What are the Sustainable Development Goals?

SDGs: the Future We Want

The Sustainable Development Goals were adopted in Sept. 2015 by all 193 United Nations Member States. The SDGs form a universal call to action by both developed and developing countries to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

The SDGs include 17 goals, 169 targets and 232 global indicators to be reached by 2030, offering a path to sustainable and inclusive societies where "No One is Left Behind".

Interconnected Challenges

785 MILLION PEOPLE REMAIN WITHOUT EVEN BASIC DRINKING WATER SERVICES (2017)

The world today faces an increasing variety of economic, social and environmental challenges, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. Research shows these are strongly interconnected.

BIODIVERSITY LOSS IS HAPPENING AT AN ACCELERATED RATE

THE RISK OF SPECIES EXTINCTION HAS WORSENED BY ALMOST 10% OVER THE LAST 25 YEARS

THE GLOBAL MEAN TEMPERATURE IN 2018 IS APPROXIMATELY 1°C ABOVE THE PRE-INDUSTRIAL BASELINE

CLIMATE-RELATED AND GEOPHYSICAL DISASTERS CLAIMED AN ESTIMATED 1.3 MILLION LIVES BETWEEN 1998 AND 2017

87% OF THE 840 MILLION PEOPLE WITHOUT ELECTRICITY LIVE IN RURAL AREAS

MILLIONS MORE ARE LIVING IN HUNGER

821 MILLION WERE UNDERNOURISHED IN 2017 UP FROM 784 MILLION IN 2015

Source: The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019 (United Nations)

An Integrated Approach

If economic prosperity, social well-being and environmental protection are interconnected elements, they cannot be achieved separately.

Indeed the 17 goals and 169 targets are interlinked, integrated and indivisible.

Understanding the links between goals and targets and re-evaluating our activities in an SDGs framework will help create harmonized solutions and more sustainable societies.
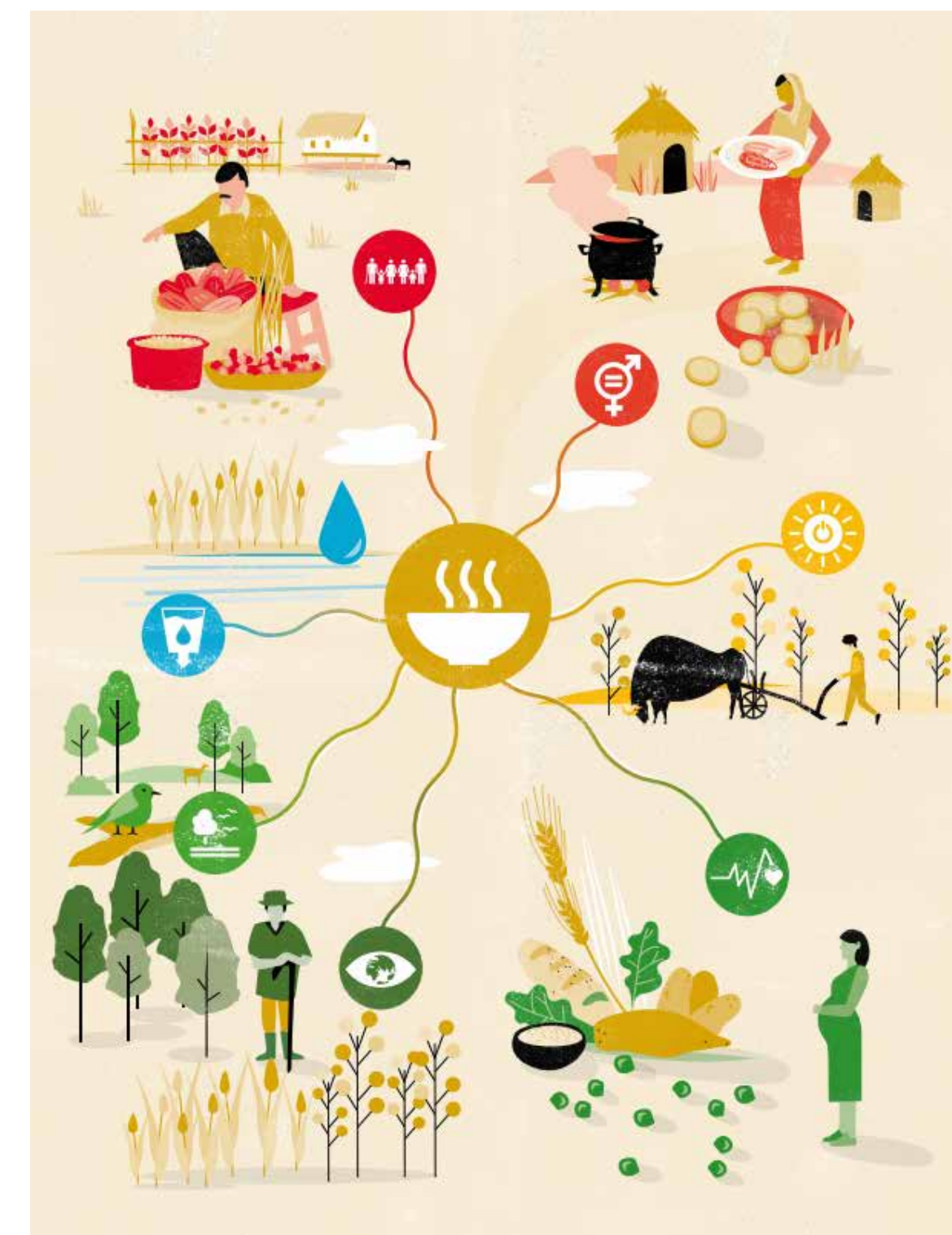
The report analyzed four SDGs and their interactions with other goals.
Source: "A Guide to SDG Interactions: from Science to Implementation" (International Science Council)

Achieving the SDGs

Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), finance, trade, capacity-building, data, partnerships, policies and institutions all play their roles in helping to achieve the SDGs. Together we must mobilize these factors and transform them into forces for sustainability.

Means of Implementation

Finance · STI · Trade · Policies and Institutions · Partnerships · Data · Capacity-building

Sustainable Societies

STI outputs including the Internet, smartphones and AI have brought dramatic changes to our societies and lifestyles. Applying the power of STI to the SDGs can help provide data-driven insights into the complex relationships between humans and their environment, and develop balanced and integrated technological solutions to multiple challenges in unison.

STI · Economic Prosperity · STI · Environmental Protection · Social Well-being · STI