

Project LINK meeting

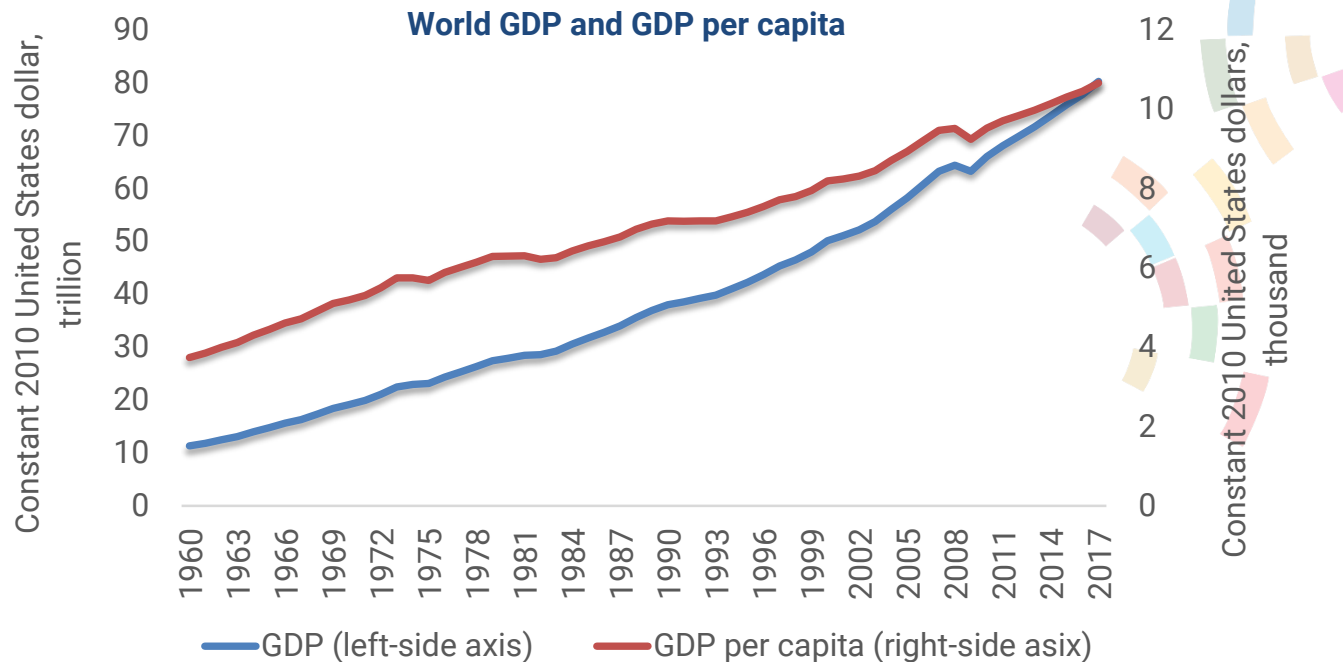
Assessing economic health beyond GDP

Sweta C. Saxena

New York | June 18, 2019

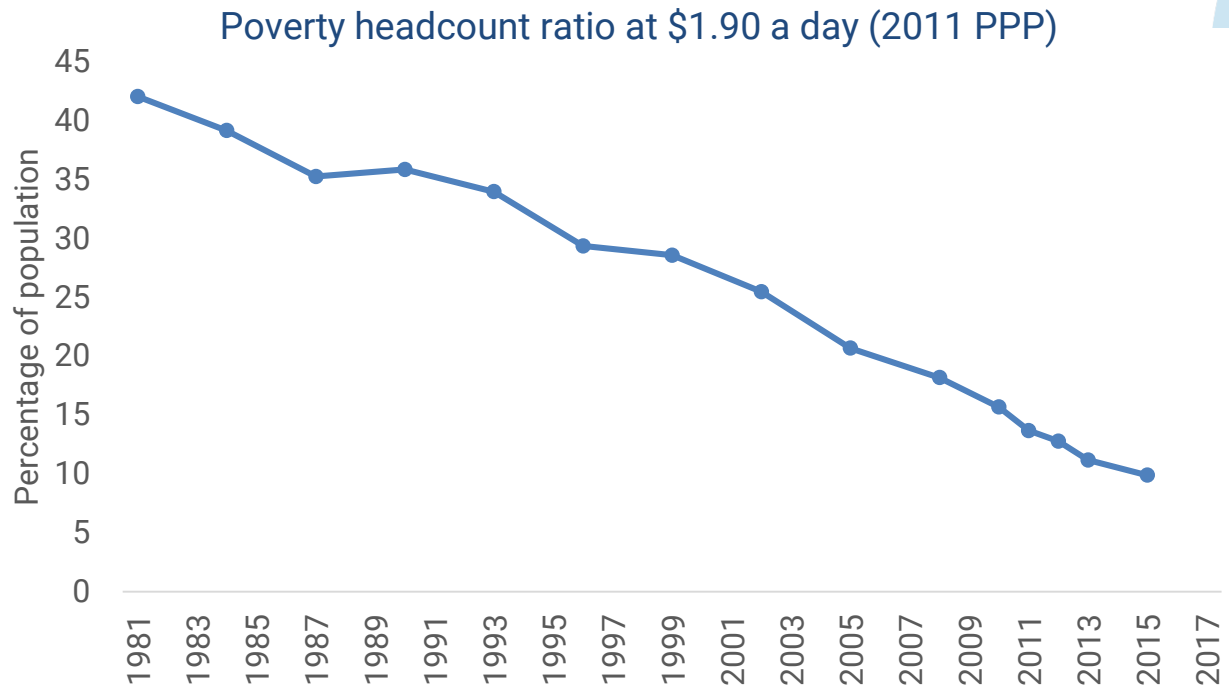


Income levels have grown over the last decades...



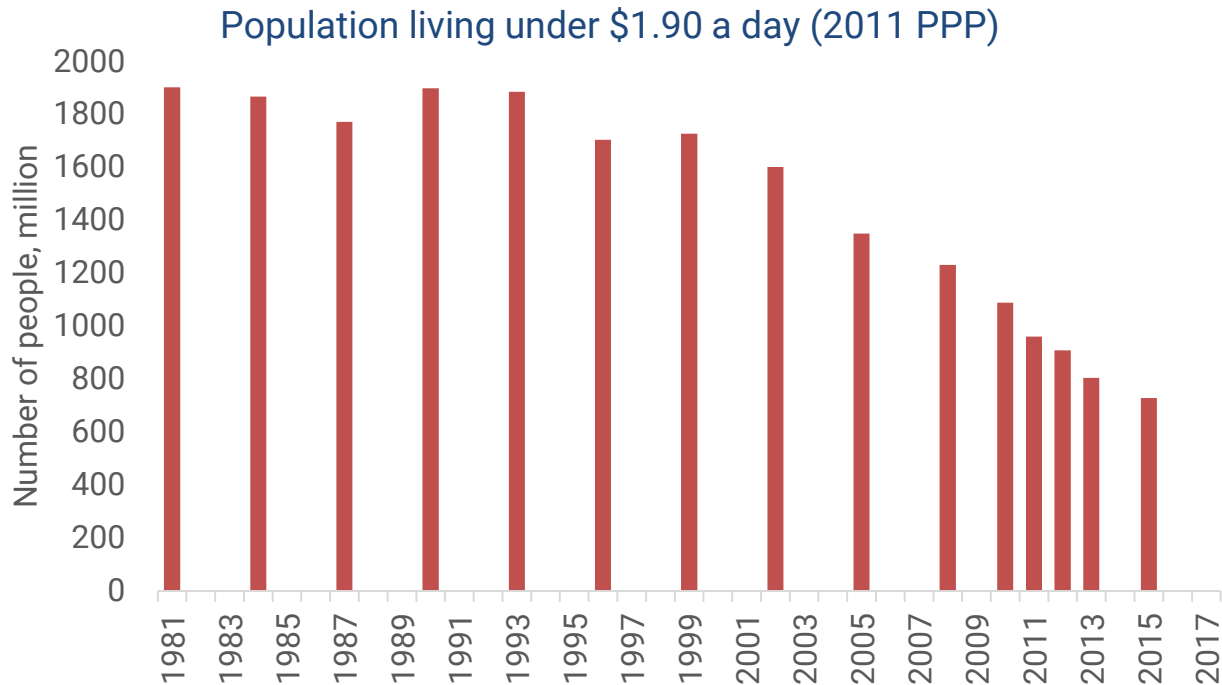
Source: World Bank database (accessed 28 May 2019)

...reducing incidence of poverty



Source: World Bank database (accessed 28 May 2019)

...lifting over a billion people out of extreme poverty



Source: World Bank database (accessed 28 May 2019)



Growth – what is it good for?

“Even if we act to erase material poverty, there is another greater task, it is to *confront the poverty of satisfaction - purpose and dignity - that afflicts us all.*”

*Too much and for too long, we seemed to have **surrendered personal excellence and community values in the mere accumulation of material things.***

*Yet, **the gross national product does not allow for the health of our children, the quality of their education or the joy of their play. It does not include the beauty of our poetry or the strength of our marriages, the intelligence of our public debate or the integrity of our public officials.***

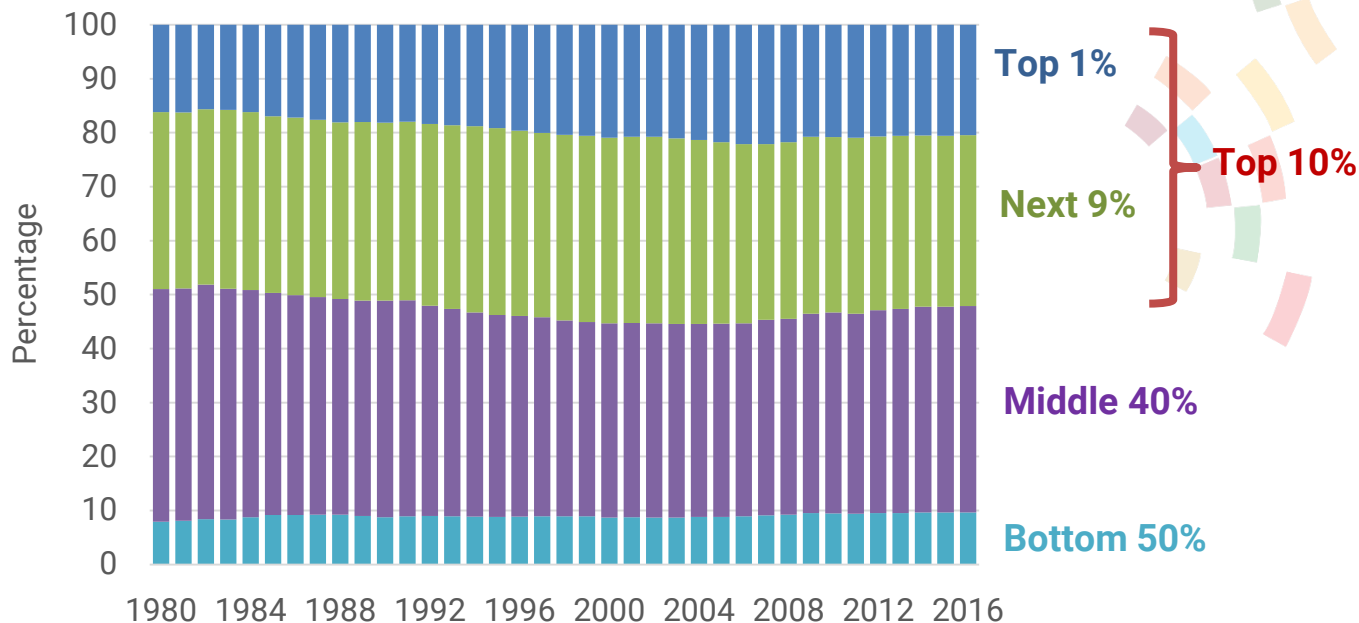
*It measures neither our wit nor our **courage**, neither our **wisdom** nor our learning, neither our **compassion** nor our devotion to our country, **it measures everything in short, except that which makes life worthwhile.** And it can tell us everything about America except why we are proud that we are Americans.*

If this is true here at home, so it is true elsewhere in world.”

Robert F. Kennedy – March 18, 1968
in a speech delivered in Kansas

However, such economic gains have not been equally shared...

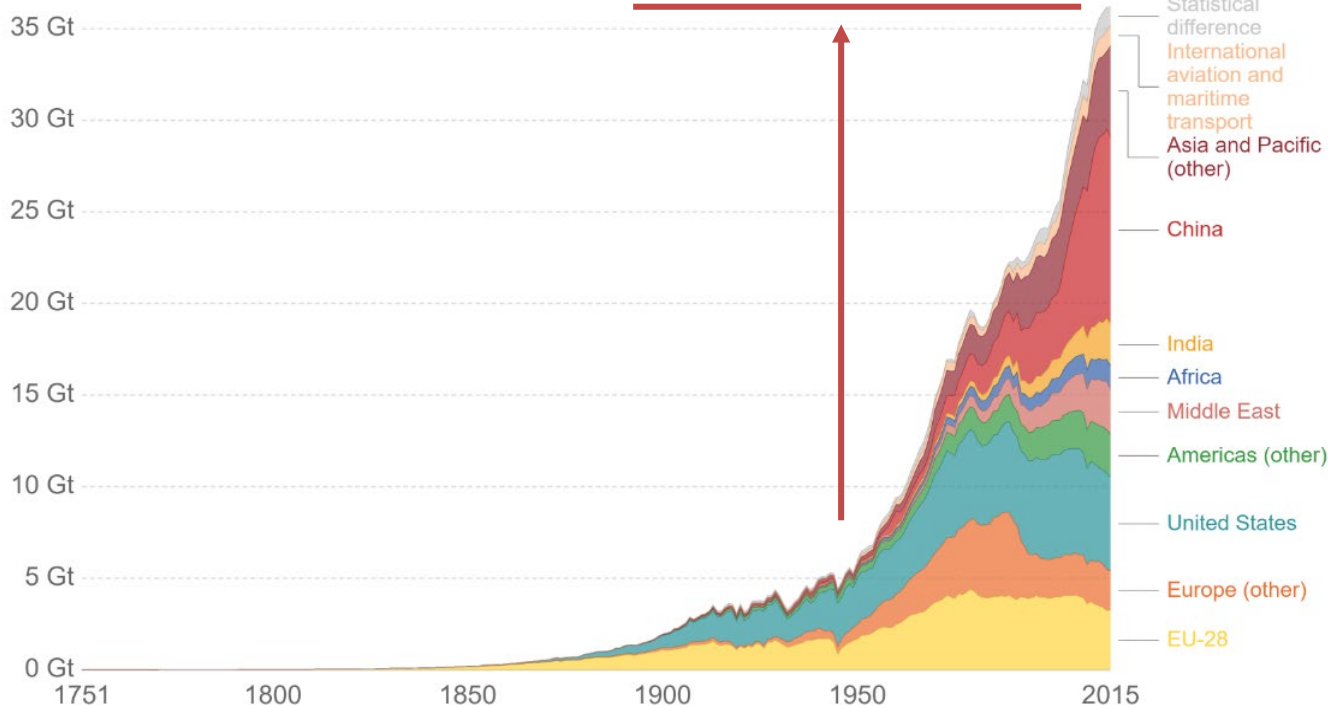
Share of income (pre-tax national income) by income groups in the world



Source: WID (accessed 29 May 2019)

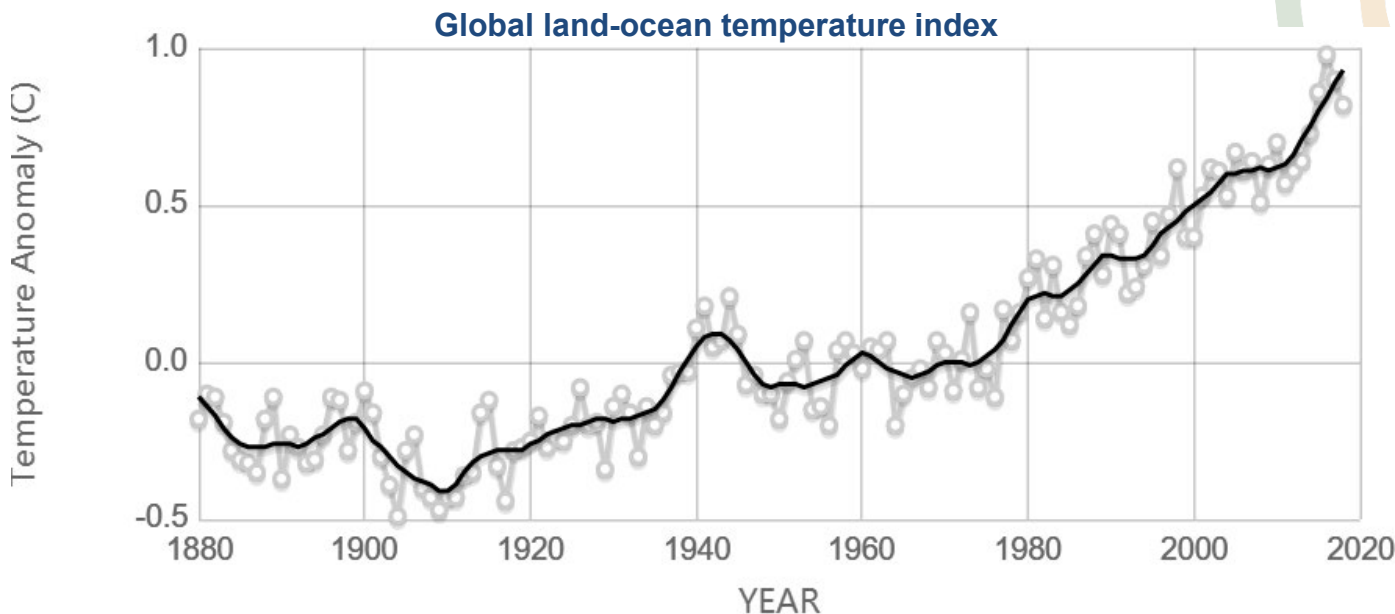
...and have come at a heavy cost to the environment...

Annual CO₂ emissions in billion tonnes (GT)



Source: Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Centre (CDIAC).

...putting enormous burden on our planet

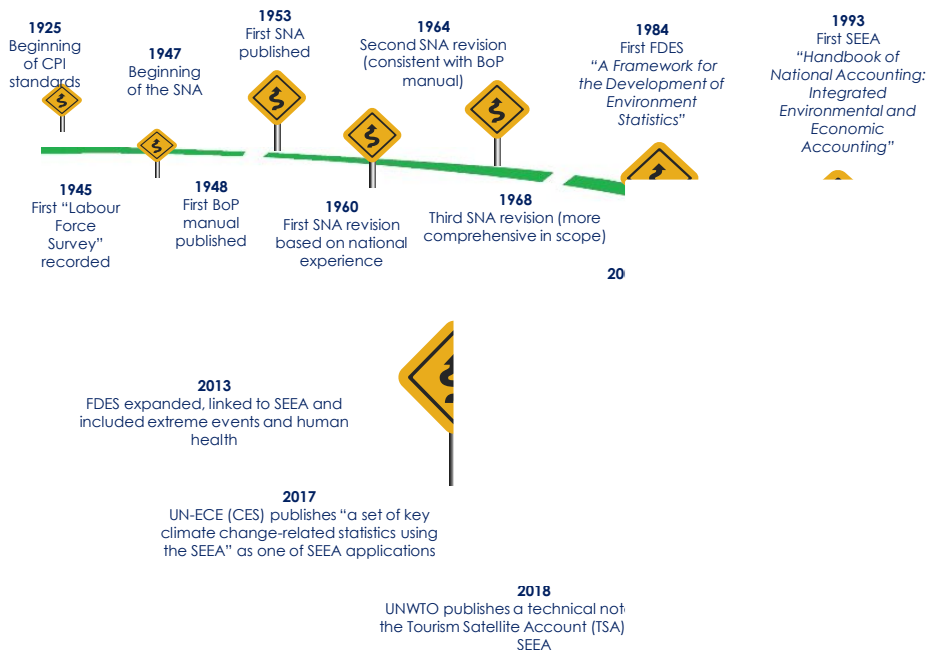


Source: climate.nasa.gov

A photograph of a weathered metal signpost with a white arrow-shaped sign pointing to the right. The sign has the words "New Mindset" in bold black font. The background is a vibrant orange and yellow sunset sky over dark hills.

New Mindset

Journey of economic statistics & environmental-economic accounts



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Journey of economic statistics & environmental-economic accounts



The image features a hand placing a small green seedling onto a stack of silver coins. In the background, there is a bar chart with four bars of increasing height, colored yellow, pink, blue, and green from left to right. The entire scene is set against a dark, textured background resembling soil. A semi-transparent grey box contains the main text.

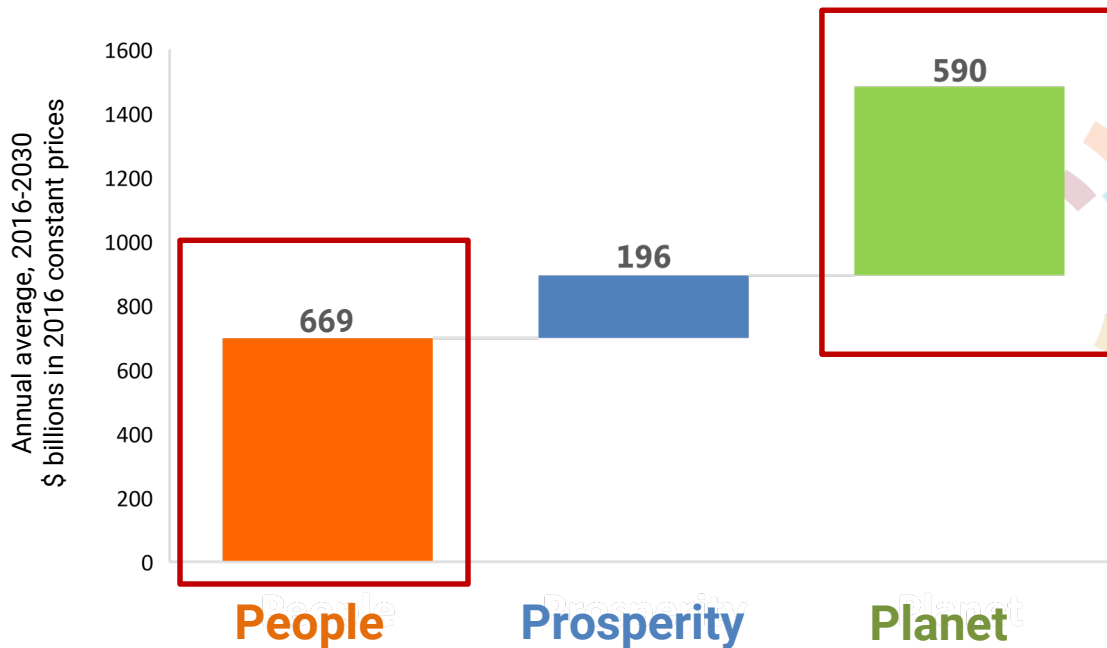
For a future that we want: Investment in Sustainable Development Goals

Can we do better?

Inclusive and sustainable development scenario



Survey 2019 estimates an investment gap of **\$1.5 trillion per year** or 5% of GDP for developing Asia-Pacific ...





Put **PEOPLE** and
PLANET First!