

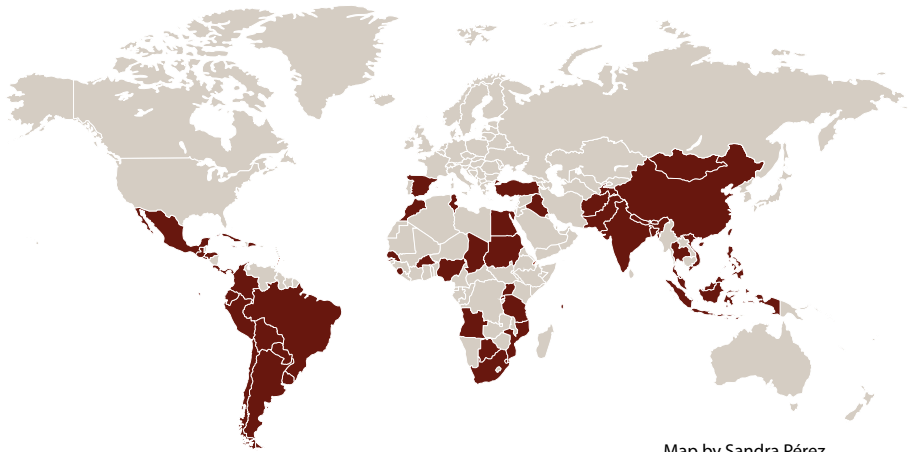
# THE MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY PEER NETWORK

*Connecting policymakers to fight poverty  
in all its dimensions*



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A global network of nearly 60 countries and 20 international organisations developing and using multidimensional poverty indices for more effective poverty reduction.



Map by Sandra Pérez

## WHY USE MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDICES?

Poverty is often defined by the one-dimensional measure of income, but no one indicator alone can fully capture the experience of poverty.

For the past decade policymakers around the world have been establishing permanent official national multidimensional poverty indices (MPIs) and regional or project-specific MPIs to illuminate the additional dimensions of poverty such as a person’s health, education and living standards, among others.

Using the Alkire-Foster (AF) method, developed by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), these indices complement existing monetary poverty statistics and provide a single societal poverty summary figure that can be unpacked to show both **who is poor** and **how they are poor** in a range of indicators. With an MPI policymakers can:

- **Monitor the effectiveness of poverty reduction policies over time** for the evaluation and reporting of progress for national targets and SDG 1; MPIs can be used as an indicator for SDG 1.2.2 which calls for the reduction ‘by half of the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions’;
- **Target social programmes to those who need them most** by using disaggregation by geographic area, population subgroups, and dimension/indicator to identify which deprivations are driving poverty among and within groups;
- **Allocate budgets** according to transparent and evidence-based decision making;
- **Incentivise coordinated policies** between departments and ministries within governments.

## A GLOBAL NETWORK TO SHARE EXPERTISE

The MPPN is the only forum that brings together policymakers who are using multidimensional poverty measures in their countries. It provides peer-to-peer technical and policy support for designing and implementing multidimensional poverty indices. Through regular high-level meetings, informal knowledge-exchange, executive training courses, and access to shared resources including the online magazine *Dimensions*, adopters of multidimensional poverty measures use the MPPN to discuss their experiences and recommendations with interested policymakers around the world.

## A GROWING GLOBAL COMMUNITY

As of July 2019, ministers and senior officials from nearly 60 countries participate in the MPPN including Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt,

“...the many faces of poverty cannot be captured by income measures alone. Knowing not just who is poor but how they are poor is essential for effective human development programs and policy decisions.”

**Nabeela Tunis,**  
Minister of Planning and  
Economic Development,  
Sierra Leone



El Salvador, eSwatini, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

A growing number of institutions also participate in the MPPN, including: African Development Bank (AfDB); Commonwealth Secretariat; Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ); Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); Islamic Development Bank (IsDB); Organization of American States (OAS); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS); Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI); Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA); Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida); Southern African Development Community (SADC); Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA); United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF); World Bank; and World Food Programme (WFP).

The MPPN was founded in 2013 by Colombia's Department for Social Prosperity (DPS), Mexico's National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy (CONEVAL), and OPHI which acts as the MPPN's Secretariat.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the Secretariat at OPHI by email at [mppn@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:mppn@qeh.ox.ac.uk) or visit [www.mppn.org](http://www.mppn.org).

OXFORD POVERTY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (OPHI) is an economic research and policy centre at the University of Oxford. [www.ophi.org.uk](http://www.ophi.org.uk).

