United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Webinar on Inclusive Mindset and Launch of the eLearning Course on Government Innovation for Social Inclusion of People in Vulnerable Situations

10 July 2024

16:00 - 17:15 | Seoul (GMT+9)
14:00 - 15:15 | Bangkok (GMT+7)
10:00 - 11:15 | Nairobi (GMT+3)

Self-paced Certificate Course with Accessibility Features

Photo: S. Mojumder/ Drik/ CIMMYT Bangladesh

"Building and Anchoring Inclusive Institutions that Leave No One Behind: an SDG Mid-Term Review"

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I. The Rationale & Centrality of Building Inclusive Institutions that Leave No One Behind

A GLOBAL CONCERN

Leaving No One Behind (LNOB): Since 2015, it's a global commitment of the International Community, the keystone, the central and transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by eradicating poverty in all its forms, ending discrimination and exclusion, reducing inequalities and vulnerabilities that leave people behind and undermine the potential of Individuals and Humanity as a whole.

The same commitment exists in other International and Regional Agendas	- Climate Agenda; New Urban Agenda; Sendai Framework on DRR; Action Agenda - 2063 Africa Agenda – Aspiration 1 is calling for a prosperous Africa based on **inclusive growth** and sustainable development, with the determination to eradicate poverty within a generation, through the **sharing of prosperity through the social and economic transformation of the Continent.**
The Joint Framework for Action entitled "Leaving No One Behind: Equality and Non-discrimination at the heart of Sustainable Development"-2016	Aims to ensure that the United Nations System makes the imperative to combat inequality and discrimination the cornerstone of the Organization's actions to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
Leaving no one behind is one of the 11 Principles of Effective Governance, developed by CEPA and adopted by ECOSOC in 2018 as part of the Pillar of Inclusion.	To ensure that all human beings can realize their potential with dignity and equality, public policies must take into account the needs and aspirations of all segments of the society, including the poorest and most vulnerable, and those suffering from discrimination or exclusion.

The Political Declaration adopted in September 2023 during the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the United Nations General Assembly,	**Member States committed <mark>to act urgently</mark> to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda as an Action Plan for Population, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership, ensuring that No One is Left Behind.**
In the Sustainable Development Goals Report-2023	- **It was confirmed that recent crises are deepening divisions between various dimensions of well-being. Unfortunately, a decades-long trend of reducing income inequality globally has been reversed. More and more people are fleeing conflicts, the number of displaced people is increasing considerably; the population of slums is increasing. The effects of these setbacks are mainly felt by women, girls, young people, the elderly, people with disabilities, minorities, as well as several other vulnerable and marginalized population groups in different parts of the World.**
LNOB is linked to the Theme of ECOSOC for 2024.	**As we reach the halfway point in achieving the Sustainable Development Agenda and the SDGs, there is no need to emphasize that the world is not on a good track to achieve these objectives, particularly taking into account the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the current difficult global context marked by inflation and conflicts.**

II. Leaving No One Behind: Meaning & Significance

SDG

| 1 NO POVERTY | 2 ZERO HUNGER | 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING | 4 QUALITY EDUCATION | 5 GENDER EQUALITY | 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES |

LNOB cannot be attained without addressing the most vulnerable population groups, who are also disproportionately affected by the current crises and conflicts, such as Covid-19, climate change, wars…

LNOB is related to all SDG, but in particular:

SDG 1 – no poverty

SDG 2 – zero hunger

SDG 3 – Good health and well-being

Goal 4: Quality education

Goal 5 – Gender equality

Goal 10 – Reduced inequalities among countries.

LNOB

"Full realization of human rights, without discrimination on the basis of social status, sex, age, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability, or other status."

People or countries who are left behind can experience..

Absolute Deprivation

People live in multidimensional poverty or below other minimally acceptable standards of security, income, public services, infrastructure, and well-being.
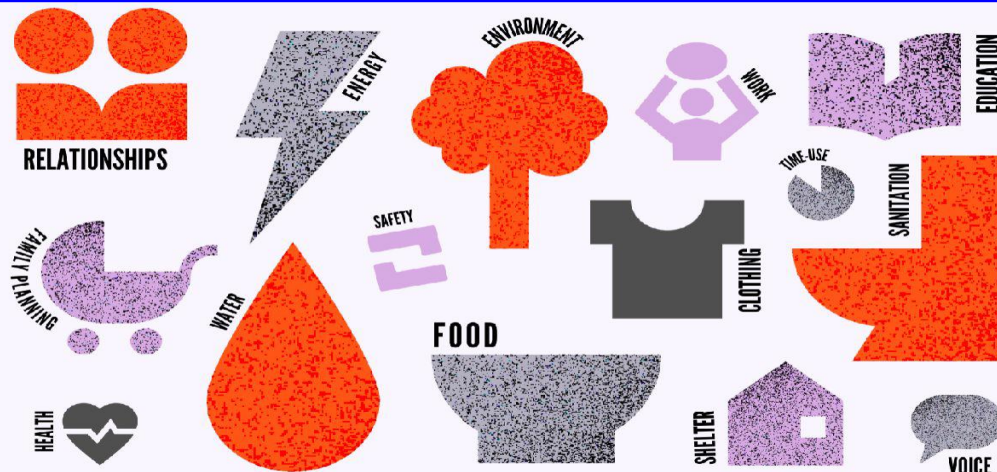

Relative Disadvantage

People experience exclusion, discrimination, and/or deep-rooted inequalities; and are less able than others in society to gain influence, get an education, access to healthcare, job markets and have a decent work, housing, acquire wealth, access to Technologies, while having a lower

For UNDP

there are 5 key factors behind the feeling (or rather resentment) of being left behind

Source: Adapted from UNDP 'What does it mean to leave no one behind?' (2018)
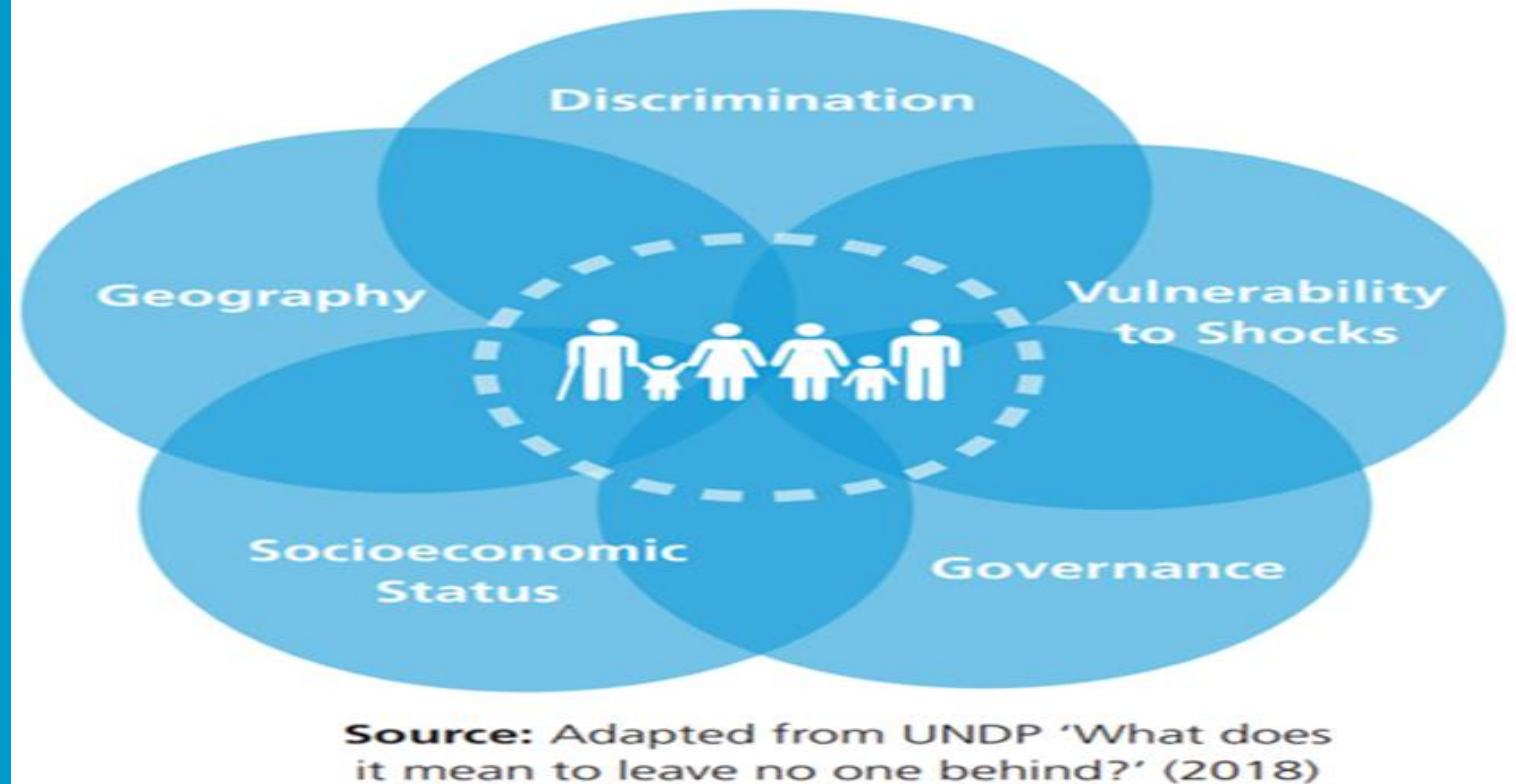
This may be a single disadvantage or intersecting disadvantages arising from several factors.

There are several models, approaches and tools to grasp this reality which is not always easy to grasp (OECD, the Multidimensional Poverty Index, etc...).

III. What are the main causes that lead people to feel left behind?

Different forms and illustrations of Discrimination and inequalities, particularly against women and girls and other social categories.	Socio-cultural factors which continue to prevent active, effective participation because of **mindset,** norms, attitudes or stereotypes	Socio-economic and demographic factors.	The geographical location: landlocked areas, rural areas, inequalities between territories and between countries, island countries.
Weaknesses/limits of Public Institutions, Governance, Policies, Services, at all levels, particularly at subnational level. Even some Public institutions and Services are left behind (Education, Health, Water, Energy…).	Lack of political will and concrete commitment from leaders and civil servants	Insufficient means of implementation on a human, financial and technical level, as well as misconduct, unethical behavior, corruption.	Impact of the global economic system which can contribute to inequalities between countries and regions, particularly with regard to developing countries
Shocks and crises, these plagues of our time.	Digital Gap & Divide.	Data Challenges and Gaps	Limited or even hindered social mobility for both cyclical and structural reasons.

Diverse intersecting and cross-cutting factors can prevent or slow down the pledge of leaving no one behind, such as demographic imbalances caused by rapid population growth, lack of access to basic services as well as unprecedented shocks and crises affecting the world.

Therefore, a better understanding of the current situation, **identification of vulnerable groups and root causes**, and establishment of inclusive public institutions and policies that leave no one behind are urgently required.

IV. Building an Enabler Environment to Leave No One, No Place Behind.

Building Inclusive Institutions that Leave No One Behind

Step 1 → **Step 2** → **Step 3**

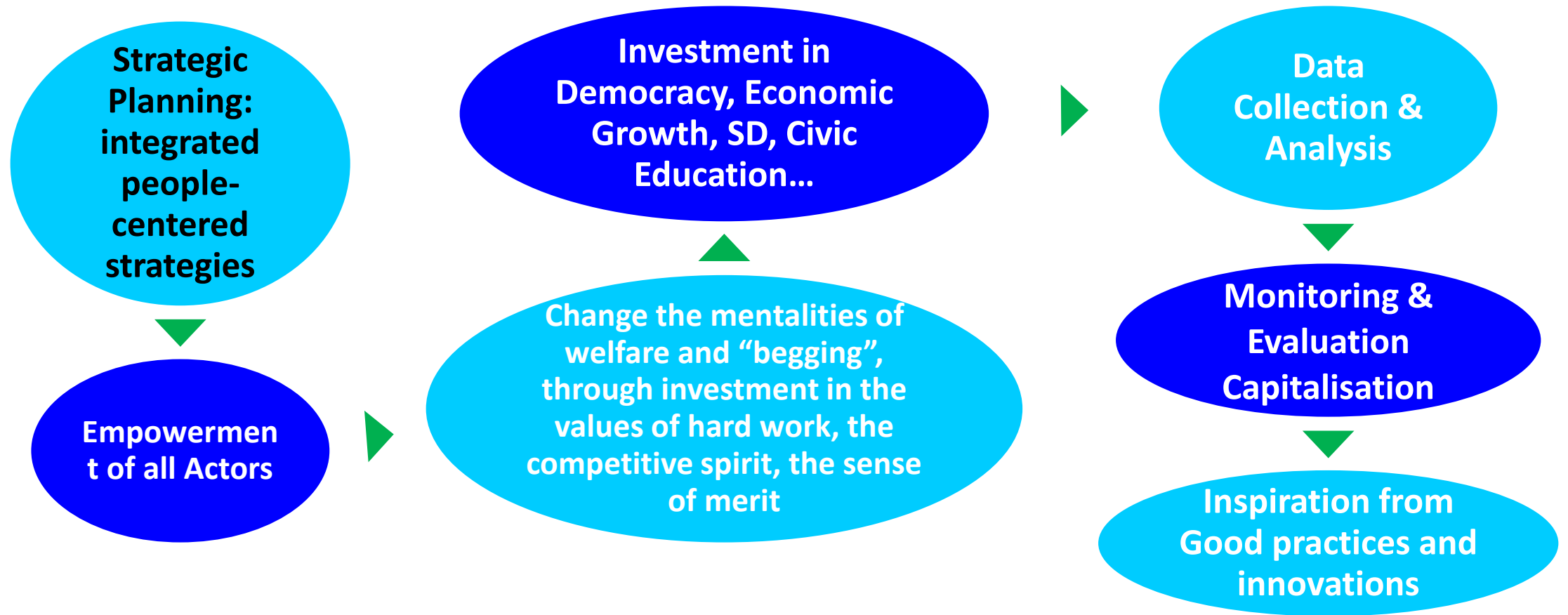|		
Identify who is left Behind (Mapping individuals/groups/territories/ Countries being left behind and understanding their specific challenges, needs, priorities	**Identify why they are being left behind**	**Ensure that no one is left behind**

Step 3: Ensure that no one is left behind

Building inclusive institutions will require implementing the 11 Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development developed by CEPA and endorsed by ECOSOC in 2018:

❖ **Effectiveness**: competence, sound policymaking and collaboration.

❖ **Accountability**: integrity, transparency, and independent oversight.

❖ **Inclusiveness**: Leaving no one behind, non-discrimination, participation, subsidiarity, and intergenerational equity.

Step 3: Ensure that no one is left behind

Strategic Planning: integrated people-centered strategies

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Empowerment of all Actors

▶

Change the mentalities of welfare and "begging", through investment in the values of hard work, the competitive spirit, the sense of merit

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Investment in Democracy, Economic Growth, SD, Civic Education…

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Data Collection & Analysis

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Monitoring & Evaluation Capitalisation

↓

Inspiration from Good practices and innovations

Among our Recommendations:

Changing the mindset of the Public Sector:
Governments should invest in intellectual capital and human resources, including in the skills, competencies, resources, working conditions and values of public servants.

To be a public/civil servant means to have the Honor of serving, not of serving oneself, not enslaving citizens, making sure to leave no one, no place behind…..