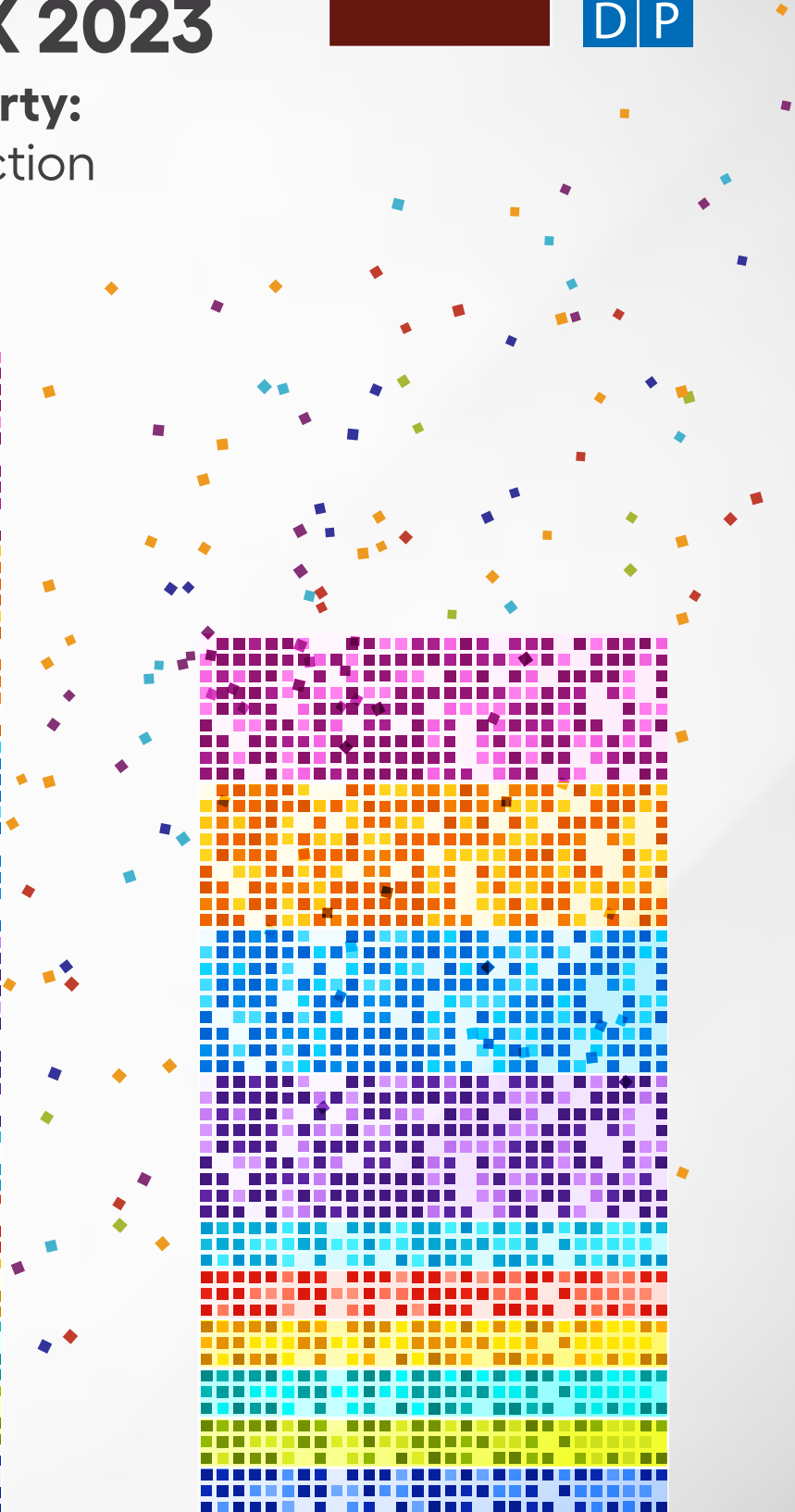
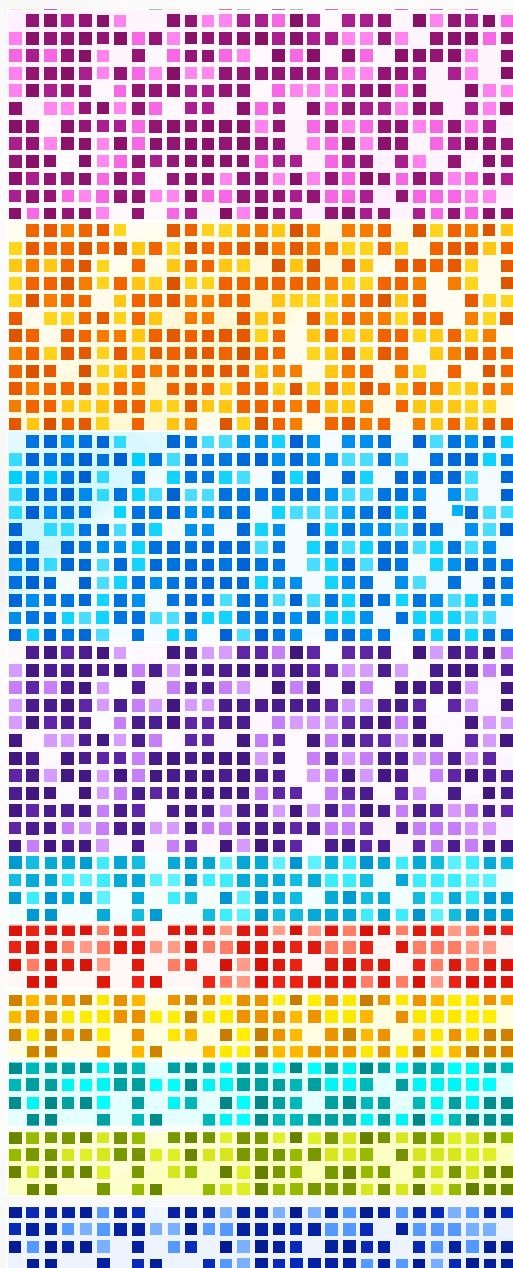


# GLOBAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX 2023

**Unstacking global poverty:**  
Data for high impact action





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### Find out more

This report describes the 2023 update of the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), whose data are open source available to anyone interested in multidimensional poverty.

To further explore the data, read the technical and methodological notes and learn about ongoing research, visit <http://hdr.undp.org> and <http://ophi.org.uk>.

Recent global MPI reports have shared research on a variety of pertinent issues:

- Deprivation bundles, showing interlinkages across deprivations (Global MPI Report 2022).
- Which countries are on track to halve poverty by 2030 (Global MPI Report 2020).
- How much multidimensional poverty increased globally due to the COVID-19 pandemic (Global MPI Report 2020 and Global MPI Report 2022).
- Gendered and intrahousehold analyses of female schooling (Global MPI Report 2021).
- Global MPI disaggregated by ethnicity (Global MPI Report 2021).
- Global MPI disaggregated by gender of household head (Global MPI Report 2021 and OPHI Table 7).
- How the global MPI is related to Sustainable Development Goal indicators (Global MPI Report 2020).
- Inequalities among poor people (Global MPI Report 2019).



**GLOBAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL  
POVERTY INDEX 2023**

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# **Unstacking global poverty: Data for high-impact action**

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# Unstacking global poverty: Data for high-impact action

In 2015 the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1 set out to overcome the greatest global challenge: ending poverty in all its forms. At the midpoint to 2030, people's lives continue to be battered in multiple ways simultaneously. Globally, an array of challenges impedes poverty reduction—widespread inequality, political instability and conflict, a climate emergency, COVID-19 pandemic recovery, and cost of living and other crises. There are both commonalities and specifics that cloud the way for each country.

Measures of multidimensional poverty attempt to offer clear priorities for addressing poverty, going beyond monetary deprivations. The annual global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), jointly published by the Human Development Report Office (HDRO) of the United Nations Development Programme and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) at the University of Oxford since 2010, measures interlinked deprivations in health, education and standard of living that directly affect a person's life and wellbeing. The global MPI is the only counting-based index that measures overlapping deprivations for more than 100 countries and 1,200 subnational regions and offers a key perspective on SDG 1, while encompassing indicators related to other SDGs. The global MPI can be pictured as a stack of blocks, each of which represents a deprivation of a poor person. The goal is to eliminate deprivations so the height of the stack declines.

This report presents a compact update on the state of multidimensional poverty (henceforth referred to as “poverty”) in the world. It compiles data from 110 developing countries covering 6.1 billion people, accounting for 92 percent of the population in developing countries. It tells an important and persistent story about how prevalent poverty is in the world and provides insights into the lives of poor people, their

deprivations and how intense their poverty is—to inform and accelerate efforts to end poverty in all its forms. As still only a few countries have data from after the COVID-19 pandemic, the report urgently calls for updated multidimensional poverty data (box 1). And while providing a sobering annual stock take of global poverty, the report also highlights examples of success in every region.

## Among the 1.1 billion poor people ...

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### Who are the poorest?

- The higher the incidence of poverty, the higher the intensity of poverty that poor people experience.
- 485 million poor people live in severe poverty across 110 countries, experiencing 50–100% of weighted deprivations.
- 99 million poor people experience deprivations in all three dimensions (70–100% of weighted deprivations).
- 10 million of the 12 million poor people with the highest deprivation scores (90–100%) live in Sub-Saharan Africa.

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### Which groups are the poorest?

- Subnational regions are being left behind in two ways: where poverty is widespread, poverty is also most intense.
- Half of the 1.1 billion poor people (566 million) are children under 18 years of age.
- 84% of all poor people live in rural areas. Rural areas are poorer than urban areas in every world region.

# MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY IN 2023

## WHERE DO POOR PEOPLE LIVE?

Across 110 countries,  
**1.1 billion** out of **6.1 billion**  
people are poor.



That is, just over **18%**  
are estimated to live in  
**acute multidimensional poverty.**



**534 million**  
out of **1.1 billion** poor people  
—half of all poor people—  
live in **Sub-Saharan Africa.**



**730 million**

—nearly two-thirds  
of all poor people  
live in...



...host **over one-third**  
of all poor people—

**387 million.**



Over a third of  
all poor people  
live in **South Asia**—that's  
**389 million people.**



## POVERTY REDUCTION IS POSSIBLE.

25 countries  
**halved**  
their global

**MDI**  
**IVIPI** VALUE well **within 15 years.**

## Box 1 Urgently needed: Multidimensional poverty data

Timely and disaggregated poverty data are essential for effective policymaking and achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Although this report makes best use of existing data, full data from after the COVID-19 pandemic are unavailable for nearly all 110 countries covered by the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). Unfortunately, the “Data Revolution” seems to be leaving multidimensional poverty data behind.

Yet gathering data on multidimensional poverty is faster than many realize. The global MPI is constructed based on 43 survey questions—or at most 5 percent of the number of questions in Demographic and Health Surveys and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (which currently include at least 859 questions each).<sup>1</sup>

In the Report of the Commission on Global Poverty, Sir Tony Atkinson echoed then–World Bank President Jim Yong Kim’s observation that “Collecting good data is one of the most powerful tools to end extreme poverty” and affirmed the pledge “...to do something that makes common sense and is long overdue: to conduct surveys in all countries that will assess whether people’s lives are improving.”<sup>2</sup> The commission recommended “a major investment in statistical sources” for poverty. As Atkinson explained, “The aim...is...not only to increase resources but also to signal the need for higher priority to be given to poverty statistics.”<sup>3</sup>

We reaffirm the urgent postpandemic call for concerted investment in the data required to measure acute and moderate multidimensional poverty across all developing regions.

### Notes

**1.** The 2019 Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) has 859 questions, the 2019 Chad MICS has 875, the 2019–2021 Mauritania Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) has 933 and the 2019–2021 India DHS has 1,124. The 5 percent figure is based on 43/859. **2.** World Bank 2017, p. 190. **3.** World Bank 2017, p. 191.

### What deprivations do poor people experience?

- 824–991 million out of the 1.1 billion poor people do not have adequate sanitation, housing or cooking fuel.
- 600 million poor people live with a person who is undernourished in their household.
- Gaps in years of schooling is a cross-regional issue: In all regions except Europe and Central Asia, around half of poor people do not have a single member of their household who has completed six years of schooling.

### How do monetary and multidimensional poverty compare?

- In 42 of 61 countries more people live in multidimensional poverty, based on the global MPI, than in extreme monetary poverty, based on the World Bank’s \$2.15 a day measure.

### How has poverty changed?

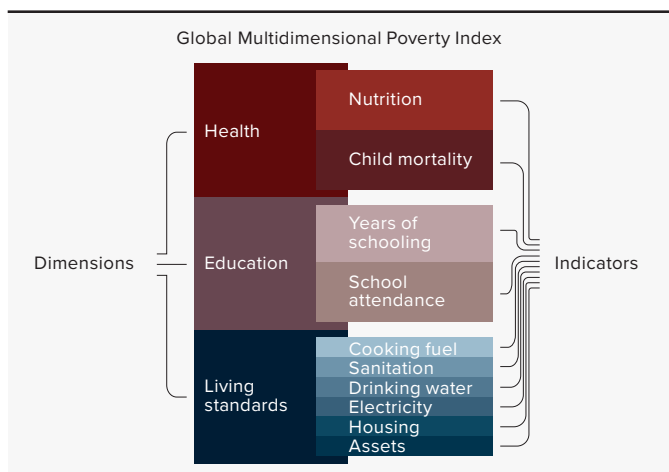
- 72 of 81 countries, covering well over 5 billion people, experienced a significant absolute reduction in MPI value during at least one period. But nearly all data are from before the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 25 countries halved their global MPI value well within 15 years, showing that progress at scale is attainable.
- In 42 countries—over half of those covered—children are being left behind.
- In 15 countries the rate of poverty reduction was outpaced by population growth: The number of poor people increased despite poverty rates declining.
- Cambodia halved its MPI in 7.5 years (2014–2021/2022), including COVID-19 pandemic years, despite increases in deprivations in school attendance.

## What is the global Multidimensional Poverty Index?

The global MPI is a key international resource that measures acute multidimensional poverty across more than 100 developing countries (box 2). First launched in 2010 by HDRO and OPHI, the global MPI advances SDG 1—ending poverty in all its forms everywhere—and measures interconnected deprivations across indicators related to SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 11.

The global MPI begins by constructing a deprivation profile for each household and person in it that tracks deprivations in 10 indicators spanning health, education and standard of living (figure 1). For example, a household and all people living in it are deprived if any child is stunted or any child or adult for whom data are available is underweight; if any child died in the past five years; if any school-aged child is not attending school up to the age at which he or she would complete class 8 or no household member has completed six years of schooling; or if the household lacks access to electricity, an improved source of drinking water within a 30 minute walk round trip,<sup>1</sup> an

**Figure 1** Structure of the global Multidimensional Poverty Index



Source: HDRO and OPHI.

improved sanitation facility that is not shared,<sup>2</sup> non-solid cooking fuel, durable housing materials, and basic assets such as a radio, animal cart, phone, television, computer, refrigerator, bicycle or motorcycle. All indicators are equally weighted within each dimension, so

### Box 2 Data used to compute the global Multidimensional Poverty Index

The 2023 global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) uses the most recent comparable data available for 110 countries—22 low-income countries, 85 middle-income countries and 3 high-income countries (see table 1 at the end of the report). These countries are home to about 92 percent of the population in developing regions.<sup>1</sup> The global MPI shows who they are, where they live and what deprivations hold them back from achieving the wellbeing they deserve. Global MPI values, incidence and intensity of poverty, and component indicators are disaggregated for 1,281 subnational regions as well as by age group, rural-urban area and gender of the household head.

The estimates are based on Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys for 54 countries, Demographic and Health Surveys for 43 countries and national surveys for 13 countries. The year of the surveys ranges from 2011 to 2021/2022. For 87 countries, home to 85.4 percent of poor people, data were fielded in 2016 or later—after the Sustainable Development Goals were adopted. Of these, 41 countries, home to 49.0 percent of poor people, have data fielded in 2019 or later—but in only 7 countries were all data collected in 2021 or 2022. This edition provides updated estimates for Cambodia (2021/2022), Madagascar (2021), Mexico (2021), Mozambique (2019/2020), Nigeria (2021) and Peru (2021) and introduces estimates for Fiji (2021) and Uzbekistan (2021/2022).

Trends in global MPI values are available for 81 countries using data from 2000 to 2021/2022 (see table 2 at the end of the report). Of these 81 countries, 42 have data for two points in time, 35 have data for three points in time and 4 have data for four points in time. Harmonized trends are also available by subnational region, age group and rural-urban area. Disaggregated trends help in monitoring the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: to leave no one behind.

Although this report makes best use of existing data, full data from after the COVID-19 pandemic are not available for nearly all 110 countries; hence the report urgently calls for updated data.

#### Note

1. All population figures refer to 2021 (in continuation of past reports, which update the population figures by one year from the previous edition) and are drawn from UNDESA (2022).



**Box 3** Deepa’s story and what the global Multidimensional Poverty Index measures



Deepa lives in a small island community in the hill tracts of Rangamati, Bangladesh—nestled in tropical forests, waterfalls and rich biodiversity. She belongs to the Chakma tribe, the country’s largest ethnic group. She is among the 100,000 indigenous people who lost their land and homes during the construction of the Kaptai Dam in 1960. She remembers walking empty-handed out of her home as a child, losing everything she and her family owned.

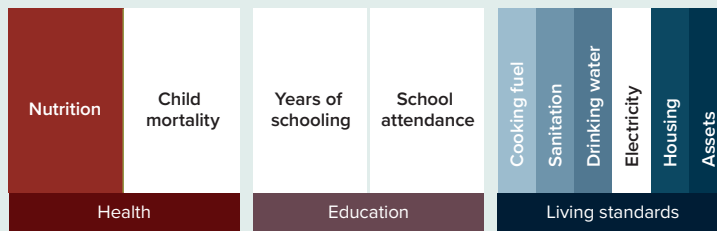
Deepa lives with her husband, her daughter and her six-year-old granddaughter, who has a speech disability. **Her home is made of basic materials**—the floors and walls are made from mud. The front part of the home is a small shop where the family sells basic toiletries and food, from which they earn about \$1 a day. Besides a few shops on the island, Deepa and the rest of the islanders obtain all their personal supplies and food by boat, as no bridge connects to the island. Deepa and her family members are **nutritionally deprived**.

The houses in the hundred-person community **lack access to piped water and toilets** but do have basic electricity for lighting. For water Deepa must walk uphill to reach a newly constructed school, where she can fill her bucket from a tap. This journey is becoming onerous as she is reaching age 70 and suffers from arthritis. Deepa also spends considerable time **gathering solid fuel for cooking**. Deepa **does not own any basic assets** such as a mobile phone.

Her granddaughter attends a special school for her disability. Deepa is hopeful that someday she will be able to complete her secondary education and maybe even go to university.

According to the global Multidimensional Poverty Index, Deepa is poor. Her deprivation score is 44.4 percent ( $1/6 + 5 \times [1/18] = 8/18$ ) (see figure). Her deprivation score would need to be less than 33.3 percent to be nonpoor.

**How the global Multidimensional Poverty Index measures Deepa’s deprivations**



**Note:** Indicators in white refer to a nondeprivation.



the health and education indicators are weighted 1/6 each, and the standard of living indicators are weighted 1/18 each. A person’s deprivation score is the sum of the weighted deprivations she or he experiences. The global MPI identifies people as multidimensionally poor if their deprivation score is 1/3 or higher (box 3).

MPI values are the product of the incidence (*H*, or the proportion of people who live in multidimensional poverty) and intensity of poverty (*A*, or the average deprivation score among multidimensionally poor people). Put simply,  $MPI = H \times A$ . The MPI ranges from 0 to 1, and higher values imply higher poverty.

Global MPI values decline when fewer people are poor or when poor people have fewer deprivations. The precise definition of each indicator is available online, together with any country-specific adjustments and the computer code used to calculate the global MPI value for each country.<sup>3</sup>

By identifying who is poor, the nature of their poverty (their deprivation profile) and how poor they are (their deprivation score), the global MPI complements the international \$2.15 a day poverty rate, bringing into view interlinked nonmonetary deprivations.<sup>4</sup>

## Where do poor people live?

Across 110 countries, 1.1 billion of 6.1 billion people are poor. Understanding where poor people live is crucial for policymaking. Roughly five out of six poor people live in Sub-Saharan Africa or South Asia: 534 million (47.8 percent) in Sub-Saharan Africa and 389 million (34.9 percent) in South Asia (figure 2).

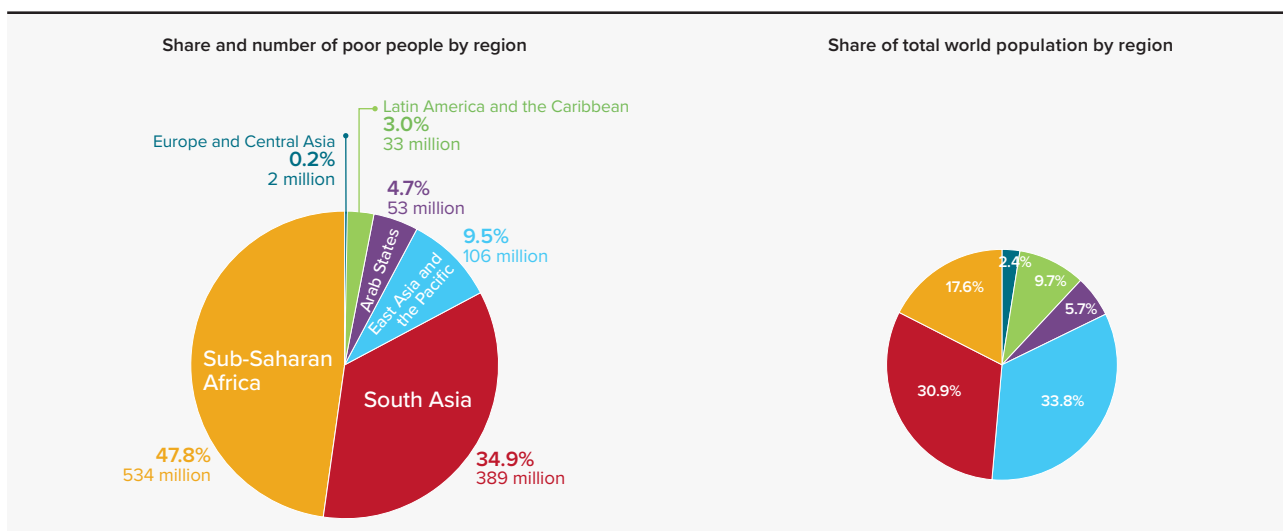
Some 65 percent of the remaining poor people live in just five countries: China (2014), Indonesia (2017), Myanmar (2015/16), Sudan (2014) and Yemen (2013). More recent data for these countries would allow their global MPI value to be updated to reflect current conditions.

Across countries the incidence of poverty ranges from less than 1 percent in 21 countries<sup>5</sup> to over 50 percent in 22 countries,<sup>6</sup> 19 of which are in Sub-Saharan Africa, including the poorest four: Burundi (75.1 percent in 2016/2017), Central African Republic (80.4 percent in 2018/2019), Chad (84.2 percent in 2019) and Niger (91 percent in 2012). There is also extensive variation across regions. Every region has at least one country with incidence below 1 percent.

The countries with the highest incidence in their region are Afghanistan (55.9 percent in 2015/2016), Haiti (41.3 percent in 2016/2017), Niger (91 percent in 2012), Papua New Guinea (56.6 percent in 2016/2018), Sudan (52.3 percent in 2014) and Tajikistan (7.4 percent in 2017). These countries urgently require updated data.

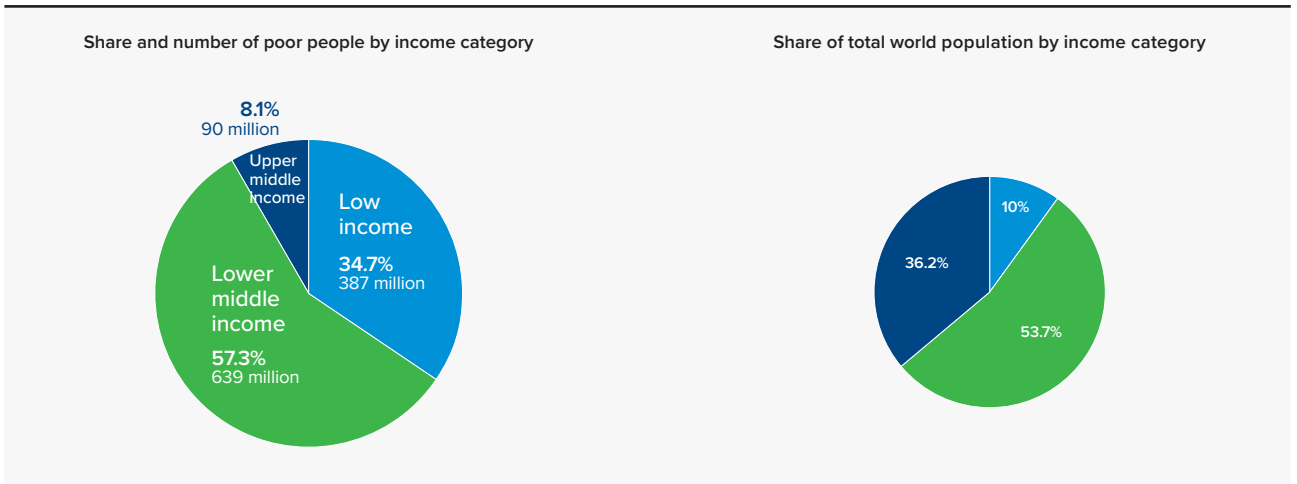
Poverty disproportionately affects low-income countries. They are home to only 10 percent of the population covered by the global MPI but 34.7 percent (387 million) of poor people (figure 3). Some 65.3 percent of poor people (730 million) live in middle-income countries, where the incidence of poverty ranges from 0.1 percent in Serbia (in 2019) to 66.8 percent in Benin (in 2017/2018) at the national level and from 0.0 percent in Jaweng, Botswana (in 2015/2016), to 89.5 percent in Alibori, Benin (in 2017/2018) at the subnational level. The fact that most poor people live in countries that have shifted to middle-income status (as measured by gross national income per capita), highlights the importance of looking at both national and disaggregated data.

**Figure 2** Nearly half of poor people live in Sub-Saharan Africa, and over a third live in South Asia



Source: Table 1 at the end of the report.

**Figure 3** Poverty disproportionately affects low-income countries



Source: Table 1 at the end of the report.

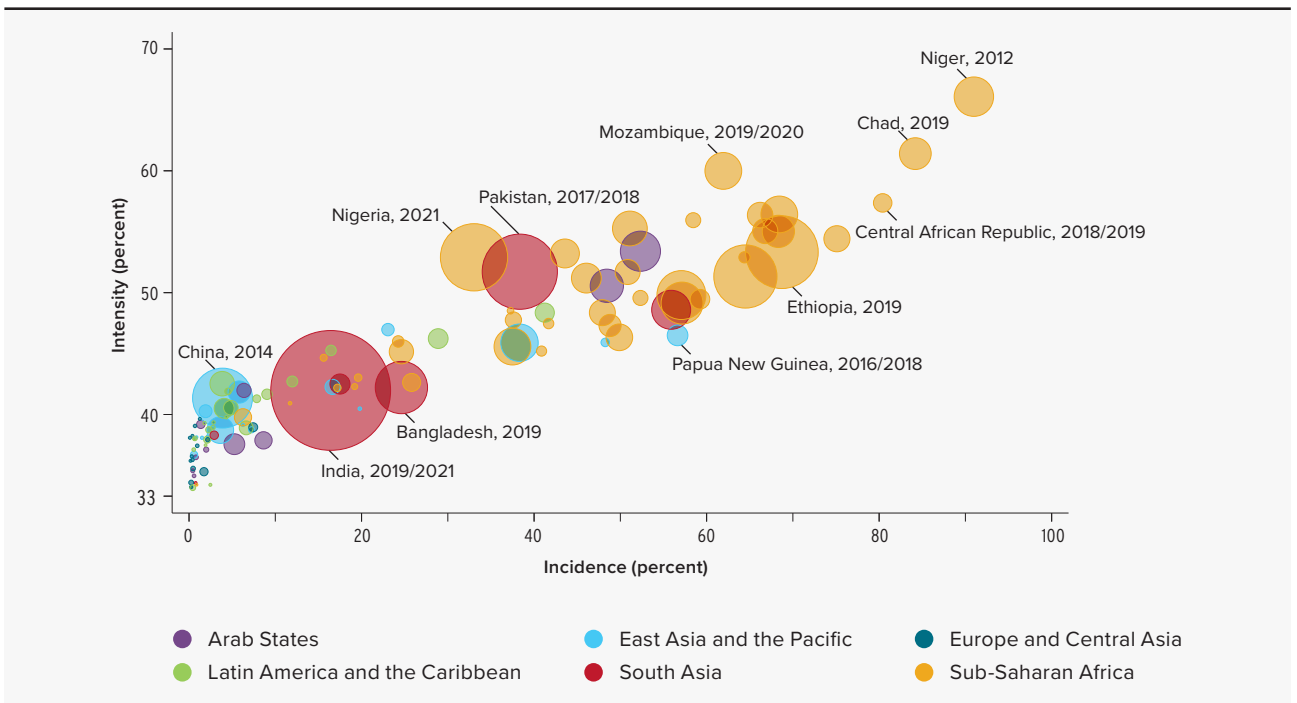
### Where is poverty most intense?

The global MPI uses intensity to further probe the lived reality of multidimensional poverty. Plotting the intensity and incidence of poverty of 110 developing countries reveals a troubling upward trend:

the higher the incidence, the higher the intensity that poor people tend to experience (figure 4). The poorest countries by global MPI value tend to have both the highest incidence and the highest intensity.

For example, in both Central African Republic (2018/2019) and Chad (2019), more than 80 percent

**Figure 4** The higher the incidence of poverty, the higher the intensity of poverty that poor people tend to experience



**Note:** The minimum value for intensity of poverty is 33.3 percent because a person is identified as poor if she or he experiences 33.3 percent or more of all weighted deprivations. The size of each bubble shows the number of poor people in each country.

Source: Table 1 at the end of the report.

of the population are poor and experience more intense poverty: 57.3 percent and 61.4 percent, respectively. Some countries buck this trend. For instance, Papua New Guinea has low intensity (46.5 percent) for its incidence (56.6 percent) compared with other countries.

Of the 1.1 billion poor people, 438 million (39.2 percent) have a low deprivation score of 33.3–39.9 percent and are thus close to the poverty cutoff (figure 5 and box 4). But 485 million people (43.4 percent) experience severe poverty, with a deprivation score of 50–100 percent. This calls for urgent attention to the poorest of the poor and their overlapping deprivations.

In Sub-Saharan Africa the intensity of poverty is particularly serious. The region is home not only to the highest number of poor people but also to the poorest of the poor. Across the 110 countries covered by the global MPI, 99 million poor people have a deprivation score of 70–100 percent, meaning that they experience deprivations in all three dimensions and in over two-thirds of weighted indicators. Some 12 million people—10 million of them in Sub-Saharan Africa—have a deprivation score of 90–100 percent (figure 6).

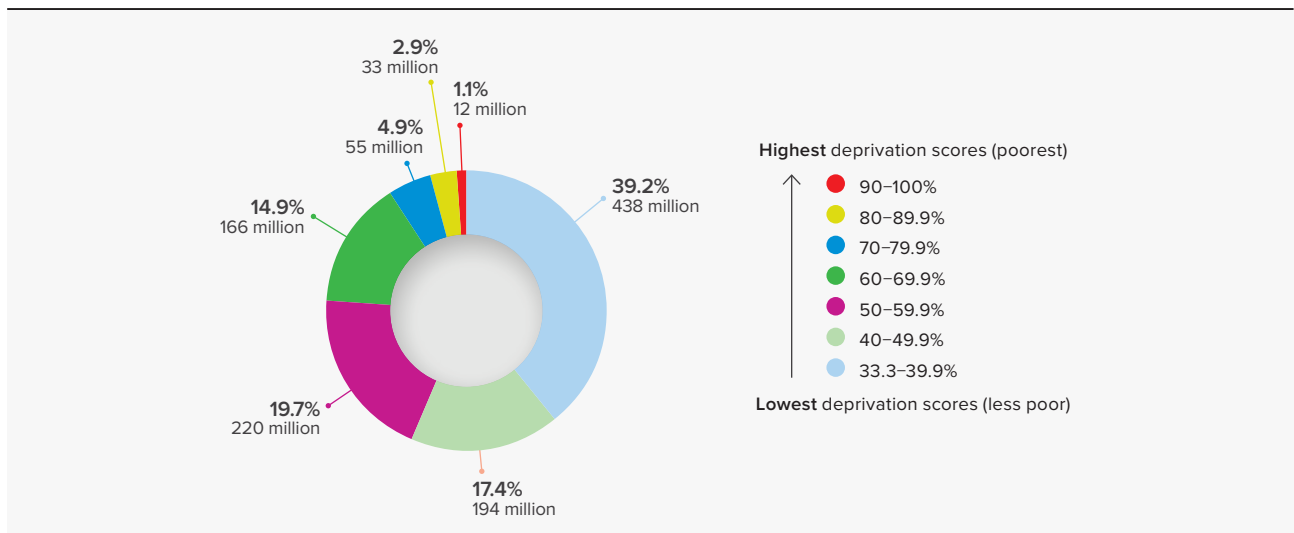
#### Box 4 What about people vulnerable to poverty?

In countries with low acute multidimensional poverty, it is useful to look at the proportion of people close to the poverty line to assess the population's exposure to future shocks and disruptions (see table 1 at the end of the report). The global MPI covers 22 Small Island Developing States (SIDS).<sup>1</sup> In many of them, acute poverty is low: 14 of them have an incidence of less than 5 percent,<sup>2</sup> and only 3 have an incidence of 5–35 percent. Vulnerability—the share of people who are not poor but have deprivations in 20–33.3 percent of all weighted indicators—can be much higher. For example, in Fiji 1.5 percent of people are poor, but 7.4 percent are vulnerable. In 10 SIDS, 13–84 percent of people are either poor or vulnerable.<sup>3</sup> For example, in Kiribati 19.8 percent of people are poor, but 30 percent of people are vulnerable, so 50 percent of people are experiencing poverty or vulnerability.

#### Notes

**1.** Barbados (2012), Belize (2015/2016), Comoros (2012), Cuba (2019), Dominican Republic (2019), Fiji (2021), Guinea-Bissau (2018/2019), Guyana (2019/2020), Haiti (2016/2017), Jamaica (2018), Kiribati (2018/2019), Maldives (2016/2017), Papua New Guinea (2016/2018), Saint Lucia (2012), Samoa (2019/2020), Sao Tome and Principe (2019), Seychelles (2019), Suriname (2018), Timor-Leste (2016/2017), Tonga (2019), Trinidad and Tobago (2011) and Tuvalu (2019/2020). **2.** Barbados (2012), Belize (2015/2016), Cuba (2019), Dominican Republic (2019), Fiji (2021), Guyana (2019/2020), Jamaica (2018), Maldives (2016/2017), Saint Lucia (2012), Seychelles (2019), Suriname (2018), Tonga (2019), Trinidad and Tobago (2011) and Tuvalu (2019/2020). **3.** This refers to countries where the sum of the incidence of poverty and the incidence of vulnerability rounds up to 13–84 percent: Belize (2015/2016), Comoros (2012), Guinea-Bissau (2018/2019), Haiti (2016/2017), Kiribati (2018/2019), Papua New Guinea (2016/2018), Samoa (2019/2020), Sao Tome and Principe (2019), Timor-Leste (2016) and Tuvalu (2019/2020).

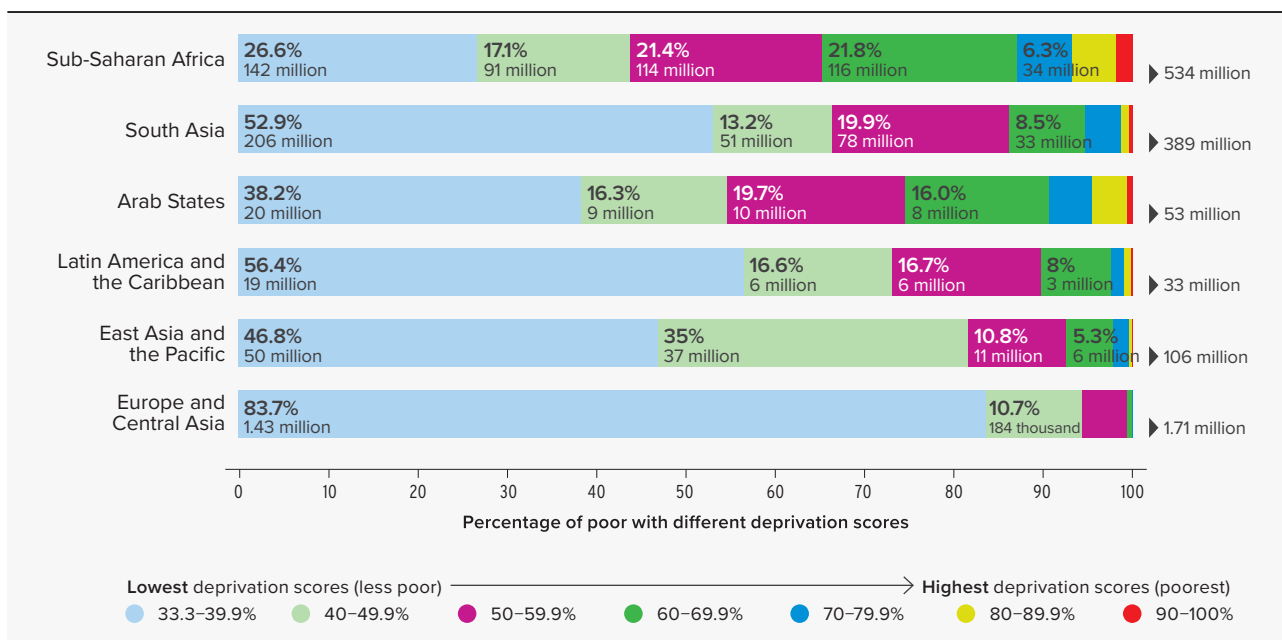
Figure 5 More than two-fifths of poor people experience severe poverty



**Note:** A person's deprivation score is the sum of the weighted deprivations she or he experiences. The minimum value for deprivation scores is 33.3 percent because a person is identified as poor if she or he experiences 33.3 percent or more of all weighted deprivations.

**Source:** Authors' calculations based on Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa (2023a).

**Figure 6 Sub-Saharan Africa is home to the poorest of the poor**



**Note:** A person's deprivation score is the sum of the weighted deprivations she or he experiences. The minimum value for deprivation scores is 33.3 percent because a person is identified as poor if she or he experiences 33.3 percent or more of all weighted deprivations.

**Source:** Authors' calculations based on Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa (2023a).

## Which groups are the poorest?

Disaggregating poverty data by subnational region, age group and rural-urban area illuminates striking inequalities within countries and reveals what groups are being left behind.<sup>7</sup>

### Subnational regions

Plotting incidence and intensity of poverty for 1,281 subnational regions reveals considerable disparity, even within world regions (figure 7). For example, the poorest country in the Arab States has an incidence of just over 52 percent, but 20 subnational regions have a higher incidence, up to 83.8 percent.

Disaggregating by subnational region also reaffirms the troubling trend that in the places with the highest incidence of poverty, each poor person on average experiences a higher share of overlapping deprivations. But regional patterns vary: the Arab States have a steeper curve than East Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, while Sub-Saharan Africa, with the highest intensity, also has greater dispersion across subnational regions with incidence above 80 percent.

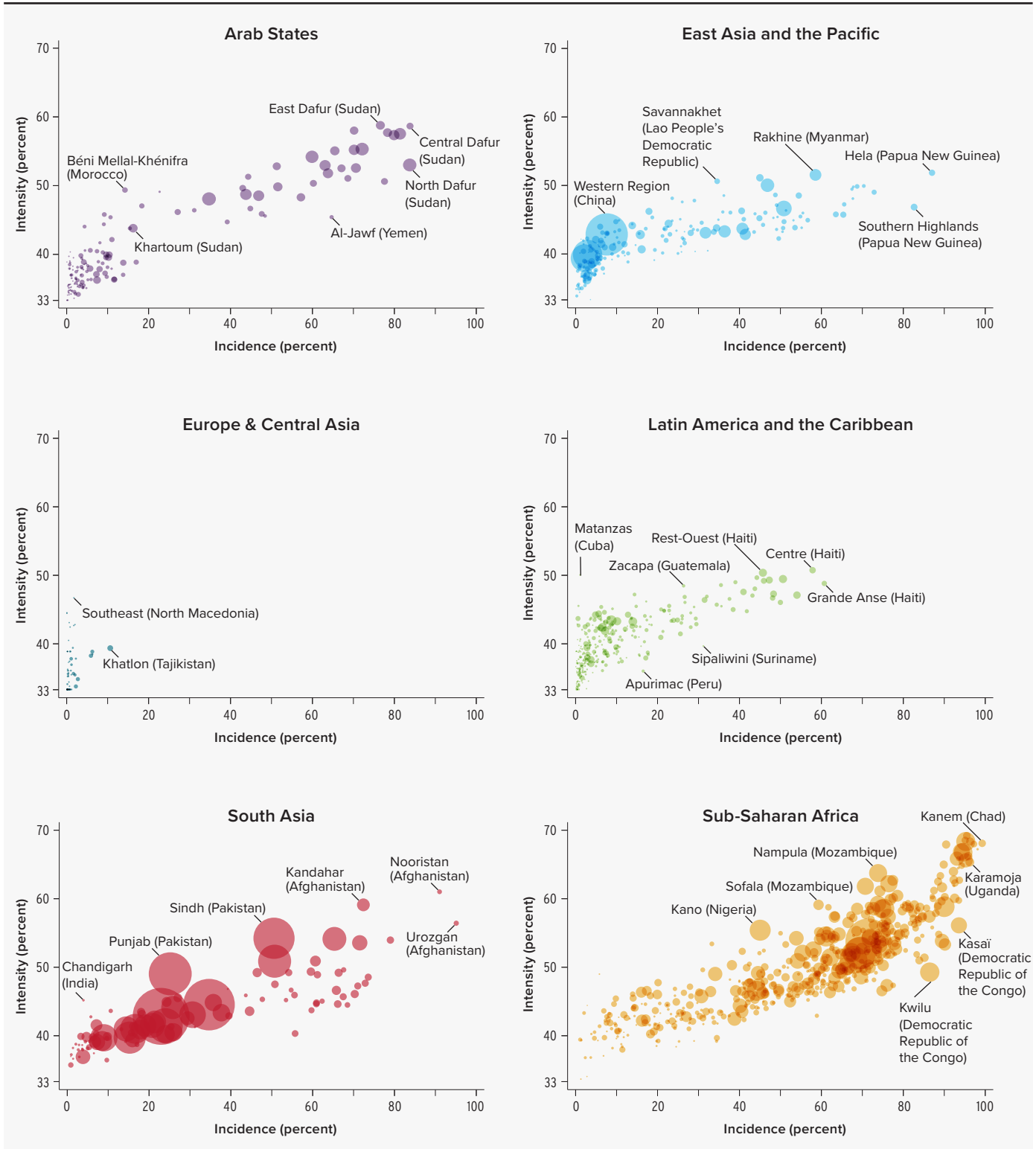
### Children

Over half (566 million) of the 1.1 billion poor people are children under age 18. Some 54.1 percent of poor children live in Sub-Saharan Africa, making poverty reduction for these 306 million children a vital focus for the region. South Asia is home to 177 million poor children, or 31 percent of poor children. Across 110 countries 27.7 percent of children are poor, compared with 13.4 percent of adults. This situation calls for unflagging engagement in reducing child poverty.

### Rural areas

Almost 84 percent of poor people live in rural areas, and rural poverty dominates in every world region (figure 8). Rural-urban disparities are glaring in South Asia, where nearly 340 million (87.5 percent) poor people live in rural areas, compared with 49 million (12.5 percent) in urban areas. While urban poverty is serious and household surveys may need to do better at capturing it, most poor people live in rural areas.

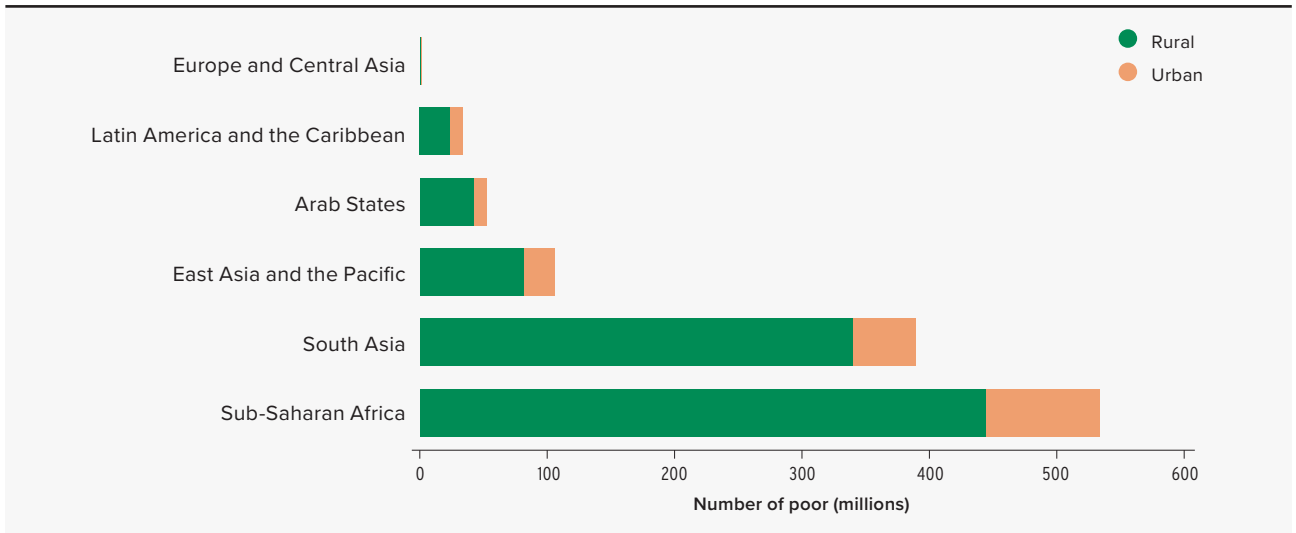
**Figure 7** Poorer subnational regions tend to have higher intensity and incidence of poverty



**Note:** The minimum value for the intensity of poverty is 33.3 percent because the global MPI identifies people as multidimensionally poor if their deprivation score is 1/3 or higher. The size of each bubble shows the number of poor people in each subnational region.

**Source:** Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa 2023b.

**Figure 8** Across world regions most poor people live in rural areas



Source: Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa 2023b.

### What do deprivation indicators tell us about poverty—from the regional to the subnational level?

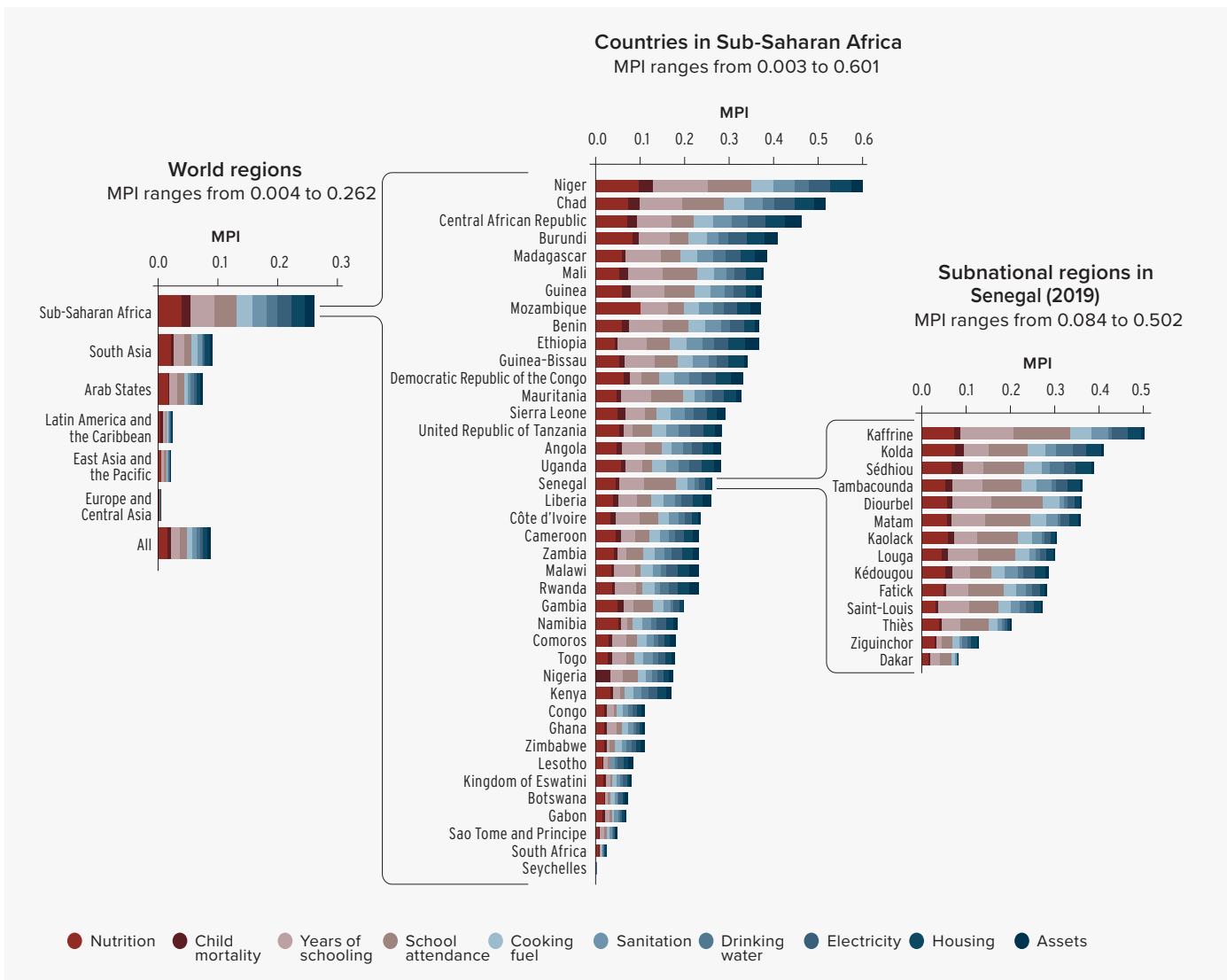
The global MPI tells a story about poverty and disparities at the regional, national and subnational levels. In Sub-Saharan Africa poverty affects an average of 49.5 percent of the population, but incidence and MPI values vary widely across countries, from 0.9 percent to 91 percent and from 0.003 to 0.601, and across subnational regions within those countries. For example, in Senegal (2019), where 50.8 percent of people are poor and the MPI value is 0.263, the incidence in subnational regions ranges from 18.3 percent to 85.7 percent, and MPI values range from 0.084 to 0.502 (figure 9).

How people are poor also varies across countries and subnational regions. For example, in

Sub-Saharan Africa the deprivations in living standards together total around 50 percent, highlighting how tackling those deprivations is critical to overcoming poverty there (see left panel of figure 9). But the deprivations also vary at the country level in Sub-Saharan Africa (see middle panel of figure 9) and at the subnational level within those countries.

Compare two subnational regions of Senegal (2019). Kédougou, in the southeast, and Fatick, on the coast, have similar global MPI values (see the right panel of figure 9). Yet deprivation in school attendance contributes more to poverty in Fatick, while deprivations in housing and electricity are stronger contributors to poverty in Kédougou—so pathways to poverty reduction differ. In short, achieving the greatest impact on poverty requires looking below the surface to understand which indicators merit most action in a particular area.

**Figure 9** Multidimensional Poverty Index values and indicator composition vary widely across world regions, countries and subnational regions



**Note:** The bars are divided into segments that show the absolute contribution of each indicator to the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) value.  
**Source:** Table 1 at the end the report and Alkire, Kanagaratnam, and Suppa (2023b).

### What deprivations do poor people experience?

To end poverty in all its forms, the interlinked deprivations that poor people experience need to be addressed to reduce the intensity of poverty and thereby empower poor people to exit poverty. Recall that people living in multidimensional poverty ordinarily experience multiple deprivations simultaneously. Breaking the global MPI down by indicator reveals which overlapping deprivations are the most widespread (figure 10):

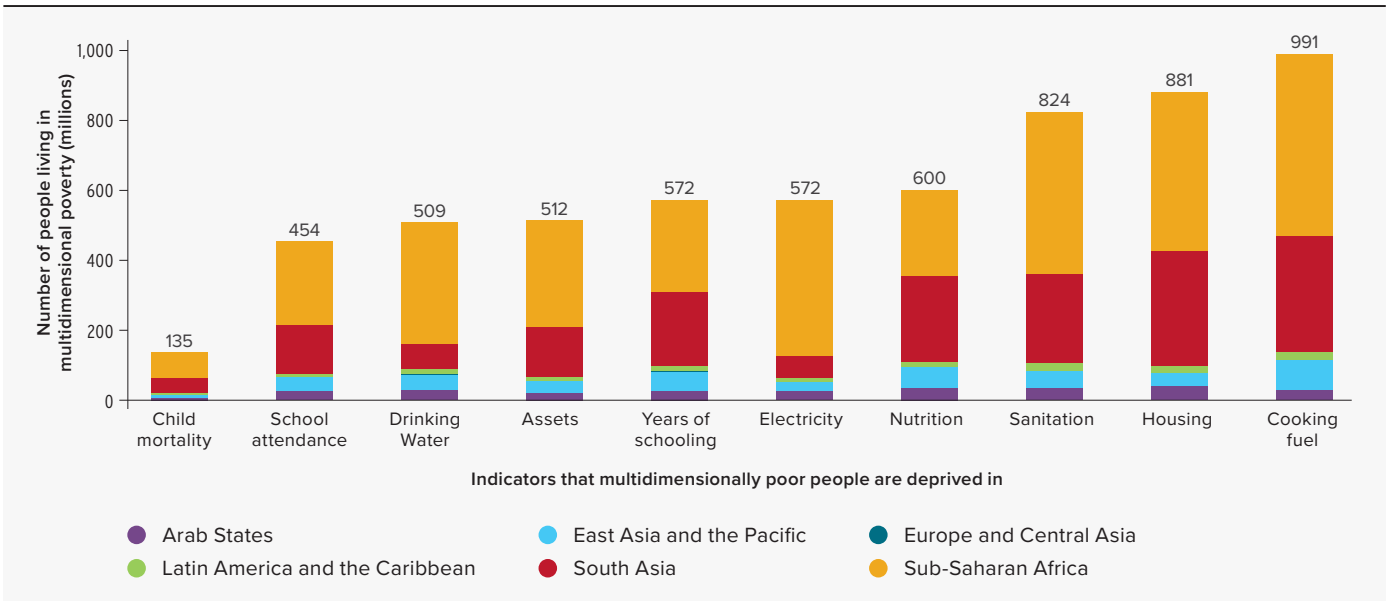
- Across 110 countries 824–991 million of the 1.1 billion poor people lack adequate sanitation, housing or

cooking fuel. More than half of poor people are deprived in nutrition, electricity or years of schooling.

- The number of poor people deprived in nutrition is similar in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa (around 245 million).
- Almost 80 percent of poor people who lack access to electricity—444 million—live in Sub-Saharan Africa and are being left behind in an increasingly digital world.
- In all regions except Europe and Central Asia, around half of poor people live in a household where no member has completed six years of schooling, making this a vexing cross-regional issue.



**Figure 10** What deprivations do poor people experience by region?



Source: Table 1 at the end the report.

## How do monetary and multidimensional poverty compare?

Multidimensional metrics complement monetary poverty metrics by measuring nonmonetary deprivations.

Multidimensional poverty using the global MPI is often more widespread than extreme monetary poverty. In 42 of the 61 countries with data,<sup>8</sup> the incidence of multidimensional poverty is higher than the incidence of extreme monetary poverty, measured by the World Bank at \$2.15 a day (figure 11).<sup>9</sup>

In Chad, Guinea and Mali the incidence of multidimensional poverty is 50 percentage points higher than that of monetary poverty, but in Malawi the incidence of monetary poverty is 20 percentage points higher than that of multidimensional poverty. It is clear that human lives are battered in multiple ways and that patterns vary.

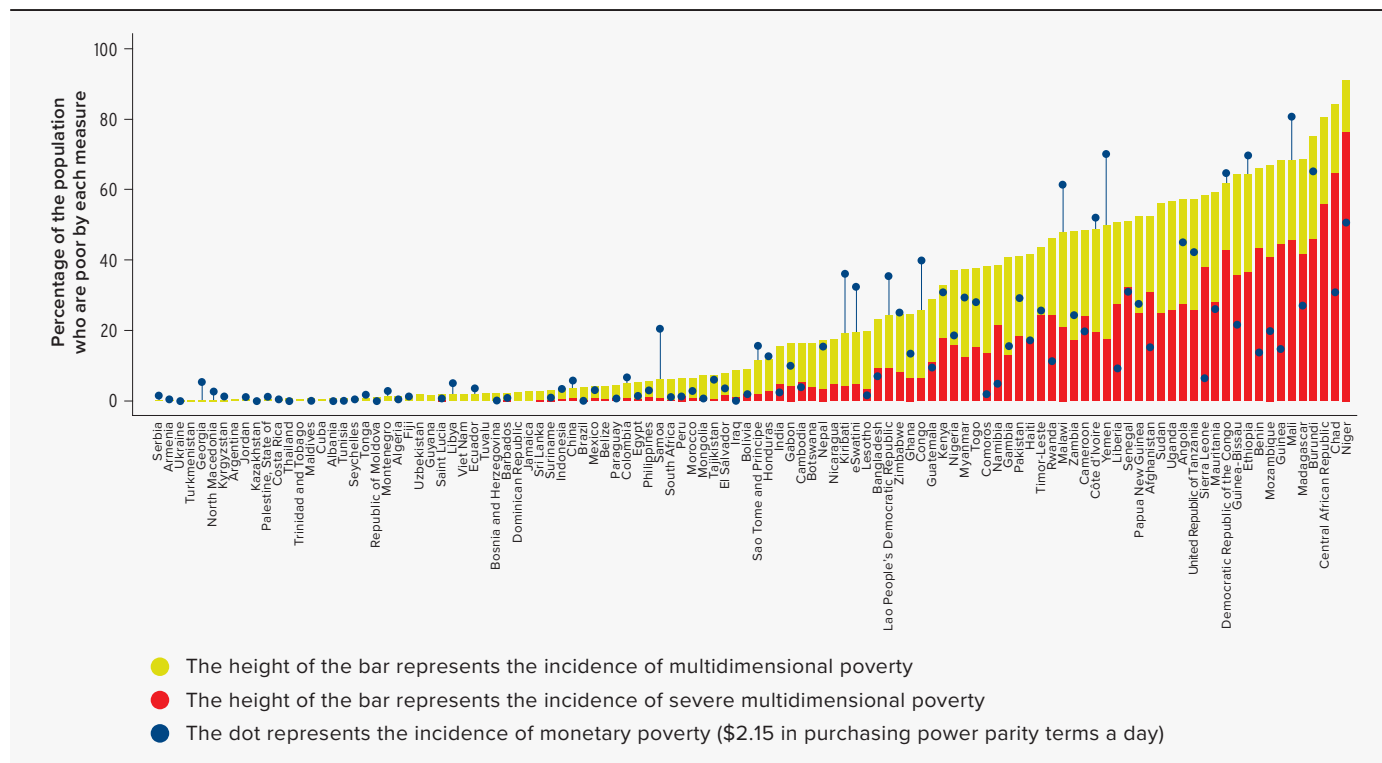
## How has poverty changed?

The global MPI includes harmonized trends for 81 countries, covering more than 5 billion people, and 124 country periods, disaggregated by subnational region, age group and rural-urban area (see table 2 at the end of the report). The findings at a glance are encouraging, showing that poverty reduction is

possible, even though most progress occurred before the COVID-19 pandemic:

- 72 of the 81 countries with trend data had a significant absolute reduction in global MPI value during at least one period.<sup>10</sup> And 24 of these countries had a significant reduction across two periods.<sup>11</sup>
- 25 countries had a significant reduction in poor people’s deprivations in every indicator.<sup>12</sup>
- 25 countries halved their global MPI value well within 15 years, showing that progress towards SDG target 1.2 at scale is attainable (table A).<sup>13</sup>
  - At least one country in every world region halved its global MPI value, including small countries such as Sao Tome and Principe (2008/2009–2014) and large ones such as China (2010–2014), India (2005/2006–2015/2016) and Indonesia (2012–2017).
  - Countries with different incidences of poverty also halved their global MPI value. While 17 countries that did so had an incidence under 25 percent in the first period,<sup>14</sup> India and Congo both had a starting incidence above 50 percent.
  - Countries took 4–12 years to halve their global MPI value, suggesting that achieving SDG target 1.2 is feasible.
  - Do these trends continue after the COVID-19 pandemic? Data for 2021 or 2022 are available only for Cambodia (box 5), Madagascar, Mexico,

**Figure 11** The incidence of multidimensional and monetary poverty shows how human lives are battered in multiple ways



**Note:** Includes 110 countries for which multidimensional poverty data are available between 2011 and 2022, 93 of which also had data on monetary poverty for the same period. For both measures the most recent data available were used (see table 1 at the end of the report).

**Source:** Table 1 at the end the report.

**Table A** Countries that halved their global Multidimensional Poverty Index value

19 countries halved their global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) value during one period		
Albania (2008/2009–2017/2018)	Guyana (2014–2019/2020)	North Macedonia (2005/2006–2011)
Plurinational State of Bolivia (2008–2016)	Honduras (2011/2012–2019)	Sao Tome and Principe (2008/2009–2014)
Cambodia (2014–2021/2022)	India (2005/2006–2015/2016)	Serbia (2014–2019)
China (2010–2014)	Indonesia (2012–2017)	Turkmenistan (2006–2015/2016)
Congo (2005–2014/2015)	Kyrgyzstan (2005/2006–2014 and again in 2014–2018) <sup>a</sup>	Viet Nam (2013/2014–2020/2021)
Dominican Republic (2007–2014)	Morocco (2011–2017/2018)	
Gabon (2000–2012)	Nicaragua (2001–2011/2012)	
6 countries halved their global MPI value across two or more periods		
Lesotho (2009–2014, 2014–2019)	Nepal (2011–2016, 2016–2019)	Suriname (2006–2010, 2010–2018)
Mongolia (2010–2013, 2013–2018)	Peru (2012–2018, 2019–2021)	Thailand (2012–2015/2016, 2015/2016–2019)

a. Kyrgyzstan halved its global MPI value twice (once during each period indicated).

**Note:** Halving the global MPI value means that the ratio of the global MPI value in the latter period to the global MPI value in the initial period rounds to 0.5 or lower.

**Source:** Table 2 at the end the report and Alkire, Kanagaratnam, and Suppa (2023c).

## Box 5 Poverty reduction in Cambodia from 2014 to 2021/2022

Cambodia's global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) value plummeted from 0.168 in 2014 to 0.070 in 2021/2022, and incidence of poverty fell from 36.7 percent to 16.6 percent. So, one in five Cambodians moved out of poverty in just 7.5 years. The number of poor people was halved from 5.6 million to 2.8 million. Children experienced the fastest progress: incidence of poverty among children declined from 42.7 percent in 2014 to 20.5 percent in 2021/2022.

Of the 25 subnational regions, 17 had significant reductions in global MPI value and incidence of poverty. The poorest two subnational regions—Kratie, and Preah Vihear and Stung Treng—significantly reduced their global MPI value and incidence the fastest, and the five next-fastest reductions<sup>1</sup> were among the six next-poorest regions. Incidence fell from 64.3 percent to 34.6 percent in Preah Vihear and Stung Treng.

However, despite the significant decrease in poverty in rural areas, there was no significant reduction in global MPI value or incidence or intensity in urban areas. The period saw strong rural to urban migration.<sup>2</sup>

Deprivations in 9 of the 10 indicators fell significantly—by more than 21 percentage points for electricity, sanitation and cooking fuel, by 11.6 percentage points for nutrition and by 11 percentage points for years of schooling.

The only indicator for which deprivation did not significantly decline was school attendance. It is unclear whether this was related to the COVID-19 pandemic. From 2014 to 2021/2022 the percentage of the urban population who were poor and deprived in school attendance rose significantly, from 3.8 percent to 6.7 percent, which might reflect school closures during the pandemic. In the same period roughly 12 percent of the rural population were poor and deprived in school attendance.

Considering all deprivations, including those of nonpoor people, reveals a disturbing rise in out-of-school children. In 2014, 12.7 percent of people lived with a child who was not attending school, and nearly all those people were poor. But by 2021/2022 the share had mushroomed to 23 percent. Yet this increase is not evident among rural or urban poor people, which suggests that interventions directed at poor children might have taken hold.

Sustainable Development Goal target 1.2 calls on countries to halve poverty based on national definitions. Cambodia's stellar performance during 2014–2021/2022 shows that such progress is feasible.

### Notes

**1.** Siem Reap, Pursat, Kampong Thom, Otdar Meanchey and Kampong Chhnang. **2.** The share of the population living in rural areas declined from 83.8 percent in 2014 to 61.5 percent in 2021/2022, and the share living in urban areas rose from 16.2 percent to 38.5 percent.

Nigeria and Peru, but only Cambodia, Nigeria and Peru showed significant reductions. Once again, we call urgently for poverty data that permit updates to these global trends.

- 10 Sub-Saharan African countries had an absolute rate of reduction during one period that was similar to or faster than that of the fastest 4 countries that halved their global MPI value.<sup>15</sup> But these Sub-Saharan African countries did not halve their MPI value due to much higher initial levels.
- In addition to India (box 6), where 415 million people moved out of poverty during 2005/2006–2019/2021, large numbers of people also exited poverty in China (69 million during 2010–2014), Bangladesh (19 million during 2015–2019), Indonesia (8 million during 2012–2017), Pakistan (7 million during 2012/2013–2017/2018) and Nigeria (5 million during 2018–2021).
- In 42 countries—over half of those covered—either there was no significant reduction in poverty among children, or the global MPI value fell more slowly among children than among adults during at least one period.<sup>16</sup> While 25 of the countries are in Sub-Saharan Africa, 17 are in other regions.
- In 14 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and 1 country in the Arab States, population growth outpaced poverty reduction.<sup>17</sup> Despite a significant decrease in incidence of poverty, the number of poor people increased during at least one period.

## Box 6 Reducing global Multidimensional Poverty Index values is possible—at speed and to scale

### India

- 415 million poor people moved out of poverty from 2005/2006 to 2019/2021.
- Incidence fell from 55.1 percent to 16.4 percent.
- Deprivation in all indicators declined.
- The poorest states and groups, including children and people in disadvantaged caste groups, had the fastest absolute progress.<sup>1</sup>

### Sierra Leone

- During 2013–2017 Sierra Leone had the fastest reduction in global MPI value of any country in any period.
- Incidence fell from 74.0 percent to 58.3 percent.
- Deprivation in all indicators declined.
- Children had the second fastest reduction in global MPI value of any country.
- This occurred during the Ebola pandemic.

### Note

1. UNDP and OPHI 2022.

## How to use the global Multidimensional Poverty Index for impact

How can the global MPI and its associated information—incidence and intensity of poverty, and component indicators—inform tangible and pragmatic actions to achieve SDG 1 by 2030?

The global MPI provides the crucial bird’s-eye view to detect acute poverty across developing countries. Incidence of poverty reveals where people live and how widespread acute poverty is within regional, national and subnational borders and among population groups. Intensity of poverty provides invaluable information on the depths of poor people’s poverty, shining light on the poorest of poor people. The global MPI is disaggregated to illuminate pockets of poverty and who is left behind. Finally, breakdown by component indicator shows what deprivations poor people experience, which can guide the choice of poverty reduction interventions to achieve the greatest impact.

The global MPI can be pictured as a stack of blocks, where each deprivation of each poor person is indicated by a block whose colour signifies the indicator and whose thickness signifies the indicator’s weight. When all the blocks are stacked on top of each other—reflecting all the weighted deprivations of all poor people—the height of the stack is the global MPI value. So, removing a block from the stack—that is, eliminating a poor person’s deprivation—reduces the global MPI

value. The colour and thickness of the blocks help in identifying action pathways to reduce poverty.

This report has shown many ways that the MPI database, covering 6.1 billion people and 1.1 billion poor people, can be used to better understand multidimensional poverty, disparities and indicator composition. It has highlighted stories of success in reducing MPI equitably, so that the poorest groups are not left behind but progress the fastest. Indeed, it found that 25 diverse countries halved their global MPI value well within 15 years, showing that progress is possible, at speed and to scale.

Policy design is contextual and must engage local as well as international institutions. Multidimensional poverty also exacerbates or is exacerbated by other contextual challenges such as conflict, environmental threats, governance challenges and economic uncertainties.

Yet the hope is that the global MPI data will be used by many actors—across institutions, world regions, disciplines and sectors—to design high-impact, cost-efficient and evidence-based policies for poverty reduction. Special focus is needed on the poorest places and groups, many of which are in Sub-Saharan Africa. By using these data on MPI values, the proportion of poor people, the intensity of their poverty, the number of poor people and indicator composition, many actors can concentrate on the multiple deprivations that batter poor people’s lives—and reduce acute multidimensional poverty.

## Notes

- 1 Based on the definition for basic drinking water at <https://washdata.org/monitoring/drinking-water>.
- 2 Based on the definition for basic sanitation at <https://washdata.org/monitoring/sanitation>.
- 3 Codes to compute the MPI are available at <https://hdr.undp.org/mpi-statistical-programmes>. In addition to tables 1 and 2 of this report, disaggregated estimates by subnational region, age group, rural-urban area and gender of household head; alternative poverty cutoffs; sample sizes; standard errors; and indicator details produced by OPHI are available at <https://ophi.org.uk/multidimensional-poverty-index/data-tables-do-files/>. See details in Alkire, Kanagaratnam and Suppa (2023a).
- 4 World Bank 2022
- 5 Albania (2017/2018), Argentina (2019/2020), Armenia (2015/2016), Costa Rica (2018), Cuba (2019), Georgia (2018), Jordan (2017/2018), Kazakhstan (2015), Kyrgyzstan (2018), Maldives (2016/2017), Republic of Moldova (2012), North Macedonia (2018/2019), State of Palestine (2019/2020), Serbia (2019), Seychelles (2019), Thailand (2019), Tonga (2019), Trinidad and Tobago (2011), Tunisia (2018), Turkmenistan (2019) and Ukraine (2012).
- 6 Afghanistan (2015/2016), Angola (2015/2016), Benin (2017/2018), Burundi (2016/2017), Central African Republic (2018/2019), Chad (2019), Democratic Republic of the Congo (2017/2018), Ethiopia (2019), Guinea (2018), Guinea-Bissau (2018/2019), Liberia (2019/2020), Madagascar (2021), Mali (2018), Mauritania (2019/2021), Mozambique (2019/2020), Niger (2012), Papua New Guinea (2016/2018), Senegal (2019), Sierra Leone (2019), Sudan (2014), United Republic of Tanzania (2015/2016) and Uganda (2016).
- 7 Previous global MPI reports have drawn attention to gender and ethnic disparities (UNDP and OPHI 2021) and inequalities across subnational regions, age groups and rural-urban areas (UNDP and OPHI 2019), among other inequalities.
- 8 Of 110 countries with data on multidimensional poverty between 2011 and 2022, 61 also have data on extreme monetary poverty within three years of the survey used for computing the incidence of multidimensional poverty (see table 1 at the end of the report).
- 9 Moreover, the lower bound of the incidence of multidimensional poverty is greater than the point estimate for incidence of monetary poverty in 42 of the 61 countries. If only point estimates are compared, the incidence of multidimensional poverty is higher in 44 of the 61 countries.
- 10 Nine countries had no significant change during any period: Armenia (2010–2015/2016), Benin (2014–2017/2018), Burkina Faso (2006–2010), Cameroon (2011–2014, 2014–2018), Guinea-Bissau (2014–2018/2019), Jordan (2012–2017/2018), Montenegro (2013–2018), State of Palestine (2010–2014, 2014–2019/2020) and Ukraine (2007–2012).
- 11 Plurinational State of Bolivia (2003–2008, 2008–2016), Cambodia (2010–2014, 2014–2021/2022), Democratic Republic of the Congo (2007–2013/2014, 2013/2014–2017/2018), Dominican Republic (2007–2014, 2014–2019), Ethiopia (2011–2016, 2016–2019), Gambia (2005/2006–2013, 2013–2018), Honduras (2005/2006–2011/2012, 2011/2012–2019), India (2005/2006–2015/2016, 2015/2016–2019/2021), Kyrgyzstan (2005/2006–2014, 2014–2018), Lesotho (2009–2014, 2014–2018), Liberia (2007–2013, 2013–2019/2020), Mali (2006–2015, 2015–2018), Mexico (2012–2016, 2016–2020), Mongolia (2010–2013, 2013–2018), Nepal (2011–2016, 2016–2019), North Macedonia (2005/2006–2011, 2011–2018/2019), Peru (2012–2018, 2019–2021), Rwanda (2010–2014/2015, 2014/2015–2019/2020), Sao Tome and Principe (2008/2009–2014, 2014–2019), Sierra Leone (2013–2017, 2017–2019), Suriname (2006–2010, 2010–2018), Thailand (2012–2015/2016, 2015/2016–2019), Zambia (2007–2013/2014, 2013/2014–2018) and Zimbabwe (2010/2011–2015, 2015–2019).
- 12 Bangladesh (2014–2019), Plurinational State of Bolivia (2003–2008, 2008–2016), Ecuador (2013/2014–2018), Kingdom of Eswatini (2010–2014), Ethiopia (2011–2016), Gabon (2000–2012), Guinea (2012–2016), Honduras (2005/2006–2011/2012, 2011/2012–2019), India (2005/2006–2015/2016, 2015/2016–2019/2021), Indonesia (2012–2017), Iraq (2011–2018), Kenya (2008/2009–2014), Lao People's Democratic Republic (2011/2012–2017), Lesotho (2014–2018), Malawi (2010–2015/2016), Morocco (2011–2017/2018), Mozambique (2003–2011), Nicaragua (2001–2011/2012), Niger (2006–2012), Sao Tome and Principe (2008/2009–2014), Sierra Leone (2013–2017), Timor-Leste (2009/2010–2016), Togo (2013/2014–2017), Viet Nam (2013/2014–2020/2021) and Zambia (2007–2013/2014).
- 13 Periods differ in length. Halving the global MPI value means that the ratio of the global MPI value in the latter period to the global MPI value in the initial period rounds to 0.5 or lower.
- 14 Albania (2.06 percent in 2008/2009), Plurinational State of Bolivia (20.62 percent in 2008), China (from 9.47 percent in 2010), Dominican Republic (from 7.27 percent in 2007), Guyana (from 3.30 percent in 2014), Honduras (from 22.83 percent in 2011/2012), Indonesia (from 6.87 percent in 2012), Kyrgyzstan (from 9.39 percent in 2005/2006), Mongolia (from 19.59 percent in 2010), Morocco (17.26 percent in 2011), North Macedonia (7.63 percent in 2005/2006), Peru (12.66 percent in 2012), Serbia (0.1 percent in 2019), Suriname (12.74 percent in 2006), Thailand (1.39 percent in 2012), Turkmenistan (3.25 percent in 2006) and Viet Nam (4.93 percent in 2013/2014).
- 15 The 10 Sub-Saharan African countries are Côte d'Ivoire (2011/2012–2016), Gambia (2013–2018), Guinea (2012–2016), Ethiopia (2016–2019), Liberia (2007–2013), Malawi (2010–2015/2016), Mali (2015–2018), Mozambique (2003–2011), Sierra Leone (2013–2017) and Togo (2013/2014–2017).
- 16 In 31 countries there was no significant reduction in child poverty during at least one period: Armenia (2010–2015/2016), Benin (2014–2017/2018), Burkina Faso (2006–2010), Cameroon (2011–2014, 2014–2018), Central African Republic (2010–2018/2019), Chad (2014/2015–2019), Colombia (2010–2015/2016), Gambia (2018–2019/2020), Ghana (2011–2014), Guinea (2016–2018), Guinea-Bissau (2014–2018/2019), Guyana (2009–2014), Jordan (2012–2017/2018), Madagascar (2018–2021), Malawi (2015/2016–2019/2020), Mauritania (2015–2019/2021), Mexico (2016–2020, 2020–2021), Republic of Moldova (2005–2012), Montenegro (2013–2018), Nigeria (2013–2016/2017, 2016/2017–2018), North Macedonia (2011–2018/2019), Pakistan (2012/2013–2017/2018), State of Palestine (2010–2014, 2014–2019/2020), Peru (2018–2019), Senegal (2017–2019), Serbia (2010–2014, 2014–2019), Suriname (2006–2010), Thailand (2012–2015/2016, 2015/2016–2019), Togo (2010–2013/2014), Turkmenistan (2015/2016–2019) and Ukraine (2007–2012). In 16 countries (including some of the 30 in which there was no significant reduction in child poverty during at least one period) the MPI value fell more slowly among children than among adults during at least one period: Central Africa (2000–2010, 2010–2018/2019), Democratic Republic of the Congo (2013/2014–2017/2018), Côte d'Ivoire (2011/2012–2016), Dominican Republic (2014–2019), Ethiopia (2011–2016), Gabon (2000–2012), Gambia (2005/2006–2013), Guinea (2012–2016), Madagascar (2008/2009–2018), Malawi (2010–2015/2016), Mali (2015–2018), Mozambique (2003–2011), Niger (2006–2012), Rwanda (2014/2015–2019/2020), Sierra Leone (2013–2017) and United Republic of Tanzania (2010–2015/2016).
- 17 Burundi (2010–2016/2017), Central African Republic (2000–10), Democratic Republic of the Congo (2013/2014–2017/2018), Ethiopia (2011–2016), Gambia (2005/06–13), Madagascar (2008/2009–2018), Malawi (2015/2016–2019/2020), Mali (2006–2015), Mauritania (2011–15), Mozambique (2003–2011), Niger (2006–2012), Senegal (2005–2017), Sudan (2010–2014), United Republic of Tanzania (2010–2014) and Zambia (2007–2013/2014, 2013/2014–2018).

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# Statistical tables







TABLE 1

Notes	
a	Not all indicators were available for all countries, so caution should be used in cross-country comparisons. When an indicator is missing, weights of available indicators are adjusted to total 100 percent. See <i>Technical note</i> at <a href="https://hdr.undp.org/system/files/documents/mpi2023technicalnotes.pdf">https://hdr.undp.org/system/files/documents/mpi2023technicalnotes.pdf</a> and <i>Methodological Note 55</i> at <a href="https://ophi.org.uk/mpi-methodological-note-55/">https://ophi.org.uk/mpi-methodological-note-55/</a> for details.
b	<i>D</i> indicates data from Demographic and Health Surveys, <i>M</i> indicates data from Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys, <i>N</i> indicates data from national surveys and <i>P</i> indicates data from Pan Arab Population and Family Health Surveys (see <a href="https://hdr.undp.org/mpi-2023-faqs">https://hdr.undp.org/mpi-2023-faqs</a> and <i>Methodological Note 55</i> at <a href="https://ophi.org.uk/mpi-methodological-note-55/">https://ophi.org.uk/mpi-methodological-note-55/</a> for the list of national surveys).
c	Data refer to the most recent year available during the period specified.
d	Value is not reported because it is based on a small number of multidimensionally poor people.
e	Urban areas only.
f	Considers child deaths that occurred at any time because the survey did not collect the date of child deaths.
g	Revised estimate from the 2020 MPI.
h	Missing indicator on cooking fuel.
i	Revised estimate from the 2022 MPI based on the survey microdata update.
j	Missing indicator on nutrition.
k	Missing indicator on child mortality.
l	Child mortality data were not used because the data were collected from a sample of women ages 15–49 that was not representative of the female population in that age group.
m	Anthropometric data were collected from all children under age 5 and from selected individuals who are age 5 or older. Construction of the nutrition indicator was restricted to children under age 5 since the anthropometric sample is representative of the under 5 population.
n	Indicator on sanitation follows the national classification in which pit latrine with slab is considered unimproved.
o	Following the national report, latrines are considered an improved source for the sanitation indicator.
p	Some 235 households were present in the individual datafile but not in the asset datafile. It is assumed that these households owned zero relevant assets.
q	The analytical sample was restricted to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey sample, and its sample weight was used, because child mortality information was not collected for the National Immunization Coverage Survey sample.
r	Because of the high proportion of children excluded from nutrition indicators due to measurements not being taken, estimates based on the 2019 Serbia Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey should be interpreted with caution. The unweighted sample size used for the multidimensional poverty calculation is 82.8 percent.
s	Missing indicator on school attendance.
t	The analytical sample was restricted to the round 2 sample because standard of living questions were not collected for the round 1 sample.
u	Captures only deaths of children under age 5 who died in the last five years and deaths of children ages 12–18 years who died in the last two years.

v	The methodology was adjusted to account for missing indicator on nutrition and incomplete indicator on child mortality (the survey did not collect the date of child deaths).
w	Based on the version of data accessed on 7 June 2016.
x	Given the information available in the data, child mortality was constructed based on deaths that occurred between surveys—that is, between 2012 and 2014. Child deaths reported by an adult man in the household were taken into account because the date of death was reported.
y	Missing indicator on housing.

#### Definitions

**Multidimensional Poverty Index:** Proportion of the population that is multidimensionally poor adjusted by the intensity of the deprivations. See *Technical note* <https://hdr.undp.org/system/files/documents/mpi2023technicalnotes.pdf> and *Methodological Note 55* at <https://ophi.org.uk/mpi-methodological-note-55/> for details on how the Multidimensional Poverty Index is calculated.

**Multidimensional poverty headcount:** Population with a deprivation score of at least 33.3 percent. It is expressed as a share of the population in the survey year, the number of multidimensionally poor people in the survey year and the projected number of multidimensionally poor people in 2021.

**Intensity of deprivation of multidimensional poverty:** Average deprivation score experienced by people in multidimensional poverty.

**Inequality among the poor:** Variance of individual deprivation scores of poor people. It is calculated by subtracting the deprivation score of each multidimensionally poor person from the intensity, squaring the differences and dividing the sum of the weighted squares by the number of multidimensionally poor people.

**Population in severe multidimensional poverty:** Percentage of the population in severe multidimensional poverty—that is, those with a deprivation score of 50 percent or more.

**Population vulnerable to multidimensional poverty:** Percentage of the population at risk of suffering multiple deprivations—that is, those with a deprivation score of 20–33.3 percent.

**Contribution of deprivation in dimension to overall multidimensional poverty:** Percentage of the Multidimensional Poverty Index attributed to deprivations in each dimension.

**Population living below national poverty line:** Percentage of the population living below the national poverty line, which is the poverty line deemed appropriate for a country by its authorities. National estimates are based on population-weighted subgroup estimates from household surveys.

**Population living below PPP \$2.15 a day:** Percentage of the population living below the international poverty line of \$2.15 (in 2017 purchasing power parity [PPP] terms) a day.

#### Main data sources

**Column 1:** Refers to the year and the survey whose data were used to calculate the country's Multidimensional Poverty Index value and its components.

**Columns 2–12:** HDRO and OPHI calculations based on data on household deprivations in health, education, and standard of living from various surveys listed in column 1 using the methodology described in *Technical note* (available at <https://hdr.undp.org/system/files/documents/mpi2023technicalnotes.pdf>) and *Methodological Note 55* at <https://ophi.org.uk/mpi-methodological-note-55/>. Columns 4 and 5 also use population data from United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. 2022. *World Population Prospects: The 2022 Revision*. New York. <https://population.un.org/wpp/>. Accessed 9 April 2023.

**Columns 13 and 14:** World Bank. 2022. World Development Indicators database. Washington, DC. <http://data.worldbank.org>. Accessed 2 May 2023.







TABLE 2

Country	Year and survey <sup>a</sup>	Multidimensional Poverty Index <sup>a</sup>	Population in multidimensional poverty		People who are multidimensionally poor and deprived in each indicator										
			Headcount		Intensity of deprivation (thousands)	Nutrition (%)	Child mortality (%)	Years of schooling (%)	School attendance (%)	Cooking fuel (%)	Sanitation (%)	Drinking water (%)	Electricity (%)	Housing (%)	Assets (%)
			(thousands)	(%)											
Thailand <sup>e</sup>	2012 M	0.005	1.4	961	36.9	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3
Thailand <sup>e</sup>	2015/2016 M	0.003	0.8	592	39.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.4	0.3 <sup>c</sup>	0.6	0.3 <sup>c</sup>	0.3	0.2 <sup>c</sup>	0.1	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.2 <sup>c</sup>	0.1
Thailand <sup>e</sup>	2019 M	0.002	0.6 <sup>c</sup>	412	36.7 <sup>c</sup>	0.3 <sup>c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.4 <sup>c</sup>	0.2 <sup>c</sup>	0.3 <sup>c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>
Timor-Leste	2009/2010 D	0.362	69.6	758	52.0	49.7	5.7	21.5	30.1	69.3	49.3	40.8	54.8	61.4	54.4
Timor-Leste	2016 D	0.215	46.9	574	45.9	33.2	3.6	15.9	14.8	45.6	31.7	18.6	19.2	40.7	29.1
Togo	2010 M	0.321	58.2	3,828	55.1	24.4	29.6	32.4	15.3	58.1	56.5	40.1	52.3	37.8	27.4
Togo <sup>d,e</sup>	2013/2014 D	0.301 <sup>c</sup>	55.1 <sup>c</sup>	4,018	54.5 <sup>c</sup>	25.1 <sup>c</sup>	29.7 <sup>c</sup>	26.6	15.7 <sup>c</sup>	54.9 <sup>c</sup>	53.4 <sup>c</sup>	36.6 <sup>c</sup>	46.8	37.6 <sup>c</sup>	20.6
Togo <sup>e</sup>	2017 M	0.213	43.0	3,373	49.6	18.3	17.7	19.3	11.3	42.5	40.7	24.7	33.0	27.7	15.5
Tunisia	2011/2012 M	0.006	1.4	154	40.0	0.6	0.2	1.1	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.6
Tunisia	2018 M	0.003	0.8	94	36.5	0.4 <sup>c</sup>	0.1	0.7 <sup>c</sup>	0.4 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.1
Turkmenistan <sup>i</sup>	2006 M	0.012	3.3	161	37.8	2.1	2.6	0.0	1.3	..	0.4	1.1	0.0	1.1	0.8
Turkmenistan <sup>j</sup>	2015/2016 M	0.004	1.1	63	34.9	0.9	1.0	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.2	..	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.0	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0	0.0
Turkmenistan <sup>k</sup>	2019 M	0.003 <sup>c</sup>	0.9 <sup>c</sup>	58	33.6 <sup>c</sup>	0.9 <sup>c</sup>	0.9 <sup>c</sup>	0.0	0.2 <sup>c</sup>	..	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>
Uganda	2011 D	0.349	67.7	22,550	51.5	42.2	9.7	29.3	15.2	67.3	60.3	51.4	66.4	61.9	31.9
Uganda	2016 D	0.281	57.2	22,157	49.2	35.1	5.3	22.6	13.8 <sup>c</sup>	56.9	50.4	41.9	50.2	49.7	26.4
Ukraine <sup>l</sup>	2007 D	0.001	0.4	165	36.4	..	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Ukraine <sup>l</sup>	2012 M	0.001 <sup>c</sup>	0.2 <sup>c</sup>	107	34.5	..	0.2 <sup>c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.1 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	0.0 <sup>c</sup>
Viet Nam <sup>i</sup>	2013/2014 M	0.019	4.9	4,495	39.3	..	0.9	3.6	1.4	4.5	4.1	1.3	0.4	3.1	1.2
Viet Nam <sup>i</sup>	2020/2021 M	0.008	1.9	1,871	40.3 <sup>c</sup>	..	0.5	1.3	0.6	1.5	1.3	0.5	0.1	1.2	0.6
Zambia <sup>d</sup>	2007 D	0.343	65.2	8,082	52.7	36.6	9.3	18.7	30.7	64.1	58.3	51.4	63.0	55.6	39.8
Zambia <sup>d</sup>	2013/2014 D	0.263	53.3	8,388	49.3	31.3	6.4	13.7	21.8	53.0	45.0	35.4	50.6	44.2	25.2
Zambia	2018 D	0.232	47.9	8,544	48.4	25.7	4.2	12.0 <sup>c</sup>	22.8 <sup>c</sup>	47.6	37.7	28.6	44.5	40.2 <sup>c</sup>	24.3 <sup>c</sup>
Zimbabwe <sup>d</sup>	2010/2011 D	0.156	36.1	4,702	43.3	18.8	4.2	4.4	8.1	35.5	29.6	23.7	34.3	26.8	25.0
Zimbabwe <sup>d</sup>	2015 D	0.130	30.2	4,276	43.0 <sup>c</sup>	16.7	3.7 <sup>c</sup>	4.1 <sup>c</sup>	5.9	29.7	24.5	21.7 <sup>c</sup>	29.4	20.9	16.5
Zimbabwe	2019 M	0.110	25.8	3,962	42.6 <sup>c</sup>	12.3	3.2 <sup>c</sup>	3.5 <sup>c</sup>	7.8	25.2	21.4	19.8 <sup>c</sup>	19.3	16.4	15.0 <sup>c</sup>

## Notes

Suggested citation: Alkire, S., Kanagaratnam, U., and Suppa, N. (2023). A methodological note on the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2023 changes over time results for 84 countries. OPHI MPI Methodological Note 57, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative. ©2018 University of Oxford

This methodological note details the harmonization principles and decisions. More extensive data tables, including disaggregated information, are available at <http://www.ophi.org.uk>.

- a When an indicator is missing, weights of available indicators are adjusted to total 100 percent. See *Technical note* at <https://hdr.undp.org/system/files/documents/mpi2023technicalnotes.pdf> and *Methodological Note 55* at <https://ophi.org.uk/mpi-methodological-note-55/> for details.
- b *D* indicates data from Demographic and Health Surveys, *M* indicates data from Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys, *P* indicates data from Pan Arab Population and Family Health Surveys and *N* indicates data from national surveys.
- c The difference between harmonized estimates for this survey year and for the previous survey year is not statistically significant at the 95 percent confidence interval.
- d At least one other survey collected data on child nutrition only; in order to harmonize the data for trends, data on adult nutrition from this survey were omitted from the calculations. Typically, Demographic and Health Surveys collect data on child and adult nutrition, while Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys collect data on child nutrition only.
- e Considers child deaths that occurred at any time because the survey at one or all points in time did not collect data on the date of child deaths.
- f Missing indicator on child mortality.
- g Based on the version of data accessed on 7 June 2016.

h Missing indicator on housing.

i Missing indicator on nutrition.

j Missing indicator on cooking fuel.

k Missing indicator on electricity.

l Indicator on sanitation follows the national classification in which pit latrine with slab is considered unimproved.

m Missing indicator on school attendance.

## Definitions

**Multidimensional Poverty Index:** Proportion of the population that is multidimensionally poor adjusted by the intensity of the deprivations. See *Technical note* at <https://hdr.undp.org/system/files/documents/mpi2023technicalnotes.pdf> and *Methodological Note 57* at <https://ophi.org.uk/mpi-methodological-note-57/> for details on how the Multidimensional Poverty Index is calculated.

**Multidimensional poverty headcount:** Population with a deprivation score of at least 33.3 percent. It is expressed as a share of the population in the survey year and the number of poor people in the survey year.

**Intensity of deprivation of multidimensional poverty:** Average deprivation score experienced by people in multidimensional poverty.

**People who are multidimensionally poor and deprived in each indicator:** Percentage of the population that is multidimensionally poor and deprived in the given indicator (censored headcount ratio).

## Main data sources

**Column 1:** Refers to the year and the survey whose data were used to calculate the country's MPI value and its components.

**Columns 2–15:** Data and methodology are described in Alkire, S., Kanagaratnam, U., and Suppa, N. (2023c). A methodological note on the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2023 changes over time results for 84 countries. OPHI MPI Methodological Note 57, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative. ©2018 University of Oxford. Column 5 also uses population data from United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. 2022. *World Population Prospects: The 2022 Revision*. New York. <https://population.un.org/wpp/>. Accessed 9 April 2023.



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