Sustainable Development Report 2023
Measuring progress towards the SDGs

SDG TRANSFORMATION CENTER

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

The SDG Transformation Center

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Global network launched in **2012** to support implementation of SDGs and climate agenda

Operates under the auspices of the UN Secretary General

SDSN Network Coverage
- National Network
- Regional Network
- Network in Formation
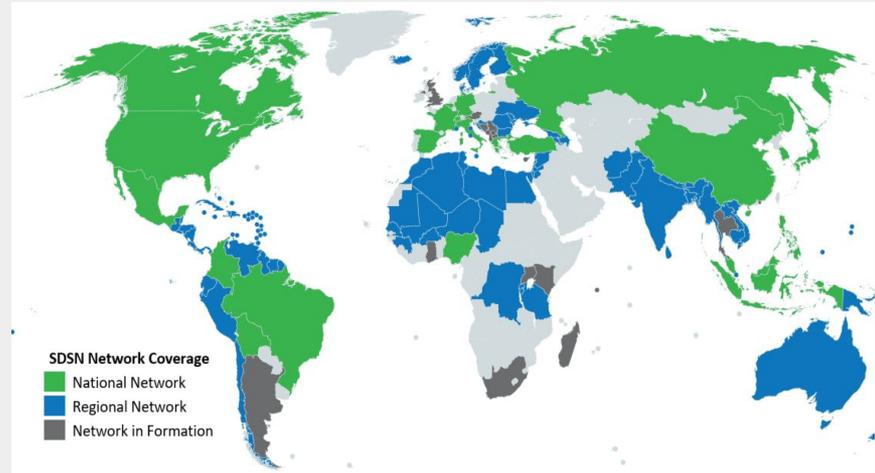
The SDG Transformation Center

Long-term investment plans are essential for national success in meeting the SDGs. SDSN has recommended **six inter-related long-term transformations**.

The SDG Transformation Center is a **think tank** that provides **science-based tools** and analytics to support the implementation of these Six Transformations.

It builds on SDSN's global network of researchers and scientists and a decade of work led by the SDSN on SDG data, analytics, and pathways.

Six SDG Transformations underpinned by the principles of leaving no one behind and circularity & decoupling

Leave No One Behind

1. EDUCATION, GENDER, AND INEQUALITY
   SDGS 1, 5, 7-10, 12-15, 17

2. HEALTH, WELLBEING, AND DEMOGRAPHY
   SDGS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10

3. ENERGY DECARBONIZATION AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRY SDGS 1-16

4. SUSTAINABLE FOOD, LAND, WATER, AND OCEANS SDGS 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 10-15

5. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES SDGS 1-16

6. DIGITAL REVOLUTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SDGS 1-4, 7-13, 17

Circularity and Decoupling

The SDG Transformation Center

sdg**transformation**center**.org**   esri

Reporting

- SDG Index climate
- International Spillover Index
- Geospatial indicators: localizing the SDGs

Support

- SDG Financing
- SDG Policies

sdg**transformation**center**.org**
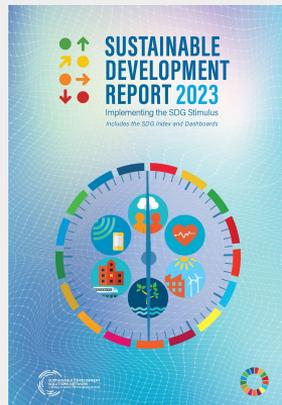
Sustainable Development Report: objectives

1) Support policy decisions

- Hold countries **accountable** (monitoring commitments)

- Support national debates on SDG **prioritization** (distance-to-targets)

- Render the SDGs **concrete** ; specific indicators and targets

2) Support efforts to strengthen data availability

- **Complement** official monitoring efforts (UNSD, Eurostat, NSOs)

- Make rich, detailed SDG **data** available to the public (researchers, NGOs etc.)

- Identify data **gaps**, new forms of data, and the need for investment in national statistical offices and monitoring efforts

Regional and subnational editions

Complementary to the global Sustainable Development Report.

Take advantage of **local data** and are **tailored** to the development challenges of the local context.

Subnational editions allow for adding a **geographic dimension** to national data and shed light on territorial **disparities.**

Methodology
statistically audited & peer-reviewed

Scientific research service of the European Commission. Experts in composite indices.

Methodology produces robust results

Permits coherent and meaningful conclusions from the data

SDR cited in at least 40% of VNRs in 2021

Data sources

- **Official** statistics (WHO, UNESCO, WB, etc.)

- **Unofficial** statistics (peer-reviewed publications, NGOs e.g. Oxfam or Tax Justice Network, Geospatial Data).

Useful for gaps in official statistics (spillover indicators)

SDG	Notes	Indicator	Related SDG Target	Reference year	Source	Description
2	[a]	Yield gap closure (% of potential yield)	2.3 & 2.4	2021	Global Yield Gap Atlas	A country's yield expressed as a percentage of its potential yield in the three annual crops using the most land area, weighted for the relative importance of each crop in terms of surface area.
2		Exports of hazardous pesticides (tonnes per million population)	3.9	2020	FAO	Exports of pesticides deemed hazardous to human health, standardized by population. Due to volatility, the calculation uses the average value over the last 5 years.
3		Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)	3.1.1	2020	WHO et al.	The estimated number of women, between the age of 15 and 49, who die from pregnancy-related causes while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, per 100,000 live births.
3		Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	3.2.2	2021	UNICEF et al.	The number of newborn infants (neonates) who die before reaching 28 days of age, per 1,000 live births.
3		Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	3.2.1	2021	UNICEF et al.	The probability that a newborn baby will die before reaching age five, if subject to age-specific mortality rates of the specified year, per 1,000 live births.
3		Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	3.3.2	2021	WHO	The estimated rate of new and relapse cases of tuberculosis each year, expressed per 100,000 people. All forms of tuberculosis are included, including cases of people living with HIV.
3		New HIV infections (per 1,000 uninfected population)	3.3.1	2021	UNAIDS	Number of people newly infected with HIV per 1,000 uninfected population.
3		Age-standardized death rate due to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory disease in adults aged 30–70 years (%)	3.4.1	2019	WHO	The probability of dying between the ages of 30 and 70 years from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory diseases, defined as the percent of 30-year-old-people who would die before their 70th birthday from these diseases, assuming current mortality rates at every age and that individuals would not die from any other cause of death (e.g. injuries or HIV/AIDS).
3	[b]	Age-standardized death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	3.9.1	2019	WHO	Mortality rate that is attributable to the joint effects of fuels used for cooking indoors and ambient outdoor air pollution.
3		Traffic deaths (per 100,000 population)	3.6.1	2019	WHO	Estimated number of fatal road traffic injuries per 100,000 people.
3		Life expectancy at birth (years)	3.1–3.9	2019	WHO	The average number of years that a newborn could expect to live, if he or she were to pass through life exposed to the sex- and age-specific death rates prevailing at the time of his or her birth, for a specific year, in a given country, territory, or geographic area.
3		Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 19)	3.7.2	2020	WHO	The number of births per 1,000 females between the age of 15 and 19.
3	[a]	Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	3.1.2	2020	UNICEF	The percentage of births attended by personnel trained to give the necessary supervision, care, and advice to women during pregnancy, labor, and the postpartum period, to conduct deliveries on their own, and to care for newborns.
3	[a]	Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	3.b.1	2021	WHO and UNICEF	Estimated national routine immunization coverage of infants, expressed as the percentage of surviving infants, children under the age of 12 months, who received two WHO-recommended vaccines (3rd dose of DTP and 1st dose of measles). Calculated as the minimum value between the percentage of infants who have received the 3rd dose of DTP and the percentage who have received the 1st dose of measles.

New datasets for geospatial SDG indicators

- The SDGs cannot be fully realised using **official statistics alone**, and that's where **geospatial** comes in.

- Deployment of new and existing **methodologies** to fill critical SDG indicator data **gaps** and instill consistency to underexplored indicators.

- Outputs are both ready-to-use **national and localized** indicators derived from the geospatial data sources and the methodology by which they're developed, allowing national and local authorities to continue running these calculations yearly in order to track the advance made towards the SDGs.
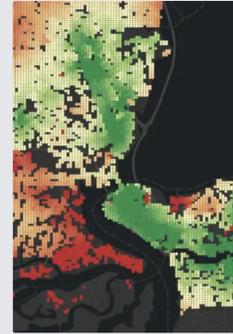
Mar 1, 2023   SDG 11   Transformation 5   OpenStreetMap   Accessibility   Walkability

The 15-minute city: % of urban populations in walking distance to points of interest

This is an assessment of pedestrian accessibility in the world's main urban centers, aggregated at country and city level. Indicators include the average walking time to different categories of destinations, as well as the proportion of inhabitants that can access each category of services within a 15-minute walk.

This measure is particularly useful for assessing spatial justice in cities, usually represented by underprivileged communities which are pushed to live in deteriorated urban areas receiving a minor share of public investments and thus low levels of accessibility.

This data informs on indicators 11.2.1 "Urban access to public transportation" and 11.7.1 "Urban access to public spaces".

[Download by Country]   [Download by Urban Center]   [Methodology]

Apr 1, 2023   SDG 9   Transformation 3   Infrastructure   Accessibility

Rural Access Index (RAI)

The Rural Access Index (RAI) is a measure of access, developed by the World Bank in 2006. It was adopted as Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 9.1.1 in 2015, to measure the accessibility of rural populations. It is currently the only indicator for the SDGs that directly measures rural access.

The RAI measures the proportion of the rural population that lives within 2 km of an all-season road. An all-season road is one that is motorable all year, but may be temporarily unavailable during inclement weather.

[Download]   [Explore]   [Methodology]

SDG 9.1.1 Rural Access Index
An excess of methodologies and a scarcity of datasets to accompany them

- **Several methodologies** have been published but no dataset accompanied the latest one endorsed by the indicator's custodian

- We put forward the **first-ever global implementation** of the latest custodian endorsed methodology

- Calculations are performed in Google **Earth Engine** so the process can be easily scaled to cover the globe

- Results are shared in raw format and as summarized country scores
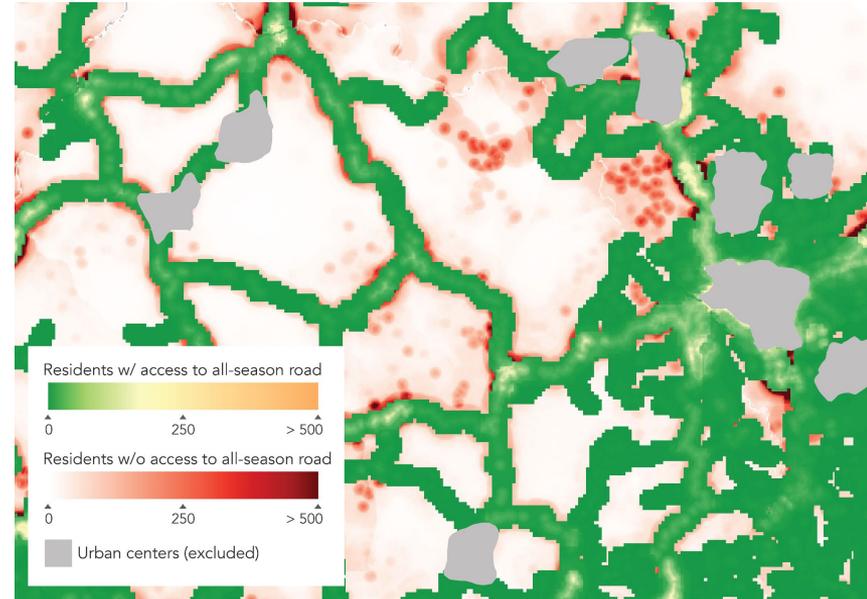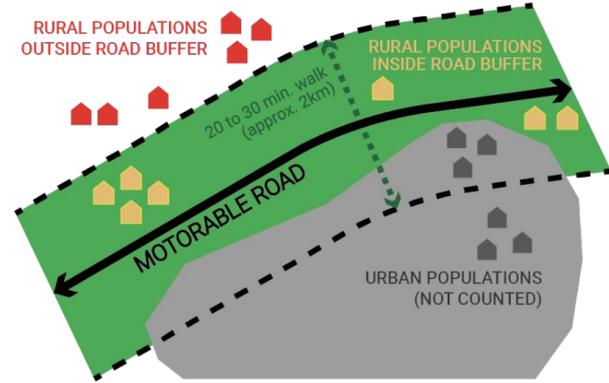
Criteria for indicator selection

1. Globally Relevant
2. Timeliness – Constant monitoring
3. Statistical Validity
4. Data coverage
5. Simple with clear policy ramifications

Table A.5

Indicator thresholds and justifications for optimal values

SDG	Indicator	Optimum (value = 100)	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red	Lower bound	Justification for optimum
1	Poverty headcount ratio at $2.15/day (2017 PPP, %)	0	≤ 2	2 < x ≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 13	> 13	72.6	SDG Target
1	Poverty headcount ratio at $3.65/day (2017 PPP, %)	0	≤ 2	2 < x ≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 13	> 13	51.5	SDG Target
1	Poverty rate after taxes and transfers (%)	6.1	≤ 10	10 < x ≤ 12.5	12.5 < x ≤ 15	> 15	17.7	Average of best performers
2	Prevalence of undernourishment (%)	2.5	≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 11.25	11.25 < x ≤ 15	> 15	42.3	SDG Target
2	Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 years of age (%)	0	≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 11.25	11.25 < x ≤ 15	> 15	50.2	SDG Target
2	Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 years of age (%)	0	≤ 5	5 < x ≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 10	> 10	16.3	SDG Target
2	Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	2.8	≤ 10	10 < x ≤ 17.5	17.5 < x ≤ 25	> 25	35.1	Average of best performers
2	Human Trophic Level (best 2-3 worst)	2.04	≤ 2.2	2.2 < x ≤ 2.3	2.3 < x ≤ 2.4	> 2.4	2.45	Average of best performers
2	Cereal yield (tonnes per hectare of harvested land)	7	≥ 2.5	2.5 > x ≥ 2	2 > x ≥ 1.5	< 1.5	0.2	Average of best performers
2	Sustainable Nitrogen Management Index (best 0-1.41 worst)	0	≤ 0.3	0.3 < x ≤ 0.5	0.5 < x ≤ 0.7	> 0.7	1.2	Technical Optimum
2	Yield gap closure (% of potential yield)	77	≥ 75	75 > x ≥ 62.5	62.5 > x ≥ 50	< 50	28	Average of best performers
2	Exports of hazardous pesticides (tonnes per million population)	0	≤ 1	1 < x ≤ 25.5	25.5 < x ≤ 50	> 50	250	Technical Optimum
3	Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)	3.4	≤ 70	70 < x ≤ 105	105 < x ≤ 140	> 140	814	Average of best performers
3	Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	1.1	≤ 12	12 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 18	> 18	39.7	Average of best performers
3	Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2.6	≤ 25	25 < x ≤ 37.5	37.5 < x ≤ 50	> 50	130.1	Average of best performers
3	Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	0	≤ 10	10 < x ≤ 42.5	42.5 < x ≤ 75	> 75	561	SDG Target
3	New HIV infections (per 1,000 uninfected population)	0	≤ 0.2	0.2 < x ≤ 0.6	0.6 < x ≤ 1	> 1	5.5	SDG Target
3	Age-standardized death rate due to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory disease in adults aged 30–70 years (%)	9.3	≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 20	20 < x ≤ 25	> 25	31	Average of best performers
3	Age-standardized death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	0	≤ 18	18 < x ≤ 84	84 < x ≤ 150	> 150	368.8	Technical Optimum
3	Traffic deaths (per 100,000 population)	3.2	≤ 8.4	8.4 < x ≤ 12.6	12.6 < x ≤ 16.8	> 16.8	33.7	Average of best performers
3	Life expectancy at birth (years)	83	≥ 80	80 > x ≥ 75	75 > x ≥ 70	< 70	54	Average of best performers
3	Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 19)	2.5	≤ 25	25 < x ≤ 37.5	37.5 < x ≤ 50	> 50	139.6	Average of best performers
3	Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	100	≥ 98	98 > x ≥ 94	94 > x ≥ 90	< 90	23.1	Leave no one behind
3	Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	100	≥ 90	90 > x ≥ 85	85 > x ≥ 80	< 80	41	Leave no one behind
3	Universal health coverage (UHC) index of service coverage (worst 0-100 best)	100	≥ 80	80 > x ≥ 70	70 > x ≥ 60	< 60	38.2	Leave no one behind
3	Subjective well-being (average ladder score, worst 0-10 best)	7.6	≥ 6	6 > x ≥ 5.5	5.5 > x ≥ 5	< 5	3.3	Average of best performers
3	Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	0	≤ 3	3 < x ≤ 5	5 < x ≤ 7	> 7	11	Leave no one behind

Criteria for indicator selection

1. Globally Relevant
2. Timeliness – Constant monitoring
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5. Simple with clear policy ramifications

Thresholds and optimum values

a) Use the **absolute** quantitative thresholds outlined in the SDGs and targets (e.g. **zero** poverty, **universal** access to water)

b) Where no explicit target is available, set upper bound to **universal access or zero deprivation** for related indicators.

c) Where **science-based targets** exist that must be achieved by 2030 or later use these to set the 100% upper bound (e.g. full decarbonization)

d) Where many countries **already exceed an SDG** target, use the **average** of top performers

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1	Poverty headcount ratio at $3.65/day (2017 PPP, %)	0	≤ 2	2 < x ≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 13	> 13	51.5	SDG Target
1	Poverty rate after taxes and transfers (%)	6.1	≤ 10	10 < x ≤ 12.5	12.5 < x ≤ 15	> 15	17.7	Average of best performers
2	Prevalence of undernourishment (%)	2.5	≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 11.25	11.25 < x ≤ 15	> 15	42.3	SDG Target
2	Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 years of age (%)	0	≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 11.25	11.25 < x ≤ 15	> 15	50.2	SDG Target
2	Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 years of age (%)	0	≤ 5	5 < x ≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 10	> 10	16.3	SDG Target
2	Prevalence of obesity, BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	2.8	≤ 10	10 < x ≤ 17.5	17.5 < x ≤ 25	> 25	35.1	Average of best performers
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2	Cereal yield (tonnes per hectare of harvested land)	7	≥ 2.5	2.5 > x ≥ 2	2 > x ≥ 1.5	< 1.5	0.2	Average of best performers
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2	Yield gap closure (% of potential yield)	77	≥ 75	75 > x ≥ 62.5	62.5 > x ≥ 50	< 50	28	Average of best performers
2	Exports of hazardous pesticides (tonnes per million population)	0	≤ 1	1 < x ≤ 25.5	25.5 < x ≤ 50	> 50	250	Technical Optimum
3	Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)	3.4	≤ 70	70 < x ≤ 105	105 < x ≤ 140	> 140	814	Average of best performers
3	Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	1.1	≤ 12	12 < x ≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 18	> 18	39.7	Average of best performers
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3	New HIV infections (per 1,000 uninfected population)	0	≤ 0.2	0.2 < x ≤ 0.6	0.6 < x ≤ 1	> 1	5.5	SDG Target
3	Age-standardized death rate due to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory disease in adults aged 30–70 years (%)	9.3	≤ 15	15 < x ≤ 20	20 < x ≤ 25	> 25	31	Average of best performers
3	Age-standardized death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	0	≤ 18	18 < x ≤ 84	84 < x ≤ 150	> 150	368.8	Technical Optimum
3	Traffic deaths (per 100,000 population)	3.2	≤ 8.4	8.4 < x ≤ 12.6	12.6 < x ≤ 16.8	> 16.8	33.7	Average of best performers
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3	Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	100	≥ 98	98 > x ≥ 94	94 > x ≥ 90	< 90	23.1	Leave no one behind
3	Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	100	≥ 90	90 > x ≥ 85	85 > x ≥ 80	< 80	41	Leave no one behind
3	Universal health coverage (UHC) index of service coverage (worst 0-100 best)	100	≥ 80	80 > x ≥ 70	70 > x ≥ 60	< 60	38.2	Leave no one behind
3	Subjective well-being (average ladder score, worst 0-10 best)	7.6	≥ 6	6 > x ≥ 5.5	5.5 > x ≥ 5	< 5	3.3	Average of best performers
3	Gap in life expectancy at birth among regions (years)	0	≤ 3	3 < x ≤ 5	5 < x ≤ 7	> 7	11	Leave no one behind

Dashboards: Traffic light thresholds for visual assessment of SDG performance

SDG	Indicator	Optimum (value = 100)	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red	Lower bound	Justification for optimum
1	Poverty headcount ratio at $1.90/day (%)	0	≤2	2 < x ≤ 7.5	7.5 < x ≤ 13	>13	72.6	SDG target

SDG 1 · INDICATOR
Poverty headcount ratio at $1.90/day
%

Displaying Ratings

Ratings provide a visual representation of a country's performance on the indicator.

Legend
Click on a country to see its performance.

- 🟢 SDG achieved
- 🟡 Challenges remain
- 🟠 Significant challenges remain
- 🔴 Major challenges remain
- ⚪ Information unavailable

Trends: Colored arrows for visual assessment of SDG progress since 2015

Goal achievement
Green threshold

Performance in 2015

Extrapolated linear
annual growth rate
2015–2030

2015   2019   2030

🇺🇸 **United States**   ✕

SDG 13 · INDICATOR
CO₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production
tCO2/capita

🔴 Major challenges remain

➡️ Score stagnating or increasing at less than 50% of required rate

VALUE 16.06

YEAR 2019

2003   2007   2011   2015   2019

···· Long-Term Objective

SDG TRANSFORMATION CENTER

	NO POVERTY	ZERO HUNGER	GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	QUALITY EDUCATION	GENDER EQUALITY	CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	REDUCED INEQUALITIES	SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	CLIMATE ACTION	LIFE BELOW WATER	LIFE ON LAND	PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
East and South Asia																	
Eastern Europe and Central Asia																	
Latin America and the Caribbean																	
Middle East and North Africa																	
Oceania																	
OECD members																	
Small Island Developing States																	
Sub-Saharan Africa																	
Low-income countries																	
Lower-middle-income countries																	
Upper-middle-income countries																	
High-income countries																	
World average																	

Legend

- ● SDG achievement
- ● Challenges remain
- ● Significant challenges remain
- ● Major challenges remain
- ↑ On track
- ↗ Moderately Increasing
- → Stagnating
- ↓ Decreasing
- ● Data not available

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Chapters   Rankings   Interactive Map   Country Profiles   Data Explorer   Downloads & Materials

Download Image

Displaying Ratings

Ratings provide a visual representation of a country's performance on the SDG.

Legend
Click on a country to see its performance.

- 🟢 SDG achieved
- 🟡 Challenges remain
- 🟠 Significant challenges remain
- 🔴 Major challenges remain
- ⚪ Information unavailable

Description

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Indicators
Click on an indicator to visualize it on the map.

Electronic waste

Production-based SO$_2$ emissions

SO$_2$ emissions embodied in imports

Production-based nitrogen emissions

Nitrogen emissions embodied in imports

Exports of plastic waste

Global-only Indicators
Click on an indicator to visualize it on the map.

Ratings   Trends

Sustainable Development Solutions Network · Note on country boundaries
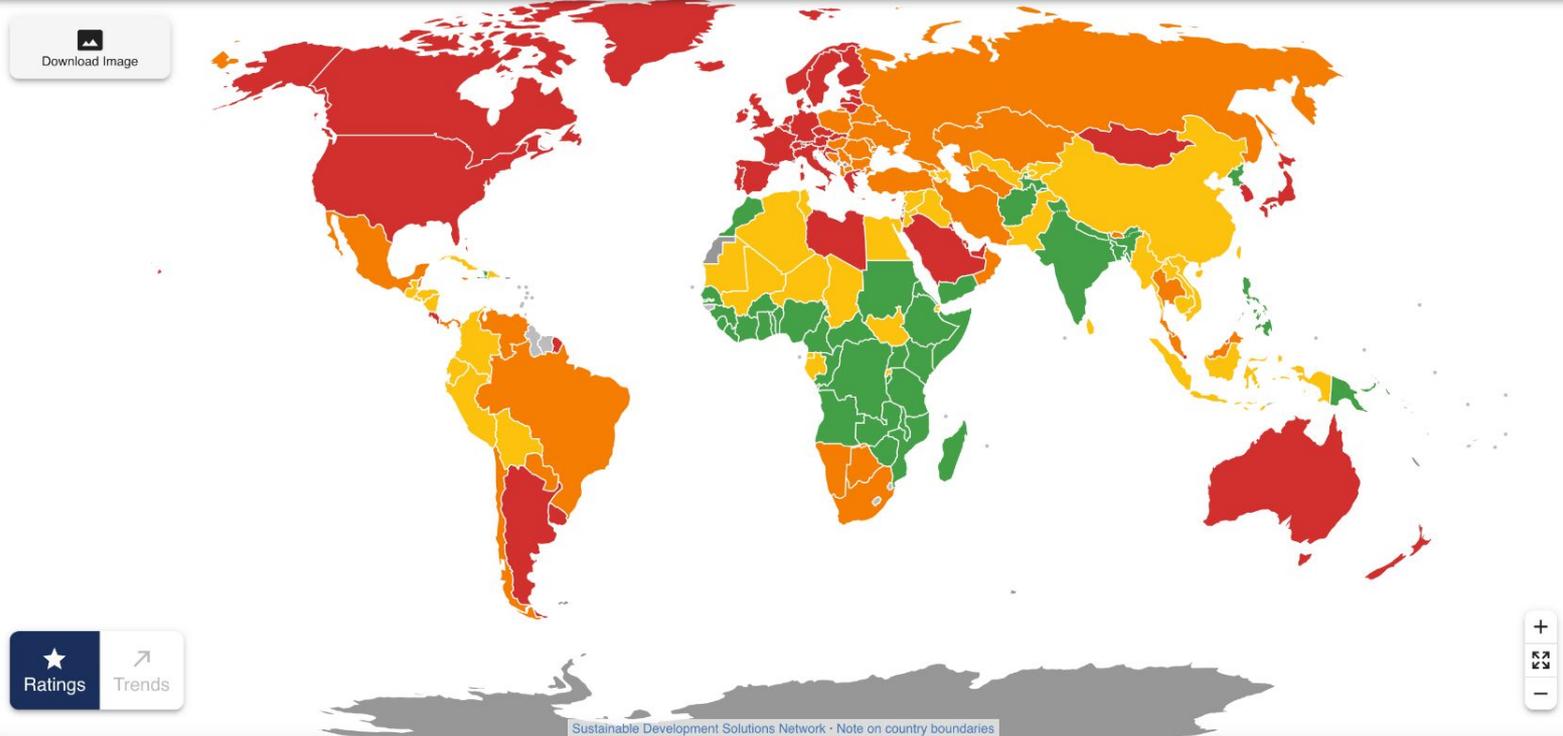
Select one of the SDGs to see it on the map or display the overall scores

https://datahub.sdgtransformationcenter.org/reports/sustainable-development-report

Key findings in 2023

At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, all SDGs are seriously **off track**.

Trend needed to achieve the SDGs

Pre pandemic trend

Modest progress
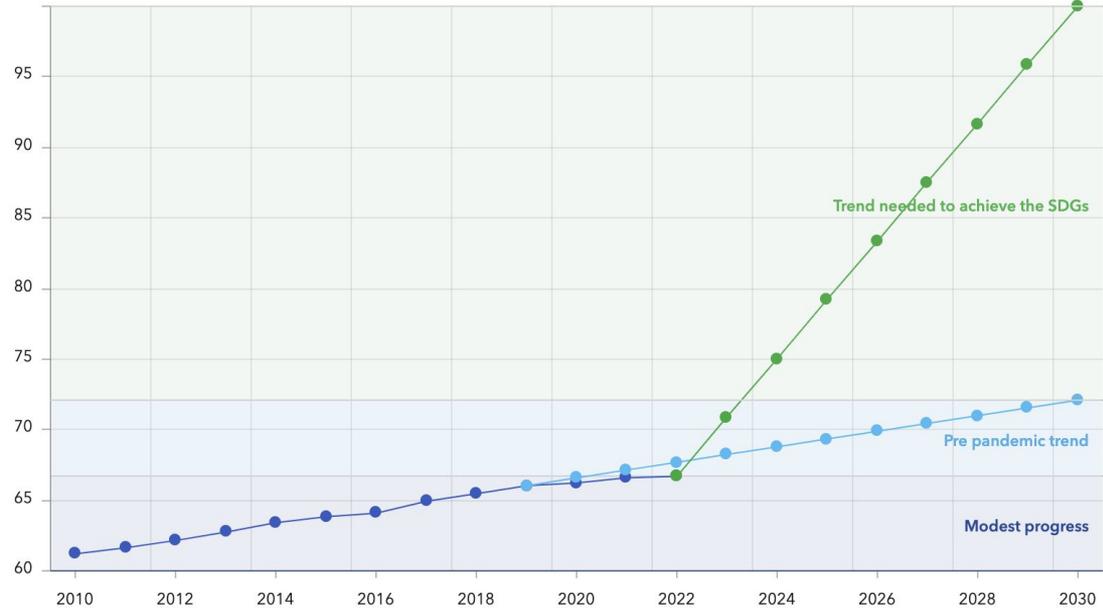
SDG Index Score over time, world average (2010-2022) and trends (2019-2030)

1 NO POVERTY	2 ZERO HUNGER	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	5 GENDER EQUALITY	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
→	→	↗	→	↗	↗

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
↗	→	↗	→	→	↗

13 CLIMATE ACTION	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	15 LIFE ON LAND	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
→	→	→	→	→

■ Major challenges   ■ Significant challenges   ■ Challenges remain   ■ SDG achieved

↓ Decreasing   → Stagnating   ↗ Moderately improving   ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement
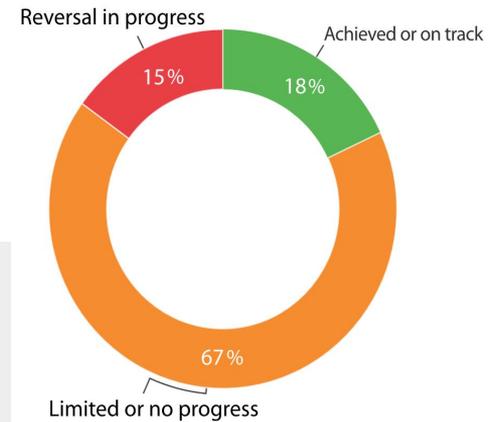
Reversal in progress

Achieved or on track

15%

18%

67%

Limited or no progress

Key findings in 2023

At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, all SDGs are seriously **off track**.

There is a risk that the **gap** in SDG outcomes between high and low income countries will be larger in 2030 (29 points) than it was in 2015 (28 points) – underscoring the danger of losing a decade of progress towards convergence globally.
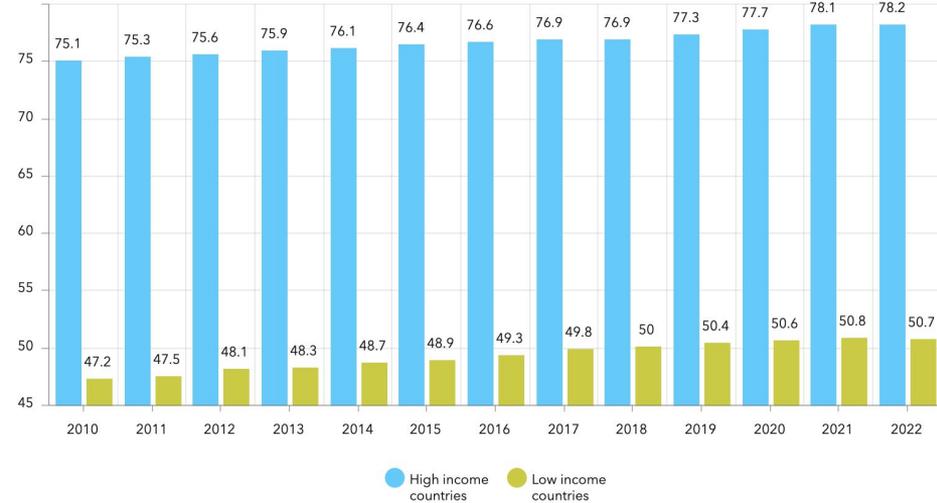
SDG Index Score over time, high income and low income countries (2010-2023)

Key findings in 2023

At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, all SDGs are seriously **off track.**

There is a risk of **losing** a decade of **progress** towards convergence globally.
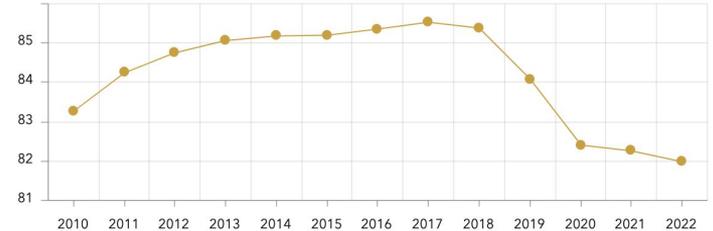
Some of the indicators that experienced the **most significant reversals** in progress include subjective well-being, access to vaccination, poverty, and unemployment rate.
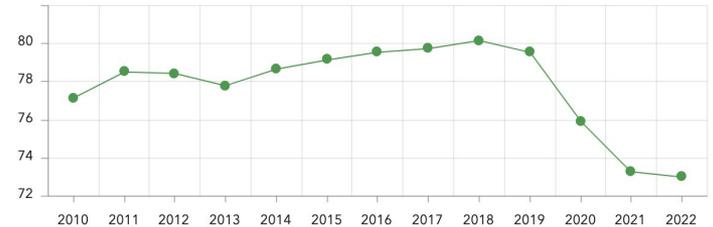
SDG goals related to hunger (SDG 2) and sustainable diets and health outcomes (SDG 3) are particularly off-track, as well as terrestrial and marine biodiversity (SDGs 14 and 15), urban pollution (SDG 12), and strong institutions and peaceful societies (SDG 16).

Key findings in 2023

At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, all SDGs are seriously **off track.**

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Some of the indicators that experienced the **most significant reversals** in progress include subjective well-being, access to vaccination, poverty, and unemployment rate.

On average, since the adoption of the SDGs in 2015, the world made some progress in strengthening **access to key infrastructure**.
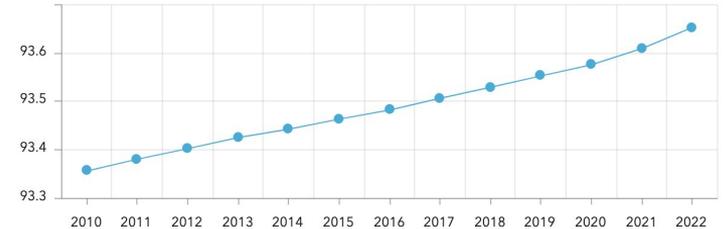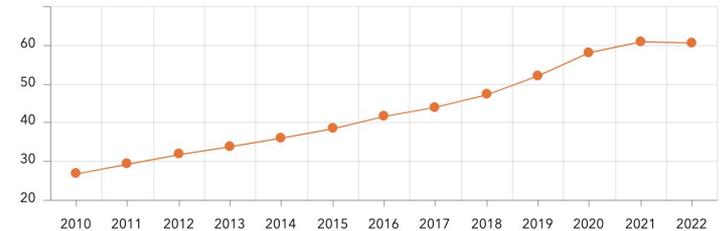
SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure).

SDG Index – top performance

Finland holds the top spot on this year's 2023 SDG Index, followed by Sweden, Denmark, Germany, and Austria.

European countries continue to lead in the SDG Index – holding the top 10 spots – and are on track to achieve more **targets** than any other region.

By contrast, Lebanon, Yemen, Papua New Guinea, Venezuela, and Myanmar have the largest number of SDG targets moving in the **wrong direction**.

The 2023 SDG Index: score and rank

Rank	Country	Score
1	Finland	86.8
2	Sweden	86.0
3	Denmark	85.7
4	Germany	83.4
5	Austria	82.3
6	France	82.0
7	Norway	82.0
8	Czechia	81.9
9	Poland	81.8
10	Estonia	81.7

Framework for Evaluating Government Efforts and Commitments to Implement the SDGs

Political Leadership & Institutional Coordination
The SDGs are referenced & used in political speeches and institutional processes

- Voluntary National Reviews
- Official speeches by country leaders making reference to the SDGs
- SDG coordination unit in government
- National SDG strategy (or sustainable development strategy)
- National SDG monitoring system
- SDGs referenced in annual national budget

SDG Integration into Sectoral Policies & Pathways
Ambitious policy, regulatory and investment frameworks to achieve the Six SDG Transformations

- Universal quality education and innovation-based economy
- Universal health coverage
- Zero-carbon energy systems
- Sustainable ecosystems, sustainable agriculture, and climate resilience
- Sustainable cities
- Transformation to universal digital access and services

Commitment to Multilateralism under the UN Charter
Countries promote global cooperation for sustainable development

- Ratification of UN Treaties
- Membership in major UN organizations
- Promotion of demilitarization and global peace
- Use of unilateral coercive measures
- Official Development Assistance (for OECD/HICs)

Policy measures and efforts for the SDGs : Pilot Scores

This year's report includes the **first pilot index of multilateralism** that captures the overarching dimensions of support for multilateralism and comparisons of countries, including:

countries' efforts to promote and preserve peace, percentage of UN treaties ratified, international solidarity and financing, membership in select UN organizations, and the use of unilateral coercive measures among other indicators.

SDG Effort Rank	Country	SDG Effort Score	SDG Effort Rating	SDG Coordination Rating	SDG Pathways Rating	Multilateralism Rating
1	Sweden	81.9	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
2	Switzerland	81.4	🟢	🟢	🟩	🟢
3	Netherlands	80.5	🟢	🟢	🟩	🟩
4	Finland	80.4	🟢	🟢	🟩	🟩
5	Benin	78.7	🟩	🟢	🟡	🟩
72	Russian Federation	39.3	🔴	🔴	🟠	🟠
73	Israel	36.1	🔴	🔴	🟡	🔴
74	United States	28.6	🔴	🔴	🟡	🔴

🟢 Very High Effort 🟩 High Effort 🟡 Moderate Effort 🟠 Low Effort 🔴 Very Low Effort

International Spillover Index

The climate and biodiversity crises are driven by domestic action, but they are also **impacted by activities that extend beyond national borders**: through **trade** and other cross-border activities.
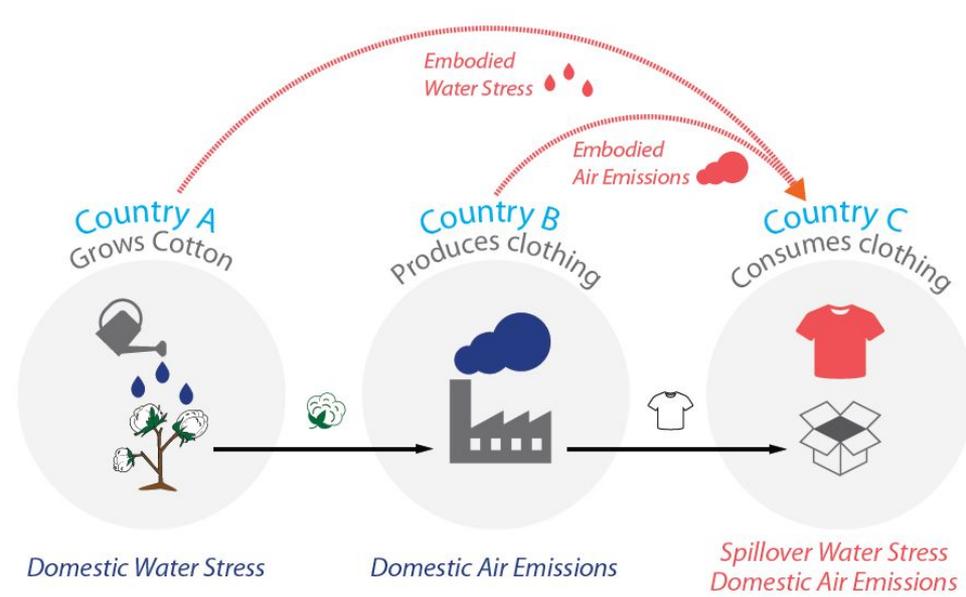
International Spillover Index

The climate and biodiversity crises are driven by domestic action, but they are also **impacted by activities that extend beyond national borders**: through **trade** and other cross-border activities.

In addition to **environmental spillovers**, which are driven by international trade and domestic policies, countries also generate **economic, financial, social, and security spillovers**. These spillover effects are captured in the SDG Index.
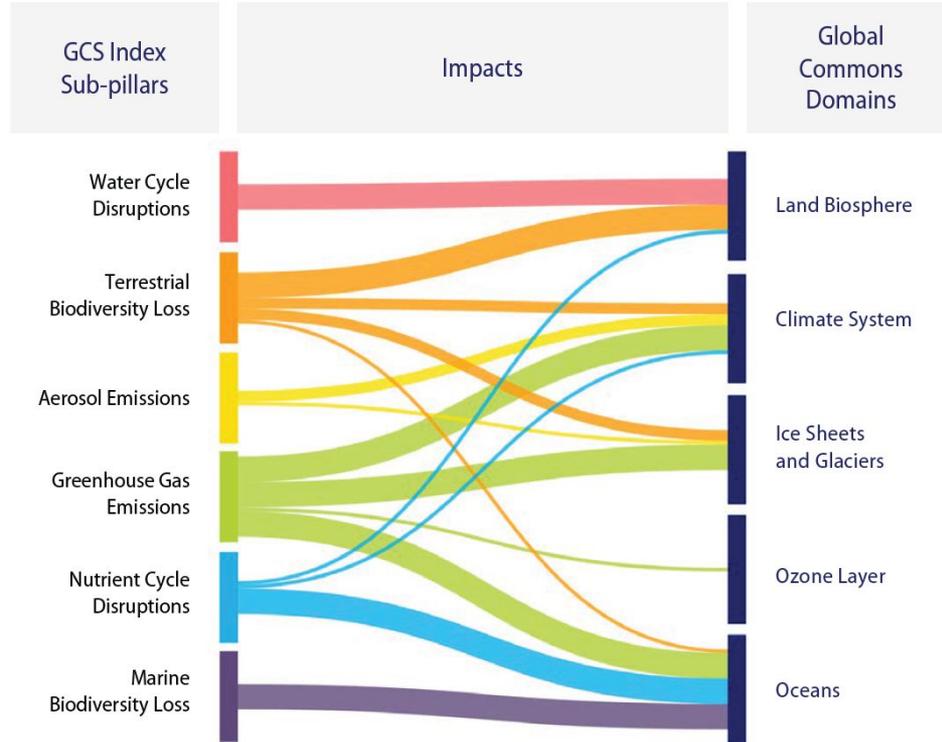
International Spillover Index

Overall, **HICs** tend to generate the **largest negative spillovers**, due to unsustainable consumption, financial secrecy, and the presence of tax havens.

SDG Index scores versus International Spillover Index scores, by income level

SDG Index 2023		International Spillover Index 2023
	High-income countries	
	Upper-middle-income countries	
	Lower-middle-income countries	
	Low-income countries	

From 0 (worst) to 100 (best)   From 0 (worst) to 100 (best)
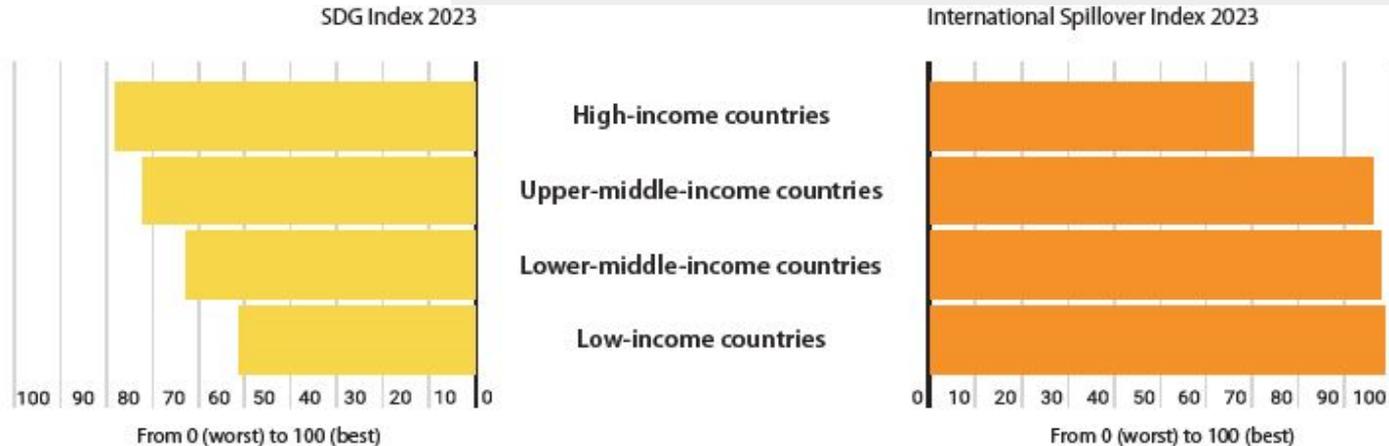
International Spillovers Index - Score & Rank

Top 10

Score	Country	Rank
100.00	Comoros	1
99.83	Somalia	2
99.79	Oceania	3
99.62	Burundi	4
99.59	Sao Tome e P.	5
99.50	Madagascar	6
99.50	Cabo Verde	7
99.46	Congo, DRC	8
99.43	India	9
99.41	Tanzania	10

Bottom 10

Score	Country	Rank
53.70	Switzerland	157
53.01	Bahamas, The	158
51.06	Cyprus	159
50.57	Belgium	160
50.55	Netherlands	161
46.27	Luxembourg	162
46.17	Mauritius	163
45.76	Iceland	164
39.94	United Arab Emirates	165
35.82	Singapore	166

Data availability

All raw datasets, composite goal scores and trends are available through the SDG Transformation Center Data Hub

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Link to this report's codebookAbout the AuthorsProf. Jeffrey SachsDirector, SDSN; Project Director of the SDG IndexJeffrey D. Sachs is a world-renowned...

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