Partnering to accelerate social progress

February 2021

SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

1. The Social Progress Index
2. Applications around the world
3. Cursory look into SPI methodology
4. The process of building a Social Progress Index
5. Q&A

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SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

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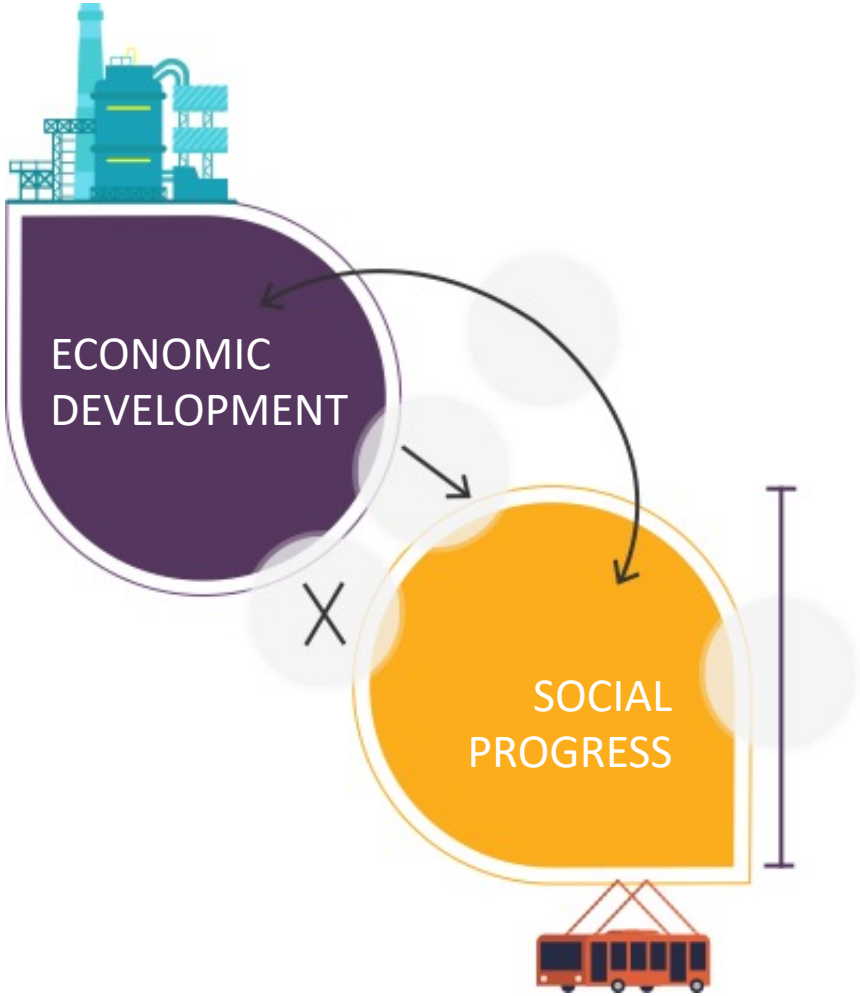
SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

WHY MEASURE SOCIAL PROGRESS?



Common assumption that economic development automatically generates social progress

Economic development does not always result in social progress

Social progress may also affect economic development

To understand inclusive growth, we need to **measure social progress directly** as a complement to standard economic measures

SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

WHAT IS THE SOCIAL PROGRESS INDEX?

GDP + SPI = INCLUSIVE GROWTH

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Social Progress Index design principles

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The Social Progress Index asks universally important questions about the success of our societies

SOCIAL PROGRESS INDEX

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

Nutrition & Basic Medical Care

Do people have enough food to eat and are they receiving basic medical care?

Water & Sanitation

Can people drink water and keep themselves clean without getting sick?

Shelter

Do people have adequate housing with basic utilities?

Personal Safety

Do people feel safe?

FOUNDATIONS OF WELLBEING

Access to Basic Knowledge

Do people have access to an educational foundation?

Access to Information and Communications

Can people freely access ideas and information from anywhere in the world?

Health & Wellness

Do people live long and healthy lives?

Environmental Quality

Is this society using its resources so they will be available for future generations?

OPPORTUNITY

Personal Rights

Are people's rights as individuals protected?

Personal Freedom & Choice

Are people free to make their own life choices?

Inclusiveness

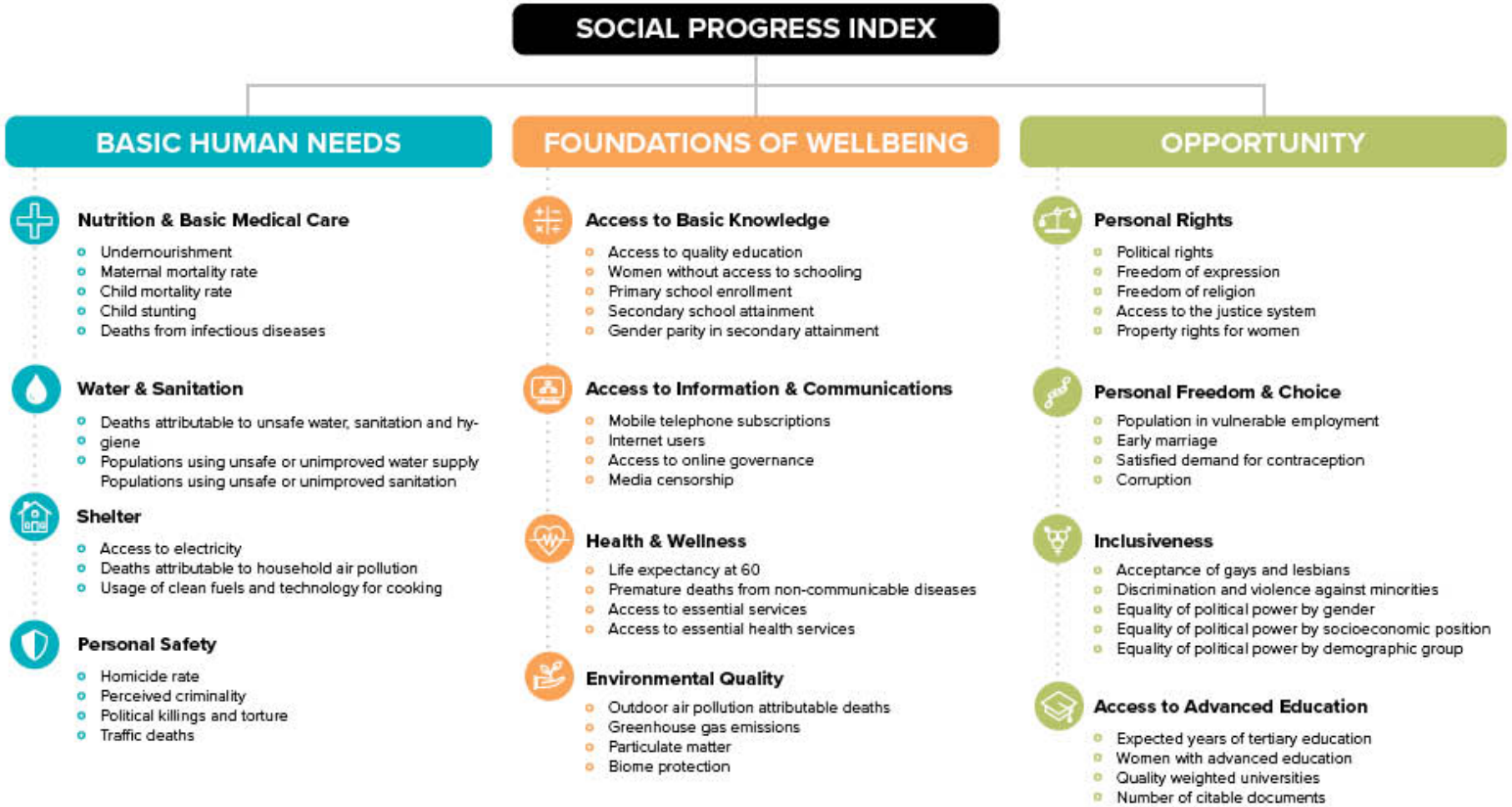
Is no one excluded from the opportunity to be a contributing member of society?

Access to Advanced Education

Do people have access to the world's most advanced knowledge?

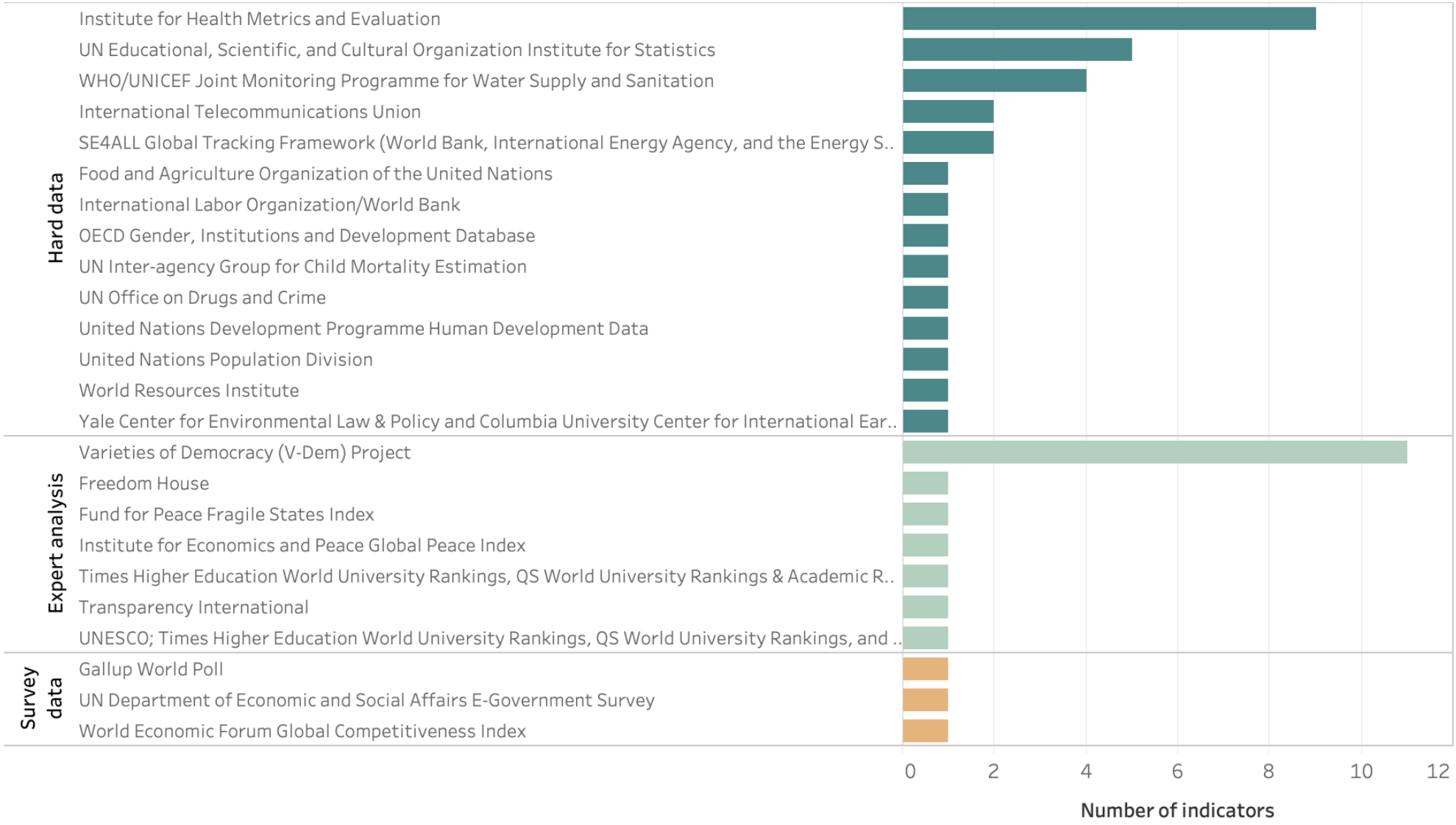
SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

THE 2020 SOCIAL PROGRESS INDEX AGGREGATES 50 SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOME INDICATORS FROM 163 COUNTRIES



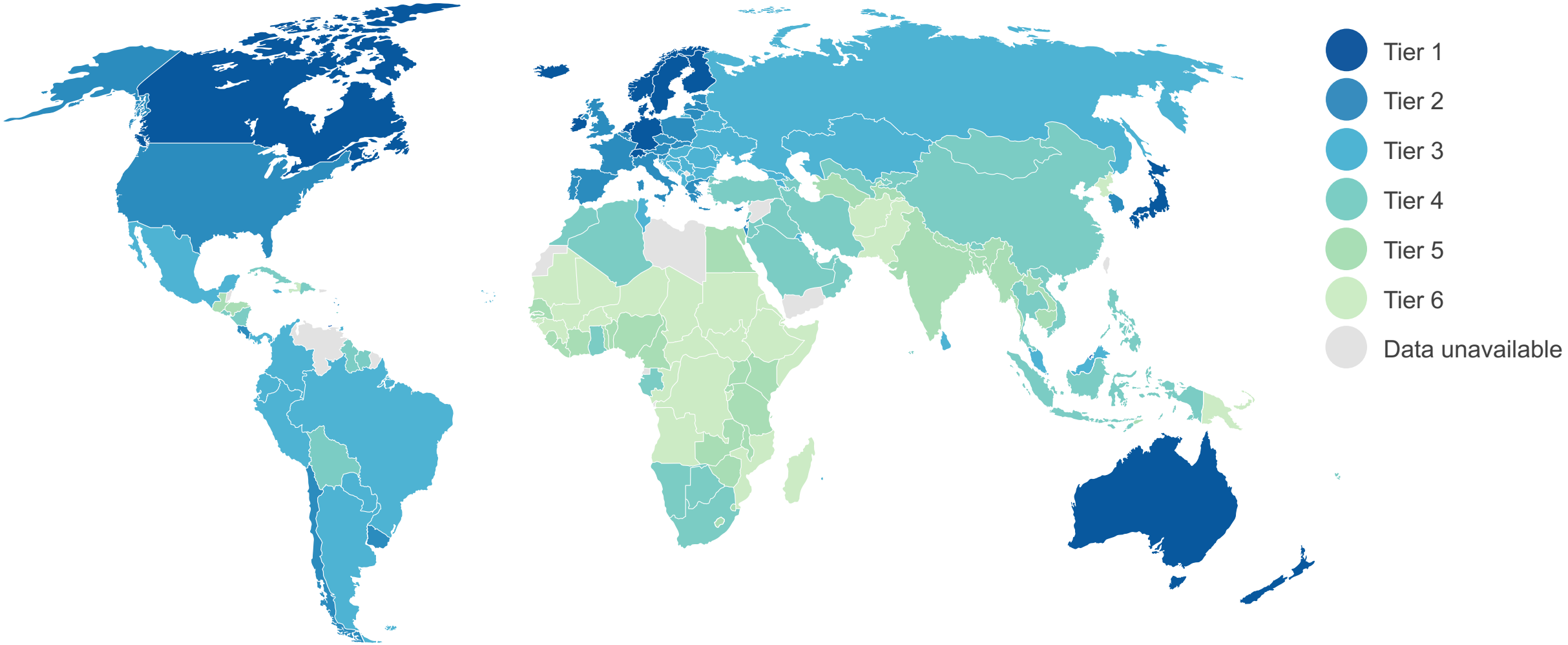
SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

Indicator data are drawn from multilateral organizations, think tanks, and research institutes



SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

2020 SOCIAL PROGRESS INDEX RESULTS



2020 Social Progress Index rankings (1)

Tier 1

Rank	Country	Score
1	Norway	92.73
2	Denmark	92.11
3	Finland	91.89
4	New Zealand	91.64
5	Sweden	91.62
6	Switzerland	91.42
7	Canada	91.40
8	Australia	91.29
9	Iceland	91.09
10	Netherlands	91.06
11	Germany	90.56
12	Ireland	90.35
13	Japan	90.14

Tier 2

Rank	Country	Score
14	Luxembourg	89.56
15	Austria	89.50
16	Belgium	89.46
17	Korea, Republic of	89.06
18	France	88.78
19	Spain	88.71
20	United Kingdom	88.54
21	Portugal	87.79
22	Slovenia	87.71
23	Italy	87.36
24	Estonia	87.26
25	Czechia	86.69
26	Cyprus	86.64
27	Greece	85.78
28	United States	85.71
29	Singapore	85.46
30	Malta	84.89
31	Poland	84.32
32	Lithuania	83.97
33	Israel	83.62
34	Chile	83.34
35	Latvia	83.19
36	Slovakia	83.15
37	Costa Rica	83.01
38	Uruguay	82.99

Tier 3

Rank	Country	Score
39	Croatia	81.92
40	Hungary	81.02
41	Argentina	80.66
42	Barbados	80.50
43	Bulgaria	79.86
44	Mauritius	78.96
45	Romania	78.35
46	Kuwait	77.47
47	Belarus	77.00
48	Malaysia	76.96
49	Panama	76.55
50	Armenia	76.46
51	Trinidad and Tobago	76.33
52	Serbia	75.54
53	Ecuador	75.45
54	Albania	75.41
55	Tunisia	75.02
56	Georgia	74.85
57	Jamaica	74.75
58	Montenegro	74.42
59	Peru	74.22
60	Colombia	74.00
61	Brazil	73.91
62	Mexico	73.52
63	Ukraine	73.38
64	Sri Lanka	73.20
65	Republic of North Macedonia	73.16
66	Bosnia and Herzegovina	72.74
67	Kazakhstan	72.66
68	Moldova	72.58
69	Russia	72.56
70	Paraguay	72.48
71	Cabo Verde	72.05

2020 Social Progress Index rankings (2)

Tier 4

Rank	Country	Score
72	Cuba	71.52
73	Jordan	71.50
74	Oman	71.41
75	Suriname	71.12
76	Mongolia	71.07
77	Dominican Republic	71.05
78	Maldives	70.81
79	Thailand	70.72
80	United Arab Emirates	70.60
81	Qatar	70.58
82	South Africa	70.26
83	Algeria	69.92
84	Indonesia	69.49
85	Lebanon	69.37
86	Botswana	69.36
87	Bolivia	69.23
88	Vietnam	68.85
89	Kyrgyzstan	68.65
90	Fiji	68.42
91	Bhutan	68.34
92	Turkey	68.27
93	Iran	67.49
94	El Salvador	67.25
95	Namibia	67.14
96	Guyana	66.95
97	Morocco	66.90
98	Philippines	66.62
99	Bahrain	66.60
100	China	66.12
101	Saudi Arabia	65.06
102	Uzbekistan	64.98
103	Ghana	64.86
104	Azerbaijan	64.11
105	Nicaragua	64.02
106	Gabon	63.93
107	Iraq	63.52

Tier 5

Rank	Country	Score
108	Honduras	62.41
109	Guatemala	61.67
110	Timor-Leste	61.08
111	Senegal	60.04
112	Egypt	59.98
113	Turkmenistan	58.35
114	Nepal	57.60
115	Kenya	57.10
116	Tajikistan	56.99
117	India	56.80
118	Cambodia	56.27
119	Tanzania	56.20
120	Myanmar	55.99
121	Benin	55.56
122	Zambia	55.34
123	Bangladesh	55.23
124	Gambia, The	55.10
125	Rwanda	54.13
126	Malawi	54.07
127	Lesotho	53.80
128	Côte d'Ivoire	53.59
129	Togo	53.05
130	Uganda	52.98
131	Eswatini	52.92
132	Zimbabwe	52.26
133	Laos	51.80
134	Sierra Leone	51.74
135	Liberia	51.37
136	Nigeria	51.31
137	Cameroon	51.29

Tier 6

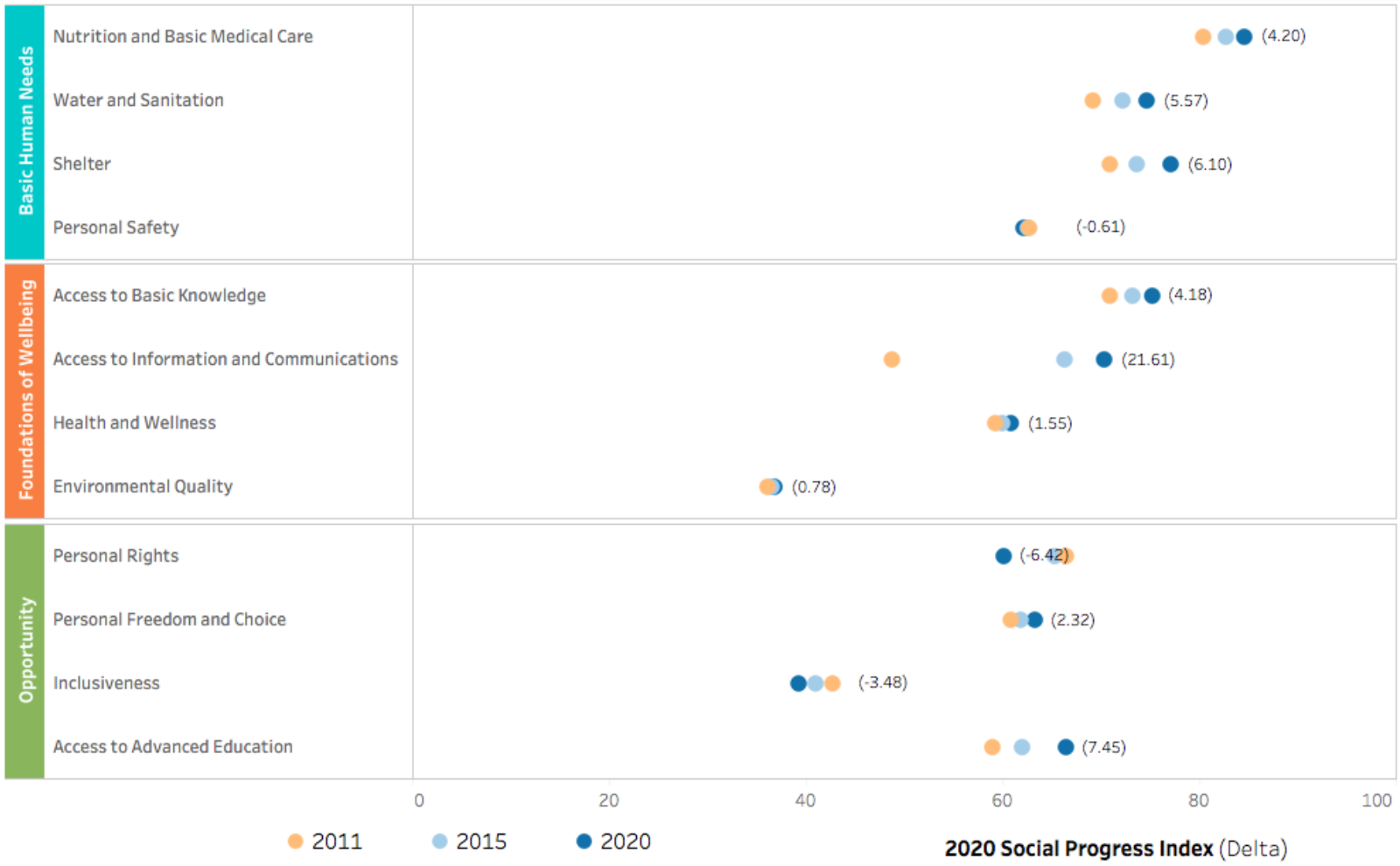
Rank	Country	Score
138	Equatorial Guinea	50.08
139	Korea, Democratic Republic of	50.01
140	Burkina Faso	49.87
141	Pakistan	49.25
142	Mozambique	49.00
143	Mauritania	48.95
144	Haiti	48.79
145	Ethiopia	48.59
146	Djibouti	48.53
147	Sudan	48.51
148	Madagascar	48.46
149	Congo, Republic of	48.45
150	Mali	48.29
151	Angola	48.16
152	Guinea-Bissau	46.69
153	Papua New Guinea	44.91
154	Guinea	43.41
155	Afghanistan	42.29
156	Congo, Democratic Republic of	42.25
157	Niger	42.21
158	Burundi	41.20
159	Somalia	35.58
160	Eritrea	35.20
161	Central African Republic	31.62
162	Chad	31.29
163	South Sudan	31.06

ON AVERAGE, THE WORLD IS IMPROVING...BUT PROGRESS IS SLOW AND UNEVEN

Since 2011, the population-weighted world average score has **improved by 3.61 points**.

Since 2011, **155 countries** (95% of those measured) have improved by one point or more. Three countries (2%) have declined. Of the 155 countries that improved, **69 countries (42%) have improved by five or more points**.

From 2011 to 2020 the world improved on 8 of 12 components

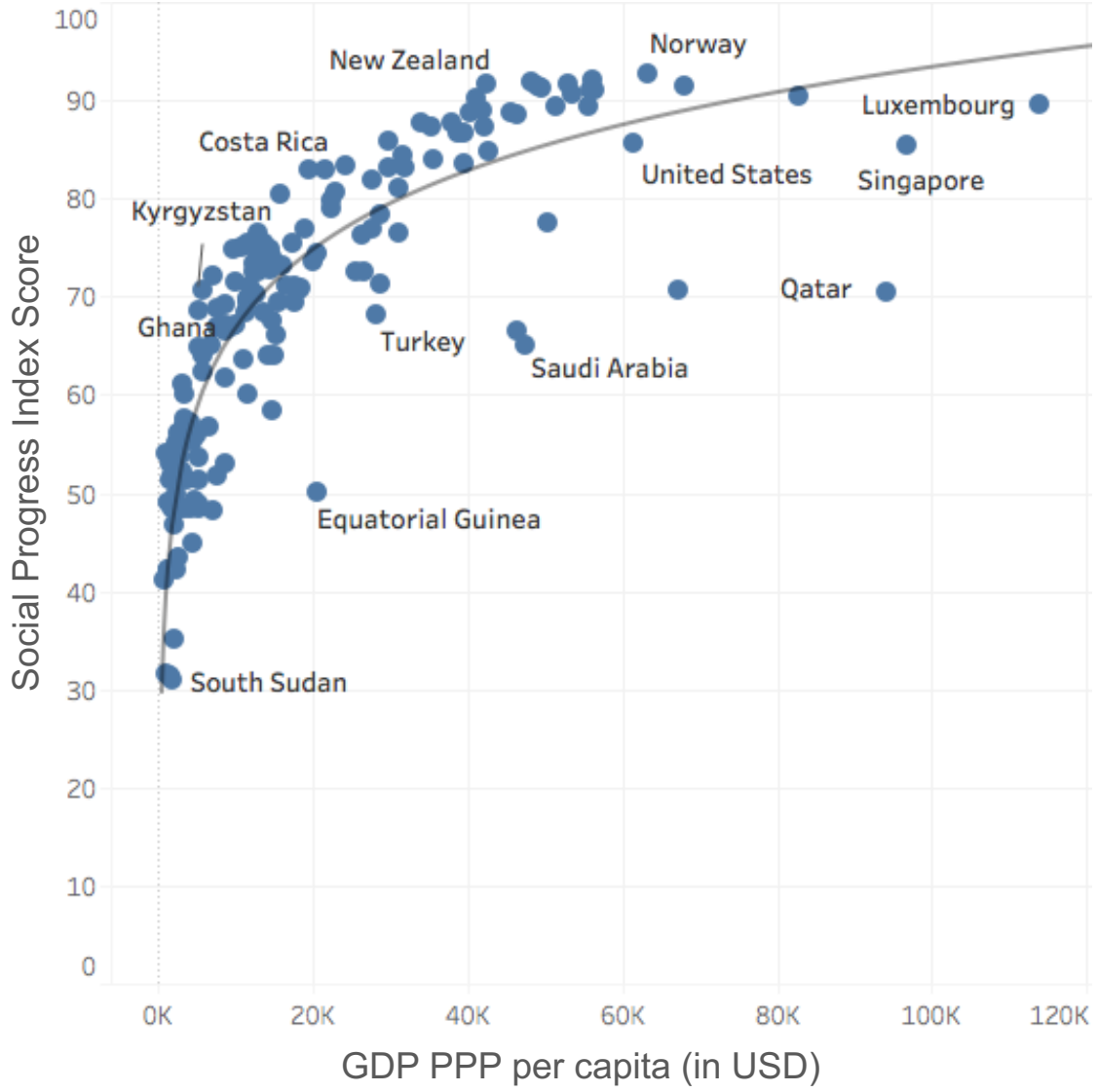


Since 2011, the world has improved most on **Access to Information and Communications, Access to Advanced Education, Shelter** and **Water and Sanitation.**

World progress has been uneven, with declines in **Personal Rights and Inclusiveness,** and stagnation on **Personal Safety** and **Environmental Quality**.

SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

GDP is not destiny



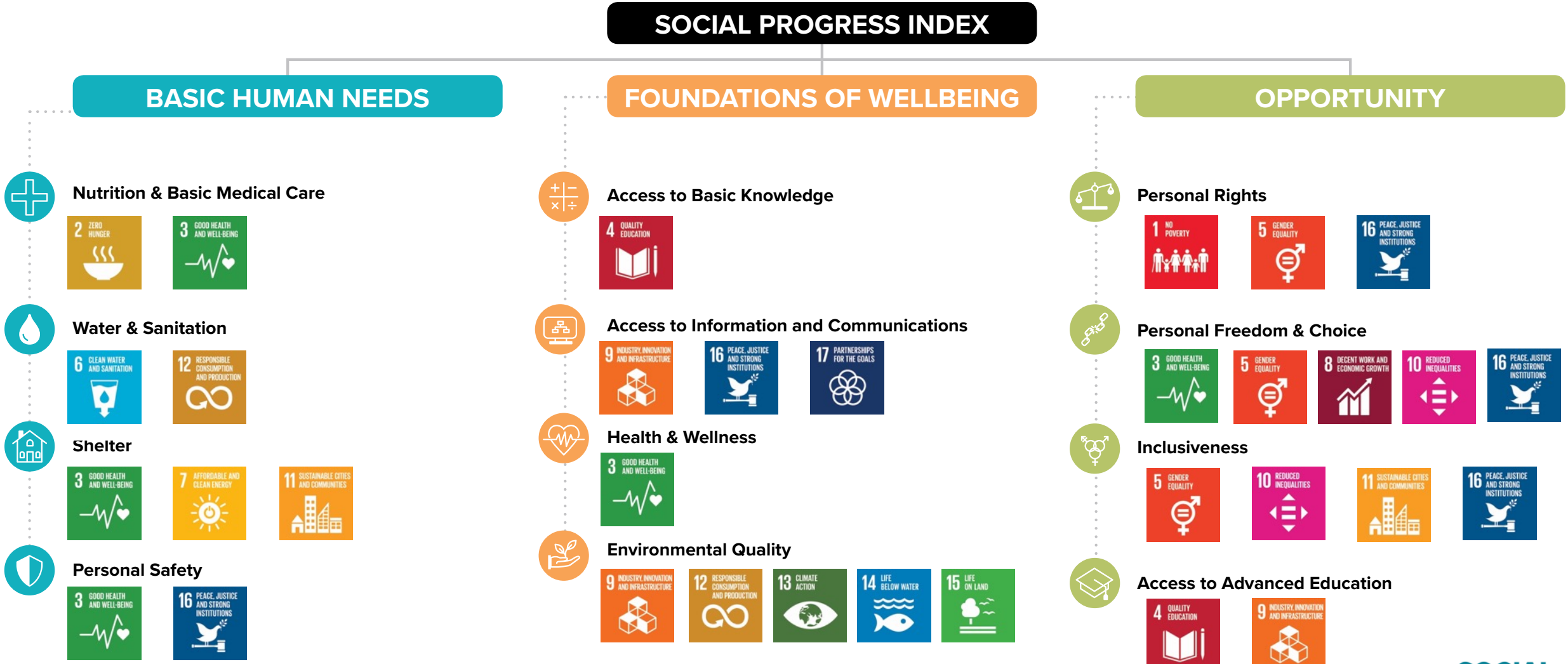
Across the spectrum, we see how some countries are much better at **turning their economic growth into social progress** than others.

SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

The Social Progress Index captures outcomes related to **all 17 Sustainable Development Goals** in a simple but rigorous framework designed for aggregation, making it an **invaluable proxy measure of SDG performance**.

SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

The Social Progress Index and the SDGs



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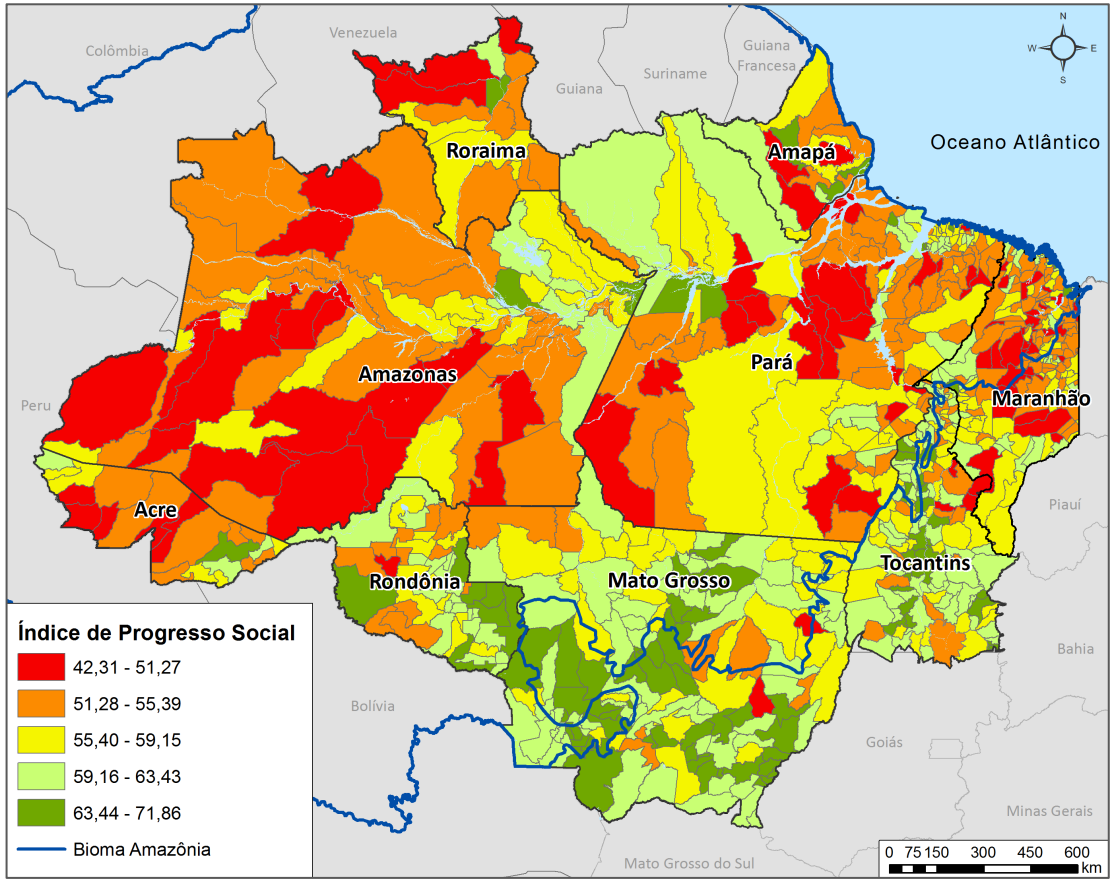
SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

Enabling progress in **Brazil's Amazon**

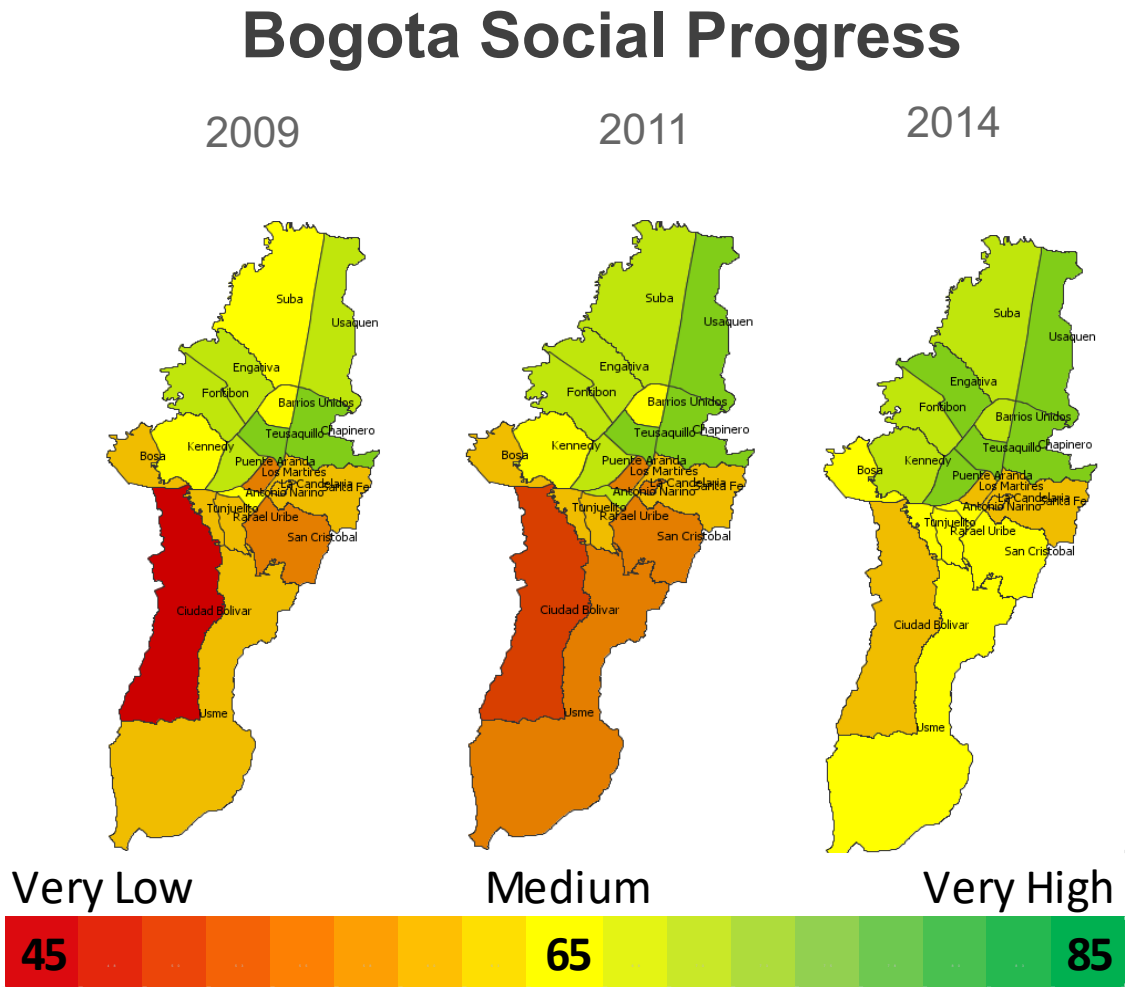
- The Amazon region became the **first** to test the application of Social Progress Index methodology on **sub-national level**.
- **772** municipalities in 9 states were included in the index, which is being used by the **state and municipal governments** as well as international organizations to inform their policies and prioritize investments.



SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

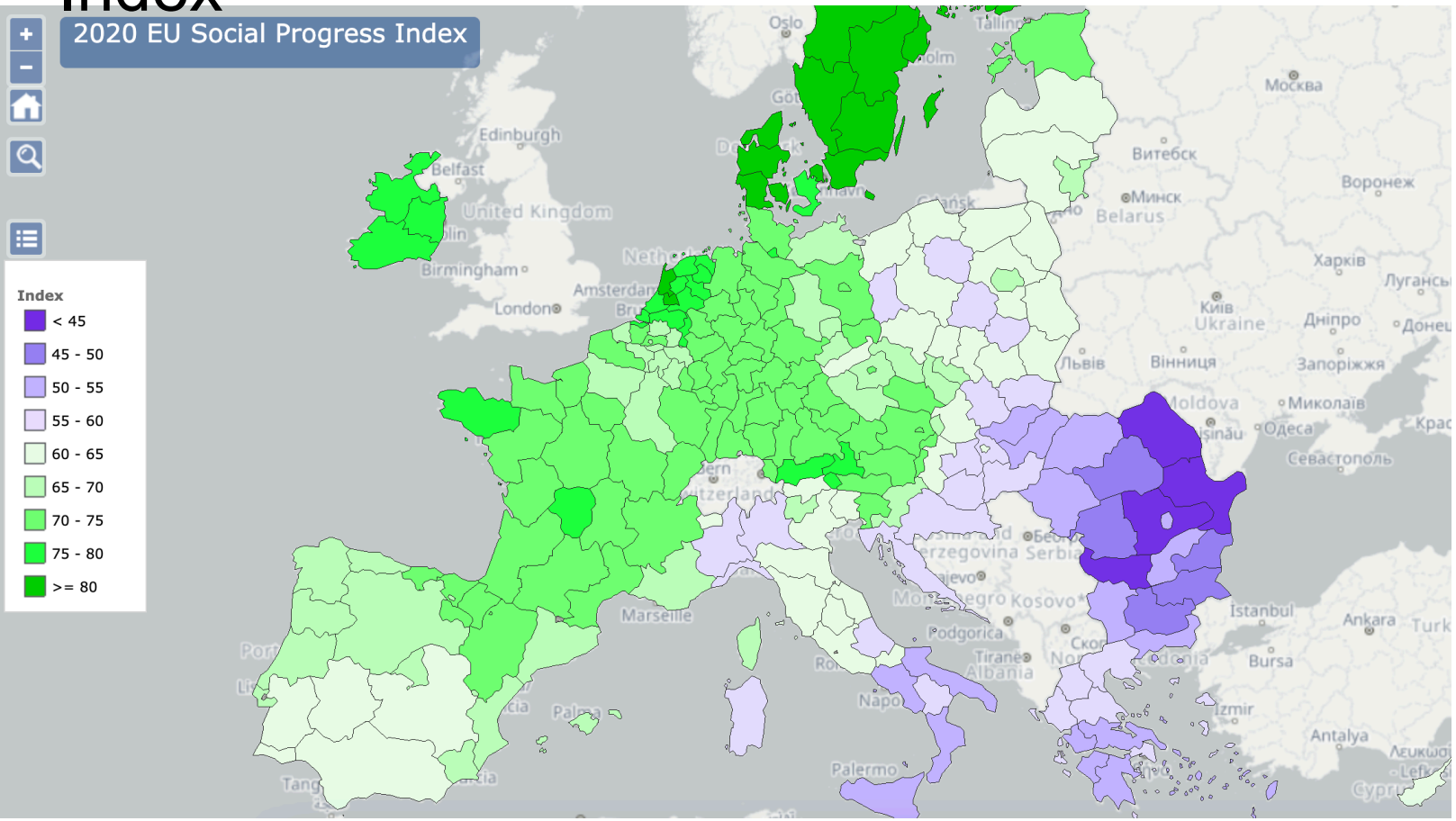
Enabling progress in **Colombian cities**

- Social progress tracked over a 5-year period in **13 major Colombian cities** and neighborhoods of Bogota provides a new perspective **to guide urban and social policies** and planning, improving social conditions for its citizens.



SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

The EU Regional Social Progress Index



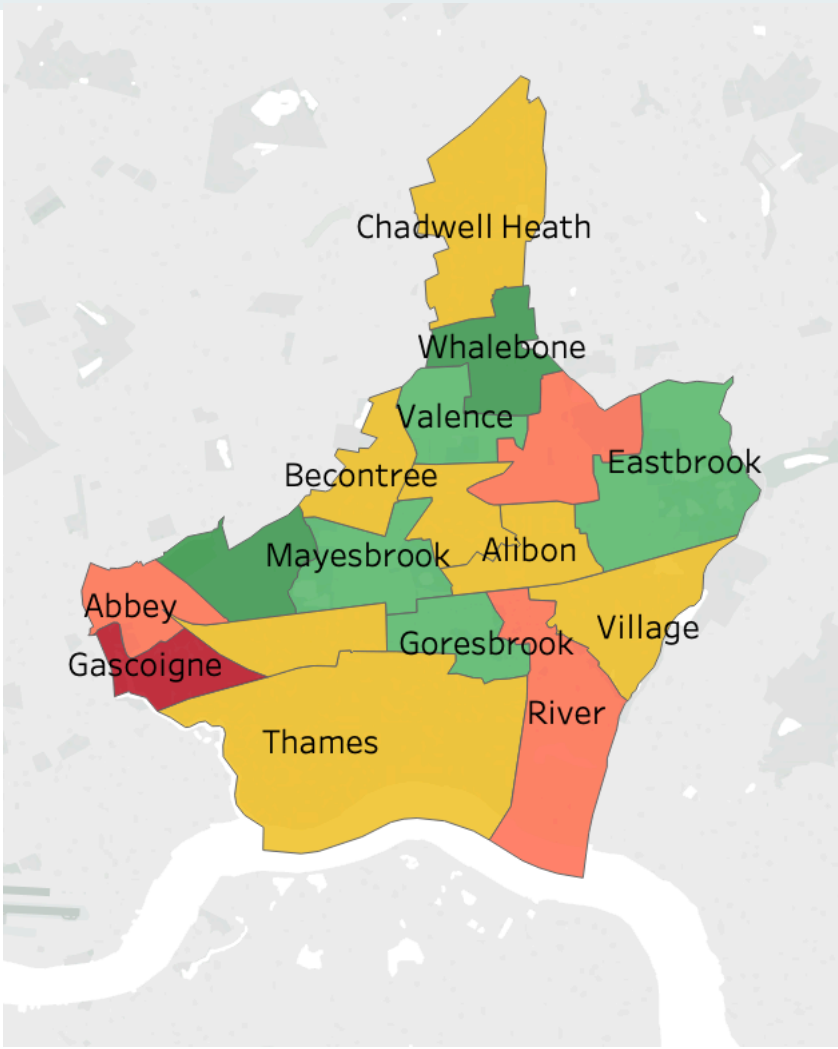
The European Commission DG REGIO has developed its own **EU Regional SPI** for the 240 NUTS 2 regions of the EU, with its second edition launched in December 2020.

A pilot project was conducted in 10 EU regions. Regional stakeholders and public administrations across the EU referred to SPI as a very useful tool that provides **a common framework and language for all European regions** to measure social progress and prioritise social and environmental policies.

SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

THE CASE OF BARKING AND DAGENHAM ACTION AND IMPACT

- The London Borough of Barking and Dagenham has used a local ward-level Social Progress Index as a strategic tool since 2016.
- The SPI helped to effectively allocate resources and tackle issues such as domestic violence, homelessness, and fuel poverty.
- The Borough reports improved social outcomes and savings >£3m through preventive measures as a result.
- SPI is also used to ensure social value in public procurement.



Innovating around the Social Progress Framework

Last year, we released the Youth Progress Index, our first **disaggregated analysis** of quality of life for a specific demographic.

This **flexibility to innovate** and apply the index to measure progress in different contexts, for different groups, is one of the SPI model's great strengths.

The Youth Progress Index

Basic Human Needs

Nutition and Basic Medical Care
- Undernourishment
- Depth of food deficit
- Maternal morality rate
- Child mortality rate
- Deaths from infectious diseases

Water and Sanitation
- Access to piped water
- Rural access to improved water source
- Access to improved sanitation and facilities
- Youth satisfaction with water

Shelter
- Youth availability of affordable housing
- Access to electricity
- Quality of electricity supply
- Youth household air pollution deaths

Personal safety
- Homicide rate
- Level of violent crime
- Perceived criminality
- Political terror
- Youth traffic deaths
- Youth safe walking alone

Foundations of Wellbeing

Access to Basic Knowledge
- Youth literacy
- Primary school enrollment
- Gross school enrollment
- Gender parity in secondary enrollment
- Female population with some secondary education
- Male population with some secondary education

Access to Information and Communications
- Youth molbile telephones
- Youth internet users
- Press freedome

Health and Wellness
- Healthy life expectancy at birth
- Youth mortality from non-communicable diseases
- Youth suicide rate
- Death rate from HIV/AIDS

Environmental Quality
- Wastewater management
- Biodiversity and habitat
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Youth air pollution attributable deaths
- Youth satisfaction with air quality

Opportunity

Personal Rights
- Political rights
- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of assembly/association
- Private property rights
- Youth confidence in police
- Percent of young members of parliament

Personal Freedom and Choice
- Youth freedom over life choices
- Freedom of religion
- Early marriage
- Satisfied demand for contraception
- Corruption
- Youth perception of corruption

Inclusion
- Youth openness towards immigrants
- Youth openness towards homosexuals
- Youth community safety net
- Discrimination and violence against minorities
- Religious tolerance
- Youth not in employment and not in education
- Youth employment gap

Access to Advanced Education
- Years of tertiary schooling
- Women's average years in school
- Inequality in attainment of education
- Tertiary enrollment rate

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Social Progress Index Framework

Basic Human Needs	Foundations of Wellbeing	Opportunity
Nutrition and Basic Medical Care	Access to Basic Knowledge	Personal Rights
Water and Sanitation	Access to Information and Communication	Personal Freedom and Choice
Shelter	Health and Wellness	Inclusiveness
Personal Safety	Environmental Quality	Access to Advanced Education

The Social Progress Index asks universally important questions about the success of our societies

SOCIAL PROGRESS INDEX

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

Nutrition & Basic Medical Care

Do people have enough food to eat and are they receiving basic medical care?

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Access to Advanced Education

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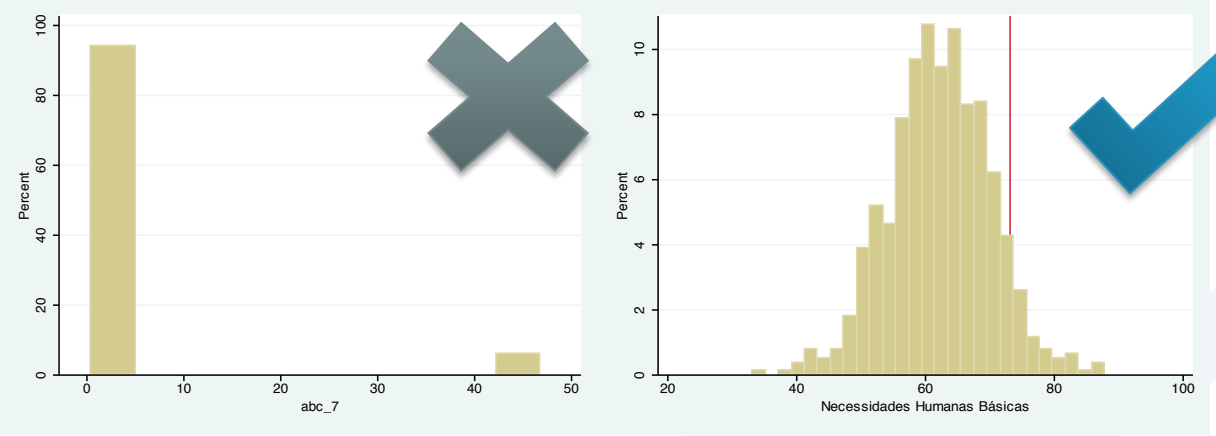
SOCIAL PROGRESS IMPERATIVE

INDICATOR SELECTION CRITERIA

THE BEST AVAILABLE DATA – FOR THE BEST POSSIBLE MODEL

We need to look for some simple but essential **statistical characteristics**:

- ✓ Have more observation units than indicators. (>30)
- ✓ Have indicators with good distributions
- ✓ Avoid perfect correlations between indicators
- ✓ Look for outliers



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PREPARATIONS BEFORE INDEX CALCULATIONS

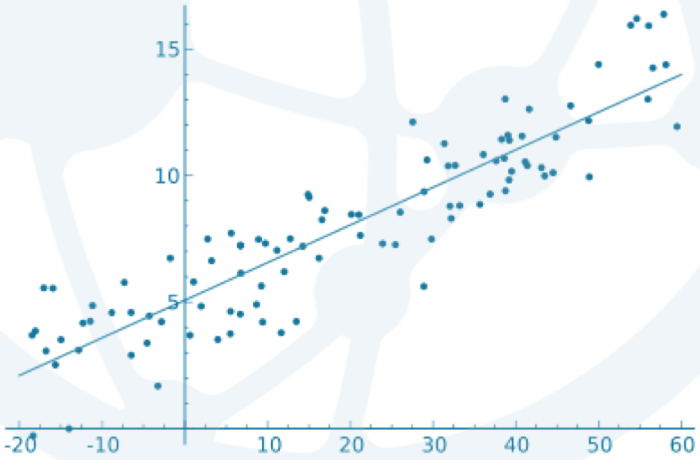
Imputation of missing data

Identify outliers

Make scale adjustments and transform highly skewed indicators (capping, bucketing)

Invert indicators that are negatively related to Social Progress

Standardisation (z-scores)



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UTOPIAS AND DYSTOPIAS

Before calculating the index, it is important to determine the values that would represent the absolute best case (**utopia**) and the absolute worst case (**dystopia**) for each indicator. In the dataset, two fictitious units should be created to represent all the best case scenarii and all the worst case scenarii.

The utopia and dystopia values will be used to transform scores to the 0-100 scale, where 0 is the worst possible score and 100 is the best possible score (refer to “Calculating component, dimension and index scores”).

This makes the final scores more easily interpretable and comparable across components.

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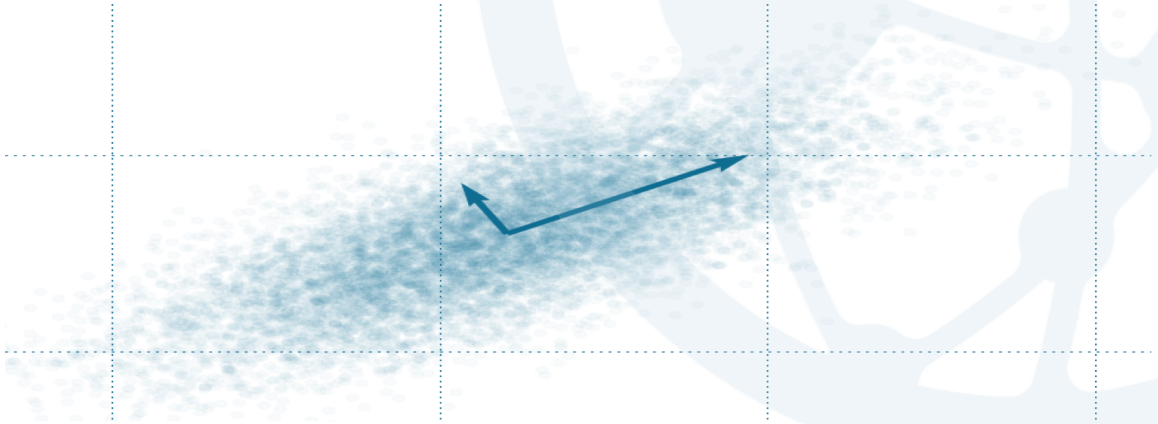
APPLYING THE PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS ANALYSIS

Principal Components Analysis (PCA) is used to evaluate the fit of indicators within components and determine indicator **weights** within components. If indicators are chosen well to reflect a component, this method help us to identify **robust and consistent** combinations of indicators for each component.

To create indexes with **variables that measure similar things** (conceptually). To get a small set of variables (preferably uncorrelated) from a large set of variables (most of which are correlated to each other)



WEIGHTING AND AGGREGATION

Each dimension is simply the average of the four components that make up that dimension; and the overall index is calculated as the simple average of the three dimensions.

$$Dimension_d = \frac{1}{4} \sum_c Component_c$$

$$SPI = \frac{1}{3} \sum_d Dimension_d$$

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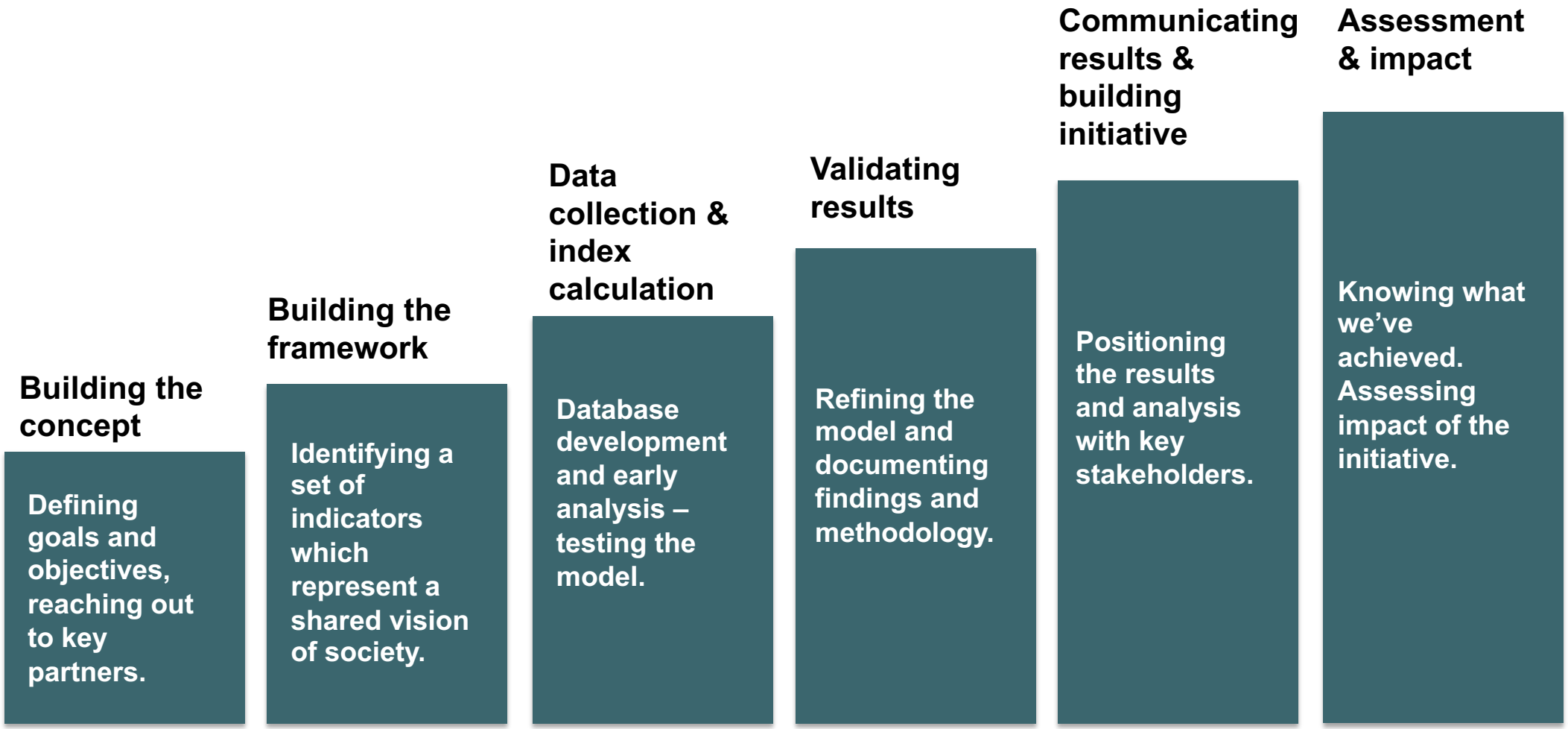
Creating a subnational Social Progress Index



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Thank you.

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