Improving the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Dashboard

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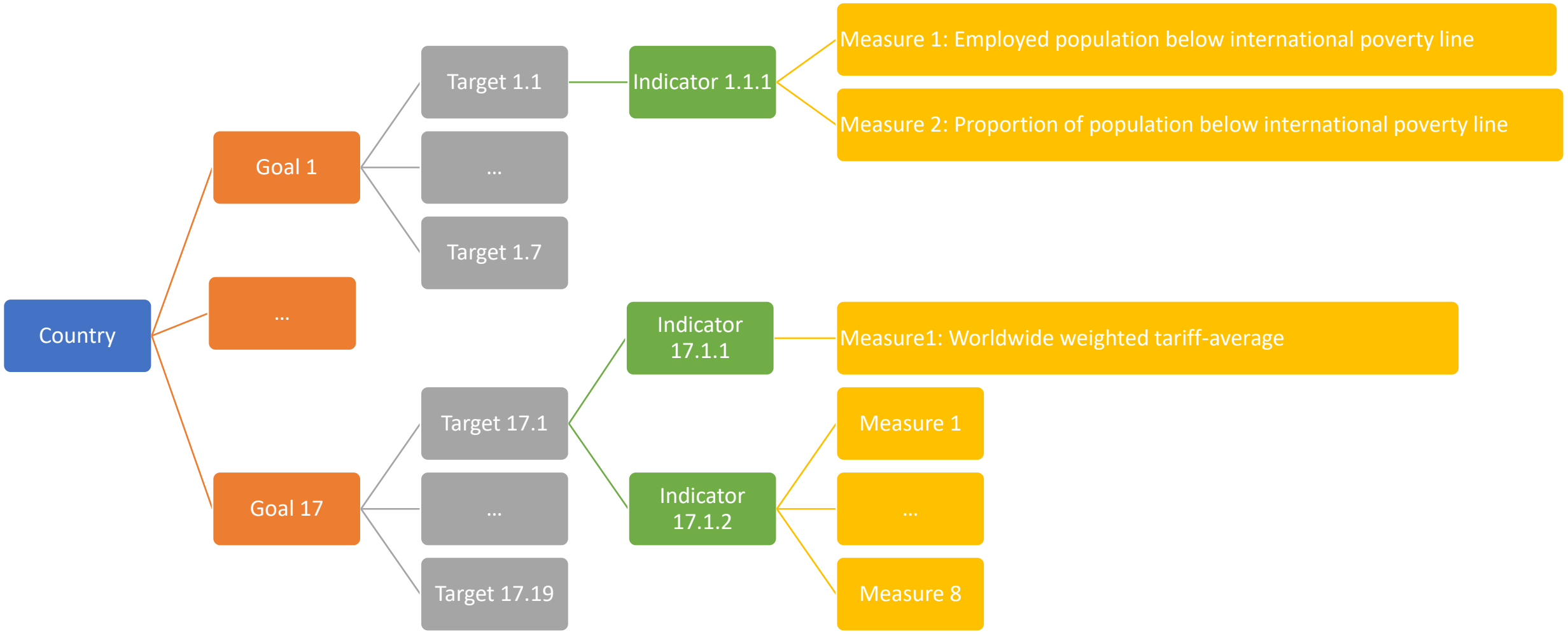
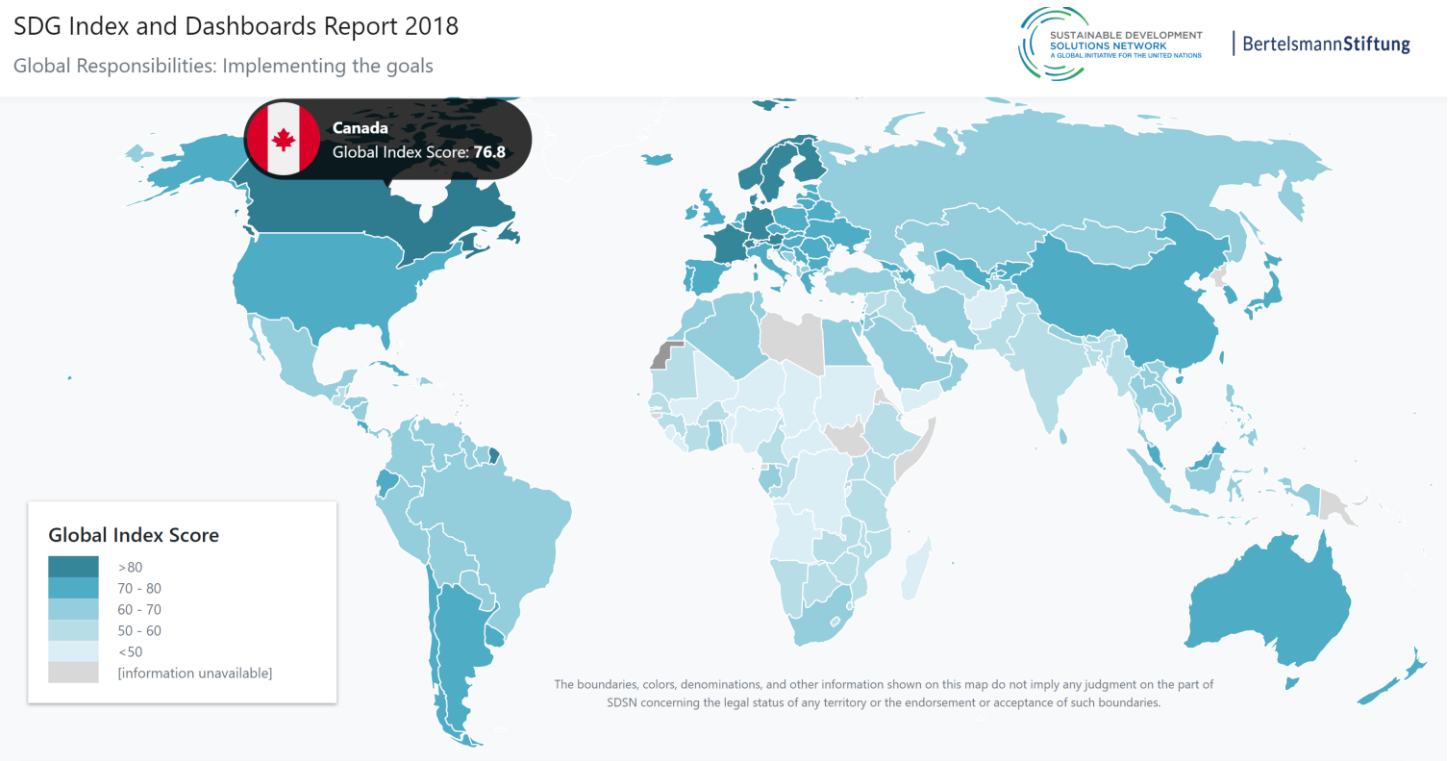
The Dataset

{193 countries **17 goals** **169 targets** 232 indicators 412 measures} measurement values 2005-2016



The Current Dashboard



It maps the global performance scores (0-100)

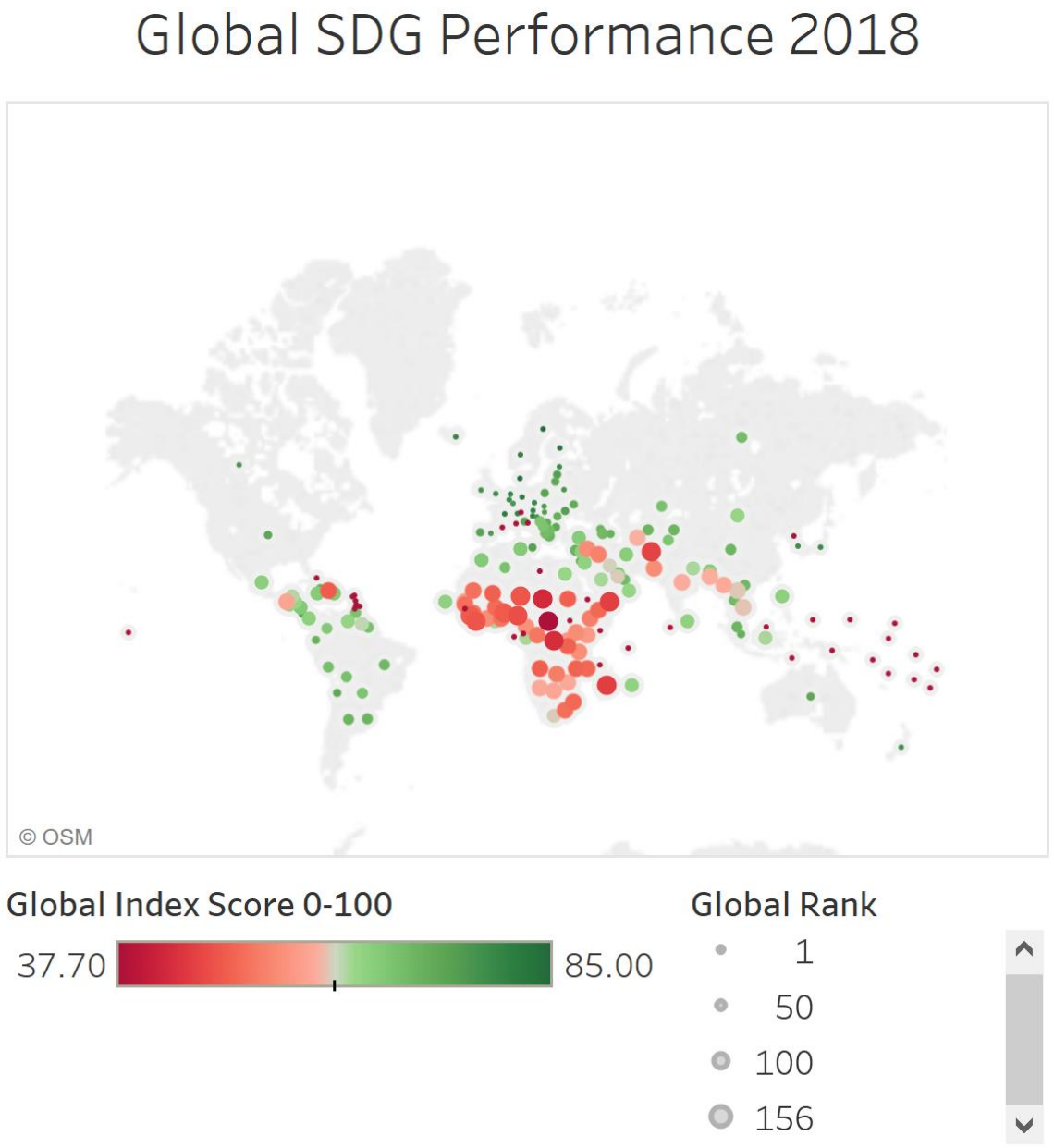
Problems

1. Classifying ~~*continuous*~~ scores into 5 classes
2. Difficult to see small-sized countries and differentiate between the 5 **shades** of blue

The Improved Dashboard

How is the world performing overall?

African and small island countries are performing below average.



The Current Dashboard

It shows a country's performance trend and performance on the 17 SDG goals.

Problems

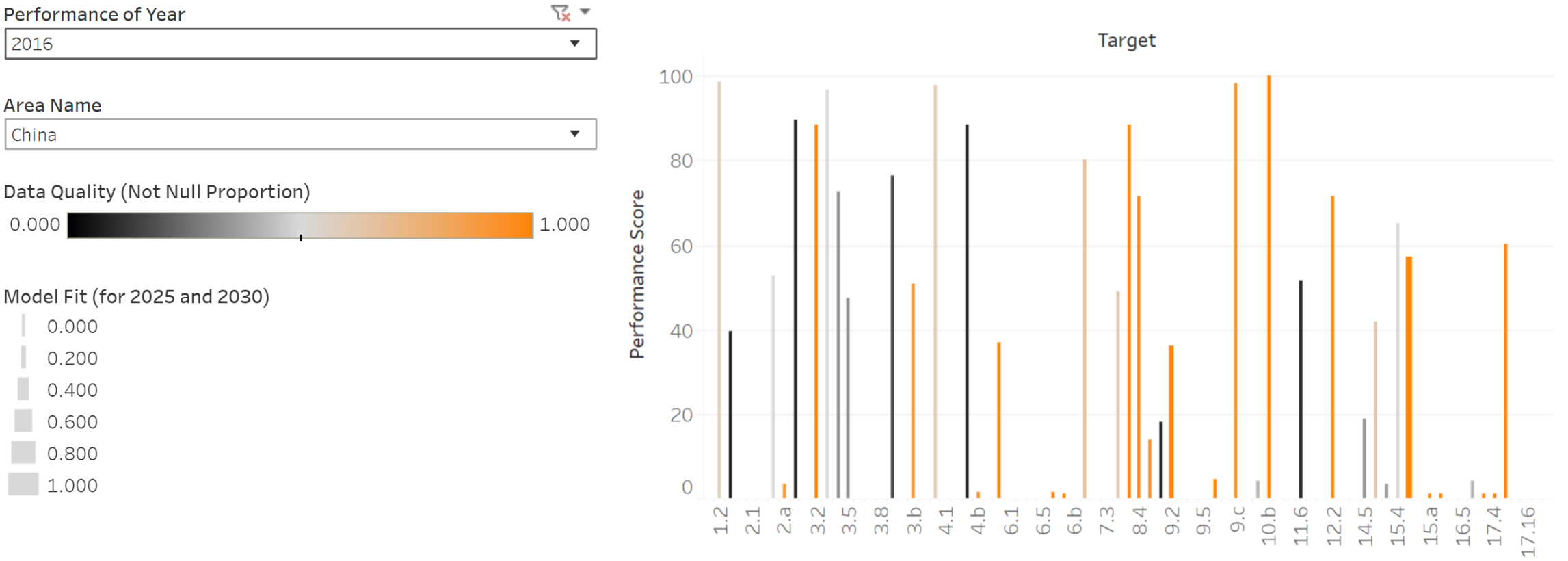
1. Unclear about **from when to when** the changes were measured and the **magnitude** of the changes
2. Not predicting future performance
3. Uninformative of how the selected country performed on the 169 targets associated with the 17 goals
4. Not presenting facts about data quality

The Improved Dashboard

What is a country's past and predicted performance on the SDG goals?

E.g., China has been performing poorly on Goal 4 and the same is predicted for 2030.

The dashboard alerts China to take actions and informs global leaders to mobilize assistance.



The Improved Dashboard

How is a specific country performing on the SDG targets?

In 2016, China **performed well** on Target 4.a (education facilities) but the data is **insufficient** (8% not null) . China should better monitor the associated indicators to keep track of progress.

In the same year, China **scored poorly** on Target 4.b (global scholarships) and the data is **sufficient** (92% not null). China can focus on target 4.b to increase overall performance for the Goal 4 (Quality Education).

Performance of Year

2030

Area Name

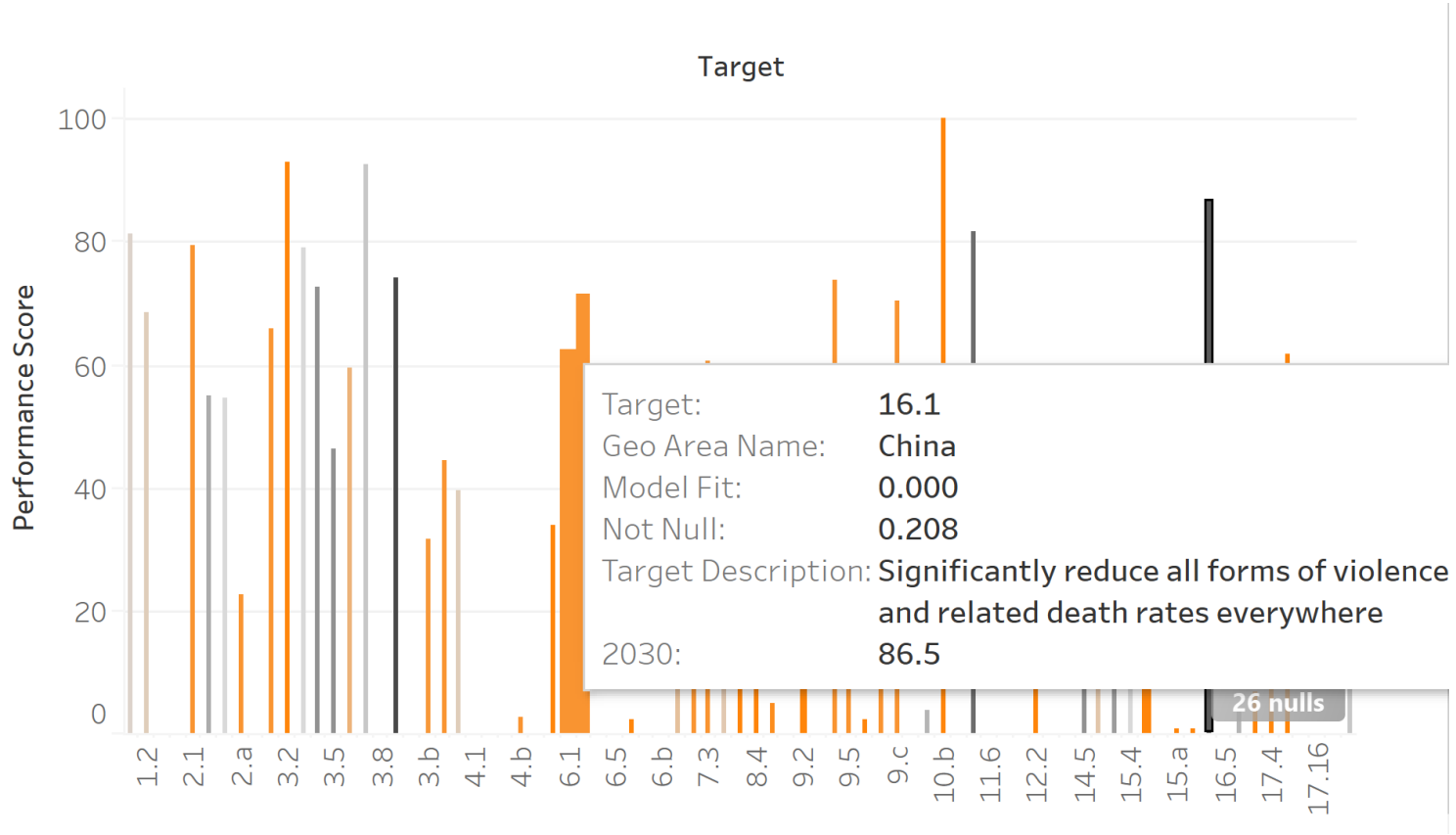
China

Data Quality (Not Null Proportion)

0.000 — 1.000

Model Fit (for 2025 and 2030)

- 0.000
- 0.200
- 0.400
- 0.600
- 0.800
- 1.000



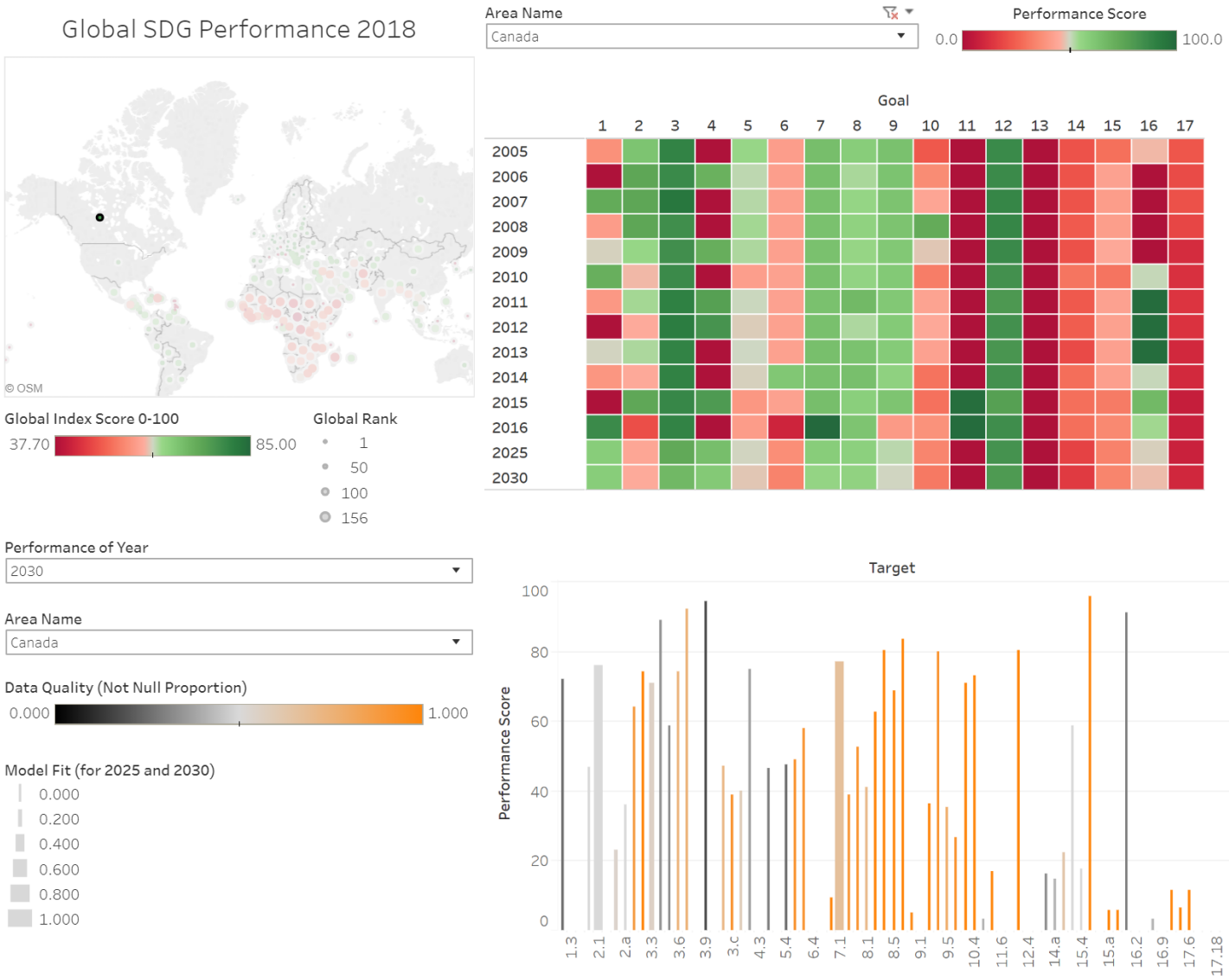
The Improved Dashboard

How confident are we about the **predictions**?

Overall, insufficient data (grey or blanks) and poorly fitting models *(thin bars)*.

Although China is predicted to score highly on Target 16.1 (violence reduction) in 2030, there was insufficient data for the prediction (20% not null) and *the models fitted the data terribly.*

By comparison, predictions for Goal 6 (clean water) are more reliable because of sufficient data and **high R-squared values**.

Demo

1. How is the world performing overall?
2. What is the past and predicted performance for a specific country (Canada)?
   a. Performance on SDG goals
   b. Performance on SDG targets
   c. Data quality and prediction accuracy