

Social Welfare Questions

For this assignment you will compare the social welfare in the six core countries. Look at the HDI and Gini Index in the More Resources area for the six core countries and using the data collected and Internet research for each core country, answer the following questions:

What policies are in place that address the poverty issue in each country?

In the Islamic Republic of Iran, a Universal Basic Income was implemented in 2011 in order to mitigate poverty; rampant inflation and unemployment is currently being combated with new oil export targets and exchange rate stabilization. The People's Republic of China has utilized vast economic growth and government programs to address poverty over the past several decades. The Department for International Development in the United Kingdom has led efforts to lift people out of poverty. The Russian Federation currently lags behind neighboring countries in reducing income inequality and poverty, placing 50th in the Oxfam Index ranking; Russia has seen economic growth over the past two decades that have reduced the issue relative to the 1990s, but despite free health care services, out-of-pocket payments in health centers remains common. A lack of quality education and quality health care policies see Russia continue to lag behind. In Nigeria, the Federal government has tried to eradicate poverty with programs like the Family Support Programme, establishment of Community Banks and Small Scale Industries Credit Scheme, People's Bank, the Rural Employment Programme, the National Agricultural Land Development Agency, and other programs, but nothing has significantly alleviated poverty. In Mexico, economic policies and social development programs have targeted poverty with the aim of increasing national economic development; the 2014 fiscal reform, Programme of Direct Support for the Countryside, Prospera, and Seguro Popular, and other financial aid programs have not successfully alleviated poverty.

Which countries are leading the way to minimize poverty?

The People's Republic of China is oft-hailed as a hallmark of the worldwide crusade against poverty, bringing 800 million people above poverty, a stark change from 90% poverty in 1981 to 2% poverty in 2017. The United Kingdom has also led respected efforts in minimizing poverty, wherein the Department for International Development leads national endeavours. Iran, for what its worth, was one of the first countries to implement a Universal Basic Income in 2011, and it has experienced middling success in that endeavour as it concerns minimizing poverty.

Which countries are lacking adequate policies to address the issue?

The Russian Federation, while having policies in place aimed at reducing poverty, does not adequately provide for protections of the poorer classes. Nigeria's programs are ineffective, and unemployment remains unaddressed. Mexico's billion dollar financial aid programs, social inclusion programs, and development agencies have not been successful, either.

Once you have completed your responses, submit your assignment.

