

Forum: Citizen forum on inequalities

Theme: How to reduce inequalities at different scales?

Name of citizen: Amy

Marital status:	Level of education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="radio"/> Married/in a relationship<input type="radio"/> Single<input type="radio"/> With children, if so, how many : 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="radio"/> Primary<input type="radio"/> Secondary<input type="radio"/> University

How does the theme of inequalities concern you?

After our civil war ended we found ourselves with increased inequality and resource scarcity and many people were displaced and cut off from education. I believe that coordinated action is necessary to ensure that prosperity and opportunity are shared fairly but action is deeply needed as our country is rebuilding itself.

The inequality is seen in incomes, education and genders. As a woman I feel for the many women who are not given a chance to attend secondary school and further education. Stereotypical gender roles are a big thing in this country and many women marry young, never become financially independent and experience gender-based violence. I couldn't finish my education due to the war, these were the hardest years of my life considering the struggle for rationing food, no health care and being put into a displacement camp.

My country stresses that inequality between developed and developing nations remains a pressing concern. Our country calls for fairer trade systems, increased development financing, and stronger support for climate resilience. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda of 2015 highlighted the importance of equitable resource mobilization, and Ethiopia continues to advocate for the fulfillment of these commitments. Ethiopia has taken important steps at the national level to address inequality through programs that expand access to education, healthcare, and rural development. For example, government-led initiatives in agriculture and infrastructure like Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP), Irrigation & Infrastructure Development, Agricultural Development-Led Industrialization (ADLI). These all managed to improve livelihoods for millions of citizens in rural communities.

What solutions would you find most helpful?

At the regional scale, Ethiopia has supported cooperation within the African Union to promote inclusive growth. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) represents an opportunity to reduce economic inequalities among African states by creating broader markets and strengthening regional integration. Ethiopia is committed to ensuring that these opportunities benefit all, especially smaller economies and marginalized populations.

I reaffirm the position that reducing inequalities requires solidarity across all scales. National reforms must go hand in hand with regional cooperation and international partnerships. Our country urges the international community to strengthen fair access to resources, technology, , education, security, respect and opportunities which I wish to achieve no matter your gender or background.