



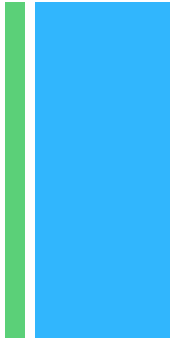
Poverty-Environment Action
for Sustainable Development Goals



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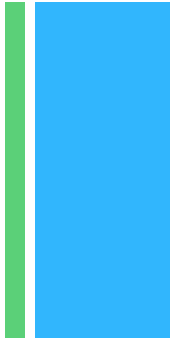
**Achieving the SDGs within
Europe: No Poverty Eradication
without Environmental Action**



.....and No Environmental Action without Social Protection



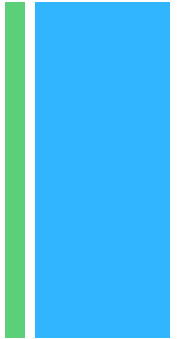
Environment vs Social Policies



- France's Yellow Vests Movement (*Mouvement des gilets jaunes*) driven by:
 - rising fuel prices
 - claims that burden of government tax reforms were falling on working & middle classes, particularly in rural & peri-urban areas
- Demonstrators called for:
 - minimum wage increase
 - lower fuel taxes
 - re-establishment of the solidarity tax on wealth
 - implementation of a referendum for citizen initiatives
- Majority of polled respondents (68%) supported the protests



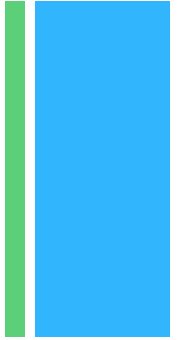
Environment and Social Policies Working In Tandem



- In Germany, eco taxes first implemented through pilot projects. Popular participation and initiatives such as selling home produced renewable energy to the grid led to:
 - increased use of renewable energy
 - reduced emission of greenhouse gases
 - job creation
- The *Energiewende* (energy transition) is generally undisputed, with an approval rating of 88 % of the population
- 73% of the population want the State to ensure
 - poorer families have adequate access to energy services
 - tenants do not face increased rents due to upgrades to the energy efficiency of buildings
 - big polluters pay higher taxes



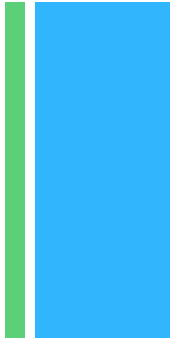
Pollution and Health: The Poor Bear the Cost



- Air pollution is a major cause of premature death and disease worldwide, causing 10 times more death than caused from war, terrorism and violence
- Single largest environmental health risk in Europe causing around 400 000 premature deaths per year
- 10 times higher than the number of deaths caused by car accidents
- Eastern and Southern Europe have especially high levels of air pollution



Pollution and Health: The Poor Bear the Cost



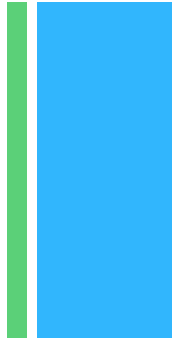
In 2017, half of London's underprivileged areas surpassed the EU's nitrogen dioxide limits compared with 2% of its wealthiest areas

"There is a vast inequality in London between the richest and poorest areas. The richest areas own the most cars but people in the most deprived areas have the worst air quality – and the lowest car ownership figures. There is a moral obligation on the mayor – and on all of us – to act."

Shirley Rodrigues, Deputy Mayor of London



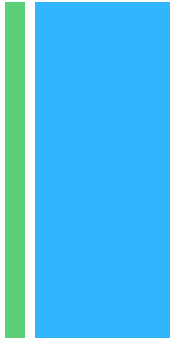
Poverty-Environment Initiative



- Poverty-Environment Initiative (PEI) of UNDP and UN Environment is a global initiative that supports country-led efforts to mainstream poverty-environment linkages into national development planning and budgets
- PEI provided financial & technical assistance to government partners to set up institutional and capacity strengthening programmes
- Since 2008, PEI has worked in over 28 countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, Latin America and the Caribbean



PEI Lesson: Ministries of Finance & Planning as poverty-environment champions



Lesson:

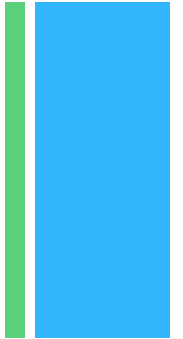
Making ministries of finance and planning poverty-environment champions are key to successful mainstreaming

Action:

- To successfully integrate poverty-environment objectives into national development plans, crucial is to work with & through ministries of planning and finance and key line Ministries
- Approach accelerates & strengthens the inclusion of sustainability objectives in national development plans and strengthens the environmental sector itself
- Identify accelerators that lead to the achievement of multiple goals such as equality or climate action



PEI Lesson: need for policy coherence and sustainable investments



Lesson:

Inclusion of poverty-environment objectives in development plans does not necessarily mean increased budget allocations or that increased allocations will actually result in expenditure and implementation

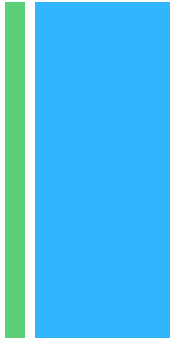
Capacity challenges are progressively more demanding at sector and sub-national levels and require a very substantive effort to address

Actions:

- Improve horizontal and vertical policy and budgeting co-ordination mechanisms to ensure policy –budget coherence and the implementation of poverty-environmental objectives
- Provide an integrated package of support – policy, capacity building and financial support for implementation of mainstreaming objectives at different levels



PEI Lesson: national policies, local implementation



Lesson:

Links between national policies and local realities to enhance subnational implementation and social dialogue

Action:

- Replication and up-scaling of integrated poverty-environment actions are more likely if real economic, social and environmental benefits can be demonstrated at the household, district and sector levels; and they can be communicated successfully to the public and decision-makers locally and nationally.

Thank you



European Union



Austrian Development Agency



Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency