



TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

Reducing multidimensional poverty in the SDG era

CONCEPT NOTE

The 2017 ECOSOC thematic discussion focuses on *Reducing multidimensional poverty in the SDG era*. The discussion will be convened as part of the ECOSOC High-level Segment on Thursday, 20 July 2017 and is informed by the report of the Secretary-General “Beyond Gross Domestic Product: Multidimensional poverty and the Sustainable Development Goals”.

SCOPE

The thematic discussion will conduct a closer examination of multidimensional poverty in the context of the 2030 Agenda, and the prevailing approaches for poverty reduction. It will explore how the SDG Indicator Framework and national poverty reduction strategies can be used for assessing progress in reducing multi-dimensional poverty. It will also share distinctive national approaches and experiences aimed at reducing multidimensional poverty and contributing to SDG implementation. The discussion will feature presentations by policy makers from select member States, as well as cutting edge research and analysis on the issue and its links to sustainable development.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the thematic discussion is to advance knowledge sharing and mutual learning for better results towards eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

- **The Economic and Social Council** serves as a global platform for inclusive and integrated policy dialogue, follow-up and review, coordination and stakeholder engagement in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related United Nations frameworks.
- **The ECOSOC annual main themes**, which support the implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda, are broad and multifaceted and advance a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development. The themes guide and inform the work of the ECOSOC system as a whole. The 2017 main theme is *Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges*.
- In its resolution 61/16, the General Assembly decided that the Council should continue to promote global dialogue, including through an **ECOSOC thematic discussion** on a theme from the economic, social and related fields, informed by a report of the Secretary-General.
- In line with the 2017 ECOSOC main theme on eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, the 2017 thematic discussion focuses on *Reducing multidimensional poverty in the SDG era*.

FORMAT AND PARTICIPATION

The speakers will offer insight and ideas on multidimensional poverty approaches and initiatives, such as innovative social protection schemes.

Participants in the open dialogue will be United Nations Member States and representatives from civil society, philanthropic organizations, international organizations, think tanks, academia and the UN development system.

OUTCOME

A summary of the thematic discussion by the President of ECOSOC will capture:

- A contextualization of the evolution of multidimensional poverty research and analysis;
- Strengthening the role of relevant actors to drive innovation and change in reducing multidimensional poverty and implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and
- The generation of evidence, ideas and policy options for eradication poverty in all its forms and dimensions and advancing sustainable development.