

PATH2030 - The evaluation of sustainable development policy in Finland - methods and findings

#polku2030 #tietokäyttöön

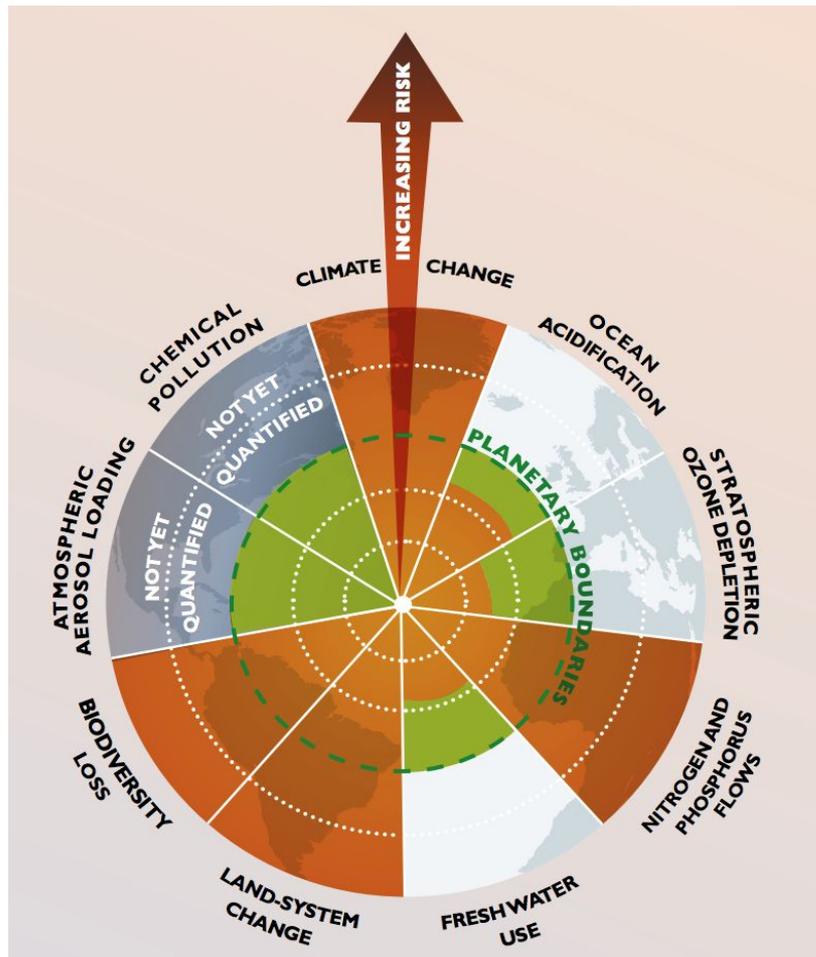
5.3.2019 Satu Lähteenoja



Content:

1. Why evaluate sustainable development?
2. How to evaluate sustainable development policies?
3. Oxymoron - 17 goals with partly conflicting targets?
4. Main results and recommendations

Sustainable development means securing human well-being within the framework of earth's resources



See more:

<https://media.sitra.fi/2018/05/29165210/a-future-the-planet-can-accommodate.pdf>

Finland is committed to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda

The UN agenda for sustainable development, Agenda2030, was ratified in 2015.

It encompasses **17 main goals (the SDG's)** and **169 targets**, that are all interconnected.



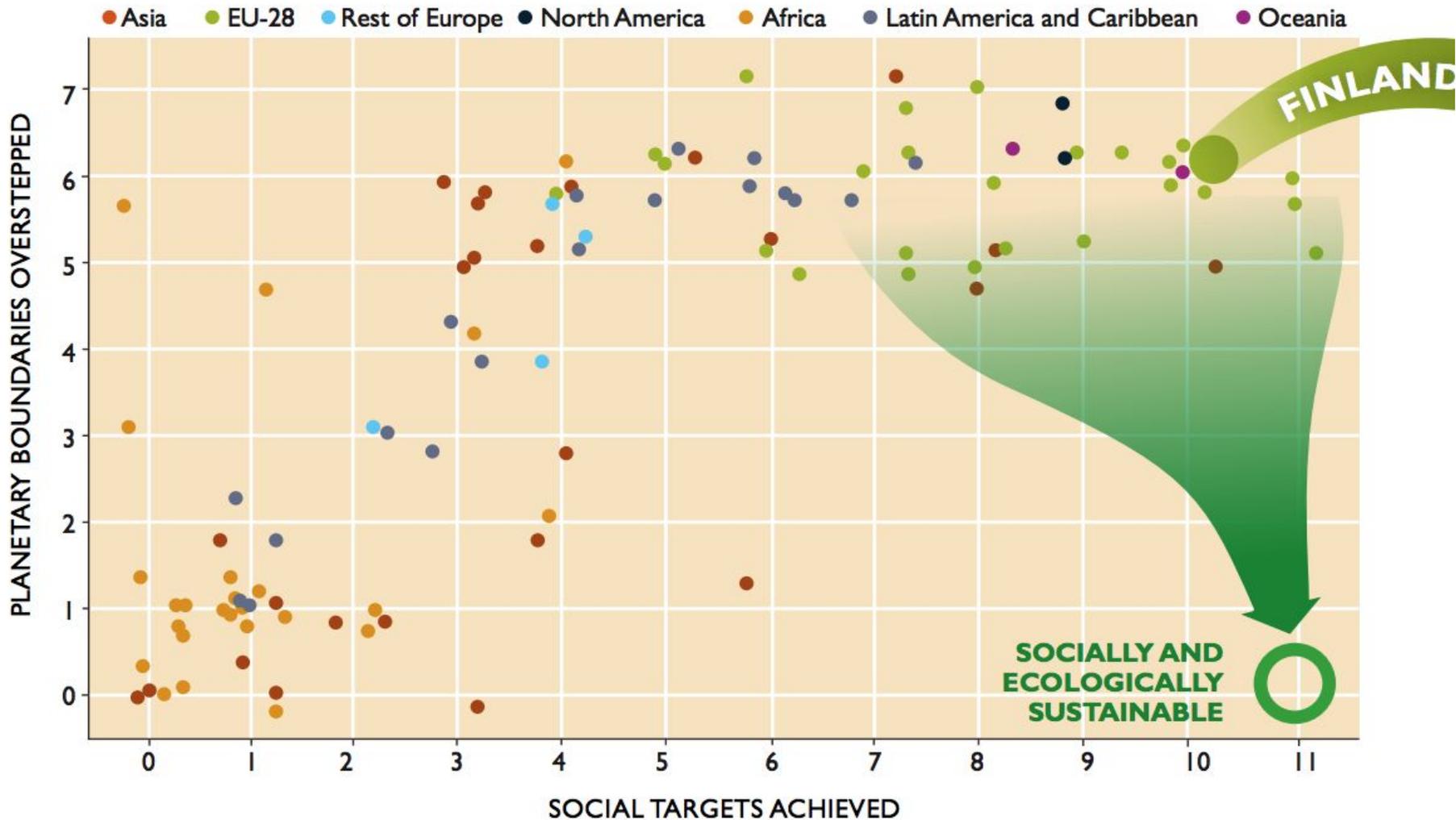
79. "We encourage Member States to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and subnational levels which are country-led and countrydriven."

- Transforming our world, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

4.5 "Finland's policy for sustainable development is evaluated in a comprehensive and independent assessment every four years, starting 2019. The plan for implementation will be updated after this taking into consideration the recommendations of the assessment."

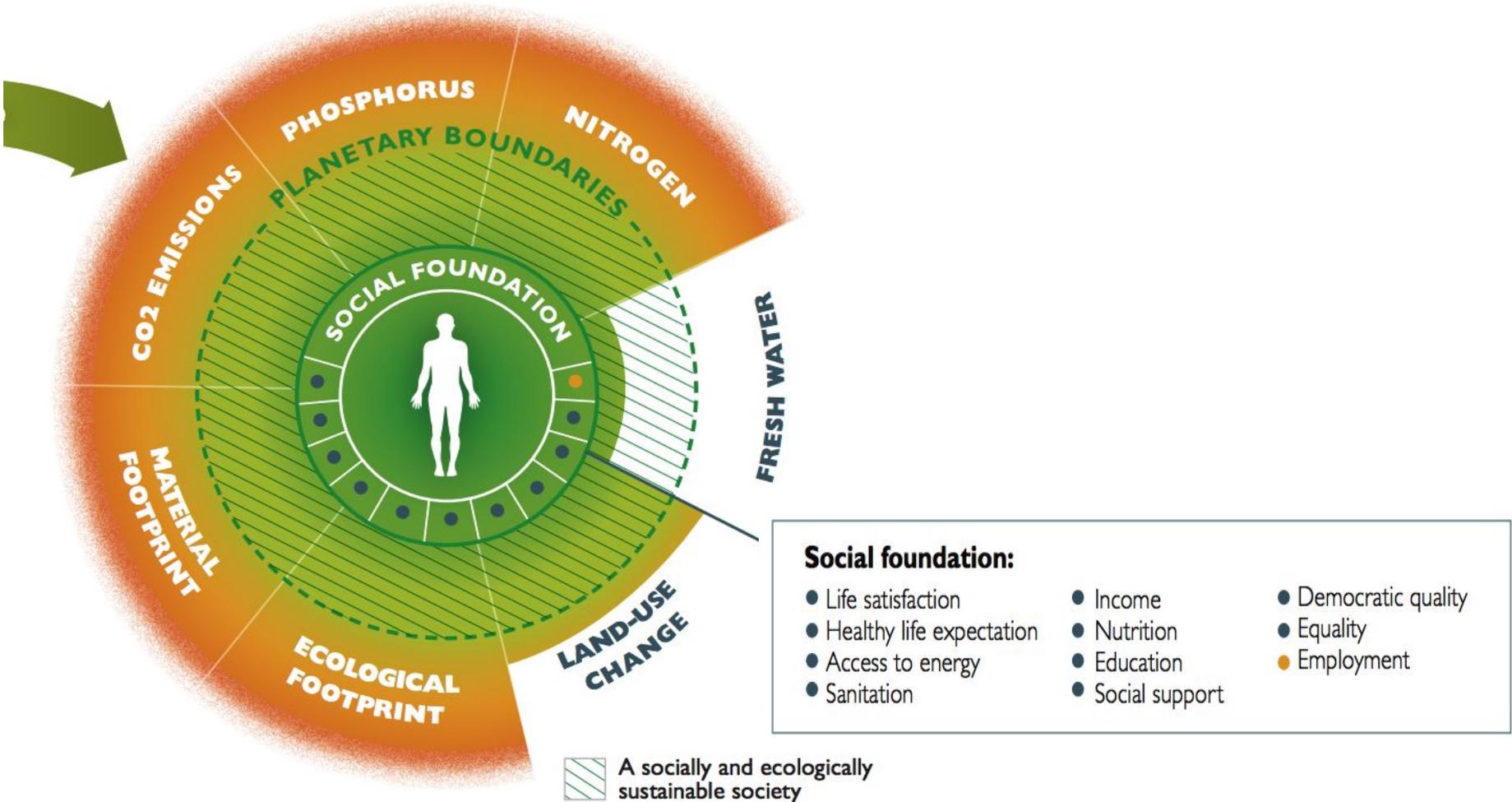
- The Prime Minister's Office's report on the implementation of Agenda2030 in Finland VNS1/2017vp

Not a single country has reached high standards of living in an environmentally sustainable way



Which planetary boundaries does Finland overstep?

WHICH PLANETARY BOUNDARIES DOES FINLAND OVERSTEP?



The PATH2030 evaluation

The first time when Finland's sustainable development policy is evaluated as a whole during this decade, and **after Agenda2030 was ratified.**

PATH2030 produced a **multi-faceted evaluation and concrete recommendations** for future sustainable development policy.

The PATH2030-evaluation is based on versatile material and a highly participative process

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Indicators | SDG Index and Dashboards -indicators The state of sustainable development-monitoring system's 10 indicator baskets Helsus Policy Dialogues material (expert assessments of the indicators and workshops) |
| Central documents | Governmental programs and strategies Documents regarding development cooperation Information on E- and U-communications |
| Surveys (N = 238) | A closed survey for central actors within sustainable development An open survey |
| Interviews (78) | Central experts Representatives from each ministry The expert panel on sustainable development Stakeholders |
| Workshops (3) | Two open workshops for stakeholders (around 80 and 40 participants) A workshop for international experts |

We should stick to the current focus areas, identified in the **2030 Agenda government report**

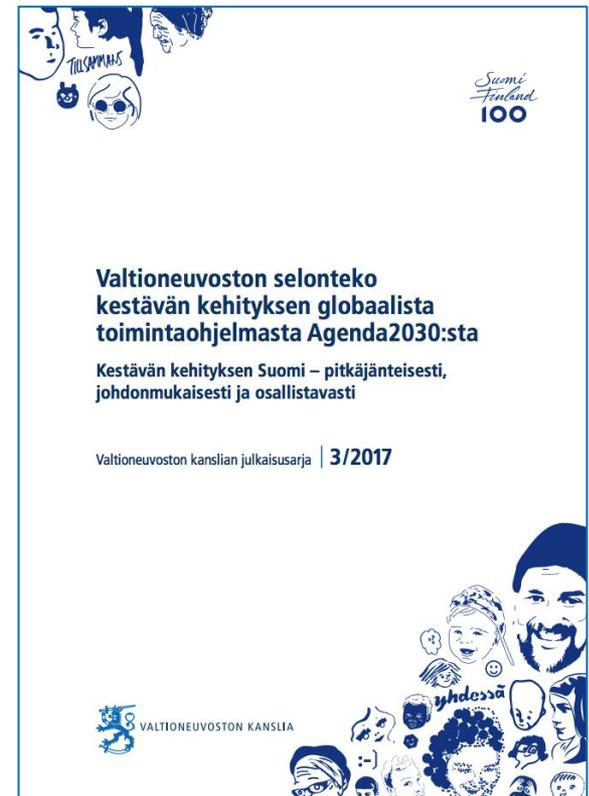
- 1) A carbon neutral and resource-wise Finland
- 2) A non-discriminating, equal and competent Finland

The **policy principles** of sustainable development

- Long-term action and transformation
- Coherency and global partnership
- Ownership and participation

Report here:

[https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/79455/VNK_J1117_Government
Re-port_2030Agenda_KANSILLA_netti.pdf?sequence=1](https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/79455/VNK_J1117_Government_Re-port_2030Agenda_KANSILLA_netti.pdf?sequence=1)



The state of sustainable development in Finland in the light of indicators

The sustainable development indicators

Currently there are multiple different indicator systems in place.

This assessment is based on two indicator systems:

The national indicators for sustainable development, which measure the 8 goals of the commitment for sustainable development, and the **international SDG-indicators** (the SDG Index)

The state of the sustainable development indicators looks more alarming when we observe the national indicators, than when looking at the international indicators.

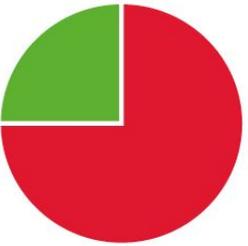
The state of nature and the environment



- Kuollut puu metsissä ja luontoarvoiltaan arvokkaat maatalousalueet
- Suomen jokien fosfori- ja typpikuorma Itämereen
- Rikki- ja typpipäästöt sekä pienhiukkasten päästöt ilmaan Suomessa
- Tilastoidut ympäristönsuojelumenot Suomessa



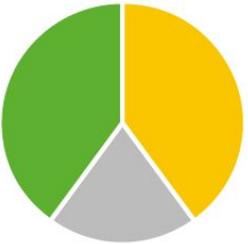
Public procurements and consumption



- Kulutuksen hiilijalanjälki
- Kasvis-, liha- ja kalaperäisten elintarvikkeiden kulutus
- Yhdyskuntajätteen kehittyminen
- Ensirekisteröityjen henkilö- ja pakettiautojen keskimääräiset hiilidioksidipäästöt



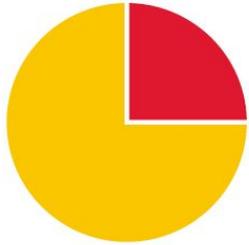
Resource-smart economy and a carbon-neutral society



- Kasvihuonekaasupäästöt ja -poistumat
- Luonnonvarojen kulutus, RMC (raw material consumption) jaottelu
- Puuston kasvu ja poistuma
- Uusiutuvan energian osuus energian loppukäytöstä
- Tekesin rahoitus resurssitehokkaiisiin ja hiilineutraaleihin ratkaisuihin



Societal inequality



- Perustoimeentulotuen saajien määrät ja alueellinen jakautuminen
- Tuloerot (Gini-kerroin, pienituloisuusaste, pienimmän ja suurimman kymmenesosan tulokehitys)
- Nuorten aikuisten (18–25-vuotiaiden) tyytyväisyys elämäänsä
- Kiintiöpakolaisten määrät ja turvapaikanhakijoiden/myönteisen turvapaikkapäätöksen saaneiden määrät



Social exclusion and societal participation



- Syrjinnän tai yksinäisyyden kokemus
- Äänestysaktiivisuus
- Työn tai koulutuksen ulkopuolella olevat nuoret
- Nuorten luottamus yhteiskuntaan ja sen tulevaisuuteen
- Suomen kehitys Corruption Perceptions ja World Press Freedom -indekseillä



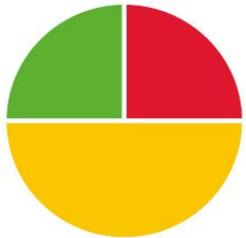
Health



- Väestön lihavuus
- Koettu hyvinvointi eri väestöryhmissä alueittain
- Alueellisesti yhdenvertaiset ja tasa-arvoiset terveys- ja hyvinvointipalvelut
- Naisiin kohdistuva väkivalta / turvakotien käyttö



Worklife, quality and change



- Naisten keskiansiot miehiin verrattuna
- Työllisyysaste (Tilastokeskus, työvoimatutkimus)
- Hyvä työelämä
- Työelämän globaali vastuu



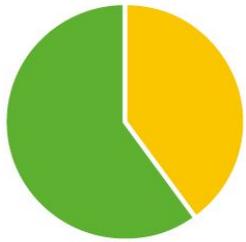
Global responsibility and consistency



- Suomen kehitys yhteistyörahoituksen kehitys
- Suomen kehitys Commitment to Development-indeksin kauppapolitiikkaa mittaavalla osa-indeksillä
- Suomen osallistuminen kansainväliseen kriisinhallintaan
- Suomen tuonti ja vienti tonneittain ja materiaaliryhmittäin



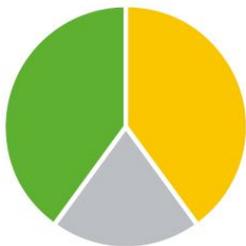
Education and development of knowledge



- Lukutaidon ja nuorten yhteiskuntataitojen kehitys
- Tutkimus- ja kehittämismenojen osuus bruttokansantuotteesta
- Perusasteen jälkeisen tutkinnon suorittaneiden osuus sekä osallistuminen aikuiskoulutukseen
- Kestävän kehityksen sertifioidun omaavien päiväkotien, koulujen ja oppilaitosten määrä
- Kirjastopalveluiden käyttö



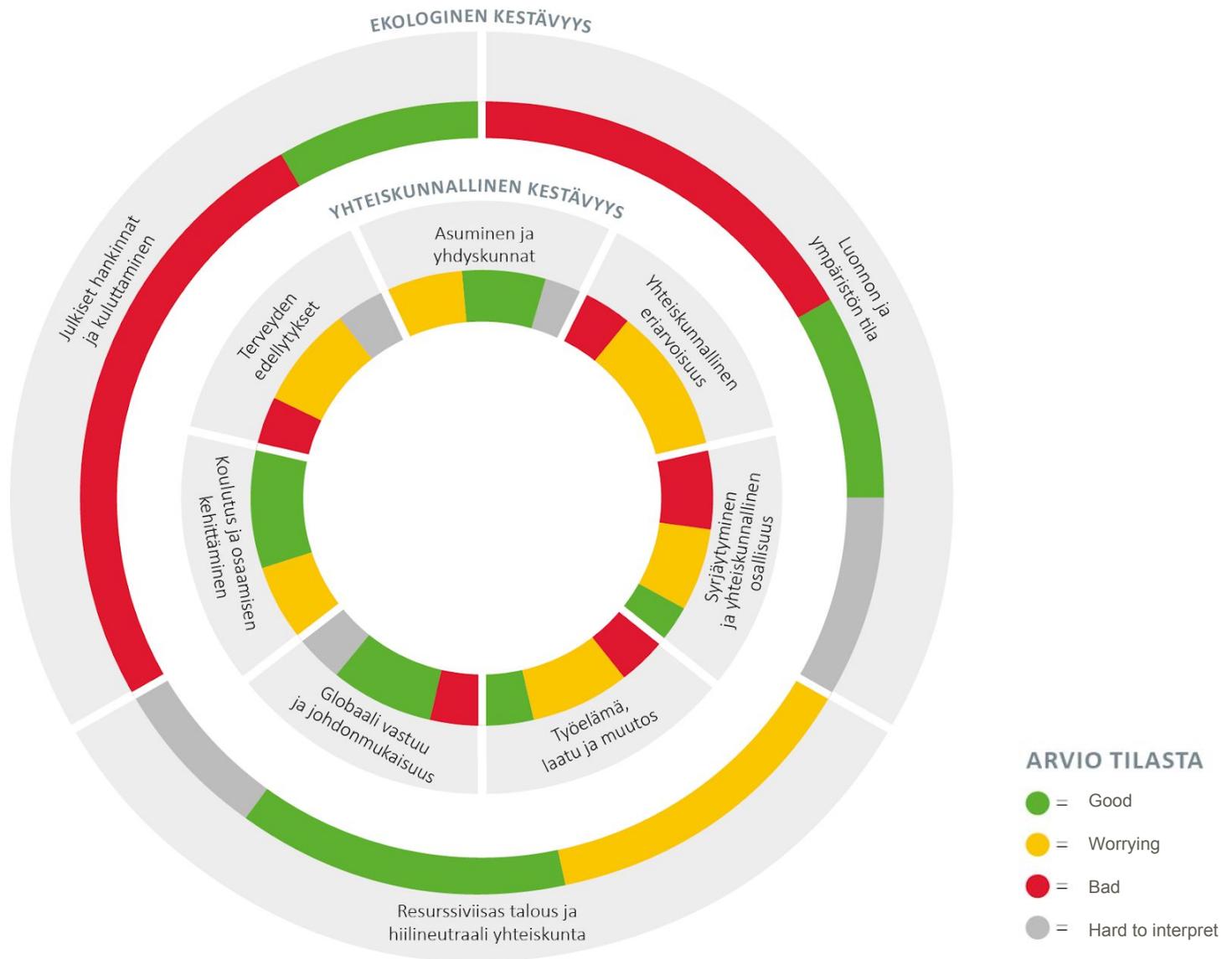
Housing and communities



- Asumismenot
- Päivittäistavarakauppojen saavutettavuus
- Kotona asuvat yli 75-vuotiaat
- Tulvariski
- Yhdyskuntarakenteen eheys ja joukkoliikenteen toimintaedellytykset



The state of sustainable development in Finland in the light of indicators



The evaluation shows the need for structural improvement of Finland's model for sustainable development policy

| | Strengths | Weaknesses |
|---|--|---|
| Institutions  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A multi-faceted and inclusive operating model• Sustainability thinking is quite visible in the strategies of the ministries | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable development is not integrated enough in throughout the administration• Consider the amount of work, sustainable development is poorly resourced.• Silos are problematic |
| Interests  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conflicts of interests are settled through broadly shared goals and processes, such as the Agenda2030-report and budget evaluations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conflicts of interests challenge policy coherence and impact |
| ideas  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable development has become a societally accepted and mainstreamed goal | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In practice, there are many varying opinions regarding the solutions |
| Information  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a lot of information available regarding the state of sustainable development and different solutions | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The use of indicators and research in decision-making is insufficient |

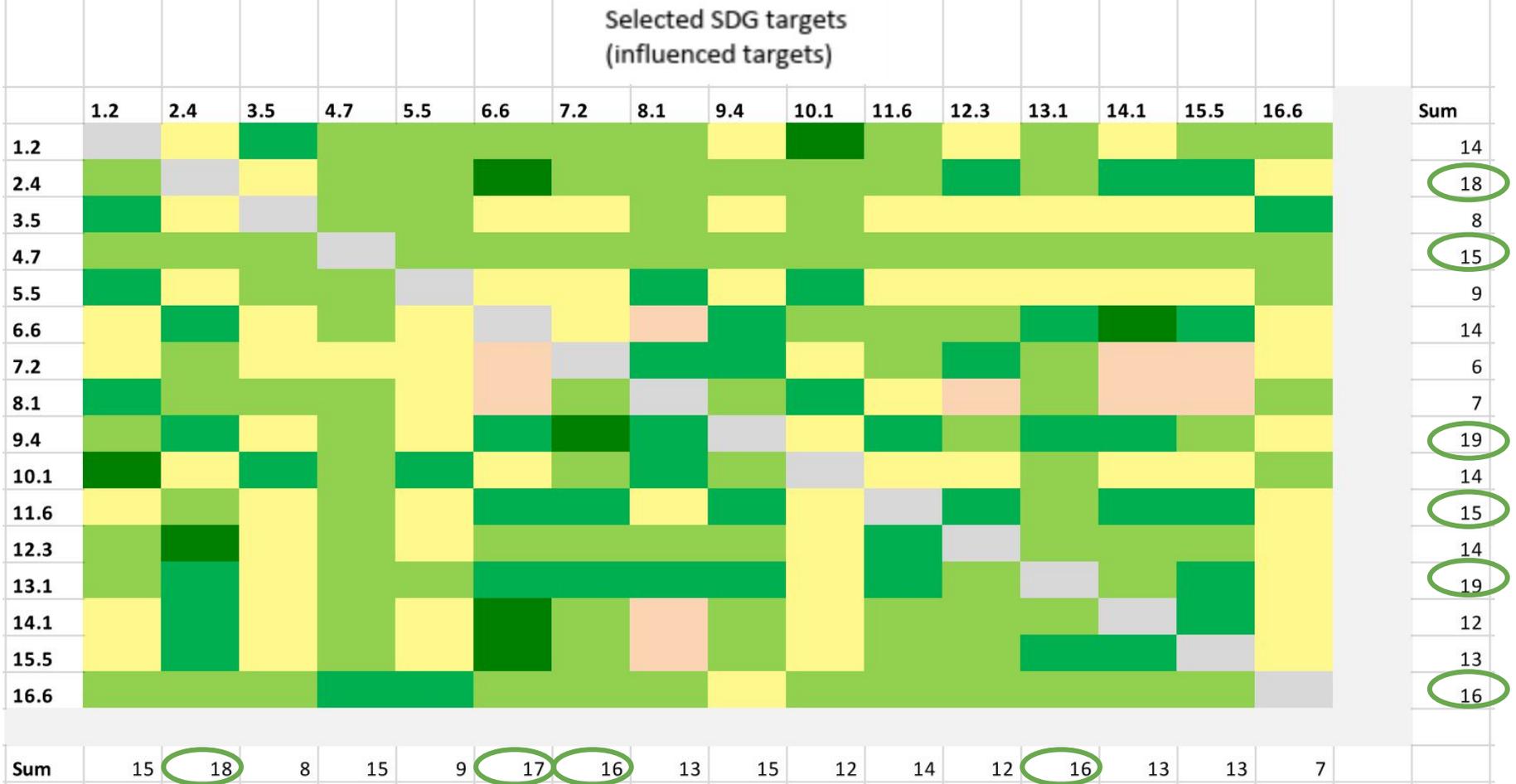
Oxymoron - 17 goals with partly
conflicting targets?

Our policy coherence exercise in short

- Testing the assessment framework and typology proposed by Nilsson et al. 2016; following the cross-impact matrix approach by Weitz et al. 2018
- Only one Target selected to represent each SDG.
- Focus on future: *"If Finland succeeds to achieve the target by 2030, how this influences the possibilities to reach other targets?"*
- Consensus view built based on independent expert evaluations (N=6)

Selected targets

| <i>YK:n kestävän kehityksen alataavoitteet*</i> | <i>Yhteys kipupisteisiin**</i> |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions | 5, 7, 8 |
| 2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality | 4, 3 |
| 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol | 5 |
| 4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development | 8, 5 |
| 5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate HUOM: <u>vaihdettu prosessin aikana</u> | |
| 5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life | 5, 7 |
| 6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes | 3 |
| 7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency HUOM: <u>vaihdettu prosessin aikana</u> | |
| 7.2. By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix | 1, 7 |
| 8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries | 7, 5,6 |
| 9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities | 7, 1,2,3,4 |
| 10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average | 5, 7 |
| 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management | 8, 1,4 |
| 12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses | 4, 3 |
| 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries | 8, 6,1,2,3,4 |
| 14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution | 3, 4 |
| 15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species | 2, 4 |
| 16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime HUOM: <u>vaihdettu prosessin aikana</u> | |
| 16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels | 6, 7, 8 |
| 17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources | 6, 8, 5 |



Cross-impact matrix of 16 SDG targets and their interaction in Finland

Our evaluation question was identical to that of Weitz et al (2018):
“If progress is made on target x (rows), how does this influence progress on target y (columns)”?

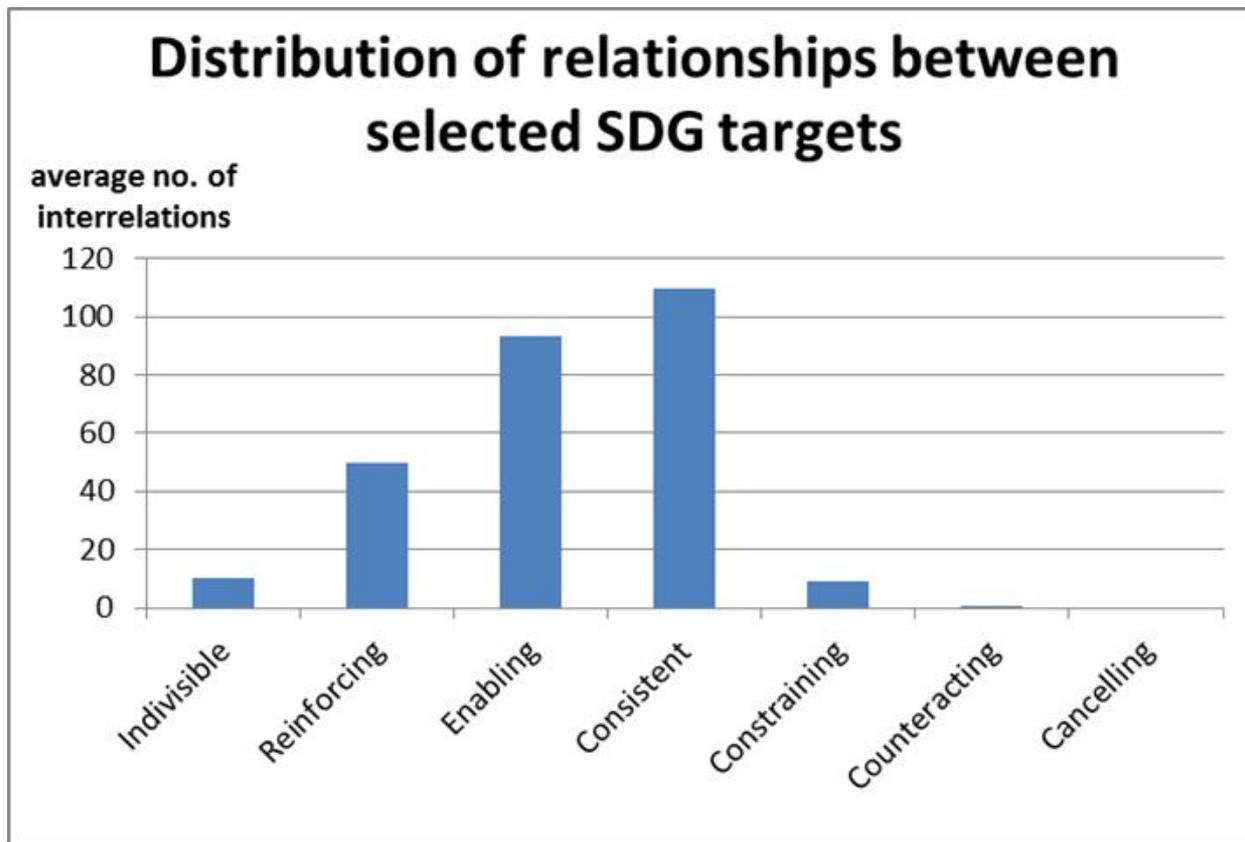
How to read the table:

Row-sum: the net influence from a target on all other targets

Column-sum: how much a target is influenced by all other targets in total.



Results and first insights



Windows of opportunities?

Synergistic targets that make it easier to achieve other targets

9.4 Infrastructure

13.1 Climate change adaptation

2.4 Food production / agriculture

16.6 Effective institutions

4.7 Education

11.6 Environmental impact of cities

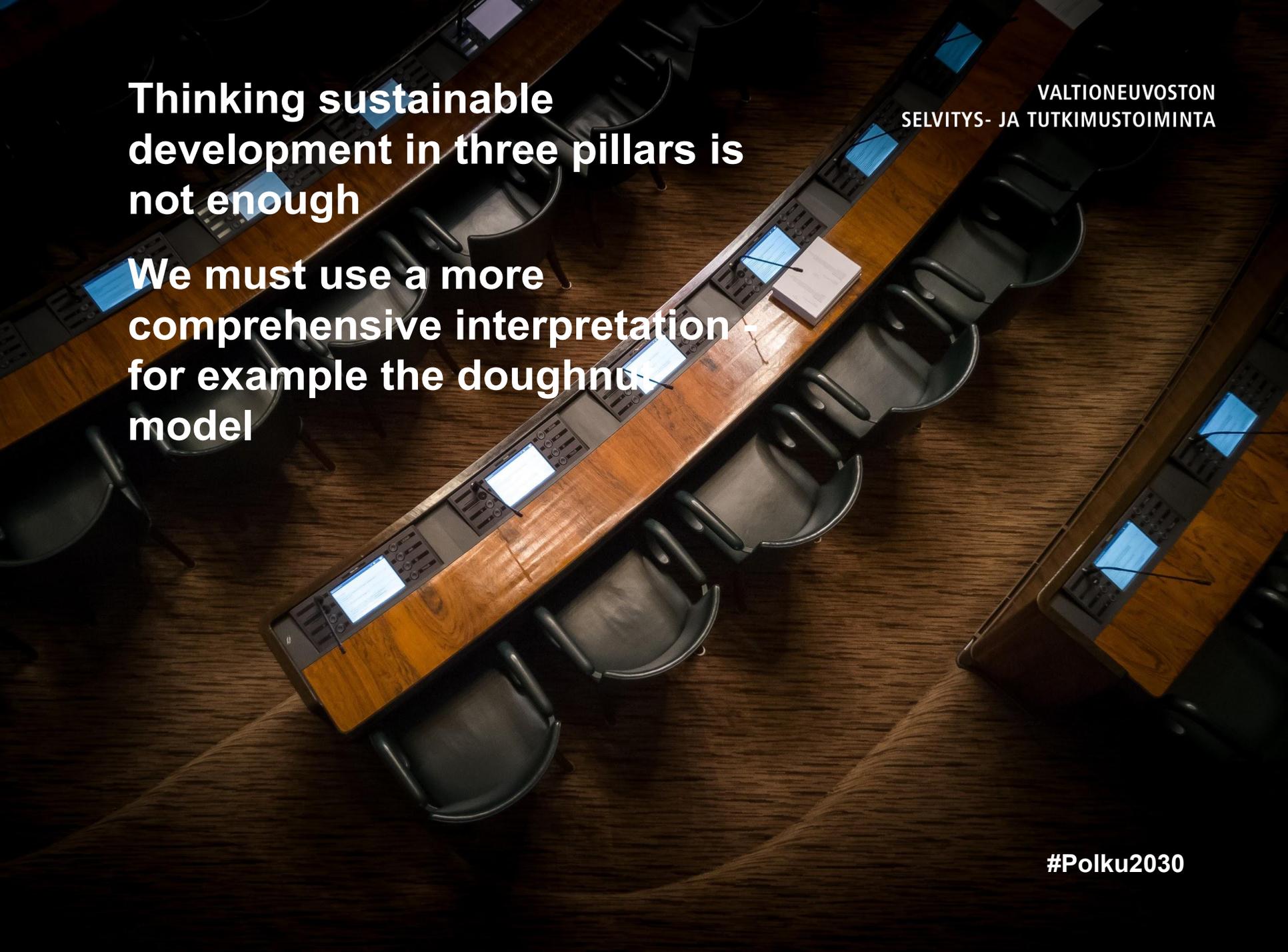
Targets that are most positively influenced by other targets

2.4 Food production / agriculture

6.6 Water-related ecosystems

7.2 Renewable energy

13.1 Climate change adaptation



**Thinking sustainable
development in three pillars is
not enough**

**We must use a more
comprehensive interpretation -
for example the doughnut
model**

VALTIO NEUVOSTON
SELVITYS- JA TUTKIMUSTOIMINTA

#Polku2030

**Finland still has a lot to do regarding
inequality, climate change,
environmental questions and
consumption**

No country has yet presented a credible plan for how the goals of Agenda2030 can be reached.

Finland can show the way. All the prerequisites are present, since we are the best in the world in on many metrics.

The government should produce a national roadmap for how Finland will achieve the SDGs.

The roadmap should include measurable national targets.

**In order for this to be achieved,
future governmental programs
should be based on reaching the
Sustainable Development Goals.**

Two key points to remember:

1. Infrastructure (SDG 9) and cities (SDG 11) have a major role in achieving also many other SDG targets
2. Designing sustainable transition requires long-term vision and policies

Policy brief published (in Finnish)

- <https://tietokayttoon.fi/julkaisu?pubid=29802>
- The English version as well as the whole report will be published in March 2019

Thank you!

More information:

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