**Capstone Two: Project Proposal**

**Problem Statement**

What affects life expectances across Latin America, particularly Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay? Given the current trends in GDP, GDP per capita, population, R&D, consumption and investment, will life expectances for these countries increase in the coming years?

**Context**

I would like to confirm that as a country gets richer, measured by an increase in GDP or increase in certain GDP accounts, life expectancies increase as well. Since, as countries produce more output, its inhabitants’ income should also increase, and this should improve personal health awareness and have higher access to medical care that should increase life expectancies.

**Criteria for Success**

The success here will depend on how accurately the data was selected; correctly selecting the drivers of life expectancy for the five countries mentioned in the problem statement.

**Scope of solution space**

We will need to test different models to be able to arrive at the best one and then decide if the data selected was the appropriate choice.

**Constraints**

Data accuracy and availability, in terms of the GDP accounts they should be dependable given that it is data collected from a very credible source. It will be imperative to have a long history of data going back at least 50 years for the model to be a good fit.

**Stakeholders**

Claudia Zaffaroni – Data Scientist / Economist

Background: I’d like to know if the objective of a country should be to increase GDP to give the population a better and longer life or are there other issues that affect life expectances. This would mean that the government’s objective should not be solely to increase GDP because the problem of not finding a clear pattern might be that income distribution deteriorates.

**Data Sources**

World Bank – Data Bank

<https://databank.worldbank.org/reports.aspx?source=2&series=NY.GDP.MKTP.CD&country=>

**Deliverables**

* Slide deck
* Project Report