THE INTEGRATION BY UNDP OF THE PRINCIPLES OF
LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND (LNOB)

UNDP — **UN DP** Independent Evaluation Office — United Nations Development Programme

The world is 🌐 **vastly unequal**

The **poorest half** of the global population has

2% of global wealth
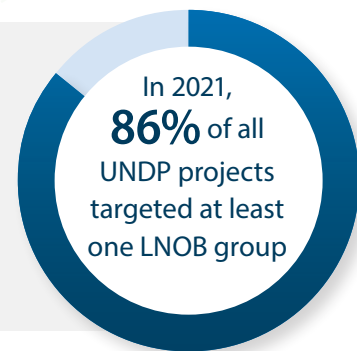
The **richest 10%** of the global population has

76% of all wealth

In nearly all countries, age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, religion, migration status, socio-economic status, place of residence, sexual orientation and gender identity have been grounds **for social exclusion**

What does it mean to leave no one behind?

Equality
Equity
Non-discrimination

◀ **leaving no one behind principles "equality+"**

In 2021, **86%** of all UNDP projects targeted at least one LNOB group

UNDP Five-Factor Framework for Leaving No One Behind (2018)

- DISCRIMINATION
- GEOGRAPHY
- VULNERABILITY TO SHOCKS
- SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS
- GOVERNANCE

At the intersection of factors, people face multiple, reinforcing sources of deprivation and inequalities, making them more likely to be left behind

≠ **DISCRIMINATION:** on the basis of assumed or ascribed identity or status

🌐 **GEOGRAPHY:** isolation, risk or exclusion due to location; includes environmental degradation, transport, technology

VULNERABILITY TO SHOCKS: includes conflict, climate, environmental

🏛 **GOVERNANCE:** laws, policies, institutions, voice and participation (includes informal and traditional governing systems)
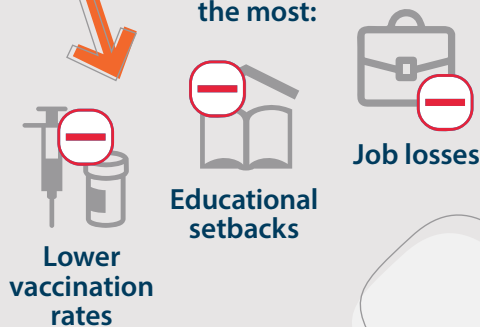
SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS: multidimensional poverty, inequalities

The COVID-19 pandemic worsened inequality

100 million+ people fell below the poverty line

Those "left behind" prior to the pandemic suffered the most:

Lower vaccination rates

Educational setbacks

Job losses

CONCLUSIONS:
How well is UNDP integrating LNOB principles?

INSTITUTIONALIZING LNOB
UNDP's promotion of equality and equity support the integration of LNOB principles

CONCEPTUAL CLARITY
By linking LNOB to inequality and intersectional pathways, UNDP sheds light on the issue

PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE
The best results are in longstanding areas of engagement that predate the SDGs and LNOB
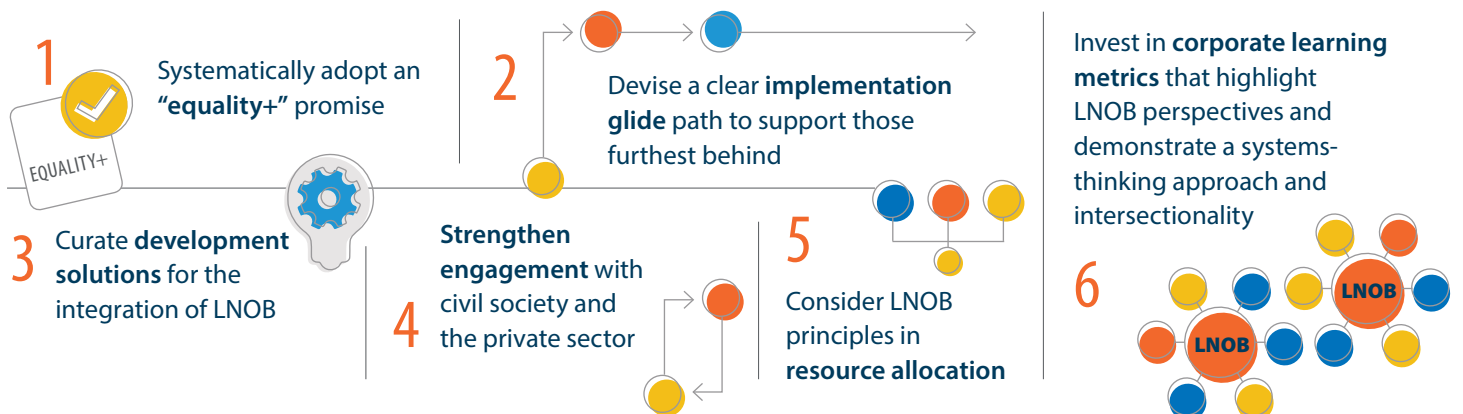
CONTRIBUTING FACTORS
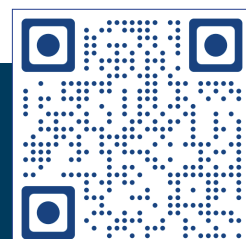Clarity, leadership support, strong government and CSO engagement

HINDERING FACTORS
Limited guidance and capacity, bias in planning and implementation, fragmented programming

RECOMMENDATIONS: What should UNDP do next?

1 Systematically adopt an **"equality+"** promise

EQUALITY+

2 Devise a clear **implementation glide** path to support those furthest behind

3 Curate **development solutions** for the integration of LNOB

4 **Strengthen engagement** with civil society and the private sector

5 Consider LNOB principles in **resource allocation**

6 Invest in **corporate learning metrics** that highlight LNOB perspectives and demonstrate a systems-thinking approach and intersectionality

LNOB

LNOB

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