

MAKING HUMAN RIGHTS WORK FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN EXTREME POVERTY



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Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights (GPs)

- Adopted by UN Human Rights Council in September 2012.
- Affirm eradication of poverty as a **human rights obligation** rather than only a moral duty.
- Affirm **participation** of people living in poverty in decision-making processes as a human right, and key to progress.

Download the GPs from atdireland.ie/wp/handbook/



The Aims of the Handbook

- To **promote understanding** of the human rights implications of people living in poverty
- To **suggest actions** that can be taken to ensure that their rights are both **respected** and **protected**
- To spell out how community-level workers can help **local authorities implement their obligations**



Key Principles of a Human Rights Based Approach to Poverty

- **Recognise** poverty as a result of multiple human rights violations.
- **Reaffirm** that people in poverty are rights holders.
- **Enable** people in poverty to claim their rights through meaningful participation.
- **Spell** out main obligations of states.



The Process

The Handbook is the result of:

- 3 years of consultations with people working at the local level
- Contributions from 200 people in 50 organisations
- Feedback from people living in poverty
- Inputs from 23 countries



The Content

Part 1 – Explains the reasons for the handbook

Part 2 – Sets out key principles that apply to all sections, with emphasis on participation

Part 3 – Suggests actions on key issues:

- Right to informed participation
- Right to a secure environment
- Right to health and basic services
- Children and women's rights
- Right to food
- Right to adequate standard of living
- Right to education
- Social inclusion
- Human rights and business operations

Part 4 – Suggests how to assess the actions taken

Download the Handbook from atdireland.ie/wp/handbook/



How to Use It?

- Download the Handbook from **atdireland.ie/wp/handbook/**
- Keep in mind the key principles
- Select the areas of priority to the people you are working with
- Explore the ideas in the relevant sections
- Select those considered possible and appropriate
- Engage with partners – both government and NGO – on ways to implement them
- Set up a mechanism for ongoing monitoring of progress



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