

# Measuring progress, well-being and sustainable development

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Walter Radermacher, Eurostat



# GDP

## The best known measure of macro-economic activity



Developed  
in the  
1930s



Aggregates the  
value added of  
all money based  
economic activities  
(flows) in  
1 nation + 1 period



Looks  
simple

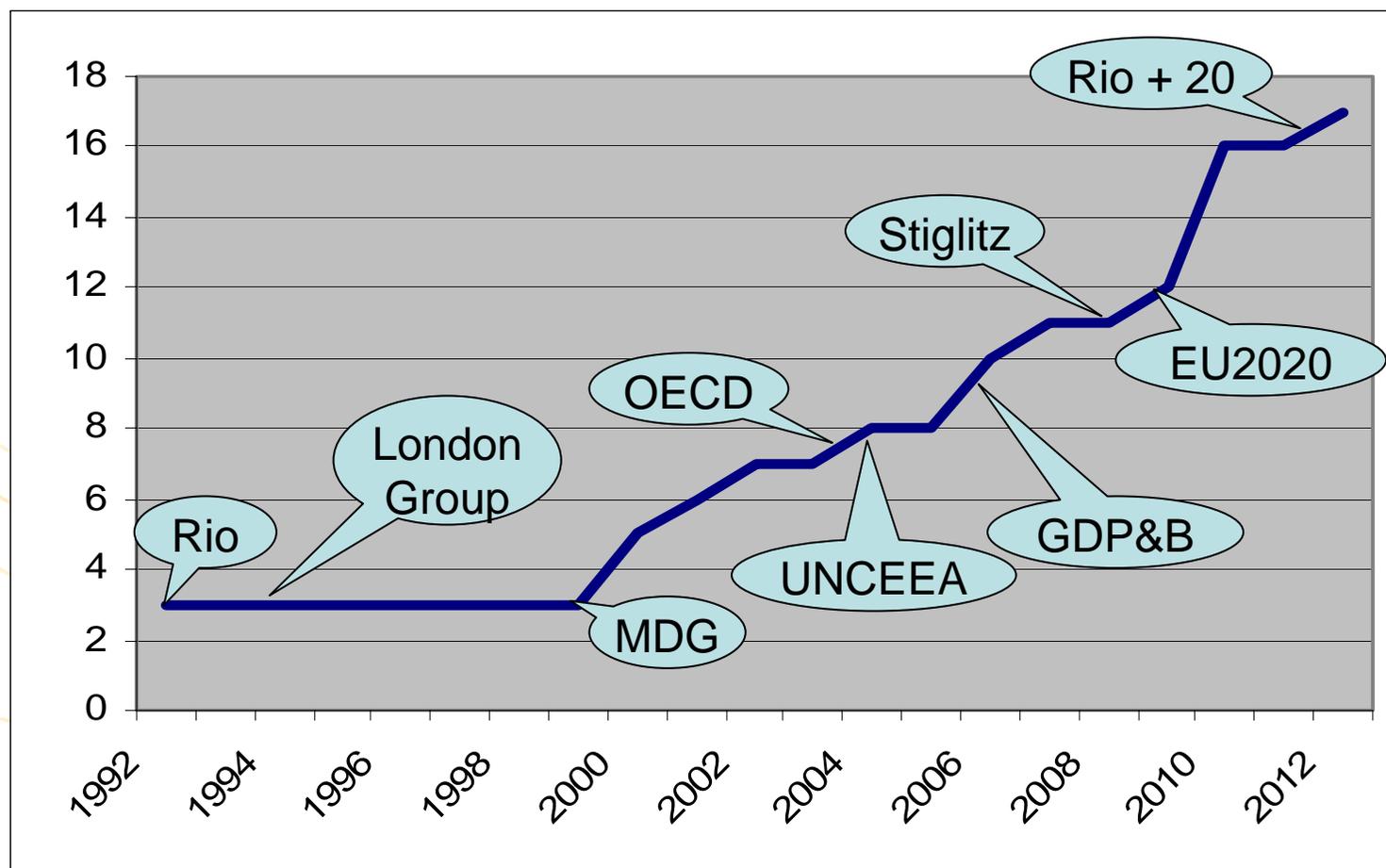


Regarded as a  
proxy indicator for  
overall societal  
development  
and progress in  
general



Clear methodology  
=> allows comparisons over time  
and between countries

## Initiatives: more than 20 years debate

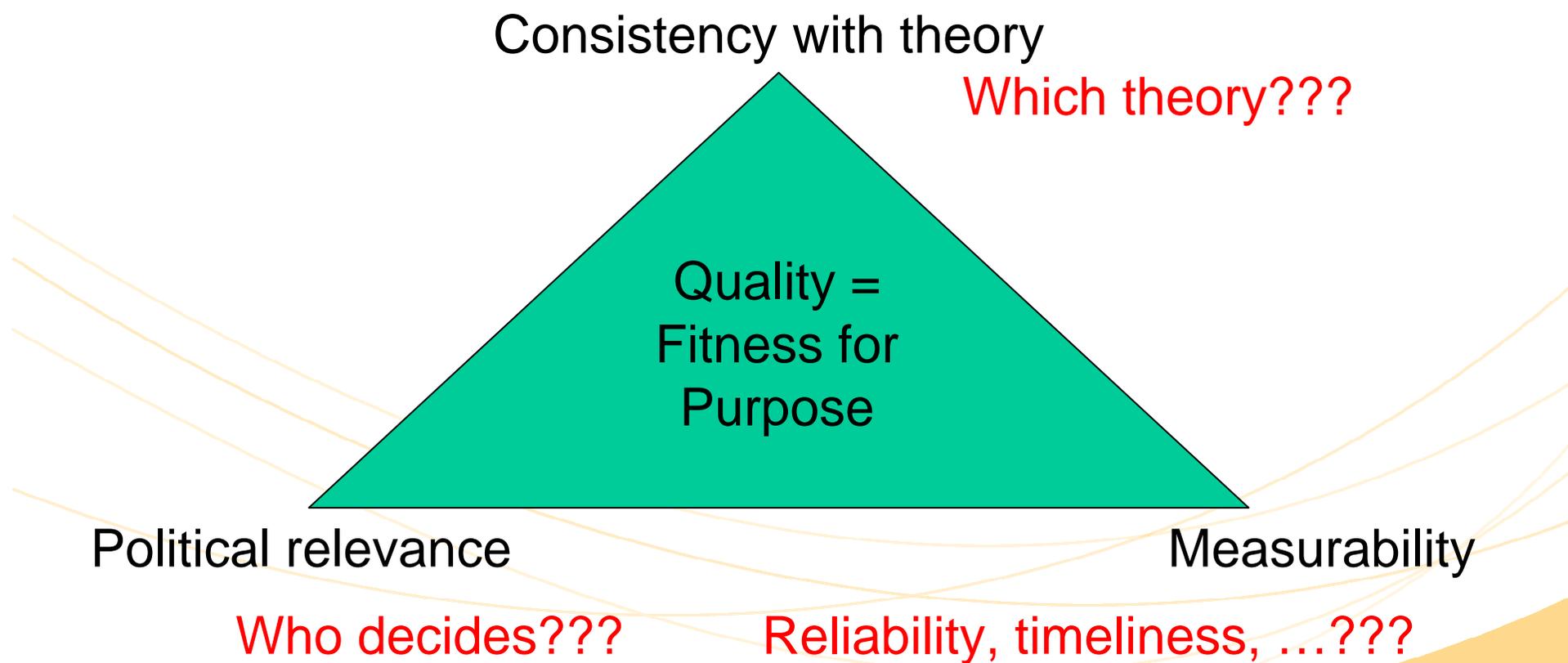


## Initiatives: similar concerns and issues

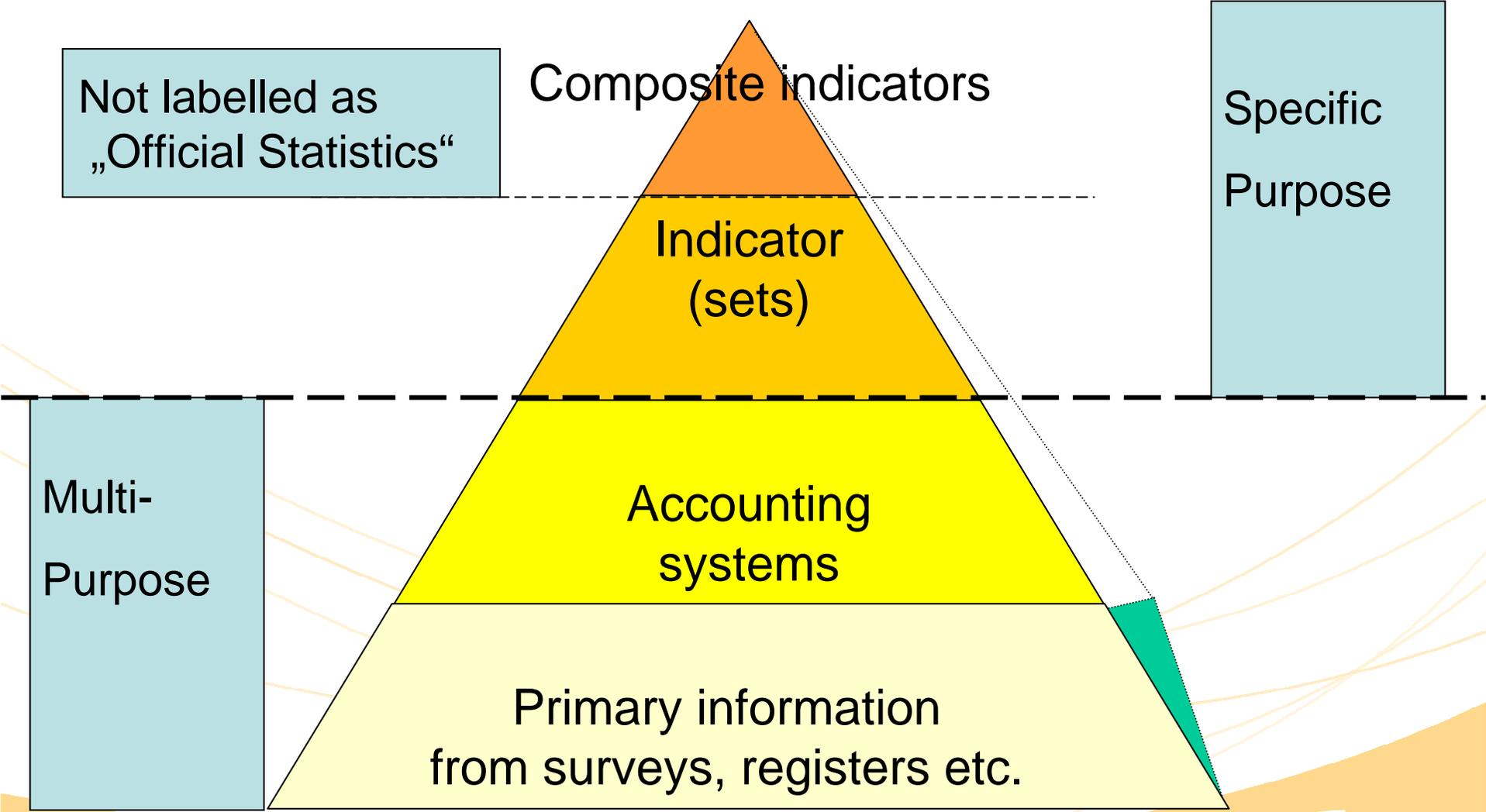
- Overall awareness of the need to complement GDP to measure the progress of societies
- Measure well - being of people (importance of subjective well-being)
- Better assess inequalities and disparities (inter-generational)
- Take into account environmental issues and sustainability (intra-generational)



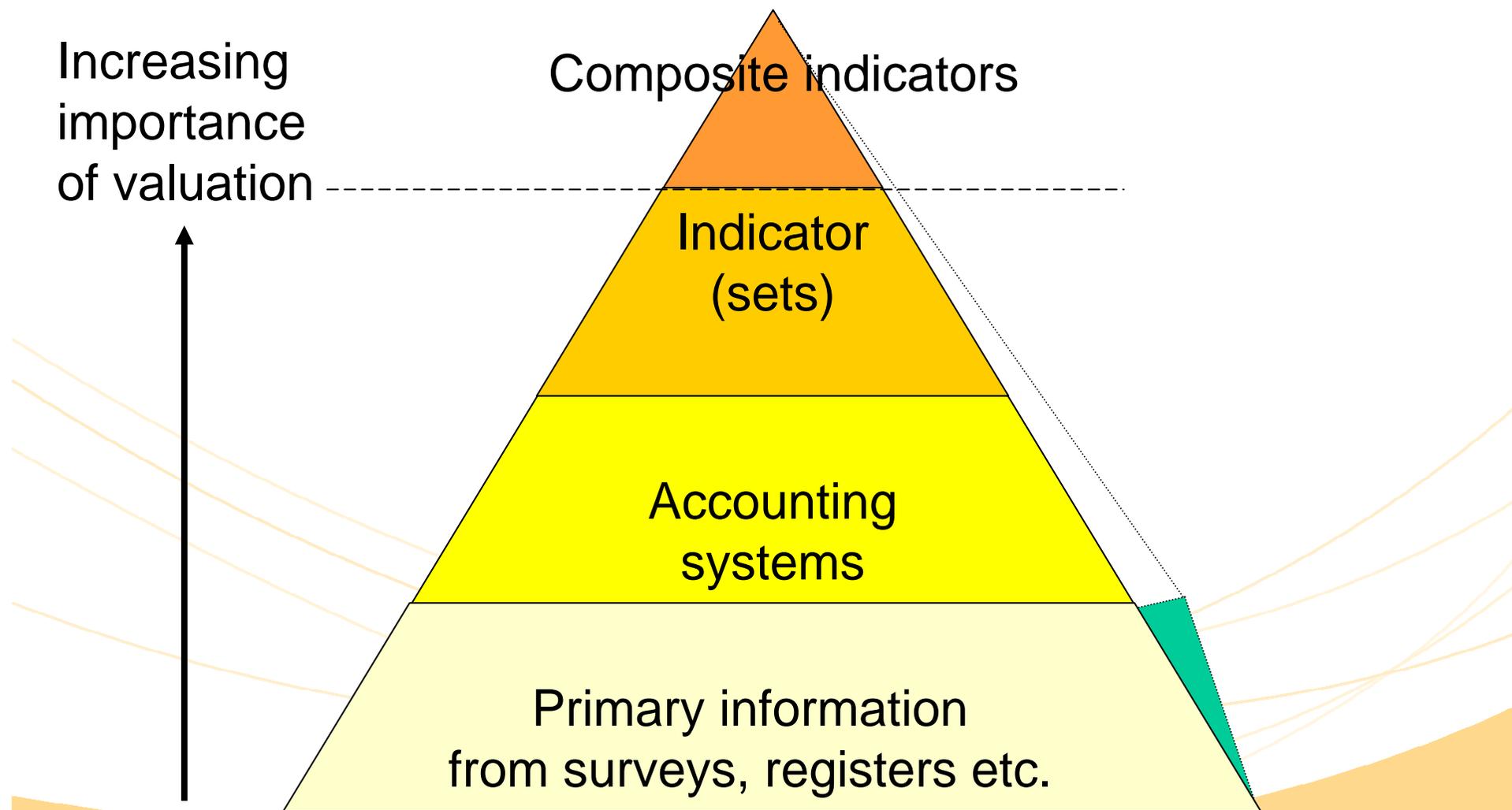
# Quality in statistics: fundamental aspects



# Quality in statistics: aggregation aspects

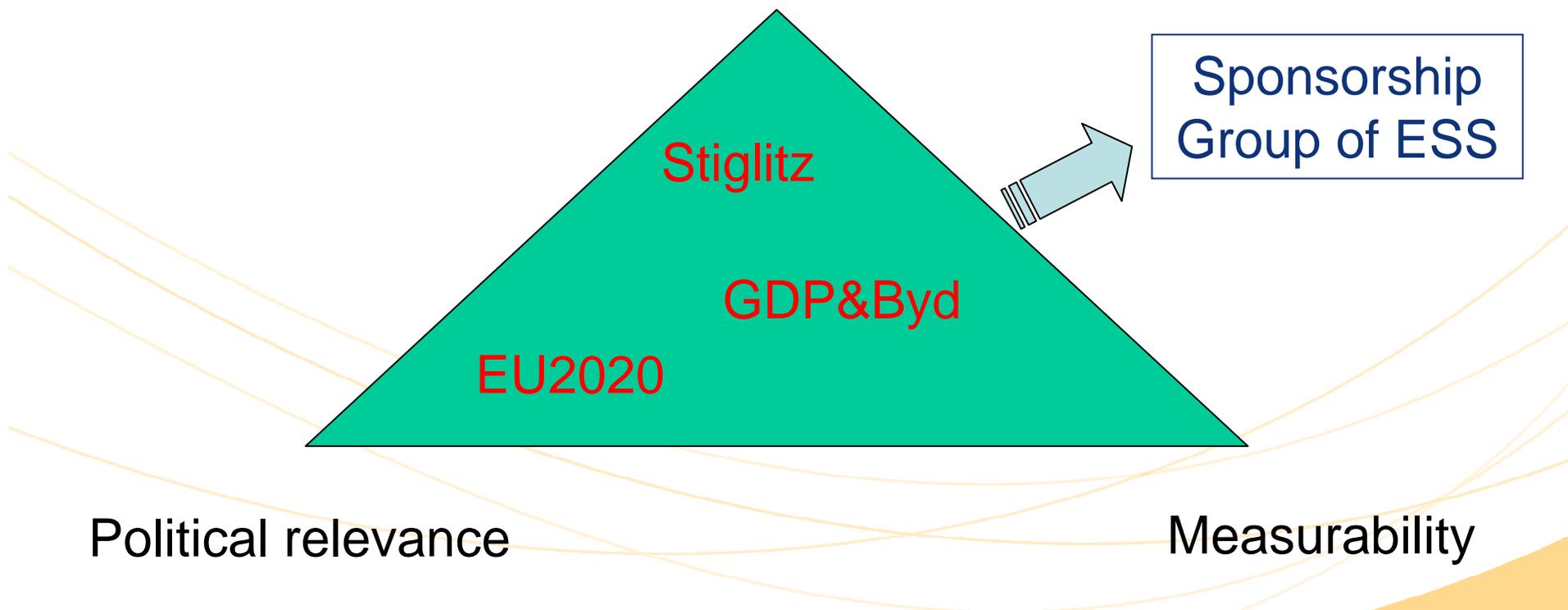


# Aggregation and Valuation in Statistics



# Character of initiatives

Consistency with theory



# Butterflies, M. C. Escher (wood-engraving, 1950)

