

Final Project Report

Project Title : Measuring the Pulse of Prosperity: An Index of Economic Freedom Analysis

Team ID : LTVIP2025TMID49576

Team Members : Team Leader : Pappugari Jyotheeswara Reddy

Team member : S V N Thanuja

Team member : Sharik Shaik Md

Team member : Sorakundal Siva Vara Prasad

Team member : V Gagana Deepika

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Overview

This project focuses on analyzing global economic indicators using the Index of Economic Freedom dataset. It aims to uncover how various factors like GDP, inflation, trade freedom, and monetary freedom contribute to the prosperity of a nation.

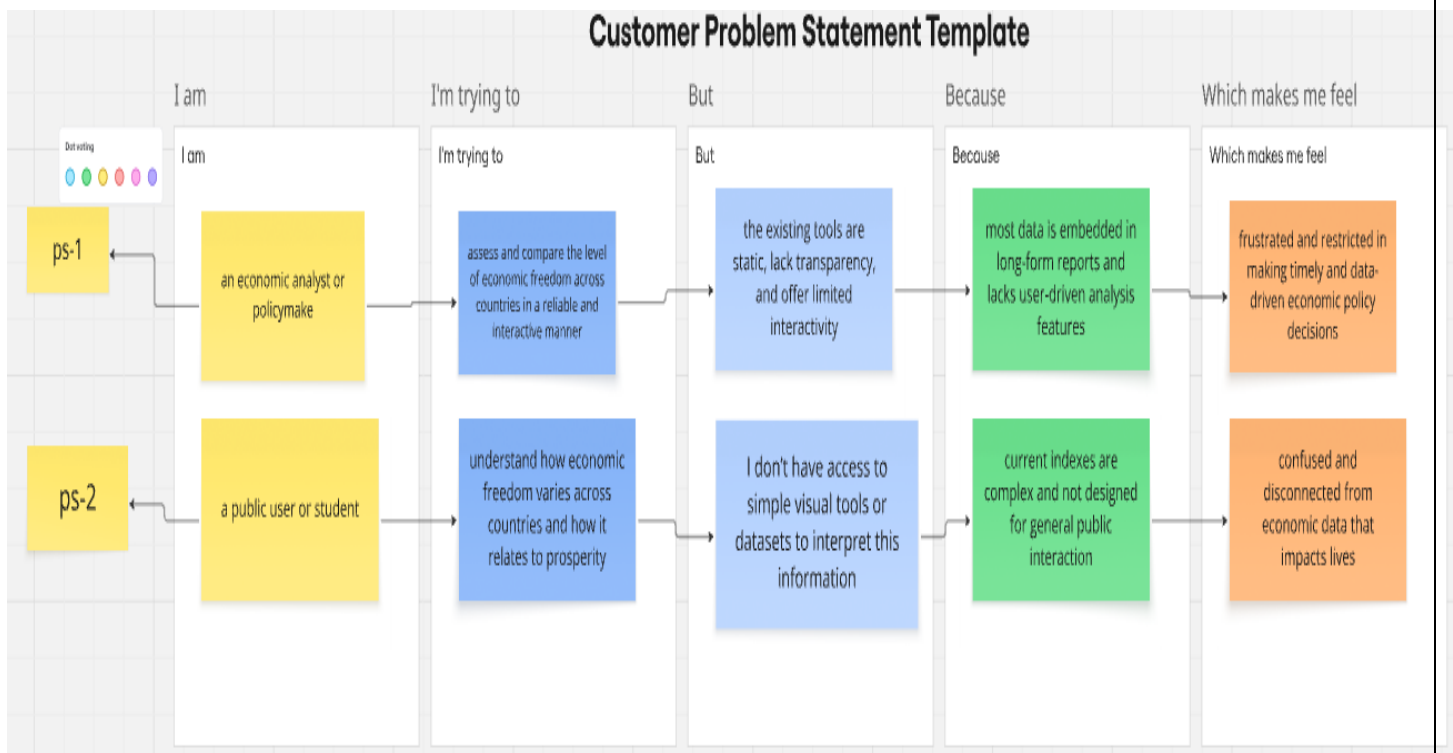
1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this project is to create interactive dashboards that visualize economic freedom indicators, enabling policymakers, students, and researchers to make data-driven insights about global development trends.

2. IDEATION PHASE

2.1 Problem Statement

To understand and visualize how economic freedom influences prosperity across nations by exploring relationships between indicators such as GDP, inflation, monetary freedom, and investment freedom.



Statement	I am	I'm trying to	But	Because	Which makes me feel
PS-1	An economic analyst or policymaker	Assess and compare the level of economic freedom across countries in a reliable and interactive manner	The existing tools are static, lack transparency, and offer limited interactivity	Most data is embedded in long-form reports and lacks user-driven analysis features	Frustrated and restricted in making timely and data-driven economic policy decisions
PS-2	A public user or student	Understand how economic freedom varies across countries and how it relates to prosperity	I don't have access to simple visual tools or datasets to interpret this information	Current indexes are complex and not designed for general public interaction	Confused and disconnected from economic data that impacts lives

2.2. EMPATHY MAP CANVAS

- Who: Students, researchers, policymakers
- Do: Explore data, compare countries, identify development gaps
- See: Complex economic reports
- Say/Do: "How can we improve economic freedom?"
- Hear: Reports, political feedback, economic debates
- Pain: Overwhelming data
- Gain: Actionable insights, comparative advantage



Empathy map canvas

Use this framework to empathize with a customer, user, or any person who is affected by a team's work. Document and discuss your observations and note your assumptions to gain more empathy for the people you serve.

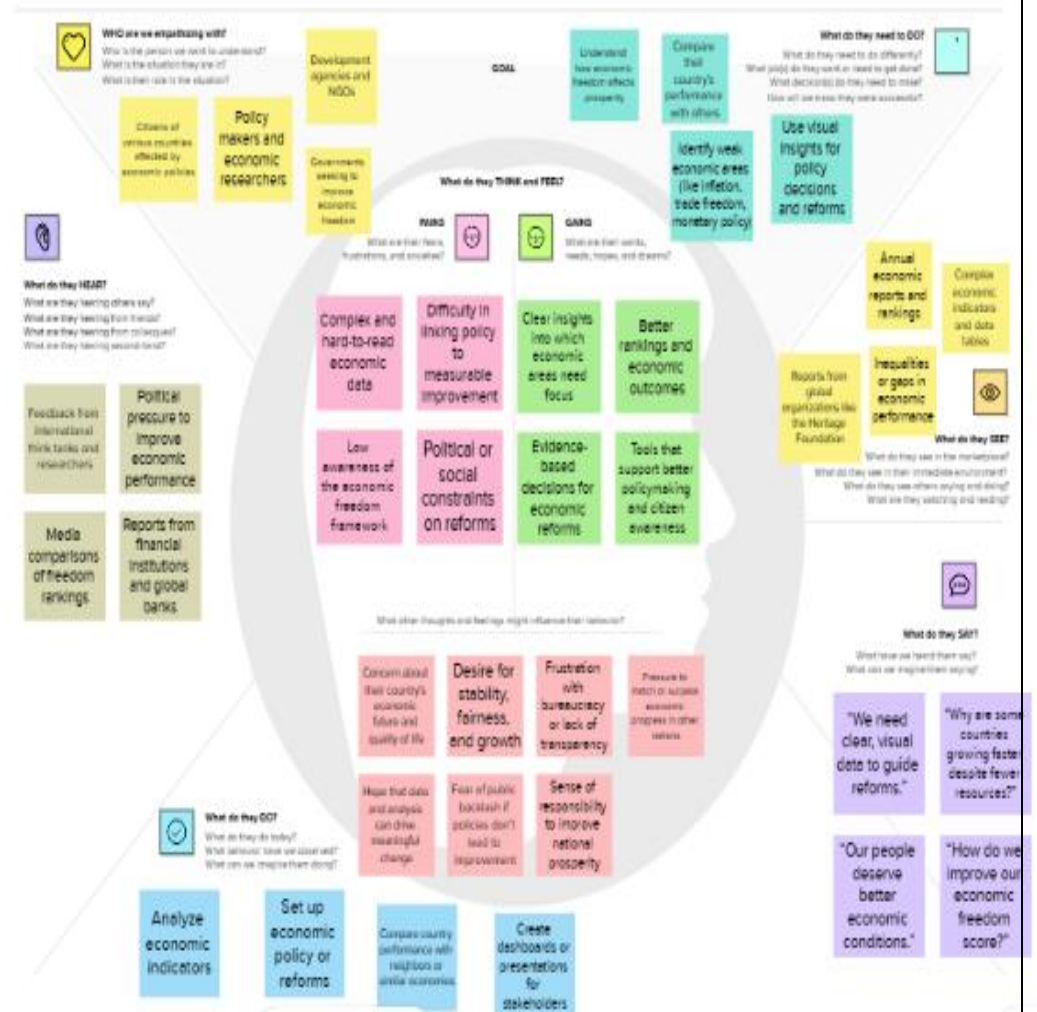
Originally created by David Evans & Co.



Share template feedback

Develop shared understanding and empathy

Summarize the data you have gathered related to the people that are impacted by your work. It will help you generate ideas, prioritize features, or discuss decisions.



2.3 BRAINSTORMING

Key ideas included:

- GDP vs economic freedom comparison
- Top/bottom country ranking
- Region-based heatmaps
- Indicator-wise analysis
- Interactive dashboard in Tableau

Grouped into:

- Analysis
- Visualization
- Interpretation

Step-1: Team Gathering, Collaboration and Select the Problem Statement



Brainstorm & idea prioritization

Use this template in your own brainstorming sessions so your team can unleash their imagination and start shaping concepts even if you're not sitting in the same room.

- 10 minutes to prepare
- 1 hour to collaborate
- 2-8 people recommended

Before you collaborate

A little bit of preparation goes a long way with this session. Here's what you need to do to get going.

10 minutes

- Team gathering**
We had a virtual team meeting on 26th June 2024. After reviewing available datasets, we chose the project "Measuring the Pulse of Prosperity: An Index of Economic Freedom Analysis." We discussed roles and planned brainstorming, analysis, and dashboard creation.
- Set the goal**
Our goal is to analyze economic freedom across countries using the Index of Economic Freedom dataset. We aim to visualize the results, rank countries, and find relationships between freedom and prosperity.
- Learn how to use the facilitation tools**
Use the Facilitation Superpowers to run a happy and productive session.

[Open article](#)

Define your problem statement

PROBLEM

To analyze economic freedom in countries and understand its effect on prosperity. We will explore the Index of Economic Freedom dataset, compare countries, create visualizations, and correlate freedom with GDP and other indicators.



Key rules of brainstorming

To run an smooth and productive session

- Stay in topic.
- Encourage wild ideas.
- Defer judgement.
- Listen to others.
- Go for volume.
- If possible, be visual.

Step-2: Brainstorm, Idea Listing and Grouping

2

Brainstorm

Write down any ideas that come to mind that address your problem statement.

10 minutes

TIP
You can select a sticky note and hit the pencil icon to edit it.



3

Group ideas

Take turns sharing your ideas while clustering similar or related notes as you go. Once all sticky notes have been grouped, give each cluster a sentence-like label. If a cluster is bigger than six sticky notes, try and see if you can break it up into smaller sub-groups.

20 minutes

TIP
Add custom labels to sticky notes to make it easier to find, browse, organize, and categorize important ideas as they relate to your goal.

Data Analysis



Visualization & Dashboard



Insights & Interpretation



Step-3: Idea Prioritization

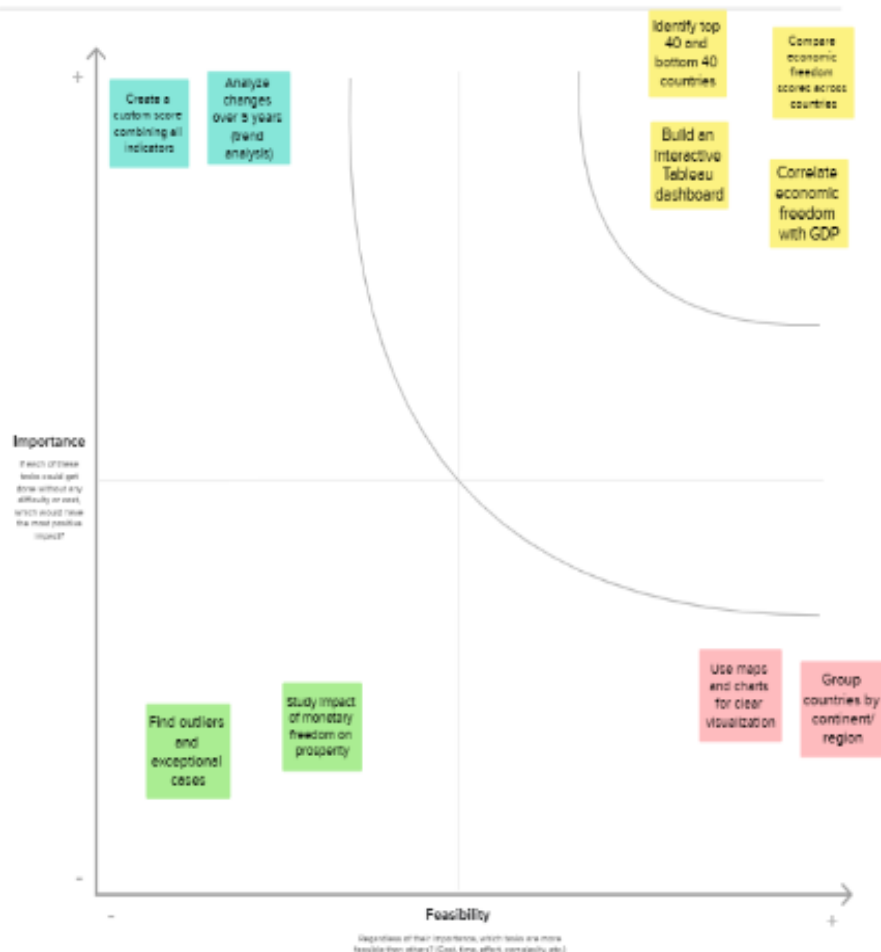
Prioritize

Your team should all be on the same page about what's important moving forward. Place your ideas on this grid to determine which ideas are important and which are feasible.

20 minutes

TIP

Participants can use their cursor to point at where sticky notes should go on the grid. The facilitator can confirm the spot by using the laser pointer holding the H key on the keyboard.



After you collaborate

We selected a meaningful problem and brainstormed over 12 key ideas. We grouped them into analysis, visualization, and insights. After that, we used the prioritization matrix to focus on the most important and feasible tasks. Our next steps involve data exploration and dashboard development in Tableau.

Quick add-ons

- Show the mural
Share a view link to the mural with stakeholders to keep them in the loop about the outcomes of the session.
- Export the mural
Export a copy of the mural as a PNG or PDF to attach to emails, include in slides, or save in your drive.

Keep moving forward

- Strategy blueprint**
Define the components of a new idea or strategy.
[Open the template →](#)
- Customer experience journey map**
Understand customer needs, motivations, and obstacles for an experience.
[Open the template →](#)
- Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities & threats**
Identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) to develop a plan.
[Open the template →](#)

3.REQUIREMENT ANALYSIS

3.1 Customer journey Map

Experience mapped from discovering the dataset → exploring it → creating dashboards → submitting results → receiving feedback.

Scenario: A student or researcher explores the Index of Economic Freedom dataset to analyze and understand global prosperity.	Entice How does someone discover the value of this service?	Enter What do people experience as they begin the process?	Engage In the core moments of the process, what happens?	Exit What do people typically experience as the process finishes?	Extend What happens after the experience is over?
Experience stress What does the person feel during all the steps of this scenario typically experience to reach goal?	Learns about economic freedom through a class, assignment or online course Gets curious about how economic policies impact growth Sees visual dashboards in a demo or peer project	Downloads the dataset Opens CSV/Excel and explores indicators Tries to understand data sources and structure	Cleans null or incorrect values Starts analyzing GDP, inflation, and monetary freedom indicators Creates charts and filters in Tableau Compares countries and years Collaborates with teammates for interpretation	Finalizes report and dashboards Uploads work to GitHub or Tableau Public Submits link or file for review	Gets feedback from mentors or classmates Shares the dashboard on LinkedIn Adds project to resume or portfolio Reflects on what could be improved
Interactions What interactions do they have at each step along the way? People: Who do they see or talk to? Places: Where are they? Things: What digital touchpoints or physical objects do they use?	Talk with instructors, project mentors Watch YouTube tutorials or webinars See LinkedIn posts or peer projects	Access data from Heritage Foundation / official source Read codebook / documentation Ask questions to group / team	Use Tableau Public, Excel, VS Code Google Meet or WhatsApp for team coordination Refer to tutorials or forums (Stack Overflow)	Use GitHub to share code and dashboards Submit through class platform or email Peer review or showcase session	Use project link in job applications Discuss with interviewers or recruiters Get feedback on public post or message
Goals & motivations At each step, what is a person's primary goal or motivation? (Using "I want..." or "I need...")	"Help me find a meaningful project topic" "Let me work on something real-world and relevant"	"I want to understand how countries compare economically" "What do these indicators mean?"	"Let's find insights and patterns." "Make this dashboard visually impressive and accurate." "Help others understand our findings."	"Make a good impression with this submission." "Ensure everything works and looks professional!"	"Can I reuse this in future interviews?" "Can this get me noticed online?" "Did I learn something useful?"
Positive moments What does doing a better person feel: enjoyable, productive, fun, motivating, delightful, or exciting?	Found a dataset with global relevance Excited to work on something new	Realized the dataset covers multiple years Easy to open and explore basic fields	Found an interesting pattern (e.g., GDP is freedom) Teamwork went smoothly Charts turned out clean and useful	Submission went smoothly Mentor praised the visualization Everything worked as expected	Shared work on LinkedIn and got engagement Reused project for a resume Recommended to juniors
Negative moments What does doing a better person feel: frustrating, confusing, annoying, costly, or time-consuming?	Didn't know where to start or which topic to pick Fear of working with big datasets	Confused by some indicator definitions Dataset formatting issues (extra spaces, missing values)	Tableau crashing or slow performance Difficulty building dual-axis graphs Git conflicts while working in teams	Trouble exporting dashboard Submission links didn't work the first time	Didn't get feedback Project forgotten and not reused Realized missing documentation later
Areas of opportunity How might we make each step better? What ideas do we have? What have others suggested?	Suggest this dataset earlier in the course Include a sample completed project for reference	Provide a video data dictionary Pre-cleaned CSV or sample filter logs	Offer a basic dashboard template Simplify column naming or translation Auto-highlight insights with explanations	Give export checklist or submission demo Validate GitHub public link on submission	Offer certificate of completion or badge Provide structured feedback from mentor Encourage sharing via visual platforms or LinkedIn

3.2.Solution requirement

Functional Requirements:

Following are the functional requirements of the proposed solution.

FR No.	Functional Requirement (Epic)	Sub Requirement (Story / Sub-Task)
FR-1	Dataset Upload	Upload Economic Freedom Dataset (CSV/Excel)
		Validate Data Format and Structure
FR-2	Index Computation	Apply Economic Freedom Index Formula
		Normalize and Aggregate Data
FR-3	Visualization & Reporting	Display Charts for Each Country/Region

FR No.	Functional Requirement (Epic)	Sub Requirement (Story / Sub-Task)
		Allow Comparison Over Time
FR-4	User Roles & Authentication	Admin, Analyst, and Viewer Roles
		Secure Login via Email or Google OAuth
FR-5	Data Export	Export Freedom Index Reports in PDF or Excel

Non-functional Requirements:

Following are the non-functional requirements of the proposed solution.

NFR No.	Non-Functional Requirement	Description
NFR-1	Usability	Interface should be user-friendly for analysts and public users.
NFR-2	Security	Ensure authentication, data privacy, and role-based access control.
NFR-3	Reliability	System should provide consistent results without failure.
NFR-4	Performance	Index computation and report generation must complete within 5 seconds.
NFR-5	Availability	System should have 99.5% uptime.
NFR-6	Scalability	Support expanding datasets with additional countries or indicators.

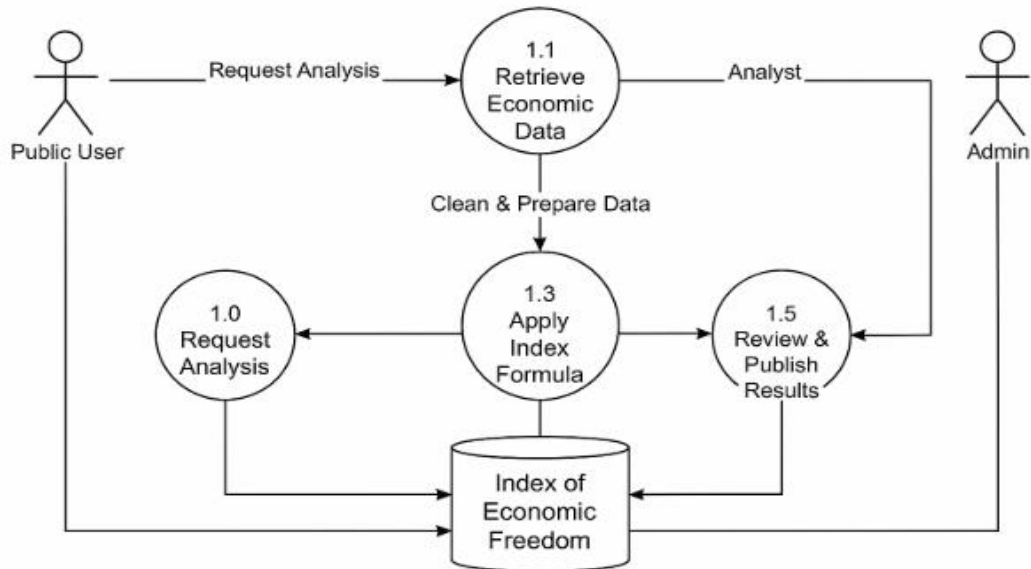
3.3.Data flow Diagram

Level 0 DFD:

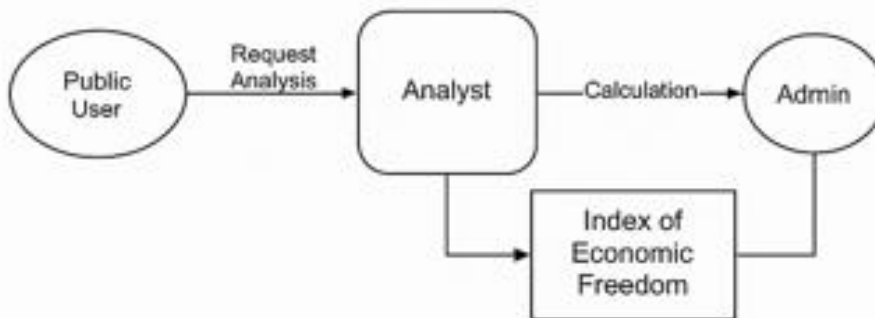
- Input: Economic dataset
- Process: Clean → Analyze → Visualize
- Output: Dashboards and insights
- Users: Analysts, students

stored.

Index of Economic Freedom Analysis



Level 0 DFD



3.4. Technology stack

- Data Source: CSV file from Heritage Foundation
- Tool: Tableau Public
- Collaboration: GitHub
- Preprocessing: Excel / Python

Technical Architecture:

S.No	Component	Description	Technology
1	User Interface	Web portal for public users, analysts, and admins	React.js, Tailwind CSS
2	Application Logic-1	Data upload, preprocessing, and validation logic	Python (Flask or Django)

S.No	Component	Description	Technology
3	Application Logic-2	Index computation and aggregation	Python (Pandas, NumPy)
4	Application Logic-3	Visualization and filtering logic	Chart.js, D3.js
5	Database	Stores user roles, raw and processed economic data	PostgreSQL
6	Cloud Database	Cloud-hosted database for scalability and security	AWS RDS / Google Cloud SQL
7	File Storage	Stores uploaded datasets and exportable reports	AWS S3 / Google Cloud Storage
8	External API-1	Country-level economic indicators (if fetched dynamically)	World Bank API
9	Machine Learning Model	(Optional) Forecast economic freedom trends	Scikit-learn / XGBoost
10	Infrastructure	Application hosting & deployment	AWS EC2 / Google App Engine

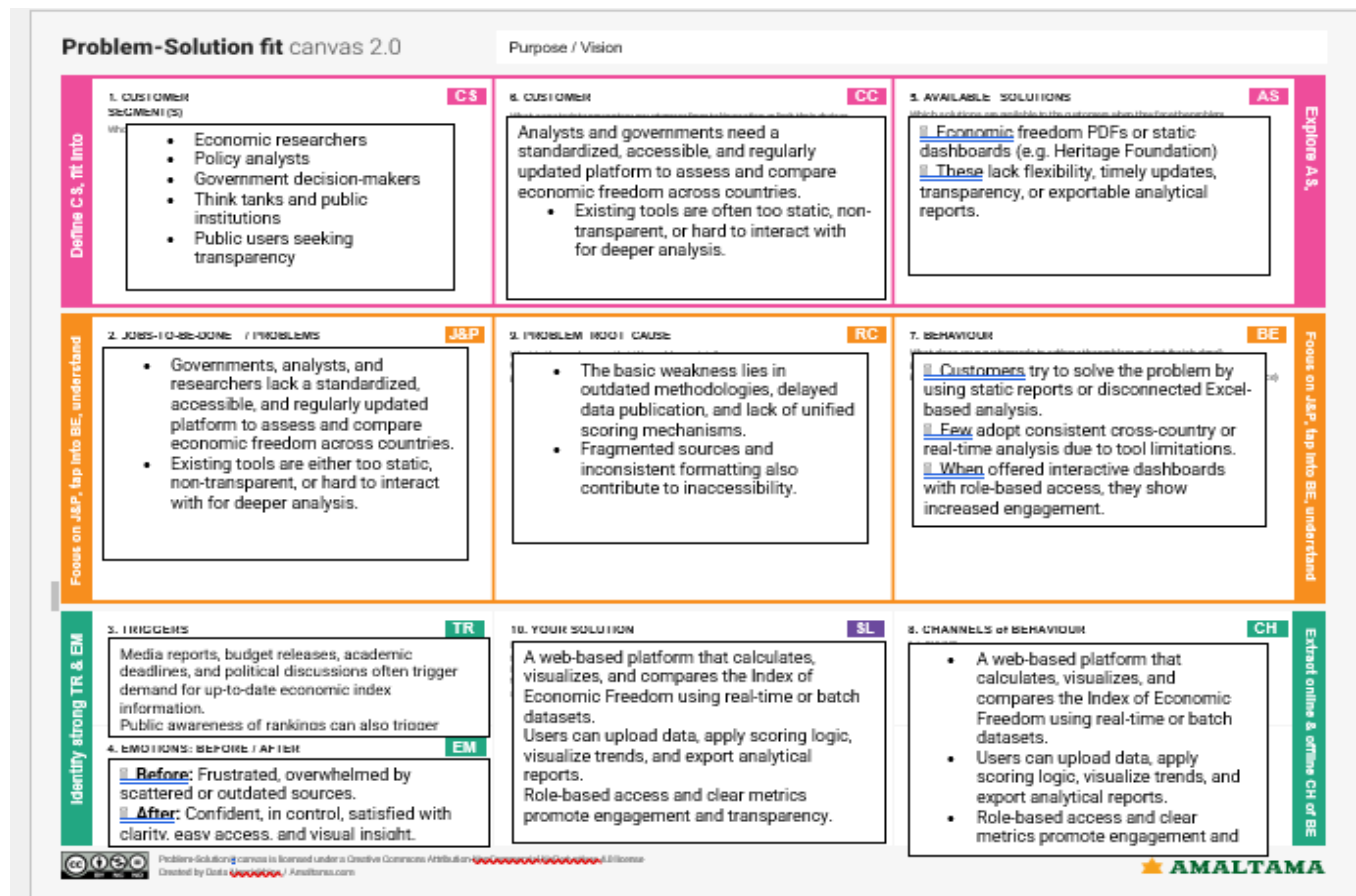
Table-2: Application Characteristics:

S.No	Characteristics	Description	Technology
1	Open-Source Frameworks	Backend and frontend development frameworks	React.js, Flask, Django
2	Security Implementations	Data validation, login authentication, access control by role	OAuth 2.0, JWT, HTTPS, IAM (AWS)
3	Scalable Architecture	Modular microservices with database and UI tiers	3-Tier Architecture
4	Availability	Cloud-based deployment with potential load balancing	AWS Load Balancer /

4. PROJECT DESIGN

4.1 Problem Solution Fit

We address the difficulty in understanding raw economic data by converting it into clear, comparative visuals.



4.2 Proposed Solution

Create interactive dashboards with filters and story elements that help users understand and compare countries' economic status.

Proposed Solution Template:

Project team shall fill the following information in the proposed solution template.

S.No.	Parameter	Description
1	Problem Statement	Analysts, policymakers, and citizens lack an accessible, transparent, and dynamic tool to analyze and compare the economic freedom of countries.
2	Idea / Solution Description	A web-based platform that collects economic data, computes a standardized freedom index, provides interactive visualizations, and supports exportable reports. It supports multiple user roles (analyst, admin, public) and integrates scoring logic to track freedom trends.

S.No.	Parameter	Description
3	Novelty / Uniqueness	Combines real-time index generation, interactive dashboards, and transparent scoring logic in one accessible platform—unlike static PDF-based reports.
4	Social Impact / Customer Satisfaction	Promotes transparency and civic engagement by making economic data understandable to the public. Helps decision-makers adopt policies that enhance economic freedom.
5	Business Model (Revenue Model)	Freemium model: basic access is free for public users; subscription-based access for advanced analytics, report generation, and data exports for institutions.
6	Scalability of the Solution	Can scale horizontally by expanding to new countries, adding indicators, and integrating global data APIs. Supports cloud-based deployment for high availability and performance.

4.3 Solution Architecture

1. Raw Dataset
2. Preprocessing
3. Calculated fields
4. Dashboard Design
5. Storyboard Report

Key Architectural Components:

1. Frontend (User Interface):
 - Built with React.js and styled using Tailwind CSS.
 - Users (public, analyst, admin) can upload data, view dashboards, and export reports.
2. Backend Services:
 - Developed using Python (Flask/Django) for API creation and logic.
 - Handles dataset ingestion, validation, index computation, and user role management.
3. Data Storage:
 - Uses PostgreSQL or Google Cloud SQL for structured storage of country-level indicators and computed scores.
 - Uploads stored in AWS S3 / Google Cloud Storage.
4. Index Computation Engine:
 - Applies a weighted formula to compute the Economic Freedom Index using indicators like property rights, tax burden, and labor freedom.
 - Frameworks: Pandas, NumPy
5. Visualization Layer:
 - Interactive graphs and charts powered by Chart.js or D3.js for year-wise and country-wise comparisons.

6. Authentication & Security:

- OAuth 2.0 / Google Sign-In for secure login.
- Role-based access control for feature restrictions.

7. Hosting Infrastructure:

- Deployed on AWS EC2 or Google App Engine
- Supports scalability via load balancing and containerization (Docker/Kubernetes)

5. PROJECT PLANNING & SCHEDULING

5.1 Project Planning

Product Backlog, Sprint Schedule, and Estimation

Use the below template to create product backlog and sprint schedule

Sprint	Functional Requirement (Epic)	User Story Number	User Story / Task	Story Points	Priority	Team Members
Sprint-1	Data Preparation	USN-1	As a data analyst, I want to collect data on economic freedom indicators	2	High	Team A
Sprint-1		USN-2	As a data engineer, I want to load the collected data into a clean format	1	High	Team A
Sprint-1		USN-3	As a data scientist, I want to handle missing values for consistent data analysis	3	Medium	Team A
Sprint-1		USN-4	As a data scientist, I want to encode categorical data properly	2	Medium	Team A
Sprint-2	Modeling & Deployment	USN-5	As a developer, I want to build an index model to compute economic freedom	5	High	Team B
Sprint-2		USN-6	As a tester, I want to validate the index model for correctness	3	High	Team B
Sprint-2		USN-7	As a UI designer, I want to create HTML pages to display results	3	Medium	Team C
Sprint-2		USN-8	As a backend developer, I want to deploy the application using Flask	5	High	Team C

Project Tracker, Velocity & Burndown Chart:

Sprint	Total Story Points	Duration	Sprint Start Date	Sprint End Date (Planned)	Story Points Completed (as on Planned End Date)	Sprint Release Date (Actual)
Sprint-1	Data Preparation	USN-1	As a data analyst, I want to collect data on economic freedom indicators	2	High	Team A
Sprint-1		USN-2	As a data engineer, I want to load the collected data into a clean format	1	High	Team A
Sprint-1		USN-3	As a data scientist, I want to handle missing values for consistent data analysis	3	Medium	Team A
Sprint-1		USN-4	As a data scientist, I want to encode categorical data properly	2	Medium	Team A
Sprint-2	Modeling & Deployment	USN-5	As a developer, I want to build an index model to compute economic freedom	5	High	Team B
Sprint-2		USN-6	As a tester, I want to validate the index model for correctness	3	High	Team B

Sprint	Total Story Points	Duration	Sprint Start Date	Sprint End Date (Planned)	Story Points Completed (as on Planned End Date)	Sprint Release Date (Actual)
Sprint-2		USN-7	As a UI designer, I want to create HTML pages to display results	3	Medium	Team C
Sprint-2		USN-8	As a backend developer, I want to deploy the application using Flask	5	High	Team C

6. FUNCTIONAL AND PERFORMANCE TESTING

6.1 Performance Testing

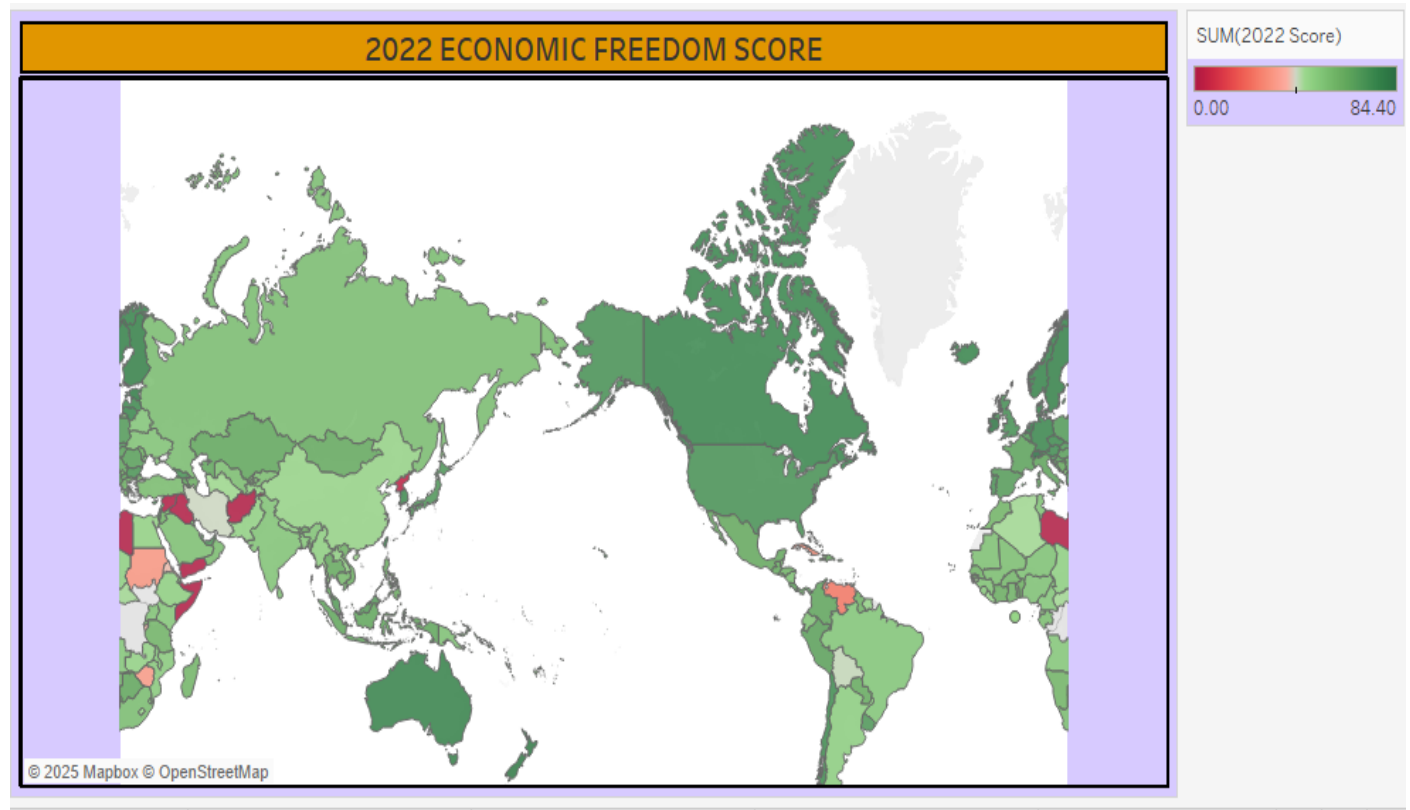
S.No.	Parameter	Screenshot / Values
1	Data Rendered	Data was imported from the Index of Economic Freedom dataset (CSV format). It contains various indicators such as GDP, inflation rate, trade freedom, monetary freedom, and investment freedom for different countries over multiple years.
2	Data Preprocessing	Unnecessary columns were removed. Missing values were handled using row-level filtering. Data types were standardized and renamed for clarity. Null entries were excluded before dashboard design.
3	Utilization of Filters	Filters used include: Country, Year, Region, Economic Freedom Score Range, and Indicator Type. These filters allow users to customize views and comparisons easily.
4	Calculation Fields Used	- GDP per Indicator Ratio - Custom Economic Index Score (weighted average) - Inflation vs Freedom Delta - Score Category Labels based on range
5	Dashboard Design	No of Visualizations / Graphs: 6 Visuals include: Line chart for GDP trends, Bar chart for top 10 countries, Heatmap by region, Pie chart for indicator distribution, Word cloud of key indicators, and Interactive Filters Panel.
6	Story Design	No of Visualizations / Graphs: 4 Story includes: Introduction to dataset, Key indicators visual summary, Region-wise freedom story, Final dashboard analysis and insights.

7. RESULTS

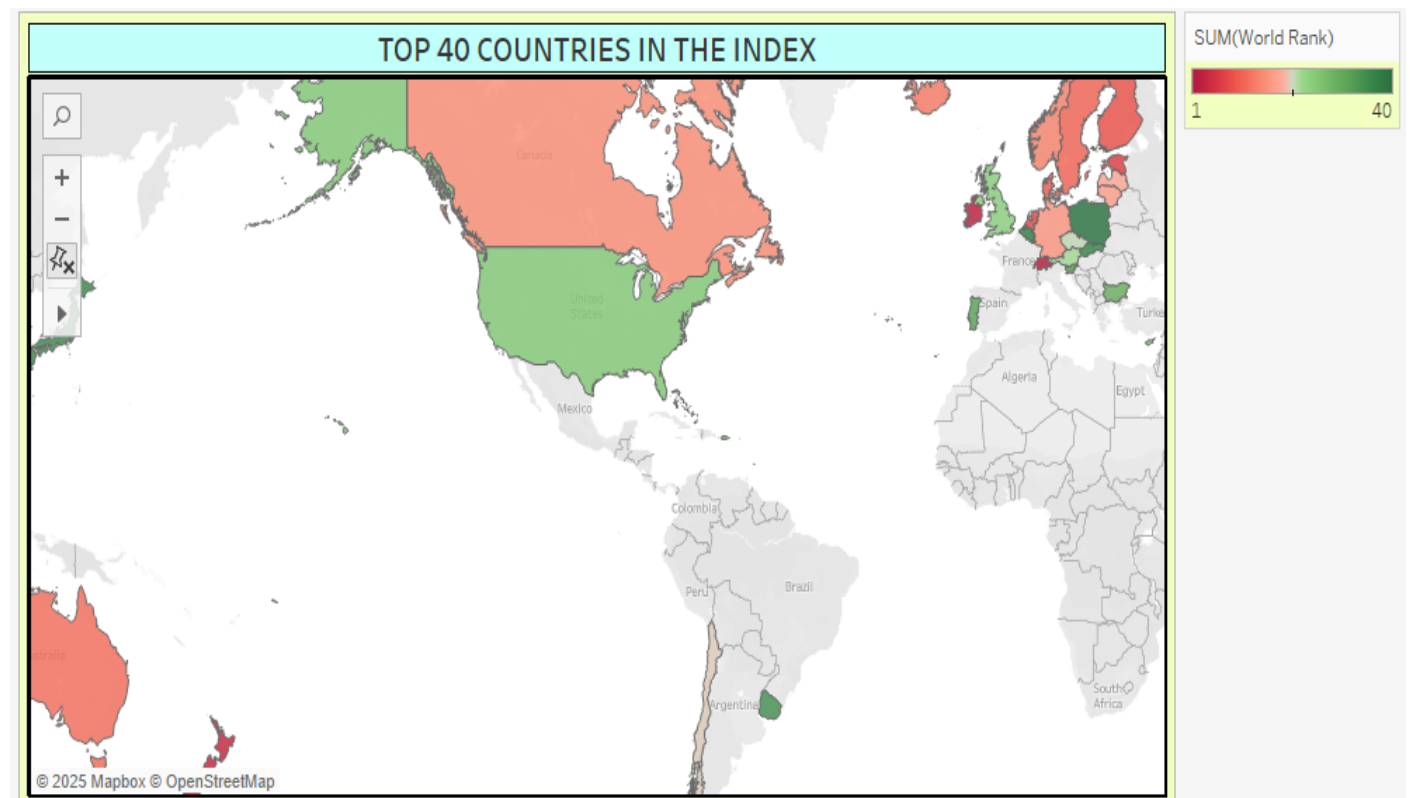
7.1 Output Screenshots

Visualisations

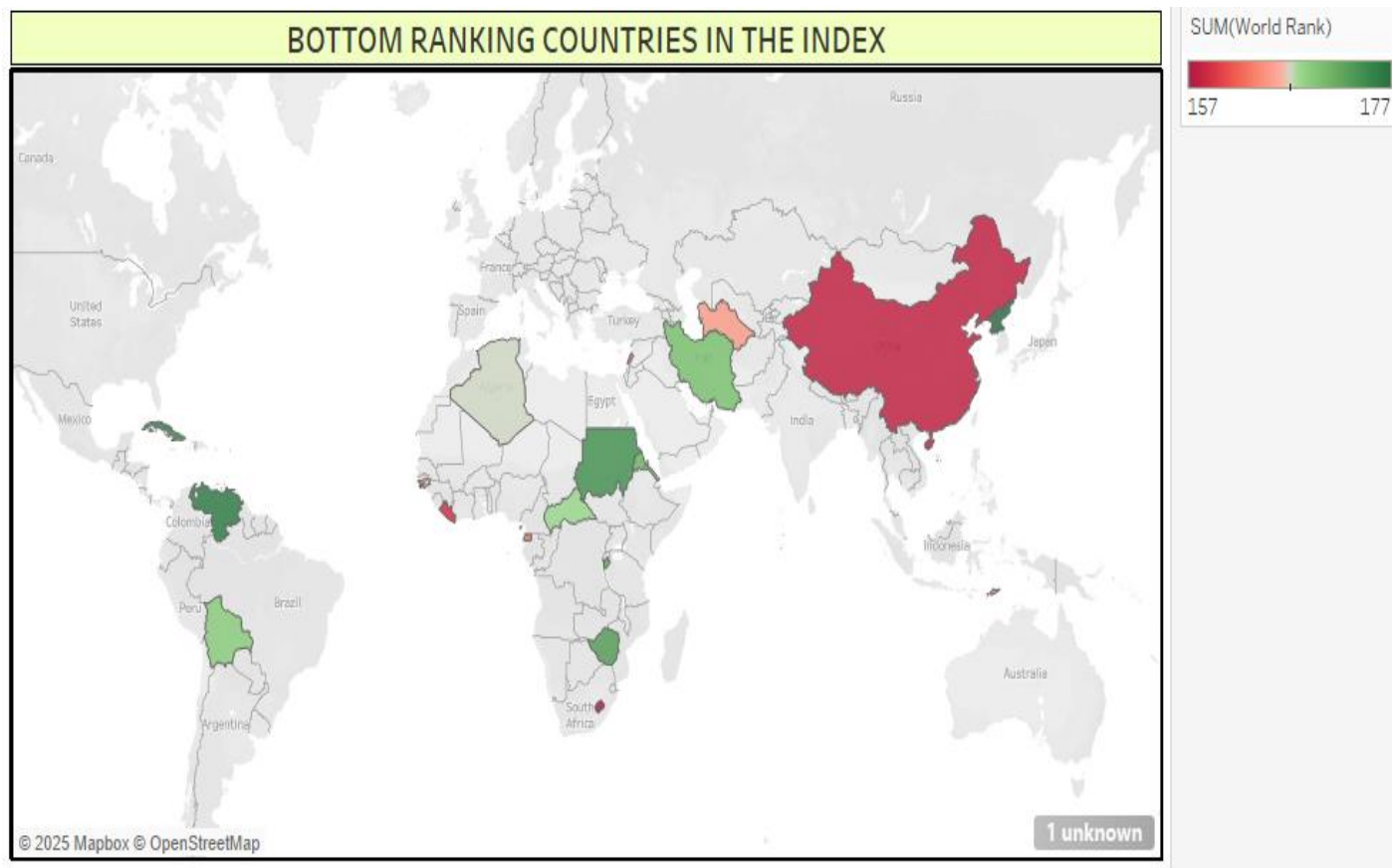
1) 2022 Economic freedom score



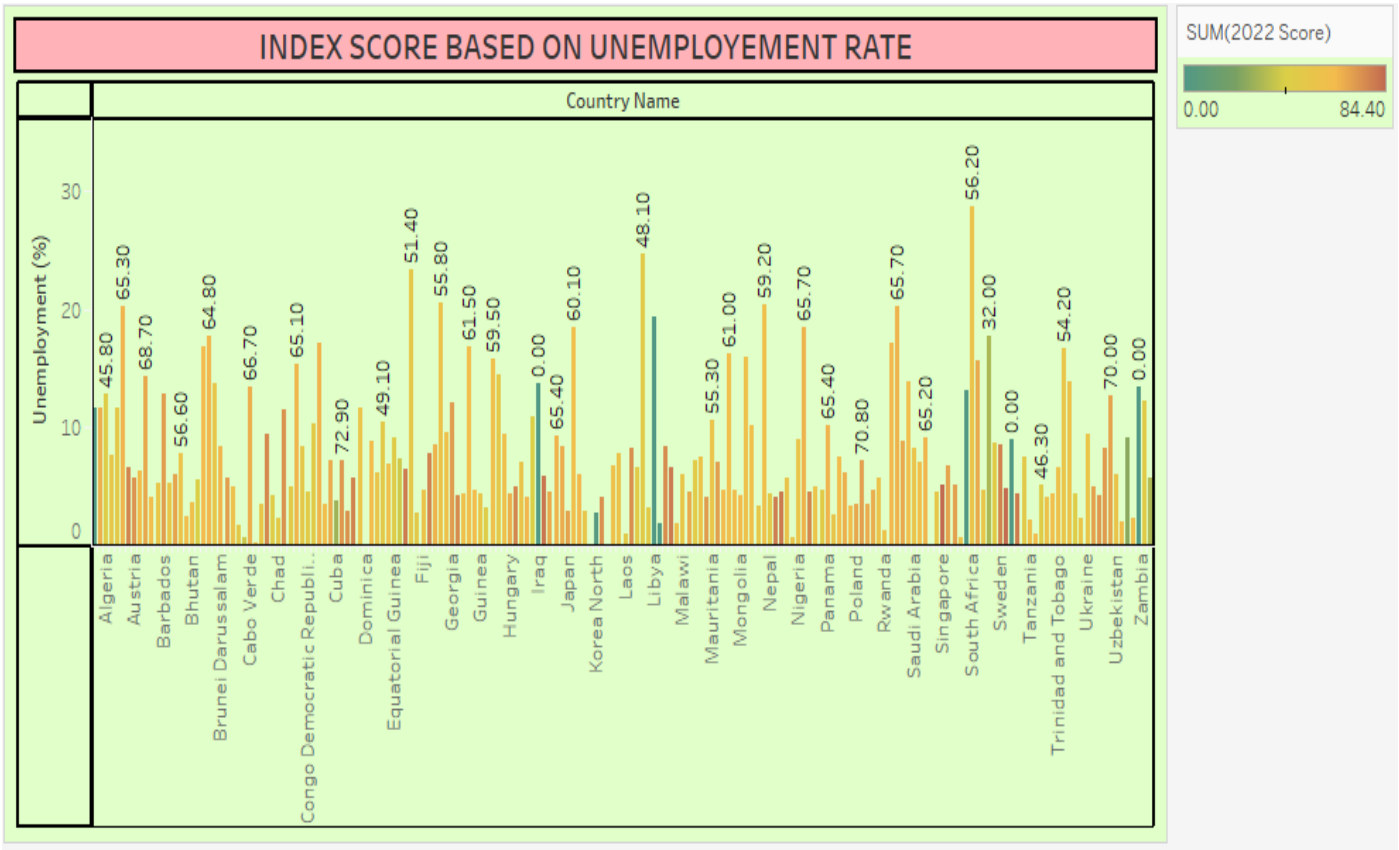
2) Top 40 countries in the index



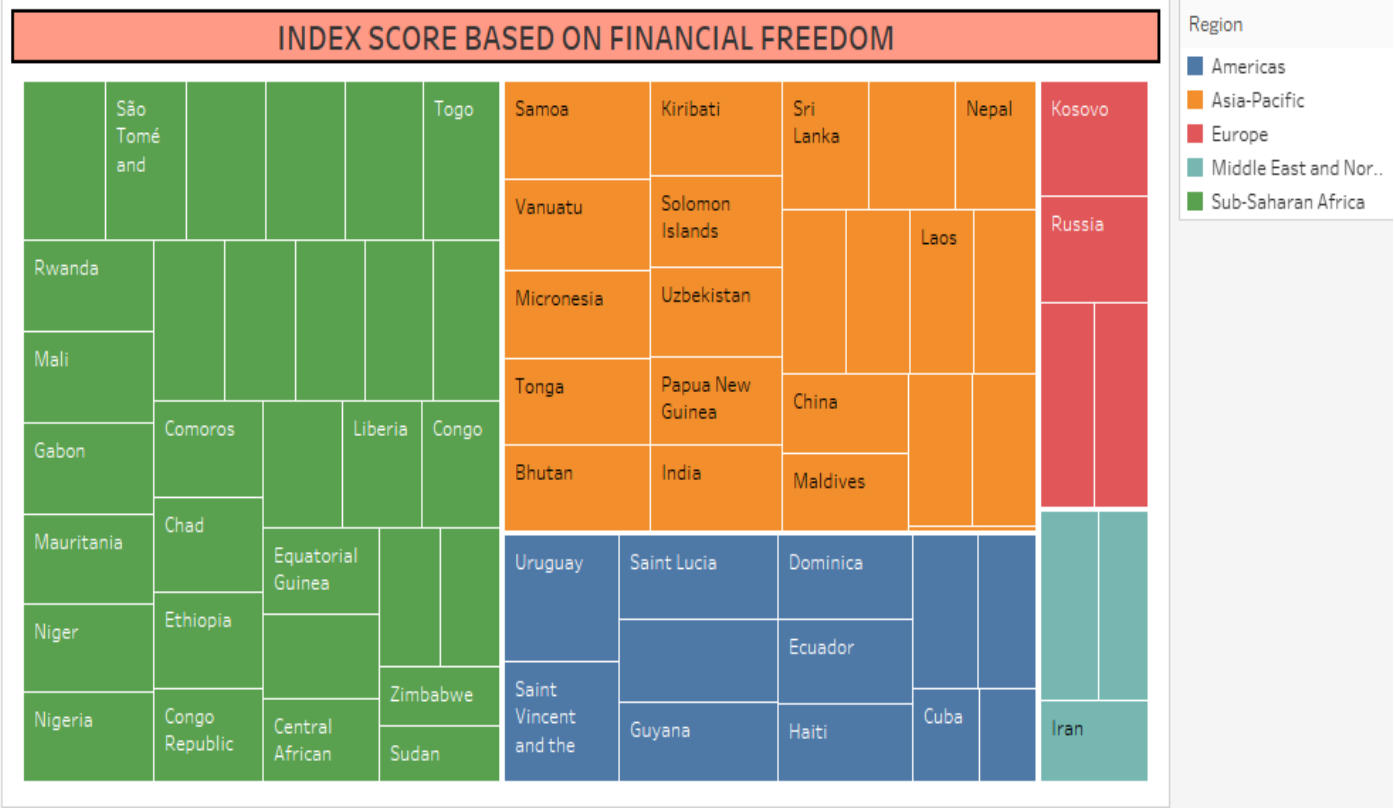
3) Bottom ranking countries in the index



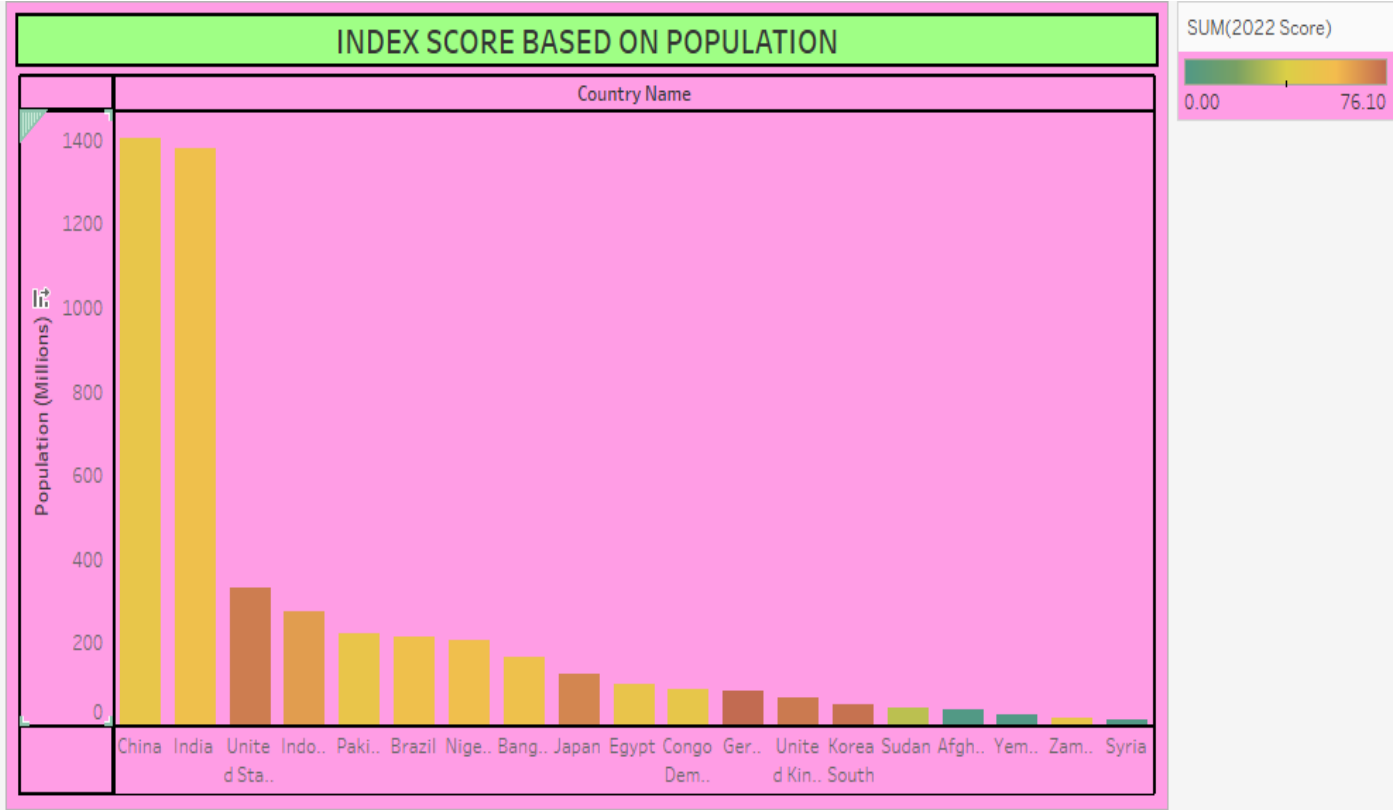
4) Index score based on unemployment rate



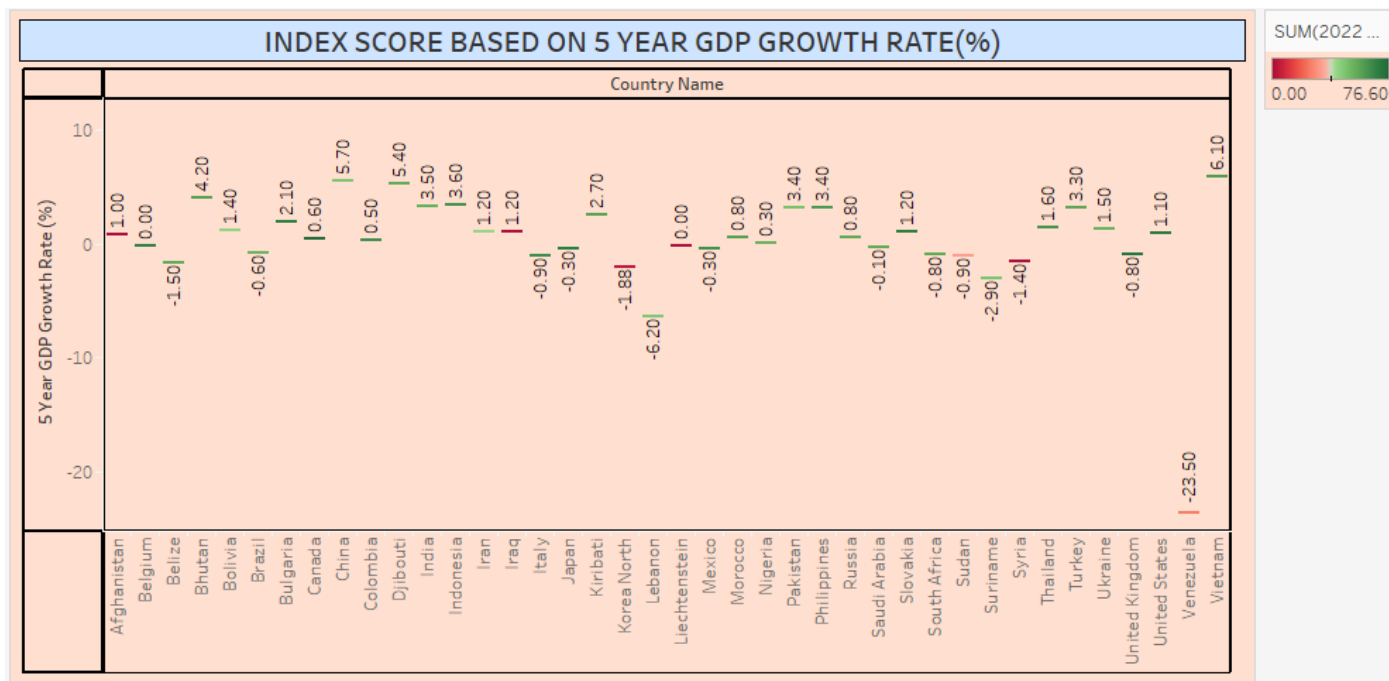
5) Index score based on financial freedom



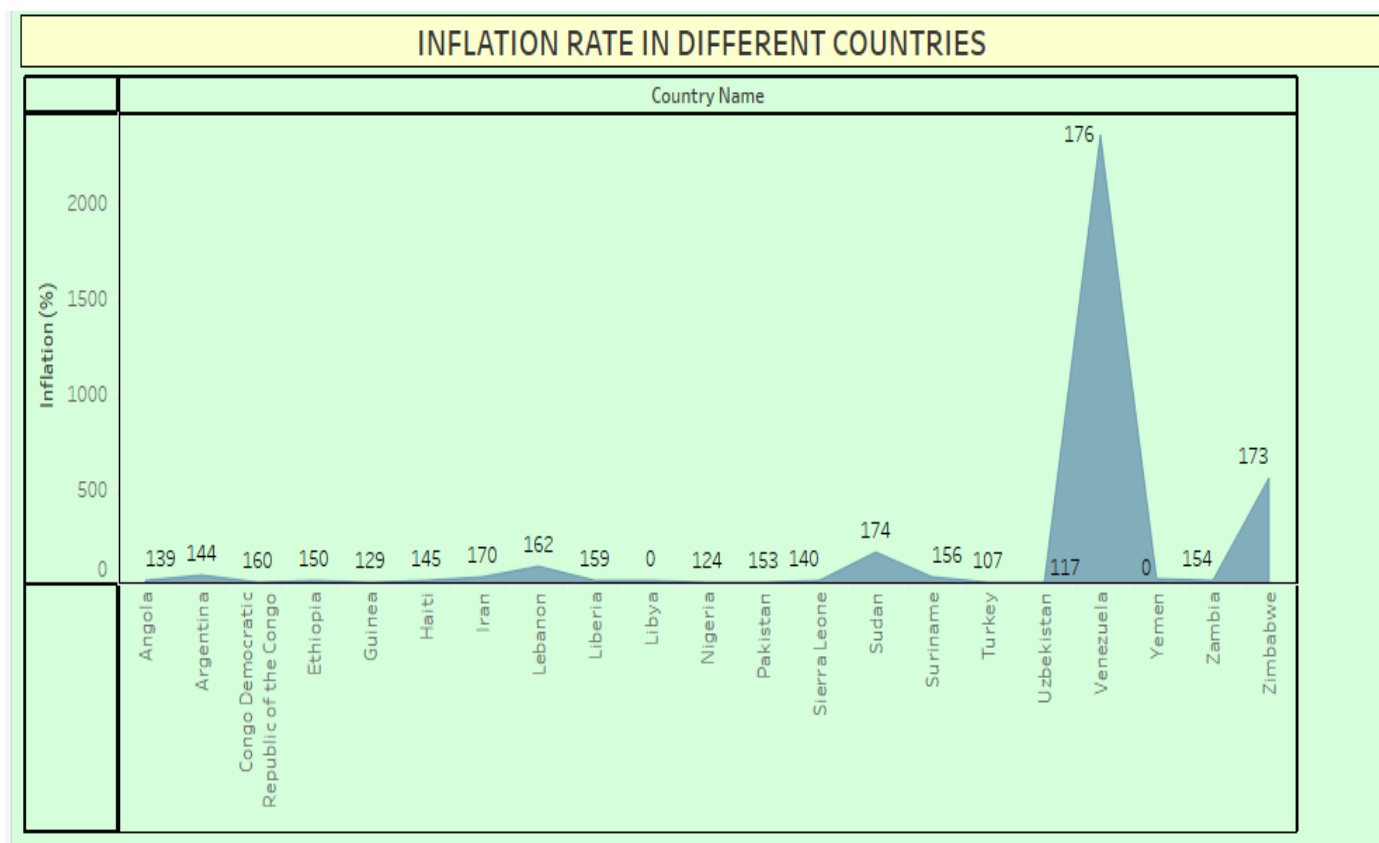
6) Index score based on population



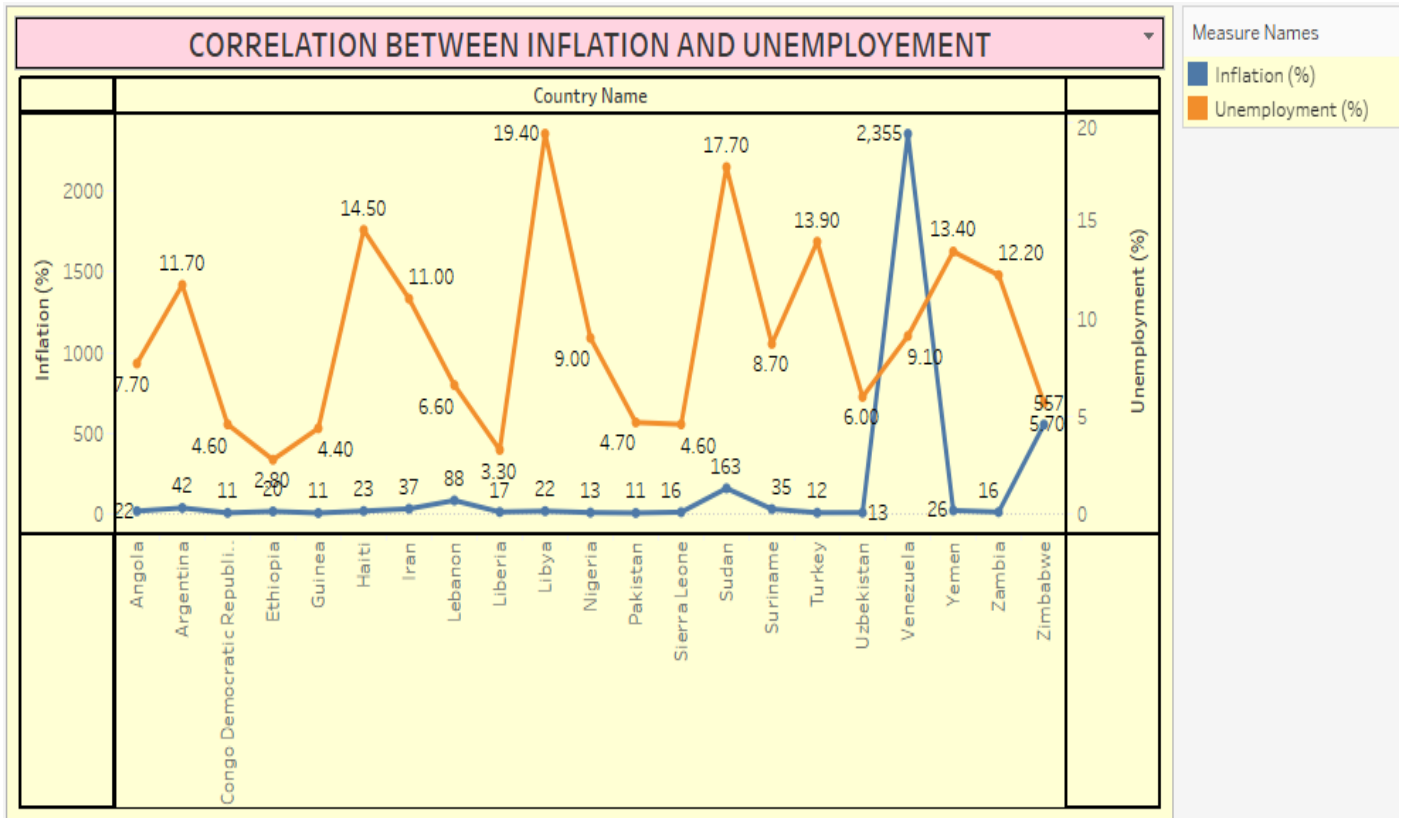
7) Index score based on 5 year GDP growth rate(%)



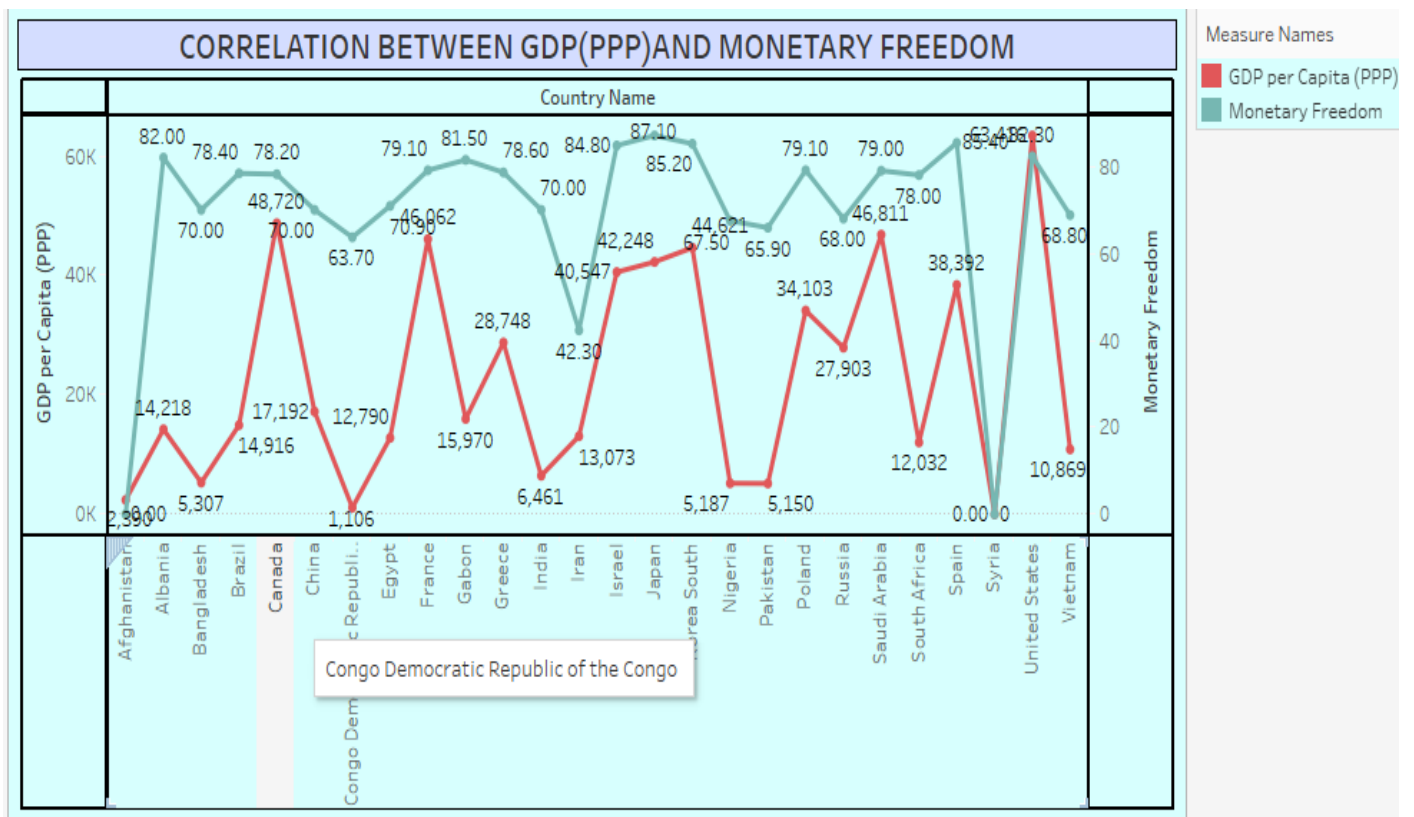
8) Inflation rate in different countries



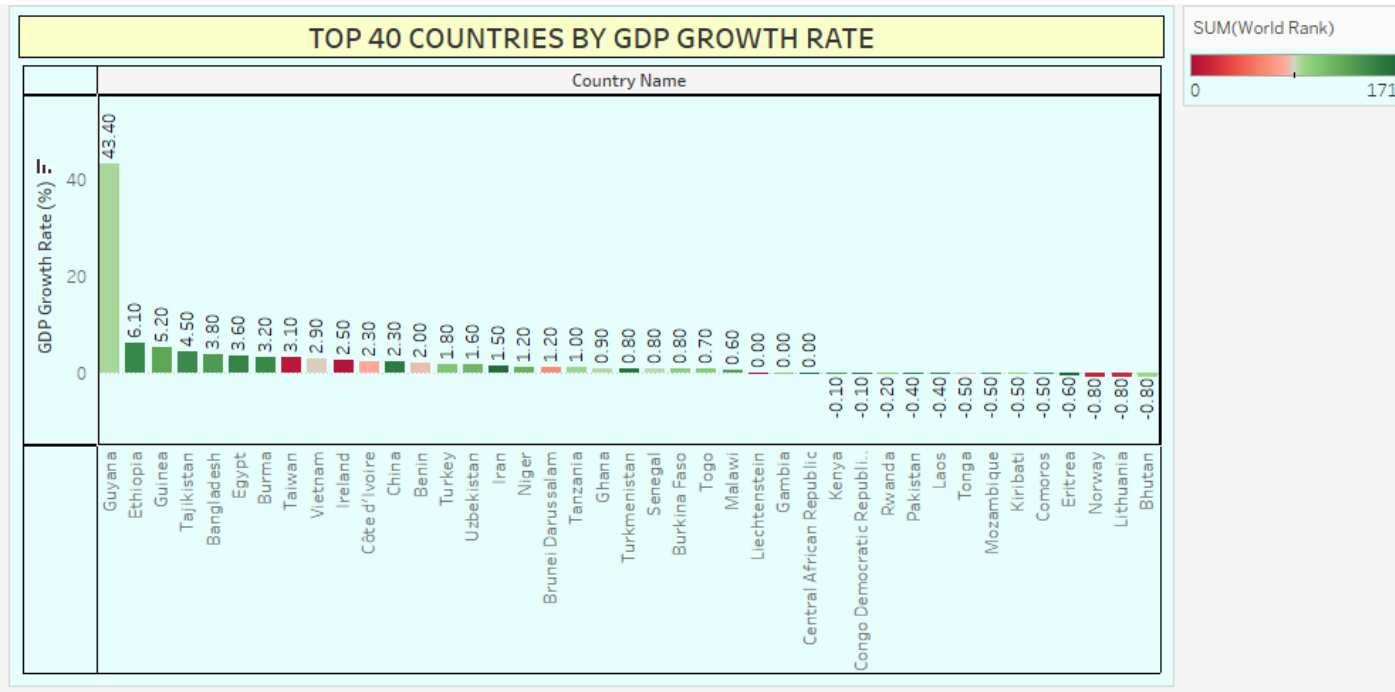
9) Correlation between inflation and unemployment



10) Correlation between GDP(PPP) and monetary freedom

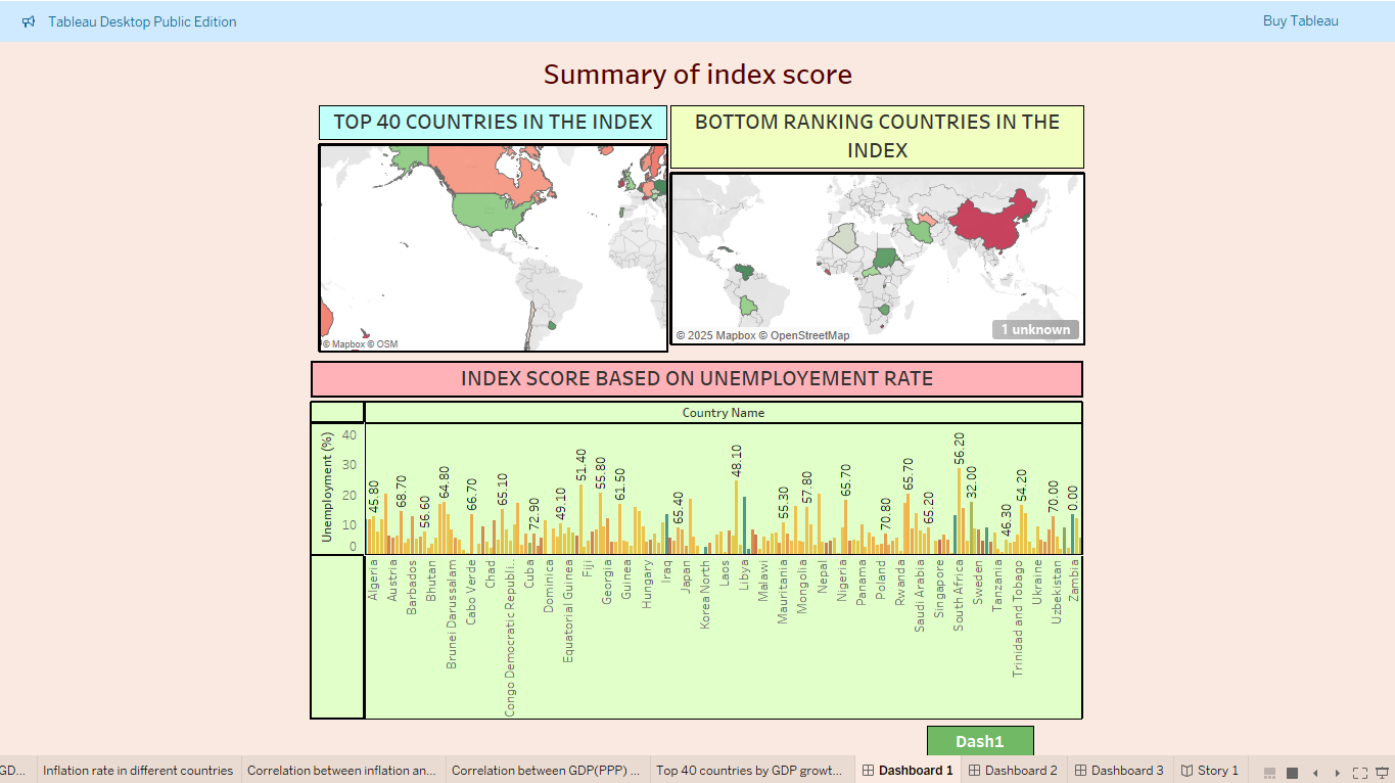


11) Top 40 countries by GDP growth Rate

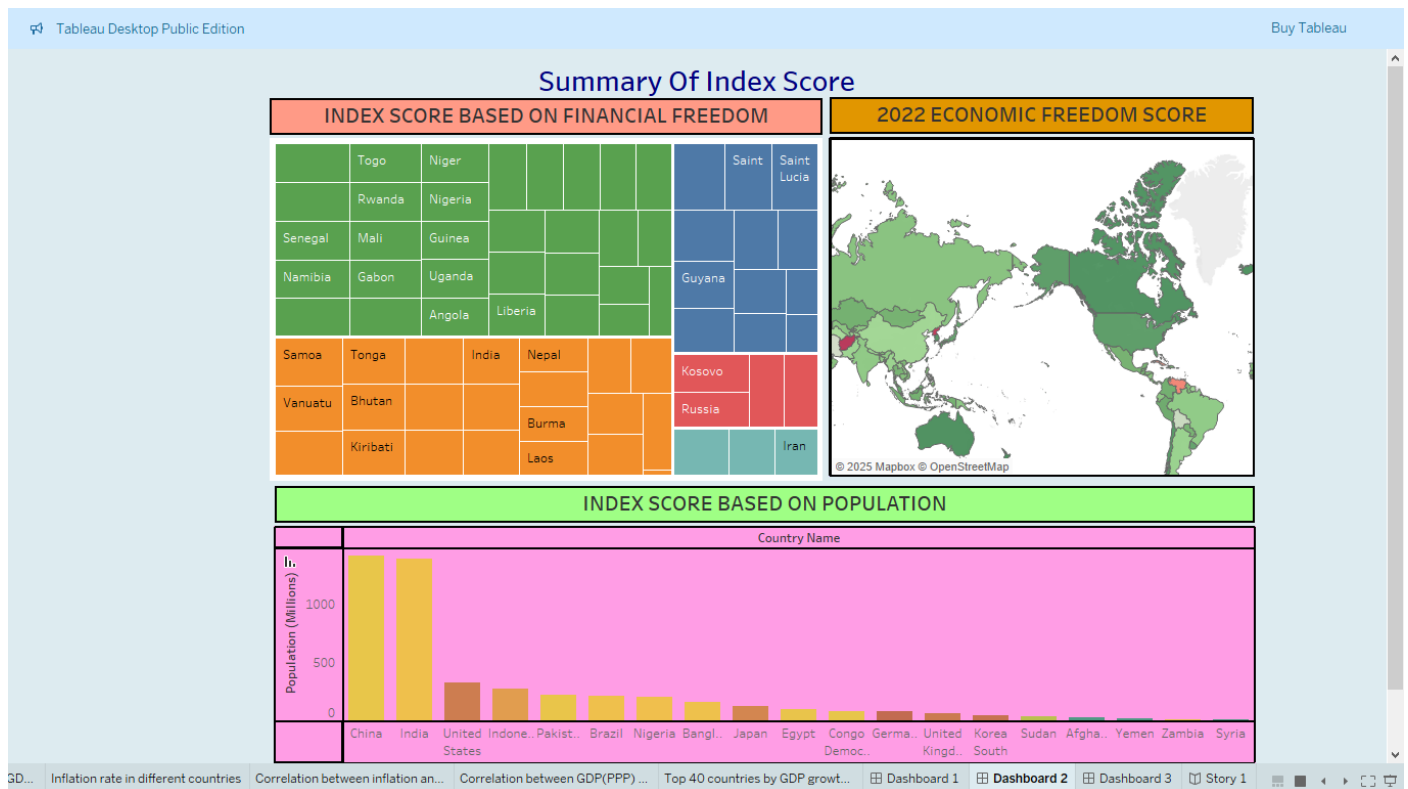


Dashboards

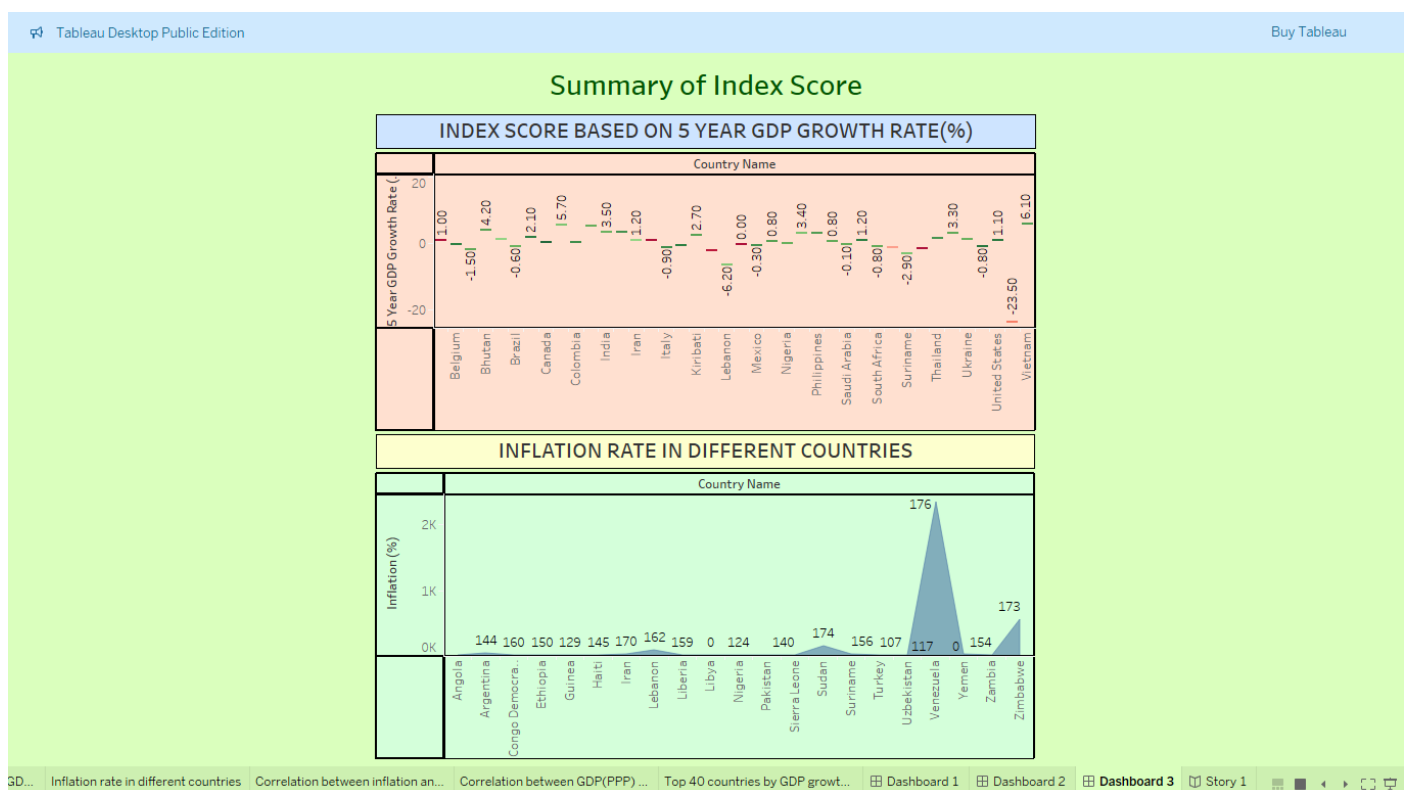
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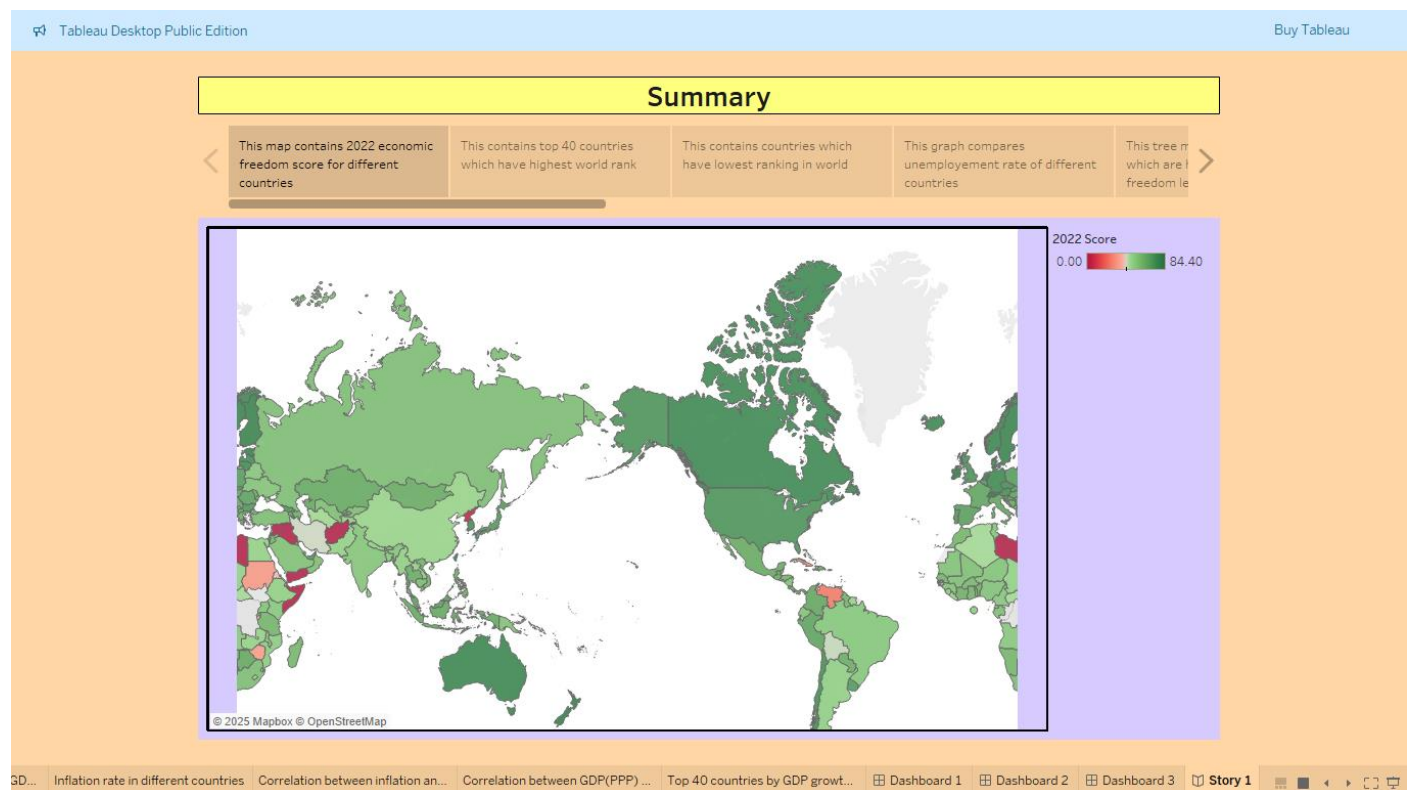


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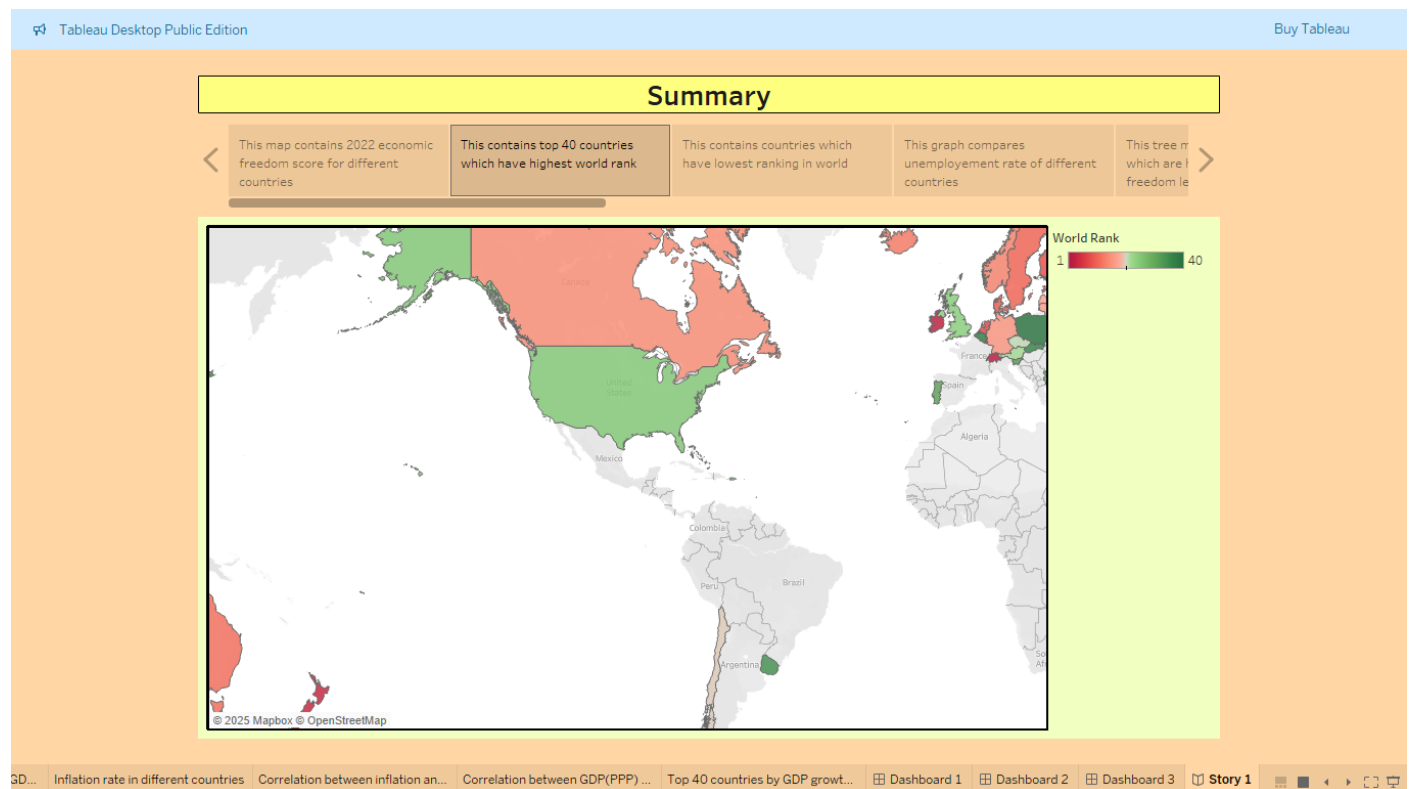


Story:

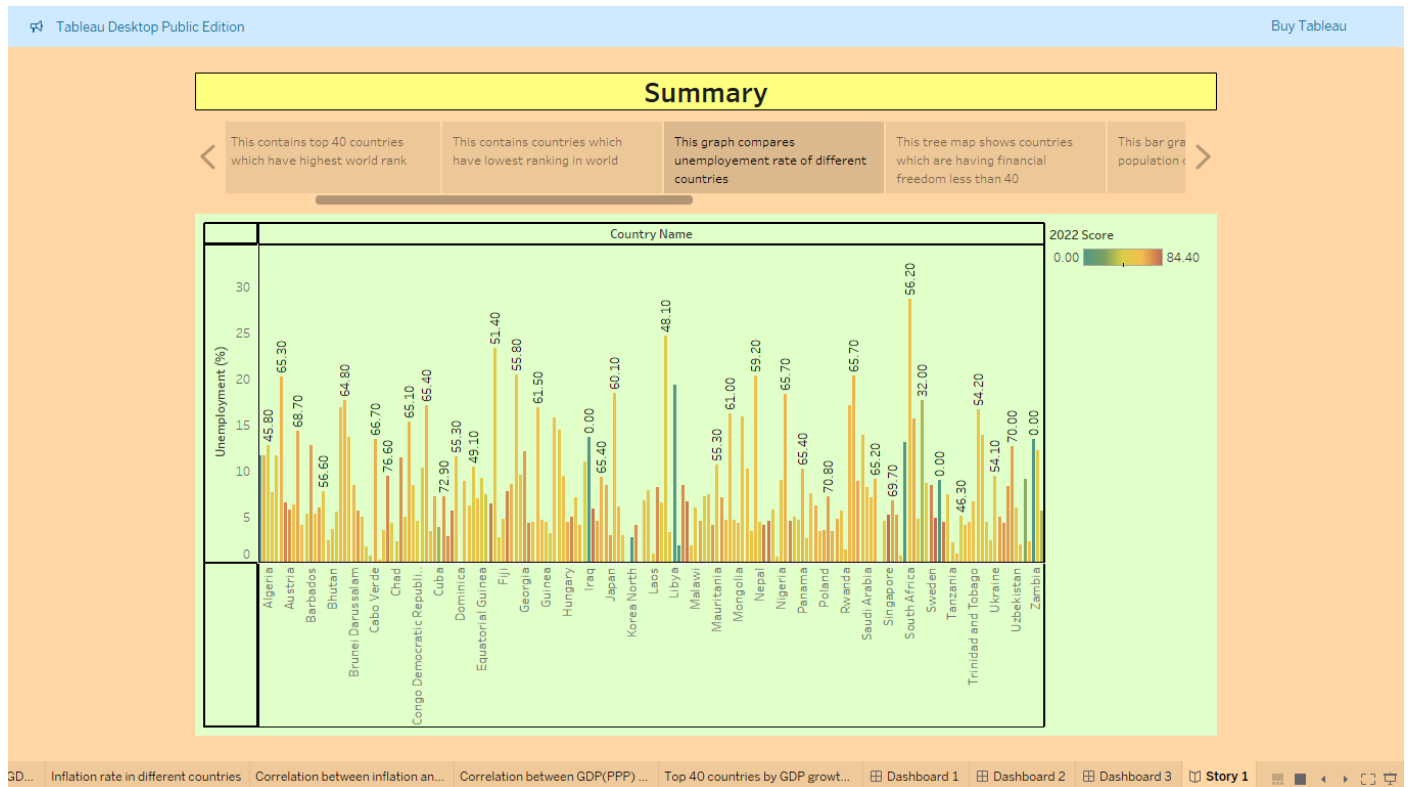
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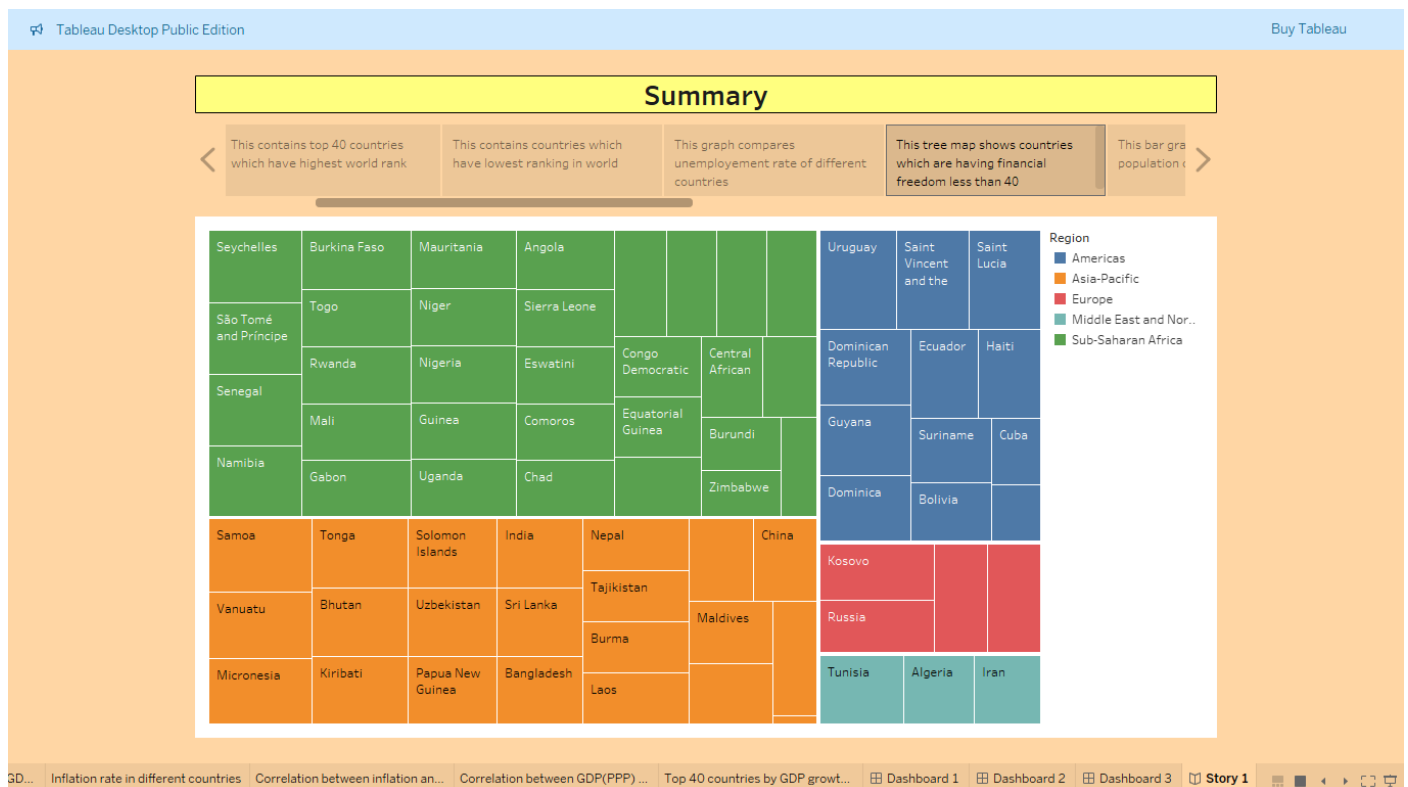
1-2

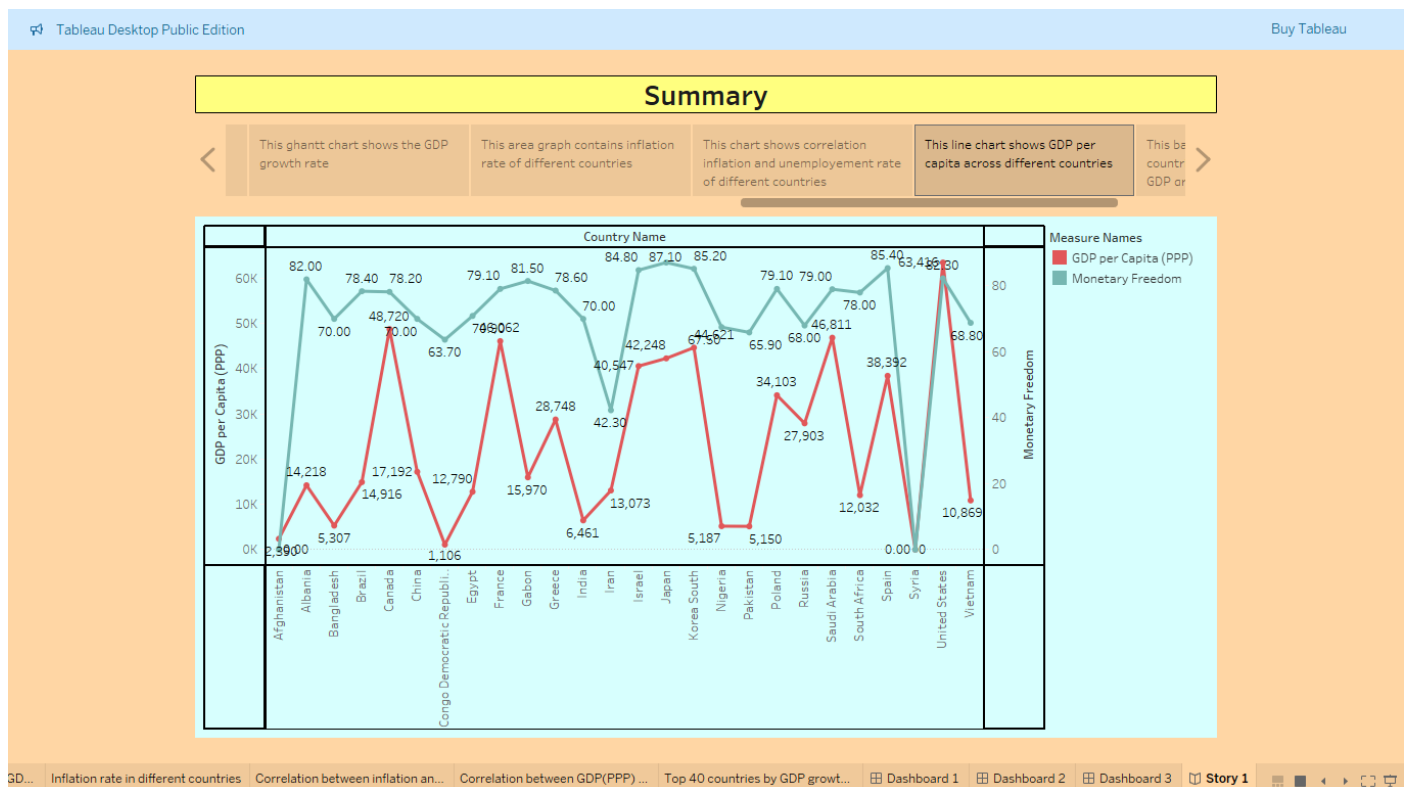
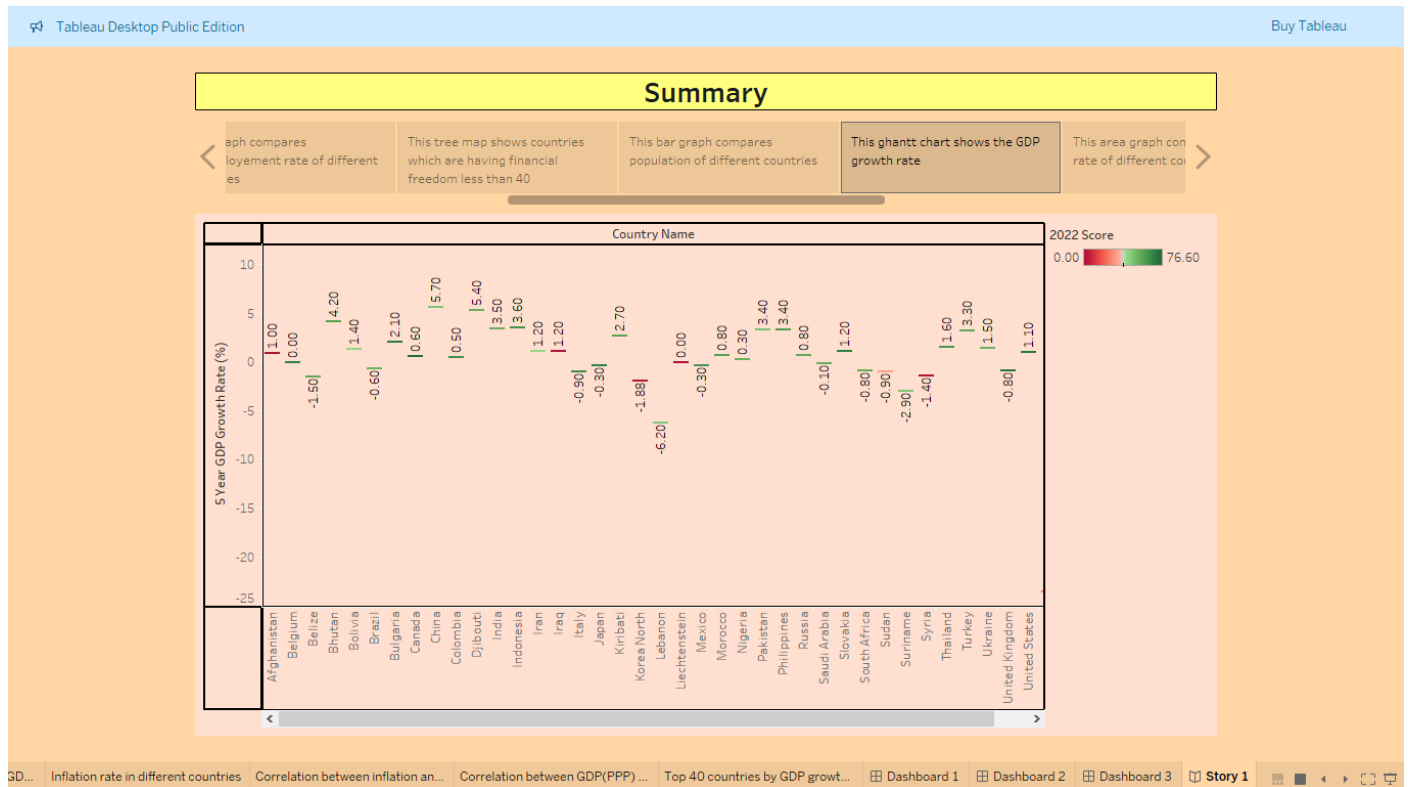


1-3



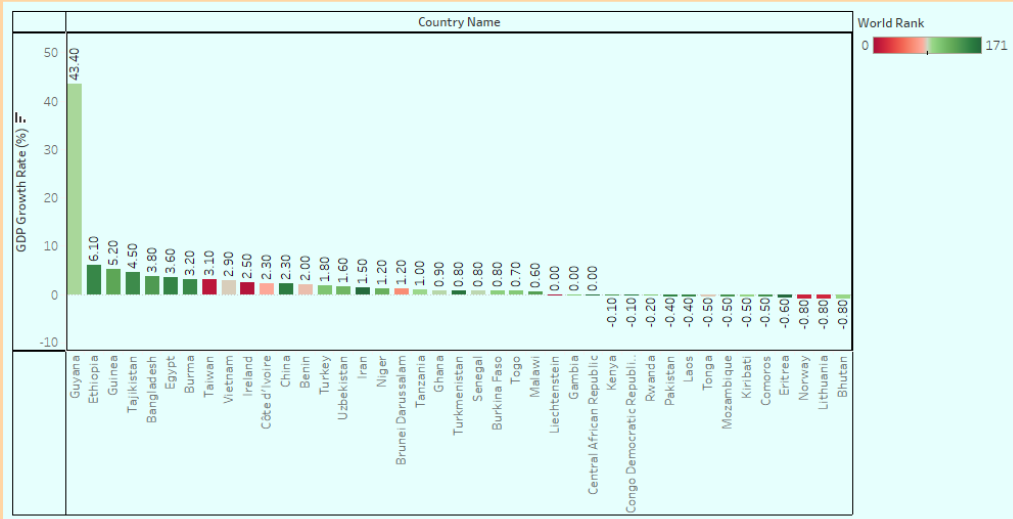
1-4





Summary

< the GDP This area graph contains inflation rate of different countries This chart shows correlation inflation and unemployment rate of different countries This line chart shows GDP per capita across different countries This barchart represents top 40 countries which is having high GDP growth rate >



8. ADVANTAGES & DISADVANTAGES

Advantages

- Simplifies economic data
- Interactive & easy to understand
- Useful for research and education
- Reusable dashboard

Disadvantages

- Data may be outdated
- Requires internet to access Tableau
- Only provides visual correlation, not causation

9. CONCLUSION

This project successfully visualizes economic freedom indicators and their effect on national prosperity. The dashboards created help make complex data more accessible and actionable.

10. FUTURE SCOPE

- Add more datasets (e.g., human development, corruption index)
- Integrate AI for predictive insights
- Build a website to host the dashboards

11. APPENDIX

GitHub & Project Demo: <https://github.com/gaganade/Measuring-the-Pulse-of-Prosperty-An-Index-of-Economic-Freedom-Analysis>

Dataset Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EBIa1LtM3Ni2Uh3nekLB6wt3263Q3NeX/view?usp=share_link