



Reduce Inequalities – Leave No One Behind!

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



“By 2030, 193 Heads of State and Governments agree to ensure –

- equal opportunity for social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status by eliminating discriminatory laws and policies,*
- sustained income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population – and –*
- orderly, safe and responsible migration”*

UN Sustainable Development Goal 10

Good News: In 2017, developing nations received \$414 billion from OECD countries, of which \$163 billion came in Development Assistance from governments, the rest from foreign direct investments and remittances.

Bad News: The richest 20% of people possess over 80% of Gross National Product (GNP) – and the world’s richest 60 individuals own more than the poorest billion.

**THE
80 RICHEST PEOPLE OWN
THE SAME WEALTH
AS THE 3.5 BILLION
POOREST PEOPLE**



This goal focuses upon inequalities within and between nations. The main focus is on income inequality, and the consequent inequalities of opportunity faced by impoverished people within countries, and globally. SDG 10 also looks to reduce gender, racial, ethnic, disability, ethnic, religious, age and other such inequalities which are vital components of human rights.

The main aim of the goal is to promote sustainable income growth of the bottom 40% of people by increasing foreign aid to them and amplifying their voices on the world stage.



Balance Sheet

Achievements

Developing countries represent over 70% of UN membership, so have some say in the General Assembly and the WTO, which both use a one member, one vote system.

Over 50% of exports from developing countries are now duty-free. [3]

Developing nations received \$414 billion from the OECD, of which \$163 billion came from governments, in 2017. [2]

Between 2010 and 2016, in 60/94 countries studied, the income of the bottom 40% grew faster than the national average. [2]

Of 105 countries with data, over half have comprehensive policy measures to facilitate safe and responsible migration. [3]

Work Left to Do

However, in many other organisations, developing nations lack this voting share, despite being in the majority. Even reforms at the IMF and World Bank will leave developing nations with only 40% of the voting share. The voice of developing countries needs to be bigger and louder.

Countries need further incentives to apply for preferential treatment to ensure this growth continues, as rules can be costly and time-consuming.

In 2016, 22% of global income is received by the wealthiest top 1%. This is an increase from 16% of the global income in 1980. The bottom 50% of people received only 10% of global income in 2016. [1]

However, this same bottom 40% received under one quarter of the overall national income. (2019) [2]

Over 40% of countries do not have such a policy. Also, while rich country citizens can get visas to travel almost anywhere, poor country citizens face huge obstacles to get visas to go to any richer country. [3]



Achievements

Of 110 countries, the average population size of people living below the 50% of the median income threshold was **14%**. [3]

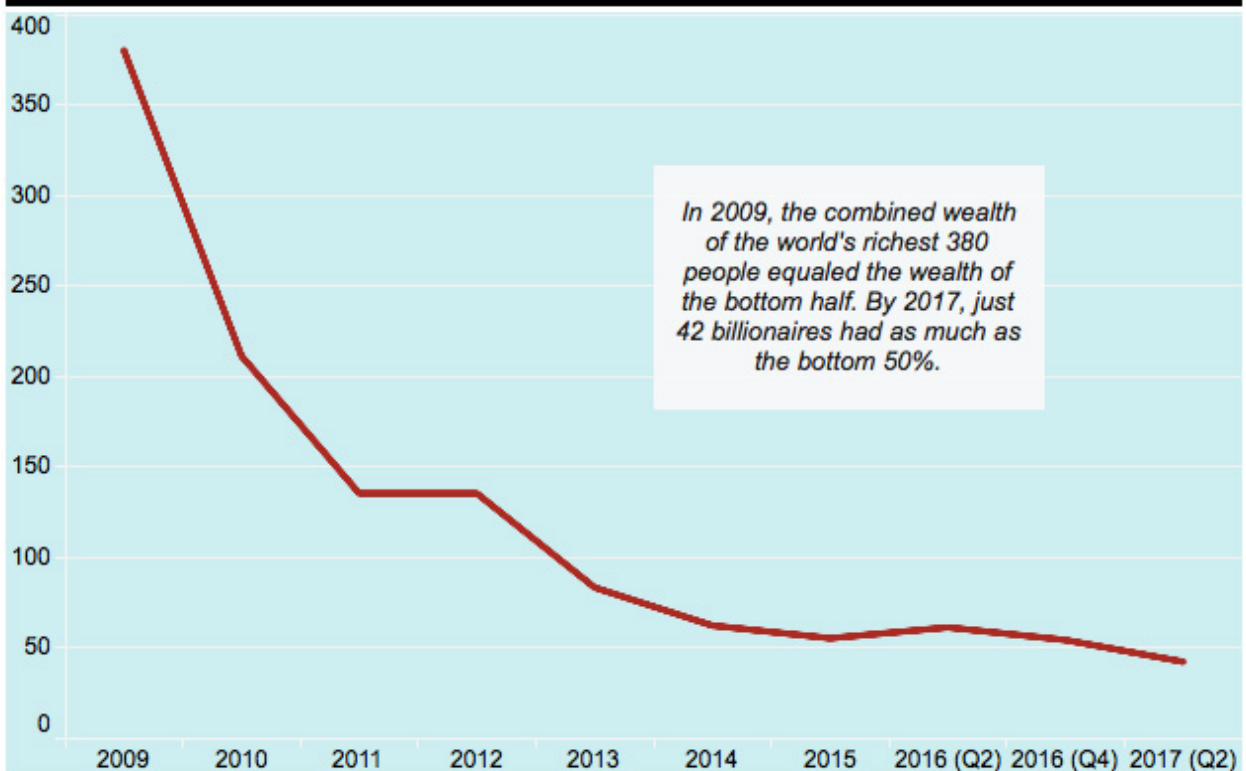
The number of \$-billionaires in the world has risen from 470 in 2000 to 2,208 in 2018. [5]

Work Left to Do

The range varies; the most equal country had 3% of its population below the threshold; the least equal had 26%. [3]

However, as the graph below shows, income inequality is TEN times greater than it was in 2000 [6]

Wealth of the World's Poorest Shrinks Relative to Billionaire Wealth



Source: Oxfam, 2018



Sources

1. [UNDP - SDG10](#)
2. [SDG Knowledge Platform - Goal 10](#)
3. [SDG Report 2019 - Section 10](#)
4. [The 2030 Agenda](#)
5. [Forbes](#)
6. [Oxfam](#)

Points to Ponder

- Right wing governments seem to be in the ascendancy all over the world. The great experiments in socialism, like the USSR, have collapsed. What chance do we have, seriously, of persuading the rich to get poorer in order that the poor can get richer?
- Our Balance Sheet focuses on income inequality because other Goals focus on other kinds of inequality: but income inequality is at the heart of gender inequality – as women get paid so much less than men for doing the same work. Should we look at that separately or as part of the wider inequality problem? What about age, disability and other inequalities?
- The main priority is to “Leave No One Behind...” - isn't it? If that is the case, shouldn't we be lobbying for a [Universal Basic Income](#) – like Mark Zuckerberg and Elon Musk. That way, however much robots or Artificial Intelligence take over our jobs, we would all have food on the table and a roof over our heads. Wouldn't we?? What do you think??



Take Action

- Inform yourself: check out the inequalities in your family – your home – your village – your neighbourhood. Talk about how you might iron out such inequalities.
- Talk about money! You'll find that many adults think it insulting for young people to ask them about money – how much they earn, how much they spend. Talk about inequality – about how elders have all the money and the power – and how young people have to learn to navigate an increasingly complex economic and environmental future. See whether you can get them to open up and talk about money more.
- **Where action on Income Inequality began:** the champagne glass image from the [UN Human Development Report 1992](#).

