

# LEAVE

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.

# NO

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.

# ONE

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.

# 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.

## 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](http://www.atd-fourthworld.org)



Graphic design, illustrations & layout: Nina de Barbarin

Printed by ATD Fourth World, June 2019

Typography: Infini, Sandrine Nogue / CNAP  
& Ostrich Sans, Tyler Finck

# BUILDING A JUST AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD WHERE

## NO ONE IS

## LEFT BEHIND

# BEGINNING WITH THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY

STRATEGIC AMBITIONS 2019 – 2023

International Movement ATD Fourth World



## TURNING THE COMMITMENT TO 'LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND' INTO A REALITY

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.



OUR STRATEGY HAS FOUR MAJOR AMBITIONS:



## 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 seats of learning and democratic decision-making processes, notably in: the academic world; local, national, and international institutions; and public policy.
- 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**; continue 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.

### MERGING KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE:

is a programme started in 1995 to enable people facing extreme poverty and social exclusion to speak with policy-makers, business leaders, social workers, and teachers.

### UNDERSTANDING POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS

is a joint Oxford University – ATD Fourth World international research project involving six countries. Nine poverty indicators were presented at the OECD in Paris in May 2019. These indicators challenge existing anti-poverty policies and programmes.

## 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 realise their hope for decent education for all.

### 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 the 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 see how this can complement what is taught in schools.
- Promote a co-operative and non-competitive learning environment in order to prevent discrimination.
- Encourage an international spirit of friendship among children by expanding the network of **Tapori** Groups.
- 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

bring books, art, and other learning resources to disadvantaged children and their families. This activity is available to everyone. Facilitators invest time to respond to children's thirst for knowledge and seek partnership with the educational community and particularly the children's parents.

The **INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S NETWORK, TAPORI**, connects children around the world aged 7 to 12 years. There is an interactive newsletter. They exchange letters and write about what they do to make sure that no child is alone and without friends. Their messages are in the form of games they play, puppets they make, or different activities in link with other groups.

## PROMOTING 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:

- Improve our understanding of the initiatives taken by people living in extreme 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 2012 United Nations **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 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.

### SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOOR

In Haiti, access to essential health care for all has been provided by ATD Fourth World in conjunction with partners and international funders. The most vulnerable families are now protected by having a health insurance card.

The **'WORKING AND LEARNING TOGETHER'** social enterprise programmes were launched by ATD Fourth World in Madagascar, Guatemala and France. Not having work leads to a sense of alienation and a lack of recognition that can destroy lives. These projects aim to change that.

## 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. Breaking down social exclusion therefore requires long-term involvement with people living in poverty.

### 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.
- Offer long-term volunteering opportunities, particularly for young adults.
- 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** for a participatory, human-rights based understanding of poverty. This is an important reference point for developing a new way of thinking about poverty and inspiring all those who come together to overcome it.

**JOSEPH WRESINSKI** founded the International Movement ATD Fourth World in 1957 with families from a camp for those with nowhere to live in Noisy-le-Grand on the outskirts of Paris. Having spent his childhood in poverty, he drew on his experience and understanding to develop a programme of action rooted in the dignity of all people.