First results of parallel working groups
[Governance mechanisms & structures + impact assessment]
Governance mechanisms & structures

**Horizontal integration**

+ High-level political commitment
+ SD Task Force in EC (all Commissioners)
+ SD Committee at high level
+ SD contact person in every DG
+ „Translation“ of SD topics in all sectoral policies
+ Joint strategies

- Weak SDS Coordinators Group
- Non-independent committees
- Lack of rules and processes for integration at all levels
Governance mechanisms & structures

Vertical integration

+ Implementation plan with clear division of responsibilities
+ Stronger position of national/sub-national levels
+ SD contact person in every ministry
+ Coherent indicators on all levels

- Different power and influence of MS and regions
- Not enough coordination and communication among the levels
Governance mechanisms & structures

**Stakeholder involvement**

+ Stronger role of EU Parliament
+ Stronger involvement of stakeholders (enabling environments; citizens fora)
+ Stronger role at EU level for national SD Councils

- Not including the capacities and knowledge of stakeholders to be avoided
- Intransparent process
Governance mechanisms & structures

Institutional structures

+ Better use of existing structure (SDS coordinators group)
+ SD Committee at EP
+ New body at Council and Commission level

- avoid institutions with no „real“ mandate and responsibility
- no „sectoralisation“ of SD (SD Ministry)
Governance mechanisms & structures

Monitoring & review mechanisms

+ Progress report: better follow-up, EC Delegation to MS, recommendations (points to watch)

+ Yearly and shorter or every couple of years more comprehensive

+ More quantified targets – linked to indicators – followup to strengthen actions

+ Exchange of best practices and good ideas

- Benchmarking

- Goals that we cannot measure (indicators)
Impact assessment for SD

SD criteria for impact assessment

- Unified system of criteria needed for 3 pillars
- Include additional aspects like public participation, long-term effects, local-global, etc.
- Stakeholder involvement in definition of assessment criteria
- Transparency about valuing methods
Impact assessment for SD

Managing SD strategies

• Install permanent interministerial working group for IA
• Install entity for ensuring quality of IA
• EU requirements (structural funds) trigger activities but no plans for phasing out
Impact assessment for SD

Informed decision making

• Benchmarking makes assessments interesting to policy-makers
• Timely, targeted, short, specific language
• Publish evaluation reports
• Install a process of continued information and training about IA also to enable to judge evaluation quality
• Institutional arrangements like IA boards, help-desks, etc.
• Border between the scientific (objective) and political (normative) stages needs to be made clear