. https://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep06706.6.