

Child Multidimensional Poverty

Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis

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Outline

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2. Measuring Child Multidimensional Poverty - *Desiderata*
3. UNICEF's Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA)
4. Arab MODA
5. Conclusion

SDG Target 1.2

“1.2 By 2030, 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.”

1. What is Child Poverty?

What it means for children to suffer deprivation?

- Suffering stunting, wasting, underweight, or obesity
- Being ill or at a higher risk of illness and disease (unsafe water and sanitation, no immunization, no health care)
- Dropping out of school or attending school but not receiving quality education
- Suffering violence at home and school or being exploited (child labour, early marriage ...)
- ...

What it means for a child to suffer several of those deprivations simultaneously?

Child poverty is manifested in the deprivation of children from their rights to survive, develop, and thrive (UNICEF 2004)

Children suffer poverty differently than adults

Different because

- Indicators of child well-being are different than those for adults
- Children are dependent on others and less mobile, their environment is especially important
- Children do not control income, income may be spent in ways that do not benefit children, must therefore measure their welfare directly
- In addition to income, child wellbeing depends on services, behaviors and awareness

Children suffer poverty different than adults

Important to focus on children because

- Poverty can have lasting effects, alter a child's life forever
- Returns to investing in children occur in the future, but investment need to be made today

1. What is child poverty? And how to measure it?

- ✓ The general practice focuses on: unidimensional measures (e.g. health, nutrition, and education), monetary poverty (i.e. income or expenditure poverty), or development goals indicators (MDGs)
- ✓ While measuring single dimension deprivation is key to inform sector-specific policies and programs, it does not adequately capture the full extent of child poverty and its adverse effects:
 - Overlooks children suffering multiple deprivations simultaneously
 - Does not account for the interlinkages and overlap between deprivation

“Human rights are universal, inalienable, indivisible, interrelated and interdependent”

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) - 1989

UN General Assembly (2007):

“Children living in poverty are deprived of nutrition, water and sanitation facilities, access to basic health-care services, shelter, education, participation and protection, and that while a severe lack of goods and services hurts every human being, it is most threatening and harmful to children, leaving them unable to enjoy their rights, to reach their full potential and to participate as full members of the society”

Conceptual Foundation ...

2. Measuring Child Multidimensional Poverty - Desiderata

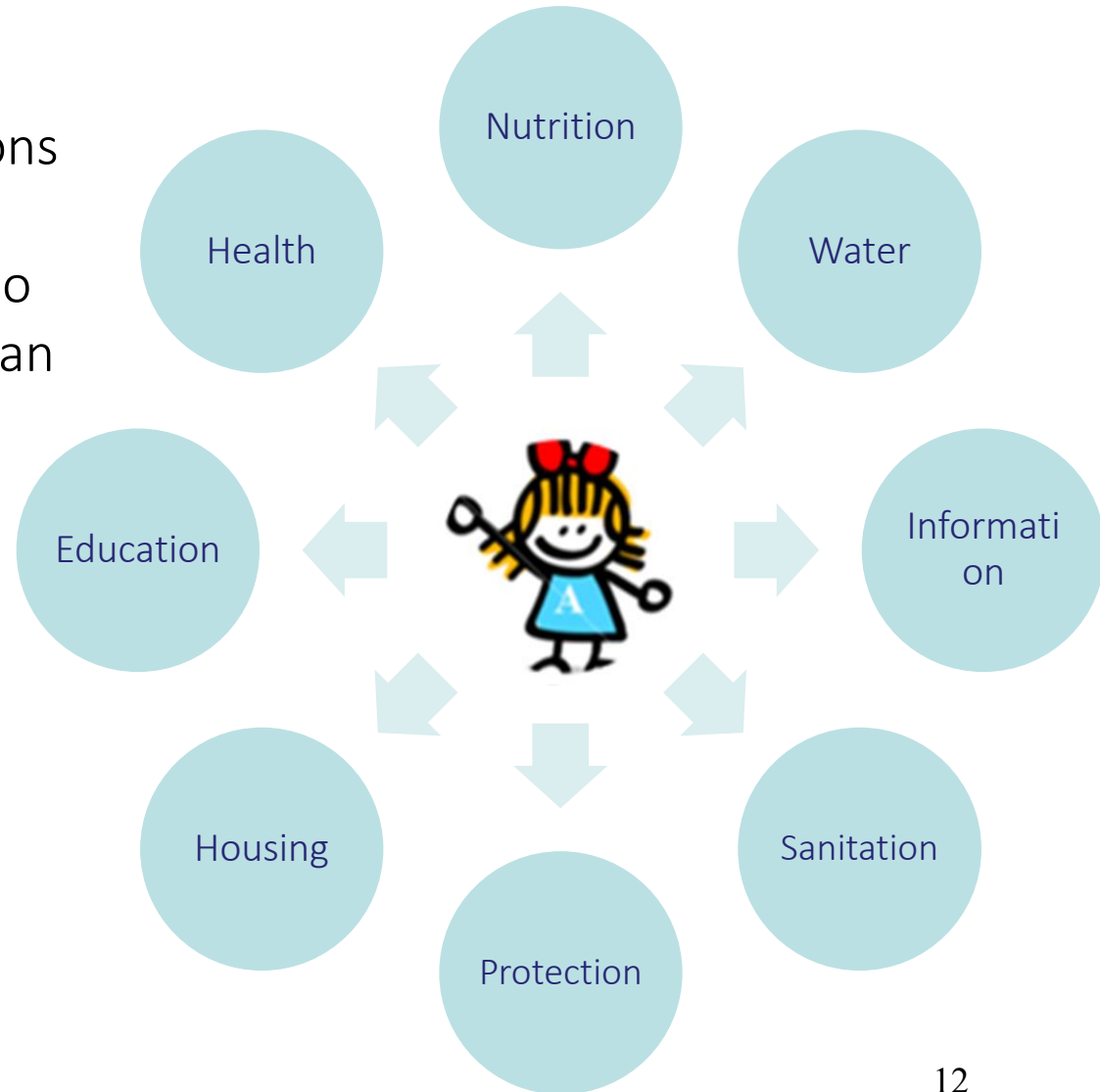
2. Measuring Child Multidimensional Poverty

Desiderata

- ✓ **Child-Focused**: places children at the center of the analysis
- ✓ **Age-specific**: accounts for age-specific needs (life-cycle approach)
- ✓ **Multidimensional**: accounts for the overlap between the multiple facets of child poverty experienced simultaneously
- ✓ **Equity-Focused**: Enables identification of highly deprived children
- ✓ **Context Driven and Relevance for Policy Design**

Child Focused

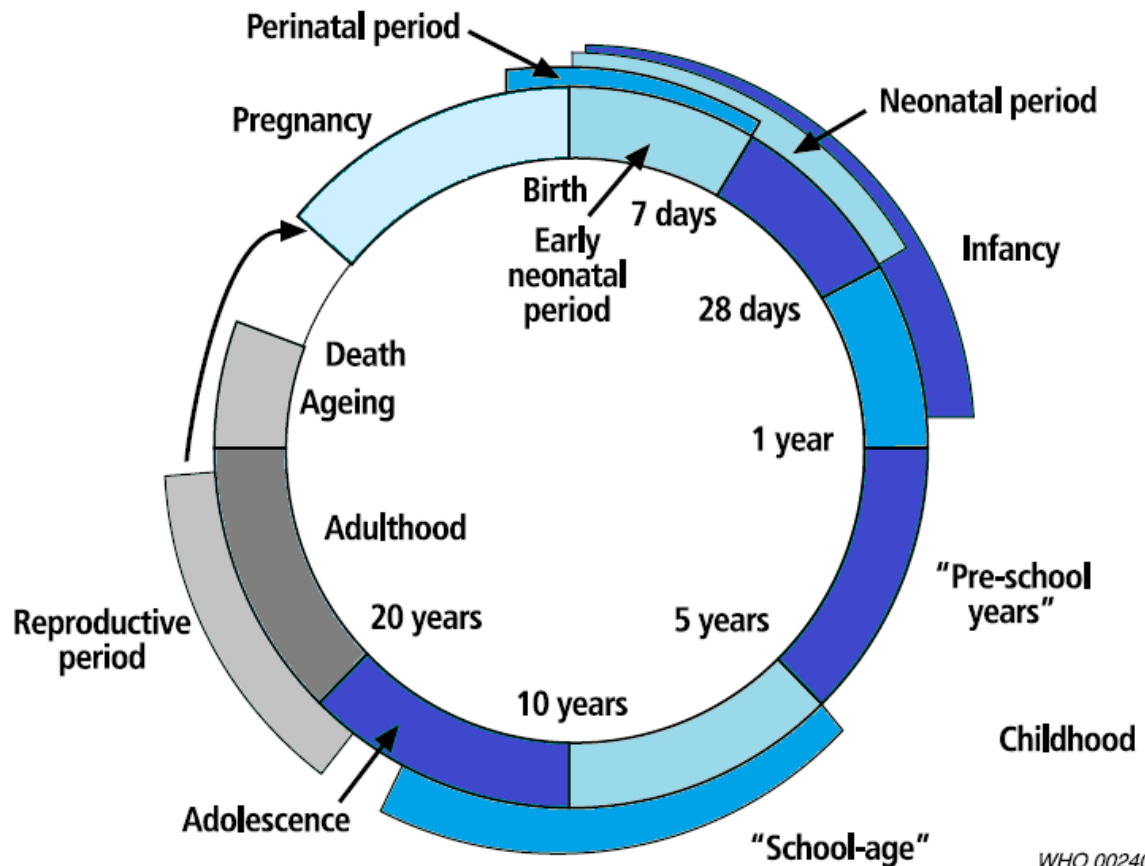
Children experience deprivations and poverty differently from adults, especially with regard to developmental needs, which can have lasting, and irreversible, effects if they are not fulfilled



Age Specific

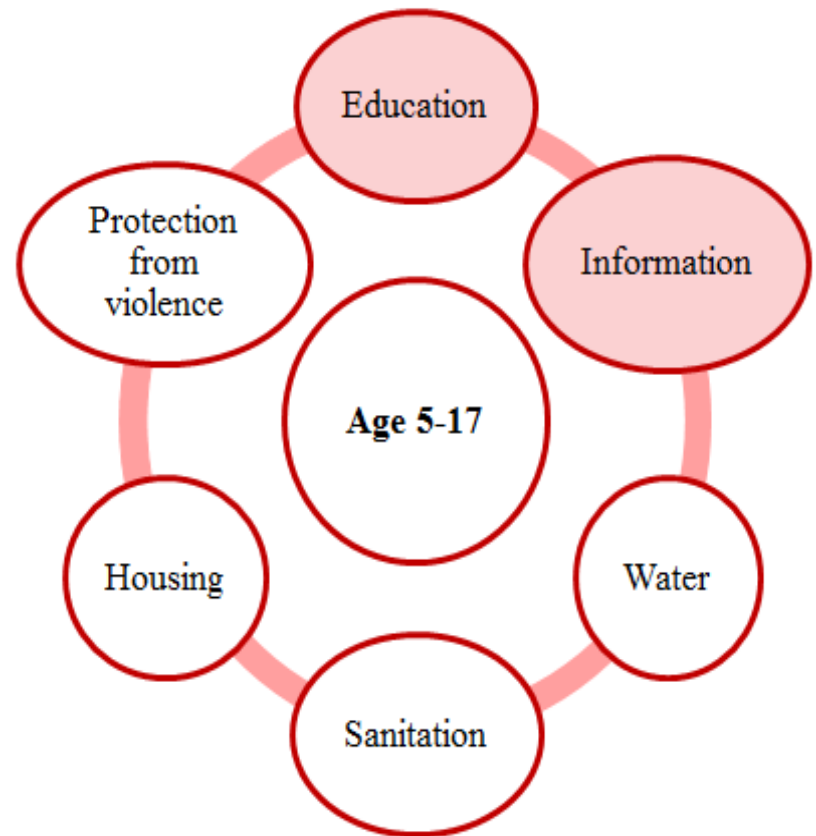
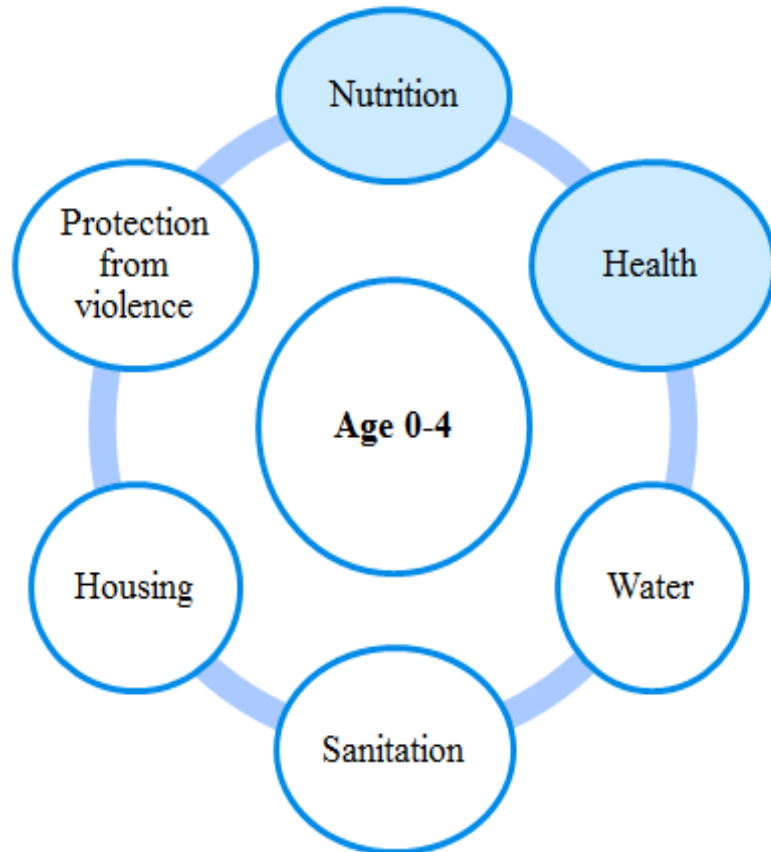
Children's needs are not homogenous across childhood

Life-cycle approach allows to select age-specific indicators and analyze the different groups of children separately depending on their age to reflect children's different needs in the periods of infancy, childhood, and adolescence



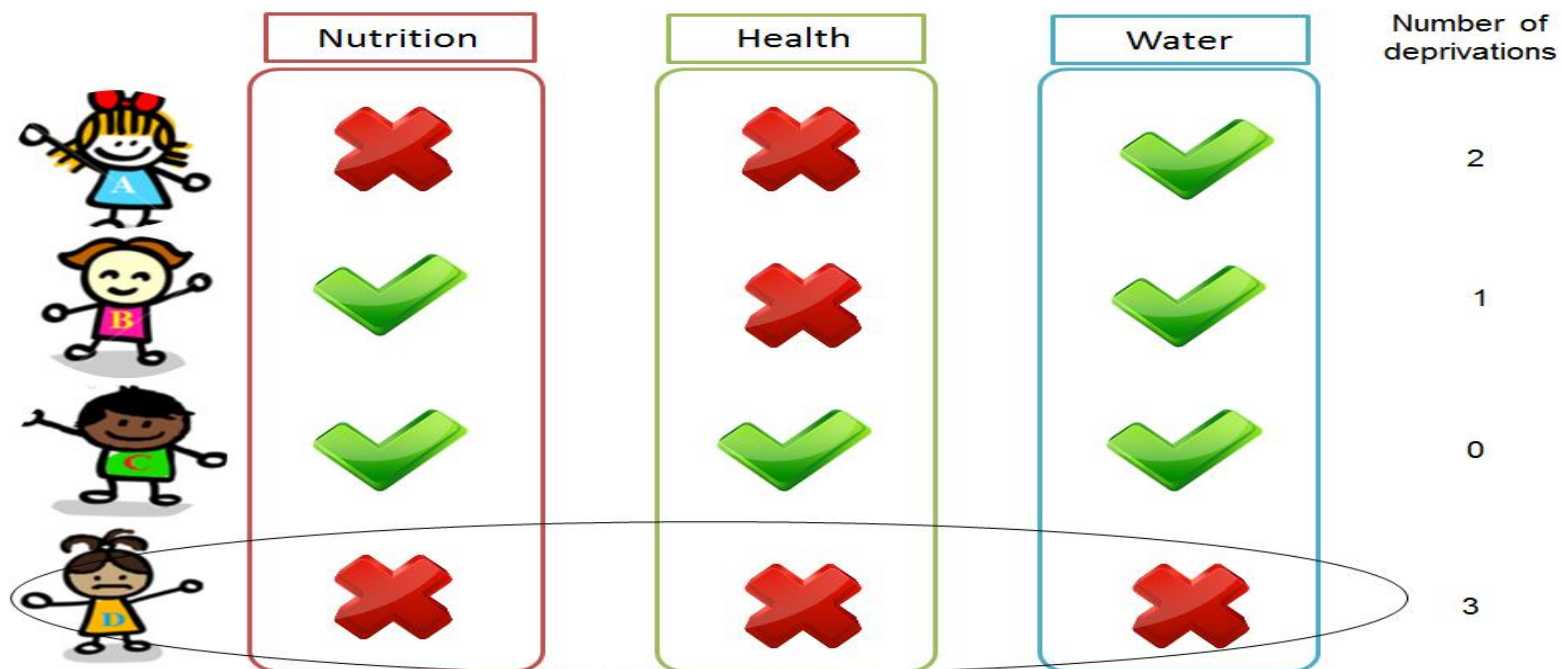
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Life-cycle stages and dimensions



Multidimensional and Equity Focused

- ✓ Accounts for multiple facets of child poverty experienced simultaneously
- ✓ Accounts for the overlap and interlinkages between deprivations
- ✓ Enables identification of the highly deprived children



Child Poverty Dimension and Indicators guided by the Convention on the Right of the Child

Categories	Dimensions	Source
Survival	Food, nutrition	CRC Art. 24
	Water	CRC Art. 24
	Health care	CRC Art. 24
	Shelter, housing	CRC Art. 27
	Environment, pollution	CRC Art. 24
Development	Education	CRC Art. 28
	Leisure	CRC Art. 31
	Cultural activities	CRC Art. 31
	Information	CRC Art.13, 17
Protection	Exploitation, child labour	CRC Art. 32
	Other forms of exploitation	CRC Art. 33-36
	Cruelty, violence	CRC Art. 19, 37
	Violence at school	CRC Art. 28
	Social security	CRC Art 16, 26, 27
Participation	Birth registration; Nationality	CRC Art. 7, 8
	Information	CRC Art.13, 17
	Freedom of expression, views, opinions; Being heard; Freedom of association	CRC Art.12-15

Source: Authors' selection (article numbers refer to the CRC)

Context Driven and Policy Oriented

- ✓ Accounts for the peculiarity and priorities of child deprivation for regional or national context
- ✓ Accounts for regional or national policy priorities

- ✓ Inform the design of policies and programs:
 - **Mapping**: locate poor children
 - **Profiling**: identify the socio-economic characteristics of poor children
 - **Prioritization** across sectors: rank the priorities across dimensions for poor children
 - **Overlapping**: identify overlap between dimensions and inform cross-sectoral (integrated) programs