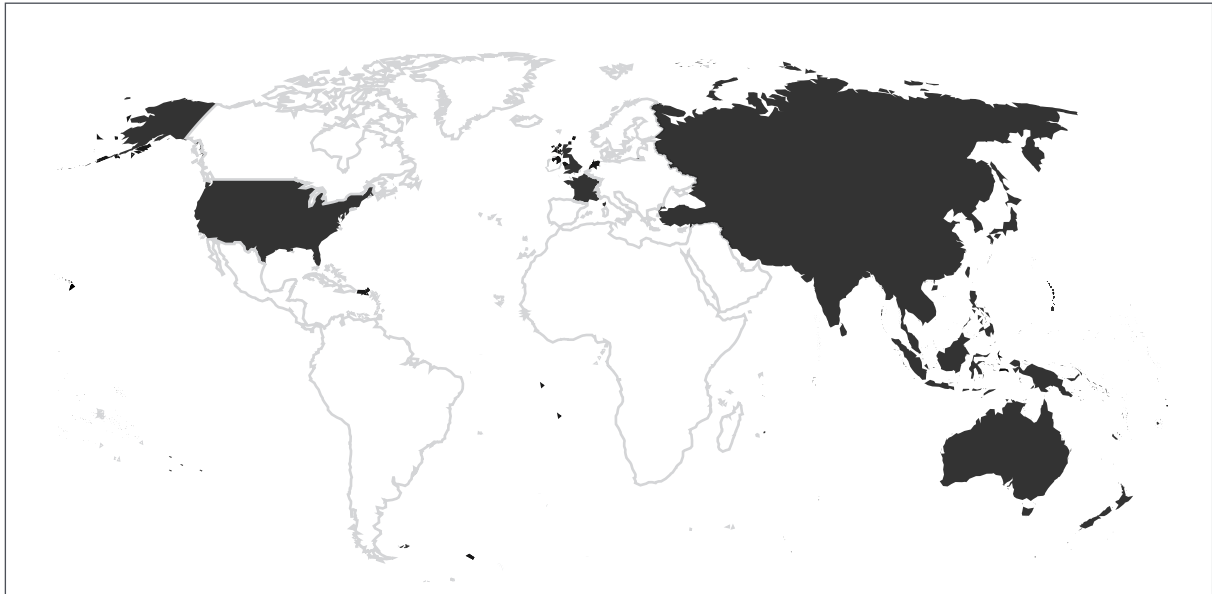


ASIA AND THE PACIFIC SDG PROGRESS REPORT

Showcasing Transformative Actions

2024





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ASIA AND THE PACIFIC SDG PROGRESS REPORT 2024

Showcasing Transformative Actions

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Foreword



In 2024, we are at a critical juncture in our efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As the global economy recovers from the pandemic, resilience is required to confront ongoing crises and increasingly severe natural disasters, and the *Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2024* shines a spotlight on the challenges we must overcome to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our unwavering commitment is vital, as progress towards the SDGs remains uneven and inadequate across the region. Alarming, none of the 17 SDGs are on track to be achieved by the 2030 deadline. Trends suggest that at the current pace, the region will not achieve all 17 SDGs before 2062 – marking a significant 32-year delay. While positive steps have been taken to reduce poverty and support sustainable industry, innovation and infrastructure in the region, these are insufficient to achieve Goals 1 and 9 by 2030. This underscores the region's substantial shortfall in meeting the aspirations of the 2030 Agenda and signals regression in some critical areas.

This year's report shows that stepping up climate action is an immediate priority. While additional efforts are required across the board, granular data emphasizes the urgency of addressing inequalities that impact marginalized groups,

including women, girls, rural populations and the urban poor, who continue to find themselves locked out of education and employment opportunities. Equally, sustained progress gap revealed between countries in special situations, especially small island developing States, and the rest of the region demands a concerted response from international, regional and national partners.

To this end, we are heartened by the robust collaboration among member States and the broader United Nations system. Agencies across the Asia-Pacific region have made substantial contributions to this year's report. Despite persistent gaps in data availability, particularly in critical areas such as gender equality, and strong institutional frameworks, these partnerships have markedly enhanced our capacity to monitor and drive progress towards the goals. Our partners have illuminated national success stories, which we spotlight in this report.

At the United Nations, we remain dedicated to supporting all our member States in accelerating progress towards the SDGs and reversing negative trends. ESCAP's work is increasingly grounded upon the "Quintet of Change" – especially innovation, data, digital and foresight – as we strive towards the overarching vision of the SDGs. We must not underestimate the scale of the challenge. By measuring it and identifying successful responses, our ambition for this report is to consolidate our collective efforts toward achieving sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Salsiah', written in a cursive style.

Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana

Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations
and Executive Secretary of ESCAP

Executive summary

The *Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2024* provides an overview of current progress towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their 169 targets in the Asia-Pacific region. The report shines the spotlight on success stories and trends, and the unique challenges faced in the different parts of the region. It draws out priorities and opportunities for enhancing data availability on SDG indicators, especially for the most vulnerable population groups, which could help to shape more equitable and inclusive development pathways.

Achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific will take an extraordinary collective effort. On its current trajectory, the region will not meet any of the 17 SDGs by the agreed deadline. Current estimates show these will not be reached before 2062, at least 32 years behind schedule.

Progress towards the 2030 Agenda remains uneven and inadequate within the region.

Asia and the Pacific is set to achieve only one third of the necessary progress by 2030. As of 2023, the average progress towards achieving all SDGs has incrementally risen to 17 per cent. An unfavourable global context is contributing to this sluggish performance. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has had devastating consequences and ongoing crises and conflicts are disrupting global supply chains and creating unwelcome uncertainty. These challenges are gradually becoming evident in data. Recalibrating domestic policies is imperative to meet these challenges.

Positive strides have been taken towards eliminating poverty (Goal 1) and bolstering sustainable industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9).

These are areas that have shown the most substantial progress since 2015, albeit insufficient to meet the 2030 targets. The advancements in eradicating extreme poverty and reducing the overall proportion of people living below nationally defined poverty lines partly explain the positive trajectory toward eliminating poverty. Furthermore, notable contributions to Goal 9's progress have stemmed from developing resilient and inclusive infrastructure, along with improved access to information and communications technology. However, progress in other critical areas has been more modest. Efforts towards mitigating hunger (Goal 2), enhancing health and well-being (Goal 3), ensuring the availability of clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), expanding affordable and clean energy (Goal 7) and building sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11) have been less pronounced and require heightened attention for substantial improvement.

Emphasizing climate action (Goal 13) as an immediate priority remains imperative, notably due to its ongoing regression.

Integrating robust climate action measures into national policies, strategies and plans is of paramount importance. Resilience and adaptive capacities to address climate-related hazards and natural disasters must be strengthened. However, the available data to measure progress toward this goal remains woefully insufficient, underscoring the critical need for strengthened statistical systems to support effective policy responses. Simultaneously, urgent remedial actions are warranted to enhance access to decent work and support economic growth (Goal 8). Similarly, fostering responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), safeguarding life below water (Goal 14),

and life on land (Goal 15) are pivotal for the Asia-Pacific region to accelerate its progress towards the 2030 Agenda. Furthermore, establishing partnerships that reinforce sustainable development (Goal 17) is indispensable. Notably, these areas have exhibited the least progress since 2015, necessitating heightened attention and concerted efforts to drive substantive improvements.

Among the various groups, small island developing States (SIDS) stand out as the most in need of support, facing significant challenges in progressing towards the SDGs.

Historically, the progress of countries in special situations, including SIDS, least developed countries (LDCs), and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), closely mirrored that of the broader region until 2019. However, since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, combined progress in these countries has significantly slowed. Notably, the gap between the SIDS and the rest of the region has shown no signs of narrowing. The current pace of progress in countries in special situations remains insufficient to achieve any of the SDGs. Among these groups, SIDS face the greatest challenge. The pandemic inflicted a severe setback, erasing all the progress that SIDS had made since 2015, leaving them unable to catch up with the rest of the region. Compared to all other countries in special situations in the region, SIDS exhibit much slower progress towards almost all the SDGs. In contrast, since 2015, LLDCs have shown the most relative progress towards the SDGs, registering a 13 per cent advancement. However, LDCs and SIDS lag behind, with 11.5 per cent and 5.9 per cent progress, respectively.

While the 2030 Agenda is universal, the effective implementation of the SDGs varies significantly across different segments of the population. The *Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2024* shows progress towards the SDGs across various dimensions, including sex, urbanization, education, age and income. Within Asia and the Pacific, the report reveals that women and girls face considerable challenges

when it comes to accessing education and employment opportunities. These challenges make it harder for them to enter the labour market. Location remains a key factor in determining levels of poverty and inequality. People living in rural areas face pronounced disadvantages, such as limited access to basic drinking water and sanitation facilities. Additionally, the lower availability of clean cooking fuels in these areas contributes to serious respiratory diseases. In general, urban areas exhibit better conditions, yet paradoxically, it is within these areas that the poorest boys and girls face significant hurdles in completing upper secondary education.

Success stories in individual countries illustrate strategies to strengthen both data systems and policies to improve biodiversity and nature conservation, public digital infrastructure, social protection and access to education.

Informed environmental decisions are key to achieve targets on climate action (Goal 13) within SIDS. In Maldives, the approach to addressing climate change adaptation, mitigation and marine and coastal biodiversity conservation has not only demonstrated the effectiveness of an integrated strategy but has also laid the groundwork for replicable practices across the region. The implementation of national environmental portals in 14 Pacific SIDS has highlighted the importance of enhanced regional collaboration and partnerships, crucial elements for promoting sustainable development (Goal 17). This collaborative effort has strengthened the capacity for reliable data production and management, fostering informed decision-making in the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Moreover, the integration of national strategies dedicated to climate change mitigation and adaptation have played a pivotal role in advancing data collection and analysis. Notably, these efforts have been

instrumental in propelling initiatives aimed at achieving affordable clean energy and meeting emission reduction targets in countries such as Fiji, Kiribati and Tonga.

A diverse array of measures across the region have been initiated to support population groups in vulnerable situations.

The extensive nationwide digital training programmes in Viet Nam serve as a testament to the significance of public-private partnerships. These collaborations have significantly accelerated digital transformation, particularly in bridging the skills and employment gap for youth and migrant workers, aligning with the objectives outlined in Goal 8. Several other nations also have commendable initiatives in different areas. The Labour Force Survey in the Lao People's Democratic Republic has been enhanced to produce child labour indicators, while robust programmes in Indonesia aimed at preventing child marriage. In parallel, improved maternal and perinatal deaths surveillance and response systems in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea has enabled implementation of responsive plans to improve the quality of care and reduce delays. Concerted efforts in Indonesia to enhance the monitoring of education indicators (Goal 4) have proven instrumental in refining relevant policies and programmes, reflecting an ongoing commitment to improving educational outcomes.

Improved data availability is contributing to improved development outcomes, particularly for vulnerable groups, including children and stateless populations.

The comprehensive 2020 Population Census in China has proven to be a valuable resource for child-focused analysis and a disaggregated assessment of several SDG indicators. In the Philippines, dedicated research and analysis aimed at estimating the cost of supporting children living with a disability played a pivotal role in influencing recent legislation to provide a disability allowance, extending support to children with disabilities. Moreover, in

North and Central Asia significant efforts were made to upgrade national statistical systems of Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. These enhancements were aimed at better tracking and accounting for stateless populations, demonstrating a proactive approach to address the needs of these marginalized groups.

On average, half of the SDG indicators do not have sufficient data to properly assess progress in Asia and the Pacific. Enhancing coordination and effective SDG data sharing and use within countries and with international partners is needed to fill the remaining data gaps.

The assessment of progress towards the SDGs is impeded by inadequate data.

Out of the 231 SDG indicators, only 133 possess sufficient data to assess progress, demonstrating that the unavailability of data remains a significant impediment to achieving the 2030 Agenda. Across Asia-Pacific, on average, only 52 per cent of the indicators have two or more data points, while more than a third of the indicators lack data altogether. Despite a positive trajectory indicating an increase in yearly data availability, the pace of improvement in data availability has decelerated. Gender equality (Goal 5) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) continue to have the least available data. Conversely, goals such as good health and well-being (Goal 3), affordable and clean energy (Goal 7) and life on land (Goal 15) registered increased data availability, with coverage reaching more than 70 per cent of SDG indicators. A positive development emerged in 2023 when the increased use of dashboards with progress assessments in voluntary national review processes bolstered the use of SDG indicators by Asia-Pacific countries. Despite these strides, enhancing coordination, data sharing and data integration remains a paramount priority to successfully achieve the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

COVID-19	coronavirus disease
DEGURBA	Degree of Urbanization
DRR	disaster risk reduction
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LDCs	least developed countries
LLDCs	landlocked developing countries
MPDSR	maternal and perinatal death surveillance and response
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	small island developing States
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UN Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund



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1 Regional progress



Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Asia and the Pacific will take an extraordinary collective effort. On its current trajectory, the region will not meet any of the 17 goals by 2030. Stepping up climate action stands out as an immediate priority across the region, as does working to reduce the inequalities that

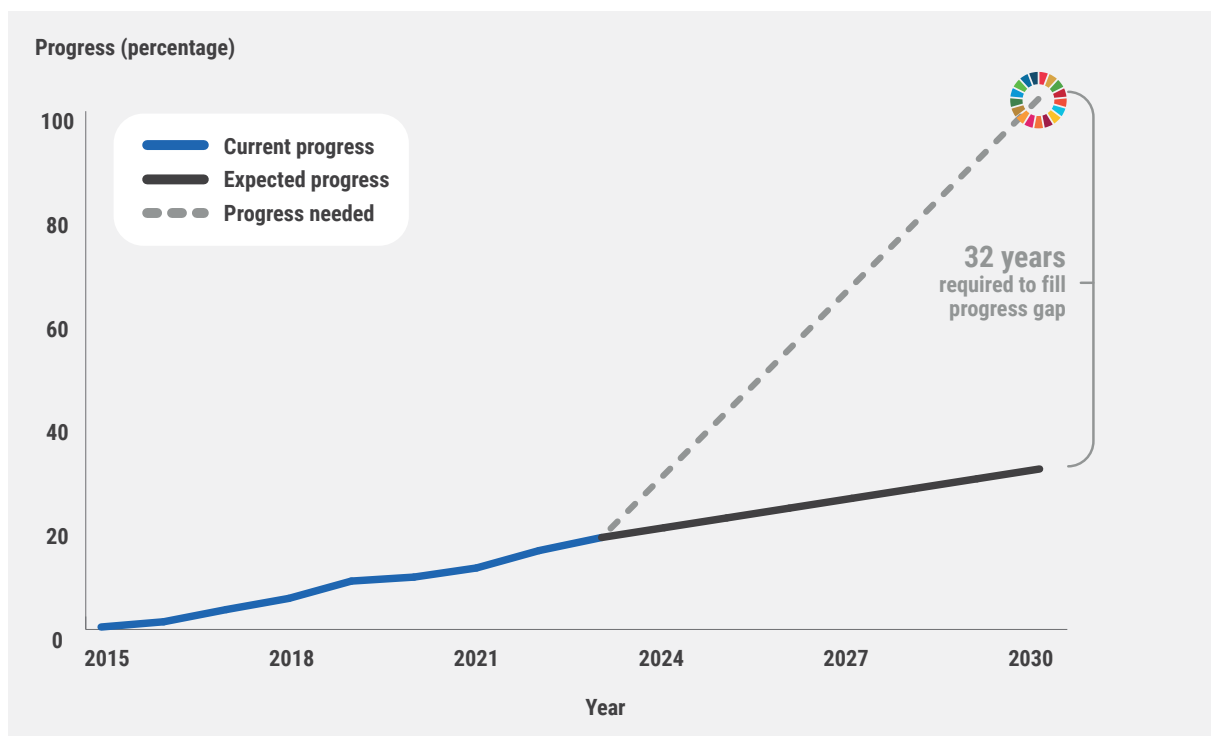
impact women and girls, populations in rural areas and the urban poor. Small island developing States face the steepest climb as the progress they had made was lost to the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and they continue to lag behind the rest of the region after two years of recovery.

1.1 SDG progress since 2015

Progress towards implementing the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development remains uneven and inadequate in Asia and the Pacific. For many of the 17 SDGs in the region, progress is alarmingly slow. Not a single goal is on track to be achieved by 2030. With each passing year since its adoption in 2015, the expected time required to fill the progress gap on the SDG has persisted. Unless transformational actions are taken, the Economic and Social Commission

for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) estimates the SDGs will not be achieved before 2062, at least 32 years behind schedule (**figure 1.1**). The overall average progress towards achieving all 17 SDGs in Asia and the Pacific has increased slowly from 4.4 per cent in 2017 to 17.0 per cent in 2023. On its current trajectory, the region will achieve only one third of the necessary progress by 2030.

Figure 1.1 Will Asia and the Pacific close the gap to achieve the SDGs?



Note: For each year, the percentage represents the average progress recorded towards all 17 SDGs.

An unfavourable global context is undoubtedly contributing to this slow progress. The COVID-19 pandemic has upended lives, pushing millions into poverty. It has carried significant social, economic and environmental consequences that are gradually being reflected in the data. Ongoing crises and conflicts, both within and

outside of the region, have disrupted global supply chains, stoked inflation and created uncertainty. They have contributed to food and commodity price volatility and a constrained financial environment. In these circumstances, building support for multilateral approaches to achieve the SDGs and turning to sustainable

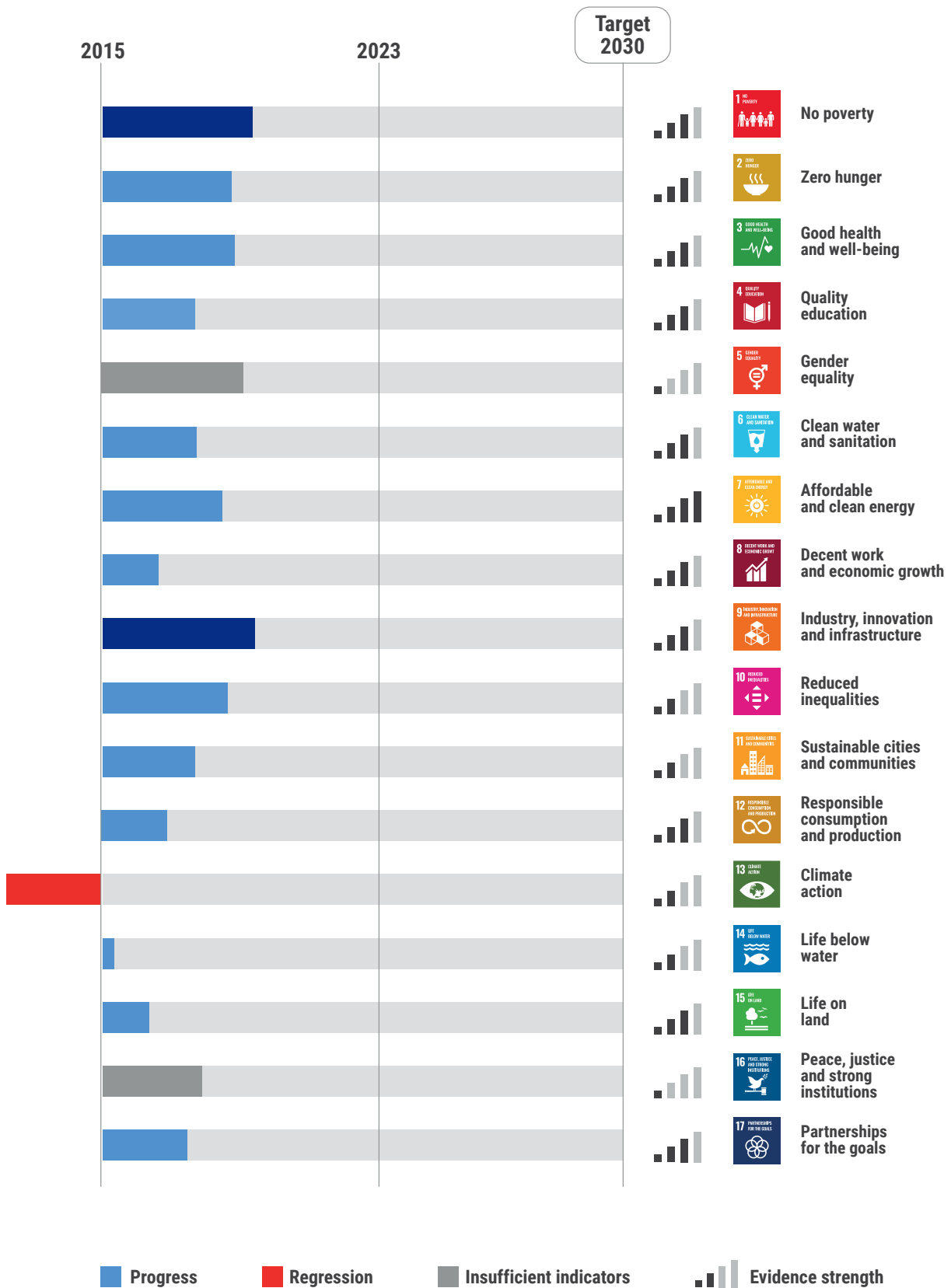
development pathways has become ever more challenging.

Yet despite these challenges and even though progress in the region is significantly behind schedule, the vision set out in the 2030 Agenda remains as relevant today as it was in 2015. The 17 SDGs continue to provide a comprehensive framework for the bold, transformative action needed to build a greener, fairer and better world by 2030. Accelerating progress towards the goals is becoming ever more urgent, considering the existential challenges the region faces across the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development. This report sheds light on areas where stakeholders need to focus urgent action to ensure no goal, no country and no person is left behind.

A snapshot of SDG progress and the region's overall performance in [figure 1.2](#) shows that substantial acceleration of progress is needed to achieve the goals by 2030. Positive strides have been taken towards eliminating poverty (Goal 1) and bolstering sustainable industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9). These are the goals with the most progress since 2015, yet their progress is insufficient to reach the goals by 2030. Progress towards Goal 1 is partly explained by positive measures towards lifting people out of extreme poverty (defined as living on less than \$2.15 a day) and reducing the proportion of people living below nationally defined poverty lines. Official international support to infrastructure and improved access to information and communications technology have contributed to progress towards Goal 9.



Figure 1.2 Snapshot of regional progress



Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Some progress has been made towards zero hunger (Goal 2), good health and well-being (Goal 3), affordable and clean energy (Goal 7) and reduced inequalities (Goal 10). Yet across all these goals, progress towards most of the underlying targets needs to be accelerated or regressions reversed.

Urgent action is needed to improve access to decent work and support economic growth (Goal 8) and accelerate progress towards responsible consumption and production (Goal 12). Action is also needed to protect life below water (Goal 14) and life on land (Goal 15) and to strengthen partnerships for the goals (Goal 17). It is in these areas where the least progress has been made since 2015. Under these goals, less than 10 per cent of the targets for which data are available are on track. Progress towards achieving quality education for all (Goal 4) is also very slow and the gaps in equal access to education are widening across the region.

Climate action (Goal 13) has continued to regress and action to reverse this trend becomes ever more urgent. The region remains both a victim and a major driver of climate change. Temperatures in the region are increasing faster than the global mean.¹ Extreme, unpredictable weather events and natural hazards continue to become more frequent and intense. Six of the worst affected countries are in Asia and the Pacific, yet the region continues to account for more than half of global greenhouse gas emissions, much of which is driven by coal combustion.² The indicators under this goal for which data are available underscore the need to integrate climate action measures into national policies, strategies and planning, and to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to cope with climate related hazards and natural disasters. Data to measure progress towards Goal 13 are insufficient and critical data gaps need to be filled to support effective policy responses.

1.2 Progress: off target

Looking below the goals in more detail at the target level, only 11 per cent of the measurable targets are on track to be achieved by 2030 in the region (**figure 1.3**). Out of 169 targets under the 17 goals, only 116 targets are currently measurable. Apart from the 13 targets that are on track, the measurable targets require either rapid acceleration of progress or, in the case of 20 targets, a complete reversal of negative trends. Targets of 14 of the goals have registered regression against the 2015 baseline.

The region is falling short of most of the measurable targets. Even under goals that have achieved overall progress, individual targets will be missed. For example, for good health and well-being (Goal 3), there is sufficient progress towards reducing maternal and child mortality, but the region is unlikely to achieve any of the other targets of Goal 3 by 2030 at the current pace of progress, and targets focused on reducing substance abuse and achieving universal health coverage are regressing.

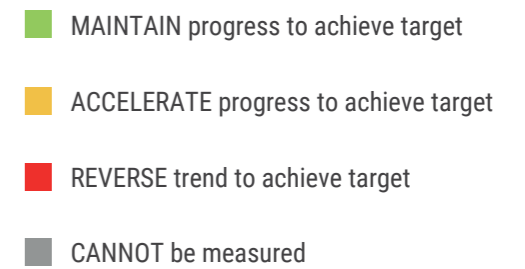
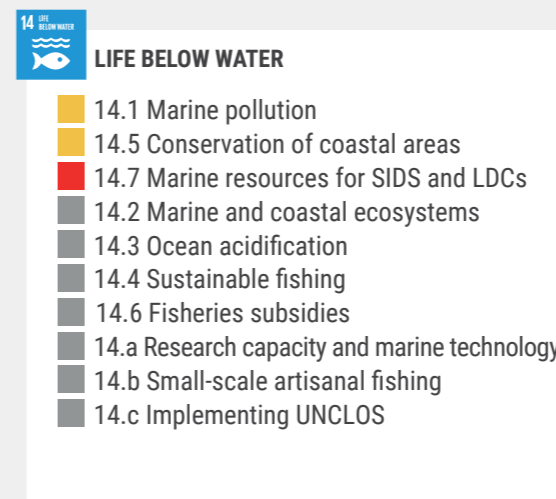
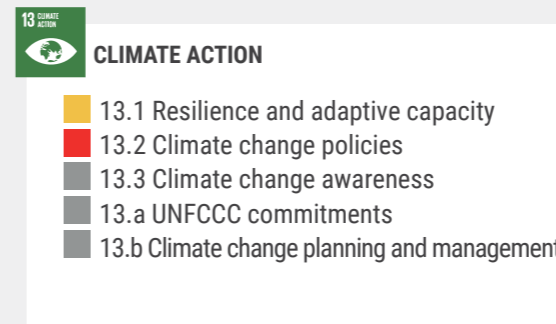
Conversely, while very slow overall progress is registered towards certain goals, sufficient progress may exist towards specific targets which sit under them. For instance, while there is very slow progress towards achieving responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), good progress has been made towards the improved management of chemicals and wastes (target 12.4) and corporate sustainable practices are becoming more prevalent (target 12.6). It must be acknowledged that the lack of progress on most of the targets in the region may mask many achievements and transformative actions taken at the national level (see chapter 2).

In **figure 1.3**, the SDG targets that have the highest priority for action in the region are indicated in red. The current trends in these areas must be reversed, and evidence must be produced for the 53 targets that still cannot be measured. If the region's statistical systems can fill these gaps, the prospect of formulating the targeted policies required to achieve the SDGs in the region will greatly increase.

1 <https://unescap.org/kp/2023/seizing-moment-targeting-transformative-disaster-risk-resilience>

2 Ibid.

Figure 1.3
Dashboard of expected achievements

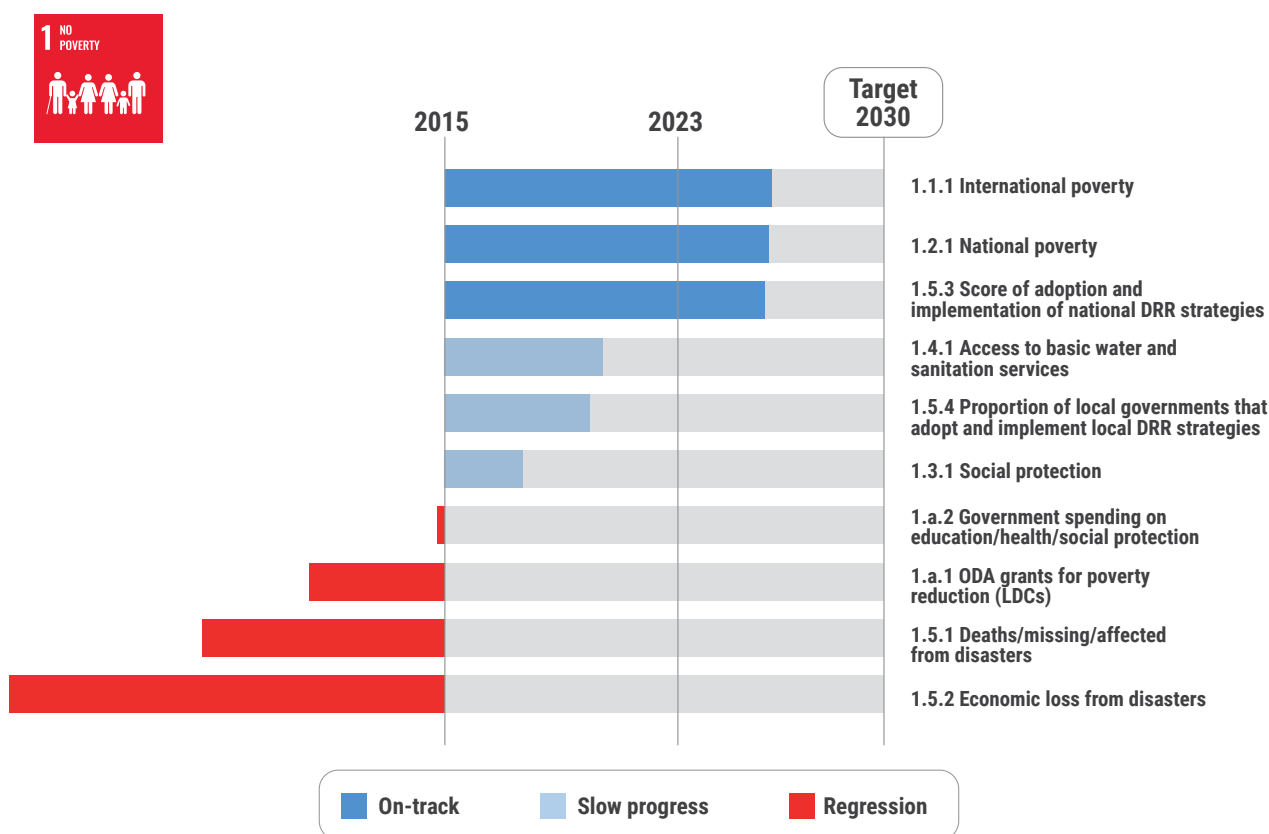


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Dashboard. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

1.3 SDG Status by goal

The analysis in this section provides a more in-depth assessment of progress by indicator under each of the 17 SDGs. The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Dark blue is used for indicators with sufficient progress,

and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Light blue is used for indicators with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing indicators.

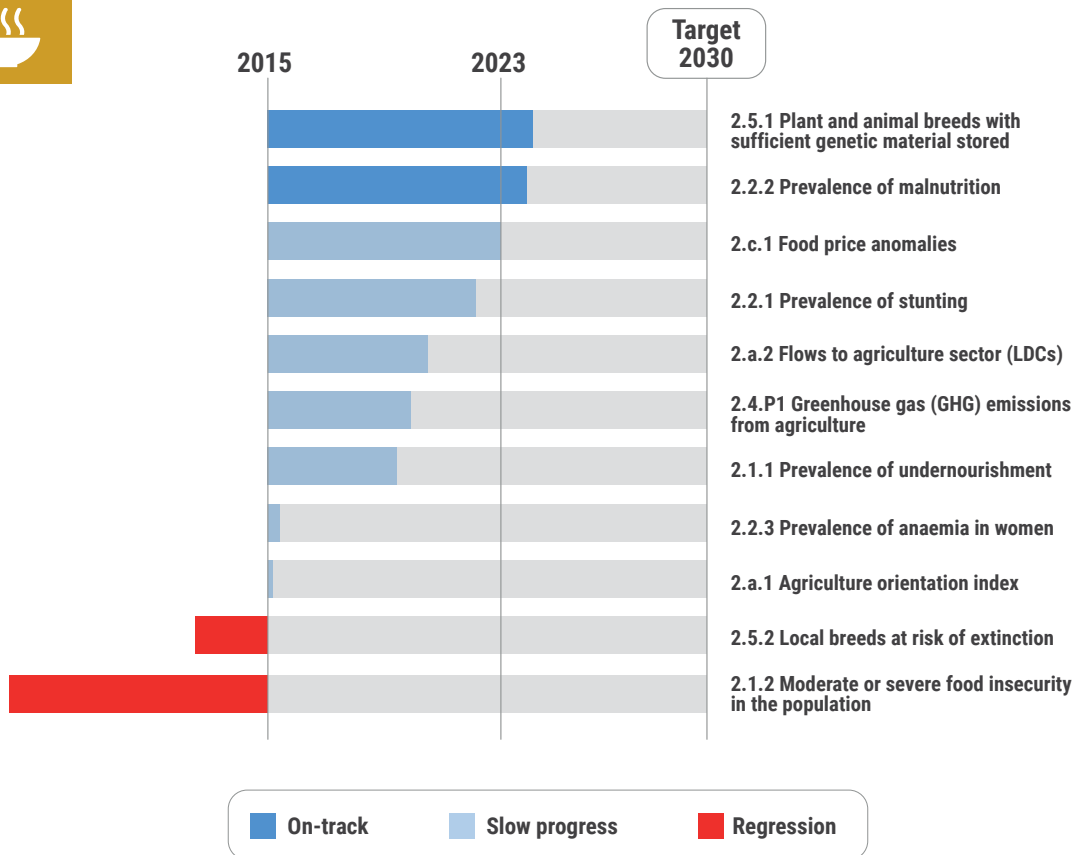


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 10 indicators measured out of 13 official SDG indicators

The region is making progress towards poverty reduction and has taken decisive action towards eradicating income poverty, yet there are many areas where progress needs to be accelerated. Increasing resilience to disasters is an absolute priority to protect peoples' lives and livelihoods, reduce economic losses and prevent people from being pushed back into poverty. Asia and the Pacific is the

most disaster-prone region in the world, so bolstering disaster preparedness and recovery capacities is imperative. Increasing investment in essential services to expand access to health care and education should be further prioritized. The negative trend registered for official development assistance for poverty reduction in least developed countries (LDCs) should be reversed.

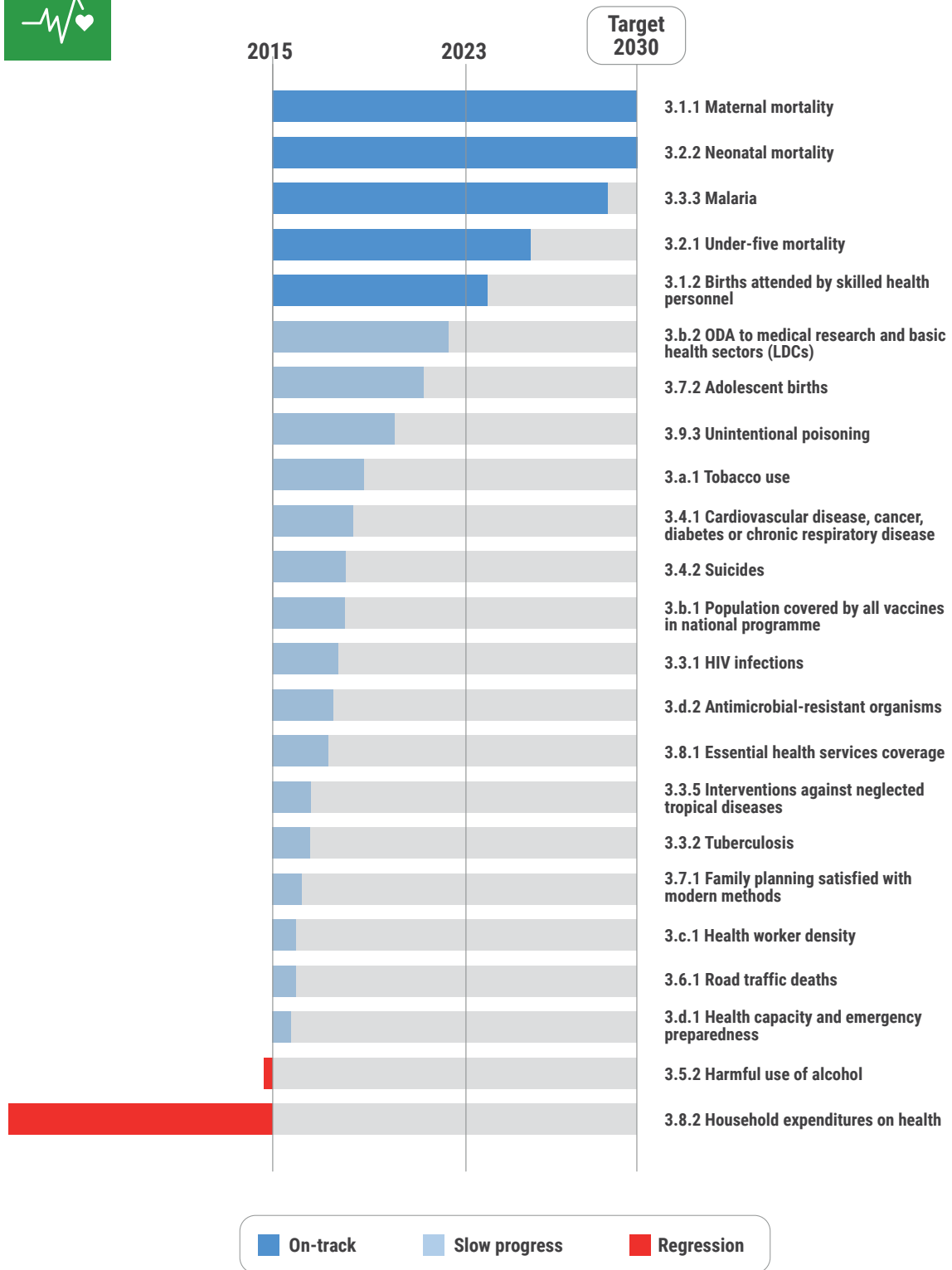


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 10 indicators and one proxy measured out of 14 official SDG indicators

Achieving food security and combating undernourishment remain top priorities for Goal 2. In addition to further promoting sustainable agriculture and biodiversity conservation to enhance those priorities, there is a clear need to strengthen supply chains to ensure sustainable food systems are resilient to climate and

economic disruptions. The region must prioritize reversing the negative trends on moderate and severe food insecurity. As part of the overall push towards eradicating hunger in the region, there is scope to further expand access to nutritious foods, as this in turn will support good health and well-being (Goal 3).

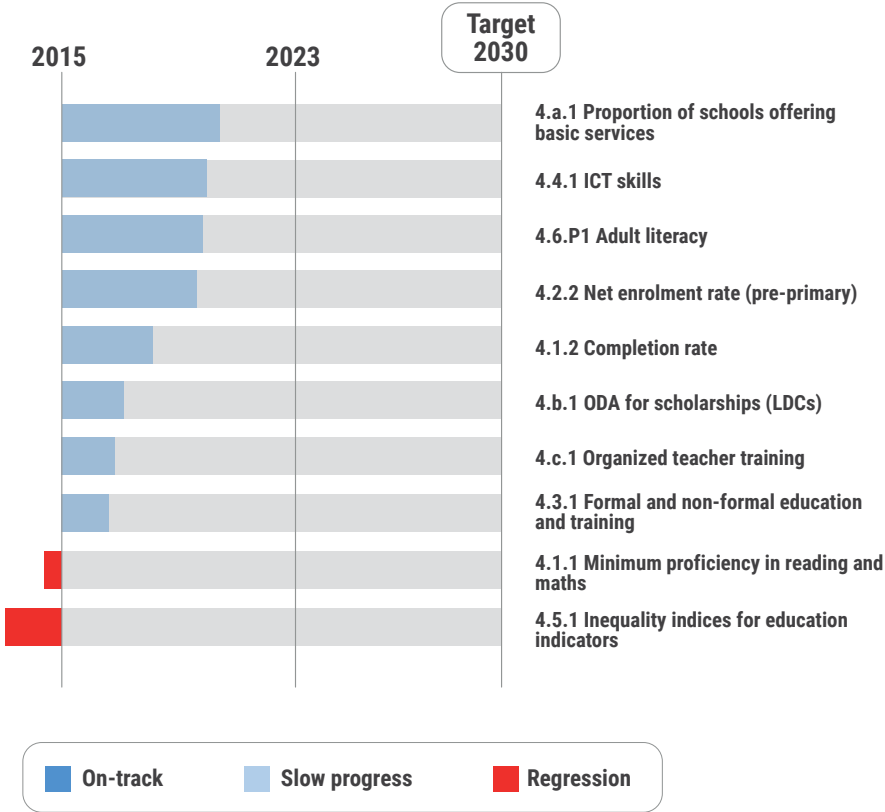


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 23 indicators measured out of 28 official SDG indicators

There has been commendable progress towards reducing maternal, child, and infant mortality, along with reducing adolescent birth rates. However, enhancing mental health services, substance abuse prevention, road

safety and universal health coverage are urgent priorities. Strengthening health infrastructure, including the workforce and overall health capacity, remains vital to undergird the region’s efforts to achieve health and well-being.

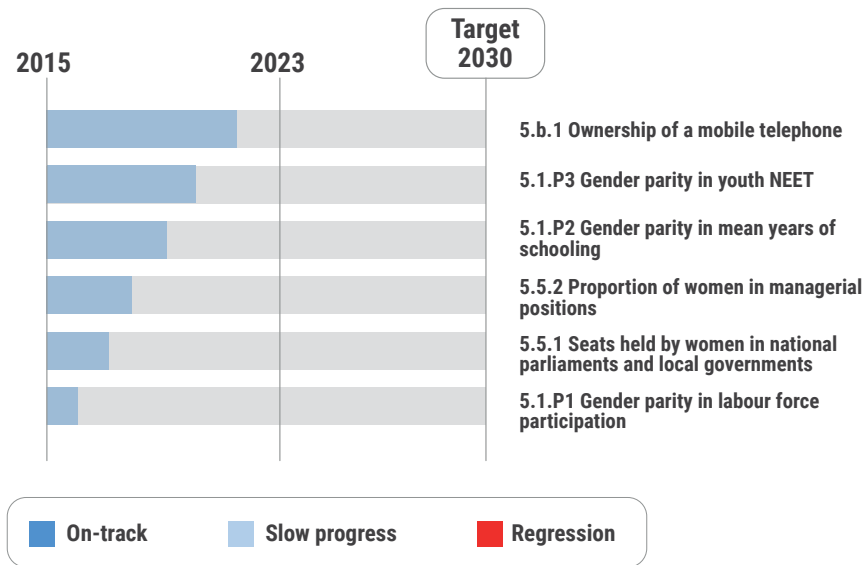


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 9 indicators and one proxy measured out of 12 official SDG indicators

Achieving equal access to quality education is a priority critical to achieving broader sustainable development objectives, and efforts must be redoubled to address disparities and ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all. Providing all schools with essential infrastructure and services, such as electricity,

computers and basic sanitation, is imperative to support learning. There is a pressing need to improve learning outcomes, such as proficiency in mathematics and reading, and to support the professional development of teachers to deliver high-quality education to all children, whether in rural or urban areas.

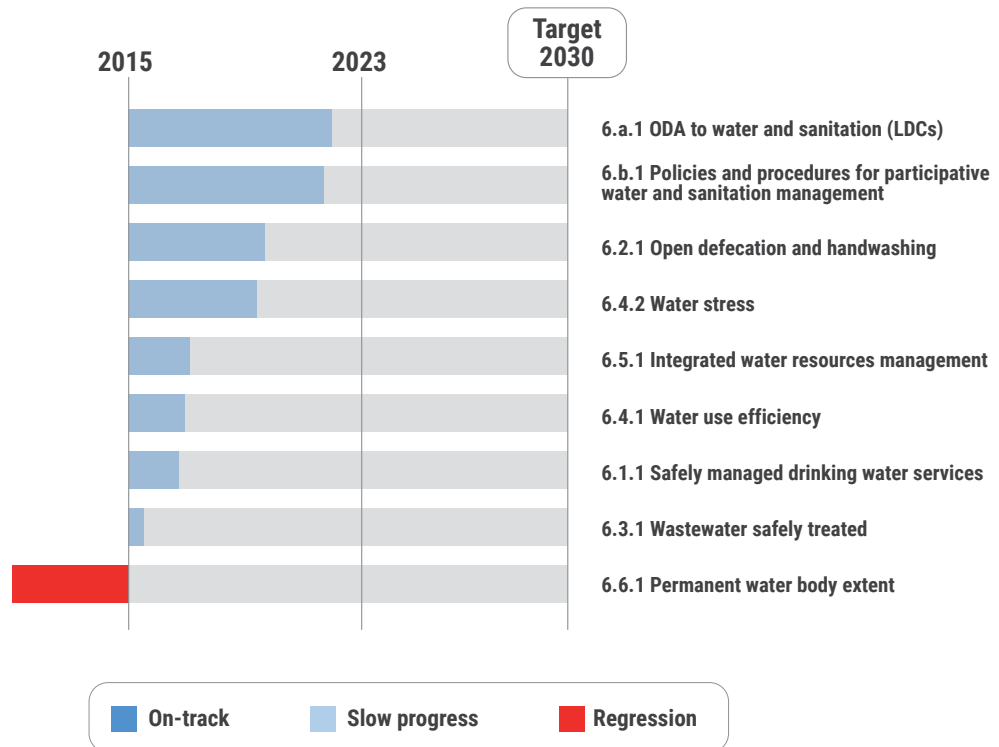


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 3 indicators and 3 proxies measured out of 14 official SDG indicators

Data gaps continue to hinder the comprehensive assessment of progress towards gender equality. The available data suggest persistent disparities in employment and decision-making roles. More

robust data are needed to understand the nuances of progress, particularly in areas such as violence against women, early marriage and the division of unpaid care and domestic work.



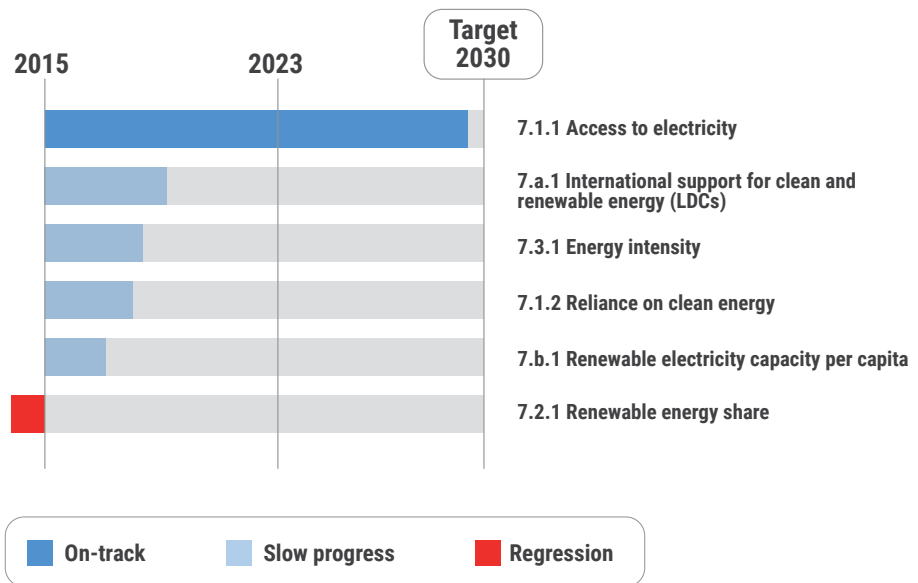
Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 9 indicators measured out of 11 official SDG indicators



Significant strides towards improving economic and social well-being have been linked to advancements in water resource management in Asia and the Pacific. These have been supported by water and sanitation hygiene initiatives during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite this greater prioritization of water-related issues, the region is not on course to meet Goal 6 targets. Challenges

include water stress, pollution, scarcity, and inadequate sanitation services. With 1.9 billion people lacking access to safe water and sanitation, and 1.3 billion people lacking basic handwashing facilities, the clear priorities are to protect water-related ecosystems, manage the treatment of wastewater and strengthen community engagement in water management.³



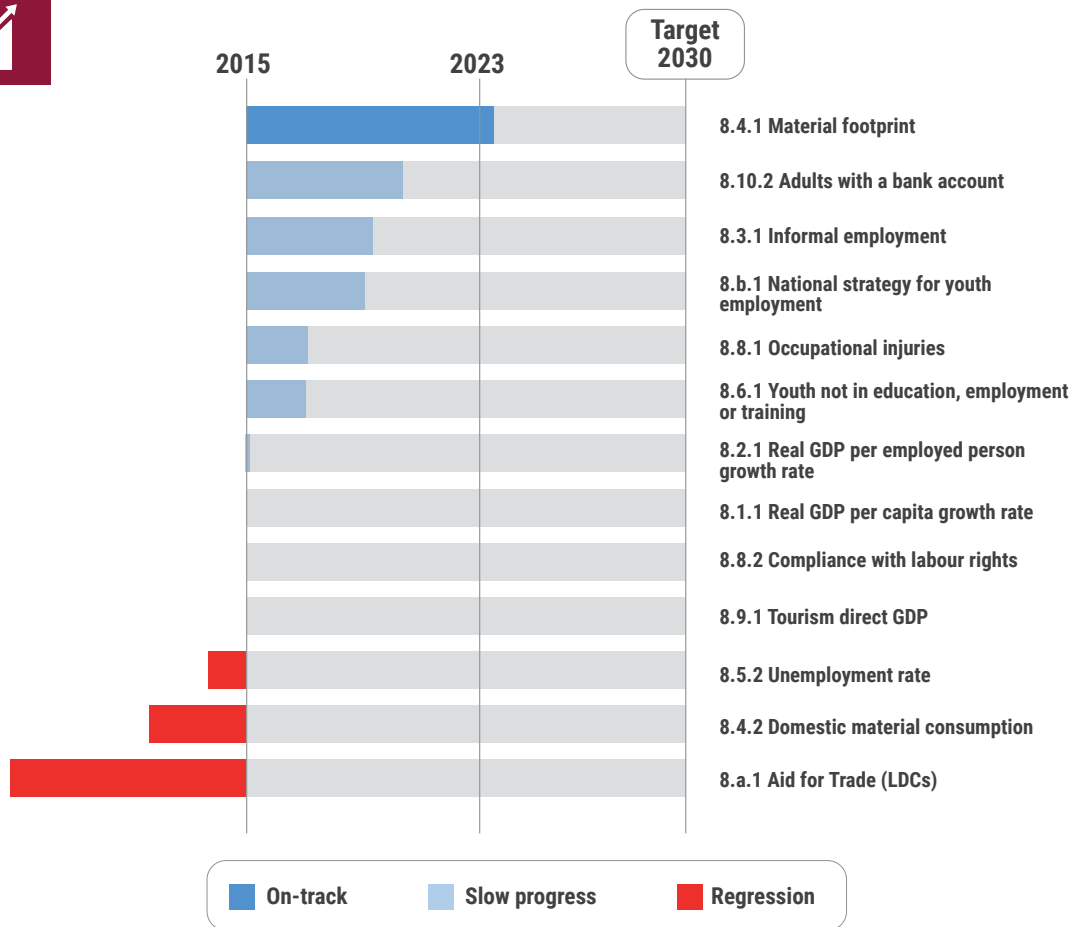
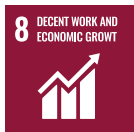
Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 6 indicators measured out of 6 official SDG indicators

The capacity to produce clean and renewable energy is a priority in Asia and the Pacific. Access to affordable and clean energy has improved, thanks in part to enhanced access to electricity. Yet despite these advancements, the region faces challenges in increasing the share

of renewable energy in overall energy production, which is critical to reversing climate trends and reducing high carbon emissions in the region. With these objectives in mind, reducing energy intensity also remains a key consideration.

3 https://unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/SDG%206%20Goal%20Profile_7Feb23.pdf

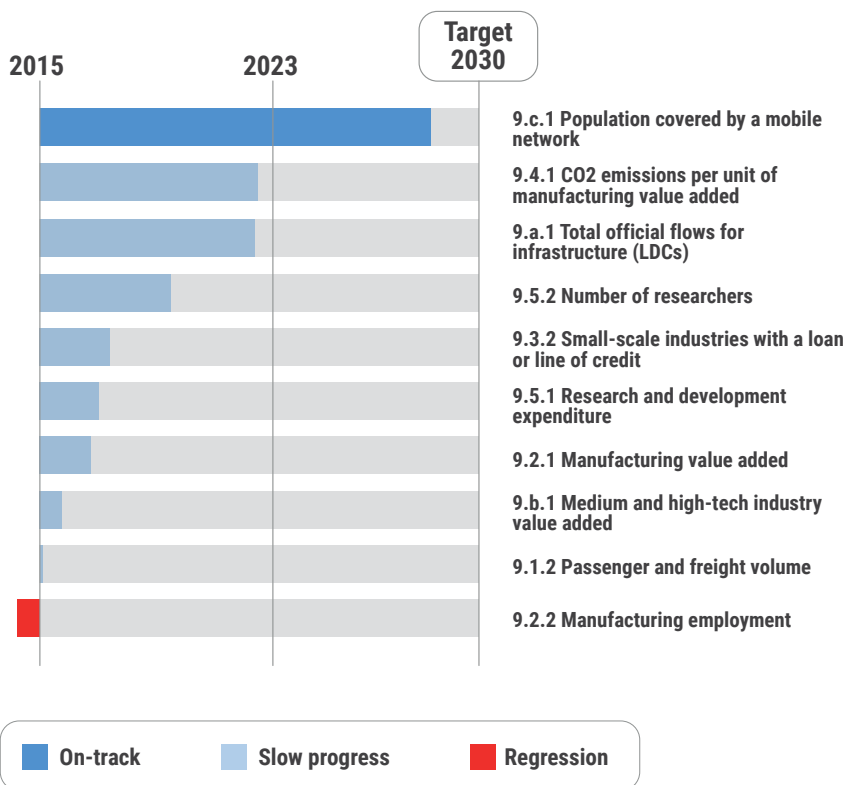


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 13 indicators measured out of 16 official SDG indicators

Decent work and economic growth is aligned with the objective of achieving responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), but progress towards Goal 8 indicators is mixed. To fulfil the objectives of Goal 8, efforts must be redoubled towards

creating more quality employment opportunities while addressing long-standing issues such as compliance with labour rights, reducing material intensity of production and promoting economic diversification.

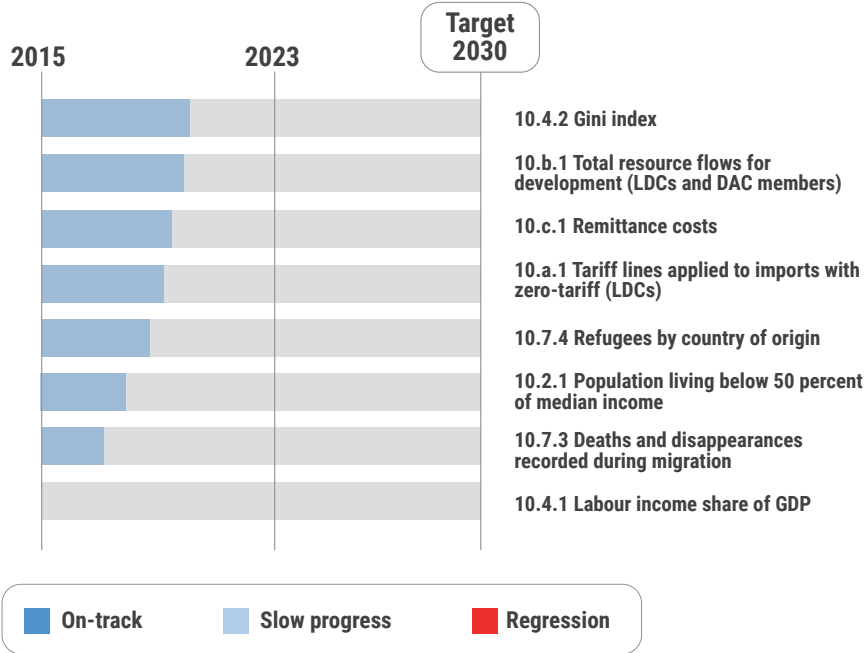


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 10 indicators measured out of 12 official SDG indicators

Some progress has been made towards achieving sustainable industry, innovation and infrastructure. Notable advancements include expanded mobile network coverage and increased infrastructure funding for LDCs. To accelerate progress, the

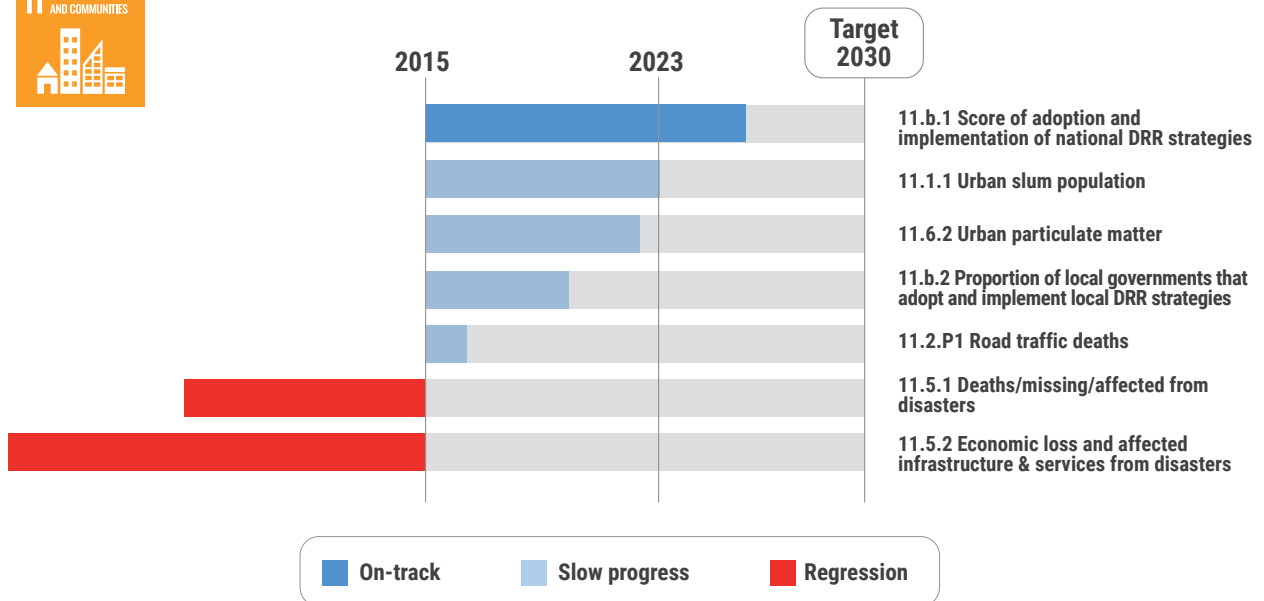
region should prioritize supporting growth and employment in the manufacturing sector, research and development, and medium-and high-tech industries that drive employment opportunities and economic progress.



Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.
Note: 8 indicators measured out of 14 official SDG indicators

Efforts to reduce inequalities within and among countries show a positive trend, with noteworthy outcomes, such as improved market access for LDCs and a decline in the number of refugees in a significant number of countries. Improving the labour share of total national income and ensuring safe migration practices are regional priorities.

While COVID-19 is no longer a primary driver of migration, its lasting consequences continue to influence migration patterns and migrant experiences in the Asia-Pacific region.⁴ Concerted action is required to further address income disparities and reduce the cost of migrants' remittances.

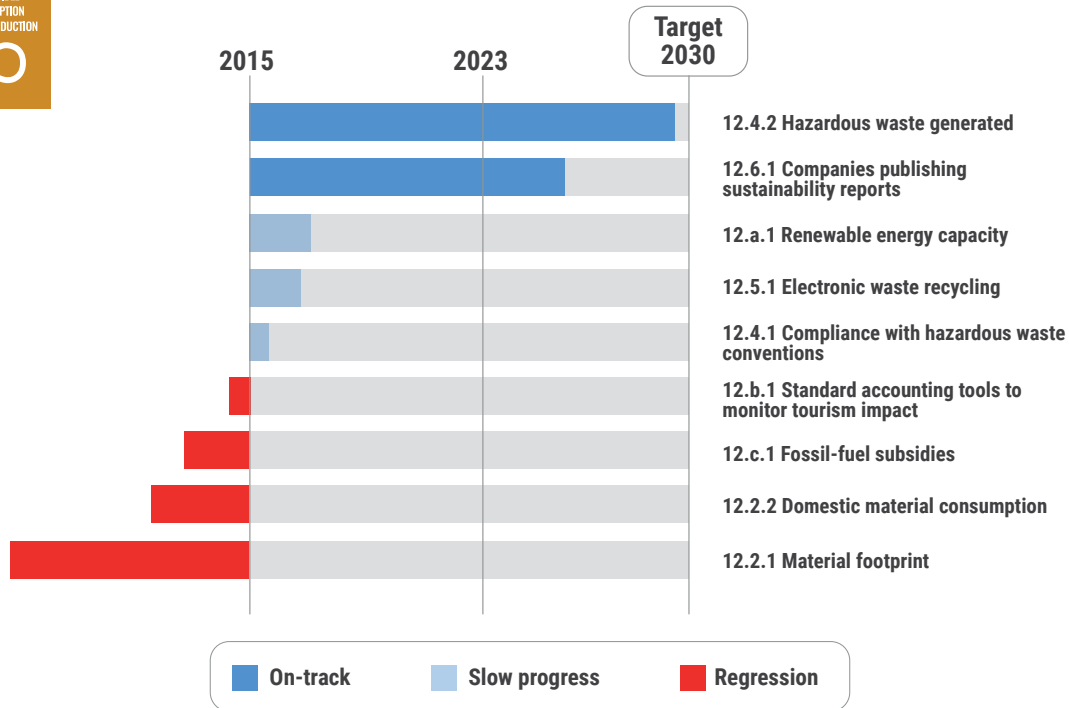


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.
Note: 6 indicators and one proxy measured out of 15 official SDG indicators

⁴ <https://publications.iom.int/books/asia-pacific-migration-data-report-2022#:~:text=IOM%20Publications%20Platform,-Main%20navigation&text=While%20the%20COVID%2D19%20pandemic,across%20the%20Asia-Pacific%20region.>

Keeping human and economic losses resulting from disasters to an absolute minimum is a longstanding but increasingly urgent priority. It underscores the need for resilient infrastructure and planning.

Although there has been some implementation of national and local disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies, significant work remains to bolster DRR, tackle air pollution and improve housing.

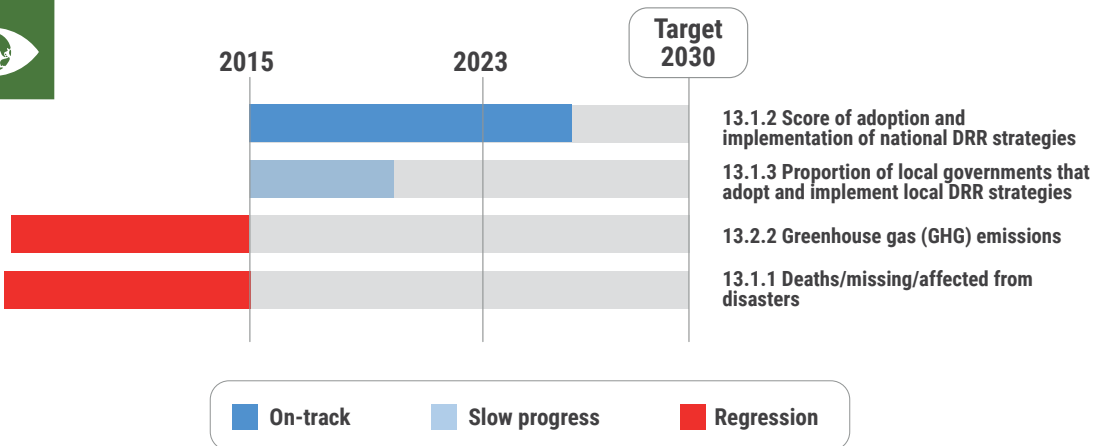


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 9 indicators measured out of 13 official SDG indicators

The region has made strides in reducing hazardous waste, enhancing renewable energy capacity and increasing sustainability reporting by companies. Yet, to meet responsible consumption and production objectives by 2030, reducing reliance

on fossil fuels is critical, as is increasing the sustainable use of natural resources in production and developing stronger accounting standards to precisely measure the environmental impacts of human and corporate activities.



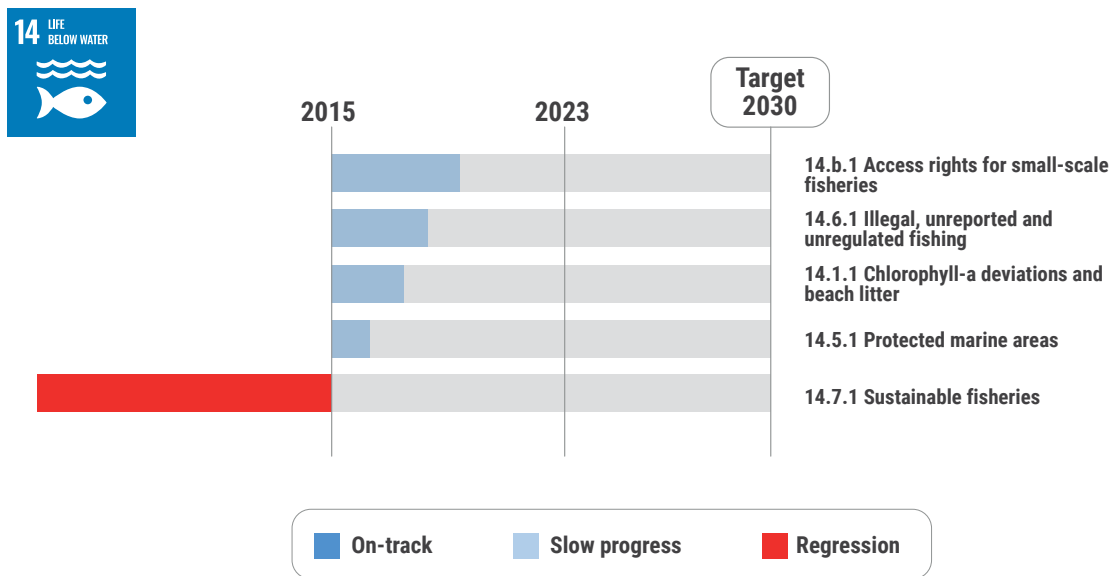
Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 4 indicators measured out of 8 official SDG indicators



Given the escalating effects of climate change, progress towards Goal 13 remains critically behind. Greenhouse gas emissions continue to increase, emphasizing the need to prioritize climate action strategies that are integrated into efforts to enhance clean energy usage

and responsible production. Despite wider policy adoption and the implementation of local and national DRR strategies, countries and economies in the Asia-Pacific region are increasingly affected by climate-related disasters.

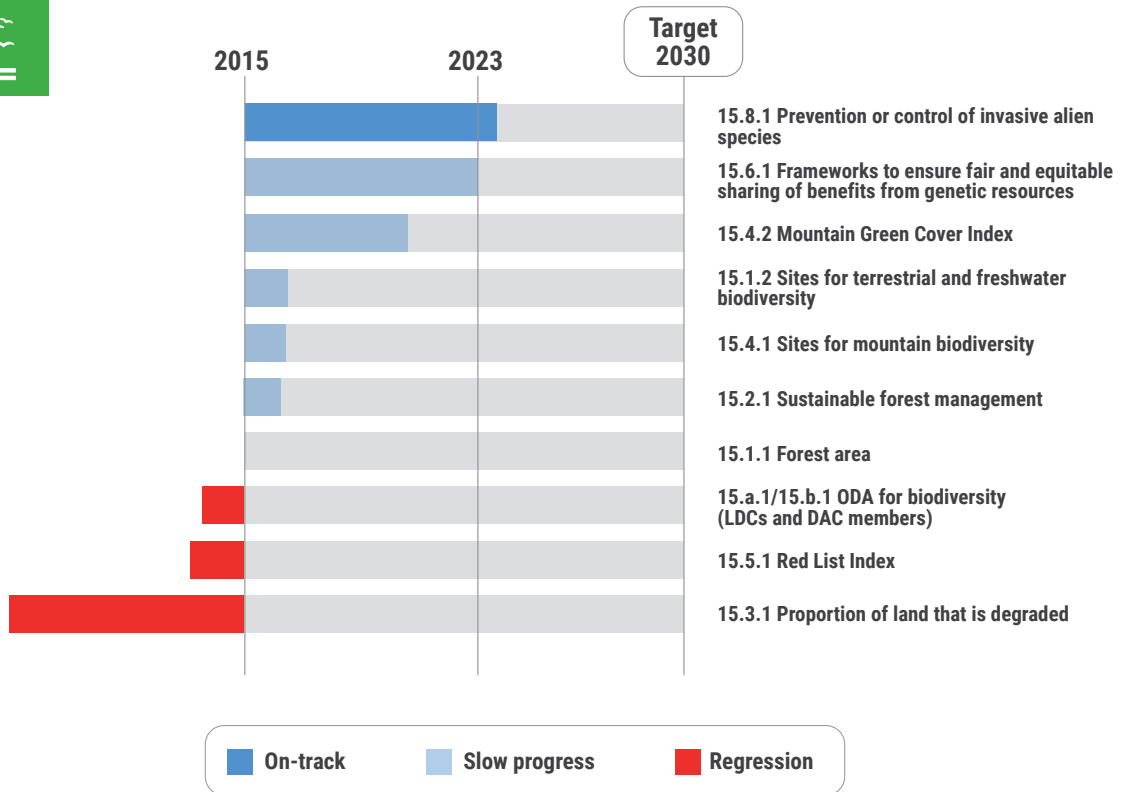


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 5 indicators measured out of 10 official SDG indicators

The lack of robust data continues to hinder the assessment of progress for life below water, reflecting a need for improved statistical systems, which is one of the targets of Goal 17. The region faces a continued challenge in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. It is vital to intensify efforts to mitigate

marine pollution and enhance marine conservation while strengthening the long-term sustainability of marine resources. Additional support should be provided for SIDS and LDCs, whose sustainable marine practices are critical to support not only their local economies and communities but also ocean biodiversity.



Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

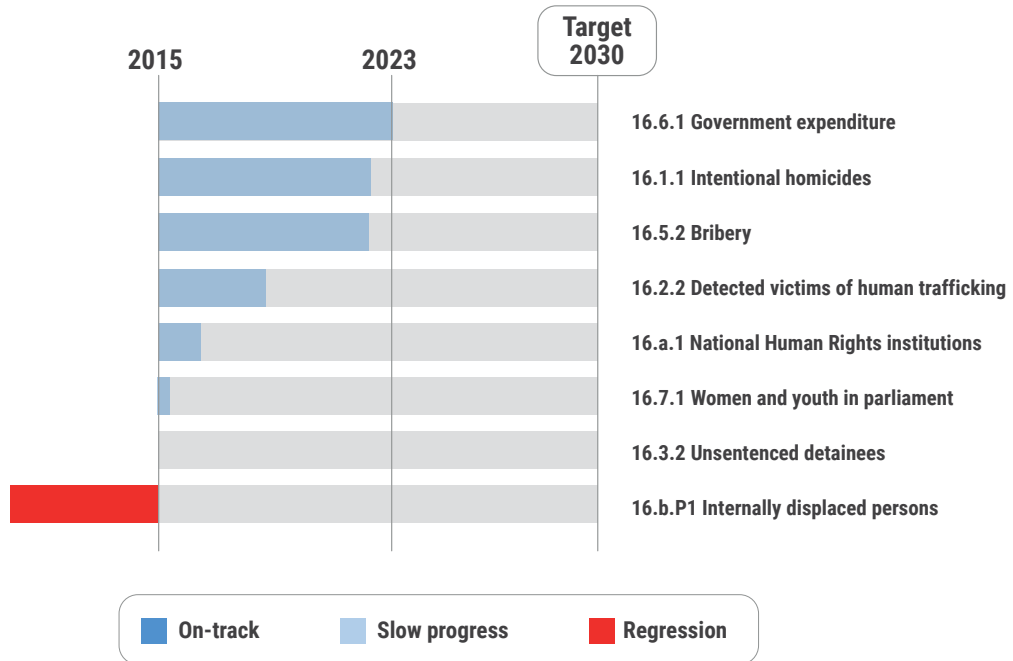
Note: 11 indicators measured out of 14 official SDG indicators

There has been some progress towards terrestrial conservation, yet much remains to be done to meet Goal 15 targets by 2030. Halting desertification, preventing land degradation and conserving biodiversity are essential for the health

of terrestrial ecosystems. Sustainable forest management and adequate official development assistance for biodiversity are crucial for the region to promote stronger environmental sustainability and conservation practices on land.



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

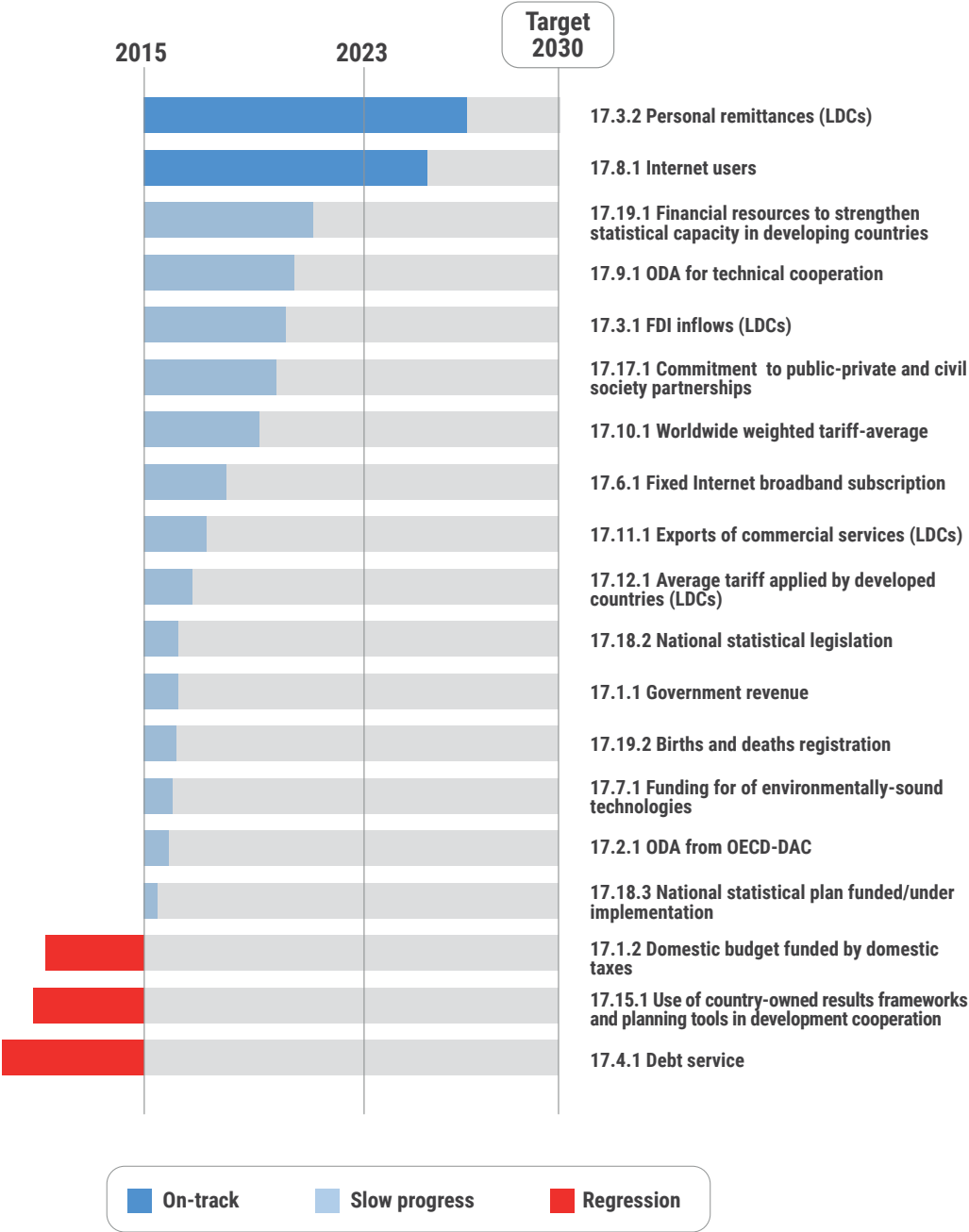


Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 7 indicators and a proxy measured out of 24 official SDG indicators

Data scarcity impedes the measurement of advancements in establishing peace, justice and strong institutions. While there have been reductions in certain indicators, such as homicide rates, the region must tackle the rise in internally displaced populations while also combating bribery, corruption and human trafficking. To

ensure access to justice for all, more must be done to establish non-discriminatory legal frameworks. This requires that all societal groups, especially women and youth, actively participate in decision-making processes. These priority areas are key for building resilient and inclusive societies and achieving Goal 16.



Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress Snapshot. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

Note: 19 indicators measured out of 24 official SDG indicators

Achieving Goal 17 is critical to support progress towards all the goals. It has seen moderate improvements in terms of increased remittances towards LDCs and improved market access extended to these countries. Yet the need to achieve sustainable public finances remains, while respecting countries’ policy

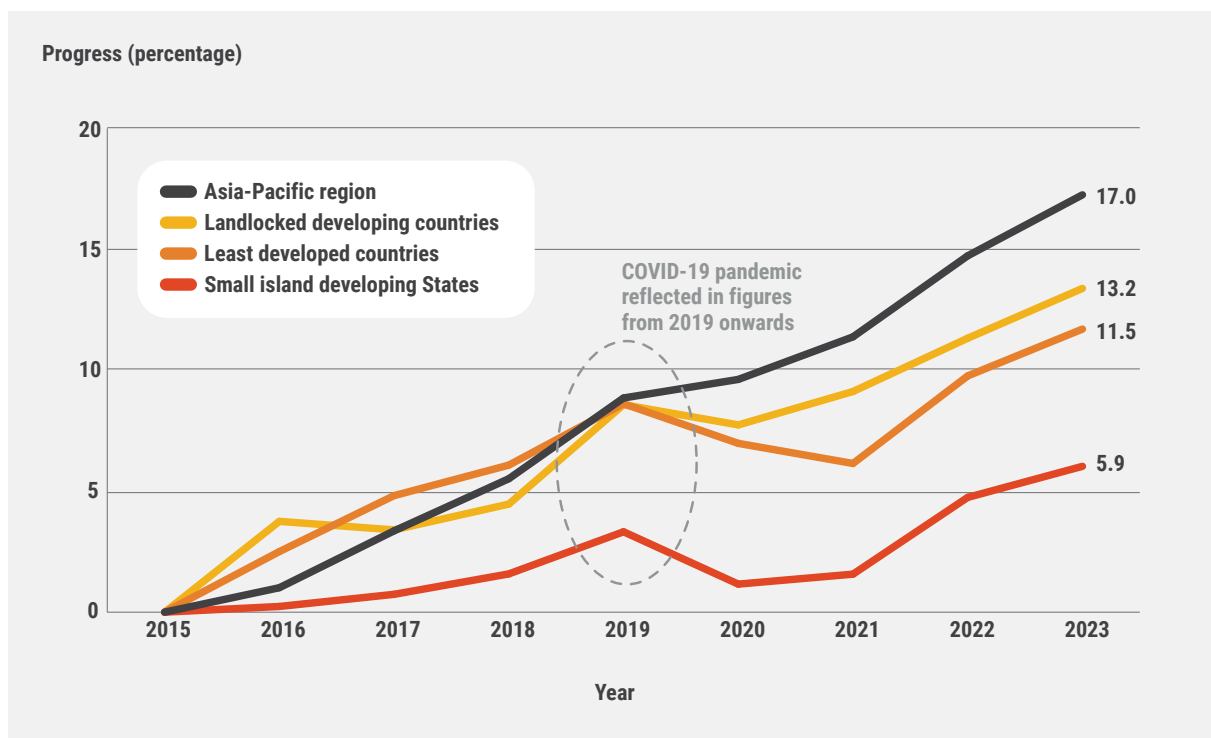
landscapes. It calls for the modernization of taxation systems to increase public revenues and the improved management of public debts. Investing in statistical development and improving processes for civil registration can make a major contribution to shaping effective policies and leaving no one behind.

1.4 Progress of countries in special situations

The year 2019 marked a turning point in terms of the progress of countries in special situations. Until 2019 LDCs and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) were showing similar progress to the broader region while small island developing States (SIDS) were progressing at a much slower pace (figure 1.4). The COVID-19 pandemic has erased much of the progress made since 2015. Since the pandemic, countries in special situations have had to contend with sharp declines in economic growth, an inauspicious international trade

environment, decreases in tax revenue and challenges relating to the servicing of existing public debt. At present, progress in countries in special situations is insufficient to achieve any of the SDGs. SIDS have made much slower progress towards almost all the SDGs than the other countries in special situations and this gap is increasing over time. Since 2015, LLDCs have shown the greatest relative progress, registering 13.2 per cent, while LDCs and SIDS lag behind with 11.5 per cent and 5.9 per cent respectively.

Figure 1.4 Progress over time by countries in special situations (LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS)



Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, SDG Progress. Available at <https://data.unescap.org/>.

The unique circumstances and vulnerabilities of the countries in special situations remains unchanged. The effects of climate change are acute and, for some, pose an existential threat. It is therefore crucial that international development partners continue to support

Governments that have been taking steps to overcome these vulnerabilities. The success of the region in achieving the 2030 Agenda depends on our ability to support the progress of countries in special situations. Targeted assistance must continue to be extended.

Where progress has been insufficient, development partners may assist countries in identifying the most effective approach to achieving the SDGs. Special attention is required for climate action (Goal 13), where all three groups of countries in special situations are regressing, and to support decent work

and economic growth (Goal 8). Moreover, each group has its specific challenges that need tailored support. In particular, the three worst performing goals for SIDS are sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), and climate action (Goal 13).

1.5 Leaving no one behind

The 2030 Agenda is universal, but its implementation across different segments of the population is uneven. Our analysis takes a closer look at groups that may be disadvantaged, focusing on how sex, urbanization, education level, age and income contribute to existing disparities and sometimes exacerbate them. Our analysis of all available data helps shine the spotlight on where efforts must be stepped up.

Despite overall progress in school enrolment rates, women and girls continue to face considerable challenges when it comes to accessing education and employment opportunities. They have lower enrolment rates and struggle with literacy. Young women also encounter difficulties accessing labour markets, leading to higher rates of youth unemployment.

The challenges faced by men tend to be related to their health or personal safety. They suffer from higher rates of suicide and road traffic deaths. Men suffer most from cardiovascular disease and chronic respiratory conditions and are more likely to contract HIV. Alcohol and tobacco consumption is higher among men than women, which further undermines men's health.

Overall, the indicators suggest that discrimination faced by women and girls remains a major cause of inequality while men face health and personal safety challenges. A strong advantage of sex disaggregated data is that gender-based differences emerge, making it possible to detect sex-linked disparities. Unequal outcomes for men and women include negative outcomes that impact one sex more than the other. Governments can formulate policy responses to reduce these sources of inequality if they know there is a need for it.

Along with sex, where people live is a key factor in determining levels of poverty and inequality. People living in rural areas are more likely to have limited access to basic drinking water and sanitation services. Rural populations lack access to hygienic latrines or basic handwashing facilities, which perpetuates health challenges. Access to clean energy is also lower in a rural setting, leading to the use of unclean energy sources for cooking and heating, which in turn causes serious – often ultimately deadly – respiratory diseases. People living in urban areas tend to fair better, although the poorest boys and girls in urban areas are less likely to complete upper secondary school. The occurrence of infant mortality is also higher among children in the poorest income quintile ([table 1](#)).

Table 1 List of disadvantaged groups

Indicators where sex contributes to being in a disadvantaged situation		
Indicator	Indicator name	Disadvantaged group
3.3.1	New HIV infections	Men 15-49 years
3.4.1	Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases	Men
3.4.2	Suicide	Men
3.5.2	Alcohol per capita consumption	Men
3.6.1	Road traffic deaths	Men
3.9.3	Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning	Men
3.a.1	Prevalence of current tobacco use	Men
4.2.2	Adjusted net enrolment rate (one year before the official primary entry age)	Girls
4.6.P1	Adult literacy rate	Women
4.c.1	Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications, pre-primary	Men
8.5.2	Youth unemployment rate	Women 15-24 years
8.6.1	Not in Employment, Education, Training (NEET)	Women

Indicators where urbanization contributes to being in a disadvantaged situation		
Indicator	Indicator name	Disadvantaged group
1.4.1	Population using basic drinking water services	Rural
1.4.1	Population using basic sanitation services	Rural
4.1.2	Completion rate, upper secondary education	Urban children in poorest quintile
6.1.1	Population using safely managed drinking water	Rural
6.2.1	Population with basic handwashing facilities	Rural
6.2.1	Population practicing open defecation	Rural
7.1.2	Population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies	Rural

Indicators where income/age contributes to being in a disadvantaged situation		
Indicator	Indicator name	Disadvantaged group
3.2.1	Infant mortality rate	Boys in poorest quintile
3.3.1	New HIV infections	Men 15-49 years
4.1.2	Completion rate, lower secondary education	Children in poorest quintile
4.1.2	Completion rate, upper secondary education	Urban children in poorest quintile
4.3.1	Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months	Population 25-54 years
8.5.2	Youth unemployment rate	Women 15-24 years

2

National trends and transformative actions

The success stories of individual countries demonstrate strategies to strengthen both data systems and policies to improve biodiversity and nature conservation, public digital infrastructure, social protection and access to education. Examples in this chapter from around the region illustrate these strengths. The integrated approach to climate change adaptation,

mitigation and marine and coastal biodiversity conservation in Maldives serves as a holistic model for climate action in SIDS. The establishment of national environmental portals in 14 Pacific SIDS highlights the value of enhancing regional collaboration and partnerships, underpinning a much broader sustainable development effort.



A host of measures have been taken to support at-risk population groups. Nationwide digital training programmes in Viet Nam have underscored the value of public-private partnerships in accelerating digital transformation and bridging the skills and employment gap for youth and migrant workers. The Lao People's Democratic Republic has moved to measure child labour, and child marriage prevention programmes are being implemented in Indonesia. Several countries have implemented response plans to reduce maternal and perinatal deaths.

The availability of granular data is contributing to improved development outcomes, including for children and stateless populations. The 2020 Population Census of China has provided a valuable opportunity for disaggregated assessment of several SDG indicators. Research and analysis undertaken in the Philippines is informing congressional debates to pass the disability allowance into legislation. In North and Central Asia, national statistical systems in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have been upgraded to better support stateless populations.

2.1 Country performance

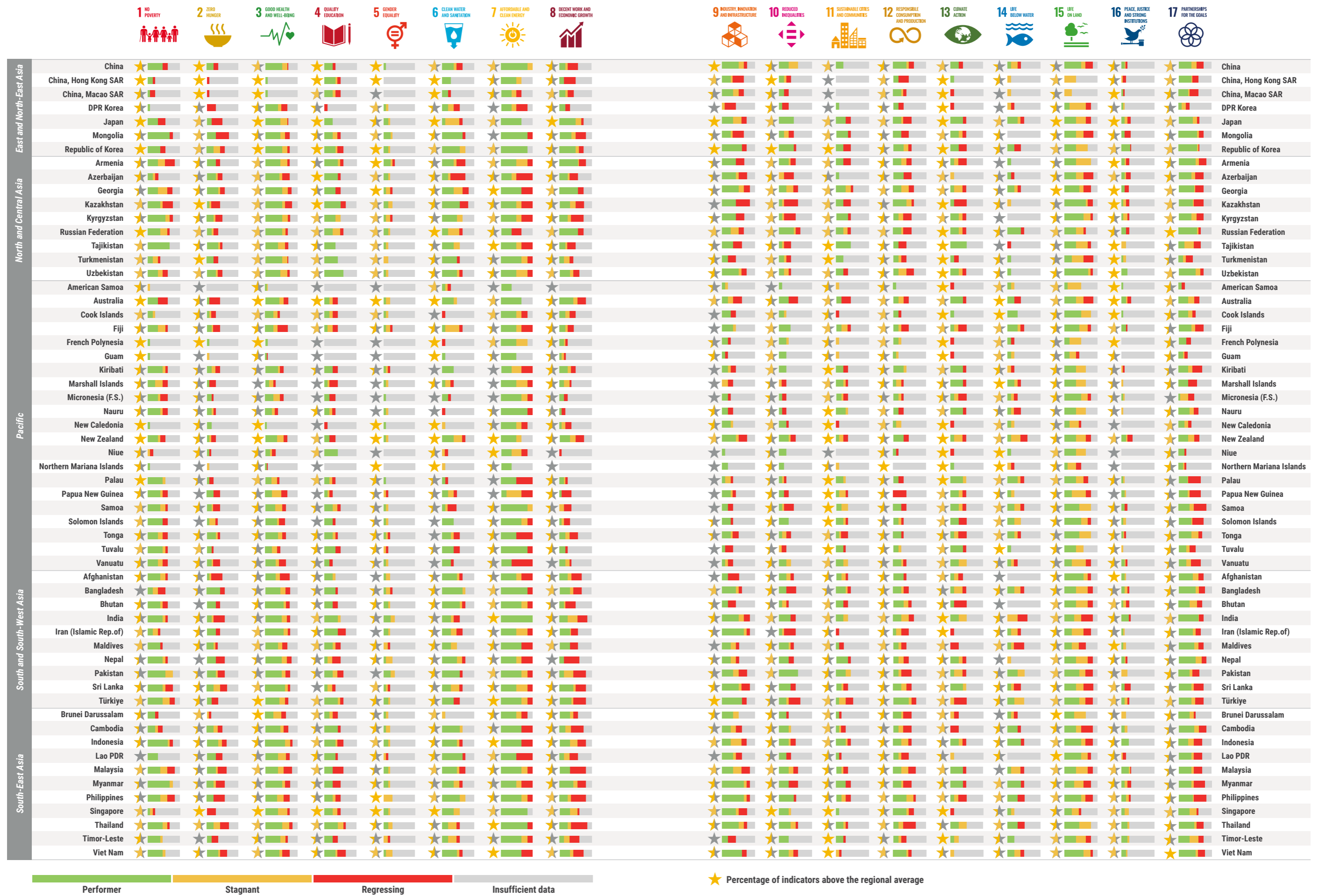
The evaluation of country performance on indicators of the SDGs uncovers several patterns. The delicate balance between the latest achievements and progress over time highlights the intricate nature of achieving the SDGs (figure 2.1). While some countries lead the region on most indicators related to specific goals (full stars), a more in-depth analysis of data often reveals some negative trends that require immediate attention. In contrast, other countries making progress on many indicators (green bar) may still find themselves struggling to catch up with regional averages (partial stars), thereby necessitating additional support and tailored interventions.

Furthermore, the analysis underscores the disparities in SDG performance beyond economic status. Across the region, countries whether economically rich or poor encounter

challenges related to zero hunger (Goal 2), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8) and partnership for the goals (Goal 17). Meanwhile, most of the countries of the region have made good progress towards goals such as no poverty (Goal 1) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9), yet some countries struggle to keep up with the regional pace. These examples underscore the importance of customizing strategies to address specific issues and recognizing that economic affluence or poverty alone does not guarantee success in attaining the SDGs.

The dashboard also clearly demonstrates persistent problems of data gaps across countries; in particular on gender equality (Goal 5) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). Chapter 3 of the report delves deeper into these data-related challenges.

Figure 2.1 ESCAP member States and associate members performance on the SDG indicators



Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway. Available at <https://data.unescap.org/>.

2.2 Transformation through data - examples from the region

In 2023, the United Nations has identified six transition areas aimed at expediting progress toward the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals; (1) food systems, (2) energy access and affordability, (3) digital connectivity, (4) education, (5) jobs and social protection, and (6) climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.⁵

This section features commendable practices in the Asia-Pacific region, highlighting the success in SDG implementation that can

result from improved utilization of data for well-informed decision-making and targeted interventions on some of these transition areas.

The case studies, presented by United Nations partners in the region, correspond to four of the six key transitions. They function as illuminating examples of good practice and strategies for achieving our objectives, offering insights into significant outcomes stemming from dedication to achieving the SDGs.

2.2.1 Digital and public infrastructure



Improving access to digital tools for youth and migrant workers is bridging the skills gap in Viet Nam

In Viet Nam, despite sustained economic growth, youth unemployment remains a pressing concern. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the national and youth unemployment rates peaked at 4 percent and 9 per cent respectively in the third quarter of 2021.⁶ This led policymakers to prioritize technical and vocational education and training (TVET) reform, and reskilling and upskilling programmes to boost labour productivity in the fourth industrial revolution.⁷

The National Scheme of Digital Transformation in TVET was launched in 2021. To improve the employability of Viet Nam's workforce and bolster the digital capabilities of the TVET system, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Viet Nam supported the Directorate of Vocational Education and Training under the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs in developing a free online learning platform.⁸

Since its launch, the platform has upskilled more than 15,100 users, including vocational students and migrant workers, and more than 30,000 certificates have been awarded for courses in digital skills, soft skills, job application and entrepreneurship.⁹ By the second quarter of 2023, the youth unemployment rate fell to 7.4 per cent.¹⁰ This successful collaboration between IOM, the Government and businesses supports the journey towards sustainable development in Viet Nam through digital transformation and migrant empowerment.

5 <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/Six%20Transitions%20English.pdf>

6 <https://molisa.gov.vn/Upload/ThiTruong/LMUQ32021-final.pdf>.

7 <https://vietnam.iom.int/en/news/iom-supports-viet-nam-enhance-national-skills-development-sustainable-future>.

8 <https://congdanso.edu.vn/>

9 Ibid.

10 <https://molisa.gov.vn/Upload/ThiTruong/Q22023-final.pdf>.



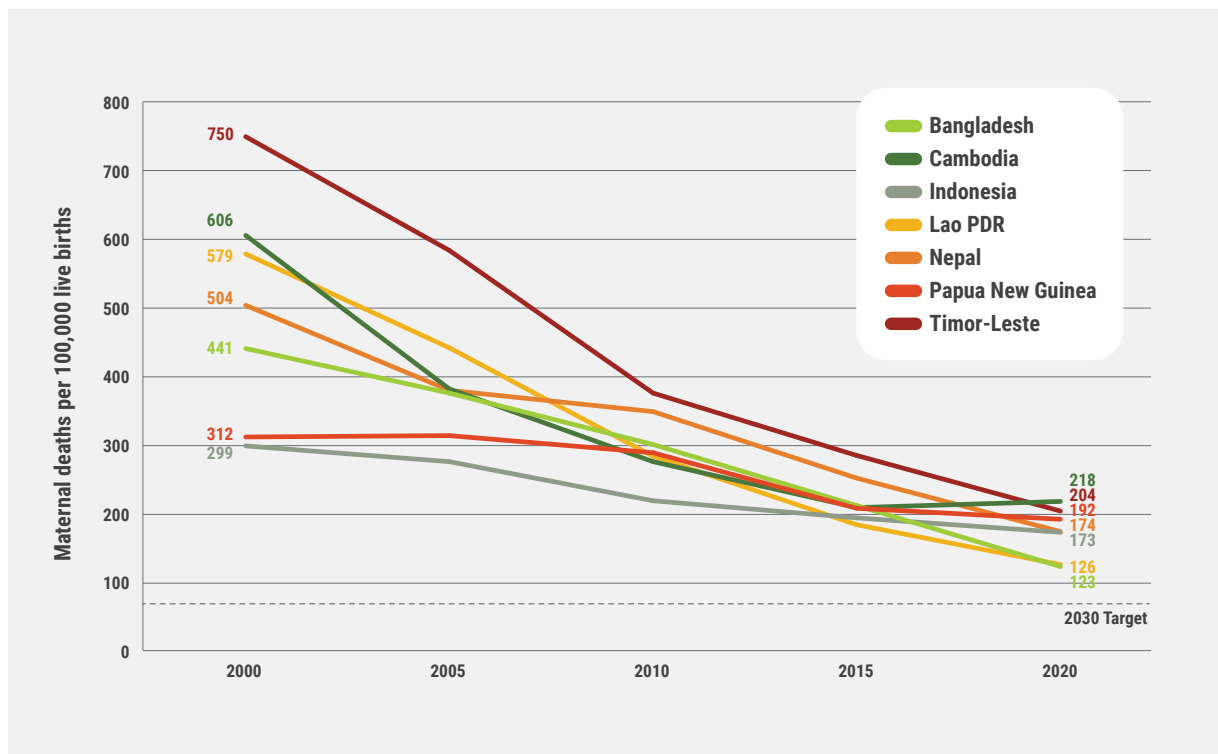
Reinforcing data systems is helping to prevent maternal and perinatal deaths in the Asia-Pacific region

In many Asia-Pacific countries, knowing how and why many women die in pregnancy

or childbirth is still a considerable challenge. Globally, only half of maternal deaths are notified in health management information systems¹¹ and this leaves a gap for estimating maternal mortality ratios (figure 2.2).

An analysis by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) of six countries of the region found that less than half of maternal deaths were recorded, and even fewer were reviewed to ensure that causes of death and contributing factors were identified and acted upon, to prevent recurrence.

Figure 2.2 Maternal mortality ratio trends using international estimates, selected Asia-Pacific countries



Source: Data provided by UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Office, October 2023.

11 F. Serbanescu, J. Monet, L. Whiting-Collins, A. Moran, J. Hsia and M. Brun, 2023, Maternal death surveillance efforts: notification and review coverage rates in 30 low-income and middle-income countries, 2015-2019. *BMJ Open*, vol. 13.

A key strategy, however, is available to improve the notification, review and response to maternal deaths: implementing a functioning maternal perinatal deaths surveillance and response (MPDSR) systems.¹² Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea worked

on improving MPDSR systems¹³ in 2023, with the support of UNFPA, focusing on training national MPDSR committees and master trainers from health facilities to analyse causes of maternal and perinatal deaths and implement response plans as part of major quality improvement and accountability efforts.



Better urban data is helping decision makers in Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines

The Degree of Urbanization (DEGURBA) project is a harmonized approach to define human settlements along the rural/urban continuum for statistical comparison of SDG indicators. It uses population size and density at varying thresholds to classify the entire territory of a country into:

- Cities
- Towns and semi-dense areas
- Rural areas

Using three classes instead of just urban and rural captures the urban/rural continuum.

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the European Commission and partners have launched a project to bolster the capacity of national governments to integrate DEGURBA into data management. This includes defining settlement systems, generating urban SDGs data based on DEGURBA, and documenting good practices. The project's first phase benefited 13 countries to enhance local data capacities, including three countries in the Asia-Pacific region:

- Nepal, through the National Statistics Office¹⁴
- The Philippines through the Philippine Statistics Authority¹⁵
- Indonesia through Statistics Indonesia

Through a capacity-building programme, participants from each country defined their territorial units using the DEGURBA classification (**figure 2.3**), collected data from sample of cities and improved coordination among agencies involved in urban data generation.

12 <https://who.int/teams/maternal-newborn-child-adolescent-health-and-ageing/maternal-health/maternal-and-perinatal-death-surveillance-and-response>

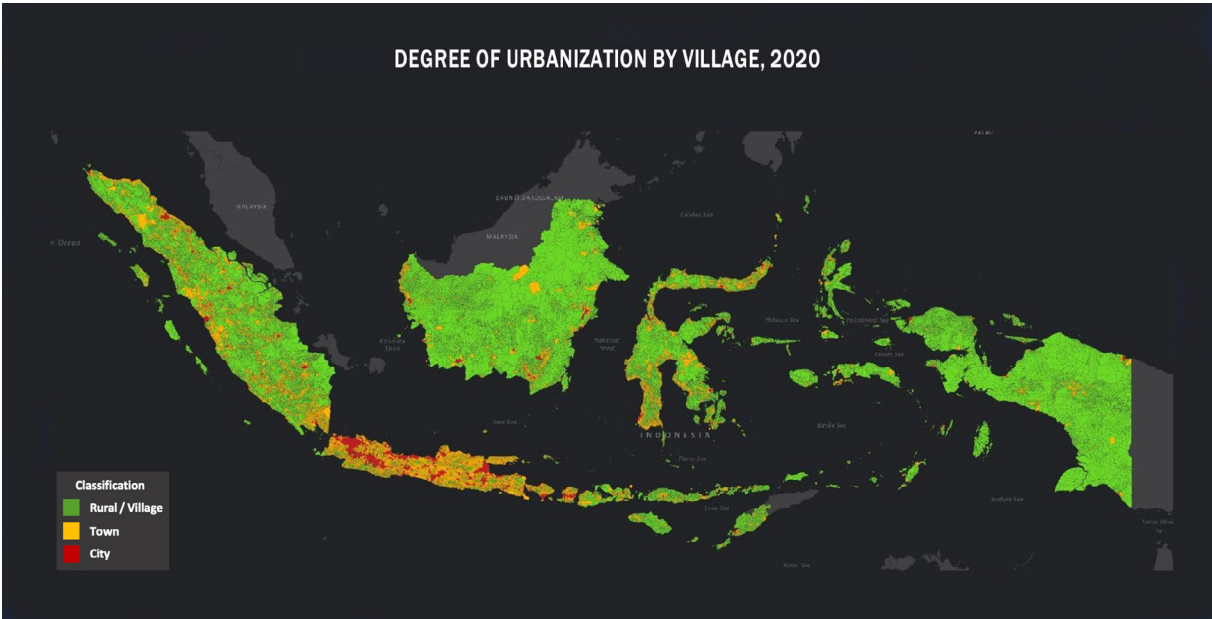
13 UNFPA, 2022, Counting What Matters. Available at: https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/unfpa.apro_mpdscr_2022_0.pdf.

14 <https://fukuoka.unhabitat.org/en/projects/4420/>.

15 <https://unhabitat.org/news/20-jul-2022/un-habitat-provides-philippines-with-training-to-help-comparable-data-production>.



Figure 2.3 Example of settlement classification results: Indonesia



Source: Statistics Indonesia 2023.

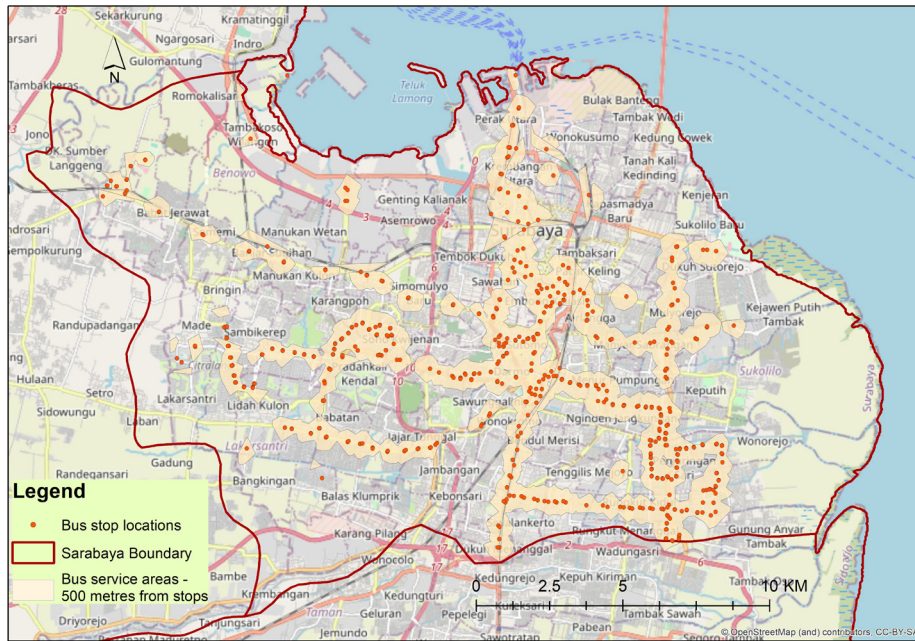
The countries also generated SDG data for sampled cities (table 2) and started data collection for others.

Table 2 The countries generated SDG data for sample cities

Country	Type of data	Indicators	Number of cities / urban centres
Indonesia	Non-spatial data	11.1.1, 1.4.1, 1.4.2	34
Indonesia	Spatial data	11.2.1, 11.3.1, 11.7.1	8
Nepal	Non-spatial data	11.1.1, 1.4.1, 1.4.2	66
Nepal	Spatial data	11.2.1, 11.3.1, 11.7.1	3
Philippines	Spatial data	11.2.1, 11.3.1, 11.7.1	8

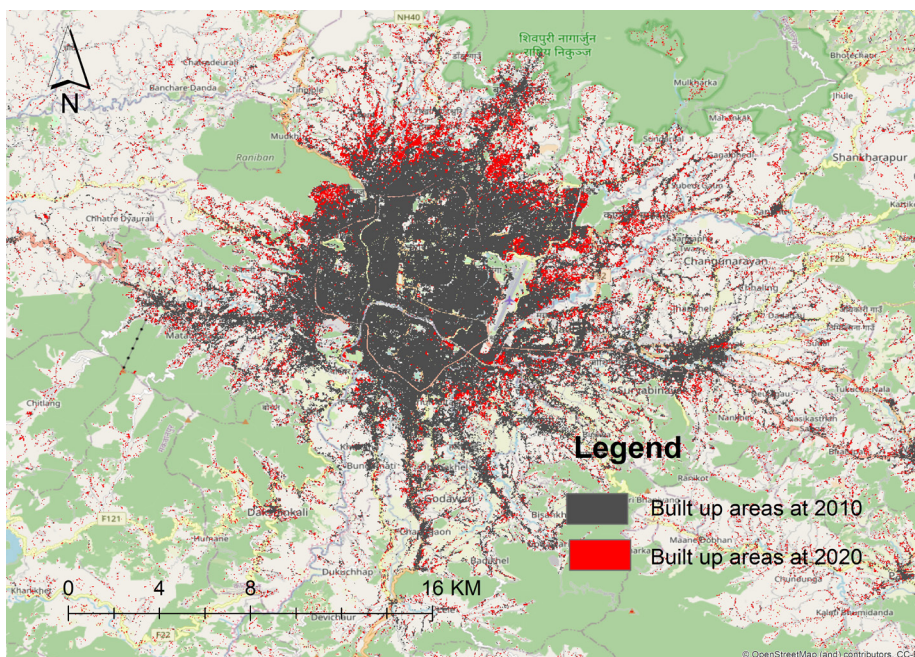
The data generated is useful not only for reporting SDG performance but also for helping decision makers to identify areas with poor access to services and for managing urban growth (figure 2.4 and figure 2.5).

Figure 2.4 Example of urban data generation for indicator 11.2.1, access to convenient public transport for Surabaya, Indonesia



Source: Statistics Indonesia, 2023

Figure 2.5 Example of urban data generation for indicator 11.3.1, sustainable urban expansion for Kathmandu, Nepal



Source: National Statistics Office Nepal, 2023.

The capacity-building in the three countries has empowered their national statistical offices to generate urban data for more cities, enhancing their understanding of urbanization dynamics.

The key outcomes from this capacity-building programme included improved coordination among local agencies in the generation and management of urban data, capacity development on indicator computation methodologies, and accelerated action to achieve the SDGs.

2.2.2 Education



Integrating Goal 4 indicators into government monitoring is strengthening education sector policies and programmes in Indonesia

To address the challenges to achieve Goal 4 in Indonesia, UNICEF collaborated with the Ministry of Education and Culture to

develop the SDG 4 Baseline Report followed by the SDG 4 Monitoring Report.

Based on these reports, the Government of Indonesia has included selected Goal 4 indicators in existing government data collection mechanisms. Moreover, the reports serve as a contribution to the monitoring and indicator frameworks of the Indonesian National Medium Term Development Plan and the Strategy for 2020–2024 of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology. The reports have served as inputs and key references for the Government in evaluating and strengthening relevant policies and programmes in the education sector that could support achievement of the Goal 4 targets by 2030.



Establishing national benchmarks for Goal 4 indicators is helping to address the accountability deficits linked to longer term targets in Asia-Pacific countries

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics (UIS), alongside UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report, initiated the

national benchmark establishment process through a series of national consultations and workshops.

Through the Education 2030 Framework for Action, outlining the Goal 4 road map, Governments were urged to set appropriate intermediate benchmarks (e.g. for 2020 and 2025) for the SDG indicators, which were deemed indispensable for addressing the accountability deficit linked to longer-term targets. In August 2019, the technical cooperation group responsible for monitoring Goal 4 endorsed a set of pivotal indicators for benchmarks ([table 3](#)). This endorsement stemmed from a comprehensive mapping of regional education monitoring frameworks¹⁶ and an exploration of the potential for benchmarking selected indicators.¹⁷

¹⁶ <https://tcg.uis.unesco.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2019/08/TCG6-REF-10-Regional-framework-for-SDGs.pdf>.

¹⁷ <https://tcg.uis.unesco.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2019/08/TCG6-REF-12-Benchmarking.pdf>.

Table 3 Goal 4 indicators selected for benchmarking

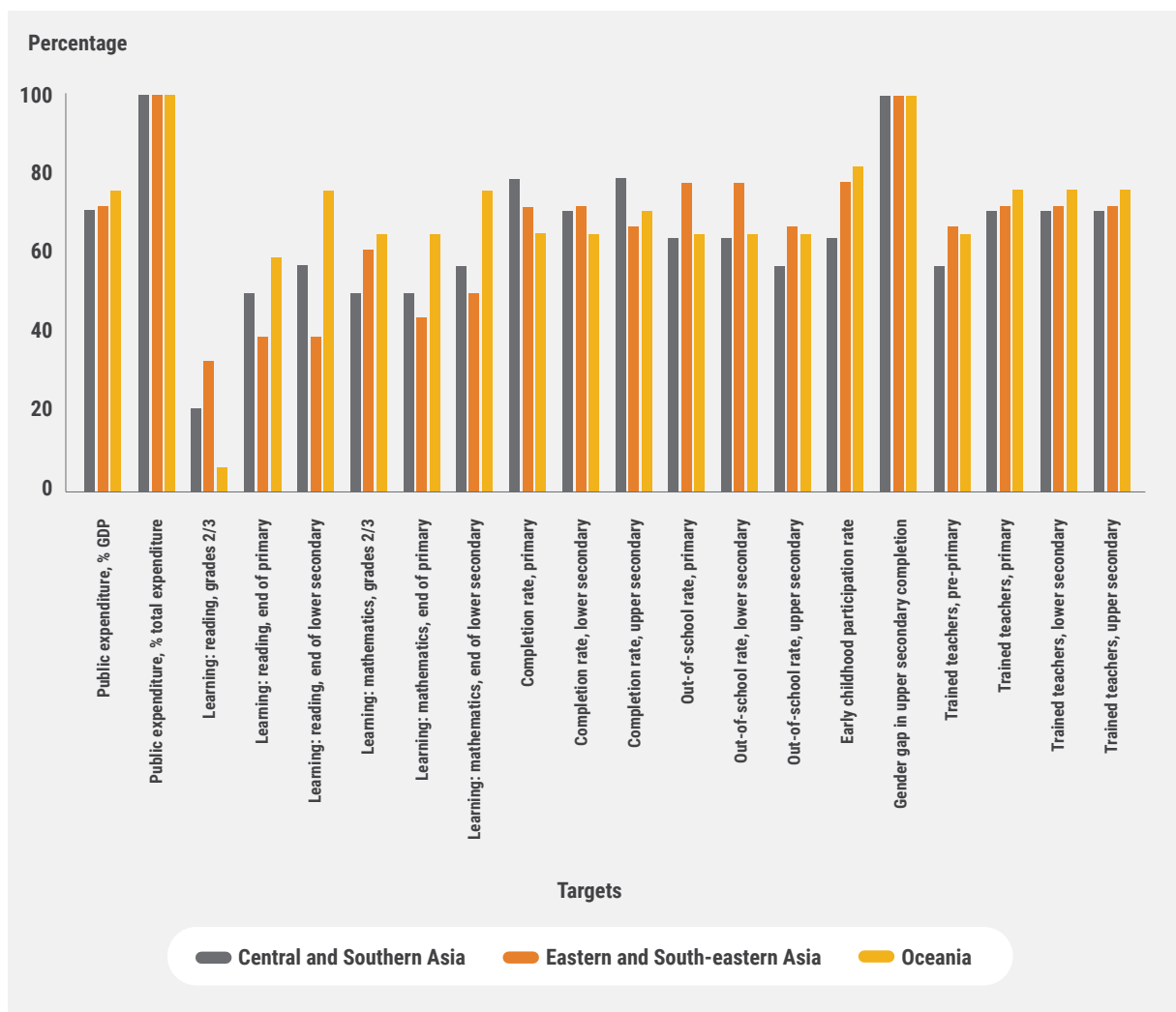
Indicator	Label	Monitoring Level
Learning proficiency: 4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex	Global
Completion: 4.1.2	Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education), by sex	Global
Out-of-school: 4.1.4	Out-of-school rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education), by sex	Thematic
Early childhood education: 4.2.2	Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex	Global
Gender disparity: 4.5.1	Gender disparities (in upper secondary completion)	Global
Trained teachers: 4.c.1	Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications, by education level	Global
Public education expenditure: 1.a.1	Proportion of total government spending on education as percentage of total government expenditure and as percentage of the gross domestic product	FFA benchmarks
Connectivity: 4.a.1	Proportion of schools with access to Internet for pedagogical purposes, by level	Global

In Asia and the Pacific, nearly 9 out of 10 countries have set benchmark values, but the extent of coverage varies across the indicators. Some, such as public expenditures as a percentage of total expenditure and the gender gap in upper

secondary completion rates, have universal coverage. However, the coverage of other indicators could be as low as 33 per cent ([figure 2.6](#)). On average, countries in the region have established national benchmarks for 13 out of 20 potential targets.



Figure 2.6 Percentage of countries by subregion with Goal 4 indicators benchmarked



Note: The figure uses UNESCO subregional designations.

Oceania: Australia; Cook Islands; Fiji; Kiribati; Marshall Islands; Micronesia (Federated States of); Nauru; New Zealand; Niue; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Tokelau; Tonga; Tuvalu and Vanuatu. **East and Southeastern Asia:** Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; China, Hong Kong SAR; China, Macao SAR; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Indonesia; Japan; the Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Mongolia; Myanmar; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Singapore; Thailand; Timor-Leste and Viet Nam. **Central and Southern Asia:** Afghanistan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; India; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Maldives; Nepal; Pakistan; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The national benchmark establishment process has revitalized momentum in the region for Goal 4, providing a foundation to connect education policies and data. It has achieved several key outcomes:

- Holding countries accountable for their commitments to the global education agenda
- Contextualizing progress monitoring to reflect each country's targets
- Aligning national, regional and global education agendas for coherence and understanding of diverse contexts
- Directing focus towards filling data gaps for key indicators
- Enhancing national planning processes, emphasizing the importance of setting targets in national plans
- Encouraging discussions on challenges and good practices, fostering mutual learning and offering evidence for policy reforms and collective initiatives

2.2.3 Jobs and social protection



Stronger policy push is leading to better child labour data in the Lao People's Democratic Republic

After continuous deliberations regarding child labour policy in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Government has made a significant commitment to address this critical issue by incorporating indicator 8.7.1 into its 2022 labour force survey.¹⁸ This indicator focuses on measuring the proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years who are engaged in child labour, classified by gender and age group.¹⁹ The policy push for this indicator can be seen in the current decent work agenda through the Decent Work Country Programme for the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2022–2026.



Strengthening informal employment statistics to guide policy action in Viet Nam

A theory of change²⁰ was recently launched by the National Advisory Taskforce on Formalization to guide policy and programme interventions on informal employment in Viet Nam. It includes sections on the statistical basis that underpins its development,

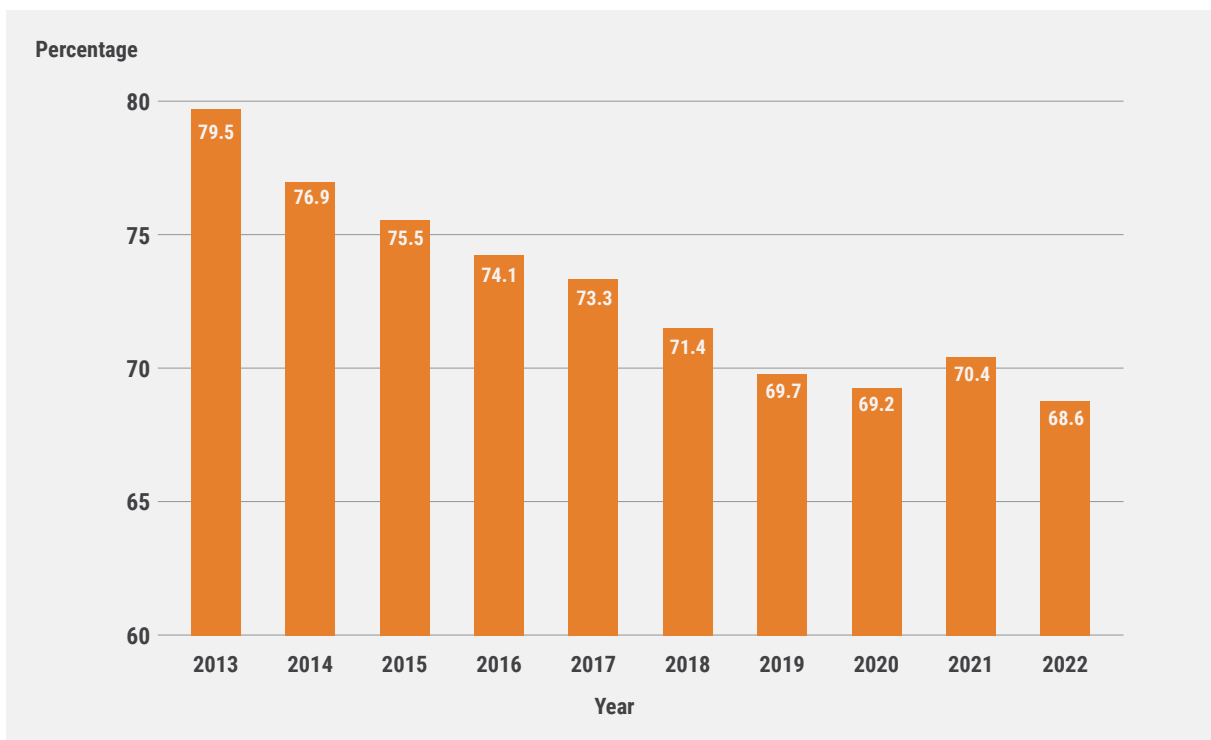
including indicator 8.3.1 on the proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex. This follows various discussions in the past 10 years both on improving the statistical measurement of informality and on the use of data on informal employment for policymaking, bringing on board policymakers (including the parliament) and workers' and employers' organizations.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has been working with constituents and stakeholders in Viet Nam to improve informal employment statistics since 2012, and the General Statistics Office of Viet Nam has been producing this indicator both quarterly and annually. The policy work on this topic may be driving the decline of informal employment in Viet Nam since 2013 (**figure 2.7**).

18 The report is available in Laotian at: <https://laosis.lsb.gov.la/> (tab or p. 3). A detailed report on child labour is forthcoming, marking a crucial step in understanding and combatting child labour in the country. A preliminary release of the labour force survey issued in January 2023 includes data on child labour, and is available (in Laotian only) at: <https://laosis.lsb.gov.la/> (tab or p. 5).

19 https://ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_mas/---program/documents/genericdocument/wcms_856980.pdf.

20 https://ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-hanoi/documents/publication/wcms_894657.pdf.

Figure 2.7 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, Viet Nam, 2013–2022

Source: ILOSTAT, Microdata processing of the labour force survey of Viet Nam, 2023.



Improving statistics on stateless people through census inclusion and capacity-building is helping decision makers in Central Asian countries

The #IBelong Campaign has advocated to end statelessness since 2014.²¹ As part of the campaign in Central Asia, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) supports governments to resolve the remaining caseload. More than 133,000 stateless people have acquired or confirmed nationality since 2014, and 37,000 persons are known to be stateless in

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan as of mid-2023.²²

In Central Asia, improved domestic legal frameworks for nationality and universal registration have reduced statelessness risk factors. New cases of statelessness are identified every year by UNHCR partners, however, until 2021 only Kyrgyzstan had conducted a mapping of statelessness. To improve statistics on statelessness, the population censuses of Kazakhstan (2021), Kyrgyzstan (2022) and Turkmenistan (2022) now include questions on stateless populations, thanks to the national statistical offices of each country with support from UNHCR and UNFPA. This required training officials and legal scholars from these three countries, which was provided with support from the UNHCR-World Bank Joint Data Centre on Forced Displacement. While this change has improved statistics on stateless populations, data and information sharing remains a challenge.

21 <https://unhcr.org/ibelong/>.

22 According to the criteria of the International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics. <https://egrisstats.org/recommendations/international-recommendations-on-statelessness-statistics-iross/>.

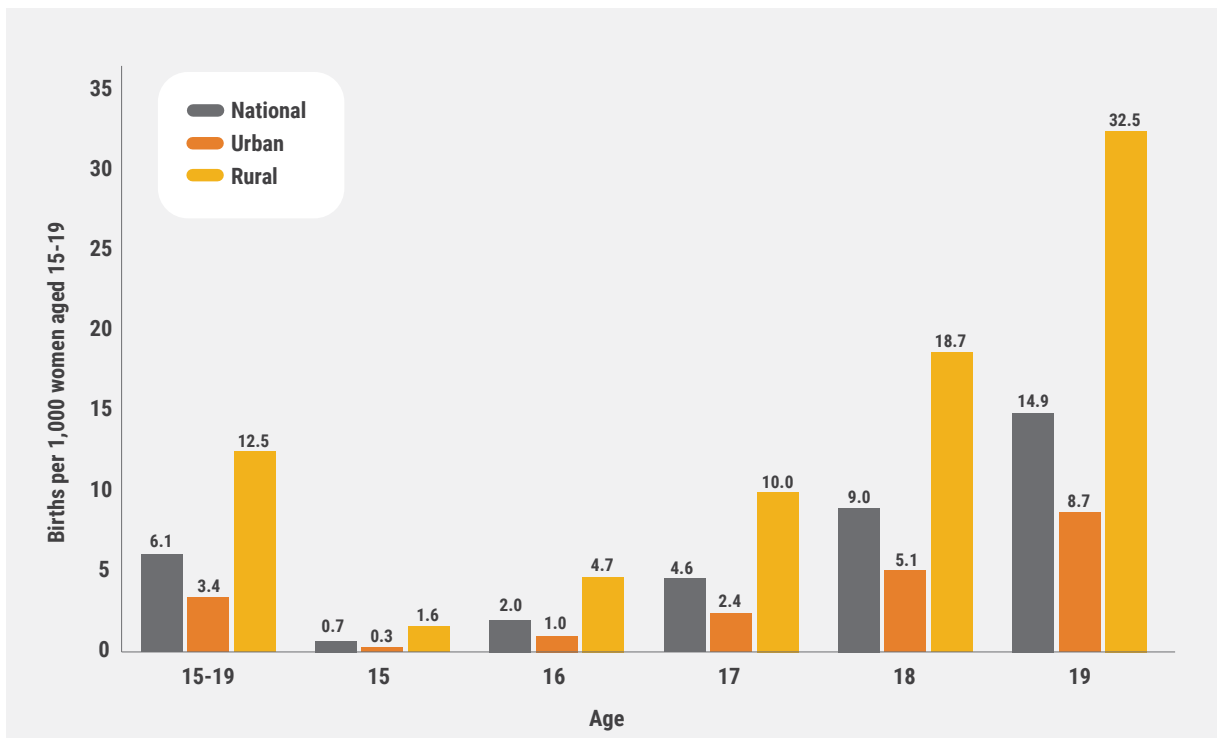


Child-focused analysis supports SDG reporting in China

China is experiencing major demographic changes with rapid urbanization, massive internal migration, prolonged low fertility rates and accelerated population ageing. Rural/urban disparity remains a key barrier for children to access equitable services, such as education, health and social protection. The 2020 Population Census of China, conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics, provides

a valuable opportunity for child-focused analysis and allows for disaggregated estimation of a few SDG indicators.²³ In particular, it provides accurate child population figures and helps to show where they are, who they are (by sex, age, ethnicity and migratory status) and the challenges they face. The analysis was conducted through a joint data project between the National Bureau of Statistics, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and UNFPA, with technical inputs from demographic experts.²⁴ The analysis makes data available for monitoring indicator 3.7.2 on adolescent birth (**figure 2.8**), indicator 4.1.2 on completion of education, indicator 4.2.2 on participation in organized learning, indicator 4.6.1 on youth literacy rate, indicator 5.3.1 on early marriage and indicator 16.9.1 on birth registration. In addition, it provides child-related statistics beyond the SDGs (**figure 2.9**).

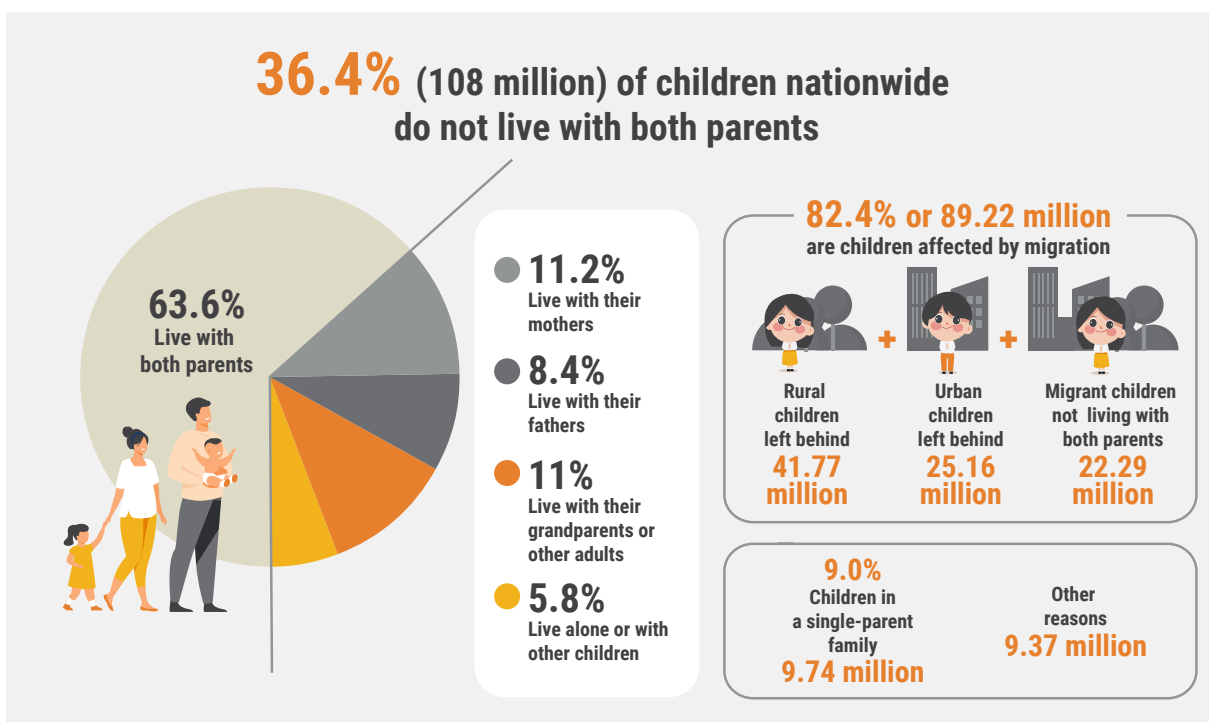
Figure 2.8 National, urban and rural adolescent fertility rates in China, by age, 2020



²³ https://china.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/chinas_population_census_experiences_and_innovations-final_0.pdf.

²⁴ <https://unicef.cn/en/reports/population-status-children-china-2020-census>.

Figure 2.9 Living arrangements of children in China, 2020



Better data is helping to address financial barriers for supporting children with disabilities in the Philippines

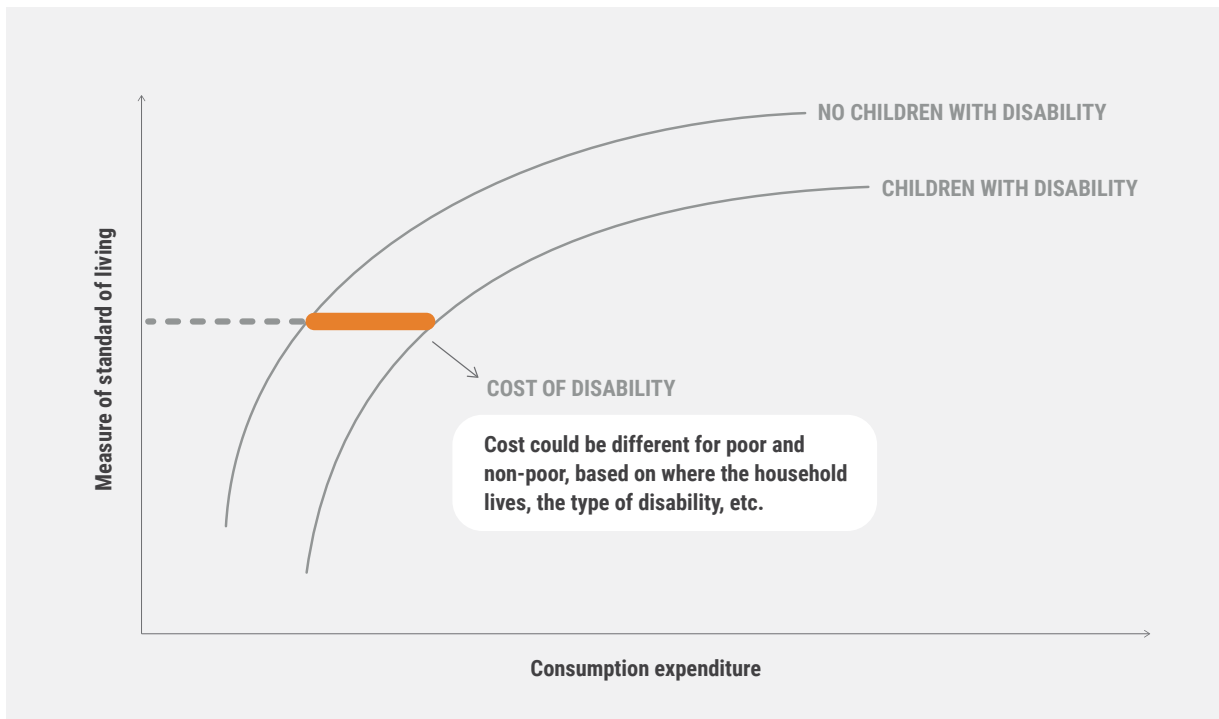
Measuring and capturing the additional costs associated with supporting children with disabilities together with its impacts to their poverty status are essential to accelerate policy action to achieve inclusive and increased social protection coverage. In 2022, the Philippines Department of Social Welfare and Development in collaboration with UNICEF

and the Government of Australia carried out one of the first studies to quantify the extra cost of raising children with disabilities (figure 2.10). The robust research study quantifies the additional costs using a standard of living approach, whereby expenditure levels of families with children with and without disabilities were compared in relation to different measures of living standards.²⁵

Findings from this study proposed an amount for the disability allowance based on the analysis. The Government of the Philippines has included, as a priority legislation, the provision of a disability allowance in its medium-term national development plan (Philippines Development Plan 2023–2028) and in its recently approved social protection floor to address the needs of persons with disabilities. A bill adopting the recommended 2,000 peso monthly disability allowance is currently before the Philippines Congress.

25 <https://unicef.org/philippines/reports/cost-raising-children-disabilities-philippines>.

Figure 2.10 Standard of living approach



Better evidence is accelerating child marriage prevention in Indonesia

In Indonesia more than 25 million girls and women married before reaching age 18.²⁶ In 2021, 9 per cent of women aged 20–24 years were married before age 18, and among marginalized groups this proportion is much higher. Evidence suggests women who married younger are more likely to experience violence. Since 2018, UNICEF has continuously implemented child marriage prevention programmes, which include sexual

and reproductive health and services, together with other United Nations agencies and the Government of Indonesia. This prevention intervention aligns with the Government's commitment to achieving target 5.3 on ending harmful practices for children, including child marriage. It also aligns with the National Strategy on Elimination of Child Marriage (2020) and the National Strategy for the Elimination of Violence against Children (2022).

The programme has contributed to reducing child marriage from 10.4 per cent in 2020 to 8.1 per cent in 2022, surpassing the 9.4 per cent target. These are promising improvements, and Indonesia is projected to lead the way towards the global target on child marriage elimination in the region. Nevertheless uncounted marriages and marriage dispensation due to pregnancy are concerning and need to be addressed through the lens of social behavioural change.²⁷

²⁶ <https://data.unicef.org/resources/is-an-end-to-child-marriage-within-reach/>

²⁷ <https://unicef.org/indonesia/media/18791/file/BERANIBooklet-BERANIEmpoweringLives.pdf>.

2.2.4 Biodiversity and nature

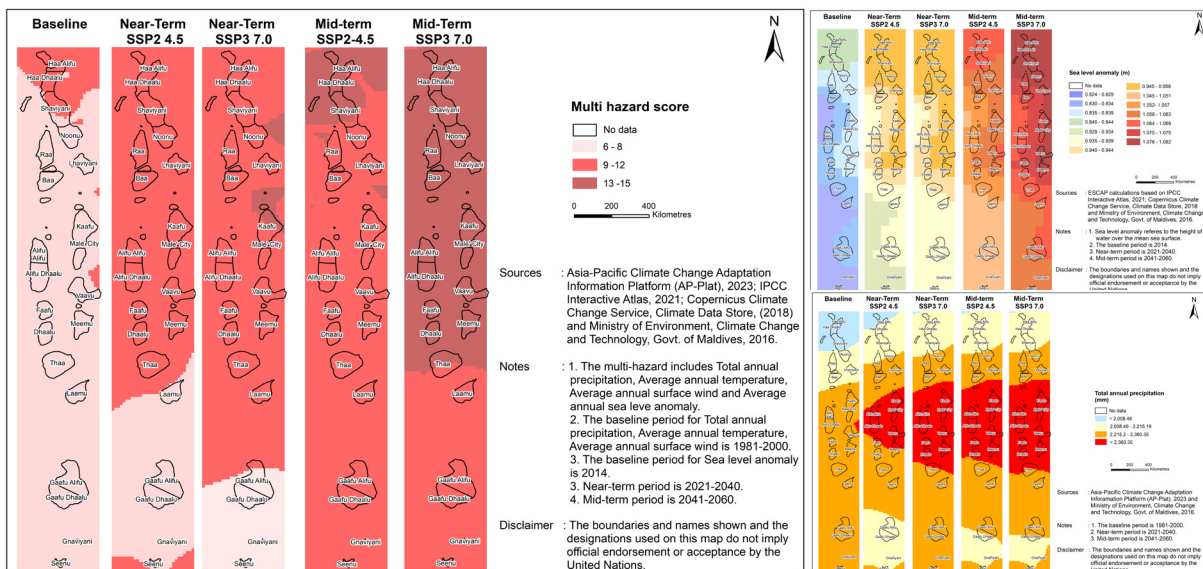


Conserving coastal biodiversity is key to SDG acceleration and resilience to slow onset disasters in Maldives

Small island nations such as Maldives are increasingly vulnerable to climate change,

including rising temperatures, altered precipitation patterns, sea level rise and more frequent storm surges and tropical cyclones.²⁸ According to the latest data from the Sixth Assessment Report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, these trends will likely persist. Subnationally, the northern and the central atolls of Maldives face greater multi-hazard risks, including flooding, drought, sea level rise and cyclones, compared to the southern atolls in the business-as-usual climate scenario (SSP2 4.5). **Figure 2.11** illustrates that these risks will intensify further under higher emission scenarios (SSP3 7.0).

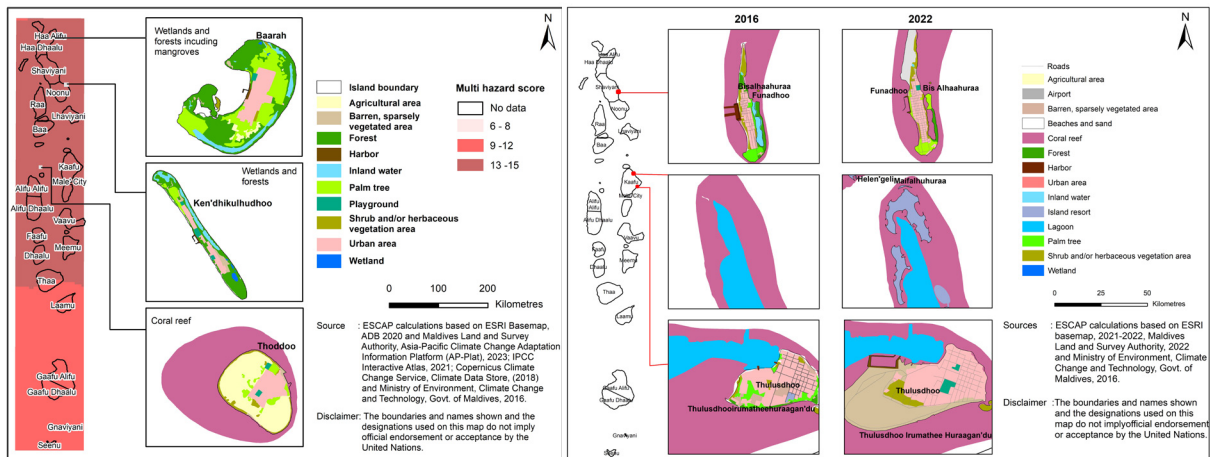
Figure 2.11 Multi-hazard, flood and sea level rise risks under different climate scenarios for near term and mid term



The marine and coastal biodiversity of Maldives, including mangroves, wetlands and 5 per cent of the world's reef, can mitigate climate challenges by safeguarding against sea-level rise, coastal flooding, erosion and wave impacts while supporting biodiversity.²⁹

However, these natural protections are threatened by exploitative uses (figure 2.12). Conserving these safeguards across the atolls is crucial, especially in high-risk hotspots, to mitigate future climate-related extreme events.

Figure 2.12 Existing biodiversity in Maldives relevant to climate related disaster risk reduction (left) and land reclamation from coral reef area (right)



Source: ESCAP.

Integrating policies to safeguard coastal biodiversity offers a powerful means to combat the threats posed by climate change and natural hazards while propelling advancements towards several SDGs. The holistic approach, which combines climate change adaptation, mitigation and biodiversity conservation, serves as a transformative strategy with ripple effects that positively influence a variety of goals.³⁰

In Maldives, conserving coastal biodiversity can contribute to protecting gains and accelerating the progress of clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), reduced inequalities (Goal 10), climate action (Goal 13), life below water (Goal 14) and life on land (Goal 15), but also reinforces the national commitment to sustainable development in the face of environmental challenges.

29 N. Himli, R. Basu, M. Crisóstomo, L. Lebleu, J. Claudet and D. Seveso, 2023, The pressures and opportunities for coral reef preservation and restoration in Maldives. *Frontiers in Environmental Economics*, vol. 2, 17 March.

30 <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/Six%20Transitions%20English.pdf>.





Data is informing environmental decisions in the Pacific

The Pacific small island developing States (SIDS) are vulnerable to climate change. Collectively, they have less than a 0.02 per cent share of global greenhouse gas emissions, yet Pacific SIDS are at the frontline of challenges to achieving SDGs. The growing challenges they face have elevated the urgency for the Pacific SIDS to adapt and ensure climate-resilient development planning through evidence-based decision-making.³¹

In 2017–2022, the 14 Pacific SIDS³² developed robust national environmental portals, a significant achievement of a partnership project of the United Nations Environment Programme, South Pacific Regional Environment Programme and Global Environment Fund. The process strengthened the capacities of the 14 States on data production processes, creation of national

repositories and standards that have been integrated into line ministries workflows, leading to enhanced availability of data for informed decision-making.

Concrete examples of informed environmental decisions include:

- Provision of baseline for monitoring progress on policies and SDGs for the Department of Environment and stakeholders in Tuvalu
- Facilitation of the Vanuatu Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation on decision-making to regulate single-use plastics, the first such legislation in the Pacific
- Enhanced management and conservation of protected areas in Tonga, by enabling practitioners to use spatial data to produce maps of protected areas with standard features³³
- Provision of data for the development of the Samoa National Environment Sector Plan 2022–2027, linking to the national planning framework³⁴
- Development of the Marshall Islands national data sharing policy and standard operating procedures for data management by the Ministry of Environment and endorsed by the cabinet³⁵

31 <https://sprep.org/news/knowledge-sharing-unveiling-remarkable-achievements-valuable-lessons-and-opportunities-for-the-inform-project>.

32 Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

33 <https://sprep.org/news/training-enhances-skills-of-tongan-protected-area-practitioners>.

34 <https://sprep.org/news/improving-data-collection-and-management-for-informed-decision-making-in-the-pacific-through-the-inform-project>.

35 <https://sprep.org/news/informed-impact-in-pacific-with-accessible-environmental-data>.

A close-up photograph of a woman and a young child. The woman, on the left, has dark hair and is smiling warmly at the child. The child, on the right, has dark hair and rosy cheeks, also smiling. They are outdoors, with a blurred background of greenery and a building. A large, semi-transparent number '3' is overlaid on the left side of the image, partially covering the woman's face.

3 SDG data availability

On average, 52 per cent of indicators have two or more data points across the Asia-Pacific region, and more than a third of the indicators have no data whatsoever. Despite a positive trajectory for data availability over time, the pace of progress has slowed. Gender equality (Goal 5) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) continued to be the goals with the least available data, while good health and wellbeing (Goal 3), affordable and clean

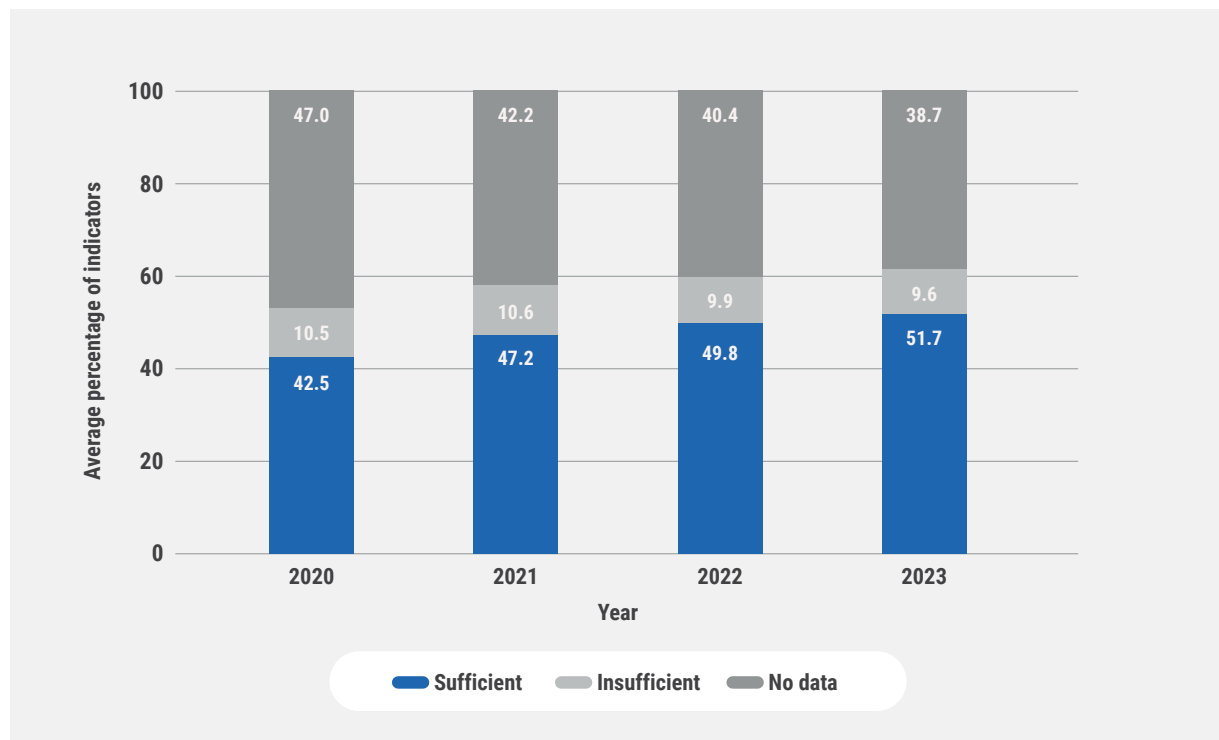
energy (Goal 7), and life on land (Goal 15) registered higher data availability with coverage reaching more than 70 per cent of SDG indicators. Countries in the region have shown commitment to evidence-based SDG implementation through the voluntary national review process and many data initiatives showcased in this chapter. Improved national and global coordination for data sharing and use remains a priority to achieve the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific.

3.1 Unveiling progress: trends in SDG data availability across the Asia-Pacific region

A substantial challenge in the assessment of progress towards the SDGs is the lack of sufficient trend data, revealing that out of the 231 SDG indicators, only 133 possess sufficient data to assess regional progress. The unavailability of data remains a significant

impediment to implementing the 2030 Agenda. Across the ESCAP member States and associate members, on average, only 52 per cent of the indicators have two or more data points (**figure 3.1**), while more than a third of the indicators lack data altogether.

Figure 3.1 Data insufficiency affects nearly half of SDG indicators in the Asia-Pacific region



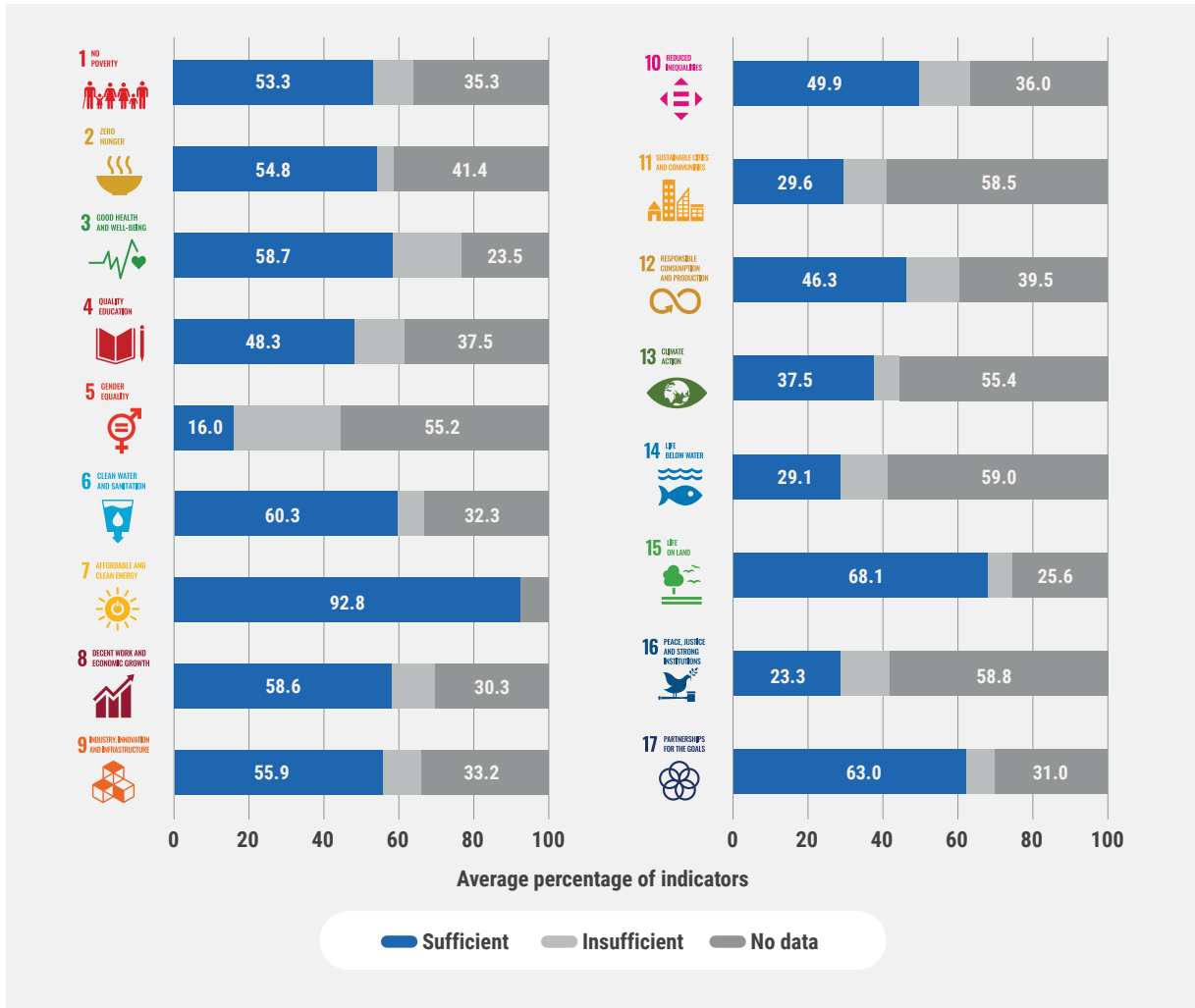
Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, Data Availability. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.



Despite a positive trajectory indicating an increase in data availability, the pace of improvement has decelerated. Notably, gender equality (Goal 5) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) continued

to have the least available data. Conversely, goals such as good health and well-being (Goal 3), affordable and clean energy (Goal 7) and life on land (Goal 15) registered SDG data availability of 70 per cent or more (figure 3.2)

Figure 3.2 Disparate data availability across goals in the Asia-Pacific region



Source: ESCAP Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, Data Availability. Available at <https://data.unescap.org>.

The situation for individual member States based on the availability of data on the Global SDG database shows a significant disparity

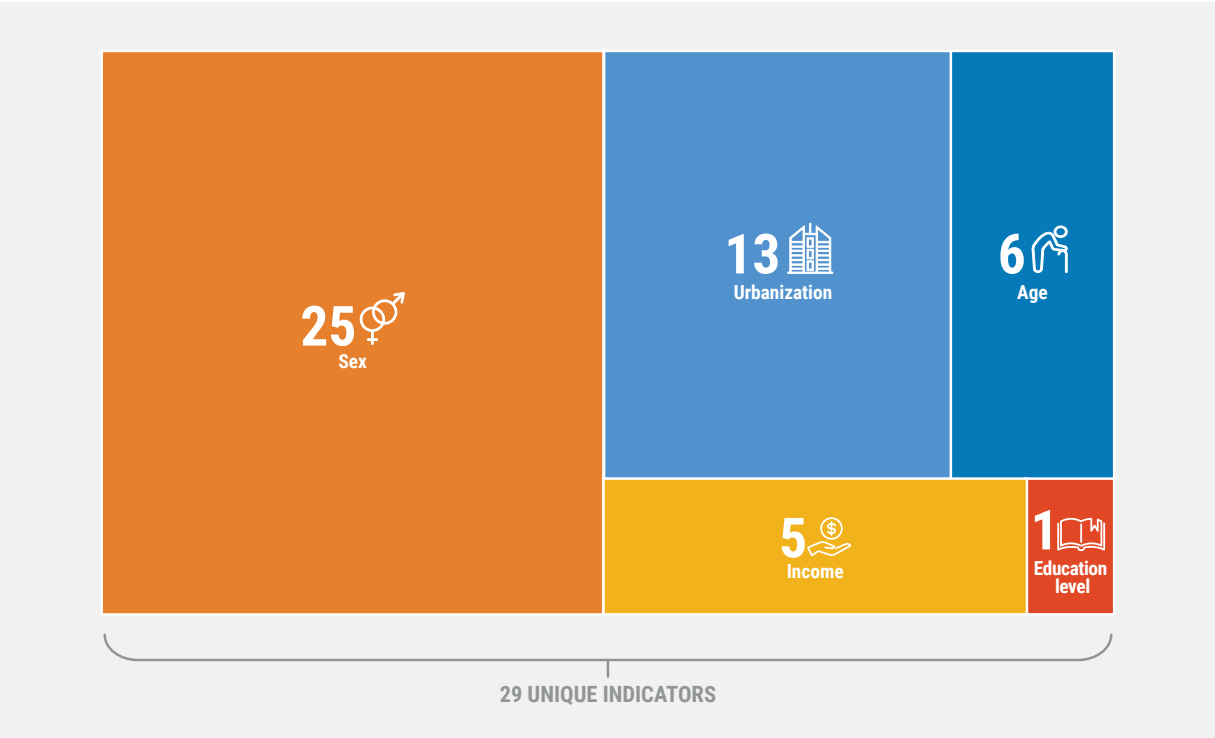
across countries and regions, with South-East Asia leading the way and most of the Pacific lagging behind the region (Annex 3).

3.1.1 Unravelling complexity: understanding SDG data through disaggregation

While progress is being made towards some SDGs in some areas and for some groups, progress is unevenly distributed. Policymakers must consider these differences and should devise more inclusive strategies. The disaggregation of data for SDG indicators is crucial for achieving the objective of the 2030 Agenda, to leave no one behind. The recommended eight dimensions of disaggregation – sex, urbanization, age, income,

education level, geography, disability and population groups provide a balanced lens to analyse and interpret the indicators associated with the SDGs. However, for Asia-Pacific countries, disaggregated statistics are available only by 5 dimensions (sex, age, urbanization, income and education level) for 29 out of the 231 indicators. **Figure 3.3** sets out the data availability for each disaggregation dimension.

Figure 3.3 Breaking down data across five dimensions with sufficient data for the progress assessment



3.2 National commitments to use SDG indicators

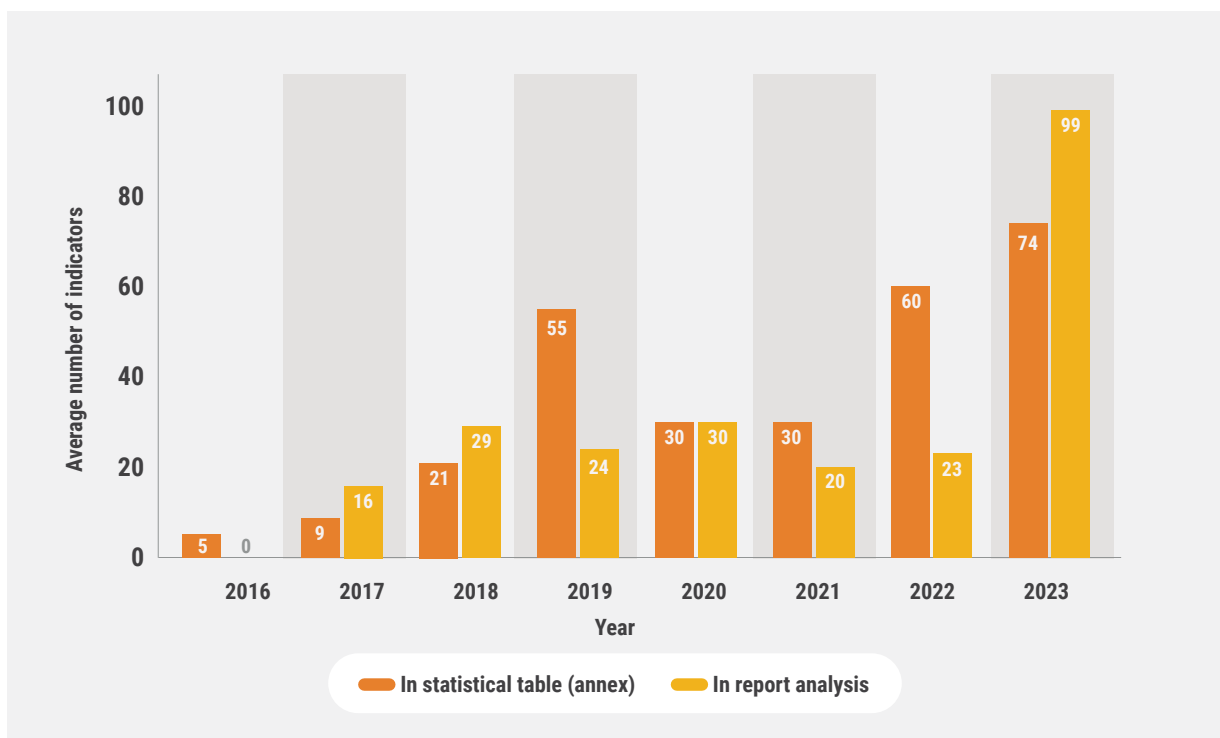
The voluntary national review process provides an opportunity for countries to take stock of progress in SDG implementation, share experiences and strengthen policies for accelerating SDG achievement. They are also a platform for countries to demonstrate their commitment to evidence-based implementation of the SDGs. The process is an excellent window of opportunity to raise awareness on the lack of SDG data, advocate for more effective use of statistics in SDGs implementation and mobilise political support for investing in the development of national statistical systems.

An assessment of more than 70 voluntary national review reports presented by Asia-Pacific countries since 2016 shows an increasing trend in using SDG indicators, with a sharp increase in 2023 when, on average, nearly 100 SDG indicators were used by Asia-

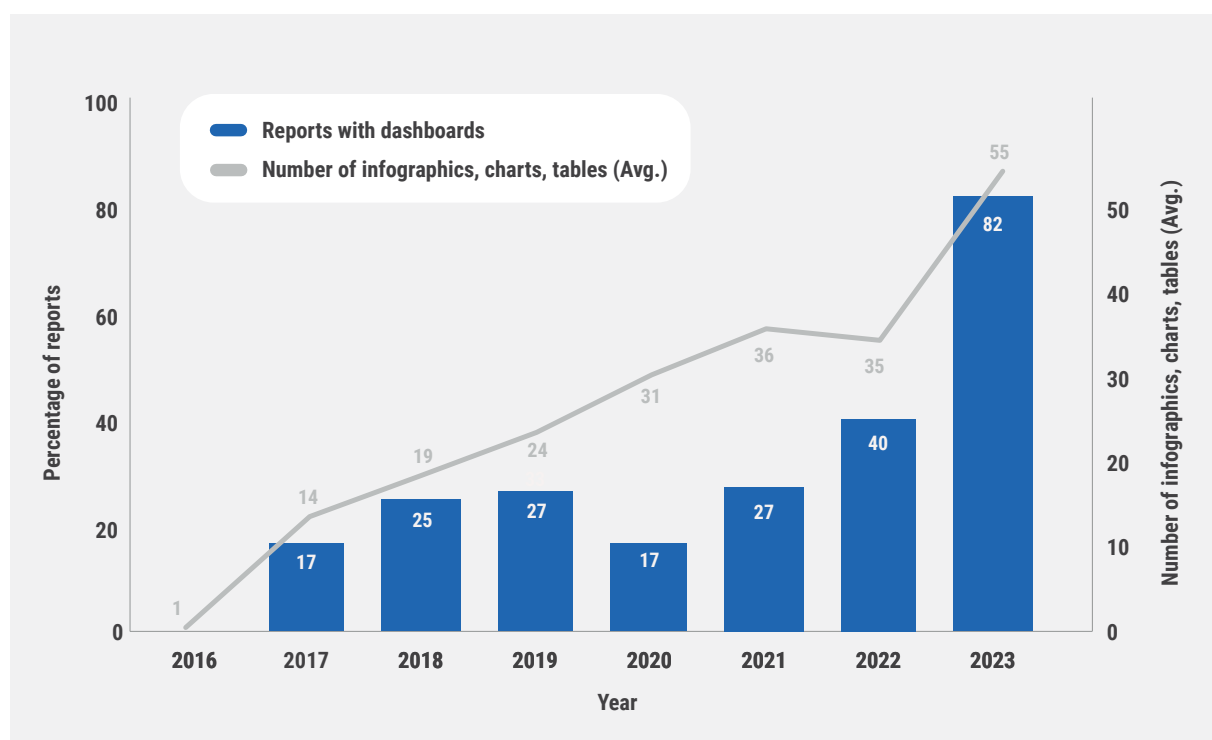
Pacific countries in preparing their reports (figure 3.4). Despite an upward trend in inclusion of indicators in a statistical annex, the average indicator uptake had remained not more than 30 until 2022. The 2023 findings highlight a remarkable commitment by Asia-Pacific countries to evidence-based SDG reporting, including implementation of the National SDG Tracker³⁶ (figure 3.5). Nearly half of the Asia-Pacific countries presenting their voluntary national review in 2023 (Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam) adopted a harmonized approach in using SDG indicators relevant to their country to develop a progress dashboard.

Despite these strides, filling the remaining gaps in SDG data requires enhancing coordination for effective data sharing and use within countries and with international partners.

Figure 3.4 Increased use of SDG indicators in voluntary national reviews, 2016–2023



36 <https://data.unescap.org/stories/national-sdg-tracker>.

Figure 3.5 Use of progress dashboard and infographics in voluntary national review reports

Showcasing good national practices for filling SDG data gaps

Indicator 5.2.1: Proportion of women subject to intimate partner violence and indicator 5.2.2: proportion of women subject to sexual violence by a non-partner

Goal 5 to achieve gender equality is one of the weakest global goals when it comes to data availability. However, there is one Goal 5 target where the Asia-Pacific region has been leading on filling data gaps.

Target 5.2 responds to one of the main causes and consequences of gender inequality – violence against women. Evidence consistently shows that very few women report their experiences to authorities, so administrative data from police, health systems, shelters and hotlines only reflect the tip of the iceberg. While there are many forms of gender-based violence and harmful practices, two prevalent, stigmatized and highly underreported forms are priorities for measurement to track the SDGs: (1) intimate partner violence (physical, sexual or psychological) and (2) sexual violence by others (anyone other than a current or former intimate partner). Each requires different policies and strategies for action.

In 2016, the UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Office launched the kNOwVAWdata initiative³⁷ in partnership with the Government of Australia to support countries to build the technical capacity needed to safely conduct surveys on these forms of violence. Now in its eighth year, the initiative includes a comprehensive training course delivered by the University of Melbourne and Australia's National Research Organisation for Women Safety (ANROWS) that has reached more than 200 people and supports a growing community of practice and the provision of technical support.

As a result of national commitments to measure violence against women and the support of the kNOwVAWdata initiative, 27 of the 36 countries UNFPA works in across Asia and the Pacific have at least one data point for indicator 5.2.1, and 20 have data for indicator 5.2.2. Disaggregated data are providing much

37 <https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/knowvawdata>.

needed evidence for action, informing legislation and policies as well as response and prevention efforts.

Statistics on the proportion of women who experience intimate partner violence (indicator 5.2.1) or sexual violence (indicator 5.2.2) can only be produced through population-based

surveys.³⁸ Such surveys on the prevalence of violence against women are conducted infrequently, every 5–10 years. Although there may be only one or two data points per country during the SDG period, the data from these surveys provides rich and vital evidence that remains relevant and usable for a long time.

Indicator 8.7.1: Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age, Viet Nam

The Government of Viet Nam is firmly committed to achieving target 8.7, exemplified by its decision to volunteer to lead as a pathfinder for Alliance 8.7 and include indicator 8.7.1 in the Viet Nam Sustainable Development Statistical Indicators. Through the Sustainable Development Statistical Indicators, Viet Nam is among the world's pioneering nations that have established a comprehensive SDG monitoring system, adhering to the core principle of leaving no one behind.

The collection and measurement of data for this indicator have been meticulously developed and validated through two national child labour surveys.³⁹ These surveys have not only filled critical data gaps but have also provided robust evidence base for policy formulation and the design of effective interventions to prevent and reduce child labour. The Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs and the General Statistics Office of Viet Nam jointly conducted the data collection and measurement of indicator 8.7.1 with technical assistance from ILO.⁴⁰

Indicator 10.7.1: Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of monthly income earned in country of destination, Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam

The Corporate Responsibility in Eliminating Slavery and Trafficking (CREST) initiative of IOM supports data collection on indicator 10.7.1 and improves transparency of recruitment fees and related costs, by conducting interviews and surveys with migrant workers as part of labour migration process mappings. Publications such as the *Labour Migration Process Mapping Guide* and *Migrant Worker Guidelines for Employers* follow a migrant-centred approach and build on the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. They provide practical guidance on how to recruit and employ international migrant workers ethically

and responsibly, offering the tools to labour migration stakeholders to support evidence collection for indicator 10.7.1.

Through the CREST initiative, IOM raises awareness on the importance of ethical recruitment and responsible employment in the Asia-Pacific region, as well. For instance, the IOM report *Accelerating Access to Remedy* encourages advocacy and implementation of regulations on migrant protection, including grievance mechanisms and access to justice in South-East Asia. In another report focusing on the specific case of Malaysia, IOM conducted qualitative interviews⁴¹ with

38 kNOWVAWdata's sustainable capacity-building approach, drawing on local expertise, is proving so effective that UNFPA is now working with partners to roll it out in other regions. Global SDG databases are not always a direct reflection of data availability at the national level. When it comes to target 5.2, sustained commitment to ending violence against women is narrowing data gaps for Goal 5.

39 https://ilo.org/hanoi/Whatwedo/Publications/WCMS_764357/lang--en/index.htm

40 Data for indicator 8.7.1 will be collected through the labour force survey of Viet Nam on a periodic basis to continue the reporting of the indicator.

41 https://ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms_866858.pdf.

the palm oil industry's migrant workers to highlight labour migration realities in the country. While the report does not focus on official data collection on the indicator 10.7.1 per se, it complements the existing data gaps on the indicator by revealing that migrant workers pay recruitment fees that exceed the legal limit. In particular, the study found that Bangladeshi migrant workers pay the highest recruitment fees and related costs (\$3,089), which require 11 months of minimum wage earnings to repay.

Indicator 10.7.1 was integrated into the Viet Nam labour force survey in 2019 as a pilot process, and in 2021 as official data, with technical assistance from ILO. Results of the surveys were published in 2020 and 2022.⁴² This is the first time the General Statistics Office released a study on Vietnamese workers abroad. The surveys contributed to both the finalization phase of methodologies and tools for indicator 10.7.1, as well as yielding valuable on-the-ground insights on the recruitment of Vietnamese to work abroad. These findings were instrumental in shedding light on possible differences between existing policies protecting migrant workers and the reality that these migrants still face. The 2022 report

results showed that, on average, Vietnamese workers abroad paid the equivalent of 7.4 months of their salary to cover the recruitment fees and related costs to have their job abroad in the first place.

As part of the existing policy push to improve migration statistics, particularly on Indonesians working abroad, Statistics Indonesia (BPS) is currently implementing a round of pilot measurements of indicator 10.7.1, through short modules integrated to the country's labour force survey (SAKERNAS). An example of such a module (in Bahasa Indonesia) can be found in the February 2023 labour force survey questionnaire.⁴³

The Philippine Labour and Employment Plan 2023–2028 includes strategies on strengthening data collection (including data disaggregation from a unified database) on the beneficiaries of social protection programmes, and strengthening monitoring mechanisms, including harmonizing data for effective planning and implementation of social protection policies and programmes. This includes collecting data on indigenous peoples, the informal sector and older people.

42 <https://bps.go.id/publication/2023/06/09/cbaa2fdb7c4cff252995d6ab/statistik-pendapatan-februari-2023.html>.

43 <https://roasiapacific.iom.int/resources/cost-hope-stories-migrant-workers-palm-oil-plantations-malaysia>



Advancing SIDS monitoring and evaluation framework in the Pacific

The SAMOA Pathway analysis, incorporating 109 indicators from various global frameworks*, highlights the importance of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation structure. The analysis covers progress against all 30 priority action clusters of the SAMOA Pathway.

An assessment by ESCAP using 93 SDG indicators reveals data gaps in 15 indicators and insufficient data in 27 indicators in the Pacific SIDS, posing

a challenge for progress assessment and planning.

National strategies in climate change mitigation and adaptation have improved data collection and analysis, leveraging tools such as the Risk and Resilience Portal and the National Expert SDG Tool for Energy Planning (NEXSTEP). These initiatives aid informed decision-making in countries such as Fiji, Kiribati and Tonga toward Goal 7 and emission reduction targets.

* Sustainable Development Goals, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.



Annexes

Annex 1: Technical notes - methodology to measure progress

The Asia-Pacific SDG progress assessment is based on the global indicator framework for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2017 and further refined in subsequent years. Data used in this analysis are sourced from the Global SDG Indicators Database maintained by Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. When sufficient data on a defined SDG indicator are not available, additional indicators from internationally recognized sources were

used. The indicators are available on the ESCAP SDG Gateway Data Explorer⁴⁴ along with the information on country groupings and definitions.⁴⁵ Average values of indicators at the regional and subregional levels are used instead of weighted aggregates to avoid bias towards bigger countries or economies.

This section provides basic information on the methods used for SDG progress assessment. More resources are available on Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway.⁴⁶

Selection of indicators

Indicators are selected based on two criteria:

- Availability of two or more data points for more than 50 per cent of the countries in the corresponding region or country group;
- Ability to set a quantitative target value.

If any indicator fails to fulfil any of these criteria, it is excluded from the analysis. The list of indicators with respective target values is published in **Annex 2** of this report.

44 <https://dataexplorer.unescap.org/>.

45 <https://data.unescap.org/stories/escap-database>.

46 <https://data.unescap.org/resource-guides/progress-assessment-methodology>

Measures for tracking progress

Two principal measures are used to assess progress towards the SDGs: Current Status Index and Anticipated Progress Index. The indices answer two different questions:

1. Current Status Index: How much progress has been made since 2015?
2. Anticipated Progress Index: How likely will the targets be achieved by 2030?

The Anticipated Progress Index measures the gap between predicted value of the indicator and the specified target value. Both indices are constructed at the level of sub-indicator (a series, disaggregation, or subcomponent of an indicator) and can be aggregated at indicator, target and goal levels as desirable. In this analysis, the Current Status Index is presented at the goal level (snapshot) and Anticipated Progress Index at the target level (dashboard). Both indices are presented at the indicator level on the Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway.

In an ideal situation, the Current Status Index would provide a robust measure comparable across all 17 goals. However, given the limited data availability under some goals and the assessment is sensitive to the addition of new indicators, the results must be interpreted with caution. The number of indicators and the availability of data have substantially increased since the Report's previous edition, thus the results should not be compared with those of previous years.

Current Status Index

Given a specified SDG target value (TV) for each indicator (I), the values for the current year (I_{cv}) and the year 2015 (I_0) can be used to measure the progress made since 2015, in relation to the progress needed to reach the SDG target by 2030 (represented by the blue bar in [figure 1.2](#). Snapshot of SDG progress in Asia and the Pacific).

By setting the normalized values of the index to 0 and 10 for no progress and full achievement, respectively, the current status index is calculated as:

Denoting indicator values for 2015 and the current year by I_0 and I_{cv} and the target value for 2030 by TV , and setting the normalized values of the index 0 and 10 for no progress and full achievement, respectively, the current status index is calculated as:

$$CS = \frac{I_{cv} - I_0}{|TV - I_0|} \times D$$

in which

$$D = \begin{cases} 10 & \text{increasing is desirable} \\ -10 & \text{decreasing is desirable} \end{cases}$$

when a desirable direction (increase or decrease) is clear.

For parity indicators, the value is:

$$CS = 10 - \frac{|TV - I_{cv}|}{|TV - I_0|} \times 10$$

If the region (or country group) has progressed since 2015, the average overall normalized values under each goal provide an index between 0 and 10. But if the region has regressed, the value is negative and indicates the size of regression.

If the current value for an indicator has already reached or exceeded the target value, the Current Status Index does not need to be calculated and is automatically set to 10.

Anticipated Progress (AP) Index

This index compares predicted (anticipated) progress with targeted progress. By predicting the indicator value for the target year and benchmarking the predicted value against the target value, the index provides a measure of how much progress towards the target will still be required by the end of the target year (2030), assuming the pace of progress is sustained. Denoting the predicted value of indicator for the target year by I_t , the anticipated progress index can be computed by replacing I_{cv} with I_t in formulas in previous section.

The Anticipated Progress Index is only calculated for indicators that are not expected to achieve the target. When the predicted value has already reached or exceeded the target or is expected to reach the target by 2030, the indicator is automatically classified as “will be achieved”.

Based on expected progress, indicators are classified into three predefined achievement levels:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} AP > 9 \text{ (will meet the target with current rate or minor extra effort)} \\ 0 < AP \leq 9 \text{ (need to accelerate the current rate of progress to achieve the target)} \\ AP \leq 0 \text{ (regression or no progress expected)} \end{array} \right.$$

In applying both measures of tracking progress at the indicator level, an acceptance threshold of minimum 2 per cent change was considered for progress/regression. In other words, the

change was accepted only if the overall change over the period was more than a 2 per cent increase or decrease (depending on the actual and desired direction of change).

Aggregation

In total, 169 indicators are used to compute the Current Status Index for SDG progress assessment in 2023. 12 indicators did not provide sufficient data for 2030 predictions and were not used for Anticipated Progress Index calculations. When more than one variation for an indicator exists (for

example health worker density), all variants are used in calculations. Each variant of an indicator is weighted such that the sum of the weights under each indicator is 1. Finally, a weighted average of the progress indices is computed as a progress index for that indicator.

Disaggregated statistics

Disaggregation by sex, location or combination of age and sex was available for 29 indicators. To take disaggregated statistics into account, a vulnerable group for each indicator was identified as the group that had made slower progress than the entire reference population. For instance, if the unemployment rate has decreased by 3 per cent since 2015 among an entire labour force population and this rate is 4

per cent among males and 2.5 per cent among females, then the female group is considered vulnerable. Under each series, the progress is measured as an average of progress in vulnerable group and the reference population. By counting for vulnerable groups, progress on each series is adjusted for the progress by the most vulnerable group.

Extrapolation methods

Producing the two measures of progress requires prediction as well as imputation of missing values in the current and previous years. These values were estimated using a weighted regression model that uses time-related weights, assuming the importance attached to the indicator values should be proportional to how recent the data are.

Suppose that n data points are available on indicator I for a given region over a period of T years, and we are interested in estimating the value for the year t .

$T = t_n - t_1$ where t_n and t_1 are the latest and the earliest years, respectively, for which data on indicator I are available. The time-related weights work as multipliers that inflate/deflate the rate of change in each period in proportion

to its temporal distance to the target year (t). The time-related weight for the i^{th} data points for a given country/region for estimating indicator values of the year is:

$$w_i = \frac{(t - t_1)}{(t - t_i)} \quad (t_1 < t_i < t_n)$$

Weights are then incorporated into a regression model used for different indicators. In a few exceptions where the indicator is time-independent, time-related weights were not used (e.g., disaster-related indicators, ODA and other financial aid, etc.).

Setting regional target values

Of 169 SDG targets, only 37 per cent have specific (implicit or explicit) target values. For the rest, this report sets target values using a “champion area” approach. This is based on what has been feasible in the past and optimizes the use of available data. The idea is to identify the top performers in the region and set their average rate of change as the region’s target rate. If we imagine all the top performers for one specific indicator as belonging to one hypothetical area, this can be labelled as the region’s champion area whose rate of change equals the average for the top performers. This can then be considered the target rate for the region. In other words, if the region as

a whole can perform as well as its champion area over the 15 years from 2015 to 2030, we should expect to achieve the target value. Subsequently, the universal target value for the region can be derived by applying the rate of change in the champion area to the regional value in the base year. In this report, the regional value is the average value of the indicator over all countries for which data are available. In cases where application of champion area was not possible, the top five performers were identified based on the latest available data the average value for those five countries was used as regional target.

Evidence strength – sufficiency of indicators at goal level






Due to limitations on the availability of indicators, the results aggregated at the goal level are based on a percentage of the total global SDG indicators along with indicators from internationally recognized sources. While the latter are not intended to substitute the former,

they shed light on targets where otherwise no analysis would have been possible. Therefore, they are taken into consideration when assessing the completeness of the evidence at the goal level. The strength of the used evidence is thus defined as the following ratio:

$$\text{Evidence Strength factor} = \frac{T_{Used}}{T_{Global}}$$

Where T_{Global} and T_{Used} represent, respectively, the total number of indicators in the global SDG framework, and the number of global SDG indicators used in the calculations.

For ease of analysis, a strength symbol denotes the evidence strength factor according to the table on the right.

Symbol	Evidence strength factor	Interpretation
	0	No indicators available
	Between 0 and 1/3 (including 1/3)	Insufficient indicators
	Between 1/3 and 2/3 (including 2/3)	Moderate availability
	Between 2/3 and 1	High availability
	1	Complete set of indicators

Annex 2: Indicators used for progress assessment

The table contains the list of indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that have been used in the analysis along with respective target values and source of data. Indicators available in the Global SDG

Indicators Database are marked with “SDG” in the source column, whereas indicators obtained from other sources have the name of the organization noted.

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
GOAL 1			
International poverty	SDG	1.1.1 Proportion of population living on less than US\$1.90 a day, % of population/employment [by sex, age, urbanization and employment status]	0
National poverty	SDG	1.2.1 Percentage of population living below the national poverty line	(0.4)
Social protection	SDG	1.3.1 Population covered by, % of target population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social assistance programmes, poorest quintile • Social insurance programmes, poorest quintile • Unemployment benefit • Pension • Work injury • Population with severe disabilities receiving disability cash benefits • Population receiving social assistance cash benefit 	87.2 31.3 100 100 100 100
Access to basic water and sanitation services	SDG	1.4.1 Population using basic drinking water and sanitation services, % [by urbanization]	100
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, per 100,000 population	0
Economic loss from disasters	SDG	1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters, million US\$	0
Score of adoption and implementation of national disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies	SDG	1.5.3 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies	SDG	1.5.4 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies, %	100
Official development assistance (ODA) grants for poverty reduction (least developed countries (LDCs))**	SDG	1.a.1 ODA grants for poverty reduction (in LDCs), % of gross national income	(2)
Government spending on education and health	SDG	1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services, % of government expenditure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Health 	(2) (3.3)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
GOAL 2			
Prevalence of undernourishment	SDG	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment, % of population	0
Moderate or severe food insecurity in the population	SDG	2.1.2 Moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, % of population [by sex]	(0.4)
Prevalence of stunting	SDG	2.2.1 Children moderately or severely stunted, % of children under 5 (by sex and urbanization)	(0.6)
Prevalence of malnutrition	SDG	2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition, % of children under 5 moderately or severely overweight, moderately or severely wasted (by sex and urbanization)	5
Prevalence of anaemia in women	SDG	2.2.3 Prevalence of anaemia in women, % of women [by pregnancy status]	(0.5)
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture	FAO	2.4.P1 GHG emissions from agriculture, tons per 1,000 (2015) US\$ gross domestic product (GDP) from agriculture	(0.6)
Plant and animal breeds with sufficient genetic material stored	SDG	2.5.1 Breeds for which sufficient genetic resources are stored, number • Plants • Animals, regional total	(1.5) 101
Local breeds at risk of extinction	SDG	2.5.2 Local breeds at risk as share of local breeds with known level of extinction, %	0
Agriculture orientation index	SDG	2.a.1 Agriculture orientation index	1
Flows to agriculture sector (LDCs) **	SDG	2.a.2 Official flows to the agriculture sector by recipient (in LDCs), million 2021 US\$	(2)
Consumer food price index ††	SDG	2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies (IFPA), index	0
GOAL 3			
Maternal mortality	SDG	3.1.1 Maternal mortality, deaths per 100,000 live births	70
Births attended by skilled health personnel	SDG	3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel, % of live births	100
Under-5 mortality	SDG	3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate, deaths per 1,000 live births [by sex] • Under 5 • Infant	25 (0.4)
Neonatal mortality	SDG	3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate, deaths per 1,000 live births	12
HIV infections	SDG	3.3.1 New HIV infections, per 100,000 population [by age and sex]	0
Tuberculosis	SDG	3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence rate, per 100,000 population	0
Malaria	SDG	3.3.3 Malaria incidence rate, per 1,000 population at risk	0
Interventions against neglected tropical diseases	SDG	3.3.5 People requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases, 1,000 people	0
Cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease	SDG	3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases, probability (%) [by sex]	(0.67)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
Suicides	SDG	3.4.2 Suicide, per 100,000 population [by sex]	(0.49)
Harmful use of alcohol	SDG	3.5.2 Alcohol per capita consumption, litres per annum	(0.67)
Road traffic deaths	SDG	3.6.1 Road traffic deaths, per 100,000 population [by sex]	(0.31)
Family planning satisfied with modern methods	SDG	3.7.1 Demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods, % of women of reproductive age	100
Adolescent births	SDG	3.7.2 Adolescent fertility rate, live births per 1,000 women • aged 15-19 • aged 10-14	(0.37) 0
Essential health services coverage	SDG	3.8.1 Universal health coverage, index	100
Household expenditures on health	SDG	3.8.2 Population with large household expenditure on health, % of population • More than 10% • More than 25%	(0.82) (0.78)
Unintentional poisoning	SDG	3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning, per 100,000 population [by sex]	(0.25)
Tobacco use	SDG	3.a.1 Prevalence of current tobacco use, % of population aged 15 and above [by sex]	(0.58)
Population covered by all vaccines in national programme	SDG	3.b.1 Target population with access to vaccines, % of population, 3 doses vaccination against diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DPT3); pneumococcal conjugate 3rd dose vaccination (PCV3); measles (MCV2)	100
ODA to medical research and basic health sectors (LDCs) **	SDG	3.b.2 ODA to medical research and basic health sectors (in LDCs), total gross disbursement, by recipient, million 2019 US\$	(2)
Health worker density	SDG	3.c.1 Health worker density, per 10,000 population • Dentistry personnel • Nursing and midwifery personnel • Pharmaceutical personnel • Physicians	(3.1) (2.4) (4.5) (5.4)
Health capacity and emergency preparedness ††	SDG	3.d.1 International Health Regulations average of 15 components, %	100
Antimicrobial-resistant organisms	SDG	3.d.2 Percentage of bloodstream infections due to selected antimicrobial-resistant organisms • methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) • Escherichia coli resistant to 3rd-generation cephalosporin	20 30
GOAL 4			
Minimum proficiency in reading and maths	SDG	4.1.1 Minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics for lower secondary, % [by sex]	90
Completion rate **	SDG	4.1.2 Completion rate in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary, % [by sex, urbanization, income/wealth quantile]	100
Net enrolment rate (pre-primary)	SDG	4.2.2 Adjusted net enrolment rate (one year before the official primary entry age), % [by sex]	100
Formal and non-formal education and training	SDG	4.3.1 Formal and non-formal education and training • Proportion of 15- to 24-year-olds enrolled in vocational secondary education, % [by sex] • Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 month. % (by sex, age) • Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, index	(2.4) (1.35) 1

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
ICT skills	SDG	4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using basic arithmetic formula • using copy and paste tools • sending e-mails with attached files • creating electronic presentations • connecting and installing new devices • writing a computer program • finding, downloading, installing software • transferring files between a computer/ other devices • copying or moving a file or folder 	45 71 65 40 51 8 50 50 65
Inequality indices for education indicators	SDG	4.5.1 Gender parity indices, female-to-male ratio <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age) • Teachers in pre-primary, primary, lower secondary, and upper secondary education who are trained • Completion rate in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary [by gender, urbanization, wealth quintile] • Adult literacy rate 	1
Literacy and numeracy skills	UNESCO	4.6.P1 Adult literacy rate, % of population aged 15 and above [by sex]	100
Proportion of schools offering basic services	SDG	4.a.1 Schools with access to electricity, computers for pedagogical purposes, basic drinking water, internet for pedagogical purposes, single-sex basic sanitation, in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels, %	100
ODA for scholarships (LDCs) **	SDG	4.b.1 Volume of ODA flows for scholarships (in LDCs), million 2021 US\$	(2)
Organized teacher training	SDG	4.c.1 Trained teachers in pre-primary, primary, lower secondary and upper secondary education, % [by sex]	100
GOAL 5			
Gender parity in labour force participation	ILO	5.1.P1 Labour force participation (aged 25+), female-to-male ratio	1
Gender parity in mean years of schooling	SDG ^s	5.1.P2 Mean years of schooling (aged 25+), female-to-male ratio	1
Gender parity in youth labour force	SDG ^s	5.1.P3 Not in employment, education, training, female-to-male ratio	1
Seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments	SDG	5.5.1a Seats held by women in national parliament % of seats	50
		5.5.1b Proportion of elected seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government, %	50
Proportion of women in managerial positions	SDG	5.5.2a Women share of employment in managerial position, %	50
		5.5.2b Women in senior and middle management positions, %	50
Ownership of mobile telephone	SDG	5.b.1 Gender parity index of individuals using a mobile cellular telephone	1

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
GOAL 6			
Safely managed drinking water services	SDG	6.1.1 Population using safely managed drinking water, % of population [by urbanization]	100
Open defecation and handwashing	SDG	6.2.1a Population practicing open defecation, % of population [by urbanization]	0
		6.2.1b Population using safely managed sanitation services [by urbanization]	100
		6.2.1c Population with basic handwashing facilities on premises [by urbanization]	100
Wastewater safely treated ††	SDG	6.3.1 Safely treated domestic wastewater. %	100
Water use efficiency	SDG	6.4.1 Water use efficiency, US\$/m ³	(2.9)
Water stress	SDG	6.4.2 Total freshwater withdrawal, % of total renewable water per annum	25
Integrated water resources management ††	SDG	6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation, %	100
Permanent water body extent	SDG	6.6.1 Area change, % • Lakes and rivers permanent water area change • Mangrove total area change	0
			0
ODA for scholarships (LDCs) **	SDG	6.a.1 ODA to water and sanitation (in LDCs), million 2019 US\$	(2)
Policies and procedures for participative water and sanitation management	SDG	6.b.1a Countries with procedures in law or policy for participation by service users/communities in planning programme: rural drinking-water supply, water resources planning and management 10 = clearly defined; 5 = not clearly defined; 0 = N/A	10
		6.b.1b Countries with users/communities participating in planning programmes in rural drinking-water supply, water resources planning and management, 3 = high; 2 = moderate; 1 = low; 0 = N/A	3
GOAL 7			
Access to electricity	SDG	7.1.1 Access to electricity, % of population [by urbanization]	100
Reliance on clean energy	SDG	7.1.2 Population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies, % of population (by urbanization)	100
Renewable energy share	SDG	7.2.1 Renewable energy share, % of total final energy consumption	(2.8)
Energy intensity	SDG	7.3.1 Energy intensity, megajoules per unit of GDP in 2017 purchasing power parity	2
International support for clean and renewable energy (LDCs) **	SDG	7.a.1 International support for clean energy and renewable energy (in LDCs), million 2018 US\$	(2)
Renewable electricity capacity	SDG	7.b.1 Renewable electricity capacity, Watts per capita	(5.2)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
GOAL 8			
Real GDP per capita growth rate	SDG	• 8.1.1 Real GDP per capita growth rate (2015 US\$, average annual), % change per capita per annum (in LDCs)	7
		• 8.1.P1 Real GDP per capita growth rate (2015 US\$, average annual), % change per capita per annum (in all countries)	0
Real GDP per employed person growth rate	SDG	• 8.2.1 Real GDP per employed person (in LDCs), % change per annum (in LDCs)	5.3
		• 8.2.P1 Real GDP per employed person (in LDCs), % change per annum (in all countries)	0
Informal employment	SDG	8.3.1 Informal employment in total employment [by sex]	(0.76)
Material footprint	SDG-UNEP	8.4.1 Material footprint, Tons per capita	(0.82)
Domestic material consumption	SDG	8.4.2 Domestic material consumption	
		• Intensity, kg per 1 US\$ (2010) GDP • Tons per capita	(0.42) (0.81)
Unemployment rate	SDG	8.5.2 Unemployment rate, % of labour force [by sex, age]	
		• Total [by sex]	(0.26)
		• aged 15-24 [by sex]	(0.87)
		• aged 25+ [by sex]	(0.59)
Youth not in education, employment or training	SDG	8.6.1 Not in employment, education, or training, % of population aged 15-24 [by sex]	(0.65)
Occupational injuries	SDG	8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injury, cases per year per 100,000 workers	0
Compliance with labour rights	SDG	8.8.2 Level of national compliance with labour rights, score from 0 (better) to 10 (worse)	0
Tourism direct GDP	SDG	8.9.1 Tourism direct GDP	(1.3)
Adults with a bank account	SDG	8.10.2 Adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or mobile-money-service provider, % of population [by sex, education, wealth quantile]	100
Aid for Trade (LDCs) **	SDG	8.a.1 Total official flows (commitments) for Aid for trade by recipient (in LDCs), million 2021 US\$	(2)
National strategy for youth employment	SDG	8.b.1 National strategy for youth employment, scores 1-3	3
GOAL 9			
Passenger and freight volume	SDG-World Bank	9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume	
		• Air transport freight, million ton-km	(1.5)
		• Container port traffic, maritime transport, million twenty-foot equivalent unit	(2.2)
• Air transport passengers carried, million passenger-km	(2)		
Manufacturing value added	SDG	9.2.1 GDP by activity: Manufacturing	
		• % of GDP (2015 US\$) • 2015 US\$ per capita	(2) (2)
Manufacturing employment	SDG	9.2.2 Manufacturing employment, % of total employment	(2)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
Small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit **	SDG	9.3.2 Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit, %	38.3
CO ₂ emissions per unit of manufacturing value added, kg per 1 US\$ (2015) GDP	SDG	9.4.1 CO ₂ emissions per unit of manufacturing value added, kg per 1 US\$ (2015) GDP	(0.57)
Research and development expenditure	SDG	9.5.1 Gross domestic expenditure on research and development, % of GDP	(2.6)
Number of researchers	SDG	9.5.2 Researchers, full-time equivalents, per million inhabitants	3000
Total official flows for infrastructure (LDCs) **	SDG	9.a.1 Total official flows for infrastructure, by recipient (in LDCs), million 2021 US\$	(2)
Medium and high-tech industry value added	SDG	9.b.1 Medium and high-tech industry value added, % of total manufacturing value added	(1.7)
Population covered by a mobile network	SDG	9.c.1 Population covered by at least 2G, 3G and 4G mobile networks, % of population	100
GOAL 10			
Population living below 50 percent of median income	SDG	10.2.1 Population living below 50 % of median income, % of population	(0.4)
Labour income share of GDP	SDG-ILO	10.4.1 Labour income share of GDP, % of GDP	(1.2)
Gini index	SDG-World Bank	10.4.2 Income equality coefficient, Gini index	29.5
Deaths and disappearances recorded during migration	SDG	10.7.3 Deaths and disappearances recorded during migration, number of people	0
Refugees by country of origin	SDG	10.7.4 Population who are refugees, by country of origin, per 100,000 population	0
Tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff (LDCs) **	SDG	10.a.1 Tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff, all products (in LDCs), %	(1.2)
Total resource flows for development (LDCs and Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members) **	SDG, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	10.b.1a Total assistance for development, by recipient (in LDCs), by recipient/donor (in DAC members), million US\$	(2)
		10.b.1a Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows (in LDCs), % of GDP	(1.5)
Remittance costs **	SDG	10.c.1 Remittance cost as a proportion of the amount remitted, %	3

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
GOAL 11			
Urban slum population **	SDG	11.1.1 Urban slum population, % of urban population	(0.5)
Road traffic deaths	SDG ^s	11.2.P1 Road traffic deaths, per 100,000 population	(0.41)
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, number	0
Economic loss and affected infrastructure and services from disasters	SDG	11.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters, million US\$, and damaged critical infrastructure and disruptions to basic services attributed to disasters, number	0
Concentration of PM2.5 (fine particulate matter)	World Bank	11.6.2 Annual mean concentration of PM2.5 (urban), micrograms per m ³	(0.73)
Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies	SDG	11.b.1 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies	SDG	11.b.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies in line with national DRR strategies, %	100
GOAL 12			
Material footprint	SDG-UNEP	12.2.1 Material footprint, Tons per capita	(0.82)
Domestic material consumption	SDG	12.2.2 Domestic material consumption • Intensity, kg per 1 US\$ (2010) GDP • Tons per capita	(0.42) (0.81)
Compliance with hazardous waste conventions ††	SDG	12.4.1 Compliance with hazardous waste conventions, average of Basel/Montreal/Stockholm/Rotterdam conventions, %	100
Hazardous waste generated	SDG	12.4.2 Hazardous waste generated, kg per capita, kg per 1000 US\$ (2015) GDP, 1,000 tons	(0.5)
Companies publishing sustainability reports	SDG	12.6.1 Number of companies publishing sustainability reports	(12)
Renewable energy capacity	SDG-IRENA	12.a.1 Renewable electricity capacity, Watts per capita	(5.2)
Standard accounting tools to monitor tourism impact	SDG	12.b.1 Implementation of standard accounting tools to monitor the economic and environmental aspects of tourism, number • Tourism Satellite Account tables • System of environmental-economic accounting tables	7 4
Fossil-fuel subsidies	SDG	12.c.1 Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies (consumption and production), % of GDP	0

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
GOAL 13			
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, number	0
Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies	SDG	13.1.2 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies	SDG	13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies in line with national DRR strategies, %	100
GHG emissions	SDG-UNFCC	13.2.2a GHG emissions without land use, land-use change and forestry, million tons of CO2 equivalent	(1)
		13,2,2b GHG emissions from agriculture, 1000 tons of CO2 equivalent	0
GOAL 14			
Chlorophyll-a deviations and beach litter	SDG	14.1.1 chlorophyll-a deviations, remote sensing, % and Beach litter per square km, number	0v
Protected marine areas	SDG	14.5.1 Proportion of marine key biodiversity areas covered by protected area status, %	(2.5)
Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing ††	SDG	14.6.1 Degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (1=lowest to 5=highest)	5
Sustainable fisheries	SDG	14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP, % of GDP	(1.3)
Access rights for small-scale fisheries ††	SDG	14.b.1 Degree of application of a legal/regulatory/ policy/ institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries (1=lowest to 5=highest)	5
GOAL 15			
Forest area	SDG	15.1.1 Forest area, % of land area	(1.2)
Sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity	SDG	15.1.2 Important sites that are covered by protected areas, %	(2.5)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For fresh water biodiversity • For terrestrial biodiversity 	(2.8)
Sustainable forest management	SDG	15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management	0.68
		• Forest area net change rate, %	(1.3)
		• Forest area with a long-term management plan, %	(1.4)
		• Forest area within legally established protected area, %	7.8
• Forest certified under an independently verified certification scheme	(1.1)		
• Above ground biomass in forest, tons per hectare	(1.1)		
Proportion of land that is degraded ††	SDG	15.3.1 Land degraded over total land area, % of land area	(0.5)
Sites for mountain biodiversity	SDG	15.4.1 Important sites for mountain biodiversity, %	(2.5)
Mountain Green Cover Index	SDG	15.4.2a Mountain Green Cover Index	100
		15.4.2b Proportion of degraded mountain land, Total	0

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
GOAL 17			
Tax revenue	SDG	17.1.1 Government revenue (budgetary central government), % of GDP	(1.5)
Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	SDG	17.1.2 Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes, %	(1.2)
ODA from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)-DAC †† **	SDG	17.2.1 ODA from OECD-DAC members, % of gross national income • To LDCs • To all countries	0.2 0.7
FDI inflows (LDCs) **	UNCTAD	17.3.1 FDI inflows (in LDCs), % of GDP	(1.5)
Personal remittances (LDCs) **	SDG	17.3.2 Personal remittances received (in LDCs), % of GDP	(1.3)
Debt service	SDG	17.4.1 Debt service, % of exports of goods, services and primary income	0.8
Fixed Internet broadband subscription	SDG	17.6.1 Fixed-broadband subscriptions, per 100 population	32
Funding for environmentally-sound technologies	SDG	17.7.1 Total trade of tracked Environmentally Sound Technologies, Current US\$	(2.3)
Internet users	SDG	17.8.1 Internet users, % of population	100
ODA for technical cooperation	SDG	17.9.1 ODA (gross disbursement) for technical cooperation, million 2019 US\$	(2)
Worldwide weighted tariff-average	SDG	17.10.1 Tariff rate for LDCs under most favoured nation and preferential rate, all products, %	0
Exports of commercial services (LDCs) **	SDG-WTO	17.11.1 Exports from LDCs for commercial services and merchandise [% of world services exports, % of world services exports]	(2)
Average tariff applied by developed countries (LDCs) **	SDG	17.12.1 Average tariff rate for LDCs applied by developed countries under most-favoured nation and preferential rate, all products, %	0
Use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools in development cooperation	SDG	17.15.1 Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by providers of development cooperation, %	100
Commitment to public-private and civil society partnerships	SDG	17.17.1 Commitment to public-private partnerships for infrastructure, million 2019 US\$	(2)
National statistical legislation	SDG	17.18.2 National statistical legislation exists and complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, yes (1)/no (0), number of countries or territories	58

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate) †
National statistical plan funded/under implementation	SDG	17.18.3 National statistical plan fully funded and under implementation, yes (1)/no (0), number of countries or territories	58
Financial resources to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries		17.19.1 Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries, million US\$	(2)
Births and deaths registration	SDG	17.19.2 Births registration data at least 90% complete, and deaths registration data at least 75% complete, number of countries or territories	58

† The rates in parenthesis are utilized as a multiplier of the indicator level in the year 2015 for calculating the target value.

§ Indicator sourced from the Global SDG database, but used under a different SDG target, thus considered supplementary.

** Indicator not used for subregional progress assessment due to lack of data.

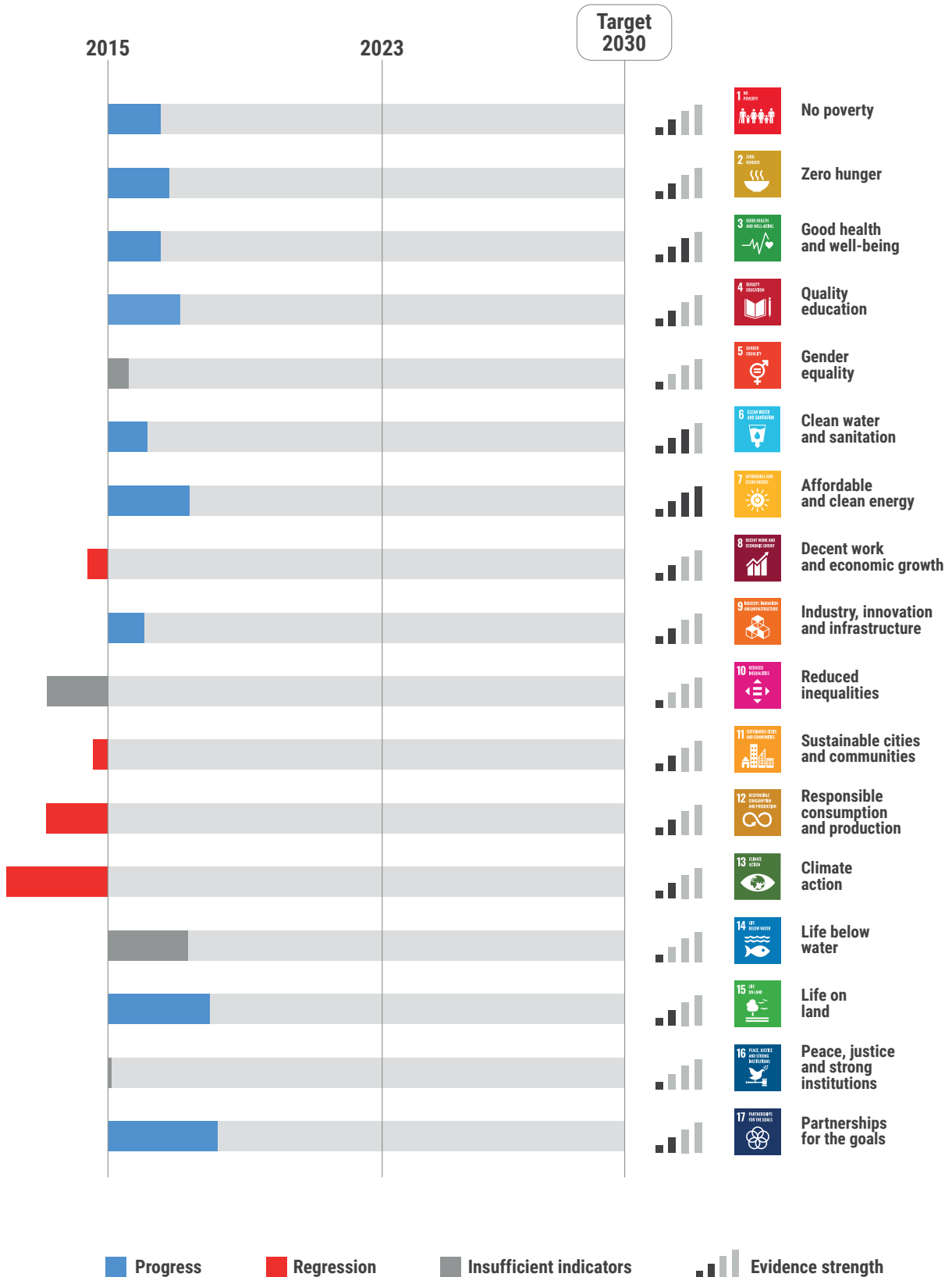
†† Indicator not used for Anticipated Progress Index (dashboard) due to lack of data.



Annex 3: Subregional graphs

The Pacific

Snapshot of SDG progress in the Pacific, 2023



Dashboard of expected achievements for The Pacific



NO POVERTY

- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.b Poverty eradication policies



ZERO HUNGER

- 2.4 Sustainable agriculture
- 2.a Investment in agriculture
- 2.1 Undernourishment and food security
- 2.2 Malnutrition
- 2.5 Genetic resources for agriculture
- 2.3 Small-scale food producers
- 2.b Agricultural export subsidies
- 2.c Food price anomalies



GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- 3.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.2 Child mortality
- 3.4 NCDs and mental health
- 3.5 Substance abuse
- 3.6 Road traffic accidents
- 3.7 Sexual and reproductive health
- 3.8 Universal health coverage
- 3.9 Health impact of pollution
- 3.a Tobacco control
- 3.b R&D for health
- 3.c Health financing and workforce
- 3.3 Communicable diseases
- 3.d Management of health risks



QUALITY EDUCATION

- 4.1 Effective learning outcomes
- 4.3 TVET and tertiary education
- 4.a Education facilities
- 4.c Qualified teachers
- 4.2 Early childhood development
- 4.5 Equal access to education
- 4.4 Skills for employment
- 4.6 Adult literacy and numeracy
- 4.7 Sustainable development education
- 4.b Scholarships



GENDER EQUALITY

- 5.1 Discrimination against women and girls
- 5.5 Women in leadership
- 5.2 Violence against women and girls
- 5.3 Early marriage
- 5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work
- 5.6 Reproductive health access and rights
- 5.a Equal economic rights
- 5.b Technology for women empowerment
- 5.c Gender equality policies



CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

- 6.1 Safe drinking water
- 6.2 Access to sanitation and hygiene
- 6.6 Water-related ecosystems
- 6.3 Water quality
- 6.4 Water-use efficiency
- 6.5 Trans-boundary water cooperation
- 6.a International cooperation on WS
- 6.b Participatory WS management



AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

- 7.a International cooperation on energy
- 7.1 Access to energy services
- 7.3 Energy efficiency
- 7.b Investing in energy infrastructure
- 7.2 Share of renewable energy



DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- 8.1 Per capita economic growth
- 8.4 Material resource efficiency
- 8.5 Full employment and decent work
- 8.8 Labour rights/safe working environment
- 8.9 Sustainable tourism
- 8.2 Economic productivity and innovation
- 8.6 Youth NEET
- 8.3 Formalization of SMEs
- 8.7 Child and forced labour
- 8.10 Access to financial services
- 8.a Aid for Trade
- 8.b Strategy for youth employment



INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- 9.c Access to ICT and the Internet
- 9.1 Infrastructure development
- 9.2 Sustainable/inclusive industrialization
- 9.3 Small-scale industries access to finance
- 9.4 Sustainable and clean industries
- 9.5 Research and development
- 9.a Resilient infrastructure
- 9.b Domestic technology development



REDUCED INEQUALITIES

- 10.4 Fiscal and social protection policies
- 10.7 Safe migration and mobility
- 10.1 Income growth (bottom 40 per cent)
- 10.2 Inclusion (socioeconomic, political)
- 10.3 Eliminate discrimination
- 10.5 Regulation of financial markets
- 10.6 Inclusive global governance
- 10.a Special and differential treatment (WTO)
- 10.b Resource flows for development
- 10.c Remittance costs



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- 11.2 Public transport systems
- 11.b Disaster risk management policies
- 11.5 Resilience to disasters
- 11.6 Urban air quality/waste management
- 11.1 Housing and basic services
- 11.3 Sustainable urbanization
- 11.4 Cultural and natural heritage
- 11.7 Urban green and public spaces
- 11.a Urban planning
- 11.c Sustainable and resilient buildings



RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

- 12.2 Sustainable use of natural resources
- 12.a Support for R&D capacity for SD
- 12.b Sustainable tourism monitoring
- 12.c Fossil-fuel subsidies
- 12.1 Programmes on SCP
- 12.3 Food waste and losses
- 12.4 Managing chemicals and wastes
- 12.5 Reduction in waste generation
- 12.6 Corporate sustainable practices
- 12.7 Public procurement practices
- 12.8 Sustainable development awareness



CLIMATE ACTION

- 13.1 Resilience and adaptive capacity
- 13.2 Climate change policies
- 13.3 Climate change awareness
- 13.a UNFCCC commitments
- 13.b Climate change planning and management



LIFE BELOW WATER

- 14.5 Conservation of coastal areas
- 14.1 Marine pollution
- 14.2 Marine and coastal ecosystems
- 14.3 Ocean acidification
- 14.4 Sustainable fishing
- 14.6 Fisheries subsidies
- 14.7 Marine resources for SIDS and LDCs
- 14.a Research capacity and marine technology
- 14.b Small-scale artisanal fishing
- 14.c Implementing UNCLOS



LIFE ON LAND

- 15.1 Terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems
- 15.2 Sustainable forests management
- 15.4 Conservation of mountain ecosystems
- 15.8 Invasive alien species
- 15.5 Loss of biodiversity
- 15.3 Desertification and land degradation
- 15.6 Utilization of genetic resource
- 15.7 Protected species trafficking
- 15.9 Biodiversity in national and local planning
- 15.a Resources for biodiversity and ecosystems
- 15.b Resources for forest management
- 15.c Protected species trafficking (global)



PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

- 16.6 Effective institutions
- 16.7 Inclusive decision-making
- 16.1 Reduction of violence & related deaths
- 16.3 Justice for all
- 16.2 Human trafficking
- 16.4 Illicit financial and arms flows
- 16.5 Corruption and bribery
- 16.8 Inclusive global governance
- 16.9 Legal identity
- 16.10 Public access to information
- 16.a Capacity to prevent violence
- 16.b Non-discriminatory laws



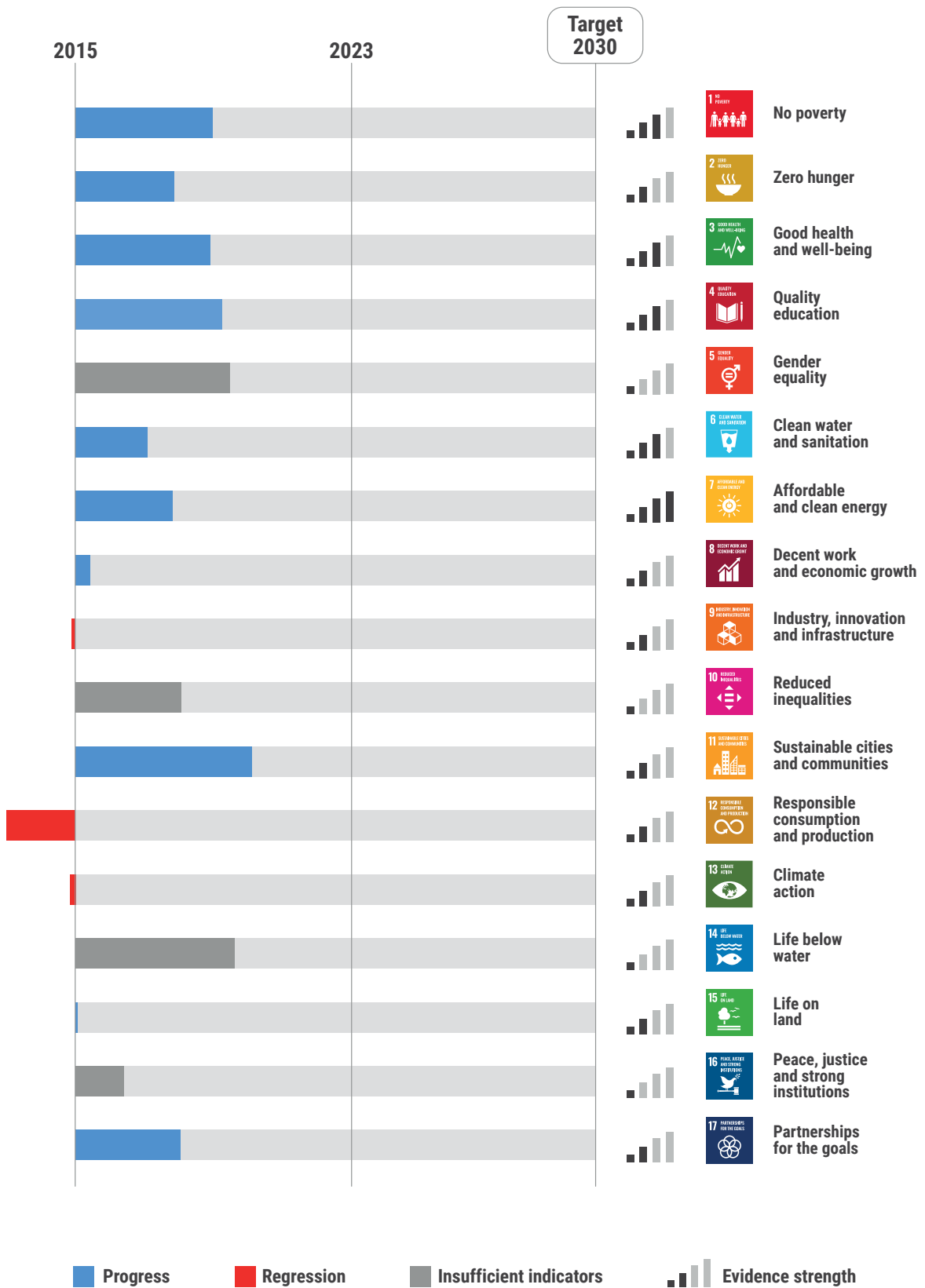
PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

- 17.17 Partnerships (public/private CSOs)
- 17.1 Tax and other revenue collection
- 17.6 Science and tech international cooperation
- 17.8 Capacity-building for ICT
- 17.9 Capacity-building for SDGs
- 17.10 Multilateral trading system (WTO)
- 17.19 Statistical capacity
- 17.4 Debt sustainability
- 17.7 Transfer of technologies
- 17.18 National statistics availability
- 17.2 ODA commitment by developing countries
- 17.3 Additional financial resources
- 17.5 Investment promotion for LDCs
- 17.11 Exports of developing countries
- 17.12 Duty-free market access for LDCs
- 17.13 Global macroeconomic stability
- 17.14 Policy coherence for SD
- 17.15 Respect each country's policy space
- 17.16 Global partnership for SD

- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend to achieve target
- CANNOT be measured

East and North-East Asia

Snapshot of SDG progress in East and North-East Asia, 2023



Dashboard of expected achievements for East and North-East Asia



NO POVERTY

- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.b Poverty eradication policies



ZERO HUNGER

- 2.4 Sustainable agriculture
- 2.a Investment in agriculture
- 2.1 Undernourishment and food security
- 2.2 Malnutrition
- 2.5 Genetic resources for agriculture
- 2.3 Small-scale food producers
- 2.b Agricultural export subsidies
- 2.c Food price anomalies



GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- 3.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.2 Child mortality
- 3.3 Communicable diseases
- 3.4 NCDs and mental health
- 3.6 Road traffic accidents
- 3.9 Health impact of pollution
- 3.a Tobacco control
- 3.b R&D for health
- 3.c Health financing and workforce
- 3.5 Substance abuse
- 3.7 Sexual and reproductive health
- 3.8 Universal health coverage
- 3.d Management of health risks



QUALITY EDUCATION

- 4.1 Effective learning outcomes
- 4.2 Early childhood development
- 4.3 TVET and tertiary education
- 4.4 Skills for employment
- 4.a Education facilities
- 4.5 Equal access to education
- 4.c Qualified teachers
- 4.6 Adult literacy and numeracy
- 4.7 Sustainable development education
- 4.b Scholarships



GENDER EQUALITY

- 5.1 Discrimination against women and girls
- 5.5 Women in leadership
- 5.b Technology for women empowerment
- 5.2 Violence against women and girls
- 5.3 Early marriage
- 5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work
- 5.6 Reproductive health access and rights
- 5.a Equal economic rights
- 5.c Gender equality policies



CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

- 6.1 Safe drinking water
- 6.2 Access to sanitation and hygiene
- 6.4 Water-use efficiency
- 6.6 Water-related ecosystems
- 6.3 Water quality
- 6.5 Trans-boundary water cooperation
- 6.a International cooperation on WS
- 6.b Participatory WS management



AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

- 7.1 Access to energy services
- 7.2 Share of renewable energy
- 7.3 Energy efficiency
- 7.a International cooperation on energy
- 7.b Investing in energy infrastructure



DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- 8.10 Access to financial services
- 8.8 Labour rights/safe working environment
- 8.1 Per capita economic growth
- 8.2 Economic productivity and innovation
- 8.4 Material resource efficiency
- 8.5 Full employment & decent work
- 8.6 Youth NEET
- 8.9 Sustainable tourism
- 8.3 Formalization of SMEs
- 8.7 Child and forced labour
- 8.a Aid for Trade
- 8.b Strategy for youth employment



INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- 9.4 Sustainable and clean industries
- 9.5 Research and development
- 9.b Domestic technology development
- 9.c Access to ICT and the Internet
- 9.1 Infrastructure development
- 9.2 Sustainable/inclusive industrialization
- 9.3 Small-scale industries access to finance
- 9.a Resilient infrastructure



REDUCED INEQUALITIES

- 10.4 Fiscal and social protection policies
- 10.7 Safe migration and mobility
- 10.1 Income growth (bottom 40 per cent)
- 10.2 Inclusion (socioeconomic, political)
- 10.3 Eliminate discrimination
- 10.5 Regulation of financial markets
- 10.6 Inclusive global governance
- 10.a Special & differential treatment (WTO)
- 10.b Resource flows for development
- 10.c Remittance costs



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- 11.6 Urban air quality/waste management
- 11.2 Public transport systems
- 11.5 Resilience to disasters
- 11.1 Housing and basic services
- 11.3 Sustainable urbanization
- 11.4 Cultural and natural heritage
- 11.7 Urban green and public spaces
- 11.a Urban planning
- 11.b Disaster risk management policies
- 11.c Sustainable and resilient buildings



RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

- 12.6 Corporate sustainable practices
- 12.a Support for R&D capacity for SD
- 12.2 Sustainable use of natural resources
- 12.b Sustainable tourism monitoring
- 12.c Fossil-fuel subsidies
- 12.1 Programmes on SCP
- 12.3 Food waste and losses
- 12.4 Managing chemicals and wastes
- 12.5 Reduction in waste generation
- 12.7 Public procurement practices
- 12.8 Sustainable development awareness



CLIMATE ACTION

- 13.1 Resilience and adaptive capacity
- 13.2 Climate change policies
- 13.3 Climate change awareness
- 13.a UNFCCC commitments
- 13.b Climate change planning and management



LIFE BELOW WATER

- 14.1 Marine pollution
- 14.5 Conservation of coastal areas
- 14.2 Marine and coastal ecosystems
- 14.3 Ocean acidification
- 14.4 Sustainable fishing
- 14.6 Fisheries subsidies
- 14.7 Marine resources for SIDS and LDCs
- 14.a Research capacity and marine technology
- 14.b Small-scale artisanal fishing
- 14.c Implementing UNCLOS



LIFE ON LAND

- 15.1 Terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems
- 15.2 Sustainable forests management
- 15.4 Conservation of mountain ecosystems
- 15.8 Invasive alien species
- 15.5 Loss of biodiversity
- 15.3 Desertification and land degradation
- 15.6 Utilization of genetic resource
- 15.7 Protected species trafficking
- 15.9 Biodiversity in national and local planning
- 15.a Resources for biodiversity and ecosystems
- 15.b Resources for forest management
- 15.c Protected species trafficking (global)



PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

- 16.1 Reduction of violence and related deaths
- 16.7 Inclusive decision-making
- 16.3 Justice for all
- 16.2 Human trafficking
- 16.4 Illicit financial and arms flows
- 16.5 Corruption and bribery
- 16.6 Effective institutions
- 16.8 Inclusive global governance
- 16.9 Legal identity
- 16.10 Public access to information
- 16.a Capacity to prevent violence
- 16.b Non-discriminatory laws



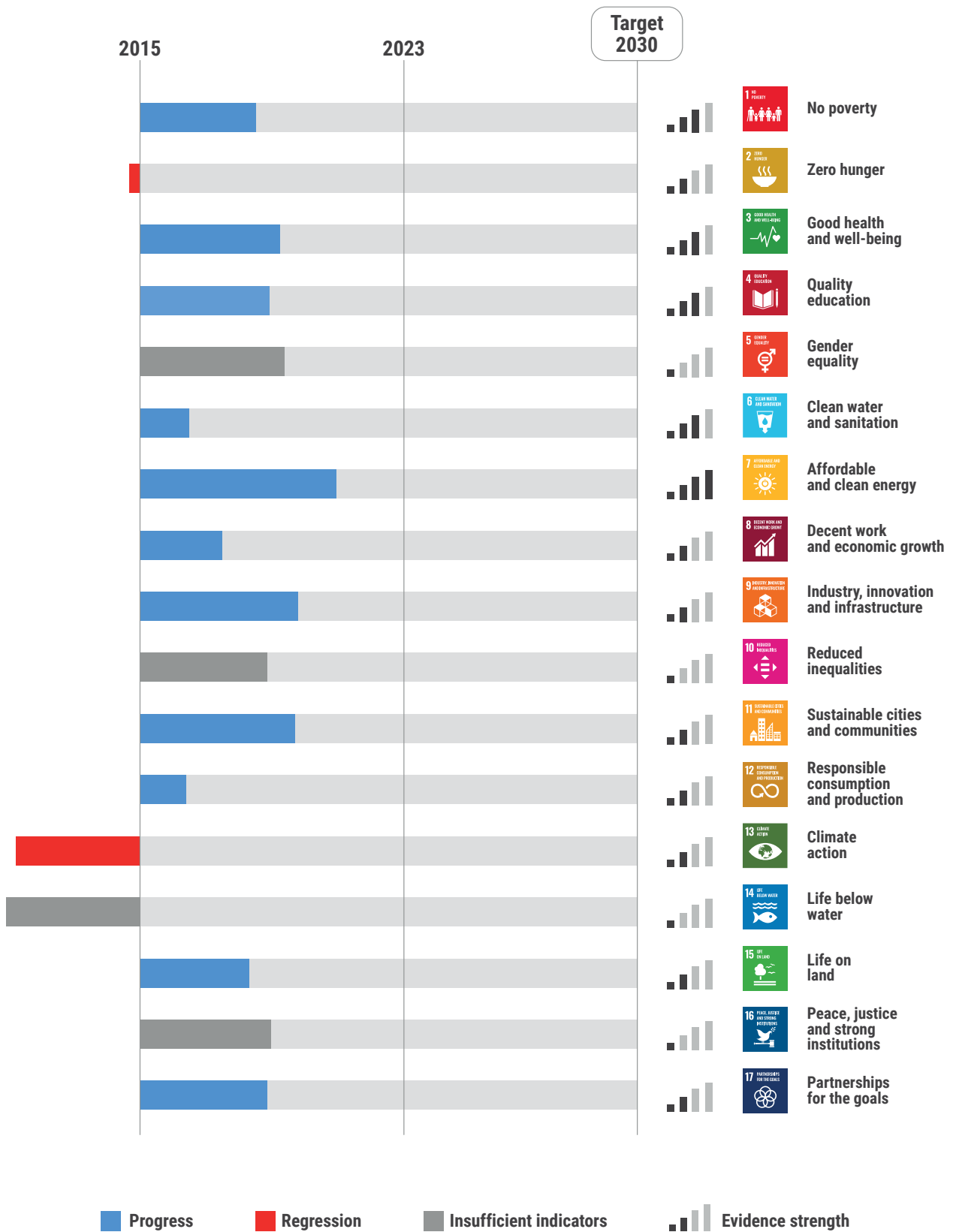
PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

- 17.6 Science and tech international cooperation
- 17.7 Transfer of technologies
- 17.8 Capacity-building for ICT
- 17.10 Multilateral trading system (WTO)
- 17.18 National statistics availability
- 17.19 Statistical capacity
- 17.1 Tax and other revenue collection
- 17.2 ODA commitment by developing countries
- 17.3 Additional financial resources
- 17.4 Debt sustainability
- 17.5 Investment promotion for LDCs
- 17.9 Capacity-building for SDGs
- 17.11 Exports of developing countries
- 17.12 Duty-free market access for LDCs
- 17.13 Global macroeconomic stability
- 17.14 Policy coherence for SD
- 17.15 Respect each country's policy space
- 17.16 Global partnership for SD
- 17.17 Partnerships (public/private CSOs)

- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend to achieve target
- CANNOT be measured

North and Central Asia

Snapshot of SDG progress in North and Central Asia, 2023



Dashboard of expected achievements for North and Central Asia



NO POVERTY

- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.b Poverty eradication policies



ZERO HUNGER

- 2.2 Malnutrition
- 2.4 Sustainable agriculture
- 2.a Investment in agriculture
- 2.1 Undernourishment and food security
- 2.5 Genetic resources for agriculture
- 2.3 Small-scale food producers
- 2.b Agricultural export subsidies
- 2.c Food price anomalies



GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- 3.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.2 Child mortality
- 3.9 Health impact of pollution
- 3.3 Communicable diseases
- 3.4 NCDs and mental health
- 3.5 Substance abuse
- 3.6 Road traffic accidents
- 3.7 Sexual and reproductive health
- 3.a Tobacco control
- 3.b R&D for health
- 3.c Health financing and workforce
- 3.8 Universal health coverage
- 3.d Management of health risks



QUALITY EDUCATION

- 4.6 Adult literacy and numeracy
- 4.1 Effective learning outcomes
- 4.2 Early childhood development
- 4.3 TVET and tertiary education
- 4.4 Skills for employment
- 4.5 Equal access to education
- 4.a Education facilities
- 4.c Qualified teachers
- 4.7 Sustainable development education
- 4.b Scholarships



GENDER EQUALITY

- 5.b Technology for women empowerment
- 5.1 Discrimination against women and girls
- 5.5 Women in leadership
- 5.2 Violence against women and girls
- 5.3 Early marriage
- 5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work
- 5.6 Reproductive health access and rights
- 5.a Equal economic rights
- 5.c Gender equality policies



CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

- 6.1 Safe drinking water
- 6.2 Access to sanitation and hygiene
- 6.4 Water-use efficiency
- 6.b Participatory WS management
- 6.6 Water-related ecosystems
- 6.3 Water quality
- 6.5 Trans-boundary water cooperation
- 6.a International cooperation on WS



AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

- 7.3 Energy efficiency
- 7.a International cooperation on energy
- 7.1 Access to energy services
- 7.b Investing in energy infrastructure
- 7.2 Share of renewable energy



DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- 8.2 Economic productivity and innovation
- 8.5 Full employment and decent work
- 8.6 Youth NEET
- 8.8 Labour rights/safe working environment
- 8.10 Access to financial services
- 8.b Strategy for youth employment
- 8.1 Per capita economic growth
- 8.4 Material resource efficiency
- 8.3 Formalization of SMEs
- 8.7 Child and forced labour
- 8.9 Sustainable tourism
- 8.a Aid for Trade



INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- 9.c Access to ICT and the Internet
- 9.1 Infrastructure development
- 9.2 Sustainable/inclusive industrialization
- 9.4 Sustainable and clean industries
- 9.b Domestic technology development
- 9.5 Research and development
- 9.3 Small-scale industries access to finance
- 9.a Resilient infrastructure



REDUCED INEQUALITIES

- 10.2 Inclusion (socioeconomic, political)
- 10.4 Fiscal and social protection policies
- 10.7 Safe migration and mobility
- 10.1 Income growth (bottom 40 per cent)
- 10.3 Eliminate discrimination
- 10.5 Regulation of financial markets
- 10.6 Inclusive global governance
- 10.a Special and differential treatment (WTO)
- 10.b Resource flows for development
- 10.c Remittance costs



SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- 11.6 Urban air quality/waste management
- 11.2 Public transport systems
- 11.b Disaster risk management policies
- 11.5 Resilience to disasters
- 11.1 Housing and basic services
- 11.3 Sustainable urbanization
- 11.4 Cultural and natural heritage
- 11.7 Urban green and public spaces
- 11.a Urban planning
- 11.c Sustainable and resilient buildings



RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

- 12.4 Managing chemicals and wastes
- 12.a Support for R&D capacity for SD
- 12.b Sustainable tourism monitoring
- 12.c Fossil-fuel subsidies
- 12.2 Sustainable use of natural resources
- 12.1 Programmes on SCP
- 12.3 Food waste and losses
- 12.5 Reduction in waste generation
- 12.6 Corporate sustainable practices
- 12.7 Public procurement practices
- 12.8 Sustainable development awareness



CLIMATE ACTION

- 13.1 Resilience and adaptive capacity
- 13.2 Climate change policies
- 13.3 Climate change awareness
- 13.a UNFCCC commitments
- 13.b Climate change planning and management



LIFE BELOW WATER

- 14.1 Marine pollution
- 14.2 Marine and coastal ecosystems
- 14.3 Ocean acidification
- 14.4 Sustainable fishing
- 14.5 Conservation of coastal areas
- 14.6 Fisheries subsidies
- 14.7 Marine resources for SIDS and LDCs
- 14.a Research capacity and marine technology
- 14.b Small-scale artisanal fishing
- 14.c Implementing UNCLOS



LIFE ON LAND

- 15.1 Terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems
- 15.2 Sustainable forests management
- 15.4 Conservation of mountain ecosystems
- 15.5 Loss of biodiversity
- 15.8 Invasive alien species
- 15.3 Desertification and land degradation
- 15.6 Utilization of genetic resource
- 15.7 Protected species trafficking
- 15.9 Biodiversity in national and local planning
- 15.a Resources for biodiversity and ecosystems
- 15.b Resources for forest management
- 15.c Protected species trafficking (global)



PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

- 16.1 Reduction of violence and related deaths
- 16.6 Effective institutions
- 16.2 Human trafficking
- 16.3 Justice for all
- 16.7 Inclusive decision-making
- 16.4 Illicit financial and arms flows
- 16.5 Corruption and bribery
- 16.8 Inclusive global governance
- 16.9 Legal identity
- 16.10 Public access to information
- 16.a Capacity to prevent violence
- 16.b Non-discriminatory laws



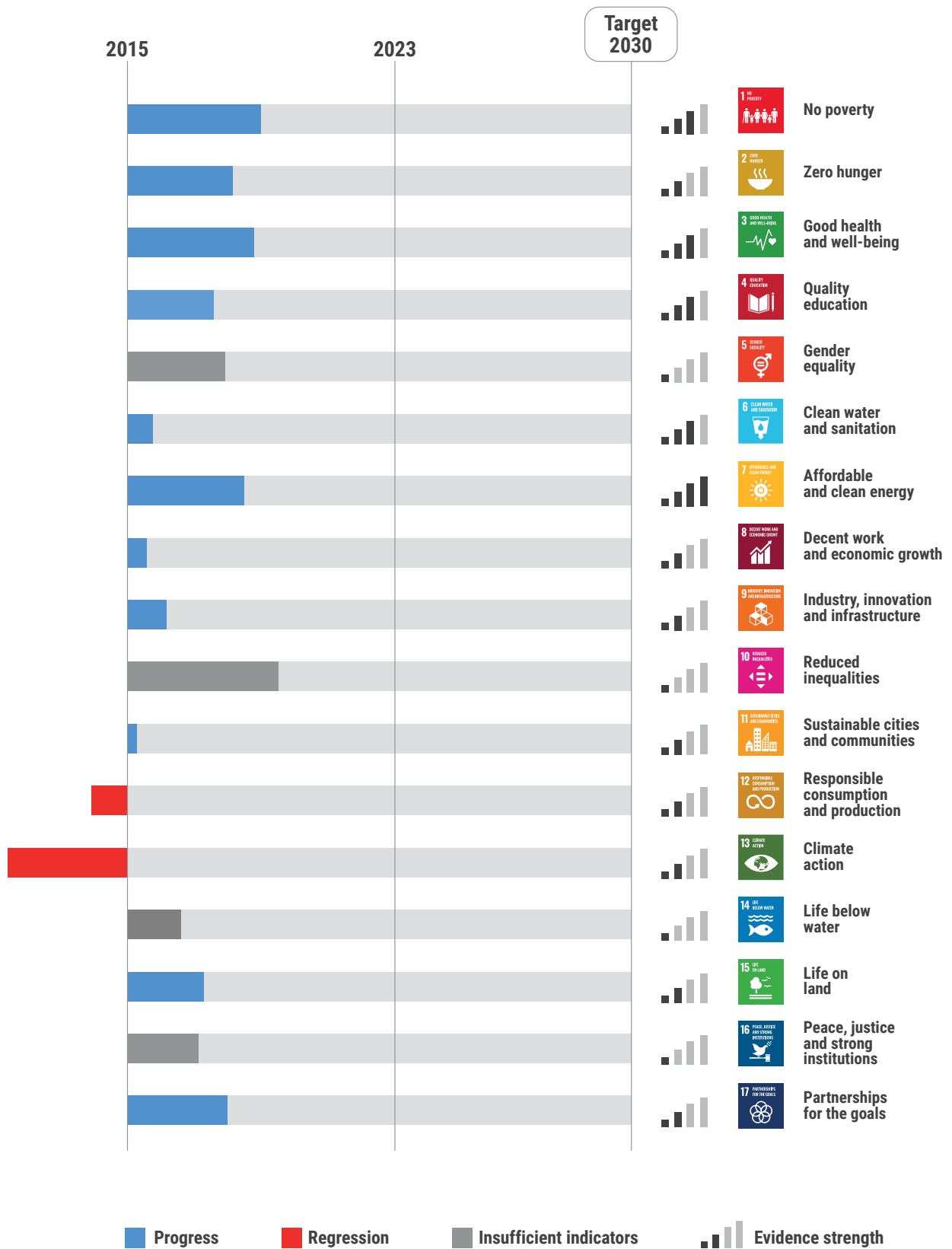
PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

- 17.9 Capacity-building for SDGs
- 17.6 Science and tech international cooperation
- 17.7 Transfer of technologies
- 17.8 Capacity-building for ICT
- 17.10 Multilateral trading system (WTO)
- 17.17 Partnerships (public/private CSOs)
- 17.18 National statistics availability
- 17.19 Statistical capacity
- 17.1 Tax and other revenue collection
- 17.4 Debt sustainability
- 17.2 ODA commitment by developing countries
- 17.3 Additional financial resources
- 17.5 Investment promotion for LDCs
- 17.11 Exports of developing countries
- 17.12 Duty-free market access for LDCs
- 17.13 Global macroeconomic stability
- 17.14 Policy coherence for SD
- 17.15 Respect each country's policy space
- 17.16 Global partnership for SD

- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend to achieve target
- CANNOT be measured

South and South-West Asia

Snapshot of SDG progress in South and South-West Asia, 2023



Dashboard of expected achievements for South and South-West Asia

1 NO POVERTY

- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.b Poverty eradication policies

2 ZERO HUNGER

- 2.4 Sustainable agriculture
- 2.2 Malnutrition
- 2.5 Genetic resources for agriculture
- 2.a Investment in agriculture
- 2.1 Undernourishment and food security
- 2.3 Small-scale food producers
- 2.b Agricultural export subsidies
- 2.c Food price anomalies

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

- 3.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.2 Child mortality
- 3.3 Communicable diseases
- 3.4 NCDs and mental health
- 3.6 Road traffic accidents
- 3.7 Sexual and reproductive health
- 3.9 Health impact of pollution
- 3.a Tobacco control
- 3.b R&D for health
- 3.c Health financing and workforce
- 3.5 Substance abuse
- 3.8 Universal health coverage
- 3.d Management of health risks

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

- 4.1 Effective learning outcomes
- 4.2 Early childhood development
- 4.3 TVET and tertiary education
- 4.6 Adult literacy and numeracy
- 4.c Qualified teachers
- 4.5 Equal access to education
- 4.a Education facilities
- 4.4 Skills for employment
- 4.7 Sustainable development education
- 4.b Scholarships

5 GENDER EQUALITY

- 5.1 Discrimination against women and girls
- 5.5 Women in leadership
- 5.2 Violence against women and girls
- 5.3 Early marriage
- 5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work
- 5.6 Reproductive health access and rights
- 5.a Equal economic rights
- 5.b Technology for women empowerment
- 5.c Gender equality policies

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

- 6.1 Safe drinking water
- 6.2 Access to sanitation and hygiene
- 6.4 Water-use efficiency
- 6.6 Water-related ecosystems
- 6.b Participatory WS management
- 6.3 Water quality
- 6.5 Trans-boundary water cooperation
- 6.a International cooperation on WS

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

- 7.1 Access to energy services
- 7.3 Energy efficiency
- 7.a International cooperation on energy
- 7.b Investing in energy infrastructure
- 7.2 Share of renewable energy

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- 8.1 Per capita economic growth
- 8.2 Economic productivity and innovation
- 8.3 Formalization of SMEs
- 8.6 Youth NEET
- 8.10 Access to financial services
- 8.4 Material resource efficiency
- 8.5 Full employment and decent work
- 8.8 Labour rights/safe working environment
- 8.7 Child and forced labour
- 8.9 Sustainable tourism
- 8.a Aid for Trade
- 8.b Strategy for youth employment

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- 9.c Access to ICT and the Internet
- 9.1 Infrastructure development
- 9.2 Sustainable/inclusive industrialization
- 9.5 Research and development
- 9.4 Sustainable and clean industries
- 9.b Domestic technology development
- 9.3 Small-scale industries access to finance
- 9.a Resilient infrastructure

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

- 10.2 Inclusion (socioeconomic, political)
- 10.4 Fiscal and social protection policies
- 10.7 Safe migration and mobility
- 10.1 Income growth (bottom 40 per cent)
- 10.3 Eliminate discrimination
- 10.5 Regulation of financial markets
- 10.6 Inclusive global governance
- 10.a Special and differential treatment (WTO)
- 10.b Resource flows for development
- 10.c Remittance costs

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

- 11.2 Public transport systems
- 11.6 Urban air quality/waste management
- 11.b Disaster risk management policies
- 11.5 Resilience to disasters
- 11.1 Housing and basic services
- 11.3 Sustainable urbanization
- 11.4 Cultural and natural heritage
- 11.7 Urban green and public spaces
- 11.a Urban planning
- 11.c Sustainable and resilient buildings

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

- 12.a Support for R&D capacity for SD
- 12.c Fossil-fuel subsidies
- 12.2 Sustainable use of natural resources
- 12.b Sustainable tourism monitoring
- 12.1 Programmes on SCP
- 12.3 Food waste and losses
- 12.4 Managing chemicals and wastes
- 12.5 Reduction in waste generation
- 12.6 Corporate sustainable practices
- 12.7 Public procurement practices
- 12.8 Sustainable development awareness

13 CLIMATE ACTION

- 13.1 Resilience and adaptive capacity
- 13.2 Climate change policies
- 13.3 Climate change awareness
- 13.a UNFCCC commitments
- 13.b Climate change planning and management

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

- 14.5 Conservation of coastal areas
- 14.1 Marine pollution
- 14.2 Marine and coastal ecosystems
- 14.3 Ocean acidification
- 14.4 Sustainable fishing
- 14.6 Fisheries subsidies
- 14.7 Marine resources for SIDS and LDCs
- 14.a Research capacity and marine technology
- 14.b Small-scale artisanal fishing
- 14.c Implementing UNCLOS

15 LIFE ON LAND

- 15.8 Invasive alien species
- 15.1 Terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems
- 15.2 Sustainable forests management
- 15.4 Conservation of mountain ecosystems
- 15.5 Loss of biodiversity
- 15.3 Desertification and land degradation
- 15.6 Utilization of genetic resource
- 15.7 Protected species trafficking
- 15.9 Biodiversity in national and local planning
- 15.a Resources for biodiversity and ecosystems
- 15.b Resources for forest management
- 15.c Protected species trafficking (global)

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

- 16.6 Effective institutions
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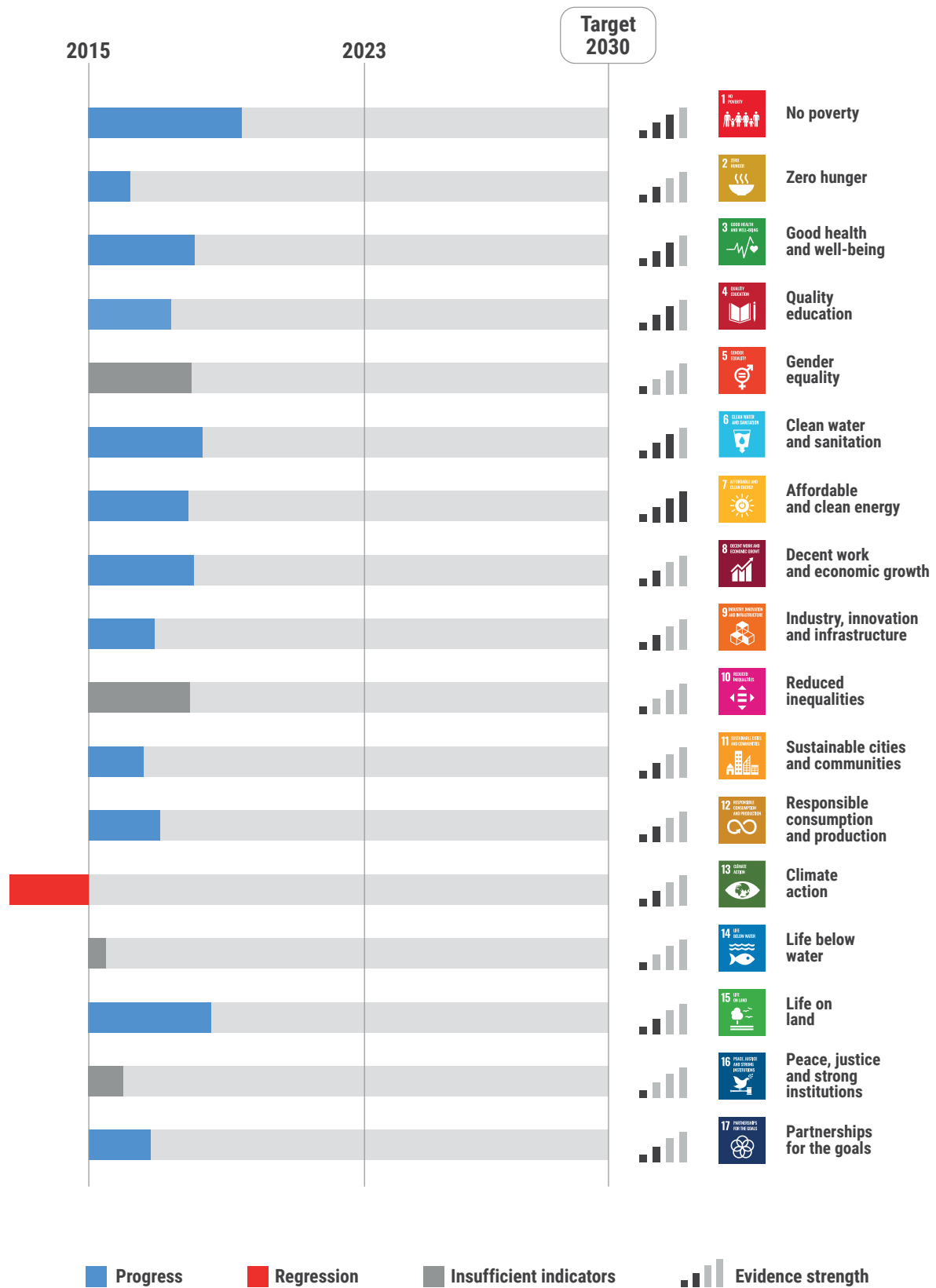
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- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend to achieve target
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Annex 4: Countries and country groups in the Asia-Pacific region

The following lists provides the regional, subregional and other groupings of ESCAP member States and associate members used in this analysis.⁴⁷

REGION: ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Afghanistan; American Samoa; Armenia; Australia; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; China, Hong Kong SAR; China, Macao SAR; Cook Islands; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Fiji; French Polynesia; Georgia; Guam; India; Indonesia; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Japan; Kazakhstan; Kiribati; Kyrgyzstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Maldives; Marshall Islands; Micronesia (Federated States of); Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Niue; Northern Mariana Islands; Pakistan; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Russian Federation; Samoa; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Türkiye; Turkmenistan; Tuvalu; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; Viet Nam.

SUBREGION: THE PACIFIC

American Samoa; Australia; Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Kiribati; Marshall Islands; Micronesia (Federated States of); Nauru; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Niue; Northern Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Tonga; Tuvalu; Vanuatu.

SUBREGION: EAST AND NORTH-EAST ASIA

China; China, Hong Kong SAR; China, Macao SAR; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Japan; Mongolia; Republic of Korea.

SUBREGION: NORTH CENTRAL ASIA

Armenia; Azerbaijan; Georgia; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Russian Federation; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan; Uzbekistan.

SUBREGION: SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Afghanistan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; India; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Maldives; Nepal; Pakistan; Sri Lanka; Türkiye.

SUBREGION: SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; Indonesia; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Malaysia; Myanmar; Philippines; Singapore; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Viet Nam.

⁴⁷ More groupings can be found here: <https://data.unescap.org/stories/escap-database>.

OTHER ASIA-PACIFIC GROUPINGS

Least developed countries (LDCs): Afghanistan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; Kiribati; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Myanmar; Nepal; Solomon Islands; Timor-Leste; Tuvalu.

Landlocked developing countries (LLDCs): Afghanistan; Armenia; Azerbaijan; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Mongolia; Nepal; Tajikistan; Turkmenistan; Uzbekistan.

Small island developing States (SIDS): American Samoa; Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Kiribati; Maldives; Marshall Islands; Micronesia (Federated States of); Nauru; New Caledonia; Niue; Northern Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Tuvalu; Vanuatu.

INCOME GROUPINGS

The World Bank divides countries according to their 2022 gross national income (GNI) per capita, calculated using the World Bank Atlas method. Group classifications are: low income (\$1,135 or less), lower-middle income (\$1,136 and \$4,465), upper-middle income (\$4,466 and \$13,845) and high income (\$13,846 or more). The groupings are as follows:

Low income economies: Afghanistan; Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Lower-middle-income economies: Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; India; Iran (Islamic Republic of); Kiribati; Kyrgyzstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Micronesia (Federated States of); Mongolia; Myanmar; Nepal; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Sri Lanka; Tajikistan; Timor-Leste; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; Viet Nam.

Upper-middle-income economies: Armenia; Azerbaijan; China; Fiji; Georgia; Indonesia; Kazakhstan; Malaysia; Maldives; Marshall Islands; Palau; Russian Federation; Thailand; Tonga; Türkiye; Turkmenistan; Tuvalu.

High-income economies: American Samoa; Australia; Brunei Darussalam; China, Hong Kong SAR; China, Macao SAR; French Polynesia; Guam; Japan; Nauru; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Northern Mariana Islands; Republic of Korea; Singapore.

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This report analyses progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific as well as the availability of data. It shines a spotlight on countries that have demonstrated a commitment to achieve sustainable development. Their progress is a testament that increased capacity in data management and better quality of data can improve policy implementation. This report is a resource for all stakeholders involved in prioritization, planning, implementation and follow up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

