



# Preconditions and challenges for a global evaluation system in support of the SDGs

*Vienna October 28th*

**Adj. Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Meyer**



Evaluating the Sustainable Development Goals

New Challenges for Research, Policy and Business

**Contact:**

Center Of Evaluation  
PO Box 15 11 50  
66041 Saarbruecken, Germany  
Tel.: +49 - (0)6 81- 3 02 - 43 58  
E-Mail: [w.meyer@ceval.de](mailto:w.meyer@ceval.de)

*Centrum für Evaluation*

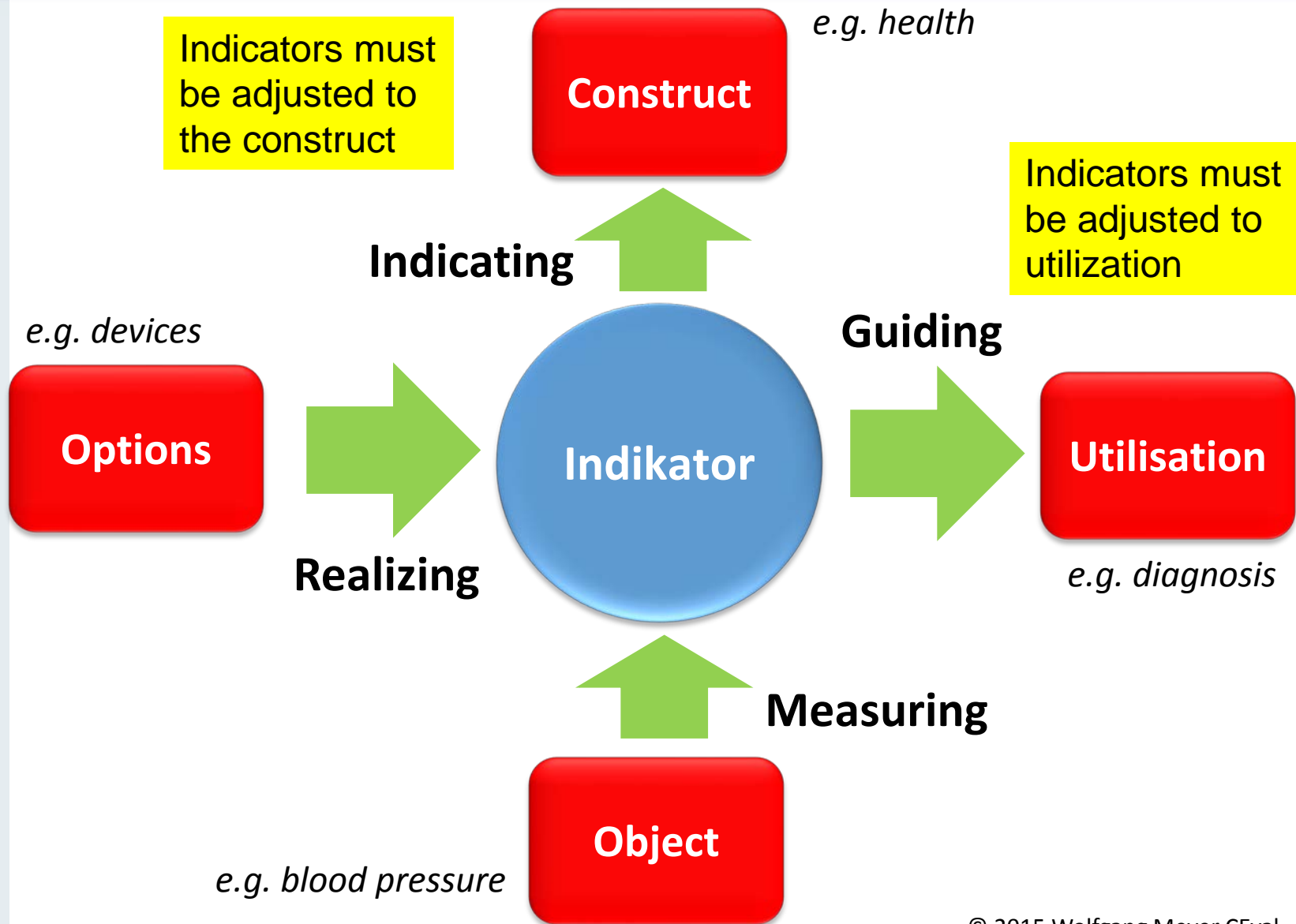


*Center for Evaluation*



- ✓ Global Indicator systems must be linked to the constructs they are supposed to **indicate**
- ✓ Global Indicator systems must be linked to the action they are supposed to **guide**

# Key Tasks of Indicators





ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL  
PRIMARY EDUCATION

- ✓ Critics on MDGs:  
The Goals had been limited to primary education (MDG 2)
- ✓ Results:  
Too strongly focused on primary education  
Losing sight of other parts of education  
Decline of money and support  
Poor performance

4 QUALITY  
EDUCATION



- ✓ Changes in SDGs:  
The Goals cover the whole spectrum of education (SDG 4)
- ✓ Needs:  
**A set of indicators which is able to indicate the concept of “lifelong learning”**



- ✓ SDGs are linked to action, e.g. **SDG 4.a Build and upgrade education facilities** that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all
- ✓ Indicators for this goal needs to **define all terms** and to develop a **shared understanding** of these terms (e.g. what is an “effective learning environment”)  
**target values** for the indicators  
a **deficit analysis** and an **action plan**  
a **Monitoring and Evaluation system** to observe progress and effectiveness

# Why Monitoring and Evaluation?



- ✓ Monitoring and Evaluation are important **management instruments**
- ✓ Monitoring tells about **progress** ("are we doing the things right"), Evaluation tells about **effectiveness** ("are we doing the right things")
- ✓ Monitoring and Evaluation are **linking goals to action** and action to goals

# Monitoring and Evaluation System

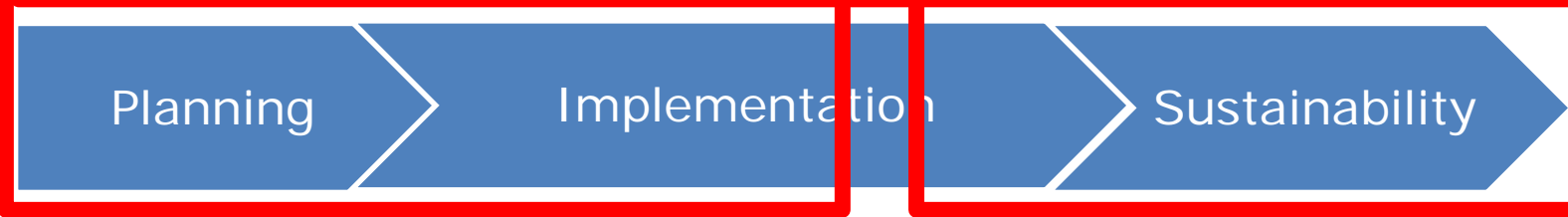
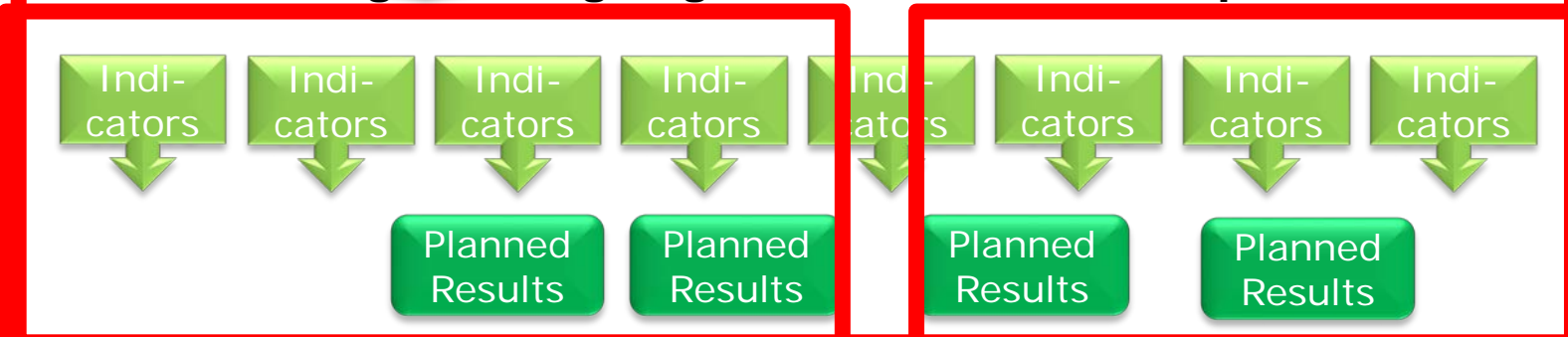
Social, Economical and Ecological Change



Are we doing the right things?  
Do we have the right objectives?  
Are we using appropriate measures?

What did we reach?  
Did we cause the effects we wanted?  
Did we cause effects we did not want to cause?

**Are we doing the things right? Are we still on the planned track?**



**Evaluation**

**Monitoring**

Objectives

Program

Social, Economical and Ecological Change

**MDG-Monitoring**

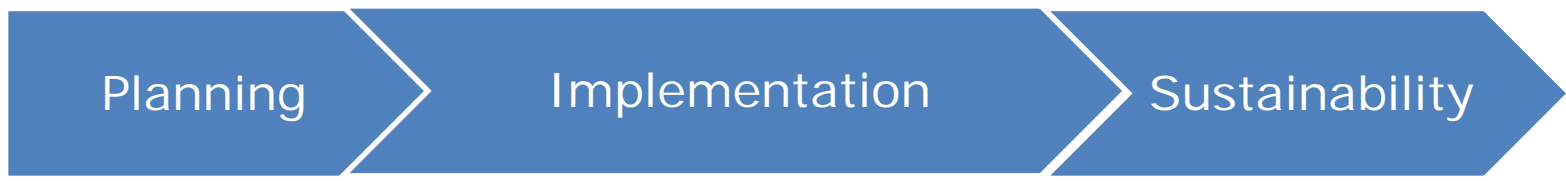


No Evaluation system implemented  
Positive Results are attributed to action  
without or with poor evidence

Objectives



Program





The Millennium Development Goals Report  
2015



- ✓ Comparable global data
- ✓ Highly aggregated
- ✓ Highly standardised
- ✓ Not systematically broken down to local level
- ✓ Not systematically linked to action
- ✓ Indicators may not cover the reality in a proper way
- ✓ Important parts may be out of sight
- ✓ (Negative) side effects maybe overlooked



- ✓ **Vertical Integration:** Both Goal- and Indicator system must be connected from the local to the global system
- ✓ **Integration of Monitoring and Evaluation on all Levels:** The SDG-Indicators used for Monitoring must be linked to Evaluation at certain points in time
- ✓ **Linking of Program activities and Global development:** not only the goals but also the activities and its monitoring and evaluation must be linked.



- ✓ Global M&E is **not only a task of Nation States** – the key unit in Sustainable Development are not Nation States
- ✓ Global Economy is dominated by **Multi-National Companies** (MNCs)
- ✓ **MNCs must be involved** in SDG-strategies SDG Indicators, SDG Monitoring and Evaluation
- ✓ **MNCs must be held responsible** for sustainable development  
Their input must be a **strong contribution**
- ✓ **Business systems and development tools must be integrated for improvement** (see “Global Value”)

Thank you for your attention!

*Centrum für Evaluation*



*Center for Evaluation*