Mobilizing science towards transformation pathways for sustainable development

Global Sustainable Development Report

GSDR 2019

Mobilizing science towards transformation pathways for sustainable development

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Evolution to SD:
Three pillars, compromises, emergent in space and time

Transformation to Sustainable Development?

Transformations to SD:
Indivisible, hard choices, intentional, universal, time-bound
Starting point body of knowledge:
- Assessment of assessments (44)
- Science papers with explicit reference to SDGs

Starting point interaction:
(ICSU 2017)
- New research
- Meta-analysis and meta-studies
- Expert assessments (ICSU)

Starting point SDG indicators:
(Pradhan, 2017)
- Correlations
- Time series,
- National data sets
Knowledge about interactions (target-level)

- Total 1005 interactions addressed
- 815/1005 co-benefits
- 166/1005 trade-offs
- 24/1005 neutral
- 65% of SDG interactions
- 4% of target interactions
Systemic perspectives

Systemic properties of the SDGs:
Potential of transformation and related risks to tackle

[Diagram showing a scatter plot with indicators and multipliers, categorized by quality (negative vs. positive)]
## Turning vicious into virtuous cycles: network perspectives

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The need for contextualized and balanced perspectives on transformations to SD

Source: Number of Researchers per million inhabitants by country, UNESCO Institute for Statistics, viewed 7th March, 2011
Outlook

SDG interactions knowledge platform

- Systematic collation of cases of interaction and coded appraisal
- Searchable database of case studies and experience of managing interactions
- Develop and collate regional and global syntheses
- Science-policy-society dialogue and learning: co-design development pathways and priority setting across scales and context
- Emerging community of practice

Available knowledge on interactions: often fragmented by sector, context, and scale

National knowledge needs and policy questions on SDG interactions

Global science sphere

Priorities for research funding and global syntheses

Research products: technologies & processes, meta-analyses, etc.

New research questions and priorities

Global policy sphere

National and sub-national policy spheres

Global priorities on opportunities or negotiation needs (HLPF)

Evidence for SDG implementation strategies

Key variables for policy, planning, and monitoring

Nielsson et al, forthcoming