

## Multidmensional Poverty Measurement: A Tool for Public Policy

**Gonzalo Hernández Licona** 

March, 2015



## Nothing works better for public policy than a politically sensitive indicator

- There are thousands of indicators around, but not all of them are used as a guide for public policy.
- What is need are indicators....

- Technically robust
- Supported by good information
- Reliable
- Which pressure policy makers in a political way



## The Multidimensional Poverty Indicator is a good candidate

- The MPI developed in Mexico in 2009 is being used for social policy.
- It includes education, health services, social security services, housing, food, income
- The President and State Governors know this is a politically sensitive indicator ....
- Individual indicators by dimension are less sensitive
- Federal and state budgets have been modified to reduce MPI
- The National Development Plan includes this indicator



## A Global MPI is needed for the same reasons.... and more

- The MPI developed at OPHI ...
- Technically robust
- Countries already have good data
- Poverty is a more sensitive word than housing or education or.....
- A Global MPI includes these dimensions
- A Global MPI can decompose to understand better world and regional poverty, as well as the dynamics of dimensions.
- Separate indicators for dimensions cannot do this