

Achieving Climate Change Action and the Sustainable Development Goals

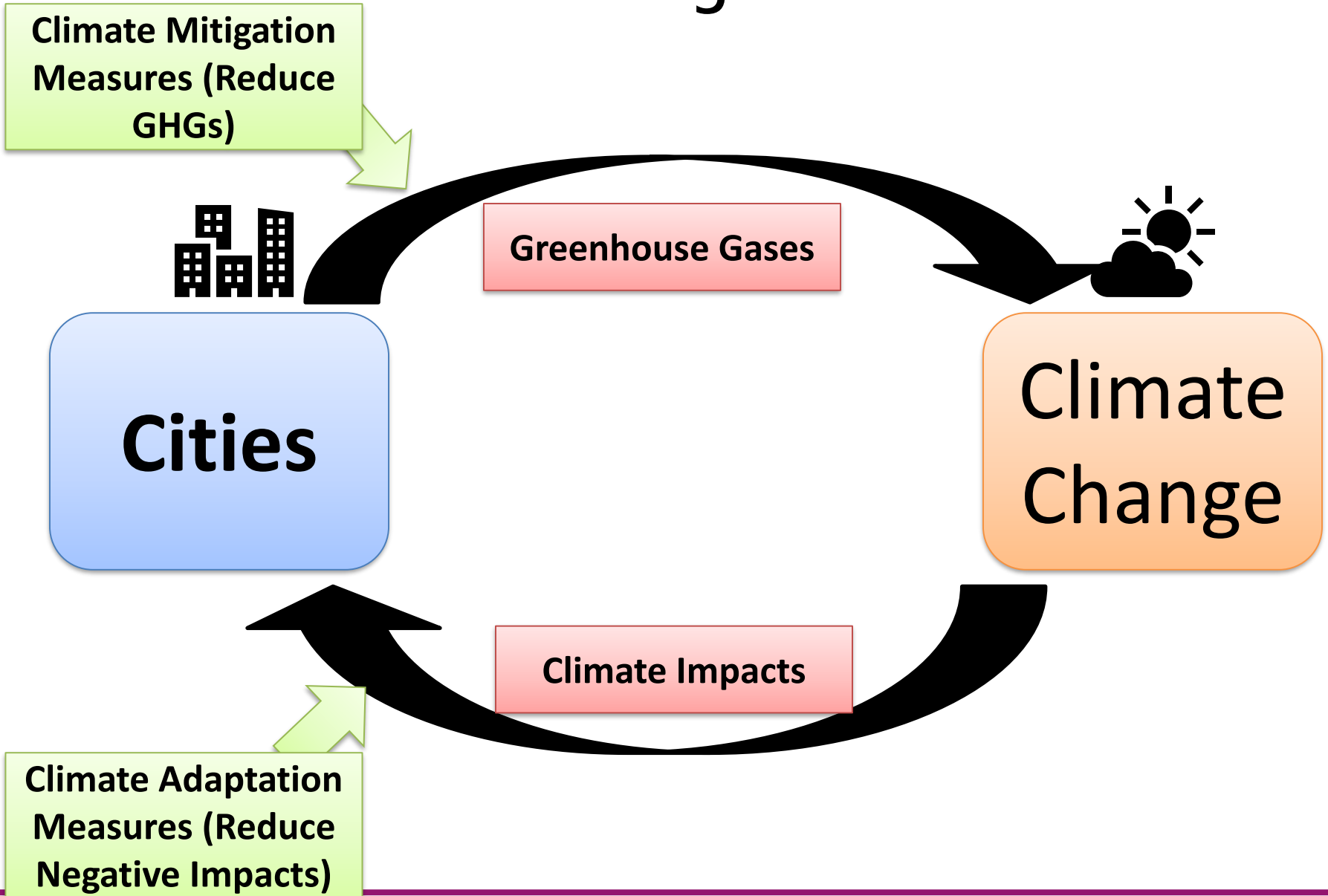
A Strategic Perspective for Cities

Mark Elder
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

Presented at the 2018 International Conference
on Climate Finance and Industry
Songdo Convensia, Incheon, Korea
1 November 2018



Climate Change and Cities



Background

Cities contain half the world's population

Cities face many sustainability challenges

Actions by cities are crucial to achieve SDGs and climate mitigation

Cities need to strengthen resilience and climate adaptation

SDGs, Climate Change, and Cities



Climate (SDG 13)

Cities (SDG 11)

SDG Targets for Cities and Climate Change

SDG Targets for Cities (SDG 11)

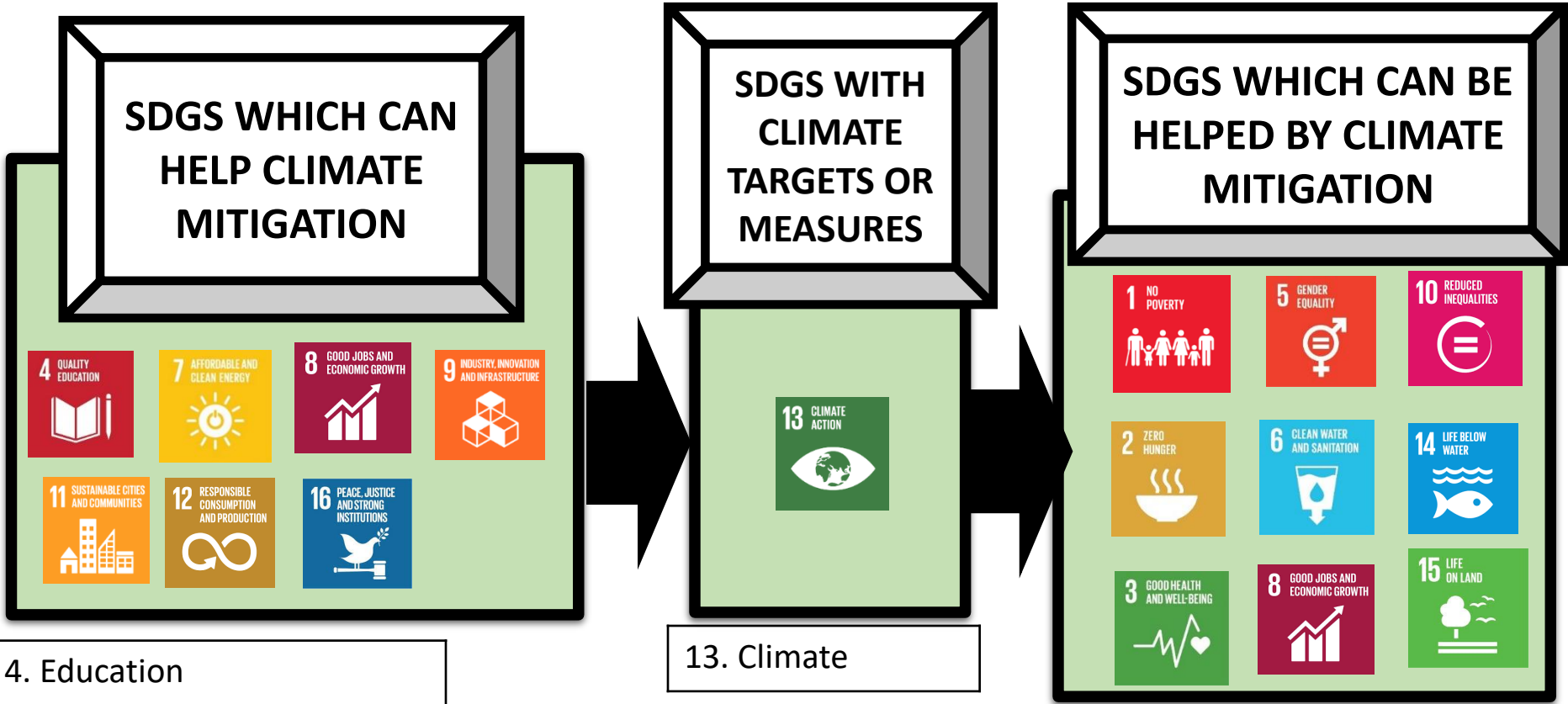
1. Sustainable housing
 2. Sustainable transport
 3. Sustainable urbanization
 4. Cultural & natural heritage
 5. Protection from disasters (resilience)
 6. Environmental impact of cities (especially air quality & waste management)
 7. Green & public spaces
- A. National & regional planning for links between urban, per-urban, & rural areas
- B. Integrated policies on inclusion, resource efficiency, climate mitigation & adaptation resilience, holistic disaster risk management
- C. Sustainable & resilient buildings (assistance to LDCs)

SDG Targets for Climate Change (SDG 13)

1. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters
 2. Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
 3. Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
- A. Implement UNFCCC
- B. Capacity building in least developed countries

- No 2 degree target
- No specific countermeasures
- Refers to UNFCCC

All SDGs Are Related to Climate



4. Education
7. Energy
8. Growth & jobs (decoupling)
9. Industrialization
11. Cities (sust. trans.)

12. Sustainable consumption & production
16. Peaceful societies (governance)

13. Climate

1. Poverty
2. Hunger* (Ag.)
3. Health
5. Gender equality *
6. Water*

8. Growth & jobs*
10. Reduced inequality*
14. Oceans*
15. Life on land*

* Some aspects help climate mitigation

All SDGs Are Related to Resilience (& Climate Adaptation)

SDGS WHICH CAN HELP INCREASE RESILIENCE



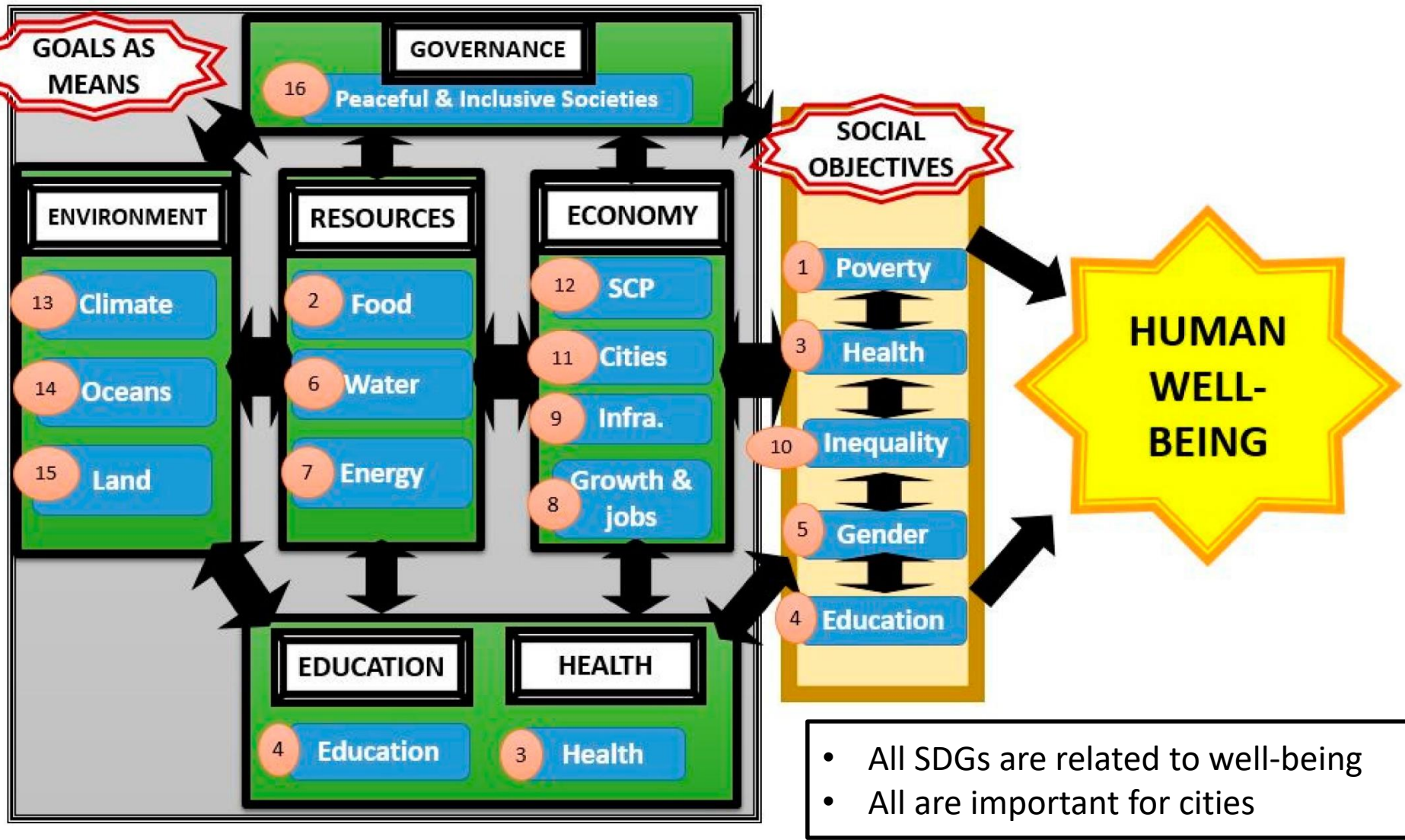
SDGS WITH RESILIENCE TARGETS



SDGS WHICH CAN BE HELPED BY GREATER RESILIENCE



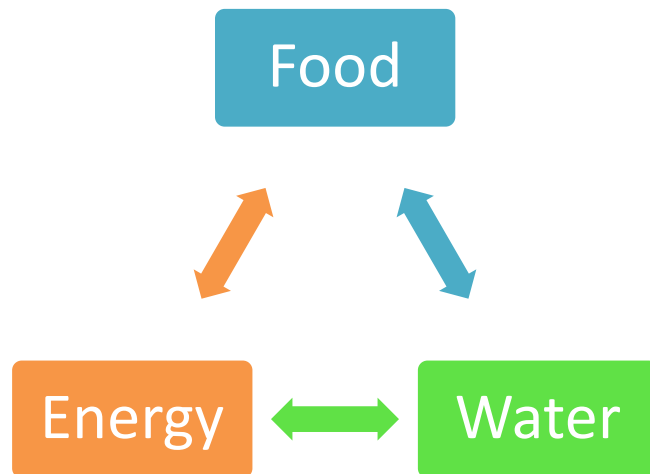
All SDGs are Related to Cities



Source: Elder, Bengtsson & Akenji 2015

Prioritization vs. Integrated Approaches to SDGs

- Cities have limited resources, so prioritization is understandable.
- But SDGs have synergies and tradeoffs, so a prioritized approach might not be effective (or counter productive)
- Synergies vs. tradeoffs depends on implementation



Approach:

- Set priorities
- But analyze interlinkages
- Find synergies, tradeoffs, cobenefits
- Adjust implementation

National vs. Local Mandates

Areas often within city mandates

1. Land use planning
2. Building codes
3. Waste management
4. Transport
5. Water
5. Others

- **Many areas not within cities' mandates.**
 - Some controlled by national governments.
 - Some are delegated by national governments to cities for local implementation.
 - Some are managed jointly by local and national governments
- **Cities often do not have enough power to raise revenues**

- **Therefore, national government help is needed**
 - Policy frameworks
 - Financial resources
 - Legal mandates
 - Capacity building

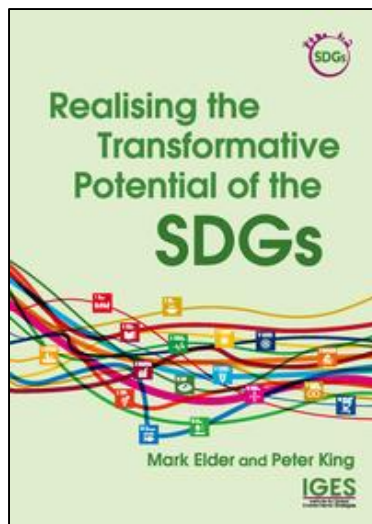
Examples of Local Actions Related to “Non-City” SDGs

SDGs	Areas often within city mandates
1. Poverty	Food banks, etc.
2. Hunger	Urban agriculture
3. Health	Local clinics, health campaigns
4. Education	Public awareness
5. Gender equality	Various
6. Water	Water supply, waste water
7. Energy	Electricity grid, distributed renewable energy
8. Growth, jobs	Jobs related to sustainability
9. Infrastructure	Sustainability related infrastructure, adaptation, resilience
10. Inequality	Various

Examples of Local Actions Related to “Non-City” SDGs

SDGs	Areas often within city mandates
12. SCP	Recycling, composting
13. Climate	Local climate strategies and policies
14. Oceans	Plastic waste reduction
15. Life on land	Sustainable consumption & production, pollution reduction

IGES Outputs



- Aim: encourage more ambitious actions with transformative potential
- Includes chapter on cities

IGES Activities & Publications on the SDGs

- List as of March 2018
- https://pub.iges.or.jp/system/files/publication_documents/pub/act/6423/APFSD_IGES%20Activities%20and%20Publications%20on%20the%20SDGs.pdf

IGES Publication Webpage

<https://pub.iges.or.jp/>