The State of Poverty in OIC Member Countries and OIC & SESRIC Initiatives for Poverty Alleviation

Workshop on Innovative Social Assistance Strategies in Poverty Alleviation
12-14 December 2011 Ankara, Turkey
The State of Poverty in OIC Member Countries

- Socio-economic and Geographical Background
- Income Poverty
- Human Poverty
- Food Insecurity & Undernourishment

OIC Initiatives for Poverty Alleviation

- OIC Ten Year Plan of Action (OIC-TYPA)
- Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD)
- The Special Programme for the Development of Africa (SPDA)
- Five Year Cotton Action Plan (2007-2011)

SESRIC Initiatives for Poverty Alleviation

- OIC-VET Programme
- Development Cooperation Institutions Forum
- Islamic Microfinance
- Cassava Project
THE STATE OF POVERTY IN OIC MEMBER COUNTRIES
OIC has 57 Member Countries dispersed over a large geographical region on four continents and account for one sixth of the world area and more than one fifth of the total world population.
Contribute 10.8 percent of the world total output (GDP, current $ PPP) and 10.4 percent of world total merchandise exports.
All member countries are developing but out of the world’s 48 least-developed countries (LDCs), 21 are OIC countries mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa.
According to World Bank Classification;

- 18 OIC member countries are Low-income countries,
- 32 are Middle-income (18 lower middle-income and 14 upper middle-income),
- 7 OIC member countries are classified as high-income countries.

According to UNDP;

- 16 OIC member countries are placed in high/very high human development category,
- 16 member countries are placed in medium human development category,
- 25 member countries are placed in low HD category.

With respect to accumulated external debt;

- Total external debt amounts to US$ 903 billion (2009) and 22 member countries are considered as Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC's).

According to FAO;

- 33 OIC member countries are included into LIFDCs list, mostly from Sub-Saharan Africa.
The proportion of developing countries’ total population living below international poverty line has declined from 45.7% in 1990 to 26.6% in 2005.

In 1990, over 50% of the total population was living below the poverty line in three regions namely: Sub Saharan Africa, South Asia and East Asia & Pacific.
In the OIC Member Countries total number of poor has increased from 223 million in 1990 to 346 million in 2005, corresponding to an increase of over 55%.

The share of developing countries’ total poor living in the OIC member states has also doubled from 12% in 1990 to 25% in 2005.
All OIC regional groups experienced increase in poverty both in terms of absolute numbers and share in total population.

Both in terms of absolute numbers and relative share in total population, poverty remained highest in Sub Saharan Africa during 2001-05.
- HPI-1 for the OIC member countries is 25% which shows that a quarter of OIC total population is suffering from human poverty. In the OIC group, the HPI-1 value varies from 4% in Albania to 59.8% in Afghanistan.
Among the OIC regional groups, SSA region is experiencing highest prevalence of human poverty as on average 39.3% of its total population is suffering from deprivation in one or all aspects of human poverty. Currently, five of the six OIC member countries where HPI-1 exceeds from 50% are located in this region. These countries are: Niger, Mali, Chad, Burkina Faso, Guinea and Sierra Leone.
OIC member countries witnessed an increase in hunger as total number of undernourished people increased from 173 million in 1990-92 to 187 million in 2004-06, however undernourishment has declined compared to 2000-02 level.
Food and Insecurity
Undernourishment (Country Level)

The State of Poverty in OIC Member Countries

- EAP
- ECA
- LAC
- MENA
- SA
- SSA

Total Undernourishment (Millions)
Prevalence of Undernourishment (%)

OIC INITIATIVES FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION
Adopted at the Third Extra-Ordinary Summit of the OIC in Makkah Al-Mukarramah (December 2005),

Aims to enhance Islamic solidarity to overcome the challenges facing Ummah by fostering closer cooperation among member states,

Majority of programs in OIC- TYPOA focus on different aspects of poverty and deprivation.
To foster sustainable economic development and growth, US$10 billion financing window launched in May 2007,

Extended US$590 million for 56 projects in different sectors in 28 member states. Currently focusing human development and Agriculture & food security projects,

Has two thematic programs for Poverty Alleviation:

- Vocational Literacy Program (VOLIP),
- Microfinance Support Program (MFSP).
The Special Program for the Development of Africa (SPDA)

- US$12 billion facility aimed at advancing for pro-poor activities

- The SPDA focuses on:
  - Agriculture and food security;
  - Water and sanitation;
  - Power generation and distribution;
  - Transport infrastructure;
  - Education system; and
  - Eliminating major communicable diseases.

- As of March 2011, US$ 3.06 billion has been approved for 296 operations in 22 Sub-Saharan Member Countries.

- Sector specific program to improve industrial capacity and value-addition,

- Action Plan aimed to:
  - Enhance productivity and production techniques;
  - Strengthen structural capacities and organizations;
  - Develop the field of processing and marketing;
  - Trade and international competitiveness; and
  - Arrange finances for the activities.

- So far US$146 million have been disbursed.
SESRIC INITIATIVES FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION
Initiated by SESRIC to improve the quality of vocational education and training in public and private sectors with the aim of improving the competencies and skills of the people according to the needs and priorities of labor markets through intra-OIC partnerships at institutional level.
The OIC-VET Programme has been officially launched by the COMCEC Economic Summit held in Istanbul on 9 November 2009.
The OIC-VET Programme is run together by Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC), Executing OIC Organ (SESRIC) and National Focal Points (NFPs).
National Focal Points of the OIC-VET Programme

1. Afghanistan
2. Azerbaijan
3. Bahrain
4. Bangladesh
5. Brunei Darussalam
6. Cameroon
7. Comoros
8. Gabon
9. Gambia
10. Guinea
11. Indonesia
12. Iran
13. Iraq
14. Jordan
15. Malaysia
16. Maldives
17. Morocco
18. Oman
19. Pakistan
20. Qatar
21. Saudi Arabia
22. Senegal
23. Sierra Leone
24. Syria
25. Togo
26. Tunisia
27. Turkey
28. United Arab Emirates
29. Yemen

National Focal Points are national offices that have been designated and set up by national authorities in charge of vocational education and training affairs in each OIC Member Country. There are currently 29 National Focal Points in the OIC-VET Programme.
Sub-Programs of OIC-VET

- Employment Generation Programmes;
  - OIC-ISIP
  - SDYE

- Training of Trainers (ToT) Programmes;
  - ISMEK

- Trade, Economy and Finance Programme (OICVET-TEF)

- Capacity Building Programmes
OIC International Student Internship Programme (OIC-ISIP)

Certificate Ceremony of OIC-ISIP Pilot Application of Summer 2010

6 OCTOBER 2010, ISTANBUL / TURKEY

SESRIC Initiatives for Poverty Alleviation
SDYE Study Visit will be organized on 10-12 January 2012 in Ankara Turkey in collaboration with Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Turkey and The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB).

The ultimate aims is to establish effective vocational education and training programmes to prevent the youth unemployment due to skill mismatches and to provide employment to these youngsters.
19 MARCH – 1 APRIL 2011, ISTANBUL / TURKEY
Certificate Ceremony of the Master Trainers from Islamic Republic of Pakistan
In collaboration with the IDB which includes the following proposed training projects:

- Networking and Knowledge Sharing Programme for Trade Professionals;
- Certificate Programme on Trade,
- Scholarship Programme on Trade, Economy and Finance;
- Skill Development for Youth Employability (Study Visit);
- And Training of Trainers in Agriculture Sector.
More than 300 professionals in various socio-economic fields from various OIC Member Countries has participated in SESRIC's CaBs since October 2010.
Training Course on 'Water Resources Management' in Sudan on 23-24 November 2011
Training Course on 'Plant Protection: Insects' in Senegal on 22-24 November 2011
Training Course on 'National Accounts: Supply and Use Tables' in Egypt on 6-8 June 2011
Training Course on 'Occupational Hygiene: Chemical Factors and Chemical Exposure' in Oman on 25-27 April 2011
Capacity Building Programmes (OSH CaB)

Training Course on 'Occupational Health and Safety' in Brunei on 19-21 April 2011
The Meeting of Development Cooperation Institutions (DCIs) is a high level platform where the relevant institutions and funds operating in OIC Member Countries gather to discuss the development agenda, coordinate activities and synergize in their developmental efforts and thus to promote development cooperation and assistance among the OIC Member Countries.
Microfinance, if harnessed properly, induces self-employment activity and increase the effectiveness of poverty alleviation programmes.

**IWIMM (Integrated Waqf-based Islamic Microfinance Model)**

The Centre, in association with the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM), has recently initiated the IWIMM project.

The aim of the project is to develop an **integrated framework for channeling the sources of Waqf institutions** in the MCs to Islamic micro-finance institutions which will enhance the outreach of microfinance towards the poor segment and encourage self-employment activity for sustainable development and poverty alleviation.
Within the framework of the implementation of the OIC-Ten Year Programme of Action in the area of poverty alleviation, particularly the preparations for undertaking the necessary studies to work out a special programme for Africa, SESRIC introduced an initiative for food security project proposal for alleviating poverty based on increasing the productivity of Cassava and the potential of Cassava processing in some OIC Member Countries in sub-Saharan Africa, which could be used as a model in other Member Countries in the region.

The pilot project proposal of this Initiative is called the "Cassava Integrated Project for Food Security & Poverty Alleviation in the OIC Member States of sub-Saharan Africa"
Thank you for your attention

Hatice Ilbay Soylemez
Researcher
Training and Technical Cooperation Department