

The 2018 Triennial Review of the List of Least Developed Countries

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on behalf of the CDP Sub-group

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Structure

1. Role of the CDP
2. LDC criteria and procedures
3. Results of applying the LDC criteria to developing countries
4. Candidates for inclusion
5. Countries meeting the graduation criteria
6. Countries considered for graduation



**INDEPENDENT EXPERTS
THINKING AHEAD**



*Innovative and practical
policy advice
for a better world*

CDP work on LDCs

- **Reviews triennially the list of LDCs**
 - Recommends countries for inclusion and graduation
 - EGM on 1-2 February 2018 confirmed data and prepared recommendations
 - Final decisions by CDP Plenary
 - ECOSOC endorses the recommendations
 - Normally within resolution on the CDP report
 - Can be controversial
 - General Assembly takes note
 - Should be in the same year

- **Developed and refined the criteria and procedures for identifying LDCs**
 - Endorsed by ECOSOC and General Assembly
 - Current criteria confirmed in 2017
 - Multi-year work programme (2017-2020)
- **Monitors graduating and graduated LDCs**
- **Analytical papers on LDCs**

LDC criteria and indicators

LDCs are low-income countries suffering from the most severe structural impediments to **sustainable development**.

GNI per capita

Human assets index (HAI)

- Percentage of population undernourished
- Under-five mortality rate
- *Maternal mortality rate*
- Gross secondary school enrolment ratio
- Adult literacy rate

Economic vulnerability index (EVI)

- Population
- Remoteness
- Merchandise export concentration
- Share of agriculture, forestry and fisheries in GDP
- Share of population in low elevated coastal zones
- Victims of natural disasters
- Instability of agriculture production
- Instability of exports of goods and services

Application of criteria

- Data collected for all 145 UN Member States in developing regions
 - Most data from UN sources
- Indicator values (if necessary) and index scores calculated
- Thresholds:
- **GNI per capita** (2014-2016 average)
 - Inclusion: **\$1,025** and below
 - Graduation: **\$1,230** and above
 - 'Income only' graduation: **\$2,460** and above
- **Human Asset Index**
 - Inclusion: **60** and below
 - Graduation: **66** and above
- **Economic vulnerability index**
 - Inclusion: **36** and above
 - Graduation: **32** and below



Basic eligibility rules

- **Inclusion**

- Country meets inclusion thresholds for all three criteria
- Country must agree to its inclusion

- **Graduation**

- Country passes thresholds of any 2 criteria
 - **GNI** and **HAI** ; or
 - **GNI** and **EVI** ; or
 - **HAI** and **EVI** .
 - Or: Income > twice income graduation threshold
- Country must meet criteria at **two consecutive reviews**
- No automatism: **impact assessment, vulnerability profile, country views** taken into account



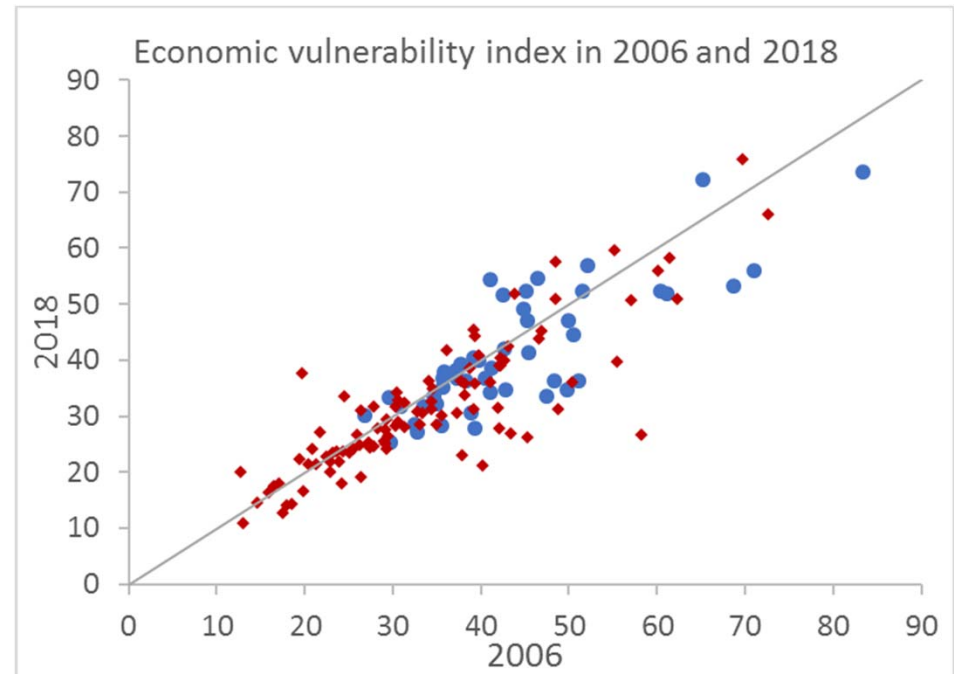
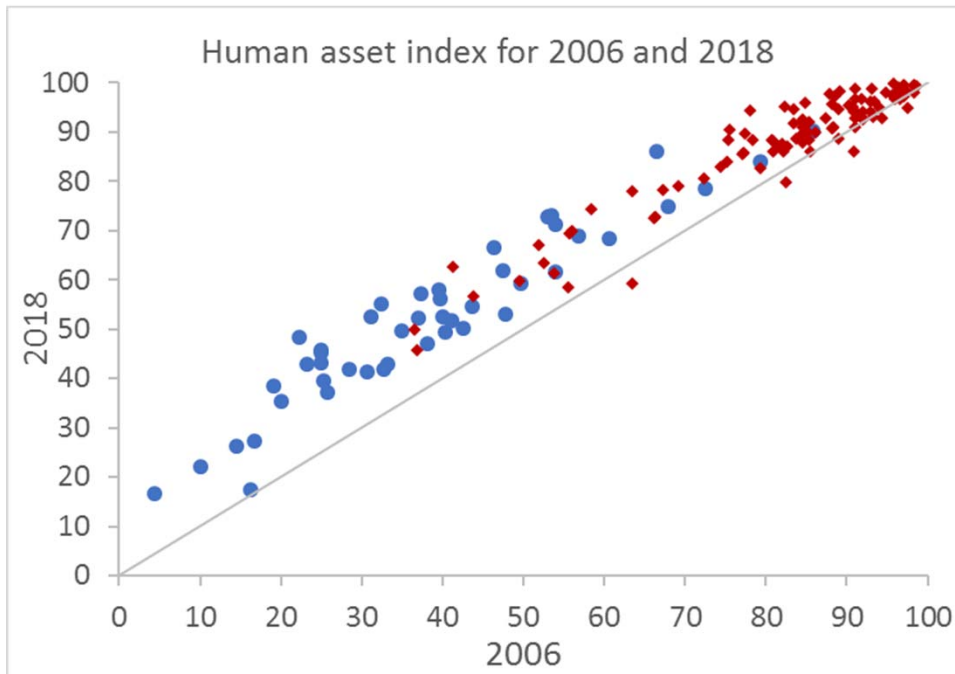
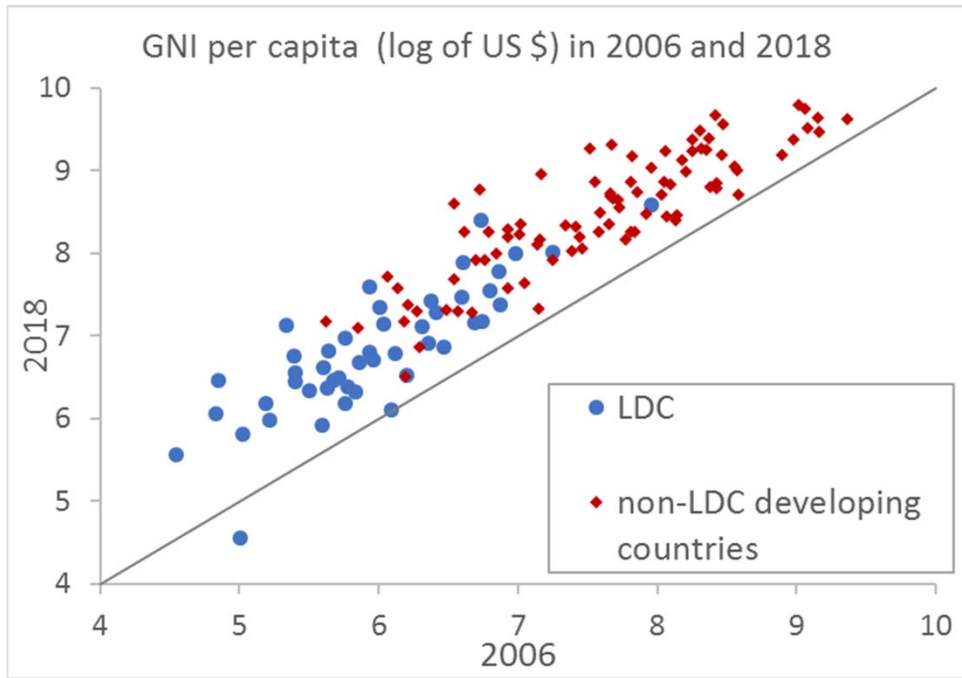
Inclusion

- **Zimbabwe** meets the inclusion criteria for the fifth consecutive time since 2006
 - Narrow margin for income and (particularly) HAI criteria
- Country objected to inclusion in 2006, 2009, 2012 and 2015
- Country confirmed after the EGM that it does not wish to be included in the LDC category
- Finding in report to ECOSOC, but no further action by CDP

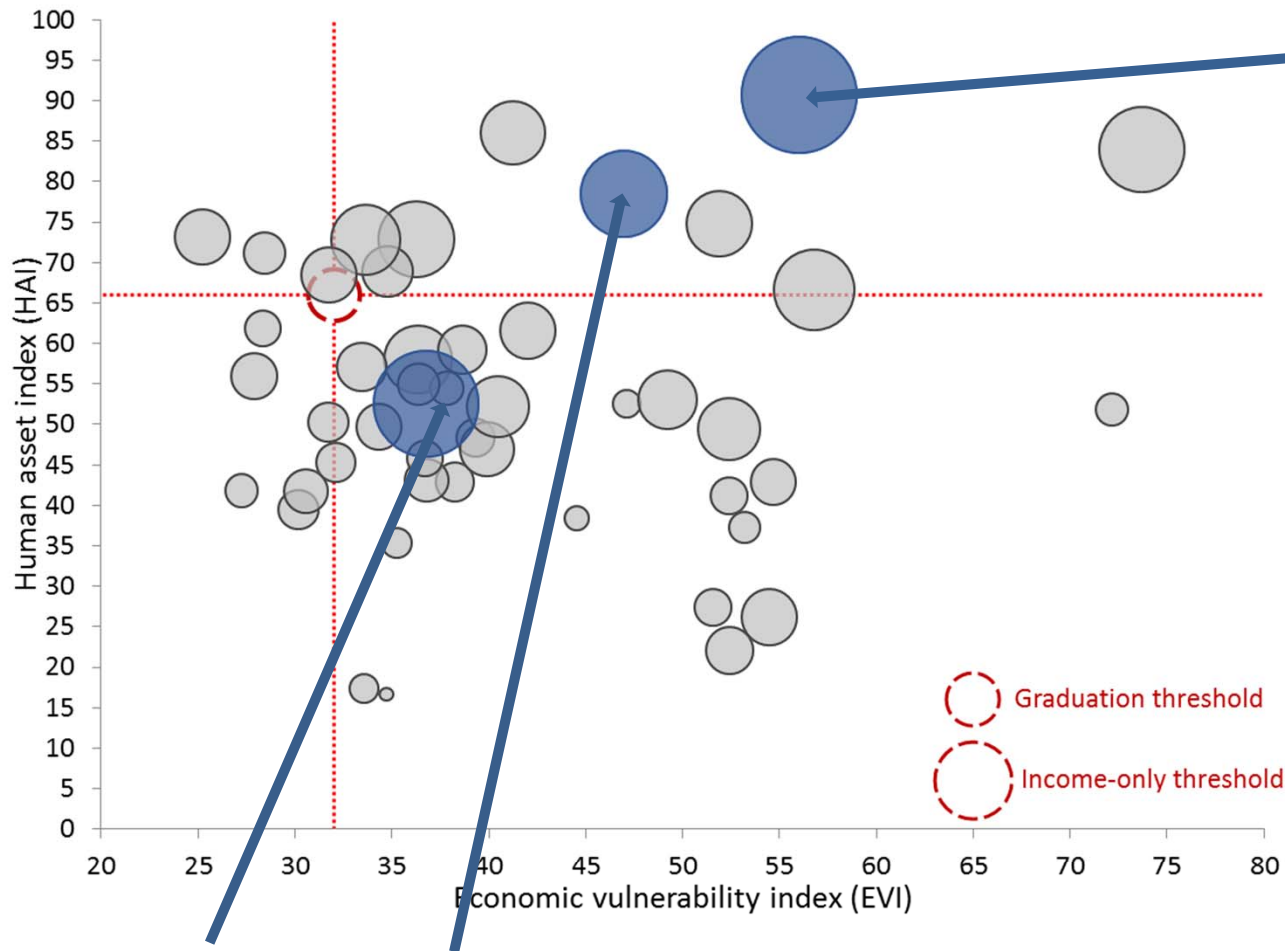


Overall results

- Over 12 years, progress in income and HAI, but less on EVI
- 'Catching up' by LDCs in HAI, but not in GNI and EVI
- Large variation in progress for both LDCs and non-LDCs
- High vulnerability of non-LDC (SIDS and landlocked countries)



Graduation – past recommendations



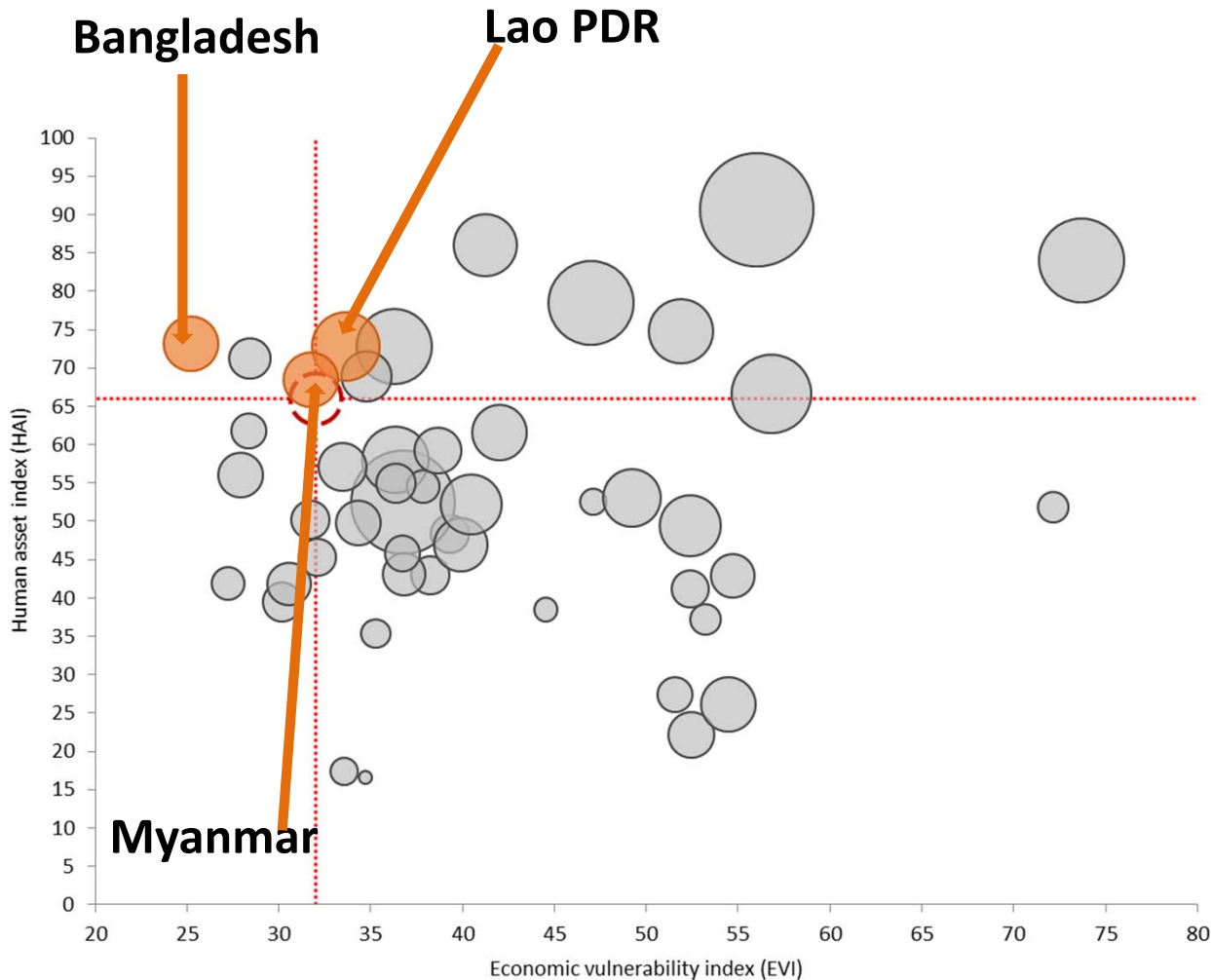
Tuvalu

- Recommended by the CDP to graduate in 2012
- ECOSOC deferred consideration three times
- ECOSOC will consider again this year
- Country shares some (not all) key characteristics with Kiribati (see later)

- **Angola and Vanuatu**

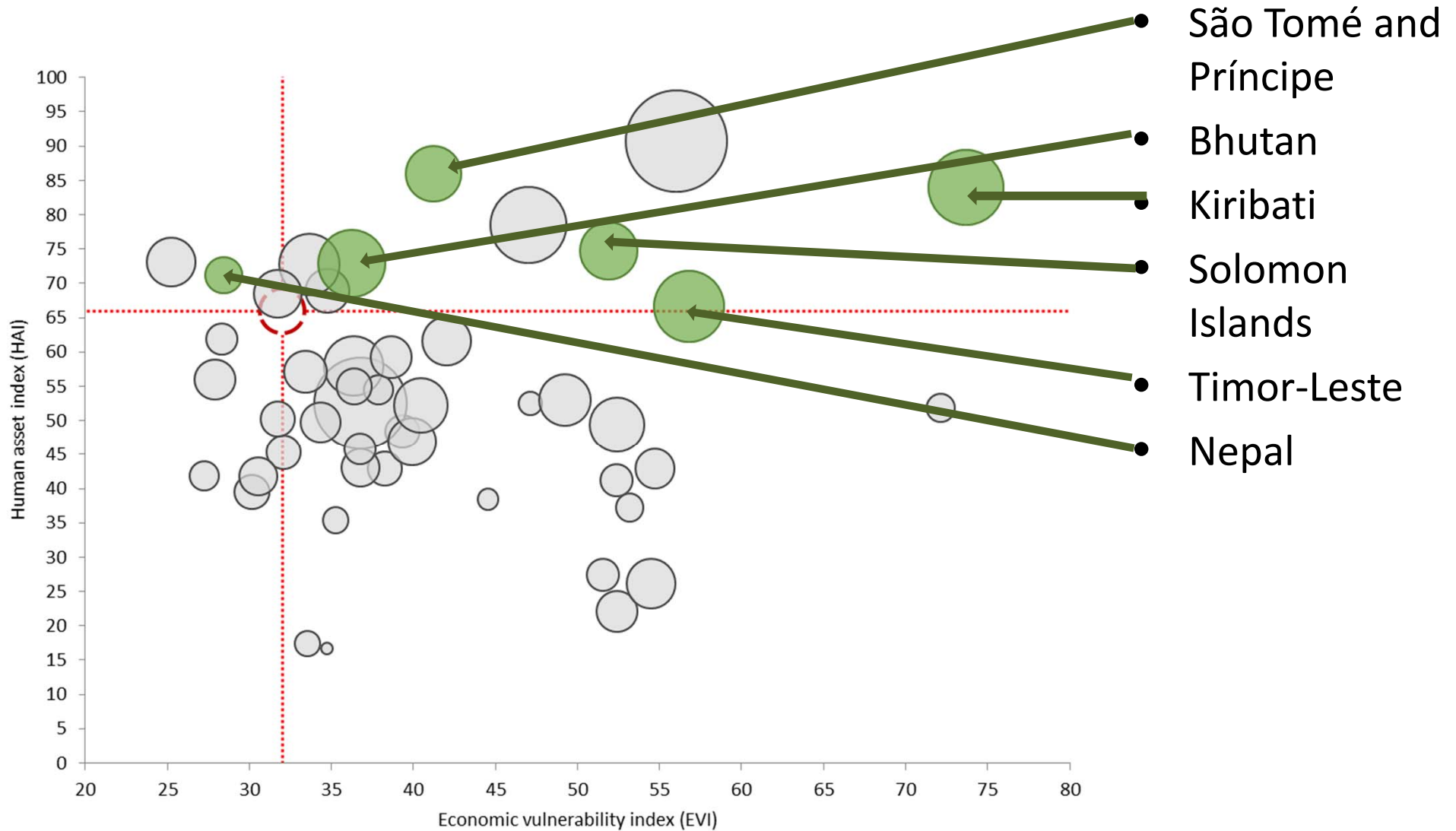
- Scheduled to graduate in 2021 and 2020
- Considered already on Monday

Graduation – first eligibility 2018



- All three will be considered for graduation at 2021 review
 - Consider also question of excluded populations
- ‘Pathway III’ countries: Progress in all 3 criteria
- Graduation could have significant impacts (DFQF)
- Early planning beneficial (and already happening in countries)

Graduation – second eligibility 2018





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