

Supplementary Material (SM)

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SM Table 1. Analytical framework of the formal capacity of proxies to influence political decision-making.

Political instruments		
Political instruments	Variants	Anchor examples
Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public relations - Collaboration with actors from science, society, economy, media, sub- and international actors 	Both the Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations and the Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations networked with civil society actors and media as well as political actors both within their country and across the globe. The German Council for Sustainable Development publishes multiple press releases and reports each year, hosts a yearly high-ranking conference and sends representatives to different kinds of events in different sectors.
Advice & consultancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research, foresight - Reports - Networking with political actors - Commissioned work 	The Finnish Committee for the Future conducts foresight and impact assessments and publishes reports on Finland's long-term future.
Independent policy recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statements in hearings, plenaries, committees - Written recommendations on policies and measures 	The Finnish Committee for the Future makes recommendations to other parliamentary committees while deciding on its own agenda. The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales recommends measures to public bodies that help them to meet their well-being goals. The addressed bodies need to justify any deviations from these recommendations. The Belgian Federal Council for Sustainable Development issues recommendations both on demand and on its own initiatives to both the government and the parliament. The government is obliged to report on the implementation of the recommendations.
Monitoring & review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reviewing draft legislation - Monitoring policy implementation 	The German Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development checks the government's sustainability impact assessment of draft legislation. The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations receives most draft legislation and can make statements before the competent committees. The Canadian Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development monitors and reports on the implementation of sustainability-related policies.
Legislative proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Drafting legislation in cooperation with other political actors - Right to initiate legislation independently 	The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations initiated 166 bills in his term, while 73 of them did not make it into law.

Suspensive veto	- (De jure or de facto) Suspensive veto on draft legislation	The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations had to be invited to parliamentary committee sessions that dealt with bills that would affect future generations according to the assessment of the commissioner. As it was not specified how much time he could take to adequately prepare his statement, he had a de-facto suspensive veto on relevant draft legislation. There are no IFs with de jure veto power over draft legislation. The Hungarian Ombudsman could suspend administrative decisions that directly endanger the right to a healthy environment, though.
Ombuds-person function	- Receiving petitions - Conducting investigations	Both the Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations and Canadian Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development receive(d) citizen petitions that relate to the environment and (partly) conduct investigations.
Auditing	- Right of access to undisclosed information (often in conjunction with ombudsman instruments)	The Knesset Commissioner, the Canadian Commissioner, the Hungarian Ombudsman, the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales and the Guardian for Future Generations in Malta could audit the relevant activities of a different range of government agencies and access the necessary information. In the Hungarian case, this included business secrets from private actors that he had to keep confidential, though.
Legal right of action	- Suspension of operations pending judicial review - Action before administrative and constitutional courts	The Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations was the only proxy with extensive legal rights of action related to the constitutional right to a healthy environment.
Hard power instrument (cross-categorical)	- <i>Suspensive veto</i> - <i>Legal right of action</i> - <i>Independent recommendation that has to be answered by the addressee</i>	<i>The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations had a de-facto suspensive veto on draft legislation.</i> <i>The Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations had rights of action related to the right to a healthy environment.</i> <i>The Belgian Federal Council for Sustainable Development can issue recommendations that have to be answered.</i>

Access to the stages of the public policy process

Stage	Variants of access	Anchor examples
Agenda setting	- Directly: policy analysis, research reports and recommendations - Indirectly: Collaboration with societal actors and media to set topics on the agenda; receiver of petitions	The Finnish Committee for the Future is concerned with foresight and publishes reports on future problems. In its response to the government's Report on the Future, it publishes original research and recommendations to the government that are approved by the Parliament. The Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations kept relations to societal actors and received petitions on environmental matters. The Future Office of Liechtenstein was tasked to moderate inputs from think tanks, economy, science, and administration, and to introduce them into the political discourse.
Policy formulation	- Initiation of draft legislation - Review of and advice on draft legislation	The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations successfully initiated 93 bills and had the right to review most draft legislation and to make a statement at the competent parliamentary committee.
Policy adoption	- Usually not involved, except for (threat of) using a suspensive veto	The Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations could take as much time as he needed for the formulation of a statement and therefore had a de facto suspensive veto.
Policy implementation	- Implementation of own measures - Recommendations on implementation measures	The Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations investigated cases in the public and private sphere where the constitutional right of current and future generations to a healthy environment was threatened. He authoritatively recommended measures to avoid environmental harm, could

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigation of the implementation of political or administrative decisions - Suspension of administrative decisions 	<p>suspend potentially harmful administrative decisions, and could legally challenge existing laws and regulations.</p> <p>The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales gives public agencies recommendations on measures to achieve goals of sustainable well-being.</p>
Policy evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring and reporting on policy implementation & impacts - Ex ante sustainability checks of draft legislation 	<p>The Canadian Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development is part of the office of the Auditor General and monitors the implementation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development. He issues very specific recommendations for implementation measures to public bodies and reports on their progress.</p> <p>The German Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development formally assesses the sustainability checks of draft legislation performed by the government as part of the regulatory impact assessment.</p> <p>The Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations could initiate judicial reviews of policies by challenging any legal norms that might violate the right to a healthy environment up to the constitutional court.</p> <p>The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales reviews how public bodies assess the long-term impacts of their work.</p>

Access to the branches of government

Branch	Variants of access	Anchor examples
Legislative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written or oral statements, reports and recommendations in the parliamentary plenary or committees, e.g., on draft legislation 	Some proxies are parliamentary committees and advice other MPs and parliamentary committees, e.g., the Committee for the Future in Finland or the Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development in Germany.
Executive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Written or oral statements, reports and recommendations addressed to the government and/or public administration - Monitoring, information requests and investigations of the activities of public agencies - Participation in negotiations on international agreements 	<p>The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales monitors and advises public agencies on their sustainable well-being goals and measures.</p> <p>The Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations conducted official investigations and participated in the development of the Hungarian positions on environmental matters in EU institutions and in international agreements that concerned the environment or the heritage of humanity.</p>
Judiciary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal rights of action 	The Hungarian Ombudsman for Future Generations could initiate judicial reviews of administrative regulations and submit any legal norms within his sphere of competence to the Constitutional Court for review.

Legal entrenchment

Legal entrenchment	Variants of legal entrenchment	Anchor examples
None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No known legal basis 	Future Office Liechtenstein
Secondary law or by-law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Executive degrees, orders, regulations, etc. - Rules of procedure of parliament or government 	<p>From 1993 to 2000, the Finnish Committee of the Future a temporary committee of the parliament and since 2000 it is a permanent committee explicitly mentioned in the rules of procedure of the Finnish Parliament.</p> <p>The Sustainable Development Commission of the United Kingdom was based on a framework agreement between the four governments (both national and subnational) of the UK and the Commission and could be changed any time.</p>

Primary law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Law passed by one chamber of parliament - Law passed by two chambers of parliament 	<p>The Future Generations Commissioner for Wales is entrenched in the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, passed by the Welsh Parliament in 2015.</p> <p>The Canadian Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development is entrenched in the Auditor General Act (amended 1995) and the Federal Sustainable Development Act (2008), passed by both chambers of the Canadian Parliament.</p>
Constitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proxy is mentioned in the constitution - Proxy is linked to the constitution 	<p>The Hungarian Deputy Commissioner for Future Generations is mentioned in Article 30 of the Hungarian Constitution (2011) and is linked to Article P of the Hungarian Constitution (2011) which requires the common heritage of the nation, in particular natural resources and cultural assets to be protected and maintained for future generations. The Deputy Commissioner is also entrenched in Act CXI of 2011 on the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights that executes Article 30 as required in the constitution.</p>

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Commission on Sustainable Development (Republic of Korea, since 2010)

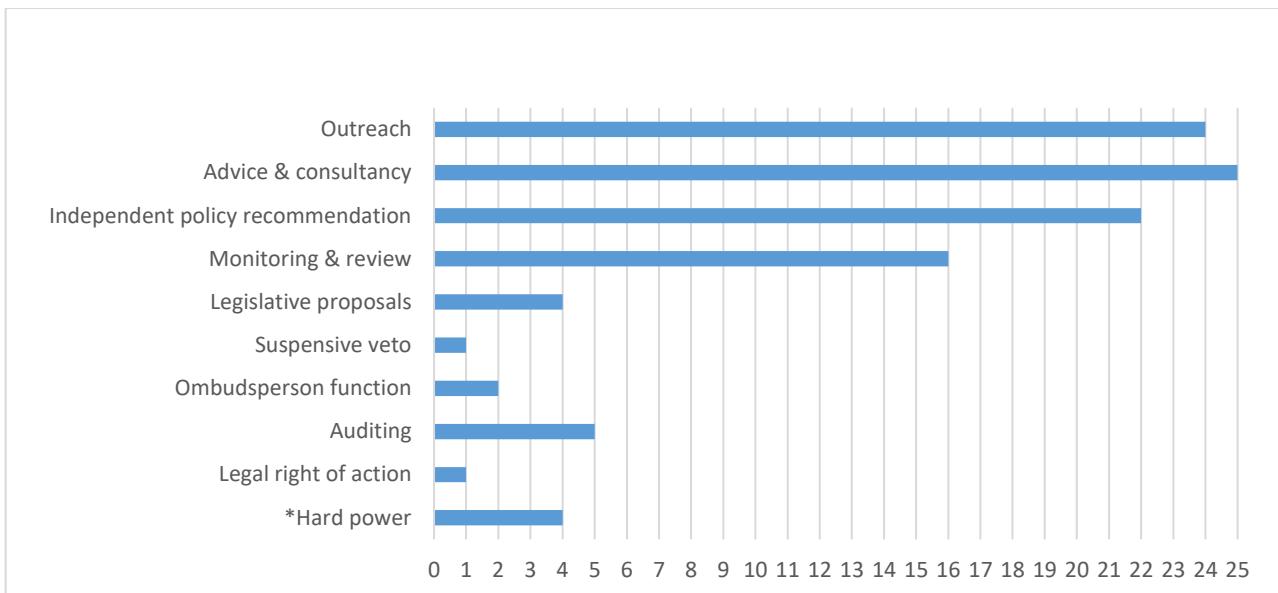
Republic of Korea (2015): Sustainable Development Act, revised Act. No. 8612, 8/3/2007, ammended by Act No 9931, 1/13/2010, Act No. 11530, 12/11/2012, Act No. 13261, 3/27/2015, Act No. 13532, 12/1/2015. Available online at https://elaw.klri.re.kr/eng_service/lawView.do?lang=ENG&hseq=37136, checked on 8/11/2022.

The Government of the Republic of Korea (2016): Year One of Implementing the SDGs in the Republic of Korea. From a Model of Development Success to a Vision for Sustainable Development (2016 National Voluntary Review). Available online at https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/10632National%20Voluntary%20Review%20Report%20%28rev_final%29.pdf, checked on 8/11/2022.

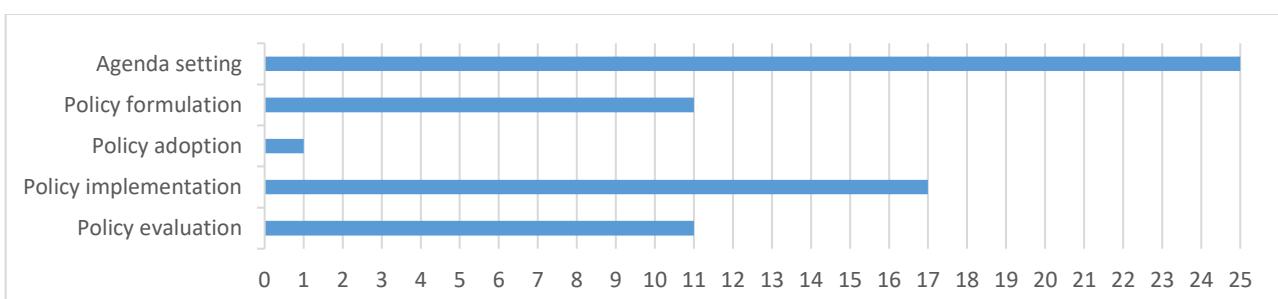
SM Table 2. Data sheet with coding results and calculations for the institutional proxy representatives of future generations (proxies). Source: own.

SM Table 3. Data sheet of the institutional proxy representatives of future generations (proxies) per year (without types). Source: own.

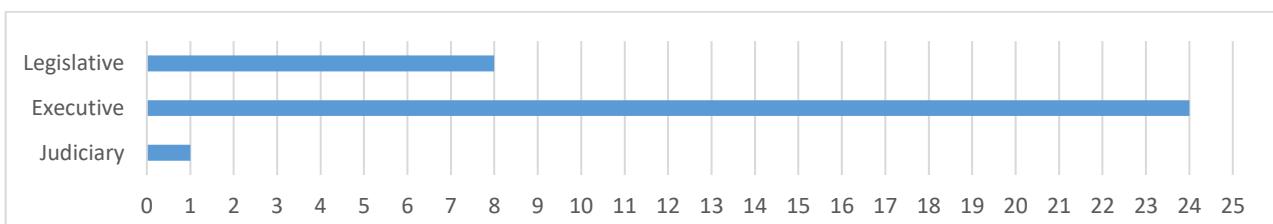
Proxies / Year	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	SUM of years
(HU) Ombudsman for Future Generations																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4
(IL) Knesset Commissioner for Future Generations																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5
(HU) Deputy Commissioner for Future Generations																					1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11		
(GB-WLS) Future Generations Commissioner for Wales																						1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	
(CA) Commissioner for Environment and Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	28
(BE) Federal Council for Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	26
(HU) National Council for Sustainable Development																			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15			
(DE) Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development																			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19			
(MT) National Commission for Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10				
(KR) Commission on Sustainable Development																			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13			
(FI) Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	30				
(EE) Commission for Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	27				
(MT) Guardian of Future Generations																			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11			
(IE) Comhar - Sustainable Development Council																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13				
(GB) Sustainable Development Commission																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11				
(FI) Committee for the Future																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	30				
(LU) High Council for Sustainable Development																			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	17			
(DE) State Secretary Committee for Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	23				
(BE) Federal Institute for Sustainable Development																			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9			
(DE) German Council for Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	22				
(CZ) Government Council for Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20				
(CH) Interdepartmental Committee Sustainable Development																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	26				
(FR) Council for the Rights of Future Generations																		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3				
(GB-WLS) Commissioner for Sustainable Futures																			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5				
(LI) Future Office																			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7				
SUM per year MEAN number of years of all proxies	0	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	9	11	12	13	15	15	15	15	17	17	18	17	16	16	17	17	17	16	16	16	16	15,68		
MEAN number of years of discontinued proxies																													9,33			
Number of proxies / Year	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	SUM
Number of newly founded proxies	0	4	0	1	1	1	0	1	2	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	25
Number of newly discontinued proxies (marked with "-")	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	-2	-2	0	0	0	-1	0	0	-1	0	0	-9	
Number of continued proxies	0	0	4	4	4	5	6	6	7	9	11	12	13	15	15	15	15	17	17	16	14	16	16	17	16	17	17	16	16	MEAN yrs cnt. pr.		
Total number of existing proxies	0	4	4	5	5	6	6	7	9	11	12	13	15	15	15	15	17	17	18	17	16	16	17	17	17	16	16	16	16	19,25		



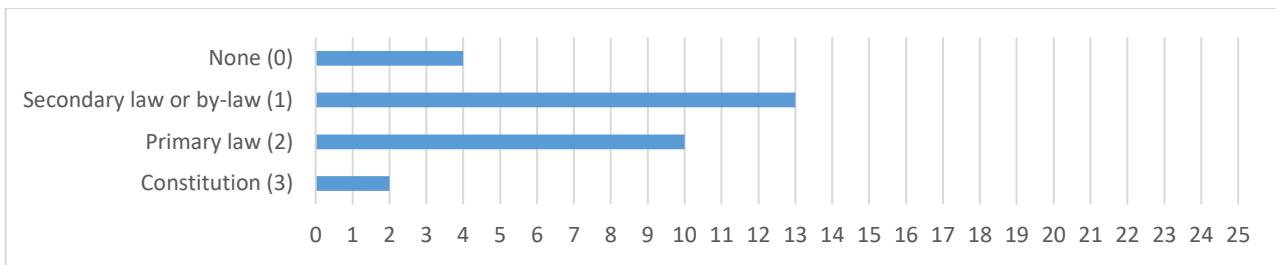
SM Figure 1. Number of institutional proxy-representatives of future generations (proxies) per political instrument (multiple instruments per proxy possible).



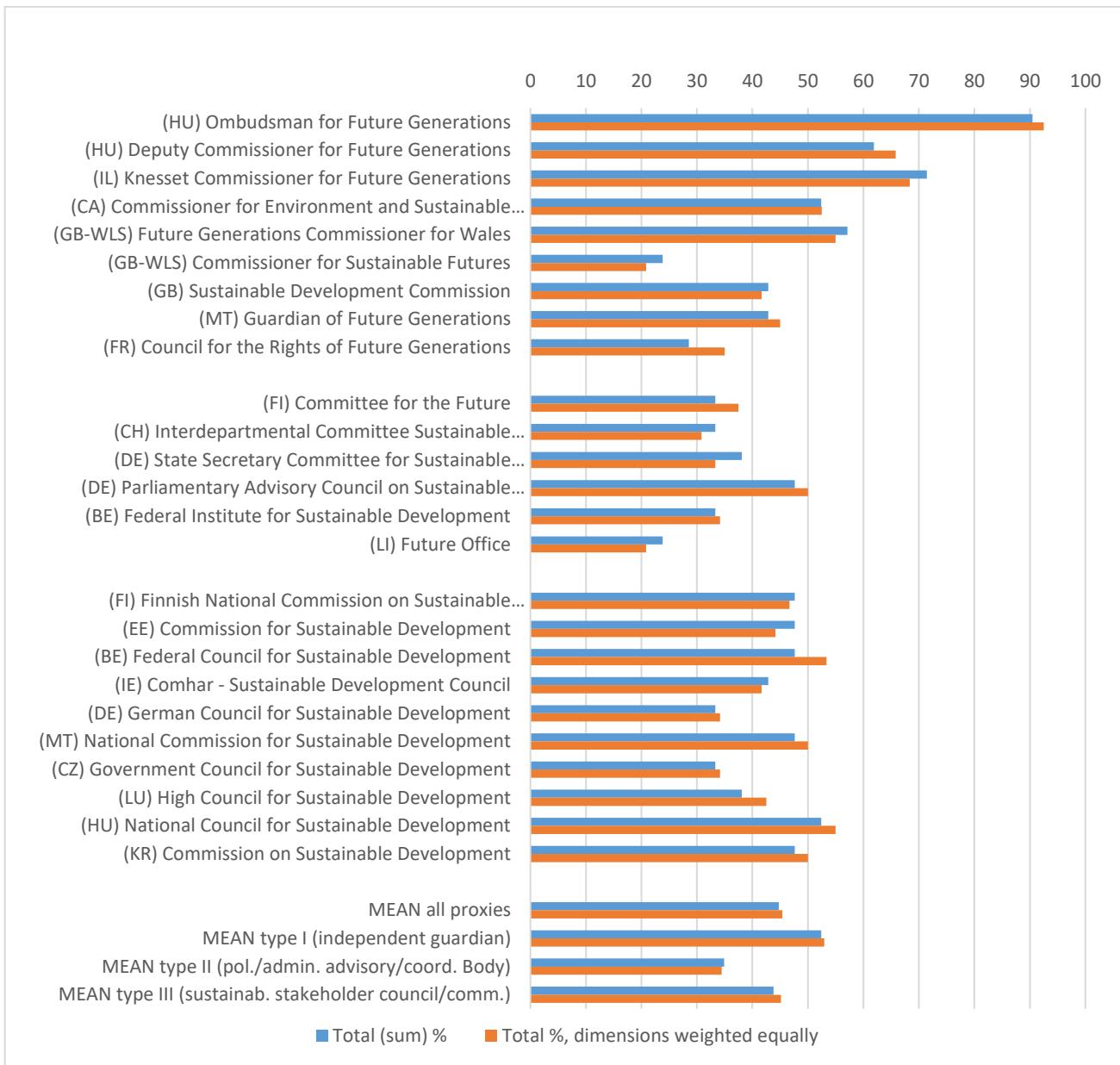
SM Figure 2. Number of institutional proxy-representatives of future generations (proxies) per stage of the public policy process (multiple accesses possible).



SM Figure 3. Number of institutional proxy-representatives of future generations (proxies) per branch of government (multiple accesses possible).



SM Figure 4. Number of institutional proxy-representatives of future generations (proxies) per type of legal basis (multiple bases per proxy possible).



SM Figure 5. Total formal capacity of institutional proxy-representatives of future generations (proxies), in percent of the theoretical maximum (100%).