Development towards a sustainable society

Finland – The Netherlands 1975 - 2008

Sauli Rouhinen - Geurt van de Kerk
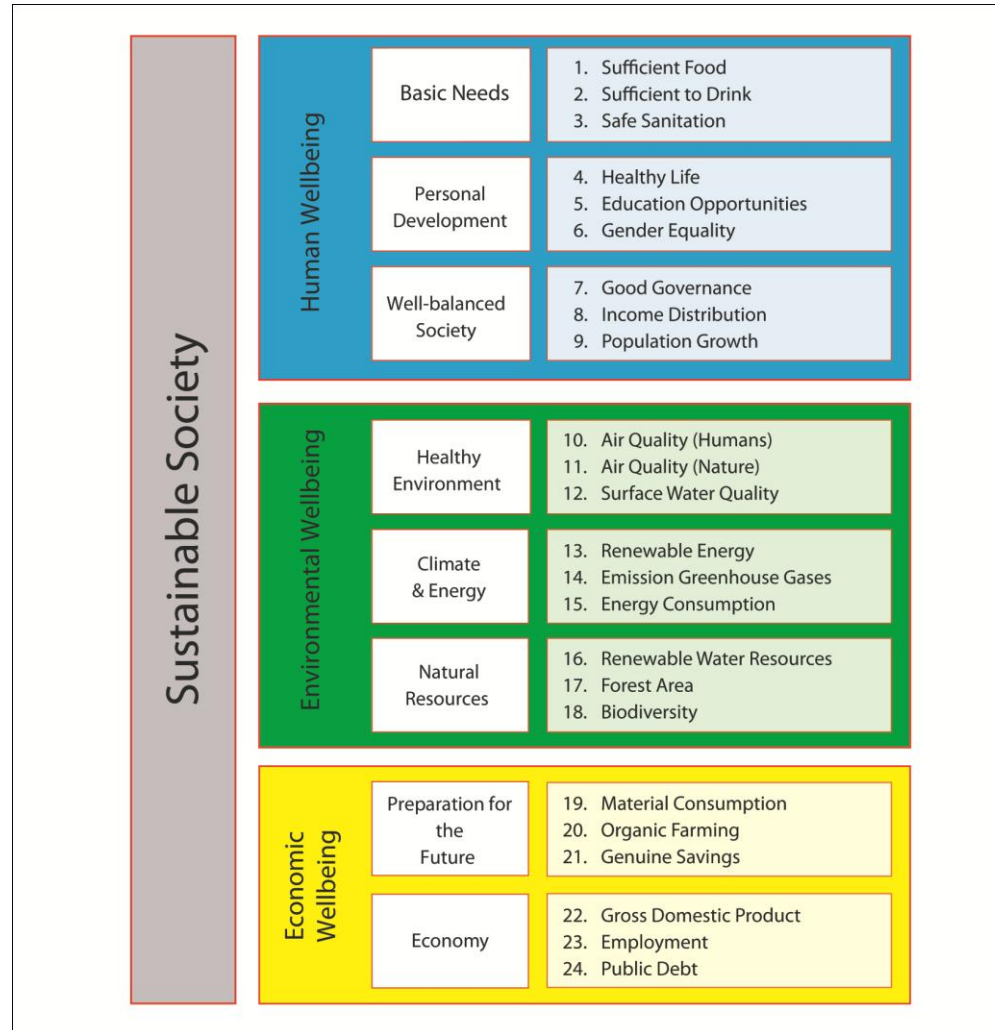
Sustainable society

Human Wellbeing

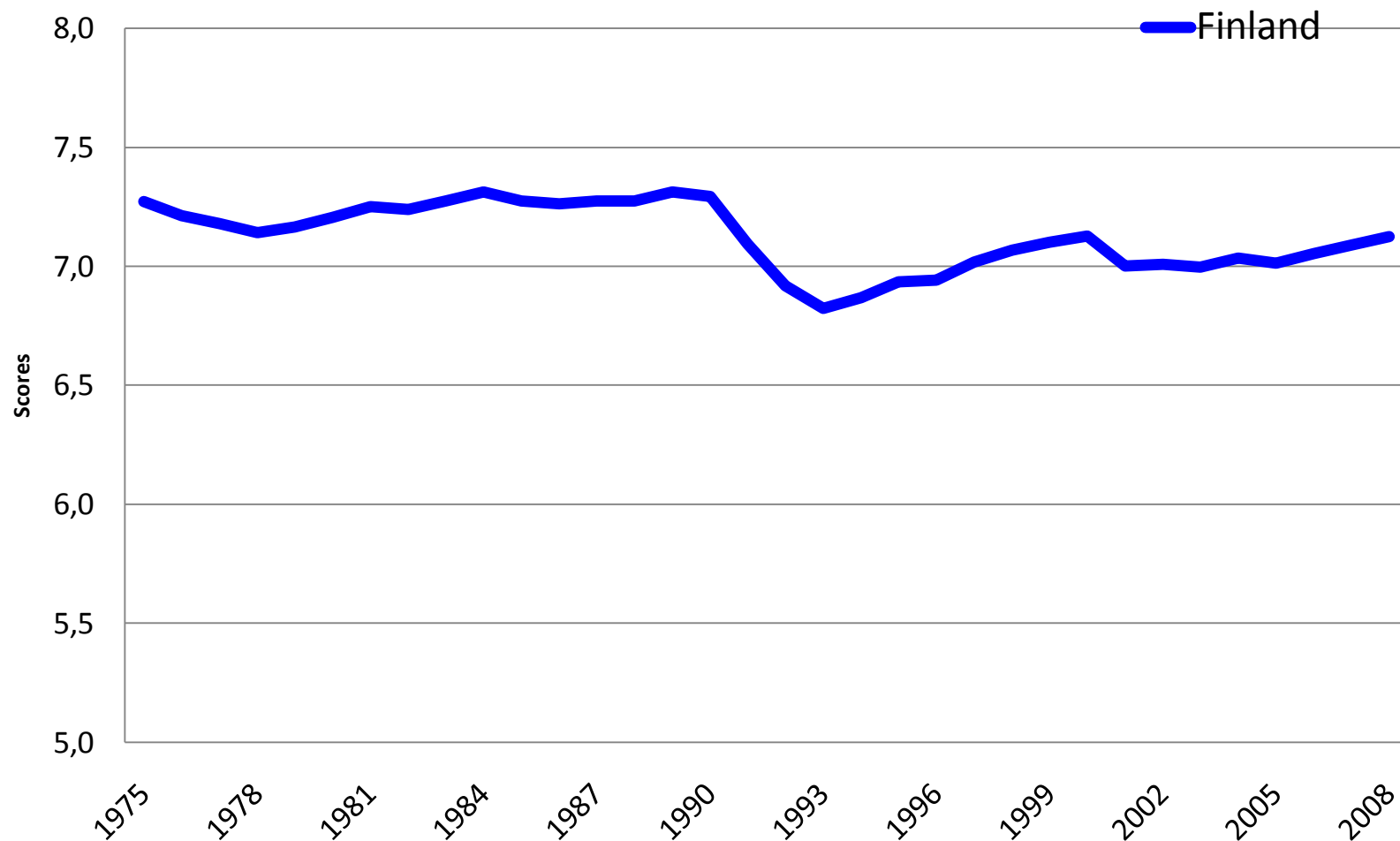**Environ-mental Wellbeing**

Economic Wellbeing
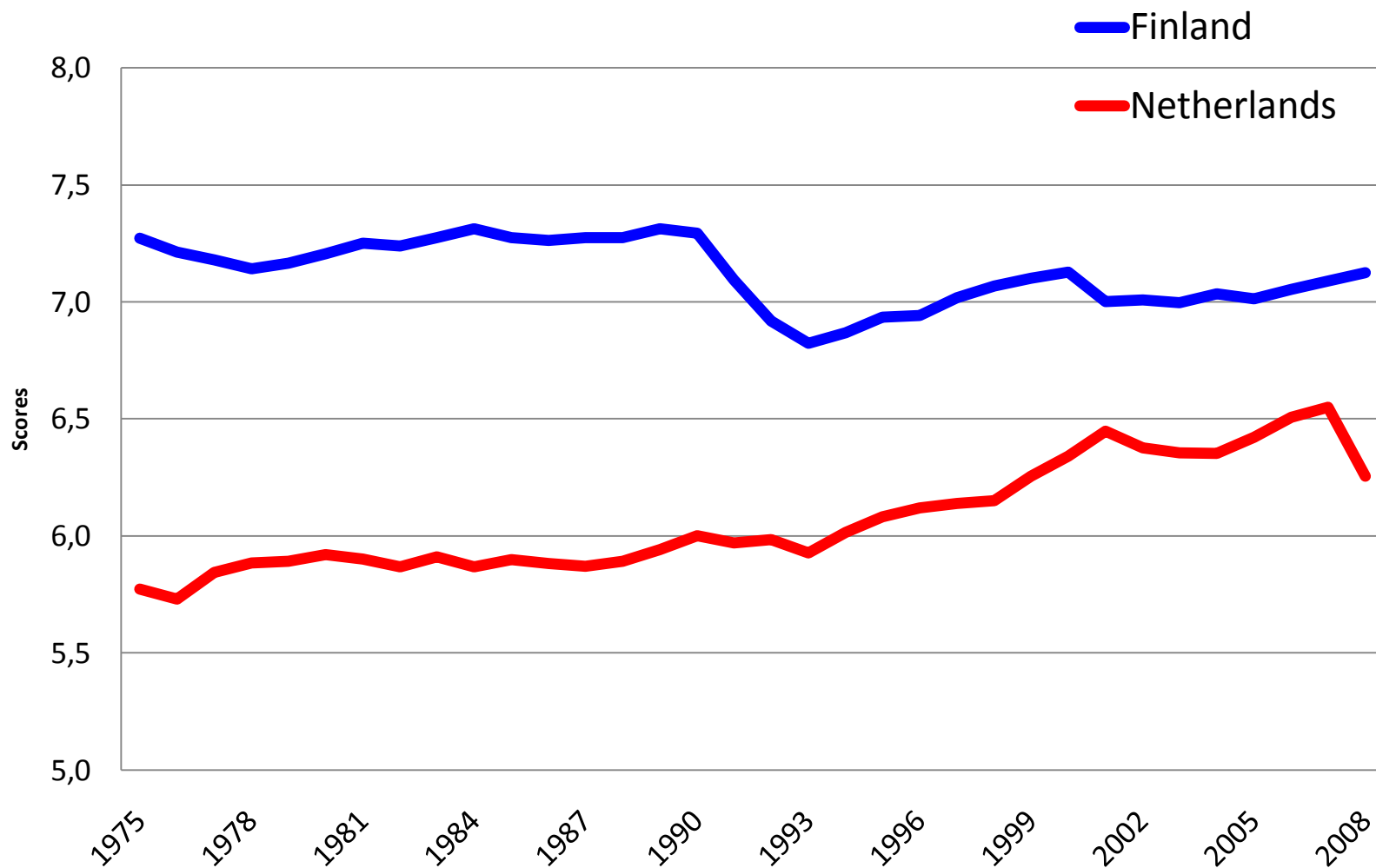
Sustainable Society Index - SSI

SSI 1975-2008

SSI 1975-2008

Legend: Finland (blue), Netherlands (red)
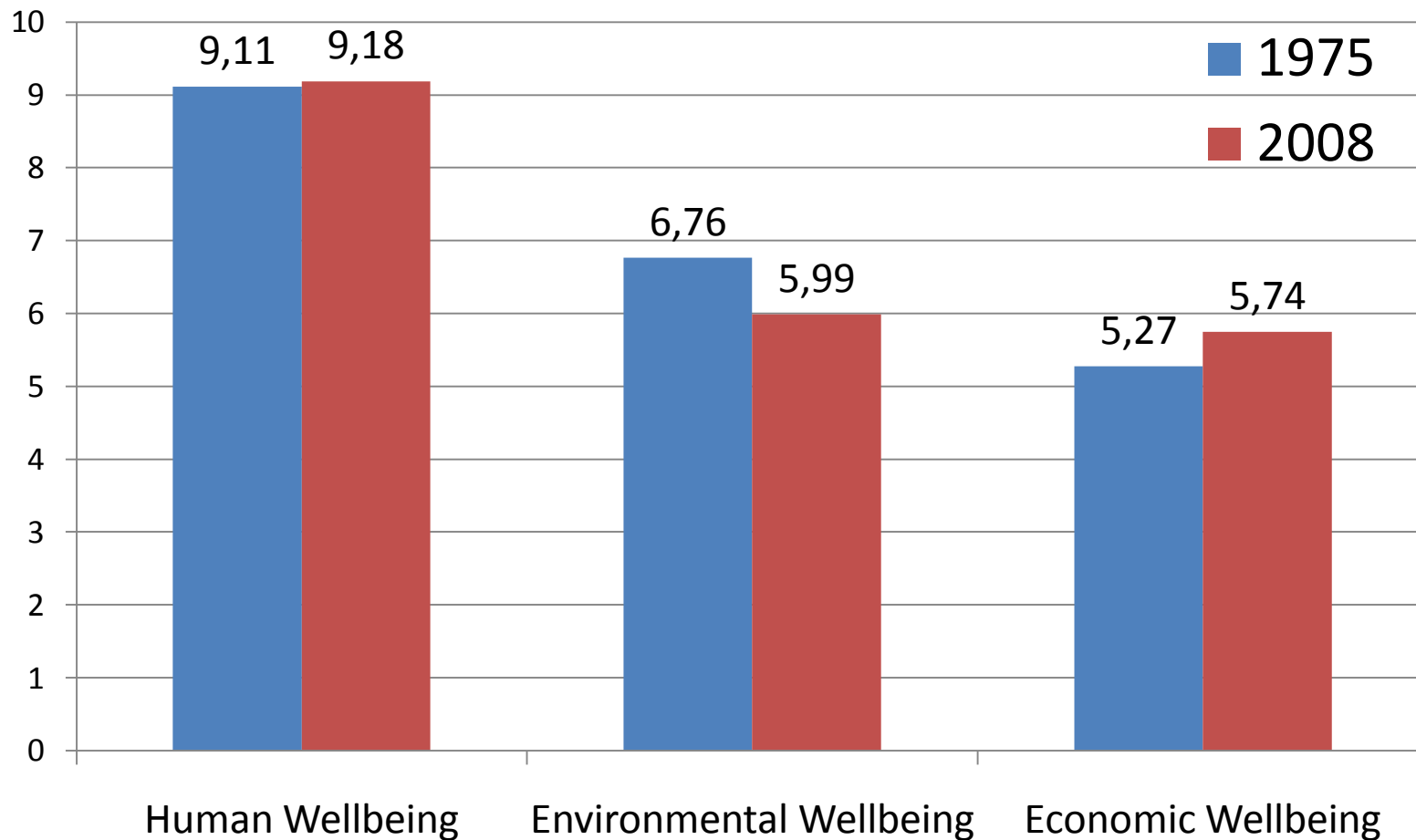
Scores

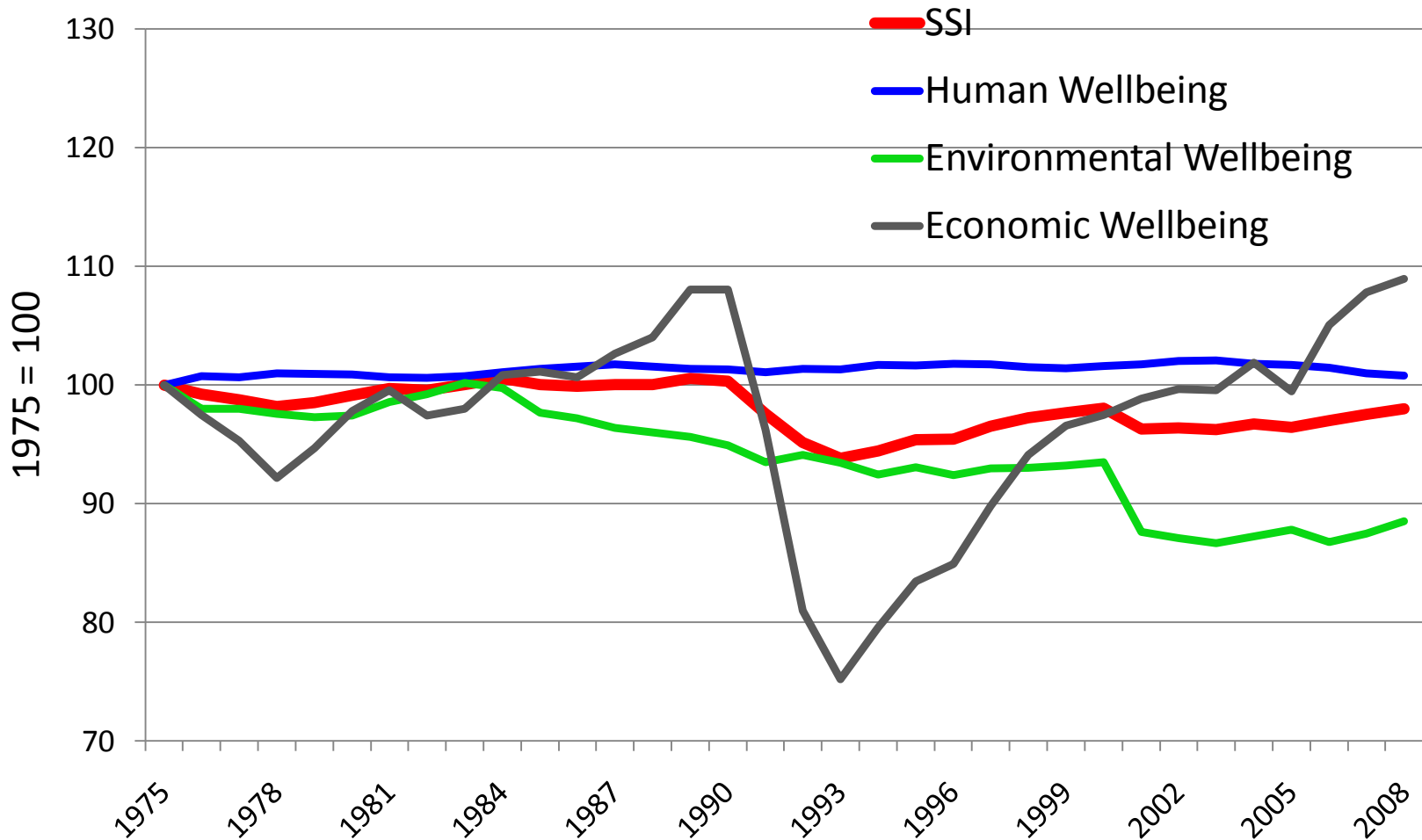1975 1978 1981 1984 1987 1990 1993 1996 1999 2002 2005 2008
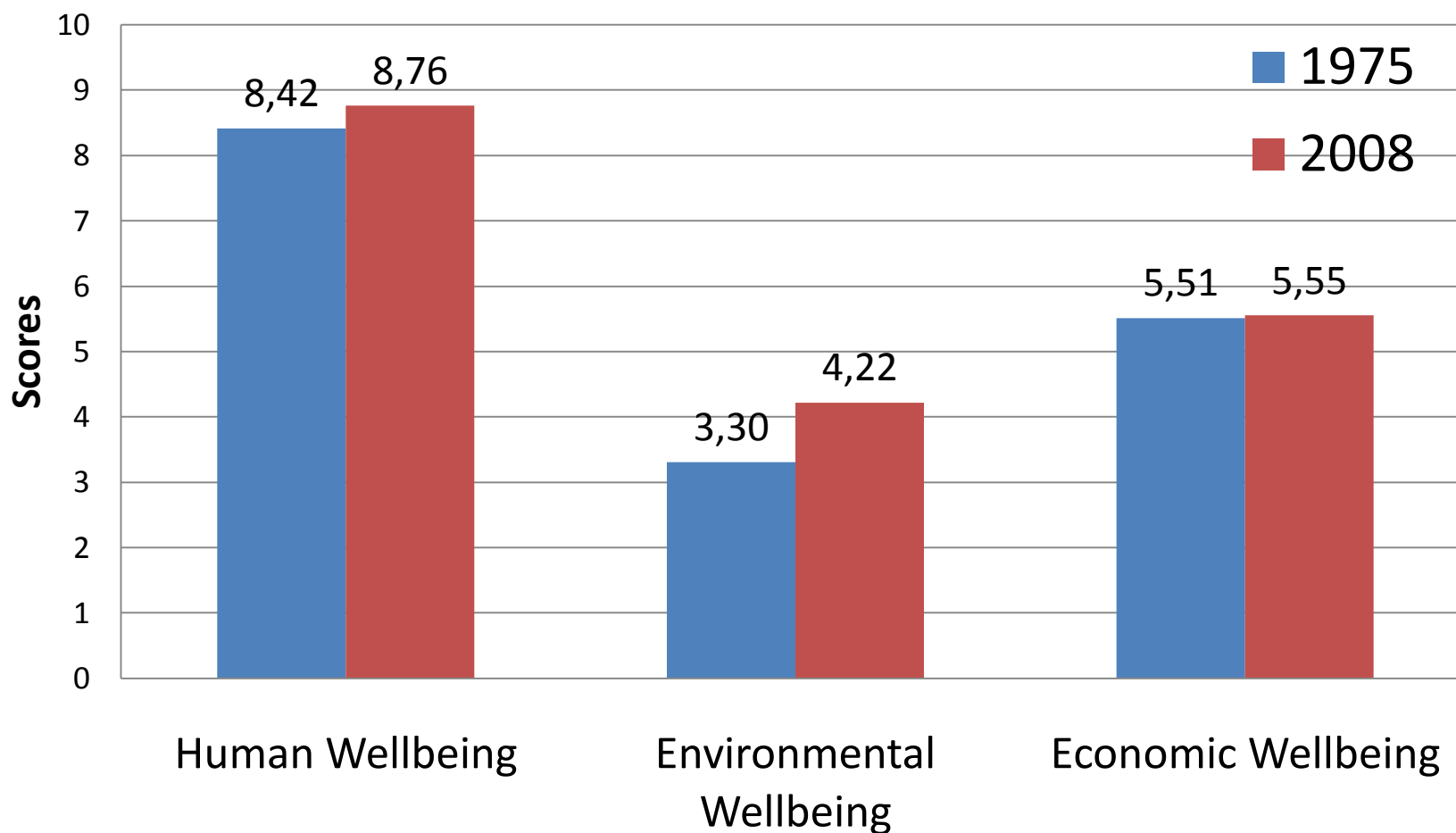
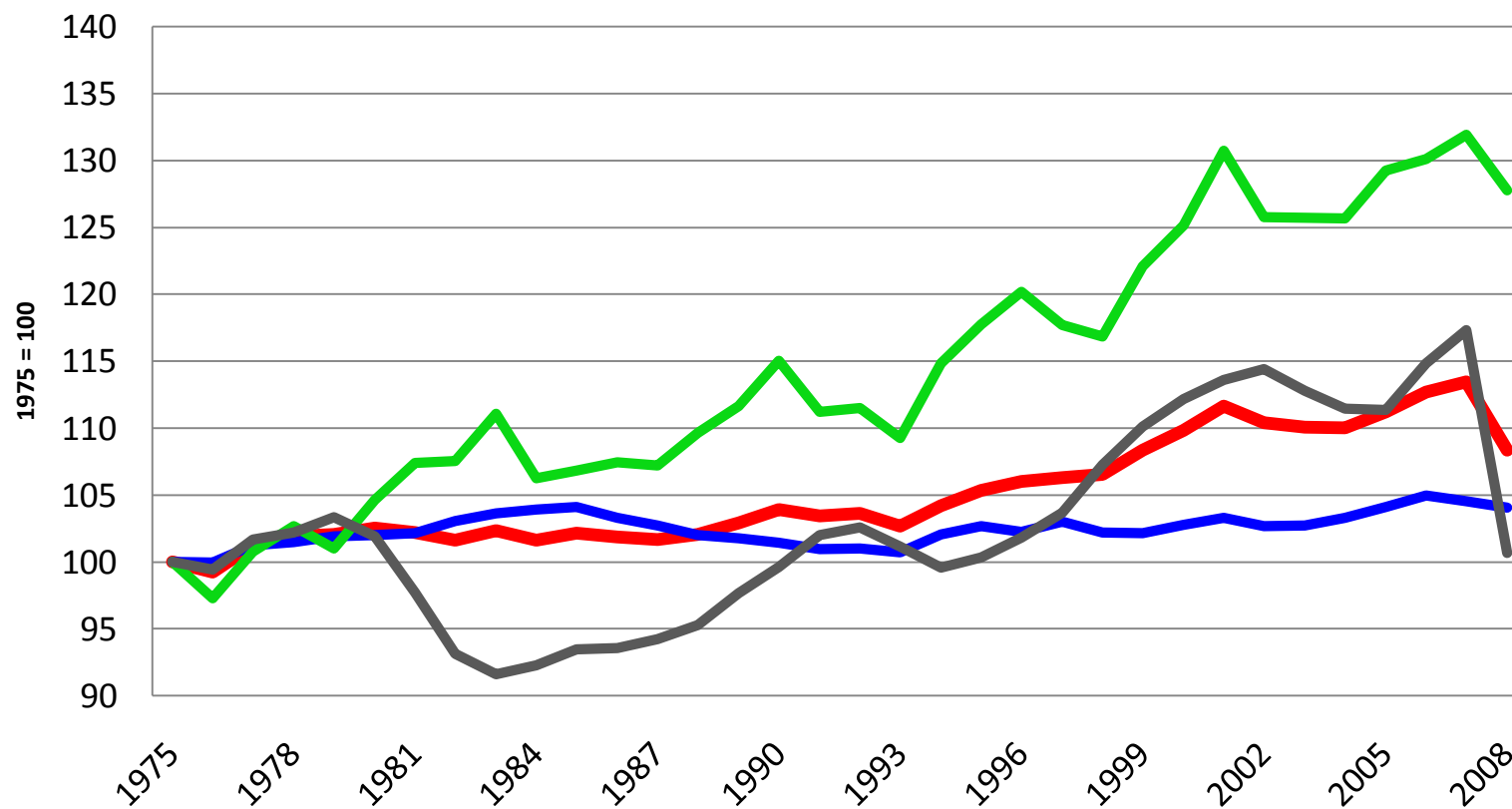# Wellbeing Finland

SSI Finland 1975 - 2008

Wellbeing The Netherlands

SSI The Netherlands 1975 - 2008

GDP – SSI Finland

Legend: GDP per capita

Y-axis: 1975 = 100 (0, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700)

X-axis: 1975, 1978, 1981, 1984, 1987, 1990, 1993, 1996, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008
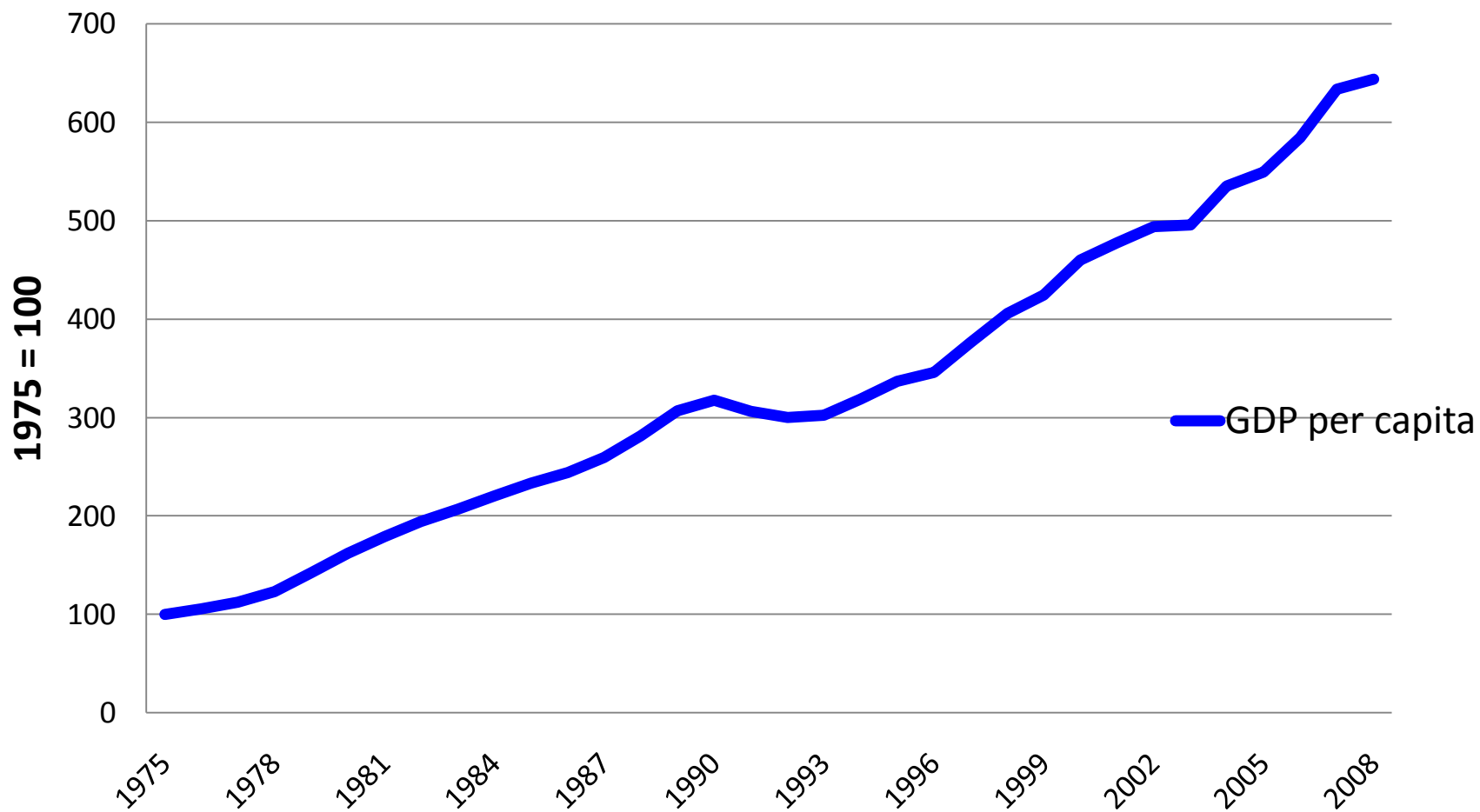
GDP – SSI Finland
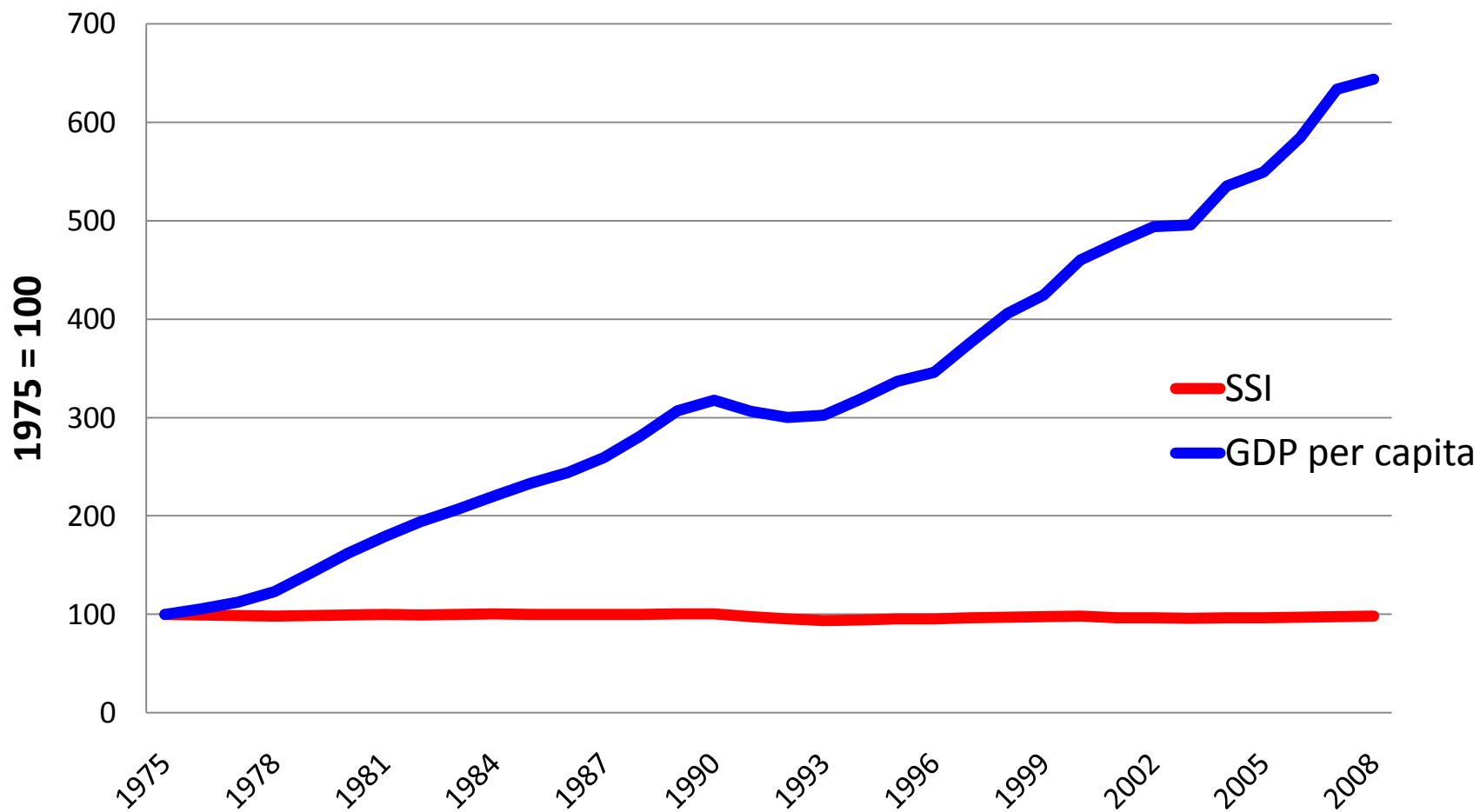
GDP – SSI The Netherlands
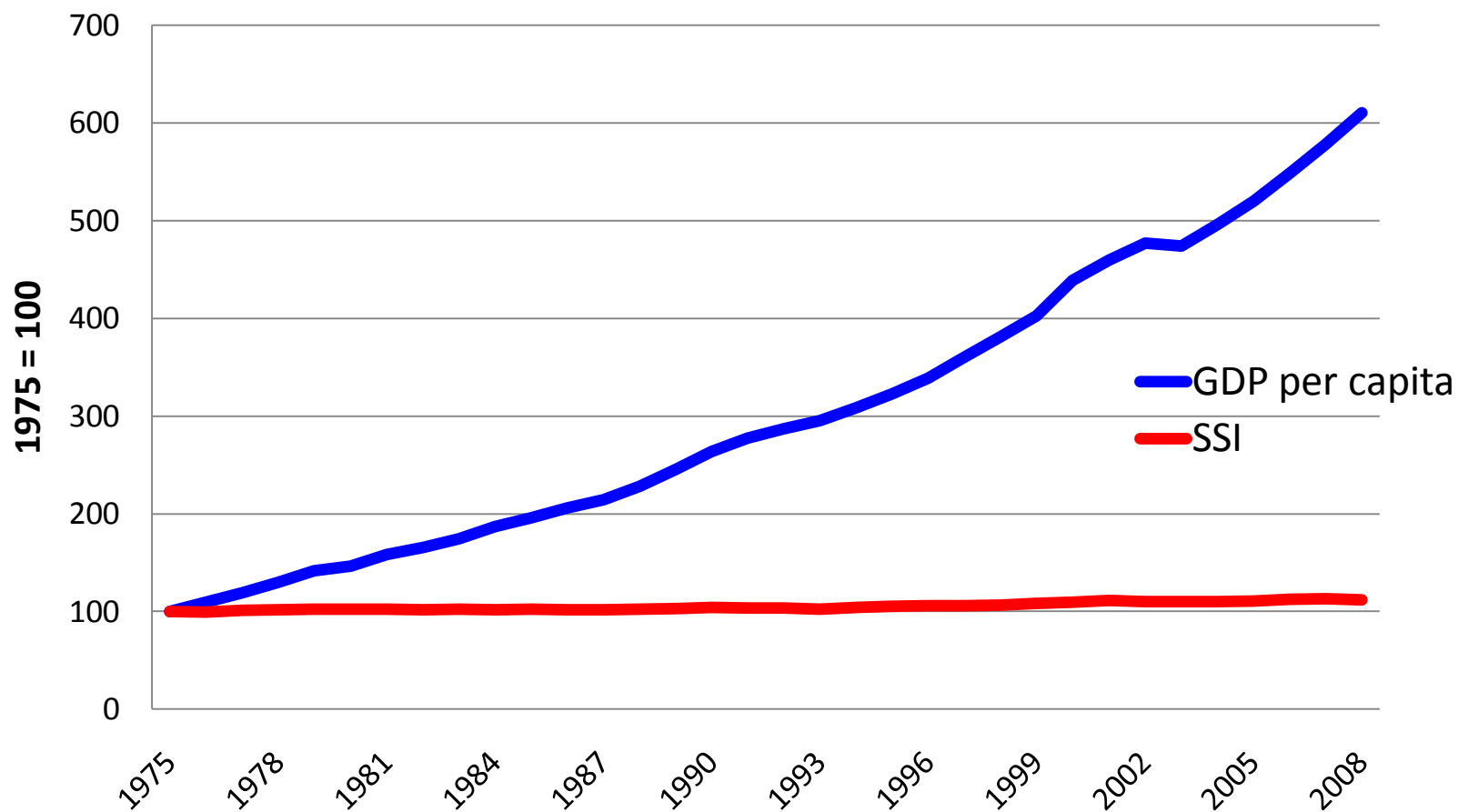
Changes indicator scores 1975 - 2008

Sustainable Society Foundation
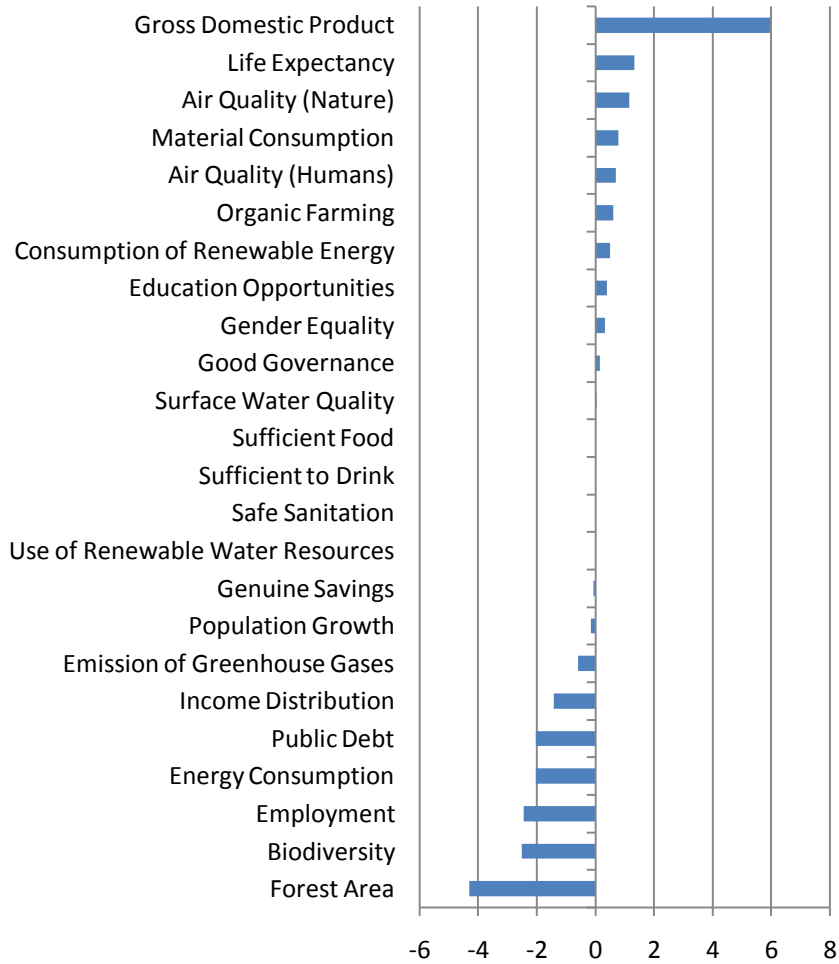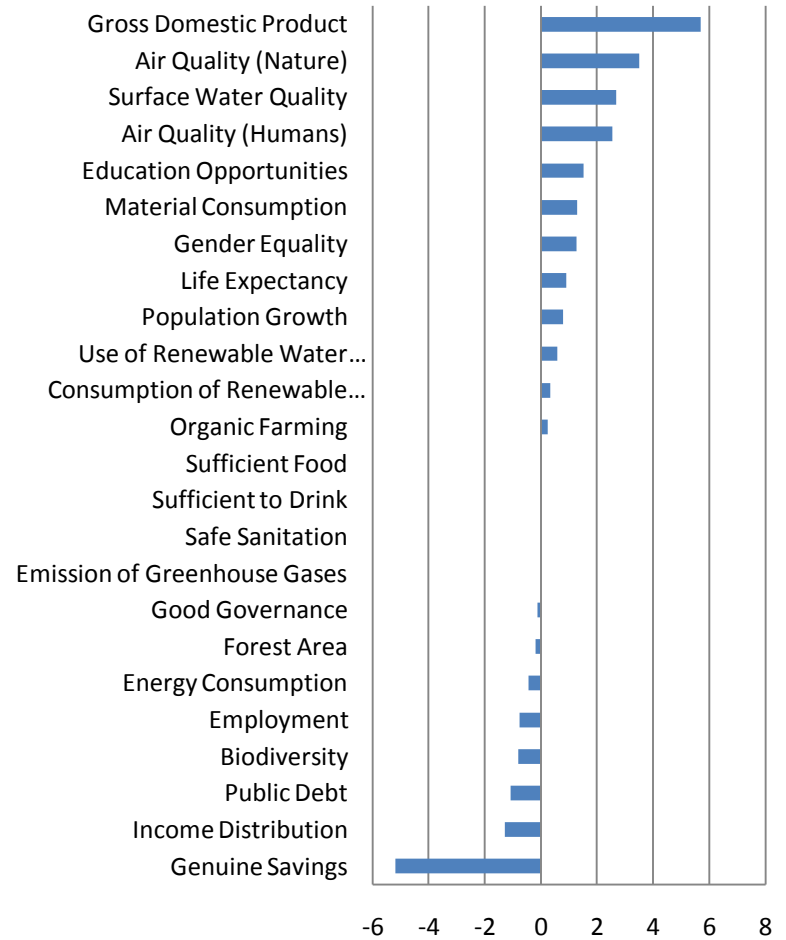
Conclusions

1. Finland scores better on the SSI across 75-08 than The Netherlands.

2. The trend for Finland was slightly downwards, since 1993 upwards.

3. For The Netherlands the trend is slightly upwards.

4. Both countries have largely increased the GDP per capita. However, this has not resulted in a substantial increase of sustainability.

Conclusions -2

Indicators which need urgent attention

Finland				The Netherlands	
•GHG emissions				•GHG emissions	
•Organic Farming				•Organic Farming	
•Material consumption				•Renewable Energy	
•Renewable Energy				•Biodiversity	
•Biodiversity				•Surface Water Quality	

more information:

www.sustainablesocietyindex.com

Sauli Rouhinen, FiMoE
Comments

Puuston kasvu ja poistuma 1879-2008

miljoonaa kuutiometriä

Poistuma   Kasvu (tasoitettu)

Metla
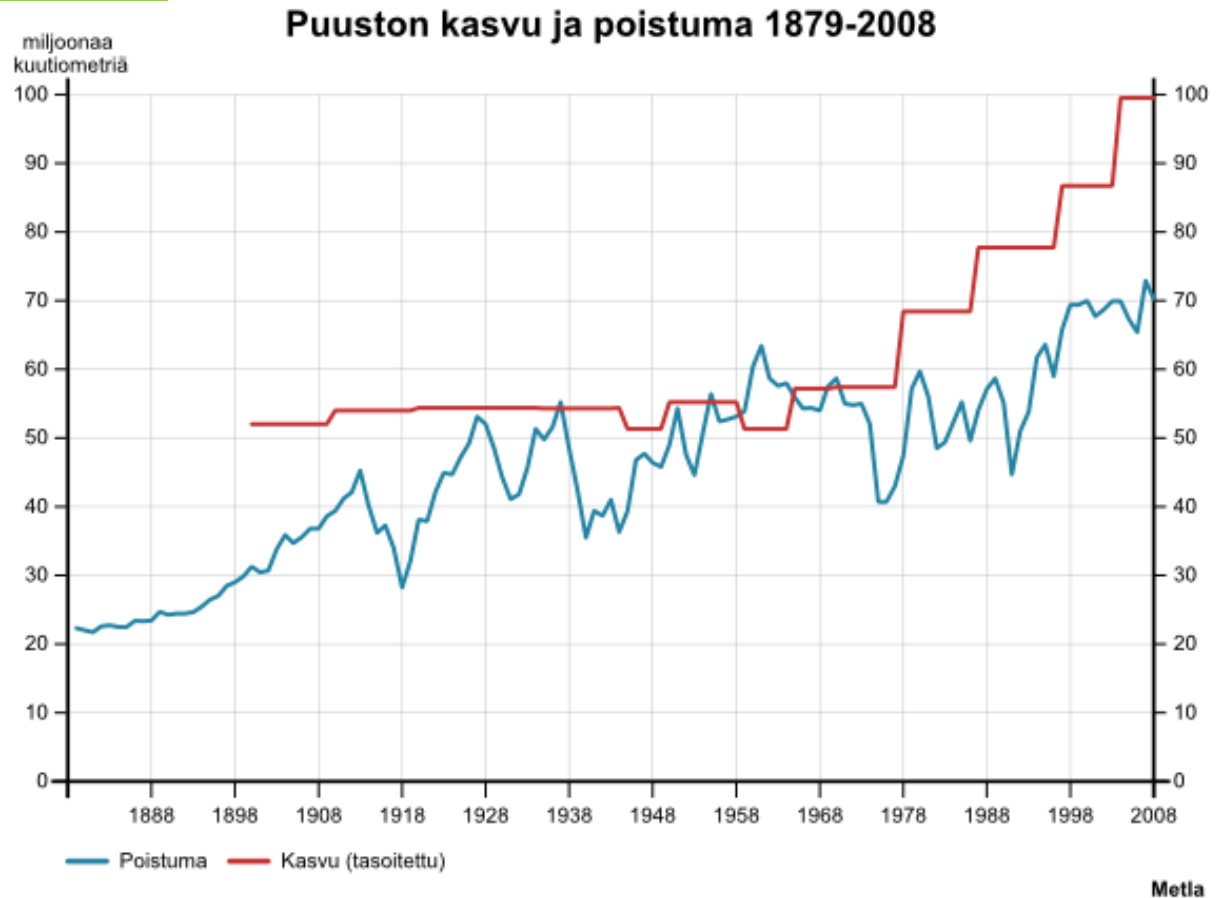
_____ Increment – increase in volume of growing stock and
_____ Fellings 1879-2008 in Finnish Forests M m3

The usability of SD indicators

- SD indicators/indexes must be an integral part of the SD strategy process in order to have influence in politics.
  - National set of SD indicators – key indicators in the NSDS
  - A specific set of indicators to support the political discussion in SD council meetings
- New government program (22.6.2010): "develop and introduce in a couple of years a complementary indicator for the GDP to measure societal progress, wellbeing and state of the environment" – a task for the FNCSD?