Leave no one behind means the poor must make progress fast enough to narrow the gap

Policy makers have for decades used phrases such as broad-based, pro poor and inclusive growth. But the evidence is clear: the gap between the poorest 20% (the P20) and the average of the other 80% continues to grow globally and in most countries.

SDG 10 is explicit in calling for faster than average progress for the poorest.

This requires steps to close the growing gap between the P20 and everyone else.

Not just on income, health and education, but on all the SDGS.
What does Leave no one Behind mean?

• The SDGs are the **WHAT**. Leave no one Behind is the **WHO**:
The SDGs will not be achieved unless everyone is included in progress.

• The commitment to **leave no one behind** incorporates **SDG 1 on eliminating poverty** and **SDG 10 on reducing inequality**.

• The commitment is **universal** - applying both to development cooperation and to domestic policy within **every country as well as globally**.

• Leave no one behind recognises the **multidimensional** nature of poverty, inequality and exclusion.

• The commitment to leave no one behind is **not just vital in social sectors** such as health and education. It applies to **all sectors** including energy, financial inclusion, and infrastructure and to **all actors** – governments, private sector, civil society.
Data to leave no one behind

• Agenda 2030 is an unprecedented opportunity to measure whether policies are delivering better incomes, opportunities and well-being for the P20.

• Governments, CSOs and the private sector all share responsibility the deliver on the SDGs. All these should measure their particular contribution to shared progress and prosperity.

• To ensure no one is being left behind, we must routinely collect data disaggregated at least by income, geography, gender, age and disability (QGGAD).
How prepared are countries to apply LNOB in terms of data?

• For HLPF 2017, Botswana was one of 44 countries submitting a national review. Of these countries, **24 made specific mention of their commitment to ‘leave no one behind’**.

• 25 of the 44 countries reporting mentioned the **importance of disaggregated data in delivering on the SDGs**.

• Botswana and 4 other countries (Belarus, Benin, Indonesia, and Tajikistan) explicitly made the **link between LNB and the data revolution**, emphasizing the need for disaggregated data in order to formulate targeted policies.

• The OECD’s **inclusive growth** agenda, looks at **measurement beyond GDP**: measures of **wellbeing and multidimensional poverty**. Similarly among OECD donors, there is discussion on how to measure results on LNB. **Need for data that is both disaggregated and politically resonant**.
How to unpack existing data to build a more fine-grained picture of the poor?

• A lot of data already exists and efforts are underway to discover and join up existing data (getting better value from work already done). Steps include finding data, persuading people to share it, technical work to combine datasets.

• Looking at HLPF reports, we see that many countries and organisations are already aware of the importance of gender disaggregated data. 15 of these 25 countries mentioned gender-disaggregated data, to promote gender mainstreaming and gender equality. This shows progress on gender awareness.

• But we need to build on this success, to address the wider principle. A person’s identity – no matter what it is or how many identities a person has – must never be the reason for their immiseration or exclusion.
What have countries said they are doing?

Kenya: disaggregate all government data by sex and age

Tajikistan: women, children, elderly people, rural communities and people with disabilities

Uruguay: inclusion of LGBTI population to health services and produce disaggregated indicators for this group

Guatemala: data disaggregated by sex and ethnicity

Indonesia: disability and migration status

Ethiopia: emphasises the data needs of a decentralized administrative system – which requires data on geographical location.

Ethiopia also refers to those who have been left behind for historical reasons.
5 key data disaggregations: QGGAD. Plus sensitivity to how identities cause exclusion and disadvantage

• What is technically possible and affordable. Our approach is summed up in QGGAD. Data must at least be disaggregated by income Quintile, Geography, Gender, Age and Disability.

• But it is not possible to measure all disaggregations. We all have too many identities and characteristics! So build awareness on how identity and location can exclude people from the social and economic mainstream.

• Lack of gender disaggregated data hasn’t prevented real progress on disadvantages facing women and girls. Progress on the other identity based factors that cause and perpetuate poverty and inequality in every country, doesn’t need to wait for perfect data.
How to remove the barriers to data use?

• Every government struggles with funding statistics (often seen as an ‘administrative cost’). The world’s largest companies spend a lot on data. **You can’t reach every person without good data.**

• Many businesses did not engage strongly with the MDGs. But **SDGs now seen as a key element in the global business environment.** Corporations benefit from investments by government in human capital and data. So **every company must measure its contribution** to the SDGs and LNB. And **companies should share more of their data.**

• Last years WDF in Cape Town showed how statisticians can now draw on and **join up a much wider range of data sets** to produce a more disaggregated picture. In the past many CSOs – who often have data on the P20 and excluded groups – have done their data in a way that just suits their management. CSOs are now realising they need to adopt **common standards**, so their datasets can be combined with others.
Population data, not prevalence data, has to be the norm. Data has to make sense for ordinary people and for the politicians who are driving and accountable for change.

How we measure maternal mortality does not help with targeted measures to tackle it.

The algorithm cannot tell us who is left behind – Or how to reach women with services.

The model was fitted with three selected covariates (GDP, GFR and SAB) and random intercept effects for countries and regions. It can be described as follows:

$$\log(PM^{na}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(GDP_i) + \beta_2 \log(GFR_i) + \beta_3 SAB_i + \alpha_{j[i]}^c + \alpha_{k[i]}^R + \varepsilon_i$$

where the following are associated with each observation $i$, within country $j[i]$, within region $k[i]$:

- $PM^{na}$ = proportion of maternal among non-AIDS deaths in women aged 15–49 years (non-AIDS PM)
- $GDP_i$ = gross domestic product per capita (in 2005 PPP dollars)
- $GFR_i$ = general fertility rate (live births per woman aged 15–49 years)
- $SAB_i$ = skilled attendant at birth (as a proportion of live births)
- $\alpha_{j[i]}^c$ = variable intercept component for country $j$
- $\alpha_{k[i]}^R$ = variable intercept component for region $k$
- $\varepsilon_i$ = error.
Need to engage, explain and enthuse people about data to leave no one behind

- In the early stages of the data revolution, the people involved have mostly been statisticians, data geeks and policy wonks.

- But the revolution needs to speak to ordinary people and politicians. This means helping people to access, join up, understand and apply data.

- A lot of clever people either don’t enjoy or understand data. So there is a major job to do to engage, explain and enthuse.

- The 2nd world data forum, groups such as Paris21 plus specialist groups on disability (Washington Group) and Ageing (Titchfield Group) are part of the architecture that can help us apply data to the imperative of leaving no one behind.

- Our focus the P20 – the poorest 20% globally and in every country – aims to cut through the complexity of 17 SDGs, and their dozens of supporting targets and indicators. 20% rather than 40% is a political choice. We focus on a 3 bellwether indicators: income, nutrition and CRVS. Every organisation and government needs to identify their own key indicators of whether we are on track to leave no one behind by 2030.
"As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind.

Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society.

And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first."

Tony German, Development Initiatives