



القمة WORLD
العالمية GOVERNMENT
للحكومات SUMMIT

SDGs in Action 2016

Outcome Report

8-10 February 2016, Dubai - United Arab Emirates

The fourth edition of the World Government Summit, a global networking platform that focuses on the future of governments and the trends that are shaping the global agenda, welcomed the inclusion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as one of its main themes. With 2016 marking the initial period of the 15-year implementation of the 2030 development agenda, the UAE is one of the first hosts to global events on SDGs, convening dialogues with thousands of top government officials from over 90 countries, the United Nations, global development actors, and various sectors of society at the Summit.

“SDGs in Action” at the World Government Summit was held within the first six weeks of the 782-week implementation timeframe of the 2030 development agenda

In Collaboration with



WORLD BANK GROUP



The SDGs in Action @ WGS2016

Dubbed as “**The SDGs in Action@WGS2016**”, the three-day program held as part of the World Government Summit (WGS), brought together leaders from governments, international organizations, policy makers, experts, academics, youth, social influencers and private sector representatives to:



Contribute towards global discussions, and present the meetings’ outcomes/high-level recommendations, including for example at the UN High-level Political Forum (HLPF) in July 2016.



Galvanize commitment from all sectors of society, from global leaders as well as the youth, towards achievement of the global goals to eradicate poverty while also ensuring sustainable development.



Increase awareness of and support for the implementation of the 2030 development agenda.



Produce recommendations and identify initiatives that will augment implementation of the SDGs globally, regionally and at the national level – tackling two key implementation elements of the SDGs:

- **Monitoring and Reporting**
- **Global Financing.**



**القمة WORLD
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للحكومات SUMMIT**

استشراف حكومات المستقبل
SHAPING FUTURE GOVERNMENTS



Setting the Scene

The first session of the SDGs in Action programme was held at the opening day of the World Government Summit. Designed to 'set the scene' for The SDGs in **Action @ WGS2016** program, the session's emphasis was to provide the context for the participants and to facilitate broad discussions on expected outcomes of the three-day program centered towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015.

Moderated by Mr. Nasir El Tibi, Senior Presenter at Al Arabiya News Channel, and followed by a keynote speech delivered by Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, UN Relations, and Partnerships at the World Bank, panelists shared their views on how best to build on the successes of the global goals set out 15 years ago as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to boost poverty alleviation programs, and achieve, by 2030, sustainable development in its three dimensions: **social, economic and environmental.**

Highlighting the need to address the unfinished business of the MDGs, the session's panelists also outlined priorities for 2016 and beyond. Panelists included:

Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Founder and Chairperson of BRAC, the largest non-governmental development organization in the world, measured by the number of employees and the number of people it has helped;

Ms. Kathy Calvin, President and CEO of UN Foundation, an international organization based in New York, and an advocate for the United Nations (UN) offering a platform for connecting people, ideas and resources to help the UN solve global problems;

H.E. Inam Karimov, Chairman and Minister, State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations, Government of Azerbaijan;

Ms. Eili Lepik, Chief Adviser and National Contact for Sustainable Development, Prime Minister's Office, Government of Estonia.



Session One: Setting the Scene

Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Ms. Eili Lepik, H.E. Inam Karimov, Ms. Kathy Calvin, Sir Fazle Hasan Abed

Two Interactive Dialogues on SDGs Challenges

Providing the blueprint of the global development agenda for the next 15 years, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while ambitious and universal, do not come without challenges for its successful implementation. Two of the most important challenges were highlighted through interactive dialogues convened at the 2016 SDGs in Action Programme:

- Monitoring and Reporting,
- Global Financing.

To facilitate delivery of more streamlined discussions, the SDGs were grouped into **six clusters**. In both sessions, participants have also been pre-assigned to join group dialogues in a specific cluster.

Clusters	Topics	Goals
1	Poverty and Inequality	SDG1, SDG10
2	Health, Education and Gender	SDG3, SDG4, SDG5
3	Food, Water and Energy	SDG2, SDG6, SDG7
4	Growth, Employment and Innovation	SDG8, SDG9
5	Climate, Ocean and Biodiversity	SDG13, SDG14, SDG15
6	Sustainable Consumption and Human Settlements	SDG11, SDG12

**These six clusters are not UAE-clusters, and not intended to be interpreted as UAE-recommended grouping. They have been merely set to aid in the delivery of more streamlined discussions at the 4th WGS. SDG 17 is covered under the WGS financing event, while SDG 16 is seen as cross-cutting and is hence omitted.*

High-level Meeting on the SDGs: Monitoring and Reporting

Monitoring and reporting is essential to tracking progress towards SDG targets. If we can't measure it clearly, we can't manage it. Several global initiatives are underway and expert groups continue to work on assessing the data needs and the list of indicators that will measure progress.

This session, hosted by the **Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority (FCSA)** on 08 February 2016 aimed to tackle the following questions:



1  How can the public-, private- and non-profit sectors work together to better monitor and report progress?

2  What are the biggest challenges to monitoring and reporting?

3  What might be a call to action and recommendations to address these challenges?



Cluster Room

Agenda: A High-level Meeting on the SDGs: Monitoring and Reporting

Date, Time: 08 February 2016, Monday (17:00 – 19:30)
Chair: HE Abdulla Lootah, Director General, Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority (FCSA)
Moderator: John Defterios, Emerging Markets Editor, CNN
Venue: Jumeirah Mina A'Salam Hotel, Dubai, UAE
Language: English

Welcome Note

By: HE Abdulla Lootah (FCSA)

FCSA Director General
Duration : 5 Min
Location : Plenary Room

01

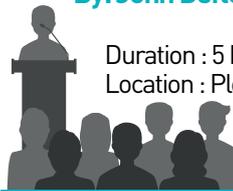
17:00 - 17:05



Setting the Scene

By: John Defterios, CNN

Duration : 5 Min
Location : Plenary Room



02

17:05 - 17:10

Simultaneous Dialogue

6 Clusters

Duration : 75 Min
Location : Clusters Room



03

17:15 - 18:30

Move to Cluster Room

Location : Clusters Room



Return to Plenary Room

Location : Plenary Room



Presentation + Q &A

Moderator + Panelists

Duration : 50 Min
Location : Plenary Room



04

18:40 - 19:30

Dinner Reception on the SDGs*

Hosted by Ministry of International Cooperation and Development
At the Mina Al Salam Hotel, Dubai -UAE

from 20:00 onwards

High-level Meeting on the SDGs: Global Financing

A United Nations Working Group on Sustainable Development Financing has calculated that around **\$4.5 trillion** would be required annually to finance the new SDGs. This is 30 times the present aid level by the international aid community. Clearly, for SDGs to be achieved, greater resources from various development actors - including private sector and philanthropy - are prerequisites. Indeed, of the 17 goals, the last SDG is dedicated towards the means of implementation and global partnerships. Specifically, **SDG 17.3** aims to ‘mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources’.

In addition to attempting to build momentum for new, innovative and catalytic approaches towards raising additional resources in support of the attainment of the SDGs, including by identifying priorities for the next 12 months and key initiatives that are needed to support SDGs 17 on Financing and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), the event aimed to produce high level recommendations and initiatives on the implementation of the 2030 development agenda, with a special focus on global financing and arrive at identifying the top three recommendations and solutions around the challenges in financing the SDGs.

The Ministry of International Cooperation and Development (MICAD) hosted the Global Financing session on 9 February 2016 in view of the the significant resources required in the achievement of SDGs.

The following guiding questions were provided to frame cluster discussions on financing:



What are the success stories and what could we do differently in terms of private sector support (including from businesses' CSRs, philanthropists, foundations)?



What techniques and initiatives can governments (ODA and public funding) use to catalyze additional investments?



What are the innovative, catalytic blended solutions we could create between government, private sector and global thematic themes (e.g. Global Partnership for Education, Global Commission on Education, Every Women Every Child, Global Financing Facility, Sustainable Energy for All, Global Environment Facility)?



High-level Meeting on the SDGs: Global Financing

HRH Princess Sarah Zeid, Co-Chair - EWEC- EVERYWHERE, HE Dr. Ahmad Belhoul CEO-Masdar (Minister of State for Higher Education), Mr. Erik Solheim, Chair(OECD-DAC), HE Dr. Yinager Desse Minister of National Planning Commission of Ethiopia, HRH Prince Saud K. Al-Faisal Executive Director Investment Climate, Acting EDIA, Investment Affairs Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA), Mr. Mark Thorten CEO-B4P

Agenda: A High-level Meeting on the SDGs: Global Financing

Date, Time: 09 February 2016, Tuesday (17:00 – 19:30)
Chair: Minister of State for Tolerance.(former Minister of MICAD)
Venue: Jumeirah Mina A'Salam Hotel, Dubai, UAE
Language: English

Welcome Note

By: HE Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi
 MICAD Minister
 Duration : 5 Min
 Location : Plenary Room

01

17:00 - 17:05



Setting the Scene

By: Mr. Mark Thorton (Moderator)
 CEO/Founder - Business For Planet
 Duration : 5 Min
 Location : Plenary Room

02

17:05 - 17:10



Simultaneous Dialogue

6 Clusters
 Duration : 80 Min
 Location : Clusters Room

03

17:10 - 18:30



Move to Cluster Room

Location : Clusters Room



Return to Plenary Room

Location : Plenary Room



Wrap-up Presentation + Panelists Q &A

Moderator + Panelists
 Duration : 45 Min
 Location : Plenary Room

04

18:35 - 19:20



Closing Remarks + Conclusion

By: HE Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi
And : Mr. Mark Thorton
 Duration : 10 Min
 Location : Plenary Room

05

19:20- 19:30

Plenary Session The UN Sustainable Development Goals in Action: Transforming our Global Vision into Reality

The Outcome Session was aimed to conclude The SDGs in Action @ WGS2016 Programme by bringing together the threads of discussions from the previous days in one High Level plenary panel as part of the main WGS program to present outcomes and suggest approaches or mechanisms to move forward.

CNN Anchor, Mr. Richard Quest, moderated the Outcomes session held at the Main Plenary Hall attended by at least 2000 delegates. High-level speakers addressing the interactive Q&A session at the last day of the Summit included:

- HE Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister of Malta;
- HE Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi, Minister of State for Tolerance (former Minister of the International Cooperation and Development (MICAD)
- HE Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary General of the UN; and
- Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, UN Relations, and Partnerships at the World Bank.

Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi emphasized that “close monitoring on a yearly basis is very, very crucial - to assess whether we are on track, whether we are skewing from the goals”. The World Government Summit to serve as an annual platform for reviewing SDG implementation and monitoring was the main announcement made by



the UAE at the Outcomes Session.

According to the Prime Minister of Malta, HE Joseph Muscat, “Social media has created global awareness and global engagements and governments will have to change accordingly in ways to make the implementation of the SDGs successful”.

Mr. Mohieldin stated that every one that benefits must bear the responsibility of financing the implementation of the SDGs. He further noted that in pursuing the goals, it is important to be efficient in spending while investing in human capital, infrastructure and other vital sectors.

Mr. Eliasson pointed out that in contrast to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that had a mixed outcome, the approach towards SDGs is a more “dynamic” one where the thinking has been horizontal rather than vertical, and will consequently generate enormous gains.



SDGs Outcomes Session: Plenary Session The UN Sustainable Development Goals in Action: Transforming our Global Vision into Reality Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, UN Relations, and Partnerships at the World Bank. HE Sheikha Lubna Bint Khalid Al Qasimi, MICAD Minister; HE Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary General of the UN; and HE Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister of Malta;

SDGs IN ACTION @ WGS2016

**World Government Summit
Dubai, United Arab Emirates
8-10 February 2016**

Outcome Document

Overview

The World Government Summit (WGS), a premier global forum on the future of Government, held its fourth annual meeting in Dubai on 8-10 February 2016. The SDGs in Action @ WGS2016, a three-day event that formed an important pillar of the WGS program, served to discuss an action agenda for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Organized in partnership with the UN's Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), World Bank, and the UN Foundation, the event examined key success factors that will contribute to the implementation of the SDGs at global, regional and national levels. The event was timely given that the fifteen-year implementation timeframe has kicked off on 1 January 2016, and the first months of 2016 will be critical to accelerate their delivery by 2030.

Adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in 2015, 17 SDGs – accompanied by 169 targets – present a complex universal agenda to put the world on a sustainable path while eradicating poverty and improving well-being of all and protecting the environment. Governments will be driving this agenda in cooperation with a range of stakeholders. Successful implementation will depend on sufficient financing for SDGs underpinned by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda – the global framework for financing development – as well as effective monitoring and reporting systems for review and follow-up. These two areas were therefore at the center stage of discussions at the WGS.

High-level government officials, local authorities, representatives of the private sector, multilateral and international organizations, donors, academia, civil society organizations and youth exchanged views on their respective roles in SDG implementation, as well as mutual expectations. The highly interactive discussions reflected work already under way to implement the SDGs and identified challenges, opportunities and recommendations going forward:

- Overall, strong political will and visionary leadership accompanied by clear long-term strategies reflecting local needs and interests

were identified as key success factors for SDG implementation;

- It is clear that even at this very early stage, much is already underway at the national level. In future years, the WGS will provide a global platform to present lessons learned, to share knowledge across countries and to celebrate success;
- The WGS could also provide a platform to monitor progress along the implementation of the SDGs, where reports would be launched and discussed in partnership with the UN and the World Bank, thus contributing to the preparations of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) of the UN, mandated to regularly monitor and review progress on SDGs at the global level;
- During discussions at the WGS2016, a number of innovative mechanisms and sources of funding were identified. The future annual meetings of the WGS will host working groups and finance fora led by international organizations, national governments and social sector partners where concrete innovative ideas and recommendations will be put forward to support in the implementation of the SDGs.

From Global to National Level Action

A fundamental challenge facing all countries will be to translate global goals into domestic realities which vary from country to country, depending on their national priorities and circumstances. Each country faces specific challenges, and may deploy different approaches, models and tools for achieving sustainable development. It will be up to national governments to determine the priorities and ways of going about implementation.

It was discussed that governments will need to review their institutional and legal arrangements for development policies, and make necessary

adjustments to facilitate appropriate prioritization to achieve the goals and targets, coordinate delivery and review progress. Countries could, for example, carry out a mapping exercise of existing institutions and policy-making mechanisms, and design plans for aligning their current structural setup to be suitable for SDG implementation and review.

Participating countries at the Summit shared their plans and early experiences of how they have started to translate the SDGs into their national planning and adopt national frameworks in order to facilitate delivery on the SDGs. Important principles of the new global development agenda that could be reflected in national institutional frameworks include a bottom-up approach to policy-making, ensuring linkages between line ministries to avoid a silo approach to implementation. Such experiences will be regularly shared at the annual HLPF.

Monitoring and Reporting

Quality and timely reporting on national-level progress will be a critical component of SDG implementation at the global level. This will require substantial enhancement of statistical capabilities in countries and increased efforts in collecting quantitative and qualitative data, as considerable data gaps exist. In most cases, it will also be necessary to develop appropriate indicators at the national level to capture progress according to national circumstances.

In order to be useful, data must be timely, accessible, actionable, outcome-oriented and of high quality. A common understanding and definition of concepts included in SDG targets will be necessary first steps to make monitoring possible, followed by standardization of methodology for data collection and data disclosure. The UN Statistical Commission – the UN entity tasked with developing the global SDG indicator framework – should take these points into account during its deliberations.

Furthermore, while it is useful to aggregate data into globally significant measures, the fundamental SDG principle of “leaving no one behind” will necessitate data disaggregation by various segments of society and geographic regions. Without measuring progress for most vulnerable groups, no review of the SDGs can be considered complete.

As the SDGs span multiple sectors, there is a need to assess the impact of decisions taken in one sector on other sectors. Close cooperation across various policy areas will therefore be important to enforce the mutually supportive nature of the SDGs, and to facilitate data sharing and consolidation to this end.

Data is not only needed for accountability purposes, but also for documentation of good practices to allow for mutual-learning, such as cases of effective policy intervention, programs and initiatives.

Given the enormous data gaps, particularly in developing countries, all data sources for SDG indicators should be utilized in reviews, including from alternative non-official data collection systems – such as open source data – provided that proper and efficient mechanisms are in place for their validation. Making data from various sources to be more easily compared and used is crucial. Collaboration between the public, private sectors, academia and civil society is therefore essential in these areas.

There is a need to create a culture of learning and evidence-based evaluation in government. The need to assess and review the impact of policies and programs can drive the effective collection and management of national statistics and administrative data. Countries will need to draw upon all available means to collect data – including innovative technologies and international cooperation. Major investments will be prerequisites, including in capacity development programs. Efforts to develop the statistical capabilities of countries should also involve greater investments in outreach, education and training.

Global financing

International public finance, including Official Development Assistance, will remain fundamentally important in complementing efforts of countries to mobilize domestic public resources. While governments have traditionally played a leading role in financing development, the achievement of the SDGs will require resource mobilization from a wide range of sources and engagement of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, international financial institutions, multilateral and non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, and individuals. Tapping the full spectrum of the private sector is also vital for mobilizing their skills, technology and expertise. Equally imperative to support sustainable development is the effective,

efficient and transparent use of resources.

Governments also have clear roles and responsibilities in SDG implementation where only they can make a systemic impact through policy and regulation. One such area is creating enabling domestic and international environments for investments through institutional reforms and developing a stable, transparent, regulatory and legal framework that will attract private investors while mitigating market failures. The fiscal and regulatory environment should, through appropriate incentives and disincentives, steer private investment towards endeavors that contribute to the achievement of SDGs.

Another action through which governments can significantly advance SDG implementation is the de-risking of investments in sectors and/or geographical areas that otherwise cannot attract private finance. Mitigating risks is also especially important for financing “last-mile” projects. Furthermore, as the SDGs are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, governments could also help to identify how delivering on one specific SDG may drive further investment or impact business returns in other SDGs.

Engaging the private sector requires acknowledging the drivers of their participation in development. The profit-driven nature of the business sector should be embraced rather than looked upon as a barrier to partnering with them. Some businesses will want to invest in creating the social conditions conducive to business opportunities – such as a skilled and healthy labor force if such projects have as an impact to enhance their return on investment. Social enterprises and small- and medium-size enterprises also have great potential for financing development that has been underutilized so far, where structural reforms could facilitate ease of doing business and result in greater impact.

Financial and capital market instruments will also play a key role in the future of development financing. Providing access to concessional finance and capital markets (e.g., bonds and debt financing) for those countries that are no longer eligible for them will be key to respecting the fundamental principle of leaving no one behind (e.g., for countries that recently graduated from Least Developed Country status); multilateral development banks have a key role to help ensure that measures are in place to best support this need. Additionally, sovereign wealth funds, pension funds and equity funds will need to be more engaged in projects that

contribute to achieving the SDGs. Direct investments, a relatively new market for sovereign wealth funds, could for instance be bolstered by creating and marketing a pipeline of bankable, scalable projects, and provision of appropriate technical support. Furthermore, funds should start addressing barriers to adopt innovative investment strategies that offer high returns, but also deliver social impacts. The funds’ annual forums could serve as avenues to facilitate integration of such strategies into their core business.

During discussions at the WGS a number of innovative mechanisms and sources of funding were identified, including capitalization and formalization of remittances and diaspora savings, public-private matching funds/co-financing mechanisms (e.g., leverage private investment with public grants), award schemes, micro-finance, venture philanthropy, challenge funds, crowd-funding, incentive schemes to encourage corporate and individual investments (e.g., tax credits and subsidies), risk insurance, networking platforms to bring together financiers and project developers, as well as more and better development assistance to strengthen tax systems.

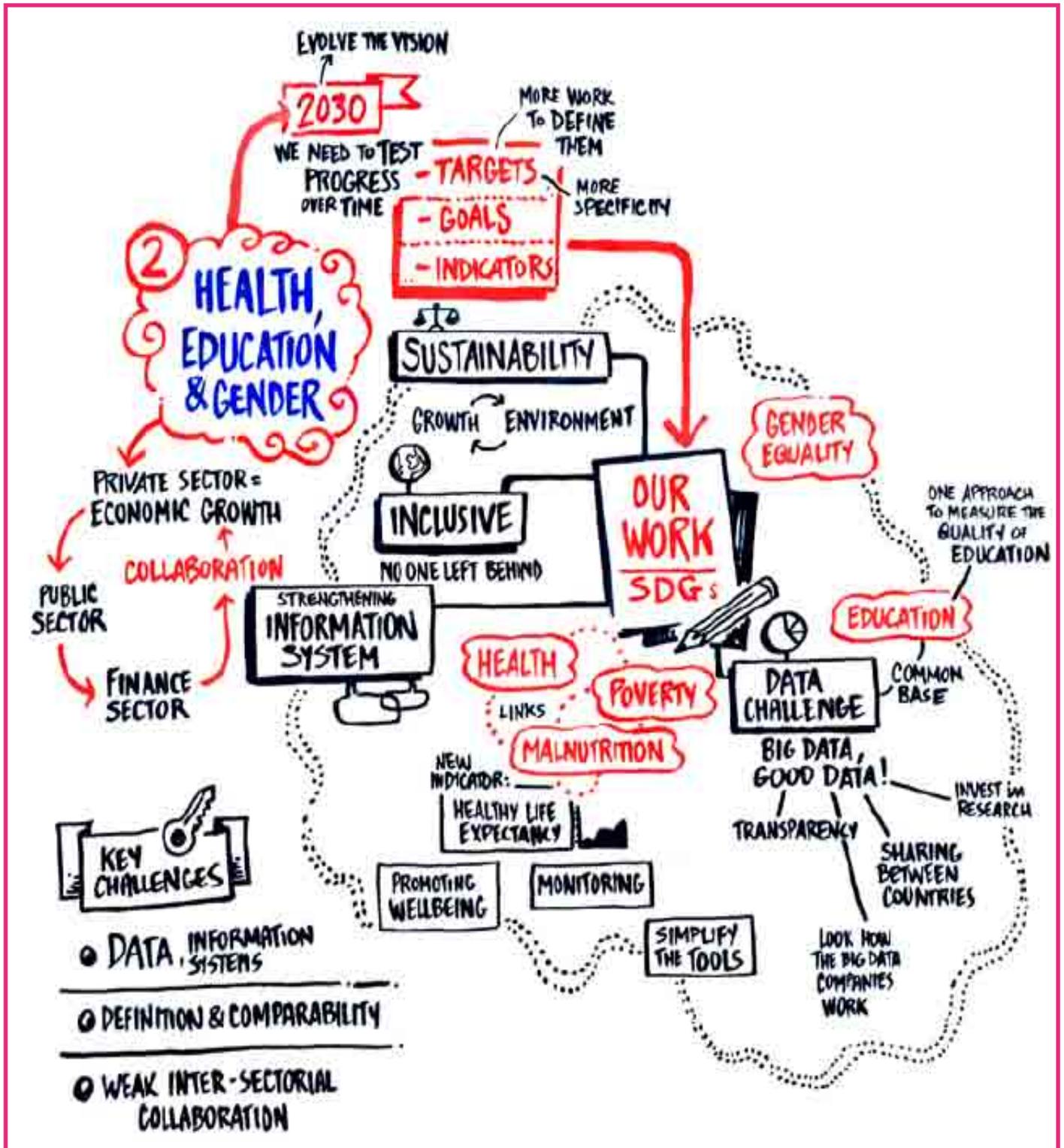
In order to meet commitments made by the international community as laid out in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the dedicated goal on means of implementation and partnerships (SDG 17), capacity building, information exchange and collaboration at all levels would be required through various mechanisms. When creating models for partnerships involving various stakeholders, it will be important to keep in mind that there are no one-size-fits-all models and blended solutions are sought. Collaboration among various development entities and businesses will have to be based on desired outcomes, the most suitable delivery methods, and the incentives that get the right partners on board.

High-level Meeting on the SDGs: Monitoring and Reporting

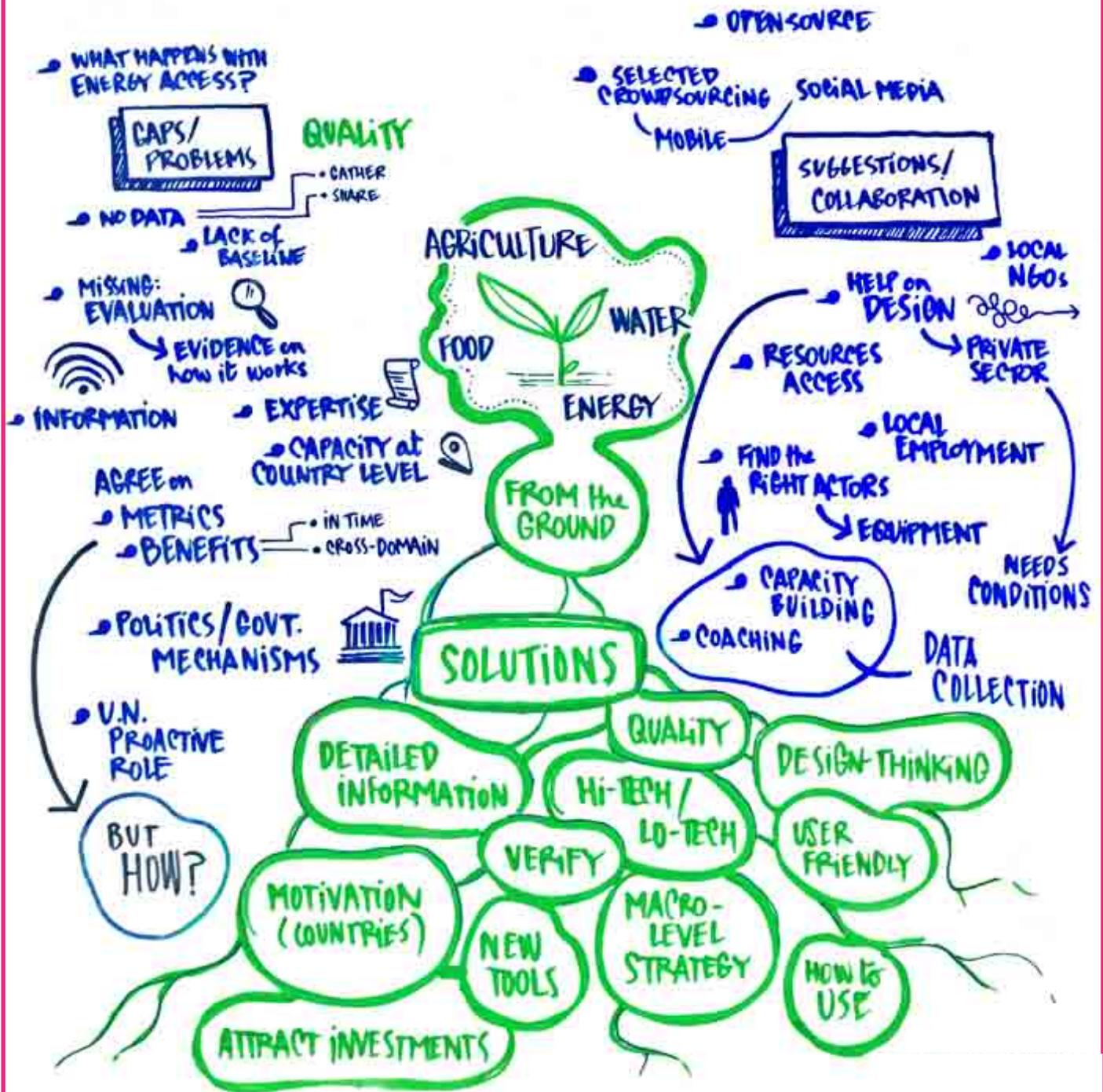
Cluster 1 - Poverty and Inequality (SDG 1, SDG 10)



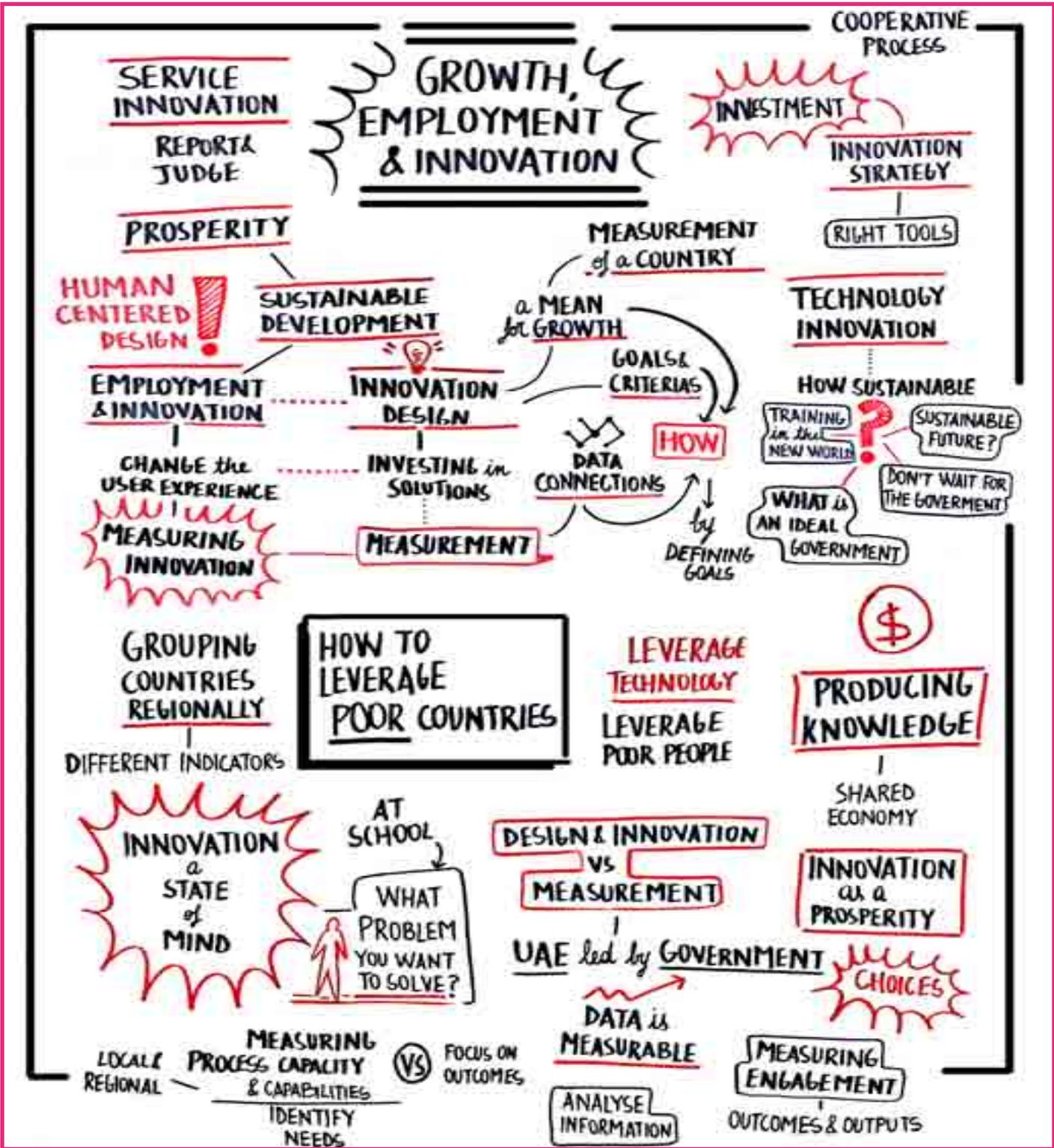
Cluster 2 - Health, Education, Gender (SDG3, SDG4, SDG5)

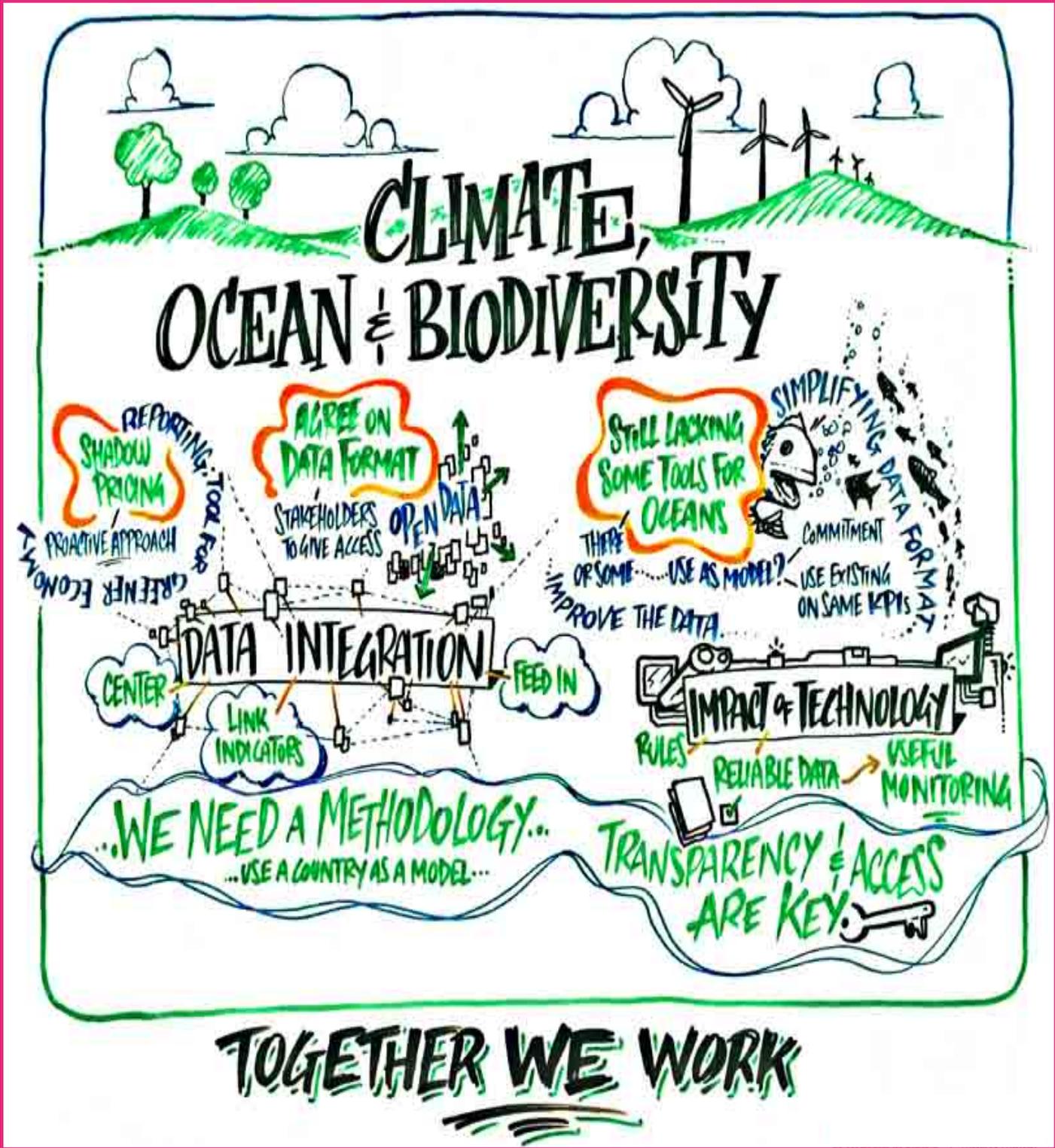


Cluster 3 - Food, Water and Energy (SDG2, SDG6, SDG7)



Cluster 4 - Growth, Employment and Innovation (SDG8, SDG9)





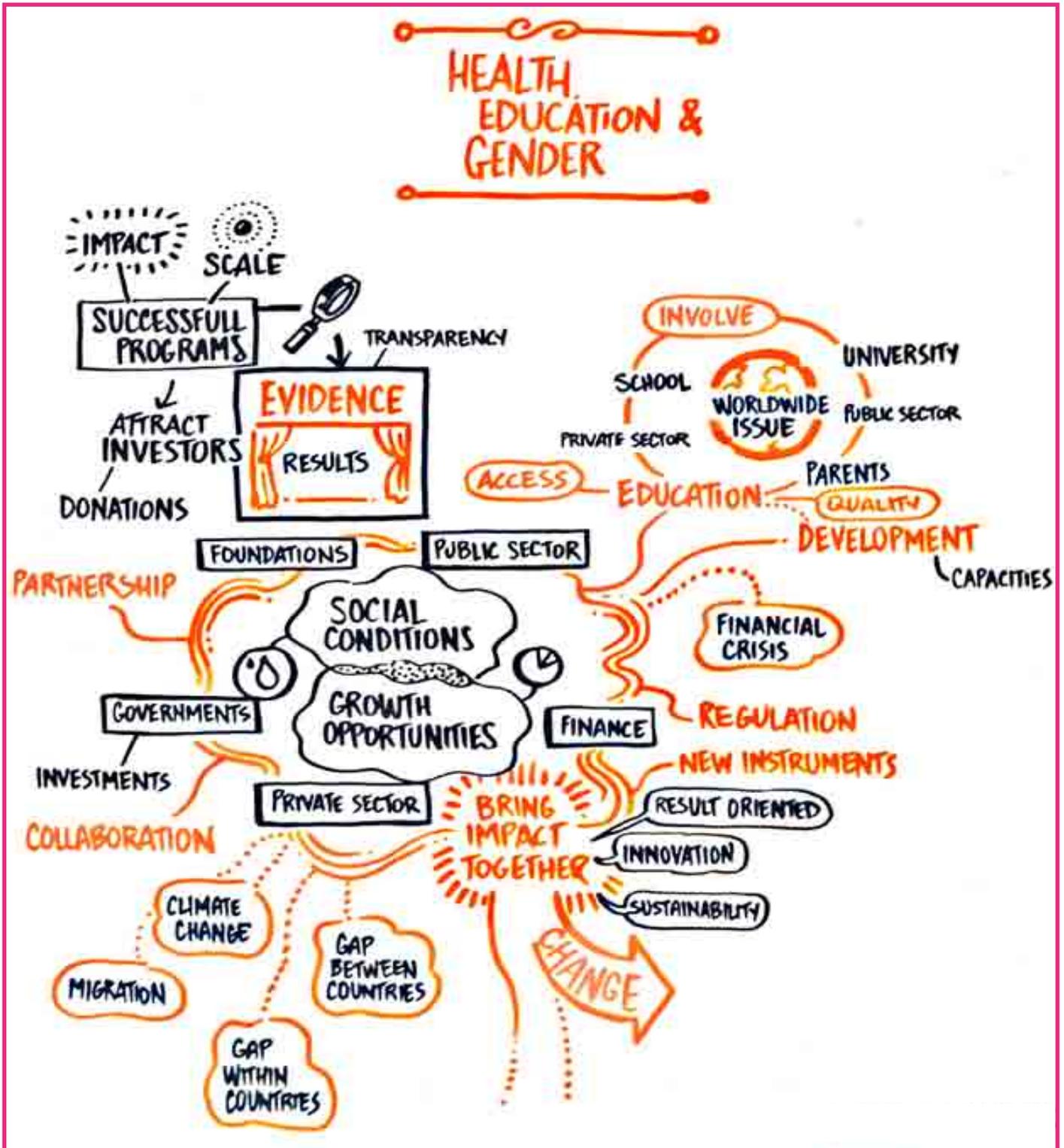
Cluster 6 - Sustainable Consumption and Human Settlements (SDG11, SDG12)



Cluster 1 - Poverty and Inequality (SDG 1, SDG 10)

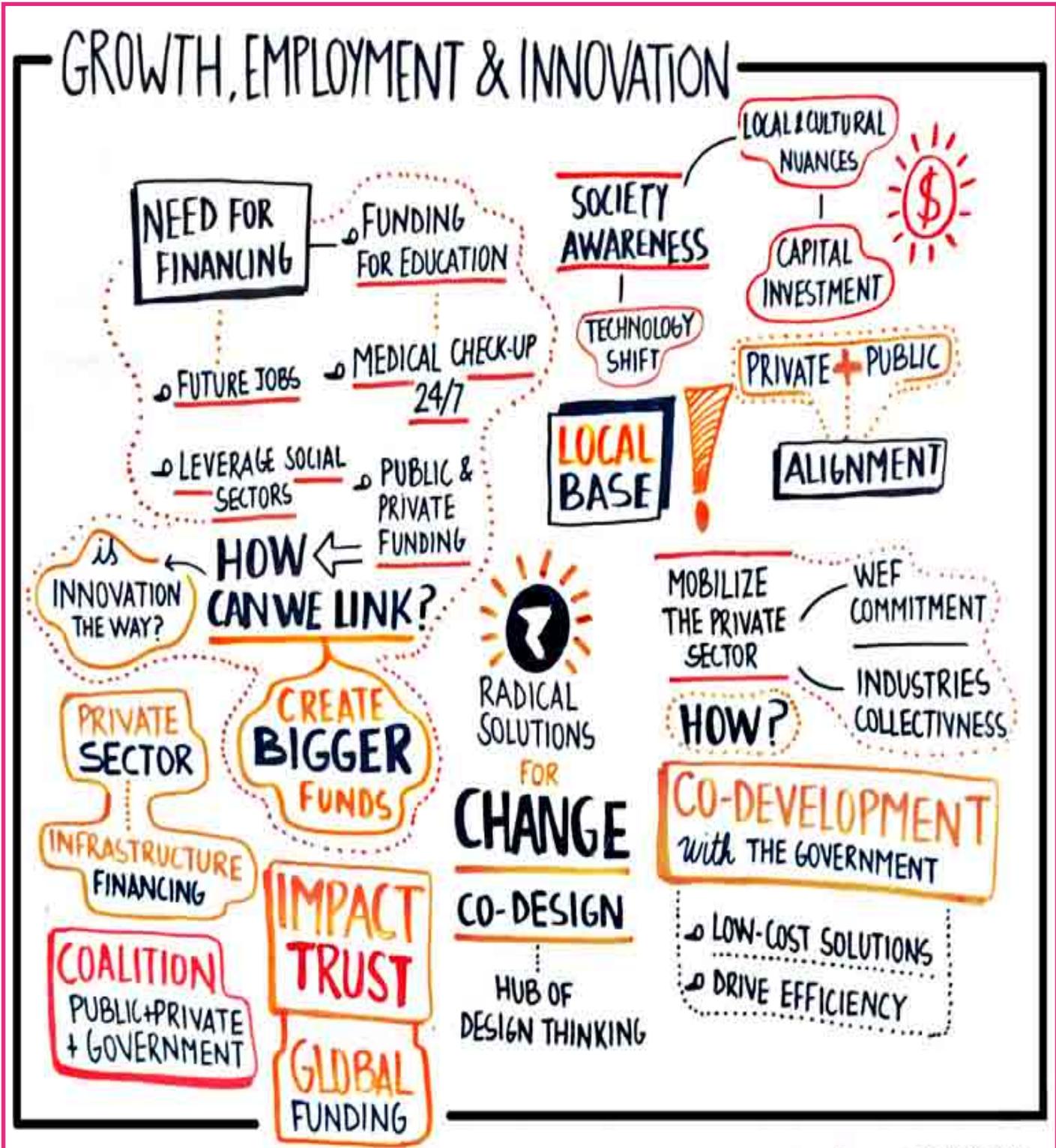


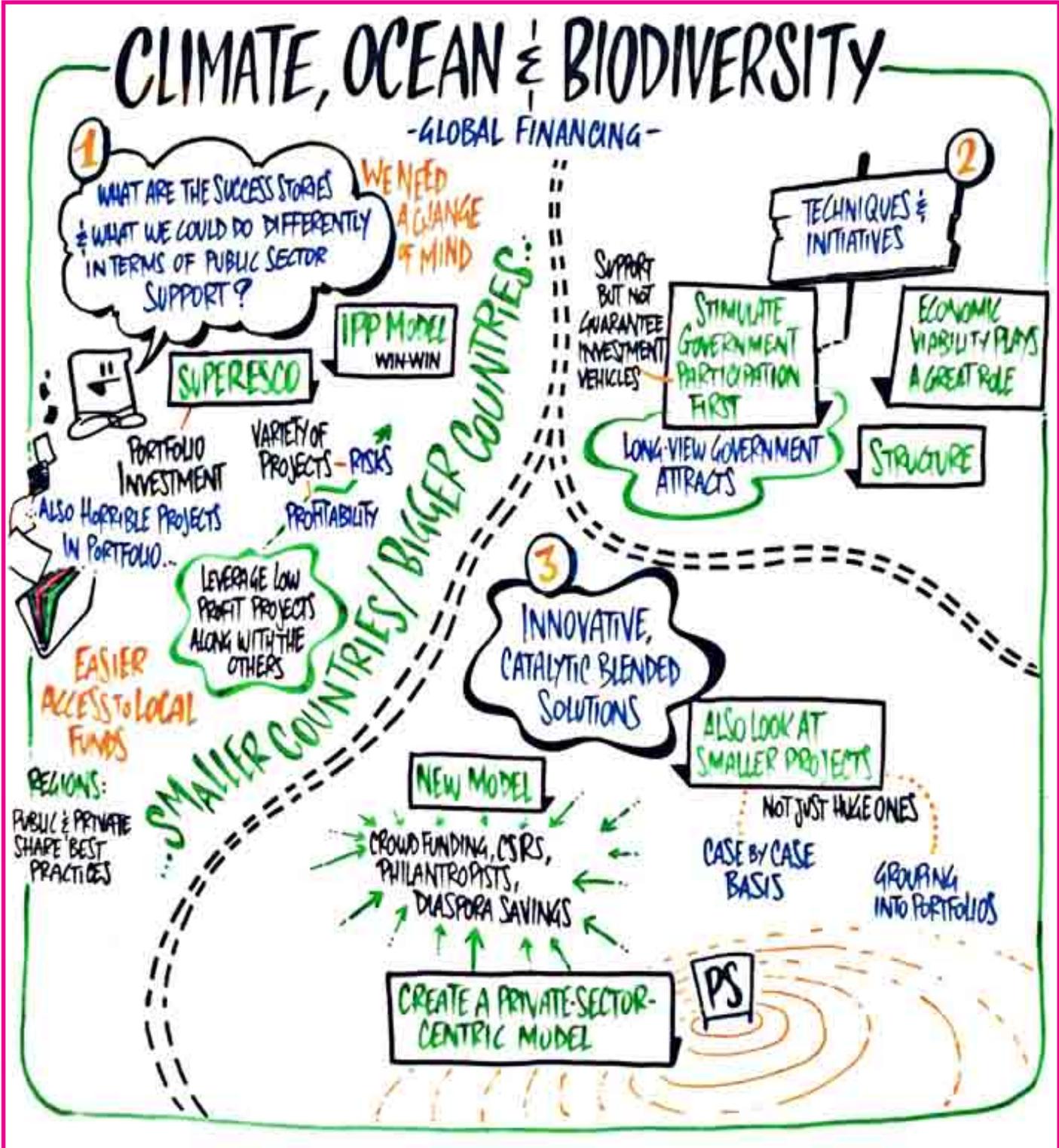
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