

# Agenda

*Training course on*  
**“Statistics, Knowledge and Policy: Understanding Societal Change”**

**July 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> 2009**  
**Canberra, Australia**

**Monday July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

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| <b>10:30-11:00</b>   | <b>Welcome and Introduction</b><br><i>Jon Hall, OECD Global Project, Timothy Wardrop, A/g Director<br/>National Statistical Training Institute ABS</i>                                       |
| <b>11:00-11:30</b>   | <b>Coffee break</b>  |
| <b>11.30-12:30</b>   | <b>Overview of the Course</b><br><i>Barbara Iasiello, OECD Global Project</i><br>Opening Session<br><b>Understanding Societal Change</b><br><i>Jon Hall</i>                                  |
| <b>12:30 - 13:30</b> | <b>Lunch</b>   |
| <b>13:30-14:00</b>   | <b>Measuring the Progress of Societies</b><br>Measuring Beyond GDP: What to Measure, How to Measure, Getting<br>the Measures Used<br><i>Barbara Iasiello and Jon Hall</i>                    |
| <b>14:00-14:30</b>   | <b>Introduction to the Group Projects</b><br>Group 1: Progress - Increasing Knowledge and Learning<br>Group 2: Progress - Reducing Poverty<br>Group 3: Progress - Protecting the Environment |
| <b>14:30-15:00</b>   | <b>Coffee break</b>  |
| <b>15:00- 17:00</b>  | <b>Group exercise work</b>   |



Tuesday July 28th, 2009

## WHY MEASURE PROGRESS

- 9.00 - 10:00**      **Shortcomings of GDP as a measure of progress: the importance of new measures to guide policy making and decision making**  
*Richard Denniss, Head of Australia Institute*
- 10:00- 10:45**      **Measuring Progress in Practice: Measures of Australia's Progress**  
*Jon Hall*
- 10:45- 11:15**      **Coffee break**
- 11:15-12:00**      **Measuring Progress in Practice: The Global Peace Index**  
*Clyde McConaghy, President, Global Peace Index, Institute for Economics and Peace*
- 12:00 - 13:00**      **Measuring Progress in Practice: Community Indicators Victoria**  
*Sue West, The McCaughey Centre, VicHealth Centre for the Promotion of Mental Health and Community Wellbeing*
- 13:00 - 14:00**      **Lunch**
- 14:00 - 15:30**      **Group Exercise Work**  
*The three groups prepare a 5 minute presentation on why it is important to measure progress for their topic and how the indicators could be used. Make a presentations back to the whole group*
- 15:30 - 16:00**      **Coffee break**
- 16:00 - 17:00**      **An example: Measuring democracy and human rights.**  
*Mike Salvaris, Human Rights and Democracy*

## HOW TO MEASURE PROGRESS

- 9:00 - 10:30**      **A practical introduction to measuring progress and well-being: choosing approaches, frameworks and indicators**  
*Barbara Iasiello & Jon Hall*  
Presentation and discussion introducing some of the different approaches, including objective and subjective measures.
- 10.30 - 11.00**      **Coffee break**
- 11:00 - 12:00**      **An Example: The Australian Treasury's Wellbeing Framework**  
*Tony McDonald, General Manager, Macroeconomic Policy Division*
- 12:00 - 13:00**      **Group Exercise Work**  
Selecting Dimensions: Groups select dimensions of progress for their topics and prepare a 5 minute presentation
- 13:00 - 14:00**      **Lunch**
- 14:00 - 14:45**      **Presentation Group Exercise**
- 15:00 - 16:00**      **A Debate: Does Australia understand its progress? And would better measurements improve life?**  
*Chair: Brian Pink, Australian Statistician*  
*Richard Denniss - Head of Australia Institute*  
*Bob Gregory - ANU-Australian National University*  
*Ben Rimmer - Prime Minister Cabinet Office-PM&C*  
*Dennis Trewin - Statistical Consultant*
- 16.00 - 17.30**      **From dimensions to data: selecting the indicators**  
*Jon Hall*  
**Group Exercise Work (including coffee)**  
Groups select the indicators corresponding to the chosen dimensions. Then prepare a 5 minute presentation

Thursday July 30th, 2009

## COMMUNICATING THE MEASURES

- 9:00 - 09:45**      **Groups report back with presentation on the previous day's exercise**
- 9:45 - 10:30**      **Feedback on one minute video recording exercise**  
*Jon Hall, Barbara Iasiello and Richard Burgess, ABS Director of Corporate Communications*
- 10:30 - 11:00**      **Coffee break**
- 11:00 - 12:30**      **Communication: basic principles and New ICT Tools**  
*Barbara Iasiello & Jon Hall*
- 12:30 - 13:30**      **Lunch**
- 13:30 - 14:15**      **Dealing with the Press**  
*Richard Burgess*
- 14:15 - 15:30**      **Press Conference Simulation Exercise**
- 15:30 - 16:00**      **Coffee break**
- 16:00 - 17:00**      **Preparation of Final Group Presentation**

Friday July 31st, 2009

## CONCLUSION

- 9:00 - 9:30**      **What makes a set of indicators successful?**  
*Barbara Iasiello*
- 09.30 - 10.30**      **Heresies and commonsense in the pursuit of progress**  
*Richard Eckersley, Australia 21*
- 10.30 - 11.30**      **Preparation of Final Group Presentation (including coffee)**
- 11:30 - 12:30**      **Group Presentations to an invited panel**
- 12:30 - 13:30**      **How Will You Take this Forward When you Go Home?**  
*Jon Hall*
- 13.30 - 14.30**      **Lunch and feedback from participants**