

The MPI as a tool to measure Child Poverty

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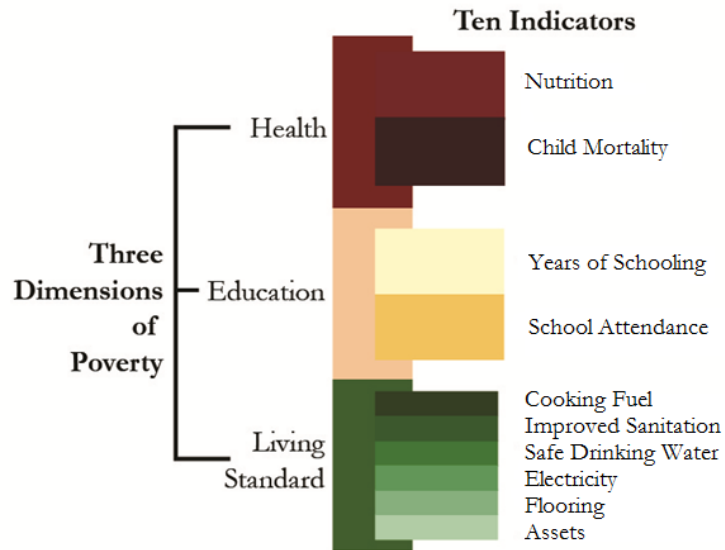
Ann-Sophie, Kenya

Valérie, Madagascar

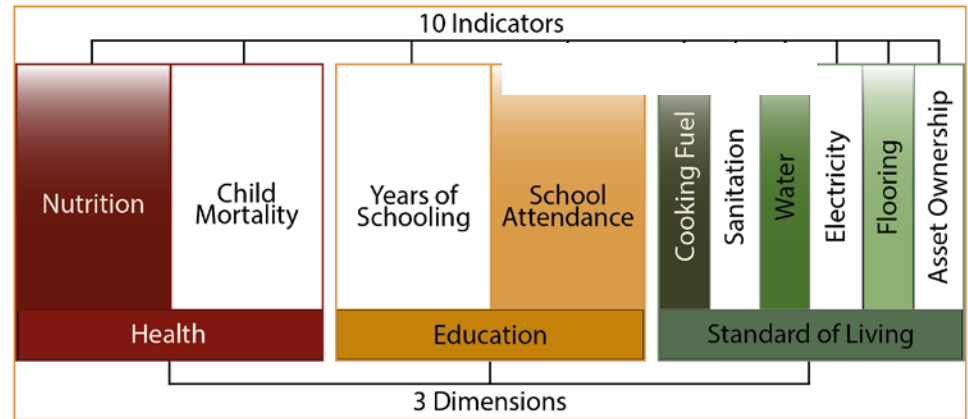


Steps to create a MPI – Alkire-Foster method

1. Select indicators, cutoffs, weights



2. Create profile of deprivations for each household/individual



3. Identify who is poor

4. Compute Incidence, Intensity, MPI, and compositions

$$MPI = H \times A$$

MPI to measure child poverty

SDG 1: reduce the proportion of men, women and **children** living in poverty in all its dimensions.

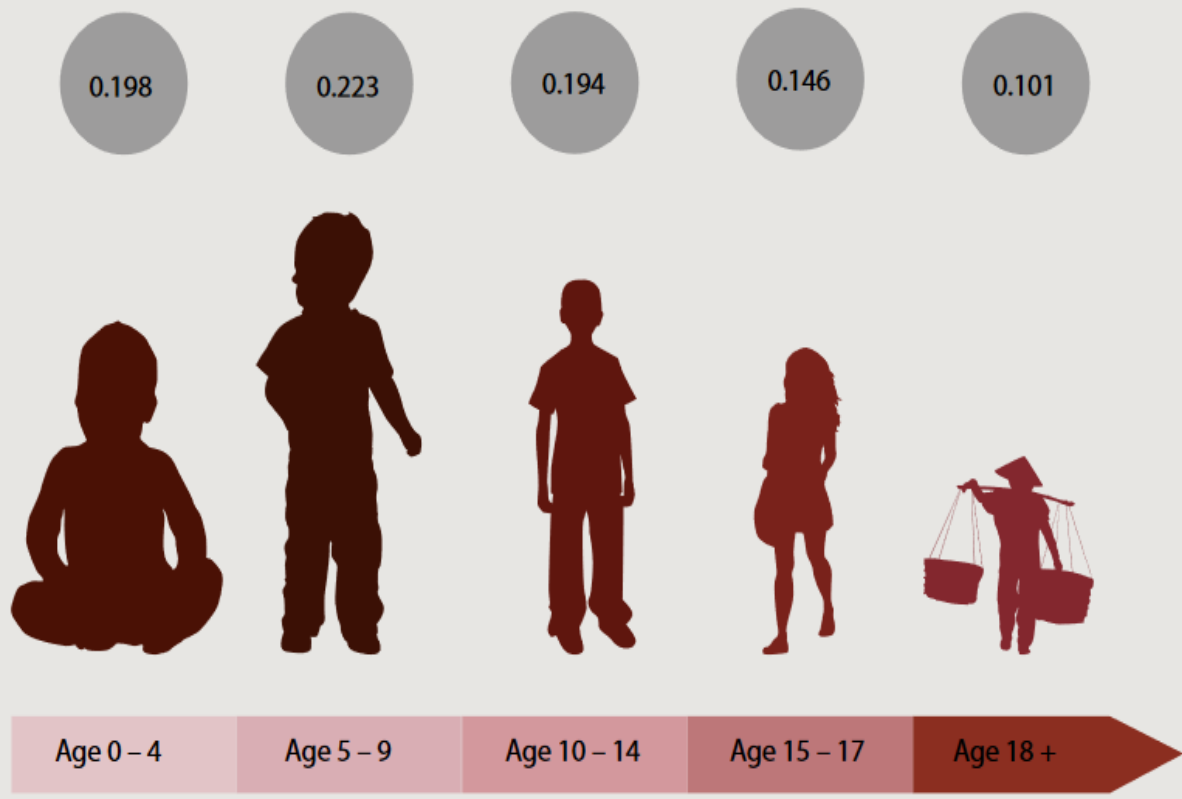
- Disaggregation of the Global MPI for children
- Child-specific MPI – Bhutan (2016)
- Currently, child MPIs are being developed in some countries: Maldives, Sri Lanka, Punjab-Pakistan, Afghanistan, Panama, etc.

Half of the Global MPI poor are children (among 103 countries and 5.8 billion people)

- 2 out of 5 children (37%) are MPI poor ~ 689M children living in multidimensional poverty.
 - 50% of children in South Asia and 67% in Sub-Saharan Africa are MPI poor.
- Incidence of the Global MPI is higher for children in every country, and children face higher intensity of poverty.
- In 36 countries, including India, over 50% of children are MPI poor.
 - In Ethiopia, Niger and South Sudan, over 90% of children are MPI poor.

Fig. 6. MPI and Income poverty disaggregations by age cohorts for children and adults

MPI



	Age 0 – 4	Age 5 – 9	Age 10 – 14	Age 15 – 17	Age 18 +
Headcount (H)	37.2	41.5	37.5	30.1	21.0
Intensity (A)	53.1	53.8	51.7	48.5	48.0
\$1.90/day (H)	21.0	21.5	18.7	14.6	9.2

Younger children are the ones that suffer poverty the most, especially those aged 5-9

- Size of figures reflects Headcount
- Colour of figures reflects Intensity
- Global MPI 2017 figures found [here](#)
- World Bank 2016 decomposition found [here](#)



Creating a Child MPI using the AF method

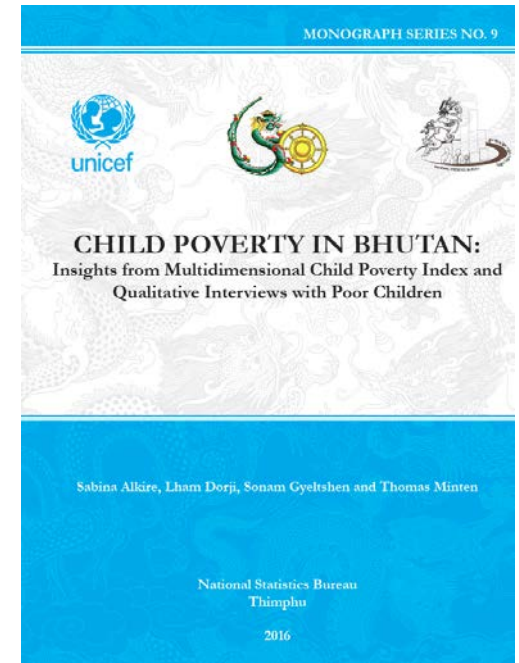
- Child as unit of identification ~ indicators defined for each child
- Indicators can be adapted to priorities during childhood
- Allows relevant comparisons by gender and age groups
- Allows analyzing intra-household inequalities

Challenges when creating a Child MPI

- Identify relevant achievements for each age group within childhood
- Create indicators based on the cohort-specific definitions
 - E.g. Cognitive development: care/evidence of games & toys (children 0-2), pre-school (children 3-5), school attendance (children 6-14), school attendance/work/training (children 15-17)
- Data limitations ~ e.g. surveys have health information for children until 5, and girls 15-17, but not for the rest

Child MPI for Bhutan

- All children 0-17
- Combination of relevant household indicators (50%) and some specific child indicators (50%)
- Child specific indicators have different definitions for each gender/cohort
- Data from MICS 2010 for all indicators
- Disaggregation by gender, age groups, regions, poverty status with the national MPI



Indicators

Dimension	Indicators	Weight
Health	Child mortality	(1/8)
	Food security	(1/8)
Education	Investment in cognitive development and school attendance	(1/4)
Living standard	Cooking fuel	(1/24)
	Sanitations	(1/24)
	Electricity	(1/24)
	Drinking water	(1/24)
	House materials	(1/24)
	Assets	(1/72)
	Land for cultivation	(1/72)
	Livestock	(1/72)
Childhood conditions	Childhood conditions	(1/4)

Specific definitions of child indicators

Education	Investment in cognitive development and school attendance	Children 0-2: not having 2+ toys, AND not having 3+ books, AND no proper care Children 3-5: children 3-4 not in pre-school AND no hh member bonded with child in 4+ activities; children aged 5 not in pre-school Children 6-14: not attending school Children 15-17: not attending school AND has not completed 8th grade
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Specific definitions of child indicators

Childhood
conditions

Childhood
conditions

Children 0-4: *z-score* of weight-for-age more than 2 standard deviations from median for reference population

Children 5-14: children 5-11 work at least 1 hour OR have 28+ hours of domestic work per week; children 12-14 work 14+ hours OR have 28+ hours of domestic work per week

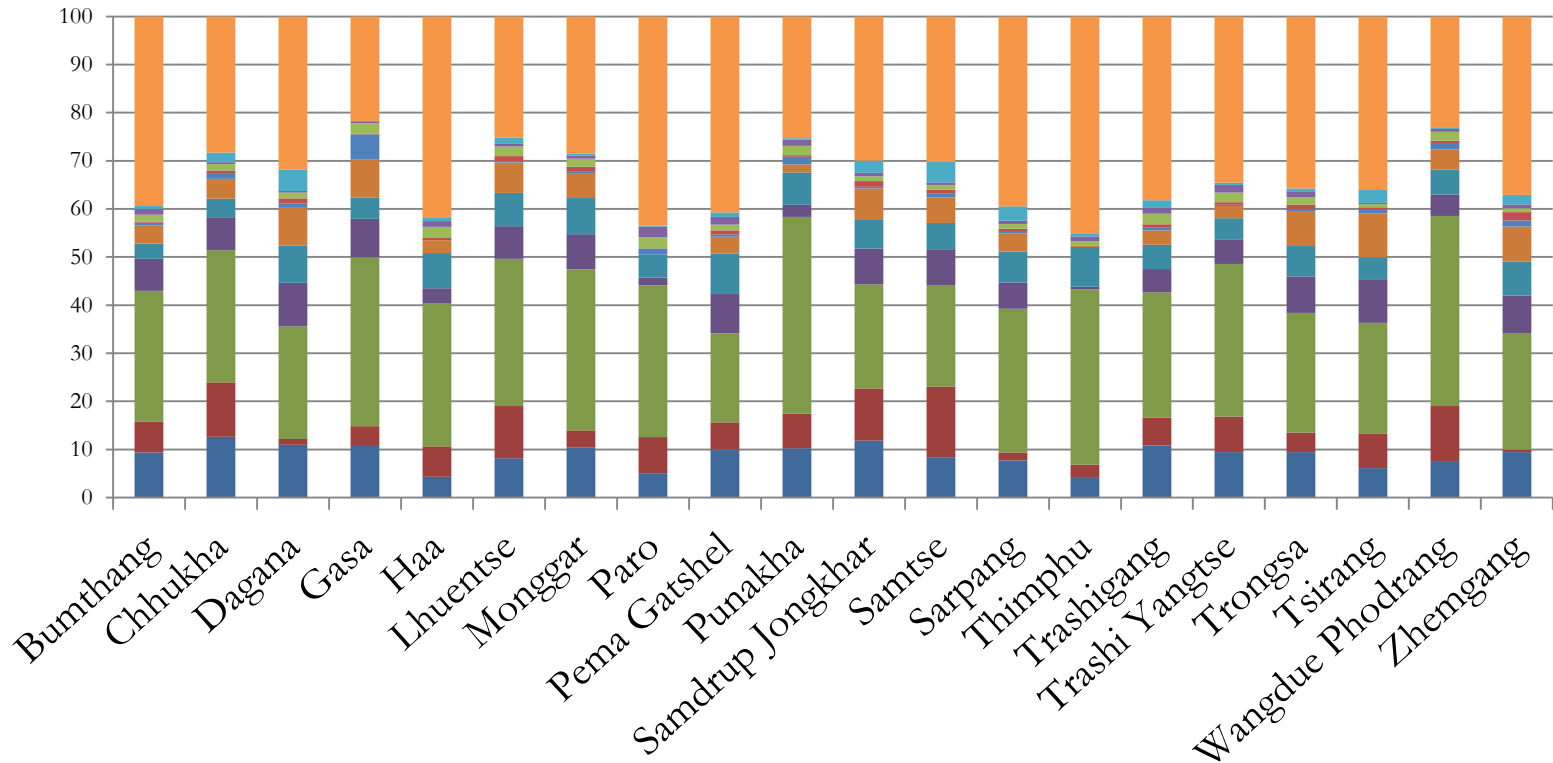
Children 15-17: girls 15-17 are married or pregnant, have a baby OR suffer domestic violence; boys 15-17 are considered non-deprived

More than a third of children were MPI poor in Bhutan in 2010

Poverty cutoff = 26%	
Child MPI	0.140
Incidence (H)	33.9%
Intensity (A)	41.2%

	Age groups				
	0-2 years	3-5 years	6-14 years	15-17 years	All
Child MPI	0.114	0.224	0.113	0.175	0.140
Incidence	29.6%	52.1%	27.9%	40.5%	33.9%
Intensity	38.6%	43.0%	40.3%	43.3%	41.2%
Proportion of children	14.7%	16.3%	55.3%	13.7%	100%

Contribution of each indicator to the Child MPI



- Child mortality
- Food security
- Inv. cognitive skills
- Cooking
- Sanitation
- Electricity
- Water
- Assets
- Land
- Livestock
- House
- Child conditions

Poverty status of children within households

Poverty status of children in the household	% households	% households with one child	% households with more than one child
All children are non-poor	52.7	19.5	33.2
Some children are poor and other(s) are non-poor	26.2	-	26.2
All children are poor	21.1	9.8	11.4

47% of households have at least one child that is poor based on the Child MPI. In 21% of households all children are poor, while in 26% of them some children are not poor.

Tabita, Kenya

Rabiya, India

Stephanie, Madagascar

Agathe, Madagascar

Dalima, Kenya

Ann-Sophie, Kenya

Valerie, Madagascar



Thanks!