

Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs)

United Nations Role

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Sustainable development

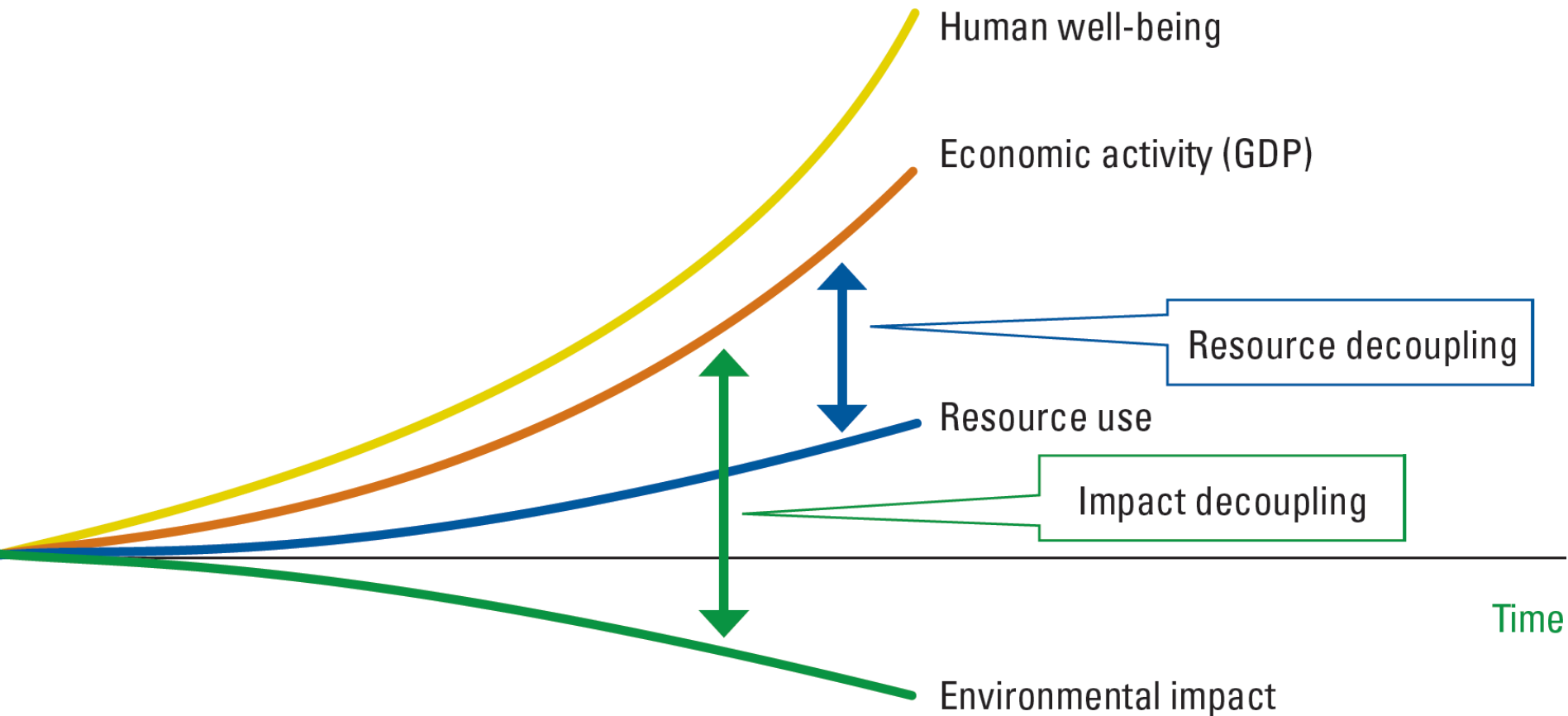


Human beings are at the
centre of concerns for
sustainable development

They are entitled to a
healthy and productive
life in a harmony with
nature

**(The first principle of Rio
Declaration, 1992)**

Scenarios for sustainable economical development



LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND and AGENDA 2030

- ❑ The SDG framework addresses key systematic barriers to SD such as inequality, unsustainable consumption patterns, weak institutional capacity, and environmental degradation.
- ❑ At the conceptual level, three main questions need to be addressed:
 - who are those being or at risk of being left behind?;
 - how can strategies and policies reach them in practice?;
 - what type of strategies and policies would be appropriate in order to leave no one behind?.

In implementing the Agenda, countries and stakeholders will have to make choices on where, when and how to act.



17 SDGs

UN, 2015 Sept.

Scientific evaluation of SDGs

- ❑ The goals are presented using a “silo approach”, that is, they are addressed as separate elements, mostly in isolation from each other. However, it is clear from systems science that goal areas overlap, that many targets might contribute to several goals, and that some goals may conflict.
- ❑ It is possible that the framework as a whole might not be internally consistent – and as a result not be sustainable.
- ❑ Out of 169 targets, 49 (29%) are considered well developed, 91 targets (54%) could be strengthened by being more specific, and 29 (17%) require significant work.
- ❑ A critical dimension of SDGs implementation is science-policy interface, where science explores and identifies new ways and emerging issues for the benefit of the HLPF.

GOAL 1:END POVERTY IN ALL FORMS EVERYWHERE

- ❑ SDG1 is a fundamental goal; the meeting of its targets is dependent on the meeting of most of other SDGs. The key to a successful 2030 agenda is awareness and prevention of negative trade-offs between achieving sustainability and eliminating poverty.
- ❑ Scientific approach suggests that the targets of SDG1 need to be at the center of all targets. Persistent, durable poverty is often due to both global as well as national and local power relations the enable dispossession, unequal treatment and disrespect to rights and dignity.

GOAL 2: END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION, AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

- ❑ There is adequate scientific evidence to support this multi-dimensional goal, because human development requires food security and nutritional improvement and environmental issues are critical for sustainable agriculture.
- ❑ Achieving this goal is complex because it couples natural biophysical with social and economic processes and because is currently insufficient evidence on how to successfully scale up food security and nutrition strategies.
- ❑ Policy in favor of vulnerable small-scale local producers.

GOAL 3: ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

- ❑ This goal is wide-ranging and includes non-communicable diseases, mental health, disease prevention, tobacco control, disaster risk reduction and intellectual property.
 - ❑ Missing elements: role of global food system, the built environment, life expectancy, role of rapid unplanned urbanization, migration from rural to urban areas, disasters and climate change impacts, change in emerging nations where youth is predominate and ageing populations in developed countries, clarity on where health is an input to SD and where it is a desirable output that provides a measure to SD.
 - ❑ Average population health levels and inequalities in health are good barometer of societal functioning.
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GOAL 4: ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFE-LONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

- ❑ Education is a key part of working to reduce vulnerability to economic, social and environmental dislocation and building more resilient systems. It enables people to perform better economically, enhances health and extends life span, promotes civic engagement, and improves sense of wellbeing.
- ❑ There is no recognition that education through awareness raising, training and capacity building can help protect environmental quality and lead to wiser resource use.
- ❑ **Goal 4** ...by reviewing and reforming all education with a view to reinforcing the integration of culturally relevant education for SD as a critical means of assuring a more sustainable future. Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value (Albert Einstein)
- ❑ Educators for SD?.....High education on SD!!!

GOAL 5: ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS

- ❑ Goal promote socio-political transformations leading to increased social justice and gender equality and provide an environment where all women and girls will be able to realize their rights free from discrimination.
- ❑ Missing outcome of transformations on institutional social – political level which is of critical concern because they will demonstrate overall political feasibility, including dedicated resources to implement and monitor progress and mainstreaming of SDG5 across the others SDGs. No reference on women's engagement in wage work, equal access to education, women and children's mental and physical health.
- ❑ *You educate a man; you educate a man. You educate a woman; you educate generation (Brigham Young).*

GOAL 6: ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

- ❑ The goal is based upon extensive science linking water supply and sanitation management to improved health, wellbeing and economic productivity. It may require major changes in water management among many nations to harmonize governance, data collection and sharing policies, and the use of models and tools.
- ❑ Sustainable water use is likely to provide a better paradigm than sustainable water management. Goal should be framed around three general themes:
 - water, sanitation and health,
 - reducing pollutant and untreated waste water discharge into rivers and water bodies; and
 - reducing water scarcity by protecting water sources, increasing the efficiency (sufficiency) of water use and better governance

GOAL 7: ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE, AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL

- ❑ The goal adequately addresses the economic (affordable), social (reliable and modern) and environmental (sustainable) aspects of energy.
- ❑ The related science underline that while energy is not needed *per se*, it is vital resource that is required to meet other SD goals: health (SDG3), poverty eradication (SDG1), climate change (SDG13), end hunger (SDG2), education (SDG4), gender equality (SDG5), clean water and sanitation (SDG6) cities (SDG11), infrastructure/industrialization (SDG9), and sustainable consumption (SDG12).
- ❑ Several important reputable research efforts have demonstrated that it is possible to reach universal access to modern energy services for all by 2030 and that there are multiple pathways to do this although it would require major efforts.

GOAL 8: PROMOTE SUSTAINED, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, FULL AND PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL

- ❑ Economic growth mostly refers to changes in GDP. Other, more meaningful conditions are “inclusiveness” (benefits also reaching out the most vulnerable sectors of a society in terms of income), and ‘sustainable’ (respecting the environmental, economic, and social sources – or wealth – that determine development (not growth) possibilities in the long run, and more broadly human well-being). **Inclusiveness is critical** for sustaining economic development.
- ❑ Without a radical decoupling the economy from the environment as well as a change in consumer preferences growth would threaten other goals aiming to protect the environment or reach climate targets.
- ❑ Role of “disruptive technologies”, robots, artificial intelligence, etc.

GOAL 9: BUILT RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION AND FOSTER INNOVATION

- ❑ The goal defines infrastructure in a broad sense, including ICT, financial services and scientific research, which is essential for fostering economic and social development.
- ❑ The concept of “sustainable infrastructure” is not defined and goal is not quantified and lacks well-selected indicators and target dates, and improved connectivity to other goals.
- ❑ Combination of indicators on resource extraction and emissions, economic structure and relations (supply and use, input-output tables), and economic stocks could be used to help identify the environmental consequences of infrastructure. The contribution from the research society could be coordinated by Future Earth.

GOAL 10: REDUCE INEQUALITY WITHIN AND AMONG COUNTRIES

- ❑ This goal has neither qualitative nor quantitative endpoints. It would be better to word as: “Minimize social, economic, political and educational inequalities within and between countries”.
- ❑ Recommendations:
 - Improve regulation and monitoring of multinational corporations, global financial markets and institutions and strengthen implementation of such regulations to eliminate structural inequalities within and between countries;
 - Ensure enhance and representation and voice of developing countries in decision making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate service, and enhanced democratic influence on policy and decisions.

GOAL 11: MAKE CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE

- ❑ The complex social, cultural, economic, environmental, technological, physical, and political realities of urban life require stronger city-focused institutions than ever before, implying some devolution of power from nation states. It also implies integrated urban management across diverse sectors such as transportation, health and public finance.
- ❑ However, the targets neglect attention to the institutional dimension (land, finance) that is critical to meet targets, especially in the developing world where urban challenges are greatest and institutions are weakest. Enormous differences in the challenges mean that the principles of universality will have to be realized differentially within and across nations.

GOAL 12: ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS

- ❑ Achieving sustainable consumption patterns is technically and practically more complex than changing production patterns, because it raises important issues such as human values, equity and lifestyle choices. Science-based education and awareness-raising among consumers, civil society, the private sector and policy-makers important in promoting SD.
- ❑ In this regard, this goal does not present a clear systems approach that focuses across the whole lifecycle of materials, goods, and services. More focus is given to the economic and environmental dimensions than the social one. Targets are mostly based on developed country patterns of consumption and production which could not be replicated by developing countries. It is necessary to take into account levels of development and common but differentiated responsibilities.

GOAL 13: TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

- ❑ Actions to mitigate to mitigate and adapt to climate change are likely to have significant implications for most dimensions of SD. Acknowledging that **UN Framework Convention on Climate Change** (*169 ratified out of 197*) is primary forum for negotiating the global response to climate SDG13 remains part of SDGs Framework.
- ❑ Progress in the mitigation of CC is already being measured via global GHG emissions, it would be useful to record:
 - climate policies at all scales, and
 - how climate considerations are taken into account in the design of other (non-climate) policies.

Intergovernmental **P**latform on **C**limate **C**hange 5th Assessment Report notes that the impacts of CC constitute a major risk for all dimensions of SD.

GOAL 14: CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE OCEANS, SEAS, AND MARINE RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- ❑ Ocean and seas cover 70% of Earth's surface area, support about 75% of the global population, host the largest connected ecosystem and play a central role in climate stability, oxygen generation, nutrient cycling, food production and coastal protection. Thus there is a growing dependency on the significant ecosystem services (transportation, fisheries and aquaculture, generation of renewable energy, mining of materials, tourism).
- ❑ Existing marine and coastal data reporting could provide a useful basis for indicators. The **Sustainable Development Solutions Network** have suggested the Ocean Health Index which could serve as a highly integrative indicator.

GOAL 15: PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS, SUTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, AND HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS

- Biodiversity conservation entails preserving resilient ecosystems, ensuring the current and future provision of ecosystem services, promoting social and ecological resilience, contributing to poverty alleviation and, therefore, preserving options for current and future generations. Biodiversity also holds multiple values of relationships between people and nature, such as spiritual, educational, aesthetic and inspirational values.
- Although some indicators should address trends in linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages. More efforts is needed on indicators that make sense at the local scale and this could be achieved through engaging local stakeholders, citizen groups and indigenous people.

GOAL 16: PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT < PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS

- ❑ The evidence that justice and inclusion matter for well-being directly is stronger than the evidence linking it to macro development outcomes. At the international level, there is clear evidence that investment in peacekeeping and peacebuilding pays off.
- ❑ The following research findings are not reflected in SDG16:
 - If governance cannot provide better means of linking science to policy-making, SD will be hard to achieve;
 - If governance cannot provide means of managing shocks and other acute risk, SD will be hard to achieve;
 - If governance cannot provide better means of making trade-offs across issues, regions, groups, and time horizons, SD will be hard to achieve.

GOAL 17: STRENGTHEN THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- ❑ To avoid the SDGs becoming a “wish list” with little prospect of implementation, it is important that this goal matches the level of ambition of the overall SDG framework. Data availability represents a critical tool for SD at the local, national, and global levels. Rio+20 mandated the establishment of the **H**igh **L**evel **P**olitical **F**orum, but the functions of this body, especially those that relate to monitoring and progress reporting by all stakeholders, have not yet determined.
- ❑ Strengthening institutional, financial, scientific, technological capacities will be key to the success of the SDGs. This goal could also further stress the importance of stakeholders engagement in implementing the SDGs through partnership.

Indicators for SDGs

- ❑ It is crucial to agree on guiding principles for the selection and modification of indicators for all SDGs to establish common methodological denominator. SDSN have proposed seven such principles:
 - Clear;
 - Consensus-based;
 - Consistent with systems based information;
 - Constructed from well-established data sources;
 - Disaggregated;
 - Universal;
 - Managed by designated organization.

To ensure scientific quality, a further principle should be included to address transparency and peer-review.



Organizational setup

- Member States requested the creation of an **independent group of scientists** to draft the quadrennial Global Sustainable Development Report.
 - **15 experts** representing a variety of backgrounds, scientific disciplines and institutions, ensuring geographical and gender balance. The group was appointed by the UN Secretary-General at the very end of 2016.
- The independent group of scientists is supported by a **task team**, co-chaired by one representative each of the United Nations Secretariat, UNESCO, UNEP, UNDP, UNCTAD and the World Bank.



Mandate agreed by UN Member States in July 2016

- The GSDR is one important component of the
 - **follow-up and review process** for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

 - The GSDR will **inform the high-level political forum**
 - **(HLPF)**, and shall strengthen the science-policy interface and provide a strong evidence-based instrument to support policymakers in promoting poverty eradication and sustainable development

 - The report will be **available for a wide range of stakeholders**,
 - including business and civil society as well as the wide public
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Scope of the report

- Guidance on the **state of global sustainable development**
 - from a scientific perspective, which will help address the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,
 - provide **lessons learned**, while focusing on challenges, address new and **emerging issues** and highlight emerging **trends and actions**.

 - An **integrated approach and examine policy options**
 - with a view to sustaining the balance between the **three dimensions** of sustainable development. These policy options should be **in line with the 2030 Agenda** to inform its implementation

 - **regional** dimension, as well as **countries in special situations**
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The group of independent scientists



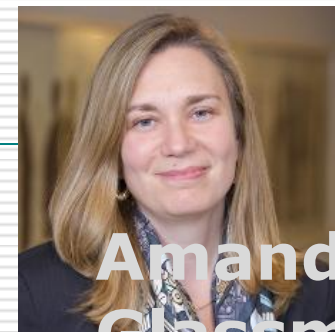
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UN Group of Independent Scientists for GSDR

ISG topics (examples)

- ❑ Empirically measurable quantitative indicators of socioeconomic progress and long-term human well-being that can serve as criteria for development
- ❑ Type of macroeconomic system able to implement global sustainability (*no one left behind*)
- ❑ Role of globalization
- ❑ Role of Religions
- ❑ Military spending
- ❑ Disruptive technologies
- ❑ Corruption, bureaucracy, etc

SDGs monitoring

- ❑ Global Sustainable Development Report 2016 (UN Department of Economic & Social Affairs, New York, July).
- ❑ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2016 (UN, New York, July)
- ❑ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2017 (UN, New York, July)
- ❑ Global Sustainable Development Report (The world we want) 2019 (UN, New York, July)

Thank you !

