



Bureau
fédéral du Plan
Task force
Développement durable

Federaal
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Sustainable Development Indicators, Objectives and Scenarios

Indicators for measuring and fostering sustainable development

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Plan of the presentation

1. Tools for measuring progress towards SD

1.1 Strongly synthetic indicators

1.2 Table of sustainable development indicators

2. Measuring the progress of society towards SD

2.1 Method: strategic evaluation

2.2 Main results



1. Tools for measuring progress towards SD

INDICATORS



**Strongly
synthetic**

Multiple

Aggregated

ex: GDP, ecological footprint

Composite

ex: HDI, other weighted average

Adjusted

ex: genuine saving of the World Bank

List/set of sustainable development indicators (SDIs)



1.1 Strongly synthetic indicators

The report analyses 5 strongly synthetic indicators

Human development index



Ecological footprint & Biocapacity



Public finance indicators



Indicators based on
environmental satellite accounts



SD plans' implementation indicators

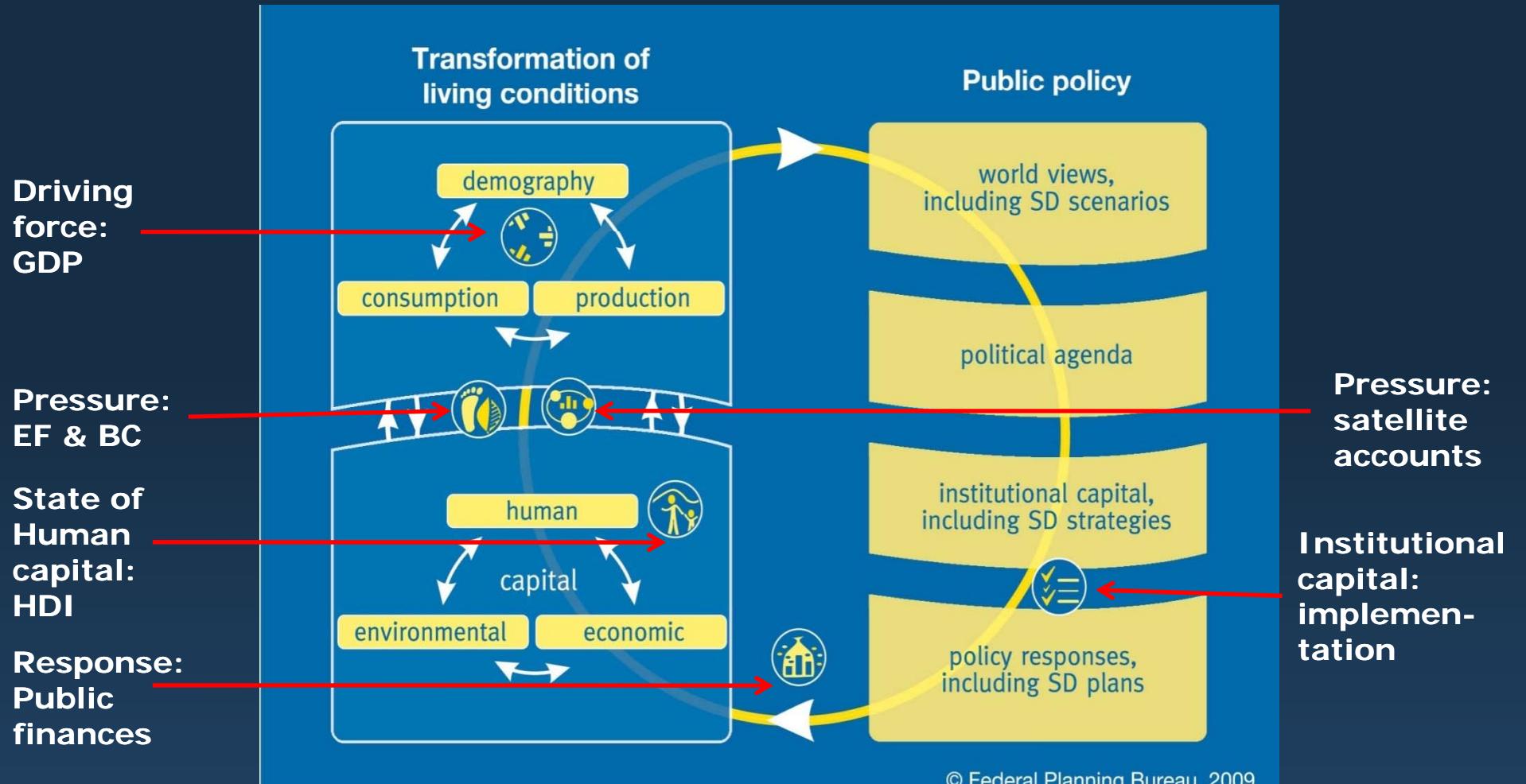


Analysis for decision-making

Creation	SD indicators	Organisation	Aggregated Composite	Decision-making
1946	Public finance 	Institute of nat. accounts	aggregated	+++
1990	HDI 	UNDP	composite	+
1993	Env. satellite accounts 	Institute of nat. accounts	aggregated	+++
1996	EF & Biocap. 	Global Footprint Network	aggregated	+/-
2005	SD plans 	Federal Planning Bureau	aggregated	++



Strongly synthetic indicators in the TransGovern model



1.2 Table of sustainable development indicators (SDIs)

The report presents a table of 88 SDIs

- SDIs selection
- SDIs presentation
- SDIs classification



1.2 SDIs selection

- 88 SDIs selected on the basis of:
 - Federal reports on SD (1999, 2002, 2005, 2007)
 - Work on SDI at the EU level (*monitoring report*)
 - Work on SDI by the Federal Council for SD
- Quality criteria
 - Each SDI: SD relevance, clear interpretation and data availability
 - Set of SDIs: well balanced across different dimensions



1.2 SDIs presentation

88 SDIs describing 51 issues

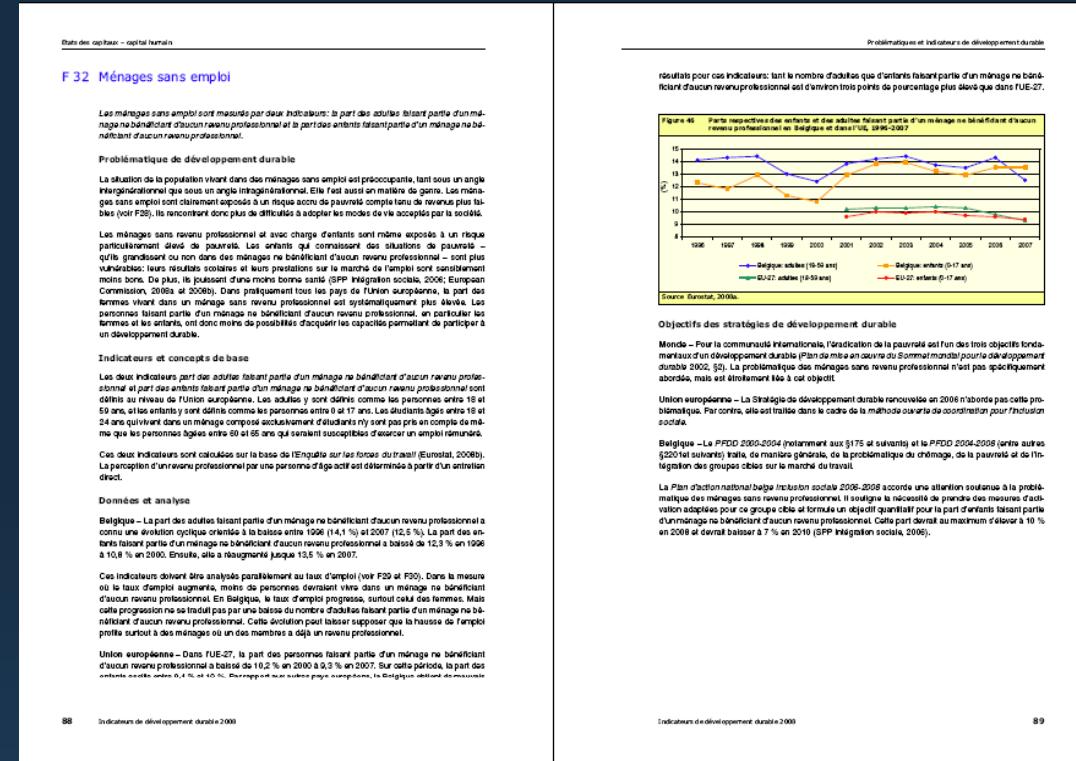
- one issue can be described with several indicators
 - ex: 2 SDIs for issue “renewable energy”
 - *share of inland energy consumption from renewable energy sources in inland energy consumption*
 - *share of electricity consumption from renewable energy sources in electricity consumption*
- one issue per information sheet



Example of information sheet

Fx Name of the SD issue
 Indicator(s) name
 Issue of SD
 Indicators and basic concepts
 Data and analysis
 strategic SD objectives

- World
- European Union
- Belgium (federal level)

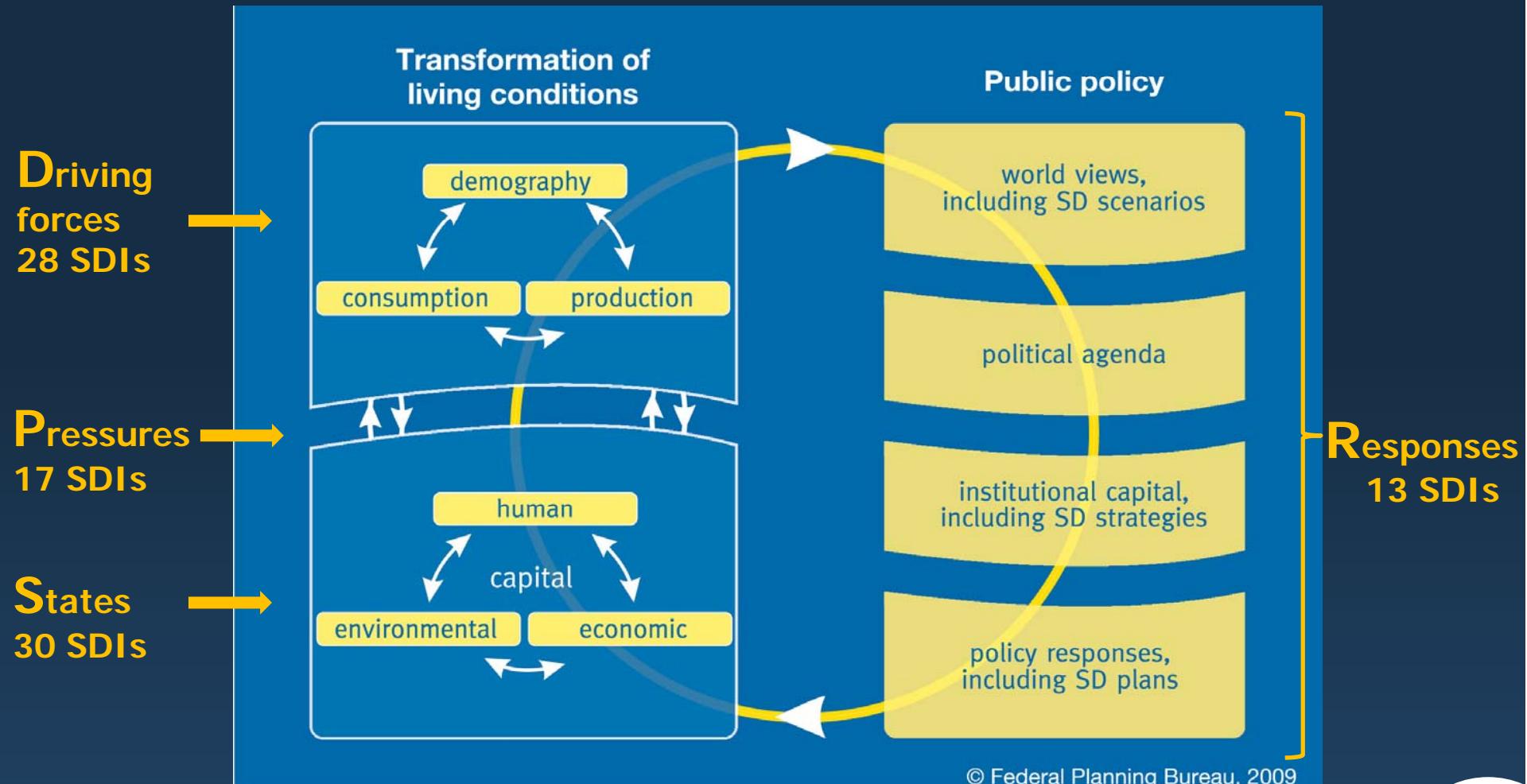


1.2 SDIs classification

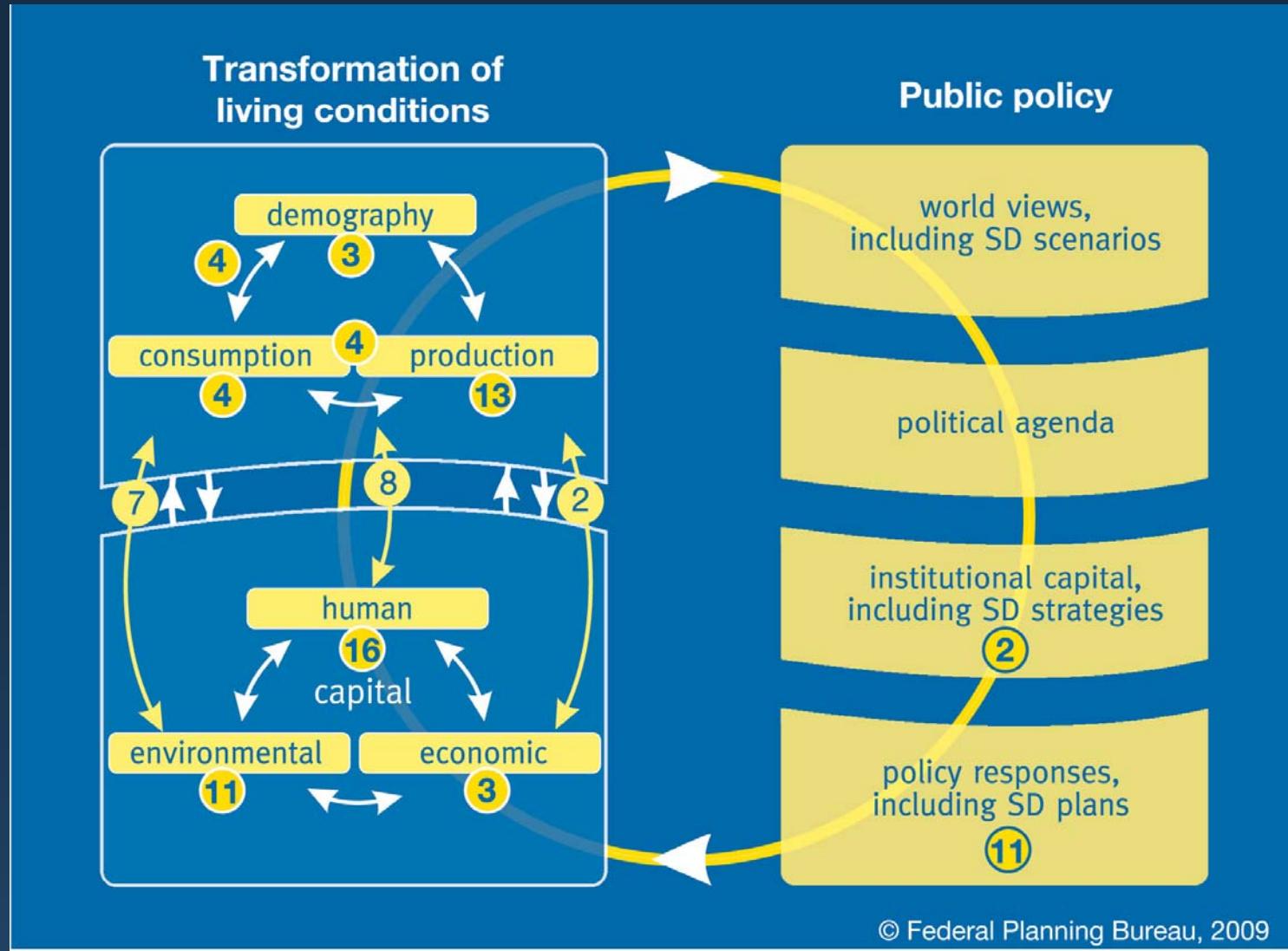
**88 SDIs classified according to the
TransGovern model, very close to the
DPSR framework**



Structure: TransGovern model



Structure: TransGovern model



Analysis for decision-making

A table of SDIs can **support decision-making** in:

- better understanding the dynamic of our development
- providing information on the achievement of political objectives
- drawing synthetic conclusions



2. Measuring the progress of society towards sustainable development

2.1 Method: strategic evaluation

SD indicators' changes towards

- strategic sustainable development objectives (SSDOs)
- targets

2.2 Main results

- Overview
- Examples and more results
- Conclusion



2.1 Method: strategic evaluation

- Strategic sustainable development objectives (SSDOs): adopted in SD strategies at different policy levels (BE, EU, UN)
- 88 SDIs
 - **54 SDIs** (61% of 88): evaluation towards **SSDOs**
 - **17 SDIs** (31% of 54): evaluation towards **targets**
 - 34 SDIs: no evaluation with regard to objectives or targets
 - 12 SDIs: objectives undesirable (contextual indicators)
 - 13 SDIs: lack of data
 - 4 SDIs: objectives under discussion
 - 5 SDIs: on the world situation



Strategic SDI table

(A) ↓

(B) ↓

Sheets (51)	Issues (51)	Indicators (88)	Evolution towards SSDOs		Evolution towards targets	
			1990-2000	2000-2007 at the latest	Targets (NT = no target)	Specific period for each target
F31	Unemployment and long-term unemployment	Unemployment rate (50)			NT	-
		Long-term unemployment rate (51)			NT	-
F36	Mortality due to road accidents	Number of deaths and seriously injured persons on the road by type of road user (60)			Reduce by 50% the number of road deaths between 1998-2000 and 2010	



(A) Strategic evaluation: evolution towards objectives (SSDOs)

- 54 SDIs
- Two periods: 1990-2000 & 2000-2007 at the latest
- Eurostat method (2007): mean annual rate of change in absolute terms

growth rate $\geq 1\%$	& trend towards SSDO	
$0\% < \text{growth rate} < 1\%$	& trend towards or away from SSDO	
growth rate $\geq 1\%$	& trend away from SSDO	

- Some exceptions (example: life expectancy)



(B) Strategic evaluation: evolution towards targets

- 17 SDIs
- Specific period for each SDI
- Eurostat method (2007): distance to target

$$R = \frac{\text{achieved change}}{\text{change that should have been achieved in order to be on the theoretical linear path towards the target}}$$

$R > 80\%$	
$50\% \leq R \leq 80\%$	
$R < 50\%$	



2.2 Main results: overview

Number of SDIs	Evaluation of changes towards strategic SD objectives, 2000-2007		Evaluation of changes towards targets, each with a specific period	
		25		5
		19		3
		10		9
	Total	54	Total	17

Only little progress towards SD...



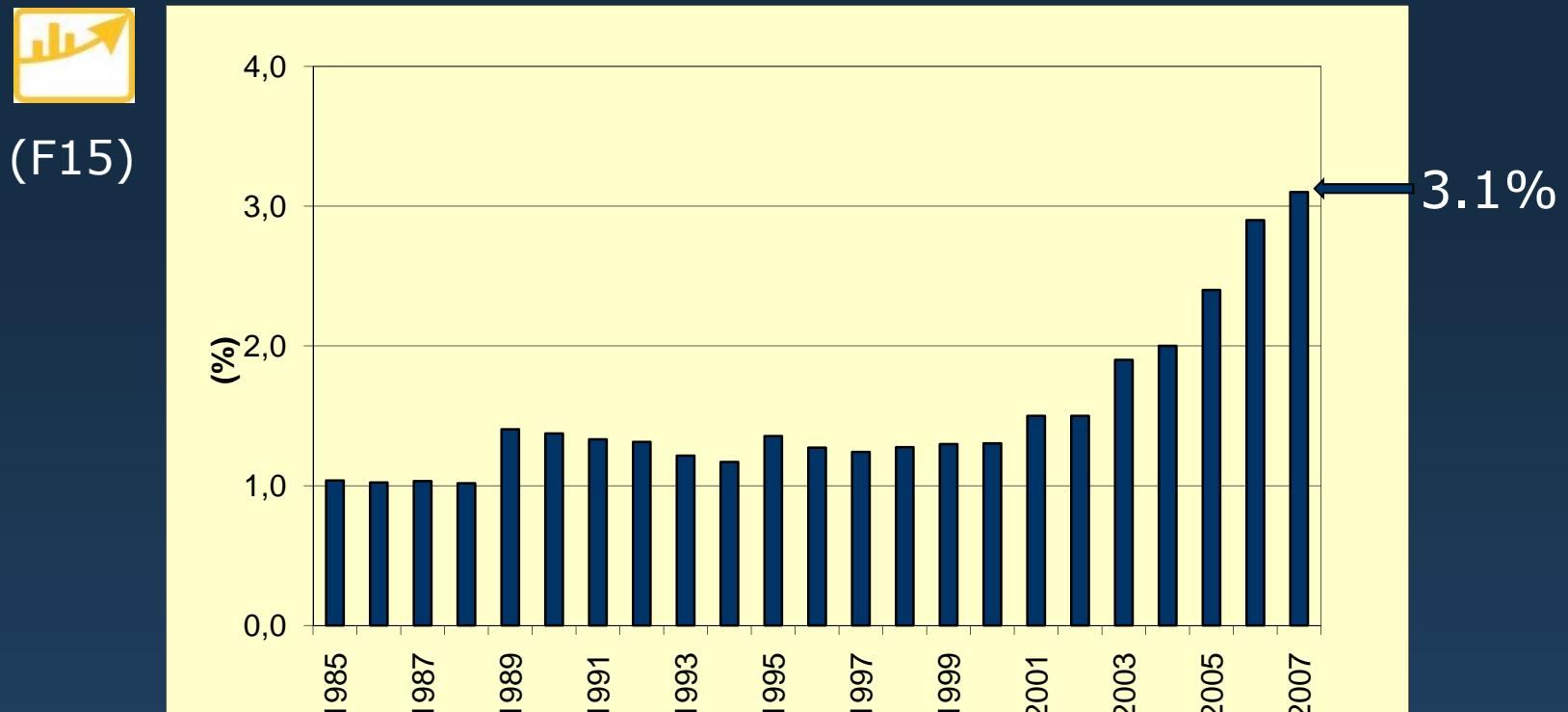
Main results: overview (*continued*)

- Some steps of a transition towards SD: changes in some consumption and production patterns
- Little improvement in the state of the resources (human, environmental, economic)
- Mixed results regarding the evolution of government responses



Some steps of a transition towards SD: changes in some consumption and production patterns

EXAMPLE: share of energy consumption from renewables in primary energy consumption



Source: Eurostat 2009



Some steps of a transition towards SD: changes in some consumption and production patterns (*cont.*)

MORE RESULTS

- Main progress in energy and climate related indicators
 - energy consumption per inhabitant (F13) 
 - energy intensity of the economy (F14) 
 - greenhouse gas emissions (F22) 
- Some progress in producers and consumers' behaviour
 - environmental management systems (F6) 
 - products with organic farming or fair trade labels (F8) 

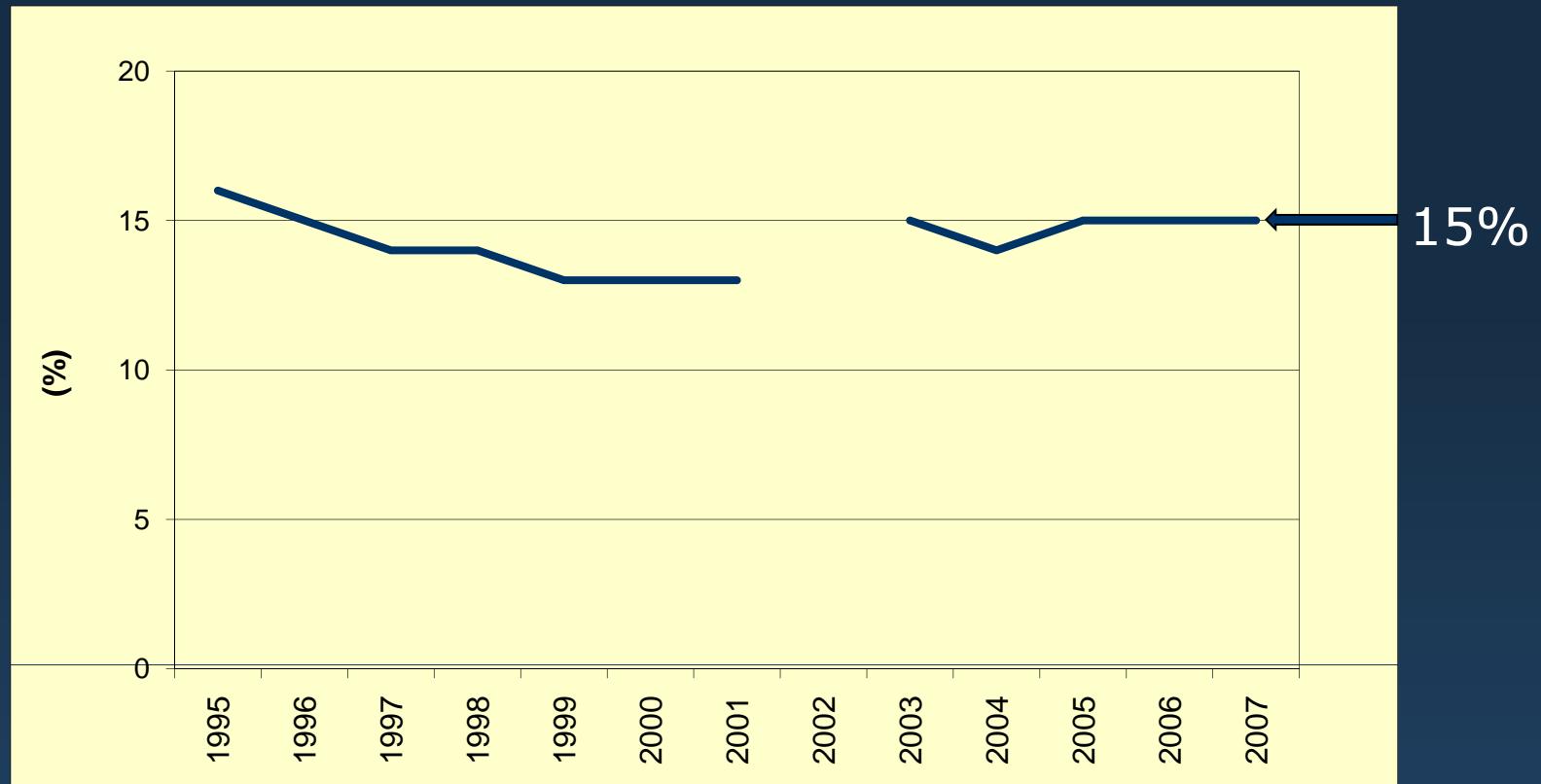


Little improvement in the state of the resources (human, environmental, economic)

EXAMPLE: At-risk-of-poverty rate



(F28)



Sources: 1995-2001: European Community Household Panel survey
2003-2007: Study on Income and Living Conditions survey



Little improvement in the state of the resources (human, environmental, economic) (cont.)

MORE RESULTS

- Human resources
 - employment rate (F29) 
 - life expectancy (F34) 
- Environmental resources
 - tropospheric ozone concentration (F38) 
 - information to be complemented by regional data
- Economic resources
 - public debt (before financial crisis!) (F42) 



Mixed results regarding the evolution of government responses

EXAMPLE: Official Development Assistance (% of gross national income)



(F51)



Source: OECD.Stat, 2009



Mixed results regarding the evolution of government responses (*cont.*)

MORE RESULTS

- R&D expenditures (F46)
 - by governments 
 - total 
- Several contextual indicators
 - public sector environmental protection expenditures (F49)
 - social security expenditures (F47)
- Indicator of the implementation of the Federal Plans for SD (F44)



Main results: conclusion

- Only little progress towards SD
- Examples of some steps of a transition
- Severe problems showing that
 - the development of our society is not sustainable
 - *business as usual* is not an option
- More important steps are absolutely necessary for a transition towards sustainable development

