



WikiProgress

by Angela Hariche

Conference on “Internet and societies: new innovation paths”

9 September 2011

Google's founding philosophy is that we don't know why this page is better than that one: If the statistics of incoming links say it is, that's good enough. No semantic or causal analysis is required.

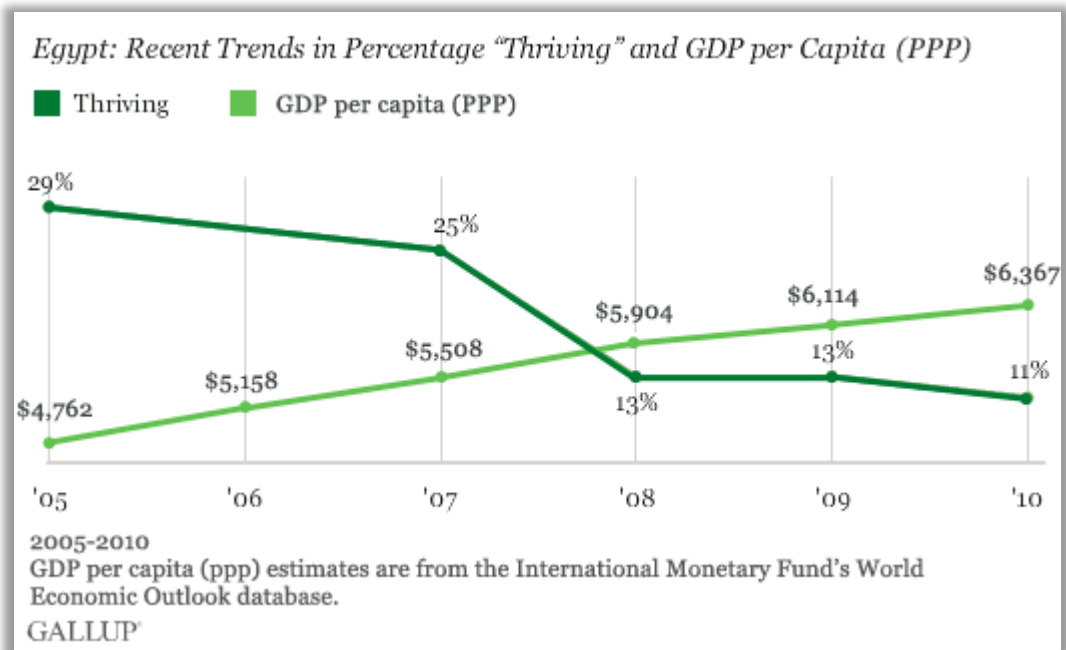
Wired 2008

Wikiprogress: a trend from grassroots...

- ❖ An **increasing gap** between official statistics on economic performance and how people perceive their own living conditions
- ❖ Real risk of people **losing faith** in governments' ability to address “what matters for them”

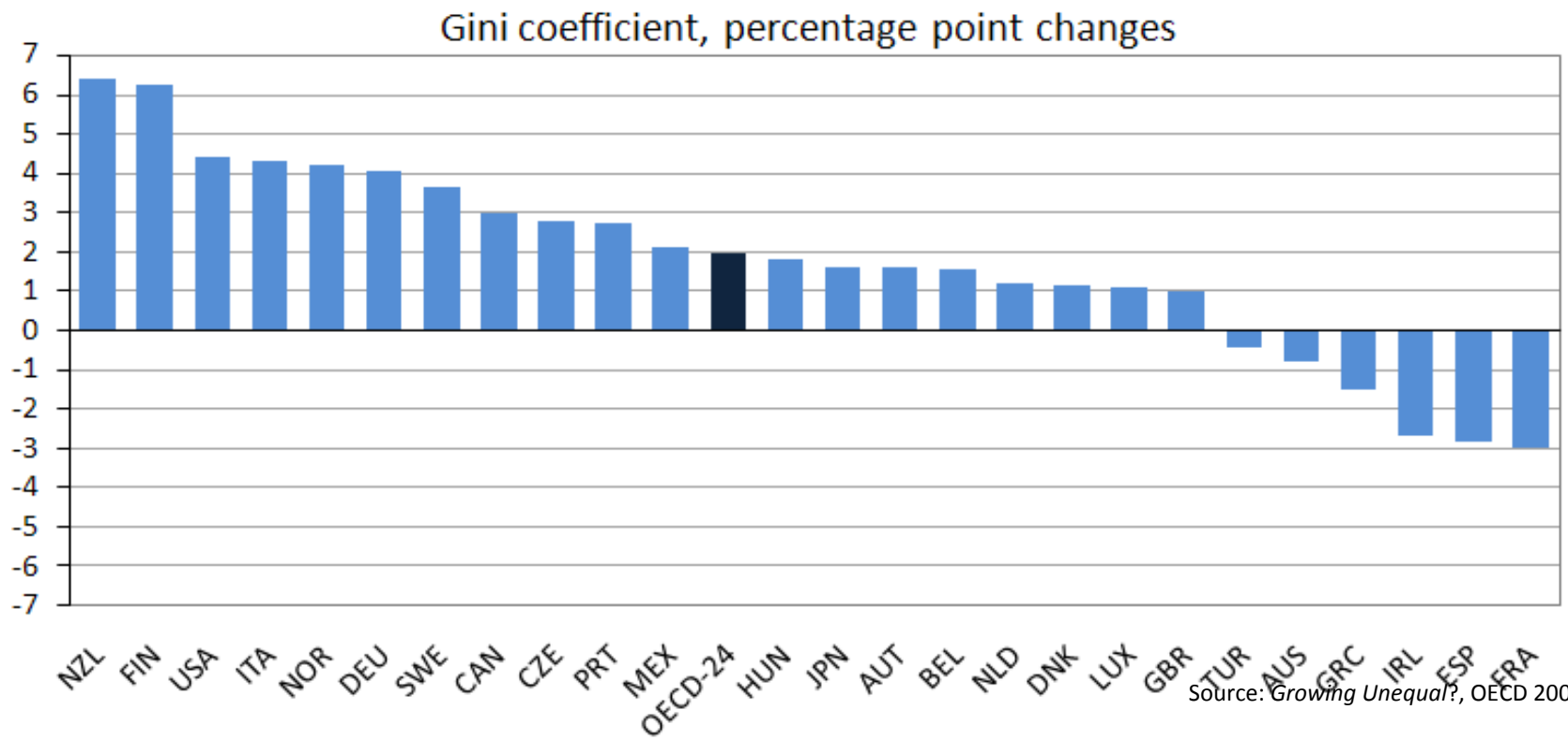
Wikiprogress: a trend from grassroots...

- ❖ Implications for the very functioning of **democracy**
- ❖ Egypt



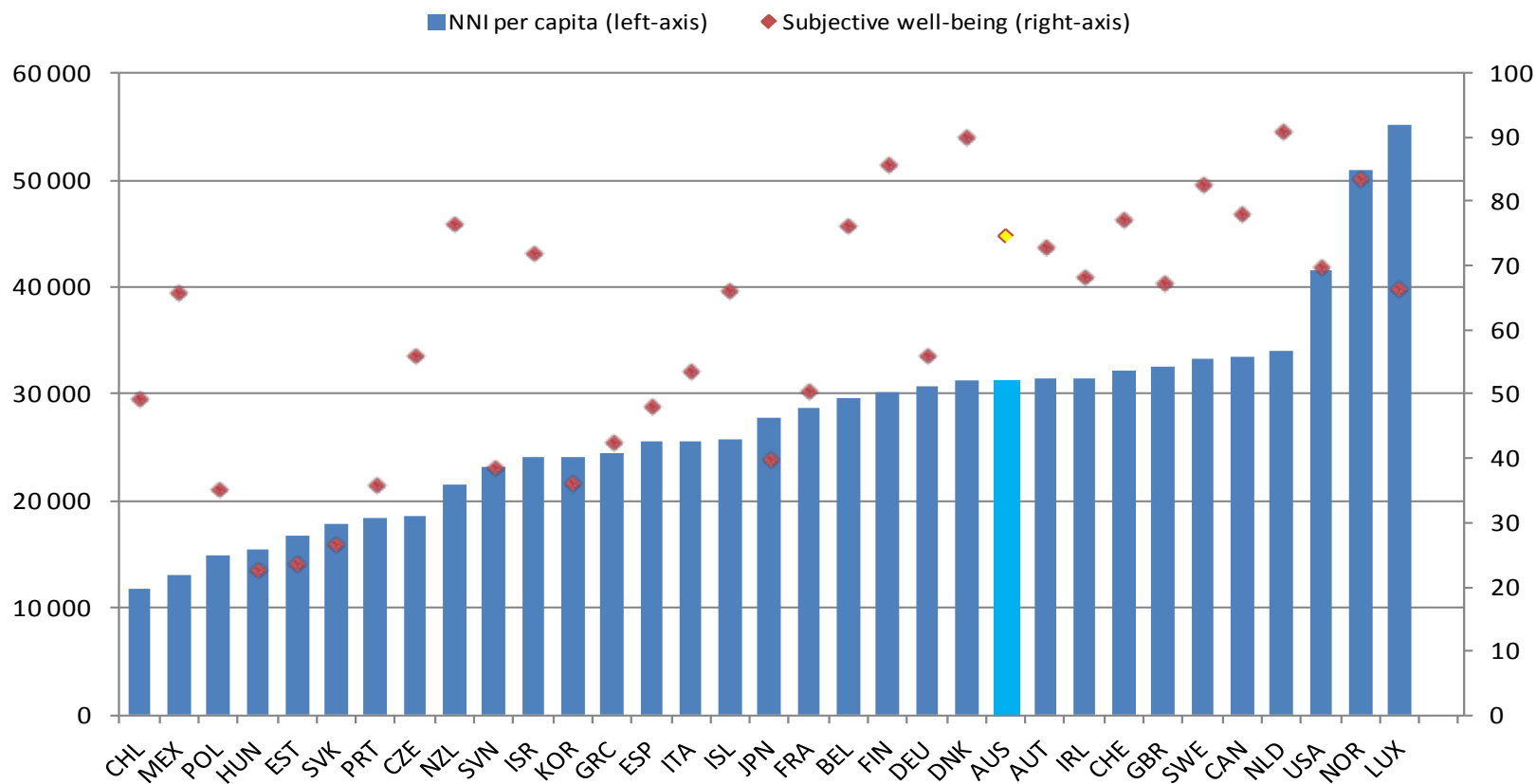
Income inequality

Problem: Income inequality widened in ¾ of OECD countries between 1985 and 2005



Source: *Growing Unequal?*, OECD 2008

Wealthier populations not necessarily more satisfied with their lives



Wikiprogress Objectives

- ❖ **to create** a participatory public web platform for global research and opinion on progress and what it means in the 21st century
- ❖ **to communicate** to the network on a regular basis to keep up momentum
- ❖ **to nurture** a network of networks for advocacy, sharing and creation of information on progress...a **global dialogue** as called for by Joseph Stiglitz

Wikiprogress Provides

Wikiprogress provides...

- ❖ A place where research and debate on progress are brought together
- ❖ A platform to bring in everyone who is interested into the debate
- ❖ Wikiprogress.stat
- ❖ Visualisation tools to better understand environmental, social and economic indicators
- ❖ A media review to bring together the mainstream media and social networking to keep track of the world's information on progress

The OECD-hosted Global Project on *Measuring the Progress of Societies*

Initial objectives:

- ❖ Encourage communities, regions and countries to consider for themselves **what progress means** in the 21st century
- ❖ Stimulate **national and international debate** on societal progress and its measurement. Three World Forums: Palermo (2004), Istanbul (2007), Busan (2009), Delhi (2012)
- ❖ Create a **network of networks** for advocacy and sharing of information and statistics on progress

A new phase for the Global Project (OECD input):

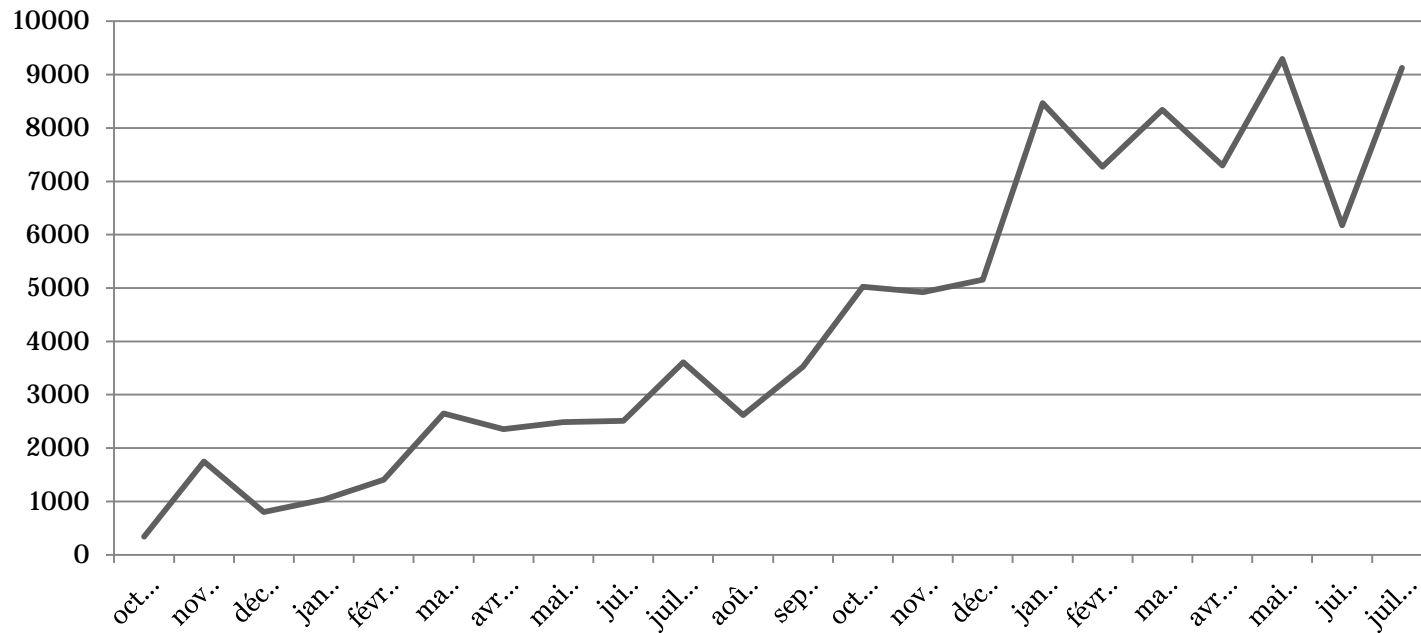
- ❖ OECD focusing on the **development of indicators**
 - ❖ **OECD Better Life Initiative**
 - ❖ Defining and contributing to research agenda by seeking **new measures of well-being and sustainability**
- ❖ OECD **Streamlining** activities related to raising awareness
 - ❖ Networking activities incl. **regional events** → **4th OECD World Forum** (India 2012) with emerging and developing countries
 - ❖ **Wikiprogress** : platform of the Global Project sharing information and statistics with the progress measurement community (since 2009)

Wikiprogress.Stat

- ❖ [WikiProgress.Stat](#) includes data and metadata for progress statistics (official and unofficial) which are loaded via the wiki
- ❖ Houses around **120 data sets** over six key themes: ecosystems condition, human wellbeing, economy, social and welfare statistics, governance and combined data sets. Currently developing the use of SDMX.
- ❖ Data can be visualised and used to support articles written on Wikiprogress.org

Wikiprogress in numbers

❖ Progression in monthly visits:



Wikiprogress in numbers



❖ Over **120 new articles per month**

❖ **640 editors** – average 33 new editors per month

❖ Over **9,100 unique visitors in July**

❖ ProgBlog – over 800 visits per month



Wikiprogress Community Portal



❖ Over **160** progress media entries per month

❖ Unique to Wikiprogress

❖ Updated daily

❖ Weekly spotlight

❖ Top ranked section for visitor traffic

❖ Leveraged using social media

❖ Provision of a service to progress community



Wikiprogress – Harnessing Networks

- ❖ GPRNet – network of progress researchers worldwide
- ❖ Global Project Board
- ❖ Correspondents
- ❖ Friends of the Wiki
- ❖ Wikigender and Wikichild networks
- ❖ Interested public – hundreds of wikiprogress editors
- ❖ Latin America Network on Progress

Challenges

Priority #1 - Quality

Quality guidelines are needed



- For citizen created (or unofficial) **data** – Wikiprogress and Ushahidi
- For citizen created **articles, blogs, etc.**

Without internationally recognised guidelines, citizen quality will be considered less-than the national level or international level quality.

Good citizen collected data could be comparable and augment the national and international statistics.

Currently this is very decentralised and project by project so there isn't enough power and recognition yet..

Priority #2 Trusted Networks

- The Wikiprogress strategy was to try to attract networks who we thought would be effective and also to minimise risk.
- We are for a targeted public.

Challenge:

- 1) Competing priorities
- 2) Agents with agendas hampering positive change
- 3) Getting people to work outside their day job
- 4) Credit



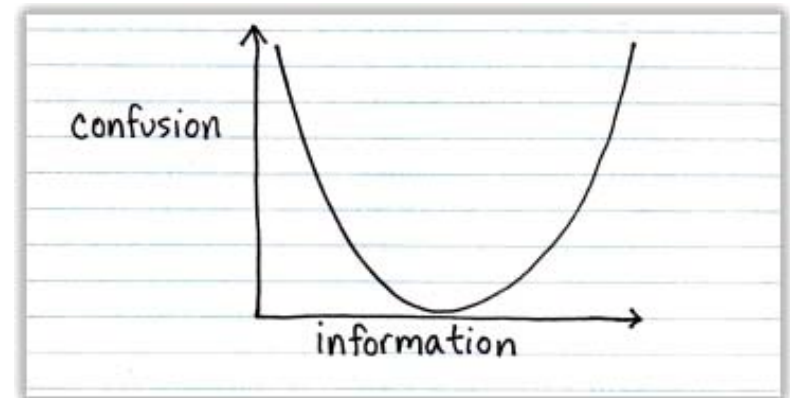
Priority #3 Data Overload

Knowledge creation and management

"Every minute, 35 hours of footage is added to You Tube globally". "Between the dawn of civilisation and 2003 we only created 5 exabytes of data. Now, we create that every 2 days. By 2020, it will increase 50 times"

Think Quarterly

Who will be the winners here?



Thank you