Discover Systems Change for People and the Planet

"The world is a complex, interconnected, finite, ecological–social–psychological–economic system. We treat it as if it were not, as if it were divisible, separable, simple, and infinite.

Our persistent, intractable global problems arise directly from this mismatch."

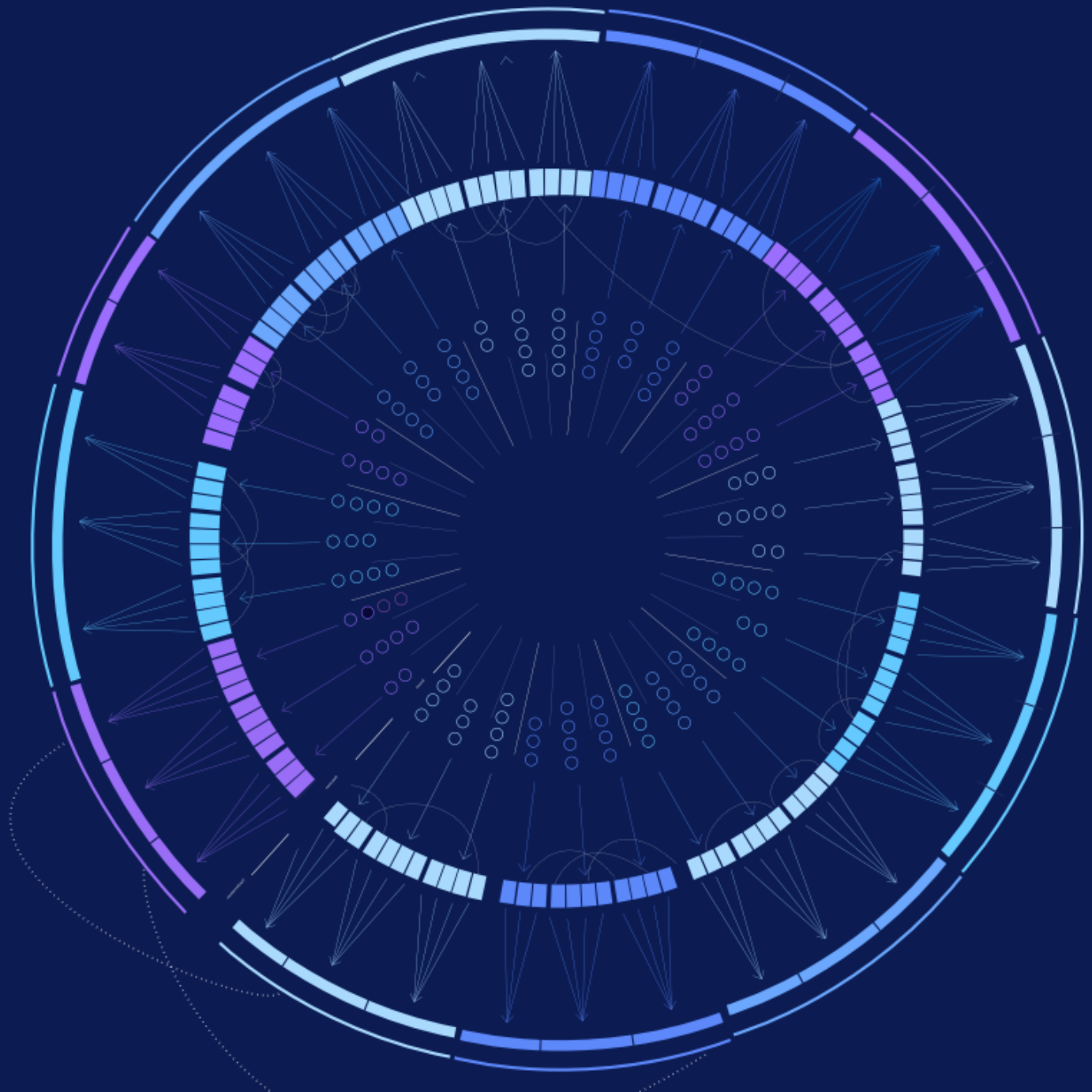
— **Donella Meadows**

Photo by: Ben O'bro

SYSTEMS CHANGE LAB

Systems: A traditional approach

But our reality looks more like this



What is Systems Change?

Shifting component parts of a system — and the pattern of interactions between these parts — to ultimately form a new system that behaves in a qualitatively different way.

Thinking Systemically

- Seeing the whole rather than just parts
- Seeing patterns of change rather than static snapshots
- Understanding key interconnections within and between systems
- Engaging different perspectives
- Constantly learning and adapting
- Probing assumptions

Partners

CONVENED BY

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

BEZOS EARTH FUND

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CLIMATE ANALYTICS

UN environment programme WCMC

CENTER FOR GLOBAL COMMONS

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GLOBAL COMMONS ALLIANCE

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MISSION POSSIBLE PARTNERSHIP

National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan

RACE TO RESILIENCE

RACE TO ZERO

RMI ENERGY. TRANSFORMED.

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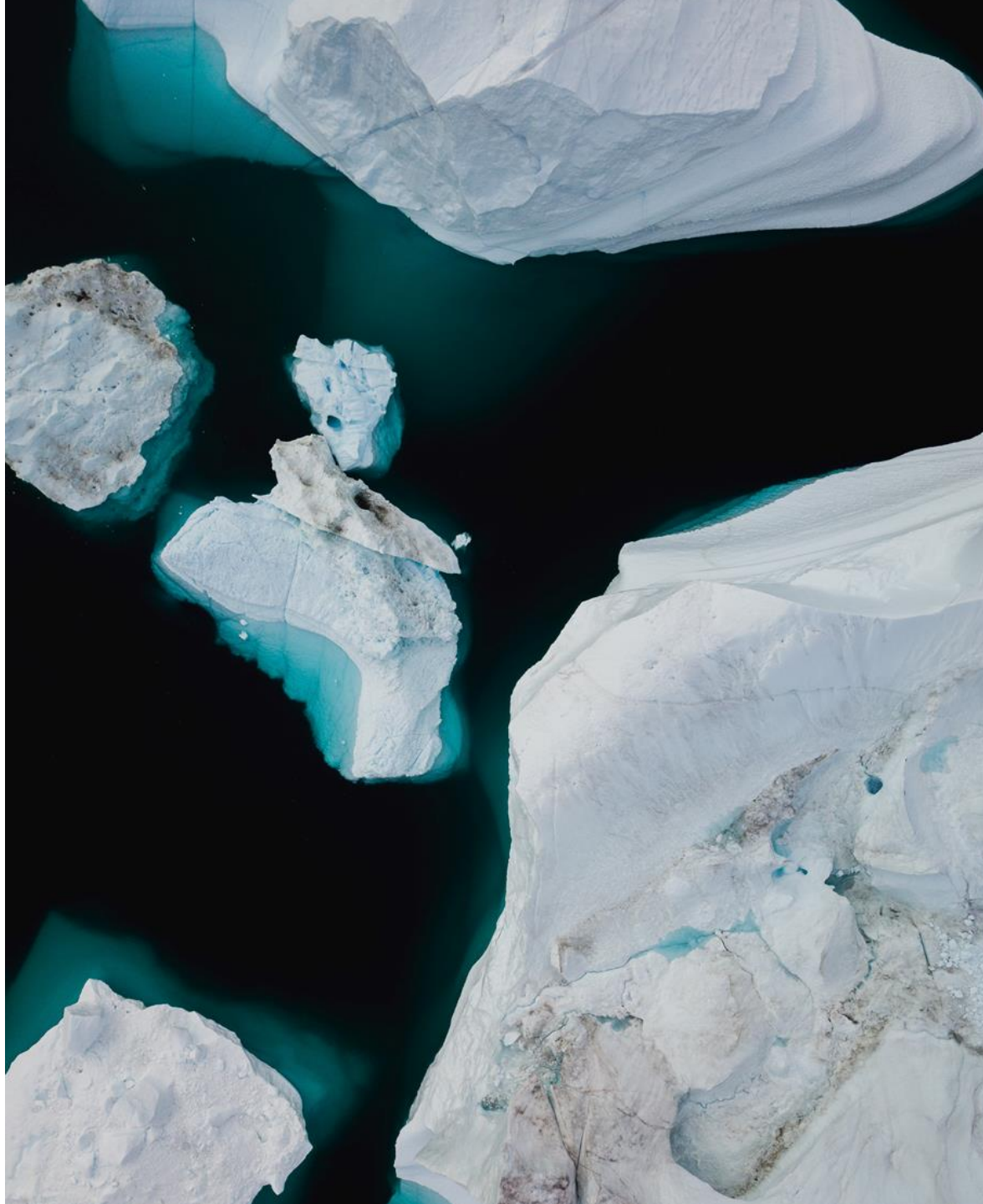
Systems Change Lab

It’s time to change the way we think about changing the world.

Systems Change Lab is a collaborative initiative designed to spur action at the pace and scale needed to tackle some of the world’s greatest challenges: limiting global warming to 1.5°C, halting biodiversity loss and building a just economy.

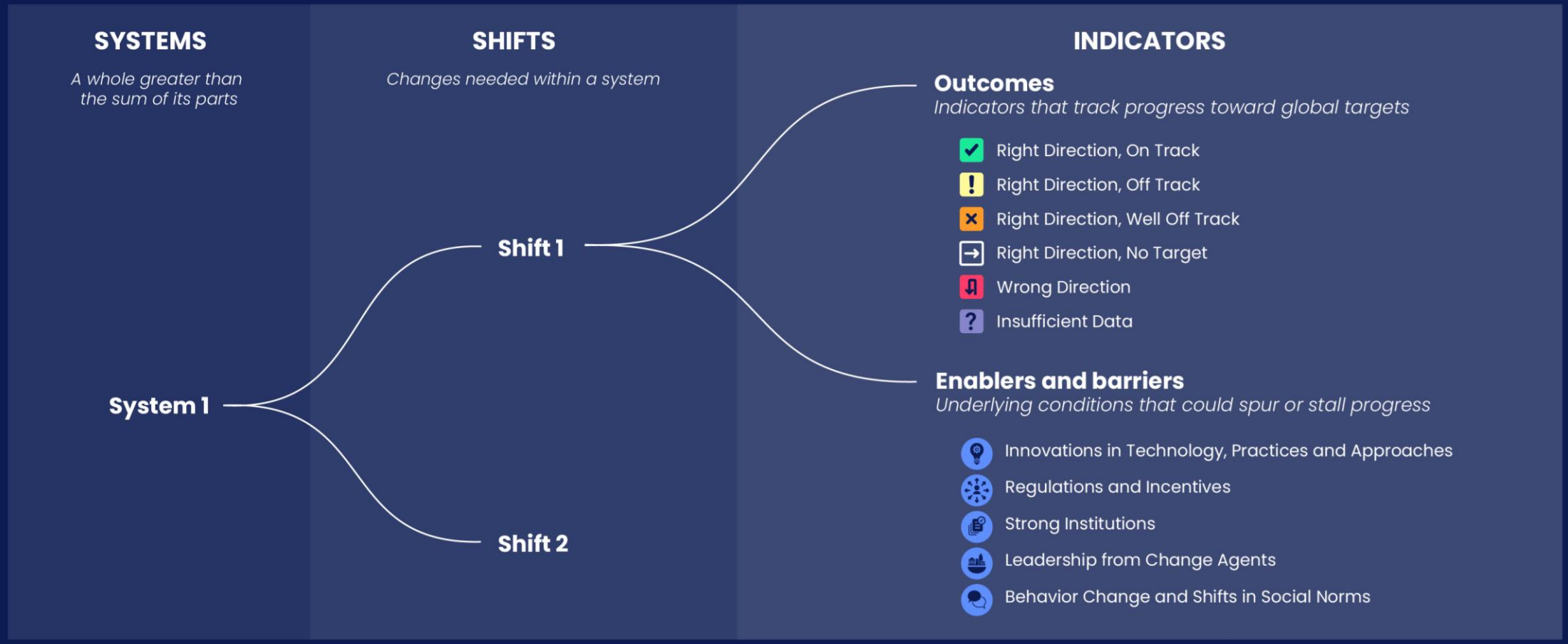


Interconnected Systems

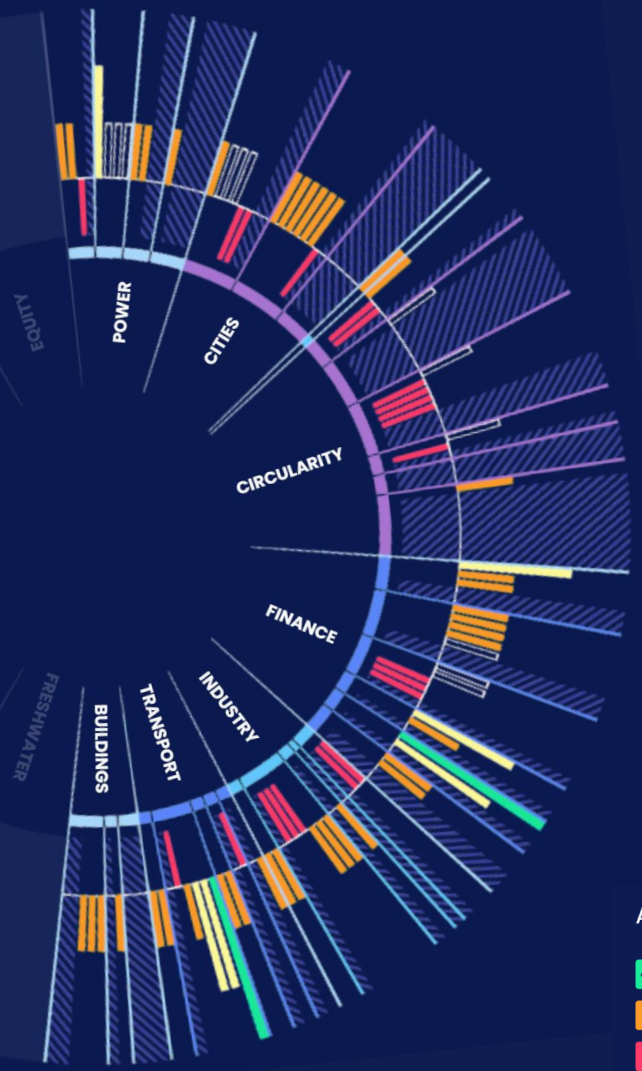
Power | Industry | Transport | Cities | Buildings | Carbon Removal | Forests & Land | Ocean

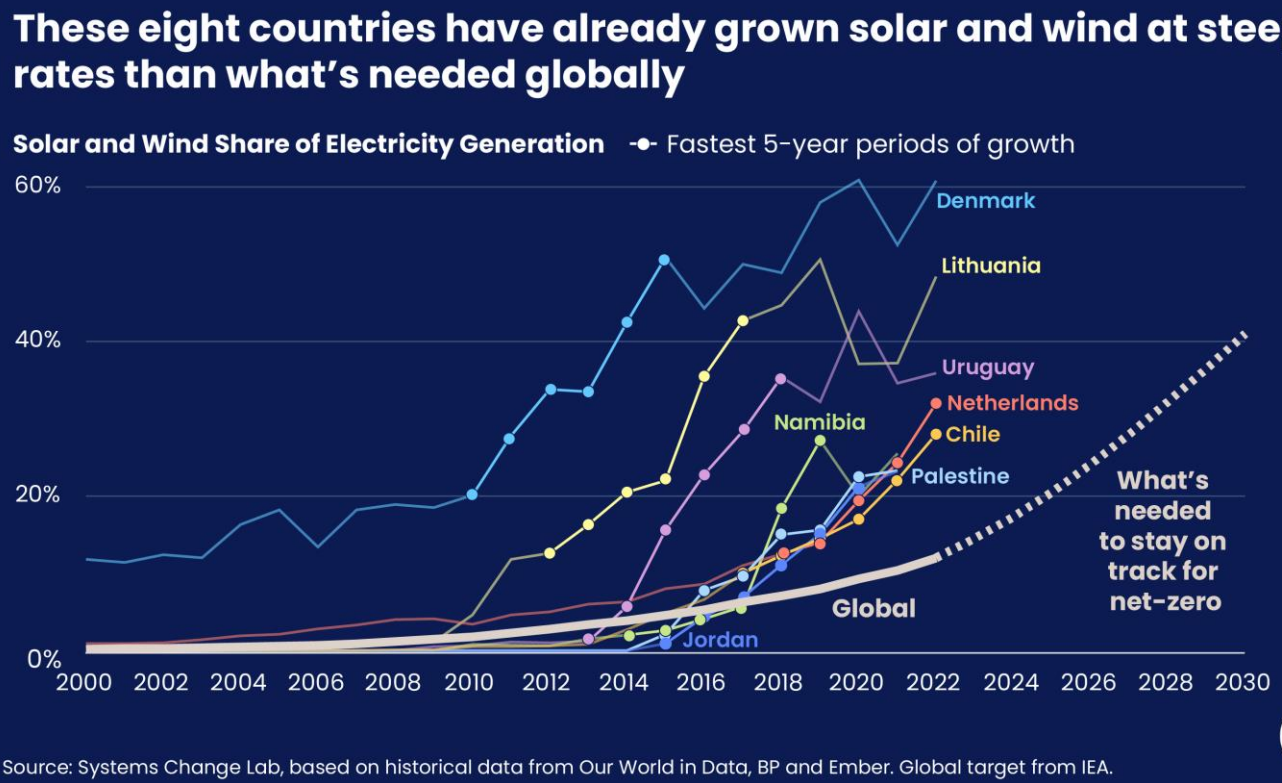
Freshwater | Food & Agriculture | Finance | Circular Economy | Governance | Social Inclusion & Equity | Economics

Structure of the Systems Change Lab Platform



Duality of Reality: Off Track & Bright Spots





Source: Systems Change Lab, based on historical data from Our World in Data, BP and Ember. Global target from IEA.

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Across the **8 systems** we've evaluated:

- **2** indicators are On Track
- **6** indicators are Off Track
- **40** indicators are Well Off Track
- **12** indicators are Right Direction, No Target
- **21** indicators are going in the Wrong Direction
- **59** indicators have Insufficient Data

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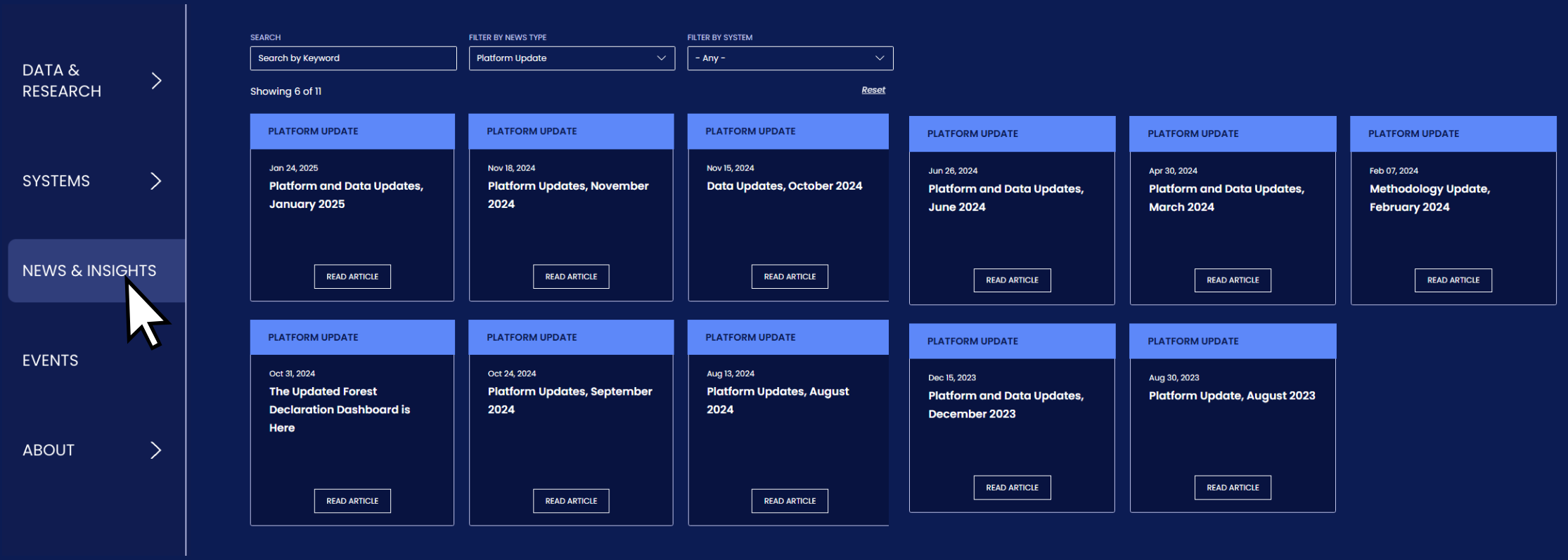
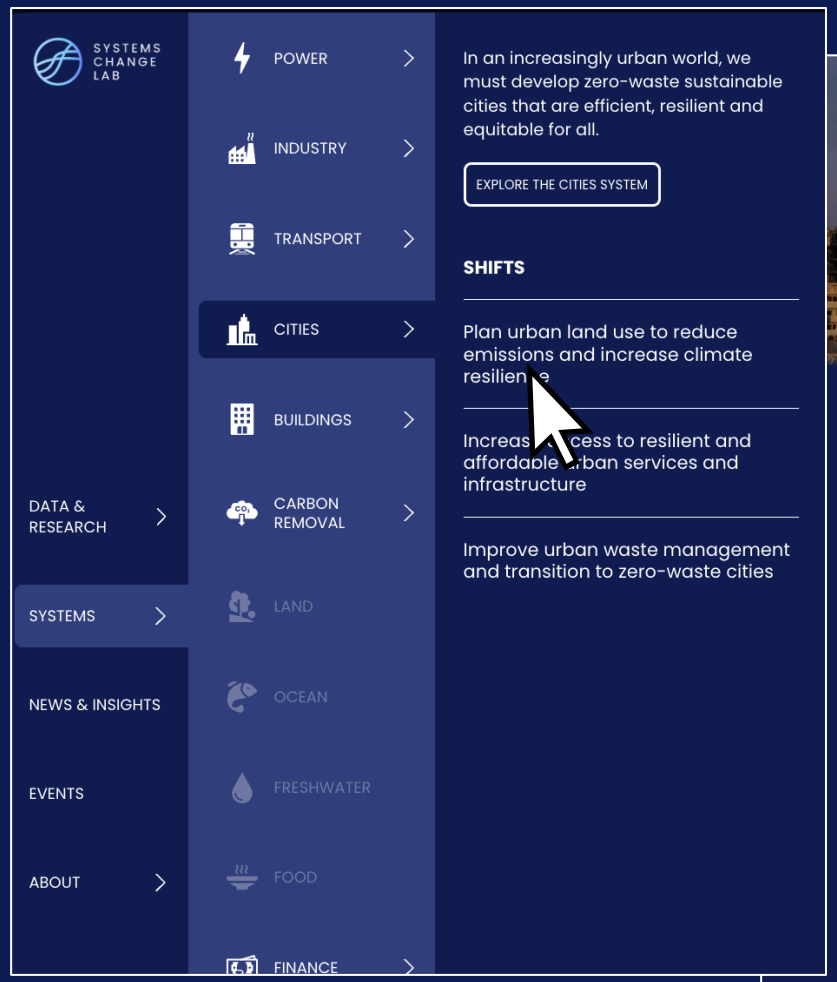
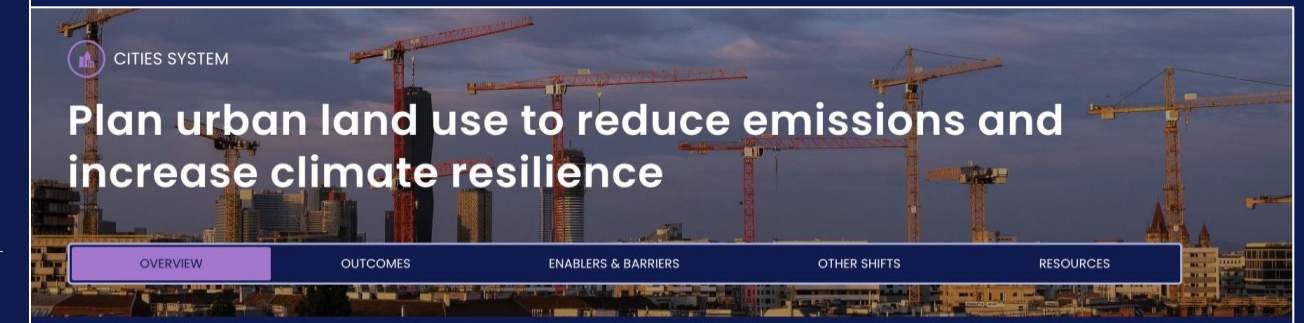
Platform Updates



Platform Updates: Shift Pages





Land use planning that limits urban sprawl and promotes connectivity to infrastructure and services can reduce emissions, provide better access to opportunities and improve resilience to climate risks.

The rapid expansion of urban areas can lead to higher per capita urban greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; habitat fragmentation and biodiversity loss; inefficient use of natural resources like energy, water and land; and loss of agricultural lands.

While there are multiple demographic, economic and policy drivers of urban land expansion, unplanned and unmanaged urban expansion without supporting infrastructure and services often leads to sprawling cities with spatial inequities, characterized by poor access to services

LEARN MORE

Cities Need Systems Change

A city is a system of systems, bringing together transportation, energy, buildings, water, waste management and more. Transforming these interconnected systems is vital to achieving climate and development goals.

Tracking progress on global outcomes

Platform Updates: Shift Pages

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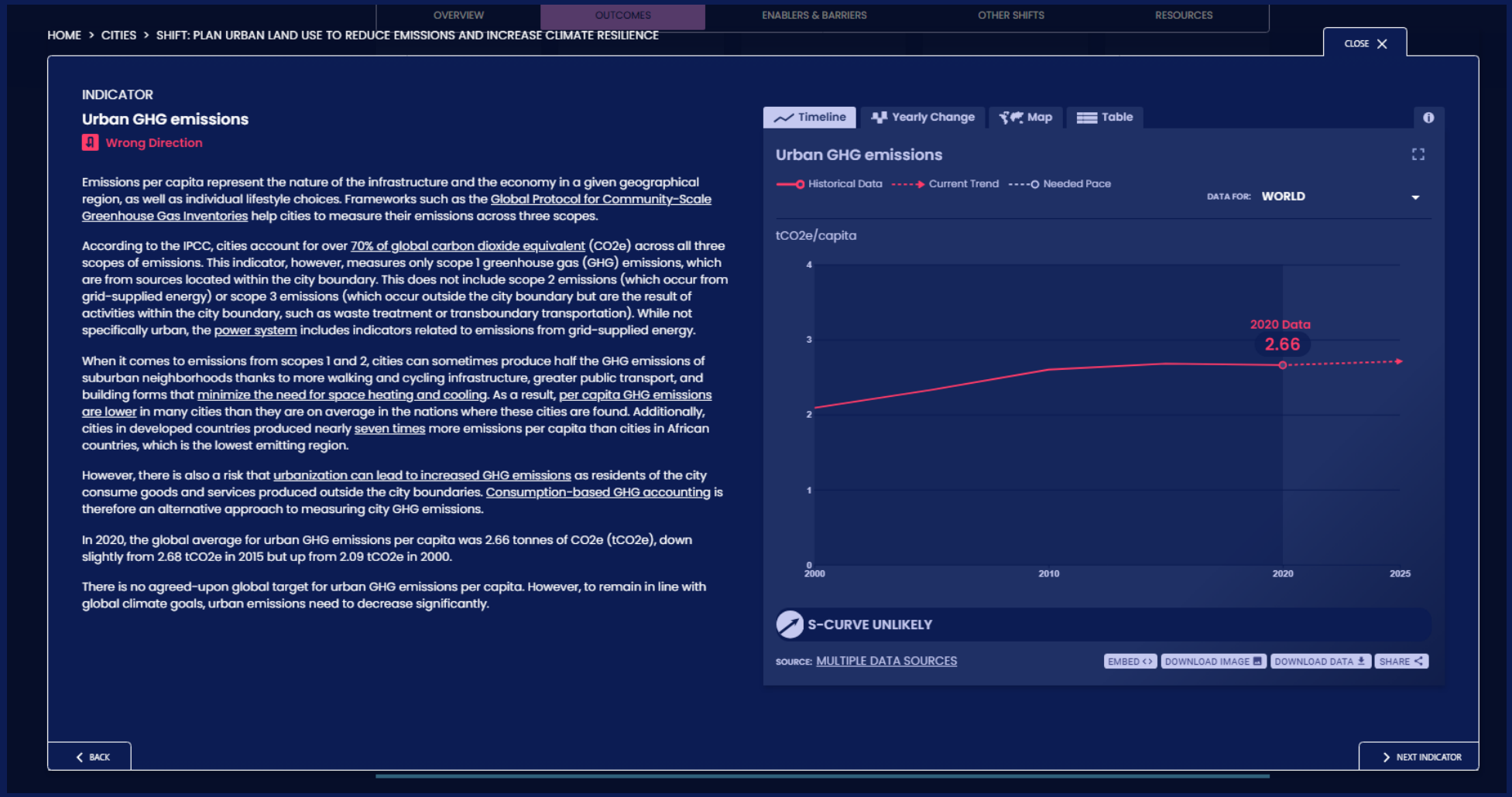
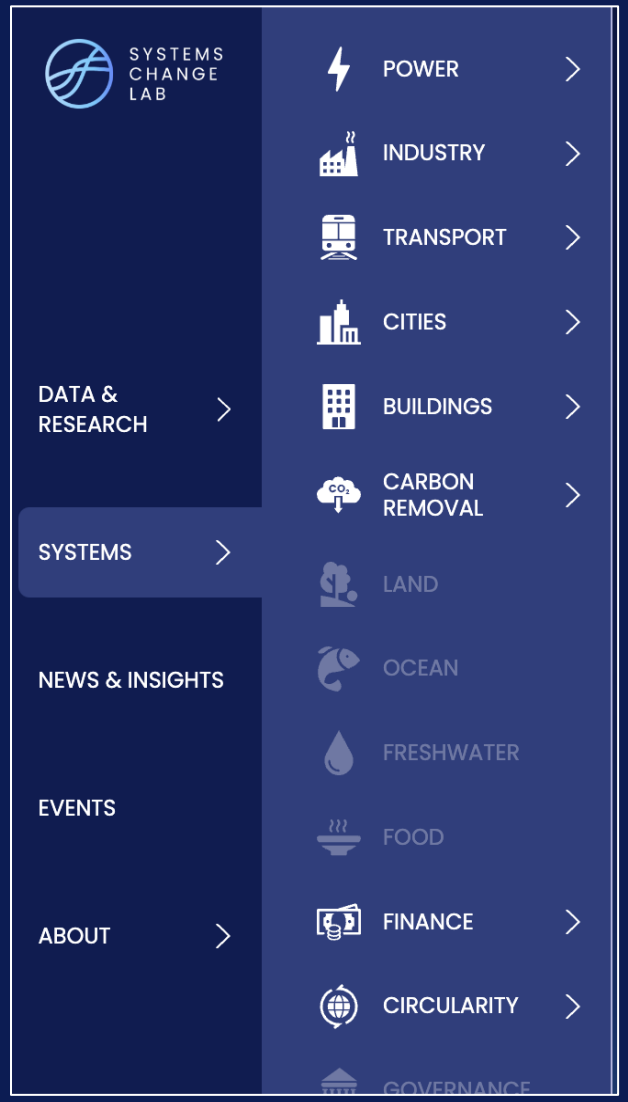
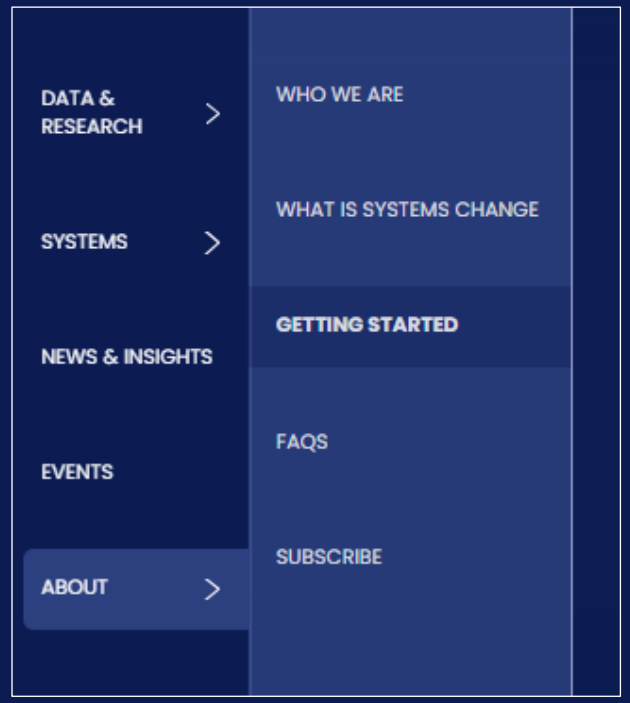
Platform Updates: Indicator Windows

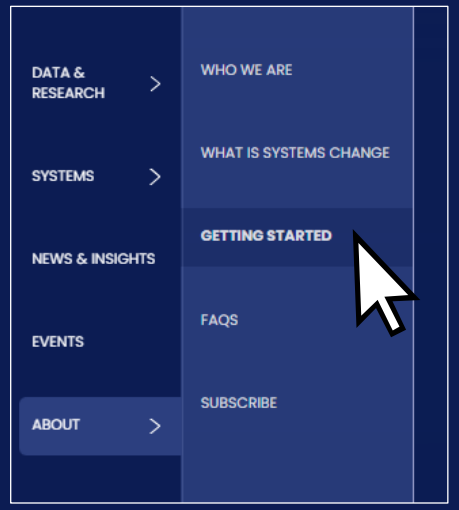


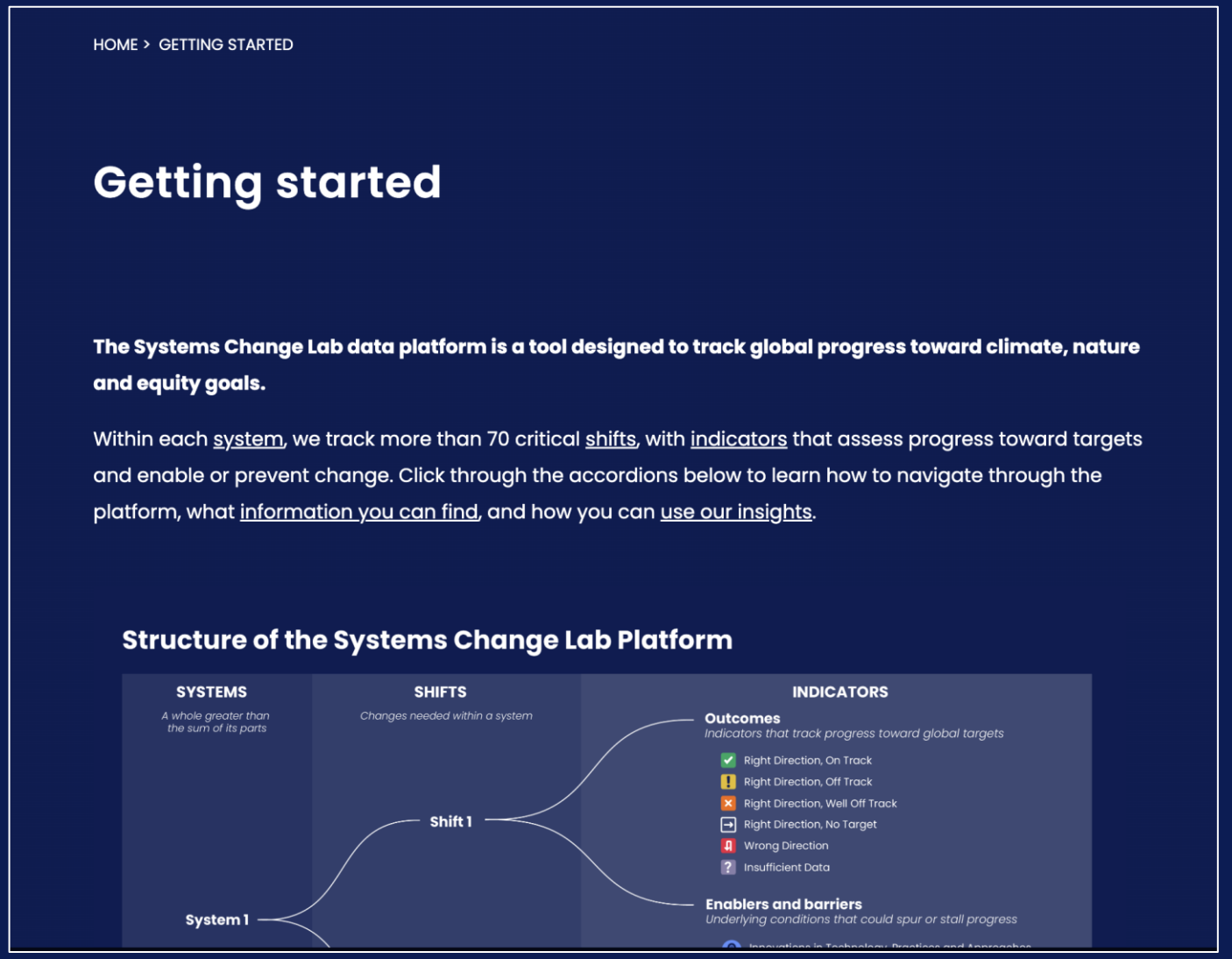
Platform Updates: Navigating Pages





Platform Updates: Getting Started





Platform Updates: Data Gaps

HOME > DATA GAPS ON SYSTEMS CHANGE LAB

Data gaps on Systems Change Lab

Systems Change Lab uses data to monitor, learn from and mobilize action toward the transformational shifts needed to protect both people and the planet. Data can reveal progress toward global targets, but in some cases, data is missing, incomplete or unknown. We identify data gaps throughout our platform to highlight where more research, funding and publicly available resources are needed to close these gaps.

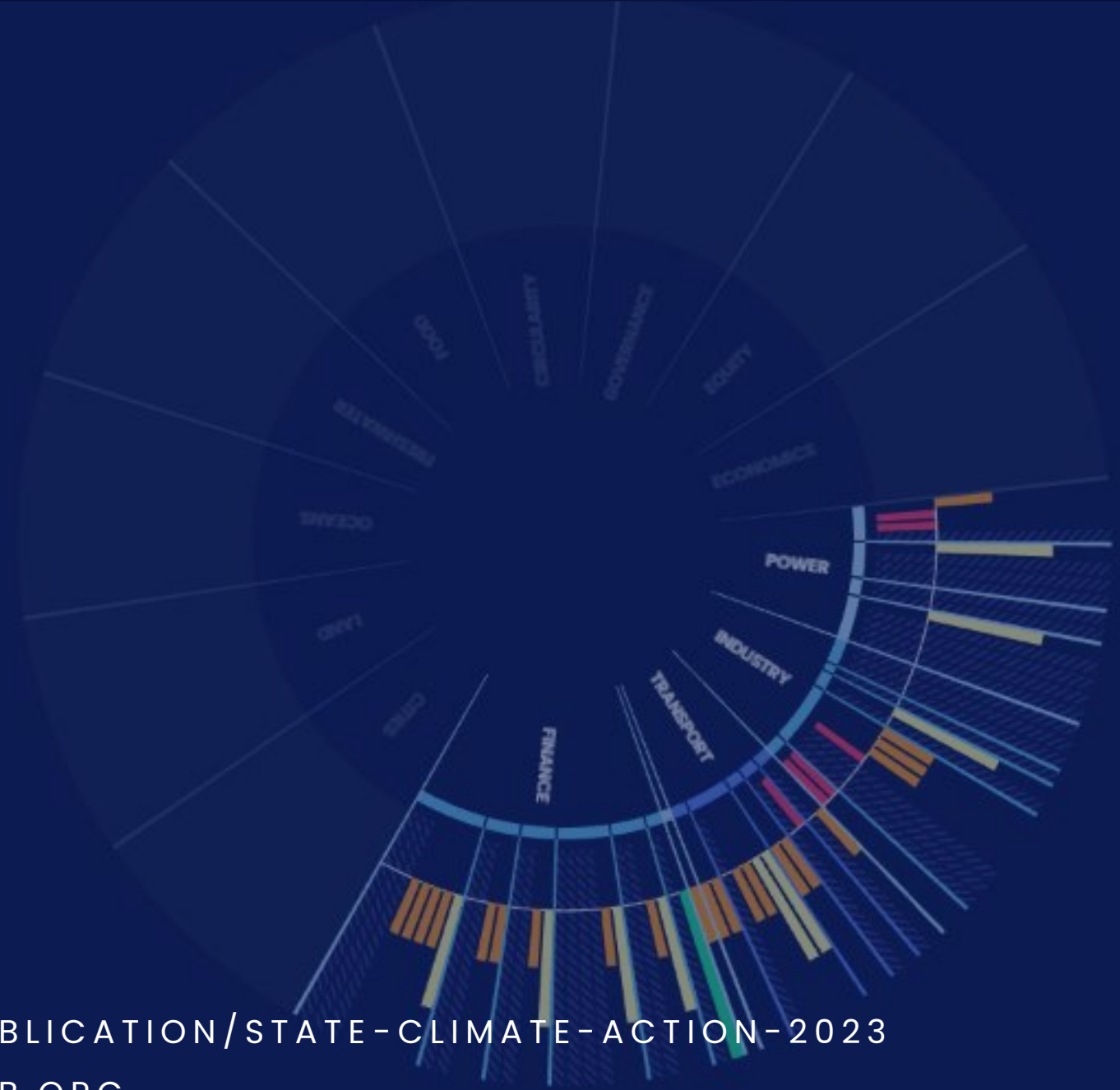
How does Systems Change Lab approach data gaps?

We try to be as transparent as possible about what data is — or isn't — available on Systems Change Lab. If data is incomplete, we add what is available to the platform. If data is incomplete for an outcome indicator with a target, we can't evaluate whether the indicator is or isn't on track. If no data exists, we evaluate whether to remove the indicator or replace it with a relevant proxy indicator. If no proxy can be identified but the indicator is critical to the shift in question, we keep it on the platform to show that there is a gap.

What are the types of data gaps and what can be done about them?

There are four common types of data gaps on the Systems Change Lab platform. For about half of the data

For more information



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