



The Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Index

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Please also see supplementary materials on:
<https://www.un.org/ohrlls/mvi>



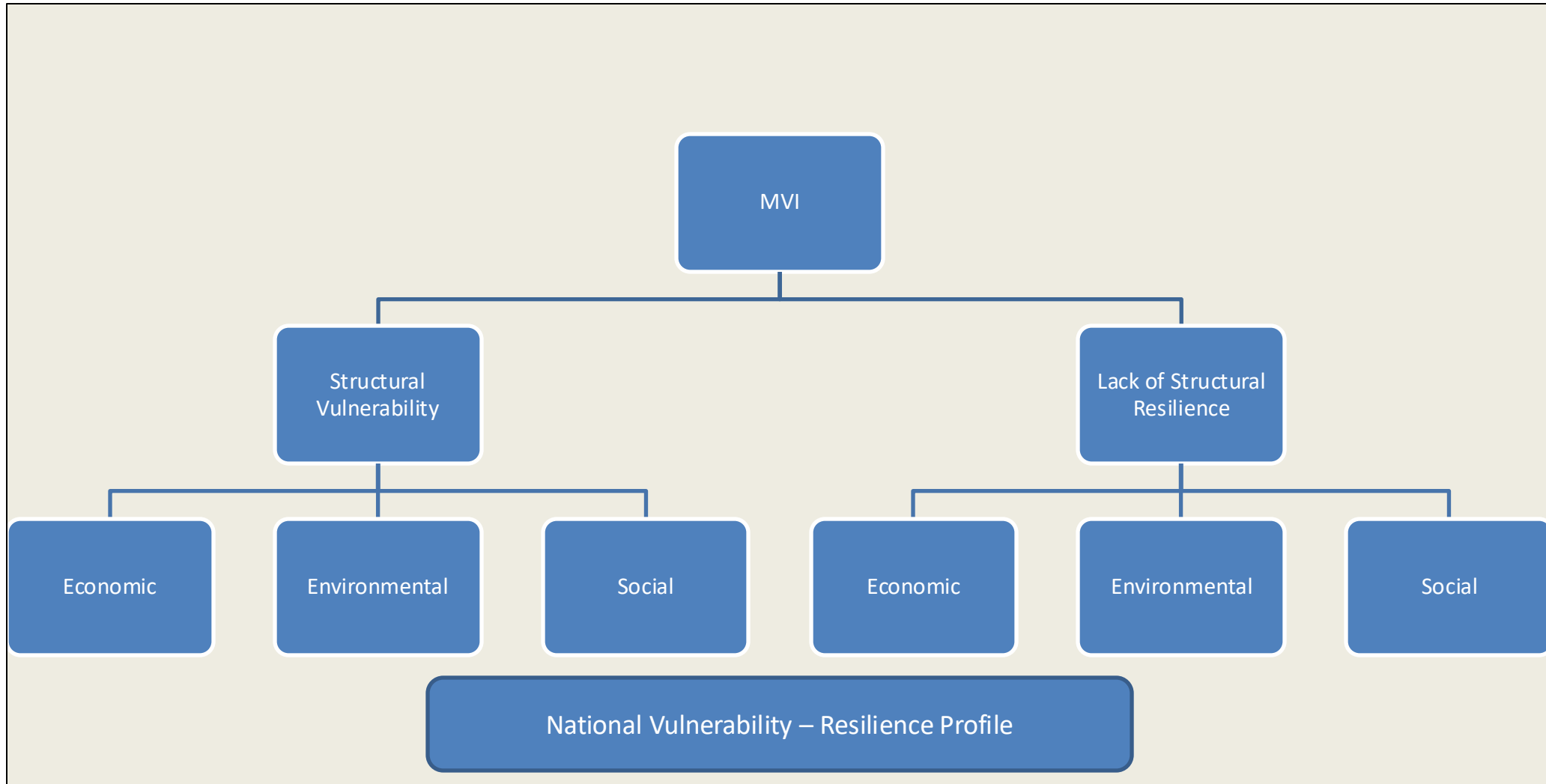
Why is an MVI needed?



- The distribution of world poverty has shifted along the transition spectrum with the rapid growth of large middle-income countries and the emergence of new forms of vulnerabilities linked, for example, to climate change.
- There is a need for a tool(s) to better diagnose the specific vulnerabilities and financing needs of developing countries especially SIDS
- **No international, widely accepted, quantitative benchmark to measure structural vulnerability or lack of resilience across multiple dimensions of sustainable development at the national level.**



THE FULL MVI FRAMEWORK





Conceptual Framework

MVI includes 2 pillars



From UNSG report (A/76/211):

➤ **2 pillars, *Vulnerability and Resilience***

Panel decisions *(see MVI report):*

➤ Structural **vulnerability:**

➤ *the risk of a country's sustainable development being hindered by recurrent adverse exogenous shocks and stressors.*

➤ Structural **resilience:**

➤ *the inherent characteristics or inherited capacity of countries to withstand, absorb, recover from or minimize the adverse effects of shocks or stressors*



The MVI framework – Principles from UNSG report



Multidimensionality

- ***Indicators should be drawn from all three dimensions of sustainable development***

Universality

- ***the vulnerabilities of all developing countries must be included in the index.***
- ***the index needs to employ available, recognized, comparable and reliable data.***

Exogeneity

- ***only factors that are structural should be considered.***
 - *Structural: factors that are inherent or slow-moving, independent from current or recent policy choices*

Evidence-based

- ***There should be evidence relating index concepts to vulnerability***

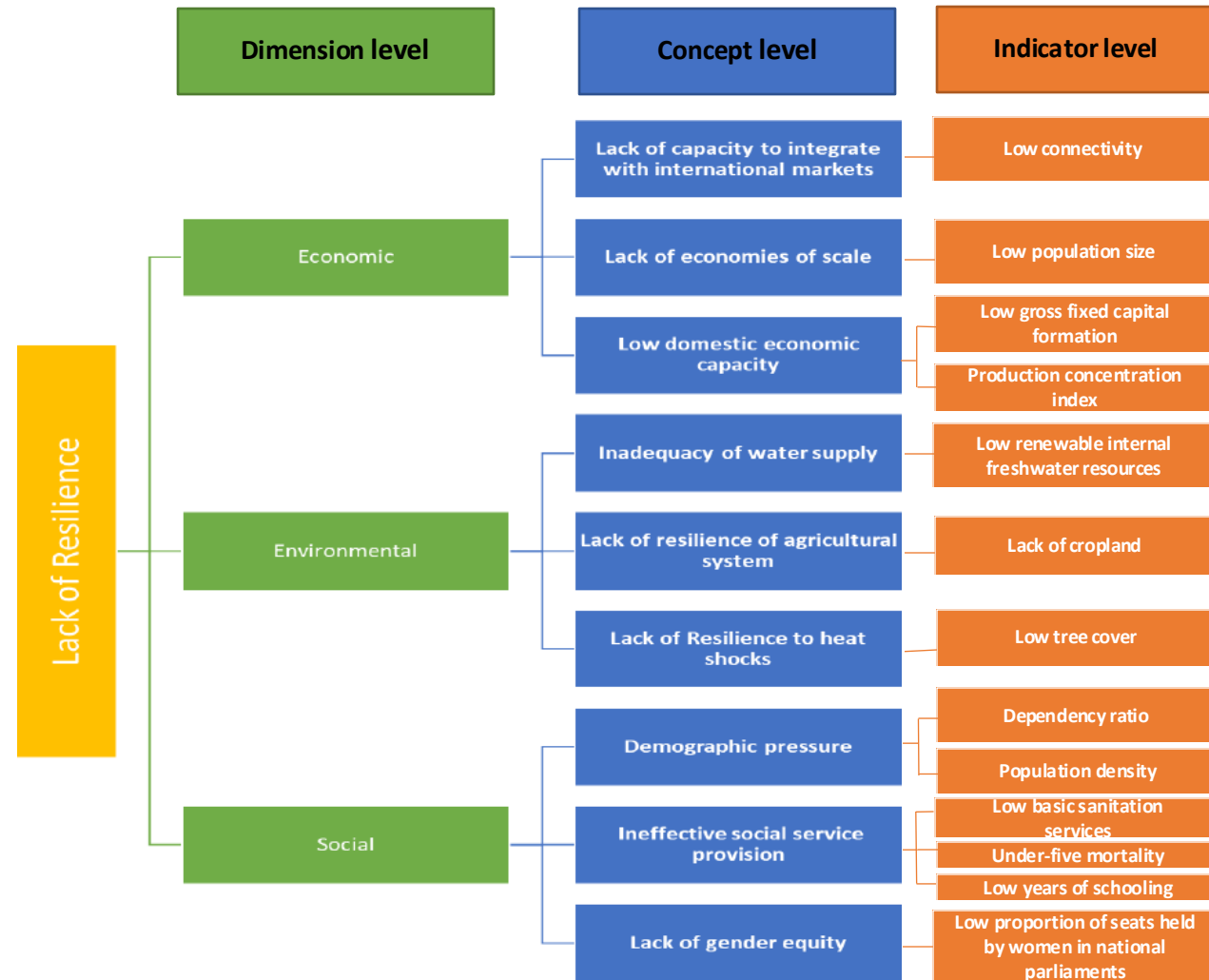
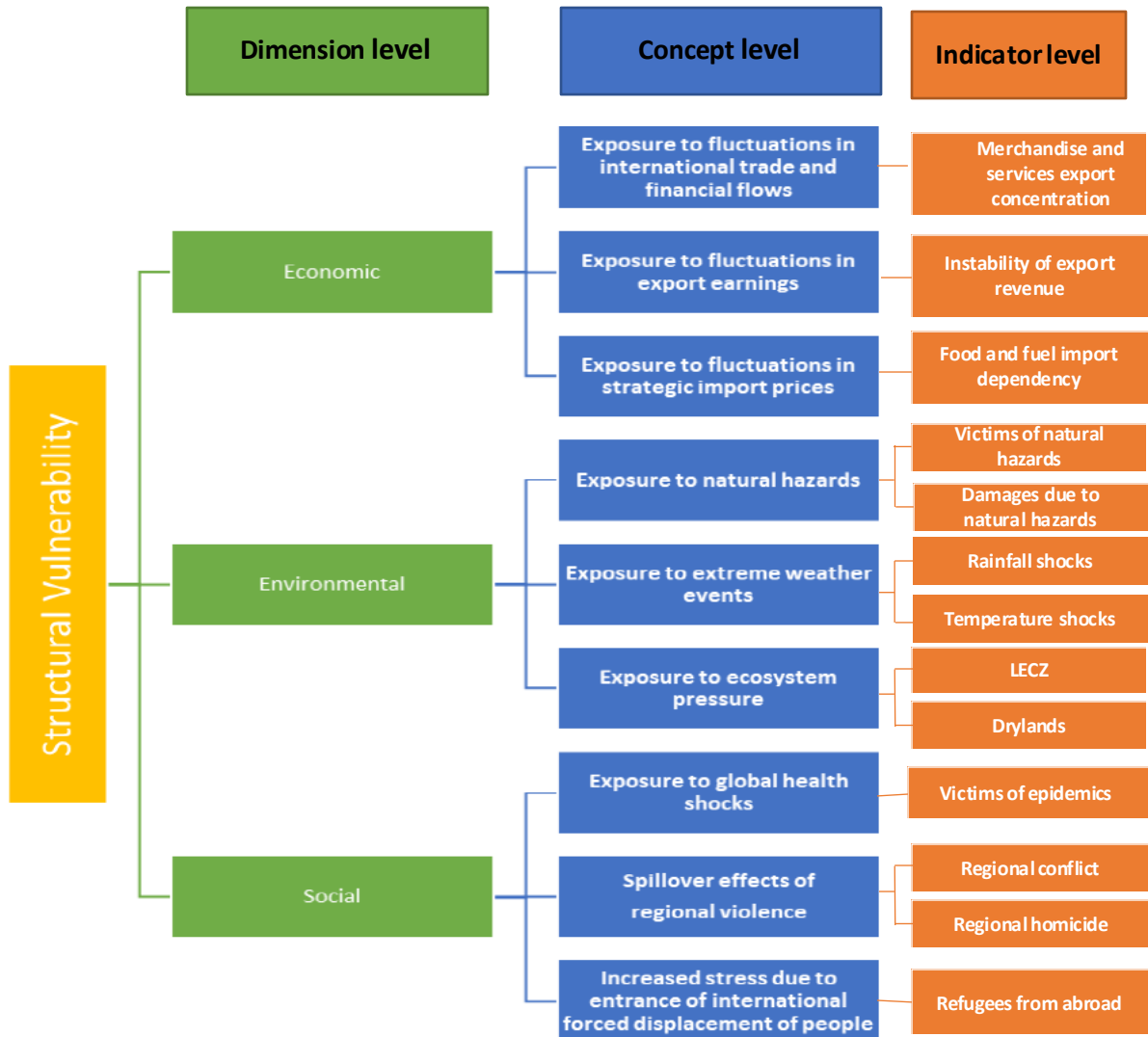
Simplicity

- ***the framework of the MVI should be based on a simple structure.***



UNITED NATIONS

The MVI framework – Concepts and indicators





Indicators choice – the criteria

1. Data availability

- *The selected indicators must have data publicly available on all developing countries.*

2. Data quality

- *The MVI should be based on data of the highest quality.*

3. Indicator selection transparency

- *the relationship between vulnerability, resilience and the selection of indicators has to be based on clear and detailed rationales.*

4. Indicator acceptability

- *the selection of indicators has to lead to an acceptable MVI.*

The four **criteria** ensure the credibility of the index and well as its robustness and stability across time.

Application of principles and criteria related to data need clear **rules**.



Indicators choice - Rules

Rule #1: The use of UN data must be prioritized.

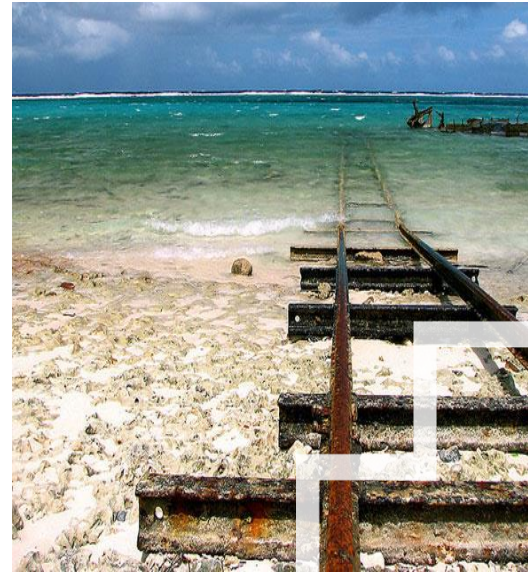
Rule #2: The MVI will not be based on variables that present too many missing values.

➤ Missing data will not be estimated at this stage.

Rule #3: The MVI will be computed for every country even those with a limited amount missing data.

Rule #4: The MVI scores and ranks will NOT be computed for countries with too many missing values.

THE VULNERABILITY-RESILIENCE COUNTRY PROFILES



VRCP OBJECTIVES

OVERALL:

VRCP provides “granularity and greater characterization of country specific vulnerability and resilience factors, including non-structural resilience...”.

=> TOWARDS THE NOTION OF AN EXTENDED DASHBOARD AT NATIONAL LEVEL

A MVI dashboard will be developed, presenting individual country results from the Index. A dashboard presentation has the benefit of clearly illustrating the vulnerability profile of countries

a national vulnerability-resilience profile, incorporating different indicators to the global dashboard, based on national priorities and available data, including indicators of non-structural vulnerability-resilience

=> AN EXTENDED DASHBOARD BUT ALSO MORE...

“Accommodate an in-depth analysis of non-structural resilience to enable the proposal of specific avenues to reduce vulnerability and promote enhanced resilience

This profile would then have an operational purpose as the **avenue for investment, development cooperation and other support** allowing for more targeted and deliberate action on vulnerability and resilience factors. The profiles should provide greater characterization of national vulnerability and **articulate those areas of resilience requiring investment, cooperation and support**



So What Does the MVI Tell Us?



- No meaningful correlation between the MVI scores and GNI per capita data. Used together, they may allow for more clarity and better understanding of the risks underlying developing countries' situations.
- Wealthier does not mean less at risk: MVI scores suggest that, among countries labelled as “most in need”, SIDS are among the most vulnerable. Concrete efforts are needed to urgently address the structural and resilience-related vulnerabilities .
- A closer look at the MVI components to understand the scores of countries could help further identify the precise challenges and help them more effectively tackle their causes. Development is not linear, and ignoring some vulnerabilities could have dramatic effects with possible setbacks

digging into the MVI components also helps understand why countries such as Saudia Arabia and Qatar have high MVI scores: they are explained by factors such as dry lands and water scarcity (weighing heavily in their MVI computation). This illustrates the usefulness of looking beyond the simple, aggregate MVI score



Thank you for your attention