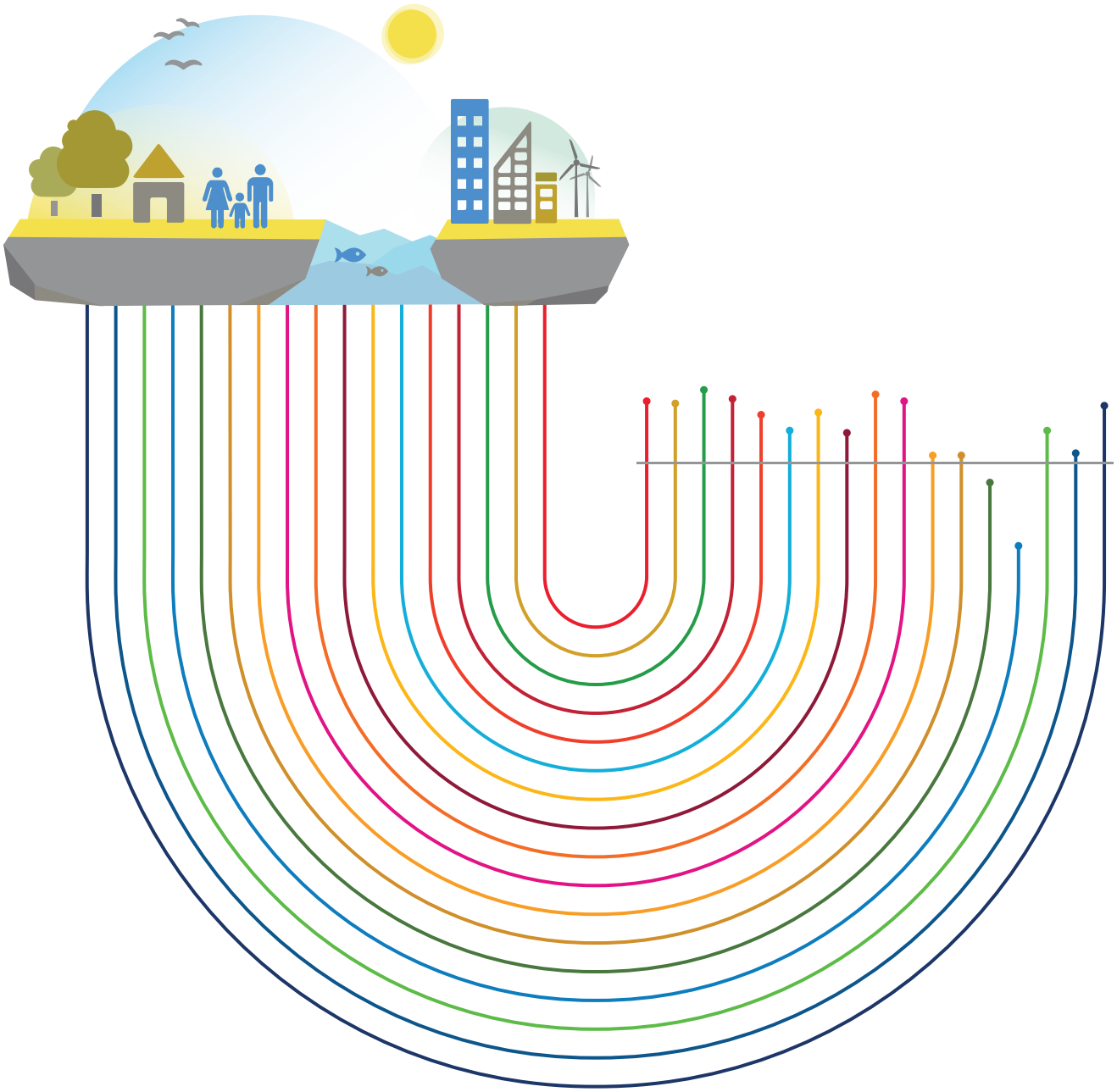
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

SDG PROGRESS REPORT

2021



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UNITED NATIONS ESCAP

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

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The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) serves as the United Nations' regional hub promoting cooperation among countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable development. The largest regional intergovernmental platform with 53 Member States and 9 Associate Members, ESCAP has emerged as a strong regional think-tank offering countries sound analytical products that shed insight into the evolving economic, social and environmental dynamics of the region. The Commission's strategic focus is to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which it does by reinforcing and deepening regional cooperation and integration to advance connectivity, financial cooperation and market integration. ESCAP's research and analysis coupled with its policy advisory services, capacity building and technical assistance to governments aims to support countries' sustainable and inclusive development ambitions.

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ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
SDG PROGRESS REPORT 2021

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United Nations Publication
Sale no.: E.21.II.F.4
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ISBN: 978-92-1-120822-1
eISBN: 978-92-1-604033-8
ST/ESCAP/2935

FOREWORD

The Asia and the Pacific Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report 2021 comes at a time when the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have already been felt across the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development.

This year's report provides an update on the region's progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals based on data that pre-date the pandemic. Although it is too soon to see the impact of the pandemic in national data sources, this report provides a valuable benchmark as we take stock even in times of great change. From this effort, we know that even before the pandemic, the Asia-Pacific region was not on track to meet any of the SDGs by 2030.

In times of crisis we draw great strength from cooperation and partnerships. In the Asia-Pacific region, our partners in the UN system are assessing the pandemic response and its potential impact, especially on those who are most vulnerable. Seven UN agencies have contributed their expertise to this report, providing rich detail on the wide range of population groups that might be affected by the pandemic. Their insight into the challenges ahead is vital as countries aim to ensure that no one is left behind in the pandemic response and recovery.

Some of the challenges in 2020 will have profound bearings on our 2030 ambitions. For example, data collection activities were affected by mandatory lockdowns and social distancing measures. Data collection from vulnerable groups has been particularly challenging. To build back better, it is critical for every country to renew its commitment to the monitoring framework of the Goals and targets, so recovery can accelerate a global transformation as promised by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In keeping with our commitment to support countries with national level follow-up and review of the Sustainable Development Goals, ESCAP has developed a "National SDG Tracker" tool for countries looking to replicate the progress assessment found in this report. National governments can use

the tool to produce visually appealing and easily understood dashboards and snapshots of progress towards the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda. The tool enables them to navigate the monitoring framework of the goals with their unique national targets and national data sources.

It is our hope that the Asia and the Pacific Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report 2021 and the National SDG Tracker will make meaningful contributions to national policymaking processes throughout Asia and the Pacific.

Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2021 was prepared by the Statistics Division of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) under the overall leadership and guidance of Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP, and Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary for Sustainable Development provided valuable guidance and oversight.

Special thanks to the following United Nations partners

International Labour Organization

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

unicef for every child

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNDP

UN environment programme

UNFPA

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Photo credit
Executive Summary: iStock 1128866185;
Part I: UN Photo 572-465, iStock 635917762, iStock 1138934703, iStock 820447772;
Part II - iStock 1070890430, iStock 1088841938, iStock 520138079;
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Annexes: iStock 1007785734, iStock 948447866, iStock 466125188, iStock 599977064, iStock 458109983

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ATMs	automated teller machines
CO_2	carbon dioxide (emissions)
COVID-19	coronavirus disease 2019
CSO	civil society organizations
DAC	Development Assistance Committee (under OECD)
DPT3	diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis
DRR	disaster risk reduction
ENEA	East and North-East Asia
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI	foreign direct investment
GDP	gross domestic product
GHG	greenhouse gas
GNI	gross national income
HIV	human immunodeficiency viruses
ICT	Information and communications technologies
ILO	International Labour Organization
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
LDCs	least developed countries
LiST	Lives Saved Tool
M3	cubic metre
MCV2	measles-containing-vaccine second-dose
MPI	multidimensional poverty index
NCA	North and Central Asia
NCD	non-communicable disease
NEET	not in education, employment, or training
NSO	national statistical office
NTD	neglected tropical diseases
ODA	official development assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPHI	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative

PCV3	pneumococcal conjugate 3rd dose vaccination
PGRFA	Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
PM10	particulate matter of diameter 10 micrometres or less
PM2.5	particulate matter of diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less
PPP	purchasing power parity
R&D	research and development
SCP	sustainable consumption and production
SD	sustainable development
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEA	South-East Asia
SEEA	system of environmental-economic accounting
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SMEs	small and medium-sized enterprises
SSWA	South and South-West Asia
TEU	twenty-foot equivalent unit
TVET	technical, vocational education and training
UIS	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention for the Law of the Sea
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
USD	US Dollar
WB	World Bank
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

READERS' GUIDE

Who should read this report?

The report is intended for three audiences:

- **Stakeholders** involved in policy dialogues on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They include government officials and representatives of intergovernmental groups, civil society, non-governmental organizations, the media, academia and businesses.
- **Regional analysts** who would like to identify priority issues that require further study.
- **National experts** who develop methodologies for measuring national progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

How to interpret the results?

Readers are encouraged to keep the following points in mind as they consider the findings of this report:**

- **Every country counts** equally in the analysis. The progress of the region and each of its subregions towards the SDG targets, is presented irrespective of the size of the population, economy and/or land area of constituent countries. To reduce the influence of country size, regional and subregional median values are used to assess progress towards targets.

Results in this report are **not comparable with previous reports** because a revised set of SDG indicators and updated historical data are used for the analysis every year as new data become available.

- Two different measures are used in the report: the Current Status Index and the Anticipated Progress Index. The current status index provides a snapshot of progress so far at the goal level and analyses where the Asia-Pacific region stands on each of the SDGs. The anticipated progress index provides a dashboard of progress gaps at SDG target and indicator levels which examines how likely it is the region will achieve individual SDG targets judging by the pace of progress thus far. Therefore, the **snapshot and dashboard results are not comparable** due to their different measurements.
- The snapshot of progress so far measures **progress since 2000**. The choice of 2000 is to assess how the region has progressed during the period of the Millennium Development Goals until today. Evidence shows the contribution of ongoing development trends to all the SDGs, even to goals that are not directly carried over from the previous development agenda. Moreover, the alternative choice of 2015 would not have provided enough time lag to observe significant progress.

Where does the data come from?

- Data for countries in the Asia-Pacific region were drawn from the Global SDG Indicators Database maintained by Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Only SDG indicators with at least two data points available for more than half of the countries in the region were included in the calculations. To assess progress toward 13 SDG targets for which no SDG indicator with sufficient data was available, additional indicators from global SDG data custodian agencies were used (see Annex 3).
- Disaggregated statistics on 27 indicators were incorporated in the analysis to account for different population groups. This is done as a starting point for incorporating the Leave No One Behind ambitions of the 2030 Agenda into the progress assessment.

** See Annex 2 for more information on these and other details.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2020, at the dawn of the Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), how was Asia and the Pacific faring? And how is the COVID-19 pandemic impacting progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific?

The *Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Goal Progress Report 2021* is the fifth in a series of flagship reports of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). It provides evidence of current progress towards the 17 SDGs and anticipated progress towards the 169 targets in the Asia-Pacific region and its five subregions (Parts I and II). Based on the evidence provided from across the United Nations Development System, the 2021 report assesses how the COVID-19 pandemic might impact regional progress towards the SDGs (Part III). It also provides, for the first time, a step-by-step guide for countries looking to replicate the progress assessment using the newly developed "National SDG Tracker" tool developed by ESCAP in line with the commitment of the United Nations to support countries with follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda.

Highlights of SDGs progress in Asia and the Pacific

- The Asia-Pacific region is not on track to achieve any of the 17 SDGs by 2030. On its current trajectory, the region may achieve less than 10 per cent of the SDG targets. There is therefore an added urgency to ensure that responses to the pandemic in the region and at the national level accelerate progress toward the 2030 Agenda.
- In some areas there is a foundation for achieving the goals. The most promising are goals for good health and well-being (Goal 3) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9) where the region has progressed the most. The region has also made some progress on goals for no poverty (Goal 1), zero hunger (Goal 2), quality education (Goal 4),

reduced inequalities (Goal 10) and partnership for the goals (Goal 17), albeit too slow to achieve success by 2030.

- At the same time the region is regressing on critical goals of climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14). But overall, progress has been very slow or stagnant for half of the goals.
- The five Asia-Pacific subregions are also not on track to achieve the 17 SDGs. However, some subregions are well positioned to achieve a few of the goals. For example, East and North-East Asia is on track to eradicate poverty (Goal 1) and provide clean water and sanitation for all (Goal 6) while South-East Asia is on track to promote sustainable industry and innovation (Goal 9). However, none of the subregions are on track on environment-related goals, and four subregions are regressing on climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14).
- Strong economic growth in the Asia-Pacific subregions is dependent on intensive use of natural resources, resulting in a heavy material footprint that is affecting the achievement of Goal 12 on responsible consumption and production. All subregions, except for South and South-West Asia, are regressing on the material footprint target. And similarly, apart from the Pacific, there is regression in all subregions on the target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and most subregions are showing slow progress or are regressing on environment-related goals.
- More data are becoming available as countries prioritize SDG monitoring. Nearly half of all the SDG indicators now have enough data for tracking progress toward the goals in the Asia-Pacific region.

Potential impact of COVID-19 in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- **Health:** The maternal mortality ratio could increase in 14 Asia-Pacific countries that already have a high burden of maternal deaths, from the projected 2020 baseline of 184 per 100,000 live births to 214 or 263 per 100,000 live births for the best- and the worst-case scenarios, respectively. Deaths of under-5 children in the region could increase by more than half a million over a six-month period in the worst-case scenario.
- **Social protection and basic services:** There are 640 million multidimensionally poor people in Asia and the Pacific. The pandemic could potentially double this number by pushing an additional 636 million vulnerable people to multidimensional poverty. Also, monetary poverty could impact 71 million more children in the region by the end of 2020. At least 850 million students in the Asia-Pacific region were affected and had lost almost half of the academic year by September 2020.
- **Jobs, small and medium-sized enterprises and informal sector workers:** Unemployment increased by 15 million in the region in 2020. Compared to 2019, workers in the region lost 7.1 per cent of their labour income in 2020, more than $1.0 trillion. In April 2020, lockdown measures impacted some 829 million informal workers in the Asia-Pacific region.
- **Fiscal and financial stimulus:** Nearly half of the Asia-Pacific countries with data experienced negative economic growth worse than the projected -4.4 per cent global growth in 2020. Yet between March and September 2020, Asia-Pacific developing countries announced an estimated $1.8 trillion, or 6.7 per cent of their gross domestic product, for COVID-19 health response and relief measures for households and firms, roughly half of the share spent by the world's developing economies on average.
- **Social cohesion and community resilience:** At least 70 per cent of mental health services for older persons were disrupted between June and August 2020. Over the period from mid-March to the end of May 2020 the Asia-Pacific region saw a rise in countries closing their borders without exceptions for people seeking asylum (reaching 63 per cent of countries with data).
- **Environment:** Among the recovery measures approved by 13 countries in the region, 11 countries had very little or almost no consideration of the environmental dimension.

This is a missed opportunity to build back better. Big cities in the Asia-Pacific region produced 154 to 280 tons more medical waste per day than before the pandemic.

- **Statistical operations:** Although a few NSOs in the Asia-Pacific region commenced or resumed face-to-face data collection in July compared with May 2020, most had not resumed face-to-face data collection by October 2020.

> There is a need to ensure that responses to the pandemic in the region and at the national level accelerate progress toward the 2030 Agenda.

Part I provides an overview and summary of the status of progress on each goal and an index of anticipated progress towards each measurable target. This part of the report also provides a review of data availability to monitor achievement of the SDGs.

PART I

REGIONAL PROGRESS

September 2019 marked the beginning of the decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, and yet the Asia and the Pacific region is not on track to achieve any of the 17 goals. This snapshot of SDG progress comes at a time when the world is struggling with a global pandemic and countries are reassessing their priorities as they respond to multiple global, regional and national issues. This context highlights the urgent need to ensure that responses to the pandemic in the Asia-Pacific region and at the national level accelerate progress toward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its ambition to transform the world.

1.1 Status of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Asia-Pacific region

The Asia-Pacific region has fallen short of the 2020 milestone for the 2030 Agenda. The region must accelerate progress and urgently reverse its regressing trends on some goals and targets to achieve its 2030 ambitions (figure 1.1). There are pockets of progress that continue to yield positive results that can be leveraged to rally the acceleration of SDG achievement.

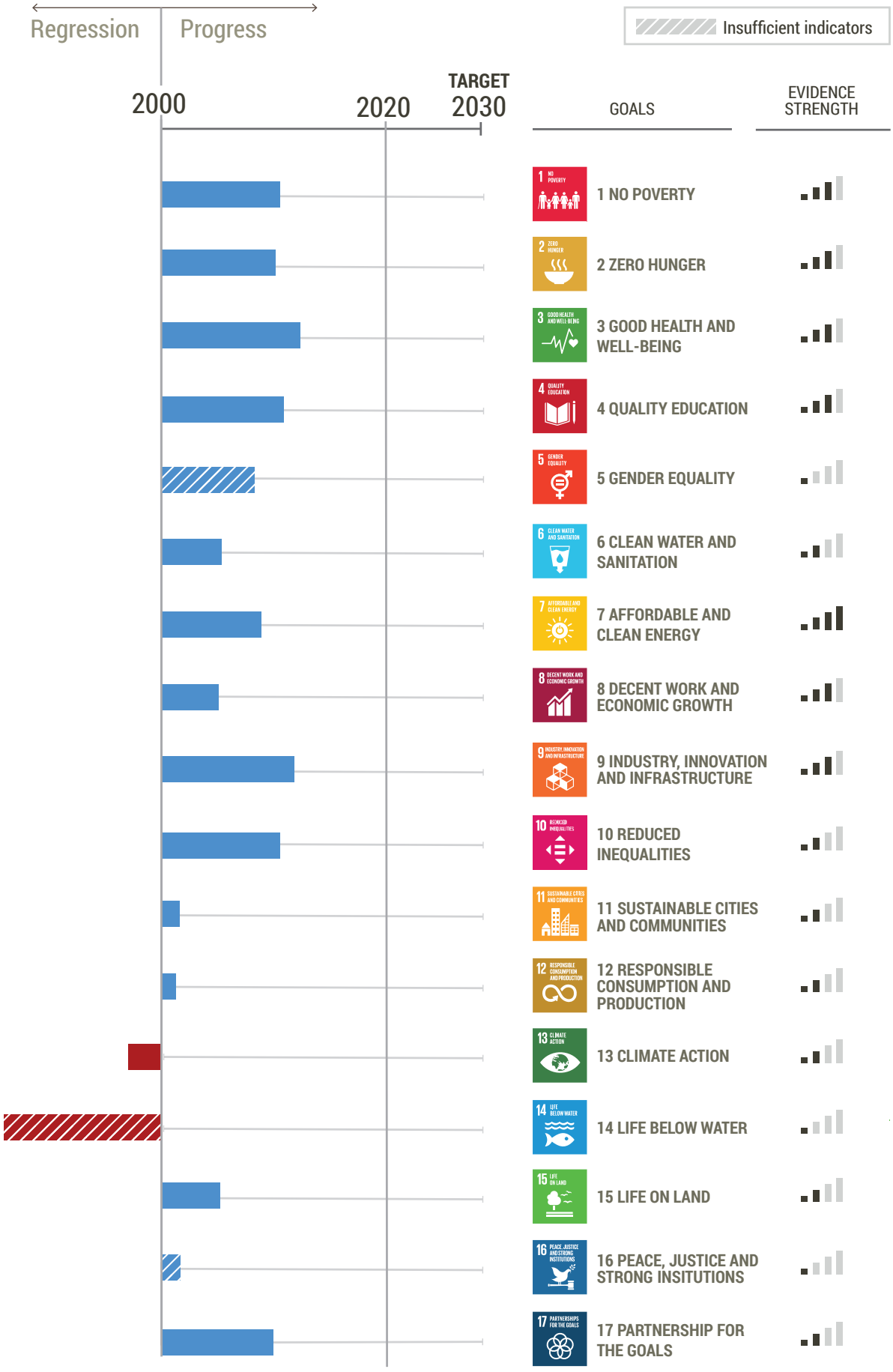
Greater progress has been made toward good health and well-being (Goal 3) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9).

The Asia-Pacific region achieved significant progress towards good health and well-being (Goal 3) mainly by improving maternal and child health, vaccination coverage and malaria prevention. The region has also made relatively good progress on industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9) owing its success to two SDG indicators; providing access to mobile networks and reducing carbon dioxide emission per unit of manufacturing value added. However, the pace of progress must be accelerated on both goals to be on track for 2030.

Alarmingly, the region has regressed on critical goals of climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14).

Environmental goals are key for the Asia-Pacific region to achieve the 2030 Agenda yet the situation is now worse than it was in 2000 for climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14). Some countries in the region have implemented national and local disaster risk

FIGURE 1.1. SNAPSHOT OF SDG PROGRESS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, 2020



reduction strategies, but it is not enough and the region continues to produce half of global greenhouse gas emissions. Some progress has been made on protecting coastal areas, but economic benefits from sustainable fisheries and the quality of oceans have declined. These goals are also among the most data-poor and so more must be done to increase data availability for a more robust progress assessment.

The region is progressing towards no poverty (Goal 1), zero hunger (Goal 2), quality education (Goal 4), reduced inequalities (Goal 10) and partnership for the goals (Goal 17), but progress is not sufficient.

Progress toward many of the goals has stalled in recent years at levels well below the 2020 milestone. More must be done to overcome obstacles that impede progress toward those goals. For example, to achieve no poverty (Goal 1) more action is needed to improve resilience to natural disasters, enhance social protection, increase investment in basic services to the poor and vulnerable, and secure official development assistance (ODA) grants for poverty reduction in the least developed countries (LDCs). To achieve zero hunger (Goal 2), more efforts need to be directed to reduce food insecurity and malnutrition and quality education (Goal 4) requires equal access to education, and improved school infrastructure and learning outcomes. Progress towards reduced inequalities (Goal 10) can be enhanced by further reducing income inequality, enacting redistributive policies and ensuring safe migration. Finally, the partnership for the goals (Goal 17) requires better tax policies, universal birth and death registration and better access to information and communications technologies.

Progress has been too slow on half of the goals in the Asia-Pacific region.

The region's progress towards gender equality (Goal 5) is very slow, along with progress on clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), and life on land (Goal 15). In particular, sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) are the goals that have registered the least progress since 2000. Related development challenges include the growing number of people affected by disasters, growing exploitation of natural resources, the increased production of hazardous waste and the ever more urgent need to fight corruption and bribery and prevent human exploitation and trafficking.

More data are becoming available as countries prioritize SDG monitoring.

While available data only show a partial picture of progress, the picture is becoming clearer and more complete over time. Statistical data on the SDG indicators remain limited: nearly 40 per cent of the SDG targets cannot be measured for the Asia-Pacific region due to the lack of data. Compared with 2019, the strength of the evidence in 2020 increased for seven goals (1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13). However, data challenges remain, especially for Goal 5, Goal 14 and Goal 16, which are assessed based on less than one third of indicators only.

> "Out of 104 measurable targets, the region is on track to reach only nine by 2030 at the current pace of progress."

1.2
On the road to 2030: will the Asia-Pacific region achieve its targets?

The following illustrations provide a dashboard of anticipated progress in the region on each of 104 measurable SDG targets (figure 1.2), and anticipated gaps in progress for 113 indicators with sufficient data (figure 1.3). These illustrations differ from the SDG snapshot in figure 1.1 but complement each other by showing different perspectives on expected progress by 2030 under each of the goals.

Out of 104 measurable targets, the region is on track to reach only nine by 2030 if the current pace of progress is maintained.

In other words, to reach more than 90 per cent of measurable targets, the Asia-Pacific region must accelerate its current pace or reverse negative trends. Even on goals where progress in the region has been most remarkable (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 17), anticipated progress is mixed and there are areas where acceleration must be prioritized.

Figure 1.3 highlights gaps in progress for each SDG indicator with sufficient data. The region is likely to meet the 2030 targets for 15 per cent of the SDG indicators with sufficient data. Notably, one third of these indicators are under good health and well-being (Goal 3). Nevertheless, some regression is anticipated on 20 per cent of measured indicators in the Asia-Pacific region (half of which are environmental indicators) and so a course correction is urgently needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

FIGURE 1.2

ANTICIPATED PROGRESS ON SDG TARGETS IN ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

NO POVERTY
- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.b Poverty eradication policies

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

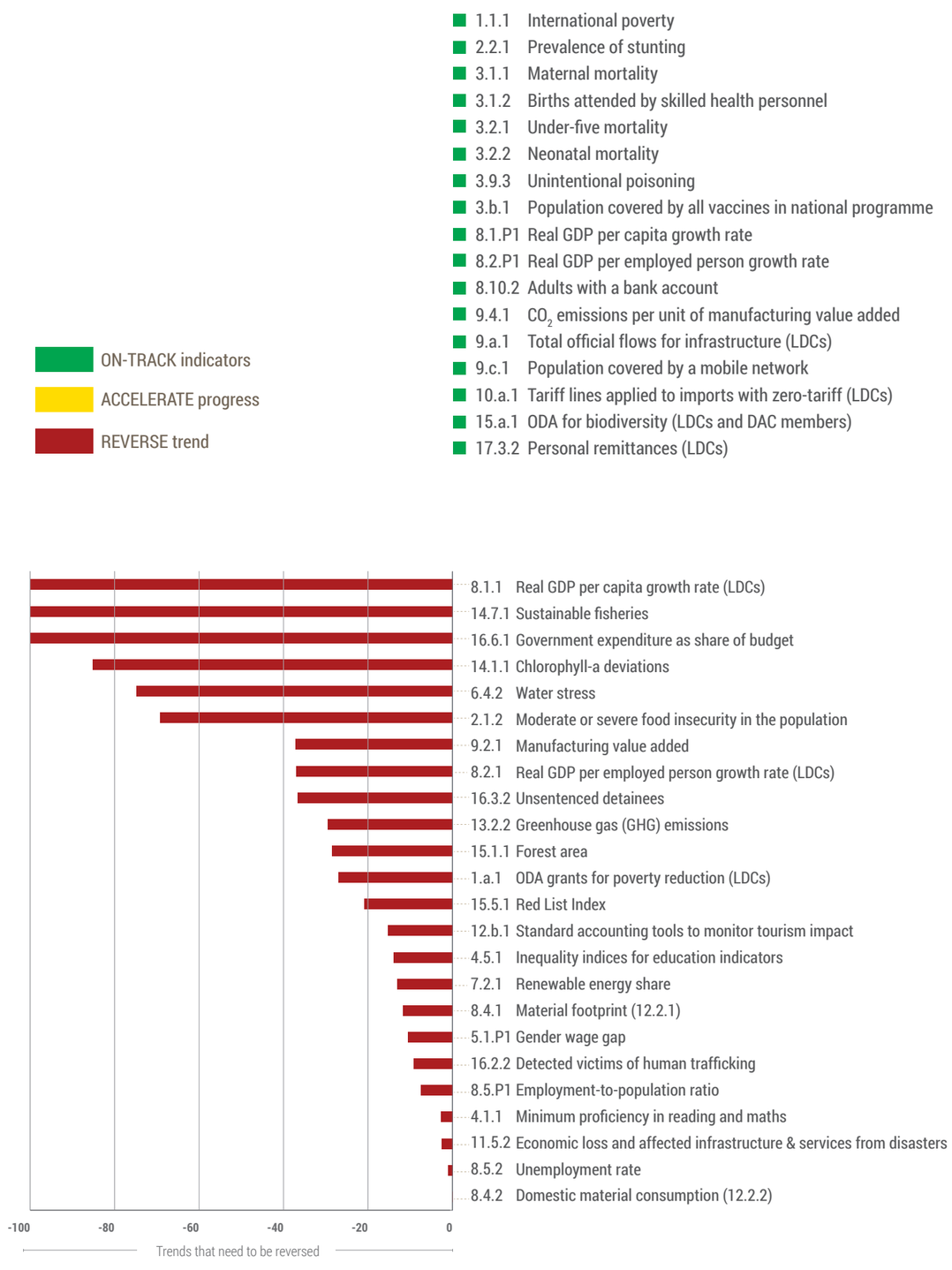
LIFE ON LAND
- 15.a Resources for biodiversity & ecosystems
- 15.2 Sustainable forests management
- 15.4 Conservation of mountain ecosystems
- 15.1 Terrestrial & freshwater ecosystems
- 15.5 Loss of biodiversity
- 15.3 Desertification and land degradation
- 15.6 Utilization of genetic resource
- 15.7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

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

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

- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend
- Insufficient data to measure

FIGURE 1.3 ANTICIPATED PROGRESS GAPS BY 2030 IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION



1.3 Progress by Goal

Despite remarkable progress on eradicating poverty since 2000, the expected values for 2030 show that progress is insufficient on all targets of Goal 1 apart from target 1.1 on international poverty. To achieve the targets of Goal 1, the Asia-Pacific region needs to accelerate progress on public spending on education and health, resilience against disasters, social protection, national poverty and the fulfilment of ODA commitments for poverty reduction in LDCs.

Regional progress on zero hunger is insufficient and must be accelerated everywhere. In particular, the region will likely regress on nutrition and food security by 2030 if business continues as usual. Some of the other main challenges for the region are investing in agriculture, securing genetic resources for agriculture, and reducing the prevalence of anaemia in women. The COVID-19 pandemic may further increase food insecurity and childhood undernutrition. Creating a sustainable and nutrition-sensitive food system is essential to produce diverse and nutritious foods for healthy diets.[1]

Asia and the Pacific has made very good progress on good health and well-being. While the region can expect to reach three of the targets of Goal 3 by 2030 if the current trends are maintained, challenges remain on the remaining 10 targets where progress is insufficient. According to the current trajectory, the largest progress gaps are expected to be in reducing the harmful use of alcohol, building the health workforce, reducing road fatalities and ensuring access to modern methods of family planning (specifically for adolescents, age 10–19 years) where the situation is likely to worsen because of the impact of COVID-19 (see section 3.1.1).

Compared to other goals, the overall progress on quality education is relatively good in Asia and the Pacific. However, the region is not on track to meet any of the targets under this goal by 2030. The biggest challenges are to improve learning outcomes of children in primary and secondary education, as data for many countries show huge gaps in achieving the minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics. Access to education has been improved, but the data show increasing inequalities by gender, location and wealth especially at the secondary and post-secondary levels. An acceleration of progress is needed in access to and participation in all levels of education, as well as school equipment and infrastructure, and youth and adults' participation in formal and non-formal education and training.

Evidence is very limited on gender equality in the region as only two out of nine SDG targets could be measured, and the data that are available show progress is very slow. In fact, the region is unlikely to meet the two measurable targets by 2030. Of the measured indicators, the biggest challenge for the region is to close gender gaps in wage and labour force participation. Efforts to accelerate progress must be doubled to reduce the gender gap in labour force participation, reduce the number of female youth not in employment, education or training, enhance women's role in decision-making and tackle violence and harmful practices against women and girls.

1 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme and World Health Organization (2020). *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020. Transforming food systems for affordable healthy diets.* Rome, FAO. Available at www.fao.org/3/ca9692en/online/ca9692en.html.

The Asia-Pacific region is not on track to achieve any of the targets for clean water and sanitation. Despite good progress in some components of the goal, such as the reduction of open defecation, overall progress is slow. The biggest hurdle for the region is water stress, where the situation has significantly worsened since 2000 and is likely to continue to regress unless collective action is taken. To achieve the 2030 targets, the region needs to build greater capacity for participatory water and sanitation management and water-use efficiency.

All targets of affordable and clean energy can be measured for the Asia-Pacific region, a distinction Goal 7 shares only with Goal 3. At the current pace of progress, the region is likely to miss the 2030 targets on access to energy services and energy efficiency. The share of renewable energy is decreasing in the region and more investment and international cooperation is required for the region to achieve its energy ambitions by 2030.

Progress since 2000 has been very slow on decent work and economic growth in Asia and the Pacific. On the current trajectory, none of the measurable targets are likely to be achieved by 2030. The greatest challenge for the region is to reverse current trends on material resource efficiency, full employment and decent work. Despite significant economic progress in the region as a whole, growth in gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and labour productivity has been insufficient for LDCs to catch up with the other countries of the region. The Asia-Pacific region must also speed up its progress in protecting labour rights, providing employment opportunities for youth, improving safety at work, enhancing aid for trade in LDCs and ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources.

The region has made remarkable progress on Goal 9 so far. However, anticipated progress on each of the indicators show a mixed picture. The region is expected to continue reducing carbon dioxide emission per manufacturing value added and provide mobile phone coverage to the entire population by 2030. But progress is very slow on increasing the share of manufacturing in total employment, and the share of manufacturing value added in total production in the region is expected to regress. The region needs to intensify its investment in research and development, increase the share of medium- and high-tech industry value added, and invest in sustainable and inclusive transportation.

Reducing inequalities in the Asia-Pacific region has been slow overall. Except for one target (tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff for the LDCs), the region will likely miss every measurable target by 2030. The region must reverse current trends in labour as a share of GDP. The Asia-Pacific region has also made very little or no progress in reducing income gaps, promoting the safe migration and mobility of the population, providing livelihood opportunities to the forcibly displaced, reducing transaction costs of remittances and fulfilling commitments for development assistance to LDCs by donor countries. With more than 9.1 million refugees, asylum-seekers, internally displaced and stateless persons in the region, it is vital to assure that everyone is included in development gains. Many deaths and disappearances of refugees and migrants go unreported and unrecorded, and to date, there are no regional mechanisms ensuring search and rescue, and predictable disembarkation of people in distress at sea.

The region has made almost no progress on sustainable cities and communities since 2000. Only 50 per cent of

targets could be measured under this goal and the region is likely to miss all targets by 2030 if it stays on its current trajectory. The biggest challenges for the region are the impact of disaster on people, economies and infrastructure, air pollution, road safety and the lack of access to basic services for people living in slums.

New data analysis on Goal 12 has enabled a clearer understanding of progress compared with only one year ago. Rather than regressing, the regional progress is now stagnant on responsible consumption and production. However, if business continues as usual the region should expect to miss every single measurable target under Goal 12. A course correction is required on the sustainable use of natural resources and monitoring the impacts of sustainable tourism. Countries must increase their capacity to generate renewable energy, increase the national recycling rate and reduce hazardous waste generation.

The Asia-Pacific region is moving in the wrong direction on climate action. There is only sparse evidence on this goal, as only two out of five targets can be measured for the regional assessment. However, available evidence suggests that the region is likely to miss its 2030 ambitions unless efforts are accelerated to build resilience against disaster and adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies. Most urgently, the region needs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, a critical action to prevent climate change, as nearly half of all greenhouse gas emissions worldwide originate in Asia and the Pacific. To reverse current trends in the coming decade it is vital to fulfil the commitments to net-zero emissions made by some of the largest economies in the region.[2]

2 United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (2020). Emissions Gap Report 2020. Available at www.unenvironment.org/emissions-gap-report-2020.

Only 3 out of 10 of SDG targets for life below water are measurable in the Asia-Pacific region. The limited evidence, however, shows that the region is regressing on this goal. Despite some progress made since 2000 in protecting marine areas, the quality of oceans (measured by chlorophyll-a deviations) and economic gains from sustainable fisheries continue declining.

The overall progress on life on land is slow in Asia and the Pacific. Fewer than half of the targets are measurable, and the region is likely to achieve only one of them (ODA for biodiversity). Current trends in forest and biodiversity losses need to be reversed, as these trends are forecasted to worsen in most of the countries in the region by 2030. To achieve its commitments to the 2030 Agenda, the region also needs to increase its protection of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems and improve forest management and conservation of mountain ecosystem. It is important to note that wildlife and ecosystem conservation is vital to prevent future pandemics and the transfer of diseases from animals to humans.

Together with Goals 5 and 14, Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions has the poorest data availability with only one third of SDG indicators having sufficient data for the Asia-Pacific region. Without sufficient data, it is impossible to get a full picture of progress. The significant reduction in the number of homicides is not enough to put the region on track to achieve its 2030 ambitions. The number of unsentenced detainees and victims of human trafficking is increasing in most of the countries with data, and the region will not be able to achieve Goal 16 without a course correction. More investment and political support are required

to produce evidence on corruption and bribery, illicit financial and arms flows, inclusive decision-making and the provision of legal identity, and to tackle violence against children. On public access to information (indicator 16.10.2), 32 countries in the region have reported to have constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees to mandate public bodies to proactively disclose information. However, oversight mechanisms and data on appeals and the number of information requests filed, granted or denied are essential to track progress in compliance with such legislation.[3]

3 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (2020). From promise to practice: access to information for sustainable development; 2020 UNESCO report on the monitoring and reporting of SDG indicator 16.10.2 (Public access to information), pp. 10–11 and 14–17. Available at https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000375022.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

The entire implementation of the 2030 Agenda relies on the partnership for the goals. The Asia-Pacific region has made remarkable progress on this goal, but not enough to achieve any of the targets that could be measured. Available data show the biggest progress gaps exist in increasing tax revenues, universal birth and death registration, full access to the Internet for all, and fulfilling international commitments for foreign direct investment in LDCs. Data gaps persist on nearly half of the SDG indicators.

> There are pockets of progress that continue to yield positive results that can be leveraged to rally the acceleration of SDG achievement.

DATA AVAILABILITY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Nearly half of all the SDG indicators have enough data for tracking the region's progress

112

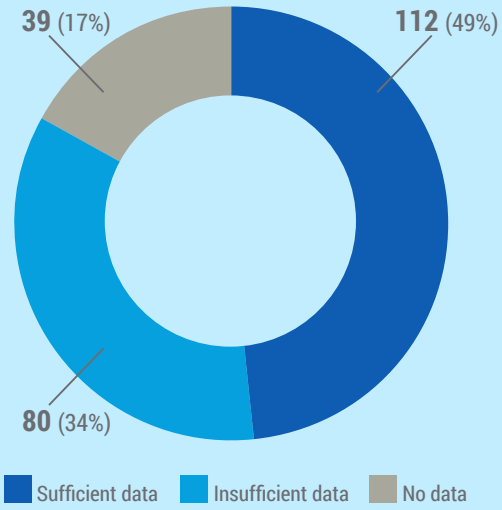
the number of indicators with sufficient data for assessing progress has reached in 2020, or nearly half of the 231 SDG indicators.

Similarly, the number of indicators with some but still insufficient data for progress assessment has increased to **80**

39

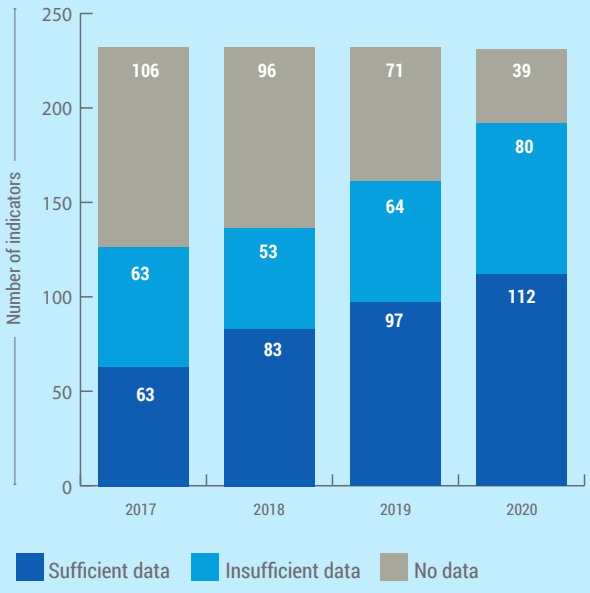
indicators remain with no data whatsoever in the region.

Figure 1.4 Data availability for SDG indicators in the Asia-Pacific region, 2020



Asia and the Pacific saw a boost in data availability in 2020

Figure 1.5 Data availability for SDG indicators in Asia-Pacific, 2017–2020

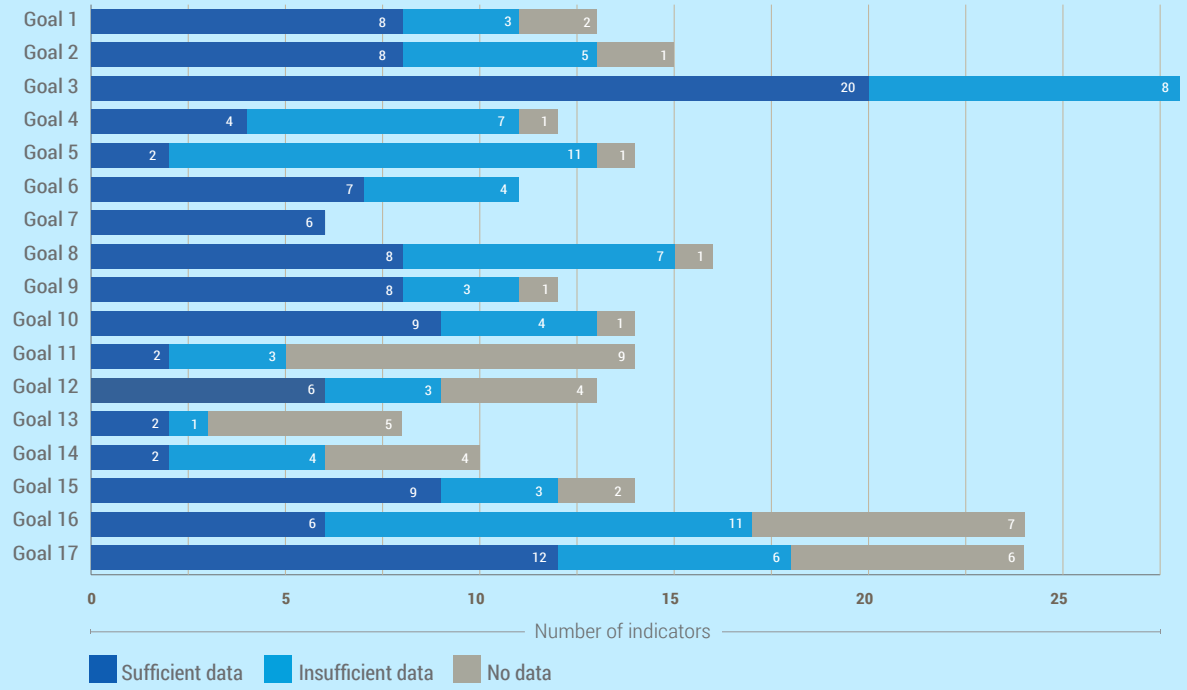


The 2020 Comprehensive Review of the SDG indicators by the United Nations Statistical Commission resulted in the elimination of Tier 3 indicators (indicators with no internationally established methodology or standards), opening the way for data to be compiled for all indicators.

Data production for the indicators should be accelerated in the Asia-Pacific region with the support of development partners and United Nations agencies that are designated as custodians.

Data gaps remain mainly in gender and environment-related goals

Figure 1.6 Data availability for indicators of the 17 SDGs in the Asia-Pacific region, 2020



Goal 7

For the first time, there is sufficient data availability for all indicators of Goal 7 – the first of all the goals in Asia-Pacific to meet this major milestone of the global monitoring framework.

Goals 3 and 6

have at least some data for all indicators, signalling that these will soon be comprehensively tracked with data.

Indicators with no data are mostly in Goals 11 to 14 related to the environment, as well as Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions and Goal 17 on partnership for the goals. Less than 15 per cent of indicators under Goal 5 on gender equality have sufficient data.

Nevertheless, challenges remain in producing disaggregated data so that vulnerable populations are identified and no one is left behind. In Asia-Pacific region, disaggregated data is available only for 27 SDG indicators.

Definitions

Sufficient data

Indicators with at least an underlying data series with two data points or more since 2000 for at least half the countries in the region.

Insufficient data

Indicators with some data but not enough to observe historical trends for at least half the countries in the region.

No data

Indicators with no data for any of the 58 countries or territories in the region.

Part II of this report identifies unique areas of progress, stagnation, or regression in each of the five ESCAP subregions and identifies their priority areas for action to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

PART II

SUBREGIONAL INSIGHTS:

current status and priorities for the future

As with the Asia-Pacific region as a whole, the subregions are not on track to achieve the 17 SDGs (see Annex 1 for subregional results). It is hard to find one single goal where all subregions are making good progress, which illustrates both the vast regional diversity and need for targeted strategies across the heterogenous Asia-Pacific region. The results show three subregions are on track to achieve some goals if current progress can be maintained: East and North-East Asia on no poverty (Goal 1) and clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), North and Central Asia on reduced inequalities (Goal 10) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16), and South-East Asia on industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9).

Progress is lacking on most of the environment-related goals in all five Asia-Pacific subregions. The situation is deteriorating on climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14) in all subregions except the Pacific, and all five subregions have made very little progress on life on land (Goal 15). Moreover, the subregions' fast economic growth is still dependent on intensive use of natural resources, resulting in a heavy material footprint. This is evident from the lack of progress on sustainable production and consumption (Goal 12). Although data are limited, all subregions are showing regression or limited progress for sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11).

> Three subregions are on track to achieve some goals if current progress can be maintained. But progress is lacking on most of the environment-related goals across subregions.

East and North-East Asia

The East and North-East Asia subregion has made progress towards achieving no poverty (Goal 1), zero hunger (Goal 2), good health and well-being (Goal 3), clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9). Yet the subregion needs to strengthen efforts to accelerate progress for the remaining goals, in particular, life below water (Goal 14) where the negative trend has to be reversed.

On its current trajectory, East and North-East Asia is on track to achieve no poverty (Goal 1), and clean water and sanitation (Goal 6) by 2030. Also, relatively good progress has been made on zero hunger (Goal 2), good health and well-being (Goal 3), affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9).

Even where good progress has been made, the picture is mixed. For instance, on good health and well-being (Goal 3), most of the progress in East and North-East Asia is due to early achievement of the targets related to maternal, under-5 and neonatal mortality. Under quality education (Goal 4), challenges such as securing proficiency in reading and mathematics and raising the net enrolment rate are the main reasons for slow progress, although it partly reflects the difficulty in progressing beyond the level recorded in the baseline year (2000).

Progress toward gender equality (Goal 5) and reduced inequalities (Goal 10) is slow in East and North-East Asia as evidenced by slow progress with targets for gender wage gap, gender parity in the labour force and the proportion of women in management positions.

Trends need to reverse on climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14) where East and North-East Asia is moving in the wrong direction.

North and Central Asia

Accelerated actions are required for most of the Goals in the North and Central Asia. The subregion is on track on most of the measurable targets under reduced inequalities (Goal 10), and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). But progress is slow or stagnant on most of the goals and is regressing on sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14).

Limited data show that the North and Central Asia subregion is on track on peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16), due to decline in intentional homicides and in the number of detected victims of human trafficking and more effective management of government budget and expenditures. Similarly, the subregion is on track on reduced inequalities (Goal 10), but without sufficient data on most of the indicators.

Despite relatively good progress on several goals, North and Central Asia needs to redouble efforts in reversing several negative trends. For instance, on zero hunger (Goal 2), the prevalence of moderate and severe food insecurity in the subregion has been increasing in recent years and is likely to worsen. The subregional average for the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity is approximately 17 per cent of the total population, although food insecurity is impacting more than 30 per cent of the population of some countries, including Armenia and Georgia. On good health and well-being (Goal 3), the subregion is experiencing a decrease in maternal mortality, under-5 mortality and neonatal mortality. Nevertheless, there was substantial regression on targets such as HIV infections and road traffic deaths.

Although the data show some progress on quality education (Goal 4), gender equality (Goal 5) and decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), North and Central Asia needs to reverse current trends on inequality indices for education, gender parity in labour force participation and compliance with labour rights.

North and Central Asia is regressing on sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14). Some of the targets that urgently need course correction are deaths from disasters and greenhouse gas emissions.

South-East Asia

The South-East Asia subregion achieved significant progress on no poverty (Goal 1), zero hunger (Goal 2), good health and well-being (Goal 3), quality education (Goal 4), clean water and sanitation (Goal 6) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9). However, progress was very slow for affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and life on land (Goal 15). More worryingly, the subregion is regressing on the achievement of climate action (Goal 13), life below water (Goal 14) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16).

South-East Asia is on track to eradicate income poverty in terms of the population living below international or national poverty lines. However, progress toward no poverty (Goal 1) is negatively impacted by losses from natural disasters and the lack of spending on education and health services. Similarly, the subregion is on track for its 2030 targets for undernourishment and children affected by stunting or malnutrition, but overall progress on zero hunger (Goal 2) is affected by

slow progress in eliminating food insecurity in the subregion; nearly 100 million people are still affected by it.

The subregion is regressing on five goals. Among those are environmental goals on climate action (Goal 13), where emissions of greenhouse gases are still increasing for most countries in the subregion, and life below water (Goal 14) where the subregion is affected by worsening quality of oceans (measured by chlorophyll-a deviations) and slow progress regarding protected marine areas.

South-East Asia is regressing on all measurable targets under peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). The subregion needs to urgently reverse current trends on intentional homicide, unsentenced detainees and victims of human trafficking.

The South-East Asia subregion needs to intensify efforts to create a secure, affordable and more sustainable energy sector to meet Goal 7. The energy intensity of the subregion is at 3.9 megajoules per dollar of GDP (in 2011 purchasing power parity), compared with 4.9 megajoules for the rest of the world. Greenhouse gas emissions of 3 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per capita in the subregion is also below the global average (5.3 tons). However, the South-East Asia is lagging behind the rest of the Asia-Pacific region in terms of installed renewable electricity generating capacity, which, despite doubling since 2010, stood at 109 kilowatts per capita, only one third of the world average.

Progress towards sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and life on land (Goal 15) is stagnant and needs acceleration in South-East Asia.

The only goal on which South-East Asia is on track is innovation, industry and infrastructure (Goal 9). The volume of merchandise exports has multiplied by more than three times since 2000, and commercial services multiplied by nearly four times since 2005. Consequently, manufacturing remains a key economic driver contributing around 21 per cent of GDP from 2010 to 2019. Manufacturing accounted for 14.3 per cent of total employment in 2018, yet the subregion has made little progress in increasing this share since 2000.

Progress is insufficient on the partnership for the goals (Goal 17). South-East Asia needs to accelerate progress in bridging digital divides. While Internet users account for a large share of the population in some countries (Brunei Darussalam, 95 per cent; Malaysia, 84.2 per cent; and Singapore, 88.9 per cent), they account for less than 30 per cent of the population in other countries (Lao Peoples Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Timor-Leste). Slow progress is also observed in broadband subscriptions, especially

for higher speeds (more than 10Mbit/s) which stood at 5.4 per 100 population, less than half the world average.[4]

South and South-West Asia

Although not on track to reach any of the goals, the South and South-West Asia subregion made most of its progress on no poverty (Goal 1), zero hunger (Goal 2) and good health and well-being (Goal 3). However, the subregion is regressing on reduced inequalities (Goal 10), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), climate action (Goal 13), life below water (Goals 14) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). Progress is slow or stagnant on most of the remaining goals.

South and South-West Asia is on track to achieve extreme poverty targets, as measured by international and national poverty rates. However, the achievement of no poverty (Goal 1) is threatened by losses from natural disasters, lack of access to basic water and sanitation services (with 62 per cent of people in rural areas lacking access) and inadequate government spending on education, health services and social protection. In addition to accelerating progress on these targets, the subregion still needs to maintain current trends on reducing poverty to lift an estimated 198 million people (in 2018) out of extreme poverty.

Despite some progress on zero hunger (Goal 2), the prevalence of undernourishment, malnutrition and anaemia in women are among the most challenging targets for the South and South-West Asia subregion. For instance, 33 per cent (more than 40 million) under-5 children of the subregion remain severely or moderately stunted, the highest rate among all Asia-Pacific subregions.

South and South-West Asia has made its biggest progress on good health and well-being (Goal 3), where it is expected to achieve targets on maternal, under-5 and neonatal mortality, skilled birth interventions and population covered by vaccination if the current pace of progress is maintained.

South and South-West Asia is regressing on 5 of the 17 SDGs; on goals related to reduced inequalities (Goal 10), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), climate action (Goal 13), life below water (Goals 14) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). Among the targets that require urgent action for course correction are deaths and disappearances recorded during migration, detected victims of human trafficking, unsentenced detainees, deaths, economic infrastructure and services losses from disasters, air quality (with the highest PM 2.5 concentration among Asia-Pacific subregions), greenhouse gas emissions and the quality of oceans.

Progress in the subregion is very slow or stagnant on half of the goals. For instance, on affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), South and South-West Asian economies remain energy intensive, and the share of renewable energy in total energy consumption is reducing. Despite the fact the subregion is on track to achieve the target of universal access to electricity by 2030, progress is stagnant on renewable electricity capacity per capita. The picture is also mixed under gender equality (Goal 5). While there has been some progress on the number of seats held by women in national and local parliaments, gender gaps remain in women's economic participation and decision-making. Despite some overall progress on decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), both unemployment rates and occupational injuries have increased, and vulnerable employment remains high.

Progress is insufficient on the partnership for the goals (Goal 17). Remittances have been an indispensable source of development financing for many South and South-West Asian countries. Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka have consistently registered shares of remittance inflows above 6 per cent of GDP, and above 20 per cent of GDP for Nepal. Domestic resource mobilization has fallen short with the subregion

4 https://data.unescap.org/

having one of the lowest tax-to-GDP ratios in the region, and the trend is moving in the wrong direction for domestic budgets funded by domestic taxes.

The Pacific

The Pacific subregion is not on track to achieve any of the 17 Goals by 2030, yet some progress is evidenced in good health and well-being (Goal 3), industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11) and climate action (Goal 13). Areas showing concerning signs of regression for the Pacific include reduced inequalities (Goal 10), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16), although it will take more data to substantiate this.

The Pacific subregion has registered its biggest progress on good health and well-being (Goal 3), industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), and climate action (Goals 13).

Progress on Goal 3 is mainly due to noticeable reductions in maternal, under-5 and neonatal mortality. For instance, since 2000, some countries have more than halved the maternal mortality ratio, with many countries nearing this milestone. But Tuberculosis remains a concern in the Pacific subregion, with hardest hit countries showing little improvement since 2000.

Data for no poverty (Goal 1) are scarce in the Pacific, particularly data on the number of people living on less than $1.90 a day (in 2011 dollars at purchasing power parity), but the most recent available data rank poverty rates in some Pacific countries among the highest in the Asia-Pacific region. Access to basic water and sanitation in urban communities in most countries reasonable, but those with significant rural communities require far greater acceleration.

The Pacific subregion is not on track to meet any of the measurable targets under quality education (Goal 4) and gender equality (Goal 5). Targets for early childhood education enrolment rates are robust in some high-income and developing countries, but they are lagging in others. Gender-based discrimination and violence persist in the Pacific subregion. Women parliamentarians held less than 10 per cent of available seats in eight countries in the Pacific subregion, of which three had no female representatives. In 4 out of 13 Pacific Island countries, more than 40 per cent of women have been subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner in the previous 12 months.

Progress towards affordable and clean energy (Goal 7) is slow. The overall level of electricity access in the Pacific subregion reached 90.6 per cent of the population, yet this remains the lowest among Asia-Pacific subregions. The trend is more pronounced in rural areas in the Pacific, where only 73 per cent of the population have access to electricity. While the capacity to generate renewable energy gradually improved across the subregion, the share of renewable energy in total final energy consumption remained relatively stable.

Progress is also mixed on economic growth and decent work (Goal 8). GDP per capita in the Pacific subregion is very high compared to the other Asia-Pacific subregions, but there are immense discrepancies between high-income countries and those at the lower end of the spectrum in terms of per capita income (constant 2015 dollars).

Available data show that the Pacific subregion is moving in the wrong direction to achieve reduced inequalities (Goal 10), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), and peace justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). More data are required to better understand progress on Goals 10 and 16. Progress on Goal 12 is hindered by material footprint (expressed as tons per capita) which is the highest in the Pacific subregion as compared with other Asia-Pacific subregions, largely driven by Australia and New Zealand. Developing countries in the subregion have significantly smaller footprints, yet they have gradually increased since 2000.

Progress on the partnership for the goals (Goal 17) is slow in the Pacific, which is one of the leading subregions in government revenue as a percentage of GDP and this figure has been sustained in recent times with a slight increase since 2010. While personal remittances remain a small contributor to total GDP for the subregion at 0.2 per cent on average, this source of income is significant for Tonga (more than 40 per cent), Samoa (18 per cent) and Marshall Islands (14 per cent).

Internet use across the subregion is increasing steadily, but it must be accelerated in some developing economies where less than 20 per cent of the population is online.

NATIONAL SDG TRACKER

A NATIONAL SDG TRACKER: STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR COUNTRIES

Recognizing the immense resource and capacity requirements for measuring progress on the SDGs, ESCAP has developed a "National SDG Tracker" as part of the Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway.

The new tool aims to enable countries to use their own data and indicators and create their own SDG dashboards in just a few clicks.

Countries can take advantage of the wealth of data already available in the Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway, customize indicator sets, update data and set national targets. The National SDG Tracker also makes it possible to use disaggregated data so no one is left behind. Users have ownership over data and results. They can choose to download or publish them on their preferred platform.

STEP 1

Log on

Visit the National SDG tracker at data.unescap.org and request access from ESCAP.

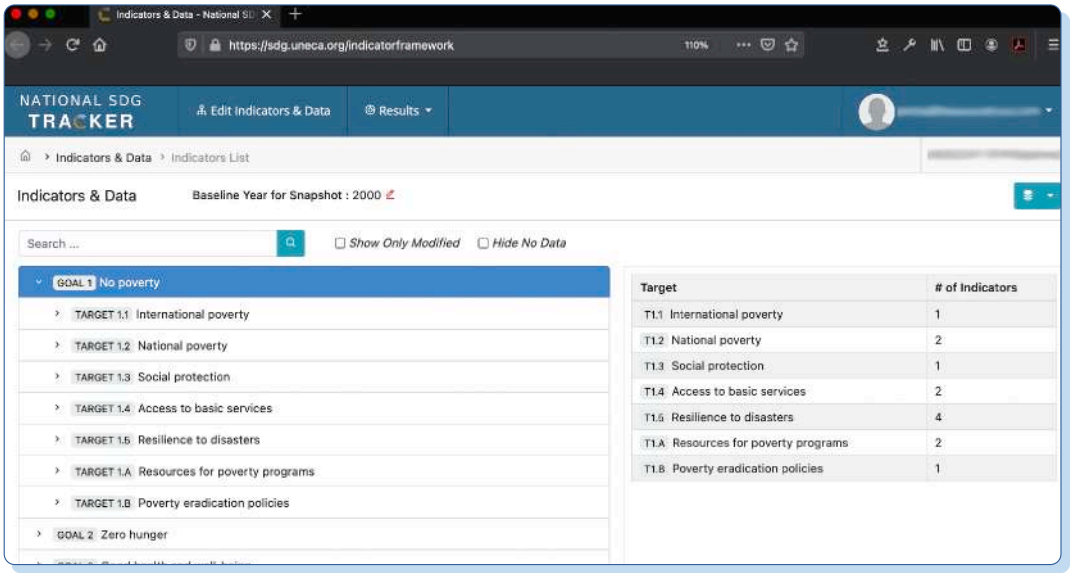
Upon logging in, the workspace shows three progress assessment charts for your country based on global data and regional target values.

Users have the option to publish the same charts, or edit underlying indicators, data and targets to produce customized results.

STEP 2

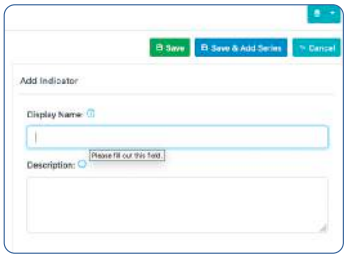
Edit data and add indicators

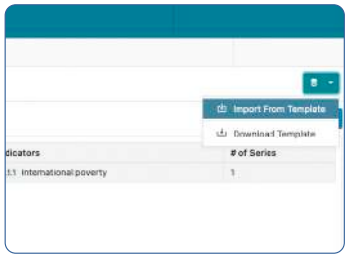
This part of the workspace provides a list of all SDG indicators and their underlying series (subindicator or disaggregation). These series are linked to each user's national data on the global SDG database, where available.



Begin with a review of the list of series and take one or several of the following actions:

- Set national target value for an existing series.
- Revise data or add more data points to an existing series.
- Add a disaggregation to an existing series.
- Disable existing series or disaggregation that you would like to leave out for national assessment.
- Add new series or disaggregation and their corresponding data points that you wish to use in addition to SDG indicators (these are called proxy indicators).





Alternatively, each user can download a template and then import the full data set into another system from the template.

STEP 3

View and publish the results

After editing indicators, data and targets, the tracker tool provides three customized SDG charts under the "Results" tab. To use the results, users may download the chart or import into other applications such as SDG monitoring platforms and Voluntary National Review reports.

All data and results remain confidential in each user account.

Part III of the report explores potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on implementation of the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific region.

PART III

COVID-19 IMPACT ON SDG IMPLEMENTATION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Health

Maternal mortality between **16** to **42%** increase

Under-5 mortality increased by at least **1/2 million**

COVID-19 direct impact In 2020, **25% of global cases** and **20% of global deaths** occurred in Asia-Pacific

Statistical operations

By July 2020, most **NSOs** had **not yet resumed face-to-face data collection**

The top **3 most affected data collection**: price statistics, national accounts and household sector statistics

COVID-19 **impacted** planned population **censuses in 24 countries**

Jobs and the informal sector

Nearly **829 million informal workers** were impacted

Unemployment increased by **15 million**

7.1% of **labour income lost** (compared to 2019)

Fiscal and financial stimulus

Projected growth worse than the global average (-4.4%) in half of the countries

6.7% of GDP on **COVID-19 health response** and relief measures (half of the global average in developing countries)

The Environment

85% of countries with a recovery plan had little or **no environmental considerations**

154 to 280 tons more medical waste per day produced in some big cities

CO_2 emissions rose as soon as lockdown measures were lifted

Social protection and basic services

At least **850 million students lost almost half** of the **academic year**

Multi-dimensional poverty could double

71 million more **children impacted by poverty**

6.7 million learners are at **risk of dropping out** of school

Social Cohesion

At least **70 % of mental health services** for older persons **disrupted**

At least **63% of countries closing their borders** without exceptions **for people seeking asylum**

In Asia and the Pacific, ESCAP and other United Nations organizations and academia have taken stock of the impact of COVID-19 on many factors that could potentially affect progress on achieving the 2030 Agenda. This part explores this impact in terms of seven thematic areas: health; social protection and basic services; jobs, small and medium-sized enterprises and informal sector workers; fiscal and financial stimulus; social cohesion and community resilience; environment; and statistical operations.[5] The results draw on the work of seven United Nations organizations[6] and ESCAP to assess the potential impact of the pandemic on people, economies and the planet. Underlying data for analyses in this part are inevitably different from SDG data used in parts I and II. It may take a few years to see the actual impact of the COVID 19 pandemic on progress towards the SDGs.

Overall, as shown by the seven thematic areas, what began as a health crisis has quickly become a human and socioeconomic crisis. The pandemic is imperilling progress towards the SDGs and also making their achievement all the more urgent and necessary. Recovery from COVID-19 and implementation efforts to deliver the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs during the Decade of Action go hand-in-hand.

5 The first five themes follow the five pillars of United Nations Development System response to socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19. Available at www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un_framework_report_on_covid-19.pdf.

6 The seven organizations are the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNESCO, UNEP and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

3.1 Health

The COVID-19 pandemic had an immense direct health impact on the region. Many lives were lost and health systems were overloaded. By the end of 2020, the Asia-Pacific region (which is home to nearly 60 per cent of the world's population) accommodated 25 per cent of the globally confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 20 per cent of reported deaths caused by the virus. But the full impact of COVID-19 also includes its indirect health impacts in reducing the availability and accessibility of health services, especially for vulnerable population groups, which could impact all progress on achieving well-being and good health (Goal 3).

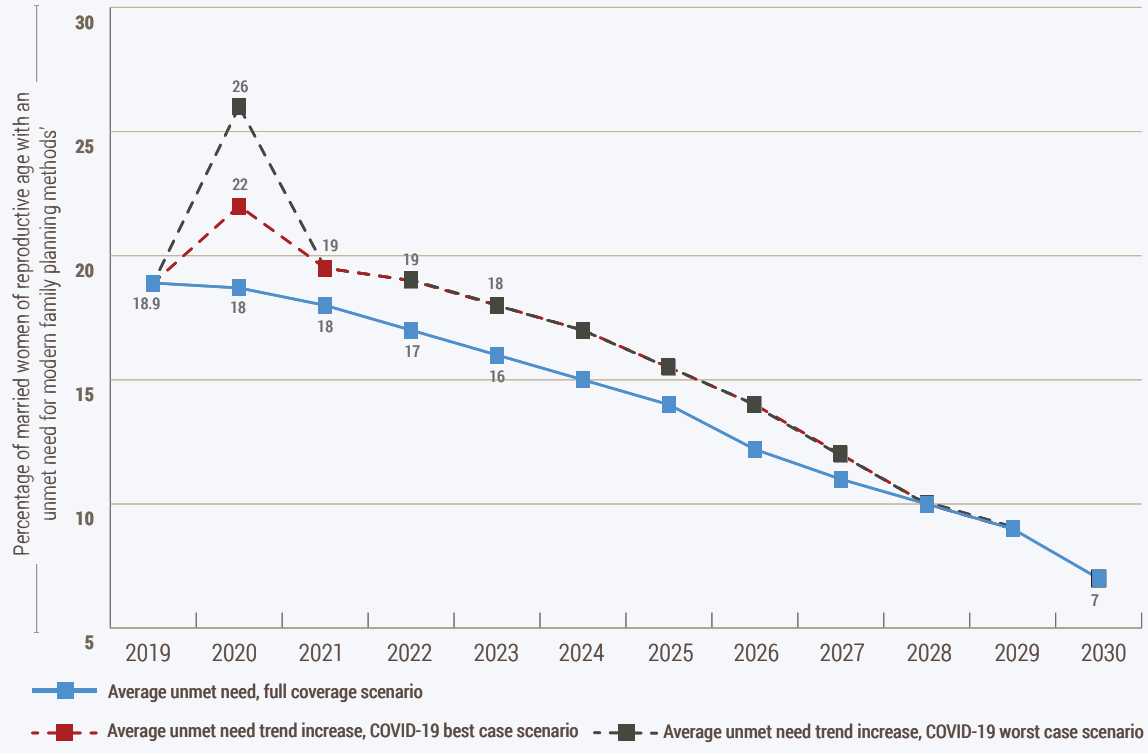
3.1.1 Sexual and reproductive health

Over-stretched health systems in countries of the Asia-Pacific region have been further challenged in the context of COVID-19, with the risk that the delivery of essential sexual and reproductive health services will be disrupted.[7]

Research from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) using data from 14 low- to middle-income countries in the Asia-Pacific region estimated the indirect impacts of COVID-19 on access to sexual and reproductive health services (see Annex 5 for details). The model included three scenarios of unmet need. Under the worst-case scenario, the unmet need for family planning could increase by 40 per cent in 2020 alone (from 18 to 26 per cent) (figure 3.1). An increase in the unmet need for modern family planning methods could slow the achievement of the SDGs.

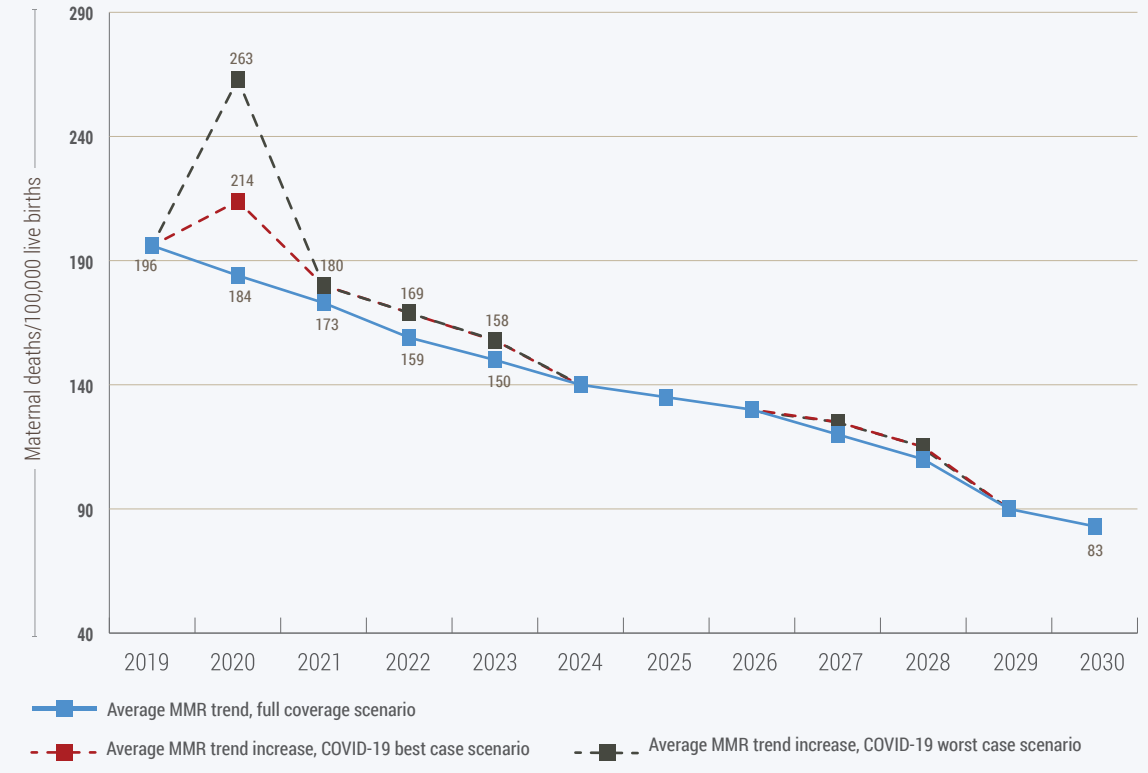
7 World Health Organization, UNFPA, UNICEF (2020). "Continuing essential sexual, reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent Health services during COVID-19 pandemic", 17 April. Available at https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/Regional%20Operative%20Guidance-SRMNCAH%20services_final_170420..pdf.

Figure 3.1 Percentage of married women of reproductive age with an unmet need for modern family planning methods



Source: UNFPA. See www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/women-children-covid19-srh-mortality-rates/.

Figure 3.2 Projected impact of COVID-19 on maternal mortality ratio, 2020–2030



Source: UNFPA. See www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/women-children-covid19-srh-mortality-rates/.

3.1.2 Maternal health

Recent surveys have shown that services for deliveries (or births) in health facilities and antenatal care were among the most frequently disrupted services during the pandemic.[8]

UNFPA conducted analyses across the 14 high-burden countries in the Asia-Pacific region to estimate the impact of the disruption of services on already overstretched health systems, and the progress made so far in achieving the 2030 SDGs targets is threatened by the diversion of resources from essential health services (see Annex 5 for details). In 2020 only, the maternal mortality ratio in these 14 countries could increase to 214 per 100,000 in the best-case scenario or 263 per 100,000 in the worst-case scenario compared to a projected baseline of 184 in 2020 (figure 3.2).

3.1.3 Child health

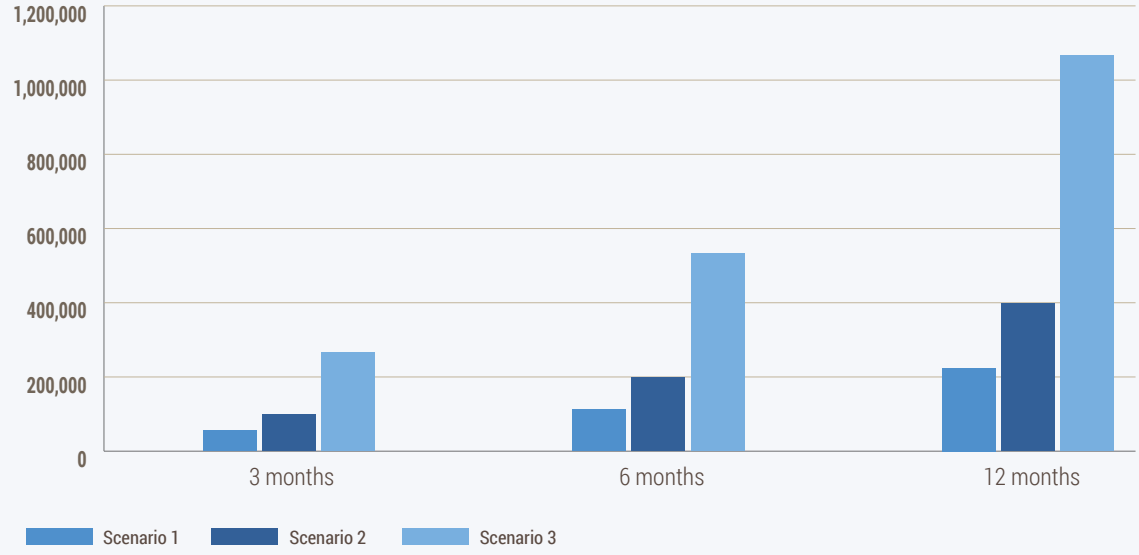
According to latest estimates, the COVID-19 pandemic had considerable indirect effects on child mortality in 118 low- and middle-income countries due to disruptions to critical interventions such as antenatal care, care during childbirth, postnatal care, vaccinations and early childhood preventative and curative services.[9]

Figure 3.3 illustrates an analysis of selected countries/territories in the Asia-Pacific region, showing more than 500,000 additional under-5 children could lose their lives over a six-month period in the worst-case scenario (coverage reductions of 39.3–51.9 per cent and a 50 per cent increase in wasting), and this number doubles to more than 1 million deaths in 12 months. Notably, these estimates are of additional deaths that would not have occurred without service disruptions caused by COVID-19, and these estimates are not meant to convey an exact number of deaths since these scenarios are based on assumptions about disruptions of critical interventions.

8 World Health Organization (2020). "Pulse survey on continuity of essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic: Interim report". Geneva, 27 August.

9 T. Roberton and others (2020). "Early estimates of the indirect effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on maternal and child mortality in low-income and middle-income countries: a modelling study". *The Lancet Global Health*. 12 May 2020. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30229-1.

Figure 3.3 Additional under-5 deaths in the Asia-Pacific region attributed to the reduction in services due to COVID-19



Source: UNICEF, based on https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(20)30229-1.

Note: See Annex 5 for details of the analysis.

3.2 Social protection and basic services

3.2.1 Poverty

Income poverty

Various agencies, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank, have projected that COVID-19 will increase both income poverty and multidimensional poverty. The projections, however, vary by organization and over time. The level of impact also varies because of the difference in the reference period for which the potential impact is assessed.

The most recent World Bank projections conducted in January 2021 show that between 119 million people (baseline scenario) and 124 million people (downside scenario) would be pushed back into extreme poverty. This would be the first significant increase in global extreme poverty since 1999. Asia and the Pacific will experience a greater impact of COVID-19 on poverty than any other region of the world, with 60 per cent of the projected new poor being in South Asia. Using international poverty lines for lower middle-income countries, the World Bank baseline scenario indicates that COVID-19 could increase the number of people living at $3.20 per day by 228 million, again driven by South Asia.[10]

The World Bank forecasted higher impacts of COVID-19 when there is inequality and/or when real GDP growth is lower than projected. For instance, a 1 per cent increase in the Gini coefficient translates into an additional 19 million people falling into extreme poverty and brings the global total to 90 million in the baseline scenario. Similarly, a 2 percentage point decline in GDP growth in the downside scenario raises the number of additional extreme poor to 124 million.[11]

10 World Bank (2021). Updated estimates of the impact of COVID-19 on global poverty: Looking back at 2020 and the outlook for 2021. Available at https://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/updated-estimates-impact-covid-19-global-poverty-looking-back-2020-and-outlook-2021.

11 Ibid.

> “Almost half of the people living in multidimensional poverty (640 million) live in Asia and the Pacific, with 530 million in South and South-West Asia alone.”

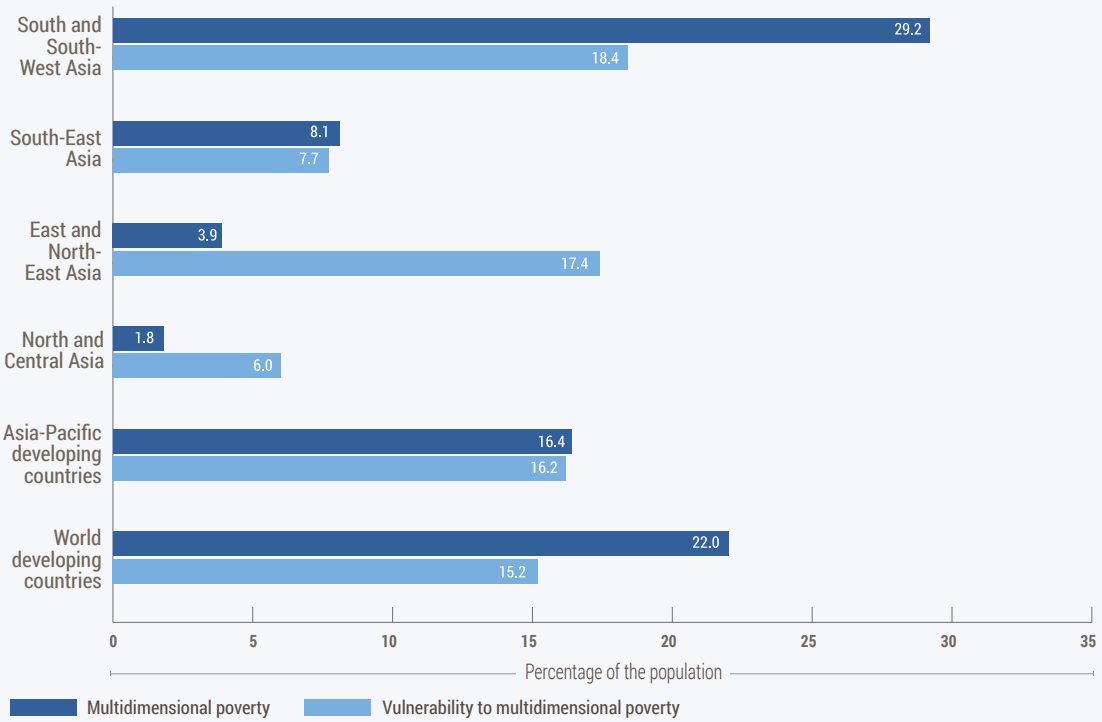
Multidimensional poverty

Populations that are deprived in at least one third of (weighted) indicators[12] are considered to be experiencing multidimensional poverty, and those living near the poverty line (deprived in 20–33.3 per cent of indicators) are defined as vulnerable to multidimensional poverty. About 1.3 billion people in 107 countries have been living in multidimensional poverty, which is equal to 22 per cent of the total population of those countries. Almost half of them (640 million) live in Asia and the Pacific, with 530 million in South and South-West Asia alone.

The COVID-19 pandemic has threatened progress in achieving no poverty (Goal 1) and zero hunger

12 The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) is calculated based on 10 indicators in three dimensions—health, education and standard of living. See http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdr2020_technical_notes.pdf.

Figure 3.4 Prevalence of multidimensional poverty and vulnerability to multidimensional poverty in selected country groups



Source: ESCAP estimates based on data from Human Development Report 2020. Available at http://hdr.undp.org/en/2020-report.

Note: Data were insufficient to provide an aggregate on the Pacific subregion.

(Goal 2). This could partly be observed in measures of multidimensional poverty. A substantial rise in multidimensional poverty is anticipated through two indicators of the multidimensional poverty index (MPI) that are being severely affected by the pandemic – nutrition and children's school attendance.

Among Asia-Pacific subregions with sufficient data, the multidimensional poverty rate is the highest in South and South-West Asia (29.2 per cent) which is higher than the rate of Asia-Pacific developing countries as well as the global average of developing countries (figure 3.4).

Compared to the proportion of the population experiencing multidimensional poverty, the share of the population that is vulnerable to multidimensional poverty is significantly higher in North and Central Asia, and East and North-East Asia, the two subregions with a lower incidence of poverty. The proportion of the population in South and South-West Asia that is vulnerable to multidimensional poverty, though lower than the proportion experiencing multidimensional poverty, still stands higher than the average for the Asia-Pacific region or the world average among developing countries. Overall, multidimensional poverty impacts 16.4 per cent of the population in developing countries of the region (some 640 million people), and an equal share of the population is vulnerable and could potentially be pushed into multidimensional poverty as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

UNDP and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) created forecasts of the multidimensional poverty rate across 70 countries (including 16 countries from the Asia-Pacific region). Combining a conservative scenario for the impact on school attendance (continued school closure experienced by 50 per cent of primary school-age children) with a moderate scenario for the impact on nutrition (25 per cent of multidimensionally poor or vulnerable people will become undernourished), the

simulations indicate that the aggregate global MPI across the 70 countries could increase by 60 per cent in 2020, reaching the same value as around 2011. Thus, the increase in deprivation because of COVID-19 may set poverty levels back by nine years with an additional 490 million people falling into multidimensional poverty across the 70 countries.[13] In a more optimistic scenario, when only the effect of the pandemic on nutrition was taken into account, the global MPI increased by 30 per cent. This would set poverty reduction back by nearly five years, with an additional 237 million people falling into multidimensional poverty in the 70 countries.

Child poverty

Children suffer poverty differently from adults. Their needs, expectations and aspirations are different, and they are more likely to experience lifelong consequences from it. As children are not supposed to earn a living, it is important to assess the impact of COVID-19 on child poverty both directly (multidimensional poverty) and indirectly (through the impact of adult unemployment and their parents' loss of income due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

Available data on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on poverty are not disaggregated by age and therefore they do not reflect the realities children are facing. To fill this gap, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Save the Children estimated how many children live in monetary poor households as well as how many more are likely to be pushed into monetary poverty by the impact of the pandemic (see Annex 5 for details). The projections for the Asia-Pacific region, based on pessimistic GDP growth assumptions, indicate the socioeconomic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic could push the households of 71 million more children into monetary poverty by the end of 2020.[14] In the absence of any mitigating policies, the total number of children living in monetary poor households in Asia and the Pacific could reach more than 300 million.

13 UNDP and OPHI (2020). Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2020: Charting Pathways out of Multidimensional Poverty.

14 https://data.unicef.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Child-poverty-COVID19-technical-note-English-2020.pdf.

3.2.2 Education

Prior to COVID-19, the world was already facing a learning crisis. Most countries were struggling to achieve the education targets of the 2030 Agenda (Goal 4), and the pandemic has introduced more uncertainty. At the height of country lockdowns, around 1.5 billion children globally were affected by school closures.[15] In the Asia-Pacific region, at least 850 million students lost almost half of the academic year by September 2020. While countries swiftly adopted remote learning strategies, the reach of remote learning remains limited to students with access to those technologies. An estimated 6.7 million learners are at risk of dropping out of school.[16]

Students affected by school closures

As the pandemic progressed, countries in Asia and the Pacific[17] responded to school closures differently, depending on their ability to contain the virus. In early March, almost 30 per cent of students spanning early childhood, primary and secondary education were unable to attend school in-person in the region (figure 3.5). By April, 850 million students (99 per cent) in Asia and the Pacific were impacted by school closures and nearly half of them (420 million) were in South and West Asia.

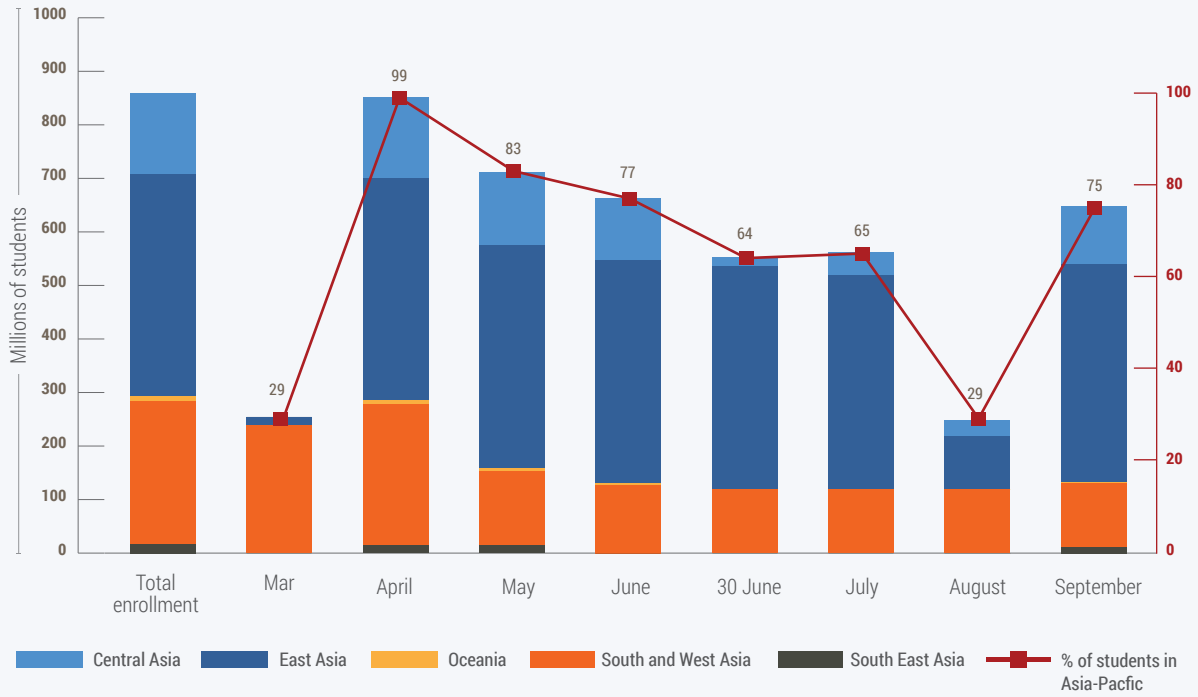
However, several countries, such as China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Singapore and Viet Nam, as well as most of the Pacific countries, were able to contain the spread of COVID-19 to some extent and began reopening their schools from May. As a result, the affected student population decreased by 15 per cent from April to May and by 18 per cent by June. Furthermore, most countries have academic school breaks between June, July and August depending on the school calendar. However, at the beginning of September still more than 75 per cent of students from the pre-primary to the secondary level could not attend school.

15 UNESCO (2020). Education: From disruption to recovery. Available at https://en.unesco.org/covid19/educationresponse .

16 UNESCO (2020). How many students are at risk of not returning to school? Advocacy paper.

17 This refers to 49 UNESCO Member States. See Annex 4 for country grouping and subregion classifications.

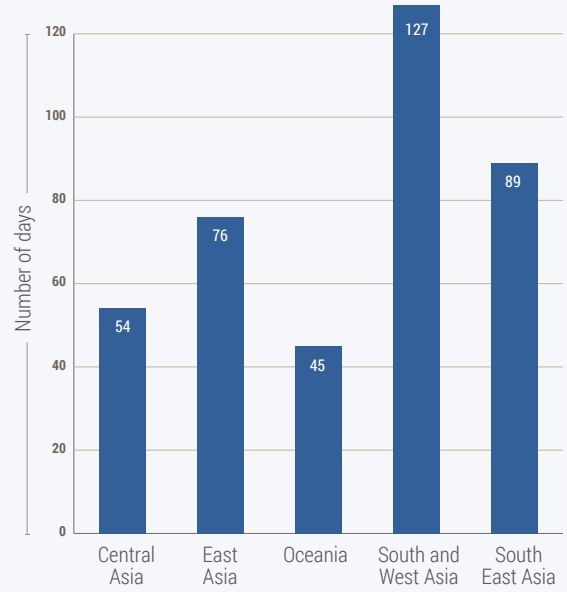
Figure 3.5 Number of and percentage of students affected by school closure spanning pre-primary to secondary education



Source: UIS (forthcoming). Asia and Pacific Regional Report on the Impact of COVID-19 on Education.

Note: Children who go to school in a country with partial opening/closures are counted as affected to 50 per cent of the school population. The figure includes 49 countries and subregions according to the UNESCO classification. See Annex 4 for details.

Figure 3.6 Average days of foregone instruction, February–September 2020, by subregion



Source: UIS (forthcoming). Asia and Pacific Regional Report on the Impact of COVID-19 on Education.

Note: The figure includes 49 countries and subregions according to UNESCO classification. See Annex 4 for details.

Teachers are at the risk of losing their job when education institutions have to deal with budget limitations to address emergencies. In early April 2020, 43 million teachers from pre-primary to secondary education were affected by school closures in the region. The number of teachers not involved in education declined over the following months. Large numbers of teachers are still impacted by school closures. In countries from South and West Asia, 16.2 million teachers were affected in April 2020.[18]

On average, students in Asia-Pacific countries lost more than 101 days of education by September 2020, which is almost half of the academic year (figure 3.6). Students in South and West Asia lost 127 days, accounting for the most lost time among Asia-Pacific subregions. The highest number of days lost occurred in April and May. The impact of the lost days of learning will be seen in the declining number of students achieving minimum

18 UIS (forthcoming). Asia and Pacific Regional Report on the Impact of COVID-19 on Education.

proficiency levels in reading, mathematics or sciences. So far there are no adequate strategies to make up for the lost time.

Education delivery during the pandemic

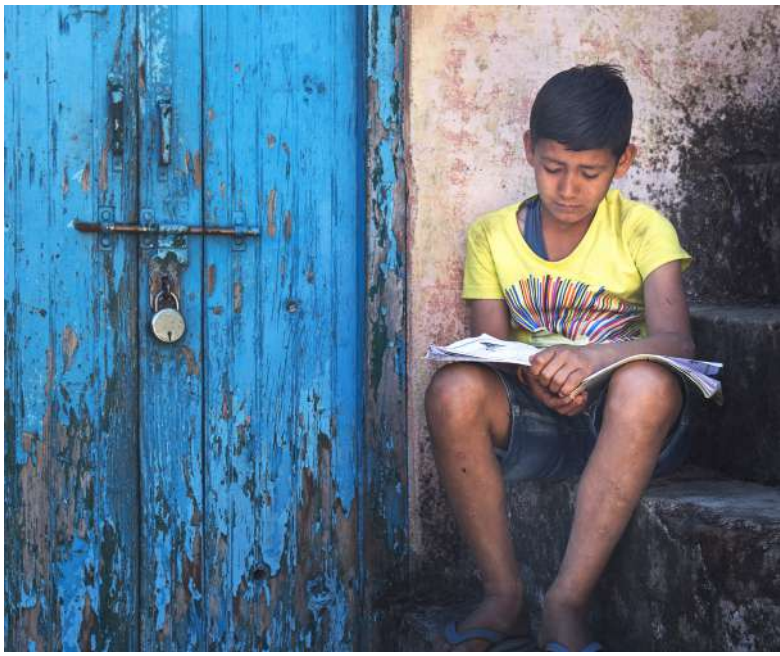
While schools remained closed, technology for remote and online learning emerged and evolved quickly. The UNESCO-UNICEF-World Bank Survey on National Education Responses to COVID-19 School Closures (2020) gathered data on students' access to tools for remote learning, including access via television and radio besides the Internet, and the availability of curriculum delivered across these platforms during school closures.[19] The results indicate that 20 per cent of the students in East Asia and the Pacific and 38 per cent of the students in South and West Asia might not have access to remote learning. Thus, due to the digital divide, the most vulnerable students face a double burden of the pandemic and the lack of access to technology to support remote learning.

Students not returning to schools and dropouts increasing

Due to the economic impacts of COVID-19 on households, enrolments are expected to decrease and dropouts to increase, adding to the 128 million out-of-school primary and secondary school-age children. Based on a simulation exercise covering 180 countries and territories globally, UNESCO estimated that more than 6.7 million additional students across primary to secondary education are at risk of dropping out in the Asia-Pacific region, including 4.2 million students dropping out of secondary education.[20]

19 UNICEF (2020). COVID-19: Are children able to continue learning during school closures? Available at https://data.unicef.org/resources/remote-learning-reachability-factsheet/.

> "There is growing evidence that school closures have immense impact on students' learning outcomes."

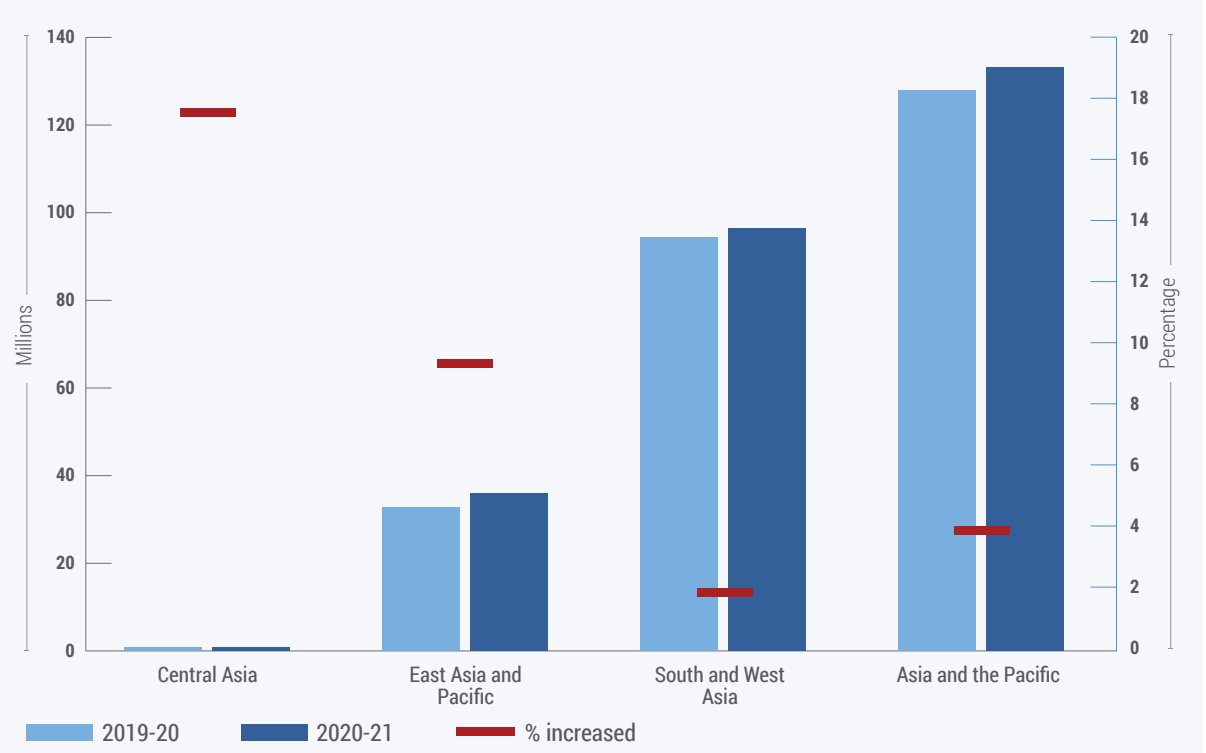


The primary and secondary age out-of-school populations will increase by 9.5 per cent in East Asia and the Pacific and by 2 per cent in South and West Asia. Central Asia has the smallest out-of-school population, and it is likely to experience the largest increase of 137,000 children (17 per cent) (figure 3.7).

There is growing evidence that school closures have immense impact on students' learning outcomes. As schools reopen, it is vital for countries to fully understand the impact of school closures on access to education and the achievement of learning outcomes. It is crucial that countries and development partners strengthen their efforts to develop well-designed learning assessment systems, including better ways to measure the impact of school closures, and provide evidence on remote learning for better monitoring of the targets of Goal 4. The impact of school closure goes beyond learning outcomes. Prolonged school closures also disrupt essential school-based services such as

20 UNESCO (2020). How many students are at risk of not returning to school? Advocacy paper.

Figure 3.7 Estimated number of primary and secondary out-of-school children and youth and percentage increase, Asia-Pacific region and subregions



Source: UIS (forthcoming). Asia and Pacific Regional Report on the Impact of COVID-19 on Education.

Note: The figure includes 49 countries and subregions according to UNESCO classification. See Annex 4 for details.

immunization, school feeding and mental health and psychosocial support, with the potential to increase the risk of teenage pregnancy, sexual exploitation, child marriage and violence against children. Additionally, the impact may be disproportionate on children from vulnerable population groups (such as asylum seekers, refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons and those who are stateless).

3.3 Jobs, small and medium-sized enterprises and informal sector workers

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a devastating impact on millions of workers and enterprises in Asia and the Pacific, which poses a major risk to the achievement of decent work and economic growth (Goal 8). The pandemic is not only resulting in job losses, but also in underemployment and reduced working hours. Unemployment (indicator 8.5.2) in the Asia-Pacific region[21] increased by 15 million in 2020, which corresponds to an unemployment rate that is 0.8 percentage points higher than in 2019.[22] While some workers have become unemployed, many more have moved into inactivity or have managed to remain in employment, thanks in part to policy responses that assist enterprises to retain them, albeit with fewer working hours and the associated loss of earnings.[23] Among those considered "inactive"

21 Because of differences in regional groupings between ESCAP and ILO, the data points here differ from those of the original source, *ILO Monitor on COVID-19 and the World of Work: 7th edition.* The regional and subregional figures exclude data for American Samoa, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Northern Mariana Islands, Niue, Nauru, Palau and Tuvalu.

22 Estimates provided by ILO.

23 ILO (2020). Monitor on COVID-19 and the World of Work: 7th edition; and ILO (2020). Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2020: Navigating the crisis towards a human-centred future of work.

are many young people who have given up on their job search during this difficult economic period, thus driving up the number of youth not in employment, education or training (indicator 8.6.1).

3.3.1 Working hour loss

Overall, compared to working hours in the fourth quarter of 2019, the Asia and the Pacific region has seen high levels of working hour losses (figure 3.8). In 2020, the region recorded working hour losses of an estimated 8.1 per cent, which is equivalent to the working time of 150 million full-time workers (assuming a 48-hour working week). The two subregions experiencing the highest working hour losses in 2020 were South and South-West Asia (12.8 per cent) and North and Central Asia (9.0 per cent).

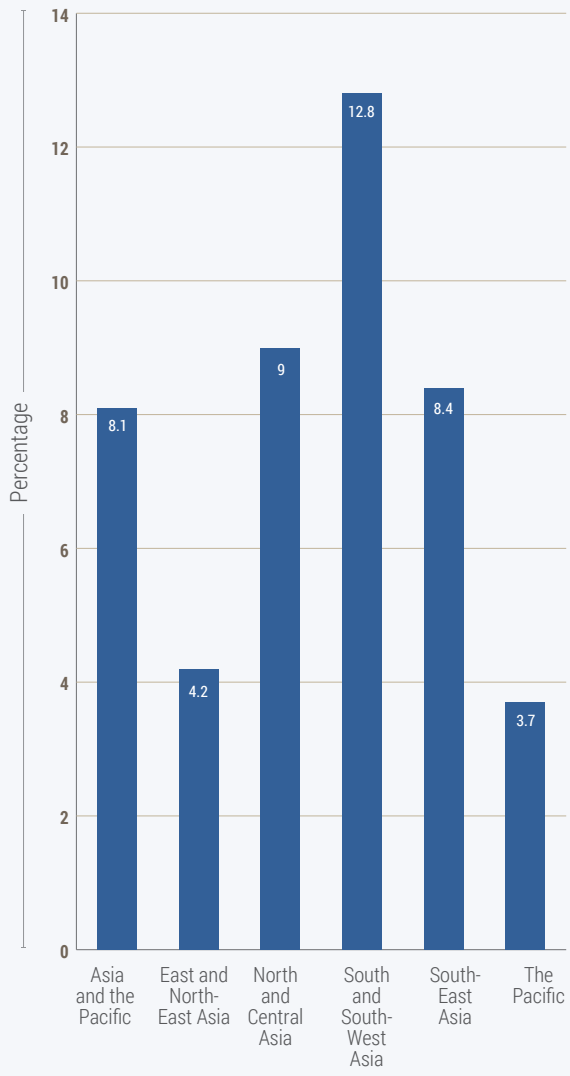
3.3.2 Labour income loss

Lost working hours translate into a substantial loss of income for workers in the region, as confirmed for some countries in the region by early data for 2020 on earnings (indicator 8.5.1).[24] ILO estimates of labour income losses (excluding income support measures) suggest that compared to labour income in 2019, workers in the region lost 7.1 per cent of their labour income in 2020 (figure 3.9). Labour income losses have been highest in South and South-West Asia (13.5 per cent). In total, the labour income lost in the region in 2020 amounted to more than $1.0 trillion (at 2019 market exchange rates) or 3.2 per cent of GDP. Without any mitigation of those losses by other sources of income, such as social protection transfers or other support measures, millions of households are at a significant risk of falling into poverty.

The COVID-19 pandemic does not affect all workers equally: Informal workers are among those most vulnerable to disruption and income loss, given their exclusion – in most cases – from national social protection coverage (indicator 1.3.1). The proportion of informal employment in total employment (indicator 8.3.1) is high in many

24 ILO (2020). Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2020: Navigating the crisis towards a human-centred future of work.

Figure 3.8: Working hour losses in 2020 compared to the fourth quarter of 2019



Source: International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates.

countries of the Asia-Pacific region. Informal employment accounted for 59.2 per cent of non-agricultural workers and 68.2 per cent of all workers in the Asia-Pacific region before the COVID-19 crisis.[25] In April 2020, as many as 829 million informal workers in the Asia-Pacific region (64 per cent of all informal workers) lived in countries with full or partial lockdowns.[26] Lockdown measures that Governments implemented to curb the spread of the pandemic had an immediate impact on informal workers' earnings.[27]

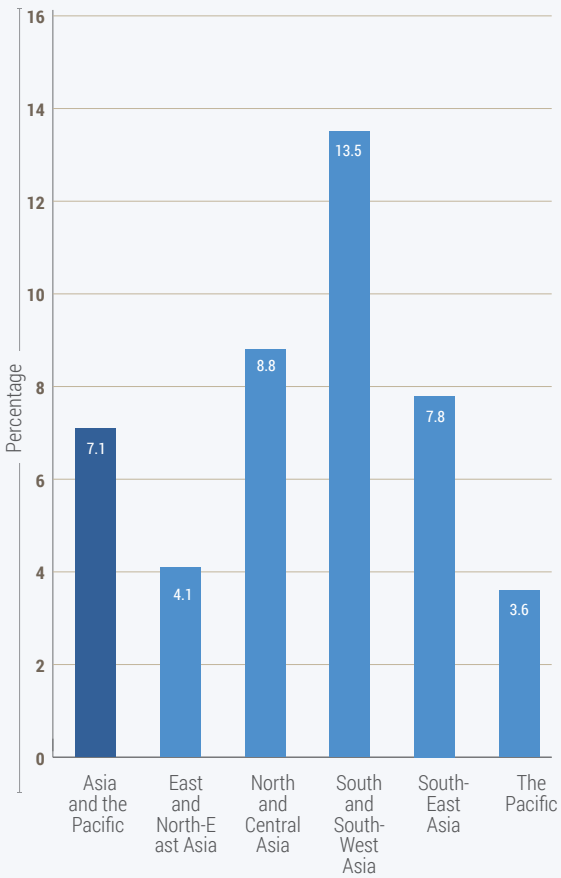
Workers in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), many of which are also informal,

25 ILO (2018). Women and men in the informal economy: A statistical picture. 3rd edition.

26 ILO (2020). Monitor on COVID-19 and the World of Work. 3rd edition.

27 ILO (2020). COVID-19 crisis and the informal economy: Immediate responses and policy challenges.

Figure 3.9: Labour income losses due to working hour losses in 2020 (excluding income support measures) compared to 2019.



Source: International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates.

are also particularly vulnerable to COVID-19. Millions of businesses in the Asia-Pacific region have suffered severe economic damage due to disrupted input supply and lower consumer demand.[28] While SMEs play an important role in providing jobs, they often lack sufficient access to credit and financial buffers, which makes it difficult for them to sustain their operations and keep their workers in employment during a crisis. In Viet Nam, for example, aggregate employment decreased year-on-year by 4.5 per cent in the second quarter of 2020, including decreases of 5.6 per cent in microenterprises, 3.5 per cent in small enterprises and 1.5 per cent in medium and large firms.[29]

3.4 Fiscal and financial stimulus

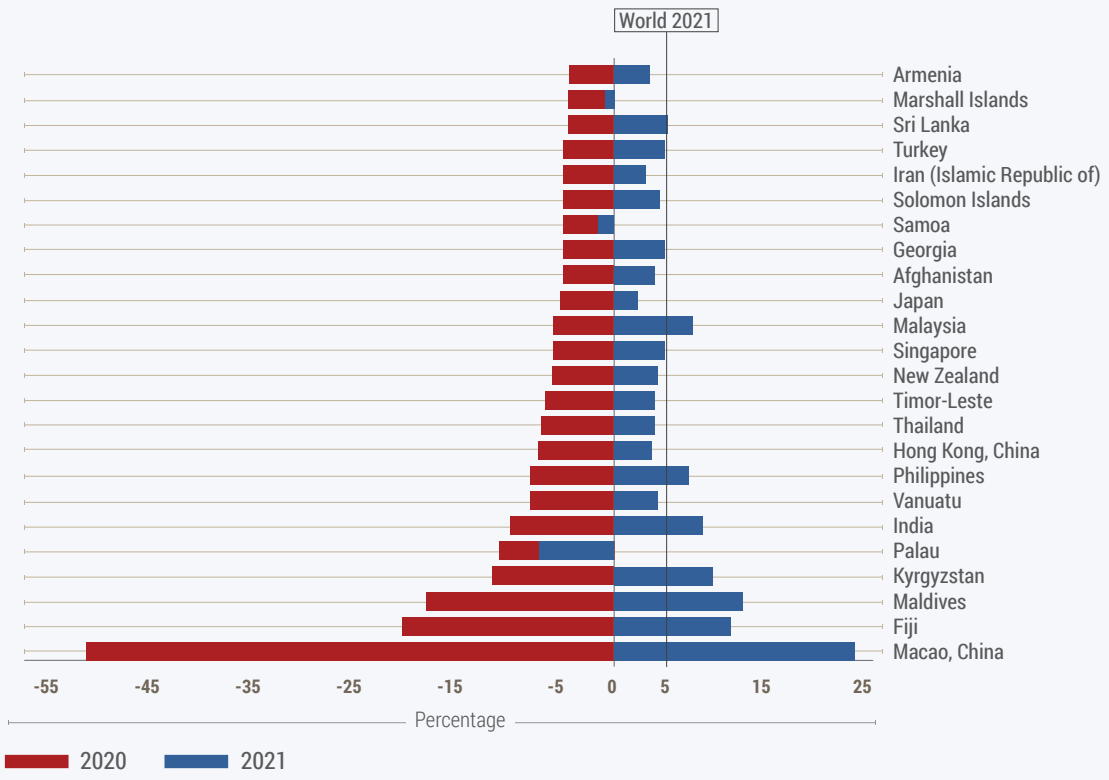
3.4.1 Economic growth

According to projections from the International Monetary Fund (figure 3.10), nearly half of the Asia-Pacific countries with data have experienced negative economic growth worse

28 ILO (2020). COVID-19 and global supply chains: How the jobs crisis propagates across borders.

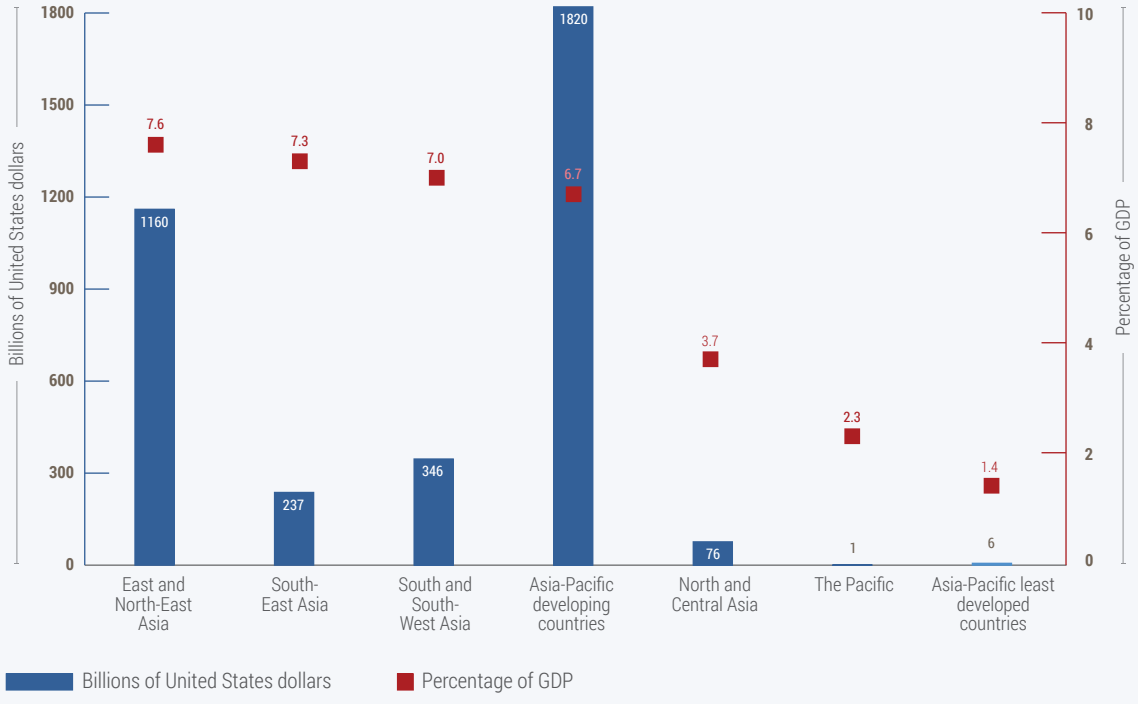
29 ILO (2020). Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2020: Navigating the crisis towards a human-centred future of work.

Figure 3.10 Economic growth projections for Asia-Pacific countries and the projected 2021 global average



Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database, October 2020.

Figure 3.11 Fiscal support in response to COVID-19 in Asia and the Pacific



Source: ESCAP Policy brief (November 2020).

than the projected global growth in 2020 (-4.4 per cent). Of those, all but three countries (Marshal Islands, Palau and Samoa) are expected to see positive growth in 2021. However, for the majority of countries the recovery from the economic recession will be less than the projected global average of 5.2 per cent.

3.4.2 Fiscal response to COVID-19

Between March and September 2020, developing countries in Asia and the Pacific announced an estimated $1.8 trillion, or 6.7 per cent of their GDP, for COVID-19 health response and relief measures for households and firms (figure 3.11). These relief measures were essential to mitigating the adverse impacts on poor households, SMEs and hard-hit sectors, but the total amounted to about half of the share spent by the world's developing economies where fiscal response on average was about 13 per cent of their GDP. During the same period, the International Monetary Fund and multilateral development banks committed $38 billion to assist Asia-Pacific developing countries to combat the pandemic, but mostly in the form of loans, with grants and debt relief amounting to only 4 per cent.

Given that the average fiscal deficit among Asia-Pacific developing countries is projected to widen from 1.5 per cent of GDP in 2019 to 6.8 per cent in 2020, stronger international assistance together with regional dialogue and actions for more targeted debt relief are essential for the sustainable recovery of countries severely affected by COVID-19.[30]

30 ESCAP (2020). An Assessment for Fiscal Space for COVID-19 Response and Recovery in the Asia-Pacific Developing Countries. Policy brief No. 116, November.

3.5 Social cohesion and community resilience

3.5.1 Older persons

Across all countries, old age is associated with higher COVID-19 mortality. The impact of COVID-19 on mortality among older people is even more stark when considering excess mortality, which also indicates the impact of lockdown measures on the use of health care services. For example, a survey coordinated by the World Health Organization in 130 countries (including 30 countries in the Asia-Pacific region) between June and August 2020 found that only about 30 per cent of mental health services for older adults remained available without disruption.

The weakness or non-existence of long-term care systems is an important gap in protection.

3.5.2 Child marriage

Child marriage spikes in humanitarian crises. The report "Child Marriage in Humanitarian Settings in South Asia", commissioned by UNFPA and UNICEF, presented data confirming an increase in child marriages in humanitarian crisis situations in Bangladesh and Nepal.

Lockdowns, school closures and economic downturns linked to COVID-19 are likely to have a significant impact on girls. The pandemic has reduced their access to sexual and reproductive health services and disrupted interventions to reduce child marriage. It has exacerbated socioeconomic problems, and many impoverished families with young girls see child marriage as the only viable solution to those problems. The pandemic could potentially result in 13 million additional child marriages taking place globally between 2020 and 2030 that may otherwise have been averted.[31]

31 UNFPA (2020). Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Family Planning and Ending Gender-based Violence, Female Genital Mutilation and Child Marriage, 27 April. Available at www.unfpa.org/resources/impact-covid-19-pandemic-family-planning-and-ending-gender-based-violence-female-genital.

3.5.3 Asylum-seekers

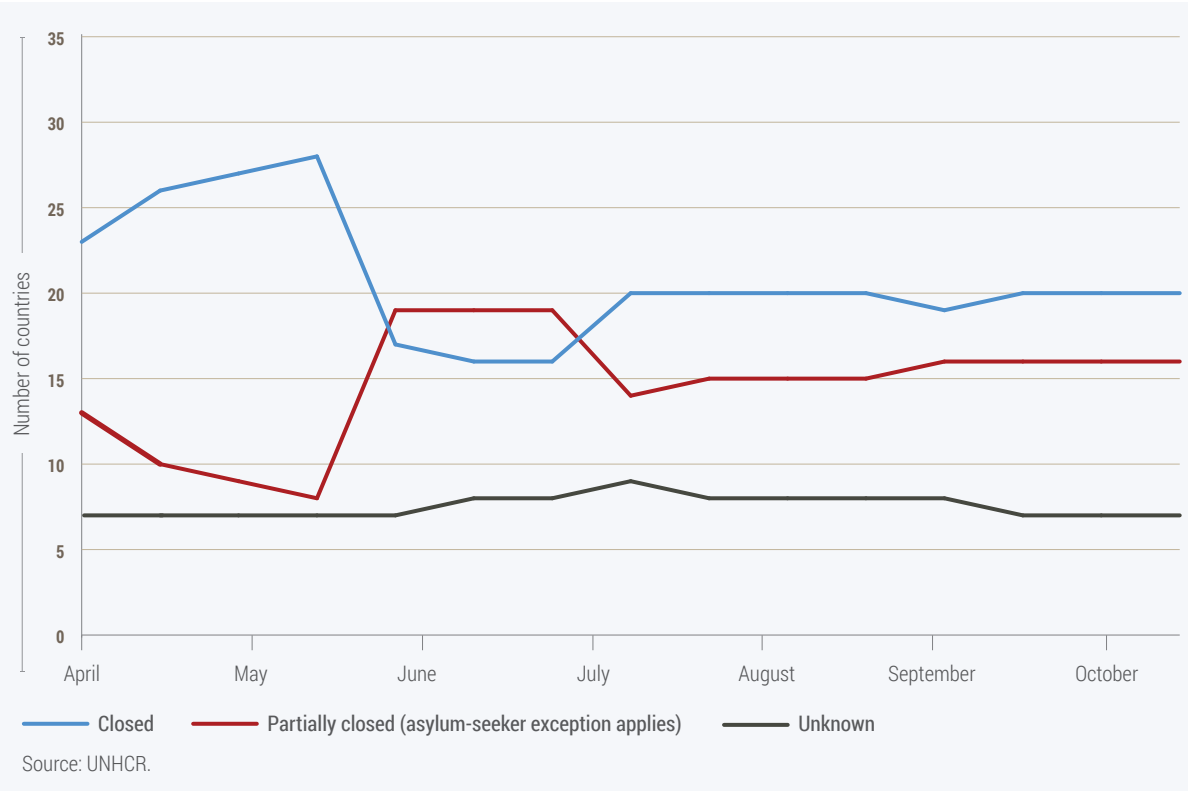
Border closures, travel restrictions and quarantine requirements resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic impacted access to international protection for persons in need of asylum. Over the period from mid-March through May 2020, according to available data, the Asia-Pacific region saw an initial rise in countries closing their borders without stipulating exceptions for persons seeking asylum (reaching 63 per cent of countries with data). Some countries allowed exceptions for asylum-seekers as of early June 2020, and thereafter the status of border closures remained relatively steady throughout the remainder of the year, with nearly half of the countries having completely closed their borders without exception (figure 3.12).

3.6 Environment

Mixed signals on the environment

While the COVID-19 pandemic undoubtedly has had negative and disastrous impacts on human lives and livelihoods, the impacts on the environment have been more difficult to gauge, with many anecdotal reports of short-term environmental recovery especially during strict lockdown conditions. Contingency measures adopted by countries have curtailed economic activities, with the consequent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions, air pollution and noise levels in many cities in the region - these were, however, short term in nature. Nevertheless, the pandemic has also had negative indirect impacts on the environment, especially the increase in medical waste, unsustainable consumption patterns associated with an increase in single use products and solid waste management issues. While solid data and statistics are not yet available, there are

Figure 3.12 Admission of asylum-seekers in Asia-Pacific countries, 2020



Source: UNHCR.

concerns that economic disruption and poverty caused by COVID-19 might lead to an increase in environmental degradation.

3.6.1 Greenhouse-gas emissions

Containment measures associated to the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, with a decrease in global daily carbon dioxide emissions of 17 per cent in April 2020 compared to April 2019.[32] In Asia and the Pacific, this pattern has been evident in China, India, Japan and the Russian Federation (figure 3.13). While the drop in carbon dioxide emissions has been significant, it was also temporary and emissions rose as soon as lockdown measures were lifted. China relaxed its lockdown measures earlier than other countries, and the impact is particularly evident. Despite a significant drop in daily emissions from February to March, China registered carbon dioxide emissions from April to June that were comparable to – or higher – than emissions in the same months in 2019.

Thus despite a brief dip in carbon dioxide emissions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the planet is still heading for a temperature rise in excess of 3°C in this century – far beyond the Paris Agreement targets.

3.6.2 Air quality

Environmental monitoring, including satellite data, Environmental monitoring, including satellite data, clearly indicates that air quality has improved in the first half of 2020 in many countries of the region. Satellite data show air pollution over northern India at a 20-year low, with New Delhi and nearby areas registering a significant 50 per cent reduction of aerosol optical depth (correlating to fine particulate matter, PM2.5 and PM10) in April.[33] In China, average PM2.5 and PM10 levels in 168 major cities are reported to have dropped an estimated 34 per cent in February and 24 per cent in March,[34] with satellite data also confirming a country-wide decline. A similar decrease in air pollution was registered in South-East Asia, where contingent measures resulted in a widespread decrease of PM2.5, PM10, nitrogen dioxide and sulfur dioxide concentration, especially in major cities such as Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Manila and Singapore.[35]

3.6.3 Waste management

In many Asian countries, the COVID-19 pandemic caused an abrupt strain on waste management chains that were weak to begin with, and nearly caused them to collapse in some cities. Wuhan, the COVID-19 epicentre of China, experienced a massive increase of medical waste from approximately 40 tonnes per day before the outbreak to about 247 tons on 1 March 2020.[36] Cities such as Bangkok, Hanoi, Kuala Lumpur and Manila experienced similar increases, producing 154–280 tons more medical waste per day than before the pandemic.[37]

3.6.4 Sustainable recovery measures

Recovery measures will be an important opportunity to rethink the pathways towards development and prosperity in the region and beyond, and will give the true measure of the total impact of COVID-19 on the environment. Most countries in the region have developed national stimulus and response strategies to the COVID-19 pandemic. A review of the recovery measures approved by 13 countries in the region found that 11 countries have very low or almost no consideration of the environmental dimension, with only New Zealand and Singapore having a "green component" higher than 10 per cent of total stimulus.[38] So far, the opening for using recovery measures to accelerate a green transition has largely been missed, but it is not too late to seize future opportunities. Achieving

32 C. Le Quere (2020). "Temporary reduction in daily global CO_2 emissions during the COVID-19 forced confinement". Nature Climate Change.

33 S. Gautam (2020). The influence of COVID-19 on air quality in India: a boon or inutile.

34 Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China (2020). China Air Quality Monthly Report [in Chinese]. Available at www.mee.gov.cn/hjzl/dqhj/cskqzlzkyb/.

35 K.D. Kanniah and others (2020). "COVID-19's impact on the atmospheric environment in the Southeast Asia region". *Science of the Total Environment*, 736.

36 Xinhuanet (2020). "Medical waste treatment in Wuhan from emergency to stability" [in Chinese].

37 Asian Development Bank (2020). Managing infectious medical waste during the COVID-19 pandemic.

38 R. Carnell and others (2020). Asia's lamentable green response to COVID-19. Available at https://think.ing.com/uploads/reports/Asias_green_response_100820_AOT.pdf.

Figure 3.13 Daily carbon dioxide emissions in selected countries, 2020 compared to 2019 (metric tons per day)

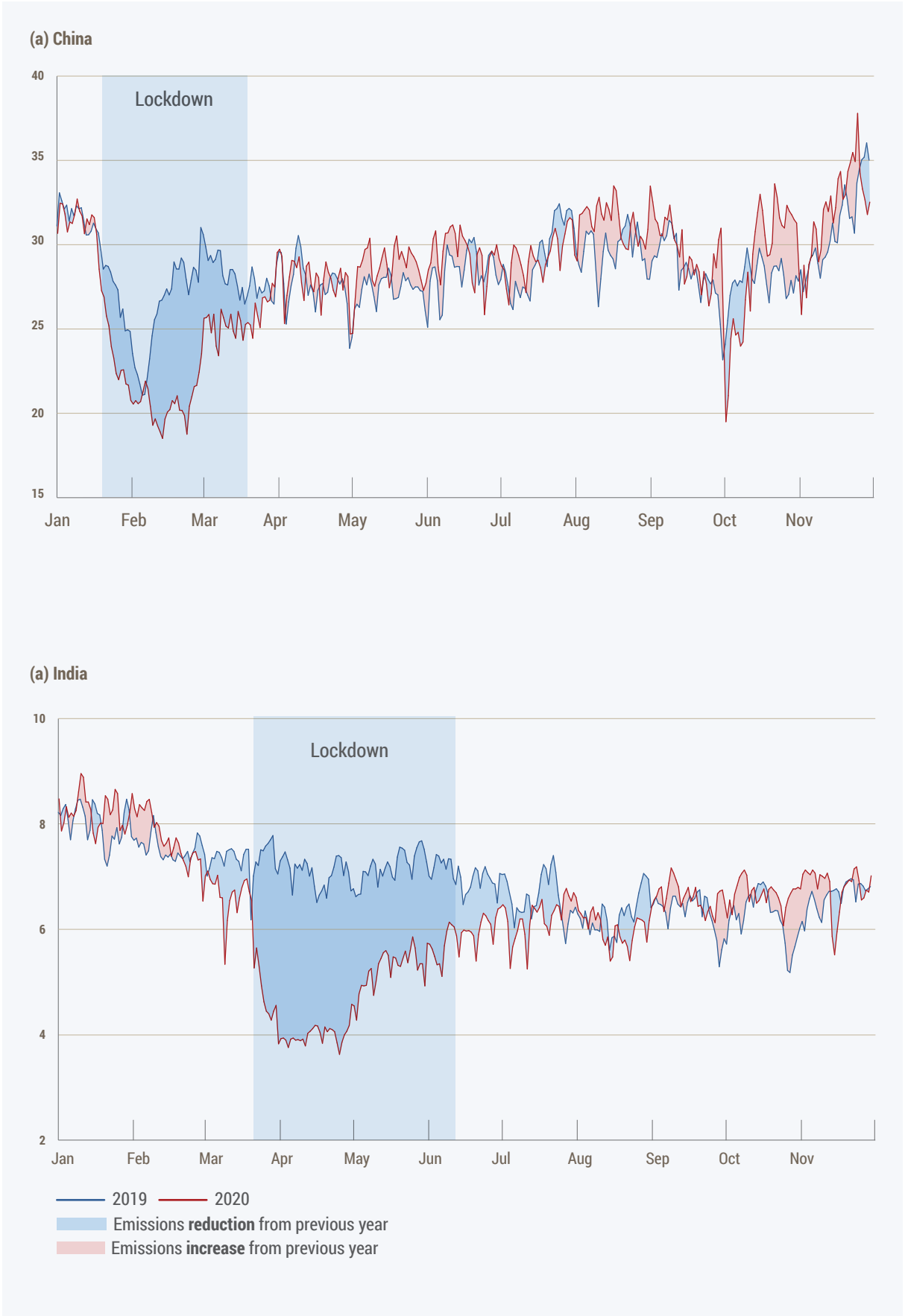
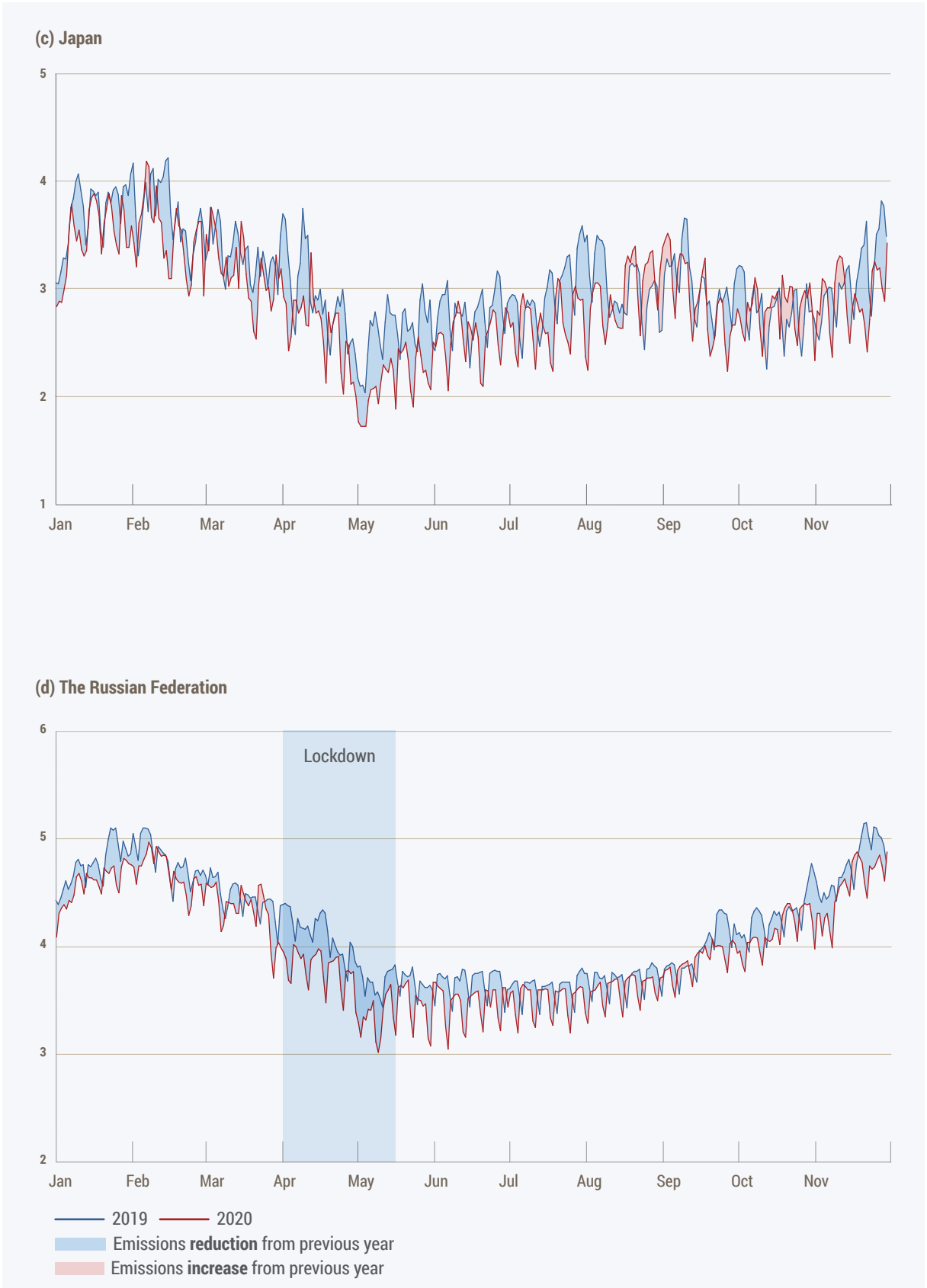


Figure 3.13 Daily carbon dioxide emissions in selected countries, 2020 compared to 2019 (metric tons per day) - continued



Source: Z. Liu, P. Ciais and S. Davis (2020). CO_2 Emissions Variations (%): 2020 vs 2019. Available at https://carbonmonitor.org/.

the Paris Agreement goals is likely to slip further out of reach unless countries implement green response strategies.[39]

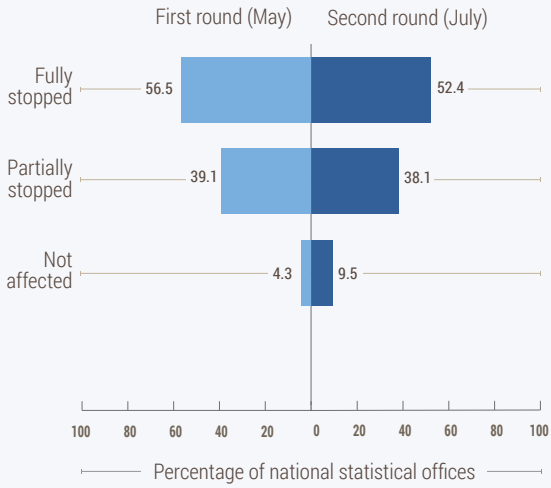
The importance of the environment is evident even in the very origin of this pandemic. COVID 19 is a zoonotic disease, one of many that has jumped from animals to human beings. The increasing frequency of such diseases has been linked to unsustainable human activities and increasing pressures on ecosystems.[40] Future pandemics will emerge more often, spread more rapidly, do more damage to the world economy and affect more people than COVID-19, unless there is a transformative change in the global approach to dealing with infectious diseases, with a strong focus on prevention.[41] Action to mitigate the risk of emerging infectious zoonotic diseases is of great importance, especially for the Asia-Pacific region as it is the global hotspot for such diseases. Thus the adoption of a One Health framework that puts people's well-being and environmental integrity at the centre is more urgent than ever.[42]

3.7 Statistical operations

3.7.1 Impact on national statistical systems

Results from two rounds of a global survey on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on statistical operations of national statistical offices (NSOs)[43] show that although a few offices in the Asia-Pacific region commenced or resumed face-to-face data collection in July compared with May 2020, most NSOs had not resumed face-to-face data collection by July 2020 (figure 3.14).

Figure 3.14 Impact of COVID-19 on face-to-face data collection in Asia-Pacific countries



Source:.https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/2nd_Round_Statistical_operations_under_COVID-19_in_the_Asia-Pacific_region.pdf.

The results for the Asia-Pacific region show that the production of short-term statistics continues to be affected. The top three types of data collection most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic are price statistics, national accounts and household sector statistics (figure 3.15).

3.7.2 Special surveys: Violence against women

During the COVID-19 pandemic, all surveys were affected by mandatory lockdowns and social distancing measures. Some population groups, especially those at risk of being left behind, will be disproportionally affected by delays in data collection because it will take longer to reveal the extent of the impact of COVID-19 on them. It will take longer still to design and implement interventions for the challenges they face.

For example, the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting countries' ability to collect data to monitor their commitments to target 5.2 as monitored through indicators 5.2.1 and 5.2.2, with at least two countries in the region having delayed their national violence against women survey.

39 UNEP (2020). Emissions Gap Report 2020. Available at www.unenvironment.org/emissions-gap-report-2020.

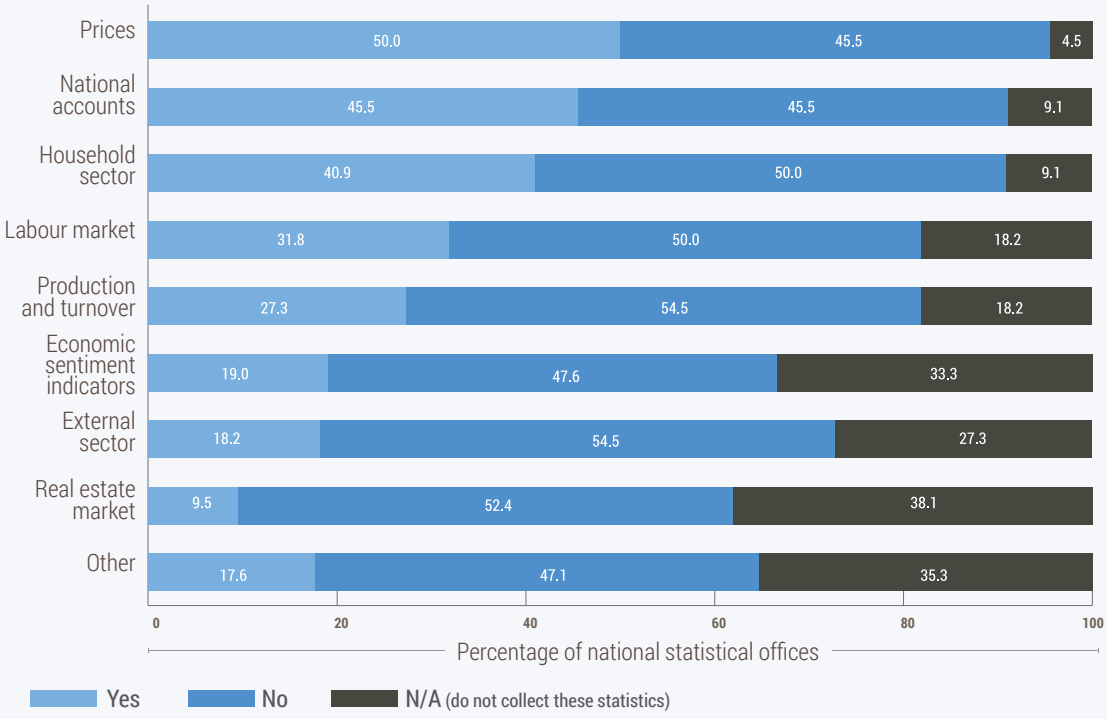
40 UNEP (2020). Preventing the next pandemic - Zoonotic diseases and how to break the chain of transmission. Available at https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/32316/ZP.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

41 IPBES (2020). Workshop Report on Biodiversity and Pandemics of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. IPBES secretariat, Bonn, Germany. DOI:10.5281/zenodo.4147317.

42 UNEP (2020). Preventing the next pandemic - Zoonotic diseases and how to break the chain of transmission. Available at https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/32316/ZP.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

43 The survey was carried out under the aegis of United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), in partnership with Development Data Group of the World Bank and in coordination with the United Nations regional commissions. The survey report is available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/covid19-response/covid19-nso-survey-report-2.pdf.

Figure 3.15 Proportion of NSOs affected by COVID-19, by type of essential monthly/quarterly data collection



Source: https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/2nd_Round_Statistical_operations_under_COVID-19_in_the_Asia-Pacific_region.pdf.

Service statistics show spikes in calls to violence hotlines or reports to police in some countries while these have decreased other countries. Monitoring the number of reported cases, however, does not reveal whether the proportion of women experiencing violence (as measured in the indicators) has changed, as only household surveys of a random sample of women can reveal that. Household surveys should not be done during the pandemic[44] when women are at home with their abusers, as this could result in more violence, and the difficulty of implementing a survey could result in poor data quality.

3.7.3 Population censuses

Since the beginning of 2020, population censuses have been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic in different ways. In the Asia-Pacific region, 20 ESCAP Member States had already undertaken a population census as part of the 2020 round[45] before the pandemic hit. COVID-19 impacted 24 other countries that were planning to conduct a population census in 2020 or 2021 and were at different stages of their census programme. Except in a few cases, census data collection activities planned for 2020 were postponed to a later date in 2020 or to 2021, while in other countries, census operations were suspended without a clear announcement of a new census date. Some countries also attempted to change census protocols to adapt to their inability to carry on field data collection as usual, and others are thinking about doing so in the future.

44 https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/resources/decision-tree-data-collection-violence-against-women-and-covid-19.

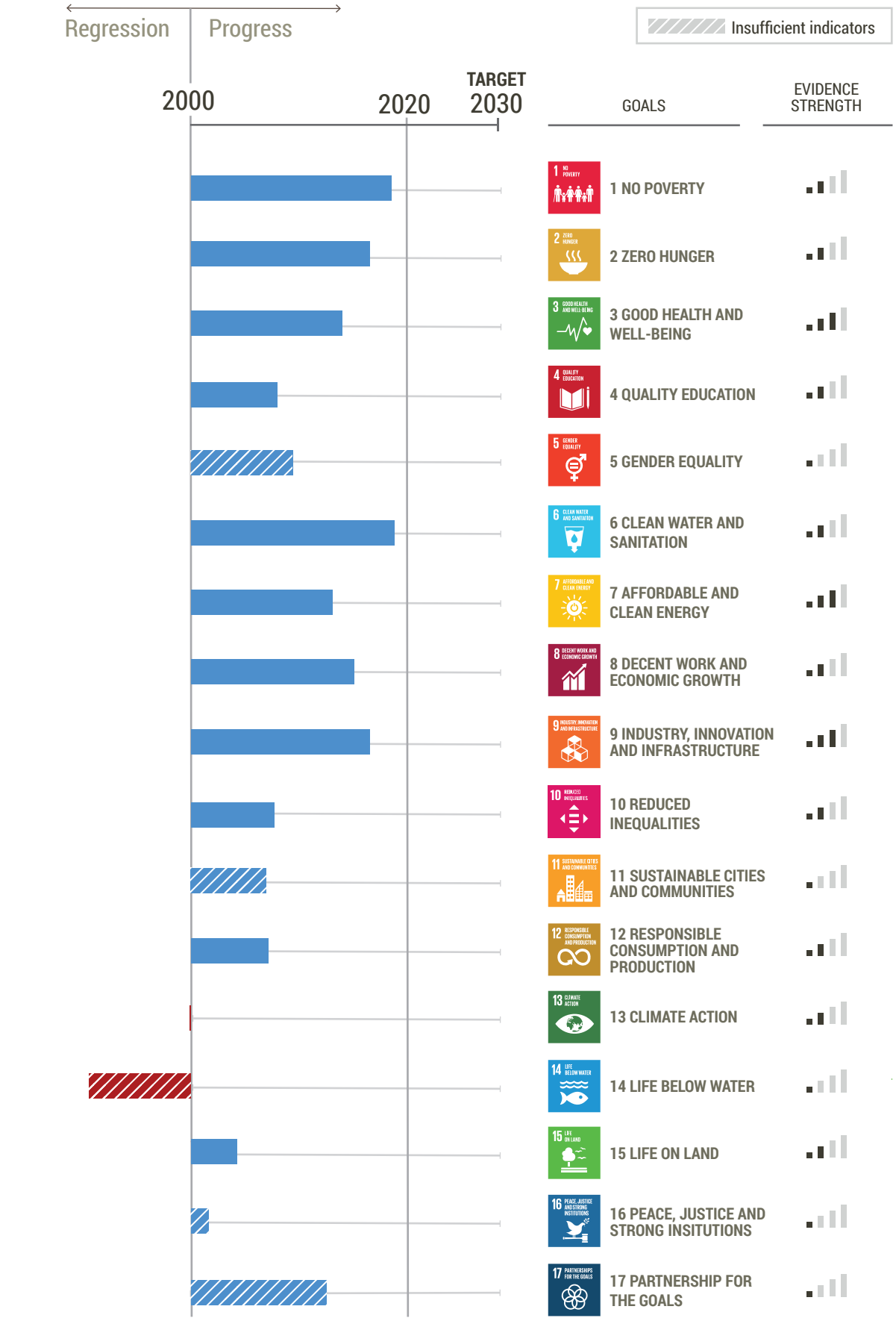
45 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme.

ANNEXES

Annex 1
Subregional graphs

EAST AND NORTH-EAST ASIA

Snapshot of SDG progress in East and North-East Asia, 2020



Anticipated progress on SDG targets in East and North-East Asia

NO POVERTY
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.b Poverty eradication policies

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- 9.4 Sustainable & clean industries
- 9.5 Research and development
- 9.b Domestic technology development
- 9.c Access to ICT & the Internet
- 9.1 Infrastructure development
- 9.2 Sustainable/inclusive industrialization
- 9.3 Small-scale inductries acces to finance
- 9.a Resilient infrastructure

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

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

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

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

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

- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend
- Insufficient data to measure

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

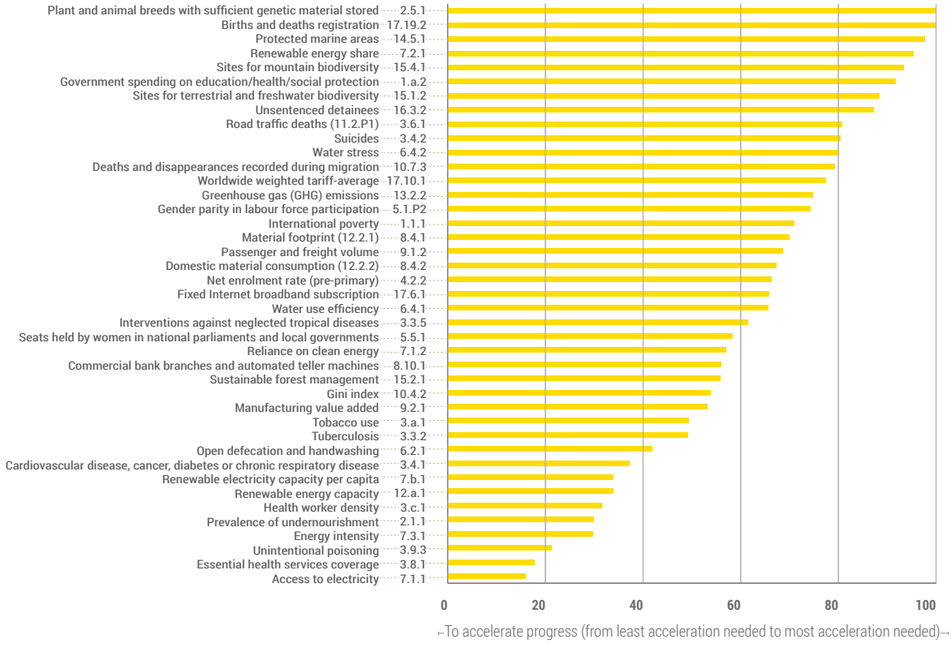
PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSITUTIONS
- 16.1 Reduction of violence & related deaths
- 16.3 Justice for all
- 16.2 Human trafficking
- 16.4 Illicit financial and arms flows
- 16.5 Corruption and bribery
- 16.6 Effective institutions
- 16.7 Inclusive decision- making
- 16.8 Inclusive global governance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

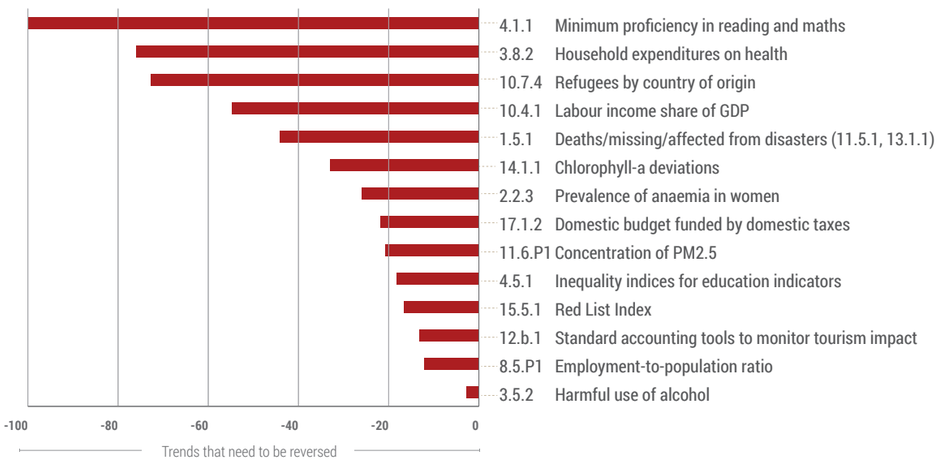
PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS
- 17.8 Capacity building for ICT
- 17.1 Tax & other revenue collection
- 17.6 Science and tech international cooperation
- 17.10 Multilateral trading system (WTO)
- 17.19 Statistical capacity
- 17.2 ODA commitment by dev. countries
- 17.3 Additional financial resources
- 17.4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

Anticipated progress gaps by 2030 in East and North-East Asia

- ON-TRACK indicators
- ACCELERATE progress
- REVERSE trend

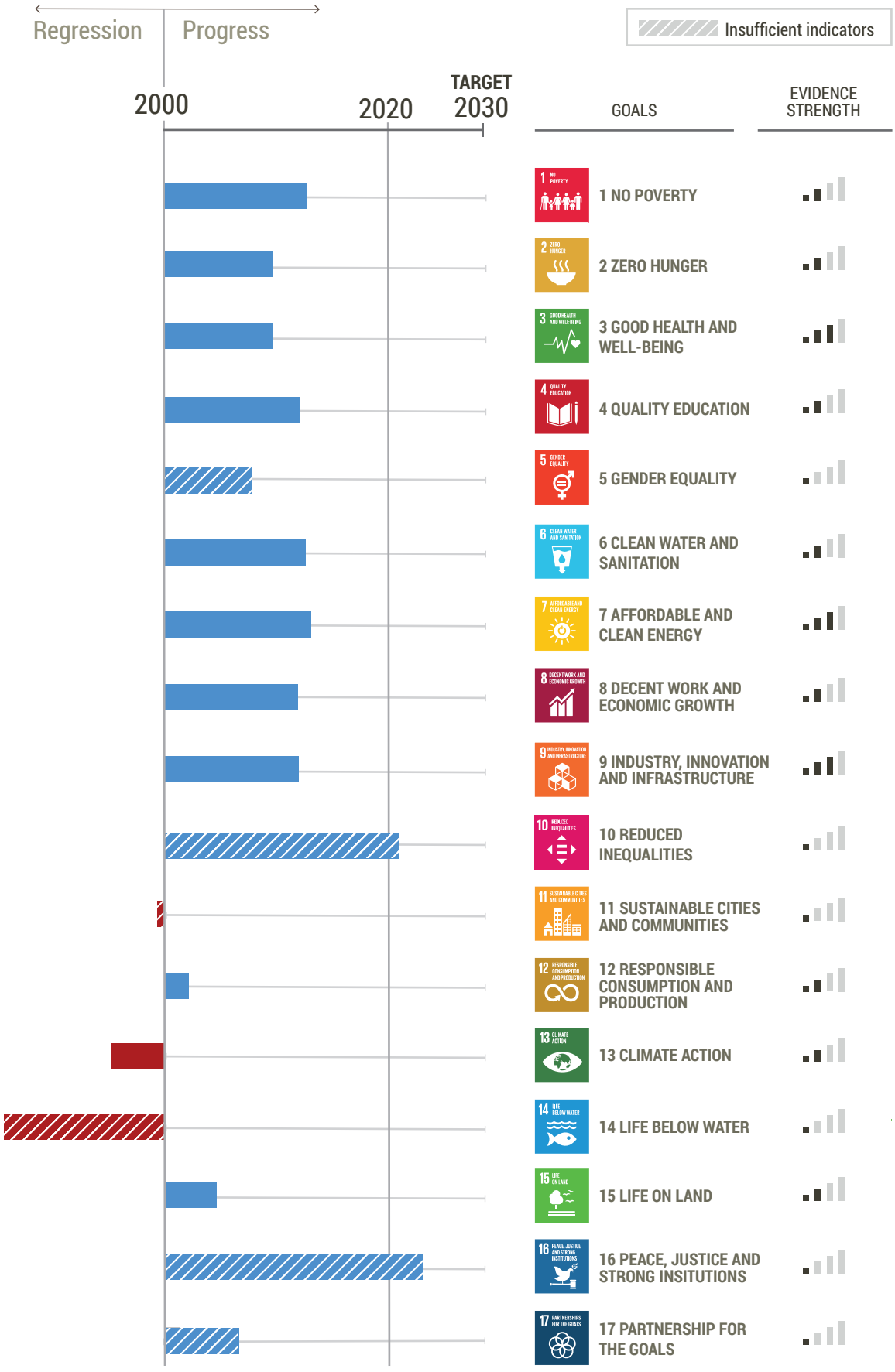
- 1.4.1 Access to basic water and sanitation services
- 2.3.P1 Cereal yield
- 2.4.P1 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture
- 3.1.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel
- 3.2.1 Under-five mortality
- 3.2.2 Neonatal mortality
- 3.7.2 Adolescent births
- 3.b.1 Population covered by all vaccines in national progra
- 3.d.1 Health capacity and emergency preparedness
- 6.1.1 Safely managed drinking water services
- 6.6.1 Permanent water body extent
- 8.1.P1 Real GDP per capita growth rate
- 8.2.P1 Real GDP per employed person growth rate
- 8.3.P1 Vulnerable employment
- 8.10.2 Adults with a bank account
- 9.4.1 CO_2 emissions per unit of manufacturing value added
- 9.5.1 Research and development expenditure
- 9.5.2 Number of researchers
- 9.b.1 Medium and high-tech industry value added
- 9.c.1 Population covered by a mobile network
- 12.5.1 National recycling rate
- 15.1.1 Forest area
- 16.1.1 Intentional homicides
- 17.1.1 Tax revenue
- 17.8.1 Internet users





NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

Snapshot of SDG progress in North and Central Asia, 2020



Anticipated progress on SDG targets in North and Central Asia

1 NO POVERTY
- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.a Poverty eradication policies

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend
- Insufficient data to measure

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

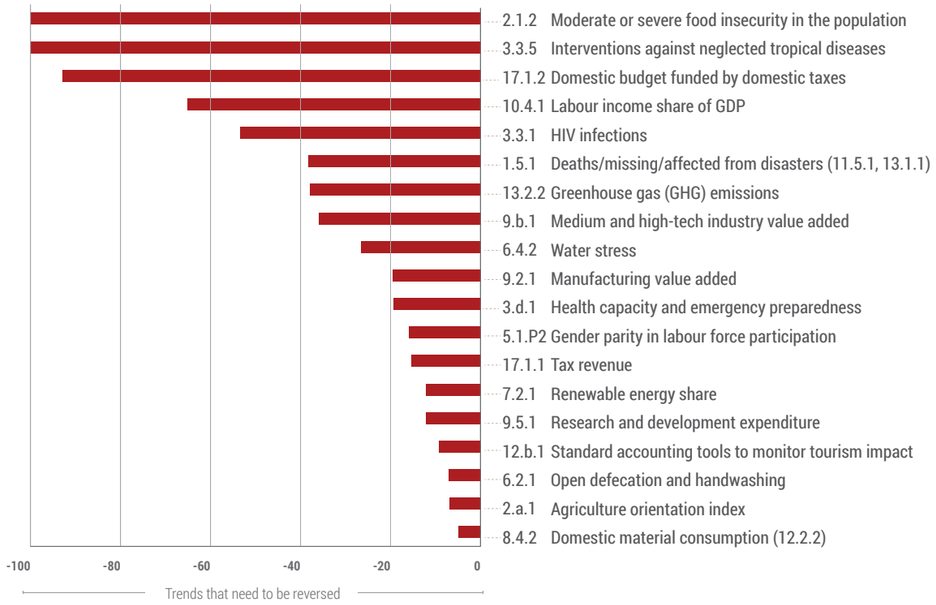
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSITUTIONS
- 16.1 Reduction of violence & related deaths
- 16.6 Effective institutions
- 16.2 Human trafficking
- 16.3 Justice for all
- 16.4 Illicit financial and arms flows
- 16.5 Corruption and bribery
- 16.7 Inclusive decision- making
- 16.8 Inclusive global governance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

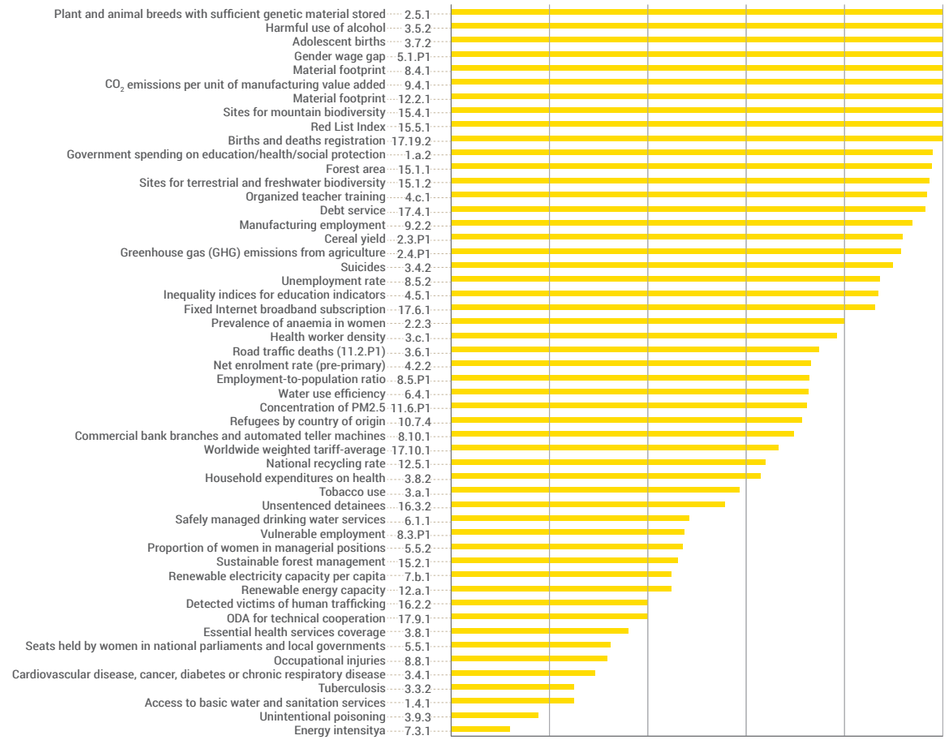
17 PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS
- 17.8 Capacity building for ICT
- 17.4 Debt sustainability
- 17.6 Science and tech international cooperation
- 17.9 Capacity building for SDGs
- 17.10 Multilateral trading system (WTO)
- 17.19 Statistical capacity
- 17.1 Tax & other revenue collection
- 17.2 ODA commitment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

Anticipated progress gaps by 2030 in North and Central Asia

- ON-TRACK indicators
- ACCELERATE progress
- REVERSE trend

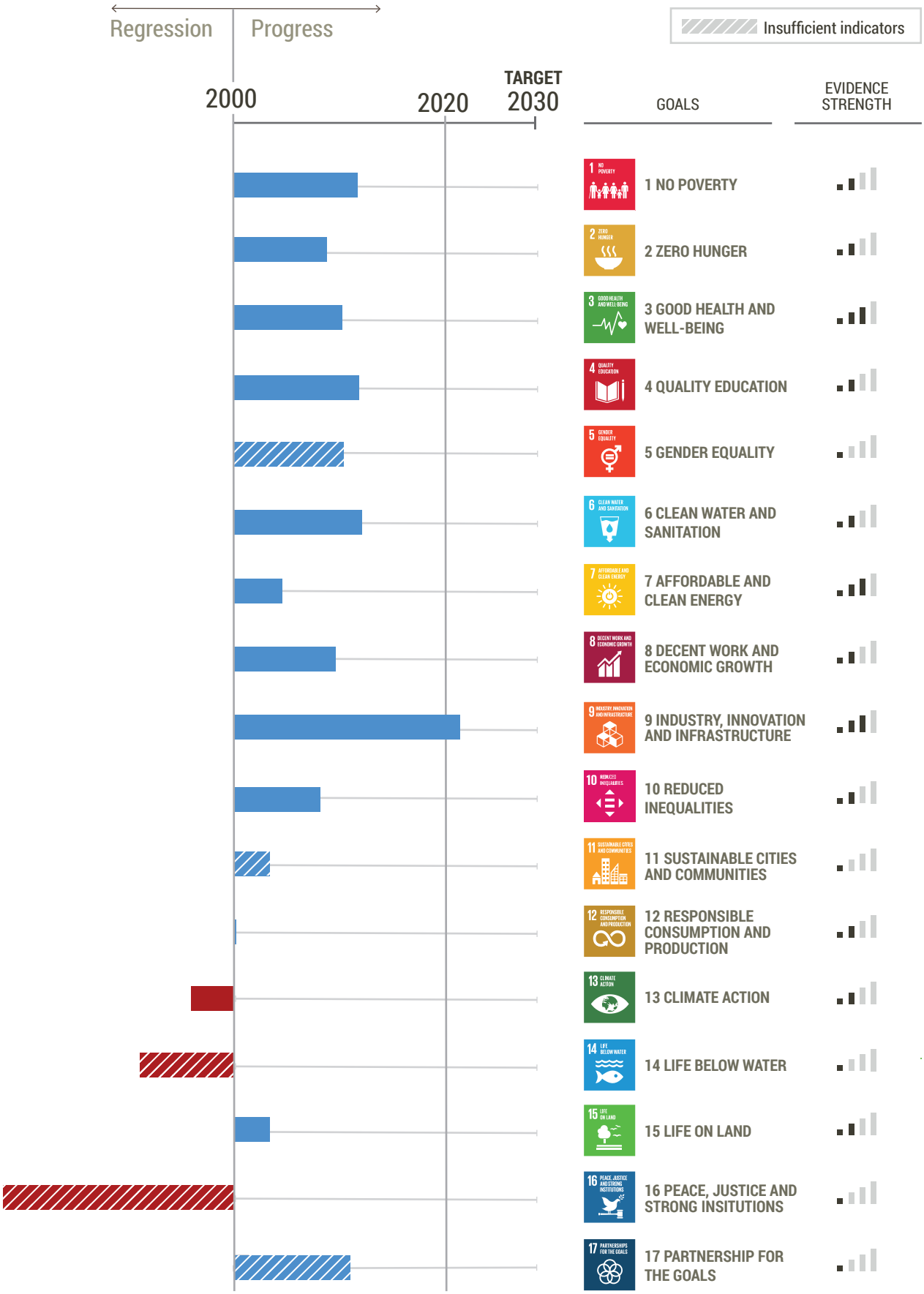
- 1.1.1 International poverty
- 1.2.1 National poverty
- 2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment
- 2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting
- 2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition
- 3.1.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel
- 3.2.1 Under-five mortality
- 3.2.2 Neonatal mortality
- 3.3.3 Malaria
- 3.b.1 Population covered by all vaccines in national progra
- 4.3.1 Formal and non-formal education and training
- 4.4.P1 Adults who completed primary or secondary educati
- 4.6.P1 Adult literacy
- 6.6.1 Permanent water body extent
- 7.1.1 Access to electricity
- 7.1.2 Reliance on clean energy
- 8.1.P1 Real GDP per capita growth rate
- 8.2.P1 Real GDP per employed person growth rate
- 8.6.1 Youth not in education, employment or training
- 8.10.2 Adults with a bank account
- 9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume
- 9.c.1 Population covered by a mobile network
- 10.2.1 Population living below 50 percent of median income
- 10.4.2 Gini index
- 16.1.1 Intentional homicides
- 16.6.1 Government expenditure as share of budget





SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Snapshot of SDG progress in South-East Asia, 2020



Anticipated progress on SDG targets in South-East Asia

NO POVERTY
- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.a Poverty eradication policies

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- 9.1 Infrastructure development
- 9.4 Sustainable & clean industries
- 9.b Domestic technology development
- 9.c Access to ICT & the Internet
- 9.2 Sustainable/inclusive industrialization
- 9.5 Research and development
- 9.3 Small-scale inductries acces to finance
- 9.a Resilient infrastructure

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- 10.4 Fiscal & social protection policies
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- 10.3 Eliminate discrimination
- 10.5 Regulation of financial markets
- 10.6 Inclusive global governance
- 10.a Special & differential treatment (WTO)
- 10.b Resource flows for development
- 10.c Remittance costs

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

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
- 12.5 Reduction in waste generation
- 12.a Support for R&D capacity for SD
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- 12.3 Food waste & losses
- 12.4 Managing chemicals & wastes
- 12.6 Corporate sustainable practices
- 12.7 Public procurement practices
- 12.8 Sustainable development awareness
- 12.c Fossil-fuel subsidies

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

LIFE BELOW WATER
- 14.5 Conservation of coastal areas
- 14.1 Marine pollution
- 14.2 Marine & coastal ecosystems
- 14.3 Ocean acidification
- 14.4 Sustainable fishing
- 14.6 Fisheries subsidies
- 14.7 Marine resources for SIDS & LDC
- 14.a Research capacity & marine technology
- 14.b Small-scale artisanal fishing
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- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend
- Insufficient data to measure

LIFE ON LAND
- 15.1 Terrestrial & freshwater ecosystems
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- 15.7 Protected species trafficking
- 15.8 Invasive alien species
- 15.9 Biodiversity in national & local planning
- 15.a Resources for biodiversity & ecosystems
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- 15.c Protected species trafficking (global)

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

PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS
- 17.1 Tax & other revenue collection
- 17.4 Debt sustainability
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- 17.8 Capacity building for ICT
- 17.10 Multilateral trading system (WTO)
- 17.19 Statistical capacity
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- 17.14 Policy coherence for SD
- 17.15 Respect country's policy space
- 17.16 Global partnership for SD
- 17.17 Partnerships (public, private, CSO)
- 17.18 National statistics availability

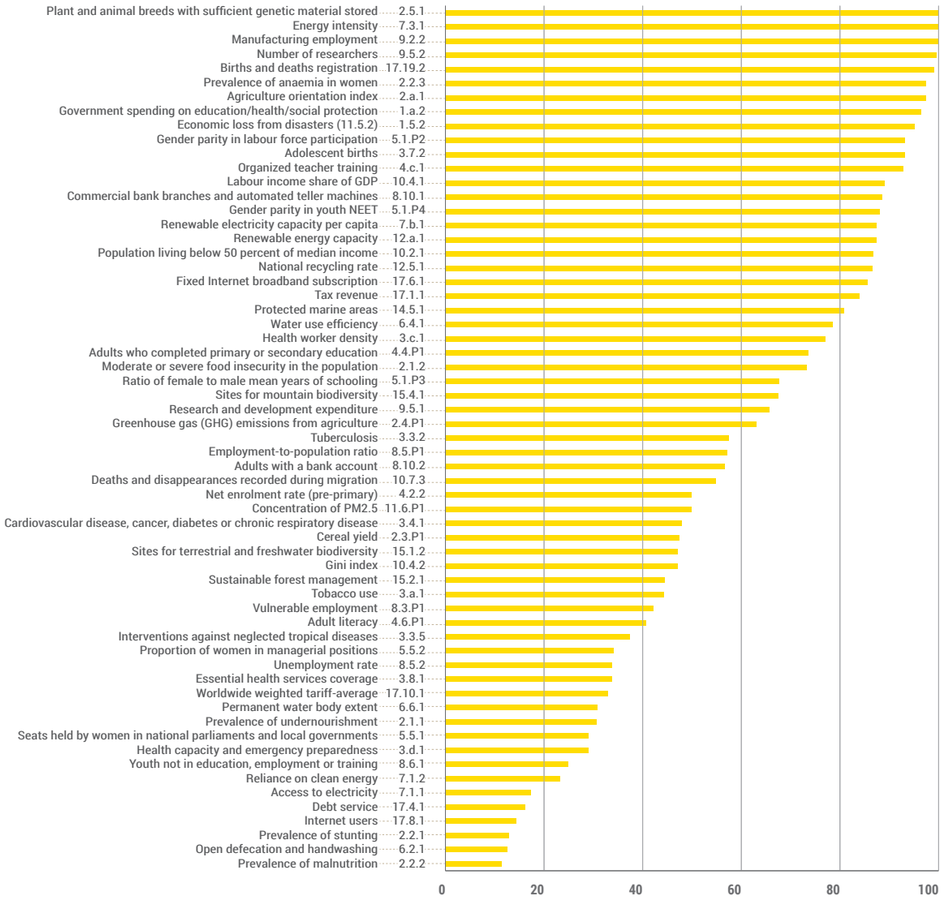
Anticipated progress gaps by 2030 in South-East Asia

ON-TRACK indicators

ACCELERATE progress

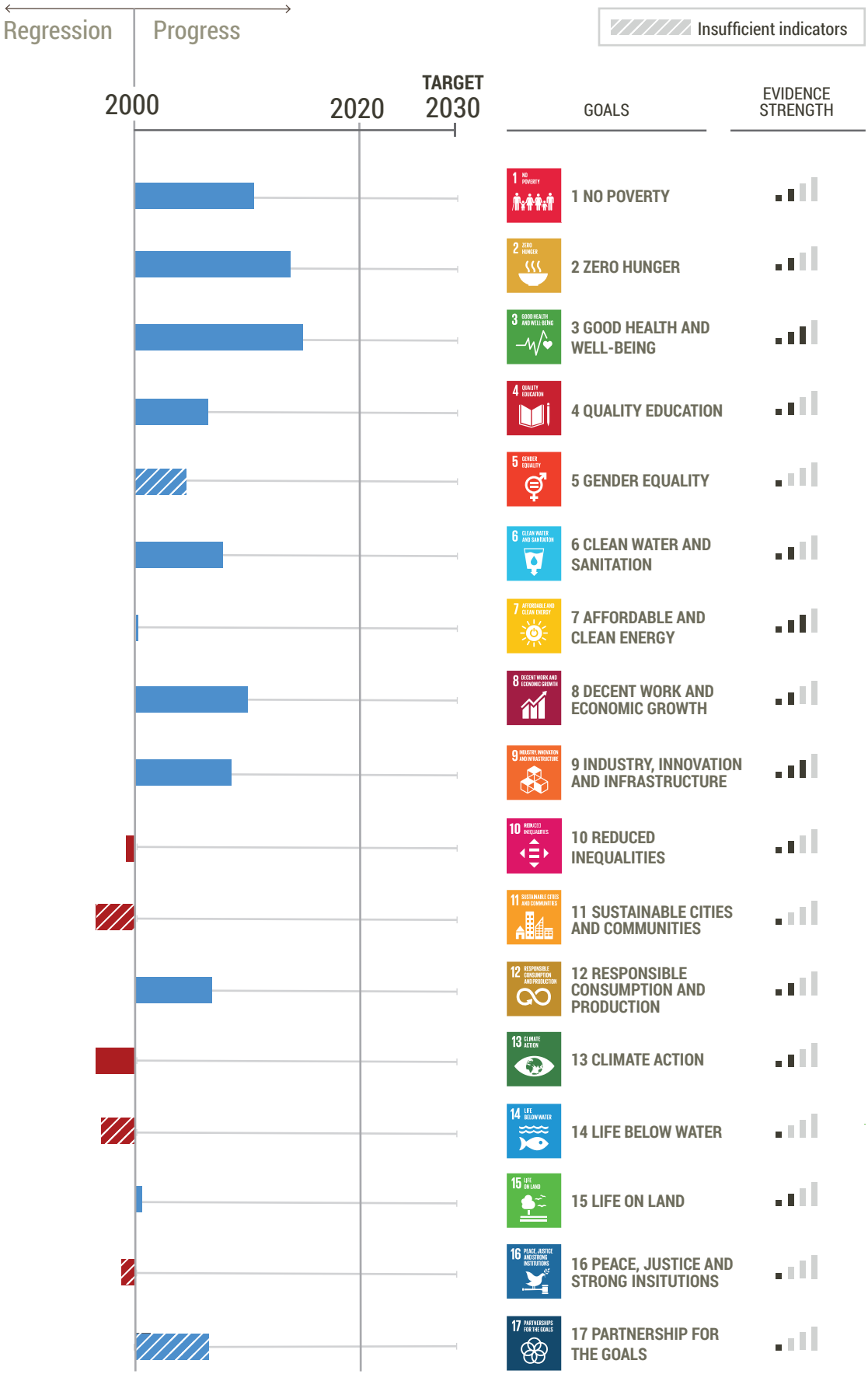
REVERSE trend

- 1.1.1 International poverty
- 1.2.1 National poverty
- 1.4.1 Access to basic water and sanitation services
- 3.1.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel
- 3.2.1 Under-five mortality
- 3.2.2 Neonatal mortality
- 3.3.1 HIV infections
- 3.3.3 Malaria
- 3.9.3 Unintentional poisoning
- 3.b.1 Population covered by all vaccines in national progra
- 4.3.1 Formal and non-formal education and training
- 6.4.2 Water stress
- 6.b.1 Policies and procedures for participative water and sanitation management
- 8.1.P1 Real GDP per capita growth rate
- 8.2.P1 Real GDP per employed person growth rate
- 9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume
- 9.2.1 Manufacturing value added
- 9.4.1 CO_2 emissions per unit of manufacturing value added
- 9.b.1 Medium and high-tech industry value added
- 9.c.1 Population covered by a mobile network
- 15.1.1 Forest area
- 17.1.2 Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes



SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST ASIA

Snapshot of SDG progress in South and South-West Asia, 2020



Anticipated progress on SDG targets in South and South-West Asia

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- 3.8 Universal health coverage

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- 15.a Resources for biodiversity & ecosystems
- 15.b Resources for forest management
- 15.c Protected species trafficking (global)

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- 17.14 Policy coherence for SD
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- 17.16 Global partnership for SD
- 17.17 Partnerships (public, private, CSO)
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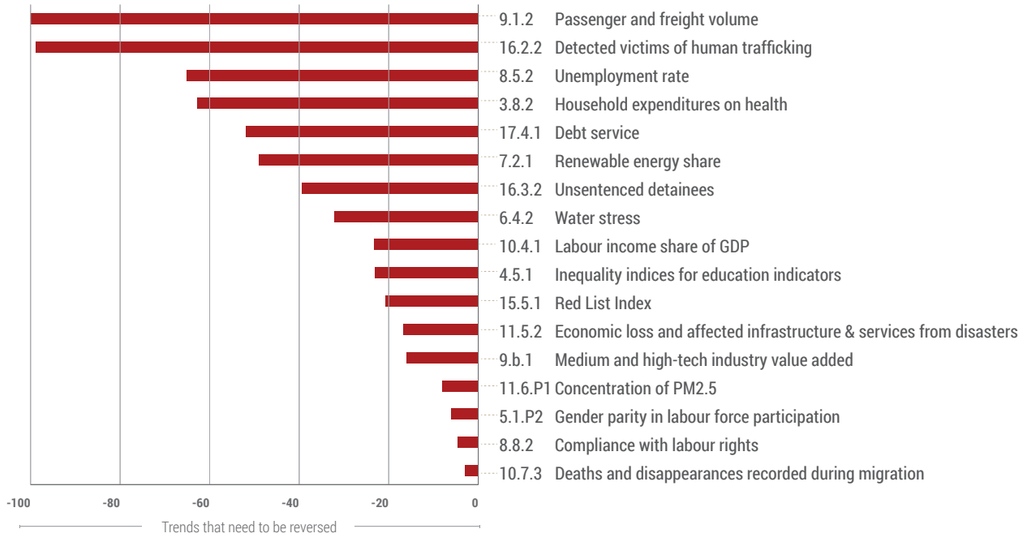
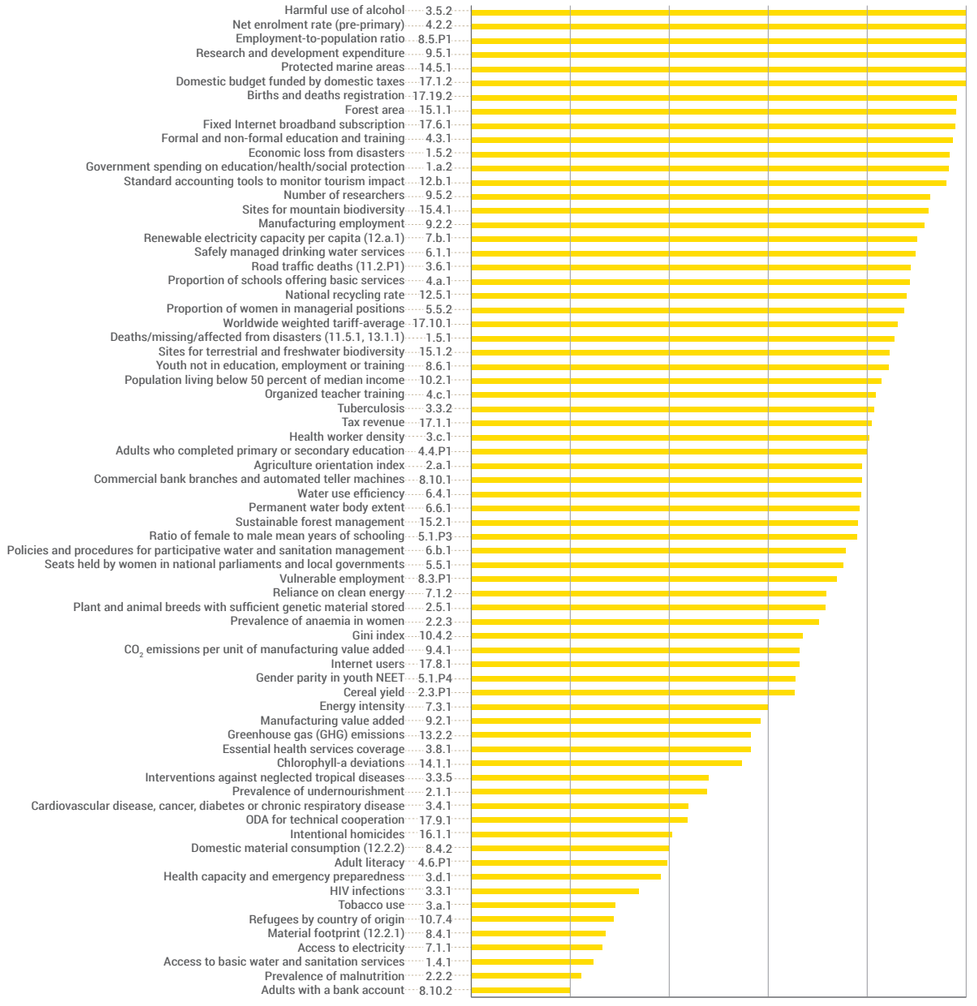
- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend
- Insufficient data to measure

Anticipated progress gaps by 2030 in South and South-West Asia

- ON-TRACK indicators
- ACCELERATE progress
- REVERSE trend

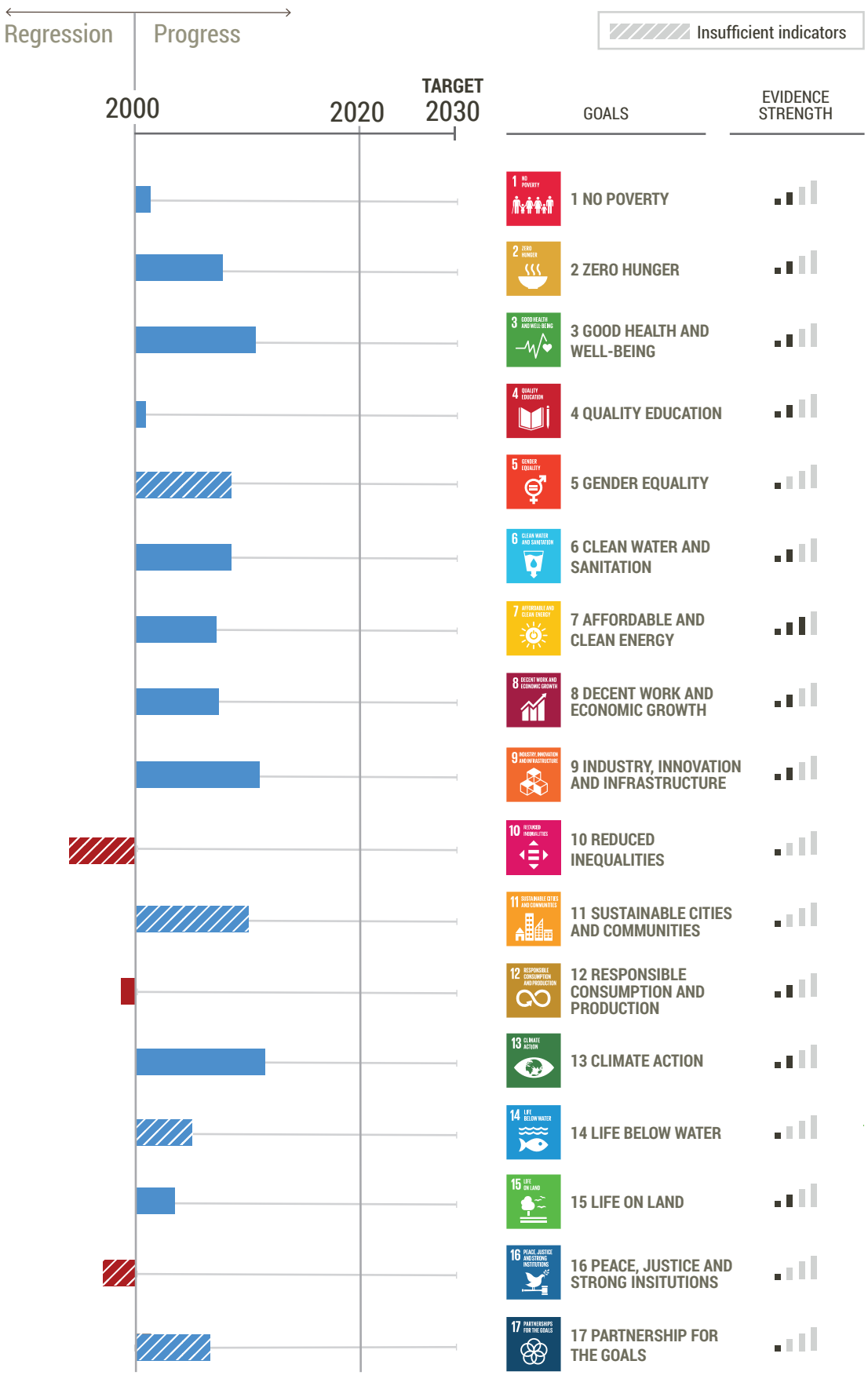
- 1.1.1 International poverty
- 1.2.1 National poverty
- 2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting
- 2.4.P1 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture
- 3.1.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel
- 3.2.1 Under-five mortality
- 3.2.2 Neonatal mortality
- 3.3.3 Malaria
- 3.4.2 Suicides
- 3.7.2 Adolescent births
- 3.9.3 Unintentional poisoning
- 3.b.1 Population covered by all vaccines in national progra
- 6.2.1 Open defecation and handwashing
- 8.1.P1 Real GDP per capita growth rate
- 8.2.P1 Real GDP per employed person growth rate
- 9.c.1 Population covered by a mobile network
- 16.6.1 Government expenditure as share of budget





PACIFIC

Snapshot of SDG progress in the Pacific, 2020



Anticipated progress on SDG targets in the Pacific

NO POVERTY
- 1.4 Access to basic services
- 1.5 Resilience to disasters
- 1.a Resources for poverty programs
- 1.1 International poverty
- 1.2 National poverty
- 1.3 Social protection
- 1.a Poverty eradication policies

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- 9.1 Infrastructure development
- 9.c Access to ICT & the Internet
- 9.2 Sustainable/inclusive industrialization
- 9.3 Small-scale inductries acces to finance
- 9.4 Sustainable & clean industries
- 9.5 Research and development
- 9.a Resilient infrastructure
- 9.b Domestic technology development

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
- ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
- REVERSE trend
- Insufficient data to measure

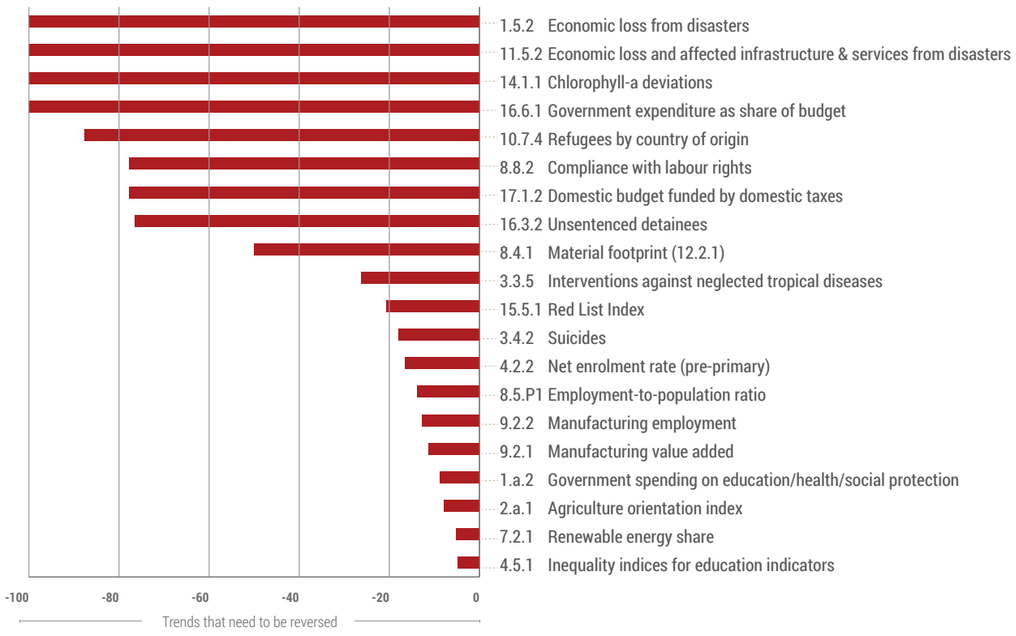
Anticipated progress gaps by 2030 in the Pacific

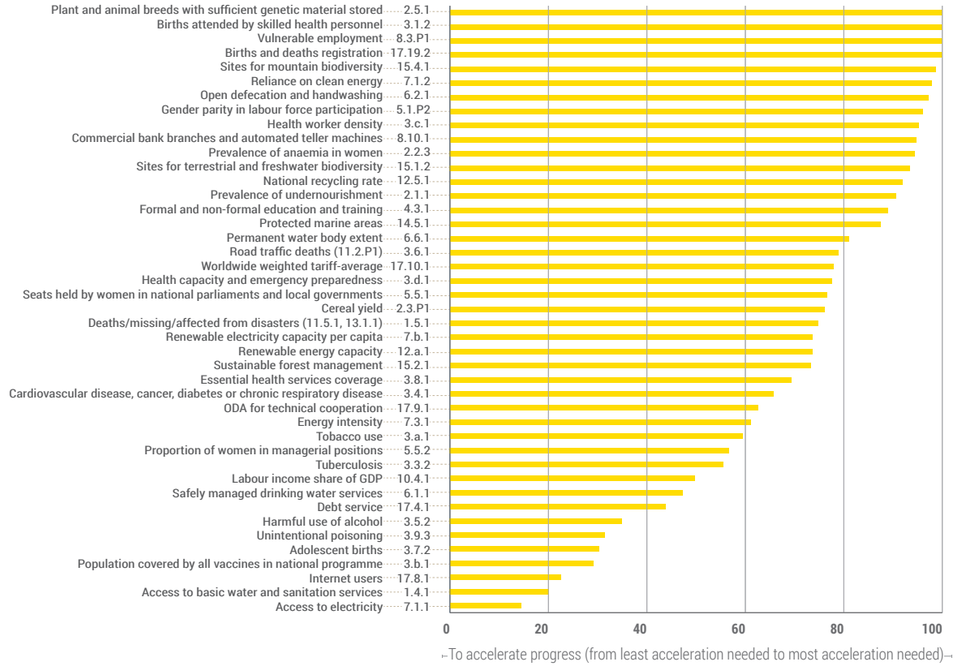
ON-TRACK indicators

ACCELERATE progress

REVERSE trend

- 2.4.P1 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture
- 3.1.1 Maternal mortality
- 3.2.1 Under-five mortality
- 3.2.2 Neonatal mortality
- 8.1.P1 Real GDP per capita growth rate
- 8.2.P1 Real GDP per employed person growth rate
- 8.4.2 Domestic material consumption (12.2.2)
- 9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume
- 9.c.1 Population covered by a mobile network
- 11.6.P1 Concentration of PM2.5
- 13.2.2 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- 15.1.1 Forest area
- 17.1.1 Tax revenue





Annex 2
Technical notes

Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress assessment is based on the global indicator framework for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2017. Subregional and regional indicator values were compiled from the ESCAP online statistical database.[46] When sufficient data on a defined SDG indicator are not available, the report uses additional indicators from internationally recognized sources. Information on country groupings and definitions of indicators are available on the ESCAP website.[47] Median value of indicators at the regional and subregional levels are used instead of weighted aggregates to avoid bias towards bigger countries/ economies. This section provides basic information on the methods used for SDG progress assessment. More detailed discussions are provided on the Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway (https://data.unescap.org/).[48]

Selection of indicators

Indicators are selected based on three criteria: :

1. Availability of two or more data points for more than 50 per cent of the countries in the corresponding region or subregion;
2. Ability to set a transparent target value;
3. The metadata are clear and well-explained.

If any indicator fails to fulfil any of these criteria, it is excluded from the analysis.

Measures for tracking progress

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

1. Current Status Index: How much progress has been made since 2000?
2. Anticipated Progress Index: How likely will the targets be achieved by 2030?

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

In an ideal situation, data would be available for all indicators associated with each goal and the Current Status Index would provide a robust measure comparable across all 17 goals. However, regional data are available for fewer than 42 per cent of the defined SDG indicators, and coverage is uneven across the 17 goals. Since the assessment is sensitive to the addition of new indicators, the results must be interpreted with caution. The number of indicators and availability of data have substantially increased since the previous edition of this Report, thus the results of this analysis should not be compared with those of previous years.

Current Status Index

Given a specified SDG target value *TV* for each indicator *I*, the values for the current year I_{cv} and the year 2000 I_0 can be used to measure the progress made since 2000, in relation to the progress needed to reach the SDG target by 2030. The Current Status Index is constructed in two steps.

Step 1: A metric is developed for each indicator to measure the progress made (represented by the blue bar in figure 1), which can be compared with the entire progress needed from 2000 to 2030.

Step 2: The metrics computed in step 1 are combined into an index of the “average progress made” and the “average progress required” on a fixed scale. Denoting indicator values for 2000 and the current year by I_0 and I_{cv} and the target value for 2030 by *TV*, and setting the normalized

46 See https://dataexplorer.unescap.org/.

47 See https://data.unescap.org/stories/escap-database.

48 See https://data.unescap.org/resource-guides/progress-assessment-methodology.

values of the indicator at 2000 and 2030 at 0 and 10, respectively, the normalized value for the indicator at the current year on the scale of 0 to 10 can be calculated as:

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

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

For parity indicators, the value is:

$$I_{cv}^{N} = \frac{I_{cv} - I_0}{|TV - I_0|} \times D \quad in\ which$$

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

If the region (or subregion) has progressed since 2000, the average overall normalized values under each goal provide an index between 0 and 10. But if the region has regressed, the value is negative and indicates the size of regression.

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

Anticipated Progress Index

This index compares predicted (anticipated) progress with targeted progress. By predicting the indicator value for the target year and benchmarking the predicted value against the target value, the index provides a measure of how much progress towards the target will still be required by the end of the target year (2030), assuming the pace of progress is sustained. This can be interpreted as an anticipated gap in the target. Denoting the predicted value of indicator *I* for the target year by I_t, and value in the base year by I_b, one can approximate the progress gap by *P* when no regression has occurred, and by 100 – *P* when the indicator value has regressed since the base year. If a desirable direction is clear from the target, the value of *P* is defined as:

$$P = \frac{|TV - I_t|}{|TV - I_b|} \times 100$$

In the case of parity indicators, we consider no regression has occurred if:

$$|TV - I_t| \leq |TV - I_b|$$

The Anticipated Progress Index is only calculated for indicators that are not expected to achieve the target. When the predicted value has already reached or exceeded the target or is expected to reach the target by 2030, the indicator is automatically classified as "will be achieved" and the Anticipated Progress Index is set to 0.

Based on expected progress, the value of *P* ranges from 0 to 100. If there is a predicted regression from the current level, *P* will be greater than 100. *P* may be interpreted as the extra effort or acceleration needed to meet the target when the value is less than or equal to 100, and 100 – *P* is the size of regression when *P* is greater than 100. Indicators are classified into three predefined achievement levels:

$$\begin{cases} 0 \leq P \leq 10 & (Will\ meet\ the\ target\ with\ current\ rate\ or\ minor\ extra\ effort) \\ 10 < P \leq 100 & (Need\ to\ accelerate\ the\ current\ rate\ of\ progress\ to\ achieve\ the\ target) \\ P > 100 & (Regression\ or\ no\ progress\ expected) \end{cases}$$

Aggregation

In total, 134 indicators are used to compute the Current Status Index for SDG progress assessment in 2020. Of these, however, 10 indicators did not provide sufficient data for 2030 predictions and were not used for Anticipated Progress Index calculations. When more than one variation for an indicator exists (for example health worker density), all variants are used in calculations. Each variant of an indicator is weighted such that the sum of the weights under each indicator is 1. Finally, a weighted average of the progress indices is computed as a progress index for that indicator.

Disaggregated statistics

Disaggregation by sex, location or combination of age and sex was available for 24 indicators. To take disaggregated statistics into account, a vulnerable group for each indicator was identified as the group that had made slower progress than the entire reference population. For instance, if

the unemployment rate has decreased by 3 per cent since 2000 among an entire labour force population and this rate is 4 per cent among males and 2.5 per cent among females, then the female group is considered vulnerable. Under each indicator, the series for vulnerable groups and other series (the series for total population or other types of the indicator) are weighted so the sum of weights is 1 for each indicator. By counting for vulnerable groups, progress on each indicator is penalized for slow progress of one or more subpopulations.

In applying both measures of tracking progress at the indicator level, an acceptance threshold of minimum 2 per cent change was considered for progress/regression. In other words, only if overall change over the period was more than a 2 per cent increase or decrease (depending on the actual and desired direction of change), the change was accepted.

Extrapolation methods

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

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

$T=t_n - t_1$ where t_n and t_1 are the latest and the earliest years, respectively, for which data on indicator I are available. The time-related weights work as multipliers that inflate/deflate the rate of change in each period in proportion to its temporal distance to the target year *t*. The time-related weight for the ith data points for a given country/region for estimating indicator values of the year is:

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

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

Setting regional target values

Of 169 SDG targets, only 30 per cent have specific (implicit or explicit) target values. For the rest, this report sets target values using a "champion area" approach. This is based on what has been feasible in the past and optimizes the use of available data. The idea is to identify the top performers in the region and set their average rate of change as the region's target rate. If we imagine all the top performers for one specific indicator as belonging to one hypothetical area, this can be labelled as the region's champion area whose rate of change equals the average for the top performers. This can then be considered the target rate for the region. In other words, if the region as a whole can perform as well as its champion area over the 15 years from 2015 to 2030, we should expect to achieve the target value. Subsequently, the universal target value for the region can be derived by applying the rate of change in the champion area to the regional value in the base year. In this report, the regional value is the median value of the indicator over all countries for which data are available.

The main challenge with the champion area approach arises when dealing with two types of indicators:

type i: Indicators for which there are insufficient data to estimate the rate of change at the country level.

type ii: Indicators for which most the countries started from a very low level and made such rapid progress over the past 15 years that the observed growth rate cannot reasonably be applied to the future. Examples of this include the proportion of parliamentary seats held by women, the proportion of marine areas protected and the percentage of the population using the Internet. These rapid changes may have been due to technological

advances, exploitation of untapped resources, or a paradigm shift brought about by a development agenda such as Millennium Development Goals.

For these two types of indicators, an alternative approach is taken. Rather than using the rate of change, the top five performers are identified based on the latest available data. The target value for the champion area is then the average value for those five countries – using the largest or smallest values depending on whether the desirable direction of change is an increase or a decrease. Before identifying the top five performers, outliers were dropped to avoid bias.

Assume we set a target value for an indicator.

Case 1. At least two data points are available since 2000 for a number of countries that show a diverse range of changes. In this case, the earliest and latest available data for the five countries with the highest rates of change are used to calculate the average annual rate of change over the five highest rates of increase/decrease.

The rate of change r is calculated in two steps: The first step is to estimate the geometric mean of average annual growth rate for each country based on the earliest and the latest indicator values. The second step is to take a geometric mean over the top five rates of change. It is often the case that one or a few countries experienced exceptional growth. These outlier countries are dropped from calculations in order to ensure the target based on the average of the top five performers is realistic and achievable, yet aspirational for the rest of the countries.

Case 2. For indicators for which there are insufficient data to estimate country-level rates of change, the latest data for each country are used to calculate the target value.

Target value: Average over indicator values for the five countries with the largest or smallest values depending on whether the desirable change is an increase or a decrease, respectively (after dropping outliers as in case 1).

Finally, the target value for the indicator is calculated as:

$$TV = \begin{cases} tv & Indicators\ of\ type\ (i)\ and\ (ii) \\ (1+r)^{15} \times I_{2015} & other\ indicators \end{cases}$$

When unavailable, the indicator value for the base year (I_{2015}) can be estimated by applying an appropriate extrapolation method (as described above).

Evidence strength - sufficiency of indicators at goal level

Due to limitations on the availability of indicators, the results aggregated at the goal level are based on a percentage of the total global SDG indicators along with indicators from internationally recognized sources. While the latter are not intended to substitute the former, they shed light on targets where otherwise no analysis would have been possible. Therefore, they are taken into consideration when assessing the completeness of the evidence at the goal level. The strength of the used evidence is thus defined as the following ratio:

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

Where T_{Global}, T_{Used} and P_{Used} represent, respectively, the total number of indicators in the global SDG framework, the number of global SDG indicators used in the calculations, and the number of indicators from widely recognized international data sources used.

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

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

Annex 3
Table of indicators used for progress assessment

The list of SDG indicators that have been used in the analysis along with respective target values and source of data. Indicators available in the Global SDG Database are marked with "SDG" as the source, whereas indicators obtained from other sources have the name of the organization noted in the source column.

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
Goal 1			
International poverty	SDG	1.1.1 Proportion of population living on less than US$1.90 a day, % of employment [by sex, age and employment status]	0
National poverty	SDG	1.2.1 Percentage of population living below the national poverty line [by urbanization]	7
Social protection	SDG	1.3.1 Population covered by, % of population	
		- Social assistance programmes [by income/wealth quintile]	87.2
		- Social insurance programmes [by income/wealth quintile]	31.3
		- Unemployment benefit	100
		- Pension	100
Access to basic water and sanitation services	SDG	1.4.1 Population using basic drinking water and sanitation services, Percentage [by urbanization]	100
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, Per 100,000 population	0
Economic loss from disasters	SDG	1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters, Million USD	0
Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies	SDG	1.5.3 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, Index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies †† **	SDG	1.5.4 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies, Percentage	100
ODA grants for poverty reduction (LDCs) **	SDG	1.a.1 Official development assistance grants for poverty reduction (in Least Developed Countries), % of GNI	(2)
Government spending on education and health	SDG	1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services, % of government expenditure	
		- Education	25.5
		- Health	23.8

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
Goal 2			
Prevalence of undernourishment	SDG	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment, % of population	0
Moderate or severe food insecurity in the population	SDG	2.1.2 Moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, % of population [by sex]	6.3
Prevalence of stunting	SDG	2.2.1 Children moderately or severely stunted, % of children under 5	(0.6)
Prevalence of malnutrition	SDG	2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition, % of children under 5 [moderately or severely overweight, moderately or severely wasted]	5
Prevalence of anaemia in women	SDG	2.2.3 Prevalence of anaemia in women, % of women [by pregnancy status]	(0.5)
Cereal yield	FAO	2.3.P1 Cereal yield, kg per hectare	5500
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture	FAO	2.4.P1 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture, Tons per 1,000 (2010) USD GDP from agriculture	0.9
Plant and animal breeds with sufficient genetic material stored	SDG	2.5.1 Breeds for which sufficient genetic resources are stored, Number - Plants - Animals, regional total	 (1.5) 101
Agriculture orientation index	SDG	2.a.1 Agriculture orientation index, Index	1
Flows to agriculture sector (LDCs) **	SDG	2.a.2 Official flows to the agriculture sector by recipient (in Least Developed Countries), Million 2018 US dollars	(2)
Consumer food price index††	SDG	2.c.1 Consumer food price index	0
Goal 3			
Maternal mortality	SDG	3.1.1 Maternal mortality, Deaths per 100 000 live births	70
Births attended by skilled health personnel	SDG	3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel, % of live births	100
Under-five mortality	SDG	3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate, Deaths per 1 000 live births [by sex] - Under-five - Infant	 25 14.2
Neonatal mortality	SDG	3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate, Deaths per 1,000 live births	12
HIV infections	SDG	3.3.1 New HIV infections, Per 100,000 population [by age and sex]	0
Tuberculosis	SDG	3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence rate, Per 100,000 population	0
Malaria	SDG	3.3.3 Malaria incidence rate, Per 1,000 population at risk	0
Interventions against neglected tropical diseases	SDG	3.3.5 People requiring interventions against NTD, Thousand people	0
Cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease	SDG	3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases, Probability (%) [by sex]	(0.6)
Suicides	SDG	3.4.2 Suicide, Per 100,000 population [by sex]	4.3
Harmful use of alcohol	SDG	3.5.2 Alcohol per capita consumption, Litres per annum	2.1
Road traffic deaths	SDG	3.6.1 Road traffic deaths, Per 100,000 population	7.8

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
Family planning satisfied with modern methods **	SDG	3.7.1 Demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods, % of women of reproductive age	100
Adolescent births	SDG	3.7.2 Adolescent fertility rate, Live births per 1 000 women (aged 15-19)	13
Essential health services coverage	SDG	3.8.1 Universal health coverage, Index	100
Household expenditures on health	SDG	3.8.2 Population with large household expenditure on health, % of population More than 10% More than 25%	 5.2 1.1
Unintentional poisoning	SDG	3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning, Per 100 000 population [by sex]	0.3
Tobacco use	SDG	3.a.1 Prevalence of current tobacco use, % of population aged 15 and above [by sex]	14.2
Population covered by all vaccines in national programme	SDG	3.b.1 Target population with access to vaccines, % of population, 3 doses vaccination against diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DPT3); Pneumococcal conjugate 3rd dose vaccination (PCV3); Measles (MCV2)	100
ODA to medical research and basic health sectors (LDCs) **	SDG	3.b.2 Official development assistance to medical research and basic heath sectors (in Least Developed Countries), total gross disbursement, by recipient, Million 2018 US dollars	(2)
Health worker density	SDG	3.c.1 Health worker density, per 10,000 population - Dentistry personnel - Nursing and midwifery personnel - Pharmaceutical personnel - Physicians	 8.2 74.8 6.5 23.1
Health capacity and emergency preparedness	SDG	3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) average of 13 components, Index=-	100
Goal 4			
Minimum proficiency in reading and maths	SDG	4.1.1 Minimum proficiency for lower secondary, Percentage [by sex] - Mathematics - Reading	 91.7 89
Completion rate **	SDG	4.1.2 Completion rate in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary, Percentage [by sex, urbanization, income/wealth quantile]	100
Net enrolment rate (pre-primary)	SDG	4.2.2 Adjusted net enrolment rate (one year before the official primary entry age), Percentage [by sex]	100
Formal and non-formal education and training	SDG	4.3.1 Proportion of 15- to 24-year-olds enrolled in vocational secondary education, Percentage [by sex]	3.2
Adults who completed primary or secondary education	UNESCO	4.4.P1 Educational attainment, Percentage [by sex] - Completed primary education or higher - Completed upper secondary education or higher	 100 91
Inequality indices for education indicators	SDG	4.5.1 Gender parity indices, female-to-male ratio - Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age)	1

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
		- Teachers in pre-primary, primary, lower secondary, and upper secondary education who are trained - Completion rate in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary (by gender, urbanization, wealth quintile) - Adult literacy rate	
Adult literacy	UNESCO	4.6.P1 Adult literacy rate, % of population aged 15 and above [by sex]	100
Proportion of schools offering basic services	SDG	4.a.1 Schools with access to electricity, computers for pedagogical purposes, basic drinking water, internet for pedagogical purposes, single-sex basic sanitation, in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels	100
ODA for scholarships (LDCs) **	SDG	4.b.1 Volume of ODA flows for scholarships (in Least Developed Countries), Million 2018 USD	(2)
Organized teacher training	SDG	4.c.1 Trained teachers in pre-primary, primary, lower secondary and upper secondary education, Percentage [by sex]	100
Goal 5			
Gender wage gap	ILO	5.1.P1 Gender wage gap, employees, Percentage	0
Gender parity in labour force participation	ILO	5.1.P2 Labour force participation (aged 25+), Female-to-male ratio	1
Ratio of female to male mean years of schooling	SDG§	5.1.P3 Mean years of schooling, population 25+ year, Female-to-male ratio	1
Gender parity in youth labour force	SDG§	5.1.P4 Not in Employment, Education, Training (NEET), Female-to-male ratio	1
Seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments	SDG	5.5.1 Seats held by women in national parliament, % of seats	30.9
Proportion of women in managerial positions	SDG	5.5.2 Women share of employment in managerial position, Percentage	50
Goal 6			
Safely managed drinking water services	SDG	6.1.1 Population using safely managed drinking water, % of population [by urbanization]	100
Open defecation and handwashing	SDG	6.2.1 Population practicing open defecation, % of population [by urbanization] Population with basic handwashing facilities on premises, % of population [by urbanization]	0 100
Water use efficiency	SDG	6.4.1 Water use efficiency, USD/M3	(2.9)
Water stress	SDG	6.4.2 Total freshwater withdrawal, % of total renewable water per annum	24
Permanent water body extent	SDG	6.6.1 Water body extent, % of land area Permanent Permanent and maybe permanent	 1.6 1.4
ODA to water and sanitation (LDCs) **	SDG	6.a.1 ODA to water and sanitation (in Least Developed Countries), Million 2018 US dollars	(2)
Policies and procedures for participative water and sanitation management	SDG	6.b.1 Countries with procedures in law or policy for participation by service users/communities in planning program: rural drinking-water supply, 10 = Clearly defined; 5 = Not clearly defined; 0 = N/A Countries with users/communities participating in planning programs in rural drinking-water supply, 3 = High; 2 = Moderate; 1 = Low; 0 = N/A	10 3

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
Goal 7			
Access to electricity	SDG	7.1.1 Access to electricity, % of population [by urbanization]	100
Reliance on clean energy	SDG	7.1.2 Population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies, % of population	100
Renewable energy share	SDG	7.2.1 Renewable energy share, % of total final energy consumption	58.8
Energy intensity	SDG	7.3.1 Energy intensity (2011 PPP), Megajoules per unit of GDP in 2011 PPP	2
International support for clean and renewable energy (LDCs) **	SDG	7.a.1 International support for clean energy and renewable energy (in Least Developed Countries), Million 2017 US dollars	(2)
Renewable electricity capacity	SDG	7.b.1 Renewable electricity capacity, Kilowatts per capita	468
Goal 8			
Real GDP per capita growth rate (LDCs) **	SDG	8.1.1 GDP per capita growth rate (2015 USD, average annual, in Least Developed Countries), % change per capita per annum	7
Real GDP per capita growth rate	SDG	8.1.P1 GDP per capita growth rate (2015 USD, average annual), % change per capita per annum	0
Real GDP per employed person growth rate (LDCs) **	SDG	8.2.1 GDP per employed person (in Least Developed Countries), % change per annum	5.3
Real GDP per employed person growth rate	SDG	8.2.P1 GDP per employed person, % change per annum	0
Vulnerable employment	ILO	8.3.P1 Vulnerable employment, % of total employment [by sex]	30.8
Material Footprint	SDG-UNEP	8.4.1 Material Footprint - Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP - Tons per capita	 1.3 6.6
Domestic material consumption	SDG	8.4.2 Domestic material consumption - Intensity, Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP - Tons per capita	 1.1 6.6
Unemployment rate	SDG	8.5.2 Unemployment rate (15+ years), % of labour force [by sex, age]	2.6
Employment-to-population ratio	ILO	8.5.P1 Employment-to-population ratio, total, % of population aged 15 and above [by sex, age]	62.8
Youth not in education, employment or training	SDG	8.6.1 Not in Employment, Education, Training (NEET), % of population aged 15-24 [by sex]	13.9
Occupational injuries	SDG	8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injury, Cases per year per 100,000 workers	0
Compliance with labour rights	SDG	8.8.2 Level of national compliance with labour rights, Score from 0 (better) to 10 (worse)	0
Commercial bank branches and automated teller machines	SDG	8.10.1 Access to banking, insurance and financial service, Per 100,000 adults Number of automated teller machines (ATMs) Number of commercial bank branches	 200 42
Adults with a bank account	SDG	8.10.2 Adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank, % of population [by sex]	100

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
Aid for Trade (LDCs) **	SDG	8.a.1 Total official flows (commitments) for Aid for trade by recipient (in Least Developed Countries), Million 2018 US dollars	(2)
Goal 9			
Passenger and freight volume	SDG-WB	9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume Air transport freight, Million ton-km Container port traffic, maritime transport, Million TEU	 (1.5) (2.2)
Manufacturing value added	SDG	9.2.1 GDP by activity: Manufacturing, - % of GDP - 2015 US dollars per capita	 14.1 820
Manufacturing employment	SDG	9.2.2 Manufacturing employment, % of total employment	20.9
Small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit †† **	SDG	9.3.2 Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit, Percentage	38.3
CO_2 emissions per unit of manufacturing value added	SDG	9.4.1 Carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions per unit of manufacturing value added, Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP	0.3
Research and development expenditure	SDG	9.5.1 Gross domestic expenditure on research and development, % of GDP	0.8
Number of researchers	SDG	9.5.2 Researchers, full-time equivalents, Per million inhabitants	3000
Total official flows for infrastructure (LDCs) **	SDG	9.a.1 Total official flows for infrastructure, by recipient (in Least Developed Countries), Million 2018 US dollars	(2)
Medium and high-tech industry value added	SDG	9.b.1 Medium and high-tech industry value added, % of total value added	30
Population covered by a mobile network	SDG	9.c.1 Population covered by at least 2G, 3G and 4G mobile networks, % of population	100
Goal 10			
Population living below 50 percent of median income	SDG	10.2.1 Population living below 50 percent of median income, % of population	4.4
Labour income share of GDP	SDG-ILO	10.4.1 Labour income share of GDP, % of GDP	55.2
Gini index	SDG-WB	10.4.2 Gini index, Income equality coefficient	29.5
Deaths and disappearances recorded during migration	SDG	10.7.3 Deaths and disappearances recorded during migration, Number of people	0
Refugees by country of origin	SDG	10.7.4 Population who are refugees, by country of origin, Per 100,000 population	0
Tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff (LDCs) **	SDG	10.a.1 Tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff, all products (in Least Developed Countries), Percentage	77.3
Total resource flows for development (LDCs and DAC members) **	SDG, UNCTAD	10.b.1 Total assistance for development, by recipient (in Least Developed Countries), by donor (in Development Assistance Committee members), Million US dollars FDI inflows (in Least Developed Countries), % of GDP	(2) (1.5)
Remittance costs **	SDG	10.c.1 Remittance cost as a proportion of the amount remitted, Percentage	3
Goal 11			
Urban slum population **	SDG	11.1.1 Urban slum population, % of urban population	17.8
Road traffic deaths	SDG§	11.2.P1 Road traffic deaths, Per 100,000 population	7.8

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, Number	0
Economic loss and affected infrastructure & services from disasters	SDG	11.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters, Million USD, and damaged critical infrastructure and disruptions to basic services attributed to disasters, Number	0
Concentration of PM2.5	WB	11.6.P1 Annual mean concentration of PM2.5, Micrograms per m3 Population exposed to PM2.5 air pollution at levels exceeding WHO Interim Target-2 guidelines (25 microgram per cm3), % of population	12 44.6
Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies	SDG	11.b.1 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, Index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies †† **	SDG	11.b.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies, Percentage	100
Goal 12			
Material Footprint	SDG-UNEP	12.2.1 Material Footprint - Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP - Tons per capita	 1.3 6.6
Domestic material consumption	SDG	12.2.2 Domestic material consumption - Intensity, Kg per 1 USD (2010) GDP - Tons per capita	 1.1 6.6
Compliance with hazardous waste conventions ††	SDG	12.4.1 Compliance with hazardous waste conventions, average of Basel/ Montreal/Stockholm/Rotterdam conventions, Percentage	100
Hazardous waste generated/treated **	SDG	12.4.2 Hazardous waste generated, Kg per capita	27
National recycling rate	SDG	12.5.1 Electronic waste recycling, Kg per capita	20.6
Renewable energy capacity	SDG-IRENA	12.a.1 Renewable electricity capacity, Kilowatts per capita	468.4
Standard accounting tools to monitor tourism impact	SDG	12.b.1 Implementation of standard accounting tools to monitor the economic and environmental aspects of tourism, Number - Tourism Satellite Account tables - SEEA tables	 7 4
Fossil-fuel subsidies **	SDG	12.c.1 Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies (consumption and production), % of GDP	0
Goal 13			
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, Number	0
Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies	SDG	13.1.2 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, Index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies †† **	SDG	13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies, Percentage	100
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	SDG-UNFCCC	13.2.2 Total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
		Percentage change per annum, 3-years moving average	-1.3
		Million metric tons of CO_2 equivalent	(1)
Goal 14			
Chlorophyll-a deviations	SDG	14.1.1 Chlorophyll-a deviations, remote sensing, Percentage	0
Protected marine areas	SDG	14.5.1 Proportion of marine key biodiversity areas covered by protected area status, Percentage	75
Sustainable fisheries **	SDG	14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP, % of GDP	(1.5)
Goal 15			
Forest area	SDG	15.1.1 Forest area, % of land area	45.5
Sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity	SDG	15.1.2 Important sites that are covered by protected areas, Percentage	
		For fresh water biodiversity	43.6
		For terrestrial biodiversity	91.4
Sustainable forest management	SDG	15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management	
		Forest area net change rate, Percentage	0.7
		Forest area with a long-term management plan, Percentage	58.9
		Forest area within legally established protected area, Percentage	19.8
		Above ground biomass in forest, Tons per hectare	127.3
Sites for mountain biodiversity	SDG	15.4.1 Important sites for mountain biodiversity, Percentage	93.3
Red List Index	SDG	15.5.1 Red list index total, Index	1
Frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources††	SDG	15.6.1 Frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources, Yes (1)/No (0), Number of countries or territories	
		- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA), contracting party	58
		- Leg., admin./policy framework reported through Online Reporting Sys. on Compliance of the Int. Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food & Agriculture	58
		- Legislation, Regulation, Act related to the prevention of introduction and management of Invasive Alien Species	58
ODA for biodiversity (LDCs and DAC members) **	SDG	15.a.1 Total ODA for biodiversity by recipient (in Least Developed Countries), by donor (in Development Assistance Committee members), Million 2018 US dollars	(2)
ODA for biodiversity (LDCs and DAC members) **	SDG	15.b.1 Total ODA for biodiversity by recipient (in Least Developed Countries), by donor (in Development Assistance Committee members), Million 2018 US dollars	(2)
Goal 16			
Intentional homicides	SDG	16.1.1 Victims of intentional homicide, Number [by sex]	(0.6)
Detected victims of human trafficking	SDG	16.2.2 Detected victims of human trafficking	0
Unsentenced detainees	SDG	16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees (Pre-trial), Number	0
Bribery †† **	SDG	16.5.2 Bribery incidence (business asked for bribery), Percentage	3.7

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (Rate) †
Government expenditure	SDG	16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as share of original approved budget, Percentage	100
National Human Rights institutions †† **	SDG	16.a.1 National Human Rights Institutions compliance score (0: compliant; 1=not fully compliant; 2: non-compliant; 3: no application for accreditation) with the Paris Principles	0
Internally displaced persons†† **	UNHCR	16.b.P1 Internally displaced persons, Thousand people	0
Goal 17			
Tax revenue	SDG	17.1.1 Government revenue (budgetary central government), % of GDP	42.1
Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	SDG	17.1.2 Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes, % of GDP	71.3
ODA from OECD-DAC †† **	SDG	17.2.1 ODA from OECD-DAC members, % of GNI - To Least Developed Countries - To all countries	 0.2 0.7
FDI inflows (LDCs) **	UNCTAD	17.3.1 FDI inflows (in Least Developed Countries), % of GDP	(1.5)
Personal remittances (LDCs) **	SDG	17.3.2 Personal remittances received (in Least Developed Countries), % of GDP	6.5
Debt service	SDG	17.4.1 Debt service, % of exports of goods, services and primary income	0.8
Fixed Internet broadband subscription	SDG	17.6.2 Fixed-broadband equal to or above 10 Mbit/s subscriptions, Per 100 population	100
Internet users	SDG	17.8.1 Internet users, % of population	100
ODA for technical cooperation	SDG	17.9.1 Official development assistance (gross disbursement) for technical cooperation, Million 2018 USD	(2)
Worldwide weighted tariff-average	SDG	17.10.1 Tariff rate for LDCs under most favoured nation and preferential rate, all products, Percentage	0
Exports of commercial services (LDCs) **	SDG-WTO	17.11.1 Exports from LDCs for commercial services and merchandise, % of world services exports	(2)
Average tariff applied by developed countries (LDCs) **	SDG	17.12.1 Average tariff rate for LDCs applied by developed countries under most-favoured nation and preferential rate, all products, Percentage	0
Births and deaths registration	SDG	17.19.2 Births registration data at least 90% complete, and deaths registration data at least 75% complete, Number of countries or territories	58

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

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

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

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

Annex 4
Countries in the Asia-Pacific region and subregions

The following table provides the regional and subregional groupings of ESCAP Member States and Associate Members used in this analysis.

REGION: ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

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

SUBREGION: EAST AND NORTH-EAST ASIA (ENEA)

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

SUBREGION: NORTH CENTRAL ASIA (NCA)

Armenia*, Azerbaijan*, Georgia*, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation*, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

SUBREGION: THE PACIFIC (PACIFIC)

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

SUBREGION: SOUTH-EAST ASIA (SEA)

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

SUBREGION: SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST ASIA (SSWA)

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Turkey*

Note: Countries/economies denoted by * are excluded from regional and subregional groupings in the analysis by UNESCO, presented in section 3.2.2. In addition, Tokelau is included in the Asia and the Pacific region and the Pacific subregion as per the UNESCO grouping, although it is not a member of ESCAP.

Annex 5
Explanatory notes for UNFPA and UNICEF analyses presented in Part III

Figure 3.1

Data from following countries were included in the analysis: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste.

Values are taken from the United Nations interagency estimates of maternal mortality from 2017, available at www.unfpa.org/featured-publication/trends-maternal-mortality-2000-2017.

The scenarios of coverage of essential sexual and reproductive health services (skilled birth attendance, deliveries in health facilities and access to contraception) were modelled using the Lives Saved Tool (LiST) and Fam Plan Tools of the Spectrum software, developed by Avenir Health. The scenarios are:

1. 'Full coverage scenario', where coverage continues and increases gradually as before the pandemic and reach full coverage by 2030, in line with the SDGs and the UNFPA Transformative Results of zero unmet need for family planning;
2. 'COVID-19 Best case scenario', where coverage drops by 20 per cent in 2020;
3. 'COVID-19 Worst case scenario', where coverage drops by 50 per cent in 2020.

Figure 3.2

Data from following countries were included in the analysis: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste.

Values are taken from the United Nations interagency estimates of maternal mortality from 2017, available at www.unfpa.org/featured-publication/trends-maternal-mortality-2000-2017.

The scenarios of coverage of essential sexual and reproductive health services (skilled birth attendance, deliveries in health facilities and access to contraception) were modelled using the Lives Saved Tool (LiST) and Fam Plan Tools of the Spectrum software, developed by Avenir Health. The scenarios are:

1. 'Full coverage scenario', where coverage continues and increases gradually as before the pandemic and reach full coverage by 2030, in line with the SDGs and the UNFPA Transformative Results of zero preventable maternal deaths;
2. 'COVID-19 Best case scenario', where coverage drops by 20 per cent in 2020;
3. 'COVID-19 Worst case scenario', where coverage drops by 50 per cent in 2020.

Figure 3.3

The analysis includes data from the following countries/territories: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

Estimates of additional maternal and under-5 deaths were made based on three scenarios in which the coverage of essential maternal and child health interventions was reduced by 9.8–51.9 per cent and the prevalence of wasting increased by 10–50 per cent for different durations (3, 6 and 12 months), using assumptions based on the effects of the pandemic on the supply side and demand side.

Section 3.2.1 on child poverty conducted by UNICEF and Care International

The analysis includes data from the following countries/territories: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

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United Nations Publication
Sales no.: E.21.II.F.4
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ISBN: 978-92-1-120822-1
eISBN: 978-92-1-604033-8
ST/ESCAP/2935

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This report analyses progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Asia and the Pacific and its five subregions as well as the availability of data. It assesses gaps which must be closed to achieve the goals by 2030. This assessment is designed to ensure the region's actions remain on target and shortcomings are addressed as they arise. It is a resource for all stakeholders involved in prioritization, planning, implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.