

Table A1. Variable Definitions, Sources, and Transformations

Variable	Description	Data source	Transformation / Coding
At least basic drinking water	Population using at least basic drinking water services (%)	WHO/UNICEF JMP	None
v2_gender	Women's political empowerment index	V-Dem	None
Individuals using the Internet	Individuals using the Internet (% of population)	World Development Indicators (WDI)	Moving average smoothing
Improved drinking water	Population using improved drinking water sources (%)	WHO/UNICEF JMP	Moving average smoothing
Sanitation	Population using improved sanitation facilities (%)	WHO/UNICEF JMP	Moving average smoothing
Political stability and absence of violence	Political stability and absence of violence/terrorism index	World Development Indicators (WDI)	None
v2x_genc1	Women's civil liberties index	V-Dem	None
v2x_gencs	Women's civil society participation index	V-Dem	None
v2x_genpp	Women's political participation index	V-Dem	None
Women in parliament	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	Inter-Parliamentary Union via WDI (2025)	None
Rural population	Rural population (%)	WHO/UNICEF	None

	of total population)		
Official development assistance	Official development assistance (constant USD)	World Development Indicators (WDI)	Values divided by 1,000,000
Urbanisation rate	Urban population (% of total population)	World Development Indicators (WDI)	None
Population growth	Annual population growth (%)	World Development Indicators (WDI)	None
Control of corruption	Control of corruption	World Development Indicators (WDI)	None
GDP per capita	GDP per capita (constant USD)	World Development Indicators (WDI)	Natural logarithm
Foreign direct investment	Foreign direct investment, net inflows (% of GDP)	World Development Indicators (WDI)	Moving average smoothing
International trade	Trade (% of GDP)	World Development Indicators (WDI)	Natural logarithm and moving average smoothing
Energy consumption per capita	Electric power consumption (kWh per capita)	World Development Indicators (WDI)	Divided by 10,000 then natural logarithm
Agriculture	Agriculture value added	World Development Indicators (WDI)	Natural logarithm
Democracy index	Democracy Index	Economist Intelligence Unit (2006–2024)	None