

Child Poverty in Uzbekistan: Findings and Way Forward

MPPN network Meeting
Tashkent, 2024

Child poverty matters because:



- Globally, children are the people *most likely* to be poor
- Poverty *impacts children directly* – reduced access to high-quality food, early childhood development opportunities, preventative health care; higher stress...
- And *indirectly* – parental mental health/stress, parenting and the home environment,
- Inability to invest *in the future need to survive* the present
- *Contributes to* lower cognitive development, lower school attendance and achievement, poorer health outcomes, loss of opportunity
- Can be *exacerbated* in times of crisis
- When a child experiences *long-term poverty*, these effects are stronger
- Children *can not do anything* to change this

SDG 1 requirements

SDG 1.2 - By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women **and children of all ages** living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.

- Requires countries to **routinely measure and monitor child poverty** on the basis of national measures.

Measures of child poverty:

- Monetary: Against the monetary threshold of 1.90 USD or higher
- Multidimensional: Against a composite threshold consisting of set of indicators showing deprivations (access to health, education, water/sanitation, leisure, etc.)



Indicative milestones on a pathway to address child poverty

A world
free
from child
poverty

01

Building a
national pathway
to end child
poverty

02

Measuring
child poverty

03

Putting child
poverty on
the map: child
poverty advocacy

04

Reducing child
poverty through
policy and
programme
change

05

Achieving the
SDGs: ending
extreme
child poverty
and halving it
by national
definitions

Uzbekistan experience

First time when *both measures* are available for policy-making

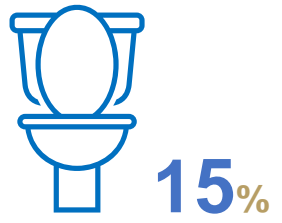
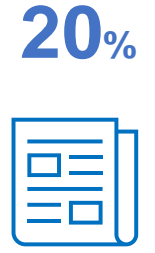
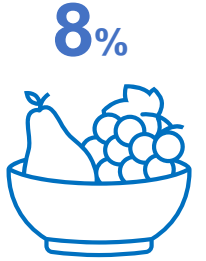
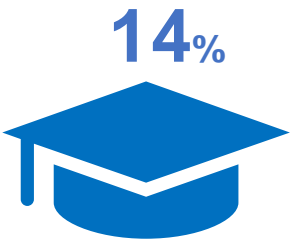
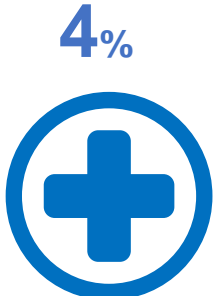
Significant reduction in monetary poverty rates

Opportunity to routinely measure and respond to child poverty

Opportunity to *achieve SDG 1 and national poverty reduction goals*

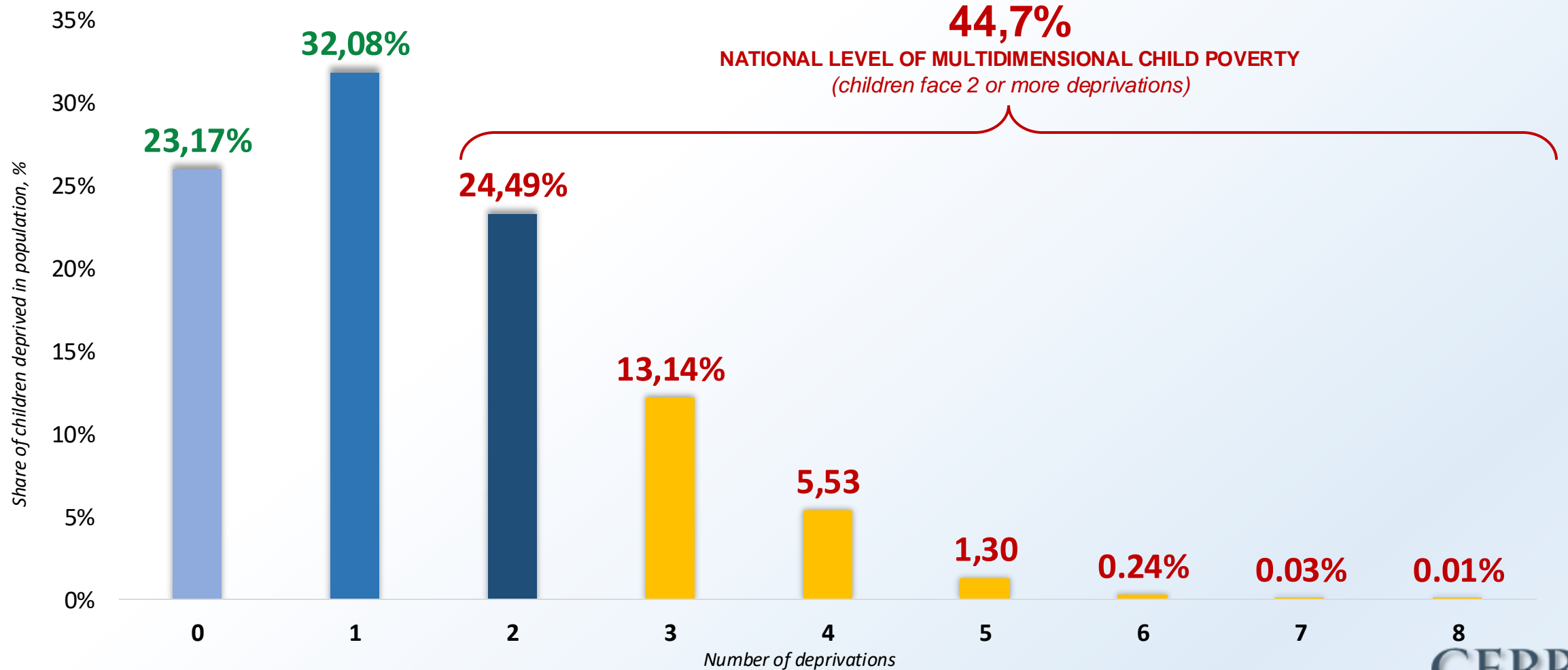


Multidimensional Child Poverty in Uzbekistan Dimensions

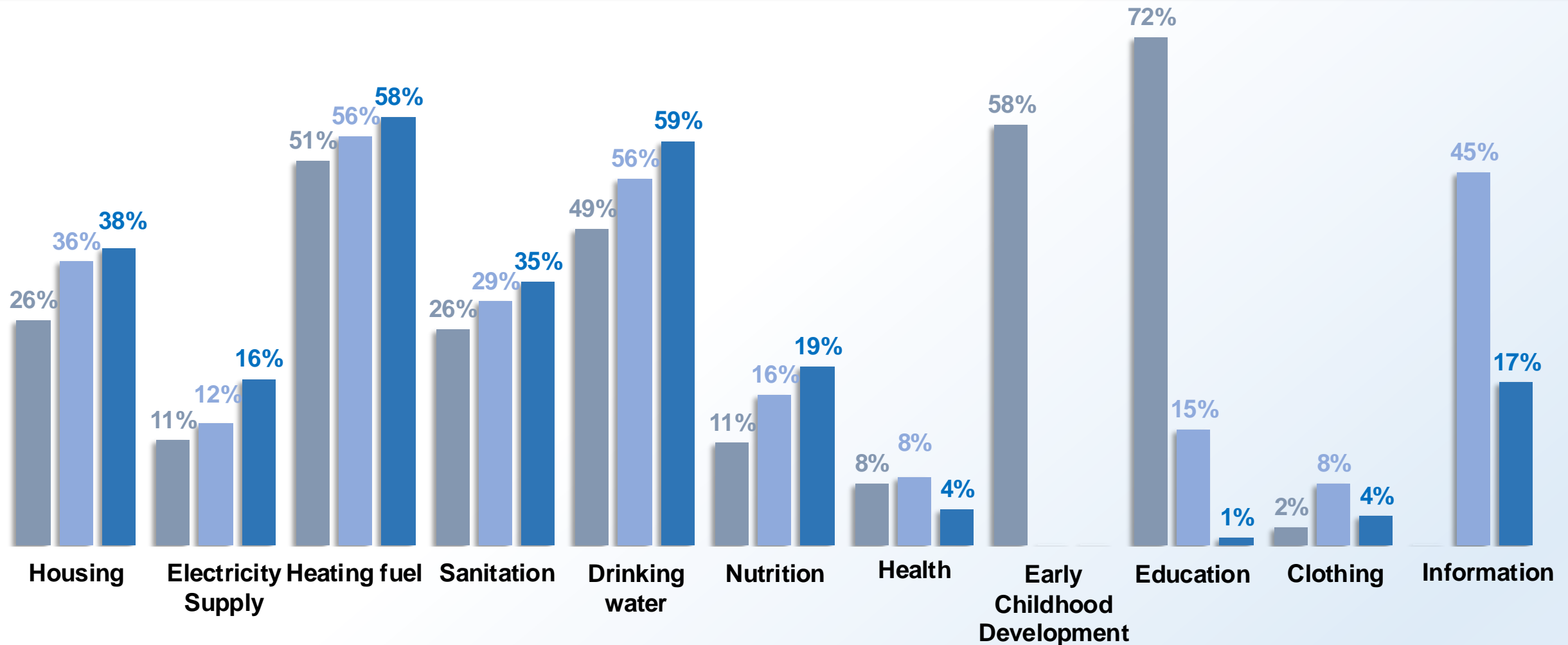


NATIONAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL CHILD POVERTY IN UZBEKISTAN

A child with at least 2 simultaneous deprivations is identified as multidimensionally poor



MULTIDIMENSIONAL CHILD POVERTY BY AGE



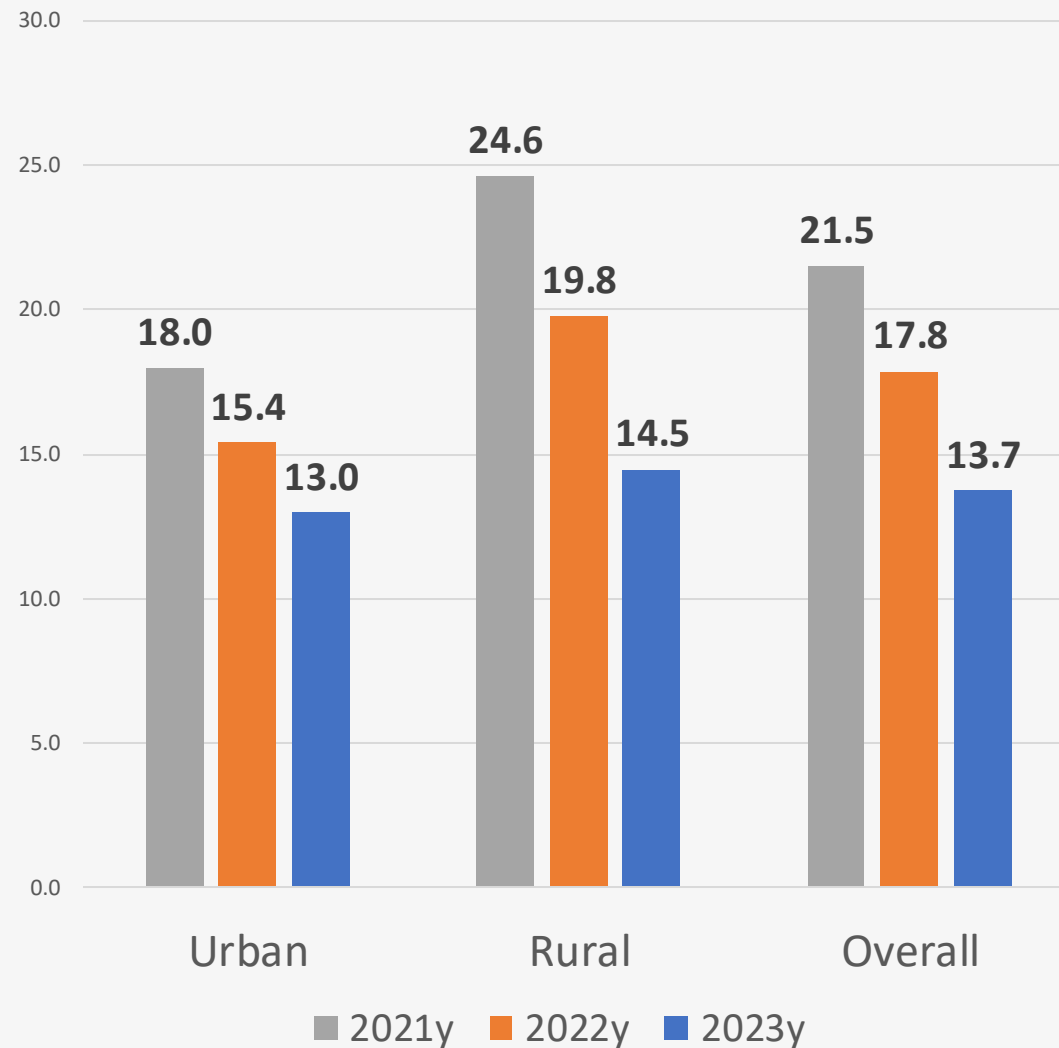
MULTIDIMENSIONAL CHILD POVERTY BY AGE

52%
0-4 YEARS

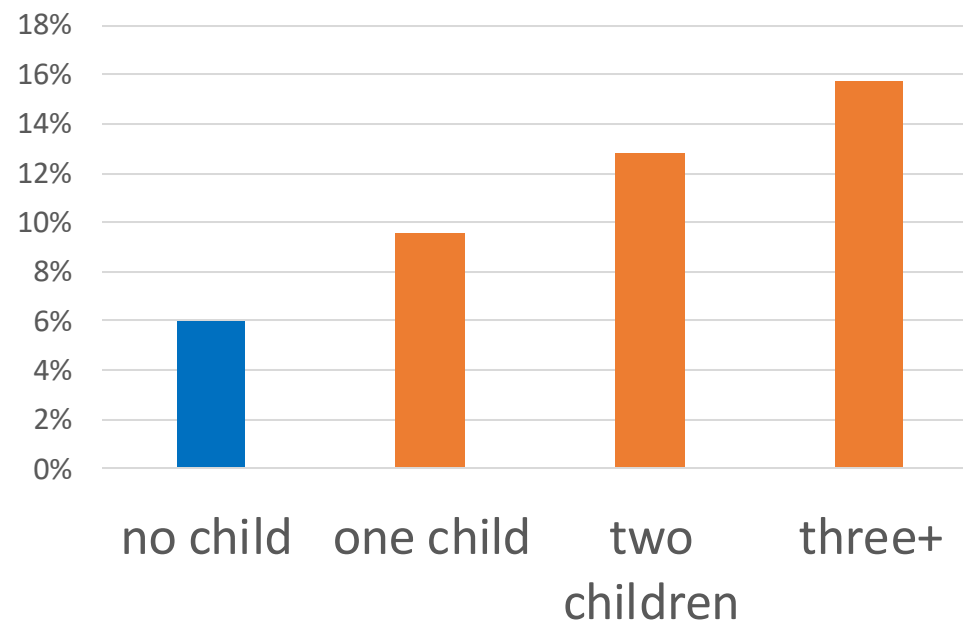
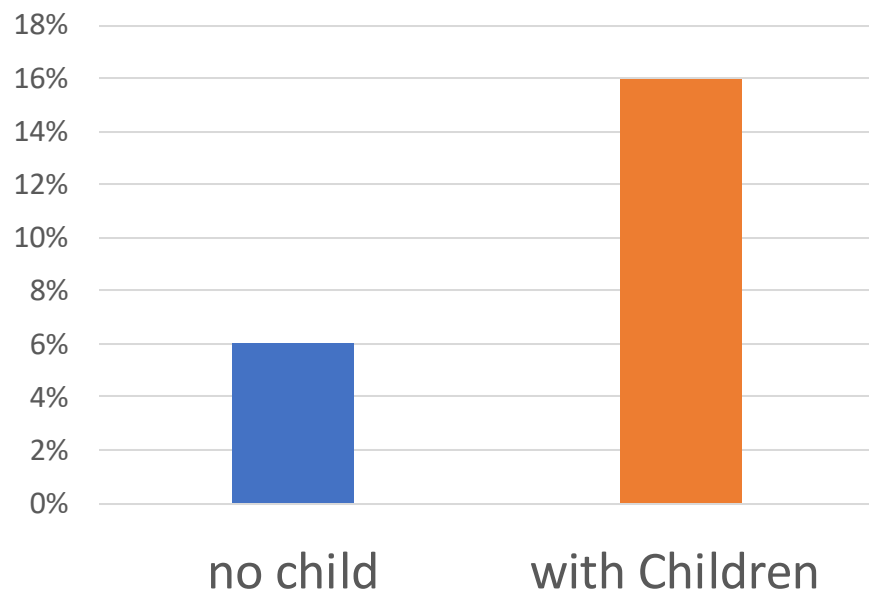
42%
5-14 YEARS

36%
15-17 YEARS

Monetary child poverty in Uzbekistan trends 2021-2023



Households with children 2.5 times Poorer



Key factors:

More children higher poverty

Employment/jobs

Level of education of mothers

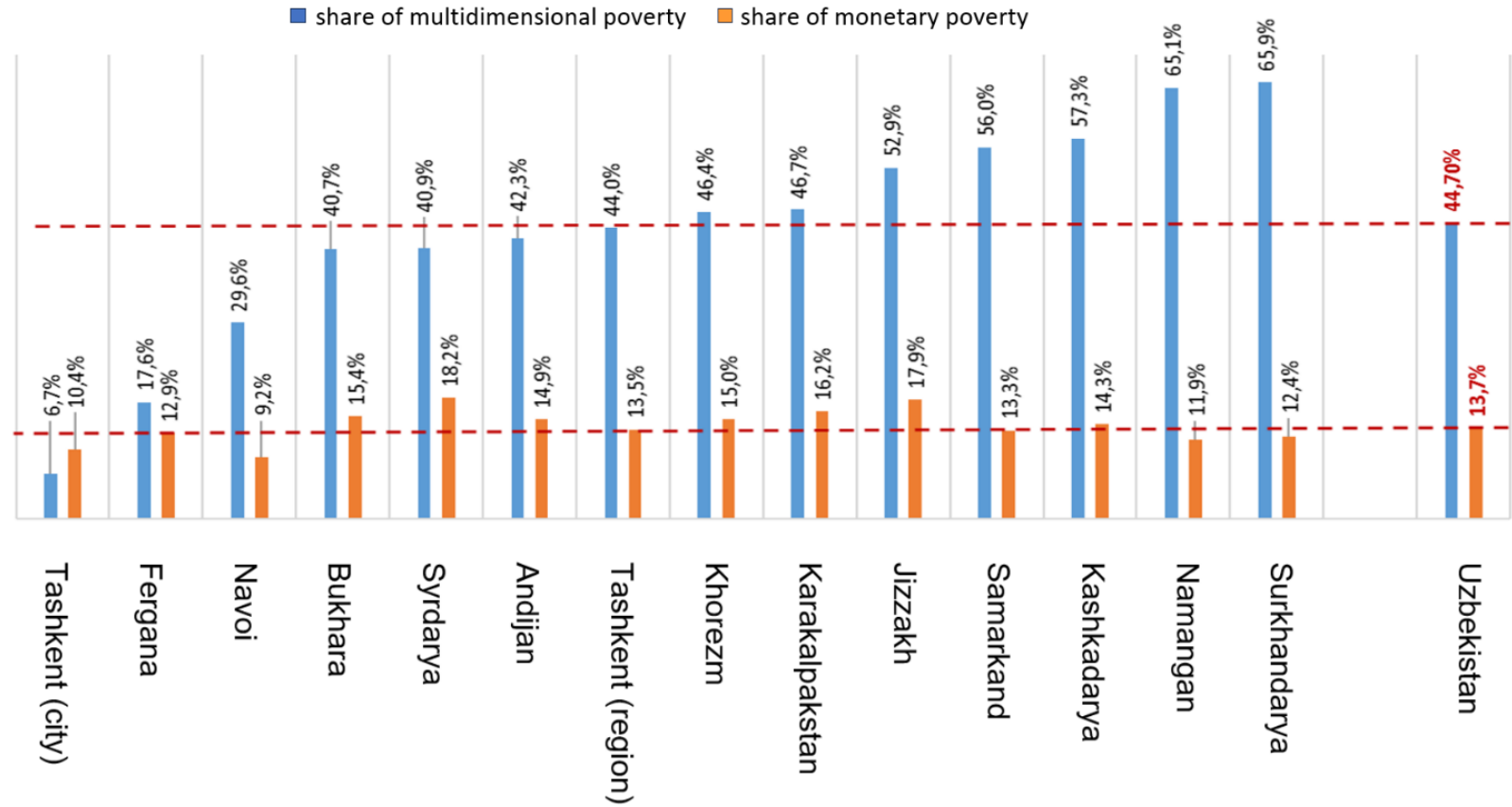
Having a Migrant in a family

In 2023 one million children were born in Uzbekistan

Regions with the highest multidimensional poverty *are not the same* as the regions with the highest monetary poverty

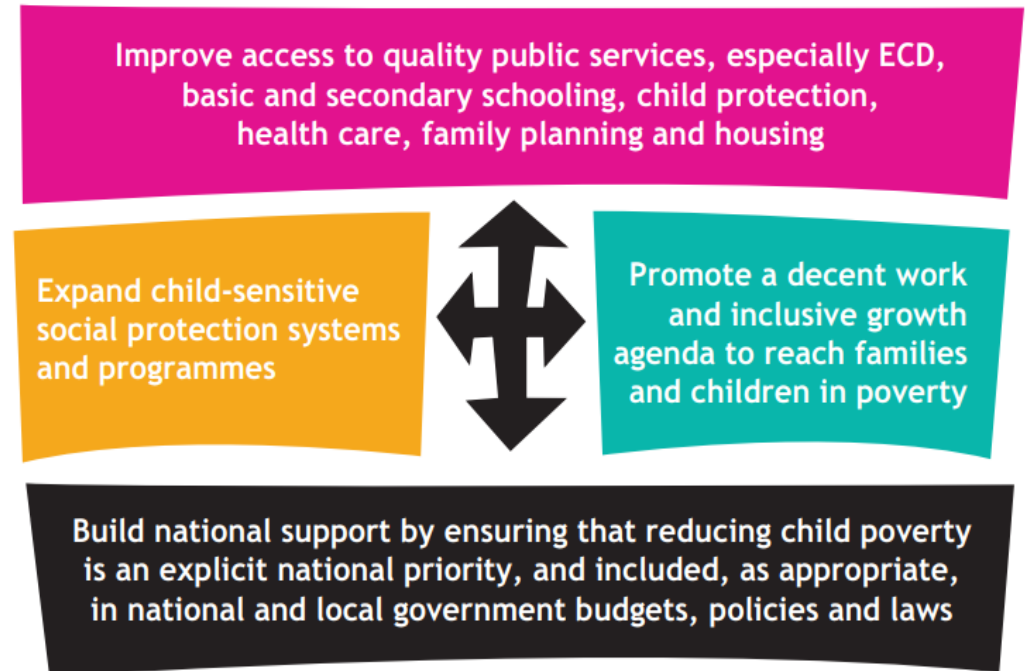
Surkhandarya and Namangan have the highest **Multidimensional Child Poverty**

Jizzakh and Syrdarya have the highest **Monetary child poverty**



A Policy Agenda to End Child Poverty

- **Build national support** by ensuring that reducing child poverty is an explicit national priority.
- **Support families and households to have a minimum income** and ensure financial barriers don't prevent children from reaching their potential.
 - Expand **child-sensitivity in social protection** systems and programmes.
 - **Improve access** to quality public services, especially for the poorest children.
- **Promote a decent work and inclusive growth** agenda to reach families and children in poverty.



MULTIDIMENSIONAL CHILD POVERTY INDICATORS



CHILDREN 0-17 YEARS

*Tentative deprivation
cut-offs*

Child is deprived if ...

EDUCATION

14%

Preschool attendance

35%



Never attended or currently not attending preschool education

3-7 y.o.

School attendance

2%



Enrolled but currently doesn't attend school education

8-17 y.o.

HOUSING

18%

Homework room

4%



Has no room/designated space to do homework

5-17 y.o.

Housing materials

15%



The household has inadequate housing materials

0-17 y.o.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

36%

Having children's books

34%



Has no children's books suitable for his or her age at home

0-5 y.o.

Playing with toys

5%



Does not play with any toy

0-5 y.o.

Early stimulation

8%



A child was not engaging by a household member

2-5 y.o.

3%

WINTER CLOTHING

Winter clothing

3%



No either coat/jacket and one pair of shoes/boots

1-17 y.o.

MULTIDIMENSIONAL CHILD POVERTY INDICATORS



CHILDREN

0-17 YEARS

Tentative deprivation cut-offs

Child is deprived if ...

INFORMATION

20%



Internet access

No access to the Internet

Communication assets

Not use communication devices at home

8-17 y.o.

NUTRITION

8%



Food Insecurity Experience scale

The household has moderate or severe food insecurity

Dietary Diversity Score

Consumes less than four food groups out of seven

2-17 y.o.

HEALTH

4%



Affordability of treatment

Has been ill in the last three months but could not obtain the medicine

Access to disability services

Has disability status but doesn't receive any benefits

2-17 y.o.

DRINKING WATER

31%



The household has no access to an improved source of drinking water on the premises

8-17 y.o. 0-17 y.o.

ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY SERVICE

6%



The household has no access to electricity service

8-17 y.o. 0-17 y.o.

SANITATION

15%



The household has an unimproved sanitation facility

8-17 y.o. 0-17 y.o.

HEATING FUEL

31%



The household has unclean energy sources

0-17 y.o.