



Challenges and Opportunities to Respond Cybersystemically: The German and The Global Perspective

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Complex Global Risk Landscape

Old and New Global Divides

Science-Policy-Governance Crises and Challenges

Sustainable Development - The Problem with the Brundtland Consensus

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Brundtland Report, 1987

“Our Common Future”

World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED)
 (“Brundtland Commission”)

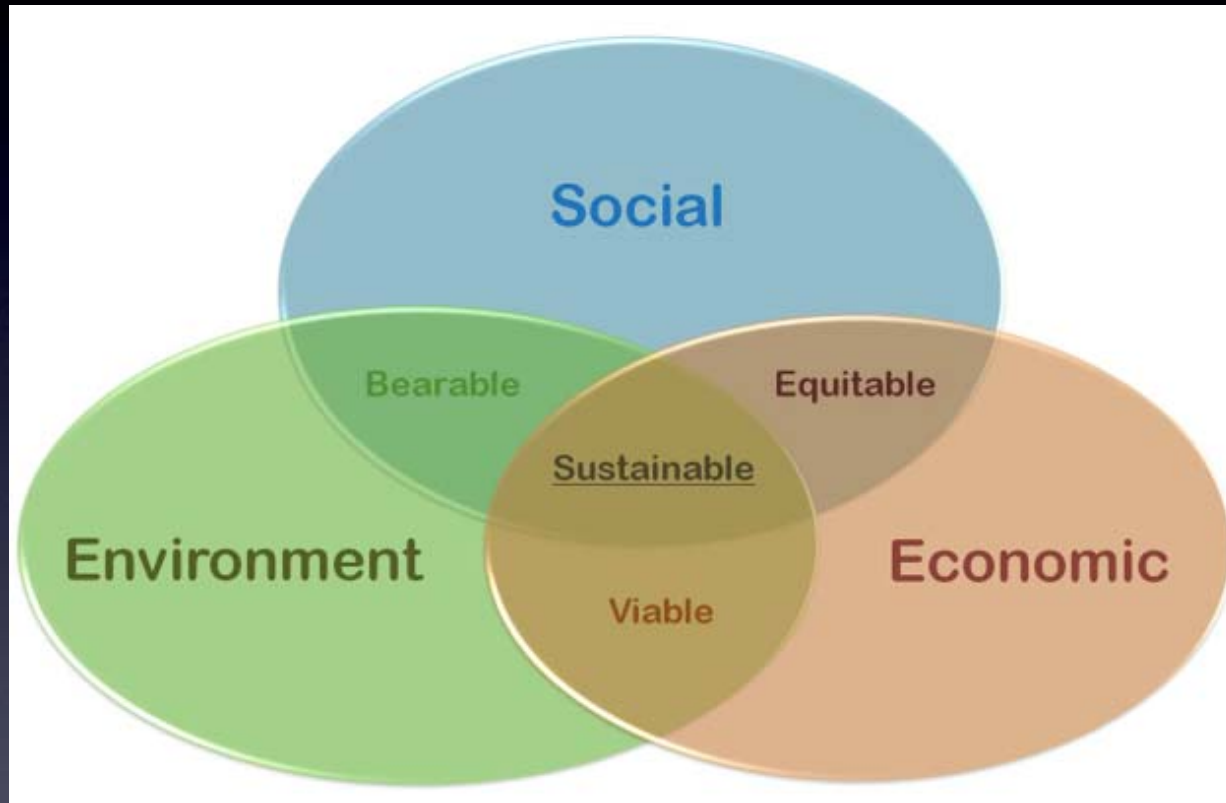
Gro Harlem Brundtland, MD
Prime Minister of Norway,
Director-General of the World Health Organization

A new concept:
“Sustainable Development” as economic, social
and environmental development

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

“It contains within it two key concepts:

- the concept of **needs**, in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and
- the idea of **limitations** imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs."



The three main pillars of sustainable development:

Economic Growth

Environmental Protection

Social Equality

Rio Declaration

Principle 1

Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.

Principle 3

The right to development must be fulfilled so as to equitably meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations.

Principle 5

All States and all people shall cooperate in the essential task of eradicating poverty as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in order to decrease the disparities in standards of living and better meet the needs of the majority of the people of the world.

Rio Conventions:
Climate Change
Biodiversity
Desertification & Land Degradation
Forests

World Summit on Sustainable Development,
2002:
Water
Energy

Millennium Declaration, 2000

Millennium Development Goals, 2000-2015

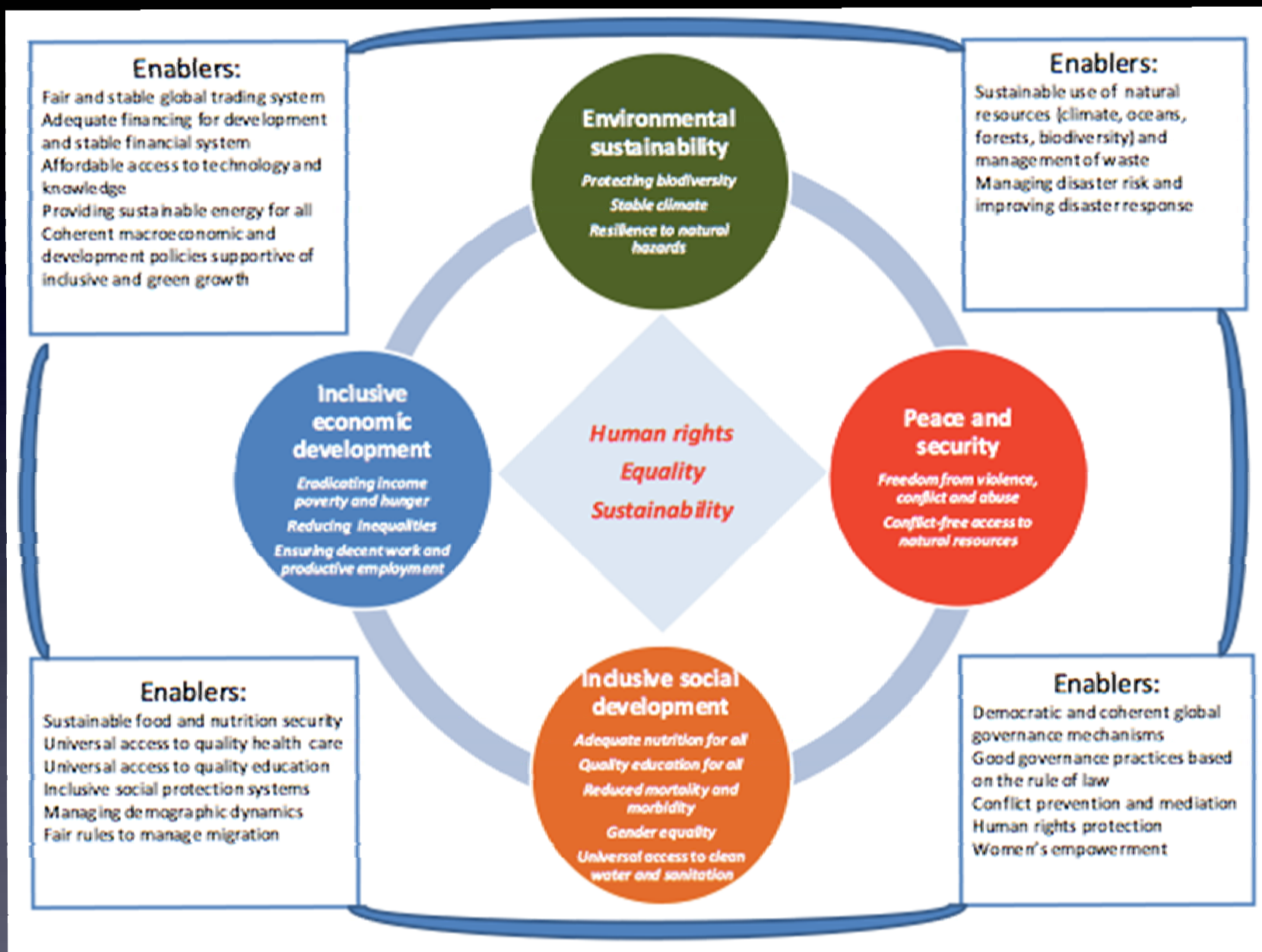


UN Conference on Sustainable Development
(UNCSD) (Rio +20), June 2012
Outcome Document “The Future We Want”

Toward a new set of “Sustainable Development
Goals” (SDGs) by 2015
Open Working Group, 2013-2014
High-Level Political Forum, September 2013

“Economic transformation and opportunity to lift people out of poverty,
advancing social justice and protecting the environment.”

GOAL 1	End poverty in all its forms everywhere
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
GOAL 4	Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
GOAL 5	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
GOAL 6	Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
GOAL 7	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
GOAL 8	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
GOAL 9	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
GOAL 10	Reduce inequality within and among countries
GOAL 11	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
GOAL 12	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
GOAL 13	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*
GOAL 14	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
GOAL 15	Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
GOAL 16	Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
GOAL 17	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



Normative Foundations

Social-Ecological Paradigm Shift

Anthropocene Ethics

vs. Utilitarianism (Status quo in International Policy)

vs. Theories of Social Contract (John Rawls et al.)

But based on an Idea of Justice that goes ‘beyond compassion and humanity’ (Nussbaum 2004, 2006)

and builds on *rights*-based views, and *capabilities*.

“The basic moral intuition behind the approach concerns the dignity of a form of life that possesses both deep needs and abilities; its basic goal is to address the need for a rich plurality of life activities.”
(Nussbaum 2004)

As with human capabilities, the emphasis lies on autonomy, in the sense that all species and natural systems should be enabled to ‘flourish’.

Sustainable Development will be achieved more easily if we place the idea and principle of Social-Ecological Justice at its very foundation, conceptually as well as in every action.

In the sense of Kant, Social-Ecological Justice should precisely not be motivated by utilitarian or contractarian approaches, but rather be perceived as an a priori, transcendental moral principle informing law, ethics, policy and action alike.

In the Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals (1785), Immanuel Kant (1724-1804) argues that morality is based neither on the principle of utility, nor on a law of nature, but on human reason. According to Kant, reason tells us what we ought to do, and when we obey our own reason, only then are we truly free.



Social-Ecological Justice for



Humans
Animals
Biodiversity & Ecosystems
Planetary Systems & Boundaries



The Earth does not belong to
man; man belongs to Earth.

Humankind has not woven the
web of life. We are but one
thread within it. Whatever we do
to the web, we do to ourselves.

All things are bound together.
All things connect.

Attributed to Chief Seattle, 1854



Toward a collaborative research, teaching and policy agenda on Social-Ecological Justice for Sustainable Development

...going beyond Social/ Environmental/ Ecological Justice

Thank you!

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