

1 NO
POVERTY



FU+UREPLUS



SDG 1: NO POVERTY

A FU+UREPLUS GUIDE



+ “END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE.” (By 2030)

Target 1.1 – Eradicate extreme poverty

Target 1.2 – Reduce poverty by at least 50%

Target 1.3 – Implement social protection systems

Target 1.4 – Equal rights to ownership, basic services, technology and economic resources

Target 1.5 – Build resilience to environmental, economic and social disasters

Target 1.A – Mobilisation of resources to end poverty

Target 1.B – Pro-poor public spending

+ PROGRESS & INFO

The UN explains that “extreme poverty rates have fallen by more than half since 1990. While this is a remarkable achievement, one-in-five people in developing regions still live on less than \$1.90 a day. Millions more make little more than this daily amount and are at risk of slipping back into extreme poverty.”

Roughly 700 million people (9% of global population) still live in extreme poverty – extreme poverty is defined by anyone living on less than \$1.90 a day. The majority of people suffering from extreme poverty live in sub-Saharan Africa. Worldwide, the poverty rate is three times higher in rural areas than in urban areas.

There has been a slowdown in progress on poverty reduction since 2015, which has been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. New research shows that the economic fallout from the global pandemic could increase global poverty by as much as half a billion (8% of global population) – this would be the first time that poverty has increased globally in three decades.



+ THE ROLE OF BUSINESSES

Every business must respect human rights and labour standards throughout their whole supply chain.

Certain groups are disproportionately represented among the poor, and face additional constraints – such as limited access to resources and markets – in escaping poverty. These include, women, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and children. Businesses have the opportunity to proactively take measures to address constraints faced by these groups, for example through inclusive business models.

Beyond income, business can influence other dimensions of poverty, such as limited capabilities and opportunities. Business' role in poverty eradication should address framework conditions of poverty – for example, by engaging in policy dialogue for the provision of basic goods and services where they operate.

+ BUSINESS ACTIONS

Ensure **decent working conditions** for all employees and create **secure jobs** across your whole supply chain. Respect and support for human rights is at the core of poverty alleviation. You must ensure you have robust procedures to identify, prevent, monitor, mitigate, and if applicable, take remedial action against any activity that contributes to poverty. Refer to the [UN Global Compact's Poverty Footprint Tool](#) for guidance.

Start by creating a **Supplier Code of Conduct** (if you don't already have one). A code of conduct ensures that your suppliers are sharing the same ethical ground, increases the engagement of the supplier, and establishes clear expectations. A resilient and transparent supply chain is an advantage for any business.

Empower disadvantaged groups – All companies should be equal opportunity employers, ban discrimination against vulnerable groups, and adopt policies that support inclusion to contribute to economic empowerment.



+ ADDITIONAL ACTIONS

Remember that SDG-linked projects don't have to be financial. Companies can give their time, expertise, materials, technology, help by offering visibility/ marketing, pro-bono work, and run company volunteering days.

That being said, here are some more **practical things** you could be doing:

- Support a **charity** that is focused on eradicating poverty. For example, through a donation box in your office or a fundraising event.
- Consider offering **subsidised travel initiatives** to employees who may be struggling financially, or who are in the lowest pay bracket of the organisation. For example, through funding their travel card or issuing a company oyster card.
- Contribute to building the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situation, and help to reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events. This could be achieved by **donating towards disaster relief funds**.
- Promote **inclusive and direct employment**. For example, by expanding your company recruitment towards job fairs specifically for those who are unemployed and receiving benefits, or by offering training or internship opportunities specifically for these groups.
- If your company is in the consumer goods industry, you could conduct a **Poverty Footprint Study**. This is a tool developed by The UN Global Compact and Oxfam, which assess the impact of your organisations operations on people living in poverty.

+ NEED MORE HELP?

We also offer consultancy services if you would like more comprehensive support with achieving your sustainability goals.

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