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OECD WISE CENTRE – Well-Being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity

Chapter 2 – Key common principles of well-being measurement frameworks

**UNECE seminar and taskforce on
measuring well-being
Geneva, 8–10 JULY 2024**



The background of the entire slide is a photograph showing the silhouettes of several people jumping joyfully on a pier or walkway. The scene is set at sunset or sunrise, with the sun low on the horizon over a body of water, creating a warm, golden glow. The pier has a railing, and the overall atmosphere is one of happiness and vitality.

Knowledge Exchange Platform on Well-being

Metrics and Policy Practice (KEP)

Access the KEP: [oe.cd/KEP](https://www.oecd.org/oe.cd/KEP)

Workshop 1, June: summarising the complexity of well-being data and evidence:

<https://www.oecd.org/wise/events/KEP-Workshop1-Summarising-complexity-of-well-being-in-reporting-13-June-2024-Agenda.pdf>

Workshop 2, October: integrating well-being evidence in policy appraisal, design and evaluation tools

Plateforme d'échange de connaissances sur le bien-être

Indicateurs et pratiques politiques (KEP)



7TH OECD WORLD FORUM ON WELL-BEING

Strengthening Well-being Approaches
for a Changing World

Rome, Italy | 4-6 November 2024

At a glance...

The leading **large-scale international forum for knowledge exchange** on well-being evidence and practice across sectors and disciplines.

A 3-day event, bringing together **500 of the world's top experts and practitioners** on mainstreaming well-being approaches in government, business, research and civil society.

A mixture of high-level panels, parallel sessions, technical workshops and interactive discussions - maximising participants' **opportunities to learn, connect, and advance the well-being agenda.**

Themes to be addressed...

Strengthening well-being approaches to policy making

Improving data and analysis on well-being

Targeting social investment for long-term well-being outcomes

Fostering cross-sectoral collaboration for well-being

Accelerating & broadening climate action through a well-being lens

Harnessing technology & A.I. for inclusive, sustainable well-being



Registration is open on the following link:

<https://www.oecd-wellbeing-forum2024.mef.gov.it/how-to-participate>

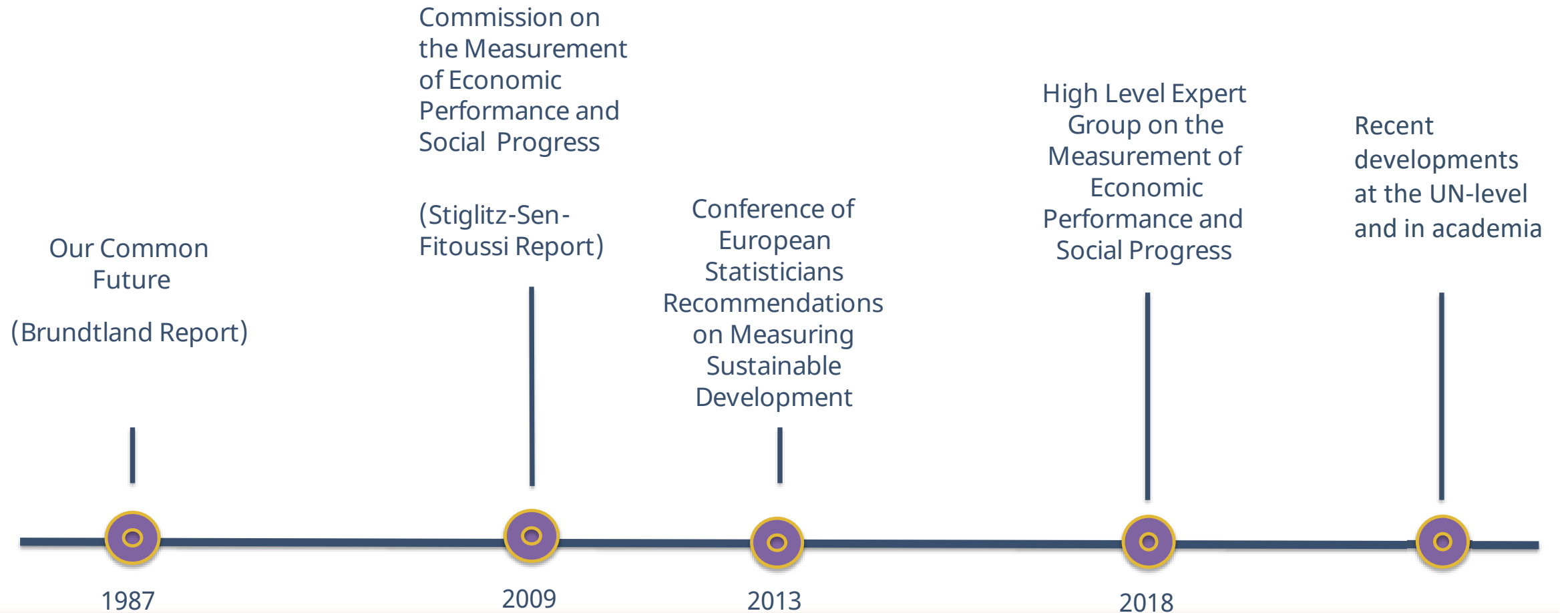


Chapter 2 overview

- Increasing momentum around providing a more holistic picture of societal progress over the past decade, and increasing convergence between initiatives
- Well-being = a broad, outcome-focused assessment of whether life is getting better for people across multiple dimensions, and of whether progress is inclusive and sustainable within planetary and social boundaries.
- **Section 1:** an overview of the main international reports on measuring societal progress “beyond GDP” and their key principles
- **Section 2:** How have international and national well-being frameworks reflected these recommendations?

Section 1: an overview of the main international reports on measuring societal progress “beyond GDP” and their key principles

Influential international reports calling for more holistic measures of societal progress



Influential international reports calling for more holistic measures of societal progress

Our Common Future, United Nations, 1987

Sustainable development = meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Societal Progress, 2009

Limits of GDP and calls for development of statistical system and dashboard centered on people's well-being and sustainability

Well-being = multidimensional

Distinguish between current well-being and sustainability

Assess inequalities in well-being

Include both objective and subjective measures

Influential international reports calling for more holistic measures of societal progress

Recommendations on Measuring Sustainable Development, Conference of European Statisticians, 2013

High Level Expert Group on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress, 2018

Recent measurement developments

Well-being of the present generation in a particular country (here and now), future generations (later) and for people living in other countries (elsewhere)

Further strengthening earlier SSF recommendations
Development of better-quality metrics (e.g. trust, social norms, economic inequality including in SNA)
Well-being evidence should be used to inform policy practice

UN-level activities (UNECE, Beyond GDP initiative in 2021, UNNES)

Academic: explicit notions of socio- and planetary boundaries

Section 2: How have international and national well-being frameworks reflected these recommendations?

More than 70% of OECD countries have developed national frameworks, development plans or surveys with a well-being focus

LEGEND

Regular = Measurement frameworks

Italicized = Policy frameworks

Initiatives in grey font are known to have since been discontinued

2016 to 2023

- 2023** *Measuring What Matters for Australia*
- 2022** **Belgium's** Sustainable Development Indicators
- 2021** *First & Second Report on a Well-being Framework for Ireland*
Chile Social Wellbeing Survey
- 2020** *Canada's Quality of Life Framework*
Norway Quality of Life in Norway
- 2019** **Japan** Cabinet Office Well-being Dashboard
Spain Quality of Life Indicators
Poland Responsible Development Index
Iceland Indicators of Well-being
Indicators Aotearoa **New Zealand**
- 2018** **Switzerland** updated MONET 2030 Indicators
New Zealand Living Standards Dashboard
- 2017** *Sweden* New Measures of Well-being
Luxembourg PIBien-être / Index of Well-being
Norway How We Are Doing
Netherlands Monitor of Well-being
Slovenia National Development Strategy 2030
- 2016** **Belgium** Complementary Indicators to GDP
Well-being in **Germany**
Italy Measures of Equitable and Sustainable Well-being (short set)

2011 to 2015

- 2015** **Australia's** Welfare
Israel Well-being, Sustainability and National Resilience Indicators
Indicators of Well-being in **Slovenia**
Finland Strategic Government Programme Indicators
France New Indicators of Wealth
- 2014** Quality of Life Indicators in **Korea**
Mexico Indicadores de bienestar
- 2013** **Italy** Measures of Equitable and Sustainable Well-being (full set)
Statistics **Portugal** Well-being Index
- 2012** How's **Austria**?
- 2011** *New Zealand* Treasury Living Standards Framework
United Kingdom Measures of National Well-being

2006 to 2010

- 2010** *Latvia* 2030
- 2009** **Finland's** Findicators

2000 to 2005

- 2004** *Australian* Treasury's Well-being Framework
- 2003** Measuring **Ireland's** Progress
- 2002** Measures of **Australia's** Progress

Key well-being measurement principles in practice + illustrative case studies

- (1) Distinction between current well-being, inclusion and sustainability
- (2) Well-being is understood as multidimensional
- (3) Indicators populating well-being dashboards are wherever possible outcome focused, and include both objective and subjective assessments of people's circumstances

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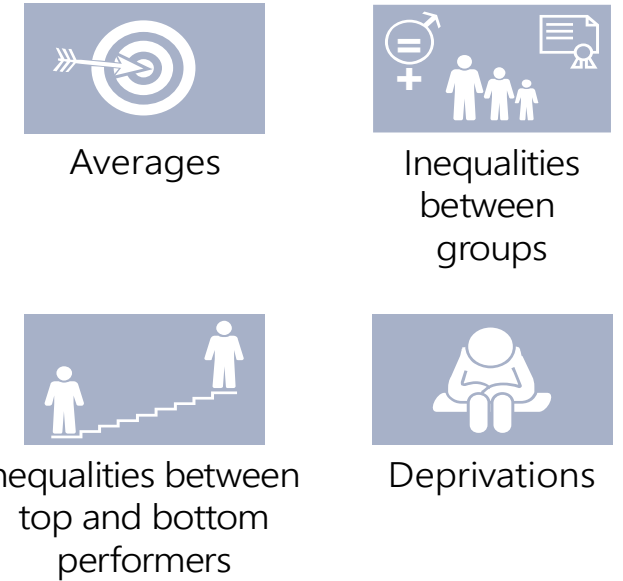
OECD Well-being Framework

CURRENT WELL-BEING

Key dimensions

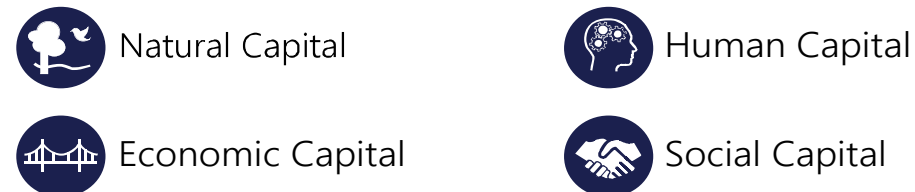


How we measure them

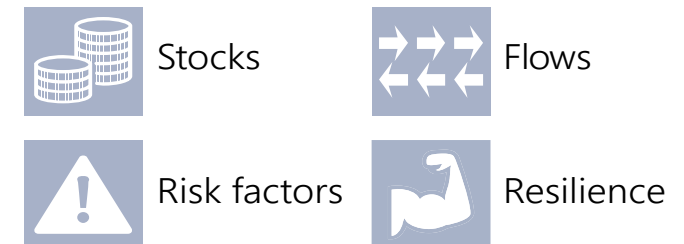


RESOURCES FOR FUTURE WELL-BEING

Key dimensions



How we measure them



Key well-being measurement principles in practice + illustrative case studies

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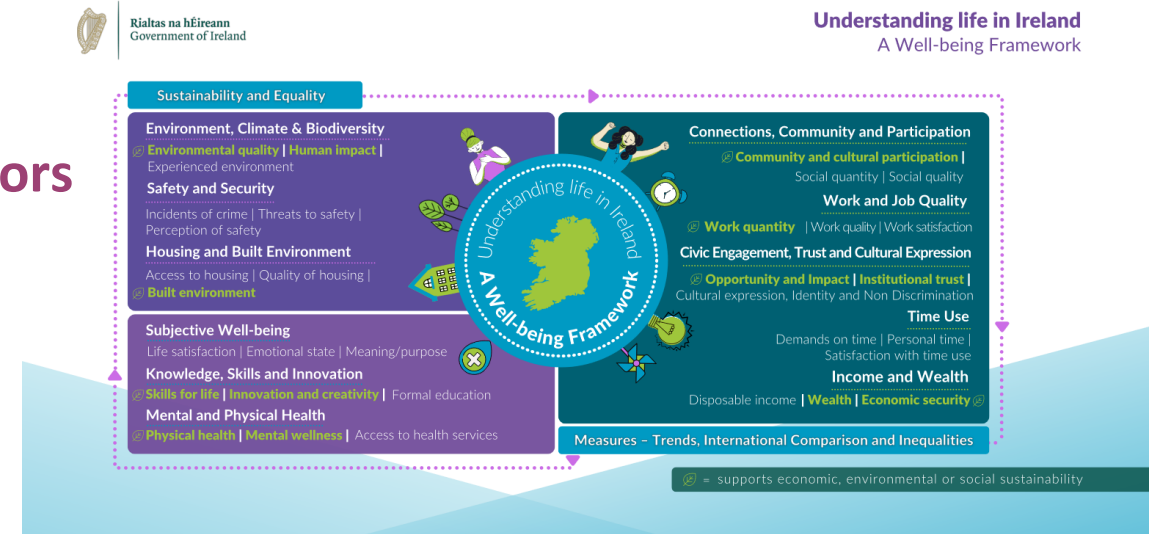
Many well-being initiatives share a common conceptual core

OECD Well-being Framework Dimensions		G7 Countries						Selected OECD Countries						International Efforts			
		CAN	DEU	FRA	GBR	ITA	JPN	IRL	ISL	ISR	KOR	NLD	NZL	EStat	HDI	SDGs	WHR
Current well-being	Income and wealth	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Work and job quality	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Housing	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Health	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Knowledge and skills	✓				✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	
	Environmental quality	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Subjective well-being	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
	Safety	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Work-life balance	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Social connections	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Civic engagement	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	
	Future well-being	Natural capital	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
Human capital		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Economic capital		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
Social capital		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Ireland Well-being Framework

11 dimensions, 35 indicators

Development:
widespread consultation



Italy Bes Indicators

12 dimensions, 153 indicators

Development:
widespread consultation



bes | 2021

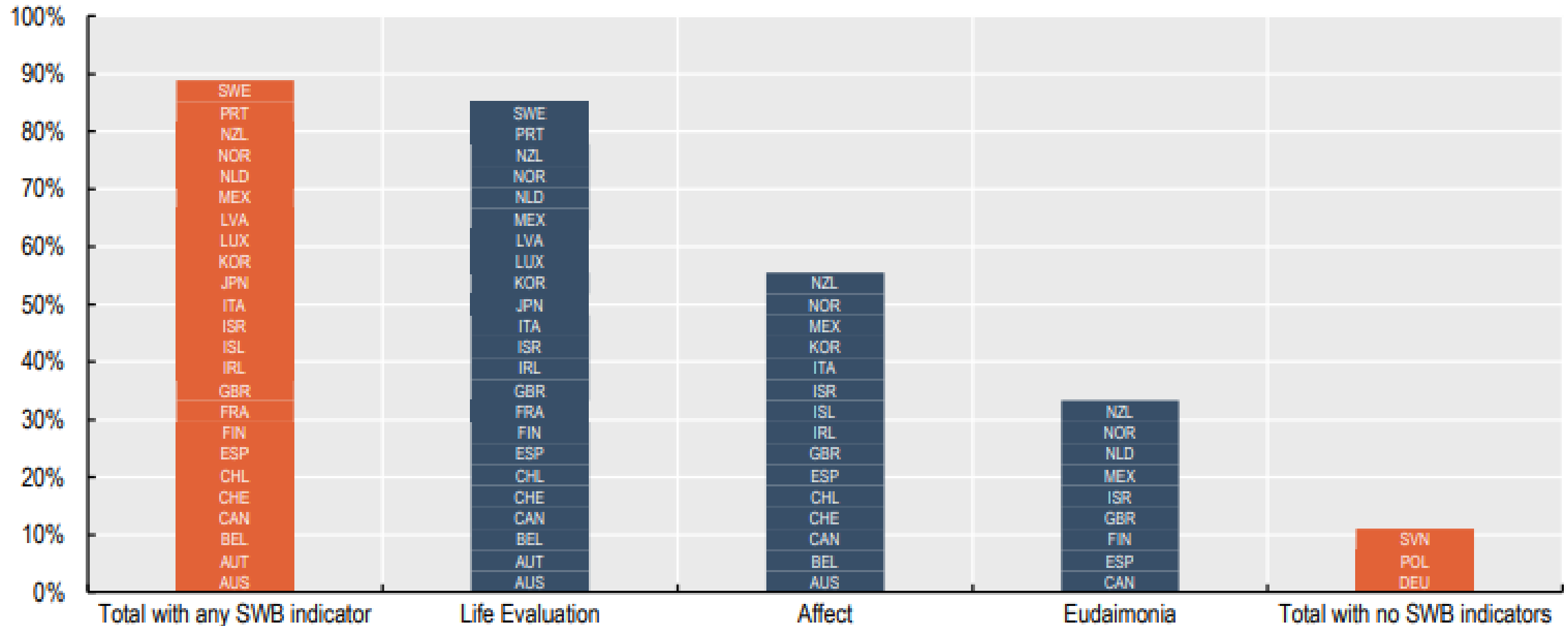


Key well-being measurement principles in practice + illustrative case studies

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The majority of national well-being initiatives include some form of subjective well-being indicator in their dashboards

Of the OECD countries that have developed a national well-being approach, the share that include subjective well-being indicators (and if so, by type), and the share that do not



Israel Well-being, Sustainability and National Resilience Indicators

Figure 2.10 Objective and subjective indicators in the quality of employment dimension

Indicator	Desired direction	Objective/Subjective
Employment rate	↑	objective
Involuntarily part-time employment rate	↓	objective
Median gross income from work	↑	objective
Satisfaction with work	↑	subjective
Satisfaction with income	↑	subjective
Satisfaction with promotion opportunities	↑	subjective
Field of work related to education	↑	subjective
Rate of persons injured in work accidents	↓	objective
Rate of long-term unemployment	↓	objective

Source: (CBS, 2016)

Open questions

- (1) The chapter provides references to the theoretical underpinnings of the beyond GDP agenda (eg behavioral economics, welfare economics, capability approach), but does not go into detail. Do we need a box?
- (2) Expansion of policy use discussion (currently a box)?
- (3) Cross-links to other chapters ok (eg SDGs/SNA → Chapter 3, dimensions → Chapter 4, consultations → Chapter 8)?