Partnerships for SDG Transformations

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UN Sustainable Development Transformation Forum, 23rd of February 2021
Overview of talk

• Sustainable industrialization and the role of partnerships

• A new approach to partnerships for transformations

• Recommendations on how to operationalize it
• Once it takes off, industrialization can happen in a single generation (Haraguchi 2019).

• Decisions made in the early stages can have long-term unsustainable consequences (Unruh 2000, 2002).

• Several advantages to industrializing after others (Sachs 2019, Vogel 2000):
  • Leapfrog, avoid previous mistakes, adopt more inclusive institutions.
Role of Partnerships

• Partnerships have a key role to play in sustainability transformations, but the role is not well understood (Chan 2020, Westman 2018).

• Partnerships can help to initiate, accelerate and smooth transformations (Horan 2019, pg. 6-8).
Policies and partnerships

• Standard answer to “how to industrialize” tends to focus on getting the policies right.

• Underlying this, partnerships can play an important role in harnessing effective policies as well as other means of implementation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policies</th>
<th>Partnerships</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low corporation tax rate.</td>
<td>With diaspora community and business leaders in the USA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments in infrastructure and higher education institutions.</td>
<td>EU Regional Development Funds. Partnerships with philanthropists.</td>
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Calls for a portfolio of partnerships to achieve SDG transformations (TPI & UNDESA 2020, Mazzucato 2020, Moreno 2020, Horan 2019).

Need to consider carefully the mix of partnerships required: Helpful to think in terms of two portfolios (Horan 2019)

- **Current portfolio**: partnerships currently in place.
- **Target portfolio**: partnerships that would deliver sustainable industrialization.

Are there missing partners, partnerships? How can gaps be filled?
Probing the target portfolio for energy: What mix of partnerships might be needed?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage of Transformation</th>
<th>Partnerships for Energy Decarbonization (Horan 2019)</th>
<th>LIC Partnerships for Leapfrogging (?)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initiate</td>
<td>Dutch Energy Agreement</td>
<td>Partnerships with international leaders in sustainability to access technology and finance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Just Transition Fund</td>
<td>Partnerships with universities for educating and skilling up green workers</td>
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<td>Smooth</td>
<td>German Coal Exit Commission</td>
<td>Others?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accelerate</td>
<td>Nordic transmission grid</td>
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<td></td>
<td>International Solar Alliance</td>
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Governments (with the support of the UN system) should seek to orchestrate a portfolio aligned to transformation (Horan 2019).

Main steps:
1. Construct a registry of current partnerships through data sharing agreements.
2. Use roadmaps to build a shared vision of partnerships for transformation and the missing partnerships.
3. Invest in partnering infrastructure, partnership brokering, skilled representatives, organizational capacity.

Goal: diverse, country-specific, coherent portfolio involving local, national, regional and international actors.
Key takeaways

• For transformations, take a portfolio perspective

• Roadmaps as useful tools for framing discussions of partnerships needed

• Build supportive institutions and policy frameworks for a portfolio approach

Practice and share good practice!
Thank you!

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