Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2011 ~ Updates

Why is the 2011 MPI of a country different from its 2010 MPI value?

The 2011 MPI is calculated using the same dimensions, cutoffs, indicators, and weights as were used for the 2010 MPI. The MPI 2011 is reported on Table 5 of the Human Development Report 2011, p 143f. Details of the MPI can be found in Technical Note 4, p 172f, in the HDR 2011.

The 2011 MPI has been updated for some countries in the following ways:

1) **New Countries**: Five countries were added to UNDP’s set of MPI countries in 2011. They are: Bhutan, Maldives Timor-Leste, Uganda and Vanuatu. No MPI was released for these countries in 2010.

2) **Updated Data**: The MPI 2011 for twenty countries was calculated using updated data. These countries are: Albania, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Philippines, Republic of Congo, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Suriname.

   **Comparisons of MPI across time**: For seven of these countries, the updated data were consistent with the 2010 MPI data in terms of the sampling frame and indicators, so the differences between 2010 and 2011 MPI values can be interpreted as real reductions in MPI. The countries are: Bolivia (2003-2008), Colombia (2005-2010), Jordan (2007-2009), Kenya (2003-2009), Lesotho (2004-2009), Madagascar (2004-2009), and Nigeria (2003-2008). See HDR 2011 p 50.

3) **Refined estimates**: As a new index, the MPI construction was closely scrutinised and reviewed in 2011 for possible improvements. Improvements to fine-tune the MPI using the same dataset as in 2010 were made consistently in all countries, if these changes were relevant.

Please note that if the 2011 MPI is the same value as the 2010 MPI, this indicates that no updated data were available, nor were any refinements required. The MPI is updated when new publicly available data having all MPI indicators – such as Demographic Health Surveys and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys – are released.


Detailed tables on MPI 2011 can be found on www.ophi.org.uk. Further tables - which decompose the MPI of 66 countries into 683 sub-national regions - will be forthcoming in late November. Analysis of the MPI 2011 results and of the equity issues across sub-national regions will be released on 7 December.

Please do let us know what you think! Email- ophi@qeh.ox.ac.uk