

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

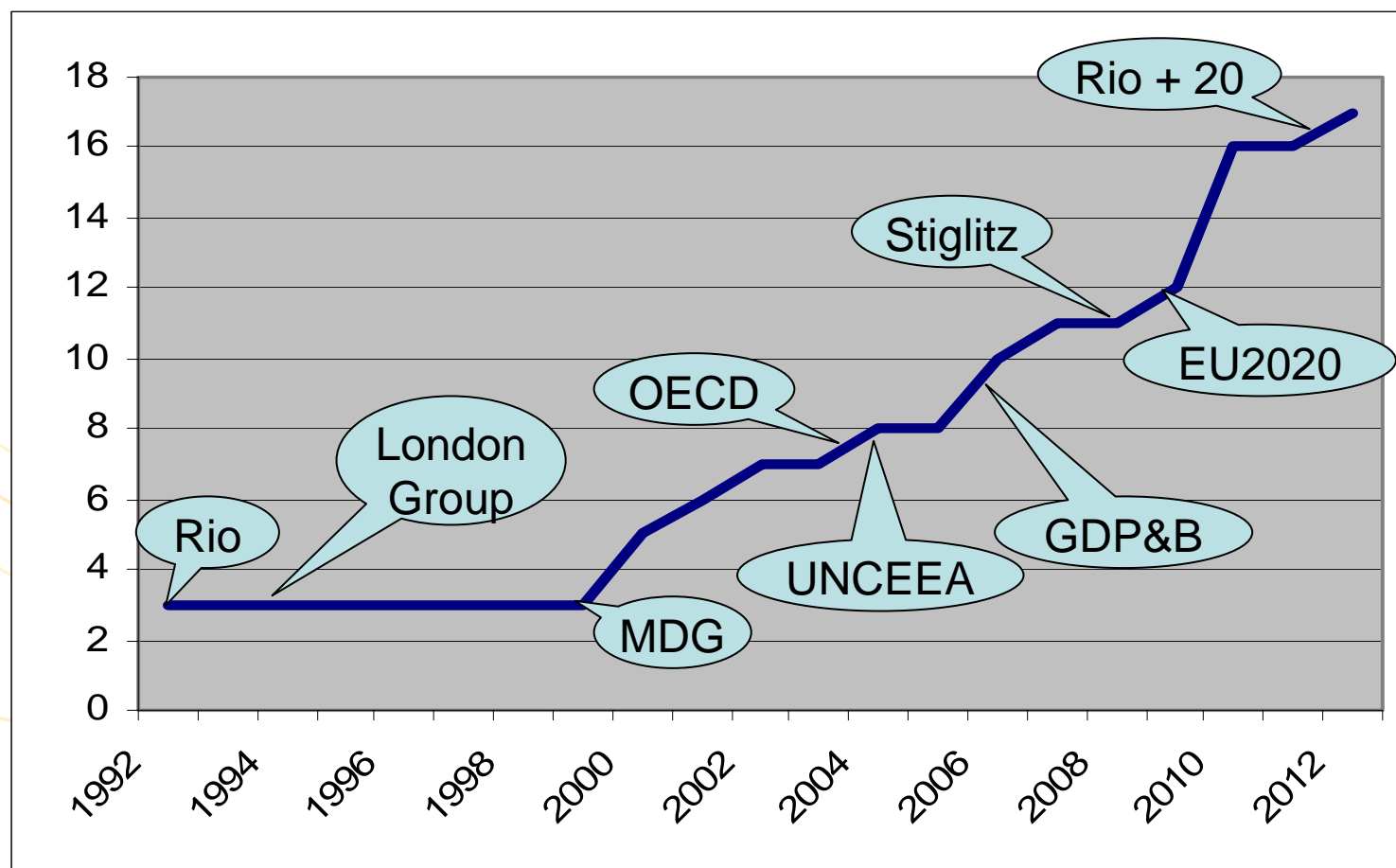


Regarded as a
proxy indicator for
overall societal
development
and progress in
general



Clear methodology
=> allows comparisons over time
and between countries

Initiatives: more than 20 years debate

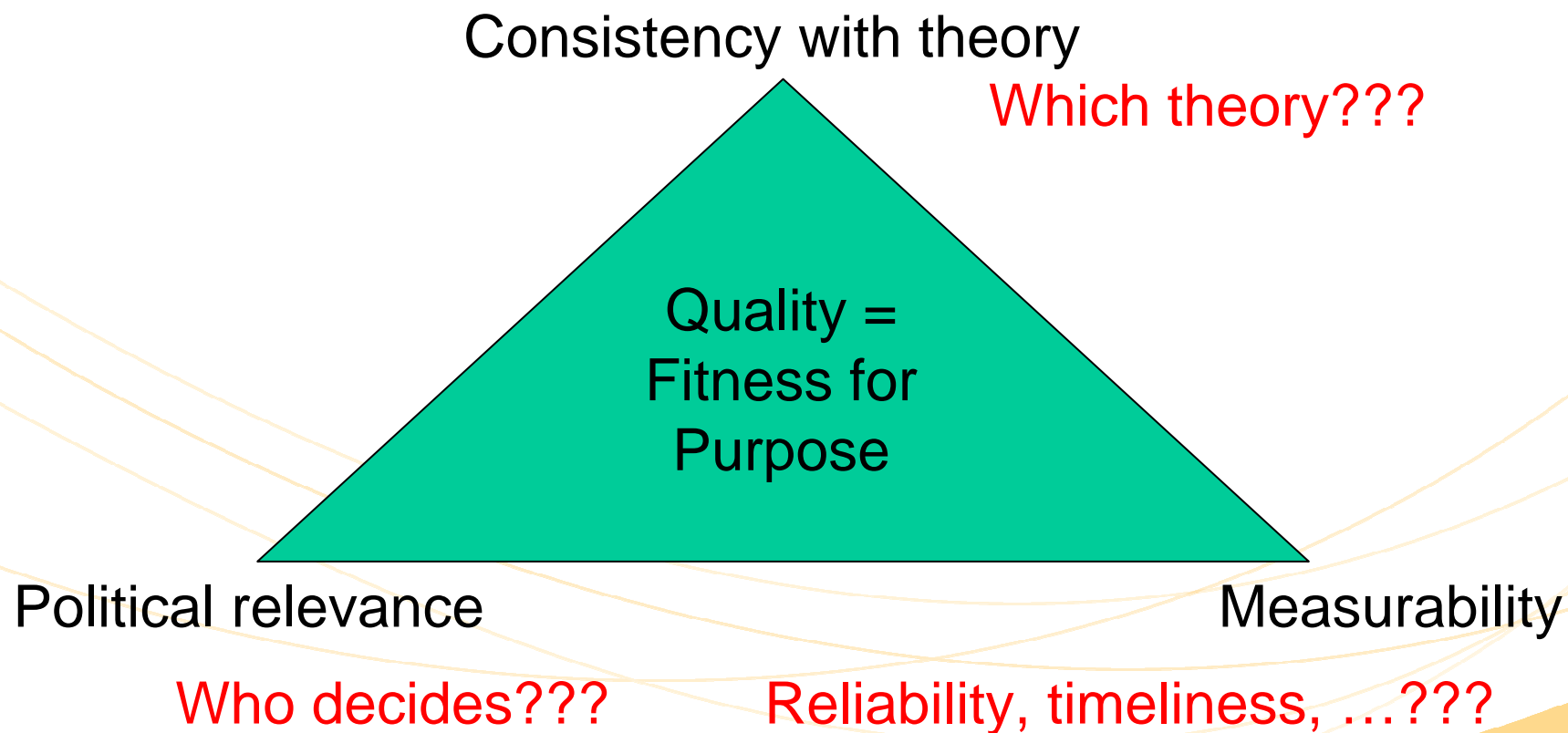


Initiatives: similar concerns and issues

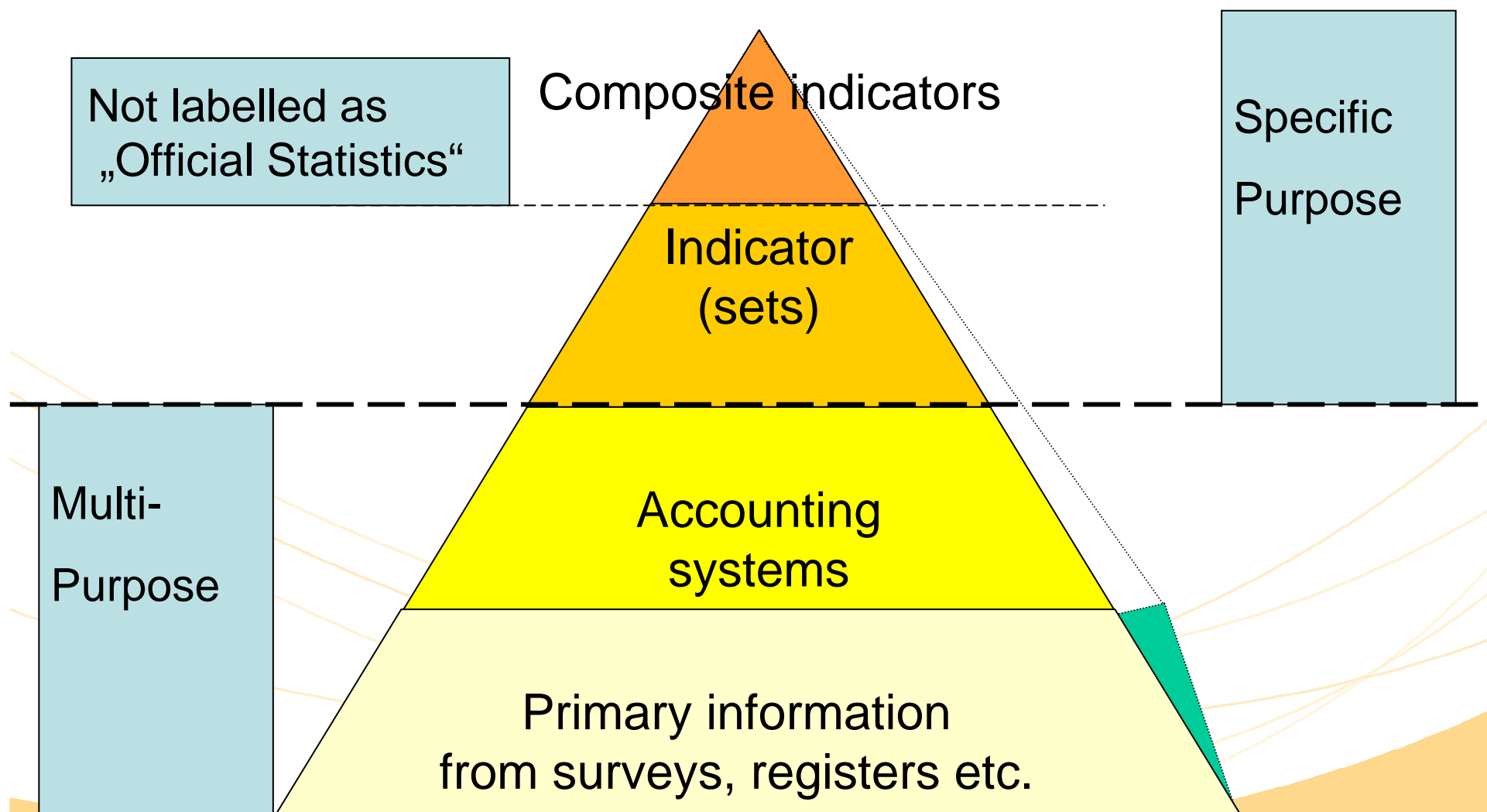
- Overall awareness of the need to complement GDP to measure the progress of societies
- Measure well - being of people (importance of subjective well-being)
- Better assess inequalities and disparities (inter-generational)
- Take into account environmental issues and sustainability (intra-generational)



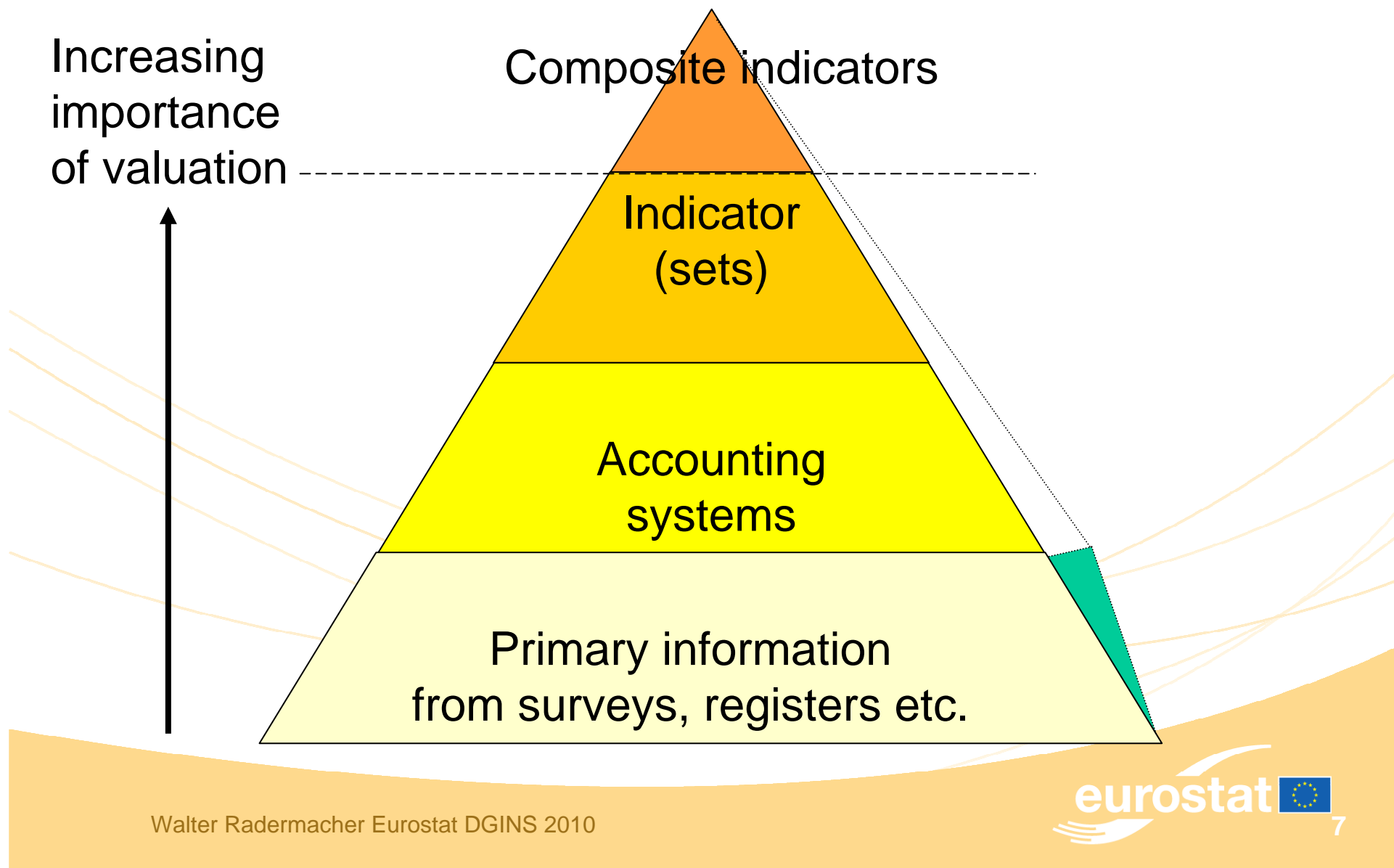
Quality in statistics: fundamental aspects



Quality in statistics: aggregation aspects

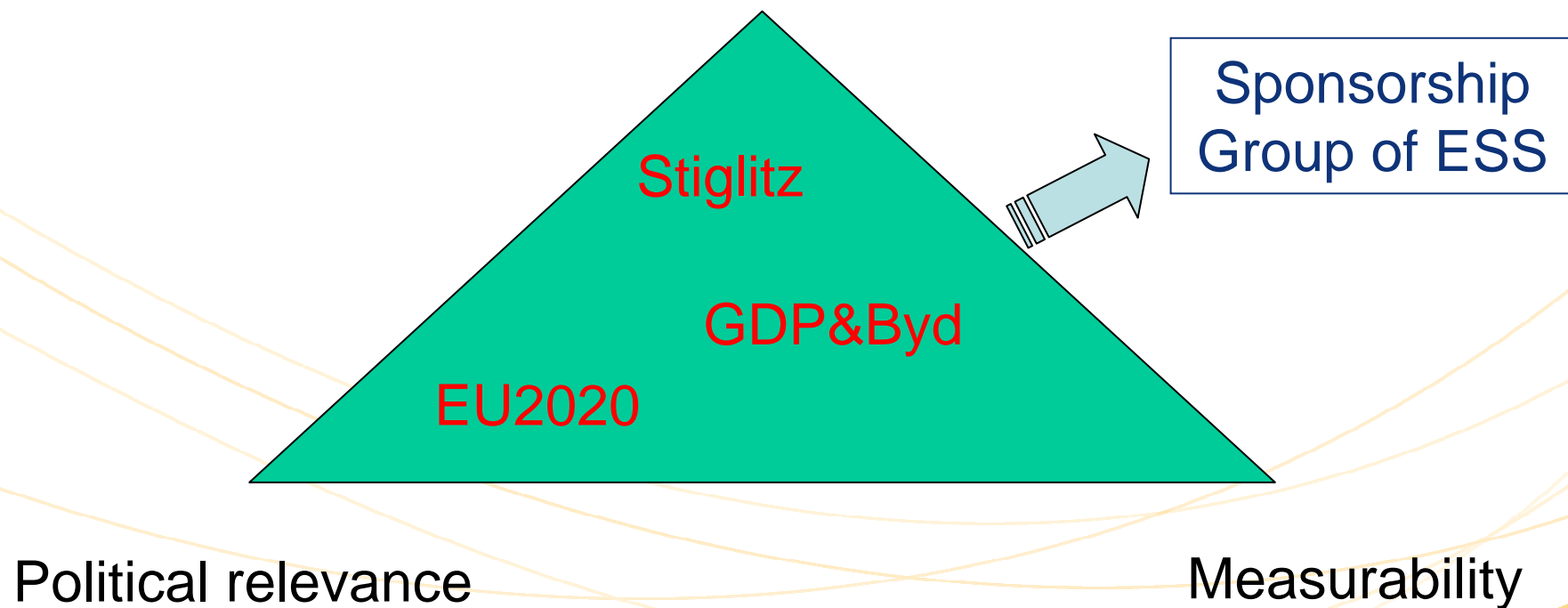


Aggregation and Valuation in Statistics



Character of initiatives

Consistency with theory



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

