

# DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH INEQUALITIES

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# HEALTH IS A DRIVING FORCE IN MODERN SOCIETIES

- Health is a determinant
- Health is an investment
- Health is a resource
- Health is human right

# DETERMINANTS OF SOCIAL INEQUITIES IN HEALTH

- Different levels of power and resources
- Different levels of exposure to health hazards
- The same level of exposures leading to different impacts
- Life-course effects
- Different social and economic effects of being sick

# DETERMINANTS OF SOCIAL INEQUITIES IN HEALTH

The driving forces that generate social inequities in health are, to a great extent, related to the **macro-policy environment**, which includes neoliberal economic growth strategies, which have widened inequalities and increased poverty.

# QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- How health strategy for a specific country can modify downstream and upstream determinants of health?
- How can economic policies promote human development and reduce social inequities?
- **How to address the underlying structural and systemic drivers of inequities?**

# WHAT DOES REDUCING HEALTH INEQUITIES REQUIRE?

- Health inequalities can not be reduced through market mechanisms alone – government, policy individual and social commitments are required
- **Collective action of key functions:**
  - Redistribution of resources
  - Related legislation and policy (progressive taxation, equitable risk pooling, subsidies, redistributive expenditure patterns)
  - Public regulation and oversight
  - Creation of public goods