



A taxonomy to support local SDG measuring

23.10.2025

Anne Romsaas, KS

Ambition: Make it easier to measure
SDG progress locally and regionally





Norwegian Ministry
of Local Government and Modernisation
Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs

Voluntary National Review 2021 Norway

Report on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Voluntary Subnational Review – Norway

Implementation of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals in
Norwegian Local and Regional Government



KOMMUNSEKTORENS ORGANISASJON
The Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities

NORDREGIO 2024:16

The Nordic View on Sustainability

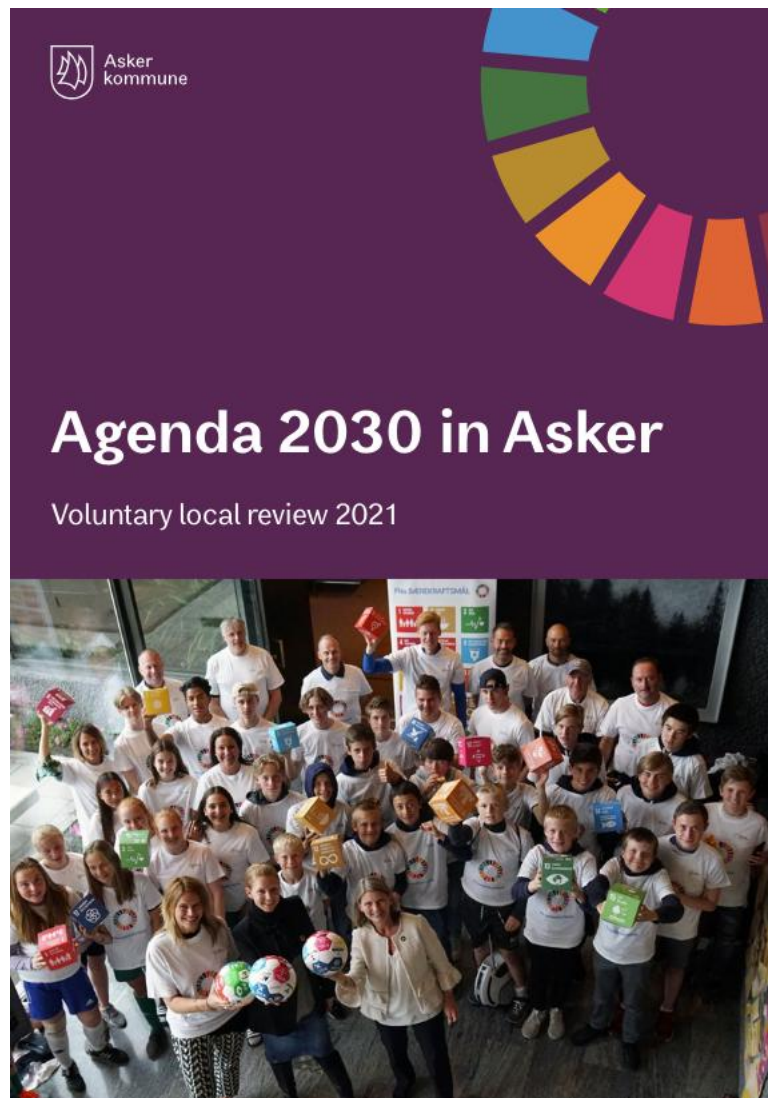
Learnings from the Local Level

Nordic Voluntary Subnational Review 2024



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development





It is a jungle of possible indicators – which to choose?



A TAXONOMY

FOR INDICATORS RELATED TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The taxonomy was developed with the purpose of sorting, evaluating and comparing different SDG indicators and indicator sets.

Strategic priority

Can be formulated dynamically according to the user needs, e.g.:



PERSPECTIVE

Development sector

A 14-category structure (Digitaliseringsdirektoratet, Norway) which is a common glossary for categorising and describing public services and resources.



Evaluation

The 5-category typology originates from the well-known input-output model in econometrics.



Distribution

Relevant when the same indicator is needed more than once, either over time, across geographical areas or subpopulations.



QUALITY

Based on version 2.0 of "Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System".

Class 1

Standard quality framework of ESS.



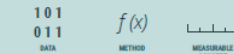
Class 2

If the indicator neither belongs to class 1 nor class 3.



Class 3

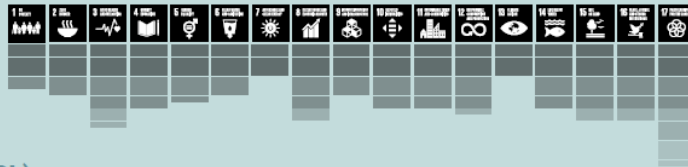
If the indicator is unavailable, because one or several of the following features are missing.



GOAL

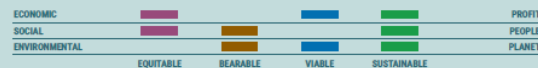
The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Consists of 17 goals and 169 targets



Triple bottom line (TBL)

Triple bottom line accounting expands the traditional reporting framework to take into account social and environmental performance in addition to financial performance.



Taxonomy = toolbox

- to help contextualize data
 - choosing fit-for-purpose data
- to help make informed data choices
 - keeping data honest
 - aiding good governance
- to find data/indicator gaps
 - giving direction to new research

Stage 1: Classification of SDG-related indicator sets



Initial classification of 6 indicator sets – no «surprises»

Indicators in total

1095

Suggested National Indicators for Norway

477

U4SSC-indicators

112

OECD-indicators

115

UN SDG indicators

248

JRC-20-indicators

143



UN SDG indicators

Owner
UN



OECD: A Territorial Approach ...

Owner
OECD



The EU-JRC-VLR-handbook in...

Owner
EU JRC



De norske målepunktene

Owner
The Norwegian Government



The EU-JRC-VLR-handbook in...

Owner
EUC

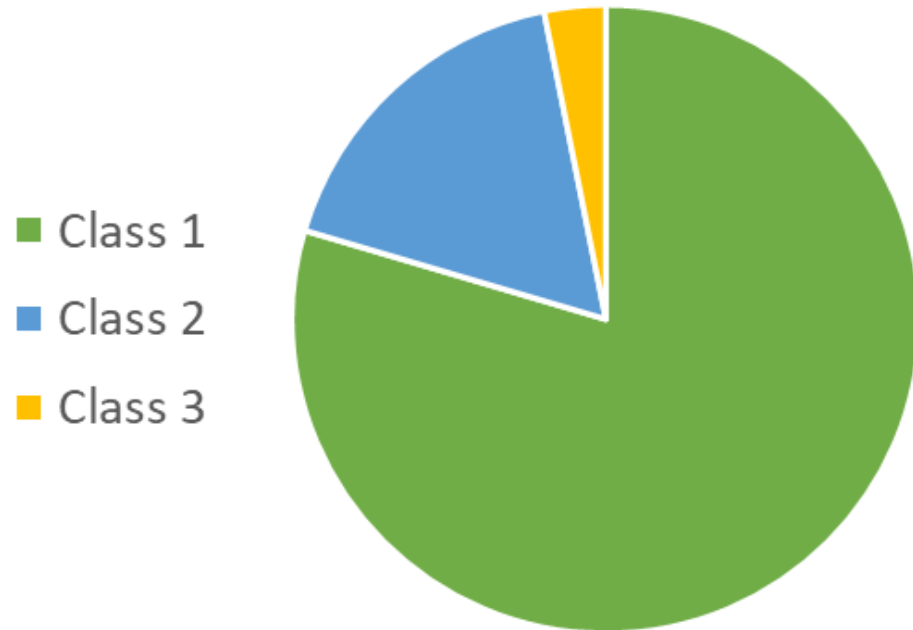


U4SSC

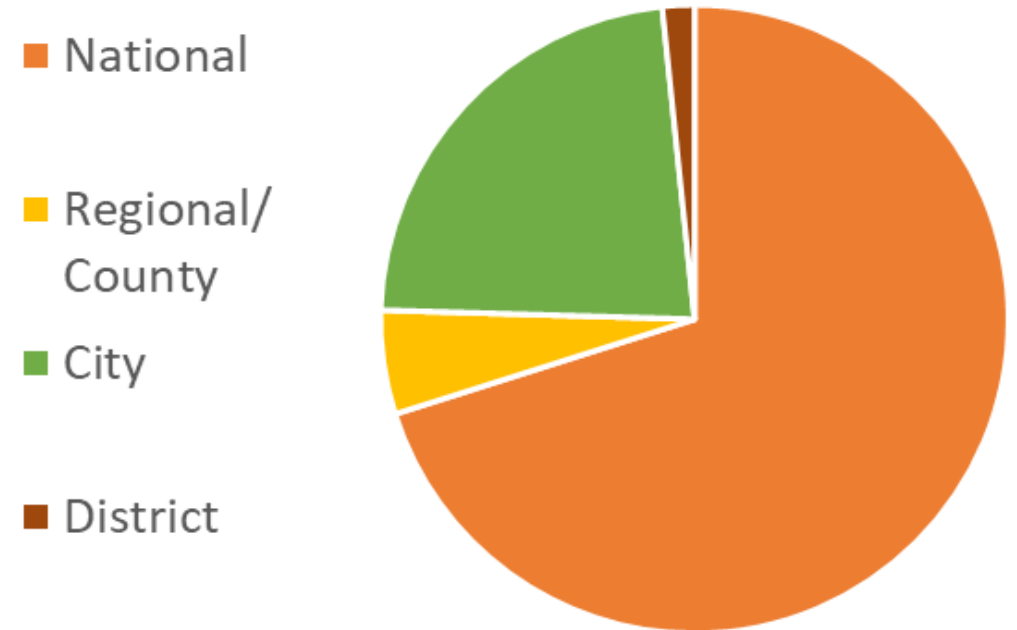
Owner
ITU

Neither surprising - mostly top quality, national level indicators

Quality

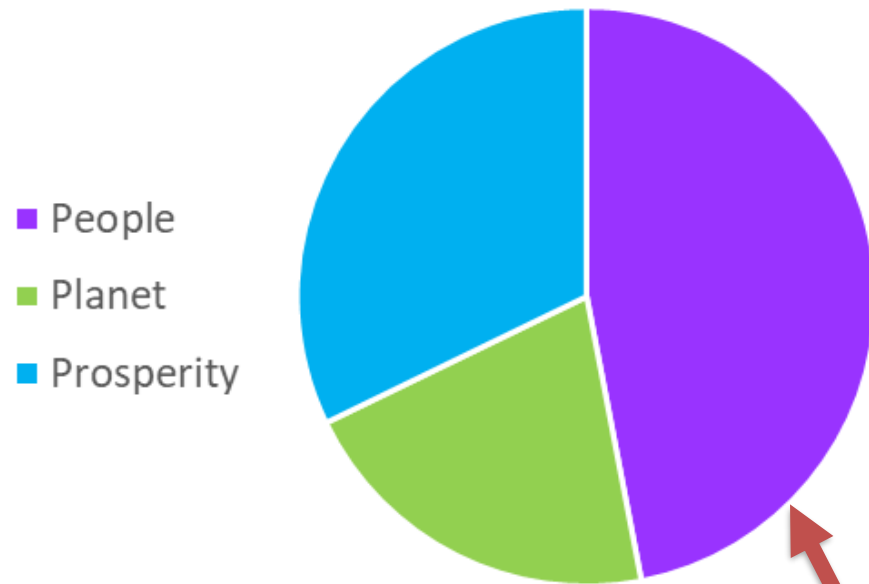


Level of geography



BUT – some findings DO stand out as interesting

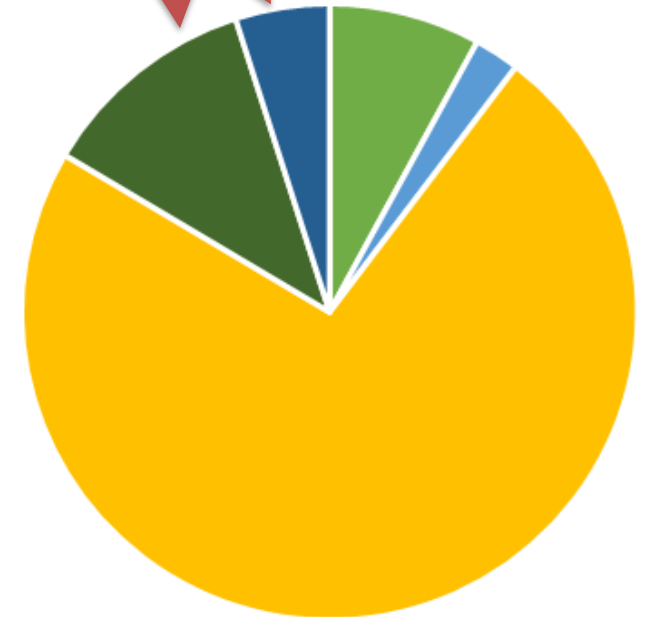
Triple Bottom Line



More than
we thought

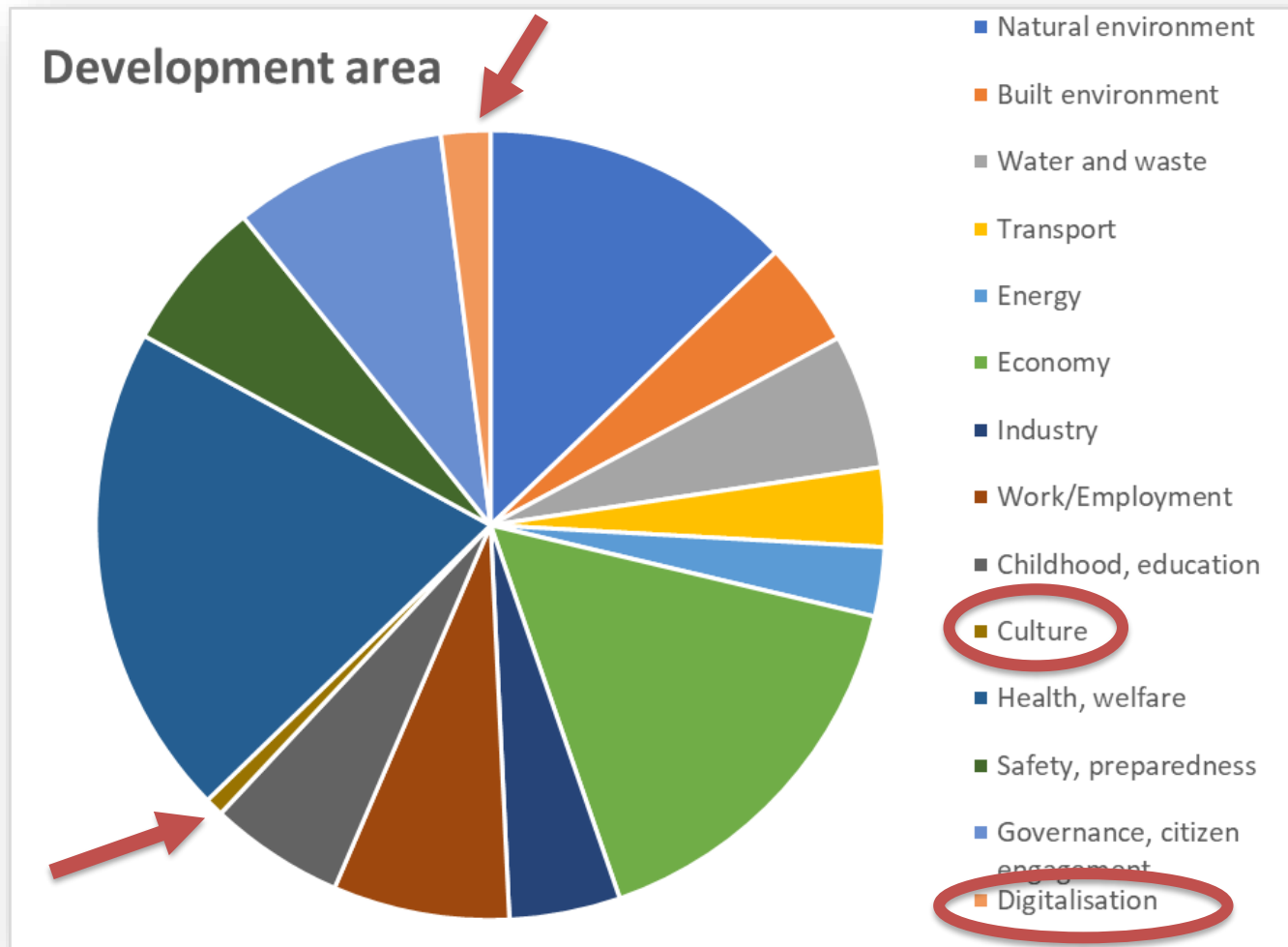
Evaluation

- Input
- Process/Activity
- Output
- Outcome
- Impact



Less than
we hoped

BUT – some findings DO stand out as interesting

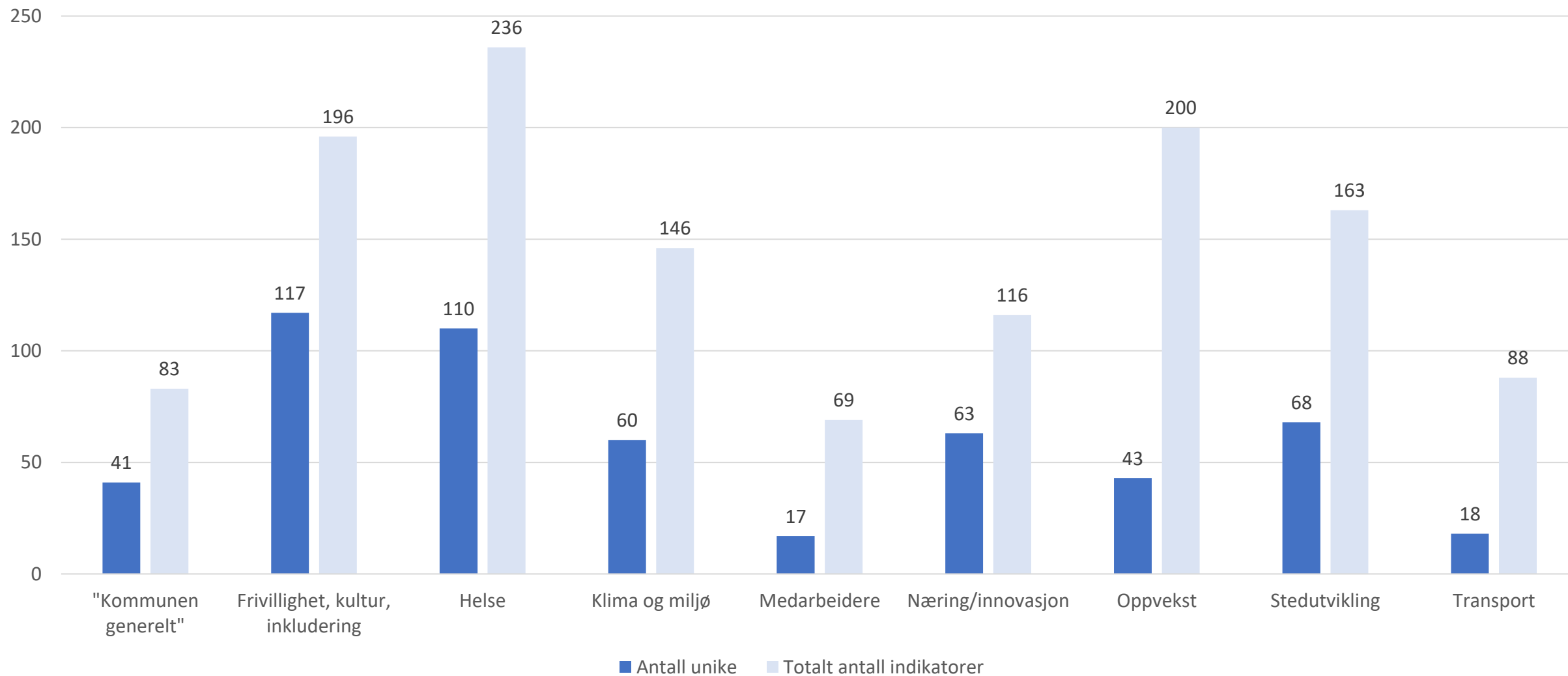


- Indicators in some development sectors are «underrepresented»
- Development sectors will be *similar*, but have differences between countries

Stage 2: Collect and classify existing indicators used in the municipal sector



Gathering indicators that are in use – 537 of 1297 are unique



KLASSIFISERING AV INDIKATORSETT SOM MÅLER BÆREKRAFT PÅ KOMMUNALT NIVÅ



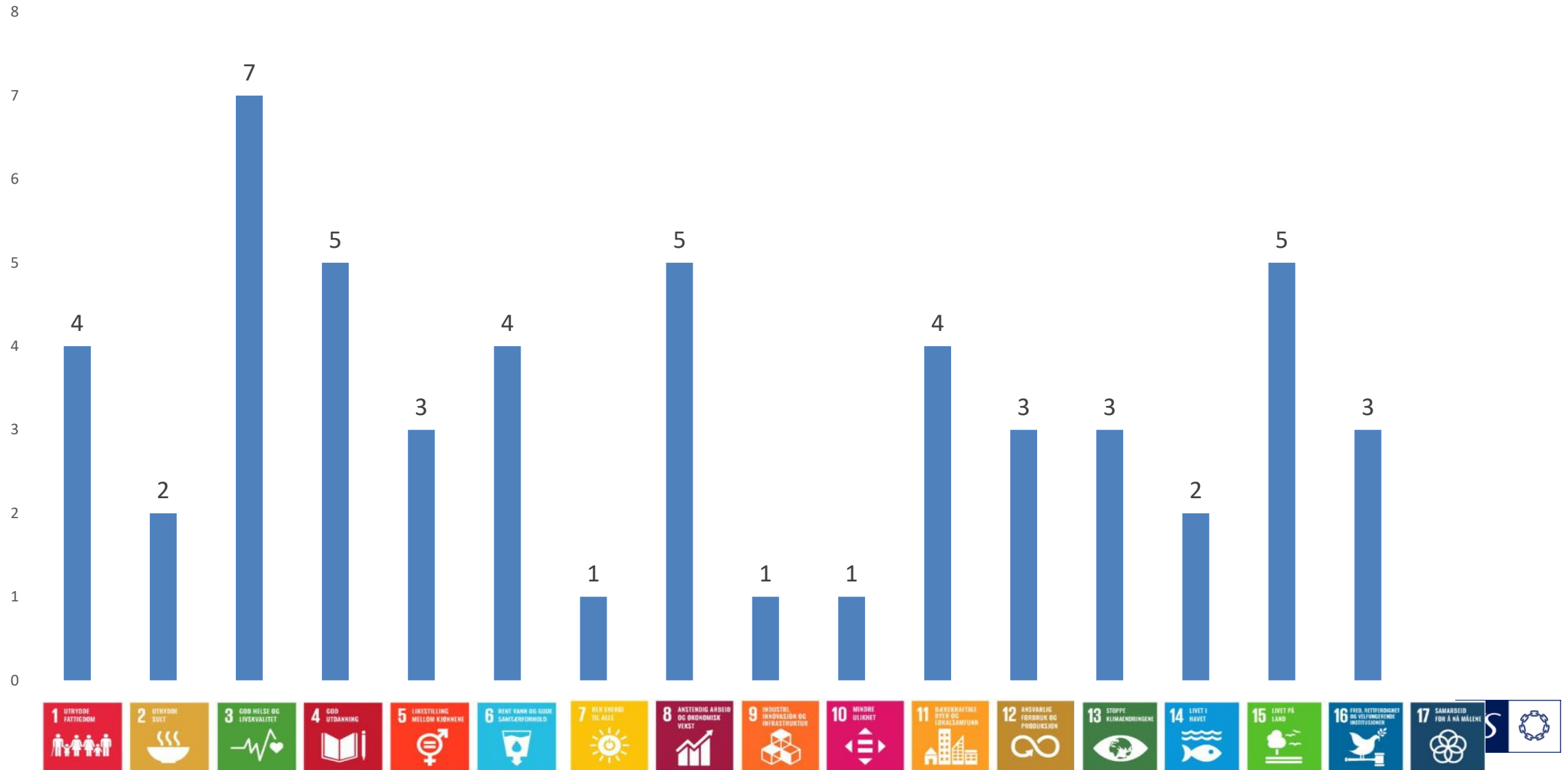
Av Simen Pedersen og Christoffer Thalberg Hamnes

			M2		Costed
Hggs	Conn	Shs M	Round gth M Sh	Yogge Conn	Conn gth
2h	Fullconn	2, 4	2, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2		Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2, 11	11, 2	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2		Full	
2h	Fullconn	1	1, 8	Disjoint, Full	
2h	Fullconn	4	4, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	4	4, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	4	4, 4, 4, 2	Full	
2h	Fullconn	4	4, 4, 4, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	4, 18	4, 2, 18, 2, 18, 2	Full	
2h	Fullconn	4	4, 2	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2, 4	2, 4, 4, 4	Full	
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2h	Fullconn	4	4, 2	Full	
2h	Fullconn	11	11, 2	Full, Disjoint	
2h	Fullconn	11	11, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	11	11, 2	Full	
2h	Fullconn	11	11, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	11	11, 2	Full	
2h	Fullconn	18	18, 4, 18, 2	Full	
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2h	Fullconn	4	4, 4, 4, 4	Full	
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2h	Fullconn	11	11, 2	Full	
2h	Fullconn	11, 2	11, 2	Full	
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2h	Fullconn	2	2, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 4	Full	
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2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8, 2, 2	Full	
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2h	Fullconn	2	2, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 4	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 4, 2, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	2	2, 8	Full	
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2h	Fullconn	18		Full	
2h	Fullconn	18	18, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	18		Full	
2h	Fullconn	18	18, 8	Full	
2h	Fullconn	18		Full	
2h	Fullconn	18		Full	
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12	Fullconn	12	12, 2	Maxconn	
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12	Fullconn	12	12, 2	Maxconn	
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12	Fullconn	8, 14	8, 2, 14, 1	Maxconn	
12	Fullconn	18	18, 2, 18, 1	Full	

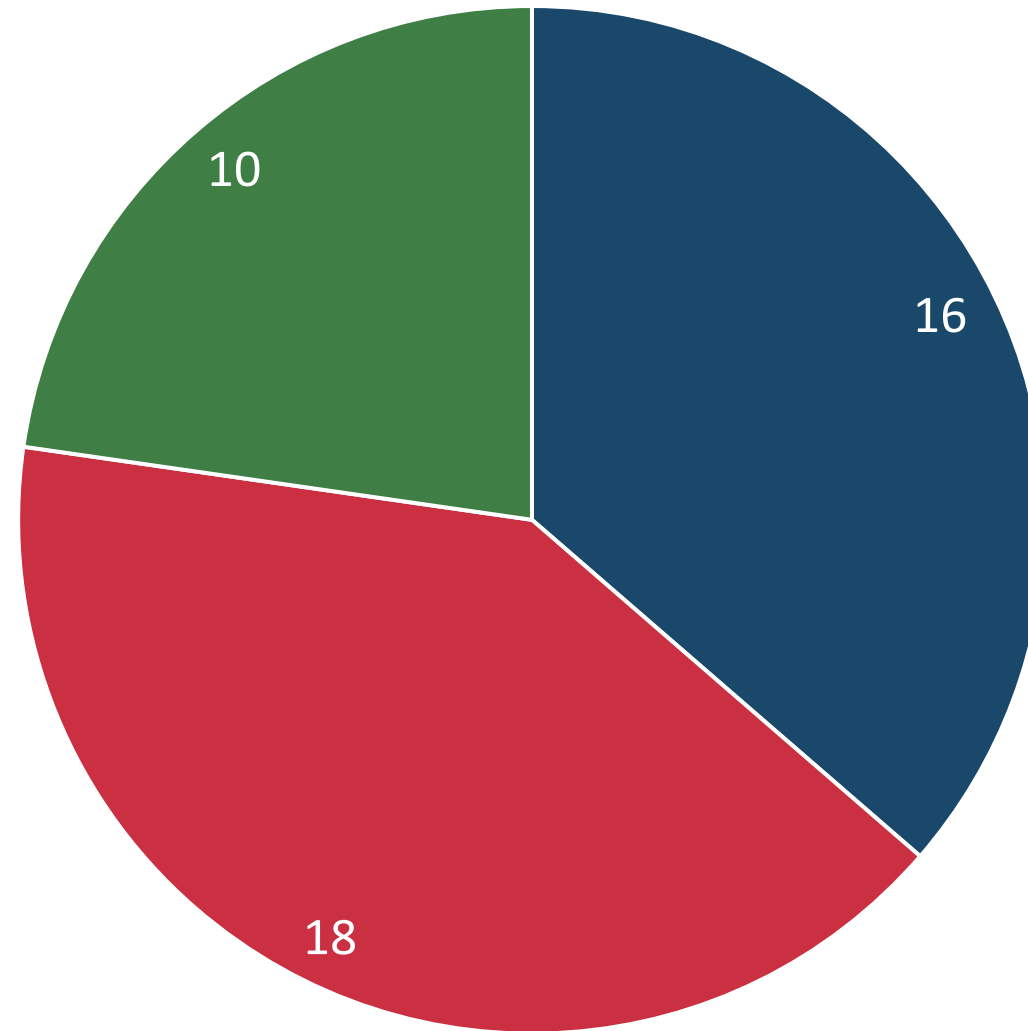
Sustainability Network continued the work – narrowed it down to a set of 42 indicators



Indicators per SDG



Indicators distributed across triple bottom line



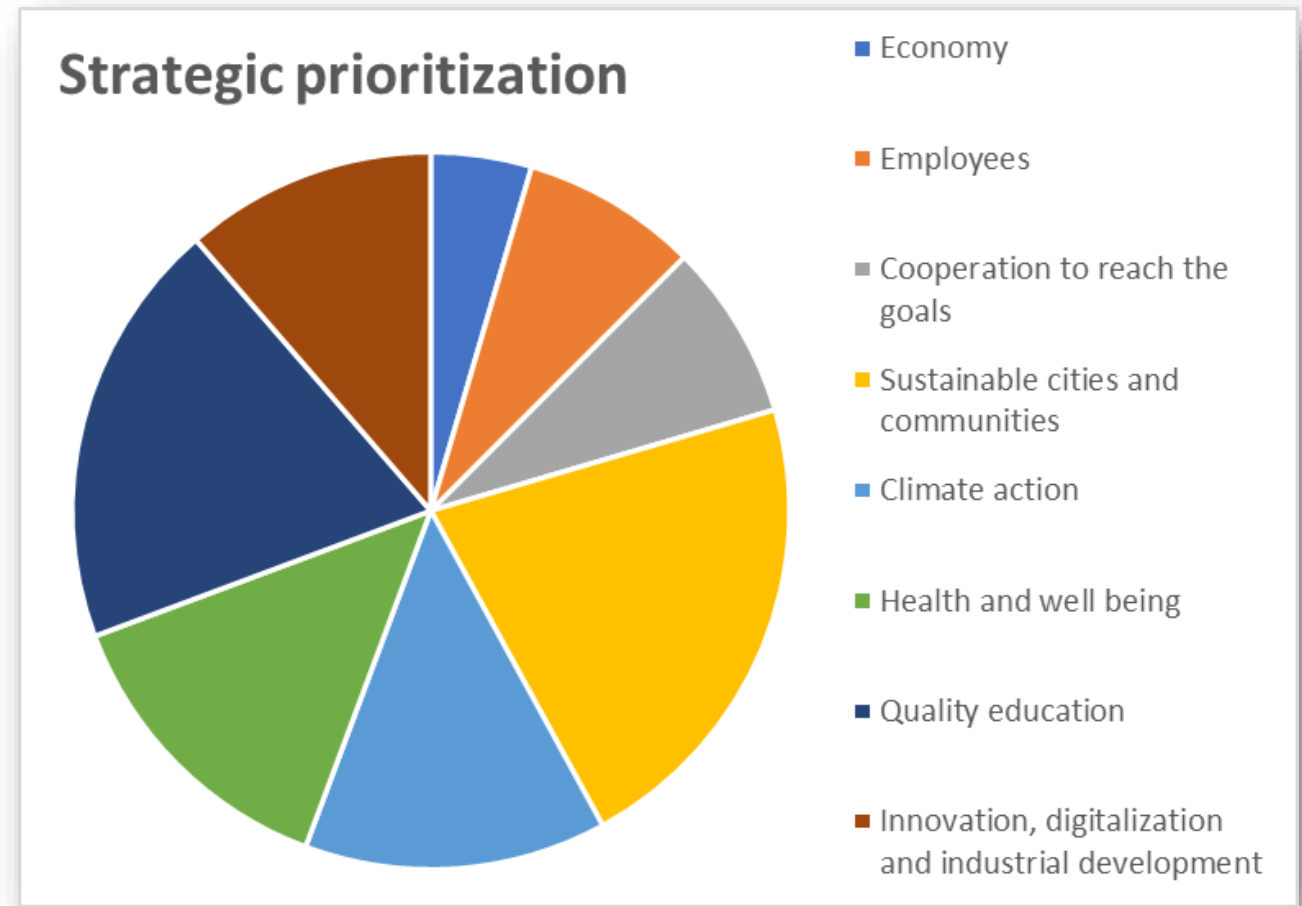
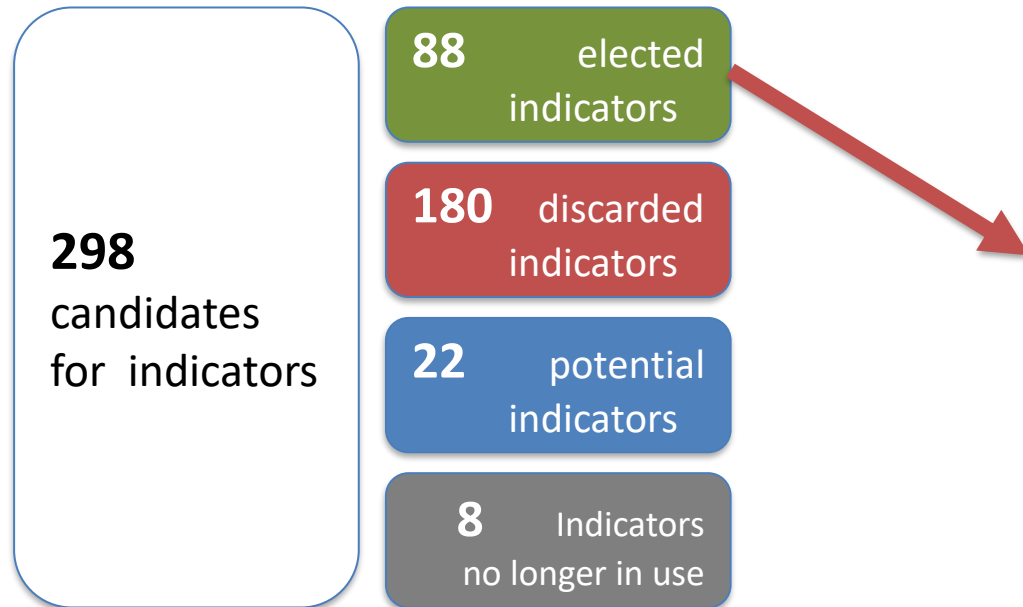
■ Miljømessig ■ Sosialt ■ Økonomisk



Let's get more local...



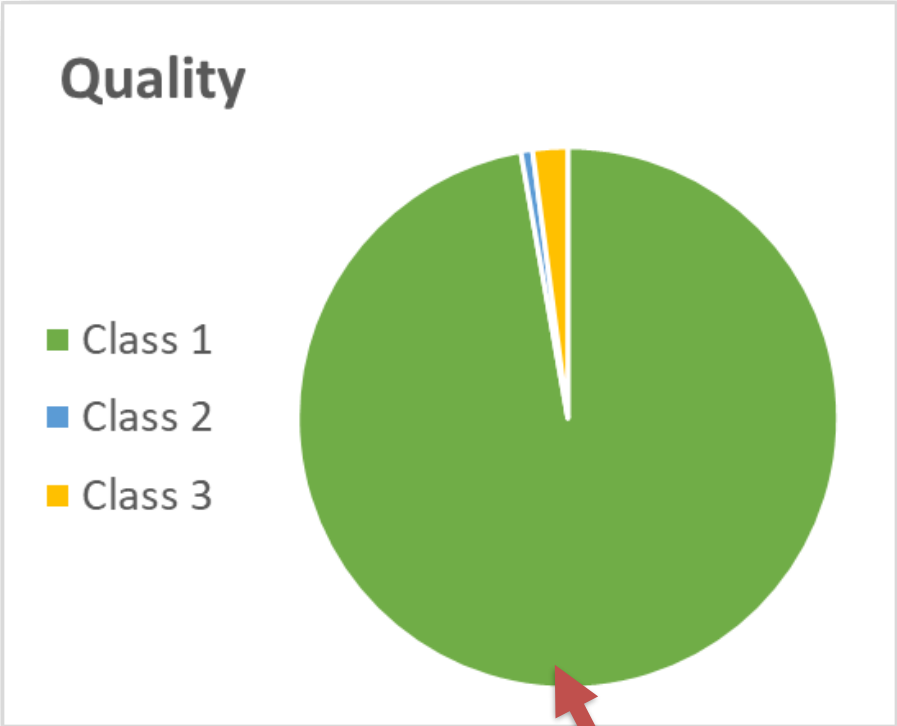
Asker municipality – strategical choice of governance indicators



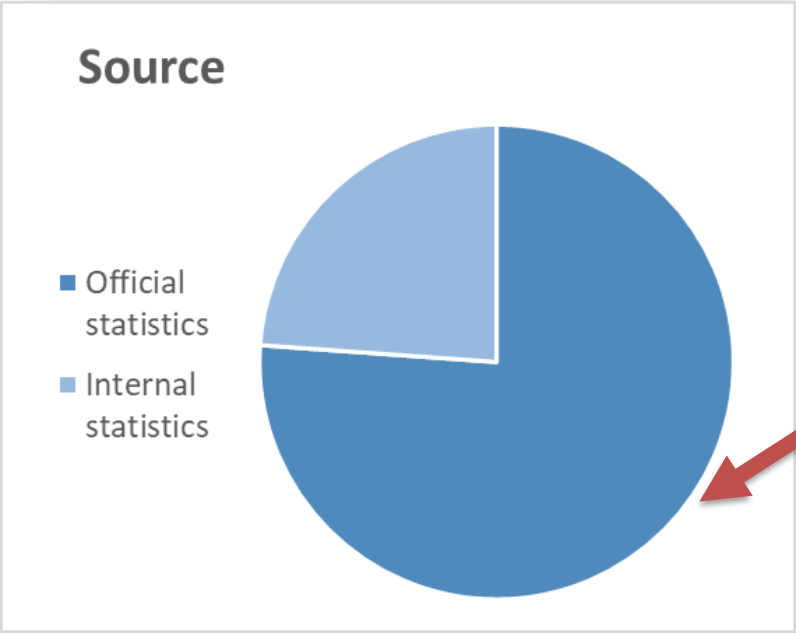
Questions? Contact

- Eline.Tonnesson.Tveter@asker.kommune.no
- Ingvild.Hjortdahl.Becke@asker.kommune.no

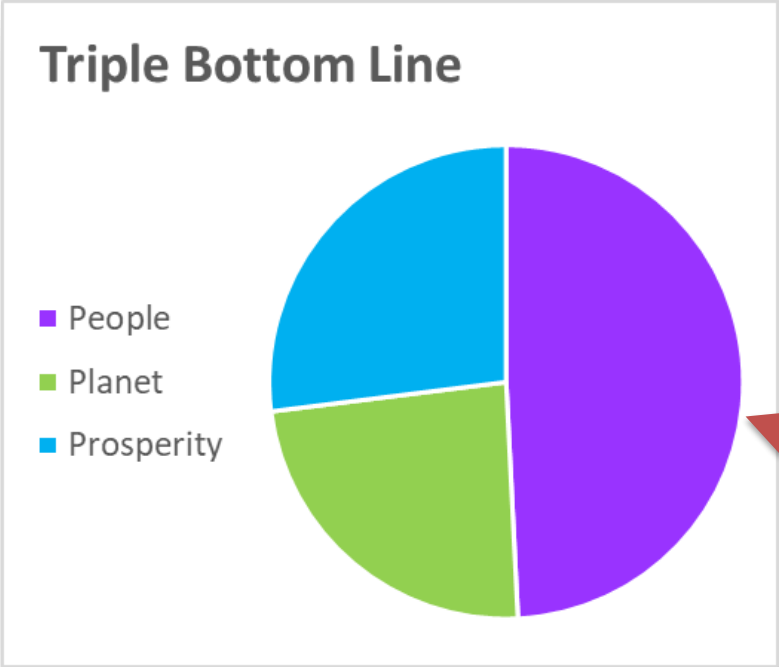
Asker municipality - Some similar findings



Mostly class 1



Mostly official statistics

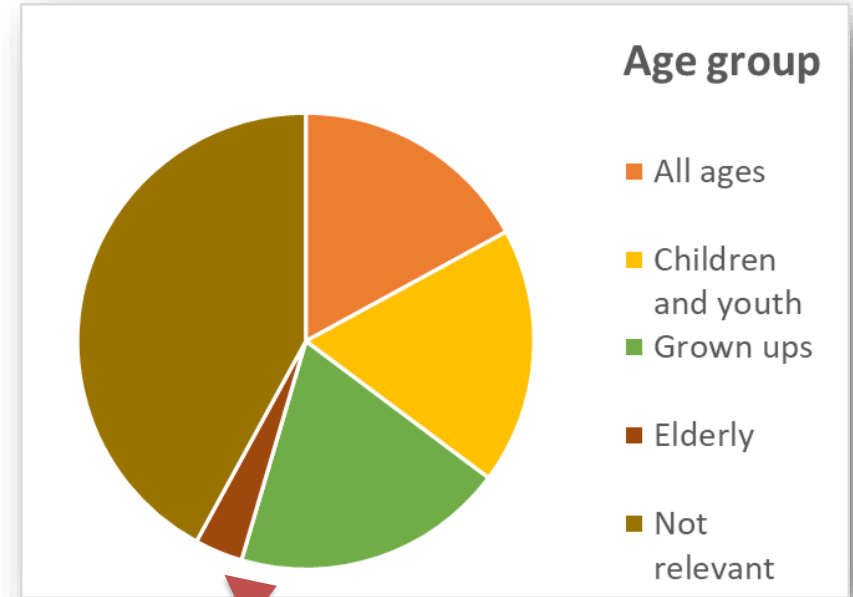


More than we thought

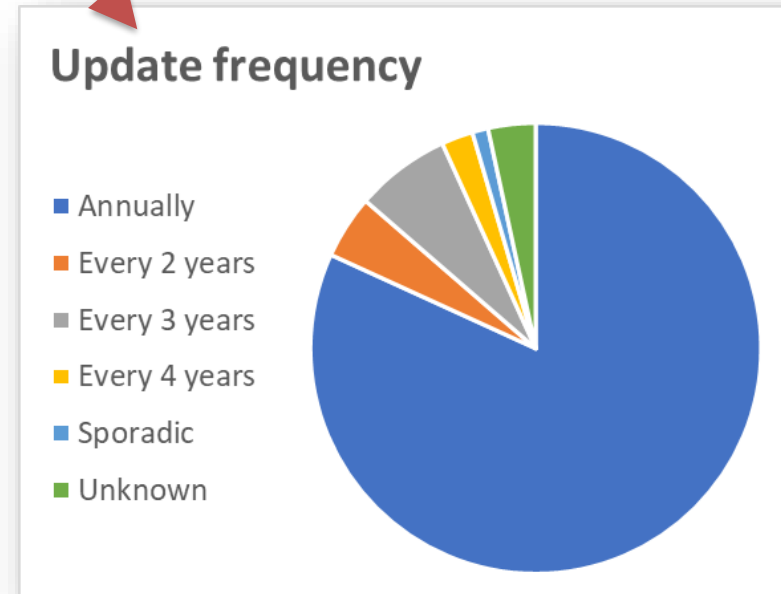
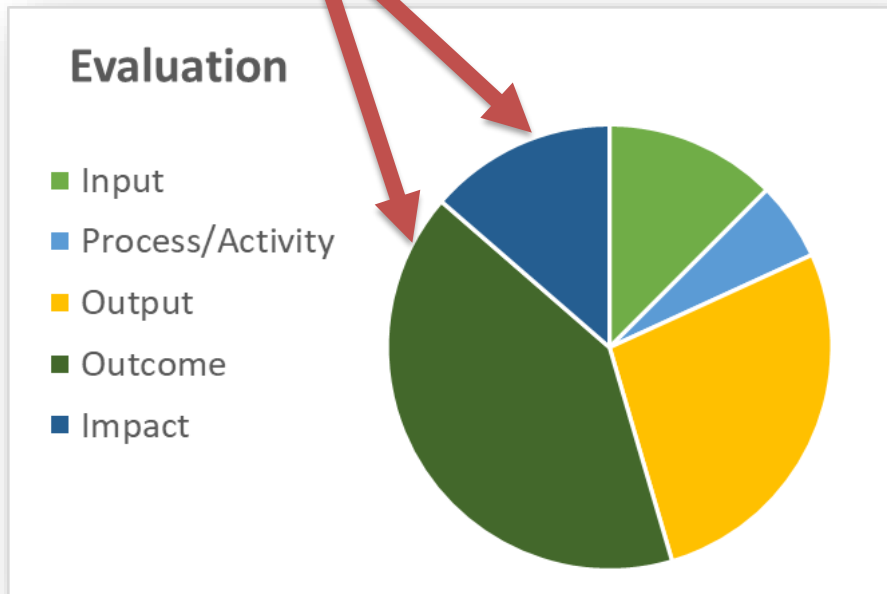
Asker municipality - Qualified choices

Actively looking for effect indicators – more than 50% !

Focus on update frequency for different kinds of reporting according to planning system



Finding gaps – need to look for more/better indicators on the area of the elderly



Spin-offs and cooperation



Stavanger

Er vi egentlig bærekraftige i Rogaland?

En sterk velferdsstat bidrar til at Rogaland, sammen med resten av Norge gjør det bra på mange av FNs bærekraftsmål. Likevel har vi store utfordringer og utvikler oss i feil retning når det kommer til flere mål.



Bærekraftsprofil

Nedenfor vises nøkkelindikatorer for hvert bærekraftsmål i Stavanger, Rogaland og Norge.

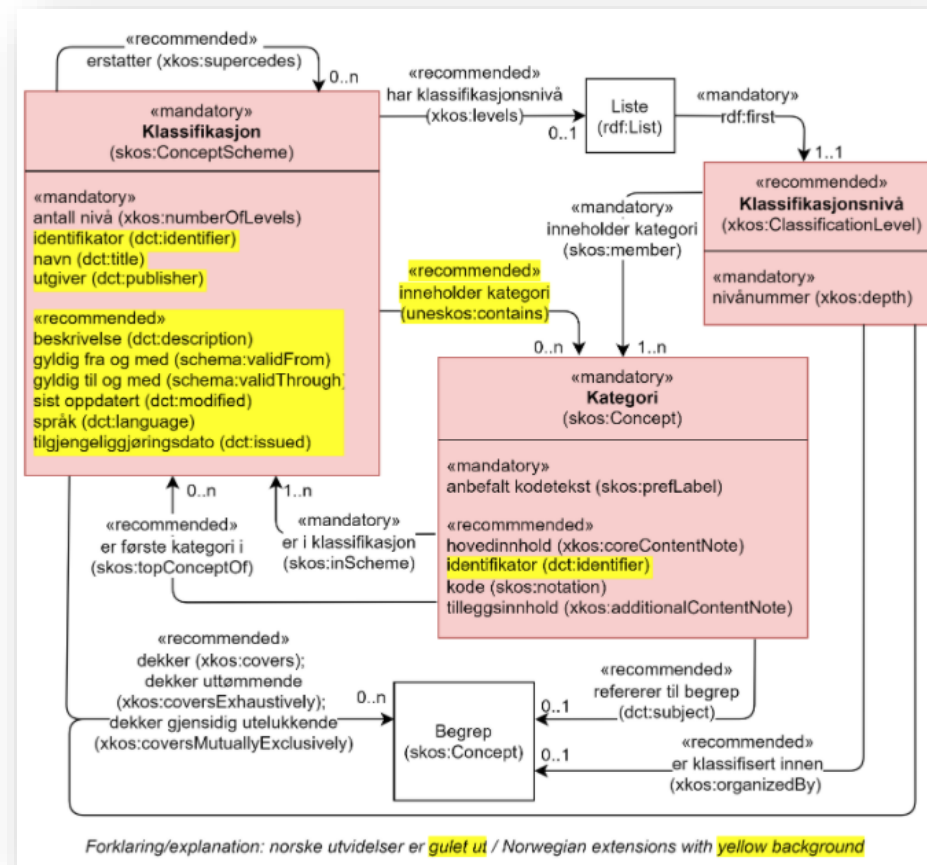
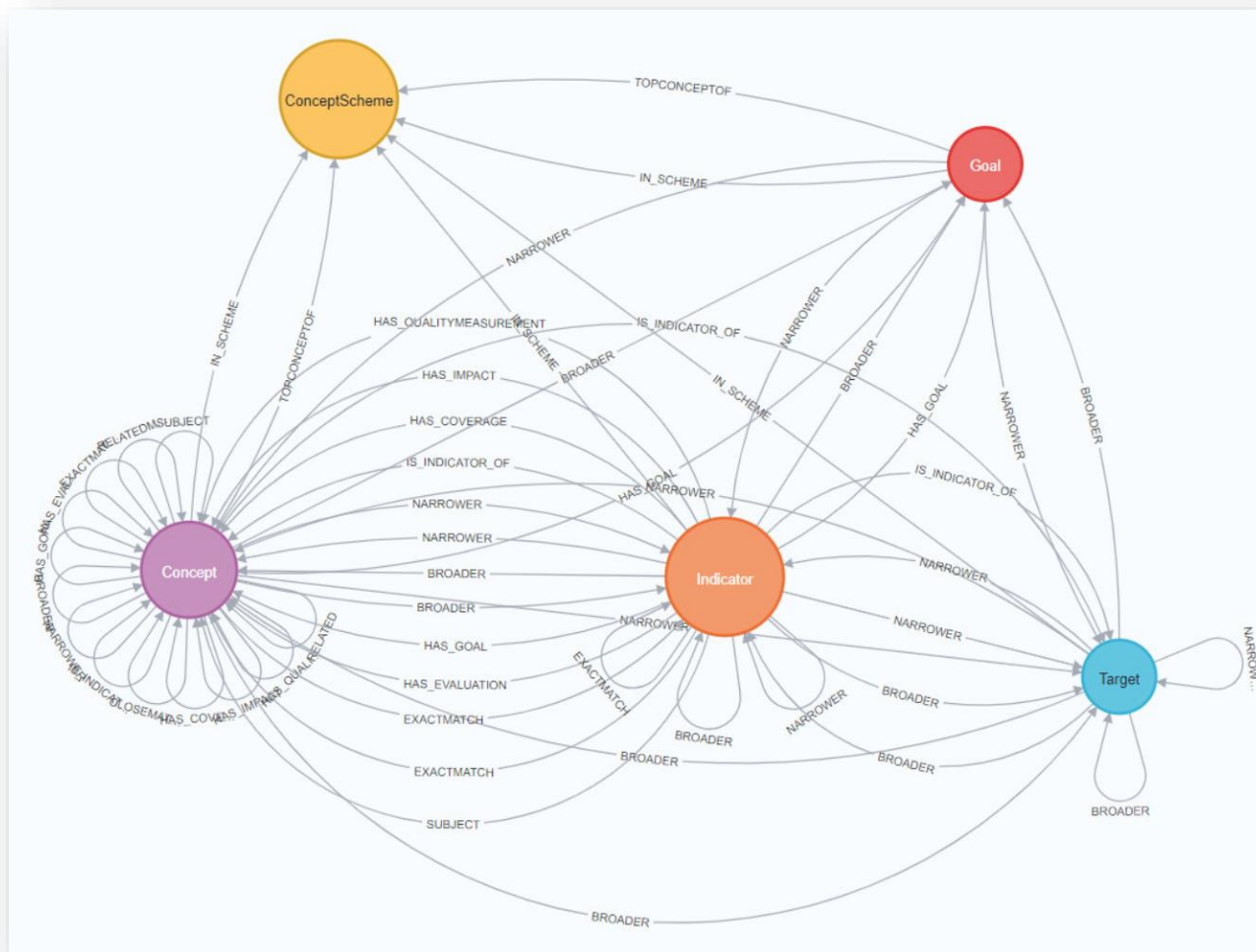
Klikk på [Rogaland i Tall](#) for å lese mer om mål og indikator, og sammenligne din kommune med de andre kommunene i fylket.

Mål 1: Utrydde fattigdom				
Nøkkelindikator	Stavanger 2015-2017	Stavanger 2020-2022	Rogaland 2020-2022	Norge 2020-2022
Andel lavinntekt alle eldre	8,50 %	9,00 %	8,00 %	9,50 %
Andel lavinntekt barn	8,80 %	9,50 %	8,60 %	10,60 %

Mål 2: Utrydde sult				
Nøkkelindikator	Stavanger 2015-2018	Stavanger 2020-2023	Rogaland 2020-2023	Norge 2020-2023
Feltnærving	17,51 %	18,40 %	20,37 %	22 %
Dyrka og dyrkbar jord omdefinert til andre formål enn landbruk (dekar)	0	31	485	6 696

Mål 3: God helse og livskvalitet				
Nøkkelindikator	Stavanger 2016-2015	Stavanger 2016-2023	Rogaland 2016-2023	Norge 2016-2023
Tidlig død 10-74 år, per 100 000	309	251	251	260
Eldre influensavaksiner	21 %	73 %	69 %	68 %
Muskel- og skjelettplager (per 1000)	306	506	321	313
Psykiske lidelser (per 1000)	74	85	80	81

«XML-ifying» the taxonomy (making it machine-readable)



Using AI to gain insights across indicator sets that are classified according to the taxonomy


what are material indicators for well-being?

“Material indicators for well-being” measure the tangible and economic aspects of people’s living conditions — the material foundation that enables quality of life. These indicators often overlap with SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) targets related to **income, housing, consumption, and access to services**.

Based on the sources you uploaded (OECD, EU JRC, U4SSC, and De norske målepunktene), the following are key **material well-being indicators**:

no De norske målepunktene (Norwegian indicators)

Relevant indicators for **materiell velvære** include:

- **Medianinntekt per husholdning** – måler inntektsnivå og ulikhet.
📌 Kilde: *De norske målepunktene.ttl*, indikator koblet til SDG 10 (redusere ulikhet).
- **Andel personer med lavinntekt** – viser økonomisk sårbarhet.
- **Boligkvalitet** – andel husholdninger med trangboddhet eller utilstrekkelige boforhold.
- **Tilgang til grunnleggende tjenester** (vann, ener  ternetett).

🌐 OECD – A Territorial Approach to the SDGs

The OECD defines *material well-being* primarily through **income, jobs, and housing**:

- **Household disposable income per capita**
- **Employment rate / Unemployment rate**
- **Housing affordability** (share of income spent on housing)
- **Access to broadband and transport infrastructure**

🔗 OECD reference: [OECD Regional Well-being Indicators](#) ↗

eu EU JRC VLR Handbook Indicators (2020 & 2022)

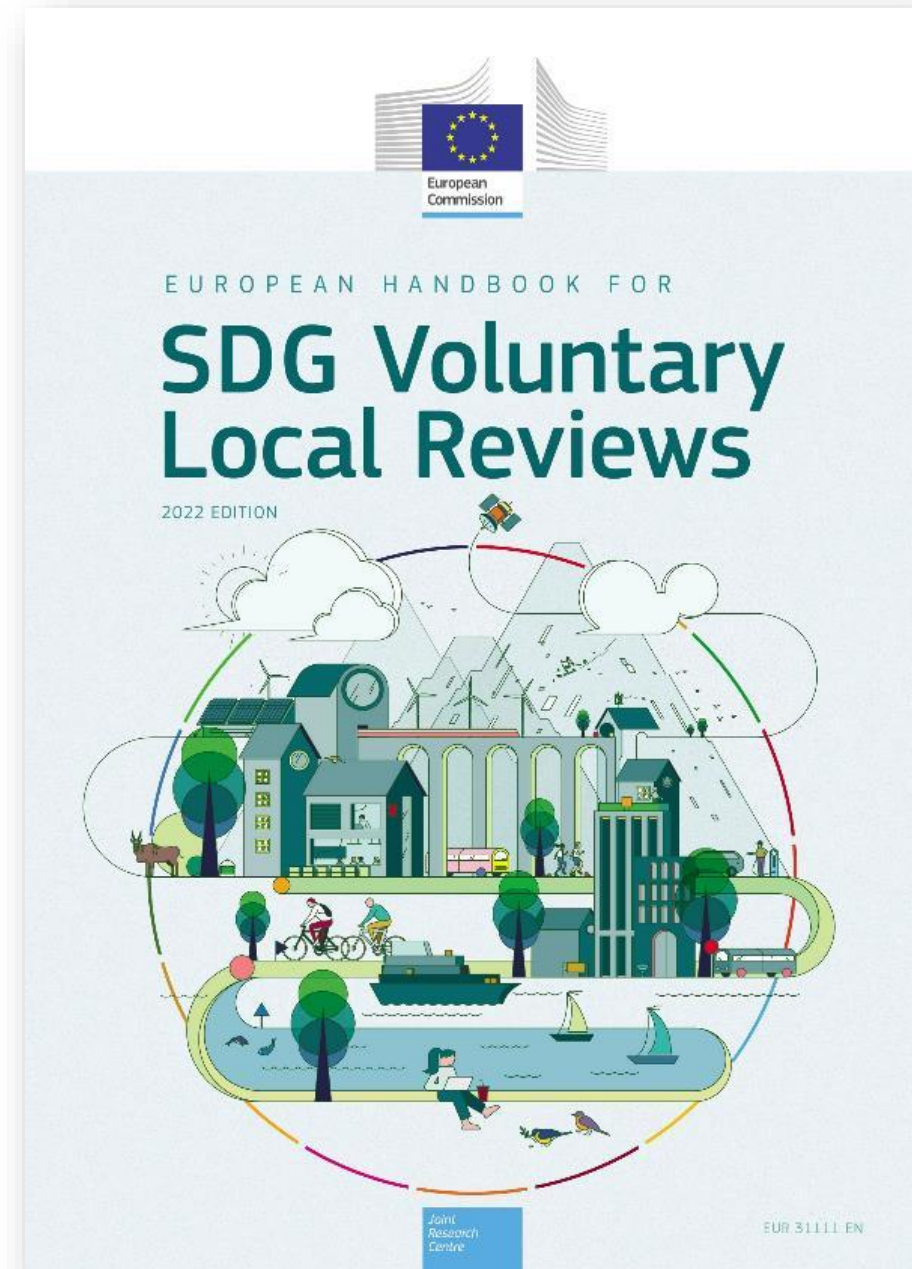
EU's local sustainability framework connects *material well-being* to SDGs 1, 8, 10, and 11:

- **GDP per capita (PPS)**
- **At-risk-of-poverty rate**
- **Housing cost overburden rate**
- **Material deprivation rate**
- **Access to essential services** (health, education, mobility, internet).

🔗 EU JRC 2022 indicator descriptions: [JRC VLR Indicators Handbook 2022](#) ↗

Cooperation with EU JRC

- Written a chapter about the taxonomy in the 2022-edition of the «European Handbook for SDG Voluntary Local Reviews» by the EU JRC.





UNSC55 Side-event

USING THE TAXONOMY FOR INDICATORS RELATED TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

6 February 2024

9:00 am – 10:30 am EST/Virtual

For more information and to register, please go to

https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/55th-session/side-events/SDGTaxonomy_Webinar.pdf

or scan the QR code



unstats.un.org

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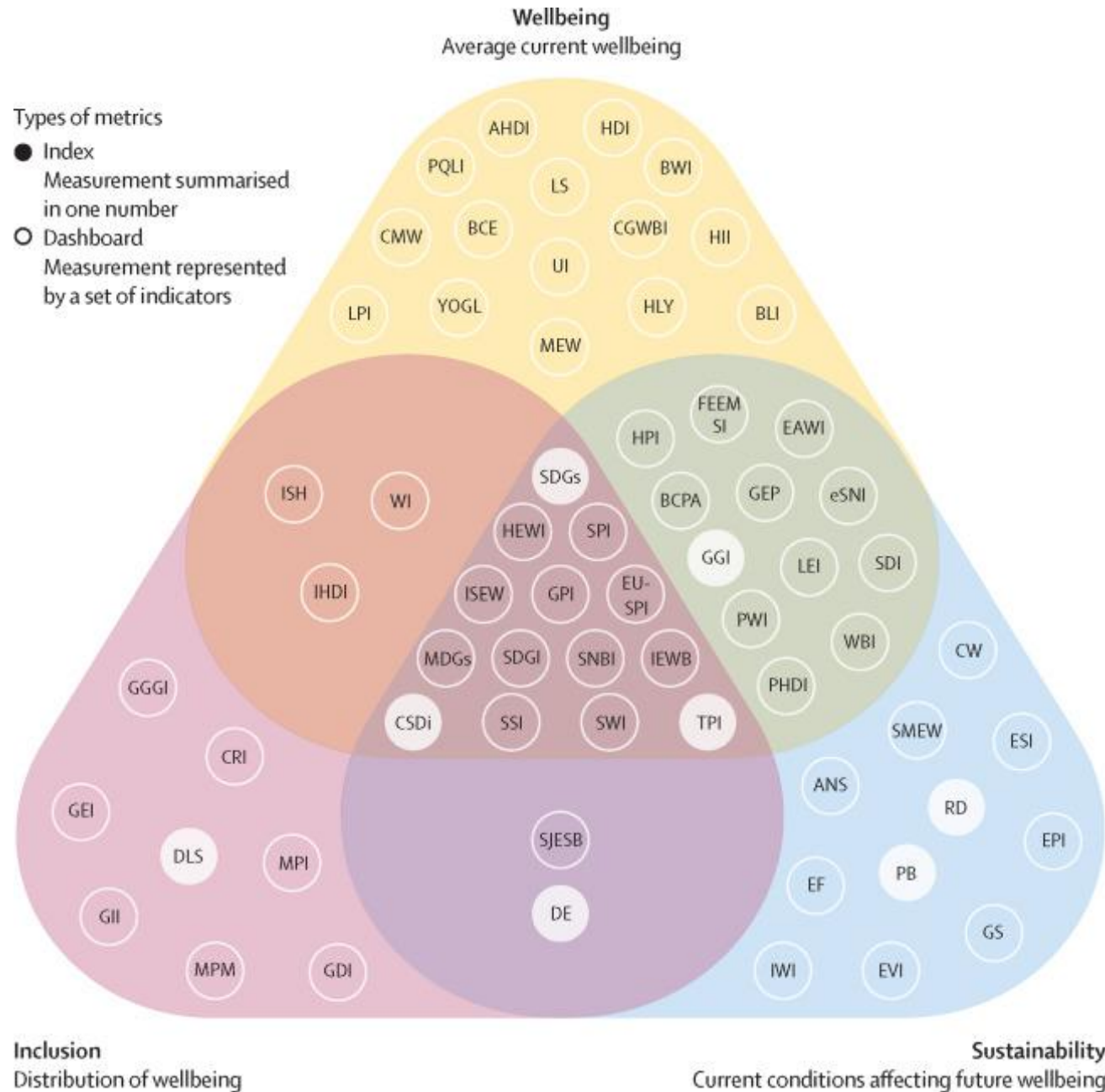
#UN55SC



United
Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Beyond GDP –
what if these also
were churned
through the
taxonomy?



Thank you for your attention!

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