



Role of UK business in delivering the UN Sustainable Development Goals

*Sustainable Development Goals: Japanese
and UK Approaches*

Daiwa Foundation Seminar

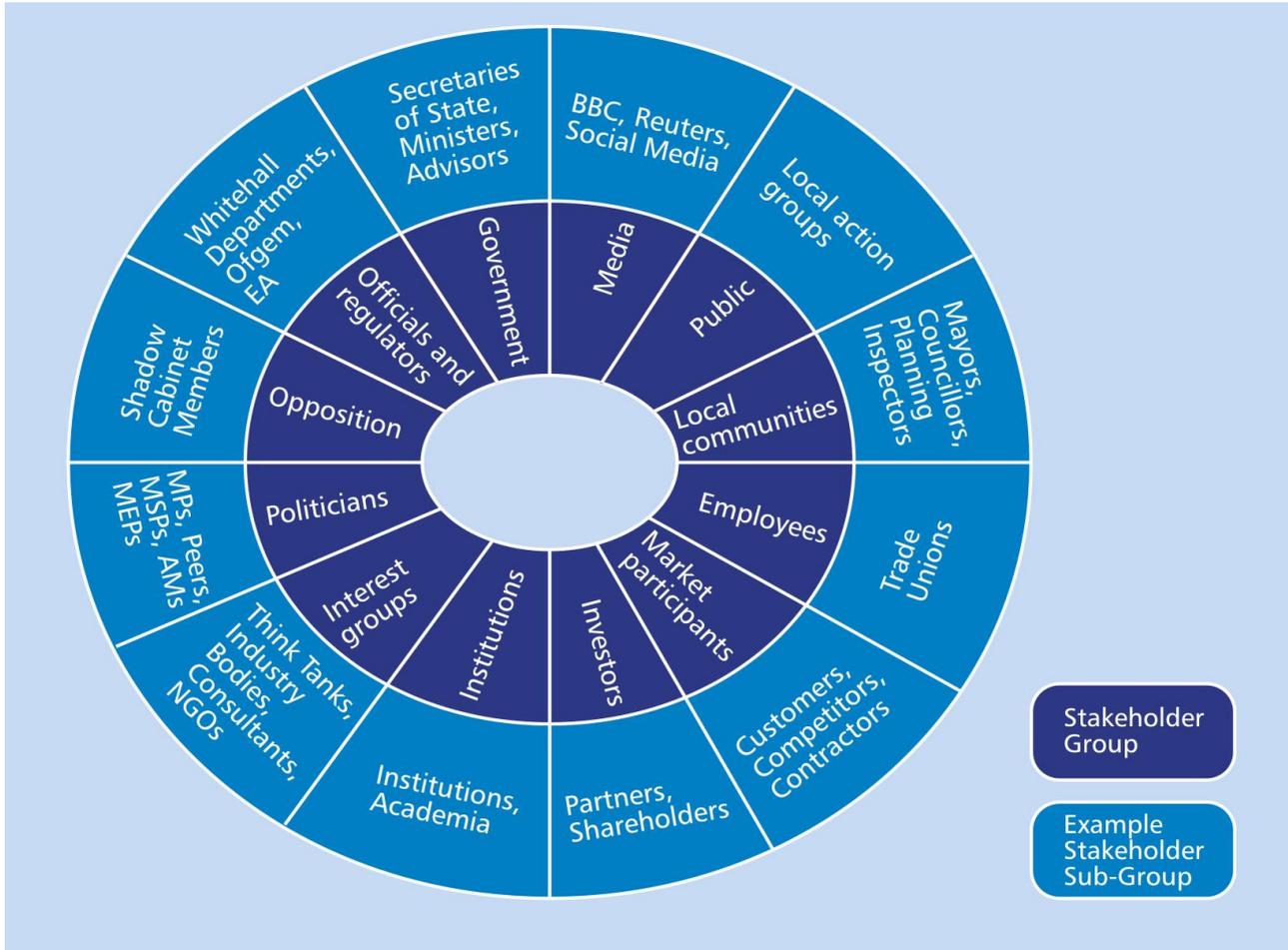
*Cornwall Terrace, London
20 March 2019*

Dr Chris Anastasi

Sustainable Development Goals in themes



Stakeholders across the spectrum



“Think of the SDGs as an incredible powerful employee engagement opportunity”

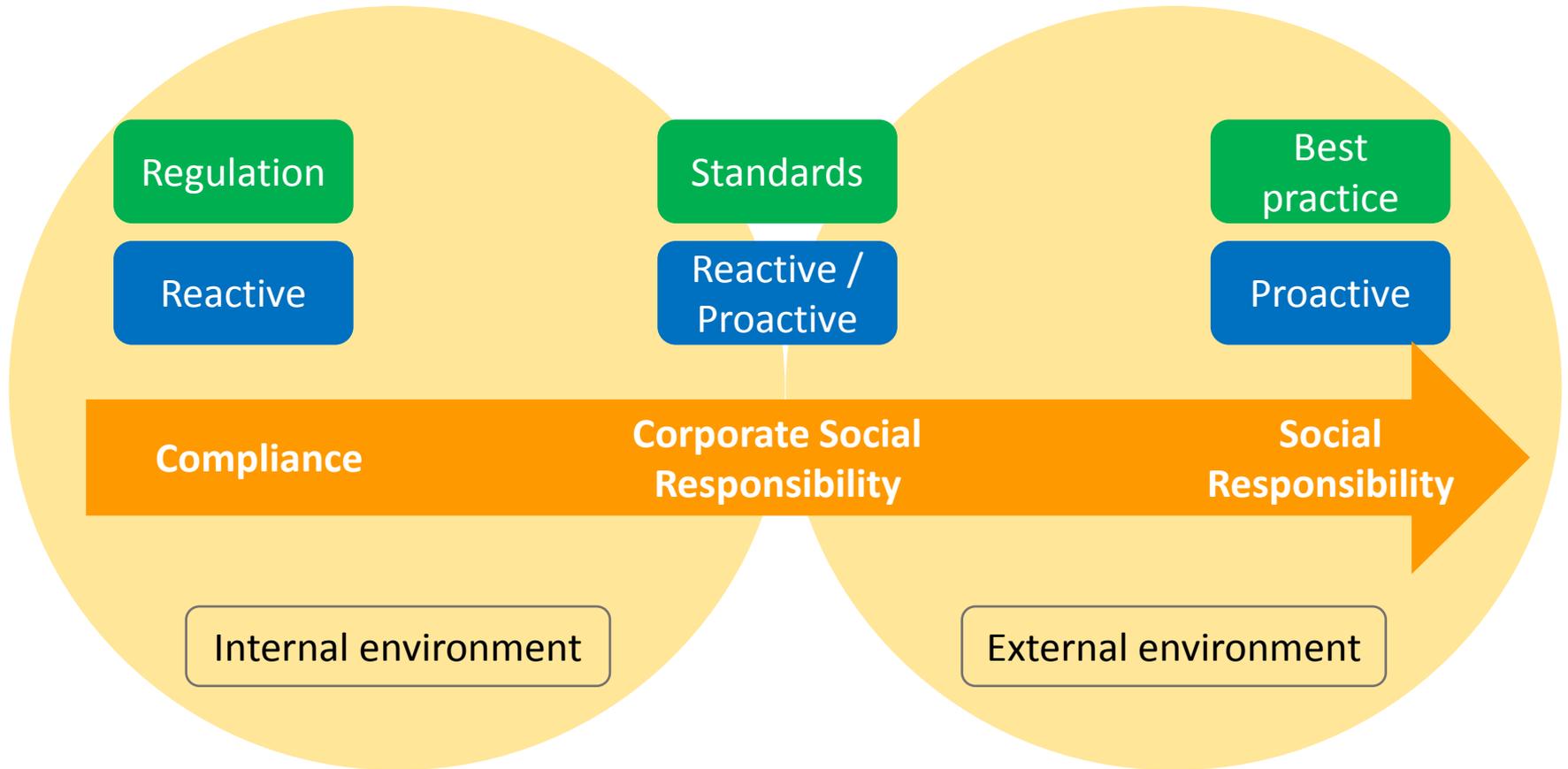
Benevity
14 July 2017

Source:
www.benevity.com

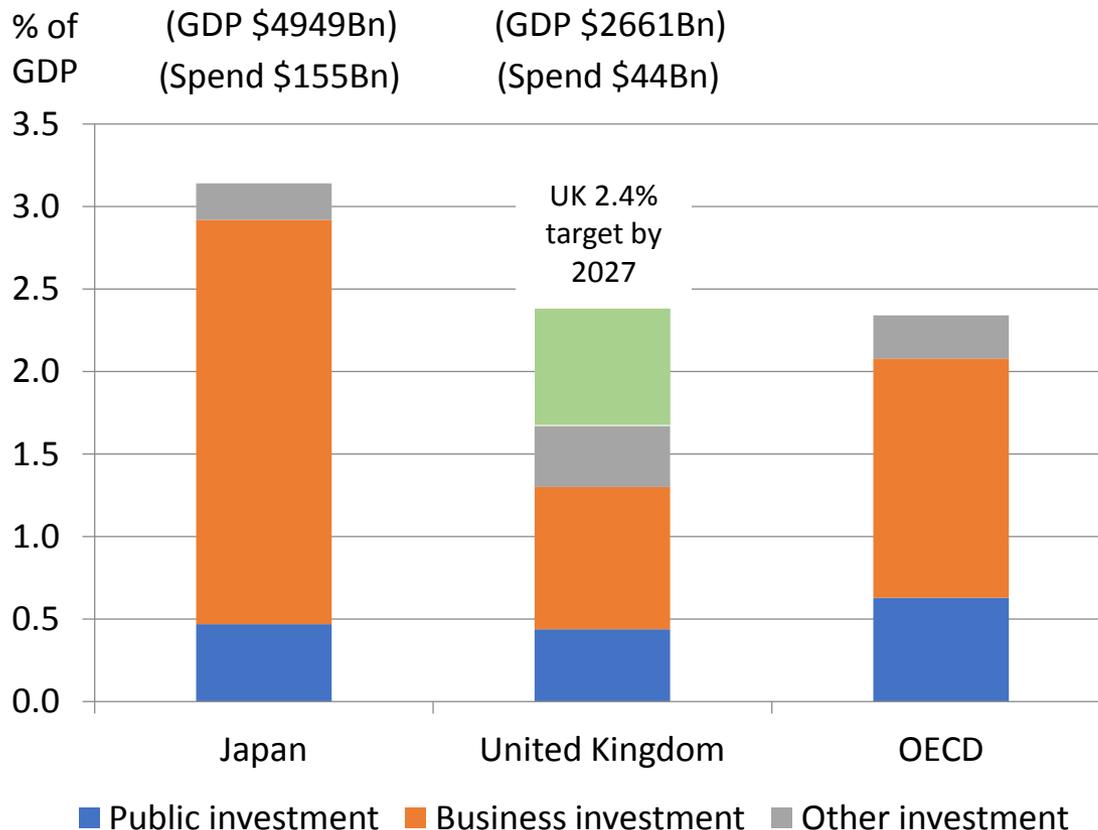
Role of some key UK stakeholders

Stakeholder	Stakeholder member	Potential role
Government	Departments of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), for International Trade (DIT), for International Development (DFID), and for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Articulate clear vision in SDG ambition ▪ Create enabling framework, and provide funding to meet SDG ▪ Ensure SDG an integral part Departmental programmes ▪ Review progress and reaffirm goals
Business	Trade Associations Prominent organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise awareness ▪ Mobilise action by members ▪ Share learning ▪ Take leadership role ▪ Incorporate SDGs into business principles ▪ Empower employees to contribute
Institutions	Academic and professional institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carry out Research and Development ▪ Support innovation cycle ▪ Support skills development
Charities and other NGOs	Local, national and international organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise awareness and solicit donations ▪ Mobilise action by members and provide expertise ▪ Lobby government
Media	Local, mainstream and social media, specialist and non-specialist journals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise awareness of key issues ▪ Report successes and failures ▪ Hold practitioners to account
Wider civil society	Citizens and consumers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopt SD practice ▪ Encourage friends and colleagues to adopt SD practice ▪ Support organisations lobbying for adoption of SDG

UK Business action today



Innovation important to delivering Goals



Source: Investing in UK R&D, Royal Society, May 2018

Notes: Figures are for 2016 except those for % of GDP figures for Germany, Finland, France and OECD average which are for 2015; £\$=£0.77

UK R&D spend by business

- Pharmaceuticals (\$5.35Bn)
- Motor vehicles and parts (\$4.38Bn)
- Computer programming and information service (\$3.28Bn)
- Aerospace (\$2.47Bn)
- Technical Testing and analysis (\$1.67Bn)
- Research and Development services (\$1.33Bn)
- Chemicals and chemical products (\$1.32Bn)
- Machinery and Equipment (\$1.18Bn)
- Consumer electronics and communication equipment (\$1.09Bn)
- Telecommunications (\$1.04Bn)

UK business ambition in regard to the Goals

The logo for the Confederation of British Industry (CBI), consisting of the letters 'CBI' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with vertical bars separating the letters.

Confederation of
British Industry



International Chamber
of Commerce

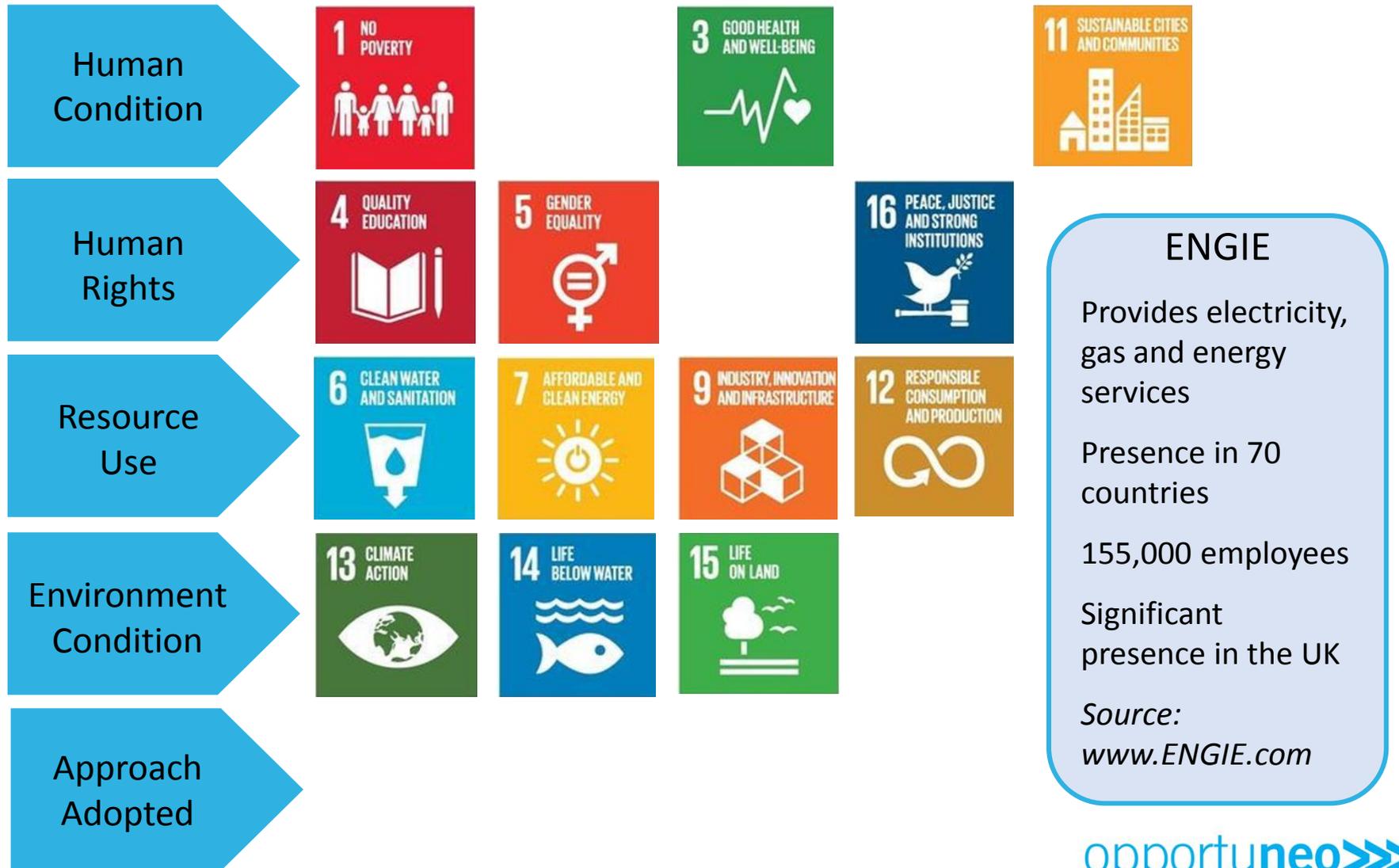
“The challenges posed by sustainable development and climate change are some of the most pressing issues of our time”

CBI/ICC Roundtable
London
15 February 2019

CBI/ICC Roundtable discussion London, 15 February 2019

- A clear definition of the Sustainable Development Goals
- A clear joined-up strategy across government
- A clear plan for how the UK can deliver these successfully
- A clear communications plan outlining what the Goals are and what they mean for consumers
- An action plan on how business and government can work together to accelerate sustainable finance in the UK

Prominent companies engaging with the Goals



ENGIE action



- Implemented a gender diversity policy in 2008 with actions to promote women within the Group
- Committed to promoting equal opportunities and equal treatment in all Group entities
- Board of Directors includes 8 women out of 19 Directors, including the CEO (as of May 2018)



- Is reducing its CO₂ emissions per kWh by:
 - Divesting from coal-fired generation
 - Investing in renewable generation
- Promoting global climate action, green finance, and carbon-pricing regulations
- Increasing the resilience of its infrastructure to extreme events



- Provides products and services aim at improving the well-being of residents through:
 - urban heating and cooling systems
 - decentralized low-carbon energy production
 - green mobility, smart networks
 - lighting and security devices
- Stakeholders are consulted and involved

Summary key points

- A consistent understanding of what is needed for each of the SDGs is needed
- No single stakeholder, or group of stakeholders, will deliver the SDGs; all stakeholders have a role to play. The challenge is to raise awareness and encourage stakeholder engagement with the SDGs
- Government is a key enabler and an active participant in the SDGs initiative
- In terms of the business sector:
 - Business can play an important role in translating the SDGs into tangible outcomes
 - Business accounts for about half of UK R&D; R&D in some sectors are highly relevant to SDGs, others less so
 - It is acceptable for organisations to consider their CSR activities as a first step in adopting the SDGs;
 - A successful response by business requires organisations to adopt some, if not all, the SDGs
 - There are organisations that are providing leadership in this initiative
- A coordinated and concerted effort is needed over a long period of time to realise the full potential of the SDGs