

# Strengthening the Environmental Dimensions of the SDGs:

A Stocktake of National Responses

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STRENGTHENING THE ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSIONS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

STOCKTAKE OF NATIONAL RESPONSES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 12, 14, AND 15

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# Roadmap

A photograph of a long, straight asphalt road in a desert landscape, stretching towards distant mountains under a clear blue sky. The road has yellow dashed lines on the sides and a yellow solid line in the center. Four white rectangular boxes with black borders are placed along the road, each containing a number and a text label. A short yellow vertical line connects each box to the road surface. The boxes are numbered 1 through 4, representing a sequence of steps in a process.

1. Questions

3. Seven Findings

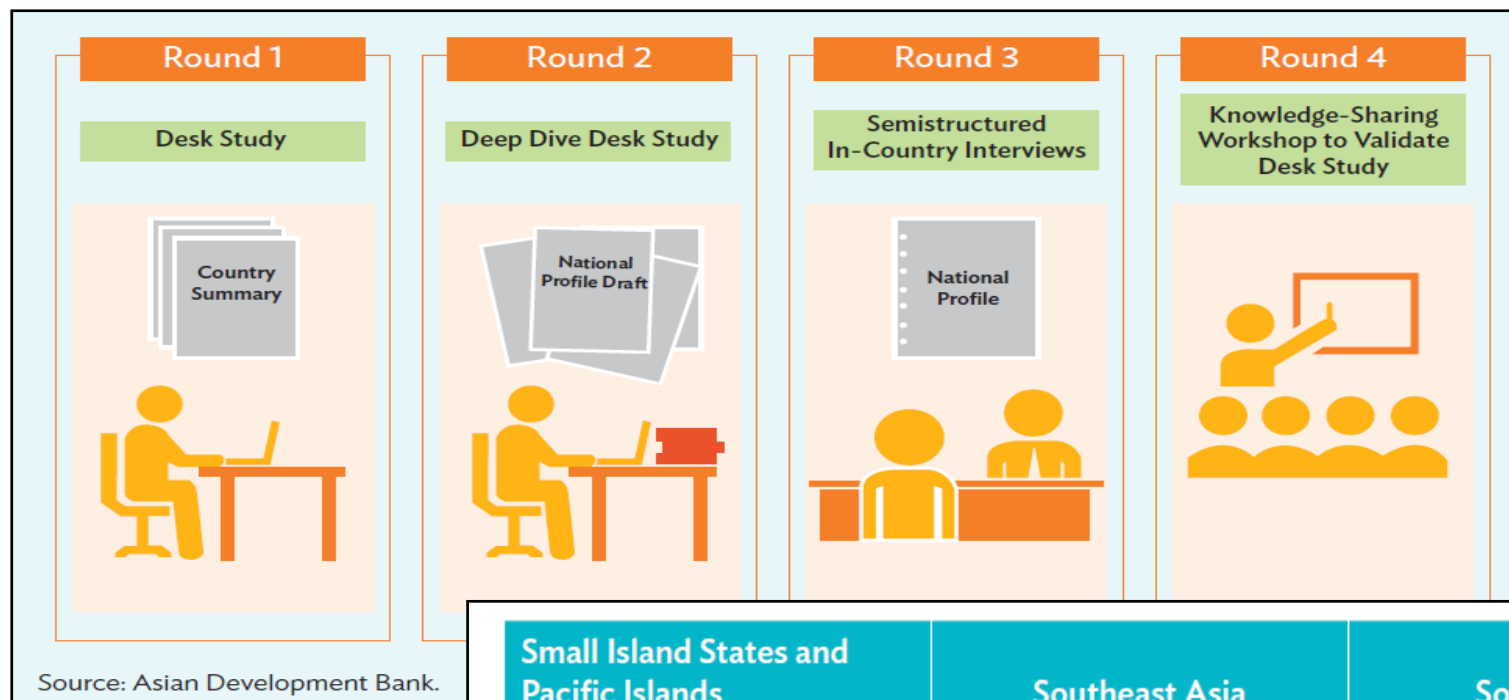
4. Hypothesis

2. Methods

# Main Questions

- 1. Which of the select environment-related SDGs and targets are issues and/or priorities for countries in the region?**
- 2. What kinds of activities have countries already initiated to address the SDGs and environment priorities?**
- 3. What are the main issues, challenges and barriers to countries leveraging the SDGs to effectively address their environment issues and/or priorities?**
- 4. How can the development and environment communities help countries overcome these?**

# Methods: How Questions Answered



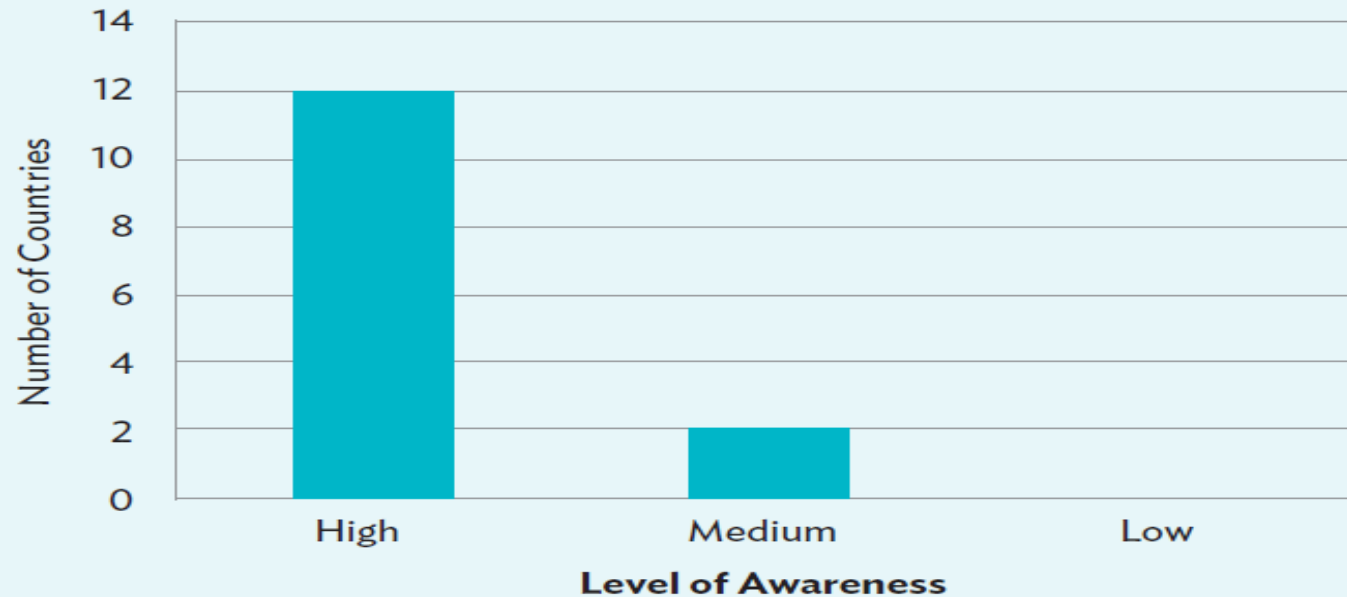
Small Island States and Pacific Islands	Southeast Asia	South Asia	East, Central, and West Asia
Fiji Samoa Timor-Leste	Cambodia Indonesia Lao People's Democratic Republic Philippines Viet Nam	Bangladesh Bhutan Nepal Sri Lanka	China, People's Republic of (PRC) <sup>a</sup> Kazakhstan Mongolia

<sup>a</sup> The PRC was included for rounds 1 and 2 of the stocktake; a national profile was developed, but in-country interviews were not undertaken, thus, the survey-related results presented in this report exclude the PRC.

Source: Asian Development Bank.

# Finding 1: Awareness of Environment SDGs High....

**Figure 11: Perception of Government Awareness  
of Selected Environment-Related Goals  
(N=14)**



Source: Asian Development Bank.



## Finding 2: Examples Reflect this Awareness.....

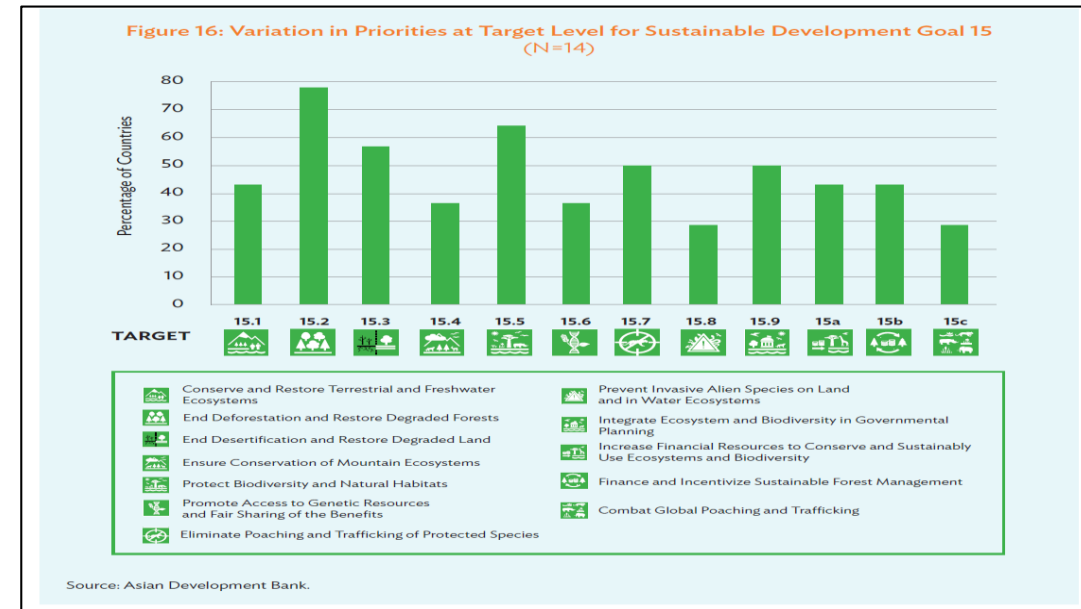
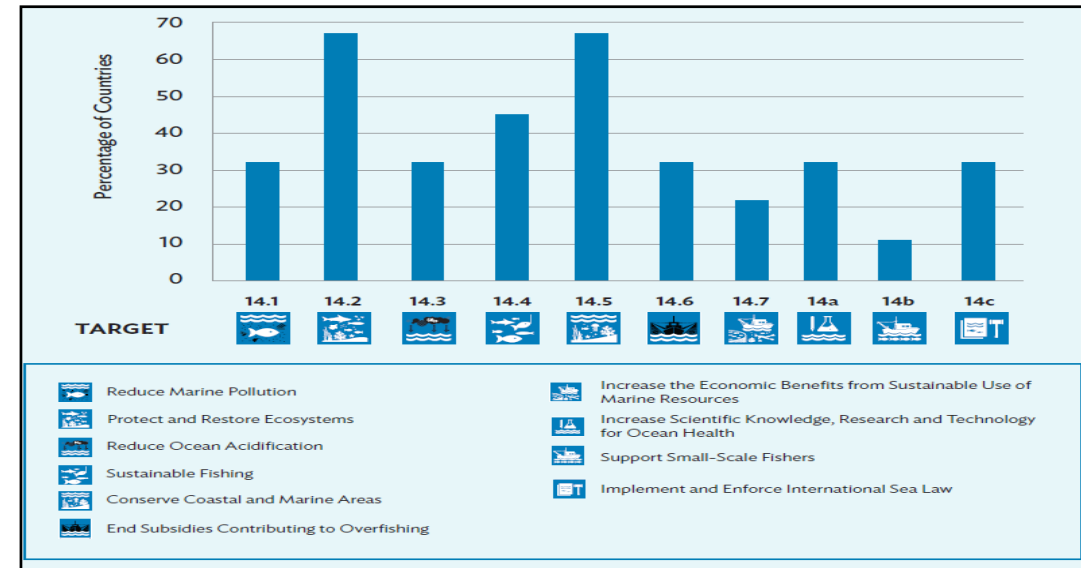
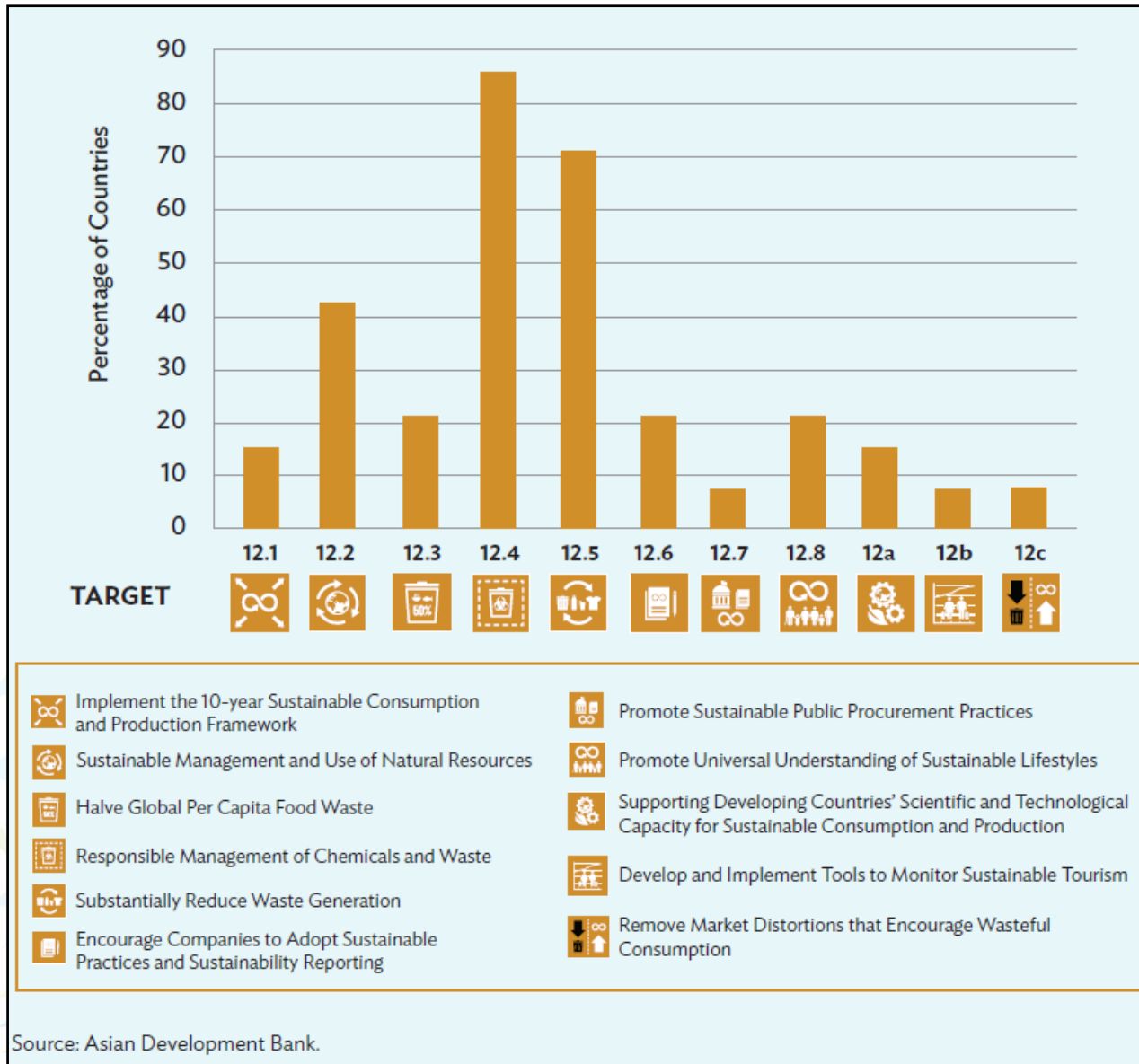
**Green  
Financing  
Platform to  
Address Air  
Pollution in  
Beijing-  
Tianjin-Hebei**



**GMS Green  
Biodiversity  
Corridors**

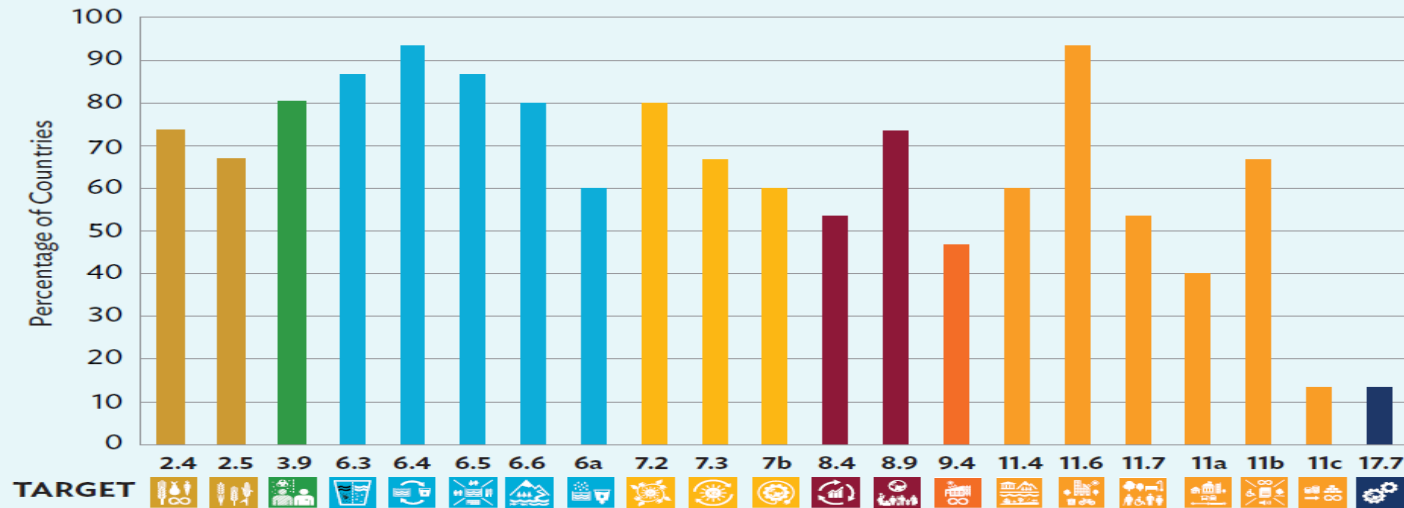


# Finding 3: But Interlinkages Not a Priority Due to Focus on Conventional Environmental Issues



# Finding 4: Conventional Environment is a Good Entry Point....

Figure 18: Variation in Priorities at Target Level for Selected Environment-Related Targets  
(N=14)



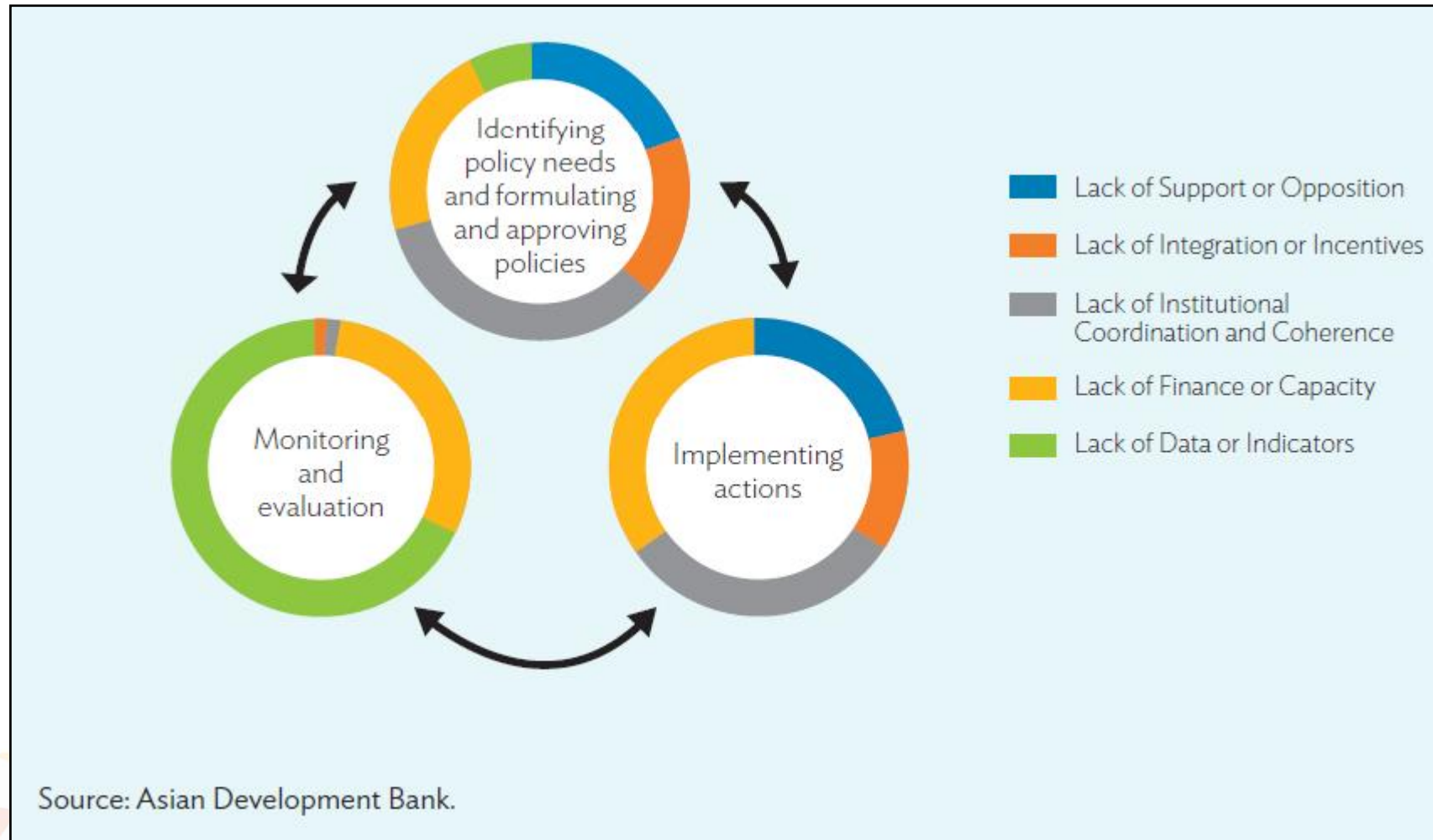
	Sustainable Food Production and Resilient Agricultural Practices		Improve Resource Efficiency in Consumption and Production
	Maintain the Genetic Diversity in Food Production		Promote Beneficial and Sustainable Tourism
	Reduce Illnesses and Death from Hazardous Chemicals and Pollution		Upgrade All Industries and Infrastructures for Sustainability
	Improve Water Quality, Wastewater Treatment and Safe Reuse		Protect the World's Cultural and Natural Heritage
	Increase Water-Use Efficiency and Ensure Freshwater Supplies		Reduce the Environmental Impact of Cities
	Implement Integrated Water Resources Management		Provide Access to Safe and Inclusive Green and Public Spaces
	Protect and Restore Water-Related Ecosystems		Strong National and Regional Development Planning
	Expand Water and Sanitation Support to Developing Countries		Implement Policies for Inclusion, Resource Efficiency, and Disaster Risk Reduction
	Increase Global Percentage of Renewable Energy		Support Least Developed Countries in Sustainable and Resilient Building
	Double the Improvement in Energy Efficiency		Promote Sustainable Technologies to Developing Countries
	Expand and Upgrade Energy Services for Developing Countries		

SDG = Sustainable Development Goal.

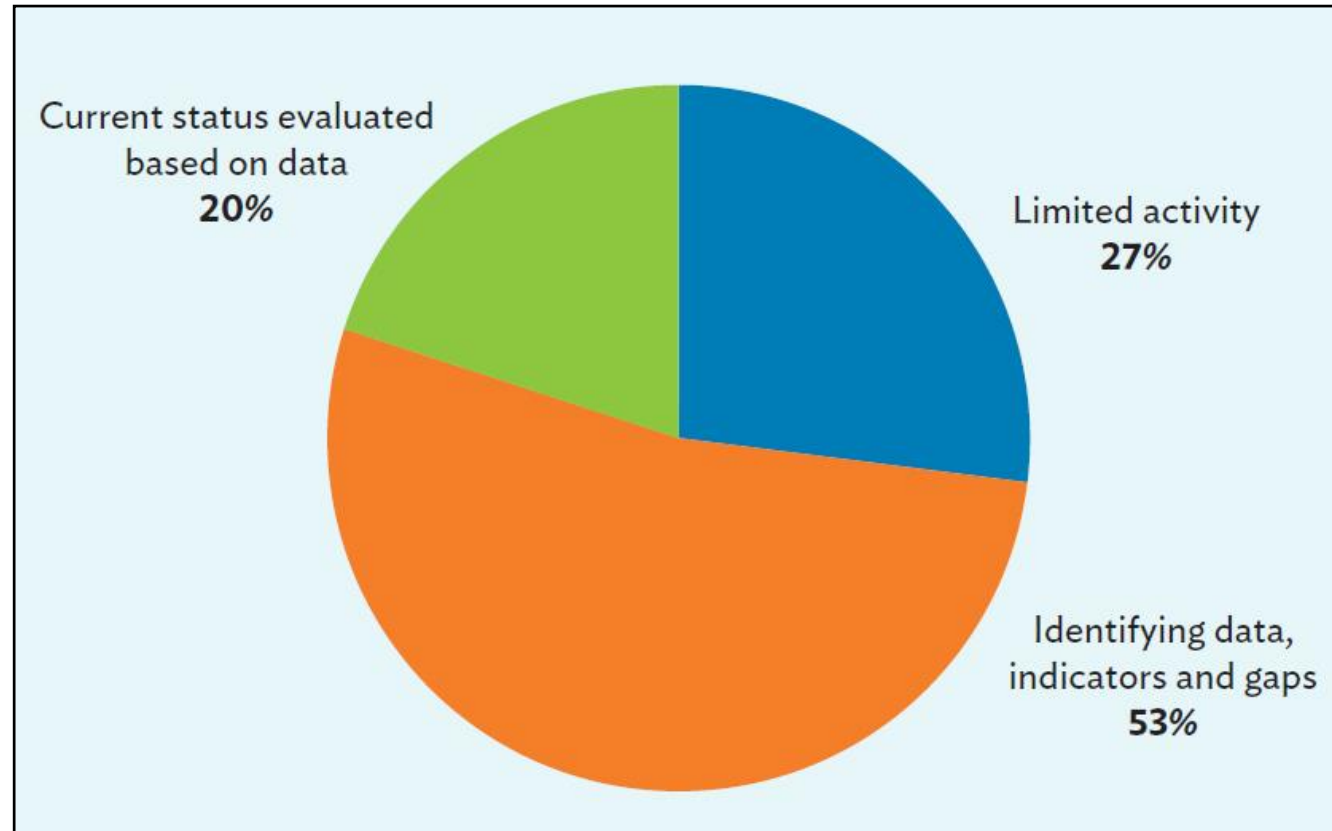
Source: Asian Development Bank.



# Finding 5: Institutional Barriers Hinder Integration...

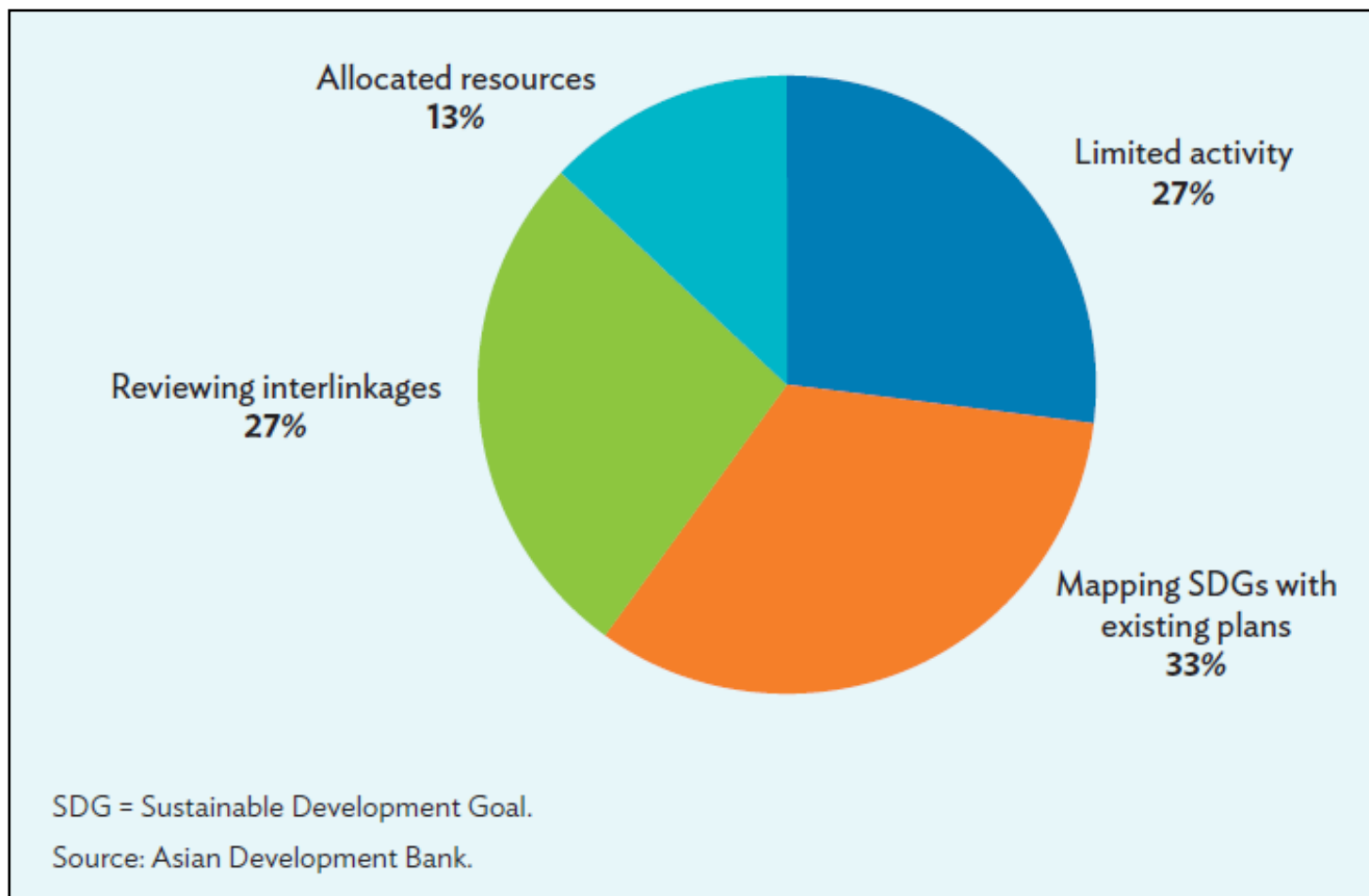


## Finding 6: Data is a Related Challenge...



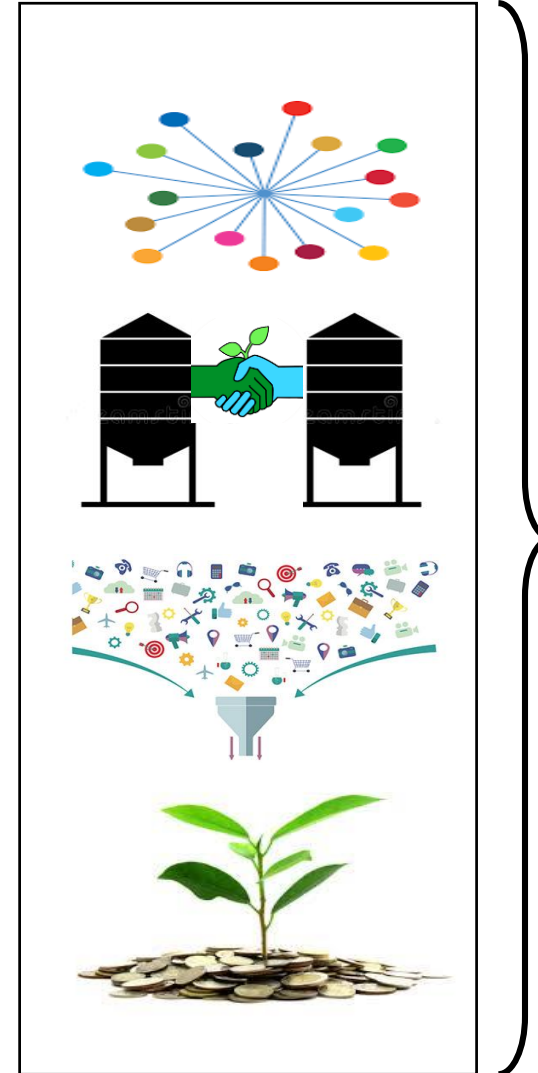
# Finding 6: So is Finance...

## Current Status Environment-Related SDGs



# Main Hypothesis: Pilots Using Tools can....

1. help recognize and act on **interlinkages** within, between and beyond SDGs 12, 14, and 15
2. support **institutional** integration across sectors and levels
3. improve quality and quantity of environmental **data**
4. redirect **finance** toward greener objectives







**Environment  
in SDGs  
Asia-Pacific**

# Thank You!



<https://events.development.asia/learning-events/regional-knowledge-sharing-workshop-strengthening-environment-dimensions-sdgs-asia>

