



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

Efficiency for Access Design Challenge 2024-2025

Kate Roll,
Sheree Conibear,
Rachel Curah,
5 November 2024



AGENDA

- Introduction
- Speaker introductions
 - Kate Roll
 - Sheree Conibear
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Leave No One Behind
- Q&A

SDGS AND LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND ON THE CHALLENGE



SOCIAL IMPACT

What positive impact does your design have on people's lives?

Judges will assess whether you've researched the needs of the people whom your solution could benefit, how your design will target those needs, and how you have considered diversity, inclusion and equity in your design.

- **Improved quality of life:** how will your design improve the quality of people's lives?
Consider who benefits and what improvement/s your design offers them.
- **Employment generation:** how will your design contribute to creating employment opportunities?
Consider the labour and expertise required throughout your design's lifecycle, for example in manufacturing, distribution, operating and maintenance.
- **Leave no one behind:** how well has your design considered the SDGs' commitment to 'leave no one behind'?
Consider the impact of your design upon people and communities who are marginalised or discriminated against, and its potential to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities.



SUSTAINABILITY

How does your design contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and reduce environmental impact throughout its lifecycle compared to existing products/services currently available to your target end user?

Judges will assess whether you've identified and understood the environmental impacts your design could have, and the SDGs it will contribute to achieving.

- **Environmental impact:** how does your design reduce negative environmental impact, or improve the natural environment, throughout its lifecycle compared to existing products/services? *Evaluate your design's lifecycle from cradle to grave and assess its environmental impact compared to existing products/services. Consider both intended and unintended impacts.*
- **Reduced greenhouse gas emissions:** how do the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of your design compare to those of existing products/services? *Consider the GHG emissions of your design throughout its lifecycle from manufacturing and distribution through to operation and disposal.*
- **Contribution to SDGs:** how does your design contribute to achieving the SDGs? *Evaluate how your design contributes to SDG 7 - affordable and clean energy. Identify other SDGs your design impacts upon and assess how it does so.*

SPEAKER INTRODUCTIONS

Kate Roll

Sheree Conibear



Institute for Innovation
and Public Purpose

Exploring the SDGs

Dr Kate Roll

Associate Professor in Innovation, Development and Policy

5 November 2024

Outline

- Intro to the SDGs
- From MDGs to SDGs
- SDGs in Practice
- Thinking critically about sustainable development

The Sustainable Development Goals

The Goals

Sustainable Development Goals



17 Goals

169 Targets

232 Indicators

Adopted by all UN Member States
in 2015 ('soft' international law)

Aimed at forming a
comprehensive and consensus
view of the future

Origins & Evolution

The SDGs build on decades of work by countries and the UN, including the [UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs](#)

- In June 1992, at the [Earth Summit](#) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, more than 178 countries adopted [Agenda 21](#), a comprehensive plan of action to build a global partnership for sustainable development to improve human lives and protect the environment.
- Member States unanimously adopted the Millennium Declaration at the [Millennium Summit](#) in September 2000 at UN Headquarters in New York. The Summit led to the elaboration of eight [Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\)](#) to reduce extreme poverty by 2015.
- The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation, adopted at the [World Summit on Sustainable Development](#) in South Africa in 2002, reaffirmed the global community's commitments to poverty eradication and the environment, and built on Agenda 21 and the Millennium Declaration by including more emphasis on multilateral partnerships.
- At the [United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development \(Rio+20\)](#) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012, Member States adopted the outcome document "[The Future We Want](#)" in which they decided, inter alia, to launch a process to develop a set of SDGs to build upon the MDGs and to establish the [UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#). The Rio +20 outcome also contained other measures for implementing sustainable development, including mandates for future programmes of work in development financing, small island developing states and more.
- In 2013, the General Assembly set up a 30-member [Open Working Group](#) to develop a proposal on the SDGs.
- In January 2015, the General Assembly began the negotiation process on the [post-2015 development agenda](#). The process culminated in the subsequent adoption of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), with [17 SDGs](#) at its core, at the [UN Sustainable Development Summit](#) in September 2015.
- 2015 was a landmark year for multilateralism and international policy shaping, with the adoption of several major agreements:
 - [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction](#) (March 2015)
 - [Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development](#) (July 2015)
 - [Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) with its 17 SDGs was adopted at the [UN Sustainable Development Summit](#) in New York in September 2015.
 - [Paris Agreement on Climate Change](#) (December 2015)
- Now, the annual [High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#) serves as the central UN platform for the follow-up and review of the SDGs.

SDGs are a product of almost **three decades** of advocacy

(<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>)



The MDGs

- Millennium Development Goals established in 2000
- Simple, measurable, consensus-based
- Focused on “North-South aid agenda”
- Part of “new rationale for aid in the context of post-Cold War geopolitics and neoliberal globalization” (Fukudu-Parr, 2016)



Critiques of the MDGs

- Models: Focused on a basic needs view of extreme poverty
- Content: Lacking broader view of the system, including economic systems and inequality; lack of human rights or institutional reform; lots missing!
- Process: Technocratic approach and drafting within office of UNSG; limited consultation
- “Major **d**istracting **g**immick” (Antrobus, 2006)

Advent of the SDGs

- Models: Widened the scope of the goals, more systemic view of poverty and inequality
- Content: Much greater number of goals and indicators, emphasis on interrelationship
- Process: Harnessed frustrations with MDGs; driven by environmental ministers in MICs
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5nFFTnUM4w>

Consultative process

- High-Level Political Forum (est. 2011). UNSG – ‘MDGs 2.0,’ evidence-based perspective
- Open Working Group (OWG, est. 2012; GA); critical of MDGs; focus on sustainability paradigm
- Unprecedented level of participation, yet antagonistic

OWG specifically included 8 target groups: *women, children and youth, indigenous people, NGOs, local authorities, workers and unions, business and industry, science and technology community, and farmers.*

Table 1. The formulation of the SDGs: a summary timeline

Date	The post-2015 process	Open working group
July 2011	SG opens consultation processes on post 2015 including: UN Task Team review of MDG experience; Global Public Consultations; HLP.	
June 2012		Rio+20 Outcome document <i>Future we want</i> - sets out mandate to establish OWG of UN GA to develop SDGs
July 2012	HLP established	
March 2013		First OWG meeting
May 2013	HLP Report <i>A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development</i> submitted to SG.	
March 2013	Reports of Public Consultations submitted	
July 2014		Final (13th) OWG meeting achieves agreement on proposal with 17 goals 169 indicators
September 2014		GA adopts OWG proposal (as proposal)
September 2015		GA adopts 2030 Agenda and SDGs

Note: This only captures key stages in the official UN process of formulation. A multitude of other activities were undertaken that served as an input to these official processes.

(Fukudu-Parr et al., 2019)

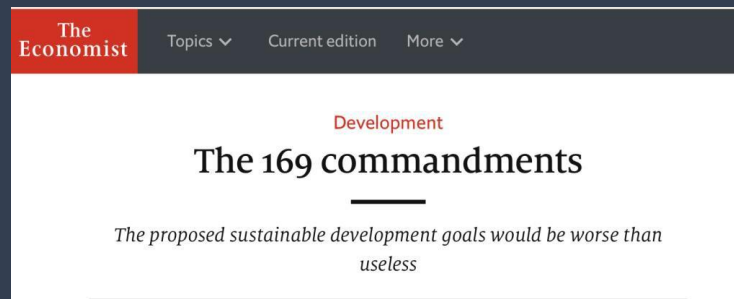


Advent of the SDGs

Still... some critics:

“Senseless, Dreamy, Garbled” (Foreign Policy, 2015)

“Stupid Development Goals” (The Economist, 2015)



(<https://www.economist.com/leaders/2015/03/26/the-169-commandments>)

The SDGs in practice

The Goals

Sustainable Development Goals



17 Goals

169 Targets

232 Indicators

Targets & Indicators

	sexual and reproductive health care, information and education		
5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws	5.a.1 (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure	C050a01	
	5.a.2 Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control	C050a02	
5.b Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women	5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex	C050b01	
5.c Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels	5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment	C050c01	

Available online: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/>

Targets & Indicators

SDG indicators involve a mix of the following four types:

- **Inputs:** “The human financial, and community resources a program has available toward [implementing a program]”
- **Outputs:** “Direct products of program activities”
- **Outcomes:** “Specific changes in...behavior, knowledge, skills, status, and level of functioning”
- **Impacts:** “The fundamental intended or unintended change occurring in organizations, communities, or systems”

Number of doctors
per capita

Number of nurses
trained

% of population with HIV

Reduction in the rate
of NCDs

(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5441444/>)



What makes for a good indicator?

Is this variation in how goals are tracked a positive or negative?
What are the advantages and disadvantages of quantitative indicators?

for accountability. But in reality, quantification reduces complex and intangible visions – such as development that is inclusive – into concrete measurable objectives such as all children in school. Recent literature in the sociology of knowledge theorises the distorting effects of quantitative indicators used in global governance on concepts and action by setting standards for behaviour (see e.g. Merry 2011). So global goals can lead to distorting effects, redefining the meaning of development, and shaping policy by creating incentives to over-focus on target achievement and neglect other important objectives (Fukuda-Parr

(Fukuda-Parr, 2016)

Questions and challenges

Core Questions

Are the
SDGs
'neutral'?

How do they
interact?

How do they
drive
change?

What about
context?

1. SDGs as product of *political process*

Saudi Arabia Protests Inclusion Of Gay Rights In UN Sustainable Development Goals

By Aditya Tejas [@Artejas](#)
09/28/15 AT 6:01 AM



No Room for LGBT Rights in the New UN Development Goals

May 17, 2015 by Barbara Crossette



As the articles in this special issue point out, the selection of indicators for monitoring progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda does not depend purely on technical considerations but is inherently about political questions of competing priorities between various stakeholders. The SDG indicator process itself has been beset with power struggles.

(Kapto, 2019: 134)

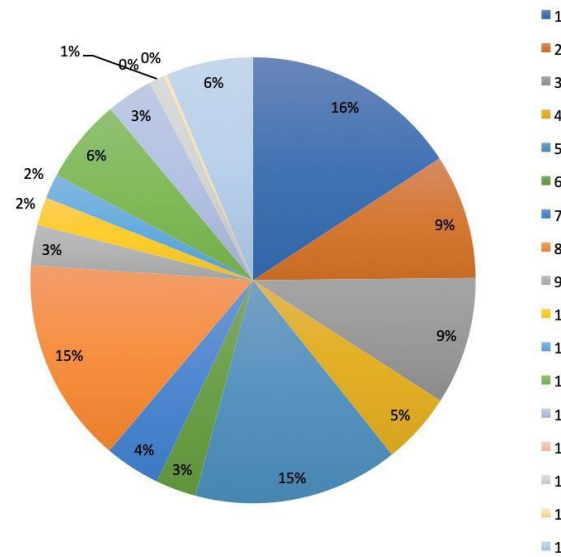
- Hot topics
- Orphaned indicators, indicator selection
- Measuring the unmeasurable?
- Role of statisticians vs diplomats
- Slippage, harmonization and who has the final say?

... and SDGs expression is *political*

Leaving Biodiversity, Peace and Social Inclusion behind
SDG preferences in the World's five major SDG reports 2019

SDG Topic	Rank	Average Rank
Health	1	3,2
Energy Climate Water	2	4,0
Education	3	4,6
Poverty	4	6,2
Food	5	7,6
Economic Growth	6	8,6
Technology	7	8,8
Inequality	8	9,2
Gender Equality	9	10,0
Hunger	10	10,6
Justice	11	10,8
Governance	12	11,6
Decent Work	13	12,2
Peace	14	12,4
Clean Energy	15	12,6
Life on Land	16	14,4
Life below Water	17	15,0
Social Inclusion	18	16,4

Firm SDG Commitment by Goal



- Concern with selectivity
- How should we think about power – particularly agenda-setting power and the SDGs?
- What power does the UN have? What are the limitations?

Breakdown of commitments by Business Call to Action firms.

Basel Institute of Commons and Economics

(http://commons.ch/wp-content/uploads/Synopsis_SDG_Reports_Goals_Allocation_2019.pdf)



2. Interactions between SDGs

“The water and land needs required from targets 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3 have a constraining (–1) effect on target 6.6, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers, and lakes.

The goal to protect ecosystems yet establish high yield agriculture that satisfies global hunger issues is challenging, especially if high yields are achieved by conventional (agro-chemical intensive) agriculture.”

(Fader et al., 2018)

Enabling or Constraining?

	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.a	6.b	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.a	2.b	2.c	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.a	7.b
6.1		1	2	2	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	1	3	3	-1	1	2	2	2	3	2
6.2	1		2	2	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	-1	1	2	2	2	3	2
6.3	2	2		2	3	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	0	1	2	3	2	3	2
6.4	2	2	2		3	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	0	1	2	3	2	3	2
6.5	3	3	3	3		2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	1	3	3	2	3	3
6.6	1	1	2	2	2		2	1	-1	-1	-1	0	2	2	-1	1	2	1	2	2	1
6.a	1	1	1	1	1	2		2	0	0	0	1	2	2	-1	1	1	2	2	2	1
6.b	2	3	3	3	3	1	2		2	2	2	2	3	-1	3	1	3	2	2	3	3
2.1	0	1	2	2	3	-1	0	2		-1	-1	0	3	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	3	-1
2.2	0	1	2	2	3	-1	0	2	-1		-1	0	3	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	3	-1
2.3	0	1	2	2	3	-1	0	2	-1	-1		0	3	1	-1	-1	1	1	1	3	-1
2.4	1	1	2	2	3	0	1	2	0	0	0		3	3	0	1	2	2	2	3	1
2.5	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3		3	0	1	3	3	2	3	3
2.a	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	-1	1	1	1	3	3		-1	0	3	3	2	3	2
2.b	-1	-1	0	0	0	-1	-1	3	-1	-1	-1	0	0	-1		-1	-1	-1	-1	0	-1
2.c	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1	1	1	0	-1		1	1	1	1	0
7.1	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	3	1	1	1	2	3	3	-1	1		3	2	3	2
7.2	2	2	3	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	3	-1	1	3		2	3	3
7.3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	-1	1	2	2		2	2
7.a	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	1	3	3	2		3
7.b	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	3	-1	-1	-1	1	3	2	-1	0	2	3	2	3	

4 = indivisible	(-4) = cancelling
3 = supporting	(-3) = restricting
2 = reinforcing	(-2) = counteracting
1 = enabling	(-1) = constraining
0 = consistent	

We can map the interactions between SDGs

Ex. 6 (clean water), 2 (zero hunger), and 7 (affordable and clean energy)

(Fader, et al., 2018)

3. How do the SDGs drive change?

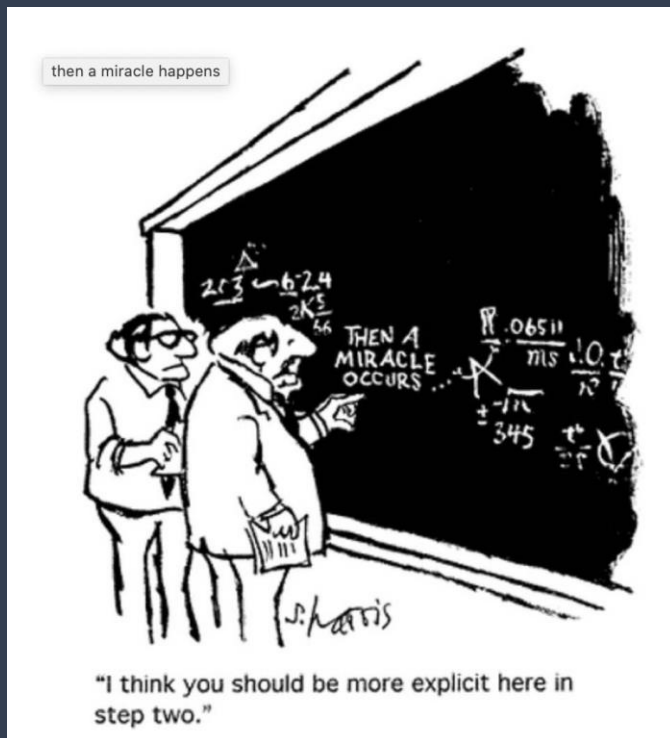
Who are the core audiences?

- Policy makers
- Citizens
- Funders and aid agencies
- Others?

How do the SDGs drive change?

What are the channels and mechanisms?

- Peer pressure (states, private sector)
- Transparency and reporting
- Civil society mobilisation
- Media engagement
- Direct funding
- Policy prioritization and target setting
- Normative change
- Methodological change



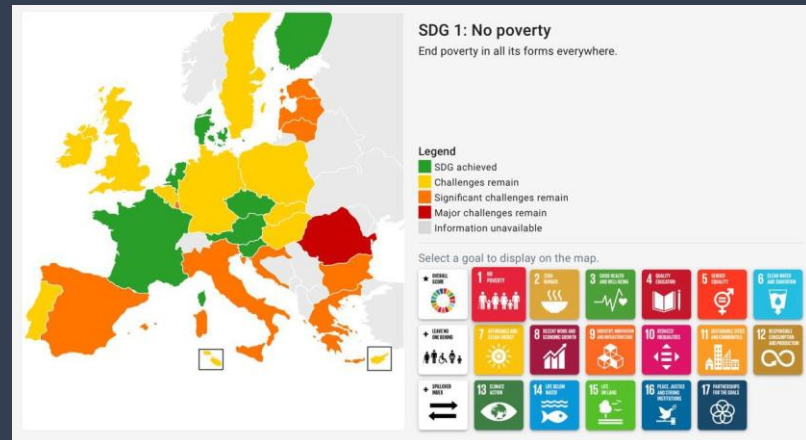
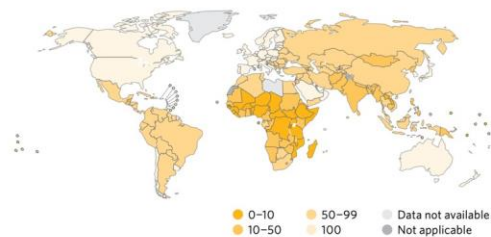
Global Reporting & Advocacy

Three billion people still lack clean cooking fuels and technologies, posing a grave threat to human health and the environment

Access to clean and safe cooking fuels and technologies has increased since 2010 at an annual rate of 0.5 percentage points, reaching 61 per cent of the global population in 2017. This is far too slow to meet the SDG target and still leaves nearly 3 billion people dependent on inefficient and highly polluting cooking systems, resulting in nearly 4 million premature deaths each year. The lack of cleaner fuels and technologies remains a major contributor to poor health and environmental degradation in low- and middle-income countries.

In sub-Saharan Africa, advances in the use of clean fuels (such as liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas and electricity) and fuel-efficient stoves have not kept pace with population growth, in contrast to other regions. Tackling the problem will require concerted action on the part of policymakers to address key barriers, including availability, affordability, reliability, limited financing and consumer awareness.

Proportion of population with access to clean cooking fuels and technologies, 2017 (percentage)



(<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2019/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2019.pdf>)

(<https://eu-dashboards.sdgindex.org>)

Normative change

Norms (*shared expectations, what is 'right'*):

The SDGs “re-conceptualized development as a universal aspiration for human progress that is inclusive and sustainable, displacing the MDG driven notion of development as a North-South project to meet basic needs to end poverty.”

(Fukudu-Parr et al. 2019)

The SDGs thus provide a window of opportunity to connect policies to a broader, legitimised, sustainable development agenda.

Methodological change

Methods:

The SDGs “brought about a methodological shift, namely the use of global goal setting to generate norms, moving toward ‘governance by numbers’. Until the SDGs, development agendas were qualitative statements of important social and political priorities.” (Fukudu-Parr et al. 2019)

4. The issue of context

Increased focus on localisation

- Means of taking broad goals and connecting them to local needs
- Example: Biscay region, concerned with aging population and obesity
- But does this enable goals to be captured by local interests?

Localisation in South Africa

NDP	SDG
Chapter 11: Social Protection	Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere in the world Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Chapter 9: Improving education, training and innovation	Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
Chapter 10: Promoting Health	Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Chapter 3: Economy and employment	Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Chapter 6: An integrated and inclusive rural economy	Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

What role are SDGs playing in political processes in South Africa?

Core Questions

Are the
SDGs
'neutral'?

How do they
interact?

How do they
drive
change?

What about
context?

What other issues would you raise?

Which of these poses the greatest challenge?

Summing up

Summing up

- The SDGs have a history – not born fully formed!
- The SDGs are contested, imperfect, and political
- The SDGs (and MDGs) contain normative ideas and models of change, development, etc.

Q&A

Thank you!





Leave no one behind

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

Leave No One Behind



LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

- ***Leave no one behind (LNOB)** is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It represents the unequivocal commitment of all UN Member States to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce the inequalities and vulnerabilities that leave people behind and undermine the potential of individuals and of humanity as a whole.*

LNOB not only entails reaching the poorest of the poor but requires combating discrimination and rising inequalities within and amongst countries, and their root causes. A major cause of people being left behind is persistent forms of discrimination, including gender discrimination, which leaves individuals, families and whole communities marginalized, and excluded. It is grounded in the UN's normative standards that are foundational principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international human rights law and national legal systems across the world.

Can you think of what inequalities are ?

- **Different income levels – Poverty**
- **Inequalities in opportunities.**
- **Access to education. Learning difficulties (various education levels)**
- **Health. (Access to health services)**
- **Food security.**
- **Employment.**
- **Housing and homelessness**
- **Access to economic, financial, resources.**
- **Gender-based discrimination.**
- **Religious and cultural or race.**
- **Legal status**

How to think about “leave no one behind”

1. **When do we need to consider “leave no one behind” ?**
 - A. *In the project design phase, who are the beneficiaries of our technology ? Who else is in the community ? Have we included everyone ? (gender, age, geography, disability, urban, rural)*
 - B. Research phase, deep dive, data collection, baselines...
 - C. Make a list of all those not included and think of what is needed to include them.
 - D. Unintended consequences.
 - E. Bridging the gap on SDG 7

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

[Find out more](#)

IS OUR DESIGN FOCUSING ON ENSURING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL.

SDG7

TARGET 7.1

UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MODERN ENERGY

By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.



TARGET 7.2

INCREASE GLOBAL PERCENTAGE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.



TARGET 7.3

DOUBLE THE IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY

By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.



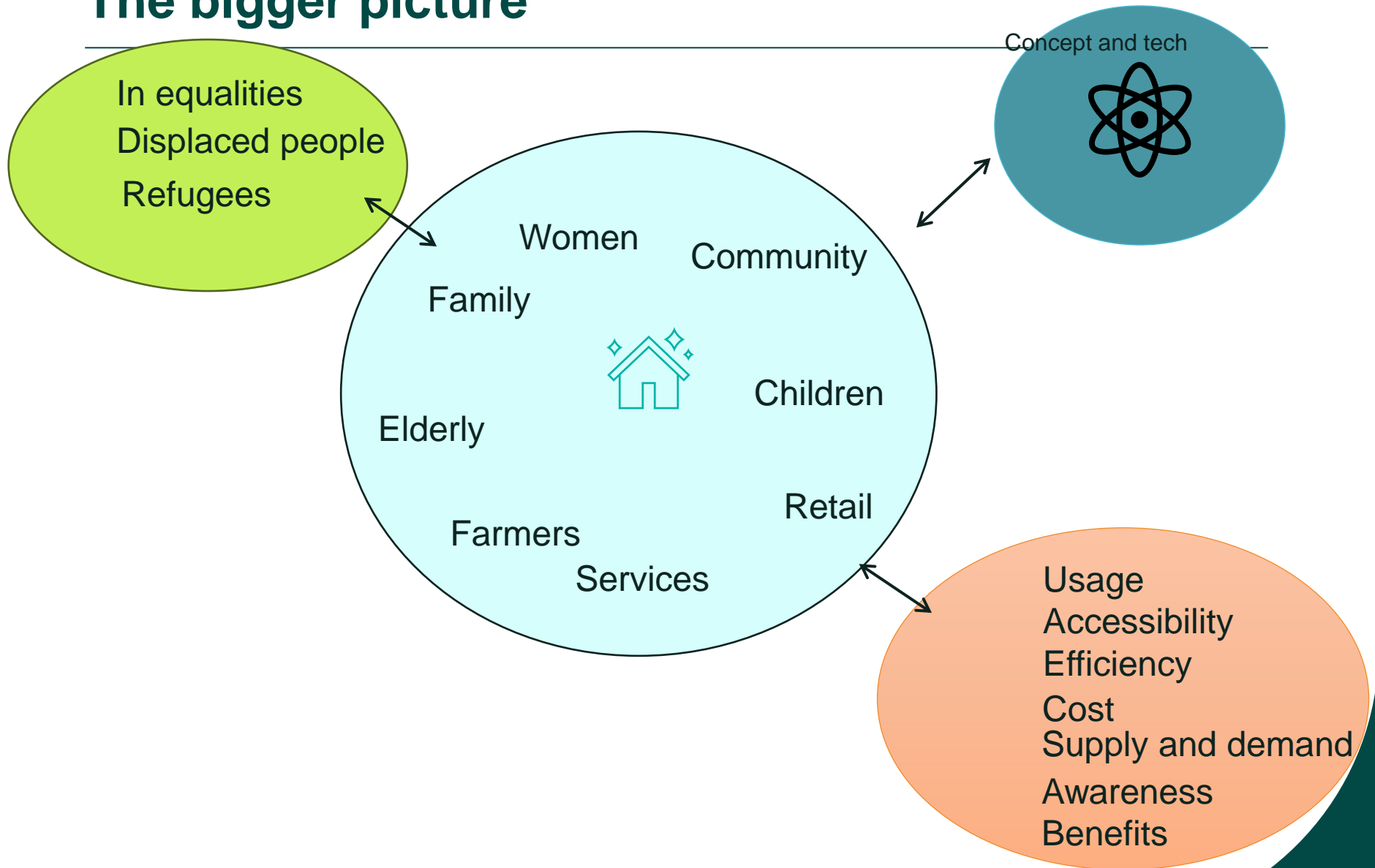
TARGET 7.4

PROMOTE ACCESS TO RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY AND INVESTMENTS IN CLEAN ENERGY

By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.



The bigger picture



Indicators to measure inclusivity

Are the poorest of people able to benefit from access to a technology.

- Quality of design (inclusivity)
- Accessibility of design (who can use it, easy to get access to or not)
- Usage of design (easy, hard, needs people with minimum knowledge to operate, training manual ?)
- (ease of use, accessible controls, visual instructions, communication in different languages)

2016 UN CEB Shared Framework for Action on 'Leaving No One Behind'⁵

In 2016, the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB) for Coordination adopted a Shared UN System Framework for Action.

The CEB called on all UNSDG member entities, among others, to put the LNOB imperative at the centre of their strategic frameworks, policy guidance and global plans of action in support of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. To this end, the CEB noted the importance of human rights-based approaches to programming, as endorsed by UNDG in 2005 and set out in the UNDAF guidance. The CEB framework set out the need to focus on three closely related but distinct concepts:

- **Equality**: the imperative of moving towards substantive equality of opportunity and outcomes for all groups;
- **Non-discrimination**: the prohibition of discrimination against individuals and groups on the grounds identified in international human rights treaties; and
- **Equity**: The broader concept of fairness in the distribution of costs, benefits and opportunities.

Summary of Step 1:

Identify who is being left behind and in what ways, and who among them is likely the *furthest behind*. To this end, the UN should work with Member States and partners to:

- ✓ Gather and analyse all data and information revealing gaps and trends in SDG implementation between sub-populations and/or geographic localities (use the five factors as a guide, with due attention to the human rights-based approach and gender considerations).
- ✓ Include and analyse data and information from a range of sources, including from national statistical offices, national human rights institutions, international human rights mechanisms, ILO supervisory bodies, civil society organizations, particularly organizations of marginalized communities as well as women's organizations, and/or community-level data, citizen science initiatives and scientific journals.
- ✓ Seek feedback and input from diverse stakeholders, including groups and populations left behind, throughout the process, from initial gathering of data to review and analysis.
- ✓ Identify data gaps.
- ✓ Complement existing data where needed, to further understand which subpopulations may be left behind, and which ones are furthest behind, using participatory approaches to gathering data.
- ✓ Combine relevant national and UN development, human rights, conflict, inequalities, political, risk and humanitarian analysis for more joined up assessment of who is left behind and why – with a view to identifying the furthest behind.
- ✓ Triangulate the data from the above sources through a consultative analytical process to develop a common understanding across the UN at country level that takes into account the voices and experiences of communities together with other data sources.



**EFFICIENCY
FOR ACCESS**



Q&A

SIGN YOUR TERMS AND CONDITIONS



FEEDBACK SURVEY





**EFFICIENCY
FOR ACCESS**