

1-3 April 2019  
what works

# Advancing Social Progress to achieve SDGs



Harpa Conference Hall, Reykjavik, Iceland

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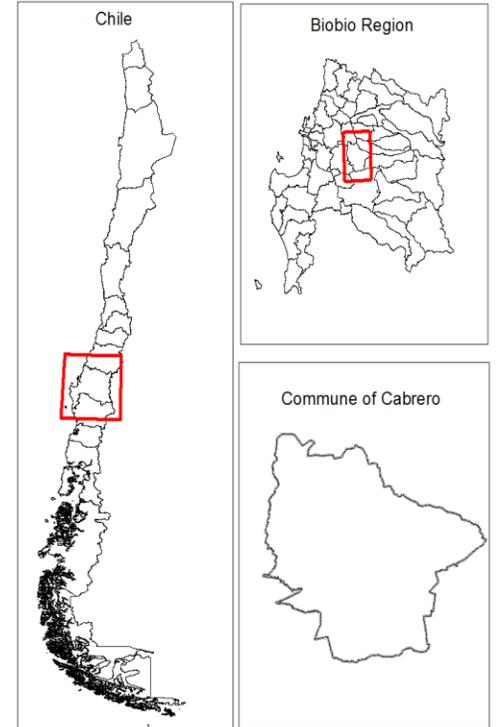
# Programme for Social Responsibility Studies – University of Concepcion, Chile

Harpa Conference Hall, Reykjavik, Iceland



# Social Progress Index Cabrero, Chile

- *Cabrero is a commune of 30,000 inhabitants, located in the south of Chile. Its socioeconomic development has been encouraged by the forestry sector, which is lead by the forestry company MASISA.*
- *Cabrero's SPI, the first Chilean subnational index, is a result of an alliance between the Municipality of Cabrero, the University of Concepcion, the NGO AVINA, MASISA and the Social Progress Imperative.*
- *Cabrero's first SPI was launched in 2016, while the 2019 SPI is expected to be launched by the end of this year. For both indexes, the University of Concepcion assumed the leadership of the work with the advice of SPI experts.*
- *In 2015, a SPI-UdeC Methodology was developed to ensure concrete actions based on the results. Two teams have been working coordinated to ensure its correct application: Academics team and implementing team.*
- *A SPI Committee -formed by local communities representatives and private and public sector actors- was established in Cabrero in 2015.*



# Challenges and opportunities that we aimed to address by using the Social Progress Index



*As a network we were hoping for:*

- ✓ *Concrete actions based on the SPI results*
- ✓ *Collaborative work between different people and organisations*
- ✓ *Be able to transfer the SPI-UdeC Methodology to other municipalities.*

# Our network's greatest success to date with the Social Progress Index

- ✓ *Maintain our alliance from 2015 to the present.*
- ✓ *Identify households needs in terms of social progress: Through the index, we were able to detect critical points, strengths and weaknesses and household perception of the barriers to increase Cabrero's social progress.*
- ✓ *A methodology that combines the SPI method with our knowledge of successful collaborative work and also includes local governments expertise and the popular knowledge of the local community and the private sector operating in Cabrero*
- ✓ *The Data to Action Workshop: Definition of an action plan for the short, medium and long term to increase Cabrero's social progress based on the SPI results*
- ✓ *Creation of Cabrero's Social Progress Working Group (2017- to present) to implement actions based on the results of the index and outcomes of Workshop.*
- ✓ *The inclusion of the 2016 SPI results in the PLADECO (communal development plan) update for the year 2018-2019 and the inclusion of upcoming results in the 2020-2024 PLADECO.*



# Our network's greatest challenge developing and implementing the Social Progress Index.

- *Availability of data for the Index (i.e. development of an interview)*
- *Hostile environment, power dynamics and conflict of interest between stakeholders.*
- *A powerful private company; election period of local governments and; at the same time, representatives of social organizations and representatives of local communities who distrusted the intentions of both the local government and the private sector.*
- *Be able to balance the contributions of the different stakeholders in the index and in the development of proposals for actions based on the results*
- *Maintain cooperative work among stakeholders through a permanent and updated knowledge of their needs and expectations.*
- *Fieldwork*



# What's worked and what hasn't – what are the most important lessons learned in implementing the Social Progress Index in Cabrero

- ✓ *The methodology we are using has worked for us!*
- ✓ *UdeC as an autonomous organisation with no vested interests in the Cabrero.*
- ✓ *Active transparency: From revealing the interest of stakeholders in the project and its expectations and worries up to maintain permanent accountability of every action undertaken including the discussion of every indicator prior the launched of the index*
- ✓ *Informed participation: Training to all the members of our network. From MASISA'S CEOs to rural communities representatives.*
- ✓ *Ensure real contributions from all SPI committee participants.*
- ✓ *Personal and professional characteristics of the people involved in the project.*
- ✗ *The rigidity of the statistical method used for the creation of the index brought us some problems, which we discussed together with the SPI experts to ensure that the reality of Cabrero was represented correctly through the index.*
- ✗ *Difficulties in transferring the SPI-UdeC methodology: Mistrust in the interests of the private sector, the lack of interest of companies to make an intangible contribution that has no retribution in the short term and cases of corruption in the national public sector, have become an obstacle to the generation of alliances society-company-government.*