Best Practice Symposium 2024

Listing of Tools for Development

Description of the Inclusive Growth Index Framework (IGIF)

Introduction: The Inclusive Growth Index Framework (IGIF) is a transformative tool (comprising a composite index and a supporting operational framework) launched by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) in February 2024 to systematically measure and promote inclusive growth within Jamaica and across CARICOM countries.

Seven Key Pillars: The framework centres on seven pillars (or sub-indices), which provide a holistic view of Jamaica's development, balancing economic, social, and environmental dimensions. The composite Inclusive Growth Index (IGI) is created by taking the equally weighted average of these pillars/sub-indices:

1. Health
2. Human Capital
3. Environmental Quality
4. Wealth
5. Equality and Equity
6. Safety and Security
7. Poverty Reduction

Two Analytical Perspectives: The IGI is presented from two perspectives:

1. IGI(J) - tailored to Jamaica's specific context, offers 44 outcome indicators that feed into the seven pillars/sub-indices. (See Chart).

2. IGI(X) - for benchmarking across 10 CARICOM countries (including Jamaica), provides 22 outcome indicators that feed into the seven pillars/sub-indices. (See Chart).

These dual perspectives make the IGIF a powerful tool for both national diagnostics and regional comparisons, which is critical for shaping tailored, inclusive growth policies and enabling regional collaboration and learning.

Innovative Capabilities via the Supporting Operating Framework:

1. Statistical Relationships: Through its use of econometric tools and statistical analysis, the IGIF uncovers key trade-offs and synergies between the seven pillars. This enables policymakers to create data-driven strategies that balance competing priorities—like economic growth and environmental sustainability. *(This innovation is currently being implemented on a limited scale, as more comprehensive data points are needed in the future for a more robust analysis.)*

2. IT Framework for Timely Insights: The IGIF's IT framework supports efficient data processing and analysis, culminating in the Analytical Report, which provides timely insights that allow for timely, evidence-based responses to emerging development challenges.

Future Impact of IGIF:

1. Shaping Policy Development: The IGIF is poised to influence Jamaica's policy landscape by offering an integrated tool that connects economic, social, and environmental goals. This alignment allows policymakers to see beyond traditional economic indicators and address the deeper drivers of inclusive growth.

2. Comprehensive Health Assessment: The IGIF facilitates a more holistic evaluation of the Jamaican economy's health by offering a broader-based measurement, enhancing the understanding of the nation's overall well-being.

3. Trust Restoration: The IGIF helps to build a bridge of trust between the government and the economically, socially and politically excluded members of society who may not see their concerns clearly reflected in GDP (the primary measure of growth and development).

4. Driving Evidence-Based Economic Planning: By identifying trade-offs and synergies, the IGIF provides an invaluable roadmap for decision-makers, helping them design policies that promote balanced, long-term growth. This will aid Jamaica in reaching its targets under the Vision 2030 Jamaica and the Sustainable Development Goals.

5. Regional Leadership in Inclusive Development: By developing and operationalizing the IGIF, Jamaica is positioning itself as a regional leader in inclusive growth. Other CARICOM countries can learn from Jamaica's approach, fostering greater regional cooperation for shared growth goals.

6. Promising Future Applications: The IGIF is not static—it will evolve as data improves and more insights are gained. By engaging with IGIF now, stakeholders can help shape its future applications, contributing to a development tool that will remain relevant in an increasingly complex global economy.

Vision 2030 Jamaica

Data4Development Online Monitoring Platform

"The Data4Developmemt platform is a tool designed to support evidence- and results- based decision-making in the advancement of national development as well as corporate, civic, and individual goals, which form part of the national development nexus. It is an innovative, user-friendly construct, which consists of:

- *Several electronic dashboards for results-based performance monitoring and evaluation (M&E),*
- *a Data Visualizer, a Metadata Hub, an Online Resource Library and*
- *a JAMDATA Mobile App."*

The Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit (PRCU), PIOJ

A National Poverty Reduction Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) Toolkit

The Poverty Reduction Coordinating Unit, PIOJ, as an output of the National Poverty Reduction Programme (NPRP), launched a **National Poverty Reduction Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) Toolkit** in March 2024. At the Launch, the LNOB Toolkit had the endorsement of the UN Resident Coordinator as well as that of key NPRP partnering entities such as the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and Food For the Poor.

The Toolkit has a wide range of tools to assist with identifying those who are at risks of being left behind, examining current provisions and addressing policy and programme gaps. There are tools that can be useful for various areas of examination including targeting, communication, partnership building, and monitoring and evaluation. The LNOB Toolkit publication is available on the PIOJ website along with each of the tools in a fillable (usable) format. Further details are included in the Toolkit.

Prior to the Launch, the LNOB Toolkit development process had the benefit of review and testing by several NPRP partners. As the toolkit is new, the Best Practice Symposium could provide the PIOJ and the NPRP, which is coordinated by the Institute, with the opportunity for additional dissemination of this publication and bringing awareness to the existence and potential usefulness of the tools.

Community Renewal Programme

The Community Renewal Index (CRI)

WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY RENEWAL INDEX (CRI)?

☐ A single number that establishes a ranking/position for each community along a renewal continuum.

☐ A composite index composed of five interconnected domains and 13 component indicators that measure multi-dimensional progress towards community renewal goals in the 100 most volatile and vulnerable communities in Jamaica.

☐ CRI scores are bound on a scale of 0 to 100, with 0 representing least renewed and 100 most renewed (the 'ideal').

☐ The CRI is an innovative tool that was conceptualized in 2016 by the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), through its Community Renewal Programme (CRP), and finalized in 2019 in collaboration with key stakeholders.

WHY AN INDEX?

☐ To allow multidimensional phenomena (i.e. five CRP components) to be converted to unidimensional

☐ To allow situations to be compared across time more easily

☐ To compare communities and/or other cases in a transitive way (ranking and benchmarking)

☐ To allow clear cut answers to defined questions related to change across time or comparison between communities, parishes, etc.

☐ To assess the impacts and achievements of current CRP interventions and/or determine ways of improving those interventions

☐ To explore potential priority areas for community renewal

WHAT ARE THE DIMENSIONS OF THE COMMUNITY RENEWAL INDEX?

The CRI consists of five (5) interrelated dimensions and 13 component indicators that are outcome-focused.

Security | Cohesion | Justice Mechanisms | Prosperity | Health & Environment

COMPONENT INDICATORS

Dimensions	Component Indicators
Prosperity	Employment
	Non-Poor
	Education
	Internet access
Security	Security related to absence of murders
	Security related to absence of other major crimes
	Security related to absence of gangs
Health & Environment	% of household members without major NCDs (hypertension, asthma, diabetes)
	Housing Quality Index
	Condition of the built/physical environment
Cohesion	Degree of community organization
Justice Mechanisms	Existence of justice points
	Frequency of reporting of interpersonal conflicts to the police

WHAT IS A RENEWED COMMUNITY?

☐ A community that is secure, cohesive, just and prosperous, with healthy environments, in keeping with Vision 2030 Jamaica. Benchmarks for a renewed community are to be determined as the Index is applied across more communities.

HOW IS THE COMMUNITY RENEWAL INDEX CALCULATED?

☐ The CRI is a statistical estimate that is constructed using secondary data that is collected by select Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government, and primary data from community surveys commissioned by the CRP Secretariat.
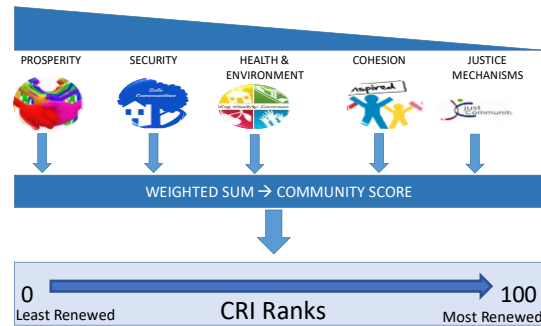
□ The index is computed as a weighted aggregate of component indicators for each of the five dimensions of community renewal.

STEPS IN CALCULATION

□ Raw values for individual indicators are converted to standardized values using the following formula:

$$Normalized/Standardised\ Variable = \frac{Actual\ Value - Minimum\ Value}{Maximum\ Value - Minimum\ Value}$$

□ All indicators that measure community renewal in a negative direction are reverse scored.

□ The standardized indicator values are then combined in a weighted sum to produce a score for each dimension. This score is used to generate dimension ranks for each community.

□ The scores for each dimension are added to produce an overall score for each community.

□ The score becomes the basis for the ranking of communities relative to each other.

HOW ARE COMMUNITIES RANKED?

□ The CRI creates an overall score between 0 and 100, which is used as the basis for ranking

□ A score of 100 indicates a very high level of community renewal (the 'ideal')

□ A score of 0 represents a low level of community renewal

□ Communities are ranked by each of the five dimensions and by the overall community renewal score

Illustrative: CRP communities are divided into the following four categories according to their score in the CRI:

Level of Community Renewal	Score in Renewal Index*	Number of Communities
Very High	Above 80.8	?
High	70.0 – 80.7	?
Medium	55.6 – 69.9	?
Low	Below 55.5	?

*benchmarks for a renewed community to be established empirically

CRI COVERAGE

In its first round (Community Renewal Index, Version 1.0) in 2020, the CRI covered 17 communities in Kingston and St. Andrew.

HOW OFTEN IS THE COMMUNITY RENEWAL INDEX PRODUCED?

The CRI will be produced every two years, subject to funding.

The Sustainable Development Goals

SDGs Story Map

Summary: Jamaica's development trajectory from 2015 to 2023 using data visualisation, interactive maps and multimedia content.

The midterm review (MTR) of the SDGs is being approached as a retrospective review of the 2030 Agenda and implementation of the SDGs locally. The MTR for Jamaica has two components in a technical assistance programme and a progress report. Using a mixed methods approach, the technical assistance involves the evaluation of the institutional framework and actions needed to accelerate the goals, while the report is a descriptive assessment of progress to date in the form of a Story Map.

The Story Map provides stakeholders with an interactive platform for assessing SDG implementation, highlighting the key themes affecting Jamaica's development, and special features.

Retrospective

- Institutional Framework: description of the differing arms of government, and non-governmental stakeholders in the coordination, monitoring and implementation of the SDGs
- Process of Implementation, Coordination and Financing: overview of the process since the post 2015 outcome negotiations to the present, highlighting the formations of groups, localisation efforts, advocacy and financing agenda (domestic and ODA) including milestones (adoption, localization, integration, assessments, VNR, Decade of Action, …)
- Review of Actions: discussion on actions and the steps taken to achieve the 2030 Agenda locally using the Roadmap for SDG Implementation as a starting point.

Thematic Discussion:

The themes below emerged from the 2022 VNR process and are explored using the dimensions of sustainable development as the lens for analysis, and discussing their implications for development in Jamaica. The discussion is interwoven with highlights on achievements of targets based on the available data, in addition to the emerging issues in development, identified through the voluntary national review process and other relevant assessments:

- Leaving No One Behind: the efforts taken to ensure those most vulnerable are protected from a variety of deprivations as well as social protection provisions that break the cycle of poverty.
    - Goals 1, 4, 5, 10, 16
- Food Security: challenges in meeting the increasing demand for healthy foods with the available technology, capacity of farmers and legislative environment.
    - Goals 2, 3, 13, 14, 15, 17
- Environmental Management: the impact of climate change in Jamaica, and how patterns are affecting livelihoods using available data e.g. rainfall, air and water quality, hydrometeorological events, the impact of pollution on marine and land resources.

- Goals 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
- Improving Livelihoods: the efforts taken to ensure improved quality of life for all citizens and the factors affecting fulfilment of prosperity e.g. crime, inequality and improving access to services.
  - Goal 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 16, 17
- Innovation: the role of technology in improving service delivery and productivity.
  - Goal 9, 11, 17

Special Features

- Women in Governance: highlights of the improved position of women in politics, business and society
- Gender issues in development: Engaging men and boys in development
- Private Sector Contribution to Development including corporate social responsibility. Examples include:
  - Grace Kennedy Foundation Waterfront Project
  - Jamaica Social Stock Exchange

- CSO Contribution to Development:

  - Churches in Action