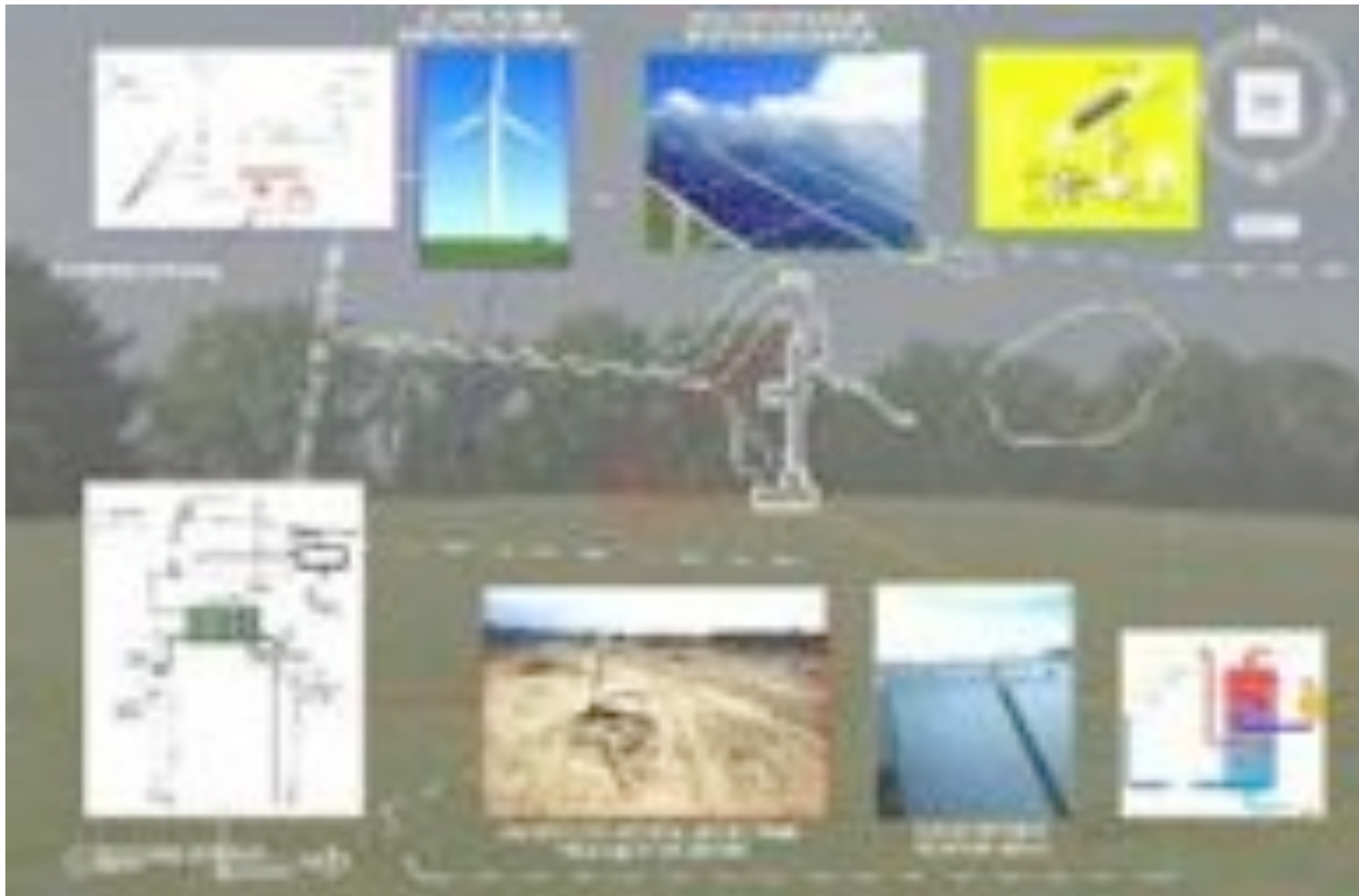


From Millennium Development Goals to Sustainable Development Goals



http://www.luc.edu/sustainability/campus/focus_areas/net-zeroenergycampus/

What now is different?

Since the Millennium Declaration 2000 and the adoption of the MDGs, five shifts will make the period 2015-2030 different from the MDG period of 2000-2015:

2The feasibility of ending poverty in all its forms

3A drastically higher human impact on the physical Earth

4Rapid technological change

5Increasing inequality and social exclusion

6A growing diffusion and complexity of governance

Sustainable Development Goals

- The focus is on 4 interconnected dimensions
 - Economic development
 - Social inclusion
 - Environmental sustainability
 - Good governance (including security)
 - This covers several enabling conditions for sustainable development: transparency, effective conditions, rule of law, participation and personal security, accountability and adequate financing for public goods

Inclusive economic development

Promoting economic development and ending poverty

- Although the MDGs cannot be achieved within the timeframe, SDGs should continue this task
- Investments are needed in ensuring access to basic needs: adequate household income, decent nutrition, food security and universal access to primary health services
- Reduction of fertility rates may be needed in some parts of the world to enable sustainable development

Inclusive Economic Development

“Inclusive”?

- Not well defined, in terms of actual participation in the economy; still very much focused on meeting basic needs and raising incomes

but how?

- No programmability: how can we achieve inclusive economic development, when we are still unable to tackle the economy (not within the domain of a country – globalization)
- And where market systems and taxation systems still sustain a situation of poverty

Inclusive social development

- Low education attainments result in poor marketable skills
- Unemployment is high and wages are at poverty levels
- Good jobs require more schooling and specialized training than before.
 - Of particular concern is **high youth unemployment** in many countries
 - One response is establishing targeted institutions of vocational training and apprenticeship to support the school-to-work transition

Inclusive social development

- Discrimination, on many levels
 - Gender
 - Indigenous peoples
 - Ethnic minorities
- Challenge of enhancing the quality of social interactions
 - Social capital
 - Trust
 - Participation and decision-making

Environmental sustainability

- Sustainable development cannot be attained without ensuring environmental sustainability.
- This means **pursuing a green economy**
 - Decoupling economic progress from human induced environmental damage

Environment and poverty

Another challenge in terms of environmental sustainability is in relation to the poor:

- **the poor are often dependent on natural resources for their livelihood and they are also the most vulnerable to environmental change.**
- Extreme poverty can only be ended if environmental degradation is halted and reversed.

Green Economy

- The green economy is understood in terms of the changes need in patterns of investment technology, production and consumption associated with sustainability
 - But the concept and the strategies for achieving it are still contested and not well-understood
 - Concern that the strategies for achieving a green economy may reinforce inequality and human insecurity

Challenges

- Decarbonize the economy by 2050
 - We must have a energy and industrial system that emits far less carbon dioxide, or that effectively captures and sequesters the carbon dioxide emitted
 - Market price of fossil fuels do not reflect their true social and environmental costs
- Sustainable agriculture and food security
 - Food production is often environmentally destructive
 - Need to pursue environmentally sustainable intensification of agriculture
- Cities and urban development
 - Cities growing at unmanageable rates

Good governance, peace and personal security

- National and local governments need to build effective institutions and pursue sustainable development with transparency, accountability, clear metrics and openness to the participation of all stakeholders
- Government must uphold and promote the rule of law as well as basic economic and social rights

How can we achieve sustainable development today?

- The world needs an operational sustainable development framework that can mobilize all key actors (national and local governments, civil society, business, science and academia) in every country to move away from the Business as Usual (BAU) trajectory towards a Sustainable Development path.

Business as Usual (BAU)

- BAU is marked by
 - A failure of international coordination and cooperation
 - inadequate policies in developed and developing countries that do not address the challenges of sustainable development
- As a result, BAU fails to achieve sustainable development

Business as Usual

- Global efforts to assist the poorer and vulnerable countries will remain inadequate.
 - The trend towards declining official development assistance (ODA) will intensify.
 - Many countries, both developed and developing, will **fail to provide adequate training and economic opportunities to their young and will face rising youth unemployment and social unrest.**

Business as Usual

- **A global market economy without adequate governance and cooperation is not equipped to address:**
 - environmental threats (especially climate change)
 - support vulnerable regions
 - end extreme poverty
 - reduce inequalities between skilled and unskilled workers,
 - or guarantee a healthy start for children

Sustainable Development Path

- A sustainable development path builds on a global framework for cooperation to address the four dimensions of sustainable development and should be based on four related normative concepts:
 - The right to development for every country
 - Human rights and social inclusion
 - Convergence of living standards across countries
 - Shared responsibilities and opportunities

The right to development

- **Countries will have to grow differently and more sustainably.**
- At Rio+20 it was expressed that every country has a right to development and should enjoy the benefits of modern technologies and economic progress.

Human rights and social inclusion

- One of the objectives of sustainable development is to realize basic human rights.
- Sustainable development requires that
 - **all individuals have equal opportunities to share in progress**
 - **are treated equally before the law and**
 - **have equal access to public services.**

Convergence of living standards

- All regions will continue to raise living standards with poorer countries experiencing higher growth rates and over time the gaps between rich and poor countries will narrow substantially.
- **Under the BAU scenario, the poorest and most vulnerable regions will be excluded from economic progress.**

Shared responsibilities and opportunities

- All countries should share in promoting sustainable development
- Low income and more vulnerable countries should receive the support they need to end extreme poverty and access the technologies needed for sustainable development

Implementing a sustainable development path

- The importance of decoupling
 - Energy efficiency measures
 - Precision farming
 - Green buildings
- Market systems not adequate to achieve decoupling
 - Market does not compel polluters to pay
 - No prices for ecosystem services
 - This will require corrections to the market, increased political cooperation

Implementing a sustainable development path

The importance of decoupling, through:

- Energy efficiency measures
- Precision farming
- Green buildings

However, the market systems not adequate to achieve decoupling

- Market does not compel polluters to pay
- No prices for ecosystem services
- This will require corrections to the market, increased political cooperation

Implementing a sustainable development path

- The need to change behavior and articulate a business case for sustainable development
 - Need to make different choices in terms of business management, ethics, politics, lifestyles, personal consumption, etc.
 - What changes are needed?
 - What are the strategies for bringing about these changes?

Implementing a sustainable development path

- Quantifying the challenges of sustainable development
 - Need a quantitative assessment that combines earth systems with human systems, from the local to the global

Implementing a sustainable development path

- Sustainable development topics are very controversial and unresolved
- No easy solutions, highly complex issues, difficult trade offs
 - Examples:
 - Nuclear power? Is it safe? Can it play a role in decarbonizing the economy?
 - GMOs?
 - Is decarbonization realistic for low-income, developing countries?

References

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4. References on Green Economy

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Better tough love than tough luck!

Fossil Free Stanford Divests

- Today, the climate movement won a groundbreaking victory. In a striking acknowledgement of the need for a bold and immediate response to climate change, Stanford University is divesting from the coal industry. <http://www.fossilfreestanford.org/official-statement-on-coal-divestment.html>
- The Stanford endowment, valued at \$18.7 billion, will now become the largest in a growing group of funds to partially divest from fossil fuels.
- Cover page Loyola University Chicago is seeking zero waste management, Asoko Group of universities seek Sustainable Campuses, ideal yet real.

