Overview of methodologies and tools for SDG integration

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

2030 Agenda principles

UNIVERSALITY

- Implies that goals and targets are relevant to all governments and actors

INTEGRATION

- Policy integration means balancing all three SD dimensions: social, economic growth and environmental protection
- An integrated approach implies managing trade-offs and maximizing synergies across targets

'NO ONE LEFT BEHIND'

- The principle of 'no one left behind' advocates countries to go beyond averages.
- The SDGs should benefit all and aim to reach the furthest behind first.

2030 Agenda principles

INTEGRATION

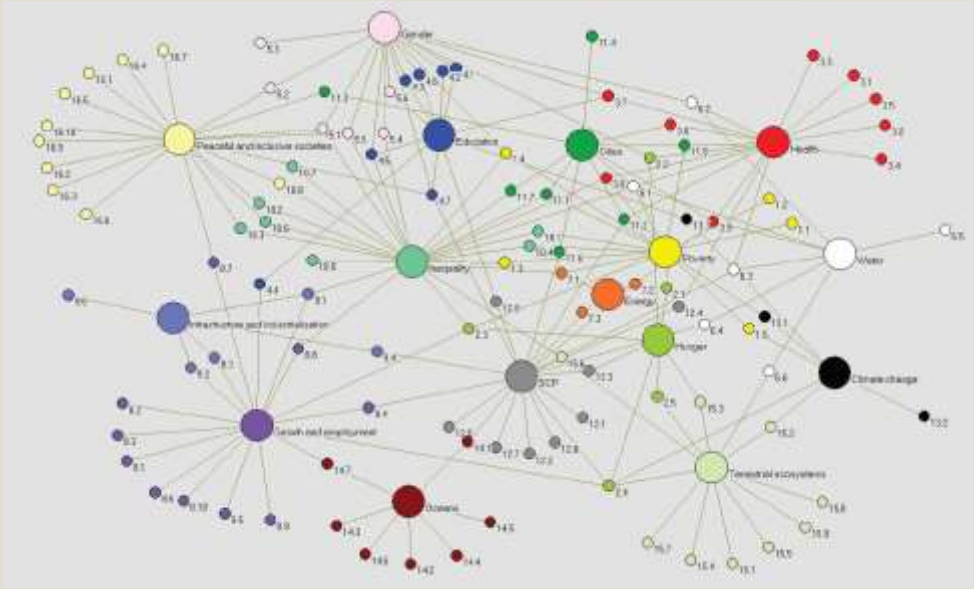
- Policy integration means **balancing all three SD dimensions:** social, economic growth and environmental protection
- An integrated approach implies **managing trade-offs and maximizing synergies** across targets

SDGs are integrated and indivisible but how the goals and targets are interconnected with each other? (IGES, 2017)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

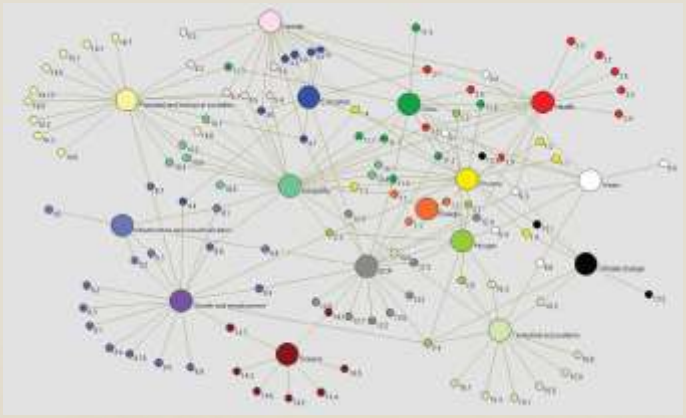
- There are still gaps for an integrated implementation :
  - How to take into account interactions between SDGs and/or targets ? (Stafford-Smith, 2014; ICSU, 2017; Nilsson et al., 2016; IGES, 2017).
  - Need for tools (United Nations, 2014)
  - Need for a systemic thinking to the implementation of SDGs (ICSU and ISSC, 2015; Le Blanc, 2015; OECD, 2017)



Le Blanc, 2015

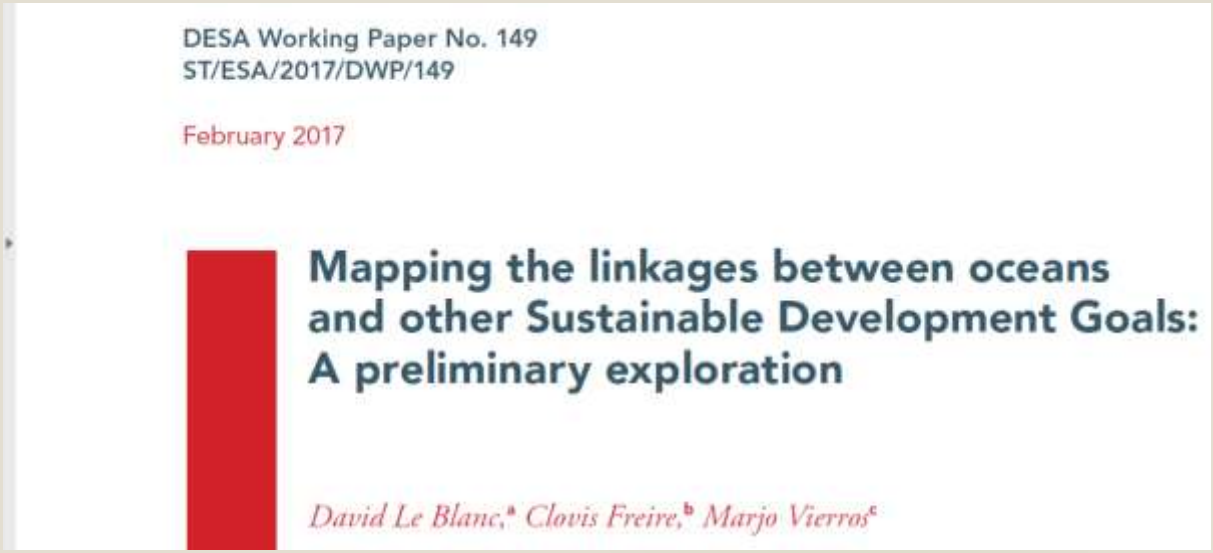
METHODOLOGIES

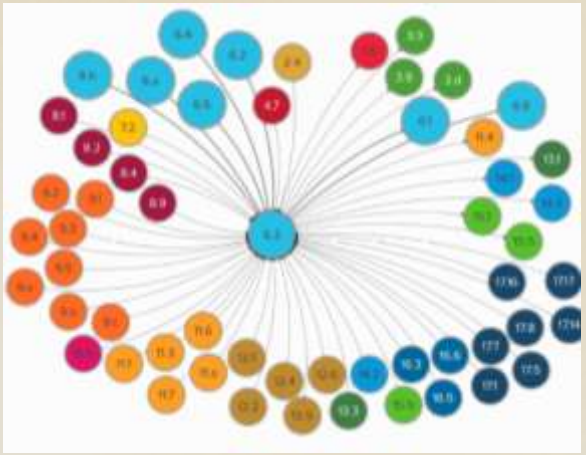
SDGs integration



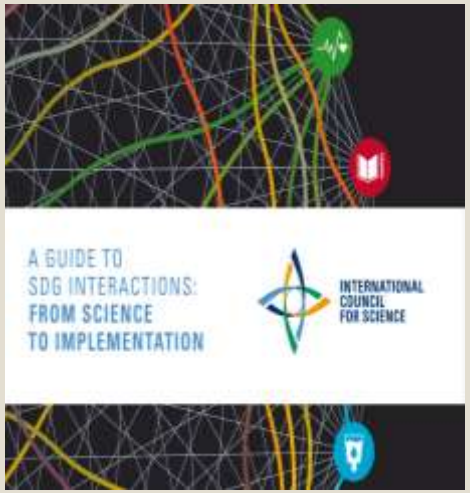
Le Blanc, 2015

(IGES, 2017)





ESCAP, 2017



(ICSU, 2017)

Vladimirova and Le Blanc, 2016

Methodologies – Gaps and limitations

- « Existing knowledge on SDG integration is limited »
- Some approaches developed but need to be improved
- Few practical applications
- Few holistic approach including all the 17 SDGs or all 169 targets
- Few quantitative assessment of the interlinkages
- Interactions not explicit in goals/targets
- Lots of « ifs », « buts », « may » and can
- Few works on cricular relationship interactions

Interaction classification/assessment

SEEING THE WHOLE

Implementing the SDGs in an Integrated and Coherent Way

(Coopman et al., 2016)

CATEGORY	CATEGORY DEFINITION	TYPE	TYPE DEFINITION	SCORE
Supporting	Targets that support one another tend to do so by fulfilling objectives expressed by each target.	Commonly supporting	Both targets contribute to the same objective	1
		Mutually supporting	Target A's objective is achieved by Target B's means of implementation, and vice versa	2
Enabling	Targets that enable one another satisfy this relationship by having an impact on the achievement of another target.	Disenabling	Implementing target B may hinder or reverse the achievement of Target (eg by competing with it for resources, or more fundamentally because the typical means of implementation of the first target actually worsen the underlying problem which the second target is addressing)	0
		Indirect Enabling	Target B's implementation indirectly enables the achievement of Target A	1
		Direct Enabling	Target B's implementation directly enables the achievement of Target A	2
		Direct Enabling in Both Directions	Target B's implementation directly enables the achievement of Target A, and Target A's implementation directly enables Target B's achievement	3
Relying	Targets that rely on one another derive from a relationship of logical necessity which exists between the two targets.	Partial reliance	Target B is a subcategory of Target A and adds some detail as to how Target A can be achieved	1
		Full reliance	Target B's implementation is necessary for, but not intrinsic to, Target A's achievement	2

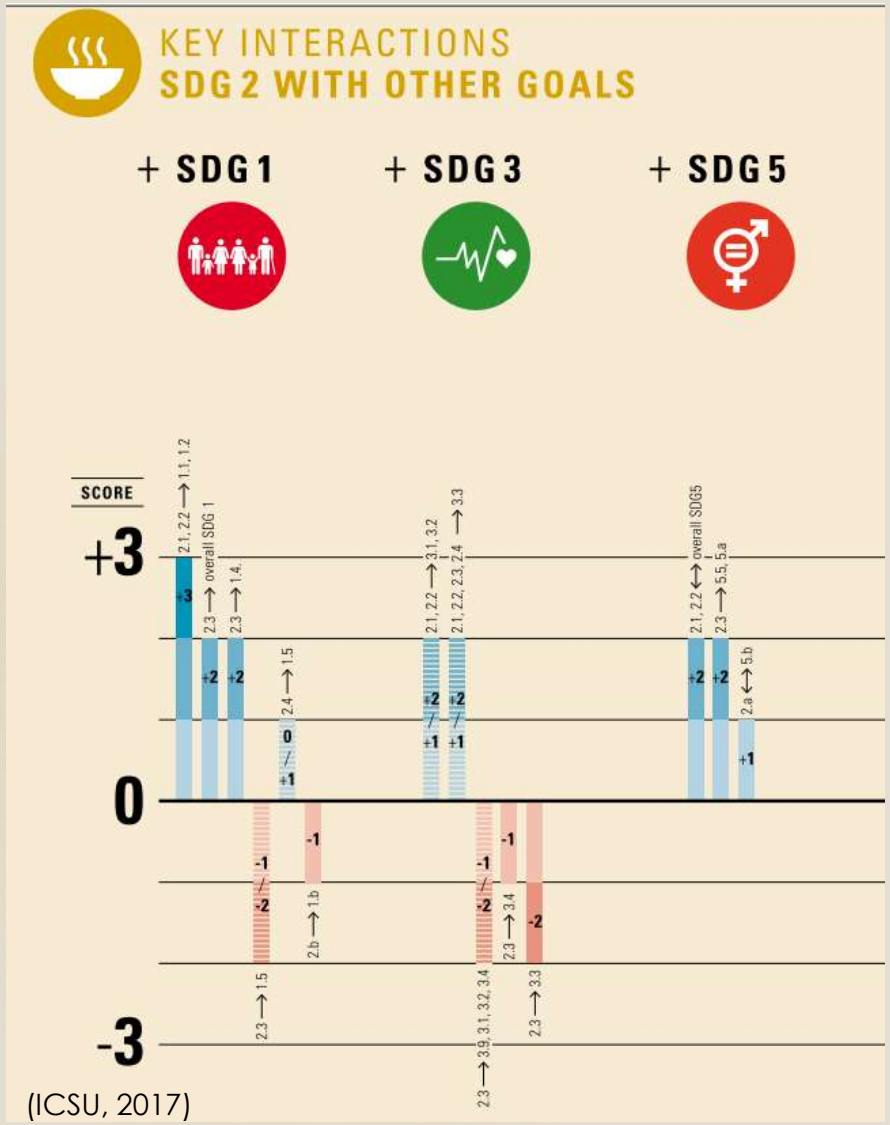
ICSU – International Council for Science

A draft framework for understanding SDG interactions

(Nilsson et al., 2016)

Interaction	Nom
+3	Indivisible
+2	Reinforcing
+1	Enabling
0	Consistent
-1	Constraining
-2	Counter-acting
-3	Cancelling

Interactions assessment



(ICSU, 2017)

Involves subjectivity. The scale promotes dialogue with a common language.

« Ifs » and « buts »…

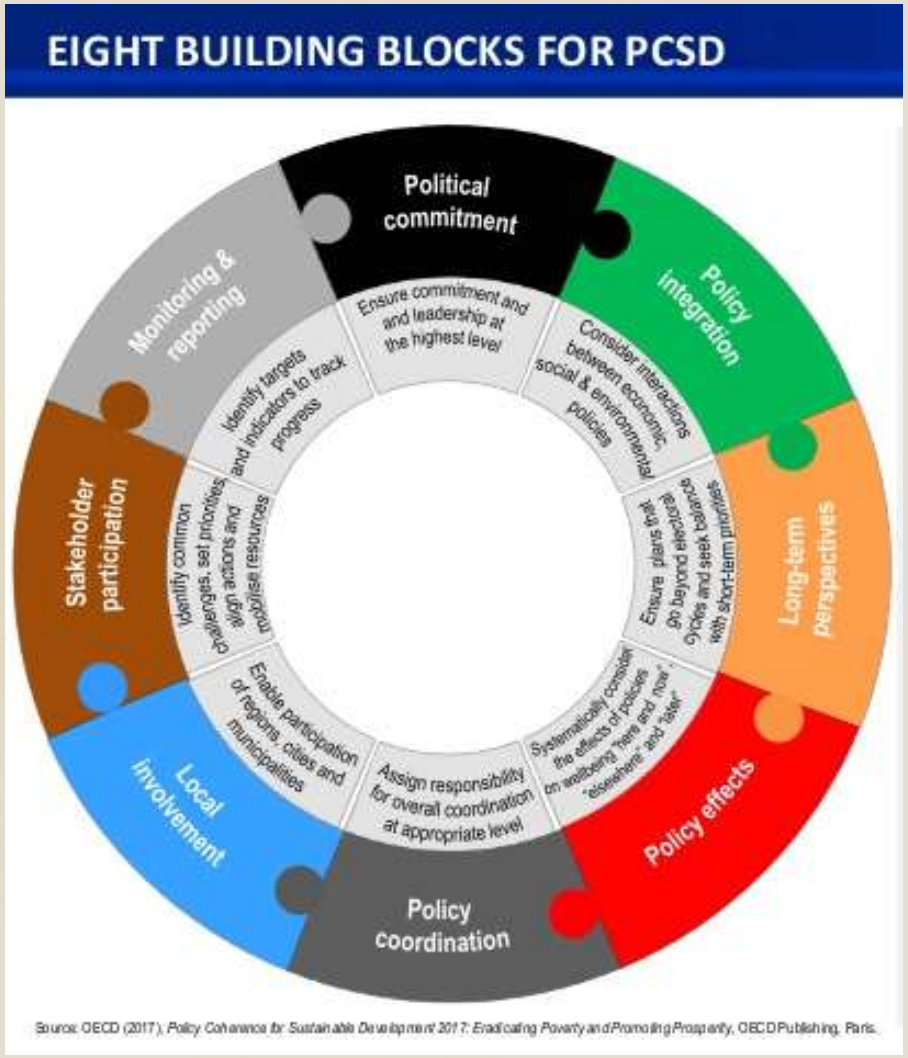
"Position of a given interaction on the seven-point scale is rarely absolute.

Position and nature of the interaction depend on the context within which the interaction occurs." (ICSU, 2017)

Policy coherence

- « an attribute of policy that systematically reduces conflicts and promotes synergies between and within different policy areas to achieve the outcomes associated with jointly agreed policy objectives." (Nilsson et al, 2012)

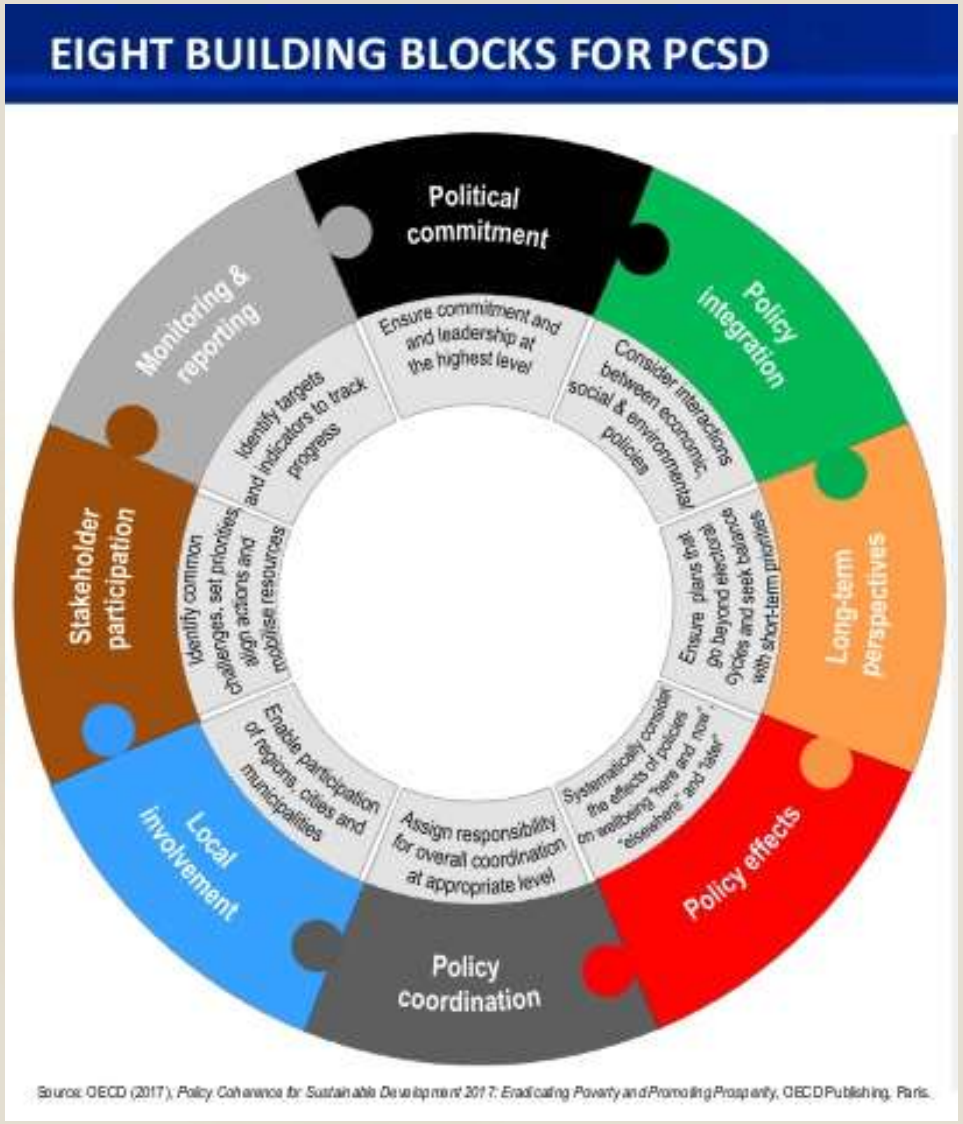
Policy coherence for sustainable development (PCSD)



- « The OECD defines PCSD as an approach and policiy tool to sysematically integrate the economic, social and environmental dimensions of SD at all stages of domestic and international policy making » (OECD, 2018)

- Three main objectives:
  - Foster synergies accross economic, social and environmental policy areas ;
  - Identify trade-offs and reconcile domestic policy objectives with internationally agreed objectives ;
  - Address the negative spillovers of domestic policies

Policy coherence



- Political commitment
- Policy integration
- Long term planning horizons
- Policy effects
- Policy coordination
- Subnational and Local involvment
- Stakeholder engagement
- Monitoring and reporting

MAPS - UNDG

MAINSTREAMING

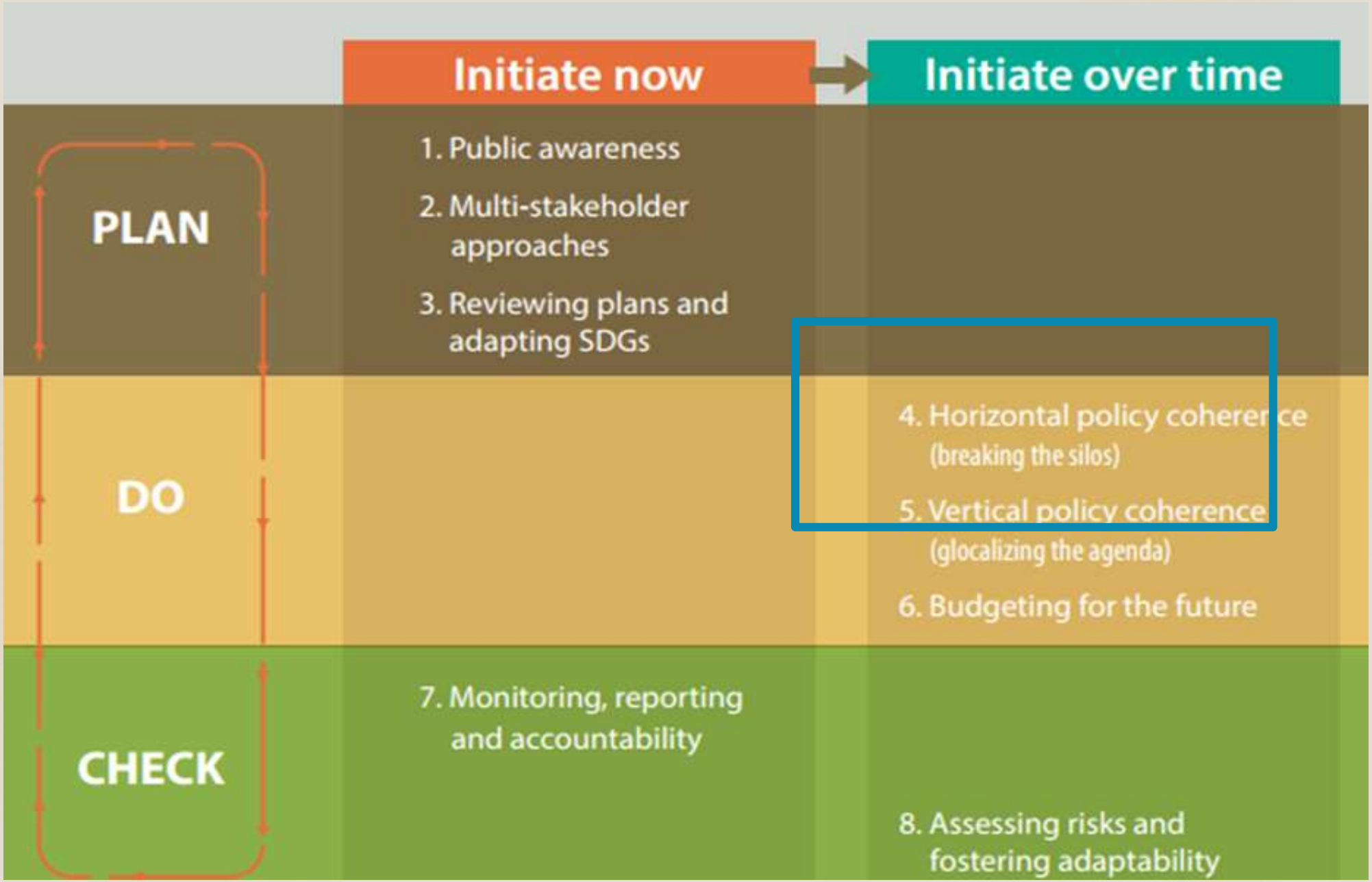
- **Landing the SDG agenda at the national and local levels:** integration into national and sub-national plans for development; and into budget allocations

ACCELERATION

- **Focus on priority areas** defined by respective countries
- Support an **integrated approach**, including synergies and trade-offs
- **Bottlenecks assessment**, financing and partnerships, and measurement

POLICY SUPPORT

- **Support – skills and experience - from respective UN agencies to countries**, which should be made available at a low cost in a timely manner


Initiate now
Initiate over time
PLAN
1. Public awareness
2. Multi-stakeholder approaches
3. Reviewing plans and adapting SDGs
DO
4. Horizontal policy coherence (breaking the silos)
5. Vertical policy coherence (glocalizing the agenda)
6. Budgeting for the future
CHECK
7. Monitoring, reporting and accountability
8. Assessing risks and fostering adaptability

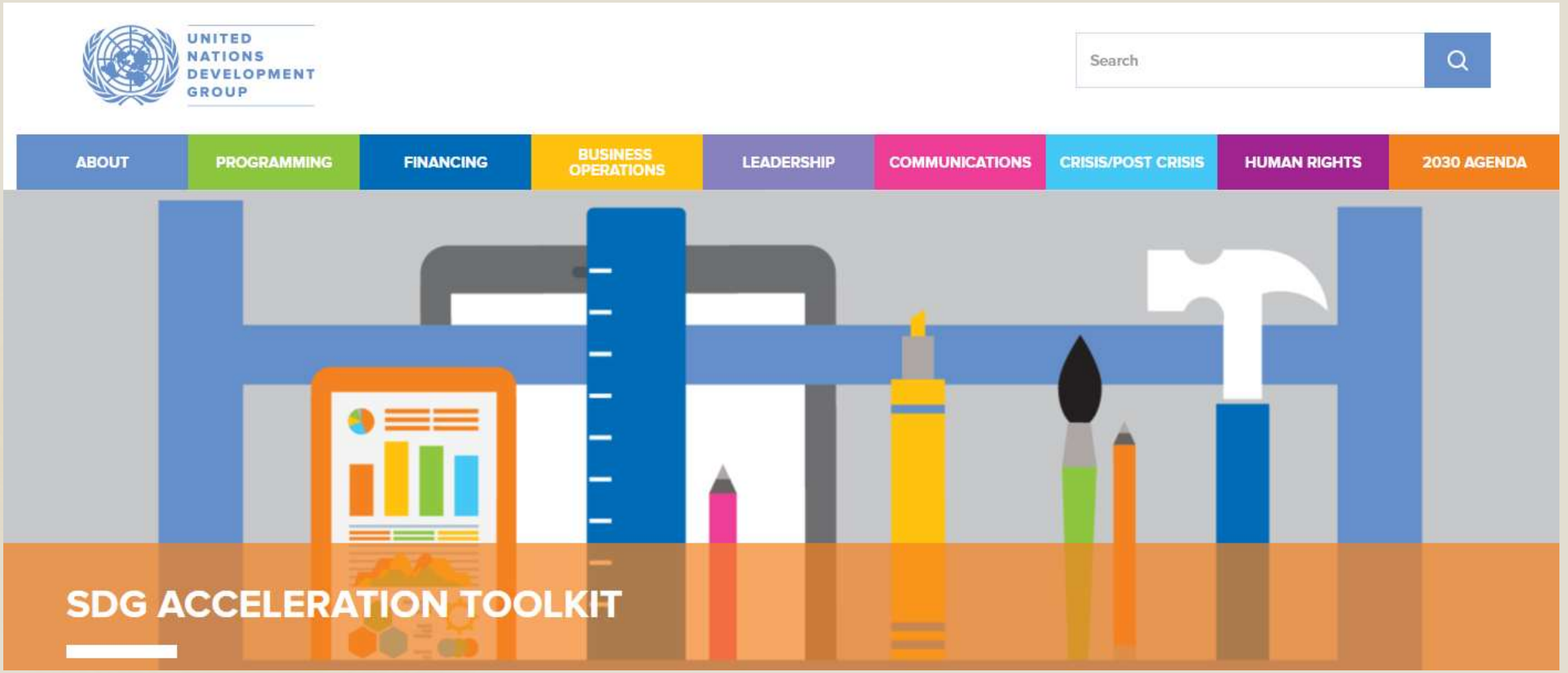
TOOLS

Different tools for different needs

Tools type	Specific aspects	Examples
Planning	Tools that address priorities and guide the actions to be implemented	National Sustainable Development Strategies
Legislative and regulatory	Binding tools under the responsibility of a regulatory authority (national or local government, mandatory)	Constitution, laws, regulations
Economic and fiscal	Tools that use market mechanism by incentive or punitive manner	
Participation and communication	Tools to inform, educate, train and mobilize stakeholders in participative ways	Sectoral and intersectoral committees, participatory mechanisms, capacity building activities
Normative	Reference tools developed by competent authorities with voluntary adoption. Include standards and good practice guides	ISO 26000, SD 21000
Technological	Tools that use the techniques and technology to contribute to SD	Sustainable construction, eco-design, SD research programs
Analysis, monitoring, evaluation	Tools to evaluate the performance of policies, strategies, programs and projects and for accountability	The Sustainable Development Analytical Grid
Process	Planning and intervention that mobilize various SD tools	Local Agenda 21, The Natural Step, SD management system

Riffon, 2016

UNDG – SDG Acceleration toolkit



SDG ACCELERATION TOOLKIT

TOOL CATEGORY

Integration tools for analysing interconnections, synergies, trade-offs and bottlenecks among SDGs

- ☐ Dynamic Simulation Tools
- ☐ Indicators and Assessment Tools
- ☐ Static Inter-linkage Analysis Tools

Last-mile tools to support meeting the SDGs and targets and unlocking bottlenecks for all segments of society and reaching the furthest behind first

- ☐ Community-based Planning, Partnership, and Multi-stakeholder Engagement Tools
- ☐ Data Revolution Tools
- ☐ Fragility Assessment Tools
- ☐ Human Rights Mainstreaming Tools
- ☐ Tools for Financing the SDGs
- ☐ Vulnerability Assessment Tools

Risk-informed planning toolsfor resilience building, adaptation and identifying synergies and unlocking bottlenecks

- ☐ Disaster Risk Reduction Tools
- ☐ Economic Forecasting Tools
- ☐ Environmental Degradation Risk Reduction Tools
- ☐ Epidemic and Pandemic Analysis Tools
- ☐ Peace and Conflict Analysis Tools
- ☐ Risk, Foresight and Scenario Tools
- ☐ Tools for Financing Resilience

More than 60 tools: different tools for different needs, tools for specific SDGs or for the 17

SDG ACCELERATION TOOLKIT

TYPE OF TOOL

- ☐ Capacity building
- ☐ Communication plans
- ☐ Computer models and programmes
- ☐ Diagnostics Technology access protocols
- ☐ Econometric models
- ☐ Financing instruments and funds
- ☐ Guidelines
- ☐ Knowledge management platforms
- ☐ Narrative (storytelling) guidelines
- ☐ Programming methodologies
- ☐ Scenario builders, forecasting and back-casting methodologies
- ☐ Sets of monitoring indicators and indices
- ☐ Training programmes

SELECT YOUR LANGUAGE OF PREFERENCE

Arabic | Chinese | English | French | Russian | Spanish

Tools developed by different organizations from inside and outside the UN System

Eco-Advising Chair contributions

- SDG target Prioritization Grid (Only in French):
  - Planning tool
  - Awareness and participatory prioritization of the SDG Targets
  - Allows to adapt the 2030 Agenda to contexts, to identify priority targets and indicators
- Sustainable Development Analytical Grid (SDAG) (Villeneuve et al., 2017)
  - analytical tool based on six dimensions (ecological, social, economic, ethical, cultural and governance), which can be used to assess to what extend a politic, a strategy, a program or a project (PSPP) can improve human conditions through the leverage it provides without adverse effect to other components of sustainability.
  - The SDAG evaluates PSPP performance on objectives in order to assess dimensions and overall sustainability performance.

Conclusion

- No one-size-fits-all
- Needs more research…
- The complexity inherent in the implementation of Agenda 2030 calls for an opening on a set of approaches, methodologies and tools
- We need to embrace that complexity

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION!

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