ISRAEL’S PROGRESS INDEX: A MULTI-LAYERED MODEL FOR MEASURING PROGRESS AND QUALITY OF LIFE

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Israel’s Progress Index is a three layered project, aiming to incorporate three different approached in the measurement and evaluation of Israel’s progress and quality of life. We measure the progress of the Israeli society and its quality of life using the following approaches:

- The Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI): an indicator for sustainable economic welfare based on consumption levels and corrected to include externalities, non monetary transactions, leisure and natural capital depletion.
- The "Domains" Approach: mapping status and trends of different domains to produce a national "quality of life report card". Creating the report card is based on work done by experts and stakeholders in creating a complete nationally relevant indicator list.
- The "Public Participation" approach, producing indicators based on public choice through community indicators assessment.

The presentation will elaborate on the three approaches, emphasizing the benefits and challenges of working to incorporate them into one model, to be used as a coherent policy tool.

Results regarding Israel’s progress and quality of life will be presented as well. At least two of the approaches’ findings indicate that the Israeli society was progressing in the last three decades:

The GPI shows that the total economic welfare of Israel increased during the period 1980-2004. A domains "report card" using various indicators examines progress in eight domains of quality of life, showing that most indicators have improved from 2000 to 2007. A case study of community indicators assessment was made in 2009 to reveal and develop indicators at the community level. Initial results from the process will be presented and compared to the measures used in the GPI and the domains approaches.

The presentation will focus on the results for Israel, as well as on the benefits and challenges of using a three-layered model to measure the progress and quality of life of a society.