

Unlocking the Transformation of the SDGs:

State of the Environment Reporting as framed by the UN SDGs

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Our Responsibilities

- We prepare the Victorian State of Environment report every 5 years
- To achieve this, we have developed 200+ indicators across 12 environmental themes
- We assess these indicators to identify the health of the Victorian environment and provide recommendations to the government

Structure of the SoE 2018 report



Contents for each area

- Data and Interpretation
- **Indicator Assessment**
- Existing Government Policies
- Future Focus 2030

Indicator Assessment

Status



Unknown

Data is insufficient to make an assessment of status and trends.



Poor

Environmental condition is under significant stress, OR pressure likely to have significant impact on environmental condition/ human health, OR inadequate protection of natural ecosystems and biodiversity.



Fair

Environmental condition is neither positive or negative and may be variable across Victoria, OR pressure likely to have limited impact on environmental condition/ human health, OR moderate protection of natural ecosystems and biodiversity.



Good

Environmental condition is healthy across Victoria, OR pressure likely to have negligible impact on environmental condition/ human health, OR comprehensive protection of natural ecosystems and biodiversity.

Trend



Unclear



Deteriorating



Stable



Improving

Data quality



Poor

Evidence and consensus too low to make an assessment



Fair

Limited evidence or limited consensus



Good

Adequate high-quality evidence and high level of consensus

- Assessment types: Status, Trend and Data Quality
- Consistent approach across all chapters

4. *What is ecologically sustainable development?*

- (1) Ecologically sustainable development is development that improves the total quality of life, both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends.

7. *Objectives of the Commissioner*

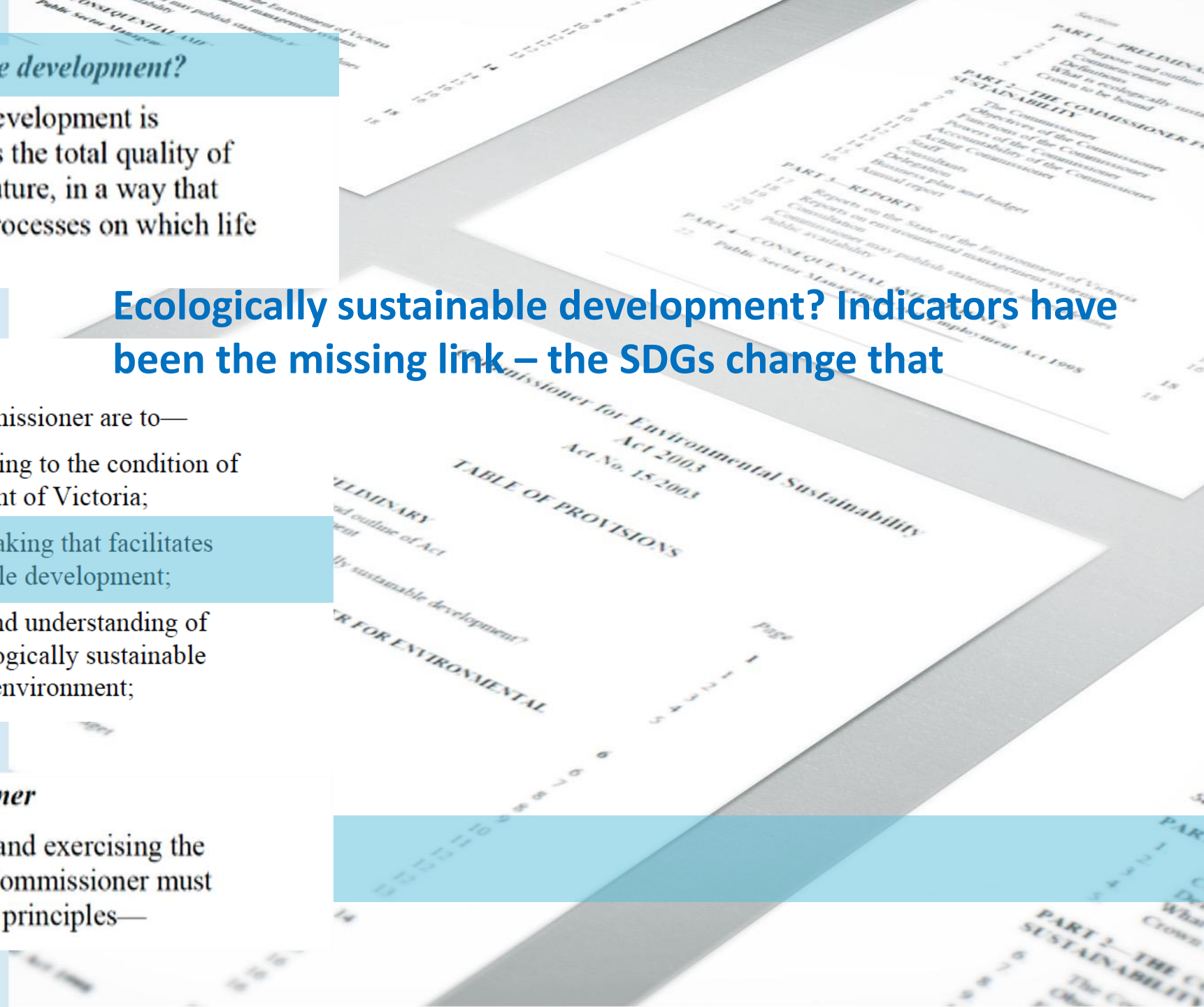
The objectives of the Commissioner are to—

- (a) report on matters relating to the condition of the natural environment of Victoria;
- (b) encourage decision making that facilitates ecologically sustainable development;
- (c) enhance knowledge and understanding of issues relating to ecologically sustainable development and the environment;

10. *Accountability of the Commissioner*

- (1) In performing the functions and exercising the powers under this Act, the Commissioner must have regard to the following principles—

Ecologically sustainable development? Indicators have been the missing link – the SDGs change that





Framework for the Victorian 2018 State of the Environment Report:
State and Benefit



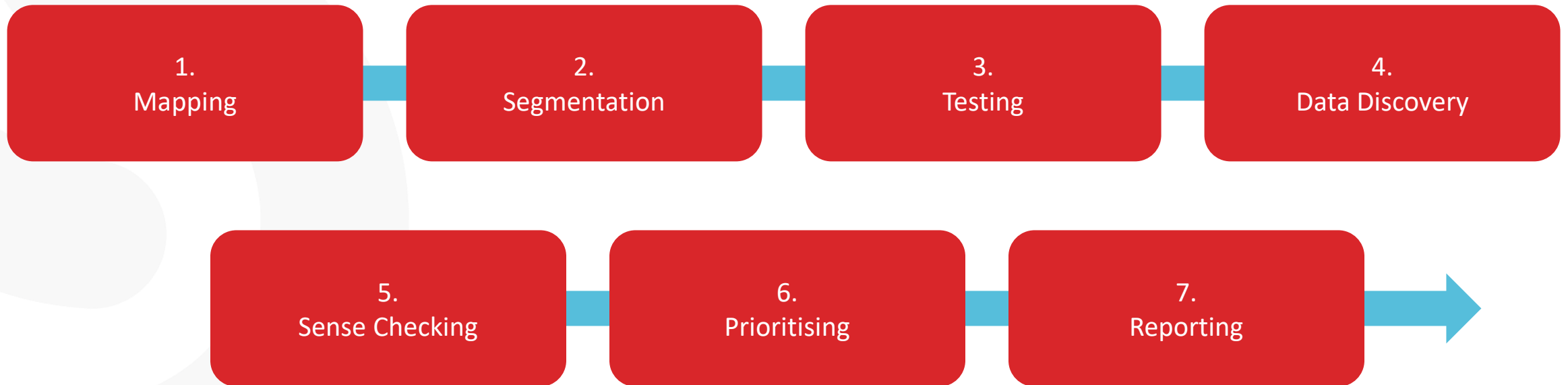
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SDGs in Victoria

- We are aligning Victoria with international environmental reporting frameworks and rewiring the current reporting system
- This is for the SDGs to frame environmental monitoring and reporting in Victoria

To apply the **SDG Targets** to our environmental reporting framework we developed a seven-stage process

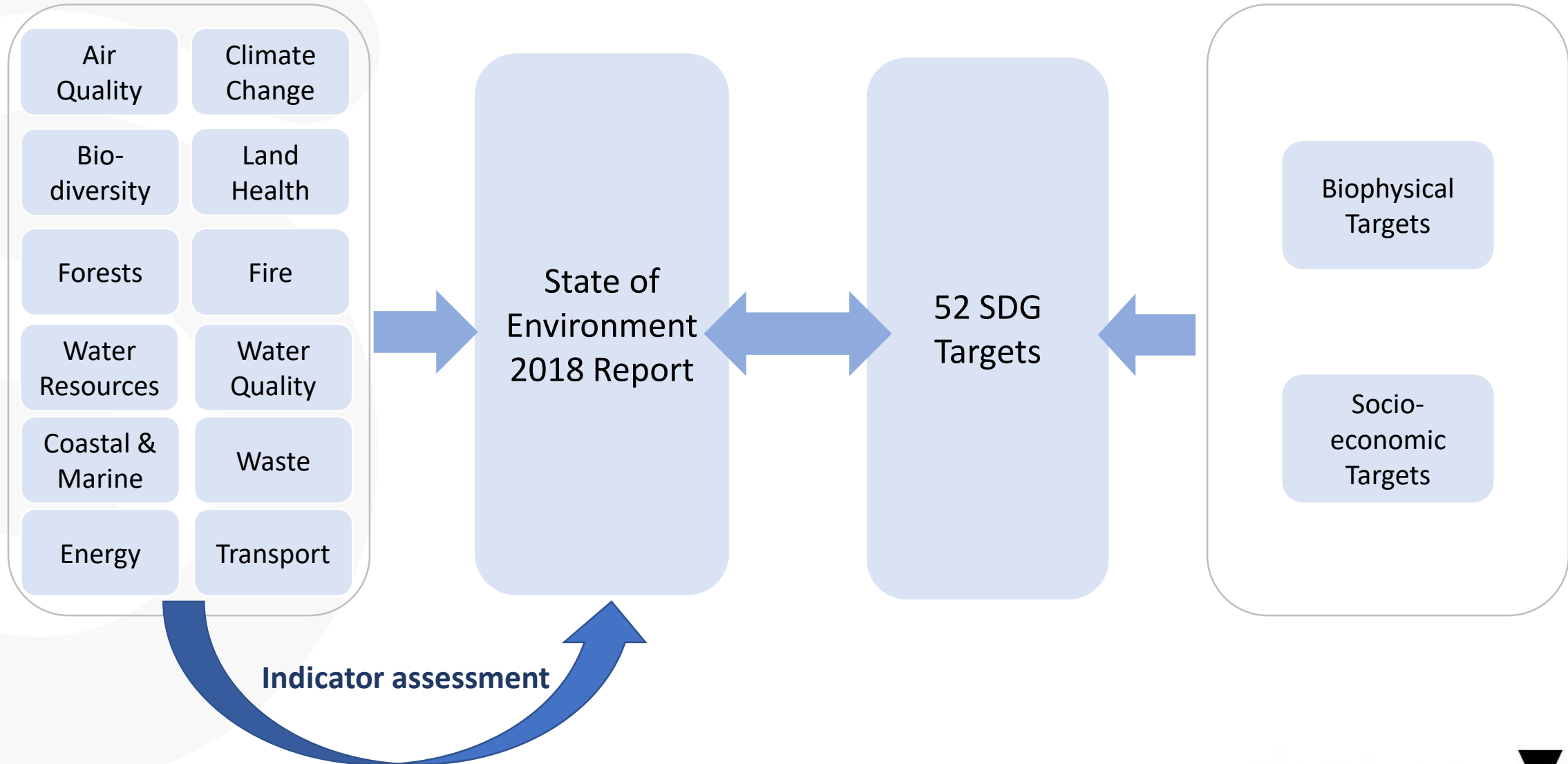


Phase 1-3: Mapping, Segmentation and Testing

- Mapped existing environmental indicators, against all 169 SDG targets
- Selected 52 SDG Targets relevant to Victorian context in the State of Environment (SoE) reporting
- Categorised these Targets through discussions with experts and data custodians

SDG Targets	
Out of Scope	117
Biophysical SoE indicators (definite)	21
Socio-economic SoE indicators (nominal)	31
Total	169

Phase 4 -5: Data Discovery, Sense Checking (linking SoE indicators with 52 SDG targets)



PHASE 6: Prioritising. Live polling with 120 thought leaders from across the State



OUTCOME:

Prioritised 52 SDG targets to include in Victorian State of the Environment reporting.



“Putting the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals under the microscope to determine which are the most relevant to environmental reporting in Victoria is a crucial step in achieving meaningful, high quality and transparent reporting.”

Hon. Lily D’Ambrosio MP
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate change

PHASE 7: Reporting

Collating data against 52 (21+31) SDG targets for the first time by the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability. The findings will be presented in the 2018 Victorian State of the Environment Report to be tabled in the Victorian Parliament early 2019.



OUTCOME: 2018 Victorian SoE report aligned with SDGs. Victoria has commenced the transition to the SDGs as the framework for state of environment reporting – reflecting our need to report on both the state of the environment and the benefits that society derives from it.

To apply this SDG framework to change the system, next steps are to prioritise . . .

CODESIGN + COLLABORATION

We need to change the way we work across the silos of government

DATA COLLECTION + INTEGRITY

Focus on better monitoring

FILLING KNOWLEDGE GAPS

Get the data we need not just the data we can get

FURTHER ALIGNMENT

More integrated environmental reporting
(reports that relate to each other)

PRAGMATISM

Do not let the perfect get in the way of the possible and practical

Victoria is taking the lead *on* applying the SDGs *for* environmental reporting



THANK YOU