



# THE DECADE OF **ACTION** **BEGINS**

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

MARGARET JONES WILLIAMS

  
**GraceKennedy**  
FOUNDATION

**THE DECADE OF ACTION BEGINS:  
THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
– LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND**

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Published by the GraceKennedy Foundation  
73 Harbour Street, Kingston  
Jamaica, West Indies  
Telephone: (876) 922-3440-9 • Ext. 3540/1

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Manufactured in Jamaica  
ISBN 978-976-8041-43-2 (E-Book)

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## GraceKennedy Foundation

The GraceKennedy Foundation (GKF) was established in 1982, in celebration of the company's 60th anniversary. The Foundation provides assistance in three areas: education, the environment and health and well-being. This is accomplished primarily through the provision of grants, tertiary scholarships, the operation of a food bank for university students, diaspora activities, the funding of the Executive-in-Residence at the Mona School of Business and Management and a Professorial Chair at The University of the West Indies, as well as the Annual Lecture Series.

With all the challenges we face in the world today, many of which have intensified due to COVID-19, the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are even more relevant in helping us plot a sustainable course for our future. Dr. Margaret Jones Williams will explore the adoption of the SDGs, the progress to date and the global challenges such as COVID-19, climate change and natural disasters that have already eroded the development gains. Her lecture will focus on the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Caribbean region which, despite middle-income status and moderate to high human development indices, still experience relatively poor economic growth, high adverse impacts from natural disasters, rising crime and gender inequity.

Since 1989, the GraceKennedy Foundation has used its lecture series to engage the Jamaican public, both locally and in the diaspora, to promote discussion and debate on relevant topics affecting Jamaican society. This is the first time that the lecture will be presented virtually, via the Zoom platform, and that we will be publishing only an e-book. The recording of the lecture will be available on GraceKennedy's YouTube channel and the e-book will be available free of cost at [www.gracekennedy.com](http://www.gracekennedy.com) in the hope that the lecture's reach will extend beyond those present at its delivery.

We are confident that the lecture will become an invaluable resource for all who seek a deeper understanding of significant national issues. The Foundation, as always, welcomes and looks forward to your comments.

*Caroline Mahfood*  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
*GraceKennedy Foundation*

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*Copies of the Lectures are available online at [www.gracekennedy.com](http://www.gracekennedy.com) or from the GraceKennedy Foundation, 64 Harbour Street, Kingston.*

# The GraceKennedy Foundation

## Lecture 2020

### Foreword

Through its Annual Lecture Series inaugurated in 1988, the GraceKennedy Foundation has proven itself a trusted source for intellectual discourse and dissemination of information. We have moved and inspired the Caribbean community with innovative ideas, many of which have been tested and applied to practice in an effort to address the social and economic challenges facing our region. We have developed a community within Jamaica and the diaspora for implementing sustainable change in the areas of education, the environment and healthy lifestyles. Disruptions caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic have in no way hampered our mission of excellence. This year we have chosen yet another pre-eminent scholar to deliver our lecture. For the very first time the presentation is being given virtually and, with this, we aim to reach an even broader audience internationally, to inspire and to influence, in attainment of our continuing goal of thought leadership.

Our 2020 Lecturer is Dr. Margaret Jones Williams, Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Suriname, her topic, “The Decade of Action Begins: The Sustainable Development Goals – Leaving No One Behind.” The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are seventeen goals of the United Nations with an ambitious agenda to effect a global impact within a fifteen-year time frame with the ultimate aim of leaving no one behind. Fully cognizant of the deadline of 2030 fast approaching, she impresses upon us the urgent need for action. She examines the progress that the Caribbean region has made and considers the setbacks and challenges posed by the exigencies of the global pandemic in which we find ourselves.

Dr. Jones Williams comes to us as a highly qualified professional in the field of environment and development. Not only does she have extensive academic experience but, in the true definition of action research, she has applied

her knowledge and expertise by working on the ground directly with every sector of society, including government, the private sector, academia and civil institutions. Born and raised in Jamaica, she began her secondary schooling at Meadowbrook High School, followed by a highly successful tertiary education at The University of the West Indies, where she obtained a BSc in Marine Science and Chemistry and an MPhil in Coastal Zone Management. In 1994, she received the Commonwealth Scholarship to read for a PhD in Environmental Management and Biological Oceanography at the University of Southampton. She has several professional affiliations including being a founding member and Past President of the Jamaica Institute of Environmental Professionals and has published numerous articles through print media and professional journals on topics such as Biodiversity and Climate Change, and Environmental Assessments in Sustainable Development. Dr. Jones Williams has worked for the United Nations since 2009, beginning as a Programme Specialist for the Environment and Energy Programme at the United Nations Development Programme in Jamaica. She gained international experience while working for five years in Lao People's Democratic Republic and now holds the position of Deputy Resident Representative/Head of Office with the UNDP in Suriname. Dr. Margaret Jones Williams is a distinguished scholar in the field of environmental management and development with vast experience in policy and project work.

Dr. Jones Williams comes to us live from Suriname for this Lecture in the series. The United Nations Development Programme for which she works is the main development agency of the United Nations. It is an enormous network that not only gathers relevant data on global issues but has personnel on the ground in 170 countries and territories around the world. Its mission is ambitious, the task enormous in scope and humanitarian in nature. It aims towards the eradication of extreme poverty, reducing inequalities and eliminating exclusion and marginalization. We grow to understand through Dr. Jones Williams' lecture that she has devoted herself and her career to a noble cause, the pledge that in the pursuit of the achievement of sustainable developmental goals we shall, indeed, Leave No One Behind. The United Nations' mandate has been to create a framework for realizing a future that

we want for all people, irrespective of nationality, race, creed or religion. Her lecture is about helping us understand the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and the mechanism for achieving them within this framework of 169 targets which the United Nations has established.

By first providing a historical perspective on how these goals were formulated, Dr. Jones Williams shows clearly the dedication of peoples around the world to join a collective effort to put in place measures to address the environment and human rights, and to alleviate conditions of poverty and hunger. The coming of the millennium was the catalyst for bringing together thousands of participants from over 100 countries to establish a framework for development. The programme for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was launched in September 2000 with a target date of 2015. The purpose of the MDGs was to eradicate poverty, to improve the lives of the most vulnerable in the world's poorest countries. The data Dr. Jones Williams presents drives us to new levels of optimism, to realize that with the dedication and commitment of various sectors within countries around the world, it is possible to lift people out of poverty; that, yes, concerted efforts of individuals and groups can reduce hunger, advance health and gender equity, improve access to education and strengthen environmental sustainability. We cannot help but be drawn into a positive frame of mind, to accept the fact that it is possible to make this world a better place in which to live, when we are told, for example, that between 1990 and 2015 the number of people living in extreme poverty declined by more than half.

Dr. Jones Williams conveys a sense of how gargantuan a task it is for an organization such as the United Nations to formulate and to achieve development goals. By 2015, world leaders recognized that the MDGs would not all be achieved. A new agenda was fixed and a framework established for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals for the year 2030. The objective was to make the job even more ambitious and all-encompassing. A million voices confirmed that not only were the original goals important; it was vital that not only the developing countries be included but the entire world. It was a universal call to action. She presents graphs and charts to show



that real progress has already been made in reaching each of the goals. For example, data shows that the percentage of the world's population in abject poverty is projected to fall from 35.9 percent in 1990 to 6.0 percent in 2030. The level for 2018 was reported to be at 8.6 percent.

Just as some statistics give us hope and optimism, others that she is not reticent to show, alarm us, and jolt us into wanting to take action. The environment is a concern, one that should get the attention of all, especially of governments and private businesses in small island states. Ninety percent of these countries' GDP is generated within coastal areas, which makes the protection of marine ecosystems critical. Islands in the Caribbean are at risk. In Jamaica, impacts of climate change have been manifested in many ways including increased air and sea temperatures, changes in rainfall patterns and increase in sea levels. On a global level, biodiversity loss is accelerating and will lead to extinction of hundreds of species if more radical action is not taken.

Achieving the SDGs is a daunting challenge, especially with the threats that we now face from the ravages of a global pandemic. The poorest on the planet are the most vulnerable, falling victim not only to illness but to the adverse effects of climate change, access to basic social services, rising inequalities and the persistence of extreme poverty. The resources of every sector of society including government, the private sector and civil society have been stretched. Yet, Dr. Jones Williams brings to this otherwise bleak picture of a global crisis, an optimism, an exhortation for each of us, individuals and groups alike, to embrace a moral imperative. Our planet is at risk but the resources and solutions exist for us to act collectively. The UNDP has risen to the challenge, to work even more assiduously with other UN agencies, with governments, civil society, the private sector and academia to raise the financial resources necessary, to provide the technical expertise and the guidelines to confront the global crisis. She admits with candour and in no uncertain terms that the pandemic is affecting negatively the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, but she shows us that the setbacks we face are propelling us forward, making us realize how urgent the tasks for

improved development are for populations around the world, and how dire is the need now that we Leave No One Behind.

Dr. Jones Williams' outstanding scholarship, her intimate knowledge of the operations of the United Nations Development Programme and the compelling way in which she conveys information leave us with new understandings. We come away with a realization of the enormity of the task of global development but with the consolation that measurable progress has been made over the last two decades. We gain insight into new transformational ways of implementing solutions, that it must take collaboration and cooperation, that it requires partnerships involving individuals, groups and all sectors of society. No one individual or group or nation can be exempt. We each have a responsibility to work for the common and greater good.

We are charged to act, not in isolation, but with the comfort of knowing that not all is being left to chance, that there is oversight, there is a programme of goals and targets, that governments and multi-nationals are being pressured to enforce regulations that will lead to the improvement of our planet. We do continue to need a regulatory body such as the United Nations, for the risks of unbridled economic growth are too great, the threat of nationalism and protectionism too real for us to ignore the challenge and pledge that we Leave No One Behind. The future of our planet is at stake.

*Fred W. Kennedy*  
*Chair, GraceKennedy Foundation*  
*September 2020*

## Acknowledgements

I wish to thank the GraceKennedy Foundation, most sincerely, for inviting me to participate in its Lecture Series that began in 1989 and has been staged each year since its inception. The significance of this honour is not lost on me, having taken note of the esteemed professionals who preceded me at the lectern. I thank the team at GraceKennedy Foundation including Caroline Mahfood and Charmaine McKenzie for their guidance and immense patience, Tamai Edwards for research support and Mr. Fred Kennedy for his inspiring conversations.

The GraceKennedy Foundation is to be acknowledged for its commitment to the vision for the Lecture Series, making history with the lecture this year being delivered virtually via Zoom. I am as pleased as I am honoured, to blaze the trail for what may yet be the norm for the foreseeable future.

I must also acknowledge the organization for which I work, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), for the immense privilege of being a member of staff and being counted among over 17,000 staff working on the ground in over 170 countries, seeking to address and advance development issues. Specifically, I would like to recognize Mr. Lenni Montiel, Deputy Director of UNDP's Regional Bureau of Latin America and the Caribbean, and Mr. Jairo Valverde Bermudez, UNDP Resident Representative for Guyana and Suriname, for allowing me the professional space to give this lecture and for their guidance and advice along the way. For other colleagues in the UNDP family at Headquarters, Regional and Country Office level who supported the process especially Denis Antonio, UNDP Resident Representative in Jamaica, Richard Kelly and Gillian Scott (UNDP Jamaica), Vanessa Hidalgo (UNDP Panama Regional Hub) and Julissa Marte (UNDP Suriname), I am grateful.

The content of the lecture is derived from many published reports and online sources and I must say thank you to all the persons, governments and UN agencies responsible for the references, citations, reports, quotations, events and interviews, from which I have been able to source information. All are duly acknowledged in the list of references.

To my current and former supervisors, bosses and employers, I say thank you for providing me with, and contributing to, immense opportunities for learning, exposure and professional growth.

Thanks, of course, to my family. To my parents, Edmund and Dorothy Jones, for their stand for family – demonstrated in giving all their children grounding with roots and yet wings to fly; for their citizenship – demonstrated in over 70 years of combined, dedicated service as Jamaican civil servants. To my siblings Edmund (Mudge), Celia and Jeremy for the joys of growing up in our family, for constant encouragement and support of my endeavours, and for the bond that we will forever share; to my daughter, Emily, and my son, Thomas John, for the immense privilege of being their mother and for wonderfully and courageously travelling the world with me.

*Margaret Jones Williams, PhD*



Margaret Jones Williams, PhD

## **THE LECTURE**

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## OVERVIEW

### The Decade of Action Begins: The Sustainable Development Goals – Leaving No One Behind

At the turn of the millennium in 2000 the world heralded the Millennium Development Goals – the MDGs. Eight goals, which ranged from halving extreme poverty to reducing the spread of HIV and AIDS and to providing universal primary education. All set with a target date of 2015. At the end of 2015, with some progress on the MDGs, the world then heralded a new set of goals, the SDGs – the Sustainable Development Goals, which move forward on the unfinished business of the MDGs. The Sustainable Development Goals are a first in human history. The SDGs, seventeen ambitious goals, the 2030 Agenda, with a fifteen-year time frame, are a global compact to create a future where no one is left behind.

At the beginning of 2020, just ten years from the SDG deadline, the Decade of Action began. Ten years to achieve an ambitious set of goals. A race to the finish line. Shortly after the launch of the Decade of Action in 2020, countries all around the globe were caught in the unprecedented grip of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. The global pandemic is a health crisis, a development crisis, a human rights crisis and a humanitarian crisis of epic proportions; a crisis that already has begun to erode the development gains of the SDGs. The crisis has already been shown to have greatest impact on the most vulnerable populations and those most at risk of being left behind.

UNDP's work is contributing to the achievement of the SDGs and UNDP's Six Signature Solutions are pivotal to the 2030 Agenda and to the response to the crisis.

This lecture will explore the historical context of the MDGs, the adoption of the SDGs, and recorded progress. The Caribbean region, including Small

Island Developing States (IDS), despite middle-income status and moderate to high human development indices, still experiences relatively poor economic growth, high impacts from natural disasters, rising crime and gender inequity. The SDGs are an avenue to address these issues, even during the global pandemic.

The humanitarian-development nexus, the need to strengthen national capacities and the requirement to broaden partnerships, including with the private sector, are necessary in the effort to ensure we Leave No One Behind.



## **CHAPTER 1**

### **The Millennium Development Goals – The Dawn of the Millennium**

#### **The Millennium Summit 2000**

In December 1999 there was a lot of excitement and activity around the end of the year; it was New Year's Eve, the turn of the century and much more than just that – we were facing the turn of the millennium. There were fears that computers would crash, people would be locked out of their bank accounts and we would wake up to see a very different world. On January 1, 2000, we woke up to see the world very much the same as it was the day before.

From September 6–8, 2000 world leaders gathered at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York for the Millennium Summit, to discuss the role of the United Nations at the turn of the twenty-first century. The Millennium Summit was focussed on various global issues, such as poverty, AIDS, and fair benefit-sharing of globalization. After three days of deliberations, the United Nations General Assembly adopted some sixty goals regarding peace, development, environment, human rights, the vulnerable, the poor and the hungry. This was done through the United Nations Millennium Declaration (Resolution 55/2).<sup>1</sup> The Millennium Declaration has eight chapters, and these were adopted by the 189 world leaders who participated in the Millennium Summit.

Preparations for the Millennium Summit in September 2000 were launched with the report of the United Nations Secretary-General, *We the Peoples: The Role of the United Nations in the Twenty-First Century*.<sup>2</sup> This report had the benefit of inputs from the Millennium Forum which was held in May 2000 and which brought together over 1,000 participants from non-governmental organizations and civil society, representing over 100 countries.<sup>3</sup> This Millennium Forum was the conclusion of a two-year consultative process covering key development issues of poverty eradication, environmental protection, human rights and protection of vulnerable populations. In this report, the UN Secretary-General noted the importance

of globalization in the world and grouped the global issues being faced under three broad headings, each of which related to a fundamental human freedom. These were: freedom from want, freedom from fear, and the freedom of future generations to sustain their lives on the planet.<sup>4</sup>

The eight chapters of the Millennium Declaration are:

1. Values and Principles
  - Freedom
  - Equality
  - Solidarity
  - Tolerance
  - Respect for nature
  - Shared responsibility
2. Peace, Security and Disarmament
3. Development and Poverty Eradication
4. Protecting our Common Environment
5. Human Rights, Democracy and Good Governance
6. Protecting the Vulnerable
7. Meeting the Special Needs of Africa
8. Strengthening the United Nations

## **What Are the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)?**

The framework for the implementation and the progress of the Millennium Declaration was through the Millennium Development Goals<sup>5</sup> which were established following the Millennium Summit in September 2000.

The Millennium Development Goals were born and launched in September 2000, with a target end date of 2015. The main purpose of the MDGs was to eradicate extreme poverty and to help citizens of the world's poorest countries to achieve a better life by the year 2015. In fact, the MDGs were to "free all men, women, and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty."<sup>6</sup>

The eight MDGs are:

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a global partnership for development

These MDGs were communicated through appealing and colourful icons, aimed at engaging and motivating the world towards their achievements.<sup>7</sup> The Millennium Development Goals were backed by the values and principles outlined in the Millennium Declaration.

**Figure 1.1**  
**Icons of the Eight Millennium Development Goals**



By the end of the targeted fifteen-year period and at the deadline of December 2015, several of the MDGs were achieved. *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015*<sup>8</sup> showed that the efforts over the fifteen-year period had produced the most successful anti-poverty movement in history:<sup>9</sup>

- Since 1990, the number of people living in extreme poverty has declined by more than half

- The proportion of undernourished people in the developing regions has fallen by almost half
- The primary school enrollment rate in the developing regions has reached 91 percent, and many more girls are now in school compared to 15 years ago
- Remarkable gains have also been made in the fight against HIV and AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis
- The under-five mortality rate has declined by more than half, and maternal mortality is down 45 percent worldwide
- The target of halving the proportion of people who lack access to improved sources of water was also met

The concerted and dedicated efforts of governments, civil society, the international community and the private sector have helped expand hope and opportunity for people around the world. For MDG 1, Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger, the UN reported some significant achievements<sup>10</sup> as shown in Box 1.1.

#### Box 1.1

#### Example of MDG Targets Achieved<sup>11</sup>

##### **Target 1.A – Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than \$1.25 a day.**

The following achievements were recorded:

- The target of reducing extreme poverty rates by half was met five years ahead of the 2015 deadline.
- More than 1 billion people have been lifted out of extreme poverty since 1990.
- In 1990, nearly half of the population in the developing regions lived on less than \$1.25 a day. This rate dropped to 14 per cent in 2015.
- At the global level more than 800 million people are still living in extreme poverty.

##### **Target 1.C – Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger**

- The proportion of undernourished people in the developing regions has fallen by almost half since 1990.
- Globally, about 795 million people are estimated to be undernourished.
- More than 90 million children under age five are still undernourished and underweight.
- Unfortunately, not all targets have been able to record the same level of success.

**Target 1.B – Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people**

- Globally, 300 million workers lived below the \$1.25 a day poverty line in 2015.
- The global employment-to-population ratio – the proportion of the working-age population that is employed – has fallen from 62 per cent in 1991 to 60 per cent in 2015, with an especially significant downturn during the global economic crisis of 2008/2009.
- Only four in ten young women and men aged 15-24 are employed in 2015, compared with five in ten in 1991.

For all eight of the MDGs specific achievements and targets have been met. Key achievements are summarized in Table 1.1.

**Table 1.1**  
**Specific Targets and their Achievements<sup>12</sup>**

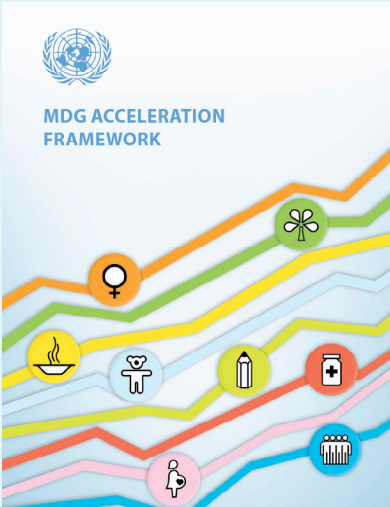
MDG	Baseline	Target	Level Achieved
1	1.9 billion (in extreme poverty)	Reduce extreme poverty by 50%	736 million
2	83% (primary school enrolment rate)	100% primary school enrollment and full completion worldwide	91%
3	74 girls to every 100 boys (enrolled in primary school: Southern Asia)	Eliminate disparity in primary school education	103 girls to every 100 boys
4	90 deaths per 100 live births	Reduce the under-five mortality rate by 2/3	43 deaths per 100 live births
5	330 deaths per 100, 000 live births (maternal mortality rate)	Reduce maternal mortality rate by 75%	210 deaths per 100,000 live births
6	3.5 million cases (HIV infections)	Halt and reverse the spread of HIV and AIDS	2.1 million cases
7	2.3 billion people (with piped drinking water)	Reduce the proportion of people without access to safe drinking water by 50%	4.2 billion people
8	US\$81 billion (development assistance)	--	US\$135 billion

In the years leading up to the 2015 MDG deadline, several countries were recording off-track progress on the MDG targets ahead of them. As a result

of this, the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) endorsed an initiative called the MDG Accelerated Framework (MAF), designed as a tool to support governments in MDG acceleration<sup>13</sup> and on renewing efforts to achieve them.

### Box 1.2

#### The MDG Acceleration Framework<sup>14</sup>



**1. What is the MAF?**

The MAF is a methodological framework offering governments and their partners a systematic way to identify and prioritize bottlenecks to progress on MDG targets that are off track, as well as 'acceleration' solutions to these bottlenecks.<sup>1</sup>

The MAF starts by identifying off-track MDGs —those for which one or more targets are likely to be missed at the current rate of progress — that the country wants to address. The methodology takes the stakeholders through four systematic steps for each off-track MDG target:

- **Step 1:** Prioritization of country-specific interventions
- **Step 2:** Identification and prioritization of bottlenecks to the effective implementation, at scale, of these prioritized interventions
- **Step 3:** Selection of feasible, multi-partner acceleration solutions to overcome the prioritized bottlenecks
- **Step 4:** Planning and monitoring of the implementation of the selected solutions

The MAF embodied a methodological framework that helped countries to identify the bottlenecks on lagging MDG targets and to identify solutions to accelerating the progress towards achieving the targets. The

MAF was developed and tested by the UNDP in 2010 and endorsed by the UNDG in December of that year, thus giving governments a four-year window on opportunities to accelerate progress on the MDGs. Reports showed that thirty countries participated in this process and prepared their final reports and uploaded these to the MAF global website.<sup>15</sup> Of the thirty countries, five were from the region of Latin America and the Caribbean – Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guyana.

In the region of Latin America and the Caribbean, achievement of the MDGs was recorded in the report *Millennium Development Goals – Achieving the Millennium Development Goals with Equality in Latin America and the Caribbean: Progress and Challenges*.<sup>16</sup> Most of the achievements, particularly those related to poverty reduction, took place in the six-year period between 2002 and 2008, before the global recession. While achievements were recorded, several countries had difficulty in achieving full compliance. However, the report focussed on a rights-based approach to integrating human rights into the MDGs and ensuring gender equality, and reduction of socio-economic gaps and barriers. The way forward for advancing development in the region was presented as being through productive employment and decent work, environmental sustainability, technology and innovation and the benefits of South–South cooperation.

### Box 1.3

#### Highlights of MDG Achievements in Latin America and the Caribbean<sup>17</sup>

- The region has progressed 85 percent in reaching the goal of halving extreme poverty (MDG 1). If it continues at this rate, Latin America could achieve this objective by 2015.
- In education (MDG 2), Latin America and the Caribbean progressed significantly in terms of coverage and access. Most countries have registration rates close to or over 90 percent, similar to developed countries. However, there is still much to do in coverage and quality of high school education.
- As for gender equality (MDG 3), the gaps with regard to men have diminished over the past 15 years, but the rate of progress has been slow. The report states that the three necessary pillars for attaining gender equality are economic independence, physical autonomy and participation in decision-making.

- In relation to the right to health, expressed in MDG 4,5 and 6, the health conditions of the population have no doubt improved, but progress is very unequal and heterogeneous, and with regard to some indicators, insufficient. For example, only a third of countries may be able to meet the goal of reducing infant mortality by 50 percent, given that regional progress in 2009 was 79 percent.
- With regard to MDG 7 referring to environmental sustainability, the consumption of ozone-depleting substances has diminished, the surface of protected areas has increased over the past decade and coverage of potable water and sanitation services has improved. However, Latin America continues to have some of the highest deforestation rates in the world and carbon dioxide emissions have grown steadily.
- Regarding MDG 8 on fomenting a global partnership for development, the region made significant progress in its international insertion between 2005 and 2009, although the international crisis caused its exports to drop drastically.

Individual countries have of course submitted their MDG reports, some more than one report, and the Caribbean has recorded good levels of compliance in reporting. These reports highlight the key findings, successes and challenges for each country.

## **Barbados<sup>18</sup>**

Barbados in 2007 reported that it had achieved the majority of the MDG targets with a strong commitment of the government to the concept and vision of the United Nations in pursuit of the MDGs.

Some key successes reported by Barbados in 2007:

- All Barbadians have access to free primary, secondary and tuition-free tertiary education
- Barbadians can access the publicly-funded health care system
- Access to some free pharmaceuticals, including antiretroviral treatment for HIV and AIDS
- 100 percent access to clean drinking water and improved sanitation



- In an effort to build resilience to external shocks, Barbados focussed on developing a globally competitive society and Barbados' National Strategic Plan, 2005–2025 which has five goals that focus on building national pride and independence, strengthening governance systems, building social capital, gender mainstreaming and infrastructure development. Goal 1 of the Barbados National Strategic Plan 2005–2025, Unleashing the spirit of the nation, seeks to harness creativity, pride, adaptability and independence and develop an international brand

Some key challenges reported by Barbados:

- Barbados indicated their view that the MDGs will only be achieved if MDG 8, Global Partnership for Development, is fully addressed
- With graduation to middle-income status, Barbados no longer has access to a range of funding mechanisms, particularly through traditional Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) channels
- Vulnerabilities as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) can impact sustainable development

## **Jamaica<sup>19</sup>**

In 2009 Jamaica reported some achievement on several MDG targets. While being on track to achieving some, it was lagging behind on others.

Some key successes reported by Jamaica:

- Halving the number of people below the poverty line
- Halving the number of people suffering from hunger
- In primary education, net enrollment over 90 percent, gross enrolment almost 100 percent
- On track for combatting HIV and AIDS
- On track for halting and reversing the incidence of malaria and tuberculosis

- On track for access to reproductive health, provision of safe drinking water and basic sanitation
- A long-term National Development Plan, Vision 2030 Jamaica, was prepared in collaboration with the private sector and civil society. Vision 2030 envisages Jamaica reaching developed country status by 2030

Jamaica also noted in its report that, “Lessons from Jamaica’s successes can help less developed countries; regression in its development would threaten the entire Caribbean region.”

Some key challenges reported by Jamaica:

- Lagging in gender equality and environmental sustainability, reporting far behind in child and maternal mortality targets
- The heavy debt burden is an impediment to greater MDG achievements. Debt repayment impacts addressing key issues of educational transformation, youth vulnerability and urban decay
- Improvement in the areas above could have a significant impact on violence reduction and on economic growth
- Costs of environmental conservation and disaster risk reduction are increasing due to climate change
- A great internal challenge is homicidal violence with a murder rate at 60 per 100 000 people in 2008
- Jamaica is highly vulnerable to hurricanes, flooding and earthquakes and in 2005 was listed third among 75 countries with two or more hazards, with 95 percent of its total area at risk<sup>20</sup>
- Economic recession compounding all these issues

#### Box 1.4

### Highlights of the Millennium Development Goals Report 2015<sup>21</sup>



- The number of people now living in extreme poverty has declined by more than half, falling from 1.9 billion in 1990 to 836 million in 2015
- The number of people in the working middle class – living on more than \$4 a day – nearly tripled between 1991 and 2015
- The proportion of undernourished people in the developing regions dropped by almost half since 1990
- The number of out-of-school children of primary school age worldwide fell by almost half, to an estimated 57 million in 2015, down from 100 million in 2000
- Gender parity in primary school has been achieved in the majority of countries
- The mortality rate of children under-five was cut by more than half since 1990
- Since 1990, maternal mortality fell by 45 percent worldwide
- Over 6.2 million malaria deaths have been averted between 2000 and 2015

The final report of the achievement of the MDGs showed that with the setting of specific goals, supporting quantifiable targets, dedication and

commitment of various sectors, and with the engagement of government and non-government entities, achievements could be made to lift people out of poverty, reduce hunger, advance health, improve access to education, strengthen environmental sustainability and advance gender equity.

## **After the MDGs, the SDGs**

While the commitment to the MDGs was strong and several achievements were recorded, the job remained unfinished for millions of people around the world who still lived in poverty, who lacked access to basic services, who did not have access to education and who were being buffeted by the impacts of climate change.

World leaders, recognizing that by 2015 the MDGs would not all have been achieved, began dialogue on what would be done after the 2015 timeline. A new framework called Agenda 2030, or the Sustainable Development Goals, started in 2015. These were elaborated through the Post-2015 Development Agenda, a process that took place from 2012 to 2015. The United Nations led the process to define the future global development framework that would succeed the Millennium Development Goals, the Sustainable Development Goals – a set of seventeen new goals with 169 targets and a new timeline, a target date of 2030.

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## **CHAPTER 2**

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### **The Sustainable Development Goals – The Unfinished Business of the Millennium Development Goals**

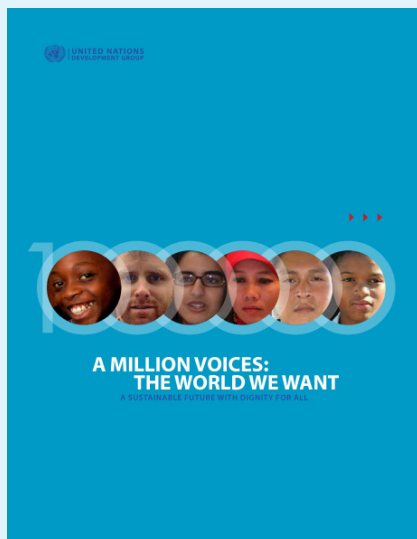
#### **The Development of the 2030 Agenda**

The turn of the century and the dawn of the new millennium heralded an opportunity to focus on the world's development and the MDGs were endorsed to take the world forward into the twenty-first century. Recognizing that the countries of the world, and the world as a whole, would not achieve all the MDGs by the 2015 deadline, a new set of goals and targets was needed. Extensive consultations were done at national, regional and global levels to determine how to move beyond the unfinished business of the MDGs and create new goals and targets, relevant to new and emerging global issues, that would continue to lead the world into improving lives and living conditions for all people.

A new agenda was needed. For approximately one year, through national consultations, thematic dialogues and a global survey called MY World, the perspectives of over one million people were collected. Special efforts were made to broaden the inclusivity agenda, to reach out to the poor, the marginalized and the vulnerable, ensuring inclusion of voices that were not usually heard. The report entitled *A Million Voices: The World We Want*,<sup>1, 2</sup> represented a major effort to tap into the opening words of the United Nations Charter, “We the Peoples.” Those voices determined that the key agenda items of the MDGs – health, education, water and sanitation, gender equality – were still important, not just for developing countries but for the entire world, and the first task of any new agenda should be to finish the unfinished business of the MDGs, then strengthen ambitions in other areas including reducing injustice due to inequalities and insecurities.



**Box 2.1**  
**The Future We Want<sup>3</sup>**



Because the MDGs were to be achieved by 2015, a lot of work was needed and further discussion and dialogue needed to be held, and these were well in advance of the end of 2015 deadline. The United Nations knew that an agenda beyond 2015 was needed. On this post-2015 agenda the UN System Task Team prepared a report to the UN Secretary General in 2012 entitled *Realizing The Future We Want*.

This report was the first attempt to achieve the requirements of the Future We Want document. *Realizing the Future We Want* identified four dimensions as part of a global vision for sustainable development:

1. Inclusive Social Development
2. Environmental Sustainability
3. Inclusive Economic Development
4. Peace and Security

The SDGs were formulated<sup>4</sup> at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012. The main objective of the SDGs was to produce a set of goals, comprehensive in span and universal in nature, covering the unfinished MDG business and moving into addressing new and emerging issues to meet the challenges being faced in the world across several spectrums including environmental, political and economic challenges.

The SDGs consist of seventeen interconnected goals. The interconnectedness implies that success in one goal can affect success for other goals. For example, combatting the threat of climate change affects how we manage our fragile natural resources and conserve biodiversity. Achieving gender equality or better health helps eradicate poverty. Fostering peace and inclusive societies will reduce inequality and help struggling economies to prosper. In short, the SDGs present a chance to improve life for future generations.

The SDGs coincided in 2015 with other global agreements including the historic Paris Agreement on Climate Change<sup>5</sup> which was reached at the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP21) in December 2015; the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (Japan, March 2015),<sup>6</sup> and Addis Ababa Action Agenda for Financing for Development (July 2015).<sup>7</sup> Those three agreements provide a set of common standards and achievable targets to reduce carbon emissions, manage the risks of climate change and natural disasters, to build back better after a crisis and to identify sustainable financing pathways.

As the era of the MDGs ended in 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adapted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit by the 193 member states.

## **Welcome to the SDGs**

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals<sup>8</sup> cover development issues ranging from reducing poverty to ensuring healthy lives, through to empowerment of women, access to water, conservation of biodiversity, access to clean and affordable energy, just and peaceful societies and strong partnerships. The SDGs, like the MDGs, are represented by visually appealing, colourful and

engaging icons, represented individually or together as the SDG tiles and also as the SDG wheel.

The 17 SDGs have within them 169 targets<sup>9</sup> (Annex 1) and it is important to understand not just the overarching goals but also the targets contained within them, as each represents specific areas to be addressed.

What exactly are the SDGs? The SDGs are a universal call to action – to end poverty, ensure that people enjoy peace and prosperity and to protect the planet – with a deadline to achieve set targets by 2030. The SDGs rely on the fact that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability.

**Box 2.2**  
**The 17 SDGs<sup>10</sup>**

Goal 1:	End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Goal 2:	Zero Hunger
Goal 3:	Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Goal 4:	Quality Education
Goal 5:	Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Goal 6:	Ensure access to water and sanitation for all
Goal 7:	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy
Goal 8:	Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all
Goal 9:	Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
Goal 10:	Reduce inequality within and among countries
Goal 11:	Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 11:	Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 12:	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Goal 13:	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Goal 14:	Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources
Goal 15:	Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss

Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies

Goal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development finance



## Snapshot of What the SDGs Seek to Achieve<sup>11</sup>

**SDG 1 No Poverty:** Aims to end extreme poverty by 2030. The MDG goal to cut poverty by half in fifteen years was, in fact, achieved. But, still, over 800 million people live on less than USD 1.25 per day, and SDG 1 seeks to address this.

**SDG 2 Zero Hunger:** Many countries that previously suffered from famine and hunger are able to meet the food needs of the most vulnerable in their populations. However, hunger, under-nourishment and malnourishment still exist and an average of 1 out of 9 people goes to bed hungry every night.

**SDG 3 Good Health and Well Being:** Since 1990, preventable child mortality has been reduced by more than half and maternal mortality has been reduced almost by half, but still reports show that every year 6 million children die before their fifth birthday.

**SDG 4 Quality Education:** Since 2000 primary enrolment has increased; in developing countries 91 percent of children are enrolled in primary school. Issues such as poverty, armed conflict and disasters can

prevent children from attending school. While primary enrollment is good, secondary education, vocational training and access to higher education still require attention.

**SDG 5 Gender Equality:** While the profile has been raised globally on the need for gender equality, in many areas women and girls are still behind. There are still inequalities such as in access to work, equal wages and unpaid work. In 2015, when compared to 2000, more girls were in school and so there has been progress, which must continue.

**SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation:** Water scarcity affects more than 40 percent of the world's population and this number is expected to increase with the impact of global warming and climate change. Protection of wetlands, waterways and rivers, reduction of saline intrusion and technological advances in water catchment are needed to accomplish this goal.

**SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy:** Between 1990 and 2010, the number of people with access to electricity increased by 1.7 billion but there are still many people without electricity or without access to affordable and renewable sources of electricity. Options for renewable energy from the sun, wind, the ocean or biogas need to be explored and applied.

**SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth:** While the group of working middle class has almost tripled in size from 1990 to 2015, there are still many people, over 200 million, who are without decent work to support their families. Widening inequalities, on-going forced labour and human trafficking are still prevalent and the aim is to have decent work for all men and women.

**SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure:** The age of technology is upon us and has been for a few decades. Still, in 2015 there were 4 billion people without access to Internet and still more, even with

Internet, who are behind in digital literacy. Investments in innovation, scientific research and infrastructure development are all needed.

**SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities:** Rising inequalities has been a consistent global challenge. Sayings like, “The rich get richer and the poor get poorer,” and there is a divide between the “Haves and the Have-Nots,” are still relevant. This can be addressed with safe and regulated migration, development aid, financial market regulation and appropriate policies, which can help to narrow the inequality gap.

**SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities:** Cities are continuing to grow. In 1990 the world recorded ten mega-cities, cities with over 10 million inhabitants or more. This number rose to 28 mega-cities in 2014. Cities create high energy demand and high water demand, and often have large pockets of poverty and minimal environmental considerations. More sustainable cities are needed through green architecture and sound urban planning.

**SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production:** Consumption patterns continue to show an increase and people invent and other people buy and use more and more things. Food waste continues to rise while many people still go hungry. Reducing food waste and reducing unnecessary consumption should be promoted with reusing and recycling.

**SDG 13 Climate Action:** Climate change has long been acknowledged as a major development issue affecting the entire world. Global warming, sea-level rise, coral bleaching, saline intrusion in freshwater aquifers, rising air temperatures, melting polar ice-caps, glacial outburst flooding, increased frequency and intensity of storms and increased periods of drought are only some of the negative impacts. Efforts on climate change adaptation and mitigation must continue.

**SDG 14 Life Below Water:** Over 3 billion people around the world depend on the marine and coastal environments for their livelihoods. The value of the oceans goes beyond the fish and the fisheries contained therein, as the oceans also absorb about 30 percent of the carbon dioxide that humans produce. Unfortunately, the oceans are also used as dumping grounds with an average of 13,000 pieces of plastic per square kilometer. Conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources is a priority.

**SDG 15 Life on Land:** Forests, plants, ecosystems and animals are all interconnected and important for sustaining life on earth as we know it. Forests cover 30 percent of the earth's surface and are important in the carbon and nitrogen cycles and in keeping the air and water clean. With on-going land clearing for development, deforestation, land degradation, drought and desertification, as well as hunting, poaching and trafficking of animals, ecosystems and biodiversity continue to be at risk and efforts are needed to conserve and restore the use of forests, wetlands, drylands and mountains.

**SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions:** Many people in many countries live under various forms of violence and injustice, without human rights and without good governance. These conditions hamper efforts at decent jobs, access to health, engagement in education, access to water and so many other services. Strengthening the rule of law, reducing conflict and cessation of illicit movement of arms are all needed to bring peace and justice.

**SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals:** While the first sixteen goals address specific development issues and technical aspects, Goal 17 embraces them all and acknowledges that globally we all must work together to achieve the SDGs. One hundred and ninety-three countries signed the SDGs but action is not only required from governments; action is also required from various sectors including civil society, private sector, academia, communities, umbrella organizations, non-governmental organizations, inter-governmental organizations and UN agencies.

## Achievement of the SDGs

The SDGs, like the MDGs, were set with a fifteen-year time frame. After the first four years, at the end of 2019, an assessment was done to determine the progress. This assessment is recorded in the *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019*. The UN Secretary-General very clearly notes the good progress made on several of the SDGs. Progress includes reduction in poverty, reduction in the under-5 mortality rate which fell by 49 percent between 2000 and 2017, benefits of immunization which has saved millions of lives, and an increase in access to electricity. On climate change, 186 parties signed the historic Paris Agreement and the number of marine protected areas has doubled since 2010. While there have been achievements, there are still many targets to meet, and some are off-track. The natural environment is still recording areas of deterioration, sea levels are rising, ocean acidification is accelerating, and the years 2015–2019 were the warmest on record. The UN Secretary-General stated that a “much deeper, faster and more ambitious response is needed to unleash the social and economic transformation needed to achieve our 2030 goals.”<sup>12</sup>

We will now review the key points from the SDG 2019 report with a focus on SDG 1, SDG 5, SDG 13, SDG 14 and SDG 15.



The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019<sup>13</sup>The Sustainable Development Goals Report  
2019

## Foreword

Since its inception in 2015, the 2030 Agenda has provided a blueprint for shared prosperity in a sustainable world—a world where all people can live productive, vibrant and peaceful lives on a healthy planet. The year 2030 is just over a decade away, and we must ask ourselves if our actions today are laying the right foundation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019* provides evidence-based insights to answer this question.

The report demonstrates that progress is being made in some critical areas, and that some favorable trends are evident. Extreme poverty has declined considerably, the under-5 mortality rate fell by 49 per cent between 2000 and 2017, immunizations have saved millions of lives, and the vast majority of the world's population now has access to electricity. Countries are taking concrete actions to protect our planet: marine protected areas have doubled since 2010; countries are working concertedly to address illegal fishing; 186 parties have ratified the Paris Agreement on climate change, and almost all have communicated their first nationally determined contributions. About 150 countries have developed national policies to respond to the challenges of rapid urbanization, and 71 countries and the European Union now have more than 300 policies and instruments supporting sustainable consumption and production. And a wide range of other actors—international organizations, businesses, local authorities, the scientific community and civil society—have engaged with the SDGs in a manner that generates great hope for the coming decade. The United Nations, for its part, is working hard to reposition to the United Nations development system to be better equipped to meet the needs of governments to respond to this integrated and transformative agenda.

Notwithstanding that progress, this report identifies many areas that need urgent collective attention. The natural environment is deteriorating at an alarming rate: sea levels are rising; ocean acidification is accelerating; the past four years have been the warmest on record; one million plant and animal species are at risk of extinction; and land degradation continues unchecked. We are also moving too slowly in our efforts to end human suffering and create

opportunity for all: our goal to end extreme poverty by 2030 is being jeopardized as we struggle to respond to entrenched deprivation, violent conflicts and vulnerabilities to natural disasters. Global hunger is on the rise, and at least half of the world's population lacks essential health services. More than half of the world's children do not meet standards in reading and mathematics; only 28 per cent of persons with severe disabilities received cash benefits; and women in all parts of the world continue to face structural disadvantages and discrimination.

It is abundantly clear that a much deeper, faster and more ambitious response is needed to unleash the social and economic transformation needed to achieve our 2030 goals. From our advances, we know what works. This report therefore highlights areas that can drive progress across all 17 SDGs: financing; resilience; sustainable and inclusive economies; more effective institutions; local action; better use of data; and harnessing science, technology and innovation with a greater focus on digital transformation. In everything we do, we must diligently ensure that policy choices leave no one behind, and that national efforts are supported by effective international cooperation, grounded in a commitment to diplomacy and crisis prevention.

The SDG Summit, the Climate Action Summit and the other crucial meetings that will take place in New York in September 2019 provide leaders everywhere with an opportunity to get the world back on track and to kick-start a decade of delivery for people and the planet. The time is right, and we must act now. In that spirit, I commend this report to a wide global audience.

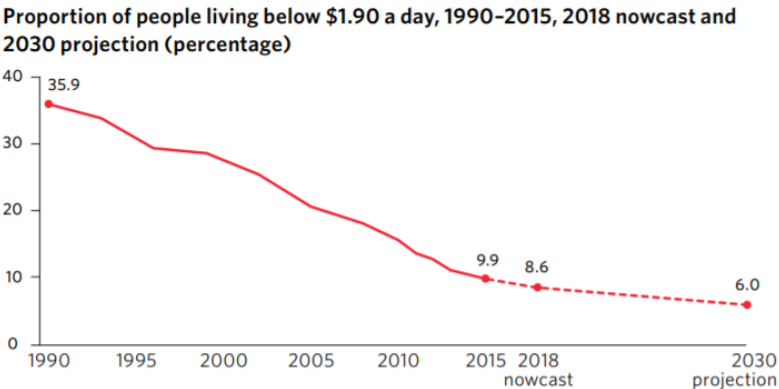
António GUTERRES  
Secretary-General  
of the United Nations

## SDG 1 – No Poverty

Extreme poverty has been reduced over the last 25 years. The number of people living in extreme poverty has been reduced from 36 percent in 1990, to 16 percent in 2010, 10 percent in 2015, and 8.6 percent in 2018. Much of the progress was recorded in Asia while, among the 736 million people who lived on less than \$1.90 a day in 2015, 413 million were in sub-Saharan Africa.

Figure 2.1 shows the decline in extreme poverty (using USD 1.90 per day as the benchmark) but also shows that the rate of decline has slowed. At the current rate, it is estimated that 6 percent of the world’s population would still be living in extreme poverty in 2030.

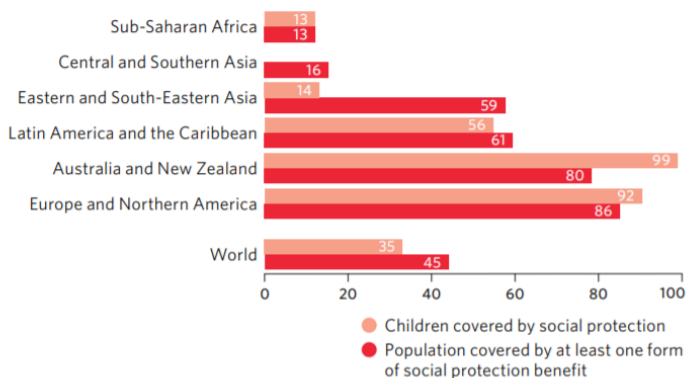
**Figure 2.1**  
**Proportion of People Living Below USD 1.90 per Day<sup>14</sup>**



The reasons why it is difficult for people to climb out of abject poverty are varied. These include lack of access to decent paid work, the impact of natural or man-made disasters, armed conflict and insufficient social protection systems. Social protection systems such as health insurance, pension benefits and paid vacation leave are important and are not uniformly available across all countries, nor across all sectors of society within countries.

**Figure 2.2**  
**Proportion of Population Covered by Social Protection<sup>15</sup>**

**Proportion of population covered by at least one form of social protection benefit, and children covered by social protection, 2016 (percentage)**



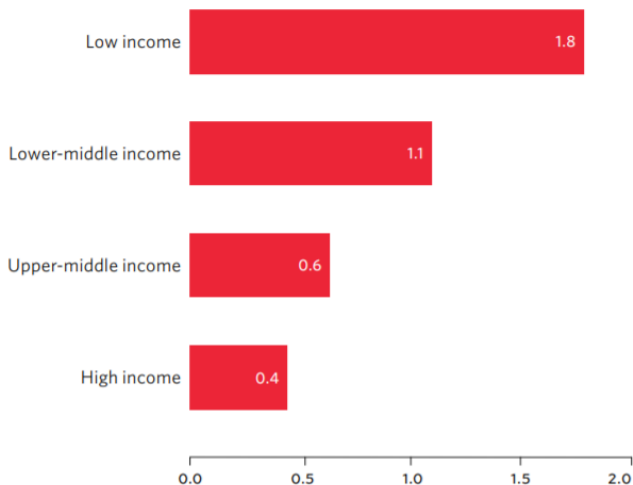
Note: Data for Northern Africa and Western Asia, and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand) are not shown due to low population coverage of available data. Data on children covered by social protection are not shown for Central and Southern Asia due to low population coverage of this data for Southern Asia.

The differences between the regions is quite marked. In Europe and in North America, 92 percent of children are covered by social protection systems. In Latin America and the Caribbean the number drops to only 56 percent. In Eastern and South-Eastern Asia the number drops again to 14 percent. In sub-Saharan Africa the number drops even lower to only 13 percent.<sup>16</sup>

Natural disasters can erode development gains and always disproportionately affect the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized. It is no surprise, therefore, that more than 90 percent of internationally reported deaths due to disasters, occur in low- and middle-income countries. From 1998 to 2017, the direct economic losses from disasters were estimated at approximately USD 3 trillion.<sup>17</sup> Of this amount, climate-related disasters accounted for 77 percent, which signifies an increase of 151 percent from the prior period of 1978 to 1997. In addition to the economic losses, climate-related and geophysical disasters claimed an estimated 1.3 million lives over the same time period.

**Figure 2.3**  
**Economic Losses Caused by Climate-related Disasters<sup>18</sup>**

**Economic losses (relative to GDP) caused by climate-related disasters, 1998-2017 (percentage)**



## SDG 5 – Gender Equality

In 2020 we can acknowledge that several gains have been made for women and girls when compared to ten, twenty or thirty years ago. The SDG 2019 report notes that fewer girls are forced into early marriage and there are now more women in positions of leadership than in past years. We can also acknowledge that gender equality is recognized as important, now discussed in several fora and embraced across many sectors.

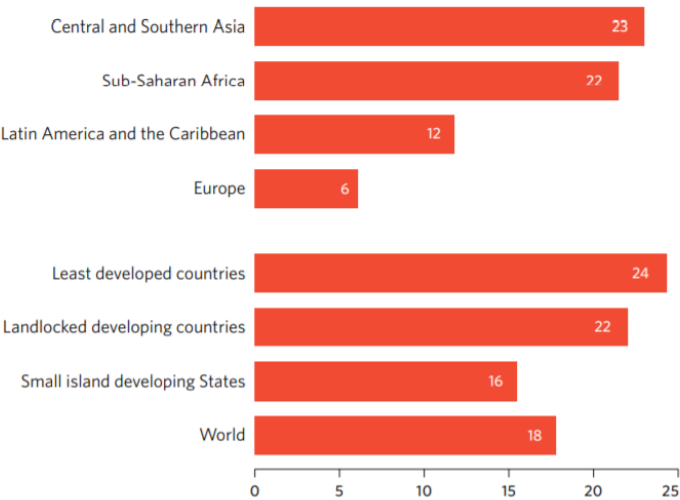
However, there are still areas to be improved in relation to social norms that continue and on-going violence against women and girls. Women and girls still undertake most of the tasks in the home, such as domestic work, caring for children and caring for elderly parents. This work is mostly unpaid domestic work.

Data collected from 106 countries shows that 18 percent of ever-partnered women and girls 15–49 years old experienced some form of physical and/or

sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the 12 months prior to conducting the survey.

**Figure 2.4**  
**Proportion of Ever-partnered Women Subjected to Physical or Sexual Violence<sup>19, 20, 21</sup>**

**Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 to 49 years subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, latest available data, 2005–2017 (percentage)**

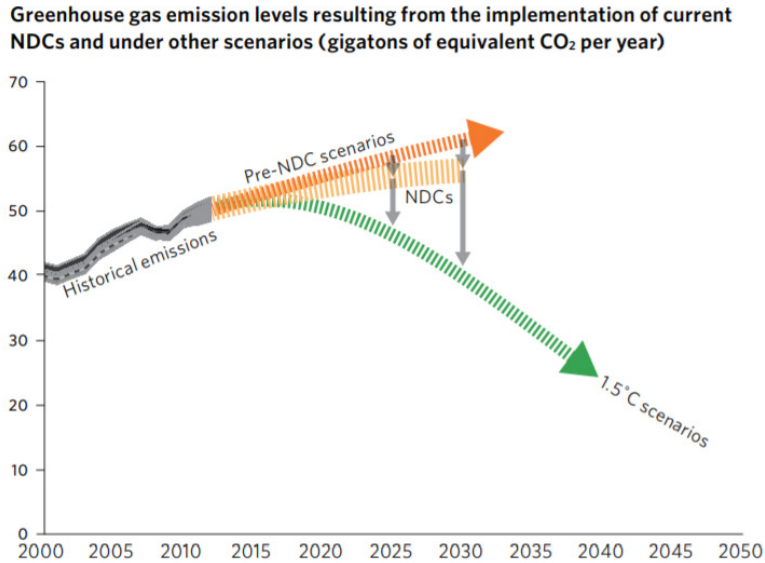


Note: Only regions where available data cover at least 50 per cent of the population are displayed in this figure.

Prior to the 2020 global pandemic, climate change had been identified as the major defining issue of our time and the greatest challenge to sustainable development. In 2015 the historic Paris Agreement was signed and the signatories agreed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an effort to combat global warming and climate change. Since then, many countries have prepared their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) which were converted to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), signalling their firm commitment. These commitments include increasing financing for both climate adaptation and climate mitigation. As greenhouse gas levels continue to climb, climate change is occurring much faster than anticipated,

and its effects are evident worldwide. The global mean temperature for 2018 was approximately 1°C above the pre-industrial baseline and the last four years have been the warmest on record. Sea levels continue to rise. The level of ambition needs to be raised and efforts are needed to accelerate progress in the efforts for strong climate action.

**Figure 2.5**  
**Trajectory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Based on NDC Implementation<sup>22</sup>**



Note: For a more detailed chart, please see figure 2 of the updated synthesis report of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the aggregate effect of the intended nationally determined contributions, 2 May 2016, available from [http://unfccc.int/focus/indc\\_portal/items/9240.php](http://unfccc.int/focus/indc_portal/items/9240.php).

While not all disasters are climate-related, there are several which are. These include rapid onset events such as floods and flash-floods which may be caused by storms, hurricanes and typhoons, as well as slow onset events such as droughts, melting of polar ice-caps and sea level rise. Since the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which was signed in 2015, countries have been making efforts to develop and implement, by 2020, national and local disaster risk reduction strategies. The Sendai Framework

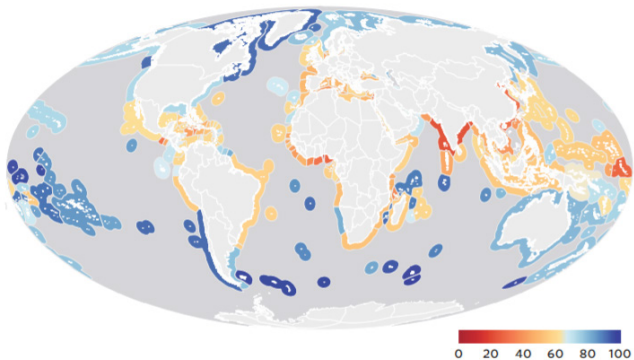
progress reports for 2017–2018 show that of 70 countries, 67 had prepared national strategies that were aligned with the Sendai Framework.

**SDG 14 – Life Below Water**

The oceans represent the planet’s largest ecosystem and collectively the oceans cover more than two-thirds of the earth’s surface, providing a source of income, food and livelihoods for billions of people. Additionally, the oceans produce about half the oxygen we breathe and act as a climate regulator, absorbing atmospheric heat. They are also a major sink for carbon dioxide. Global warming has affected the oceans and heating of the oceans has resulted in changes in chemical composition, ocean acidification, sea level rise and coastal erosion. In addition to the impact of climate change, the oceans are also being affected by pollution from liquid waste and solid waste, land-based pollutants, chemical spills, ocean traffic and off-shore explorations. All these impacts result in eutrophication, loss of marine life, degradation of water quality and coral bleaching.

**Figure 2.6**  
**Assessment of Clean Coastal Water around the Globe<sup>23</sup>**

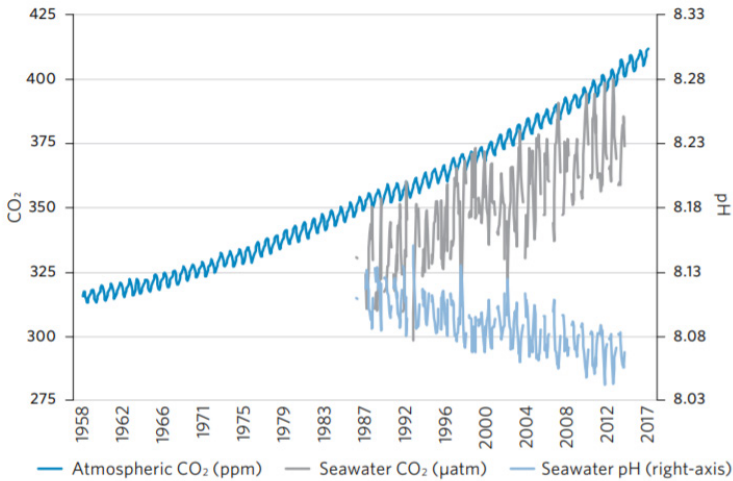
Clean water scores for 220 coastal regions, assessed on a scale of 0 (very polluted) to 100 (clean)



**Figure 2.7**

**Example of the Link between Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, Oceanic CO<sub>2</sub> and Ocean Acidification<sup>24</sup>**

**Atmospheric and seawater CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, and seawater pH in the North Pacific, 1958–2017 (parts per million (ppm), micro-atmospheres (µatm) and pH)**



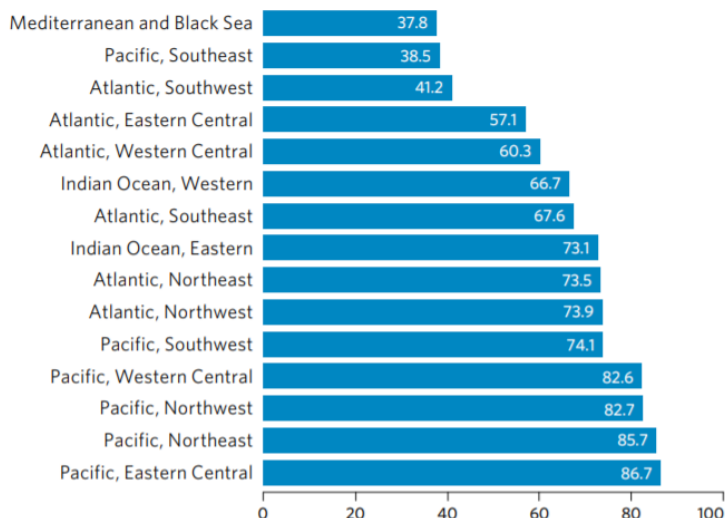
Note: Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> measured at Mauna Loa, Hawaii. Seawater CO<sub>2</sub> and pH measured at Station Aloha, Hawaii. Data from NOAA PMEL Carbon Program, available from [www.pmel.noaa.gov/co2](http://www.pmel.noaa.gov/co2).

In addition to increasing temperatures and pollution, the oceans and coastal waters are also being affected by unsustainable fishing practices and over exploitation.



**Figure 2.8**  
**Biologically Sustainable Fish Stocks<sup>25</sup>**

**Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels, by marine region, 2015 (percentage)**



## SDG 15 – Life on Land

Global biodiversity loss is accelerating and may lead to extinction of species. The Red List Index tracks data on more than 20,000 species of mammals, birds, amphibians, corals and cycads across the globe and this report notes that the risk of species extinction has worsened by about 10 percent over the last 25 years. The Index declined from 0.82 in 1993 to 0.74 in 2018.

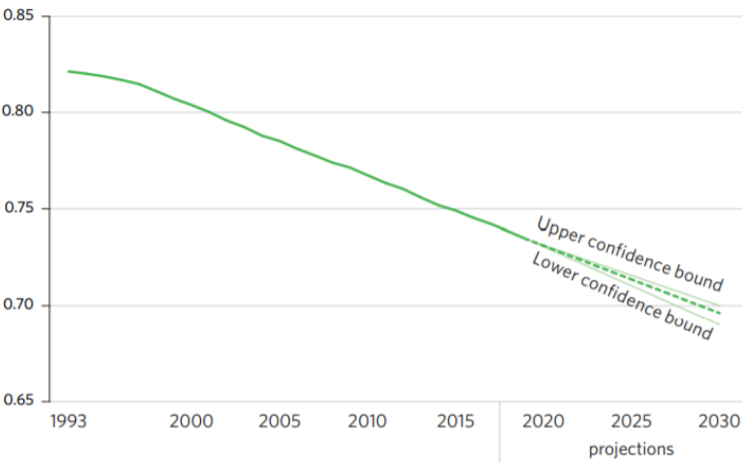
The primary drivers of biodiversity loss are fragmentation, degradation or loss of habitat, unsustainable agriculture, deforestation, land degradation, poaching and illegal hunting, unsustainable harvesting, wildlife trafficking, climate change and alien invasive species. Twenty percent of the earth's total land area was degraded between 2000 and 2015.<sup>26</sup>

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) created the Red List of Threatened Species.<sup>27</sup> The Red List Index (RLI), based on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, is an indicator of the changing state of global

biodiversity. This list actually defines the conservation status of major species groups and measures potential trends in extinction risk over time.

**Figure 2.9**  
**Red List Index of Species Survival<sup>28</sup>**

**Red List Index of species survival, 1993–2019, and projections for 2020–2030  
(based on a business-as-usual extrapolation of the global indicator)**



Conserving and protecting biodiversity are important for healthy ecosystems, provision of livelihoods, ensuring species diversity and the many ecosystem benefits they provide. This can be done through establishment of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). KBAs are sites that are important for terrestrial, freshwater and mountain biodiversity. Progress has been made since 2000 in protecting KBAs, but the rate of progress has slowed significantly since 2010. At the current rate, by 2030, less than 50 percent<sup>29</sup> of each KBA will be under coverage of a protected areas.

**Figure 2.10**  
**Percentage Coverage of KBAs<sup>30</sup>**

**Mean proportion of terrestrial, freshwater and mountain KBAs covered by protected areas, 2000–2018 (percentage)**

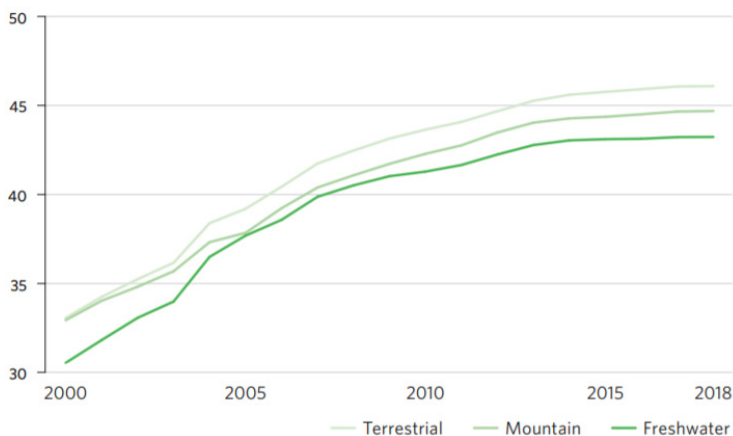


Table 2.1 below gives a snapshot of all the SDGs and the progress recorded after the first four years (2015–2019).

**Table 2.1**  
**Progress on SDGs for the First 4 Years (2015–2019)<sup>31</sup>**

SDGs	Progress at 2019
No poverty	Extreme poverty rate dropped from 36% to 8.6%
Zero hunger	Number of undernourished people rose from 784 million to 821 million
Good health and well-being	Reduction in under-5 deaths from 9.8 million to 5.4 million
Quality education	750 million adults still remain illiterate
Gender equality	Women represent 39% of workforce but only 27% of managerial positions
Clean water and sanitation	785 million people remain without even services 673 million people (9% of the global population) still practise open defecation
Affordable and clean energy	9 out of 10 people worldwide have access to electricity

Decent work and economic growth	Real GDP grew by 4.8% 7% SDG target annually in LDC
Industry, innovation and infrastructure	<p>Manufacturing value added per capita \$114 LDC, \$4,938 Europe and Northern America (Industrialization in LDC is too slow to meet the 2030 Agenda target)</p> <p>Global investment in research and development is \$2 trillion, up from \$739 billion</p>
Reduced inequalities	In more than half of the 92 countries with data, income of the bottom 40% of the population grew faster than the national average
Sustainable cities and communities	9 out of 10 urban residents breathe polluted air
Responsible consumption and production	<p>Nearly 100 countries are actively adopting policies and measures to promote sustainable consumption and production</p> <p>The global material footprint is rapidly growing, outpacing population and economic growth</p>
Climate action	Global mean temperature is 1 degree Celsius above the baseline; atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration is 146% of pre-industrial levels
Life below water	<p>Ocean acidity ↑ 26%</p> <p>104 out of 220 coastal regions have improved coastal water quality</p> <p>Biologically sustainable fish stock ↓ 23 percentage points</p>
Life on land	<p>Biodiversity loss ↑</p> <p>Risk of species extinction ↑ 10%</p> <p>Land degradation is affecting 1/5 of the earth's land</p>
Peace, justice and strong institutions	<p>Men make up around 80% of homicide victims overall but women constitute 64% of homicide victims of intimate partner/ family-related homicide</p> <p>UN recorded and verified 397 additional killings of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists across 41 countries</p>
Partnerships for the goals	Over 80% in developing countries compared to 45% in developing countries and only 20% in LDC

## The Pledge to Leave No One Behind

With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, the 193 Member States of the United Nations pledged to Leave No One Behind in the development agenda, and to reach the most disadvantaged first. In 2018, the United Nations Development Programme<sup>32</sup> published a report entitled *What Does It Mean to Leave No One Behind?* The report examined what being left behind means and made proposals for how to address this.

## Box 2.4

### Leave No One Behind<sup>33</sup>

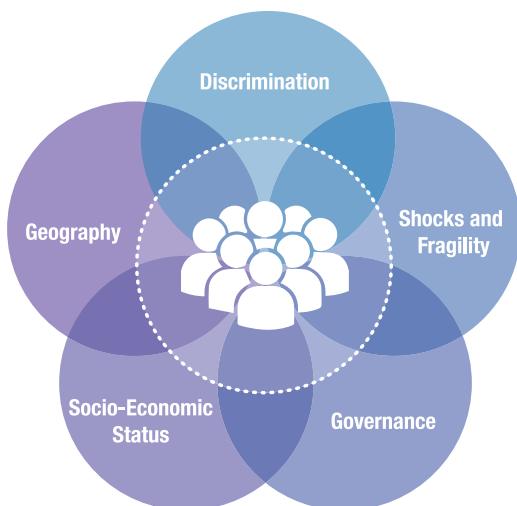


There are five intersecting factors that put people at risk of being left behind:<sup>34</sup>

1. **Discrimination** – when people are treated differently because of age, nationality, gender, race, religion, disabilities or any another factor
2. **Geography** – where physical location impacts access to basic services, access to justice, access to jobs

3. **Governance** – when persons are affected by lack of justice, lack of peace, lack of rule of law
4. **Socio-economic status** – when people have no access to jobs and decent work, when they are affected by inherent social divide, when they are unable to access education to advance career opportunities
5. **Shocks and fragility** – when people have no buffer against internal or external shocks brought on by economic downturn, natural or man-made disasters, personal loss or conflict

**Figure 2.11**  
**People at the Intersection of Five Factors for Vulnerability<sup>35</sup>**



People at the intersection of these factors face reinforcing and compounding disadvantage and deprivation, making them likely among the furthest left behind.

How do we ensure we leave no one behind? There are three levers<sup>36</sup> of change:

- Examine
- Empower
- Enact

**Examine** the facts, utilize data and science with information that is disaggregated and people-driven. Lack of information and lack of credible data are often barriers to addressing development challenges. Data collection and analysis should be conducted in a manner that is sensitive, culturally appropriate, ethnically aware and timely and that does not result in harm to any individual. The report *From the MDG to Sustainable Development for All* emphasized the importance and efficacy of strong consultative processes.<sup>37</sup>

Where insufficient data exists, the Precautionary Principle<sup>38</sup> should be exercised when appropriate and with identification of rights-holders. A human rights-based approach should be employed in data collection.

**Empower** people by providing opportunities to speak, to make their voices heard, through an appropriate, gender-sensitive, consultative process. Populations that are most at risk, most vulnerable and most marginalized are often the populations without adequate opportunities to have their voices heard. This may be because of language barriers, access to technology or geographical remoteness.

To ensure full engagement and consideration of all groups, consultations should be vertical (from those in positions of power to those at the grass roots), horizontal (across all disciplines), and circular (including state and non-state partners across many sectors).

**Enact** relevant policies, strategies, legal and regulatory frameworks supported by adequate financial resources, expertise and technology. Capacity-building may be required for duty-bearers to enable them to carry out the required functions.

Systems of checks and balances should be put in place to monitor, check and enforce. Added to this, adequate reporting is essential to maintain transparency and ensure accountability.

## Supporting Persons with Disabilities in Efforts to Leave No One Behind

If discrimination means people are treated differently, then we have to ensure that people are allowed equal opportunities on all fronts. In 2020, UNDP Suriname has been working to ensure we leave no one behind due to discrimination. For the past 21 years, UNDP Suriname has been supporting the government and people of Suriname in ensuring free and fair elections. This support continued for Suriname's 2020 elections. Under UNDP's Electoral Support Programme there was an activity, launched in February 2020 ahead of the elections in May 2020, that focussed on Persons with Disabilities (PWD).<sup>39</sup>

**Figure 2.12**

**Suriname Sight-Impaired Musicians at Launch of Inclusion of PWD in Electoral Process**



*Source: UNDP Suriname, 2020*

Persons with disabilities often encounter significant barriers in their efforts to access their basic rights, including the right to political participation and, therefore, are often at risk of being left behind. The launch of this initiative



recognized that Suriname is making steps towards the achievement of the SDGs, making steps to improve engagement with persons living with disabilities, specifically engagement in electoral processes, and therefore taking steps to ensure that within Suriname, No One Is Left Behind. This activity included the preparation of scripts for radio and video messaging, the production of tunes and infomercials, and preparation of banners and posters to provide pertinent information on voter registration and the voting process to the blind, the sight impaired, the deaf and the hearing impaired. The launch event, like any event of this kind, included some musical entertainment and, in keeping with the theme of the event, the entertainment was provided by the local band, Zijler and Friends, which also includes a sight-impaired musician.

## **Indigenous and Tribal People**

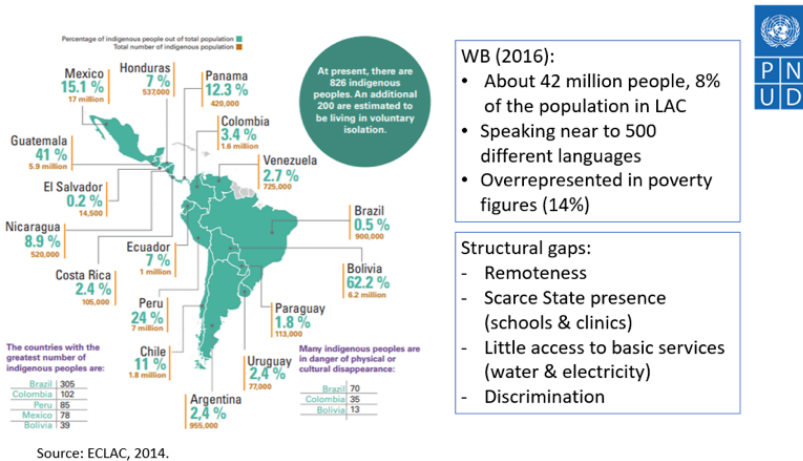
Indigenous and tribal people may be at risk of being left behind on the development agenda as they often live in remote rural areas that may not have sufficient access to basic services such as water, proper sanitation or electricity, insufficient social support or inadequate health facilities. They may, additionally, face barriers of language, culture and digital literacy. These conditions can be exacerbated during a crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic. UNDP Suriname is currently seeking to find out more about the challenges being faced by the indigenous and tribal people living in the Surinamese Amazon. In partnership with UNDP Headquarters, the Government of Suriname and the umbrella organization, the Association of Traditional Leadership (VIDS),<sup>40</sup> UNDP has deployed a rapid digital socio-economic assessment by way of 300 questionnaires to households of indigenous people.

The questionnaires have been deployed with strong participation of the 300 households and the analysis is currently taking place. Through this medium, information will be obtained on the current conditions during the pandemic, specific needs and requirements within the indigenous communities and the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. This assessment engages directly with indigenous communities to ensure inclusivity while respecting traditional leadership and cultures. The issue of ensuring that no one is left behind in indigenous and tribal communities is not unique to the Surinamese Amazon but is relevant to many countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Figure 2.13**  
**Indigenous People in Suriname<sup>41</sup>**



**Figure 2.14**  
**Indigenous People in Latin America and the Caribbean<sup>42</sup>**



In June 2015, a symposium was convened by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean's (ECLAC) sub-regional headquarters for the Caribbean. The symposium, held in Trinidad and Tobago, brought together ministers of government, senior policy makers, academia, civil society and representatives of CARICOM. The meeting discussed the transition from the MDGs to the SDGs; the SDGs themselves; the Caribbean context; challenges in achieving sustainable development; and the

prioritization of the SDGs for the region. The meeting ended with Caribbean countries identifying 12 of the 17 SDGs to be prioritized. These are shown in Figure 2.15.<sup>43</sup>

**Figure 2.15**  
**Twelve SDGs Prioritized by Caribbean Countries in June 2015<sup>44</sup>**



The following SDGs were not listed among the 12 SDG priorities for the Caribbean region:

- SDG 1 – No Poverty
- SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG 15 – Life on Land

Discussions focussed also on the financing for sustainable development and an exploration of medium- and long-term solutions to be applied. Financing gaps were identified as well as sources of potential resources including domestic resources and overseas development assistance, mechanisms such as public-private partnerships and credit swaps, and the application of innovative measures.

The following year, in July 2017, Caribbean ministers of government met in Kingston, Jamaica and endorsed a regional Partnership Framework Agreement for accelerating and advancing actions on the SDGs. The meeting was opened by the Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Most Honourable Andrew Holness, who expressed interest in the SDGs and in ensuring their alignment with Jamaica's National Development Plan – Vision 2030.<sup>45</sup>

Against the background of the establishment of the Sustainable Development Goals, the commitment of governments that have signed on and adopted the goals; and what the goals mean for the world and for the Caribbean, Chapter 3 will highlight some of the achievements of the SDGs as reported by the governments themselves.

## Endnotes

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- 20 In general, the definition of “ever-partnered women” included women who were or had ever been married or in a common-law relationship. In countries where premarital sexual relationships are common, the definition covered dating relationships – defined as regular sexual partners, not living together.
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## CHAPTER 3

### The Voluntary National Review – Reporting on the SDGs

#### What Is the Voluntary National Review?

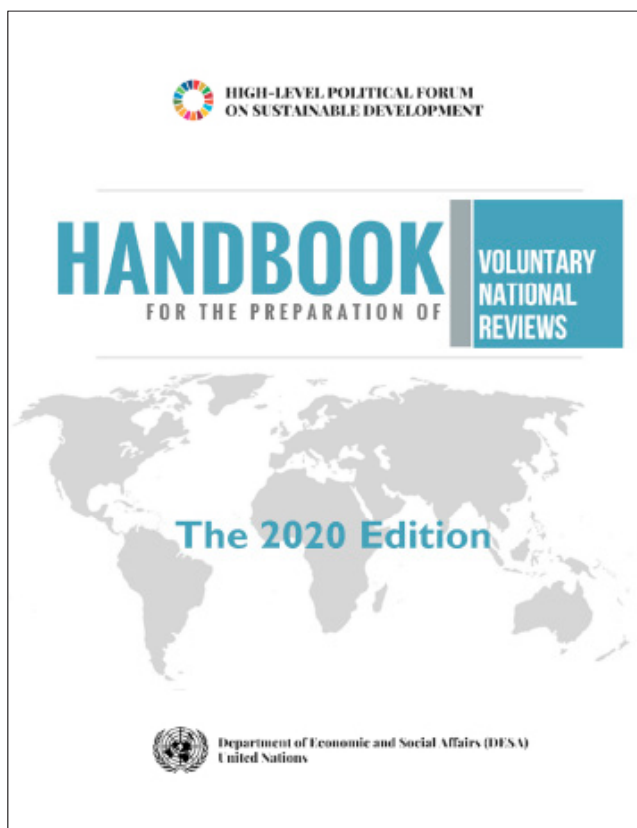
While governments have committed to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations has also encouraged countries to document and share their progress. This is done through a voluntary system of reporting, through the Voluntary National Review (VNR). VNRs are voluntary and country-led and are expected to be evidence-based in documentation, while being transparent and participatory in preparation. The purpose of the VNR is to track and monitor the progress on the achievement of the 17 SDGs, to encourage participation of a wide cross-section of stakeholders, to focus on the most vulnerable populations and those at greatest risk of being left behind, and be forward-looking with a perspective on the long-term development objectives. This is outlined in Paragraph 74 of Agenda 2030.<sup>1</sup>

VNRs are expected to promote the level of accountability to the citizens of a country, to engage in global reporting, and at the same time to encourage learning from the sharing of national experiences through the reporting of challenges, good practices and/or lessons learned.

While Agenda 2030 and the SDGs are a universally and globally agreed framework, countries are expected to choose their own development pathways with consideration of their national contexts. While there are guidelines for the VNRs, there is inherent flexibility in the process as countries utilize different capacities and different resources. The guidance for preparing VNRs is given in the *Handbook for the Preparation of Voluntary National Reviews*.<sup>2</sup>

The *VNR Handbook* of 2020 draws on the experience and reporting of those countries that have already completed and submitted their VNRs.

**Figure 3.1**  
**Handbook for VNR Preparation<sup>3</sup>**



The 2030 Agenda encourages member states to prepare VNRs as part of the monitoring and review mechanisms. The presentation of these national reviews are done at the High-Level Political Forum in September each year. The VNRs are country-led exercises and are completed by both developed and developing nations.

Countries have shown interest and commitment in the preparation, completion and submission of their VNRs since the adoption of Agenda 2030 in 2015. Countries that have completed their VNRs are shown in Table 3.1:

**Table 3.1****List of Countries that Have Completed and Submitted VNR Each Year**<sup>4, 5</sup>

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of VNRs Submitted Globally</b>	<b>VNRs Submitted from Latin America and the Caribbean</b>
2016	22	Mexico Venezuela
2017	43	Belize Chile Costa Rica El Salvador Guatemala Honduras Peru
2018	46	Bahamas Colombia Dominican Republic Ecuador Jamaica Mexico Paraguay
2019	47	Chile Guatemala Guyana Saint Lucia
2020	47	Barbados Costa Rica Ecuador Honduras Panama Peru Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago

In July 2018, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) produced a report on the progress of VNRs and their content and coverage.<sup>6</sup> This report examined VNRs in the context of the commitment to leave no one behind; types of strategies to implement the commitment; specific groups identified for the leave no one behind agenda (Figure 3.2),<sup>7</sup> and any key or successful approaches on which countries reported. The three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, environmental and social – are all covered in the SDGs and country reporting should reflect this.

**Figure 3.2**  
**Groups Mentioned by at Least Two Countries in their VNRs<sup>8</sup>**

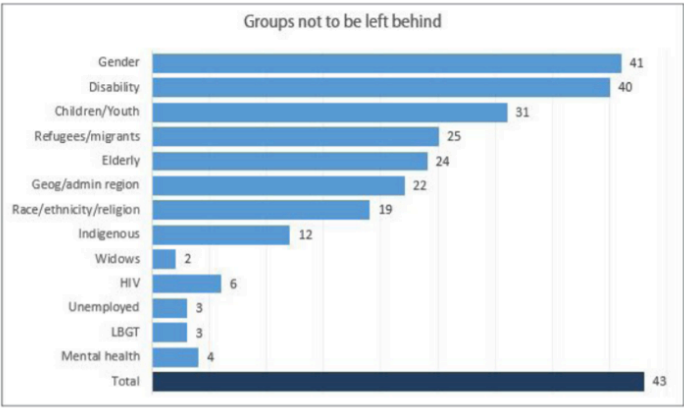


Figure 3.2 shows a wide cross-section of groups and includes ethnic and racial diversity, health considerations, social status, gender and disability.

The VNRs are presented at the High-Level Political Forum each year and, for 2020, forty-seven countries from four global regions are expected to present their VNRs.

**Figure 3.3**  
**Regional Representation of VNRs Submitted in 2020<sup>9</sup>**



# Caribbean Countries – Reporting through VNRs

In Latin America and the Caribbean, twenty-four countries in the region presented their VNRs to the High-Level Political Forum in New York between 2016 and 2020.<sup>10</sup> This included eleven countries that submitted their VNR twice.

**Figure 3.4**  
**Map Showing Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean**  
**that Have Submitted One or More VNR<sup>11</sup>**



## Voluntary National Report – Jamaica

Jamaica submitted its Voluntary National Review Report in 2018<sup>12</sup> to the High-Level Political Forum of the United Nations. The presentation at the HLPF can be viewed online.<sup>13</sup> Jamaica’s VNR examined leadership and ownership of the Agenda 2030, incorporation into and alignment with national plans, and localization of the SDGs. All seventeen goals were reported on and specific case studies were presented of SDG 7, on Affordable and Clean Energy, and SDG 5 on Gender Equality.

The preparation of Jamaica’s VNR involved a strong stakeholder engagement process across many sectors and disciplines. Jamaica’s national development plan – Vision 2030 – is in line with the SDGs not only in time frame but also in alignment of national goals and outcomes with the SDGs as shown in Figure 3.5.

**Figure 3.5**  
**Jamaica – Alignment of National Goals with the SDGs<sup>14</sup>**

Vision 2030 Jamaica Goals	National Outcomes	2030 Agenda Sustainable Development Goals
<b>GOAL 1: Jamaicans are Empowered to Achieve their Fullest Potential</b>	A healthy and stable population	2  3  6
	World class education and training	4
	Effective social protection	1  2  10
	Authentic and transformative culture	With Agenda 2030, culture is viewed as a cross-cutting theme.
<b>GOAL 2: Jamaican Society is Secure, Cohesive and Just</b>	Security and safety	11  16
	Effective governance	5  10
<b>GOAL 3: Jamaica's Economy is Prosperous</b>	A stable macro-economy	8
	Enabling business environment	4  8
	Strong economic infrastructure	9
	Energy security and efficiency	7  11  12
	A technology-enabled society	9
	Internationally competitive industry structures	2  8  9  12  14
<b>GOAL 4: Jamaica has a Healthy Natural Environment</b>	Sustainable management and use of environmental and natural resources	6  7  12  14  15
	Hazard risk reduction and adaptation to climate change	7  13  15
	Sustainable urban and rural development	1  9  10  11



Based on the 2018 VNR, Jamaica's progress on SDGs 1, 5, 13, 14 and 16 is highlighted below.

**Goal 1 – No Poverty:** Jamaica reported mixed success in poverty reduction over the past few decades.

A high poverty rate of 28.4 percent was recorded in 1990 and the lowest poverty rate was reported at 9.9 percent in 2007. The global recession and economic crises of 2008–2009 affected the economy negatively and resulted in job losses. Poverty rates then increased between 2008 and 2013 and started to go downwards in 2013; a rate of 17.7 percent was reported in 2016.<sup>15</sup>

Key achievements on SDG 1, as reported in the VNR are:

Development of national policies that focus on poverty reduction, including:

- The National Policy on Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme (NPP/NPRP) which was approved by Parliament in 2017 in support of the eradication of extreme poverty by 2022
- The comprehensive Social Protection Strategy (2014)
- The National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (2013)
- The Food Safety Policy (2013)
- The Climate Change Policy Framework for Jamaica (2015)
- The Programme for Advancement through Health and Education (PATH) (created in 2001)
- Poor Relief Programme

Regarding financial support, the government allocated J\$8.3 billion in fiscal year 2017/2018 to its main cash transfer programme, PATH, which had a registration of 345,792 people. This included the elderly, persons with disabilities, children living in poor households, the adult poor and pregnant and lactating women.

**Goal 5 – Gender Equality:** Jamaica reports significant work which promoted and implemented the gender mainstreaming initiatives within various policies and plans.

The Gender Sector Plan of the *Vision 2030 Jamaica* and the National Policy for Gender Equality, 2011<sup>16</sup> (NPGE) provide the framework for gender mainstreaming and non-discrimination within the Jamaican context. These frameworks seek to ensure that all forms of discrimination against women and girls are eliminated.

Key achievements on SDG 5, as reported in the VNR are:

- A raft of legislation has also been reviewed/implemented to ensure non-discrimination
- A Joint Select Committee of Parliament was set up in 2017 to review: the Sexual Offences Act, the Offences Against the Person Act, Domestic Violence Act, and the Child Care and Protection Act. Written submissions were made to the Committee and these were reviewed with a view to amending them where relevant
- A 10-year National Strategic Action Plan to Eliminate Gender-Based Violence (2016–2026) was developed. The Action Plan focusses on five strategic priority areas: prevention, protection, intervention, legal procedures, and protocols for data collection. To further the intersectoral and integrated response required for gender-based violence (GBV), considerable efforts are being made to establish a shelter to house victims

**Goal 13 – Climate Action:** The effects of climate change on Jamaica have already been manifested in several ways, from increasing air and sea temperatures, to changes in rainfall patterns, increased frequency of extreme events and sea level rise.

Heavy rains between March and June of 2017 resulted in the loss of life and economic losses of approximately USD 31 million, which was calculated at 0.2

percent of the 2016 GDP.<sup>17</sup> The VNR records that the country recognizes the need for strong climate action to build resilience, and actions include reform of policy, planning and legislative frameworks, investment in scientific research and data collection, and capacity building across all sectors of society.

Key achievements on SDG 13, as reported in the VNR are:

- Ratification of the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2017, implementation of which will be facilitated by national policies and plans as well as the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)
- Submission of the first ever Biennial Update Report (BUR) to the UNFCCC, detailing emissions and sinks for greenhouse gases; Jamaica was the first small island state to do so
- Deposition of the instrument of accession to the Statute of the Small Island Developing States Dock (SIDS DOCK) 2017, that will facilitate access to, and leveraging of resources and technical assistance, capacity-building, technology transfer, and promotion of partnerships, to enable the successful implementation of critical sustainable energy, climate change mitigation and adaptation projects

**Goal 14 – Life Below Water:** As an island nation the importance of marine and coastal resources cannot be understated nor underestimated, and this is evident across all sectors. It has been estimated that about 90 percent<sup>18</sup> of the country’s GDP is generated within the coastal areas, and about 60 percent of the population currently resides within 5km of the coast. The main ecosystems – coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangroves, wetlands – and the life they support are essential for coastal protection, fisheries, tourism and shipping.

Key achievements on SDG 14, as reported in the VNR are:<sup>19</sup>

- Legislation and Enforcement – Among the legislative advancements made since 2015 is the Fishing Industry Act, 2015, which includes, among other things, an increase in penalties to deter future offences against the

Act. In support of the Act, the fleet of boats was expanded by four in 2017 in partnership with the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative

- **Planning Frameworks** – The planning landscape benefitted from the finalization of the Beach Restoration and Coastal Guidelines in 2017 and the update of the Queen Conch Management Plan in 2016. Important, also, was the finalization of the National Strategy and Action Plan on Biological Diversity in Jamaica 2016–2021 which was submitted to the UN Convention on Biodiversity (CBD)
- **Protected Areas** – Marine areas under protection was increased with the designation of three Special Fisheries Conservation Areas (SFCAs) since 2015
- **International Commitments** – One of the main achievements was the submission of Jamaica’s instrument of ratification to the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-Based Sources and Activities (or the LBS Protocol, for short) under the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region, also known as the Cartagena Convention. There was continued implementation of other agreements including the UN CBD, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal

**SDG 15 - Life on Land:** Jamaica is well endowed with terrestrial ecosystems, rich biodiversity and robust landscapes, within montane forests, dry and wet limestone forests, inland wetlands, rivers and streams which are comprised of rich and unique flora and fauna, including many endemic and indigenous species.

Threats to ecosystems and biodiversity also exist and these are being countered with several measures. Many of these measures are reportedly yielding positive results.

Key achievements on SDG 15, as reported in the VNR are:<sup>20</sup>

- Amendments to schedules of the Wildlife Protection Act to improve protection of biodiversity
- National Strategy and Action Plan on Biological Diversity in Jamaica, 2016–2021
- Protected Areas System Master Plan: Jamaica 2013–2017
- Forest Management Plans (FMPs) for: the Windsor Castle Forest Estate; the four estates in Forest Management Unit Nos. 5 and 6; and Stephney–John’s Vale Forest Reserve
- Management plan for the Mason River Protected Area, Jamaica’s only inland wetland, designated as a Ramsar site

## **Are the SDGs On Track, Off Track or De-Railed?**

The SDGs have so far had good momentum, strong buy-in from governments, wide participation by non-government partners and civil society, commitment to reporting, and many achievements being recorded. At the beginning of 2020, just ten years off the SDG deadline, the Decade of Action began. Ten years to achieve an ambitious set of goals. Ten years to achieve Agenda 2030.

## **A race to the finish line.**



The Decade of Action is a call to accelerate efforts to address all the global challenges that the SDGs seek to address. In preparation for the Decade of Action, the UN Secretary-General in September 2019 called on all sectors of society to be mobilized for this important decade, along three areas:<sup>21</sup>

1. Global action to secure greater leadership, more resources and smarter solutions for the Sustainable Development Goals

2. Local action embedding the needed transitions in the policies, budgets, institutions and regulatory frameworks of governments, cities and local authorities
3. People action, including by youth, civil society, the media, the private sector, unions, academia and other stakeholders, to generate an unstoppable movement pushing for the required transformations

The Decade of Action is intended to mobilize and energies action on the SDGs, to increase the level of ambition in realizing the targets of the SDGs and to advance the application of innovation and technology. This was highlighted as shown in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2

The Aims of the Decade of Action<sup>22</sup>

The Decade of Action will...		
<p><b>Mobilize everyone, everywhere</b></p> <p>We will work to create an unstoppable force linked to the Global Goals.</p> <p>We will identify risks to ensure no one is left behind.</p> <p>This requires each of us to take action—individually and collectively, locally and globally.</p>	<p><b>Demand urgency and ambition</b></p> <p>We must be the generation to end extreme poverty, win the race against climate change and conquer injustice and gender inequality.</p> <p>We will hold leaders to account and point to what is possible when action delivers results.</p>	<p><b>Supercharge ideas to solutions</b></p> <p>We will shine a light on solutions that expand access and demonstrate the possibilities of ideas.</p> <p>We will drive sustainable innovation, financial investments and technology—while making space in our communities and cities for young people to lead.</p>

Shortly after the launch of the Decade of Action in 2020, the global pandemic COVID-19 hit countries around the globe. It is a health crisis, a development crisis, a human rights crisis and a humanitarian crisis of epic proportions, and a crisis that already threatens to erode the development gains of the SDGs, de-railing SDGs that were on track and having the greatest impact on the most vulnerable populations and those most at risk of being left behind.

The UNDP has published *Socio-economic Implications of the COVID Pandemic – Ideas for Policy Action*,<sup>23</sup> which is a collective reflection to offer guidance to the response to the pandemic.

UNDP's Administrator, Achim Steiner, stated that, "The world has seen many crises over the past 30 years, including the Global Financial Crisis of 2007–09. Each has hit human development hard but, overall, development gains accrued globally year-on-year. COVID-19,<sup>24</sup> with its triple hit to health, education, and income, may change this trend."

At the time of this lecture COVID-19 is nine months into ravaging many nations of the world. As COVID-19 strikes at economies, jobs and job security, health, education and food security, several indicators of development will be negatively affected, and indices of human development could fall for the first time since 1990. This is explored in a new UNDP publication entitled *COVID-19 and Human Development: Assessing the Crisis, Envisioning the Recovery*.<sup>25</sup>

The International Labour Organization's (ILO) report, *Tourism Sector in the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean – An Overview and the Impact of COVID-19 on Growth and Employment*, with data up to July 2020,<sup>26</sup> recognizes the importance of the tourism sector in the Caribbean and the platform that tourism provides for revenue generation in local and international currencies and the provision of jobs.

The tourism sector collapsed under COVID-19 as air transportation all but ceased, cruise ships were stranded at ports and hotels were converted into quarantine centres. Without a robust tourism sector economic growth for the region is projected negatively.

The tourism industry directly contributes up to about 33 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and over 52 percent of export receipts, supported by approximately 30 million visitors annually and providing direct employment to 413,000 workers in the Caribbean.<sup>27</sup> This is approximately 18.1 percent of total employment and this number goes up to 43.1 percent if indirect employment is also considered.

Of importance is that in addition to formal employment, the tourism sector also is supported by the informal sector, which accounts for over 40 percent

of employment. The informal sector has been hard hit by COVID-19 as job security is rare, social safety nets are not supportive and workers sometimes live hand-to-mouth, day-by-day.

In April 2020 the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association conducted a survey from a random sample of its hotel members which revealed that 71 percent of hotels had laid off staff as a means of addressing the shortfall in revenue generated due to loss of visitors. Approximately 66 percent reported reduction of the work week or number of hours worked, while 53 percent reported a cut in salaries.<sup>28</sup>

Governments responded to the COVID-19 crisis in different ways; many governments announcing stimulus and relief packages. In several countries, these measures have been financed by loans and agreements with the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Rapid Finance Programme (RFP) and other international financial institutions.

With regard to the tourism sector, specifically, several countries introduced measures directly targetting various categories of workers and businesses in the sector. Table 3.3 shows the measures taken by Caribbean governments to support businesses during the COVID-19 crisis, including those measures focussed on the tourism sector.

Some countries reopened borders in the middle of the year and some have had to re-close borders due to a surge in positive COVID-19 cases, super-spreader holiday events and a spike in numbers. The negative impact of COVID-19 on the tourism sector continues; it is far-reaching and will take some time to be fully analyzed but it is clear that the impact will be felt in the medium and long term.



Table 3.3

Mapping of COVID-19 Relief Measures by Caribbean Governments<sup>29</sup>

Mapping of COVID-19 relief measures taken by governments in selected Caribbean countries and NMTs to support businesses

Country	Grants or loans, loan guarantees	Salary subsidies	Utility assistance	Tax relief (credits, waivers or deferrals)	Waiver / deferral of other fees and penalties, loan moratoria	Waiver / deferral of social security contributions	Business coaching or technical assistance	Employment retention conditionalities
AIA	x			x	x	x		
ATG	x			x	x			
ABW	x	x		x o		o		x
BHS	x			x	x			x
BRB	x o					x		x
BLZ	x	x				x	ox	
BMU	x			x	x	x		
BVI	x o		x					
CYM	x o			o	x	x	x	
CUW	x o	x						x
DMA	x			x	x o			x
GRD	x o	o		x	x			
GUY				x	x			
JAM	x o			x	x o		x	x o
MSR	x o	x o		x	x			
KNA	x		x	x	x			x
LCA	o			x	x o			x
VCT	x		o		x o			
SXM	x	x	x	x				x
SUR	x o			x	x			
TTO	x o			x	x			
TCA	x		x	x o	x o			

X - measure targeting general population O - measure specifically targeting the tourism sector

Source: Author's mapping based on official government sources.

COVID-19 has not totally eclipsed the development agenda, however. In fact, the pandemic has served to highlight the development gaps that existed, the inequities that were still present and the vulnerability of the poor and marginalized populations. COVID-19 has not eclipsed the Sustainable Development Goals, nor their targets, nor their importance. In fact, COVID-19 has served to re-emphasize the SDGs, to reiterate their importance and their

relevance. The focus on the SDGs, on achieving all 17 Goals, will form our collective way out of the COVID-19 crisis, to address the development gaps, respond to the humanitarian crisis and ensure that we Leave No One Behind.

This year, 2020, the United Nations celebrates its 75th anniversary. As part of its anniversary activities, the UN has launched a global survey, the largest global conversation, focussing on the role of global cooperation. The survey is open to everyone and can be accessed at [www.un.org/en/un75](http://www.un.org/en/un75). This lecture uses the opportunity to share this information and to encourage everyone to participate, to have your voice heard in the future you want.

## Endnotes

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## **CHAPTER 4**

### **The United Nations Development Programme – Supporting Development Globally and in the Caribbean**

#### **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Who We Are and What We Do**

The United Nations Development Programme is the main development agency of the United Nations system. UNDP is on the ground in approximately 170 countries and territories working towards eradication of extreme poverty, reducing inequalities and eliminating exclusion and marginalization.<sup>1</sup>

Every four years, UNDP prepares a corporate strategic plan which outlines the organization's way of working and the priorities for addressing key global challenges. The strategic plan outlines how UNDP wants to be as an organization and what UNDP wants to achieve as a global partner.

The current UNDP Strategic Plan (2018–2021) outlines:

1. Three broad development settings to which UNDP is responding
2. Six Signature Solutions that define the core work areas of UNDP
3. Two platforms which UNDP utilizes to deliver the work
4. An improved business model to underpin and support the programmatic interventions

The three development settings<sup>2</sup> to which UNDP seeks to respond are:

#### **1. *Persistent poverty***

Millions of people are living on less than USD 1.90 per day. Approximately 10 percent of the world's population, equivalent to over 705 million<sup>3</sup> people, are still living in poverty, according to live data from the World Poverty Clock in August 2020. Despite the achievements reported earlier and the progress made in the MDGs and the SDGs, the proportion of the world's poor is still too

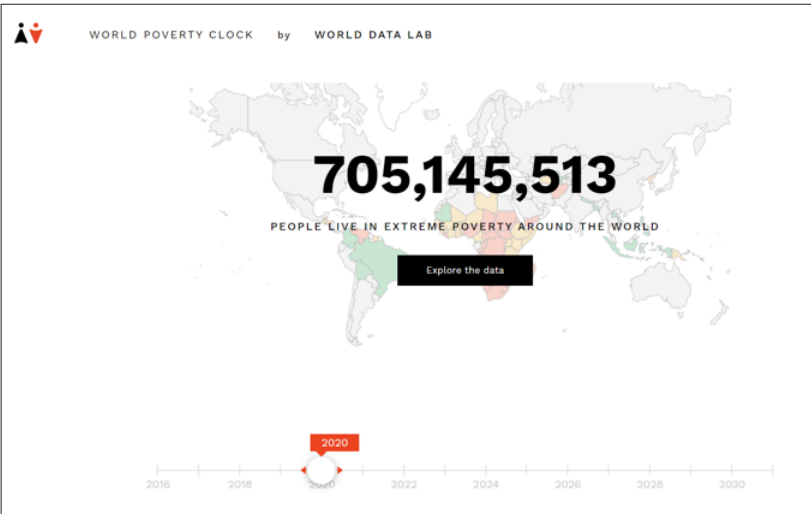
great. Many people, after some advancement, may slip back into poverty due to internal and external shocks and inadequate buffers and social protection systems.

UNDP seeks to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

**Figure 4.1**  
**World Poverty Clock as at August 26, 2020<sup>4</sup>**



**Figure 4.2**  
**World Poverty Clock as at September 11, 2020<sup>5</sup>**





Comparison of the poverty data between August 26, 2020 and September 11, 2020 shows that in the span of 16 days, over 4,200 people slipped into poverty, averaging approximately 265 people per day. Another 11 days later, the Poverty Clock shows 713,611,478 persons in poverty.

**Figure 4.3**  
**Poverty Clock as at September 27, 2020<sup>6</sup>**



## **2. Need to achieve sustainable development**

Many developing countries are facing challenges related to growing inequalities, marginalization, over-dependence on fossil fuels creating strong carbon footprints, under-utilization of technology and innovation, need to adapt to climate change and build resilience in the face of disasters, and strengthen policy and regulatory frameworks. There is a need to accelerate structural transformations in order to achieve sustainable development. UNDP seeks to accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development.

## **3. Shocks and crises**

While countries continue to strive for sustainable development and gains are recorded, these gains can be easily eroded by shocks and crises. These may be internal or external and may include slow onset or sudden onset events. Shocks and crises may be a result of natural hazards such as storms and earthquakes;

health hazards such as diseases and pandemics, an example of which is the global pandemic of 2020; and financial downturns such as recessions, which may be triggered by other shocks. The extent of the shock will be determined or exacerbated by the existence or non-existence of margins, buffers and social protection systems, as well as any inherent vulnerabilities or resilience. UNDP seeks to build resilience to shocks and crises.

## **UNDP – Our Six Signature Solutions**

UNDP has crafted its Six Signature Solutions as an approach to responding to the key development challenges globally and defining the areas in which it works<sup>7</sup> in order to help to eradicate poverty, to achieve sustainable development and to build resilience. The Six Signature Solutions are relevant to, aligned with, and cut across all 17 SDGs.

### ***Signature Solution 1: Keeping people out of poverty***

Over 705 million people live on less than \$1.90 per day. People stay in poverty or fall back into poverty because of geography, lack of or loss of decent work, shocks and crises, marginalization, gender and other reasons. Signature Solution 1 mirrors SDG 1, to eradicate poverty in all its forms, and is a direct reflection of UNDP's core mandate. UNDP interventions in this area include job creation with decent work and restoration of livelihoods after crises; providing or strengthening social safety nets; creating access to basic services like water, sanitation, energy and health; and creating financial mechanisms such as micro-credit.

### ***Signature Solution 2: Governance for peaceful, just and inclusive societies***

When governments are efficient and responsive, when people are included in decision-making; when all people have equal access to fair institutions; when justice is administered fairly; when people can trust their governments, leaders and decision-makers; when parliaments, institutions and courts are transparent; and when regulatory frameworks are strong, people have a greater chance of having peaceful and just societies in which to live.

UNDP works with national parliaments, supreme courts, national civil services, regional and local bodies, in major cities as well as in remote, rural communities, with the aim of creating societies that are peaceful, just, safe and secure.

### ***Signature Solution 3: Crisis prevention and increased resilience***

Crises can result from natural hazards or man-made events or various forms of conflict and can impact people differently depending on their vulnerabilities. Crises can originate with or without warning, as slow onset or sudden onset events, and can ravage communities, disrupt families and result in many secondary impacts.

UNDP helps reduce the risks of crises by supporting countries and communities to better manage and respond to conflicts, prepare for major shocks and recover in the aftermath of an event. Additionally, preventive measures are promoted such as the integration of risk management into development planning and decision-making. This Signature Solution also focusses on capacity building, disaster risk reduction, climate mitigation, climate change adaptation, crisis recovery and peace building.

### ***Signature Solution 4: Environment: nature-based solutions for development***

Environmental assets including ecosystems, forests, wetlands, drylands, rivers, oceans and biodiversity are the basis for a healthy planet. Environmental degradation, pollution and over-exploitation continue to have a negative impact on nature and sound environmental management principles through nature-based solutions are required to ensure sustainability.

UNDP supports countries in the establishment and management of parks and protected areas, sustainable harvesting of forest and ocean resources, building resilience to climate change and disasters, and promoting green economies.

### ***Signature Solution 5: Clean, affordable energy***

According to *Our World in Data*,<sup>8</sup> 940 million people or 13 percent of the world's population do not have access to electricity and 3 billion people (40 percent of the world) do not have access to clean fuel for cooking; this has a negative impact on indoor air quality and health.

UNDP is helping countries transition away from the use of fossil fuels and towards clean, renewable, affordable energy. UNDP's sustainable energy portfolio spans more than 110 countries, including partnership with cities and industries to increase the share of renewables in the energy mix; establish solar energy access and promote the generation of renewable energy.

### ***Signature Solution 6: Women's empowerment and gender equality***

While significant advances have been made in gender equality and improving conditions, opportunities, education and decent work for women and girls, there is still a gap to be addressed as women and girls are more likely to be negatively affected by disasters, poverty and violence.

For UNDP, gender equality and women's empowerment are guiding principles that are mainstreamed across projects and programmes. UNDP supports the reduction of gender-based violence, promotion of decent work for women, equal opportunities for access to education and promoting the advancement of women in leadership and decision-making positions.

UNDP delivers these Six Signature Solutions through partnerships with governments and other entities and delivers its programmes through two platforms.<sup>9</sup> The first is a country-level support platform for the 2030 Agenda and the second is a global development advisory and implementation services platform.

The country support platform will help countries to design and deliver the required solutions to their own development challenges across economic, environmental and social issues.

The global development advisory and implementation services platform has two purposes. The first is to provide high-quality technical and policy advisory support to the country platforms and to UNDP country programmes, and the second is to support UNDP's knowledge, innovation and partnership-building efforts among a wide cross-section of partners.

## **UNDP and the SDGs – What Is UNDP's Role?<sup>10</sup>**

As the main development agency of the United Nations system, UNDP is well placed to support countries and governments in the implementation of the SDGs.

UNDP has a key role to play as integrator, providing integrated solutions.<sup>11</sup> This means that UNDP ensures a strong partnership with other UN agencies on the ground within country contexts. Country contexts should be analyzed to identify unique development challenges, opportunities and solutions and to ensure a multisectoral approach to achieving the SDGs.

UNDP also directly supports countries on the implementation and achievement of the SDGs through the 2030 Agenda MAPS approach. The 2030 Agenda MAPS is the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support that directly helps countries in raising awareness of SDGs and performing the required analysis, planning and budgeting into national and local systems and process. To date, UNDP has supported fifty-one countries through the MAPS support. This support has spanned all the regions where UNDP works and includes thirteen Small Island Developing States. Jamaica benefitted from MAPS support and a MAPS in-country mission, which facilitated the preparation and submission of the Jamaica VNR in 2018.

As outlined in the UNDP Strategic Plan, by 2021, UNDP aims to strengthen its relevance as a trusted partner, reiterate a strong commitment to the mandate of eradicating poverty, have greater application of innovation, and continue to be a thought leader while taking and managing risks, and increase effectiveness and efficiency in utilizing all resources.<sup>12</sup>

## UNDP's Response in a Crisis

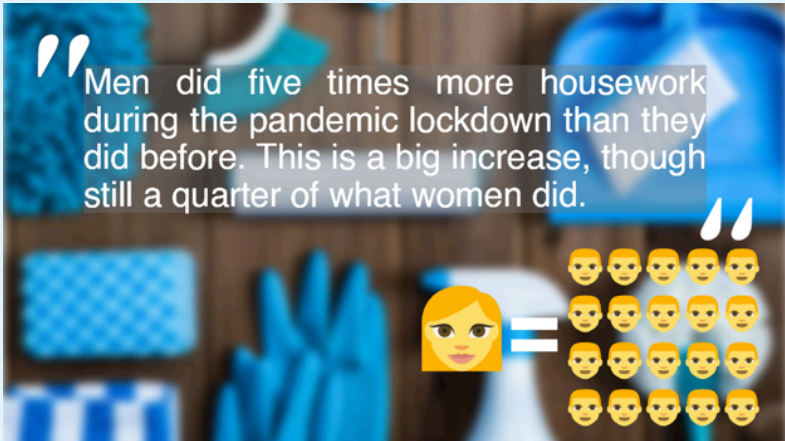
While UNDP continues to support the development agenda and the achievement of the SDGs, UNDP is an organization that is flexible, relevant and focussed on working within specific country contexts.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNDP has supported countries across the world in responding to the immediate needs of the health pandemic. This includes procurement of goods and services including essential PPE (personal protective equipment) for health professionals and law enforcement staff; provision of technical advice; preparation of policy and guidance documents; communication and outreach in different languages and ethnic tongues; and resource mobilization through new partnerships or approved re-purposing of existing funds. Specific country projects have ranged from restoration of livelihoods to the making of masks, micro-capital support, facilitating online learning platforms, establishing hotlines and referral pathways for reducing gender-based violence and seeking to address the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized including single or female-headed households, people living with HIV and AIDS or other ailments, people living with disabilities, indigenous and tribal people living in remote, rural areas, people in institutions and the workers in informal sectors and employments without social safety nets.

UNDP prepares bulletins that document the COVID-19 support all around the world as detailed in the boxes below with examples from UNDP Bulletins.

#### Box 4.1

#### Stories from UNDP Turkey<sup>13</sup>



#### Women doing four times as much unpaid work as men during lockdown, research finds

Press Releases | UNDP Turkey

Changes in workplace patterns during COVID-19 led to a shift in women's burden of household and care work. Women shouldered most of the burden, doing around four times as much unpaid work as men. But employed men working from home did substantially more household work than before. The findings call for changes to workplace and social care policies to redistribute unpaid care and domestic work. [Read more](#)

## Box 4.2

### Stories from UN Volunteers<sup>14</sup>



#### Building back better: why volunteering matters for the post-COVID world

Story | UN Volunteer

To achieve this, new development patterns must be inclusive, resilient and advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By weaving a strong social fabric within communities, volunteering is at the key intersection of these qualities. When those with local knowledge and insights take collective ownership of local problems, communities are uniquely mobilized around development efforts.

[Read more](#)



UNDP Latin America and the Caribbean  
#COVID19 | POLICY DOCUMENTS SERIES

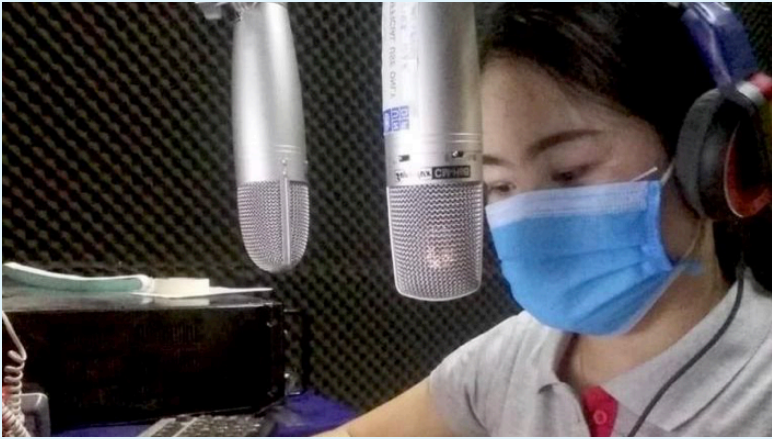


### The Bahamas Country Note: Impact of COVID-19 and policy options

Publication | UNDP Latin America and The Caribbean

This paper reviews the economic and social situation in The Bahamas and describes the policies implemented for the containment of the crisis. It also proposes moving from food assistance for sectors without contributory benefits to broader unemployment insurance that can help maintain consumption and reduce the number of programs the Government is implementing. [Read more](#)

**Box 4.4**  
**Stories from Lao PDR<sup>16</sup>**



**UNDP and Partners Promote COVID-19 Prevention Information  
in Lao PDR**

News | UNDP Lao PDR

UNDP Lao PDR has been supporting the government in disseminating messages on preventive measures and COVID-19 related topics, together with WHO and other UN agencies, through its Community Radio network. The project has been extended to eight priority districts, reaching out to around 300,000 people in their own ethnic languages, in rural and remote areas.

#### Box 4.5

The SDG Moment, Friday, September 18, 2020<sup>17</sup>

### UNDP's Response



### UN leaders give a global reality check on SDG progress

News | UNDP

The UN Secretary-General launched on Friday the first SDG Moment, an annual check-in of progress towards achieving the SDGs by 2030. Achim Steiner, the Administrator for the United Nations Development Programme, joined in the global call to leverage the COVID-19 crisis to spring forward on the 2030 Agenda.

[Read more](#)

## Endnotes

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- 2 UNDP, (2017), *UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018–2020*, accessed September 15, 2020, <http://strategicplan.undp.org/>.
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- 8 Hannah Ritchie and Max Roser, “Access to Energy,” *Our World in Data*, accessed September 15, 2020, <https://ourworldindata.org/energy-access>.
- 9 *UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018–2020*, <http://strategicplan.undp.org/>.
- 10 “What Are the Sustainable Development Goals?,” UNDP, accessed September 15, 2020, <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>.
- 11 “Integrated Solutions,” UNDP, accessed September 15, 2020, <https://sdgintegration.undp.org/integrated-solutions>.

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- 13 “COVID-19 Bulletin,” UNDP, Issue 23, August 7, 2020.
- 14 “COVID-19 Bulletin,” UNDP, Issue 23, August 7, 2020.
- 15 “COVID-19 Bulletin,” UNDP, Issue 23, August 7, 2020.
- 16 “COVID-19 Bulletin,” UNDP, Issue 8, April 17, 2020.
- 17 “COVID-19 Bulletin,” UNDP, Issue 20, September 19, 2020.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **Where Are We Now and What Are We Required to Do?**

#### **The Call of the Decade of Action**

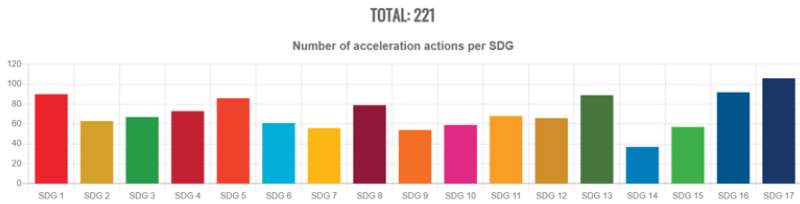
**A**t the beginning of 2020 the Decade of Action was launched as it was recognized that the world was not quite on track to achieving all the SDGs and some accelerated action was required. Shortly after the beginning of 2020 we were also faced with the reality of the global pandemic.

So many global challenges persist and threaten the achievement of Agenda 2030. These challenges include climate change, sustainable financing, gender-based violence, access to basic social services, deforestation and land degradation, rising inequality and the persistence of extreme poverty.

The COVID-19 pandemic has gripped every nation of the world, every citizen of the globe, in one way or another, and has moved swiftly from being a health crisis, to being a humanitarian crisis, a human rights crisis and a development crisis. The nexus between development and disaster has never been clearer. The global pandemic is negatively affecting the achievement of all 17 SDGs but the pandemic has shown clearly that the achievement of the SDGs is ever more urgent, ever more necessary, ever more important in ensuring improved development and well-being for all, and to focus on ensuring that we Leave No One Behind.

With the launch of the Decade of Action in January 2020, various entities have shown commitment and, as at August 2020, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) platform had registered 221 acceleration actions.<sup>1</sup> The actions are varied in nature and cover various sectors across the 17 SDGs and include policy actions, programmatic interventions and mobilization of financing. These actions are from governments, civil society, private sector, academia, businesses and conglomerates, UN agencies, individual citizens and, very important, with partnerships.

**Figure 5.1**  
**Acceleration Actions Registered Across All 17 SDGs<sup>2</sup>**



Examples of these SDG Acceleration Actions in the Caribbean and Latin America are detailed below.

**Box 5.1**  
**Community Pharmacies in Haiti for SDG<sup>3</sup>**

### SDGs for Haiti

Expected impact 1. establishment of 4 community pharmacy in the city of Port-au-prince at the general hospital, female prison of cabaret, penitentier center and the lycée de cite soleil. 2. online and face-to-face training for more than fifty marketing agents on the relationship between antibiotics and bacterial resistance and also on self-medication, to fight against the sale of antibiotics in the streets and against self-medication . 3. awareness of 60% of the Haitian population on the imp... ([Read more](#))

### Organization

State University Of Haiti

3

## Box 5.2

### Justice Roadmap in Argentina for SDG 16

#### Roadmap for 2030 Argentinian Justice

- Achieve equality among all people, respect for diversity and a culture of dialogue. - Justice system guaranteeing coexistence with efficient and transparent institutions those are accountable for their actions and results. - Implementation of mechanisms guaranteeing public participation in the definition of inclusive and representative policies for the justice sector responding to social needs. - Public access to information allowing informed debate, and discouraging acts of corruption. - Access to conflict prevention mechanisms. - Redesign of federal and provincial judiciary work structures and processes so that the user is at the center of their concerns; - Achieve speed and efficiency of the intervention of justice to contribute to a decrease in conflicts, both by discouraging criminality and by providing a framework of predictability and clear rules in civil and commercial relations. - Final inclusion of indigenous communities; - Development of Human rights permeates Argentine culture from an integral perspective of prevention, and public policies with a focus of human rights. - Strengthening of the system of training, accreditation and professional control of lawyers guaranteeing high ethical standards in the service they provide to society. - Decrease in the number of detainees of the prison system- increase in the use of alternative measures of imprisonment and effective processes of social relocation of convicted persons and the consequent decrease in recidivism.

#### Organization

Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Argentina

16

## Box 5.3

### Accessible Energy for All in Mexico for SDG 7

#### Accessible energy for all

The goal is to eradicate energy poverty by 2024 in order to foster social mobility in all levels of poverty.

#### Organization

Office of the Presidency of Mexico

7

## Box 5.4

### Green Gardens in Brazil for SDGs 1–3, 10–13, 15

#### Hortas Cariocas (Urban Green Gardens)

Food is, directly and indirectly, related to all SDGs. From production to consumption, food choices and habits impact the environment and human health. Hortas Cariocas / Green Gardens aim to achieve food security and improved nutrition of its beneficiaries, develop sustainable agriculture in the city, ensure the well being and healthy lives through healthy diets, promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth to farmers, reduce inequalities towards food access, improve the sustainability of Rio de Janeiro city and revitalize areas with agriculture potential, promote sustainable consumption and production habits, transform and protect the soil and ecosystem.

#### Organization

Rio de Janeiro City Hall

1 2 3 8 10 11 12 13 15



## Countries' Engagement

This year, 2020, marks the 75th anniversary of the United Nations and the 75th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UN GA) was opened on September 15, 2020. On September 21, 2020 a high-level event was held to mark the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. The theme for this event was “The Future We Want, the UN We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism”. This year the UN GA was held with a mix of virtual and in-person participation due to the global pandemic. It has also been five years since the agreement by 193 countries on Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

A special event was the Global Goals Week which reviewed the progress of the SDGs and the impact of COVID-19 on the achievement of the SDGs. September 25, 2020 was Global Goals Day – the anniversary of the global agreement of the 17 SDGs. The UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, continues his appeal for renewed action, acceleration, ambition, mobilization, leadership and partnerships, particularly in the face of the pandemic.

### Box 5.5

#### Global Goals Week – A Showcase of the SDGs<sup>4</sup>



There are some areas where attention is needed and key messages that UNDP has shared, which were discussed at the High-Level Political Forum in September 2020.

Referring to its signature publication, *The Human Development Report*, the UNDP notes that for the first time since 1990 when it began publishing this report, human development is on a course to decline.<sup>5</sup>

**Box 5.5**

**UNDP Report *Assessing the Crisis, Envisioning the Recovery after COVID-19*<sup>6</sup>**



Since the global pandemic began, UNDP has conducted COVID-19 socio-economic impact assessments in more than 60 countries and prepared two regional reports. This work has shown that while countries are at different stages of the pandemic, they are all dealing already with significant negative

impacts. UNDP has highlighted some key findings from these assessments and important messages to be considered.

The negative impacts include the following:<sup>7</sup>

- Rising poverty and deepening inequality are occurring as the poorest have minimal buffers and are least able to cope with the effects of the pandemic. The World Bank notes that in 2020, 100 million people are at risk of falling into extreme poverty<sup>8</sup>
- Food insecurity is rising and nations such as small island developing states, which are net food importers, are suffering from the disruption of global value chains. According to the World Food Programme, more than 265 million people are facing acute food insecurity in 2020 due to COVID-19<sup>9</sup>
- Job losses are major and with insufficient, inadequate or absent safety nets, the ILO estimates a negative impact on 1.6 billion informal workers.<sup>10</sup> Workers in the informal sector earn low wages, have little savings, sometimes live from day-to-day, and have minimal or no access to social protection. These impacts are expected to lead to a 60 percent decline in earnings for these informal workers
- Digital literacy is an important aspect of development in the twenty-first century but the digital divide is obvious. Lack of access to technology and lack of access to digital services can exacerbate inequality across many sectors. UNDP estimates show that 86 percent<sup>11</sup> of children in primary education are now effectively out of school in countries with low human development – compared with just 20 percent in countries with very high human development. While many educational institutions have moved to online learning it should not be taken for granted that everyone has access to this learning, or the skills to utilize it, nor the affinity to benefit from it

Private investors can focus on building a green economy, aligned with countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) which they have

prepared and submitted, signalling their commitments to achieving mitigation targets and adaptation plans. UNDP and partners are helping countries to translate their NDCs and adaptation plans into urban planning, agriculture, and land-use climate solutions, and supporting raising the level of ambition on NDC in addition to accelerating progress through an initiative called the Climate Promise.



Climate Promise: A Safe and Sustainable Future Through Bold Climate Action <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/climatepromise.html>

Deforestation, fragmentation and loss of habitats and indeed, the illegal wildlife trade, can facilitate and contribute to the spread of pathogens from animals. However, epidemics are about more than the transmission of pathogens. Poor and vulnerable populations may live on the edges of degraded natural habitats within which pathogens move easily between wildlife, livestock, and people. Even if we defeat the current pandemic but do nothing about its source – that is, the way humans interact with nature – it may be only a matter of time before the next novel pathogen emerges.

On gender equality, empowerment of women and gender-based violence, there is still much work to be done. Many women are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 response, including as healthcare workers, first responders and service industry workers, and are playing a key role in ensuring the well-being and resilience of their families and communities. UN Women reports that women make up 70 percent of health and social sector workers,<sup>12</sup> increasing their exposure to the coronavirus. Coupled with this, women and girls are facing disproportionate social, economic, and health risks from COVID-19, exacerbating existing gender inequalities. The burden of unpaid care work in the home, for young children and for elderly parents, often falls to women. Home care work for women has increased over the period of the pandemic due to school closures. Women already do two and a half times as much unpaid care and domestic work as men.

Added to this is that the lockdown requirements have kept women and girls at home, sometimes with abusive partners who are also in lockdown. This makes the home the most dangerous place for women as gender-based violence cases rise worldwide during this period. Prior to the pandemic, 1:3 women experienced intimate partner violence. UN Women, in *The Shadow Pandemic: Violence Against Women During COVID-19*,<sup>13</sup> reports an increase in emergency calls to domestic violence hotlines, in some cases by as much as 20–30 percent. UNDP is a partner in the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative,<sup>14</sup> which is a global initiative to end violence against women and girls. This initiative targets 50 million direct beneficiaries across five regions and more than 25 countries.

## **What Can We Do?**

There is much that can be done, and much that should be done, on many levels.

### ***What can we do as individuals?***

As individuals, we should all look for opportunities to contribute, however big or small. Across the spectrum of the 17 SDGs, think of what the needs are in your country, in your community, in your own family. Ms. Judith Brielle, who works with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Suriname, is a blood donor and has been regularly giving blood since 2002, contributing to SDG 3 on Good Health and Well Being. Ms. Brielle made what she calls a “decision of conscience” to become a blood donor and to help save lives by providing much needed blood to the blood bank and contributing to good health and well-being for those in need. Giving blood also contributes to her own health and well-being, as she is required to provide information on her own lifestyle, health, risk factors, illnesses, blood pressure, weight and haemoglobin levels. She has an obligation to provide “healthy” blood and this helps her to stay healthy herself. Ms. Brielle has given blood approximately 40 times over the past 18 years and continues to give even during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Brielle tells her own story in Box 5.7.

### Box: 5.7

## One Individual's Commitment to SDG<sup>15</sup>

"My blood type is O + and I have been a blood donor since 2002. I decided that taking care of my own health just wasn't enough if I was able to help others too. Becoming a donor was therefore a decision of conscience. Often we hear an urgent call for safe blood, needed for life-saving interventions. I have to be honest, every time I did, it really hit me. The first group that I thought of were the ones I consider most vulnerable. Pregnant women, the elderly, people without family and children who need blood to have an operation or because their body is not producing enough blood. However, as a blood donor, you also become very humble in a sense. You don't decide who gets the blood products? The need for blood really makes us all equal. My blood goes to everyone who needs it.

Before I actually became a donor, I had a medical examination. I completed a medical questionnaire about my lifestyle, health, risk factors and illnesses. My blood pressure, weight, and hemoglobin in my blood were also measured and my blood was tested for infectious diseases. This happens every time I go to the blood bank to donate, first twice a year but since 2017, 3 times a year. It is a commitment you make with the community that you will make healthy choices to guard their health.

Last year I had to undergo surgery on the arteries of my brain. Miraculously, I didn't need blood and my speedy recovery surprised the doctors. I like to believe that being a blood donor contributed to my recovery. One consequence of the intervention was that I could not donate blood for 6 months. It was so disturbing and I felt really bad, like I was letting those in need down. However, the first day I was able to donate again, I felt like entering the home of a beloved relative. My donation was celebrated and people really missed me. I am so proud to be part of this family, which gives me the opportunity to contribute in my own little way to creating more favorable health conditions for others in need.

Since I gave my first pint of blood, I have motivated several friends and family members to become donors as well. Donating blood is not a big deal, but it can make a difference and save the life of someone essential to the development of one family, community or country. We can all give and invest in our fellows in different ways. We don't all have to be blood donors, but we can find ways in which we as individuals can make a positive contribution. In June 2017, I was honored with the Knighthood of the Yellow Star and I hope to continue donating blood for many years to come."

Judith Ivy Brielle  
UNFPA Liaison Officer in Suriname  
September 09, 2020

**Figure 5.2**

**Judith Brielle Giving Blood at Suriname Red Cross  
and Awards from the President<sup>16</sup>**



While Ms. Brielle’s story is an example of individual effort, the story also highlights something that governments can do as Ms. Brielle received a Presidential Award. That creates an incentive to recognize and encourage citizens’ contributions to the achievement of the SDGs.

***What can governments do?***

In addition to incentivizing actions from individual citizens, governments have taken, and can continue to take, many other actions. Governments have already signed on to the SDGs which is the signal of commitment. Many countries have aligned their own national development plans to the SDGs, set up monitoring and tracking frameworks and completed their first, second and

even third, Voluntary National Reports. Governments can go a step further and advocate for specific SDGs that may be most relevant to their national contexts. Governments have even advocated to have their own SDGs – such as the case of Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) – and SDG 18.

Lao PDR, a land-locked, least developed country in South East Asia adopted its own SDG 18 on unexploded ordnance (UXO).<sup>17</sup> From 1964 to 1973, during the Indochina war, more than 500,000 bombing missions occurred and over two million tons of bombs were dropped on the country. More than 40 years after the end of war, it is estimated that there remains over 80 million unexploded ordnance across 15 of the 18 provinces. The presence of unexploded ordnance restricts safe access to land needed for agriculture, for development and for construction of needed facilities such as schools and hospitals. The issue of UXO is a major development issue for Lao PDR and the country advocated to have a dedicated SDG to address this issue. In 2016, the Prime Minister of Lao PDR and then UN Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki Moon, formally launched the country’s own dedicated SDG – SDG 18 – Lives Safe from UXO. This is reported in Lao PDR’s first Voluntary National Review (VNR) in July 2018. Efforts focus on continued risk education, surveys and mapping of contaminated areas, clearance of UXO and victims’ assistance. The Lao PDR VNR reports that numbers of casualties have dropped from 302 in 2008 to 41 in 2017.<sup>18</sup> SDG 18 highlights the continuing importance of this national issue.



## Box 5.6

### SDG 18 – Lives Safe from UXO<sup>19</sup>


**Lao PDR**

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
 OUR FOCUS
 MORE
 Q


























**SDG 18: Lives Safe from UXO**

Reducing the impact of UXO is Lao PDR's own national Sustainable Development Goal. By committing to Goal 18 as a part of the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Laos holds itself accountable to advancing the reduction of UXO impact and contributing to many other goals at the same time, e.g. Goal 1, Ending Poverty. An integrated approach is crucial for progress across the multiple goals. Learn more about [Goal 18 and its targets](#).

Text from Lao PDR's VNR on SDG 18<sup>20</sup>

**Overview.** The Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) is a land-locked, ethnically diverse, and mountainous country with an estimated population of around 6.5 million. Strong economic growth has enabled Lao PDR to move from the ranks of low income economies to a "lower middle-income" country from 2010.<sup>1</sup> Lao PDR aims to graduate from Least Developed Country (LDC) status by 2020. With economic growth still heavily reliant on natural resources, the Government is diversifying to move towards more inclusive and sustained growth. More than half of the population are under the age of 25 years. To benefit from the demographic dividend to the economy, the Government is prioritizing the enhancement of skills and knowledge among youth.

**Lao PDR is committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.** The Prime Minister is Chairman of the National Steering Committee for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Lao PDR.<sup>2</sup> Lao PDR was among the earliest countries to localize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and integrate them into its Eighth National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSED) in 2016, with around 60 percent of the 160 NSED indicators linked to the SDGs. Each of the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social, and environmental) relates to an NSED outcome, with outputs, targets, and indicators. Cross-cutting components such as governance, innovation and technology, gender equality, youth and women's empowerment, and Green Growth targets and indicators foster integration across the three dimensions of the NSED. Lao PDR's planning frameworks - comprising the NSED, its Development Strategy 2025 and Vision 2030 - focus on promoting green growth and sustainable development, maintaining steady economic growth, achieving a constant reduction of poverty, and graduating from Least Developed Country status.

**Lao PDR has adopted its own SDG 18 on unexploded ordnance (UXO).** UXO remains a daunting barrier to the progress of development in Lao PDR. From 1964 to 1973, during the Indochina war, more than 500,000 bombing missions dropped over two million tons of bombs, or nearly one ton for every

man, woman and child in the population at the time. More than 40 years after the end of war, an estimated 80 million cluster sub-munitions remain unexploded, affecting 15 of 18 provinces in the country and 25 percent of all villages. UXOs have a crosscutting impact on SDGs, since UXOs limit safe access to agricultural and land for development projects, and also make the construction of transport and power infrastructure, schools, hospitals, and water supply facilities much more costly and dangerous. Consequently, the Prime Minister of Lao PDR H.E. Mr. Thongloun Sisoulith and UN Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon formally launched the country's SDG 18 ("*Lives Safe from UXO*") on 7 September 2016 in Vientiane.

**Lao PDR is actively engaged in its international commitments.** In addition to the SDGs, Lao PDR is implementing other international agreements, as shown by the following examples:

- Lao PDR has acceded to or ratified seven out of nine key international human rights instruments.<sup>3</sup> The country continues to incorporate these obligations into its national laws, policies, and programmes.
- The Government has accepted 116 of the 196 recommendations made by the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in 2015 and is addressing implementation gaps in the human rights instruments.
- Lao PDR became the first country in ASEAN to ratify the Paris Agreement on Climate Change by passing a national law on its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution. While Lao PDR's contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions is still negligible, the government is determined to substantially increase the country's forest cover to 70 percent by 2020, enhance the resilience of agriculture, and conserve and restore valuable terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems.<sup>4</sup>
- Lao PDR's leadership role in implementing the Convention on Cluster Munitions<sup>5</sup> is widely acknowledged.<sup>6</sup>

**Figure 5.3**

**Margaret Jones Williams in Lao PDR Learning about the Labour-intensive, Costly and Time-consuming Task of Detecting and Clearing UXO**



*Source: UNDP Lao PDR, 2017*

### ***What can academia do?***

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC) celebrated its 60th anniversary in 2019. As part of the celebratory activities several events were planned. As a Commonwealth Scholar, I was privileged to be invited to participate in the activities as a guest speaker at the University of Southampton where I had been placed as a Commonwealth Scholar in 1994. I was invited to speak to current Commonwealth Scholars, to share my own experience as an international student, my academic research and my career path in the twenty-one years since I graduated with a PhD.<sup>21</sup> The event was entitled “CSC Knowledge Exchange: Celebrating the Impact of Scholars in working towards Sustainable Development Goals.” Professor Nuala McGrath, Professor of Epidemiology and Sexual Health and NIHR Global Health and Commonwealth

Scholarship Commissioner, opened the session and spoke of the role of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission. The CSC has been awarding approximately 800 scholarships and fellowships for postgraduate study and professional development each year, with over 27,500 Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows funded by the UK government through the CSC since 1959. In her presentation, Professor McGrath also recognized two Jamaican Commonwealth Scholars:

- Ian Randle, founder, Ian Randle Publishers, first commercial publishing company in the English-speaking Caribbean to produce scholarly and academic books (1975 Scholar from Jamaica, MSc International Studies)
- Alwin Livingstone Hales, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Works (1975 Scholar from Jamaica, PhD Water Management)

The CSC has nine Knowledge Hubs which include Sustainable Economic Growth; Inclusive Education; Strengthening Climate Resilience and Mitigation; Gender Equality; Global Health Coverage and Promoting Peace and Justice – showing strong alignment with the SDGs.

As a part of this event the current Commonwealth Scholars gave presentations of their own on current graduate research. A pivotal moment was when each student started his or her presentation by explaining how the research topic was aligned to the SDGs, naming the SDG and its number. This was a requirement of the University of Southampton's graduate programme.

With this simple step, academia supported the SDGs and their mandate, used their resources to further the cause of development by ensuring that their research moved beyond “pure” and into “applied,” and helped to advance the data repository which is so essential for tracking and monitoring SDG achievement.

The academic research that I heard about contributes to SDG 4 on Quality Education and it also contributes to several other SDGs through the nature of the research. This includes research on hand osteoarthritis and access to prosthetics and orthotics (SDG 3 on Good Health and Well-Being); research

capacity for sustainable water (SDG 6 on Clean Water and Sanitation), and research on improving food security in sub-Saharan Africa (SDG 2 on Zero Hunger). With the financial resources offered to students by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission, SDG 17 on Partnerships for the Goals is also highlighted.

The Department of Gerontology at the University of Southampton has been running scholarship programmes for the MSc Gerontology and the MSc Global Ageing. The alumni network includes over 130 graduates from around the world including from Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago.<sup>22</sup>

Professor Vlachantoni, Director of Programmes in the Department of Gerontology, states that “The programmes focus on the wellbeing of individuals across the life course and in later life, and directly relate to a number of SDGs, and to key aims of social inclusion and prosperity. In addition, we offer students events where we invite them to think critically about the progress in areas of SDGs, older people’s inclusion in the SDGs, and the ways in which SDGs could be developed in the future to be even more inclusive and effective.”<sup>23</sup>

**Figure 5.4**

**SDG 4 – Quality Education – Commonwealth Scholars at the University of Southampton Present Graduate Research Aligned with the SDGs<sup>24</sup>**



Commonwealth Scholars, University of Southampton staff, speakers and CSC staff at a 60th Anniversary of the CSC event hosted by the University of Southampton

### ***What can private sector do?***

When governments adopted the SDGs it was quite clear that the achievement of the SDGs was not the mandate of governments alone but that all sectors of society had to be engaged, had to be aware and had to contribute. The private sector is a key sector that has significant capacity that can contribute to all seventeen of the SDGs.

Across the world several private sector companies have embraced the SDGs, moving to more sustainable production and consumption practices (SDG 12); reducing factory and manufacturing emissions and thereby reducing their carbon footprint (SDG 13); providing jobs with equal opportunity for employment and equal pay for men and women (SDG 1 and SDG 5); building schools (SDG 4); providing medicines and vaccines (SDG 3); and providing expertise, tools, equipment and markets for farmers' produce (SDG 2).

Some specific examples of how private sector can contribute to the SDGs:

**SDG 1 – No Poverty** – Banks and financing institutions can offer financial services to underserved clients, providing reduced or more competitive rates. Companies can provide decent work with pay for citizens.

**SDG 2 – No Hunger** - Food production companies, restaurants, larger farms can provide donations to food banks, soup kitchens, schools and residential institutions. Companies can invest in more sustainable farming practices which will also contribute to SDGs 13, 14, 15.

**SDG 5 – Gender Equality** - Employers can ensure that their companies have a Gender Action Plan, promote equality in recruitment and employment, provide segregated washroom facilities and regularly conduct gender sensitivity sessions.

**SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy** – Companies, however large or small, can invest in affordable clean energy and invest in energy technology which will also contribute to SDG 13.

**SDG 13 – Climate Action** – Businesses can reduce greenhouse gas emissions through application of energy efficiency and conservation measures.

**SDG 15 – Life on Land** – Farmers and food production companies should employ sustainable farming practices to reduce negative impacts on the environment, and reduce land degradation and desertification, fragmentation and destruction of wildlife habitats, minimize pollution and include organic methods.

## **Financing the SDGs**

Financing for the SDGs still remains a challenge. At the UN General Assembly in 2018, UNDP Administrator, Achim Steiner, opened an event entitled “How the Private Sector Can Align to the SDGs.” In his remarks, Mr. Steiner noted the significant financing gap, stating that “the SDG funding gap – estimated by UNCTAD at \$2.5 trillion per year for developing countries – cannot be closed by development aid alone. It will require engagement with the private sector to help to leverage additional financing.”<sup>25</sup>

UNDP launched the SDG Impact which is an offer to help investors eliminate barriers to investments and enable SDG achievement. The SDG Impact includes Impact Management (helping investors to channel their capital towards SDG achievement); Impact Intelligence (provides insights into local entrepreneurs and projects that support SDGs); and Impact Facilitation (utilizing UNDP’s in-country presence for match-making and networking to connect investors and relevant enterprises).

## **SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals – Is There a Moral Imperative?**

While the challenge to achieve the SDGs was great before the global pandemic, it is undoubtedly even greater now.

The SDGs cover all sectors; the impact of COVID-19 also covers all sectors. The call for accelerated actions in the Decade of Action has already resulted in many positive actions to be implemented. The SDGs are inter-related and

interconnected and the success of one can affect the success of another. The achievement of the SDGs is going to depend heavily on the last SDG – SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals.

SDG 17 was designed to “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.”<sup>26</sup> Individually and collectively we must work together and contribute to the SDG acceleration dialogue.

If we look at the definition of a moral imperative as a strongly-felt principle that compels a person into action, is supporting the achievements of the SDGs a moral imperative for all global citizens?

Individually we must put ourselves in someone else’s shoes. Imagine what it would be like to be left behind in education, in access to energy, in food security, in gender-based violence. We must each play our part not to contribute to the problem at hand but to contribute to the solution to be developed.

As individuals we can:

- Learn more about the SDGs and what is happening in our own countries
- Contribute to the Decade of Action and the Acceleration Actions
- Promote partnerships across sectors and disciplines
- Improve transparency in communication
- Raise the level of accountability of our duty-bearers and advocate for the rights-holders

Private sector and businesses can contribute to the achievement of the SDGs through:

- Access to innovation and technology
- Reducing carbon footprints
- Investing in the green economy
- Creating jobs



Academia can contribute through:

- Science and research
- Education and training
- Skills development
- Data generation

Governments can contribute through:

- Reform of policy
- Legal and regulatory frameworks
- Improved monitoring and enforcement
- Facilitating rule of law and justice
- Promoting transparency in processes

Civil society can contribute through:

- Engagement in all of the above
- Holding governments accountable
- Reporting on challenges, successes, progress and lessons learned

UNDP is working with other UN agencies, governments, civil society, private sector, academia and other groups on raising financial resources, developing tools and guidelines and providing technical expertise through global knowledge networks, to support governments in achieving the SDGs.

The UN Secretary-General in his motivating video clip on the Decade of Action puts it quite clearly: “Join us. Step up. Seize the moment and let us work together to meet the goals, move our world forward and leave no one behind.”<sup>27</sup>

## Endnotes

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## **ANNEX 1**

### **Sustainable Development Goals and Targets<sup>1</sup>**

#### ***Goal 1: No poverty***

- 1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day
- 1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions
- 1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable
- 1.4 By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance
- 1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters
- 1.A Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions
- 1.B Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions

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1 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

## **Goal 2: Zero hunger**

- 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.
- 2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.
- 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment.
- 2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.
- 2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed.
- 2.A Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries.
- 2.B Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round.

- 2.C Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility.

***Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages***

- 3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.
- 3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.
- 3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.
- 3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.
- 3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.
- 3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.
- 3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes.
- 3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
- 3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.
- 3.A Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.
- 3.B Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for



the communicable and noncommunicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all.

- 3.C Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States.
- 3.D Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks.

#### ***Goal 4: Quality education***

- 4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and Goal-4 effective learning outcomes
- 4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and preprimary education so that they are ready for primary education
- 4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university
- 4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship
- 4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations
- 4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy

- 4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development
- 4.A Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, nonviolent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all
- 4.B By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in higher education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries
- 4.C By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing states

***Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls***

- 5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- 5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- 5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- 5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate
- 5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decisionmaking in political, economic and public life

- 5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences
- 5.A Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws
- 5.B Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women
- 5.C Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

***Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all***

- 6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all
- 6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations
- 6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally
- 6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity
- 6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate
- 6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes
- 6.A By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support

to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies

- 6.B Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management

***Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy***

- 7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services
- 7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix
- 7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency
- 7.A By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology
- 7.B By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States, and land-locked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support

***Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all***

- 8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries
- 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors
- 8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services

- 8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead
- 8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value
- 8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training
- 8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms
- 8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment
- 8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products
- 8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all
- 8.A Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries
- 8.B By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization

***Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation***

- 9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

- 9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries
- 9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets
- 9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities
- 9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending
- 9.A Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States 18
- 9.B Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities
- 9.C Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020

### ***Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries***

- 10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average
- 10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

- 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard
- 10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality
- 10.5 Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations
- 10.6 Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions
- 10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies
- 10.A Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements
- 10.B Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes
- 10.C By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent

***Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable***

- 11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums
- 11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

- 11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries
- 11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage
- 11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations
- 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management
- 11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities
- 11.A Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning
- 11.B By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels
- 11.C Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials

## ***Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns***

- 12.1 Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries



- 12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
- 12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
- 12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment
- 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
- 12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle
- 12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities
- 12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature
- 12.A Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production
- 12.B Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products
- 12.C Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities

### ***Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts***

- 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
- 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
- 13.A Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible
- 13.B Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

### ***Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources***

- 14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution
- 14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans
- 14.3 Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels
- 14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices

and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics

- 14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information
- 14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation
- 14.7 By 2030, increase the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism
- 14.A Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries
- 14.B Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets
- 14.C Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of The Future We Want

***Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss***

- 15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements
- 15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
- 15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world
- 15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development
- 15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
- 15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed
- 15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products
- 15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species
- 15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts
- 15.A Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems
- 15.B Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to

developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation

- 15.C Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities

***Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies***

- 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere
- 16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- 16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- 16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime
- 16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms
- 16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels
- 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels
- 16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance
- 16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration
- 16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements
- 16.A Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime
- 16.B Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

## ***Goal 17: Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development finance***

- 17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection
- 17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries
- 17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
- 17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress
- 17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries

## **Technology**

- 17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism
- 17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed
- 17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology

## Capacity building

- 17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation

## Trade

- 17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development

## Agenda

- 17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020
- 17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access

## Systemic issues

### ***Policy and institutional coherence***

- 17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence
- 17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development
- 17.15 Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development

## **Multi-stakeholder partnerships**

- 17.16 Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries
- 17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

## **Data, monitoring and accountability**

- 17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts
- 17.19 By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries



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