

IN SEARCH OF A COMPREHENSIVE AND RIGOROUS MEASURE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND WELL-BEING: A COMMENTARY ON THE SOCIAL PROGRESS INDEX 2014 AND ZAMBIA'S PERFORMANCE ON THE INDEX

Venkatesh Seshamani
Department of Economics
University of Zambia, ZAMBIA

ABSTRACT

The Social Progress Index 2014 is the latest addition to the various measures of human development or well being that exist. It provides further evidence to the argument that the GDP is not an adequate measure of human development. The SPI is a multidimensional measure involving a fairly large number of indicators. This is useful for policy makers in individual countries like Zambia to identify areas of relative strengths and weaknesses and direct their policy focus accordingly.

Keywords: Social Progress Index, human development, Zambia.