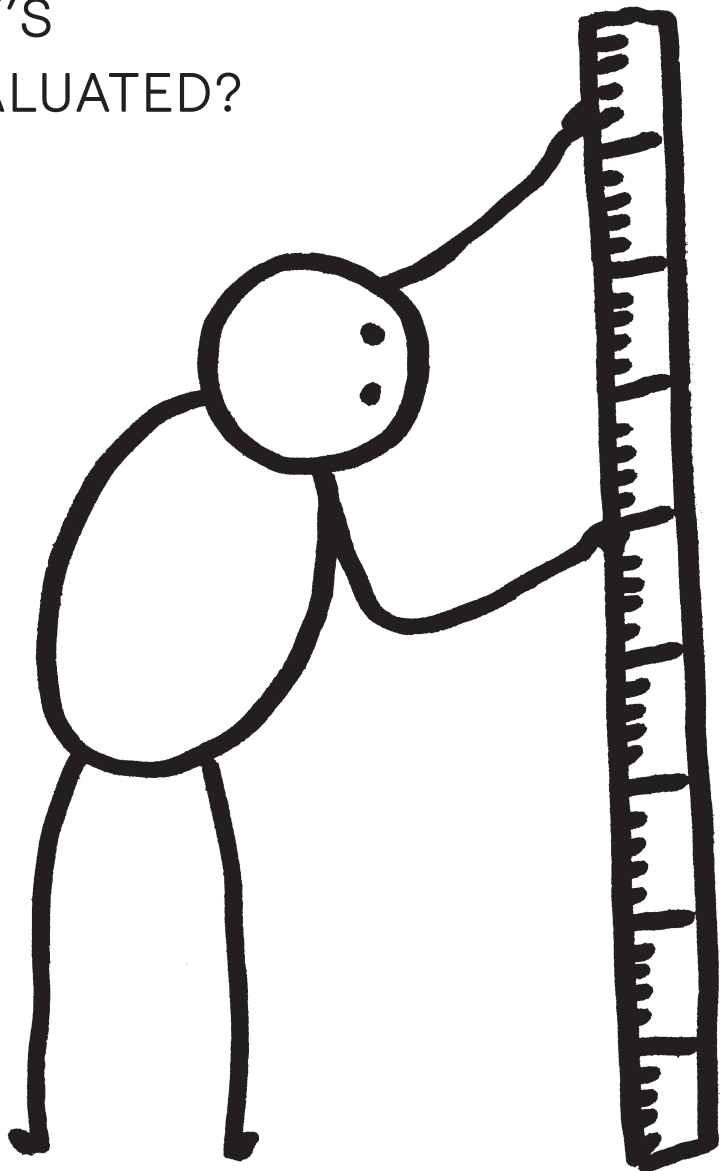


INFORMATION SHEET

# MEASURING DEVELOPMENT

HOW IS A COUNTRY'S  
DEVELOPMENT EVALUATED?

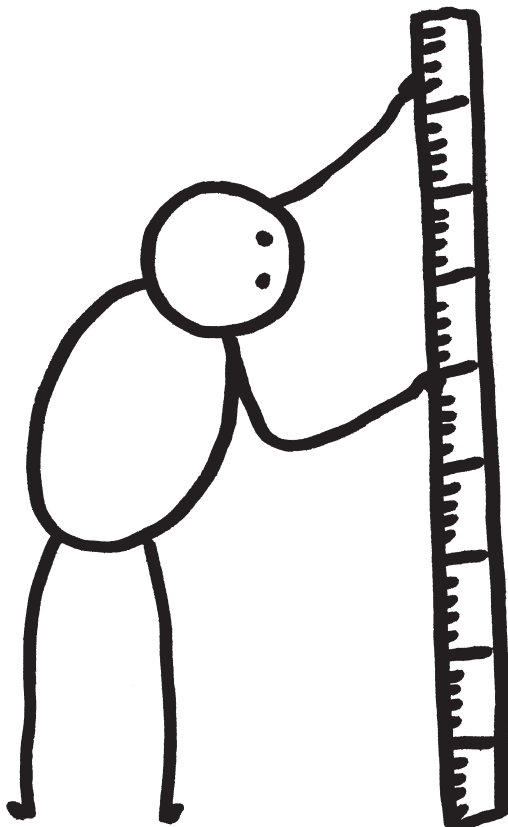


# MEASURING DEVELOPMENT

## HOW IS A COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT EVALUATED?

How is "development" measured? Economic factors such as gross national income are used as standard indicators for the degree of development of a country. This approach is increasingly brought into question as it says little about well-being, justice and a sound environment. In the meantime the notion that development is a multi-faceted phenomenon and also that dimensions such as education, life expectancy or inequality should be considered is being adopted more and more.

On the following pages, three different methods for measuring development are presented.



# GROSS NATIONAL INCOME

The World Bank splits countries into economies of low, middle or high income. The “gross national income” is the average income of all people who live in a country.

## MEASUREMENT

In 2016 the World Bank measured the gross national income from 218 countries: 139 countries had a low or middle income. These are the countries which are generally depicted as “developing countries”. Only 79 countries belong to the category of high-income countries.

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### LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES

Per capita income of 1 025 USD or less per year

31 countries: e.g. Afghanistan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Liberia, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda

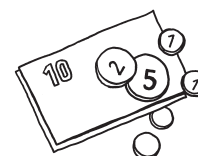



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### LOWER-MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

Per capita income between 1 026 USD and 4 035 USD per year

51 countries: e.g. Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Kenya, Kosovo, Cameroon, India, Morocco, Nicaragua, Sudan, Yemen

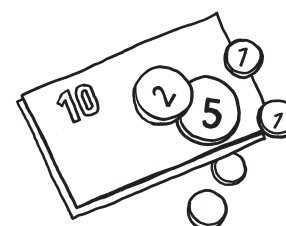



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### HIGHER-MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

Per capita income between 4 036 USD and 12 475 USD per year

56 countries: e.g. Bosnia, China, Gabon, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Macedonia, Mexico, Namibia, Peru, Russian Federation, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey

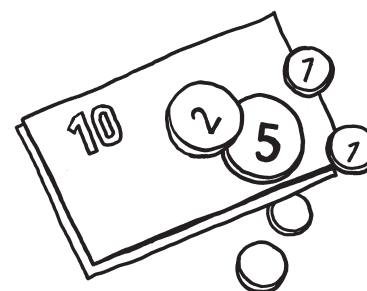



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### HIGH-INCOME COUNTRIES

Per capita income of USD 12 476 or more per year

79 countries: e.g. all Western European states, Australia, Hong Kong, Qatar, Kuwait, Singapore, Uruguay, USA



# HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX

The “Human Development Index” was created by the United Nations in order to emphasize that for the evaluation of the development of a country not only should economic criteria be taken into consideration, but also people and their abilities.

The index has been published annually since 1990 by the United Nations Development Programme UNDP in the “Human Development Report”.

In the first places in 2015 were Norway, Australia, Switzerland, Denmark and the Netherlands. In the last places were Burundi, Chad, Eritrea, Central African Republic and Niger.

## MEASUREMENT

The human development index is composed of the following three dimensions:

### LIFE EXPECTANCY INDEX



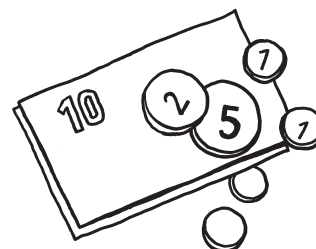
**LONG AND HEALTHY LIFE**  
Life expectancy at birth

### EDUCATION INDEX



**KNOWLEDGE**  
Mean years of schooling/  
Expected years of schooling

### GROSS NATIONAL INCOME (GNI) INDEX



**A DECENT STANDARD OF LIVING**  
Income per capita (currency adjusted)

# HAPPY PLANET INDEX

Der Happy Planet Index misst, was wichtig ist: eine nachhaltige Lebenszufriedenheit für alle. Er gibt Auskunft darüber, wie gut Nationen darin abschneiden, lange, glückliche und nachhaltige Leben zu erreichen.

Westliche Länder, die oft als Standard für Erfolg gesehen werden, liegen beim Happy Planet Index nicht auf den ersten Plätzen. Stattdessen sind es Länder in Lateinamerika und im asiatisch-pazifischen Raum, die den Index anführen, indem sie hohe Lebenserwartung und Lebenszufriedenheit mit einem kleineren ökologischen Fussabdruck erreichen.

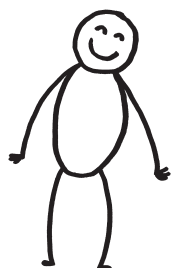
Auf den ersten Plätzen lagen im Jahr 2016 die Länder Costa Rica, Mexiko, Kolumbien, Vanuatu und Vietnam. Auf den letzten Plätzen lagen Mongolei, Benin, Togo, Luxemburg und Chad.

## MESSUNG

Der Happy Planet Index kombiniert vier Elemente, um zu zeigen, wie effizient die Einwohner/innen eines Landes ökologische Ressourcen nutzen, um ein langes glückliches Leben zu leben:

### LEBENSZUFRIEDENHEIT

Zufriedenheit der Einwohner eines Landes mit dem eigenen Leben auf einer Skala von 1 bis 10.



### LEBENSERWARTUNG

Durchschnittliche Anzahl an Jahren, die eine Person in einem Land voraussichtlich lebt.



### UNGLEICHHEIT

Ungleichheit zwischen den Menschen eines Landes (wie lange sie leben, wie zufrieden sie sind), ausgedrückt in Prozenten.



HAPPY  
PLANET  
INDEX



### ÖKOLOGISCHER FUSSABDRUCK

Durchschnittlicher Einfluss jedes Einwohners eines Landes auf die Umwelt in globalen Hektaren (gha) pro Person.

# LINKS & INFO



## MEASURING DEVELOPMENT



### Country Classification

World Bank Country and Lending Groups (World Bank)

<https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519-world-bank-country-and-lending-groups>



### Human Development Index (HDI)

Summary by UNDP (United Nations Development Programme)

<http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-index-hdi>



### Happy Planet Index

The Happy Planet Index measures what matters: sustainable wellbeing for all.

[www.happyplanetindex.org](http://www.happyplanetindex.org)



### The little data book 2016

World Development Indicators

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/23968/9781464808340.pdf?sequence=4&isAllowed=y> (World Bank Group)



### What is "Gross National Happiness"?

Explanation in 3 min (Morten Sondergaard)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Zqdqa4YNvI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Zqdqa4YNvI)

