

# 19 RECOMMENDED INDICATORS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL COHESION

## 19.1 Bridging and bonding – quality of interactions within and between social groups

### 19.1.1 Bridging

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Bridging Social Capital	Social Justice and Social Cohesion
<p><b>Description and justification</b></p>	<p>Social capital is largely conceived in terms of the nature, extent, and outcomes of networks and associated norms of reciprocity, thus generally seen as a contributor to individual and group (community, nation) growth, well-being, and progress (<a href="#">Szreter &amp; Woolcock, 2004</a>). Social capital enables individuals to gain access to resources (ideas, information, money, services, and favours) and to have accurate expectations regarding the behaviour of others by virtue of their participation in relationships that are themselves the product of networks of association (<a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>; <a href="#">Szreter &amp; Woolcock, 2004</a>). Data on bridging social capital (BrSC) can provide an indication of associations between groups, communities, or organisations that link people across a cleavage that typically divides society (like race, class, or religion) (<a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>). These connections of respect and mutuality function as a social lubricant leading to an increased ability to gather information, ability to gain access to power or better placement within the network, or ability to better recognize new opportunities (<a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>).</p> <p>Nature-based solutions (NBS) have been linked to the notion of environmental justice across studies that explore the role of supporting urban processes involving equal access to neighborhood green space in fostering social cohesion (e.g., bridging social capital) towards the cultural integration of typically-excluded social groups, like elderly, immigrants, persons with disabilities, etc. (i.e., recognition-based justice) (<a href="#">Ibes, 2015</a>; <a href="#">Kweon, Sullivan &amp; Wiley, 1998</a>; <a href="#">Raymond et al., 2017</a>; <a href="#">Raymond, Gottwald, Kuoppa &amp; Kytta, 2016</a>; <a href="#">van Den Berg et al., 2017</a>). BrSc's beneficial impact on collective initiatives like NBS can be far-reaching, as it allows different groups to share and exchange information, ideas and innovation and builds consensus among the groups representing otherwise diverse interests.</p>
<p><b>Definition</b></p>	<p>Social relationships of exchange, often of associations between people with shared interests or goals but contrasting social identity (socio-demographics); BrSC is essentially the result of networking outside normal social groupings (<a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>; <a href="#">Szreter &amp; Woolcock, 2004</a>).</p>

<b>Strengths and weaknesses</b>	<p>+ reliable indicator of resources that encourage reciprocity and collaboration between groups/communities/organisations</p> <p>+ mostly inclusive, fosters tolerance and acceptances of different people, values, and beliefs through contact with diverse others (<a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>; <a href="#">Szreter &amp; Woolcock, 2004</a>)</p> <p>+ Putnam saw it as a resource that helps one “get ahead” (as quoted in <a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>), facilitates swifter recognition of new opportunities, and promotes social change, innovation and consensus among groups/communities/organisations</p> <p>+ can improve economic development, growth, and employment (<a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>)</p> <p>- may enable collusion, price fixing, or corruption (<a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>; <a href="#">Szreter &amp; Woolcock, 2004</a>)</p> <p><i>+/- general agreement as to the importance of a balance of bonding (see SC1) and bridging social capital, in that neither is negative per se but can be negative depending on the balance and context. The precise nature of the social identity boundaries, and the political salience of bonding and bridging groups are highly context specific (<a href="#">Claridge, 2018</a>; <a href="#">Szreter &amp; Woolcock, 2004</a>).</i></p>
<b>Measurement procedure (P) and tool (T)</b>	<p>☒ P: Scale inventory/Questionnaire (survey procedure, paper-and-pencil administration, computer-based administration)</p> <p>☒ T: Scale consisting of 2 items measuring the presence of BrSC type of connections, and respondent’s perception of quality of interactions within BrSC type of connections (<a href="#">Anucha et al., 2006</a> – item 1 adapted to purposes of current study; item 2 formulated for the purposes of current study)</p>
<b>Scale of measurement</b>	<p>1. Thinking about people you interact with ... (e.g., in your community garden, in your local park), are most of them of  ...mixed occupations (coded as [1] yes or [0] no),  ...mixed religion (coded as [1]yes or [0]no),  ...mixed ethnic or linguistic group/race/caste/tribe (coded as [1]yes or [0]no),  ...mixed educational backgrounds or levels (coded as [1] yes or [0] no),  ...and/or mixed income levels (coded as [1] yes or [0] no)?</p> <p>2. Thinking about these same people, how would you rate the quality of your interactions with them?  1 ...2...3...4...5...6...7  extremely dissatisfied (1)... extremely satisfied (7)</p>
<b>Data source</b>	
<b>Required data</b>	<p>✓ Essential: NBS characteristics for each city/site, more specifically objectives (short-, medium-, and long-term) and challenges</p>
<b>Data input type</b>	<p>Quantitative (quantitative and qualitative, if participatory data collection is opted for)</p>
<b>Data collection frequency</b>	<p>Before and after NBS implementation, then aligned with timing of targeted objectives.</p>

<b>Level of expertise required</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☒ Methodology and data analysis requires high expertise in psycho-social research</li> <li>☒ Quantitative data collection requires no expertise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Basic training needed if participatory data collection is opted for</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Synergies with other indicators</b>	<p>SC1. Bonding social capital  SC3. Linking social capital  SC4.1 Trust in community  SC4.2 Solidarity between neighbours  SC4.3 Tolerance and respect  SC5.1 Perceived safety  SC5.2 Actual/real safety  SC6 Place attachment (Sense of place): Place Identity  SC9 Empowerment: Perceived control and influence over NBS decision-making  SC12 Social desirability</p>
<b>Connection with SDGs</b>	<p>Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere  Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture  Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages  Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls  Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all  Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation  Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries  Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable  Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns  Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts  Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels  Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</p>
<b>Opportunities for participatory data collection</b>	<p>Participatory methods (e.g., collaborative participatory data collection) may be applied to garner community-relevant information on BrSC's role in NBS implementation and expansion.</p>
<b>Additional information</b>	
<b>References</b>	<p>Anucha, U., Diamini, N.S., Yan, M.C., &amp; Smylie, L. (2006). <i>Social capital and the welfare of immigrant women: A multi-level study of four ethnic communities in Windsor</i>. Status of Women Canada's Policy Research Fund. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.researchgate.net">http://www.researchgate.net</a></p> <p>Claridge, T. (2018). Functions of social capital – bonding, bridging, linking. <i>Social Capital Research</i>, 1-7. Retrieved from</p>

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