The situation is getting worse. Each year, more than 200,000 children die from preventable causes, and the number of people living in extreme poverty has doubled since 1970. Inequality is rising, and the gap between the rich and the poor is widening. The pandemic has only exacerbated these trends, with the global poor suffering disproportionately.

Addressing inequality is not just a moral imperative; it is essential for achieving sustainable development. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to reduce poverty, inequality, and hunger, and to ensure that all people have access to education, healthcare, and decent work. To achieve these goals, we need to address the root causes of inequality, including systemic racism, gender discrimination, and economic inequality.

One way to achieve this is through targeted interventions. For example, education and health interventions can reduce poverty and inequality by improving access to essential services. Similarly, social protection programs can help reduce poverty and inequality by providing a safety net for vulnerable populations.

But we also need to address structural inequalities, such as those rooted in economic policies and institutional practices. To do this, we need to promote greater transparency and accountability, to ensure that public funds are used in ways that benefit the poor and marginalized. We also need to promote greater participation of women and other marginalized groups in decision-making processes.

In conclusion, addressing inequality is not just a moral imperative; it is essential for achieving sustainable development. We need to take urgent action to address the root causes of inequality, and to promote greater transparency and accountability, to ensure that public funds are used in ways that benefit the poor and marginalized. We also need to promote greater participation of women and other marginalized groups in decision-making processes. Only then can we hope to achieve a world that is more equitable, just, and sustainable.