

Case Studies on Leaving No One Behind

A COMPANION VOLUME TO THE DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION REPORT 2018



The Development Assistance Committee: Enabling effective development



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Foreword

The case studies presented in this companion volume complement the *Development* Co-operation Report 2018: Joining forces to leave no one behind. They are a source of knowledge and lessons on the multiple, broad and varied, mainstreamed, targeted and co-ordinated ways that poor, vulnerable and marginalised people can be included in and benefit from sustainable development. The case studies, which were contributed by official development co-operation ministries and agencies, international organisations, developing country governments, civil society organisations, business, and research bodies reflect diverse actions, investments and approaches to answering the pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind.

The Development Co-operation Report team at the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD) collected, prepared and edited these case studies in close collaboration with all contributors under the overall direction of Jorge Moreira da Silva, Director of the OECD DCD. Rebecca Castaldo consulted with contributors, identified innovative case studies and managed the collection process. Valentina Sanna co-ordinated the production, editing and finalisation of the case studies in collaboration with Ida Mc Donnell, Team Lead and Managing Editor of the Development Co-operation Report and the case studies. Rahul Malhotra, Head of the Reviews, Results, Evaluation and Development Innovation Division, DCD provided strategic guidance and oversight.

The case studies were copy-edited by Scriptoria (scriptoria.co.uk).

Stacey Bradbury, Claudio Cerabino, Christelle Comair, Stephanie Coic and Katia Grosheva provided support for communications, outreach, publishing and administration.

We extend our sincere gratitude to every organisation and individual that contributed a case study on leaving no one behind.

Executive summary

In 2015, United Nations Member States endorsed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – a transformative global agenda integrating economic, social and environmental development within 17 interdependent Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Central to the 2030 Agenda is the pledge to meet these goals for all, leaving no one behind, and endeavouring to reach the furthest behind first. In spite of this commitment, growing inequalities - of income, wealth, access to basic needs in terms of food, shelter and clothing, but also to sanitation, education, healthcare, justice and human rights – are constraining the achievement of real, visible and long-lasting development. Failure to achieve leave no one behind constitutes a major stumbling block to the achievement of the entire set of global goals and their vision for a shared future as set in the 2030 Agenda.

The Development Co-operation Report 2018: Joining forces to leave no one behind helps clarify what committing to the pledge to leave no one behind means in practice. Recognising that there is no single answer, the report investigates this question from a range of perspectives and approaches to identify lessons and emerging practices that are making a difference. It makes a strong case for reforming and refocusing development co-operation - in terms of narrative, financing, policies, management practices and incentives - and for more deliberate, systematic and co-ordinated efforts by providers to maximise their impact on leaving no one behind.

The case studies of this compendium complement the analysis, findings and recommendations of the *Development Co-operation Report 2018*. They seek to inspire a multitude of actors to step-up leadership, investment and collective action by sharing experiences, good practices, innovation and lessons learnt and showing that reaching the furthest behind is achievable. The insights provided in these case studies come from a variety of actors, including official development co-operation ministries and agencies, international organisations, developing country governments, civil society organisations, business, and research bodies.

These case studies share different perspectives on what it means to leave no one behind and highlight success factors, challenges and lessons in reaching the furthest behind on the basis of diverse approaches and experiences in a range of developing country contexts. The case studies are organised under two broad categories:

1. **Reaching and including people and places.** These case studies include examples of how projects and programmes target populations and groups left behind – such as poor people, women and girls, children and youth, persons with disabilities, ethnic and religious minorities and the elderly – in different sectors and contexts. The case studies cover multiple sectors, including education, health, social protection, employment, human rights, urban development in fragile contexts, areas at risk of climate disasters and places that are difficult to reach for reasons of geography.

2. The enabling role of international co-operation: policies, partnerships and data. These case studies cover diverse international and development co-operation policies and programmes, and tools and instruments to identify who is left behind and where and understand the root causes. There is a strong emphasis on how policies can be more inclusive and multidimensional and several solid examples of partnerships and co-ordinated approaches that are effective in overcoming common challenges with each partner building on its comparative advantage. Many of the case studies showcase how development co-operation can play to its strengths in answering the pledge to leave no one behind.

Shedding light on success factors in leaving no one behind

While the case studies present a multitude of approaches to reach the furthest behind and achieve more inclusive development, there is a striking number of similar findings and commonalities across the case studies in terms of the drivers and factors of success. These include the following enablers:

- Having strong will and support from management and leadership;
- country ownership and strong political commitment;
- a solid and robust identification of those left behind;
- understanding the drivers of discrimination, disadvantage and exclusion and the interactions between multiple deprivations;
- using disaggregated data;
- acting at local level, adapting to the needs on the ground and partnering with local institutions;
- building inclusive and multi-stakeholder partnerships;
- using participatory approaches;
- learning from evaluation and sharing knowledge; and
- integrating long-term sustainability into policies and projects.

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Part II. The enabling role of international co-operation: Policies, partnerships and data

41. The Individual Deprivation Measure

By Joanne Crawford and Julia Nicholson (International Women's Development Agency); Sharon Bessell and Janet Hunt (Australian National University); and Sharon McIvor, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia

Effective policy making for poverty reduction requires information reflecting the different dimensions of poverty

Poverty data are incomplete. For example, despite increased recognition of the genderpoverty nexus within global development discourse, the conceptualisation and measurement of poverty remains insensitive to gender. The extensive evidence that speaks to the gendered nature of poverty is not yet reflected in global or comparable national data. UN Women's Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016 report noted that while "women's socio-economic disadvantage is reflected in pervasive gender inequalities in earned income, property ownership, access to services and time use ... [t]he absence of sex disaggregated data makes it difficult to establish if women are, across the board, more likely to live in poverty than men" (UN Women, 2015, p. 44_[1]). It remains a challenge to turn evidence from the lived experience of individuals into the kind of information required at key decision-making tables, such as government budget committees. In allocating finite resources for greatest impact, decision makers require information that clearly captures and conveys:

- Who is poor, in what ways, and to what extent;
- How factors such as gender, age, ability/disability and rural/urban location influence circumstances; and
- How these aspects interact to deepen deprivation.

Current poverty measures are limited in their ability to provide this information. A number of factors influence this, including the predominant focus on income or consumption and measurement at the household level. When multidimensional measures move beyond income, they still tend to be centred on a limited range of dimensions, such as health or education, and remain focused at the household level. These limitations matter because estimates indicate that around one-third of all inequality is within rather than between households (Kanbur, 2016_[2]). While money is important, participatory research with people living in poverty indicates there are many other dimensions of life (social, environmental, etc.) that keep them poor and that should be included in a measure of multidimensional poverty (Wisor et al., 2014_[3]).

Analyses of available household-level data offer important additional insights but are insufficient. Goal 1 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), "To end poverty in all its forms everywhere", and the overall commitment of the 2030 Agenda to "leave no one behind", requires multidimensional poverty data about individuals to enable policy-relevant analysis of intersectional disadvantage.

A measure of poverty at an individual level enabling disaggregation and analysis of intersections between different disadvantages

The Australian Government is funding the further development of the Individual Deprivation Measure (IDM)¹ through a partnership between the Australian National University and the International Women's Development Agency. The Measure assesses 15 dimensions of poverty at the individual level, enabling disaggregation by sex, age, disability and geography (Figure 41.1). It also enables an analysis of intersections to reveal overlapping disadvantages. The IDM collects primary data to show how individuals in a household experience deprivation or poverty, including deprivation in access to food, health, shelter, education and decision making, and experience of violence. Dimension selection was informed by participatory research with people living in poverty.

The IDM also offers new insights into the intensity of poverty, by measuring it on a 0-4 scale. This scale along with measures across 15 dimensions provide a more nuanced picture, which is gender-sensitive and enables disaggregation by disability. The measure can enable more effective targeting and monitoring of the impact of policies and programmes.

The IDM comprises three main technical elements:

- 1. A validated survey tool;
- 2. A data collection method in which multiple adults in a household are asked the same questions, enabling analysis of within-household differences across the IDM's 15 dimensions;
- 3. A standardised system of indicator coding, dimension scoring and composite index construction, enabling comparative analysis.

Strong engagement with experts across different disciplines and strong testing as a key to success

Participatory research across six countries and close engagement with poverty measurement, feminist, and gender and development debates ensured the IDM's strong conceptual foundation as a gender-sensitive, multidimensional measure. Early piloting demonstrated its feasibility and potential to reveal intersections of demographic factors, and between dimensions. Early use also raised various technical issues and questions, highlighting the importance of further refinement and testing as progress is made towards scale up.

Development of the IDM has confirmed the importance of cross-disciplinary, multi-stakeholder partnerships, mixed method research, and sustained engagement by champions across the innovation cycle. These factors have supported IDM partners to develop the measure while maintaining coherence with the foundational, participatory research and focus on credibility, robustness, resourcing and pathways to use.

Other key lessons so far include: building a measure that overcomes the limitations of current, gender-blind poverty measurement is technically demanding; constructing a composite index comprising economic, social and environmental dimensions is challenging; and we need to move from a focus on disaggregating to measuring what matters to tackle poverty and inequality.

Next steps

The Individual Deprivation Measure is being tested in a range of contexts to be ready to be scaled up for global use by 2020. Investment in technology, visualisation, curriculum development and training will support IDM data collection and use by a range of actors. By engaging with other initiatives and institutions there will be scope to align with other measures and to enable data interoperability. The IDM partners continue to work with diverse stakeholders so that they can contribute to realising the SDGs, and the commitment to leave no one behind.

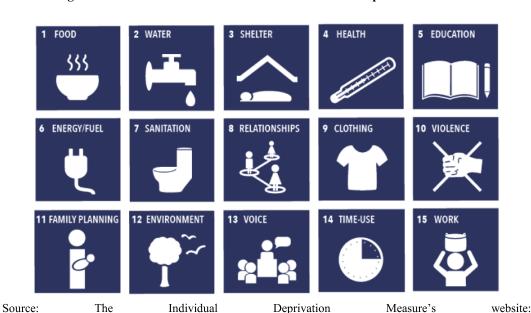


Figure 41.1. The fifteen dimensions of the Individual Deprivation Measure

Notes

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¹ See <u>Individualdeprivationmeasure.org</u>.

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A COMPANION VOLUME TO THE DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION **REPORT 2018**

These case studies complement the 2018 Development Co-operation Report: Joining forces to leave no one behind. Case study contributors share knowledge and lessons on what it takes to answer the pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind through national and sub-national policies, strategies and programmes as well as international development co-operation projects, programmes and partnerships. The insights, good practices and lessons shared in these case studies were provided by diverse actors. These include official development co-operation ministries and agencies from members of the OECD and the Development Assistance Committee, international organisations, developing country governments, civil society organisations, business, and research bodies.

The case studies highlight experiences from projects and programmes in leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind. They are organised and presented under two broad categories:

- 1. Reaching and including people and places;
- 2. The enabling role of international co-operation: policies, partnerships and data.

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