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PRESS RELEASE

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**NEW INDEX: ASIAN COUNTRIES RISE FASTEST
UP THE PROSPERITY INDEX**

- **The Asia region has performed better than any other region in the world since 2009. 5 of the top 10 most improved countries are from Asia;**
- **Indonesia is rising faster than any other country in the world;**
- **Singapore is the most successful economy in the world according to the 2015 Prosperity Index.**

Asia and particularly Indonesia have seen the biggest increases in prosperity in the world since 2009, according to an international index which defines prosperity by measuring a country's economic success and its wellbeing.

The annual [*Legatum Prosperity Index™*](#) ranks 142 countries across eight categories: the Economy, Entrepreneurship & Opportunity; Governance; Education; Health; Safety & Security; Personal Freedom; and Social Capital.

The 2015 Index (www.prosperity.com), published today by the Legatum Institute, an international think tank based in London, shows that Indonesia has risen 21 places up the rankings since 2009, the biggest improvement of any country. This is largely thanks to the country's strong economic performance over the past few years.

Indonesia rose 23 places in the Economy sub-index (now ranks 39th) and 14 places in the Entrepreneurship & Opportunity sub-index (now ranks 90th). As a result the number of Indonesians who feel satisfied with their living standards has increased from 63% to 71% in five years.

The index also reveals that Asian countries perform well overall, but there is still great diversity across the region.

- Singapore (17th), Japan (19th), Hong Kong (20th) and Taiwan (21st) are best-performers in the region.
- Afghanistan (141st), Pakistan (130th), Cambodia (112th) and Bangladesh (103rd) are the worst-performers.
- 5 of the 10 most improved countries since 2009 are from Asia. Sri Lanka has risen 11 places on the Index and now ranks 61st. China has risen 9 places on the Index and now ranks 52nd. Both countries' success is based on dramatic improvements in the Economy sub-index.
- Singapore tops the Economy sub-index. The country has the second highest capital per worker of any country at \$240,750 per worker. 47% of manufactured exports are high-tech and 29% of total exports come from the ICT sector—the third highest in the world.

The 5 most prosperous countries are:

1. Norway
2. Switzerland
3. Denmark
4. New Zealand
5. Sweden

The 5 least prosperous countries are:

1. Central Africa Republic
2. Afghanistan
3. Haiti
4. Chad
5. Burundi

Nathan Gamester, Programme Director at the Legatum Institute, said:

“The Prosperity Index is based on the idea that both wealth and wellbeing are important for national success. Asia has performed incredibly well on the Index over the past half-decade because many countries in the region have done a fantastic job economically.

“However, no countries in the region make it into the global top 10. For the region to overtake the dominant countries of North America, Australasia, and Europe further improvements in the other areas of the Index, such as Health, Governance, Education and Personal Freedom, are needed.”

To access the full report, data, and analysis, visit www.prosperity.com.

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About the Legatum Institute

The Legatum Institute seeks to identify the drivers of prosperity, which we define as both wealth and wellbeing. Our signature product is the *Legatum Prosperity Index™*, a unique global assessment of national prosperity that assesses 142 countries and is an essential tool for governments across the globe. For more information please go to www.li.com and www.prosperity.com.