

Reaching halfway point for the SDGs

Setting the scene for the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report

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Outline

Setting the scene: Agenda 2030 at the halfway point. What has changed since 2019 GSDR? What are the latest scientific findings on the SDGs?

- Context: Covid-19 pandemic, Inequality, Conflict and security, Climate targets
- Uptake by actors and political impact of SDGs
- New and emerging issues?

The 2023 GSDR process and preliminary framework

- Focus on acceleration and transformation
- Focus on concrete tools
- Focus on the science-policy-society interface

Invitation to contribute!

Where were we in 2019?

Table 1-1
Projected distance from reaching selected targets by 2030 (at current trends)

GOAL	WITHIN 5%	5–10%	>10%	NEGATIVE LONG-TERM TREND
 Goal 1		1.1. Eradicating extreme poverty	1.3. Social protection for all	
 Goal 2		2.1. Ending hunger (undernourishment)	2.2. Ending malnutrition (stunting) 2.5. Maintaining genetic diversity 2.6. Investment in agriculture*	2.2. Ending malnutrition (overweight)
 Goal 3	3.2. Under-5 mortality 3.2. Neonatal mortality		3.1. Maternal mortality 3.4. Premature deaths from non-communicable diseases	
 Goal 4	4.1. Enrolment in primary education	4.6. Literacy among youth and adults	4.2. Early childhood development 4.1. Enrolment in secondary education 4.3. Enrolment in tertiary education	
 Goal 5			5.5. Women political participation	
 Goal 6		6.2. Access to safe sanitation (open defecation practices)	6.1. Access to safely managed drinking water 6.2. Access to safely managed sanitation services	
 Goal 7		7.1. Access to electricity	7.2. Share of renewable energy* 7.3. Energy intensity	
 Goal 8			8.7. Use of child labour	
 Goal 9		9.5. Enhancing scientific research (R&D expenditure)	9.5. Enhancing scientific research (number of researchers)	
 Goal 10			10.4. Remittance costs	Inequality in income*
 Goal 11			11.1. Urban population living in slums*	
 Goal 12				12.2. Absolute material footprint, and FMC*
 Goal 13				Global GHG emissions relative to Paris targets*
 Goal 14				14.1. Continued deterioration of coastal waters* 14.4. Overfishing*
 Goal 15				15.5. Biodiversity loss* 15.7. Wildlife poaching and trafficking*
 Goal 16			16.9. Universal birth registration **	

Note: Selected indicators only. SDG 17 is not included as it consists of a wide range of indicators that cannot easily be captured using the methodology for assessing distance from reaching targets. Estimates of the distance from the target by 2030 are based on forecasted value of the corresponding indicator in 2030, relative to target. Forecasts based on best-fit trends of individual indicators, given the available data range.

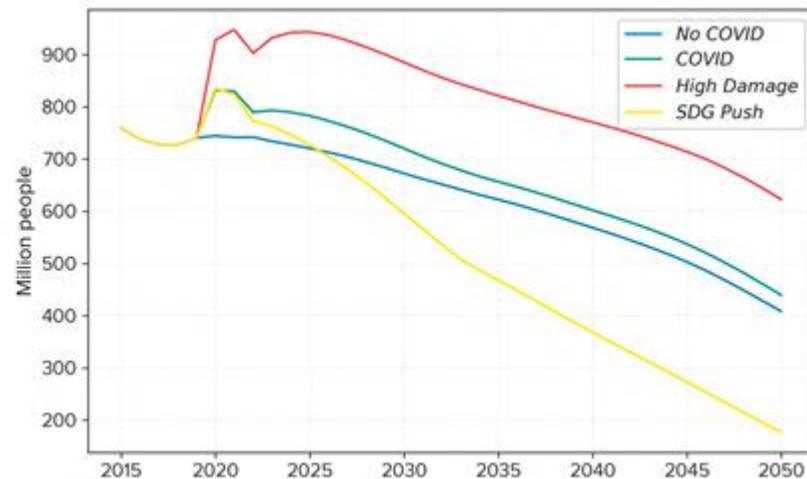
* Quantitative target for 2030 is not specified in the SDG indicator framework; targets are estimated.

** Assessment is based on indicators outside the SDG indicator framework; inequality in income is based on data from household surveys.

Effect on SDG progress?

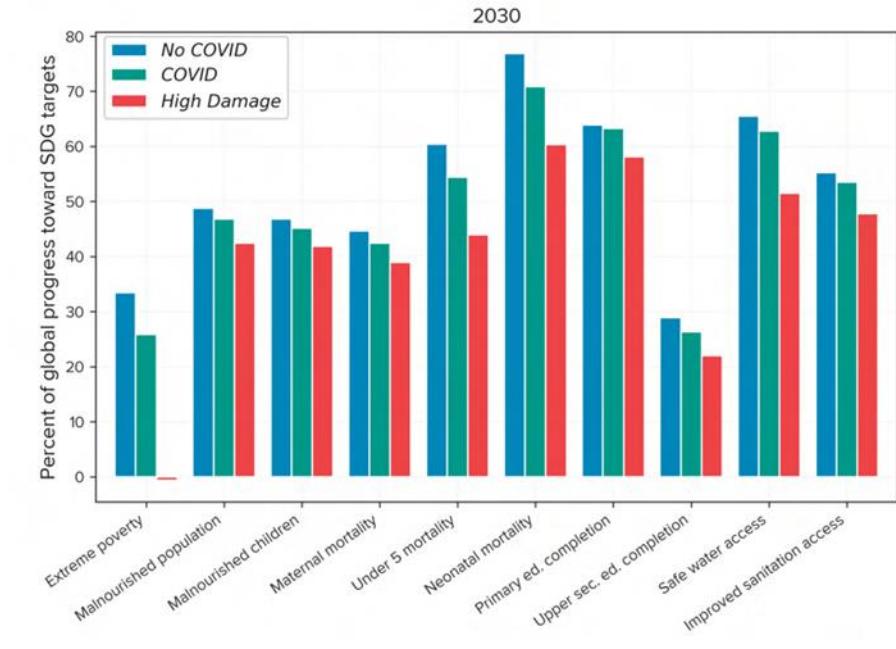
- Covid-19 pandemic
- Changing inequalities
- Conflict
- Long-term climate change targets
- Technology and digitalization
- Misinformation and trust

Impact of the global Covid-19 pandemic?



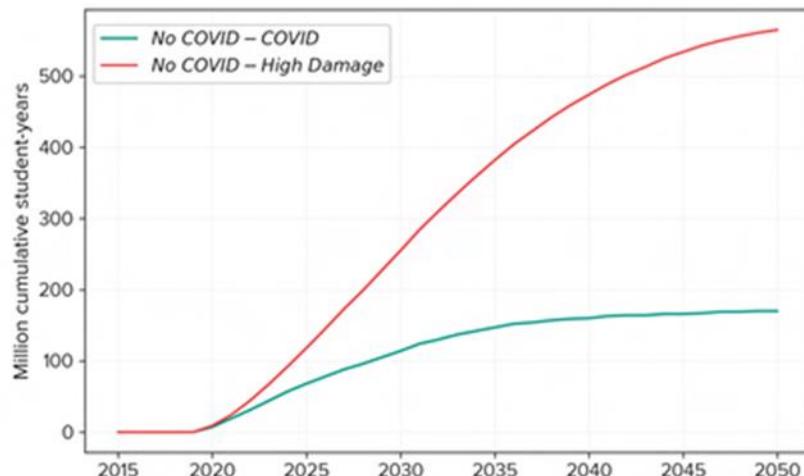
Global poverty headcount under different scenarios

Impacts of COVID on global progress towards SDG targets (% of countries reaching the target value by 2030)



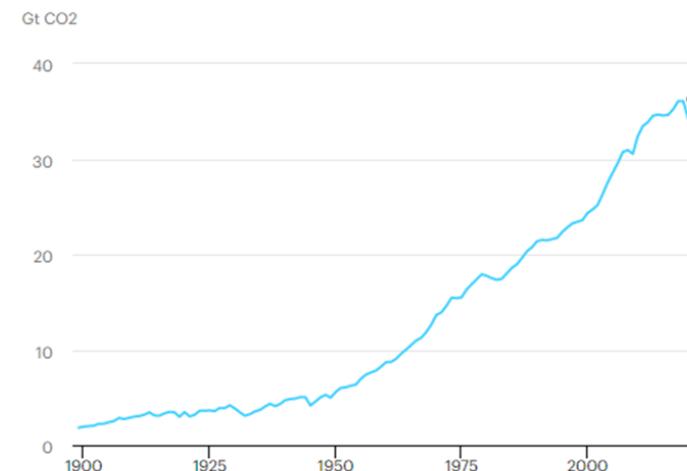
CO2 emissions from energy combustion and industrial processes, 1900-2021

Open



Cumulative missing student-years globally, all education levels

Impact on global energy CO2 emissions

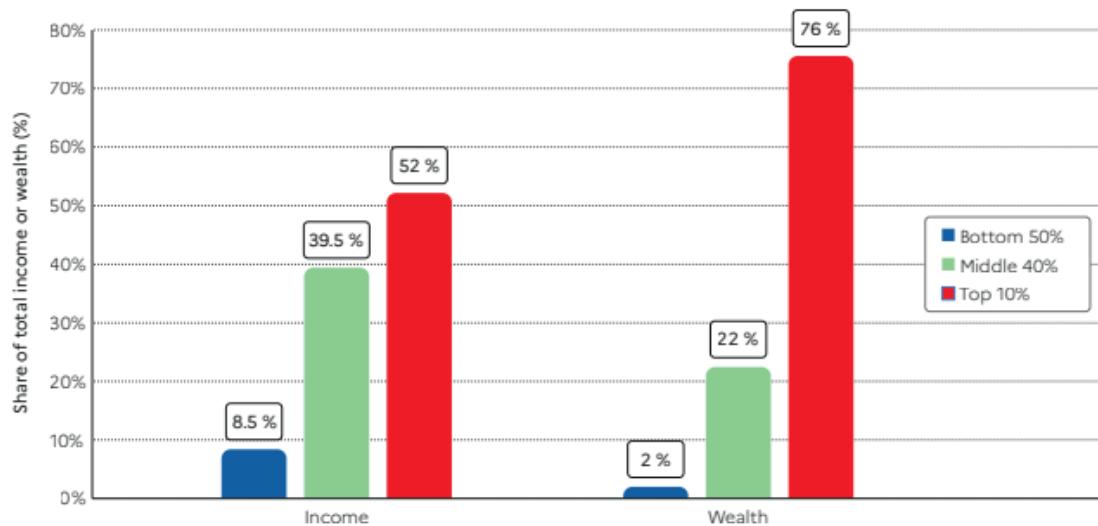


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Hughes et al. 2021; IEA 2022 Global Energy Review

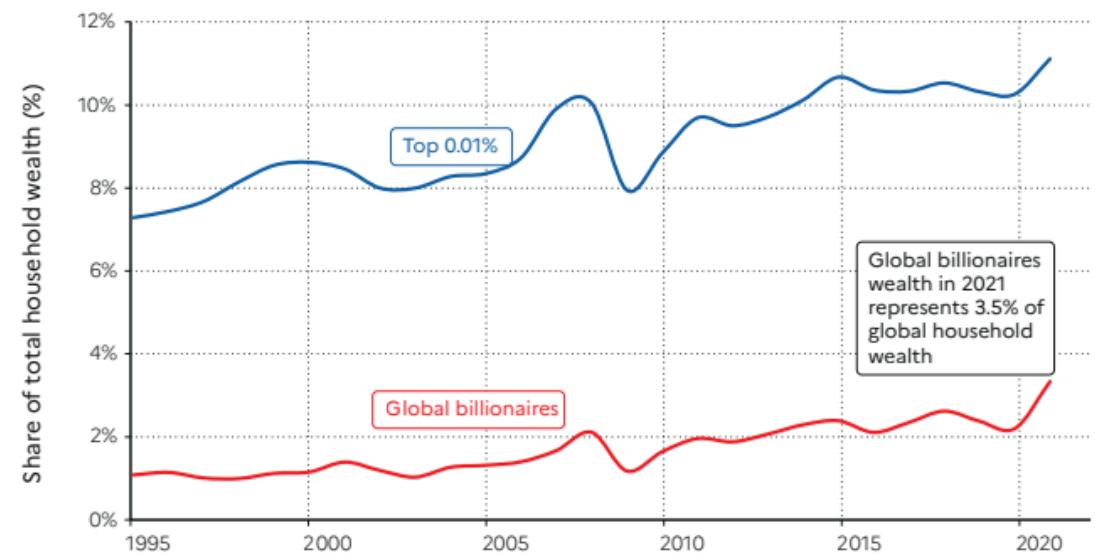
Impact of inequality, as a goal and a means?

Figure 1 Global income and wealth inequality, 2021



Interpretation: The global bottom 50% captures 8.5% of total income measured at Purchasing Power Parity (PPP). The global bottom 50% owns 2% of wealth (at Purchasing Power Parity). The global top 10% owns 76% of total Household wealth and captures 52% of total income in 2021. Note that top wealth holders are not necessarily top income holders. Incomes are measured after the operation of pension and unemployment systems and before taxes and transfers. **Sources and series:** wir2022.wid.world/methodology.

Figure 10 Extreme wealth inequality: the rise of global billionaires, 1995-2021



Interpretation: The share of wealth detained by the global top 0.01% rose from 7% in 1995 to 11% in 2021. The top 0.01% is composed of 520 000 adults in 2021. The entry threshold of this group rose from €693,000 (PPP) in 1995 to €16,666,000 today. Billionaires correspond to individuals owning at least \$1b in nominal terms. The net household wealth is equal to the sum of financial assets (e.g. equity or bonds) and non-financial assets (e.g. housing or land) owned by individuals, net of their debts. **Sources and series:** wir2022.wid.world/methodology, Bauluz et al. (2021) and updates.

Impact of war and conflict on achieving the SDGs?

FIGURE 3 | How long does conflict in Yemen set back human development?

Human Development Index
years set back at the end of the conflict

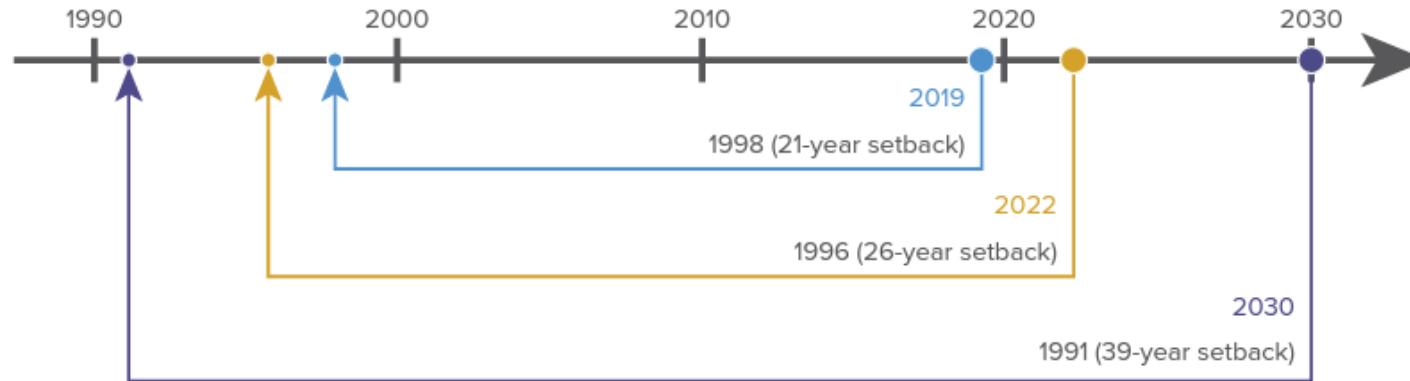
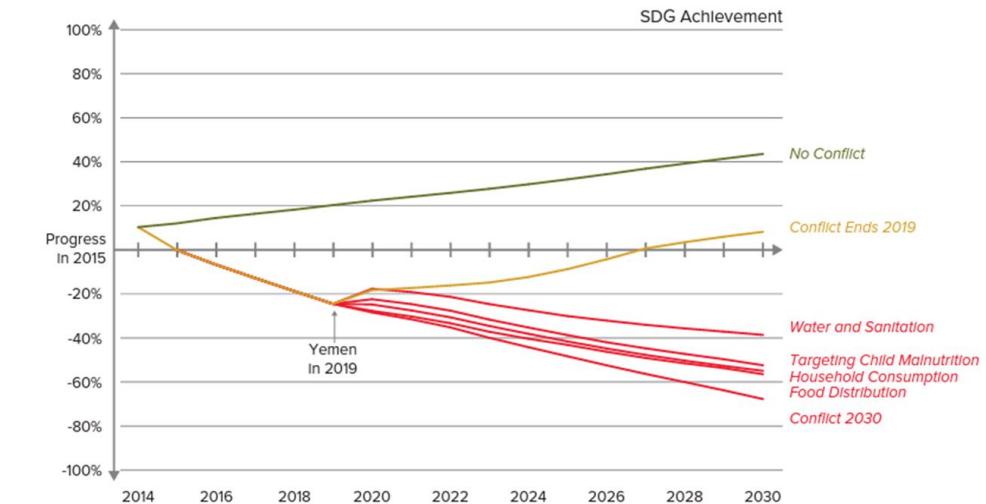


FIGURE 2 | Weighted average distance from SDG achievement across alternative scenarios. Vertical axis represents distance from SDG achievement benchmarked to 2015 values in the conflict scenarios (causing the No Conflict scenario values to be greater than zero in 2015).



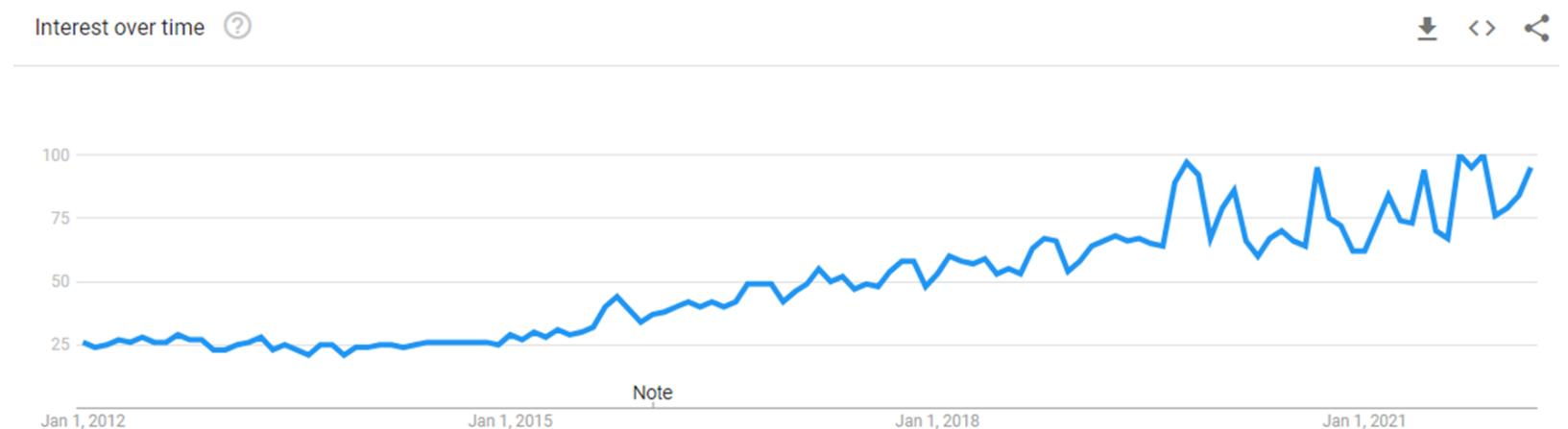
Impact of long-term climate commitments?

In less than a year, long-term net zero climate targets have become the norm for countries, and many cities, regions and companies also set targets.

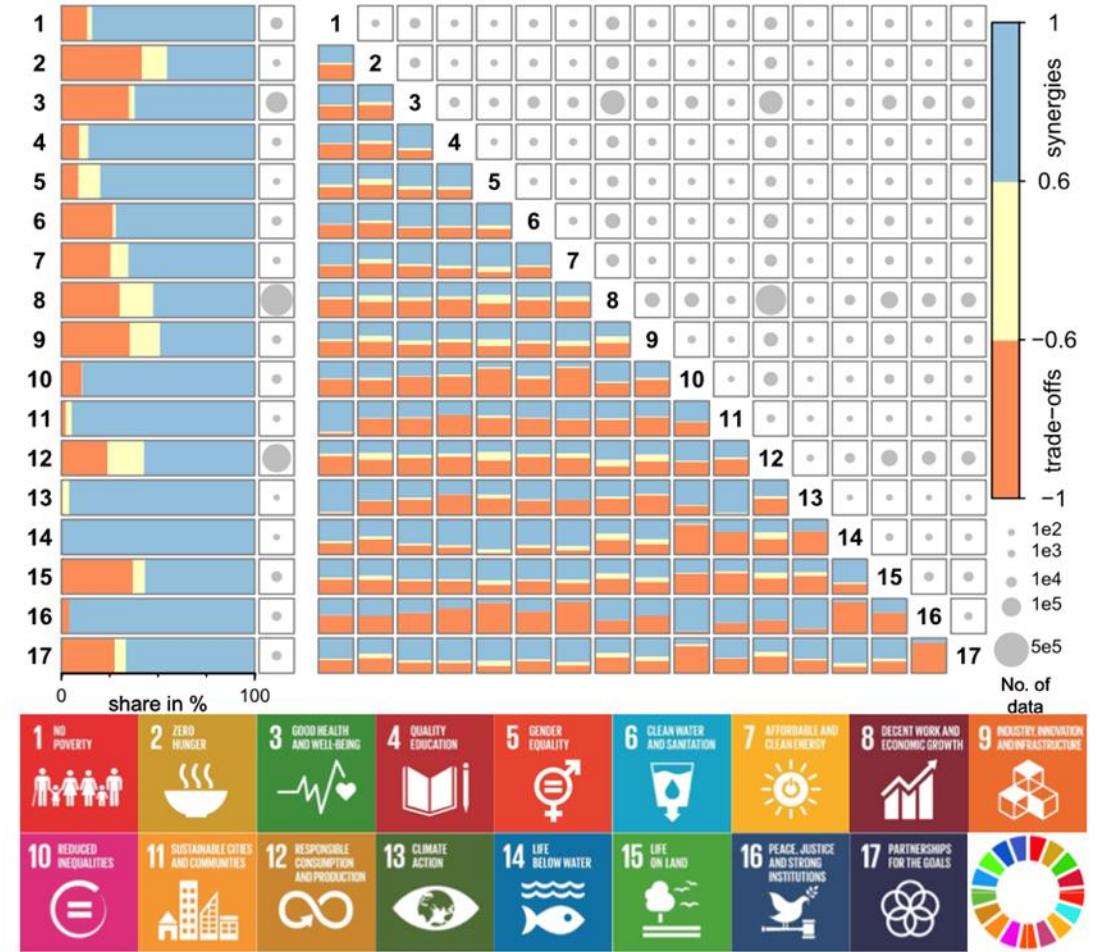
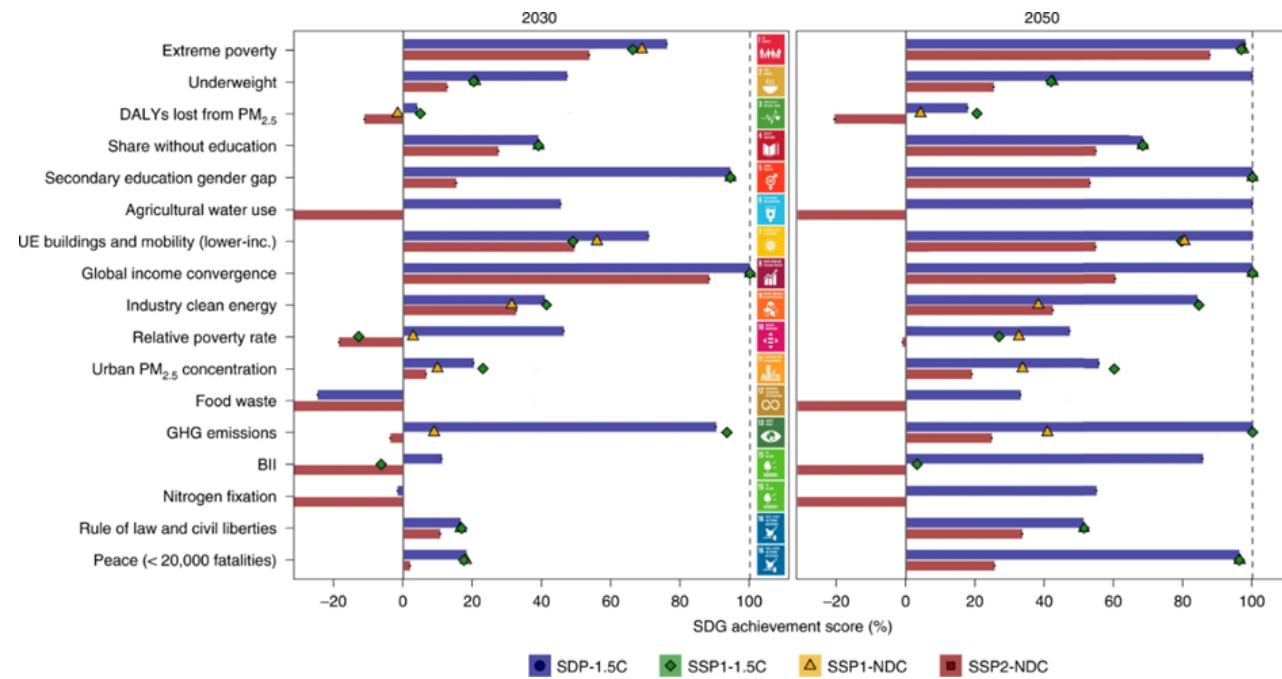


Uptake of SDGs by actors and political impact

- Growing awareness among general public
- Research on SDGs has increased 10-fold since 2015
- Impact on governance and policy: a discursive effect, but not strong normative or institutional effect (Biermann et al., 2022)



Many science-based tools on SDG interlinkages and transformation pathways



Emerging issues?

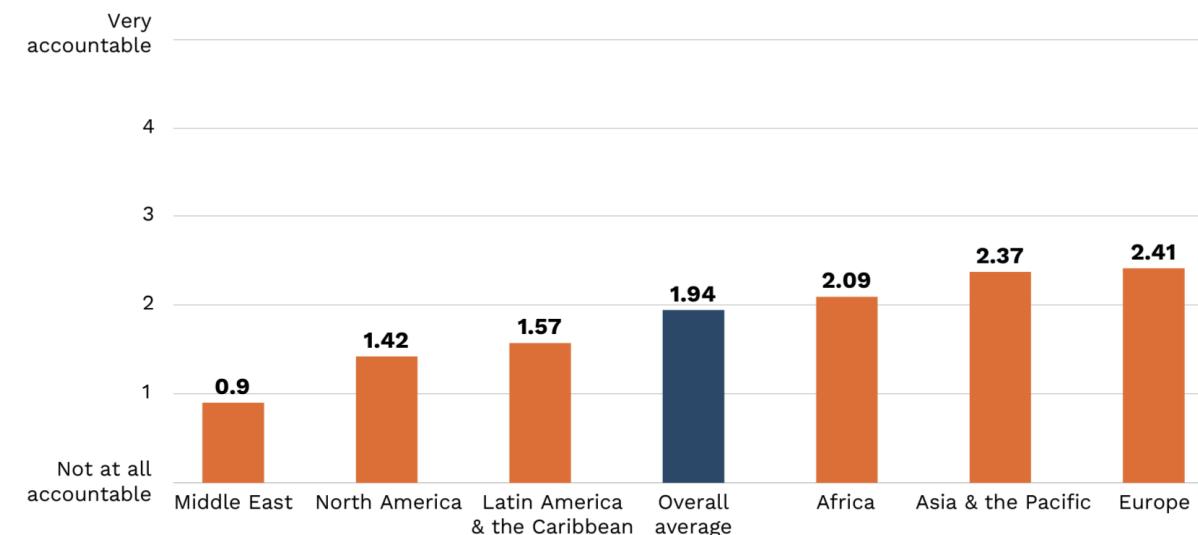
Demands for accountability

New approaches to intergenerational equity

Nexus of green jobs (SDG13), decent work (SDG8), youth unemployment, 'future of work' (SDG9)

Perception of the government accountability for the SDGs

Rate your perception of your current national government's accountability for the SDGs
(0=Not at all accountable; 5=Very accountable)

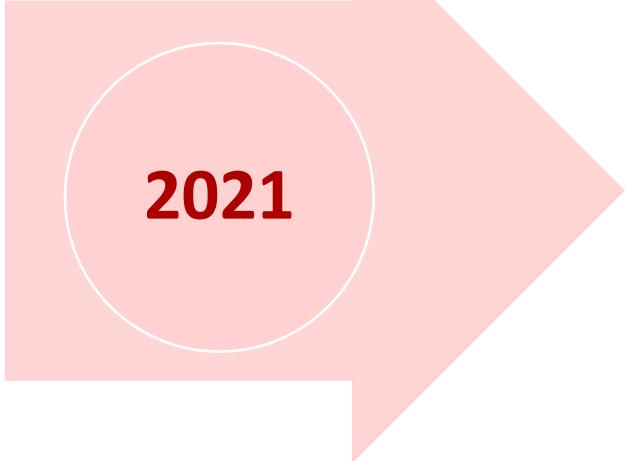


The 2023 GSDR process and preliminary framework



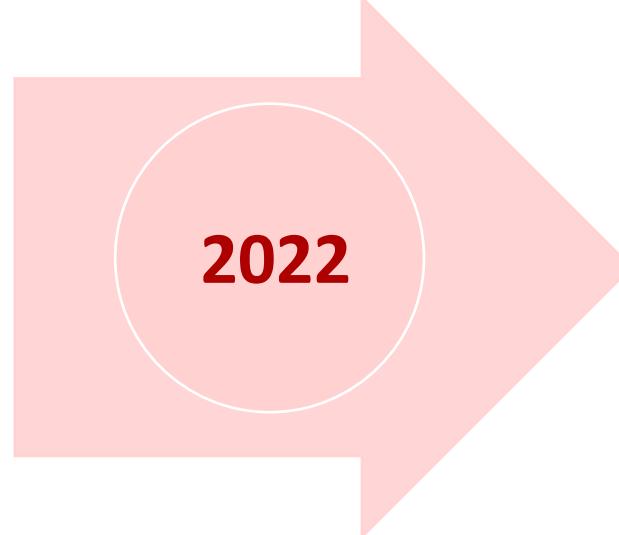
Steps towards the next GSDR

2021



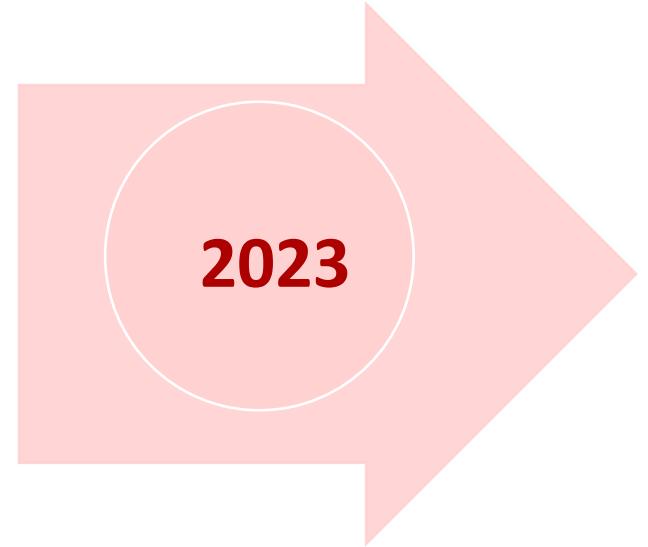
- Virtual work on new evidence & the impacts of COVID-19
- 1st Member States briefing at HLPF
- Call for inputs

2022



- Writing process ongoing
- Global & regional consultations
- 2nd Member States briefing at HLPF
- IGS members present ongoing work and questions at conferences and meetings

2023



- Advanced draft for comments
- Finalizing the GSDR
- Presentation to Heads of Government at UNGA

Global Sustainable Development Report 2023

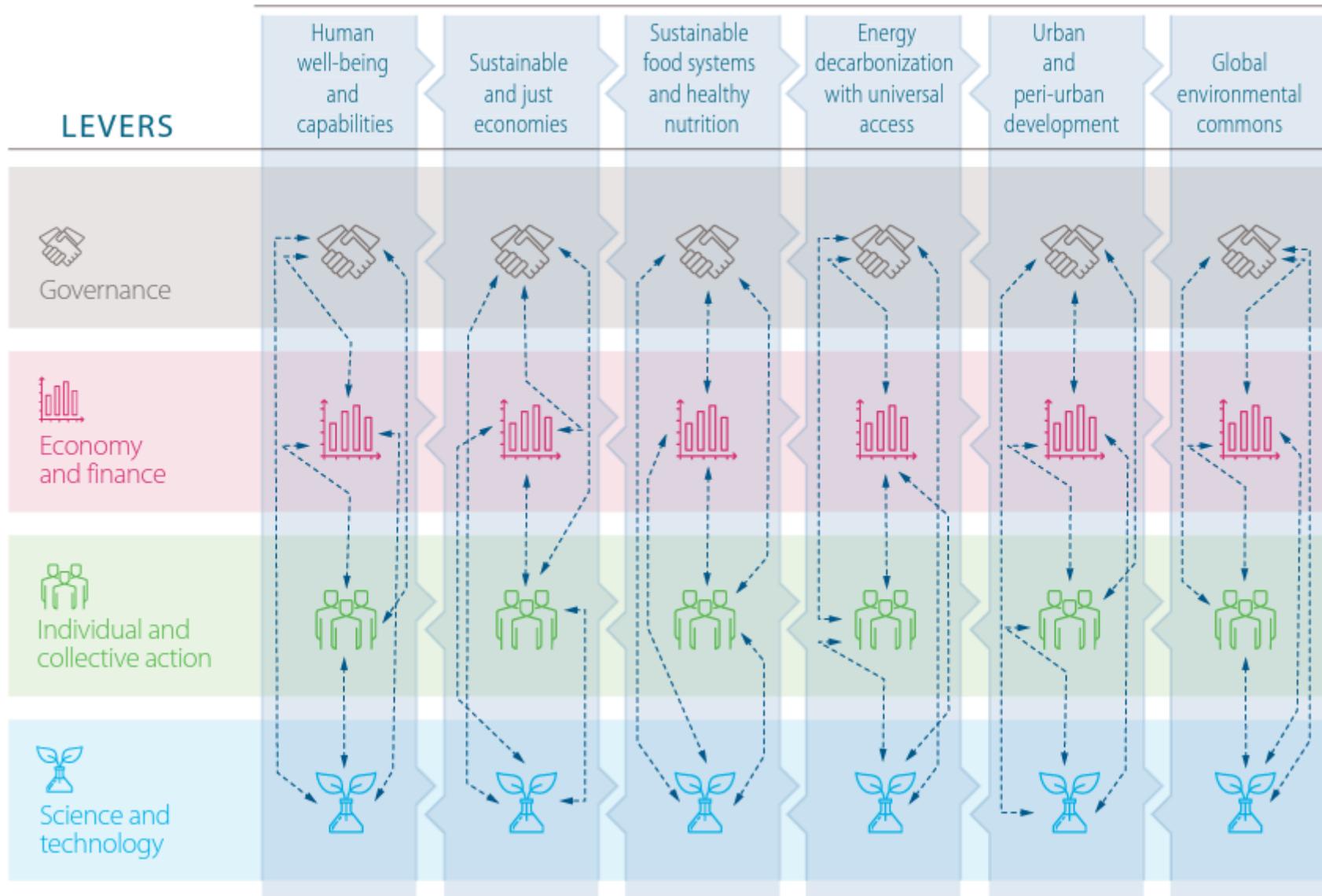
Review and provide pathways to achieve SDGs

Chapters

1. Setting the stage: Status of SDG progress
2. Accelerating transformations towards the SDGs
3. Tools for sustainable development
4. Science, policy and society for SDGs



ENTRY POINTS FOR TRANSFORMATION



Draft Dynamic Conceptual Framework for
Transformations to the SDGs – incorporating four levers
and six transformations (2019 GSDR) + leverage points,
phases, S-Curve (rising and declining), tipping points,
capacities and windows of opportunity

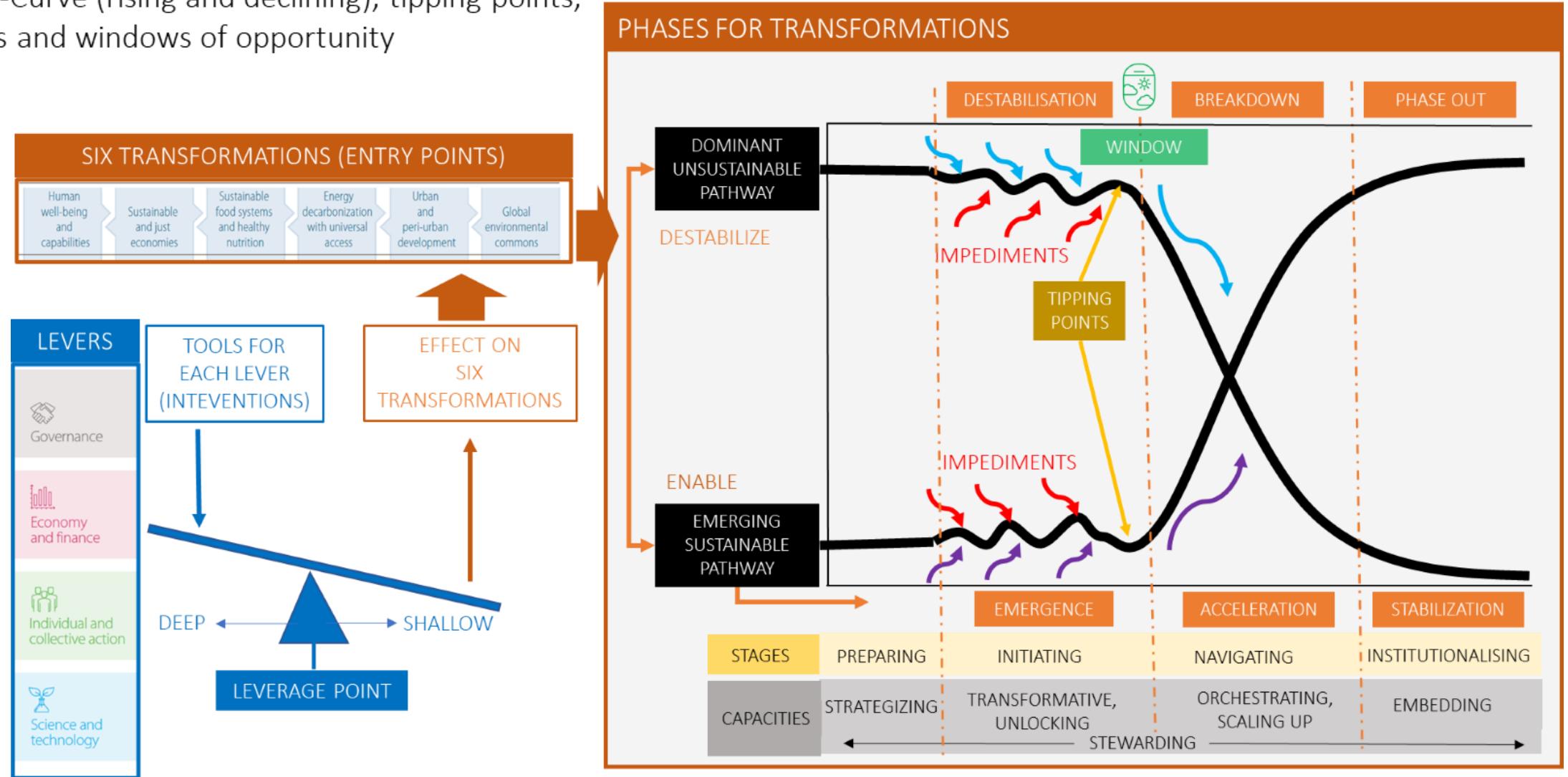
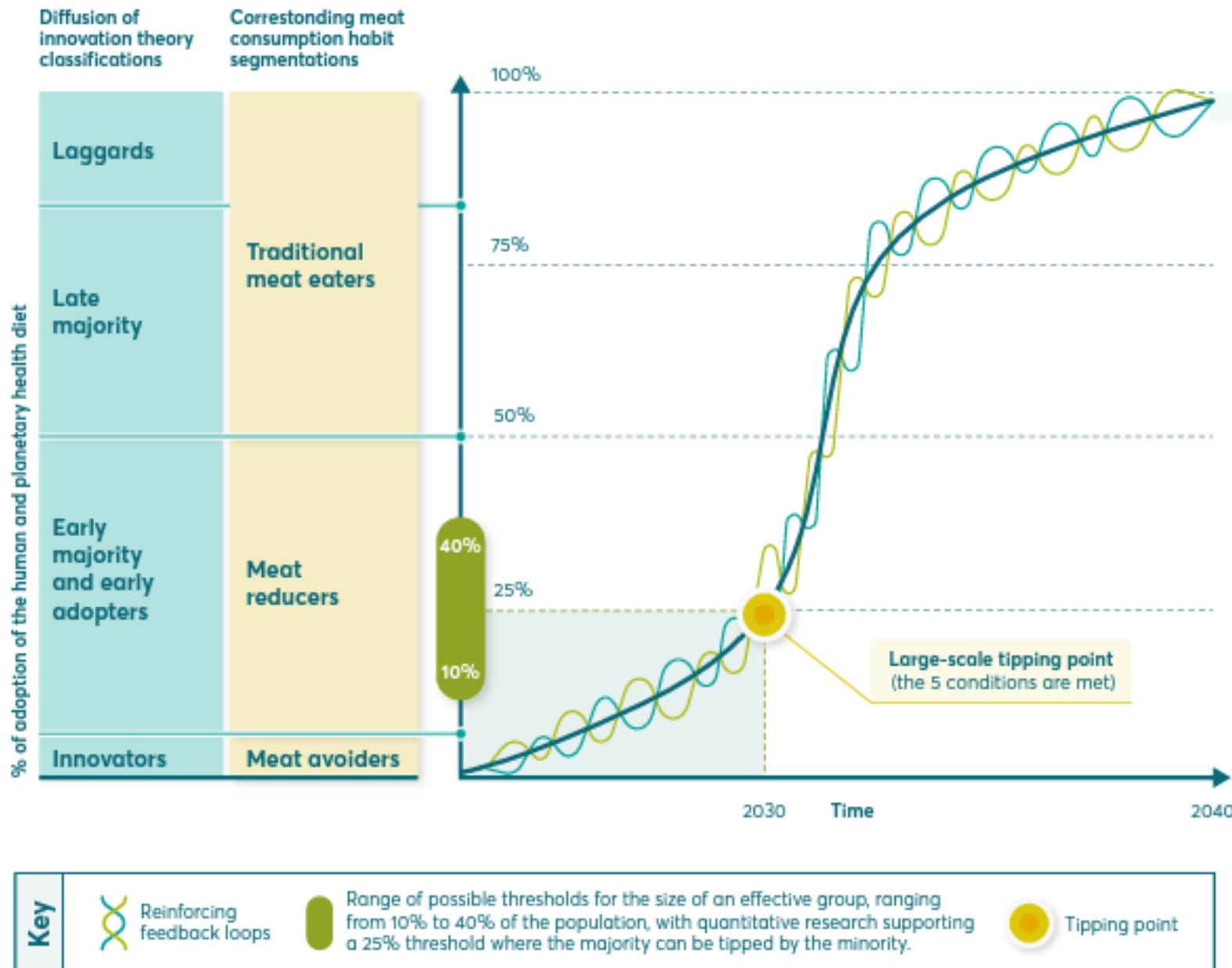
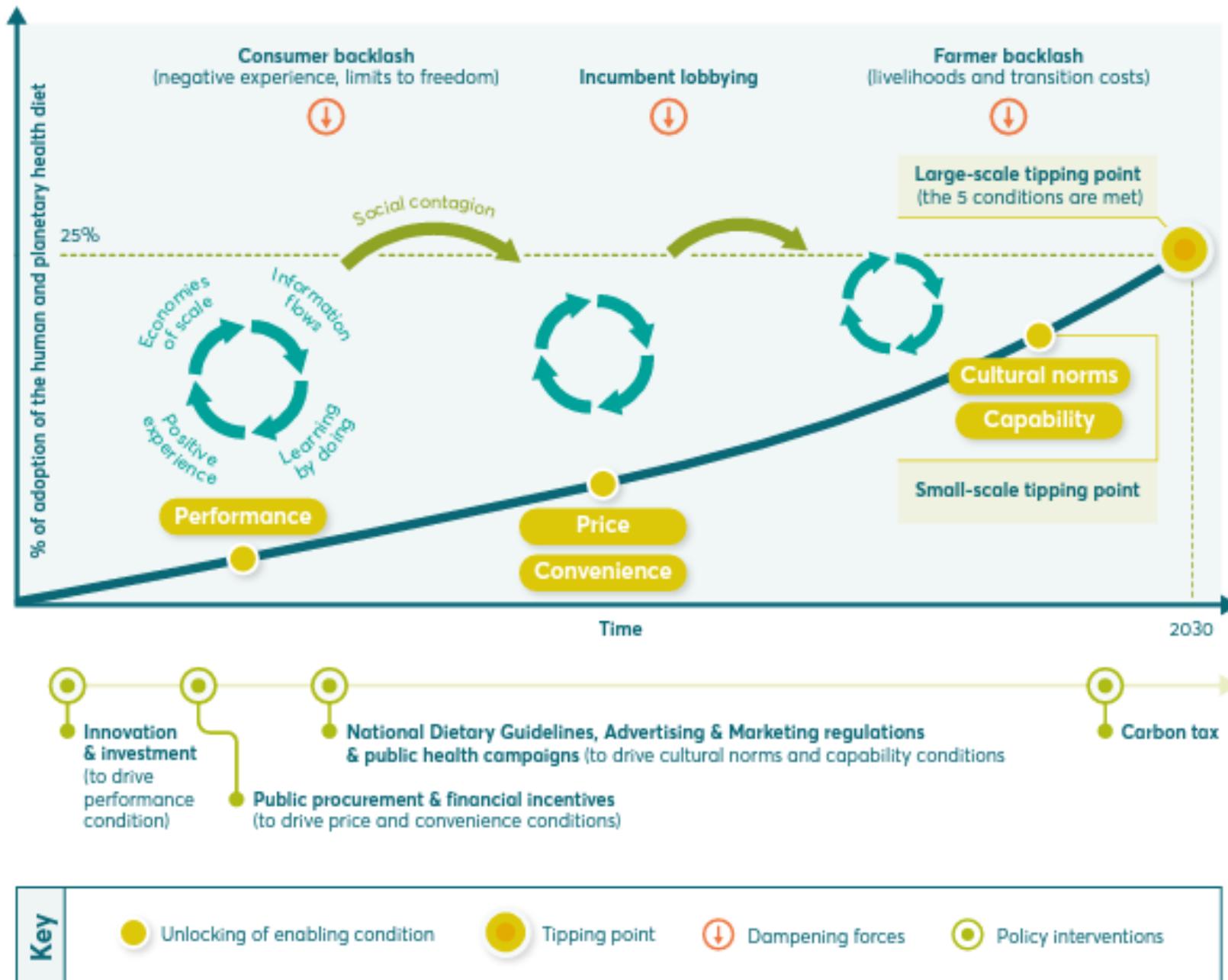


Figure 6: Illustrative visualisation of dietary shift transition in Europe



Food and Land Use Coalition, 2021,
Accelerating the 10 Critical Transitions:
Positive Tipping Points for Food and Land Use Systems Transformation

Figure 7: Figure 6 zoomed in to this decade



Food and Land Use Coalition, 2021, Accelerating the 10 Critical Transitions: Positive Tipping Points for Food and Land Use Systems Transformation

Chapter 3. Tools for sustainability transformations

EXAMPLE

Sustainable and just economies, through

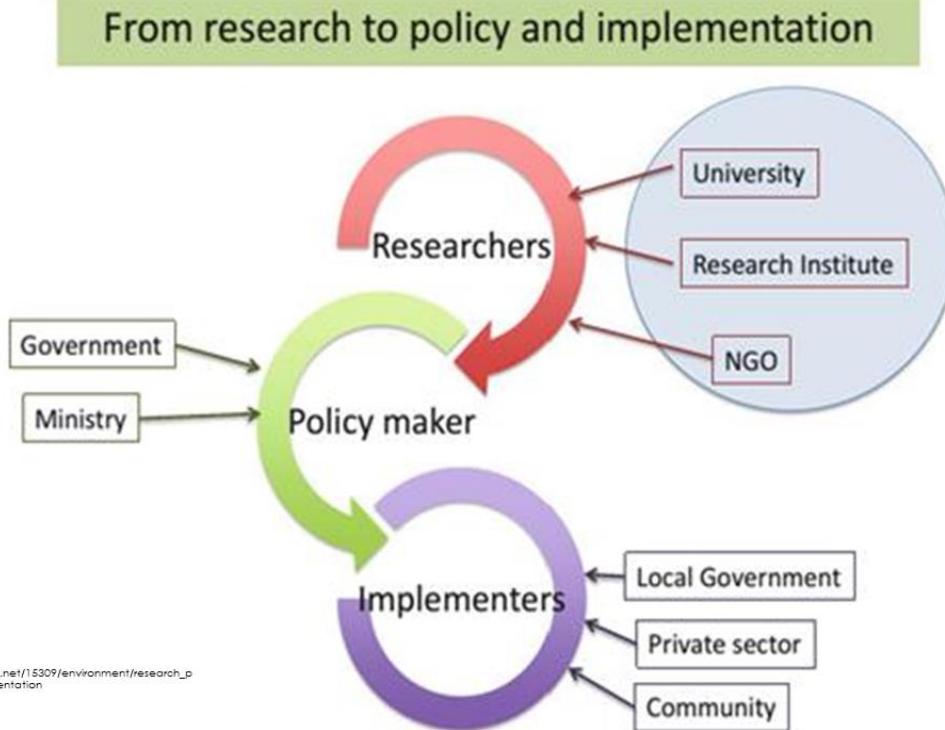
i) Supply chain management

- Companies: corporate governance and due diligence regulations; voluntary supply chain management; disclosure regulations
- International certificate schemes



Chapter 4. Science-policy-society for SDGs

- Not just science to policy, but co-development
- Science-policy-society – focus on policy in practice; and science in society
- Guidance and roadmaps for using science, technology and innovation for SDGs is growing
- Inequality in research and development impedes the use of science to inform policy



Thank you & Invitation to contribute!

<https://www.we-do-change.org/gsdr-questionnaire>

