

Contextualizing Climate Action in Sustainable Development “COP 24 Outcomes”

Arab Forum for Sustainable Development

Beirut, 09 April 2019

Sustainable Development and Climate Change (The Convention)

- Article 2: Achieve stabilization of GHG... within a time-frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner
- Article 3.4: The Parties have a right to, and should, promote sustainable development
- Article 3.5: The Parties should cooperate to promote a supportive and open international economic system that would lead to sustainable economic growth and development in all Parties, particularly developing country Parties, thus enabling them better to address the problems of climate change



Sustainable Development and Climate Change (Paris Agreement)

- Preamble: Emphasizing the intrinsic relationship that climate change actions, responses and impacts have with equitable access to sustainable development and eradication of poverty
- Article 2.1: This Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by...
- Article 4.1: ...undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.



Sustainable Development in IPCC 1.5c Global Warming Special Report

- D.4. Mitigation options consistent with 1.5°C pathways are associated with multiple synergies and trade-offs across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While the total number of possible synergies exceeds the number of trade-offs, their net effect will depend on the pace and magnitude of changes, the composition of the mitigation portfolio and the management of the transition. (*high confidence*) (Figure SPM.4) {2.5, 4.5, 5.4}



Indicative linkages between mitigation options and sustainable development using SDGs (The linkages do not show costs and benefits)

Mitigation options deployed in each sector can be associated with potential positive effects (synergies) or negative effects (trade-offs) with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The degree to which this potential is realized will depend on the selected portfolio of mitigation options, mitigation policy design, and local circumstances and context. Particularly in the energy-demand sector, the potential for synergies is larger than for trade-offs. The bars group individually assessed options by level of confidence and take into account the relative strength of the assessed mitigation-SDG connections.

Length shows strength of connection

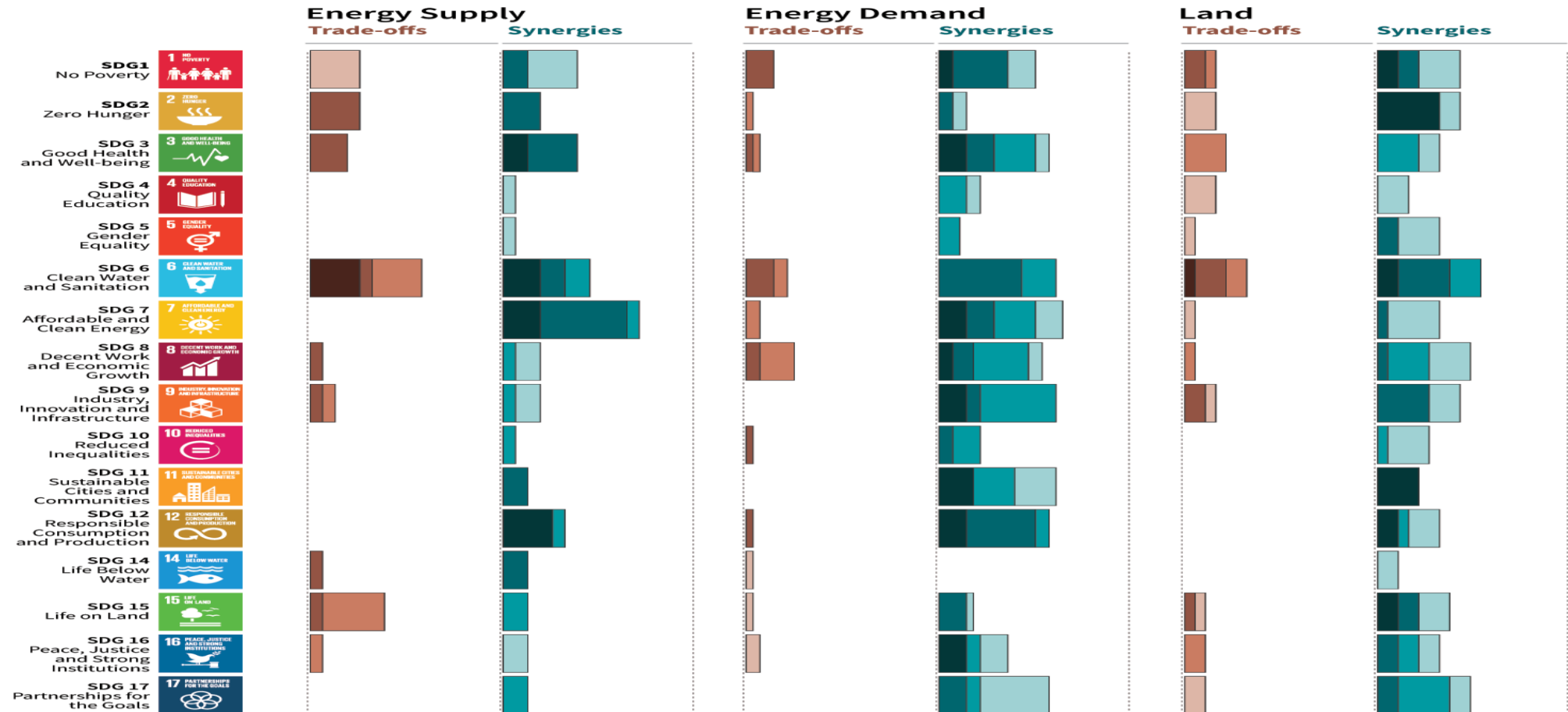


The overall size of the coloured bars depict the relative potential for synergies and trade-offs between the sectoral mitigation options and the SDGs.

Shades show level of confidence



The shades depict the level of confidence of the assessed potential for Trade-offs/Synergies.



Katowice Climate Change Conference (COP24)



2-15 December 2018

More than 22,000 participants

3 tracks: heads of states, ministerial, and experts

Completion and adoption of the Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP)

Arab Group chaired APA, G77 and China, AGN

Arab Group advocacy and preparations

COP 24 Highlights

Thematic Challenges

- Information in NDCs and scope
- Stringency of the transparency framework
- Sufficiency and predictability of financial support
- Historical responsibility & leadership
- Carbon markets
- Addressing the negative impacts of response measures
- Recognition of and accounting for mitigation co-benefits
- IPCC 1.5°C report

PAWP Outcome

- Legally binding language to communicate, submit specific information, and to be reviewed
- A mixed bag/package with multiple pieces that balance each other

Key Contribution to COP24 Outcome

- Balancing the approach to implement Paris Agreement to include mitigation and adaptation actions and national drivenness nature
- Operationalizing mitigation co-benefits that result from adaptation and/or economics diversification
- Establishing a permanent constituted body for assessing the negative social and economic impacts of addressing climate change
- Securing self-determined flexibility in the Transparency regime to ensure sovereignty
- Initiating a mandate to assess the financial needs of developing countries to address climate change



Nationally Determined Contributions

Relevance and Challenges

- Infringement on national sovereignty
- Stringent international reporting guidelines beyond national capacities
- Scope of NDCs; exclusion of adaptation, finance and technology
- No clear guidance for impacts of response measures or mitigation co-benefits

Katowice Outcome

- Guidance shall be applied to second and subsequent NDC, strong encouragement to use guidance when communicating or updating NDCs by 2020
- Elaborates the categories of information, Parties “shall” provide this information “as applicable” to NDC
- Adaptation is recognized as a voluntary component of NDCs, other information optional
- Guidance is applicable to mitigation co-benefits
- Guidance includes reporting information on consideration of response measures

The Forum on the Impact of the implementation of response measures

Relevance and Challenges

- Inefficient treatment of the topic that leaves developing countries vulnerable to climate actions

Katowice Outcome

- Establishment of a permanent body (*Katowice Committee of Experts*)
- Addressing the topic is carried through the full spectrum of communication, review, GST and compliance
- Review and assessment of the Forum is synchronized with other major cycles in the system

Finance

Relevance and Challenges

- Lack of enhanced finance provisions
- Shifting the financing burden away from developed country Parties

Katowice Outcome

- CMA to set a new collective quantified goal higher than the current, deliberations to start 2020
- Enhanced requirement for reporting ex-ante and ex-post by developed countries on anticipated financial support

Cooperative Approaches (Article 6)

Relevance and Challenges

- Ensuring the guidance accommodates the diversity of NDCs
- Penalty on economy, the back engine is cap-and-trade not growth or sustainability

Katowice Outcome

- Significant divergence over key details such as accounting rules of transfers of emissions reductions between countries
- No decision was agreed but progress captured informally; agreement to continue work next year by COP25
- Inclusion of general guidance under Transparency, pending further work under Article 6

Transparency

Relevance and Challenges

- Intrusive review and verification with no flexibility

Katowice Outcome

- Decides that the first *Biennial Transparency Report* will be in 2024
- Robust requirements for Parties
- Establishes that the use of flexibility is self-determined, with no time limit or external validation
- Anchors mitigation co-benefits & response measures under tracking of progress of NDCs

Global Stocktake

Relevance and Challenges

- Policy-prescriptive process
- Mechanism to produce arbitrary mitigation targets

Katowice Outcome

- A framework for facilitative, party-driven process with a number of loopholes to be finalized in the future
- Consists of three components: information collection, technical assessment, and consideration of outputs
- Recognizes mitigation co-benefits and response measures as sources of input

Compliance

Relevance and Challenges

- Politicized process to shame and blame

Katowice Outcome

- The designated committee starts in 2020
- Work to take into considerations of impacts of response measures
- Limitations on the scope of work and measures including the consent of the concerned Party

Thank you

