The INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT ATD FOURTH WORLD

The INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT ATD FOURTH WORLD (All Together in Dignity) is a human-rights organisation comprising a network of around a hundred community groups in thirty-five countries around the world. These groups are made up of individuals and families with a lived experience of poverty and social exclusion alongside others from every social class. With limited finances but a passionate commitment to human dignity, they run activities inspired by a set of shared ambitions that are agreed on and updated every five years.

ATD Fourth World initiated the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, which is marked every 17 October and was recognised by the United Nations in 1992. ATD Fourth World contributed to securing adoption by the United Nations of the 2012 Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights and also in 2015 to ensuring that ‘Leave No One Behind’ would be a focus for ‘Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’.

www.atd-fourthworld.org

BUILDING A JUST AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD WHERE NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND BEGINNING WITH THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

Is the entreaty of all who fight a daily battle against poverty and social exclusion, and who refuse to accept that the most vulnerable be abandoned. In so doing they also carry with them the absolute requirement for people to be able to live in peace.

Means reaching out to those who are the most isolated and marginalised, standing alongside them, building long-term trusting relationships and drawing them into a community dedicated to ending poverty and social exclusion.

Means inviting new people to join the struggle to overcome poverty and in particular attracting new members to the ATD International Volunteer Corps, which has a long-term commitment to work with those who are left behind.

Means getting involved with other community groups, organisations, networks, and institutions, and working together with them to change policies and promote access for all to their human rights.

ATD Fourth World believes in giving priority to people living in the worst conditions of persistent poverty in our world. One of our major goals for 2019–2023 is ‘Leave no one behind’, an ambitious aim that also forms part of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
MAKING THE MOST OF EVERYONE’S CAPACITY AND KNOWLEDGE IN ORDER TO MEET THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE

For more than sixty years, ATD Fourth World has created opportunities for people to bring to light what they know and think about poverty, based on their own experience and convictions.

WE WILL:

- Continue to explore the conditions necessary for people living in poverty to take part in years of learning and democratic decision-making processes, notably in the academic world, local, national, and international institutions, and public policy making.
- Continue to develop and disseminate the approach known as Merging Knowledge and Practice.
- Publicise the results of our international research into the multi-dimensional nature of poverty, to deepen our knowledge, and undertake further research and analysis.
- Continue to develop, within the community of ATD Fourth World, a way of sharing responsibility that makes room for everyone to contribute.

WORKING TOWARD AN EDUCATION SYSTEM THAT RECOGNISES EVERYONE’S POTENTIAL

From the very beginning, ATD Fourth World has worked around the world with families living in poverty in order to make their hope for decent education for all a reality.

WE WILL:

- Continue our informal education programmes for children and young people to stimulate their curiosity and sense of joy in learning and to unleash their creative capacity.
- Develop spaces where families and parents can interact with their children, and encourage an educational environment and be recognised as essential players and partners in the success of their children’s education.
- Support families in developing their own understanding of their circumstances in order to show how this can complement what is taught in school.
- Promote a co-operative and non-competitive learning environment in order to prevent discrimination.
- Encourage an international spirit of friendship among children by expanding education beyond national borders.
- Develop training tools for professionals and others who wish to learn from the work of ATD Fourth World.
- Continue ongoing dialogues with academics and professionals in the field of education.

STREET LIBRARIES

These initiatives started in 1973 to enable people facing extreme poverty and marginalisation to speak with policy-makers, business leaders, social workers, and teachers.

IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING OF POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS AND ENSURING A SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOOR

In Haiti, access to essential healthcare for all has been protected by ATD Fourth World in cooperation with partners and international federations.

WE WILL:

- Improve our understanding of the initiatives taken by people living in poverty to support their families and communities, protect their environment, and be artisans of peace.
- Challenge people who create innovative projects about how they can try to involve people who live in the worst conditions of poverty.
- Understand how, and in what context, countries strive to combine anti-poverty strategies with projects to combat climate change and environmental devastation.
- In order to protect the most vulnerable populations, ensure that action on climate change includes an obligation to respect human rights, and continue to promote the UN Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights.
- Speak with those who seek to promote a social protection floor for all, evaluate the social protection floor developed in Haiti on the basis of giving priority to people who live in the worst conditions of poverty, and examine the conditions for its sustainability.
- Develop the international initiative ‘Working and Learning Together’ and promote exchanges between people from different backgrounds involved in income-generating activities that give access to people in poverty.

PEOPLE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

The street libraries bring books, art, and other learning resources to disenfranchised children and their families. This activity is available to everyone. Facilitators invite other groups to develop children’s interest in knowledge and understanding the world in a local community, particularly in the rural areas.

MAKING A SOCIETY RESPECTFUL OF ALL PEOPLE AND OF THE EARTH AS A PRE-CONDITION FOR PEACE

Through pilot projects that give priority to people in the worst conditions of poverty, ATD Fourth World is looking at how to foster an economic model for producing social and economic capital while respecting the earth’s resources.

WE WILL:

- Continue our efforts toward a participatory, human-rights based understanding of poverty.
- Continue our advocacy and support for peace, human rights, social protection, and social democratic action.
- Promote a participatory decision-making process, notably in:
  - sectors of learning and democratic decision-making in the countries in which we work;
  - seats of learning and democratic decision-making at international levels.
- Continue to think about poverty, based on their own experience and convictions.
- Continue our long-term commitment to policies and programmes of action that respect the dignity of all people. Breaking down social exclusion therefore requires long-term involvement with people living in poverty.

BUILDING A MOVEMENT CAPABLE OF SUSTAINING A LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO THE ENDING OF POVERTY

Putting an end to poverty requires an ambitious long-term commitment to policies and programmes of action that respect the dignity of all people.

WE WILL:

- Continue to develop a culture of resistance around the world among all who refuse to accept the inevitability of poverty.
- Key to this is the United Nations International Day for the Eradication of Poverty on 17 October, a participatory, human-rights based understanding of poverty. This is an important reference point for developing and developing an international spirit of friendship among children by expanding education beyond national borders.
- Continue to make known the vision and approach developed by Joseph Wresinski and ATD Fourth World.
- Continue to make known the vision and approach developed by Joseph Wresinski.
- Organise international meetings and exchanges for members of ATD Fourth World across the world to strengthen solidarity and the capacity for direct action in moving from shame to pride.
- Continue to make known the vision and approach developed by Joseph Wresinski and ATD Fourth World.
- Organise international meetings and exchanges for members of ATD Fourth World across the world to strengthen solidarity and the capacity for direct action in moving from shame to pride.

PEOPLE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

The street libraries bring books, art, and other learning resources to disenfranchised children and their families. This activity is available to everyone. Facilitators invite other groups to develop children’s interest in knowledge and understanding the world in a local community, particularly in the rural areas.

THE INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S NETWORK, Tapori

Joseph Wresinski called the International Movement ATD Fourth World in 1957 with the idea of a programme of action rooted in the dignity of all people.