

Next steps: what national and international statistical offices can do to improve our measures

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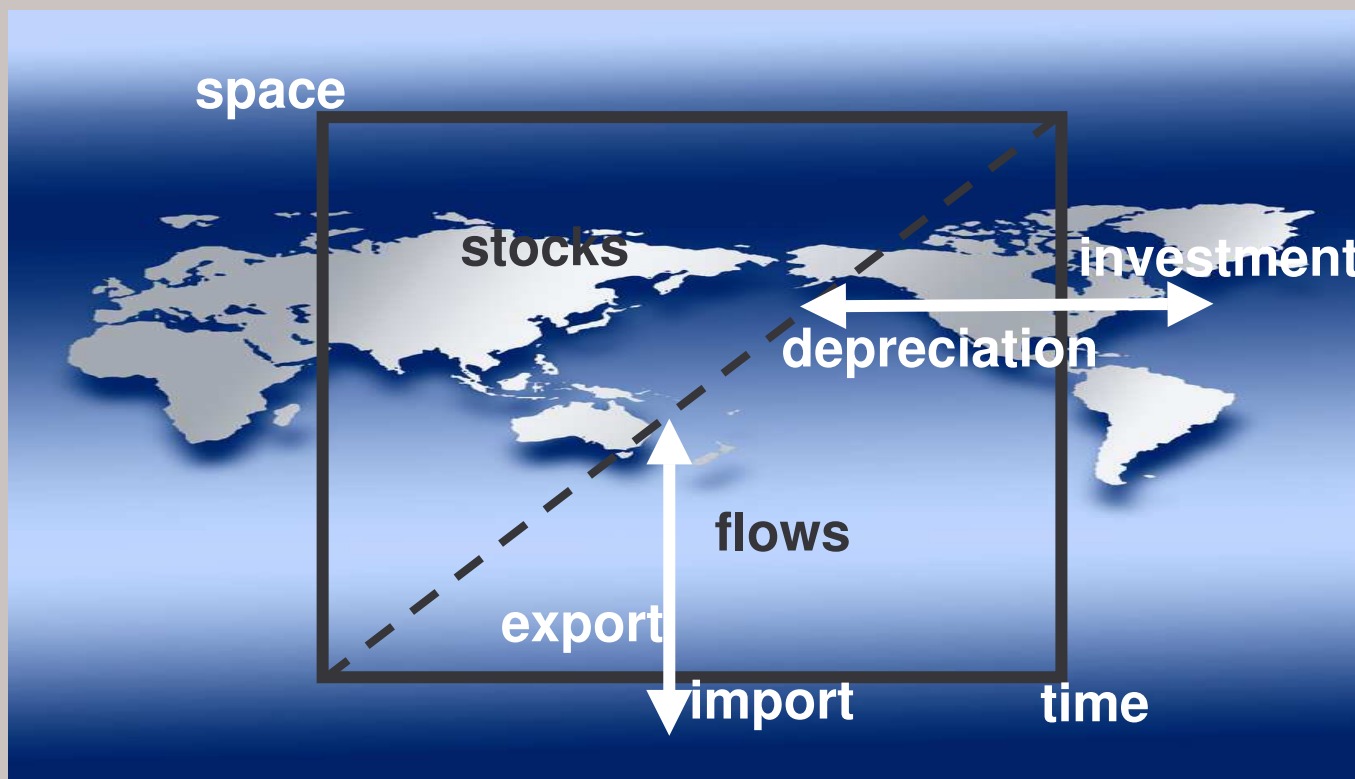
Conference “Beyond GDP”

19-20 November 2007, European Parliament Brussels

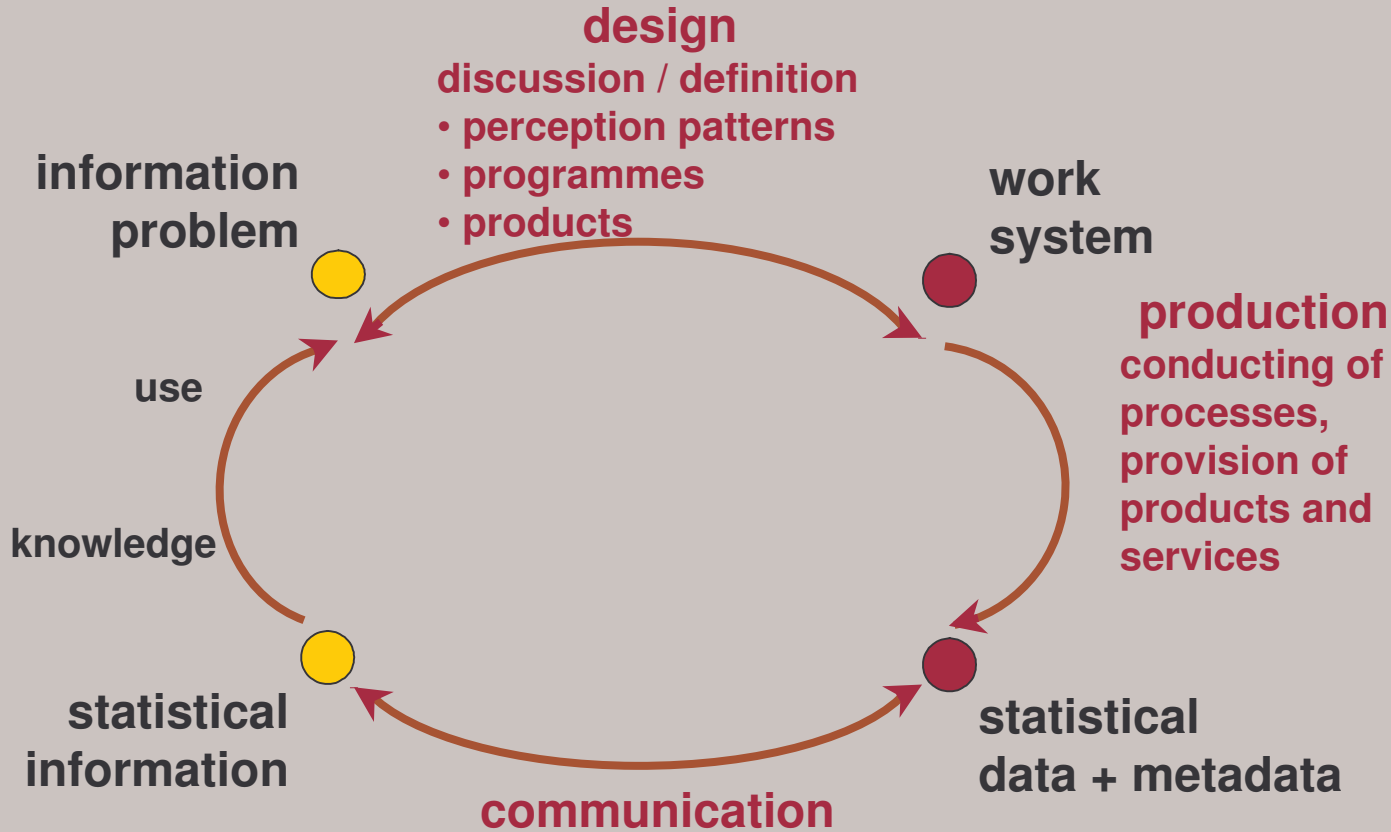
Official statistics and progress measurement



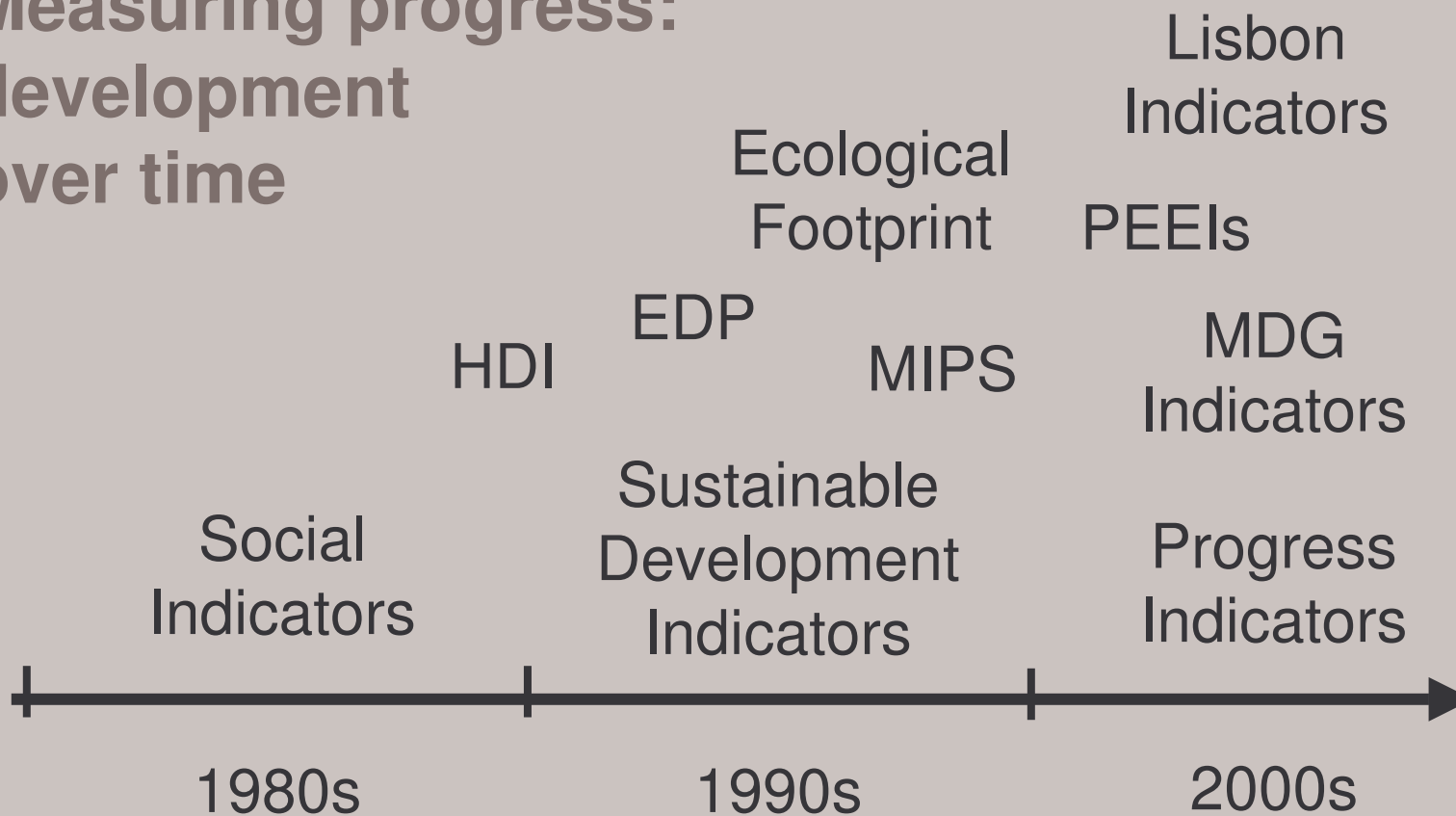
The Economic System in Statistics: A “flat” projection



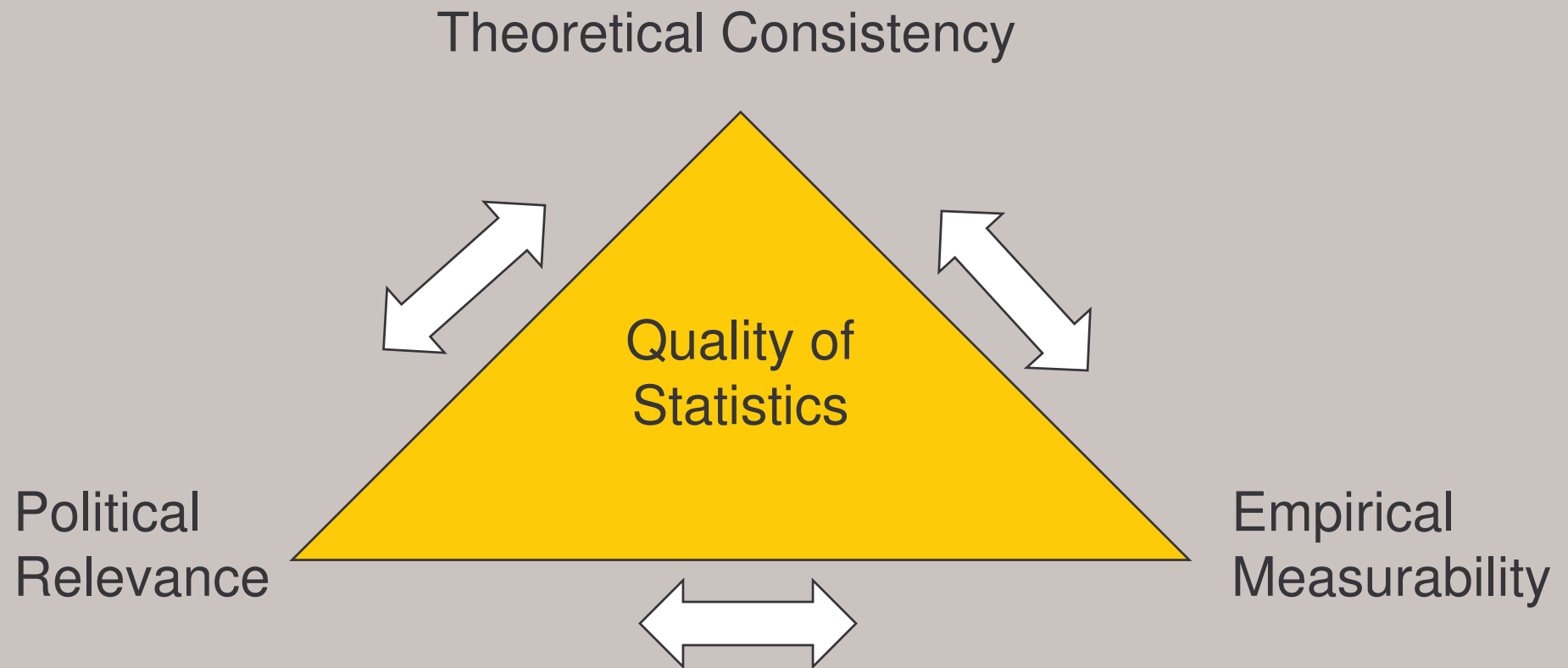
Statistic users and producers: Interactions



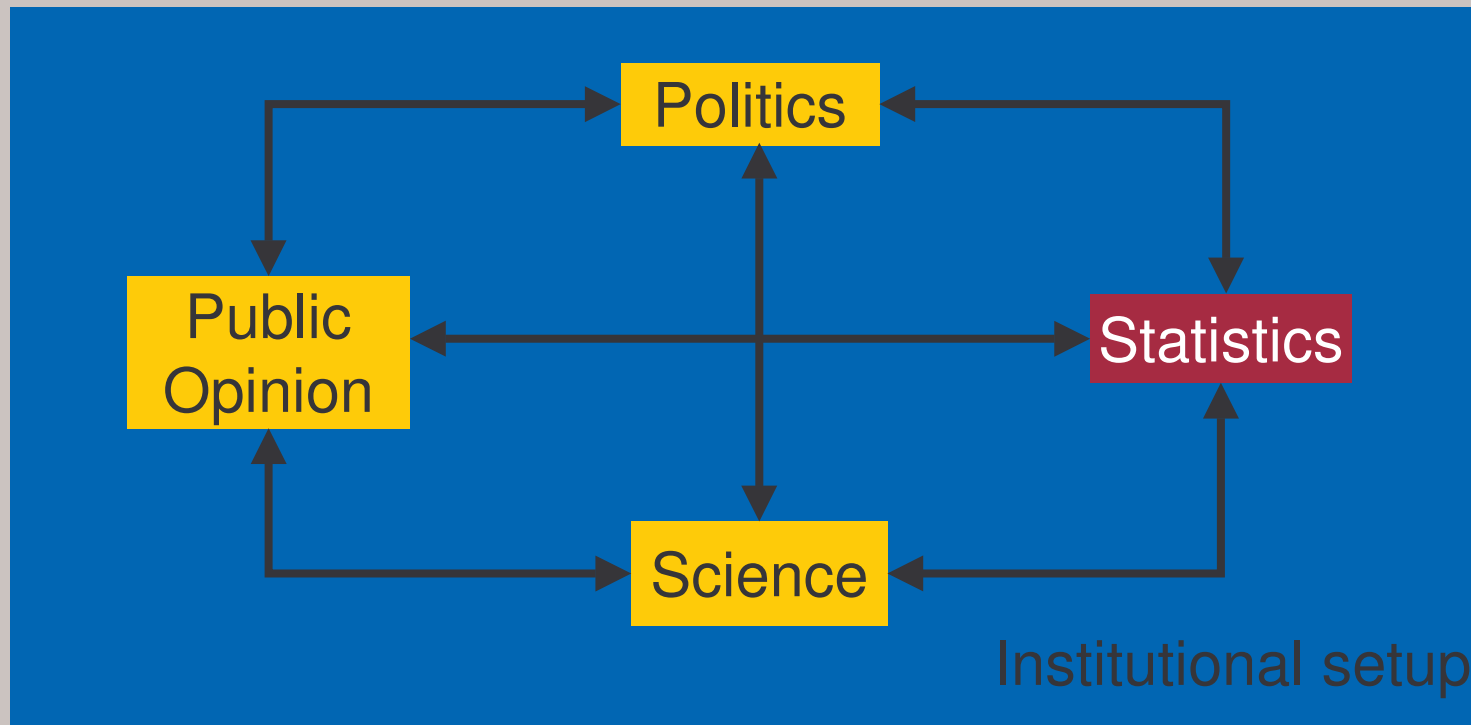
Measuring progress: development over time



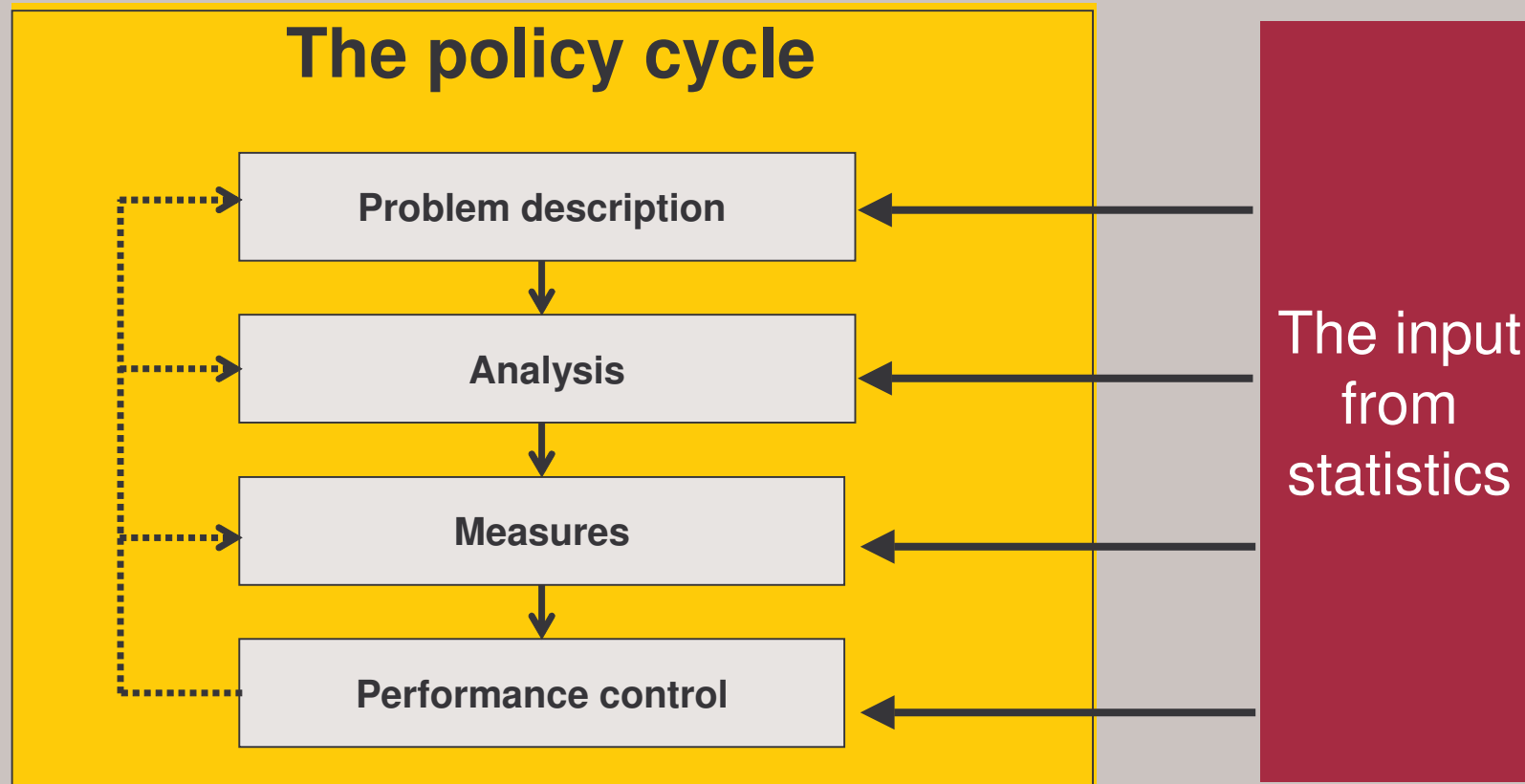
“Good policy needs good statistics” (Tony Blair)



The Knowledge-Statistics-Motor

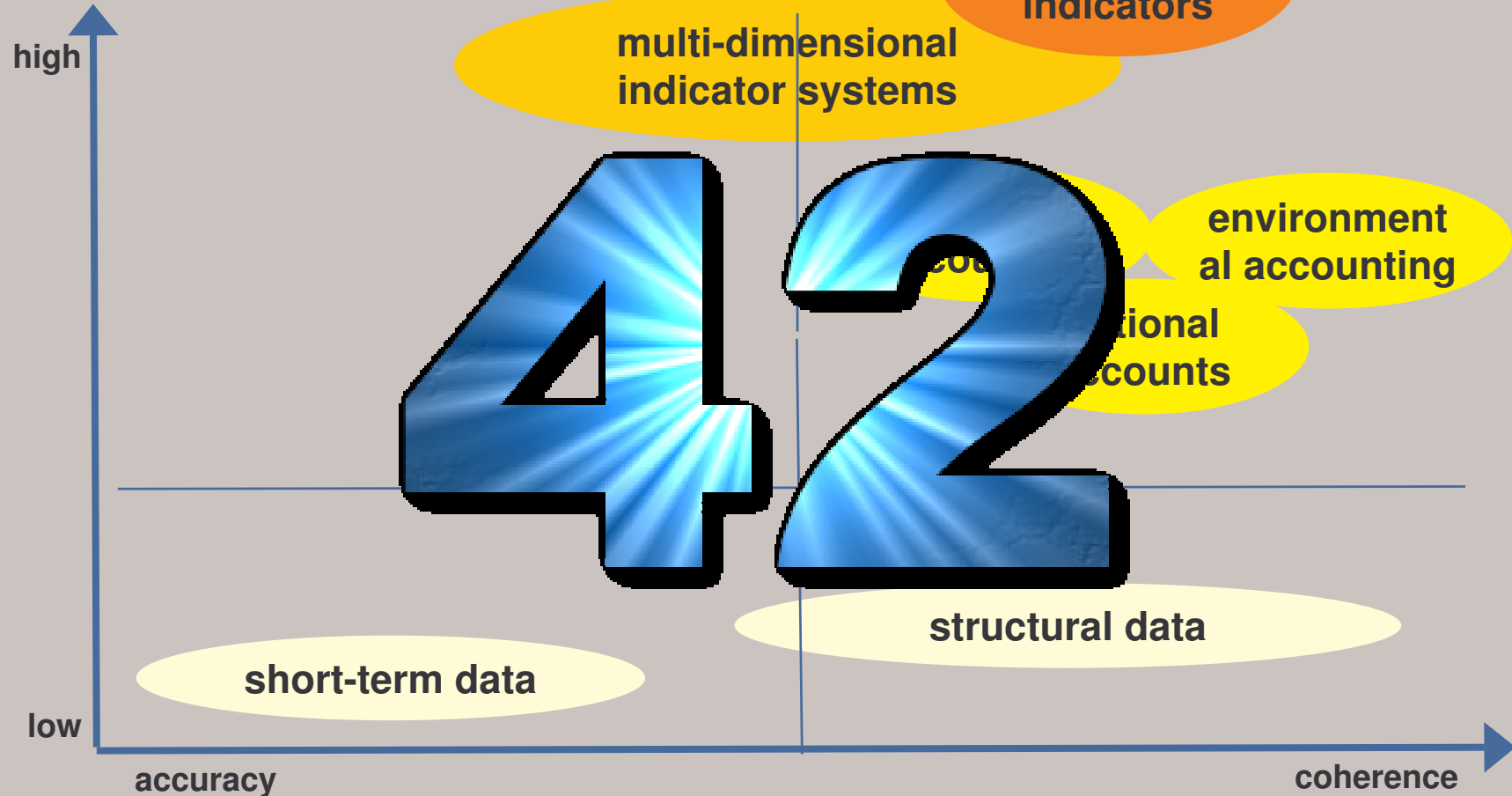


Fact based policy making

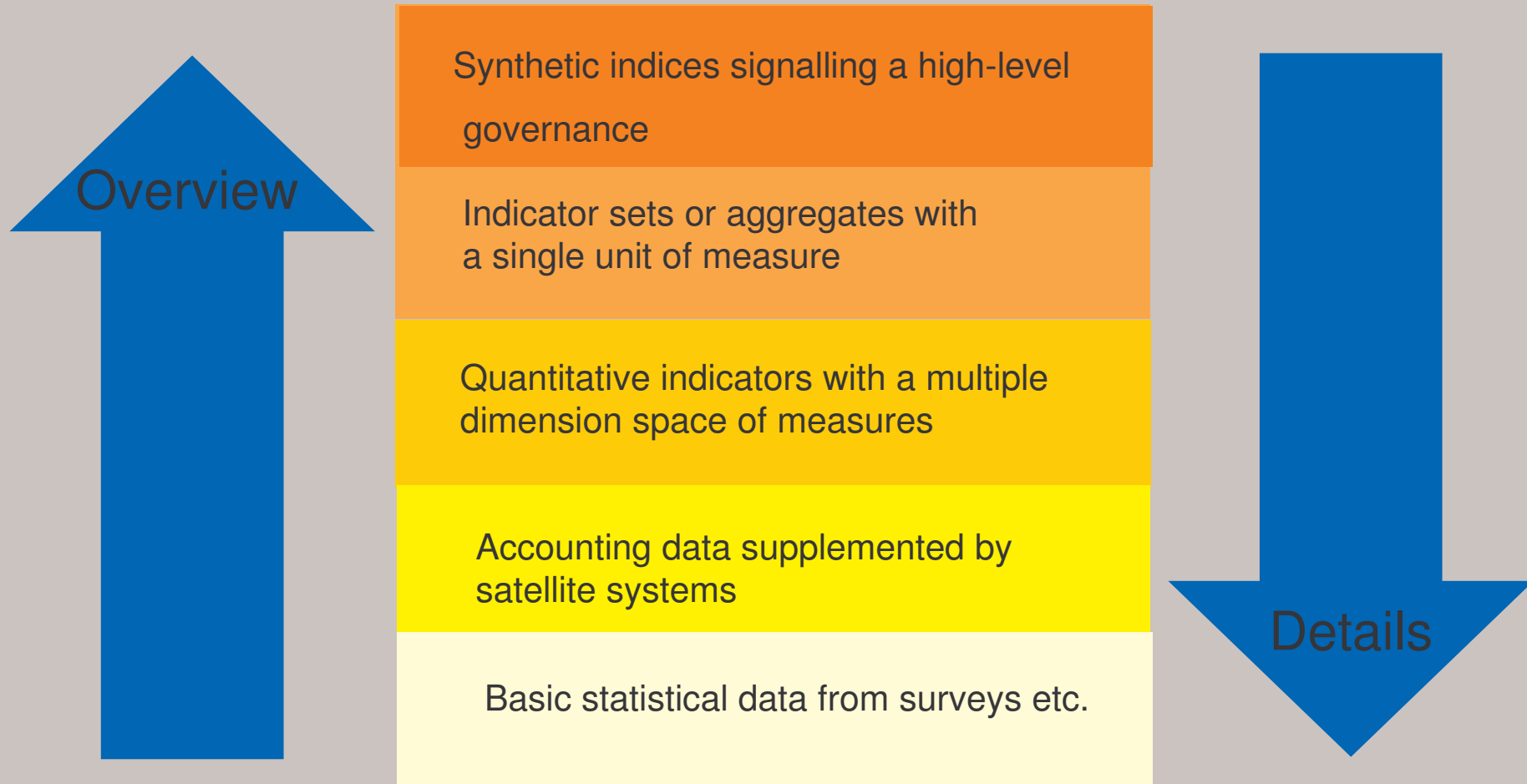


Species of Statistical Information

degree of aggregation/
model character



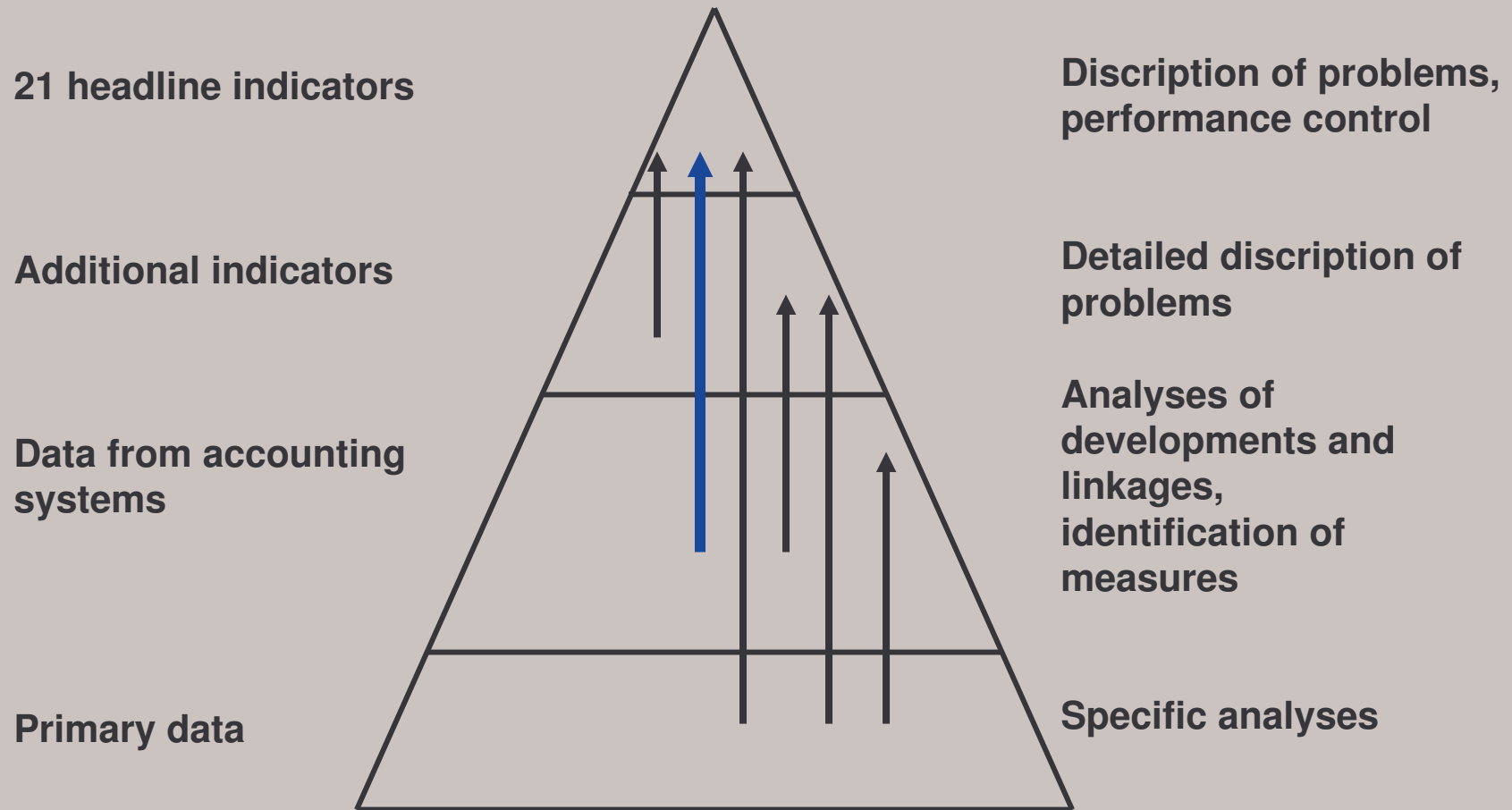
Reductionism + Holism: Complementary Views

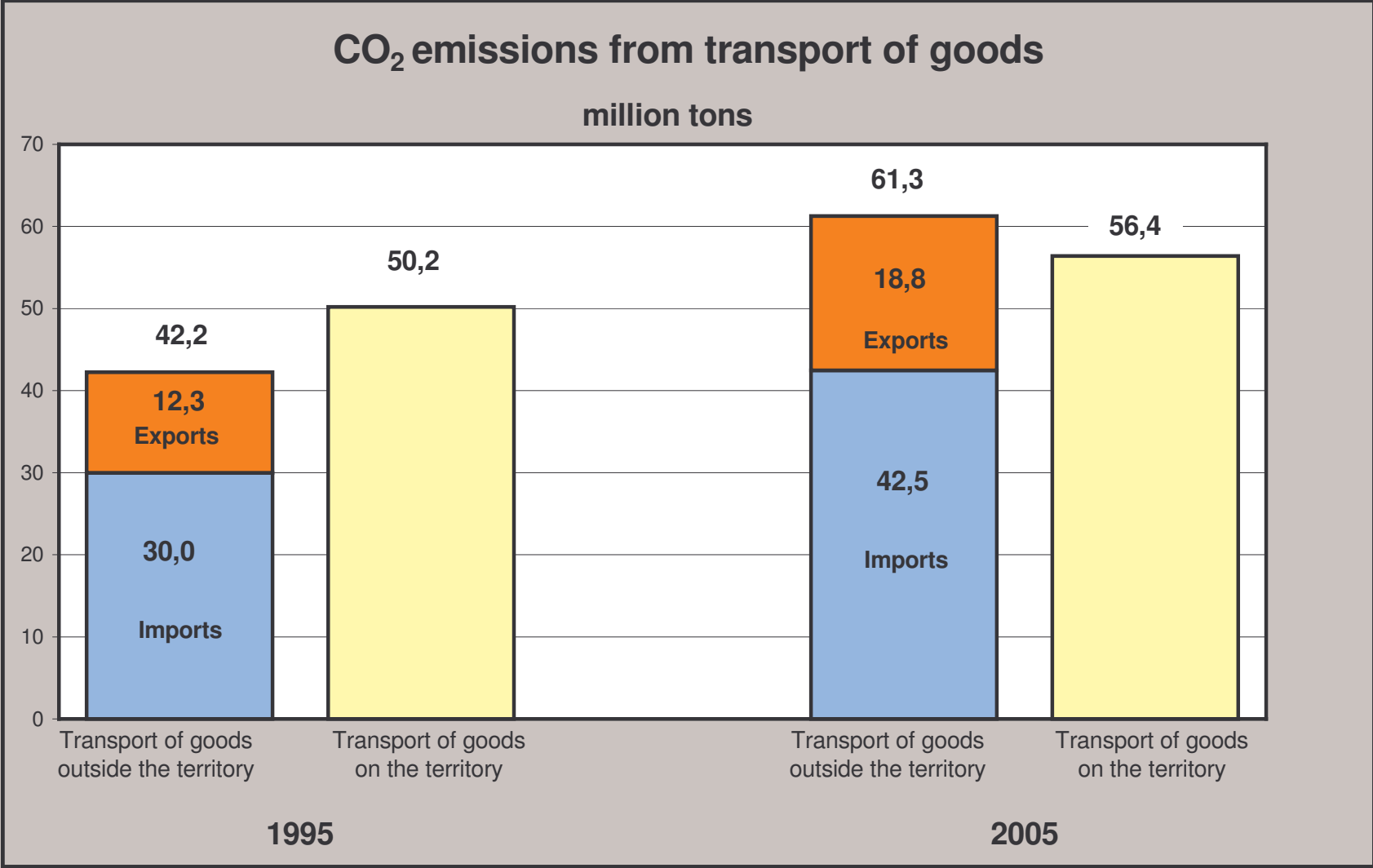


Holistic Measures on Different Levels of Aggregation

- **Extended national accounts (e.g. SEEA)**
- **Indicators, indicator sets (e.g. EU structural indicators, EU sustainable indicators, UNSD, OECD)**
- **Composite indicators on environment, well-being, quality of life (e.g. Index on Sustainable Economic Welfare, Genuine Progress Indicator, Living Planet Index, Human Development Index, Happy Planet Index, Ecological Footprint)**

Data requirement for the German national strategy for sustainable development





Institutional Setup of Statistics



Institutional Setup of **Official** Statistics



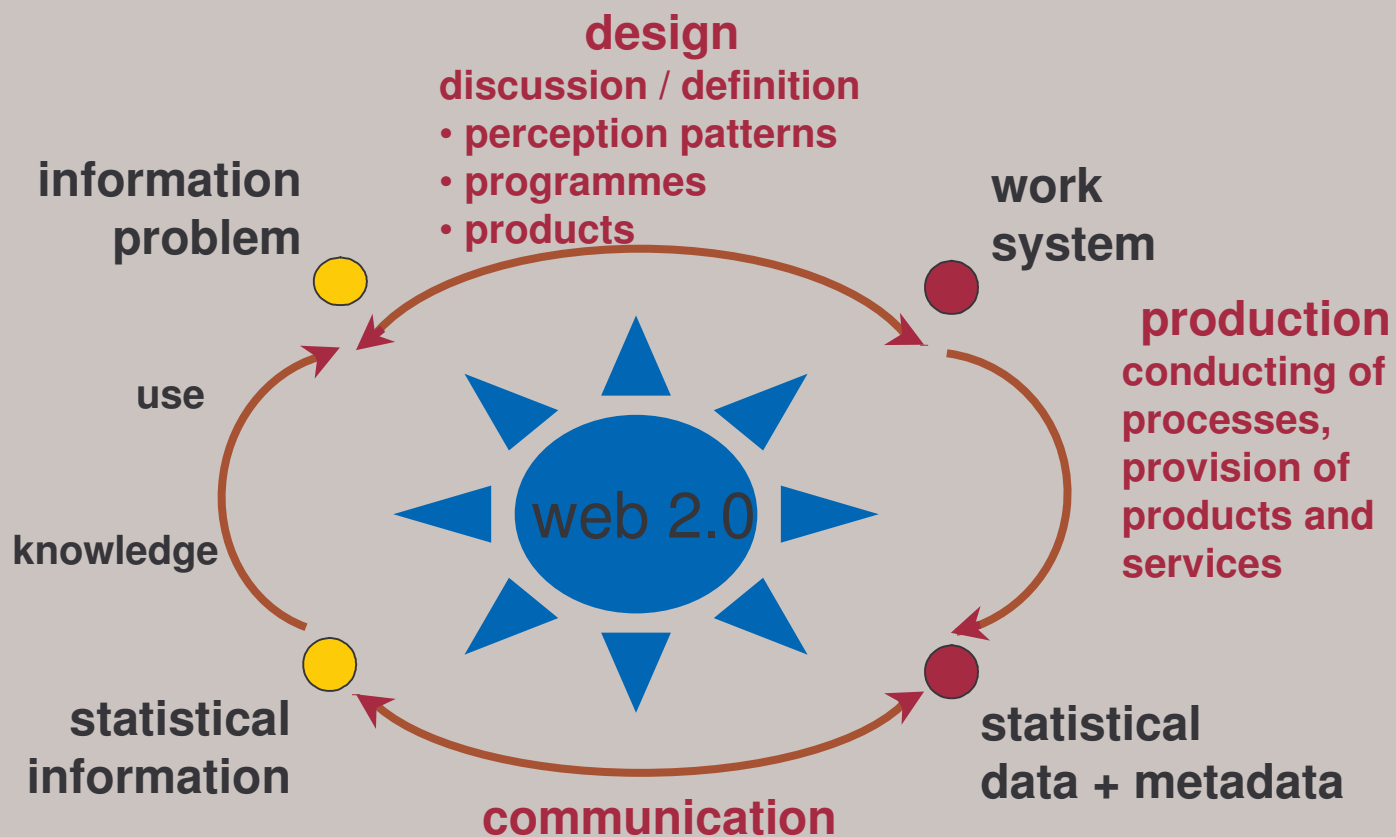
Next steps for statistical offices

- **Provide the resources for an adequate quality of official statistics**
- **Make sure that the necessary basic data is available**
- **Broaden the accounting systems (concepts/standards)**
 - environment, sustainability, R&D, human capital
 - core system and satellite systems
- **Agree on indicator sets based on available information**
- **Develop standards/handbooks on international level**
- **Build up databases for the analyses of transboundary flows (especially for the problem of climate change)**
- **Improve communication tools**

Statistic users and producers: Interactions

Users of statistics

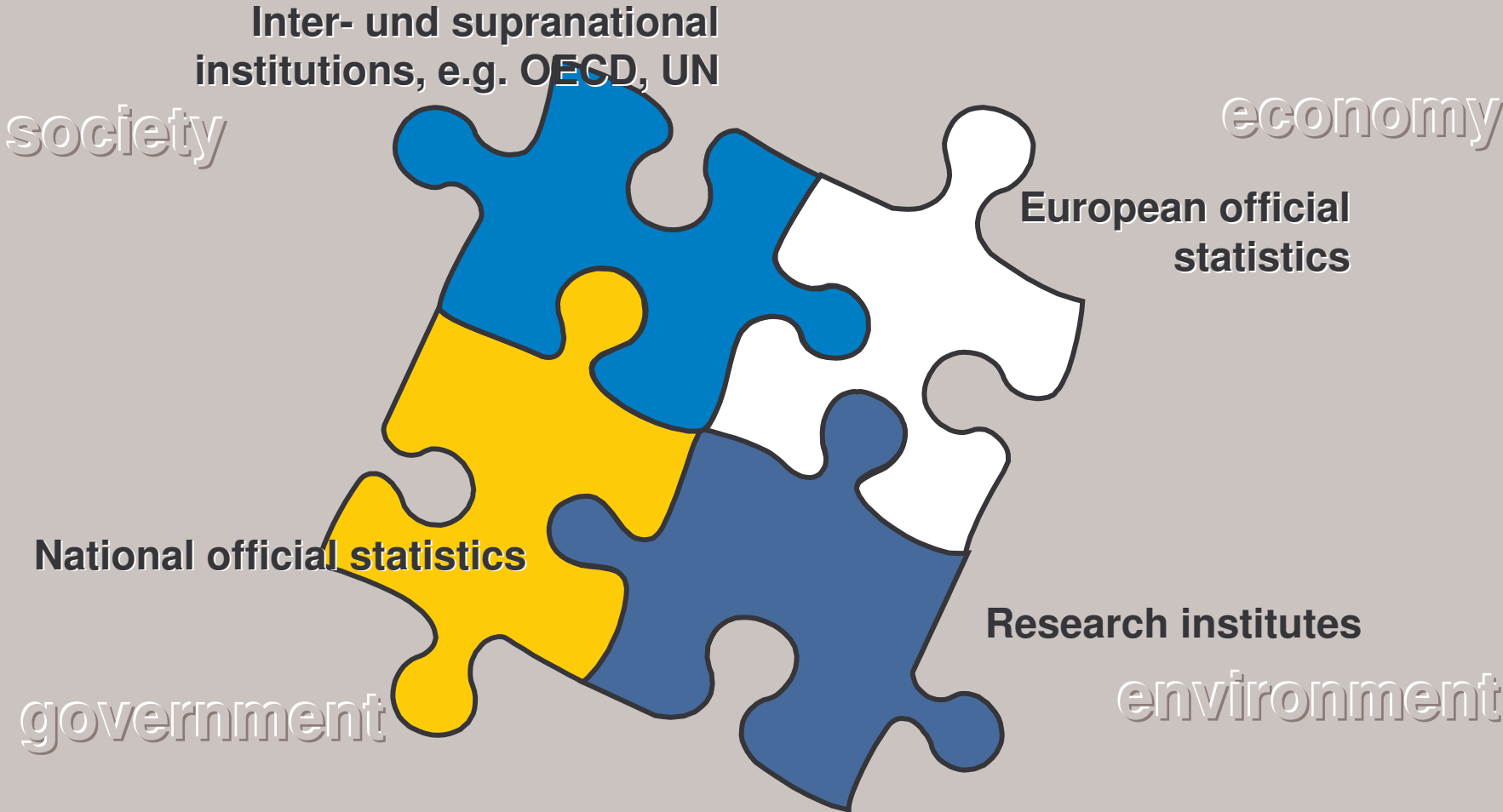
Producers of statistics



Further recommendations

- **Official statistics contribute to the public debate but cannot be the only provider of information**
- **Make a clear distinction between tasks of statistical offices and of research institutes**
- **Enhance a close cooperation with science and model builders**
- **Intensify the working relationship between national statistical institutes and international organisations**
- **Increase efforts towards a user oriented communication of new measures**
- **Let civil-society participate in design processes**

Working together: progress indicators



Thank you for your attention!

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