



2022 Sustainable Development Transformation **FORUM**

Accelerating the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels



25 – 28 October 2022 | Incheon City, Republic of Korea



Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



UNOSD
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



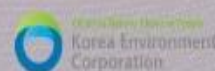
Ministry of Environment



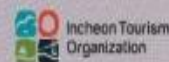
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25-28 October 2022, Incheon, Korea

*Transformative actions dealing with
synergies and trade-offs with special
emphasis on the goals under review
(6, 7, 9, 11 and 17)*

*Prof. Titular Raymond Saner; University of Basel
Director, CSEND, Geneva*

27th October 2022

Synergies & Trade Offs

✿ SYNERGIES

✿ Policy/Action resulting in multiplier effect

✦ Case Example: Health

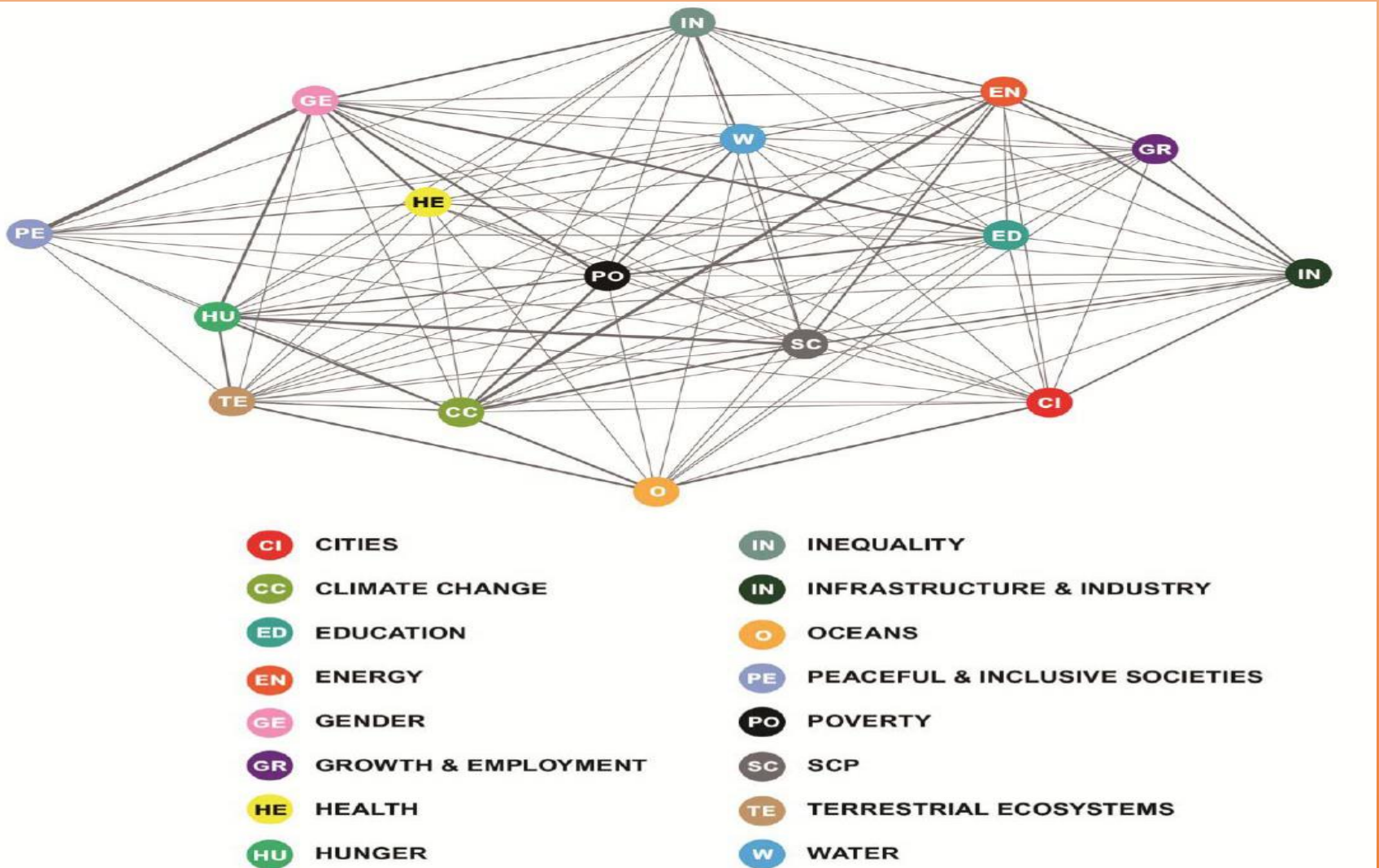
- Prevention better than curative intervention
- DCs/LDCs limited financial resources and trained health workers
- Solution: Intersectoral Action for Health (Dr Halfdan Mahler, WHO DG 1973-1988) Primary Health Care
- A) Clean Water, B) Nutritious Food, C) Education of Mothers D) Primary Health Care workers in the field

✿ Trade Offs

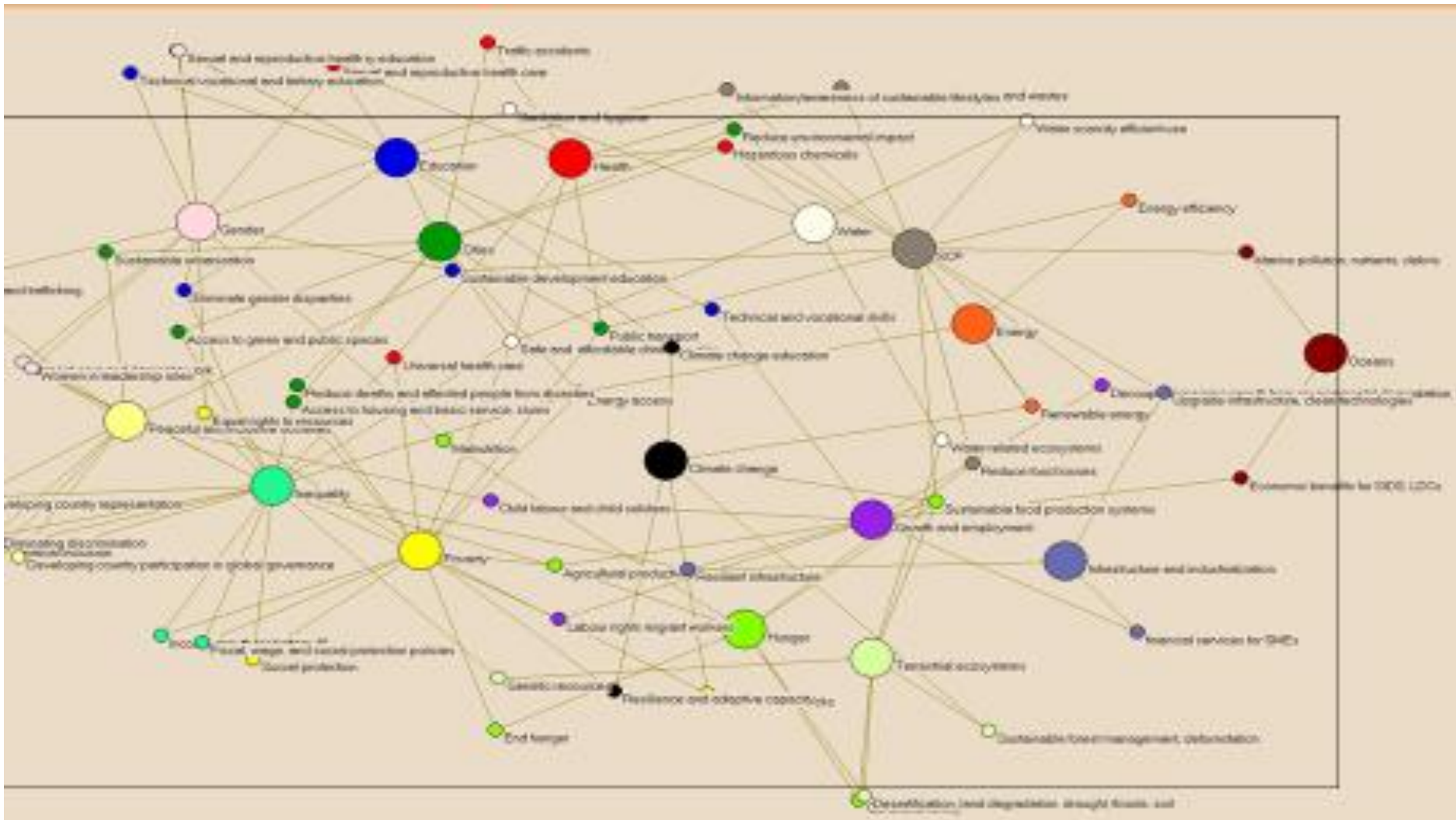
✦ One policy action causing Win/Lose results

- Case Example: Agriculture
- Industrialisation of Agriculture resulting in productivity gains of crops harvest (Monoculture farming)
- But: a) need finance to purchase trucks, fertilizers, pesticides, land appropriation (landless small farmers)
- A) Job losses, B) concentration of producers, C) loss of biodiversity, D) Health hazard

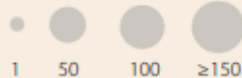
SDG as integrated network



David LeBlanc, 2015

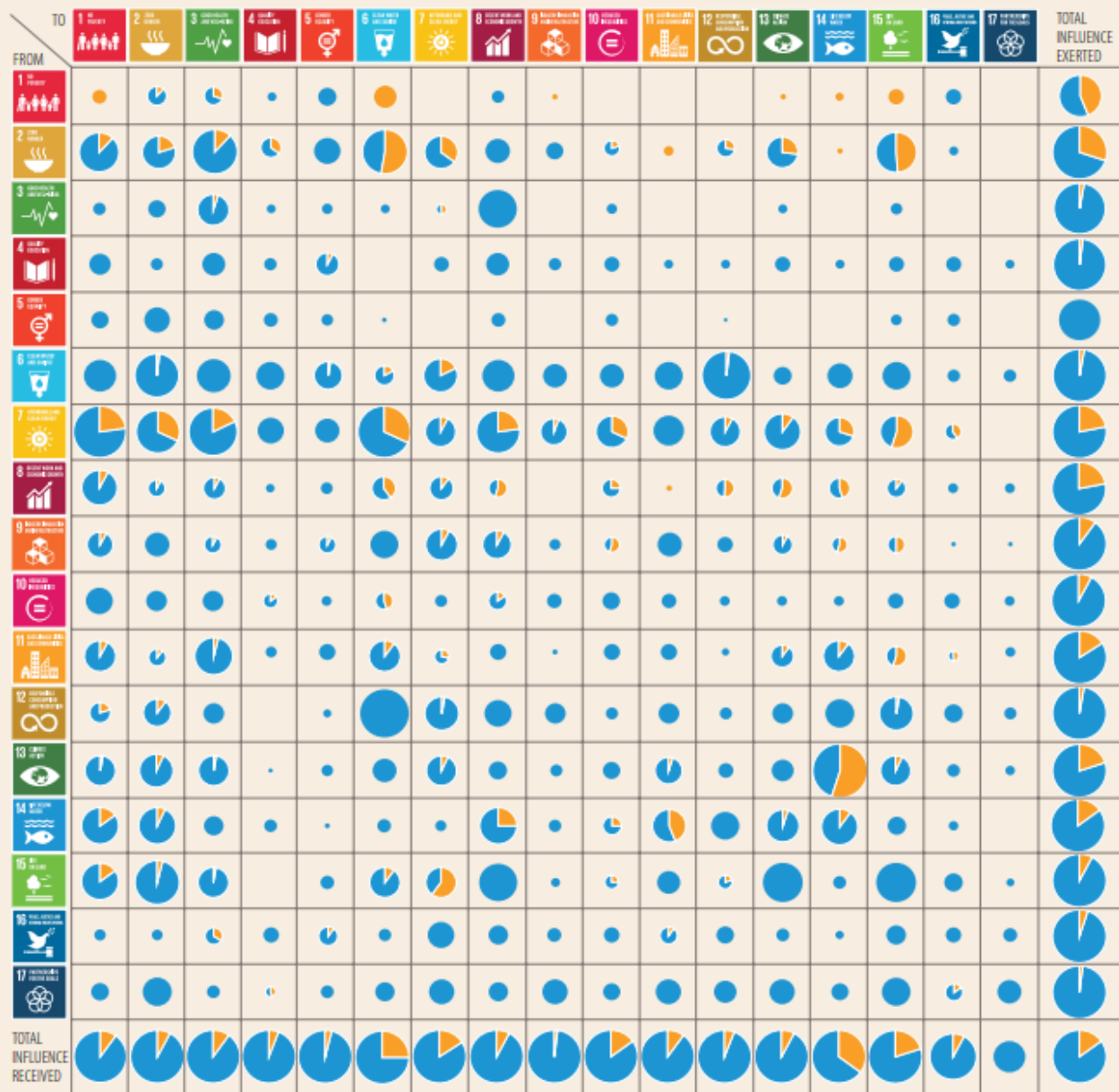


TOTAL STRENGTH



Trade-offs to be addressed Co-benefits to be harnessed

INFLUENCED GOALS



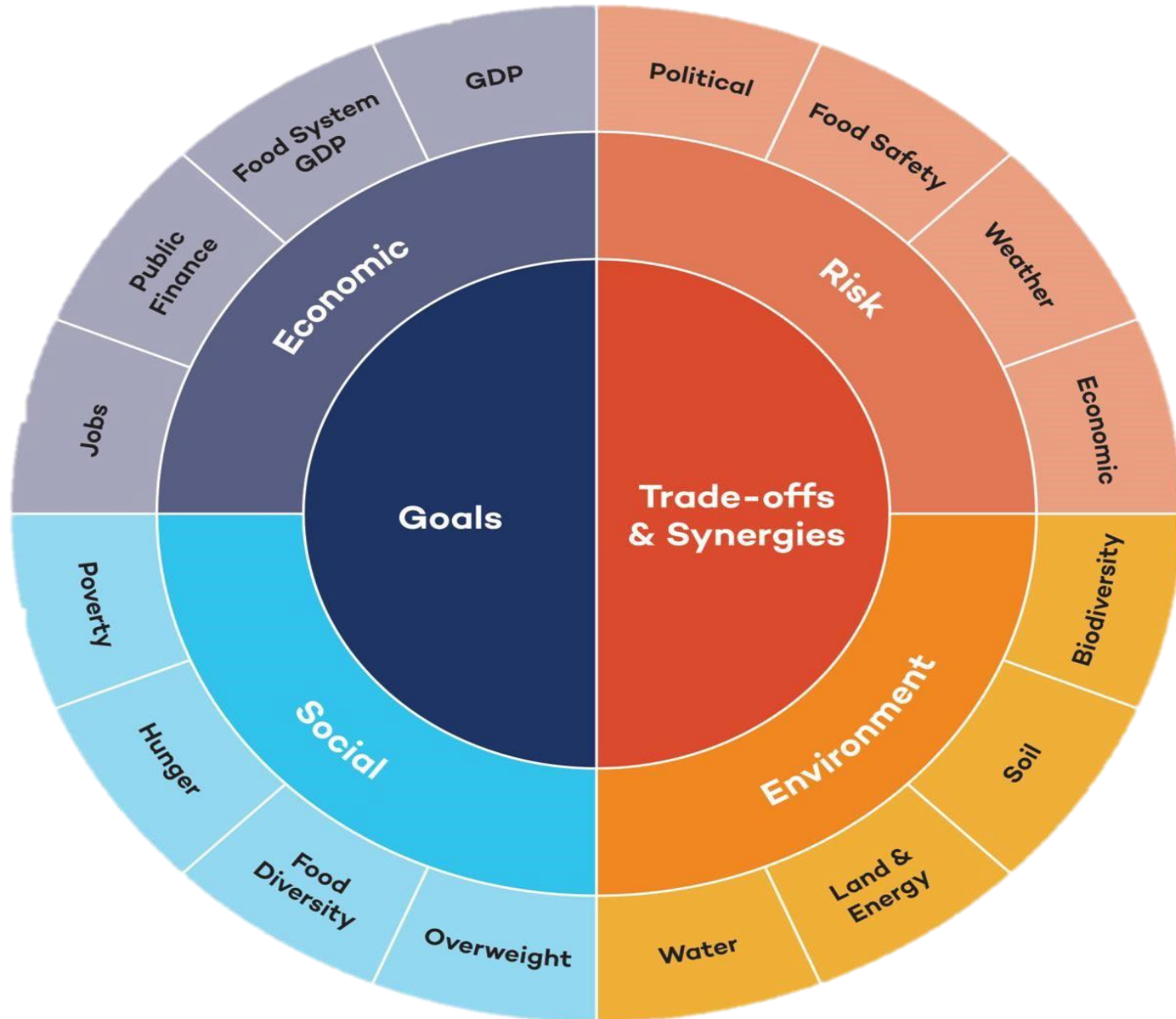
Trade-offs & Co-Benefits

GSDR, P.6
using the
7-point scale developed by
the International Council
for Science (ICSU)26

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/24797GSDR_report_2019.pdf

Quantification Framework for Food Systems

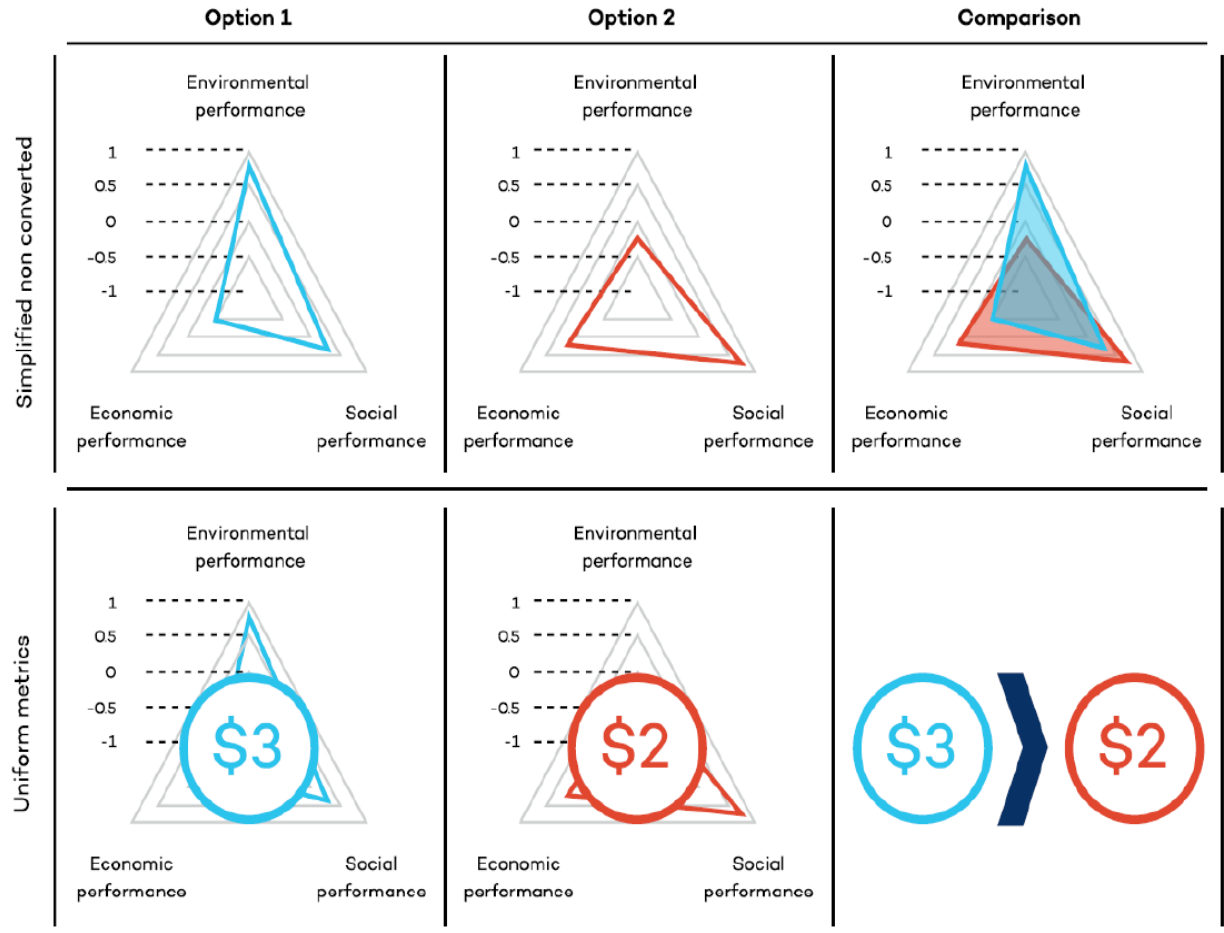
(Maximo Torero, 2021, Chief Economist, FAO)



Prioritizing in a multi-dimensional Space

(M.Torero, 2021)

From multi-metric
to common
currency
comparison (how
to identify the
monetary
equivalence?)



Current state of trade-offs/synergies

- ✚ Progress has been made and is being made in regard to TOs/Syns among goals and between goals and their targets
- ✚ However, the metrics are very sector specific (e.g. agriculture, energy etc) and tend to be vertical and less horizontal
- ✚ There is a risk of a drift towards expert knowledge that leaders of stakeholders do not understand. The 2030 Agenda philosophy of transparency, participation and inclusiveness is being lost and a new form of silo-thinking is emerging under the mantle of “progress”.
- ✚ To counter such a drift into new silo-specialisation, it is of paramount importance to increase transdisciplinarity of science and expert knowledge and most importantly - to increase interministerial policy coordination and stakeholder consultation (government + Civils Society + Busines)

Water Conflict in Bolivia- 2005

Bolivia's constitution stated that all basic services should be guaranteed by the state, universally distributed and quality assured. In 1997, the de Lozada Government followed World Bank advice and started a general privatization strategy including privatisation of water utilities.

A foreign company was given the mandate to implement the privatisation (Water and Sanitation) which led to a massive 35% increase of annual USD 445.- per household of the indigenous people living in the high altitude region El Alto. Most Alenos earned an average of 750.-USD per year.

The situation led to massive strikes, at times violent confrontations, until the following government terminated the contract with the foreign company.

Bolivia initially received a 52 \$ million investment/soft loans from WB, IFC, BID and CAF. Once the government terminated the contract, Bolivia had to pay back 15.1 million USD but water systems are still not modernised in the El Alto region and tensions remain high.

Policy Integration in the context of SDG integration:

Current efforts at the national level (David LeBlanc)

- Integration taken seriously by governments as they try to implement the SDGs
- Some of these efforts documented in VNRs, in UN publications (WPSR 2018), in OECD publications
- Supreme audit institutions worldwide have started to shed light on these efforts through SDG preparedness audits
- Horizontal integration: coordinating /steering structures or mechanisms for SDG implementation, alignment of SDGs and national strategies and plans, identification of priorities for addressing synergies, trade-offs
- Vertical integration: many initiatives (e.g. vertically integrated monitoring and evaluation structures)
- Engagement: also many initiatives
- Because integration difficult to measure, lack of evidence of “success”.
- Importance of supporting tools/ instruments, in particular planning and budget processes.

Increasing coverage of integration of SDGs in HLPF

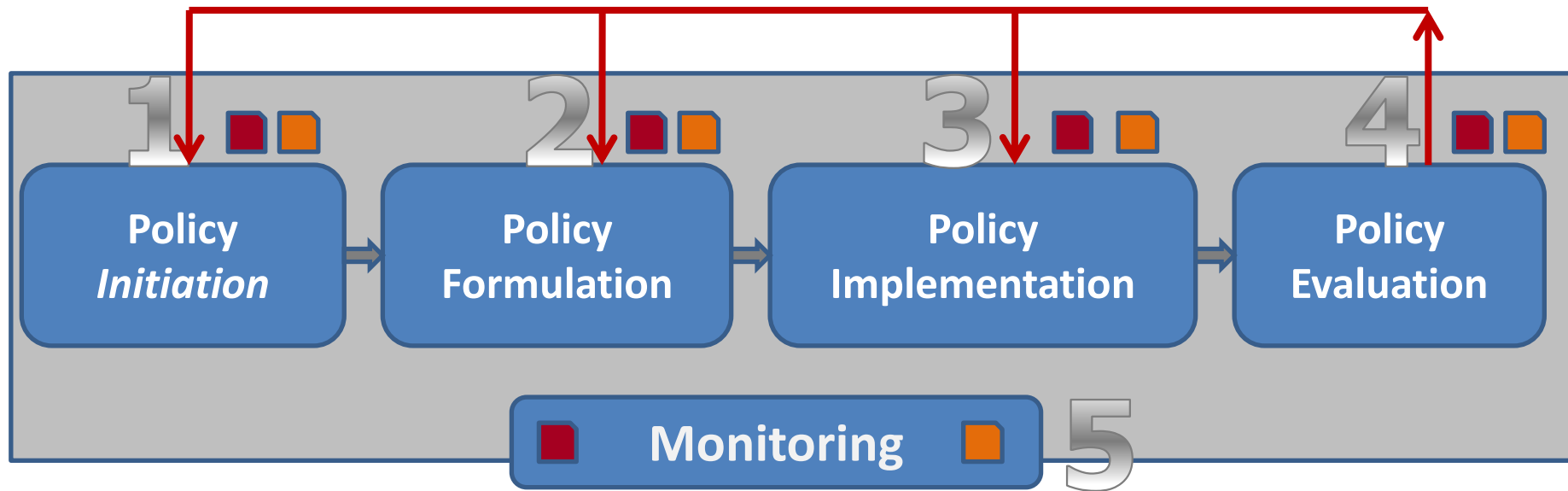
(David LeBlanc)

At the HLPF

- mandated SG's report on interlinkages among the SDGs being reviewed each year (as was the case for CSD) – this would require legislative changes).
 - in the absence of additional mandated documentation for the HLPF, an avenue for documenting progress on integration would be the report of the IATF on FFD (mandated), through the review of target 17.14 on policy coherence for SD (not done so far)
- add a component on integration in the SDG indicator framework
 - not realistic? would take a long time to materialize (e.g. 2023 SDG Summit?)
- carve a space for an “interlinkages” session each year during the first week of HLPF, focusing on the SDGs under review that year - no legislative change needed
- provide more time for discussion at HLPF, including among VNR countries - would require legislative changes
- **Ensure that the conclusions of the GSDR 2019 on how to address synergies and trade-offs are taken up by the Ministerial declaration every 4 years and can trigger new intergovernmental discussions as necessary**

Policy Making Process

(Saner, 2010, https://www.diplomacydialogue.org/images/files/20181215-book_saner-trade_1.pdf)



Ownership + Coherence + Relevance = Quality

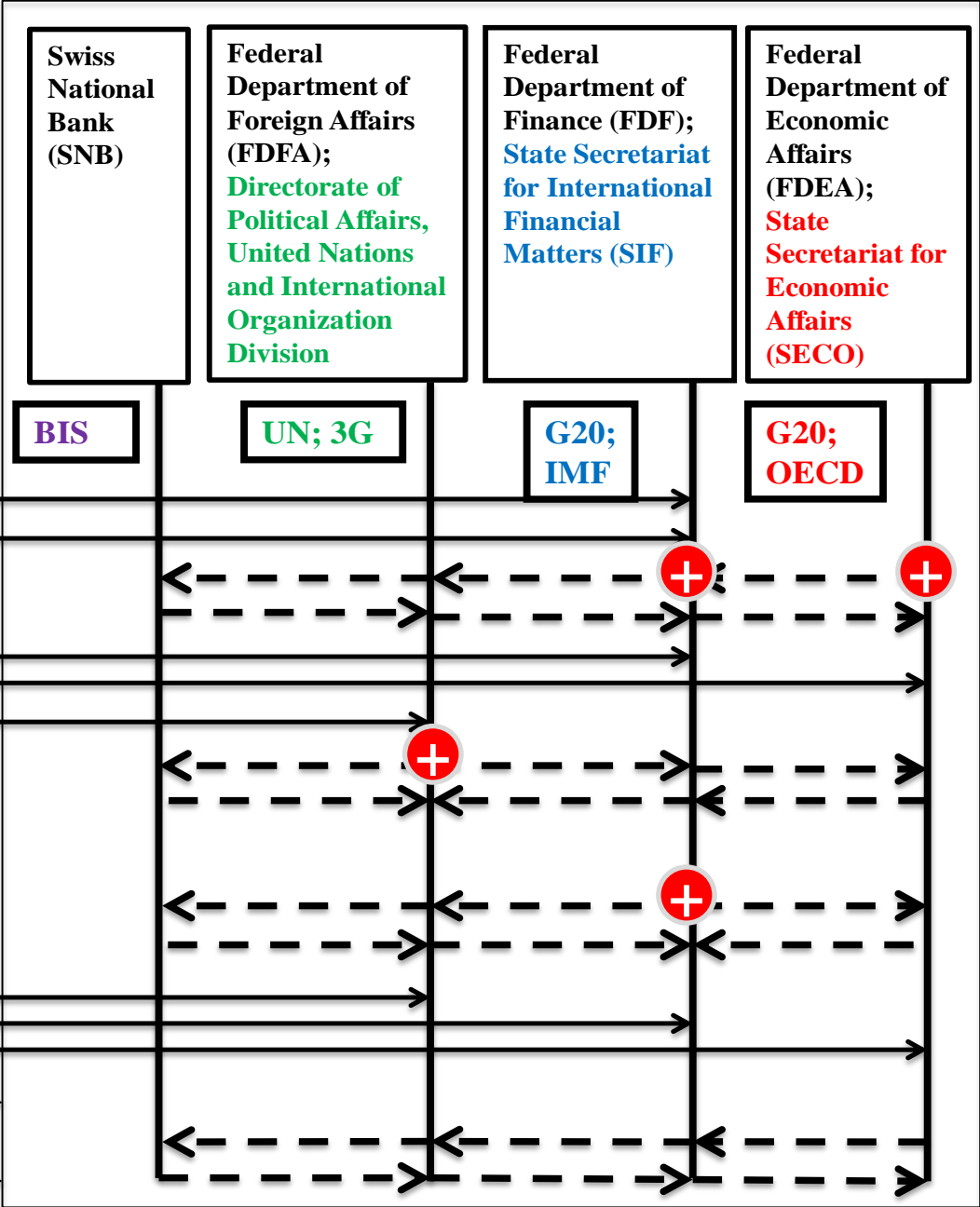


Shaping Switzerland's financial policy and economic diplomacy

Federal Department of Defense, Civil Protection and Sports (DDPS)

Federal Department of Transport, Communications and Energy (DETEC)

Federal Department of Justice and Police (FDHA)



Policy Coordination and Consultation (PCC) is crucial for SDG implementation

1. Clarify role of Ministries (who leads-supports)???
2. improve credibility and competence of government in its dialogue with domestic and international stakeholders
3. design and manage consistent inter-ministerial SDG policy cooperation based on policy coordination and consultation mechanisms
4. ensure effective SDG implementation of SDGs at national level with adequate monitoring for constant SDG policy updating and fine-tuning

LITERATURE/ GUIDANCE

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<https://www.iisd.org/system/files/publications/modelling-for-sustainable-development.pdf>
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Nathaniel Matthews, Claudia Ringler, THRIVE,
<https://wle.cgiar.org/thrive/2016/06/28/trade-offs-and-synergies-icsus-draft-framework-understanding-sdgs>
3. **“Synergies and trade-offs between sustainable development goals and targets: innovative approaches and new perspectives”**. Fabrice Renaud, Xin Zhou, Lee Bosher, Brian Barrett, Suiliang Huang, Sustainability Science, May 2020, Springer.
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Francisco Nerrini et al. (12 co-authors), Nature Energy, 2018
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41560-017-0036-5>
5. **“ Horizontal and vertical integration are more necessary than ever for COVID-19 recovery and SDG implementation**, UN/DESA Policy Brief #115: 24-9-2021