



LEARN & ACT Teacher's Guide

Resolving All Forms of **Inequality**

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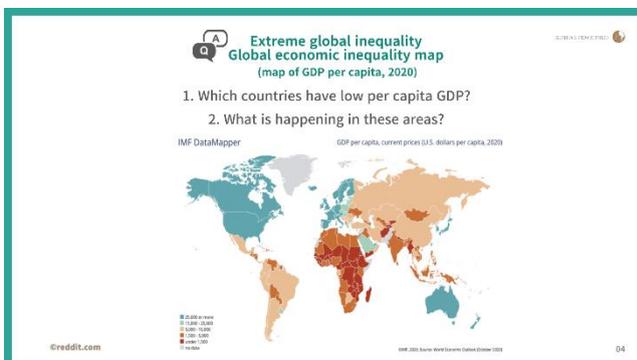
Introduction 1: Severe level of global inequality, its causes, and new approaches.



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● Billionaires' astronomical wealth:

Global economic inequality is more severe than you can imagine. According to the 2020 Oxfam Annual Inequality Report, there were 2,153 'super-rich' people in the world with more than \$1 billion in assets, totaling \$8.7 trillion, which was \$500 billion more than the wealth of the 4.6 billion people in the bottom 60% combined.

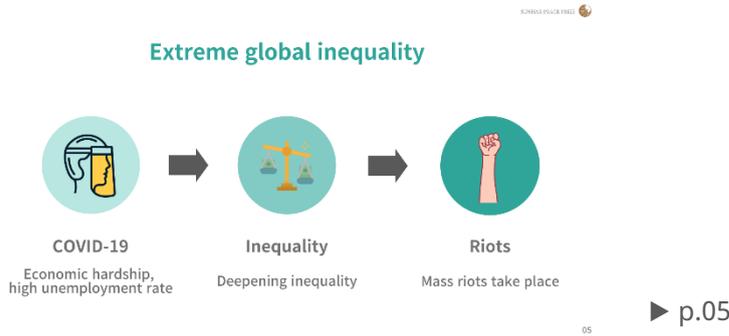


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● Global economic inequality map (map of GDP per capita, 2020):

This is a map showing the disparity in GDP per capita (gross domestic product) by country. The red color indicates the lower GDP per capita. Engage students by asking questions related to the map.

- Which countries have lower per capita GDP?
- What is happening in these areas?



● **COVID-19, Inequality and Mass Riots:**

In July 2021, mass riots broke out in South Africa against an incompetent government. The cause of the riots was economic hardship caused by COVID-19, high unemployment rate, and the extreme inequality between the rich and the poor. South Africa, with a Gini coefficient of 0.7, is one of the countries with the largest gap between the rich and the poor, along with Haiti and the Kingdom of Lesotho. The anti-government protests that continued in Brazil in 2021 were the fundamental cause of the gap between the rich and the poor. As of 2017, Brazil's Gini coefficient was 0.524, ranking ninth out of 189 countries, and at least 20 million people were classified as poor. Social conflicts, as well as political turmoil, are taking place in countries where the gap between the rich and the poor is severe, such as Cuba, Peru, and Chile. The Gini coefficient is a measure of income inequality. The closer it is to 1, the more unequal, and the closer it is to 0, the more equal. Generally, if it exceeds 0.4, the degree of inequality is considered serious.

1. What is inequality?

1. What is inequality?

Equality: "even and consistent without discrimination"

Inequality: "the state of being uneven to discrimination"

Chains of inequality

Alienation, conflict, and poverty caused by inequality create social problems such as crime, disease and environmental pollution, and the damage makes the lives of the vulnerable more difficult.



▶ p.06

● **What is equality?:**

Equality means "even and consistent without discrimination." Equality is "to treat all people equally and to give equal opportunities at the same time without dividing or discriminating based on differences in grades or levels." Inequality means "the state of being uneven due to discrimination."

● **Field of Inequality:**

Inequality based on economic power, gender, age, disability, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, etc. is widespread around the world, and the surrounding discrimination and disadvantages cause various problems.

- **Chains of inequality:**

Alienation, conflict, and poverty caused by inequality create social problems such as crime, disease and environmental pollution, and the damage makes the lives of the vulnerable more difficult. In a country, economic difficulties and social unrest often occur simultaneously and influence each other. Gender inequality is also serious. Inequality between countries is mainly caused by differences in economic power, and the opinions of countries with weak political and economic power are not sufficiently reflected in the decision-making process of the international community. International decision-making, which excludes the positions of underdeveloped and developing countries, strengthens the existing order centered on developed countries and exacerbates various problems faced by developing countries.

2. Global Inequality status (1. Wealth Inequality)

02. Global Inequality status (1. Wealth Inequality) Source: UN, OXFAM



- **The wealth of the top 1% billionaires, twice the wealth of 6.9 billion people:**

The world's richest 1% owns more than twice as much wealth as the world's 6.9 billion people.

- **The wealth of the top 1% of billionaires is growing rapidly:**

in 1980, the world's richest 1% accounted for 16% of global income, and the bottom 50% earned 8%. In 2016, the top 1% accounted for 22% of global income, and the bottom 50% accounted for 10%. If this trend continues, by 2050, the income share of the top 1% is expected to rise to nearly 39%.

- **Half of the world's population lives on less than \$5.50 a day:**

3.4 billion people, or half of the world's population, live on less than \$5.50 a day.

2. Global Inequality status (2. Health Inequality)

02. Global Inequality status (2. Health Inequality) Source: UN, OXFAM



► p.08

- **Pre-five mortality rate, three times higher in developing countries than in developed countries:**

The mortality rate of children before age five is more than three times higher in the poorest countries (20) than in the richest countries (5%).

- **The maternal mortality rate in developing countries, three times that in rural areas:**

Although the overall maternal mortality rate in developing countries is on the decline, mothers in rural areas have three times the mortality rate during pregnancy and childbirth compared to mothers in urban areas.

- **Life expectancy, 10-20 years shorter for poor people than for rich people:**

Every year 100 million people fall into extreme poverty because of medical expenses, and 10,000 people die every day because of economic reasons. People in poor areas are predicted to live 10 to 20 years shorter than those in wealthy areas.

- **80% of the world's people with disabilities live in developing countries:**

There are approximately 1 billion people with disabilities worldwide, of which 80% live in developing countries.

2. Global inequality status (3. Gender inequality)

02. Global inequality status (3. Gender inequality) Source: UN, OXFAM



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- **Women's income is 1/2 of men's:**

Women are more likely to earn less than 50% of men's income. This phenomenon originates from the family and is becoming more entrenched through various forms of social discrimination.

- **Women's unpaid domestic work, twice as much as men's:**

Globally, women spend twice as much time on unpaid housework as men. The economic value of women's unpaid housework is \$10.8 trillion per year. This is a major factor leading to precarious jobs and low-income levels for women.

3. Why did global inequality arise?

03. Causes of global inequality



Why did global inequality arise?



Political instability



Corruption due to lack of welfare



Poor economic structure



Low level of education

▶ p.10

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- **'Political instability' makes countries poor:**

Countries that have experienced war and political conflict are more likely to be economically poor than those that have not. War destroys the nation's communications and facilities, causes labor shortage, and, if continued, slows down investment and business activities. In addition, when the government fails to fulfill its role due to political conflict, investment and various economic activities are reduced and the country suffers economic difficulties.

- **'Corruption' due to lack of welfare:**

In countries with high levels of corruption and crime, investments in public welfare and new businesses are not smooth. Without adequate access to public infrastructure, education, healthcare, pensions, and social security, people avoid investing in education, training, and other activities that enable economic development.

- **'Poor economic structure' results in a vicious cycle of poverty:**

The economic structure of developed countries is based on high value-added industries such as software and patented pharmaceuticals. On the other hand, poorer countries depend on the agricultural economy, making economic growth difficult.

- **'Low level of education' makes growth difficult:**

Countries with low levels of education are usually preoccupied with primary industries. On the other hand, advanced countries are equipped with skilled labor and skills through high-quality education, dominate capital-intensive industries, and drive global economic growth. Without a universal and systematic education system, technological development as well as creative economic activities cannot be brought about.

4. The goal of the international community is to resolve all forms of inequality

04. The goal of the international community is to resolve all forms of inequality



| Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs 10.

'Resolving All Forms of Inequality'

Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.

▶ SDGs 10.

https://youtu.be/6DlQz4Lw_0
<https://youtu.be/7H4pZGcCHbw>

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▶ p.11

● UN's Sustainable Development Goals 'Resolving All Forms of Inequality':

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an agenda that the UN General Assembly decided to achieve by 2030 in 2015, includes 17 common goals for humanity. Among these, the 10th goal is 'Reduced Inequalities' in all forms, specifically to 'reduce inequality within and between countries.'

● Meaning of 'resolving all forms of inequality':

Although the international community has made steady efforts to eradicate global poverty over the past 20 years and achieved significant results, various forms of inequality are still entrenched around the world. The root of inequality is 'difference in economic power,' which causes a chain of alienation and deprivation in various fields such as education, health, and welfare.

All forms of inequality must be eliminated in order to pursue development for everyone in the global village. The peaceful and stable development of all mankind is impossible as long as people who are suffering from starvation and are dying because they cannot afford a visit to the hospital exist somewhere on the globe. Now is the time to pay attention to all forms of inequality and act to address it for the sake of sustainable common development in which no one in the world is marginalized.

04. The goal of the international community is to resolve all forms of inequality



- 10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 percent of the population at a rate higher than the national average.
- 10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic, or another status.
- 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies, and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies, and action in this regard.
- 10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage, and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.
- 10.5 Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations.
- 10.6 Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable, and legitimate institutions.
- 10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.
- 10.8 Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular, least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements.
- 10.9 Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular, least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States, and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes.
- 10.c By 2030, reduce to less than 3 percent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 percent.

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● SDGs 10. Indicators

- 10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 percent of the population at a rate higher than the national average.
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- 10.C By 2030, reduce to less than 3 percent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 percent.

'SDGs 10. Resolving all forms of inequality' (watch YouTube video)

(Student Worksheet #1-3) https://youtu.be/6DIQq2xLw_0

(Student Worksheet #4) <https://youtu.be/H4pI2XcCHbw>

5. Our most important task is to tackle all forms of inequality



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● Fair and inclusive 'welfare policy':

In order to solve global inequality, an equitable and inclusive policy must be prepared. In particular, it is necessary to effectively establish a system of public services and welfare policies such as 'education' and 'health' for a humane life for all.

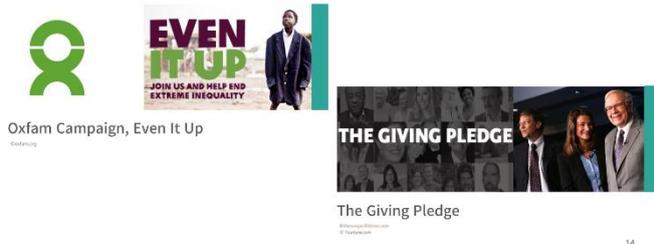
● A fair 'tax' system:

Imposing a fair tax on the rich is a very effective solution to inequality. Progressive income tax (an income tax that is collected by applying a higher tax rate as income increases) and inheritance tax (a tax levied on property that is inherited free of charge after death), etc.

6. Efforts of the international community to resolve all forms of inequality (1. Campaign)

06. Efforts of the international community to resolve all forms of inequality

| 1. Campaign



▶ p.14

● Oxfam Campaign, Even It Up:

Oxfam, an international relief and development organization, is urging for the world's attention to resolve the global gap between the rich and the poor. Specifically, it is carrying out activities such as 'stop tax avoidance', 'fair wage payment for all', and 'expansion of health and education services'. In particular, Oxfam continues to raise issues of inequality to the world by announcing the 'Inequality Report' at the World Economic Forum (Davos Forum) every year.

● The Giving Pledge:

The Giving Pledge is a charity founded in 2010 by Warren Buffett, Berkshire Hathaway, and Bill Gates. To be eligible for membership, you must own more than \$1 billion of yourself, and as a rule, donate more than half of your fortune. Members include Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and Tesla CEO Elon Musk. In particular, the focus is on addressing educational inequalities, supporting arts and culture, and helping charities work more effectively.

6. Efforts of the international community to resolve all forms of inequality (2. International organizations)

06. Efforts of the international community to resolve all forms of inequality

| 2. International organizations

1) OXFAM

An organization that creates a 'poverty free and fair world'



2) World Bank (IBRD)

Pursuing 'Reducing Poverty in Developing Countries and Promoting Co-Prosperity in the Entire Global Village'



▶ p.15

● Oxfam, an organization that creates a 'poverty free, fair world':

Oxfam is an international relief and development organization established by the Oxford Academic Committee in England in 1942 to relieve poverty during World War II. Countries carried out various help activities to overcome poverty. Oxfam aims for 'a world free from poverty and a fair world' and is also involved in policy-making through cooperation with governments and various international organizations, as well as solving the drinking water problem in underdeveloped countries and promoting humanitarian relief activities such as food aid, community development, and education projects.

● World Bank, pursuing 'Reducing Poverty in Developing Countries and Co-Prosperity of the Entire Global Village':

The World Bank has been carrying out activities to aid developing countries in need of financial assistance and to relieve countries in poverty with the goal of “relieving poverty in developing countries and achieving common prosperity in the global village”. In particular, the focus of activities is on lending money at low-interest rates to developing countries that are unable to borrow money from other countries due to their low national credit ratings. As of 2021, 189 countries have joined and are active in 130 chapters.

6. Efforts of the international community to resolve all forms of inequality (3. Various ideas)

06. Efforts of the international community to resolve all forms of inequality



| 3. Various ideas



Marshall Burke's team,
'Economy size by the strength of light'



Josh Silver, 'Glasses for the Poor'



Fashion Revolution,
Who Made My Clothes?



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▶ p.16

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● Marshall Burke's team, 'Economy sizing by the strength of light':

Marshall Burke's team at Stanford University collected night and day photos of African countries to provide important data for analyzing poverty and disparity. It is a method of obtaining data by analyzing high-definition satellite images obtained free of charge through 'Google Maps' with artificial intelligence (AI) 'machine learning (machine learning)' technology. The most innovative method is to estimate the size of the economy by looking at the intensity and width of the light in the night photograph. Their attempts have made it possible to more accurately predict the size of the economy in poor areas, and to provide more detailed assistance to these areas.

● Josh Silver, 'Glasses for the Poor':

Professor of Physics at Oxford University, Josh Silver, developed special glasses for over 20 years of research for people in developing countries with poor eyesight. These groundbreaking glasses, which allow users to adjust the power of their own optical lenses, are being offered to people in developing countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, who live in areas where it is difficult to get to an optician. Prices are also dramatically lowered, helping millions of poor people.

● Fashion Revolution, Who Made My Clothes? :

In April 2013, a building collapse in Bangladesh killed 1,133 workers making clothes for a multinational fast-fashion brand. With this accident as an opportunity, the Fashion Revolution campaign was launched with the aim of letting consumers think about how clothes are made and who makes them. In order to promote the rights of sewing workers and promote responsible consumption by consumers, top models and clothing manufacturers from more than 90 countries participated in a large-scale campaign.

7. Global inequality aggravating due to COVID-19



▶ p.17

● Vaccine inequality, widening the wealth gap:

The spread of the COVID-19 vaccine is unequal. As of November 2021, more than 70% of the population in developed countries received the vaccine at least once, but the vaccination rate in developing countries was only 3%. The gap in vaccine distribution is expected to further deepen the global wealth gap after the pandemic. Based on the announcement of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the GDP growth forecast for 2022 is 3.6% in the United States, 5.5% in the United Kingdom and 5.8% in China, in comparison to a GDP growth forecast of only 3.2% in Mexico and 3.5% in Colombia, each with a vaccination rate of 27.71% and 27.08% respectively.

● Inequality virus:

The virus visits the vulnerable first. Vulnerable groups who have suffered from long-standing poverty and social inequality are suffering the most from the pandemic. The rich and the middle class could choose various responses to overcome the epidemic, but the poor and the vulnerable have no choice but to face COVID-19. It took only nine months for the top 1,000 billionaires to restore their wealth to pre-COVID-19 highs, but the world's poorest people, who lack the means to recover, could take more than a decade (Oxfam 2021 report).

8. Our actions to tackle all forms of inequality (brainstorm)



▶ p.18

Using YouTube videos:

'The impact of the pandemic on the livelihood, income, and food systems' https://youtu.be/rAmG_9pkF3c