

Social Innovation and the SDGs: Connecting the DOTs

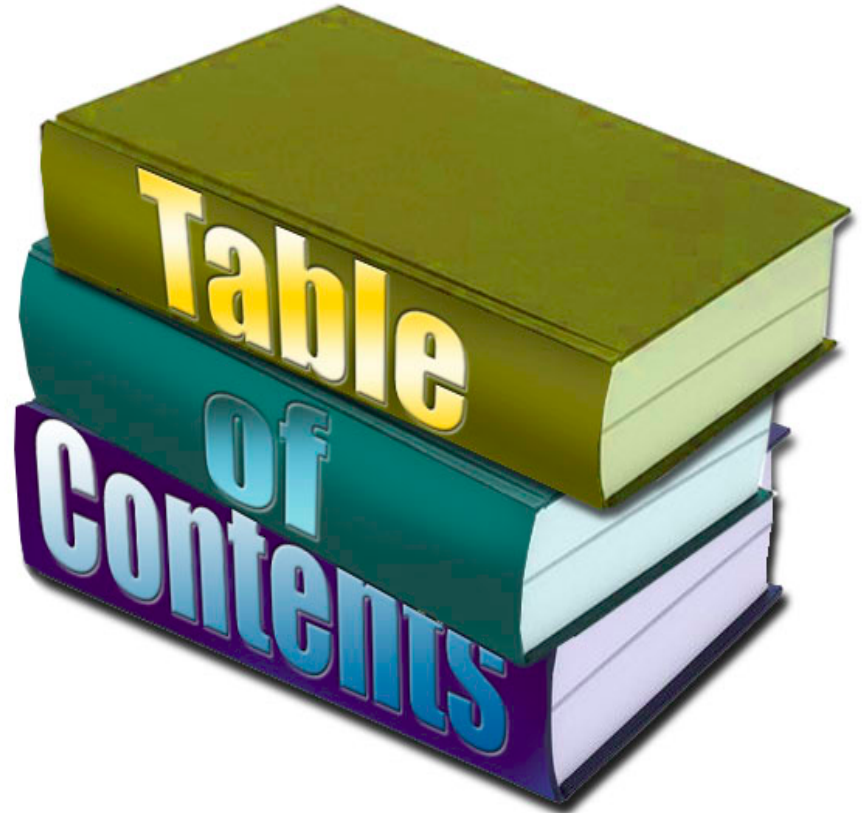
Raúl Zambrano

SI-DRIVE | Brussels | 25 October 2017

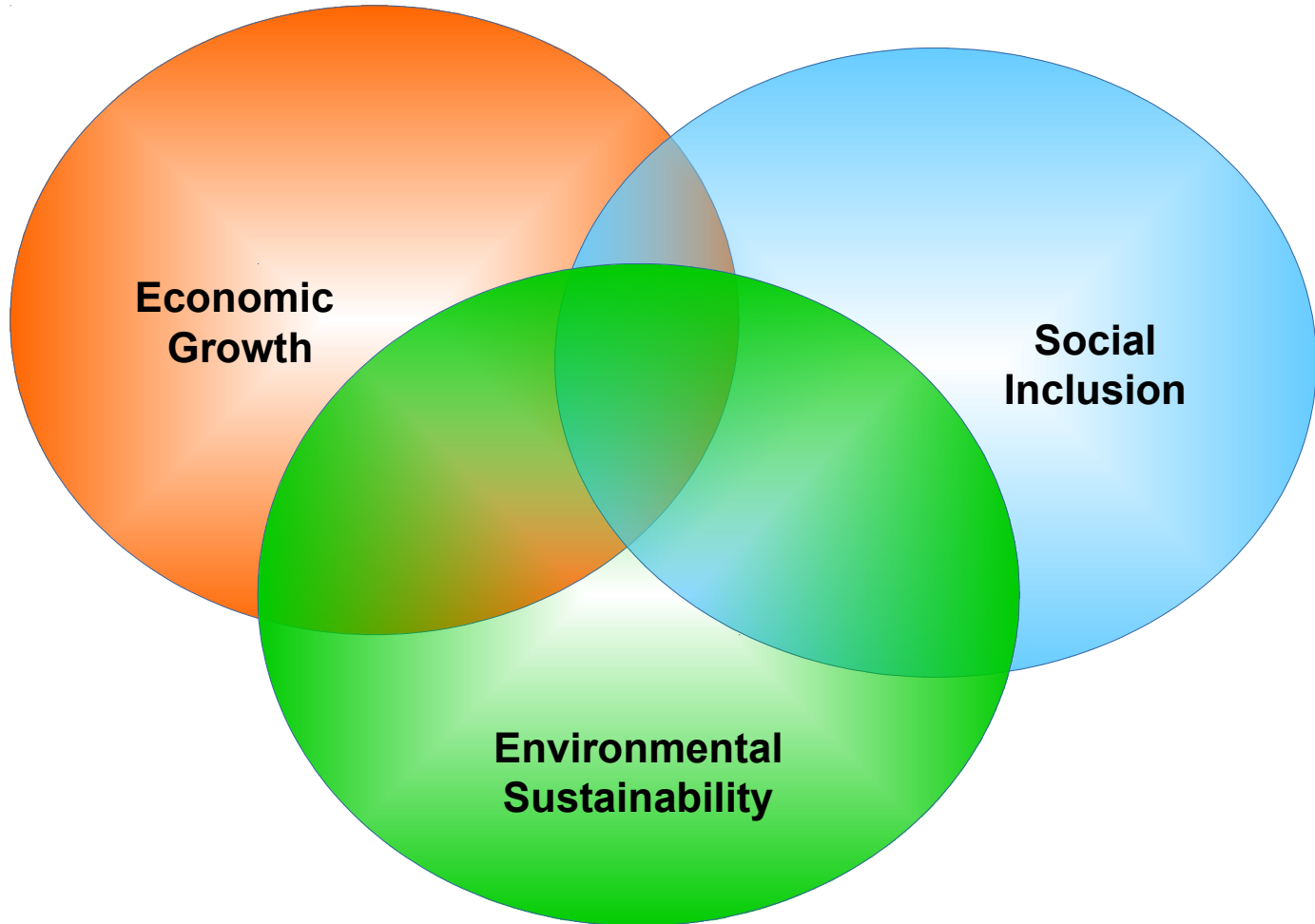
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The Three Pillars of SD



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- Universal, unlike the MDGs
- 17 goals, 169 targets, 232 indicators
- Goal 9 includes innovation; target 9.c calls for universal Internet access
- SDG 16 tackles democratic governance

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SDGs WordCloud



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Human Development

- Development as Freedom
- People-centered
- Multi-dimensional
- Larger than economic growth or economic development



Human Development

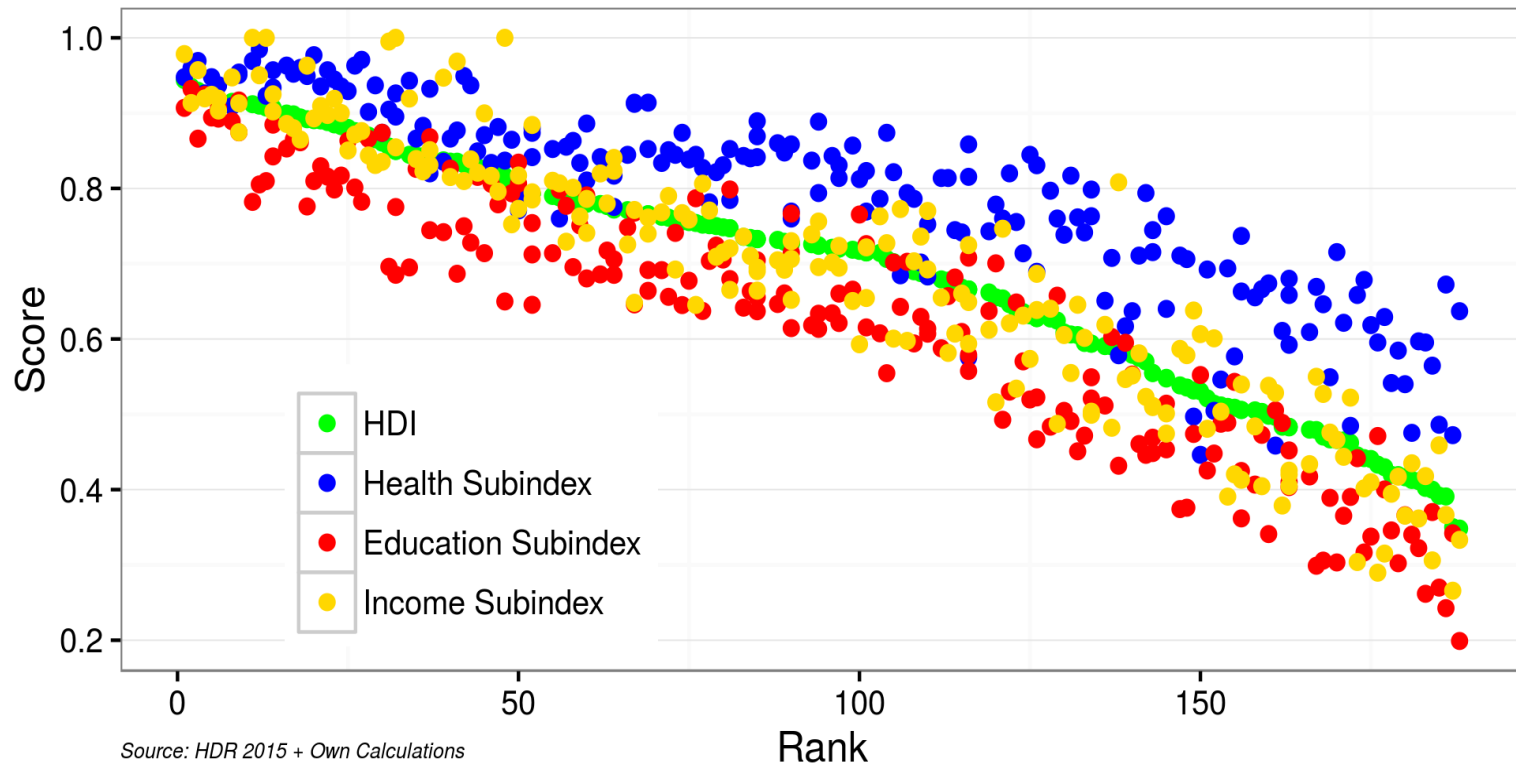
Key Ingredients

- Quality of life
- Education
- Health
- Political freedom
- Human rights
- Social inclusion



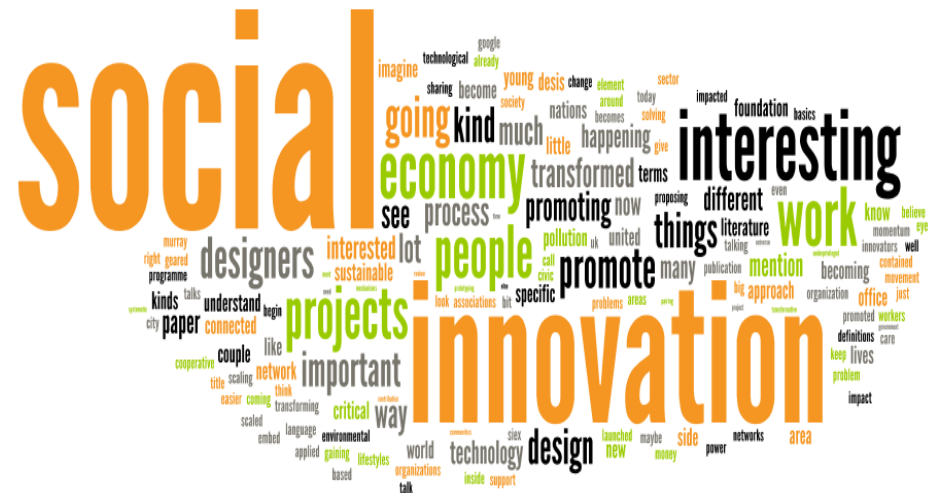
Human Development Index

Figure 2: HDI and its Components
by Country, 2015

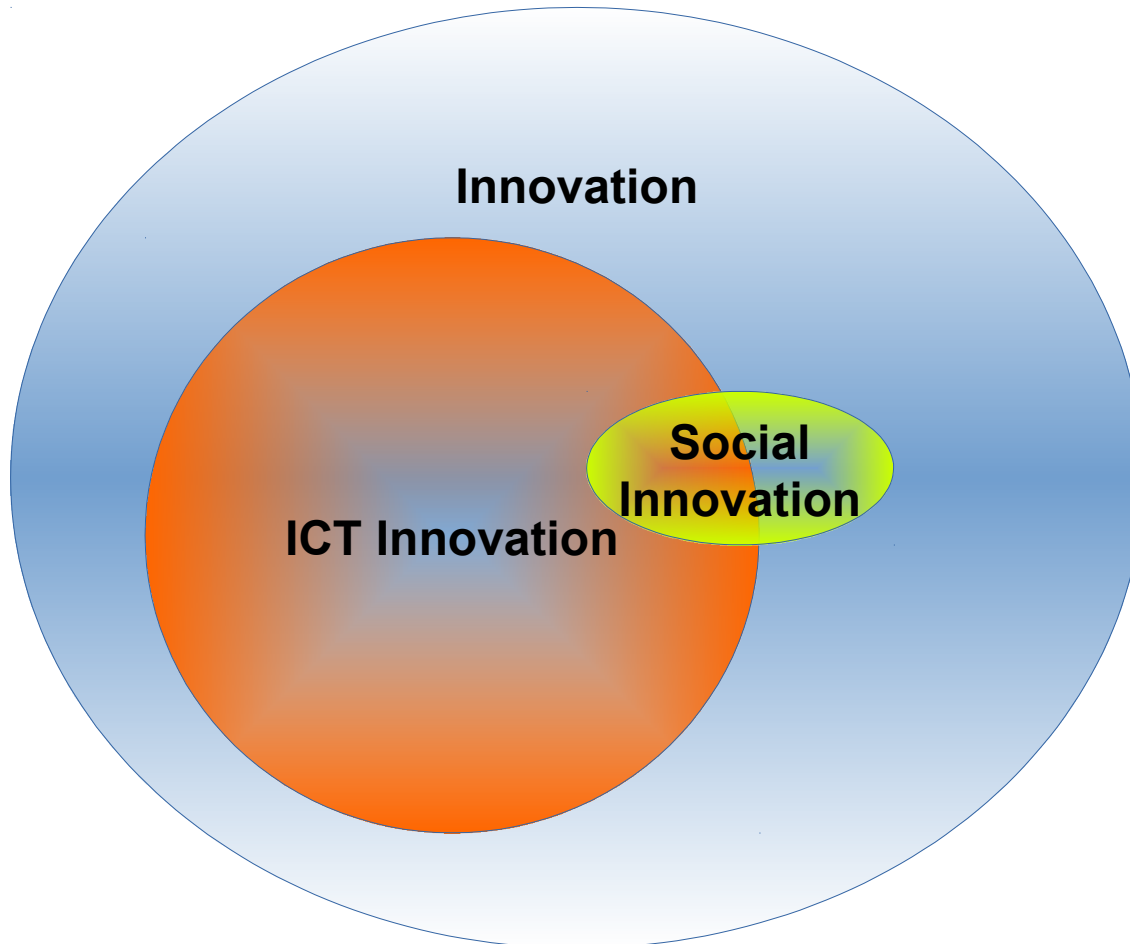


Social Innovation

- Emerged in 1850s
- 2nd Wave - 1920s
response to tech
growth (Veblen)
- 3rd Wave - 1970s
Drucker's
“social profitability”
- 4th Wave - 1990s
Corporate Social Responsibility



Innovation



ICTs as Enablers

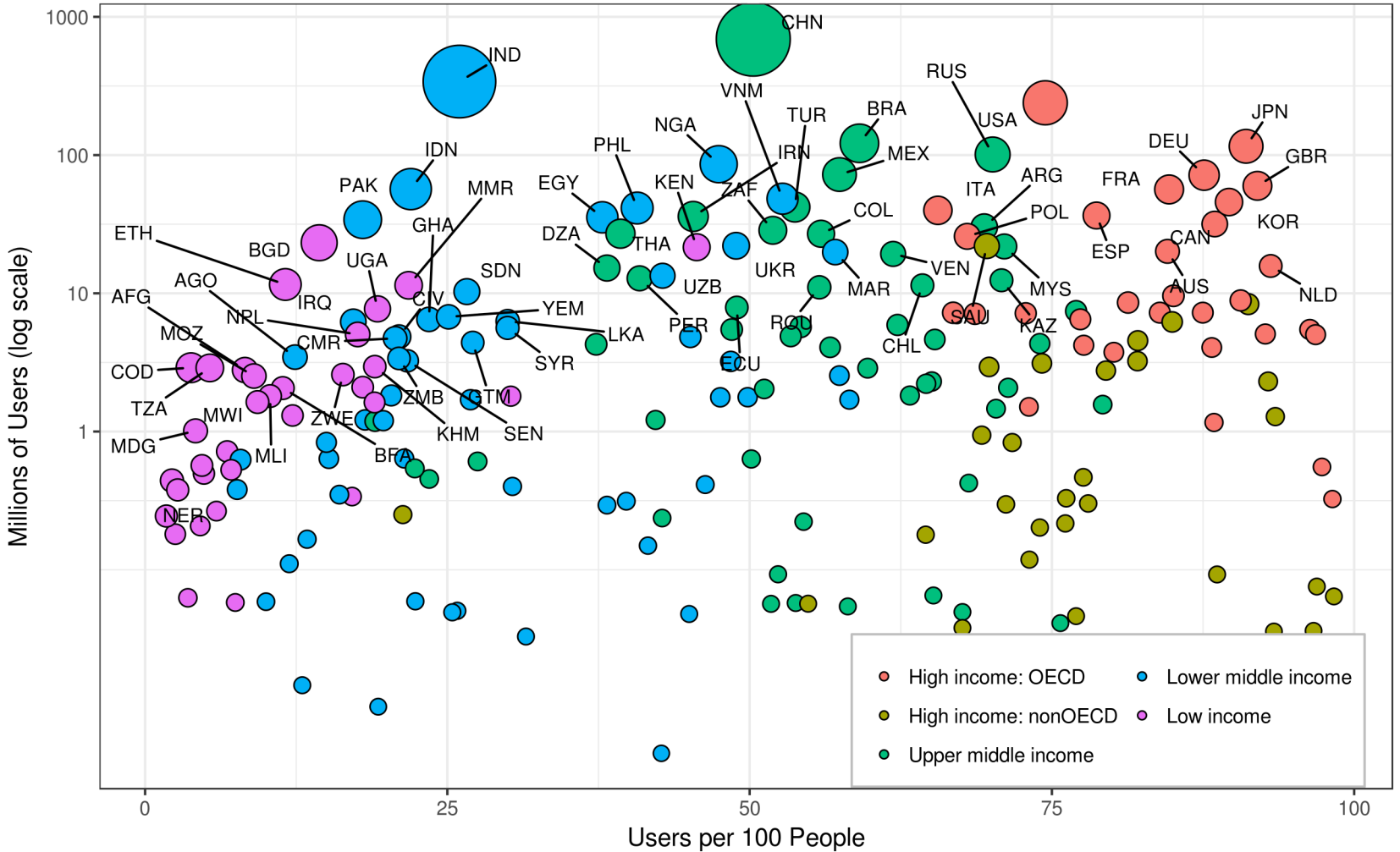
- ICTs are catalysts for human development
- ICTs as means to an end
- In the developing world, the “digital divide” is a reflection of existing socio-economic gaps



ICTs access by Income

2015 Country Internet Access

Absolute vs. relative number of users

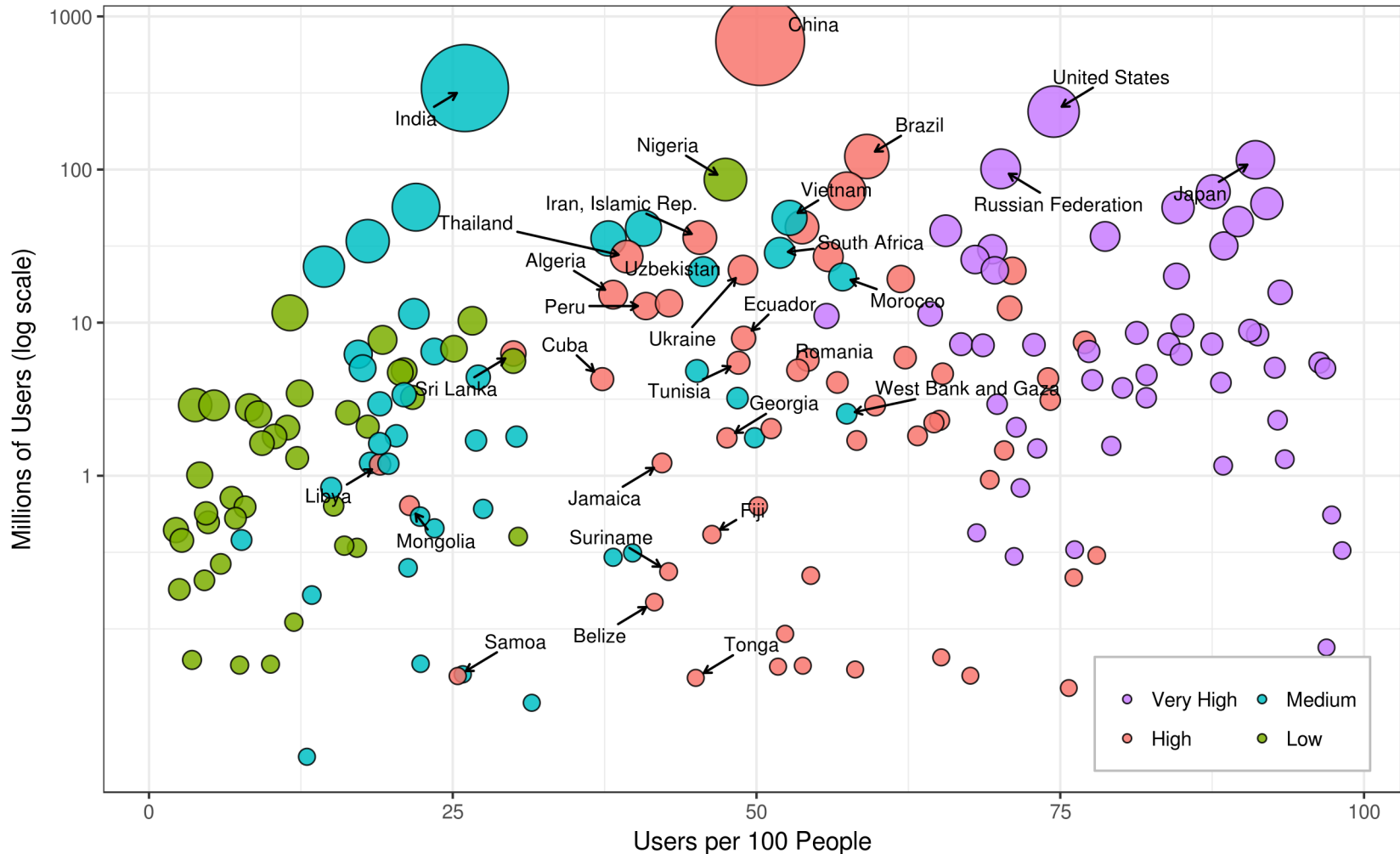


Source: World Bank, ITU

ICT access by Human Dev.

Figure 2: 2015 Country Internet Access by HDI Level

Absolute vs. relative number of users



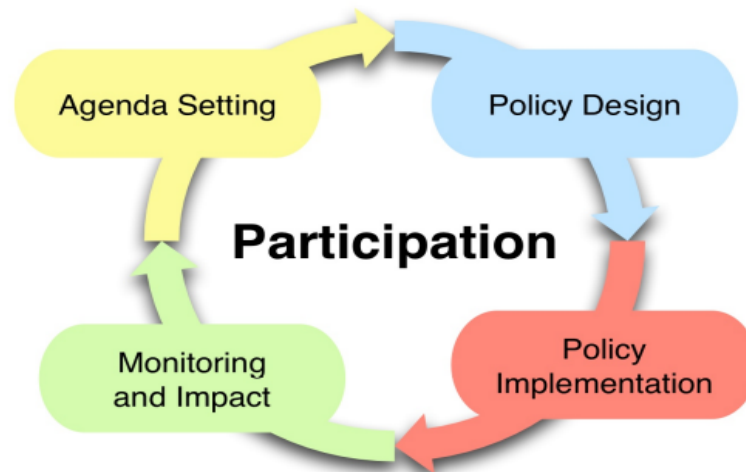
Source: World Bank, ITU, HDRO

ICTs: Efficiency vs Transformation

- ICTs = efficient tool
 - cost reduction, scale
 - economic approach
- ICTs as transformational, new ways of doing things
 - qualitative changes
 - Networking, governance innovations



Participation in Decision-Making



Participation Levels

<i>Type of part</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Commitment</i>	<i>Democratic value</i>
Information	Balanced and objective information to assist participants in understanding the problem and alternative solutions.	Keep informed.	Transparency, accountability
Consultation	Obtain public feedback.	Listen and acknowledge concerns/proposals, (provide feedback on whether the decision was influenced).	Open/broader public sphere
Decision-making	Work with the public to make sure that their concerns are understood and considered.	Directly reflect public concerns in decision-making.	Civic engagement; the move towards participatory democracy
Co-governing	Place final decision-making in the hand of the public	What the public decided will be implemented	

Social Innovation

- Beyond economic growth
- Key for social inclusion
- Empowers stakeholders
- Gives voice to those who have none



Digital Social Innovation example

India Pro-poor Public Services

Key results:

=> Scalability

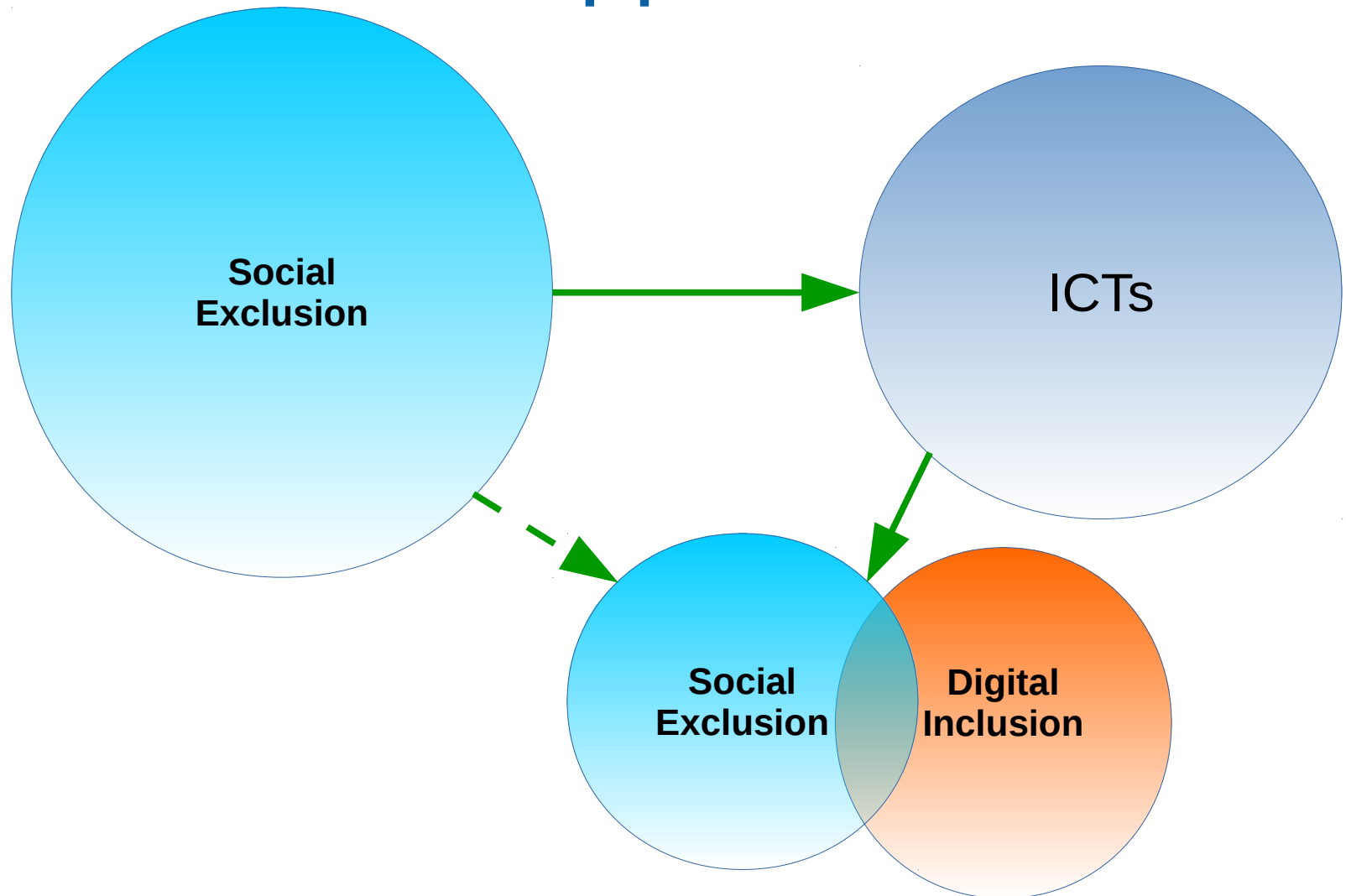
=> Tangible benefit

=> Increased transparency and accountability

=> Increased rights awareness



HD Approach



Recap

- Social innovation as an enabler
- Policies, capacity development, institutions and development focus also required
- Sustainable development provides fertile ground for social innovation
- SDGs already embracing ICTs but social innovation not explicitly addressed

Core development areas

- Poverty Reduction
- Democratic/good governance
- Crisis and conflict prevention
- Climate Change and adaptation
- Gender equality, youth, etc.

Some Challenges...

- How do we explicitly link social innovation to these areas?
- What is the value added of social innovation for policy/decision makers and practitioners?
- How to carve additional policy space for SI?
- Digital SI: The future of SI?