



# Examining The Relation between Quality of Life and Biophysical vs Economic Conditions

Jessica G. Lambert

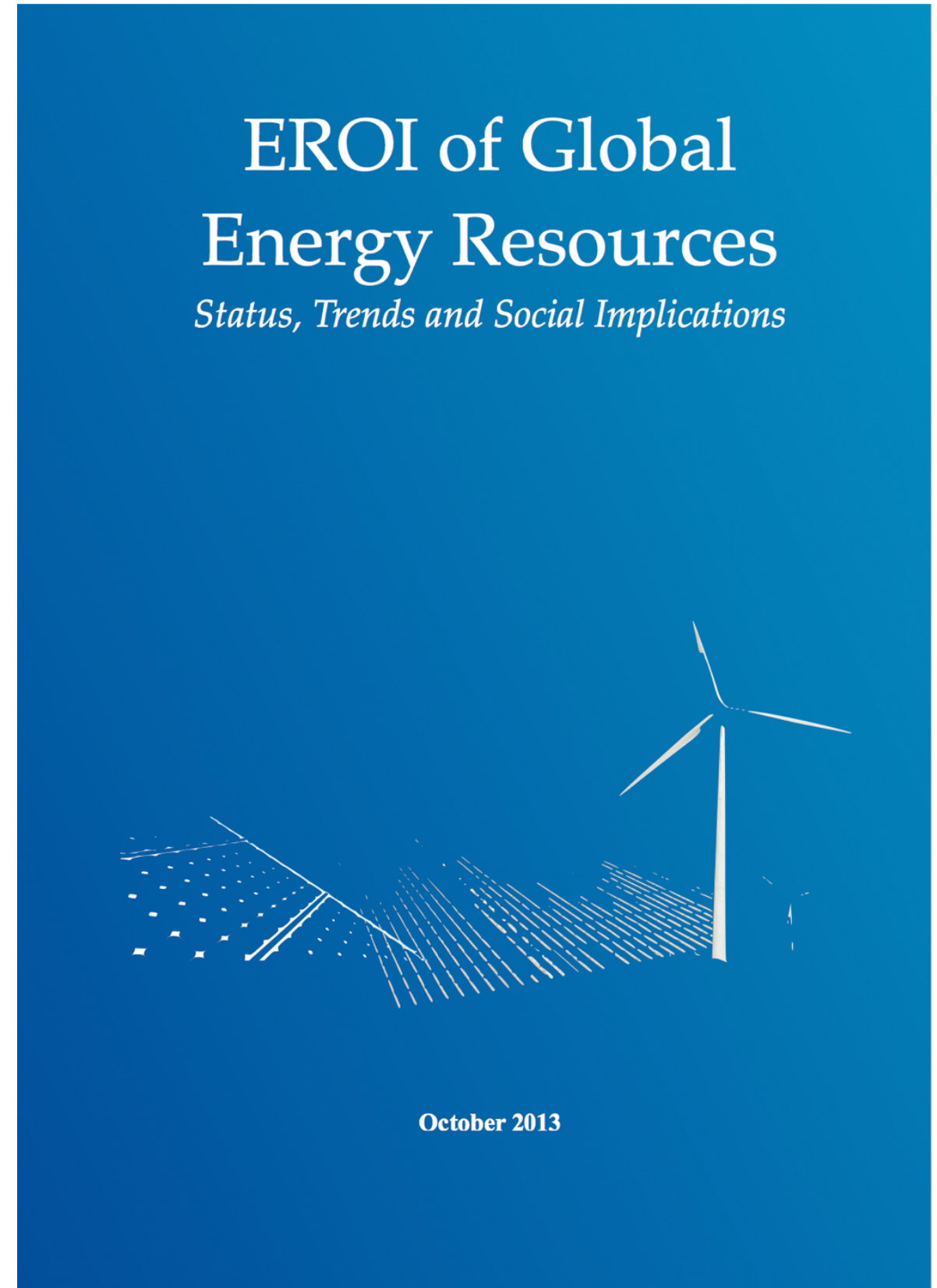
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École De Physique des Houches

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# DFID 59717

- \* review current/historical EROI for fossil fuels and their alternatives
- \* examine relationship between energy indices and human well-being
- \* provide insight in formulating development strategies in an uncertain energy future



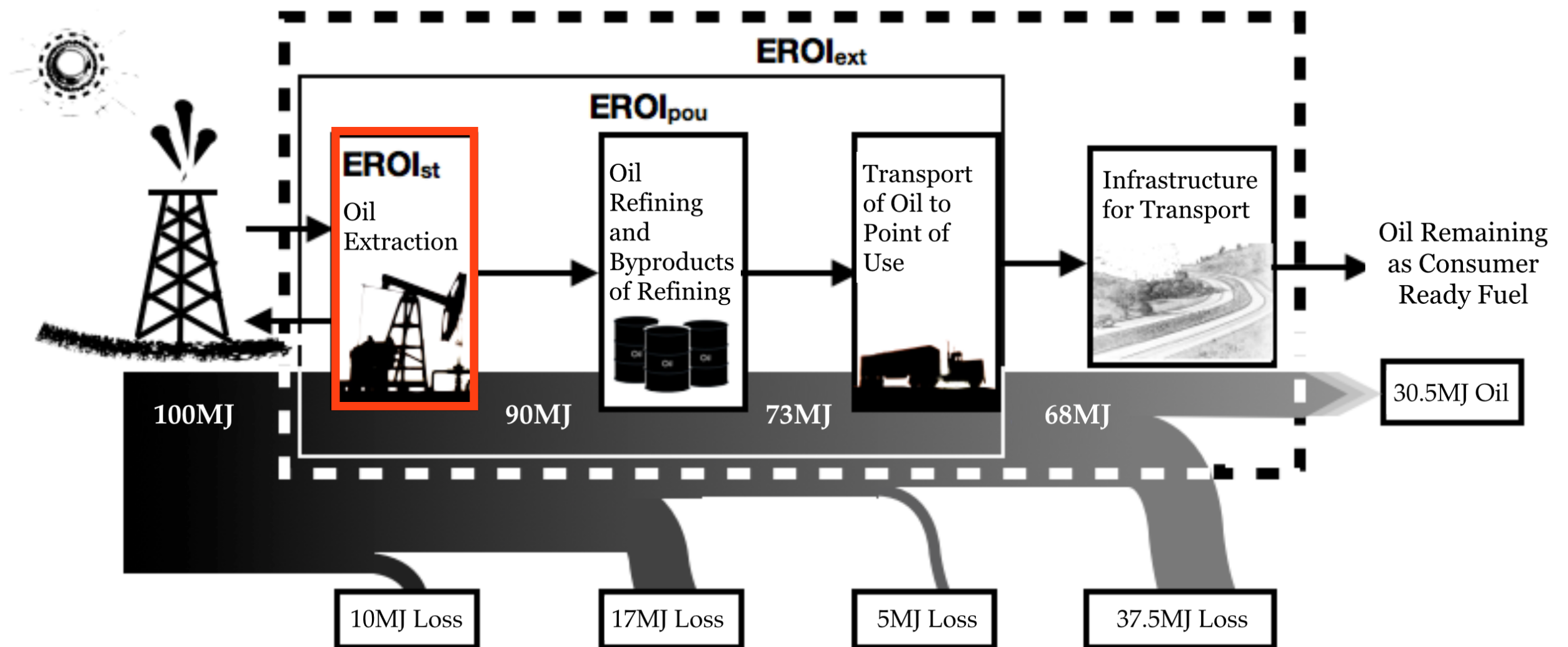


# EROI

The ratio of energy returned from energy exploration and exploration activities compared to the energy invested in those energy-gathering processes.

$$\text{EROI} = \frac{\text{Energy Out}}{\text{Energy In}}$$

# EROI







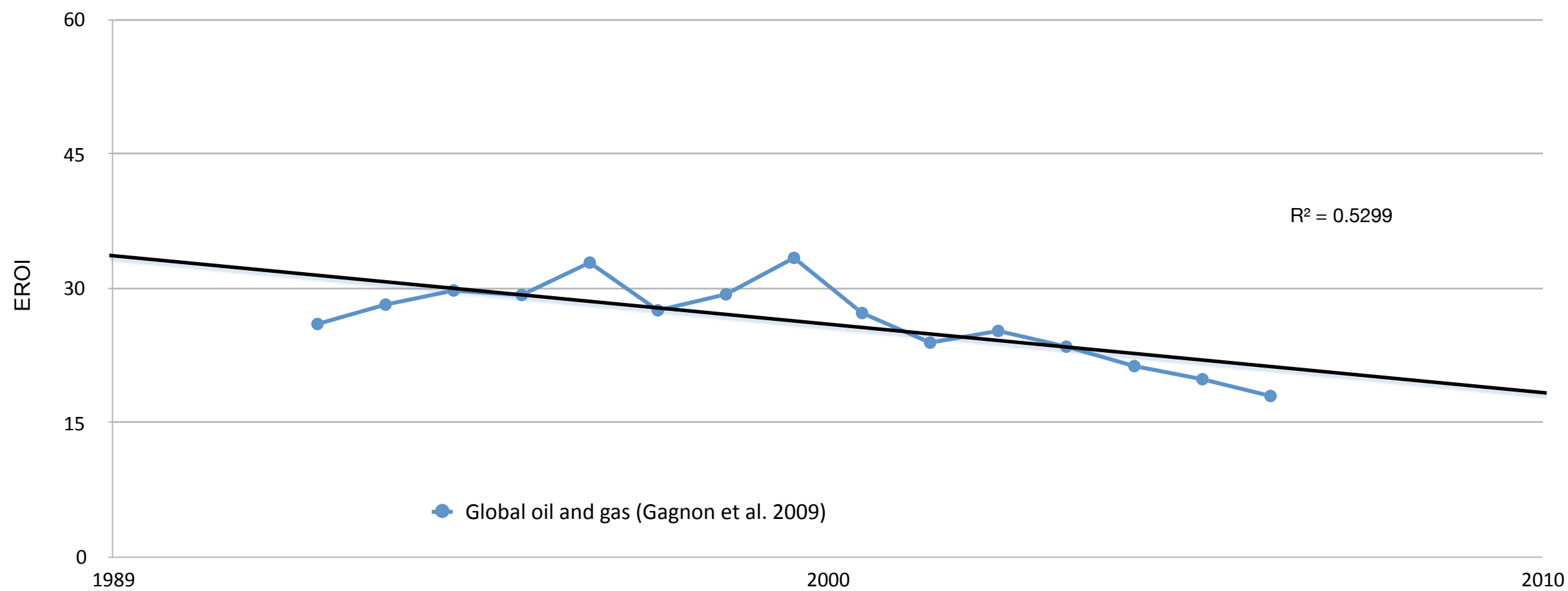
e.g. Guilford et al. 2011

The ratio of energy returned from energy exploration and exploration activities compared to the energy invested in those energy-gathering processes.

$$\text{EROI} = \frac{\text{Joules Produced}}{\text{Joules Invested}}$$



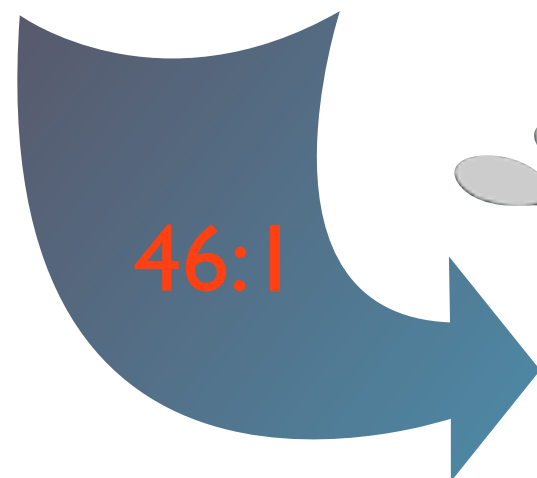
## Global Oil and Gas EROI Values and Trends (1990-2010)



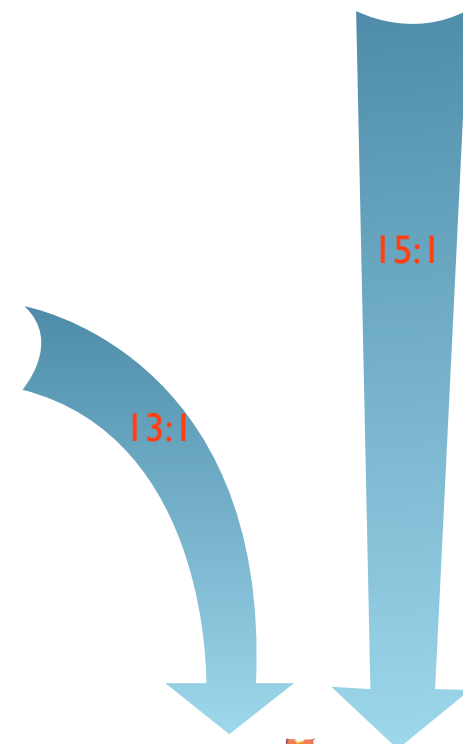
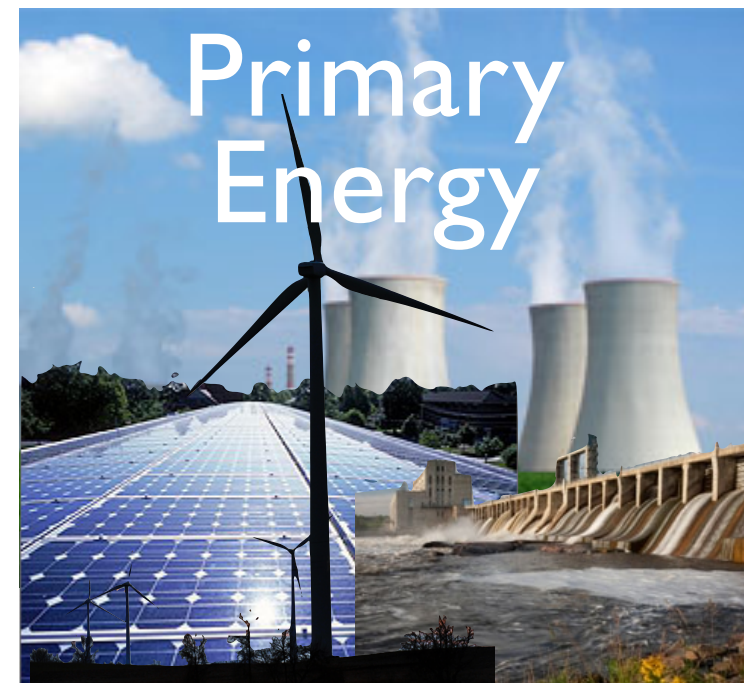
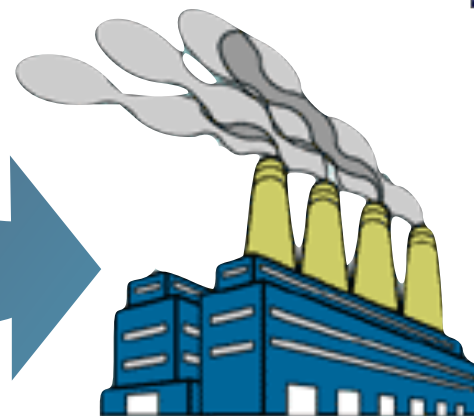
Gagnon et al. (2009) estimated the EROI for global publicly traded oil and gas.

## EROI

### Fossil Fuels



46:1



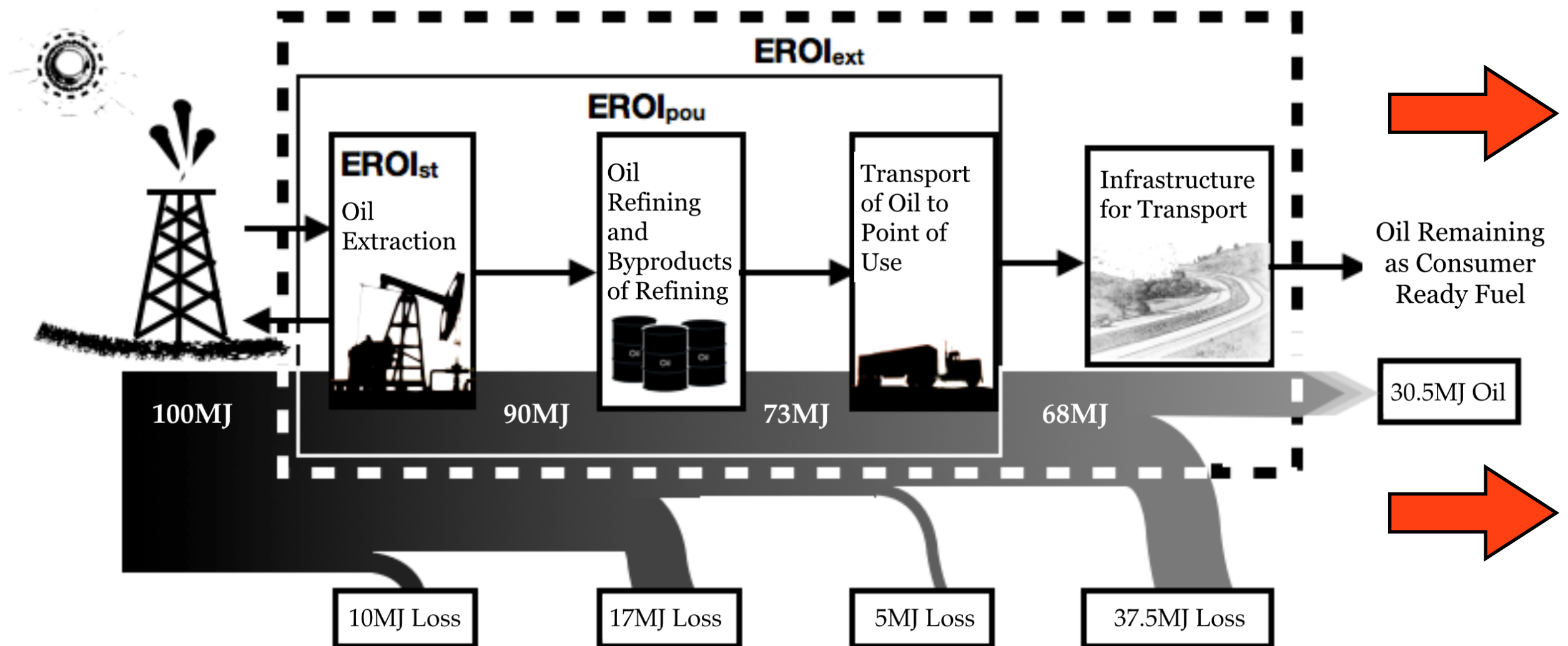
15:1

13:1



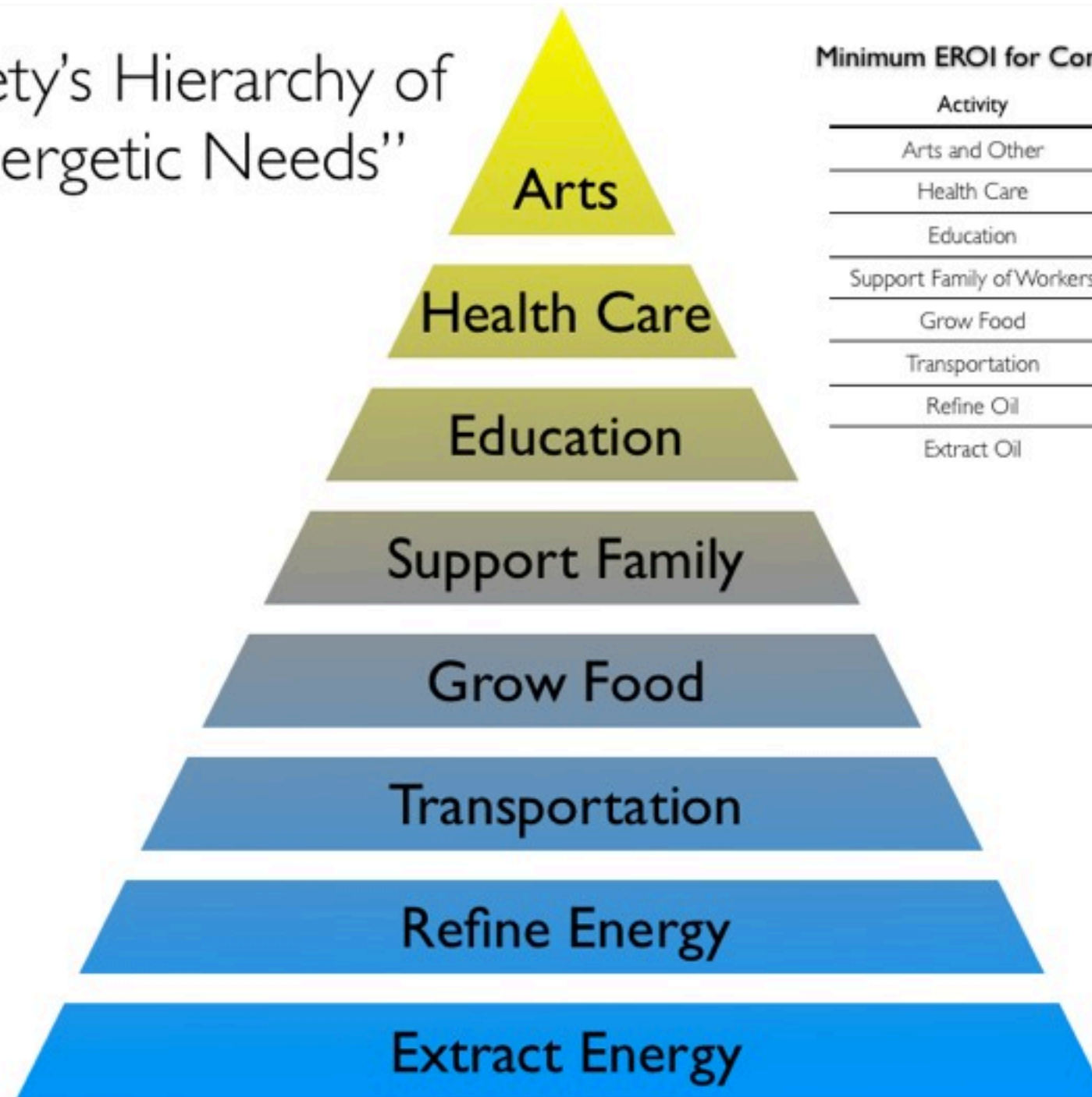
# EROI

EROI<sub>soc</sub>



# Societal EROI or $EROI_{soc}$

Society's Hierarchy of  
"Energetic Needs"



Minimum EROI for Conventional Sweet Crude Oil

Activity	Minimum EROI Required
Arts and Other	14 : 1
Health Care	12 : 1
Education	9 or 10 : 1
Support Family of Workers	7 or 8 : 1
Grow Food	5 : 1
Transportation	3 : 1
Refine Oil	1.2 : 1
Extract Oil	1.1 : 1



### IMPORTED PETROLEUM

The United States relies on two sources for the petroleum that provides about 70% of its energy supplies: domestic resources and imports. Domestic consumption of petroleum has increased more rapidly than production in recent decades, and this difference has been made up by increasing imports. Since 1948, the first year in which the United States was a net importer of oil, the percentage of total oil consumption obtained from foreign sources increased to nearly 50 percent in 1977 (Figure 8.1). Since then it has dropped as the demand for oil has diminished.

As described in Chapter 7, annual domestic production of both oil and gas generally has diminished since the early 1970s, and very large additions to domestic reserves are unlikely. Furthermore, if trends of the past 30 years continue, the energy discovered by exploratory drilling will approach the energy used to find and extract the petroleum found within the next several decades, so that even if domestic petroleum continues to be found, it may not serve as a net fuel for the nation. Consequently, it appears unlikely that domestic production of oil and gas can be increased to replace imported petroleum, especially if demand for oil again increases.

A number of politicians and economists have advised the federal government to reduce dependence on imports by intensifying efforts to find new domestic petroleum supplies and by developing domestic alternatives, including nuclear power, coal-derived synfuels, oil shale, alcohol fuels, and solar-powered satellites (see Chapters 10–13). Yet, despite the large economic and political costs of relying on foreign oil, federal programs aimed at reducing that dependence, and a decreased demand for petroleum since 1979, imported oil still accounted for about 35% of the liquid petroleum consumed by the United States in 1983.

In addition to limitations imposed by its origins in politically "unstable" regions and its high dollar and energy cost, imported petroleum is a finite non-

renewable resource. Its supply can be analyzed using the same distributional traits used by Hubbert and other petroleum analysts to estimate the size of domestic petroleum resources and the rate at which they are discovered and produced. Since the rigorous and dangerous conditions involved in transporting natural gas severely limit the quantity the United States can import we restrict our analysis to oil alone. Most of the information in the following section was taken from Nehring (1982), and the interested reader should consult that paper for further details.

#### WORLD OIL SUPPLIES

The most important feature relating to estimating the size of world oil deposits is their concentration in a few, relatively small geographical areas called provinces. As described in Chapter 7, oil forms only under special geological conditions, so oil fields are found only in provinces that contain particular sedimentary formations. Approximately 600 such provinces exist, of which about 420 have been explored. Two hundred and forty of these 420 regions contain oil, and most of the remaining 180 also indicate such possibilities.

But the large number of provinces with oil fields does not automatically indicate significant quantities of oil contained there. Such a conclusion probably is false because most of the world's oil is found in a few provinces with extremely large reserves. Of the 420 provinces that contain oil, only seven contain more than 25 billion bbl, which is about one year's world oil consumption at its peak in 1980 (Table 8.1). Together, these seven provinces contain over two-thirds of known world oil supplies. The largest of these provinces, the Arabian-Iranian, contains nearly half of world oil supplies. Summing the known oil deposits in the 18 major provinces listed in Table 8.1 indicates the special-

that fuel. For imported oil or gas Kaufmann and Hall (1981) used the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EROI} &= \frac{CE_i}{EE_e} \\ &= \frac{(\text{kcal imported fuel}/\$ \text{ imported fuel})}{(\text{kcal embodied in exports}/\$ \text{ exports})} \quad (8.1) \\ &= \frac{\text{kcal imported}}{\text{kcal exported}} \end{aligned}$$

in which  $CE_i$  is the chemical energy in an average dollar's worth of imported fuel and  $EE_e$  is the embodied energy in an average dollar's worth of export, assuming that the mix of commodities exchanged for fuel, or for the foreign exchange used to



# EROI<sub>soc</sub>

$$EROI_{IO} = \frac{\text{Energy in a barrel of oil} / \text{price of a barrel of oil}}{\text{Energy intensity of the economy}}$$

Equation 7: Lambert et al. 2013

$$EROI_{soc} = \frac{GDP}{E_T} * \sum_{i=1}^n \eta_i \frac{E_{Ui}}{E_{Pi}}$$

Table 2.4: Variables identified in Eq. 7 and 8.

Variables	Meaning	Eq.	Unit
E <sub>T</sub>	Total Energy Consumed by Society	3	MJ
GDP	Gross Domestic Product		USD
E <sub>U</sub>	Energy per Unit of Fuel		MJ
E <sub>P</sub>	Price per Unit of Fuel		USD
$\eta$	Ratio of net Energy Contribution		n.a.



e.g. USA

$$EROI_{SOC} = \frac{\eta_1 E_{U1} + \eta_2 E_{U2} + \eta_n E_{Un}}{\eta_1 E_{P1} + \eta_2 E_{P2} + \eta_n E_{Pn}}$$

*Energy intensity of the economy*

USA:

$E_t = 90643$  Petajoules

GDP = 13898.3 Billion USD

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**Coal - 21%**

$E_t = 904,896$  Thousand mTons

$E_p = \$46.99$  per mTons

$E_u = 22,930$  MJ per mTons

**Oil - 38%**

$E_t = 18,771$  Thousand BBL per day

$E_p = \$59.04$  per BBL

$E_u = 5,455$  MJ per BBL

**N.Gas - 25%**

$E_t = 22,910$  Billion Cubic Feet

$E_p = \$4.19$  per Thousand Cubic Feet

$E_u = 1079$  MJ per Thousand Cubic Feet

**Alternate and Nuclear - 12%**

$E_t = 1.07E+17$

$E_p = \$0.10$  per kWh

$E_u = 3.6$  MJ per kWh



e.g. USA = **EROI<sub>soc</sub> 32.06**

$$EROI_{SOC} = \frac{\eta_1 E_{U1} + \eta_2 E_{U2} + \eta_n E_{Un}}{\eta_1 E_{P1} + \eta_2 E_{P2} + \eta_n E_{Pn}}$$

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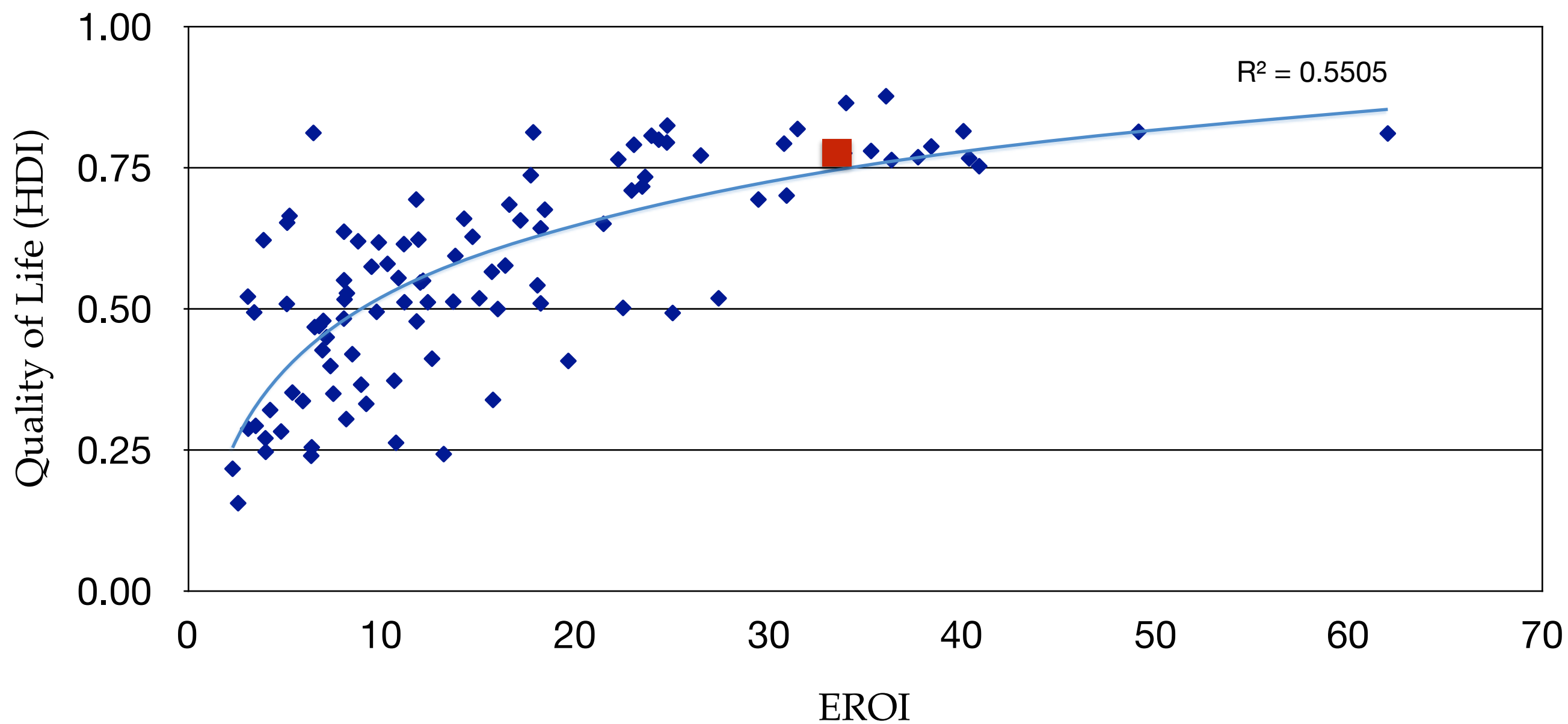
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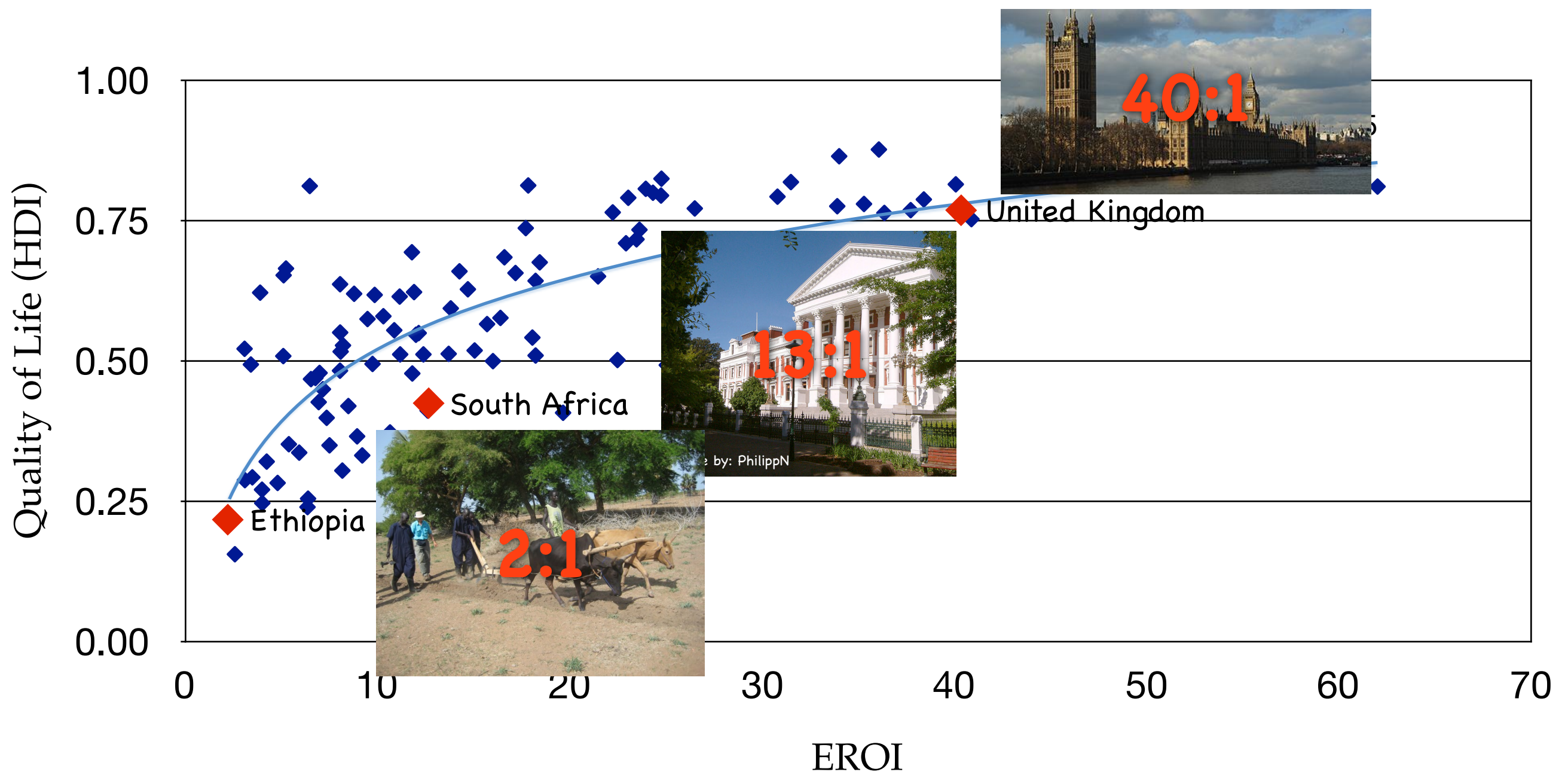


## EROIsoc vs. HDI





## EROIsoc vs. HDI



E.g. South Africa, 2009

EROIsoc = 13:1



1

Energy In

Coal = 67%  
Oil = 19%  
Solid Biomass = 10%



Energy Out

13

E.g. Ethiopia, 2009

$$EROI_{soc} = 2:1$$



1

Energy In

Solid Biomass = 93%  
Oil = 6%  
Other = 1%



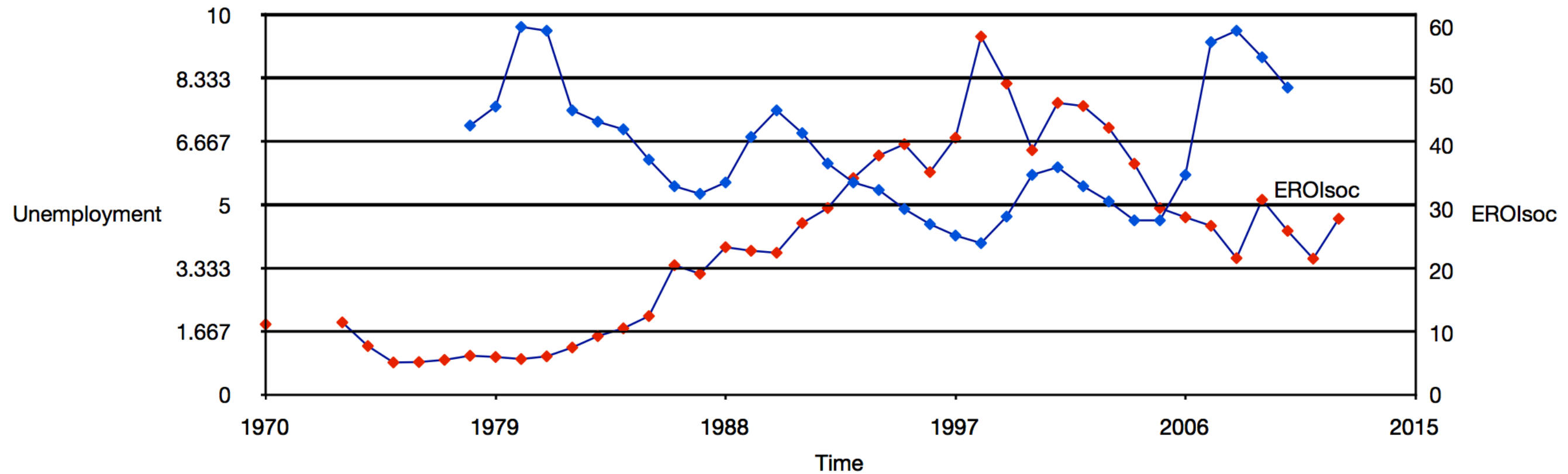
Ethiopia  
Economy



Energy Out

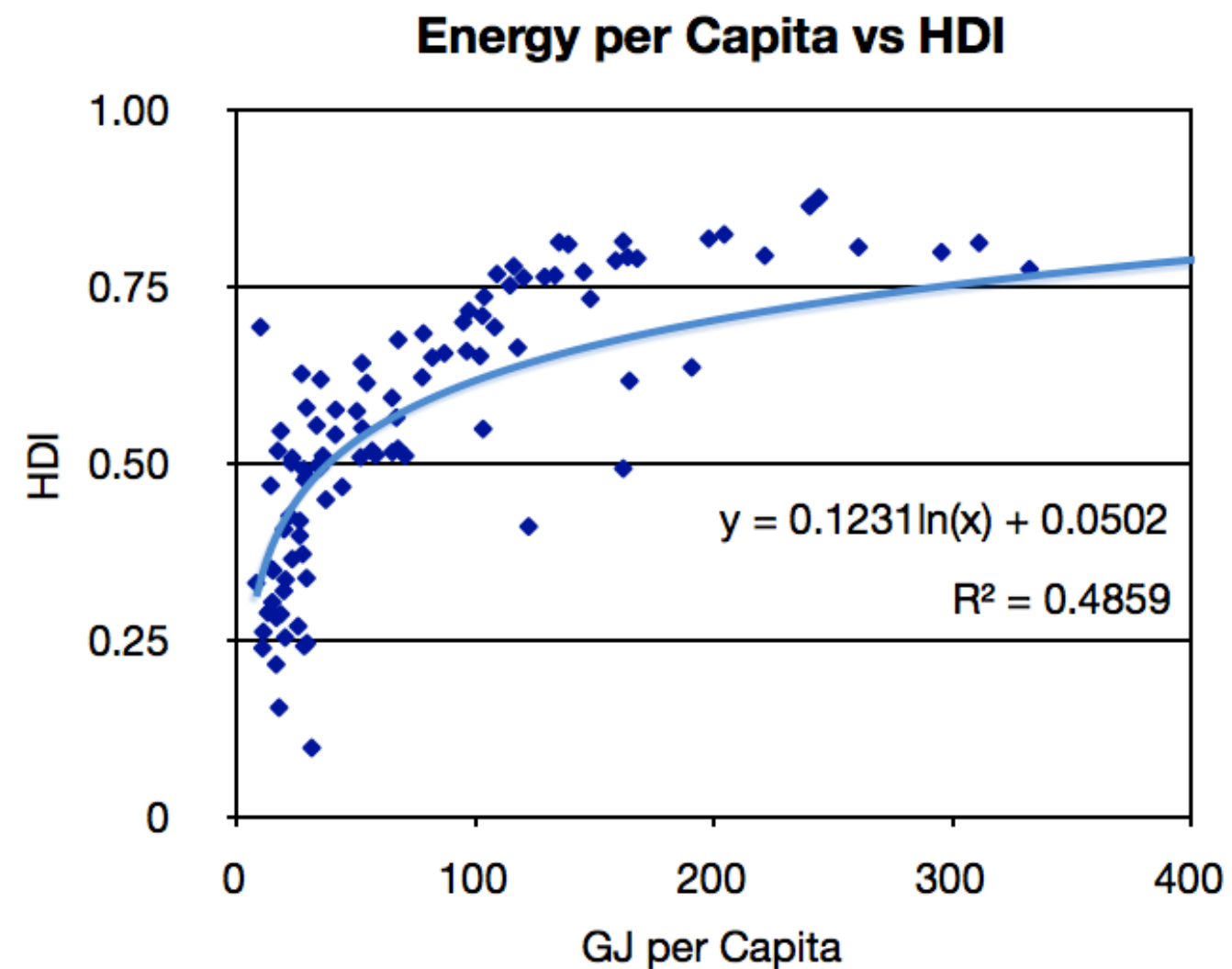
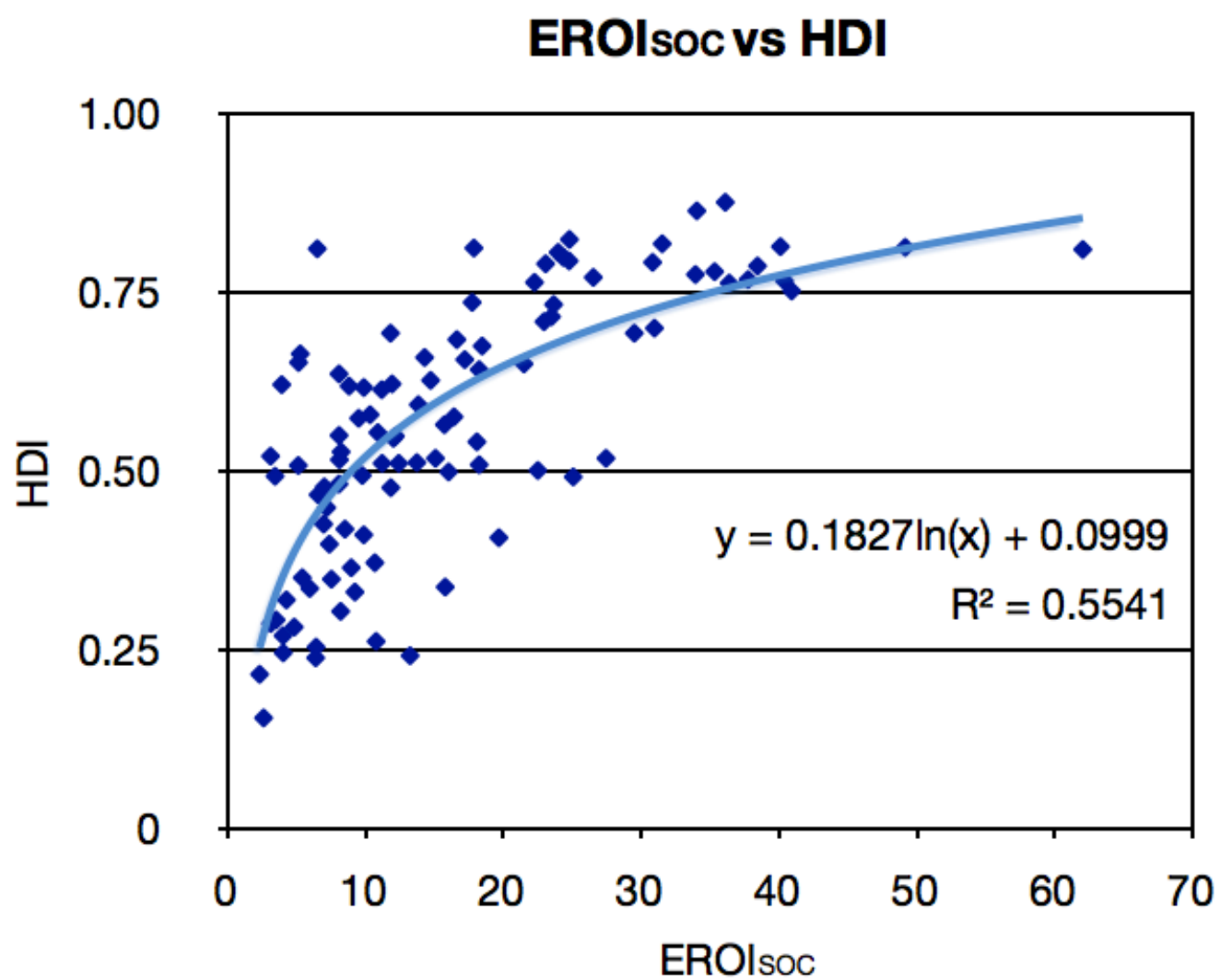
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# USA EROIsoc vs. Unemployment

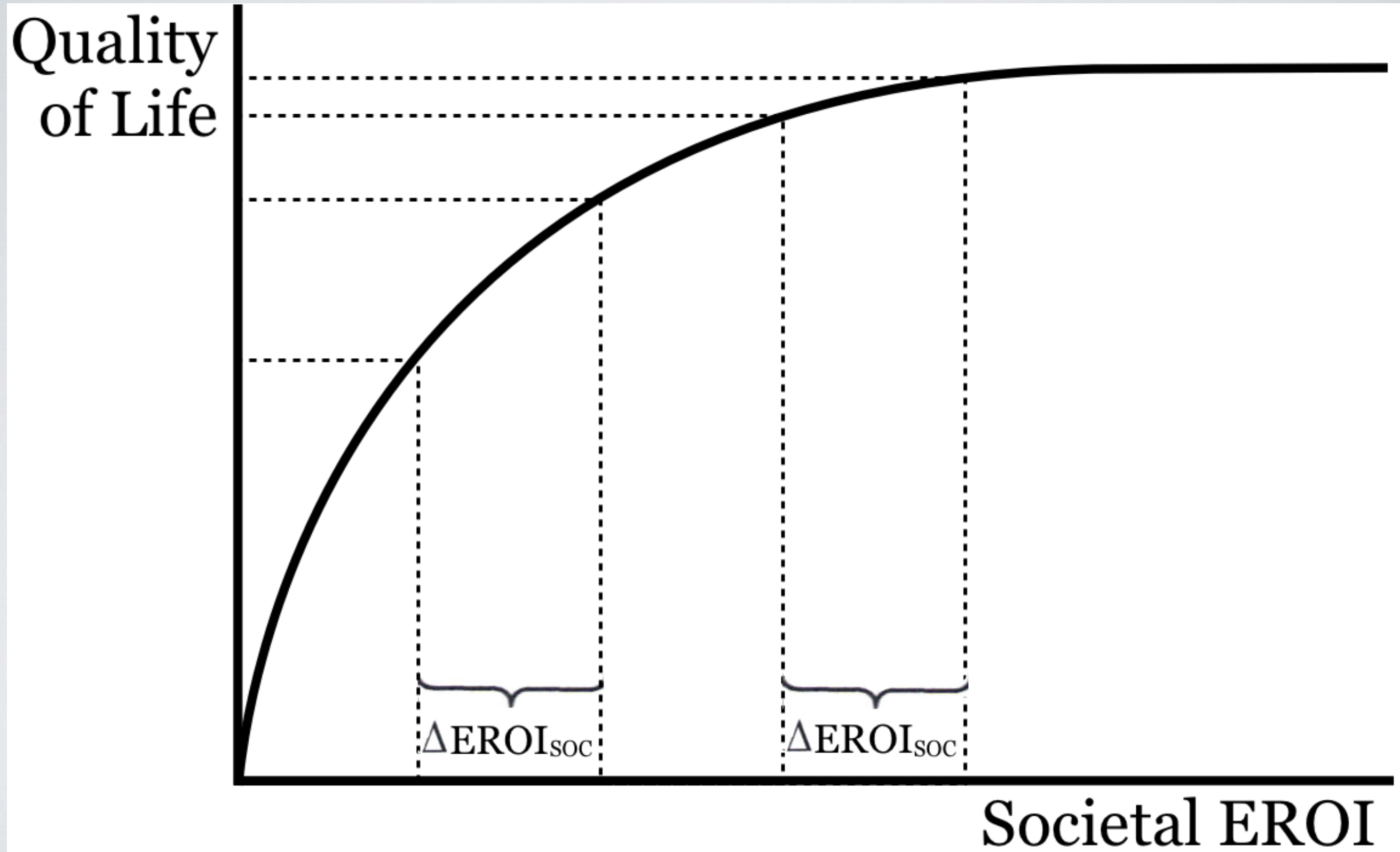




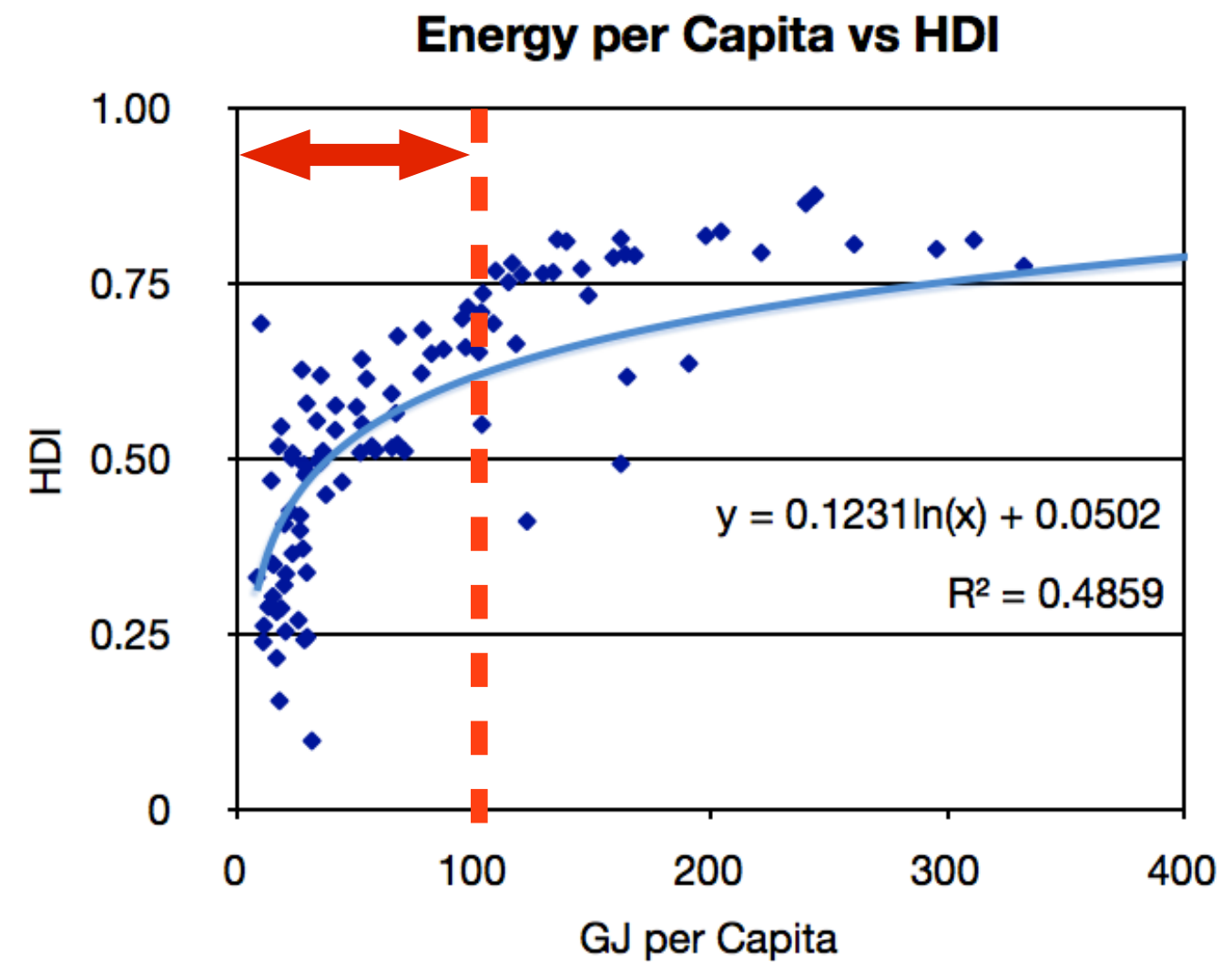
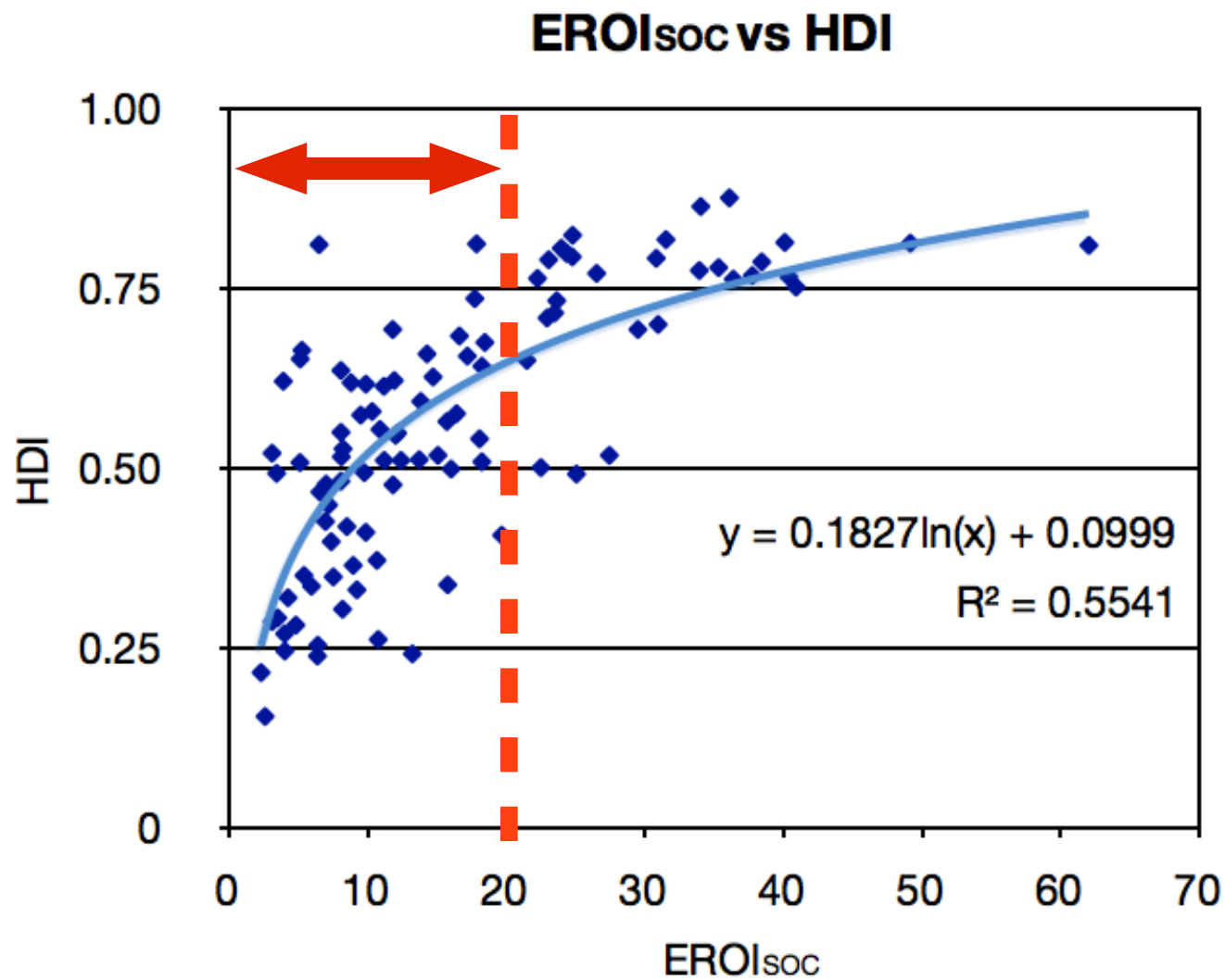
## Multiple unrelated energy variables ...



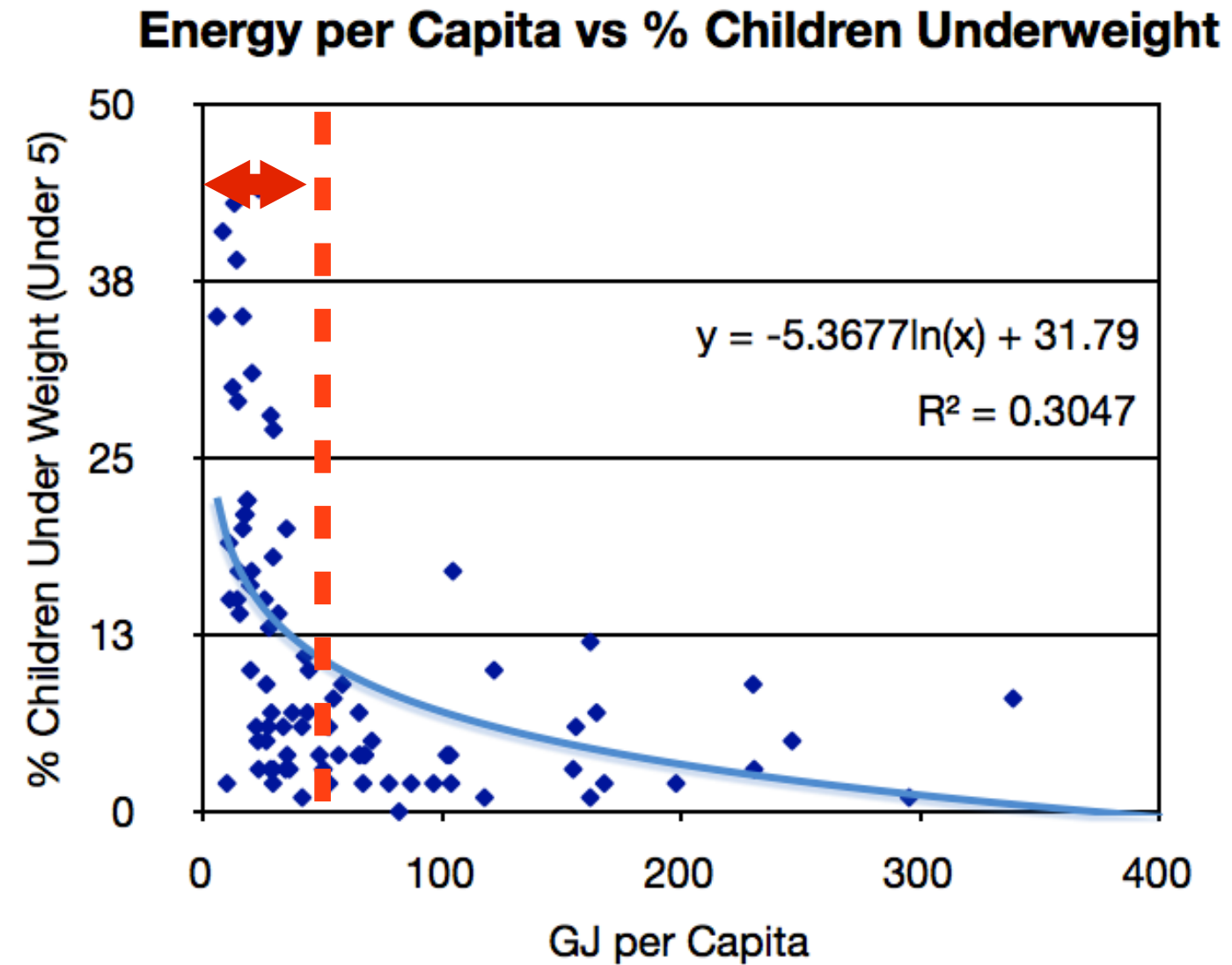
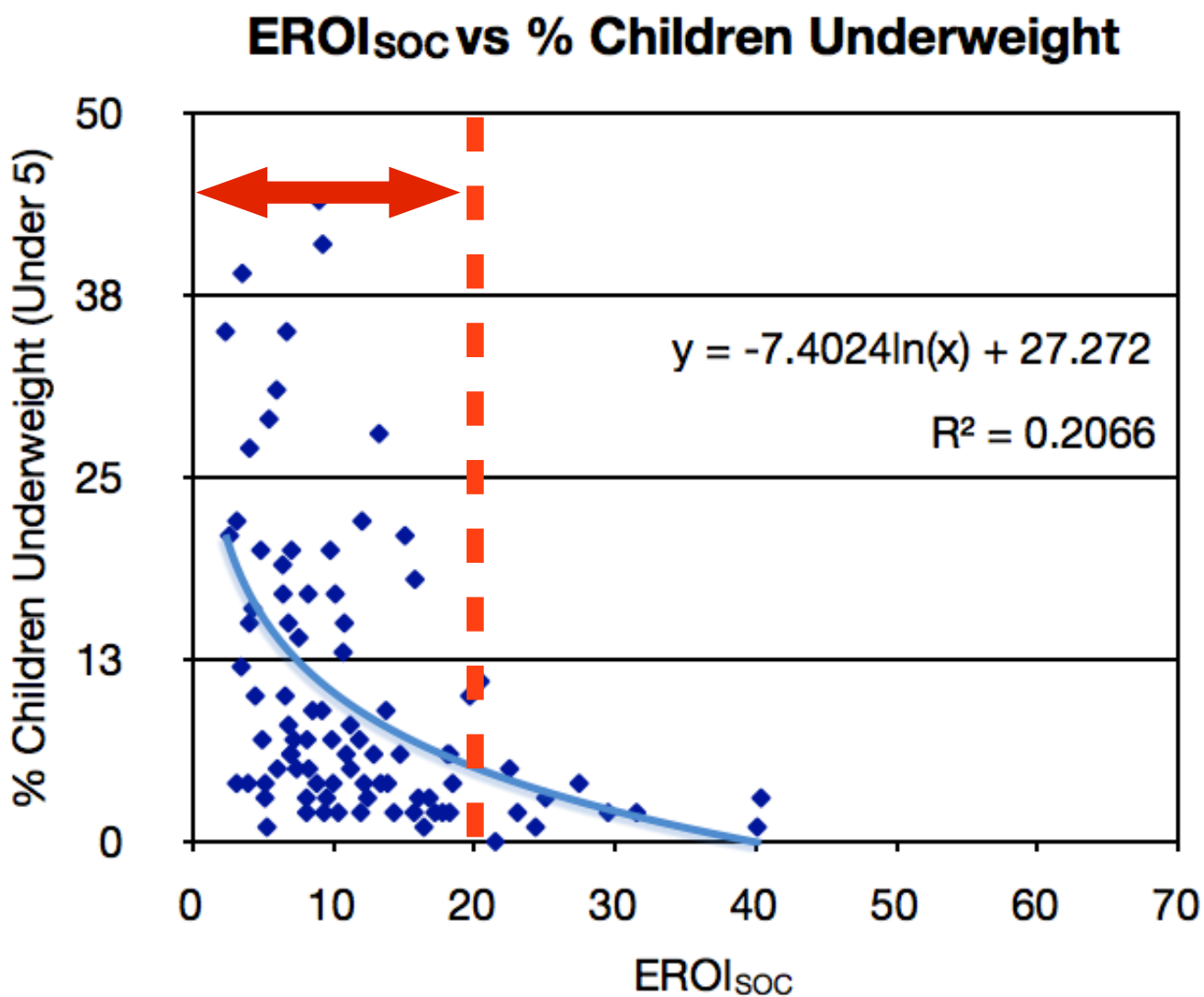




# ENERGY AVAILABILITY & HDI

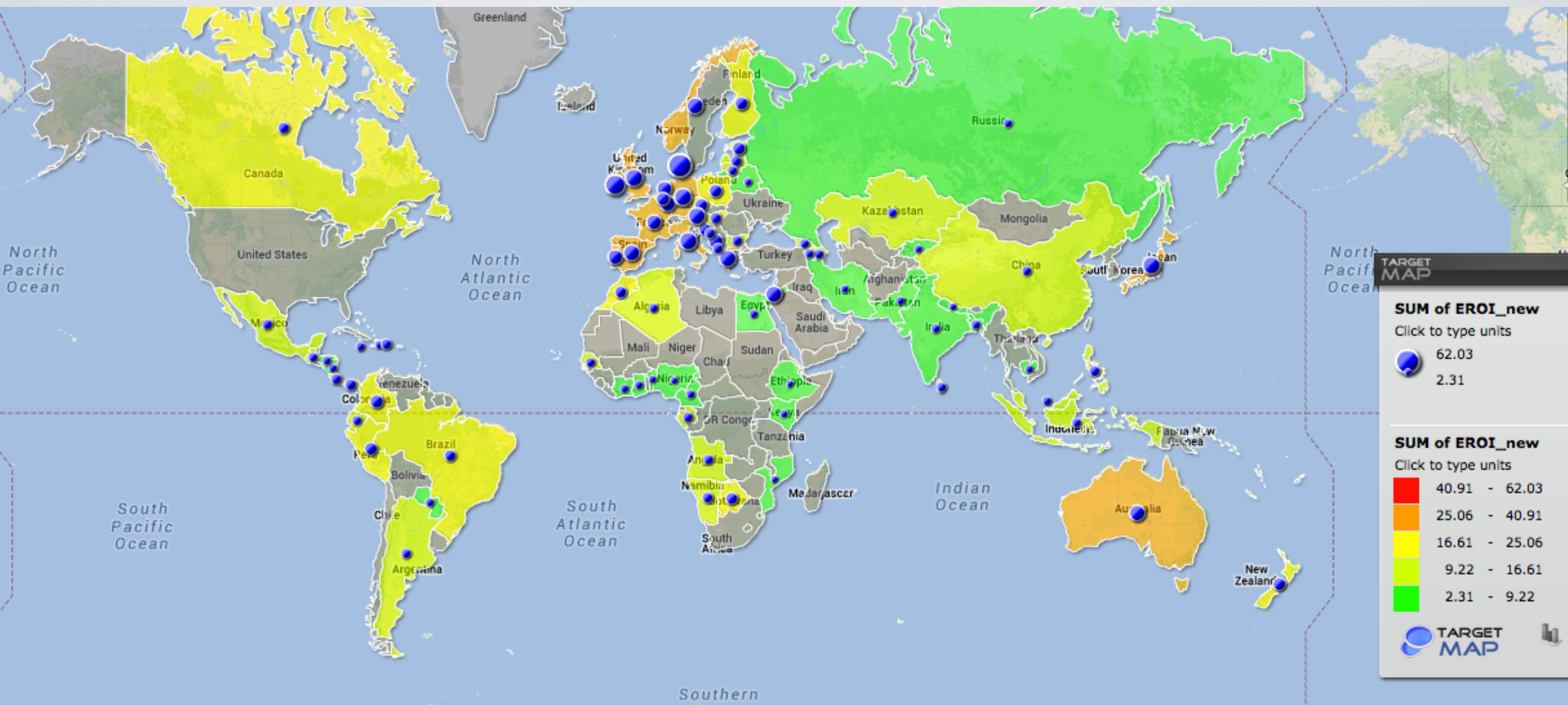


# ENERGY AVAILABILITY & CHILDREN UNDERWEIGHT



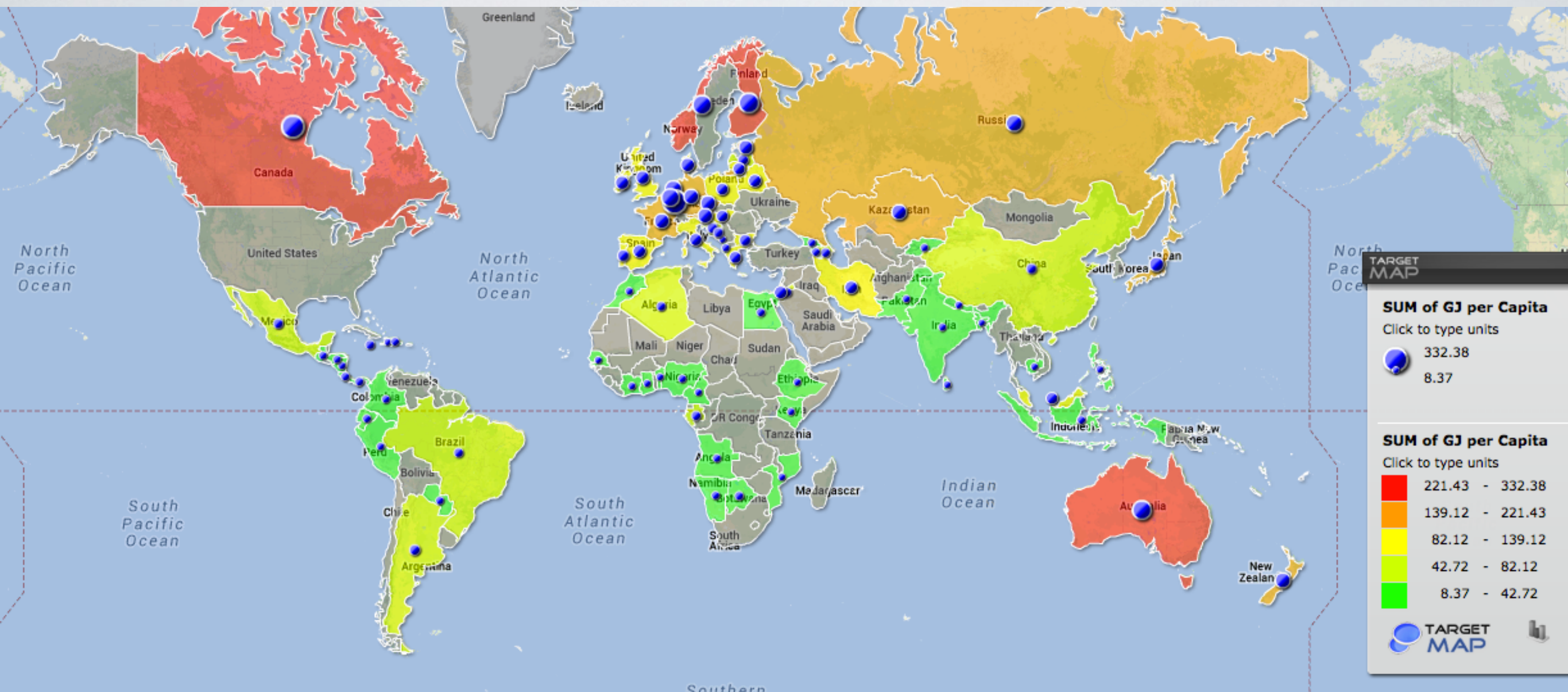


# EROI AND THE WORLD





# ENERGY USE AND THE WORLD

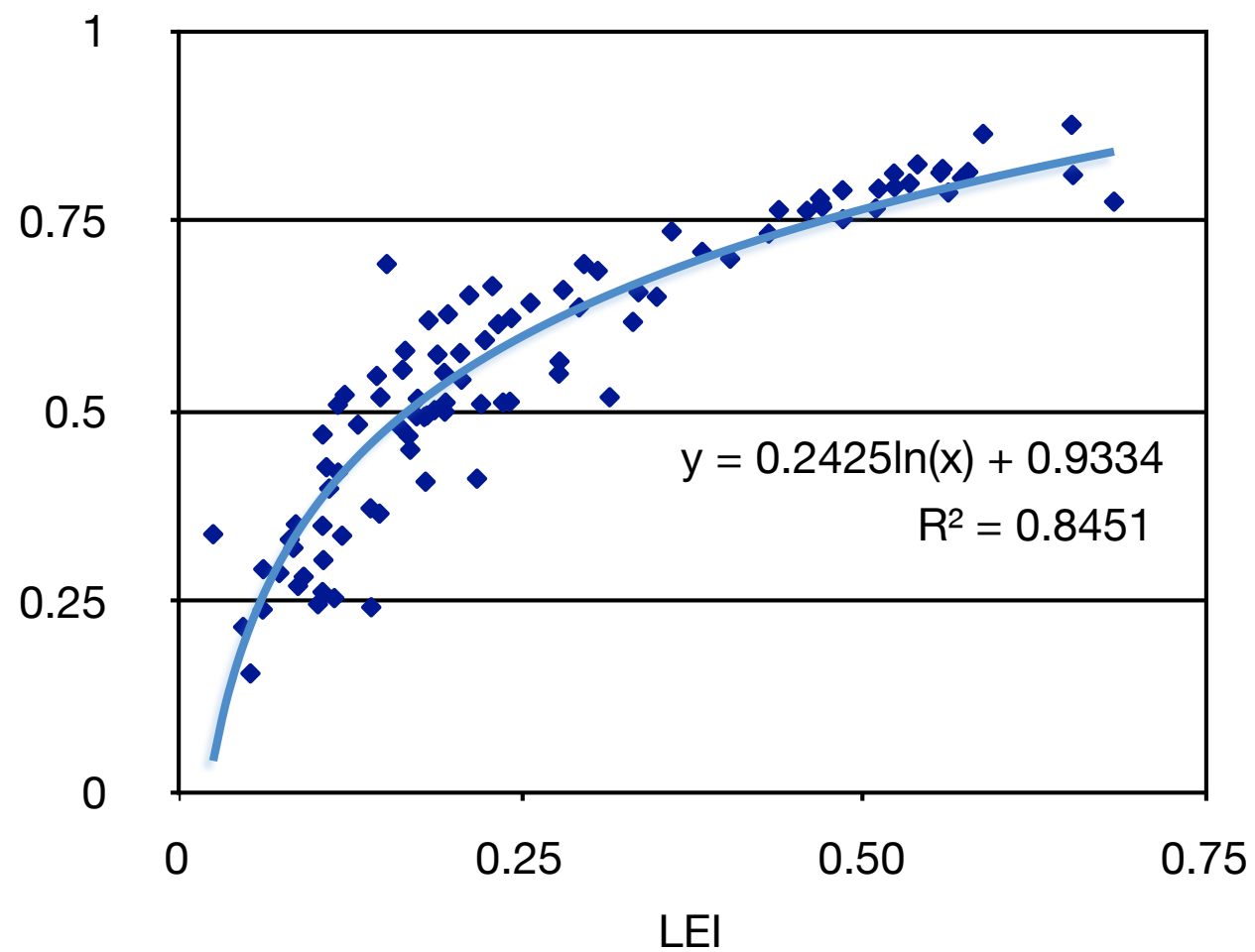




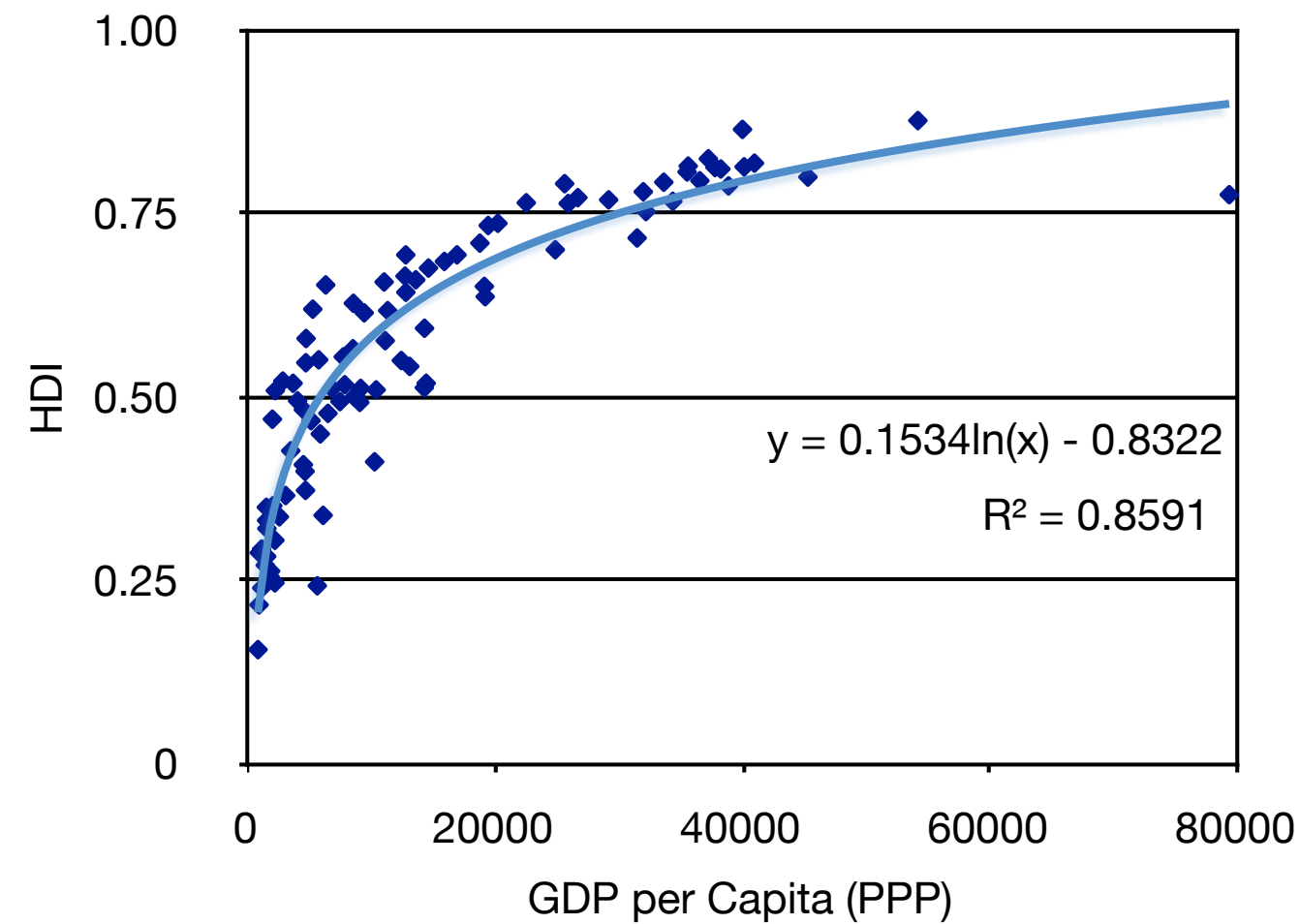


# LEI vs. GDP

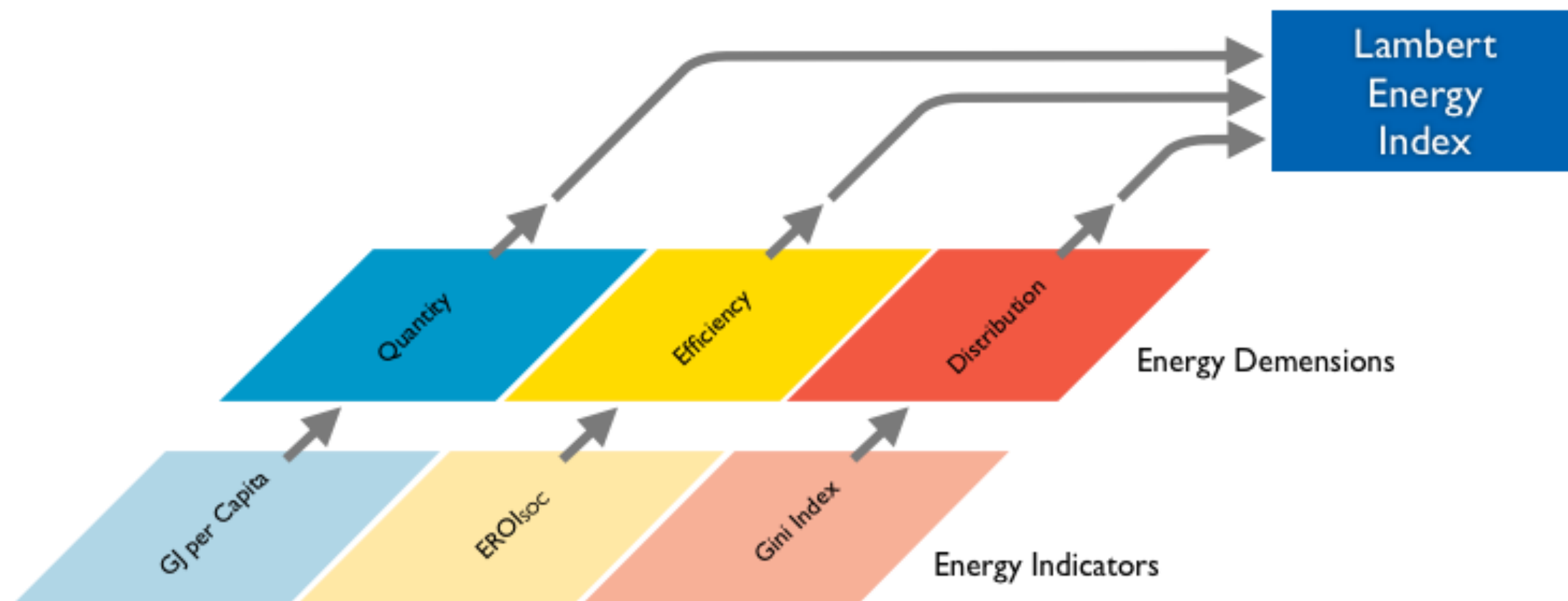
## LEI vs HDI



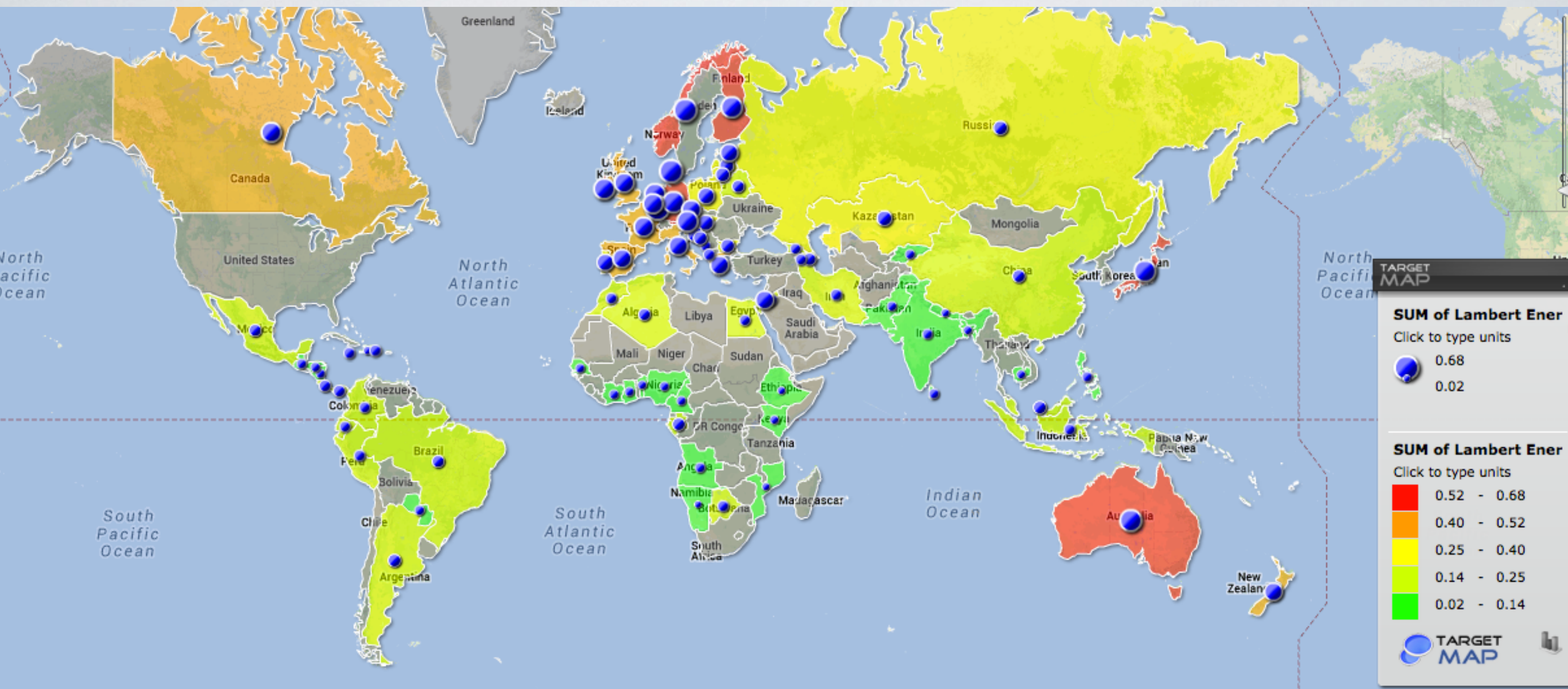
## GDP per Capita vs HDI



# Composite Energy Index

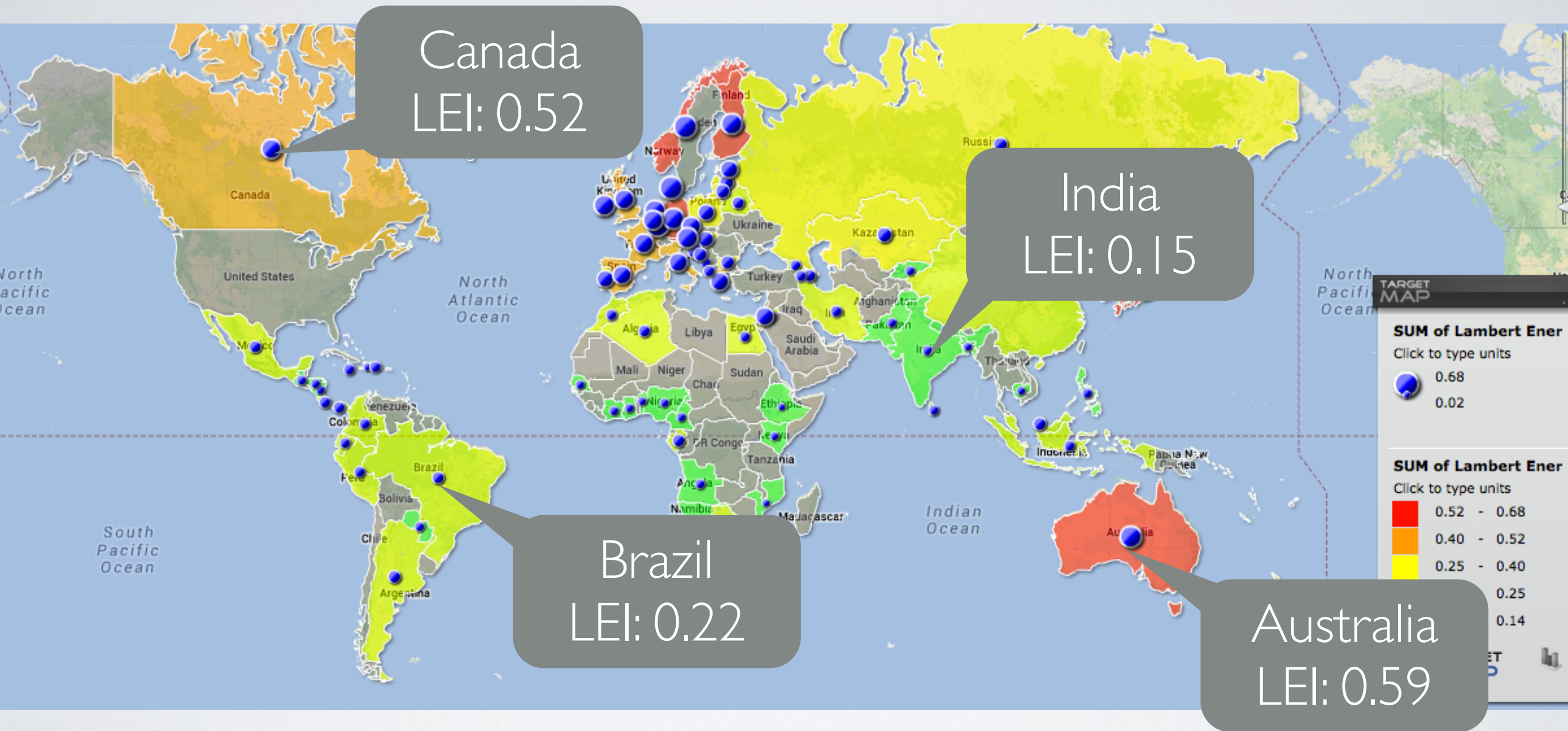


# LEI AND THE WORLD

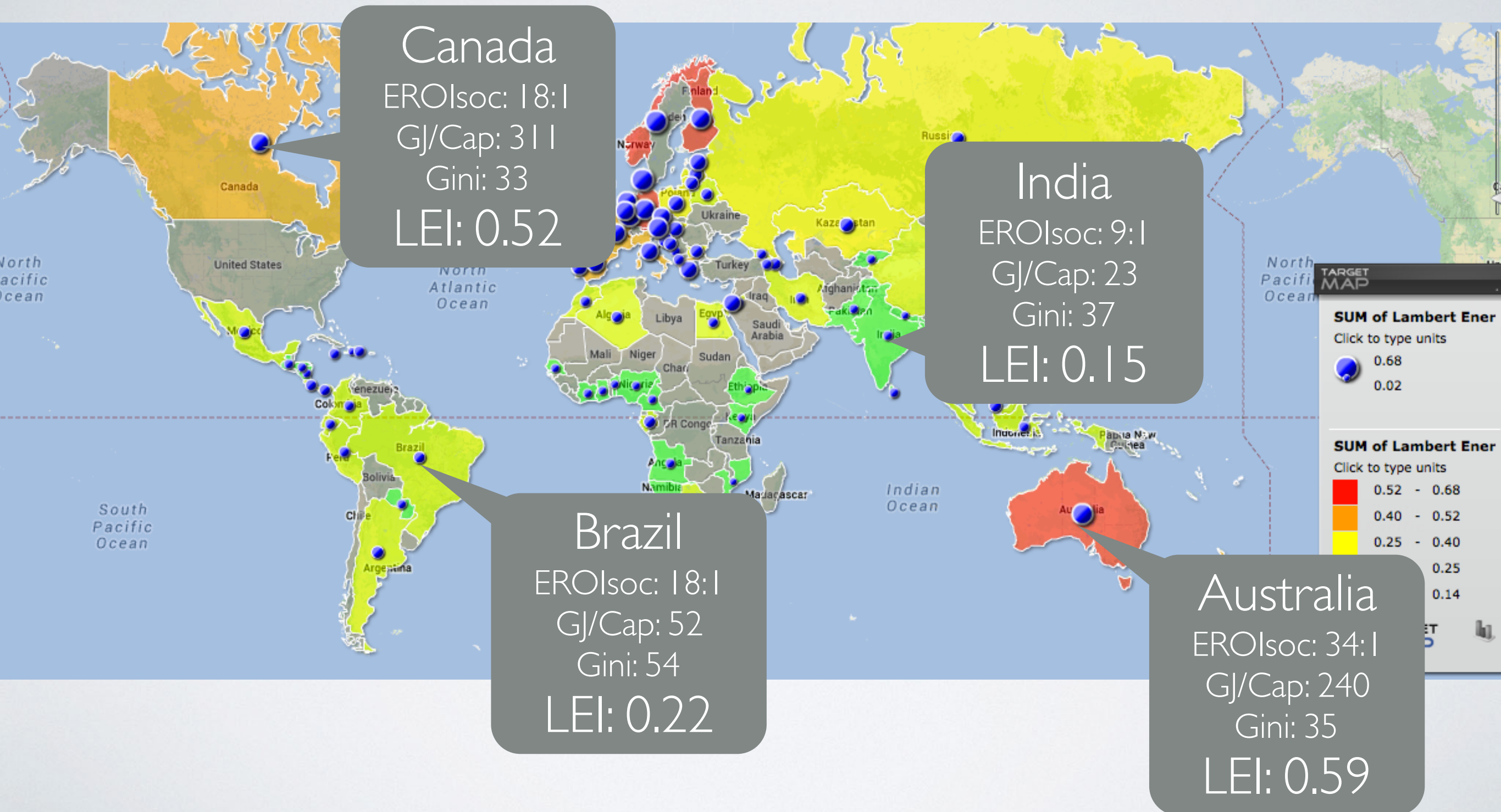




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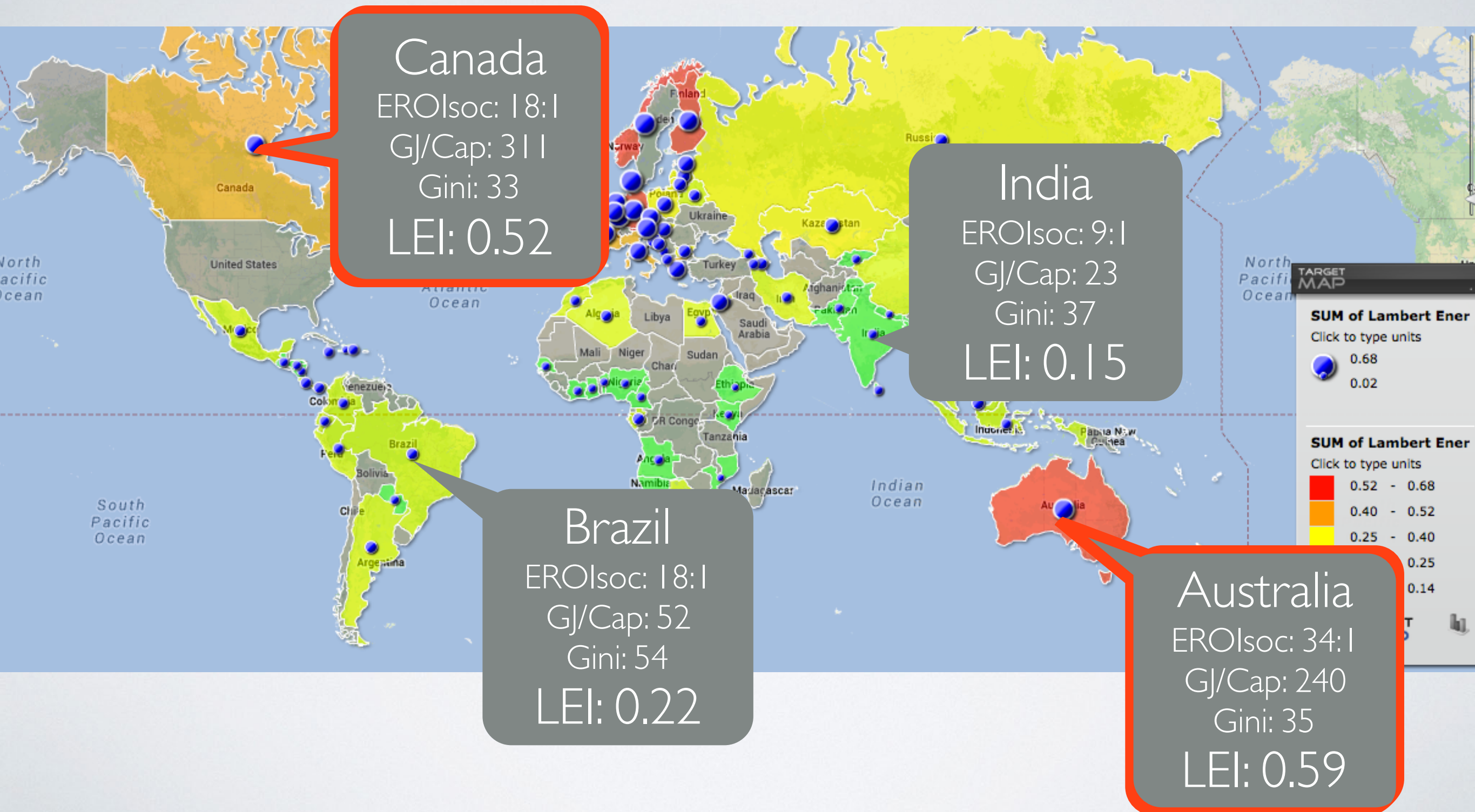


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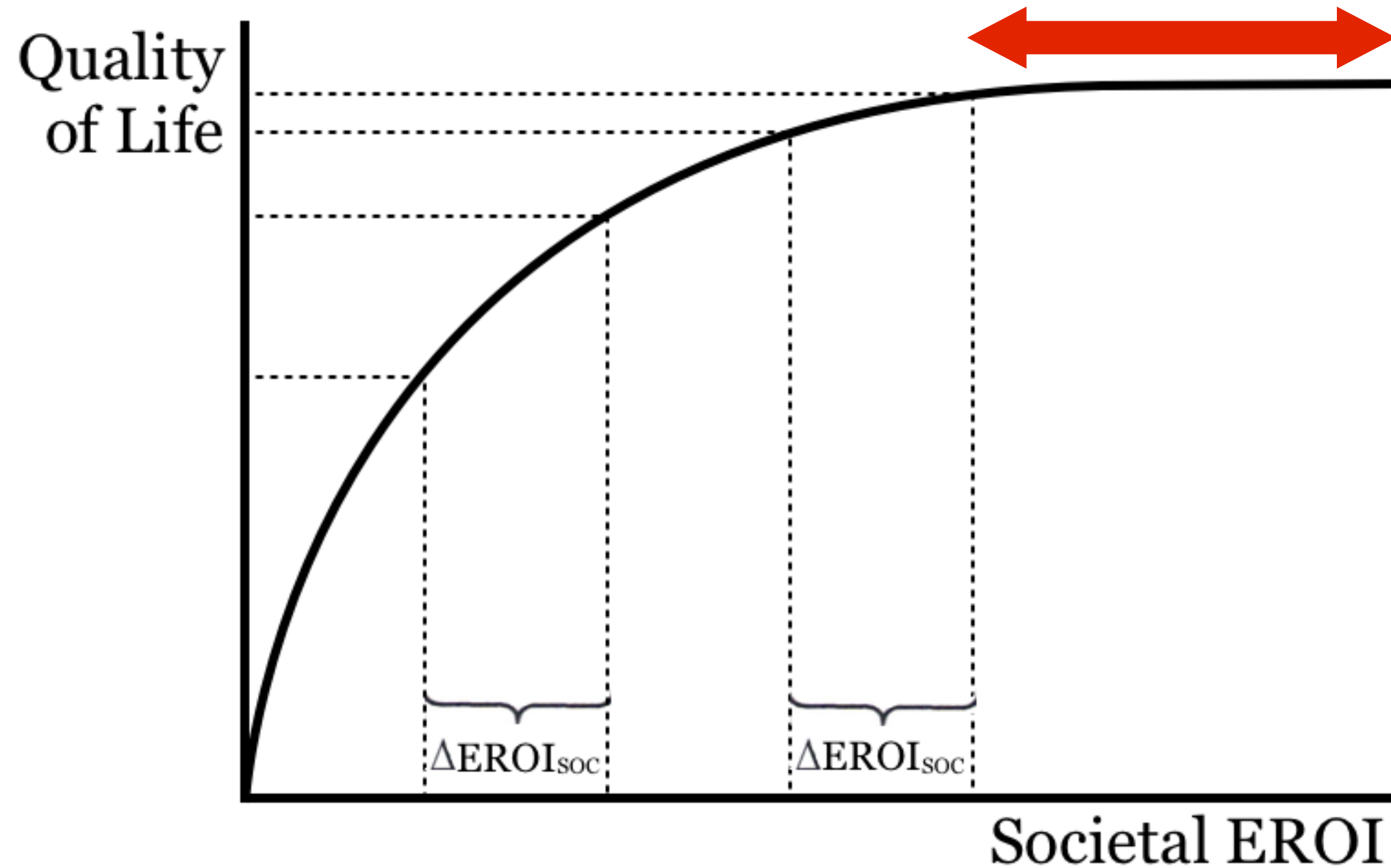




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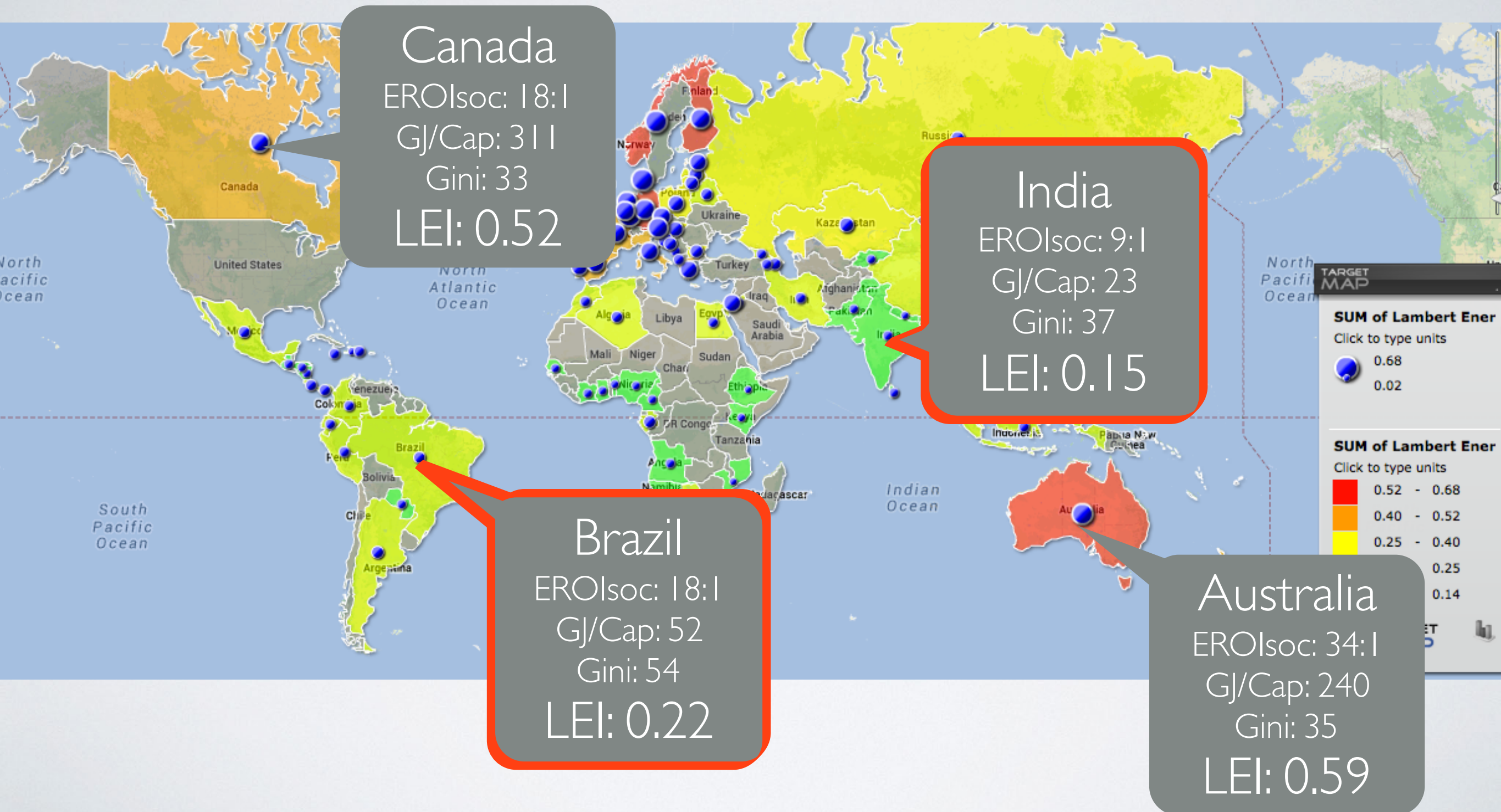


# EROI AND THE DEVELOPED

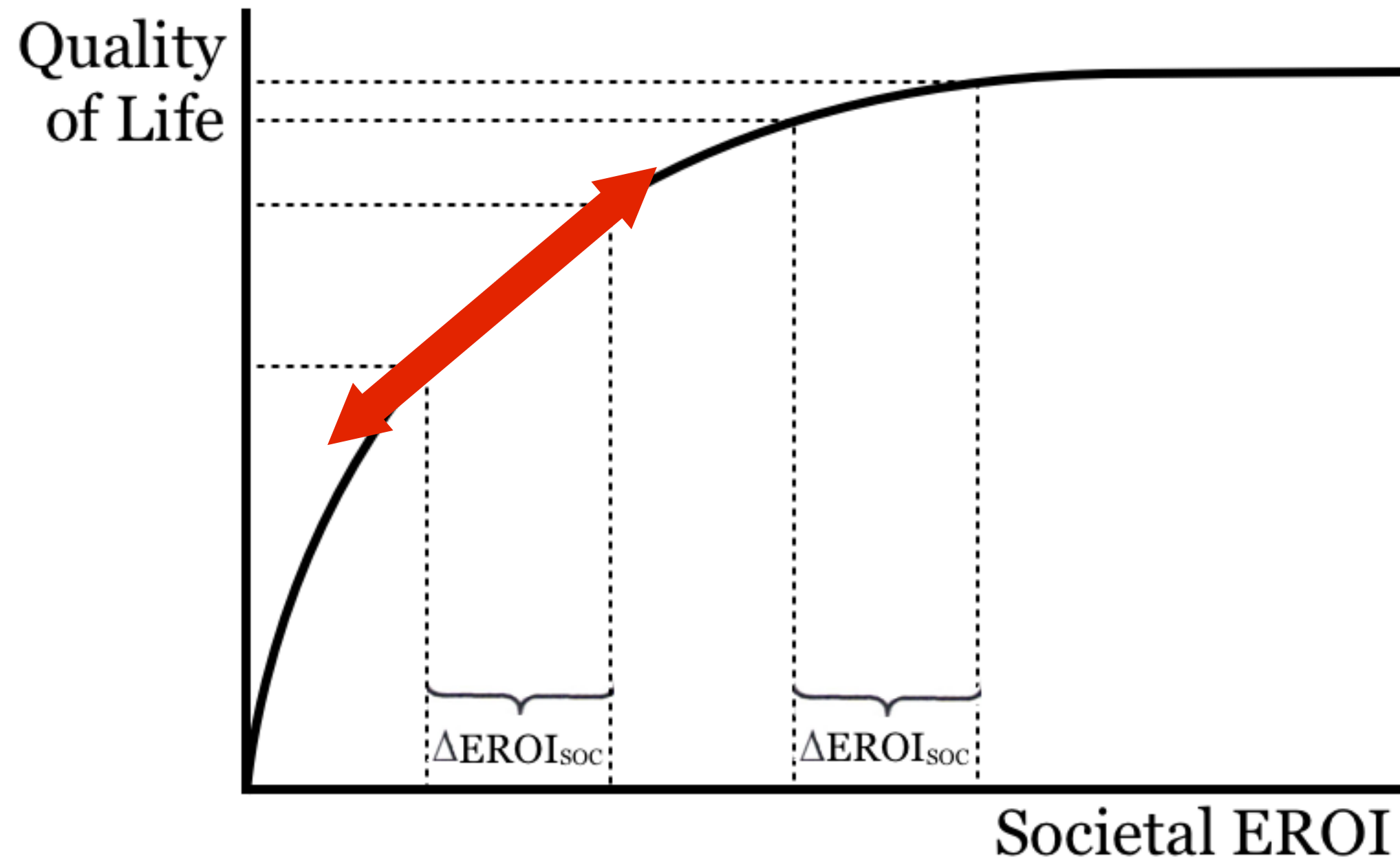




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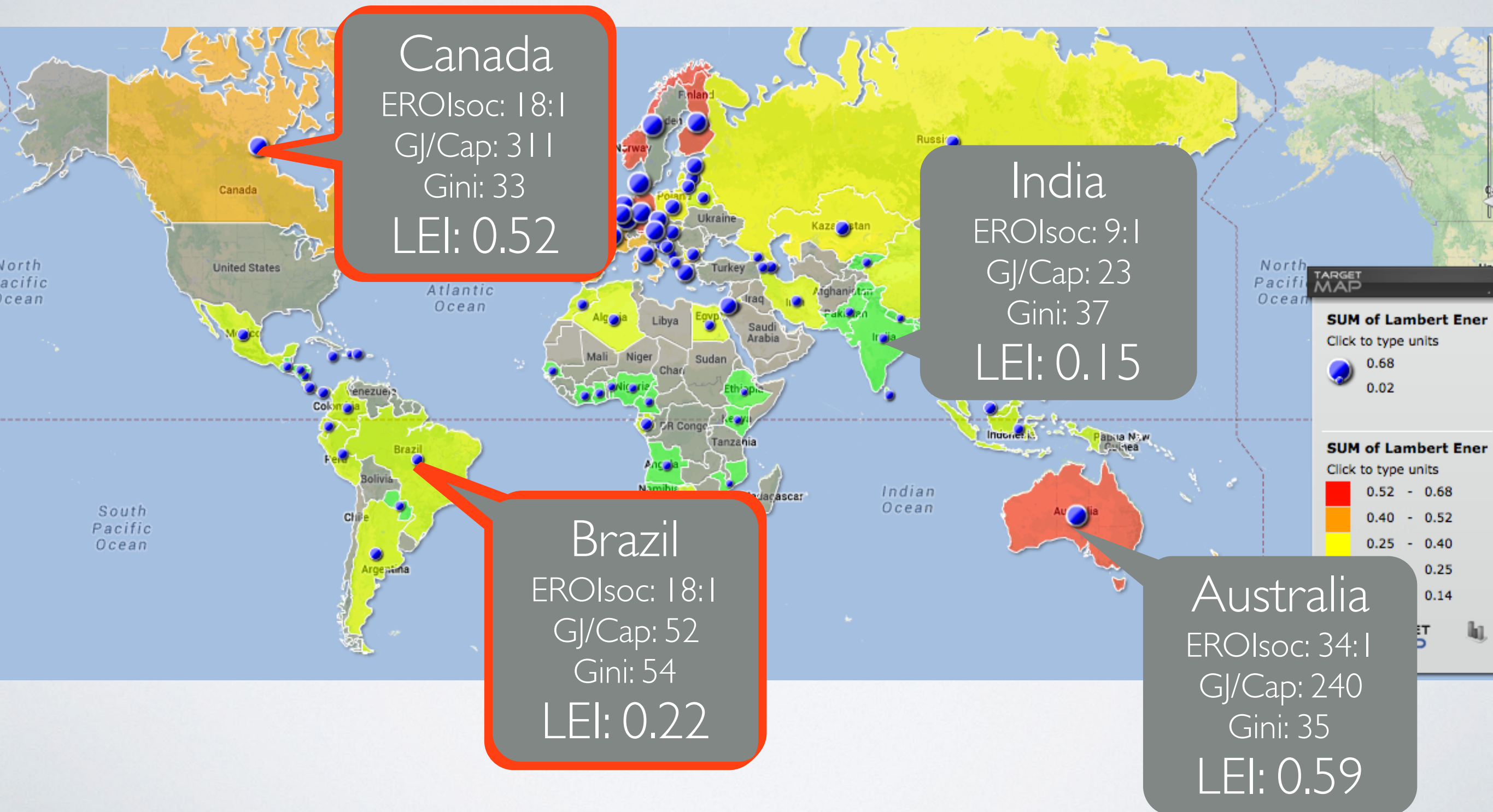


# EROI AND THE DEVELOPING WORLD



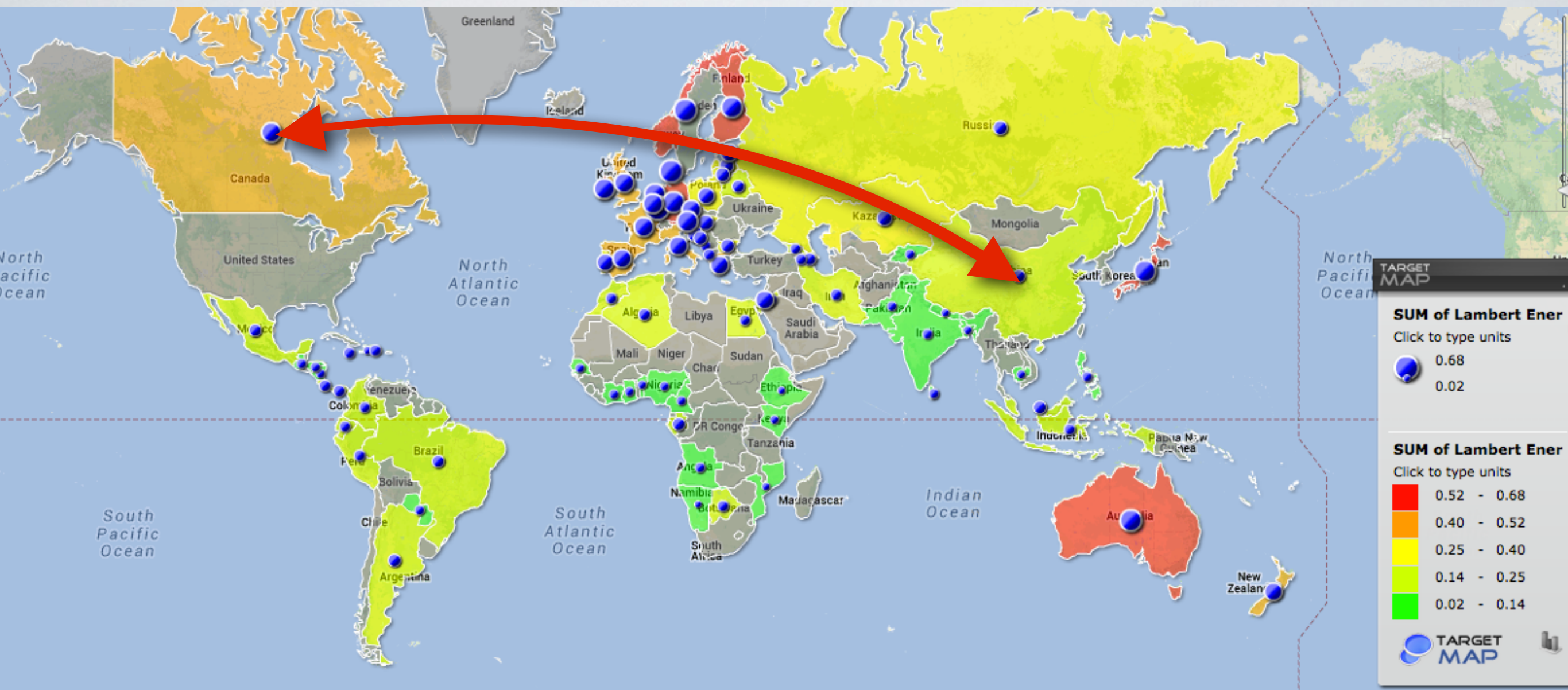


# LEI AND THE WORLD





# LEI AND THE WORLD



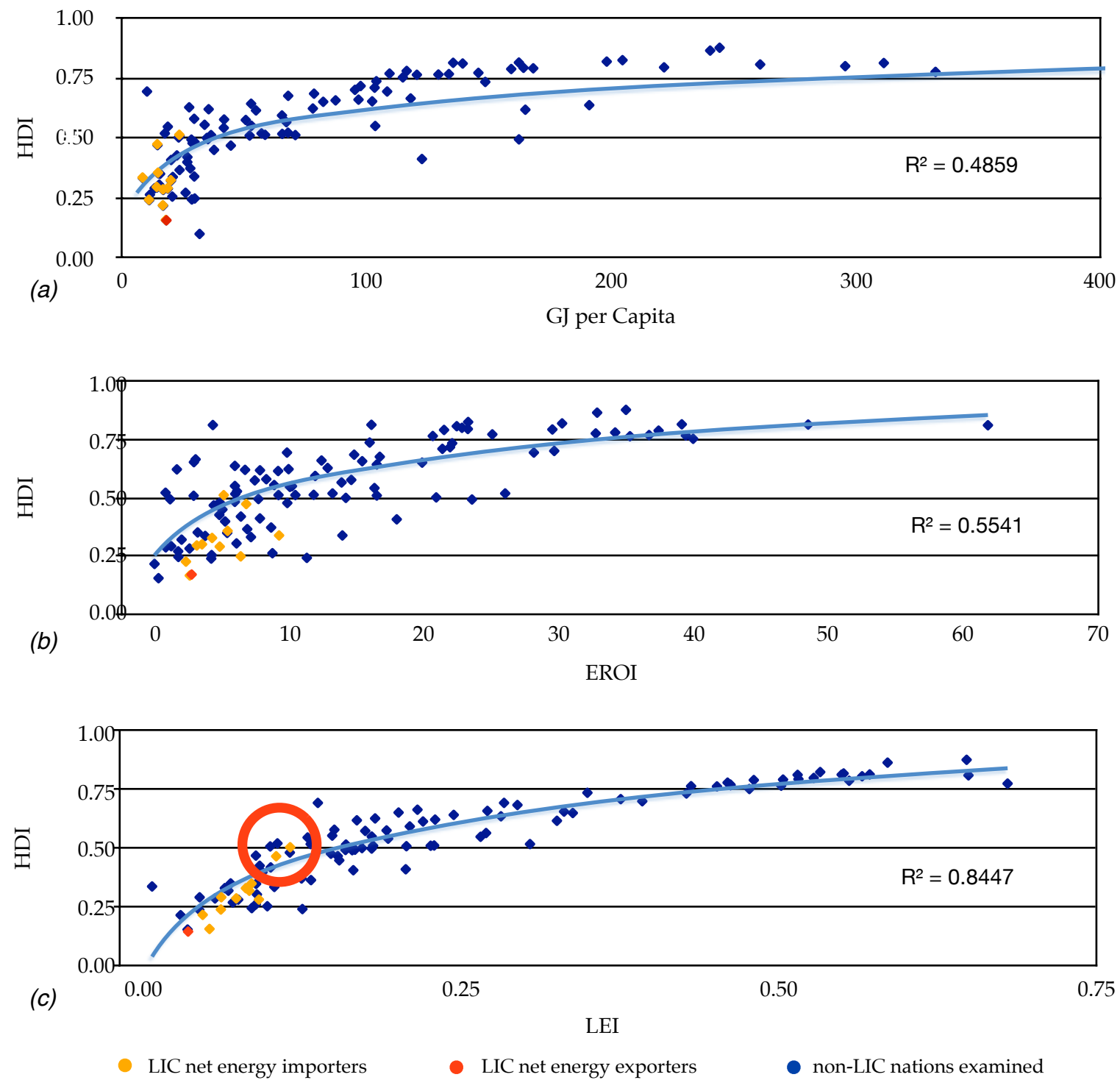
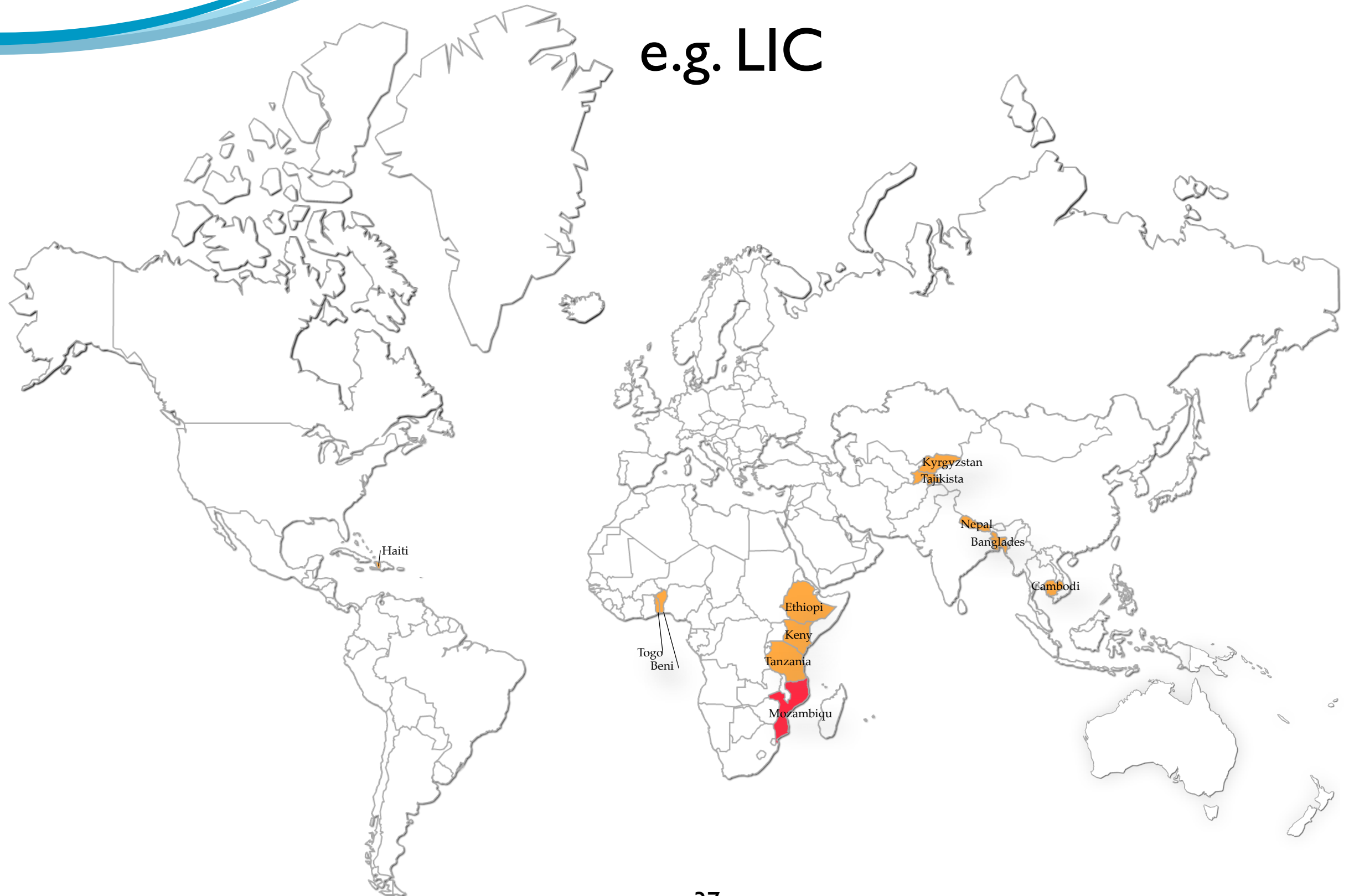


Figure 4.10: Regression of Human Development Index with (a) energy use per capita, (b)  $EROI_{SOC}$  and (c) LEI values for LICs (Lambert et al. 2013).

# Income Classifications

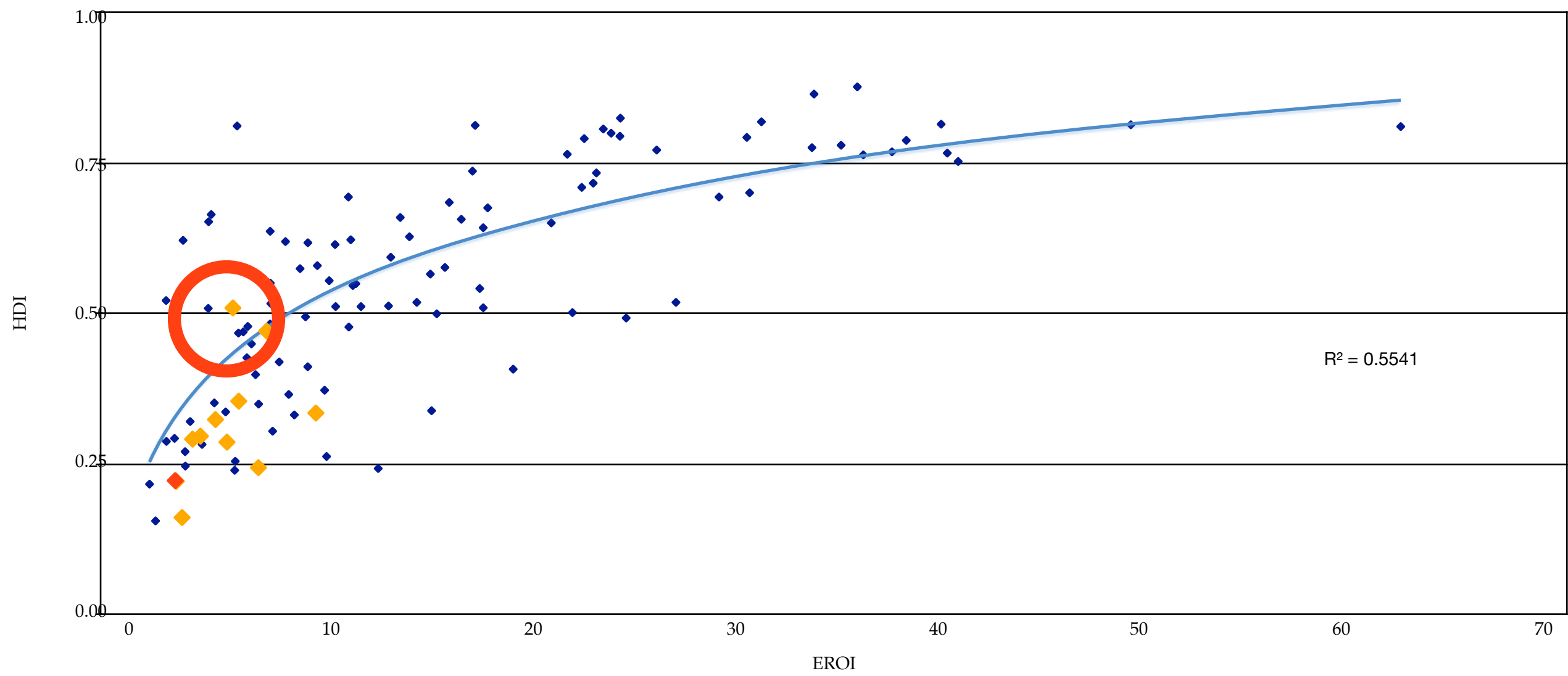
e.g. LIC





# Income Classifications

e.g. LIC





Why?

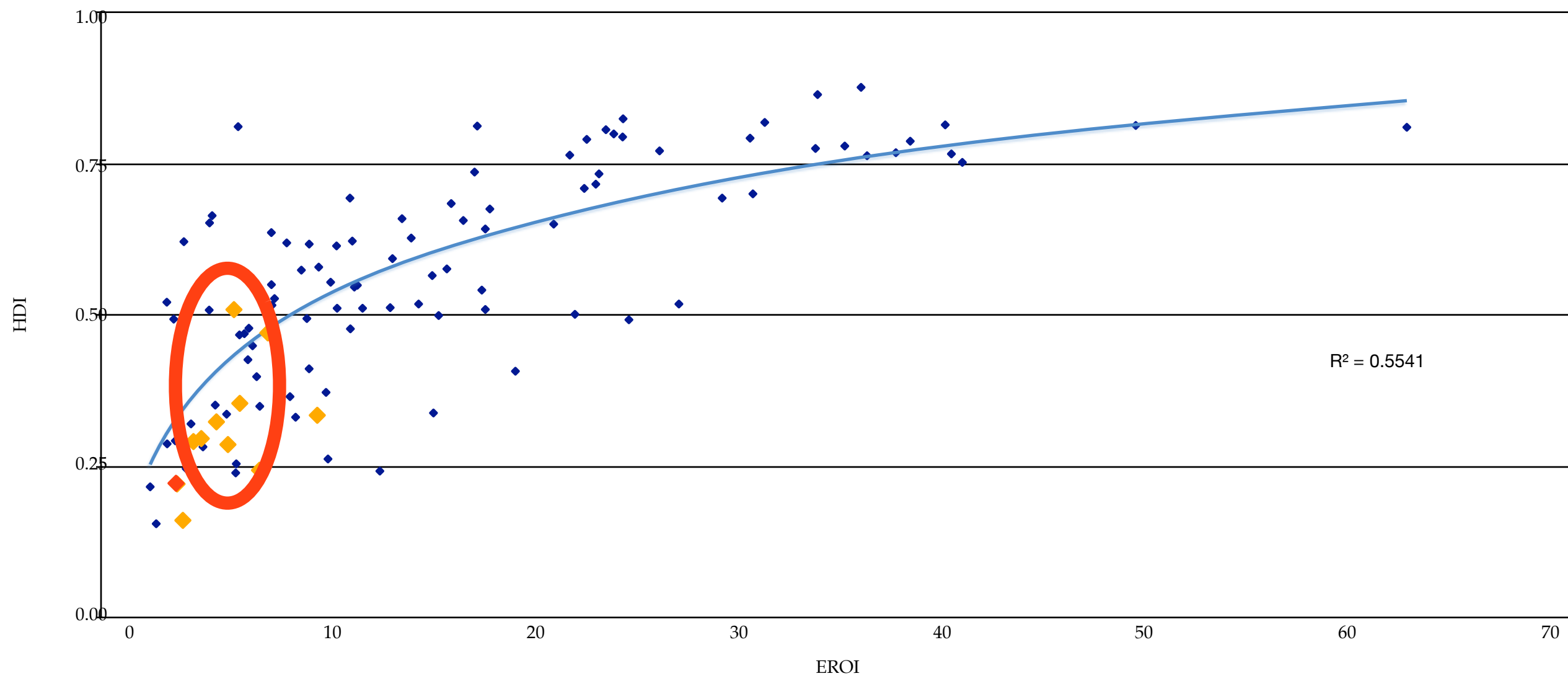




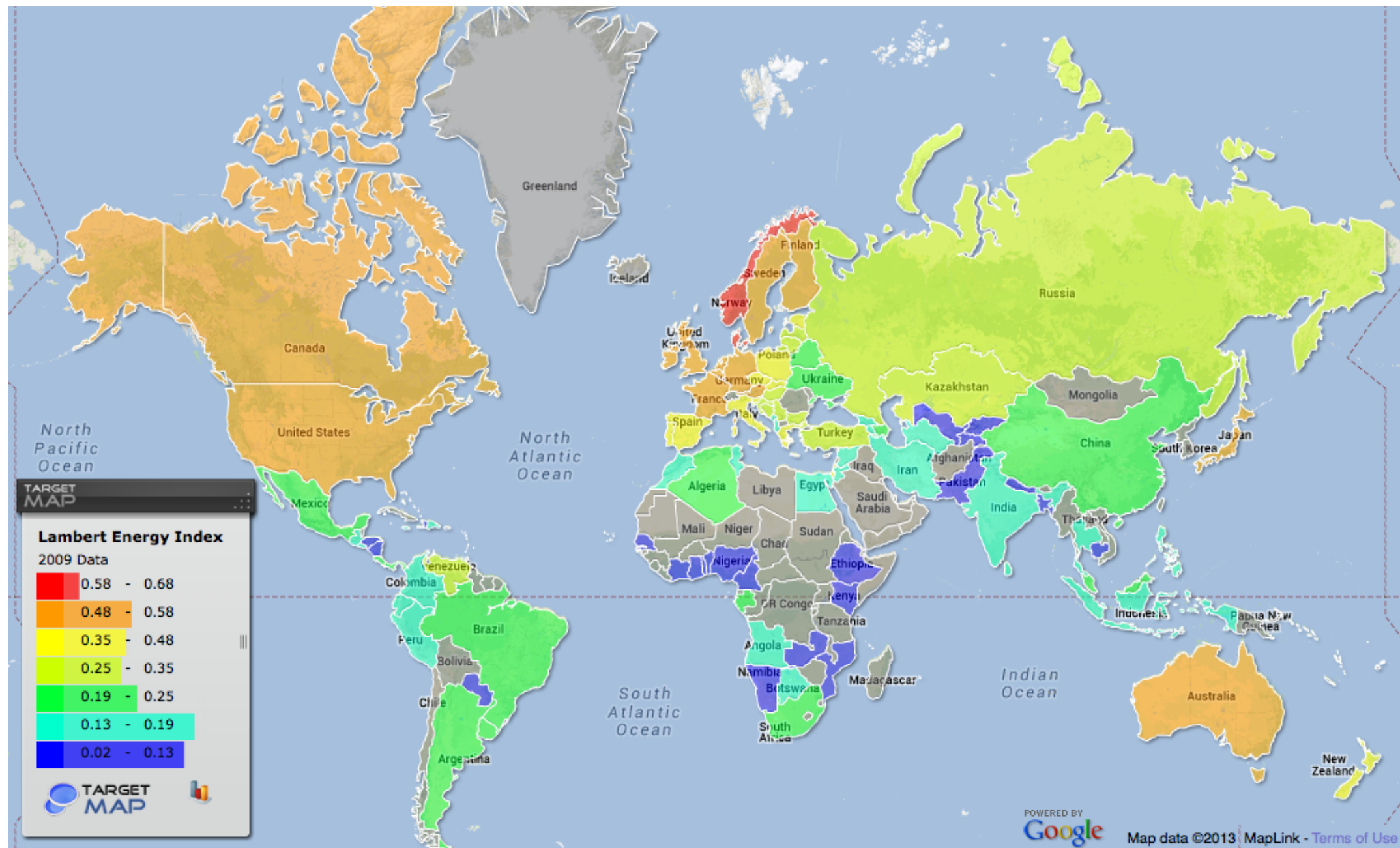
Table 4.2: Summary of energy availability indicators for net energy importing LIC nations (2009).

Country	Energy Use per Capita	EROI <sub>SOC</sub>	Gini-Index	LEI	HDI
Bangladesh	8	9:1	31	0.08	
Benin	17	5:1	39	0.09	0.282
Cambodia	15	5:1	44	0.09	
Ethiopia	16	2:1	30	0.05	0.216
Haiti	11	6:1	60	0.06	
Kenya	20	4:1	48	0.08	
Kyrgyzstan	23	5:1	33	0.12	0.508
Nepal	14	4:1	47	0.06	
Tajikistan	14	7:1	34	0.10	0.469
Tanzania minus Zanzibar	19	3:1	n.a.	n.a.	
Togo	19	3:1	34	0.07	
<b>Mean</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>5:1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0.08</b>	
<b>Median</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>5:1</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0.08</b>	
<b>Standard Deviation</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.02</b>	

Table 4.3: Summary of energy availability indicators for the net energy exporting LIC nation (2009).

Country	Energy Use per Capita	EROI <sub>SOC</sub>	Gini-Index	LEI
Mozambique	18	3:1	46	0.05

## Lambert et al. 2014



# Millennium Development Goals

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improved maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

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8. Develop a global partnership for development

**NO ENERGY?**



## Sustainable Energy for All (initiative of the Secretary-General)



“Universal energy access is a key priority on the global development agenda. It is a foundation for all the Millennium Development Goals.”

~ UN Sec. Gen., Ban Ki-Moon (2010)

“Energy is the principle agent for surmounting poverty, providing education and healthcare services and generating enterprises, which in turn generate employment and incomes.”

~ Lambert et al. 2013

# Sustainable Development Goals

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

# Sustainable Development Goals

- I 1. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
- I 2. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- I 3. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts\*
- I 4. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- I 5. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- I 6. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
- I 7. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



## Goal 7. Ensure energy for all

- 7.1 by 2030 ensure **universal access** to affordable, reliable, and modern energy services
- 7.2 increase substantially the share of **renewable energy** in the global energy mix by 2030
- 7.3 double the global rate of improvement in **energy efficiency** by 2030
- 7.a by 2030 enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technologies, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, and advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, and **promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technologies**
- 7.b by 2030 **expand infrastructure and upgrade technology** for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries



## Poverty Headcount

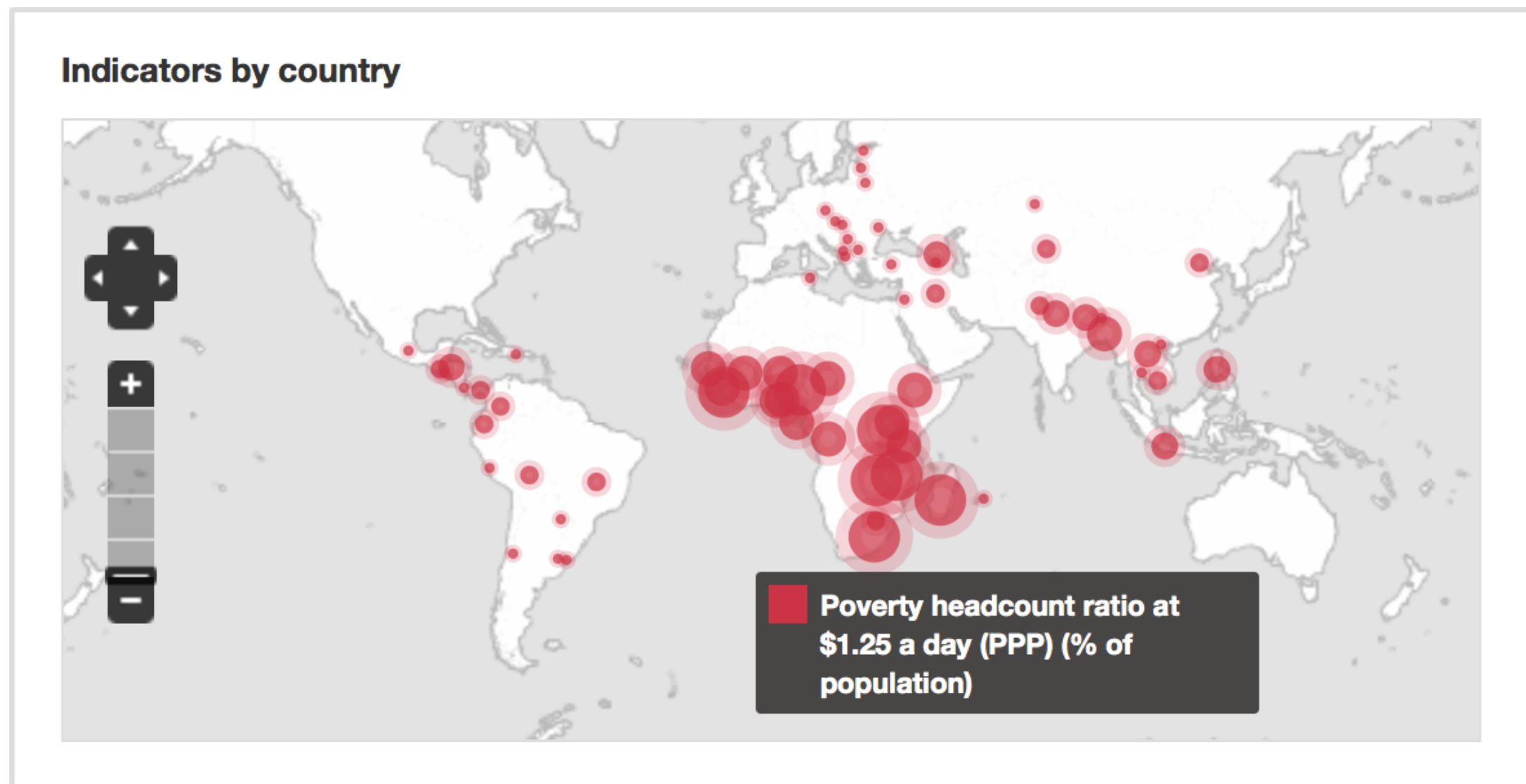


Image: world bank

## Value Lost do to Electrical Outages



Image: world bank

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Image: world bank

## Fragile and conflict

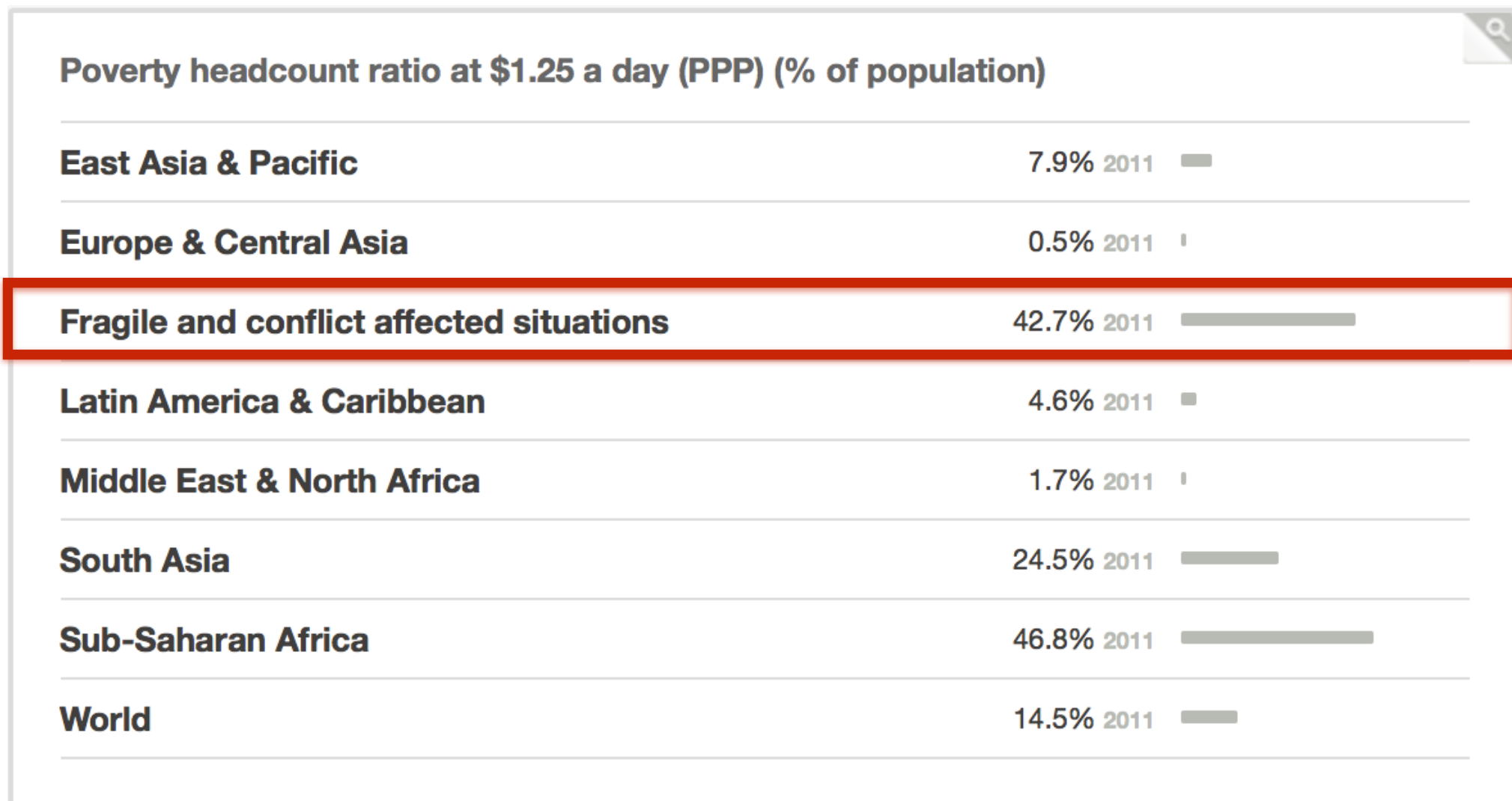


Image: world bank





## Findings

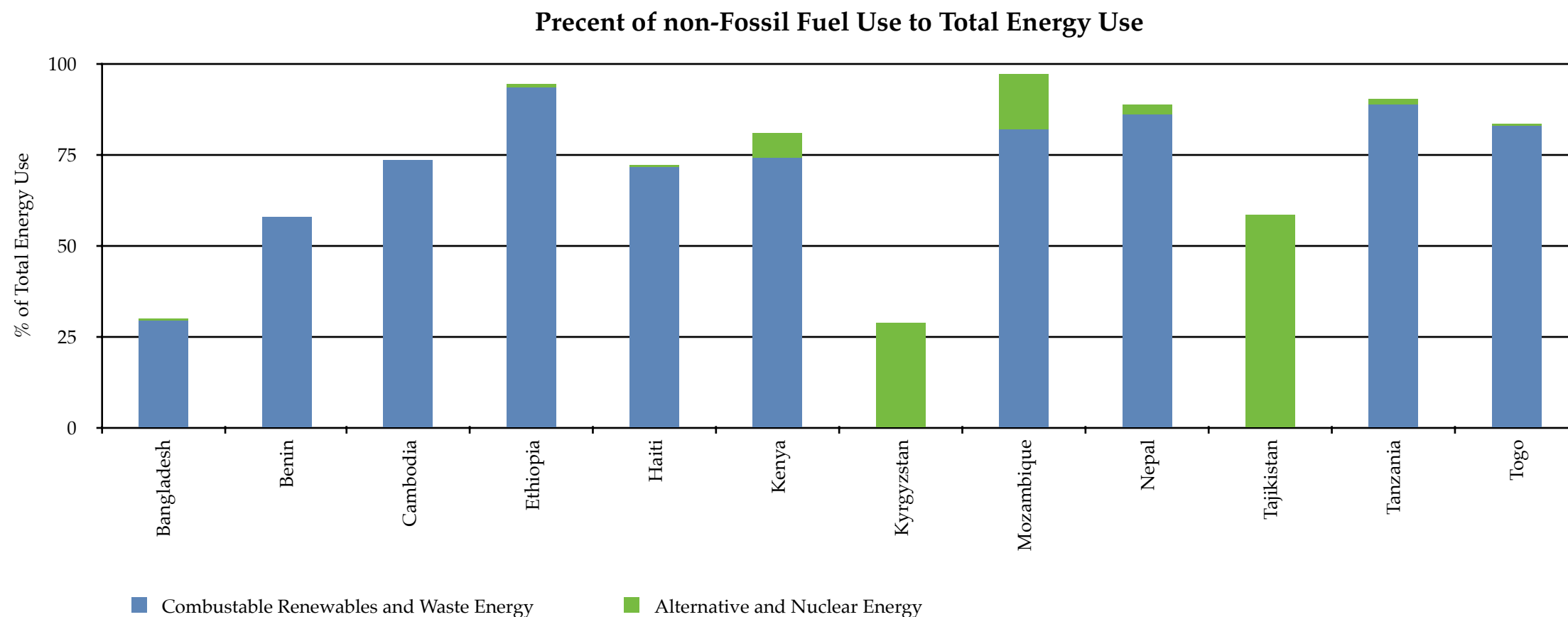
Most LICs examined within this study currently acquire greater than 75% of their energy from renewable combustibles and waste, inherently **low EROI fuels**.

The remaining 25% of their necessary energy is currently attained via imported **fossil fuel, usually oil**. Ever increasing prices of non-domestic fossil fuel result in trade deficits making this practice increasingly unsustainable over the long run.

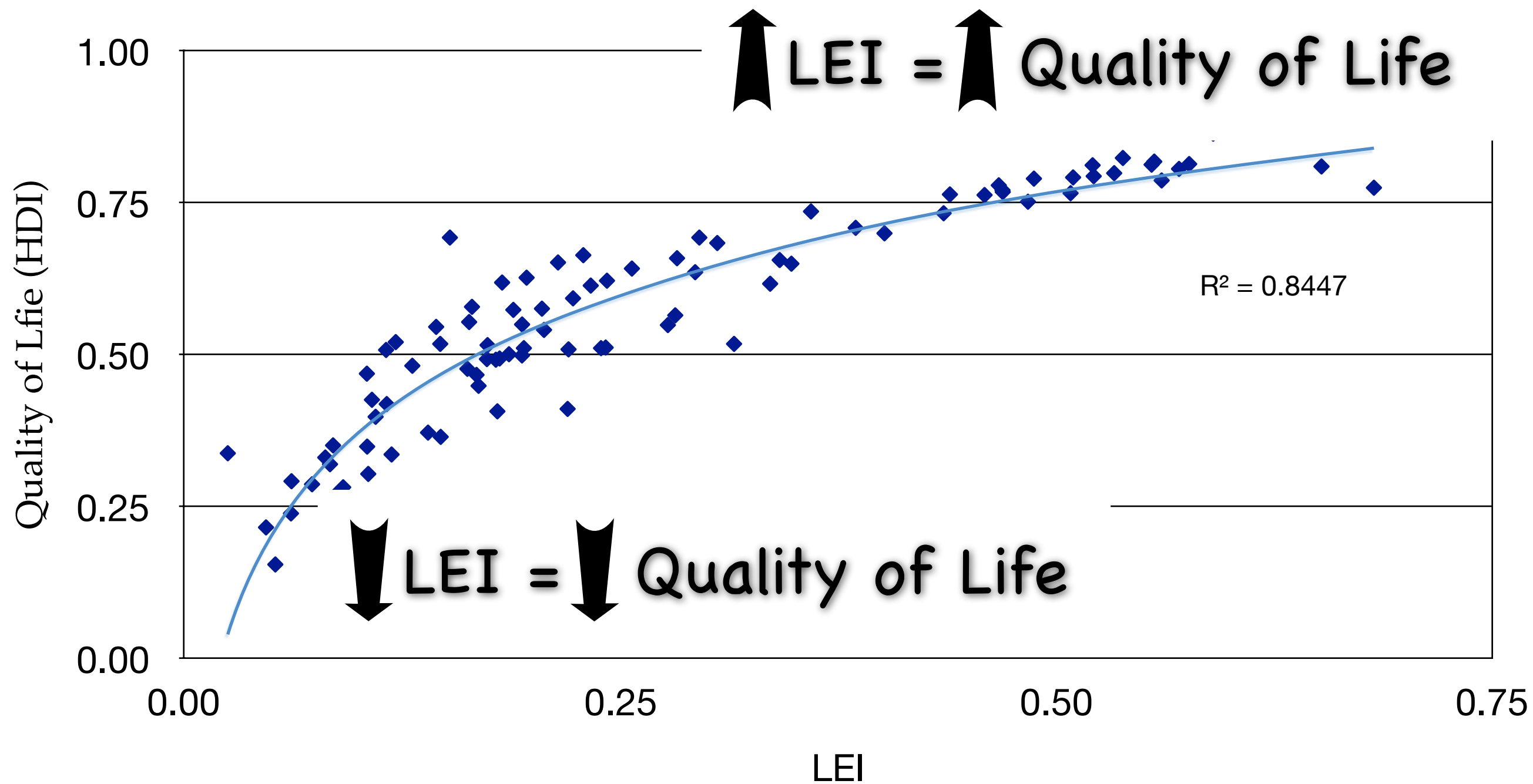
These countries are often not considered economically viable. As a result, they have **difficulty obtaining foreign financial investment**.

Most LICs are currently experiencing a relatively **high population growth rate**. Renewable energy resources are already strained and are not likely to keep pace with population growth.

# Energy /EROI makes the Difference



- they have lower population density
- lower population growth rates
- high EROI domestic energy



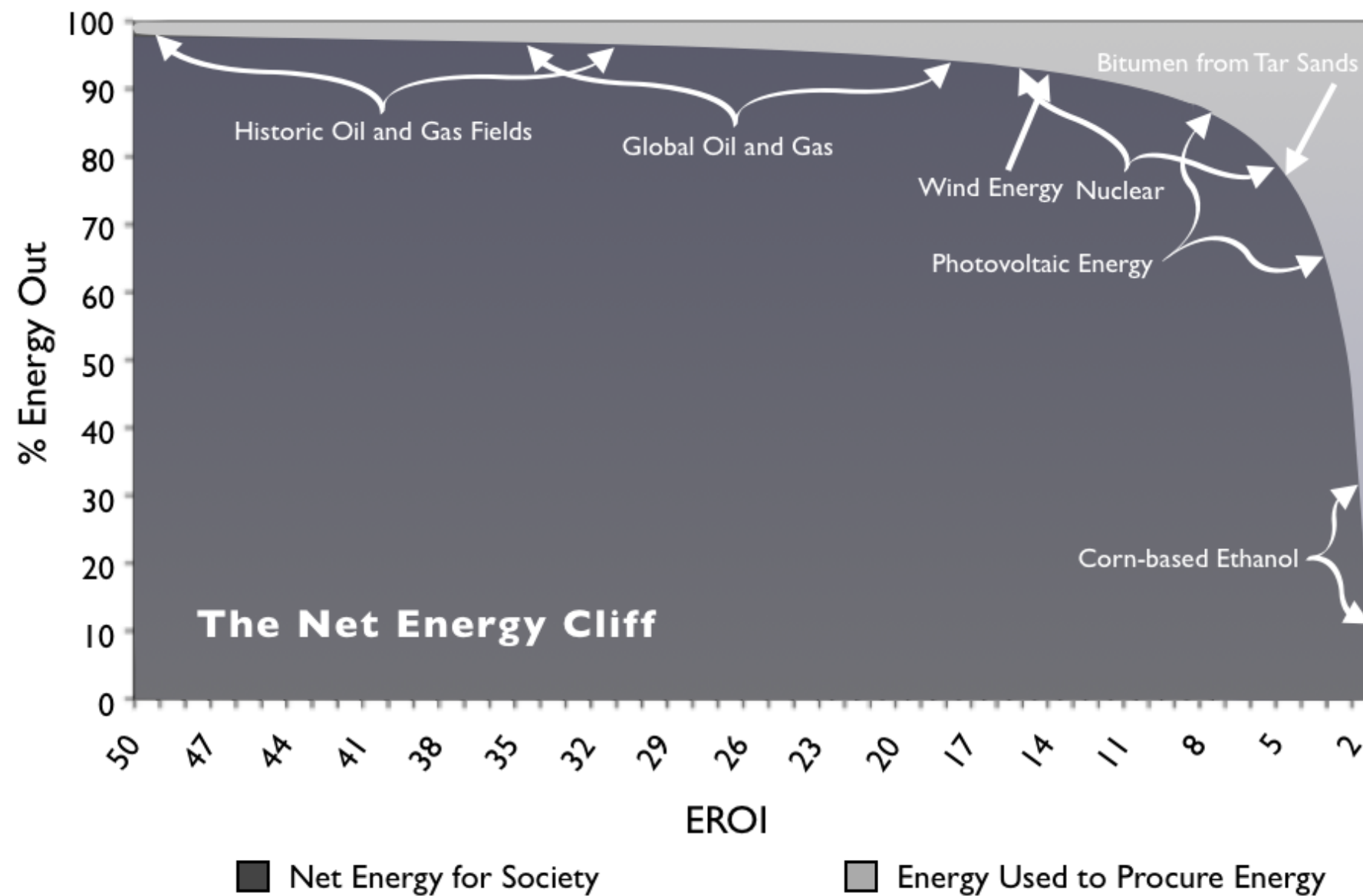


## Discrepancy

- Forum of Energy Ministers of Africa (FEMA) states that 20 billion USD per year (roughly twice the historic levels of financing) is required to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for African nations.
- The electricity sector will account for 20% (\$4 billion USD per year) of the estimated aid requirements (FEMA, 2006).
- Foreign direct investment (FDI) into Africa has been low.
- Foreign direct investment for all LICs makes up less than 1% of global investment (World Bank, 2012)

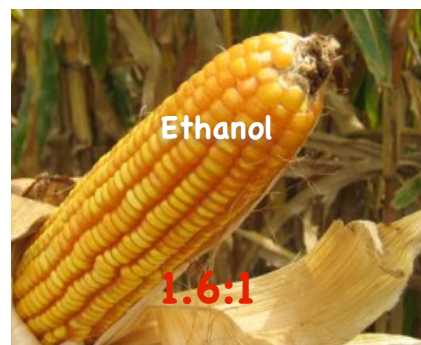
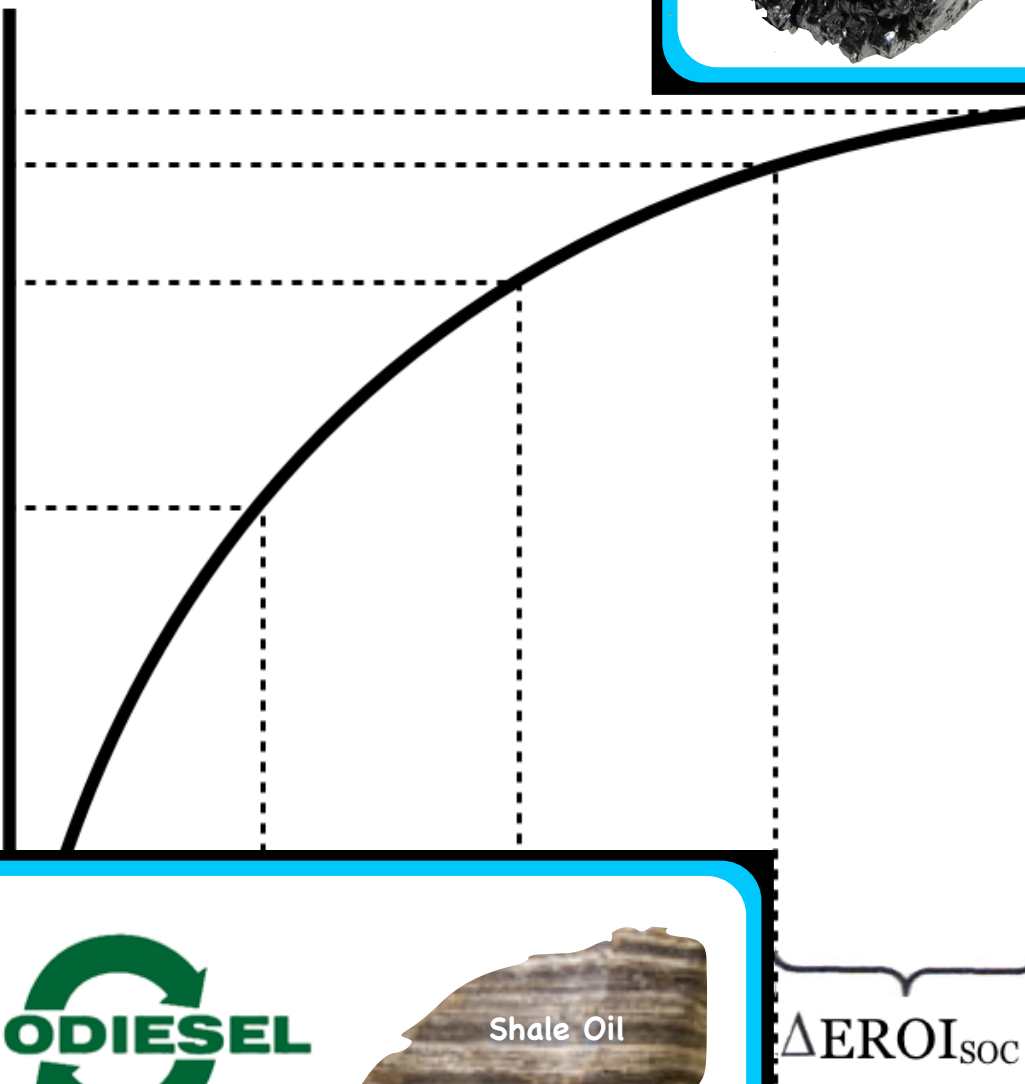


# What does this mean for society?





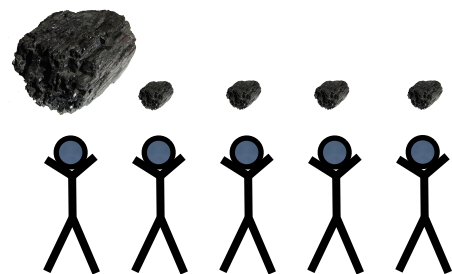
Quality  
of Life



Societal EROI

# Policy Implications

Low

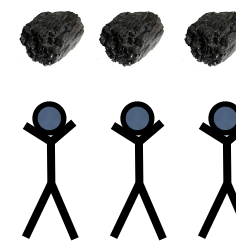


EROIsoc

Quantity

Distribution

High



# THE IMPLICATIONS FOR ALL NATIONS

Three major findings that would appear to impact values for all nations are:

- EROIsoc of  $<15\text{-}25:1$ ,  $<100$  GJ per capita,  $<0.15\text{-}0.20$  LEI tend to have a poor to moderate “quality of life”.
- A threshold is passed with an EROIsoc  $20\text{-}30:1$ ,  $100\text{-}200$  GJ per capita,  $0.2\text{-}0.4$  LEI which is correlated with a “higher” (e.g. an HDI index of above 0.7) standard of living.
- This improvement in well-being appears to level off at EROIsoc values  $>30:1$ ,  $>200$  GJ per capita,  $0.4$  LEI. There is no additional improvement in societal well-being above these levels.



## Message ...

*“Lopsided aid efforts, directed at improving quality of life without providing aid for the development and improvement of energy infrastructure appear to meet with limited success.”*



## Message ...

*“Policies developed with the purpose of improving the human condition within a society may have little impact on a society’s well-being without accompanying increases in per capita net energy delivered to that society.”*



# Questions and Comments