Monitoring Human Development: Looking Across Measures

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OPHI
In the old days...

- Over two decades ago we looked at growth and GDP per capita as the indicator of ‘progress’ or improvement.
But then… HDR Indices

Importance of going beyond growth
1. HDI
2. IHDI
3. GII
4. MPI
HDI, IHDI and % loss in HD
## HDI Components & Inequality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Life Expectancy</th>
<th>Mean Years of schooling</th>
<th>Expected Years of Schooling</th>
<th>GNI per capita</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>64.4</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>3,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>66.3</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>4,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>74.4</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4,886</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Atkinson Health</th>
<th>Atkinson Education</th>
<th>Atkinson Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>40.6%</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
<td>28.7%</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## GII Components

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>MMR</th>
<th>AFR</th>
<th>Parlim.</th>
<th>Secondary Educ.</th>
<th>LFP</th>
<th>Contracept.</th>
<th>Antenatal</th>
<th>Births Skilled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>68.1</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>50.4</td>
<td>35.7</td>
<td>84.5</td>
<td>56.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>78.2</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>55.1</td>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>64.1</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>60.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>149.2</td>
<td>34.8</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>85.7</td>
<td>36.6</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HDI & MPI

China, Sri Lanka, Gabon, Bolivia, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Mozambique
Looking across indicators

• One indicator cannot summarize it all
• ‘Averages’ need to be complemented by:
  • Distribution information (inequality)
  • Gender relative performance
  • Absolute & simultaneous deprivation (poverty)
Looking across indicators

• One indicator cannot summarize it all
• We need to look at several at the same time
• We need to ‘unfold’- break down as much as we can:
  – By the indicators that compose a certain composite or multidimensional index
  – By subgroups whenever this is possible
Looking across indicators

- What is driving the improvement in the HDI?
- Are all groups benefiting equally?
- What is driving poverty reduction?
- Are all groups benefiting equally?
Looking across indicators

• But even HDI, IHDI, GII & MPI all together are not enough.
• Each has limitations...
Looking across indicators

• HDI: assumes perfectly equal distribution within each dimension and considers only three particular indicators of development.

• IHDI: has problems with measuring inequality in health and considers inequality only in the three particular indicators of HDI.
Looking across indicators

• GII: has ‘artificially’ created a lower bound of gender inequality because of considering issues of female reproductive health exclusively.

• MPI: considers imperfect indicators of functioning, ignores certain intrinsically important dimensions, and uses internationally comparable deprivation cutoffs.
Looking across indicators

• Human development is inherently a complex phenomenon, with multiple possible achievement paths.

• Thus it cannot be simplified in just one index, as much as we would like this to be possible!