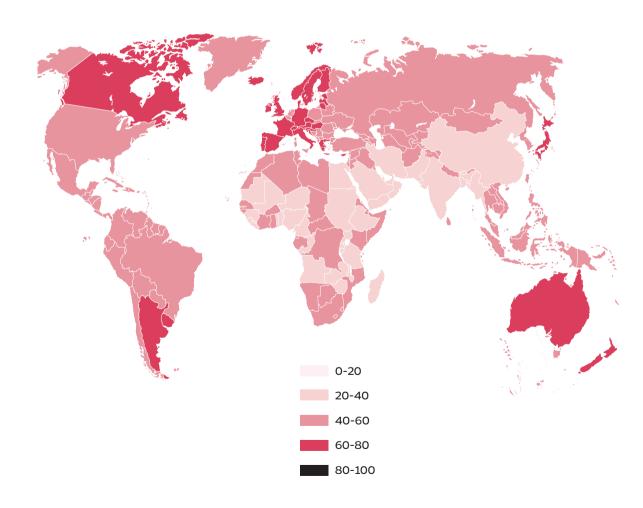


# 2.2019 PCSDI findings

### 2.1. THE 2019 PCSDI RANKING

Economic	
Social	
Global	
Environmental	
Productive	



ORDER	COUNTRY	SCORE	COMPONENTS
1	Denmark	79.02	
2	Iceland	77.18	
3	Sweden	73.21	
4	Norway	72.75	
5	Portugal	71.71	
6	New Zealand	71.25	
7	Australia	70.61	
8	Finland	70.40	
9	Spain	69.37	
10	Croatia	68.42	
11	Ireland	66.92	
12	Argentina	66.40	
13	Cyprus	65.86	
14	Greece	65.57	
15	Hungary	65.23	
16	United Kingdom	64.95	
17	Austria	64.73	
18	Latvia	64.67	
19	Malta	64.53	
20	Slovakia	64.30	
21	Germany	64.16	
22	Italy	64.06	
23	Serbia	64.02	
24	Uruguay	63.24	
25	Japan	62.98	

ORDER	COUNTRY	SCORE	COMPONENTS
26	Canada	62.97	
27	Czechia	62.15	
28	France	61.62	
29	Switzerland	61.56	
30	Estonia	61.49	
31	Slovenia	60.82	
32	Lithuania	60.69	
33	Georgia	59.12	
34	Belarus	58.91	
35	Belgium	58.81	
36	Kyrgyzstan	58.08	
37	Bosnia and Herzegovina	57.90	
38	Netherlands	57.89	
39	Montenegro	57.78	
40	Albania	57.46	
41	Mauritius	57.44	
42	Luxembourg	57.32	
43	Paraguay	57.26	
44	Brazil	57.07	
45	Moldavia	56.98	
46	Guyana	56.74	
47	Chile	56.28	
48	Bolivia	56.27	
49	Cuba	56.16	
50	Poland	56.10	

ORDER	COUNTRY	SCORE	COMPONENTS
51	Costa Rica	55.99	
52	North Macedonia	55.61	
53	Ecuador	55.39	
54	Azerbaijan	55.09	
55	Philippines	54.88	
56	Fiji	54.84	
57	Mexico	54.73	
58	Panama	54.33	
59	Kazakhstan	54.17	
60	South Africa	54.15	
61	Dominican Republic	54.06	
62	Armenia	54.05	
63	Uzbekistan	54.01	
64	Bulgaria	53.88	
65	Romania	53.82	
66	Barbados	53.09	
67	Cape Verdi	52.92	
68	Nicaragua	52.64	
69	Belize	52.48	
70	Jamaica	51.65	
71	Venezuela	51.60	
72	Ukraine	50.74	
73	Maldives	50.66	
74	Honduras	50.51	
75	Israel	50.02	

ORDER	COUNTRY	SCORE	COMPONENTS
76	Peru	49.71	
77	Tajikistan	49.60	
78	South Korea	49.45	
79	Russia	48.96	
80	Senegal	48.57	
81	Tunisia	47.98	
82	El Salvador	47.27	
83	Indonesia	47.20	
84	Namibia	47.19	
85	Mongolia	46.78	
86	Colombia	46.49	
87	Botswana	46.03	
88	Turkey	45.52	
89	Malaysia	45.04	
90	Vietnam	45.03	
91	United States	44.72	
92	Trinidad and Tobago	44.58	
93	Cambodia	44.08	
94	Thailand	43.83	
95	Ghana	43.71	
96	Jordan	43.65	
97	Morocco	43.26	
98	Sri Lanka	43.14	
99	Guatemala	42.99	
100	Nepal	41.97	

ORDER	COUNTRY	SCORE	COMPONENTS
101	Lesotho	41.88	
102	Kenya	41.72	
103	Algeria	41.26	
104	Ivory Coast	41.08	
105	Kuwait	41.05	
106	Mozambique	40.63	
107	Burkina Faso	40.56	
108	Iraq	40.09	
109	Madagascar	39.78	
110	Zambia	39.37	
111	Zimbabwe	38.84	
112	Singapore	38.63	
113	China	38.32	
114	Qatar	38.22	
115	Ruanda	37.94	
116	Malawi	37.91	
117	Bhutan	37.52	
118	Gambia	37.20	
119	Yemen	36.66	
120	Burundi	36.17	
121	Cameroon	35.51	
122	Niger	35.37	
123	Sierra Leona	35.24	
124	Mali	35.23	
125	Togo	35.11	

ORDER	COUNTRY	SCORE	COMPONENTS
126	Iran	35.06	
127	Egypt	34.80	
128	Uganda	34.31	
129	Guinea	33.77	
130	Benin	33.57	
131	Myanmar	32.98	
132	Tanzania	32.43	
133	Mauritania	32.30	
134	Congo (DR)	31.80	
135	Lebanon	31.79	
136	Angola	31.71	
137	Ethiopia	31.53	
138	Liberia	31.49	
139	United Arab Emirates	30.96	
140	Nigeria	30.87	
141	Congo (Rep.)	30.45	
142	Sudan	30.39	
143	Pakistan	30.02	
144	Bangladesh	29.92	
145	Bahrein	29.60	
146	Oman	29.31	
147	Saudi Arabia	28.36	
148	India	26.76	

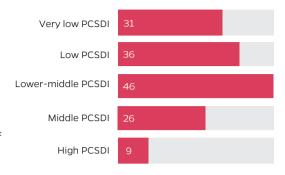
### 2.2. THE 2019 PCSDI: ALL COUNTRIES MUST TRANSFORM THEIR DEVELOPMENT MODEL

In this second edition of the index, Denmark comes in first in the ranking with a score of 79.02 while India brings up the rear with a score of 26.76 points.

Figure 6 shows the breakdown of PCSDI countries into five groups after dividing the scores into quintiles, that is, five segments of equal value. As can be seen in the figure, most countries (76%) show low PCSD scores (very low, low and low-to-middle) while 26 countries (18%) have middle PCSD scores and only 9 countries (un 6%) are in the high PCSDI group.

What follows is the analysis of each of these five groups with a view to identify their specificities and fundamental challenges and bring out their main interdependencies, contradictions and the conflicts between the different policy areas and dimensions of sustainable development.

Figure 6. Number of countries broken down into PCSDI groups



Generally speaking, countries neither design nor implement their public policies by putting people and the sustainability of the planet at the heart of their public policies. Nor are they sufficiently taking on their global responsibilities. All countries therefore must overhaul their public policies in line with the sustainability of life, with equity, and with justice and global governance

#### **High PCSDI**

The high PCSDI group is made up of nine high income and high HDI countries. Seven are European and two, New Zealand and Australia, belong to the Pacific and Oceania region. Of the European Countries, five are Nordic (Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, Norway and Finland) and two are from the Mediterranean area (Portugal and Spain). The scores in this group of countries range between 79.02 points for Denmark and 69.37 for Spain. As shown on the table, none of the countries in the ranking scores higher than 80 points.

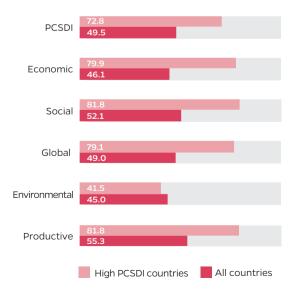
Figure 7 allows for comparing the average of this group of countries to the overall 148 countries, both in terms of their total PCSDI scores and for the scores on each component. As can be gleaned from the figure, the group of high PCSDI countries has values that are significantly higher than the overall scores of all of the countries on all of the components except the environmental component where they are almost four points lower. Furthermore, the figure depicts the average scores of the high PCSDI group on the environmental component (41.5) which is far lower than it is on the remaining components (for which the average is roughly 80 points).

Generally speaking, this reflects the fact that these countries have development models that provide a significant part of their population with well-being and adequate economic, social and civil rights, vet they have an enormous impact environmentally. The cost of their lifestyle is a burden carried by others elsewhere. Thus, although these countries' inhabitants can enjoy acceptable levels of well-being, they cannot be considered models to be aspired to or followed as their development patterns are unsustainable and have a negative impact on others elsewhere. These models therefore cannot be extended around the rest of the globe.

Table 5. High PCSDI countries

Ranking	Country	PCSDI
1	Denmark	79.02
2	Iceland	77.18
3	Sweden	73.21
4	Norway	72.75
5	Portugal	71.71
6	New Zealand	71.25
7	Australia	70.61
8	Finland	70.40
9	Spain	69.37

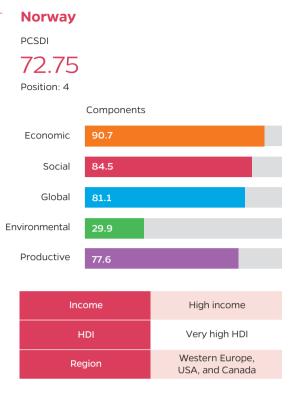
Figure 7. High PCSDI countries. Breakdown by components (average scores)



### **Norway**

### An unsustainable development model that cannot be spread around the globe

Norway is a high-ranking PCSDI country that performs well on the economic, social, global and productive components. However, it scores very low on the environmental component due to its welfare model's severe ecological impact. Because of its model's environmental interdependencies and impacts (within and beyond its borders), it cannot be made universal. It is thus more important for Norway to overhaul its policies than it is to take it as a development model to emulate



#### Middle PCSDI

The middle PCSDI group is made up of 26 countries spanning position 10 in the ranking, occupied by Croatia, and position 36, occupied by Belgium. Most of these countries are high income (23 of the 26). The group includes only two middle income countries (Serbia and Belarus) and one other middle-low income country (Georgia). Furthermore, 24 of the 26 countries have very high HDI while the other two (Serbia and Georgia) have a high HDI.

The prevailing geopolitical regions in this group, accounting for 19 of the 26 countries, are Western Europe, USA and Canada. There are also four countries from Central Asia and Eastern Europe in this group (Cyprus, Serbia, Georgia, Belarus), two from Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina and Uruguay) and one from the Pacific and Oceania (Japan).

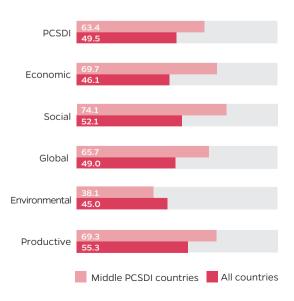
Table 6. Middle PCSDI countries

Ranking	Country	PCSDI
10	Croatia	68.42
11	Ireland	66.92
12	Argentina	66.40
13	Cyprus	65.86
14	Greece	65.57
15	Hungary	65.23
16	United Kingdom	64.95
17	Austria	64.73
18	Latvia	64.67
19	Malta	64.53
20	Slovakia	64.30
21	Germany	64.16
22	Italy	64.06
23	Serbia	64.02
24	Uruguay	63.24
25	Japan	62.98
26	Canada	62.97
27	Czechia	62.15
28	France	61.62
29	Switzerland	61.56
30	Estonia	61.49
31	Slovenia	60.82
32	Lithuania	60.69
33	Georgia	59.12
34	Belarus	58.91
35	Belgium	58.81

As in the previous category, the average score of the middle PCSDI countries falls above the 148 countries in the ranking on all of the components except the environmental component, for which their average falls nearly seven points below. As in the high PCSDI group, the main challenges here are found in their development models' ecological impact on the planet as a whole. Belgium can be singled out as an example, as it is one of the five worst scoring countries among the 148 that the PCSDI evaluates. The only two countries from Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina and Uruguay) with medium PCSDI scores are those that score the best in their group on the environmental component.

On the other four components, these countries have more room for improvement in human rights and the sustainability of their production models. One of the 30 worst scoring countries in the overall ranking on the global component (Belarus) is in this group.

Figure 8. Middle PCSDI countries. Breakdown by components (average scores)



## Switzerland A development model with high economic and environmental costs for the planet

Switzerland has a middle PCSDI score, performing well on the social, global and productive components. However, its scores very low on the economic and environmental components. Economically speaking, out of the 148 in the ranking, it is the country with the greatest financial opacity. It is also a country with an ecological deficit, that is, it cannot support itself without consuming resources from elsewhere



PCSDI

61.56

Position: 29



Very high HDI
Western Europe,

USA, and Canada

HDI

Region

#### **Lower-middle PCSDI countries**

In the lower-middle PCSDI group are 46 countries ranking between position 36, occupied by Kirghizstan, and position 81, occupied by Tunisia. The scores range from 58.08 to 47.98.

This is the most heterogeneous group in terms of income, HDI scores and geographical area. Of the 46 countries in this group, 26 are upper middle-income countries, 10 are lower-middle income, 8 are high income and 2 are low income. Insofar as their HDI scores, 24 are countries with high HDI, 12 with very high HDI, 9 with middle HDI and 1 with low HDI. The prevailing regions are Latin America and the Caribbean

(18 countries) and Central Asia and Eastern Europe (15 countries), followed by Sub-Saharan Africa (4 countries), Western Europe, USA and Canada (3) and both Pacific and Oceania and Middle East and North Africa with 2 countries each. There is also one country from East Asia region (The Philippines) in this group and another from South Asia (Maldives).

As can be seen in figure 9, on average, this group of countries scores very close to the average value for the countries evaluated in the PCSDI

Only on the productive component do they score significantly better that the 148 countries examined. This highlights that, overall, these countries have more balanced systems of production in terms of access to services and infrastructure and environmental sustainability. They are the worst scoring countries however on the economic and environmental components.

Because of their diversity and heterogeneity, their scores should nevertheless be interpreted with caution. Indeed, in this group certain countries have very high scores on certain components and at the same time very low scores on others, making it difficult to draw behavioural patterns. For instance, on the global component, the group includes the Netherlands with the second-best score of the 148 countries examined on the environmental component, and at the same time it encompasses Luxembourg, the third worst scoring country on this same component.

Figure 9. Lower-middle PCSDI countries. Breakdown by components (average scores)

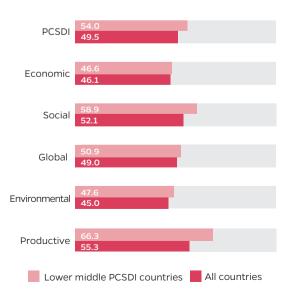


Table 7. Lower-middle PCSDI countries

Table	e 7. Lower-middle PCSDI c	ountries
Ranking	Country	PCSDI
36	Kyrgyzstan	58.08
37	Bosnia and Herzegovina	57.90
38	Netherlands	57.89
39	Montenegro	57.78
40	Albania	57.46
41	Mauritius	57.44
42	Luxembourg	57.32
43	Paraguay	57.26
44	Brazil	57.07
45	Moldavia	56.98
46	Guyana	56.74
47	Chile	56.28
48	Bolivia	56.27
49	Cuba	56.16
50	Poland	56.10
51	Costa Rica	55.99
52	North Macedonia	55.61
53	Ecuador	55.39
54	Azerbaijan	55.09
55	Philippines	54.88
56	Fiji	54.84
57	Mexico	54.73
58	Panama	54.33
59	Kazakhstan	54.17
60	South Africa	54.15
61	Dominican Republic	54.06
62	Armenia	54.05
63	Uzbekistan	54.01
64	Bulgaria 	53.88
65	Romania	53.82
66	Barbados	53.09
67	Cape Verdi	52.92
68	Nicaragua	52.64
69 70	Belize	52.48
	Jamaica	51.65
71	Venezuela Ukraine	51.60
72 73	Maldives	50.74
73 74	Honduras	50.66 50.51
74 75	Israel	50.51
75 76	Peru	49.71
76	Tajikistan	49.60
78	South Korea	49.45
79	Russia	48.96
80	Senegal	48.57
81	Tunisia	47.98
91	rumsia	77.30

#### Israel

### A country that is not committed to human rights and does not take on its global responsibilities

Israel scores in the medium low category on the PCSDI. It performs well on the production and social components and moderately on the economic component. Yet it is the worst scoring of all of the 148 analysed on the global component owing to its lack of commitment to many international human rights standards and to its great militarization. It also has issues of environmental unsustainability



### Low PCSDI countries

The low PCSDI group brings together 36 countries ranking between positions 82 (El Salvador) and 117 (Bhutan) whose index scores are 47.27 and 37.52 respectively. As in the previous group, there is a great diversity and countries of all income and HDI levels. The group also includes nearly all of geopolitical areas. Of these 36 countries, 13 are middle income. 11 upper-middle. 7 low income and 5 high income. On the HDI, 13 have middle HDI, 10 high HDI, 8 low HDI and 5 very high HDI. Sub-Saharan Africa is the region with the greatest presence in this group (13 countries), followed by East Asia (8 countries) Middle East and North Africa (6 countries) Latin America and the Caribbean (4 countries) and South Asia (3 countries). Western Europe, USA and Canada and Central Asia and Eastern Europe each have one country in this group.

As the figure shows, on all components, these countries score lower on average than the 148 countries evaluated in the PCSDI. This means that, overall, they face challenges in virtually all of the policy areas, although these challenges are greater in the economic and social spheres.

Here again, the average values should be taken with caution because of the great heterogeneity observed among the countries in this group. A more in-depth analysis of these different countries allows us to see that, just as in the lower-middle PCSDI group, here again there are countries with very different scores on all of the different components. This group, for instance, brings together Kenya, the best scoring of the 148 countries on the environmental component, and Qatar, the worst scoring country. Analogously, the United States and Malawi. both countries

belonging to this group, stand at positions 23 and 143 respectively in the social ranking of the 148.

In general terms, this can be explained because there are countries which score well on some components while they are penalised due to incoherent behavior in other policy areas. Taking the countries' specific results is interesting for analysing and spotlighting the major contradictions that may arise between the various public policies from a sustainable development perspective.

To illustrate this, we can take a set of five high income countries (the United States, Singapore, Qatar, Kuwait, and Trinidad and Tobago) in this group that score relatively well on the social and productive components, but very low on the environmental and global components. They also stand significant room for improvement on the economic component, in certain cases due to the progressive tax policy factor and in others due to their financial opacity.

Figure 10. Low PCSDI countries. Breakdown by components (average scores)

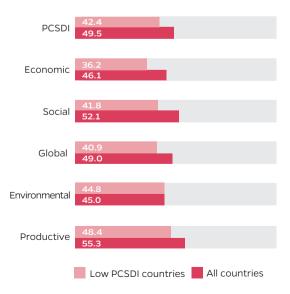


Table 8. Low PCSDI countries

Ranking	Country	PCSDI
82	El Salvador	47.27
83	Indonesia	47.20
84	Namibia	47.19
85	Mongolia	46.78
86	Colombia	46.49
87	Botswana	46.03
88	Turkey	45.52
89	Malaysia	45.04
90	Vietnam	45.03
91	United States	44.72
92	Trinidad and Tobago	44.58
93	Cambodia	44.08
94	Thailand	43.83
95	Ghana	43.71
96	Jordan	43.65
97	Morocco	43.26
98	Sri Lanka	43.14
99	Guatemala	42.99
100	Nepal	41.97
101	Lesotho	41.88
102	Kenya	41.72
103	Algeria	41.26
104	Ivory Coast	41.08
105	Kuwait	41.05
106	Mozambique	40.63
107	Burkina Faso	40.56
108	Iraq	40.09
109	Madagascar	39.78
110	Zambia	39.37
111	Zimbabwe	38.84
112	Singapore	38.63
113	China	38.32
114	Qatar	38.22
115	Ruanda	37.94
116	Malawi	37.91
117	Bhutan	37.52

### **Singapore** A country with a costly development model for the world

Singapore usually comes out as a top-rate country in the major rankings measuring progress. development and welfare. Yet its PCSDI score is among the lowest. This owes fundamentally to its great financial opacity, its high degree of militarization, and its environmental unsustainability. Its social and productive development has, therefore, extremely high costs for the whole planet

### **Very low PCSDI countries**

The very low PCSDI is made up of 31 countries between position 118, occupied by Gambia with a score of 37.20, and 148, occupied by India with a score of 26.76 points.

In turn, two sub-groups can be identified within this group. First, there is the majority subgroup that includes 25 countries with low (14) and middle-to-low (1) incomes and low (17) and middle HDI (8), most of which are in Sub-Saharan Africa (19), although 3 are in South Asia, 2 two in the Middle East and Northern Africa and 1 in East Asia. Secondly, there is a group of 6 Middle Eastern and Northern African countries with high and

### Singapore

PCSDI

38.63

Position: 112

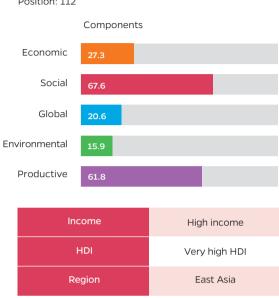
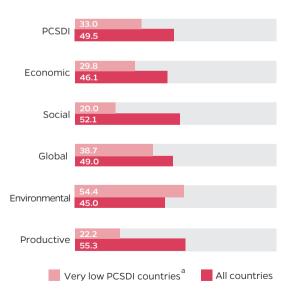


Figure 11. Very low PCSDI countriesa. Breakdown by components (average scores)



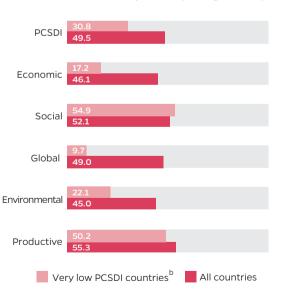
a. Subgroup of 25 countries: Gambia, Yemen, Burundi, Niger, Sierra Leona, Mali, Togo, Uganda, Guinea, Benin, Tanzania, Dem. Rep. of the Congo, Ethiopia, Liberia, Cameroon, Egypt, Myanmar, Mauritania, Angola, Nigeria, Congo (Rep.), Sudan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India.

middle-to-high incomes and very high and high HDI: Iran, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates, Bahrein, Oman and Saudi Arabia.

A separate analysis of the average scores of these two groups of countries (figures 11 and 12) shows their different policy coherence for sustainable development profiles.

As can be appreciated in figure 11, the first group of countries has scores below the overall average for all of the countries in all of the components except for the environmental component where it is nearly 10 points above average. The average scores are especially low on the economic, social and productive components, showing the difficulties that these countries have in mobilizing public resources with which to ensure social services and endow themselves with infrastructure and strong productive sectors.

Figure 12. Very low PCSDI countries<sup>b</sup>. Breakdown by components (average scores)



**b.** Subgroup of 6 countries: Iran, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates, Bahrein. Oman and Saudi Arabia.

Table 9. Very low PCSDI countries

Ranking	Country	PCSDI
118	Gambia	37.2
119	Yemen	36.7
120	Burundi	36.2
121	Cameroon	35.5
122	Niger	35.4
123	Sierra Leona	35.2
124	Mali	35.2
125	Togo	35.1
126	Iran	35.1
127	Egypt	34.8
128	Uganda	34.3
129	Guinea	33.8
130	Benin	33.6
131	Myanmar	33.0
132	Tanzania	32.4
133	Mauritania	32.3
134	Congo (DR)	31.80
135	Lebanon	31.79
136	Angola	31.71
137	Ethiopia	31.53
138	Liberia	31.49
139	United Arab Emirates	30.96
140	Nigeria	30.87
141	Congo (Rep.)	30.45
142	Sudan	30.39
143	Pakistan	30.02
144	Bangladesh	29.92
145	Bahrein	29.60
146	Oman	29.31
147	Saudi Arabia	28.36
148	India	26.76

The second group of countries scores better on the social component, slightly above the overall average for the 148 countries, and the productive component, while it scores very low on the economic, global and environmental components (figure 12). This indicates that, although these countries face serious challenges on all of the components, the policy coherence for development issues are generated mostly because of their shortcomings in human rights, environmental sustainability and progressiveness in taxation.

### Bahrein An example of an incoherent country

Bahrein is among the five worstscoring countries in the PCSDI. Its levels of social welfare are moderately acceptable and it scores relatively well on the productive component. Yet it has serious issues of incoherence in the economic. global and environmental spheres. It is a country whose women have serious difficulties in accessing the financial system and enormous lacks in human rights. It has a high level of militarization and of environmental unsustainability. It is among the countries in the ranking with the greatest ecological shortcomings and the highest per capital CO2 emissions

### Ethiopia A country with problems in ensuring its people's social rights

Ethiopia is one of the worstperforming countries in the ranking
due to its poor performance in the
social sphere. It also has very low
scores in the productive and
economic spheres. Here,
development incoherence is
determined by the country's
problems in ensuring rights and
endowing its people with services
and infrastructure but not, as in
previous examples, because of its
ecological and economic impact on
the rest of the planet

#### **Bahrein**

PCSDI

29.60

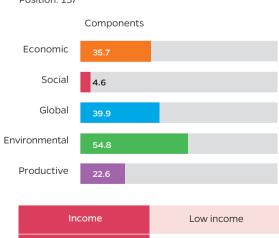


### **Ethiopia**

PCSDI

31.53

Position: 137



Region

Low HDI

Sub-Saharan Africa