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# The 2015 triennial review of the list of least developed countries

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# Presentation Structure

1. Background
2. The LDC criteria
3. Inclusion and graduation procedures
4. Data and thresholds
5. Outcome



# 1. BACKGROUND

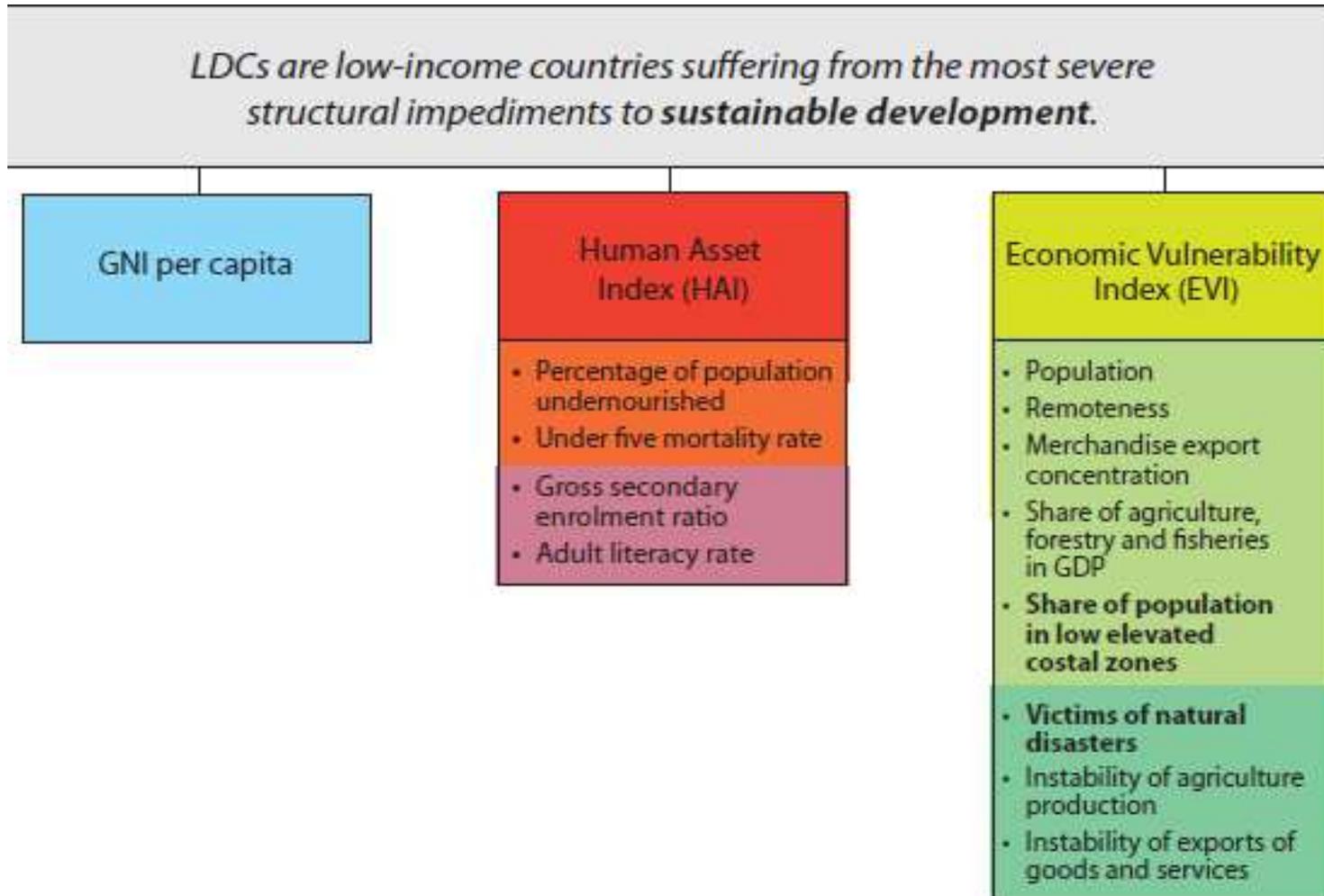
# Identifying LDCs

- The **CDP** recommends to ECOSOC countries to include and to graduate from LDC category
  - Since 1991, recommendations on basis of triennial reviews
- **ECOSOC** endorses the recommendations
- **General Assembly** confirms
  
- The triennial review is based on specific **criteria** and **application procedures**
- The criteria have been developed and refined by the **CDP**
- The criteria and procedures have been endorsed by **ECOSOC** and the **GA**



## 2. THE LDC CRITERIA

# Indicators of the LDC criteria



# Application of criteria

- Data collected for all UN member States in developing regions
  - 145 countries in total
  - Full data coverage achieved
  - Data from international organisations
- Indicator values (if necessary) and index scores calculated by CDP Secretariat
- All data available on CDP website:
  - [http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/ldc/ldc\\_data.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/ldc/ldc_data.shtml)



# 3. INCLUSION AND GRADUATION PROCEDURES

# Inclusion procedures

- Country meets the inclusion thresholds for **all three criteria**
- No automatic recommendation, country circumstances to be taken into account
- **Country must agree** to its inclusion
- Inclusion is **effective immediate** after General Assembly takes note of recommendation

Outcome in 2015:

- **No recommendations for inclusion**

# Graduation procedures

- Country passes thresholds of **any 2 criteria**

- GNI and HAI; or
- GNI and EVI; or
- HAI and EVI.

Or:

- Income > twice income graduation threshold
- Not mechanic: **impact assessment, vulnerability profile, country views** taken into account

# Graduation procedures (cont.)

- Country needs to be eligible in two consecutive reviews before any recommendation is made
- Graduation becomes effective after a transition period (normally three years)
  - Allows country to prepare for graduation
- After graduation, partners should not withdraw LDC support abruptly

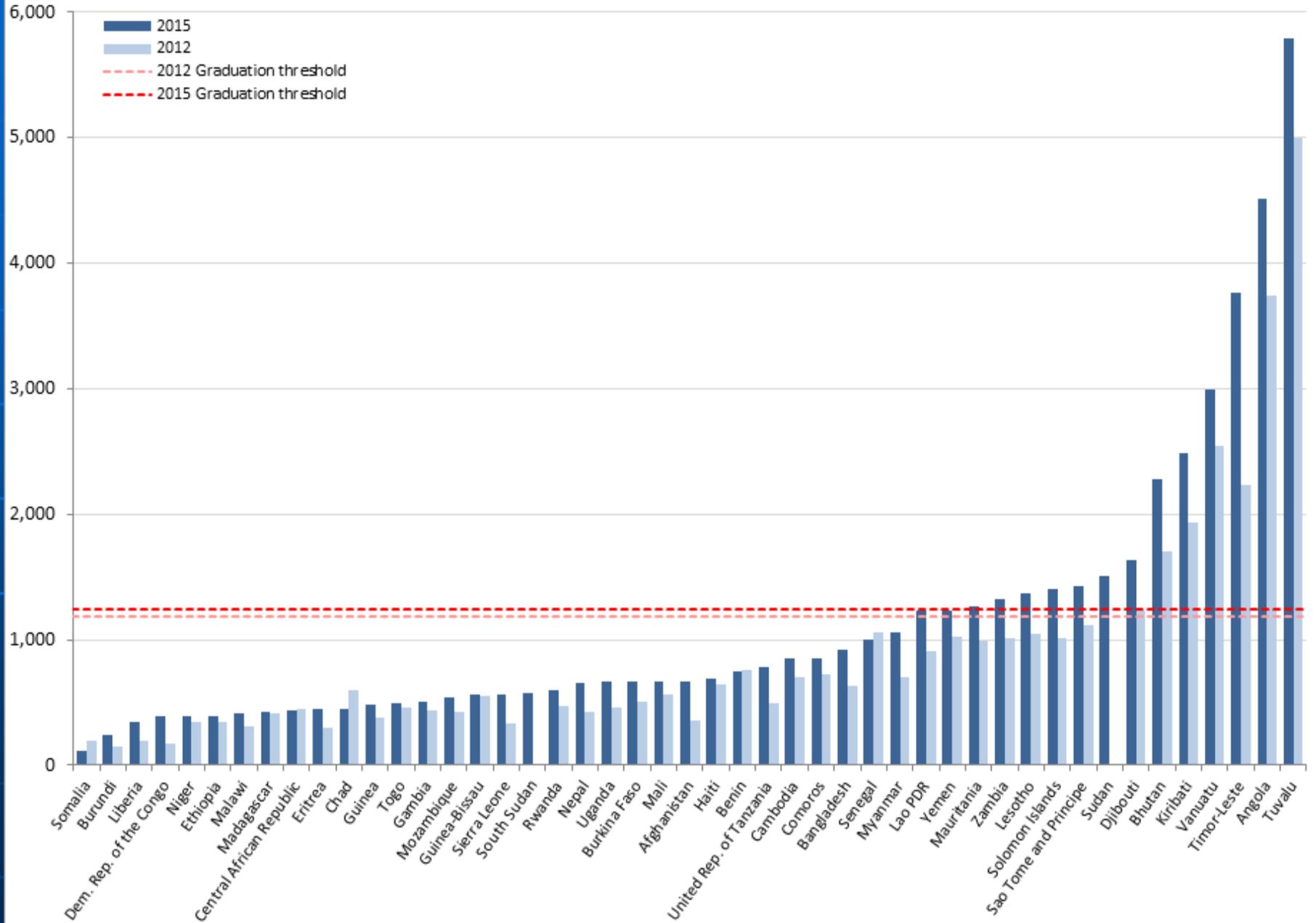


# 4. DATA AND THRESHOLDS

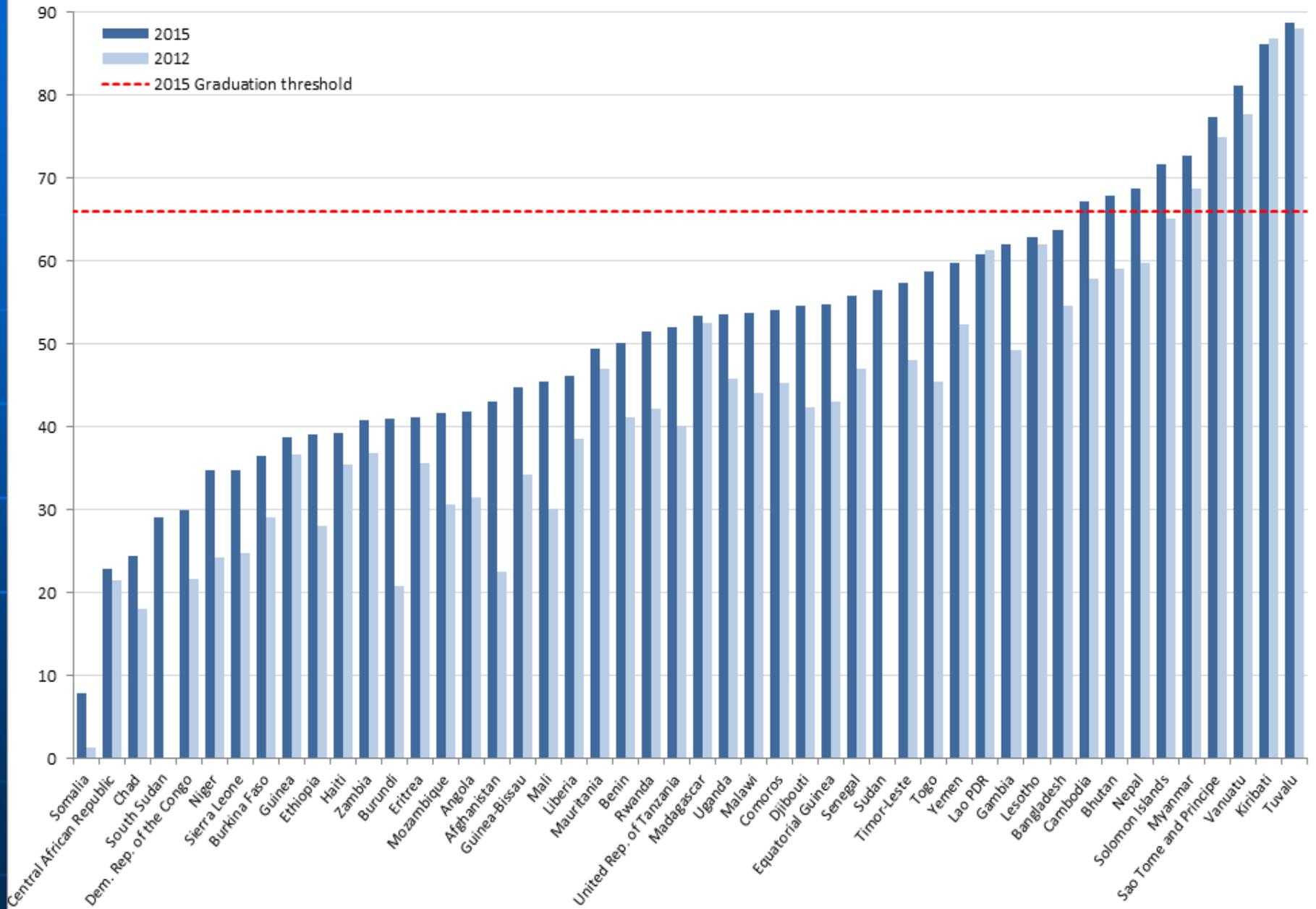
# Thresholds

- **GNI per capita** (2011-2013 average)
  - Inclusion: **\$1,035** and below
  - Graduation: **\$1,242** and above
  - 'Income only' graduation: **\$2,484** and above
- **Human Asset Index**
  - Thresholds for HAI and EVI were **fixed** by the CDP in 2014 at their 2012 levels
  - Inclusion: **60** and below
  - Graduation: **66** and above
- **Economic vulnerability index**
  - Inclusion: **36** and above
  - Graduation: **32** and below

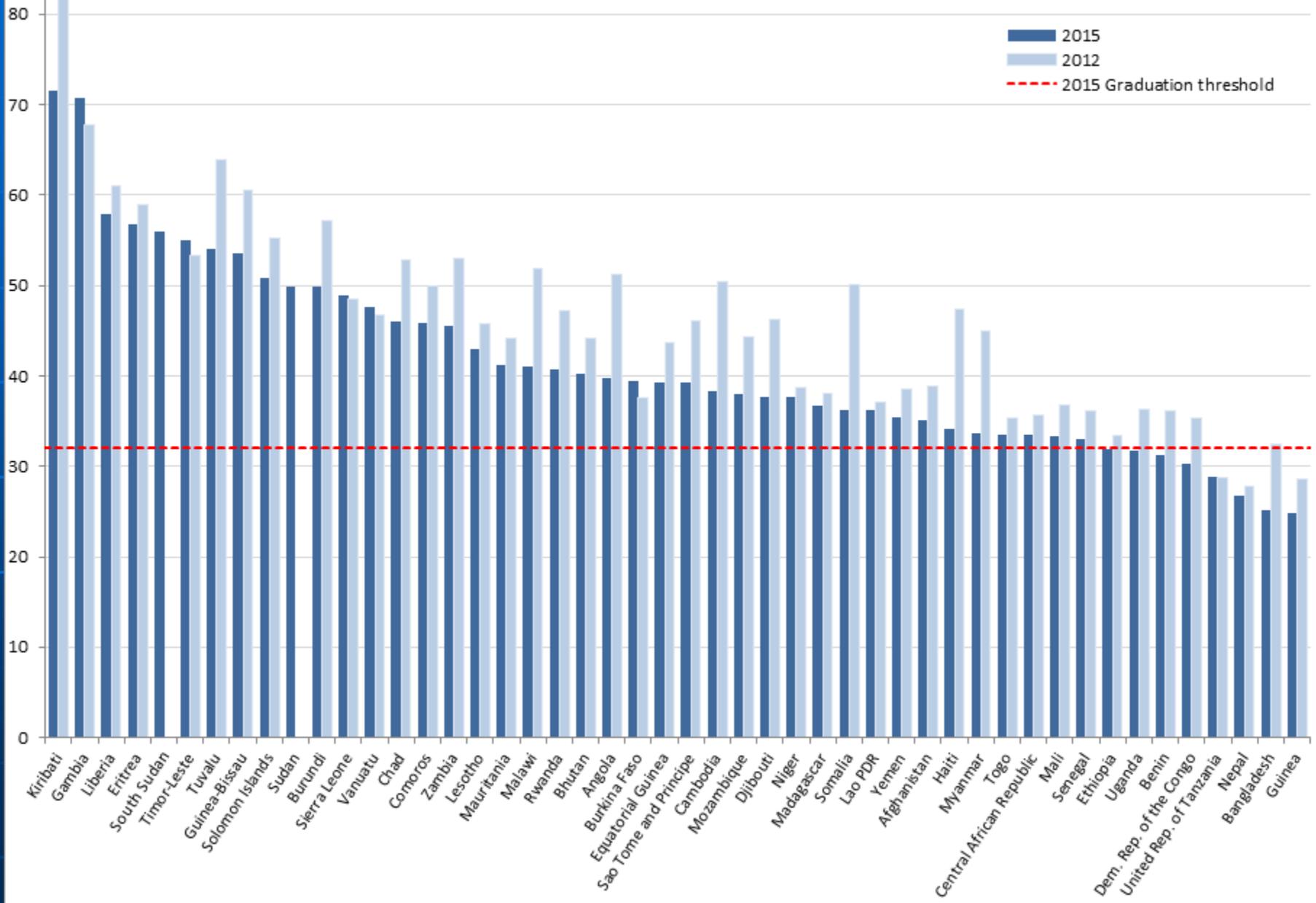
Per capita GNI for 2012 and 2015 for LDC countries (excluding Equatorial Guinea)



HAI for 2012 and 2015 for LDC countries



EVI for 2012 and 2015 for LDC countries





# 5. OUTCOMES

# Outcome – Graduation (I)

10 LDCs meet graduation criteria

- ✓ Three already recommended:
  - **Eq. Guinea**, scheduled to graduate in June 2017
  - **Vanuatu**, scheduled to graduate in December 2017
  - **Tuvalu**, recommended for graduation by CDP in 2012

# Outcome – Graduation (II)

- ✓ Two LDCs considered for graduation:
  - **Angola** meets 'income only' criteria for the second consecutive time
    - The **CDP recommends** Angola for **graduation**
    - Decline in oil prices poses challenges, but income level **sustainably above threshold**
    - Low HAI and high EVI scores indicate importance of **further developing human assets and diversifying the economy**
    - External support for graduation required, in particular on implementing WTO rules.

# Outcome – Graduation (III)

- **Kiribati** meets GNI and HAI criteria for the second consecutive time
  - The **CDP** does **not recommend** Kiribati for graduation at the present stage
  - **Sustainability of income** level requires additional assessment
  - Heightened **uncertainty** of impact of graduation on **climate change financing**
  - Assessment of **impact** of graduation on development of **fishery sector** currently **not possible**
  - **Kiribati** will be reconsidered for graduation in 2018

# Outcome – Graduation (IV)

✓ 5 LDCs meet graduation criteria for the first time:

- **Timor-Leste** ('Income only')
- **Bhutan** (GNI and HAI)
- **Sao Tome and Principe** (GNI and HAI)
- **Solomon Islands** (GNI and HAI)
- **Nepal** (HAI and EVI)

■ These countries will be considered for graduation in 2018

→ 14 LDCs meet one graduation threshold

→ 24 LDCs do not meet any criteria

# Thank You

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[http:// www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp)