



## Concept Note

### "Multidimensional Poverty Data: Post-Pandemic Insights and Policy Applications" Side Event to the 54th UN Statistical Commission

Tuesday 28th February 2023, 8:00 AM (NY)  
Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations  
828 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave, 10017 New York

The [Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network \(MPPN\)](#) is hosting a side event at the **54th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC)**. The Commission is the key UN statistical entity, with participation from national and international statistical leaders from across the world.

Amidst rising global economic crises and instability, effective and sustained policies and statistically-informed political momentum are vital to reduce poverty in all its dimensions, especially amongst the more vulnerable. The number of countries who report their own context-specific National Multidimensional Poverty Indices to guide policymaking and track and report progress on multiple SDG indicators (including 1.2.2) continues to increase. In keeping with the 2023 UNSC theme of 'Data and Indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development', this event will convene Statistician Generals from over ten countries to share insights and experiences.

The most recent UNDP-OPHI global Multidimensional Poverty Index report raised an urgent call for the data revolution not to leave household survey-based poverty data behind. Speakers will share improvements or nuances on post-pandemic data collection and on the inclusion of MPI indicators in this census round. Governments, agencies and other interested stakeholders will benefit from this knowledge exchange to work towards better data for better lives.

**About National and Global MPIs:** Governments such as Afghanistan, Armenia, Bhutan, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ghana, Honduras, India, Malawi, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, VietNam and most recently, Uganda use National Multidimensional Poverty Indices (MPIs) as an official statistic of poverty, usually complementing national monetary poverty statistics. Each National MPI is tailor-made to the national context. For example, its design may reflect the constitution, or national development plan, or a participatory exploration of what poverty means. The National MPI is an official poverty statistic, and considerable effort is made so that it is used to inform and energise policy. Yet not all governments have National MPIs. Even when they do, National MPIs cannot be compared. So, there is a value-added to having an internationally comparable global MPI across developing countries and/or universally, with extensive and disaggregated information on the composition of poverty for different groups. A global MPI for more than 100 developing countries has been estimated by OPHI and the UNDP's Human Development Report Office since 2010 and is also disaggregated for subnational regions, as well as by variables like age and rural-urban areas. The most recent report in 2021 included data on deprivations by gender, caste and ethnicity, unmasking disparities to show the importance of disaggregating poverty in different ways.

**About the Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network (MPPN):** The Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network is a South-South network of policymakers from countries and institutions interested in measuring and tackling multidimensional poverty. It was launched in June 2013 at a distinguished event at the University of Oxford, at which former President of Colombia and Nobel Laureate Juan Manuel Santos and Professor Amartya Sen gave keynote addresses. The MPPN was established in response to demand for South-South exchange on implementing multidimensional measures, and for technical and institutional support. The Network Steering Committee includes Ministers and senior government officials from China, South Africa, Colombia and Bangladesh, as well as from OPHI.

### **Format**

This side event to the UN Statistics Commission, hosted by the MPPN, will be a 1.5-hour dynamic discussion with interventions from a panel of lead statisticians from national governments. The event is open for all to attend. Special thanks to the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations for hosting the side event.

\*All attendees are requested to register in advance on the [following link](#); coffee and pastries will be available from 7:45 AM.