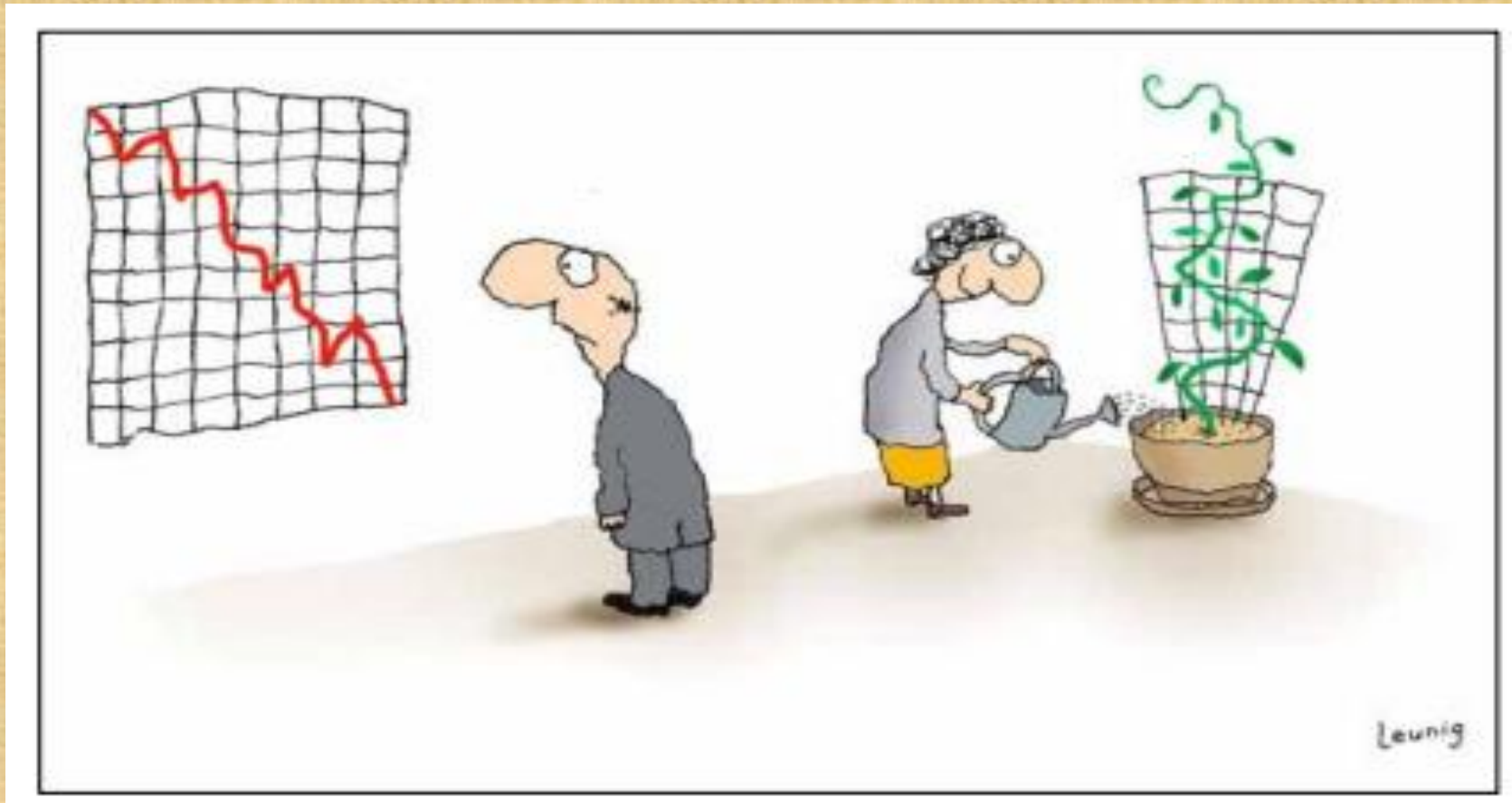


The case for an Australian National Development Index (ANDI)

Presentation by Geoff Woolcock (ANDI Chair), Building Wellbeing into Policy Workshop, Canberra, Nov 23, 2022



Key lessons of the global movement to redefine progress

1. Societal progress must be holistic: economy, society, culture, environment and governance.
2. Qualitative and not just quantitative dimensions of progress, are important.
3. The problem we are facing is not just the wrong measures but the wrong model of societal progress.
4. A better formulation of true progress would be 'increases in equitable and sustainable well-being'.
5. Developing a new progress paradigm and new measures is a political and democratic issue, as much as a technical issue, and requires engagement of citizens, working with academics and policy-makers.
6. We must now consider the implications of these new progress measures, and how they can be best put into practical application, use and understanding.
7. **New measures must be embedded in government if they are to lead to policy change.**

How are we doing as a nation: 8 simple questions

1. Are we better or worse off than our parents?
2. Are our communities safer and stronger?
3. Are we healthier and wiser?
4. Are our jobs and livelihoods more secure?
5. Are our air and water cleaner?
6. Are our natural resources healthier?
7. Are we a fairer society?
8. Are we leaving a better Australia for our children?

ANDi

australian national
development index

The logo features the text 'ANDi' in a bold, dark grey sans-serif font. Below it, the words 'australian national development index' are written in a smaller, lighter grey sans-serif font. To the right of the 'i' in 'ANDi', there are four stylized human figures of varying heights and colors: pink, blue, green, and orange. Each figure consists of a circular head and a vertical rectangular body.

What is the Australian National Development Index (ANDI)?

- A long-term community-research collaboration.
- Aimed to rethink our national model of progress from ‘increasing economic production’ to ‘increasing equitable and sustainable wellbeing’.
- By promoting a community debate on progress and our shared vision for Australia.
- And developing a new research and community based system of national measures of wellbeing and sustainability to show our progress towards those goals.

Australian National Development Index (ANDI) Chronology

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 2008 | Proposal for a holistic Australian National Development Index developed with community engagement is endorsed as a priority 'big idea' at the Australia 2020 'Ideas Summit'. The Rudd government later endorses it as an 'Idea it will consider'. |
| 2009 | The concept of an Australian National Development Index is launched at VicHealth, to an audience of 50 representatives from community organisations and research institutes including Fiona Stanley, Gus Nossal, Tim Costello, David Scott and Don Edgar. The Australian Conservation Foundation offer the human resources to incubate ANDI in the short term. This leads to the development of a prospectus by Allens Consulting and supported by a range of community organisations. |
| 2010 | Establishment of the ANDI National Steering Group Publication of ABS <i>'Future directions in measuring progress'</i> with ANDI as consultant |
| 2011 | Early work on a communications strategy to support promotion of ANDI and multiple presentations to future potential partners (promotional video?) |
| 2012 | ANDI Limited becomes an incorporated legal entity (a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee) in October 2012. Australian Council of Learned Academies and VicHealth fund a pilot program on the development of national progress measures with ANDI and other partners. The Social Research Centre hosts seven focus groups to seek the priorities and views of Australian citizens on what matters for Australia's national wellbeing, and then test the results with 10 people in a national online survey. |

Australian National Development Index (ANDI) Chronology

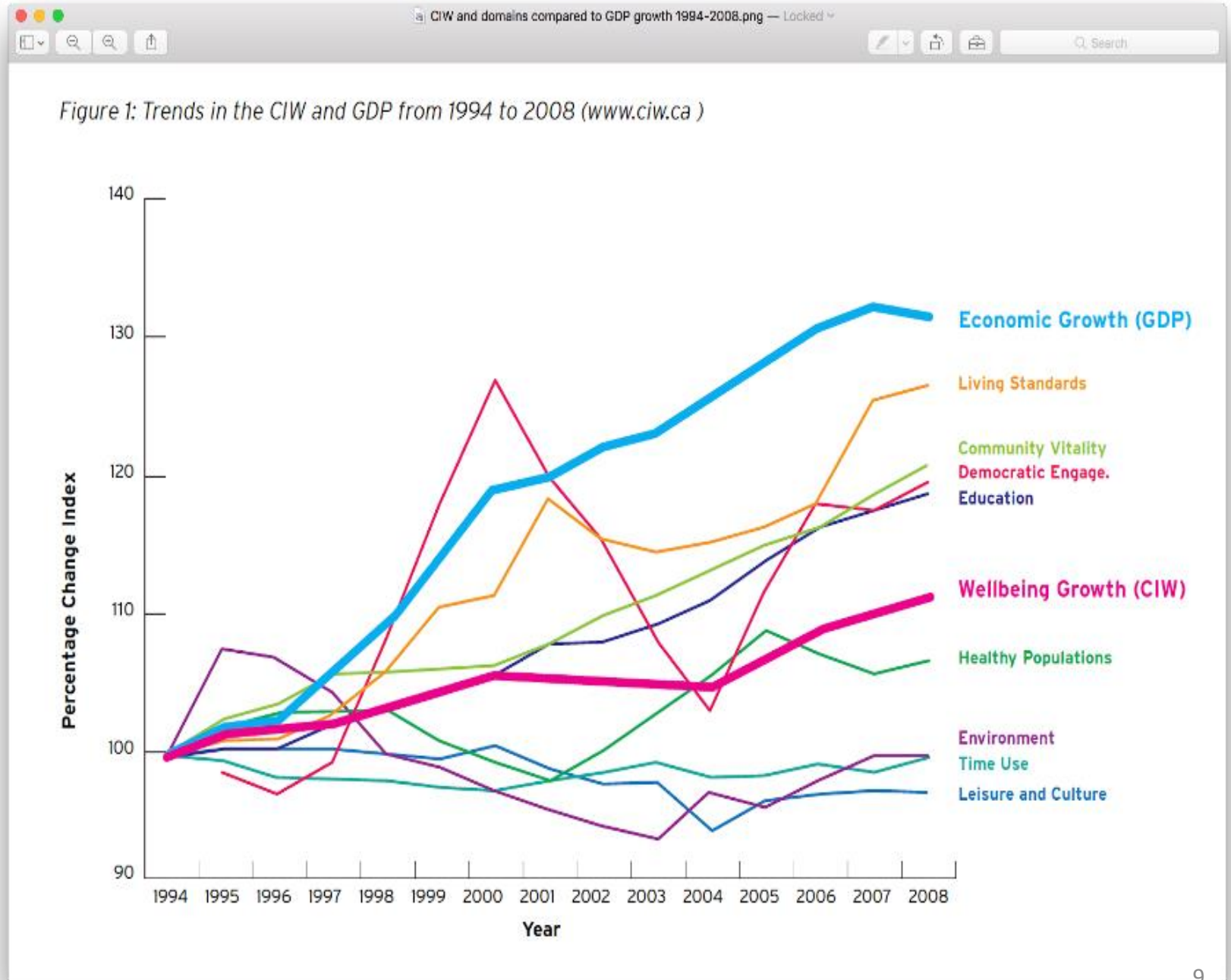
| | |
|-------------|--|
| 2016 | Signing of 5-year Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Melbourne (UOM) ANDI Host University and coordinating research partner (November) |
| 2017 | <p>National Research Roundtable on ANDI co-sponsored by Academy of Social Sciences in Australia (ASSA), University of Melbourne and ANDI at UOM (February).</p> <p>ANDI Research unit established in the Melbourne Graduate School of Education under Collaboration agreement between UOM and ANDI (February) for 2-year pilot project.</p> |
| 2018 | <p>ANDI and UoM pilot ANDI domain development process in two key domains, Education and Health.</p> <p>ANDI and UoM host national forum of peak community organisations brainstorm a national community engagement strategy for AFDI</p> <p>ANDI-Social Research Centre (ANU) national survey shows strong community support for n broader measures of national progress and citizen engagement in it.</p> <p>ANDI invited by DFAT to make submission to the Senate Inquiry on Sustainable Development Goals</p> |
| 2019 | ANDI commissioned by Statistics New Zealand to review its draft Wellbeing framework 'Indicators Aotearoa New Zealand' |
| | ANDI invited by WA government to discuss proposal for WA State version of ANDI with WA government and community organisations. |
| | ANDI an invited participant in OECD special workshop on applying new progress measures policy and government, Paris. |
| | Ernst and Young commissioned by ANDI to develop a 5-year Business Plan for full national development of ANDI project. |

Canada's Index of Wellbeing - based on values

When we in Canada first started talking – roughly a decade ago – about measuring and reporting on our progress as a society, we realized that it begged the fundamental question, “progress toward what?”

We made a firm commitment that whatever we came up with, it would have to be rooted in Canadian experience and grounded in the values that have shaped our country – fairness, diversity, equity, inclusion, health, safety, economic security, democracy and sustainability.

(Roy Romanow, Chairman, Canadian Index of Wellbeing, ‘The Canadian Index of Wellbeing: Its successes as a tool for planning, policymaking and nation building’, OECD 4th World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge and Policy, Delhi, 2012.)





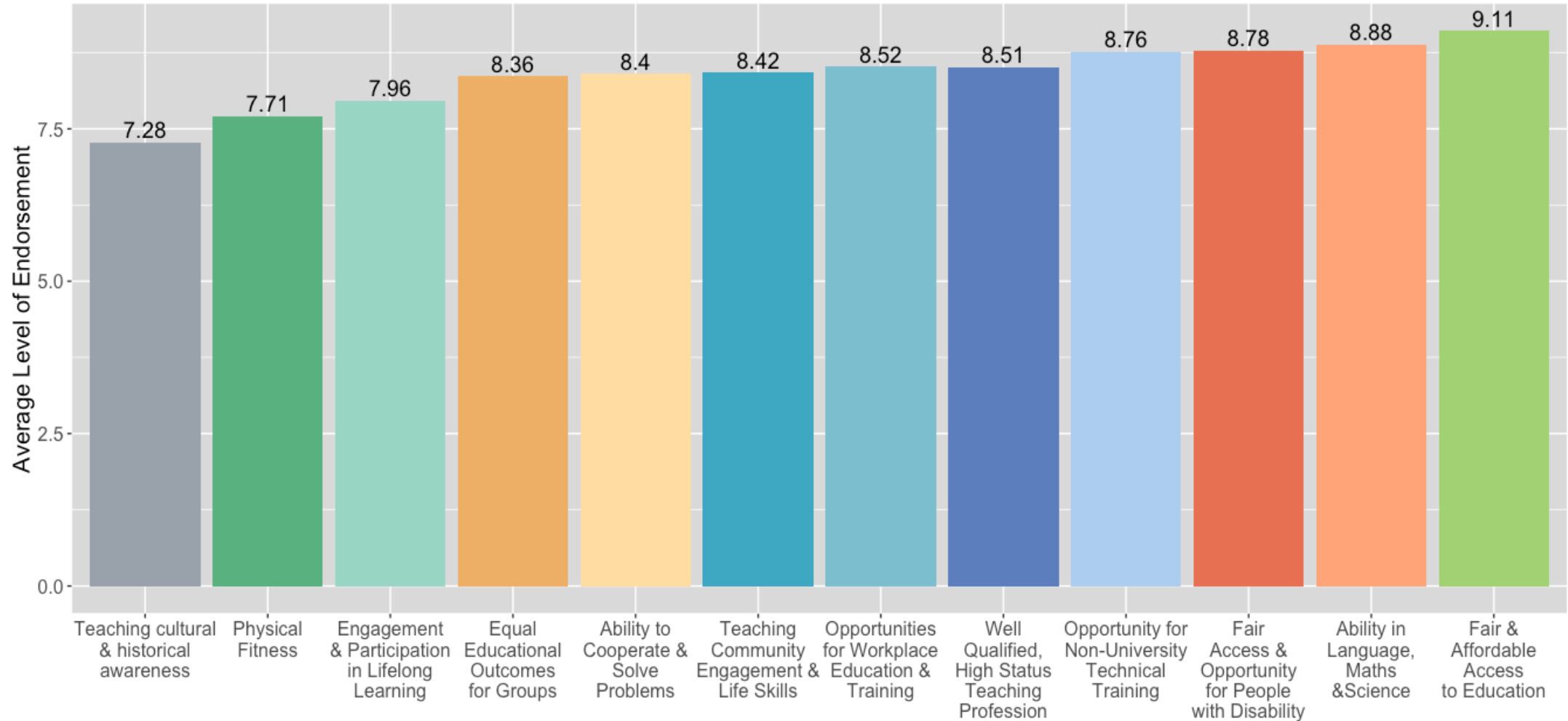
ANDI: progress domains for sub-indexes

ANDI will produce an index and a progress report each year in twelve 'progress domains', such as:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Children and young people | Environment and sustainability |
| Community/regional development | Fairness and justice |
| Culture and leisure | Health |
| Democracy and good governance | Indigenous wellbeing |
| Economic life and prosperity | Subjective wellbeing & satisfaction |
| Education and creativity | Work-life and employment |

Pilot priorities for education index

Figure 3. Relative Importance of 12 Goals of Educational Progress



A national conversation with over 500,000 Australians

How?

- Initially carried out over 2 years
- Website and online surveys
- Local government networks
- Outreach of ANDI partners (2 million members) across Australia
- Regional forums



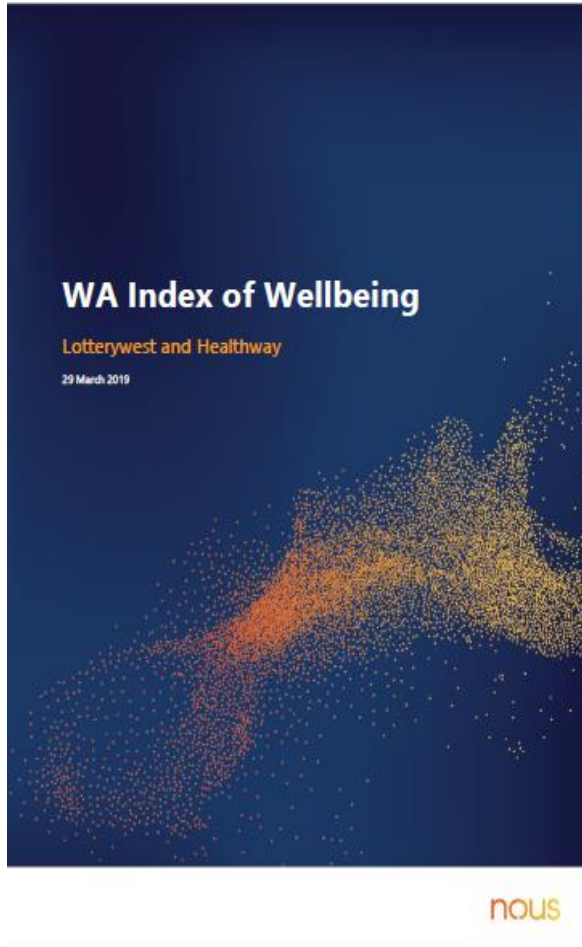
Platforms

- Social media
- Schools projects
- Media partners
- 12 research groups and 6 universities nationally
- UNDP type national survey ('My Australia 2030?')

A WA Development Index: mutual advantages?

- ANDI is seeking a State partner to comprehensively model/pilot all aspects of a national development index project. Why?
- ANDI could be a possible umbrella for work in WA, and a national 'Best practice' model
- But it must be a WA project, owned by WA organisations and must fit with existing WA work
- We believe there would be strong and lasting benefits for WA

Nous report recommendations on WA Wellbeing Index



“In considering the next steps of the WA Index of Wellbeing initiative, Lotterywest and Healthway could contemplate taking the following actions: ...

- **Lotterywest and Healthway could partner with other government agencies and non-profit sector partners to accelerate pilot projects to measure wellbeing in WA.** Potential partners include the Australian National Development Index (ANDI) and WA Council of Social Services (WACOSS).
- **Lotterywest and Healthway could work with various government agencies (including Department of the Premier and Cabinet and Department of Communities) to synthesise approaches to measuring wellbeing in WA** by sharing the Index and data dictionary and encouraging the adoption of the same indicators and measures. **If WA Index of Wellbeing indicators and measures are adopted within their ‘peer’ frameworks (See 4 Western Australian and national wellbeing frameworks), this would promote alignment of state wellbeing measurement frameworks”.** (p 4)

A 'best practice' WA Development Index

1. Based on extensive, ongoing community engagement across the state on priority values, goals and outcomes, including biennial state wide community wellbeing survey
2. Developed in WA **and** with international OECD-led peer group
3. Shows state's progress comprehensively in 12 key domains and overall, both 'current' and 'capital' progress accounts, subjective and objective wellbeing
4. Measures progress on 12 key outcomes against clear targets in each domain
5. Tracks broad qualities (equity, sustainability) across all domains
6. Index and status report in each domain annually in a different month
7. Attractive, accessible format with strong education & public info focus
8. Multiple policy uses and applications, including local and regional level
9. Built **into and across** government - planning, budgets, evaluation, community engagement, legislation
10. Used and trusted in the community as agreed vision for 'the WA we want'.

ANDI: three key national benefits

- A way to build a practical shared vision for a fairer, more sustainable society with greater general well-being for all
- An important tool that will increase transparency and clarity in policy making, planning and nation-building
- A way to re-engage citizens and strengthen democracy, transparency and confidence in the political process.

ANDI: Key Contacts

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