



## **COMMISSION STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW)**

Addressing Period Poverty as a Barrier to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in Developing Countries

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### **DESCRIPTION OF COMMITTEE**

The leading international organization working to eliminate women's oppression and improve women's participation and gender equality is the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). The CSW is crucial for enhancing women's rights, documenting the global reality of women's lives, and establishing international standards for gender equality and empowerment. In 1996, the ECOSOC assumed that to address economic and social challenges. Expanded the Commission, and it decided that it would be responsible for leading efforts to mainstream a gender perspective into UN activities and overseeing and evaluating the difficulties and successes of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action's implementation.

The Commission creates multi-year work plans to assess progress and propose fresh ideas to expedite Execution within the Platform for Action. To hasten the achievement of equality between men and women and women's empowerment, the Commission additionally participates in implementing the Agenda for 2030 for Sustainable Development. The Commission generates multi-year work strategies to monitor progress and offers fresh ideas to encourage the Execution of the Platform for Action. These recommendations take the shape of discussions regarding a significant priority. To accelerate the realization of equal rights for all women empowerment, the Commission also implements the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### **INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC**

Improving your menstrual cycles can improve girls' healthcare, schooling, and well-being when ameliorating how they manage their menstrual cycles. According to the literature and the experts considered for this quick overview, this indirectly affects women's and girls' lives. Economic

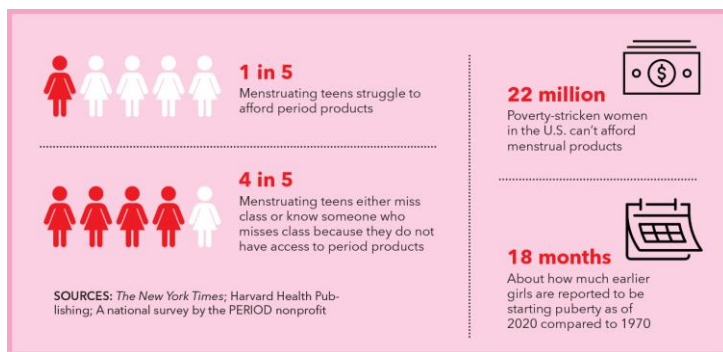
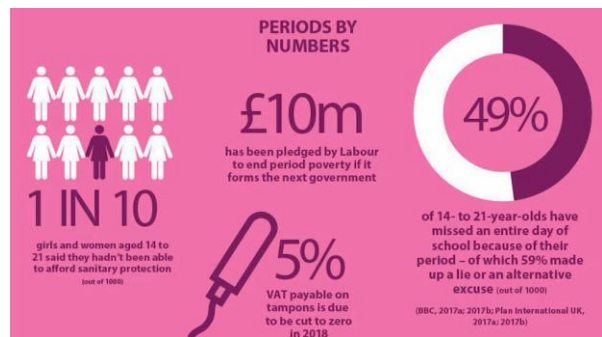
growth isn't the only impact on women's empowerment; connections between and among several themes have been established, and their significant elements are verified here.

Given the lack of research on period poverty, the anticipated emotion surrounding the topic, and the lack of standard approaches and procedures, most evidence is given through qualitative, participative, and descriptive methods. It may be difficult to infer from the qualitative research how much period poverty impacts any of these outcomes or economic empowerment or how significant a difference it makes compared to other issues affecting women and girls in the situations studied. According to the experts interviewed for this assessment, there is unquestionably a need for better, outstanding research in this area.

## BACKGROUND INTRODUCTION OF THE TOPIC

In 2016, period poverty became more commonly used for various reasons. Over the past five years, it has evolved, widespread, and impacted society, becoming a more high-profile issue. Receiving assistance from advocacy organizations, non-profits, and academics. Social, economic, and cultural causes are the fundamental divisions of period poverty. The lack of access to menstrual hygiene products, sanitation facilities, and adequate knowledge about menstruation disproportionately affects

women and girls in low-income areas. Menstrual products, education, and sanitation are the key to ending this once and for all. The facts touched

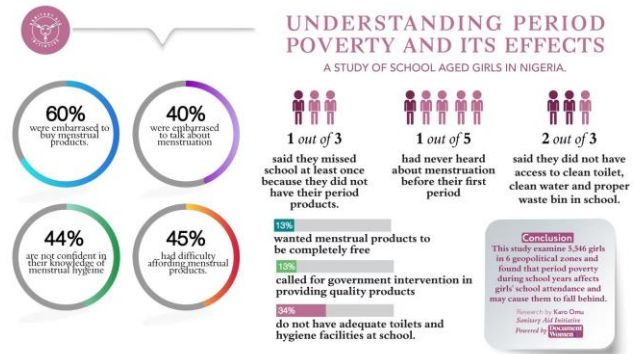


on the condition for issues of gender equality and women's empowerment not only hinder women's chances of advancing in their occupations and education but also work on their physical and emotional well-being. Addressing the institutional hurdles that sustain period poverty, gender equality, and women's empowerment must be amplified in impoverished nations.

Guaranteeing that women fulfill their vital roles in fully participating in society's actions.

## CURRENT SITUATION

Around the world, period poverty affects not only women, girls, and menstruating individuals but our whole society. We have been lacking in certain areas during the last few years, such as period items like pads, tampons, menstrual cups, and more for our menstrual cycle. Every menstruating soul needs access to a clean, hygienic space, a secure location to use menstruation products, and the autonomy



to manage their period free from stigma or guilt. However, necessities are out of reach for many. Furthermore, depriving females of these rights might impact their education, well-being, and occasionally even their entire life, in addition to possible health risks. Discover the global essential data that illustrate the impact of period poverty on people's lives in more affluent and poorer countries. Global poverty statistics throughout time Research indicates that period poverty occurs in more affluent and impoverished countries; however, estimates differ. Millions probably have to choose between buying food and menstruation products daily. Still, others might not even have access to the necessary supplies and resources to handle their periods with dignity. According to World Bank estimates, 500 million or more women and girls worldwide cannot access the facilities they require to control their periods.<sup>1</sup> Five hundred twenty-six million women and girls lack access to any toilet. At the same time, 1.25 billion need a private, safe place to relieve themselves.

## INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON THE TOPIC

This conflict affects our generation every day, and we must continue to work to put a stop to it. Women were silent for a long time out of fear or a lack of knowledge about how or what to do. Let's put that right. This can serve as your inspiration, demonstrating how one influential person may alter the viewpoint of many others and impact the world.

The United Nations has shown leadership in recognizing this as a serious issue. Realizing how important it is to have access to menstrual health, education, hygiene, products, and everything else that helps people in impoverished nations, who become actively involved in those initiatives. The Sustainable Development Goals have been followed, with the most advancements being made in Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) and Goal 5 (Gender Equality). Emphasizing the necessity of ensuring the same safety measures that we have been discussing. Numerous additional organizations have joined and are addressing the issues that girls confront. Not just making sure everyone is secure, but also taking other kinds of regulations such as seeking people

in need, raising awareness, and offering help and education through NGOs and Civil Society organizations. As everyone knows, new ideas on particular subjects are needed on a daily basis. Menstrual hygiene product innovations, such as reusable pads and menstrual cups, have also contributed to the fight against period poverty by offering long-term, reasonably priced alternatives. This takes us to acknowledge the fact that the World Bank estimates that five hundred million individuals worldwide do not have access to sanitary restrooms or essential menstruation products for use during their periods. In addition to ethnic stigma and other socioeconomic concerns, the lack of price and accessibility of menstruation supplies contributes significantly to the cycle of "period poverty." Natural catastrophes, conflicts, pandemics, and interruptions in the supply chain do not stop menstruation, and a common problem on a national and worldwide scale is the absence of menstruation-related products and basic information. Many people in the US and other countries are pushing for improvements to toilet and sanitation facilities alongside providing free menstruation supplies and increased efforts in education to dispel stigma and cultural taboos while providing individuals with the facts about menstruation.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CREATING RESOLUTIONS**

When creating a resolution, we recommend using and establishing a reliable resource where you can tank out all of the information required and needed to your abilities to have a smooth debate. One of your best options is to take data from the official UN web page, a famous news web page, or a web page of choice you know is secure and safe. When being in a situation where you take information from a non-secure web page, it may result in having wrong or fake news that can backfire in the debate.

## **QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER (to create a Resolution)**

- How many women are affected by period poverty?
- Which small countries are affected the most due to this problem we are facing?
- How does period poverty affect society and specific communities?
- Which countries deal with more period poverty among women?
- How can solving this issue ensure this obstacle comes to an end?
- Why should the government provide products when they didn't back in the day?
- How can you minimize period product prices when being financially stable?

## **RESEARCH AID**

(Description of Committee)

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw#:~:text=The%20Commission%20on%20the%20Status,II>

<https://research.un.org/en/CSW>

(Current situation, General information)

[https://jordan.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/period\\_poverty\\_policy\\_paper\\_en.pdf](https://jordan.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/period_poverty_policy_paper_en.pdf)

<https://www.citronhygiene.com/resources/period-poverty-world-stats-solutions/#:~:text=Period%20Poverty%20is%20the%20lack,tackling%20period%20poverty%20especially%20difficult.>

<https://www.joghr.org/article/32436-period-poverty-why-it-should-be-everybody-s-business>

<https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/period-poverty#what-is-it>

(Background information)

<https://www.actionaid.org.uk/blog/2022/05/18/period-poverty-statistics-around-world>

<https://wiisglobal.org/period-poverty-a-global-crisis/>

<https://www.american.edu/sis/news/20230301-globally-to-locally-period-poverty-affects-millions.cfm#:~:text=In%20both%20the%20US%20and,fight%20stigma%20and%20cultural%20taboos>

## TERMS AND CONCEPTS

- **Menstrual Cycle:** The process of ovulation and menstruation in women and other female primates.
- **Poverty:** The state of being in the quality of poor, insufficient amount.
- **Oppression:** The state of being subject to unjust treatment or control.
- **International action:** Actions taken worldwide by society or programs.
- **Developing Countries:** a poor agricultural country seeking to become more advanced economically and socially.
- **Gender equality:** The state in which access to rights or opportunities is unaffected by gender.
- **Indignant:** Feeling or showing anger or annoyance at what is perceived as unfair treatment.
- **Sustainable Development Goals:** aim to transform the world. Reproductive health is complete physical, mental, and social well-being.

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- Globally to locally, period poverty affects millions. (2023, March 1). American University. <https://www.american.edu/sis/news/20230301-globally-to-locally-period-poverty-affects-millions.cfm#:~:text=In%20both%20the%20US%20and,fight%20stigma%20and%20cultural%20taboos.>*
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- Uk, A. (2023b). Period poverty: the statistics around the world. ActionAid UK. <https://www.actionaid.org.uk/blog/2022/05/18/period-poverty-statistics-around-world>*