# Compendium on Sustainable Development Indicator Initiatives:

## How to define, find, share, develop and follow best practice on the use of systematic indicator initiatives.

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International Federation of Environmental Health

International Institute for Sustainable Development / Institut international du développement durable

# Overview

- Brief about the IFEH and the IISD
- Context: Global and local importance of systematic indicator systems – What defines best practice
- Compendium of Sustainable Development Indicator Initiatives
- Examples of comprehensive indicator systems across nations, scales and sectors
- Final messages

# Brief about IFEH
# International Federation of Environmental Health

- **Founded in 1986**
- **38 National Member Organisations representing approx. 60.000 professionals in the field of Environmental Health and Environmental Protection.**
- **24 Academic Associated Member Organisations (Universities)**
- **6 Associated Member organisations**

- **IFEH Regional Groups (Africa, Americas, Europe, Middle-East, Pacific Rim)**

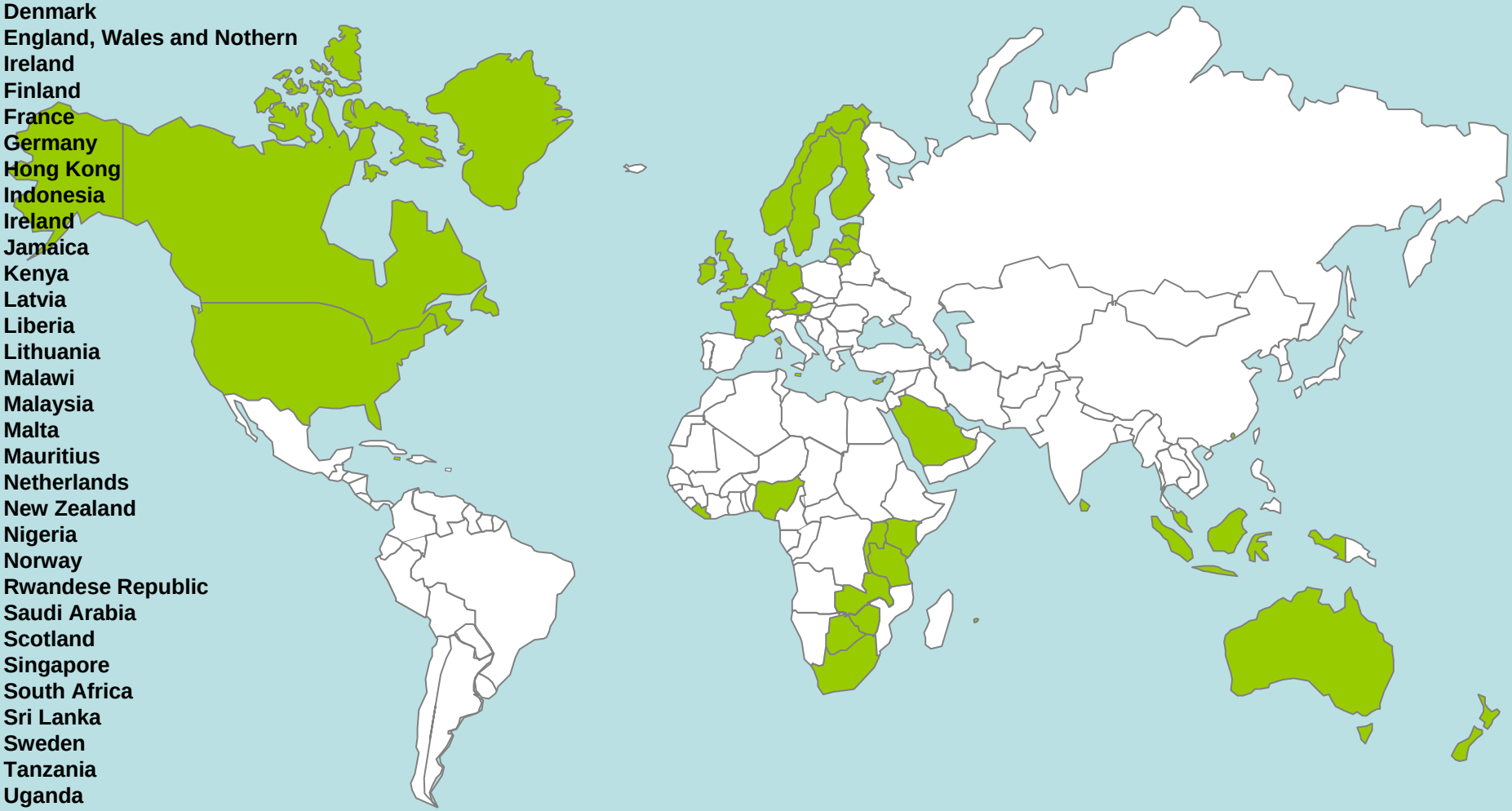
- **Aims and activities**
  **The motto of the Federation is:**
  **“Caring for the environment in the interest of world health.”**

  **The Federation works to disseminate knowledge and exchanging of information and experience concerning environmental health and to promote co-operation between countries where environmental health issues are transboundary.**

  **IFEH World Congresses (bi-ennial)**
  **Technical as well as organisational meetings.**
  **Projects, International Magazine on EH, Website, Twinning arrangement, etc.**

# IFEH MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Australia
Austria
Botswana
Canada
Cyprus
Denmark
England, Wales and Nothern
Ireland
Finland
France
Germany
Hong Kong
Indonesia
Ireland
Jamaica
Kenya
Latvia
Liberia
Lithuania
Malawi
Malaysia
Malta
Mauritius
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nigeria
Norway
Rwandese Republic
Saudi Arabia
Scotland
Singapore
South Africa
Sri Lanka
Sweden
Tanzania
Uganda
United States of America
Zambia
Zimbabwe



# Brief about IISD
# International Institute for Sustainable Development

- **Established in 1990**
- **IISD's vision is better living for all—sustainably; its mission is to champion innovation, enabling societies to live sustainably.**
- **Canadian-based not-for-profit organization with a diverse team of more than 150 people located in more than 30 countries.**
- **IISD contributes to sustainable development by advancing policy recommendations on international trade and investment, climate change and energy, measurement and assessment, global connectivity and sustainable natural resources management. IISD reports on international negotiations and share knowledge gained through collaborative projects with global partners, resulting in more rigorous research, capacity building in developing countries and better dialogue between North and South.**
- **IISD receives core operating support from the Government of Canada, and from the Province of Manitoba. The Institute receives project funding from numerous governments inside and outside Canada, United Nations agencies, foundations and the private sector.**

# Context

- **Call for the development of SD indicator systems by Brundtland and Ch. 40 of Agenda 21**
- **The Global Project on "Measuring the Progress of Societies"- hosted by the OECD**
  **The OECD Istanbul Declaration**
- **Success: A large and growing number of measurement initiatives, across scales, sectors, themes etc.**
- **CHALLENGES:**

**Development and harmonization**

– Fundamental principles
– Fundamental methodological questions
– A variety of conceptual frameworks
– Development of international accepted and agreed core indicators on well-being of societies
– Indicator analysis and interpretation

**Implementation**

– Need for dissemination of information and knowledge on the use of measurement system
– Use of indicators in strategic policy processes – local level – national level
– Capacity building
– Data access and availability
– Need for co-learning, coordination, leadership

# Global and local importance of systematic indicator systems

## What defines best practice

Fundamental Principles
Structure of indicator framework
Relevance in terms of:
- Headline issues
- Target groups for the information
- Geographic scope
- How to influence the indicator values

Public involvement
Public access to information and supporting data
Quality control
Reliable frequency of updating information

# Global and local importance of systematic indicator systems

## What defines best practice

Fundamental Principles:

**Sustainability Assessment and Measurement Principles (STAMP)**
*BELLAGIO PRINCIPLES REVISITED – **TO BE LAUNCHED ON OCTOBER 28 IN BUSAN***

**Areas covered:**
(1) guiding vision
(2) essential considerations
(3) adequate scope
(4) framework and indicators
(5) transparency
(6) effective communication
(7) broad participation
(8) continuity and capacity

# Global and local importance of systematic indicator systems

## What defines the “ideal” indicator

- From the reading of the indicator values over time you should be able to definitively and objectively conclude whether the changes describe a positive or negative development.
- The indicator shall be based upon objective data measurements, where the specific data leaves no room for interpretation besides the monitoring inaccuracy.
- The indicator must be easy to comprehend and there has to be a recognized causal link between the used data that the indicator is based upon and the development one wishes to describe.
- The indicator is closely linked to planned targets and critical thresholds / boundaries

# Global and local importance of systematic indicator systems

How to design adequate measurement systems

**By adopting and following common principles such as the BellagioSTAMP (Sustainability Assessment and Measurement Principles)** *BELLAGIO PRINCIPLES REVISITED*

**By defining the purpose and scope of the initiative**

**By involvement of responsible decisions makers**

**By involvement of the public – and stakeholders**

**By keeping the process open**

**By sharing and learning from best practice through mechanisms such as the Compendium on Sustainability Indicator Initiatives**

# Global and local importance of systematic indicator systems

## Why are systematic measurement systems important

**It is not the use of indicator systems in it self,**
**but indicators are tools to serve higher level purposes, such as::**

- **Good governance**
- **Transparency**
- **Accountability**
- **Making the right planning and right decisions based on solid facts and evidence**
- **being able to monitor the effectiveness of actions.**

- **Involving the public as well as the business community**
- **Without the use of an open, systematic and long-term approach and without the use of a systematic measurement system it will become very difficult to navigate towards a sustainable development.**

**If you don't know where your are located**
**and where you are coming from**
**you won't be able to define where you are heading and you won't be able to decide whether you are moving in the right or wrong direction!**

**Only by the use of a comprehensive indicator system you will be able to navigate.**

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# Compendium of Sustainable Development Indicator Initiatives

- Global directory of SD indicator initiatives
- By practitioners for practitioners
- Collaborative
- Free access
- Long-term
- Embraces diversity of methods and terminology, as long as whole-system approach is followed

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# Compendium goals

- Improve communication, promote the sharing of experiences, methods and approaches;
- Facilitate harmonization of indicator development approaches and indicator sets;
- Help avoid duplication, facilitate the integration of monitoring, data analysis and reporting activities;
- Provide access to a pool of experts working on indicator development;
- Help identify areas of future research where required; and
- Provide access to products of indicator initiatives.


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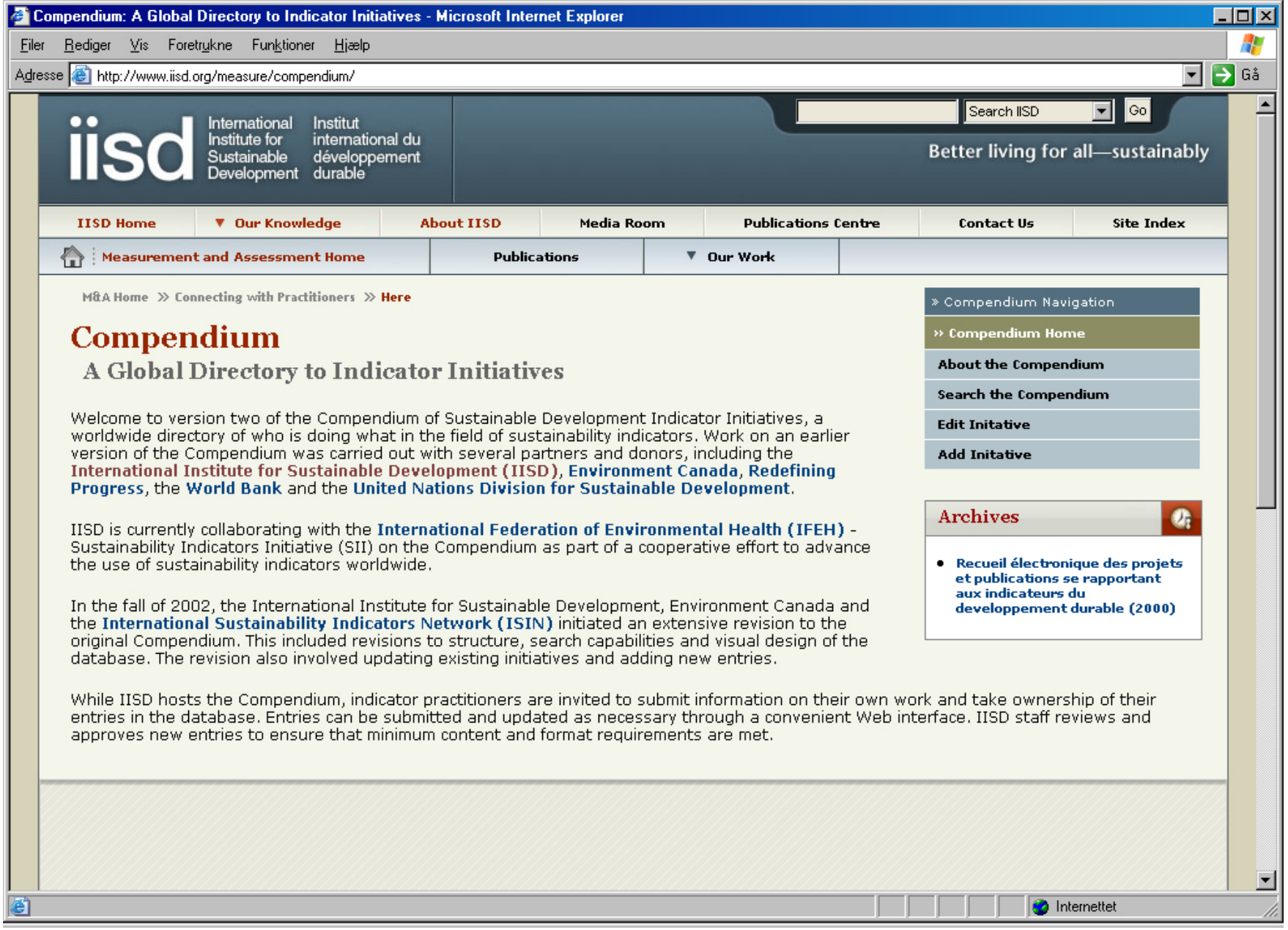


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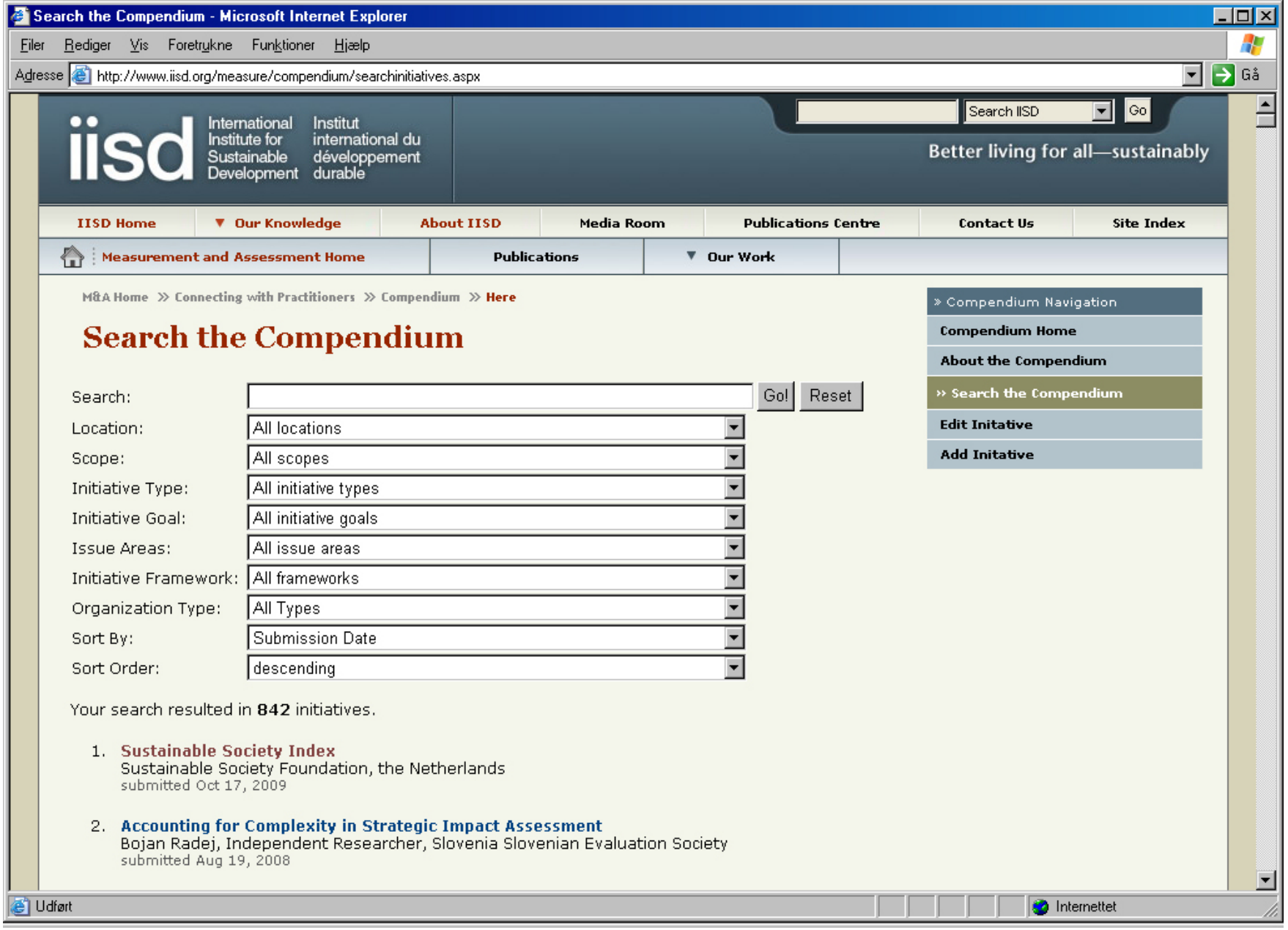
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Initiative Goal: All initiative goals
Issue Areas: All issue areas
Initiative Framework: All frameworks
Organization Type: All Types
Sort By: Submission Date
Sort Order: descending
Your search resulted in 842 initiatives.
1. Sustainable Society Index
Sustainable Society Foundation, the Netherlands
submitted Oct 17, 2009
2. Accounting for Complexity in Strategic Impact Assessment
Bojan Radej, Independent Researcher, Slovenia Slovenian Evaluation Society
submitted Aug 19, 2008
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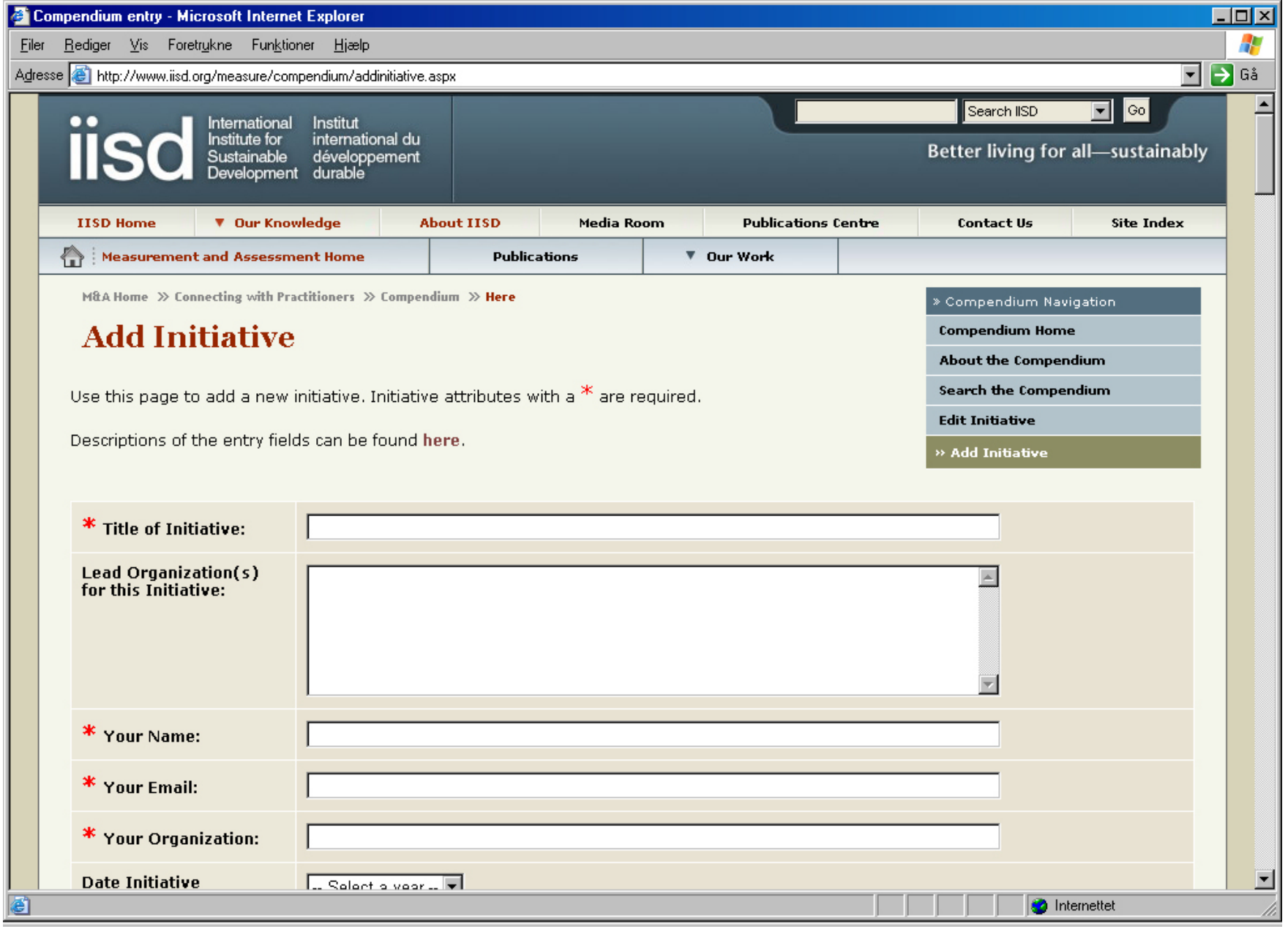
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# Examples of Indicator Systems

1. Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators
2. The New Orleans Index, United States
3. Sustainable Society Index, the Netherlands
4. Climate Change Plan, Denmark

# Canadian Environmental Sustainability Indicators


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# The New Orleans Index, USA

https://gnocdc.s3.amazonaws.com/NOLAIndex/ESNOLAIndex.pdf - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Filer Edit Skift til Foretrukne Hjælp

Tilbage Søg Foretrukne

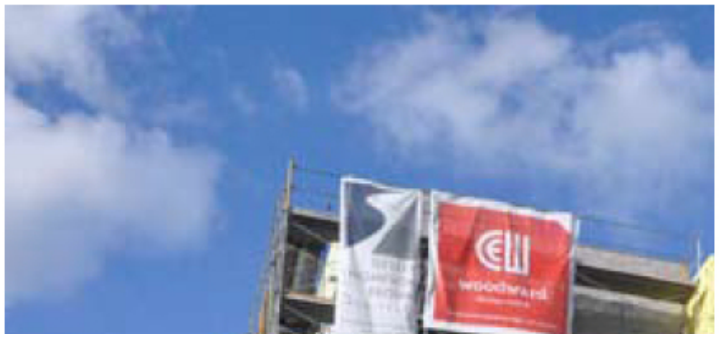
Adresse https://gnocdc.s3.amazonaws.com/NOLAIndex/ESNOLAIndex.pdf Gå Hyperlinks

Metropolitan Policy Program at BROOKINGS

GREATER NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITY DATA CENTER
*A product of Nonprofit KnowledgeWorks*

# THE NEW ORLEANS INDEX

TRACKING THE RECOVERY OF NEW ORLEANS & THE METRO AREA



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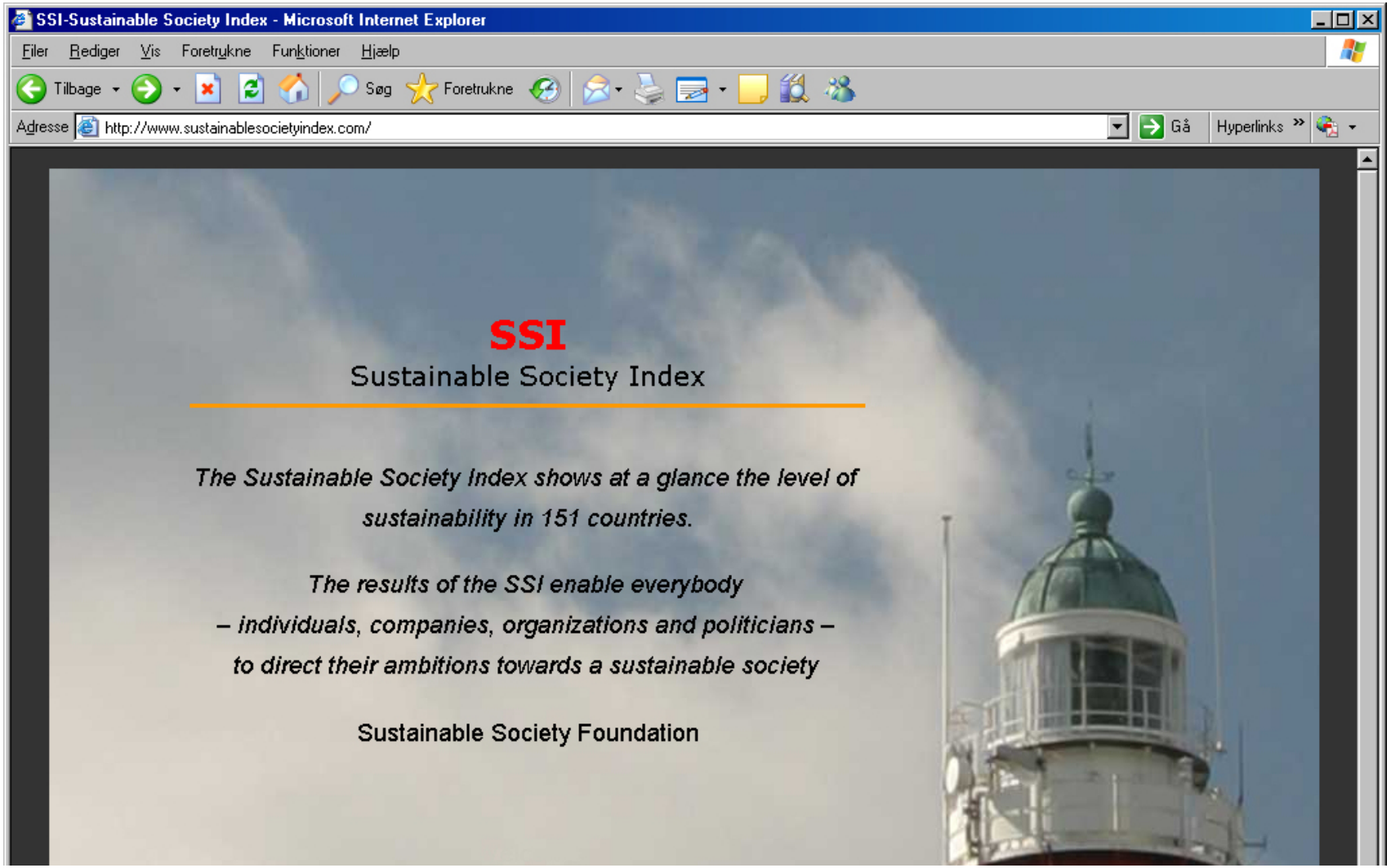
# Sustainability Society Index, The Netherlands

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# Climate Change Plan, Aarhus Municipality Denmark

General Planning Strategy
Local Agenda 21 Plan
Spatial City Planning



Environment Action Plan

Other sector plans

**Climate Change Plan**



**$CO_2$ emission mapping**

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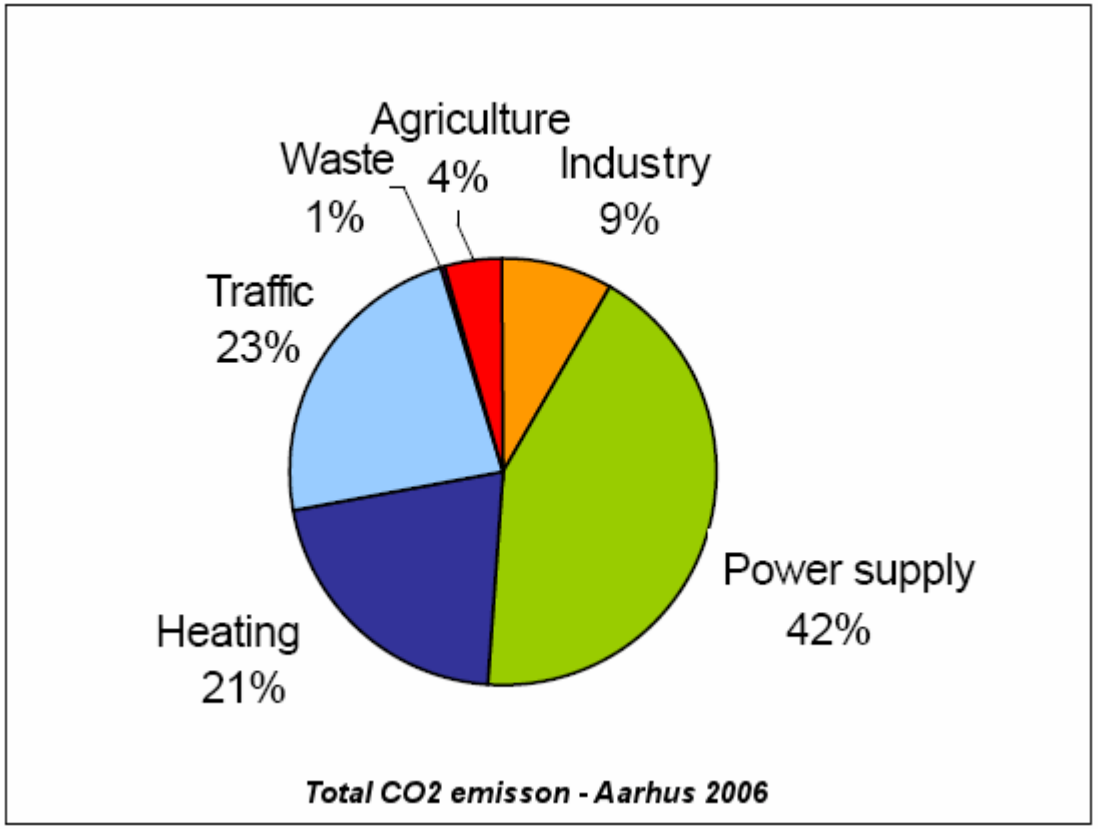
# Climate Change Plan, Aarhus Municipality Denmark

***Mapping of $CO_2$ emission – Aarhus Municipality 2006***




| | ton $CO_2$/year |
|---|---|
| Industry | 171.127 |
| Power supply | 838.491 |
| Heating | 406.976 |
| Traffic | 458.489 |
| Waste | 10.000 |
| Agriculture | 85.000 |
| **Total** | **1.970.083** |

*CO2 emisson - Aarhus Municipality 2006*

*CO2 emisson - Aarhus Municipality 2006 - per capita: 6,6 ton*

REF: www.aarhuskommune.dk/files/aak/aak/content/filer/magistratens_2._afdeling/natur_og_miljoe/miljoehandlingsplan/Kortlxgning.pdf

# Final messages

- A strong need for a coordinated dissemination of information, knowledge and capacity building on the use of monitoring, measurement and reporting systems. Potential use of the Compendium of Sustainable Development Indicator Initiatives

- Support for general principles, such as the BellagioSTAMP (Sustainability Assessment and Measurement Principles) that provide broad methodological guidance

- Continuing efforts to harmonize indicator initiatives, with emphasis on sustainability and well-being indicators – with emphasis on enhancing the GDP / national economic accounts with similar robust and globally recognized indices regarding environment and social factors.

- Recognizing that the basic monitoring, measurement and reporting systems are still not implemented on a satisfactory level in many developing countries – which to some extend also goes for the developed countries. (e.g. CO2-emission, water, health, social and economic factors)

# Final messages

- Need to undertake, support and learn from local indicator efforts, while strengthening their compatibility with higher scaled indicator systems.

- To seek binding commitments on a high international level for all nations to implement measurement systems and to issue publicly available reports on all key aspects of sustainable development.

- All local/regional governments could be required by national law to establish measurement and reporting systems regarding the local community – given that they are provided with proper guidelines and finances.

- Ideally we would end up with a system where local/regional measurement systems are nested smoothly into national systems which finally are nested into international and global measurement systems.

**Thank you for your attention.**

http://www.iisd.org/measure/compendium

http://www.ifeh.org/indicators/compendium

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