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I.   ABSTRACT

Title	*Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2021: Unmasking disparities by ethnicity, caste and gender*
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Topic	*D. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and going beyond averages* *20. Poverty and inequality are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

The global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) produced by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative measures poverty by considering various deprivations experienced by people in their daily lives, including poor health, insufficient education and a low standard of living. The report examines the level and composition of multidimensional poverty across 109 countries covering 5.9 billion people and presents an ethnicity/race/caste disaggregation for 41 countries with available information.

This new report finds that disparities in multidimensional poverty among ethnic groups are consistently high across many countries and in nine ethnic groups more than 90 percent of the population is trapped in poverty.

Furthermore, in some cases, disparities in multidimensional poverty across ethnic and racial groups are greater than disparities across geographical subnational regions. Indeed, when the MPI is disaggregated by ethnic group, the range in values is greater than that across all 109 countries and all other disaggregations performed.

It also shows how, within a country, multidimensional poverty among different ethnic groups can vary immensely. For example, the difference in the percentage of people who are multidimensionally poor across ethnic groups is more than 70 percentage points in Gabon and Nigeria.

In Latin America, indigenous peoples are among the poorest. For instance, in Bolivia indigenous communities account for about 44 percent of the population but represent 75 percent of multidimensionally poor people in the country. The figures are also stark in India where five out of six multidimensionally poor people are from lower tribes or castes.

The multidimensional analysis also maps out next steps. The MPI combines the incidence, the intensity and the composition of multidimensional poverty. The two poorest ethnic groups in Gambia - the Wollof and the Sarahule - have roughly the same MPI value, but their deprivations differ, suggesting different policy actions are needed to reduce multidimensional poverty.

The report also finds that women and girls living in multidimensional poverty are at higher risk of intimate partner violence.