

The Nordic Approach to Statistical Capacity Building

Ms. Christine Meyer
Director General,
Statistics Norway (SN/SSB)



Statistisk sentralbyrå
Statistics Norway

The main purpose of international development cooperation by the Nordic NSOs is to build capacity in producing official statistics of good quality and to contribute to the development of well-functioning National Statistical Systems.

The operational goal is to promote evidence based planning, public transparency and good governance.

These goals may only be reached through strengthening national capacity to collect, process, disseminate and analyse relevant statistical information. It is essential that this capacity is built within a national statistical system comprising one or more public agencies which by law are professionally independent.

Building national systems that produce statistics of high quality

- A national statistical system plays a key role in providing the country's policy makers, citizens and businesses with information for making informed choices and formulating evidence-based policies
- Focus on stable methodological foundations and the capacity to produce all basic statistics on a regular basis

Long term and broad based institutional cooperation

- Duration up to 10-15 years
- Allows sufficient time for trusting relationships to develop and for new capacities to be absorbed and put to use in the partner organization
- With broad based support to CD we recognize the interdependencies between the individual, organizational and institutional levels of capacity development

Joint Evaluation

JOINT SCANDINAVIAN EVALUATION OF
SUPPORT TO CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Synthesis Report



<https://www.norad.no/om-bistand/publikasjon/2016/joint-scandinavian-evaluation-of-support-to-capacity-development/>

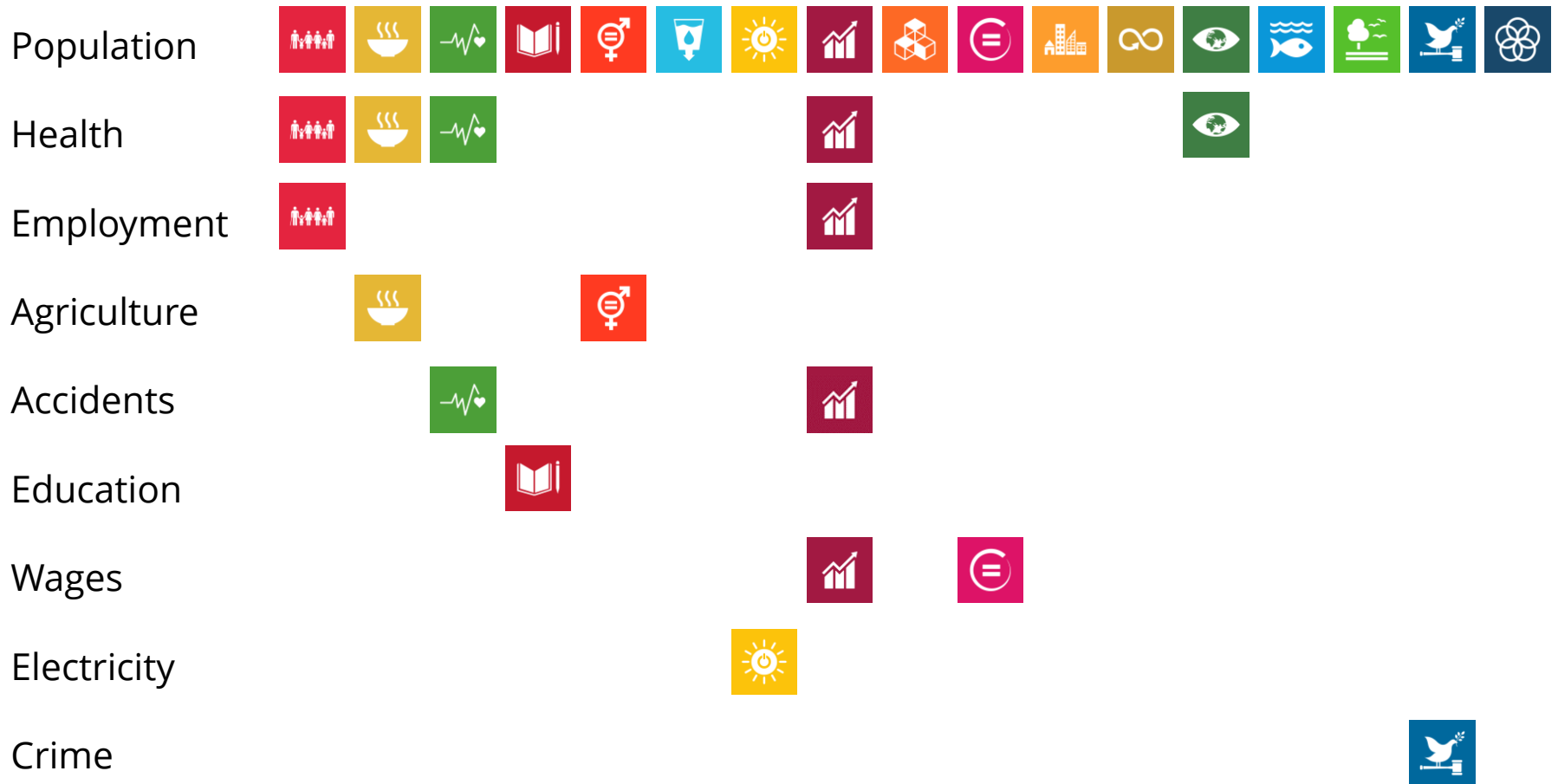
Ownership

- top-level ownership and commitment
- strong and clear demand for support from the partner country
- On-the-job learning is a key tool in the Nordic approach
- Changing environments requires flexible projects

Administrative data for statistics

- for high quality, coverage and cost efficiency
- A comparative advantage for the Nordic countries
- Range of use:
 - Directly for production of one or several statistics
 - Linked with other registers
 - Combined with data from surveys and “big data”
 - As sampling frames
 - For quality control
- All these applications may be relevant for establishing SDG indicators
- requires long-term and broad based commitment

Administrative data relevant for SDGs



Other possibilities: Registers on elections, properties, water, land use and fisheries

A well-functioning and sustainable national statistical system is a prerequisite for SDG follow up.

The Nordic NSOs will continue working with long term commitments to develop core statistical production in partner countries and to support national ownership of data which will enable countries to deliver on core statistics and indicators for national policy development as well as for international commitments in the 2030 Agenda and beyond.