



ROMÂNIA DURABILĂ

Dezvoltarea cadrului strategic și instituțional pentru implementarea Strategiei Naționale pentru Dezvoltarea Durabilă a României 2030

Administrație publică pentru dezvoltare durabilă

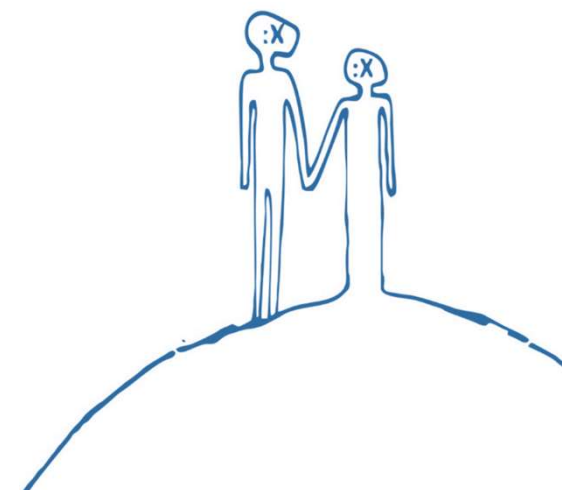
- Program de studii postuniversitare de formare și dezvoltare profesională continuă, înregistrat în Registrul Național al Programelor Postuniversitare cu nr. 338.
- Ocupația/ Grupa de bază din COR pentru care se organizează programul postuniversitar: "expert dezvoltare durabilă", cod COR 242232.
- Organizator: Academia de Studii Economice din București

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Proiect cofinanțat din Fondul Social European prin
Programul Operațional Capacitate Administrativă 2014-2020, SIPOCA 613



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Modul 1. Management și administrație publică

- Tema 1. **Dezvoltarea durabilă, o viziune holistică - repere teoretice ale dezvoltării durabile; abordarea integrată a dezvoltării durabile: dimensiunile economică, socială și de mediu.**
- Tema 2. **Importanța sectorului public în dezvoltarea durabilă;**

Material realizat de lector dr. Louis Meuleman.

(partea 1/3)

*Proiect cofinanțat din Fondul Social European prin
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2 ROMÂNIA DURABILĂ

Module 1. Management and public administration

1. Public sector and sustainable development



1.1 Sustainable development as a holistic concept


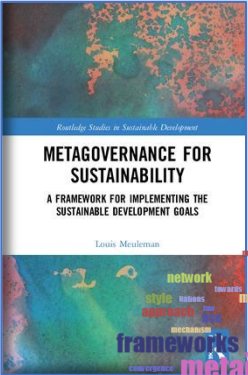


1.2 The importance of the public sector in sustainable development

Dr. Louis Meuleman

May 2022, Bucharest (online from Brussels)

Bucharest University of Economic Studies (BUES) / Faculty of Administration and Public Management

Structure of the course today:

<p>1. WHAT? The SDGs as comprehensive policy framework</p>	<p>Short break</p>	<p>2. HOW? (1) Governance for sustainability is governance of complexity</p>	<p>Short break</p>	<p>3. HOW? (2) An action perspective: Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development</p>
<p>70 min</p>	<p>15 min</p>	<p>70 min</p>	<p>15 min</p>	<p>70 min</p>
<p>Start: 1 pm</p>	<p>2:10 pm</p>	<p>2:25 pm</p>	<p>3:35 pm</p>	<p>3:50 pm End: 5 pm</p>
		 		



Context matters a lot!

- **Romania is known as an ambitious country on the SDGs**
- **You are experienced civil servants** from different departments of the national Government of Romania, with basic, partial, or broad knowledge about the SDGs
- To further improve a **joint understanding and knowledge is important**
- **Sharing** ideas, experiences and questions helps
- The training should be as **interactive** as possible
- **There are no wrong questions, only wrong answers**

Context matters a lot!

My background:

- Environmental biologist (MSc) and PhD in Public Administration
- 40 years' environment/sustainability policymaking in Netherlands and at European Commission
- Visiting professor public governance at KU Leuven University (Belgium)
- Member/vice chair United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA)
- Member Scientific Committee of the European Environment Agency
- Co-founder think tank / consultancy Public Strategy for Sustainable Development (ps4sd) in Brussels

Context matters a lot!



'Our house is on fire': Greta Thunberg, 16, urges leaders to act on climate

Greta Thunberg





Context matters a lot!

- The pandemic made governments more important (again)
- Awareness that crises can and will come – also multiple crises
- Crisis management can become addictive – can we step down again?
- Pandemic and geopolitical crisis -> economic crisis -> louder voices to postpone sustainability
- European Commission keeps the SDG ambition high
- Extremely important to fully understand the SDGs and how public administration capacity can be increased

Part 1.

WHAT? The SDGs as comprehensive policy framework

History of sustainable development as a key policy focus (1)



1972 - Stockholm Conference (5-16 June; 50 years ago): **United Nations Conference on the Human Environment**

1987 - Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: 'Our common future' (**Brundtland Commission**):

"Sustainable Development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"

**(economic, social and environmental dimensions)
(people, planet, profit/prosperity)**



2000 - Millennium Summit of the United Nations:
8 Millennium Development Goals (towards 2015)

EARTH SUMMIT
The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
Rio de Janeiro, 1992

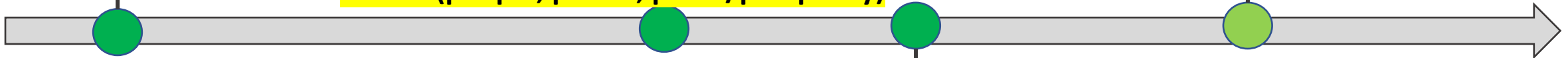


172 countries, 108 heads of state
2,400 non-governmental organizations

Rio Declaration
Agenda 21
Conventions on climate change and biodiversity
Declaration of forest principles

1992 - UN Conference in **Rio de Janeiro 1992** on 'Environment and Development'

Key outcome: "**Agenda 21**", which triggered the development of **sustainable development strategies** ("SD strategies" or "SDS") at all levels: regional, national, local



History of sustainable development as a key policy focus (2)

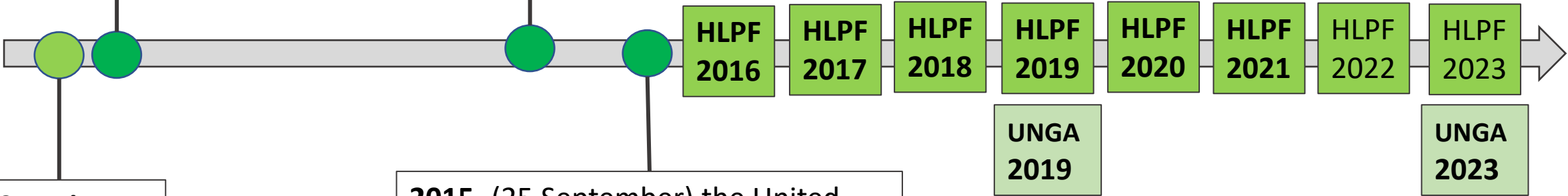


2002 - "Rio+10" conference in Johannesburg ("World Summit on Sustainable Development")

2012 - "Rio+20" conference 'United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development'



2016-...30 Annual High Level Political Forum on the SDGs



2001- First EU SD strategy adopted

2015- (25 September) the United Nations General Assembly formally adopted 'Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development' with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)





HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



[VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS DATABASE](#)



[SEARCH INPUTS TO THE HLPF](#)



- The United Nations **High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)** is **the political ‘steering group’, guiding the implementation of the SDGs.**
- The HLPF meets annually in July, including a 3-day ministerial segment; every 4 years (2015/2019/2023) at the level of Heads of State and Government.
- At the HLPF, UN member states present **Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)** (circa 40-50 each year). Interactive ‘VNR-Labs’ are organised to promote mutual learning.
- 2020: 47 VNRs, 2021: 44 VNRs
- **Romania: 2018, 2023**

The SDGs cover virtually all areas of life: economic, social & environmental. They challenge all sectors of government to act. They are a policy of policies: a ‘meta-policy’¹⁾



¹⁾ J. Meadowcroft, ‘Sustainable Development’, in *The Sage Handbook of Governance* (London: Sage, 2011).

The SDGs are accompanied by concrete targets and indicators



Agenda 2030 is more than the sum of all SDGs

17 SDGs



Principles

- **Universality**
 - Leave no one behind
- **Indivisibility:** Integrated approach
 - Shared responsibility
- **Accountability**

Five principles underpinning the 2030 Agenda

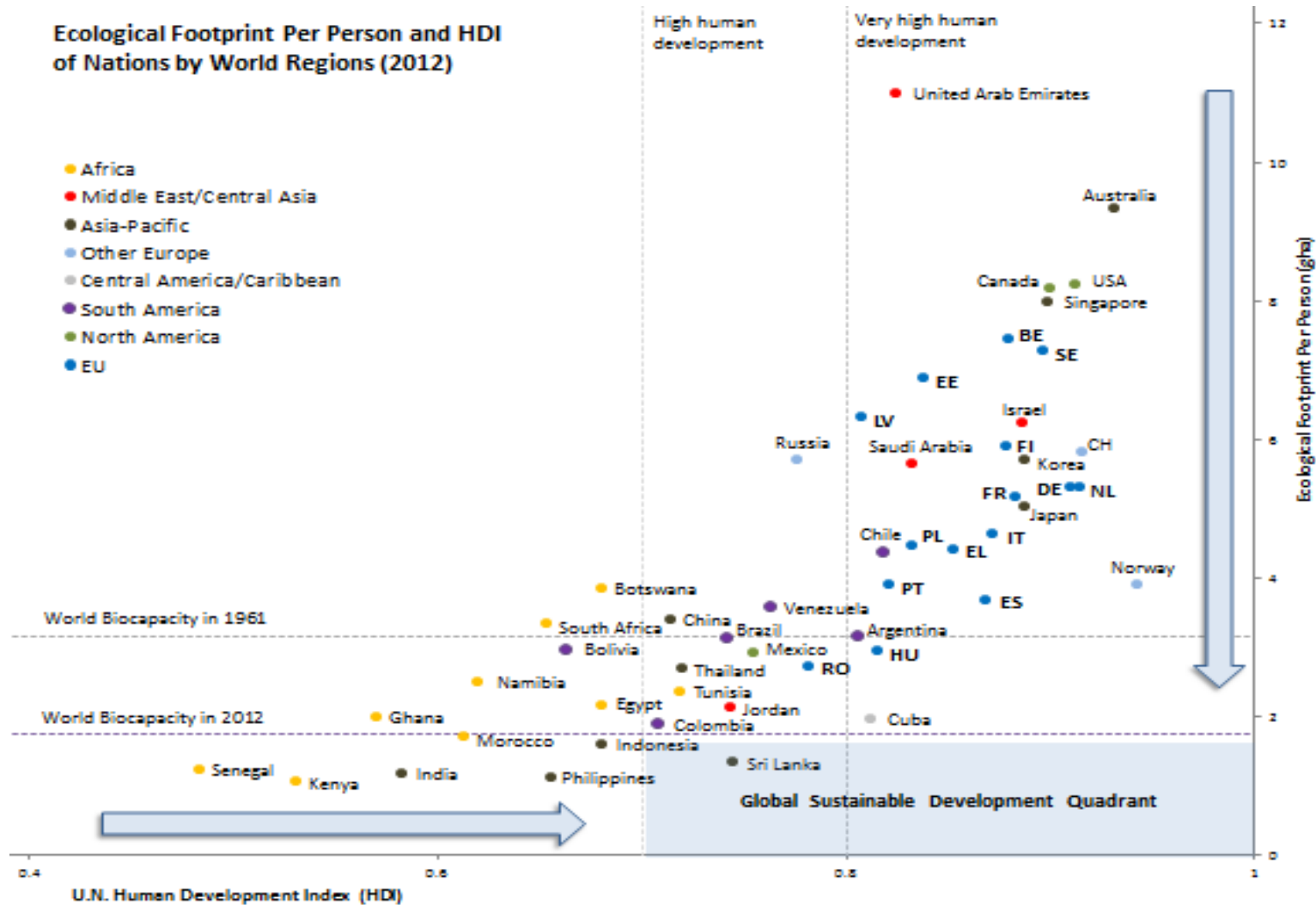


- 1) **Universality:** The SDGs are universal and commit all countries, irrespective of their development status or income level. They apply to all countries, in all contexts and at all times.
- 2) **Interconnectedness and indivisibility:** The SDGs are interconnected and indivisible in nature. The implementation of the SDGs should be regarded as a whole and not being approached from an individual or selective point of view.
- 3) **Leaving no one behind:** the Agenda commits to reach out to all people in deprivation and need, wherever they are, aiming to address their specific vulnerabilities.
- 4) **Inclusiveness:** The Agenda includes all segments of society regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, or identity.
- 5) **Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships:** The Agenda encourages the establishment of multi-stakeholder partnerships for sharing and mobilising knowledge, technology, financial resources, and expertise.

Principle 1. Universality - What does that mean in practice?

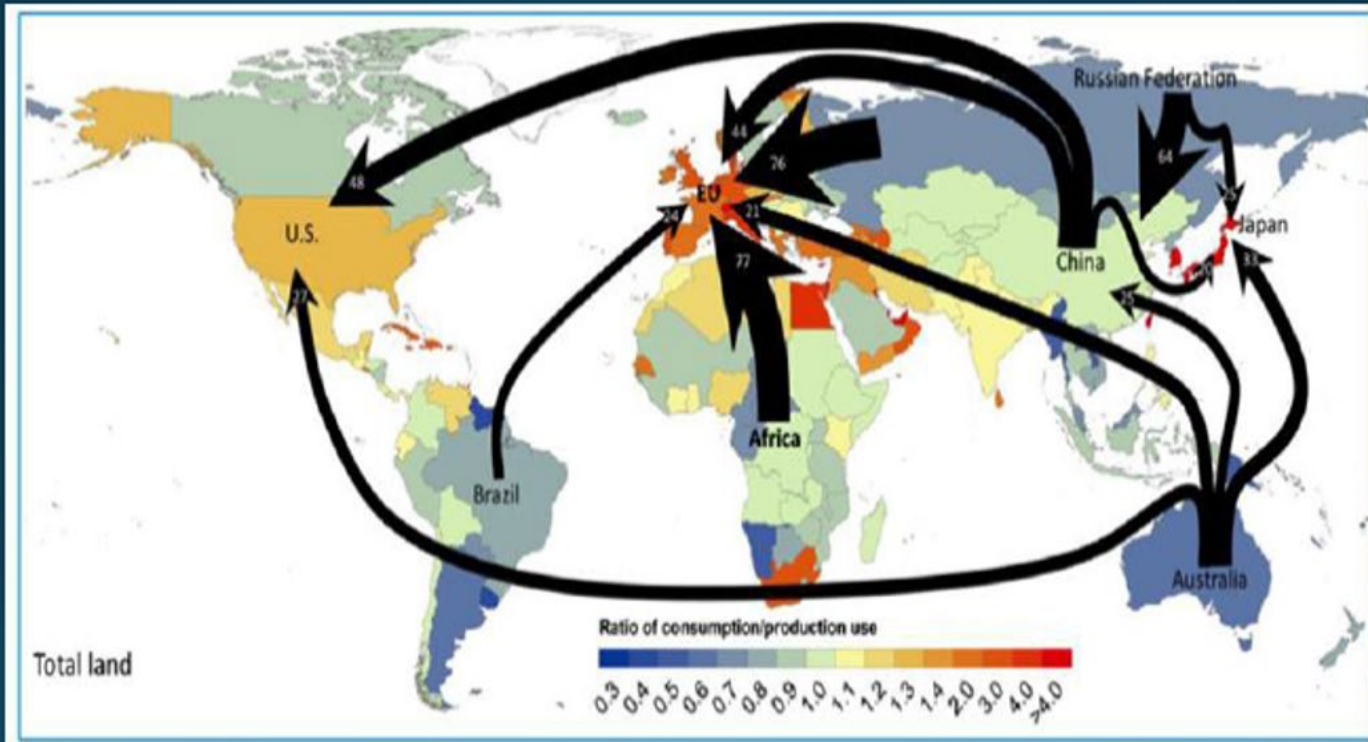


Universality: Agenda 2030 as a framework for different pathways to sustainability - Ecological footprint and HDI as a proxy for universality*



Niestroy (2016), based on the Global Footprint Network (online data, and provided data); graph developed by WWF (Living planet report) and UNDP (Human Development Report)

Systems thinking: SDG interactions by flows across boundaries



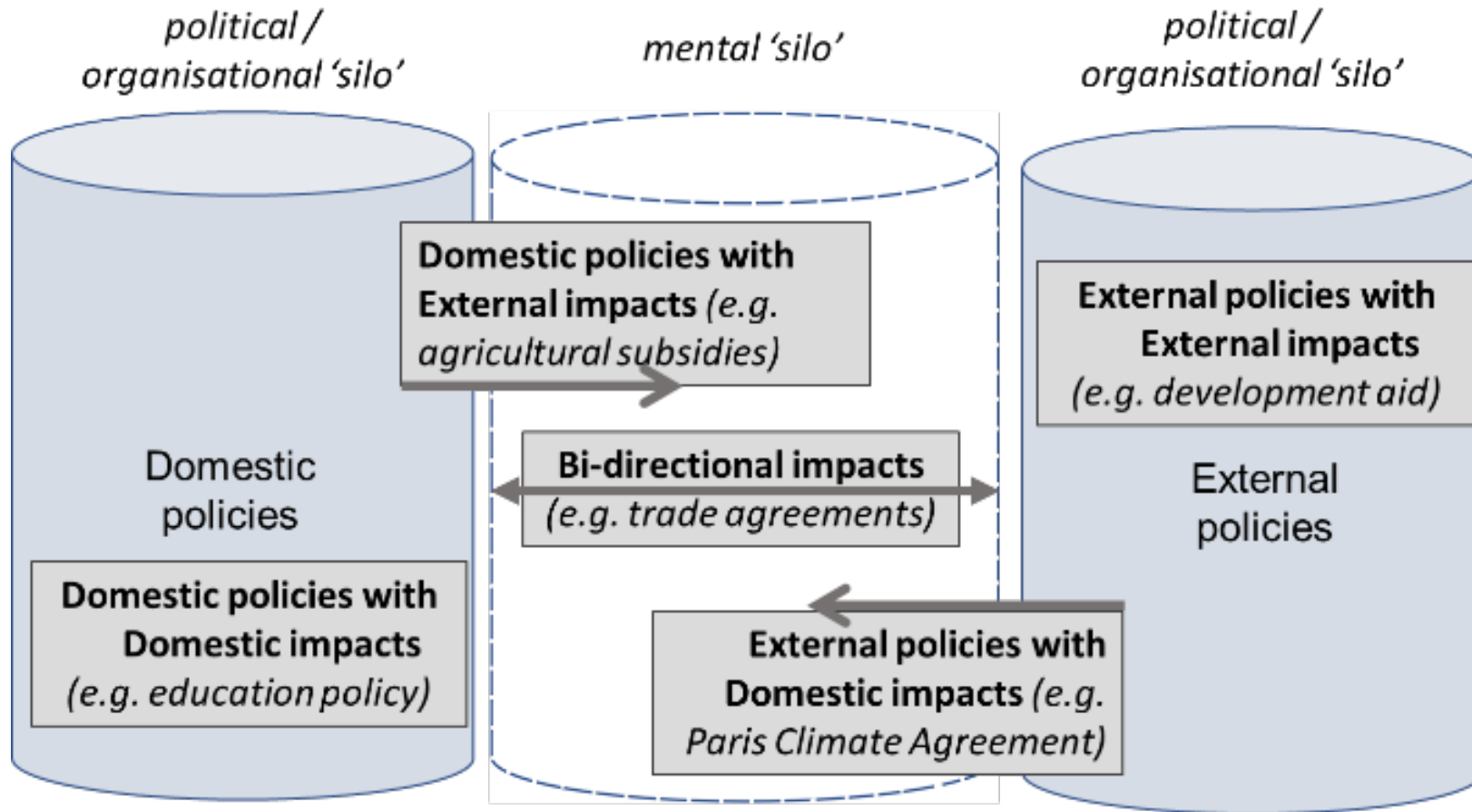
Yu et al.
2013

- Environmental impacts arise in both ends of the flows , and in different pace

- Present action is unjust and distorts national strategies for striving towards sustainable development

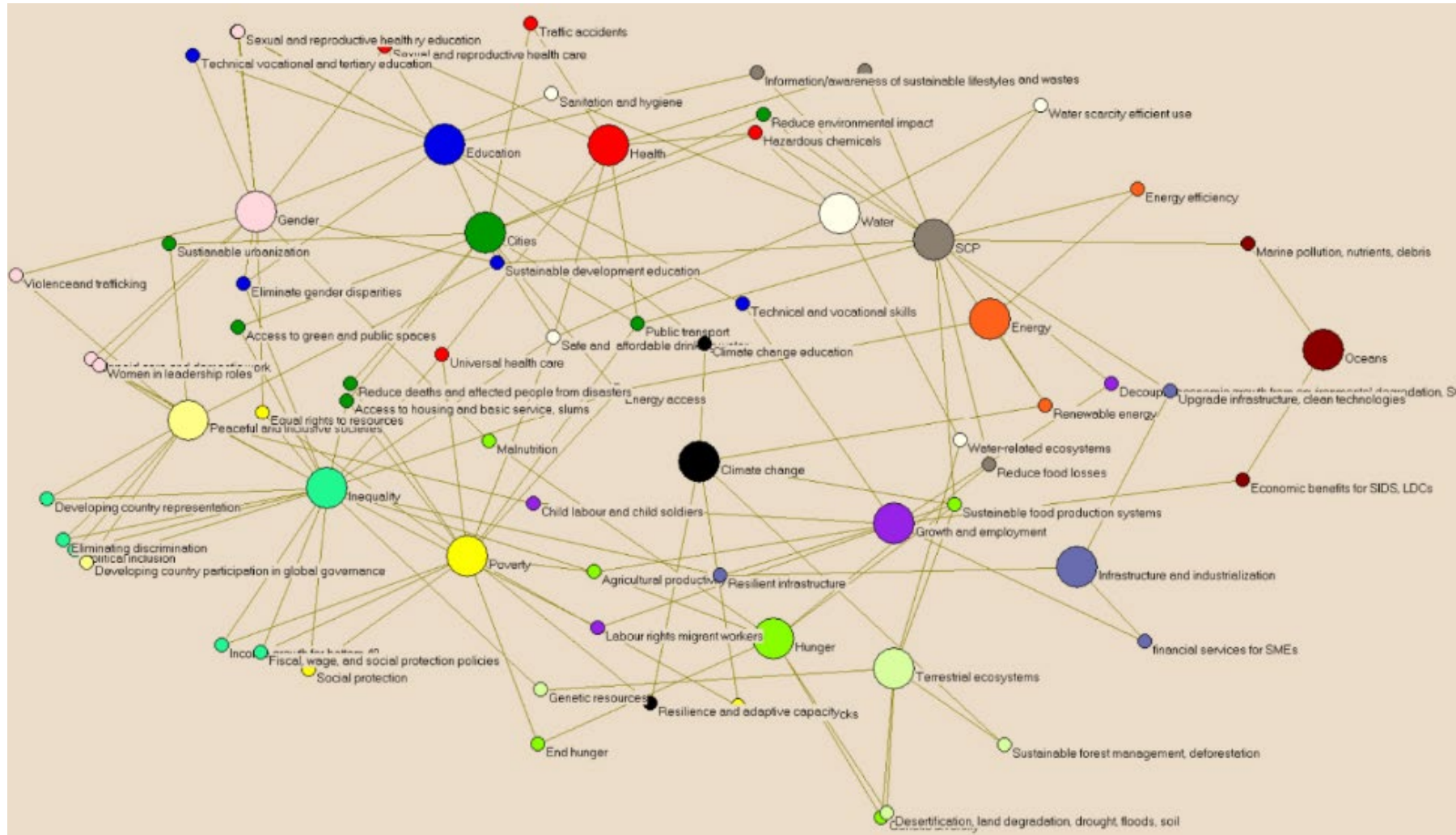
* UNDESA (2019). *Global Sustainable Development Report 2019. The Future Is Now: Science for Achieving Sustainable Development.*
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/gsd2019>.

Domestic and external policies, and the links between them



Source after: Ingeborg Niestroy, *How Are We Getting Ready? The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the EU and Its Member States: Analysis and Action so Far* (Discussion Paper 9/2016, German Development Institute (DIE), 2016).

Principle 2. The SDGs are ‘indivisible’. What does that mean in practice?

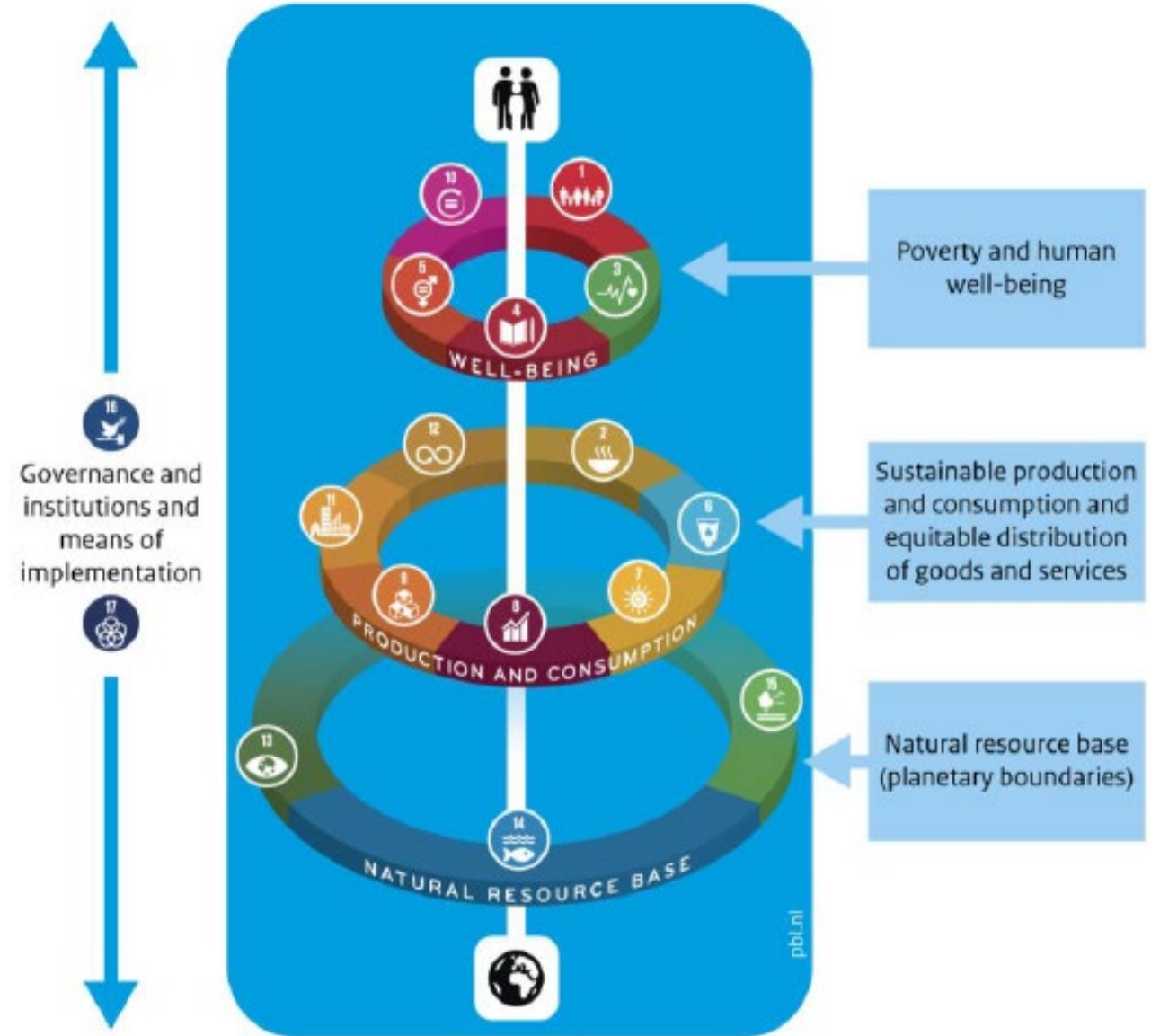


Le Blanc, D. (2015). [Towards integration at last? The sustainable development goals as a network of targets.](#) DESA Working Paper No. 141, ST/ESA/2015/DWP/141

The SDGs as a system of goals and targets



Adaptation of the 'wedding cake' model of the SDGs

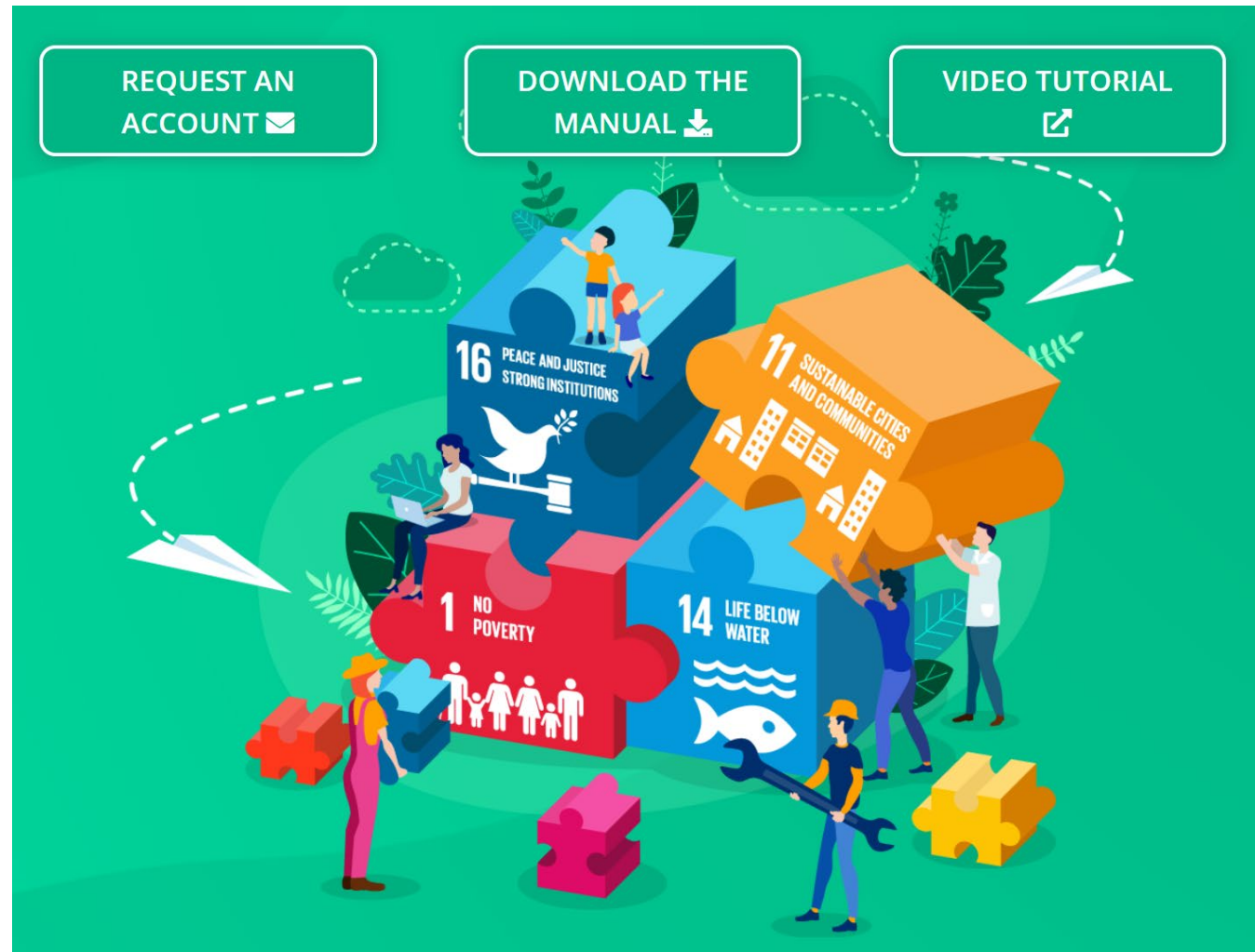


(Niestroy, 2016; PBL, 2018; based on Waage et al., 2015; Folke et al., 2016)

Methods to analyse the interlinkages between SDGs or SDG targets

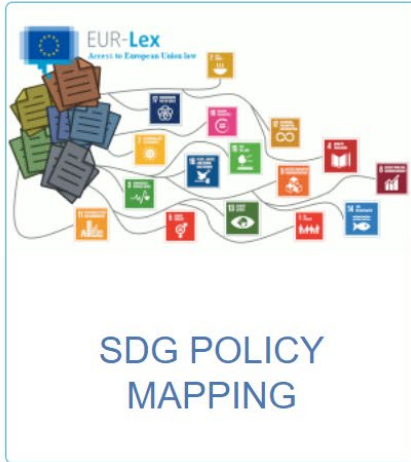


'[SDG Synergies](#)' (SEI), launched online in 2021)->




Methods to analyse the interlinkages between SDGs or SDG targets

[KnowSDGs Platform](#), Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission provides several tools, including on [interlinkages](#)

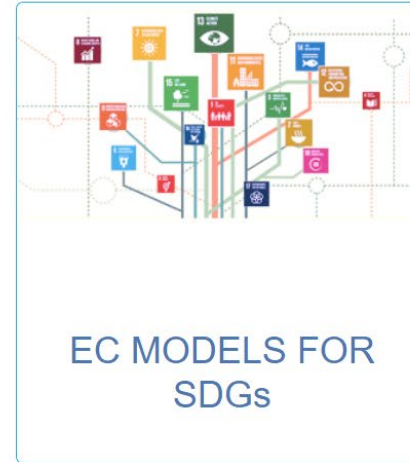


EUR-Lex
Access to European Union law

SDG POLICY MAPPING



SDG MAPPER TOOL



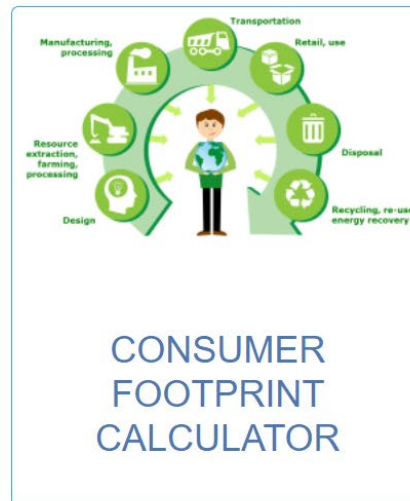
EC MODELS FOR SDGs



SDG INTERLINKAGES



ENABLINGSDGs TOOL



Manufacturing, processing
Transportation
Retail, use
Resource extraction, farming, processing
Design
Disposal
Recycling, re-use, energy recovery

CONSUMER FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR



LOCALISING SDGs



SMART SPECIALISATION FOR SDGs



KnowSDGs Platform

The SDG Mapper is a web app that provides SDG mapping automatically and in real time.

Users can access the tool, upload a document and discover which goals and targets are addressed



OVERVIEW

You want to find out how a certain document or even multiple documents relate to the Agenda 2030 and its SDGs? Simply upload the documents in the SDGMapper and run the tool to identify relevant SDGs in the text. Explore which SDGs are more prevalent than others along with their associated targets (under development) and indicators (under development).



AIMS

Supporting users in contextualising their work with the SDGs and contribute to a better understanding of the Agenda 2030 and its goals, targets and indicators. The SDGMapper ultimately facilitates the mainstreaming of the SDGs into policy and other decision making processes.



OUTPUTS

The tool provides several visualisations showing how the SDGs are addressed inside text documents. Bar charts provide a comprehensive overview on the identified SDGs and their relative importance in the text. Bubble charts are showing the relevance of goals and targets in the documents. Tables highlight relevant indicators and potentially interlinked goals and targets (under development). The visual outputs can be selected to comprise a final report that can be exported as a PDF.



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Close 

Tutorial is available here:

<https://knowsdgs.jrc.ec.europa.eu/sdgmapper#learn>

Principles 3 & 4



- 3) ***Leaving no one behind***: the Agenda commits to reach out to all people in deprivation and need, wherever they are, aiming to address their specific vulnerabilities.
- 4) ***Inclusiveness***: The Agenda includes all segments of society regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, or identity.

The UN “[Curriculum on Governance for the Sustainable Development Goals](#)” has many online trainings, including on “[Government Innovation for Social Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups](#)”. This is about:

- 1). Mainstreaming the "leaving no one behind approach" into national development and planning strategies.
- 2). Promoting inclusive and participatory governance through engagement of vulnerable groups in decision-making processes

Excerpt from the training “Government Innovation for Social Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups” (Module 3)



How do **poverty and other economic factors** impact **vulnerability**?

- Inherent economic causes of vulnerability
 - ∅ poverty
 - ∅ low income
 - ∅ unemployment/employment in informal sector
 - ∅ lack of access to finance/credits
- Lack of / less resources to cope with external shocks e.g.
 - ∅ assets loss
 - ∅ livelihoods loss
 - ∅ economic loss

Consequences

- ∅ SDG 1: (exacerbation of) poverty
- ∅ SDG 2: malnutrition
- ∅ SDG 3: spread of diseases
- ∅ SDG 4: lack of access to quality education
- ∅ SDG 5: gender inequality
- ∅ SDG 6, SDG 11: poor housing conditions / hygiene
- ∅ SDG 16, SDG 13: migration / displacement

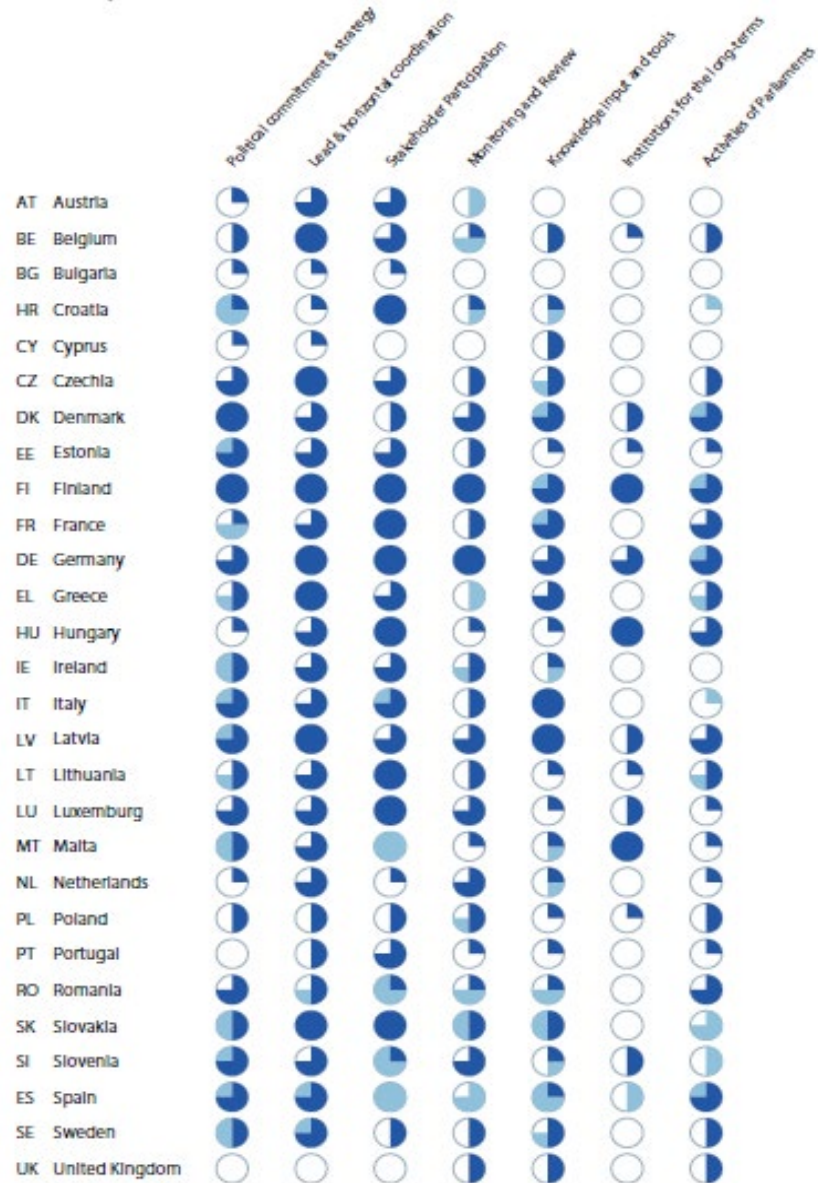
How do **power dynamics and other social dimensions** impact **vulnerability**?

- Vulnerability can arise from belonging to a specific group, characterized by e.g.
 - ∅ social-economic conditions
 - ∅ gender
 - ∅ ethnic
 - ∅ cultural identity
 - ∅ age
 - ∅ language

Consequences

- ∅ Inability to raise the voice
- ∅ difficulty to react to potential risks; lack of resilience to disasters and human-induced hazards
- ∅ lack of support, help or intervention by government or other stakeholders

Where are the EU and its Member States?



DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL POLICIES
POLICY DEPARTMENT



European Parliament

STUDY

Europe's approach to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: good practices and the way forward

https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank/en/document.html?reference=EXPO_STU%282019%29603473

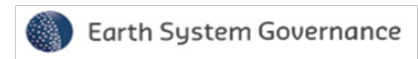
Dr. Ingeborg Niestroy



Elisabeth Hege



Elizabeth Dirth & Ruben Zondervan



Where are the EU and its Member States?



Progress 😊	Challenges 😞
<p>Majority of countries has or plans to update their NDP or SD strategy with the SDGs – <i>across the political spectrum</i></p>	<p>These strategies are not always operational (half the cases)</p>
<p>Half of the countries have clear coordination mechanisms between ministries, often with Prime Minister leadership</p>	<p>Link between domestic and external dimension (and between economic affairs and the rest) and vertical coordination remain weak</p>
<p>Extensive efforts to improve stakeholder participation <i>in most countries</i></p>	<p><i>In a small minority of countries</i>, stakeholder participation remains absent (or: only social partners, no NGOs); update: often one-off for the VNR</p>
<p>Most States have regular progress reports and indicators on the SDGs</p>	<p>Room for improvement in the area of target setting and independent review</p>
<p>Several countries plan new SIA or budget checks and some are advanced</p>	<p>Sustainability impact assessments and budget checks are still rare</p>
<p>Increasingly parliaments have special committees or arrangements dealing with Agenda 2030</p>	<p>Overcoming parliamentary silos, using legislative, budgetary and scrutiny role for SDG advancement</p>

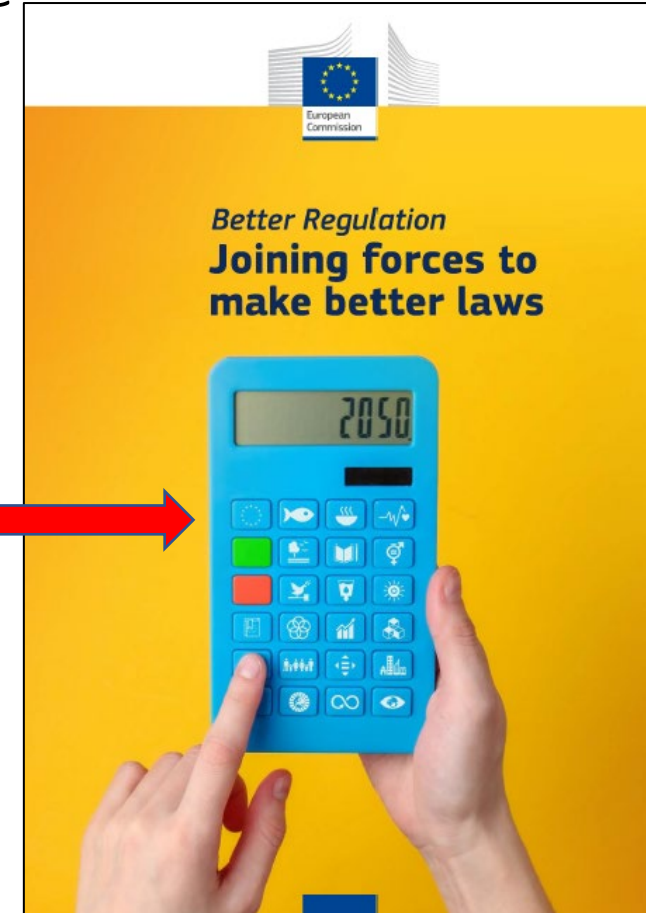
Where are the EU and its Member States?



The 2021 revised EU Better Regulation package

The mainstreaming of SDGs is one the main features of the revision

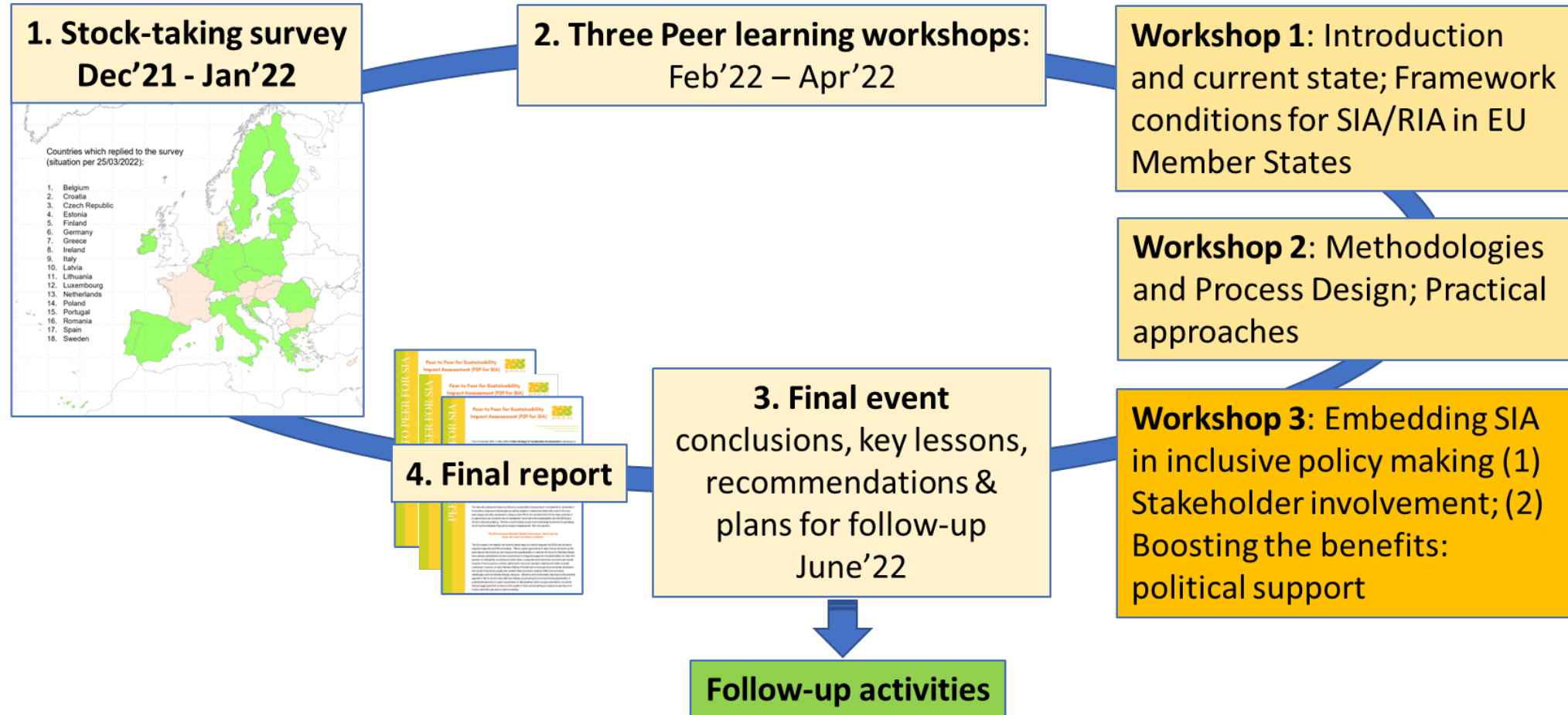
- 1. Progress towards the SDGs must be part of the impact assessments of Commission proposals, including considering SDG indicators (from UN and Eurostat)**
2. Every legislative proposal (explanatory memorandum) must show how it contributes to the SDGs
3. Evaluations will also assess how EU actions contributed to SDG implementation



Where are the EU and its Member States?

Peer 2 Peer project on Mainstreaming Sustainability into Regulatory Impact Assessments

[Romania actively involved, and 12 other EU countries]



Where are the EU and its Member States?

Annual Eurostat reports



Sustainable development in the European Union
 Overview of progress towards the SDGs in an EU context
 2021 edition



EUROSTAT SUPPORTS THE SDGs




Where are the EU and its Member States?

Annual Eurostat reports



Sustainable development in the European Union
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 2021 edition



EUROSTAT SUPPORTS THE SDGs




Where are the EU and its Member States?



Accompanying the document

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK AND THE EUROGROUP

2020 European Semester: Assessment of progress on structural reforms, prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, and results of in-depth reviews under Regulation (EU) No 1176/2011

The European Commission gives the example of **linking economic, social and environmental challenges** in the annual **European Semester** country reports (in 2020; not 2021; 2022 coming soon)

Table E.1: Indicators measuring Romania's progress towards the SDGs

SDG / Sub-theme	Indicator	Unit	Romania				EU-28			
			Starting		Latest		Starting		Latest	
			year	value	year	value	year	value	year	value
SDG 1 – No poverty										
Multidimensional poverty	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion	% of population	2013	41.9	2018	32.5	2013	24.6	2018	21.9
	People at risk of income poverty after social transfers	% of population	2013	23.0	2018	23.5	2013	16.7	2018	17.1
	Severely materially deprived people	% of population	2013	29.8	2018	16.8	2013	9.6	2018	5.8
	People living in households with very low work intensity	% of population aged 0 to 59	2013	7.6	2018	7.4	2013	11.0	2018	8.8
	In-work at-risk-of-poverty rate	% of population aged 18 or over	2013	18.4	2018	15.3	2013	9.0	2018	9.5
Basic needs	Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor	% of population	2013	16.2	2018	10.1	2013	15.6	2018	13.9
	Self-reported unmet need for medical care	% of population aged 16 or over	2013	10.9	2018	4.9	2013	3.7	2018	2.0
	Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household	% of population	2013	33.7	2018	25.6	2013	2.2	2018	1.7
	Population unable to keep home adequately warm	% of population	2013	14.7	2018	9.6	2013	10.7	2018	7.3
	Overcrowding rate	% of population	2013	50.6	2018	46.3	2013	17.0	2018	15.5
SDG 2 – Zero hunger										
Malnutrition	Obesity rate	% of population aged 18 or over	2014	9.4	2017	10.4	2014	15.9	2017	15.2

Where is Romania?

The first National Sustainable Development Strategy of Romania (NSDS) was elaborated in 1999, and reviewed in 2008 (one year after the EU accession)

The Strategy was reviewed in order to mainstream and integrated the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs

A first VNR was published in 2018, and the 2nd is announced for 2023

2021: National Action Plan for the Implementation of Romania's National Strategy for Sustainable Development 2030, with an elaborated governance framework (see part 2 of the training)



PERMANENT MISSION OF ROMANIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The Ambassador,
Permanent Representative

11 April 2022

H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile
President of the Economic and Social Council
United Nations

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to refer to the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF), to be convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in July 2022. With reference to General Assembly resolution 70/1, I have the honour to request that **Romania be inscribed on the list of countries participating in the voluntary national reviews (VNRs) to take place at the 2023 HLPF.**

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



End poverty in all its forms everywhere

TARGETS

1.1 - By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day

1.2 - By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions

1.3 - Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable

1.4

By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

1.5

By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

1.a

Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions

1.b

Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions


Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



2 ZERO HUNGER
End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities

for all

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

TARGETS


Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?

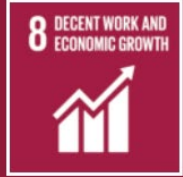


7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Build resilient infrastructure,
promote inclusive and
sustainable industrialization
and foster innovation

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



Reduce inequality within and among countries

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

TARGETS


Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



13 CLIMATE ACTION

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*

TARGETS

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

TARGETS



Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?

TARGETS



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels


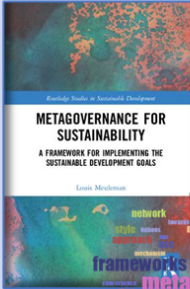


Which Ministry/Department is / feels responsible for which SDG(s)?

TARGETS




Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Comments, questions?

1. WHAT? The SDGs as comprehensive policy framework	Short break	2. HOW? (1) Governance for sustainability is governance of complexity	Short break	3. HOW? (2) An action perspective: Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development
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Comments, questions?

<p>1. WHAT? The SDGs as comprehensive policy framework</p> 	<p>Short break</p>	<p>2. HOW? (1) Governance for sustainability is governance of complexity</p>	<p>Short break</p>	<p>3. HOW? (2) An action perspective: Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development</p>
<p>70 min</p>	<p>15 min</p>	<p>70 min</p>	<p>15 min</p>	<p>70 min</p>
<p>Start: 1 pm</p>	<p>2:10 pm</p>	<p>2:25 pm</p>	<p>3:35 pm</p>	<p>3:50 pm End: 5 pm</p>
