



# Global Conference on Macroeconomic Statistics for the Future

Brussels, 10-11 November 2022

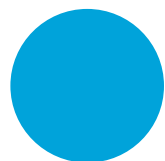
#Statistics4Future

# Beyond Dutch GDP: concepts, policy use and challenges

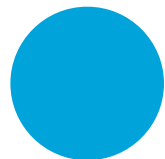
## Session 5

Gerard J. Eding (Statistics Netherlands)

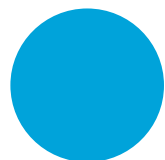
Jan-Pieter Smits (Statistics Netherlands &  
Eindhoven University of Technology)



**GDP and beyond: main challenges**



**The Dutch experience: conceptual measurement system**



**The Dutch experience: integrating the system with SDG's**

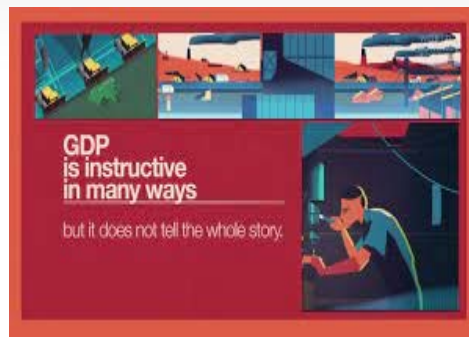


**The Dutch experience: policy implementation and use**



**Take aways for the UNNES initiative?**

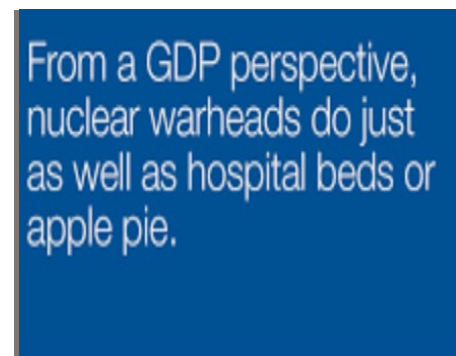
# GDP and beyond: main challenges



"Yet the gross national product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials.

It measures neither our wit nor our courage, neither our wisdom nor our learning, neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country, it measures everything in short, except that which makes life worthwhile."

**Robert F. Kennedy**  
University of Kansas, March 18, 1968





# Arriving at a GDP and Beyond standard:

- Which is conceptually sound.
- Links to important (global) policy initiatives.
- Informs governments, industrial enterprise and civil society how to shape the transition agenda's towards a more sustainable world (fit for purpose).
- Is adaptive to new policy needs and uses
- Is flexible to suit regional differences

# The Dutch experience: a conceptual measurement system

# An international measurement framework

CES Recommendations:  
outcome of UNECE/European  
Commission/OECD Task Force (with  
World Bank and ten statistical  
agencies)

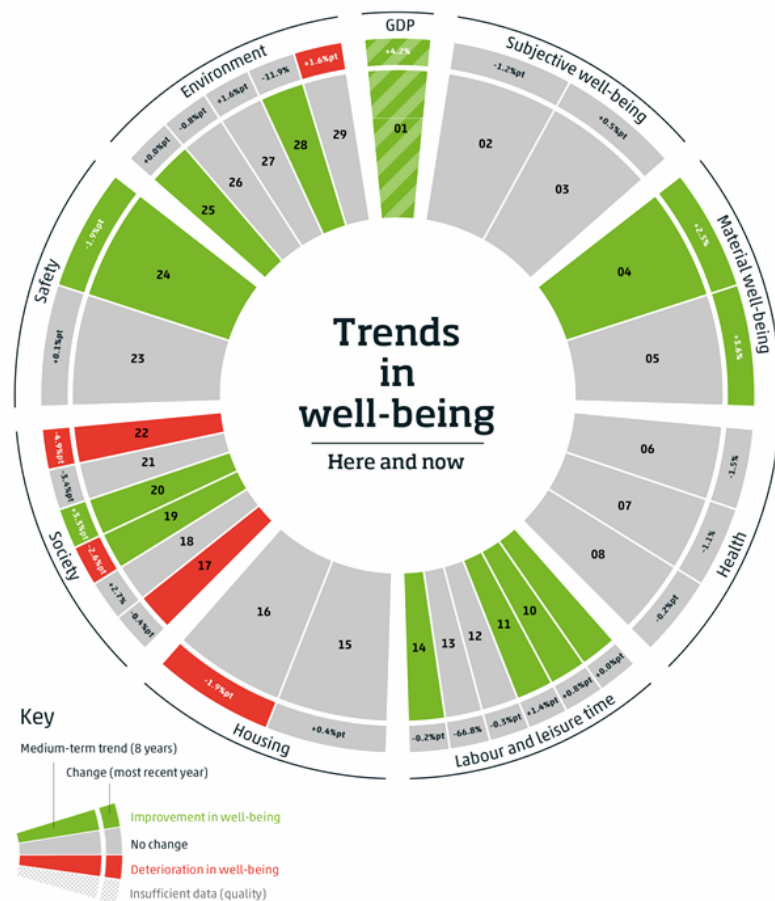






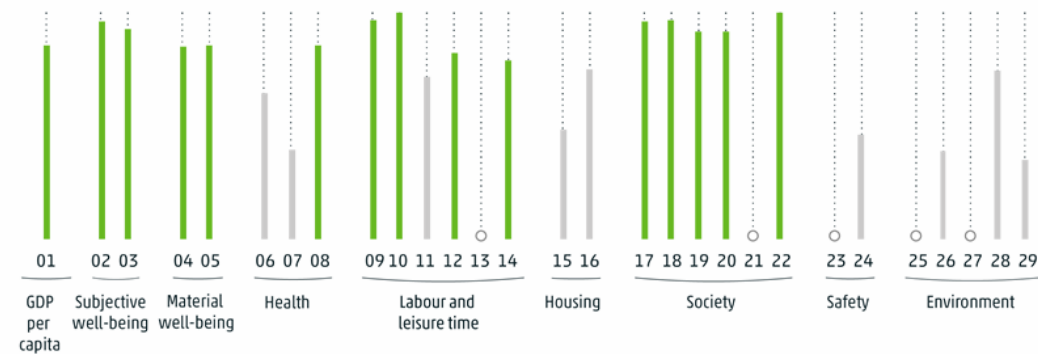
“Well-being concerns the quality of life here and now as well as the extent to which this quality is achieved at the expense of future generations or of people in other countries”

## Trends in well-being: Here and now



## EU ranking

The bars show the Netherlands' ranking in the European Union for each indicator.

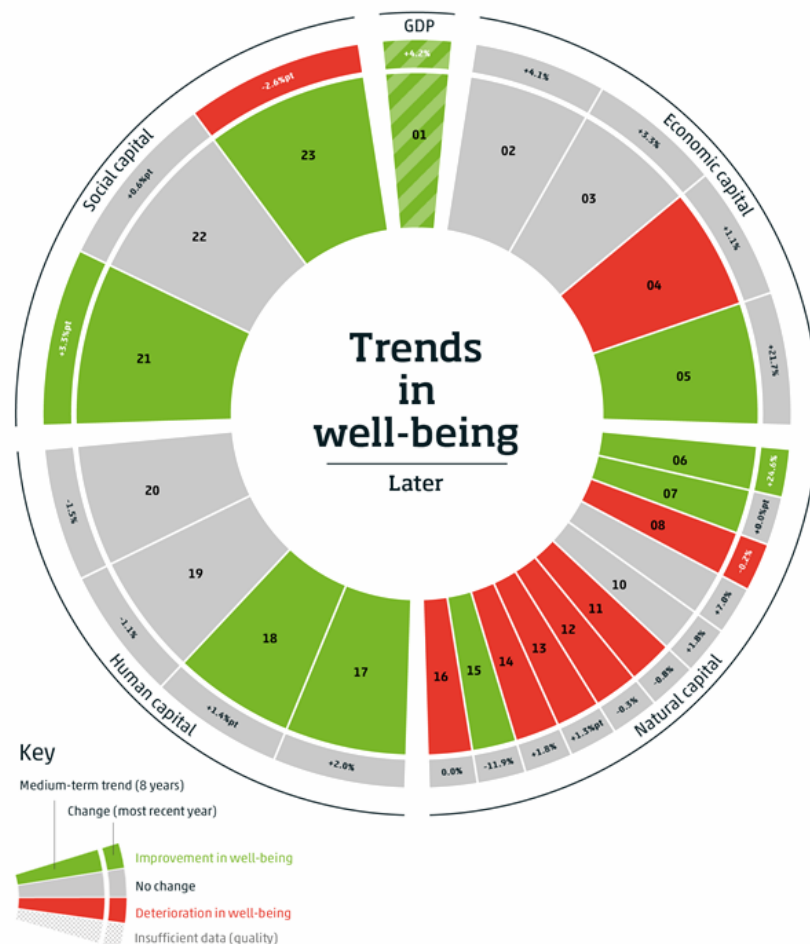


01 Gross domestic product / 02 Satisfaction with life / 03 Feeling in control of own life / 04 Median disposable income / 05 Individual consumption / 06 Healthy life expectancy of men / 07 Healthy life expectancy of women / 08 Overweight population / 09 Long-term unemployment / 10 Net labour participation / 11 Higher educated population / 12 Satisfaction with leisure time / 13 Time lost due to traffic congestion and delays / 14 Satisfaction with work (employees) / 15 Housing quality / 16 Satisfaction with housing / 17 Contact with family, friends or neighbours / 18 Voice and accountability / 19 Trust in institutions / 20 Trust in other people / 21 Changes in values and norms / 22 Voluntary work / 23 Often feeling unsafe in the neighbourhood / 24 Victims of crime / 25 Managed natural assets (terrestrial) within NNN / 26 Quality of inland bathing waters / 27 Nitrogen deposition and terrestrial nature areas / 28 Urban exposure to particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) / 29 Environmental problems

## Key

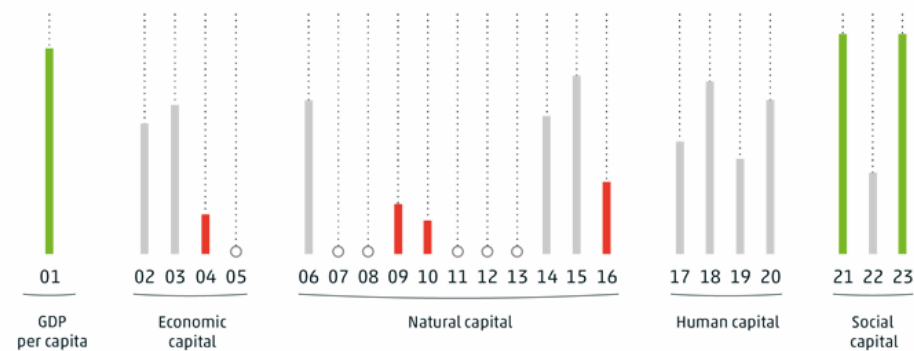
- High ranking
- Middle ranking
- Low ranking
- No data

## Trends in well-being: Later



## EU ranking

The bars show the Netherlands' ranking in the European Union for each indicator.

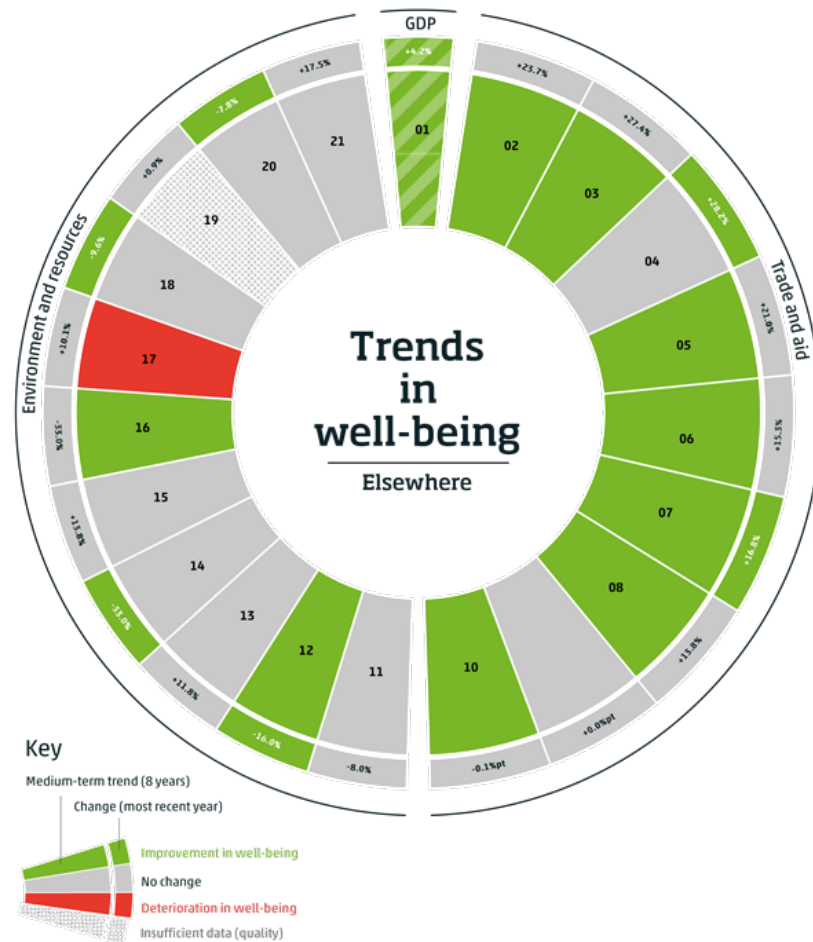


01 Gross domestic product / 02 Physical capital stock / 03 Knowledge capital stock / 04 Average household debt / 05 Median wealth of households / 06 Renewable electricity capacity / 07 Managed natural assets (terrestrial) within NNN / 08 Green blue space, excluding conventional farming / 09 Phosphorus surplus / 10 Nitrogen surplus / 11 Fauna on land / 12 Fauna in freshwater and marshes / 13 Surface water with good chemical quality / 14 Ground water abstraction / 15 Urban exposure to particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) / 16 Cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions / 17 Hours worked / 18 Higher educated population / 19 Healthy life expectancy of women / 20 Healthy life expectancy of men / 21 Trust in other people / 22 Feelings of discrimination / 23 Trust in institutions

## Key

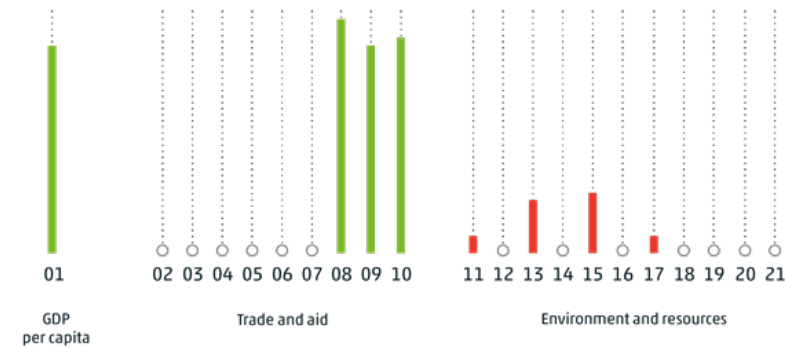
- High ranking
- Middle ranking
- Low ranking
- No data

## Trends in well-being: Elsewhere



## EU ranking

The bars show the Netherlands' ranking in the European Union for each indicator.



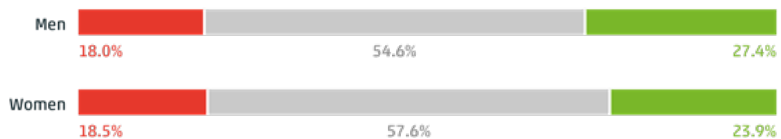
01 Gross domestic product / 02 Total imports of goods / 03 Imports of goods from Europe / 04 Imports of goods from Africa / 05 Imports of goods from America / 06 Imports of goods from Asia / 07 Imports of goods from Oceania / 08 Total imports from LDCs / 09 Official development assistance / 10 Remittances / 11 Fossil fuel imports / 12 Fossil fuel imports from LDCs / 13 Imports of metals / 14 Imports of metals from LDCs / 15 Imports of non-metallic minerals / 16 Imports of non-metallic minerals from LDCs / 17 Biomass imports / 18 Biomass imports from LDCs / 19 Land footprint / 20 Material footprint / 21 Greenhouse gas footprint

## Key

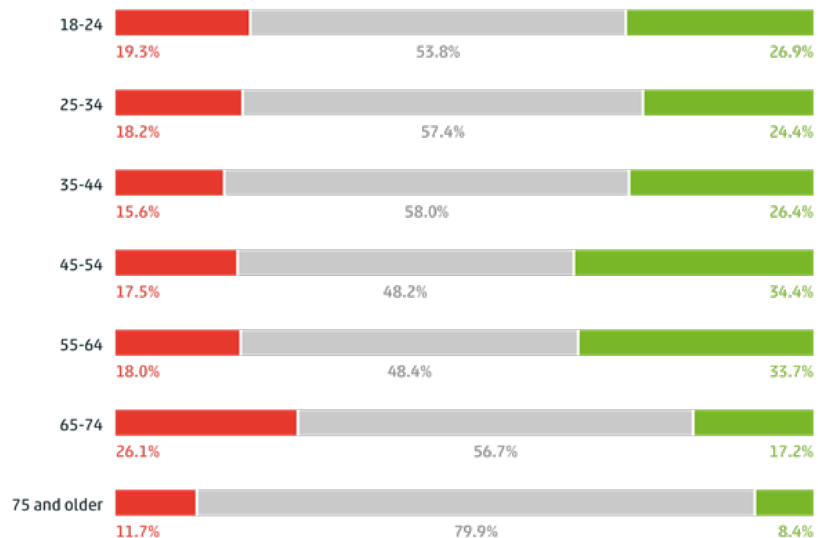
- High ranking (Green)
- Middle ranking (Grey)
- Low ranking (Red)
- No data (Hatched)

## Percentage of every population group that is located at the top, in the middle or at the bottom of the distribution of well-being, 2021

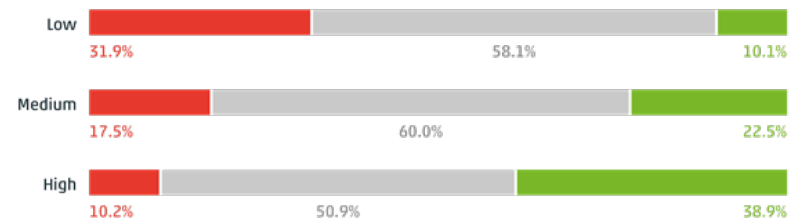
### Sex



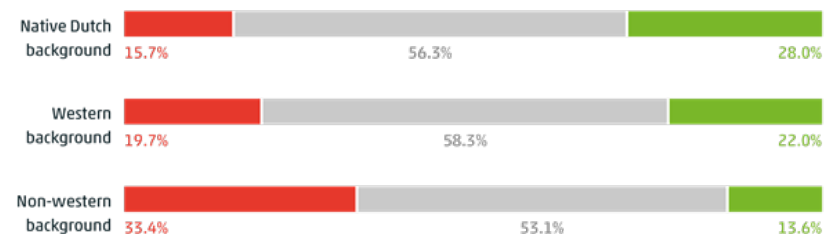
### Age



### Highest completed level of education



### Migration background



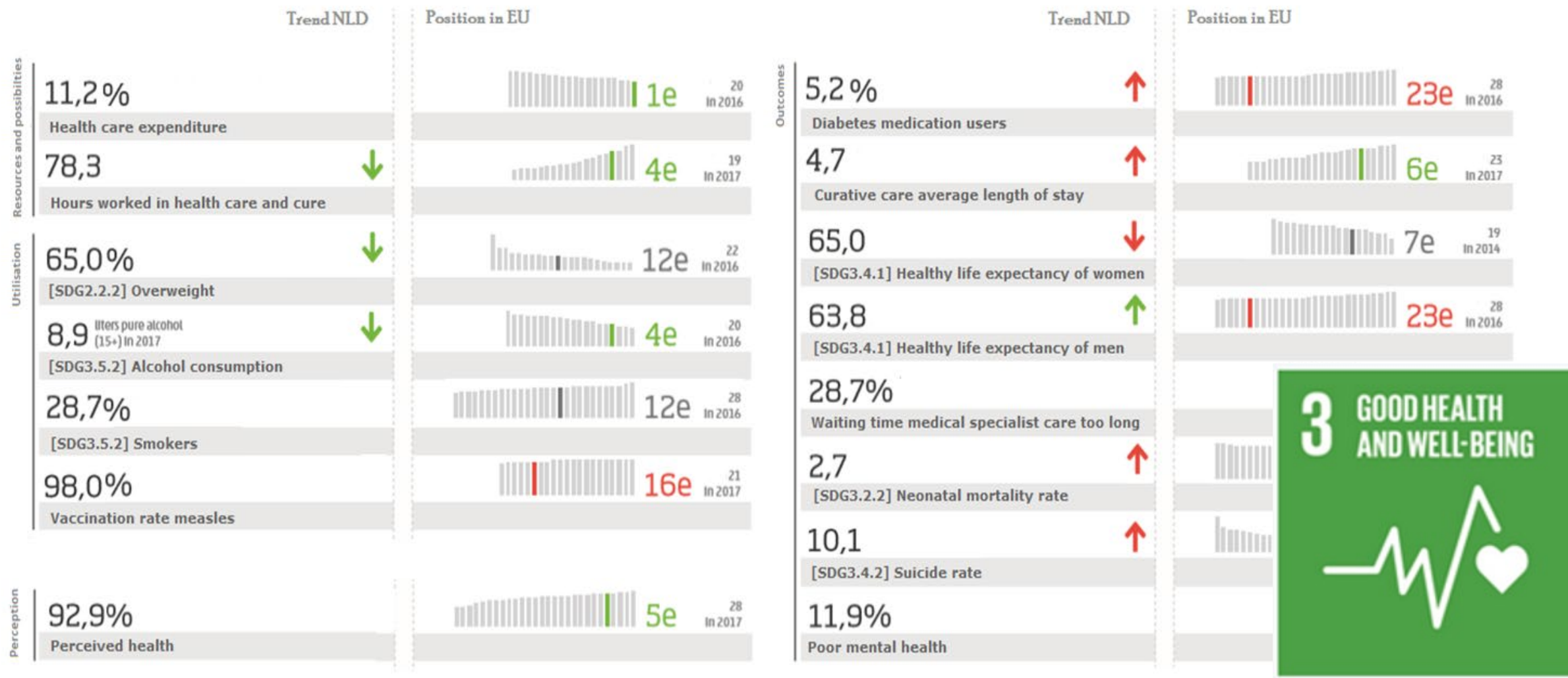
# The Dutch experience: integrating the system with SDG's



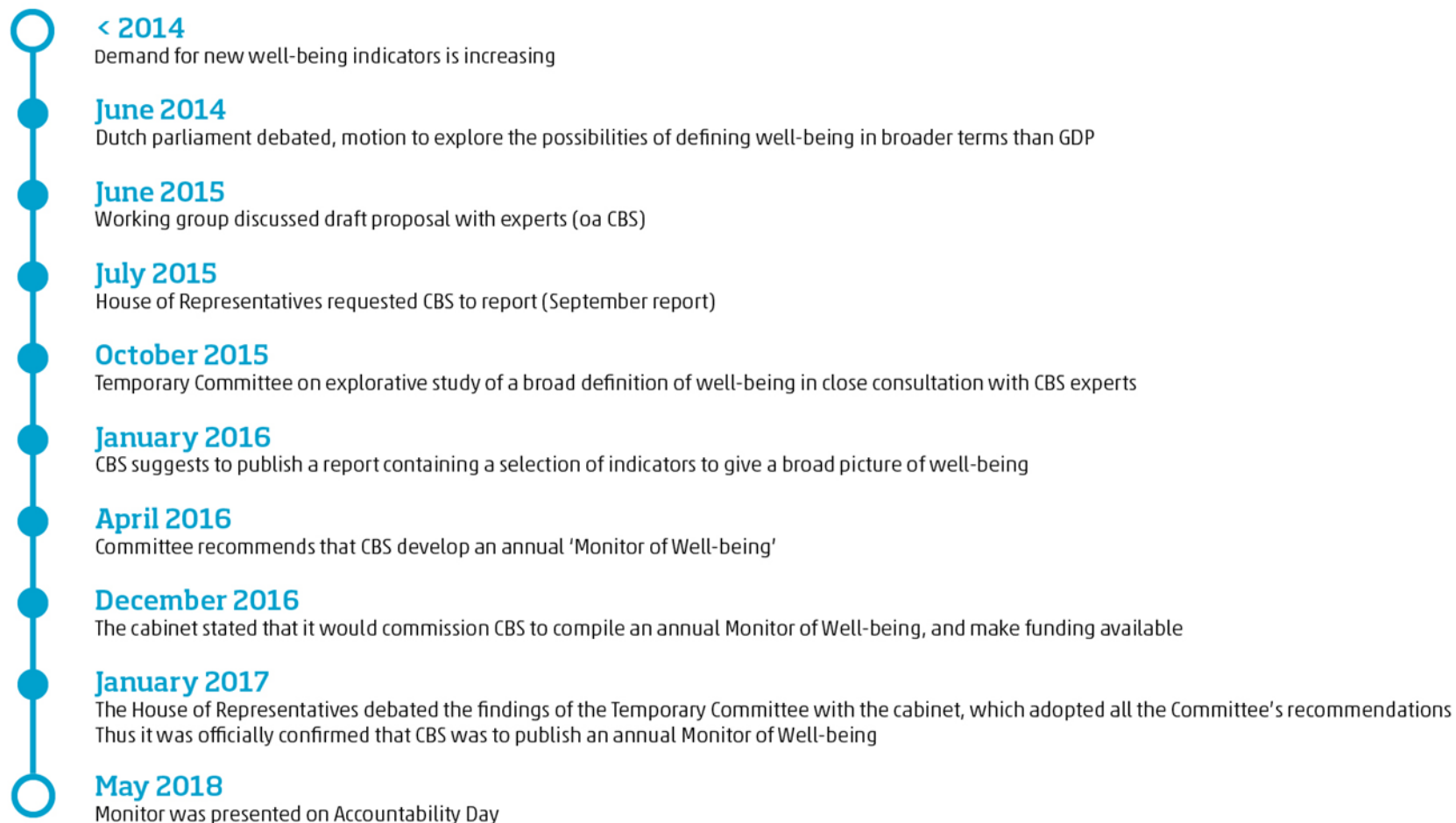


# SDG-plus monitoring

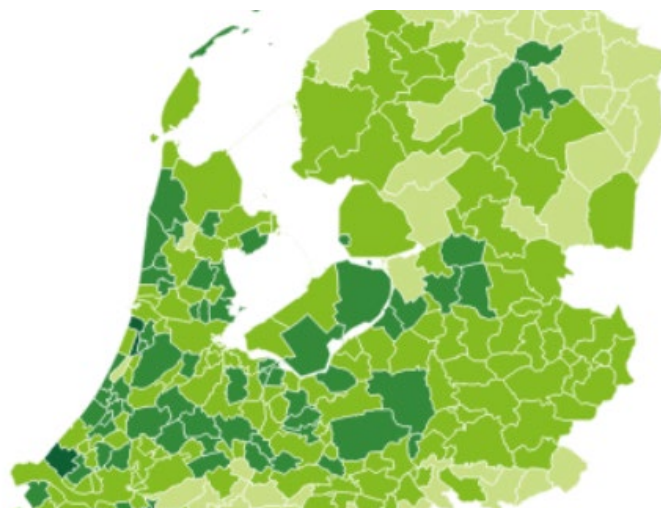
- Embracing the UN SDG agenda.
- With additional indicators specifically relevant for the Dutch policy context.
- Enriching SDG monitoring with the “here and now”, “later” and “elsewhere” dimensions.
- Using a typology of indicators (input-throughput-outcome) which may enhance policy evaluations in terms of effectiveness and efficiency.



# The Dutch experience: policy implementation and use







Global Conference on Macroeconomic Statistics for the Future

Brussels, 10-11 November 2022

#Statistics4Future



# Monitoring of wellbeing and SDGs

## Ex post analysis:

- Monitoring at national level, for municipalities including the Caribbean islands.
- Presented at Accountability debate in Parliament & increasingly used in political debate.

## Ex ante analysis:

- Wellbeing and SDG factsheets for each of the Departments
- Basis for policy evaluation (by other (government) agencies)
- Development of a tool (Policy Compass) to evaluate new policy measures.

# The Dutch experience: Take aways for the UNNES initiative?

# A beyond GDP dashboard has value added

Importance of solid conceptual basis of measurement system.  
and of global consensus on how to measure wellbeing

UNNES may for this purpose build and promote an indicator system on wellbeing, with three dashboards:

- Present wellbeing
- Future wellbeing (sustainability)
- Inclusive wellbeing (distribution of wellbeing *within* and *between* countries).

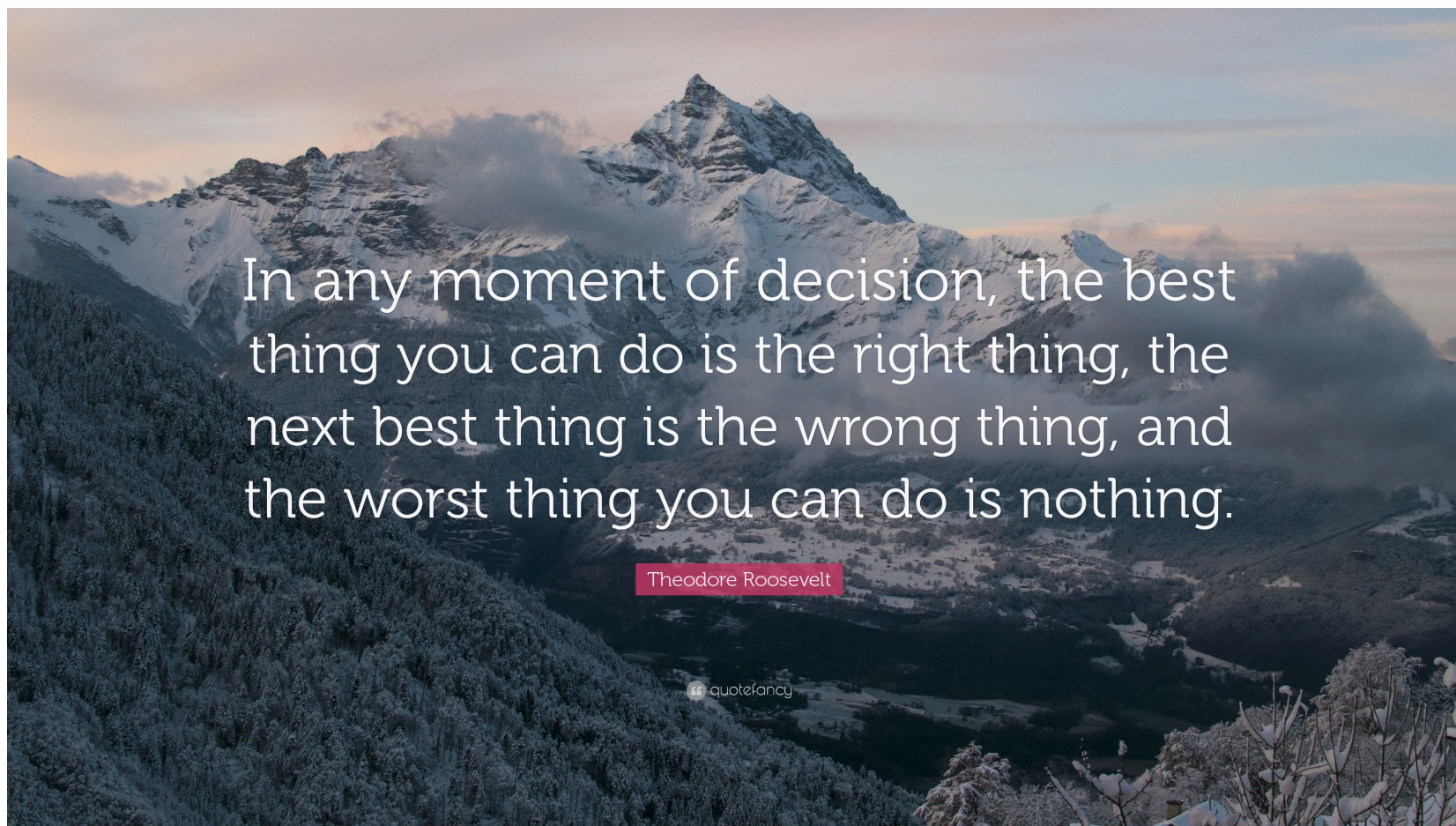
# For which we need...

- Explicit global consultation through regional commissions on themes and indicators to be included.
- Use of indicators as well as (the development of) composite indexes (for communication purposes)

# And not to forget...

- To link indicators systems to present (SDG) and future policy initiatives (HLCP Core Group on Beyond GDP which is part of the SG Beyond-GDP Process).
- To use (existing) economic, environmental and socio-demographic accounting systems in order to describe how indicators are related.
  - > tracking potential trade offs and synergy effects.







# THANK YOU!



# Facts that matter

Global Conference on Macroeconomic Statistics for the Future

Brussels, 10-11 November 2022

#Statistics4Future



# Global Conference on Macroeconomic Statistics for the Future

Brussels, 10-11 November 2022

#Statistics4Future