PLANNING FOR AN INCLUSIVE TRANSFORMATION IN SRI LANKA

Challenges in Achieving Sustainable Transformation and Poverty Eradication in the Implementation of the SDGs

12th Meeting of the National Focal Points for Policy Coherence
Building policy coherence for sustainable development: Experiences and challenges in implementation and tracking progress
15 June 2017, OECD Headquarters, Paris
"Despite alarming signs of failure throughout its history, the development syndrome has survived until today, but at the price of increasing senility. All along, the efficacy of "development" remained impervious to any counter evidence, but showed remarkable staying power; the concept was repeatedly stretched until it included both the strategy which inflicted the injury and the strategy designed for therapy. This strength of the concept, however, is also the reason for its galloping exhaustion; it no longer manifests any reactions to changing historical conditions. The tragic greatness of ‘development’ consists in its monumental emptiness.” Wolfgang Sachs

Prof. Joseph Stiglitz: “It is time for our statistics system to put more emphasis on measuring the well-being of the population than on economic production.”


Uchita de Zoysa - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
Nexus of Disaster Preparedness, Resilience & Poverty

“Heavy rains were received on 25th May within 12 hours in the South-western watersheds in the country up to 619mm leading riverine floods of the Kalu, Nilwala and Gin rivers.”

Goal 13
• 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Goal 01
• 1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and other vulnerabilities.
2017 has been named as the “Poverty Eradication Year” for Sri Lanka. Official Poverty line at national level for April 2017 is Rs. 4244. In Sri Lanka, 6.7% of the population lives below the national poverty line. ‘Poverty line’ is the estimated minimum level of income needed to secure the necessities of life.

“Sri Lanka intends to reduce the GHG emissions against Business-As-Usual scenario unconditionally by 7% and conditionally 23% by 2030”
• Do we understand and/or believe that SDGs provide transformational pathways?

• Do we have the necessary legislative, policy and institutional set-up and capacity to implement the SDGs?

• Do we have the baseline information, data and statistics to conduct monitoring, evaluation and follow-up?

• Do we want to and/or have the financing for effective transformation?

• 

  • Transformation cannot happen only within a few nations – in a globalized world transformation must be universal.

  • Policy coherence for sustainable development cannot apply only to a few sectoral interventions of greening the world - must be demonstrative in international trade, humans rights, technology rights, peace, etc.

  • Consumption inequity and production monopoly prevents the transformation of our world – a ½ clean-green-prosperous world is not even ½ transformed – this inequity is the bedrock of suffering on earth!
Countries are trying to fit the SDGs into their standard national programmes. Redefining SDGs for political, sectoral or silo administrative conveniences will confuse the monitoring and reporting process and compromise the transformation. New rationales for policy & institutional coherence must be devised.

Uchita de Zoysa - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
The Embedding of SDGs will go through an incubation period.

- Agencies are competing for roles – fragmentation is obstructing the transition
- Realignment of national institutional structures and policy frameworks is critical.
- Brave decisions for transformation are needed & Transformation must be inclusive.

**Uchita de Zoysa** - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
Systems Approach for Convergence Planning

- **Central Government**
- **Local Government**
- **Business**
- **Civil Society**
- **Citizens**
- **Other Stakeholders**

Planning must be:
- inclusive
- supported by data & statistics
- impacts measurable
- drawing visionary pathways

**17 SD Goals**
**169 Targets**
**51 Ministries**
**425 Line Agencies**

Uchita de Zoysa - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka

- Engagement platform for dialogue and inclusive planning
- Setting national priorities, baselines, indicators
- Local authority and stakeholder lead provincial sustainability plans
- Integrated national SD strategies and policies
- Institutional framework for transformation established and monitored
System Linkages Mapping for Implementation of SDGs

Fragmented institutional structure, duplication of roles and contradictory mandates leading to incongruent investment obstructs the transformation
System Linkages Mapping for Implementation of SDGs

A coherent and coordinated inter-agency institutional architecture for convergence planning and integrated implementation is necessary.

Uchita de Zoysa - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
Challenges of a Fragmented SDG Planning Process

- Cabinet Ministry on SD
- Parliamentary Select Committee on SDGs
- Cabinet Sub-Committee for SDGs / Expert Working Group (presidents secretariat)
- SD Act & SD Council / National SD policy, strategy, standards & guidelines

... or take the easy way out & let just one politically powerful agency handle it as a “Project”.

Uchita de Zoysa - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
Proposed Integrated Institutional Mechanism for the SDGs

Uchita de Zoysa - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
Planning for an Inclusive Transformation

- Cabinet Ministry on SD
- Parliamentary Select Committee on SDGs
- Cabinet Sub-Committee for SDGs / Expert Working Group (presidents secretariat)
- SD Act & SD Council / National SD policy, strategy, standards & guidelines

2016-2020

- Legislative, Institutional & Policy Framework established

2021-2025

- Investment for sustainable infrastructure and systems in place

2026-2030

- Coherent and convergent sustainable systems in motion

- National SD Engagement Platform
- Provincial SD Engagement Platform
- Provincial sustainability plans

- Systems linkage mapping for institutional architecture
- National visions, pathways, baselines & indicators
- Monitoring & reporting mechanism

Uchita de Zoysa - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
Activity 1: Capacity Building for Planning & Implementation of SDGs:
[curriculum development, training of educationalists, politicians, administrators, CSO & Business leaders]

Activity 2: National SDG Roadmap:
[mapping of institutional coherence, policy coherence, stakeholder engagement, etc. national SDG policy and strategy]

Activity 3: Provincial Sustainability Plans:
[Provincial Sustainability Plans, Sustainable Villages]

Activity 4: National Monitoring, Review, Reporting and Follow-up Mechanism for SDGs:
[training of educationalists, politicians, administrators, CSO & Business leaders]
National SDG Monitoring Framework

**Old data** – MDG vs. SDG – reporting for cover-up vs. reporting for transformation

**New data** – planning for transformation vs. planning for political agendas

**Data democracy** – collecting data vs. sharing data

**Data revolution** – data needs for national agenda vs data needs for global agenda

---

**Goals**
- Global Goals (17)
- Additional National Goals?

**Targets**
- Global Targets (169)
- Corresponding National Targets
- Additional national targets

---

**Indicators**
- Global Indicators (241*)
  - Tier 1:
  - Tier 2
  - Tier 3

**National Indicators**
- Corresponding national indicator (same or different)
- Current national indicator (aggregated & disaggregated)
- Proposed national indicator (aggregated & disaggregated)

---

**Baseline Data**
- Available data for corresponding indicator
- Required new data for corresponding indicator

---

**National additional indicators**
- Available data
- Required new data

---

Uchita de Zoysa - Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
**Sustainability Compliance Standards Framework**

[a composite index for measuring sustainable development plans and projects]

1. Environmental Sustainability Standards
   - SCS 1: Integrate the value of Natural Capital and Conservation of Biodiversity
   - SCS 2: Reduce Ecological Footprints and Enhance Ecosystem Services
   - SCS 3: Conserve and Restore Forests, Parks, Wetlands, Farm Lands and Plantations
   - SCS 4: Conserve and Restore Inland Fresh Water, Coastal and Ocean Resources
   - SCS 5: Integrated Management of Air, Land, Water, and Natural Processes and Resources
   - SCS 6: Mitigation and Adaptation Interventions towards Climate Change
   - SCS 7: Adopt and Adhere to Air, Water, Soil and Noise Quality standards
   - SCS 8: Prevent, Minimize and Manage Waste, Emissions and Pollution
   - SCS 9: Conserve and Restore Inland Fresh Water, Coastal and Ocean Resources
   - SCS 10: Demonstrate Respect for Environmental Justice and the Commons

2. Social Sustainability Standards
   - SCS 11: Ensure Equality of Opportunity, Eradicate Poverty and Deprivation, and Advance Wellbeing
   - SCS 12: Advance Happiness, Contentment and Mindfulness
   - SCS 14: Preserve Cultural Heritage, Values, Lifestyles and Knowledge Systems
   - SCS 15: Facilitate Leisure, Recreation and Spiritual Advancement
   - SCS 16: Facilitate Education, Lifelong Learning, Skills and Human Development
   - SCS 17: Ensure Health, Sanitation, Nutrition, Safety, and Security
   - SCS 19: Ensure Access to Justice, Decent Jobs and Economic Development Benefits
   - SCS 20: Ensure Food Security and Safety

3. Economic Sustainability Standards
   - SCS 21: Leads to Poverty Eradication, Income Equity, Productive Employment, and Quality of Life
   - SCS 22: Promote Inclusive Growth, Green Economy, and Sustainable Enterprises
   - SCS 23: Advance Sustainable Consumption and Production Systems
   - SCS 25: Promote Social Responsibility, Ethical Investment and Responsible Business
   - SCS 26: Assure Consumer Protection, Affordability, and Fair Trade
   - SCS 27: Safeguards Small and Medium Enterprises and Support Local Industries
   - SCS 28: Planned for Resilience, Sustenance & Longevity
   - SCS 29: Designed for Investment, Cost Recovery, Profitability, and Continuity
   - SCS 30: Integrate Environmental Economics and Full-Cost Accounting Considerations

4. Good Governance Standards
   - SCS 31: Adhere to Rule of Law, Institutional Mandate, Policies & Regulations
   - SCS 32: Posses Requisite Capacity, Resources, Financing and Partnerships Strategies
   - SCS 33: Ability to Avoid, Mitigate, and Manage Risks and Impacts
   - SCS 34: Uphold Human Rights, Labor Laws and Working Conditions
   - SCS 35: Transparent, Responsive, Effective and Efficient
   - SCS 36: Ensure Equitable, Inclusive and Participatory Stakeholder Engagement
   - SCS 37: Generates Consensus, Public Acceptance and Community Goodwill
   - SCS 38: Incorporate Accountability, Transparency, Audit and Disclosure Obligations
   - SCS 39: Recourse for Acquisition, Disruption, Displacement and Resettlement
   - SCS 40: Eliminate Marginalization, Discrimination and Injustice

Uchita de Zoysa • Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
What type of governance systems & structures do we need for a true transformation? How can we ensure good governance?

What is the economic model that can assist the transformation? How do we ensure means of implementation?

What measures can we take to embed equality in planning the transformation? How do we ensure wellbeing of all?

What are the ecological boundaries in our quest for prosperity? How can we plan to remain below our footprint?
Uchita de Zoysa

Sustainable Development Advisor, Ministry of Sustainable Development & Wildlife, Sri Lanka
Tel: +94 112879118  Fax: +94 112885492  Mobile:+94777372206  Email: uchita@sltnet.lk