

NP JSC "South Kazakhstan University named after M. Auezov"



"Reduced inequalities"



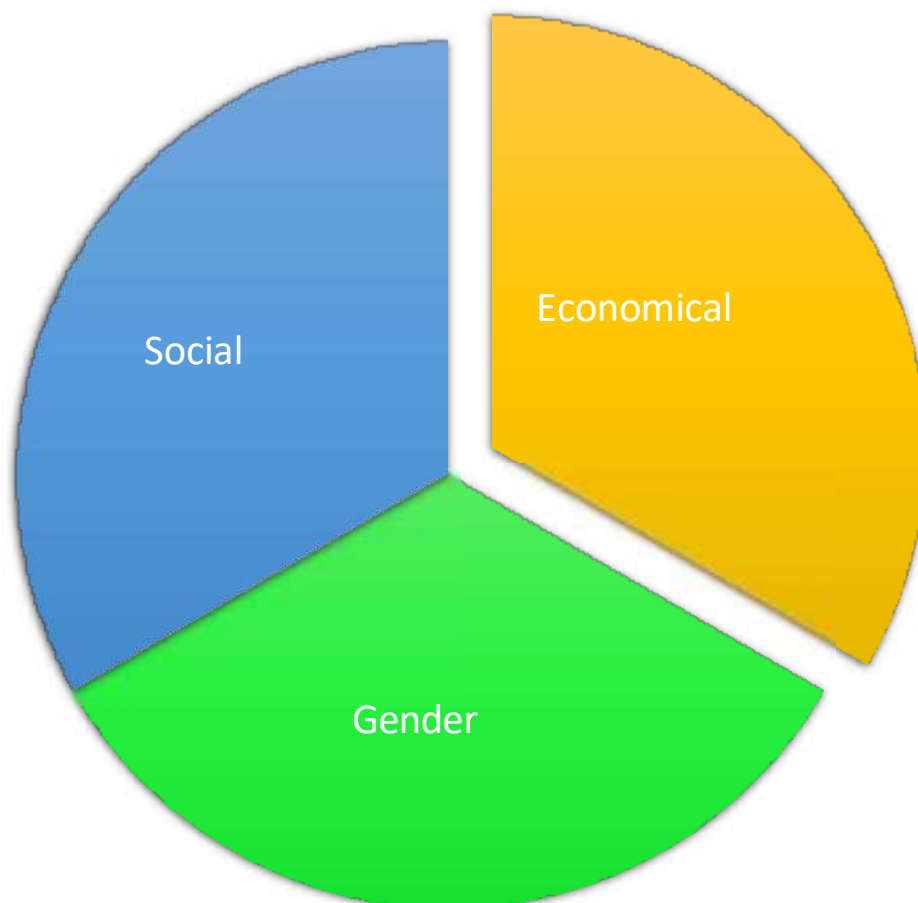
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Introduction

Inequality is one of the most acute social and economic problems in the modern world. It manifests itself in various forms - economic, social, gender, racial and educational inequalities. Reducing inequality is important for achieving sustainable development and improving the quality of life for all. This paper will cover the main aspects of the problem, its consequences and ways to solve it.

In recent decades, income inequality has increased in more than two thirds of the world's countries.

Types of inequalities



Economical inequality

Economic inequality is associated with differences in income and wealth between different groups of the population. The main aspects:

- ❖ **Income and wealth.** There is a significant difference in income and accumulated wealth in the world. The top 1% of the richest people own a significant share of the world's wealth.
- ❖ **Inequality of opportunity.** People living in poor regions or in disadvantaged families are less likely to receive quality education and high-paying jobs.
- ❖ **The role of tax policy.** A progressive tax system can be an effective tool for redistributing wealth.



Social inequality

Social inequality manifests itself in limited access to education, health care and other basic services:

- ❖ **Access to quality education.** Children from poor families have fewer opportunities to get a good education, which reduces their chances of success in the future.
- ❖ **Healthcare.** Low-income people face difficulties in obtaining medical services and medicines.
- ❖ **Housing conditions.** The lack of affordable housing is also a cause of social inequality.



Gender inequality

Gender inequality manifests itself in differences between men and women in access to opportunities and resources:

- ❖ **The difference in wages.** Women often earn less than men for doing the same job.
- ❖ **Representation in senior positions.** Women occupy fewer senior positions in companies and government structures.
- ❖ **Education and health care.** Girls and women in a number of countries face barriers to education and medical care.



The role of international organizations and States

States and international organizations play a key role in combating inequality:

- ❖ **Income redistribution policies.** Using taxes and social programs to reduce inequality.
- ❖ **International assistance programs.** Development of initiatives aimed at supporting poor countries and improving the living conditions of their citizens.
- ❖ **Respect for human rights.** International standards and agreements play an important role in ensuring equal opportunities for all.

Education as a way to reduce inequality

Education is a powerful tool for reducing inequality:

- **Access to quality education.** Ensuring equal access to education helps people from disadvantaged families to change their lives.
- **Retraining and advanced training programs.** Adult education courses can help unemployed and low-income people gain new skills and find a job.

- **Education for girls and women.** Increasing access to education for girls can lead to significant economic and social progress.

Technology and innovation to reduce inequality

Modern technologies can become a tool to combat inequality:

- ✚ **Online education and courses.** Access to online courses allows people from remote regions and poor families to gain knowledge and skills.
- ✚ **Electronic payment systems and mobile banking.** Such technologies can provide access to financial services even in the poorest communities.
- ✚ **Innovations in medicine.** New technologies are helping to make medical care more accessible.

The role of universities and scientific institutions

Universities can actively contribute to reducing inequality through:

- ✚ **Research and Development.** Research in the field of social policy can offer new ways to combat inequality.

- ✚ **Scholarships and grants for students from poor families.** Such programs can make higher education accessible to everyone.
- ✚ **Involving students in social projects.** Universities can encourage students to participate in projects aimed at helping those in need.

International experience in combating inequality

Let's look at examples of successful strategies

Scandinavian countries. They use progressive taxes and extensive social programs to reduce inequality.

China. Active measures to combat poverty and rural development have helped to lift millions of people out of a state of extreme need.

Brazil. The Bolsa Familia program provides financial assistance to poor families, provided that their children attend school.

Stanford University (USA) actively works on inclusivity and equality through various programs such as the Stanford Initiative for Racial Justice, which aim to combat racial and social inequality and promote gender equality on campus.

The University of California, Berkeley (USA) implements projects and programs aimed at helping students with disabilities, scholarships for students from poor backgrounds and programs to develop career skills for students belonging to ethnic minorities.

Access to resources and opportunities: Universities can work to ensure equal access to educational resources, including online courses, libraries, research labs, etc. It is also important that universities provide

access to career services that help students of all categories find jobs and start a career.

Support for students from vulnerable groups: It is important to create specialized programs and infrastructure that supports students from vulnerable groups, such as students with disabilities, migrants, women, representatives of ethnic minorities and others. Universities can organize mentoring programs, advanced training courses and psychological support for these groups of students.

Global cooperation and exchange of experience: Universities can facilitate the exchange of knowledge and best practices in the field of combating inequality by organizing international conferences, symposiums and student exchanges between universities, including with the participation of students from developing countries.

Proposed measures of the South Kazakhstan University named after M. Auezov

Contests for the best socially oriented projects: The University organizes contests and hackathons aimed at creating innovative solutions to reduce inequality. These can be projects to improve access to education for low-income groups, as well as social innovations in the field of health, housing and human rights.

Inclusive educational programs and courses: The University develops courses focused on inclusivity and equality that teach students how to recognize and eliminate inequality at various levels - in society, in the workplace, in education and in other areas of life.

Scholarships for low-income students: Develop flexible scholarship programs for students from low-income families, rural areas or

developing countries. It is important that scholarships cover not only tuition, but also housing, food, and transportation costs, which will help students focus on their studies.

Mobile educational platforms for remote learning: Creating online courses and mobile applications available to students from remote regions or those who cannot afford to be physically present at the university. Such platforms will help expand access to quality education for people with disabilities or low incomes.

Programmes “Education for All”: The University conducts public campaigns to provide education for older people, the unemployed or those who do not have access to higher education. As part of such initiatives, free courses, trainings and seminars on sought-after professions are organized. The Silver University project is being implemented at the University in order to fulfill its third mission and provide social assistance to people of retirement age, retrain them in the specialties necessary today and ensure their professional development.

Reducing inequality is an important goal for sustainable development. To achieve it, it is necessary to use an integrated approach, including improving education, technology development, social programs and international cooperation. Universities, government agencies and public organizations must work together to ensure equal opportunities for all.