

Measuring Progress

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PARIS21*

ilerleme

التقدم

progress

進歩

voortuitgang

progresso

fremskridt

framsteg

progrès

haladás

进展

progreso

진보

- For 60 years Gross Domestic Product has been the dominant measure of progress. But it simply measures how busy we are!

“We have to start measuring welfare, not just output”

Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary General, 2007

Financial Crisis ??



Mid-life Crisis ??

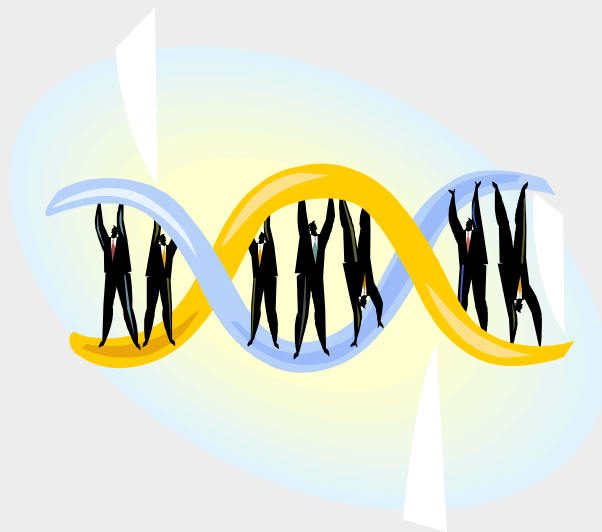


Measuring Progress is Important

- We are what we measure
- We get what we measure
- We manage what we measure

Measuring the right things

“Statistical indicators are the structural DNA codes of nations. They reflect a society’s values and goals and become the key drivers of economic and technological choices”

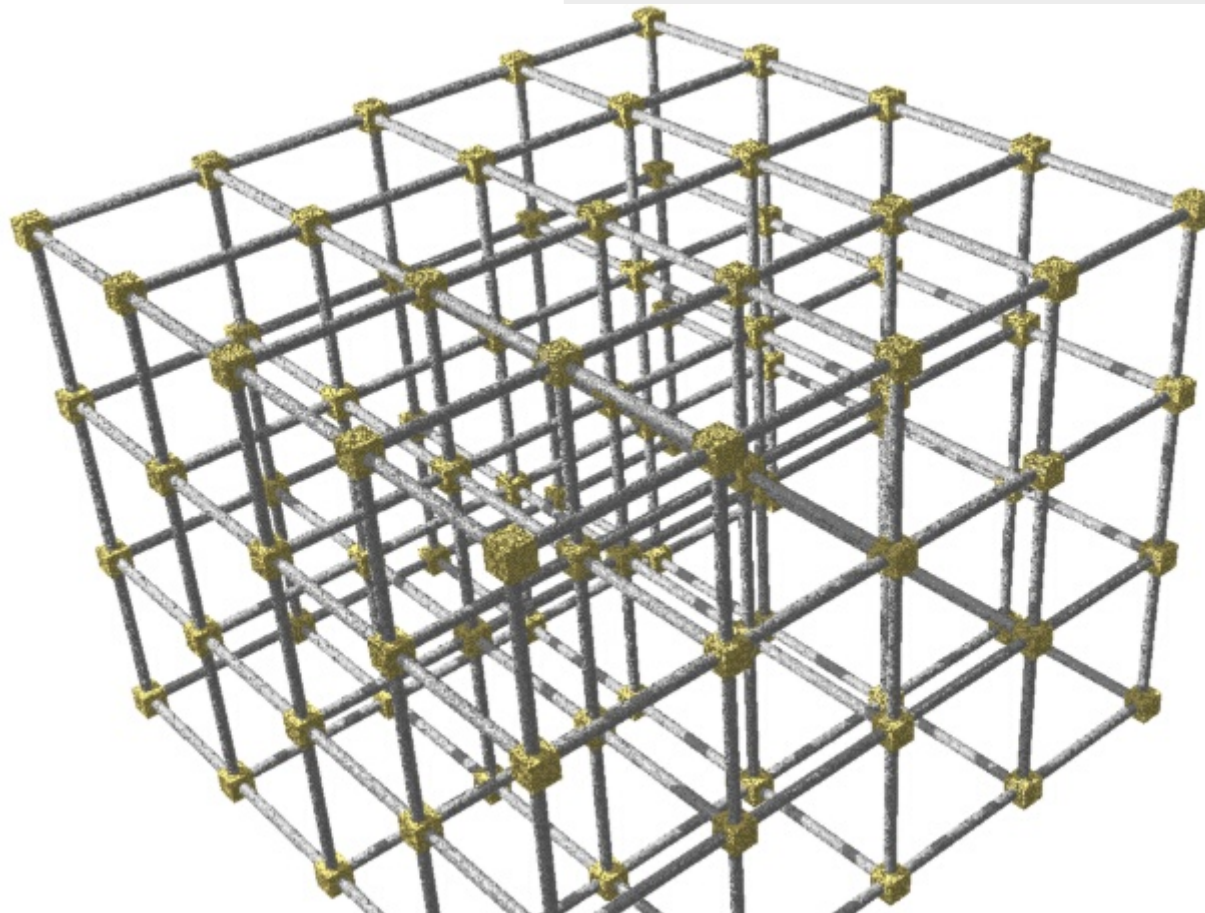


Hazel Henderson

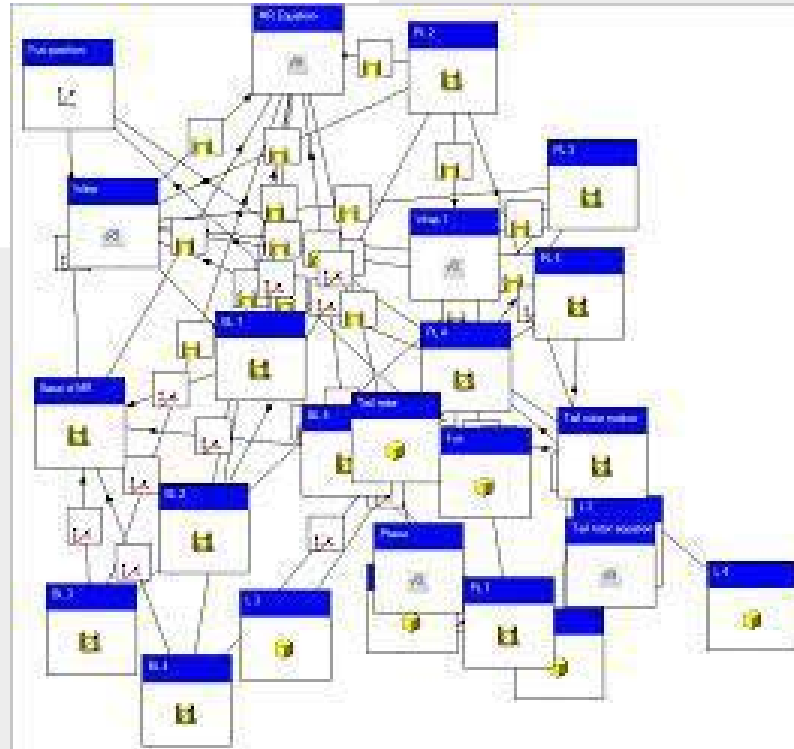
Measuring the Right Things: “Right” Things???

- No single set of “right” things
- Each society must decide for itself
- But the OECD has a starting point

Statisticians Like Frameworks

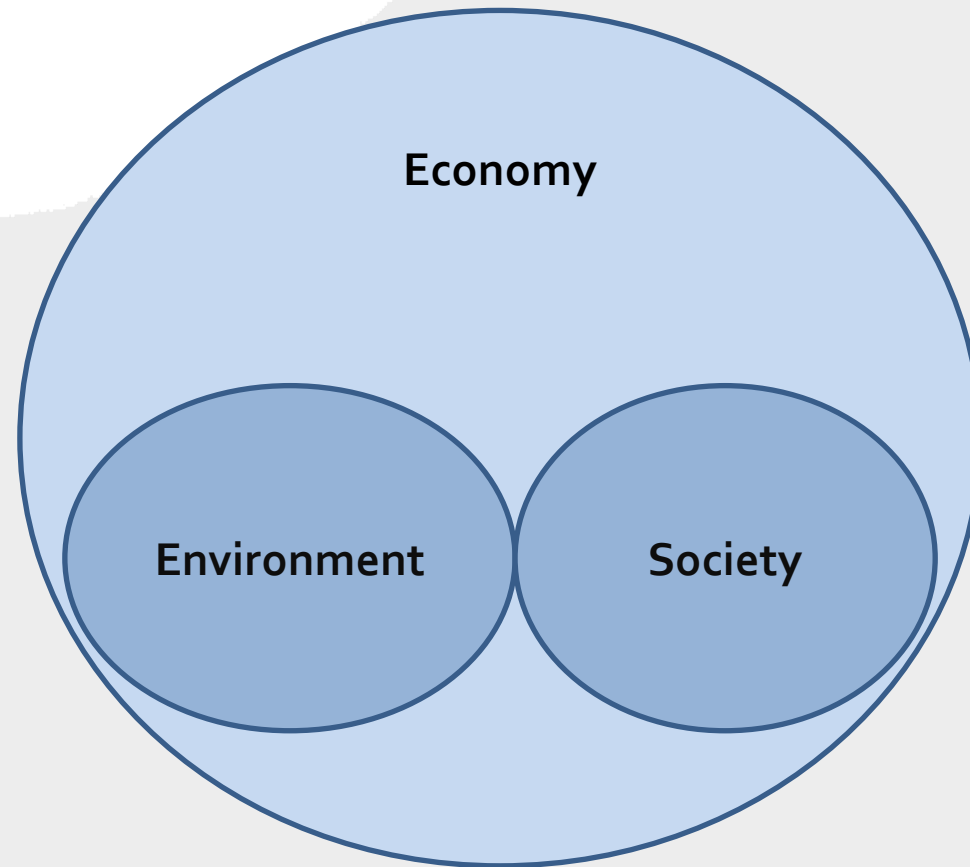


Frameworks can help...

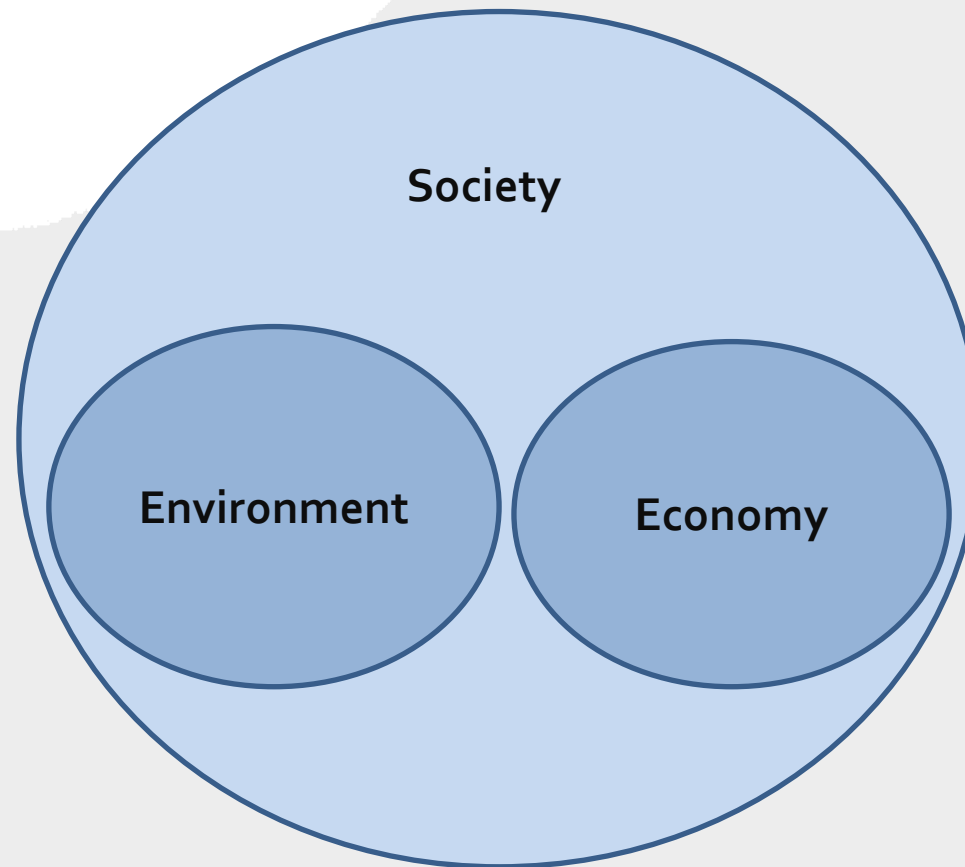


...sometimes

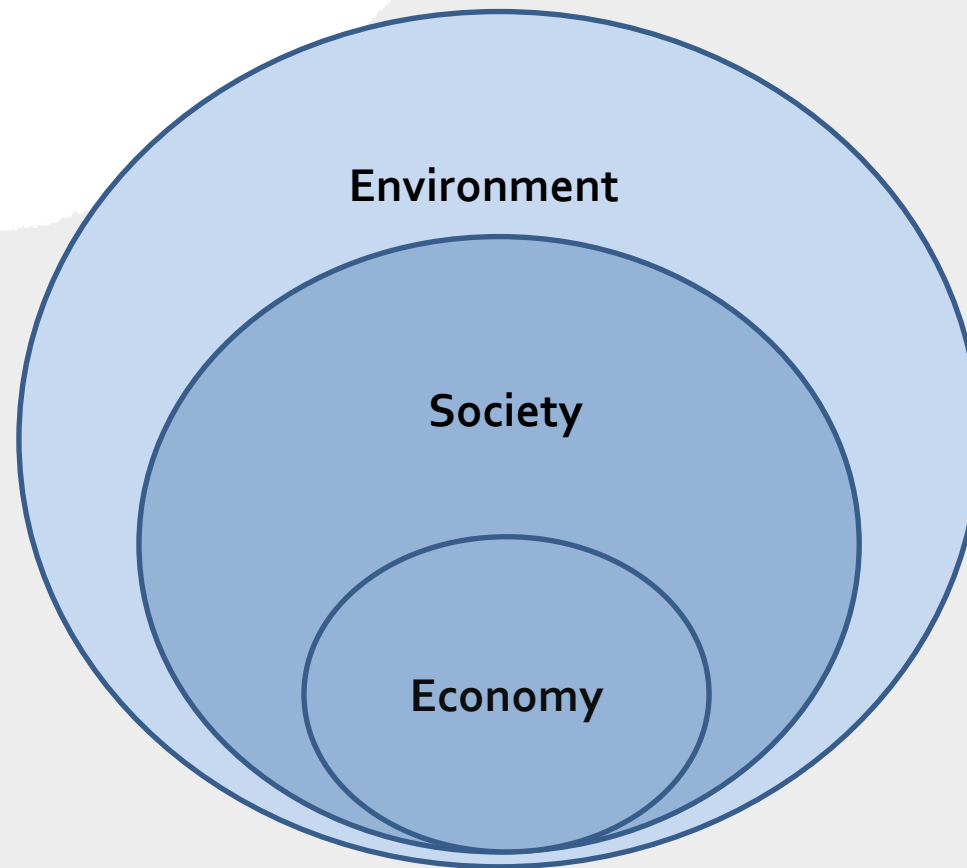
What is Progress?



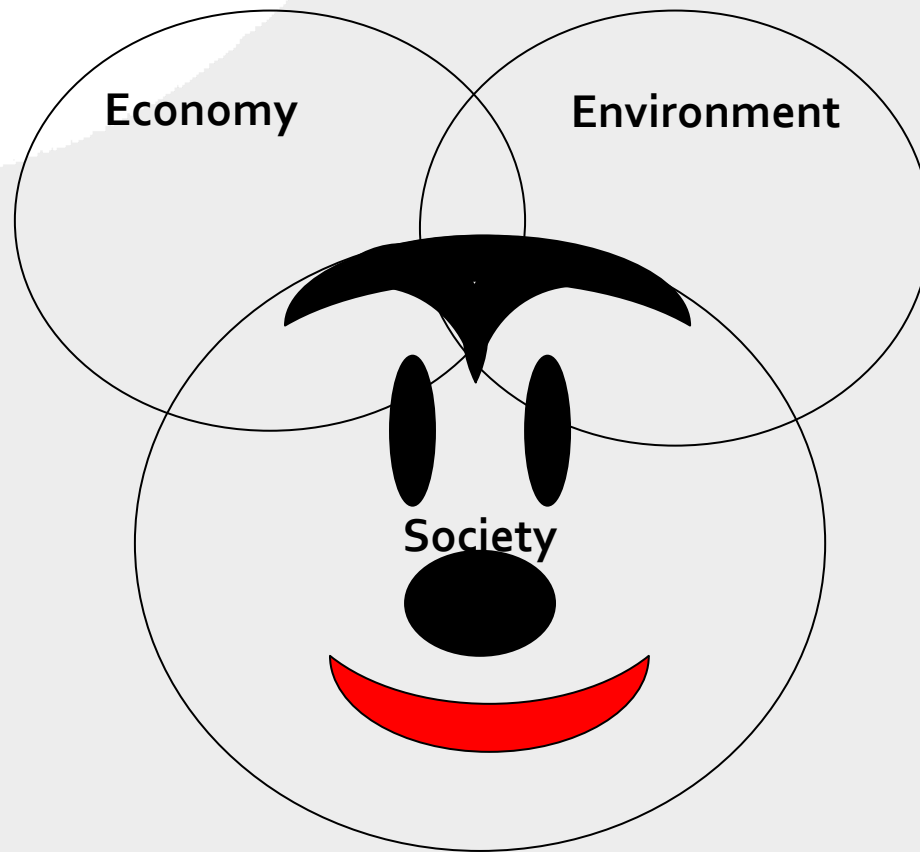
What is Progress?



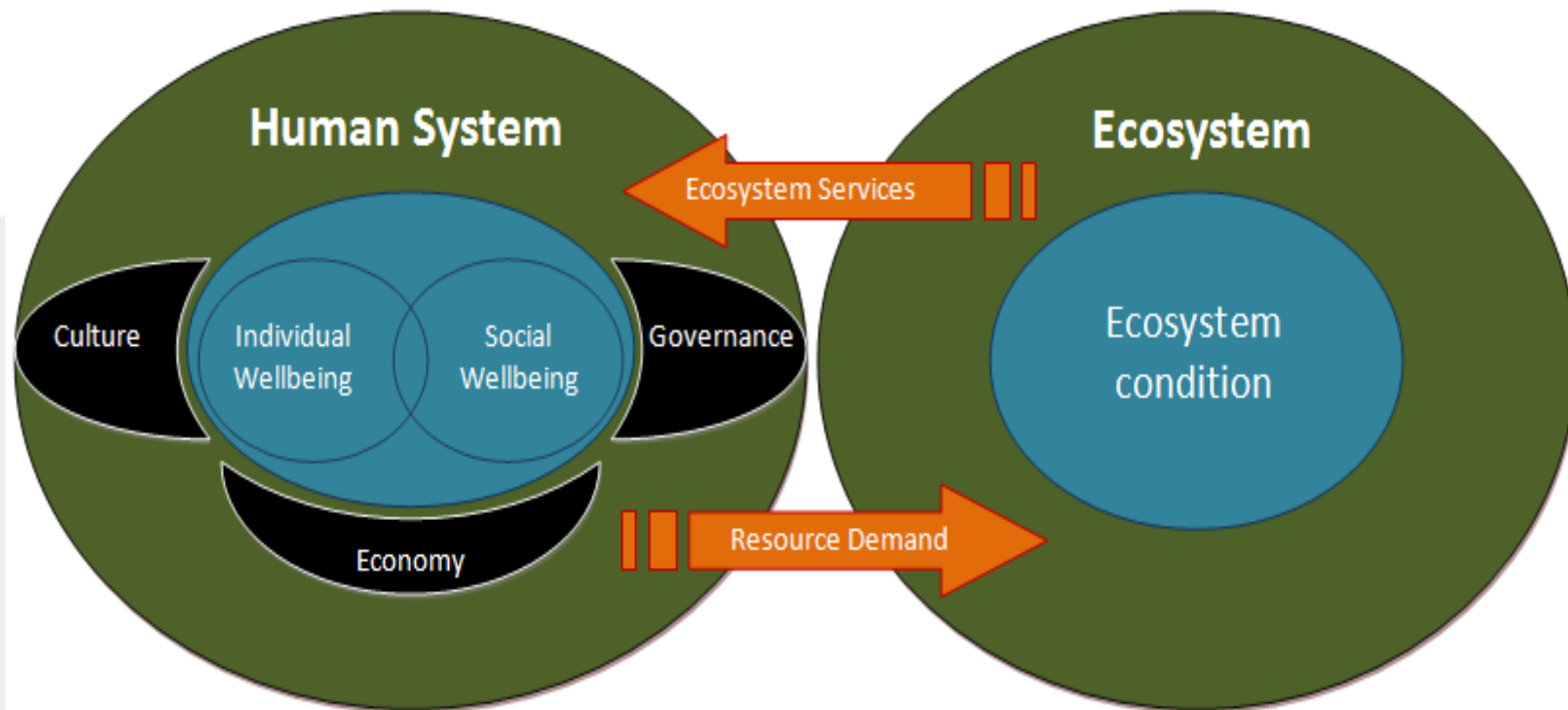
What is Progress?



What is Progress?



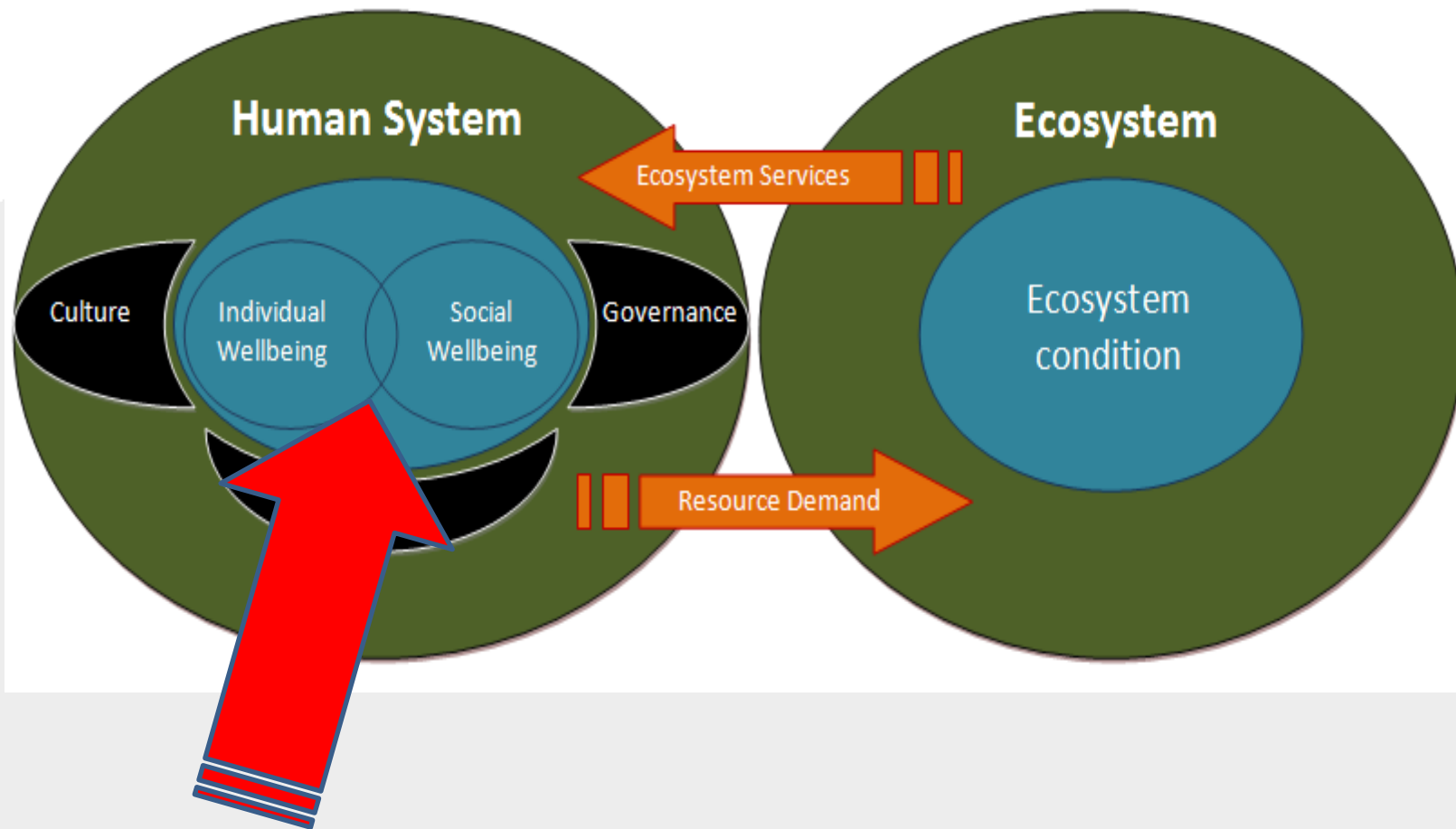
The Global Project Framework



The Global Project Framework

Progress = an increase in sustainable
equitable wellbeing

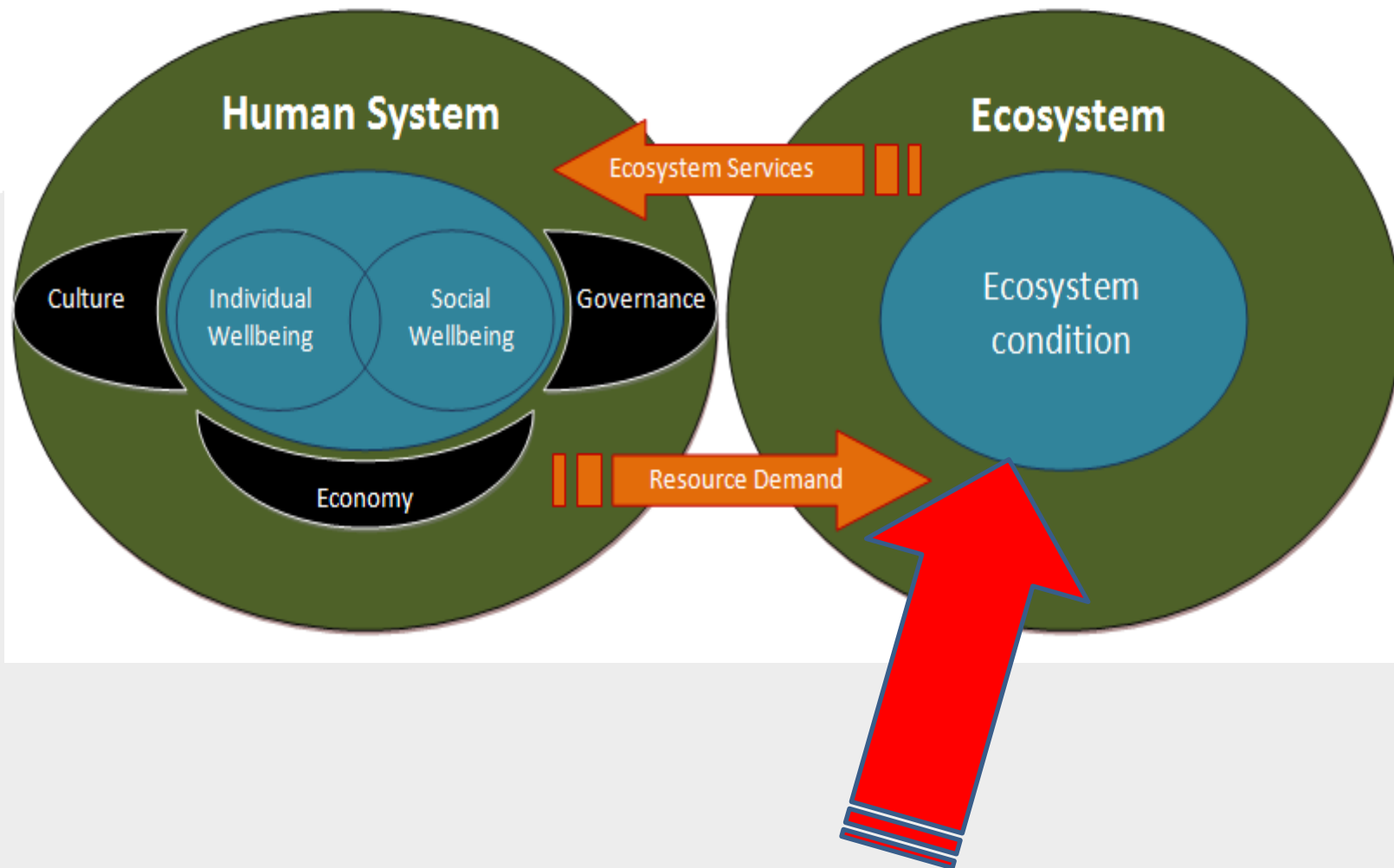
The Global Project Framework



Human System: Human Well-being

- Measures outcomes, including health, knowledge and understanding, freedom and security, relationships, work and play, and subjective well-being
- Individual and social/relational wellbeing
- The other domains of the Human System represent the supports for human well-being and measure means or outputs -Economy, Governance, and Culture

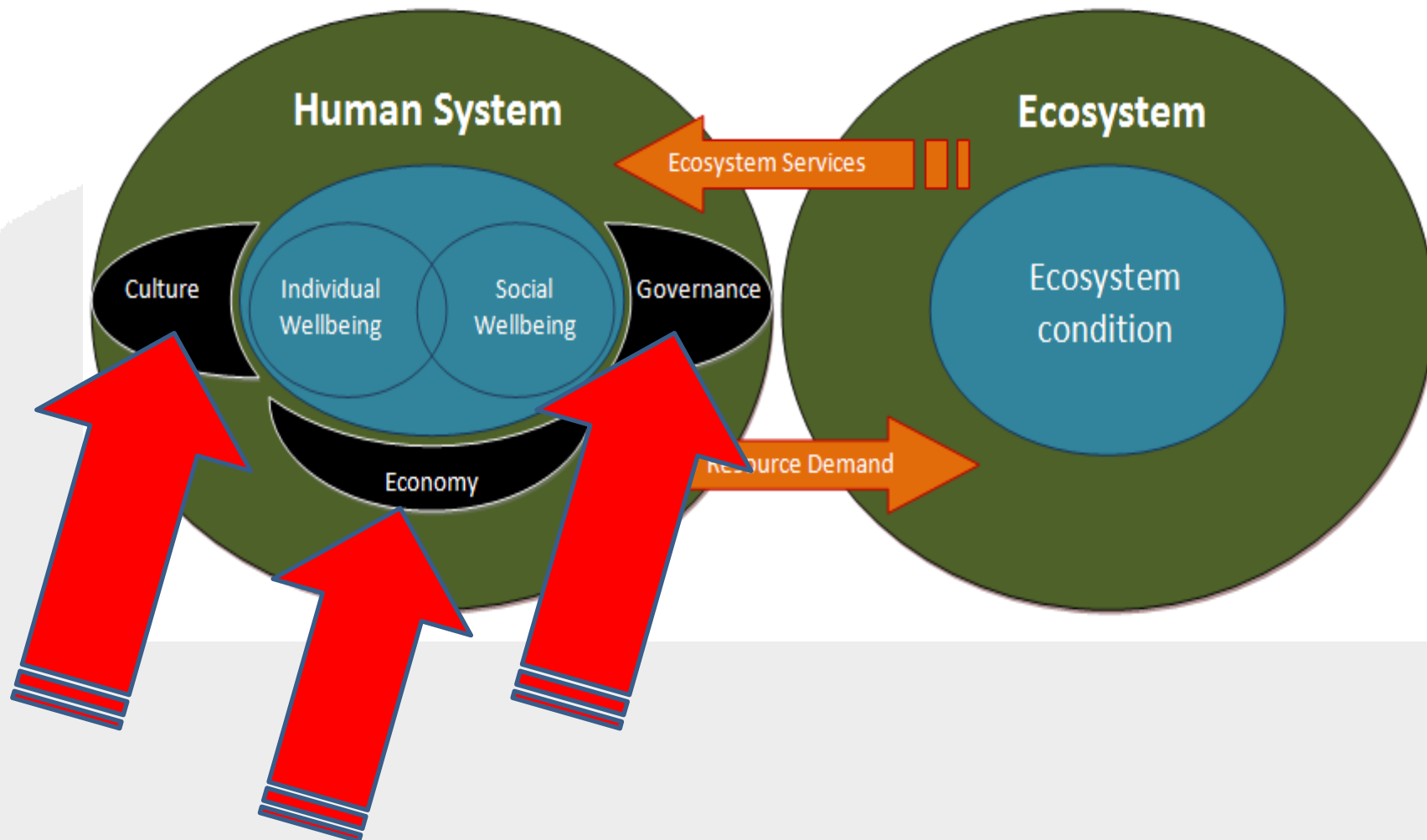
The Global Project Framework



Ecosystem: Ecosystem Condition

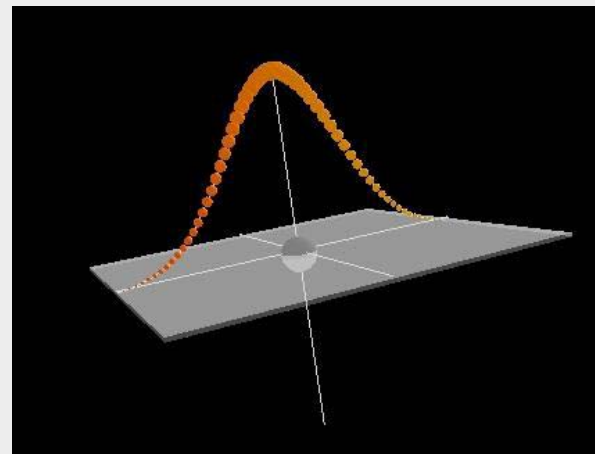
- It measures the ecosystem's health, including:
 - air quality
 - atmosphere
 - land
 - freshwater
 - oceans and seas
 - and biodiversity

The Supporting Pillars of Progress



Distributions

- Can look at
- Distributions of each indicator ... within or across regions, population groups (intra-generational)
- Inter-generational (temporal) change (both backward and forward looking)



Cross-Cutting Areas of Progress

But what about... Happiness, Poverty, Vulnerability?

These concepts can apply to several areas... they are cross cutting

How **happy** are people with their health, their education, their environment


How **poor** are people in terms of their labour opportunities, their income, their culture

How **vulnerable** are people to economic, social, environmental shocks?

Progress:

Objective and Subjective Components

Objective components—longevity, income, air-quality



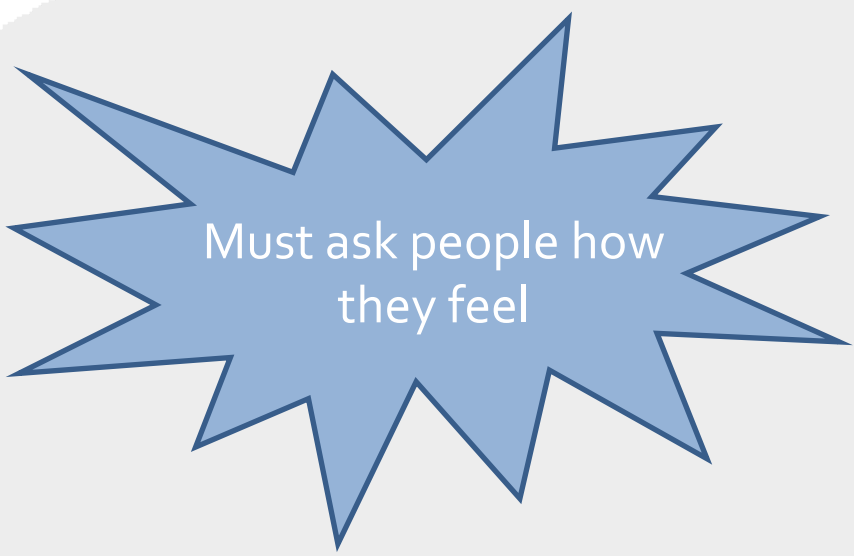
The stuff we can
measure precisely

Progress:

Objective and Subjective Components

Subjective components

– fear, trust, happiness, life satisfaction



Must ask people how
they feel



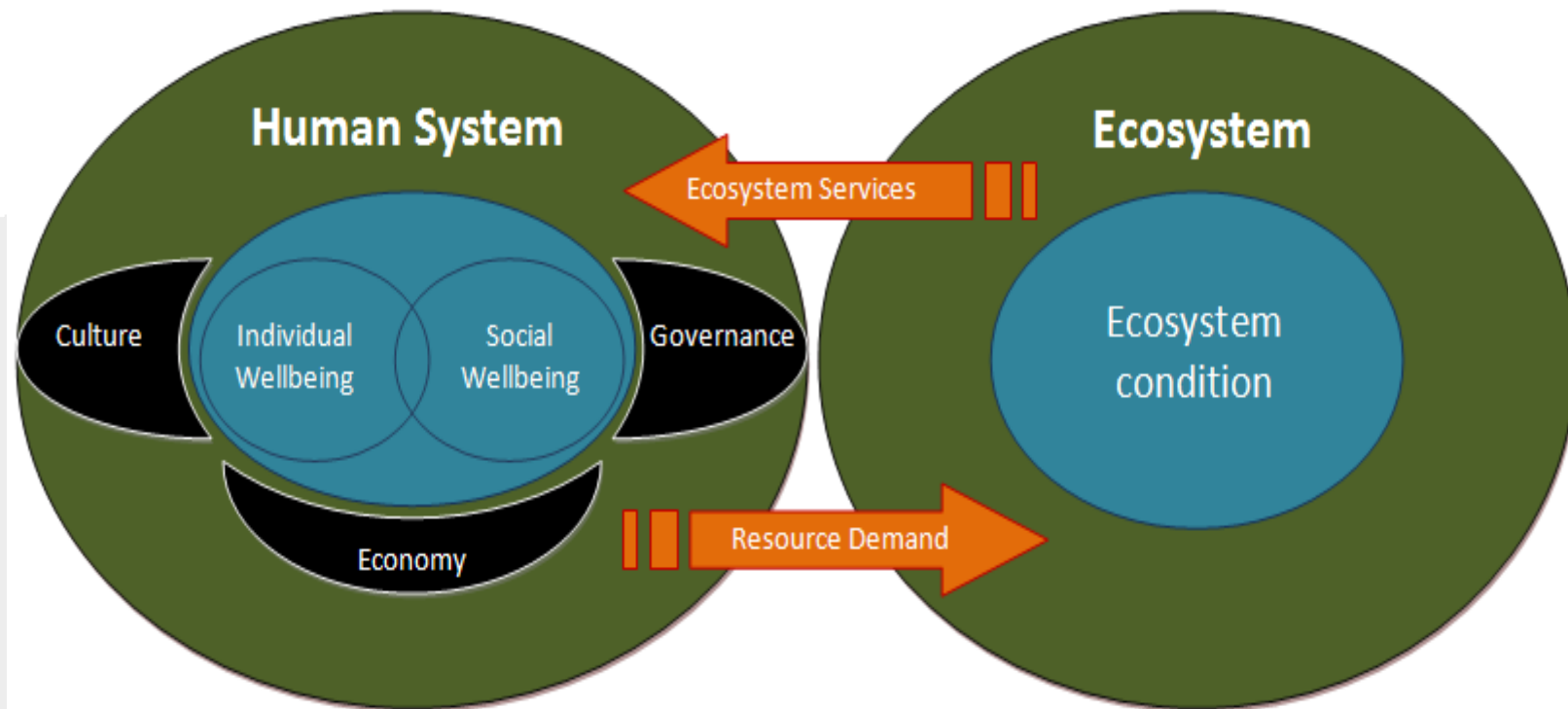
Business Confidence
Self assessed health

Objective and Subjective Assessments Are Important

		Subjective Wellbeing	
		High	Low
Objective Living Conditions	High	Wellbeing	Dissonance
	Low	Adaptation	Deprivation

The diagram illustrates the relationship between objective living conditions and subjective wellbeing. It features a 2x2 grid. The top-left cell contains the text 'Level of' with a blue arrow pointing right and a blue arrow pointing down. The top-right cell is labeled 'Subjective Wellbeing' and is shaded light orange. The bottom-left cell is labeled 'Objective Living Conditions' and is shaded light orange. The bottom-right cells are divided into four quadrants: 'High' (top-left, blue), 'Low' (top-right, blue), 'Wellbeing' (bottom-left, white), 'Dissonance' (bottom-right, white), 'Adaptation' (bottom-left, white), and 'Deprivation' (bottom-right, white).

But how to measure progress?



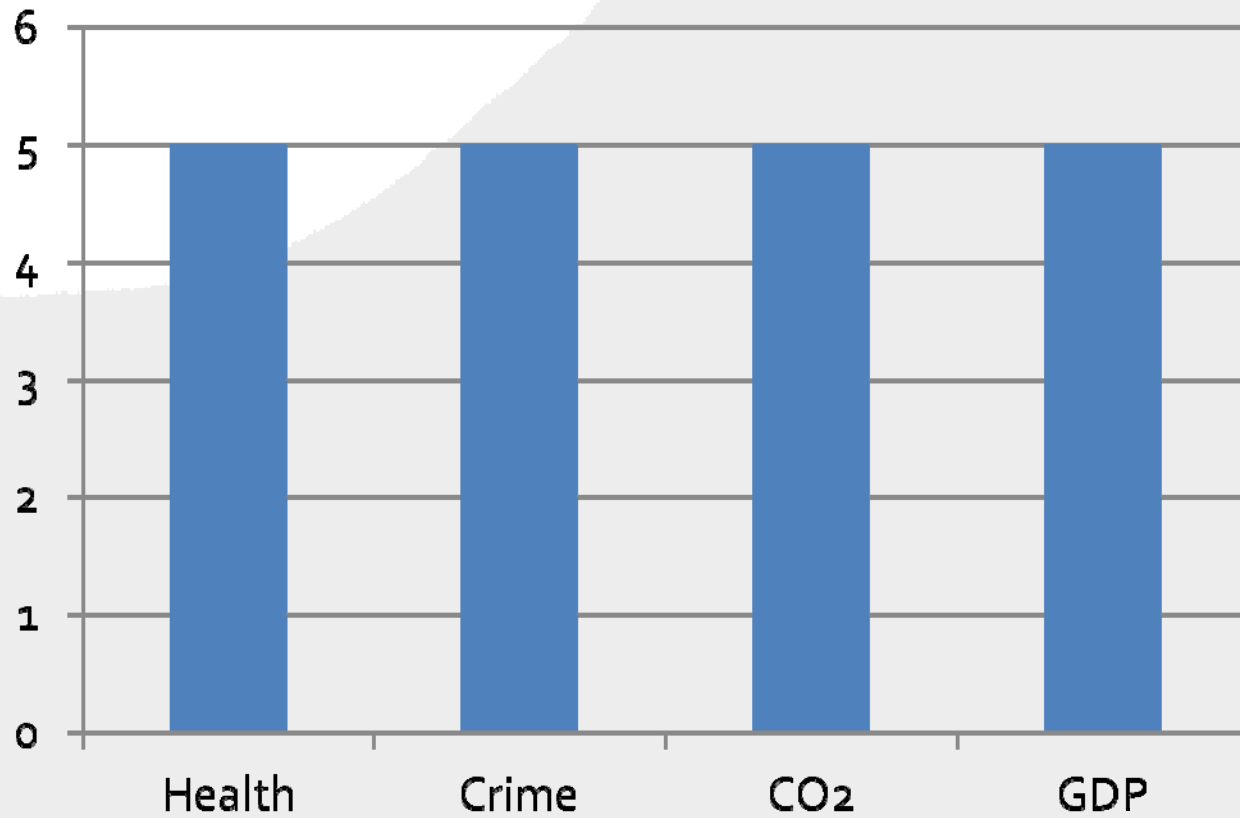
What Makes a Measure of Progress

- Where possible seek measures of outcomes that are unambiguous measures of progress
 - Increase in Life Expectancy?
 - Increase in numbers of patient treated?
 - What about Divorce Rates?

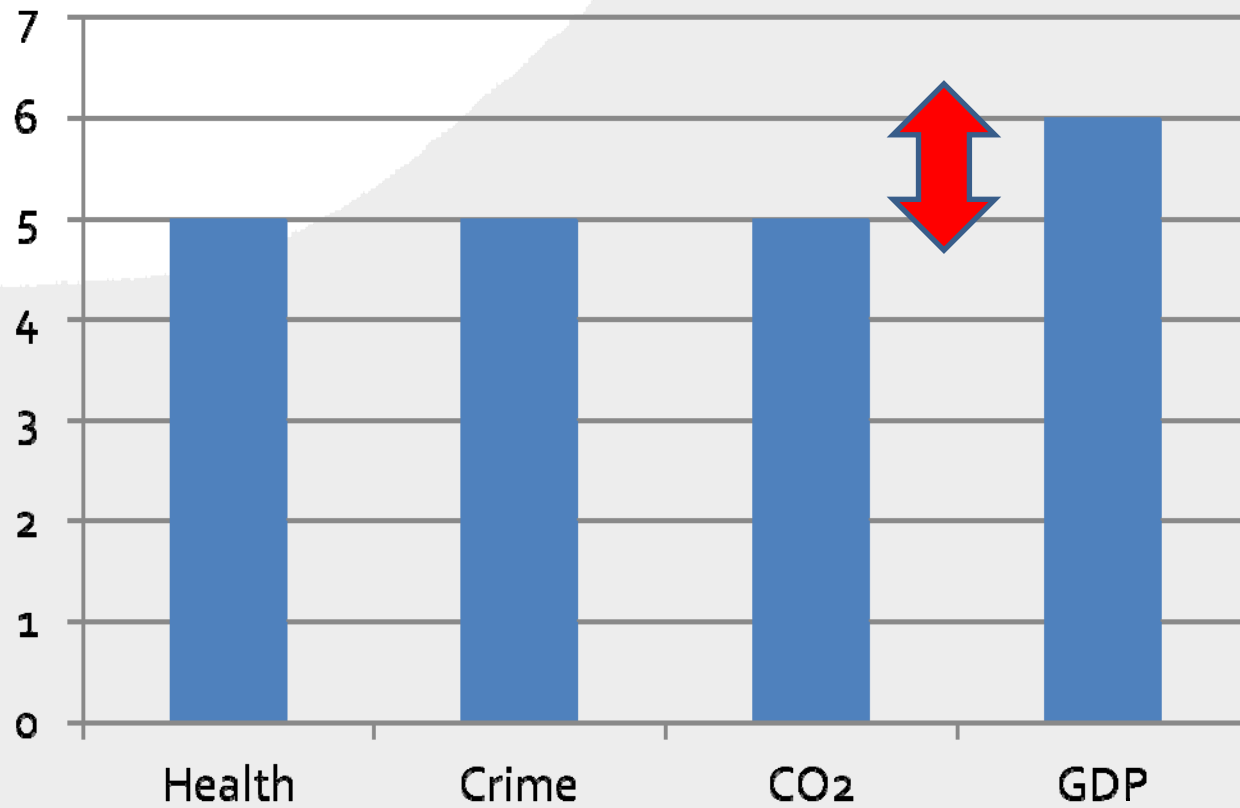
What Makes a **Measure of Progress**

- Use the “**other things equal**” argument to check your choice

Progressland in 2000



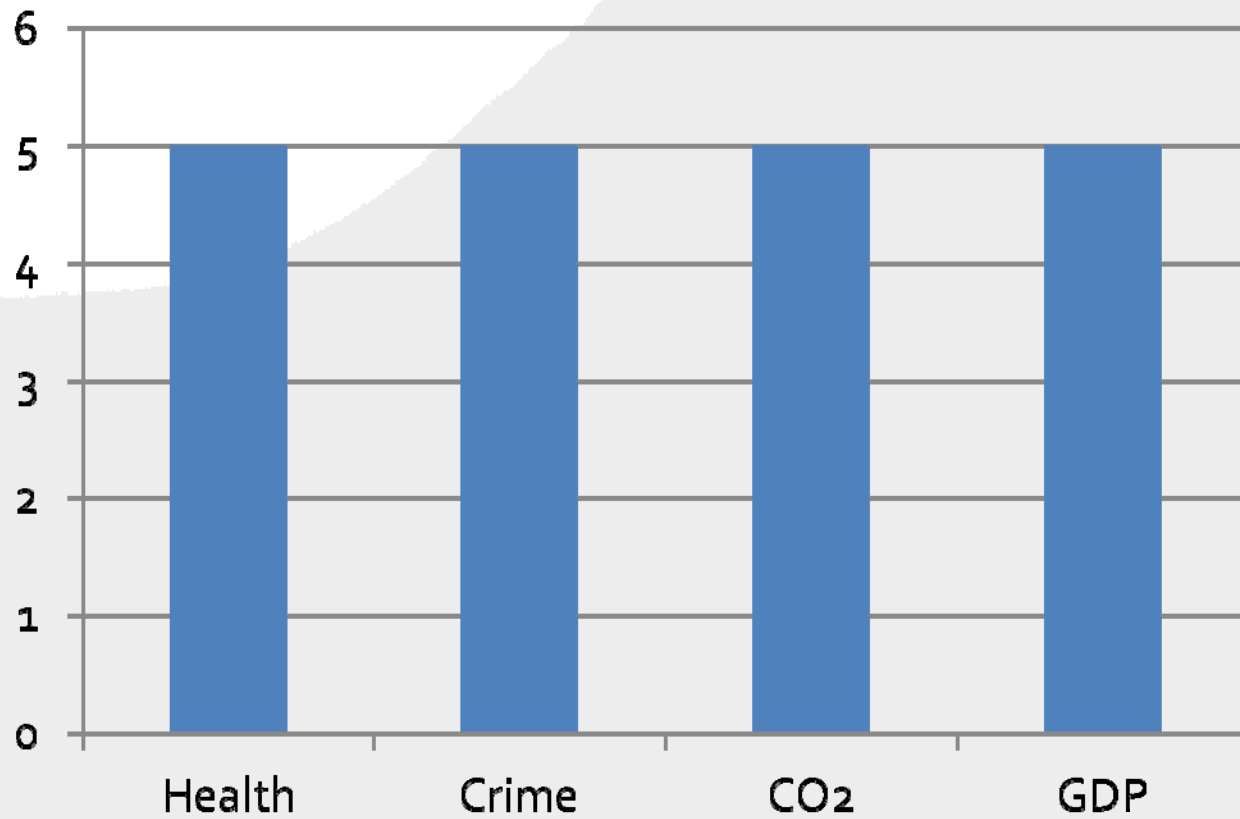
Progress land in 2005



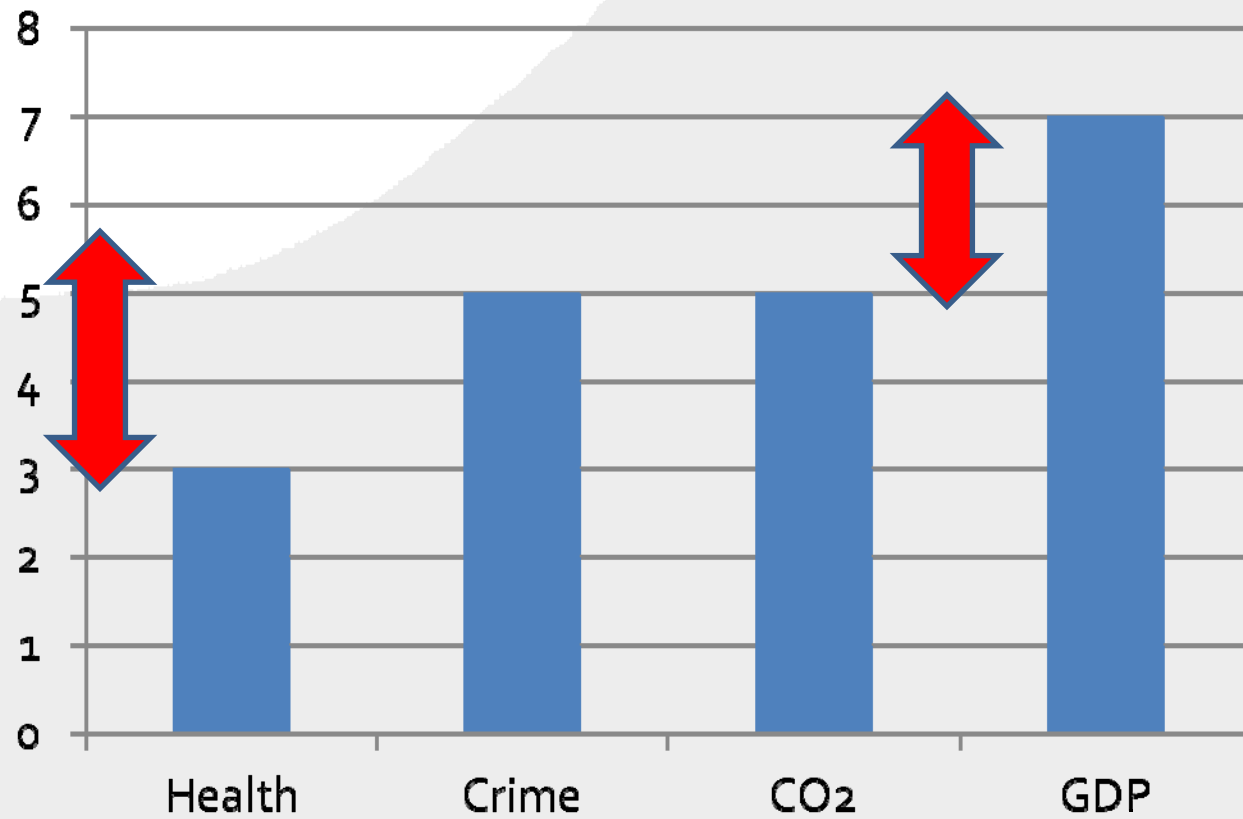
What Makes a Measure of Progress

- Use the “**other things equal**” argument to check your choice
- GDP improved and everything else remained constant: so unambiguous progress between 200 and 2005

Realitalia in 2000



Realitalia in 2005



What Makes a Measure of Progress

- Use the “**other things equal**” argument to check your choice
- So no unambiguous progress between 2000 and 2005 – GDP is up (good), but Health is down (bad). Picture is mixed and you make up your own mind on whether it is progress overall.

What Makes a **Measure of Progress**

- Use the **document to**
che

- Progress is
complicated!
Because so is life.
- een 2000
alth is
u make
s progress

MDGs: As Measures of Progress

- MDGs - the most famous set of progress measure
- Go beyond GDP to define more comprehensive development
- A remarkable achievement... but they were (necessarily) top down – the lowest common denominator...

MDGs: What is Missing?

- Different countries have different development priorities
- Does “development” in Luxembourg mean the same as development in Laos? Is Belgium the same as Bhutan?
- **Nothing** on Governance and Corruption, on Subjective Wellbeing, on Vulnerability on many aspects of Sustainability

MDGs: Where to next?

- Why not design local MDG+s?
- Tailored to individual countries

MDG+ Process to Complement the MDGs

Build off initiatives like the PARIS21

National Strategies for the Development of Statistics that bring together statisticians and others to build a long term plan for information

Engage all sectors of all societies in a conversation about the things that matter ... and the evidence they need to measure it

MDG+ Process to Complement the MDGs

All sectors of society can debate

Why to build an MDG+

What measures are needed

How to get and use the data

MDG+ Process to Complement the MDGs

A ... an debate

Build trust and understanding

Which ... are ne

Increase ownership

Promote evidence based debate and decisions

How to get and use the a



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“Statistics are people with the tears
washed away”

Victor Sidel