

04/11/2021

### **What is DEVELOPMENT?**

- polysemic
- becomes a issue after WWII= central in politic after the second world war
- various synonyms
- often associated to value judgement= after '80 associate to negative judgements/ before=positive
- typically a western concept

Novel of development= requires to be aware to different theories, different theories of d. became ideas, ideologies.

### **THE IDEA (IDIOM) OF DEVELOPMENT**

The sociological concept of development:

Important to keep in mind—>

- reality is socially constructed
- naturalise differences... is it normal? Is it natural?
- contextual=historically and socially
- historically-rooted

=approach that stressed that development is what people think in the course of history and in their social context.

Concept derived by western world, system that connect knowledge and power.

Development knowledge—>western knowledge (modern and pre-modern society; Europe and the rest of the world)—>knowledge associate with power

Development= is not only a technical issue, is not separate from politically and historically dimensions.

### **DEVELOPMENT DISCOURSE**

- studies
- theories
- policies
- practices

### **STUDIES**

Development is approached by different disciplines, not only economics but also social, political, technological, cultural...

=multiples dimensions and different levels.

Comparative view, focused in the analysis of different regions, and in a global level.

The goal to development studies—>promotes equity among people and social groups.

### **THEORIES**

General definition= general framework who helps us to understand a phenomena.

Development theories: Organised reflection over development and over the negotiation on how this issues are negotiated (historical, social, cultural issues).

-different perspectives—>development has change a lot over the time, also the objective of development are change, depending in who is the hegemonic actor in the period (historical context—>hegemony—>explanation—>development thinking)

- Ahistorical approach
- Unreflexive

Policies oriented, theories and practice are connected, development emerge in many problems and policies, that generate theories, and also practices generate theory and policies.

Cognitive colonialism, rich country produce theories and policies;

the south produce data—>elaborate in the north (example: Ghandi)

Social exclusion is appearing in all regions in the world, also within macro regions in the north.

## **POLICIES**

What is a policy: a set of ideas or plan of what to do in particular situations.. (PPT)

## **PRACTICES** (ppt e rec)

Policies are inactive without practices

*Aidland* (planet of aid)= administrators, manager, policy maker, aid administrators... all involved in development practices, involved in the construction and transmission of knowledge about global poverty and its reduction.

-they create formal and universal rules, applicable in the context in which they're operate.

In the background there are **POLITICS**

(PPT)

Depoliticisation vs. Repoliticisation

An approach of development that stress the concept of control and entitlement—>(PPT)

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## THEORIES OF DEVELOPMENT

- Colonial economics
- Development economics
- Modernization theory
- Dependency theory
- Alternative development
- Human development
- Neo-liberalism
- Post-development
- Millennium Development Goals
- recent directions

## WHERE DOES DEVELOPMENT COME FROM?

Development as a contested field

1945 —> with the discourse of Truman, discourse on development started

Historical heritage - colonial heritage

When we analyse about development is it important to consider also historical context

Colonial economics = half on the 19th century, according to many author, discourse of development starts

### **Early phase:**

commerce by chartered companies, plantations and mining, and commerce of this raw materials (exploitation of raw materials)

### **Later stage:**

trusteeship: management of colonial economies with a view toward the interests of the native population (colonial resources management)—>based on the need of the empires to increase legitimacy of the empire, and to counter-balance anti-colonial nationalism.

### Development economics

- Development as a synonym of economic growth: The approach to development is the idea that development is based in an economic growth
- reliance on a linear conception of progress and growth (development vs progress)
- (▪ focus on the growth of goods and services available

- mechanization, industrialization
- growth theory
- Big Push theory)

Modernization theory

Development thinking tending to include modernization

Basically modernisation pass through 3 dimension=

Modernization: includes political (nation building, modern state formation) and social modernisation; multiple aspect of the society, not only economic dimension.

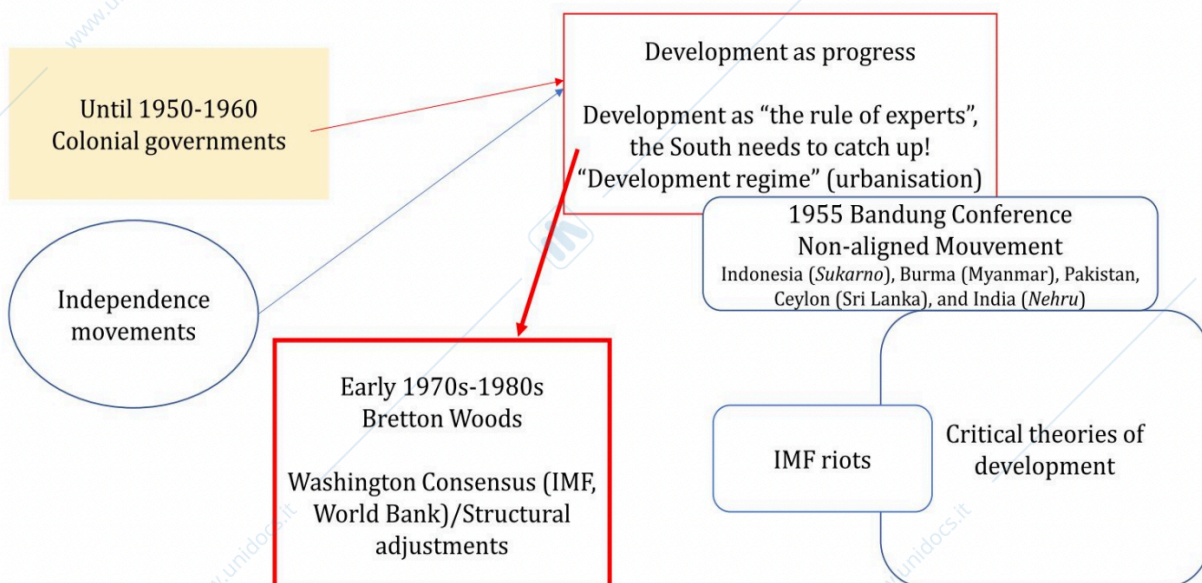
- 1) **economic** growth (e.g. science and rationality; linear and continuous) +
- 2) **political** modernization (e.g. nation building) +
- 3) **social** modernization (e.g. entrepreneurship: promote entrepreneurial skills of population, social institutions, labour market)

**KEY ROLE OF THE STATE:**

- state formation,
- building of a national identity,
- legitimation of the new political elite,
- participation through democratization processes,
- state interventions in favor of equality (goods and services)

Modernization theory

- convergence over a **single model of (market) society**: (industrial capitalism society)
  - an **ideal typical** contrast between underdeveloped societies and developed societies, this theories is based on an ideal type of society. But there are also differences within the modern developed society.
- focus on endogenous factors of development
- but following a unique (and positive) Western model of development → ethnocentrism + denies other models of development



(40'/42' audio= tabella)

### Dependency theory

- that model of development is based on a system of systematic exploitation of backward countries by developed countries

Exploitation and underdevelopment through:

1. Unequal exchange between raw materials and manufactured goods (between the north and the south)
2. Direct penetration of foreign capitalism in the country that are supposed to do develop, supporting a certain level of industrialization, building factory
3. Recourse to international loans, and the policies coming from international organisations (WB, Washington law, etc.) ; underdevelop problem because of different investment in north and south

- Local elites are subaltern to foreign investors and interests of developed countries

How to get out of such situation of exploitation:

- intervention from the "top" of the national state
- rejecting the capitalist framework in the direction of socialist planning

### Alternative Human development

This concept propose a new understand of development —> idea of human capacitation of project, also to preserve the social and community wellbeing, promoting social equalities instead to creating social inequality (every individual can express capacity, skills..)

- **Alternative development:** proposed a new understanding of development: social and community development as “human flourishing”
- **Human development:** development conceived as “capacitation” (Amartya Sen): development as enabling individuals

(see also UN Human Development Report: the enlargement of people’s choices, enlargement of people choices, express themselves)

Around '80 and '90, new development theories= growth based on the increase of GDP, capitalist model of production, reduce the level of the state intervention (state intervention distort market)

—>Neoliberalism

- return to neoclassical economics
- but with the difference that developing economies are no longer considered as special cases
- no government intervention to support development, leaving the market free to operate.

—>what matters is to get the **prices right** and let the **market forces work**.

**Economic growth** has to be achieved with: deregulation, liberalization, privatization.

### Post-development (starting from '90)

- reject rather than reform development → Claims for an end to development

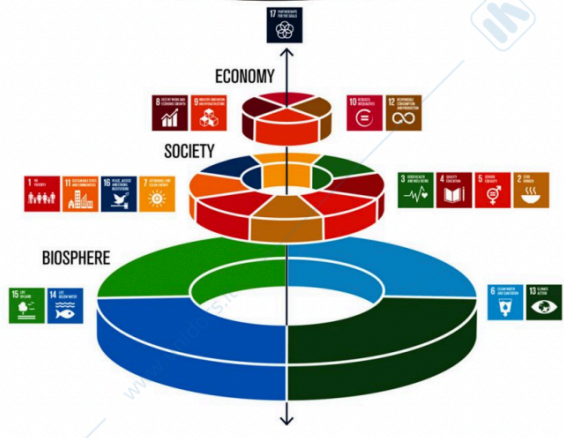
- Development has failed, its promises remained unfulfilled
- Emerged out of the despair felt by many at the apparent failure of development and the impasse confronted in late 1980s
- Persistence of problems like poverty and inequality
- Not only failed to bring benefits but
- development causes problems of its own (e.g. increased dependence of TW countries + depletion of its resources, environmental destruction, cultural alienation...)

# Millennium Development Goals

2000: United Nations Millennium Declaration



2015: 2030 Agenda



- 1981-86  
Right to Development
- 1990  
Post-Washington Consensus  
From Basic Needs to Inclusive growth
- 2000  
Millennium Development Goals
- 2015  
Sustainable Development Goals

...from discourse of control to discourse of entitlement...

Development as freedom/  
Capability approach  
Amartya Sen

The real opportunity that we have to accomplish what we value



Post-development A/De-growth  
  
Critical feminism  
Critical ecology  
Eco-feminism  
The Commons  
Development justice

2001  
World Economic Forum (Davos Switzerland)

Porto Alegre, Brasil  
World Social Forum  
"No Global" movement

... An open meeting place for reflective thinking, democratic debate of ideas, formulation of proposals, free exchange of experiences and interlinking for effective action, by groups and movements of civil society that are opposed to neoliberalism and to domination of the world by capital and any form of imperialism and are committed to building a planetary society directed towards fruitful relationships among Humankind and between it and the Earth. (Article 1, WSF 2001)

Against:  
Global capitalism/finance  
Exploitation (national/international)  
Tax on speculative capital movement

Grassroots Globalisation

2007/08 Global Economic Crisis

Development as well being

2011 Occupy Wall Street

Against Global inequality

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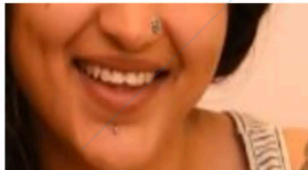
# PARALLEL GEOGRAPHIES OF POVERTY AND DISADVANTAGE

*Does the category "global", however one modifies it, include the first and third worlds? Is it truly global?*

There is a north-south divide marked by radical differences in hunger, deaths, kinds of war. But these differences in a way belong to an older history, even though they are also becoming part of a new history. In this new history, there are realities that cut across borders and across this old north-south divide. Thus the elites in Sao Paolo and the elites in Manila both share an emergent geography of centrality that connects them - rather comfortably - with elites in New York, or in Paris. There are parallel geographies of poverty and disadvantage that also cut across old divides: we are becoming a planet of urban glamour zones and urban slums. I focus on these types of formations. It's not enough to talk of rich countries and poor countries.

This divide between the problem in the global south, is not very much visible in the north. Dimension of poverty is less intuitive in western countries.

## Living standards by monthly income, India

	30\$xmonth	500\$xmonth	6000\$xmonth
Home			
Most Loved item			
Teeth			

Source: <https://www.gapminder.org/dollar-street>

= The divide is among social classes and not between countries.

# TOWARD GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT?

## Challenges to international development

- blurring of North/South; developed/underdeveloped boundaries
  - interconnectedness of globalized capitalism
  - the universal challenge of sustainable development and climate change
- Global development, based on a relational approach, is more appropriate
- overcomes the North/South binary logic
  - addresses collective issues (e.g. climate change) and shared challenges that regions across the world face
  - better include the wide range of actors and practices that are in the arena
  - economic, social, cultural (uneven) relations are part of normal processes occurring in a uneven capitalist development

Nel sito si possono osservare differenze all'interno della stessa country, tra chi vive con 3 dollari al giorno e chi con 6000\$ al mese.

—>more **relational approach** and not development approach

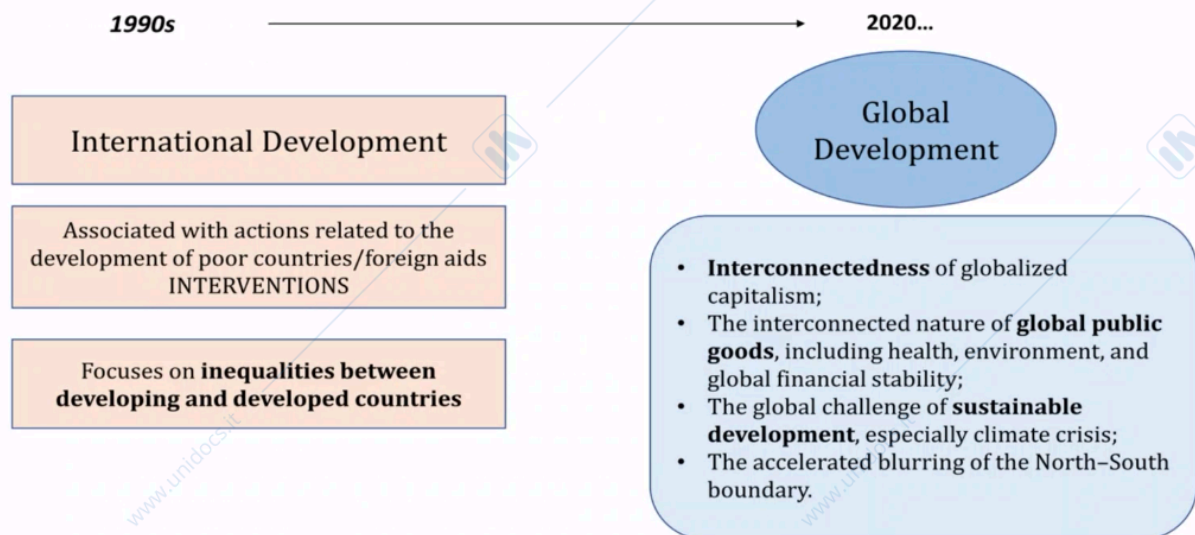
Divide between global north and south, and among boundaries

Capitalism act in a global level

Universal challenges, common for people living in DC or UDC

=we should move into an idea of global development—> relation to power dynamic. The current level of development is global (for these authors).

## FROM INTERNATIONAL TO GLOBAL...



Binary logic is not longer valid (that supposed global north should help the global south);

=development is better understood considering global development instead of international development.

(Last slide of yesterday)

12/11/2021

✓ **MANAGING GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE SDGS**

✓ CRITIQUES OF THE SDGS

✓ **THE LONG ROAD TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

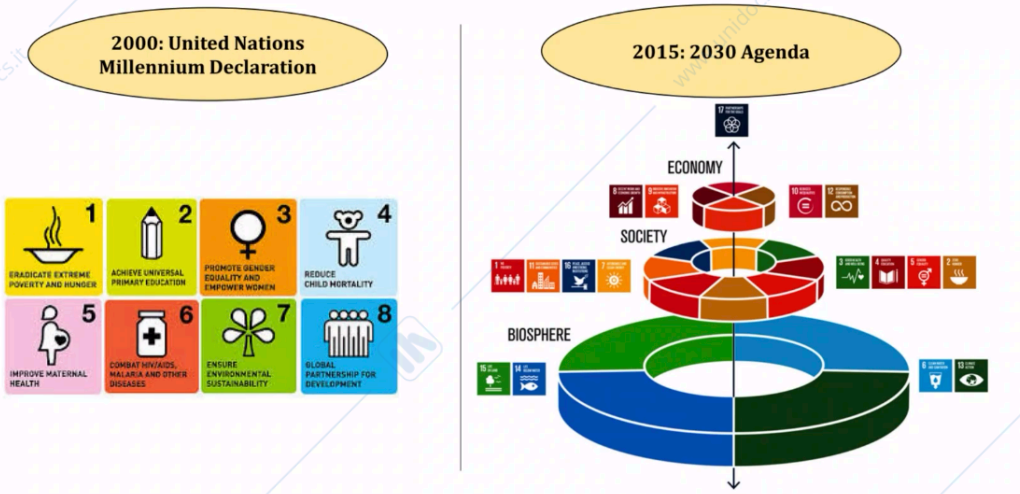
✓ QUICK FACTS: FROM 1972 UNTIL 2016

✓ OUR COMMON FUTURE/THE 2030 AGENDA

✓ **DEVELOPMENT AND THE ANTHROPOCENE**

SDGs=Sustainable development goals  
From MDGs to SDGs

# FROM MDGs....TO SDGs



Evolution of the UN Millenium Declaration (8 goals)

=this idea of setting goals that will be measure with indicators (by UNMD),

Actually there is the same idea of providing aid, there is the same recipe, the traditional one.

Development agenda 2030=more goals (17)

=idea of poverty constructed and represented by UN

# WHAT ARE SDGs ABOUT?



<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

=socially constructed, representation of problems by most powerful groups in UN.  
 —>one possible representation—>just one possible solution

## WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.1)]

#### 70/1. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

*The General Assembly*

*Adopts* the following outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda:

#### Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

##### Preamble

This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan. We are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty and want and to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world on to a sustainable and resilient path. As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind.

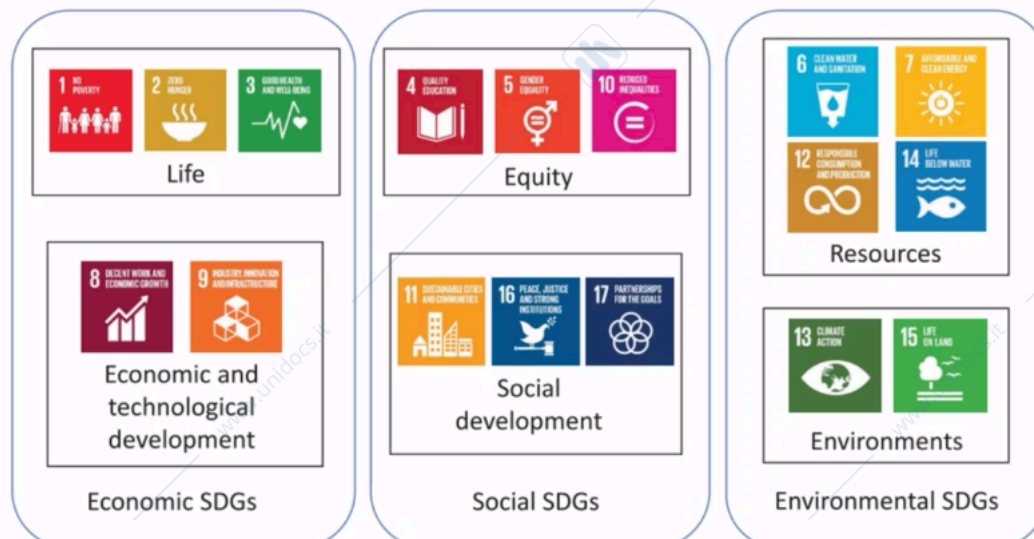
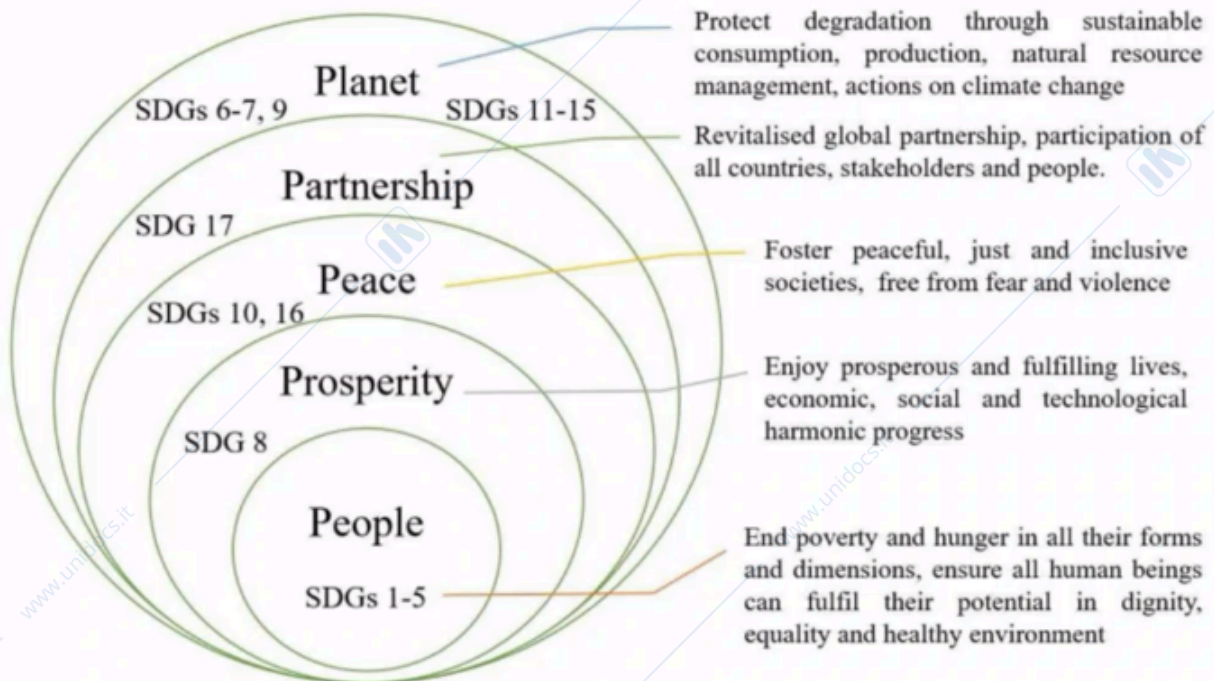
The 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal Agenda. They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.

The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next 15 years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet.

# WHO HAS CHOSEN THE SDGs?

2012	United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20): agreement by Member States to launch a process to develop a set of sustainable development goals (SDGs)
2012	Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) mobilizes global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development (president Jeffrey Sachs)
2013	The General Assembly establishes the Open Working group (30 members) tasked with preparing proposal on SDGs (one sit owned by several countries)
2015	In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly accepted the 2030 Development Agenda

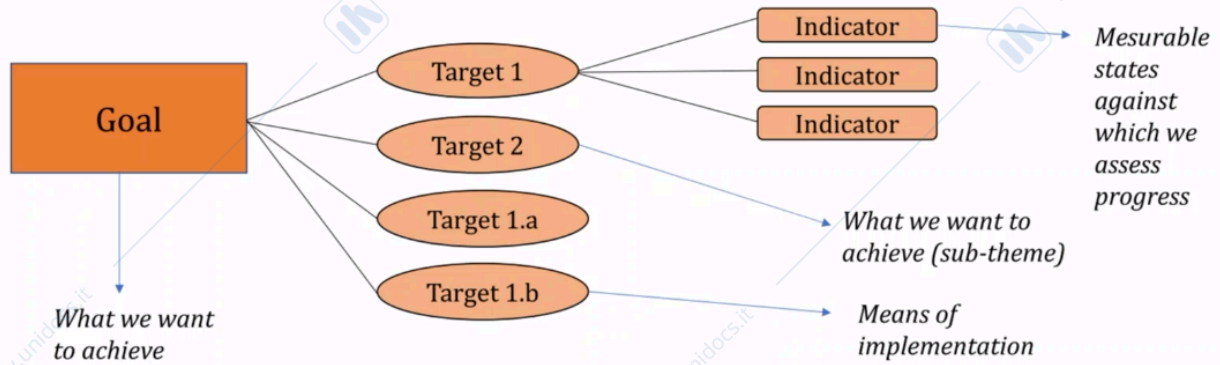
*Global Consultation Process: governments, civil society, business, knowledge-based institutions and citizens (MyWorld citizens survey)*



=combine together the 3 dimensions of social, economic and environmental.

Internal organisation of Development Goals (divided into target)=

# HOW DO SDGs WORK?



You can find the indicators' database at this link: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/unsdg>

From goals to target, and then improve this aspect with indicators (=so we are able to monitor improve through indicators, linked to target).

70 goals are many, so many target have several indicators to monitor=  
 Critiques =very expensive and difficult to monitor.  
 Plus, some of these goals are contradictory.

## Dominant discourses:

- keynesianism
- neoliberalism
- liberal feminism
- World social forum

+ sustainability

## Technocratic, top-down approach to goal development

- unrepresentative sample
- steeped in power-laden hegemonic frameworks

=this 70 DG reflect a social construct, so they represent only some particular types of representation of the world.

(Government related economy, relations between states, states regulate the market)

The dominant discourse is tend to prevale, most relevant.

Other discourses are not so radical (like papers of Paerson)= gender equality, empowerment of women, actually could gain more importance, but is included in the debate in this approach in a practical way, and instrumental for the achievement of other goals.

# WHO DOES MONITOR THE SDGs ATTAINMENT?

The *High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development* (HLPF), established in 2012, meets each year in order to assess the progress of Agenda 2030 goals and to make a regular follow up. Countries are invited to undertake Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) that are presented at the annual HLPF. Many different actors at the local and national level are also involved in the SDGs attainment monitoring.

Link to the monitoring activities: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>

## ...DO SDGs WORK (2)???

Governing by indicators is risky...

- (1) The significance of the name of the indicator and the associated assertion of its power to define and represent a phenomenon such as "the rule of law";
- (2) the ordinal structure enabling comparison and ranking and exerting pressure for "improvement" as measured by the indicator;
- (3) the simplification of complex social phenomena;
- (4) the potential to be used for evaluative purposes.

Alternative voices are silenced/not considered

- (1) Growth/conception of poverty and development
- (2) Representation of women
- (3) Environmental sustainability/neoliberalism

Governing by indicators can be risky= there is a possibility of not consider others indicators.

## From concepts to variables

From methodology of the social sciences:

*Empirical translation of theory* implies to operationalize concepts:

- occurs through *indicators*, i.e. concepts that are more concrete and specific than the general and abstract ones contained in the theory and more easily observable empirically
- more easily translatable into observational terms, linked to the broader concept by an indication relationship

# Dalle proprietà alle variabili



no one-to-one correspondence between concept and variable.  
Why?  
A concept can be operationalized in different ways

Operationalization  
(classification;  
sorting;  
measurement;  
count)

## Concepts, indicators and indexes

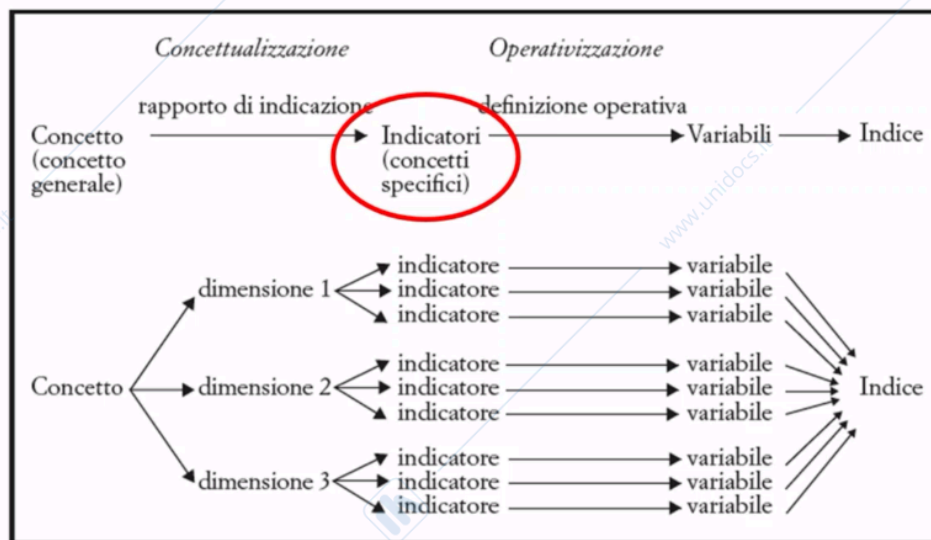
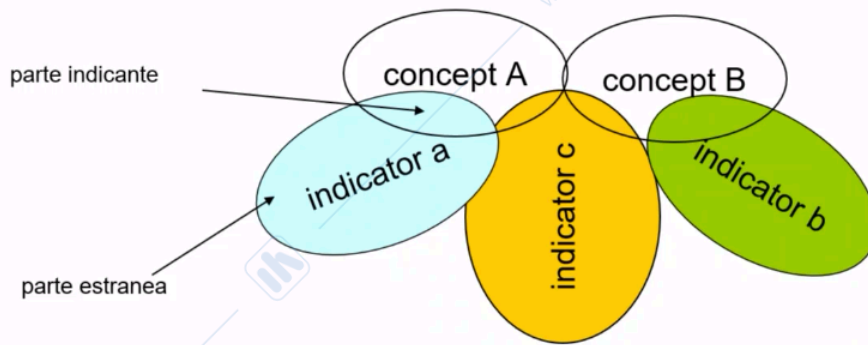


fig. 1.4. Rappresentazione schematica del processo di traduzione empirica di un concetto complesso.



- A. The indicators are able to grasp only part of the complexity of the original concept → a plurality of indicators is needed per each concept
- B. on the other hand, an indicator can be connected to multiple concepts

