Leaving No One Behind

Leaving no one behind and **reaching the furthest behind first** are central commitments given under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

> *"As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first."*
> 2030 Agenda, paragraph 4

As part of the 2030 Agenda, 193 United Nation Member States committed to:

- achieving more inclusive economies and societies;
- ending discrimination;
- empowering women and girls;
- reducing inequalities; and
- ending extreme poverty.

The themes of inclusion, tolerance and empowerment run throughout Agenda 2030.

The objective of the 2030 Agenda is that all people, in all countries, are to benefit from the achievement of the SDGs and the full realisation of human rights.

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

The SDGs should be achieved without discrimination based on gender, age, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability or other status.

The 2030 Agenda calls for the empowerment of the following groups:

- women, girls and other marginalised genders
- children
- youth
- disabled people
- persons living with HIV/AIDS
- older persons
- indigenous peoples
- refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants

The United Nations have identified five factors of Leaving No One Behind[1]:

1. **Discrimination** based on assumed or ascribed identity or status, for example based on sex, age, disability and social groups.
2. **Vulnerability to shocks,** for example places or population who experience more frequent or severe violence, crime or conflict / environmental disasters.
3. **Governance**, for example impact of policies, legislation, taxes and budgets, ability to participate in government and decision making, access to information and data.
4. **Socio-economic status,** for example access to public services and resources, including social welfare, health care and education.
5. **Geography,** for example isolation, risk of exclusion due to location including transport and internet connectivity.

Groups or individuals who are affected by a number of these factors are the most likely to be among the furthest behind.

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[1] UNSDG | Operationalizing Leaving No One Behind