

“Using the Idea of Statistical Architecture at Statistics New Zealand –Social Session”

*Vince Galvin, Deputy Government Statistician,
Statistics New Zealand*

*ISA 12th East Asian Statistical Conference
Tokyo - November 2008*

Social Architecture

- Current Situation
- The future
- Summary comments

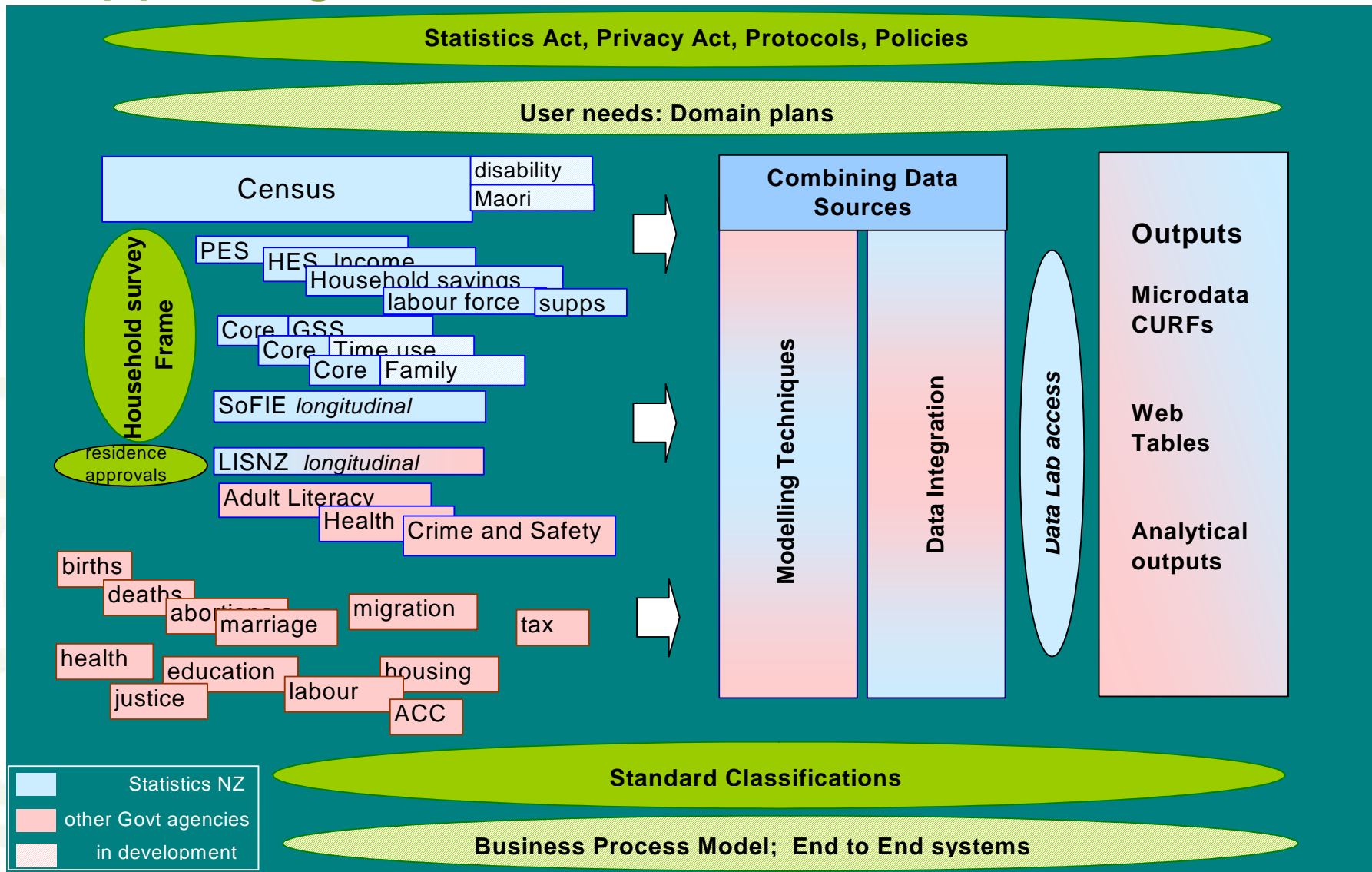
Background

- Household Surveys, supported by a range of administrative data sources
- Census every 5 years
- Manage sample overlap between surveys
- Good use of standard classifications
 - Great deal of uncertainty about future data availability

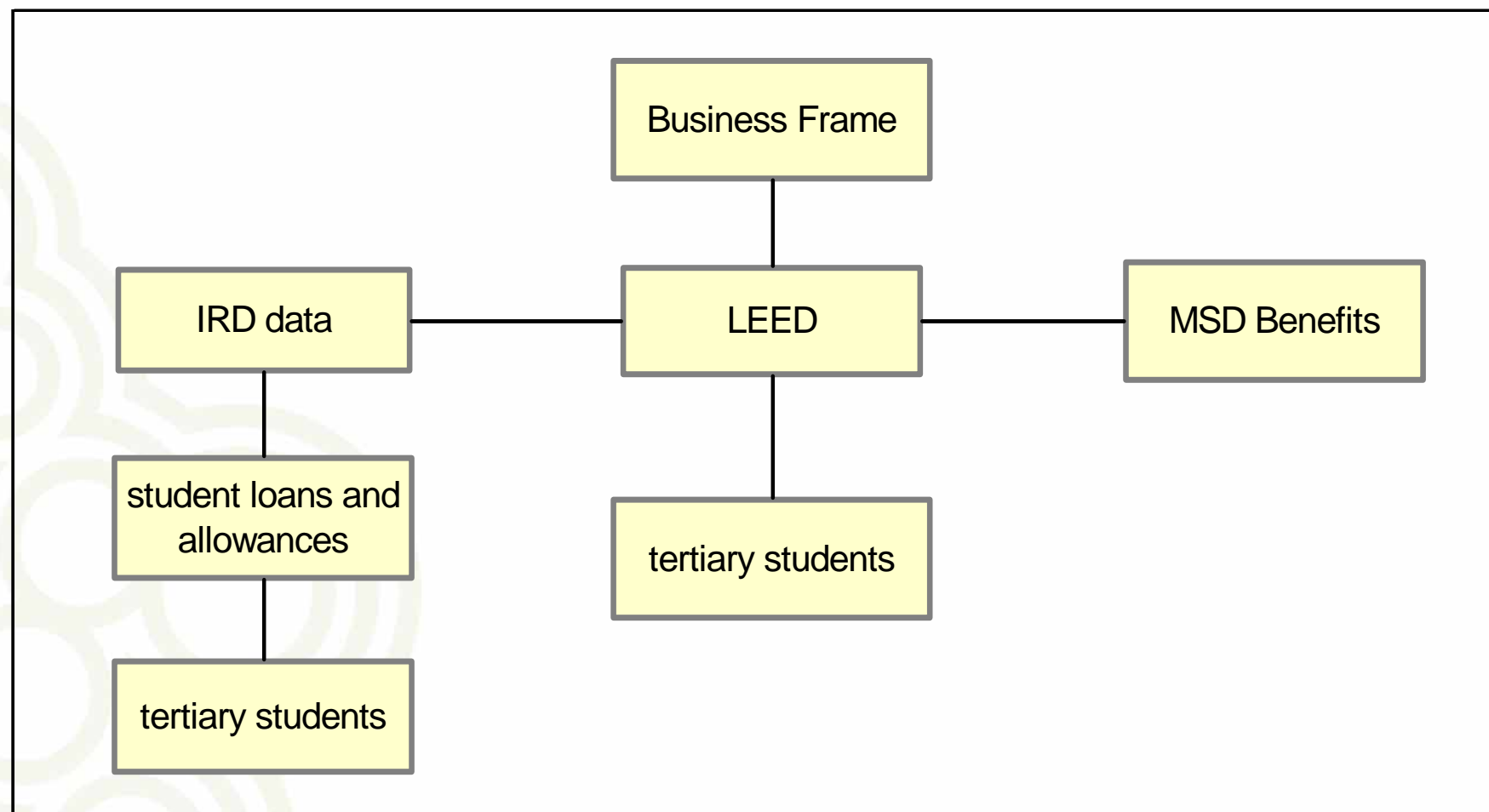
Current Situation

- Programme of Official Social Statistics (POSS) has allowed;
 - Consolidation of existing surveys into a programme
 - Needs are identified in Domain plans
 - Introduction of new surveys
 - Use of new administrative sources in new ways
 - Possibility of building new databases

Official social statistics collections and supporting infrastructure



Data integration involving tax data



Drivers

- Detailed Subpopulation information
- Studies of transitions through a lifecycle needing longitudinal information
- Taking a “cross sectoral” view of the circumstances of individuals assisted by government
- New areas of interest creating conceptual and methodological challenges

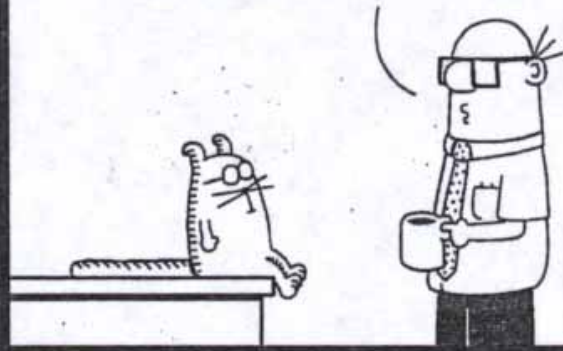
Constraints

- Small population needs requirements have to be negotiated “carefully”
- Threshold quality issues
- Minimising respondent load across government
- Privacy – no unique person identifier across government

DILBERT

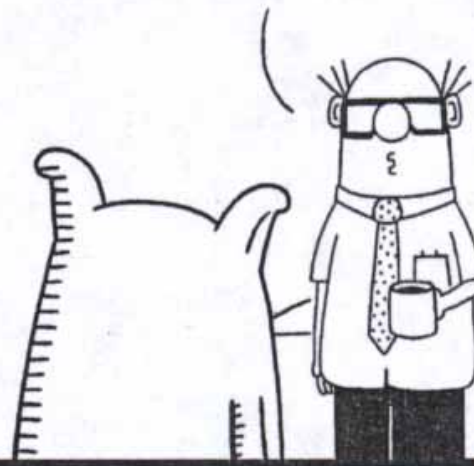
CATBERT: EVIL DIRECTOR
OF HUMAN RESOURCES

I'D LIKE TO CHANGE
MY JOB TITLE TO
SOMETHING WITH
"ARCHITECT" IN IT.



www.dilbert.com scottadams@aol.com

MY DREAM IS TO
DO LESS WORK WHILE
ALLEGEDLY BEING
MORE VALUABLE.



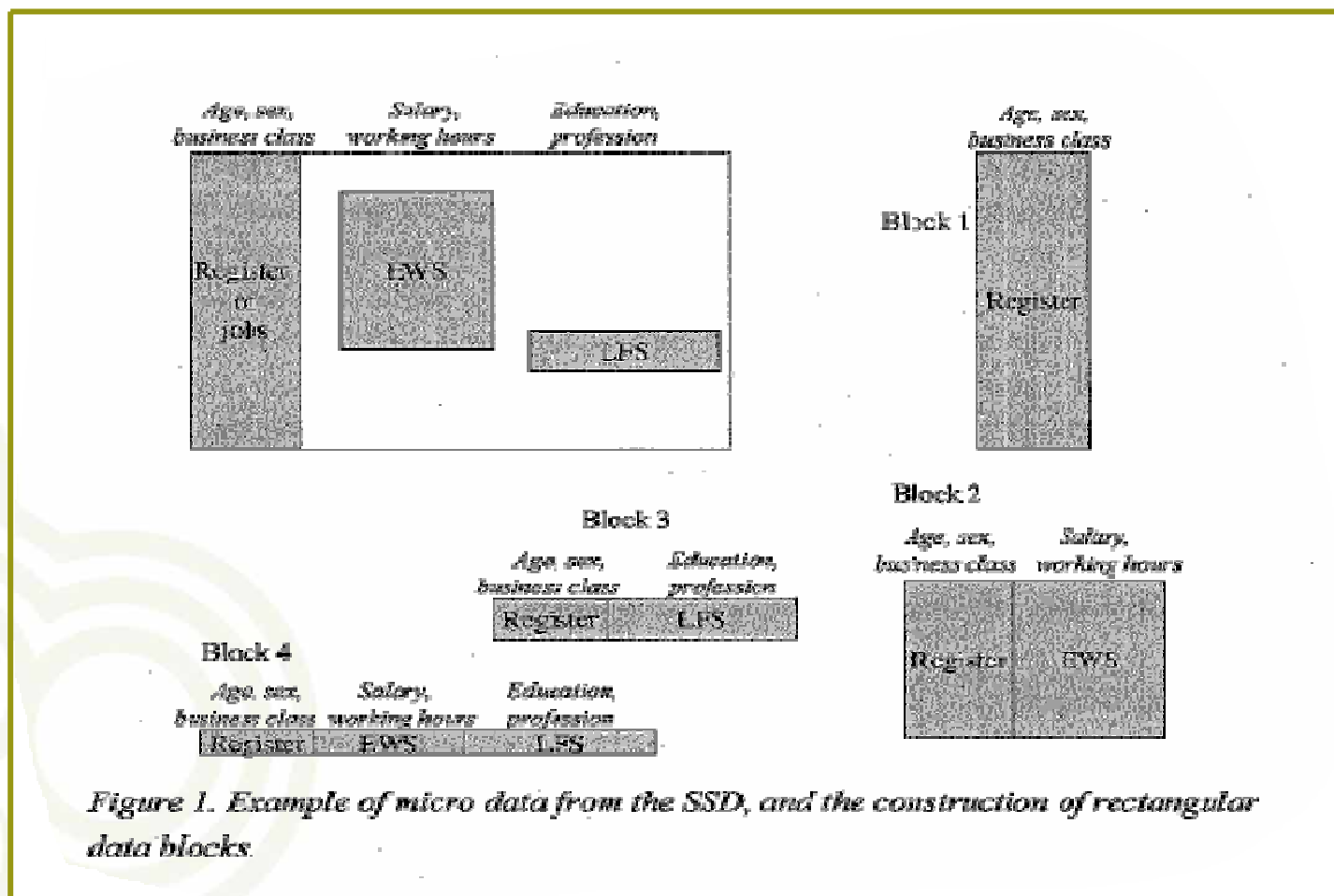
Future

- Control and utilise reporting unit overlap
- Control and use content overlap

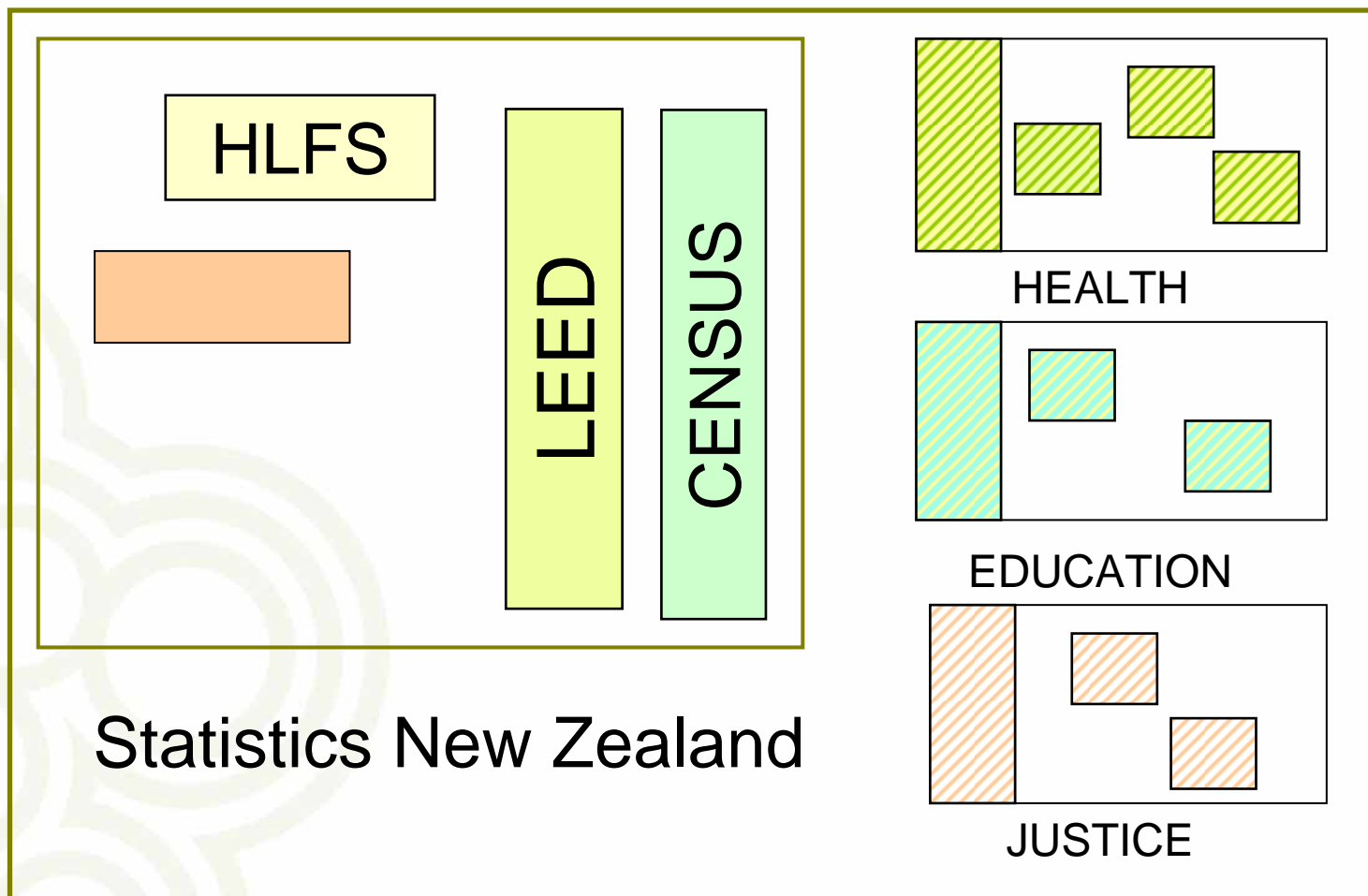
Key questions

- Role of Census
- Extent of merging survey and administrative data
- Efficiency issues

Social Statistics Database



Possible Future Structure



We have had some encouraging successes

- Extending standardisation
 - Core questions
 - Standardising survey methods
- Census data linking has been accepted
- Integrating administrative data has created some rich databases
- Domain plans have proved feasible (but not quick to do)

Next Steps

- Collect requirements sector by sector
- Rationalise Income Collections
 - Link Survey data to Tax sources
 - Add Census data to LEED
- Investigate Efficiencies
 - Rebuild Geographic structures
 - Evaluate Master Sample idea
- Attempt to build National Address Register

Concluding Remarks

- Maximise the availability of usable data
- Build experience with administrative data
- Evaluate privacy issues
- Focus on relationships with other Govt Agencies