

# Chapter 10

## Behind the Scenes: Research Methodology and Analytical Framework

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### **ABSTRACT**

*This chapter describes how the global Landscape Study was designed and carried out. The Landscape Study informs all the findings and results presented in this volume. The authors describe here the criteria for the country selection and selection of local research partners in each country, the procedures and instruments for data collection, the way we analyzed the data, and some of the limitations of the study.*

### **COUNTRY SELECTION**

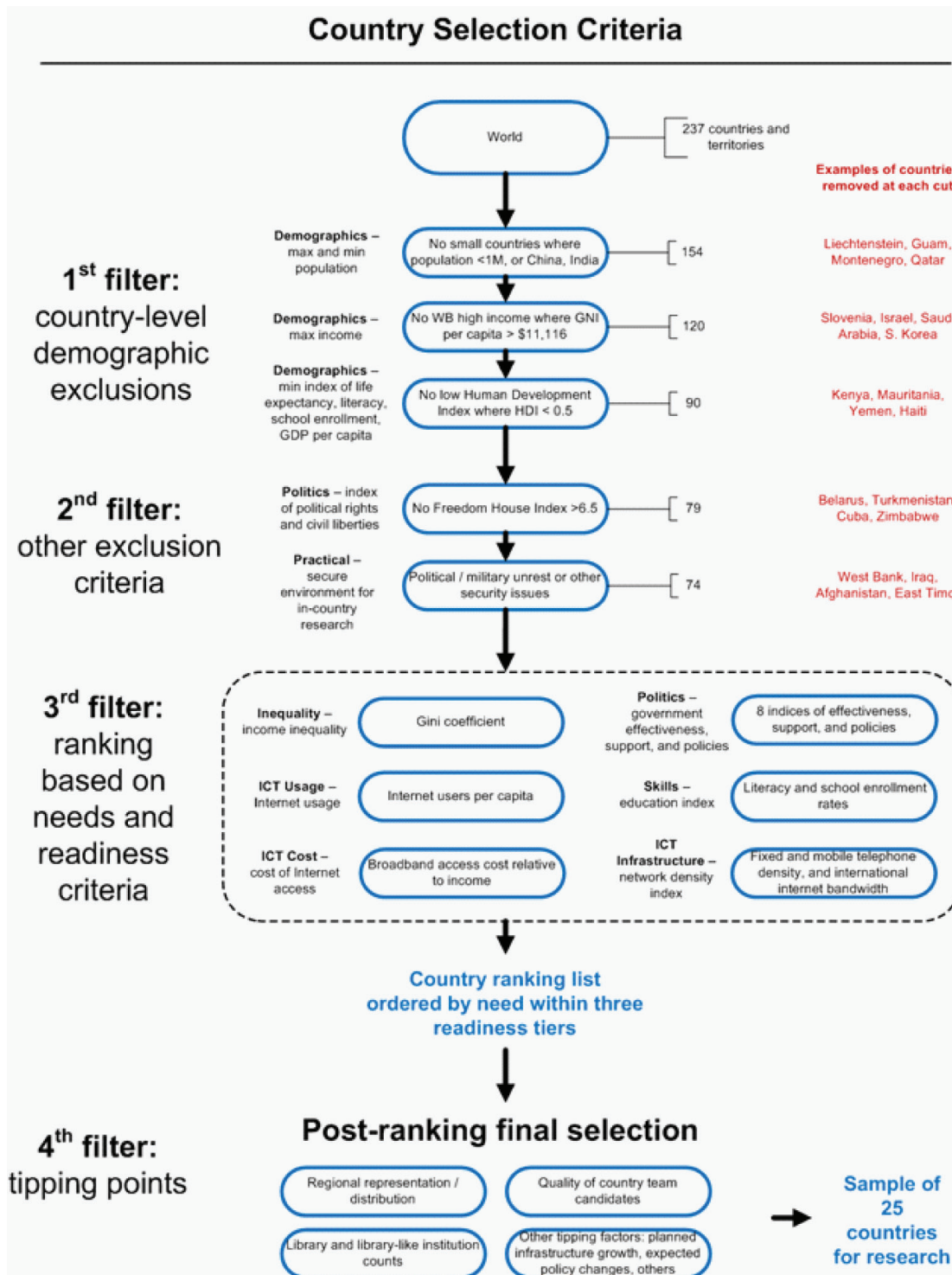
This international study aimed to understand the landscape of public access to ICT in a variety of contexts around the world, focused on “middle of the pyramid” (Prahalad, 2006) countries, and especially on countries with existing public library systems. The country selection went through a series of filters based on demographic data, feasibility criteria, and ranking criteria,<sup>2</sup> as described in Figure 1.

The first filter used publicly available demographic data to reduce the total 237 countries and territories around the world to a subset of 90 countries:

- Remove all small countries with populations under 1 million, as well as countries with most population (China and India)
- Remove all countries with highest per capita income (over \$11,116)
- Remove all countries with lowest Human Development Index (HDI below 0.5)<sup>3</sup>

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-60960-771-5.ch010

Figure 1. Country selection criteria



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