



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR HOME ECONOMICS

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## Press Release

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### International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2014

**Education develops the capacity for individuals, families and communities to make collective decisions and take action for the eradication of poverty to leave no one behind.**

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty has been observed every year since 1993, when the United Nations General Assembly, by Resolution 47/196, designated this day to promote awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution in all countries, particularly in developing countries - a need that has become a development priority.

This year the theme of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is,  
“Leave no one behind: think, decide and act together against extreme poverty”.

The theme focuses on the urgent need to eliminate discrimination, marginalisation and exclusion based on poverty, ethnic origin, gender, age, disability or economic and social status. Removing these barriers means that all people, especially those living in poverty, are included in decision making and action as partners for sustainable development.

The International Federation for Home Economics (IFHE) supports the ideas expressed in the theme. The work of the IFHE focuses on building the capacity of individuals, family and communities that promotes social inclusion and empowers decision making and action to overcome extreme poverty. Access to basic education including Home Economics develops skills and empowers people. Empowerment enables individuals, families and communities to fulfil their fundamental needs. It aids in management of everyday life and contributes to attainment of full potential. To empower people is a pre-condition for raising their voice and influencing discussions and decisions about their needs.

All of this knowledge and action contributes to realising a sustainable development in their communities.

Cultural, political and socioeconomic circumstances also influence the living conditions of individuals, families and communities. These conditions also influence their success in managing daily life challenges.

The Home Economics perspective is that individuals, families and communities are “experts” in knowing the factors that restrict or permit sustainable development. Therefore, they must have a strong voice in discussions about the eradication of poverty. To ensure the efficiency and sustainability of measures for development, the target groups need to be included into development programmes from the grass roots level.

To eradicate extreme poverty by thinking, deciding and acting together the IFHE calls for:

- Recognise that individuals, families and communities are experts in situ and therefore have an essential role to play in realise sustainable development
- Nation states to ensure a sufficient minimum income and adequate standards of living in political, social and economic settings
- Inclusion of individuals, households, families and communities to enact sustainable development in the post-2015 agenda.