

Angola: An unacceptable reality of poverty and inequality

Angola: Uma realidade inaceitável de pobreza e desigualdade

Angola: Una realidad inaceptable de pobreza y desigualdad

Received: 11/30/2023 | Revised: 12/27/2023 | Accepted: 01/17/2024 | Published: 01/21/2024

Oswaldo Israel Salumbongo Cassinela

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4854-2004>

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brasil

E-mail: raycassinela@gmail.com

Ivan Cacknazarof

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8179-269X>

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brasil

E-mail: ivanbeck00@gmail.com

Abstract

Angola is not inherently a poor country, but rather has been affected by a history of slavery and civil conflicts, generating injustice, inequality and a large portion of the population living in precarious conditions. The limitations faced, such as the lack of access to essential social rights for the majority of the population, together with inequalities in economic and social opportunities, are the main drivers of poverty. Placing the country in last position among the PALOP in the 2023 Legatum Prosperity Index and occupying the penultimate position in relation to its neighboring countries. This study seeks to analyze the trajectory and characteristics of poverty and inequality in Angola, adopting Amartya Sen's approach to combat deprivation and promote individual freedoms as a way to reduce poverty. While it is not feasible to address all social deprivations in this limited space, we focus on fundamental social rights such as education, health and employment. We conclude that strategies must prioritize not only economic growth, but also the promotion of individual freedoms and skills, facilitating access and use of social policies for the most vulnerable populations, breaking down social barriers.

Keywords: Poverty; Inequality; Social rights; Development.

Resumo

Angola não é inerentemente um país pobre, mas sim foi afetado por um histórico de escravidão e conflitos civis, gerando injustiça, desigualdade e uma grande parcela da população vivendo em condições precárias. As limitações enfrentadas, como a falta de acesso a direitos sociais essenciais a maior parte da população, juntamente com desigualdades de oportunidades econômicas e sociais, são os principais impulsionadores da pobreza. Colocando o país em última posição entre os PALOP no Índice de prosperidade de Legatum de 2023 e ocupando a penúltima posição em relação aos seus países vizinhos. Este estudo busca analisar a trajetória e características da pobreza e desigualdade em Angola, adotando a abordagem de Amartya Sen para combater as privações e promover as liberdades individuais como forma de reduzir a pobreza. Embora não seja viável abordar todas as privações sociais neste espaço limitado, concentramo-nos nos direitos sociais fundamentais, como educação, saúde e emprego. Concluímos que as estratégias devem priorizar não apenas o crescimento econômico, mas também a promoção das liberdades e habilidades individuais, facilitando o acesso e uso de políticas sociais para as populações mais vulneráveis, quebrando as barreiras sociais.

Palavras-chave: Pobreza; Desigualdade; Direitos sociais; Desenvolvimento.

Resumen

Angola no es inherentemente un país pobre, sino que ha sido afectada por una historia de esclavitud y conflictos civiles, generando injusticia, desigualdad y una gran parte de la población viviendo en condiciones precarias. Las limitaciones enfrentadas, como la falta de acceso a derechos sociales esenciales para la mayoría de la población, junto con las desigualdades en las oportunidades económicas y sociales, son las principales causas de la pobreza. Ubicando al país en la última posición entre los PALOP en el Índice de Prosperidad Legatum 2023 y ocupando la penúltima posición con relación a sus países vecinos. Este estudio busca analizar la trayectoria y las características de la pobreza y la desigualdad en Angola, adoptando el enfoque de Amartya Sen para combatir las privaciones y promover las liberdades individuales como forma de reducir la pobreza. Si bien no es factible abordar todas las privaciones sociales en este espacio limitado, nos centramos en derechos sociales fundamentales como la educación, la salud y el empleo. Concluimos que las estrategias deben priorizar no sólo el crecimiento económico, sino también la promoción de las liberdades y habilidades individuales, facilitando el acceso y uso de políticas sociales para las poblaciones más vulnerables, rompiendo barreras sociales.

Palabras clave: Pobreza; Desigualdad; Derechos sociales; Desarrollo.

1. Introduction

Introduction Contemporary Angola is marked by a distressing reality of poverty and social inequality. The country is immersed in a situation where the majority of its population is deprived of essential opportunities to live with dignity and fully exercise citizenship. This scenario stems from a historical legacy of social injustice in which Angola, far from being inherently poor, is characterized by a state of deprivation that prevents most of its population from enjoying their freedoms and capabilities.

The roots of these inequalities are entrenched in the country's social history, which underwent a long period of slavery (1482-1975), followed by a devastating civil war (1979-2002). This conflict claimed the lives of thousands of Angolans, severely limiting economic and social opportunities. The lack of protection of basic social rights, such as individual freedom and capabilities, and the unequal distribution of income, have contributed to the intensification of poverty and social disparity.

The central hypothesis maintains that poverty in Angola is not intrinsic but rather the result of significant deprivations affecting a large proportion of the population. We argue that unequal structures in the distribution of economic and social opportunities are the main driver of high poverty rates in the country. Within Angola's current economic and institutional context, we advocate for strategies that not only aim for economic growth but also emphasize ensuring equal opportunities as an effective means to combat inequality.

This article seeks to analyze the trajectory and characteristics of poverty and inequality in Angola, adopting Amartya Sen's approach to overcome deprivations and promote individual freedoms and capabilities as a means to reduce poverty. The analysis of poverty, viewed through the lens of individual freedoms and capabilities, shifts the focus from means, such as incomes, to the true goal: improving quality of life. While it's not possible to address all social deprivations in this limited space, we focus on fundamental social rights such as education, health, and employment.

In addition to this brief introduction, the article is divided into eight sections. The second section addresses the methodology used to achieve the proposed objectives; the third section discusses the theory of human development according to Amartya Sen. The fourth section deals with Angola's development base. The fifth and sixth sections describe the causes of poverty in Angola, revealing indicators that affect more than half of the population, as well as some deprivations of basic social rights related to employment, education, and health. In the seventh section, we present Angola's life prosperity index, comparing it with the Portuguese-Speaking African Countries (PALOP) and their neighboring countries, published by Legtan (2023); and finally, the concluding remarks. In the concluding remarks, we emphasize the need to ensure access to fundamental freedoms and capabilities, guaranteeing the basic social rights of all individuals, enabling the emancipation from past and present adversities, breaking down political, social, and economic barriers that hinder full development. However, the crucial point in combating poverty and inequality lies in the relentless pursuit of ensuring economic and social freedoms and opportunities, integrating income-generating policies in a manner that redistributive policies can only be used within a certain limit to ensure the progress of those most in need and in vulnerable situations, enabling them to break free from the harshness of poverty and exclusion.

2. Methodology

To achieve the proposed objective, an exploratory, explanatory, or descriptive research approach was adopted, using a qualitative method grounded in the researcher's subjective interpretation of the studied phenomenon (Pereira et al., 2018). The focus is on understanding the situation of poverty and social inequality in Angola, as well as the strategy for combating it using Amartya Sen's theory. However, not all specific points are exhausted; rather, it raises inquiries and reflections on how deprivations of individual freedoms and capabilities influence economic and social development.

Exploratory research aims to gather information about a specific object, delimiting a field of study and mapping the conditions of its manifestation. It is a preparation for explanatory or descriptive research, which not only records and analyzes the studied phenomena but seeks to identify their causes through qualitative methods (Severino., 2018). This type of research allows for a thorough description of phenomena or situations, especially in countries, communities, individuals, or groups, aiming to understand values, beliefs, and cultural problems (Triviños, 1987).

Studies with a qualitative bias are productive when they seek to understand complex phenomena through an explicit interpretation of actions representative of these phenomena (Chizzotti, 2000). This approach demands a thorough analysis of the world, phenomenon, or object under the premise that no aspect is trivial; each element has the potential to contribute to the understanding of the object of study (Bogdan, & Biklen, 2003). The data are predominantly descriptive, and abstractions are formed as individual data are grouped and examined (Pereira et al., 2018).

In descriptive qualitative research, the data are explored in their entirety, respecting their original form of recording as much as possible. The results are illustrated and supported by quotes based on the collected data (Bogdan & Biklen, 2003). Researchers in this field do not seek to confirm or refute pre-existing hypotheses but build conclusions as the data are analyzed, starting from a broader initial approach and moving toward a more specific and closed understanding at the end of the process. The qualitative investigator aims to identify the most pertinent questions for the study, without presuming prior knowledge about them. The focus lies more on the process than on the results themselves, continually encouraging reflection on the "why" of events (Bogdan & Biklen 2003). This method of conducting research reflects a dialogue between researchers and the subjects/facts/objects studied, maintaining a neutral approach during the process (Bogdan & Biklen, 2003).

Regarding technique, the research adopts a bibliographical approach, relying on existing records in digital documents, printed materials, articles, and theses. This type of research is not limited to reproducing what has already been said but requires the researcher's ability to discover new perspectives or approaches from previous knowledge (Lakatos & Marconi, 2009). However, bibliographical research expands the theoretical framework related to the themes, allowing examination from new perspectives and reaching innovative conclusions.

3. Development Theory According to Amartya Sen

Sen (2000), in his work "Development as Freedom," emphasizes the central importance of individual freedom and its direct impact on people. He identifies various causes of freedom deprivation, including poverty, tyrannical regimes, lack of opportunities, repressive states, totalitarianism, and neglect of public services. Sen argues that solving these problems involves pursuing individual freedom, which should be both a goal and a means to achieve social development. He conceives development as the elimination of substantial freedoms deprivations, not limited solely to income growth. While income growth is a useful indicator for expanding enjoyed freedoms, Sen emphasizes that income alone is unable to eradicate all sources of freedom deprivation, as it depends on other crucial factors.

Sen highlights that the path to achieving development lies in how different rights, opportunities, and capabilities contribute to increasing individual freedom. This includes political freedoms, economic opportunities, access to social services like health and education, employment, institutional transparency, as well as protective security measures such as unemployment benefits, income support for the needy, and food distribution programs during crises. His vision of development points to an understanding where wealth, represented by income, is not the ultimate goal. Income, in its utility, enables actions that would otherwise be unattainable. However, isolated income is not the sole determinant of freedom deprivations. Widespread hunger, limited access to healthcare and education, gender inequalities, and undemocratic societies also impact development. Therefore, development based on the expansion of individual freedoms implies expanding people's capabilities to live according to their choices and personal values, with freedom as the goal. This means that the real freedoms enjoyed by

people are influenced by economic, social, and political aspects, emphasizing the instrumental role of freedoms as both a means and an end, rather than being considered an ultimate end in themselves.

One of the most common forms of deprivation in the contemporary world is poverty, no longer seen merely as a low level of income but also as a lack of individual capabilities and freedoms. The capability approach seeks to understand the nature and causes of poverty by considering the goals people have reason to pursue and the freedoms they can achieve. This approach shifts the predominant focus of poverty discussion, which usually only revolves around income, emphasizing both the means by which people seek specific ends and the freedoms they have to achieve them (Sen, 2000, p. 112). The author emphasizes that factors such as social and gender roles, age, place of residence, epidemiological conditions, and other variables affect or restrict an individual's ability to earn income. Sen argues that it is necessary to first achieve freedom and capabilities before obtaining income in the market. Although the differentiation between income and capabilities and freedoms is often subtle, the focus should always be on increasing capabilities that lead to a greater capacity to earn income, not providing income to enhance capabilities. The author highlights fundamental reasons to consider poverty as a restriction in essential capabilities, not merely as a condition of low income. More precisely, this limitation in basic capabilities can manifest through various forms such as premature mortality, evident malnutrition (especially in children), high incidence of persistent diseases, widespread illiteracy, and other restrictions and incapacities. As mentioned earlier, Sen's contribution significantly broadens the understanding of the definition of poverty, conceiving it in a multidimensional way and considering that the transformation of income into capabilities is affected by various individual, community, and social factors. This is Sen's central thesis on poverty, bringing a differentiated approach to public policies.

For the author, public policies do not necessarily need to redistribute wealth or income (in the classic sense of social democracy redistributing property/income and sharing costs and risks), but they should empower people, as increased income would result from individual efforts in the market. Therefore, ensuring health, education, and employment is essential as they empower people to escape poverty on their own.

Sen concludes that reducing poverty is not just about increasing individual or family income but rather about combating the deprivation of quality of life and ensuring existing or potential freedoms, as increased capabilities expand productivity and, consequently, the ability to earn income. Capabilities should be the primary criterion for assessing individual advantages, while the income level becomes a secondary criterion. Thus, public policies cease to be a way to alter the income and property structure, becoming a way to compensate for capacity disadvantages, acting on a case-by-case or group-by-group basis, using targeting to make more efficient use of resources, although without solving problems or changing the existing social order, since each individual is considered responsible for their own destiny and change.

4. Development Base in Angola

After the end of the civil war in 2002, Angola emerged as one of the leading oil producers on the African continent. Its production quadrupled over the past two decades, becoming the country's primary export. Additionally, Angola ranks fourth in global diamond production, making it the second most significant export after oil (Bad, 2023).

Historically, Angola has heavily relied on the importation of goods and products instead of fostering local production and trade, thus excluding a significant portion of the population from productive sectors. This prolonged exclusion is intricately related to the deprivation of capabilities and freedoms entwined with the country's political, economic, social, and cultural structures.

The Angolan economy resembles that of other African oil-producing nations and remains vulnerable to fluctuations in oil prices. Currently, the crude oil sector accounts for over a third of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 95% of total exports (Bad, 2023). Despite being the most productive sector, it employs only 4% of the economically active population,

highlighting the discrepancy between productivity and employability in this field. Even though over 70% of Angolans rely on agriculture for subsistence, the country still imports over 50% of its food (Bad, 2023). Presently, there are approximately 15 million people active in the labor market, but only 9.1 million jobs are available in Angola. Of these jobs, 55% are self-employed, 10% are family work, 7% are employers, 20% in the private sector, and 11% in the public sector.

Angola's economic growth and development have been affected by fluctuations in global oil demand and prices, lack of substantial economic diversification, foreign currency shortages, and administrative challenges in the public sector. These factors triggered an unprecedented social and economic crisis in 2014, resulting in low productivity, lack of workforce qualification, and social marginalization, issues that persist to this day. Rocha (2020) further highlights policies generating inequalities, such as the pursuit of capital accumulation to create an Angolan elite at the expense of the state, coupled with discrepancies in various policies, contributing to the limited economic and social development of the country.

Actions¹ implemented in Angola in order to reduce poverty and inequality in the country, strategies are embedded in the National Development Plans (NDP), which have been one of the instruments for planning and promoting the country's socioeconomic development, devised and implemented periodically (every four years), influenced by international policies/commitments, whose scope in development necessitates integration into national planning instruments. The National Development Plans are medium-term planning instruments that implement the Long-Term Strategy (LTS). Among the various actions, programs, and strategies implemented for the country's development, there are actions/programs specifically aimed at combating poverty and inequality. Among these, we have:

The Integrated Municipal Program for Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation (IMRDPA), focused on promoting productive activities generating employment and income associated with ensuring access and availability of primary healthcare and education, and other basic social services. The creation of the Unique Social Registry (proposed by MINARS), aimed at identifying and characterizing all beneficiaries of economic and social benefits and all existing social action equipment in a single data matrix. These two instruments emerge as a coordinated poverty-fighting strategy, evaluated from various sectors, as opposed to programs managed and coordinated by a single entity. After a careful assessment of the Integrated Municipal Program for Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation in the 2010-2015 Quinquennium, it was found that it did not lead to the creation of lasting jobs as anticipated, nor did it provide sustainable improvement in the social conditions of its beneficiaries, hence the need to address the critical points.

The Integrated Local Development and Poverty Alleviation Program (ILDPA) was approved by Presidential Decree No. 140/18 of June 6th in alignment with the National Development Plan (NDP-2018/2022), which operates by aligning with various sectoral interventions for poverty reduction and local development. The Integrated Plan for Municipal Intervention (PIIM), aims to materialize Public Investment Actions (PIP), Support Expenses for Development (SED), and Basic Activities, prioritizing social actions to inhibit rural exodus and promote more inclusive economic, social, and regional growth in the country. The Credit Support Project (PAC) is considered part of the Support for Production, Diversification of Exports, and Import Substitution Project (PRODESI), equally applicable to investment projects that contribute, directly or indirectly, to the domestic production of the 54 main consumer goods.

However, these policies have not led to concrete development in the country. Most of the time, they are hastily formulated policies, failing to address the real problem to be solved. They are characterized as palliative and typical of temporary governments, with no prospects for continuity. There are frequent changes in the programs, sometimes even in

¹ See some of the policies implemented to promote development and combat poverty in the National Development Plan 2018-2022. <https://www.ucm.minfin.gov.ao/cs/groups/public/documents/document/zmlu/njax/~edisp/minfin601408.pdf>. National Development Plan 2023-2027. <https://www.ucm.minfin.gov.ao/cs/groups/public/documents/document/aw4z/ntk4/~edisp/minfin3598232.pdf>. As well, the article titled: "Redução da Desigualdade Social: O papel do investimento privado em Angola, dos autores Rafael et al. (2023). <https://editora.ioles.com.br/index.php/iole/catalog/book/165>.

names, without proper evaluation and monitoring to correct errors and enhance positive actions. At the end of each program, the landscape is ambiguous, lacking clarity about progress, stagnation, or setbacks.

The central challenge lies in accurately assessing the areas most affected by poverty across the country, besides adopting poverty and inequality reduction models that adapt to each specific reality in a sustainable manner. It's imperative to ensure social rights for all citizens, as well as provide employment in production, commerce, and services.

Ensuring full development requires institutional reforms, investments in infrastructure, educational and healthcare improvements, effective income redistribution policies, and a continuous commitment to improvements in public management.

These complex challenges demand coordinated actions on multiple fronts to achieve real changes. Our vision, aligned with Amartya Sen, proposes an alternative project focused on expanding real freedoms and available means for people, valuing equal opportunities and freedom of choice. This dynamic project prioritizes people as active agents in the development process.

5. Poverty, Exclusion, and Social Inequality in Angola

The concept of poverty is broad and encompasses various dimensions. According to the United Nations, poverty refers to the inability of a person to live on less than \$1.25 per day for subsistence, characterizing extreme poverty. Silva (2002) emphasizes the importance of this concept, despite its economic basis, highlighting that poverty, in its essence and especially in its extreme form, is linked to poor health and education quality within the population, a direct result of social inequality.

Narayan et al. (2000) address the relationship between poverty and health in their work "Voices of the Poor: Can Anyone Hear Us?" published by the World Bank. They argue that poverty transcends the lack of ownership of goods, affecting psychological spheres (such as sadness, humiliation, shame, and fear), social aspects (exclusion and lack of interaction), and biological factors (vulnerability and diseases). They also pointed out that poverty is intimately linked to other unresolved health determinants like inadequate housing, sanitation, nutrition, employment, leisure, and power participation, resulting in precarious living conditions (WHO, 2010; Awalli, 2014). This connection between health and the precariousness of living conditions was also observed by Akerman et al. (2012), who point out that Engels, while studying the working class in England in the 1800s, had already highlighted the relationship between living conditions and the occurrence of diseases.

Clearly, poverty cannot be defined in a single, universal manner. Our understanding aligns with the concept advocated by Amartya Sen (2000), Barros et al. (2000), that poverty refers to situations of deprivation in which individuals cannot maintain a minimum standard of living in line with socially established references in each historical context. Sen (1999) believes that poverty is a deprivation of basic human capabilities and that this deprivation stems from a series of sources. Examples include poor health, lack of education, absence of empowerment, poor working conditions, and threats of violence.

Measuring poverty is extremely important for the eradication process as it allows for measuring the scale of the problem and identifying the people affected by it. Alongside developments in conceptualizing and theorizing about poverty, the instruments and methods for its measurement have been evolving. Currently, the two most recognized and widespread methods for empirical analysis and measurement of poverty are the income/consumption criterion and the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) (Wang, 2022). The first (income/consumption criterion) uses quantitative analysis to translate the concept of poverty into a measurable criterion in terms of income or consumption, referred to as the poverty line, below which people are considered poor. The second (MPI) extends the measurement of poverty in a multidimensional sense, using additional variables (nutrition, infant mortality, education, health, etc.) to reflect people's quality of life and characterize deprivation situations. Both criteria are important references for strengthening poverty monitoring and implementing reduction policies.

The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) emerges as a measurement to fill gaps that existed regarding the consideration of well-being in previous poverty measures. The notion of multidimensional poverty derives from the Capability Approach developed by Amartya Sen. This is a normative, not explanatory, theory: in other words, it's not a theory that explains poverty, inequality, or well-being, but a theory that helps us conceptualize these notions. Moreover, note that it focuses on human life rather than the income or possessions a person has. This measurement of multidimensional poverty associated with the capabilities approach may provide more precise information regarding the phenomenon of poverty Alkire and Foster (2007).

In Angola, based on the results of the Multiple Indicator and Health Survey (IIMS) from 2015-2016 and supported by public consultations, the Angola Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI-A) was formulated as the ongoing national indicator to quantify multidimensional poverty in the country. The MPI-A comprises four fundamental dimensions: i) Health; ii) Education; iii) Quality of Life; iv) Employment, along with sixteen indicators outlining distinct deprivations faced by the population. An individual is considered multidimensionally poor if they experience deficiencies in 30% or more of the sixteen weighted aspects. Through the 2015-2016 IIMS data, the national incidence of poverty (H) was calculated at 54%, indicating that more than 5 in every 10 Angolans face multidimensional poverty, affected by deprivations such as adequate housing (44.2%), electricity (43.7%), or civil registration (43.3%) Inea (2020). Additionally, significant regional disparities exist. As seen in Table 1, of the poor population, 56% reside in rural areas and 44% in urban areas. The poverty depth index stands at 10%, representing the average consumption deficit per person below the poverty line. The poverty intensity index, at 4%, measures the severity of poverty considering the disparity among the poor strata.

As observed in Table 1, following, the poverty indices exhibit higher values in rural areas compared to urban areas, revealing considerably higher poverty incidence in rural areas, nearly double compared to urban areas. While one-third of the urban population lives in poverty, about two-thirds of the rural population face this condition (Inea, 2020). This disparity also reflects in the depth index, with a consumption deficit twice as high in rural areas, reaching 14%, compared to 7% in urban areas. There are also disparities both at a regional level and differences between men and women, with men presenting higher indices. The provinces in southern Angola have faced years of drought, resulting in thousands of people experiencing food insecurity, unable to produce their food. There are no sustainable government policies, they often resort to palliative policies. Additionally, it is noted that children under 9 years old have the highest incidence rate of multidimensional poverty, reaching 64.3% compared to any other age group (Inea, 2020).

Table 1 - Incidence of Poverty in Angola.

	Incidence	Depth	Intensity
Total	40.6	10.1	4.4
Residence Area			
Urban	29.8	7.3	3.3
Rural	57.2	14.3	6.2
Sex			
Men	40.8	10.1	4.5
Women	40.2	9.9	4.3

Source: Inea (2020).

According to INEA's 2020 data, the results on monetary poverty indicated an incidence of 40.6%, meaning approximately 41 out of every 100 Angolans have a consumption level below the poverty line, estimated at 12,181 Kwanza per month (less than 50 USD per month) (Inea, 2020). According to the IDR 2018-2019 report, the average monthly income per

person, as per income quintiles in Kwanzas, indicates that the first quintile has an income of 1,783.00 Kwanza, while the fifth quintile has 48,946.00 Kwanza. The fifth quintile represents 20% of the population, holding 63% of total income, whereas the first quintile represents 42% of the population, holding only 3% of all income (Rafael et al., 2023). This highlights a severe disparity between the first and fifth quintiles, revealing a massive trend of income inequality, alongside high levels of poverty and social exclusion.

Therefore, these data reveal the existing disparities, as well as the still enormous amount of social exclusion observed in the country. The concept of exclusion is intrinsically linked to citizenship, referring to the rights that people have to participate in society and enjoy benefits considered essential. Literature distinguishes three types of rights - civil, political, and social. Civil rights are primarily "negative" rights, protecting citizens against state and third-party arbitrariness, such as the right to freedom of movement and expression. Political rights enable and define the citizen's role in the political organization of their community, while social rights guarantee access to essential goods and services for a dignified life and social integration, such as education, health, and employment (Marshall, 1890).

The definitions and establishment of these rights vary in each context, generating philosophical, conceptual debates, and political processes through which these rights transform into laws or, at least, legitimate expectations. There is broad consensus that political and civil rights are insufficient when there are significant social inequalities that prevent their realization (Schwartzman & Reis, 2005). Less consensual is the scope of social rights, whether they should ensure only equal opportunities or include guarantees such as minimum income, housing, and health services.

Generally, civil and political rights are of a constitutional nature, while social rights are implemented through social policies, acquiring, in some cases, the force of law (Schwartzman & Reis, 2005). In Angola, due to its historical context marked by recent slavery and civil war, the country has a tradition of including certain social rights in laws that are not effectively applied or, if they are, are implemented in a very limited way, creating an opposition between the "legal" and the "real" that permeates the country's political and intellectual imagination. However, the population rarely demands its rights, and when it does, it faces a strongly armed State capable of violently repressing demonstrations.

To fully understand the analyses in question, it is essential to investigate the current panorama of social rights guaranteed by the State of Angola. These rights represent the essence of full citizenship, encompassing fundamental freedoms and capabilities. Our focus especially falls on three crucial rights in combating social, economic, and political deprivations. These rights form the fundamental basis for addressing such issues.

5.1 Job

Participation in the labor market is the main form of integration in modern society and the starting point for all analyzes of social inclusion and exclusion (Schwartzman & Reis, 2005). There is ample empirical evidence that the lack of employment is the main correlate of income inequality in the country, more than other conditions such as education, health, gender or region of residence.

As we can see in Table no. 2, next, the number of unemployed people has been increasing. The market cannot keep up with population growth. The number of people reaching employment age is not accompanied by the presence of job vacancies. As a result, the largest number of unemployed people are young people aged between 18 and 35, as we can see below.

Table 2 - Population aged 15 or over.

	I quarter 2021	IV quarter 2021	I quarter 2022
Economically active population	15 565 225	16 236 671	16 214 915
Employed population	10 821 205	10 888 048	11 218 924
Informality	8 680 137	8 788 236	9 034 892
Unemployed population	4 744 020	5 348 623	4 995 991
Inactive Population	1 709 309	1 549 677	1 746 429
Unemployment rate	30,5	32,9	30,8
Population aged 15 - 25			
Unemployed rate	56,3	59,8	57,2

Source: Inea (2022)

In the table above, it is evident that the unemployment rate represents almost a third of the active population. Furthermore, there is a significant portion of this active population working in the informal market, without labor rights being guaranteed.

5.2 Education

Sociologists often identify two contrasting social functions in education: one as a significant channel for social ascent and mobility, and the other as a mechanism that reproduces and consolidates social inequalities (Schwartzman and Reis, 2005). This differentiation is linked to the availability of work opportunities. When there's an expansion of opportunities, education acts as a means of ascent, creating room for a meritocratic competition that, to some extent, modifies pre-existing social hierarchies. Conversely, in contexts where work opportunities are scarce, education primarily functions as a selection and recruitment mechanism that reinforces existing social inequalities, as academic performance is strongly correlated with the socioeconomic level of students' families.

The net enrollment rate in primary education is 71.8% for boys and 70.5% for girls, according to Inea data (2020). In secondary education, between the ages of 12 and 18, 61.9% of boys and 56% of girls attend school. Regarding the net enrollment rate in secondary education, 41.6% of boys and 38.3% of girls are enrolled, as per Inea (2020). Through these data, one can observe a significant number of individuals outside the education system. According to Schwartzman & Reis (2005), the level of education is closely linked to the poverty situation. The higher the educational level of the population, the lower the poverty level, and vice versa. In the country, 57% of the population with no education and 55% with only primary education are considered poor, while only 17% of those with secondary education or higher are in this condition (Inea, 2020).

However, it's noted that school enrollment and poverty rates are intrinsically linked. Furthermore, there's still a strong influence between socioeconomic status and education, and there are more people outside the school system, over 25% in primary education, over half in secondary education, and these rates tend to increase as education levels rise.

5.3 Health

Here, there is a classic distinction between preventive activities, which target the health conditions of the population, and curative activities, aimed at treating diseases and pathologies. The boundaries between these two areas are clear. In Angola, health policies are practically non-existent or extremely limited. The government's main focus has been the treatment of diseases, without clear justification or basis for the choice between cure and prevention.

The health services² They have focused on curative actions and hospital treatment, with constantly rising costs and limited priority for health promotion and disease prevention. The state expects individuals to fall ill before providing treatment, lacking solid mechanisms for disease prevention. It is crucial to analyze the general conditions of population morbidity and mortality and examine the existing healthcare structures in the country, considering access and quality of these services. Additionally, the overall sanitation and safety conditions impacting certain occupational groups and residents of large urban centers are relevant. These factors, combined with vaccination campaigns, are fundamental determinants of life expectancy for populations. Mere expansion of the number of hospital units, without revisiting concrete health policies, is not advantageous.

Poverty and social inequality play a detrimental role in the production and spread of diseases, posing a serious problem for the population. Conversely, with equitable growth, an improvement in people's quality of life is expected, through access to various quality services and products, thereby suppressing other basic needs (Gadelha, 2007). However, health constitutes a condition of citizenship and is inherently part of social development, with no developed country in the world lacking a precarious healthcare system (Gadelha, 2007).

Nevertheless, situations of deprivation of fundamental rights can occur in contexts where part of a country's population has unlimited access while another part suffers restrictions/deprivations. Therefore, rights deprivations always result in unequal access. Thus, creating equitable opportunities for access to rights and empowering the poor in terms of production, business, and mobility rights is a fundamental way to eradicate poverty and disparities. To achieve this, it is necessary to introduce more democratic, transparent, and responsible methods in the process of political decision-making (Wang, 2022).

6. Causes of Poverty in Angola

In 1953, Ragnar Nurkse presented a theory to elucidate the persistent poverty in developing nations, also proposing a way to overcome it. He outlined the concept of the "vicious circle of poverty," aiming to identify the reasons behind the difficulties in progress in countries with low incomes (Nurkse, 1953). Nurkse identified causes in both supply and demand. In the context of supply, he observed that in such countries, individuals have limited capacity for savings due to reduced incomes. This results in a scarcity of capital, which in turn limits productivity. Low productivity perpetuates the cycle, keeping incomes low (Kanbur, 2001). On the demand side, low incomes equate to limited purchasing power, discouraging investments. This lack of investment hinders production and productivity growth, feeding the cycle once again. In summary, it's a repetitive cycle where the cause influences the effect and vice versa. These vicious circles feed into each other, perpetuating poverty in developing countries and hindering their long-term progress. Hence, Nurkse's famous quote: "a country is poor because it is poor" (Nurkse, 1953).

As for interrupting this cycle of poverty, two aspects are crucial. On one hand, the lack of capital results in scarcity in both supply and demand, making capital an essential factor. On the other hand, considering supply and demand together, neither investment nor savings alone can break the development deadlock. Theoretically equivalent, only an influx of foreign investment, combined with local savings, can drive the national economy into a virtuous cycle, breaking the vicious one. In underdeveloped areas, this process often requires state intervention through coordinated actions with the private sector (Wang, 2022).

Poverty and social inequality, as highlighted earlier, are being examined in this article exclusively in terms of deprivation of fundamental freedoms and capabilities. However, the presence of poverty and inequality in the country is not an isolated phenomenon but deeply rooted in the structures of the African continent. Beyond Nurkse's theory, Collier & Gunning

² See the education, health and employment indicators in the Angolan National Development Plan 2018-2022. <https://angolaembassy.ae/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/PND-2018-2022-1.pdf>.

(1999) classified the causes of low growth in Africa, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, as an endogenous dynamic, where slow growth is linked to specific factors within each country, in addition to external causes.

Endogenous factors point to a long history of slavery, political instability, and a modernization process that did not align with the intrinsic characteristics of African countries, such as patrimonialism and state inefficiency. This created a gap in African development. Additionally, the Commission for Africa (2005) highlights the presence of a culture in Africa centered on the "big man," where institutions often follow the ideals of the individual rather than the established institutional norms, resulting in paternalistic, nepotistic, and corrupt behaviors.

There is also what is termed as "ethnic fragmentation" in Africa. "Ethnic fragmentation" in Africa has two facets: a positive one, where ethnic diversity promotes cultural interaction and development, and a negative one, where fragmentation leads to constant interethnic conflicts, something more prevalent on the continent known for its ethnic multiplicity and tensions (Azcúnaga & Álvares, 2013).

Arrighi (2002) also highlights the consumptive behavior of the elites, who, by consuming more imported products, increase the economy's dependence on international markets, harming the local economy. Moreover, the presence of vast natural resources in Africa is seen as a "curse" due to their mismanagement. On the other hand, exogenous causes, according to World Bank Reports from 1981, point to issues in the global economy, inadequate trade and exchange rate policies, dependence on external financing, and excessive imports at the expense of local/domestic industrialization.

Despite receiving a significant amount of external aid, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, there is little clarity about the effectiveness, relevance, and impact of this aid. Concerns about corruption, ineffective management, and lack of direct benefit to recipients arise as concerns (Azcúnaga & Álvares, 2013). According to the authors, although initiatives like the Paris Declaration of 2005 have enacted principles to improve the effectiveness of external aid, much remains to be done to ensure that this aid effectively benefits those in need.

Industrialization, delayed in Angola due to post-colonial conflicts, is considered crucial for improving employment, reducing poverty, and inequality. Analyzing industrialization experiences in other countries, such as in Asia, it becomes evident that local industrialization can reduce poverty, provided it is accompanied by agrarian reforms, modernization of agriculture, increased wages with productivity, and investment in education, research, and adequate healthcare for the majority of the population (Azcúnaga & Álvares, 2013).

However, industrialization in Angola differs from these successes, presenting an extractive structure that has little impact on social development. The urgency of industrialization becomes clear in the face of high levels of unemployment, poverty, and inequality. Moreover, there is a need to question poor governance, the lack of incentive for local industrialization, and persistent disparities in poverty.

In addition to the causes of poverty and inequality described above, we also have: Historical legacy: Angola underwent decades of armed conflicts, leaving a legacy of destroyed infrastructure, population displacement, and socio-economic destabilization; Economic dependency: To this day, the Angolan economy heavily relies on the petroleum sector. Fluctuations in oil prices can have significant impacts on the country's economy; Corruption and mismanagement: Corruption has been a persistent challenge in Angola, affecting the effectiveness of poverty and inequality alleviation programs, diverting resources, and undermining public trust in institutions; Structural inequality: There are significant disparities/deprivations in access to basic services, such as healthcare, education, employment, between urban and rural areas, as well as among different socio-economic strata; Lack of infrastructure and basic services: Many regions of the country still face shortages of basic infrastructure, such as roads, clean water, and electricity, hindering access to social and economic opportunities, which, according to Sen (1999), are related to the lack of freedom or the capability of choice for individuals regarding how they wish

to lead their lives, including inequality, exclusion due to an adverse framework in society, and consequently limited life opportunities.

7. Prosperity Index

The Legatum Prosperity Index (LPI) is an annual ranking developed by the Legatum Institute, assessing 167 countries based on various factors such as wealth, economic growth, personal well-being, and quality of life. The LPI evaluates countries through nine distinct sub-indices: economic fundamentals, entrepreneurship and innovation, democratic institutions, education, health, security, governance, personal freedoms, and social capital. The creators of the LPI adopt a holistic approach to prosperity, considering both material wealth and measures of happiness and quality of life. They emphasize that the most prosperous nations are not limited to those with a high GDP but also those with happy, healthy, and free citizens (Legatum Institute, 2023).

The pillars of the LPI include: Safety and Security, measuring individual stability in the face of war, conflicts, and crime; Personal Freedom, assessing advancements in basic legal rights and individual freedoms; Living Conditions, considering the quality of life experienced by all, including material resources, housing, essential services, and connectivity; Health, evaluating people's health and access to necessary services; Governance, measuring the presence of constraints on power and governmental effectiveness; Social Capital, gauging the strength of social relationships, civic participation, and social tolerance; Infrastructure and Market Access, analyzing the quality of commercial infrastructure and market distortions; Economic Quality, assessing sustainable economic capacity and total workforce engagement; and Education, considering enrollments, outcomes, and quality at different levels of education, in addition to adult population skills (Legatum Institute, 2023). There's also the pillar of Natural Environment, which measures the physical aspects of the environment that directly impact people's lives and the future of prosperity.

Table n°. 3 below refers to the Prosperity Index of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (PALOP), 2023. Angola ranks 155th out of 167 countries. Since 2011, Angola has dropped 4 positions in this ranking. The country performs better only in Safety and Security and Economic Quality but lags in Business Conditions. There has also been an improvement in Personal Freedom compared to a decade ago (Legatum Institute, 2023).

Table 3 - Prosperity Index among the PALOP, 2023.

	Global Position	Security and Protection	Personal Freedom	Governance	Share Capital	Investment Environment	Business Conditions	Infrastructure and market access	Economic Quality	Life Conditions	Health	Education	Natural Environment
Cabo Verde	80	39	43	42	94	109	99	118	127	100	73	101	80
São tomé e Príncipe	87	45	45	62	97	88	75	122	82	112	94	110	91
Guine Bissau	149	54	99	138	121	158	142	155	153	154	155	162	69
Moçambique	150	132	101	121	126	140	143	146	158	157	150	160	152
Angola	155	115	122	137	154	162	163	150	120	144	158	152	124

Source: Legtun Institute (2023).

When comparing Angola with other Portuguese-Speaking Countries, it's evident that Angola typically holds an intermediate position compared to these countries in various metrics. There are areas where Angola stands out more, such as economic quality and personal freedom, but it also faces significant challenges in others, like infrastructure, business conditions, and the natural environment. Economic quality is Angola's strongest point, ranking at 120th position, trailing only behind São Tomé and Príncipe, which stands at the 82nd position. However, this economic performance doesn't translate into social development, as more than half of Angola's population is considered poor. In comparison, Cabo Verde, positioned at 127th in terms of economic quality, has a poverty rate of 31%, indicating that its lower economic quality has positively impacted the well-being of the population, unlike Angola, where poverty rates affecting almost half of its population.

Table nº. 4, below, presents Angola's Prosperity Index alongside its neighboring countries. Angola ranks last among the PALOP and second to last among its neighboring countries, surpassing only Congo. Angola stands out in terms of economic quality, holding the 120th position, trailing behind only Botswana, ranked 57th. However, in areas like Health, Education, Natural Environment, Business Conditions, and Social Capital, Angola falls behind these nations. Specifically, in Health and Education aspects, Angola is at its most unfavorable position. This occurs despite its prominence as one of Africa's largest oil producers and a leading diamond producer globally. This discrepancy highlights an inconsistency between implemented public policies and the gap between gains from oil and diamonds and the country's economic and social development. This underscores significant challenges Angola needs to address to enhance its position and quality in these metrics.

Table 4 - Prosperity Index among border countries, 2023.

	Global Position	Security and Protection	Personal Freedom	Governance	Share Capital	Investment Environment	Business Conditions	Infrastructure and market access	Economic Quality	Life Conditions	Health	Education	Natural Environment
Botswana	83	70	56	41	118	60	68	95	57	114	131	100	143
Namibia	90	65	53	46	92	80	55	100	133	122	125	109	98
Zambia	127	101	109	106	113	110	87	143	162	150	137	134	59
Angola	155	115	122	137	154	162	163	150	120	144	158	152	124
Congo	160	161	117	159	151	166	158	162	159	163	154	147	102

Source: Legtun Institute (2023).

The situation highlighted in Angola's education and healthcare sectors underscores the Angolan state's non-compliance with international recommendations from the World Bank and IMF, which suggest allocating at least 20% of the Public Budget to education and 15% to healthcare. According to Rocha (2023), in the 2016 State Budget, only 6.6% of public expenditure went to education, while healthcare received a mere 4.4%. Conversely, the portion allocated to defense and security reached 13.4%, collectively surpassing investments in education and healthcare. To meet these recommendations, Angola would need to nearly triple its budgetary efforts in these areas.

Overall, considering both the PALOP and neighboring countries, Angola is ranked second to last, surpassing only Congo. This highlights the urgent need to reassess past, current, and future strategies to enhance the country's social and economic development, aiming for a better position both within the African and global contexts. The country also lacks a robust non-contributory social protection framework. There's a noticeable absence of a consistent income transfer program for families in poverty and vulnerability, as well as a lack of initiatives to promote individual freedoms and capabilities, enabling citizens to emancipate themselves and have control over their destinies.

Despite the disparities previously highlighted between Angola and other countries regarding GDP, as evidenced in the following Table 5, Angola is the only one among the PALOP and its neighboring countries to be among the top 10 African economies. However, the wealth driven by natural resources, especially oil, doesn't adequately translate into social progress. Inequality, poverty, and the lack of access to basic services persist, while the excessive dependence on these resources limits growth. Corruption and mismanagement also pose obstacles to equitable progress. For a more inclusive development, Angola needs to diversify its economy, invest in social infrastructure, and strengthen its institutions to combat corruption. These actions are crucial to convert economic wealth into tangible improvements in the lives of all Angolans.

Table 5 – GDP of the main African economies.

Countries	Population	Annual GDP	GDP Per capita	IDH	Déficit (%GDP)
Angola	34.503.774	110.043 M€	3.189 €	0,586	3,83%
Argelia	44.177.969	182.211 M€	4.124 €	0,745	-7,20%
Egípto	102.100.000	450.936 M€	4.417 €	0,731	- 5,78%
Etiopía	101.900.000	112.383 M€	1.103 €	0,498	-2,77%
Kenia	53.005.614	107.660 M€	2.031 €	0,575	-6,05%
Nigeria	213.401.323	452.971 M€	2.123 €	0,535	-5,48%
África do Sul	60.604.000	384.964 M€	6.352 €	0,713	-4,49%

Source: African union (2023).

Analyzing the data, it's noticeable that Angola has an annual GDP lower compared to countries like Egypt, Nigeria, and South Africa, and its GDP per capita is also lower than these countries. Angola's HDI is below the average on the list, indicating a relatively lower level of human development compared to nations like Algeria, Egypt, and South Africa. The deficit concerning GDP in Angola falls within the middle range among the listed countries. This suggests a relative balance between public spending and the country's revenue-raising capacity, although there remains a deficit that needs managing. Angola boasts a considerable GDP in absolute terms; its challenge lies in transforming this economic potential into significant improvements for its population, especially in terms of human development and inequality reduction. It's important to continue investing in policies and programs that foster more equitable and comprehensive development to further elevate the well-being of the population.

8. Final Considerations

Angola, despite its economic potential, faces a stark reality of significant poverty among its population. Surprisingly, resource scarcity isn't the core issue when it comes to eradicating this poverty. Reducing inequality becomes crucial not only for ethical reasons but also for implementing effective policies in the fight against poverty. Angola's traditional approach has primarily focused on economic growth, but as demonstrated, it hasn't been effective in poverty reduction. While stimulating economic growth is crucial, an effective strategy to eradicate poverty should prioritize individual freedom and empowerment.

The way we address poverty and social inequality in Angola requires a broad analysis of social rights and how they're applied in practice. When these rights are neglected, it exposes a complex network of factors that deprive citizens of their basic rights, impacting their freedoms and intellectual capabilities to progress through their own skills and efforts. Poverty is a complex, multidimensional phenomenon. Its combat requires the construction of a social protection network that ensures fundamental rights, along with distributive policies to promote more egalitarian development. This, coupled with improving individual capacities, can significantly contribute to reducing poverty and inequalities, enhancing quality of life. When considering income transfer programs and other initiatives to combat poverty, it's important to condition these benefits on meeting obligations linked to health, education, and nutrition. This can elevate social standards for vulnerable groups and break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. However, it's crucial that interventions aren't merely palliative. Structural causes of long-term poverty need to be addressed to ensure substantive changes.

The concerning data about well-being and prosperity in Angola demand a development model adapted to the country's cultural and historical reality. Dependency on export-centered development models at the expense of local industrialization contributes to inequalities and poverty, requiring deeper studies. The current scenario places Angola in a delicate position compared to other Lusophone nations, its neighbors, and major economies on the continent. This is especially worrying

considering Angola's prominent role as a producer of oil and diamonds. A thorough analysis is imperative to understand the origin of these high rates of poverty and inequality, seeking effective and feasible solutions for this unacceptable reality.

In this context, it is crucial to contribute ideas to improve the well-being of the population:

a) The Angolan government needs to allocate a budget that aligns with healthcare demands, abandoning inertia and taking definitive action to address existing issues rather than just palliating the situation.

b) Prioritizing preventive healthcare is essential, as investing in prevention can be more effective and cost-efficient than solely focusing on treatment, especially considering that not all illnesses can be reversed.

c) Concerning education, it's urgent for the State to allocate a budget in line with the sector's needs, forsaking the trend of mere stopgap measures. An example is the construction of temporary school units, the so-called "disposable schools." Why build temporary schools when permanent ones are needed? Temporary schools are becoming the only options in certain regions, with no prospect of constructing facilities that provide adequate conditions for students.

d) Unemployment, affecting the majority of Angolan youth, demands immediate attention. Effective strategies to ensure job opportunities are crucial for the country's development and the well-being of the population.

e) Revising governance policies is paramount. After more than two decades of peace, it's unacceptable that the country hasn't seen concrete development. Economic growth cannot be solely measured by oil revenues; holistic country development is essential.

f) Lastly, the State must ensure fundamental rights and freedoms for the entire population, allowing them to emancipate from past and present hardships, breaking through political, social, and economic barriers that hinder full development.

The phenomenon of poverty reveals its close connection to crucial issues such as poor health, education, and employment among the population, challenging the notion that poverty is intrinsic to individuals and that its eradication depends solely on individual will. We emphasize the need for public policies combating poverty to prioritize securing fundamental individual freedoms and capabilities like education, healthcare, and employment. These policies should enable people to pursue their aspirations, thus reducing social inequality. The development of an active society and state empowers individuals to exercise autonomy, make choices, and recognize the importance of safeguarding basic social rights, promoting their well-being and prosperity.

While we acknowledge the crucial political and institutional factors for establishing a new social pact that prioritizes inequality reduction, this work does not delve into them. Nor do we aim to discuss the design and limitations of redistributive policies that integrate structural programs, redefining the allocation of physical, human, and territorial resources, along with income redistribution programs. These aspects could be addressed in future studies.

References

- Arrighi, G. (2002). The African Crisis. *New Left Review*, 15, 5-36.
- Akerman, A., Elhanan, H., Oleg, I., Marc-Andreas, M. & Stephen, R. (2013). Sources of Wage Inequality. *American Economic Review*, 103 (3): 214-19. DOI: 10.1257/aer.103.3.214
- Awalli, J. O. (2014). Poverty and health care demand in Kenya. *BMC Health Services Research*. (14), 5650-5657.
- Azcúnaga, I. L., & Álvares, A. M. (2013) Poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Reflection on its Causes - Memory of the Biennial Ibero-American Forum on Development Studies. Chile. https://www.riedesarrollo.org/memorias/2013/mesas/mesa1/1.II.3%20Isabel%20Lopez%20-%20Alejandra%20Machin%20_Pobreza%20en%20Africa%20SS.pdf.
- African Development Bank. (2023). Economic Outlook of Angola. <https://www.afdb.org/pt/paises-africa-austral-angola/perspetiva-economica-de-angola>.
- Barros R. P., Henriques, R., & Mendonça, R. (2000). Inequality and Poverty in Brazil: Portrait of an Unacceptable Stability. *RBCS – Brazilian Journal of Social Sciences*. 15(42). <https://doi.org/10.1590/S0102-6909200000100009>.

Bogdan, R. C., & Biklen, S. K. (2003). *Qualitative Research in Education*. Porto: Porto Editora. https://www.academia.edu/6674293/Bogdan_Biklen_investigacao_qualitativa_em_educacao. Chizzotti, A. (2000). *Research in Human and Social Sciences*. São Paulo: Cortez. 7th ed. 16. <https://pt.scribd.com/document/529176503/5-CHIZZOTTI-Pesquisa-Em-Ciencias-Humanas-e-Sociais>.

Commission for Africa. (2005). *Our Common Interest*, Department for International Development, London. Kindle edition. ISBN-13, 978-0141024684.

Institute of National Statistics (Inea). (2020). *Poverty Report for Angola: Survey on Expenses and Revenues*. <https://www.ine.gov.ao/publicacoes/Pesquisapopular/Relatorio>.

Lakatos, E. M., & Marconi, M. A. (2009). *Scientific Methodology*. Atlas. <https://soniaa-arq.prof.ufsc.br/arq/1001/metodologiacinetificaaplicada/2013/grupo2/06.pdf>.

Legatum Institute. (2023). *Prosperity Index*. <https://www.prosperity.com/rankings>.

Gadelha, C. A. G. (2007). *Development and Health: In Search of a New Utopia*. *Health in Debate*. Rio de Janeiro, 9(71), 326-327.

Marshall, A. (1890). *Principles of Economics*. London: Macmillan and Co. <https://eet.pixel-online.org/files/etranslation/original/Marshall,%20Principles%20of%20Economics.pdf>.

Narayan, D. (2000). *Voices of the Poor. Can anyone hear us?* Oxford: Oxford Press for the World Bank. pp.280. <https://www.rrojasdatabank.info/voices/vol1.pdf>.

Pereira A. S., Shitsuka, D. M., Parreira, F. J., & Shitsuka, R. (2018). *Scientific Research Methodology*. Santa Maria/RS. https://repositorio.ufsm.br/bitstream/handle/1/15824/Lic_Computacao_Metodologia-Pesquisa-Cientifica.pdf?sequence=1.

Rafael, F. M. M. (2023). *Reduction of Social Inequality: The Role of Private Investment in Angola*. Boa Vista: Editora. pp. 149. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/368849353_Reducacao_da_Desigualdade_Social_O_Papel_do_Investimento_Privado_em_Angola.

Rocha, S. (2000). *Poverty in Brazil: What is it About?* FGV. https://edisciplinas.usp.br/pluginfile.php/600948/mod_resource/content/1/livro_sonia_rocha.pdf.

Rocha, A. (2020) *Poverty and Income Inequality in Angola*. <https://www.expansao.co.ao/opiniao/alves-da-rocha/interior/pobreza-e-desigualdade-de-rendimentos-em-angola-85108.html>.

Sen, A. (1999). *Poverty and Famines: An Essay on Entitlement and Deprivation*. Lisbon: Terramar Editora.

Sen, A. (2000). *Development as Freedom*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. <http://www.c3l.uni-oldenburg.de/cde/OMDE625/Sen/Sen-intro.pdf>.

Severino, A. J. (2018). *Scientific Work Methodology*. Ed. Cortez, 6 (3). https://www.ufrb.edu.br/ccaab/images/AEPE/Divulga%C3%A7%C3%A3o/LIVROS/Metodologia_do_Trabalho_Cient%C3%ADfico-1%C2%AAEdi%C3%A7%C3%A3o_-_Antonio_Joaquim_Severino_-_2014.pdf.

Silva, T. M. (2020). *Poverty and Health: What Perspective of Healthy Life Will We Have for the 21st Century?* In: Cianciarullo, T.I.; Cornetta, T. *Health, Development, and Globalization*. São Paulo: Ícone, pp. 37-53.

Schwartzman, S., & Reis, E. P. (2005). *Poverty and Social Exclusion: Socio-Political Aspects*. Brasília: Ipea: World Bank. pp. 306. <https://www.schwartzman.org.br/simon/pdf/exclusion.pdf>.

Triviños, G. A. (1987). *Introduction to Research in Social Sciences: Qualitative Research in Education*. Atlas.

African Union (2023). *GDP of the Main African Economies*. <https://datosmacro.expansion.com>.

World Health Organization (WHO). (2011). *Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health*. Rio de Janeiro, Brasília. www.who.int/sdhconference/declaration/Rio_political_declaration_portuguese.pdf.

Wang, Y. (2022). *Combating Extreme Poverty in China after Reform and Opening Up: 1978-2020*. Higher Institute of Economics and Management. Dissertation. <https://www.repository.utl.pt/handle/10400.5/26743>.