

# Realizing the 2030 Development Agenda through Social and Solidarity Economy

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## A Think Piece by Peter Utting

### Introduction

In September 2015, the world's governments approved the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, a 15-year plan of action for '**people, planet and prosperity**' (Preamble, UNGA 2015). Realizing the SDGs represents a challenge of enormous proportions. Their emphasis on not only eradicating poverty and hunger but also achieving universal social protection and 'fundamental changes in the way that our societies produce and consume goods and services' (para 28) suggests that business-as-usual is no longer an option. Approaches centred on trickle-down economics, jobless growth, corporate-led green economy, fragmented social, economic and environmental policies and targeting the poor through social assistance programmes are inadequate if the 'transformational vision' of the agenda is to be realized.

At this juncture it is crucial to look at alternative development pathways and forms of economy that are more aligned with the goals and integrated approach of the 2030 Agenda. The Agenda notes the key role of a diverse enterprise and civic sector "... ranging from micro-enterprises to cooperatives to multinationals, and that of civil society organizations and philanthropic organizations ..." (para 41). It also emphasizes the need to achieve 'sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner' (para 2).

These twin dimensions of plural economy and balanced and integrated approaches lie at the heart of what is increasingly being called '**social and solidarity economy**' (SSE). The myriad organizations and enterprises that make up SSE are guided by principles and practices that potentially are far more 'people-centred and planet-sensitive' (Bali Communiqué, 2013) than conventional market actors and processes. SSE organizations and enterprises typically include cooperatives, mutual, self-help groups, fair trade networks, community groups that manage forests and other common pool resources, associations of informal economy workers and new forms of social enterprise. It also comprises various forms of social and solidarity finance institutions such as savings and credit cooperatives, complementary currency schemes and ethical investment, amongst others.

SSE refers to the production of goods and services by a broad range of organizations and enterprises that have explicit social and often environmental objectives, and are guided by principles and practices of cooperation, solidarity, equity and democratic self-management (UNTFSSSE 2014). SSE, therefore, is fundamentally about crafting a form of economy that is centred on social protection and equality. The SSE movement that is growing worldwide is attempting to reassert social control over the economy by prioritizing social objectives above profit maximization, recognizing the key role of collective action and active citizenship for both economic and political empowerment of disadvantaged groups in society, and reintroducing notions of ethics, sharing, equity and democracy in economic activity (Utting 2015).

The analysis suggests that **SSE should be recognized as an important means of implementation for the 2030 Agenda**. The United Nations Task Force on SSE has a key role to play in promoting such recognition.

**Part 1 examines the relevance of SSE with respect to the means of implementation.** It outlines a number of possible actions the Task Force might consider to ensure that policy makers and other stakeholders recognize the relevance of SSE for realizing the 2030 Agenda and what might be done to foster a more enabling environment for SSE.

**Part 2 examines the concrete ways in which SSE relates to each of the SDGs and targets in the Annex.** This think piece identifies key linkages between SSE and the 17 SDGs and selected targets. For ease of presentation, several goals are clustered. Some 67 of the 169 SDG targets that seem particularly relevant for SSE are presented in Annex 1.

## Part I. Realizing the transformational vision

*“In these Goals and targets, we are setting out a supremely ambitious and transformational vision.” (para 7)*

The realization of the SDGs depends crucially on **SDG 17** which defines key means of implementation. SSE is particularly relevant for attaining 10 targets related to domestic resource mobilization, innovative financing, capacity building, innovation, policy coherence and monitoring, and partnerships.

*SDG 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development*

To the extent that SSE is an important means of transitioning from informal to formal economy, it supports domestic resource mobilization through the tax system. Myriad forms of social and solidarity finance are also relevant for the target of mobilizing additional financial resources. Advocacy and policy dialogue involving SSE organizations is important for ensuring policy coherence. Regional and international SSE networks can play an important role in diffusing knowledge about relevant social, technological, institutional and policy innovations. Data related to SSE is important for improving measuring progress on sustainable development.

A key means of implementation relates to a variant of public-private or public-civic partnerships that involves state institutions partnering with SSE organizations and enterprises. Such partnerships have played a key role in transformational change in countries and territories such as Rwanda (healthcare), Kerala (agriculture and women’s empowerment), Nicaragua (food security), Quebec (child care), and Argentina (work integration).

The **SDG-SSE connections** identified in **Part 2** highlight the role of SSE in promoting inclusive and sustainable development through concrete social, institutional and technological innovations and practices. They also draw attention to its potential as an **alternative model of development that addresses the structural underpinnings of exclusionary and unsustainable development**. While there is a growing constituency of development actors that recognize SSE’s contribution to inclusive and

sustainable development, it nevertheless remains under the radar of many policy makers and other stakeholders in the mainstream development community. Indeed, **the term is not even mentioned in the 2030 Agenda** ‘Transforming our World’.

## The role of the UN Task Force on SSE

To realize the 2030 Agenda, the General Assembly resolution on the SDGs calls for “a revitalized **Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people” (Preamble). This involves “bringing together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources.” (para 60)

**The UN Task Force on SSE is well positioned to play a constructive role in this global partnership, acting not only as a hub for inter-agency co-ordination but also as a conduit for civil society voices to interface with policy making.**

The Task Force play has a key role to play in raising the visibility of SSE, particularly within policy making circles. Despite very limited resources, it has until now fulfilled a number of important functions within its mandate, namely:

- consolidating a core group of international agencies and civil society networks interested in the role and potential of SSE in relation to inclusive and sustainable development;
- enhancing co-ordination among members and observers;
- profiling the relevance of SSE in selected UN events and processes, particularly through the organization of side events;
- distilling research findings into policy relevant publications.

The context of the 2030 Agenda provides an opportunity for the Task Force to expand its role in relation to generating knowledge about SSE through research and data gathering, as well as diffusing knowledge and advocating for SSE through policy dialogues.

### **Generating and disseminating knowledge**

The analysis in Part 2 below reaffirms the importance of continuing to focus on the eight thematic issue areas identified in the Task Force position paper, “Social and Solidarity Economy and the Challenge of Sustainable Development” (UNTFSSSE 2014), namely, the role of SSE in:

1. transitioning from informal economy;
2. greening the economy;
3. local economic development;
4. sustainable cities and human settlements;
5. women’s well-being and economic empowerment;
6. food security and smallholder empowerment;
7. universal health coverage;
8. transformative finance.

But a number of other areas where SSE can play an important role in inclusive and sustainable development are also noted, for example, education and training; sustainable forestry and biodiversity, and access to drinking water. The Task Force could expand its focus of attention to address such issues. If the focus on drinking water were to be subsumed under 'sustainable cities and human settlements', this would leave **10 issue areas** (the 8 above plus education/training, and forests/biodiversity).

The Task Force is well-placed to **mobilize research** around the world on SSE that deepens understanding of the linkages between SSE and the 17 SDGs. This research could **identify good practices** and the conditions and contexts that enable SSE to play a constructive role. It could also examine the scope for both replicating such practices in other territories and countries and **scaling up SSE**. Particular attention could be paid to the **role of public policy in fostering an enabling environment for SSE and SDG implementation**.

It is imperative that governments worldwide learn from the experiences of a number of countries and territories that have been proactive in recent years in crafting an enabling policy environment for SSE. Such an environment comprises laws supporting SSE, public policies that mobilize resources and reduce transaction costs, national and regional development programmes that target SSE actors, and institutional reforms that create ministries or other entities that support and promote SSE. In this respect it is important to pull together and build on the work of the ILO SSE Academy, the OECD, UNRISD and others on public policy for SSE.

If SSE is to be taken seriously by policy makers, it is important to raise its visibility by **measuring its scale and impacts**. Much work needs to be done in this regard, particularly in developing countries where information is often non-existent or highly fragmented. The work that has been done on quantifying SSE within the OECD countries could be usefully extended to developing countries (OECD 2013, 2014). This work could feed into SDG-processes mentioned below.

The Task Force and its member organizations should continue their work in distilling relevant research findings in position papers and policy briefs easily accessible for policy makers and other stakeholders. Currently such publications are generally produced on an ad hoc basis (for example, ESCWA, OECD 2013, UNTFSSSE 2014, Utting et al. 2014, Wanyama 2014). An important exception is the ILO SSE Academy Reader series, which focuses annually on a particular theme.

The Task Force could consider producing an **annual or biennial UN Review of SSE**. The format of such a report could consist of three sections:

1. Trends and latest developments, which would highlight key developments within the field, including recent policy, social and institutional innovations in different regions, countries and territories;
2. Issues and debates, which would profile recent research and insightful conceptual and empirical analysis and debates;
3. Statistics and indicators, which would present relevant data pertaining to the quantification of SSE.

Such a report would draw on a number of publications currently prepared by civil society organizations, such as the International Reference and Liaison Centre on Social and Solidarity Economy Public Policies (RELIESS) and the Revue Internationale de l'économie sociale. The report could be piloted in 2016 to determine its feasibility as a regular publication.

## Policy dialogue

Since its creation in 2013, the Task Force has focused much of its efforts on bringing SSE to the attention of policy makers through side-events organized within the format of international conferences. This is an important role that should continue in the coming years. It needs to be complemented, however, with more direct engagement with selected SDG processes identified in the 2030 Agenda, namely those related to work on science, technology and innovation, and the various follow-up and review mechanisms:

*70. The **United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation** for the Sustainable Development Goals will promote coordination, coherence and cooperation within the United Nations system on science, technology and innovation-related matters ... The task team will ... prepare the meetings of the **multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals**, as well as in the development and operationalization of the **online platform** ...*

*82. The **high-level political forum will have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes at the global level**, working coherently with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other relevant organs and forums, in accordance with existing mandates. It will facilitate sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, and provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for follow-up. It will promote system-wide coherence and coordination of sustainable development policies.*

*83. Follow-up and review at the high-level political forum will be informed by an **annual progress report on the Sustainable Development Goals** to be prepared by the Secretary-General in cooperation with the United Nations system, based on the global indicator framework and data produced by national statistical systems and information collected at the regional level. The high-level political forum will also be informed by the **Global Sustainable Development Report**, which shall strengthen the science-policy interface and could provide a strong evidence-based instrument to support policymakers in promoting poverty eradication and sustainable development.*

*85. **Thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals**, including cross-cutting issues, will also take place at the high-level political forum. These will be supported by reviews by the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them. They will engage all relevant stakeholders and, where possible, feed into, and be aligned with, the cycle of the high-level political forum.*

## Building a coalition for change

The UN Task force has quickly gained legitimacy internationally within both sectors of civil society and a number of governments that are proactive in relation to SSE. It is well placed to build a coalition for change by consolidating relations with civil society and practitioner networks, governments and international development agencies. Three tasks would be important in this regard:

1. Working closely with the recently established inter-governmental and multi-stakeholder 'Leading Group' on SSE.
2. Reactivating the interest of several UN agencies and regional commissions that have either not yet joined the Task Force or have remained inactive. In view the relative importance of certain issue areas noted above (both those already addressed by the Task Force and the new areas), it would seem particularly important to reengage UNWomen, UNESCO and UN Habitat. Similarly, the participation of other regional commissions could be strengthened, notably ECA and ESCAP.
3. Moving forward with the proposal of RIPESS for the Task Force to convene an annual or biennial research and policy dialogue on SSE. The Task Force should consider organizing such a conference on the topic of SSE and SDG implementation towards the end of 2016.

## Part 2. The SDGs and SSE: Making the Connections

### **Poverty eradication, equality and good governance**

**SDG 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere**

**SDG 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries**

**SDG 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**

The definition of SSE presented above in the Introduction emphasises social protection, basic needs provisioning, equity and participatory governance. Such features speak directly to three of the more general SDGs related to poverty reduction, inequality and good governance. The concrete ways in which SSE can contribute to these goals – for example, through employment generation, enhancing rights to economic resources, facilitating access to social services and assistance, food security and women’s economic empowerment, are noted below in relation to other SDGs. SSE is also about the empowerment of disadvantaged groups through active citizenship, the democratization of both economy and politics, and reinvigorating community and solidarity. It plays a key role in building ‘accountable and transparent institutions at all levels’ through such means as the democratic self-management of organizations, participation in local level governance, and the enhanced ability of marginalized actors, when organized, to exert claims on more powerful institutions that affect their lives.

It is important to note that the goals and targets of poverty eradication, inequality and inclusive governance in the SDGs attempt to correct certain feature of – or gaps in – the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). A focus on SSE is crucial for addressing these limitations. They include:

- i) the tendency to focus on global and national averages. This methodology ran the risk of masking deficits in achievement at the sub-national level and diverting policy attention and resources from marginalized groups at the sub-national level (TST-Gender Equality, 2013). A focus on SSE necessarily redirects attention to local territories and marginalized groups;
- ii) ignoring the structural determinants of exclusionary and unsustainable development and inequality; and
- iii) active citizenship and participatory democracy which are essential for claims making by marginalized groups and accountability.

### **Hunger, Food and Agriculture**

**SDG 2. End hunger, achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture**

SSE has a pivotal role to play in meeting SDG 2. It addresses a number of fundamental concerns: the need to address rural poverty, the imperative of rural development in a structural context where the dominant economic model that can no longer absorb ‘surplus’ rural labour in urban-based decent work, the challenge of having to produce 60 per cent more food by 2050 to feed a population of 9 billion, and the degrading environmental impact of conventional commercial agriculture. SSE provides a tested alternative to the two conventional approaches of agricultural intensification that resulted in increased productivity accompanied by higher levels of energy use and increased environmental degradation through over-use of agro-chemicals and mono-cropping, namely, the ‘Green Revolution’ pioneered in

the 1960s and 1970s for staple crops and high external input agriculture associated with agribusiness and large-scale commercial agriculture.

Much of SSE activity centres on agriculture and food provisioning, whether through the millions of producers either organized in producer cooperatives or who market their produce through cooperatives, women's self-help groups, urban community agriculture, or fair trade and alternative food networks that directly connect producers and consumers. Moreover, many of these organizations and enterprises adopt or promote agro-ecological practices associated, for example, with lower external input farming systems, agro-forestry and silvo-pastoralism, and the application of indigenous knowledge. In an enabling policy environment, SSE is well-placed to meet the challenge of agro-ecological intensification that SDG 2 demands.

## **Social services and assistance**

**SDG 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages**

**SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**

SSE organizations play an important role in providing both healthcare and other forms of social assistance, for example, child and elderly care, and disability support (Defourny and Nyssens 2008, ESCWA 2014). Indeed a survey of 655 SSE organizations in 6 OECD and one emerging economy indicates that this sector of operation accounts for 26% of all SSE activities (OECD 2013). In Uruguay, SSE organizations are key participants in a public-civic partnership approach to extending some aspects of healthcare to hitherto underserved populations (Rossel 2015). In numerous countries cooperatives provide a diverse range of services from home care to hospitals (Wanyama 2014). Beyond health service and care provision, mutual associations play a key role in providing health insurance. Development strategy in West Africa is turning to community-based mutual health organizations as a major partner in social protection policy (Fonteneau 2015). Throughout Africa community-based savings and credit organizations have been engaged in raising awareness about HIV/AIDS (Wanyama 2015).

SSE speaks to virtually all the targets under SDG 4. Education and training is another prominent field for SSE organizations, not least in contexts where governments are promoting active labour market policies and work integration in the wake of the global financial crisis. Over one-fifth (21%) of the SSE organizations surveyed in the aforementioned OECD study operated in this sector. Worldwide, cooperatives and other SSE organizations are active in providing education finance, building and operating educational establishments, and providing services related to skills training and knowledge development. Furthermore, increased family income associated with remunerated work in SSE organizations is often used to meet education costs. (Wanyama 2015).

## **Gender Equality**

**SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**

SSE is important for attaining objectives associated with care and valuing domestic work. Many SSE organizations provide opportunities for better balancing responsibilities for remunerated work and unpaid care. Furthermore, a vibrant area of SSE expansion, particularly in developed countries, relates to social enterprises that provide local care services. Domestic workers are organizing in associations such as HomeNet or national associations that engage in collective bargaining (Budlender 2013)

While effective participation of women within SSE governance can be very uneven, improvements have been noted in recent years (Schincariol and McMurtry. 2015). This is partly due to the fact that it has become an important issue area particularly in relation to cooperatives, and partly due to the rapid rise of SSE organizations whose membership mainly comprises women, for example, women-owned cooperatives, self-help and other community groups, mutual health and savings and credit organizations in Africa, community forest groups in India and Nepal, and social enterprises providing proximity services in western Europe or Quebec. It is important to note that the empowerment that derives from participation in SSE organizations can have important spillover effects in terms of women's emancipation and claims making in the domestic and public spheres.

SSE can greatly facilitate access to economic and natural resources. Cooperatives and other SSE organizations can facilitate access to finance, markets, skills development, agricultural land and forests; enhance collective bargaining power to negotiate more favourable prices, and improve access to information and transport to reduce transaction costs.

## **Employment, infrastructure and inclusive growth**

**SDG 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**

**SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation**

In the aftermath of the global financial crisis, an increasing number of government are recognizing the role of SSE in generating employment. In 79 countries surveyed, employment associated with cooperatives alone is estimated to involve 250 million people (Roelants et al. 2015). In the current context of stagnant or declining employment in Europe, nearly half of the social enterprises surveyed in another study increased employment (OECD 2013). In the OECD countries, work integration is a major SSE activity (OECD 2014). Whether through local government initiatives, as in Seoul, South Korea, or through national programmes, such as *Argentina Trabaja* and the Kenyan Youth Enterprise Development Fund, government institutions in several countries are turning to SSE to boost employment, including youth employment (Morais et al. 2014, see also ESCWA 2014).

SSE organizations typically facilitate access to finance, inputs, technology, support services and markets, and enhance the capacity of producers to negotiate better prices and income. What is important to note is not only the contribution of SSE to employment generation but its role in countering i) the growth in precarious employment, estimated at approximately 1.5 billion people (ILO 2013), and ii) the inability of the traditional formal sector to fulfil its conventional role of absorbing so-called surplus labour, for example, from rural areas. While the role of SSE in relation employment generation is being increasingly recognized, much still needs to be done to overcome decent work deficits that are often found in SSE organizations and enterprises.

While the role of SSE in relation to infrastructural development is mainly centred on social and energy infrastructure, it can play an important role in the development of economic infrastructure through advocacy. Cooperative organizations and producer associations, for example, lobby at municipal and federal levels to get governments to build forest and rural roads. The target to promote inclusive and

sustainable industrialization through the integration of SSE enterprises in value chains is particularly germane to the many producer organizations that are attempting to add value to raw materials and primary commodities through agro-industrial processing. And as noted in relation to SDG 7, SSE is playing an increasingly prominent role in the dissemination of clean technology and the transformation of the energy industry.

## **Quality of life in human settlements**

**SDG 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**

**SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**

The prevalence of cooperatives and other SSE organizations and enterprises in economic activities associated with transport, handicrafts, affordable accommodation, waste management, handicrafts and other cultural industries points to the relevance of SSE for SDG 11. So too does the increasing involvement of social enterprises in providing local 'proximity' services. Active citizenship associated with SSE is also key for promoting participatory governance systems that are essential for community renewal and inclusive development in urban centres and rural villages and towns. SSE can also play a role in promoting forms of integrated or community development associated with urban or peri-urban agriculture and food provisioning networks that connect rural and urban areas.

The quality of life in human settlements also depends on the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation promoted in SDG 6. Cooperatives and community associations often play a key role in providing clean water and safe sanitation in urban communities and facilitating access for underserved rural populations. In the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra in Bolivia, the world's largest urban water cooperative services 1.2 million users. In Africa, water cooperatives are becoming more active in servicing rural populations in, for example, Ghana, Ethiopia and South Africa. And housing cooperatives are upgrading slums in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and providing housing for low-income families in both developed and developing countries (Wanyama 2015, Lewis and Conaty 2012).

## **Sustainable production and consumption and climate change**

**SDG 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**

**SDG 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**

**SDG 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**

Beyond the agro-ecological and other environmental benefits noted above (and below), SSE addresses other aspects of the challenge of transforming production and consumption patterns. It is particularly relevant to the issue of waste reduction. In many developing countries waste pickers are organizing in cooperatives or associations, many of whom are associated with the Global Alliance of Waste Pickers (UNTFSSSE 2014). The organization of small agricultural producers in cooperatives is also key for reducing post-harvest losses given the key role of cooperatives in providing storage, refrigeration and transport. A growing sector within SSE relates to sustainable tourism.

SSE is also crucial for transforming consumption patterns. Indeed, it is very much part of a cultural shift that seeks to counter trends associated with consumerism and overconsumption, as well as the trade-off between economic growth and environmental sustainability. It is associated with new or revived concepts such as the Andean indigenous term *Buen Vivir* (living in harmony with people and the planet), *décroissance/degrowth* (the downscaling of production and consumption, and maximising well-being and happiness through social and cultural means), and *voluntary simplicity* (living with less).

In several countries energy cooperatives playing an increasing prominent role in expanding access to electricity and developing renewable energy. In several European countries, they have played a key role in the transition taking place from fossil fuels to renewables. In countries as different as Bangladesh and the United States, energy cooperatives are provide electricity to some 30 million and 42 million people respectively, located mainly in rural areas (Wanyama 2014)

## **Forests, oceans and coastal eco-systems**

**SDG 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**

**SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources**

Organizations such as forestry cooperatives and community forestry groups can play an important role in the sustainable management of natural resources, particularly in contexts where such resources constitute common-pool resources. In India and Nepal, approximately 10 million households were associated with community forest groups. Women are particularly active in such groups and increasingly so in the committee that determine rules on forest use (Agarwal 2015).

SSE not only involves forms of social organization and collective decision-making conducive to forest protection, it is also involves and promotes farming and natural resource management systems that protect forest resources. This is particularly evident in the case of thousands of small coffee producers involved in fair trade schemes that place a premium on agro-forestry systems and the application of agro-ecology principles. Much of the world's forests are owned or used by millions of small landowners and communities. Organizing in cooperatives can facilitate access to finance, machinery, labour and expertise needed for harvesting and marketing timber and wood products, afforestation, building forest roads, processing and adding value, certification and the development of management plans, and economic diversification. Furthermore, it provides an alternative to environmentally destructive models of economic development. At the global level, the most immediate cause of deforestation and forest degradation is the expansion of large-scale commercial agriculture and rapid urbanization. With its focus on the role of community institutions, SSE can also play a role in reversing another driver of forest destruction, namely the breakdown of traditional community-based natural resource management systems, not least among the world's 60 million indigenous peoples. (TST Forests 2013)

These attributes related to community-based natural resource management institutions and systems are also pertinent for conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas and marine resources (SDG 14). Artisanal fishers provide an alternative to larger-scale commercial fisheries that often engage in overfishing. And when organized in cooperatives and associations they can play a constructive role in accessing markets on better terms, reducing waste and protecting the fragile coastal eco-systems on which their livelihoods depend.

Many of the attributes of SSE noted above are key for meeting the SDG related too climate change (SDG 13), and specifically the target (13.1) to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.

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## Annex: Relevant SDG targets for SSE

### **Poverty eradication, equality and good governance**

#### **SDG 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere**

1.2 ... reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions ...

1.4 ... ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

#### **SDG 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries**

10.1 ... progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average

10.2 ...empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

#### **SDG 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**

16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels

### **Hunger, Food and Agriculture**

#### **SDG 2. End hunger, achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture**

2.3 ...double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers ...

2.4 ...ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices

2.5 ...maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species ...

### **Social services and assistance**

#### **SDG 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages**

3.3 ... end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases

3.7 ... ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes

3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States

#### **SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**

- 4.1 ... ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes
- 4.2 ... ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education
- 4.3 ... ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
- 4.4 ... substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship
- 4.5 ... eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations
- 4.6 ... ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy
- 4.7 ... ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development

#### **Gender Equality**

##### **SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**

- 5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family...
- 5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life
- 5.a Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources ...

#### **Employment, infrastructure and inclusive growth**

##### **SDG 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**

- 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services
- 8.4 ... decouple economic growth from environmental degradation
- 8.5 ... achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value
- 8.9 ... devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products
- 8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all

## **SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation**

9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure ...to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets

9.4 ... upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes ...

## **Quality of life in human settlements**

### **SDG 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**

11.1 ... ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

11.2 ... provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

11.3 ... enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage

11.6 ... reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning

### **SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**

6.1 ... achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

6.2 ... achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation ...

6.3 ... improve water quality by reducing pollution ... and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally

6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management

## **Forests, oceans and coastal eco-systems**

### **SDG 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**

15.1 ...ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands ...

15.2...promote the implementation of sustainable management of ... forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation ...

15.3...combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world

15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity...

**SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources ...**, and specific targets:

14.2 ... sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts ...

14.4 ... effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing

14.b Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets

## **Sustainable production and consumption and climate change**

**SDG 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**

7.2 ... increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix

7.a ... enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology

**SDG 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**

12.2 ... achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

12.3 ... halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses

12.5 ... substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

12.6 Encourage companies ... to adopt sustainable practices ...

12.8 ... ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

**SDG 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**

13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

## **Means of Implementation**

**SDG 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**

17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization ... to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection

17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources

17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing ...

17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries ...

17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation

17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

17.18 ... enhance capacity-building support to developing countries ... to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts

17.19 ... build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries