Multidimensional Poverty Index in Mexico: Public Policy uses against Poverty and Vulnerability

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In México, poverty alleviation means to guarantee to the population’s economic wellbeing and the full exercise of the social rights established in the Mexican Constitution.
NEW SOCIAL POLICY IN MEXICO: PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS

With the main purpose of measuring poverty and vulnerability levels, Mexico’s Multidimensional Poverty Index (MMPI) uses the following indicators:

- Access to food
- Access to healthcare
- Educational gap
- Access to social security
- Housing, quality and spaces
- Basic services in homes

Each one of this indicators are based on the insights of Mexico’s Political Constitution.
In order to build basic levels of social protection and guarantee social inclusion, Enrique Peña Nieto, President of Mexico, created the Cabinet México Incluyente. Every Ministry at the federal level assumes full compromise to reduce social inclusion gaps related with the MMPI. SEDESOL coordinates the Cabinet Mexico Incluyente.

### Cabinet México Incluyente

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td>• SEP</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• (CDI, INEA)</td>
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<td><strong>Healthcare</strong></td>
<td>• SALUD, SEGOB</td>
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<td><strong>Social Security</strong></td>
<td>• SHCP-SALUD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• (STPS-SEDESOL, IMSS, ISSSTE)</td>
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<td><strong>Basic Services in Homes</strong></td>
<td>• SEDESOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• (SEMARNAT-CONAGUA, CDI, SEDATU, CFE, SENER, SCT, CNA)</td>
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<td><strong>Housing, quality and spaces</strong></td>
<td>• SEDATU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• (SEDESOL, INFONAVIT)</td>
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<td><strong>Food Access</strong></td>
<td>• SEDESOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• (SEP, SALUD, SAGARPA, DIF)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td>• ECONOMÍA (SEDESOL, CDI, SCT, SEMARNAT, SALUD-DIF, STPS, SEDATU, SAGARPA, SHCP, SRE)</td>
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Design mechanisms that allows coordination between the different agencies that belong to the government and citizens

- Federal agencies
- States and municipalities
- Citizen’s initiatives and private sector.

A paradigm shift that allows the government to surpass the logic of isolated social programs in order to evolve into articulated and integral social strategies.

Different social policy strategies that guarantee universal rights

- Regional policies (rural and urban, and where the poorest people live)
- By intensity in each poverty dimension
- Focalization and universal policies depending on circumstances.
SOCIAL RIGHTS ENFORCEABILITY

The challenge is to build institutions that allow any citizen to demand the fulfillment of their social rights, bearing in mind a progressivity concept. Nowadays, México has laws regarding the right to health access, household, education, work and food access. However, it is necessary to work in the creation of a secondary legislation system which aims to:

- Define in clear terms when can we say that a citizen has fullfilled a social right and which are the mechanisms that have to be followed by the citizen and the State in order to do so.
- Define the limits of the obligations the State has to assume in order to guarantee access to the social rights.
- Define the obligations that citizens must have in order to have access to their social rights.
- Create legal institutions that allow citizens to demand the fulfillment of their social rights.
PROGRESSIVITY IN THE ACCESS TO SOCIAL RIGHTS

State resources are constrained by the capability of its citizens to create wealth (economic growth), the capability of the government to tax this wealth efficiently (fiscal policy), and by the efficiency of the state institutions overall (public policy and institutions).

However, there exist regional differences that limit the state’s capability to fulfill social rights.

Social Supply = Social Demand
State’s optimal management of resources

Basic Welfare Floor: Essential Social Rights
Welfare State: Social Rights Fulfillment exercise frontier

Resources constrains define the progressivity level of social rights exercise.

Effective access to all Social Rights
EXAMPLE: NATIONAL CRUSADE AGAINST HUNGER (CNCH)

Legal Framework: Constitution, Social Development Law, New Law of Food Access

Social Rights

Multidimensional Poverty Measurement by CONEVAL

Hunger instrumental definition: 7.01 million in extreme poverty with lack of access to food

CNCH
Presidencial Decree
SINHAMBRE System

Federal Goverment:
CNCH Intersecretarial Comission
Academic Commitee
Civil society organisations

State Goverments and Municipalities:
32 Agreements for an Inclusive and Integral Development

CNCH State Intersecretarial Comission

CNCH Municipal Intersecretarial Comission

Community committees: Social Demand
Thank you
**Example: Distrito Federal vs Chiapas**

**Distrito Federal**
- Moderate Poverty: 26.4%
- Extreme Poverty: 2.5%
- Average rights not fulfilled: 1.8
- GDP Share: 17.1%
- Human Development Index: 0.83 (Ranking 1/32), equal as observed in Andorra 2012. (For instance, Benito Juarez, a municipality has HDI of 0.96, similar as Noruega.)

**Chiapas**
- Moderate Poverty: 42.5%
- Extreme Poverty: 32.2%
- Average rights not fulfilled: 2.2
- GDP Share: 1.7%
- Human Development Index: 0.67 (Ranking 32/32), equal as observed in Gabon 2012.