



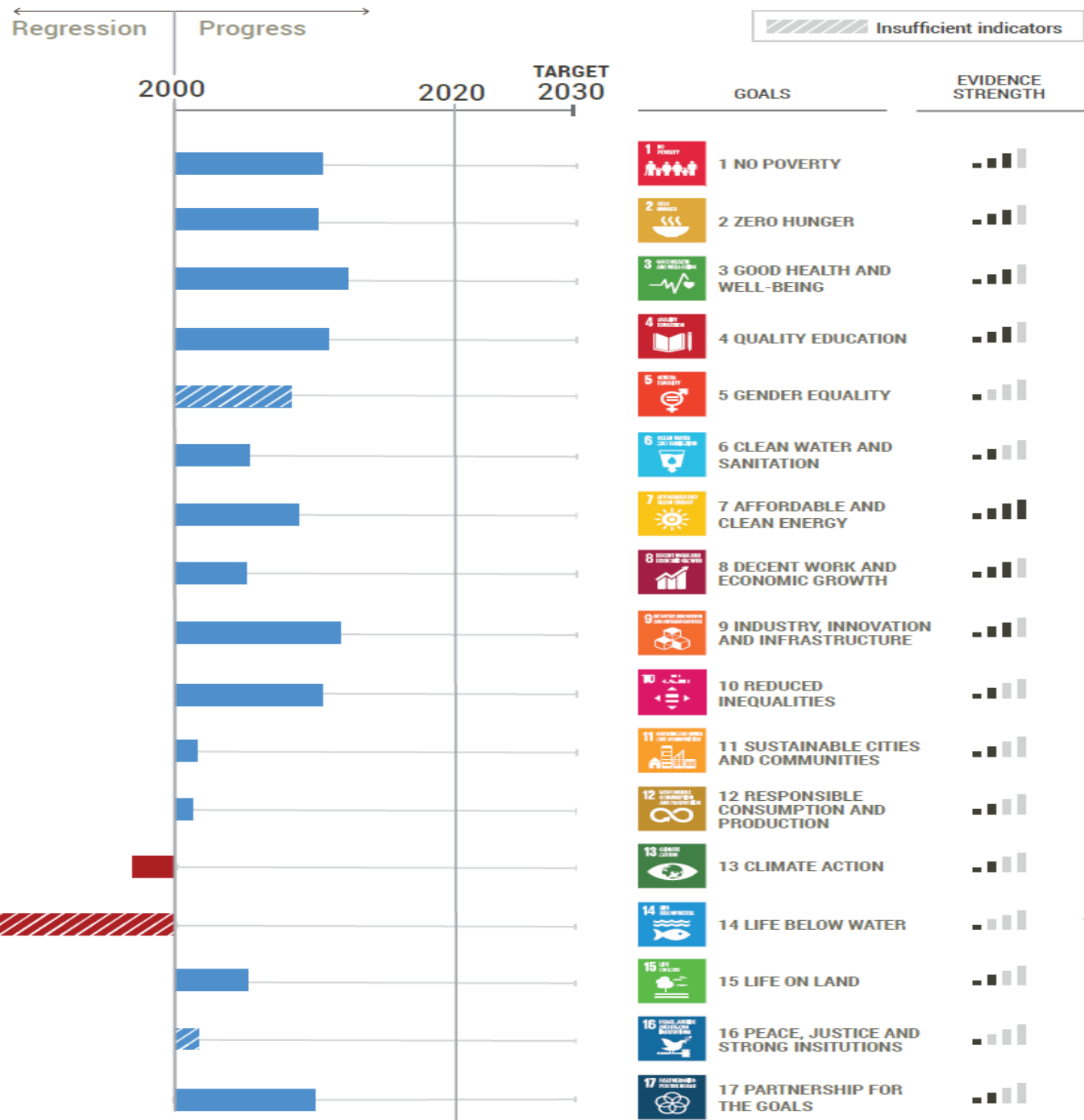
ISAP 2021

International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific

IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

Can COVID-19 Revitalize the SDGs and Enhance the Post-2030 Sustainability Agenda?

Eric Zusman
Research Director
Integrated Sustainability Center
ISAP Plenary



Progress on the SDGs is too slow

At the current pace, the world will achieve the SDGs in *2073*

COVID-19 is further slowing progress

Source: ESCAP 2021



“A crisis is a terrible thing to waste”

Paul Romer, Nobel Laureate

The Triple-R Framework

1. Redesign/Ambitious Transformation

2. Recovery/Integration

3. Response/Actionable Innovation



New York 1973



Source, Business, Insider 2018

A Useful Parallel: Rap Music

2021



1986



* * BACK TO SCHOOL JAM * *
PLACE: 1520 SEDGWICK AVE. "REC ROOM"
DATE: August 11, 1973
TIME: 9:00 PM to 4:00 AM
ADMISSION: \$2.25 LADIES ♡
 \$3.50 FEELS
BOOKING BY: Kool Herc
Security
Start
Out



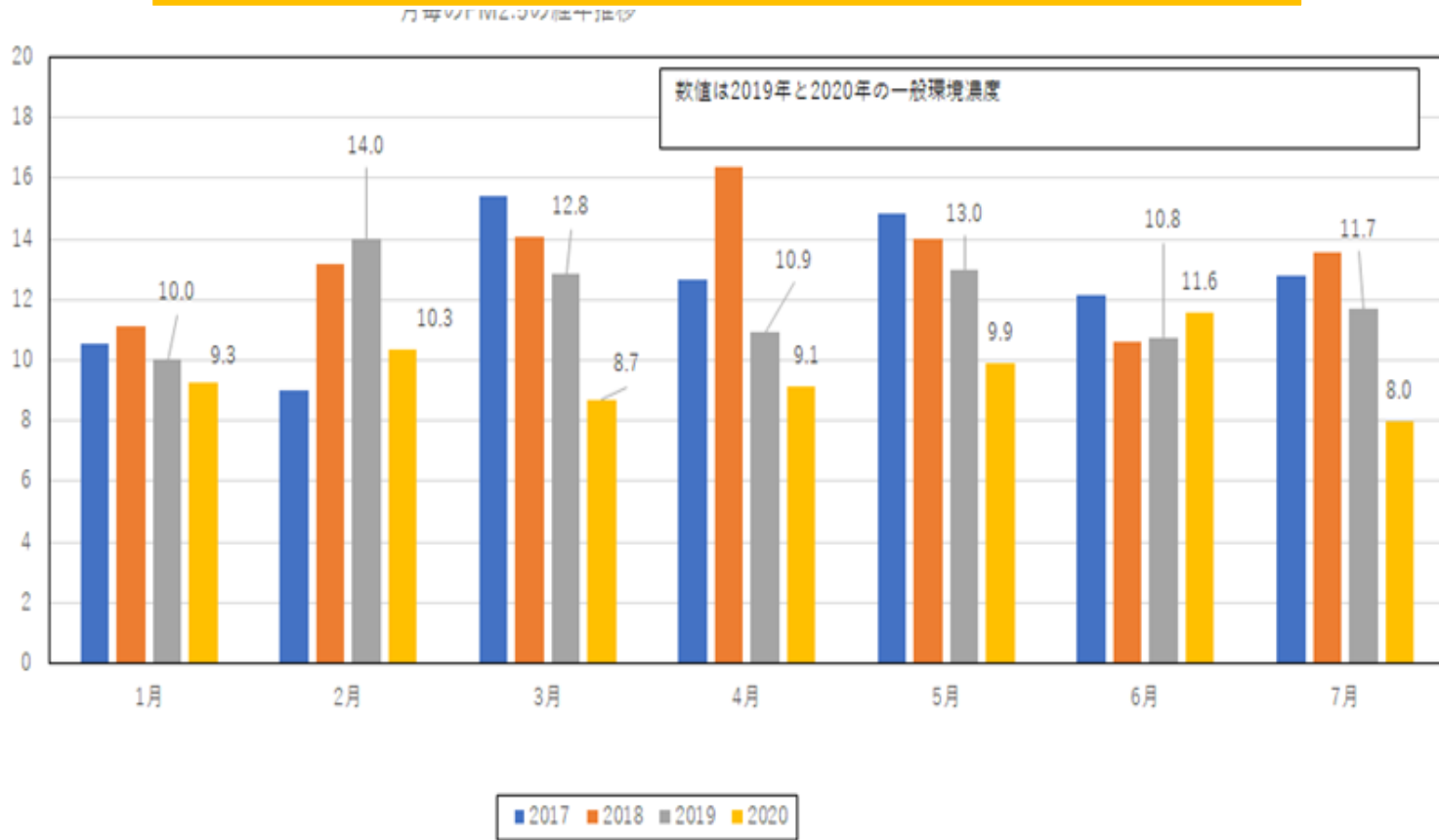
1973

Kawasaki Late-1960s



The Triple-R Framework in Kawasaki

Response



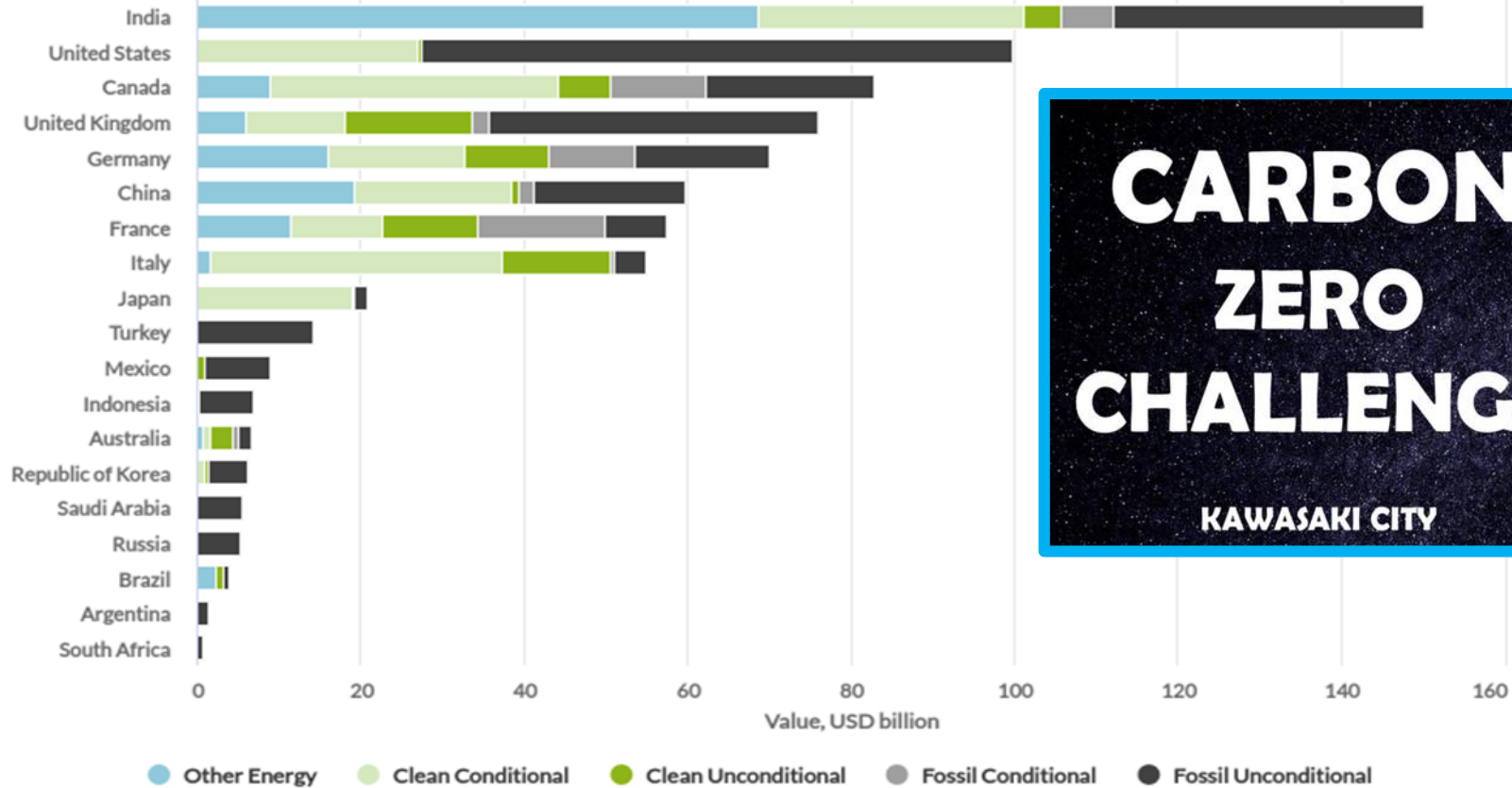
安心してご利用いただくために、さまざまな
新型コロナウイルス感染予防対策に
取り組んでおります。

- 健康管理** (Health Management): Icon of a person with a clipboard and a thermometer.
- 車内消毒** (Vehicle Disinfection): Icon of a person spraying disinfectant and a hand being washed.
- 換気** (Ventilation): Icon of a fan and a window with an arrow indicating air flow.
- 飛沫防止** (Droplet Prevention): Icon of a person wearing a face mask and a person sitting at a desk.

Kawasaki, 2020

The Triple-R Framework in Kawasaki

Recovery



**CARBON
ZERO
CHALLENGE**

KAWASAKI CITY



Source: energypolicytracker.org, Oct 27 2021

Source: Energy Policy Tracker, 2021

The Triple-R Framework in Kawasaki

Redesign



Source: Kawasaki, 2020



2. Protect our planet

- Leaders meeting ahead of the global stocktaking in 2023
- Commit to the 1.5-degree Celsius goal and **net zero emissions by 2050 or sooner**
- Declarations of **climate emergency** and **right to a healthy environment**
- Package of support to developing countries
- Measures for adaptation and resilience
- No new coal after 2021 and phasing out fossil fuel subsidies
- Account for the environment in economic models, carbon pricing mechanisms and credible commitments by financial actors
- Post-2020 biodiversity framework
- Transforming food systems for sustainability, nutrition and fairness
- Action by the General Assembly on territorial threats of climate change and to prevent, protect and resolve situations of environmental displacement

KEY PROPOSALS ACROSS THE 12 COMMITMENTS

From the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations

All proposed actions are in line with and designed to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



1. Leave no one behind

- Renewed social contract anchored in human rights
- New era for **universal social protection**, including health care and basic income security, reaching the 4 billion unprotected
- Reinforce **adequate housing, education and lifelong learning and decent work**
- Digital inclusivity
- World Social Summit in 2023
- Identify **complementary measures** to GDP



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3. Promote peace and prevent conflicts

- **New agenda for peace to:**
 - Reduce strategic risks (nuclear weapons, cyberwarfare, autonomous weapons)
 - Strengthen international foresight
 - Reshape responses to all forms of violence
 - Invest in prevention and peacebuilding, including Peacebuilding Fund and Peacebuilding Commission
 - Support regional prevention
 - Put women and girls at the centre of security policy
- Peaceful, secure and sustainable use of outer space, including through a multi-stakeholder dialogue on outer space



4. Abide by international law and ensure justice

- Human rights as a **problem-solving** measure, including by comprehensive anti-discrimination laws and promoting participation
- Application of **human rights** online and to frontier issues and new technologies
- Universal access to the Internet as a human right
- Human rights mechanisms on a more sustainable financial footing
- **Legal identity** for all, end to statelessness and protection of internally displaced persons, refugees and migrants
- New vision for the rule of law
- **Global road map** for the development and effective implementation of international law



5. Place women and girls at the centre

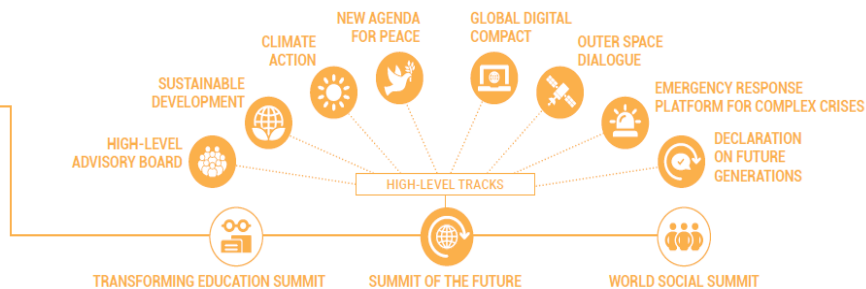
- Repeal of gender-discriminatory laws
- Promote gender parity, including through quotas and special measures
- Facilitate women's economic inclusion, including investment in the care economy and support for women entrepreneurs
- Include voices of **younger women**
- Eradication of violence against women and girls, including through an **emergency response plan**



6. Build trust

- **Global code of conduct** that promotes integrity in public information
- Improve people's experiences with public institutions and basic services
- Inclusive **national listening** and "envisioning the future" exercises
- Action to tackle corruption in line with the United Nations Convention against Corruption
- Reformed international tax system
- **Joint structure on financial integrity** and tackling illicit financial flows

PROPOSED KEY MOMENTS



7. Improve digital cooperation

- **Global Digital Compact to:**
 - Connect all people to the Internet, including all schools
 - Avoid Internet fragmentation
 - Protect data
 - Apply human rights online
 - Introduce accountability criteria for discrimination and misleading content
 - Promote regulation of artificial intelligence
 - Digital commons as a global public good



8. Upgrade the United Nations

- **High-level Advisory Board** led by former Heads of State and Government on improved governance of global public goods
- System-wide policy that puts people at the centre, taking into account age, gender and diversity
- More listening, participation and consultation (including digitally), building on the seventy-fifth anniversary declaration and Our Common Agenda
- **Gender parity** within the United Nations system by 2028
- Re-establish the Secretary-General's Scientific Advisory Board
- "Quintet of change" for United Nations 2.0, including innovation, data, strategic foresight, results orientation and behavioural science



9. Ensure sustainable financing

- **Biennial Summit between the Group of 20, the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General and the heads of international financial institutions** for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient global economy including to:
 - Support a **Sustainable Development Goal investment boost**, including through a last-mile alliance to reach those furthest behind
 - Provide more flexible research and development incentives
 - Resolve weaknesses in the debt architecture
- Fairer and more resilient multilateral trading system, including a reinvigorated WTO
- New business models
- Improve the United Nations budget process



10. Boost partnerships

- Annual meetings between the United Nations and all heads of regional organizations
- Stronger engagement between the United Nations system, international financial institutions and regional development banks
- More systematic engagement with parliaments, subnational authorities and the private sector
- Civil society focal points in all United Nations entities
- United Nations Office for Partnerships to consolidate access and inclusion, including accessibility online



11. Listen to and work with youth

- **Youth**
 - Remove barriers to political participation and measure progress through a "youth in politics" index
 - United Nations Youth Office
 - Transforming Education Summit in 2022
 - Recovery barometer to track career paths and labour market outcomes for youth
 - High-ambition coalition to promote green and digital-economy job creation
- **Youth generations**
 - Summit of the Future in 2023
 - Ensure long-term thinking, including through a United Nations Futures Lab
 - Represent succeeding generations, including through a repurposed Trusteeship Council, a Declaration on Future Generations, and a United Nations Special Envoy for Future Generations



12. Be prepared

- **Emergency Platform** to be convened in response to complex global crises
- **Strategic Foresight and Global Risk Report** by the United Nations every five years
- On global public health:
 - Global vaccination plan
 - Empowered WHO
 - Stronger global health security and preparedness
 - Accelerate product development and access to health technologies in low- and middle-income countries
 - Universal health coverage and addressing determinants of health

Source: UN 2021

Boston 2021

Climate change and air pollution are closely related

California 2021



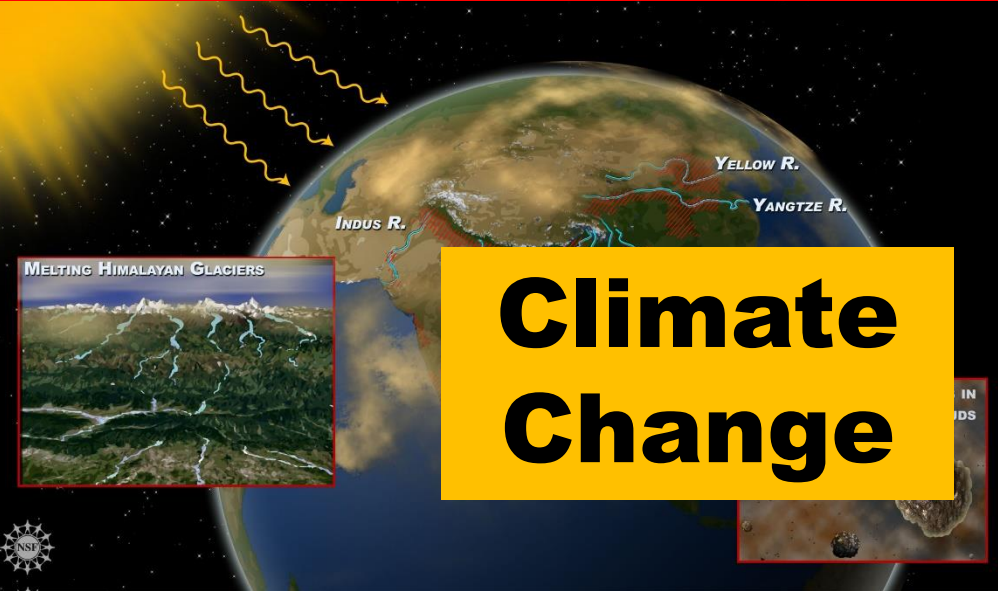


Poor Health

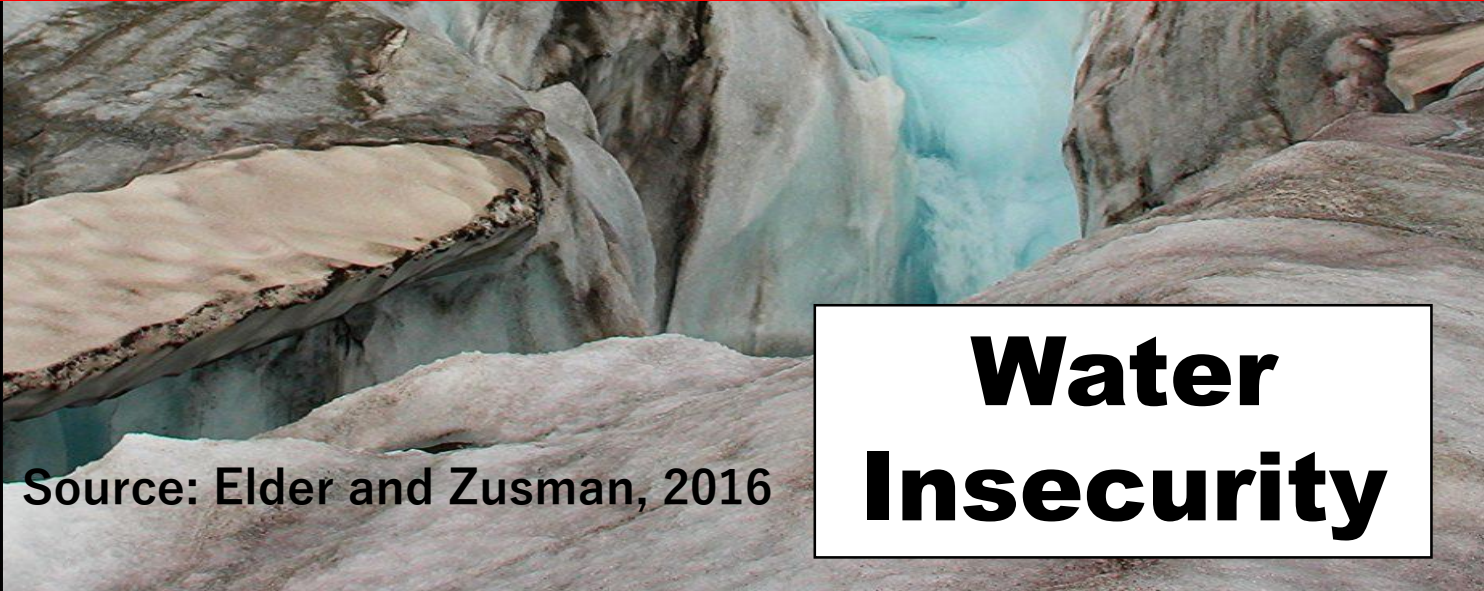


Air Pollution

Air Pollution Should Feature in Post-2030 Development Agenda



Climate Change

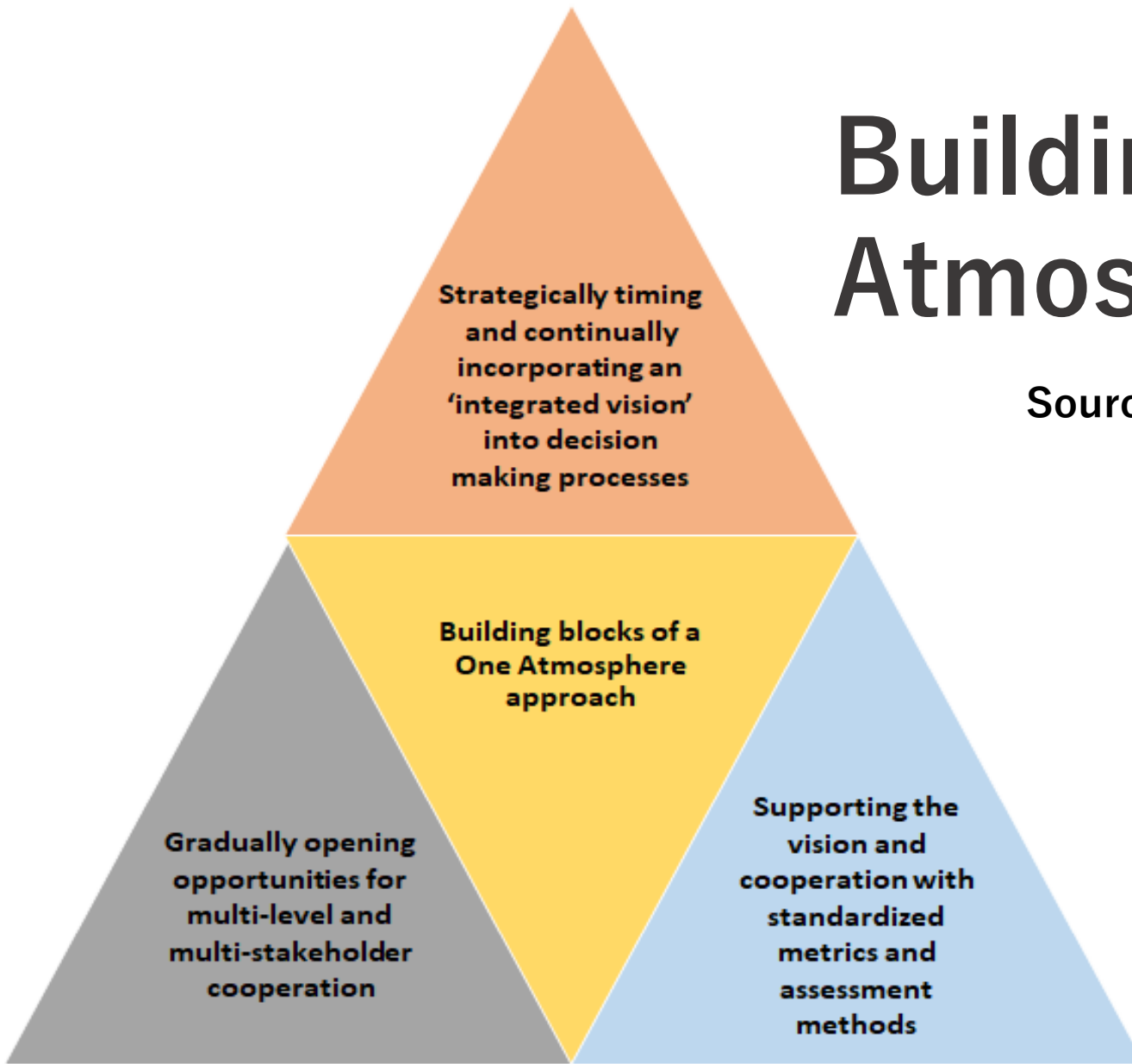


Water Insecurity

Source: Elder and Zusman, 2016

Building Blocks of a One Atmosphere Approach

Source: Zusman, Unger, Borgford-Parnell, and Mar, 2021



Discussion Questions

- 1. How can policymakers, business people, civil society and other stakeholders turn the COVID-19 crises into an opportunity to accelerate progress on the SDGs?**
- 2. What lessons from COVID-19 and the current SDGs could contribute to an ambitious post-2030 Agenda?**

ご清聴ありがとうございました。
Thank you very much for your attention.

Eric Zusman
Research Director

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