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Comments on

‘Valuing Changes in Time Use in Low and Middle Income Countries’

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US-INDIA POLICY INSTITUTE

Time Use Studies – Unique and Rare

Value of time itself is understood differently in different countries and cultures; and state and level of development.

Rural and urban environment is essential. Valuation affected by the rate of urbanization as well as rate of rural to urban migration.

Valuing Women's time use is the challenge that empiricists have to confront

Development context essential in determining discounting and procedures due to large gaps in essential social, environment and other indices

Examples for India follow:



India's Global Standing

Social Indices	India-Rank	No. of Countries	Year
Human Development Index (72%L)	135	187	2014
International Human Rights Rank(56%L)	120	216	2014
Gender Inequality Index (88%L)	129	146	2011
Global Food Security Index (63%L)	69	109	2012
Environmental Performance Index (87%L)	155	178	2014
Corruption Perceptions Index (80%L)	94	117	2013



India's Global Standing (Cont....)

Social Progress Index – 2014 (77%L)	102/132
A. BASIC HUMAN NEEDS (76%L)	100
i. Nutrition and Basic Medical Care (74%L)	97
ii. Water and Sanitation (76%L)	100
iii. Shelter (77%L)	102
iv. Personal Safety (72%)	95
B. FOUNDATIONS OF WELLBEING (82%L)	108
i. Access to Basic Knowledge (72%L)	95
ii. Access to Information and Communications (83%L)	110
iii. Health and Wellness (72%L)	95
iv. Ecosystem Sustainability (76%L)	100
C. OPPORTUNITY (83%L)	109
i. Personal Rights (53%)	70
ii. Personal Freedom and Choice (89%L)	118
iii. Tolerance and Inclusion (99%L)	131
iv. Access to Advanced Education (69%L)	91



Factors affecting Value of Time

This paper has a **Project** context in its approach – therefore Before and After Scenario seems essential

Yet many long term economic and social changes, (often they change at different pace) affect time use.

Confounding factors can cause difficulties in measurements. Isolating project effect are important



'Revolutionary Times'

Fast declining fertility creates huge externality gains.

Positively improves health of women and children

Fertility decline create huge gains in 'Time at Disposal' that can be used to create value added - both market (wage) and non-market (human development)

Women benefit substantially through uni-directional secular improvements in quality of life though due reduction in life-time events of child births

Estimate life time gains and associated market as well as non-market valuations



Education and Technology

Education Revolutionary:

Costing and discounting changes considerably

Value to time by education / language of instruction

English ~ V ~ local or mother tongue issues

Technology: changing the manner in which people uses their time – often reduces commutation, travel, reduces transportation costs and even generate monetary value which was earlier not possible earlier



Not a Single Wage

Monitory value of time is highly diverse

Male~Female Wage differentials are huge

Sexual division of labor issues do matter

Wages such as from programs NREGA also matter

Multiple wage discounting methodologies are essential



'Parameter Value' – Valuation Challenging

Often the value of women's work is not evaluated in GDP
Then getting down to the VTT appear impractical, but

Marginal value to time affected by an array of diversity in
time use and its associated value



Two Dominant Challenges

DIVERSITY of Market 'wage' ~ market rate of return

Device a structure to evaluate non-market rate of return

Data and Analysis

The literature review uses old and obsolete studies with data of questionable quality – sampling ... etc issues

The ‘Benefit-Cost Analysis Guidance Project’ should consider small, localized but many surveys across a nation to capture diversity of wage and non-market return in contemporary populations.

Fast changing education and technology has made this essential to study Benefit-Cost Issues in developing economies



Data and Analysis

Benefit Transfer Approach appear not easy and effective

Pre-tax and Post-tax discounting rates appear irrelevant –
at least for now





Regional Diversity in Development is Huge



Development and Diversity Index

Facilitate Policy, Civil Society, Media and Communities

Economic Index

- Monthly Per Capita Expenditure
- People above poverty line
- HHs having regular salary income

Education Index

- 7+ Female literacy
- 18 + Adult literacy
- 15+ %ge Matric pass
- HH Education Expenditure

Health Index

- Women 15-49 yrs 18 yrs at marriage
- Women 15-49 yrs post natal care within 48 hours
- Fully immunized last 2 (age 12-23 months)
- Women 15-49 yrs using Contraception
- Women 15-49 yrs aware of HIV/ AIDS

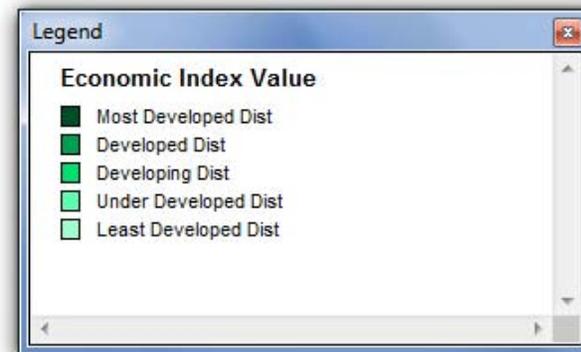
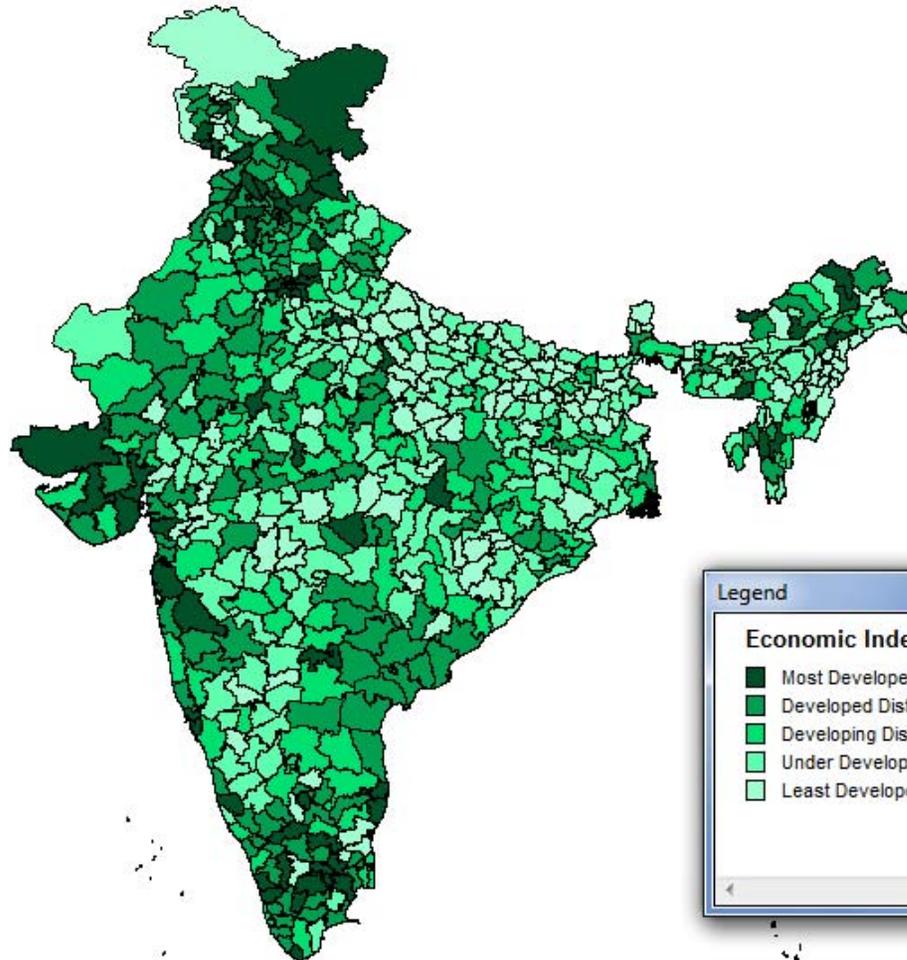
Material Wellbeing/ Enabling Index

- Average of asset index score at HH level
- HHs using LPG as primary source of cooking
- HHs using electricity as primary source of lighting



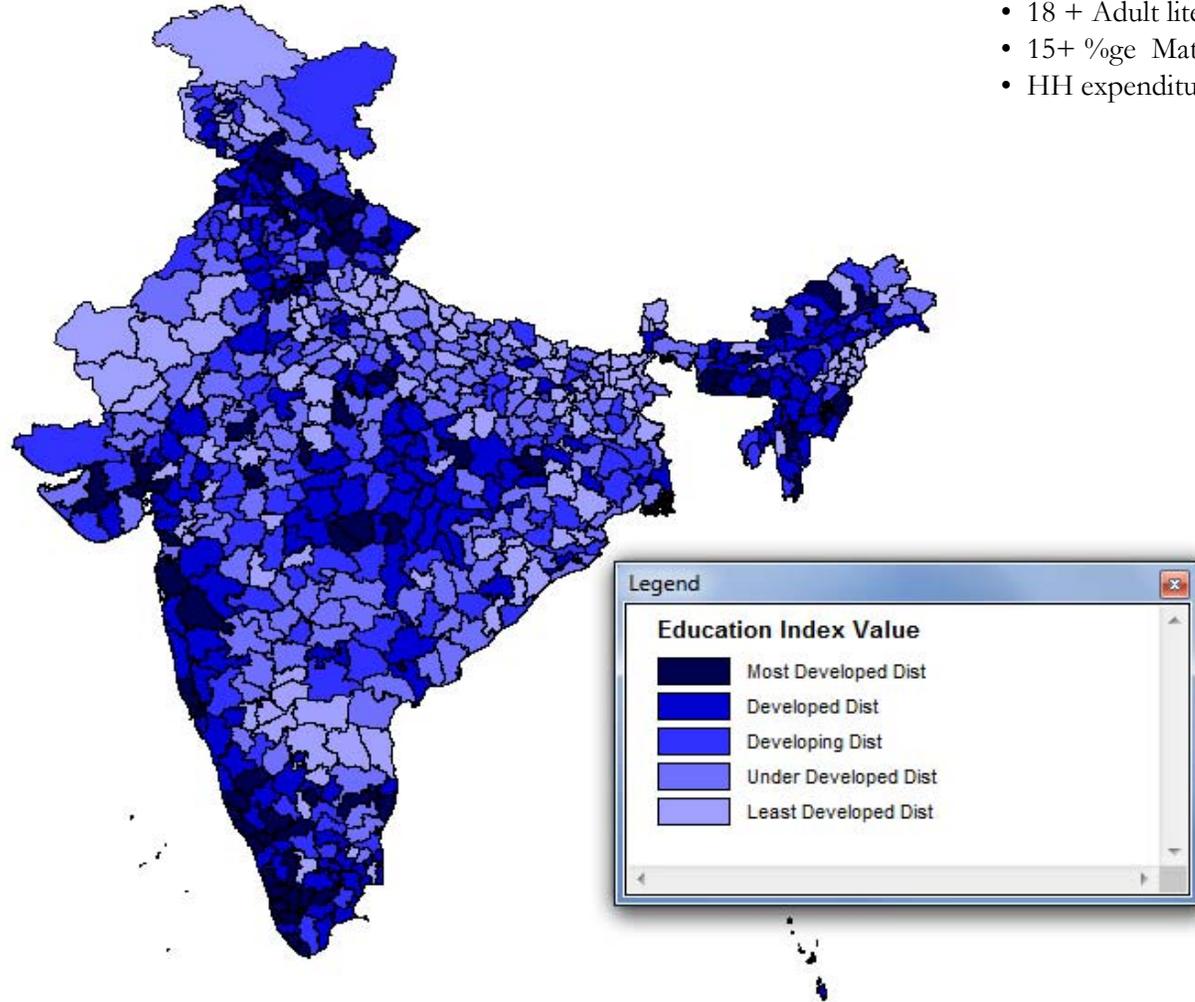
District Development : Economic Index

- Monthly Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE)
- People above poverty line
- HHs having regular salaried earning members



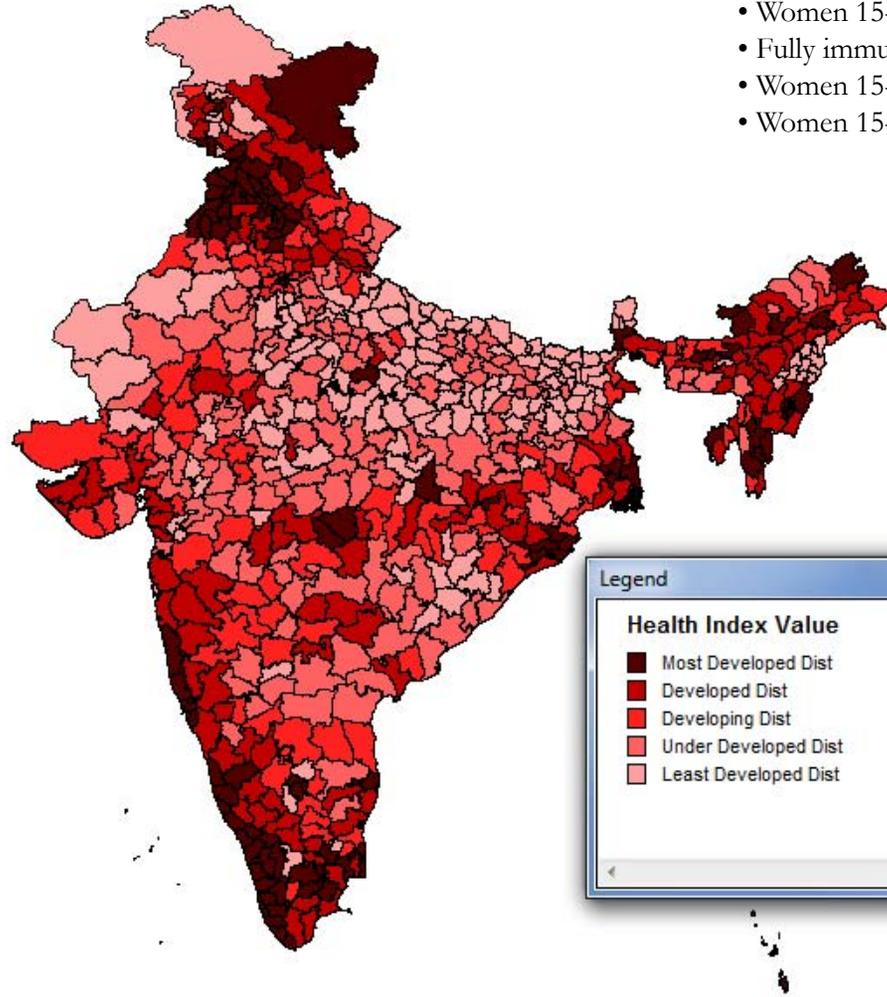
District Development | Education Index

- 7+ Female literacy
- 18 + Adult literacy
- 15+ %ge Matric pass
- HH expenditure on education

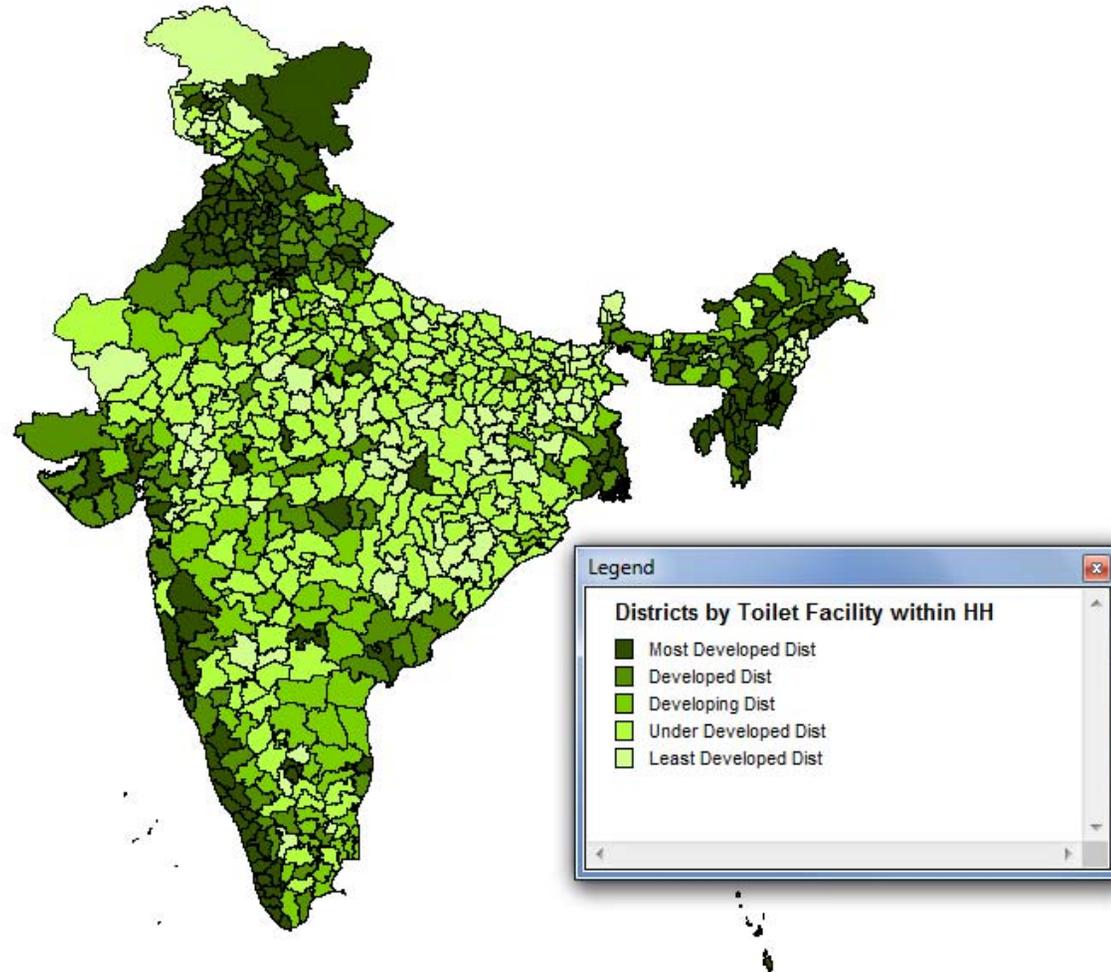


District Development | Health Index

- Women 15-49 yrs 18 yrs at marriage
- Women 15-49 yrs post natal care within 48 hours
- Fully immunized last two surviving children (12-23 months)
- Women 15-49 yrs using Contraception
- Women 15-49 yrs aware of HIV/ AIDS



District Development | HHs having Toilet Facility



THANK YOU

‘....that greater equality was not an aim in competition to economic progress but a necessary condition for it.’

Mahatma Gandhi

