The Human Rights Principle for Sustainable Development Governance Gaston Meskens Centre for Ethics and Value Inquiry, University of Ghent, Belgium UNCSD Rio+20, Rio de Janeiro, 14 June 2012 http://www.the-possibility-of-global-governance.net research

A human rights based approach to Sustainable Development Governance

Sustainable development is impossible without a continuous respect and care for the implementation of human rights

as made explicit in

- the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child
- the human rights-related principles of the Rio Declaration and acknowledges the many other rights-related declarations that have emerged since then.

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but also	a fair and effective organisation of our human socio-economic interactions
\rightarrow	this 'organisation' is a complex exercise that has to deal
with but also with	conflicting interests limits to knowing of problems and solutions
and with	a plurality of opinions on problems and solutions.

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There will always remain a vague line between

- what should be **enforced** in the interest of human rights, human equality and human solidarity
- and \(\ \) what should be **left open to contingent dynamics** relying on the power of individuals and communities to employ creativity, commitment and solidarity

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- what should be enforced in the interest of human rights, human equality and human solidarity
- what should be **left open to contingent dynamics** relying on the power of individuals and communities to employ creativity, commitment and solidarity
 - → These considerations are the basis for the formulation of a human rights principle for sustainable development governance

The Human Rights Principle for Sustainable Development Governance concerns a rationale that connects the rights of those who need support today the rights of those of the future to govern their own needs with sustainable development governance the rights the rights of those of those of who need the future support to govern today their own needs

The Human Rights Principle for Sustainable Development Governance recognises the right to have access to and 'participate in' the socio-economic dynamic but also that the needs of today and those of the future cannot be connected through the socio-economic dynamic sustainable development governance the rights the rights of those of those of the future who need support to govern their own today needs the right to have access to and 'participate in' the socio-economic dynamic

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sustainable development governance

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	The principles that underpin a human rights based approach to sustainable development governance
	relate to the possibility to protect, enable and stimulate the full potential of the human being <u>for</u> sustainable development governance.
	This implies
Principle 1	the right to be protected from unjust excrescences of the global socio- economic dynamic and the right to have access to and participate in the global socio-economic dynamic;
Principle 2	the right to participate in policy-supportive knowledge generation and deliberation for sustainable development governance;
Principle 3	the right of future generations to enjoy own freedoms of choice in deliberating sustainable development governance.

→ Principle 2

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... or thus the need to enable, organise and foster

- free, open and pluralist education
- transdisciplinary and inclusive research
- inclusive decision making

	The Human Rights Principle for Sustainable Development Governance
a way	to meaningfully approach the following discussion points
1	the meaning of the right to have equal access to basic needs (water, food, energy, shelter,)
tension	solidary social support ↔ the dynamic of an open and fair market
2	the meaning of shared but differentiated responsibilities between N and S
3	the meaning of the 'rights of nature' and the relation with human rights
tension tension	idea of 'rights of nature' dillutes ←> strenghtens human rights connecting rights to responsibilities
\rightarrow	human well-being →← the well-being of nature and our earth as such"
4	the meaning of the rights of future generations
tension	protecting future generations \leftrightarrow enabling future generations to take of themselves