



TEMPLETON WORLD  
CHARITY FOUNDATION



Tecnológico  
de Monterrey

# Florecimiento *humano*

Landscaping Regional Research and Leadership Capacities for the Study of Human Flourishing in Mexico, Colombia, Chile, and Brazil

## Executive Summary

The general objective of this research is to map the knowledge about Human Flourishing that is being generated in Latin America, with special emphasis on Mexico, Colombia, Chile, and Brazil, and also the branches that could possibly extend to other Latin American countries. The knowledge about Human Flourishing may be generated in scientific research centers and universities, but also in other knowledge repositories such as civil organizations, government entities, and professional associations. This initiative will help to remedy the lack of information about this field and eventually to support the formation of networks and collaboration among stakeholders in the region. The project is led by Tecnológico de Monterrey with the support of Universidad Católica de Chile and Universidad de Los Andes (Colombia). The research team includes participants from Mexico, Spain, the UK, Colombia, and Chile.

### Strategy

We propose to proceed with mixed research, including documentary and fieldwork, using a variety of digital documentary techniques, in-depth interviews, snowball sampling, focus groups, and expert seminars, according to the following four phases:

1. Data collection and systematic mapping: We intend an Interdisciplinary Quasi-Systematic Mapping, through digital tools, using specialized software for bibliometrics, data mining, and mapping. Expected results are:

- Identifying the most productive researchers

- Mapping of major research topics
- Identification of relevant universities and research centers
- Identification of publications (journals and academic publishers)
- Visualization of research trends

2. Fieldwork: Key informant interviews (based on the results of the literature mapping, a series of interviews with the most relevant authors); snowball sampling; focus groups (including the actors found in the previous phases, researchers, practitioners, sponsors) and local seminars. Expected results are:

- Relevant conceptual information that has previously gone unnoticed
- Identification of innovative practices
- Identification of relevant actors: researchers, networks, initiatives, sponsors, and funders
- Identification of available resources and needs for research capacity building
- Lead to new collaborative initiatives at the local level (networks, joint projects)

3. Systematization, analysis, and discussion. As a key component of this phase, results will be discussed in one expert seminar.

4. Creative writing and dissemination: Final results will be presented in an international seminar. Besides the outputs foreseen in the ECOH call, we intend to offer open access to most of the results through a variety of electronic resources.

#### Disciplinary scope

In an initial exploration, it can be stated that some of the relevant contributions to knowledge about Human Flourishing in Latin America are related to a variety of aspects of Well-being. The problems related to economic development are relevant to the region, so it is not surprising that a relevant literary production is outlined about economic growth and its impact on the well-being of the general as well as on specific populations: children, women in maternity stage, the elderly, and migrants. Mention should be made of the interest in recognizing unconventional forms of knowledge, for example, those found in the original peoples and cultures of Latin America, especially those that inhabit areas of environmental importance such as the forests of Central America and the Amazonia. Positive psychology is also of interest in this region, research includes aspects of well-being such as meaning, resilience, and the idea of happiness, emotions, spirituality, mindfulness, mental health, and intervention in special populations. Subjective well-

being has been studied with interest, relating it to economic development, poverty, and happiness. It should also be noted that there is less production in areas closer to the biological sciences.

#### Outputs & outcomes

Besides the foreseen outputs, we intend to offer open access to most of the results through a variety of electronic resources, namely: an interactive digital map, a wiki documentation, and one or more free-access podcasts and videos.

Not quantitative outcomes of this project can be listed as follows:

- \* Spreading the different conceptions of Human Flourishing among contributors and informants
  - \* Identify the themes, interests, methodologies, and resources present in the academic communities of each place
  - \* Lead to new collaborative initiatives at the local level (networks, joint projects) with which communication and collaboration can be maintained in the near future.
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