Sustainable Development Investments (SDIs)

Taxonomies

May 2017
SDI definition

“We invest in solutions that contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. These investments meet our financial risk and return requirements and support the generation of positive social and/or environmental impact through their products and services, or at times through acknowledged transformational leadership. We distinguish between investments where impact has and those where it has not been measured, and stimulate the latter to report on measurable impacts.”
Is it a positive contribution to a sustainable development goal?

Is it consistent with SDG taxonomy and guidance?

Is there a serious known conflict with other SDGs or RI policy objectives?

Is the contribution substantial?

1. Majority
2. Decisive
3. Acknowledged transformational leader

SDI Decision Tree
The investability of the SDGs

- Not investable
- Investable
- Potential for Acknowledged Transformational Leader (ATL)

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace and Justice, Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals
SDG 1: No Poverty

*End poverty in all its forms everywhere*

**Investable sub-goals**

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.

1.5: Build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.

1.4 Access to basic services, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance

1.5 Reduce exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters

Specific financial services, microfinance

Climate-related events, economic, social and environmental disasters

See SDG 6.1, 6.2 and 7.1

See SDG 11.5 and 13
SDG 2: Zero Hunger

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

**Investable sub-goals**

**2.1:** Ensure access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

**2.2:** End all forms of malnutrition and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons

**2.3:** Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

**2.4:** Ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production

**2.5:** Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge
2.1 Ensure access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food

- Access to food
- Nutritious food
- Safe food

2.2 End malnutrition and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons

- Increase the quality of food for all

2.3 Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small scale food producers

- Land conversion and development, land management/operations

2.4 Sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production

- Production and Productivity
- Fertilizer, crop protection materials, seeds

2.5 Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domestic animals

- Reduction food waste
- Organic agricultural investments and food products

See SDG 12.3

Local access to fresh food, retailing
Sustainable production of basic food, health food ingredients, healthy & natural foods
Food packaging, food testing
Food additives, healthy food, food testing equipment & services
Impact funds focusing on small scale food producers
Sustainable agriculture, farmland
Fertilizer, crop protection materials, seeds
Food spoilage, cold chain, logistics, storage
Organic farming, organic processing and retailing
**SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being**

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

**Investable sub-goals**

3.1: Reduce the global maternal mortality ratio

3.2: End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age

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

3.4: Reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being

3.7: Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education

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.

3.9: Substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination

3.b: Research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines
3.1: Reduce the global maternal mortality ratio

3.2: End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age;

3.3: Communicable diseases: End the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases;

3.4: Non-Communicable diseases: reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases and promote mental health and well-being

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

3.7: Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services

3.9: Reduce deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution/contamination

Access to maternal care and care for children under 5 years

Communicable and Non-communicable diseases

Mental health and well-being

(R&D of) vaccines and medicines

Health care equipment and services

Family planning

Health protection and alternatives

Prevention, access to quality care by skilled health providers, diagnostics, access to contraception and access to medicine and treatment during pregnancy

Prevention (including vaccines), access to quality care by skilled health providers, diagnostics, medicines and treatment for NCD and CD.

Diagnostics, treatment of mental disorders, substance abuse and improving quality of life (incl. non-invasive diagnostics and treatment, prostheses, hearing devices)

R&D facilities and services for vaccines and medicines

Diagnostics, medical equipment, services, health care delivery systems (IT)

Personal health tech diagnostics, preventive healthcare

Affordable hospitals, and clinics, health care facilities

Affordable health coverage and financial services

Incl. Contraceptives, fertility treatment information and education

See also SDG 9.1

See also SDG 12.4
SDG 4: Quality education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities

Investable sub-goals

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.a: Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all
4.1 / 4.6 Free primary and secondary education, literacy and numeracy youth & adults

Primary & secondary education products and services
Software, educational publications and materials

4.2 Access to early education

Early education and pre-school products and services
Provision of pre-school education and related facilities, early learning publications and materials/educational toys

4.3 / 4.4 / 4.5 Gender, vulnerable and disabled equal access, affordable tertiary and vocational education

Vocational education products and services
Provision of education and related facilities, software, educational publications and materials

4a Build and upgrade educational facilities

Finance for access to education
Microfinance funds and affordable finance/loans/credits

Real Estate & infrastructure related to education
Schools, universities, (physical buildings), also refurbishment of such facilities

See also SDG 9.1
SDG 5: Gender equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Investable and acknowledged transformational leadership sub-goals

5.1: End all forms of discrimination against women

5.5: Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership

5.6: Access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights
SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation

*Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all*

**Investable sub-goals**

6.1: Access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

6.2: Access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations

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

6.4: Substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity
6.1: access to safe and affordable drinking water
- Water supply & distribution
  - Network construction, maintenance, equipment

6.2: access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene
- Wastewater discharge
  - Network construction & maintenance
- Hygiene
  - Personal hygiene products

6.3: improve water quality
- Water treatment
  - Network construction, maintenance, equipment, desalinization
- Water testing
  - Laboratory equipment & services

6.4: increase water-use efficiency and reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity
- Water quantity
  - Water saving systems, technologies and water metering
- Water storage
  - Storage infra, storage tanks

See also SDG 13.1
SDG 7: Affordable clean energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Investable sub-goals

7.1: Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
7.2: Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
7.3: Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency
7.1 Access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.

Energy infrastructure

See SDG 9.1

Electricity and/or heat generated from wind, solar, biomass, geothermal, hydro, waste and/or tidal sources

7.2 Increase share of renewable energy

Renewable energy

Alternative fuels

Supporting products and services

Renewable technology suppliers, enzyme suppliers

Hydrogen, fuel cells and advanced biofuels

Built environment

Metering, GRESB Top Quintiles

Efficient lighting

LED lights, efficient lighting service providers

Efficient production tools, resource management systems

Industrial production

Energy efficient transport

Fuel use reduction

7.3 Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency
SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth

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

**Investable and acknowledged transformational leadership sub-goals**

**8.4:** Improve global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to 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

**8.7:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms

**8.8:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment
8.4 Resource efficiency in consumption and production
- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle
  - See SDG 12

8.5 Achieve full and productive employment
- For young people
  - Candidate ATL
- For persons with disabilities
  - Candidate ATL

8.7 Eliminate worst forms of child labour and eradicate forced labour
- Elimination of child and forced labor
  - Candidate ATL

8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe working environments, including migrant workers
- Labour rights of migrant workers, in particular women migrants
  - Candidate ATL
SDG 9: industry, innovation and infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Investable sub-goals

9.1: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans border 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
9.1 Sustainable & Resilient infrastructure

- Transportation infra
- Social infra
- Water infra
- Waste infra
- Communications infra
- Energy infra

9.3 Access of small-scale enterprises to financial services

- Financial services in particular in developing countries

9.4 Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable

- Resource efficiency

Public transportation and sustainable logistics
Schools, hospitals, elderly homes (buildings only)
Clean drinking water, distribution networks and waste water treatment
Waste collection infra, waste treatment facilities
Networks, antenna towers, fiber cables
Transmission and distribution of renewable energy and alternative fuels
Microfinance, Electronic payment systems, other SME financial services
Recycling, energy efficiency, reduced fuel consumption

See SDG 6
See also SDG 11.6
See also SDG 7 for renewable energy generation
See also SDG 7.3 and SDG 12
SDG 10: Reduce Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries

Investable and acknowledged transformational leadership sub-goal

10.1: Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40% of the population
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Investable sub-goals

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

11.5: Significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

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
11.1 Access to safe and affordable housing and basic services

- Affordable housing
  - Public/private partnerships to build (social) housing, student housing
  - Development, renovation, reinforcement of houses
- Safe housing
- Basic services
  - Access to waste collection, electricity, etc.

See also SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 11.6

11.2 Access to safe, affordable and sustainable transport systems

- Sustainable transportation systems
  - Public transport, rail infra, transport sharing,
  - Traffic management systems, vision & sensor systems, airbags
- Improving road safety
- Reduce human impact
  - Emergency packs, survival kits, shelter tents

See also SDG 9.1 and SDG 12.2/5

11.5 Reduce impact of disasters

- Reduce economic losses
  - Catastrophe (re)insurance, catbonds
- Upgrade adaptation measures
  - Flood protection, dams

See also SDG 13

11.6 Reduce adverse per capita environmental impact of cities

- Waste management
- Air quality
- Transport substitutes
  - Recycling, waste to energy
  - Sustainable transport, EV infra
  - Virtualization, videoconferencing
SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Investable sub-goals

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

12.4: Achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

12.5: Substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
12.3 Reduce food waste
- Retail
- Post harvest
- Packaging for spoilage prevention, recycling of food waste (to feed)
- See also SDG 2.4

12.4 Management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle and reduce the release into the environment
- Emission reduction equipment
- Filters, emission control
- Biochemicals
- Sustainable substitutes
- Waste management, design, sharing economy
- Prevention
- Process improvements
- Reduction
- Recycling and reuse
- Recycling operations, Waste-to-Energy
- See also SDG 2.4

12.2 Sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources and 12.5 Reduce waste
- Prevention
- Process improvements
- Recycling and reuse
- Recycling operations, Waste-to-Energy
SDG 13: Climate Action

*Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*

**Investable sub-goals**

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

13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities
13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Infrastructure
- Flood protection, flood-resilient buildings

Adaptive capacity
- Water storage, weather forecasting technologies, sensors (e.g. atmosphere, ocean temperatures)

Insurance
- Climate risk related insurance, catastrophe reinsurance, weather bonds

See also SDG 11.5

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

ATL
SDG 14: Life below water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Investable sub-goals

14.1: Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution

14.2: Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans
14.1 Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds

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

- Marine products, services and equipment providers
- Water pollution prevention
- Sustainable fishing
- Marine operation services, moorings and aids to navigation, subsea services, ecological surveys and lab testing, oil spill response
- Technologies, systems and projects aiming to reduce water pollution (e.g. wastewater treatment)
- Products, services and equipment providers of sustainable fishing technologies
SDG 15: Life on land

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

**Investable sub-goals**

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, in line with obligations under international agreements

15.2: Promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally

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 and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
15.2 Sustainable management of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and increase afforestation and reforestation

- Sustainably managed forests
- Afforestation and reforestation projects
- Forest development, REDD projects

15.3 Combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil

- Degraded land restoration
- Prevent land degradation
- Agriculture on marginal lands, Land Degradation Neutrality investment
- Halt overgrazing, agricultural activities, deforestation

15.4 & 15.5 Reduce degradation of natural habitats including mountain ecosystems, halt the loss of biodiversity and protect and prevent extinction of threatened species

- Reduce degradation of natural habitats
- Halt the loss of biodiversity
- Protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
- Wildlife conservation projects, biological pesticides, ecotourism
- Wildlife conservation projects
- Restoration finance
- Carbon-, Biodiversity-, Stream-, wetlands mitigation & restoration finance
SDG 16: Peace and Justice Strong institutions

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

Investable sub-goals

- Not possible to contribute to this goal through investment activity, but use information to feed into investment decisions, e.g. via country risk ESG assessments.
SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Investable sub-goals

- Not possible to contribute to this goal through investment activity, but through participation in cross-industry initiatives (e.g. PRI).