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Hello, I am very happy to be here today.

Social and Institutional Bullying are dimensions mentioned in the Hidden Dimensions study that I participated in. As a co-researcher, I learned that **people living in poverty never give up; they work hard to eradicate poverty, but sometimes their efforts are destroyed by public and private institutions.** This means living with the consequences of public institutions failing to implement existing policies and laws, unfair distribution of resources and services, and continuing corruption and oppression of people living in poverty.

In my community, people living in extreme poverty are denied opportunities to participate in various economic, social, political and cultural activities. They are stigmatized and excluded because they are treated like "others" or different people. They are also given derogatory and humiliating nicknames, to show how different they are from others. They feel ashamed, useless and unable to do anything; a situation that makes them afraid to try anything new and discriminate themselves. This reinforces the vicious circle of poverty.

The level of social bullying can lead a person to avoid meeting other people for fear of being judged or embarrassed; this situation contributes to further isolation from society and can eventually cause psychological effects.

When society treats them as misfits, people living in extreme poverty tend to isolate themselves. As a result, social isolation and stigmatization increases. This prevents them from fully engaging in socio-economic development. **Without their full participation, inclusive development will not be achieved and as a result poverty will continue to exist.**

Social oppression of people living in poverty can lead to institutional oppression.

Institutional maltreatment means not having rights and a voice in decisions made by the government or social associations. Often, when people living in poverty deal

with institutions, they find themselves judged, ruled and controlled, a situation that muffles their voices and the result is the denial of their rights.

I myself have experience with institutional maltreatment. In 2018, I was invited to come and speak here, but I was denied a VISA, because I have no land, no money in the bank or even higher education.

But today I am here! And I am happy to participate in raising the voice about the doubts (befalling them) of the people of my community.

Institutions exist to help people. Policies may be good, but their implementation may not be good (weak). People feel weak without protection, or they are angry, but they are unable to do anything to those institutions. That is double suffering.

For example, in Tanzania, the government provides free health services to children under five years old, elderly people over sixty years old, and pregnant women. But hospitals have failed to fully implement this policy. People living in poverty are denied their right to health services, and are even shamed by some doctors and nurses. Many families have lost their relatives due to the failure of the implementation of health policies.

In Tanzania, the government policy is free education, but the implementation of this policy is weak. Many children fail to go to school because they do not have the money to pay for the contributions required by the principal. Asking parents for the payments is not right.

In short, official institutions, both public and private, are creating a negative experience of poverty through open discussions, structures and implementation of policies and services, by refusing to listen to people living in poverty. While some institutions are responsible for eradicating poverty and improving people's lives, they often fail to fulfill their responsibilities.

In my community there are acts of solidarity among people living in poverty. This helps us feel strong; to strengthen ourselves in our daily struggle. But we also need society and institutions to fulfill their responsibilities. Society and institutions

should stop humiliating us, care about our personality and stop judging us, give us the respect we deserve like other people.

I believe that if social and institutional abuse is stopped, people living in poverty will be able to participate well in economic, social, political, cultural activities and thus participate in the development of the community and ultimately the whole society without leaving anyone behind.

Thank you very much for listening to me.