Scoping Paper 3a: The Scope of the Project   **Jim Ridgway Notes 15 Sept 2015**

Challenges
We need evidence to understand the situation of many groups in society, and to promote equality and social justice
Shifting the dominant discourse from the economic 'needs' of the 0.1% to the real needs of the 99.9%
There is a great deal of 'open' data – but it is really only 'open' if you can use databases and can program
Data are dispersed across sources. [Relates to issues data linkage [SP5], comparability of definitions & indicators and of samples]
Statistical literacy needs to be celebrated more – and we need a complete rethink about the stats curriculum [*See also SP3b, SP7a, SP7b*]
Politics of data, data ownership, ethics…

Opportunities
Stimulating engagement via evidence that is obviously immediately relevant to personal decision making e.g. funnel plots of hospital death rates
Meta analyses – e.g. Cochrane and Campbell collaborations
Data visualisations, other resources   [*See also SP3b*]
Crowd sourcing

Fellow travellers
Politicised data providers UN (e.g. SDGs and MDGs, despite the warts), OECD
Journalists who really like data [e.g. David Walker, P. Toynbee, Tim Harford, et al.]
Data Checkers (e.g. Full Fact, Media Watch)
'Free' consultants (e.g. Statistics without Borders, Data Kind)

Existential Threats
Privacy, advertising, control via prediction, autonomous weapon systems development ($250m pa)

Questions
About the 'book': Who are the audiences – and how do we get to them?