United Nations | Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNITED NATIONS MONGOLIA

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF GOVERNANCE

MONTSAME MONGOLIAN NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY

National Workshop on

EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN MONGOLIA

07 to 13 June 2023

08:00 – 17:00 | Mongolia (GMT+ 8)
09:00 – 18:00 | Seoul (GMT+ 9)
20:00 – 05:00 | New York (GMT-4)

Photo: NAOG

Systems Thinking and Policy Coherence

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Systems Thinking and Policy Coherence

- Systems thinking to leverage policy coherence: basics on systems thinking
- Video
- CLEWS nexus approach
- Presentation SDG synergies approach in Mongolia
- Lessons learned and could this be expanded to the broader SDG framework?
- Readiness assessment building block 3
- Wrap up and identification of actions/ challenges

What comes to your mind when you think about systems or systems thinking?

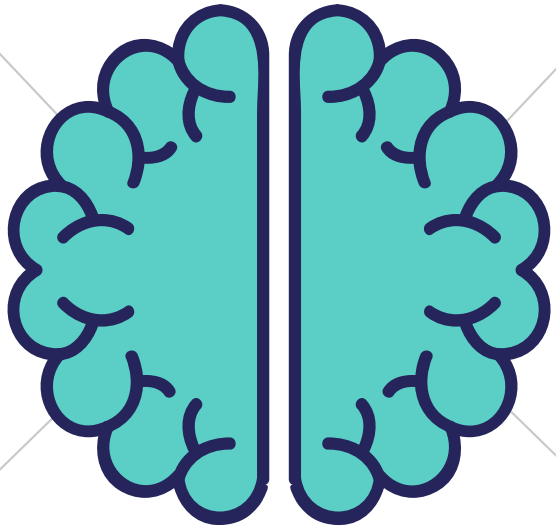
Mentimeter

Mentimeter or spontaneous reactions of individual participants in the room

Post it notes

System

A system is a group of interacting, interdependent parts – the actors that form a complex whole.



A system separates the actors from their environment through boundaries.

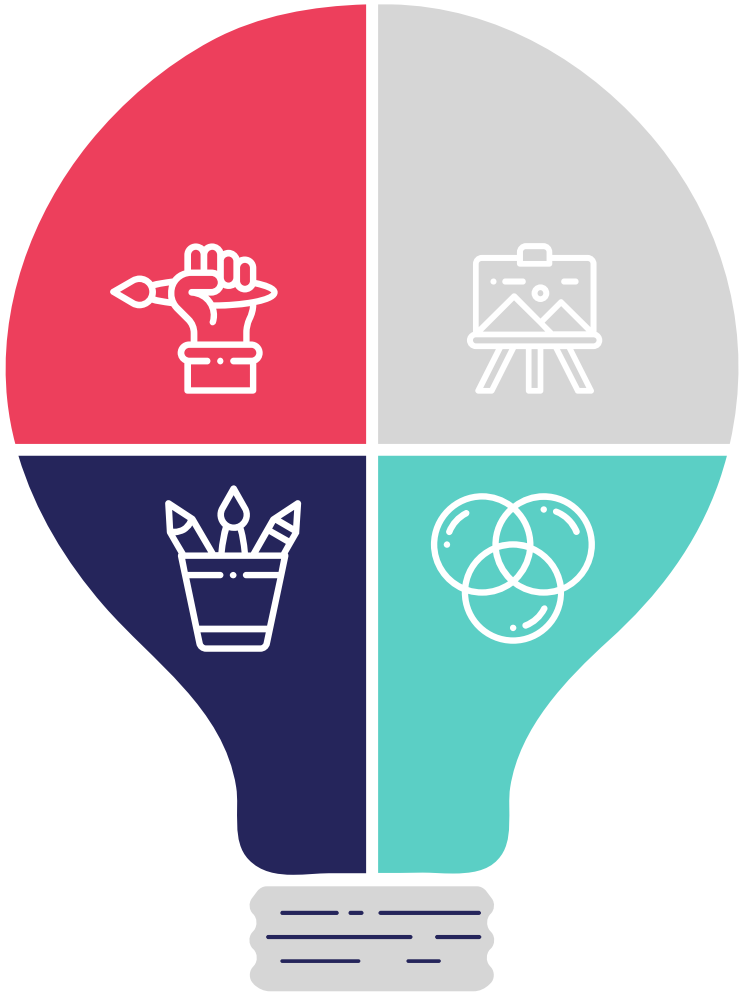
Outcomes, performance, or behaviour of the system emerge from the interactions of the actors

Examples: buyers and sellers make a market system, borrowers and lenders make a banking system, representative and represented make a democratic system

Systems Thinking

Systems Thinking is the use of scientific methods for seeing wholes.

It is a framework for seeing interrelationships, rather than things, for seeing patterns of change, rather than static snapshots.



P. Senge

Evidence of the benefits of applying systems thinking to the transition to achieving sustainability

Sub-nationally disaggregated effects of green revolution policies in Rwanda:

While the policies resulted in falling poverty rates on the national level, they exacerbated landlessness and inequality for poorer rural inhabitants. While this agricultural policy led to progress towards SDG 1, it did not necessarily lead to a reduction in inequality, as called for by SDG 10.

Sri Lanka

Pays tax increases staff

Dilmah

Manufacturing businesses

Professionals in 40-50s

Young generation 20-30s IT specialists

Shortages and permanent
Need to retrain

Emigration 300,000 in 2022 (40%);
73,000 2023
Inflation 50.6%
Income tax highest rate 36%
Still increasing
Potential of air traffic control breaking down soon
If more doctors leave: rural health
Provisions crippled
Remittances increased

Emigration + hired by foreign recruitment agencies

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Civil service management

IT companies

Loyalty bonuses

Thru state-run employment agency & social media:
Incentives to work overseas for IT, nursing, care giving people in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait

Reduce public sector wage bill: 5 y. unpaid leave of staff remote $100-500 /month if they find work abroad

Systems Change: Overview – YouTube

Challenges in Accomplishing SDGs

Our Theories of Change rarely recognize systems as causes of change

Public policy and programs to accomplish SDG rarely recognize the systems that are required to accomplish the goals

Unintended change is rarely considered in the policy planning process

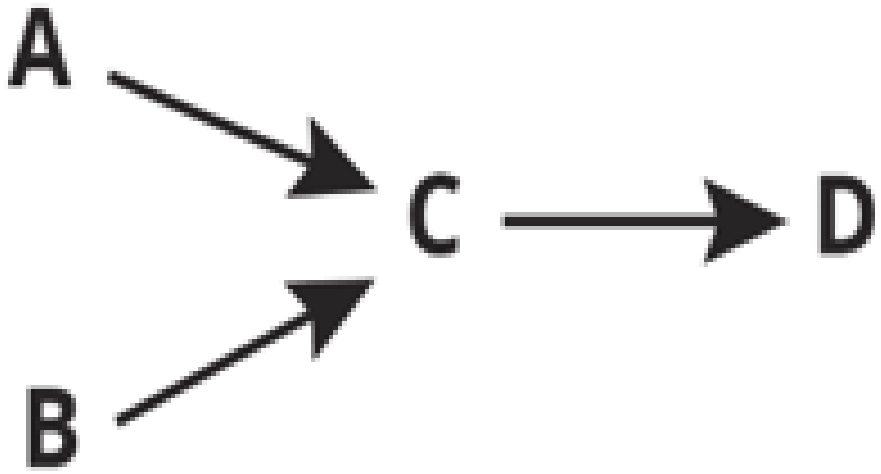
Interventions rarely recognize the leverage points in systems to accomplish goals making them expensive and often counterproductive

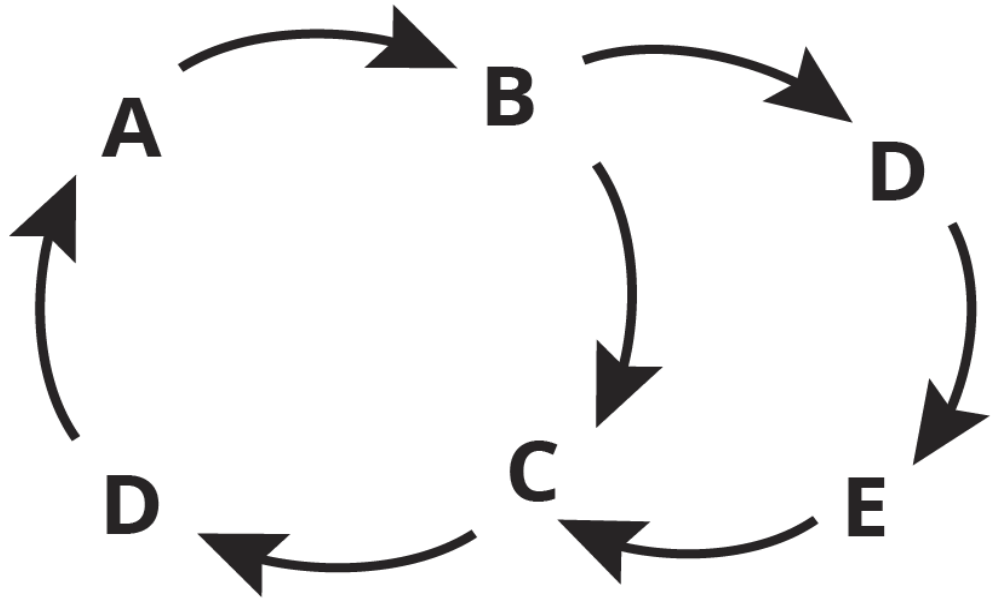
From outcomes to policies

Linear causal analysis is not sufficient.

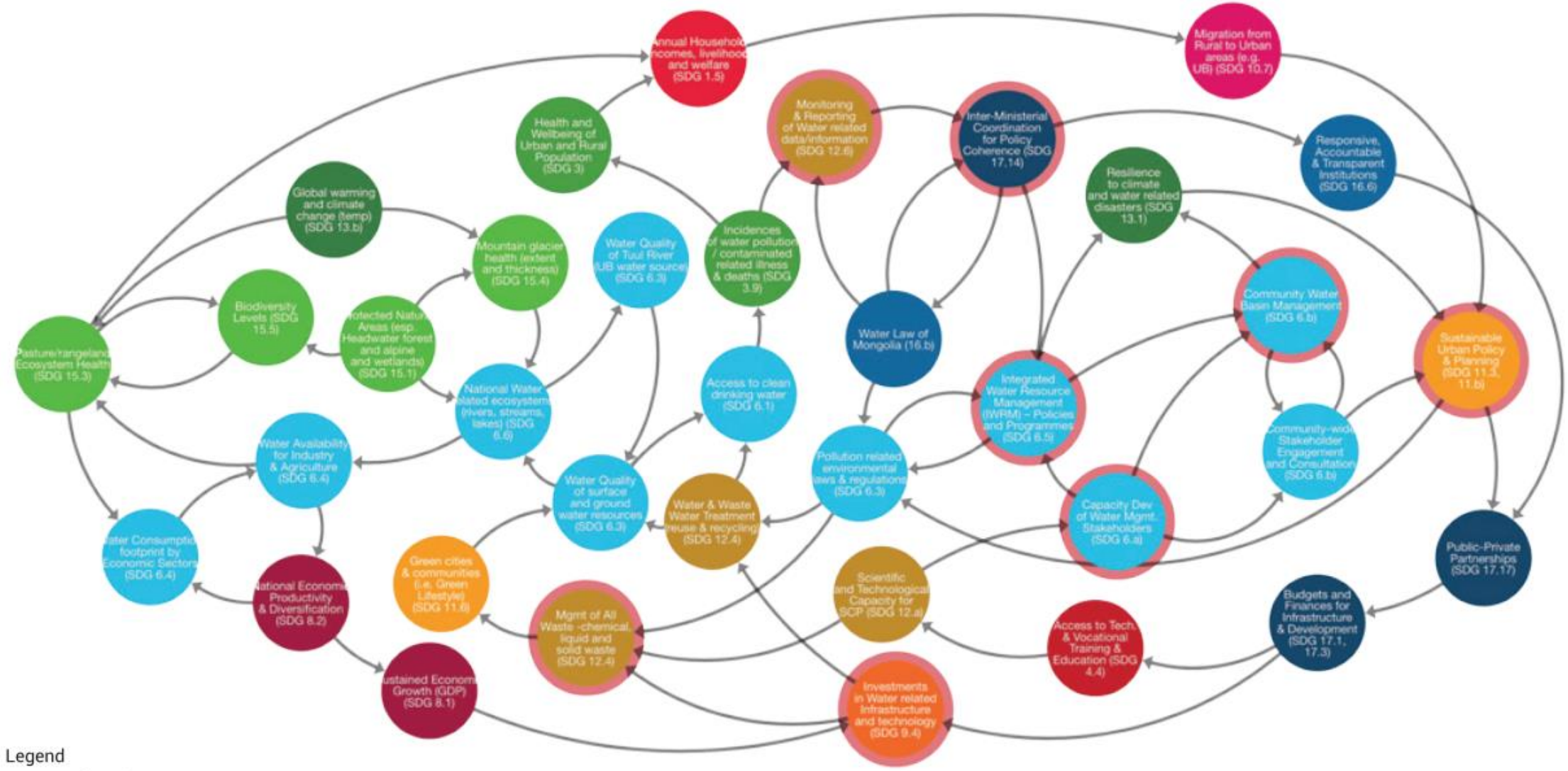
Systems thinking helps overcome these limitations and grasp the complexity of interactions.

As a result, leverage points in the system can be identified.





Mongolia Water Management System Map at Goal and Targets Level (to attain SDGs 6,7,8, 17)



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Thank you!

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