Simplified Sustainability Screen
to compare existing with new system or two solutions with each other

Arnold Tukker and Ursula Tischner on the basis of a discussion of the SusProNet co-ordination team

Within the SusProNet project (www.suspronet.org), an extended Sustainability screen has been developed.
This document gives the elaboration of that simplified method. The starting point is a new solution/ system that has the same functionality/performance as an existing competing reference system. The tool then works as follows:

1. 3 main evaluation aspects are discerned (People, Planet, Profit)
2. For each aspect, 4 key criteria are defined.
3. Each criteria can be scored 1 (better than the existing solution), 0 (equal), or –1 (worse than existing solution).
4. Scores are totalled per sustainability aspect (hence maximum 4 points per aspect)
5. This is probably enough to discern 'good' from 'bad' ideas; hence no further weighting is required. But it can be possible to add a weighting factor for a criterion that is specifically important for the system under discussion.

A) Economic/profit aspects	**Score (1 = better, 0 is equal, -1 is worse)**
- How profitable/ valuable is the solution for the providers? (can be a consortium of companies), including cost of production, cost of capital and market value of the solution for the provider(s) ? Is it cheaper to produce than the competing product ?	0
- How profitable/ valuable is the solution for customers/ consumers? Are there a concrete, tangible savings in time, material use etc. for the customer ? Does it provide 'priceless', intangible added value like esteem, experiences, etc. for which the customer is willing to pay highly? (both in comparison to the existing reference system)	1
- How difficult to implement and risky is the solution for the providers? Can a promised result be measured and delivered with a high probability, or has the client a high and uncontrollable influence on the costs? When is the return on investment expected ?	1
- How much does the solution contribute to the ability to sustain value creation in the future? Does it give the consortium that puts the solution on the market now and in the future a crucial and dominant position in the value chain?	1
TOTAL	3

B) Environmental/planet aspects	**Score (1 = better, 0 is equal, -1 is worse))**
- How good is the solution in terms of Material efficiency (including inputs and outputs/waste)	1
- How good is the solution in terms of Energy efficiency (energy input and recovery of energy without transportation)	1
- How good is the solution in terms of Toxicity (including input/ output of hazardous substances and emissions without transport)	0
- How good is the solution in terms of transport efficiency (transportation of goods and people including transport distances, transportation means, volume and packaging	1

TOTAL	3

C) Social/people aspects	**Score (1 = better, 0 is equal, -1 is worse)**
- Does the solution contribute to quality of work in the production chain (Environment, Health, Safety; enriching the life of workers by giving learning opportunities, etc.)	1
- Does the solution contribute to the 'enrichment' of life of users (by giving learning opportunities, enabling and promoting action rather than passiveness, etc.)	1
- Does the solution contribute to intra- and inter-generation justice (equal wealth and power distribution between societal groups, North-South, not postponing problems to the next generation, etc.)	0
- How much does the solution contribute to respect of cultural values ad cultural diversity, e.g. customized solutions, contributing to the social well being of communities, regions etc. (cultural values)	0
TOTAL	2

SUMMARY (Transfer to form with SOLUTION description)

Main aspect	**Score (between –4 and +4)**
A) Economic/profit	3
B) Environmental/planet	3
C) Social/people	2