

# Draft Global Sustainable Development Report 2019: messages for the globe, insights for the EU

Prof Eeva Furman, Finnish environment institute, Finland
Prof Jean-Pascal van Ypersele, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium
Prof Peter Messerli, CDE, Bern University, Swizerland

European Parliament
Public Hearing

"The remaining 12 years: EU action towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 7.2.2019, Brussels

### TRANSFORMATIONS -

WAYS TO TACKLE ARISING PHENOMENA



SCIENCE AND BEYOND

AGENDA 2030 – A VISION FOR HUMANITY IN THE ANTHROPOCENE



# The independent group of scientists



Gonzalo Hernández Licona



Katherine Richardson



David Smith



Amanda Glassman



Jurgis Staniskis



Eun Mee Kim



Muhammad Saidam



**Endah**Murniningtyas



Peter Messerl



Jean-Paul Moatti



Jean-Pascal van Ypersele



Wolfgang Lutz



Parfait Ekoundou-Enyegue



Eeva Furman



Ernest Foli



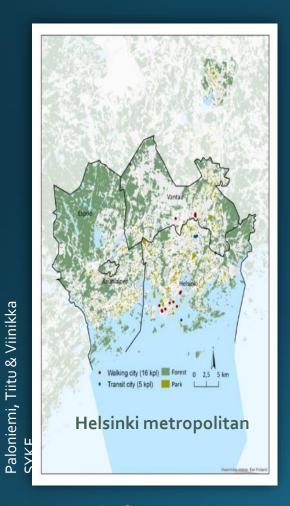
### Global Sustainable Development Report

## **GSDR 2019**



- Strengthen the science-policy interface to support policymakers in promoting poverty eradication and sustainable development
- Incorporate scientific evidence in a multidisciplinary manner—natural sciences and social sciences—considering all three dimensions of sustainable development
- Support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, keeping in mind its universal and integrated nature
- Consider regional dimensions and diversity, as well as countries in special situations

# Much good still exists and for many things humanity has made great progress...



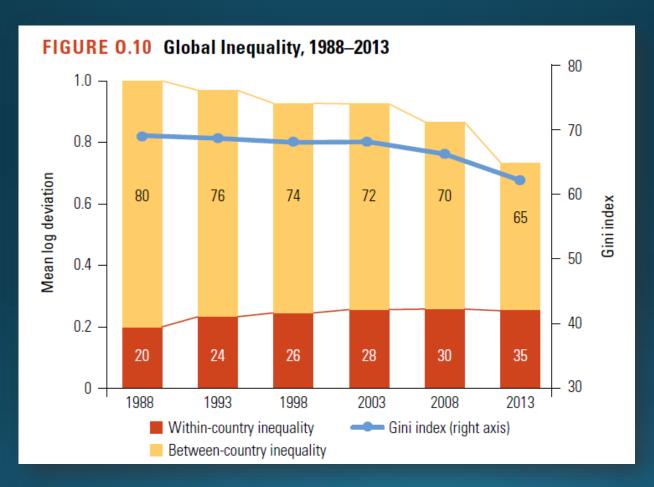
Green infrastructure in European cities



Many countries have made their way out of extreme poverty

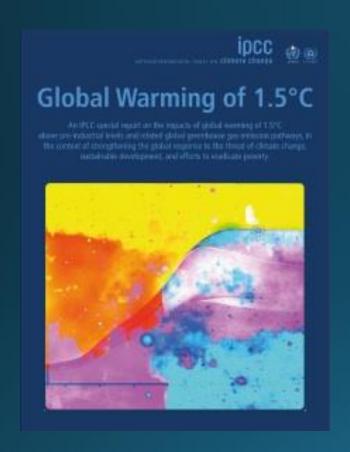
Rosling et al. Factfulness, 2018

# Social turning points: poverty and inequality



World Bank. 2016. Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2016: Taking on Inequality. The World Bank.

# Environmental turning points: climate change and biodiversity





IPCC report on 1.5 °C

WWF Living planet report

## Counter-transformations: nationalism and populism



### A decisive decade ahead





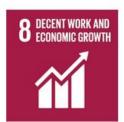
























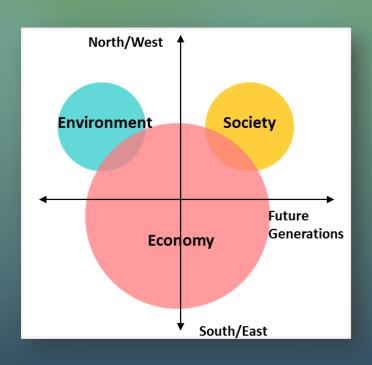


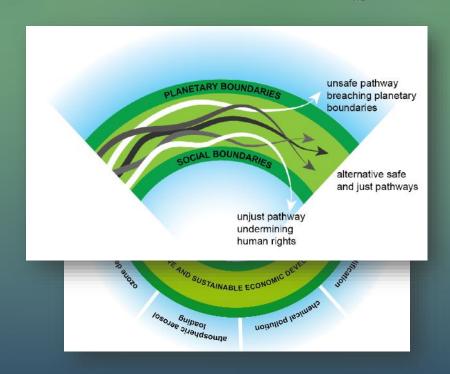




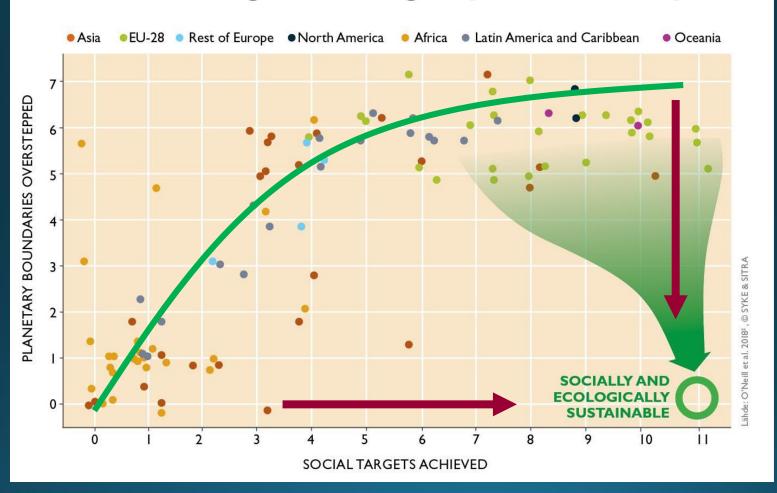


# A Renewed Understanding of Transformations to Sustainable Development?





### Not a single country has achieved a high level of well-being in an ecologically sustainable way



Systems thinking: Synergies and Trade-offs among SDGs

Work in progress – do not use this or refer to this!

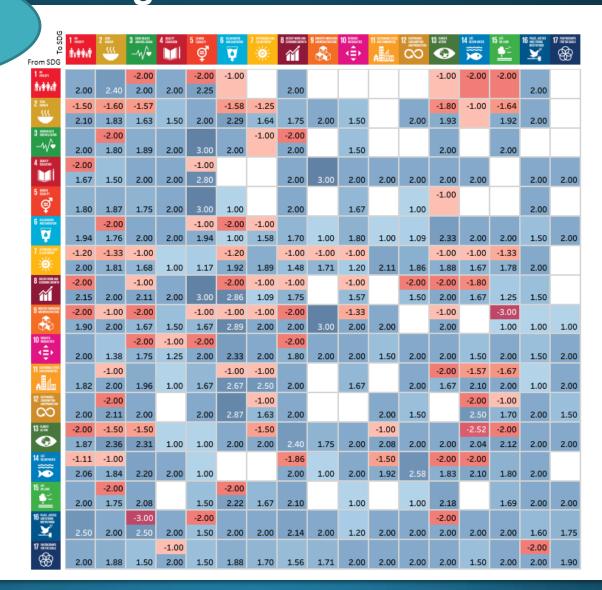


#### **Coding:**

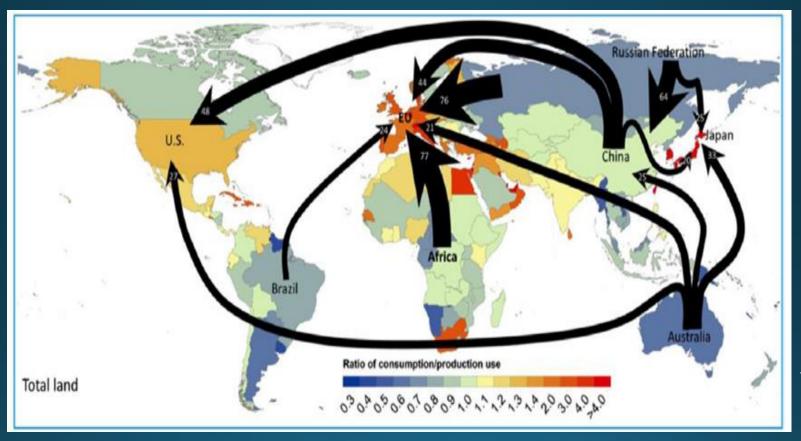
- 62 Global Reports and scientific assessments
- 110 scientific papers with explicit mention of SDG interactions

#### **General pattern:**

- 2080 interactions positively or negatively assessed at target level
- 85 % positive interactions
- 14 % negative interactions



# Systems thinking: SDG interactions by flows across boundaries



Yu et al.

 Environmental impacts arise in both ends of the flows, and in different pace  Present action is injust and distorts national strategies for striving towards sustainable development

### Means and leavers of transformation

Governance

**Economy and finance** 

Society, behaviour, and culture

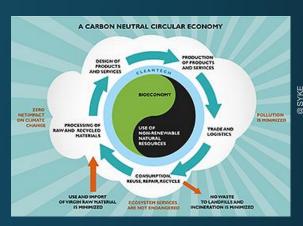
Science & technology

# Governance and social capital as means of transformation

- Bi-and multilateral and transboundary flow-based governance
  - Shared responsibilities: public, business, people
- National governance for effective implementation of SDGs
  - Mainstreaming in policy framework, policy coherence, leadership
- Local action towards sustainable development
  - Experimentation & local innovation -> evaluation -> policy uptake for dispersion
- Individual capacities in enhancing sustainable development
  - Early age education for sd, links to social practices, group behaviour



Economy is not an aim but an effective tool



Mainstreaming sustainable development to all economic activities

SD teaching into economy studies

Circular economy, Public investments, Incentives for experimentation

Trickle-down theory is a myth (unprecdented concentration of world's wealth in the Top 10%)

Undisputable evidence (IMF, OECD, WB, World Inequality report) that reducing intra-country inequality is not simply a question of fairness but a prerequisite:

- For long-term eradication of poverty
- For sustainable economic growth

# Business & financing: means for transformation

### FINANCING FOR TRANSFORMATION

- > ODA can at the most have a leverage effect
- > There is a massive need for reallocation of both public and private investment (sustainable inclusive finance).

Estimated yearly investment need for SDGs implementation (UNDP) = 2500 billions US \$

#### **BUSINESS FOR TRANSFORMATION**

- > Business ecosystems taking ownership of sustainable development
- > Business models : sharing economy, circular economy, longevity
- New concepts of work: social innovations and green jobs

# Science & technology: implementation of SDGs requires sustainability science

### SYSTEMS APPROACH, MEANS FOR ANALYSING:

- complex causal chains
- interactions between SDGs
- path dependencies and alternative futures

#### **LEARNING THROUGH RISKS:**

 experimenting and analysing experiments

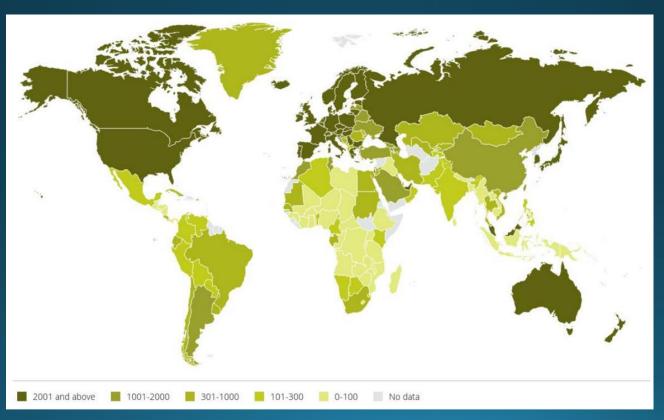
### **CO-CREATION:**

 integrating stakeholders in the entire lifespan of research



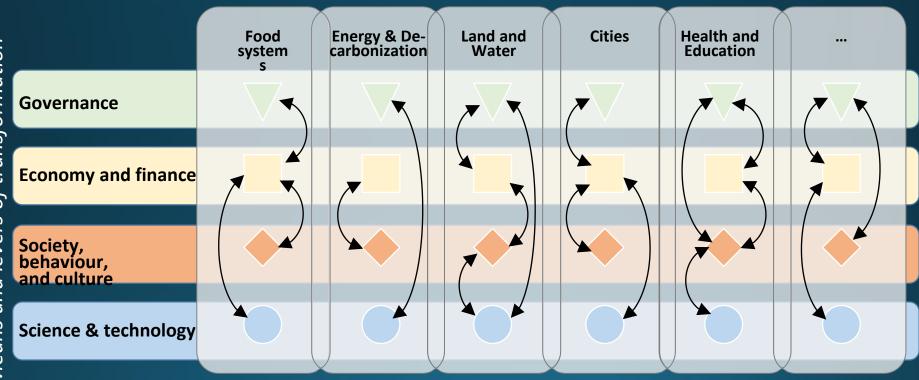
Riots in Womey (16/09/2014) — Ebola and Guinea forest

# Science & technology: need for contextualised and balanced perspectives on transformation to sustainable development



### **GSDR's structure**

Areas of critical importance needing transformative change to achieve social and environmental fairness



Diverse Pathways to transformation interweaving different means and levers according to geographic context and level of scale

# Pathways towards sustainable development: example on food systems

Example levers for pathways on food systems:

#### **GOVERNANCE TRANSITION**

 Greater transparency within food supply chains through improved certification processes and labels for sustainable food production

#### **TECHNOLOGY TRANSITION**

 Increased use of digital farming systems and improved access to information

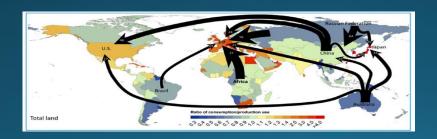
#### **BEHAVIOURAL TRANSITION**

 Enabling distributors and consumers to reduce food waste



### EU from the GSDR2019 view

The most serious sustainability deficit for European welfare is its ecological debt, - caused by consumption and production patterns – impacts being externalised to other parts of the world



### EU from the GSDR2019 view

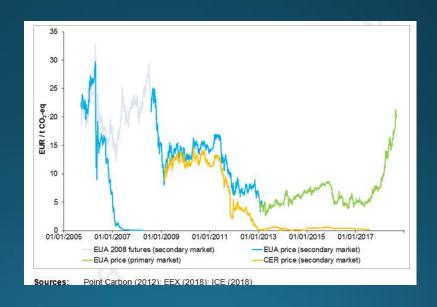
EU to showcase ambitious vision and concretism of SDG implementation for other parts of the world: the UN

- Institutional coherence and buy in
- Policy coherence and buy in
- Countries'coherence and buy in



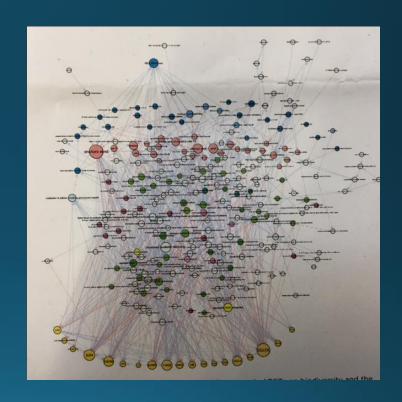
# EU forerunner in emissions trading systems (ETS)

Sufficient prce signal and policy coherence essential



### European energy policy impacts in global context Renewable energy technology (RET) in focus

- EU-supported RETs
  - Complex but balanced effects on SDGs
  - Benefit on climate-related SDGs
  - Negative impacts on SDG15 Life on Land
- Complex spillover effects must be assessed



### Risk management across the UN SDGs

co-creation between science, policy, finance, insurance and industry

"Most risk management choices have costs that will appear as countering other goals: dealing with risks is about addressing trade-offs." said Anders Branth Pedersen from PEER partner DCE Aarhus University. This is where the sustainable development paradigm comes in handy. It requires that risks are not considered in isolation.



### Horizon Europe: evolution not revolution

Specific objectives of the Programme

Support the creation and diffusion of high-quality knowledge Strengthen the Impact of R&I In supporting EU policies Foster all forms of innovation and strengthen market deployment

Optimise the Programme's delivery for impact in a strengthened ERA



#### Pillar 1

Open Science

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions

Infrastructures



#### Pillar 2

Global Challenges and Industrial Competitiveness

- Health
- Inclusive and Secure Society
- · Digital and Industry
- Climate, Energy and Mobility
- Food and natural resources

Joint Research Centre



#### Pillar 3

Open Innovation

European Innovation Council

European innovation ecosystems

European Institute of Innovation and Technology

Strengthening the European Research Area

Sharing excellence

Reforming and Enhancing the European R&I system



# PATHWAYS & TRANSFORMATIONS BY INTERLINKING SDGs

CO-CREATED
GLOBAL
GOVERNANCE
OF FLOWS





Thank you!