



Minsk International Model United Nations
2-5 November, 2017
Inclusion of vulnerable groups: Adolescents in focus

Guide

Economical & financial committee

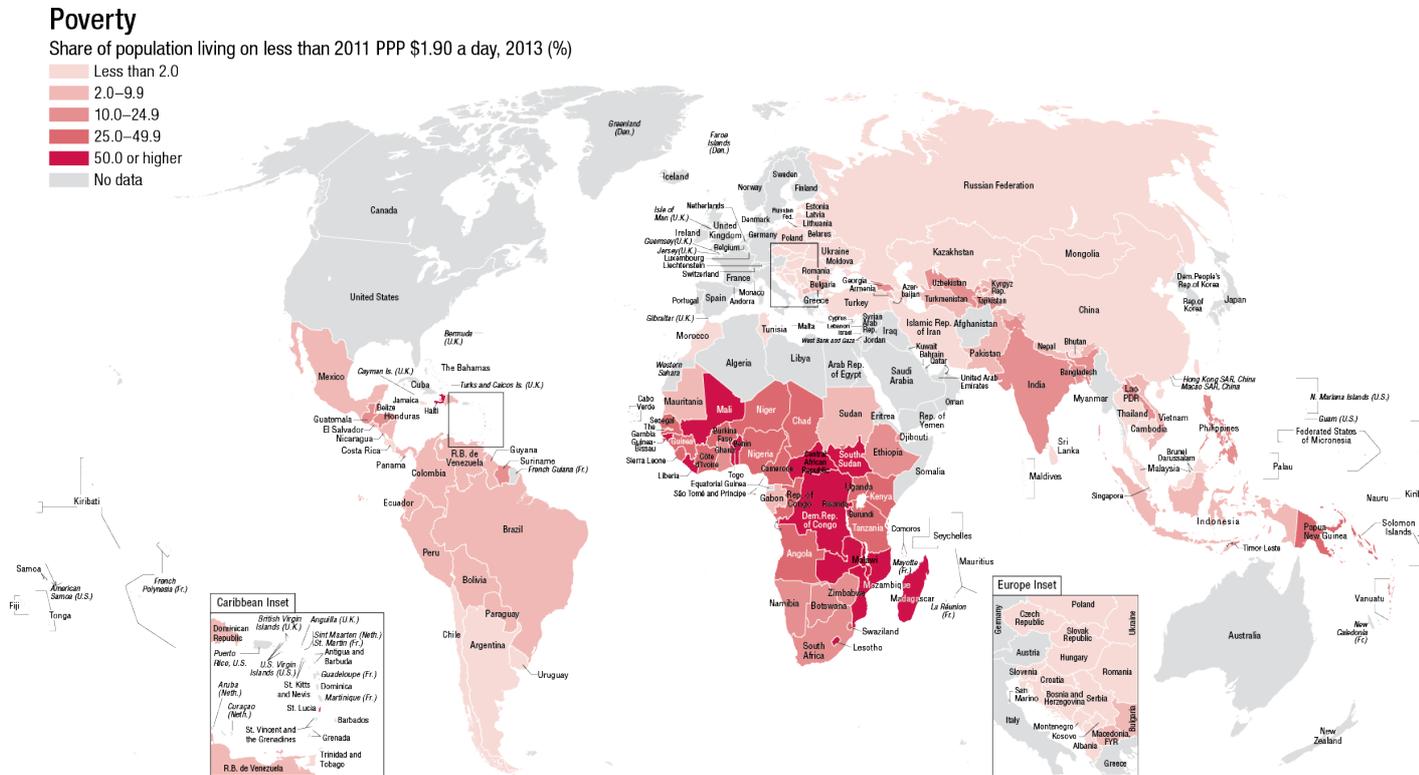
Topic 1: Eradication of poverty as a measure for youth development.

Topic 2: The need to provide adolescent refugees with skills and programs for future employment and social integration.

Chairs: Sarah Haputantri, Shasidar Sureshkumar

Topic 1: Eradication of poverty as a measure for youth development

The map below shows distribution of poverty in the world in 2013.



Background

Youth is defined as those persons in the age group of 15–24 years by the United Nations, though the age range for youth may vary in different countries due to different contexts and needs of youth. During this transitional phase, physical, educational, psychological, social and economic changes occur in their lives.

Socio-political, economic and demographic development depend on them. The transition from education and training to economic activity marks an important phase in the lives of youth, who are the productive workforce of the country. The huge unemployment among youth due to lack of skills and poverty is a long term challenge for poverty stricken youth around the world.

In 2010, it was estimated that the population of the world was 6.91 billion and that adolescent population (10–19 years) constituted 1.19 billion and youth (15–24 years) 1.22 billion, which together accounted for 26.3 per cent of the total population of the world (World Population Prospects: the 2012 Revision, June 2013).

In 2000, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) committed to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases under Goal 6: target 19, that is, equipping those in the age group, 15–24 years with comprehensive and correct knowledge of HIV and AIDS and evolving a global partnership for development under Goal-8: target-45, that is, unemployment rate of young people aged 15–24 by sex by 2015 for all countries Youth seemed to have heard about these issues, but lacked comprehensive knowledge.

In many countries, demographic transition is achieved after the large segment of adolescent and youth population joins the total population. This happens only when there is a transition of its population from a high to a low situation for both mortality and fertility over a particular period, which also known as the demographic window of opportunity. Demographic dividend can be achieved when economic growth accelerates. This occurs when the working age group population, having acquired technical and vocational skills, engage themselves in economic activities.

The implementation of national policies over a period of time supports the process. This significant shifting of age structure in the world population, can increase economic participation and reduce dependency, which will support economic growth.

Links:

<http://www.voicesofyouth.org/sections/poverty-and-hunger/pages/the-big-picture>

<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/publications/TPTPublication.pdf>

<https://infogram.com/global-statistics-on-youth-poverty-and-unemployment-1g90n2odwv8rm4y>

Causes

The International Food Study Institute had a brief on a collection of extensive studies that analyzed the causes of poverty, analyzing household data and reviewing empirical research in 20 countries. They found that some of the major causes of poverty were the inability of poor households to invest in property and education, limited access to credit, in some cases these instances produce more poverty via inherited poverty.

The systematic exclusion of ethnic minorities, scheduled castes, tribes, women and people with disabilities and health issues. Persistence of poverty is partially attributed to these classes not having access to institutions and markets.

War and violence may be some of the primary causes of poverty. Political violence and organized crime have affected 39 countries since 2000, in those countries the poverty level is twice that of non-violent countries. These two items, poverty and violence may also feed themselves. When asked why young people joined gangs and rebel groups in half a dozen countries, two thirds of the respondents

said that unemployment was their main reason, only one tenth cited a belief in the cause.

Third World countries have low GDP per capita percent taxed, middle income economies have average levels of GDP per capita taxed and developed countries have higher percent GDP per capita taxed. Places like the Arctic and Antarctic are inhabitable but many people debate how much a role climate plays in Africa's poverty. In Bangladesh, the United Nations has found that marital instability is one of the main sources of poverty among women, along with overpopulation, and corruption of government.

Links:

<https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/youth-poverty-europe>

<http://www.bridgingeurope.net/consequences-of-high-youth-unemployment.html>

<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0956247816651201>

Organizations

The United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD) is a network consisting of UN entities, represented at the headquarters level, whose work is relevant to youth. The aim of the Network is to increase the effectiveness of UN work in youth development by strengthening collaboration and exchange among all relevant UN entities, while respecting and harnessing the benefits of their individual strengths and unique approaches and mandates.

In the framework of the World Program of Action for Youth (WPAY) and its 15 priority areas, the Network advocates for, supports and reviews progress on the implementation of UN Resolutions, Conventions and the internationally agreed development goals that are youth-related. The Network also contributes to increasing the understanding and visibility of the UN System's work on youth development. In particular, the Network:

- Provides a forum for cooperation and support;
- Provides an opportunity for ongoing exchange of information on the UN system's work on youth development, including through knowledge management initiatives and tools;

- Strengthens and supports cooperation to promote youth development, through joint advocacy, initiatives and other forms of cooperation;
- Draws on the members' networks and relationships with governments, youth-led and youth-focused organizations, donor agencies, civil society organizations, multilateral organisations and others, to advance youth development;
- Facilitates and supports youth involvement and participation in the UN System and its programmes or initiatives at all levels.

The main objectives of the UN Inter-Agency Network are:
To identify key joint priorities and plan collaboratively to implement related initiatives;

To share good practices and expertise and to promote effective cooperation among the entities in programming at country and regional levels;
To identify global strategic opportunities, ensure coordinated input, facilitate and support sustainable follow-up mechanisms. The Network consists of representatives identified by the Heads of UN entities whose work is relevant to youth issues. It has two co-chairs.

The United Nations Programme on Youth is the permanent co-chair of the Network. As such it coordinates administrative functions of the Network and provides support and continuity to the other co-chair and the Network as required. The second co-chair of the Network is selected by the members and rotates on an annual basis. For 2010, the co-chair is UNESCO.

The Network holds regular meetings at UNHQ, with telephone/video conferencing to other Duty Stations outside UNHQ. A meeting of the entities' representatives is held on an annual basis, when possible in the context of another youth meeting.

The Network promotes the development of similar inter-agency networks on youth development at the regional and country levels and works with these entities to ensure global and cross-regional coordination of collaborative initiatives.

Links:

<https://www.oxfam.org/en/even-it/supporting-todays-youth-best-chance-end-poverty-tomorrow>

<https://borgenproject.org/empowering-youth-end-poverty/>

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/tc_addis06_2_poverty.pdf

Finances and Policies – solutions

The 1995 World Programme of Action for Youth aimed to enhance the situation of youth everywhere, it provided a blueprint for action at the national and international levels, and had clear synergies with the new sustainable development agenda. For their part, some 127 Governments around the world had put in place national youth policies.

Youth Development in 2030 Agenda, the Commission held a panel discussion on the theme “Promoting integrated policies for poverty eradication:

Youth development in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. Moderated by Vivian Onano, Partnerships Manager at the SEED Project, Global Youth Ambassador for Water Aid and Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Global Youth Empowerment Fund, it featured presentations by Sophie Karmasin,

Federal Minister of Families and Youth of Austria; Santiago Soto, Director of the National Institute of Youth, Ministry of Social Development of Uruguay; Gemma Wood, a statistician and youth development consultant from Australia; Nada Al-Nashif, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Ahmad Alhendawi, Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth; Nevena Vukašinović, Secretary-General, ENGSO Youth (Serbia) Sports; and Mark Kamperhoff, Head of the European Union Coordination and International Affairs Unit of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth of Germany.

Development country team Zambia has implemented school outreach activities in five districts; Lusaka, Choma, Ndola, Chipata and Solwezi, focusing on sensitizing young people on poverty reduction strategies and their role in these important processes.

The team has a member that has a seat in the government that investigates issues of Youth, Sport and Child Affairs – it is through such forums that it has succeeded to advocate for its agenda of prioritizing young people's participation in the development process.

Development Country team Ghana has implemented school outreach activities in five districts; Lusaka, Choma, Ndola, Chipata and Solwezi, focusing on sensitizing young people on poverty reduction strategies and their role in these important processes. The team has a member that has a seat in the government that investigates issues of Youth, Sport and Child Affairs – it is through such forums that it has succeeded to advocate for its agenda of prioritizing young people's participation in the development process.

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<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/publications/TPTPublication.pdf>

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/video/2016/10/18/ending-poverty-what-it-means-for-youth>

<https://youthpovertysolutions.wordpress.com/>

https://www.huffingtonpost.com/vivian-norris-de-montaigu/poverty-in-america-the-pr_b_136751.html