Critical Perspectives on Governance by Sustainable Development Goals Conference

Abstracts

Day 1: Monday 27, June

SDGs & Demography
Prof. Dr. Inge de Hutter (Rector, Institute for Social Studies)
Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Monday 27 June
Abstract: This session presents the Sustainable Development Goals and underlying population trends in world regions. We reflect on numbers and the composition of populations in the light of the global objectives of the SDGs. We additionally present the fast changes in the demographic processes of mortality, fertility, migration and human development indices such as poverty, education and work.

We interpret the population trends and changing demographic indicators with demographic theories such as the (first and second) demographic transition, demographic dividend, value of children, flows of wealth. We then reflect on the challenges threats for global sustainable (population) development. The session consists of a presentation followed by group discussions on population trends and population and human indicators for different regions of the world. The results of the discussions then will be brought together to form the global demographic picture of population development in relation to the global SDGs.

SDGs & Conflict
Dr. David Laws (Amsterdam Centre for Conflict Studies) & Dr. Mieke Lopes Cardozo (CSDS)
Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Monday 27 June
Speakers: Mr. Nebil Kushmallah (Tilburg Univ.), Mrs. Martien Kuitenbrouwer (UvA), Mr. Marc Wesselink (Delta Programme) & Mr. Willem Ligtvoet (PBL)
Abstract: This session will examine how conflict shapes efforts to further SDGs in concrete action contexts. We will look at the sources and dynamics of destructive conflict and the constructive ways in which conflict, contestation, and differences can trigger and drive processes of learning and practical transformation. We will examine the interplay between these two faces of conflict in relation to two specific fields of focus that relate to the SDGs—water security and forced displacement and integration. After a brief introduction by the panel organizers on the relationship between conflict and the implementation of programs that address SDGs, we will engage in two thematic discussions. The first will address conflict, negotiation, and conflict resolution in relation to efforts to advance water security in the Delta Programme (related to SDG 7 and 13, on energy and climate). The second will address conflict as a persistent feature and driver of forced displacement, resettlement, and reintegration (related to almost all SDGs, and particularly 16).

Each thematic discussion will include short contributions from practitioners who will reflect on their experiences and help us understand the sources of contingency that shape the influence conflict has in practical efforts to further SDGs. In the final part of the session, we will compare experience in these thematic areas and discuss the overlaps and gaps that surface and that may frame themes for future research and practical development.
**SDG 1: No Poverty**
Ms. Anika Altaf (ASC Leiden) & Dr. Nicky Pouw (CSDS)
Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Monday 27 June
Speakers: Dr. Willem Elbers (Nijmegen University), Dr. Wim Blok (Woord & Daad), Mrs. Anika Altaf (UvA) & Mrs. Hilke Jansen (The Hunger Project)

Abstract: The first SDG aims to eradicate poverty for all. While the number of people living in extreme poverty has dropped by more than half – from 1.9 billion in 1990, to 836 million in 2015 – too many are still struggling for the most basic human needs. Participatory approaches in poverty research have gained ground alongside money-metric approaches to poverty primarily as complementary to provide contextual understanding of causes of poverty and its multiple dimensions. However, at the level of national and international economic analysis and policymaking traditional poverty indicators still feature most prominently, and the ‘voices of the (forest of the) poor’ remain largely unheard for reasons of subjectivity. Furthermore, their knowledge, potentials and aspirations remain invisible. In this session we will discuss this apparent deadlock in the scientific and policy debates around poverty with researchers and practitioners, and discuss innovative approaches to make poor people visible and heard at these higher levels of aggregation.

**SDGs & Ideology**
Dr. Robert Fletcher (WUR)
Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Monday 27 June
Speakers: Frank van Kesteren & Dr. Mirjam A.F. Ros-Tonен (The Broker & INCLUDE), Dr. Ir. Crelis F. Rammelt (UU), Mrs. Francine Egberts (MDF Training and Consultancy) & Dr. Robert Fletcher (WU)

Abstract: This session explores the SDGs as a form of ideology or discourse. While the SDGs are promoted as an innovative global agenda, they build on more than two decades of previous global negotiations on sustainable development that has been widely criticized for falling far short of its aims. Part of the failure can be attributed to the differences between countries and experts about whether economic growth, social wellbeing or environmental sustainability should be prioritized. This session thus asks: how is the potential for the SDGs to succeed promoted and sustained? What are the agenda’s key concepts or problems in this respect? What elements frame it as an innovative break with past sustainable development policy? How are past failures and challenges addressed in the agenda? Can the agenda address the underlying differences in discourses between different countries and actors?

**SDGs & Migration**
Dr. Sonja Fransen, Dr. Simona Vezzoli & Prof. Dr. Hein de Haas (IMES)
Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Monday 27 June
Speakers: Prof. Dr. Ronald Skeldon (Univ. of Sussex), Prof. Dr. Oliver Bakewell (Univ. of Oxford), Dr. Ingrid Boas (WU) & Mr. Bob van Dillen (Cordaid)

Abstract: In September 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by the UN member states. Within this agenda were the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were designed as targets to be met by the year 2030. For the first time in history, the concept of migration was integrated into the international development framework. In six out of the 17 SDGs, migration is specifically mentioned. The migration themes that are addressed cover wide-ranging issues including the facilitation of student mobility, anti-trafficking efforts, the enhancements of migrant workers’ rights, the implementation of migration policies to combat inequality, the reduction of remittance costs, and the collection of better migration data to inform migration- and development-related policies (IOM, 2015). Particularly the 10th SDG, with the aim of “facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”, provides a migration policy agenda for the international community. With this
development agenda put in place, what are the opportunities that the SDGs offer for the field of migration (policies) and development and what are the challenges that lie ahead? Are the goals set in the SDGs realistic and are they likely to be met by the year 2030? Do the SDGs cover all important migration-related themes or are certain aspects missing? What kind of policies should be designed to meet the migration-related policy goals of the SDGs? This session will bring together academics and policy makers from the field of migration to discuss the best ways in which the migration-related goals in the SDGs can be achieved.

SDGs in Europe
Dr. Luc Franssen (Access Europe) & Dr. P Schleifer (UvA)
Time: 14.00 - 15.30, Monday 27 June
Speakers: Prof. Dr. Peter Knorninga (ISS – EUR), Prof. Dr. Philipp Pattberg (VU), Dr. Edith van Ewijk (Kaleidos Research), Paul Lucas (Planbureau Leefomgeving) & Dr. Louis Meuleman (European Commission DG Environment & PS4SD)
Abstract: The declaration of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015 marks a new era in global sustainability politics. On the one hand, the SDGs greatly expand the policy scope of the Millennium Development Goals, which they replaced, by fusing developmental, social equity, and environmental agendas. On the other hand, the SDGs are truly global in character as they apply to all countries, rich and poor, equally. While discussions about sustainable development have long had a developing country focus, the role of the SDGs in Europe and other advanced economies is less well understood. Bringing together experts from academia, government, business, and civil society, this roundtable explores the issue. The objective is to stimulate policy discussions and to prepare the ground for further analysis. In particular, we are interested in the emerging governance architecture and the prospects and challenges of sustainability governance in the European Union.

SDGs in North America
Drs. Courtney Vegelin (CSDS)
Time: 14.00 - 15.30, Monday 27 June
Speaker: Dr. Casey Stevens, (Clark University - USA), Mr. David Sogge (TNI- Amsterdam), Mr. Joseph Wilde (SOMO) & Mrs. Meline Arakeline, (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Abstract: A new set of challenges has been presented to the United States and Canada – as being among the wealthiest countries in the world – to assist in the successful achievement of the newly agreed upon SDGs. While they will continue to provide funding, share knowledge, and provide technical and policy support to developing countries to help them reach the goals, doubt has been cast on this one-way model of assistance. As the United States and Canada have been unable to implement their own inclusive economic development policies (goals 8 and 10), tackle inequalities (goal 10), successfully address various forms of social marginalization (goals 5 and 10), motivate sustainable consumption patterns (goal 12), meet climate change goals (goal 13), and regulate illicit financial transactions (goal 16), they – along with wealthier countries in general – are increasingly critiqued as role models for development as they are also not ready for the SDGs. It becomes clear that the SDGs must apply as much to the domestic challenges of the countries of North America as they do to countries of the Global South, as well as to the nature of the relations that must be re-negotiated between high income and low-income countries.

SDGs in Asia
Dr. Mehdi P. Amineh (IIAS & UvA)
Time: 14.00 - 15.30, Monday 27 June
Speakers: Dr. Karin Fernando (CEPA, Sri Lanka), Dr. Li Sun (TU Delft) & Ms. Farwiza Farhan (UvA)
Abstract: Asia is the world’s largest and most populous continent, and now constitutes its economic growth centre too. With the shift in the economic and political centre of gravity to the east, this continent’s relation to the SDGs is of eminent importance. This session will discuss the extent to which Asian governments have ‘bought in’ to the SDGs, and the main challenges faced in making progress on their realization. Attention will also be paid to the social science research agenda for SDGs in Asia.

SDGs in Africa
Dr. Marleen Dekker (ASC Leiden) & Dr. André Leliveld (ASCL/CFIA)
Time: 14.00 - 15.30, Monday 27 June
Speakers: Evans Kirigia (UU/McGill) Andre Leliveld (ASCL/CFIA), Marleen Dekker (ASCL/INCLUDE).
Chair/moderator: Karin Nijenhuis(ASCL/INCLUDE).
Abstract: The World Bank statistics indicate that 75 per cent of the world’s poorest countries are located in Sub-Saharan Africa, including ten with the highest proportion of residents living in extreme poverty. Africa therefore features prominently in the SDG agenda as well as the connected development industry. Despite an increasing emphasis on inequality and inclusive development, the SDGs largely ignore the population dynamics in Africa. With a projected high population growth it is essential to address (i) how jobs and sustainable livelihoods can be promoted and (ii) how the population dynamics affect the possibilities to implement of the SDGs. This session discusses population trends, job creation and the role of agriculture, technology and (institutional) innovation in this equation to formulate a critical research agenda that takes into consideration population dynamics.

SDGs in Latin America & the Caribbean
Dr. Barbara Hogenboom (CEDLA) & Dr. Hebe Verrest (CSDS)
Time: 14.00 - 15.30, Monday 27 June
Speakers: Dr. Mariana Walter (ICTA-UAB, Barcelona); Dr. Almut Schilling-Vacaflor (GIGA, Hamburg); Prof. Dr. Rutgerd Boelens (UvA/WUR) & Mrs. Leida Rijnhout (Director Global Policies and Sustainability of the European Environmental Bureau - EEB)
Abstract: Many parts of Latin America and the Caribbean experiences clashes between social, environmental and economic interests and developments. These conflicts relate to economic sectors such as in the mining industry, soya production, or tourism, but also to living conditions, both in cities and rural areas. While these clashes are neither new nor unique for the region, current responses are characterized by strong civic engagement in the form of resistance movements, protest groups and the like, focusing on environmental and social justice. Such movements often operate outside and in opposition to national governments and formal governance structures, while in some cases collaborating with local government agencies, e.g. in community consultations. Simultaneously, some national governments have worked to improve the national procedures for consultation of local communities over large-scale projects, which points at some progress as well as setbacks for inclusive decision-making processes.
Multiple SDGs stress the importance of realizing sustainable development and addressing inequality through inclusion, access to justice, the building of proper institutions, and governance structures (e.g. SDG 16). While the targets concretizing SDGs are divers, they do show similarity in the type of goals aimed at. For the discussion on civic engagement in Latin America, three issues are of particular concern: access for all to assets and resources (e.g. work, health, education, justice), the focus on inclusion and equal rights of disadvantaged groups (gender, ethnic, abled-bodied, age-related), and the further institutionalization of civic engagement through participation, in particular by the national
government. This workshop focuses on how these process dimensions of the SDGs relate to civic engagement in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Sustainable Curriculum Development**
Facilitator: Dr. Coyan Tromp (IIS)
Time: 17.30 - 19:00, Monday 27

Abstract: Being involved with Future Planet Studies from the start, I learned a lot about sustainable curriculum development. This was further enhanced by my involvement in the development of a (master) minor of Science for Sustainability. I would be very interested to share my experiences concerning the latest innovations in education, and exchange ideas about how to best embed sustainability in curricula, courses, learning and teaching material and in the management and operations of academic institutions with other lecturers, researchers and developers.

In this workshop, I would like to address the question of how a sustainable academic curriculum can be developed. I would use our experiences within the context of Future Planet Studies as case examples, both to share inspirational ‘best practices’ and possible pitfalls. Relying on the overview supplied by Barth et al. (2015), our aim is to incorporate in the curriculum at least four elements that are deemed essential to sustainable education, namely; systems thinking, complexity thinking and complexity management, anticipatory thinking or futures thinking, and critical thinking.

**Negotiations Workshop**
Dr. Marcel van den Heuvel, Certified mediator
Time: Monday 27 June, 19:30 - 20:45/ 21.00 – 22.15 & Tuesday 28 June, 17.30 - 18.45/ 19.00 – 20.15

Abstract: Agreements and deals do just not happen. They result from negotiations, usually long, hard negotiations that invariably consume considerable material, human and emotional recourses. And there is good news: being a good negotiator is something you can learn and acquire skills in. On Monday 27th June at 17.30 – 19.30, there will be a negotiation class given by Marcel van den Heuvel MDR, chairman of the Finance and Audit committees of the City of Amsterdam. This is a theoretic class. If you'd like a more practice oriented class, then another workshop, covering the same techniques, will be given on Tuesday 28th June from 17.30 – 19.30. If you are interested you can only choose one of the two workshops.

**Day 2: Tuesday 28, June**

**Governing by Goals**
Mr. Norichika Kanie, (Keio University, Japan)
Time: 11.00 - 12.30, Tuesday 28 June

Speakers: Dr. Casey Stevens (Clark University - USA), Prof. Dr. Joyeeta Gupta (CSDS), Mr. Rak Kim (Utrecht University), Dr. Ingrid Boas (WUR) & Mr. Norichika Kanie (Keio University, Japan)

Abstract: Encouraged by the experiment on the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations has adopted a new strategy for Governing by Goals. This session presents and discusses the different papers written on this subject that are now in press with MIT Press and have just been published by International Environmental Agreements. The session discusses both substantive issues and procedural issues. It then opens the floor up to discussion about the pros and cons of Governance through Goals.
SDG 2: Zero Hunger
Dr. Paul Hebinck (WUR) & Dr. Ir. Yves van Leynseele
Time: 11.00 - 12.30, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Dr. Paul Hebinck (WUR); Dr. Jessica Duncan (WUR), Dr. Jennifer Franco (Transnational Institute) & Dr. Maja Slingerland (WUR)
Abstract: SDG 2 professes the strengthening of global food governance regimes to manage food shortages and improve production. Target-setting and other multi-level governance instruments inform strategies for achieving ‘Zero-hunger, food security and improved nutrition and sustainable development’. This panel explores key methodological and ideological issues underpinning this approach to sustainable food systems. It aims to unpack this SGD with presentations that show the problematic of global calculations of food security and related scenarios informing the SDG2 goal. It adopts a critical stance to the increased confidence in the new Green Revolution for solving food system challenges by addressing the underlying social and environmental costs and risks. Alternatives are suggested that are based on principles of peasant-led agricultural development, food sovereignty and alternative pathways of global action involving Transnational Food Movements and international alliances for food justice. These alternatives are then used to shape the interpretation of the targets in this goal and research questions are then accordingly identified.

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being
Dr. Danny de Vries (SSGH)
Time: 11.00 - 12.30, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Spikers: Prof. Frank Cobelens (Amsterdam Institute of Global Health & Development), Prof. Anita Hardon (KNWA & UvA Anthropology), Dr. Rene Gerrets (UvA Anthropology), Dr. Danny de Vries (UvA Center for Social Science & Global Health)
Abstract: Global health is everyone’s concern, and the proposed SDGs Health & Well-being have moved the world from a focus on the poorest countries to an approach that should be concerned about the health of everyone, including the marginalized in middle- and high-income countries. Yet, while the proposed SDG3 is broader than its predecessor, achieving this goal will require substantial leadership beyond the health sector and greater coordination across sectors. Is the current global and national health architecture fit-for-purpose? This session will reflect on the SDG3 by following Bruse & Hawkins (2015) suggestion that realizing the SGD3 agenda requires a paradigmatic shift in the way we address global health. In this session we will discuss this challenge. What is meant by this paradigmatic shift? How does the SDG “Health & Wellbeing” connect to other SDGs? What kind of collaboration does reaching the SDG goal require? Are the goals realistic anyway? What may be the impact of the SDG as “governance” indicator on collaboration? What is needed to develop an interdisciplinary agenda? And what is the implication for the social sciences?

SDG 4: Quality Education
Dr. Mieke Lopes Cardozo (CSDS) & Mrs. Jeanne Roefs (GCE-NL)
Time: 11.00 - 12.30, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Mr. Max Bueno de Mesquita (Dutch Ministry of Education), Mrs. Anke van Dam (representative Ministry of Foreign (MinBuZa), Mr. Antoni de Kemp (Evaluation specialist, IOB), Ms. Mary Kachavos (youth representative of UNESCO NL) & Representative of Education International
Abstract: How can we imagine sustainable and peaceful societies where the younger generations are increasingly facing situations of crisis, unemployment and social disintegration? Do we care enough about this same younger generation that is all too often missing out on relevant education, or any form of schooling at all, to support them in their career development, health and well-being? More than half of the children that are currently out of school live in conflict-affected and highly unequal societies,
leading to a worldwide neglect of the basic human right to education for all - even more so for girls and women. Education is considered one of the core building blocks of societies, as the core positioning of SDG 4 illustrates, but why is this often not matched with a political commitment on the part of national governments? And why do investments in education that are available still narrowly focusing on the very minimal and technical skills to “produce” productive citizens, rather than valuing and taking serious the potential of education to support more equitable, safe, healthy and socially just societies? In this session we engage with these questions and more, to discuss how policy, advice and academia can be mobilized to critically and constructively respond to the call from SDG4.

**SDG 6: Clean Water & Sanitation**
Dr. Klaas Schwartz (UNESCO-IHE)
Time: 11.00 - 12.30, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Mr. Marco Schouten (Vitens Evidens), Mr. Roel Blesgraaf (Simavi), Dr. Maria Rusca (King’s College), Dr. Michaela Hordijk (UvA) & Ms. Elisa Savelli (UNESCO-IHE)
Abstract: After considerable lobbying the water community was able to ensure the adoption of a dedicated water goal with 6 targets. While Goals and Targets can ensure that countries prioritize these issues, sometimes the exercise of meeting targets is purely mechanistic and does not actually achieve the spirit of the Goal. Furthermore, while the values embedded within the goals and targets are quite clear, these contrast with the cost-recovery values being marketed within the international banking, investment and trade communities. This session debates on all the key challenges in implementing the water goal and how this Goal and its targets can be meaningfully interpreted. It assesses also how the water goal can be effectively linked to other goals. It concludes with a list of research questions.

**SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**
Dr. Mendel Giezen (CUS) & Dr. Eric Chu (CSDS)
Time: 11.00 - 12.30, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Mr. Roelof Kruize, (Managing Director of Waternet), Dr. Jos Arts (Univ. of Groningen and Ministry of Environment and Infrastructure) & Mr. Bram Sieben (Amsterdam Smart Cities)
Abstract: Sustained investments in infrastructure and innovation are critical drivers of sustainable development. With over half the world’s population now living in cities, mass transport and renewable energy are becoming ever more important, as are the growth of new industries and information and communication technologies (ICTs). Across the globe, technological progress is increasingly seen as key to finding lasting solutions to both economic and environmental challenges, such as providing new jobs, promoting energy efficiency, and bridging the “digital divide.” To facilitate these solutions, a multitude of new economic actors, production networks, infrastructure assemblages, and industrial innovations have emerged to engage sustainable development priorities across different spaces and scales. However, this increasing complexity of infrastructure networks and assemblages – combined with emerging climate and global environmental challenges – speaks to an increasing need for critical discussions on how such innovations can be better governed to produce more equitable and inclusive outcomes.

**SDG 5: Gender Equality**
Dr. Esther Miedema (UvA) & Prof. Dr. Isa Baud (UvA)
Time: 13.30 - 15.00, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Dr. Esther Miedema (UvA), Dr. Julie McBrien (UvA) & Dr. Mieke Lopes Cardozo (CSDS)
Abstract: SDG 5 aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030. Empowering women and girls and promoting gender equality is seen as intrinsically and instrumentally crucial for sustainable development. Practitioners are encouraged to take an integrated
approach to implementing SDG5. But what does that mean in practice and what empirical research is needed to develop such an approach? On the basis of 4 to 5 ‘pitch presentations’ each drawing on unique empirical research around the globe, we will discuss gender as an (i) intersectional (ii) multi-dimensional (iii) multi-scalar problem that is reproduced and challenged (e.g. by culture, politics, and power) over time and place. The roundtable invites all participants to share and think with us how to critically study girls’ and women’s voice and empowerment as a pre-condition for sustainable development. The aim of this session is to specifically help to interpret the multiple targets that have been developed to implement SDG5 and to develop follow-up research questions.

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
Dr. Niels Beerepoot (AISSR) & Dr. Nicky Pouw (CSDS)
Time: 13.30 - 15.00, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Dr. Arno Kourula (UvA), Dr. Michelle Westermann-Behaylo (UvA) & Drs. Khadija van der Straaten (UvA)
Abstract: SDG 8 promotes inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all women and men by 2030. Inequality, unemployment and lack of decent work are pertinent problems globally with a growing labour force. The human right to decent work is coarsely violated in situations of forced labour, slavery, abuse, and human trafficking. In this session we will discuss how ‘decent work’ is defined in our own research at multiple levels of analysis. Subsequently, the following three questions will be debated at the roundtables (also at multiple levels): (i) how is ‘decent work’ linked to inclusive and sustainable growth? (ii) What instruments and strategies are needed to implement the goal of ‘decent work for all’? (iii) What are the different power dynamics at work in the implementation of this goal?

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
Prof. Dr. Luca Bertolini (CUS) & Hebe Verrest (CSDS)
Time: 13.30 - 15.00, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Prof. Dr. Maria Kaika (Manchester University), Dr. Federico Savini (UvA) & Dr. Maartje van Eerd (IHS)
Abstract: SDG 11 calls for sustainable cities and communities through realization of a wide range of targets, focusing on physical and social outcomes, as well as processes and addressing both social and physical living conditions in urban areas, urbanization, and climate change. While the inclusion of an urban goal reflects increasing consensus on the relevance and importance of the urban in the contemporary era, it hides the large variety of understandings of what the city is and should be, and how the city can be made sustainable (Barnett and Parnell 2015). Taking Barnett and Parnell’s point that the implementation of the agenda will reveal the variety and likely contradictions in these views, this panel takes three related dilemmas as its central perspective.
The first dilemma is the ‘what’ of the city and its sustainability. What is a ‘good’ city? Which human needs should it meet? And what makes a city sustainable? Should the formal settlements dominating the Global North be the reference or the informal settlements dominating the Global South?
The second dilemma is the ‘how’ of the city and its sustainability. How to make a vision of a ‘good’ and sustainable city happen? Through top-down government policies and/or bottom-up social movements? Should efficiency and effectiveness be the overarching criteria, or rather accountability and inclusiveness?
Third and related there is the dilemma of the ‘who’ of the city and its sustainability. For whom is the city? Who should make the city? And who should assess its sustainability? How to cope with diversity and conflicts?
SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
Coyan Tromp (IIS)
Time: 13.30 - 15.00, Tuesday 28 June
Abstract: Sustainable consumption and production is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure, and providing access to basic services, green and decent jobs and a better quality of life for all. Its implementation helps to achieve overall development plans, reduce future economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and reduce poverty. Sustainable consumption and production aims at “doing more and better with less”, increasing net welfare gains from economic activities by reducing resource use, degradation and pollution along the whole lifecycle, while increasing quality of life. It also requires a systemic approach and cooperation among actors operating in the supply chain, from producer to final consumer. Recently, new concepts such as ‘cradle to cradle’ and ‘circular economy’ or ‘the new economy’ have been introduced that are said to provide new approaches, maybe even a new paradigm, to help realize these goals.
For this session, we invite stakeholders from different domains, including business, consumers, policy makers, researchers, scientists, retailers, NGOs, media, and development cooperation agencies to participate in a discussion about the usefulness of these new approaches, such as the circular or sharing economy. Do they indeed form an adequate way to interpret and meaningfully implement this SDG, and its targets? Can they offer solutions to tackle the problems caused by the standard way of production and consumption, or are they merely sleek slogans for impossible ideals? How to link this to other SDGs? And what are the implications of the answers to these question for a future research agenda? How can we join forces to help realize these (research) goals?

SDG 13: Climate Action
Bert Metz (ECF)
Time: 13.30 - 15.00, Tuesday 28 June
Speakers: Mrs. Marjan Minnesma (Urgenda), Mr. Sible Schoene (HIER Klimaat Bureau), Prof. Dr. Joyeeta Gupta (CSDS) & Mrs. Elvira Eurlings (FMO)
Abstract: The Paris Agreement on Climate Change that was adopted in December 2015 provides a long-term perspective in terms of a strengthened objective of keeping global temperature increase to “well below 2 degrees and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5” and it translates that in a goal of “net zero greenhouse gas emissions in the second half of the century” and encourages all countries to develop low emissions development strategies by 2020. The Paris Agreement goes a long way in implementing the provisions of SDG13 that features enhancing adaptive capacity, integrating climate measures into development, improving climate related education and capacity, address financing challenges, with a special focus on least developed countries and small island states.

In this session, we focus on the issue of “net zero greenhouse gas emissions”, or in other words, how to move to a fossil fuel free world in a 30-40 year timeframe and what the key issues are in trying to do so, for both developed and developing countries. We debate on what a fossil-fuel free world looks like and how does one get there. What does a fossil-fuel free world imply for our banks and pension funds, for our oil multinationals, for us as individuals and what does it mean for poor countries that have domestic fossil fuel resources or even earn significant revenues from exporting them. As this issue cannot be resolved easily, the aim of the session is to formulate a set of research questions on how to reach a fossil fuel world.
Student-led Session: Ecosystem Services
Co-ordinator: Iris Schuitemaker & Andrea Vos
Time: 16.30 - 17:30, Tuesday 28 June
Speaker 1: Lenni Mertens - Application of the concept of ecosystem services in developing countries
Abstract 1: The valorization of ecosystem services highlights ecological, socio-cultural, economic and political compromises implicated in the loss of ecosystems and biodiversity. Hence, an evaluation of these compromises may constitute a support tool for decision-making in line with SDG 13 and 15. Nonetheless, we argue that the concept of ecosystem services is not readily applicable to governance systems of poor countries such as DR Congo. First, poor people often have no other choice than to provide subsistence to their families based on ecosystem services. The results of our analysis in tropical Africa predict that, under the influence of climate change alone, the actual distribution of tropical trees that provide crucial supplies to local communities has a good chance of being preserved in the future. Yet if the currently observed fertilization effect of increasing atmospheric CO₂ ratios do not persist, future production rates will reduce greatly. Land use changes were not included in the analysis, but if no action is taken to stop current ecosystem degradation, we expect ecosystem resilience to climate change to be even lower. Second, a valorization in economic terms is not always desirable, since it gives the impression that ecosystems can be owned and traded. This commodification of ecosystem services is even worse if adequate property rights do not exist as is the case in DR Congo. Moreover, it is crucial to avoid valorization because of rarity or risk of extinction, given the irreversibility of crossing resilience thresholds.

Speaker 2: Julia Cornelissen - The role of scientific information in the policymaking process surrounding the two-degree norm in Paris
Abstract 3: This presentation will discuss the following topics:
1. The two-degree norm in Paris, current relevance
2. The "birth of two" (historical background)
3. Relationship scientific information - policymaking
4. Conclusions of my research

Student-led Session: Sustainable Consumption & Production
Co-ordinator: Heidrun Kerl
Time: 16.30 - 17:30, Tuesday 28 June
Speaker 1: Heidrun Kerl - Sustainable consumption patterns and sustainable production partners in the bio trade of organic products
Abstract: “With globalization and rising prosperity rising numbers of people have entered the world market as a consumers, with large consumer demands. The demands have put increased pressure on resource extraction worldwide. Past experiences have shown that that the unsustainable practices of business as usual can no longer be the basis of the current development paradigm and the question has been raised on how to guarantee not only sustainable production patterns but also sustainable consumption patterns. Focusing on both sustainable consumption and production patterns enables the holistic understanding of the shared responsibilities that sustainable development entails and consequently bridges the north-south divide. This paper/presentation aims to exemplify these dynamics using the examples of the organic/bio trade industry, which focuses on the certification of sustainable and green production processes and represents at the same time the new trend of a sustainable way of living in many western countries. Organic certification and sustainable “clean” production processes aim for a more efficient and sustainable use of resources, which puts less pressure on land and water use, the same process reflect a change in consumer demand and lifestyle in many western countries. A
special focus will be set on the bio trade industry of Peru and German or Dutch consumer studies of organic products."

Speaker 2: Waas Thissen, Abe van der Woude, Dante Follmi - Tiny TIM
Abstract: Tiny TIM is an off-grid and mobile tiny house. It is 100% self-sufficient in terms of energy and water. This is accomplished with a number of technologies, including pvt-solar, wind turbines, and a water-purifying green wall. We, students of Future Planet Studies, together with an architect and a photographer, started out with the idea of making our own sustainable student housing. In the process, we became aware that Tiny TIM would not only offer a solution to students, but to a much wider group of people!

**Student-led Session: The SDG Data Revolution**
Co-ordinator: Lianne Schmidt
Time: 16.30 - 17:30, Tuesday 28 June
Session abstract: This session will focus on the political economy of SDG indicators and the call for a data revolution. In this context, indicators are primarily regarded as means to represent reality and measure development progress; however, they also contribute to the (re)production of these realities through international governance and development policy. This raises many important questions to be answered: how does the use of social and sustainability indicators affect development policy? What happens when an indicator becomes a goal in itself? What are the implications of the Western hegemony in statistics for the use of indicators as part of a universal agenda? What role do the social sciences fulfil in both the analysis and construction of these indicators? By drawing on experiences with indicators as part of the Millennium Development Goals, the EU 2020 programme and the Paris Climate Agreement, this session will critically evaluate the role of indicators in development policy in both the North and the South. It will discuss important ‘lessons learnt’ for the use of indicators as part of a universal agenda as well as implications for empirical research on this topic.

Speaker 1: Robin Tschötschel - Governing macroeconomic stability with data: lessons to be learned from the European Semester
Abstract 1: The presentation will draw some lessons to be learned from the attempts at promoting social and sustainability goals within the European macroeconomic governance framework. Attempts at creating macroeconomic stability (through the Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure) seem to side-line pursuing social and sustainability goals that go beyond lasting growth and high employment. This can partly be explained by the way social and sustainability goals are conceptualised and measured, which has implications for the development of the data, monitoring and accountability dimension of SDG 17.

Speaker 2: Lianne Schmidt - Eradicating Data Poverty: Measuring poverty as part of past and future Development Goals
Abstract 2: This presentation will focus on the political economy of indicators connected to the goal of eradicating extreme poverty in relation to both the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals. Both frameworks use the proportion of population living below $1.25 as the main indicator to measure poverty; an example which will be shown to be emblematic of the dilemmas and politics related to the use of indicators in goalsetting. Especially for the South, this raises questions about the meaning of progress reports, the burden on national statistical capacity, the bias in missing data and the effects on development policy and international governance. Building on experience with the MDGs, this presentation will connect a conceptual critique with quantitative analysis to show the impact of poverty indicators and the possibility of more inclusive alternatives in the light of the SDGs.
Student-led Session: SDGs and Cities
Co-ordinator: Fenna Hoefsloot
Time: 16.30 - 17:30, Tuesday 28 June

Speaker 1: Sara Azeem - Ameliorative Governance, Spatial Planning, and the Pot of Melting Climate in Cape Town, South Africa

Abstract 1: “In my research I analyse how local governments in developing countries deal with climate vulnerability. For this purpose, I studied the City of Cape Town metropolitan municipality (CCT) in South Africa. South Africa poses a special challenge, as it is unique among developing countries. Given its brutal history of apartheid, the shadow of problematic spatial planning still looms large. I thus seek to determine the interplay between climate vulnerability and spatial planning, and examine the governance steps that CCT takes, and the challenges it faces, in dealing with this dynamic. Towards this end, I look at how climate vulnerability is understood by various departments working within the CCT, and the policies that they undertake to tackle this vulnerability. I conducted in-depth interviews with tens of government officials from five CCT departments, scrutinized several policy documents and studied data collected from departmental workshops. Based on my analysis, I find that the distrust of people in the government and the silos mentality within local government departments serves to hamper the efforts for dealing with climate vulnerability. Further, the local government policies often focus primarily on economic development. Ironically their efforts still fail to address grave social inequalities leading to societal disillusionment. Put another way: the combination of grave social inequalities, exclusivist (and often failing) efforts for economic development, and the wealth-favouring spatial configuration of Cape Town leads to a melting pot where climate vulnerability is exacerbated and a feedback loop occurs between the resultant spatial design and climate vulnerability. Finally, we conclude that to break this feedback loop a broad range of stakeholders including civil society and private sector need to be involved, since the complexity of the problem defies being solved by a single body such as the local government. Finally I present a diagnostic framework for governing systems called Ameliorative Governance that helps shed light on some of the challenges faced by the cities to achieve sustainability and resilience.”

Speaker 2: Georgeta Pintille - Roma access to housing - the case of Iasi, Romania: A human agency approach

Abstract 2: Housing conditions of Romanian or Eastern European Roma, have been extensively studied, mostly from a human rights perspective, highlighting vulnerability and discrimination. This paper adopts a different perspective by focusing on the individual and his/her human agency in terms of getting access to housing. This approach allows us to address a topic that has been rarely approached in the literature – how Roma, deploying their agency, obtain access to housing in a transition economy characterized by dramatically changing the housing situation. By applying Briones’ theory, in which agency is understood as the capability to use power through access to resources or capabilities to achieve intended outcomes, the paper develops an agency perspective on Roma housing. This paper is based on research undertaken as an intensive case study in the urban area of Iasi, Romania’s second largest city. Through multi-generation families interviews it identifies the respondents’ human agency in relation to their housing experiences. This main finding being that, in contrast to most of the literature, Roma are not less successful in accessing housing than other Romanians. Even though there is discrimination, the main obstacles in accessing housing are the limitations of the housing system and the Roma’s lack of economic means and education. Furthermore, it confirms problems with bureaucracy, lack of resources, inadequate living conditions, and deficiencies of the housing system. To conclude, improving Roma’s housing situation in Iasi is not necessarily best served only by fighting discrimination, but by improving and expanding the existing housing system in general, and social housing in particular.
SDGs: Participation & Inclusion in Practice
MDF & Partners in Development
Senior Trainers & Consultants: Sam Boering (MDF), Francine Egbers (MDF), Iwan Zunder (PID Caribbean) and Ralph Schreinemachers (PID Caribbean).
Time: 17.30 - 19.30, Tuesday 28 June
Abstract: Inclusion and participation are essential elements in the recently established SDGs. The process towards the SDGs consisted of large-scale global consultations and SDG 16 specifically emphasises the importance of participatory decision-making at all levels.

In this creative and interactive workshop, the team of senior-trainers will explore the manner in which participation and inclusion can contribute to a more effective implementation of the SDGs. We will do this by building on our recent experience evaluating the SDG process (MDF) and the implementation of participatory governance in Curacao (PID Caribbean). During the workshop we will activate the collective knowledge of the participants that are present.

MDF Training & Consultancy: passionate learning facilitators with 30 years of experience in the field of international co-operation and organisational development.

Partners in Development: training and consultancy in the Caribbean and Latin America by an international team with broad experiences in government, private-sector and non-profit.

Negotiations Workshop
Dr. Marcel van den Heuvel, Certified mediator
Time: Monday 27 June, 19:30 - 20:45/ 21.00 – 22.15 & Tuesday 28 June, 17.30 - 18.45/ 19.00 – 20.15
Abstract: Agreements and deals do just not happen. They result from negotiations, usually long, hard negotiations that invariably consume considerable material, human and emotional recourses. And there is good news: being a good negotiator is something you can learn and acquire skills in. On Monday 27th June at 17.30 – 19.30, there will be a negotiation class given by Marcel van den Heuvel MDR, chairman of the Finance and Audit committees of the City of Amsterdam. This is a theoretic class. If you’d like a more practice oriented class, then another workshop, covering the same techniques, will be given on Tuesday 28th June from 17.30 – 19.30. If you are interested you can only choose one of the two workshops.

Day 3: Wednesday 29, June

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
Prof. Dr. John Grin (UvA)
Time: 11.30 – 13.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Speakers: Dr Gerrit Jan Schaeffer (energy consultant; former manager at ECN and director at VITO, Mol, Belgium); Drs Anneke Timmermans (Heijmans BV) and Drs. Rick Bosman (DRIFT, Erasmus University Rotterdam).
This session will give a broad picture of energy in the post-fossil era and discuss some of its political ramifications. Schaeffer will argue that a non-fossil energy system is well possible and, in fact, under way. It is becoming more decentralized, with energy production by dwelling areas and industrial complexes next to central, non-fossil fuel energy generation. Grids will become key assets and exchange of energy, information and money will become much more complex. Anneke Timmermans of Heijmans
BV construction company will discuss one example of decentralized energy production, the Heijmans One home for single person households. It may be constructed in a day, is fully electric and energy neutral and can be brought to temporarily empty, 'intermission' spaces in urban regions. Following these two introductions, Rick Bosman (DRIFT, Erasmus University Rotterdam will discuss some of the political ramifications of these developments. Geopolitically, power relations between countries will change and global interdependencies will reduce as, with electricity as the main energy carrier, energy markets become limited to the size of the grid, energy markets become locally oriented and there will be more volatile electricity prices.

**SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities**

Prof. Dr. Herman van de Werfhorst (AMCIS)

Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Wednesday 29 June

Speakers: Dr. Jeroen Smits (Radboud University), Prof. Dr. Herman van der Wefhorst (UvA) & Dr. Wiemer Salverda (Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Labor Studies)

Abstract: In most societies income inequality has increased rapidly over the past decades. The gap between the top and bottom earners within countries is growing, but at the same we see substantial income inequalities between countries. In the SDG, reducing inequality is an explicit goal, for example by suggesting fiscal and social protection policies that will ensure more equality or advocating policies that will increase the income growth of those at the bottom of the distribution. In this session there will be three empirical presentations, each focusing on different aspects of inequality. First, we will focus on how much income inequality there is, how to measure it, and how patterns of inequality differ across (western) societies. Second, we will focus on inequalities within and between the poorer countries of our globe and discuss the relationship between inequality and poverty in these countries. Third, we will discuss different mechanisms that explain why some individuals have more than others, and why this might be different across countries. Finally, we will discuss our empirical findings in the context of the SDGs.

**SDG 14: Life Below Water**

Prof. Dr. Jan Tatenhove, (MARE) & Prof. Dr. Maarten Bavinck (CSDS)

Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Wednesday 29 June

Speakers: Prof. Dr. Anna Katharina Hornidge (Univ. of Bremen) & Prof. Dr. Erik Molenaar (UU)

Abstract: This session will focus on the governance of SDG 14, and assumes that governance will necessarily be of a multi-level and multi-actor nature. The text of the SDG actually refers to a number of specific instruments (fisheries subsidies, MPAs, international law), but there are many others that might be utilized. As these goals are international in nature, international organizations and agreements are expected to be part of the effort, but so are national governments, private business and civil society. Governance will take place at different levels and apply to different geographical zones (from high seas to coastal settings), where legal and administrative regimes (formal and informal) are layered and highly diverse. Marine spatial planning and integrated coastal management are common tools used to coordinate governance efforts. The configuration of goals included in SDG 14, however, requires a fundamental rethinking of governance structures and processes. Do we have the right mechanisms in place? Where are the gaps and the aspects that require reinforcing? What dilemmas and questions emerge in this effort? Following a short synthesis of the present state of affairs with regard to the 10 sub-goals, the session will focus on the governance challenges ahead.

**SDG 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt**
**biodiversity loss (Life on land)**
Mr. Marcel Kok (PBL)
Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Dr. Tiina Häyhä, (Resilience Center, Sweden), Drs. Simone Lovera-Bilderbeek (Global Forest Coalition) & Mrs. Sylvia Karlsson-Vinkhuyzen (WUR)

Abstract: The SDGs have the potential to become a powerful political vision that can support the urgently needed global transition to a shared and lasting prosperity. Sustainable use of our natural resources will be important for such development, which requires reversioning negative trends. In view of the limited effectiveness of intergovernmental efforts so far and questions about the capacity of national governments to affect change, the implementation of SDG 15 (like all SDGs) need to additionally mobilize new agents of change such as businesses, cities and civil society. To galvanize such a broad set of actors, we have argued (Hajer et al., 2015) that multiple perspectives on sustainable development are needed that respond to the various motives and logics of change of these different actors. We also signaled the risk that the SDGs may fall short of expectations because of what we call “cockpit-ism”: the illusion that top-down steering by governments and intergovernmental organizations alone can address global problems. We suggested four connected perspectives which can strengthen the universal relevance of the SDGs and that we like to elaborate further for SDG 15 in this session: “planetary boundaries” to stress the urgency of addressing environmental concerns and to target governments to take responsibility for (global) public good such as forests and biodiversity; “the safe and just operating space” to highlight the interconnectedness of social and environmental concerns and its distributive consequences which is especially pertinent for natural resources and poverty eradication; “the energetic society” to benefit from the willingness of a broad group of actors worldwide to take action; and “green competition” to stimulate innovation and new business practices which comes to the fore through multiple business and biodiversity initiatives. To realize the transformative potential of the SDGs, these four perspectives, but most likely also other perspectives as well (which?), should be reflected in the implementation of SDG 15.

- The first perspective will be addressed by Tiina Häyhä (Stockholm Resilience Center, Sweden) in her talk on *Planetary boundaries perspective to inform national implementation of SDG 15.*

- **Law and justice approaches for biodiversity – transforming missed opportunities into long term impact** is the title of the presentation by Yolanda Saito/Helene Molinier of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), The Hague.

- The contribution of international multi-actor partnerships to global biodiversity governance will be critically examined by Simone Lovera-Bilderbeek, guest researcher, AISSR and executive director of the Global Forest Coalition in her talk on *The SDGs, the Paris Agreement and Partnerships as a threat to Policy Coherence and Effective Implementation*

- **The Role of NGOs in Making States Accountable: Considerations to Improve the Effectiveness of Global Biodiversity Governance during the Implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.**

**SDG 17: Actors/Partners**
Mr. Peter Heintze (World Connectors)
Time: 11.30 - 13.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Dr. Adrian de Groot, (True Price Initiative & Global Goals Charter), Drs. Steven Collet (IDH), Dr. Bernard Berendse (AIV) & Mr. Hugo G. von Meijenfeldt (Implementation Coordinator of the Global Goals at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Abstract: One way to implement the SDGs is to promote cross-sector partnerships and to activate the private sector for the SDG-agenda. The question is: will such partnerships be motivated to address global challenges and what kinds of incentives will they need to contribute more effectively to sustainable development. This session will discuss the pros and cons of cross-sector partnerships in the SDG agenda.

**Sustainable Alumni Project**
Mr. Arantes Biekman (Alumnus UvA)
Time: 13.30 - 16.30, Wednesday 29 June
Abstract: Attendees are invited to join the Sustainable Alumni Project. Members are willing and also put their self in the position to help one another in their ways on contributing to the SDGs. The alumni are helping each other to make a difference. The alumni will meet during a number of events at the university where they obtained their degree. The alumni gather on the basis of a SDG. A graduate will join other graduates (from different academic backgrounds) within the same SDG in which they can make a difference. In the future the UvA alumni will also meet alumni for other universities on the specific SDGs. In this session we’ll match the alumnus/alumna with others who also (can) have impact on a SDG. We’ll end the session with a ‘to-do list’ concerning the several SDGs.

**SDG 11 & 15: Rural-urban linkages**
Prof. Dr. Annelies Zoomers (UU) & Dr. Mirjam Ros-Tonen (CSDS)
Time: 14.30 - 16.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Dr Jytte Agergaard (University of Copenhagen), Prof. Dr. Annelies Zoomers (UU) & Dr. Mirjam Ros-Tonen (CSDS)
Abstract: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development claims that all sustainable development goals (SDGs) are integrated and indivisible. In this session we specifically look at the linkages between SDG 11 (“Sustainable city life”) and SDG 15 (“Conserving forests and other ecosystems”). Heading towards an urban population of 70% in 2050, the goal of making cities safe, resilient and sustainable cannot be seen in isolation of their linkages with nearby and distant rural areas and of the importance of the latter for providing access to food, safe drinking water and green spaces. Hence the guiding question for this session is whether and how the two SDGs and their targets can be meaningfully linked and implemented to “support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas” (para 11.a of Agenda 2030).

Dr Jytte Agergaard of the University of Copenhagen coordinated the EU-funded Rurban Africa project, which was carried out in Ghana, Cameroon, Rwanda and Tanzania. This project sought to understand how connections between rural transformations, mobility and urbanisation affect the location, scale and nature of poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa. She will present the major findings of this project and their implications for the SDG agenda. Lessons learned from this project will serve as a basis for a discussion on the integrated implementation of SDGs 11 and 15 and the implications thereof for the future research agenda on the ‘Urban-Rural’ in the SDGs.

Hence, this session addresses the following sub-questions:
1. How can SDGs 11 and 15 and their targets be meaningfully linked to enhance sustainable links between urban, peri-urban and rural regions?
2. What does that mean for the future research agenda on ‘Governing by SDGs’?
Financing SDGs
Prof. Dr. Rolph van der Hoeven (Commission on Development Cooperation (COS) of the Advisory Council on Foreign Affairs to the Dutch Government (AIV).
Time: 14.30 - 16.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Mr. Ries Kamphof (Kaleidos Research), Mr. Harry Fulgencio (Leiden Univ.), Mr. Antony Otieno Ongáyo (UU) & Prof. Dr. Rolph van der Hoeven (ISS)
Abstract: This session discusses challenges and progress towards SDG 17 on global partnerships, especially sections 17.1 till 17.5 which deal with strengthening domestic resource mobilization, through international support to developing countries, improving domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection, implementing official development assistance commitments, mobilizing additional financial resources, assisting developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies on debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring. It will also discuss systemic issues for a coherent International Financial System.

SDG 16: Rule of Law
Dr. Catherine Brölmann (Faculty of Law)
Time: 14.30 - 16.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Prof. Dr. Nico Schrijver (Netherlands Parliament First Chamber, Leiden University), Prof. Dr. Karin Arts (International Institute of Social Studies, EUR), Mr. Frank Slijper (PAX) & Dr. Ronald Janse (UvA)
Abstract: This session (critically) looks at law and governance as possible factors in sustainable development. SDG 16 aims to “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”.
Its nine targets comprise, among others, human rights and children’s rights issues; the promotion of rule of law; good governance; the countering of illicit financial and arms flows, and of corruption; the strengthening of developing country participation in global governance. Most targets are expressed in general qualitative terms.

One key question is therefore how the targets can be meaningfully translated into elements that may be monitored and measured – lest SDG 16 remains an elusive goal. Another is how SDG 16 may be fruitfully linked to the other SDGs, and whether particular elements may at some stage need special emphasis if we want to operationalize SDG 16. The expert speakers in this session will each tackle one or other of these issues, followed by a general discussion at the end.

SDG Targets and Indicators
Dr. Marja Spierenburg (CERES)
Time: 14.30 - 16.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Dr. Wendy Asbeek Brusse (Director, Policy and operation Evaluation Department, Ministery of Foreign Affairs), Mr. Koos de Bruijn (Advocacy manager Partos), Dr. Luuk vna Kempen (Senior researcher CIDIN, Radboud University) & Mr. Hermanus Rietveld (Coördinator Sustainable Development Goals, CBS)
Abstract: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) include a large number of targets, which are in turn
linked to deadlines. Monitoring is required to ensure that progress is being made and that words are actually translated into action. But to what extent are the targets set by the SDGs clear enough for monitoring and evaluation to take place? What indicators assist in determining progress? Are we likely to have enough and proper data to actually conduct an assessment in a meaningful way? And which targets will be easier to monitor than others and hence may receive more attention from researchers and policy-makers?

This session will examine such questions mainly from the perspective of developing countries. Such countries are characterized by a relative lack of data as well as scientific facilities. How can these challenges be addressed and perhaps overcome? Do we possess sufficient ‘frugal methods’ to make headway in monitoring the SDGs? What can countries in the South learn from each other? And how can universities assist in moving the formulation of targets and indicators forward?

SDG Toward coherence
Mr. Paul Lucas (PBL)
Time: 14.30 - 16.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Dr. Ingeborg Niestroy (IISD), Dr. James Mackie (ECDPM) & Mr. Paul Lucas (PBL)
Abstract: Various paragraphs of the 2030 Agenda emphasize that the goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and aim to contribute to coherent sustainability policies. Targets overlap or refer to multiple goals. Furthermore, targets reinforce, constrain or even conflict with the realization of other targets. Gaining insight into these inter-linkages is a first step towards designing coherent policies and avoiding a ‘silo approach’ in the implementation. Integrated approaches should enhance the potential synergies in the realization of various SDG targets and reduce the negative effects of trade-offs. Such approaches are aimed at both horizontal policy integration – linking various themes and sectors – as well as vertical policy integration – linking subnational, national, regional (e.g. EU) and international scales. A further challenge is integrating the multiple contributions of active groups within society, e.g. citizens, businesses, NGOs.

SDGs and Young Researchers
Annisa Triyanti (CSDS) and Rozemarijn ter Horst (Water Youth Network)
Time: 14.30 - 16.00, Wednesday 29 June
Speakers: Prof. Dr. Margret Zwarteveen (UvA – UNESCO-IHE), Dr. Eric Chu (CSDS) & Rozemarijn ter Horst (Water Youth Network)
Abstract: One of the CSDS Conference objectives related to the involvement of young scientist/students is to mobilize students to actively engage in understanding what the SDGs mean for their educational, professional and personal lives. This specific session on SDGs and young researchers is aimed to provide space for interaction between young researchers to elaborate the role of young people in SDGs related research. The expected outcome of the session is to leverage the awareness of young researcher on the importance of SDGs and the potential contribution of young researchers for better implementation of SDGs.