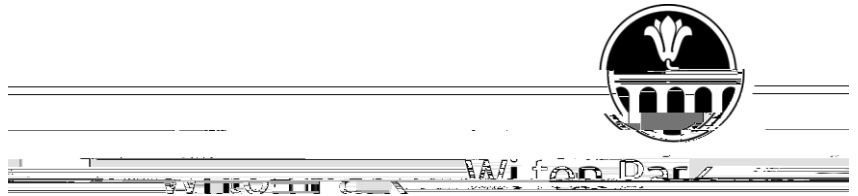


Report

In association with:



Report

Monday 5 – Wednesday 7 March 2018 | WP1608

In September 2015, 193 countries of the UN General Assembly adopted a new development agenda Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 underlying targets that are "integrated and indivisible", the agenda provides both an extraordinary chance and extraordinary challenge to society at the global, national

"How interactions look depends on which glasses you are wearing"

migration).

3. Current approaches to understanding interlinkages describe existing or potential interactions among goals but do not capture the scale or impact of such interactions. Uncertainty is inherent in all existing methods identifying interactions. An analysis of pair-wise interactions among goals and their targets showed that the strengths of interactions varies on its 7-point scale from 'cancelling' (-3) to 'neutral' (0) to 'indivisible' (+3). Applying a particular "lens", for example a human-environment perspective, will highlight certain sets of interactions among SDGs to help capture the nuances of the varying degrees of influence between goals. Other tools and frameworks to help identify these key interactions, includes the identification of 'planetary boundaries' and 'safe and just operating spaces' which

"there are more synergies than trade-offs among the SDGs"

"Growing emphasis on egos and logos"

Examples of interactions among SDGs: synergies and comprehensive solutions

9. Several practical examples demonstrate how understanding interactions among goals can promote actions and solutions that work towards the achievement of multiple goals. These solutions require multi-sectoral and long-term approaches that consider synergies and trade-offs among SDGs across scales.
10. Taking the example of **cities** shows how certain places and spaces are 'streams' where SDGs overlap closely. For example, Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation); Goal 7 (affordable and clean energy) and Goal 12 (responsible consumption and production) are all components of sustainable and productive urban living that overlap closely in cities. Goal 10 (reduced inequalities) is also a critical issue in cities—as well as for the SDG agenda—as 75% of cities have higher levels of

trade-offs.

17. Multiple related initiatives in the climate, environment and development space such as the '10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production' should be aligned with the SDGs, for example by ensuring integrated SDG measurement and evaluation frameworks.

Achieving multiple goals: how to make solutions happen

18. Making progress towards multiple SDGs needs an enabling environment and public policy support to be realised. Legal, corporate and regulatory processes alongside research and evidence and institutional frameworks can help achieve the SDGs.
19. Taking a legal perspective to the SDGs, which are in effect a soft legal document, represents both a potential pathway for change as well as highlighting challenges. The experience of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) demonstrates the challenges of bringing about change without legally-

"We need horizontal solutions to vertical problems"

"should change be disruptive or incremental?"

support of the SDGs.

26. Providing research and evidence on SDG interactions to policymakers should be demand-led, informed by local needs and adequately funded. Research should involve international collaborations that supports south-north and north-south learning.
27. Jurisdictional responsibilities should be adequately distributed to ensure that different levels of governance take on appropriate levels of responsibility and that national SDG indicators align with global indicators. This could entail a localising agenda that makes use of emerging networks at local level and engages broadly, even with unusual stakeholders.
28. Other considerations important for achieving the SDGs include: highlighting the costs of inaction analogous to the approach taken by the Stern Review on the economics of climate change; enforcing and auditing governments and ministries on SDG readiness; and ensuring that SDGs are integrated into national budh.447 rg

"No-one and no-where
left behind"