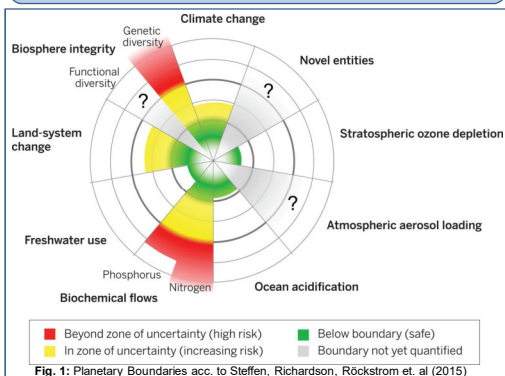


Sustainability Assessment for Planning Development Interventions Within the Framework of the Sustainable Development Goals

Planetary Boundaries – A point of no return



The planetary boundaries concept claims that **four out of nine boundaries are already crossed** and emphasizes a **transdisciplinary approach for sustainable development**.

→ **SDGs as prerequisites to avoid further violations of planetary boundaries?**

From MDGs to SDGs



Fig. 2: Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). UN (2000)

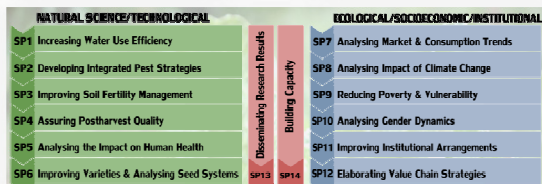
However, there exist some **shortcomings**, i.e.:
 ✖ Role of non-state actors not sufficiently integrated into SDGs
 ✖ SDGs are based upon voluntary incentives instead of mandatory regulations
 ✖ „Cherry-picking“ of goals; no holistic direction for achieving the SDGs as an entire framework

→ **How to ensure that SDGs are mainstreamed on the level of development projects?**



Fig. 3: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UN (2015)

Case Study: HORTINLEA (Horticultural Innovation and Learning for Improved Nutrition and Livelihood in East Africa)



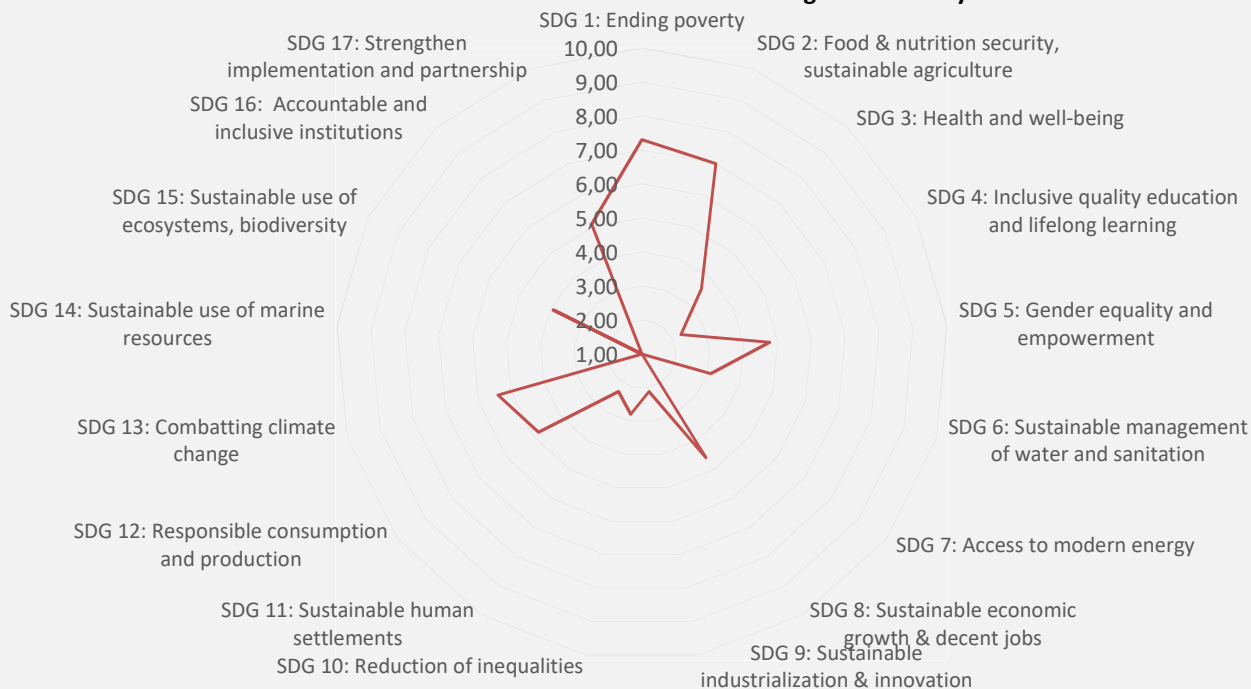
TO IMPROVE THE LIVELIHOOD AND NUTRITIONAL SITUATION OF THE URBAN AND RURAL POOR

Fig. 4: Structure of HORTINLEA Subprojects (SP). HORTINLEA (2015)

HORTINLEA is an interdisciplinary research project addressing food security in East Africa, particularly in Kenya. HORTINLEA uses an integrated approach that encompasses the entire value chain from production to marketing and consumption of leafy vegetables (AIVs) and integrates poverty, environmental and gender dimensions.

Coverage of SDGs in project outcomes

Fig. 5: Relevancy score for the HORTINLEA project



Potential solution: Ex ante impact assessment – Scoring system application

1. Decompose the exact wording of the SDG subgoal; count the number of components.
2. For each component, check if there is a matching activity (see example below)
3. Divide the number of matches and total components, multiply by 10 to get the score.
4. Repeat steps 1-3 for all SDG subgoals. Total the score and divide over the maximum score.

1.4 Equal rights to economic resources, basic services, ownership and control over land, technology and financial services
 5 components
 3 matches, 2 non-matches
 3/5*10 = 6

Some HORTINLEA project innovations and new technology applications are specifically targeted at women. Market opportunities in this area may be very beneficial to women. Innovative gender solutions such as ready-to-cook AIVs and AIV recipe books may have a positive effect in terms of more equal care work in the household and contribute to a re-shifting of power relations within the household.

6/10

Challenges and Outlook

- ✿ Equal and strong founded **transdisciplinary partnerships** as core of SDG implementation to foster ubiquitous adopted solutions
- ✿ Ex ante impact assessment allows to **identify necessary perspectives and missing activities** of planned development interventions
- ✿ Can be used as **a mean for implementing SDGs**; depicts, however, a constant trade-off with funding requirements and objectives of project partners
- ✿ Allows to reflect on the role of **curricula and capacity building**