



Mind the Gap
Leave no One, no Place behind
Tackling Inequalities through SDG Actions

- We are witnessing growing inequalities and poverty around the world. The gap between the haves and have-nots is getting wider.
- People living in cities and town are affected the most. Many urban residents have lost their income or housing due to conflicts, natural disasters or the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The triple C crisis – COVID-19, climate and conflicts – has generated a wave of new poor in urban areas. In 2021, there were almost 163 million newly poor, according to the estimates of the World Cities Report.
- In 2022, conflicts pushed over 70 million people below the poverty line. Due to COVID-19, between 88 and 115 million experienced extreme poverty in 2020.
- According to Oxfam, due to the effects of climate change an estimated 13 million people across Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia have been displaced in the first quarter of 2022, despite having done little to cause the climate crisis.
- Local action to implement the Sustainable Development Goals can help address inequalities, deliver climate action, and ensure green and inclusive recovery from the pandemic.
- Cities and towns are the places where we can connect the dots and create change.
- Solutions to growing inequalities lie in human rights-based approaches, social protection policies and good multilevel governance focused on participation and inclusion.
- Extending infrastructure and basic services as well as work on urban regeneration can be a catalyst for inclusive and equitable urban futures.
- To address urban poverty, we need a multidimensional approach to remove spatial, social and economic barriers that lead to exclusion and marginalization.