

Side event organized

at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 09-18 July 2018, UN HQ, NY

12 July 2018

18:30-20:00, Conference Room E

Managing interactions between SDGs to drive SDG implementation from local to global levels, and long-term transformations

Implementing the SDGs as an integrated set, taking full account of the interdependencies between them, creates opportunities for reframing development around people and the planet, promote policy coherence, create efficiencies, target investments, and promote stronger buy-in. Identifying co-benefits and potential conflicts across policy domains and sectors is key for an effective implementation of the SDGs and for prioritising investments, at all governance levels. Achieving the SDGs together as an “indivisible whole” is not only possible, but the only way of achieving the SDGs.

Working hand-in-hand with policy-makers and stakeholders, actions can be taken now to map interactions at country level and identify policy and knowledge gaps through a close collaboration between scientists, policy-makers, practitioners, and civil society. Realising the transformative potential of the SDGs also require to take a long-term approach to understand the range of pathways and the solution space to achieve the SDGs and secure long-term development outcomes, within planetary boundaries. Far from driving us away from progress, embracing complexity and systems-thinking opens opportunities for addressing the multiple dimensions of sustainability and enable progress across the whole agenda.

Moderator: Ruben Zondervan, Earth System Governance Project Office & Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

Speakers:

- **Nebojsa Nakicenovic**, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis: The World in 2050 – Building a broad narrative and quantitative pathways to achieve the 17 SDGs
- **Peter Messerli**, Centre for Development and Environment, Co-chair of the independent group of scientists to draft the 2019 GSDR: Mobilizing science towards transformation pathways for sustainable development
- **Joseph Alcamo**, University of Sussex Sustainability Programme: Acting on SDG Interactions
- **Karina Barquet**, Stockholm Environment Institute: Understanding systemic impacts to guide SDG implementation
- **Reginald Vachon**, WFEO: How can engineering and science best support and work with all major groups and stakeholders?

Discussants:

- **Felix Addo-Yobo**, Deputy Director (Environmental Policy) at National Development Planning Commission of Ghana
- **Doljinsuren Jambal**, Head of Development Policy and Planning Division, National Development Agency, Mongolia