NCA -
a tool to measure sustainability in Germany

International Conference on Natural Capital for the Transition to a Green Economy

30 June 2016 / Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Cécile Bourgin

GIZ Sector Project Rioplus – Environmental Policies and Sustainable Development

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

AGENDA

1. NCA/SEEA in Germany
2. Germany’s National Sustainable Development Strategy
3. Monitoring the strategy
4. Advancing the strategy in the light of the SDGs

SEEA in Germany: Introduction

- First accounts compiled **since the 1990s**
- Responsible Institution: **Federal Statistical Office**
- Implementation in **3 + 1 modules**
- **10 accounts,** mostly **updated annually**

Pressure	*State*	*Response*
Physical flow accounts Material and energy flows	**Physical stock accounts** Changes in the stock of natural assets	**Environmental protection measures** Environmental protection expenditure and taxes

Sectoral reporting modules
Agriculture, transport, forests and consumers

Germany's National Sustainable Development Strategy

Rio
Agenda 21

1992 **2002** **2015** **2016**

2004 **2008** **2012**

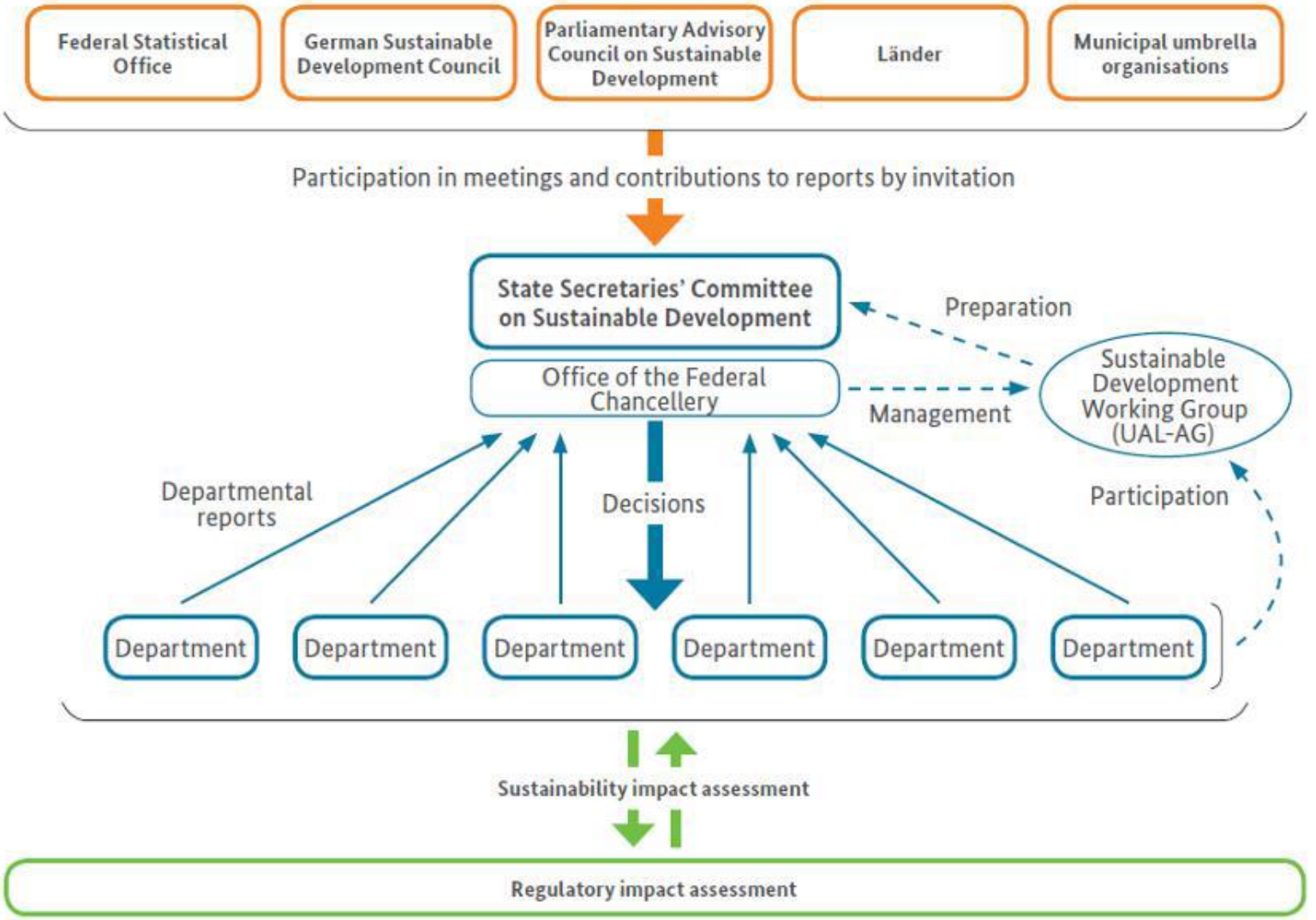
Progress reports

2009 **2013**

Peer reviews

2006 **2008** **2010** **2012** **2014**

Indicator reports


Federal Statistical Office
German Sustainable Development Council
Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development
Länder
Municipal umbrella organisations
Participation in meetings and contributions to reports by invitation
State Secretaries' Committee on Sustainable Development
Preparation
Office of the Federal Chancellery
Management
Sustainable Development Working Group (UAL-AG)
Departmental reports
Decisions
Participation
Department
Department
Department
Department
Department
Department
Sustainability impact assessment
Regulatory impact assessment

Germany's National Sustainable Development Strategy

- **Holistic and integrative**: Economic performance, environmental protection and social responsibility
- **4 guidelines**: Intergenerational equity, quality of life, social cohesion and international responsibility
- **10 management rules**: e.g. Each generation must solve its own problems and not burden the next generations with them. It must also make provisions for foreseeable future problems (basic rule)
- **38 indicators** (mostly quantified) in **21 sectors**

Monitoring the strategy: Indicator report

- Independent analysis by Statistical Office Destatis
- „Sustainability weather“ for monitoring:

Target will be acchieved or nearly achieved

Development in the right direction, but gap between 5 and 20 % will remain

Development in the right direction, but gap of more than 20 % will remain

Development in the wrong direction

Monitoring the strategy: Indicators

Intergenerational equity	1 Resource conservation (a-c)	6 Government debt (a-c)
	2 Climate protection	7 Provision for future economic stability
	3 Renewable energy sources (a,b)	8 Innovation
	4 Land use	9 Education and training (a-c)
	5 Species diversity	
Quality of life	10 Economic output	13 Air pollution
	11 Mobility (a-d)	14 Health and nutrition (a-e)
	12 Farming (a,b)	15 Crime
Social cohesion	16 Employment (a,b)	18 Equal opportunities
	17 Prospects for families (a,b)	19 Integration
International responsibility	20 Development cooperation	21 Opening markets

Monitoring the strategy: Indicators

Intergenerational equity	1 Resource conservation (a-c)	6 Government debt (a-c)
	2 Climate protection	7 Provision for future economic stability
	3 Renewable energy sources (a,b)	8 Innovation
	4 Land use	9 Education and training (a-c)
	5 Species diversity	
Quality of life	10 Economic output	13 Air pollution
	11 Mobility (a-d)	14 Health and nutrition (a-e)
	12 Farming (a,b)	15 Crime
Social cohesion	16 Employment (a,b)	18 Equal opportunities
	17 Prospects for families (a,b)	19 Integration
International responsibility	20 Development cooperation	21 Opening markets

Advancing the strategy in the light of the SDGs

- Sept 2015: SDGs adopted, 17 goals
- How to harmonize with German SD strategy?
- State Secretaries' Committee: German sustainable development strategy as **framework for** the national **implementation of** the **Agenda 2030 / SDGs**
- First draft: May 2016
- public dialogue and consultation of stakeholders
- Decision by German Cabinet in autumn/winter 2016

Chancellor Merkel speaking at the annual conference of the German Council for Sustainable Development

Advancing the strategy in the light of the SDGs

- Integrated strategy, **more importance for international dimension**
- **Indicators and targets** to be further developed in light of the SDGs
  - Re-organizing indicators according to the **SDG structure**
  - Extending targets **to 2030**, so far maximum 2020
  - Adding **new indicators**, current proposal 61 (compared to 38)
  - Expanding **topics covered**, current proposal 35 (compared to 21)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

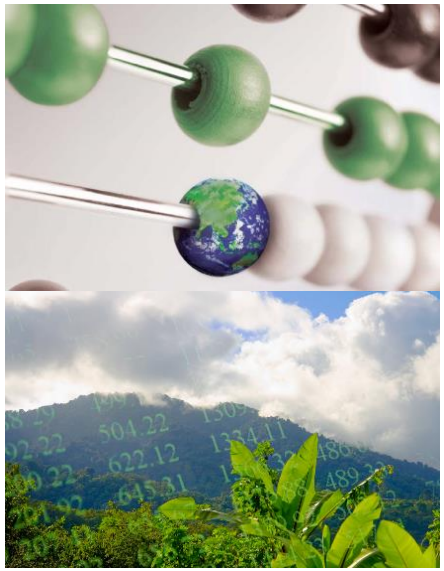
Thank you!

Cécile Bourgin

Sector Project Rioplus – Environmental Policy and Sustainable Development

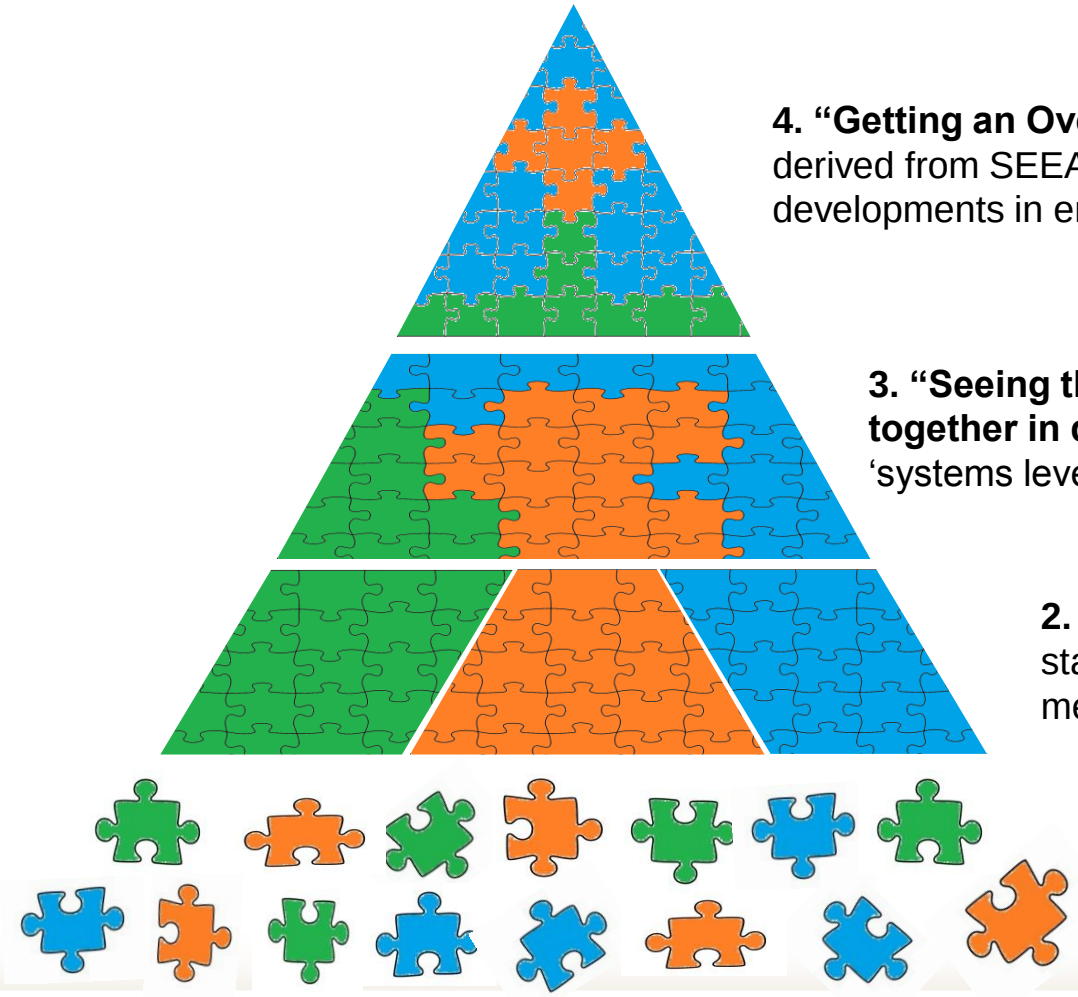
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

E: cecile.bourgin@giz.de



Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Flow accounts	1.	**Economy-wide** material flow account
	2.	**Raw material** flow account: biotic and abiotic
	3.	**Energy** flow account
	4.	**Water** flow account
	5.	**Waste water** emissions account
	6.	**Air** emissions account
	7.	**Waste** emissions account
Stock accounts	8.	**Land use** account: settlement and transport area
Environmental protection measures	9.	Environmental **protection expenditure**
	10.	Environmental **taxes**
Other accounts		Physical **input-output tables**
		Forest accounts (stocks, flows, ecosystem accounts)



4. “Getting an Overview of the Picture”: Headline indicators derived from SEEA-aligned Information for an indication of developments in environmental issues

3. “Seeing the overall picture and how things fit together in detail”: Organizing data into accounts for ‘systems level’ understanding of the environment

2. “Harmonizing Basic Data”: Application of statistical standards to reconcile divergent methodologies

1. Fragmented Environment Data: Data collection dispersed across agencies using different methodologies

Monitoring the strategy: Advantages of using SEEA

- **Facilitates indicator calculation**: data meets quality criteria and is already prepared for national-level aggregation
- **Allows for further analysis of indicators** by underlying data sets which are consistent across topics (environment, economics):
  - Analysing **causes** of environmental pressures
  - Integrated analysis of indicators showing **interlinkages and trade-offs** with other topics / developments
  - Deriving **efficiency indicators**
  - Calculating **impots and exports** of environmental pressures
  - Modelling **scenarios** and estimating **impacts of policy measures**