

5 aspects of the Bill in play:

Scope of “primary” actors covered by the bill

Who the provisions of the bill will apply to in general, and which specific actors might receive particular responsibilities and powers

by establishing or supporting a particular allocation of roles, can have a powerful effect on governance structures for sustainable development

Nature and extent of responsibilities and powers conferred

- can include duties to undertake actions, set and achieve objectives, report
- legal interpretation and action-guiding power can rest on the exact wording

Relationship to existing national frameworks, or creation of new national framework; relationship to global frameworks

Can use metrics or objectives set by existing national framework or a national response to a global framework (or both) to structure duties and powers, set their extent, and/or the standard for accountability processes

Accountability mechanism

- accountability is a way to motivate and monitor action and change.
- It can also be expensive and provoke resistance
- Can aim at relatively formal processes: enforceability, specific actors tasked with independent scrutiny or informal ones – public debate or mainstreaming into parliamentary business
- Can involve creation of new bodies or adding to the mandates of existing ones
- Should be sensitive to overall theory of change: the interplay of all 5 components of an accountability relationship - who is responsible, to whom, against what standard, through what process, with what sanction – sets the overall demandingness of the accountability relationship
- should accountability be very demanding as a spur to change? or should it be sensitive to other elements of context – e.g. novelty or contested nature of central terms, extent of support, resource and learning, competing pressures.

Key elements in the Bill

Concepts and definitions of central terms (in this case, sustainable development and wellbeing)

- *definitions can determine the scope and effect of the rest of the bill*
- *definition can be broad or narrow; specific or abstract; can reference national or global frameworks, or be independent of any such framework*

Scope of “primary” actors addressed by the bill

- *Who the provisions of the bill will apply to in general, and which specific actors might receive particular responsibilities and powers*
- *by establishing or supporting a particular allocation of roles, can have a powerful effect on governance structures (in this case, around sustainable development)*

Nature and extent of responsibilities and powers conferred

- *can include duties to undertake actions, set and achieve objectives, assess, report*
- *legal interpretation and action-guiding power can rest on the exact wording*

Accountability mechanism

- *accountability is a way to motivate and monitor action and change.*
- *It can also be expensive and provoke resistance*
- *Can aim at relatively formal processes: enforceability, specific actors tasked with independent scrutiny or informal ones – public debate or mainstreaming into parliamentary business*
- *Can involve creation of new bodies or adding to the mandates of existing ones; or both*
- *the interplay of all 5 components of an accountability relationship - who is responsible, to whom, against what standard, through what process, with what sanction – sets the overall demandingness of the accountability relationship*
- *should accountability be moderated by other elements of context – e.g. novelty or contested nature of central terms, extent of support, resource and learning, competing pressures?*

Relationship to existing national frameworks,

- *or creation of new national framework; relationship to global frameworks*
- *Can use metrics or objectives set by existing national framework or a national response to a global framework (or both) to structure duties and powers, set their extent, and/or the standard for accountability processes*