

Infrastructure for Good

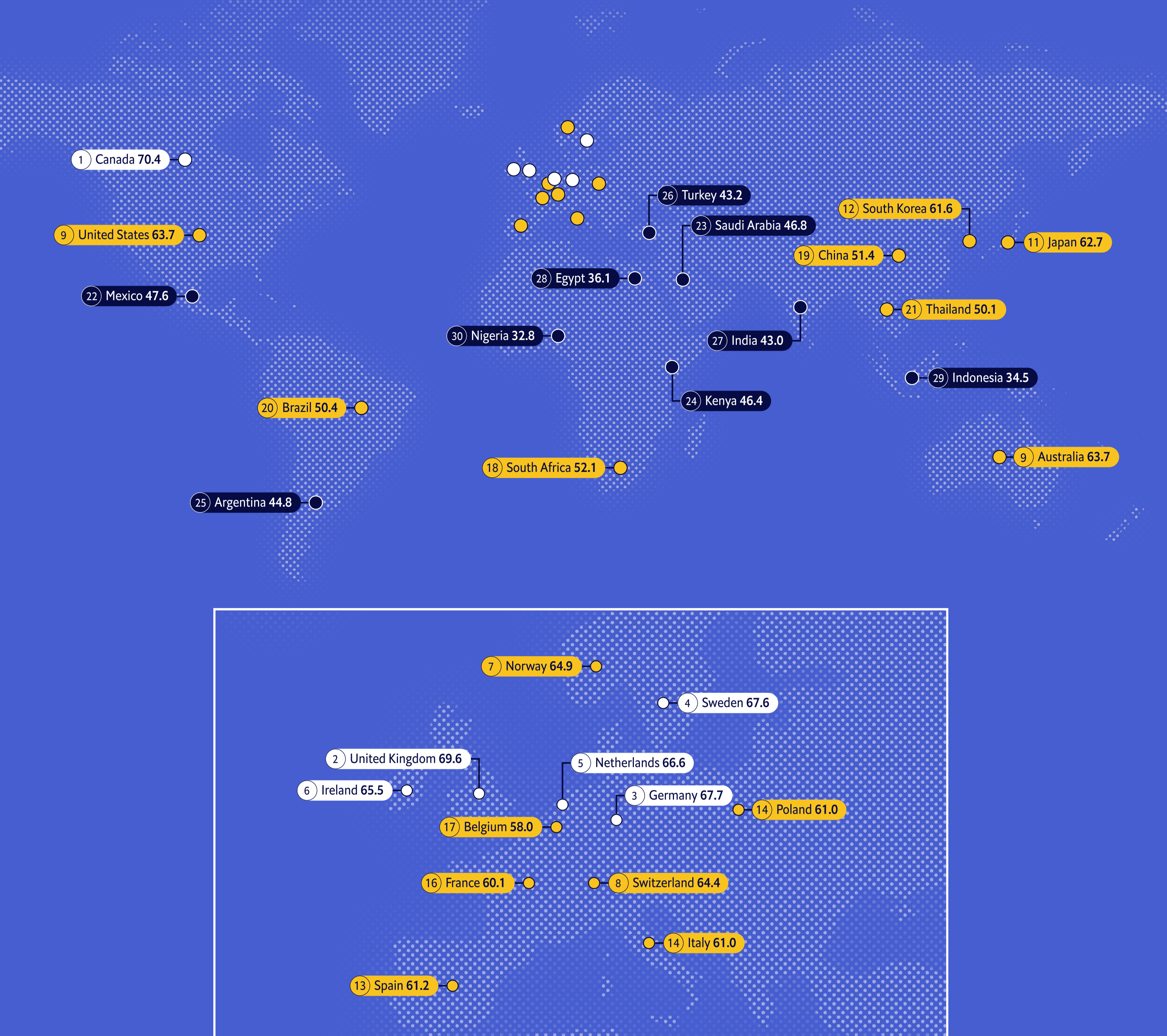
Infrastructure built in the coming decade will define how countries develop for the next century. To meet our future challenges, the world needs more **infrastructure for good**: infrastructure that addresses disparities, protects the environment and creates widespread social and economic opportunity.

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Barometer results

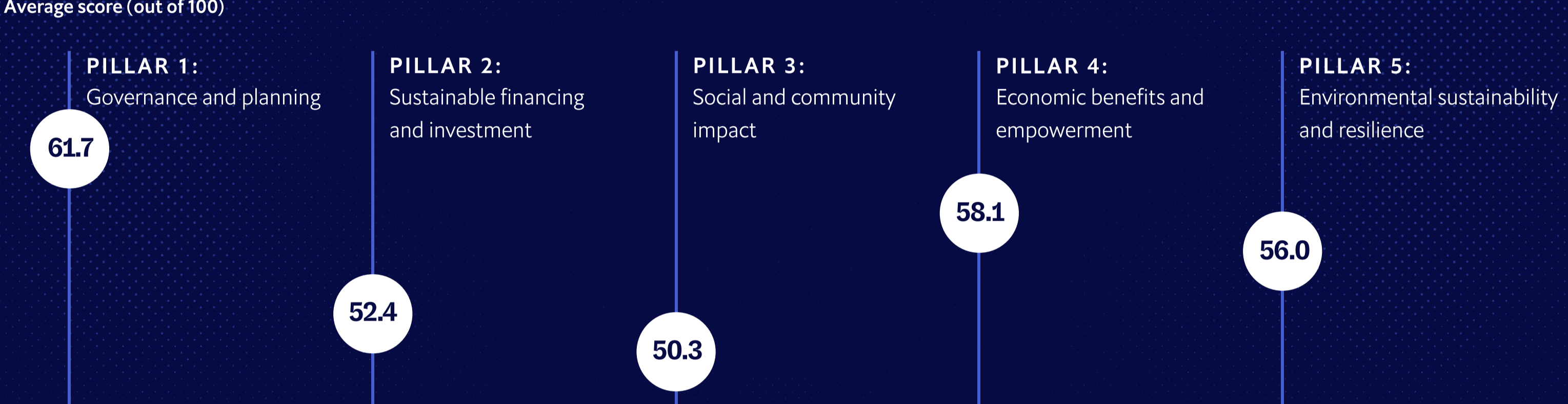
The Infrastructure for Good barometer provides a roadmap to enable better decision-making.



How do countries perform across the barometer's five pillars?

Basic foundations of governance and planning are relatively strong. But **financing and execution need to improve** to achieve more consistent social, economic and environmental outcomes.

Average score (out of 100)

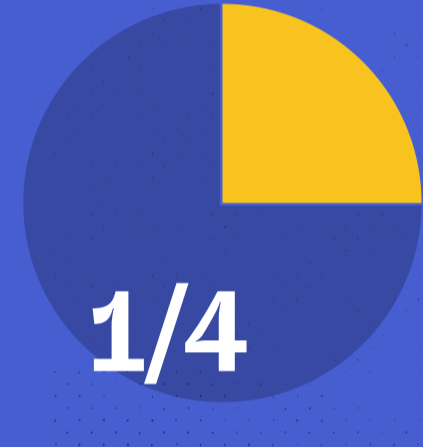


Are countries cultivating ecosystems that enable infrastructure for good?

Challenges to achieving infrastructure for good vary depending on the outcome

Social and community impacts

are often lacking because of deficiencies in planning



Less than 1/4 of countries conduct strategic social assessments or require social impact assessments

In more than 60% of countries engagement with local communities is ad hoc.



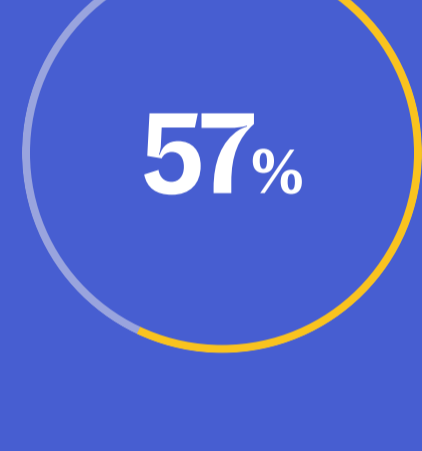
Environmental outcomes

are often lacking because of deficiencies in policy



Most countries pay close attention to planning—for example, 28 out of 30 countries have a national climate adaptation strategy

But effective environmental policies are missing—for example, 57% of countries lack energy efficiency standards for infrastructure



Economic gains

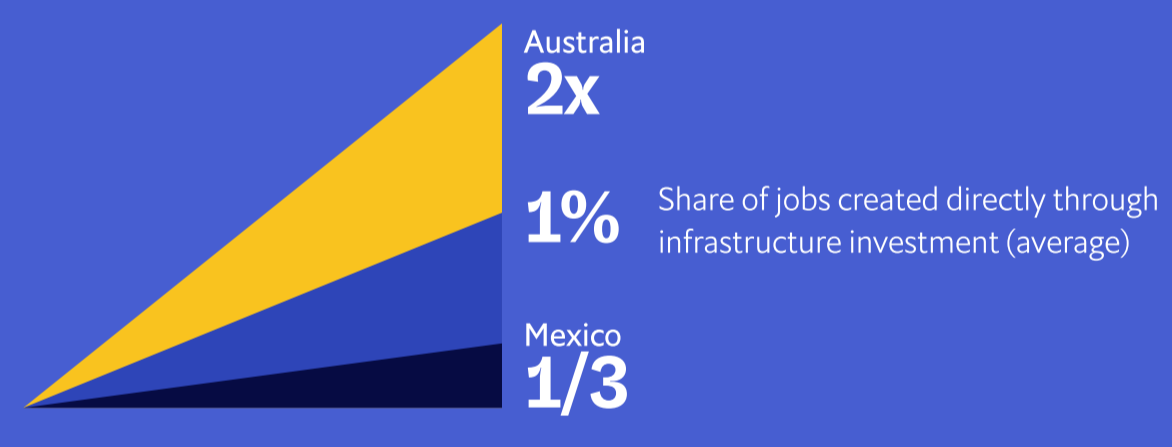
are often limited because of deficiencies in implementation and investment



To maximize economic gains from infrastructure, countries need to foster a **virtuous cycle**



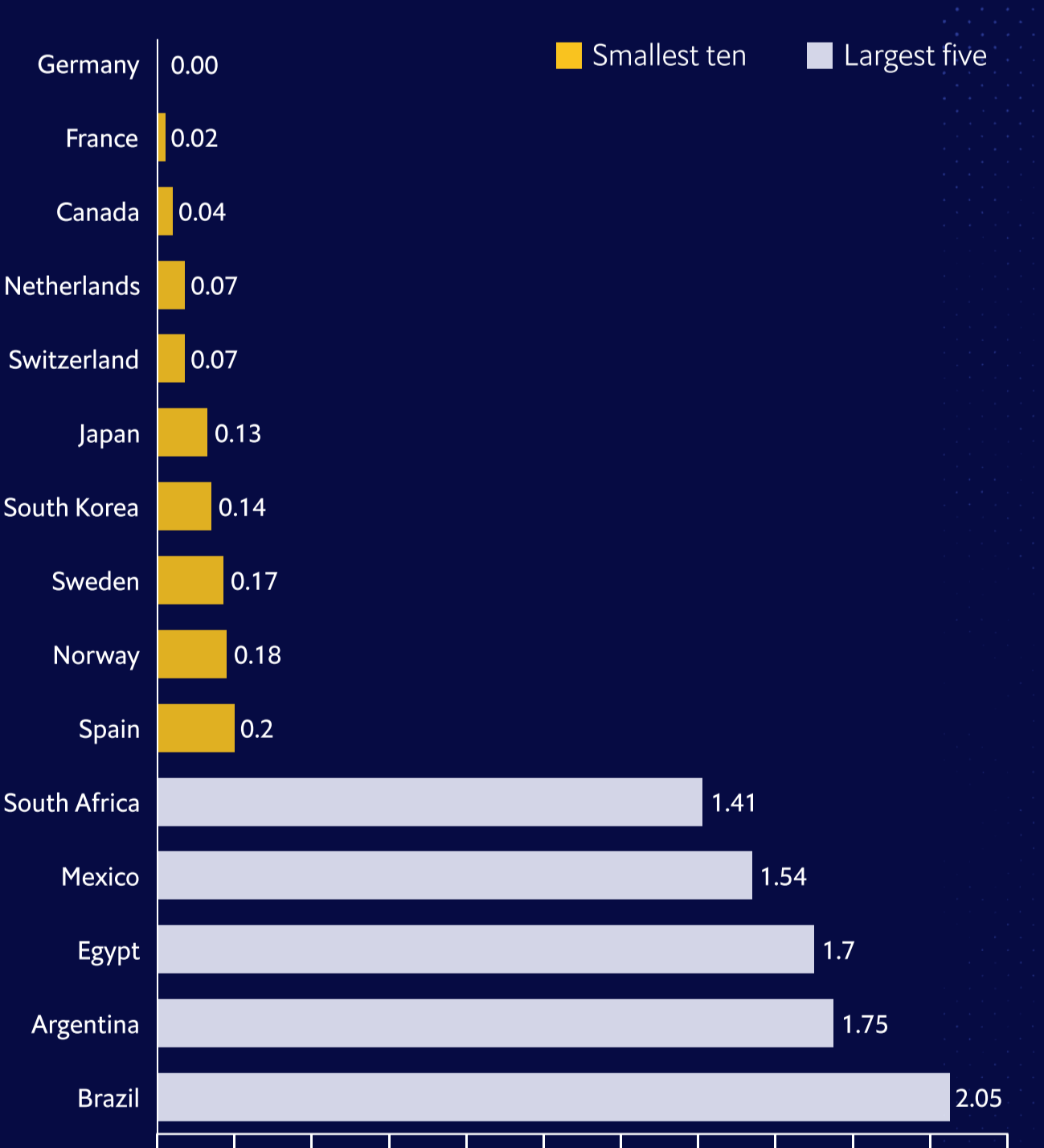
Australia achieves double the average rate of job creation thanks to strong investment, planning and execution



FINDING 02

Financing infrastructure for good requires targeted efforts

Infrastructure investment gaps are generally smallest in the barometer's European countries



But attracting sufficient financing is still a widespread challenge—especially for projects prioritizing social or environmental returns.



Almost half the countries are not using **sustainability-linked financing** as a tool to promote better outcomes



More than half lack **project preparation supports**, which can help ensure a pipeline of bankable projects

FINDING 03

Infrastructure for good can create cross-cutting impacts

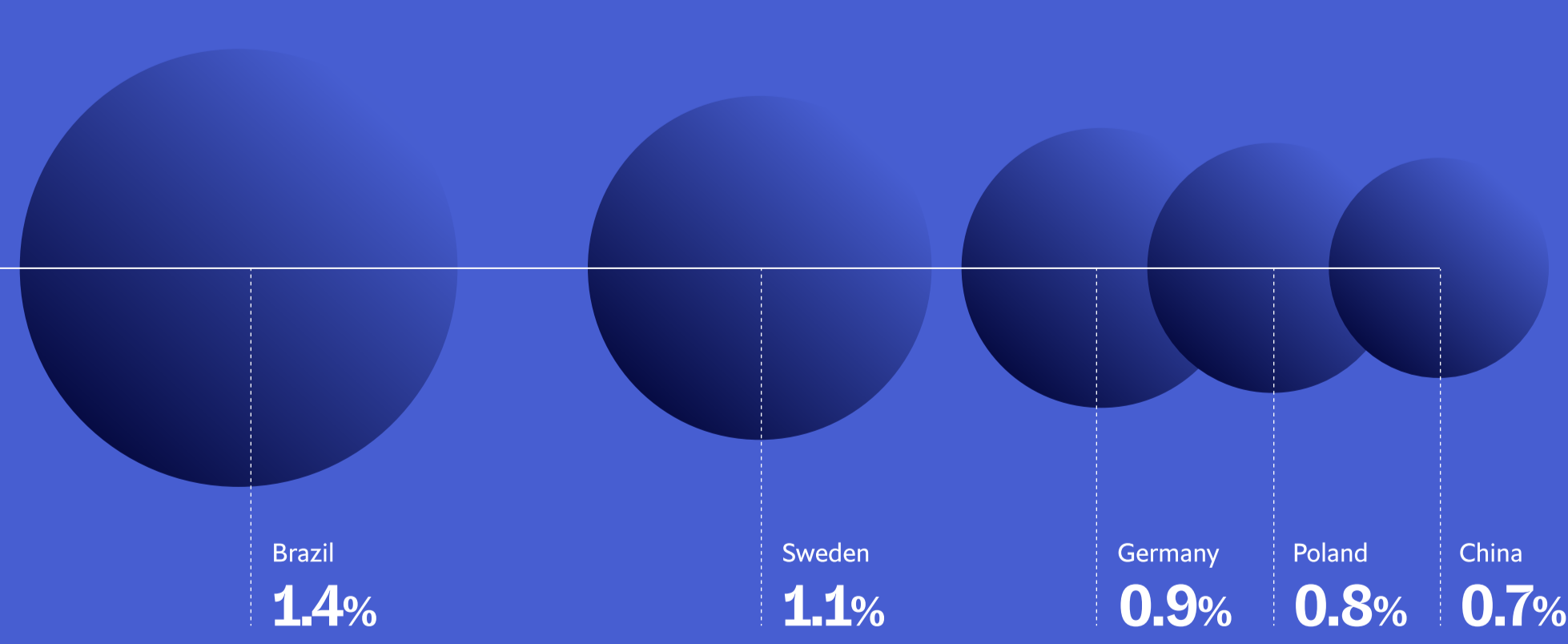


Infrastructure for good can be **amplified** by thinking of infrastructure as an **ecosystem** rather than in silos

Countries like **Brazil** and **Sweden** are finding a **double dividend** by using the transition to sustainable infrastructure as an opportunity to harness job booms in renewable energy.

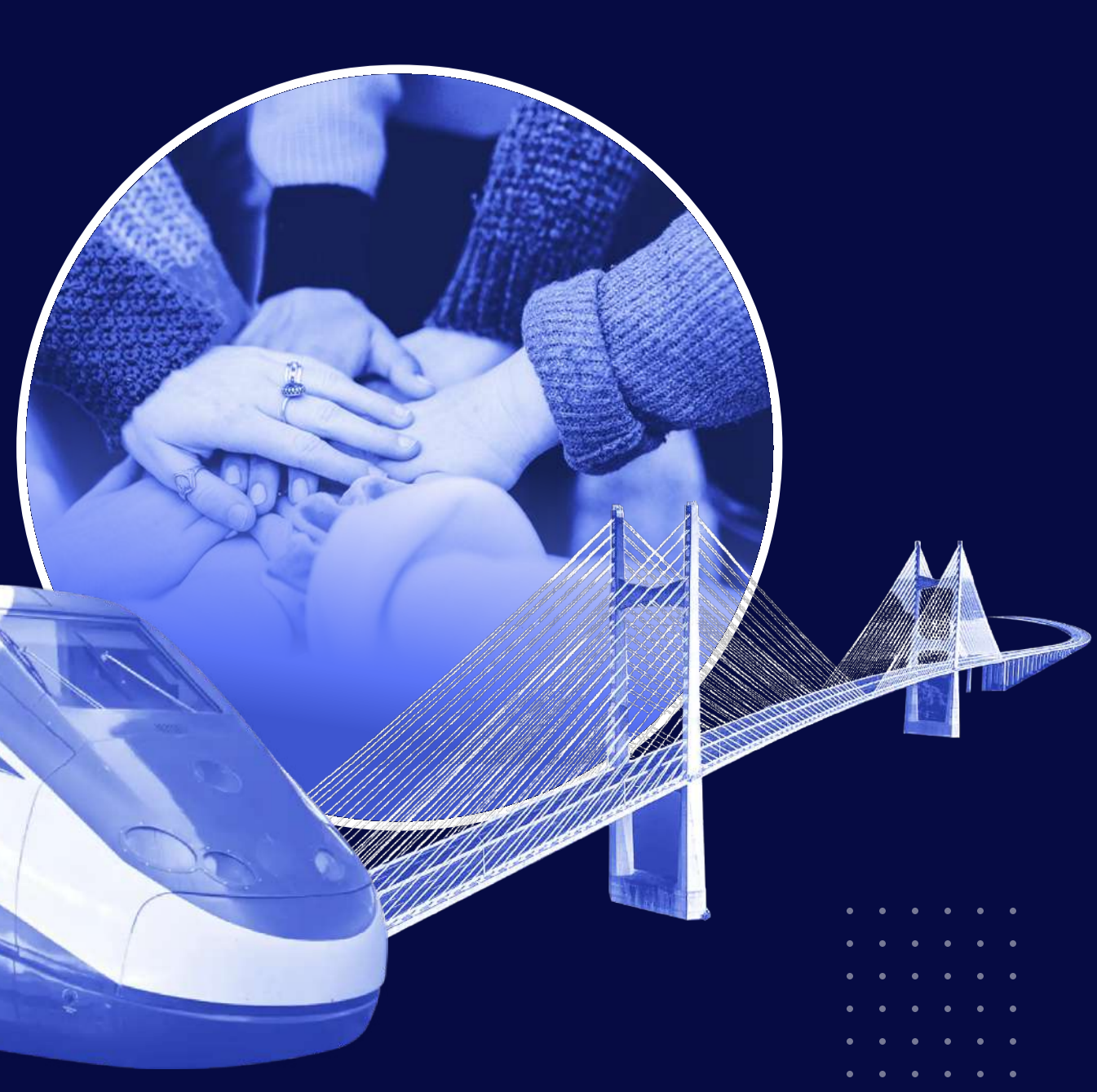
Clean energy job impacts

% of the country's jobs created directly or indirectly by the clean energy sector



Infrastructure for good is more critical than ever

As the world doubles down on infrastructure investment, it is crucial for policymakers, investors and infrastructure companies to prioritize sustainable outcomes.



“We need to invest in resilient infrastructure—not just to improve resilience for its own sake—but because the services that infrastructure is providing are so essential to creating resilient societies and communities.”

Rowan Palmer
UN Environment Programme

To learn more about global progress toward infrastructure for good, check out the barometer, report, videos, podcasts and case studies available at

impact.economist.com/projects/infrastructure-for-good/