

SEEA Research agenda

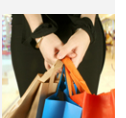
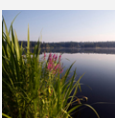
Identifying fossil fuel transactions for SDG reporting

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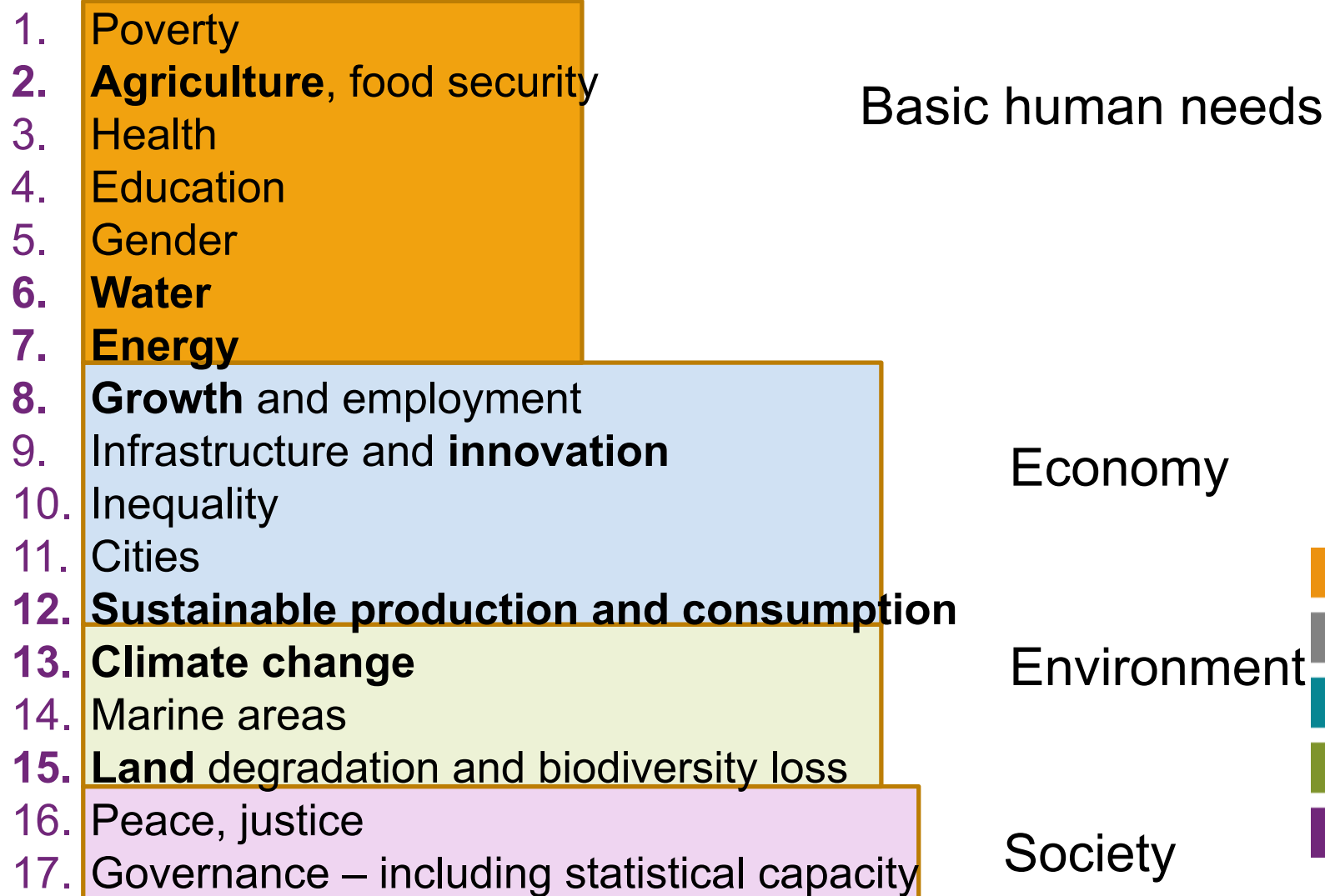




Statistiska centralbyrån Statistics Sweden

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The 17 SDG goals and SEEA



Agenda 2030 Goal 12



Statistics Sweden

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Indicator 12.c.1: “Amount of fossil fuel subsidies per unit of GDP”. UN Environment is custodian for the indicator. International subsidy data available from collections of IEA, OECD, World Bank, IMF

An expert group has now suggested a method for the indicator. The UNCEEA and the IAEG-SDG has accepted the method.

Statistics Sweden and Statistics New Zealand have done a first test on the methodology teasing out the particularities of the indicator and assessing whether such data may be able to be compiled via SEEA.





First results

- The indicator is possible to extract using existing statistics.
- We need to test the methods, produce the statistics and analyze the results to make sure the outcome is harmonized and described in enough detail for the users.
- SEEA can broaden the analysis by including other climate gases than CO₂ and other economic instruments.
- A proposal is to make use of table 4.8 in the SEEA CF and adapt it to include implicit subsidies.



Table 4.8 in Central Framework

Table 4.8

Selected payments to and from g

		Government
	Government	Transfers between levels

London group issue Climate change

A) Methodological issue

New data is requested under the SDG goal 12 – to monitor the amount of fossil fuel subsidies paid by government to society. The SEEA CF has the capacity to inform on this indicator.

B) Status

The possibility of measuring 'Potentially environmentally damaging subsidies' is referred to in the SEEA CF (§4.147). It mentions that some definitions include implicit (or indirect) subsidies, such as preferential tax rates.





Proposal for way forward

The London group is asked to test the proposed method for the statistical community to help the monitoring of the SDG.

It is proposed that the future revision of the SEEA CF picks up the results of this work through the further testing of the methodology and adapting SEEA table 4.8.





Pilot steps for country assessments

1. Find the taxation rules and the direct transfers to fossil fuels (from tax authorities or finance ministry).
2. Apply those rules on the energy statistics to obtain an estimate of the direct and indirect transactions to fossil fuels. (Check if OECD or IEA already have them reported.)
3. Divide the national statistics by industry. (The relevant fuels are part of energy accounts, so if you have those it should be possible to use them to allocate the direct and indirect transfers by industry).
4. To broaden the analysis, look at what other greenhouse gas emissions the accounts can provide and add other economic instruments.
5. Analyze the data and the lessons learned and communicate them.



SEEA fossil fuel transfers

SCB

Statistics Sweden

Statistiska centralbyrån

1. On-budget transfers: from the state to industry (as SNA subsidy definition), but also including transfers to international beneficiaries, households as well as capital transfers (investment grants)
2. Preferential tax treatment transfers: can be estimated with extra data on energy taxes paid by industry, combined with energy use or carbon dioxide emissions by industry. Or with national or international price reference.
3. Undertaxed external effects: Emissions by industry from SEEA can be a first step.



Question to the London group participants

- Would you agree to search your data systems for these transactions to make some pilot analyses?
- Can you see that there would be good practices that we can follow from your country?

Peanuts by Charles Schulz

