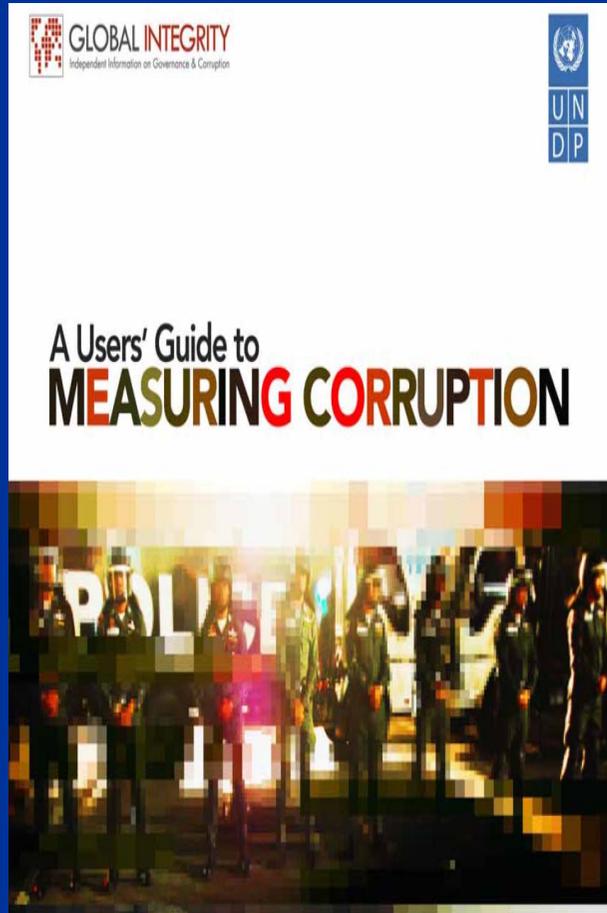


Measuring Corruption and Anti-corruption: Guidance on “Dos and Don'ts”



Presentation By Anga R Timilsina, Programme Manager,
UNDP Global Anti-corruption Initiative (GAIN), Special event
6th Session of the Conference of the State Parties to UNCAC, 4 November 2015

Why a Users' Guide? Adoption of SDGs requires guidance on corruption and anti-corruption measurement



2008



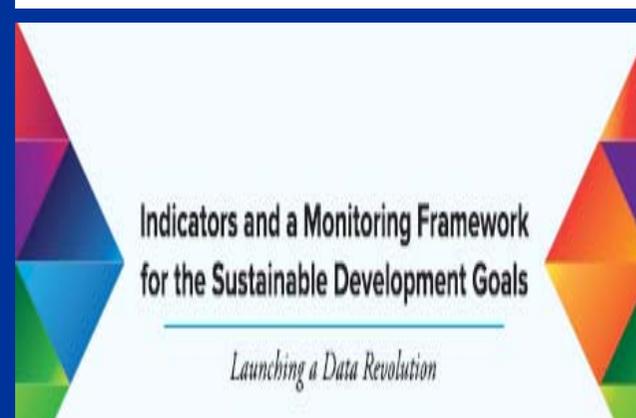
2015

Measuring the progress on GOAL 16: Measuring the Immeasurable?



Emerging consensus - it is doable:

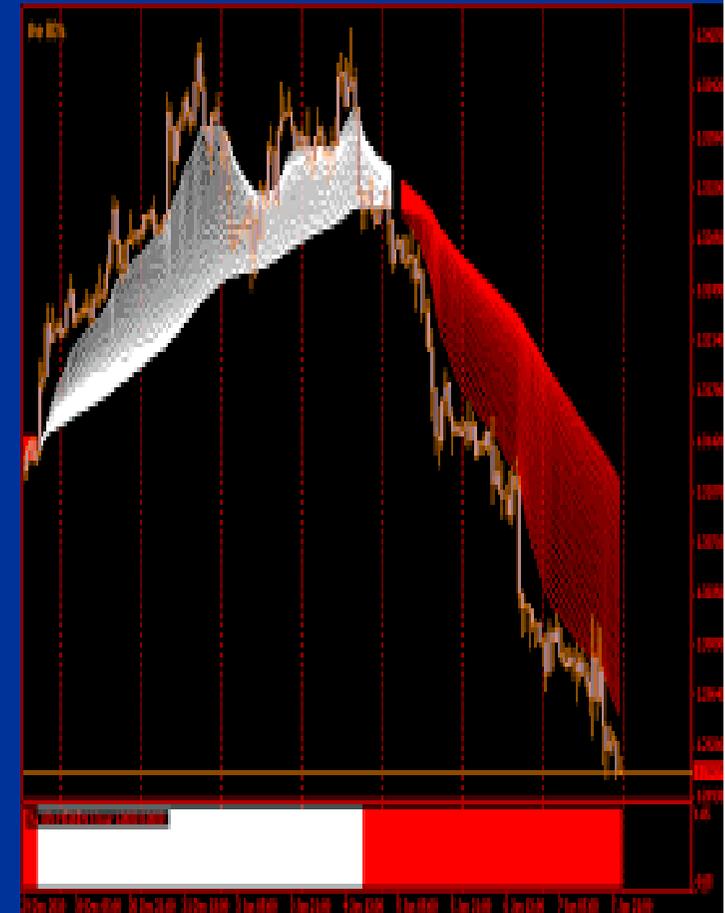
- Development of the AU's SHaSA (Strategic Harmonization of Statistics in Africa - measuring governance, peace and security)
- Virtual Network of experts on indicators for Goal 16 (Sourcebook: the indicators we want)
- Praia CITY Group on Governance Statistics (under the auspices of the UN Statistical Commission)
- Pilots in 5 countries (Rwanda, Albania, Indonesia, Tunisia and UK, will continue till early 2016 – a report is due soon)
- Interagency and expert Group (IAEG): Indicators will be delivered by March 2016



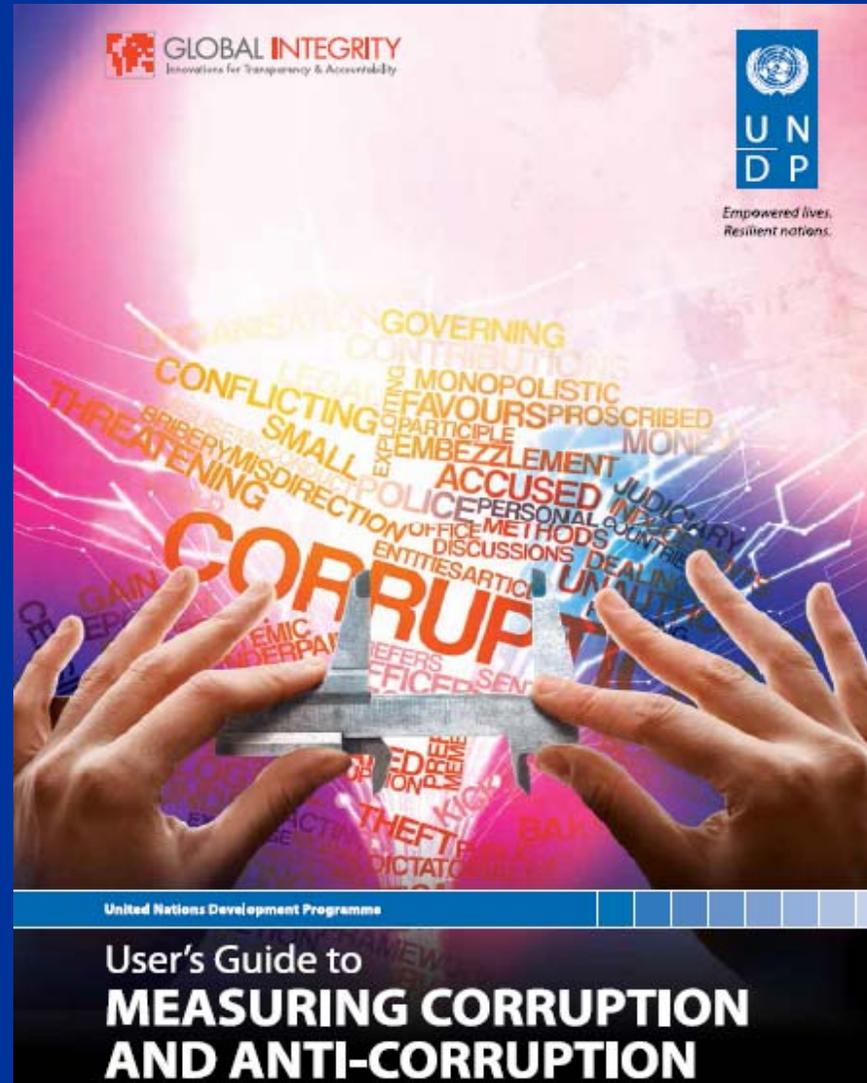
Indicators for SDGs – brief overview



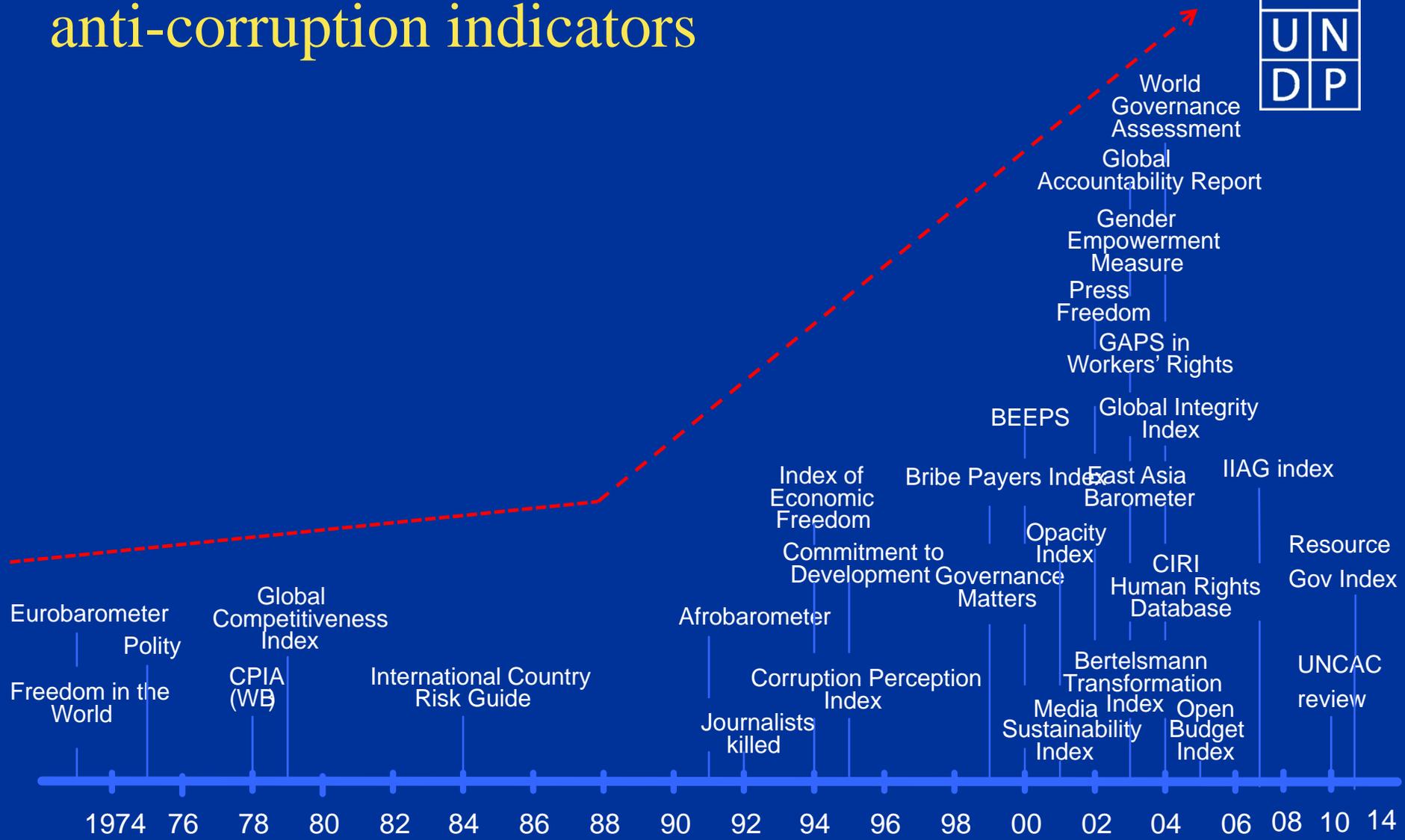
- Some targets are vague (significantly reduce .. 16.1)
- Multidimensional targets require multiple indicators
- Global indicators – national indicators – third party indicators
- Experiences from pilots: Data collection and disaggregation is both a commitment and a necessity – but capacity constraints
- Baseline studies are required (but lack of resources and capacity may hinder efforts)
- Challenges of comparability: Local vs national vs global indicators (e.g., IDI)



Given various challenges, how we make most out of the existing indicators?



Background: Mushrooming governance and anti-corruption indicators



Source: Adopted from the TI mapping

Subjective Data ←

Perceptions
(opinions)

- Gallup Polls
- TI Bribe Payers Survey
- Fix-rate analysis

- TI Global Corruption Barometer
- Regional Barometers
- GAC Diagnostics
- Quality of Government Regional Survey

Experiences
(incidences, knowledge)

- Crime victimization surveys
- Kenyan Urban Bribery Index
- Crowdsourcing platforms
- Enterprise Surveys

- Satisfaction Surveys
- Exit surveys
- Public Administration Performance Index (PAPI)

External Assessments
(ratings, scores)

- Country Performance and Institutional Assessment (CPIA)
- Freedom House
- Global Integrity
- Global RTI Rating
- Open Budget
- Resource Governance Index

- Risk Assessments
- Integrity Assessments

- Community Score Cards
- Social Audits
- Public Expenditure Tracking Surveys (PETS)

- Citizen Report Cards
- World Justice Project Rule of Law Index
- TI Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)

Administrative
(Records, Laws, Reports)

- Agency statistics
- Organizational performance
- Project reports
- Internal audits
- Public Accountability Mechanisms
- RTI Implementation Assessment Tool
- Environmental Democracy Index (EDI)

→ Objective Data

- Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI)
- Ibrahim Index of African Governance

Measuring Anti-Corruption (frequently used concepts)



Transparency:

Provision of access to info; rights to info; info disclosure; open data; openness in public sector functioning (e.g., tax, revenue, budget, resources, procurement, etc.)

Accountability:

Hold accountable for performance/conducts: answerability (vertical and horizontal)

- Public participation and external oversight
- Internal audit, oversights, risk mgt
- financial, political and social accountability

Integrity:

-National integrity

- Individual and institutional integrity (ethics, code of conduct, violations of rules, conflict of interest, etc.)

Two main challenges still persist:



1. How do we measure a complex phenomenon often unpredictable, evolving over time, could be non-linear and with characteristics that vary across time, location and contexts
 - **Many forms** - bribery, extortion, embezzlement, illicit enrichment, abuse of power, patronage, sextortions, etc.
 - **Many levels** - transnational, national, provincial, local
 - **Multiple actors** – individuals, businesses, public officials, politicians
 - **Complex determining factors** – political, economic, social, institutional
2. Can we use the measures of corruption and anti-corruption to track the progress of AC reforms?

Emerging
consensus on
the definition
of corruption,
not on the
measure of
corruption!

[Power,
resources,
trust???)

The use of two different corruption measures may result into two different conclusions



2013 CPI ranking by TI

1	Denmark
1	New Zealand
3	Finland
3	Sweden
5	Norway
5	Singapore
7	Switzerland
8	Netherlands
9	Australia
9	Canada
11	Luxembourg
12	Germany
12	Iceland
14	United Kingdom
15	Barbados
15	Belgium
15	Hong Kong

2013 Financial Secrecy ranking (by Tax Justice Network)

1. Switzerland
2. Luxembourg
3. Hong Kong
4. Cayman Islands*
5. Singapore
6. USA
7. Lebanon
8. Germany
9. Jersey*
10. Japan
11. Panama
12. Malaysia (Labuan)
13. Bahrain
14. Bermuda*
15. Guernsey*



Key observations on corruption and anti-corruption measurements

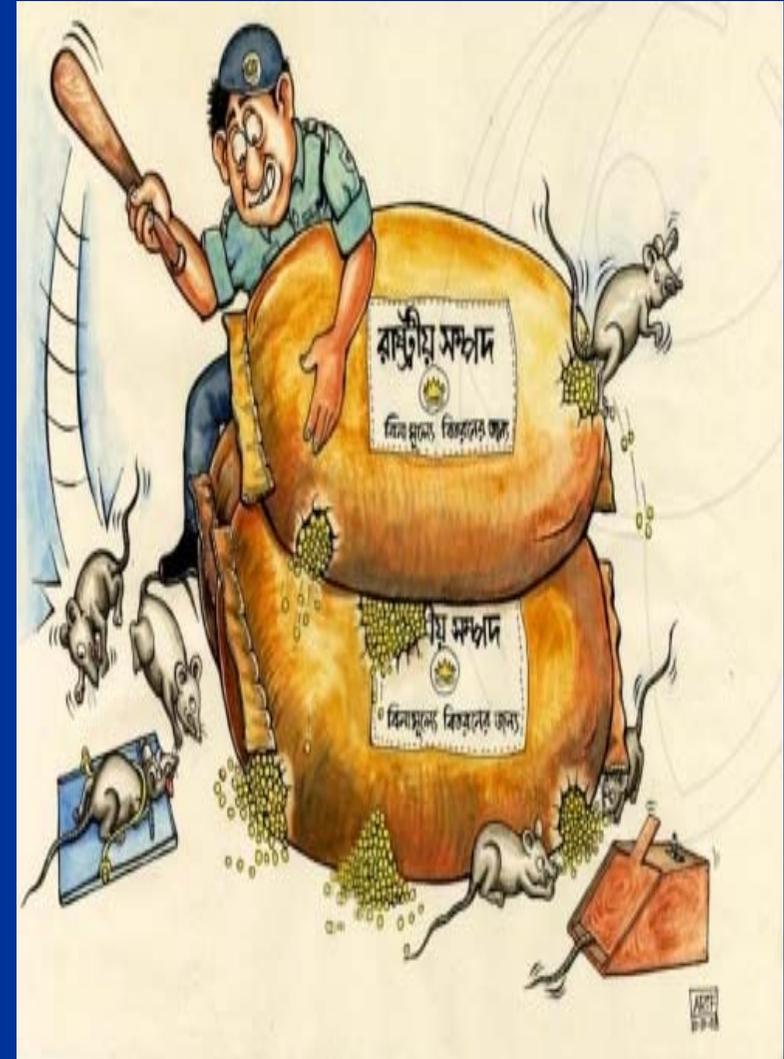


1. Collective realization that much less evidence of impact of anti-corruption interventions than expected
2. Change of opinions of what is “most pressing in the world” (e.g., measuring corruption vs. measuring anti-corruption; emergence of sectoral, thematic, community level approaches)
3. Shift of focus on precisely measuring corruption to focus on measuring “around” corruption for good enough data (e.g., the use of proxy indicators)

Observations (contd.)



- Composite index (CPI, WB governance indicators, Polity Index, etc.) good for advocacy but difficult to interpret in policy relevant terms.
- National indicators provide robust information about the local drivers of change, but doesn't allow the cross-country comparison.





Monitoring and evaluating anti-corruption interventions

Evaluation, assessment of programmes/ projects activities

Evaluation, assessment of institutions (capacity, performance)

Overall integrity system; anti-corruption policies and institutions (e.g., UNCAC review, APRM)

Main observations on dos and don'ts



1. Always be sure of the purpose of the dataset and what it is designed to do.
2. Data should not be produced in a vacuum. To produce reliable, useful and rigorous data, national stakeholders' engagement is essential.
3. Data is not the end of the story. In order to have meaningful impact, data should be produced to facilitate both citizen participation and government accountability.
4. There is still a need for global, comparative data to track global trends (e.g., GDP data). The issue is: Could anti-corruption practitioners agree on a global standard methodology?
5. Recognize the complementarity (not comparability) of different kinds of measurements, given that different data are produced for different purposes.
6. To be useful for reform efforts, ensure that data is credible without complex statistical techniques. The buy-in for measurement initiatives is very important.

Considering the use of existing data, it is important to understand the underlying indicators and methodology.



What is the indicator measuring?

If indicator is aggregated, what are the characteristics of the underlying indicators?

How are the underlying indicators weighted?

Is the data comprised of perceptions, experiences, assessments, or administrative data?

Is it measuring de jure or de facto elements?

What is the methodology?

How was the data collected? By whom? When?

Is there rigorous quality control of the data?

Is the data representative of the population as a whole?

Is the margin of error calculated in large-N surveys?

Are comparisons over time appropriate?

Did the composition of respondents change?

Did the composition of data sources change?

Did the methodology change?

Did the weighting of the indicators change?

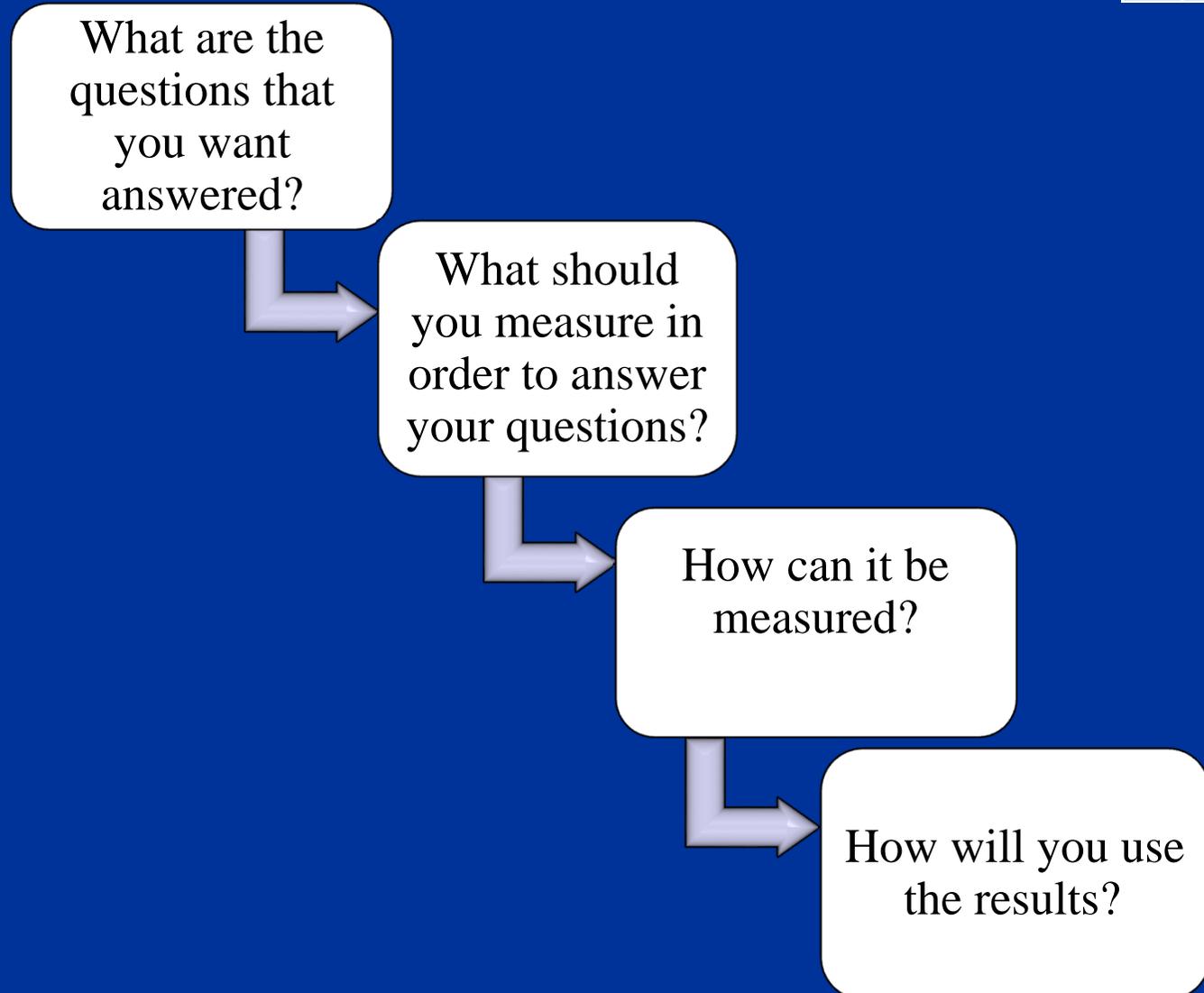
Are cross-country comparisons appropriate?

Is country coverage large enough to allow country rankings?

Are data sources large enough to be representative?

Is the indicator too context-specific to be compared across countries?

Data should not be produced in vacuum!



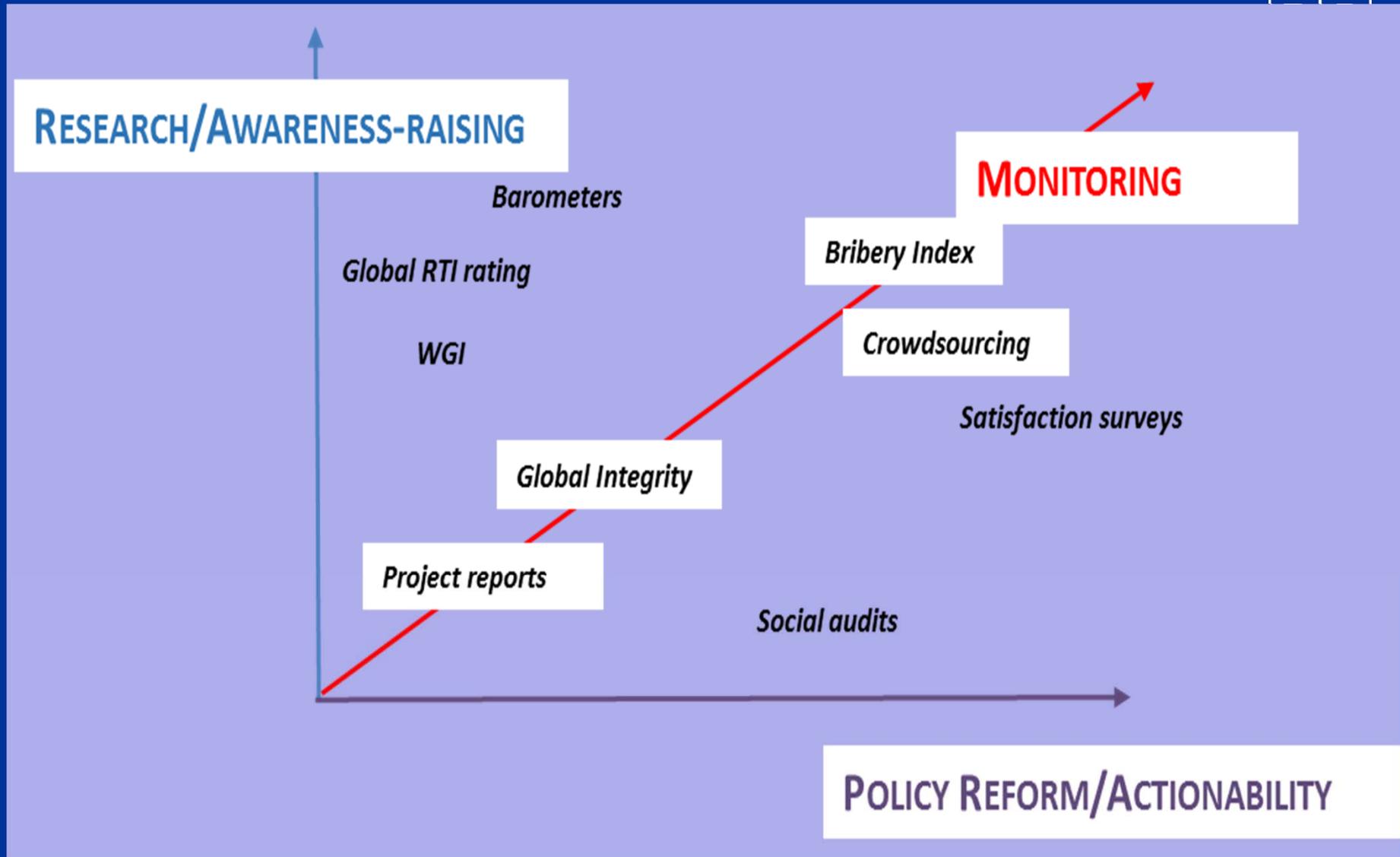


What should be a model for a good practice?

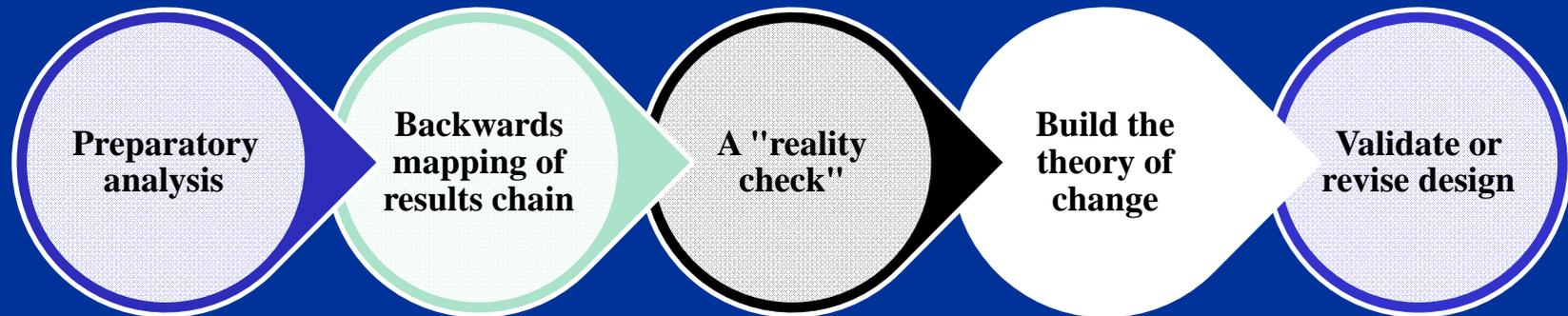
1. Appropriate use of methodology
2. Stakeholders participation
3. Data for accountability



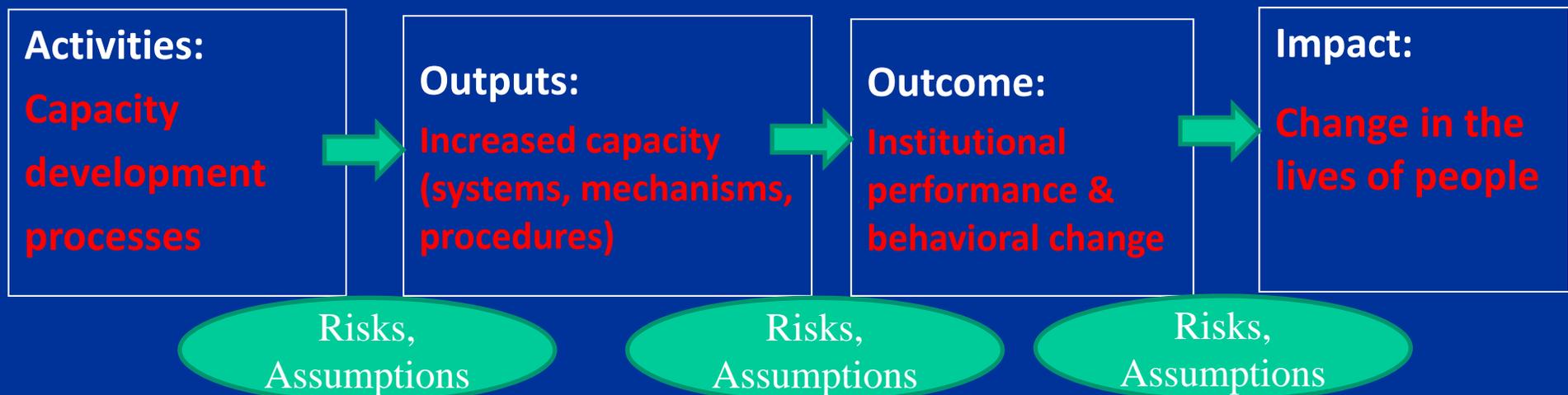
Dimensional mapping of the purpose for measurement initiatives



Anti-corruption interventions needs built-in theory of change to guide the results chain.



Johnsøn, 2012.



Assessing the impact of anti-corruption work: Useful guidance



Using indicators at the national level:

- Nationally owned and locally produced data has more credibility than the cross-country composite indices for any policy reforms.
- Experience-based data on the impact of corruption or anti-corruption has more credibility than perception-based data.
- When there is a general lack of one type of data, the triangulation of various indicators might be useful for contextual analysis. However, tracking progress may be difficult when using a variety of indicators designed to measure different things.

Thank you!