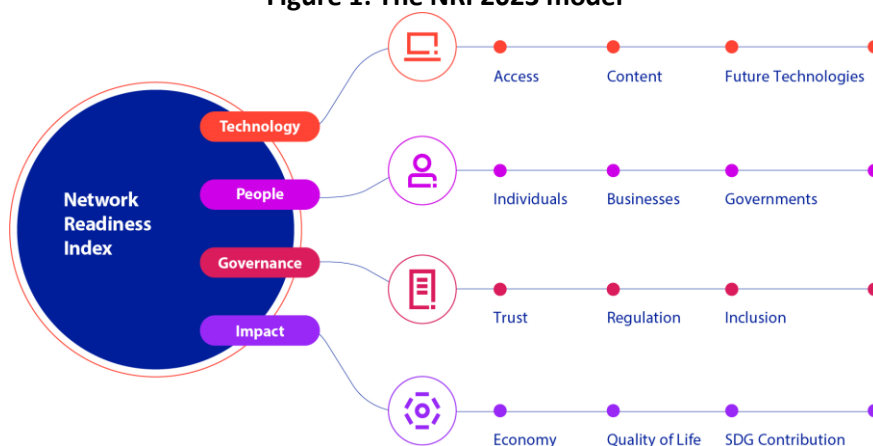


## El Salvador

The Network Readiness Index (NRI) is one of the leading global indices on the application and impact of information and communication technology (ICT) in economies around the world. In its latest version of 2023 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 134 economies based on their performances in four different pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact. Each of these pillars is itself comprised of three sub-pillars (see Figure 1) that have been populated by a total of 58 variables.

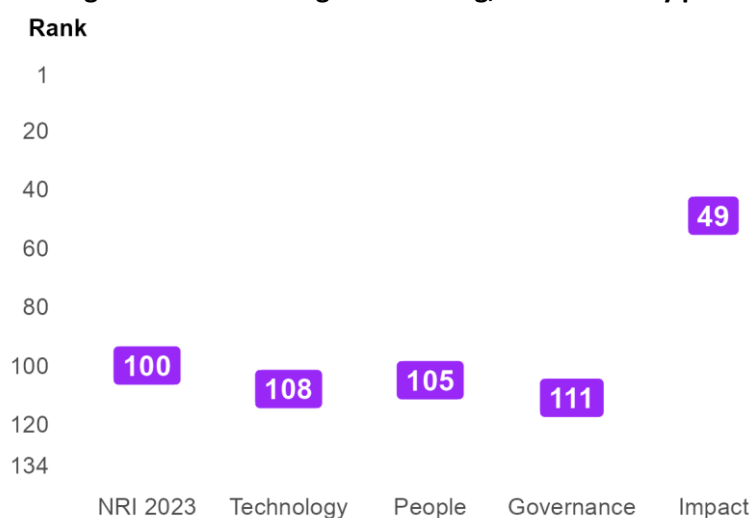
Figure 1: The NRI 2023 model



### Global NRI position of El Salvador

El Salvador ranks 100th out of the 134 economies included in the NRI 2023 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Impact. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Governance.

Figure 2: El Salvador global ranking, overall and by pillar



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## Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of El Salvador relate to SDG Contribution, Quality of Life and Businesses, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Inclusion, Trust and Governments sub-pillars.

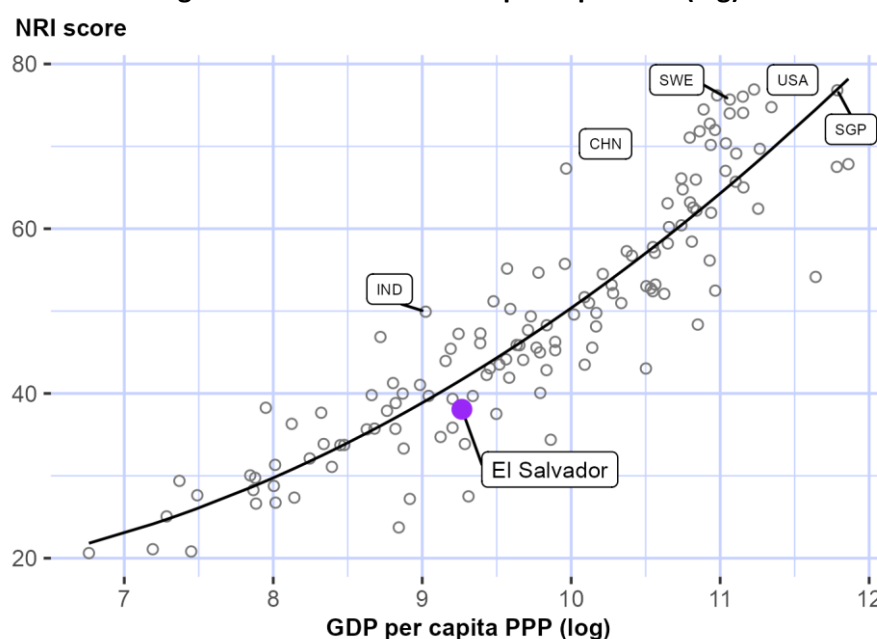
**Table 1: El Salvador rankings by sub-pillar**

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
SDG Contribution	34	Content	101
Quality of Life	47	Access	108
Businesses	91	Future Technologies	111
Regulation	95	Inclusion	116
Individuals	96	Trust	118
Economy	97	Governments	121

## NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of El Salvador in terms of both NRI score and GDP per capita (PPP). The trend line shows the expected NRI score given an economy's income level. As can be seen, El Salvador is well below the trend line, which suggests that it is underachieving and that one would expect it could raise its network readiness in view of its income level.

**Figure 3: NRI score and GDP per capita PPP (log)**



Note: USA = United States (rank: 1), SGP = Singapore (rank: 2), FIN = Finland (3), NLD = Netherlands (4), SWE = Sweden (5), CHN = China (20), IND = India (61). El Salvador belongs to the group of upper-middle-income countries, where the best performer is China (CHN). The top performer of its region-The Americas-is United States of America (USA).



## Performance against its income group and region

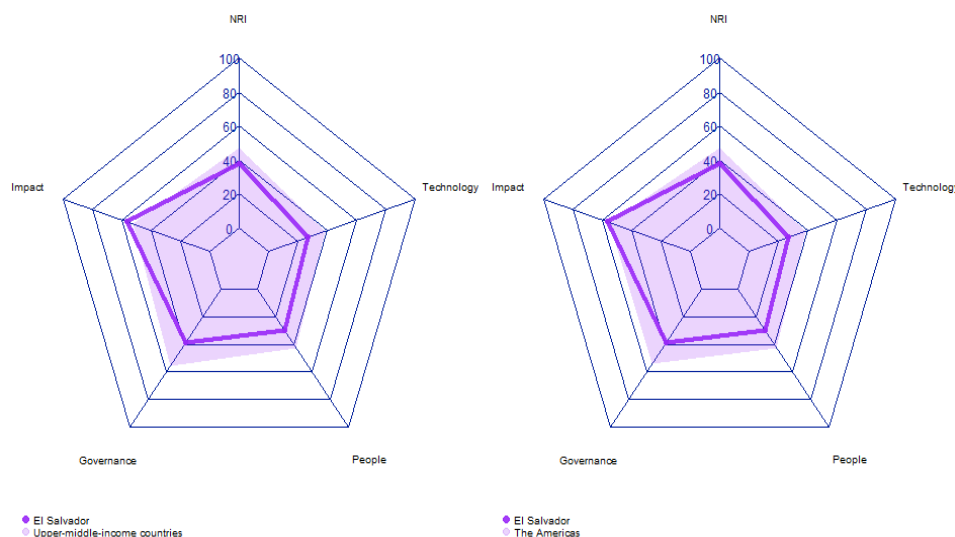
### Upper-middle-income countries

El Salvador is ranked 31st in the group of upper-middle-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score higher than the income group average in one of the four pillars: Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms upper-middle-income countries in two of the twelve sub-pillars: Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

### The Americas

El Salvador is ranked 18th within The Americas (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in one of the four pillars: Impact. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in The Americas in two of the twelve sub-pillars: Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

**Figure 4: Performance of El Salvador against its income group and region, overall and by pillar**



**Table 2: El Salvador scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar**

Dimension	El Salvador	Upper-middle-income countries	The Americas
NRI	38.07	47.35	47.41
Technology	27.14	38.48	38.24
People	30.05	42.59	42.35
Governance	38.75	55.90	54.12
Impact	56.36	52.43	54.93

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## Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where El Salvador performs particularly well include 3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content, 4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices, and 4.2.1 Happiness (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments, 1.2.4 AI scientific publications, and 3.1.2 Cybersecurity.

**Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for El Salvador**

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	5	4.1.3 PCT patent applications	99
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	18	2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	123
4.2.1 Happiness	29	1.2.4 AI scientific publications	124
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	44	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	124
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	44	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	127
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	47		
4.1.6 ICT services exports	48		
4.1.2 High-tech exports	61		
1.1.2 Handset prices	68		
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	68		

Note: For the full list of strengths and weaknesses, see At-A-Glance table.

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## NRI 2023 At-A-Glance: El Salvador

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 100 (out of 134)

Score: 38.07

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	108	27.14	C. Governance pillar	111	38.75
1st sub-pillar: Access	108	46.31	1st sub-pillar: Trust	118	19.14
2nd sub-pillar: Content	101	15.37	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	95	57.51
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	111	19.74	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	116	39.60
B. People pillar	105	30.05	D. Impact pillar	49	56.36
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	96	38.62	1st sub-pillar: Economy	97	19.01
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	91	35.77	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	47	74.05
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	121	15.76	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	34	76.02

### The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
<b>A. Technology pillar</b>	108	27.14	<b>C. Governance pillar</b>	111	38.75
<i>1st sub-pillar: Access</i>	108	46.31	<i>1st sub-pillar: Trust</i>	118	19.14
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	105	35.73	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	96	39.37
1.1.2 Handset prices	68	46.04	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	124	11.77
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	111	6.88	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	92	16.25
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	103	97.23	3.1.4 Internet shopping	96	9.16
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	83	68.76	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Regulation</i>	95	57.51
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	65	23.24	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	89	41.83
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Content</i>	101	15.37	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	104	66.47
1.2.1 GitHub commits	77	4.22	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	104	20.00
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	87	1.58	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	87	66.67
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	96	55.52	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	5	92.60
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	124	0.18	<i>3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion</i>	116	39.60
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies</i>	111	19.74	3.3.1 E-Participation	95	33.73
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	92	36.60	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	127	30.53
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	121	19.00	3.3.3 Availability of local online content	106	35.82



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Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score	
1.3.3 Robot density	NA	NA	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	87	57.69	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	106	3.63	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	102	40.24	
<b>B. People pillar</b>			<b>D. Impact pillar</b>	49	56.36	
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	96	38.62	1st sub-pillar: Economy	97	19.01	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	104	1.62	4.1.1 High-tech and medium-high-tech manufacturing	NA	NA	
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	92	27.84	4.1.2 High-tech exports	61	13.12	●
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	75	58.94	4.1.3 PCT patent applications	99	0.00	○
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	87	18.36	4.1.4 Domestic market size	99	40.55	
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	64	86.33	4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	111	19.19	
2.1.6 AI talent concentration	NA	NA	4.1.6 ICT services exports	48	22.19	●
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses			2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	47	74.05	
2.2.1 Firms with website	77	38.12	4.2.1 Happiness	29	77.00	●
2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	53	43.42	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	18	89.79	●
2.2.3 Knowledge intensive employment	88	19.62	4.2.3 Income inequality	75	60.30	
2.2.4 Annual investment in telecommunication services	76	76.36	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	76	69.10	
2.2.5 GERD performed by business enterprise	69	1.31	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	34	76.02	
3rd sub-pillar: Governments			4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	47	77.37	●
2.3.1 Government online services	105	41.09	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	NA	NA	
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	82	13.24	4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	44	84.07	●
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	123	5.90	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	44	76.37	●
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	95	2.80	4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	68	66.27	●

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.



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