

# Poverty amongst Women: A Multidimensional Perspective A Case Study in Rwanda

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## Abstract

Rwanda is one of Africa's fastest growing countries recording consistently high economic growth since the last few years. One of the objectives of the country is to achieve the maximum number of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the year 2030. In this paper, we focus on the target 1.1.2 of SDG 1 on multidimensional poverty with a focus on women. Using the UNICEF's Multiple Overlapping Deprivation Analysis (MODA) tool and the 2014/15 Demographic and Health Survey, we measure women's multidimensional poverty level. It is found that 65.1% of the Rwandese women are multidimensionally poor and as stipulated by the SDGs, the aim is to halve this percentage by 2030. It is deprivation in the dimensions of Health, Education, Sanitation and Water that are mostly driving this poverty rate. A multivariate logistic regression is used to investigate into the characteristics of the multidimensionally poor women. It is found that there are several demographic (age of the woman, her employment status, number of children, having at least one stunted children), household (gender and education level of household head, household size, presence of a man in household) and geographical (urban/rural and province) characteristics that are significantly associated with a woman's multidimensional poverty level in Rwanda.

Key words: Multidimensional poverty, Women, SDG, Rwanda