

11<sup>TH</sup> MUN  
ICT



# **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

## **BACKGROUND**

**“Strategies for Achieving the Sustainable  
Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 with a focus  
on poverty eradication”**

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# WELCOME

Dear delegates,

We are excited to count on your participation in the 11th edition of the Model United Nations of the Instituto Cultural Tampico. Regardless of your Model UN experience, we hope that you will gain a great experience with valuable knowledge and creative ideas to give you the tools to innovate our world and society.

Considering that poverty is an important issue that has been affecting the world's population, limiting access to essential resources such as food, clean water, education, and healthcare, the Sustainable Development Goals bring the opportunity to reduce the consequences of poverty and several problems that affect the population.

This is the reason why the ECOSOC committee chair has decided to advocate for this important issue concerning its economic and social impact, following the topic: **Strategies for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 with a focus on poverty eradication.**

We want to thank you for choosing this committee and expressing interest in the topic of debate. The world is facing new challenges and we as delegates need to join efforts while upbringing ethical diplomacy, making a new phase in our history. As Inger Andersen once said:

*"We must make peace with nature and ensure that this peace endures."*

Delegates, let the MUNICT's 11th edition be your inspiration to believe that change is possible and now is the time to start.

Best regards,  
ECOSOC'S committee chair

- *President:* Santiago Rodriguez Loyla
- *Moderator:* Luisa Vanessa Villebardet Jiménez
- *Secretary:* Ivana de la Cruz Mayorquin

# HISTORY OF THE COMMITTEE

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), established by the UN Charter, is the principal organ to coordinate the economic, social and related work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and institutions. Voting in the Council is by simple majority; each member has one vote. The Council is made up of 54 members. The ECOSOC also contains various subsidiary bodies that produce various types of documents.

The functions and powers of the Economic and Social Council are:

- Serve as the central forum for discussions on international economic and social issues
- Promote higher standards of living, full employment and economic and social progress
- Find solutions to international economic, social, health and related problems, and international cultural and educational cooperation
- Encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms
- Assist the organization of major international conferences in the field of economic and social and related fields
- Make or initiate studies and reports concerning international economic and social matters
- Prepare draft conventions for submission to the General Assembly
- Coordinate the work of the specialized agencies and programs and their functional commissions and five regional commissions.
- Make arrangements for consultations with non-governmental organizations

Research topics include business and economics. ECOSOC works with a number of other organizations, including the International Money Fund (IMF) and the World Bank. The UN charter allows ECOSOC to grant consultative status to non governmental organizations (NGOs). Beginning in the mid-1990s, measures were taken to increase the participation of such NGOs, and by the early 21st century more than 2,500 NGOs had been granted consultative status.

# INTRODUCTION

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, with a focus on achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. These goals are an urgent call for action by all countries, developed and developing, in a global partnership.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) focus on poverty eradication through various interconnected goals and actions. Here are some key aspects of the SDGs that specifically target poverty:

## **No Poverty**

-The first goal of the SDGs is to "End poverty in all its forms everywhere." This goal emphasizes the need to create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional, and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions

## **Zero Hunger**

-Goal 2 is about creating a world free of hunger by 2030. The global issue of hunger and food insecurity has shown an alarming increase since 2015, a trend exacerbated by a combination of factors including the pandemic, conflict, climate change, and deepening inequalities.

## **Reduced inequalities**

-Inequality threatens long-term social and economic development, harms poverty reduction and destroys people's sense of fulfillment and self-worth. Reducing both within- and between-country inequality requires equitable resource distribution, investing in education and skills development, implementing social protection measures, combating discrimination, supporting marginalized groups and fostering international cooperation for fair trade and financial systems.

## **Poverty**

Around 700 million people live on less than \$2.15 per day, the extreme poverty line. Extreme poverty remains concentrated in parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, fragile and conflict-affected areas, and rural areas.

Extreme poverty is the most severe form of poverty, involving the acute deprivation of basic human needs. The World Bank classifies anyone living on less than \$2.15 a day as living in extreme poverty.

## *Gender Dimensions of Poverty*

Discriminatory norms and unequal access to economic resources contribute to women's poverty, with women often facing challenges in combining paid work with an unequal burden of care for children and other dependents

#### *Private Sector and Poverty*

The private sector plays a significant role in poverty eradication through ethical business practices and sustainable job creation. Over the past decade, markets in developing countries have expanded dramatically, and the volume of funds flowing from the private sector to these countries now dwarfs that of foreign aid, making the private sector one of the most significant influences of global poverty

In conclusion, the SDGs recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic, and environmental sustainability. World leaders have committed to prioritize progress for those who are furthest behind, and the SDGs are designed to end poverty, hunger, AIDS, and discrimination against women and girls

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were born at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012. The objective was to produce a set of universal goals that meet the urgent environmental, political and economic challenges facing our world.

The SDGs replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which started a global effort in 2000 to tackle the indignity of poverty. The MDGs established measurable, universally-agreed objectives for tackling extreme poverty and hunger, preventing deadly diseases, and expanding primary education to all children, among other development priorities.

The legacy and achievements of the MDGs provide us with valuable lessons and experience to begin work on the new goals. But for millions of people around the world the job remains unfinished. We need to go the last mile on ending hunger, achieving full gender equality, improving health services and getting every child into school beyond primary. The SDGs are also an urgent call to shift the world onto a more sustainable path.

The SDGs are a bold commitment to finish what we started, and tackle some of the more pressing challenges facing the world today. All 17 Goals interconnect, meaning success in one affects success for others.

Establishing post-2015 goals was an outcome of the Rio+20 summit in 2012, which mandated the creation of an Open Working Group to come up with a draft agenda. The open working group, with representatives from 70 countries, had its first meeting in March 2013 and published its final draft, with its 17 suggestions, in July 2014.

Alongside the open working group discussion, the process of designing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was informed by a public consultation at a scope unprecedented in UN history.

The UN system facilitated 88 national consultations starting in 2012 on the future that people want; 11 thematic consultations on a wide range of issues related to sustainable development; 6 dialogues on implementation; and door-to-door surveys. The UN also launched an online My World survey asking people to prioritize the areas they'd like to see addressed in the goals. These consultations shaped deliberations of the High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the open working group on Sustainable Development Goals, contributed to the regular reports from the Secretary-General, and ultimately informed the official negotiations that culminated in Member States' adoption of the 2030 Agenda.

## **Global Indicator Framework**

The global indicator framework for Sustainable Development Goals was developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) and agreed upon at the 48th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission held in March 2017.

The Global Indicator Framework highlights the interconnected and ambitious aspirations for the continued development of nations and societies.

The major role of the framework is to enable nations and the global community to gather relevant demographics and statistical data to measure, manage and monitor progress on economic, social and environmental sustainability. The countries and stakeholders can thus make informed decisions and on-going improvements to contribute towards achieving the SDGs.

According to the IAEG – SDGs, Indicators must be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The SDG indicators are divided into three tiers based on their level of methodological development and the availability of data for each indicator.

The SDG indicators must be tracked at a local level and reported periodically at the national and ultimately at the global level. Different international agencies working across the globe, including the World Bank, UN organizations and other INGOs have been assigned as ‘custodians’ of the SDG targets. On the other hand, national governments are the sources of official statistics for their respective country.

## **SDGS Impact Standards**

The SDG Impact Standards are voluntary internal management standards designed to help businesses and investors embed sustainability and the SDGs into their management systems and decision-making practices.

The SDG Impact Standards provide the framework to support organizations to make better decisions – for example, placing sustainability and the SDGs at the heart of value creation and central to purpose, deciding which impacts are important and relevant and therefore how they should be managed. It guides organizations to reimagine business models and partnerships to innovate, create solutions and reach underserved stakeholders, involving stakeholders in decision making.

The foundations of the SDG Impact Standards are based on:

1. Contributing positively to sustainable development and the achievement of the SDGs
2. Which cannot be achieved without demonstrating respect for human rights, planetary boundaries and other responsible business practices
3. And is realized through effective impact management and decision-making

## **Poverty**

Poverty is an ancient problem. In the pre-modern period, poverty was synonymous with hunger, but the kind of poverty we recognize today arose with the emergence of the market economy. 'History' considers the range of factors acting within and across societies that had negative effects on vulnerable people in different historical periods: the agricultural societies before the 16th century; societal and governmental responses to poverty during the 16th and 17th centuries; the effects of colonialism in the 18th and 19th centuries; globalization, industrialization, and the expansion of international trade in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; and the precursors to modern anti-poverty programs after the Great Depression of the 1930s.

For the first half of the nineteenth century, progress in poverty reduction was relatively slow. Over those 50 years, this poverty rate fell three percentage points or less than one percentage point every 15 years.

Then, from 1850 to 1990, progress was reasonably steady but for the periods of world war, falling more than 34 percentage points — or about one percentage point every four years.

Finally, poverty has fallen more rapidly in the last 25–30 years. Going forward, a fall of more than a percentage point every year is clearly not sustainable. The poverty rate cannot drop below zero, and the last few percentage points of poverty will surely take much longer to eliminate.

The Global Multidimensional Poverty Index, developed in 2010 by the U.N. Development Programme and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, offers a comprehensive framework for assessing poverty. This index evaluates people across 10 key indicators, including nutrition, child mortality, years of schooling, school attendance, etc.

After decades of progress, the pace of global poverty reduction began to slow by 2015, in tandem with subdued economic growth. The Sustainable Development Goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 remains out of reach.

Poverty is measured by each country's government, which gathers data through household surveys of their population. While entities like the World Bank may provide support and conduct their own surveys, the primary responsibility lies with

each country. However, traditional data collection methods can be slow and time-consuming. To overcome this, high-frequency surveys are using estimates and mobile phone technology to quickly gather data and provide insights.

Multidimensional poverty refers to a broader understanding of poverty that goes beyond income. It considers various factors such as access to education, healthcare, clean water, and sanitation.

A poverty line, also called a poverty threshold, is a set income level below which it becomes difficult, if not impossible, for people to afford essentials like food and shelter. Each country determines its poverty line by calculating the cost of meeting minimum needs. Households with incomes below this line are considered to be living in poverty.

The international poverty line serves as a standard for measuring extreme global poverty and was recently adjusted to \$2.15 a day to reflect the rising cost of necessities and adjust for inflation. Since 1990, it has increased from \$1 to \$2.15, reflecting the rising cost of living.

Poverty has multiple root causes beyond just a lack of basic necessities like food, shelter, education, or healthcare. Discrimination based on gender or ethnicity, poor governance, conflict, exploitation, and domestic violence are all factors that contribute. These inequities trap people and communities in poverty, and limit access to social services that could help people overcome it.

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed significant challenges to achieving the goal of ending poverty by 2030. The pandemic has reversed the positive trend of poverty reduction, with the number of people living in extreme poverty rising to 724 million in 2020, surpassing pre-pandemic projections by 90 million and reversing approximately three years of progress on poverty reduction.

## OBJECTIVE

The goal of the Committee Chair is to foster a community of competent diplomats and aspiring leaders with a progressive outlook. Participation in our sessions will equip delegates with diplomatic skills which will make them gain unique knowledge.

Delegates should be informed about how countries are dealing with poverty and what are the future plans to combat poverty because it is important for our planet and for each person to know what the problems are, why it is happening and how we can fix them.

By talking about the Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on poverty eradication we help participants focus on the consequences and gains that these goals will help us have a more guided path to combat poverty in certain countries, this implies adopting measures that are effective to encourage countries to help people who are in poverty and to adopt a position which helps them to meet all the sustainable development goals expectations that each country has to meet.

We trust that all delegates will find some measure or initiative proposal so that all nations of the world are encouraged to stop poverty and meet all the goals in order to stop or reduce poverty and that each delegate takes this resolution as a

With this goal in mind, we encourage all delegates to immerse themselves in all discussions, actively contribute to the discourse, and not be closed-minded and broaden their perspectives throughout our deliberations.

This is a commitment that is designed to immerse each delegate in a deep sense of responsibility towards the global community and to foster a firm and secure commitment to catalyze positive change towards that country. Adopting this process will not only enrich personal or individual understanding, but will also contribute to the collective effort of cultivating conscious and dedicated global leaders to shape a better world so that people can live in peace in the world and know how to handle the different situations in which different countries find themselves in

-The Economic and Social Council's chair

## COUNTRIES INVOLVED

### **United States of America**

The United States is considered the richest country in the world, and yet 37.9 million of its residents live in poverty.

The United States is addressing poverty and promoting prosperity aligns with the broader global agenda of achieving the SDGs and active engagement in policymaking and the implementation of sound policy frameworks at the national level, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, are essential for accelerating investment in poverty eradication actions.

### **Kingdom of Spain**

In the Kingdom of Spain, the issue of poverty is a complex and multifaceted challenge, as evidenced by various statistics and reports. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the challenges of poverty in Spain.

The implementation of the SDGs in Spain, involves a multi-faceted approach that encompasses various policy measures and social initiatives. The Spanish government has been working on improving social programs and safety nets, while ensuring income guarantees to address poverty rates. Nonprofit organizations, such as SOS Children's Villages, are actively working towards poverty eradication in Spain

### **The Italian Republic**

The issue of poverty in the Italian Republic is a significant concern, with various statistics and reports highlighting, the number of people in absolute poverty in Italy reached its highest level, rising by 9.4% of the population in 2020. This included 1.3 million minors, representing 13.5% of all Italy's under-18s.

Italy has aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and has committed to the eradication of poverty. The country's focus on economic, social, environmental integration, and development governance underscores the urgency of addressing poverty eradication by 2030.

### **The Republic of Korea in the South**

Poverty in South Korea has undergone significant changes since the mid-20th century, with a notable decline in absolute poverty rates. However, relative poverty experienced fluctuations, particularly following the Asian Financial Crisis.

South Korea has aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, efforts have been made to address the country's unique challenges, such as low birth rate, income polarization, air pollution from transportation, and peace on the Korean Peninsula, through the development of Korean SDGs (K-SDGs) with 17 goals, 122 targets, and 214 indicators.

## **Kingdom of Thailand**

The issue of poverty in the Kingdom of Thailand is complex, with various factors contributing to its prevalence and impact, the rise in poverty is mainly attributed to economic reasons, including a slowdown in GDP growth rates.

Thailand has aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the focus is on creating sound policy frameworks at the national, regional, and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.

## **People's Republic of China**

According to the World Bank, China has made significant strides in poverty reduction, with more than 850 million people lifted out of extreme poverty. The poverty rate in China fell from 88 percent in 1981 to 0.7 percent in 2015.

China has committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes the goal to "End poverty in all its forms everywhere." China has demonstrated a strong commitment to the SDGs aligning with Agenda for Sustainable Development and emphasizing the development of policy frameworks and investment strategies to support accelerated actions in poverty eradication.

## **Argentine Republic**

According to a study on the social debt observatory, approximately 27 million people in Argentina are poor, with 15% of them mired in destitution, meaning they cannot adequately cover their food needs.

Argentina has demonstrated a sustained commitment to the provisions of the MDGs and the subsequent SDGs, the country has incorporated the 17 SDGs and prioritized related targets, particularly focusing on the aspirational goal of eliminating poverty and addressing national priorities

## **Swiss Confederation**

Switzerland supports international efforts to promote human and economic development, end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity on a livable planet. The Swiss Federal Council adopted its new "Sustainable Development 2030" strategy, reaffirming its commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Nevertheless, Switzerland continues to face numerous challenges.

The rate of poverty in Switzerland increased in 2021 to touch 8.7% of the population, compared with 8.5% the previous year, according to official statistics. This means around 745,000 people were living on an income below the poverty line.

## **State of Japan**

Japan has a reputation for having one of the highest national well-being rates because of its prestigious education, successful healthcare systems and attractive culture. However, according to the 2022 Basic Survey on National Living, Japan's

poverty rate was 15.4%, the highest among the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) members then.

Child poverty is a worrisome topic among the Japanese. One out of seven children in Japan lives in poverty. Luckily, there are veteran organizations that can pinpoint tangible actions to tackle these problems.

### **South Sudan**

Most of the population of South Sudan live in severe poverty and an estimated 80% live below the absolute poverty line. Conflict, natural disasters, poverty, and widespread displacement have converged, resulting in a surge in food insecurity, hunger, and malnutrition.

Approximately, 2.3 percent of the population in Sudan is multidimensionally poor while an additional 17.7 percent is classified as vulnerable to multidimensional poverty. South Sudan is at the bottom of the Human Development Index, ranking 185 out of 189 countries.

### **United Mexican States**

Poverty is widespread in Mexico, affecting more than 50 million people, almost half of the country's population; it can reach up to 45% of the population in some border states. It is therefore important to analyze the factors that are correlated with poverty in this region, in order to identify and propose appropriate public policies which could contribute to lower poverty levels in the area.

According to the UN Sustainable Development Goals Report, Mexico has progressed 69.7 percent of the way in achieving the SDGs; seven out of every 10 households receive public resources through social programs.

### **Federative Republic of Brazil**

The percentage of persons living in extreme poverty, that is, those who made less than R\$ 200.00 per month, in Brazil, fell to 5.9% in 2022, after reaching 9.0% in 2021. The proportion of persons living in poverty, with up to R\$ 637.00 per month, decreased from 36.7% in 2021 to 31.6% in 2022.

While Brazil faces challenges in tackling poverty, its experience shows significant progress toward achieving SDGs, making it a valuable case study to understand the complex nature of the issue.

### **Russian Federation**

The number of Russians living below the poverty line in 2023 dropped to 13.5 million from 14.3 million a year earlier, with the poverty rate falling to 9.3% from 9.8%.

The implementation of the SDGs and their respective targets in the Russian Federation is carried out by sectoral government bodies in the framework of the national development policy until 2024. The SDGs are integrated into twelve national projects and the comprehensive plan for the modernization and expansion of the backbone infrastructure.

## **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is among the five poorest nations in the world. An estimated 74.6% of Congolese people lived on less than \$2.15 a day in 2023. About one out of six people living in extreme poverty in SSA lives in DRC.

This widespread poverty has a direct impact on children, who represent 56% of the population. On average, poor households have twice as many children as non-poor households.

## **Democratic Republic of France**

In 2021, in metropolitan France, the median annual standard of living for people living in ordinary housing was 23,160 euros. 9.1 million people lived below the monetary poverty line, which was 1,158 euros per month for a single person in 2021. The poverty rate rose by 0.9 percentage point in 2021, from 13.6% to 14.5%. Poverty intensity also increased, rising from 18.7% in 2020 to 20.2% in 2021.

## **Republic of Costa Rica**

Costa Rica has the lowest poverty rate in Central America. The unemployment rate hovers between 7 – 8% and the average per capita income is just under \$8,000 USD. The poverty percentage is around 20% of the population and is defined by the country as those earning under \$155 per month. The majority of people in this classification live in the inner city of San Jose or in rural areas. To put this in perspective; the international poverty line is considered to be those earning less than \$1.25 per day. Less than 2% of the population of Costa Rica would fall into this category.

## **Republic of Peru**

In less than two decades, Peru went from booming economic growth to facing serious challenges in terms of inclusion, inequality, and vulnerabilities. Between 2004 and 2013, per capita income grew at an average rate of 6.6 % per annum. This boom period was supported by macroeconomic stability, adequate market regulation, and the opening up to global trade. However, after the fall in mineral prices, per capita growth fell to less than one third, and progress in poverty reduction slowed down. Good domestic conditions continued to be important, but were not sufficient to promote growth and people's well-being at the same pace.

## **Republic of India**

According to research by the State Bank of India, released in February 2024, the poverty rate in the country fell to 4.5-5 percent in 2022-23. Based on the household consumption expenditure survey data the SBI research attributes the decline to government programmes initiated for the bottom of the pyramid. Household consumption expenditure survey data suggests that rural poverty came down to 7.2

percent from 25.7 percent in 2011-12, and urban poverty is down to 4.6 percent from a decade ago.

### **Republic of Venezuela**

Since 2017, the share of households living under the poverty line in Venezuela has been surpassing 90 percent. In addition, more than six out of every ten households (67.97 percent) lived in extreme poverty in 2021. The overall household poverty rate in Venezuela has registered a steady growth from 2014 to 2019, after having remained relatively stable, below 40 percent, since 2005. Although poverty is widespread among the population as a whole, some groups are more vulnerable than others. That is the case of younger generations and particularly children: 98.03 percent of Venezuelans aged 15 or younger lived in poverty in 2021.

### **Federal Republic of Germany**

Although Germany has a strong economy, it ranks 19th on the list of poverty rates for OECD countries, with a poverty rate of 11.6 percent. Furthermore, the number of senior citizens who are at risk of living in poverty has sharply increased over the past decade.

With regard to methods and instruments, German aid for poverty reduction rests on three basic principles: (i) priority for structural reforms, (ii) self-help and participation and (iii) promotion of the productive and creative capabilities of the poor.

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