

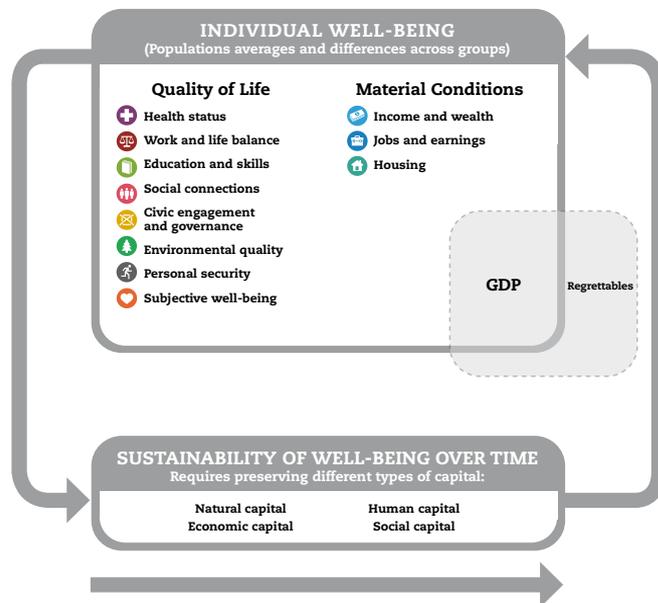
Well-Being

www.oecd.org/betterlifeinitiative – www.oecd.org/measuringprogress – www.oecd.org/howslife – www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org

For almost 10 years, the OECD has been looking beyond the functioning of the economic system to the diverse experiences and living conditions of people and households. Measuring well-being and progress is a key priority that the OECD is pursuing through various streams of work, notably the OECD *Better Life Initiative*.

The OECD *Better Life Initiative*, launched in May 2011, brings together data collected throughout the OECD which feed into two main pillars of the Initiative, *How's Life?* and *Your Better Life Index*. *How's Life?* is a report that provides a comprehensive picture of well-being in OECD countries and other major economies, by looking at people's material conditions and quality of life across the population. *Your Better Life Index* is an interactive web-based tool that allows citizens to measure and compare well-being across countries according to the importance they give to the various dimensions of people's well-being.

OECD Framework for Measuring Well-Being and Progress



Find out more

- OECD (2011), *How's Life? Measuring Well-Being* (next edition in 2013).
- OECD (2013), *OECD Guidelines on Measuring Subjective Well-Being*.

How's Life? Measuring Well-Being, released for the first time in October 2011, is a biennial publication which looks at the most important aspects that shape people's lives and well-being. It paints a comprehensive picture of well-being in OECD countries and other major economies, by looking at people's material conditions and quality of life in eleven dimensions shown in the OECD Framework used for analysing well-being and societal progress. Critical features of this framework are its focus on individuals and households (as opposed to the economy), on outcomes (rather than on inputs or outputs) and on both objective and subjective aspects of well-being. The report also provides information on inequalities in the various dimensions of people's life and (in a more limited way) on our imprint today on some key resources that will shape well-being in the future.

Your Better Life Index, released for the first time in May 2011, is an interactive tool that enables you to express and share your aspirations for a better life. By rating the 11 topics explored in *How's Life?* you can create *Your Better Life Index*. The resulting visualisation provides a unique view of how countries perform according to the priorities you have set.

Each country is represented by a flower, where the size of each one of the 11 petals illustrates the country's performance on a particular dimension, such as green for the environment, brown for safety, and so on.

By creating *Your Better Life Index* you can measure well-being differences between men and women but also learn about well-being inequalities across other groups in the population. In addition you compare your index with those of other users by gender, age and country of origin, and share your preferences with others, including the OECD.



By sharing with the OECD, you will help us to see the wider patterns of preferences among users. This data will inform on-going work on measuring progress and help policy-makers to understand people's well-being aspirations.

