

UNECE

Halfway to 2030: How many targets will be achieved in the UNECE region?

Snapshot and insights in 2022



 **SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**



UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE



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in the UNECE Region?

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**United Nations
Geneva, 2022**

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Foreword

In 2022, close to the mid-point of the time foreseen for enacting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we find ourselves in a world that is very different from when the Agenda was launched. The Covid-19 pandemic, while threatening health and economies and deepening existing inequalities, is unleashing forces of change. Against this backdrop, the commitment to the 2030 Agenda requires intensified efforts and policy solutions to steer these forces of change in such a way that they accelerate progress towards sustainable development.

From the global perspective, Our Common Agenda – the United Nations Secretary-General’s vision to reinvigorate multilateralism – is designed to accelerate the implementation of existing agreements, including the Sustainable Development Goals. Acting in this spirit, UNECE organizes focused exchanges and peer learning at the regional level, which are necessary for national and global success with Sustainable Development Goals. The key action in this is the UNECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, which in 2022 takes place for the sixth time, highlighting the importance of the regional perspective in follow-up and review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

To inform the debate, to know how fast we need to move, it is essential to have a good idea of how far the region is from meeting the 2030 targets. This year’s regional progress report on the Sustainable Development Goals, prepared by the UNECE Statistical Division, asks whether our region is on track to meet the Goals by 2030, anchoring the answers in the data available through the United Nations global database.

Good data and reliable statistics are not only the basis of good technical analysis. They are the foundation for a shared understanding of the situation that enables a meaningful political and societal debate about future actions. In 2022 we bring this aspect to the forefront again in celebrating the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, which were born at UNECE and now guide statisticians around the globe in producing statistics that can be trusted.

Beside assessing progress on the basis of available statistics, this report also takes a look into progress in gender equality – a contribution by UN Women – and presents stories and insights contributed by other agencies and United Nations country teams in the region. Those stories offer hope, but some also highlight the major obstacles brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic, whose impact is not yet fully reflected in the available statistical data.

The publication is a tangible outcome of the successful cooperation in the Regional Coordination Group on Data and Statistics for Europe and Central Asia.

The current new challenges remind us again of the strong need for regional and international cooperation and solidarity. Only through joint efforts can we find the required solutions and promote those that work well.



Olga Algayerova
UNECE Executive Secretary

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Introduction

The regional dimension of implementing the 2030 Agenda

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the pivotal role of the regional dimension in implementation, follow-up and review. Actions at the regional level bridge the global and national levels, and provide the necessary focus for international exchanges of experience and peer learning. All five United Nations regional commissions annually organize regional forums for sustainable development. In the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), which comprises 56 countries of Europe, North America and Central Asia, [the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development](#) will be held for the sixth time this year (Geneva, 6 and 7 April 2022), to share policy solutions, best practices and challenges in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNECE disseminates knowledge and data on the SDGs through its designated platforms. The [Knowledge Hub, Dashboard](#) and [Database](#) with the latest data on global SDG indicators for UNECE countries were launched in 2020, with a Russian interface added last year. UNECE provides guidance to national statistical offices and has been regularly updating a Road Map¹ to guide countries on how to set up and manage a system for providing statistics and indicators for SDGs.

The 68th session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (Geneva, 9 and 10 April 2019), the governing body of UNECE, requested the Secretariat “to publish a yearly report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the UNECE region to support the discussions at the sessions of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development”. The UNECE Statistical Division has been leading the preparation of these reports since 2020,² including the present third report, prepared to inform the debates at Regional Forum on Sustainable Development.

Assessment and data

The 2030 Agenda cannot be fulfilled without relevant and timely statistics to track progress. Data are needed for understanding the overall levels of progress, for designing and monitoring the results and impact of policy actions, as well as for identifying areas, groups or regions that risk being left behind.

The report provides assessment of progress and stories on how regional and country-level actions relate to sustainable development outcomes. [Technical notes](#) on the progress assessment at the end of this report explain the methodology used.

The assessment covers every goal and target for which there are data and for which it is possible to set a target value. The assessment looks at the trends at the regional level only. As shown in the 2020 report on the UNECE region², variation among countries is significant in all areas and a trend in a country may differ from the general trend observed in the region.

¹ [UNECE \(2022\). Road Map on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals – second edition. Geneva: United Nations.](#)

² [UNECE \(2020\). Towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the UNECE region: a statistical portrait of progress and challenges. Geneva: United Nations.](#)

[UNECE \(2021\). Is the UNECE region on track for 2030? Geneva: United Nations.](#)

The regional assessment presented in this report relies on the global indicator framework for SDGs³ and the available data on UNECE countries in [the United Nations Global SDG Indicators Database](#) as of 21 December 2021.

While the scope of data in the Global SDG Database has greatly increased in recent years, coverage remains weak in many areas. Forty per cent of targets cannot be measured for the region due to insufficient data or other measurement challenges. In all, sufficient national data to track change over time are available for 142 (57 per cent) of the 247 global monitoring indicators and for 105 (62 per cent) of the 169 targets. [Technical notes on the progress assessment](#), including a complete list of the used indicators, are presented in the end of this report. For 54 indicators, the most recent year of reference is 2020, reflecting the situation in the pandemic period.

Investing in data remains crucial for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda, even in countries with well-developed statistical systems. While statistical data collection was negatively impacted by the restrictions that the pandemic imposed, the new situation also accelerated trends that were well under way throughout the UNECE region in modernising the statistical work. The national statistical offices that had already advanced with innovation and modernisation turned out to be better prepared to meet the challenges caused by the pandemic.

Stories: spotlight on gender

The report shines a spotlight on gender equality and women's empowerment (SDG 5) in the UNECE region. Based on the data available through the United Nations Global SDG Indicators Database, UN Women provided an overview of the current situation, showing good examples as well as large variation among UNECE countries.

The agencies and United Nations country teams participating in the Regional Coordination Group on Data and Statistics for Europe and Central Asia provided 11 further stories that take a closer look at how various regional and country level actions relate to sustainable development outcomes. Most of the stories pertain to goals 4, 5 and 17 – education, gender equality and partnerships – which are under in-depth review by this year's High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Anchored in data, the insights from these stories help understand the ways how change can be achieved. Several stories address the challenges brought by the pandemic and measure their impact.

³ [United Nations. Global indicator framework adopted by the General Assembly \(A/RES/71/313\), annual refinements contained in E/CN.3/2018/2 \(Annex II\), E/CN.3/2019/2 \(Annex II\), and 2020 Comprehensive Review changes \(Annex II\) and annual refinements \(Annex III\) contained in E/CN.3/2020/2.](#)

Progress in the UNECE region

More data have become available

The present progress assessment comes close to the halfway mark between the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015 and their 2030 finish line. Data on the several years that have passed since the adoption provide a solid basis for estimating the trend, and there is still time for course correction in areas where this is needed.

The availability of statistical data for monitoring the SDGs is improving. Progress for the UNECE region can now be measured towards 105 targets, which is up from 89 that were available for last year's assessment. The strength of evidence has improved for most goals. Still, data gaps remain. Forty per cent of targets cannot be measured for the region due to insufficient data or other measurement challenges (see [Technical notes](#) on the progress assessment). For five goals (2, 5, 11, 12, 13), progress can be assessed for half or fewer targets. Recently-collected data make it possible to evaluate changes in trends since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic for 54 out of the 142 indicators used in this assessment. For the majority of targets and indicators, the impact of the pandemic is thus not yet reflected in the available data.

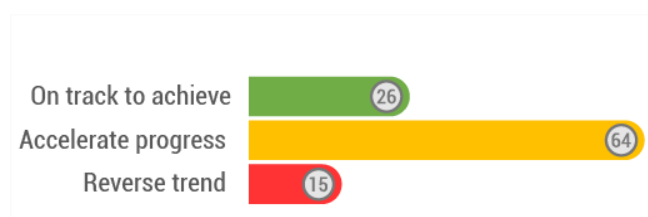
How is progress assessed?

Making use of all the available data, anticipated indicator values were estimated for 2030 for each country, based on the pace of progress thus far. These anticipated values were compared to the desired target values.

The results are presented at the regional level, based on the median indicator values across all countries. It is acknowledged that variation among countries can be significant and the situation in an individual country may differ from the assessment given to the entire region. For more information on the methodology, see [Technical notes](#) on the progress assessment.

The chart in the next page presents the anticipated progress in the region towards the 105 measurable targets. Each target is coloured according to the gap between anticipated and required progress. The colour is **green** if the pace of progress is sufficient to reach the target value by 2030; **yellow** if progress needs to accelerate to reach the target value; and **red** if the currently observed trend runs counter to the desired direction. If the target cannot be assessed it is shown in **grey** colour.

How many targets would be achieved?



Based on this assessment, **the region will achieve only 26 targets** (25 per cent of measurable targets) by 2030. **For 64 targets, progress has to accelerate**, and **for 15 targets, the current trend needs to be reversed**.

Which targets are on track for 2030?

■ MAINTAIN progress to achieve target
 ■ ACCELERATE progress to achieve target
 ■ REVERSE trend to achieve target
 ■ Insufficient data

<p>GOAL 1 NO POVERTY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1.1 Extreme poverty ■ 1.4 Access to basic services ■ 1.2 National poverty ■ 1.3 Social protection ■ 1.5 Resilience to disasters ■ 1.a Resources for poverty programmes ■ 1.b Poverty eradication policies 	<p>GOAL 2 ZERO HUNGER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 2.1 Undernourishment and food security ■ 2.2 Malnutrition ■ 2.5 Genetic resources for agriculture ■ 2.a Investment in agriculture ■ 2.3 Small-scale food producers ■ 2.4 Sustainable agriculture ■ 2.b Agricultural export subsidies ■ 2.c Food price anomalies 	<p>GOAL 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 3.1 Maternal mortality ■ 3.2 Child mortality ■ 3.6 Road traffic accidents ■ 3.3 Communicable diseases ■ 3.4 NCD & mental health ■ 3.5 Substance abuse ■ 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
<p>GOAL 4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 4.2 Early childhood development ■ 4.a Education facilities ■ 4.c Qualified teachers ■ 4.1 Effective learning outcomes ■ 4.3 TVET & tertiary education ■ 4.4 Skills for employment ■ 4.5 Equal access to education ■ 4.6 Adult literacy & numeracy ■ 4.7 Sustainable development education ■ 4.b Scholarships 	<p>GOAL 5 GENDER EQUALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 5.b Technology for women empowerment ■ 5.1 Discrimination against women & girls ■ 5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work ■ 5.5 Women in leadership ■ 5.2 Violence against women & girls ■ 5.3 Early marriage ■ 5.6 Reproductive health access & rights ■ 5.a Equal economic rights ■ 5.c Gender equality policies 	<p>GOAL 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 6.1 Safe drinking water ■ 6.2 Access to sanitation & hygiene ■ 6.3 Water quality ■ 6.4 Water-use efficiency ■ 6.5 Transboundary water cooperation ■ 6.6 Water-related ecosystems ■ 6.a Int. cooperation on water & sanitation ■ 6.b Participatory water & sanitation mgmt.
<p>GOAL 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 7.1 Access to energy services ■ 7.2 Share of renewable energy ■ 7.3 Energy efficiency ■ 7.a Int. cooperation on energy ■ 7.b Investing in energy infrastructure 	<p>GOAL 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 8.b Strategy for youth employment ■ 8.2 Economic productivity & innovation ■ 8.4 Material resource efficiency ■ 8.5 Full employment & decent work ■ 8.6 Youth NEET ■ 8.8 Labour rights & safe working env. ■ 8.9 Sustainable tourism ■ 8.10 Access to financial services ■ 8.1 Per capita economic growth ■ 8.3 Formalization of SMEs ■ 8.7 Child & forced labour ■ 8.a Aid for Trade 	<p>GOAL 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION & INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 9.2 Sustainable/inclusive industrialization ■ 9.4 Sustainable & clean industries ■ 9.c Access to ICT & the Internet ■ 9.3 Small-scale industries access to finance ■ 9.5 Research and development ■ 9.b Domestic technology development ■ 9.1 Infrastructure development ■ 9.a Resilient infrastructure
<p>GOAL 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 10.7 Safe migration & mobility ■ 10.c Remittance costs ■ 10.4 Fiscal & social protection policies ■ 10.5 Regulation of financial markets ■ 10.a Special & differential treatment (WTO) ■ 10.b Resource flows for development ■ 10.2 Inclusion (social, economic & political) ■ 10.1 Income growth (bottom 40%) ■ 10.3 Eliminate discrimination ■ 10.6 Inclusive global governance 	<p>GOAL 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 11.1 Housing & basic services ■ 11.6 Urban air quality & waste mgmt. ■ 11.5 Resilience to disasters ■ 11.b Disaster risk management policies ■ 11.2 Public transport systems ■ 11.3 Sustainable urbanization ■ 11.4 Cultural & natural heritage ■ 11.7 Urban green & public spaces ■ 11.a Urban planning ■ 11.c Sustainable & resilient buildings 	<p>GOAL 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 12.2 Sustainable use of natural resources ■ 12.4 Managing chemicals & wastes ■ 12.c Fossil-fuel subsidies ■ 12.b Sustainable tourism monitoring ■ 12.1 Programmes on SCP ■ 12.3 Food waste & losses ■ 12.5 Reduction in waste generation ■ 12.6 Corporate sustainable practices ■ 12.7 Public procurement practices ■ 12.8 Sustainable development awareness ■ 12.a Support for R&D capacity for SD
<p>GOAL 13 CLIMATE ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 13.1 Resilience & adaptive capacity ■ 13.2 Climate change policies ■ 13.3 Climate change awareness ■ 13.a UNFCCC commitments ■ 13.b Climate change planning & mgmt. 	<p>GOAL 14 LIFE BELOW WATER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 14.1 Marine pollution ■ 14.5 Conservation of coastal areas ■ 14.6 Fisheries subsidies ■ 14.b Small-scale artisanal fishing ■ 14.7 Marine resources for SIDS & LDCs ■ 14.a Research capacity & marine technology ■ 14.2 Marine & coastal ecosystems ■ 14.3 Ocean acidification ■ 14.4 Sustainable fishing ■ 14.c Implementing UNCLOS 	<p>GOAL 15 LIFE ON LAND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 15.1 Terrestrial & freshwater ecosystems ■ 15.4 Conservation of mountain ecosystems ■ 15.6 Utilization of genetic resource ■ 15.8 Invasive alien species ■ 15.a Resources for biodiversity & ecosystems ■ 15.2 Sustainable forests management ■ 15.5 Loss of biodiversity ■ 15.3 Desertification and land degradation ■ 15.7 Protected species trafficking ■ 15.9 Biodiversity in national & local planning ■ 15.b Resources for forest management ■ 15.c Protected species trafficking (global)
<p>GOAL 16 PEACE AND JUSTICE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 16.5 Corruption and bribery ■ 16.1 Reduction of violence & related deaths ■ 16.3 Justice for all ■ 16.10 Public access to information ■ 16.a Capacity to prevent violence ■ 16.2 Human trafficking ■ 16.6 Effective institutions ■ 16.4 Illicit financial & arms flows ■ 16.7 Inclusive decision-making ■ 16.8 Inclusive global governance ■ 16.9 Legal identity ■ 16.b Non-discriminatory laws 	<p>GOAL 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 17.6 Science and tech int. cooperation ■ 17.8 Capacity building for ICT ■ 17.1 Tax & other revenue collection ■ 17.4 Debt sustainability ■ 17.10 Multilateral trading system (WTO) ■ 17.12 Duty-free market access for LDCs ■ 17.18 National statistics availability ■ 17.19 Statistical capacity ■ 17.2 ODA commitment by dev. countries ■ 17.13 Global macroeconomic stability ■ 17.3 Additional financial resources ■ 17.5 Investment promotion for LDCs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 17.7 Transfer of technologies ■ 17.9 Capacity building for SDGs ■ 17.11 Exports of developing countries ■ 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)

Which targets would be achieved?

- With the exception of extreme poverty that is rare in the UNECE region, targets to reduce **poverty and income inequality** are not on track to be achieved by 2030.

One in five individuals experience multidimensional poverty across UNECE countries (indicator 1.2.2). Access to social protections is improving, and many countries have expanded social assistance and insurance programmes to help offset the economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. The share of individuals covered by at least one social protection benefit (indicator 1.3.1) was higher in 2020 than in any other year since 2000 in more than half of countries with data. Still, progress across the region is uneven and income inequality is worsening in many countries: the share of individuals living below 50 per cent of their country's median income level (indicator 10.2.1) is increasing in half of UNECE countries with data as measured before the pandemic.

- Regional progress on **nutrition and a sustainable food supply** has been insufficient.

Malnutrition still affects some young children in the region, and the pace of progress in countries with data is too slow to eliminate stunting by 2030 (indicator 2.2.1). Efforts are required across the entire region to reduce more rapidly the prevalence of anaemia in pregnancy (indicator 2.2.3). Evidence on the sustainability, resilience and fairness of agricultural practices is limited. Available data indicate that the region must reverse trends to maintain a diverse food supply (target 2.5) and improve agricultural productivity and efficiency (target 2.a).

- All targets related to **health and well-being** (goal 3) can be measured for the UNECE region. The region is on track to meet targets on maternal and child mortality and road safety. All other health targets require acceleration.

As measured before the pandemic, progress towards reducing the incidence and impact of communicable (target 3.3) and non-communicable diseases and improving mental health and wellbeing (target 3.4) is slow. The pandemic has affected access to health care services with the potential to further slow progress on preventable diseases, premature mortality, mental health and family planning.

Changes in alcohol and tobacco use during the pandemic may put targets related to substance abuse (3.5) and tobacco control (3.a) even further out of reach. The relative cost of healthcare in the region may be contributing to sluggish progress on health targets. The proportion of the population with large household expenditures on health relative to household income (indicator 3.8.2) is projected to increase by 2030.

- The UNECE region benefits from well-equipped schools and qualified teachers and most countries have already met these **education** targets (4.a and 4.c).

Participation in early childhood education has increased steadily in the region during the last 20 years, and if the current pace of progress can be maintained the region will achieve near universal access by 2030 (target 4.2). Without an acceleration of progress, the region will come up short on effective learning outcomes (4.1) equal access to education (4.5), third-level education (4.3), and relevant skills for employment (4.4). Progress towards universal secondary school completion (indicator 4.1.2) and minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics (indicator 4.1.1) is very slow.

Disparities within and across countries impede regional progress towards education targets. Achievement gaps between disadvantaged and wealthy students (indicator 4.5.1) persist in all countries with data. Progress towards all targets vary considerably across countries. The Covid-19

pandemic will likely exacerbate such inequalities. Students in regions and households with fewer resources may fall further behind as the result of disruptions to education and training.

- Progress towards only four of nine SDG targets on **gender equality** (goal 5) can be measured and the data that are available show slow progress.

The region is on track to meet target 5.b on the use of technology to promote the empowerment of women, but not on the other measurable targets. The pandemic has disproportionately affected women, both at home and at work, and efforts must be accelerated to reduce disparities between women and men around unpaid care and domestic work (indicator 5.4.1) and achieve gender parity in political and economic leadership (target 5.5). More countries need to implement policies that protect women against discrimination and promote their empowerment to strengthen the region's legal frameworks that support gender equality (indicator 5.1.1). Countries must also work to fill data gaps on gender equality, particularly in areas where progress is threatened by the pandemic such as violence against women and economic rights. More information on this goal is provided in the report's focus story [Advancing gender equality and women's empowerment](#) by UN Women.

- Concerning **water** and **energy** (goals 6 and 7), the region has made good progress towards access to basic services such as drinking water (target 6.1) and energy (target 7.1).

To ensure the availability and sustainability of water and sanitation, the region must speed up progress on sanitation (target 6.2), water quality (6.3), water-use efficiency (6.4), and international cooperation and national management of water resources (6.5). The proportion of water bodies with potentially harmful levels of pollution is increasing in one third of countries with data (indicator 6.3.2). In nearly one quarter of countries with data, less than half the population uses safely managed sanitation services (indicator 6.2.1), and only half of countries in the region have made progress towards reducing industrial pressure on renewable freshwater resources (indicator 6.4.2).

Access to electricity is nearly universal, and clean fuels are used for cooking, heating and lighting across the region (target 7.1). Most countries have increased reliance on renewable energy (indicator 7.2.1) and improved energy efficiency (indicator 7.3.1), but acceleration is required to meet 2030 targets.

- Most of the targets on **decent work and economic growth** (goal 8) are progressing too slowly to be achieved, and the impacts of the pandemic – which has affected nearly every aspect of national economies – are not yet reflected in the data available for this assessment.

Even before the pandemic, the rate of growth in the gross domestic product per person was decreasing across the region (indicator 8.1.1). Many workers have been affected by changes in working hours and conditions as a result of the pandemic which may worsen already slow progress towards full employment (target 8.5) and labour rights and safe working environments (target 8.8). Many countries have taken steps towards developing and adopting national strategies for youth employment (target 8.b), which is the only target on track under goal 8.

- On the positive side, pandemic-related changes in industry and transportation may help propel the region towards **sustainable and clean industrialization** (targets 9.2 and 9.4).

The region is on track to meet targets around carbon intensity of the gross domestic product (indicator 9.4.1). Access to information and communication technologies and the Internet (9.c) is also on track, which was undoubtedly of great importance during pandemic-related restrictions. However, infrastructure development (target 9.1) is regressing; additional investments are required to reverse current trends by 2030. Small businesses have also suffered during the pandemic, making

it all the more important to accelerate progress on access to financial services and market integration for small enterprises (target 9.3).

- Progress on **reducing inequalities within and among countries** (goal 10) has been slow.

The region is set to achieve targets on safe migration and mobility and remittance costs (targets 10.7, 10.c). Fiscal policies are positively impacting the distribution of income in the region (indicator 10.4.2), but acceleration is needed to achieve 2030 ambitions. Recent data point to worsening financial stability in the region (target 10.5), which contributes to inequality between countries.

- Poor data availability limits the assessment of progress towards **sustainable cities and communities** (goal 11) as only 4 out of the 10 targets can be measured.

The region has made good progress towards adequate housing (target 11.1) and is on track to reduce air pollution in urban areas (target 11.6). Disaster risk reduction strategies have been adopted and implemented by many countries and local governments in the region (target 11.b), and evidence suggests these policies may be mitigating the economic impact of disasters (indicator 11.5.2). Nonetheless, increases in recent years in the number of people in the region affected by disasters (indicator 11.5.1) point to persisting vulnerability to climate-related hazards and natural disasters.

- New data provide a clearer picture of where the region stands on progress towards **climate and environmental** targets.⁴

Progress towards reducing fossil fuel subsidies has slowed (target 12.c), and despite a previously positive outlook, the region is no longer on track to achieve the target. Fossil fuel subsidies increased between 2015 and 2019 in more than half of the countries with data. Greenhouse gas emissions among developing countries in the region continue to increase; among developed countries emissions are decreasing but not quickly enough to meet 2030 targets (indicator 13.2.2).

The region needs to act urgently to reverse trends around sustainable fishing (target 14.7), research and development on marine technology (target 14.a), deforestation (target 15.5), the loss of biodiversity (target 15.2), and sustainable tourism (target 12.b). If the current pace of progress is maintained, the region is on track to achieve targets on reducing marine pollution (target 14.1), conserving coastal areas (target 14.5), and combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (target 14.6).

The Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated the importance of international cooperation around science and technology, and progress in the region is strong in this area (target 17.6). In other critical areas such as waste generation and treatment, the sustainable use of natural resources, and the conservation of ecosystems, the region must accelerate progress.

- Budgetary pressure and economic contraction may stall progress towards **peaceful and inclusive societies** (goal 16) and **global partnerships for sustainable development** (goal 17).

The immediate impacts of the pandemic are reflected in data on government expenditure (indicator 16.6.1) and global economic stability (target 17.13). In most countries with data for 2020, government spending exceeded amounts originally budgeted (indicator 16.6.1). Annual growth in gross domestic product was lower in 2020 than in any other year since 2000 for half of UNECE countries.

Fewer resources may be available for violence prevention and reduction (targets 16.1 and 16.a) and efforts to promote equal treatment in justice systems (target 16.3) – areas where progress was

⁴ For a list of climate and environment targets and indicators, see United Nations Environment Programme (2019). [Measuring Progress: Towards Achieving the Environmental Dimension of the SDGs](#). Nairobi: United Nations.

already insufficient. Development assistance from the region to developing countries as a proportion of gross national income was decreasing before the pandemic (indicator 17.2.1). It may be difficult for the region to reverse this trend as countries deal with the economic impacts of the pandemic. Likewise, countries may implement trade policies to support national economic recovery, contributing to even slower progress towards open trade (target 17.10) and improved market access for developing countries (target 17.12).

The way forward is unclear on many targets due to a lack of data. The region needs to intensify its investment in statistical capacity (targets 17.18, 17.19) to improve data availability including producing disaggregated data to ensure no one is left behind on the way to 2030. Additional data are required to assess the full impact of the pandemic and to determine whether responses to the pandemic have accelerated or undermined progress.

Stories

The report shines a spotlight on **gender equality and women's empowerment** (SDG 5) in the UNECE region. Based on the data available through the United Nations Global SDG Indicators Database, **UN Women** provided an overview of the current situation, showing good examples as well as large variation among UNECE countries.

The agencies and United Nations country teams participating in the Regional Coordination Group on Data and Statistics for Europe and Central Asia provided 11 further stories that take a closer look at how various regional and country level actions relate to sustainable development outcomes. Anchored in data, the insights from these stories help understand the ways that change can be achieved. Several stories address the challenges brought by the pandemic and measure their impact.

Key messages

IN FOCUS:

Advancing gender equality and women's empowerment

UN Women

- Few countries are close to gender parity in leadership positions.
- Large gender gaps remain in labour force participation and time spent on household chores.
- Many UNECE countries have taken action to combat the rise of violence against women during the pandemic.
- With few exceptions, women in the region can make their own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care, and the prevalence of early marriage is low.
- Women are more likely to experience multidimensional poverty than men.
- Girls finishing lower secondary education are more likely than boys to achieve the minimum proficiency level in reading whereas the picture is mixed in mathematics.
- In most countries, more than 90 per cent of women have a mobile phone.
- The UNECE region has made notable progress in the development and enforcement of legal frameworks to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls (indicator 5.1.1). However, gaps remain in the areas of public life, violence against women, employment and economic benefits, and marriage and the family.

Re-imagining education for marginalized girls and boys during and post Covid-19 in Bosnia and Herzegovina

UN Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Enhancing e-learning and blended learning promotes literacy and quality learning outcomes

Connectivity in education: status and recent developments in 9 European countries

ITU

- Households' lack of access to the Internet, and lack of PCs at school and at home hinder learning opportunities for children, which translates into inequalities in the digital sphere.
- Identifying the key trends that characterize the interplay between the development of education systems and broadband connectivity development is crucial to grasp the opportunities of connectivity in education.

UNESCO monitors Covid-19 impact on education: a comparative perspective for the UNECE region

UNESCO

- Factors of success in mitigating COVID-19 impact on education were found to be two-fold: 1) determination to avoid disruption of learning; 2) offering a wide range of options, including distance learning and hybrid learning

Every child has the right to develop to their fullest potential – a new measure to monitor SDG indicator 4.2.1

UNICEF

- To improve global reporting on SDG indicator 4.2.1, UNICEF has designed the Early Childhood Development Index 2030 that captures the achievement of key developmental milestones by children between the ages of 24 and 59 months.

Children in Roma settlements fall behind in the progress towards SDG 4

UNICEF

- Only marginal progress has been made for children in Roma settlements over the last decade in terms of improving access to education.

How improving the statistical system is turning political commitments on gender equality into policy action in Kyrgyzstan

PARIS21

- Under the UN Women's "Women Count" initiative, guided by the Framework for Assessing Gender Statistics and using PARIS21's ADAPT free online data planning tool, the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic has been preparing a new National Strategy for the Development of Statistics that contains a dedicated gender statistics plan.

Childcare, women's employment, and the impact of Covid-19 in Moldova

UN Moldova

- The pandemic had a disproportionate impact on Moldovan women, affecting them in terms of employment, income, and distribution of parenting responsibilities, thus reducing their wellbeing and safety.

Integrating data from different sources for measuring gender aspects of trade

UNECE and UNCTAD

- Notably less women than men are employed in companies involved in external trade.
- Novel data from Georgia shows a slight trend towards a more balanced gender distribution, and opens new avenues for considering enterprise ownership, wages, skill levels and type of trade in the measurement.

Fighting stigma of disability with style

UN Moldova

- Broad multi-stakeholder innovative partnerships can help empower persons with disabilities and change public perceptions and attitudes towards disability.
- The fashion industry has a role to play in promoting disability inclusion and fighting stigma and discrimination against persons with disabilities.

International migrants in the SDGs

IOM

- Migrants remain very difficult to identify in SDG data. Data availability on “safe migration” under target 10.7 has recently improved.

Strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices

EFTA

- Many national statistical offices improve their capacity to produce SDG indicators thanks to the training provided by the EFTA Statistical Office.

Improving the measurement of the SDGs

UNECE

- Guided by the UNECE Road Map on Statistics for SDGs, 43 UNECE countries have launched a national reporting platform for SDGs.
-



IN FOCUS:

Advancing gender equality and women's empowerment

Provided by UN Women



The mainstreaming of a gender perspective is crucial for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls constitute a goal (SDG 5) and a means for achieving the other goals that contain gender-specific targets.

With only eight years left until 2030, and the Covid-19 pandemic threatening to deteriorate gains made since the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995, investing in the capabilities, dignity and human rights of all women and girls without distinction, across multiple sectors and throughout the life course has never been more important. An assessment of selected SDG targets based on the data available in the United Nations Global SDG Indicators Database confirms that countries in the UNECE region have made significant strides in the pursuit of gender equality and women's empowerment. However, progress has been impeded by the Covid-19 pandemic, which may reverse many of the gains of the last decade.

Where does the UNECE region stand on gender, equal power, and representation in leadership positions?

Few countries are close to gender parity in leadership positions

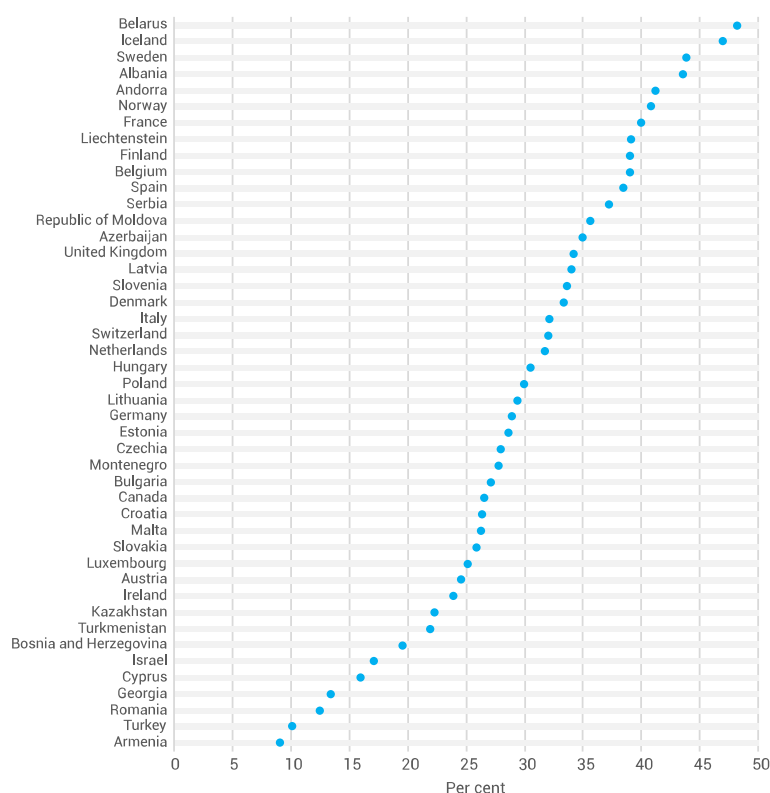
Women's equal participation and leadership in political and public life are crucial in achieving sustainable development. Under-representation in positions of power and leadership is still the norm in

the UNECE region. Men dominate national and local politics as well as decision-making positions within the private sector. Women hold at least four in every ten seats in national parliaments in only 9 of 56 UNECE countries. When it comes to local government, only 7 of 46 UNECE countries with data have achieved this level of representation. Ten countries have reached or surpassed 40 per cent of women in managerial positions.

Based on the latest data available for 2021, women account for at least 40 per cent of representatives in national parliaments in 9 countries in the region, including Sweden (47 per cent), Andorra (46 per cent), Finland (46 per cent), Norway (44 per cent) and Spain (44 per cent).⁵ However, there are eight countries across the region in which women’s representation in national parliaments stands below 20 per cent. If adequately designed and enforced, temporary special measures, including quotas, can accelerate women’s political representation at all levels. As of February 2022, 40 of 56 UNECE countries had electoral quotas for women in lower chambers and unicameral parliaments.⁶

While acknowledging the advancements made towards ensuring women’s participation in local governments, overall progress is still slow as the latest available data from 46 UNECE countries shows. Women hold at least four in every ten elected seats in deliberative bodies of local government only in 7 UNECE countries, including Belarus (48 per cent), Iceland (47 per cent), Sweden (44 per cent), Albania (44 per cent), Norway (41 per cent) and Andorra (41 per cent). There is considerable variation across countries for this indicator and in eight countries women hold 20 per cent or less of seats in local governments (Figure 1).

Figure 1
Proportion of seats held by women in local governments, 2017-2020 (SDG Indicator 5.5.1b)



Source: Global SDG Indicators Database.

⁵ These countries would meet the target if the threshold were to be set between 40 per cent and 60 per cent, with the aim of no more than 60 per cent of either sex being represented in parliament.

⁶ IPU. 2022. [Parline Database](#). Accessed 8 February 2022

Managerial positions are gender imbalanced in most of the countries. Based on the latest data available for the period 2017-2020, women hold at least 40 per cent of managerial positions in 10 of the 48 UNECE countries with data, including Belarus (49 per cent), Latvia (46), the Republic of Moldova (46), the Russian Federation (45) and Poland (43 per cent). In three countries, however, women hold one quarter or less of all managerial positions. This same pattern is observed if only high-level positions are considered: in 8 of 39 countries with recent data available, women account for at least 40 per cent of senior and middle managers, including in Iceland (44 per cent), Latvia (44 per cent), the United States (42 per cent) and the Russian Federation (42 per cent). In three countries, women hold one quarter or less of such positions.

A gender-responsive recovery to the Covid-19 pandemic depends on the effective participation of women in the decision-making bodies tackling the epidemic and its socio-economic consequences. Women have been at the centre of the pandemic response, occupying crucial positions as frontline medical workers, researchers, and educators, yet they remain significantly underrepresented in country-level Covid-19 task forces. As of November 2021, women held at least for in every ten positions in such bodies in Iceland (100 per cent), Ireland (57), Estonia (55), Canada (50), Finland (48), Austria (44), Italy (43), Portugal (41) and Belgium (40 per cent).⁷

What progress has been made on equal participation in the economy?

Large gender gaps remain in labour force participation and time spent on household chores.

Structural barriers to gender equality and gender discrimination prevail in labour markets, manifesting as gaps in labour force participation and pay, occupational segregation, unemployment and the unequal distribution of unpaid care and domestic work. Women's workforce participation has generally moved closer to men's, however large gender disparities persist among the prime working-age population. Prime-age mothers (aged 25–54 years) of young children (under 6 years of age) are particularly penalized in the labour market in terms of participation, pay and access to leadership positions. Data for the period 2018–2021 reveal that the gender gap in labour force participation among couples with small children exceeds 15 percentage points in 24 countries in the region. More than 90 per cent of fathers aged 25–54 are engaged in the workforce in all countries with data. Labour force participation among mothers this age approaches a high level – 80 per cent or more – in only six countries, (Austria, Croatia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal and Slovenia).⁸

For many women across the region, the countless hours spent on unpaid care and domestic work remain an obstacle for accessing decent employment. Women continue to bear a disproportionate responsibility for household chores and care duties in most of countries. Data available for eleven UNECE countries for the period 2015-2020 reveals that even prior to Covid-19 women already spend up to twice as many hours performing unpaid care and domestic work tasks than men in Canada, Switzerland, the United States, Kyrgyzstan, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Belarus. In some countries like Serbia, North Macedonia and Kazakhstan, this ratio stands between 2 and 3 times and at over 5 times in Turkey. The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated women's unpaid care and domestic work burden on an unprecedented scale, oftentimes impacting their physical and mental health. Investments in the care economy are therefore central as the UNECE region recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Care leave policies such as maternity, paternity and parental leave, and flexible working arrangements can help working parents combine paid work and family responsibilities and encourage a more even

⁷ UNDP, UN Women, UN Volunteers and University of Pittsburgh. 2021. COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker – [Factsheet on COVID-19 Task Force Participation](#). Accessed 11 February 2022,

⁸ ILO. 2022. [ILOSTAT Database](#). Accessed 11 February 2022

division of work at home.⁹ Affordable early childhood education and care services can also enable women to participate in the workforce and create decent jobs in the paid care sector. The lack of kindergartens and pre-schools in some countries impedes women's engagement in paid work. In only a few countries does the share of children aged less than 3 years enrolled in formal childcare services exceed 40 per cent: Slovenia (42 per cent), Luxembourg (47 per cent), Portugal (51 per cent), Norway (56 per cent) and Denmark (66 per cent).¹⁰ Countries should further promote equal take-up of parental leave among women and men strengthen the public and private provision of childcare services, and implement policies on flexible working arrangements.

Protecting dignity and human rights of women and girls

Many UNECE countries have taken action to combat the rise of violence against women during the pandemic.

With few exceptions, women in the region can make their own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care, and the prevalence of early marriage is low.

Women are more likely to experience multidimensional poverty than men.

Women and girls in the UNECE region have the right to live in dignity, free from fear, coercion, violence and discrimination. Yet they continue to endure human rights violations in the public and private spheres that hamper equality in all areas of life. According to the WHO Violence Against Women Prevalence Estimates for 2018 which provide data for 48 UNECE countries,¹¹ around one in every ten women aged 15 or older has experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner in Tajikistan (12 per cent), Kyrgyzstan (12 per cent) and Turkey (10 per cent). In contrast, the prevalence of intimate partner violence is 5 per cent or less in 39 UNECE countries. Iceland (2 per cent), Canada (2 per cent) and Switzerland (1 per cent) have achieved most progress in this area ([Figure 2](#)).

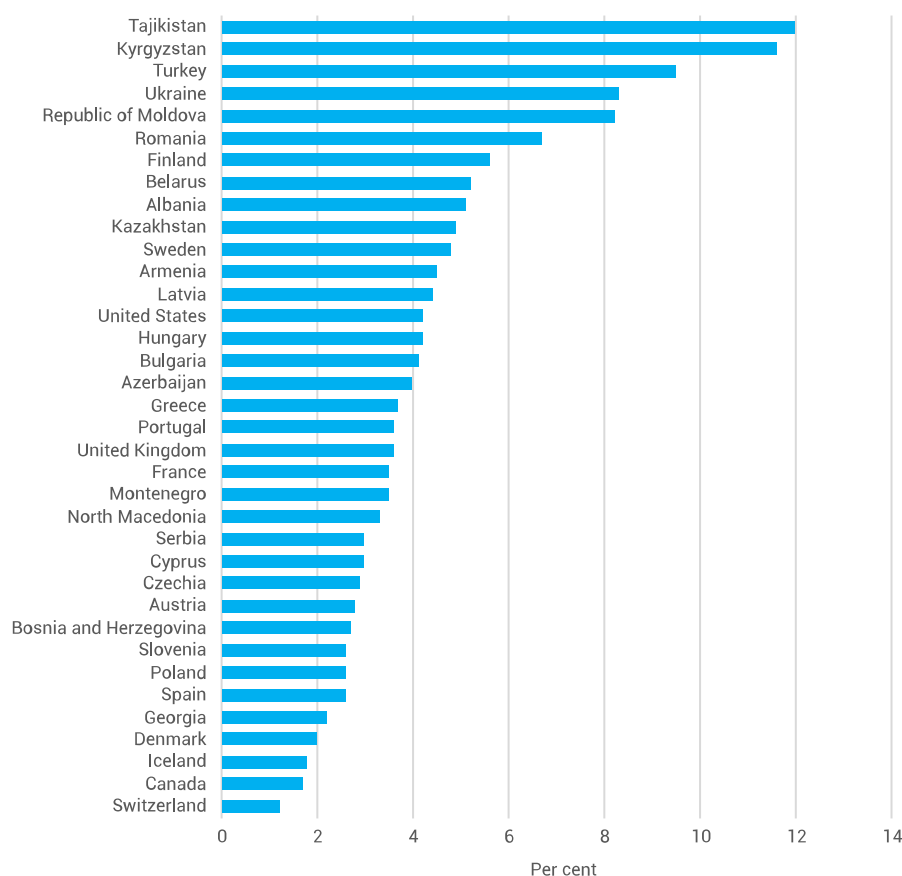
⁹ ILO. 2021. [Building Forward Fairer: Women's rights to work and at work at the core of the COVID-19 recovery](#) – Policy Brief. Accessed 8 February 2022.

¹⁰ Eurostat, 2020, [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_caindformal\\$DV_404/default/table?lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_caindformal$DV_404/default/table?lang=en)

¹¹ The WHO Violence Against Women Prevalence Estimates for 2018 are based on nationally or sub-nationally representative surveys and studies conducted between 2000 and 2018 and that measured intimate partner violence using act-specific questions.

Figure 2

Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, 2018, (SDG Indicator 5.2.1)



Source: Global SDG Indicators Database.

Violence against women, and domestic violence in particular, has intensified since the outbreak of Covid-19. Countries in the region have prioritized addressing this shadow pandemic as part of their Covid-19 policy responses. For instance, Denmark funded an additional 25 temporary shelters, Malta and Montenegro introduced silent reporting through a mobile phone app, Kyrgyzstan expanded and strengthened existing hotlines, including online psychological services, and Romania organized online awareness campaigns with the participation of public figures.¹²

The prevalence of early, child and forced marriage in the UNECE region is significantly lower compared to other regions of the world (indicator 5.3.1). Yet this harmful practice, which severely curtails girls' opportunities throughout their life course, remains common in some Eastern European and Central Asian countries. Among the fifteen UNECE countries with recent data available, more than one in every ten women aged 20–24 were married before age 18 in Turkey (15 per cent), Georgia (14 per cent), Kyrgyzstan (13 per cent) and Albania (12 per cent).

Women's and girls' autonomy in decision making about sexual and reproductive health, contraceptive use and consensual sexual relations is key to their empowerment and the full exercise of their reproductive rights. The share of married or in-union women of reproductive age that can make their own informed decisions in these domains (indicator 5.6.1) varies considerably across the eight UNECE countries with data. It stands at over three-quarters in Serbia (96 per cent), North Macedonia (88 per

¹² UNDP, UN Women, UN Volunteers and University of Pittsburgh. 2022. [COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker](#). Accessed 8 February 2022

cent) and Georgia (82 per cent), at around two-thirds in the Republic of Moldova (73 per cent), Albania (69 per cent), Armenia (66 per cent) and Turkmenistan (59 per cent), and at one third in Tajikistan (33 per cent).

The most progress in the development of national laws and regulations to guarantee full and equal access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education (indicator 5.6.2) is observed in Sweden (100 per cent), Finland (98 per cent), the Netherlands (98 per cent), Georgia (93 per cent), Switzerland (92 per cent), the United Kingdom (92 per cent), Denmark (90 per cent), and Malta (90 per cent), based on data available for 2019.

The availability of and access to social protection and social services is crucial to reduce female poverty, combat inequality and promote social inclusion. Multi-dimensional poverty in the UNECE region has a female face. In all but two countries with data women are more likely than men to live in multi-dimensional poverty (indicator 1.2.2). More than one third of women in Greece (31 per cent), Romania (32 per cent), Bulgaria (34 per cent), Turkey (41 per cent) and North Macedonia (41 per cent) are multi-dimensionally poor. Gender gaps are largest in Latvia (30 per cent of men compared to 25 per cent of men), Lithuania (28 and 24 per cent) and Bulgaria (34 and 30 per cent).

In three quarters of countries with data, all mothers with newborns receive maternity cash. Gaps in pension access to pensions remain (indicator 1.3.1). Universal pension coverage has been achieved among men in 37 of 45 countries with data but among women in only 26 of 45 countries (indicator 1.3.1).

UNECE countries prioritized access to social protection and social services at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, with many introducing new cash transfer programmes, cash for care, in-kind support and social pension schemes. For instance, North Macedonia targeted single parents, most of whom are women, with a one-time cash payment, while Belarus provided in-kind support to deliver foods and medicines to elderly people and persons with disabilities through district-level social protection centres.¹³ In the Netherlands parents who continued to pay for childcare during the closure of childcare facilities between March and June 2020 received compensation from the government.¹³



¹³ UNDP, UN Women, UN Volunteers and University of Pittsburgh. 2022. [COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker](#). Accessed 8 February 2022

Gender equality and effective learning outcomes

Girls finishing lower secondary education are more likely than boys to achieve the minimum proficiency level in reading whereas the picture is mixed in mathematics.

In most countries, more than 90 per cent of women have a mobile phone.

The achievement of equal learning outcomes among girls and boys is key to reverse educational segregation at the tertiary level and the feminization of certain labour sectors and occupations. Girls finishing lower secondary education are more likely than boys to achieve the minimum proficiency level in reading in all UNECE countries with recent data (indicator 4.1.1). The overall share of girls achieving proficiency, however, varies widely across the region, ranging from more than 90 per cent in Finland (93 per cent), Estonia (92 per cent), Ireland (92 per cent), Canada (90 per cent) and Poland (90 per cent) to just around less than half in Georgia (44 per cent) and Kazakhstan (43 per cent).

The picture is mixed in when it comes to achieving minimum proficiency in mathematics at the end of the same educational period. Girls perform better than boys in 26 of the 44 UNECE countries with data. The highest levels of minimum proficiency among girls are observed in Estonia (90 per cent), Finland (87 per cent), Poland (86 per cent) and Denmark (86 per cent). Girls are more likely than boys to complete lower secondary education in 7 of the 11 countries with sex-disaggregated, with female completion rates exceeding 93 per cent in all countries (indicator 4.1.2).

New technologies hold enormous potential for the empowerment of women and girls, yet it remains essential to close the gender digital divide, so that women have equal access to digital tools and can participate equally in the development of technology. At the same time, new risks such as cyber violence, threats to privacy rights or algorithms that perpetuate unconscious bias also need to be eliminated. Mobile phone ownership among women (indicator 5.b.1) is above 90 percent in more than half of countries with data and nearly universal in Cyprus (98 per cent), Finland (98 per cent), Spain (97 per cent), the Russian Federation (97 per cent), Slovenia (97 per cent), Belarus (96 per cent), Lithuania (96 per cent), Czechia (96 per cent) and Romania (95 per cent).

The Covid-19 pandemic disrupted education systems in the UNECE region. Between mid-February 2020 and December 2021, schools in 27 out of 49 UNECE countries with available data were closed for at least 100 days.¹⁴ Although countries have implemented various forms of remote learning, including online classes, not all children have benefited equally. Girls from the poorest communities lack computers and other related technologies. Similarly, the conflicting demands of work and home-schooling have increased the care burden for parents, and for women in particular.

Gender-responsive laws, policies and budgets are key for women's empowerment

The UNECE region has made notable progress in the development and enforcement of legal frameworks to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls (indicator 5.1.1). However, gaps remain in the areas of public life, violence against women, employment and economic benefits, and marriage and the family.

The latest data available confirm that 9 of 40 UNECE countries have successfully implemented overarching legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality in public life: Albania, Croatia, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova and Spain. No UNECE country has yet met the target to put in place legal frameworks on preventing violence against women. However, fifteen UNECE countries are close to achieving the target, all scoring 92 per

¹⁴ UNESCO UIS. 2022. [Dashboards on the global monitoring of school closures caused by the COVID-19 pandemic](#). Accessed 11 February 2022

cent on assessments of legal frameworks in this area: Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Iceland, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

Concerning the progress on legal frameworks that promote employment and economic benefits, data show that twenty countries have already met this specific: Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, and Sweden. Only Germany has met the target related to promotion and enforcement of legal acts on marriage and family from gender perspective, though nine other countries are close to achieving it (assessment scores of 91 per cent): Albania, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Further progress needs to be made in developing, adopting and implementing methodologies for gender-responsive budgeting (target 5.c), especially in Covid-19 response and recovery efforts. None of the eight UNECE countries with data fully meet the three criteria – intent, allocation tracking and transparency – to make systematic public budget allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment. Azerbaijan and Montenegro do not meet any requirements, while Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova meet at least one of the three criteria.

More gender data is available now, but coverage varies by country and indicator

Quality and timely gender data are crucial to informing public policies and programmes, and achieving and monitoring progress towards effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The limited data available to monitor some Goal 5 targets calls for increased investments in the collection, analysis and dissemination of related indicators. As of January 2022, 47 per cent of the data required to monitor SDG 5 is available for the UNECE region, although large regional variations are observed across countries.¹⁵

Data availability also differs significantly across the 19 Goal 5 indicators. For instance, all 56 countries have data available since 2015 on the representation in national parliaments (5.5.1a), while 48 countries have data on intimate partner violence (5.2.1) and access to managerial positions (5.5.2), 46 countries report data on representation in local governments bodies (5.5.1b) and 40 countries report on legal frameworks for gender equality and non-discrimination (5.1.1). In contrast, no more than 20 per cent of UNECE countries have data available since 2015 on key topics such as time spent on unpaid domestic and care work (5.4.1), decision-making on sexual and reproductive health (5.6.1), gender-responsive budgeting (5.c.1).

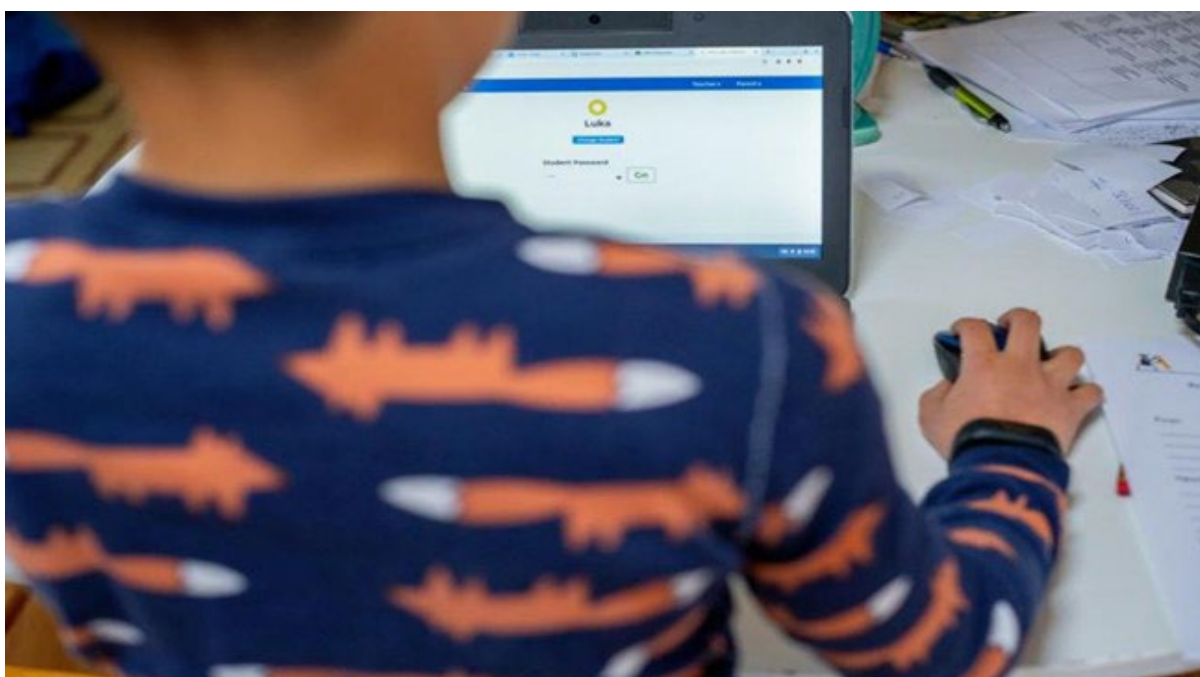
Data across multiple years that show trends over time are available for very few SDG indicators. Differences in the frequency of data collection and compilation and the fact that some indicators were newly introduced as part of the SDG framework partially explain the lack of cross-temporal data. Large gaps remain in the availability of disaggregated data by sex and intersecting vulnerabilities, such as age, geographic location, disability status, HIV status, migratory status, ethnicity, race, and sexual orientation and gender identity to monitor gender-relevant SDG targets beyond Goal 5. National statistical offices and other key actors have undertaken huge efforts to improve gender data availability, however, more bold and decisive investments are needed to sustain the progress and to strengthen countries capacity to measure and inform progress on gender equality and women’s empowerment.

¹⁵ Regional and country-level estimates are based on 19 SDG 5 indicators. It is assumed that a country has data available for an indicator if at least one data point for the reference period 2015 or later is available in the SDG Global Database.



Re-imagining education for marginalized girls and boys during and post Covid-19 in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Provided by UN Bosnia and Herzegovina



Enhancing e-learning and blended learning promotes literacy and quality learning outcomes

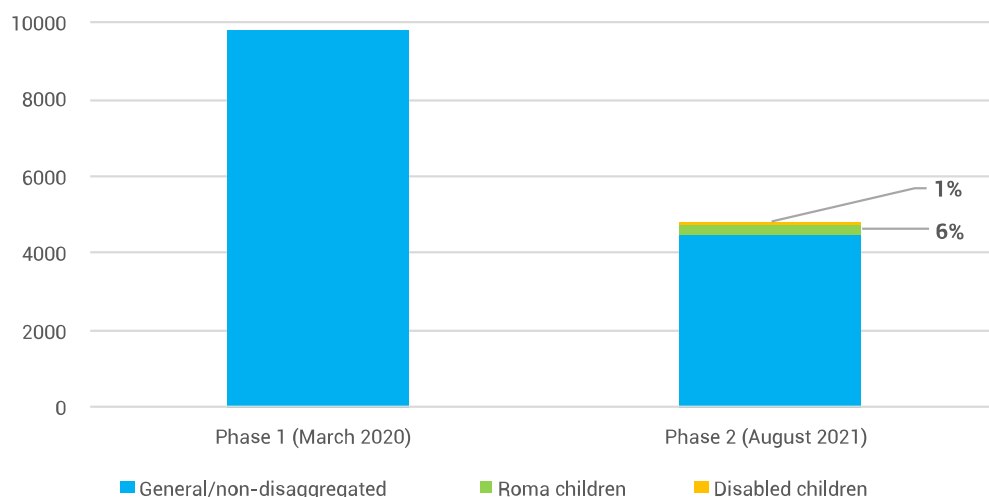
Rapid shift to online learning highlights digital divide

Since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the rapid shift to an online learning environment has demonstrated the potential of digital learning – but it has also highlighted the digital divide. Approximately 500,000 children and youth have been affected by countrywide closures of all education institutions from March 2020. Learning loss, caused by Covid-19, disproportionately affected the most vulnerable children and youth¹⁶ across the country. In March 2020, the Bosnia and Herzegovina education authorities estimated that the lack of continuum of learning affected over 9,700 children in primary and secondary schools, as well as 523 primary and secondary school teachers, including in

¹⁶ UNICEF Bosnia and Herzegovina and UNESCO Bosnia and Herzegovina. (March 2020). Reducing the Impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on children's and youth's learning in Bosnia and Herzegovina: rapid situation and needs assessment – education in Bosnia and Herzegovina phase I.

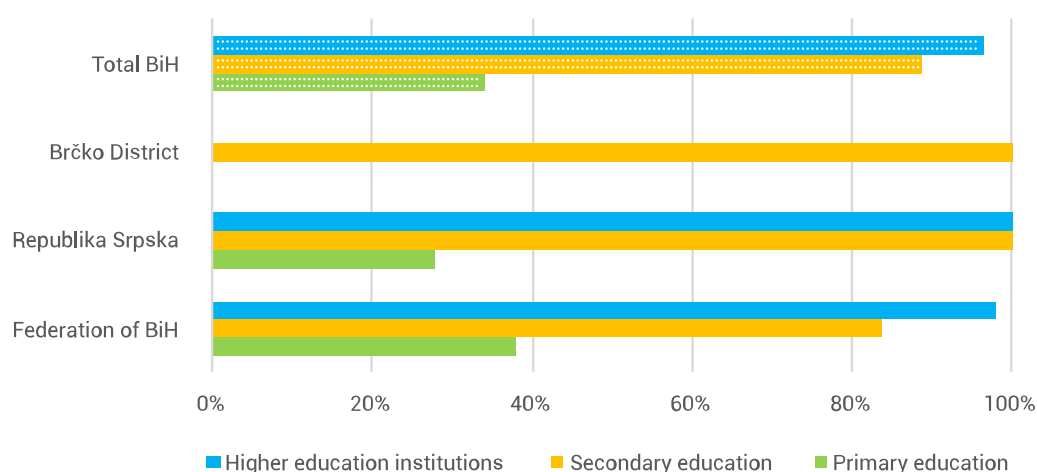
vocational education and training, who did not have access to information and communication technology (ICT)¹⁷.

Figure 3
Number of primary and secondary school children missing online classes due to lack of ICT access



A UNICEF/UNESCO analysis of the existing ICT infrastructure elements for primary, secondary, and higher education in all administrative units of Bosnia and Herzegovina showed that 53 per cent of primary schools do not have a permanent internet connection, while 66 per cent do not have a computer classroom. Moreover, the number of educational institutions that use more accessible forms of ICT technology in teaching such as Netbook and tablet computers is relatively low at all levels of education.

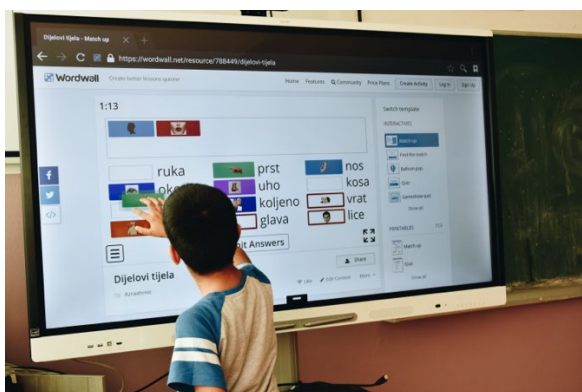
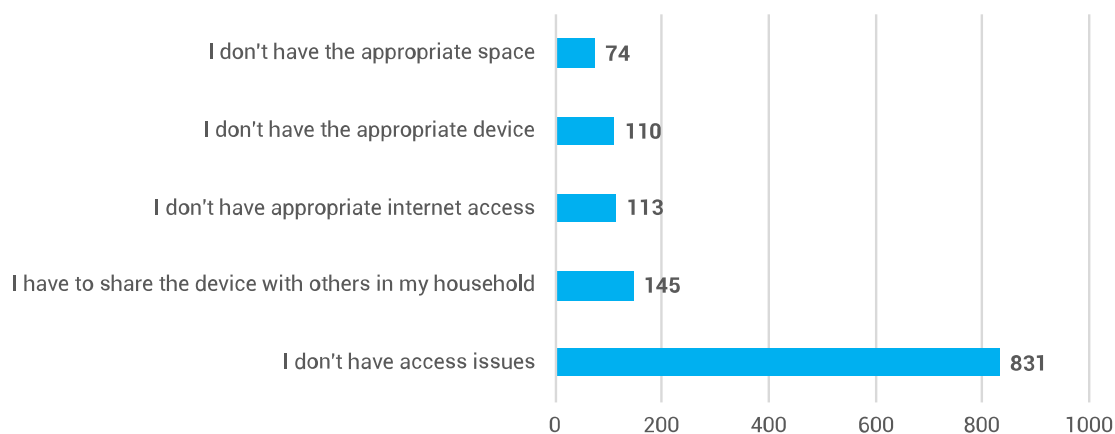
Figure 4
Schools with a computer classroom



¹⁷ UNICEF Bosnia and Herzegovina and UNESCO Bosnia and Herzegovina. (August 2020). [Reducing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on children’s and youth’s learning in Bosnia and Herzegovina: rapid situation and needs assessment - education in Bosnia and Herzegovina phase II.](#)

Among the children who had access to online learning platforms, not all had optimum conditions for learning. Data from UNICEF’s U-report in Bosnia and Herzegovina shows that 35 per cent of young people (1,273 respondents) faced difficulties with access such as lack of devices and the Internet, but also with the necessity to share devices within the household and with the lack of appropriate space for learning.¹⁸

Figure 5
Most common challenges relating to student's access to online education



Advancing reform, applying innovation, and developing blended learning to ensure the resilience of the education sector

In response to the fallouts caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, three United Nations agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina – UNESCO, UNICEF and ILO – with support of UN Volunteers joined efforts to support the education authorities to address learning inequalities, focusing on the most marginalized through implementation of a human-centred and gender responsive project “Re-imagining education for marginalized girls and boys during and post Covid-19 in Bosnia and Herzegovina”. The joint UN project was launched in March 2021 in three selected education administrative units (Republika Srpska entity, West-Herzegovina Canton, and Una-Sana Canton), and is implemented in close cooperation with the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the respective education ministries.

As the rapid shift to distance learning highlighted the persistent digital divide in terms of connectivity, infrastructure, and the digital skills of teachers/trainers for e-learning and blended learning, the UN

¹⁸ UNICEF (2021). [U-Report](#).

implementing agencies supported the “Assessment of quality of e-learning delivery of primary, secondary (including technical and vocational) and higher education”, and the “Assessment of professional development needs of teachers”. The aim is to assist education authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina at all levels in better-informed decision-making as well as in quality planning of digital competency development of teachers for quality inclusive e-learning and blended learning, which would increase functional literacy of all pupils. In September 2021, the project launched the installation of Information Management System in Una-Sana Canton to support the digitalization of the education process through quality data management. At the same time, this activity helps build a more resilient system which can prevent, mitigate impacts, and respond quickly to emergencies, particularly when addressing the needs of the most vulnerable students.¹⁹

The project recognized that defining basic ICT standards in education is one of the main prerequisites in education digitalization process. The UN implementing agencies convened a working group consisting of education authorities to define these ICT standards, including equipment, stable and accessible Internet connectivity, as well as the necessary security measures. The minimum standards determined the lower limit of ICT acceptable equipment which helps education authorities to achieve the goals of standardization of ICT to be used in educational institutions across all administrative units of Bosnia and Herzegovina.²⁰



¹⁹ United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina (10 March 2021). *Reimagining Education for Marginalised Girls and Boys during and post COVID-19 in Bosnia and Herzegovina*. Retrieved from: <https://bosniaherzegovina.un.org/en/115640-reimagining-education-marginalised-girls-and-boys-during-and-post-covid-19-bosnia-and>

²⁰ United Nations in Bosnia and Herzegovina (15 December 2021). *ICT Standards in BiH Education Systems Ensure Efficiency and Continuity of Learning for All Children Equally*. Retrieved from: <https://bosniaherzegovina.un.org/en/165283-ict-standards-bih-education-systems-ensure-efficiency-and-continuity-learning-all-children>



Connectivity in education: status and recent developments in 9 European countries

Provided by ITU



Households' lack of access to the Internet, and lack of PCs at school and at home hinder learning opportunities for children, which translates into inequalities in the digital sphere.

Identifying the key trends that characterize the interplay between the development of education systems and broadband connectivity development is crucial to grasp the opportunities of connectivity in education.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are a crucial enabler of the learning process. Unequal pre-existing infrastructure in households and schools contributes to the digital divide and is a major driver of the longer-term crisis of learning, particularly affecting marginalized children, including children with disabilities, Roma and other ethnic and linguistic minorities, girls, and those from the poorest household.

School connectivity can equip schools to ensure continuity in education service delivery, whether face-to-face or at a distance. It can enrich teaching and learning by providing access to a wide range of quality content. It can support inclusion by enabling the use of assistive and adaptive technologies.

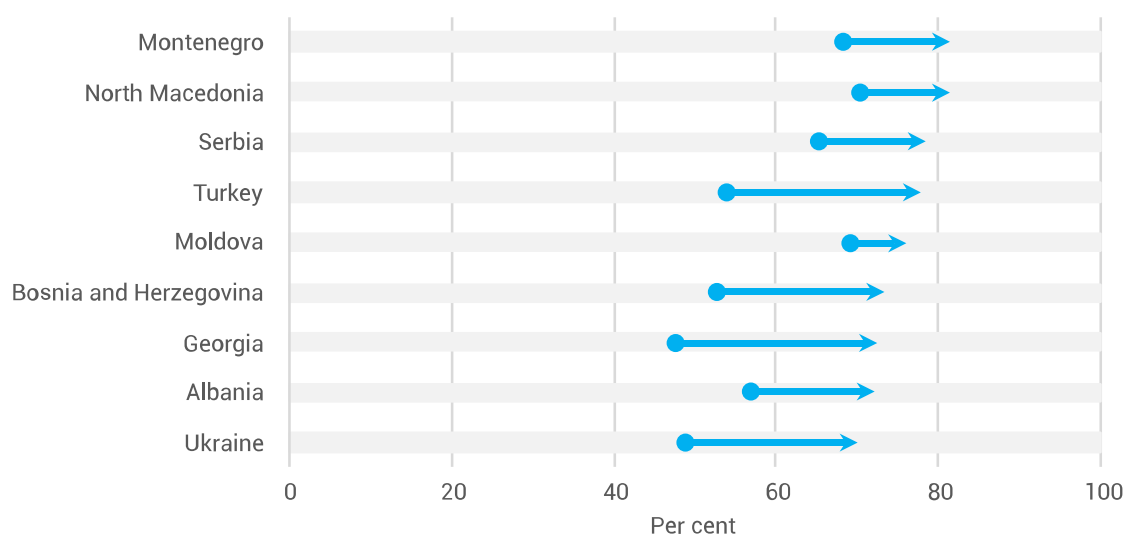
Connectivity can improve the collection and use of data and the integration of education management information systems for better administration of the scholastic system, from the central to the local government and the school itself. And it can drive innovative, local solutions for connecting all young people to the internet and to quality learning and skills development.

The countries of the European Union (EU) play a leadership role in school connectivity globally, which translates into both the efficient management and use of resources from a public administration perspective and the possibility of implementing educational policies that include digital skills development in curricula. Some non-EU countries in Europe, however, face multiple barriers in this regard, frequently characterized by the high costs of both network deployment and access to ICTs equipment coupled with inadequately trained human capital, which often results in the lack of a sound strategic approach at the national level. In consideration of the above, nine countries have been identified as a priority in Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Turkey, and Ukraine.²¹ In these countries, there exists a crisis of learning in education. Of the 25 million pupils of age from 6 to 17 enrolled in school in the 9 countries, close to 9.8 million (about 40 per cent)^{22,23} are not achieving minimum proficiency in the foundational skills needed for further learning and over 2 million, or 8 per cent of children, are out of school. The Covid-19 pandemic laid bare the inequalities that can be exacerbated by the digital divide. In the 9 countries, 23 million primary and secondary school children were impacted by school closures.

While 34.6 million people have been brought online since 2015 in the 9 countries, 37.3 million (25% of the population) still do not make use of the Internet. Coverage by 4G LTE technology in these countries has grown from 10 per cent of the population in 2015 to 91 per cent in 2019.

Figure 6

Percentage of population using the internet 2015 and 2020



Note: Moldova (2015 and 2017), Ukraine (2015 and 2019)

Is mobile the solution? Devices such as smartphones and tablets have lower fixed costs, require limited digital skills, and allow for greater geographic mobility. But they may require higher levels of digital skills when used for learning, the efficacy of smartphones for delivering quality education and engaging

²¹ Hereafter “the 9 countries”.

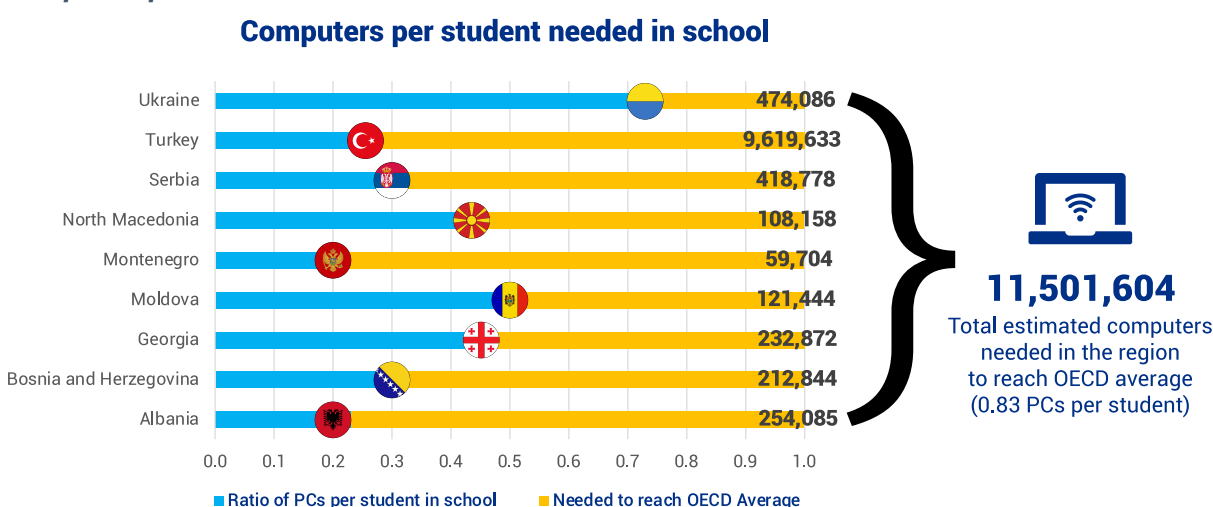
²² ITU and UNICEF (2021). [Connectivity in education: status and recent development in 9 non-European union countries.](#)

²³ UNICEF calculation of the number of students in primary, lower and upper secondary not achieving minimum proficiency in math; data for Albania is calculated using the latest figures available from UIS and PISA.

in digital learning over long periods of time is disputed, and only one third of the population of the 9 countries has a subscription to mobile broadband.

Eleven million, or 24 per cent of households, do not have access to the internet in the 9 countries. In addition, the number of households with PCs grew by only 7.9 per cent over the period 2015-2019, meaning that 18 million of households are not equipped with a personal computer across the 9 countries. The national averages of PCs per student range from 0.21 in Montenegro to 0.72 in Ukraine, which is low by comparison to countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). An estimated 11.5 million computers are needed across these countries to reach the OECD average of 0.83 PCs per student.

Figure 7
Computers per student needed in school



The cost for filling these gaps could range between 1 billion and 12 billion United States dollars without counting maintenance cost and staff upskilling; with the low-range estimate being only for the cheapest-available devices that would not be ideal for education, and the high-range estimate assuming a higher-end computer and monitor.

There is a need to ensure that ministries of education in all countries are included in decision-making and that sustainable investment in ICT for education is accounted for in national budgets. The ministries have not yet capitalized on innovative funding mechanisms on a large scale to ensure connectivity in education. International organizations and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) have been active in closing the gap by facilitating partnerships with governments and the private sector and providing technical assistance or funding. These have aimed to decrease the costs of and improve access to household connectivity and devices and procure connectivity contracts in public administrations. A multi-strategic approach can catalyse the much-needed conditions for the digitalization of education management and policy planning and assessment, thereby spurring a virtuous circle of mutual reinforcement that is able to sustainably propel digital development and enrich the education sector at the national level.



UNESCO monitors Covid-19 impact on education: a comparative perspective for the UNECE region

Provided by UNESCO



Factors of success in mitigating COVID-19 impact on education were found to be two-fold: 1) determination to avoid disruption of learning; 2) offering a wide range of options, including distance learning and hybrid learning

Covid-19 threatened to disrupt the continuation of learning due to school closures thus jeopardizing the achievement of SDG targets 4.1, 4.5, and 4.6.

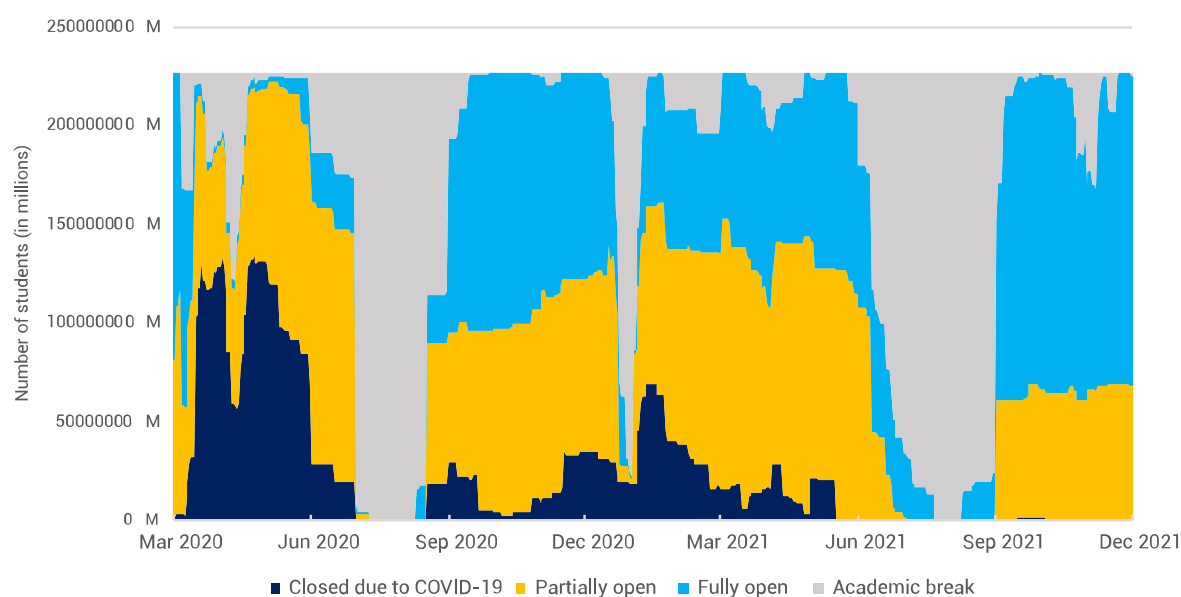
Soon after the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, as the global leader in anticipating and responding to emerging trends and needs in education, UNESCO set up an Agile Working Group entrusted with the monitoring school closures. Later, this mandate has been expanded to include tracking the evolution, scale, policy responses and impacts of the COVID-19 caused closures of educational institutions worldwide. Data gathering and validation process is being ensured by triangulating diverse data source, including through the field network of UNESCO, official sources, and information as well as local media in diverse languages.

The following stories concerning the response of the UNECE region is excerpted from UNESCO's worldwide initiative.

A significant reduction in the number of students impacted by school closures due to COVID-19 in UNECE countries

At the peak of the COVID-19 in 2020, schools were forced to shut nationwide in 45 countries and partially in 7 countries, heavily impacting 222 million primary and secondary students, accounting for 98 per cent of total student population in the UNECE region²⁴. Almost two years later, the figure of impacted students has dropped by more than 70 per cent. In only 5 countries schools remain partially closed, affecting 68 million students.

Figure 8
The evolution of number of learners impacted by different school status



Source: UNESCO, 2020. [Education: From disruption to recovery](#). (Accessed 01 December 2021)

Since the end of the academic year 2020-2021, no full school closures in UNECE countries thanks to alternative education offers

Partial closures in the form of shifting all grades or some levels to online learning or hybrid learning in areas with high infection²⁵ or in schools with low percentage of education staff vaccination²⁶ have become popular policy measures. Moreover, delegating the decisions of school closures to local authorities²⁷ and prioritizing certain levels²⁸ to attend in-person learning have been also the trend. In response to the new wave of COVID-19 and the emerging new variants of COVID-19, instead of shutting schools widely, many countries have introduced new regulations, for instance, strengthening health

²⁴ The total number of students in the 56 member countries of UNECE is 227 million. See [methodological note on the definition of school closures](#) and [global map](#).

²⁵ In Bulgaria, when there are 750 patients per 100,000 people in the municipality, schools will move to distance learning.

²⁶ In Romania, physical presence was permitted in schools where at least 60 percent of education staff are vaccinated. In Ukraine, secondary students can attend in-person classes if 80 percent of education staff is vaccinated.

²⁷ Denmark, Germany, Canada, and the United States all decentralized the decision of school re-opening or closures to their local municipalities.

²⁸ In Austria, France, Greece, and the Netherlands, there were times when children at primary level could go to schools and other levels continued online or hybrid learning.

measures at schools (e.g., Netherlands, France, United Kingdom), extending academic breaks (e.g., Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Serbia), or switching to partial closures with dispersal attendance to curb the spread of COVID-19 (e.g., Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine). This demonstrates diverse efforts and capacities of many governments to ensure schools remain open for learners.

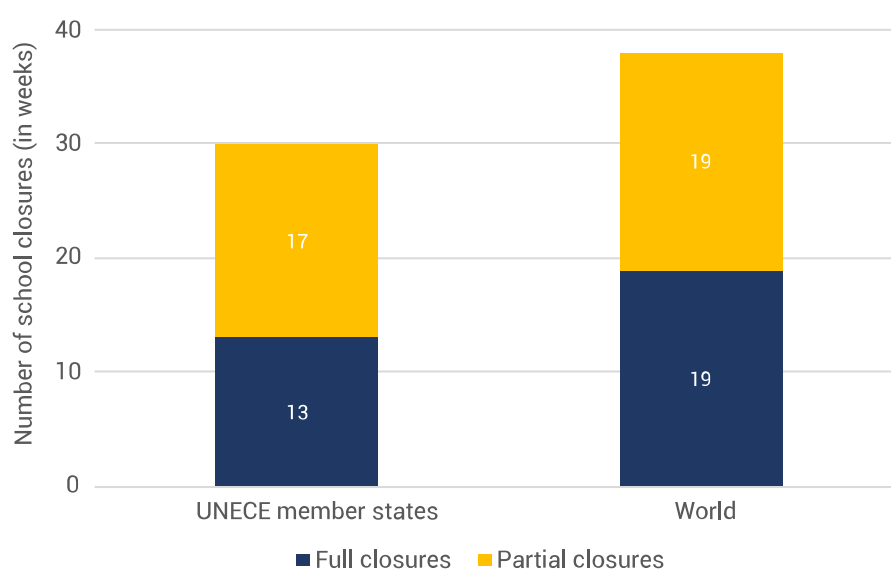


Disruption periods in UNECE countries shorter than the world average

The duration of nationwide school closures in UNECE countries is on average 13 weeks to-date, accounting for only two thirds of the world average. Yet the highest average number of disrupted in-person instruction weeks was seen in Southeast Europe and South Caucasus, with an average of 19 weeks of complete school shutdown and 20 weeks of in-person learning with restrictions, as much as the world average.

Figure 9

The average duration of school closures of UNECE member states and the world



Source: UNESCO, 2020. [Education: From disruption to recovery](#). (Accessed 01 December 2021)

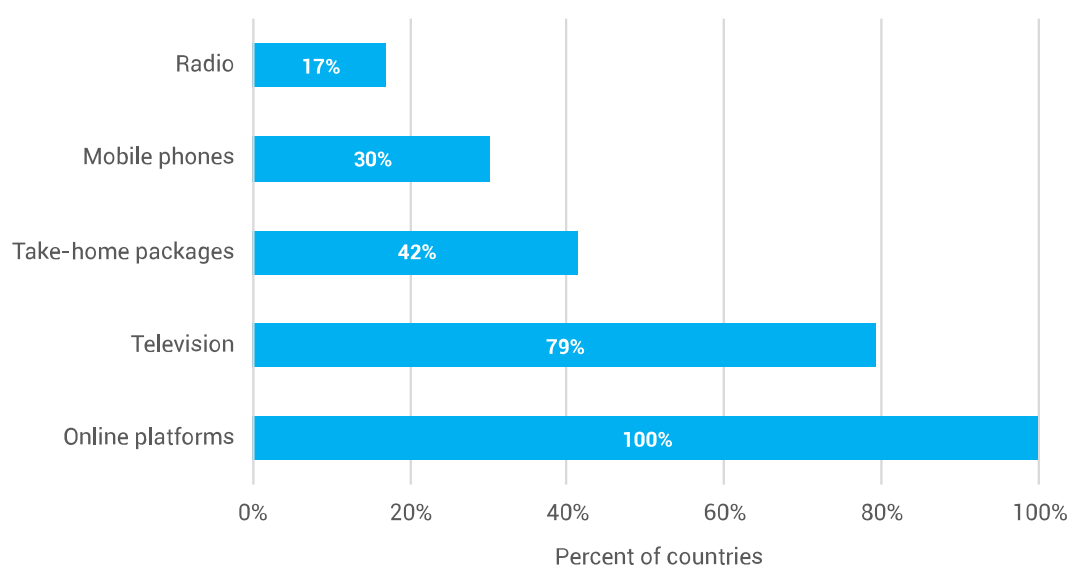
At least one remote learning solution offered by each UNECE country²⁹ to ensure learning continuity in primary and secondary schools

While online platforms were the most popular in the region, launched by all countries, radio-based platforms were the least favoured ones, implemented by only one sixth of the countries. However, provision of remote learning solutions does not necessarily guarantee the effectiveness of learning. According to the joint survey of UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank and OECD (June 2021), only one third of UNECE countries³⁰ confirmed that the students followed distance education during school closures.

Remaining UNECE countries had either no data at all or reported that between 25 and 50 percent of students had no access to distance learning. Monitoring effectiveness of distance education has become an emerging agenda towards achieving SDG 4 by 2030.

Figure 10

The share of member countries by different remote learning modalities



Source: The joint survey of UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank and OECD in June 2021, complemented by research by UNESCO.

Learning must continue even during the ongoing crisis. In response to the ongoing school closures and reopening caused by COVID-19, diverse policy measures have been taken to mitigate learning disruption in the UNECE region.

²⁹ There is no data available for Andorra, Liechtenstein, and Turkmenistan. This dataset primarily comes from the joint survey of UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank and OECD in June 2021, complemented by research carried out by UNESCO.

³⁰ 44 countries responded the joint survey of UNESCO, UNICEF, the World Bank and OECD in June 2021.



Every child has the right to develop to their fullest potential – a new measure to monitor SDG indicator 4.2.1

Provided by UNICEF



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To improve global reporting on SDG indicator 4.2.1, UNICEF has designed the Early Childhood Development Index 2030 that captures the achievement of key developmental milestones by children between the ages of 24 and 59 months.

Background

Early childhood offers a critical window of opportunity to shape the trajectory of a child's holistic development and build a foundation for their future. As children grow older and their brains mature, they learn increasingly complex skills and become progressively more independent. However, children can develop at different paces and may reach developmental milestones at different times. Child development also varies across cultures and environments, since expectations and parenting strategies may differ not only across countries but also across cultural, ethnic or religious groups within the same country. Despite some variations, all children can greatly benefit from enriching environments to nourish their developing brains and fuel their growing bodies.

Measuring children's development is a complex undertaking. In order to capture information on children's achievement of developmental milestones across countries, UNICEF, along with a technical advisory group, developed a set of specific questions to be posed to mothers/caregivers to measure the overall status of children within the domains of physical development, literacy-numeracy, social-emotional development and learning.³¹ This 10-item index – the Early Childhood Development Index, or ECDI – was added to the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys in 2009, and has since been used in over 70 countries.

The importance of Early Childhood Development (ECD) as a necessary and central component of global and national child development has been recognized by the international community through the inclusion of a dedicated target (4.2) and indicator (4.2.1) within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Until the development of a new measure, the ECDI has been used so far as a proxy indicator (children aged 36 to 59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following four domains: literacy-numeracy, physical, social-emotional and learning³²) for global reporting on indicator 4.2.1, Proportion of children aged 24-59 months who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being.

Current status for Indicator 4.2.1

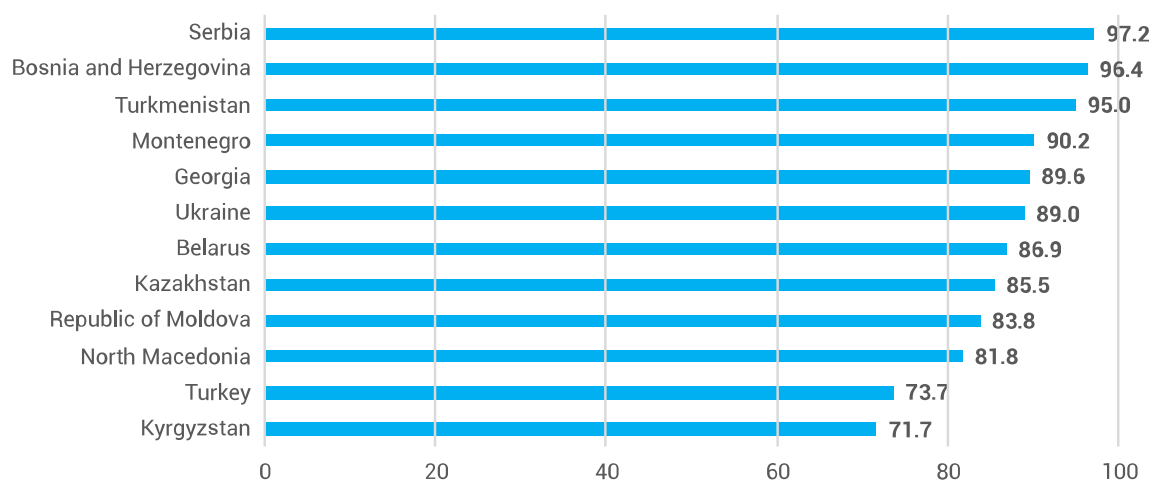
Of the countries in the UNECE region, only 1 in 5 (12 out of 56) have comparable data for global monitoring and reporting on SDG 4.2.1. In those 12 countries, more than 7 in 10 children aged 3 and 4 are developmentally on track, with levels exceeding 90 per cent in Turkmenistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. In all countries with data, children fare worse in literacy-numeracy compared to other domains.

³¹ For more information on the background of the ECDI, please see: Loizillon, A., N. Petrowski, P. Britto and C. Cappa (2017). *Development of the Early Childhood Development Index in MICS surveys*. MICS Methodological Papers, No. 6, Data and Analytics Section, Division of Data, Research and Policy, UNICEF New York.

³² The four domains are defined as follows: (1) *Literacy-numeracy*: Children are identified as being developmentally on track if they can do at least two of the following: identify/name at least 10 letters of the alphabet; read at least 4 simple, popular words; and/or know the name and recognize the symbols of all numbers from 1 to 10. (2) *Physical*: If the child can pick up a small object with two fingers, like a stick or rock from the ground, and/or the mother/primary caregiver does not indicate that the child is sometimes too sick to play, then the child is regarded as being developmentally on track in the physical domain. (3) *Social-emotional*: The child is considered developmentally on track if two of the following are true: The child gets along well with other children; the child does not kick, bite or hit other children; and the child does not get distracted easily. (4) *Learning*: If the child follows simple directions on how to do something correctly and/or when given something to do, and is able to do it independently, then the child is considered to be developmentally on track in the learning domain.

Figure 11

Percentage of children aged 36 to 59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following four domains: literacy-numeracy, physical, social-emotional and learning



Source: UNICEF global databases, 2021, based on MICS and Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), 2011-2019.

Early Childhood Development Index 2030: a new tool to measure SDG 4.2.1

Although the ECDI was one of the first international population-based measures of early childhood development, it did not cover the domains outlined in the SDG indicator formulation and was designed only for children aged three to four years.

Therefore, UNICEF, as custodian agency of 4.2.1, was tasked with leading methodological work to develop a new universal measure of early childhood development outcomes aligned with the SDG indicator formulation. Over a period of five years, a sequence of carefully planned technical steps were executed, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative methods to identify the best way to measure indicator 4.2.1. The process involved extensive consultations with experts, partner agencies and national statistical authorities. The result is the [Early Childhood Development Index 2030](#) (ECDI2030).

The ECDI2030 captures the achievement of key developmental milestones by children between the ages of 24 and 59 months. Mothers or primary caregivers are asked 20 questions about the way their children behave in certain everyday situations, and the skills and knowledge they have acquired.

The ECDI2030 addresses the need for nationally representative and internationally comparable data on early childhood development, collected in a standardized way. The module can be integrated into existing national data collection efforts. It is accompanied by standard guidance and a framework for technical assistance to support data collection. And because the data can be disaggregated by key demographics and subnational areas, the use of this measure can also help advance the SDG commitment to leave no one behind. Data generated through the ECDI2030 will be used for global reporting on SDG 4.2.1 as countries begin to implement the new measure, thus replacing the ECDI.



Children in Roma settlements fall behind in the progress towards SDG 4

Provided by UNICEF



© UNICEF/Vladimir Zivojinovic

Only marginal progress has been made for children in Roma settlements over the last decade in terms of improving access to education.

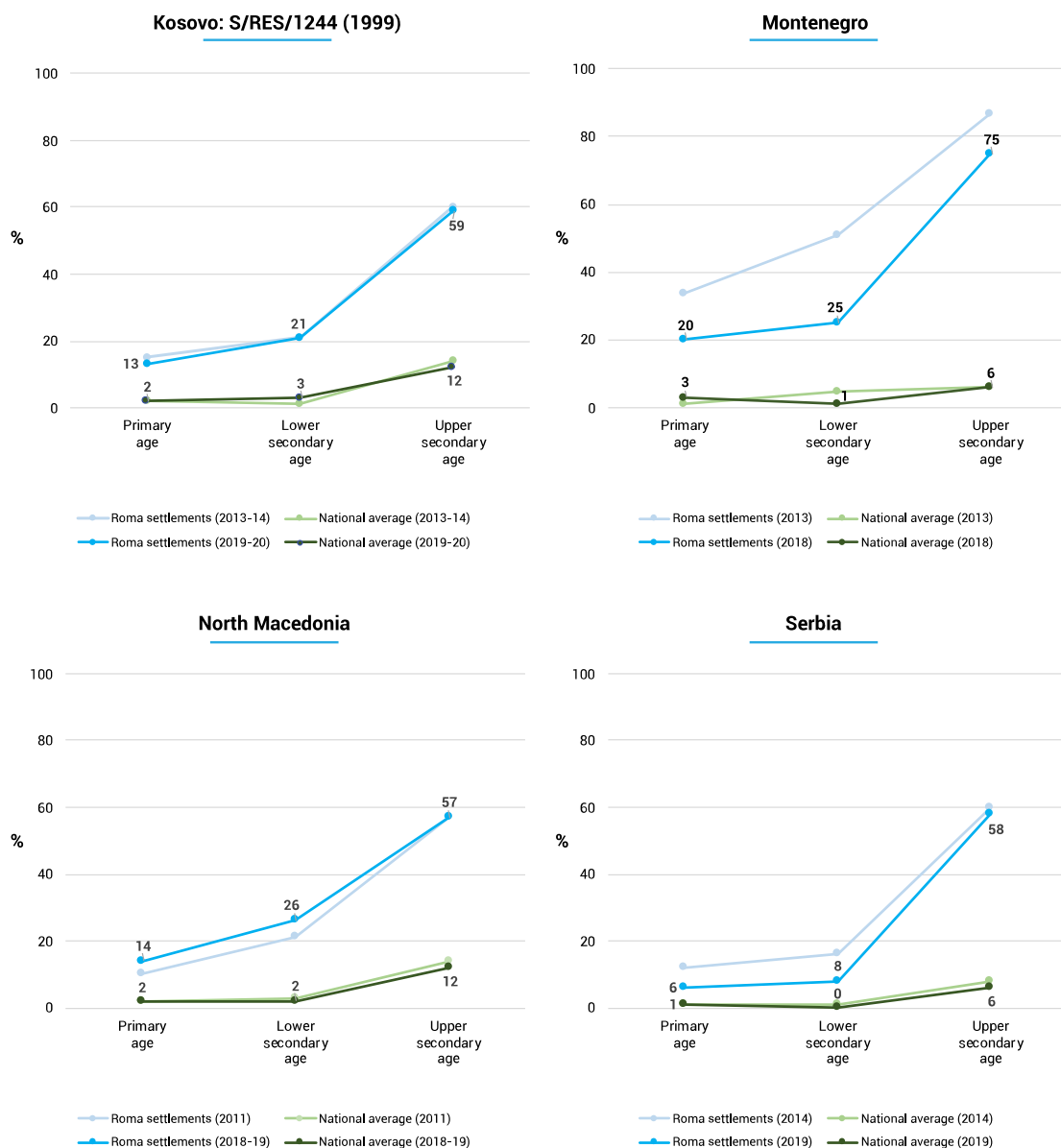
In Europe, Roma children are among the most disadvantaged from their earliest moments of life. Facing various forms of discrimination, many Roma children are left behind from education and learning opportunities with compounding challenges with economic, social and cultural barriers such as poverty, language, early marriage as well as outdated curricula and school practices with insufficient understanding of inclusive education. Empowering Roma children through inclusive quality education should be a key agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the region.

Governments and development partners have strived to promote the educational rights of Roma children under the global and regional frameworks, including the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005–2015, the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies 2011–2020 and the Declaration of Western Balkans Partners on Roma Integration 2019. However, the recent round of Multiple Indicator Cluster

Surveys (MICS6) in Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999)³³ uncovered that only marginal progress has been made for children in Roma settlements over the last decade in terms of improving access to education

Figure 12

Trends in out-of-school rates in Roma settlements in comparison to the national average



Source: Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys, 2011-2019

The figure presents the out-of-school rates in Roma settlements in comparison to the national averages before (2011-2014) and after (2018-2020) the introduction of SDGs. The results show that, even today, children in Roma settlements are more likely to be excluded from education at all levels. A disproportionately large share of Roma children do not attend school already in the first cycle of compulsory, basic education in Roma settlements, and the gap increases further as they reach secondary

³³ All references to Kosovo in this article should be understood to be in the context of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999). The sample of Roma settlements survey in Kosovo is households where at least one member is Roma, Ashkali or Egyptian.

school age. At the upper secondary school age, more than half of children in Roma settlements are out of school. While up to three out of four children at this age may be out of school, the national rates remain in the range from 6 to 12 per cent.



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Montenegro and Serbia have been successful in decreasing the out-of-school rates in Roma settlements to a greater extent than the national average, resulting in reduced inequality in school access between children in Roma settlements and their national counterparts at the primary and lower secondary levels. On the other hand, a limited change in out-of-school rates is seen in Kosovo: S/RES/1244 (1999). In North Macedonia, the out-of-school rates might have increased slightly at the primary and lower secondary school ages. The results show that there is room to accelerate efforts to improve educational inequalities between Roma and non-Roma children.

Various studies show that vulnerable children have been hit the hardest due to the lasting impact of school closure during the COVID-19 pandemic, having resulted in widened educational inequalities. There is a need for accelerating the global, regional, and national efforts to help children in Roma settlements enter, retain, learn, and complete education with knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in society on an equal footing.



How improving the statistical system is turning political commitments on gender equality into policy action in Kyrgyzstan

Provided by PARIS21



Under the UN Women’s “Women Count” initiative, guided by the [Framework for Assessing Gender Statistics](#) and using PARIS21’s [ADAPT](#) free online data planning tool, the National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic has been preparing a new National Strategy for the Development of Statistics that contains a dedicated gender statistics plan.

For Kyrgyzstan, achieving gender equality has been a part of the country’s development strategy and policy goals for over twenty years. But achieving gender equality is complex as in Kyrgyzstan it is underpinned by norms, processes and social institutions that cut across the economic, political, public and private spheres. A recent surge in gender-based violence across the world during the Covid-19 pandemic has been a painful reminder of just how easily gender equality gains can be lost.³⁴

³⁴ UN Women Europe and Central Asia (2020). [In Kyrgyzstan, pandemic-related domestic violence increases vulnerabilities](#)

The country is a signatory to numerous international agreements that emphasise the importance of gender equality, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Beijing Platform for Action.³⁵ In the latter, mainstreaming gender in key strategic documents and action plans was identified as an essential condition for effectively promoting equality. The [National Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2018-2040](#) includes the aim of “full and equal participation of women in governance at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life” and that “...State programs are being implemented aimed at achieving gender equality and eliminating the imbalance between the opportunities of women and men.” However, in spite of political will, women are still largely excluded from decision-making processes³⁶ and violence against women and girls manifests itself in many ways, including domestic violence, kidnapping, trafficking and early marriage.³⁷

Measuring the depth and scope of discrimination and inequalities is a starting point to understand where and what policies to implement. But gaps in the availability of timely and quality gender statistics globally mean that information that policy makers need is missing. The UN Women initiative “Making Every Woman and Girl Count” (“Women Count”) promotes gender data availability and use and advocates for the production of gender statistics to support national priorities. Combined with PARIS21’s expertise in capacity development and formulating strategic plans for statistics,³⁸ the programme helped Kyrgyzstan to integrate a strong gender perspective in the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) planned for 2022-2026.

To kick-start this process in 2019, PARIS21 and UN Women regional and national offices and the National Statistics Committee (NSC) of Kyrgyzstan assessed in detail the state of gender statistics to find gaps in gender data and in the statistical capacity of Kyrgyzstan’s statistical system.

³⁵ Kyrgyz Republic (2020). [Beijing +25 national level review of the Kyrgyz Republic on the implementation of the Beijing declaration and Beijing platform for action: progress and challenges](#)

³⁶ UN Women Europe and Central Asia (2020). [UN Women in Kyrgyzstan](#)

³⁷ Asian Development Bank (2019). [Kyrgyz Republic: country gender assessment](#)

³⁸ PARIS21 Guidelines for National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS): [Gender statistics](#)

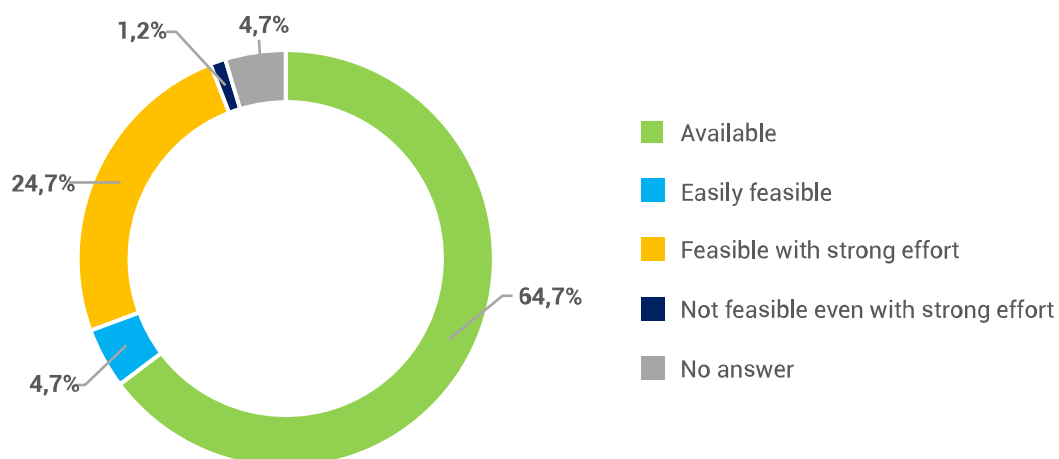


In September 2019, local development partners and data users throughout Kyrgyzstan’s statistical system came together to launch the assessment. Through this process, gender focal points provided their perspectives of the challenges and capacity needs, and users of gender statistics gave feedback on the quality and dissemination of gender statistics produced by the NSC.

In early 2020, policy demand for gender indicators was reviewed and the NSC mapped this against all gender data produced at that time by Kyrgyzstan’s statistical system. PARIS21’s data planning tool, ADAPT,³⁹ was employed for the complex task of navigating the national ecosystem of gender data. ADAPT includes an option to tag all indicators as “gender-specific” across all existing policy frameworks. This helped NSC decision makers to extract gender-specific statistics and report on gender indicators across thematic sectors and various policy instruments like sectoral action plans.

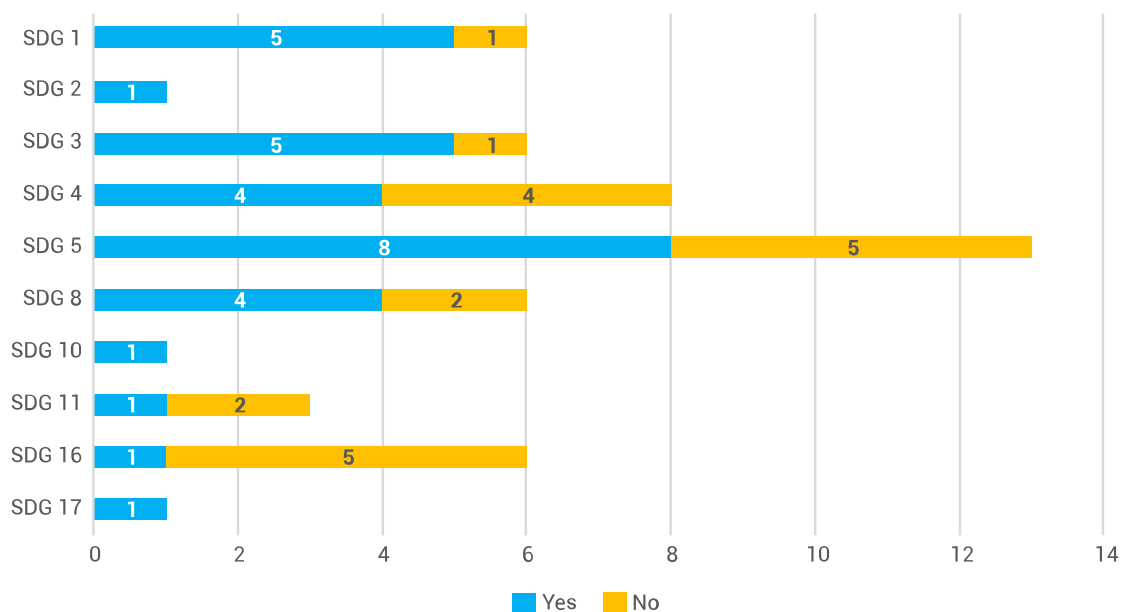
³⁹ ADAPT is a free cloud-based, multilingual tool for national statistical offices and other data producers to adapt their data production to the priority data needs by carrying out a data supply and demand analysis.

Figure 13
Availability and feasibility of compiling the 85 priority gender indicators in Kyrgyzstan (per cent)



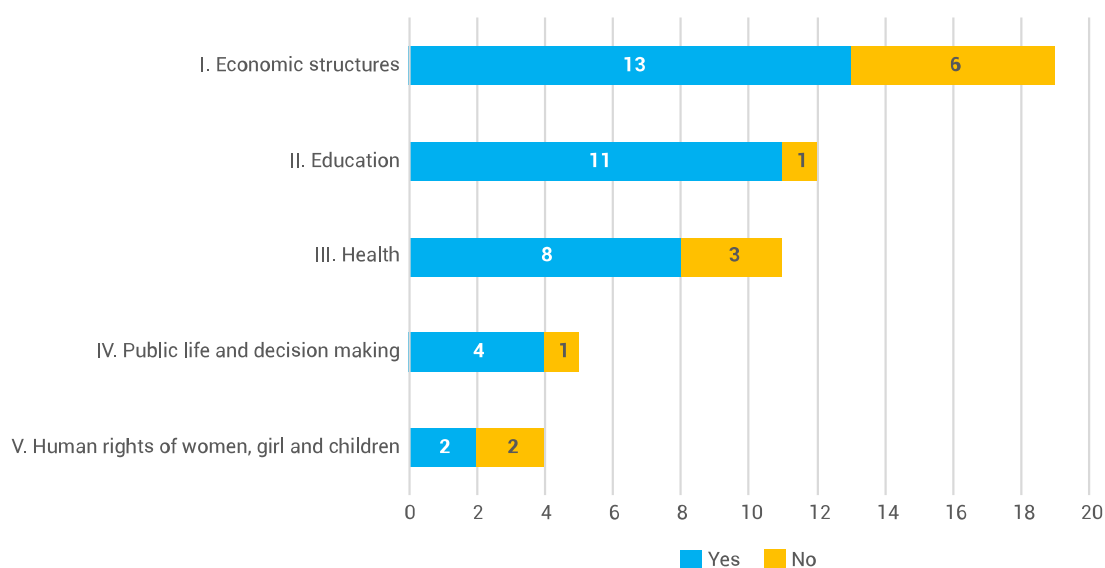
Source: ADAPT Report, as of 25 May 2020

Figure 14
Availability of gender-specific SDGs indicators in Kyrgyzstan (absolute numbers)



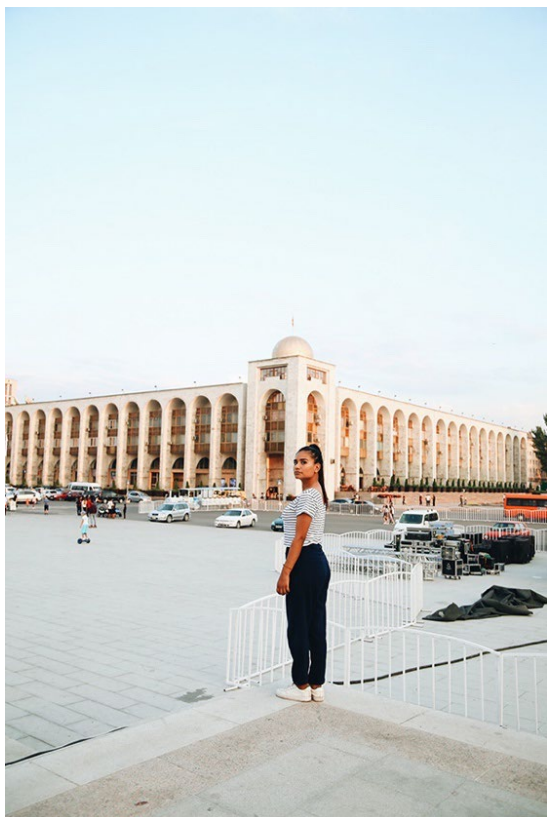
Source: ADAPT Report, as of 25 May 2020

Figure 15
Availability of the minimum set of gender indicators in Kyrgyzstan (absolute numbers)



Source: ADAPT Report, as of 25 May 2020

The results of the assessment fed into the development of two policy instruments to measure progress towards gender equality. The first was the five-year National Programme for the Development of Statistics. The NSC has been working to develop a dedicated Gender Statistics Strategy, which will be attached to the NSDS. In parallel, the UN Women country office, UN Women Europe and Central Asia office supported the Kyrgyz government in the preparation of the National Action Plan for Achieving Gender Equality for 2021-2023. PARIS21 and UN Women advised the NSC on the alignment of gender indicators projected in both documents. In the meantime, the NSC made great strides to streamline the plans for dissemination of gender statistics and launched a [Media Plan on Gender Statistics for 2021-2023](#) in October 2019, which included provisions to strengthen the collaboration with journalists and improve the quality and volume of gender data available on NSC website.



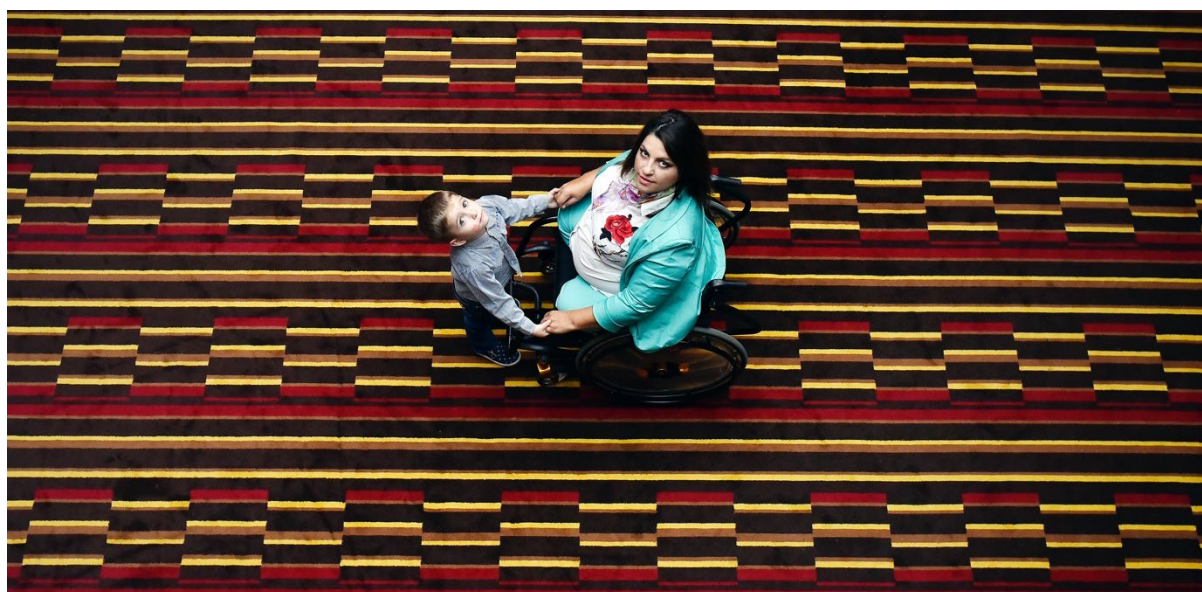
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With these provisions in place, the NSC is well equipped to ensure a more sustainable production, co-ordination and dissemination of gender statistics in order to meet the growing demand from users. The adoption of the “Law on Official Statistics” in 2021 will help NSC to navigate the increasingly complex data ecosystem and improve the co-ordination of crosscutting areas like gender statistics.



Childcare, women's employment, and the impact of Covid-19 in Moldova

Provided by UN Moldova



The pandemic had a disproportionate impact on Moldovan women, affecting them in terms of employment, income, and distribution of parenting responsibilities, thus reducing their wellbeing and safety.

While the pandemic affected all people globally, women have been disproportionately affected due to pre-existing inequalities and prevailing social norms and gender stereotypes.

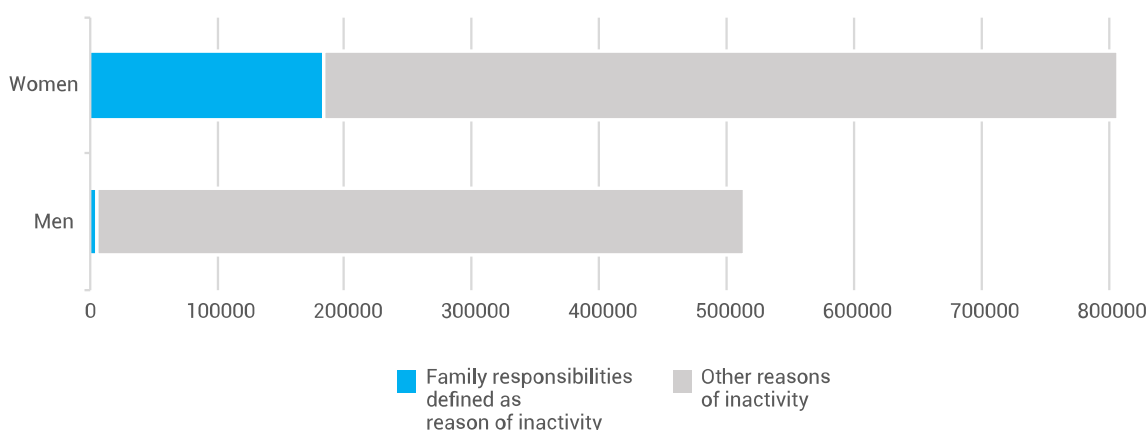
To mitigate this disproportionate impact, UN Women jointly with UNECE launched an initiative aiming at building a care sensitive and gender transformative sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in ECE member states, contributing to the progress in achieving the SDG targets 5.4., 5.5⁴⁰. In the framework of the United Nations Development Account tranche 13 project "Strengthening social protection for pandemic response", UNECE and UN Women released the report [Childcare, women's employment, and the impact of COVID-19 in Moldova](#). According to the study, persistent patriarchal attitudes and the insufficient development of care services limit women's employment options, a fact

⁴⁰ SDG target 5.4 - Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate; SDG 5.5. - Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

confirmed by the employment rate. Similar findings are highlighted in a recently completed comprehensive gender assessment undertaken by the United Nations country team in Moldova.

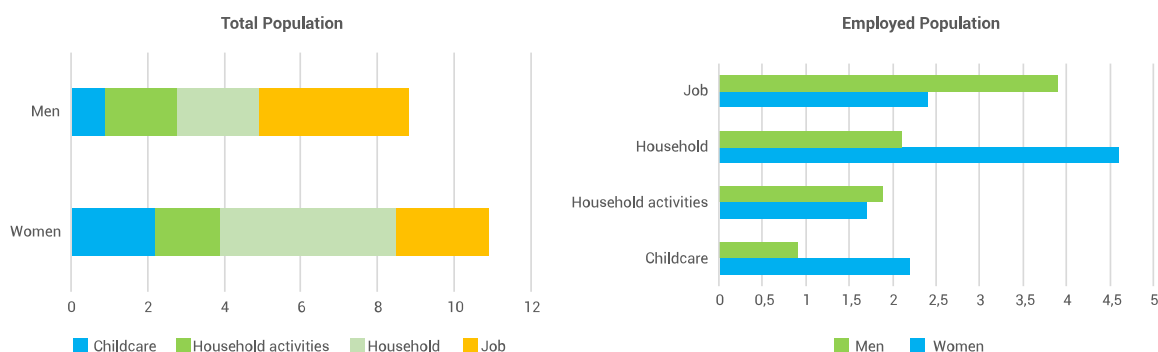
In 2019 the employment rate of women aged between 25-49 years old, with children aged between 0-6 years, was 39 per cent, compared to 60 per cent for men with children in the same age group. In contrast, the employment rate of women without children (25-49 years) was 63 per cent, which is higher than the employment rate of men without children by 6 percentage points.⁴¹ According to the National Bureau of Statistics⁴², in 2018 out of total of 807,000 women who are inactive in the labour market, 183,000 (23%) invoke the family responsibilities as the reason for it, whereas only 6,200 (1.2%) men out of total 514,500 define their responsibilities in the family as the cause of their inactivity.

Figure 16
Family responsibilities regarded as the cause of inactivity in labour market, 2018



Household responsibilities account for the largest share of the day of a woman: 4.6 hours among the total population and 3.8 hours among employed women. Men generally use the largest share of their time for work: 3.9 hours on average among the total population. At the same time, the duration of the day used for main activities is about 2 hours longer for women compared to men

Figure 17
Average number of hours per day used by women and men for main activities



⁴¹ [Statistical databank of the National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova](#)

⁴² National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova (2019). [Labour force in the Republic of Moldova: employment and unemployment](#), p. 178

The government's efforts to reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic did not address the specific problems that women and other vulnerable groups face⁴³. Childcare services designed for children of up to two years are underdeveloped. The insufficiency of childcare solutions in Moldova is among the most important issues that hinder women advancement at work and reduce the rate of employment of women with small children. The pandemic emphasized the need to resolve this issue as urgently as possible. Thus, new approaches are required and should involve the development of alternative childcare solutions to facilitate and encourage the employment of parents with children under 2 years old, without having a negative impact on childcare process.

In this context, UN Women made efforts to identify the most efficient approach and prepare legal amendments to support the development and implementation of alternative childcare solutions. Consistent advocacy was undertaken for collective engagement of employers, state institutions, and the donor community. Stakeholders' capacities (policymakers, private sector, civil society organizations) were consolidated, through a series of workshops, for a care sensitive and gender transformative sustainable recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic in UNECE countries.

The above-mentioned actions will contribute to improve women's participation in the labour market, reduce the selection of working mothers into lower-paid jobs, support business community and reboot the Moldovan economy.

Covid-19 has highlighted the links between care, economic policies, and gender equality. Existing challenges are a window for opportunities to develop a gender-transformative and care-responsive policies. To strengthen the cooperation and dialog between all relevant stakeholders, to develop evidence-based policies, to explore the experiences of other states are among the main aspects to be taken into consideration to reach this objective.

⁴³ UNECE and UN Women (2021). [Childcare, women's employment and the impact of Covid-19: the case of Moldova](#).



Integrating data from different sources for measuring gender aspects of trade

Provided by UNECE and UNCTAD



Notably less women than men are employed in companies involved in external trade.

Novel data from Georgia shows a slight trend towards a more balanced gender distribution, and opens new avenues for considering enterprise ownership, wages, skill levels and type of trade in the measurement.

For a long time, international trade was considered gender-neutral, and the gender variable was not part of trade statistics. However, it is now widely accepted that international trade affects women and men differently. Recent data about gender and trade are still rare, but a few countries are doing pioneering work to learn more about gender perspectives in trade.

Producing better and more gender-disaggregated trade data will give new clues for trade policymakers. Moreover, gender-in-trade statistics can also contribute to the achievement of SDG 5 in ensuring women's participation in leadership positions (5.5), and sound policies for the promotion of gender

equality and empowerment (5.c); and SDG 17 to the promotion of a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system (17.11).

Earlier data on European Union countries⁴⁴ shows that women occupy a lower share of jobs in export-oriented production activities than they do in total economy. As jobs in exports tend to provide higher pay, the fact that women are underrepresented has further implications for their economic empowerment.

UNECE and UNCTAD supported a pilot study in Georgia⁴⁵, to establish a way for a sustainable production of gender-in-trade statistics using existing data sources. Given the importance of international trade for the Georgian economy (the shares of exports and imports in the country's GDP over 2015-2020 averaged at 46 and 59 per cent, respectively), the availability of trade indicators disaggregated by different variables, including gender, is critical for the country's economic and social policies.

The immediately available sources for statistical data allow measuring gender aspects of trade using data on the level of the sector of industry. However, the National Statistics Office of Georgia (Geostat) has the advantage of possessing external trade microdata that can be linked to the business register and enterprise surveys, enabling further disaggregation and insights. The pilot study created such a linked data set of companies involved in trade in Georgia.

There are notably less women than men employed in companies involved in external trade. Over the last five years, employment growth for women in those companies exceeded that for men, and their share increased from 35 per cent in 2016 to 39 per cent in 2020. Women's average wage in trading companies was lower than the average wage of men by one third. While wages in trading companies improved slightly in those five years, the gender pay gap decreased only very little, from 34 per cent in 2016 to 32 per cent in 2020.

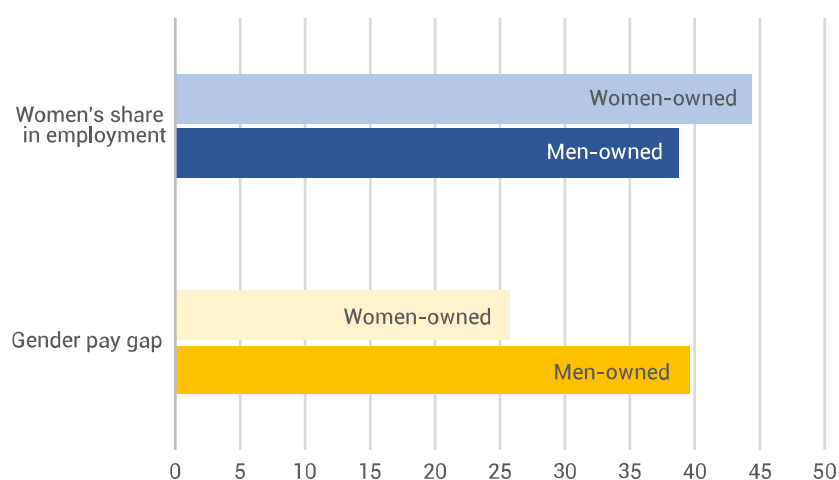
The insights enabled by the linked data set include the possibility to examine differences by skills levels, type of trade, the gender of the company owner as well as ownership shares for men, women and legal entities. The number of men owners of trading companies exceeded the number of women owners approximately 9 times for two-way traders, 5 times for importers and 3 times for exporters. Businesses with higher women ownership tend to employ more women and have a lower gender pay gap.

⁴⁴ Rueda-Cantuche J M, Pinero P, Kutlina-Dimitrova Z (2021). [EU exports to the world: effects on employment](https://doi.org/10.2760/556206). doi:10.2760/556206.

⁴⁵ UNECE & UNCTAD (2021). [Gender in trade assessment in Georgia](#). Report prepared for UNECE by Tengiz Tsekvava.

Figure 18

Percentage of women and the gender pay gap in trading companies by gender-specific ownership in Georgia, 2020



Note: The data are from Geostat external trade statistics and structural business statistics survey. Enterprises are classified as “women-owned” where the ownership share of women is at least as high as that of men. Enterprises where ownership by legal entities is more than half and enterprises with indirect ownership are not included.

The project shows how the National Statistics Office could sustain the production of gender-in-trade indicators in the future by linking trade data with enterprise-level data from registers and surveys, responding to the demand for such data for policymaking.

Fighting stigma of disability with style

Provided by UN Moldova

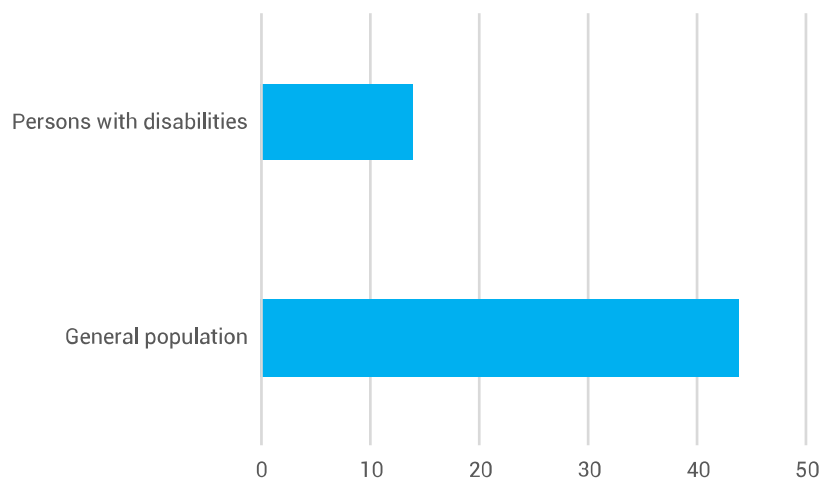


Broad multi-stakeholder innovative partnerships can help empower persons with disabilities and change public perceptions and attitudes towards disability.

The fashion industry has a role to play in promoting disability inclusion and fighting stigma and discrimination against persons with disabilities.

Among a multitude of efforts undertaken by the United Nations country team in Moldova to promote disability inclusion, an innovative partnership of the United Nations population Fund (UNFPA) with fashion design companies, government, civil society, media and development partners is changing the perceptions and attitude of the public towards disabilities, promoting body positivity and contributing to the achievement of SDG target 10.2 on empowerment and promotion of the social, economic and political inclusion of all.

Figure 19
Labour force participation rate of persons with disability (per cent), 2020



Source: National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova

In 2020 there were 174.5 thousand persons with disabilities (48 per cent of whom were women and girls) in Moldova, representing 6.6 per cent of the country's population. Moldova ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It also adopted the Law on Social Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in 2012.

Despite this, available data suggests that persons with disabilities remain among the most marginalized groups. They are three times less likely to participate in the labour force. Their pensions are 28 per cent lower than the average size of pensions in the country, which places them below the subsistence minimum set by the government. Women and girls are particularly vulnerable as they face additional risks of being left out in education and health services, and are more often subjected to violence, especially sexual violence. The Covid-19 pandemic exacerbated their situation by further limiting their mobility, access to vital information and services, income opportunities and by increasing their cost of living. The underlying causes holding back progress in inclusion of women with disabilities are deeply rooted in stigma, discriminatory stereotypes and harmful gender norms in the society.

Despite these challenges, women with disabilities can and are becoming agents of change, rallying broad public support and inspiring others to follow their steps. In 2021, for the first time in its history, Moldova Fashion Days, an annual fashion event, which introduces the new collections of local designers, included five women with different types with disabilities as models in the fashion show. This was the result of UNFPA reaching out to persons with disabilities through partner NGOs and the private sector in the fashion industry to establish a multi-stakeholder partnership. The initiative brought considerable attention in the society and the media to the rights and choices of women with disabilities and the challenges they face.

Victoria, a 32-year-old lady from Chisinau, was one of the five models who took part in the Fashion Days. She was born with hypoplasia of the right leg. She underwent eight surgeries, and from the age of 21 she has been using orthopaedic prosthesis. Long painful memories of stays in hospitals and being unsecure are what she remembers from her childhood and adolescent years. But she put those behind and is focusing on her future. *"This year I understood that I would like to turn my hobby related to clothing style into a profession. I believe that I can turn my dreams into reality, and disability is not an impediment!"* – she said after the event.

The inclusion of women with disabilities in the fashion week received highly positive public reaction. Based on the sketches created by 20 young designers at an innovative hackathon organized as a follow-up to the Fashion Days, several clothing brands produced collections of clothing adapted to the needs

of girls/women with disabilities. One of the designers, Anna Popova, who created adapted pyjamas for women and girls with disabilities said that the event was inspirational for her and helped her to focus on the needs of persons with disabilities: *"In my clothes, I try to bring elements of comfort and beauty. By including some simple elements, such as magnets instead of traditional buttons, we can better respond to the needs of persons with disabilities"*.



The partnership with the fashion industry was complemented with a media campaign promoting inviting persons with disabilities as lead moderators and invitees in TV programs. They discussed challenges they face in their daily lives and how they overcome them. The campaign raised public awareness about disabilities inspiring support to promote inclusive development in Moldova.

Based on the broad support and interest that the campaign enjoyed, it will continue to reach out to more private sector companies, media and persons with disabilities, using this successful approach to scale to more sectors, and contributing to UN efforts to support inclusion and representation of persons with disabilities in all spheres of life.



International migrants in the SDGs

Provided by IOM



Migrants remain very difficult to identify in SDG data. Data availability on “safe migration” under target 10.7 has recently improved.

Data is needed to measure progress on a number of migration-relevant SDG targets, as well as to identify migrants across the Goals. However, migration data in the context of the 2030 Agenda remains scarce. Global and regional efforts to improve SDG data disaggregation by migratory status and measure “safe migration” help address this.

Quality migration data is needed to measure progress on a number of migration-relevant SDG targets, as well as to understand how migrants are faring across many goals and targets relating to different sectors. Nevertheless, understanding migration in the context of the 2030 Agenda is challenging, and necessary data remain relatively scarce.

SDG target 10.7 calls on States to “facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies.” Until last year, all four indicators that monitor 10.7 were classified as Tier II, meaning that data

were not regularly produced⁴⁶. In the past year, encouragingly two of these moved to Tier I⁴⁷, reflecting progress with data production in countries.

SDG target 17.18 calls by 2020 for greater support for and availability of “high-quality, timely and reliable data, disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, and migratory status”. The year 2020 having passed, disaggregation of global SDG indicators by migratory status remains low and migrants are largely invisible in official SDG data. This means we fall short of the commitment to ‘leave no one behind’ with respect to migrants⁴⁸.

Indicator 10.7.3 measures the “number of people who died or disappeared in the process of migration towards an international destination.” The data for this is provided by IOM’s [Missing Migrants Project](#), which is compiled from a variety of official sources – such as coast guards and medical examiners – as well as unofficial sources, including non-governmental organizations, media reports, and surveys of migrants. Measuring the number of lives lost on migratory routes is challenging as the vast majority of the over 45,000 lives known to have been lost since data collection began in 2014 occurred on irregular routes. For example, many bodies are lost at sea on hazardous overseas journeys: data from the Missing Migrants Project indicates that nearly 16,000 migrant remains have been lost in the Mediterranean Sea out of more than 23,000 deaths documented since 2014. However, the challenges of identifying migrant deaths are also due to the lack of official sources which collect data on this issue. Currently, no country provides data on migrant deaths within their jurisdiction at a national level, and most official actors do not collect this even at a local level.⁴⁹ This necessitates reliance on non-governmental sources; however with the outbreak of COVID-19 and the ensuing mobility restrictions, many of these sources are no longer in operation. These data challenges significantly hamper the estimation of death rates on different migratory routes, which is needed to create effective lifesaving responses.

⁴⁶ The indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries. See Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (2021), [Tier classification for global SDG indicators](#).

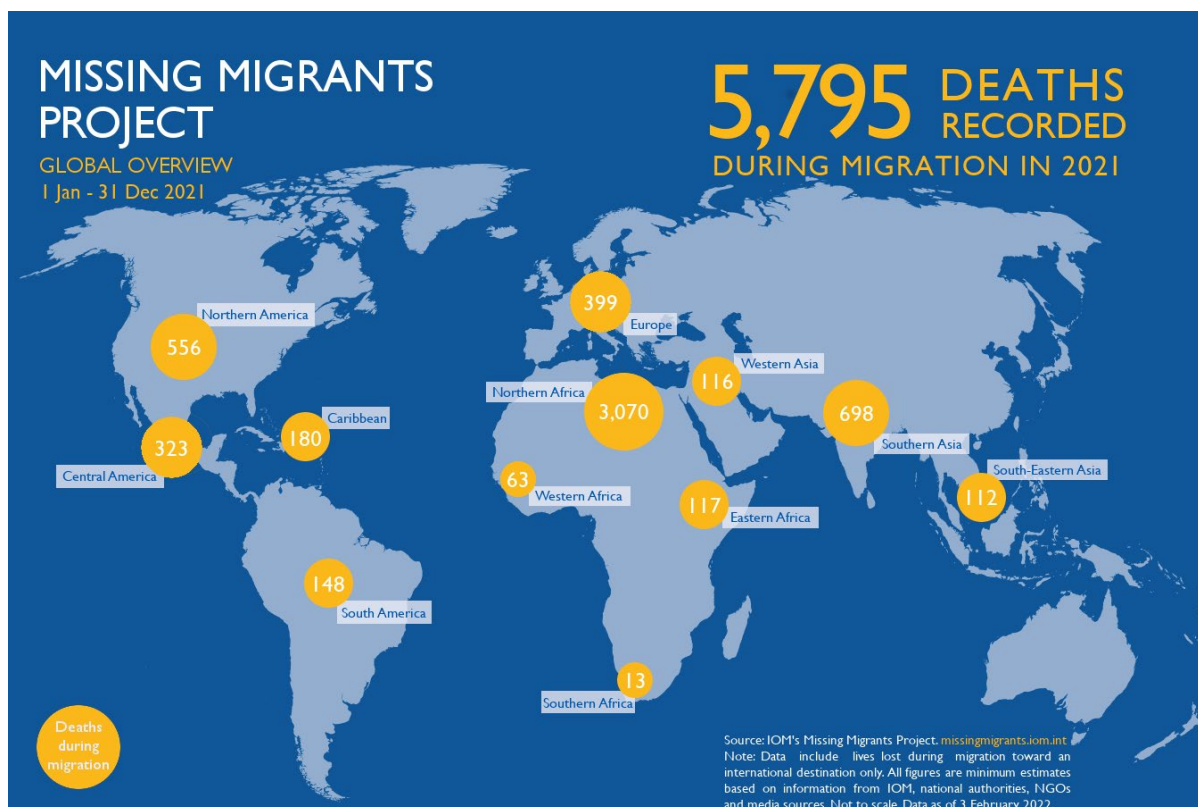
⁴⁷ The indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, and data are regularly produced by countries for at least 50 per cent of countries and of the population in every region where the indicator is relevant. Ibid.

⁴⁸ Mosler Vidal E (2021). [Leave no migrant behind: the 2030 Agenda and data disaggregation](#). IOM.

⁴⁹ For a deeper discussion of the quality of data sources on missing migrants, see Garcia Borja, A. and J. Black (2021)

[Measuring migrant deaths and disappearances](#). *Forced Migration Review* 66:58-60.

Figure 20
Deaths and disappearances on the way to Europe in 2021



Beyond monitoring target 10.7, the Inter-Agency Expert Group (IAEG) on SDG indicators recommends 24 indicators be **disaggregated by migratory status**. In the [United Nations Global SDG Database](#), in 2021 only one indicator was disaggregated by migratory status, 8.8.1: Fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries per 100,000 workers, by sex and migrant status. Out of 27 countries that disaggregated this indicator by migratory status, 22 were in Europe. The Eurostat SDG reporting database disaggregates a majority of indicators by sex and age and sometimes, in contrast to many other regions of the world, country of birth. This means that several key indicators on poverty, gender and other topics display outcomes by who is a migrant and who is not, enabling more effective policy targeting to ensure that no one is left behind.

Some countries use alternative ways of measuring migratory status when country of birth or citizenship is not recorded in data collection. For example, in the United Kingdom, data on educational attainment was disaggregated by "English as an additional language", which was used as a proxy for migratory status for an analysis of migrant children's outcomes. This data was presented alongside data on the educational workforce disaggregated by country of birth, to show how migration contributed to educational human capital; around 12 per cent of school staff in England in 2015–2017 were born outside the United Kingdom.

IOM and partners work on improving SDG data availability by migratory status in the UNECE region. In 2021, IOM published a dedicated [guide](#) to provide user-centric guidance on disaggregation of SDG indicators by migratory status, drawing on examples from the region.

Strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices

Provided by EFTA



Many national statistical offices improve their capacity to produce SDG indicators thanks to the training provided by the EFTA Statistical Office.

National statistical offices (NSOs) are at the forefront when it comes to measuring progress with SDGs as they provide data for a large number of indicators. However, many of the SDG indicators pertain to areas that have never before been addressed by official statistics, which is why neither the respective data nor the measurement concepts and methodologies are available. Furthermore, even for those indicators where the statistical production would be feasible, the statistical capacities are not necessarily developed.

Estimations point out that all UNECE member countries might be able to produce currently only one third of the indicators, with even developed countries being able to provide only half of the indicators.⁵⁰ In cases where missing expertise is the source of such deficiencies, statistical capacity building is one answer to overcome this situation.

⁵⁰ See SDG Knowledge Hub: [Guest Article: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Official Statistics | SDG Knowledge Hub | IISD](#)

The Statistical Office of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) provides technical support to the NSOs from numerous countries, especially in the regions of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, North Africa and the Near East and EU Candidate Countries. The ultimate goal of these statistical technical cooperation activities is to enable NSOs to produce reliable, high quality and timely indicators that are in line with international methodologies and standards.

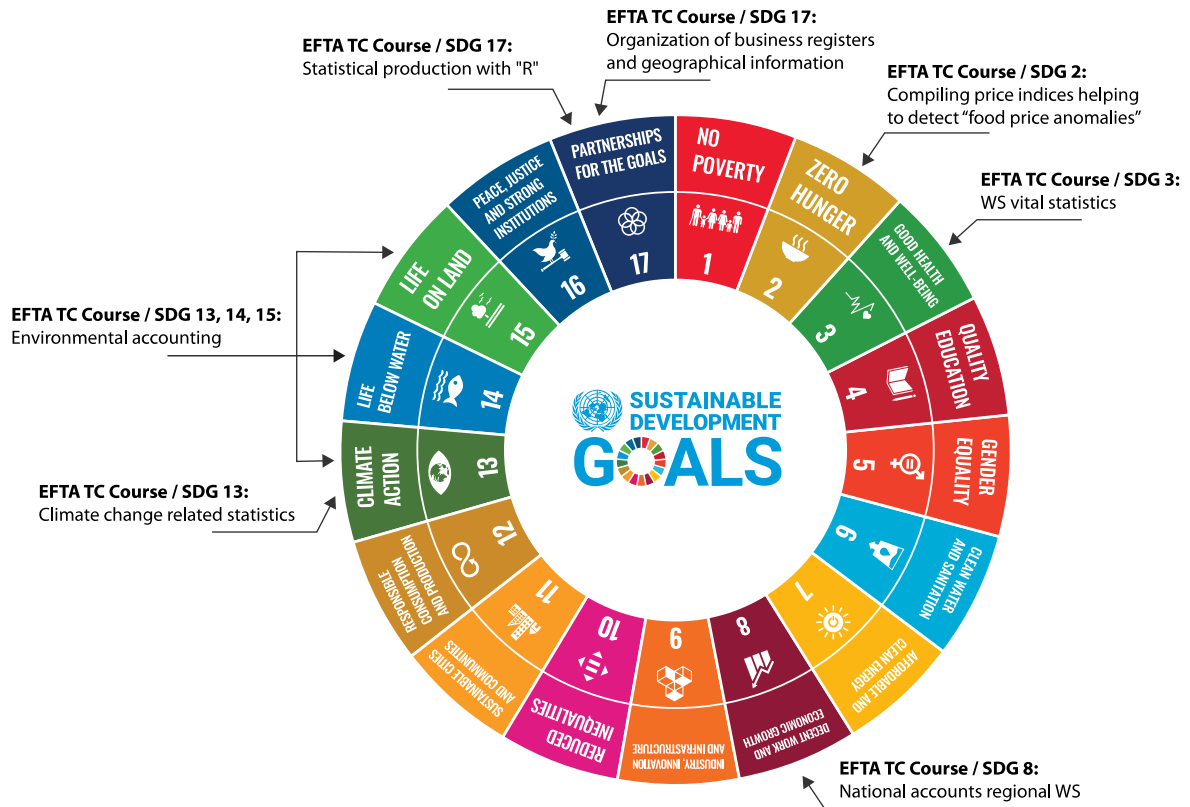
Over the last years, the EFTA Statistical Office has organised around 40 training courses and workshops for the staff of national statistical offices of beneficiary countries in collaboration with the national statistical offices of the EFTA Member States and UNECE, contributing mainly to SDG 17 on partnerships for the Goals, but also to several other SDGs. Examples of training course topics include the following:

- Compiling price indices (contributing to SDG 2)
- National accounts (contributing to SDG 8)
- Organisation of business registers and geographical information
- Environmental accounting (contributing to SDGs 13, 14 and 15)
- Combination of data sources
- Statistical production with the software "R"
- Vital statistics (contributing to SDG 3)
- Climate change related statistics (contributing to SDG 13)

Furthermore, the training courses provided in specific statistical areas enable beneficiary countries to provide more and better data for monitoring of the SDGs.

In addition to training courses aiming at the improvement of statistical capacities, the EFTA Statistical Office has – in cooperation with other international partners like Eurostat, UNECE or the UNSD – organised numerous seminars and conferences for different levels of management of NSOs addressing organisational and strategic issues in the production of official statistics that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

Figure 21
EFTA technical cooperation courses with relevance to SDGs



Improving the measurement of the SDGs and promoting peer-learning

Provided by UNECE



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Guided by the UNECE Road Map on Statistics for SDGs, 43 UNECE countries have launched a national reporting platform for SDGs.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for the participation of all Member States of the United Nations in providing national statistics to measure progress towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, emphasising that official statistics and data from the national statistical systems constitute the basis for the SDG global indicator framework. Targets 17.17 and 17.18 focus on promoting partnerships in statistics and building statistical capacity.

Providing data for SDGs is a major coordination challenge. Global level data for the 231 SDG indicators is compiled by over 50 international organizations (the so-called custodian agencies) using data from 193 countries. In each country, the data comes from many agencies in the national statistical system but also from outside the system, often from over 30-40 national agencies. To provide guidance on how to implement an efficient system for providing data for SDGs, the UNECE Steering Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals developed [the second edition of the Road Map on Statistics for SDGs](#).

The Road Map is accompanied by [60 case studies](#), each highlighting unique country experiences. The case studies offer an opportunity for peer-learning and allow Member States to exchange experiences.

During the first five years of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, processes for providing statistics for the SDGs have evolved. Many challenges remain and new ones continue to emerge, requiring new approaches and solutions. The second edition of the Road Map for Statistics on SDGs builds on the first edition of the Road Map (2017) but is more extensive and gives special attention to quality assurance and the commitment to leave no one behind. It will evolve in line with emerging challenges related to measuring the goals of the 2030 Agenda. By strengthening strategic partnerships in statistics and enhancing statistical capacity, the Road Map offers an essential tool to Member States to learn from experience and exchange the latest practical insights in line with Goal 17 (partnerships for the Goals).

To promote peer learning among Member States, the Road Map is accompanied by a series of case studies. The 60 case studies cover all 9 sections of the Road Map, 20 countries and 3 international organizations. Section 6 'Leave no one behind' and section 7 'Communication of statistics for SDGs' received the highest number of contributions, 19 and 13 respectively.

To illustrate, case studies from Armenia, Iceland and Kyrgyzstan detail the implementation of National Reporting Platforms (NRPs), in line with the recommendations of the first edition of the Road Map. The case studies highlight how countries set up their NRPs, the challenges they encountered, and the benefits derived from them. UNECE continues to support countries in setting up NRPs and to date [43 member States have launched such platforms](#). NRPs provide a valuable one-stop shop for national data on indicators originating from different sources within a country. In addition, the platform can serve as a data collection portal for various producers and as a production database of global, regional, national and subnational SDG indicators.

Technical notes on the progress assessment

Data

The progress assessment is based on the Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals⁵¹. The data were downloaded from [the United Nations Global SDG Indicators Database](#) as of 21 December 2021. For some indicators, the report relies on [the UNECE Statistical Database](#). This is the case where the UNECE Database, through its existing data collection, has a more comprehensive coverage of countries or data on more recent years for UNECE countries, or where the UNECE Database provides more precise or consistent measurements for the UNECE region. This concerns indicators 3.6.1 on road traffic deaths and 9.1.2 on passenger and freight volumes. Indicator 3.7.1 on family planning is sourced from the United Nations Population Division.

Assessment measure

The assessment presents the Anticipated Progress Index, a method developed by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)⁵² and applied by all five United Nations regional commissions.

The Anticipated Progress Index measures whether a target will be achieved by 2030 based on the rate of change observed between 2000 and 2021. Recent data are given more weight than earlier data in estimating anticipated indicator values for 2030. For targets that will not be achieved, the Index reports the anticipated gap between the target value and the projected value for 2030 relative to the progress required between 2015 and 2030.

Estimation and aggregation

The anticipated values for 2030 are estimated using the available data between 2000 and 2021. The time-weighted linear regression used for the estimation gives more importance to more recent data. The assessment uses all available indicators where at least two data points are available for at least 15 UNECE countries and for which it is possible to set a target value (see [Target values](#)). In total, 142 indicators across 105 targets and all 17 goals (see [Indicators used in the assessment](#)). Some indicators consist of several components. For example, indicator 1.3.1 (Proportion of population covered by social protection) consists of 11 social protection benefits, and indicator 3.c.1 (Health worker density by occupation) consists of separate measures for nurses, doctors, pharmacists and physicians. In such cases, all components with data are used in calculations, and the progress index for the indicator is the average of the indices of its components.

⁵¹ United Nations (2017). [Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#). 6 July 2017. A/RES/71/313 and annual refinements E/CN.3/2018/2 (Annex II), E/CN.3/2019/2 (Annex II), and E/CN.3/2020/2.

⁵² United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (2021). [Annex 2 – Technical notes](#). Pp. 70–73 in [Asia and the Pacific SDG progress report 2021](#). Bangkok: United Nations.

The estimation described above is carried out on the country level. For the regional level assessment, the median value is used for most indicators. For a subset of indicators, the mean provides a better summary of the distribution of values across the region.⁵³ For indicators with binary values, which show the existence of a certain policy in a country, the summary value for the region is the percentage of countries with such policy.

In aggregation to the target level, each indicator has an equal weight (independent of its number of components) under the corresponding target; and when aggregating the targets to the goal level, each target has an equal weight (independent of its number of indicators) under the corresponding goal.

In this report, the assessment results are presented at the target level.

Target values

The methodology uses target values for each indicator (or its component), which are expected to be reached by 2030. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development explicitly or implicitly defines target values for 63 indicators included in this progress assessment. For the other indicators, the “champion area” approach is used to define the region’s target value. Three variants of this approach are applied.

The most common variant identifies top performers in the region according to the rate of change. Top performers are defined as the five countries with the highest compound annual growth rate between the earliest and latest observations available. The target value is set as the product of the mean growth rate of the top performers and the regional median value in 2015.

For some indicators, such as those on internet connections and use, the very rapid progress cannot reasonably be applied to the future. For these, top performers are identified as the five countries with either the highest or lowest values in the most recent year depending on whether the desirable direction of change is an increase or a decrease. The target is then set as the mean most recent year value among these top performers.

For a small group of indicators, it is not obvious whether rapid change or low or high absolute levels are desired (for example, 9.2.2, Manufacturing employment as a percentage of total employment). For such indicators, top performers are taken to be the countries with the highest gross domestic product per capita and the target value as the average most recent year value of these top performers.

For a few indicators, a desirable direction of change and a target value cannot be determined. This is typically the case with indicators that are meant to provide a dashboard for a qualitative overall assessment of the situation (for example, indicator 6.6.1 on changes to water-related ecosystems over time). Such indicators were left out of the assessment.

Outliers are dropped from the target-value estimation using the interquartile range method.

⁵³ The regional value represents the mean value for indicators 12.4.1, 15.2.1, 16.1.1, and 4.1.1.

Indicators used in the assessment

Indicator short name	Indicator
GOAL 1 – No Poverty	
Extreme poverty	1.1.1 - Proportion of population below international poverty line (%) - Proportion of employed population below international poverty line (%)
National poverty	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line (%)
Multidimensional poverty	1.2.2 Proportion of population living in multidimensional poverty (%)
Social protection	1.3.1 - Proportion of population covered by social assistance programs, lowest income quantile (%) - Proportion of population covered by social insurance programs, lowest income quantile (%) - Proportion of unemployed persons receiving unemployment cash benefit (%) - Proportion of population above statutory pensionable age receiving a pension (%) - Proportion of population with severe disabilities receiving disability cash benefit (%) - Proportion of population covered by at least one social protection benefit (%) - Proportion of children/households receiving child/family cash benefit (%) - Proportion of mothers with newborns receiving maternity cash benefit (%) - Proportion of vulnerable population receiving social assistance cash benefit (%)
Access to basic water and sanitation services	1.4.1 Proportion of population: - Using basic drinking water (%) - Basic sanitation services (%)
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	1.5.1 - Number of deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population - Number of directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population
Economic loss from disasters	1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters relative to GDP (%)
Disaster risk reduction	1.5.3 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework
Disaster risk reduction	1.5.4 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies (%)
ODA grants for poverty reduction	1.a.1 Official development assistance grants for poverty reduction, by donor countries (% of GNI)
Government spending on education and health	1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services, education (%)
GOAL 2 – Zero Hunger	
Prevalence of undernourishment	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment (%)
Moderate or severe food insecurity in the population	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the adult population (%)

Indicator short name	Indicator
Prevalence of stunting	2.2.1 Proportion of children moderately or severely stunted (%)
Prevalence of malnutrition	2.2.2 - Proportion of children moderately or severely wasted (%) - Proportion of children moderately or severely overweight (%)
Prevalence of anaemia	2.2.3 Proportion of women aged 15-49 years with anaemia (%): - Pregnant - Non-pregnant
Local breeds at risk of extinction	2.5.2 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk as a share of local breeds with known level of extinction risk (%)
Agriculture orientation index	2.a.1 Agriculture orientation index for government expenditures

GOAL 3 – Good health and well-being

Maternal mortality ratio	3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio
Births attended by skilled health personnel	3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)
Under-five mortality	3.2.1 - Under-five mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births) - Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)
Neonatal mortality	3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)
HIV infections	3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population
Tuberculosis	3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence (per 100,000 population)
Cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease	3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease (probability)
Suicide	3.4.2 Suicide mortality rate (deaths per 100,000 population)
Harmful use of alcohol	3.5.2 Alcohol consumption per capita (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year (litres of pure alcohol)
Road traffic deaths ⁵⁴	3.6.1 Road traffic fatalities, rate per million inhabitants
Modern methods for family planning ⁵⁵	3.7.1 Women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (%)
Adolescent births	3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000 women aged 15-19 years)
Universal health coverage index	3.8.1 Universal health coverage (UHC) service coverage index
Household expenditures on health	3.8.2 Proportion of population with large household expenditures on health as a share of total household expenditure or income (%): - Greater than 10% - Greater than 25%
Unintentional poisoning	3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisonings (deaths per 100,000 population)
Tobacco use	3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older (%)
Population covered by all vaccines in national programme	3.b.1 Proportion of the target population with access to (%): - 3 doses of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTP3) (%) - Measles-containing-vaccine second dose (MCV2) (%) - Pneumococcal conjugate 3rd dose (PCV3) (%) - Affordable medicines and vaccines on a sustainable basis, human papillomavirus (HPV) (%)

⁵⁴Data source is [UNECE Statistical Database](#)

⁵⁵Data source is United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2020). [Model-based Estimates and Projections of Family Planning Indicators 2020](#), custom data acquired via website.

Indicator short name	Indicator
Health worker density and distribution	3.c.1 Health worker density (per 10,000 population) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dentists - Nurses - Pharmacists - Physicians - Health worker distribution, female physicians (%)
Health capacity and emergency preparedness	3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity (%): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legislation and financing - Laboratory - Surveillance - Food safety - Human resources - Points of entry - Risk communication - Health service provision - Chemical events - Radiation - National health emergency framework - IHR Coordination and National Focal Point Functions - Zoonotic events and the Human-Animal Health Interface
Antimicrobial-resistant bloodstream infections	3.d.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Percentage of bloodstream infection due to Escherichia coli resistant to 3rd-generation cephalosporin (ESBL- E. coli) among patients seeking care and whose blood sample is taken and tested (%) - Percentage of bloodstream infection due to methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) among patients seeking care and whose blood sample is taken and tested (%)

GOAL 4 – Quality education

Minimum proficiency in reading and maths	4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people achieving a minimum proficiency level (%): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mathematics - Reading
Completion rate	4.1.2 Completion rate (%): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Primary - Lower secondary - Secondary
Organised learning before primary entry age	4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age) (%)
Formal and non-formal education and training	4.3.1 Participation rate in formal and non-formal education and training (%)
Youth and adults with ICT skills	4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills (%): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Programming language - Transfer file - Download software - Electronic presentation - Spreadsheet arithmetic - Copy/move file/folder - Copy/paste
Inequality indices for education indicators	4.5.1 Low to high socio-economic parity status index for achievement (ratio): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reading - Math

Indicator short name	Indicator
Schools with access to basic services	4.a.1 Schools with access to (%) [Primary, lower secondary, secondary]: - Computers for pedagogical purposes - Internet for pedagogical purposes - Electricity - Basic handwashing facilities - Single-sex basic sanitation - Basic drinking water
Teachers with minimum required qualifications	4.c.1 Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications (%) [Pre-primary and primary]

GOAL 5 – Gender Equality

Legal frameworks on non-discrimination	5.1.1 Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality (% of achievement): - Overarching legal frameworks and public life - Violence against women - Employment and economic benefits - Marriage and family
Gender parity in time spent on domestic tasks	5.4.1 Male/female ratio of hours spent on domestic tasks
Seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments	5.5.1 - Proportion of seats in national parliaments held by women (%) - Proportion of elected seats held by women in deliberative bodies of local government (%)
Proportion of women in managerial positions	5.5.2 Proportion of women in (%): - Managerial positions - Senior and middle management positions
Mobile phone ownership	5.b.1 Proportion of females who own a mobile phone (%)

GOAL 6 – Clean water and sanitation

Safely managed drinking water services	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)
Open defecation practice and handwashing facilities	6.2.1 Proportion of population (%): - Practicing open defecation - Using safely managed sanitation services
Bodies of water with good ambient water quality	6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality (%)
Water use efficiency	6.4.1 Water Use Efficiency (United States dollars per cubic meter)
Water stress	6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources (%)
Degree of integrated water resources management	6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (%)
Transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation	6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basins (river and lake basins and aquifers) with an operational arrangement for water cooperation (%)

GOAL 7 – Affordable and clean energy

Access to electricity	7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity (%)
Reliance on clean energy	7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology (%)
Renewable energy share	7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption (%)
Energy intensity	7.3.1 Energy intensity level of primary energy (megajoules per constant 2011 purchasing power parity GDP)

Indicator short name	Indicator
GOAL 8 – Decent work and economic growth	
Real GDP per capita growth rate	8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita (%)
Real GDP per employed person growth rate	8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person (%)
Domestic material consumption	8.4.2 Domestic material consumption per unit of GDP (kilograms per constant 2010 United States dollars): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biomass - Fossil fuels - Metal ores - Non-metallic minerals - Coal - Crop residues - Crops - Ferrous ores - Natural gas - Grazed biomass and fodder crops - Non-ferrous ores - Non-metallic minerals, industrial or agricultural dominant - Non-metallic minerals, construction dominant - Petroleum - Wild catch and harvest - Wood
Unemployment rate	8.5.2 Unemployment rate (%)
Youth not in education, employment or training	8.6.1 Proportion of youth not in education, employment or training (%)
Occupational injuries	8.8.1 Occupational injuries among employees per 100,000 employees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fatal - Non-fatal
National compliance to labour rights	8.8.2 Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation
Tourism direct GDP as proportion of total	8.9.1 Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP (%)
Commercial bank branches and automated teller machines	8.10.1 Number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults
Adults with a bank account	8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a financial institution or mobile-money-service provider (%)
Strategy for youth employment	8.b.1 Existence of a developed and operationalized national strategy for youth employment, as a distinct strategy or as part of a national employment strategy
GOAL 9 – Industry, innovation and infrastructure	
Passenger and freight volumes ⁵⁶	9.1.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Non-road freight as proportion of total (%) - Rail passengers, thousand passenger-km per capita
Manufacturing value added	9.2.1 Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP (%)
Manufacturing employment	9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment (%)
Small-scale industries as share of total	9.3.1 Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added (%)
Small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit	9.3.2 Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit (%)

⁵⁶ Data source is [UNECE Statistical Database](#).

Indicator short name	Indicator
CO2 emission intensity	9.4.1 Carbon dioxide emissions (kilogrammes of CO2 per constant 2010 United States dollars): - Per unit of GDP - Per unit of manufacturing value added
Research and development expenditure	9.5.1 Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP (%)
Number of researchers	9.5.2 Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants (per 1,000,000 population)
Medium and high-tech industry value added	9.b.1 Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added (%)
Population covered by mobile phone network	9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by mobile network (%): - At least a 2G - At least a 3G - At least a 4G

GOAL 10 – Reduced inequalities

Population living below 50 percent of median income	10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 percent of median income (%)
Labour income share of GDP	10.4.1 Labour share of GDP (%)
Redistributive impact of fiscal policy	10.4.2 Redistributive impact of fiscal policy, Gini index (%): - Pre-fiscal income - Post-fiscal income
Financial soundness indicators	10.5.1 - Non-performing loans net of provisions to capital (%) - Non-performing loans to total gross loans (%) - Return on assets (%) - Regulatory capital to assets (%) - Regulatory Tier 1 capital to risk-weighted assets (%) - Liquid assets to short-term liabilities (%) - Net open position in foreign exchange to capital (%)
Refugees	10.7.4 Proportion of the population who are refugees, by country of origin (%)
Zero tariff imports	10.a.1 Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff (%), all products
Total resource flows for development	10.b.1 Net official development assistance (ODA) as a percentage of OECD-DAC donors' GNI, by donor countries (%)
Remittance costs	10.c.1 Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted (%)

GOAL 11 – Sustainable cities and communities

Slums	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums (%)
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	11.5.1 - Number of deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (number) - Number of directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (number)
Economic loss and affected infrastructure & services from disasters	11.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters relative to GDP (%)
Mean levels of fine particulate matter in cities	11.6.2 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (population-weighted, micrograms per cubic meter)
Disaster risk reduction	11.b.1 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework
Disaster risk reduction, local governments	11.b.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies (%)

Indicator short name	Indicator
GOAL 12 – Responsible consumption and production	
Domestic material consumption	12.2.2 Domestic material consumption per unit of GDP (kilograms per constant 2010 United States dollars): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Biomass - Fossil fuels - Metal ores - Non-metallic minerals - Coal - Crop residues - Crops - Ferrous ores - Natural gas - Grazed biomass and fodder crops - Non-ferrous ores - Non-metallic minerals, industrial or agricultural dominant - Non-metallic minerals, construction dominant - Petroleum - Wild catch and harvest - Wood
Handling of hazardous waste	12.4.1 Parties meeting their commitments and obligations in transmitting information on hazardous waste and other chemicals, as required by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basel Convention - Montreal Protocol - Rotterdam Convention - Stockholm Convention
Hazardous waste generated	12.4.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hazardous waste generated, per capita (kg) - Municipal waste recycled (%)
Economic and environmental aspects of tourism	12.b.1 Implementation of standard accounting tools to monitor the economic and environmental aspects of tourism: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of tables - SEEA tables - Tourism Satellite Account tables
Fossil fuel subsidies	12.c.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies (consumption and production) as a proportion of total GDP (%) - Fossil-fuel subsidies (consumption and production) per capita (constant US dollars)
GOAL 13 – Climate action	
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	13.1.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population - Number of directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population
Disaster risk reduction	13.1.2 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework
Disaster risk reduction, local governments	13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies (%)
Greenhouse gas emissions	13.2.2 Total greenhouse gas emissions without LULUCF (Mt CO ₂ , equivalent): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annex I Parties - Non-Annex I Parties

Indicator short name	Indicator
GOAL 14 – Life below water	
Coastal eutrophication and plastic debris density	14.1.1 Chlorophyll-a anomaly, remote sensing (%) - Moderate - High
Protected marine areas	14.5.1 Average proportion of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) covered by protected areas (%)
Combatting illegal fishing	14.6.1 Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (level of implementation)
Sustainable fisheries	14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP (%)
Research budget for marine technology	14.a.1 National ocean science expenditure as a share of total research and development funding (%)
Legal frameworks to protect small-scale fisheries	14.b.1 Degree of application of a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries (level of implementation: 1 lowest to 5 highest)
GOAL 15 – Life on land	
Forest area	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area (%)
Sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity	15.1.2 Average proportion of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) covered by protected areas (%) - Freshwater - Terrestrial
Sustainable forest management	15.2.1 - Above-ground biomass in forest (tonnes per hectare) - Forest area net change rate (%) - Proportion of forest area with a long-term management plan (%) - Proportion of forest area within legally established protected areas (%)
Sites for mountain biodiversity	15.4.1 Average proportion of Mountain Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) covered by protected areas (%)
Mountain Green Cover Index	15.4.2 Mountain Green Cover Index
Red List Index	15.5.1 Red List Index
Plant genetic resources for good and agriculture	15.6.1 - Countries that have legislative, administrative and policy framework or measures reported through the Online Reporting System on Compliance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) - Countries that are contracting Parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA)
Management of invasive alien species	15.8.1 - Legislation, Regulation, Act related to the prevention of introduction and management of Invasive Alien Species - Countries with an allocation from the national budget to manage the threat of invasive alien species - National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) targets alignment to Aichi Biodiversity target 9 set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020
ODA for biodiversity	15.a.1 Total official development assistance for biodiversity (millions of constant 2017 United States dollars) by: - Donor countries - Recipient countries

Indicator short name	Indicator
GOAL 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions	
Intentional homicides	16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population
Robbery	16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to robbery in the previous 12 months (%)
Detected victims of human trafficking	16.2.2 Detected victims of human trafficking (number)
Robbery reporting rate	16.3.1 Police reporting rate for robbery (%)
Unsentenced detainees	16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population (%)
Bribery	16.5.2 Bribery incidence (% of firms experiencing at least one bribe payment request)
Government expenditure	16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget (%)
Public access to information	16.10.2 Countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information
Human Rights, Paris Principles	16.a.1 Countries with National Human Rights Institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles, A status
GOAL 17 – Partnerships for goals	
Tax revenue	17.1.1 Total government revenue (budgetary central government) as a proportion of GDP (%)
Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	17.1.2 Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes (% of GDP)
ODA from OECD-DAC	17.2.1 Net official development assistance (ODA) as a percentage of OECD-DAC donors' GNI, by donor countries to (%): - Landlocked developing countries - Small island states (SIDS) - Least developed countries (LDCs)
Debt service	17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services (%)
Fixed Internet broadband subscription by speed	17.6.1 Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants: - 10 MPBS - Any speed
Internet users	17.8.1 Internet users per 100 inhabitants
Worldwide weighted tariff-average	17.10.1 - Worldwide weighted tariff-average, most-favoured-nation status (%): - Agricultural products - Clothing - Industrial products - Oil - Textiles - All products - Worldwide weighted tariff-average, preferential status (%): - Agricultural products - Clothing - Industrial products - Oil - Textiles - All products

Indicator short name	Indicator
Average tariffs faced by developing countries	17.12.1 - Average tariff applied by developed countries, most-favoured nation status (%): - Agricultural products - Arms - Clothing - Industrial products - Oil - Textiles - All products - Average tariff applied by developed countries, preferential status (%): - Agricultural products - Arms - Clothing - Industrial products - Oil - Textiles - All products
Macroeconomic dashboard	17.13.1 - Gross public sector debt, Central Government, as a proportion of GDP (%) - Annual inflation, consumer prices (%) - Annual growth of households and NPISHs final consumption expenditure (%) - Annual GDP growth (%)
Compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	17.8.2 Countries with national statistical legislation exists that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
National statistical plan	17.18.3 - Countries with national statistical plans with funding from Government - Countries with national statistical plans that are fully funded - Countries with national statistical plans that are under implementation
Census, birth and death registration	17.19.2 - Countries that have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years - Countries with birth registration data that are at least 90 percent complete - Countries with death registration data that are at least 75 percent complete

Halfway to 2030: How many targets will be achieved in the UNECE region?

Snapshot and insights in 2022

This publication provides a progress assessment on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), based on the data available in the United Nations Global SDG Indicators Database.

The assessment identifies targets on which the overall progress in the region was good, and shows that in most areas progress needs to accelerate by 2030. It also identifies the few areas where the course needs to be reversed.

Beside assessing progress on the basis of available statistics, this report also takes a look into progress in gender equality – a contribution by UN Women – and presents stories and insights contributed by other agencies and United Nations country teams in the region. Anchored in data, the insights from these stories help understand the ways how change can be achieved. Several stories address the challenges brought by the pandemic and measure their impact.

The publication was prepared by the UNECE Statistical Division to inform the 2022 UNECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (Geneva, 6 and 7 April).

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