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Knowledge Sharing Workshop Strengthening the Environment Dimensions of the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific

21-22 February 2018
Bangkok, Thailand



Environment
in SDGs
Asia-Pacific

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



IN
COLLABORATION
WITH





MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
AND TOURISM



REGULATORY AGENCY OF GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



Sustainability Outlook of Mongolia (SOM): Process and Content

Climate change and international cooperation department
Ministry of Environment and Tourism
Mongolia

Outline of the presentation

Process of development of SOM

- approaches in integrating EPR & SOM
- consultations and peer review process

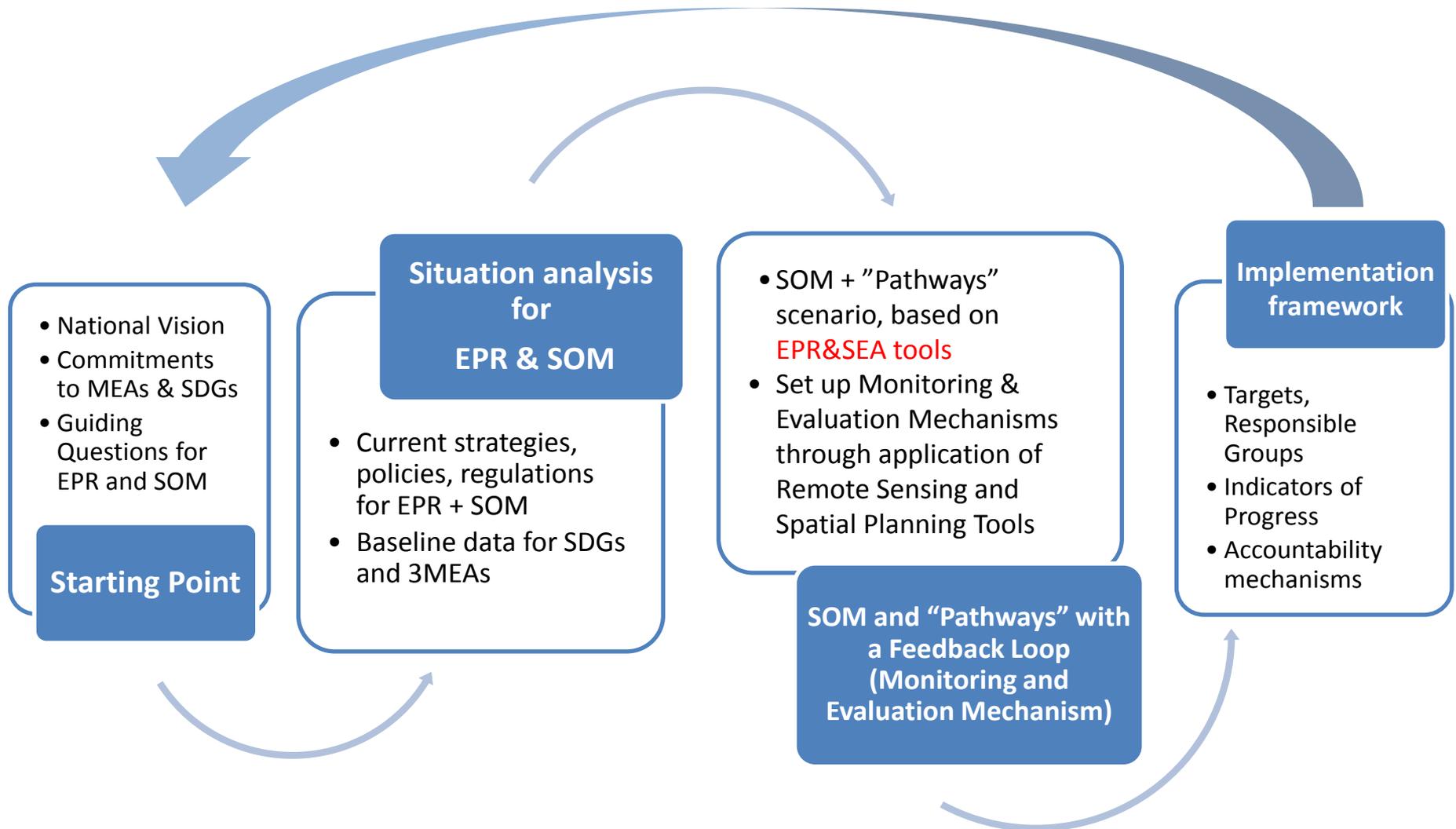
Contents of SOM

- Chapter 1: on SD Aspirations in Mongolia
- Chapter 2: on SDGs' baseline status for SOM
- Chapter 3: on 4 system maps at goals & targets level

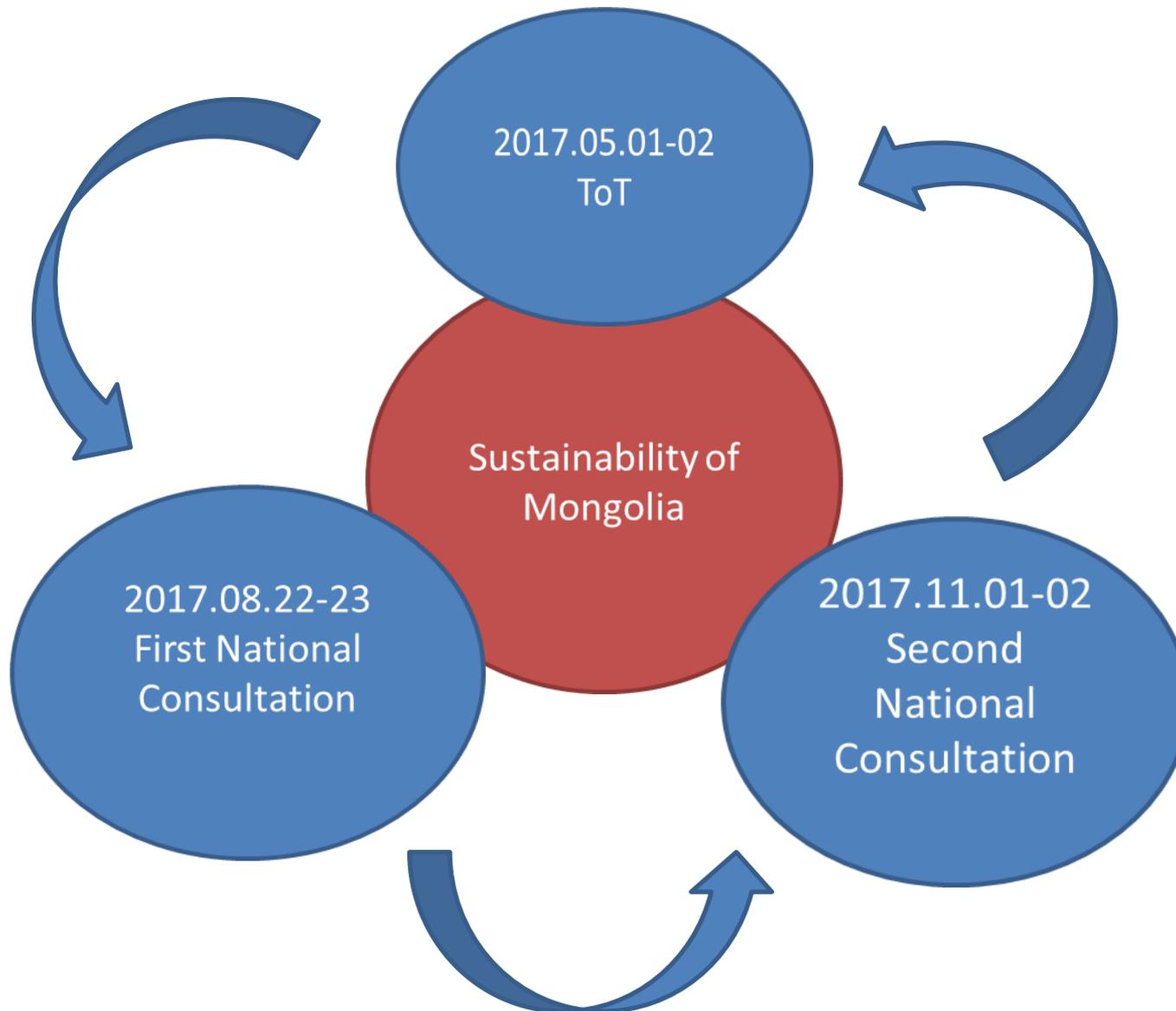
Methodology

- 10 step flowchart using systems based approach
- Scenario for development of Pathways for Implementation of International Agreements

Integrating EPR, SOM and “Pathways” (feedback loops and implementation cycles)



Consultations and peer review process time line



SOM Chapter 1

Chapter 1: Sustainable Development Aspirations of Mongolia:

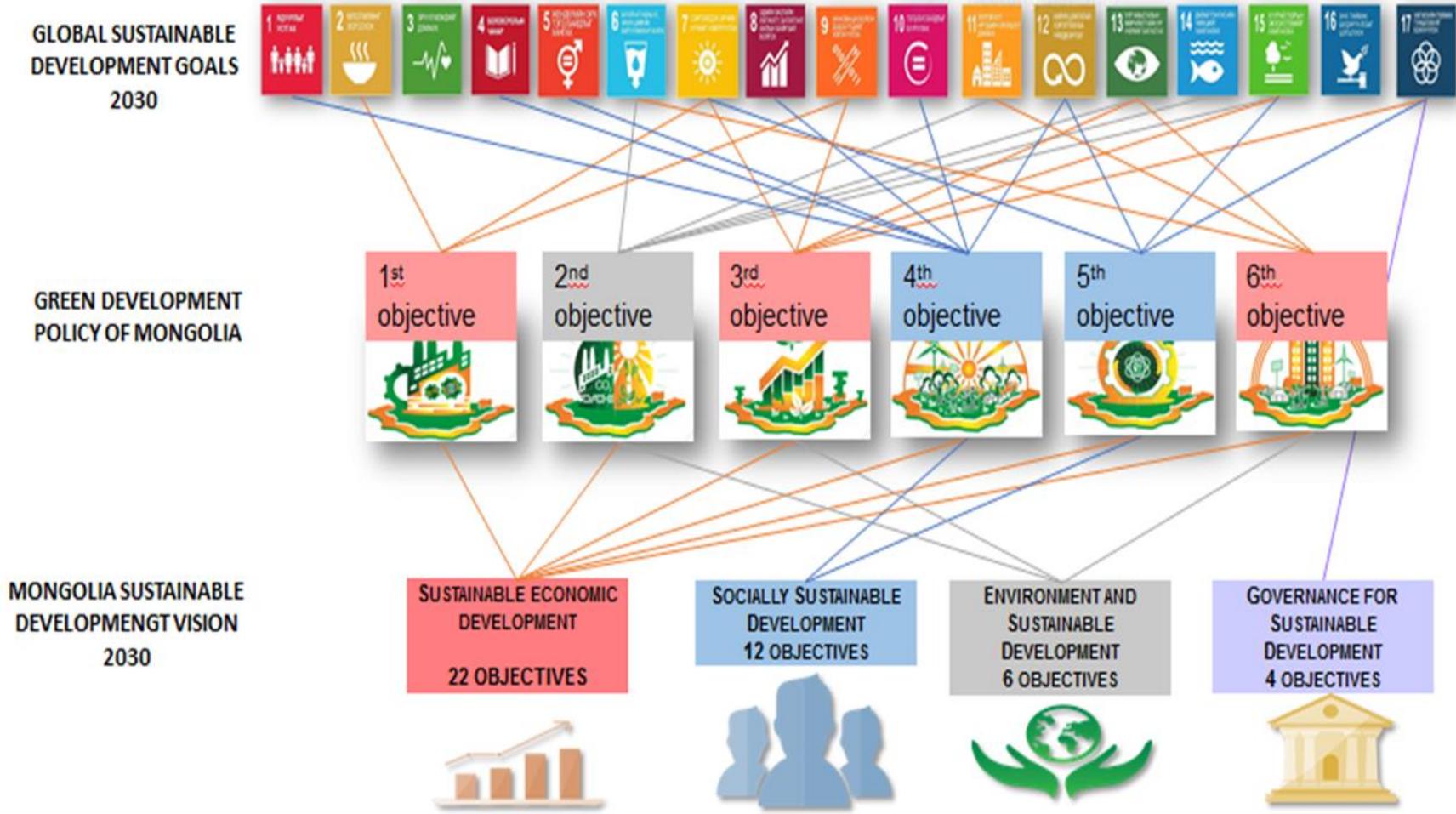
This chapter describes the overview of the government's long-term vision and objectives for sustainable development on the basis of its key strategies and policies, commitments to MEAs and proposes alignment with a newly defined medium-term goals and targets, namely:

- Mongolia's 2030 Sustainable Development Vision**
- Commitments to MEAs**
- Green development strategy**
- Law on Development Policy and Planning**
- Overview of the analytical framework used for development of SOM**

This chapter provides an overview of the methodologies used



Sustainability Outlook of Mongolia: Linkage between SDG and National Long-term Development Policy Document



SOM Chapter 2

Chapter 2: SDGs' baseline status for SOM and prospects of customised indicators:

- ❑ This chapter provides the Mongolian **SDG status** of 2017, both qualitative and quantitative based on existing data and methodology:
 - ❑ 2.1 Insights
 - ❑ 2.2 Hot Spots
 - ❑ 2.3 Bright Spots
 - ❑ 2.4 Emerging issues
 - ❑ 2.5 Interventions and recommendations for the way forward within each SDG
- ❑ The chapter would be illustrating the **current institutional frameworks** that are potentially supporting the SDG's implementation process and describing the relevant inter-ministerial mechanisms and frameworks.
- ❑ The content of the chapter provides inputs to the reports on SDGs National Voluntary Review process.



Profile of SDG



End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Insights (Current situation)

There are existing two documents in Mongolia as a national long-term development policy: "Sustainable Development Vision 2030" (SDV, 2016) and "Green Development Policy" (GDP, 2014). According to the SDV, Mongolia has a vision to end all types of poverty in 2030 and to the GDP, has an objective to reduce a poverty level by 24 percent in 2020 and 15 percent in 2030. The poverty level, or poverty coverage, was 21.6 percent in 2014 and it increased by 8 percentage points in 2016 as 29.6 percent. It means 907.5 thousand people of Mongolia (total population size is 3.1 million) are living in under the national poverty level (see annex xxx).

Mongolia has been joined to 14 MEAs in total since 1990 and SDG1 aligned with two of them, namely Convention on Biological and United Nations Convention (see chapter 1 and annex xxx).

Bright Spot (Light at the end of the tunnel/ The hope)

- Due to the 'Price Stabilization Programs' that the Mongol Bank has been implemented in collaboration with the Government since 4th quarter of 2012, price of basic commodities and products have been relatively stable and inflation has dropped to 2.1% in April 2016 as a result of the economic downturn.
- As a result of the implementation of intensive policy on economy and finance that has been implemented by the government of Mongolia, economic growth is reached to 2.3 percent in 2017 and it has a trend to increase for coming years. For example: Poverty rates in 2016 remain below the level in 2010 (29.3 percent) even though, it breaks the downward trend in poverty rates that the country experienced during last 16 years; real household incomes are still higher in 2016 than in 2010 and most of the poverty reduction comes from rural areas.

Hot spot (i.e. challenges and obstacles)

- The global economic downturn since 2008 and the commodity prices, such as coal and copper in Mongolia, have declined and are unstable on the world market since 2014, reducing employment and neutralizing economic growth. For instance, economic growth in 2011 it was 17.3 percent, down from 1.6 in 2016.
- Slowing down economic growth, in particular growth of the sectors that require large labor force such as trade, services, construction get down and unemployment increased, is showing a major impact on the decline in income of citizen in heavily populated Ulaanbaatar and their livelihood. For example, the larger share of urban population makes that most of the poor (62.1 percent) now live in urban areas, particularly in capital city-Ulaanbaatar (37.3 percent).
- To get loan from outside does not support the current economic situation of Mongolia and it will bring a risk for long-term debt burden the country.

Emerging issues (recently appearing on the visual radar of scientific, policy and/or the general public attention)

- Poverty rates are largely dependent on regional zoning. Income inequality is relatively dependent on employment and education levels in remote areas. In addition, unemployment and poverty are relatively high in the suburbs and remote districts of the city.
- Citizen often get a loan, in particular consumer loans (wages, consumption, pension loans) from the bank to cover their over expenditures. Thus, one of the members of a household is unemployed is a major problem when to return the loan because of its high interest rate and short time frame as well as increasing unemployment.

Recommendation for leverage point

- A stable economic environment needed so that sound business opportunities flourish and steady sources of employment are created to avoid wide oscillations in standards of living.
- A more flexible social assistance mechanism needed that reacts to changes in economic conditions and provides transfers to population groups based on their means and needs rather than based on population general characteristics.
- With a purpose to improve household livelihood, there is a need to take immediate actions to increase employment, to grow salaries and pensions, keep rates of commodity prices low, and to create a sustainable economic environment.
- To regulate the issues to improve business environment and condition, to reduce poverty, to make accessible medical services, to increase the availability of kindergartens, and payment of education and health services by state policy.
- With the purpose to support economic development, diversification and long-term sustainability, there is a need to support SMEs' development and to great processing industries, and to promote agricultural production and export in first of all.

References

1. NSO, SDGs 2030 indicators (based on <http://www.un.org> experts Working Group conclusions), July 19, 2017
2. UNEP, Role of MEAs in achieving the SDGs, 2016
3. Sustainable Development Vision of Mongolia, 2016
4. Green Development Policy of Mongolia, 2014
5. MET, Inter-sectoral survey on preparedness to implement the SDGs 2030, 2017
6. MET, Inter-sectoral survey on preparedness to implement the SDGs 2030, conclusions from the national consultation on methodology to integrate the EPR and SOM, 2017
7. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/?area=MNG>
8. Mongol Bank, Random survey on socio-economy and household livelihood, 2016
9. World Bank, Main drivers of recent poverty trends in Mongolia (2010-2016), pgs 2017

SOM Chapter 3

Chapter 3: Analysis of the thematic areas of cross-sectorial interventions and relations and commitments to international agreements, using cluster of SDGs. Analysis of systems maps.

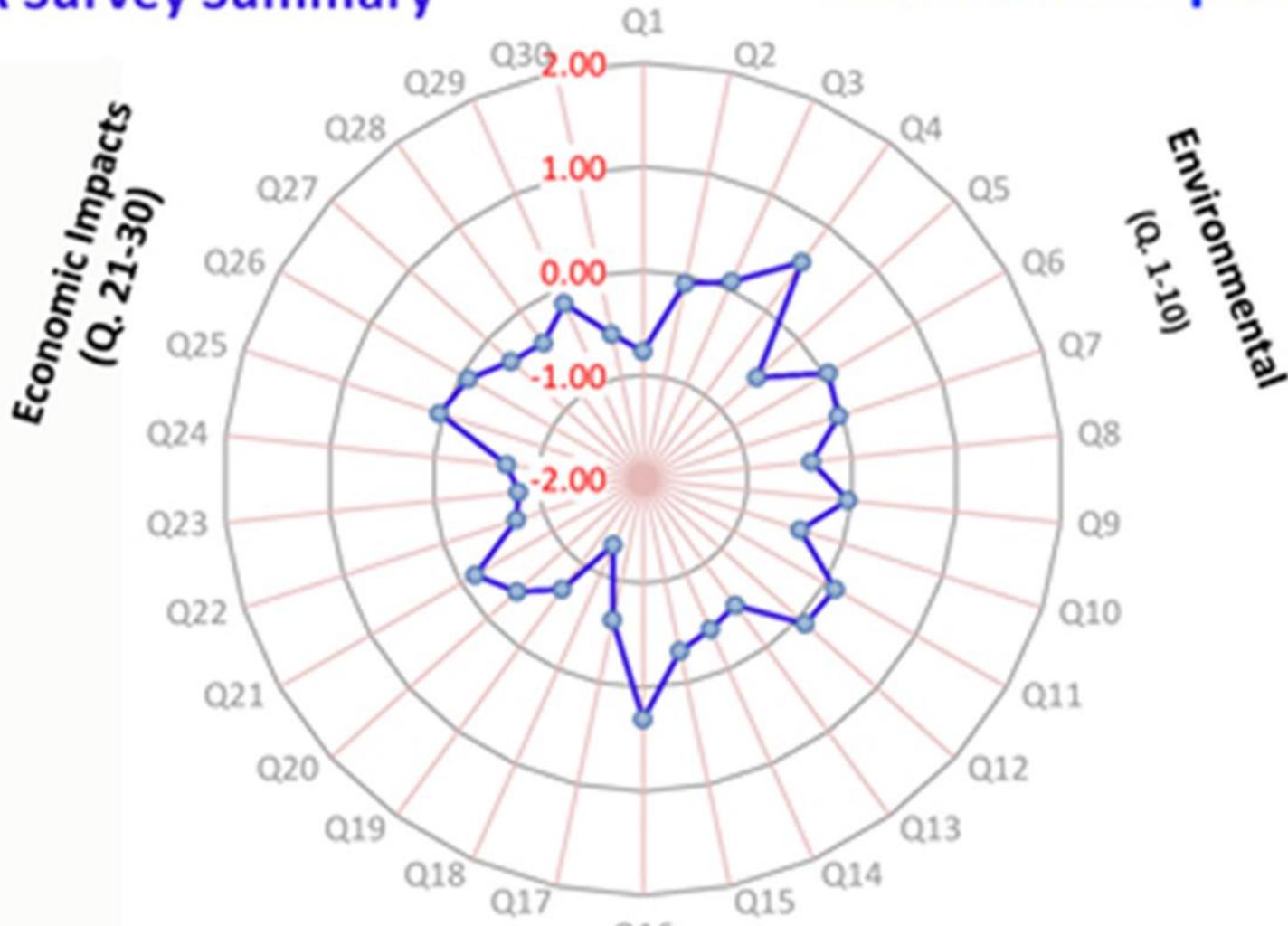
- ❑ Overview of the selected systems maps at goal and target level and description of the policy leverage points of multiple impacts (macro-perspectives)
- ❑ The focus: to ensure collaboration between **priority sectors**, that are already identified by Mongolia in current laws and policies, aligned with SDGs, including: Agriculture, Natural Resource Based Industry; Agriculture; Mining; Tourism; Green Finance; Water etc.
- ❑ The objective: present the **key linkages** and **interactions** of the goals and targets with specific clusters of SDG targets included, as well as objectives/targets of the Paris Agreement (NBAP, and other MEAs)
- ❑ Case study on Water in Ulaanbaatar, developed after the scenario planning “walk through” at the end of November (UNDP to lead with ESCAP facilitation)



Systems mapping

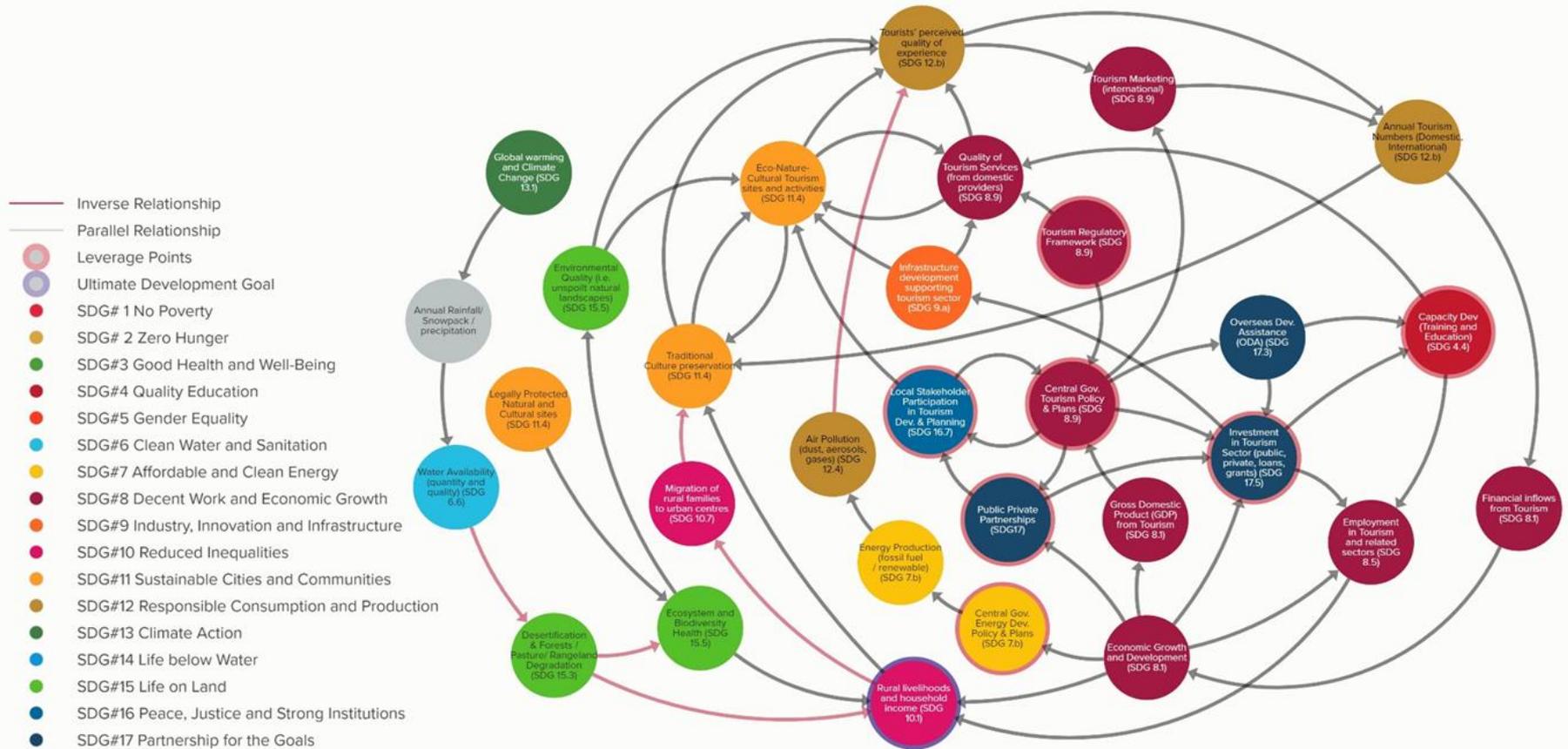
RSEA Survey Summary

...based on perceptions



Tourism and Sustainable Financing

(as defined by TOT and National Consultations)



Expected outcomes

1. Finalize the Sustainability Outlook for Mongolia, including national SDG baseline 2017 and visualization of all 17 SDGs.
2. Complete and launch the Methodology for development of SOM and the scenarios and “pathways” for the implementation of internationally agreed commitments of Mongolia
3. Develop work plan to strengthen SDG data and statistics for Mongolia.

Ten Steps Flowchart

Identification of Thematic Priorities Aligned with
SDG profiles and the Country's SD Goals

Step 1



Start with the End in Mind
– What is your Vision for a Sustainable Future?

Step 2



Identification of Policy Leverage

Step 3



Systems Mapping at goal & target level

Step 4



Step 5



Formulation of Integrated Policy Statements

Revisit System Maps by adding SDG indicators,
and mapping of institutions

Step 6



Step 7



Quantitative Modelling of System Relationships
(Causality and Correlation Statistical Analysis)

Scenario Planning

Step 8



Step 9



Adaptation Pathways (Plans)

Attracting Impact Investments and
Green Financing Schemes

Step 10

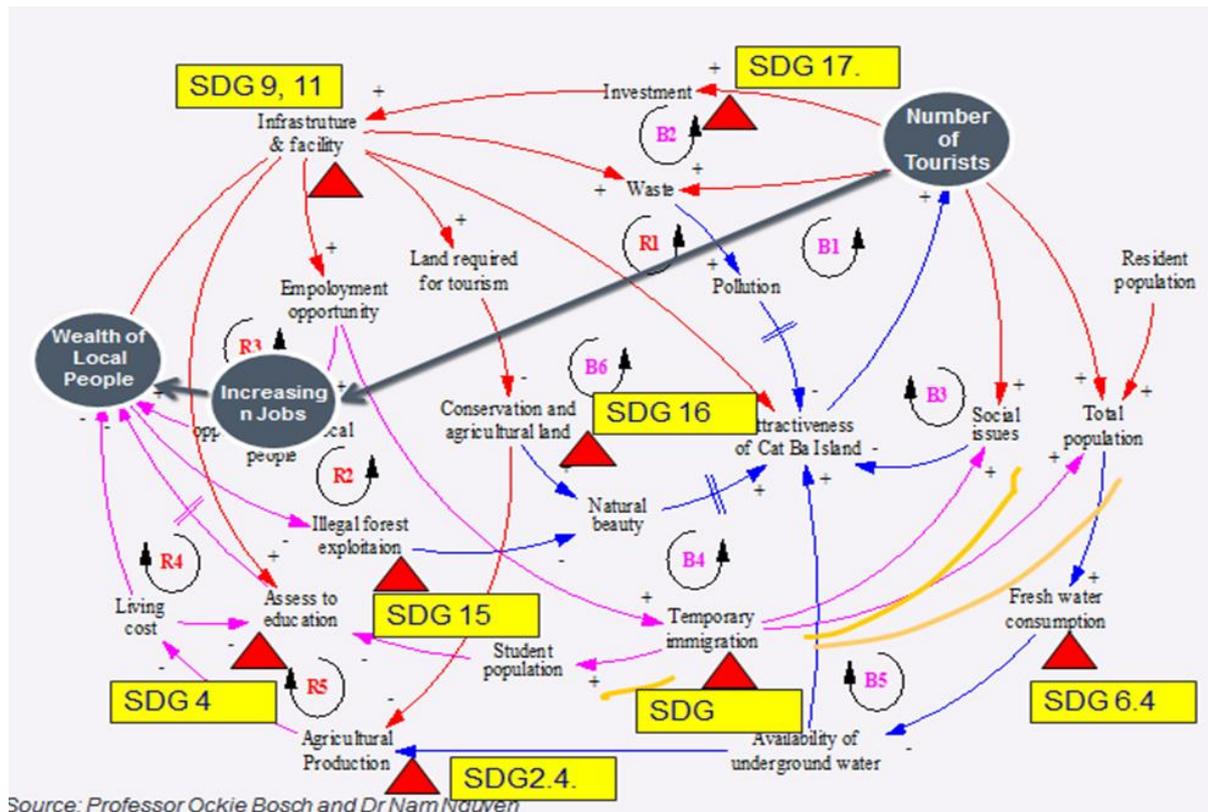


What are the advantage?

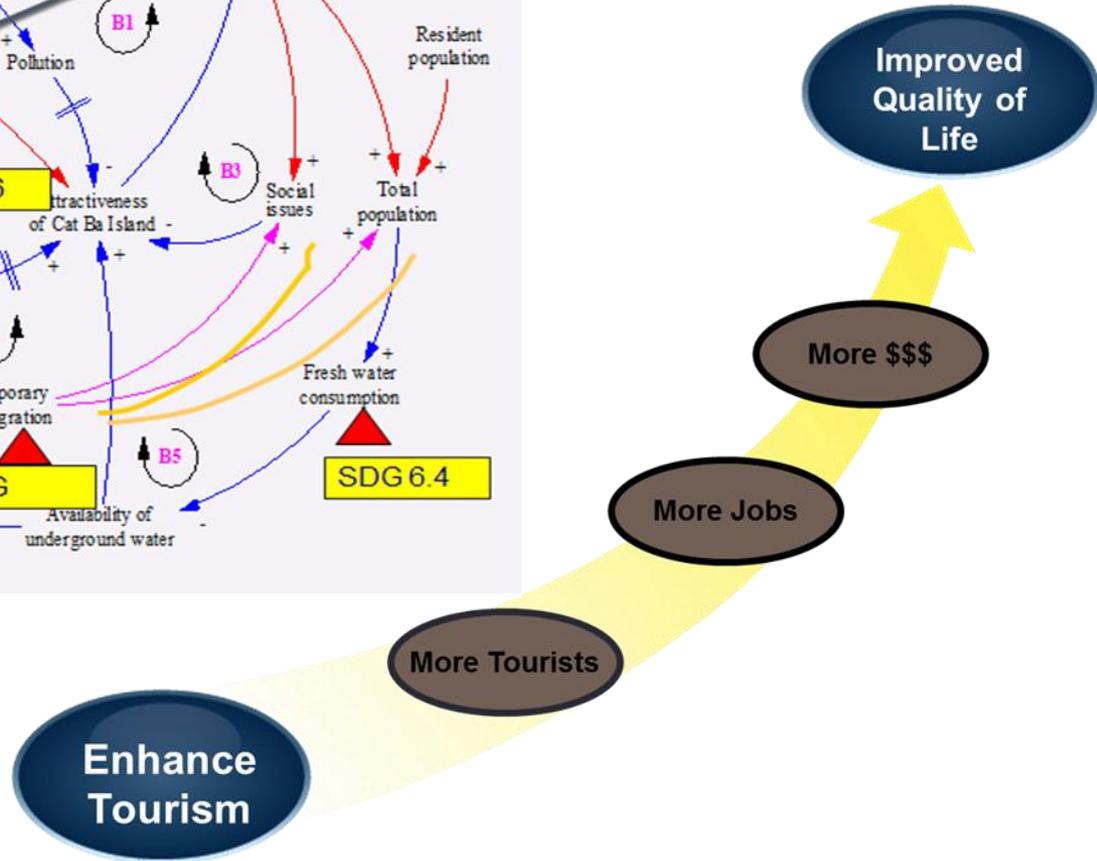
Integration and Capacity Building



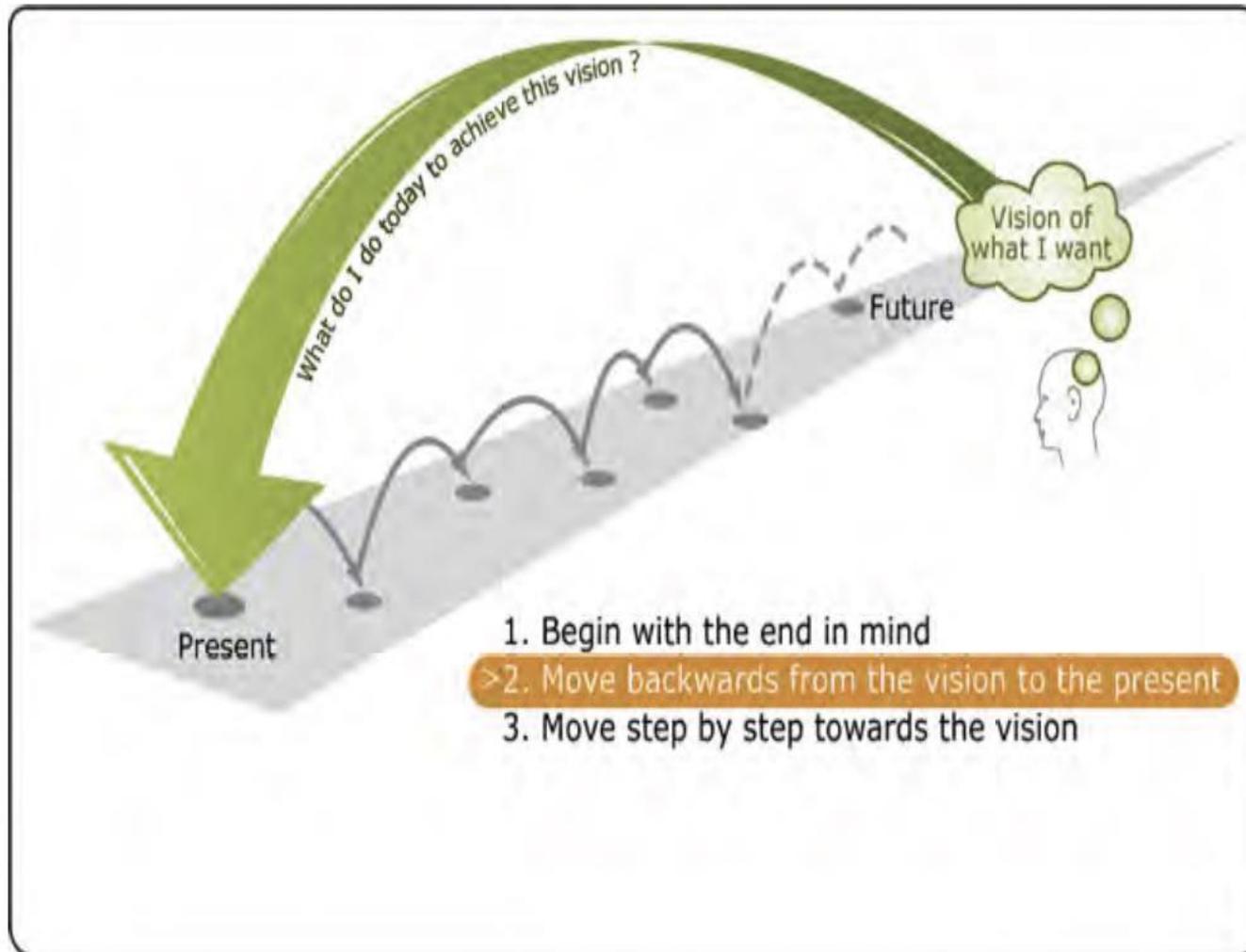
From linear thinking to systems thinking



Source: Professor Ockie Bosch and Dr Nam Nguyen



Learning “Scenario Planning” process



Thank you!