

How Sustainable are the SDGs?

CONTEXT

This slideset is a Work-in-Progress and will be updated from time to time.

It is part of a series that aims to enable better metrics for the complex socio-enviro-economic system that we all live in. Metrics are powerful, but they must be the right metrics.

There are 17 SDGs.

To be sustainable there has to be a coherence between all these goals.

This is not immediately apparent!

TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING



**What is the PURPOSE
of these SDGs ... the
single idea that will
signify success?**



TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

Surely it is to achieve PROGRESS for PEOPLE so that there is better quality of life for everyone AND for this to be sustainable ... that there is no depletion of natural resources and no degradation of the environment and natural systems.

TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING





TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

We have just one world.

Three domains:

(1) PEOPLE

(2) PEOPLE BUILT SYSTEMS, and

(3) NATURE / NATURAL SYSTEMS

People:

- (1) State: Quality of life**
- (2) Money cost of living**
- (3) Impact on nature**
- (4) Contribution through employment**
- (5) Contribution in other ways to society and the world**

People Built Systems

Government

Laws, rules and regulations

Banking and finance

Corporate processes

Machinery and equipment / vehicles

Products: goods and services

Infrastructure

Natural Systems

Bio-services / ecosystems

Natural resources (minerals)

Natural resources (fossil fuels)

Land

Water

Atmosphere

Natural circulations

Climate



TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

**There are many elements to this
SOCIO-ENVIRO-ECONOMIC SYSTEM**



TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

These domains are connected by many STRANDS ... extremely complex ... a huge range of combinations and permutations

PEOPLE use millions of PRODUCTS ... goods and services ... to support and improve their quality of life. Every product has cost, price and value ... as well as more or less impact on people, society and the environment.



TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

Thousands of ORGANIZATIONS make millions of PRODUCTS ... provide all sorts of goods and services. PRICE is the main metric for every transaction and PROFIT for the ORGANIZATION the main metric for success.



TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

PRODUCTS flow through a supply chain where **PROCESSES** transform inputs into outputs, some of which is waste that becomes environmental pollution.

**ORGANIZATIONS and PROCESSES
are located in PLACES.**

**PEOPLE also live in PLACES and
work with organizations in these
PLACES.**

**Pollution, environmental degradation
and resource depletion also happens
in a PLACE**

Impact of SDGs by DOMAIN:

	People		PBS		Nature	
Goal 1 Poverty	1	B	1		1	
Goal 2 Hunger	2	B	2	A	2	
Goal 3 Health	3	B	3	A	3	
Goal 4 Education	4	B	4	A	4	
Goal 5 Gender	5	B	5	A	5	
Goal 6 Water	6		6	A	6	B
Goal 7 Energy	7		7	A	7	
Goal 8 Jobs	8	B	8	A	8	
Goal 9 Innovation	9		9	A	9	

A Action

B Benefit

D Damage

Impact of SDGs by DOMAIN:

	People	Nature	PBS
Goal 10 Inequality	10 B	10	10 A
Goal 11 Cities	11 B	11	11 A
Goal 12 Consumption	12 A	12	12
Goal 13 Climate	13	13 B	13
Goal 14 Marine Life	14	14 B	14
Goal 15 Land Life	15	15 B	15
Goal 16 Peace	16 B	16	16
Goal 17 Collaboration	17	17	17

A Action

B Benefit

D Damage

8 GOOD JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Goal 8 Jobs

**Good Jobs and
Economic Growth**

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Goal 8 - Jobs

Making 'jobs' a goal is problematic. Jobs are a good means to an end, but if jobs are merely 'make work' then they end up doing damage to the bigger goal of sustainability.

Good jobs is about more than the size of the paycheck.

Goal 8 - Jobs

Economic growth as a solution to the ills of the socio-enviro-economic system is wrong, completely unsustainable and based on thinking that has been out-dated for 50 years!

9 INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Goal 9 Innovation

Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Goal 9 - Innovation

Innovation may be a useful means to an end, but is not an end in itself. In many cases innovation makes for more productivity and profit, while doing damage to the environment and to society as a whole

Goal 9 - Innovation

Infrastructure is not so much a matter of innovation, but about investment at scale. There is a huge gap between the infrastructure in place and the infrastructure needed to benefit the people of this world.

12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION



Goal 12 Consumption

Responsible
Consumption

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 12 - Consumption

Responsible consumption is the key to a better world. Too many people consume too much, and many people are not able to consume enough to support a decent quality of life.

Consumption should be driven more by the needs of people and much less by the profits of producers.



Goal 11 Cities

**Sustainable Cities
and Communities**

**Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient
and sustainable**

Goal 11 - Cities

Sustainable cities and communities is easier said than done. There is scope for massive improvement in the way cities and communities function, and the key to improvement is smart and substantial investment.

Goal 11 - Cities

Cities and communities will not make the best investments when the main metrics for performance is profit. There have to be metrics for progress towards a better quality of life for people and a minimum of damage to the environment.

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TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

**This is the PLACE
dimension of TVA**



Goal 2 Hunger

No hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal 2 - Hunger

The goal of no hunger can be achieved if the food segment of the socio-enviro-economic system functions primarily for the benefit of people and not primarily for the maximization of profits.

Goal 2 - Hunger

More food supply is part of the solution, but people have also got to have the capacity to buy food that is in the markets ...



TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

**This is the FOOD
strand of TVA**



Goal 6 Water

**Clean Water and
Sanitation**

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 6 - Water

Clean water and sanitation requires investment in infrastructure and its maintenance. The benefit from this should not be measured in profit but in the progress and performance of people.

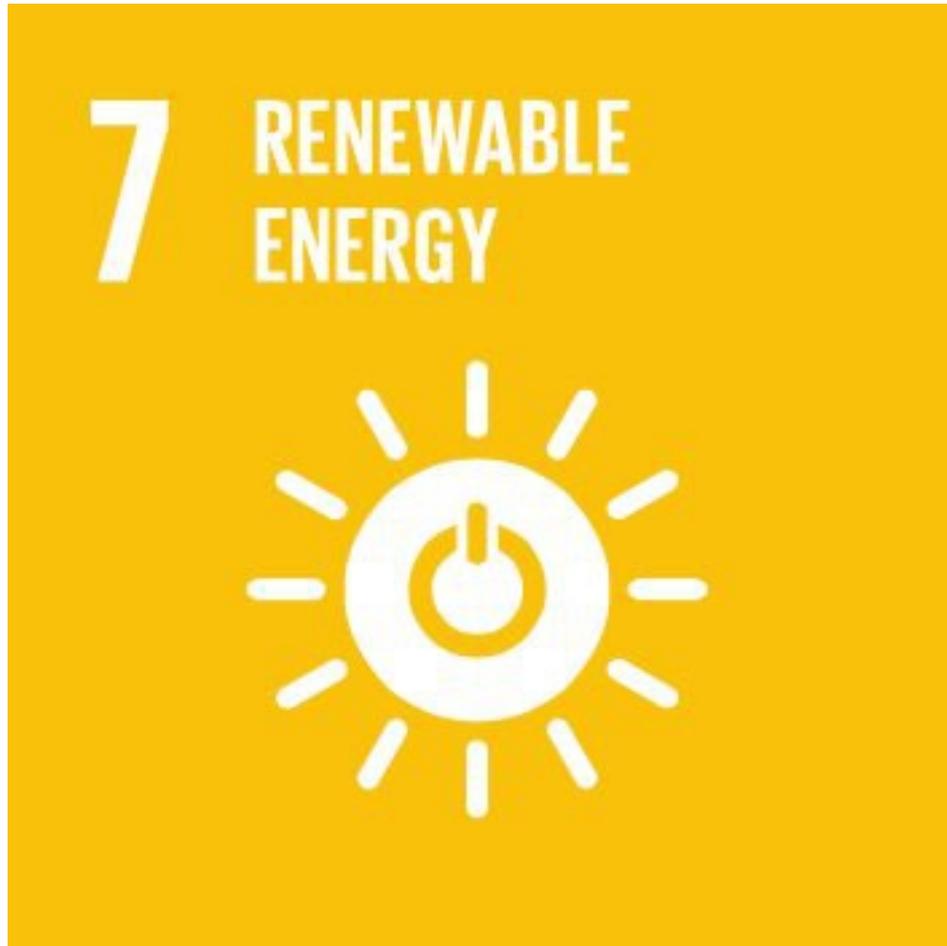
Goal 6 - Water

The way water is treated in a fully sustainable socio-enviro-economic system has impact not only on human health but on the health of natural systems upon which we all depend.



TRUE VALUE ACCOUNTING

**This is the WATER
strand of TVA**



Goal 7 Energy

Renewable Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Goal 7 - Energy

Fossil fuel energy has been the driver of better standards of living for more than 200 years, but the damage to the environment has been ignored until recently.

Goal 7 - Energy

Renewable energy technology is a game changer, but there is a huge requirement for investment. This can be a win for the environment as well as a win for jobs for people.

**This is the ENERGY
strand of TVA**



Goal 3 Health

Good health

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Goal 3 - Health

Good health makes a huge difference to quality of life for an individual. This should not be exploited for profit but should be respected and used to drive benefit optimization in the sector.

Goal 3 - Health

The cost of good healthcare is quite modest, but in many case the price of this healthcare is substantial because profit has become too important as a metric for performance in the sector.

Goal 3 - Health

There is not enough prevention, and too much of cure. Cure is profitable but prevention reduces profits for healthcare providers. Optimizing for people and society should be driving decisions in the health sector.

Goal 3 - Health

Resource allocation for health in developing countries is far too small. Making better use of people (the human resource) is important.

**This is the HEALTH
strand of TVA**

and

**Part of the PEOPLE
dimension of TVA**

4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



Goal 4 Education

Quality education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Goal 4 - Education

Quality education has been a driver of progress towards a better quality of life in the modern world. It is very important, but it is not sufficient.

**This is the EDUCATION
strand of TVA
and
Part of the PEOPLE
dimension of TVA**



Goal 16 Peace

Peace and Justice

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Goal 16 - Peace

Peace has many facets, and a critical component of the quality of life of people. The issues are complex and there are many factors that go into maintaining peace.

Goal 16 - Peace

Justice is one of the factors that helps to maintain the peace ... and is a lot more than imposing law and order.

There is a dimension of ethics in systems of justice that may be more valid than the written law.

**This is the SECURITY
strand of TVA
and
Part of the PEOPLE
dimension of TVA**



Goal 1 Poverty

No poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal 1 - Poverty

No poverty is a wonderful goal ... and success will be when all our actions result in this outcome ... but it is a **RESULT that will only be achieved when a lot of other things get done!**

**Part of the PEOPLE
dimension of TVA**



Goal 5 Gender

Gender equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Goal 10 - Gender

Gender equality is a part of a better world. It will be achieved by many different initiatives being applied in many different ways. It is a metric for success, not a means to achieving success.

**Part of the PEOPLE
dimension of TVA**

10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



Goal 10 Inequality

Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries

Goal 10 - Inequality

Reduced inequities is a part of a better world. It will be achieved by many different initiatives being applied in many different ways. It is a metric for success, not a means to achieving success.

**Part of the PEOPLE
dimension of TVA**



Goal 13 Climate

Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*



Goal 14 Marine Life

Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Goal 15 Land Life

Life on Land



Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Goal 17 Collaboration

Partnership for the
goals

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

PERFORMANCE

**is a function of PROGRESS for
PEOPLE relative to depletion of
NATURAL CAPITAL and MAN-
BUILT CAPITAL**



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REMINDER

This slideset is A WORK-IN-PROGRESS. It will be upgraded periodically. It is part of a series of more than 100 slidesets. Navigation to these is available here:

<http://www.truevaluemetrics.org/DBadmin/DBtxt001.php?vv1=n1-SlideNav-for-TVA>

More about the True Value Metrics initiative is at:

<http://www.truevaluemetrics.org/DBadmin/DBtxt001.php?vv1=list0100-MainNav>

FEEDBACK is welcome. Please email to Peter Burgess ... peterbnyc@gmail.com ... with a catchy phrase in the subject line so that it gets attention, and please identify the specific slideset(s) or webpage involved.



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THANK YOU

Some links and contact information:

Email Peter Burgess ... peterbnyc@gmail.com

[Peter Burgess LinkedIn profile](https://www.linkedin.com/in/peterburgess1)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/peterburgess1>

[Link to TrueValueMetrics.org website](http://www.truevaluemetrics.org/)

<http://www.truevaluemetrics.org/>

[Link to navigation to other resources:](http://www.truevaluemetrics.org/DBadmin/DBtxt001.php?vv1=list0100-MainNav#1)

<http://www.truevaluemetrics.org/DBadmin/DBtxt001.php?vv1=list0100-MainNav#1>