



Global Reset: Inequality and a new social contract

13 January, 14:00-17:45 (GMT)

14:00-14:05 Welcome and overview of the day for participants

Sara Pantuliano, Chief Executive, ODI

14:05-14:15 Opening remarks

Simon Coveney, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Government of Ireland

Session 1: Inequality exposed (Panel discussion)

14:15-15:00

The Covid-19 crisis has exposed existing and persistent inequalities. It has revealed how inequalities in the provision of essential services and in the world of work, for example, affect the ability of societies to respond to shocks and create new vulnerabilities in a crisis. Far from being an “equaliser”, population groups that are hardest hit by the pandemic include women, racial and ethnic minorities, those with weak employment protections and without adequate access to affordable quality healthcare. Across countries too, it is expected that the poorest will be most negatively affected, with the highest mortality rates and poverty impacts expected in these countries. At the heart of these differential impacts lie existing inequalities and policy shortcomings – domestic and global - that risk being exacerbated by the pandemic and policy response unless they are addressed head-on. This first session will explore the emerging evidence on the pandemic’s, and pandemic policy responses’, impact on inequalities.

Confirmed speakers:

Francesca Bastagli	Director of Programme, Equity and Social Policy, ODI (Chair)
Francisco Ferreira	Amartya Sen Professor of Inequality Studies, LSE
Liesbet Steer	Director, The Education Commission
Els Torreele	Visiting Policy Fellow, Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, University College London
Paromita Sen	Research Manager, Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA)

15:00- 15:30

Breakout discussions (Round 1)

This optional breakout session will enable participants to discuss the Covid-19 crisis’ implications for inequalities in three areas - education, health, income and wealth - in small groups. All groups will be invited to answer the following question(s): what must be prioritised when it comes to (education / health / wealth and income) to ensure inequality is addressed as we rebuild from the pandemic? What significant progress would you like to see in the next five years?

Facilitators and rooms

Room A - Education

Susan Nicolai Senior Research Fellow, Director EdTech Hub project, ODI

Room B - Health

Fiona Samuels Senior Research Fellow, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, ODI

Room C – Income and wealth

Martin Evans Senior Research Fellow, Equity and Social Policy, ODI

15:30-16:15

Session 2: What role for redistribution? (Panel discussion)

Calls for building a society that works for all are emphasising the role of redistributive policies, including cash and in-kind tax and transfer policies. Both at the global and national level, initiatives to mobilise resources are increasingly incorporating equity and sustainability concerns, opening up options for reform previously low on the policy agenda, including, for example, the taxation of wealth. In the field of social transfers, as of May 2020, a staggering 190 countries have planned, introduced or adapted a total of 937 social protection measures in response to the pandemic, an unprecedented response, when compared with past crises. This panel discussion will explore what we know about what works when it comes to redistribution of wealth, including the role of different actors for supporting and promoting such ideas.

Confirmed speakers:

- Shanta Devarajan Professor of the Practice of Development, Georgetown University’s Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service (Chair)
- Pascal Saint-Amans Director, Centre for Tax Policy and Administration, OECD
- Shahra Razavi Director of Social Protection, International Labor Organisation Policy Research and Advocacy Manager, Tax Justice Network, Africa
- Chenai Mukumba Visiting Professor: Program in Latin American Studies, Princeton University
- Marcelo Medeiros

