Hungarian Council for Sustainable Development (NFFT)

SHORT INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW OF CURRENT CHALLENGES





President

• The NFFT is an independent, national institution, an advisory body to the National Assembly of Hungary. The current President is the Speaker.

Board

• The chairman and co-chairs together constitute the 5-member board of the NFFT. Co-chairs may be delegated by the government, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, non-governmental organizations and parliamentary parties.

Members

• The number of voting members of the NFFT is 34. The Council has a quorum of 18 members.

Working groups

• The work of the NFFT is assisted by member working committees, the number and nature of which vary, adapting to the tasks of the Council.

Permanent Invitees

• The work of the NFFT is assisted by 7 permanent invitees. Permanent invitees do not have the right to vote.



Membership

- Every parlamentary group delegates 1 member
- Academy (e.g. Hungarian Academy of Science, Rectors' Conference)
- Business, Trade Unions
- 1/3 of the membership is from the Civil Society
- Historical Churches

Main activities

- As an independent national institution, the NFFT is responsible for promoting the definition of the principles, goals and overarching tasks of sustainable development in Hungary, for considering relevant international cooperation, for promoting the regular review and implementation of the sustainable development strategy, for supporting the coordination of relevant planning and consultation activities, for raising awareness and social engagement, and for implementing the international sustainable development goals adopted in 2015.
- One of the priorities of the NFFT is to promote a change of attitude in all segments of society. It encourages and supports a wide range of public awareness activities to strengthen social empowerment. In addition to extensive press coverage, the NFFT produces a range of publications and working papers to help inform the wider public and professional organisations about sustainability. The NFFT reports regularly to Parliament on its activities.



International collaborations



Sustainability advisory



Bi-annual progress report



Promote the change

NFFT & SDGs

- NFFT assumes responsibility for facilitating the definition of the SDG related principles, objectives, and comprehensive tasks of sustainable development in Hungary.
- NFFT further promotes an attitude change in all segments of society as it promotes the regular revision and implementation of the sustainable development strategy, supports the coordination of the relevant planning and consultation activities, raises awareness and social engagement and implementation of the SDGs. Both NFFT's bi-annual progress report about SD, it provides also a 'compass' function for the different stakeholders.
- The NFFT was established as an individual stakeholder institution of the Hungarian Parliament and the members include politicians, representatives of economic and scientific life, churches, trade unions and civil society.
- The guidance document for preparing the Hungarian NSDS points out that, during the decision-making process (e.g. legislative, investment, budget, institutions or governmental issues in a broader sense) all important social and environmental factors have to be considered beside the long-term effects. NFFT therefore actively collaborates and build partnerships with different associations and NGOs, working in the field of sustainable development. NFFT is also active member in different international SD networks (e.g. EEAC, ESDN, etc.)











NFFT's definition of Sustainability

- Sustainability is about long-term resource management
- The focus should be shifted from income to the factors of production, because the current problem is;
 - Management is currently optimized on short term profit collection (human nature...), and
 - Current social & economical systems are strengthening further the short-term management (costs to be paid by the future generations)



Thank you for your attention!

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