



## Issue: Fighting poverty and inequalities in LEDCs

Committee: Eco-Soc

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Illustrations of Mumbai (*Source: Wikimedia Commons*)



## Introduction:

Least developed countries (LEDCs) are low-income countries confronting severe structural impediments to sustainable development. They are highly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks and have low levels of human assets.

Currently, 46 countries around the world are considered as LEDC's.

### Individual LDC fact sheets

Afghanistan	Guinea	Sao Tome and Principe
Angola	Guinea-Bissau	Senegal
Bangladesh	Haiti	Sierra Leone
Benin	Kiribati	Solomon Islands
Bhutan	Lao People's Dem. Republic	Somalia
Burkina Faso	Lesotho	South Sudan
Burundi	Liberia	Sudan
Cambodia	Madagascar	Timor-Leste
Central African Republic	Malawi	Togo
Chad	Mali	Tuvalu
Comoros	Mauritania	Uganda
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mozambique	United Republic of Tanzania
Djibouti	Myanmar	Yemen
Eritrea	Nepal	Zambia
Ethiopia	Niger	
Gambia	Rwanda	

*(Source: United Nations Official LEDC's list)*

Nowadays, many countries are suffering from increasing poverty and gaps between different people, leading to inequalities. It is an alarming subject that is often evoked, but solutions aren't effective enough to help them. LEDCs are mainly characterized by having very poor health care and a big lack of resources.

People in these countries fight for their lives instead of living it. Death and birth rate are very high in these areas, which makes medical help less available.

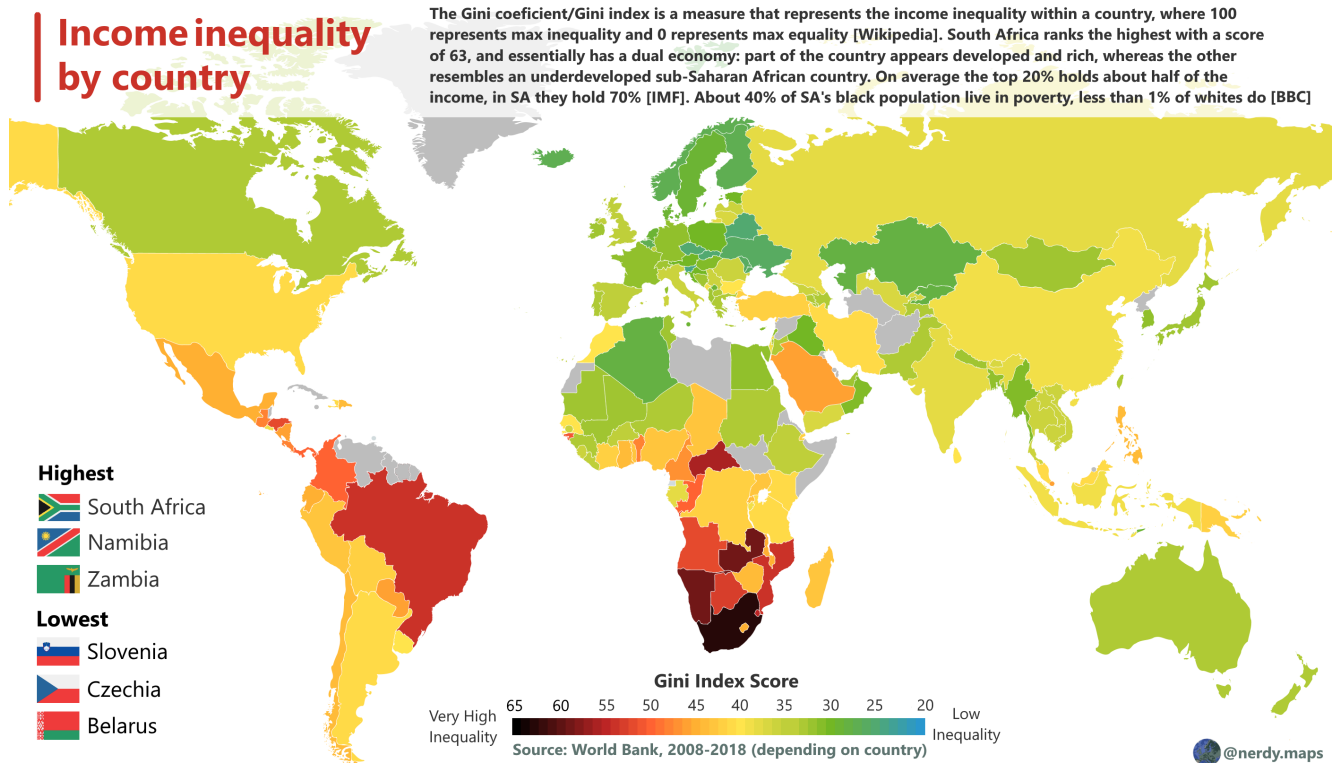
Also, in the context of the pandemic (covid 19), least developed countries are struggling even more to recover from financial crisis and debts, which is unequal faced to developed countries that can afford this.

The lack of help in remote areas is an issue that needs to be seriously reconsidered by countries that have the power to act.

## Key Terms:

Poverty: the state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions.

Inequality (or economic inequality) refers to the difference between the rich and poor, or between different social groups. It is shown by people's different positions within the economic distribution, wealth, pay and income.



*(Source: World Bank)*

This term refers to the unfair situation in society where some individuals have considerably more money, access to education, opportunities, etc. than others.

### General overview:

-Between 75 million and 95 million additional people could be living in extreme poverty in 2022

-About 9.2% of the world, or 689 million people, live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 a day in 2022.

The causes of poverty are wide and it has a lot of impact either on a social aspect or even economic:

-The culture of poverty: one of the causes of poverty, where children who grew up in deprivation learn a culture and value system from their family that socializes them to live in poverty as well.

-Globalization and capitalism: poverty is an inevitable part of modern globalized capitalism. Capitalism generates competition between countries.

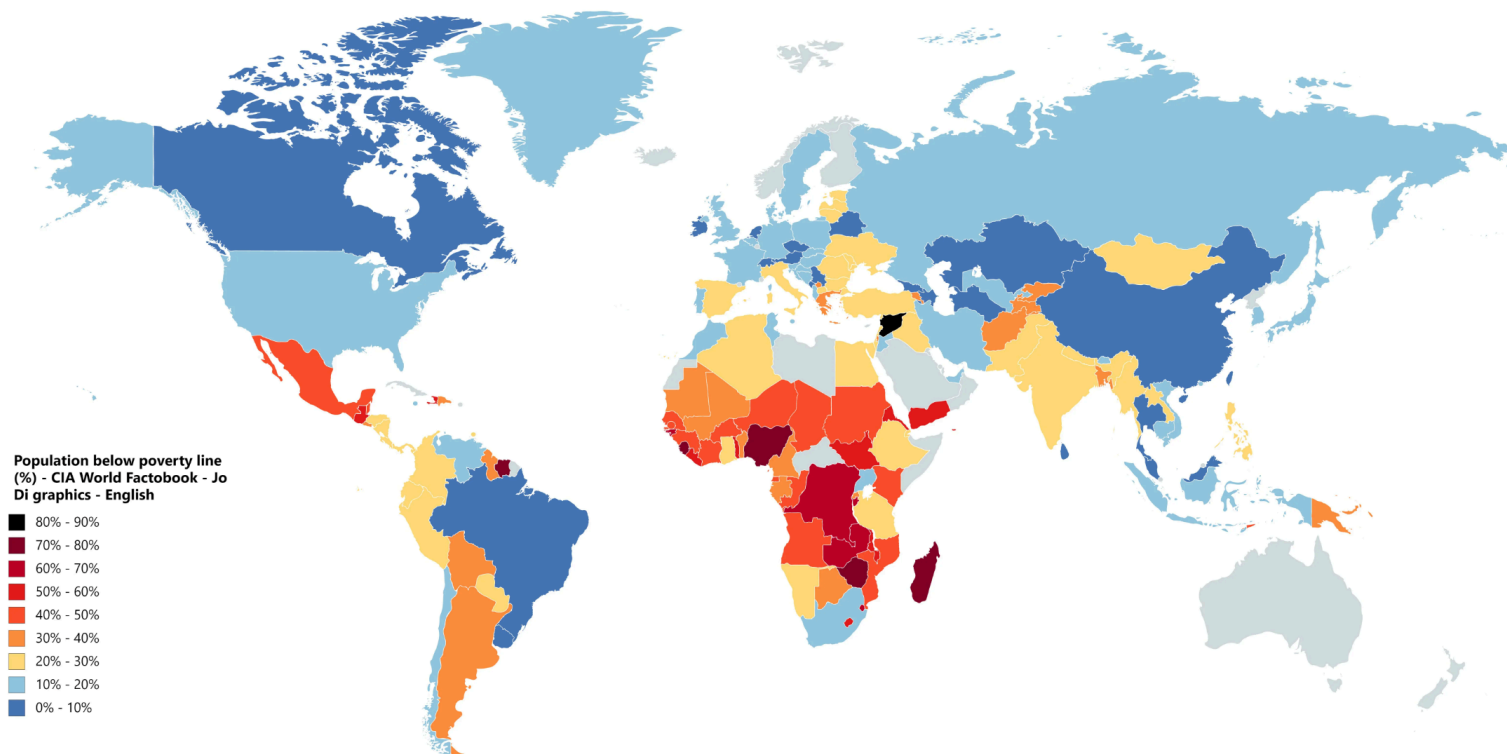
The capitalist system is held up by the rich who benefit from its maintenance leaving place to the increase of inequality and poverty.

### **Economic consequences:**

**-housing and homelessness are a big issue for people and even more for poor families.**

**-underemployment: loss of income, many families are left without sufficient incomes to face living expenses**

**-inadequate nutrition and food insecurity**



## Major actors:

In every country of the world, poverty and inequalities are present, in different ways, a lot more or a lot less. But in LEDC's these issues are dominant. In this list of country you can find countries that have nowadays the widest gap between rich and poor people, contributing to the growth of inequalities. But also countries that are helping poor countries.



India



China



South Africa



USA

## South Africa

Here, inequalities and poverty grew because of the famous apartheid, where white people have more privileges than black people, where distribution of resources is very unequal, and also poor educational opportunities. Health care is then less available for them, causing an extreme gap.

The number of people living in extreme poverty keeps increasing, for a total of 16,4 million for 59 million inhabitants

## China

Again here, gaps between the urban and rural lives is increasing throughout the years, different factors are causing poverty and inequalities to increase in china. One of the main ones is unbarnisation.

Health problems are very important in China. Good health for poor people in china is quite unavailable, due too expensive medical expenses, where they cannot afford help.

Economy is a major actor in China, which provokes many inequalities for those who cannot afford anymore.



## India

2/3 of the population in India live in poverty:

- 68.8% of the Indian population lives on less than \$2 a day.
- More than 30% have less than \$1.25 per day

This population is considered extremely poor, and big difficulties to survive.

This poverty and growing inequalities are caused mainly by the growth of population in India, where too much people are living, creating privileges for the most rich of them. Since there are too much people, highly payed jobs are rare, causing a high rate of unemployment throughout the country.

## United States

Even if they also have a high rate of inequalities and poverty, the united states is one of the country that donates the more help to foreign countries and countries in need. They donated more than 35 billion of dollars in foreign aid.

## Questions to reflect on:

—> Are there any solutions to prevent poverty in poor countries?

—> How can other countries contribute in helping LEDC's through inequalities and poverty?

## Bibliography + Appendix

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/home>

<https://www.inegalites.fr/#>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)

<https://www.un.org/en/>

Good luck and no stress, it will be okay ;)