Human Development Report 2019

Beyond income, beyond averages, beyond today: Inequalities in human development in the 21st century

Copenhagen, Denmark
12 December 2019
INEQUALITY IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT: BEYOND INCOME, AVERAGES AND TODAY

A comprehensive assessment of inequality must consider income and wealth. But it must also understand differences in other aspects of human development and the processes that lead to them.

Exploring inequalities in human development - a new framework

The analysis of inequalities in human development must go beyond summary measures of inequality that focus only on a single dimension.

Inequalities in human development will shape the prospects of people that may live to see the 22nd century.
1: MANY ARE STEPPING ABOVE MINIMUM FLOORS, BUT WIDESPREAD DISPARITIES REMAIN

Population with a primary education, 2017 (percent)

- Low
- Medium
- High
- Very high

Human development group

51.2 percentage points
2: A NEW GENERATION OF INEQUALITIES IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IS EMERGING

Examples of achievements:
- Early childhood survival
- Primary education
- Entry level technology
- Resilience to recurrent shocks

Basic capabilities

Examples of achievements
- Access to quality health at all levels
- High-quality education at all levels
- Effective access to present-day technologies
- Resilience to unknown new shocks

Enhanced capabilities
2: A NEW GENERATION OF INEQUALITIES IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IS EMERGING

**Primary education**
Change between 2007-2017 (percentage points)

**Tertiary education**
Change between 2007-2017 (percentage points)
2: A NEW GENERATION OF INEQUALITIES IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IS EMERGING

**Mobile-cellular subscriptions**
Change between 2007-2017 (per 100 inhabitants)

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<th>Human development group</th>
<th>Low</th>
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**Fixed broadband**
Change between 2007-2017 (per 100 inhabitants)

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3: INEQUALITIES IN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT CAN ACCUMULATE THROUGH LIFE
4: ASSESSING INEQUALITIES DEMANDS A REVOLUTION IN METRICS

Indicated bias in one or less questions from the World Values Survey

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<td>2005-2009</td>
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Indicated bias in two or more questions from the World Values Survey

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5: TACKLING INEQUALITIES IS IN OUR HANDS, BUT WE MUST ACT NOW

Redressing inequalities in basic and enhanced capabilities

**Policies to:**
- Accelerate convergence in basic capabilities
- Reverse divergence in enhanced capabilities
- Eliminate gender and horizontal inequalities

**Policies** for inclusive expansion in incomes (productivity and equity)
THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Ecological footprint, 2016
(global hectare per person)
TECHNOLOGY: GOOD SERVANT, BAD MASTER

Technological change
(automation, machine learning and robotics, new platform economy, global and local outsourcing)

Displacement effect
(tasks related to accounting and bookkeeping, travel agents)

Productivity effect

Reinstatement effect
(cyber security experts, digital transformation specialists, data scientists)

Net change in demand for labour
DENMARK

- Denmark’s HDI value for 2018 is 0.930 (2017 value 0.929), positioning it at 11 out of 189 countries and territories (very high human development)

- Between 1990 and 2018, Denmark’s HDI value increased from 0.799 to 0.930, an increase of 16.4 percent.

- Between 1990 and 2018, Denmark’s life expectancy at birth increased by 5.8 years, mean years of schooling increased by 3.6 years and expected years of schooling increased by 5.0 years.

- Denmark’s GNI per capita increased by about 48.7 percent between 1990 and 2018.

- Still, Denmark faces a number of challenges such as:
  - When adjusted for inequality, Denmark’s HDI falls to 0.873 (a lost of 6.1 percent)
  - High old-age dependency ratio – among the bottom third performers
  - The Gender Development Index shows persistent inequalities between men and women especially with regard to life expectancy and GNI per capita
  - Among the bottom third performers in 2 out of 4 indicators on violence against women and girls
WE HAVE A CHOICE

- It is not too late to act: but the time to act is now
- Policy goals must evolve from leaving no behind, to bringing everyone ahead
- Policies must tackle underlying drives not just the symptoms of inequality.
- The 2019 Human Development Report offers analysis and options to help governments consider how best to act