

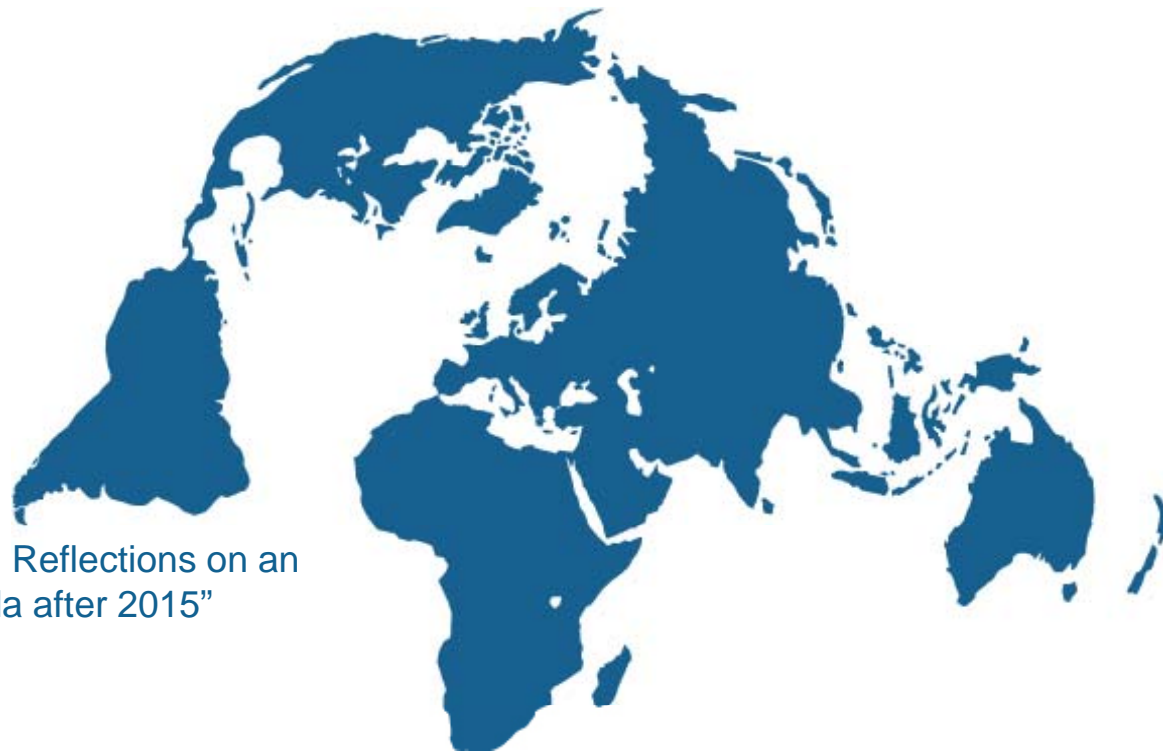
Social cohesion

– a useful framework for assessing social progress
in fast growing countries

Johannes Jütting, Jan Rieländer,
Christopher Garroway

DIE Workshop “The MDGs and Beyond: Reflections on an
International Development Policy Agenda after 2015”

Bonn, November 21, 2011



A success story?

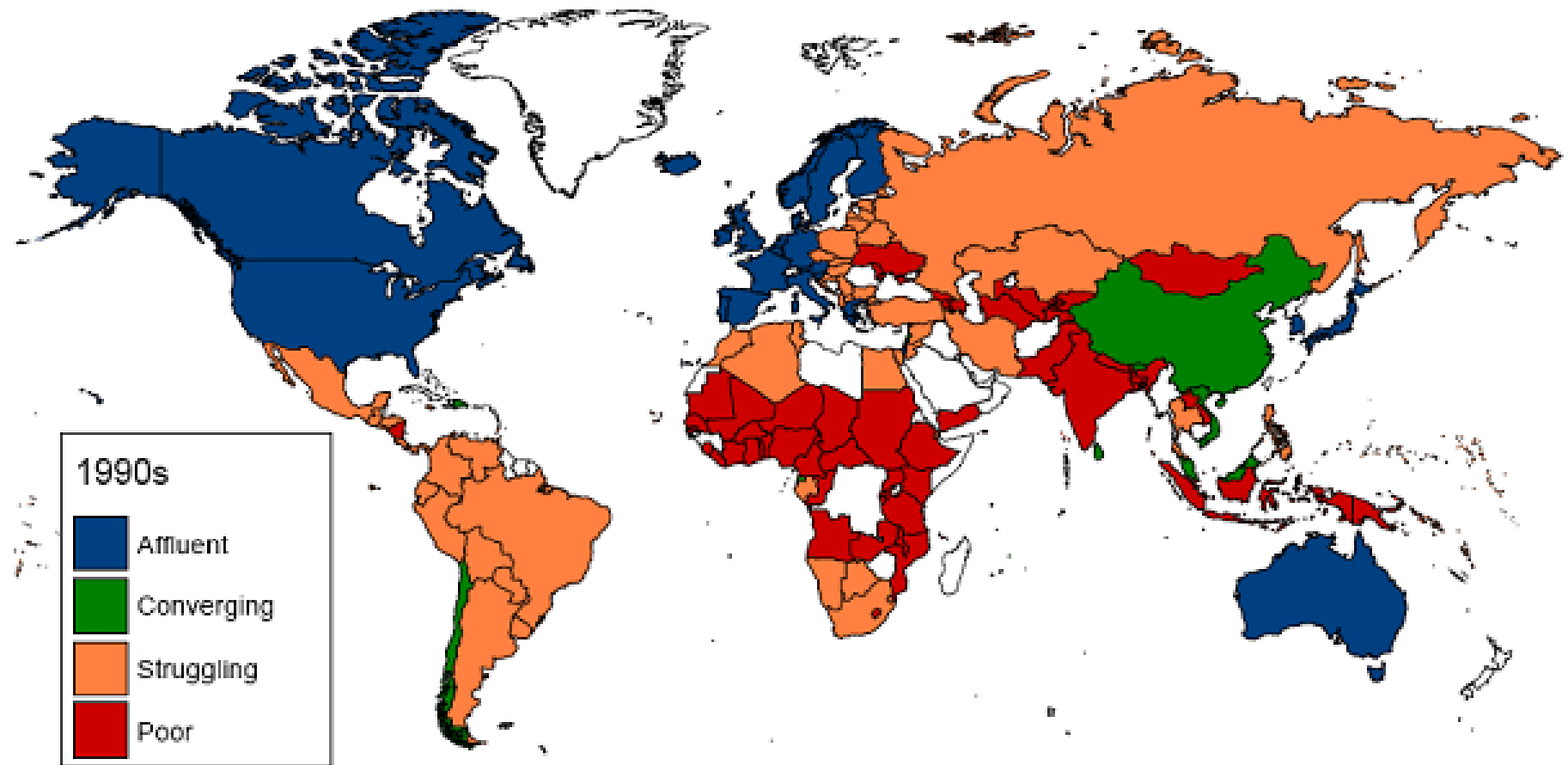
- A lower-middle income country
- Average 5% annual growth rate since 1990
- 60% of budget dedicated to social sectors
- Nearly 100% primary enrollment in 2008
- 80% health care coverage
- 'Prudent public debt management' (42.8% of GDP in 2009)
- 3% fiscal deficit
- Inflation at approx. 3% in the 2000s

Tunisia



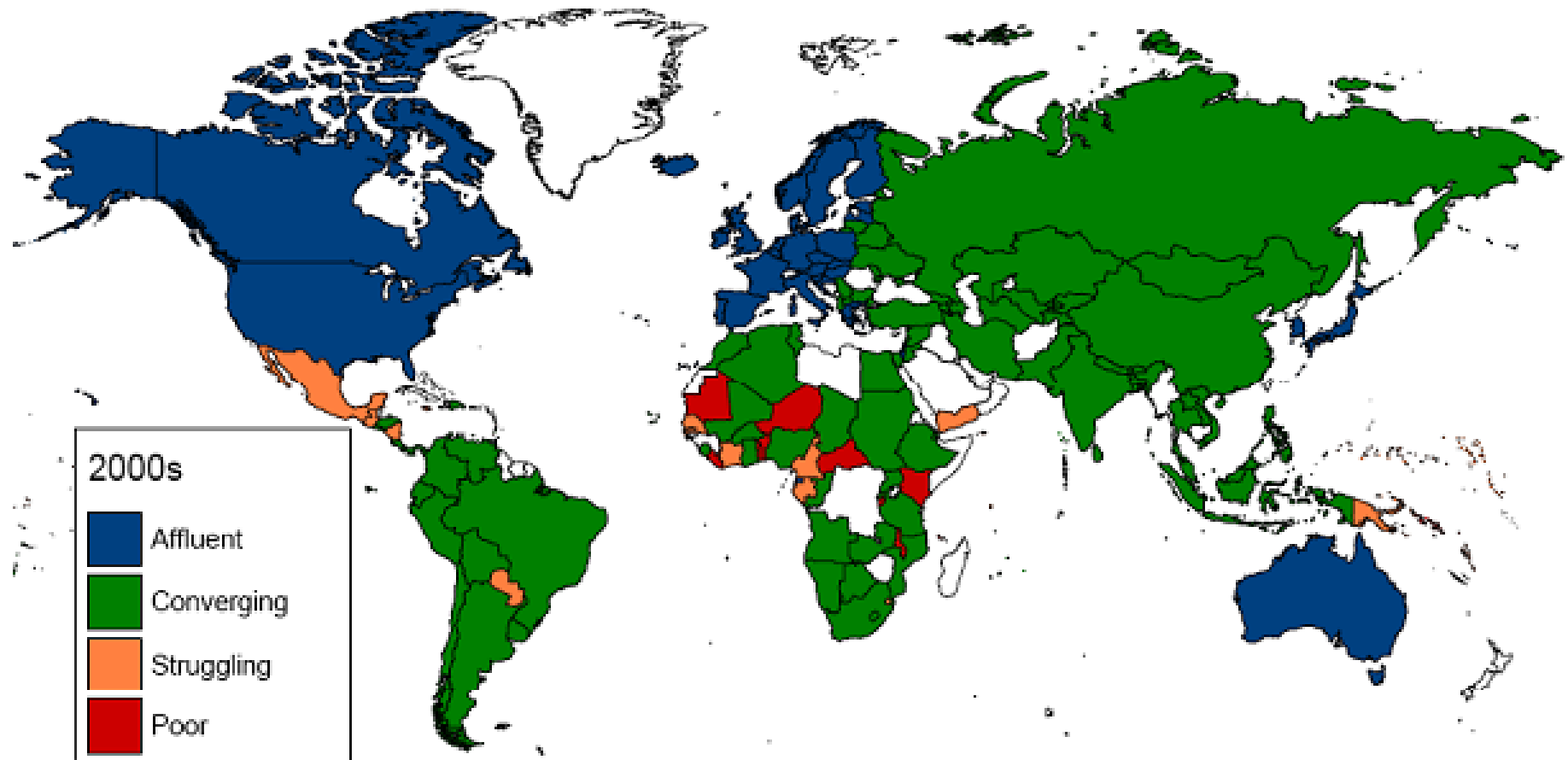
- 1** **Going beyond the MDGs**
- 2** **The new geography of growth and poverty**
- 3** **Social cohesion – introducing a simple framework**
- 4** **Measuring social cohesion**
- 5** **Conclusion**

2. The new geography of growth and poverty



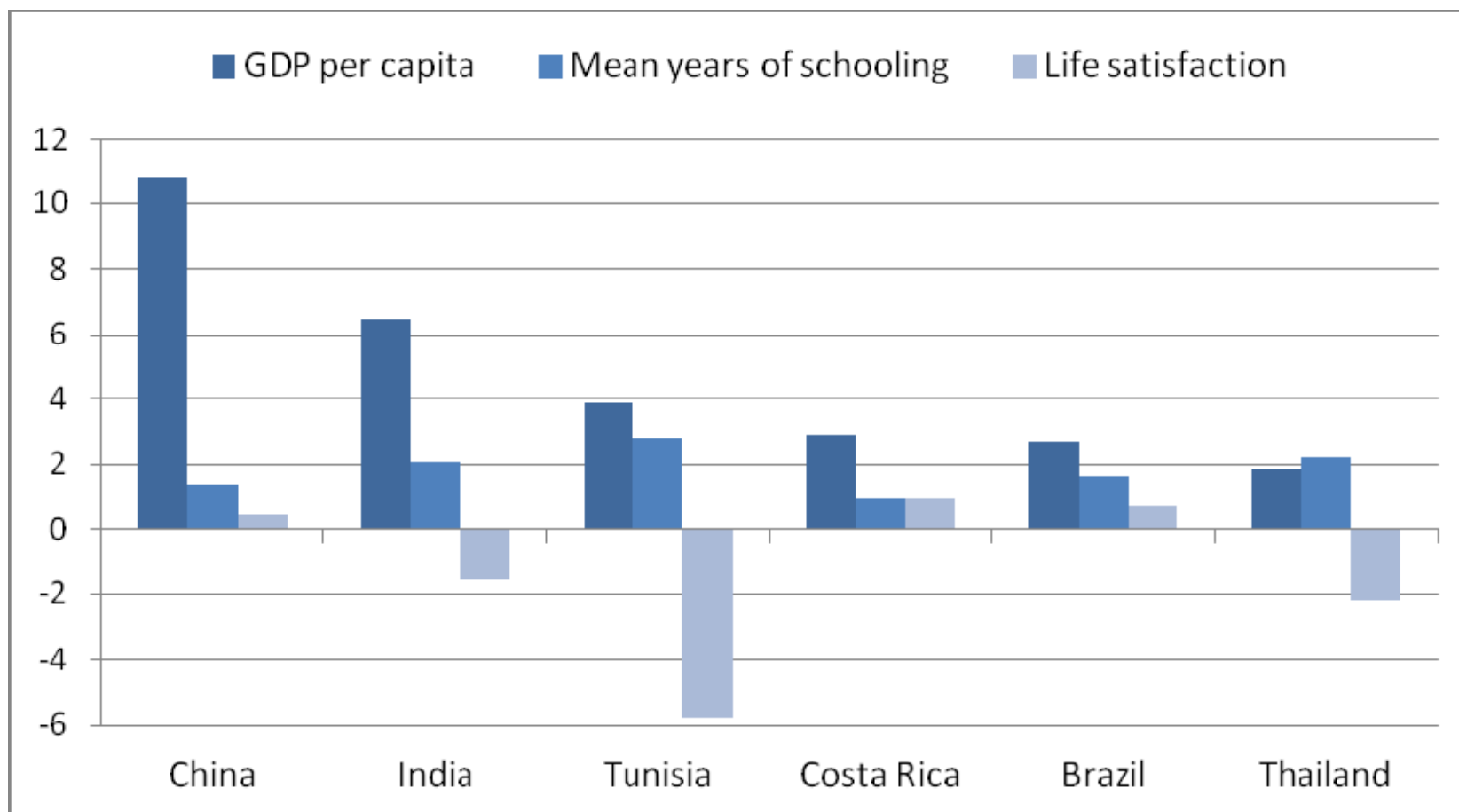
Source: Authors' elaboration based on World Bank (2011), World Development Indicators, World Bank, Washington, DC

2. The new geography of growth and poverty



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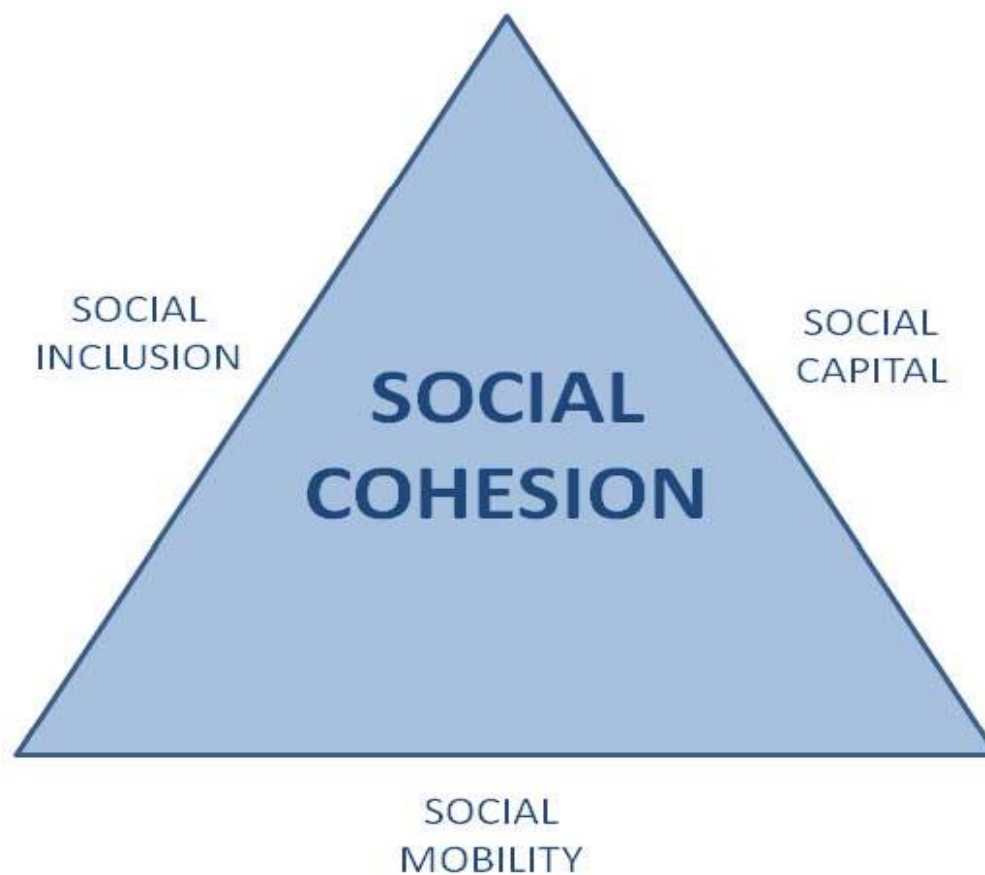
Higher average incomes, better health and improved education do not automatically translate into higher life satisfaction



3. Social Cohesion a Simple Framework

- We need an inclusive vision of development that goes beyond pro-poor growth.
- We propose Social Cohesion: A society is “cohesive” if it works towards the well-being of all its members, fights exclusion and marginalisation, creates a sense of belonging, promotes trust, and offers its members the opportunity of upward social mobility.
- Social cohesion is both a desirable end and a means to achieve development outcomes like growth.

3. Social Cohesion a Simple Framework

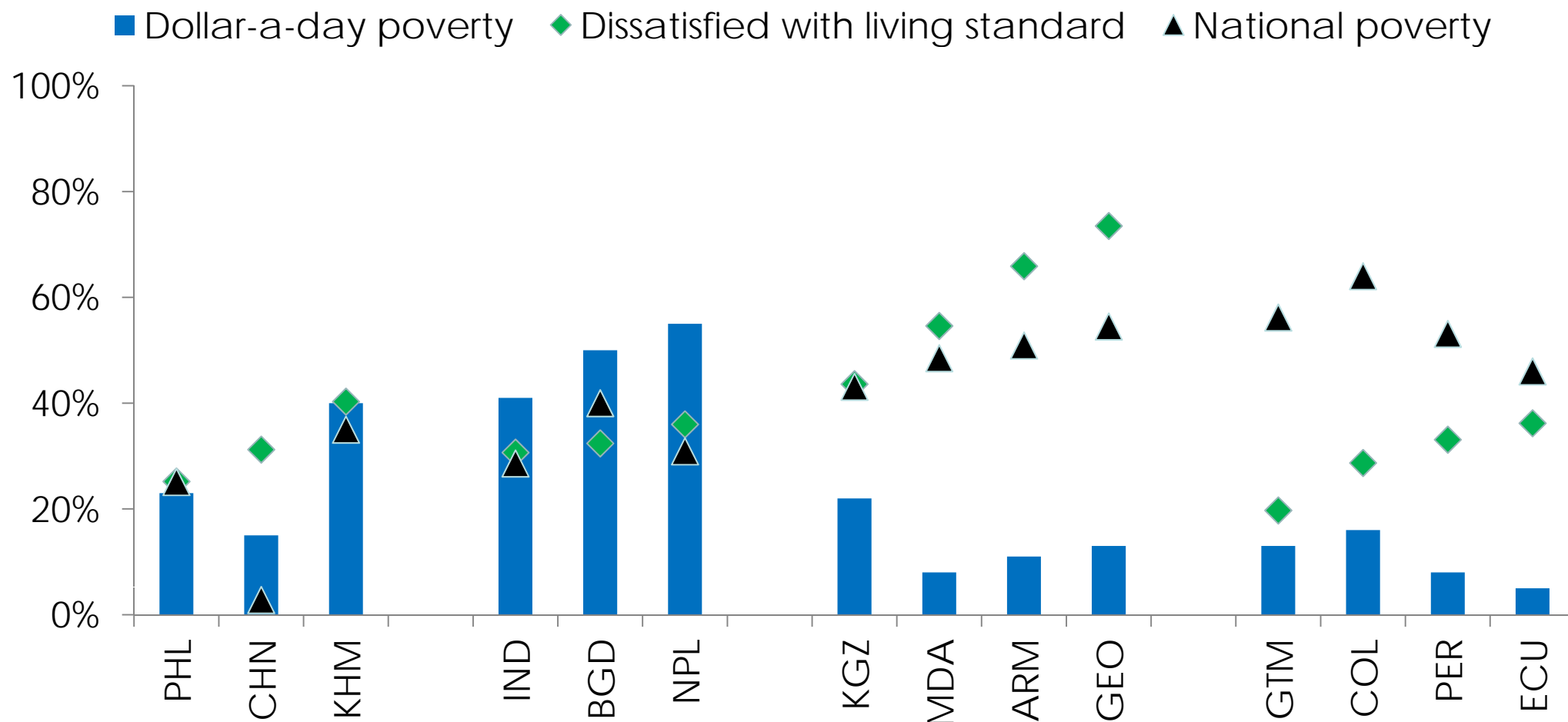


2) Social Inclusion

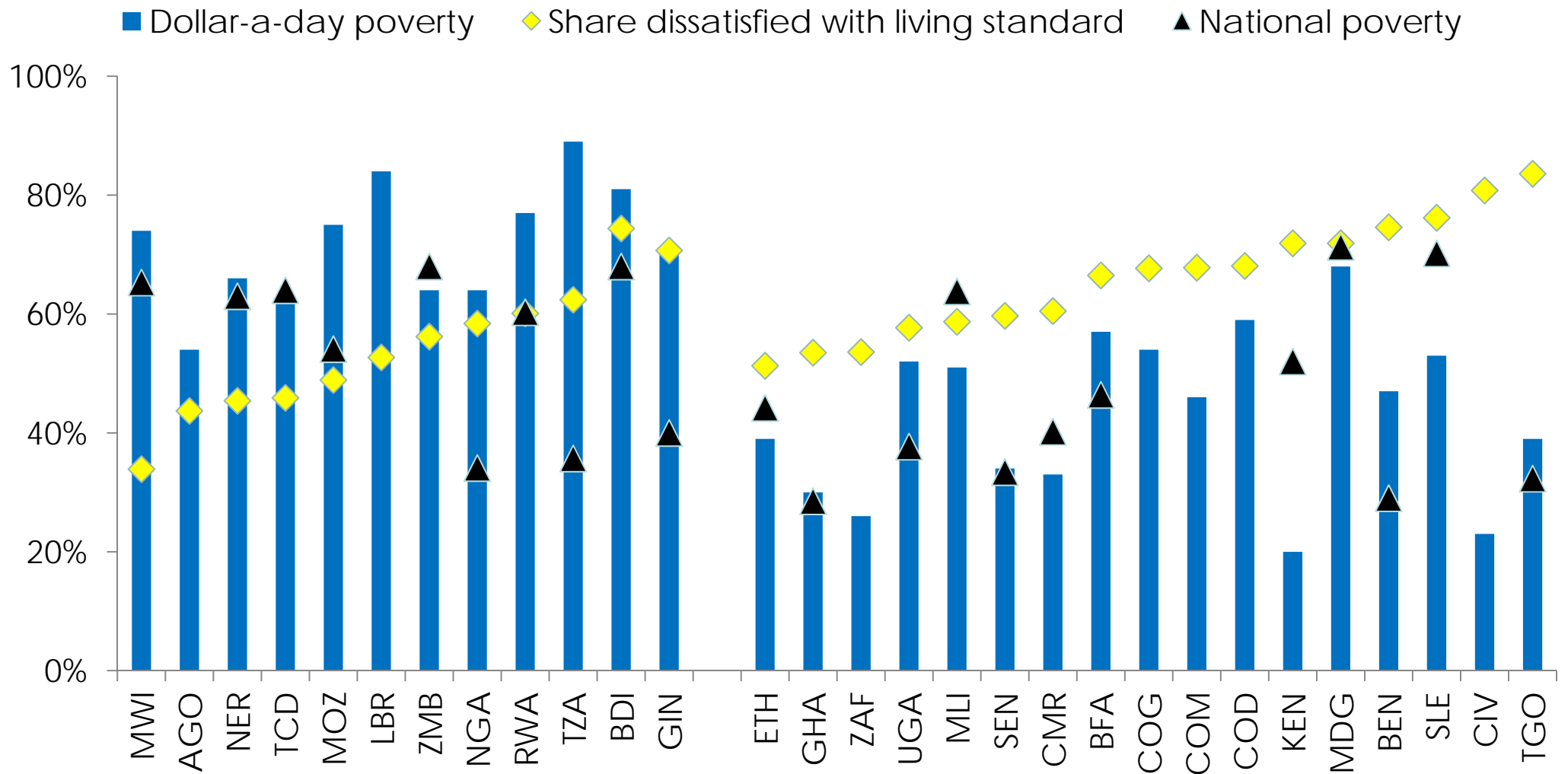
4. Measuring social cohesion

- **Absolute Poverty Measures** for the poorest countries
- **Relative Poverty Measures** (50% of the median) for countries where absolute poverty is less than 5%
- **National poverty line** Absolute or relative in nature, defined by national authorities (political)
- **Subjective Poverty Measures –Satisfaction with living standards** (Gallup World Poll: “Are you satisfied with your living standard?”) as benchmarks to test the adequacy of other measures

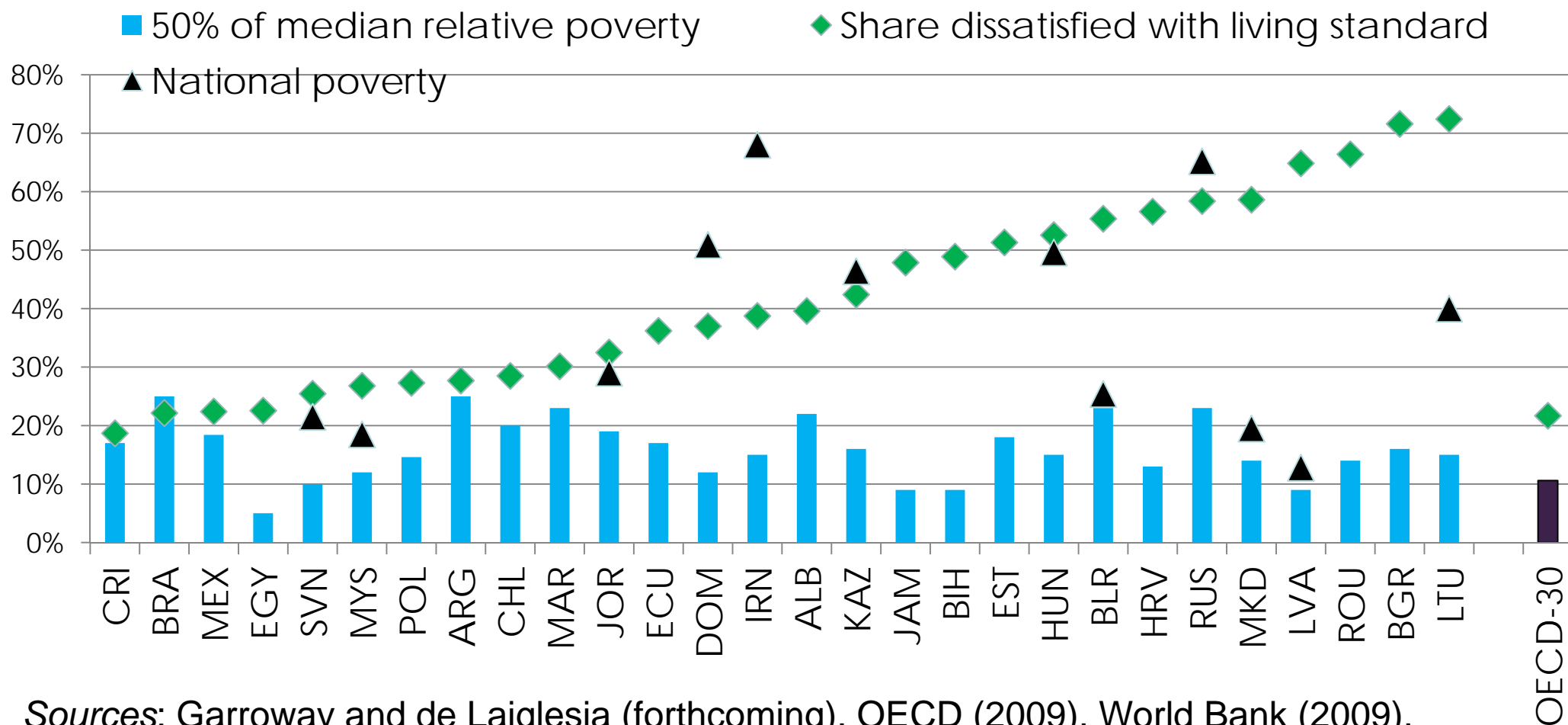
Absolute poverty in Asia, Europe and Latin America



Absolute poverty in Africa



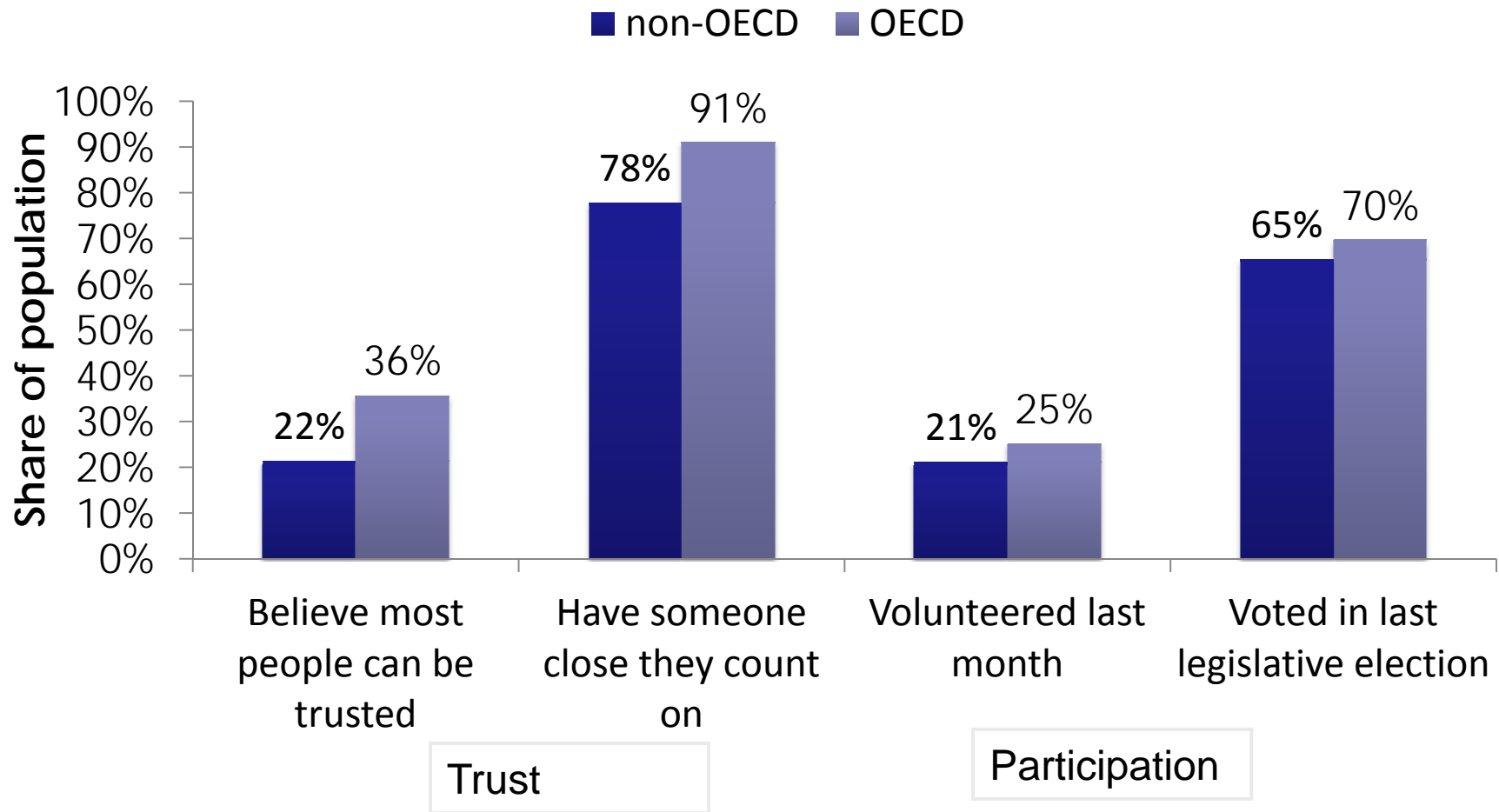
Relative poverty in the rest of the world



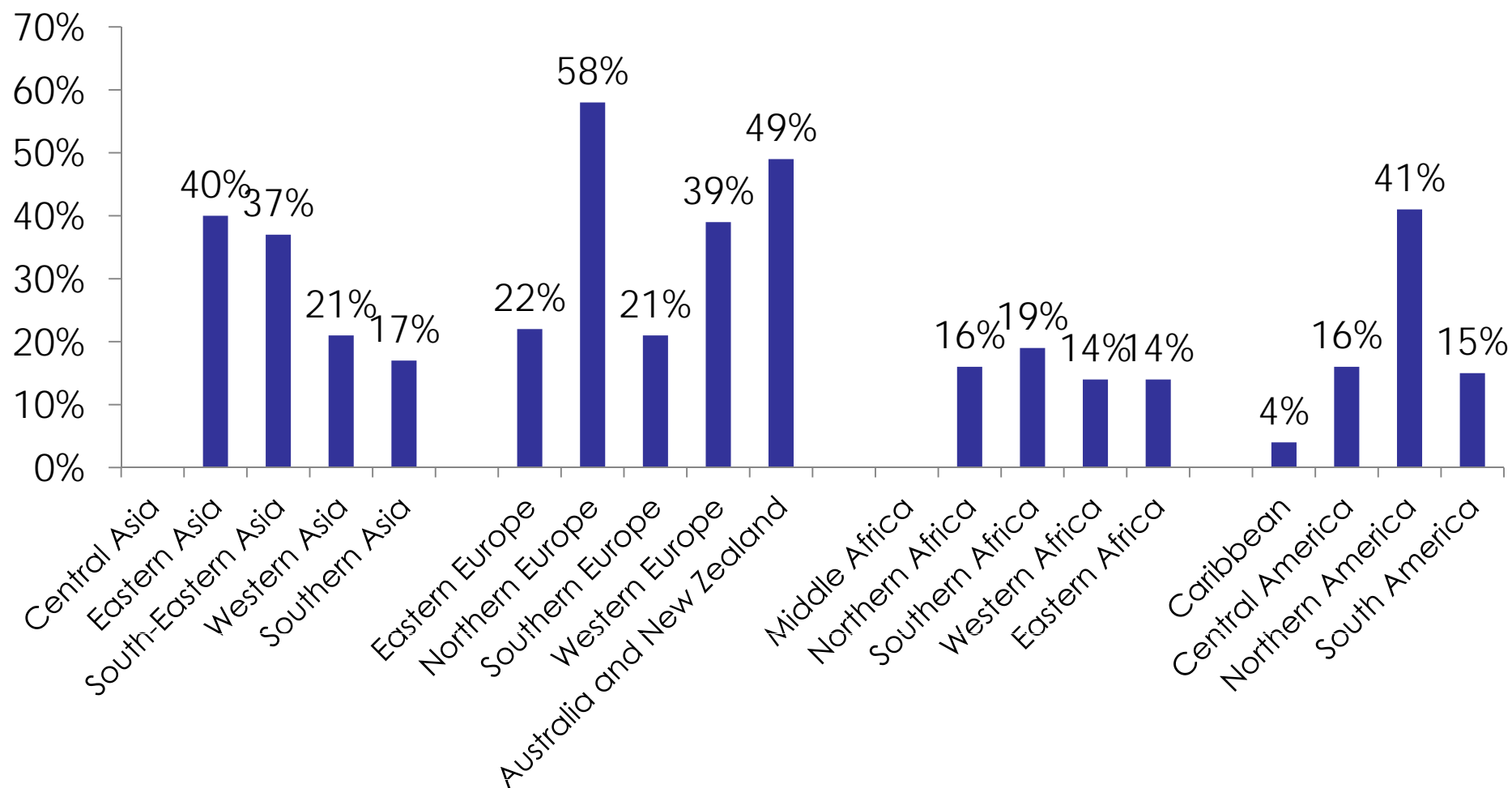
Sources: Garroway and de Laiglesia (forthcoming), OECD (2009), World Bank (2009), Gallup (2010)

2) Social Capital

Social capital: Trust and Participation

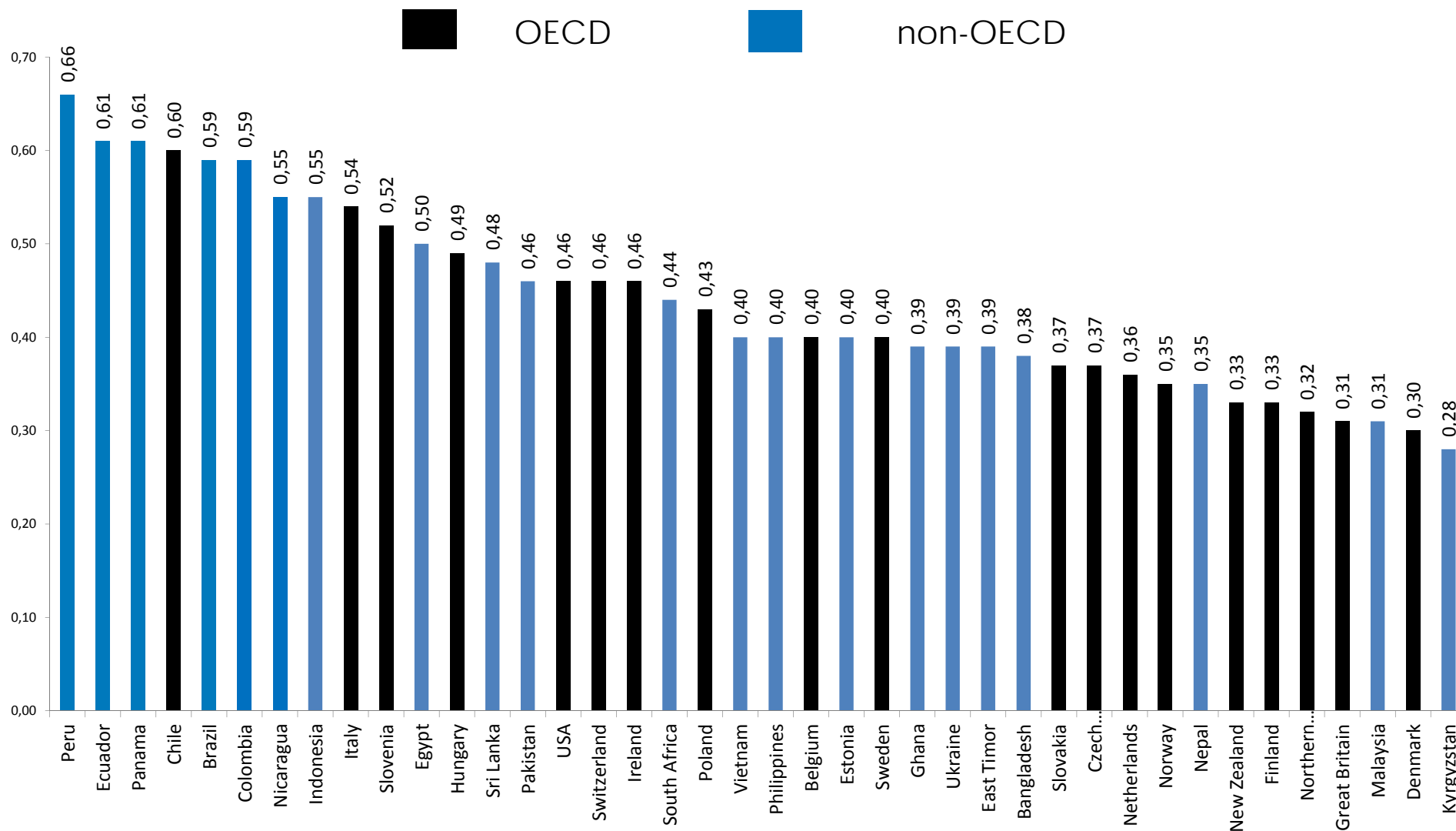


Social capital: Believe most people can be trusted



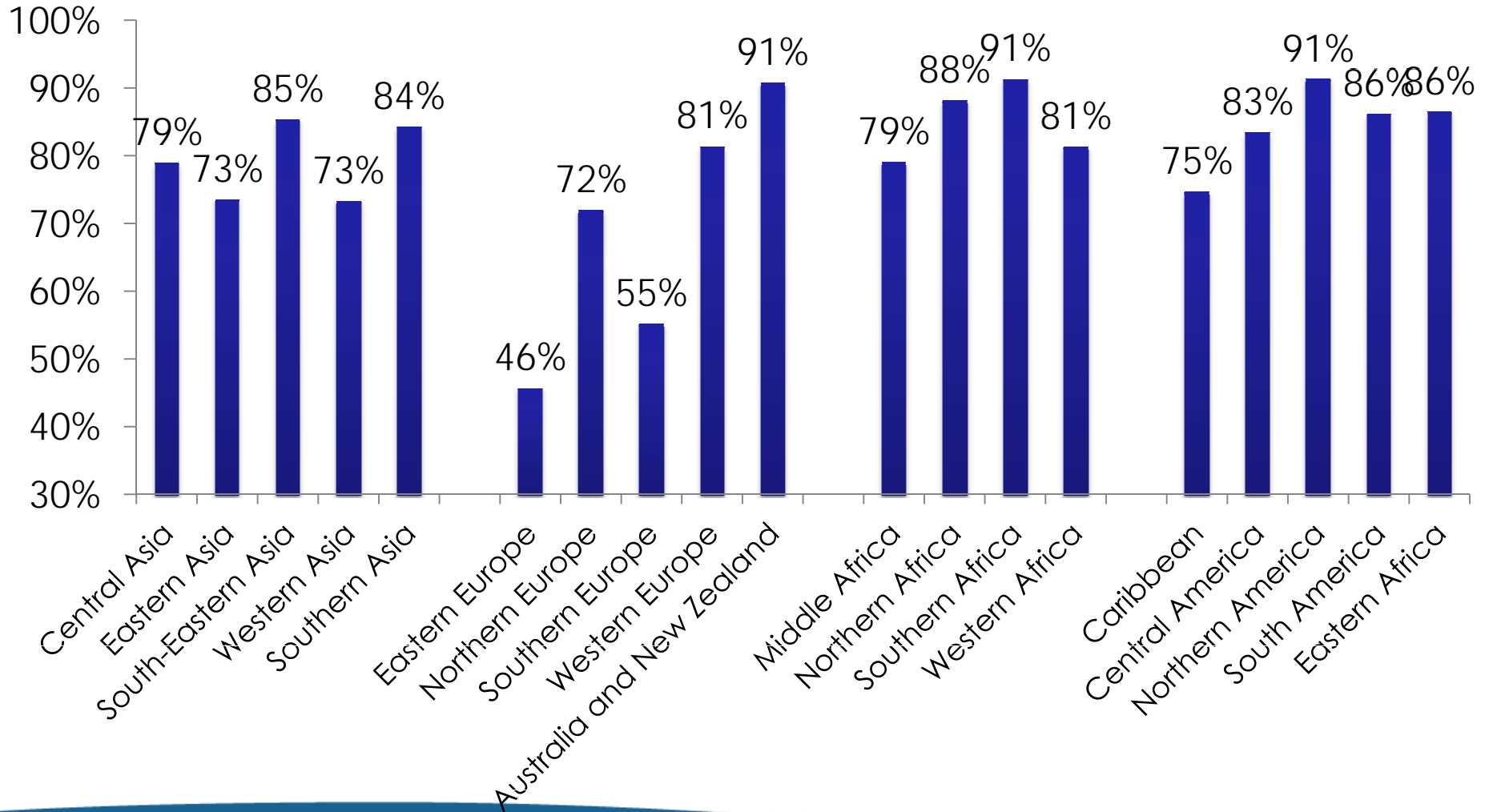
3) Social Mobility

Social mobility: Correlation of parent/child education



19 Sources: OECD (2010) based on Hertz, et al (2007)

Social mobility: Believe hard work helps you get ahead



Conclusion

- All three dimensions of social cohesion – social inclusion, social capital and social mobility – should build an important part of a post MDG framework.
- Measuring these key dimensions requires material and subjective well-being data (absolute improvements not sufficient...)
- More research is needed in measurement

Social cohesion as a framework for policy making

- Social cohesion as a means and an end
- Civic participation to reinforce the sense of belonging and responsibility towards a social contract
- Leadership and commitment



Perspectives on Global Development 2012

SOCIAL COHESION IN A SHIFTING WORLD



Thank You!

