

“Internship at United Nations (UN) - Transition from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) To the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”



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Abstract

The main purpose of this internship could be described as an involvement in the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at global level during the last United Nations General Assembly session, held at summit level, in September 2015. Today the importance of Sustainability is strongly linked with equality, eradication of poverty, and balance in natural resource consumption with respect to future generations.

This internship, done at the Office of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation at the United Nations, was coincident with an exciting moment of United Nations Summit to launch the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The need for such goals can be found in today's interconnected global society in all Environmental, Social, and Economic dimensions.

Also this period could be considered as a transition from the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals, 8goals) to the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals, 17 goals). These new goals are inevitable and necessary with respect to entering into an Anthropocene (human-made) era and emerging out of the idea of “planetary boundaries”, including dangerous patterns of climate change and loss of biodiversity. In this case, the UN is considered as a facilitator and general policy maker to show the road map to all participants.

During this internship I had the opportunity to be involved with the process of negotiation and adoption of SDGs in different sessions. Making reports on all these processes and their progress, and also doing some research about the situation of sustainability in different countries was another part of my rewarding internship program.

Objectives

- Involvement in the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Better understanding of concept of Sustainability in the real world
- Getting familiar with global Sustainability problems
- Getting familiar with different work opportunity in the field of Sustainability at national and international level

Organization

❖ United Nations:

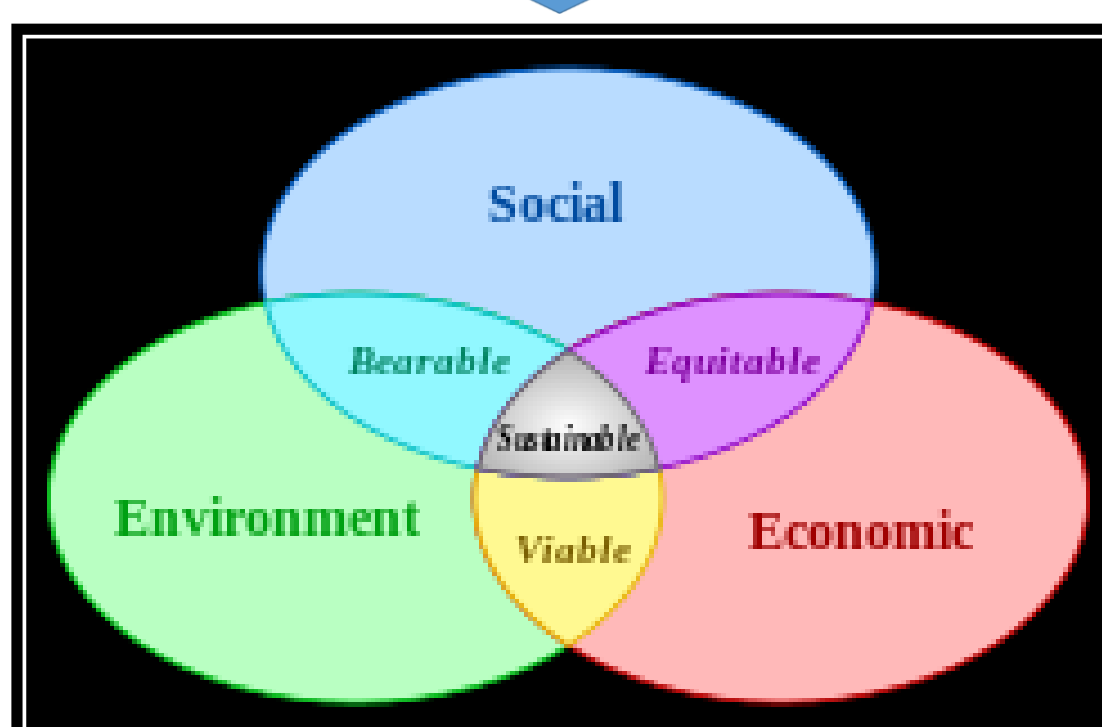
- ✓ International organization founded in 1945
- ✓ Made up of 193 Member States
- ✓ The main organs of the UN are the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the UN Secretariat
- ✓ The current Secretary-General of the UN, and the eighth occupant of the post, is Mr. Ban Ki-moon of the Republic of Korea, who took office on 1 January 2007

❖ OIC:

- ✓ The second largest inter-governmental organization after the United Nations which has membership of 57 states spread over four continents
- ✓ The Organization was established upon a decision of the historical summit which took place in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco on 25 September 1969 Ensuring to safeguard and protect the interests of the Muslim world in the spirit of promoting international peace and harmony among various people of the world
- ✓ Iyad Ameen Madani took office as the tenth Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on 1 January 2014.

Work Description

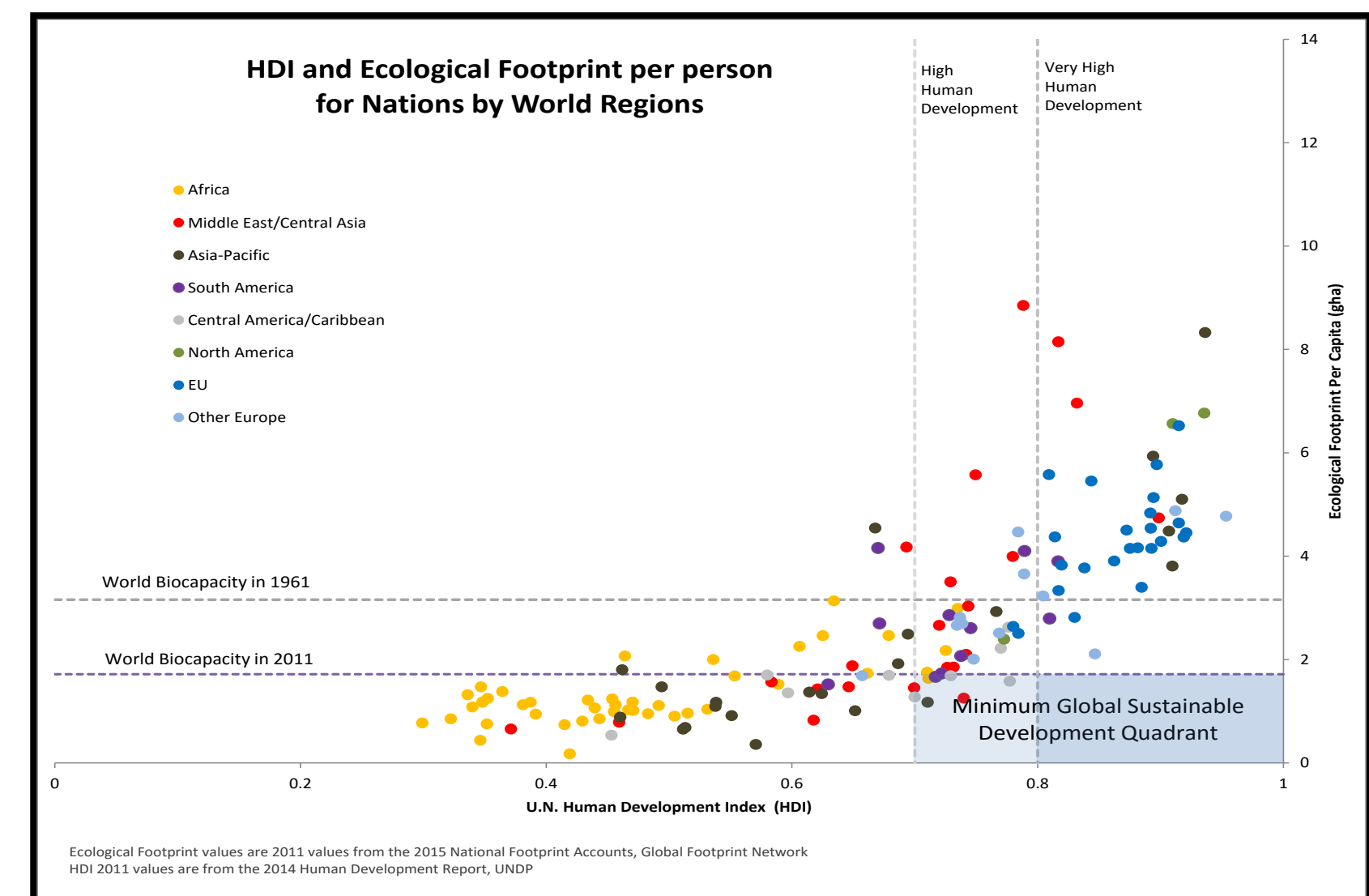
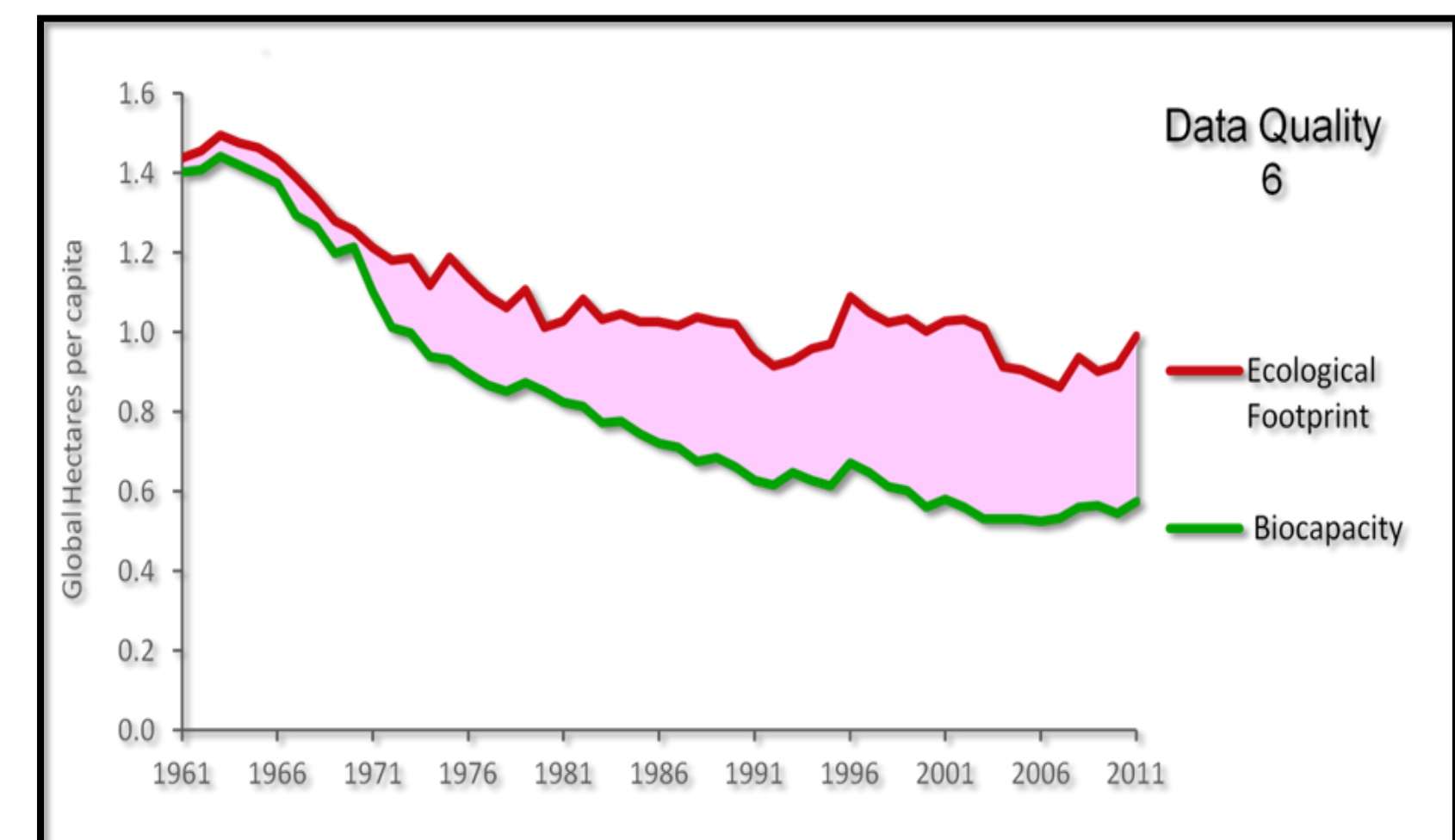
- Attending in different sessions of Sustainable Development Goals
- Making reports on progress of Sustainable development Goals, their indicators, monitoring, and evaluation process
- Research about the situation and trend of sustainability, sustainable development, and Ecological Footprint (EFP) in OIC members



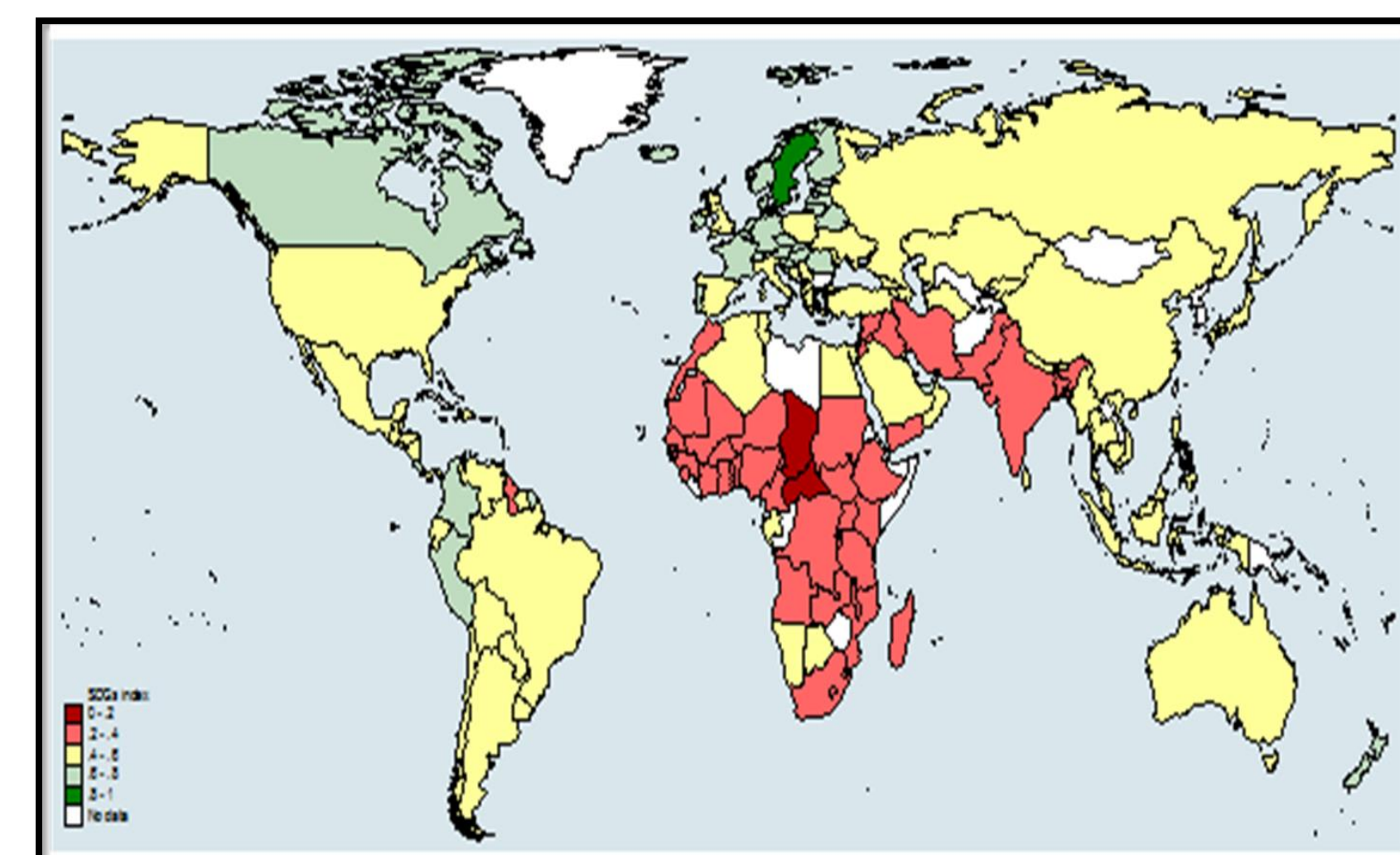
Example: EFP in Iran

| Region | Middle East/ Central Asia |
|---|---------------------------|
| Income Group | UM |
| HDI | 0.73 |
| Per Capita GDP | \$ 17,488 |
| Total Ecological Footprint (gha per capita) | 2.1 |
| Total Bio capacity (gha per capita) | 0.9 |
| Bio capacity Deficit (gha per capita) | 1.3 |

Global Footprint Network, 2015



Overall Sustainability Map



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