

Creating a Shadow

Towards a SDG Monitoring System for Norwegian Civil Society



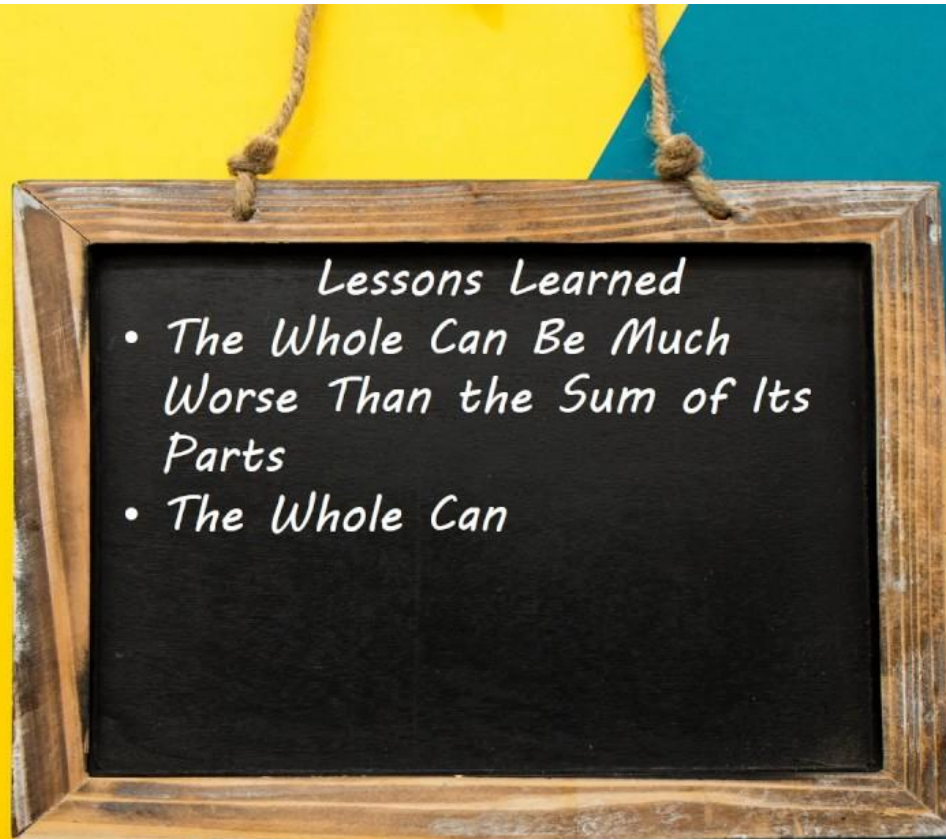
Svein Erik Stave

 **Fafo** Research Foundation

Challenges and experiences of measuring Sustainable Development: Conceptual and technical issues

- What is Sustainable Development – for whom – at what scale?
- What are the targets and references? (Wellbeing, PB, GE, De-growth,..)
- Searching the ideal or addressing the un-ideal?
- Changing minds or measuring correctly?
- Lack of consistent conceptual frame (set of individual indicators)
- Indicators based on different priorities and visions
- Framework based on a single narrative – if any (e.g. accounting)
- Limited “statistical” added value (e.g. aggregate measures)
- Focus on output indicators (what is measurable)
- Biased towards progress
- Indicators based on data availability (reliability before validity)

A key challenge



Challenges and experiences of measuring Sustainable Development: Social and political issues

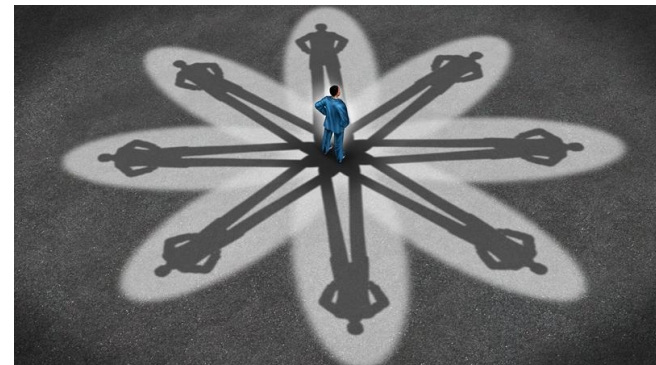
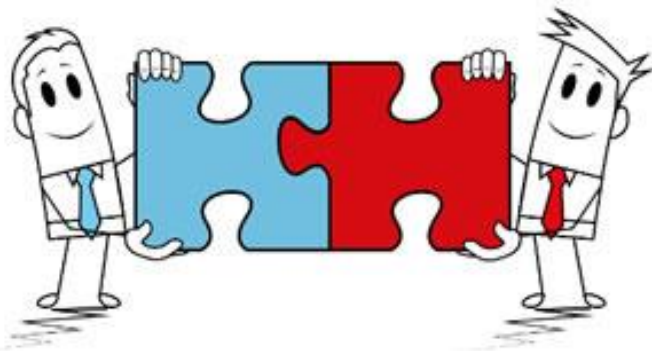
- Lack of influence
- Lack of interest
- Lack of awareness
- Lack of engagement



How can this be different this time?

The purposes of a shadow report?

- Address some of these challenges
- Complement (not duplicate!) official indicator set and reporting
- Contribute with alternative narratives and frameworks
- Explore alternative methodologies (with focus on synthesis)
- Contribute with contextual information to the official indicators
- Provide information for policy-making
- Influence policy and practice
- Hold policy-makers accountable
- Challenge policy-makers (at framework level)
- Trigger discussion (a key Civil Society role)
- Trigger engagement and involvement
- Focus on selected priority areas and aggregate measures (added perspective)



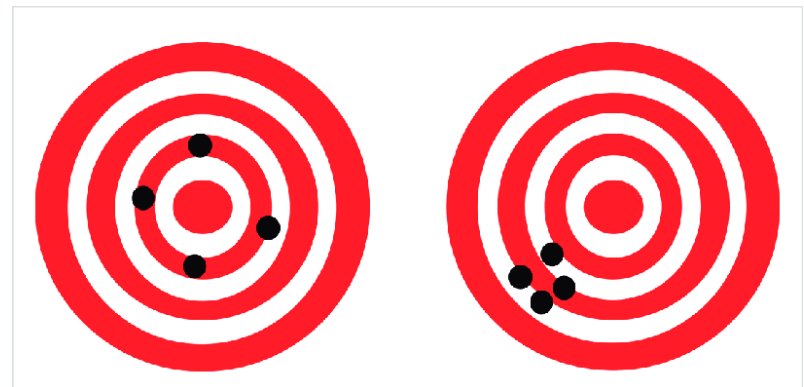
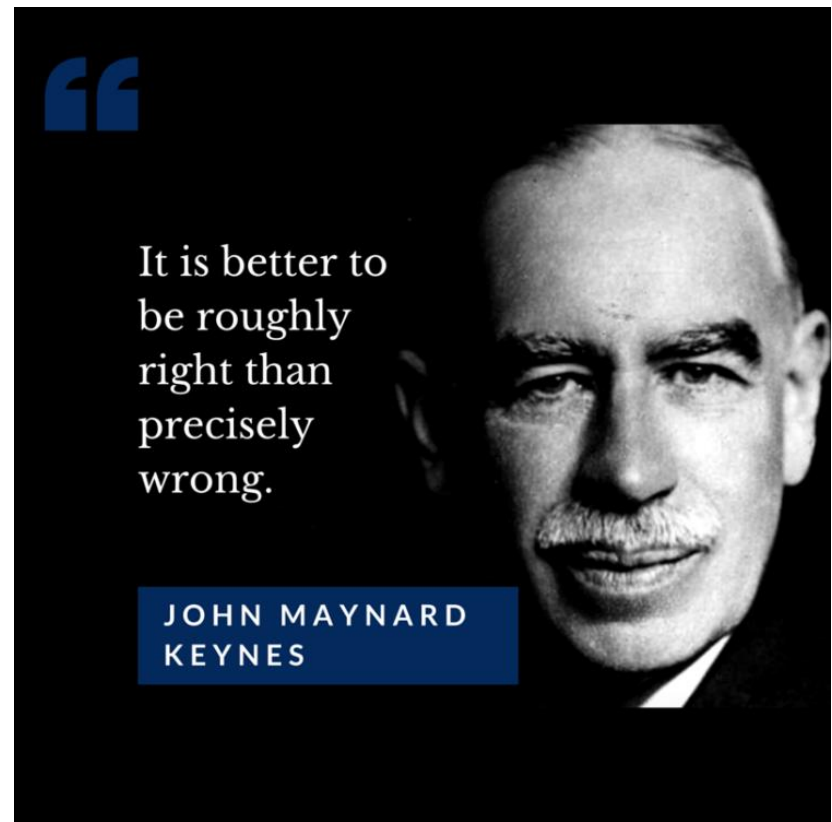
Conceptual framework

- Focus areas
 - Civil Society's priority areas
 - National and global key challenges
 - Areas where Norway can make a difference
 - Commitments and priorities expressed by Norwegian authorities
- Separate indicators for «home» and «away»
- Combined commitment indicators (outputs) and state («impact») indicators
- Combined quantitative and qualitative indicators
- Systemic structure for aggregation
- General statistical requirements (e.g. comparability over time)



Data sources

- Budgetary data
- Statistics (state indicators)
- Media monitoring (engagement)
- Small surveys (youth)
- **Expert panels**
- **Civil Society panels**
 - Challenges
 - Measures
 - State
 - Trend
 - Policy requirements
 - Etc.



Analyses



- Commitment-State analyses
- Qualitative-quantitative analyses
- Composite indicators (Civil Society weights)
 - Equality
 - Economy-Environment
 - Policy coherence for sustainable development
 - Awareness, engagement and involvement
- Synthesis data (analysis embedded in measure)

Outputs

- Indicator system (web-based)
- Thematic reports
- Policy briefs
- Tailored to different target groups and purposes



The way forward

- Workshop tomorrow to discuss and to refine the draft system
Fafo conference center, Borggata 2b, **13.00-16.00**
- What we will do:
 - Present the framework more in detail
 - Discuss the overall frameworks and clarify needs and objectives
 - Split into groups to refine topics and indicators
 - Plenary meeting to discuss suggestions from groups
 - Hopefully agree on the content of the final system

