



**END CHILD  
POVERTY**  
GLOBAL COALITION



Voluntary National Reviews for the Sustainable Development Goals:  
**ARE COUNTRIES COMMITTED TO ENDING  
CHILD POVERTY BY 2030?**

A review of Voluntary National Review Reports from 2017 to 2022

Special thanks to Ben Liu, independent consultant, who led the development of this brief on behalf of the Coalition, with input and guidance from Solrun Engilbertsdottir and Charlotte Bilo (UNICEF) and Arellys Bellorini (World Vision International).





# Contents

Voluntary National Reviews for the Sustainable Development Goals:

## Are countries committed to ending child poverty by 2030?

A review of VNR Reports from 2017 to 2022

1. Introduction .....	4
2. Are countries committed to ending child poverty? What do the VNRs reveal? .....	5
3. Countries reporting on monetary child poverty .....	8
4. Countries reporting on multidimensional child poverty..	10
5. Countries reporting on policies and programmes addressing child poverty .....	13
Building and expanding child-sensitive social protection systems .....	13
Improving access, quality, and utilization of public services by the poorest .....	14
Prioritizing child poverty in national development plans and strategies.....	15
6. Inclusive recovery.....	16
7. The SDG Global Database and regional commitments.....	18
8. Conclusion and way forward .....	20
Global Coalition to End Child Poverty recommendations ....	21
9. Annex 1 - Countries reporting on child poverty in their VNRs (2017-2022).....	24
10. Annex 2 - Methodological note .....	28

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Ending poverty in all its forms for everyone, including for children - is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted in 2015 by the Member States of the United Nations. Through SDG 1, the 2030 Agenda provides a clear framework for action: Countries must eradicate extreme poverty for all people - including children - by 2030 as internationally defined (PPP \$1.90) and reduce at least by half the proportion of children living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.

The combined crises comprising the climate emergency, the COVID-19 pandemic, and increased conflicts, food prices and inflation, highlight that urgent action is needed to halt worsening outcomes for children. For example, it is estimated that it will take at least seven to eight years to recover and return to pre-COVID-19 levels of monetary child poverty<sup>1</sup>. In addition, many other child-focused outcomes, such as educational attainment, immunization, reduced hunger, and improved nutrition continue to be at risk of drastically worsening. There are clear indications that the world will fall short in achieving the 2030 Agenda's aim to end extreme child poverty and at least halve multidimensional child poverty.

The [Global Coalition to End Child Poverty \(the Coalition\)](#), a 20+ member partnership, works to support national processes in achieving the SDG targets related to ending child poverty. The Coalition's Guide [A World Free from Child Poverty](#), sets out a practical agenda for mobilizing action to end child poverty nationally, regionally and globally. This agenda includes supporting countries in routinely

measuring monetary and multidimensional child poverty and addressing it through policies, programmes and budgets. In its paper [Ending Child Poverty: A Policy Agenda](#), the Coalition has outlined the four key building blocks to end child poverty, which are: **1. Build national support** by ensuring that reducing child poverty is an explicit national priority; **2. Expand child-sensitive social protection**; **3. Improve access** to quality public services, especially for the poorest children; and **4. Promote a decent work and inclusive growth** agenda to reach families and children in poverty.

The VNRs are a key tool for accountability for the SDGs; they are the main mechanism for tracking progress on the SDGs at the national level and reporting on it at the global level.

To monitor and assess national progress on the SDGs, each year a select number of countries present their [Voluntary National Reviews \(VNRs\)](#) to the United Nations [High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development \(HLPF\)](#). This process enables countries to take stock of their achievements and challenges, share lessons learned and identify actions to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs are important as they are a key tool for accountability for the SDGs, both at the national and global level. Among the principles guiding the reviews are that they must include a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind. By 2022, over 170 countries had presented their VNRs at the HLPF, with more than 70 countries having presented their VNR two or more times.

1 <https://www.unicef.org/reports/unicef-75-preventing-a-lost-decade>



One way to assess progress on SDG implementation - including efforts to end child poverty - is to survey the data and narrative content that countries present in their VNRs. This Coalition brief is the fourth annual analysis of the VNRs from a **child poverty perspective**, looking at how countries address and discuss their efforts to end child poverty, through both measurement and policies. Our assessment complements

several other systematic efforts to assess VNRs, conducted by various UN agencies, academia, civil society etc. This analysis builds upon the [2021 brief](#) developed by the Coalition, which reviewed VNRs from 2017 to 2021. This year's analysis reviews the 2022 VNRs and provides reflections on the trends since 2017. Annex 1 presents a visual summary of how countries have reported on child poverty in their VNRs since 2017.

**Limitations:** The findings presented in this brief are based only on an analysis of the VNRs submitted since 2017. In addition, the UN [SDG Global Database](#) was reviewed to assess how countries are reporting on child poverty related indicators there. While there are countries measuring child poverty and/or that have in place policies and programmes to address child poverty, such efforts are not reflected in this brief unless they have been mentioned in the VNRs. This brief thus provides information only on stated policy positions and priorities articulated in the VNRs. Further, this brief does not constitute an evaluation or an assessment of these policies or priorities. Annex 2 summarizes the methodology used for this brief.

## 2. ARE COUNTRIES COMMITTED TO ENDING CHILD POVERTY? WHAT DO THE VNRs REVEAL?

At the 2022 HLPF, 44 countries presented VNRs of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda<sup>2</sup>. The theme for the 2022 HLPF was “*Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*”. This theme aims to explore how recovery policies can reverse the negative impacts of the pandemic on the SDGs and move countries on to a path to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda<sup>3</sup>.

**Among the 43 VNR reports reviewed in 2022** (43 out of 44 countries uploaded a report available for analysis), **13 countries reported on monetary child poverty, 8 on**

The number of countries reporting on multidimensional child poverty increased to 8 (out of 43) in 2022, compared to 5 (out of 40) in 2021.

2 43 VNR reports were reviewed from the following countries: Andorra, Argentina, Belarus, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Dominica, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Montenegro, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay. Tuvalu's 2022 VNR report was not reviewed as it was not available at the time of analysis. All VNR reports can be found here: <https://hlpf.un.org/countries?f%5B0%5D=year%3A2022>

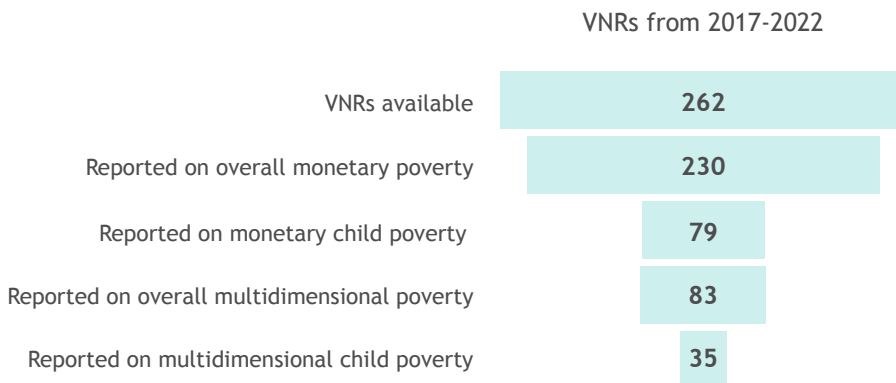
3 <https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/uploads/2022/Letter%20POE%204%20July%202022.pdf>

**multidimensional child poverty, and 32 outlined efforts to address child poverty through policies, programmes and/or budgets.<sup>4</sup>**

From 2017 to 2022, there are 262 VNR reports available from 179 members (some countries

have presented a VNR more than once) and out of them: 230 (88%) have reported on national monetary poverty, 79 (30%) on monetary child poverty, 83 (32%) on national multidimensional poverty and 35 (13%) on multidimensional child poverty (Figure 1).

Figure 1



Since 2017, most VNRs (60) have been submitted by other high-income countries, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean (46) and West and Central Africa (41) (Figure 2). While most reports have been submitted by other high-income countries, it is also the group where proportionally fewer VNRs reported on **overall monetary poverty** (only 77% of all reports). In comparison, in South Asia and West and Central Africa, all VNRs submitted since 2017 provided estimates on overall monetary poverty.

**Monetary child poverty** is most often reported on in the VNRs from Latin America and the Caribbean and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (43% and 42% of all reports, respectively). In comparison, in the Middle East and North Africa and South Asia only 12% and 7%, respectively, of all VNRs made explicit reference to monetary child poverty.

The figure for South Asia is surprising since all of the region’s VNRs reported on overall monetary poverty.

Across all regions, countries report less often on multi-dimensional poverty than on monetary poverty. South Asia is the region where proportionally more countries reported on **overall multi-dimensional poverty** (67% of all VNRs), followed by West and Central Africa (46% of all VNRs), compared to only 18% in the Middle East and North Africa and 12% in other high-income countries.

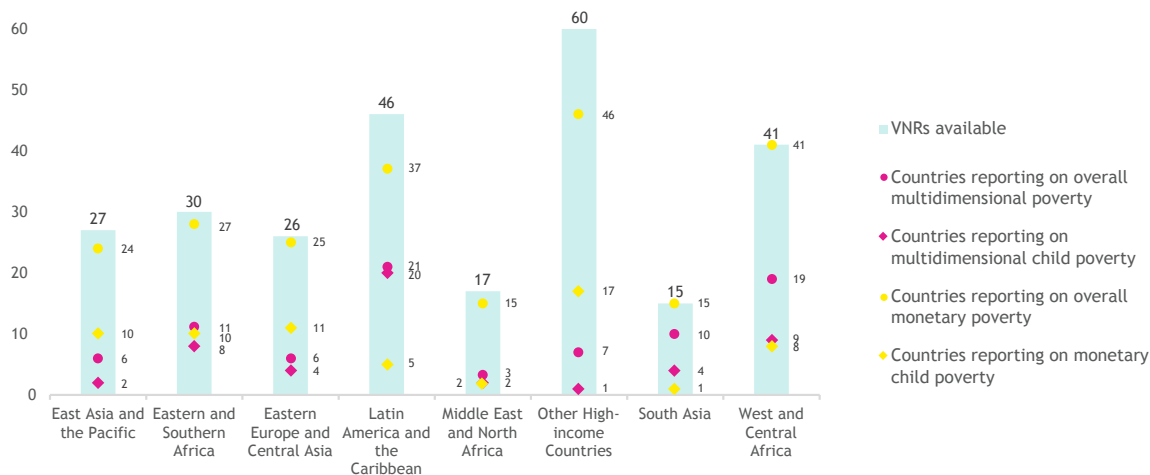
Eastern and Southern Africa and South Asia have the highest proportion of VNRs providing figures on **multi-dimensional child poverty** (27% each), followed by West and Central Africa (22%). In contrast, only one of the VNRs submitted by other high-income countries (UK) reported on this indicator (2%).

<sup>4</sup> For a general synthesis report of the 2022 VNRs see: <https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/2022-10/VNR%202022%20Synthesis%20Report.pdf>



Figure 2

Countries Reporting from 2017 to 2022 in VNRs by Region



Overall, the VNR reports address child poverty in different ways, from acknowledging children as a group particularly vulnerable to poverty, to highlighting policies addressing child poverty or showcasing national development frameworks and strategies which include a focus on child poverty. In addition to analysing the impact of COVID-19, the 2022 reports also focus on recovery measures for the economy and how to build back better with more shock-responsive and resilient social protection systems. However, children living in poverty unfortunately receive limited attention in these discussions and/or chapters of VNR reports.

If VNRs are used as a measurement of countries' commitment to address child poverty, it is fair to conclude that progress is being made. However, there are still large gaps in reporting on the impletion

of the 2030 Agenda, with the number of countries providing estimates on monetary and multidimensional child poverty - an SDG requirement - far too few.

There is no significant difference between years in the number of countries reporting on monetary child poverty estimates: in the years 2017 to 2022 approximately 25 - 35% of VNRs included monetary child poverty estimates. However, there is a slow increase in the proportion of countries reporting on multidimensional child poverty: in 2017 only one country included multidimensional child poverty estimates, while by 2022 there were 8 countries reporting on the same issue in their VNR report.

### 3. COUNTRIES REPORTING ON MONETARY CHILD POVERTY

The first step to address child poverty is to provide an accurate and consistent measurement of child poverty, as outlined in the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty SDG Guide, [milestone 2](#). SDG indicator 1.2.1 focuses on the proportion of the population living below the national monetary poverty line disaggregated by sex and age.

In 2022, while more countries reported on national monetary poverty rates for the whole population than in previous years, the number of countries reporting on the monetary child poverty rates remained similar across the years. Among the 43 VNR reports in 2022, 13 (30%) of them explicitly referenced the monetary poverty rate for children, compared

to 14 out of 40 reports (35%) in 2021 (Figure 3). While in East Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean proportionally more countries reported on monetary child poverty (100% and 71%, respectively), none of the VNRs from the Middle East and North Africa or South Asia provided those estimates (Figure 4).

The monetary child poverty rate is presented through different age groupings (e.g. 0-17 and 0-14 years old) and use either national or international criteria, such as the absolute poverty line, a relative poverty line, an extreme poverty line and/or the at-risk-of-poverty rate.

Figure 3

Number of countries reporting on monetary child poverty in their 2022 VNRs by region

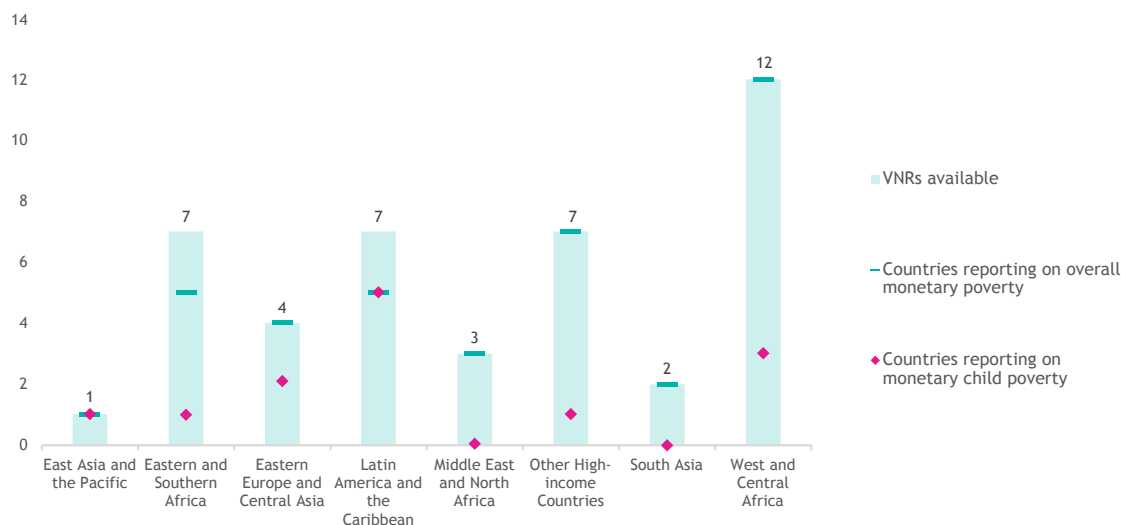
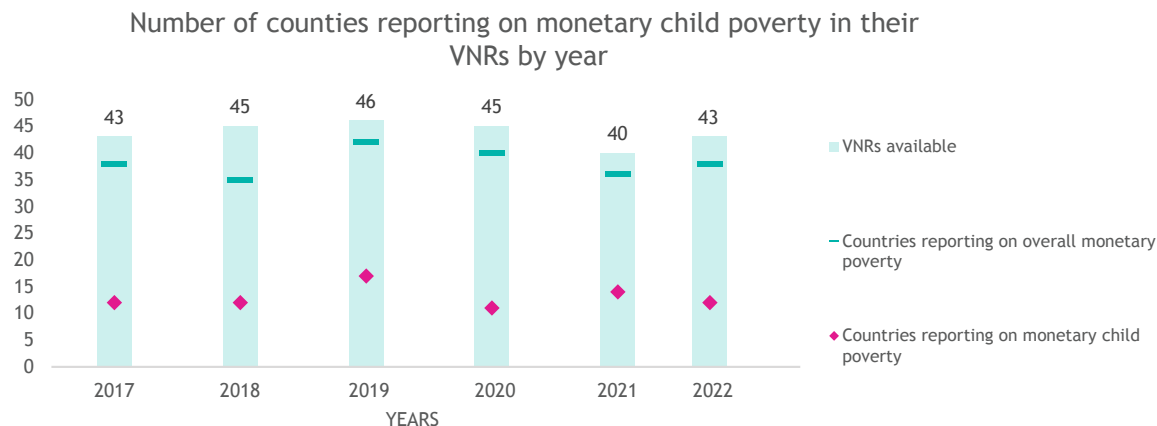




Figure 4



In addition to explicitly addressing monetary child poverty, many countries made efforts to strengthen **data collection approaches** and monitoring mechanisms to track child poverty through different approaches. Specifically:

- **Argentina** launched an analysis of quarterly databases of the Permanent Household Survey (EPH) and recorded the child poverty rate every three months, in order to monitor the effectiveness of ad-hoc transfer policies. In the first quarter of 2020, children and adolescents were the most affected and at risk of poverty, but their poverty rate fell in the third quarter of 2021, compared to the same quarter of the previous year (from 53.5% to 52.3%).
- **Jamaica** reported not only the poverty rate for different age groups since 2017, including early childhood (0 - 8 years old), children (0 - 17 years old), adolescents (15 - 19 years old) and youth (15 - 25 years old), but also disaggregated this data by sex. The results suggest that, for every year, the highest poverty prevalence rates were recorded among males, as well as among children and adolescents.

- In addition to noting the child poverty rate at the national level, **Lesotho** kept track of the poverty rate among different groups of children before and after the COVID-19 pandemic, through a comparison of urban and rural child poverty rates. The data indicates that the poverty headcount rate increased for all children, and the rural-urban poverty gap increased by two percentage points for children (with a higher rate in rural areas), in part due to the impact of COVID-19.
- **Mali** carried out a Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) in 2020, and measured the poverty data for different age groups, ranging from 0 - 23 months, 24 - 59 months, 5 - 14 years old, and 15 - 17 years old. The data was also disaggregated by nine regions, indicating large disparities across different areas.

In addition, **Latvia** monitored the at-risk-of-poverty rate for households with different number of people and dependent children, including the at-risk-of-poverty rate for households with dependent children, households with two adults and three or

more dependent children, and single persons with dependent children. **Guinea Bissau** also reported on the various deprivations experienced by children of different age groups.

This year's VNR analysis reveals that the number of countries reporting on monetary child poverty is similar to preceding years with most countries still not reporting on this pressing issue, even though it is well

documented that children are particularly vulnerable to the effects of poverty. As countries recover unequally from the COVID-19 shock, the lack of robust baselines and monitoring of progress to reduce monetary child poverty could further marginalize the most disadvantaged and increase vulnerability for children who live in low-income settings, presenting a dire challenge to deliver the 2030 Agenda by its deadline.

## 4. COUNTRIES REPORTING ON MULTIDIMENSIONAL CHILD POVERTY

Poverty is multifaceted and cannot be captured solely through income and consumption measurements. To understand how poverty affects children's development and wellbeing, it is important to assess the multiple and overlapping deprivations children face in their daily lives, for example, in relation to early childhood care, education, healthcare, nutrition, housing and living standards. Countries have committed to SDG target 1.2 which seeks to "reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women, and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions".

The proportion of countries which reported on overall multi-dimensional poverty in 2022 is similar to 2021, and while it is positive to note that the number of countries providing

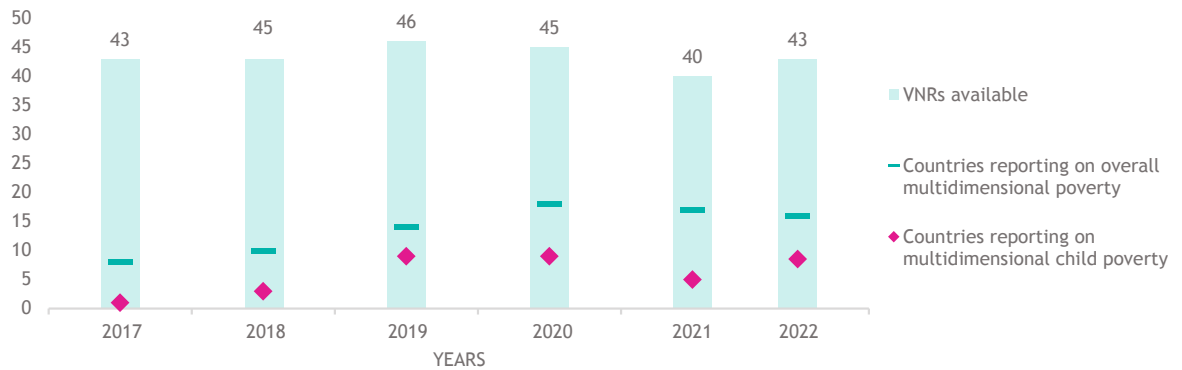
estimates on multi-dimensional child poverty increased from five (13%) in 2021 to eight (19%) in 2022 (Figure 5), it shows that a lot of countries still have to increase their efforts in this regard.

In South Asia, both VNRs submitted in 2022 (Pakistan and Sri Lanka) reported on multi-dimensional poverty. Two out of 4 countries (50%) in Eastern Europe and Central Asia and 3 out of 12 (25%) in West and Central Africa included numbers on multidimensional poverty in their VNRs. In comparison, none of the VNRs from the following regions provided such figures: Middle East and North Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, East Asia and the Pacific and other high-income countries (Figure 6).



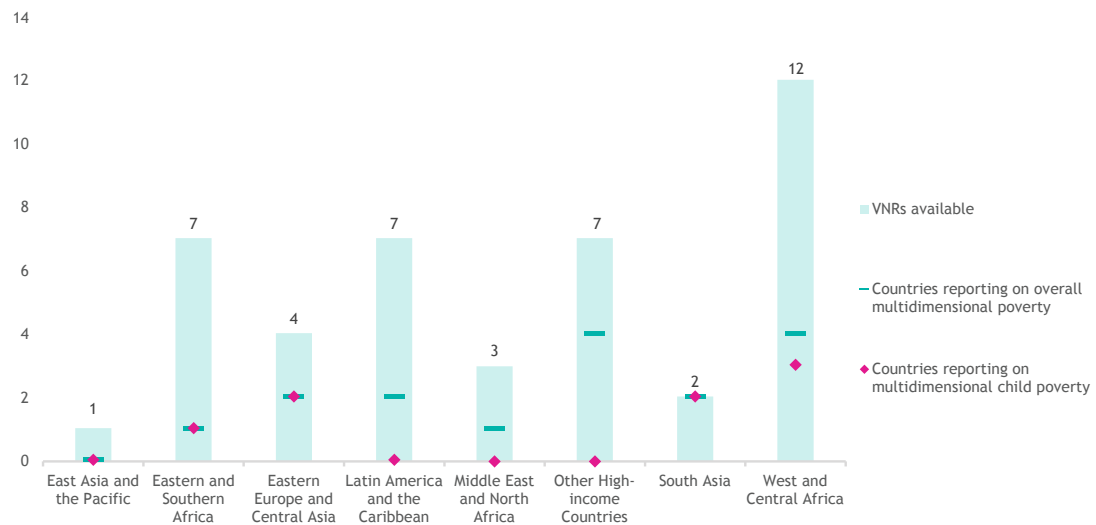
**Figure 5**

Number of counties reporting on multidimensional child poverty in their VNRs by year



**Figure 6**

Number of counties reporting on multidimensional child poverty in their 2022 VNRs by region



Some examples of the **8 countries which provided data on multidimensional poverty among children in 2022**, are outlined below:

- In addition to measuring the overall multidimensional child poverty rate, **Ghana** has been monitoring the proportion of children deprived in nine different poverty dimensions. The results show that children are most deprived in relation to sanitation and social protection.
- **Guinea Bissau** adopted the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) to measure multidimensional poverty and used the data to analyse child-specific deprivations in seven dimensions. Specifically, the VNR focused on children experiencing between 4 - 6 deprivations simultaneously, disaggregated by three age groups with sanitation identified as the dimension with the highest incidence of deprivation. In addition, gender disaggregation suggests that the incidence of deprivation is more severe for girls than boys.
- In **Lesotho's** VNR, multidimensional child poverty is defined as children who are simultaneously deprived in three or more dimensions. Data was disaggregated by five age groups for children and tracked according to these age groups in 2014 and 2018. The data suggests that the largest drop in multidimensional poverty was for two age groups, namely 0 - 24 months and 24 - 59 months.
- **Montenegro** measures the material deprivation of children, and reported on both the rate of pronounced material deprivation and extreme material deprivation, by monitoring different levels of difficulty to afford 10 household items, such as heating, quality diet, basic household appliances, etc.

However, as with monetary child poverty estimates, these good practices in reporting on multidimensional child poverty are extremely few and far between. While the proportion of countries focusing on national multidimensional poverty among the general population remains more or less the same, a focus on multidimensional child poverty is often missing from overall attention to the deprivations measured nationwide.



## 5. COUNTRIES REPORTING ON POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES ADDRESSING CHILD POVERTY

Turning SDG promises into real results for children requires significant national attention including a comprehensive package of national policies and programmes and accompanying action plans and budgets for implementation. SDG target 1.3 recognizes the importance of social protection systems and floors in reducing poverty for everyone, including children, and SDG target 1.4 includes focus on access of the poor and vulnerable to basic services. Furthermore, SDG indicator 1.b.1 is important in this regard, as it seeks to measure the proportion of government spending towards health and education and direct transfers which directly benefit the monetary poor.

32 out of the 43 VNR countries reviewed mentioned their efforts to tackle child poverty through various policy and/or sector-specific actions. These measures are broadly divided into the following categories:

- **Building and expanding child-sensitive social protection systems;**
- **Improving access, quality, and utilization of public services by people and families who are poor; and**
- **Prioritizing child poverty in national development plans and strategies.**

### **Building and expanding child-sensitive social protection systems**

Government social protection schemes targeted at children and their caregivers, especially social protection floors, play a crucial role in protecting children from monetary poverty and other deprivations they face

throughout their lives. On a positive note, efforts in building and expanding child-sensitive social protection systems were among the most common country-level responses to child poverty highlighted in the 2022 VNRs - in particular, the expansion of cash transfers targeting poor and vulnerable families with children. For example:

- Within the **Andorran** social welfare system, there is a family allowance for dependent children, which aims to help families whose income is below the Economic Threshold of Social Cohesion with living and education-related expenses.
- **Argentina** implemented the 'Feed Benefits' within the framework of the Food Security Component, with the objective to supplement household income to purchase food, prioritizing mothers with children up to 14 years of age, pregnant women after 3 months of pregnancy and people with disabilities. Until April 2021, the recipients were girls and boys up to 6 years old, and as of May 2021 that group was extended to those up to 14 years old, with an increase in the benefit amount for families with 3 or more children.
- **Cameroon** mentioned cash transfers provided to women in the household, with conditionalities (including sending children to school and registering children in the civil registry) to encourage beneficiary families to seek social services for their children.
- **Dominica** discussed building social protection systems not only as a tool to reducing poverty but also as an adaptive and resilient system for households.

The VNR discussed the Public Assistance Programme (PAP) to provide temporary cash transfers through the Joint Emergency Cash Transfer programme (JECT) to those affected by Hurricane Maria in 2017, reaching almost 25,000 people (including 6,000 children), providing them with three payments of US\$90 per household per month, with a top-up of US\$50 per child up to three children.

- **Kazakhstan** revised its Targeted Social Assistance (TSA) by introducing a new benefit for large families with four or more minor children and reviewing eligibility criteria and selection procedures.
- **Senegal** highlighted its aim to support vulnerable people to build resilience to shocks, productivity, and well-being through the social protection system. It summarized its efforts to expand the coverage of social protection for children. An increasing number of children are covered by Universal Health Coverage, school canteen services and cash transfer programmes.
- Under its social security system legislation, **Suriname** established a complementary social provisions scheme, targeting low-income families, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, which consists of targeted and untargeted cash or in-kind transfers for vulnerable groups.

Apart from social assistance/protection measures, some countries also outlined labor market policies to support families and children living in and/or vulnerable to poverty. For instance:

- **Belarus** upgraded its Labour Code, granting fathers and stepfathers the right to a paternity leave upon the birth of a child (up to 14 days), to take a leave in the

summer if raising a child with a disability under the age of 18, and to take leave before the expiration of 6 months of work if raising two or more children.

- **The United Arab Emirates** introduced a Private Sector Child Allowance Scheme, which is a monthly grant made to Emirati staff working in the private sector, of up to AED800 per child up to a maximum of AED3,200 per month.

It is well established that social protection programmes are among the most effective policy tools in addressing child poverty. However, many countries did not mention placing children at the heart of their social protection efforts in their 2022 VNRs, indicating a serious gap in policy responses to shield children from the lifelong consequences of poverty.

### Improving access, quality, and utilization of public services by the poorest

Child poverty is multidimensional, and a variety of social services are crucial to support children's survival, development, and growth. In addition to social protection measures, several countries noted the policies and programmes they have implemented to strengthen access to education, health and other key social services in order to address poverty:

- In **Equatorial Guinea**, social protection mechanisms are supplemented by other including the implementation of scholarship programmes that benefit children from poor families, the development of a school canteen programme, the free supply of school material and equipment and support to



vulnerable families for their children's schooling.

- With the objective to contribute to SDG 1, **Greece** launched a mechanism to rapidly identify unaccompanied children who are homeless or living in insecure conditions and provide ad-hoc and long-term accommodation based on the child's needs, background, and available options. This includes a 24/7 telephone hotline for identifying and tracing children in need.
- **Jordan** launched the National Strategy for Social Protection 2019-2025, aimed at providing basic services, such as ensuring equitable educational services for all, including for children living in poverty and children with disabilities. The VNR also noted efforts to build and better equip kindergartens and to deliver school nutrition programmes in poverty pockets and refugee areas, which increased enrolment in kindergartens.
- **Kazakhstan** emphasized its Guaranteed Social Package (GSP) for children from low-income families. For pre-school children, the GSP is provided in the form of food kits and hygiene supplies, and for schoolchildren - in the form of free meals at the place of education, reduced fares on public transport and the provision of school uniforms and accessories.
- In a partnership with UNICEF, **Mali** conducted a multidimensional child poverty analysis - with a focus on different age groups, dividing the life cycle of the child into three periods, namely 0-5, 6-12 and 13-18 years old, in order to better understand and address the deprivations faced by children, particularly the most vulnerable, the hardest to reach and those most affected by crises. Mali and UNICEF have developed a five-year programme,

ensuring that each targeted child benefits from a set of multi-sectoral services adapted to their needs, at each stage of their life.

## Prioritizing child poverty in national development plans and strategies

Including child poverty in key national development frameworks, such as in a national development plan or a poverty reduction strategy, demonstrates high-level political commitment at the national level, laying the groundwork for increased and more coordinated actions to combat child poverty, as well as funding to ensure implementation. Among the countries which noted specific frameworks to address child poverty:

- **El Salvador** recently launched the National Policy to Support Early Childhood Development "Grow Together" (2020-2030), recognizing its linkage and contribution to SDG 1.
- **Gambia** formulated a national social protection policy for a ten-year period to 2025. The policy identifies vulnerable groups, including children, youth and women. These vulnerable groups are also identified as being most at risk of being left behind.
- **Greece** introduced a strategy for social inclusion and the fight against poverty and the first National Action Plan for the Protection of Children's Rights (2021), demonstrating its commitments to reduce child poverty, to guarantee that every child has access to free health services, education, childcare, housing and adequate food, to ensure guardianship for unaccompanied refugee minors, and to simplify adoption procedures. It is worth noting that, children's well-being is

among the priorities of Greece’s pathway to sustainability and child-related policies were mainstreamed in drafting the 2022 VNR report.

- As part of the action plan for the “European Pillar of Social Rights”, **Luxembourg** has set the objective to reduce the at-risk-of-poverty and social exclusion rate from 20.1% in 2019 to 17.1% in 2030. The actions are specifically focused on four issues, including child poverty.
- **São Tomé and Príncipe** designed and executed the National Social Protection Policy and Strategy. The first Strategic Objective is to eliminate extreme poverty, giving priority to families in extreme poverty with disabled or orphaned

members and single-parent families with children through the “Citizenship Social Protection” regime, which covers vulnerable populations such as children and adolescents with special needs or at risk.

Despite the increase in the number of countries that discussed child poverty-related policies and programmes in their VNRs, coordinated and comprehensive national plans to reduce child poverty were not reported on, except in the five countries (El Salvador, Gambia, Greece, Luxembourg, São Tomé and Príncipe) listed above. Governments still fall short of reporting national plans that put children living in poverty as the highest priority, drawing concerns over the inadequate resources allocated to ensure that children and their families can escape the intergenerational cycle of poverty.

## 6. INCLUSIVE RECOVERY

The economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been unprecedented, UNICEF and Save the Children estimate that at the end of 2021, 150 million additional children were living in multidimensional poverty as a result of the pandemic.<sup>5</sup> Prior to COVID-19, 356 million children (17.5%) or one in six children globally lived in extreme poverty, struggling to survive on less than \$1.90 a day, as opposed to 7.9% of adults.<sup>6</sup> The World Bank estimates that the pandemic increased the global extreme poverty rate to an estimated 9.3% in 2020—up from 8.4% in 2019, meaning that more than 70 million

people were pushed into extreme poverty by the end of 2020, increasing the global total to over 700 million. The same report also finds that across all regions, children are more likely to be poor than adults.<sup>7</sup> High Frequency Phone Surveys in 35 developing countries found that at the onset of the pandemic, households with many children were more likely than households with no children to suffer from income loss, with 76% of households with three children or more reported experiencing total income loss, versus 55% of households with no children.<sup>8</sup> The 2022 Multidimensional Poverty Index

5 <https://www.unicef.org/press-releases/150-million-additional-children-plunged-poverty-due-covid-19-unicef-save-children>

6 <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/966791603123453576/global-estimate-of-children-in-monetary-poverty-an-update>

7 <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/poverty-and-shared-prosperity>

8 <https://www.unicef.org/reports/impact-covid-19-welfare-households-children#:~:text=The%20modest%20progress%20made%20in,surveys%20collected%20in%2035%20countries>





research conducted by UNDP and OPHI shows that of the 1.2 billion people living in acute multidimensional poverty half of these people are children (593 million).<sup>9</sup>

Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic has been very unequal and many regions of the world are suffering from a higher cost of living, food shortages and conflict. For example, UNICEF estimates the child poverty rate in the Europe and Central Asia region to be 19 per cent higher than it would have been without the war in Ukraine and economic downturn<sup>10</sup>.

In line with the 2022 HLPF theme “*Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*”, the 2022 VNRs reflect the long-lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on countries’ economies and efforts to reduce poverty. Many of the VNR reports highlight that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in households and individuals who previously did not experience poverty losing their livelihoods due to the lockdowns associated with containing COVID-19 and who have not yet recovered from this shock.

Several countries highlighted that they are now facing the challenges of how to ensure that their countries and economies recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and whether emergency measures implemented during the peak of the crisis should be maintained, adapted or removed.

For example, in **Ghana** the CARES programme was implemented rapidly at the onset of the pandemic in 2020, providing some protection to both businesses and families

during the pandemic. During the first phase of implementation, it was planned that the CARES programme would stabilize the economy. Many vulnerable households received free electricity, water and food during the early period of 2020 through the CARES programme. Ghana’s VNR highlights that the pandemic will have long-term devastating impacts and therefore, sustained and adequate social programmes are required to ensure vulnerable people are protected in the long-term.

In the **Philippines**, a whole of Government approach was used to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the early stages of 2020. A large-scale public package was implemented known as Bayanihan 1 which increased the country’s testing and treatment capacity, as well as provided credit, wage subsidies and other liquidity supports to mitigate the economic costs of the containment measures. As the intensity of the spread of COVID-19 subsided, Bayanihan 2 was later introduced which focuses on recovery interventions, with an explicit aim to accelerate the economic and social recovery from COVID-19 as well as to build resilience in the healthcare system.

In **Uruguay** the project “Strengthening a Gendered and Generational Socio-economic Response through Evidence based Policy Advocacy and Analysis” was implemented in 2021 through the UN COVID-19 Response & Recovery Fund and with support of UN Women, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA. The project’s aim was to contribute to the establishment of a social protection framework in the context of the socioeconomic recovery of the COVID-19 crisis. Amongst other activities, it included an educational reinsertion programme for adolescents, an update of the beneficiaries of

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9 <https://hdr.undp.org/content/2022-global-multidimensional-poverty-index-mpi#/indicies/MPI>

10 <https://www.unicef.org/eca/reports/impact-war-ukraine-and-subsequent-economic-downturn-child-poverty-eastern-europe>

the country's family benefits as well as the development of a Multidimensional Poverty Index with the National Statistics Institute.

While most countries report on the social protection measures implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, only a few of them highlight child-specific measures. Furthermore, it is clear from reviewing the 2022 VNRs that the focus of most governments has now shifted to building and supporting the economic and social recovery from COVID-19,

which involves building longer-term systems of support rather than providing short-term emergency measures. However, in order to prevent a lost decade of children and to ensure that the gains achieved across health, education and poverty reduction efforts are not lost, it is essential that States prioritize investment in areas such as social protection and quality public service provision with a strong focus on ensuring that the most vulnerable have access to these systems.

## 7. THE SDG GLOBAL DATABASE AND REGIONAL COMMITMENTS

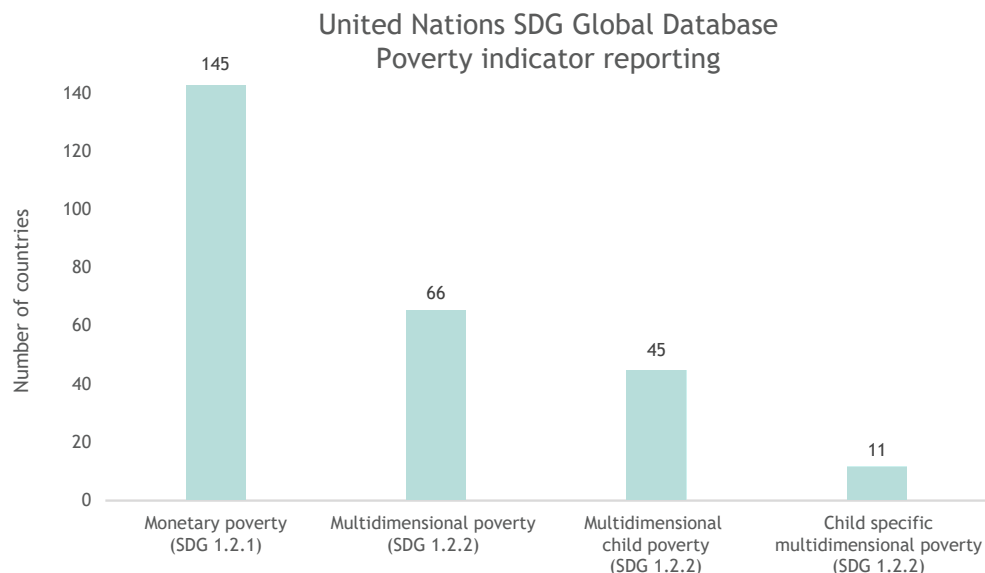
The VNRs presented at the HLPF are the most official global tool for countries to report on their progress in achieving the SDGs. However, there are also various official databases where countries can provide their SDG-related data to measure progress. For example, the United Nations SDG Global Database provides access to data on more than 210 SDG global indicators, including the poverty-related SDG indicators, for countries across the globe.<sup>11</sup>

An analysis of the SDG 1 poverty-related poverty indicators according to the SDG database (as of October 2022) highlight that 145 countries have reported on monetary poverty using national poverty lines - (SDG 1.2.1), 66 countries have reported on multidimensional poverty (SDG 1.2.2), 45 countries have reported on multidimensional child poverty (SDG 1.2.2) and only 11 countries have reported on child-specific multidimensional poverty (where the child is the unit of analysis, not the household - SDG 1.2.2) (Figure 7).

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<sup>11</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/database>

Figure 7



There are widespread regional differences in the reporting of indicators. Regarding SDG indicator 1.2.2 most countries that report on multidimensional poverty are from the Western Europe region (25 countries) followed by the Latin America and Caribbean region (11 countries) and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (9 countries). In South Asia, six countries report on multidimensional poverty (indicator 1.2.2) along with seven countries from Eastern and Southern Africa, two countries in the Middle East and North Africa, four countries in West and Central Africa, and one country in East Asia and the Pacific<sup>12</sup>.

The majority of countries reporting on SDG indicator 1.2.2 disaggregated by age are in Western Europe (25 countries), where all countries that report on indicator 1.2.2 also provide an estimate disaggregated by age. A further six countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia provide age disaggregated data for indicator 1.2.2, followed by five countries

from the Latin American and Caribbean region (Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Panama). In South Asia, Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka all provide age-disaggregated data of their national multidimensional poverty rates. In Eastern and Southern Africa, West and Central Africa and the Middle East and North Africa only three countries (Namibia, Mali and Morocco respectively) provide age disaggregated data for 1.2.2. Lastly, in East Asia and the Pacific, Thailand is the only country that provides age disaggregated data for indicator 1.2.2.

The 11 countries which report on child specific multidimensional poverty (where the child is the unit of analysis, not the household) are all from four different regions: Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Armenia), Eastern and Southern Africa (Angola, Burundi, Lesotho, Malawi, and Zambia), West and Central Africa (Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, São

<sup>12</sup> Plus Kosovo

Tomé and Príncipe, and Mali), and the Middle East and North Africa (Egypt).

Unfortunately, the UN SDG Global Database does not include disaggregation of SDG indicator 1.2.1 on the proportion of the population living below the national poverty line, which calls for disaggregation by both sex and age. The Coalition strongly advocates

and calls upon the UN Member States to ensure that indicator 1.2.1 is disaggregated by age in the UN SDG Global Database. Seven years into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, with only eight years remaining, it is time to follow up on SDG commitments and provide this crucial data disaggregation for children and other vulnerable groups.

## 8. CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

The combined crises comprising the climate emergency, the COVID-19 pandemic, rising food prices and the inflation crisis have wreaked havoc on the lives of children living in poverty and those vulnerable to poverty. Urgent action needs to be taken by Governments and international actors to halt the worsening outcomes for children. The Global Coalition to End Child Poverty calls on countries to take more urgent and comprehensive actions to achieve the SDG 1 target to end extreme poverty for every child, and to reduce by at least half child poverty in all its dimensions as nationally defined.

This year, out of the 43 VNR reports reviewed, the number of countries reporting on monetary and multidimensional child poverty rates was only 13 and 8 countries respectively. On a very positive note, 32 countries mentioned a variety of efforts to address child poverty, through policies, programmes, and budgets.

The Global Coalition to End Child Poverty congratulates these countries and is pleased to showcase the good and innovative practices to address child poverty in this brief and beyond. It is encouraging to see an increasing number of countries report on progress in relation to poverty eradication, including under SDG targets 1.3, 1.5 and 1.a.

However, the overall analysis and numbers still represent a concerning picture in terms of the measurement of and reporting on multidimensional child poverty, which regrettably does not differ much from previous years. In addition, it should be noted that children remain largely invisible in the social protection measures reported to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We must recognize that ending the cycle of poverty starts with addressing child poverty in all its forms in all countries. To do this effectively, governments must routinely measure multidimensional child poverty, develop policies that address it, monitor these policies, and report on their progress through VNRs and other mechanisms. Without transparent and accessible measurements of child poverty, civil society and other stakeholders are not able to hold governments to account on SDG progress to end child poverty.

As of December 2022, the following 41 Member States have committed to submitting their VNRs in 2023, most of which will report for the second time on their SDG progress. This is an opportunity for countries to highlight and implement measures to monitor child poverty in all its dimensions, as well as to lay out clear roadmaps in achieving the SDG target of ending child poverty.



Bahrain*	Barbados*	Belgium*	Bosnia and Herzegovina*	Brunei Darussalam*	Burkina Faso*	Cambodia*
Canada*	Central African Republic*	Chile**	Comoros*	Croatia*	Democratic Republic of the Congo*	European Union
Fiji*	France*	Guyana*	Iceland*	Ireland*	Kuwait*	Liechtenstein*
Lithuania*	Maldives*	Mongolia*	Poland*	Portugal*	Romania*	Rwanda*
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Saudi Arabia*	Singapore*	Slovakia*	Syrian Arab Republic*	Tajikistan*	Timor-Leste*
Turkmenistan*	United Republic of Tanzania*	Uzbekistan*	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)*	Vietnam*	Zambia*	

\*Presenting for the second time

\*\*Presenting for the third time

The Coalition expects to see the proportion of child poverty-related numbers and narrative improve as we move to the third year of the Decade of Action in 2023 and stands ready to support countries in their VNR preparation process.

## Global Coalition to End Child Poverty recommendations

### 1. Report on SDG 1 child poverty indicators to establish baseline, monitor progress and guide policies

As Member States participating in the 2023 VNR prepare their reports, the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty urges all countries to take stock of actions taken to lift children out of poverty in all its dimensions, and report on the baseline and progress towards the child poverty-related SDG indicators, in particular:

- 1.1.1. Proportion of population below the international poverty line, disaggregated by children (ages 0-17 years)
- 1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, disaggregated by children (ages 0-17 years)
- 1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

Measuring poverty in early childhood, middle childhood and adolescence is critical to enable countries to take the appropriate actions to address poverty at different stages of children's lives. Therefore, whenever possible, indicators should be further disaggregated by specific child age groups (e.g. 0-5, 6-12, and 13-17 years old). The different dimensions (e.g. early childhood care, education, healthcare, nutrition, housing and living standards) of

multidimensional child poverty data should also be unpacked and analysed, to understand better how it needs to be addressed in national contexts.

It is important to track not just national averages, but also to disaggregate by other characteristics where possible (e.g. age, sex, disability status, subnational, urban/rural location, migratory status, etc.) and analyse the pace at which gaps between different socioeconomic groups in society are changing (or not) over time. Countries should adopt national interim equity targets to track progress among different social and economic groups<sup>13</sup> to ensure no child is left behind in seeking to end child poverty. Survey and other data should be used to report regularly and transparently on inequality and gaps in progress among the poorest and most marginalized groups, including children and families living in poverty.

## 2. Develop and implement a comprehensive national agenda to reach the SDG child poverty targets

Measurement alone will not end child poverty. Once targets for reducing and eradicating child poverty have been set, these need to be followed through with strategies, policies, programmes and budgets to support families and children living in poverty. The importance of a comprehensive national strategy to end child poverty is more critical than ever, as multiple crises impact on the global prospects of ending extreme child poverty and reducing by at least half multidimensional child poverty. Through strong social protection systems and coordinated and comprehensive actions, we can avoid failing an entire future generation and achieve the SDG 1 target of ending extreme child poverty by 2030.

Therefore, the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty calls on governments and actors involved in poverty eradication efforts to put children first in their national development plans, strengthen social protection systems (including gender and disability-inclusive social protection) and basic services, and report on the child poverty related SDG 1 indicators, including:

- 1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, new-borns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable
- 1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services
- 1.A.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)
- 1.B.1 Pro-poor public social spending

## 3. Support the participation of non-state stakeholders, including individuals living in poverty in developing the VNR

The process for developing VNR should not only focus on the participation of Member States or the UN. While the 2030 Agenda specifies that Member States should “conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led, and country driven” , the 2030 Agenda also states that review processes “will be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent for all people and will support the reporting by all relevant stakeholders” and “they will be people-centred, gender-sensitive, respect human rights and have

<sup>13</sup> <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/library/leaving-no-one-behind-embedding-equity-post-2015-framework-through-stepping-stone-targets>



*a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind”.*<sup>14</sup>

The Coalition urges all countries to ensure that the VNR process has the attention, engagement and input of non-state stakeholders, including children and the poorest and most vulnerable groups. The 2030 Agenda explicitly recognizes children as agents of change. Non-state actors, such as civil society and donors, also have a role to play in monitoring progress and ensuring that Member States are putting in place strategies, policies and programmes to end child poverty.

#### 4. Share innovative national strategies to measure and address child poverty

A range of innovative and powerful examples have been summarized in this brief, based

on the analysis of the 2022 VNRs. These examples showcase how individual countries have strengthened their focus on the various dimensions of child poverty and addressed the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Coalition encourages Governments to share their experiences of innovative practices and new strategies to address child poverty with the global community. In support of this, the Coalition can act as a platform to facilitate inter-country exchanges in this area, for instance through Coalition-hosted Webinars. Coalition members, who encompass a broad base of civil society, development practitioners and researchers, would also be keen to learn more about innovative policies to reduce child poverty.

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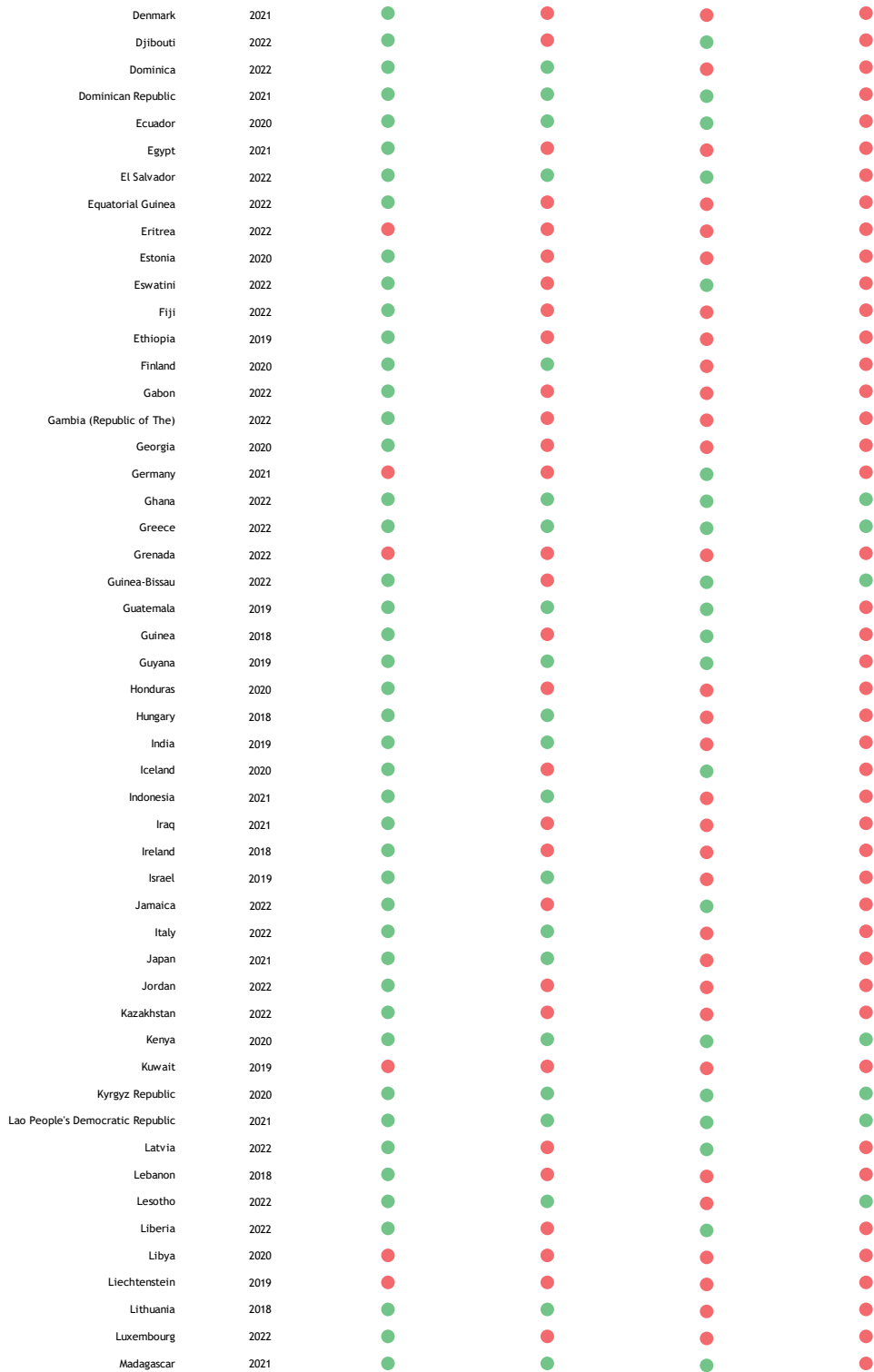
<sup>14</sup> Para 74, <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

## 9. ANNEX 1 - COUNTRIES REPORTING ON CHILD POVERTY IN THEIR VNRS (2017-2022)

Country	VNR (latest available)	Overall monetary poverty rate reported?	Monetary child poverty reported?	Overall multidimensional poverty rate reported?	Multidimensional child poverty rate reported?
Afghanistan	2021	●	●	●	●
Albania	2018	●	●	●	●
Algeria	2019	●	●	●	●
Andorra	2022	●	●	●	●
Angola	2021	●	●	●	●
Antigua and Barbuda	2021	●	●	●	●
Argentina	2022	●	●	●	●
Armenia	2020	●	●	●	●
Australia	2018	●	●	●	●
Austria	2020	●	●	●	●
Azerbaijan	2021	●	●	●	●
Bahamas	2018	●	●	●	●
Bahrain	2018	●	●	●	●
Bangladesh	2020	●	●	●	●
Belarus	2022	●	●	●	●
Belgium	2017	●	●	●	●
Belize	2017	●	●	●	●
Benin	2020	●	●	●	●
Bhutan	2021	●	●	●	●
Bolivia	2021	●	●	●	●
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2019	●	●	●	●
Botswana	2022	●	●	●	●
Brazil	2017	●	●	●	●
Brunei Darussalam	2020	●	●	●	●
Bulgaria	2020	●	●	●	●
Burkina Faso	2019	●	●	●	●
Burundi	2020	●	●	●	●
Cabo Verde	2021	●	●	●	●
Cambodia	2019	●	●	●	●
Cameroon	2022	●	●	●	●
Canada	2018	●	●	●	●
Central African Republic	2019	●	●	●	●
Chad	2021	●	●	●	●
Chile	2019	●	●	●	●
China	2021	●	●	●	●
Colombia	2021	●	●	●	●
Comoros	2020	●	●	●	●
Congo	2019	●	●	●	●
Costa Rica	2020	●	●	●	●
Cote d'Ivoire	2022	●	●	●	●
Croatia	2019	●	●	●	●
Cuba	2021	●	●	●	●
Cyprus	2021	●	●	●	●
Czech Republic	2021	●	●	●	●
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	2021	●	●	●	●
Democratic Republic of Congo	2020	●	●	●	●



Voluntary National Reviews for the Sustainable Development Goals: Are countries committed to ending child poverty by 2030?  
 A review of Voluntary National Review Reports from 2017 to 2022



Voluntary National Reviews for the Sustainable Development Goals: Are countries committed to ending child poverty by 2030?  
 A review of Voluntary National Review Reports from 2017 to 2022

Malawi	2022	●	●	●	●
Malaysia	2021	●	●	●	●
Maldives	2017	●	●	●	●
Mali	2022	●	●	●	●
Malta	2018	●	●	●	●
Marshall Islands	2021	●	●	●	●
Mauritania	2019	●	●	●	●
Mauritius	2019	●	●	●	●
Mexico	2021	●	●	●	●
Micronesia	2020	●	●	●	●
Monaco	2017	●	●	●	●
Mongolia	2019	●	●	●	●
Montenegro	2022	●	●	●	●
Morocco	2020	●	●	●	●
Mozambique	2020	●	●	●	●
Namibia	2021	●	●	●	●
Nepal	2020	●	●	●	●
Netherlands	2022	●	●	●	●
New Zealand	2019	●	●	●	●
Nicaragua	2021	●	●	●	●
Niger	2021	●	●	●	●
Nigeria	2020	●	●	●	●
North Macedonia	2020	●	●	●	●
Norway	2021	●	●	●	●
Oman	2019	●	●	●	●
Pakistan	2022	●	●	●	●
Palau	2019	●	●	●	●
Panama	2020	●	●	●	●
Papua New Guinea	2020	●	●	●	●
Paraguay	2021	●	●	●	●
Peru	2020	●	●	●	●
Philippines	2022	●	●	●	●
Poland	2018	●	●	●	●
Portugal	2017	●	●	●	●
Qatar	2021	●	●	●	●
Republic of Moldova	2020	●	●	●	●
Romania	2018	●	●	●	●
Russian Federation	2020	●	●	●	●
Rwanda	2019	●	●	●	●
Saint Lucia	2019	●	●	●	●
Samoa	2020	●	●	●	●
San Marino	2021	●	●	●	●
Sao Tome and Principe	2022	●	●	●	●
Saudi Arabia	2018	●	●	●	●
Senegal	2022	●	●	●	●
Serbia	2019	●	●	●	●
Seychelles	2020	●	●	●	●
Sierra Leone	2021	●	●	●	●
Singapore	2018	●	●	●	●
Slovakia	2018	●	●	●	●
Slovenia	2020	●	●	●	●



Voluntary National Reviews for the Sustainable Development Goals: Are countries committed to ending child poverty by 2030?  
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Solomon Islands	2020	●	●	●	●
Somalia	2022	●	●	●	●
South Africa	2019	●	●	●	●
Spain	2021	●	●	●	●
Sri Lanka	2022	●	●	●	●
State of Palestine	2018	●	●	●	●
Sudan	2022	●	●	●	●
Suriname	2022	●	●	●	●
Sweden	2021	●	●	●	●
Switzerland	2022	●	●	●	●
Syrian Arab Republic	2020	●	●	●	●
Tajikistan	2017	●	●	●	●
Tanzania	2019	●	●	●	●
Thailand	2021	●	●	●	●
Timor-Leste	2019	●	●	●	●
Togo	2022	●	●	●	●
Tonga	2019	●	●	●	●
Trinidad and Tobago	2020	●	●	●	●
Tunisia	2021	●	●	●	●
Turkey	2019	●	●	●	●
Turkmenistan	2019	●	●	●	●
Uganda	2020	●	●	●	●
Ukraine	2020	●	●	●	●
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	2022	●	●	●	●
United Kingdom	2019	●	●	●	●
Uruguay	2022	●	●	●	●
Uzbekistan	2020	●	●	●	●
Vanuatu	2019	●	●	●	●
Vietnam	2018	●	●	●	●
Zambia	2020	●	●	●	●
Zimbabwe	2021	●	●	●	●
No		23	123	118	154
Yes		156	56	61	25

\*Red circle indicates NO, Green circle indicates YES

## 10. ANNEX 2 - METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

All VNR reports from 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2022 available on the [SDG portal](#) were reviewed for this analysis. To identify and quantify references to child poverty, monetary child poverty, multidimensional child poverty, and policies and programmes to address child poverty, the Coalition followed a two-step approach:

1. Reviewed key chapters that discussed poverty and inequality; and
2. Performed a key word search to identify references to child poverty

### Identifying countries reporting on monetary and multidimensional child poverty rates

To identify whether countries mentioned, “monetary child poverty”, or “multidimensional child poverty”, the Coalition reviewed each report’s chapters

on SDG 1 progress review, SDG 10 progress review, the Leave No One Behind principle, and statistical annex. Keyword searches to capture child poverty rates mentioned elsewhere in the VNRs were also performed.

### Assessing reporting on policies and programmes to address child poverty

To determine the number of countries reporting on policies and programmes to address child poverty, explicit references to policies, legislation, and related efforts to tackle child poverty in the VNR reports were considered. Countries that clearly presented information on such policies and efforts that directly addressed child poverty, specifically under the report’s chapters on SDG 1 progress review, SDG 10 progress review, and the Leave No One Behind principle, were categorized as including assessments on policies and programmes to reduce child poverty.

### Key words used to identify references to child poverty

English	Spanish	Russian	Arabic	French
Child poverty	Pobreza infantil	Детская бедность	لافطأال رقف	Pauvreté des enfants
Poverty	Pobreza	Бедность	رقفال	Pauvreté
Multidimensional Poverty Index	Índice de Pobreza Multidimensional	Индекс многомерной бедности	ددعتم رقفال رشؤم داعبأأا	Indice de pauvreté multidimensionnelle
Child	Niño, Niña, Niñez	ребенок	لفط	Enfant
Multidimensional	Multidimensional	Многомерный	داعبأأا ددعتم	Multidimensionnel
Monetary poverty	Pobreza monetaria	Денежная бедность	يددقنل رقفال	Pauvreté monétaire
Poverty line	Línea de pobreza	Черта бедности	رقفال طخ	

Poverty reduction	Reducción de la pobreza	Сокращение бедности	رقف ل ا ن م د ح ل ا	Réduction de la pauvreté
Deprivation	Privación	Лишение	ن ا م ر ح ل ا	Privation
The situation of children	La situación de los niños/las niñas/la niñez	Положение детей	ل ا ف ط ا ل ا ة ل ا ح	La situation des enfants
Deprivation of children	La privación de los niños/las niñas/niñez/infancia			Privations des enfants
Poverty reduction programmes	Programas de reducción de la pobreza	Программы сокращения бедности		Programmes de réduction de la pauvreté
The incidence of poverty	El índice de pobreza	Уровень бедности	رقف ل ا ر ا ش ت ن ا	L'incidence de la pauvreté
Poverty reduction projects	Proyectos de reducción de la pobreza	Проекты сокращения бедности		Projets de réduction de la pauvreté
Childhood	La infancia/niñez	Детство		

## Countries which submitted VNRs per region

Region	Countries
East Asia and the Pacific	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, Indonesia*, Lao People's Democratic Republic*, Malaysia*, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Mongolia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines*, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand*, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu, Vietnam
Eastern and Southern Africa	Angola, Botswana*, Burundi, Comoros, Eritrea, Eswatini*, Ethiopia*, Kenya*, Lesotho*, Madagascar, Malawi*, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia*, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe*
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan*, Belarus*, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Greece*, Kazakhstan*, Kyrgyz Republic, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan
Latin America and the Caribbean	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina**, Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile*, Colombia*, Costa Rica*, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic*, Ecuador*, El Salvador*, Grenada, Guatemala*, Guyana, Honduras*, Jamaica*, Mexico*, Nicaragua, Panama*, Paraguay* Peru*, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay***
Middle East and North Africa	Algeria, Egypt*, Djibouti, Iraq*, Jordan*, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, State of Palestine, Sudan*, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia*

Other High-income Countries	Andorra*, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus*, Czech Republic*, Denmark*, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy*, Japan*, Kuwait, Latvia*, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg*, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands*, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar**, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Slovenia, Spain* Sweden*, Switzerland*, United Arab Emirates*, United Kingdom
South Asia	Afghanistan*, Bangladesh*, Bhutan*, India*, Maldives, Nepal*, Pakistan*, Sri Lanka*
West and Central Africa	Benin**, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde*, Cameroon*, Central African Republic, Chad*, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire*, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Gambia*, Ghana*, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia*, Mali*, Mauritania, Niger**, Nigeria*, Senegal*, Sierra Leone, Togo**, São Tome and Príncipe, Sierra Leone

\*Presented two VNRs

\*\*Presented three VNRs

\*\*\* Presented four VNRs





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# About the Global Coalition to End Child Poverty

The Coalition is a network of like-minded organizations concerned at the devastating effects of poverty in childhood on children and societies. The Coalition promotes the need for countries and development actors to explicitly focus on child poverty and the solutions to it in national, subnational, regional and global policies, budgets and monitoring systems.

Coalition participants share a vision of a world where all children grow up free from poverty, deprivation and exclusion. Working together through the Coalition, as well as independently, Coalition participants aim to support the recognition of child poverty and the practical actions to alleviate it.



**END CHILD  
POVERTY**  
GLOBAL COALITION

