

# How are multi-stakeholder platforms for SDGs involved in the follow-up and review process at national level including the Voluntary National Review process?

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# The German Council for Sustainable Development



- The Council, established in 2001 and mandated by the German Federal Government, acts in its capacity as an **independent** entity. Its members are appointed every three years by the **Federal Government**.
- The Council consists of **15 public figures**, comprising individuals from civil society, the business sector, the scientific community and the political arena.

Three main tasks:

- **Advises the Federal Government** on sustainability matters and the German Sustainable Development Strategy.
- **Fosters public debate** on sustainability.
- Specifies fields of action and supports **sustainability projects**.



# Members (current term 2023-2026)



Prof. Dr. Katrin  
Böhning-Gaese



Zarah Bruhn



Katja Dörner



Saori Dubourg



Tanja Gönner



Reiner Hoffmann



Jörg-Andreas  
Krüger



Prof. Dr. Mark G.  
Lawrence



Prof. Dr. Kai  
Niebert



Hubertus Paetow



Myriam Rapior



Gunda Röstel



Dr. Werner  
Schnappauf



Dr. Franziska  
Tanneberger



Heidemarie  
Wieczorek-Zeul



# Focus topics 2023-2026

1. Social cohesion in the transition
2. Ways to net zero in climate policy
3. Biodiversity loss – reversing the trend





# The German Council for Sustainable Development



- The Council determines its rules of procedure **independently** and elects their chairperson.
- The meetings are **not open to the public**.
- The Council is supported in its activities by an **administrative office** based in Berlin with approx. **20 staff members**. It is **financed by the Federal Chancellery**.
- The Council is summoned ~ **5 times a year** by the chairperson.
- The Council meets virtually within working groups, for example within the group on the German Sustainable Development Strategy.

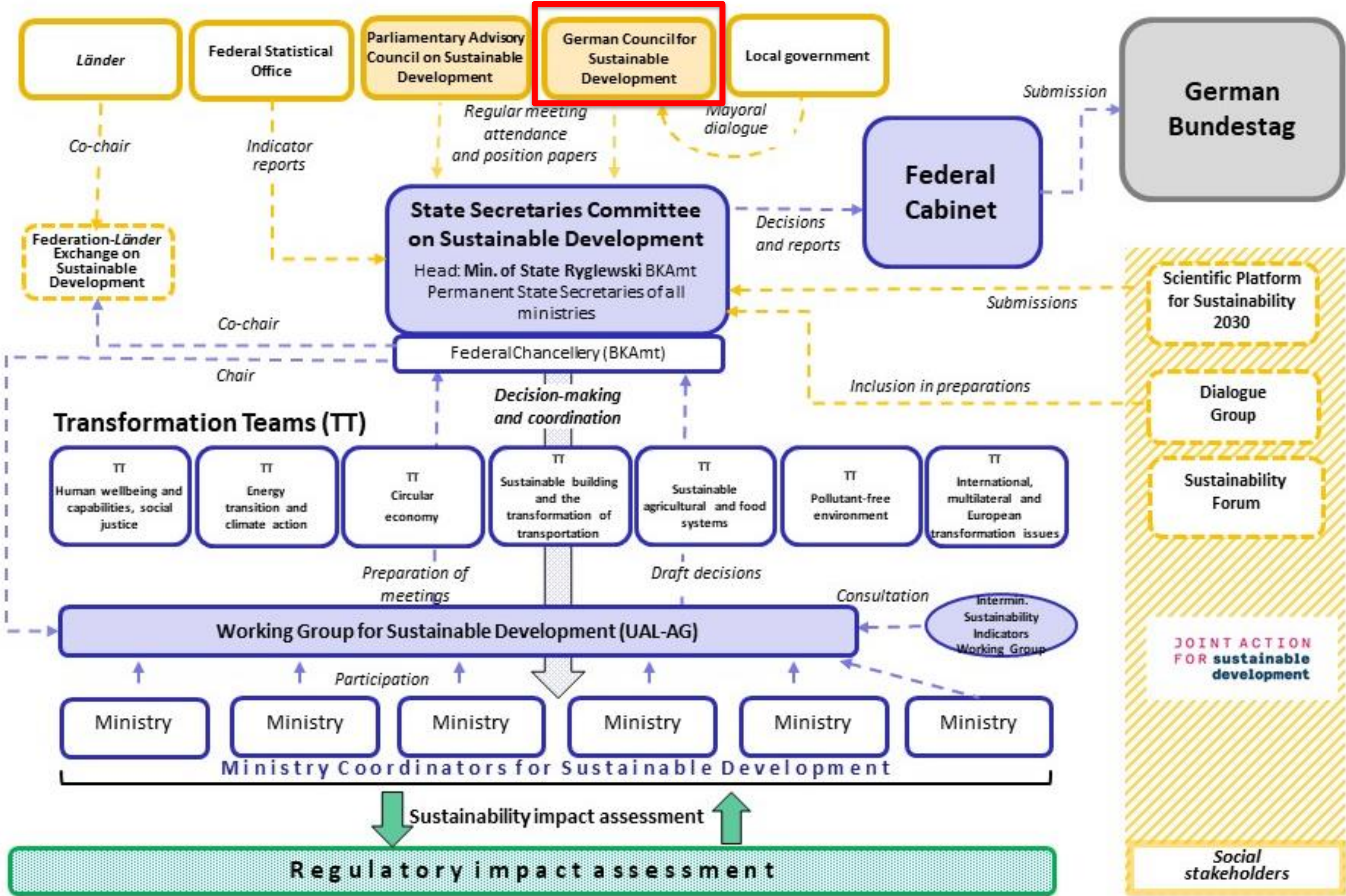
# Contribution to the VNR through the GSDS



- The **German Sustainable Development Strategy (GSDS)** forms the basis of the **SDG implementation in Germany**.
- The German VNR is based on the German Sustainable Development Strategy, which was first elaborated in 2002 and is being updated every four years. It is the key instrument for **strategically guiding and implementing** sustainability in Germany.
- The Council is mandated by the German Government to **provide advice on the revisions** of the Sustainable Development Strategy. It does so by:
  - **Publishing statements** related to the process of updating the strategy or its follow-up
  - Regular **meetings with the State Secretaries Committee** on Sustainable Development (responsible for the sustainability strategy)
  - Providing **directly recommendations** and comments to the draft strategy before adoption

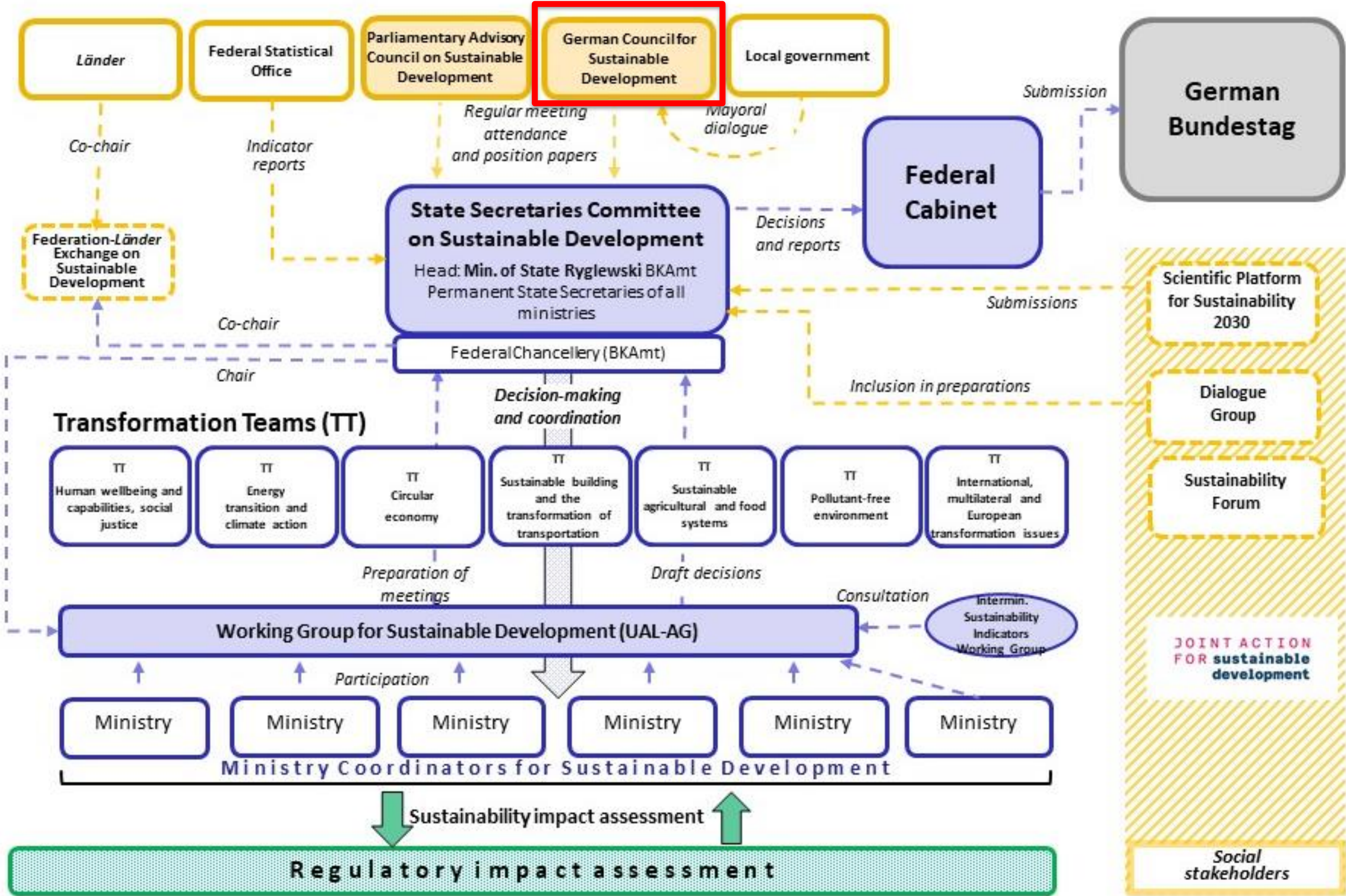


# Germany's sustainable development architecture



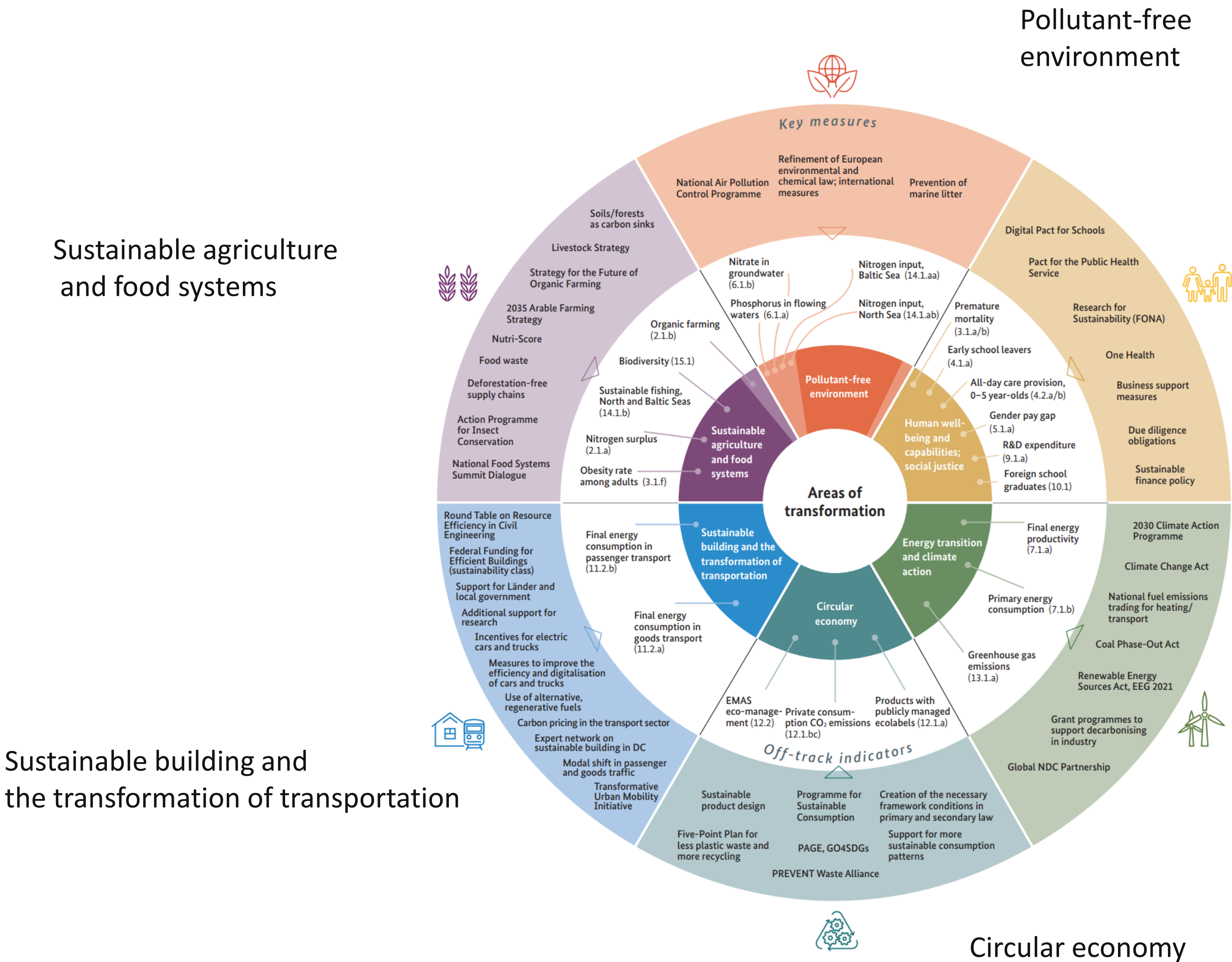


# Germany's sustainable development architecture





# Areas of transformation



Human well-being and capabilities; social justice

Energy transition and climate action



# Which experiences of meaningful impacts did we make?



- The Council carries out its **own projects** on sustainability
- For example:
  - **„Sustainable City“ Dialogues with > 40 mayors**
    - Serves as a platform for knowledge exchange and impulses for municipal sustainability policy and sustainable urban development
  - **Reporting Framework for Local Sustainability**
    - Supports municipalities in making their progress of sustainable development measurable and thus controllable
    - Forms the basis for numerous Voluntary Locals Reviews (VLRs)





Thank you for your  
attention

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Member of the German Council for Sustainable Development

