



# **Post 2015 development goals - EU perspective**

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## Background – two separate ...

- 1992 - first Rio conference calls for sustainable development strategies that encompass environmental, social and economic topics
- Indicator sets developed across the world
- 2000 – Millennium Declaration, political agreement on the 8 MDG goals
- 2002 - first set of global goals (8), targets (18), indicators (48) developed with statisticians
- 2015 – deadline to achieve goals

**..but overlapping measurement approaches**

# What will come after 2015?

## - Global Sustainable Development Goals

- Combines the breadth of the Rio inspired indicators (economic, social, environmental) with MDG approach to setting goals
- International panel announced by UN Secretary General including:
  - **3 co-chairs (Presidents of Liberia and Indonesia, and Prime Minister of UK)**
  - **Panellists include Kadir Topbaş (Mayor of Istanbul)**

# European political process

- Currently developing an EU consensus
- Commission proposals outlined in recent Communication (Feb 2013)
  - **A Decent Life for all - COM (2013) 92**
  - **Key proposals/endorsements**
    - Joint approach to MDG & SDG review
    - Integrate the 3 dimensions (economic, social, environmental)
    - Applies to all countries and should have different targets for different contexts
    - Goals should be tailored and operational at national level
    - Goals should be a floor for living standards under which no one should fall
    - Should address (inter alia) justice, equality, equity, human rights, democracy, rule of law, women's empowerment/gender equality, peace & security

# Eurostat's activities

- Monitors post 2015 indicator debates among EU politicians
- Ensure that the EU's position is reflected in international statistical discussions
- Share its experience of developing indicator sets – e.g. Europe2020
- Participates in the Inter Agency Expert Group (IAEG)
- Provides statistical capacity building support to third country **regions** to collect post 2015 data

# European experience with indicators

- 2000 – Lisbon Strategy launched with 79 indicators (economic & social)
- 2001 - EU leaders launched the first EU sustainable development strategy (added an environmental dimension to the Lisbon Strategy)
- 2010 - Europe2020 indicators launched
- [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/europe\\_2020\\_indicators/headline\\_indicators](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/europe_2020_indicators/headline_indicators)

# PYRAMID OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Not labelled as  
"Official Statistics"

Composite indicators

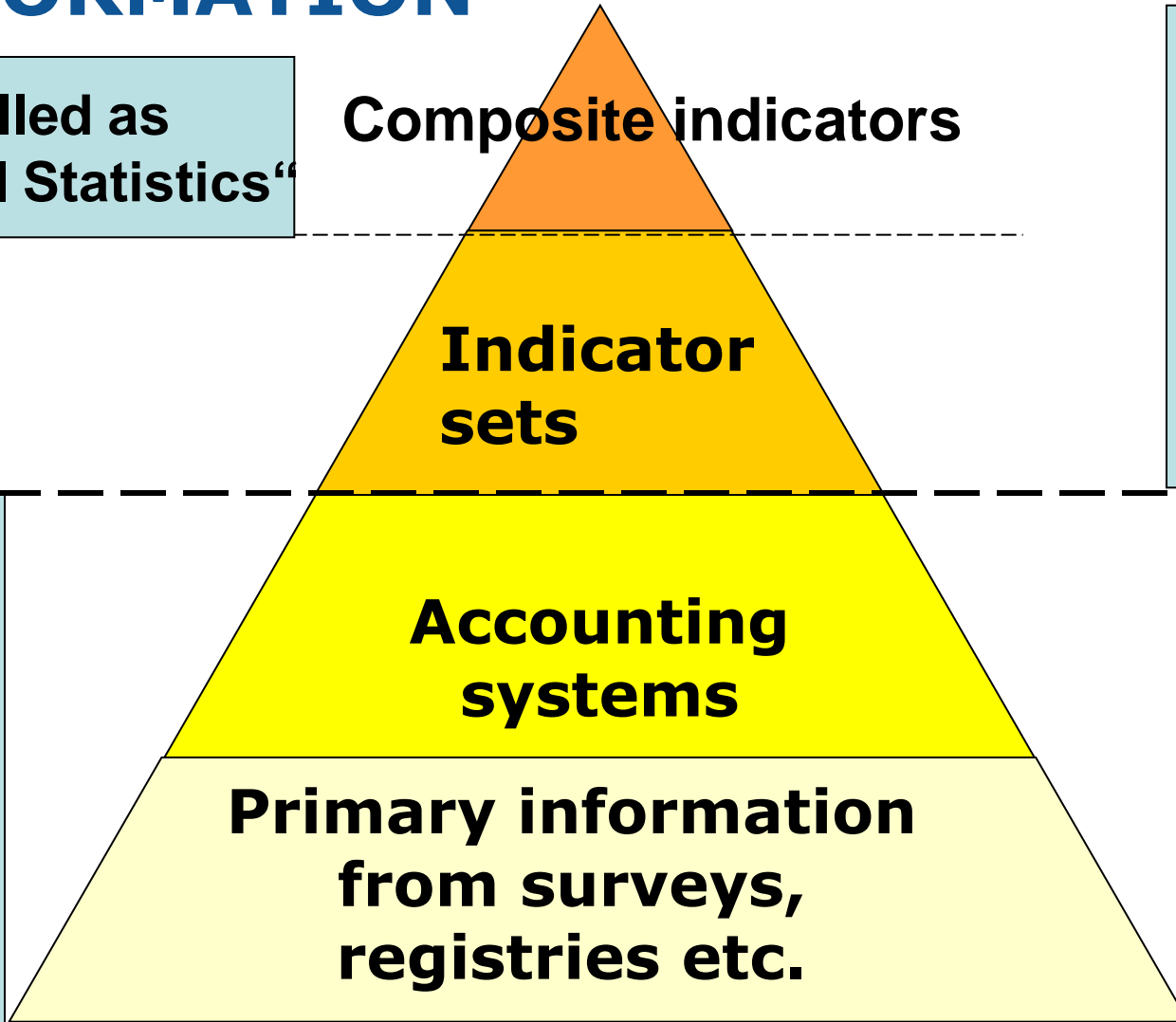
Specific  
Purpose

Indicator  
sets

Multi-  
Purpose

Accounting  
systems

Primary information  
from surveys,  
registries etc.



# Eurostat's role in developing new indicators

- Input on data issues – match political preferences to what is measurable
- Ensure statistical realism at key stages of the policy debate during the development phase
- Receive and validate data sets from MS
- Publish up to date EU aggregate figures on our website
- Work with Member State NSIs to continually improve the quality and comparability of the data
- Present and communicate the indicators



# Key statistics related lessons learnt (1)

- Close cooperation between policymakers and statisticians is essential
- Quality of the statistics used needs to be as high as possible to ensure the robustness of the indicator (and reduce risk that indicators are undermined as a performance measure)
- Think not only about individual indicators but also of the indicator group as a whole (issues such as coherence, inter-linkages, overlap etc.)

## Key statistics related lessons learnt (2)

- Coherence – only achieved if indicators originate from a standardised data compilation/accounting framework (NA), this is however rare case and horizontal effort is needed to ensure coherence
- Encourage restraint! Use no more indicators than are necessary. [Europe 2020 – 8 indicators for 5 headline targets. EU SDS – more than 100 indicators]
- Timing of our involvement - policy makers may not know the best time to involve us. Don't wait to be asked!



European  
Commission

**Thank you**