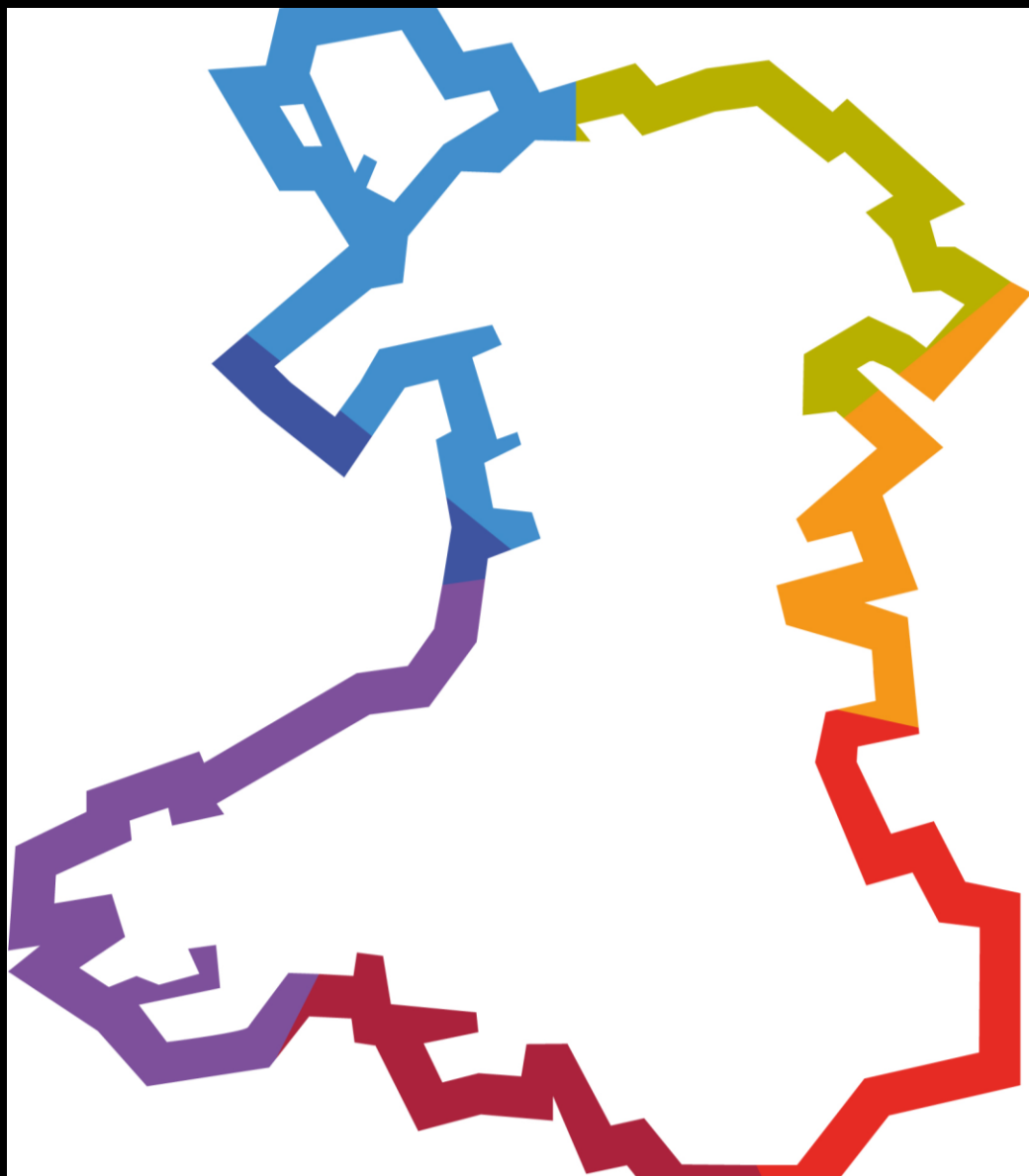




WALES DEEP DIVE: EXPLORING WALES' STRATEGIC PLANS BEYOND THE YEAR 2030

'What Wales is doing today, the world will do tomorrow.'

Nikhil Seth, UN Assistant Secretary General

#futuregen



Lessons
from a
Small
Country

JANE DAVIDSON

THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT, 2015

WALES DEEP DIVE: POST-2030 AGENDA



Pioneering Governance Structures

Wales uses innovative governance rooted in long-termism and well-being to shape sustainable development, including setting up Public Services Boards.

Well-being of Future Generations Act

The WFG Act embeds long-term sustainable decision-making in government policies across Wales.

Global Leadership Opportunity

Wales provides evidence of how legislating influences policy making and decision making and provides opportunities to show others what works and what doesn't work and how Wales has dealt with emerging issues and challenges.

Post-2030 Sustainability Vision

Wales contributes to shaping renewed global sustainability frameworks beyond the 2030 Agenda by being a live example of how legislation can be a framework for everything we do and how we do it.

EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT NETWORK CONTEXT



ESDN's Role in Knowledge Exchange

ESDN facilitates peer learning and policy experimentation across European regions focused on sustainable development goals.

Post-2030 Governance Focus

Post-2030 discussions emphasises governance innovation, stakeholder engagement, and policy coherence for systemic transformation.

Wales' Strategic Alignment

Wales leverages the Well-being of Future Generations Act to align with European sustainable development priorities and influence EU policy.

Impact of Copenhagen Conference

The 2025 Copenhagen Conference highlighted the need for adaptive, participatory approaches to overcome slowing SDG progress.

THE WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT AS A POST-2030 MODEL



Core Principles of WFG Act

The Act promotes long-term thinking, policy integration, preventative action, citizen involvement, and collaboration.

Impact on Welsh Policymaking

The WFG Act has transformed policymaking culture with alignment to well-being goals in transport, procurement, and resource management.

Global Governance Implications

The Act serves as a model for embedding intergenerational justice into governance and informs international frameworks on sustainability.

Position in International Reforms

Wales is a frontrunner in institutional innovation with relevance to post-2030 governance and European reform discussions.

YOUR COUNTRY (OR REGION'S) SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUPERPOWER



Groups of 3-4

10 minutes: Identify a superpower for each country and agree 1-2 superpowers to feed back to the group

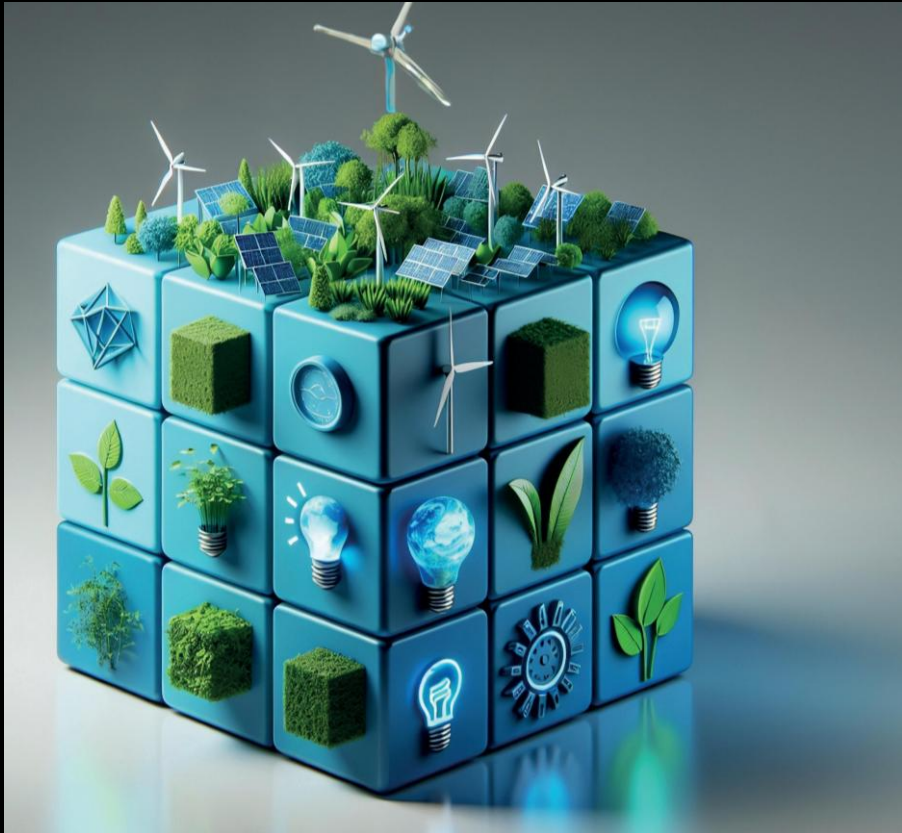
Cues/ examples

- Natural resources
- A legal or constitutional mechanism
- Governance structures
- Industrial expertise
- Civic engagement

Consideration

- How did it come about?
- What political or cultural conditions make it possible?
- Does this work in practice, or mainly on paper?

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GAME



SETUP

- Players form teams (4-10 people)
- The purpose is learning – not winning!
- A facilitator will help 😊
- Each team receives a 'Decision Hand' of 5 cards – GREEN CARDS

ROUNDS (3 x 6-7 minutes each)

Step 1 – Global Context Revealed (Facilitator draws 1 Global Context Card and reads aloud – BLUE CARD)

Step 2 – Team Deliberation (5 minutes)

- Discuss the challenge
- Explain how choices align with global and future impacts

Step 3 – Consequences

- Team draws a consequences card (ORANGE CARD)
- Table reaction and discussion

REFLECTION

The Sustainable
Development Principle:

"To act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Where did you embed the sustainable development principle – and where did you compromise?

Long-term: Consider the long-term impact of decisions.

Prevention: Focus on preventing problems before they occur.

Integration: Integrate different areas of work to achieve better outcomes.

Collaboration: Work together with others to achieve common goals.

Involvement: Involve people and communities in decision-making processes.

FEEDBACK



- What pressures most tested your commitment to long-term thinking?
- Where did global dynamics make sustainable choices harder, or easier?
- Which trade offs were easiest or hardest and why?
- Where did we default to familiar approaches under pressure?
- What parallels do you see with current policy or reality in your country/organisation?
- What would need to change to make your best choices the 'easy' ones?

HUMAN LAYERS MEDITATION

