



# THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: REVERSING THINKING FROM MEANS FOR GOALS TO GOALS AS MEANS

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#### Introduction

- Means of implementation (MOI) is key for SDGs
- MOI is one of the most contentious parts of SDGs
- Many governments consider MOI a North-South Issue

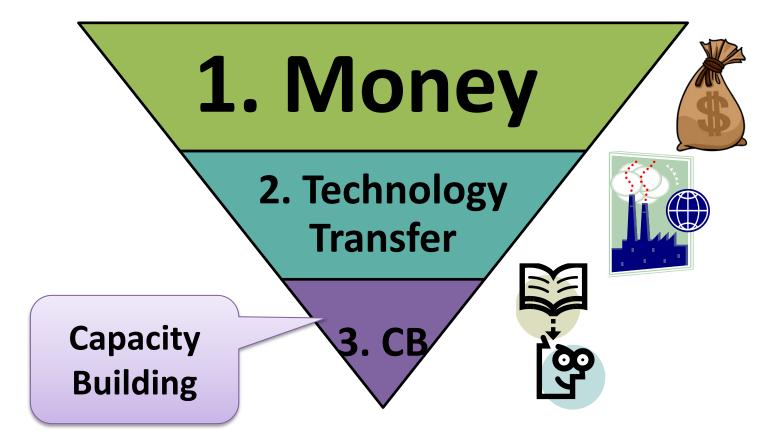


How much money can the South get from the North?



# Traditional Thinking about Means of Implementation (MOI)

- 3 Main Elements of MOI (traditionally)
- Most focus is on money & technology





- Need a Broader Definition of MOI
- Key global agreements (SDGs) include a broad definition of MOI, but governments (and some other stakeholders) don't really believe it.
- 3. In fact, the cost of SDGs may be less than expected, and there is money available.
- 4. SDGs themselves are MOI (due to interlinkages).
- 5. This provides cost synergies & co-benefits, so real cost is lower than expected.
- 6. Capacity building is the most important traditional MOI necessary for the effectiveness of other MOI
- 7. Concrete suggestions on how/where to get additional financing from existing sources



### Main focus on is still on money

• Who should provide money?

Money is insufficient (or SDGs too expensive)



Therefore, SDG implementation isn't feasible

Too many goals (17) & targets (169)

Need to prioritize & reduce goals & targets



# There is money!

Additional investments for SDGs (beyond already planned)	2 or 3 trillion USD
World GDP (2014) (at official exchange rates)	78 trillion USD
Existing global financial assets	273 trillion USD
Annual world savings (46% from developing countries)	17 trillion USD
World taxes as % of GDP (2014)	28.4%
World military spending (2014) (2.3% world GDP)	1.8 trillion USD
Marine and coastal ecosystem services value (market: 3 trillion; non-market: 21 trillion)	24 trillion USD
Global ecosystem services value	125 trillion USD

- > SDG investment would be about 2.5 or 3 % of Global GDP
- > SDG investment could be easily funded by a small increase in taxes or borrowing, or private sector investment in directly profitable areas
- > SDGs may contribute much more to security than military spending.
- Investments generate jobs, profits, improve livelihoods, well-being



- Who should provide money?
  - Developed countries should help the neediest
  - But many emerging countries can support themselves (and some have become donors!)
  - Sustainable development is in each country's self interest (therefore, self contribution)
- Money & technology alone won't solve problems
- Capacity is the key constraint
  - Capacity itself needs more money, but scale is more modest compared to energy, infrastructure, etc.
  - Need a more concrete & broader concept of capacity
- Need more attention to governance & institutions

Overall: Traditional thinking is too narrow, not effective



#### **MOI in SDGs: 2030 Agenda Outcome Document**

- Strengths:
  - **☐** MOI is extensively discussed
  - **☐** MOI concept is broad
- Main weakness:
  - Not very concrete

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Contents)	Incorporation of Means of Implementation
Preamble	<ul> <li>Mentioned/ highlighted</li> </ul>
Declaration	<ul> <li>Mentioned/ highlighted</li> </ul>
<ul><li>Sustainable</li><li>Development Goals</li><li>(17 Goals, 169</li><li>Targets)</li></ul>	<ol> <li>Each SDG has a few specific MOI targets</li> <li>There is a separate SDG on MOI (Goal 17)</li> </ol>
<ul> <li>Means of Implementation and the Global Partnership</li> </ul>	Main focus on MOI
> Follow-up and Review	<ul> <li>Mentioned/ highlighted</li> </ul>

**SDG 17: MOI** 

- Finance
- Technology
- Capacity Building
- Trade
- Policy & Institutional Coherence
- Multi-stakeholder Partnerships
- Data, Monitoring & Accountability

#### Number of References to MOI Elements in SDG Targets under each SDG Goal Area

SDG Goal	SDG Goal 17 (MOI) Elements				I in specific				
Areas	Fin.	Tech.	Cap. B.	Trade	Policy	Partner	Data	goals, but not G17	
1. Poverty	1				1				
2. Hunger	1		1	1					1
3. Health	1		2	1					3
4. Ed.	1								2
5. Gender			1		1		Each MOI is not included consistently in each goal area.		1
6. Water			1						1
7. Energy	1	2							
8. Growth	1		1	1					1
9. Infra.	1	1	2		1				
10. Ineq.	1			1	1				
11. Cities	1	1			2				
12. SCP			1		1		1		
13. Clim.	1		1						
14. Oceans		1	1						2
15. Ecosys.	2		1						
16. Peace			1		1				9





**Finance** 

Technology

**Capacity Building** 

Trade

Policy & Institutional

Coherence

Multi-stakeholder

Partnerships

Data, Monitoring &

Accountability

#### **MOI in AAAA**

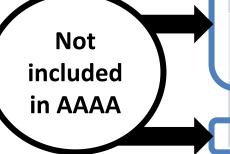
Finance

Science & Technology

**Capacity Building** 

**Trade** 

Data & Monitoring





> But less is included in AAAA compared to SDGs



# Strengths and weaknesses of how MOI are currently incorporated into SDGs & AAAA

### Strengths

- Emphasized throughout the 2030 Agenda for SD & AAAA
- MOI is mentioned broadly (even in AAAA)
- Separate meeting focusing on financing (AAAA)

### Weaknesses

- No concrete commitments (voluntary)
- Too much emphasis on finance
- Each SDG is not considered for each kind of MOI
- Capacity building is vague
- Not enough emphasis on governance or institutions
- No systematic approach / ad hoc







# Many Governments Still Believe the Narrow Definition of MOI

Broad concept of MOI is in the SDG text...

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...but governments are still focused on finance

MOI mentioned prominently in the text of SDGs, AAAA

But developed countries avoided major concrete commitments

How to persuade governments of a broader, more effective (and more cost effective) view of MOI?

# **Broader Concept & Classification of MOI**

CATEGORY	MOI	NOTE/ EXAMPLES
	> Finance	<ul><li>Development assistance</li><li>Taxes</li><li>Loans</li></ul>
RESOURCES	> Technology	<ul><li>Hardware</li><li>Software</li></ul>
	> Human	<ul><li>Training &amp; capacity</li><li>Funding for salaries</li></ul>
	> Capacity	<ul><li>Knowledge</li><li>Organizational capacity</li></ul>
ENABLERS	> Data & information	<ul><li>Creation</li><li>Collection</li><li>Access</li></ul>
	<ul><li>Laws, regulations, policies</li></ul>	<ul><li>Directly affects behavior</li><li>Property rights</li></ul>
GOVERNANCE	> Institutions	<ul> <li>Decision making processes</li> <li>Policy coordination</li> <li>Policy integration</li> <li>Enforcement</li> <li>Trade system</li> <li>Partnerships</li> </ul>

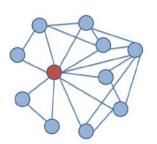
# Implementation of SDGs Needs the Broader Conception of MOI

- Especially, the priority needs to be on capacity building and governance.
- Need to shift from input based thinking (finance) to results based thinking.
- The goal of this presentation/paper is to try to persuade governments about this.
- Simply spending more money will not be effective.
- Technology will not work without capacity to use it.

### SDGs themselves are MOI

There are significant interlinkages among goals

Progress on one goal contributes to others

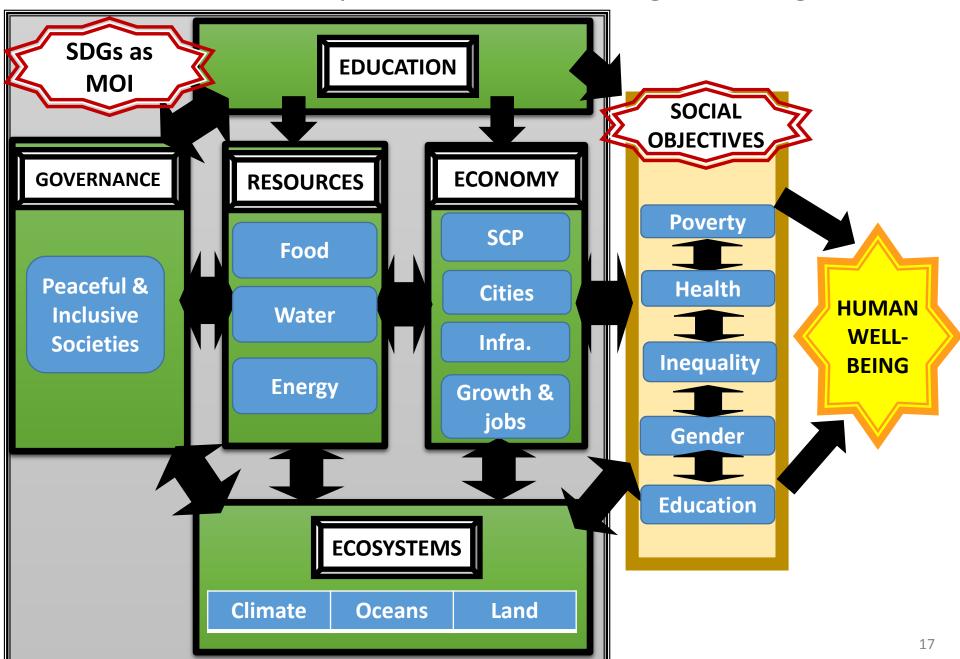


Enhance cost effectiveness by using interlinkages

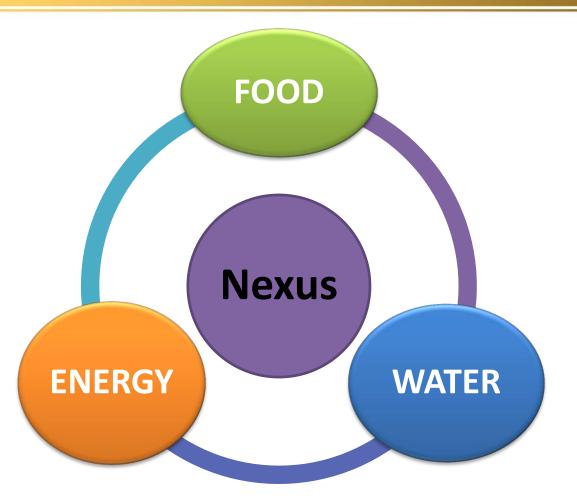
# **Classification of SDGs & Interlinkages**

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Goal Categories	Corresponding SDGs	Linkages
Social Objectives	Poverty reduction (1) Health (3) Education (4) Gender (5) Inequality (10)	<ul> <li>Social goals are MOI for human well being</li> <li>But human well being is not an SDG goal</li> </ul>
Education	Education (4)	<ul><li>Influences all goal areas</li><li>Influences all MOI</li><li>Education provides capacity</li></ul>
Economy	Growth & Jobs (8) Infrastructure (9) Cities (11) SCP (12)	<ul> <li>Needs resources (natural, capital, human)</li> <li>Processes resources into goods &amp; services</li> <li>Goods &amp; services achieve social objectives</li> <li>Provides jobs, poverty reduction</li> <li>SCP as the main economic principle</li> </ul>
Ecosystems	Climate (13) Oceans (14) Land (15)	<ul> <li>Foundations of sustainable development</li> <li>Provide resources</li> <li>Use sustainably, minimize pollution</li> </ul>
Governance	Peace & incl. societies (16)	<ul> <li>Influences all goal areas</li> <li>Directly affects stakeholder actions</li> </ul>

### SDGs as MOI: Comprehensive Interlinkages Among Goals

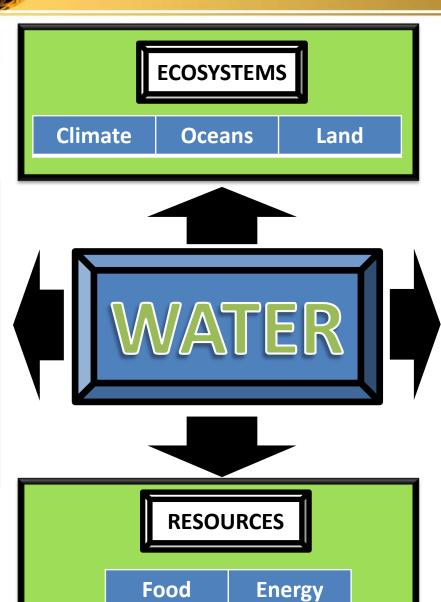


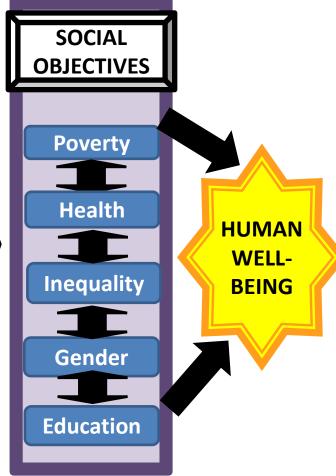
### **Food-Water-Energy Nexus**



- Nexus may be the most commonly discussed interlinkage
- But actually, interlinkages are broader & more extensive

### **Example: Water as a Core SDG**





**ECONOMY** 

SCP

**Cities** 

Infra.

**Growth &** 

jobs

# What Kind of Capacities are Needed? (Especially for SDG implementation by governments)

- Coordinating capacity (especially government officials in developing countries)
- Taxing, fundraising mechanisms (legal and administrative structure)
- Capacity to ensure alignment of spending and policies with SDGs & sustainable development principles
- Knowledge capacity of government officials

# Capacity building => Green Jobs

- Capacity often involves increasing human resources
- Capacity building is labor intensive
- Capacity is not enough; motivation is also important
- Sometimes governments with strong capacity support unsustainable development



### **Messages on Financing**

More financing is still needed (though still better emphasize capacity building).

- Designate existing funds.
  - Some spending may already be on SDG elements
  - Designate a certain share of budgets for SDGs
  - National & local governments, MDBs, UN agencies, etc.
- Embed SDGs in national budget guidelines and project finance criteria
- Sustainability assessment of government spending
- Sustainable procurement guidelines (link to SCP 10YFP)
- Shift private investment to SDGs (voluntary or regulation)

#### Still:

- Simply spending more money will not solve problems
- Need more emphasis on capacity building, governance





1 Overall cost of SDGs is feasible

- Increase cost effectiveness from synergies between SDG goal areas
  - SDG goal areas are interlinked. Achievement of one SDG helps to achieve others.
    - SDGs themselves are MOI
  - Cost effectiveness from integrated implementation of SDGs
    - Possible financial savings or revenues from some SDGs
    - Implement goals as a package (not just a few favorites)
    - Avoid work on one goal which undermines other goals
- Link regular budgets to sustainability
- Prioritize capacity building, governance
  - Otherwise MOI will not be effective
  - Need more cooperation among ministries & departments
    - More incentives for cooperation should be provided











# **Thank You!**

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