Concept Note

8th Annual High-Level Meeting of the
Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network (MPPN)

4-5 October 2021
Hosted by the Government of Chile

The 2021 High Level Annual Meeting of the MPPN is hosted this year by the Government of Chile with the support of the Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network and its Secretariat, the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative. This Annual Meeting seeks to engage countries and international organisations in reflections on how to tackle poverty in all its dimensions and to learn from experiences around the world. Participants will share their experiences and discuss powerful strategies for fighting multidimensional poverty and achieving the SDGs.

Against all the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, countries and international organisations continue to update, to release and to work on designing MPIs. It is encouraging that in a time of recovery, new statistics are being released and used in policy. In this context, the network continues to provide an active place for in-depth learning among participants. An equitable recovery can lay the basis for historical reductions of poverty that will truly be a benefit for the years to come.

In this spirit, the goals of the MPPN 8th Annual Meeting are:

- To provide a space for sharing experience and lessons learned on multidimensional poverty measurement and reduction.

- To identify future pathways and collaborations between the network participants to tackle the challenges of recovery using better metrics and policies.

- To contribute to the debates and practical actions to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 1 and target 1.2.2 "reduce poverty in all its forms and dimensions"

Format

Given the global pandemic, and to facilitate participation, this meeting will be held virtually. The platform will allow us to present, attend and interact dynamically with other participants.

Participants will connect from every continent, which will provide a rich space for sharing experiences. In this spirit, the meeting has been carefully crafted to allow participation across time zones, with global

sessions, where participants will connect globally, and regional, where participants will connect at appropriate times in their time zones.

Preliminary agenda*

*All times Chile time. See below for corresponding time zones

October 4

9:00–9:30 Inaugural session (all participants)

9:30-11:00 Global exchange (all participants) and small group discussions

11:00-11:30 Structured panel (all participants)

11:30-11:45 Break

11:45 – 13:15 Exchange for countries in the Americas (optional for participants from Africa, Asia and Europe)
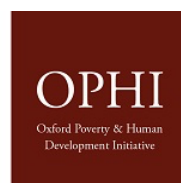
October 5

7:00 – 8:30 Exchange for countries in Africa, Asia and Europe (optional for countries in the Americas)

8:30 – 9:00 Structured panel (all participants)

9:00 – 10:30 Global exchange (all participants) and small group discussions

10:30-11:30 Communique and closing (all participants)

Corresponding time zones			
Chile time	Americas	Africa – Europe – Middle East	Asia
08:00	05:00 Guatemala City, Tegucigalpa, San José 06:00 Bogotá, Panama, Mexico 7:00 Washington DC, New York 08:00 Buenos Aires, Brazil	11:00 Dakar 12:00 London, Abuja 13:00 Pretoria, Paris, Spain 14:00 Dar es Salaam, Nairobi, Istanbul 16:00 Islamabad 17:00 Bhutan, Dhaka	16:30 New Delhi 16:45 Kathmandu 18:00 Hanoi, Bangkok, Jakarta 19:00 Beijing
09:00	06:00 Guatemala City, Tegucigalpa, San Jose 07:00 Bogotá, Panama, Mexico 8:00 Washington DC, New York 09:00 Buenos Aires, Brazil	12:00 Dakar 13:00 London, Abuja 14:00 Pretoria, Paris, Spain 13:00 Dar es Salaam, Nairobi, Istanbul 17:00 Islamabad 18:00 Bhutan. Dhaka	17:30 New Delhi 17:45 Kathmandu 19:00 Hanoi, Bangkok, Jakarta 20:00 Beijing
10:00	07:00 Guatemala City, Tegucigalpa, San Jose 08:00 Bogotá, Panama, Mexico 9:00 Washington DC, New York 10:00 Buenos Aires, Brazil	13:00 Dakar 14:00 London, Abuja 15:00 Pretoria, Paris, Spain 14:00 Dar es Salaam, Nairobi, Istanbul 15:30 Kabul 18:00 Islamabad 19:00 Bhutan. Dhaka	18:30 New Delhi 18:45 Kathmandu 20:00 Hanoi, Bangkok, Jakarta 21:00 Beijing

The Multidimensional Poverty Peer Network (MPPN)

The MPPN was established in response to overwhelming demand from such policymakers for support in exploring, developing and implementing multidimensional poverty measures as tools of management and governance.

Founded in June 2013, the Network enables early adopters to share their experiences with newcomers to multidimensional poverty measurement. It provides peer-to-peer technical and policy support, as well as input into the design and institutional arrangements for successful multidimensional poverty eradication. Until the MPPN was established, policymakers had no such community of peers to turn to for advice, support and 'South-South' knowledge exchange. The Network supports policymakers to develop more effective poverty eradication efforts, grounded in multidimensional measures of poverty. Its vision is a world in which poverty in all its forms is measured, tracked over time – and eventually eliminated.

The MPPN was co-founded by the governments of Mexico and Colombia with the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) at the University of Oxford and with support from the German Federal Ministry of International Cooperation and Development (BMZ). OPHI was nominated by participants to act as the Secretariat of the Network, and its activities are steered by the network's 'Steering Committee'. The network met previously in the UK 2013, Germany 2014, Colombia 2015, and Mexico 2016.

Who participates in the network?

Participants in the Network are policymakers from national governments, as well as from regional and international agencies. Innovative subnational governments, such as Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam, are also participants. As of June 2017, the network has participants from 53 countries and 15 regional and international agencies.

The full list of participants is as follows: *Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, eSwatini, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Uruguay and Vietnam, African Development Bank Commonwealth of Nations, Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC), Federal Ministry of International Cooperation and Development (BMZ) of the Government of Germany, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Organization of American States (OAS), Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Latin American and the Caribbean Economic System (SELA), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency – SIDA, Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), UNICEF, World Bank, World Food Programme, and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)*

What are the network's goals?

Network participants have pledged to work together towards three interconnected goals:

1. **Advancing national, sub-national and regional multidimensional poverty measures.**

   Through knowledge and resource exchanges; maintaining a shared website; technical support and training courses; regular email updates, periodic teleconferences; an annual meeting; and joint events and publications.

2. **Promoting multidimensional poverty measurement and reporting it for tracking the SDGs and the new development agenda.**

   Target 1.2 of the SDGs seeks to halve poverty in "all of its forms and dimensions". The MPPN now supports countries that are reporting multidimensional poverty reduction through National MPIs and the Global MPI as complements to income measures.

   It does this via dedicated working groups; joint advocacy, events and publications; and engagements and dialogue with key actors, such as the Open Working Group, the UN Statistics Commission, Sustainable Development Solutions Network and other UN bodies.

3. **Developing joint research and tools for measurement, policy design and analysis.**

   Through jointly produced policy papers and publications that enhance knowledge and bring emerging issues and lessons learned to light.

Who can join the Network?

Participant criteria defined by the Network Secretariat and the Steering Committee has outlined three categories of participants:

1. Government officials (Ministers, Vice-Ministers, Statisticians and MPI champions)

2. Senior representatives of regional bodies and international agencies

3. Senior officials from other country governments, including development assistance institutions.

How does the Network work day-to-day?

The MPPN website provides access to resources, including an extensive library of documentation from past conferences and events, videos of participants, links to participants' web resources on multidimensional poverty, a policy brochure of authorized descriptions of MPPN participant activities, and a magazine with authorized case studies of policy implementations of the MPI. MPPN participants also offer different kinds of support and training – from South-South interchanges involving multiple MPPN countries, to a bilateral visit from a country with an MPI, to training workshops, or technical support joint with OPHI. OPHI functions to connect participants to relevant expertise across the MPPN. The MPPN Secretariat also acts as a 'clearing house' for the latest policy innovations and academic research. The MPPN is an important bridge between academic and policy communities on a path-breaking area of work.

How is the MPPN structured?

The MPPN is marked by a lean structure and high-levels of ownership over its work and over multidimensional poverty measurement from within its participant base. Its core governance instruments are: a Secretariat; a Steering Committee; periodic Participant Meetings, Thematic Working Groups; and an Annual Meeting.

The Secretariat is hosted by OPHI and coordinates the network's activities, as guided by the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee makes decisions on matters related to the network, following discussion with participants, and also performs a key advocacy function, helping to bring multidimensional approaches of poverty measurement to the attention of key target audiences. The current members of the Steering Committee comprise representatives from the governments of Bangladesh, Colombia, South Africa and China, as well as OPHI.

A regular formal ('Annual') Network meeting will bring together participants to share cutting-edge work. These meetings are essential forums for facilitating South-South dialogue and exchanging innovative work. They also provide an opportunity to review the overall progress of the MPPN and to chart the way forward for the next 12-18 months (including strategic focus areas, work streams and positions of the network on key issues). The final outcome document of the meeting – the meeting communiqué – will form the basis of the work plan of the Secretariat for the year ahead.

The MPPN uses small Working Groups to advance specific events and interchanges. For example, MPPN participants have hosted side-events at the UN General Assembly since 2013; also, many MPPN countries participate in side-events to the UN Statistics Commission OPHI has organized on behalf of the MPPN. If the Working Groups address MPPN governance matters, all participants are given an opportunity to comment and amend the work that is proposed, and official network documents are then made public.