Supplementary Material

Table S1. Variance explained by principal components and selected indicators

PC number	PC name	PC loadings > 1.0 Original variables	Variance explained (%)
1	Governance	**Control of Corruption**	26.6
		Government Effectiveness	
		Regulatory Quality	
		Rule of Law	
		Voice and Accountability	
		Public service quality	
		Impartiality	
		Corruption in public services	
		Trust in the legal system	
		Not employed persons (% pop15_29)	
		Internet at home	
2	Economic Development	Road accident fatalities	10.8
		Disposable income of households	
		Total employment (btw 15-64)	
		Unemployment	
		Employment in high-tech sectors	
		Employment in Science & Technology	
		Total waste production (metric tones)	
		Total turnover generated by material providers' activities (million euro)	
		Total employment in technology providers sectors	
		Total turnover generated by technology providers sectors (million euro)	
3	Health & Work	Lower secondary education completion (%pop25-64)	8.4
		Involuntary part-time/temporary employment	
		Hearth diseases death rate	
		Premature mortality (<65)	
		Life expectancy	
		MEAN_PM2.5 emissions	
		MEAN_PM10 emissions	
4	Access to Services	**Poor access to primary schools**	8.1
		Poor access to secondary schools	
		Poor access to hospitals	
		Poor access to pharmacies	
		Poor access to bank offices	
		Poor access to train station	
		Poor access to shops	
		Poor access to regional centres	
5	Environmental Quality	Coverage percentage of GI within a region (%)	5.7
		Share of agricultural area in protected areas	
		Percentage share of agricultural use areas	
		Employment in material providers for the circular economy	
		Change in annual mean number of days with snow cover	
6	Soil Protection	**MEAN_Ozone3 emissions**	3.7
		Soil retention	
		Soil sealing in a region	
		Percentage share of agricultural use areas	
		Annual amount of raw material extracted from natural environment (1000 tones)	
7	Quality and Affordability of Housing	Burdensome cost of housing	3.2
		Lack of adequate heating	
		Early school leavers	
		MEAN_PM10 emissions	
		Uncollected sewage	
		Development of urban use per capita 2000-2018	
8	Green Land	Green infrastructure initiatives	2.8
		Higher education attainment rate (%) pop_25_64	
		Cancer death rate	
		EU trademark applications per million inhabitant	
		Forest area within a region between 2012_2018	
9	Security of Citizens	Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism	2.1
		Assaulted/Mugged (%)	
		Higher education attainment rate (%) pop_25_64	
		Early school leavers (%)	
10		Internet access (%)	2

	Quality of Public Services	**Unmet medical needs (%)**	
		CO2 emissions per capita	
		Sewage treatment	
12	Public Health	**Cancer death rate**	1.5
		EU trademark applications per million inhabitant	
		Uncollected sewage	
13	Education & Environment	Early school leavers	1.4
		CO2 emissions per capita	
		Electricity generated by renewable energy sources (PJ)	
		Area of NATURA2000 areas relative to NUTS2 region area	
14	Quality of Communities	Crime rates	1.3
		Higher education attainment rate (%) pop_25_64	
		Community design applications per million inhabitants	
		Crime rates	
		Community design applications per million inhabitants	
		Money stolen	
15	Security of Urban Areas	**Lifelong learning**	1.1
		Cancer death rate	

Note: Other than these, the selected indicators from PC loadings are: PC-16: Poor accessibility to shops; PC-17: Housing quality; PC-18: Insufficient food; PC-19: Share of urban area in protected areas (X76); PC-20: Freshwater consumption (Lt/day/capita) (X69); PC-21: Supply-demand balance quantified by Water Retention Index (X67); PC-22: Early school leavers (X25); PC-23: Electricity generated by renewable energy sources (PJ) (X59); PC-24: Area of NATURA2000 land relative to NUTS2 region area (X73); PC-25: Crime rates (X14); PC-26: Municipal solid waste recycling rate (X61); PC-27: Total employment in CBM sectors (X85); PC-28: Soil retention (X71); PC-29: Ratio of closest doctors (X90); PC-30: Poor access to urban morphological zones (jobs) (X94).