

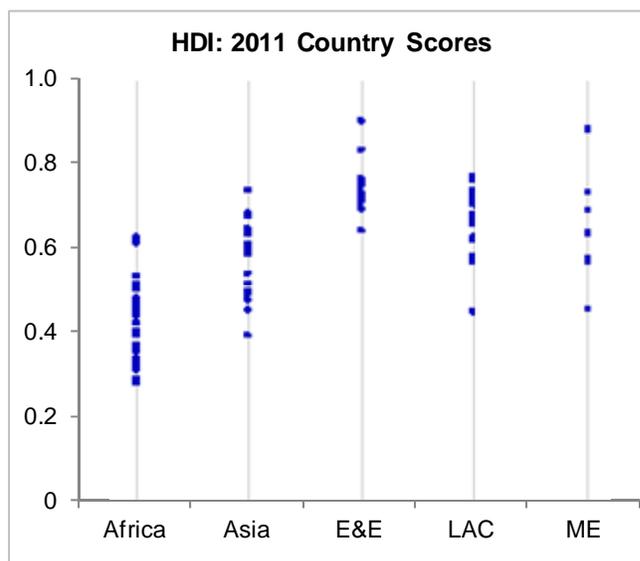
Sustainability and Equity: A Better Future for All

The *Human Development Report 2011* (HDR), published by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), focuses on linkages between two critical development issues: sustainability and equity. The authors examine policies to balance the competing and complementing goals of equitable development and protecting the environment. The report reveals the risk that environmental constraints and widening inequality could reverse much of the global progress in human development made over the past forty years. This snapshot highlights the findings of this year's HDR for the 95 countries that have received at least \$2 million in US foreign assistance in FY2009.

The Human Development Index (HDI)

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a composite index that includes health, education, and income indicators. HDI scores range from 0 to 1 with 1 being the best possible score. Based on the list of USAID assisted countries, the average HDI score has improved by nearly 37 percent from 1980 to 2011. However, there is some evidence that progress has begun to decelerate. From 2009 to 2010 the average HDI for USAID countries increased by 0.88 percent but only increased by 0.57 percent from 2010 to 2011.

The majority of USAID countries receiving high HDI scores are in Europe and Eurasia (six), followed by the Latin America and Caribbean region (three). While all of the countries with the lowest HDI scores are from Africa, African countries have also shown the greatest improvement. Zimbabwe, Ghana, and Tanzania are three of the top five countries with the greatest improvement in their HDI scores from 2010 to 2011. Only one country's HDI score decreased from 2010 to 2011 (Madagascar) compared to three from 2009 to 2010 (Madagascar, Azerbaijan, and Haiti).



Most Improved Countries 2010–11

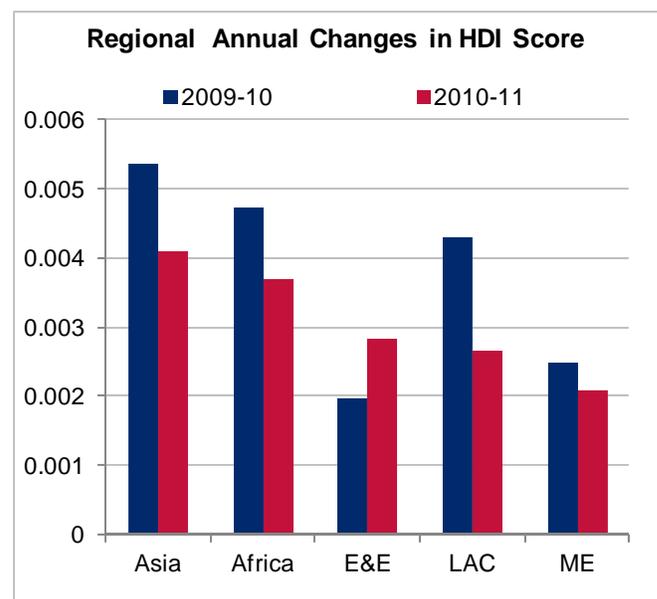
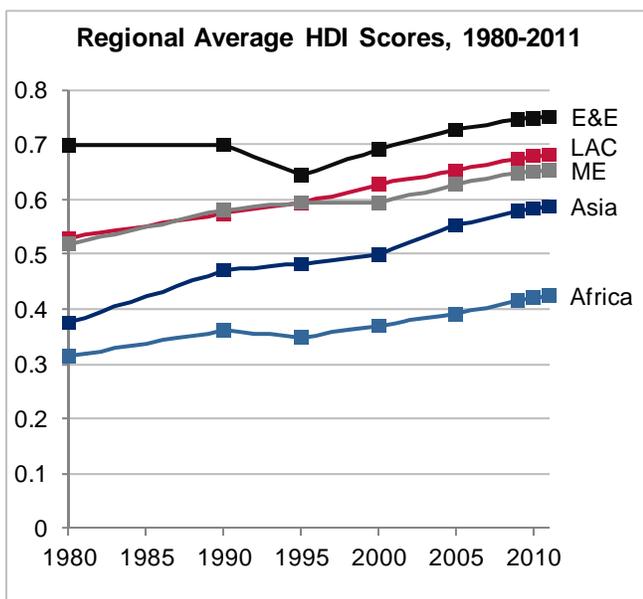
Country	Change in Score	Country	Change in Score	Country	Change in Score
Zimbabwe	0.012	Tanzania	0.006	Belarus	0.005
Ghana	0.008	China (P.R.C.)	0.006	Cambodia	0.005
Mongolia	0.006	Haiti	0.005	Zambia	0.005
Iraq	0.006				



Top 10 Countries		
Country	Rank	Score
Ireland	7	0.908
Israel	17	0.888
Cyprus	31	0.840
Cuba	51	0.776
Montenegro	54	0.771
Mexico	57	0.770
Panama	58	0.768
Serbia	59	0.766
Belarus	65	0.756
Russia	66	0.755

Bottom 10 Countries		
Country	Rank	Score
Guinea	178	0.344
Central African Rep.	179	0.343
Sierra Leone	180	0.336
Burkina Faso	181	0.331
Liberia	182	0.329
Chad	183	0.328
Mozambique	184	0.322
Burundi	185	0.316
Niger	186	0.295
Congo (Kinshasa)	187	0.286

The following two charts display regional average scores for USAID assisted countries. (Note: The charts only include data for years that have been updated according to the 2011 methodology because the UNDP frequently changes its methodology for calculating HDI and only backdates certain years.) Since 1980, countries across all regions have made significant improvements in their HDI scores despite a few slight decreases. Asia has made the greatest overall improvements, adding over 0.2 points to the regions' average HDI score since 1980 and continuing to improve more than any other region over the past two years. While all regions have experienced improvements over the past two years, the size of the annual improvement has generally decreased from 2010 to 2011 compared to 2009 to 2010, with the exception of Europe and Eurasia.

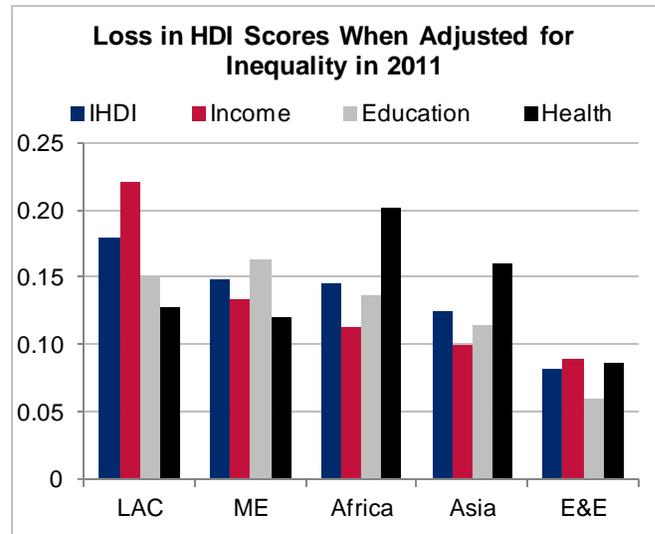


Inequality-adjusted HDI: Widening Income inequality

This year’s HDR continued last year’s innovation of adjusting HDI scores for inequality. In the inequality-adjusted HDI score (IHDI) the authors adjust the HDI scores downwards for inequality (higher inequality means that the difference between the inequality-adjusted HDI score and the HDI score will be greater). The adjustment for inequality is calculated for each component of HDI using data from household surveys that reflects the distribution of each dimension across the country’s population. Because there is no country where there is perfect equality, all IHDI scores are lower than the corresponding HDI scores. The findings of the report show that while there have been significant improvements in decreasing inequality in education and health, these gains have been offset by widening inequality in income.

Among USAID assisted countries, the total loss in HDI scores when adjusted for inequality is greatest in the LAC region due to high income inequality. All regions have made improvements in increasing life expectancy throughout society except for Africa where HIV/AIDS continues to be a challenge. Inequality in education remains a concern, particularly in the Middle East.

The country with the greatest difference between its HDI and Inequality-adjusted-HDI scores due to high income inequality is Namibia, followed several Latin American countries: Colombia, Bolivia, Brazil, Honduras, and Venezuela.

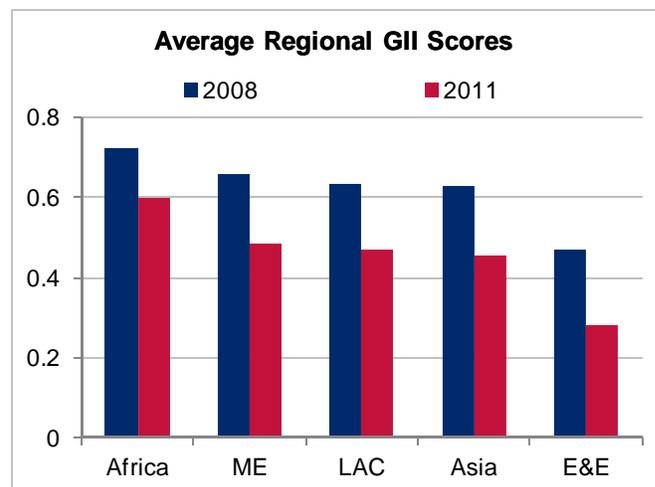


Gender Inequality Index (GII): Improving Gender Equality

The GII is a distinct measure from the HDI that is intended to capture inequalities between men and women across three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment, and the labor market. The GII scores range from 0 to 1; unlike the HDI, higher scores in the GII reflect greater inequality.

According to the 2011 HDR, countries in Sub-Saharan Africa are struggling to decrease gender disparities in education, high maternal mortality rates, and high adolescent fertility rates. Meanwhile, in the Middle East, women are mostly affected by unequal labor force participation and low educational attainment. Europe and Eurasia has the best average GII score and also decreased its score by 0.19 points from 2008 to 2011.

In addition to highlighting the need for greater improvement in the areas of reproductive health and empowerment to decrease gender inequality, the authors of the 2011 HDR emphasize the linkages between these issues and consequences for addressing environmental challenges. For example, lack of access to family planning and contraception aggravates popu-



lation growth which contributes to increased greenhouse gas emissions. The report also highlights studies that suggest greater participation of women in decision-making at national and local levels tends to lead to more pro-environmental policies.

Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI): Analyzing Poverty Not Captured by Income

The 2011 HDR updates the MPI, the third composite index first introduced in the 2010 report. The MPI identifies the number of individuals suffering from deprivations in education, health, and standard of living. The MPI ranges from 0 to 1, with scores closer to 1 representing a greater degree of poverty. The data come from the most recent household surveys between 2003 and 2010 available in each country.

All of the bottom ten USAID assisted countries in the MPI rankings are from the Africa region. Since last year's Report, Sierra Leone, and Somalia moved up out of the ranks of the bottom ten but were replaced by Burkina Faso and Niger, which each fell by five places in their MPI rank. Most of the countries with the lowest MPI scores are from Europe and Eurasia and Asia.

Top 10 Countries		
Country	Rank	Score
Belarus	2	0
Kazakhstan	5	0.002
Bosnia and Herzegovina	7	0.003
Georgia	7	0.003
Serbia	7	0.003
Armenia	9	0.004
Albania	11	0.005
Russia	11	0.005
West Bank/Gaza	11	0.005
Thailand	15	0.006

Bottom 10 Countries		
Country	Rank	Score
Angola	99	0.452
Liberia	100	0.485
Guinea	101	0.506
Central African Rep.	103	0.512
Mozambique	103	0.512
Burundi	104	0.530
Burkina Faso	105	0.536
Mali	106	0.558
Ethiopia	107	0.562
Niger	108	0.642

HDI Methodology and Limitations

The table below gives an overview of the dimensions and indicators included in each index in the 2011 HDR. For a full explanation of the methodology, please refer to the “Technical Notes” in the *Human Development Report 2011* (<http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2011/>).

Composition of Human Development Report Indices		
Index	Dimensions	Indicators
Human Development Index (HDI)	Health	Life expectancy at birth
	Education	Mean years of schooling Expected years of schooling
	Income	GNI per capita (PPP \$)
Inequality-adjusted HDI (IHDI)	Health	Life expectancy at birth
	Education	Mean years of schooling Expected years of schooling
	Income	GNI per capita (PPP \$)
Gender Inequality Index (GII)	Health	Maternal mortality ratio Adolescent fertility rate
	Empowerment	Population with at least secondary education by sex Female shares of parliamentary seats
	Labor Market	Female labor force participation rates
Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)	Health	Nutrition Child mortality
	Education	Years of schooling Children enrolled
	Standard of Living	Cooking fuel Toilet Water Electricity Floor Assets

The UNDP cautions against comparing HDI scores across years as the process of computing the HDI changes frequently. In the 2011 report, UNDP calculated HDI using the same methodology for years 1980, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2009, 2010, and 2011.

Additional Information

To access the complete country Human Development Report dataset, visit the Economic and Social Database (ESDB) at <http://esdb.eads.usaidallnet.gov/>. The ESDB website also offers related datasets from the United Nations and other sources.