

Indicators of context

Example of the use of indicators comparing Tanzania to similar countries

Example

Taken from "Evaluation of the European Commission's support to the United Republic of Tanzania, First phase report, August 18th 2005.

Background

This example presents a selection of internationally comparable indicators.

Tanzania compared to similar countries

The following table displays a selection of internationally comparable indicators. Tanzania's performance is compared to a group of seven African countries which have been considered as similar enough by the evaluation team. The group includes: Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Madagascar, Mali, Niger and Zambia. Grey cells show where Tanzania performs¹ less than the average similar country.

Table 1 – Selected internationally comparable indicators

Indicators	Tanzania		7 similar countries		
	Indicator	Progress*	Average	Progress*	Range
Quality of life and social well being					
Child malnutrition prevalence, weight for age (% of children under 5) in 2000	29	+	30	-	17...40
Under 5 mortality rate (per 1000) in 2002-2003	165	=	175	++	97...262
Net enrolment ratio in primary education (% of age group) in 2001-2002	69	++	56	+	35...79
Primary education completion rate in 2002-2003	58 ²	+	42	++	26...69
Quotient female – male primary & secondary in 2000	I 50 II 45	= +	45 41	+ -	40...50 34...49
Births attended by trained health staff (% of total) in 2000-2002	36	--	39	-	16...55
Child immunization rate against measles (% of children under 12 months) in 2002-2003	97	++	74	++	55...97
Prevalence of HIV (% pregnant women aged 15-24) 2000-2001	8		5		0 ...18
Proportion of population with sustainable access to arranged water point in 2001-2002	73	++	59	+	47...82
Life expectancy in 2003	43	--	47	-	36...56
Economic development					
GDP per capita (USD – Atlas method) in 2003**	290		300		200...380
External aid (% of GNI) in 2003	16		13		10...17
Direct foreign investment (% of GDP) in 2003***	2.4	--	1.2	+	0.2...3.0
Debt (% of GDP) in 2003	34	--	30	++	13...70
Agriculture value added (% of GDP) in 2003***	45		32		23...45
Governance Research Indicator Country Snapshot (GRICS) in 2004					
Political, civil and human rights	-0.35	+	0.05	-	-0.59 ... 0.39
Political stability	-0.38	-	-0.10	-	-0.56 ... 0.38
Control of corruption	-0.57	+	-0.49	-	-0.15 ... -0.89

Sources: *World Bank*

* Progress is assessed from highly positive (++) to highly negative (--) depending on the change in the indicator over 3

¹ One of the reference group members stresses that the comparability of these figures is questionable. While agreeing with this view, the evaluation team keeps displaying the table with a view to help the uninformed reader figuring out the broad picture of Tanzania's development. The evaluation team does not use information from this section for substantiating its conclusions and value judgements.

² The definition of this indicator still needs to be checked since the rate of success at primary school leaving examination is reported to be much lower than 58% in some regions.

to 10 previous years. Progress is assessed in accordance to the meaning of the indicator (e.g. a diminution of malnutrition is positive)

** Not coloured in grey since the indicator has been used for identifying comparable countries

*** Change in this indicator is neither positive nor negative

The above table shows that Tanzania's indicators overpass that of similar countries as regards quality of life and social well being, except for life expectancy, which has declined dramatically over the last years in relation to HIV. Economic indicators are close to that of similar countries (partly because these countries have been considered as similar by referring to economic indicators). According to the [World Bank](#), governance indicators are well below average. Progress is generally more positive than average, except on economic development grounds.

Tanzania has also been compared to EU countries along some of the indicators, with the following result:

Table 2 – Tanzania compared to European countries

Indicators	Tanzania	EU 15
Quality of life and social well being		
Under 5 mortality rate (per 1000) in 2002-2003	165	5
Net enrolment ratio in primary education (% of age group) in 2001-2002	69	99
Quotient female – male primary & secondary in 2000	I	50
	II	45
Life expectancy in 2003	43	78
Economic development		
Direct foreign investment (% of GDP) in 2003	2.4	10
Debt (% of GDP) in 2003	34	63
Agriculture value added (% of GDP) in 2003	45	2

Sources: [World Bank](#)