

# Urban poverty and rural poverty in different countries: A systematic literature review



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## ABSTRACT

The complex issues on poverty is widespread globally and affecting countries at various levels of economic development. This study examines urban and rural poverty disparities using measurement, comparison, multidimensional analysis, and identifying contributing factors. Rural poverty shows significant reduction, while urban poverty is more complex. Cross-country comparisons reveal widespread rural poverty, influenced by human resources, nutrition, housing, and reproduction. India, China, and Indonesia have conducted more poverty-related research. Poverty reduction exhibits an inverted U-pattern relationship between Urban-Rural Income Ratio (URI) and rural poverty in several countries, with non-agricultural productivity impacting urban areas. Sustainable public policies and managing urban population growth are essential for poverty alleviation. Urban and rural poverty impact children's cognitive abilities and food consumption. Integrated policies are crucial, necessitating further research and community engagement. Longitudinal research and cross-country comparisons provide insights into effective poverty policies in diverse contexts.

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## 1. Introduction

Poverty is a big challenge we face today, and it's not just about lacking material things. It goes deeper, affecting people's abilities to develop and use opportunities to improve their lives (Lybbert & Wydick, 2018; Sen, 1985). This complex issue is widespread globally, affecting countries at various levels of economic development. Poverty is commonly categorized into rural and urban types based on geographical settings. Although both share financial struggles, each type exhibits distinct characteristics and confronts unique challenges in its specific environment. Understanding these differences is essential for devising effective strategies to alleviate poverty and enhance the overall quality of life for those affected. Suropto et al (2020) argued to reduce poverty can be done by improving human resources as investment capital to increase the income of the poor. Increasing challenges of overcoming poverty is due to several factors such as income inequality (Smythe et al., 2024), politics instability and corruption (Guritno et al., 2019), climate changes (Madzivhandila & Asha, 2024) and etc.

The global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) measures poverty in rural and urban areas using the same indicators. This allows us to directly compare poverty rates (MPI) between rural and urban areas. In 2014, of the total population living in conditions of poverty, according to the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), in 105 countries, 85% lived in rural areas. By MPI, the incidence and intensity of poverty are higher in rural than urban areas, consistent across regions of the developing World. Table 1 shows that rural areas have higher MPI levels than urban areas. This shows

that rural poverty rates are higher than urban poverty, and in countries with high incomes, urban and rural poverty rates are very low compared to rural areas. With other regions (Alkire et al., 2014).

**Table 1.** MPI for Urban dan Rural Areas

|                            | Number of Countries | Urban Areas |                   |                   | Rural Areas |                   |                   |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                            |                     | MPI         | Incidence (H) (%) | Intensity (A) (%) | MPI         | Incidence (H) (%) | Intensity (A) (%) |
| All Countries              | 105                 | 0.059       | 13                | 45.7              | 0.284       | 52.4              | 54.1              |
| East Asia & Pasific        | 9                   | 0.032       | 8.1               | 39.7              | 0.073       | 15.9              | 45.9              |
| Europe & Central Asia      | 17                  | 0.009       | 2.5               | 37.6              | 0.023       | 5.5               | 41.3              |
| Latin America & Carib bean | 15                  | 0.01        | 2.5               | 39.5              | 0.08        | 17.5              | 45.6              |
| Middle East & North Africa | 9                   | 0.023       | 5.8               | 39.3              | 0.095       | 19.1              | 49.6              |
| South Asia                 | 8                   | 0.113       | 24.2              | 46.7              | 0.338       | 63.5              | 53.2              |
| Sub Sahara Africa          | 38                  | 0.131       | 27.4              | 46.7              | 0.424       | 73.8              | 57.5              |
| High Income Countries      | 9                   | 0.005       | 1.2               | 36.8              | 0.011       | 2.7               | 39.7              |

Source: UNDESA, 2013

Urban poverty, although considered a unique phenomenon, still shows lower poverty rates compared to rural areas, as discussed above (Ravallion, 2007; Nation, 2017). Nevertheless, urban poverty can be considered a significant health problem associated with a high prevalence of health conditions such as obesity and diabetes (Serody, 2018). In contrast, poverty in rural areas is often triggered by limited access to markets, quality infrastructure, job opportunities, health services, and financial products (Kharas, 2017). Akintunde et al (2021) argued access to healthcare became scarce commodity for poor populations and even harder for poor population in rural areas. Contrary from Sridhar (2015) that argued urban poverty faces significant challenges to human capital for climate change mitigation. Asian Development Bank (2014) calculated that poverty reduction in urban and rural areas is different in Asia, where rural poverty decrease about 2.5 percentage points while urban poverty was about 1.5 percentage points on annual basis. However, poverty in urban and rural areas is a challenge must be solved.

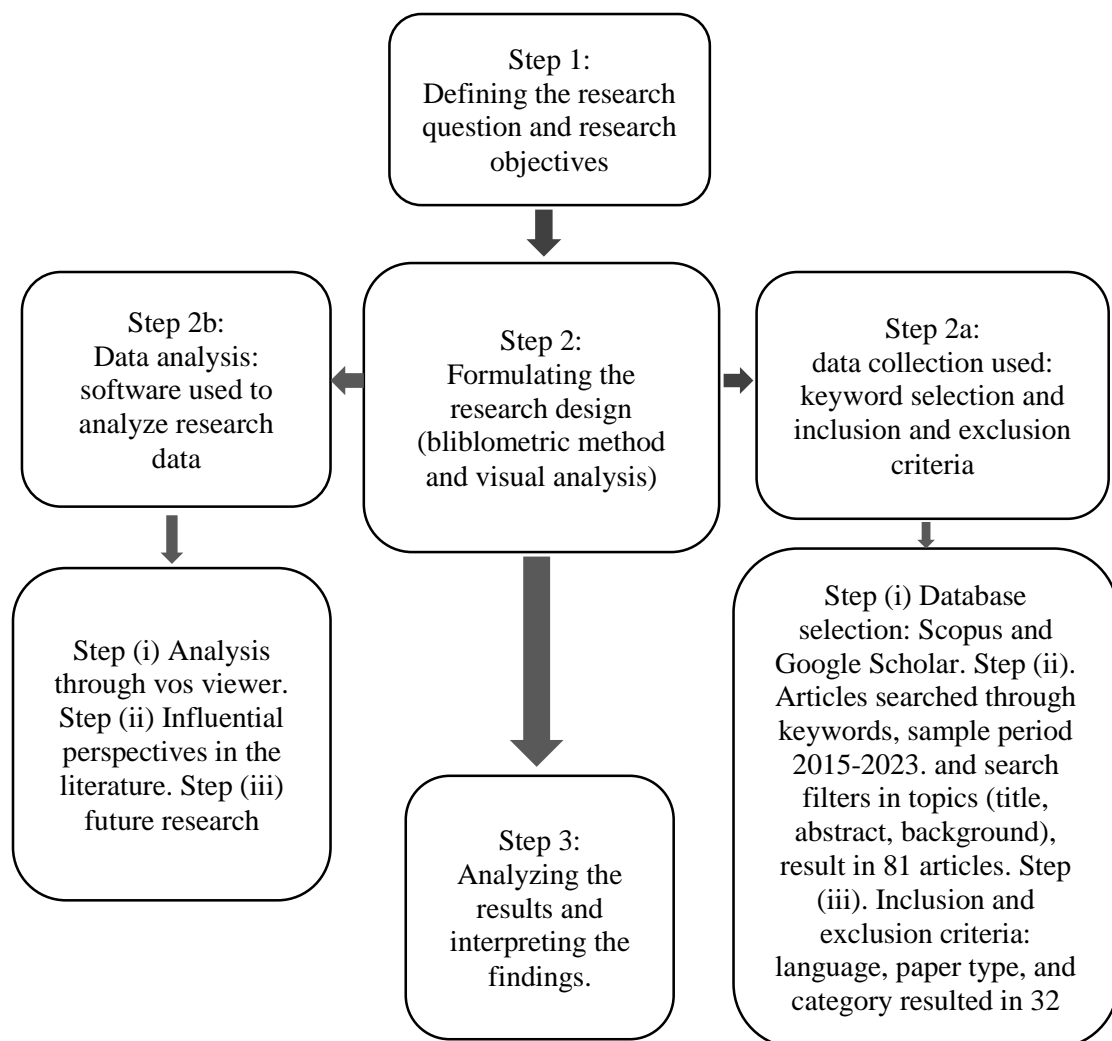
Data and facts show (Table 1) that in a global context, most of the four individuals facing extreme poverty live in rural areas. At the same time, only 5.3 percent of the urban population experiences extreme poverty (UNDESA Voice, 2021). Although there are significant differences between urban poverty and rural poverty, it is important to recognize that both are issues that require serious attention from governments and stakeholders around the world. Comprehensive and sustainable interventions are needed to address the root causes of poverty in these two regions. Urban and rural poverty rates can vary from country to country, depending on access to markets, infrastructure, employment opportunities, and health. It is important to research poverty in these two regions globally to identify differences and similarities between countries in poverty reduction efforts. More effective strategies and policies can be developed to improve overall poverty in assessing global urban and rural poverty. Sridhar (2015) believes global rural population is expected to decrease in absolute numbers, the number of urban poor is on the rise. This means that even if the poverty rates in urban areas stay the same, the growth in urban populations will lead to a larger number of urban poor. This trend is evident worldwide, as urban poverty continues to increase, and in some countries, the urban poor are growing at a faster pace than those in rural areas.

Many research has discussed rural and urban poverty, but only a little research has discussed rural and urban poverty from various perspectives and between countries. Therefore, regardless of the proportion of urban and rural poverty that is not the same throughout the World, this study aims to determine differences in urban and rural poverty in terms of poverty measurement, poverty comparison, multidimensional analysis, and the factors that cause it. In this study, there are several

research questions. First, how is the difference between urban and rural poverty seen from various poverty measurements in various countries, what is the comparison of urban and rural poverty in various countries, how can multidimensional analysis provide an understanding of differences in urban and rural poverty in different countries, and what the factors that influence rural and urban poverty. The anticipated contribution of this research is to offer a more profound and extensive comprehension that can be utilized to formulate effective policies aimed at poverty alleviation.

## 2. Method

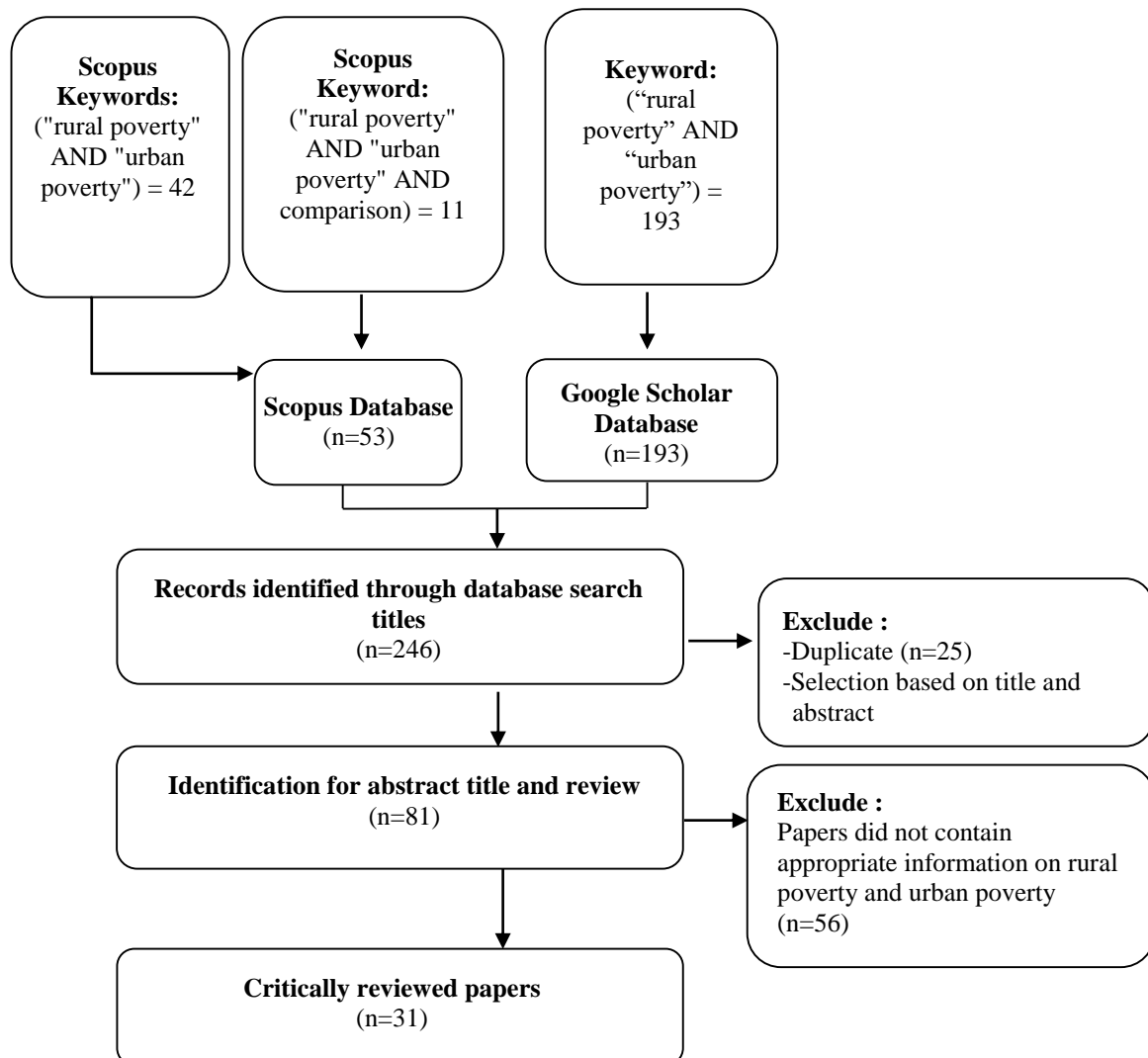
The literature review system follows the steps of in which there are three main steps in this research methodology. First, defining the research questions; Second, formulates the research design and third, analyzing the results and interpreting the findings. This research begins with the first step, as shown in [Figure 1](#), defining the research questions and objectives. The research questions were formulated, and objectives were set to provide a clear direction for conducting this research. The second step is formulating a research design using bibliometric methods and visual analysis. The bibliometric method is used to collect and analyze data related to scientific publications relevant to the research topic.



**Figure 1.** Methodological Approach

Meanwhile, visual analysis is used to process data and visualize it in [Figure 2](#), which can provide a better understanding. Step 2a involves collecting data by selecting keywords and inclusion and exclusion criteria. To collect data, the Scopus and Google Scholar databases are used. Searches were performed on relevant article titles, abstracts, and backgrounds using certain keywords and a sample period between 2015 and 2023. The initial search yielded 81 articles, which were then filtered based on inclusion and exclusion criteria such as language, type of paper, and research category, so the number of articles filtered became 32. Step 2b involves data analysis using appropriate software to

analyze research data. In this research, VOS Viewer software is used. Analysis was carried out through the VOS Viewer to identify influential perspectives in the collected literature. In addition, this step also includes identifying research topics that need further research in the future. The final step is step 3, in which the results are analyzed and the research findings are interpreted. The data that has been collected and analyzed is used to analyze predetermined research questions. The results of the analysis are then interpreted by considering the context of the existing literature, with the hope of providing a deeper understanding of the research topic.



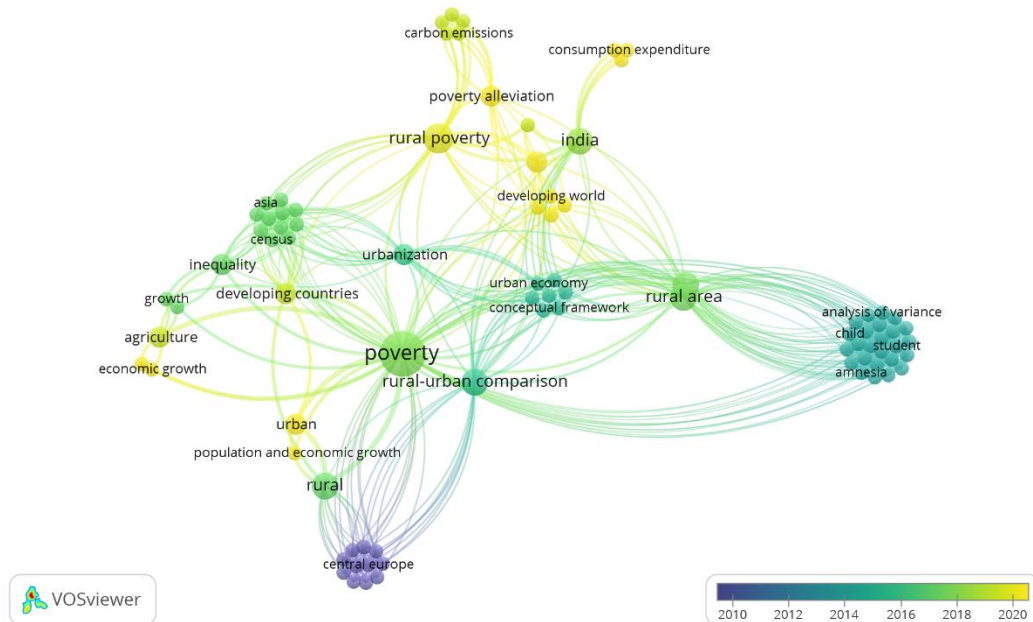
**Figure 2.** Diagram of Review Paper Selection

Figure 2 shows the literature collection was carried out through Scopus and Google Scholar in the period 2015-2023. The search used using Scopus obtained a total of 53 papers with two searches, namely: ("rural poverty" AND "urban poverty") total on 42 and ("rural poverty" AND "urban poverty" AND "comparison") amount 11. At the same time, the search in Google Scholar used the keywords ("rural poverty" AND "urban poverty,") which were downloaded using the Publish and Perish application and obtained 193 papers. After reviewing several paper screenings, the 31 most relevant papers were obtained for review.

### 3. Results and Discussion

Figure 3 shows, "poverty" is the main topic of the literature examined in this paper. This shows that poverty is the main focus of attention in this study. Furthermore, the figure also illustrates that many clusters are interconnected, showing that the topic of urban poverty and rural poverty is closely related to various other aspects. In addition to the topic "poverty", the image also reflects the presence of other keywords that appear in the research literature. There are "rural-urban comparisons", "rural", "urban", and various other keywords. The diversity of these keywords indicates the complexity and

multidimensionality of urban and rural poverty issues. These findings indicate that this topic involves various factors, which include, but are not limited to, social, economic, health, education, infrastructure, and public policy aspects. The broad linkages between these keywords show that urban and rural poverty is a complex phenomenon affecting many people's lives. Therefore, in this paper, the relationship between these keywords will be the topic of discussion.



**Figure 3.** The results of Mapping Urban and Rural Poverty with the Network Visualization Display

The analysis of poverty is interesting because each country has its own measure of poverty and each approach used has its own advantages. This study analyzes differences in poverty measurement, poverty conditions in urban and rural areas and multidimensional analysis of poverty in urban and rural areas in several countries with a bibliometric analysis.

### 3.1 Analysis of the Differences Between Poverty in Urban and Rural Views from Various Poverty Measurement Indicators in Several Countries

Throughout history, economic indicators have been used to represent specific societal dimensions and understand their relationship to a person's Standard of Living and Quality of Life (Bilkova, 2020). Hence, socio-economic indicators have been important in deepening our understanding of current affairs. With this indicator, experts and authorities can gain better insight into overcoming social challenges to solve existing social and economic problems (Feldmeyer et al., 2020). Rural access index (RAI) linking infrastructure development, especially roads, to poverty and limited road connectivity can result in high transportation costs and long travel times, which may impact sectoral productivity, employment and worsening poverty. Wahyuni et al (2022) believes lack of access to outside market makes it difficult for people to find jobs and decreasing foreign investment opportunity and led increasing on unemployment and poverty. Another measurement of poverty using by Government of United States of America is supplementary poverty measure (SPM) as measure of economic deprivation – having insufficient of financial resources to achieved a specified standard of living. The advantages using SPM approach can give policymakers tools to understand how taxes and government programs, including the noncash programs affect the poor.

MPI in India using National Sample Survey (NSS) data on “Consumption Expenditure” and Alkire & Foster's (2011) approach methods, on that approach consider three main indicators namely standard of living, education and income at the level of households or persons. Meanwhile using Fuzzi Index approach from da Costa & Costa (2016) to compare the condition of poverty determined based on the definition of multidimensional poverty, assuming that the lack of health, income, education and housing are fundamental components for measuring deprivation and the dependency analysis between the indicators suggests a negative relationship, indicating that when rural poverty worsens, urban poverty becomes milder. The research analyzes the differences in measure approaches to get a comprehensive picture.

**Table 2.** Poverty Measurement

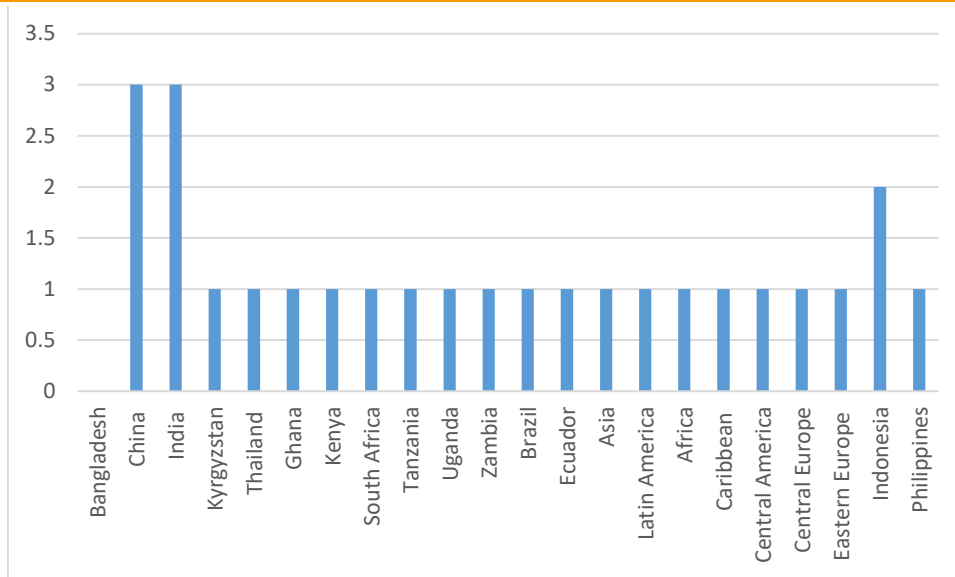
| Method  | Country                  | Results   |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| Rural Access Index (RAI) (Alba, 2020)                   | General                  | Our research shows that the Rural Access Index (RAI) can be a leading indicator for measuring poverty and its relationship to road infrastructure. It can be used as a guide for optimizing resources in poverty alleviation.                             |
| Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) (Nolan et al., 2017) | United States of America | Our analysis of the supplemental poverty measure (SPM) shows that the poverty rate in rural areas has decreased significantly from a higher initial level compared to urban areas.  |
| Alkire and Foster (Tripathi & Yenneti, 2020)            | India                    | Poverty in rural India has fallen more sharply than in urban areas. Education level, income and household standard of living are the main factors contributing to poverty in India, with the standard of living sub-indicator being the main determinant. |
| Fuzzy Index (da Costa & Costa, 2016)                    | Brazil                   | Multidimensional poverty rates in rural Brazilian municipal settings are lower than in urban environments, as the results of the Fuzzy index show.  |
| Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) (Yirga, 2021)      | Afghanistan              | The findings show that in Kunduz province, rural households experience a more significant increase in poverty than urban households, with education, standard of living, and health factors significantly impacting poverty rates.                        |

Source: scopus.com

Table 2 conducted in various countries has shown that several indicators can be used to measure and understand poverty in rural and urban areas, such as the Rural Access Index (RAI), Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), Alkire and Foster Index, Fuzzy, and the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). The results of this study indicate that poverty tends to decline more significantly in rural areas than in urban areas, with factors such as education, income, standard of living, and health playing important roles in determining poverty levels. However, it should be noted that poverty in urban areas is more complex, although the numbers are smaller than poverty in rural areas. For example, massive urbanization can create slums, pollution, land and water resources reduction, high traffic congestion, and violence different from rural poverty. In addition, urban poverty in developing countries also faces challenges such as lack of capital and lack of access to basic services.

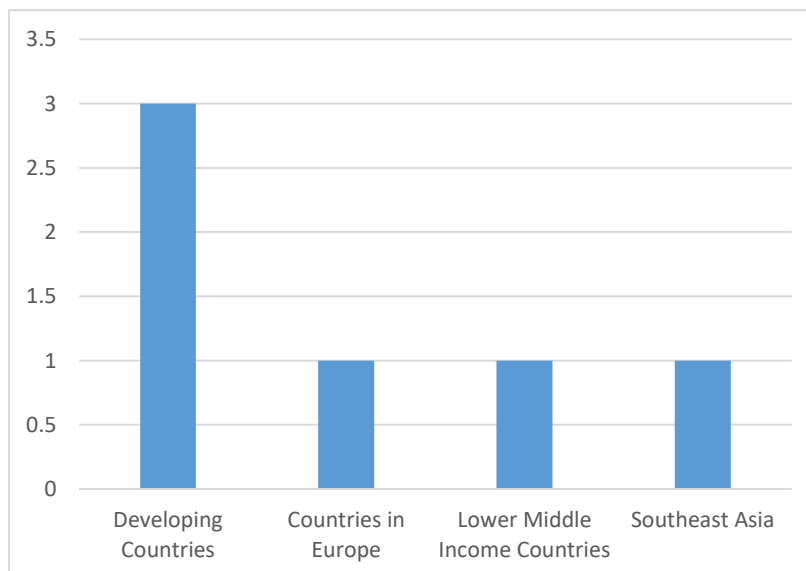
### 3.2 Comparative Analysis of Rural Poverty and Urban Poverty in Various Countries

Figure 4 shows the countries used as case studies to compare the proportion of urban poverty and rural poverty, as a whole, show that rural poverty is a significant problem in various regions, including Sumatra (Indonesia), Bangladesh, China, India, Kyrgyzstan, Thailand, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Brazil, Ecuador, Asia, Latin America, Africa, Caribbean, Central America, Central Europe, East, and India. Rural poverty tends to be more widespread than urban poverty because more poor people live in rural areas in developing countries (Imai & Maleb, 2015). Macours & Swinnen (2008) and Sridhar (2015) Explaining factors such as the quality of human resources, access to nutrition, housing, and reproduction also play a role in exacerbating conditions of rural poverty. Locher (2000), Mustika & Nurjanah (2021) also explain, increasing carbon emissions in China harms rural poverty (Zhou & Chen, 2019). Therefore, rural poverty alleviation efforts must involve human resource development, reducing inequality of access and basic needs, and protecting the environment. It can also be seen that this research in India, China, and Indonesia has quite a large number. In addition, the paper also found that some studies examined certain groups of countries. In this context, some papers examine developing countries, European countries, lower-middle-class countries and countries in Southeast Asia to capture comprehensive result for multidimensional poverty based on developed, developing and less developed countries.



**Figure 4.** Urban and Rural Poverty Based on Country Analysis

Figure 5 shows poverty in rural areas tends to be higher than in urban areas in developing countries. Rural poverty is related to agricultural problems, lack of basic infrastructure, and lack of financial capital. Meanwhile, urban poverty is characterized by slum settlements, pollution, and a lack of basic services. Poverty reduction in both areas requires sustainable public policies focusing on agricultural development, economic growth, and infrastructure improvements. Both regions have untapped opportunities, so efforts to overcome poverty must be carried out holistically and comprehensively (Birau & Doaga, 2019; Imai & Maleb, 2015; Rosida, 2018). Rural and urban poverty in European countries. Although poverty reduction occurred in both regions, poverty was higher in rural areas. Focusing on reducing rural poverty is important, with expanding access to assets, improving infrastructure and education policies targeting the rural poor. The growth of the agricultural sector remains important in reducing poverty. At the same time, integrating the rural labor market with the rest of the economy is key to increasing future incomes and welfare. The policy's success depends on the agricultural sector's initial income level and factor intensity (Macours & Swinnen, 2008).



**Figure 5.** Poverty Based on Characteristic Analysis

In lower middle-class countries, the research results show that increased agricultural productivity is associated with reduced rural poverty rates. In contrast, increased non-agricultural productivity is associated with reduced urban poverty rates. The dependence on natural resources also influences the response of poverty to the growth of the agricultural sector. This conclusion highlights the importance of policies encouraging increased productivity in the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors to reduce poverty in lower-middle-class countries (Benfica & Henderson, 2021). In Southeast Asia, the

focus is on urban-rural integration and sustainable urbanization. This study proposes several policy actions, such as strengthening existing urban settlements, balancing spatial settlement patterns, integrating urban-rural spatial planning policies, decentralizing planning, increasing economic competitiveness, and opening up the rural economy through increased connectivity. This action is expected to support sustainable and inclusive economic growth, as well as reduce the gap between urban and rural areas in Southeast Asian countries (Singru, 2015).

Based on the analysis of poverty reduction from several papers, it is stated that there is an inverted U-shaped relationship with rural poverty: In the Chinese context, it was found that the relationship between the Urban-Rural Income Ratio (URI) and rural poverty has an inverted U pattern. Initially, rural poverty was exacerbated and then slowed down. URI also impacts rural poverty in the province and neighboring provinces. The poverty alleviation effect of URI on provinces has a U-shaped relationship, i.e., it first reduces and then exacerbates urban poverty in local provinces. For neighboring provinces, URI first increases and then decreases urban poverty. In conclusion, a URI level that is within a certain range will be conducive to poverty alleviation in the province and neighboring provinces (Niu & Xu, 2023). The role of productivity growth: In low- and middle-income countries, agricultural productivity growth has had a relatively small impact on reducing rural and urban poverty. In contrast, non-agricultural productivity growth has had a greater impact on reducing poverty, especially in urban areas. Structural transformation has also played an important role in reducing poverty in areas with lower GDP per capita levels. In regions with higher per capita GDP levels, it is important to pay attention to growth in the employment-to-population ratio for poverty reduction, especially in rural areas. (Kibriya et al., 2019).

Sustainable public policies: For rural and urban poverty alleviation, sustainable public policies are needed. The top priority in public policy is reducing urban poverty, but sustainable strategies must be implemented (Birau & Doaga, 2019a). Managing population growth in large cities: In some cases, population growth can increase poverty. Therefore, there is a need for careful planning and proper management of big cities' population growth to reduce poverty (Imai et al., 2017). Overall, poverty alleviation requires a holistic approach that involves sustainable public policies, inclusive economic growth, prudent management of population growth, and sustainable development that prioritizes a balance between urban and rural areas.

Urban and rural poverty have different impacts on children's cognitive abilities. Children in urban poverty tend to have higher inhibition scores than children in rural poverty. Cognitive processes such as language, incidental memory, and inhibition contribute to more than 80% of the variance in academic achievement in children of various economic backgrounds (Tine, 2017, 2019). The working memory function of children in urban and rural poverty also experiences differences. Children in urban poverty show a symmetric working memory weakness, while children in rural poverty show an asymmetric working memory weakness. This pattern indicates that urban and rural poverty are associated with different working memory function models (Tine, 2014). Consumption of healthy food and the nutritional status of children in rural and urban areas are also influenced by certain factors. Urban children tend to have personal dietary preferences that are less fond of vegetables, while rural children face economic and geographical challenges in accessing healthy foods. As a result, rural children often experience poorer nutritional outcomes. In conclusion, urban and rural poverty harms children's cognitive abilities, their consumption of healthy foods, and their nutritional status. Although there are differences in the patterns and characteristics of urban and rural poverty, it is important to pay attention to these aspects to improve the quality of life of children and reduce disparities in fulfilling their needs.

### 3.3 Multidimensional Analysis of Rural Poverty and Urban Poverty in Various Countries

Based on the multidimensional poverty analysis shows that there are a variety of problems in various countries, including geographical differences, there are variations in poverty rates between rural and urban areas in various countries. Some countries, such as Brazil and India, show higher rural poverty rates, while Afghanistan has a larger increase in rural poverty. When looking at the causes of poverty, although there are differences in the factors contributing to poverty in each context, some common factors include poor health, low education, low standard of living, and limited income. Differences in the composition of poverty; the composition of poverty can vary between rural and urban areas. For example, the health burden in Brazil is the largest in both settings, while urban needs



tend to outweigh rural needs. In India, the standard of living sub-indicator has a significant role in determining the poverty level (da Costa & Costa, 2016; Kona et al., 2018).

social and cultural differences, the social and cultural context also influences the characteristics of poverty in rural and urban areas. For example, in South Africa, rural communities are characterized by socio-economic homogeneity and communitarianism, while urban communities are diverse in caste, creed, religion, and culture. As for the role of education, education has an important role in overcoming poverty in all contexts. The education level of household members is often the main factor in determining the poverty level. While differences in geographical, social and cultural contexts and factors influence poverty, some general patterns can be identified. This emphasizes the importance of a contextual and comprehensive approach in designing policies and interventions to address poverty, focusing on education, health, living standards, and increasing incomes in rural and urban settings (Fatai, 2017; Shaiq et al., 2022).

### 3.4 Analysis of Factors Affecting Rural Poverty and Urban Poverty in Various Countries

Table 3 shows complex interaction of various determinants. These factors include but are not limited to age, health, happiness, education, women's empowerment, household status, infrastructure, social services, urbanization, social transformation, education of the head of the household, gender, profession, food subsidies, and illiteracy eradication policy. Previous research has shown that these factors play an important role in guiding the level and pattern of poverty in different countries.

**Table 3.** Factors Affecting Poverty in Various Countries

| Country              | Factors  | Solution  |
|----------------------|--|---|
| China                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The effect of age on relative poverty</li> <li>- Health and Maslow's hierarchy of needs</li> <li>- The level of happiness of urban and rural residents</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve education</li> <li>- Health insurance for all residents</li> <li>- Fiscal support for the agricultural sector</li> <li>- Increased income of low-income groups</li> <li>- Improvement of the structure and uneven income distribution</li> </ul> |
| Bangladesh           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Status of widow, disabled, illiteracy, aging</li> <li>- Household size, status and household responsibilities</li> <li>- Low wages for female workers</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expand educational programs</li> <li>- Prioritizing education and women's empowerment</li> <li>- Increasing wage and equal wage for all</li> </ul>   |
| Developing Countries | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bad infrastructure, low standard of living</li> <li>- Low income, poor social services, social inequality</li> <li>- Rapid urbanization, changing dynamics of unemployment</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuous government reform program</li> <li>- Effective implementation of public policies</li> <li>- Working policies and reformation</li> </ul>   |
| Tunisia              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Education of the head of the household</li> <li>- Child dependency ratio, the ratio of male and female workers</li> <li>- Social-professional category of the head of household</li> <li>- Family residence, type of house</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Involved in literacy programs</li> <li>- Reduced family size</li> <li>- Food subsidies related to cereal products</li> <li>- Continuing geo-targeted policies</li> </ul>   |

Source: data processed

Understanding these determinants emphasizes the need for a sustainable approach to addressing poverty in every country. Policies and programs must consider the complexity and interrelationships between these factors. To achieve effective poverty alleviation, it is imperative to formulate comprehensive and tailored policies that can address the unique contextual factors of each region. Based on Table 3 shows that each country face challenges to reduce poverty and need policy from

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government and other programs to reduce poverty. To attain this objective, fostering collaboration between the government, non-governmental organizations, and the community is essential for designing and executing impactful programs. These programs must be designed with long-term sustainability, including efforts to increase access to quality education, affordable health services, empower women, and adequate infrastructure. In addition, policy development must be based on research and accurate data so that poverty alleviation efforts can be carried out in an efficient and targeted manner. It must also consider different factors in each region. Through a comprehensive and coordinated approach, it is hoped that the impact of poverty can be minimized, social inequality can be reduced, and people's quality of life can be increased. Implementing policy programs focusing on the various determinants of poverty in each country will be an important step in facing global challenges in reducing poverty and achieving sustainable development (Ghazouani & Goaid, 1998; Benfica & Henderson, 2021; Kona et al., 2018; Sun et al., 2022).

#### 4. Conclusion

This research underscores the persistent global challenge of poverty, which manifests differently in urban and rural contexts. Despite various efforts to alleviate poverty, the disparities between urban and rural areas remain significant, with rural poverty often more severe but urban poverty increasingly complex. While previous studies have examined these issues separately or within specific contexts, there is a lack of comprehensive analysis that compares urban and rural poverty across countries. This study fills this gap by analyzing poverty measurement, comparing poverty rates, and exploring multidimensional factors affecting urban and rural poverty. Understanding these differences is crucial for developing tailored and effective poverty alleviation policies that address the unique challenges of each context. The findings reveal that rural poverty rates are higher than urban poverty rates globally, influenced by factors such as limited access to education, healthcare, infrastructure, and employment opportunities. In contrast, urban poverty, though numerically smaller, is more complex due to its association with health issues like obesity and unhealthy dietary patterns.

A comparative analysis highlights that rural poverty tends to dominate in countries such as India, China, and Indonesia, with non-agricultural productivity growth having a significant impact on urban poverty reduction. Furthermore, the Urban-Rural Income Ratio (URI) demonstrates an inverted U-pattern, showing nuanced relationships between income disparities and poverty levels in different regions. The study also emphasizes the multidimensional nature of poverty, including its effects on children's cognitive development and nutritional outcomes in both urban and rural settings. The implications of these findings highlight the importance of implementing context-specific and multidimensional poverty alleviation strategies. Governments and stakeholders should prioritize improving access to and the quality of education to address skill gaps and expand economic opportunities. Developing poverty measurement tools tailored to the unique realities of urban and rural areas is crucial for producing accurate and reliable evaluations. Policies should address both economic and non-economic aspects, such as enhancing healthcare services, infrastructure, and living standards, while promoting inclusive economic growth by improving access to labor markets and supporting rural agricultural development. Furthermore, effective poverty reduction requires cross-sector collaboration and active community engagement to design and implement comprehensive and sustainable solutions that bridge the gap between urban and rural areas.

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- Additional information** : No additional information is available for this paper.

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