

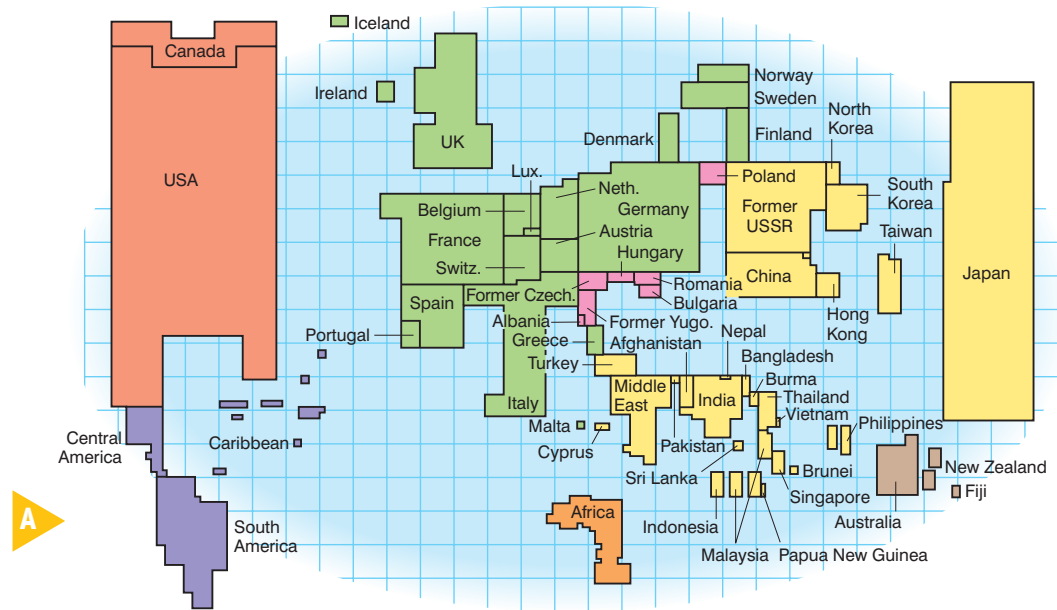
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How can differences in world development be recognised?

Development means growth. Growth often involves several stages which show change and, hopefully, a progressive improvement. However, development is not easy to measure. *Connections* 86 and *Places* 7 suggest that the most common and easiest method is to measure wealth. The wealth of a country is given by its **gross national product (GNP) per person**. Based on wealth, countries can be divided into two groups – those that, because they are ‘rich’, are said to be **economically**

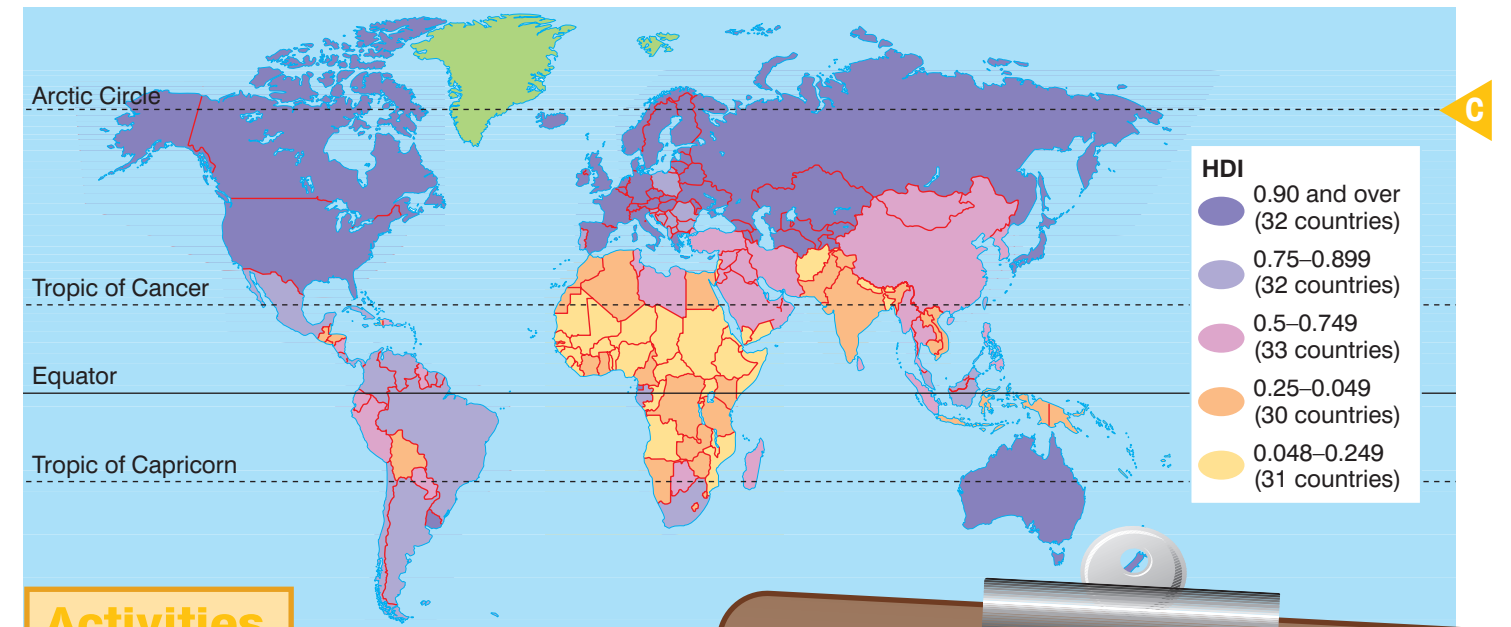
more developed and those that, because they are poorer, are said to be **economically less developed** (*Places* 4–5 map A, *Connections* 87 map C). Diagram A shows wealth as a **topologically transformed map**. Topological maps are a simple method of showing information, and help to make easy comparisons between places. In this case, the size and shape of each country is not drawn to show its area (as is usual) but in proportion to its share of the world’s GNP.



GNP is not always the most accurate method of measuring development, partly because wealth is never shared out evenly within a country or between regions. Table B suggests alternative ways of measuring development. Notice, however, that differences in wealth show in a country’s ability to afford the basic needs of its people – food, water supply, housing, health care, education and work.

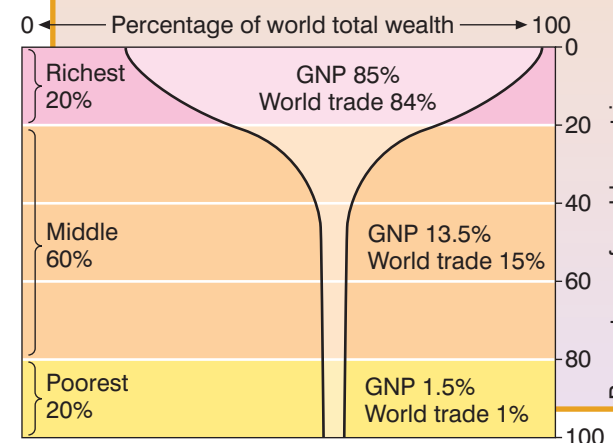
During the 1990s, the UN devised its own measure of human well-being – the **Human Development Index (HDI)**. The HDI is a social welfare index based upon education (adult literacy), health (life expectancy) and the actual purchasing power of income (economy) – see map C. Even so, those countries with the highest HDI (over 0.9) correspond closely with those that are economically more developed, and those with the lowest score (under 0.25) with the economically less developed.

Population measure	Conns 6, Places 8–9, Extens 44–45	Birth rate. Death rate. Natural increase. Infant mortality. Life expectancy
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Transport and trade	Conns 86, Inter. 88, Places 10–11, Extens 82	Type and km of road/rail. Primary products or manufactured goods
Energy	Places 10–11	Consumption per person
Material possessions	Places 11	e.g. cars, TVs/telephones per 1,000 people



Activities

- What is GNP and how is it measured?
 - Why is GNP not always the best measure of development?
- Compare diagram A with a conventional political map (map C).
 - Name:
 - one country with a large area and a large proportion of the world’s GNP
 - two countries with a small area but a large proportion of the world’s GNP
 - two countries with a large area but a small proportion of the world’s GNP.
 - What do you notice about the size of the world’s continents according to their share of the world’s GNP?
- With reference to table B and diagram D:
 - Name three countries likely to be in the
 - top 20 per cent
 - bottom 20 per cent
 - middle 60 per cent.
 - Apart from GNP and trade, describe eight differences in development between the top 20 per cent and bottom 20 per cent.



ICT Enquiry

Further your investigations into measuring development by collecting your own data. You can research statistical information from an atlas, *Philip’s Geographical Digest*, a CD-ROM, a computer atlas or the Internet. For the last, the UN CyberSchoolBus (web site <http://www.un.org/Pubs/CyberSchoolBus>) provides an easy-to-use database with over 30 different fields of information on 185 different countries. From the UN CyberSchoolBus homepage select Resource Source, and then InfoNation.

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Presenting your results You could do this either as a table (see *Places* 11 table D), by producing graphs for each indicator using a graph package on your CD-ROM, or by producing spreadsheets and charts.

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Conclusion Produce a rank order list for your 10 countries according to their level of development. Write a paragraph outlining the characteristics of different levels of development.

- What is the HDI? How is it different from GNP?
 - Describe the global location of countries with the highest HDI (over 0.9) and those with the lowest HDI (under 0.25).

World citizenship – how can the more fortunate help the less fortunate?

One way of trying to help countries to develop and improve their standard of living and quality of life is to provide them with **aid**. Aid is a term used to describe any type of help given to a country. It can range from technical equipment and money to skilled workers and emergency supplies.

Most aid is given by governments of rich countries, either directly or through international organisations, to poorer countries, mainly in Africa, Asia and Latin America (table A). Often, however, the most effective aid is provided by voluntary organisations (figures B and C). Poorer countries may need aid:

- to help them develop their economies so that they can increase their share of world trade and improve their standard of living
- to provide basic services and amenities such as a reliable water supply, hospitals and schools which help raise their quality of life
- following disasters which may either be natural, such as flooding (figure E) and earthquakes (page 8), or human-induced, such as civil war
- to help preserve their environment.

	Type of aid
A	<p>Bilateral Government to government/ rich country to poor country</p> <p>Advantages include: large amounts can benefit large numbers of people; can develop a poor country's industry, public services and economic growth; can increase economic and political stability.</p> <p>Disadvantages include: often 'strings' attached which tie the poor country to the rich country, i.e. has to buy goods from rich country. The poorer country often falls further into debt. Within the developing country, little wealth is passed down to the poor, especially in rural areas. It does not always encourage self-help.</p>
	<p>Multilateral Rich governments contribute to international organisations like the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Bank and the EU Development Fund. Meant to be no ties, but increasingly there are.</p>
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B

How can just £2 a month help poor people to help themselves?

These days, £2 won't buy very much. But if you give £2 a month to Oxfam, your donation is stretched much further. We support people who are helping themselves, so they contribute their hard work, their time and energy to make every penny go further.

Train 2 voluntary health workers

In India, £2 a month will help pay and train 2 voluntary health workers, safeguarding *hundreds* of people.



Clean water for a whole community

In Sudan, £2 a month will help provide enough tools for villagers to dig a well and give a permanent supply of clean, safe water.

Plant 670 trees

Your £2 a month could supply 670 seedlings every year, which will be planted out by local Ethiopian farmers.

Source: Oxfam, October 1998

Activities

- What is meant by the term **aid**?
 - What is the difference between bilateral, multilateral and non-governmental organisation aid?
 - What are the advantages and disadvantages of bilateral aid?
 - How do organisations such as ActionAid (figure B) and Oxfam (figure C) help people living in developing countries?
- Deciding how to spend money allocated as aid involves making difficult choices. Imagine you are an aid worker in a poor country. You are given two donations, one for £24 a year (figure C), the other for £20 million (figure D). In each case you are given options as to how you might spend the money. Explain, with reasons, your decision.
- As part of your investigation of aid, you have to find out about various aid organisations and their campaigns. With reference to figure E:
 - How is the advertisement suggesting that you can help?
 - Is the advertisement successful in making you want to help? Explain your answer.
 - You could investigate how various organisations try to
 - collect donations
 - help people in poorer countries
 by writing off for leaflets, collecting adverts in newspapers or received in your post, or visiting web sites. The following web sites will provide you with a good start:
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How can aid be spent?

Here are some of the ways that £20 million could be spent:

- immunise 2 million children against the six main preventable diseases
- provide basic village-level water supplies to one million people
- fund slum-improvement projects for over 100,000 families
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D

Source: ActionAid



In the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch the facts speak for themselves...

- As many as 9,000 dead
- More than 15,000 missing
- Over 2 million homeless
- 80% of crops wiped out
- Typhoid, cholera, malaria and dengue threaten thousands of lives

Without waiting for outside help, local communities have sprung into action to provide assistance to those left destitute. However, they lack even the basics such as clean water, food, shelter materials and medicine and this is why we are asking for your help.

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Please send a gift today and help support our emergency work in Central America.

E

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 Concern Worldwide Central America Appeal,
 Freepost SE10987, London SW11 1BR.

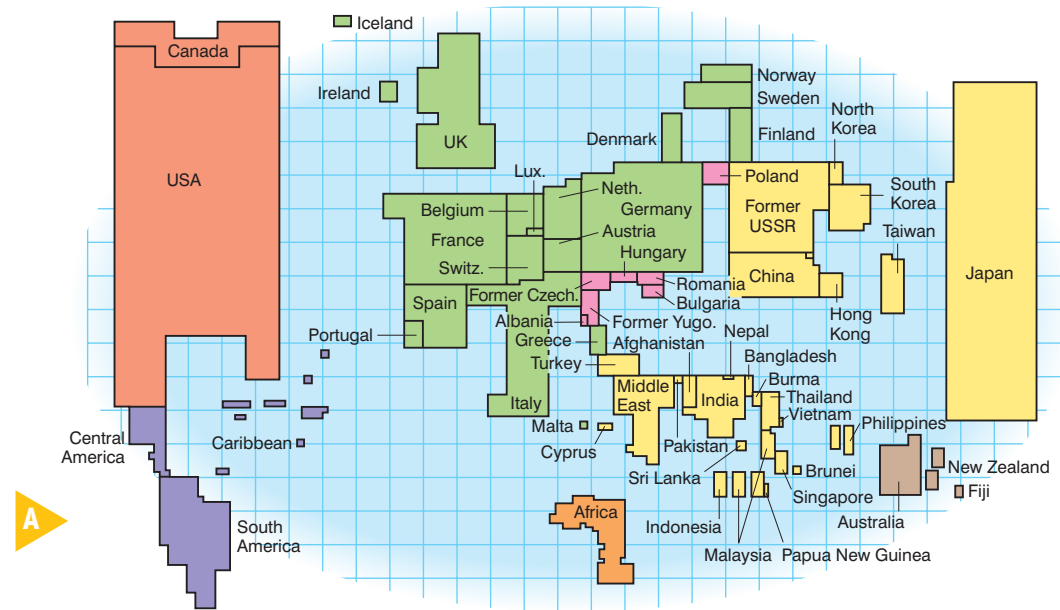


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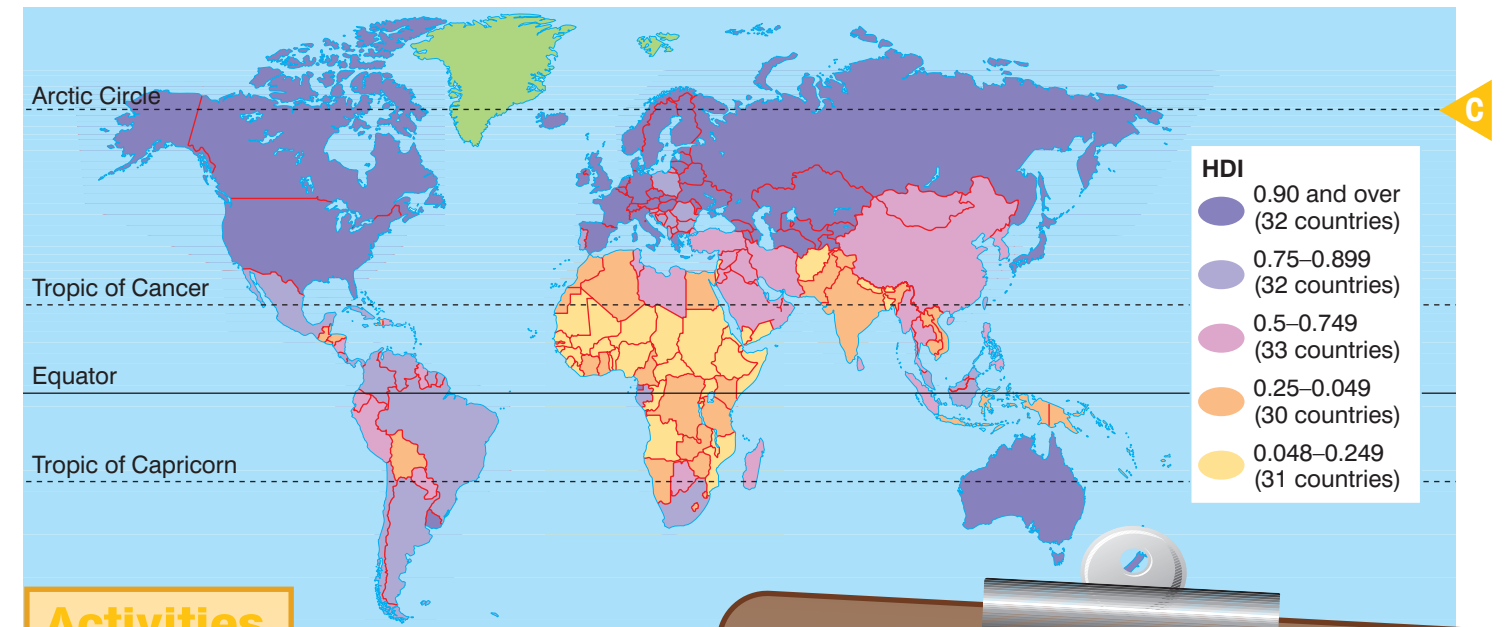
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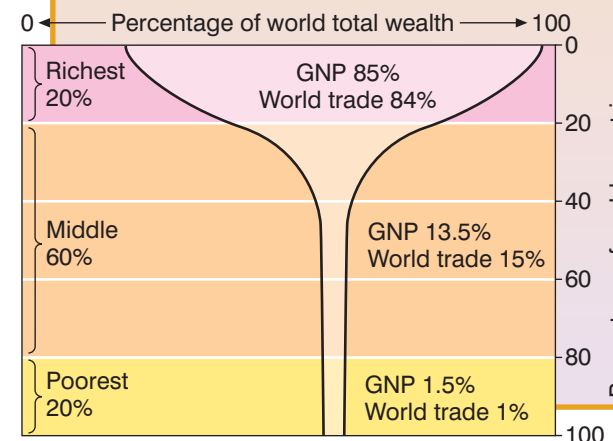
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by the Inland Revenue and incorporated in NI.

