

Recap of yesterday

We heard from:

- the IAP project and how academies are or could support the SDGs more systemically;
- regional stakeholders (UNECE, JRC) about regional (Europe and EU) processes and national stakeholders about national processes, and how the academies /scientists could better support them;
- different parts of the academy community on existing (inter)academy practices, which could be scaled up and/or translatable for others;
- Enrico about the transformation or paradigm shift required to realise the SDGs.

And we began to identify emerging themes and opportunities



Thierry's summary

- We need to be transformative;
- measurement of the SDGs is difficult, especially the path to progress ("distance to target");
- understanding the meaning of sustainable development is not easy (but, conversely, the implications of nonsustainability are clear);
- academic groups service the UN but IAP/ regional networks appear to be invisible – why?;
- what we already do has some value (it is not helpless or hopeless);
- we need a list of concrete, practicable actions.



Key emerging themes

- Communicating the SDGs (to academy members, universities and the wider public) – stay here;
- Interactions between SDGs (bridging data gaps, understanding complexity), as well as monitoring and review/metrics for SDGs stay here;
- Research funding structures and evaluation room 1;
- Stronger connections between young and senior academies room 2
- European influence globally / IAP role (global, regional and national engagement)— room 3.

Challenges to progress

- Aspirational rhetoric is easy. Effective policies, funding and sustained action are hard.
- SDG targets do not cover all essential elements: many indicators (an estimated two-thirds) are inadequate.
- Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) are useful, but not real action plans.
- Stakeholder engagement is weak in most countries.
- Not every country is paying attention.
- So, can we develop a practicable action plan for academies working at the national level and together at the regional and/or global level?

Bringing science "to the right place at the right time"



Figure 1: Mapping science advice in the UN SDGs process: at the UN level (simplified)

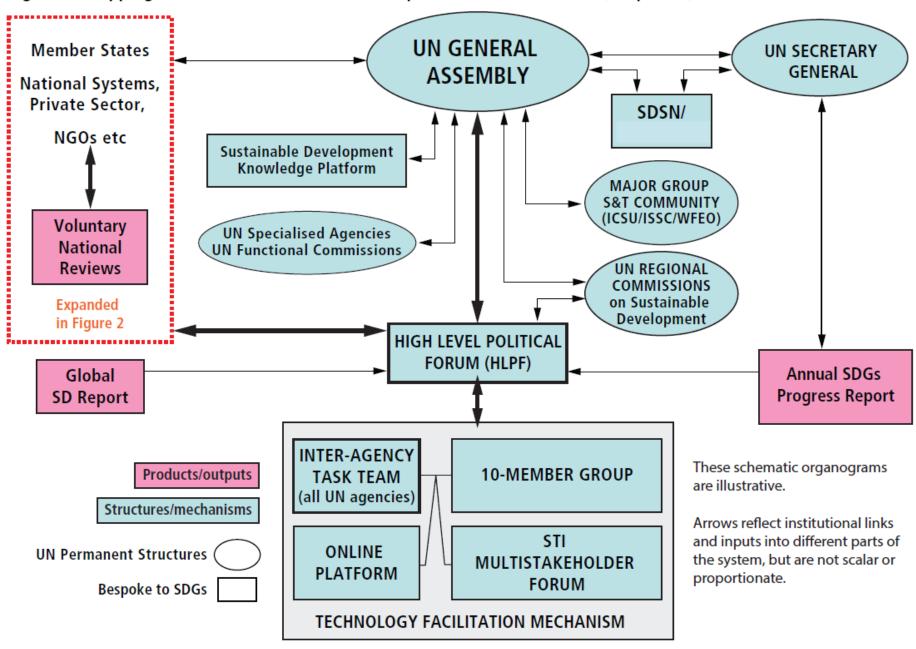
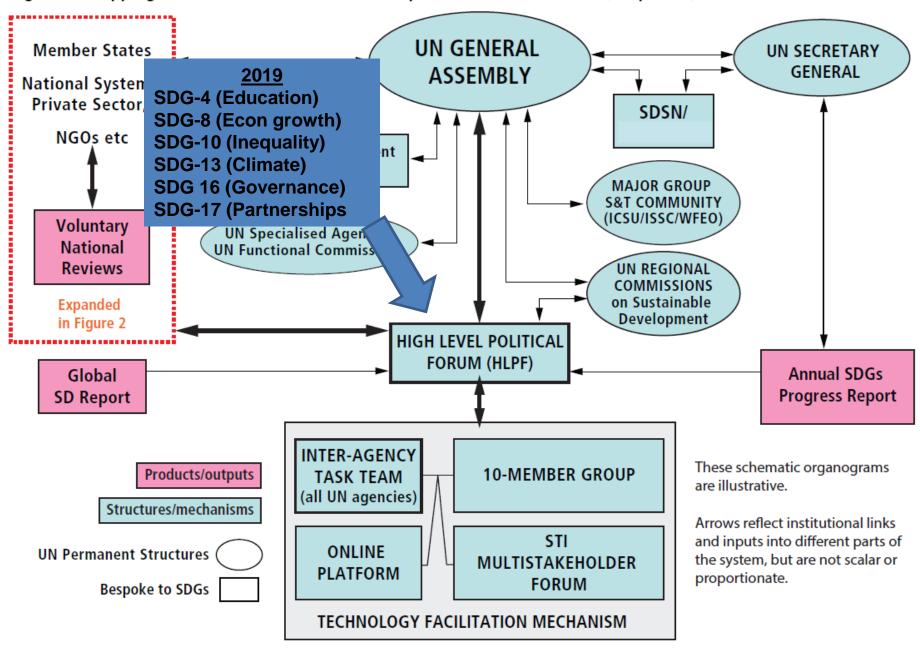


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Voluntary National Reviews

 To facilitate sharing of experiences (successes, challenges, lessons learned) between Member States

2016	2017	2018	2019
Estonia	Belgium	Greece	Bosnia and
Finland	Czech Rep	Hungary	Herzegovina
France	Denmark	Ireland	Croatia
Germany	Italy	Latvia	France
Norway	Netherlands	Poland	Serbia
Switzerland	Portugal	Slovakia	UK
	Slovenia	Spain	
	Sweden	Switzerland	



Mapping out an action plan

	Short-term (0-12 months)	Mid-term (1-3 years)	Long-term (to 2030)
At the regional level (as EASAC members working together)	Action(s): Outcome(s):	Action(s): Outcome(s):	Action(s): Outcome(s):
At the national level (as academies within national advisory systems)	Action(s): Outcome(s):	Action(s): Outcome(s):	Action(s): Outcome(s):
At the institutional level (what can my academy do/change?)	Action(s): Outcome(s):	Action(s): Outcome(s):	Action(s): Outcome(s):
At the individual level (what can I do/change?)	Action(s): Outcome(s):	Action(s): Outcome(s):	Action(s): Outcome(s):

An action plan should consider.....

- vision, objectives and timelines;
- important milestones and deliverables, with periodic evaluation and feedback;
- priorities;
- interacademy cooperation;
- partnerships with other sectors;
- STI and human capacity building (skills);
- strengthening science-policy interface;
- risk;
- shaping the STI/research agenda;
- potential funding sources.

