



Latin America is being ravaged by the **highest poverty levels** found over the last **30 years**

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At least 5 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean had to face extreme poverty only in 2021.

Nevertheless, not everything is entirely a bad thing. According to predictions made by several experts in economics and experts from the United Nations, the increase of poverty levels could be even worse but the effects and the increase of inequality gaps

stopped due to different actions taken in Latin American countries. According to those predictions, extreme poverty could have increased by 1.8%, while general poverty could have increased at least by 2.9%.

What we learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic is that weakness in healthcare systems were responsible for the increase of inequality gaps, which also caused a worse scenario for people in poverty and extreme poverty in

the area. Only in 2020 and 2021, the number of people in extreme poverty increased from 13.2% to 13.8%, an evident sign of the most dramatic reversal found over the last 27 years in that region.



In numbers...

In order to face the effects of the pandemic, Latin America spent:

2020: 89,700 million dollars

2021: 45,300 million dollars

Economic and social recoveries expected in 2021 were not enough because the impact of the pandemic and structural weaknesses in Latin America before that, were responsi-

ble for the increase of inequalities related to gender and incomes, as well as the increase of poverty levels, informality, and vulnerability among the population.

The current total number of people in extreme poverty is estimated at 86 million people.

It is important to mention that the general rate of poverty decreased by 0.9%, as it changed from 33 to 32.1%. That is to say, we observed a decrease from 204 to 201 million people in Latin America facing those conditions.

2021 was supposed to be the year when the recovery of Latin America would take place, but extreme poverty conditions in the area show us that the social crisis is still there.



In this spirit and having a presence in more than 17 countries around the world, Congregación Mariana Trinitaria (CMT), has worked for almost 25 years to tackle deprivations.

Economic crises



Economic crises usually prevent families in Latin America from having access to important services and products such as food, and unfortunately the COVID-19 crisis made things worse.

30 years of work to fight poverty simply disappeared

In accordance with the study "Social Panorama of Latin America 2021", performed by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), after the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the fight against inequality gaps in the region is unable to make any progress. In 2020 we went through the sixth year in a row with an increase of poverty and extreme poverty le-

vels, with numbers we had not seen over the last 27 years.

ECLAC mentioned that in 2020, the gaps related to marginalization increased and they also caused damage to communities in rural areas, indigenous people, and they especially affected all the matters related to children and teenagers.

First comes first

During the moments we have been immersed in the pandemic caused by COVID-19, and even when the palliative strategies had some effects, the results are not what we expected. For this reason, the priority is to stop the sanitary crisis if we really want to witness the economic recovery that Latin America needs.

In addition, co responsibility and financial sustainability must be encouraged, as they both should be the basic foundation of the region.

In the process to make the population get enough vaccines and appropriate healthcare systems, the different governments, non-governmental organizations, and citizens must collaborate to build a solid group to achieve inter institutional and intersectoral coordination.

In this spirit and having a presence in more than 17 countries around the world, Congregación Mariana Trinitaria (CMT), has worked for almost 25 years to tackle deprivations. Nowadays, through its Welfare Ecosystem Model, many families in vulnerable situations are able to change their lives, and they also may fight the different deprivations around them, by means of the 11 networks and the different integral solutions available for them.

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