SOME SPECIFIC FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS ARE STRONGLY RELATED TO MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY

This provides the basis for designing policies and programmes that can effectively address child poverty and its causes to piece together a fuller picture of a child’s quality of life.

Child poverty is complex. Multidimensional poverty is not about simply counting the number of children living in poor households. It is about analysing specific dimensions of poverty and their causes to piece together a fuller picture of a child’s quality of life. This provides the basis for designing policies and programmes that can effectively address child poverty and promote the development of the country.

TO SUMMARISE

Child poverty is complex. Multidimensional poverty is not about simply counting the number of children living in poor households. It is about analysing specific dimensions of poverty and their causes to piece together a fuller picture of a child’s quality of life. This provides the basis for designing policies and programmes that can effectively address child poverty and promote the development of the country.

IN ZANZIBAR

Ending child poverty is both crucial for fulfilling the rights of every child and for the future of Zanzibar and other countries. Poverty affects children from an early age and undermines their ability to reach their full potential. Poverty is a complex issue, with many factors contributing to its cause. In Zanzibar, poverty is often linked to factors such as lack of education, poor health, and insufficient access to basic necessities.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Suggested priority actions

Current levels of poverty predict future levels of poverty, and children experiencing poverty in childhood will often be disadvantaged and unable to reach their full potential later in life. It is therefore important to invest early in children and with equity to develop skilled and healthy citizens in Zanzibar. This is the key for Zanzibar to achieve its Vision.

Current levels of poverty predict future levels of poverty. Investing early in children, particularly those who are most disadvantaged, is needed in order to develop a skilled and healthy workforce in Zanzibar. Child poverty is about more than money. If child poverty is understood only as a lack of family income, many children whose basic rights are not fulfilled will be missed by interventions.

Children affected by MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY

These counts will also serve to monitor progress towards Zanzibar’s ‘Vision 2020’ and beyond.

To measure childhood poverty effectively, other needs key to Zanzibar’s ‘Vision 2020’ and beyond.

In such cases, social sector interventions such as a child grant have the potential to reduce multidimensional child poverty amongst the poorest households.

Many children experience multidimensional poverty without being addressed by monetary poverty. In many cases, social sector interventions – health, education, water, and protection – are needed to reduce multidimensional poverty on a larger scale.

Investing in education is one of the most important ways to reduce multidimensional poverty. Low levels of education of the mother and/or the head of the household contribute significantly to high levels of multidimensional poverty. Therefore, keeping children in school is paramount. This includes removing barriers to education, like child labour and early marriage.

Why measure MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY?

Monetary poverty is particularly important in Zanzibar as the child population is expected to rapidly increase by 2050. It is vitally important for Zanzibar to make the targeted investments to raise children out of poverty and provide critical social services.

RECOMMENDATION

In light of the high level of both monetary and multidimensional poverty, and the inclusion of child poverty in the SDGs, child multidimensional poverty counts, based on nationally available data, must be routinely calculated and reported along with the number of children living in monetarily poor households. This will inform Zanzibar’s future reporting on Goal 2 of the SDGs. These counts will also serve to monitor efforts to address child poverty within the Zanzibar Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty 2019/202021 (ZSGRP) (4) and its successor.

How is MULTIDIMENSIONAL CHILD POVERTY defined in Zanzibar?

Child poverty is about more than money. A child in Zanzibar is defined as living in poverty if he or she suffers deprivation in these or more key dimensions of poverty: access to education, health, housing, information, nutrition, protection, sanitation and water. These dimensions are measured across four age groups (0–23 months; 24–58 months; 5–13 years; 14–17 years).

MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY IS ASSESSED IN THE FOLLOWING DIMENSIONS DEFINED BY NATIONAL INDICATORS

- Housing
- Access to information
- Nutrition
- Education
- Protection
- Health
- Sanitation
- Water

Children affected by MONETARY POVERTY

live in households below the national basic needs poverty line

Children affected by MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY

are deprived in one or more of the following dimensions: health, nutrition, education, and protection.
Leaving no one behind...

Tanzania subscribes to the Sustainable Development Goals which, by 2030, aims 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."

**SDG Target 1.2**

**LEVELS OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY for children in Zanzibar**

**MULTIDIMENSIONAL CHILD POVERTY IS ANALYSED FOR FOUR AGE GROUPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>0–17 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multidimensional</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>67.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monetary</td>
<td>48.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN THAT ARE MULTIDIMENSIONALLY POOR BY DISTRICT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Multidimensional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kaskazini A</td>
<td>81.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaskazini B</td>
<td>81.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micheweni</td>
<td>93.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How acute is MULTIDIMENSIONAL & MONETARY POVERTY in Zanzibar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>0–23 Months</th>
<th>24–59 Months</th>
<th>5–13 Years</th>
<th>14–17 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Multidimensional</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
<td>52.4%</td>
<td>73.4%</td>
<td>71.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monetary</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
<td>30.7%</td>
<td>36.9%</td>
<td>40.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Levels by age group**

- Younger children (0–23 months) form the highest percentage deprived in sanitation (84.7 per cent).
- For nutrition, the highest deprivation is amongst younger children aged 0–23 months.

The highest levels of deprivation amongst children in Zanzibar are found in the areas of sanitation (84.7 per cent), housing (71 per cent) and nutrition (68 per cent).

In Zanzibar, 66 per cent of children experience multidimensional poverty, while 35 per cent are affected by monetary poverty, according to ‘Child Poverty in Zanzibar’, a report developed by the Office of the Chief Government Statistician in collaboration with UNICEF.

These findings are based on data collected for the Zanzibar Household Budget Survey conducted in 2014-2015 and calculated using the multidimensional child poverty measurement (MODA) that has been adapted to Zanzibar. This measure corresponds to the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target on child multidimensional poverty set out in Goal 1.2.

While one observes a clear correlation between monetary and multidimensional poverty, the overlap is not perfect. When choosing three or more dimensions as the multidimensional poverty cut-off, only 30 per cent of children are both monetarily and multidimensionally poor, 5 per cent are living in money-poor households but are not multidimensionally poor, while 36 per cent of children suffer from multidimensional poverty but are not monetarily poor. According to this definition, 29 per cent of children are neither monetarily or multidimensionally poor.

The overlap between the two measures highlights that deprivation exists even amongst children who live in households whose consumption levels are above the basic needs poverty line. It is thus important to focus on both measures to identify vulnerable children who are deprived in aspects other than monetary poverty.

**OF ALL ZANZIBARI CHILDREN:**

- 66% experience multidimensionally poor and monetarily poor.
- 29% are both monetarily and multidimensionally poor.
- 30% are monetarily poor but not multidimensionally poor.
- 36% are neither monetarily nor multidimensionally poor.

These are the most vulnerable and should be a priority for social programming, in line with the agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals and the emphasis on leaving no one behind.