

*Summit 2017: Health Equity in the Americas*

# Quantitative Policy Data to Promote Population Health and Equity



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# Social Determinants of Health

**“Traditionally, society has looked to the health sector to deal with its concerns about health and disease. ... But the high burden of illness responsible for appalling premature loss of life arises in large part because of the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work, and age.”**

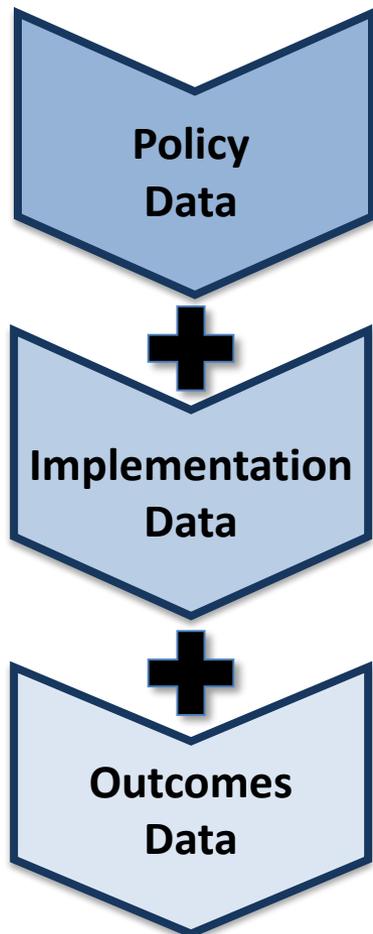
*WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health*

**The WHO Commission's report focused on improving daily living conditions:**

- ✓ **Equity from the start**
- ✓ **Healthy places, healthy people**
- ✓ **Fair employment and decent work**
- ✓ **Social protection through life**
- ✓ **Universal health care**



# Sum Greater Than its Parts: Data to Answer Our Collective Questions

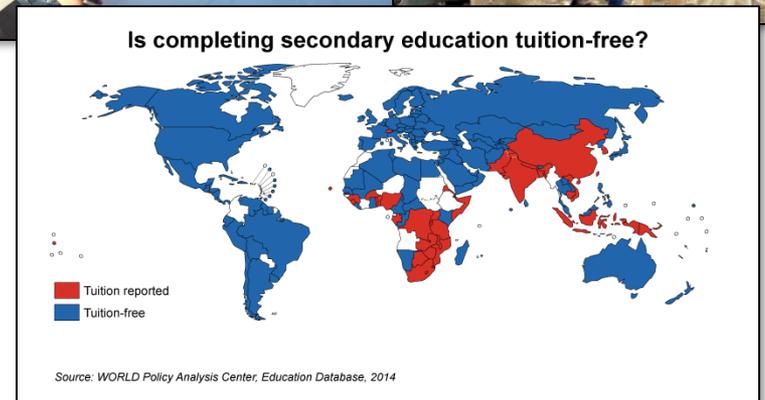


All three data types are required to:

- ❖ Enable **evidence-based governance, investment, and strategy** decisions
- ❖ Identify **global leaders and laggards**
- ❖ Establish **monitoring and accountability** of the SDGs and global commitments
- ❖ Advance rigorous work using cutting edge techniques to **determine which approaches will work to achieve goals at scale**

# WORLD: A Quantitative Policy Approach

- **The WORLD Policy Analysis Center (WORLD)** makes available quantitatively comparable data on more than 1,500 laws and policies in 193 countries affecting **human health, development, well-being, and equity.**
- **With partners, WORLD...**
  - Undertakes rigorous analyses of policy effectiveness
  - Facilitates comparative studies of policy progress
  - Informs policy debates
  - Advances accountability efforts



# Overview of WORLD Data Areas

WORLD has data on more than 1,500 policies in 193 countries in policy areas that affect **the social determinants of health and development**, including:

- ✓ Health
- ✓ Poverty
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Gender
- ✓ Marriage
- ✓ Childhood
- ✓ Families
- ✓ Environment
- ✓ Equal Rights and Discrimination
- ✓ Adult Labor and Working Conditions
- ✓ Child Labor
- ✓ Aging
- ✓ Disability



# The Power Of Policy And Legal Indicators

## *What Can Data Do?*

Create **immediate levers** leaders can move

Allow countries to identify their own **comparators** and highlight **leaders** and **laggards**

Provide a necessary, if not sufficient, **first step** to improving implementation

Build upon the work of UN bodies and enable **transparency** and **accountability**

Strengthen the work of **civil society** to promote effective realization of health, development, and well-being

Enable **rigorous techniques** to measure impact and inform evidence-based policy decisions



# Equality and Protections against Discrimination

Does the constitution take at least one approach to gender equality?



Source: WORLD Policy Analysis Center

Does the constitution guarantee protection from discrimination at work based on ethnicity?

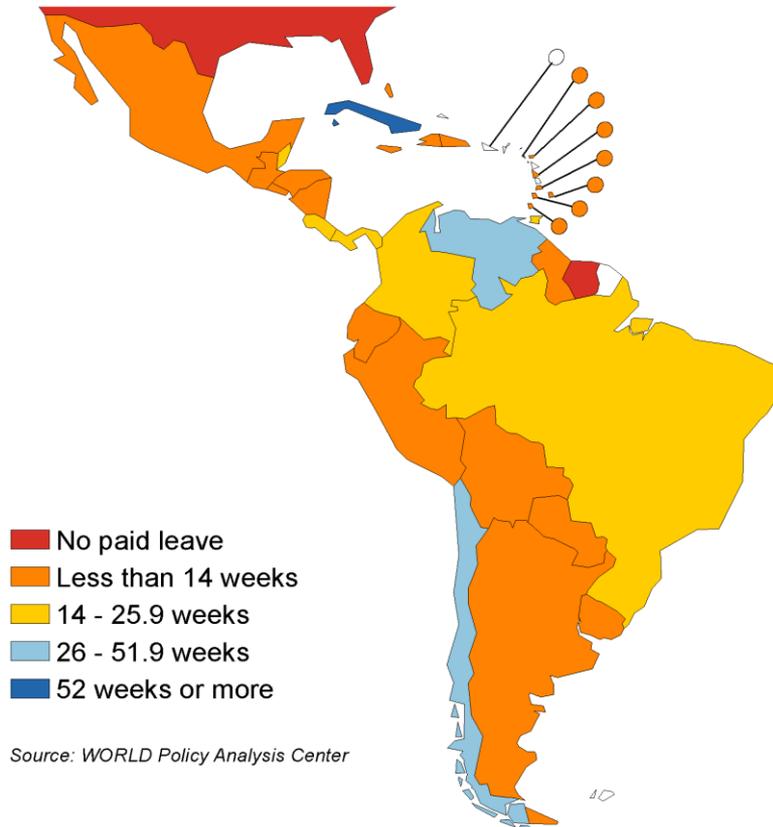


Source: WORLD Policy Analysis Center

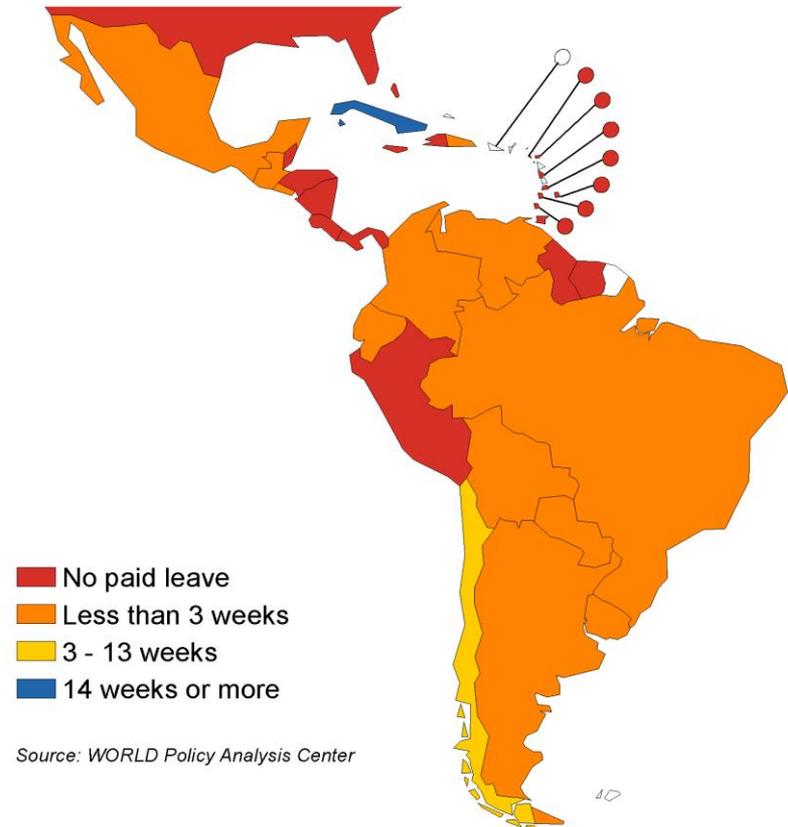


# Adult Labor Policies Promoting Population Health

**Is paid leave available  
for mothers of infants?**

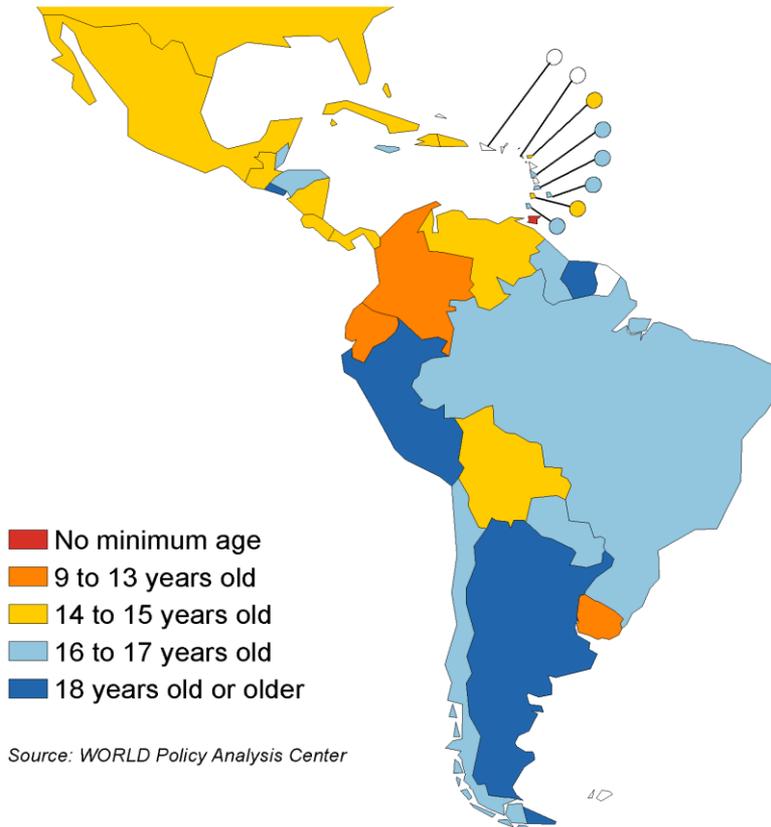


**Is paid leave available  
for fathers of infants?**



# Childhood Policies Promoting Population Health

**What is the minimum age of marriage for girls with parental consent?**



Source: WORLD Policy Analysis Center

**How long are children protected from hazardous work when legal loopholes are considered?**

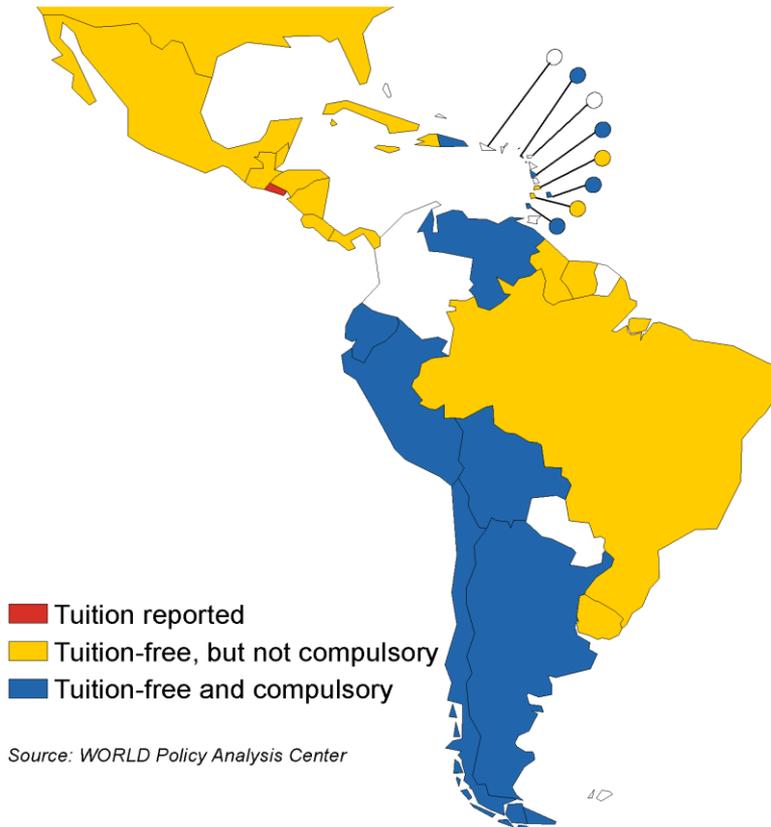


Source: WORLD Policy Analysis Center

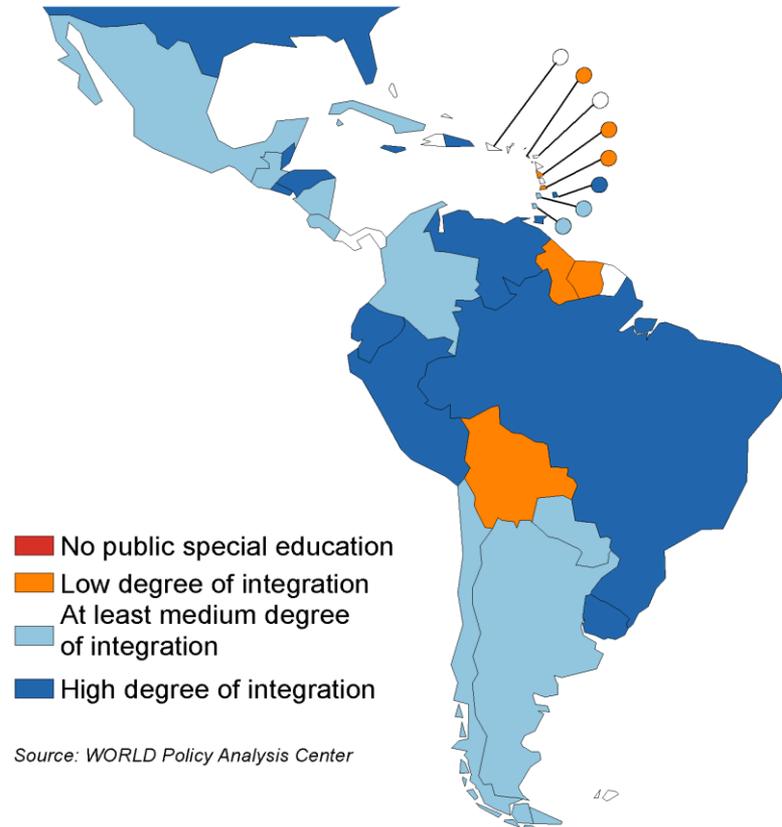


# Education Policies Promoting Population Health

Is completing secondary education tuition-free and compulsory?

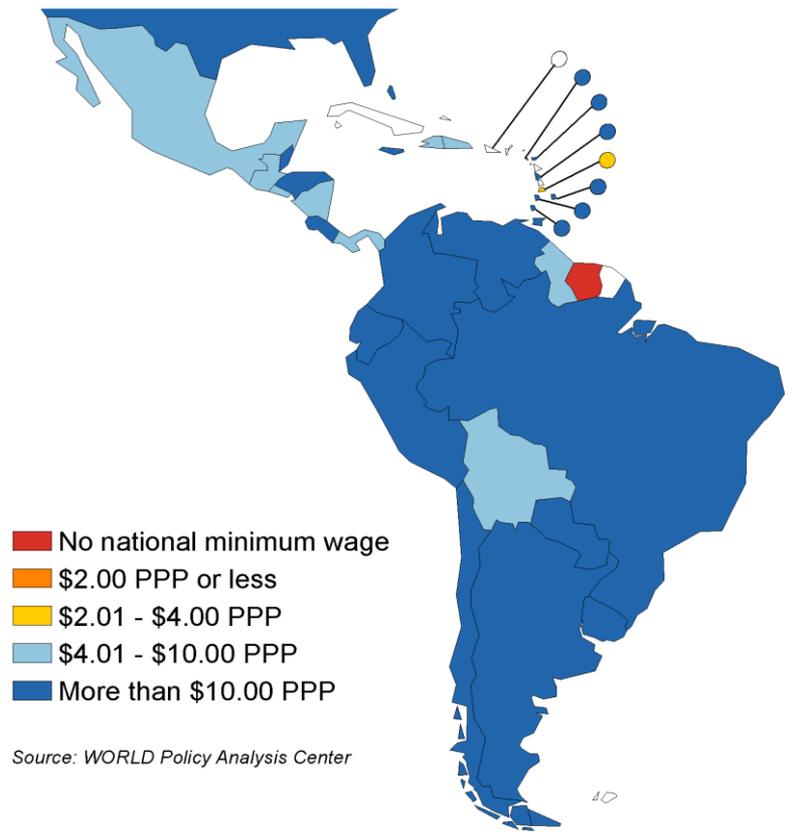


Is inclusive education available for children with disabilities?



# Poverty Reduction Policies Promoting Population Health

At what level are minimum wages set per day?

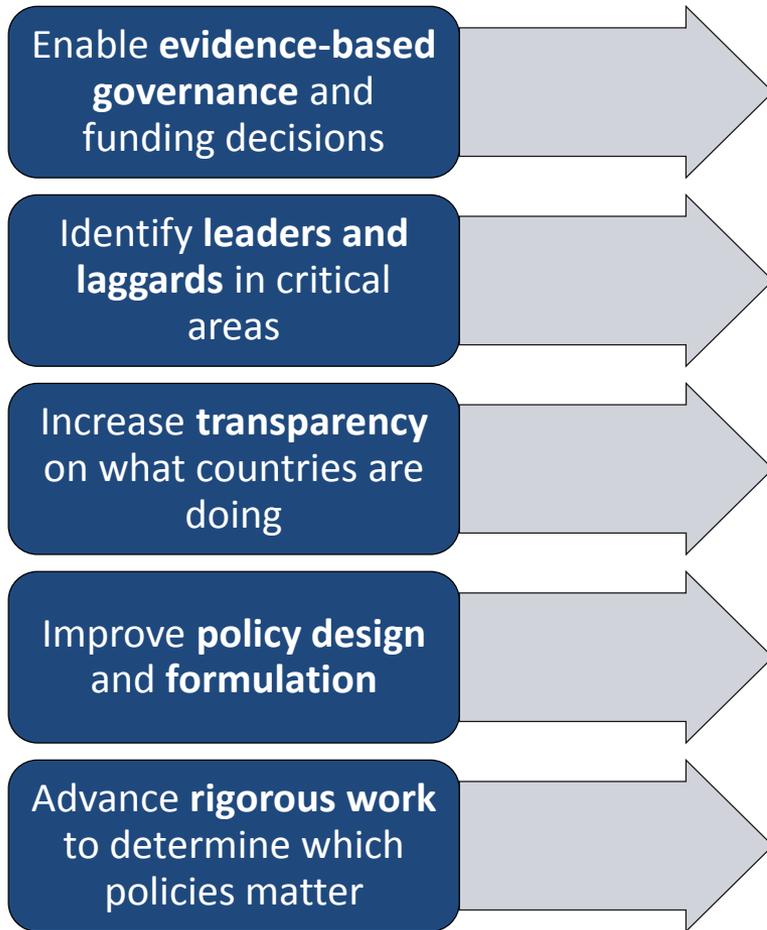


Is income protection during unemployment available?

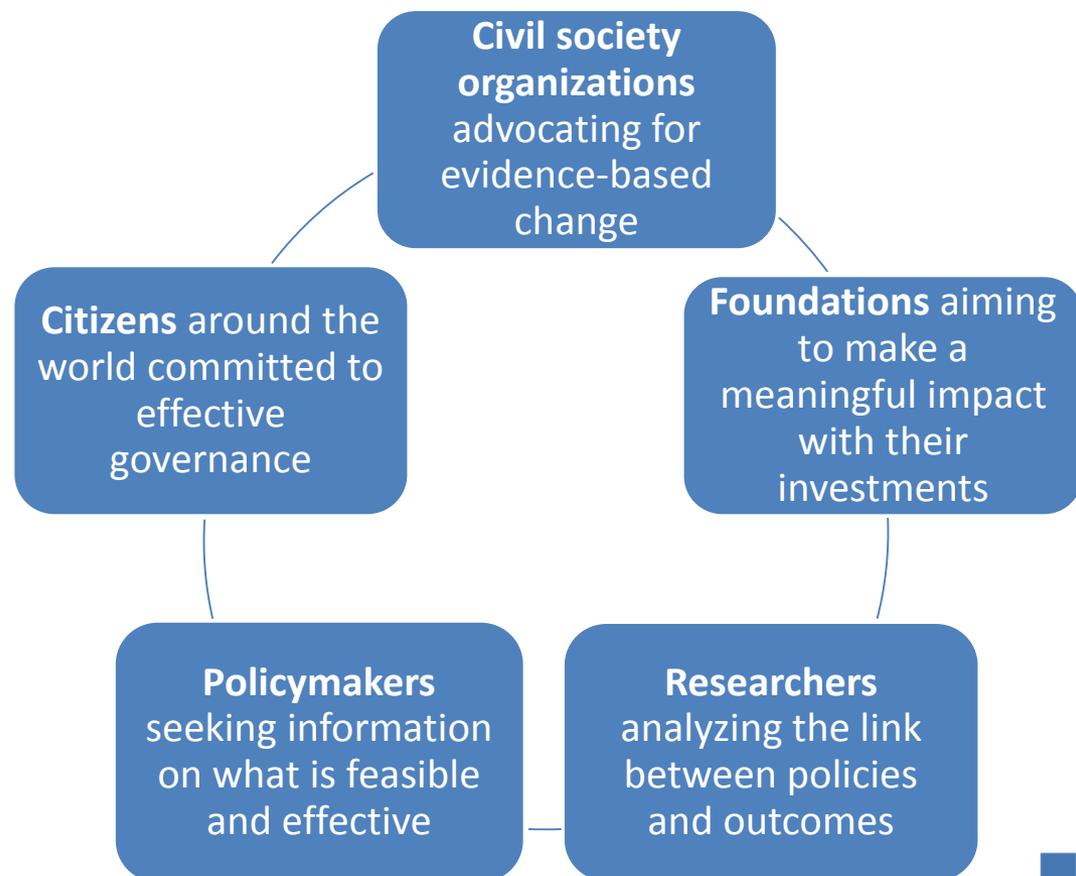


# Transforming What's Possible With Newly Available Data

## What Can Data Do?



## Audiences



# Guiding Principles

- **The following principles define our approach to collaboration:**
  - ✓ Change is most likely to occur when there are efforts at all levels.
  - ✓ Different people will use the information in different ways.
  - ✓ To be effective, partnerships need to respect the value of taking a range of approaches to collaborations.



# Working with Policymakers

- **Ireland:** Provided data to Equality Now to allow them to highlight an unequal law in Ireland. After a sustained campaign, a year later, the Irish government passed the Paternity Leave and Benefit Bill 2016.
- **Philippines:** In the process of Senate approval of a new 120-day maternity leave bill, Senators cited WORLD and McGill University studies in arguing that “longer paid leave reduces infant mortality” and that the maternity leave law should be “at par with international standards.”
- **China:** Informing officials from Guangdong Province interested in the national and provincial labor policies that can improve economic outcomes.
- **United States:** Responding to elected representatives questions about whether the US can afford to provide paid family and sick leave.



# Thank You to Our Global Partners!



## WORLD Policy Analysis Center

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