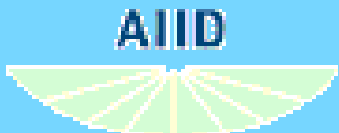


# Child Welfare Indices and Child Poverty

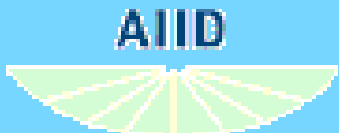
Jacques van der Gaag

Rome, 2006

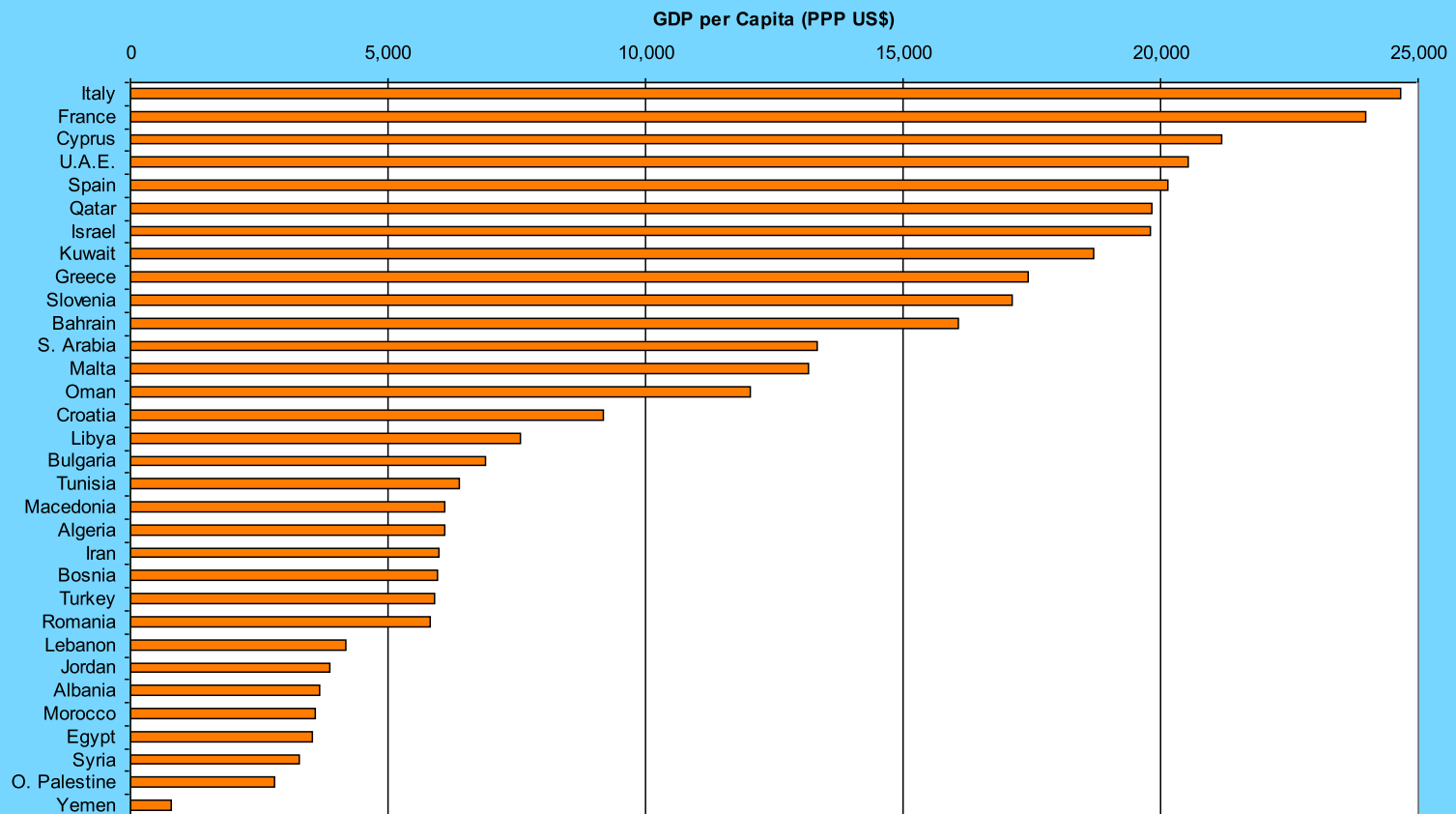


# 1. Measures of Well-Being

- GDP per capita:
  - Most widely used indicator of the average level of well-being of a population in a country.



# Mediterranean Countries and GDP per capita

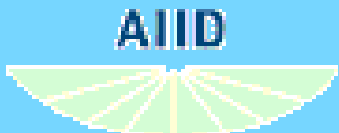


# The Physical Quality of Life

*(Morris, 1979)*

- 3 Dimensions:
  - (i) infant mortality
  - (ii) life expectancy at age 1
  - (iii) basic literacy

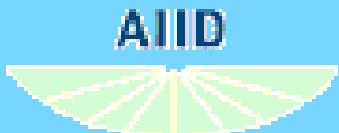
Note: -GDP per capita not included  
-two measures of health



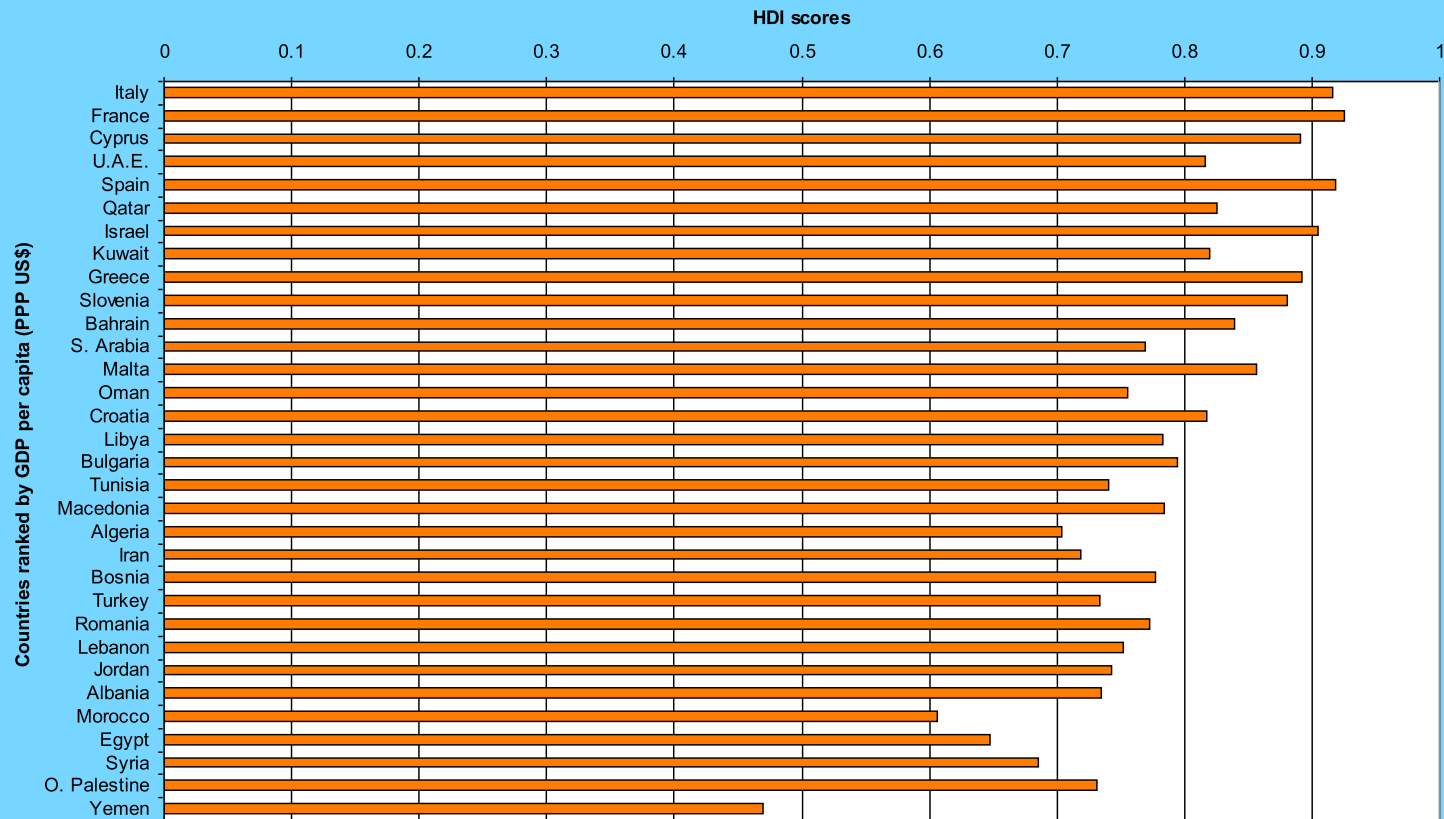
# Human Development Index

(UNDP, 1990)

*“while growth in national production (GDP) is absolutely necessary to meet all essential human objectives, what is important is to study how this growth translates, or fails to translate into human development in various strategies”*



# Mediterranean Countries and Human Development Index



# Human Development Index 2005

## A long and healthy life

Life expectancy at birth



Life expectancy index

## Knowledge

Adult literacy rate

Adult literacy index



Gross enrolment ratio (GER)

GER index



Education index

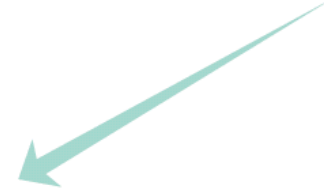


## A decent standard of living

GDP per capita (PPP US\$)



GDP index



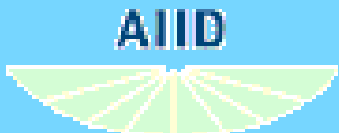
Human development index (HDI)

AIID



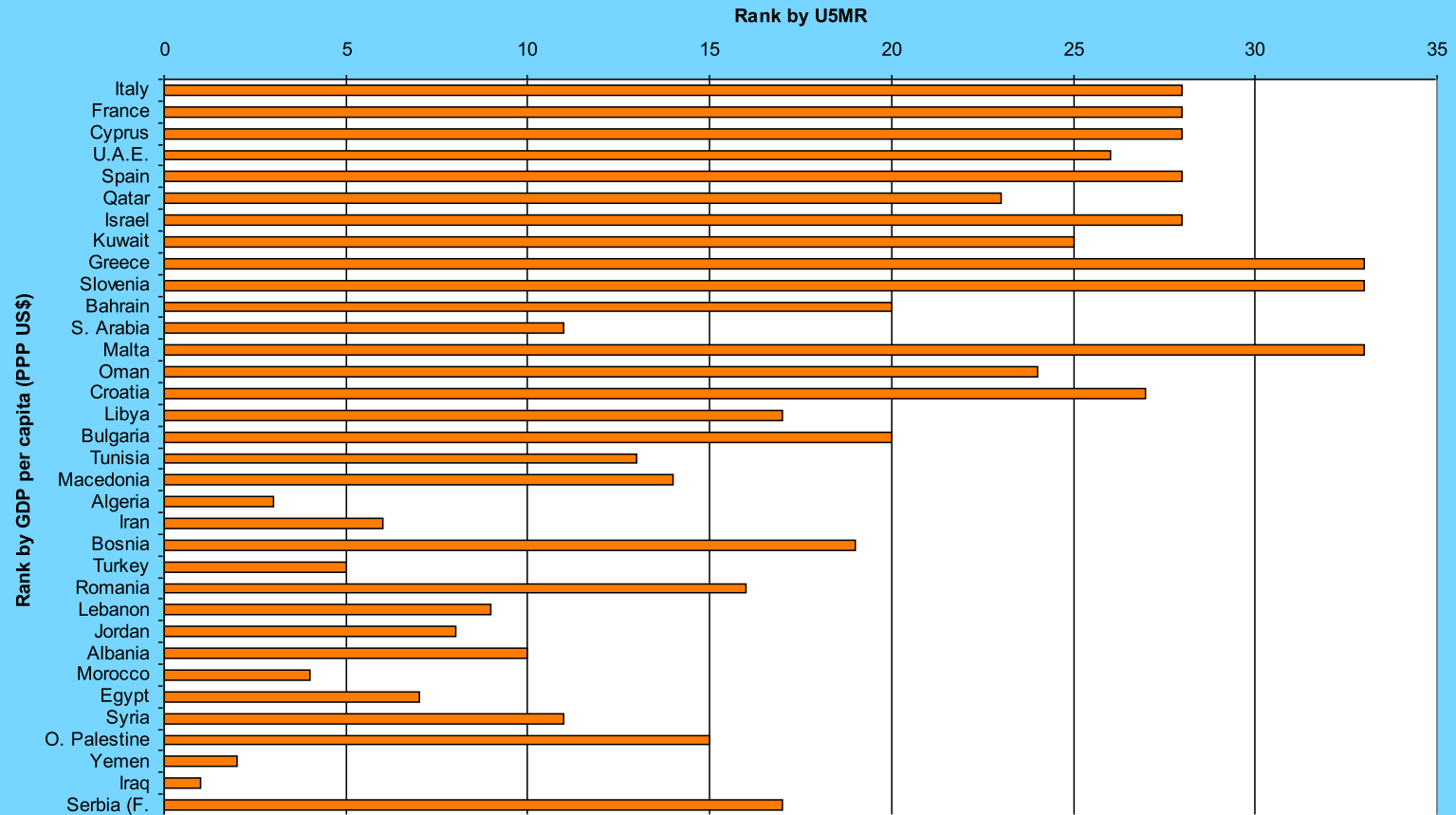
## 2. Assessing Children's Well-Being

- Child Dimensions
  - No single but multiple dimensions
  - Traditional framework: education, health, economic well-being
  - New framework: moved from child survival to child well-being; including social exclusion, subjective dimension
- Child Indicators
  - Child oriented indicators
  - Developmentally sensitive indicators
  - Enabling factors v.s. outcomes
  - Positive indicators
  - Culturally distinct notions of what is valuable





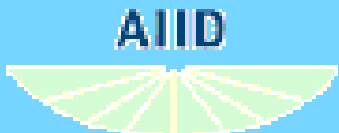
# In the Developing World - The State of the World's Children (UNICEF)



# Dimensions of Well-Being

- Most common dimensions of well-being include:

Dimension
Economic
Health
Nutrition
Social
Education
Social Exclusion



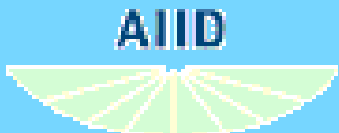
# Sample of Indicators used

- For. e.g. the health dimension focuses on the following indicators:

Dimension	Common Indicator	Less Common Indicator
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Low birthweight</li><li>▪ Infant mortality rate</li><li>▪ Child mortality rate</li><li>▪ Prenatal and antenatal care</li><li>▪ Access to health care</li><li>▪ Incidence of disease</li><li>▪ Life expectancy</li><li>▪ HIV/AIDS incidence</li><li>▪ Crude birthrate and death rate</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Overweight</li><li>▪ Disability</li><li>▪ Chronic condition</li><li>▪ Eating disorders</li><li>▪ Sexually transmitted diseases in adolescents</li><li>▪ Age-specific mortality</li><li>▪ Cause-specific mortality</li><li>▪ Child examined by doctor in past year</li></ul>

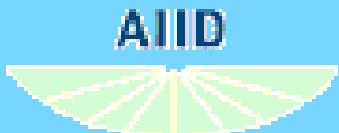
# Summary

1. Overall abundance of child welfare indicators
2. Evolution in the type of indicators/ dimensions used
3. Few examples of composite measures of child welfare
4. Different purposes of composite measures



### 3. Alternative Child Welfare Indices

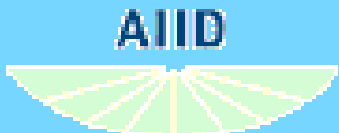
- The Child Welfare Index
- The Child Gender Index
- The Child Deprivation Index
- The Child Developmental Welfare Index



# Alternative Child Welfare Indices

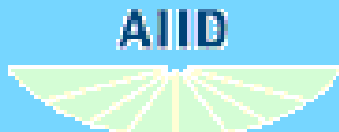
## General Characteristics:

- Measure countries performance in promoting child welfare
- Cover the age period 0 to 14 yrs old
- Constructed using the 3 basic dimensions of human well-being in the HDI
- Each dimension represented by one or more indicators
- Dataset World Bank internal database

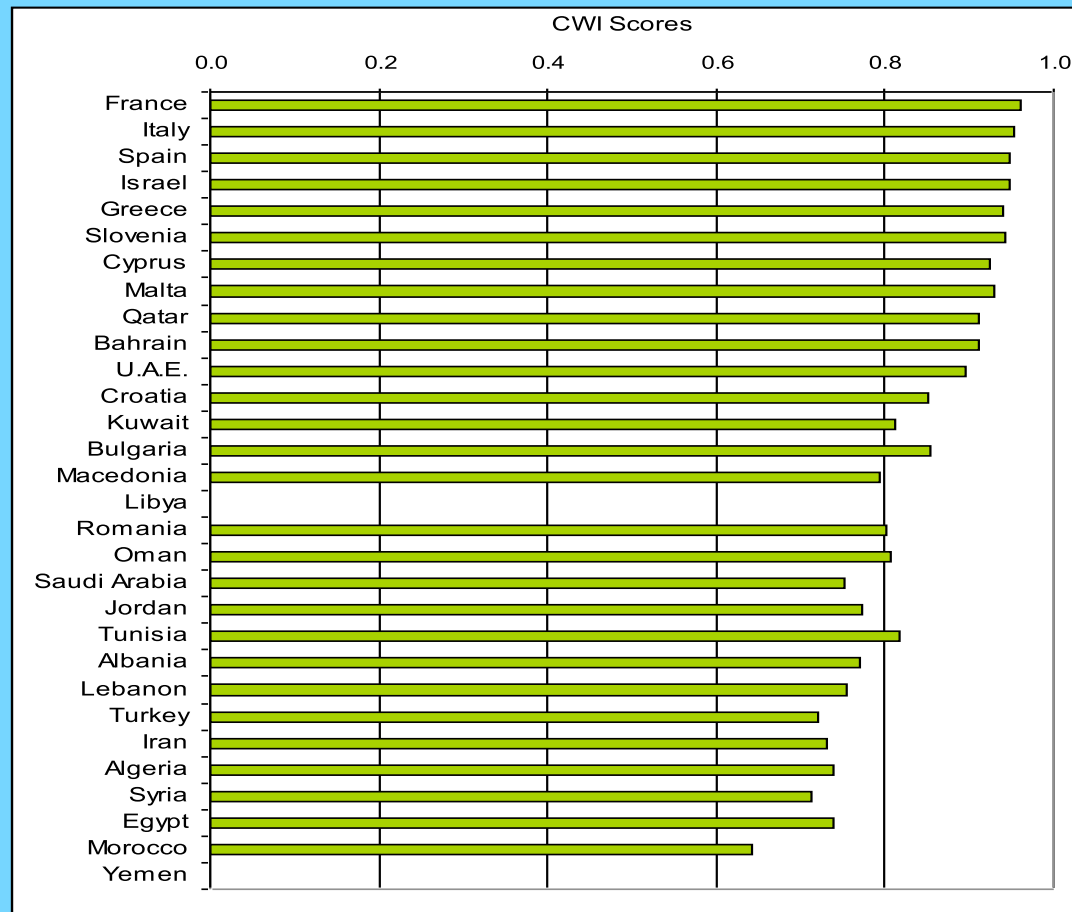


# The Child Welfare Index

Index	A Long and Healthy Life	Knowledge	Decent Standard of Living
HDI	Life expectancy at birth	Adult illiteracy rate Gross enrolment rate	GDP per capita (PPP US\$)
CWI	Under-five mortality rate	Gross primary and secondary enrolment rate	GDP per capita (PPP US\$)



# The Child Welfare Index - results



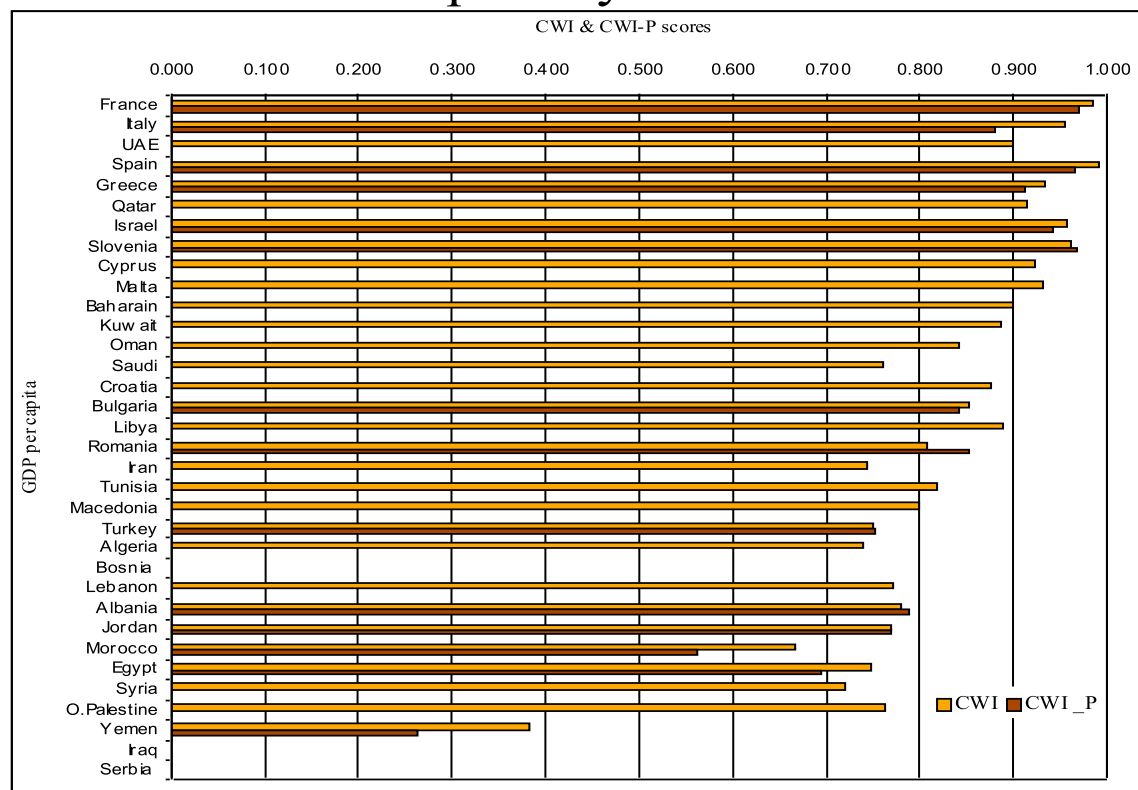


# CWI with child poverty as an indicator

- We replaced GDP per capita by Child Poverty

Index	A Long and Healthy Life	Knowledge	Decent Standard of Living
HDI	Life expectancy at birth	Adult illiteracy rate Gross enrolment rate	GDP per capita (PPP US\$)
CWI	Under-five mortality rate	Gross primary and secondary enrolment rate	GDP per capita (PPP US\$)
CWI	Under-five mortality rate	Gross primary/secondary enrolment	Child Poverty Rate

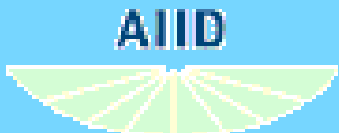
# CWI with poverty as indicator



*Note: For countries not shown there were no readily available data on child poverty. Data on child poverty is not comparative, different definitions*

# The Child Developmental Welfare Index

- Two sub-indices:
  - (1) The Early Child Welfare Index
  - (2) The School-aged Child Welfare Index



# (1) The Early Child Welfare Index

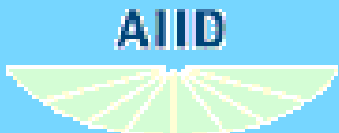
- The Early Child Welfare Index

## Three dimensions

- Decent standard of living
- Long and healthy life
- Knowledge

## Five indicators

- Adequate nutrition
- Survival by age 5
- Enrollment in ECD
- GDP per capita (better: % poverty)



## (2) The School-Aged Child Welfare Index

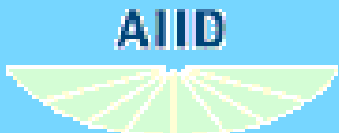
- The School-aged Child Welfare Index

### Three dimensions

- Decent standard of living
- Long and healthy life
- Knowledge

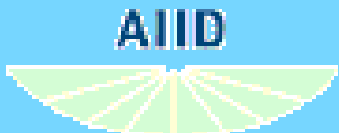
### Three indicators

- Survival by age 14
- Enrollment in secondary education
- GDP per capita (better: % poverty)

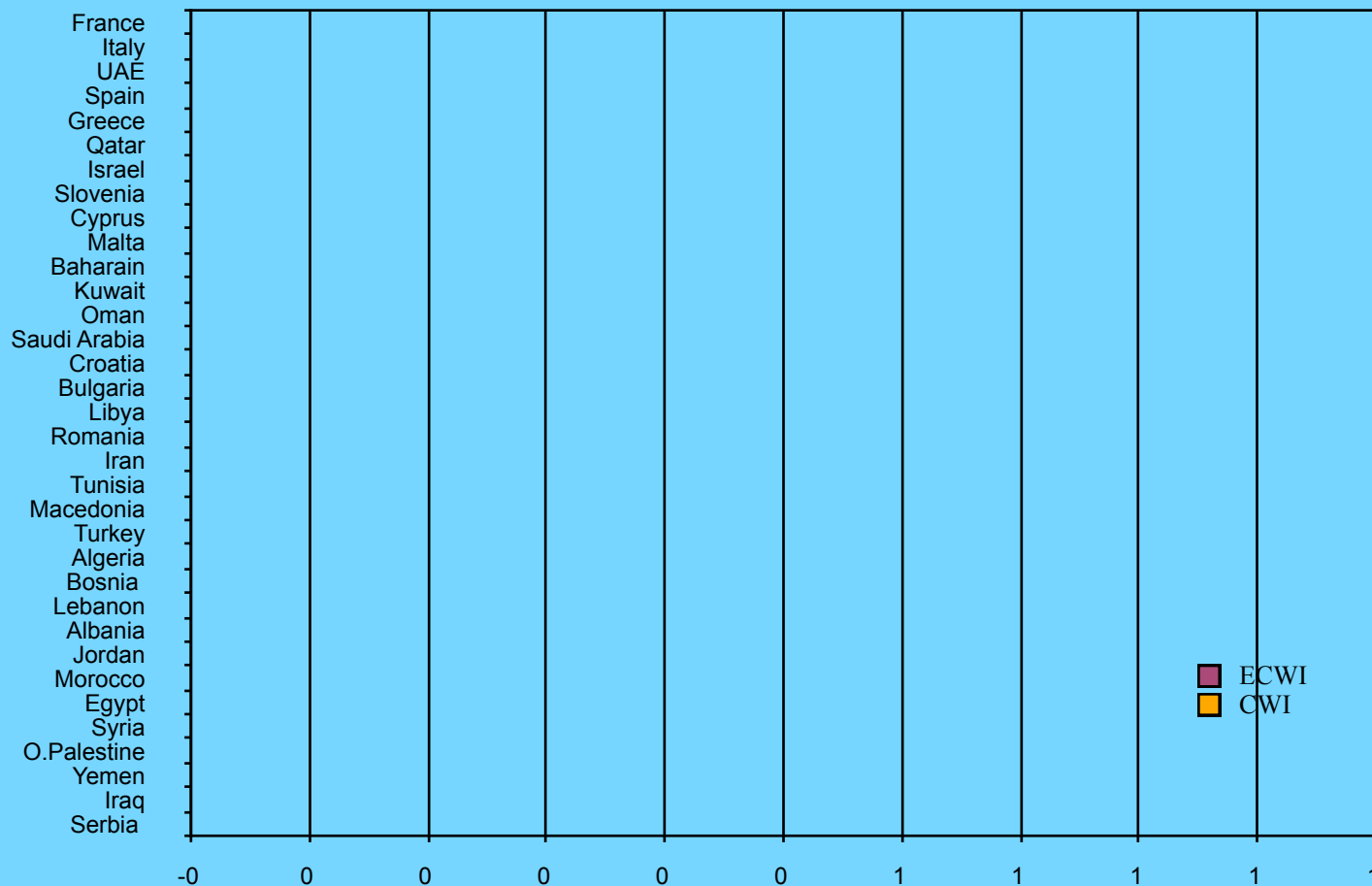


# The early child welfare index

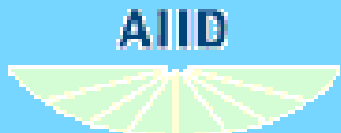
■ ECWI  
■ CWI



# The early child welfare index



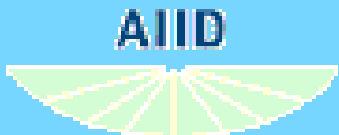
## 4. Child Poverty in the Mediterranean Region





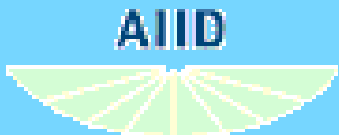
## 4. Child Poverty in the Mediterranean Region

- Rationale: children who are deprived as they grow up will have serious problems as adults;



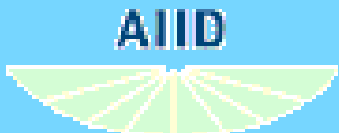
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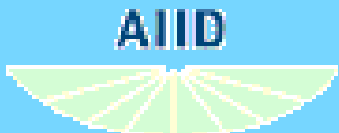
## 4. Child Poverty in the Mediterranean Region

- Rationale: children who are deprived as they grow up will have serious problems as adults;
- No child specific economic measure of well-being available;



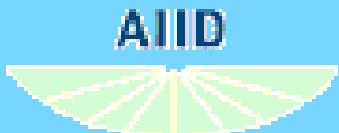
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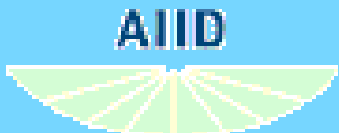
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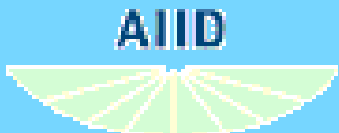
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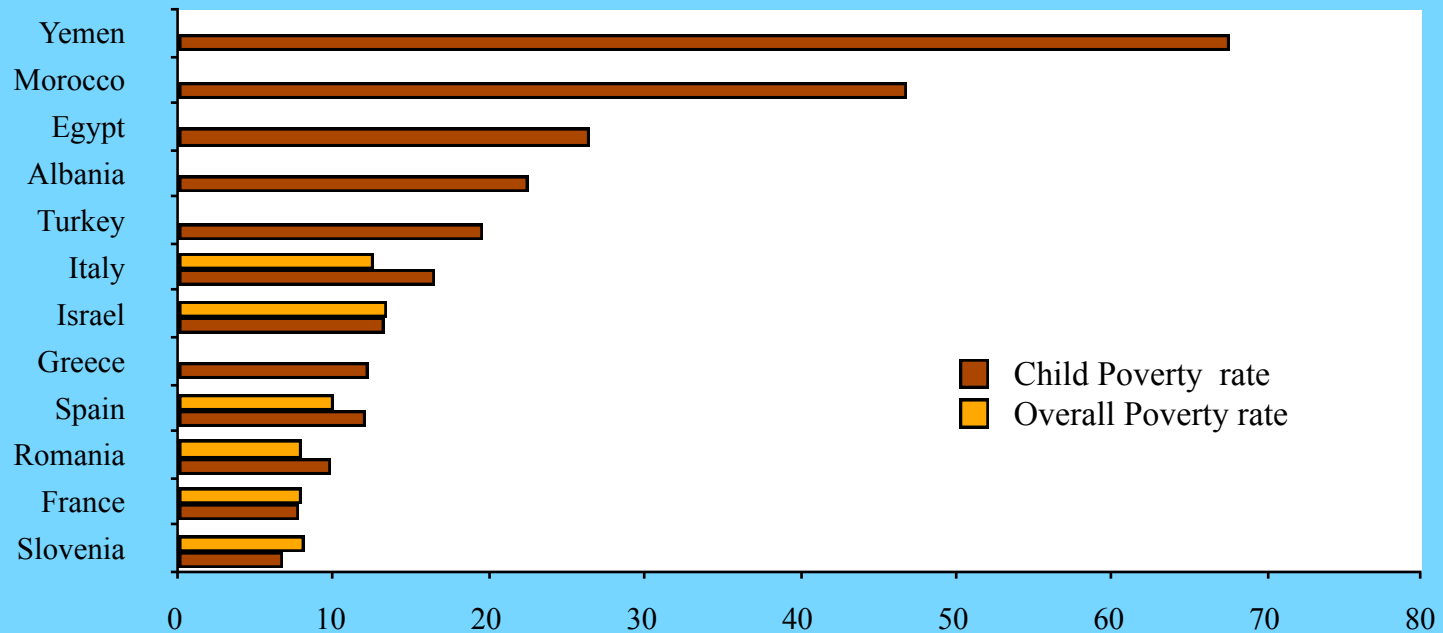


## 4. Child Poverty in the Mediterranean Region

- Rationale: children who are deprived as they grow up will have serious problems as adults;
- No child specific economic measure of well-being available;
- Comparative study: (1) put children in the forefront (2) inform policymakers on effectiveness of different income and family policies;
- A basic baseline for monitoring children's well-being.

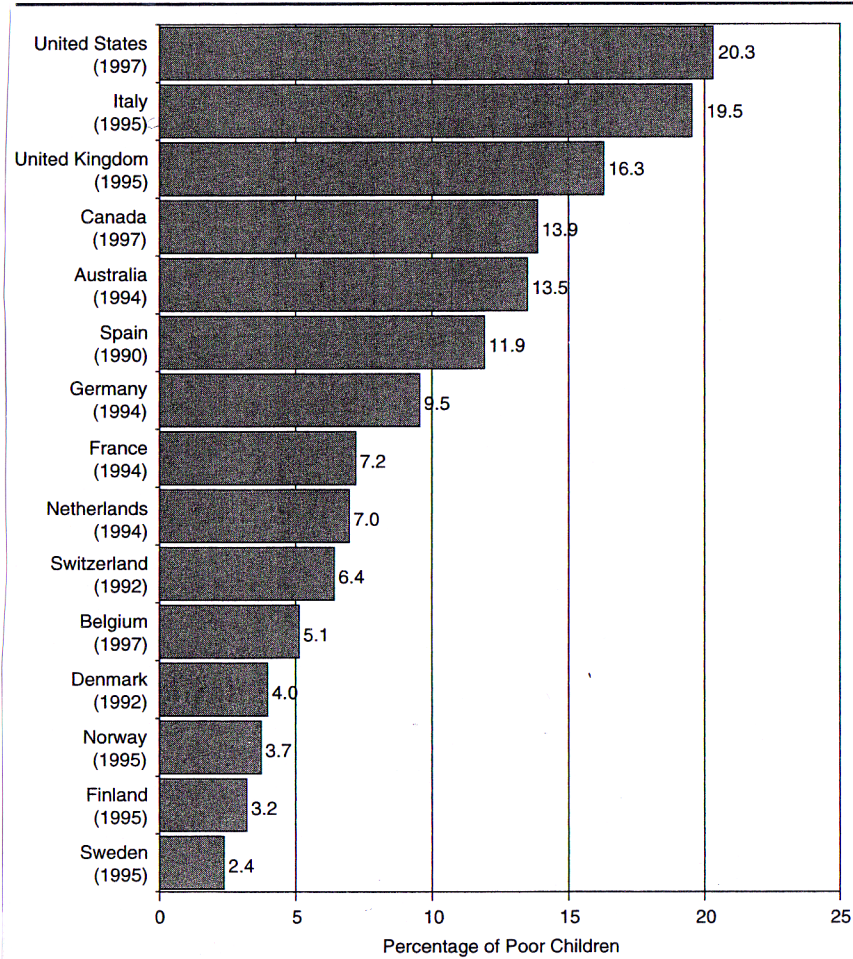


# Child Poverty in the MR





### Child Poverty Rates in Fifteen Countries in the 1990s



**AIID**



**AIID**

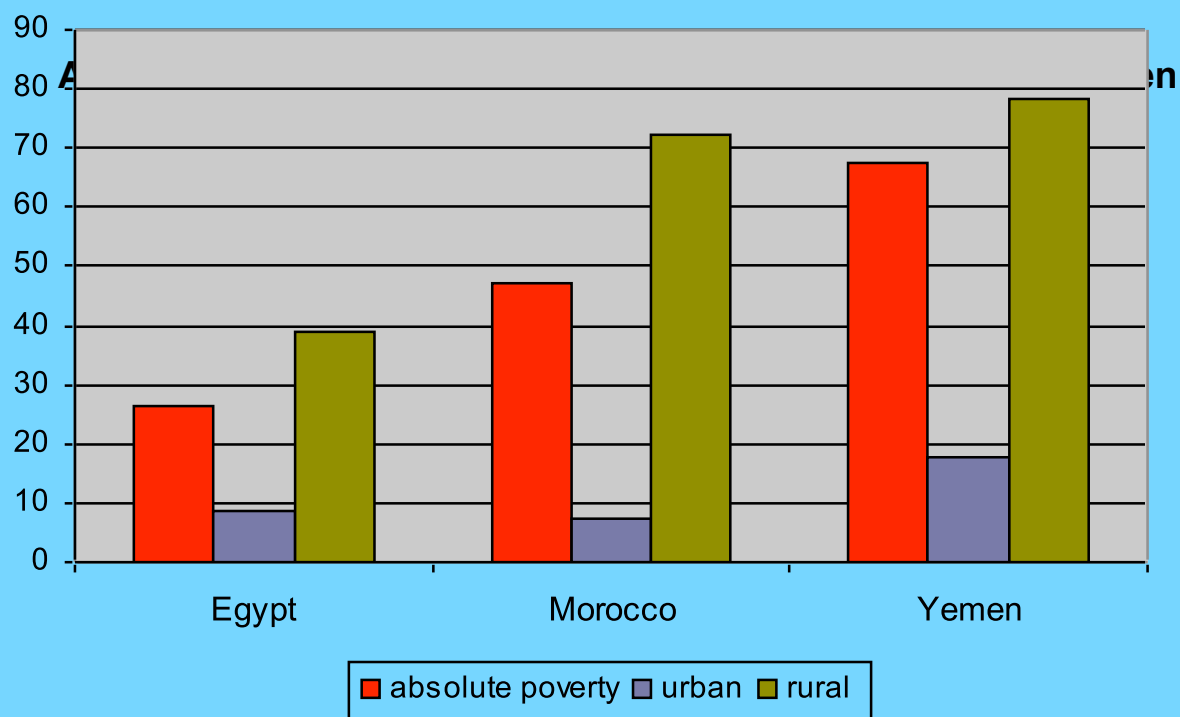


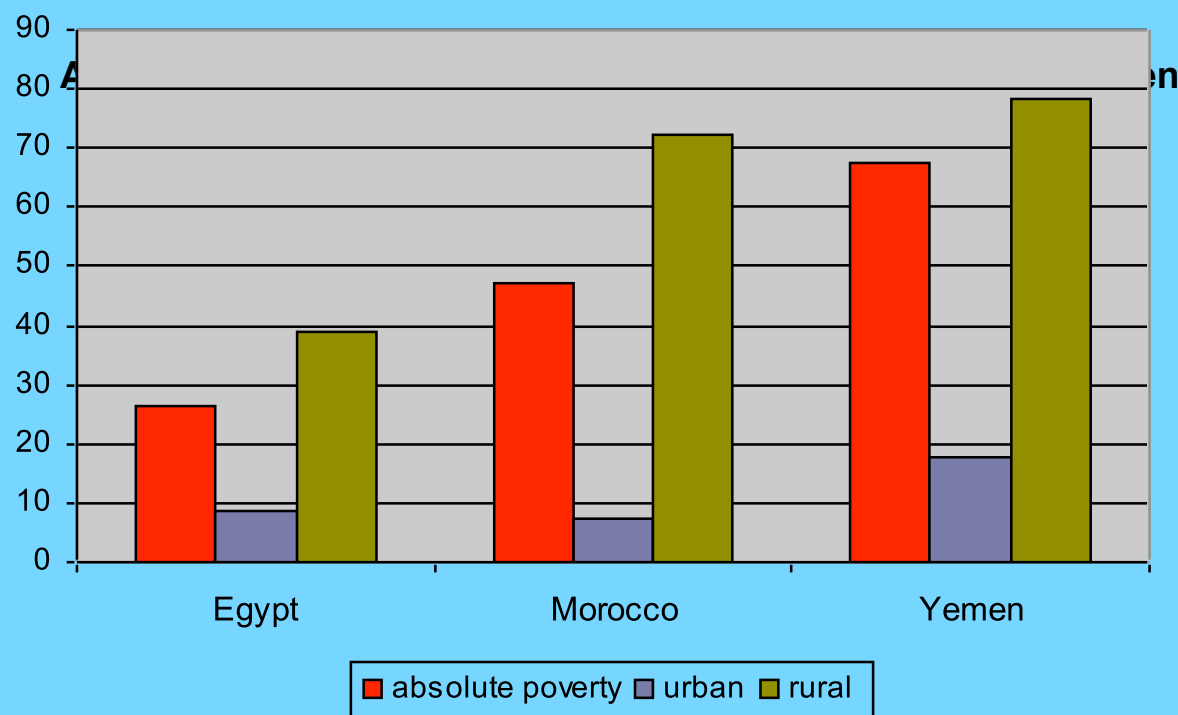
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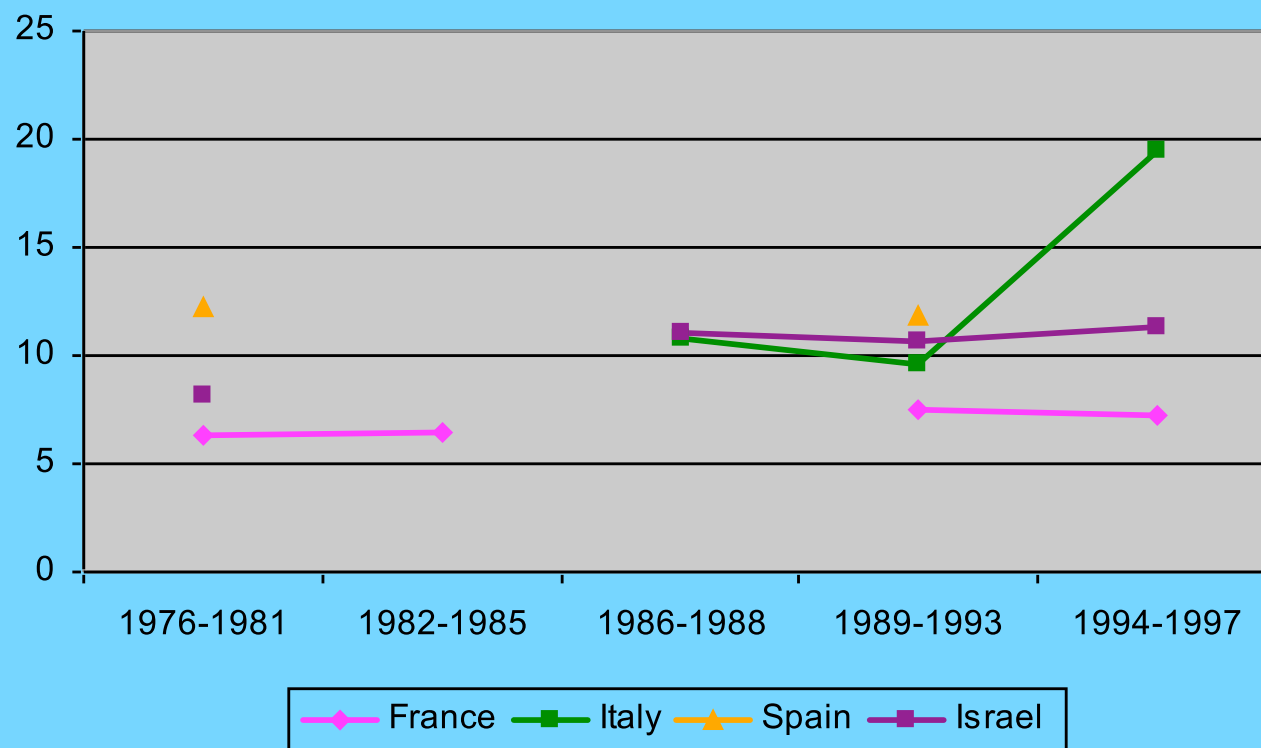
## **Absolute child poverty rates in the Egypt, Morocco, and Yemen**







## Child poverty trends in France, Italy, Spain, and Israel 1970- 1997





# Conclusion

- Child Welfare indices can and should be constructed and published annually;
- Improving the quality of the data (indicators) should get high priority, especially on child poverty.