



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Validation and Capacity Building Workshop on Multidimensional Poverty - Iraq

6th September – 8th September, 2022, Amman Marriott Hotel, Jordan

Background

While poverty has traditionally been measured in terms of income – now classified by the World Bank as living on less than \$1.90 a day – the SDGs define poverty as having multiple forms, with a target to reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions by 2030.

To date, most countries use a national monetary poverty measure for policy decisions. Recently, a number of policy makers have adopted official multidimensional measures that: (1) analyse non-monetary deprivations and their interconnections; (2) enable the creation of high-impact policies that address multiple interconnected deprivations and accelerate progress towards the SDGs, and (3) guide policy and provide feedback in a timely manner.

The Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) developed by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and released by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in the Human Development Report since 2010, is a powerful measure for policy analysis, dialogue and monitoring. But just like all countries use national income poverty measures for policy, so too many countries are developing National MPIs, which are adapted to reflect their own specific poverty priorities.

The MPI can be used as an analytical tool to identify the most vulnerable people, show aspects in which they are deprived and, consequently, to target resources and design policies more effectively. Because the MPI measures outcomes directly, it will immediately reflect changes such as school attendance, whereas it can take time for this to affect income, thus may show outcomes of effective policy interventions quickly. Finally, in the understanding that each country is different, the MPI can be tailored to local context using country-specific data and indicators to provide a better understanding of country-level poverty. The governments of Colombia, Mexico, Bhutan, Chile, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Vietnam, Honduras, Ecuador, Pakistan, Armenia, Mozambique, Panama, Nepal, Dominican Republic, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Afghanistan and Seychelles, among others, have implemented and included nationally adapted multidimensional measures of poverty in their long-term social development strategies. Many other countries are now working on their national measures of multidimensional poverty.

Following this trend, a rapidly increasing number of policy makers around the world are working to establish multidimensional poverty measures, using the Alkire-Foster (AF) method developed by OPHI. These measures enable them to:

- Allocate resources more effectively;
- Improve policy design;
- Identify interconnections among deprivations;
- Monitor the effectiveness of policies over time;
- Target poor people as beneficiaries of services or conditional cash transfers.

Under UNICEF, OPHI, ESCWA, CSO and KRSO partnership, Iraq agreed and finalised the methodology for national and child adjusted MPI. The national CSO and KRSO teams with technical support and international expertise from OPHI and ESCWA, drafted the first national MPI report for Household and Child adjusted MPI in Iraq using MICS data for 2018.

A validation and capacity-building workshop on the MPI for Iraq will be organized by UNICEF, UN-ESCWA, and (OPHI).

<p>Aim</p>	<p>The aim of the workshop is: (1) to discuss and validate the draft report of the Iraq national and child-adjusted MPI and (2) to provide a technical capacity-building on the computation of an updated MPI with new datasets, including estimations and analysis of changes over time.</p>
<p>Format</p>	<p>The first two days of the workshop will be focused on discussing and validating the draft report. The third day will be focused on capacity-building for the technical team responsible for computing and analyzing the MPI.</p> <p>The workshop will be in English and Arabic, with simultaneous translation.</p>
<p>Objectives</p>	<p>At the end of this multidimensional poverty workshop, participants will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Understand the structure of the Iraq MPI and child-adjusted MPI; 2) Have discussed and validated the first Iraq MPI report; 3) Understand the techniques for measuring and analysing an updated MPI, including changes over time; 4) Know about further opportunities to engage within the Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network (MPPN) for policymakers.
<p>Participants:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Mehdi Al-Alak, Senior Advisor, UNICEF • Mr Serwan Mohammed, Head of KRSO • Mr Qusay Abdulfattah, Director General, CSO • Dr Fadhil Nawgh, Statistician, CSO • Ms Sundus Jawad, CSO • Ms Zainab Husssin, CSO • Mr Shwan Abbas, Statistician, KRSO • Mr Raqeeb Bahaadeen, Statistician, KRSO • Dr Christian Oldiges, Senior Economic Officer, UN-ESCWA • Dr Rima Abdul Khalek, Research Officer, UN-ESCWA • Ms Zarima Yerzhanova, Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF • Ms Khulood Malik, Social Policy Specialist, UNICEF • Ms Corinne Mitchell, Director of Programmes and Operations, OPHI

Timetable:

The workshop starts every day at 9:00am and finish at 5:00pm.

Zoom link for the meeting is: <https://unicef.zoom.us/j/99846819375>

Detailed Agenda



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Part 1: Validation of Report on Iraq's National MPI and Child-Adjusted MPI

Day 1: Tuesday, 6 September

Time	Agenda
9:00-10:00	Welcome remarks and introductions (<i>Mr Serwan Mohammed, Mr Qusay Abdulfattah, Dr Mehdi Al-Alak, Zarima Yerzhanova</i>)
10:00-11:00	Presentation on Iraq National MPI report (<i>Dr Fadbil Nawgh, Mr Shwan Abbas</i>)
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	Discussion on Iraq National MPI report (<i>Dr Mehdi Al-Alak</i>)
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:00	Writing session for report conclusions and recommendations
15:00-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-16:30	Discussion on Iraq National MPI report (<i>Dr Mehdi Al-Alak</i>)
16:30-17:00	Wrap-up (<i>OPHI</i>)

Day 2: Wednesday, 7 September

Time	Agenda
9:00-10:00	Recap of previous day's discussion (<i>UNICEF</i>)
10:00-11:00	Presentation on Iraq child-adjusted MPI (<i>Dr Mehdi Al-Alak</i>)
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	Discussion on Iraq child-adjusted MPI (<i>UNICEF</i>)
13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:00	Discussion on Iraq child-adjusted MPI (<i>UNICEF</i>)
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-16:00	Validation of report
16:00-17:00	Concluding remarks and next steps (<i>Dr Mehdi Al-Alak</i>)

Part 2: Capacity-building on Updating MPI and Computing Changes over Time

Day 3: Thursday, 8 September

Time	Agenda
9:00-10:00	Review of Iraq national MPI and child-adjusted MPI dofiles (<i>OPHI</i>)
10:00-10:30	Review of upcoming data that could be used for updating MPI (<i>Mr Qusay Abdulfattah, Mr Serwan Mohammed</i>)
10:30-11:00	Presentation on 2011-2018 trends analysis (<i>ESCWA</i>)
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	Presentation on computing changes over time (<i>OPHI and ESCWA</i>)



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



13:00-14:00	Lunch break
14:00-15:00	Presentation on analysing and communicating changes over time (<i>OPHI</i>)
15:00-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-16:30	Discussion on interpreting and communicating the MPI (<i>OPHI to facilitate</i>)
16:30-17:00	Concluding remarks and next steps (<i>OPHI, UNICEF, ESCWA</i>)