

How to measure wellbeing and combat poverty

Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice Foundation
Convention 2019

Sabina Alkire, OPHI, University of Oxford, 7 June 2019

Tabita, Kenya

Rabiya, India

Stephanie, Madagascar

Agatha, Madagascar

Dalma, Kenya

Ann-Sophia, Kenya

Valérie, Madagascar



Tabita, Kenya

Rabiya, India

Stephanie, Madagascar

Agatha, Madagascar

Dalima, Kenya

Ann-Sophia, Kenya

Valérie, Madagascar



1. Integral measures
2. Multidimensional Poverty
3. Business MPI
4. Gross National Happiness

Tabita, Kenya

Rabiya, India

Stephanie, Madagascar

Agathe, Madagascar

Dalima, Kenya

Ann-Sophie, Kenya

Valerie, Madagascar

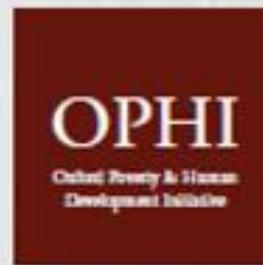


Integral Measures

Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature. *Laudato Si*

A simple example: MPI*?

***MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX**



GLOBAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX 2018

The Most Detailed Picture to Date
of the World's Poorest People

One example

Tabita, Kenya

Rabiya, India

Stéphanie, Madagascar

Agathe, Madagascar

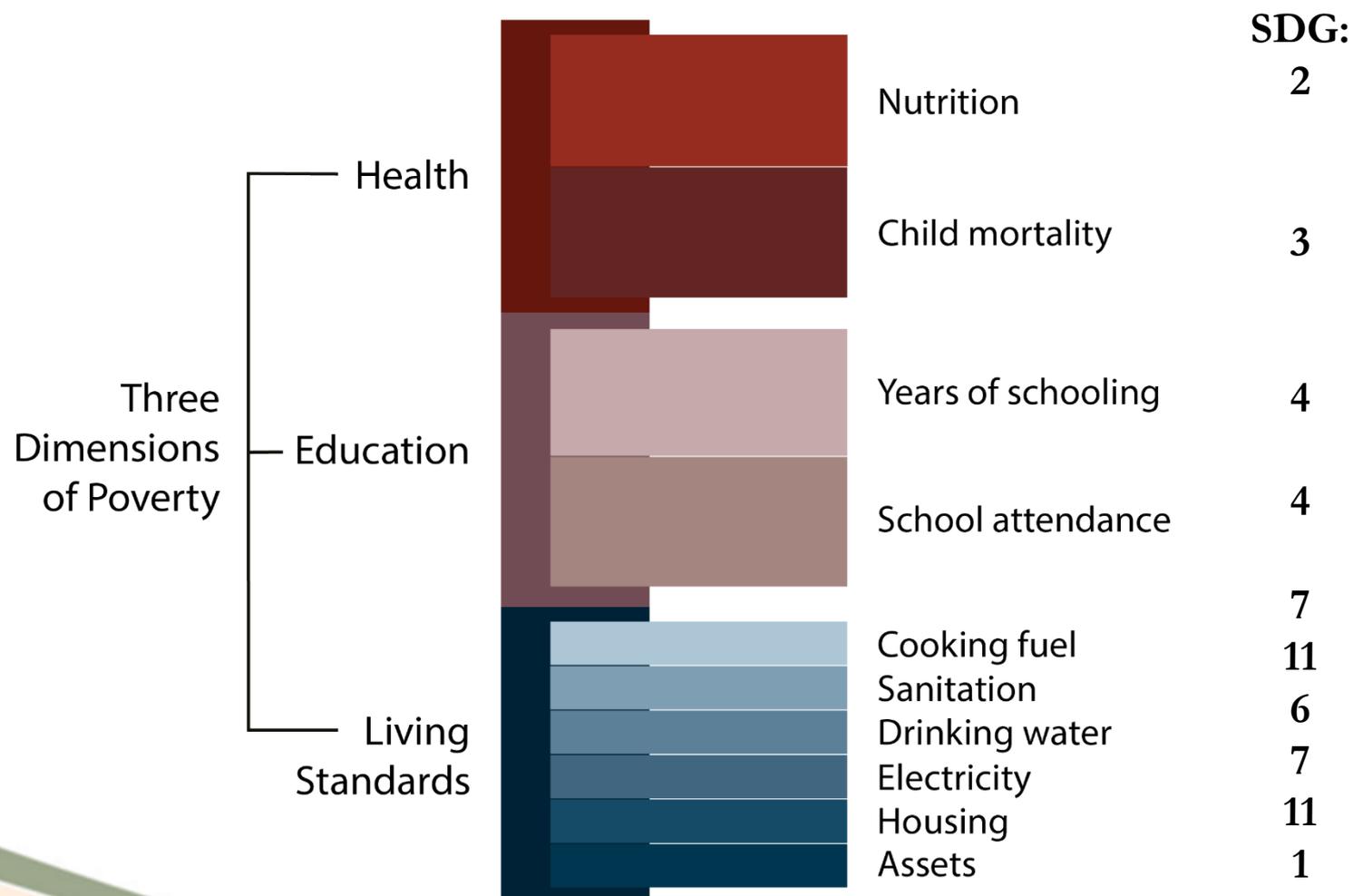
Dalma, Kenya

Ann-Sophie, Kenya

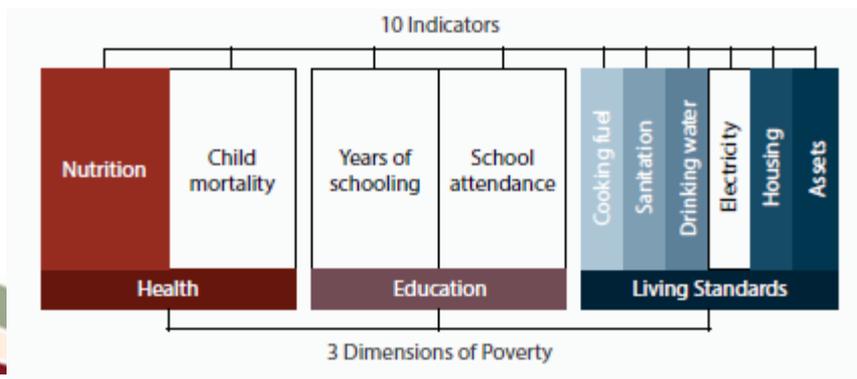
Valérie, Madagascar



The MPI: SDG 1 Target 1.2 Ind 1.2.2

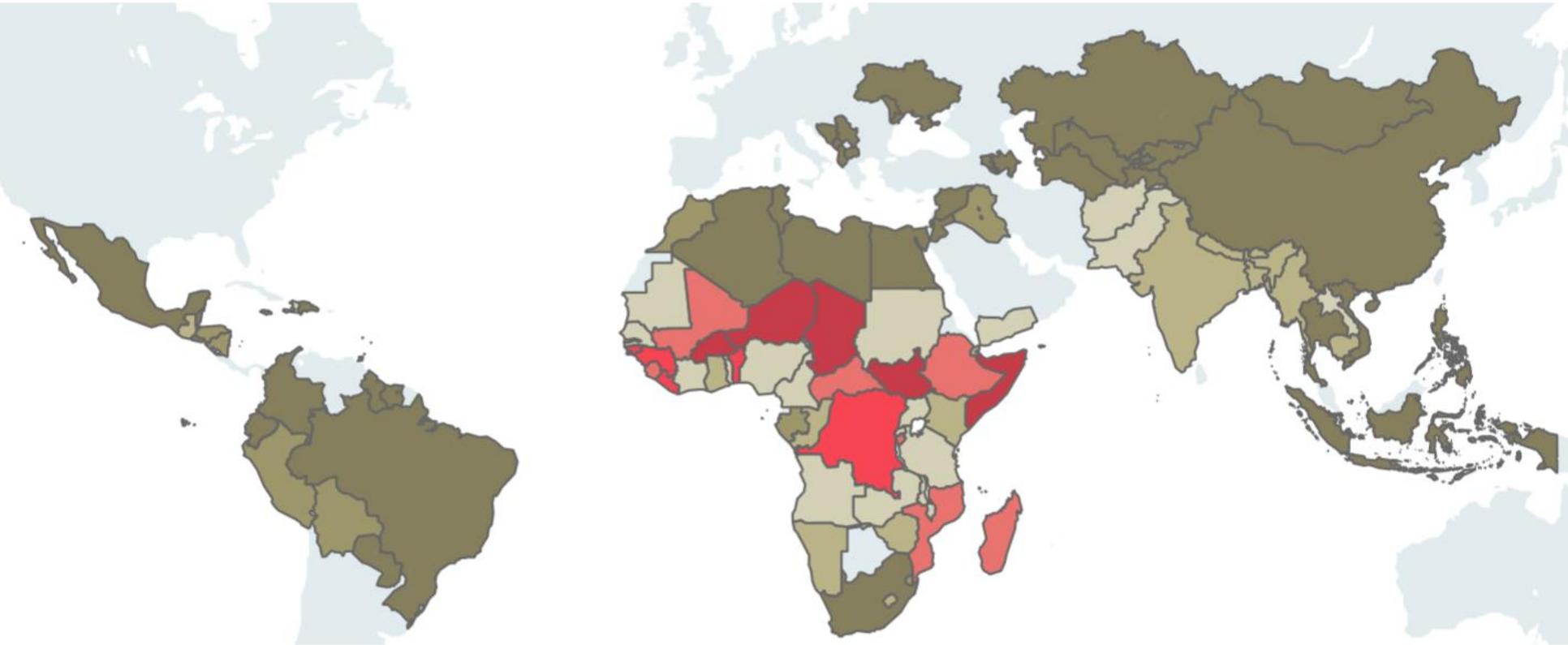


14-year old Amutha, India



Amutha is poor: she and her family are deprived in more than 1/3 of the MPI weighted indicators.

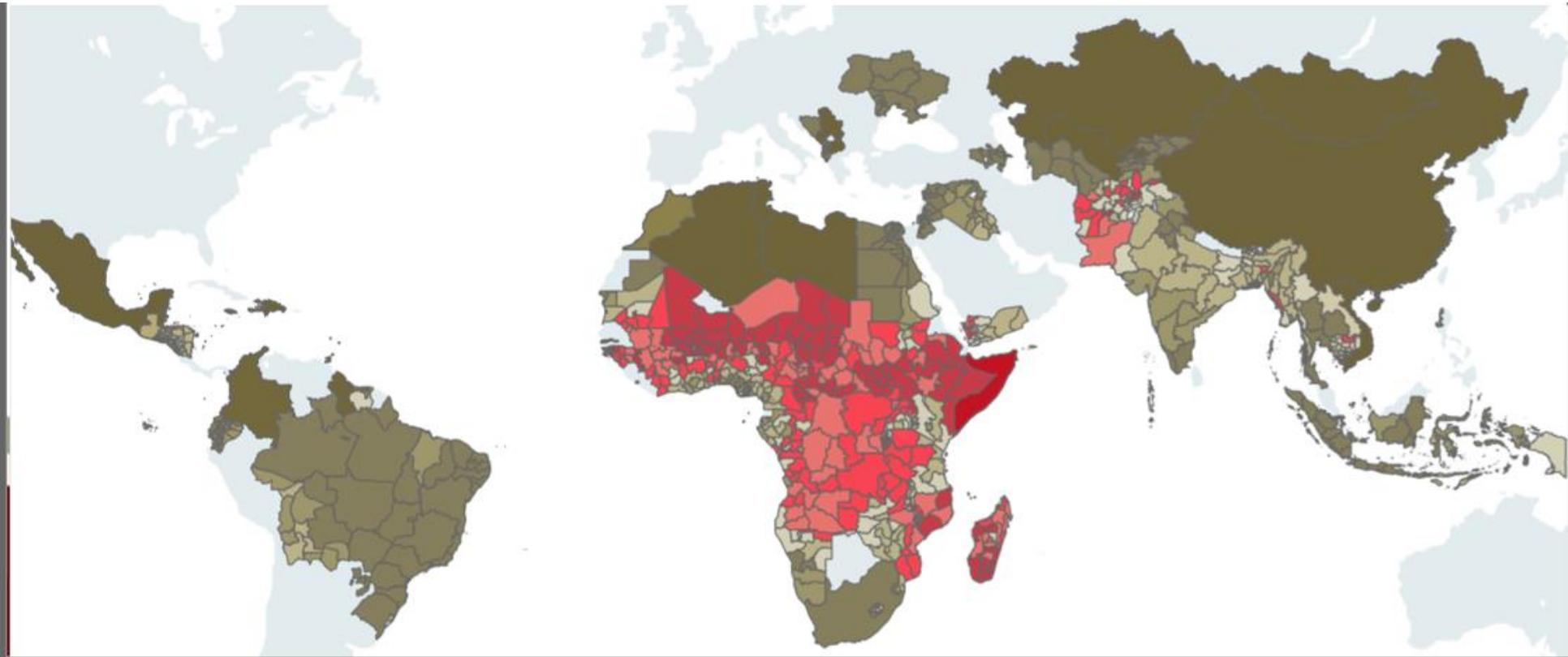
The global MPI 2018: 105 countries, 5.7 billion people



Disaggregation:

1127 subnational regions

plus age, rural-urban, ethnicity, disability status...

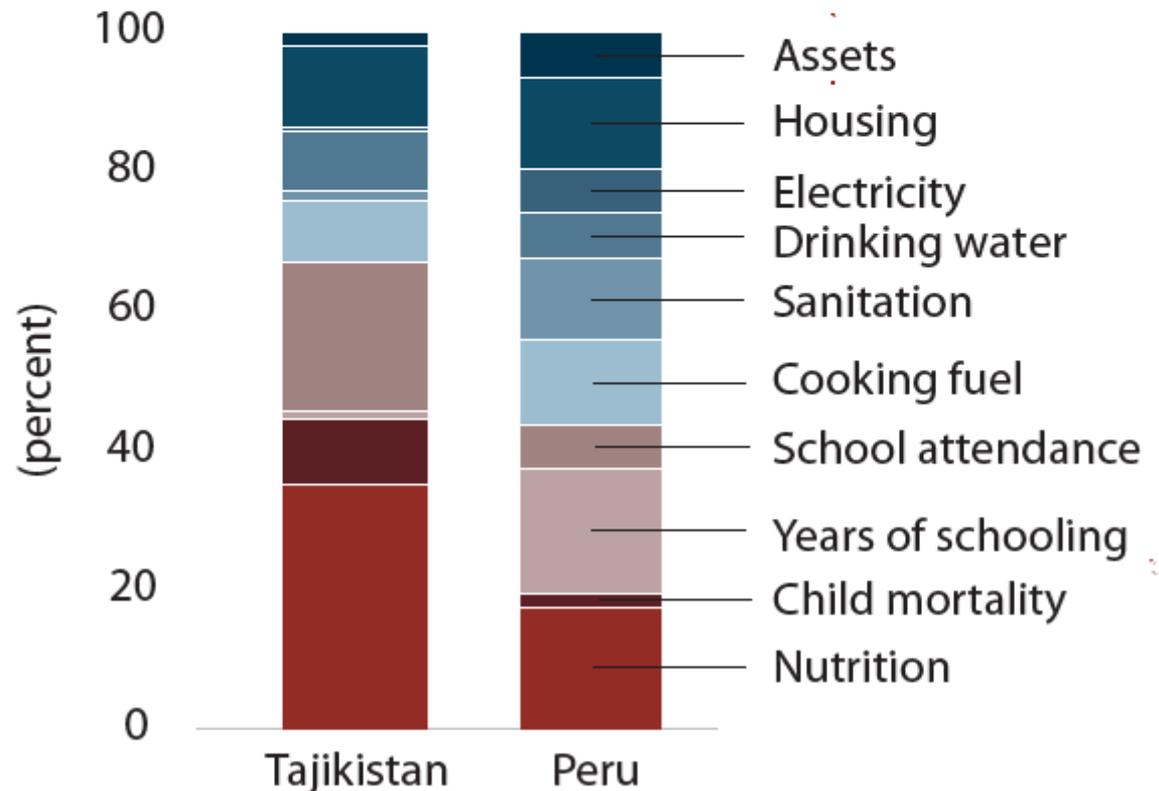


INFORMING POLICY:

**THE MPI SHOWS
THE SHAPE OF
POVERTY FOR EACH
GROUP — AND IT
VARIES.**

Breaking down the MPI by indicator to show the composition of poverty in a country

Example: Tajikistan and Peru have **similar MPI levels**, but **they differ markedly in the poverty composition**. In Peru years of schooling contributes 18 percent of the MPI while in Tajikistan it is only 1 percent.

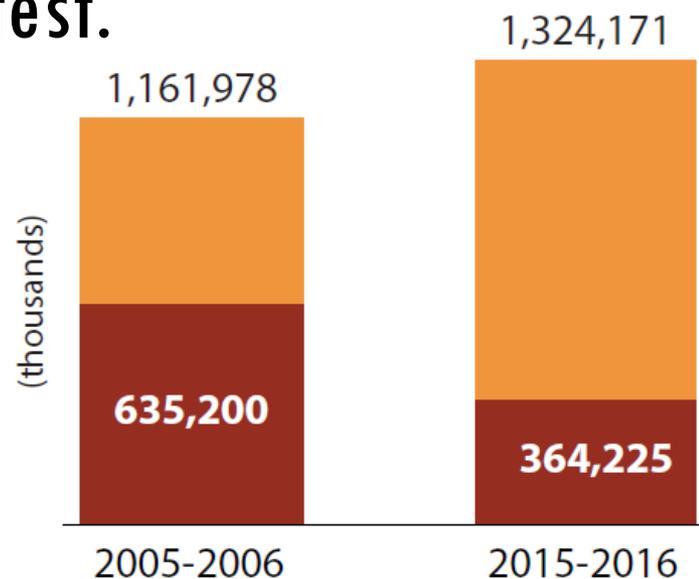


KEY FINDING : 271 MILLION PEOPLE MOVED OUT OF POVERTY IN INDIA 2005/6-2015/16

India cut the poverty rate **from 55% to 28%**

The poorest states reduced poverty fastest.

Yet India still has the largest number of people living in poverty in the world: 364 million



INDIA
364 million



NIGERIA
97 million



ETHIOPIA
86 million



PAKISTAN
85 million



BANGLADESH
67 million



MPI



IS GLOBAL



GLOBAL MPI

IS NATIONAL



NATIONAL MPI

IS BUSINESS



bMPI



TOGETHER FOR THE SAME GOAL

Policy makers use **National MPIs** for ‘integrated’ policies to:



- **Advance the SDGs** and report SDG 1.2.2
- **Allocate resources** by sector and region
- **Coordinate** policy across sectoral silos and regions
- **Target** marginalized regions, groups, or households
- **Leave No One Behind** - region, ethnicity, children
- **Track poverty** trends – are the poorest going fastest

bMPI

MEASURES POVERTY

In its relevant dimensions, identifying not just who is poor in the business but how poor and the specific factors keeping them in poverty.

IS ALIGNED

With national measures that facilitate coordination with government efforts to end poverty.

HOW IT STARTED?

“ Might there be any multidimensional poverty among people working in my bank? ”

Ernesto Castegnaro, past Chairman of BAC Credomatic Bank, Costa Rica.

bMPI
Survey result?

12%

of BAC employees and their families were living in poverty

SAMPLE OF BUSINESS IMPLEMENTING THE bMPI IN COSTA RICA



SOPHIA OXFORD WAS BORN



**OXFORD UNIVERSITY'S FIRST SOCIAL VENTURE SPIN-OUT
ITS MAJOR GOALS ARE:**

- To implement the bMPI among the private sector, to measure and identify poverty amongst business employees and their families, their contractors, suppliers and supply chains.
- To develop private and public-private strategies to move employees and their families out of poverty.

SOPHIA Oxford has an ongoing research-partnership with OPHI to enable innovation, impact evaluation, and on-going monitoring and analysis.

Tabita, Kenya

Rabiya, India

Stephanie, Madagascar

Agatha, Madagascar

Dalima, Kenya

Ann-Sophia, Kenya

Valérie, Madagascar



Measuring well-being & IHD



Bhutan's Gross National Happiness Index takes a **holistic** approach. **Nine domains** represent integral human development

1. **Psychological wellbeing** – spiritual and emotional
2. **Health** – physical and mental
3. **Education** – schooling, legends, plants, and values
4. **Time use** – a balance of work, sleep, and leisure
5. **Cultural diversity & resilience** – festivals, etiquette
6. **Good governance** – services, elections, rights
7. **Community vitality** – volunteering, belonging, family
8. **Ecological diversity** – responsibility, disasters, threat
9. **Living standards** – work, housing, and income.

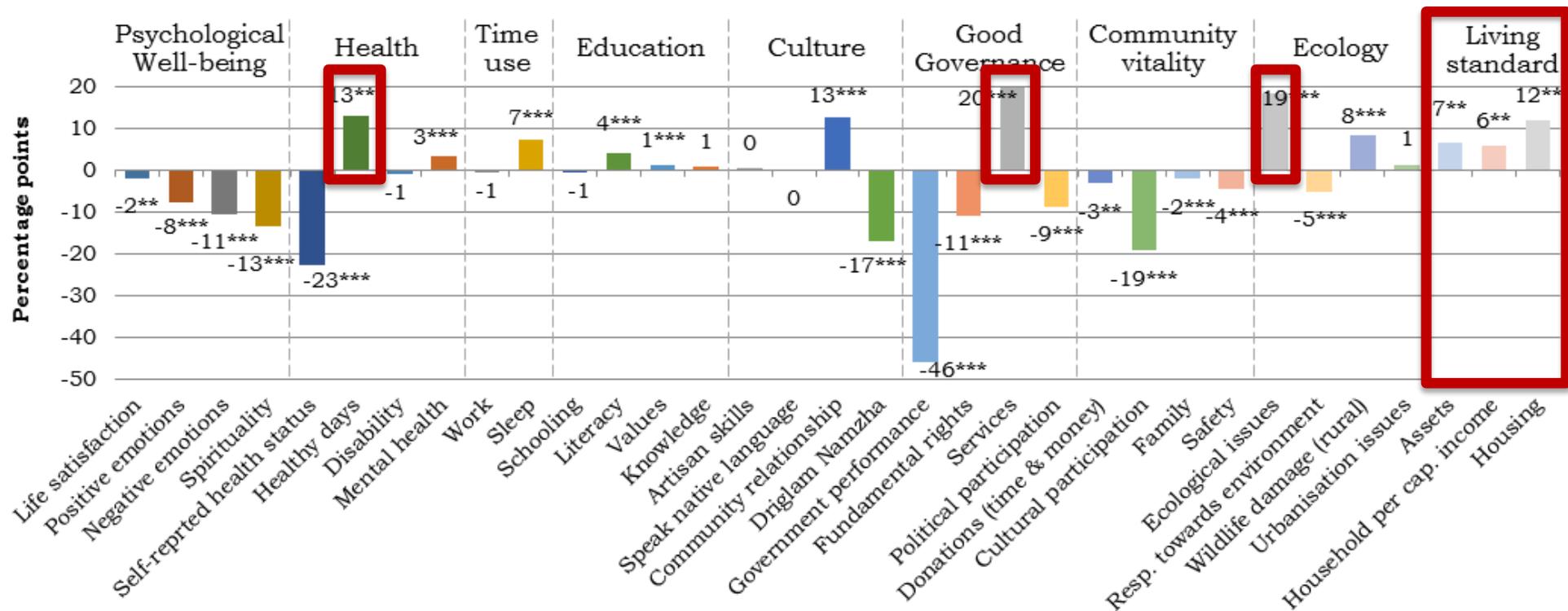
The domains remind us to incorporate all vital aspects of ihd into our plans and actions – personal, and collective.



To measure GNH we profile 33 indicators of well-being for each person.



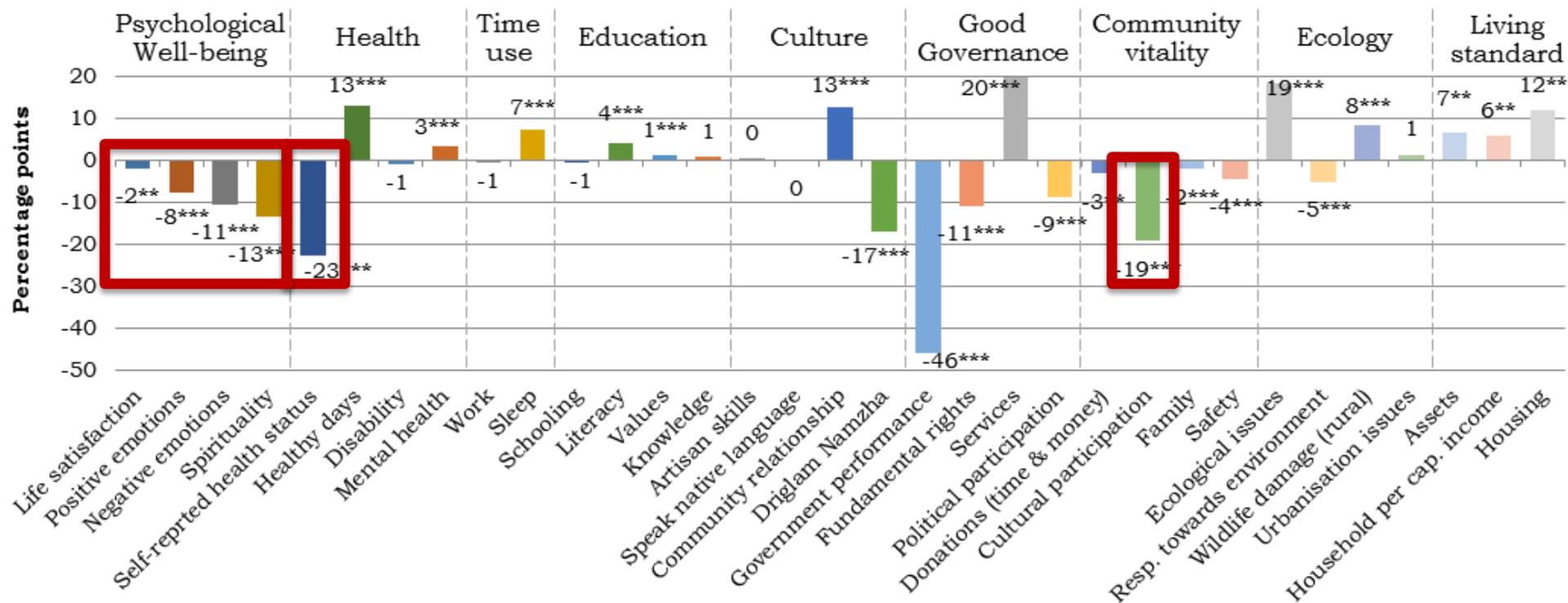
Domain	Indicators	
Psychological wellbeing	Life satisfaction	
	Positive emotion	
	Negative emotion	
	Spirituality	
Health	Self-reported health	
	Number of healthy days	
	Disability	
	Mental health	
Time use	Work	
	Sleep	
Education	Literacy	
	Schooling	
	Knowledge	
	Value	
Cultural diversity & resilience	Artisan skills	
	Cultural participation	
	Speak native language	
	<i>Driglam Namzha</i>	
Good Governance	Political participation	
	Services	
	Governance performance	
	Fundamental rights	
Community vitality	Donation time & money	
	Safety	
	Community relationship	
	Family	
Ecological diversity & resilience	Wildlife damage	
	Urban issues	
	Environmental Resp.	
	Ecological issues	
Living Standard	Income	
	Assets	
	Housing	



Note: *** statistically significant at 1%, ** statistically significant at 5%, * statistically significant at 10%.

2010-2015: GNH Grew significantly.

How?: Living standards, Ecology, Services, Health



Note: *** statistically significant at 1%, ** statistically significant at 5%, * statistically significant at 10%.

**But anger, anxiety, frustration rose;
Contentment and generosity declined
Spirituality, prayer and meditation decreased.
There was a rise in loneliness, a decreased sense of ‘belonging’
The GNH Index is a nuanced policy tool for IHD.**

Tabita, Kenya

Rabiya, India

Stephanie, Madagascar

Agatha, Madagascar

Dalima, Kenya

Ann-Sophia, Kenya

Valérie, Madagascar



Thank you

www.ophi.org.uk

www.sophiaoxford.org