

SDG 10 Reduced inequalities

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Introduction of the speaker

- President, Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND), UN ECOSOC accredited research centre with special consultative status
- *Founding Professor*, Geneva Centre on Global Business/ UPB
- Ed.D from Indiana University (1978) and post- doc fellow at Columbia University, New York (1983).
- She specialises in organisation development (OD) and institutional transformation and her expertise is on governance issues in the field of sustainable development

Lecture overview

- Brief Description : Summary of its targets & indicators and links to other SDGs
- Current State of implementation and progresses
- Key issues & challenges related to the achievement of Goal 10
- Suggested actions for youth engagement and contributions.

Q1: What is SDG 10 and why does it matter?

- SDG 10: Reduce Inequality Within and Among Countries
 - SDG 10 calls for reducing inequalities due to income and discrimination/exclusion based on age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status within a country.
 - SDG 10 covers different types of inequality, from opportunities to outcomes. These can be socially, economically and politically.
- Consequences of Inequality
 - A life of deprivation can result in:
 - ◆ A lack of human security (personal wants, fear and vulnerabilities)
 - ◆ A lack of good health leading to reduced work
 - ◆ A lack of participation leading to exclusion
 - ◆ A lack of development (realising full potential) leading to under-development
 - ◆ And in a loss of dignity leading to helplessness, powerlessness and hopelessness.
- Why is Reducing inequality Important?
 - Extreme inequality has social and political impact, not only on individuals

but also on the collective. Such impact can also be generational.

- According to UNDESA, 2022, A Defining Challenge of Our Times
 - ◆ "Inequality is closely linked to peace and security since unequal distribution of resources can result in conflict, war and displacement.
 - ◆ Inequality can create vicious cycles of poverty that reinforce vulnerabilities and negatively affect those in greatest need, with the potential to create further instability and conflict."
- SDG 10 aims for...
 - Reducing inequality can be achieved by adopting policies to progressively achieve greater equality such as fair fiscal, wage and social protection policies.
 - Improving regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthening the implementation of such regulations.

Q2: What does SDG10 entail in terms of targets and indicators?

- SDG 10
 - Advocates delivering sustained income growth to the poorest 40% of the global population and achieving empowerment and social, economic and political inclusion for all by 2030.
 - aims to ensure equal opportunities through the elimination of discriminatory laws, policies and practices, while facilitating orderly and safe human migration and mobility via the implementation of sound migration policies for example.
 - And envisages enhanced representation and a greater voice for developing countries in decision-making within international economic and financial institutions.
- SDG 10 contains 10 targets and 14 indicators
 - Target 10.1: Reduce income inequalities
 - ◆ Indicator 10.1.1: Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among bottom 40 percent of the population and the total population
 - Target 10.2: Promote universal social, economic and political inclusion
 - ◆ Indicator 10.2.1: Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
 - Target 10.3: Ensure equal opportunities and end discrimination
 - ◆ Indicator 10.3.1: Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international

human rights law

- Target 10.4: Adopt fiscal and social policies that promotes equality
 - ◆ Indicator 10.4.1: Labour share of GDP
 - ◆ Indicator 10.4.2: Redistributive impact of fiscal policy
- Target 10.5: Improved regulation of global financial markets and institutions
 - ◆ Indicator 10.5.1: Financial Soundness Indicators
- Target 10.6: Enhanced representation for developing countries in financial institutions
 - ◆ Indicator 10.6.1: Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations
- Target 10.7: Responsible and well-managed migration policies
 - ◆ Indicator 10.7.1: Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of monthly income earned in country of destination
 - ◆ Indicator 10.7.2: Number of countries with migration policies that facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people
 - ◆ Indicator 10.7.3: Number of people who died or disappeared in the process of migration towards an international destination
 - ◆ Indicator 10.7.4: Proportion of the population who are refugees, by country of origin
- Target 10.a: Special and differential treatment for developing countries
 - ◆ Indicator 10.a.1: Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero-tariff
- Target 10.b: Encourage development assistance and investment in least developed countries
 - ◆ Indicator 10.b.1: Total resource flows for development, by recipient and donor countries and-type of flow (e.g. official development assistance, foreign direct Investment and other flows)
- Target 10.c: Reduce transaction costs for migrant remittances
 - ◆ Indicator 10.c.1: Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted
- Equality also Stands for "Leaving No One Behind"
 - A key value and vision of the 2030 Agenda
 - A solemn pledge made by the Heads of Governments of all 193 member States of the United Nations on 25 September 2015 to bring about a Fair and Just world

Q3: How much progress have we made concerning SDG 10 since the launching of the 2030 Agenda?

- SDG Dashboards (by region and income group)
 - Many countries offer no data
- SDGs Trackers ¹
- People living below 50 percent of median income
 - A useful measure for monitoring the level and trends in social inclusion, relative poverty and inequality within a country
 - Can see how unequal from indicated colors (the darker the more inequality): inequality has increased, especially in terms of income and wealth)
- Income Inequality: Trends ²
 - Income inequality has increased everywhere in recent decades, but at different speed.
 - In developing countries, inequality has increased by 11 percent!!!! Income inequality is lowest in Europe and highest in the Middle East.

Q4: What are the key challenges in implementing this SDG 10?

- Challenges #1 ³
 - Achieving Goal 10 and the SDGs more broadly requires a deliberate strategy to reach the furthest behind, first.
 - What this will take:
 - ◆ Solidarity
 - ◆ Unconditional respect of human rights
 - ◆ Changing mindset and long held beliefs
- Challenges #2 ⁴
 - Inequality starts with the lottery of birth
 - ◆ The social and economic inequalities and disadvantages in early life can limit opportunities and the ability to realize one's full potential.
 - ◆ Discrimination based on age, gender, ethnic or racial group, disability status, sexual orientation, migratory status, residence or other factors causes disadvantages for some individuals in many different and often invisible ways, throughout their lives.
 - ◆ These patterns of inequality get passed on from generation to generation. Therefore, early interventions and investing in all children, especially the poorest and most marginalized, is central to breaking

¹ <https://sdg-tracker.org/>

² <https://www.un.org/en/un75/inequality-bridging-divide>

³ <https://data.unicef.org/sdgs/goal-10-reduced-inequalities/>

⁴ *Id*

intergenerational poverty and inequality

- Challenges #3 ⁵
 - No SDG refers explicitly to older persons, although age-based discrimination is a serious problem. It is important to recall the right to autonomy and self-determination of older persons.

Q5: Are there good examples of SDG 10 implementation? Please give an example where young people have contributed to this SDG Goal?

- Good Examples: States
 - Head Start Programme
 - ◆ Provide comprehensive early childhood education, health, nutrition, and parent involvement services to low-income children and families (USA).
 - Social protection floors
 - ◆ Nationally defined sets of basic social security guarantees that should ensure, as a minimum that, over the life cycle, all in need have access to essential health care and to basic income security (India, Thailand, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile etc.)
 - Tools for measuring exclusion/discrimination
 - ◆ Indices of Social Development ⁶
 - ◆ Social Progress Index ⁷
 - Active Promotion of inclusion of excluded groups or populations, e.g., immigrants, disabled persons in policies
- Youth Actions Against Discrimination
 - "Black Life Matters" march (2020)
 - ◆ Millions of youth participated around the world
 - Young Ambassadors for Rights (France)
 - ◆ Youth trained and supervised by the Defender of Rights to raise awareness of their rights to other young people.
 - European Youth Forum ⁸
 - The Hague Youth Declaration on Human Rights in Action ⁹
 - Youth lead ¹⁰

⁵ <https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/static/files/sdg1>

⁶ <https://isd.iss.nl/home/inclusion-of-minorities/>

⁷ <https://www.socialprogress.org/>

⁸ <https://www.youthforum.org/>

⁹ <https://www.oneyoungworld.com/hague-youth-declaration-human-rights-action>

¹⁰ <https://www.youthleadap.org/about-us>

Q6: What actions do you suggest for young people to engage or participate in order to achieve SDG 10?

- Agency of the Youth
 - Be informed of your universal human rights and discuss them with your peers
 - Speak up when seeing injustice or discrimination being done to yourself or others
 - Volunteer your services to support the less well-off persons and vulnerable groups
 - Be alert and report social practices with factual details that have discriminating effect on social media or human rights groups
 - Promote good practices of inclusion and solidarity via social media or human rights groups or personal networks
 - Use your talent and work with your friends to create practical solutions in reducing inequalities and exclusion in your environment
- Inequality is not just unfairness, but also inclusiveness in social development
- Let's all work together toward a fair and just world!