



Reduce inequality within and among countries

Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities

SDG 10 addresses inequalities within and among countries. It calls for nations to reduce inequalities in income as well as those based on age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status within a country. The goal also addresses inequalities among countries, including those related to representation, and calls for the facilitation of orderly and safe migration and mobility of people. Leaving no one behind is a crucial part of achieving both the SDGs and the objectives of the European Green Deal. Monitoring SDG 10 in an EU context thus focuses on inequalities within countries, inequalities between countries, and migration and social inclusion.

Inequality within and among countries is a persistent cause for concern. Despite some positive signs toward reducing inequality in some dimensions, such as reducing relative income inequality in some countries and preferential trade status benefiting lower-income countries, inequality still persists. Inequalities are also deepening for vulnerable populations in countries with weaker health systems and those facing existing humanitarian crises. Refugees and migrants, as well as indigenous peoples, older persons, people with disabilities and children are particularly at risk of being left behind. And hate speech targeting vulnerable groups is rising.

Evidence from developing countries shows that children in the poorest 20 per cent of the populations are still up to three times more likely to die before their fifth birthday than children in the richest quintiles. Social protection has been significantly extended globally, yet persons with disabilities are up to five times more likely than average to incur catastrophic health expenditures. Despite overall declines in maternal mortality in most developing countries, women in rural areas are still up to three times more likely to die while giving birth than women living in urban centers. Up to 30 per cent of income inequality is due to inequality within households, including between women and men. Women are also more likely than men to live below 50 per cent of the median income of the one billion population of persons with disabilities, 80 per cent live in developing countries. Only 28 per cent of persons with significant disabilities have access to disability benefits globally, and only 1 per cent in low-income countries.

Things to do:

- ✓ Find a Goal 10 charity you want to support. Any donation, big or small, can make a difference!
- ✓ Raise your voice against any type of discrimination. Everyone is equal regardless of their gender, race, sexual orientation, social background and physical abilities.
- ✓ Visit local shelters, orphanages or minority community centers and organize a conversation space to discuss the importance of these rights or volunteer there regularly.
- ✓ Favor companies that are inclusive. Check the lists of the companies that are inclusive for different minorities through employment there or their products.
- ✓ Run a voting registration campaign. One of the issues contributing to rising inequalities is caused by the lack of representation of minorities and underprivileged groups in government. You can run a voting registration education in these groups to raise their engagement and representation in institutions of power.
- ✓ Support migrants and refugees in your communities. Volunteer in a local refugee camp. Gather or donate the appliances, food, clothes needed.

