



The United Nations Independent Group of Scientists

Global Sustainable Development Report

2023

Process and key elements



The Independent Group of Scientists (2020-2023)



Mr. John Agard, Professor of Tropical Island Ecology and Director of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship



Ms. Imme Scholz, Deputy Director of the German Development Institute (DIE) and Honorary Professor of the Centre for Ethics and Responsibility at Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg



Mr. Ibrahima Hathie, Research Director for the Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR Senegal)



Ms. Nyovani Janet Madise, Director of Development Policy and Head of the Malawi office of the African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP)



Mr. Jiahua Pan, Member of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Director of the Institute of Eco-civilization Studies and Professor of Economics, Beijing University of Technology



Ms. Kaltham Al-Ghanim, professor of sociology at Qatar University and Director of the Social & Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI)



Ms. Shirin Malekpour, Senior lecturer and researcher in planning and governance for sustainable development, Monash Sustainable Development Institute, Monash University



Ms. Åsa Persson, Research Director and Deputy Director of the Stockholm Environment Institute



Mr. Sergey N. Bobylev, Head of Environmental Economic Division, Full Professor of Moscow State "Lomonosov" University



Mr. J. Jaime Miranda, Research Professor at the Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, and Director of the CRONICAS Center of Excellence in Chronic Diseases, at Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia (UPCH)



Mr. Ambuj Sagar, Vipula and Mahesh Chaturvedi Professor of Policy Studies and the founding Head of the School of Public Policy at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi



Mr. Jaime C. Montoya, Professor at the University of the Philippines College of Medicine, Chair of the Health Sciences Division, Secretary of the National Academy of Science and Technology and the Executive Director of the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development, Department of Science and Technology



Ms. Opha Pauline Dube, Associate Professor, University of Botswana



Ms. Nancy Shackell, Senior research scientist at Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Nova Scotia, working for Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)



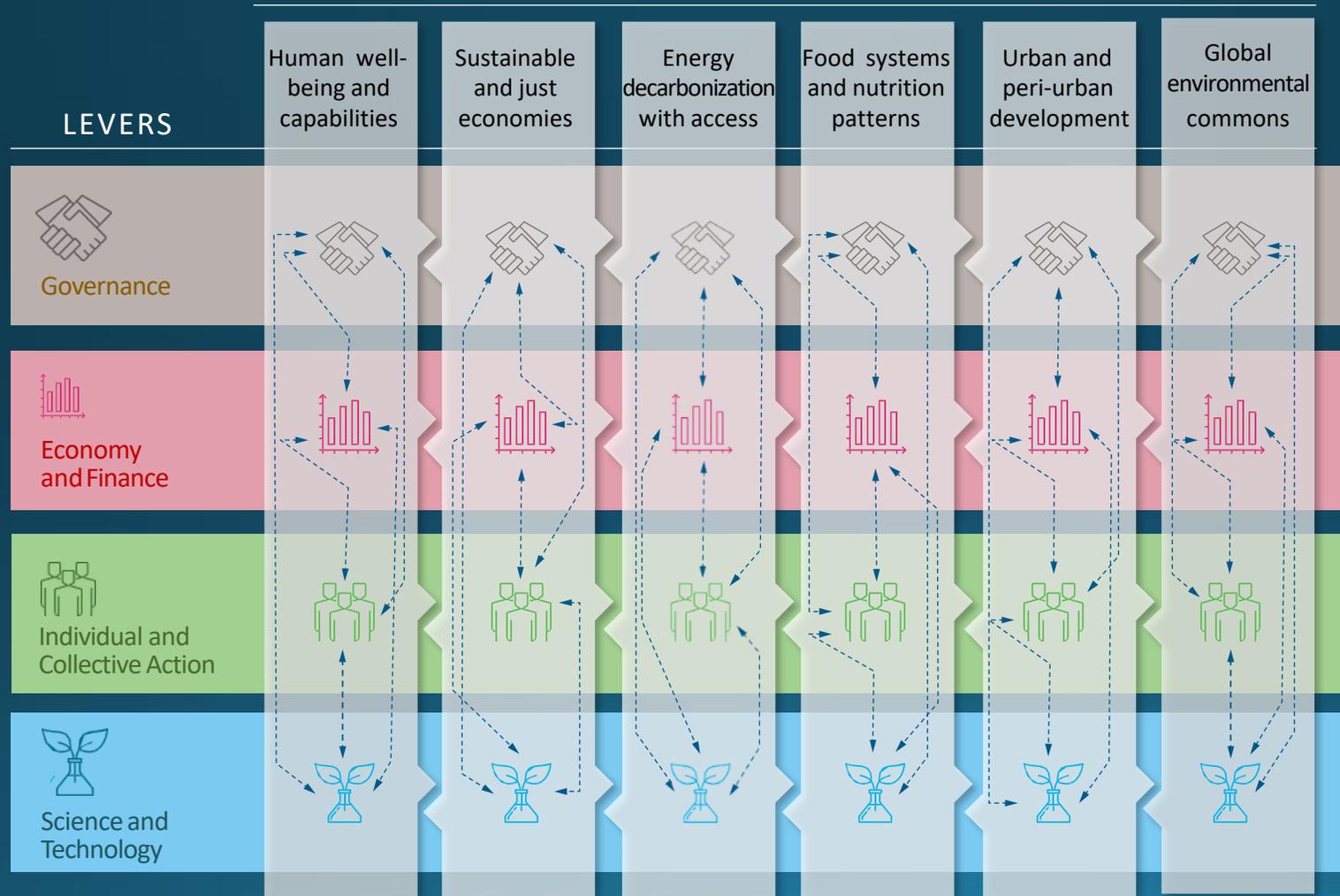
Mr. Norichika Kanie, Professor at the Graduate School of Media Governance, Keio University, adjunct Professor at United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)



Building on GSDR 2019 and going farther

“The Future is Now: Science for Achieving Sustainable Development”

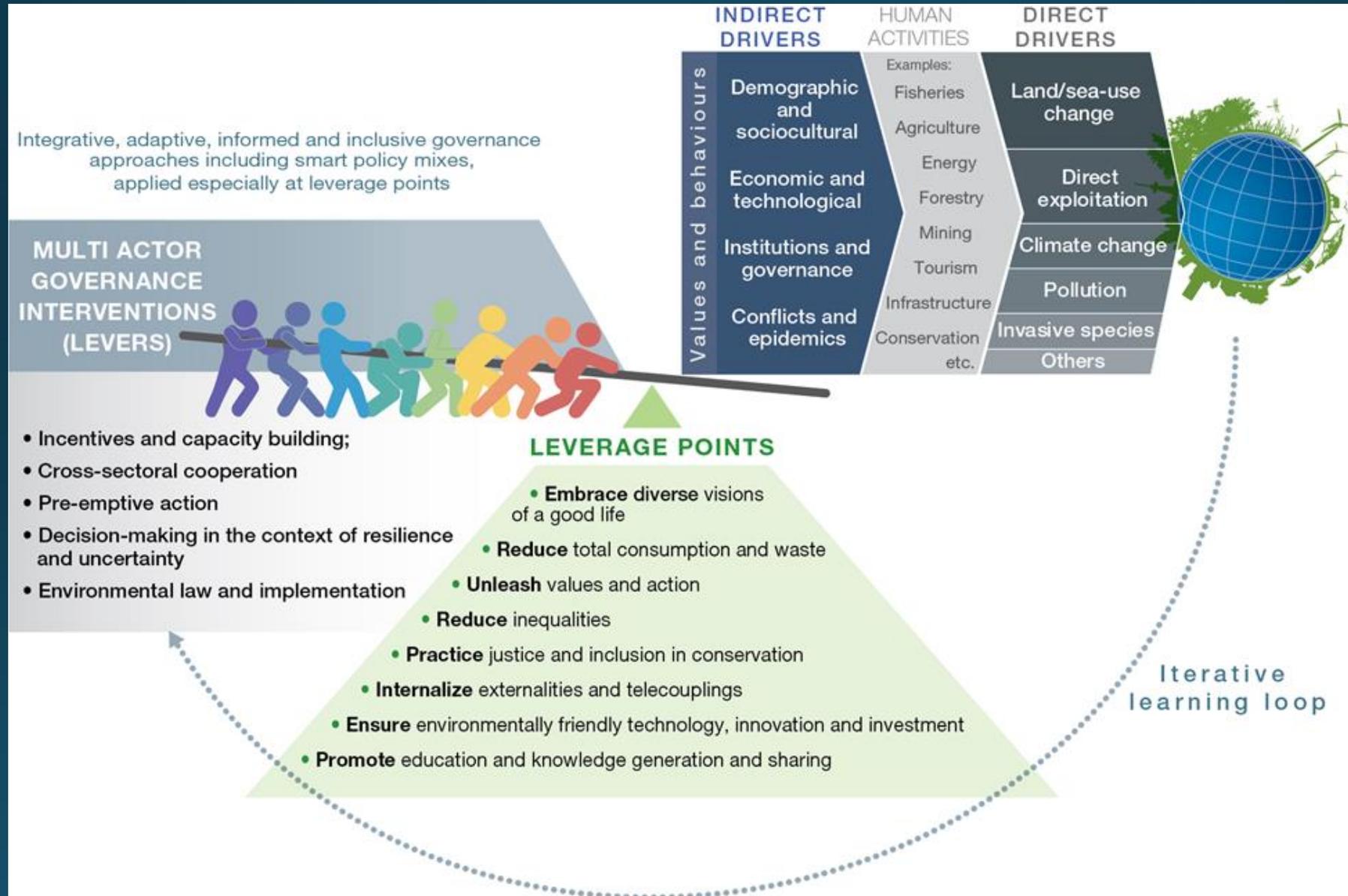
ENTRY POINTS FOR TRANSFORMATION



Pathways are context-specific configurations of levers to achieve transformation in each entry point



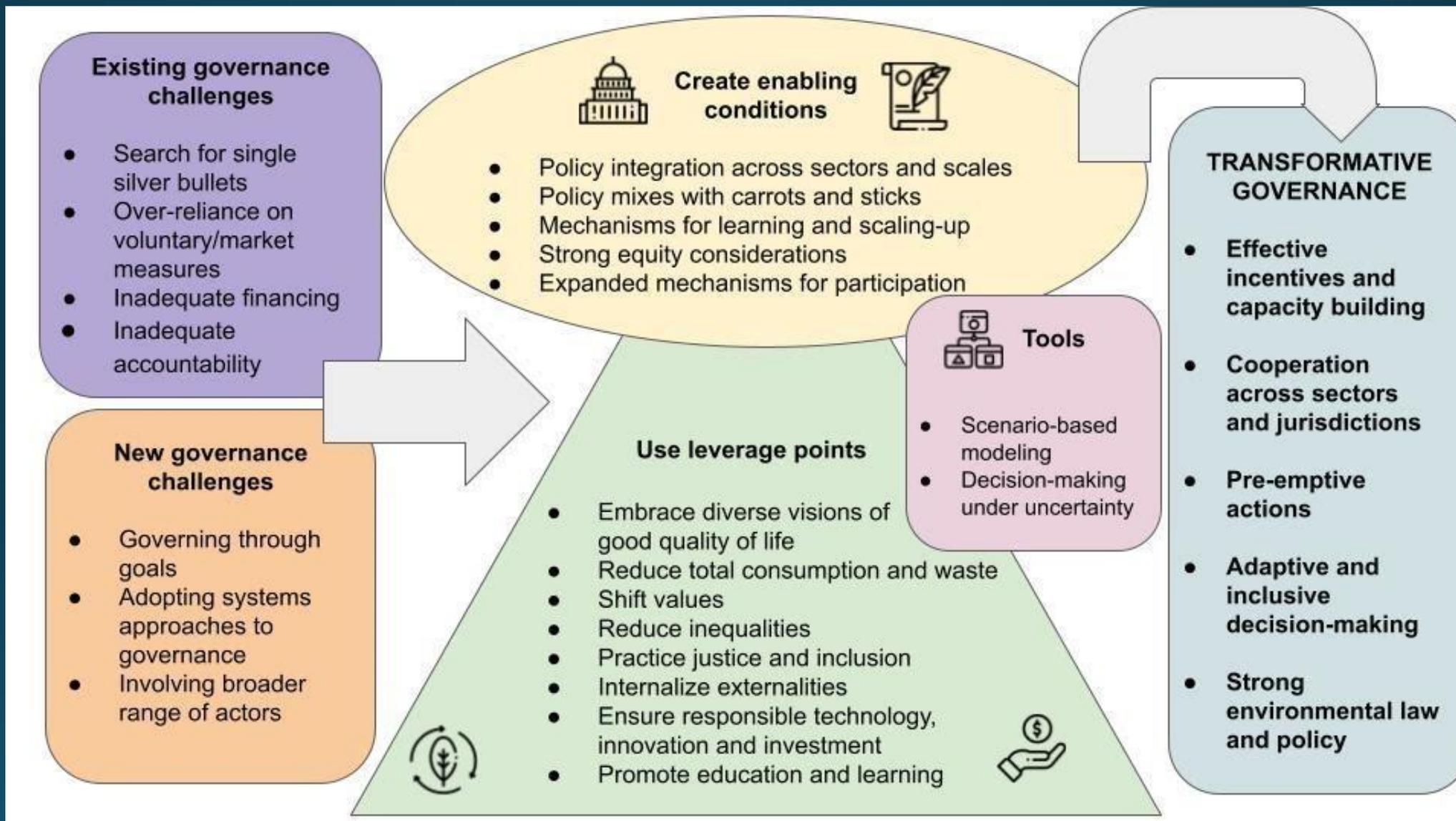
Governance interventions (levers), targeting key points of intervention (leverage points), to enable transformative change



Source: IPBES (2019) Summary for policymakers of the global assessment report



Moving governance towards transformative change





New evidence base for the SDGs: COVID-19

United Nations E/2021/xxx

Economic and Social Council Distr.: General
xx
Original: English

ADVANCE UNEDITED COPY

High-level political forum on sustainable development

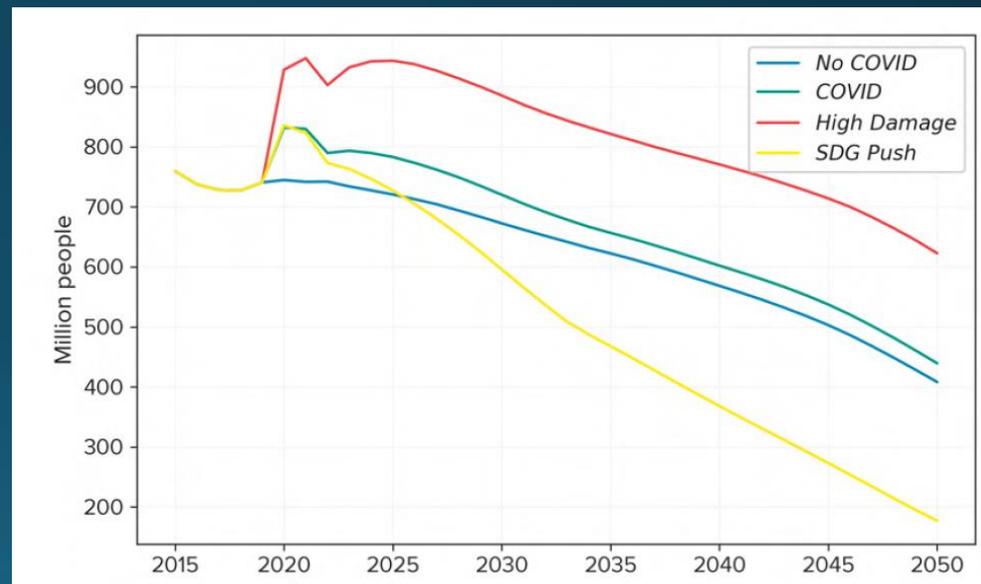
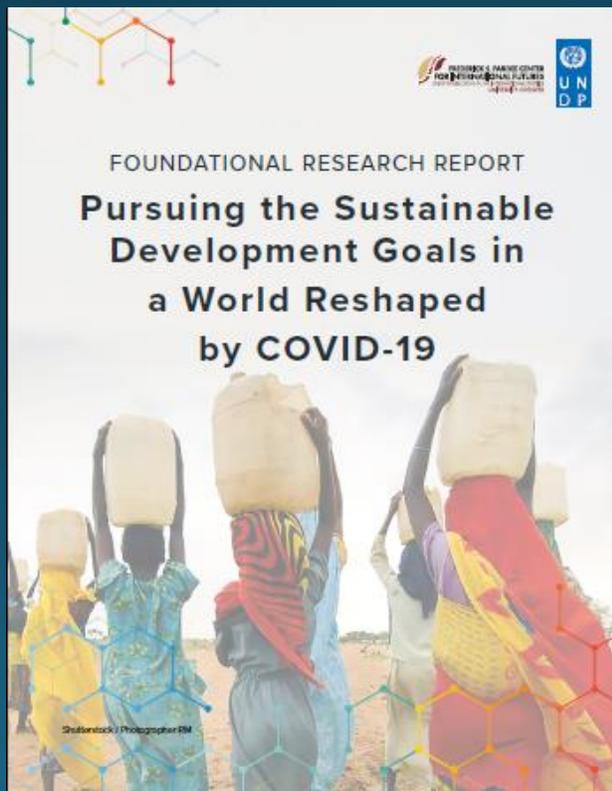
Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals
Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

In accordance with General Assembly decision 70/1, this report provides a global overview of the current situation of the Sustainable Development Goals, based on the latest available data (as of April 2021) on the global indicator framework for the SDGs¹. It was prepared with inputs from over 50 international and regional organizations.

¹ The global indicator framework was developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators and adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2017 (see resolution 71/313). The indicator framework, a statistical annex to the report and the global SDG database are available at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/>.

Figure 3.7 Global poverty headcount across scenarios



Source: UNDP. 2021. Pursuing the SDGs in a world reshaped by COVID-19

Informal IGS Briefing at HLPF, 9 July 2021



New evidence base for the SDGs: state of nature





Avenues of work: new evidence base and trends

- Increasing inequalities: extreme poverty rising, unequal access to vaccines and treatment
- Climate neutrality by 2050: 131 countries, 73% of global emissions
- New biodiversity targets, importance of nature-based solutions
- Demographic change as an uneven process across regions
- Migration flows within and across countries and continents
- Digitalization as opportunity and challenge for sustainable development (UN Roadmap for digital cooperation)
- Opportunities in business and financial sector for sustainable development
- Sustainability lens delivers added value for post-pandemic recovery, social protection and climate neutrality in an unequal world
- Differentiated approaches across countries and over time



Avenues of work: how to speed up implementation post-COVID-19

- Shifting values, attitudes and paradigms towards peace with nature
- New analysis and synthesis on levers for change and leverage points, to effectively address interactions between SDGs and targets and policy coherence
- International cooperation and capacity development are key
- Provide best practices, success stories and actionable proposals for 2023-2030
- Extend horizon beyond 2030: which questions are relevant for mid-term in 2023?
- Science-policy-society interface in understanding COVID-19 and in pandemic prevention and counteraction → what can we learn from it for “pathways to transformation for sustainability”?
- How to do science differently to support sustainability transformation?



Steps towards the next GSDR

2021

- Virtual work on new evidence & the impacts of COVID-19
- 1st Member States briefing at HLPF
- Call for inputs
- Workshop with stakeholders

2022

- Writing process ongoing
- Global & regional consultations
- 2nd Member States briefing at HLPF
- IGS members present ongoing work and questions at conferences and meetings

2023

- Advanced draft for comments
- finalizing the GSDR
- presentation to Heads of Government at UNGA



Thank you for your attention!
Questions welcome!