Human Development Reports

- Annual report since 1990, created by Mahbub ul Hag with Amartya Sen, among others
- Addressing emerging development challenges from the human development perspective
 - Using new measurement indicators
 - Elaborating new dimensions
 - Advocating new policie
- Independent report commissioned by UNDP but not a statement of UNDP policy
- National reports since 1992; regional reports since 1994

The Human Development Indices

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- The HDI (Human Development Index)
 a summary measure of human development
- The GDI (Gender-related Development Index)
 the HDI adjusted for gender inequality
- The GEM (Gender Empowerment Measure)

 Measures gender equality in economic and political participation and decision making
- The HPI (Human Poverty Index)
 Captures the level of human poverty

The dimensions and indicators of the UN HDI

- HDI has three dimensions, measured by one or two indicators each:
- Leading a long and healthy life
 - Intelexpectancy at birt
- Education
 - Adult literacy rat
 - Gross primary, secondary and tertiary enrolment
- A decent standard of living
 - GDP per capita (PPP US\$)

- What dimensions to include
 The concept of human development has many dimensions
- Health, education and standard of living are dimensions that are basic and can be measured
- Proposed additions either are hard to measure or overlap with existing dimensions - Examples: political freedom, environment, child mortality
- HD can never be captured in single indicator!

Combining indicators for the HDI

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- In order to create the HDI, 'goalposts' are chosen for each indicator
- Using goalposts rather than observed minima and maxima allows comparisons over time
- Set with the timeframe 1960-2050
- Also set to allow for disaggregation some subgroups can have lower values than observed in country data

Goalposts for calculating the HDI

Indicator	Minimum value	Maximum value
Life expectancy	25 years	85 years
Adult literacy	0%	100%
Gross enrolment	0%	100%
GDP per capita	100 (PPP US\$)	40,000 (PPP US\$)





The weights in the HDI

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- The three dimensions in the HDI health, education, standard of living – weighted equally
- Equal weighting is not an accident; reflects a belief that all three are equally important
- Assumption of substitutability central, but sometimes forgotten
- Changing the weighting, even drastically, maintain

Changing weights – what would happen? How sensitive is the HDI to changing weights?

- Not very: for the full set of countries, the components are highly correlated
- Does not implicate redundancy: in sub-groups, large differences in how income is translated into other dimensions

	Life expectancy	Education	GDP
Life expectancy	-	0.74	0.78
Education		-	0.75
GDP			-

Why include GDP per capital

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- GDP per capita included as a proxy for a decent standard of living
- Reflects a number of issues not explicitly included: the expanding choices available in many areas with increasing income
- Logarithm of GDP is used reflects diminishing return in expanding choices

Critiques of the HDI

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- Are these all the dimensions of HD?
- Are these indicators good measures of the dimensions?
- What about inequality?
- Can it capture policy changes?
- Ranking countries unknown uncertainties
- Why cap values?
- Why have an index at all?

Critiques, cont.

'Missing' components

- What about future generations an environmental degradation component?
- Political freedoms and rights?
- Culture
- Nutritional status
- □ Uncertainty
- Personal security

Critiques incorporated in the HDI

- Absolute maximum and minimum values for each indicator
- Supplementing literacy with a second education indicator
- Changing the adjustment of GDP per capita

Political freedom

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- Political freedom index (PFI) presented in HDR 1991
- Meant to be incorporated in the HDI
- Caused technical and political controversy
- Ultimately dropped because of the difficulties of measurement

Key data problems

Literacy

- Conceptually and practically limited
- Definition and collection of literacy varies widely from country to country
- Culturally specific: script systems and other factors vary across the world
- UNESCO Institute of Statistics LAMP programme

Key data problems, cont.

■ GDP per capita (PPP US\$)

- Based on the ICP programme, limited to some 60 countries
- Based on regressions for other countrie
- Imperfect measure but certainly better than exchange rate terms
- Life expectancy
 - Should measure "long and healthy life" but does not take into account health, just length

Why has the HDI been successful?

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- HDI has become one of the best known and most used indicators of development.
- Despite some remaining controversies, broadly accepted and used by media, policymakers and academics
- What factors likely contributed?

Other indices

The Human Poverty Index (HPI-1)

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 $HPI = [1/3(P_1^{\alpha} + P_2^{\alpha} + P_3^{\alpha})]^{1/\alpha}$

Where:

 $\begin{array}{l} P_1 = Probability \ of \ not \ surviving \ to \ age \ 40 \ (times \ 100) \\ P_2 = Adult \ illiteracy \ rate \\ P_3 = \ Average \ of \ people \ without \ access \ to \ safe \ water \ and \ children \end{array}$

 P_3 = Average of people without access to safe water and children underweight

As α rises greater weight is given to the dimension in which there is most deprivation. α =1 implies simple average (perfect substitutability), $\alpha = \infty$ tsets HPI = highest value (no substitutability). In he global HDR α =3, giving additional but not overwhelming weight to areas of most acute deprivation

$\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ in the HPI formula

As α rises greater weight is given to the dimension in which here is most deprivation.

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- $\alpha = 1$ implies simple average (perfect substitutability),
- $\alpha = \infty$ HPI = highest value (no substitutability).
- In the global HDR α=3, giving additional but not overwhelming weight to areas of most acute deprivation

The Gender-related development Index (GDI)

Same components as the HDI

After calculating dimension index for each sex – they are combined in a way to penalize gender equality (**equally distributed index**)

The GDI is calculated by taking the unweighted average of the three equally distributed indices



Other indices

Goalposts for calculating the GDI

Indicator	Maximum Value	Minimum value
Life expectancy		
Adult literacy	100%	0%
Gross enrolment	100%	0%
GDP per capita	\$40,000(US)	\$100(US)

The Gender Empowerment Measure

Dimensions:	Indicators:
Political participation	Share of parliamentary seats
and decision making	
Economic participation	Share of positions as
and decision making	legislators, senior officials and managers; and profesional
	and technical workers
Power over economic	Share of estimated earned
resources	income

The Gender Empowerment Measure

Calculate dimension index and equally distributed equivalent percentage (EDEP) for each dimension (like GDI)

For political and economic decision making divide EDEP by 50 (the ideal share women should have)

■N.B. For political and economic decision making EDEP can be calculated directly (as indicators are already %)

Agenda U N D P Tracking past progress and mapping the future

■ Inequality: a navigation tool to guide policy

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- **Reshaping international cooperation**
 - Aid
 - Trade
 - Conflict



But the human development record of the 1990s is mixed		
Progress	Downside	
130m lifted out of extreme poverty	2.5b still live on less than \$2 a day; poverty reduction slowed down in the 1990s	
2m fewer child deaths	10m unnecessary child deaths each year	
30m additional children in school	115m children still out of school; average years of schooling in South Asia half that of rich countries; even lower in SSA	
1.2b gained access to clean water	Still more than 1b have no access to	

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Income poverty reduction continuing

but slowly in the 1990s













Violent conflict: Bringing the real threat into focus



- Regulating enabling factors natural resources and small





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6 Violent conflict is a significant U N D P barrier to human development

Beyond the bullets: conflict has many costs

Beyond the bullets: adverse consequences for U N D P public health



Beyond the bullets: displacement, insecurity and crime

- Half of Chechnya's population is internally displaced
- Half of all women in Sierra Leone reportedly faced sexual violence during the civil war
- 250,000 child soldiers worldwide
- Colombia averaged 61 homicide victims annually per 100,000 people during 1998-2001; the United States averaged 5.7 homicide victims

Three simple messages from HDR 2005

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- If we are serious about meeting the MDGs, a world on auto-pilot will not get us there
- We have to use inequality indicators as the navigation tools to prioritise public policy at the national level
- Beyond country-level policies, the three pillars of international cooperation – aid, trade and security – are interlinked

Half measures will not work – the world is at a crossroad to make that choice