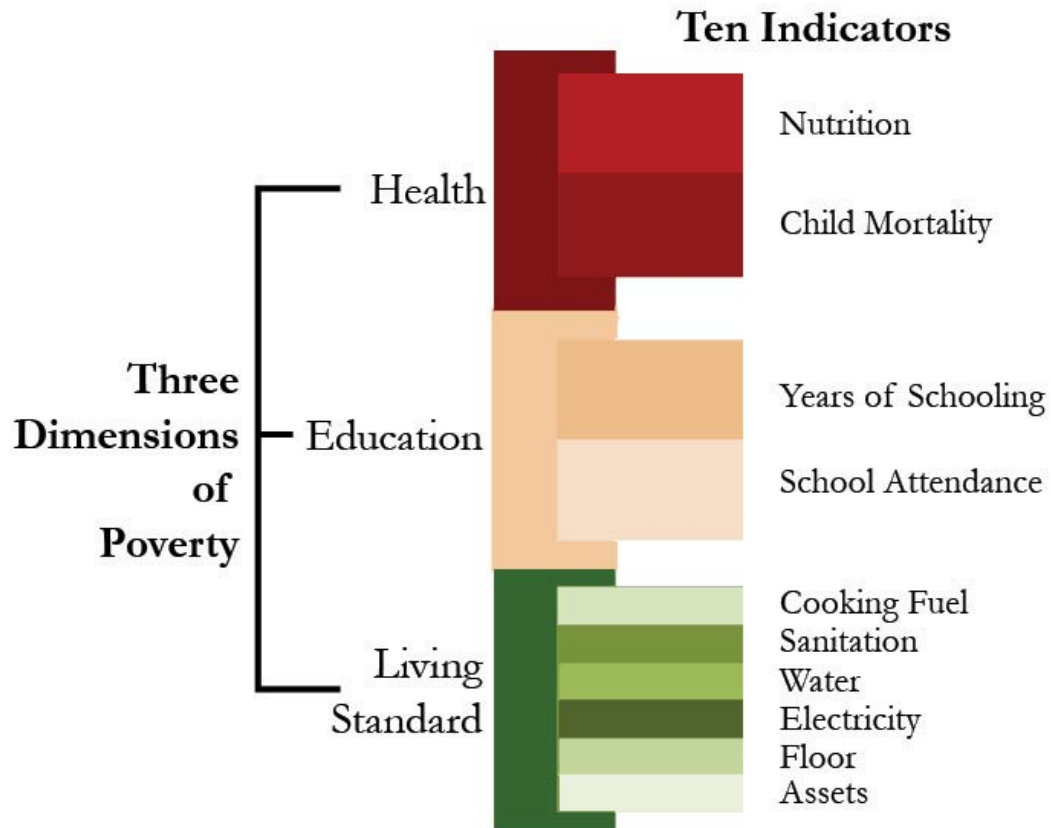


The choice of poverty framework matters when assessing the contribution of ecosystem services to poverty alleviation

Schulte-Herbrüggen, B., Daw, T., Chaigneau, T.,
Brown, K. & Coulthard, S.



Poverty is multidimensional



Human Development
Report 2015
Work for Human Development

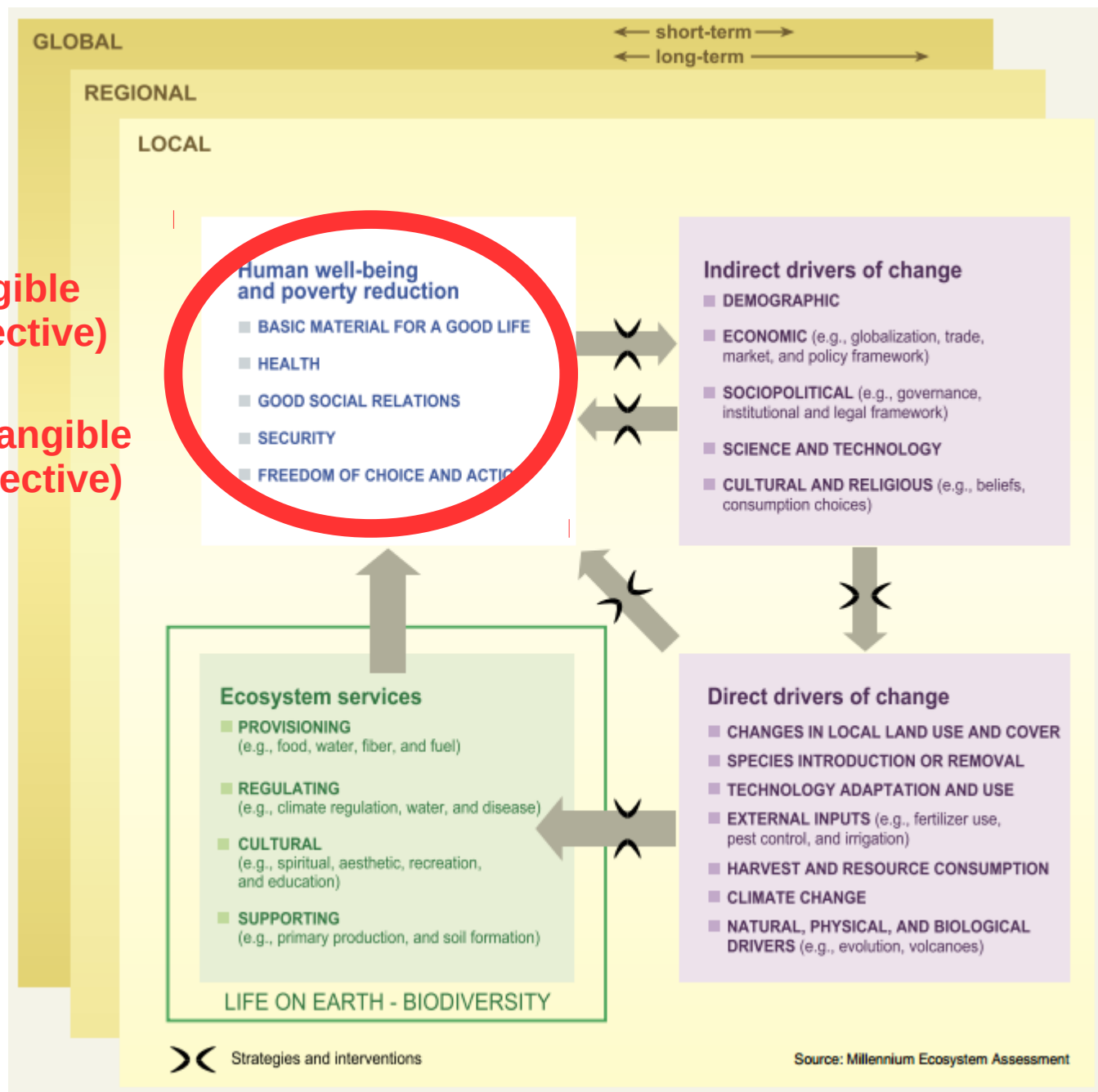


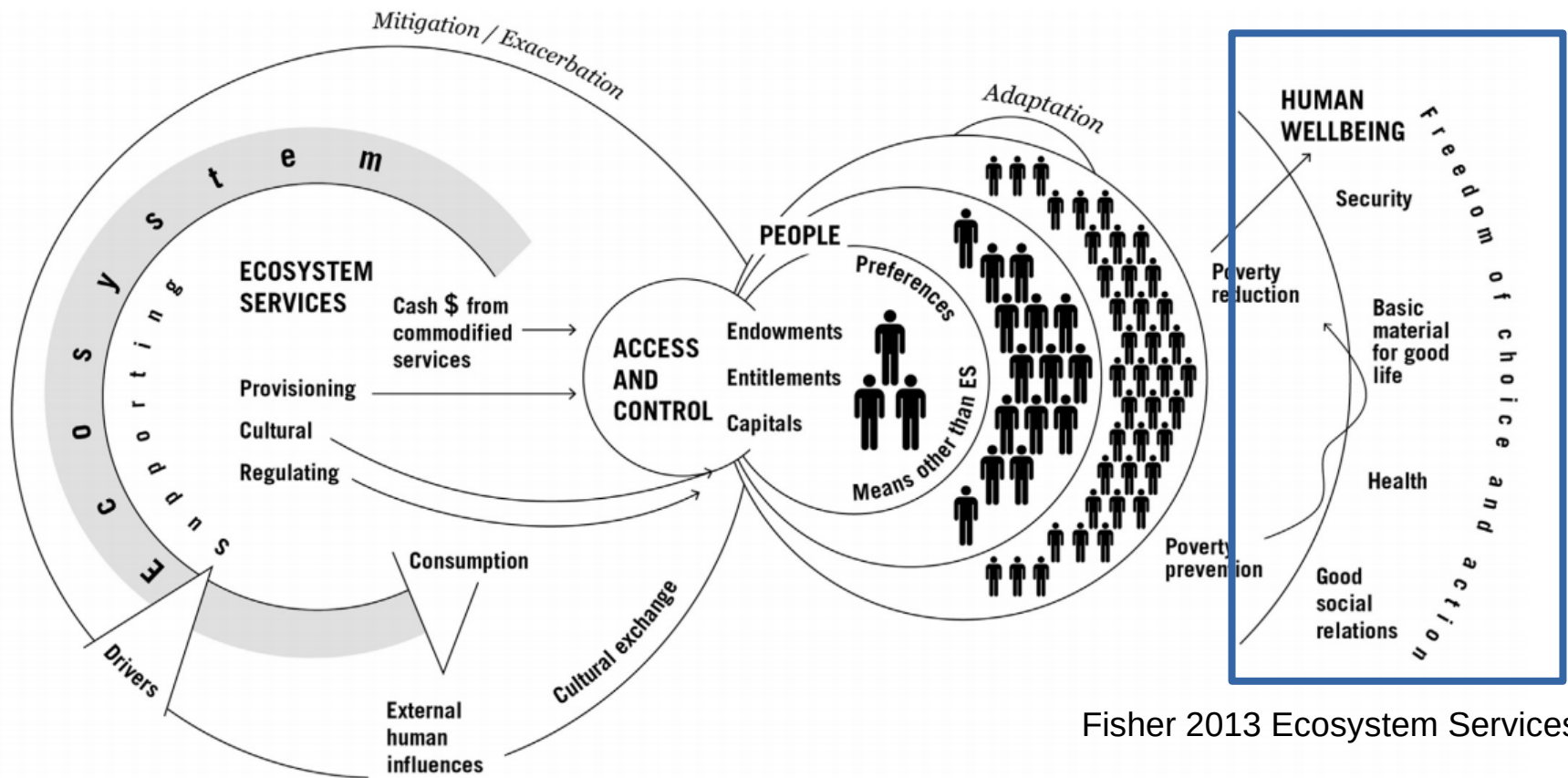
Multidimensional Poverty Index

(Alkire 2012)

**Tangible
(Objective)**

**Non-tangible
(Subjective)**

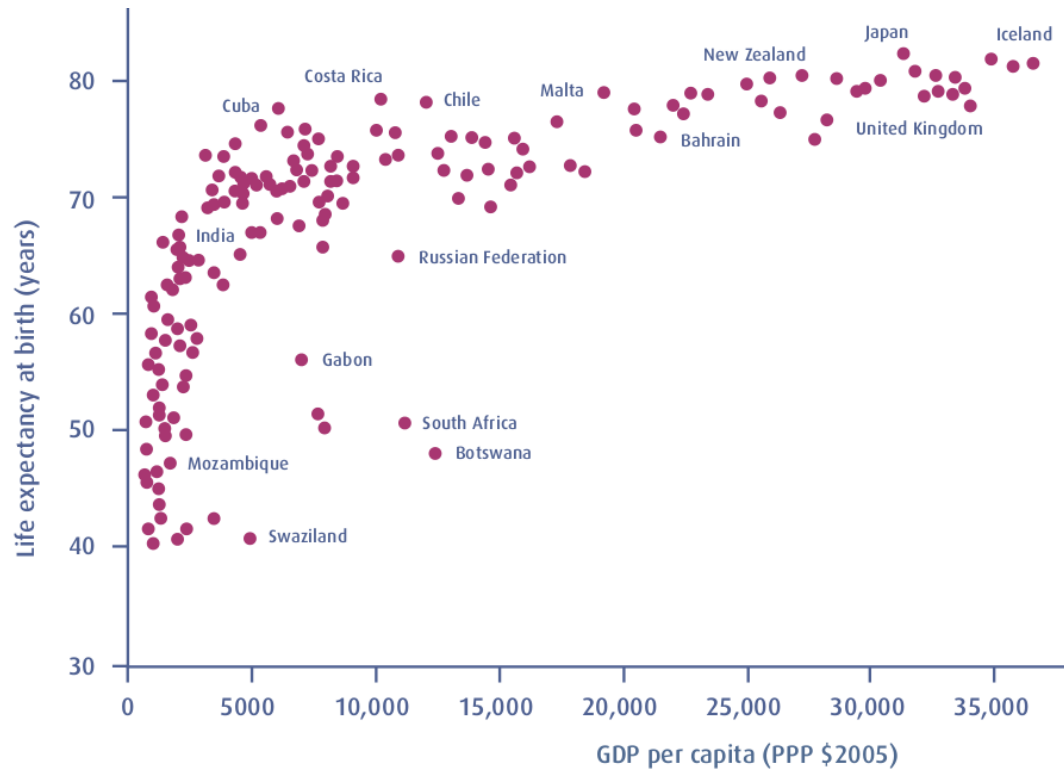




Fisher 2013 Ecosystem Services

Yet most research focuses on income poverty. Few assess more than one wellbeing dimension

Why does it matter? Non-linear relationship between wellbeing dimensions



Hypothesis:

Choice of poverty framework defines our understanding of ES-WB relationships, and the opportunities for reducing poverty

Questions

- 1) To what extent do poverty levels vary across poverty frameworks?
- 2) To what extent do poverty frameworks identify different households as poor?
- 3) Does the effect of poverty frameworks on who is identified as poor affect our understanding of the importance of ecosystem services for the poor (using environmental income share as a proxy)?

Household survey

- 410 rural households
- Random sample
- Cash & subsistence income
- 4 poverty frameworks



Poverty frameworks



Material Style of Life
(Livelihoods literature)



Income poverty
(Economics literature)

**Objective
(tangible)**



Satisfaction deprivation
(Psychology literature)

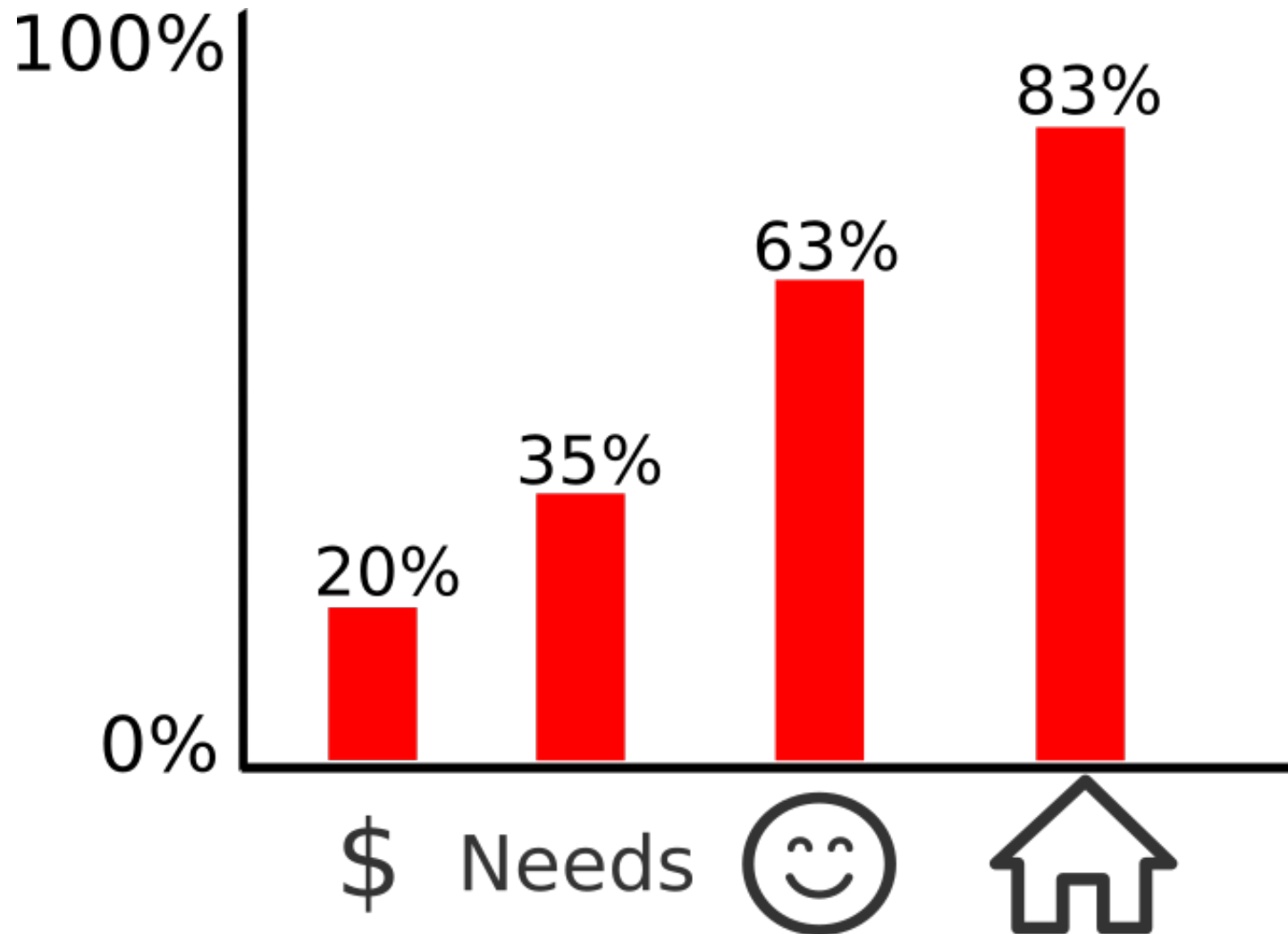
**Subjective
(feeling)**

Needs

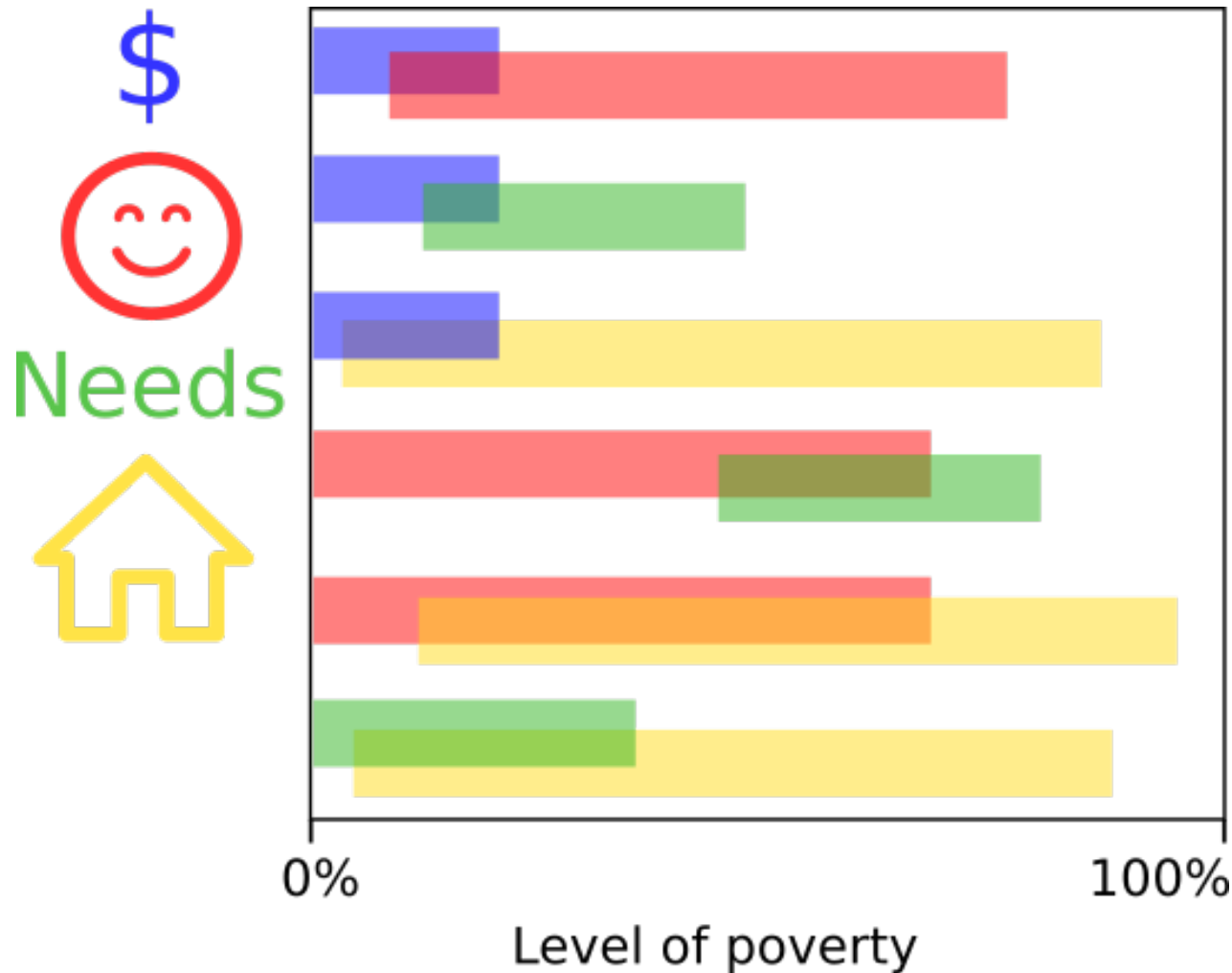
Basic needs deprivation
(Wellbeing literature)

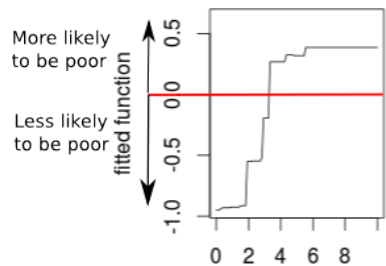
**Objective &
Subjective**

Q1) To what extent do poverty levels vary across poverty frameworks?

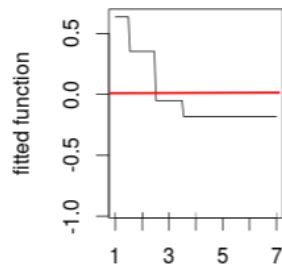


Q2) To what extent do poverty frameworks identify different households as poor?

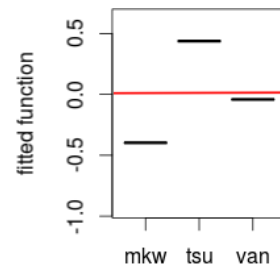




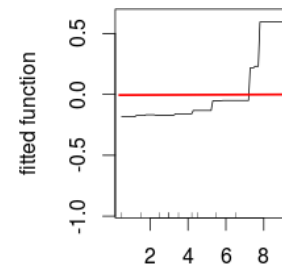
Dependence ratio (30.7%)



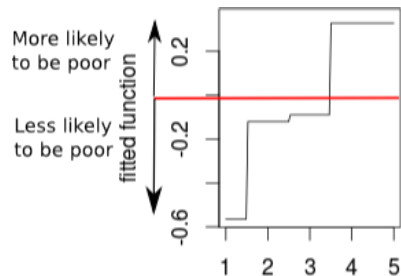
Livelihood activities (15.4%)



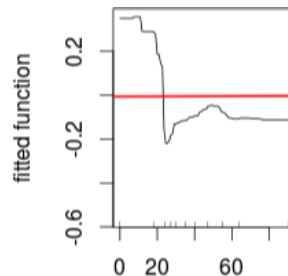
Site (14.5%)



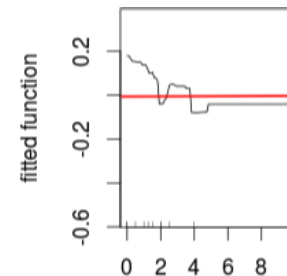
Household size (10.4%)



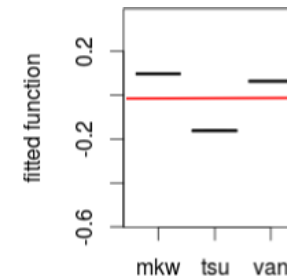
Active hh members (25.4%)



Residence time (13.3%)

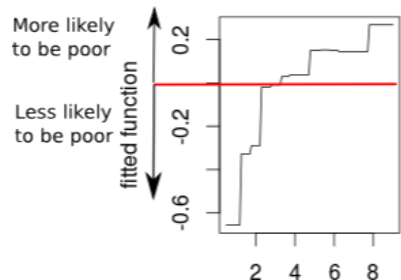


Dependence ratio (16.4%)

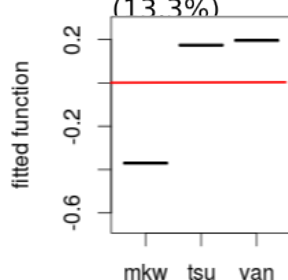


Site (15.8%)

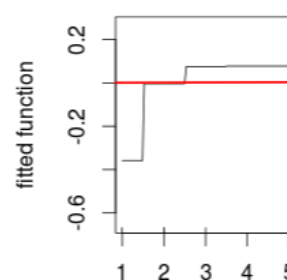
Needs



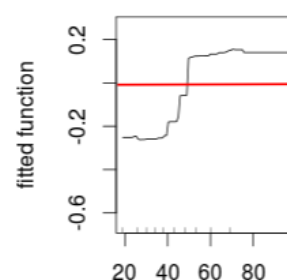
HH size (18.6%)



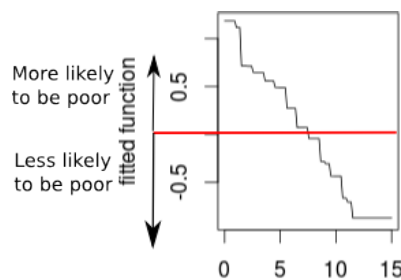
Site (13.3%)



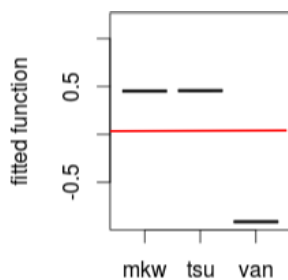
Active hh members (15.4%)



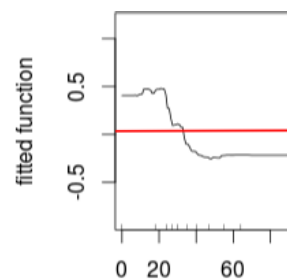
Age (13.2%)



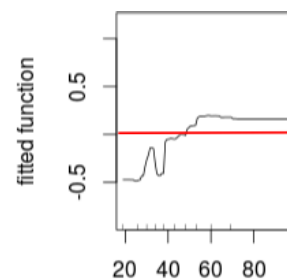
Education (24.7%)



Site (20.3%)



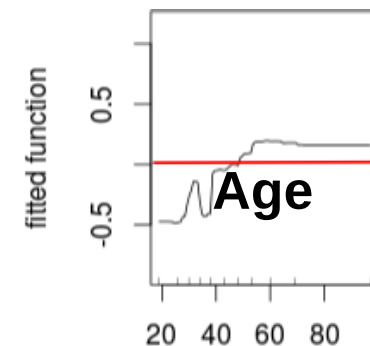
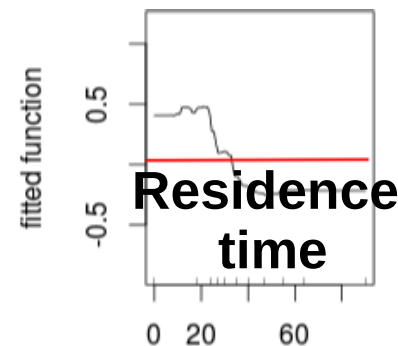
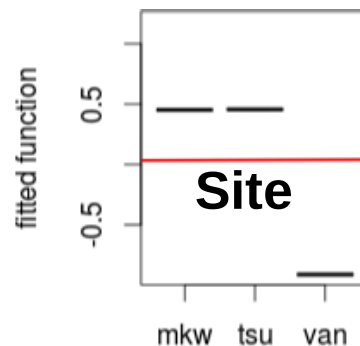
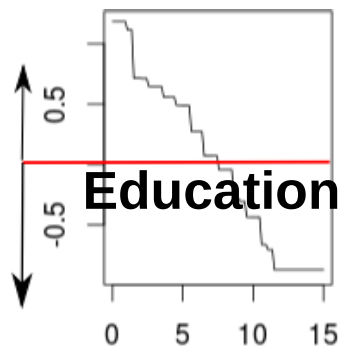
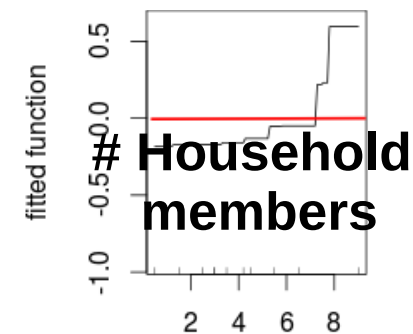
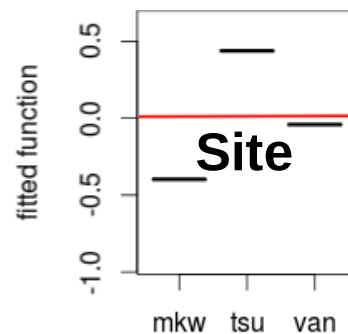
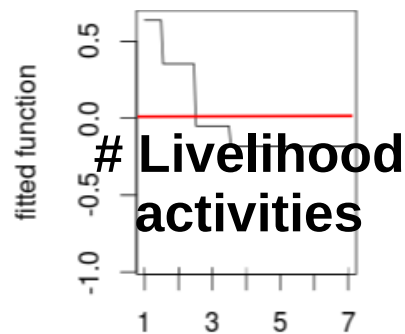
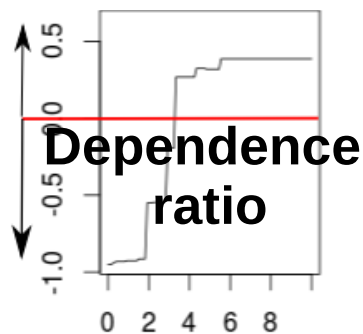
Residence time (15.4%)



Age (11.6%)

Characteristics of poor households

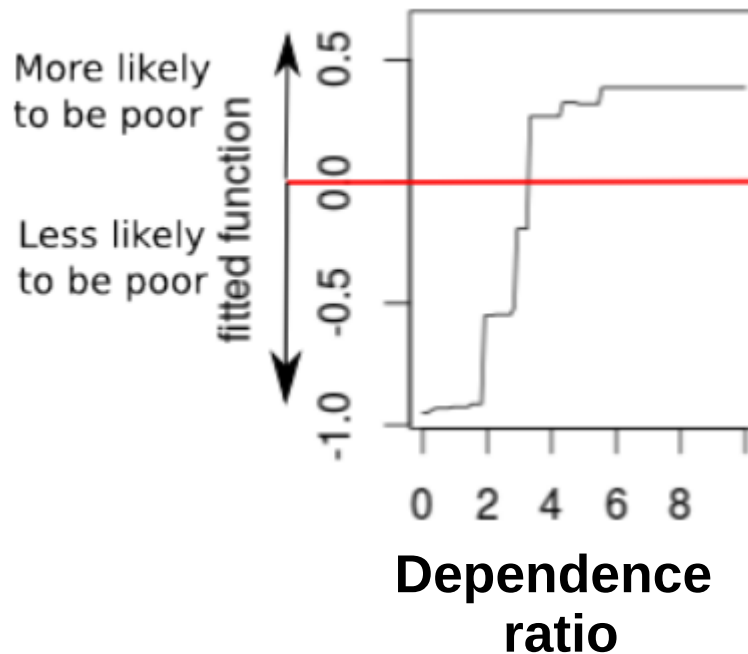
1) Predictors of poverty differed across frameworks



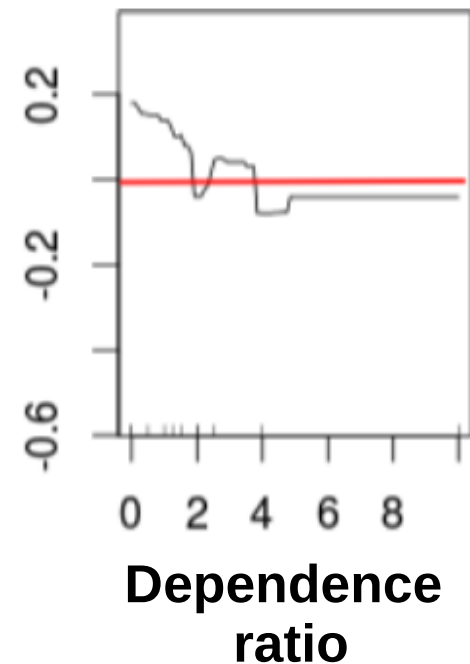
Characteristics of poor households

2) Sign of the relationship differed

\$

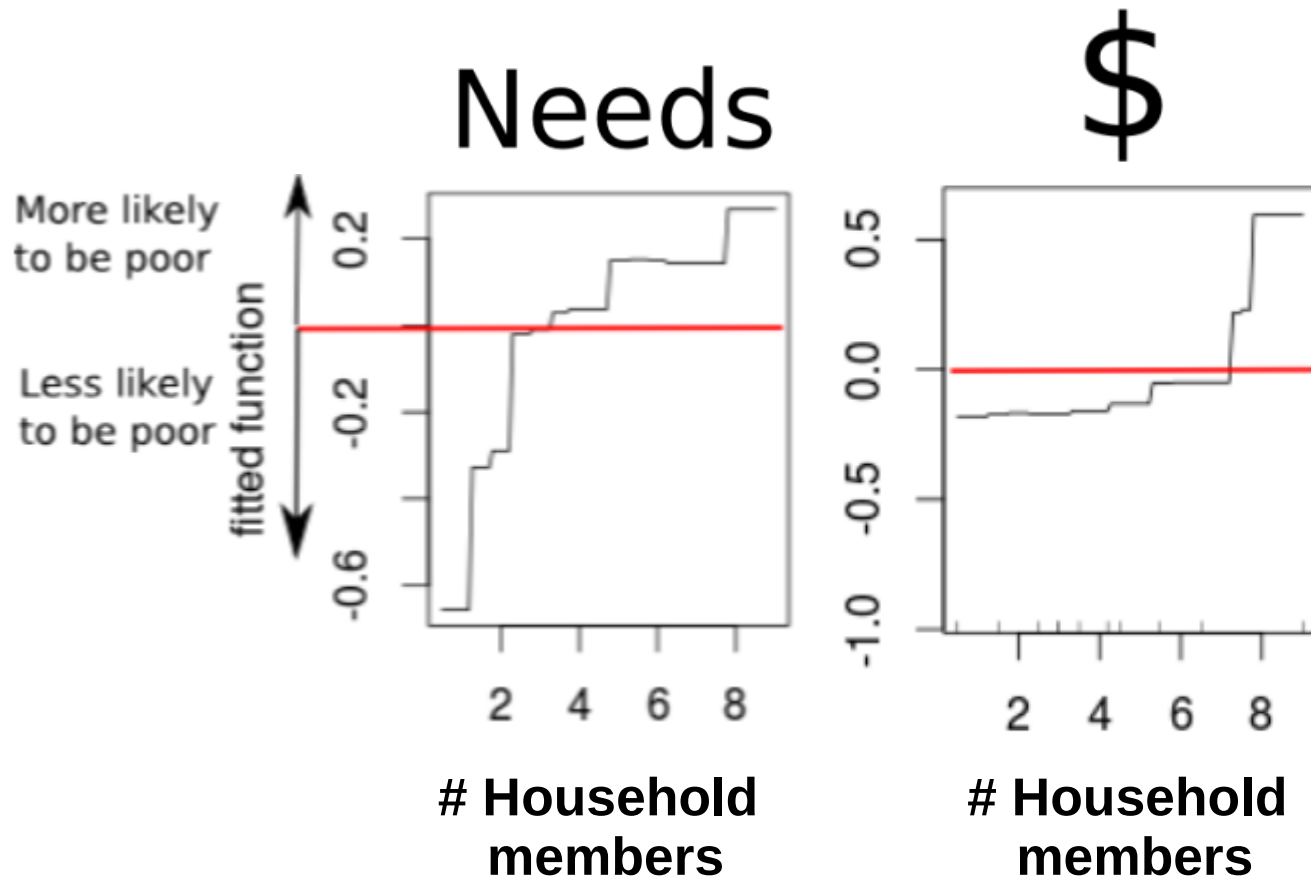


☺

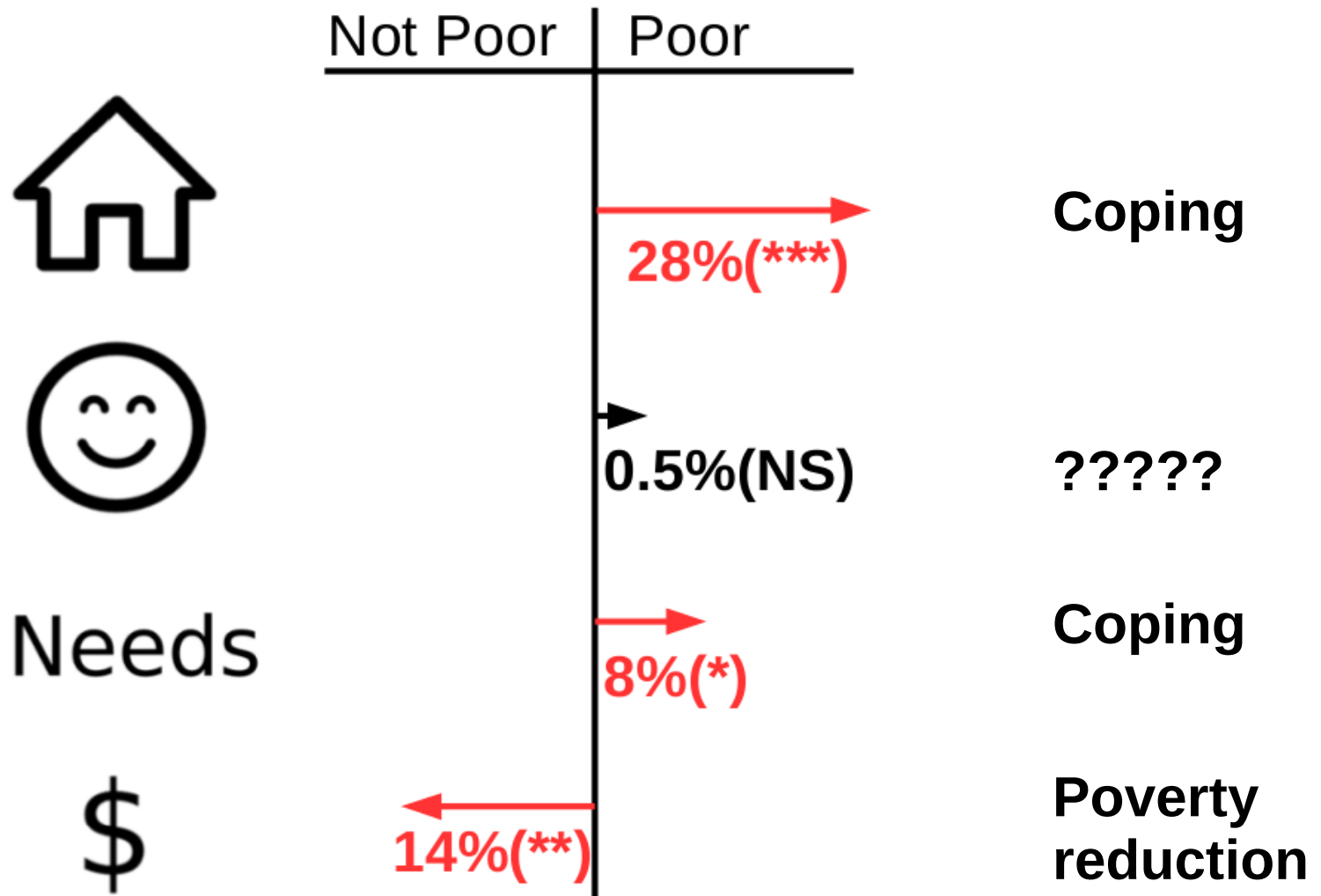


Characteristics of poor households

3) Shape of the relationship differed



Q3) Does the effect of poverty frameworks on who is identified as poor affect our understanding of the importance of ecosystem services for the poor?



Summary

- Poverty levels vary strongly across poverty frameworks
- Different frameworks identify different people as poor, with very different characteristics
- ES may contribute to poverty alleviation, but possibly not all forms of poverty and hence not all deprived people stand to benefit
- Hypothesis: Variation in poverty assessments fundamentally defines our understanding of ES-WB relationships, and the type of tangible opportunities for reducing poverty which transpire
- Hence, need to use multiple frameworks and disaggregate between them



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