CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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Outline



- Introduction: From the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals
- Clustering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- The role of Circular Economy, resource efficiency and related assessment tools
- Conclusions and perspectives for critical raw materials

Millennium Development Goals



Environmental Sustainability: Ecological Footprint approach If we go on with current production and consumption patterns,

Two planets are needed by 2050











2050







2100

1900

2002

Source: Wackernagel M

Twin Challenge for Sustainable Development



Source: The Ecological Wealth of Nations: Earth's Biocapacity as a New Framework for International Cooperation. Global Footprint Network (2010), p. 13; Human Development Index data from Human Development Report 2009 – Overcoming Barriers: Human Mobility and Development. UNDP (2009).

SUSTAINABLE GOALS



Clustering of SDGs



REDRAWN FROM SOURCE: Stockholm Resilience Centre (SRC) • SRC & IIASA, 2016 • Rockström, J and Sukhdev, P. 2016

Folke, C., R. Biggs, A. V. Norström, B. Reyers, and J. Rockström. 2016. Social-ecological resilience and biosphere-based sustainability science. *Ecology and Society* 21(3):41

Circular Economy System Diagram



Source: Ellen MacArthur Foundation, SUN, and McKinsey Center for Business and Environment; Drawing from Braungart & McDonough, Cradle to Cradle (C2C).

The role of the Circular Economy (CE)







Sources: US EPA 2007; Borzino 2002; Kumar and Gaikwad 2004; Methanetomarkets 2005; World Bank 2005; OECD 2008; Yatsu 2010 and GHK 2006. *Note: US\$ 23,000 represents the median point in the GDP data.

Two aspects of decoupling



Source: International Resource Panel

And what is with Resource Efficiency?

Efficiency at economic level

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Environmental dimension

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Resource efficiency (RE) (raw materials, energy, water, land)

Reducing the environmental impact

of consumption and production

of goods and services over their full life cycles

→ By producing more wellbeing with less material consumption, RE enhances the means to meet human needs while respecting the ecological carrying capacity of the Earth.

Source: Strothmann P, Sonnemann G (2017) Circular economy, resource efficiency, life cycle innovation: same objectives, same impacts? Int J Life Cycle Assess 22 (8), 1327-1328

Supporting role of input-output based industrial ecology assessment tools



« **If you cannot** *measure* **it, you cannot** *improve* **it » (Lord Kelvin)**



- Life cycle Assessment
- Material Flow Analysis
- Environmentally Extended
 Input Output Analysis

Key indicator areas for environmental sustainability assessment



UNE Life Cycle Initiative's recommendations on impact indicators for abiotic resources

How can I quantify the...

Minority statement!

changing opportunities of future generations to use resources due to a current resource use? (inside-out, LCA)					potential resource availability issues for a product system? (outside-in, LCSA)	
contribution of a product system to the depletion of resources?	contribution of a product system to chan- ging resource quality*?	consequences of the contribution of a product system due to changing resource quality*?	(economic) externalities of resource use?	mineral resource use based on thermodynamics?	potential resource availability issues for a product system related to mid-term physico-economic resource scarcity?	potential resource availability issues for a product system related to short-term geopolitcal and socio-economic aspects?
ADP _{ultimate reserves} ADP _{reserve base} ADP _{economic reserves} Ecoscarcity EDIP LIME (midpoint) AADP	OGD	ORI SOP Eco-indicator 99 Impact2002+ Stepwise2006 ReCiPe2008 SCP EPS TR (ERC)	Fut. wellfare loss LIME2 (endpoint)	SED CExD CEENE TR	ADP _{reserve base} ADP _{economic reserves} Ecoscarcity EDIP LIME2 (midpoint) AADP	ESP ESSENZ GeoPolRisk
Recomended		Interim recom.	Interim recom.	Interim recom.	Suggested	Interim recommended Suggested

Minority statement!

Source: UN Environment upcoming

Which Raw Materials are critical in line with the SDGs and what is the link to CE?



Perspectives

- Develop a framework on the role of critical raw materials for sustainable development
- Consider the context of a circular economy
- Specify the scope of criticality assessment
- Discuss the potential complementary role of other industrial ecology assessment tools
- Embed the framework into the Sustainable Development Goals
- Rethink if current 3-dimensional SDGs clusters are best suited for considering the role of critical raw materials





Thank you for your attention!

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