ASIA AND THE PACIFIC SDG PROGRESS REPORT

2022

Widening disparities amid COVID-19

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

ESCAP 75 MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

The shaded areas of the map indicate ESCAP members and associate members.*

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is the most inclusive intergovernmental platform in the Asia-Pacific region. The Commission promotes cooperation among its 53 member States and 9 associate members in pursuit of solutions to sustainable development challenges. ESCAP is one of the five regional commissions of the United Nations.

The ESCAP secretariat supports inclusive, resilient and sustainable development in the region by generating action-oriented knowledge, and by providing technical assistance and capacity-building services in support of national development objectives, regional agreements and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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FOREWORD

As we present the 2022 edition of the Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report, the world marks an important benchmark: the second anniversary of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Globally, the consequences of the pandemic have been severe, and these have increasingly coincided with natural and human-made disasters. Even as governments in the region took action to help those most in need and respond to ongoing crises, the latest data indicate that vulnerability has increased, and huge gaps persist across different population groups. Amid these challenges, the region is not on track to achieve the 2030 targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. In fact, progress in the region has slowed down, and with every passing year, the 2030 targets are further out of reach.

The analysis in the 2022 edition of the SDG Progress Report has given special priority to those who are furthest behind. The report focuses on the intersection of key development challenges with population characteristics, such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, health, location, migratory status and income.

A better understanding of development outcomes for distinct population groups and intersecting vulnerabilities is key to a fairer recovery. Analyses of dissimilarity and inequality will help efforts to ensure that no one is left behind. The Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved without protecting the most vulnerable, many of whom have been particularly affected by the pandemic.

The evidence-base to assess progress in the region continues to strengthen, although the pandemic proved to be an obstacle to data collection and some data gaps remain. This report shows that international and national

cooperation has helped improve the availability of data about the Sustainable Development Goals, but there is still much more to be done to fill all the data gaps.

In this time of great change and difficult challenges, there is an urgent need to redouble efforts to fully implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially for those furthest behind.

Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana

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

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CO_2	carbon dioxide
COVID-19	coronavirus disease 2019
DAC	Development Assistance Committee (under OECD)
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
D-Index	Dissimilarity Index
DRR	disaster risk reduction
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI	foreign direct investment
GDP	gross domestic product
GHG	greenhouse gas
ILO	International Labour Organization
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
LDCs	least developed countries
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
ODA	official development assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
RCP	representative concentration pathway
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

READERS' GUIDE

Who should read this report?

The report is intended for three audiences:

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

How to interpret the results?

Readers are encouraged to keep the following points in mind as they consider the findings of this report[1]:

- **Every country counts equally** in the analysis. The progress of the region – and each of its subregions – is presented irrespective of the size of the population, economy, and/or land area of constituent countries.[2] Regional and subregional averages that give each country equal weight are used to assess progress towards targets.
- Results in this report are **not comparable with previous reports** because a revised set of SDG indicators and updated historical data are used for the analysis every year as new data become available.[3]
- Two different measures are used in the analysis: the Current Status Index and the Anticipated Progress Index. The Current Status Index provides a goal-level snapshot of progress and an analysis of where the Asia-Pacific region stands on each goal. The Anticipated Progress Index provides a dashboard of expected progress by 2030 at the level of SDG targets and indicators and an assessment of how likely the region is to achieve individual SDG targets given the pace of progress.
- Previous editions of the present report used the year 2000 as the baseline for measuring progress so far. Given that the data available and time lag since 2015 is now sufficient to observe progress, the present edition of the report has used the **2015 baseline for the snapshot of progress.**

[1] See **Annex 1** for technical notes and information on the interpretation of results.
[2] See **Annex 2** for regional and subregional country groups.
[3] Refer to Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway (https://data.unescap.org) for comparable results over time.

Where do the data come from?

Chapters 1 and 2:

- Data for countries in the Asia-Pacific region were drawn from the Global SDG Indicators Database maintained by Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Only SDG indicators with at least two data points available for more than half of the countries in the region were included in the calculations. To assess progress toward SDG targets for which no indicator with sufficient data was available, six additional indicators from global SDG data custodian agencies were used (see **Annex 3**).
- Disaggregated statistics on 31 indicators were incorporated in the analysis to account for different population groups. This is done as a starting point for the progress assessment and to respond to the pledge of the 2030 Agenda, to leave no one behind.

Chapter 3:

- Given limited disaggregated data available from the global SDG indicators database, the analysis of disparities across different population groups used both micro-data from household surveys as well as additional disaggregated data from international agencies.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Throughout Asia and the Pacific, Governments are striving towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the ambitious objectives of reaching the furthest behind first, but the progress is insufficient and has in fact, decelerated. The challenge of achieving the goals has been magnified in recent years by an increase in the frequency and intensity of human-made crises and natural disasters, as well as the challenges of responding to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. In this context, the Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Goal Progress Report 2022 provides an analysis of progress on 17 SDGs and 169 targets in the region and in each of the five subregions where there are unique challenges, resources and opportunities for progress. The report also provides an analysis of data gaps that prevent the monitoring of progress, and it provides an investigation of sources and priority areas for enhancing SDG data availability.

Progress towards the SDGs in the Asia-Pacific region has slowed as the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change have exacerbated development challenges. The region is not on track to achieve any of the 17 SDGs.

The vision and ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are no less critical and relevant than they were in 2015, yet the expected year for the achievement of the SDGs is now 2065, and the gap grows wider with each passing year. The Asia-Pacific region is now facing the economic impact of the crisis and the risk that progress will slow down even more in the coming years as environmental and social targets are compromised. That outcome can be avoided if the region steps up and embraces the SDGs as a road map for an inclusive, equitable and just recovery.

The inequity of progress towards the SDGs is evidenced in the lives of vulnerable population groups throughout Asia and the Pacific who are most at risk of being left behind. Slow progress, stagnation and regression against the SDG targets continue to place the greatest burden on those who are furthest behind.

While there has been significant progress in the region on industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9) and affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), the pace has been too slow to reach the goals by 2030. Regression on responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and climate action (Goal 13) has occurred even as the climate crisis has become more acute. Meanwhile, progress across Goals 4, 5, 6, 8, 11 and 14 throughout Asia and the Pacific has been very slow or even stagnant.

At the current rate of change, none of the 17 SDGs will be achieved in all five subregions, and only East and North-East Asia is on track towards no poverty (Goal 1) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9).

There is an urgent need for regional collaboration and partnerships to ensure that no one and no country in any of the Asia-Pacific subregions is left behind as SDG progress stagnates or regresses. Apart from Goal 1 and Goal 9 in East and North-East Asia, the Asia-Pacific subregions are not on track to achieve the SDGs by 2030. Alarmingly, every Asia-Pacific subregion has regressed on responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and climate action (Goal 13).

In addition to regression on Goal 12 and Goal 13, the North and Central Asia subregion has regressed on life below water (Goal 14); the Pacific subregion has regressed on clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), reduced inequalities (Goal 10) and sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11); the South-East Asia subregion has regressed on Goal 6, Goal 11 and Goal 14; and the South and South-West Asia subregion has regressed on Goal 11.

Leaving no one behind, regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, location, disability or migratory status, remains the central commitment of the 2030 Agenda, and the need to reach those who are furthest behind has never been greater.

Average progress in Asia and the Pacific disproportionately excludes some groups with distinct demographic or socioeconomic characteristics. Those furthest behind, including women, rural populations and poorer households, generally face more vulnerabilities. For many vulnerable populations, food security, education and livelihoods have deteriorated during the pandemic.

One third of the global population of child refugees live in the Asia-Pacific region, and the pandemic has added to the challenges they face. The intersection of poverty and climate change often impacts the livelihoods of women, who account for the majority of agriculture sector workers in some areas.

The analysis in this report shows that more must be done to expand social protection for vulnerable populations, including persons with severe disabilities, and to improve the labour market prospects of people with disabilities.

While data availability has improved since 2017 (the number of indicators with data has doubled), 57 out of 169 targets (34 per cent) still can not be measured. Data availability on gender equality (Goal 5), life below water (Goal 14) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) remains somewhat limited.

Cooperation between national and international custodian agencies for SDG indicators have significantly contributed to SDG data availability and must continue to close the remaining gaps in the data. More investment and technical cooperation are needed to ensure timeliness and sustainability in conducting household surveys as the main source for nearly one third of the SDG indicators. Enhanced national coordination and data sharing and integration must be prioritized to harness the full potential of administrative data (including civil registration and vital statistics) for the SDGs.

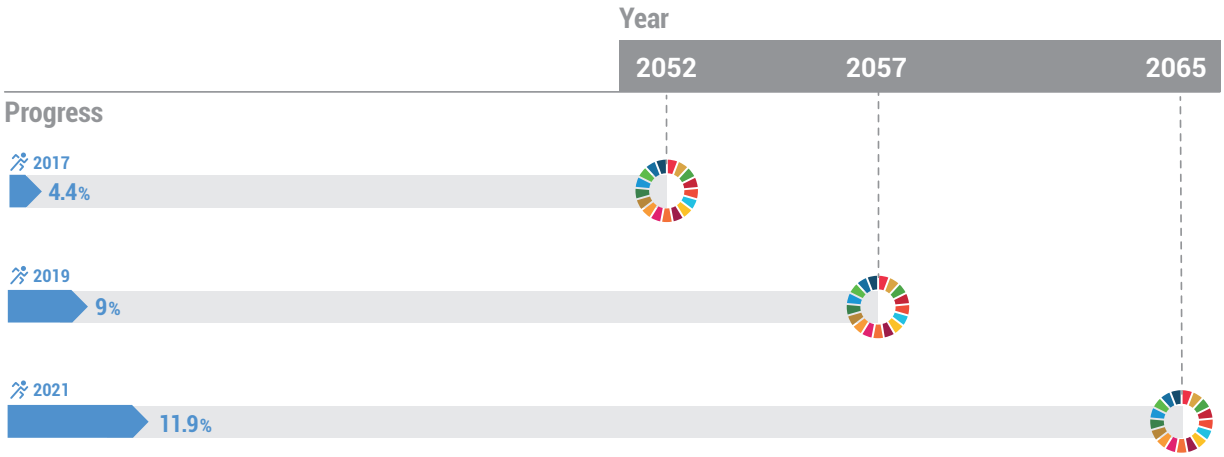
CHAPTER 1
REGIONAL OVERVIEW

The pace of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Asia-Pacific region is slowing down at a time when acceleration is needed urgently to recover from the pandemic.

1.1 How much progress has been made in the Asia-Pacific region?

With each passing year since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, the expected timeline for achieving the SDGs has lengthened (**figure 1.1**). The progress gap for achieving the SDGs grows wider and the prospect of achieving the SDGs now extends decades beyond 2030. In 2017, the estimated year to achieve the SDGs was 2052, and by 2021, the estimated year had increased to 2065.

Figure 1.1 Estimated year to achieve the SDGs at the current pace in Asia and the Pacific, 2017–2021



Many factors seem to have contributed to this, including continued unsustainable development pathways coupled with an increase in the frequency and intensity of human-made crises and natural disasters. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is the latest in an ongoing stream of challenges. Although available data may not yet include the consequences of the pandemic, its impact in the region is undeniable. The burden of ongoing crises and conflicts, which have high human and financial tolls, may have set the 2030 Agenda back as limited resources are further constrained and must be reallocated to adapt to new conditions or replace damaged infrastructure. As the first six years of the 2030 Agenda have passed, the slowdown could be because the remaining development challenges are harder to overcome.

The vision and ambition of the 2030 Agenda are no less critical and relevant today than they were in 2015. In this era of the COVID-19 pandemic and other disasters, the 2030 Agenda and the framework of the 17 SDGs provide the most comprehensive road map for recovery. In fact, achieving the goals is more urgent than ever as the world faces existential challenges across the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development. While the finish line may now be further off than ever before, getting there must remain at the top of every nation's development agenda. While the region has made progress towards several of the goals, further action is needed for the region to achieve its 2030 ambitions.

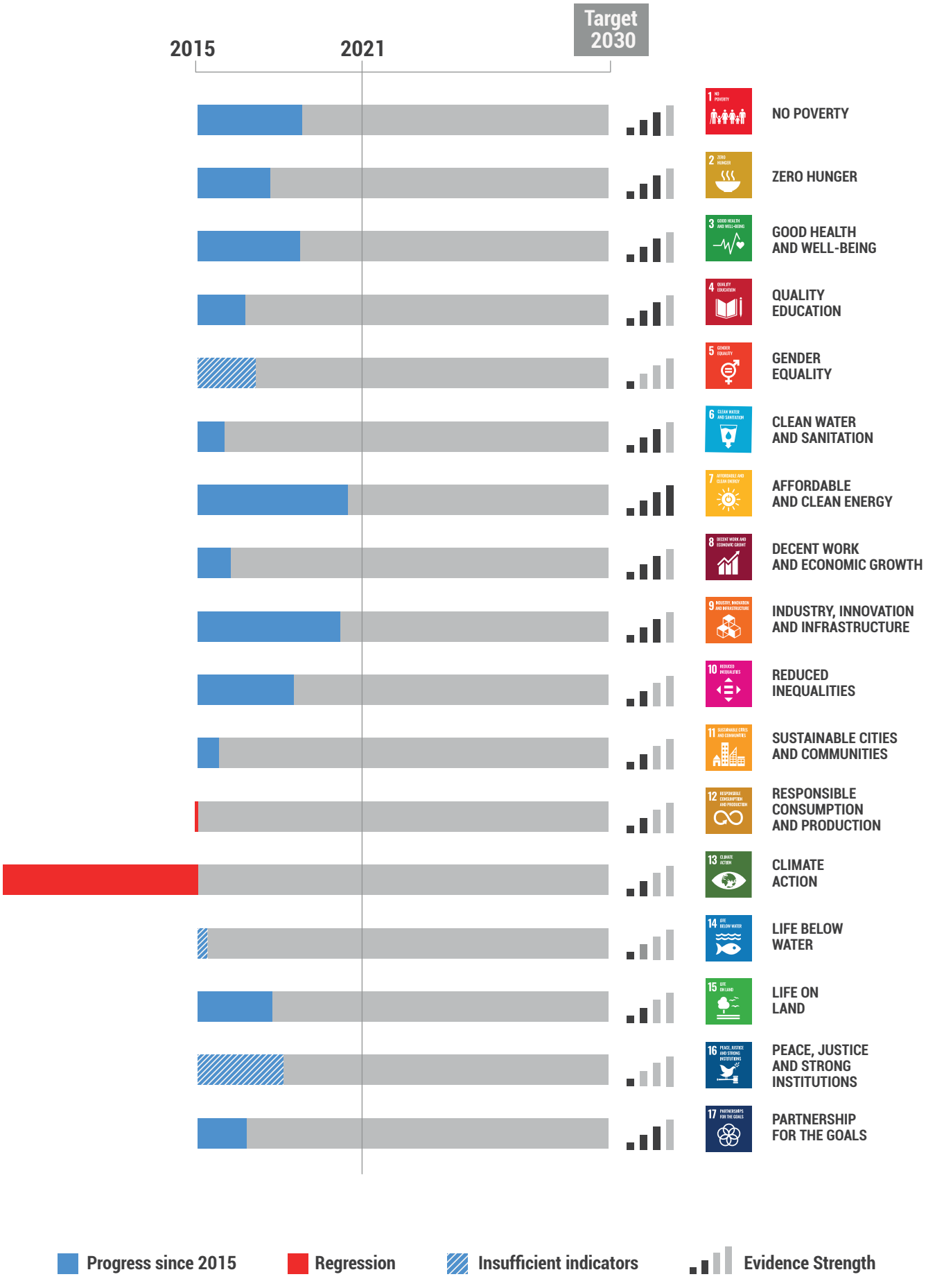
Figure 1.2 provides a snapshot of SDG progress and illustrates that substantial improvement is still required on most goals. Progress on affordable and clean energy (Goal 7) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9) has been significant. Contributing factors include increased international financing for clean and renewable energy as well as considerable success in providing access to electricity to urban and rural populations, the achievement of close to universal coverage of mobile networks and increased official flows for infrastructure development in the least developed countries (LDCs). Meanwhile, negative trends must be reversed, especially on climate action (Goal 13) and responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) to keep the 2030 prospects within reach. For example, the region is producing at least 35 per cent more greenhouse gas (GHG) than it did in 2000, and only five economies (China, India, Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation) produced 80 per cent of the total GHG emissions in the Asia-Pacific region. Since 2015, the average number of people affected by natural disasters has more than doubled, and fossil fuel subsidies as a share of gross domestic product (GDP) have slightly increased on average despite the urgent need to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

While some progress has been made on no poverty (Goal 1), good health and well-being (Goal 3) and reduced inequalities (Goal 10), the pace of progress is insufficient and must double if the region is to meet the 2030 targets.

There has been little or no progress in the areas of quality education (Goal 4), gender equality (Goal 5), water and sanitation (Goal 6), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11) and life below water (Goal 14).

To accelerate progress, the region must make significant strides towards equality through investments that improve the lives of the poorest and most marginalized people to ensure that no one is left behind. The most urgent needs include enhancing quality and equity in education, closing all types of gender gaps, ending violence against women and girls, effectively managing scarce water resources and ensuring everyone has access to safely managed drinking water services. Everyone must have access to decent employment opportunities so that growth will be sustainable. It is equally important to reduce urban pollution, increase resilience against natural disasters, protect life below water and enhance sustainable fisheries practices. Furthermore, each country has a role in achieving their nationally determined contributions to reduce emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change, helping to put the region on track to limit global warming and preserve the planet's finite resources.

Figure 1.2 Snapshot of SDG progress in Asia and the Pacific, 2021



1.2 Will the targets be achieved by 2030?

Figure 1.3
SDG Anticipated Progress Index for the Asia-Pacific region

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Out of 169 targets of the SDGs, 112 targets are measurable. Less than 10 per cent of the measurable targets are on track to be achieved by 2030, and the remaining targets require urgent and rapid acceleration of progress or reversal of negative trends. The region must accelerate progress towards 81 targets while reversing regression against 21 targets.

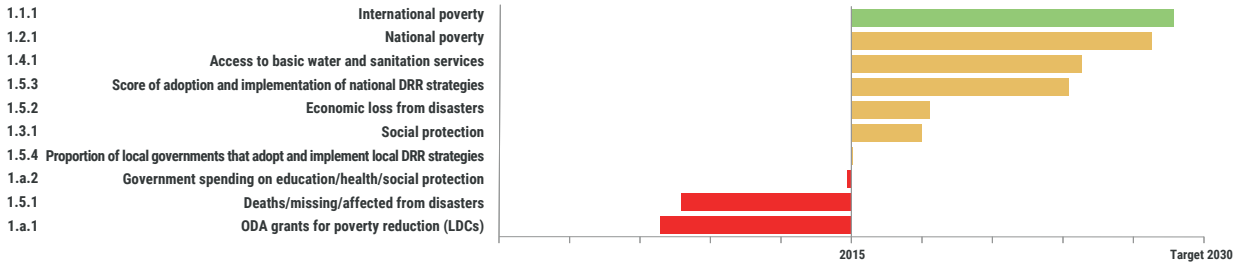
The goals and targets with the most significant regressions against the 2015 baseline are clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8) and responsible consumption and production (Goal 12).

It is impossible to have an accurate picture of SDG progress in the region without sufficient data. While data availability on SDG indicators has improved year on year and the picture is getting clearer, significant data gaps remain. Of 169 targets, progress on 57 cannot be measured because of insufficient data or unclear target values. Gaps in the data have the biggest impact on the measurement of gender equality (Goal 5), life below water (Goal 14) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). A more detailed discussion of data sufficiency is provided in chapter 4.

1.3 Goal-by-goal SDG status

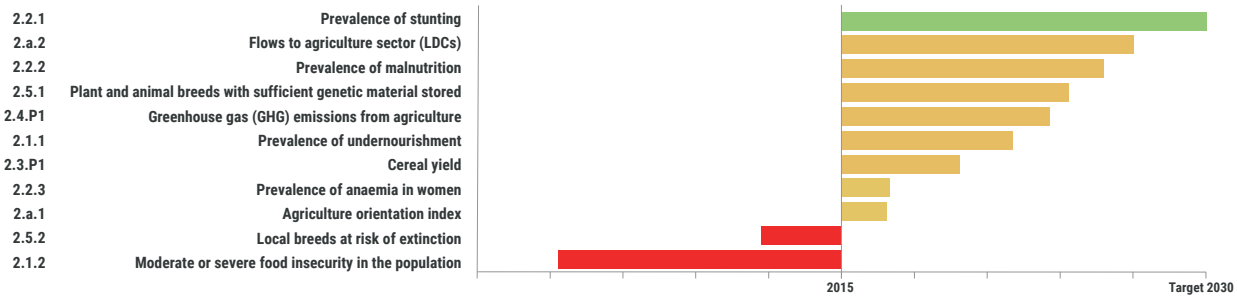
The analysis in this section shows anticipated progress by indicator under each of the 17 SDGs. Each indicator is colour-coded to represent expected progress: indicators that show sufficient progress and likely to achieve the target on current pace are shown in green; indicators with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030 are shown in yellow; and indicators that are on a regressing trajectory are shown in red.

Goal 1 – No Poverty



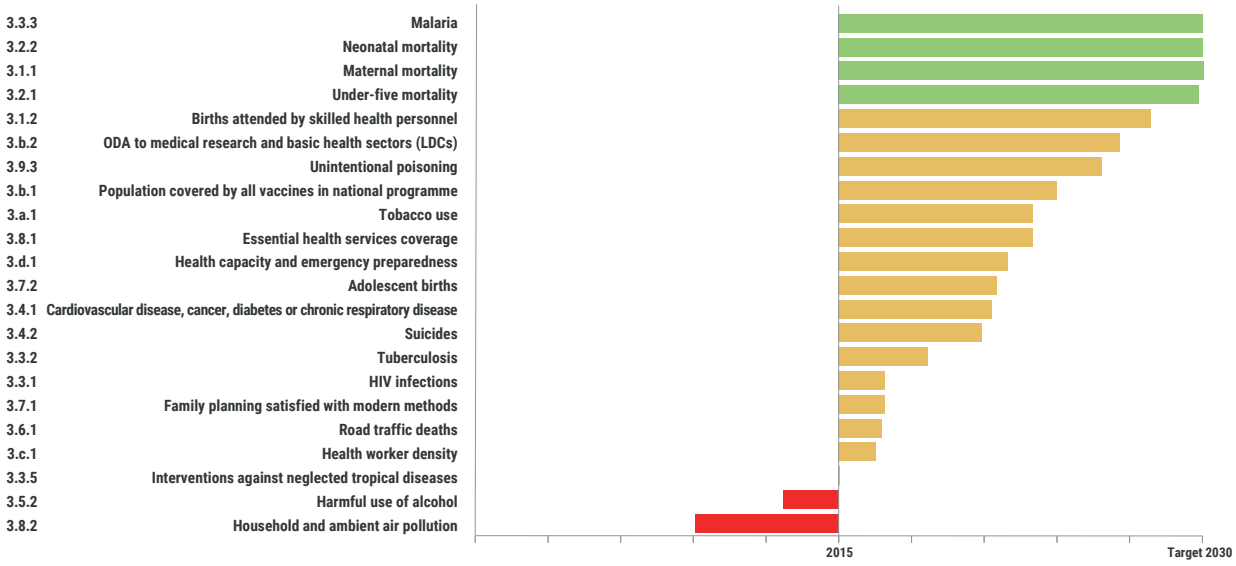
While the region has advanced towards poverty reduction, the pace of closing the remaining gaps must be accelerated. Many people are not covered by social protection programmes and have no access to basic services such as clean water and sanitation. The already high economic and human costs of natural disasters are increasing, and government spending on essential services, such as education and health, is insufficient. Negative trends must be reversed, particularly on official development assistance for poverty reduction in LDCs and the resilience of the poor to climate-related disasters.

Goal 2 – Zero hunger



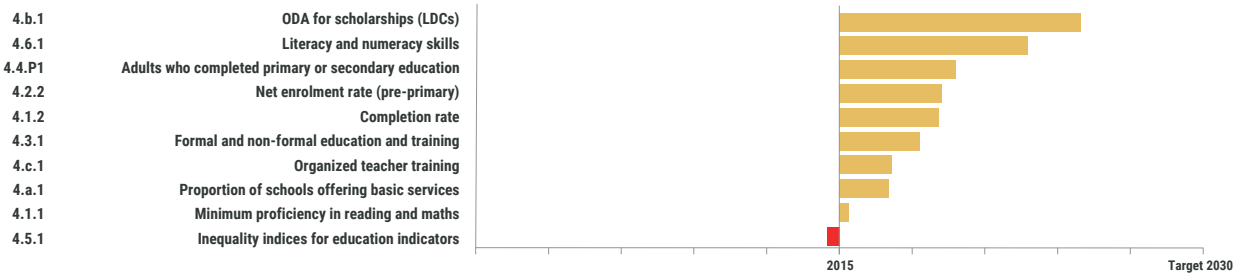
The region is on track to achieve the targets for reducing the proportion of children under 5 years of age who are severely stunted, and the region has made significant reductions in malnutrition. However, food insecurity among populations is increasing, and more local livestock breeds are at risk of extinction. The region also needs to do more to secure sufficient investment in agriculture and reduce the prevalence of overweight among children.

Goal 3 – Good health and well-being



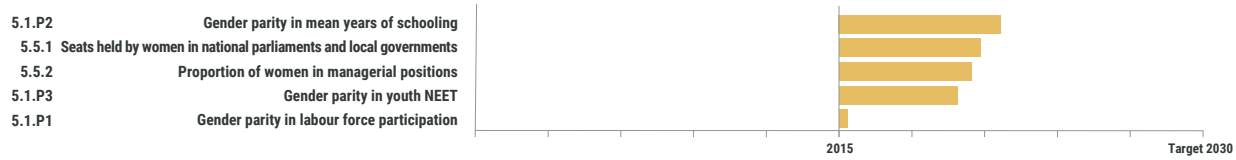
The region has been successful in achieving targets on maternal and neonatal mortality. Remarkable progress has been made on combatting malaria and providing mothers with access to skilled health personnel. However, the achievement of many 2030 targets on good health and well-being remains out of reach in the region. The top priorities for the region are to promote mental health, reduce road traffic deaths, reduce household health expenditure and increase the capacity to provide health services. The region must also reverse negative trends on alcohol consumption and household and ambient air pollution per capita.

Goal 4 – Quality education



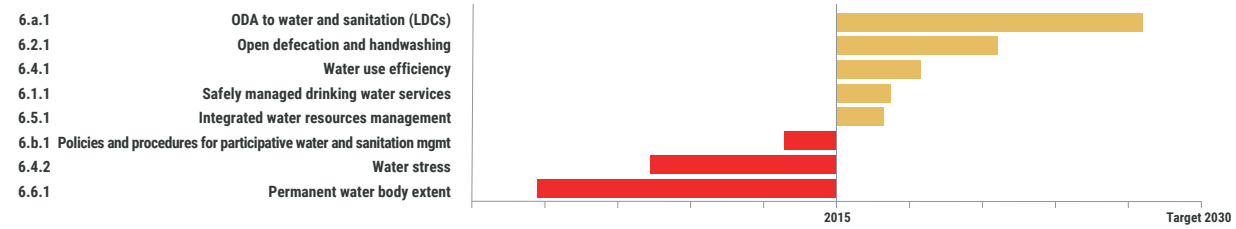
Throughout the region, progress must be accelerated and negative trends must be reversed to achieve targets on quality education. In particular, education outcomes are deteriorating, and inequality in access to education is widening. Much more must be done to ensure that all schools everywhere have basic services, such as electricity, computers and single-sex basic sanitation infrastructure, and to ensure that all girls and boys complete at least primary and secondary education.

Goal 5 – Gender equality



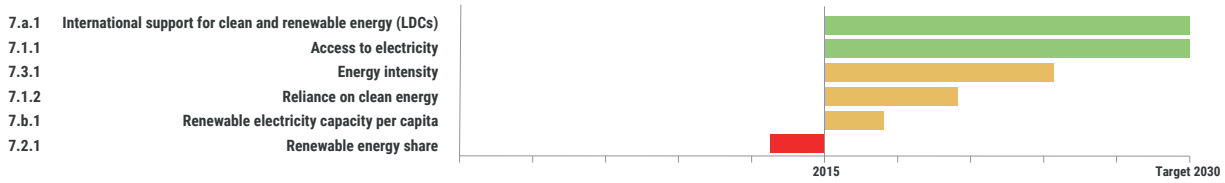
The data on gender equality in the region are insufficient to provide an accurate picture of progress. Few proxy indicators are used to fill in data gap. Despite some progress in the proportion of leadership and decision-making roles held by women, there is still a wide gender gap in access to employment and education.

Goal 6 – Clean water and sanitation



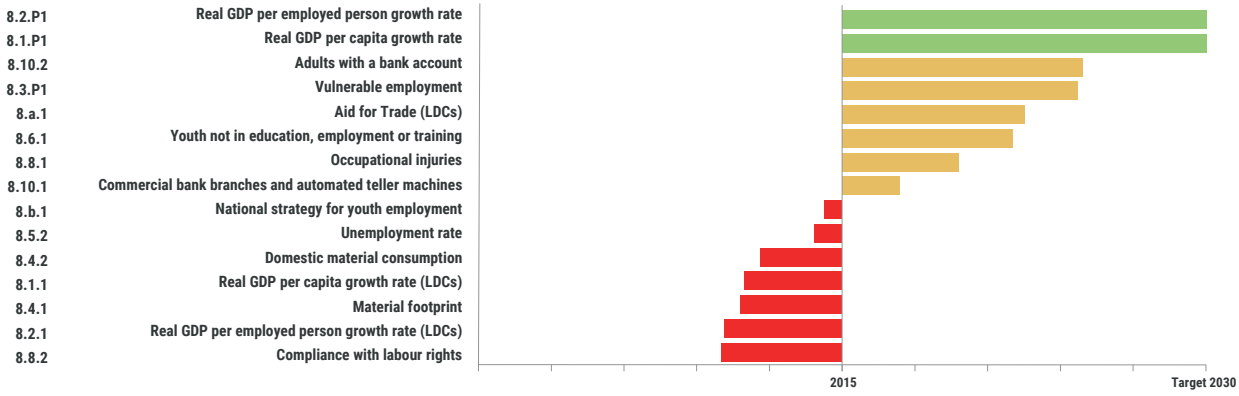
Despite a substantial increase in aid to LDCs for water supply and sanitation, the region must take action to reverse negative trends on water use efficiency and the protection and restoration of water-related ecosystems. A large population still lacks access to safely managed drinking water services and basic handwashing facilities, especially in rural areas. Progress towards those targets is too slow to achieve Goal 6 by 2030.

Goal 7 – Affordable and clean energy



Together with Goal 9, the greatest progress in the region has been made towards the Goal 7. Access to electricity has expanded, and there is increased international financial support flowing to developing countries for research and development on clean energy and renewable energy production. Nevertheless, renewable energy as a share of total energy consumption is declining in the region, and that negative trend must be reversed.

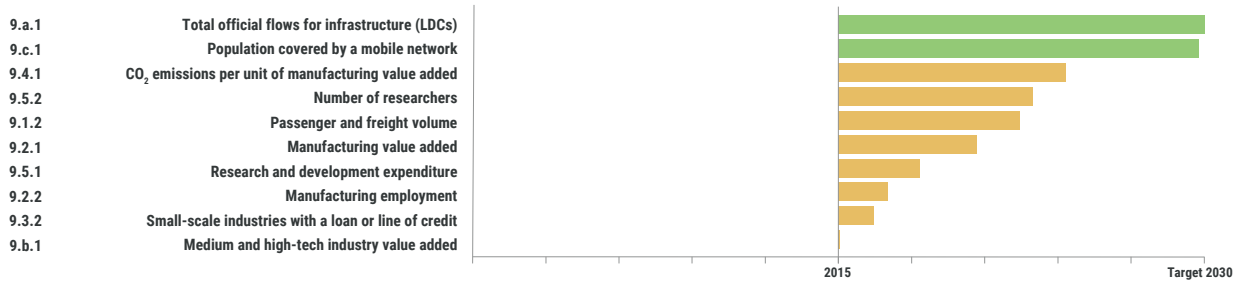
Goal 8 – Decent work and economic growth



The status of targets on decent work and economic growth in the region is characterized by slow progress and regression against the 2015 baseline. Although the region has maintained its rate of economic growth, the GDP growth rate has slowed down in LDCs.[4] To achieve the 2030 targets, the region needs to increase compliance with labour rights, provide decent employment opportunities, especially for youth, and reduce its material footprint and material consumption to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation.

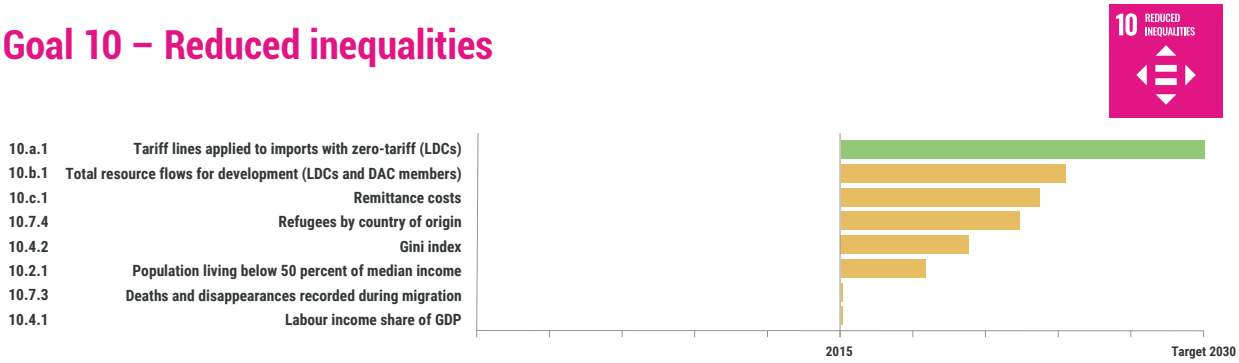
[4] Data on economic growth are only available for pre-pandemic period.

Goal 9 – Industry, innovation and infrastructure



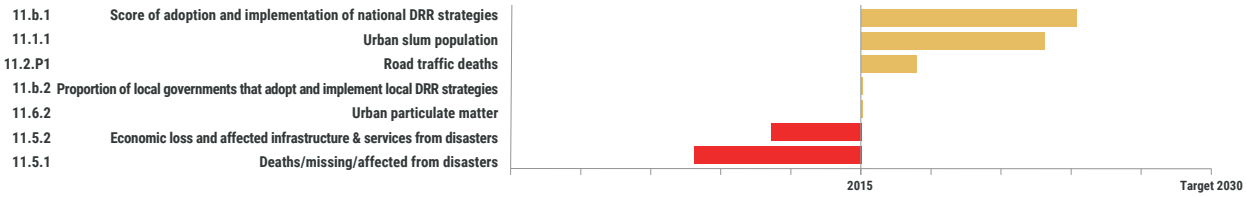
Progress in the region is nearly on track and must be maintained to achieve the 2030 targets. The expansion of mobile network coverage, in particular, and the official flows for infrastructural to LDCs are remarkable areas of progress. Looking to the future, the region needs to secure more financial support for small-scale industries and expand the share of medium-high and high-tech industry in total manufacturing value-added.

Goal 10 – Reduced inequalities



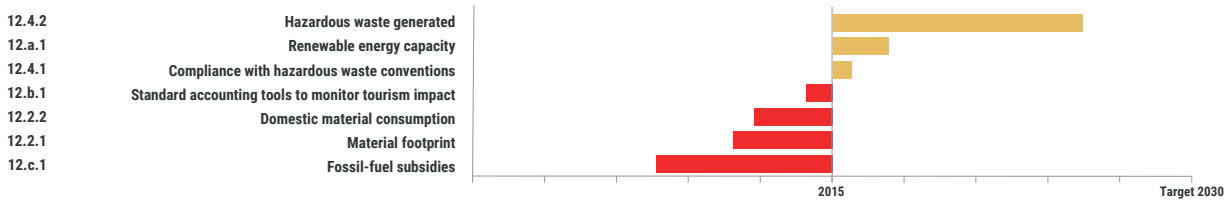
Progress has been relatively good towards reduced inequalities, which includes the decline in the number of refugees and the increased access of the LDCs to markets in developed countries. Progress on closing the income gap among population groups must be accelerated, compensation of employees and self-employment income as a percentage of GDP must be increased and necessary reforms to reduce the transaction cost of migrant remittances must be implemented.

Goal 11 – Sustainable cities and communities



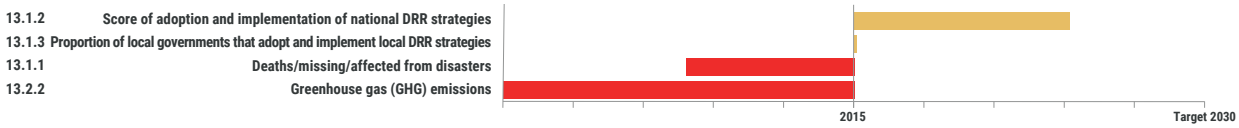
Very little progress has been made since 2015 on the targets of sustainable cities and communities. Despite progress in implementing national and local disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies, human and economic losses from natural disasters continue to increase. Progress towards reducing urban air pollution since 2015 has been stagnant, and there are still large populations living in slums or inadequate housing.

Goal 12 – Responsible consumption and production



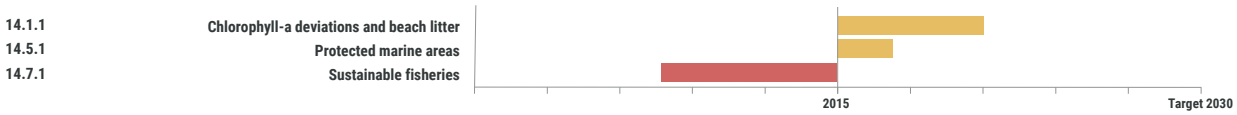
Data on responsible consumption and production show a reduction in hazardous waste generation and improvement in renewable energy-generating capacity. However, the region must reverse current trends on the amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of GDP, material consumption and use of materials in production processes. The region also needs to adopt accounting standards to better measure the impact of human activities (such as tourism) on the environment.

Goal 13 – Climate action



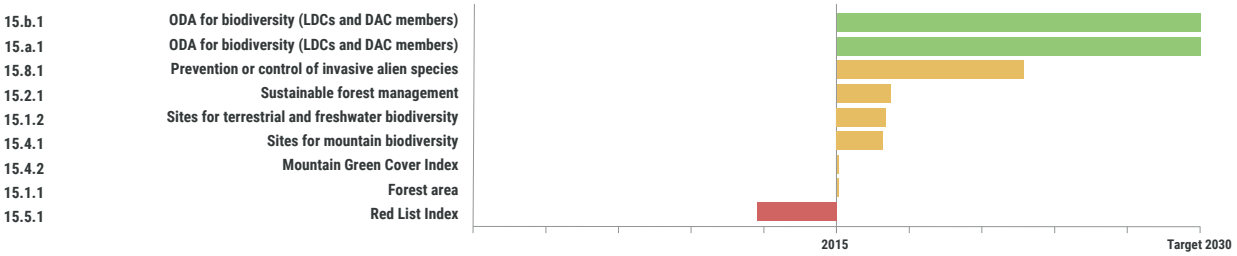
Reversing the negative trend on climate action should be the top priority of the region, but the available data show significant regression against the 2015 baseline for Goal 13. While data are insufficient for several targets of Goal 13, the existing evidence on the measurable targets suggests GHG emissions in the region have continued to rise, and natural disasters are having an increasing impact on people and economies.

Goal 14 – Life below water



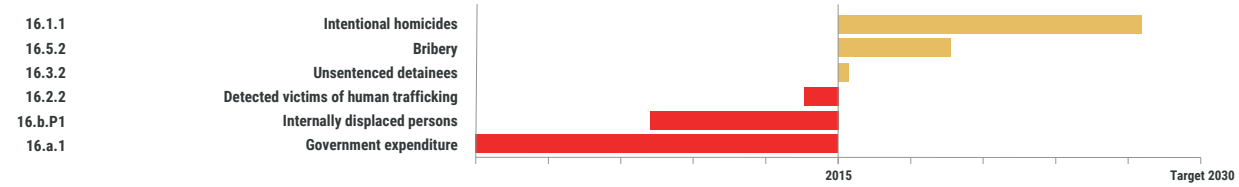
Evidence is too weak to provide an accurate overall assessment of progress in the region on life below water. From existing data, it is clear that the region is regressing on the value added of sustainable marine capture fisheries as a percentage of GDP, and progress must be accelerated in reducing marine pollution and conservation of coastal and marine areas.

Goal 15 – Life on land



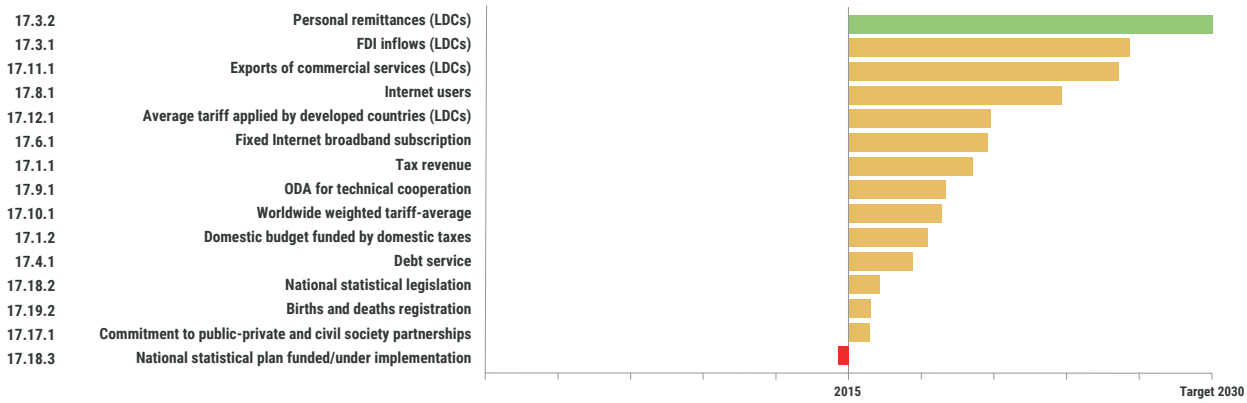
Asia and the Pacific has made some progress on life on land. However, progress must be accelerated to achieve the majority of Goal 15 targets by 2030. Progress is stagnant on the conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems, sustainable forest management and conservation of mountain ecosystems. The region must do more to satisfy the need for significant and urgent action to halt biodiversity loss.

Goal 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions



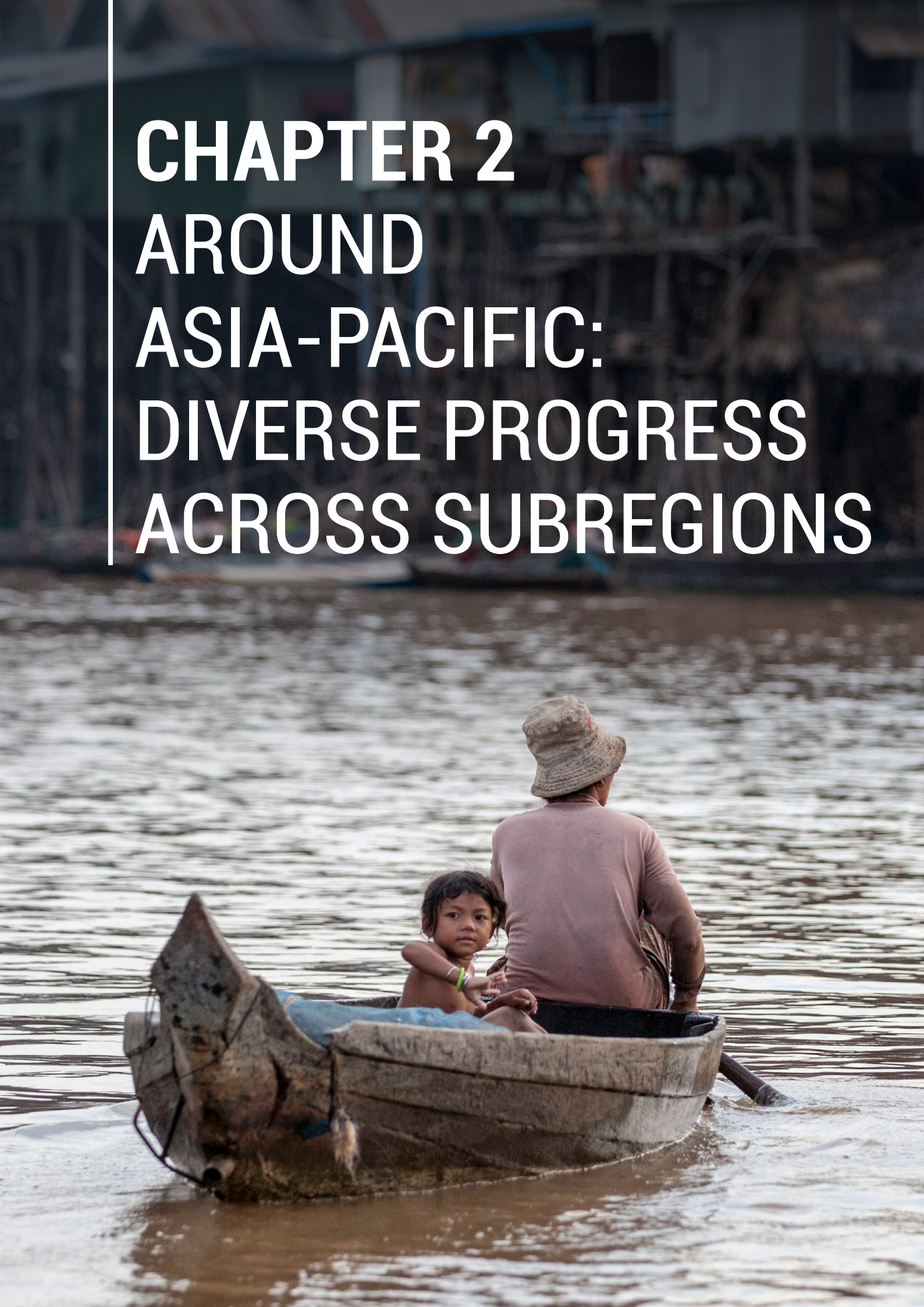
Along with gender equality (Goal 5) and life below water (Goal 14), data availability on peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) is poor. While there has been a substantial decline in intentional homicide since 2015, the region is not on track to achieve Goal 16. The increasing trend of internally displaced populations must be reversed, national human rights institutions must be strengthened, and more must be done to end corruption and human trafficking.

Goal 17 – Partnership for the goals



Progress on partnership for the goals has been slow. Significant progress has been made on foreign direct investment to LDCs and their access to international markets. Meanwhile, the greatest gaps in progress are found in the volume of public-private partnerships for infrastructure development, the registration of births and deaths, and the number of countries with national statistical plans fully funded and under implementation. To achieve the 2030 targets, most indicators require acceleration of progress or improved data availability.

CHAPTER 2
AROUND ASIA-PACIFIC: DIVERSE PROGRESS ACROSS SUBREGIONS



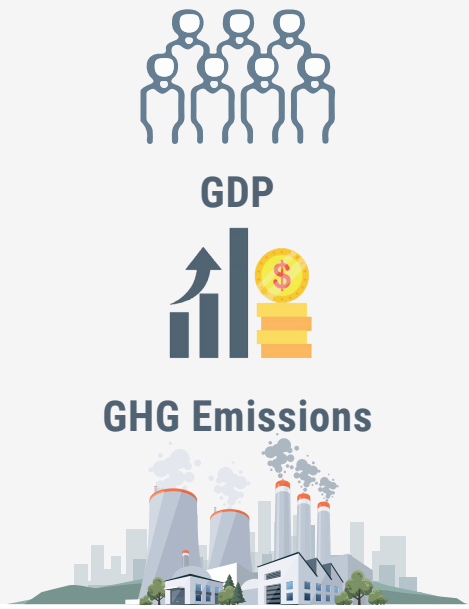
Introduction

Progress towards the 2030 Agenda and the pace of change varies across the subregions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). At the current rate, none of the 17 SDGs will be achieved in all five subregions.

This chapter provides a view by subregion on the progress, stagnation, or regression against the 17 SDGs and priority areas of focus (see **annex 4** for subregional charts). There is an urgent need for regional collaboration and partnerships to ensure that no one and no country in any of the ESCAP subregions is left behind. The analysis in this chapter can support those efforts.

Among the five subregions, none are on track to achieve all 17 SDGs, but East and North-East Asia is on track on no poverty (Goal 1) and industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9). More progress on partnership for the goals (Goal 17) was made in East and North-East Asia and in the Pacific compared to other subregions, but not enough progress was made for those subregions to achieve Goal 17 by 2030. Meanwhile, stark regression has taken place in each subregion on responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and climate action (Goal 13). Negative trends are also found on sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11) in South and South-West Asia, South-East Asia and the Pacific. Further areas of regression include clean water and sanitation (Goal 6) and reduced inequalities (Goal 10) in the Pacific and Goal 6 and life below water (Goal 14) in South-East Asia.

East and North-East Asia at a Glance



East and North-East Asia is on track in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, fostering innovation and building resilient infrastructure (Goal 9) while also progressing well in the fight against poverty (Goal 1) and the partnership for the goals (Goal 17). Although the subregion is an economic powerhouse, achieving the targets on decent work and economic growth (Goal 8) remains a serious concern largely due to resource use inefficiency. As such, the subregion has regressed in responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and climate action (Goal 13).

The East and North-East Asian subregion is on track to achieve Goal 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, owing to its robust manufacturing base and advanced infrastructure. It is home to top-performing countries with well-connected transport systems (based on the transport connectivity index of ESCAP).[5] The subregion has likewise progressed in the fight against poverty (Goal 1), and the subregion is well ahead of schedule in reducing poverty (in terms of the share of the population living below national and international poverty lines). Further, concerning partnership for the goals (Goal 17) countries in the subregion have developed strong SDG partnerships which highlight the importance of public-private and civil society partnerships, as articulated in voluntary national reviews in recent years.[6]

Although not on track, progress towards good health and well-being (Goal 3) in countries in the subregion is still faring better compared to many other goals. There has been strong progress towards achieving the targets on maternal, newborn and child mortality well in advance of 2030. Likewise, reducing inequalities (Goal 10) in the subregion has also seen fair progress with the decline in the population living below 50 per cent of median income, complementing the progress towards poverty reduction.

However, progress towards decent work and economic growth (Goal 8) is slow and far off from where it ought to be in 2021, even with high-income economies bolstering real output growth in the subregion. The challenges are twofold. First, the impact of economic growth on productive and decent employment creation remains inadequate, and there has been regression on the unemployment rate, the rate of youth not in education, employment or training,

[5] Top-performing countries include China, Japan and the Republic of Korea. ESCAP, 2019, Review of Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific 2019, (figure 1.4). Available at www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/Review2019_LowRes-17Feb2020.pdf.

[6] China and Japan submitted reviews in 2021; Mongolia submitted a review in 2019. See https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/#VNRDatabase.

and compliance with labour rights. While it is still too early for work displacements caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to be reflected in the relevant statistics, recent changes are likely to exacerbate the setback in the coming years. Second, economic growth in the subregion must be decoupled from environmental degradation to achieve the indicators on material footprint, and there has been regression on domestic material consumption.

The persistent challenge of resource use inefficiency is reflected in the subregion's performance on responsible consumption and production (Goal 12). The subregion is moving in the wrong direction across most of the indicators under Goal 12 (where data are available), particularly on the increasing generation of hazardous wastes. In addition, performance on climate action (Goal 13) in the subregion remains poor as GHG emissions continue to rise. Based on available data for the subregion, the widest gap between current progress and the 2030 target is in r educing GHG emissions. In 2020, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, China, Japan and the Republic of Korea, which account for more than 30 per cent of global GHG emissions, announced their commitments to addressing climate change, including efforts to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050/2060. Stepping up commitments in these three countries could offer a pathway towards much-needed acceleration of climate action in the subregion.

North and Central Asia at a Glance

OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC		OF THE WORLD
5.1%	Population	3.0%
6.2%	GDP	2.4%
11.3%	GHG Emissions	5.9%

The North and Central Asia subregion is not on track for any of the goals, but progress has been made towards most of the measurable targets under good health and well-being (Goal 3), industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). Meanwhile trends on responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14) have continued to regress for the past five years.

The few indicators available on peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16) show that North and Central Asia achieved a decrease in intentional homicide and human trafficking. However, data for most of the indicators of Goal 16, gender equality (Goal 5) and life below water (Goal 14) are not available to measure actual progress. Progress for good health and well-being (Goal 3) is mainly driven by the targets for reducing maternal, newborn and child mortality. The number of new HIV infections in the subregion has slightly increased since 2015, and significant efforts are required to reduce these numbers through prevention and awareness programmes. Although progress has been made on quality education (Goal 4), regressing trends are observed for minimum proficiency in reading and math, and inequality persists in access to education and organized training for teachers. Significant disparities are observed for achievements in reading and mathematics between rural and urban populations and between populations of different socioeconomic statuses.

Progress is very slow for gender equality (Goal 5) and reduced inequalities (Goal 10). Gender disparities are recorded in the labour force participation rate, in mean years of schooling, and among youth not in education, employment or training. Despite significant progress in the subregion since 2000, as of 2021, only approximately 21 per cent of seats in parliaments were held by women. The latest data for countries in the subregion show that time spent on unpaid domestic chores and care work is approximately 3 to 4 times higher for women than men in rural and urban areas, regardless of age. This disparity is expected to worsen as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.[7]

[7] During the pandemic, 51 per cent of women switched to working from home and 50 per cent reported more time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, such as cooking, cleaning and home maintenance. Only 27 per cent of men switched to working from home during the same period. See ESCAP, 2021, COVID-19 and the unpaid care economy in Asia and the Pacific. Available at www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/2021_Regional_Report_Covid19-Care-Economy.pdf.

Progress on decent work and economic growth (Goal 8) and partnership for the goals (Goal 17) has also been very slow. Although growth in GDP per capita and per employed person in the subregion has been stable, efforts are required to better comply with labour rights. North and Central Asian countries also need to improve on multistakeholder engagements to enable different parties to contribute to national sustainable development objectives.

Progress has been limited for clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11) and life on land (Goal 15) while concerning trends of regression are observed for responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14). The continued increase in material footprint per capita and domestic material consumption per capita in the subregion reflect the rise in demand for resources. Among all the Asia-Pacific subregions, GHG emissions per capita in North and Central Asia are among the highest. Although renewable energy capacity has increased, the share of renewable energy in the total energy supply remains very low, amounting to approximately 3.4 per cent of the total energy supply. Fossil fuel subsidies as a percentage of GDP in North and Central Asia are higher than in any other subregion, at 12.1 per cent in Kyrgyzstan, 6.9 per cent in Turkmenistan and 4.4 per cent in Uzbekistan. North and Central Asia needs to prioritize improvements in production efficiency alongside increased production capacity to ensure the sustainability of lifestyles and natural resources.

South-East Asia at a Glance

OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC		OF THE WORLD
14.5%	Population	8.6%
9.5%	GDP	3.6%
9.2%	GHG Emissions	4.8%

South-East Asia is not on track to achieve any of the 17 Goals by 2030, given the current pace of progress by countries in the subregion. However, some progress has been made towards no poverty (Goal 1), industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9) and life on land (Goal 15). Areas indicating lack of progress are quality education (Goal 4), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8) and partnership for the goals (Goal 17). There are concerns about regression on clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12), climate action (Goal 13) and life below water (Goal 14).

South-East Asia is making strides in building resilient infrastructure and promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization (Goal 9). Although the subregion is not on track to reach Goal 9, progress has been made in the expansion of coverage of mobile (2G, 3G and 4G) networks. Coverage of mobile networks in Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam is well over 95 per cent. Nevertheless, infrastructure development, research and development, and domestic technology advancements must remain on course to achieve the target.

The subregion remains on track to eradicate poverty (Goal 1) for individuals living below international and national poverty lines, including in Indonesia and the Philippines, which have the highest prevalence of poverty in the subregion with 5–6 per cent of the population living below $1.90 a day. Factors negatively affecting the progress of Goal 1 are losses due to natural disasters and the continued lack of government spending on basic services (education and health). Progress was also made towards life on land (Goal 15), resulting mainly from compliance with international frameworks for managing biodiversity and protecting mountain biodiversity by expanding protected areas. However, these achievements have not been enough to stop further loss of forest areas and biodiversity (measured by the Red List Index) in most parts of the subregion.

Little headway has been made in the subregion towards several SDGs. These include quality education (Goal 4) with signs of regression in inequality indices and relatively low reading and mathematics proficiency among children and young people. Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand recorded less than 50 per cent of lower secondary students achieving minimum reading and mathematics proficiency for both sexes. Relatively stable rates of GDP

growth and increased economic activity contributed to progress towards decent work and economic growth (Goal 8). However, regression in improving efficiency in use of natural resources (material footprint and domestic material consumption) as well as a lack of progress towards compliance with labour rights have undermined overall progress. Partnership for the goals (Goal 17) also showed little progress in the subregion because most governments' revenue fell below 30 per cent of GDP and technical cooperation for official development assistance was significantly reduced.

The subregion is regressing on five goals. The most substantial regression was against climate action (Goal 13), where increased GHG emissions and casualties from disasters have negatively impacted efforts. Responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) was also adversely affected by increased material footprint and material consumption, and fossil-fuel subsidies as a share of GDP remain high in some countries. A reverse trend in clean water and sanitation (Goal 6) occurred owing to increased water stress and the inability of countries to protect and restore water-related ecosystems. Sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11) was greatly affected by road traffic deaths and human and economic loss from disasters. The trends in these goals must be reversed if the subregion is to make sufficient improvement towards achieving the SDGs by 2030.

Very little evidence is available to measure progress on life below water (Goal 14). However, existing data show the situation is deteriorating compared to 2015.

South-East Asia needs to accelerate progress or reverse current trends in Goals 4, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 and 17 if the subregion is to meet the 2030 deadline.

South and South-West Asia at a Glance

OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC		OF THE WORLD
44.1%	Population	26.0%
14.9%	GDP	5.7%
15.9%	GHG Emissions	8.3%

South and South-West Asia subregion is not on track to reach any of the 17 SDGs by 2030. Though progress has been made on some goals, the pace is slow. The fastest progress has been made towards life on land (Goal 15), no poverty (Goal 1) and good health and well-being (Goal 3). Meanwhile, the subregion is regressing on sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and climate action (Goal 13). The already slow progress coupled with the unprecedented effects of COVID-19 will require urgent strategic and concentrated efforts to accelerate progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda in the subregion.

There is a mixed picture of SDG progress in South and South-West Asia. Despite performing well in no poverty (Goal 1), the targets for 2021 were not met. In fact, South and South-West Asia has the highest multi-dimensional poverty ratio among all other subregions (29.2 per cent).[8] In countries such as Pakistan and Bhutan, income poverty is relatively low (3.9 per cent and 1.5 per cent, respectively), but multidimensional poverty is high (38.3 per cent and 37.3 per cent, respectively).[9] South and South-West Asia performed exceptionally well in providing electricity to people, which helped accelerate progress on affordable and clean energy (Goal 7).[10] However, much more needs to be done to increase access to and affordability of renewable energy.

Many countries in the subregion have managed to substantially reduce maternal, neonatal and child mortality, contributing to relatively good progress on good health and well-being (Goal 3). However, the subregion needs to double its efforts in investing in health infrastructure, fighting the spread of HIV and tuberculosis, reducing road traffic deaths, dangerous alcohol consumption and suicide rates.

The subregion also made moderate progress on industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9) mainly due to the rapid expansion of mobile network coverage and the volume of trade. However, this has come with increased carbon dioxide emissions from the manufacturing sector

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[8] ESCAP Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia, based on Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) database 2021, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI).

[9] Ibid.

[10] Such as Saubhagya scheme in India, which led to 98 per cent electrification in the country.

and a shrinking share of total manufacturing value added in production by medium and high-tech industry.

Insufficient progress is being made on zero hunger (Goal 2) in South and South-West Asia. The prevalence of malnutrition and stunting among children under 5 years of age has substantially reduced, but more people in South and South-West Asia are suffering from moderate or severe food insecurity. For instance, food insecurity has increased in Afghanistan (from 49.6 per cent in 2016 to 63.1 per cent in 2019) and Nepal (from 31.2 per cent in 2016 to 36.4 per cent in 2019).

The pace of progress is extremely slow on decent work and economic growth (Goal 8) and reduced inequalities (Goal 10). Despite overall GDP growth in the subregion since 2015, some countries, such as Afghanistan (-0.9), Iran (Islamic Republic of) (-8.9) and Pakistan (-1.6), experienced a negative growth rate of output per worker in 2019. Furthermore, the unemployment rate has increased while the level of compliance with labour rights has declined, which further slowed progress on Goal 8. The subregion must improve resource efficiency in consumption and production as both material footprint in production and domestic material consumption have increased since 2015.

The South and South-West Asia subregion has regressed in three goals, namely, sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and climate action (Goal 13). The main areas that need urgent action to reverse negative trends are air pollution in cities, human and economic loss from disasters, fossil fuel subsidies and GHG emissions, without which the subregion will not achieve the 2030 targets.

The Pacific at a Glance

	OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC		OF THE WORLD
Population	0.9%		0.5%
GDP	4.9%		1.9%
GHG Emissions	1.9%		1.0%

While the Pacific subregion is not on track to achieve any of the 17 goals by 2030, limited progress has been made towards good health and well-being (Goal 3), affordable and clean energy (Goal 7), industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9), life on the land (Goal 15) and partnership for the goals (Goal 17). Areas of concern showing regression include clean water and sanitation (Goal 6), reduced inequalities (Goal 10), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and climate action (Goal 13). In the Pacific, only 88 indicators (38 per cent) had sufficient data in 2021, which nevertheless represented an increase from 60 indicators (26 per cent) in 2019.

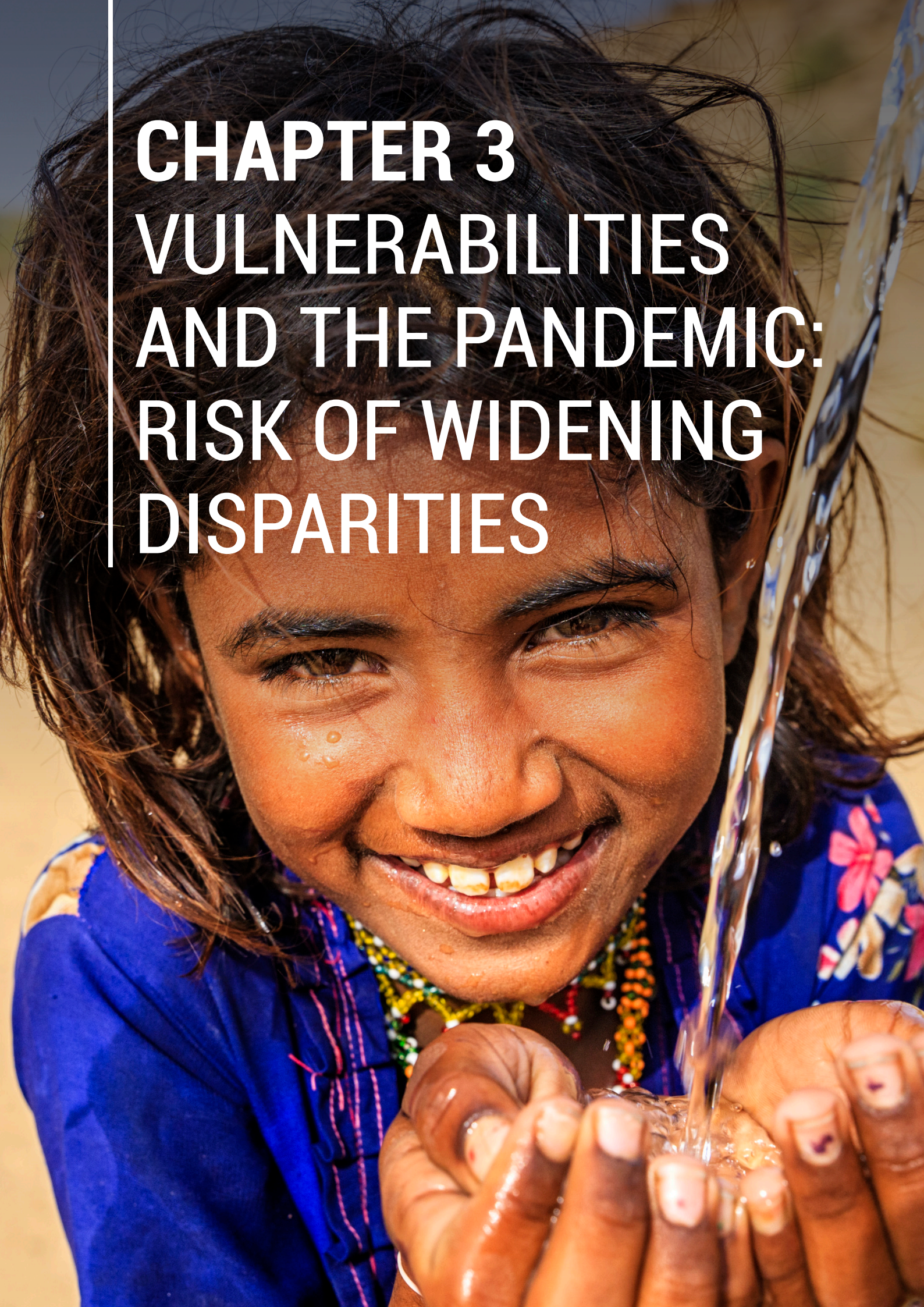
Progress in the Pacific subregion towards some goals can be attributed to a wide range of factors. For example, in good health and well-being (Goal 3), the Pacific made considerable progress in maternal, under-5 and neonatal mortality, with many countries already having met 2030 targets in these areas. Progress on industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9) was largely due to the expansion of 2G/3G/4G mobile network coverage in all the countries with data, however, most Pacific countries are not covered by a 4G mobile network. Progress on partnership for the goals (Goal 17) in the subregion is mainly due to efficient systems for tax and revenue collection leading to enhanced domestic resource mobilization.

Socioeconomic development goals remain a challenge in the Pacific subregion. Progress on eradicating extreme poverty and reducing national poverty is slow because public investment in basic services (education and health) is low. Social protection coverage is generally improving for contributory schemes, yet overall coverage remains low, particularly for non-contributory schemes, leaving many low-income and marginalized populations unprotected, not least those in informal jobs who make up around 70 per cent of all workers in the region. The subregion is regressing on half of the indicators used to measure progress on zero hunger (Goal 2). For instance, since 2015, food insecurity and the prevalence of malnutrition have increased, and no progress has been made in reducing the prevalence of under-5 stunting. Though data are sparse, the percentage of overweight under-5 children increased in 4 out of 11 countries with data. There is minimal progress in quality education (Goal 4). While generally on the rise, the secondary education completion rate remains low. More schools are equipped with basic services, such as electricity, handwashing

and drinking water facilities. Progress is very slow on decent work and economic growth (Goal 8). The subregion needs to provide more decent employment for the youth to accelerate progress. The youth unemployment rate is above 10 per cent in 8 out of 14 countries with data, and young women are almost twice as likely as young men to be unemployed in some countries.

Overall, progress on gender equality (Goal 5) is slow, however, for 14 countries with data, there is some improvement in women's representation both in terms of seats in national parliaments (yet it remains less than 10 per cent in 9 of 14 countries) and managerial positions (ranging from 25 to 45 per cent). The limited data available show some good progress on life below water (Goal 14), mainly because of improvements in beach litter collection and coastal eutrophication. However, the share of sustainable fisheries in GDP is still less than 10 per cent across the subregion.

Of concern in the subregion are signs of regression with conflicting trends. For example, while access to basic drinking water and sanitation are gradually improving in the Pacific, high fluctuations in permanent water areas is causing a regression in clean water and sanitation (Goal 6). There is considerable regression with respect to reduced inequalities (Goal 10), although data are insufficient to draw a definitive conclusion. Despite solid progress in natural disaster risk reduction strategies, the significant increase in human and economic loss from disasters hinders progress on no poverty (Goal 1), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11) and climate action (Goal 13). Particularly in more developed economies, GHG emissions contribute to the regression against Goal 13.



CHAPTER 3 VULNERABILITIES AND THE PANDEMIC: RISK OF WIDENING DISPARITIES

Introduction

Throughout the Asia-Pacific region, countries and population groups face multidimensional deprivation in access to opportunities, the impact of which cannot be overstated. Access to opportunities vary between racial and ethnic groups and genders, and people of different abilities, migratory statuses and ages, which cause some population groups lag behind the others. For many vulnerable populations, food security, education and livelihoods have deteriorated during the pandemic. One third of the global population of child refugees live in the region, and the pandemic has added to the challenges they face. More must be done to expand social protection and improve labour market prospects, including for people with disabilities. The intersection of poverty and climate change often impacts the livelihoods of women, who account for the majority of agriculture sector workers in some regions.

While significant progress has been made, many forms of exclusion remain, hindering progress towards achieving the SDGs. Multidimensional poverty can be 10 times higher among people of disadvantaged ethnicities, races or castes. To contribute to efforts to overcome barriers to progress, this chapter provides a thematic discussion of inequality in selected countries of the Asia-Pacific region.

Groups in a vulnerable situation in Asia-Pacific

Women

In Asia-Pacific 15 to 64 % of women experience physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner over their lifetime

Children

32 million are affected by wasting, a form of malnutrition

Over 10% are out of school in lower-secondary, with girls in rural areas and poor households being more disadvantaged

Refugees and migrants

The Asia-Pacific region hosts 19% of the world's total refugee population

Reported deaths & disappearances during migration increased in 2021

Multiple deprivations

Some races, castes or ethnic groups may be 10 times more likely to be multidimensionally poor

8.2 % of working hours lost in 2020

Persons with disabilities

Only 21.6% of persons with severe disabilities obtain disability cash benefits

Older persons

Universal coverage with some form of pension has not been achieved in most countries

3.1 Overall progress among groups in a vulnerable situation

This analysis shows that average progress disproportionately excludes some groups with distinct demographic or socioeconomic characteristics. Those furthest behind, including women, rural populations and poorer households, generally face more exclusion and vulnerability.

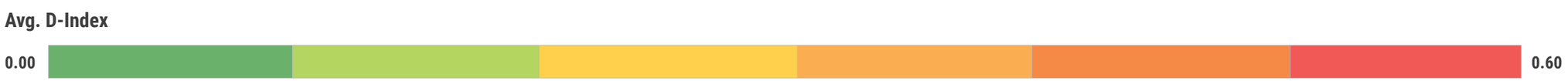
Inequality in key opportunities and in the experience of barriers

Using household survey data of 27 countries in the region, ESCAP developed an index of inequality of opportunities and barriers[11] in eight areas: basic water and sanitation (WASH), child nutrition, education, sexual and reproductive health care, violence against women, energy, financial inclusion and Internet use (see **table 3.1**). Inequality in both access and barriers is measured by the Dissimilarity Index (D-Index) (**box 3.1**, see **annex 5** for more details). The results reveal a mixed picture of fairly equal access to approximately half of these basic services, but the rest show inequalities and marginalization.

[11] Everyone should have opportunities, but no one should experience barriers (violence against women and prevalence of stunting, wasting and overweight among children under 5 years of age). Inequality in both opportunities and barriers were measured using the same method and the lower the inequality is, the better.

Table 3.1 D-Index for 15 opportunities and barriers, Asia-Pacific, latest year

		Modern Services		Energy		WASH		Children			Women			Education			Average
Country	Year	Financial services	Internet use	Clean fuels	Electricity	Basic sanitation	Basic drinking water	Overweight	Stunting	Wasting	Demand for contraception	Physical or sexual violence	Skilled birth attendance	Early childhood education	Secondary education	Tertiary education	Simple average (available D-Indexes)
Papua New Guinea	2018	0.43	0.57	0.60	0.49	0.26	0.26	0.02	0.08	0.02	0.14	0.12	0.17		0.30	0.35	0.27
Afghanistan	2015			0.42	0.09	0.28	0.15				0.14	0.10	0.16		0.29	0.36	0.22
Timor-Leste	2016	0.48	0.45	0.44	0.15	0.22	0.09	0.01	0.05	0.04	0.14	0.09	0.19		0.20	0.37	0.21
Lao PDR	2017		0.43	0.48	0.04	0.17	0.08	0.01	0.09	0.01	0.07		0.19	0.27	0.31	0.41	0.20
Kiribati	2019	0.38	0.25	0.48	0.33	0.14	0.11	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.12		0.01	0.17	0.25	0.31	0.19
Pakistan	2017	0.47	0.51	0.32	0.05	0.17	0.03	0.01	0.11	0.02	0.12	0.08	0.12		0.24	0.28	0.18
Cambodia	2014			0.46	0.27	0.30	0.11	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.07	0.04	0.04		0.35	0.45	0.18
Bhutan	2010			0.28	0.19	0.13	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.03		0.18	0.40	0.31	0.37	0.17
Myanmar	2016			0.46	0.21	0.19	0.06	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.06	0.04	0.14		0.34	0.41	0.17
Viet Nam	2013		0.16	0.30		0.13	0.04				0.04		0.04	0.10	0.21	0.30	0.15
Bangladesh	2019		0.40	0.48	0.05	0.11	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.03		0.15	0.11	0.21	0.30	0.15
Philippines	2017	0.33	0.19	0.33	0.05	0.11	0.03				0.09	0.03	0.07		0.13	0.25	0.15
Indonesia	2017	0.27	0.33	0.16	0.02	0.12	0.05				0.04		0.04		0.17	0.26	0.14
India	2016	0.12		0.36	0.07	0.28	0.03	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.09	0.06	0.06		0.23	0.32	0.13
Nepal	2019		0.26	0.37	0.06	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.06	0.02	0.14		0.10	0.11	0.20	0.29	0.13
Tajikistan	2017	0.43	0.40	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.10	0.06	0.02		0.09	0.22	0.11
Mongolia	2018		0.20	0.36	0.01	0.14	0.10	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.08		0.01	0.11	0.13	0.21	0.11
Tuvalu	2019		0.08	0.10	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.31	0.13	0.00	0.15	0.16	0.20	0.09
Tonga	2019		0.05	0.10	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.16	0.04	0.02	0.13	0.17	0.27	0.07
Turkey	2013				0.00	0.02	0.01				0.10		0.01		0.12	0.25	0.07
Maldives	2017	0.13	0.10	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.24	0.04	0.00		0.19	0.22	0.07
Armenia	2016	0.20	0.06	0.02	0.00	0.16	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.13	0.02			0.03	0.17	0.07
Turkmenistan	2019		0.14		0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.07				0.05	0.33	0.06
Kyrgyzstan	2018		0.08	0.12		0.01	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.09		0.00	0.08	0.02	0.20	0.06
Georgia	2018			0.05	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.12		0.00	0.08	0.11	0.19	0.06
Thailand	2019			0.11	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.04		0.01	0.03	0.13	0.22	0.05
Kazakhstan	2015		0.03	0.01		0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03		0.00	0.12	0.02	0.18	0.04
Average		0.32	0.25	0.27	0.09	0.12	0.05	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.14	0.18	0.29	0.13



Source: ESCAP analysis of data from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), latest available year 2010–2019.

Note: A lower D-Index score indicates low inequality of opportunity and low barriers compared with other countries. A star (*) indicates a barrier (e.g. stunting). Financial services (SDG 8) include ownership of a bank account or the use of mobile devices for financial transactions.

Box 3.1 The Dissimilarity Index

The Dissimilarity Index (D-Index) measures how specific groups – women, poorer households, or ethnic minorities – fare in terms of opportunities or barriers. The D-Index ranges from 0 to 1, where 0 indicates no inequality and 1 indicates total inequality, meaning that access to a service is exclusively limited to a specific group of people with shared circumstances (such as men from urban areas).

Scores on the D-Index of two countries that have identical national averages may vary greatly if the distribution of access to an opportunity in one country is inclusive while access to the same opportunity in the other country excludes certain groups.

Basic drinking water and electricity are available for most households, and inequality across groups in these areas is relatively low. Inequality of opportunity is also low in some nutrition indicators, such as wasting and overweight in children and births attended by skilled medical personnel.

Nevertheless, inequality of opportunity is high in areas such as use of the Internet, access to financial services and tertiary education where attendance is unequal in several countries in South and South West Asia and in South-East Asia.

Inequality is also high in the use of clean fuels, an area that links health with environmental quality. It is the most unequally distributed opportunity in about half of the 27 countries in the analysis. The level of inequality in the use of clean fuels is highest in Papua New Guinea and Bangladesh and lowest in Armenia, Kazakhstan, Maldives and Tajikistan.

Finally, Papua New Guinea, Afghanistan, Timor-Leste, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Kiribati stand out with above average inequality in many development areas.

Groups left furthest behind

ESCAP has identified population groups with the lowest access to basic opportunities (e.g. education and skilled birth attendance) or with the highest prevalence of barriers (e.g. stunting and violence against women) based on their shared circumstances, using Classification and Regression Tree (CART) analysis (see **annex 6** for an explanation of the methodology).

The groups left furthest behind are not the same across different development areas or countries. For example, while women are more frequently found in the furthest behind groups in education completion, men are worse off in some countries. Generally, living in a household in the bottom 40 per cent of the wealth distribution (B40) is strongly associated with vulnerabilities across development areas (**figure 3.1**). Most frequently, people in the most vulnerable conditions experience material poverty (B40) combined with other factors, such as living in rural areas, being younger or older, and being female rather than male. However, in some cases, such as access to financial services and overweight and wasting, the interaction of other circumstances, such as rural/urban residence, sex or age, form a greater disadvantage.[12] For instance, urban children with no siblings (or just one sibling) are more likely to be overweight, irrespective of their family's wealth (see "Non B40" factors in **figure 3.1**).

[12] Measured by the wealth index in Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS).

Figure 3.1 Material poverty and its interaction with vulnerabilities in selected Asia-Pacific countries

Source: ESCAP analysis based on DHS and MICS, latest available year (2010–2019).

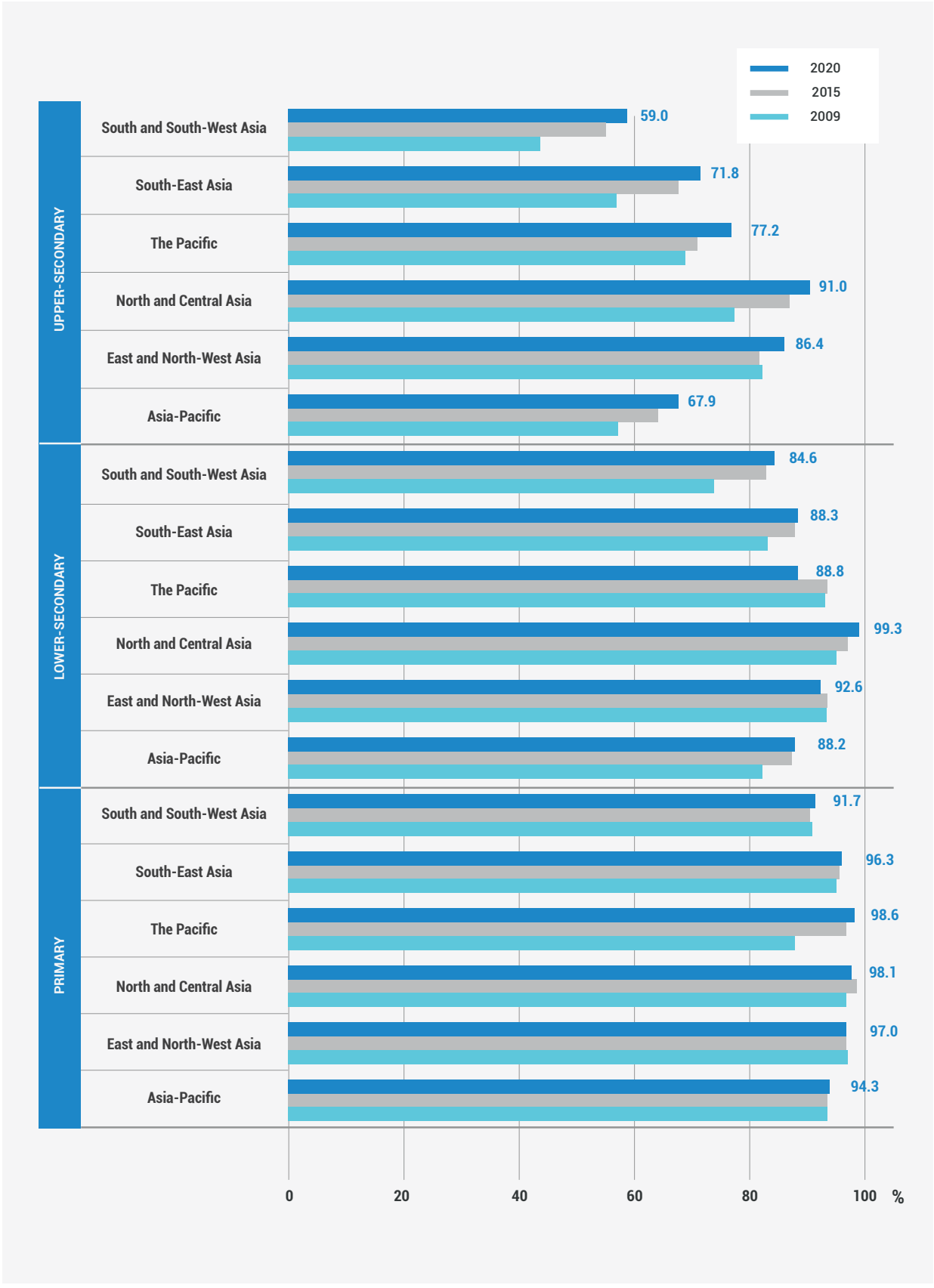
Note: Each occurrence in the chart refers to one indicator in one specific country. Often, three or four conditions interact in the furthest behind group. The most significant interactions were used to place the group in a specific colour category in the graph. "Other" in the "B40 and other" category varies by country and indicator but generally represents either the level of education of the respondent or the number of children under 5 years of age in a household. "Non B40" includes any condition(s) of the furthest behind, excluding B40. The exact interaction of vulnerabilities in the furthest behind group for each indicator/country is available at https://lnob.unescap.org/. The data were analysed using the classification and regression tree (CART) methodology. For more information see www.unescap.org/resources/leave-no-one-behind-decision-tree-user-reference-guide.

3.2 Children

Rates of school access and participation are high but progress has stalled

Though there has been remarkable progress in improving access to and participation in schools there remain significant populations of school-age children that are not in school, especially in the lower secondary level (16 per cent in South and West Asia and 9 per cent in East Asia and the Pacific) and upper secondary level (42 per cent in South and West Asia and 19 per cent in East Asia and the Pacific) (**figure 3.2**).

Figure 3.2 Net enrollment ratio in primary and secondary school, Asia-Pacific region and subregions, 2009–2020



Source: ESCAP Statistical Database. Available at https://dataexplorer.unescap.org/ (accessed 31 January 2022).

With the current pace of progress, the region will not achieve universal education for school-age children by 2030 and the gap is especially large for lower secondary and upper secondary enrolment.

Girl children from the poorest households and rural areas are more likely to be out of school. For instance, in 2017 in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, 20 per cent of primary school-age girls from rural areas and the poorest households were not in school compared to only 1 per cent of boys from urban areas and rich households.[13] Similarly, children with disabilities and children from ethnic minority groups are less likely to access education.[14]

Quality of learning

While the region has recorded a high enrolment rate, it is off track in ensuring students achieve learning targets.

Data from 23 countries show that more than 46 per cent of the students in half of the countries do not meet the minimum proficiency level in reading at the end of primary schooling. For mathematics, 56 per cent of the students in half of the countries do not meet the minimum proficiency at the end of primary schooling (**figure 3.3**). Furthermore, a huge learning loss among the students at different levels is expected owing to school closures during the pandemic, contributing to a further deterioration of learning outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region.

Figure 3.3 Proportion of students achieving minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics by the end of primary schooling in selected Asia-Pacific countries, latest data

Source: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics Data centre.

Note: For 4 out of 23 countries data is not available on both subjects.

[13] UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) Data centre. Available at http://data.uis.unesco.org/ (Accessed on 14 December 2021).

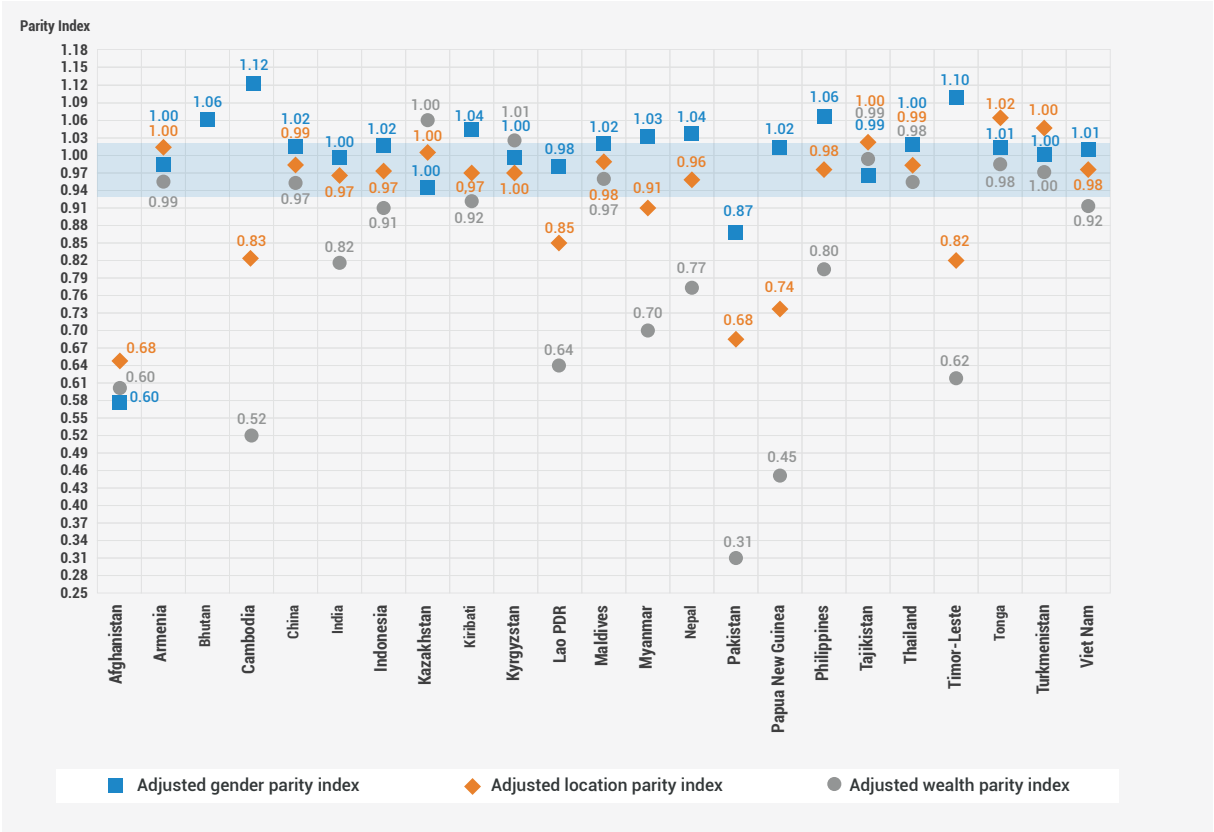
[14] UIS, 2021, Continental Overview: Bridging Asia-Pacific Education Monitoring Frameworks and SDG 4. Available at http://tcg.uis.unesco.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2021/11/Benchmarks-Report_Asia-Pacific_Oct-2021.pdf.

The situation is even worse among children living in rural areas or poor households. For instance, in 2016 in Iran (Islamic Republic of), only 44 per cent of rural students had achieved a minimum proficiency in reading by the end of primary schooling compared to 81 per cent of urban students, and only 52 per cent of students from the poorest households achieved a minimum proficiency in reading, compared to 75 per cent of the students from households in the richest quintile.[15]

Equitable distribution of education services

Despite the high rate of primary level completion, parity indices show huge disparities in completion rates between rural and urban areas and rich and poor households (**figure 3.4**). The analysis shows that students in rural areas in some countries are disadvantaged in completing the primary level compared to their urban counterparts. The largest disparity is observed among students with poor economic status compared to those who are wealthier.

Figure 3.4 Primary schooling completion rate, adjusted parity indices, latest data



Source: UNESCO, UIS data center (accessed 22 December 2021).

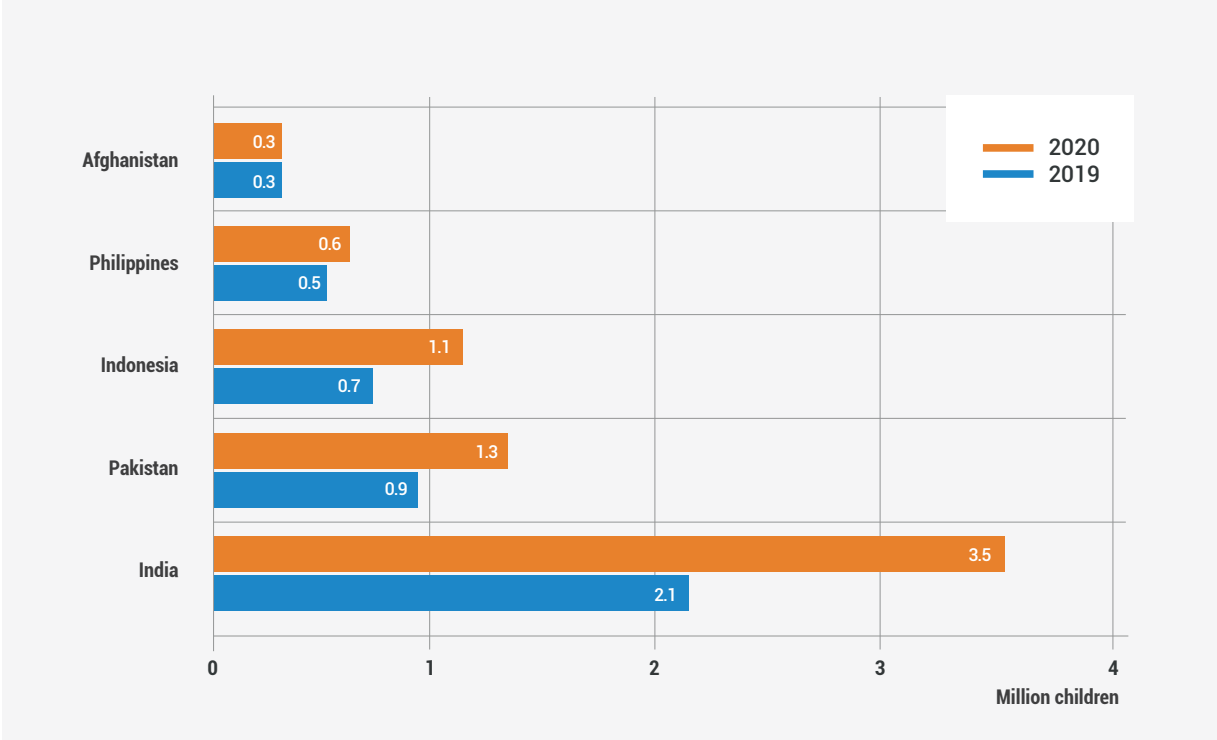
Note: Values between 0.97 and 1.03 (indicated by the blue bar) are considered to be parity between different groups.

[15] UNESCO Institute for Statistics Data centre, 2021.

Impact of the pandemic on routine child immunization

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted health services everywhere, and the Asia-Pacific region was not an exception. In 2020, an estimated 8 million children across the region missed routine vaccinations, an increase of approximately 2.5 million from 2019.

Figure 3.5 Unvaccinated and undervaccinated children in selected countries, 2019 and 2020



Source: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

Food security and diet quality of children

Disruptions in health and food systems alongside economic contractions created by the COVID-19 pandemic threatened household food security and diet quality. Surveys conducted in 2020 found that 87 per cent of households in Manila and 66 per cent of households in Jakarta were worried about food in the previous month, an increase of nearly 50 per cent for both countries from 2018 baseline estimates. The surveys also found the diets of young children were severely impacted by pandemic-related changes, with a 32 and 68 per cent reduction in the share of children meeting minimum diet diversity in Indonesia and the Philippines.[16]

Wasting prevalence and receipt of services

The COVID-19 pandemic and related mitigation measures can increase malnutrition for young children, but the most imminent concern is its impact on wasting, particularly among the most deprived population groups. An estimated 32 million children in Asia and the Pacific are affected by wasting, including 10.4 million children with severe wasting – the most life-threatening form of malnutrition.[17] Survey data from Asia and the Pacific have substantiated common disruptions to the provision of wasting treatment services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3.3 Women

Impact of the pandemic on violence against women

Violence against women is highly prevalent in the region, with pre-COVID-19 data ranging from 15 to 64 per cent of women experiencing physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner over their lifetime. The highest prevalence is observed in the Pacific, with more than 60 per cent of women in some countries (Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu) experiencing intimate partner violence in their lifetime.[18]

In 2020, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) commissioned a big data analysis of online searches and public posts in eight Asian countries to identify trends in violence-related searches as well as health-seeking behaviour (**figure 3.6**). The findings reveal that Internet usage grew during the lockdown, and searches related to intimate partner violence, such as "domestic violence signs" and "experiencing sexual violence", increased sharply since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Searches related to help-seeking also grew in six of the eight countries examined, ranging from 70 per cent in Malaysia to 10 per cent in the Philippines. As the report acknowledges, the controlling behaviour of abusers may impact women's ability to seek help online.

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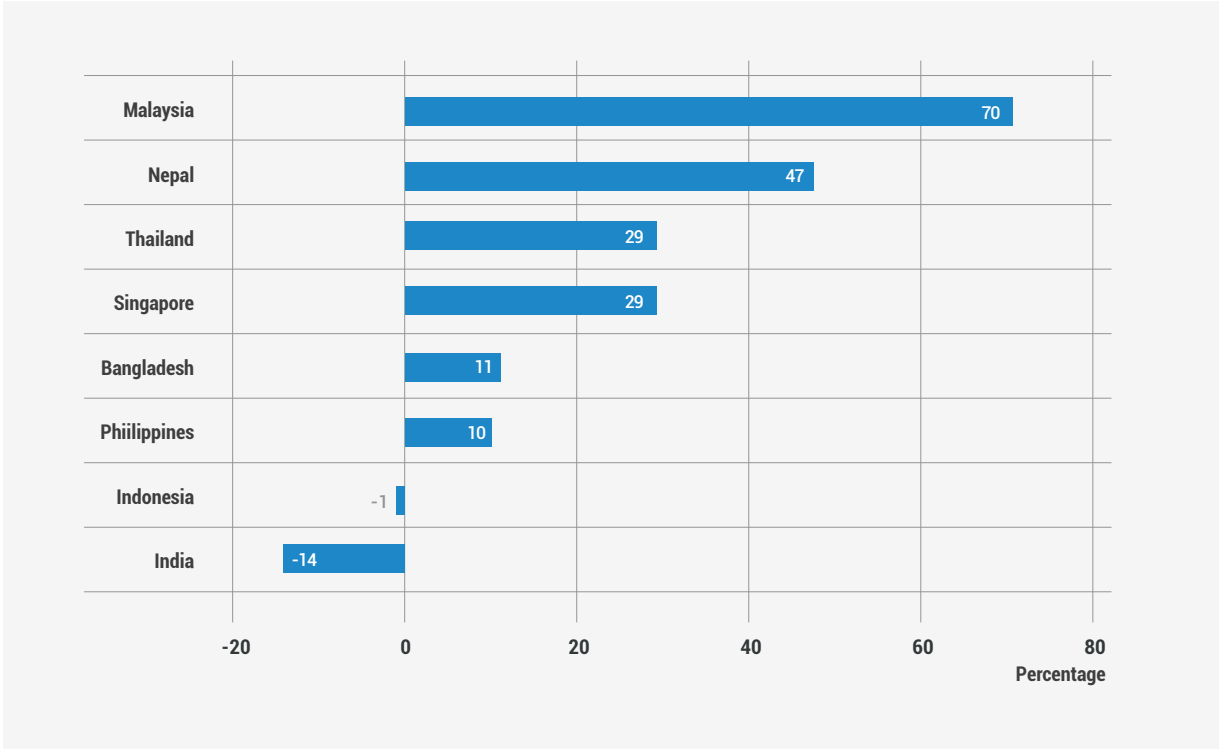
[16] UNICEF, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP), "Food security and nutrition in urban Indonesia: Evidence from a remote COVID-19 survey: Status and determinants of food insecurity and undernutrition in urban areas, Indonesia" (2021); UNICEF, FAO, WFP and World Health Organization (WHO), "Food security and nutrition in urban Philippines: Evidence from a remote COVID-19 survey" (2020).

[17] UNICEF, World Health Organization and World Bank Group (eds.), Joint malnutrition estimates, 2021 ed. Available at www.who.int/publications/i/item/jme-2020-edition.

[18] UNFPA, "Regional Snapshot: Women who experience intimate partner violence 2000-2020" (kNOwVAWdata, 2020). Available at https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/resources/violence-against-women-regional-snapshot-2020-knowvawdata.

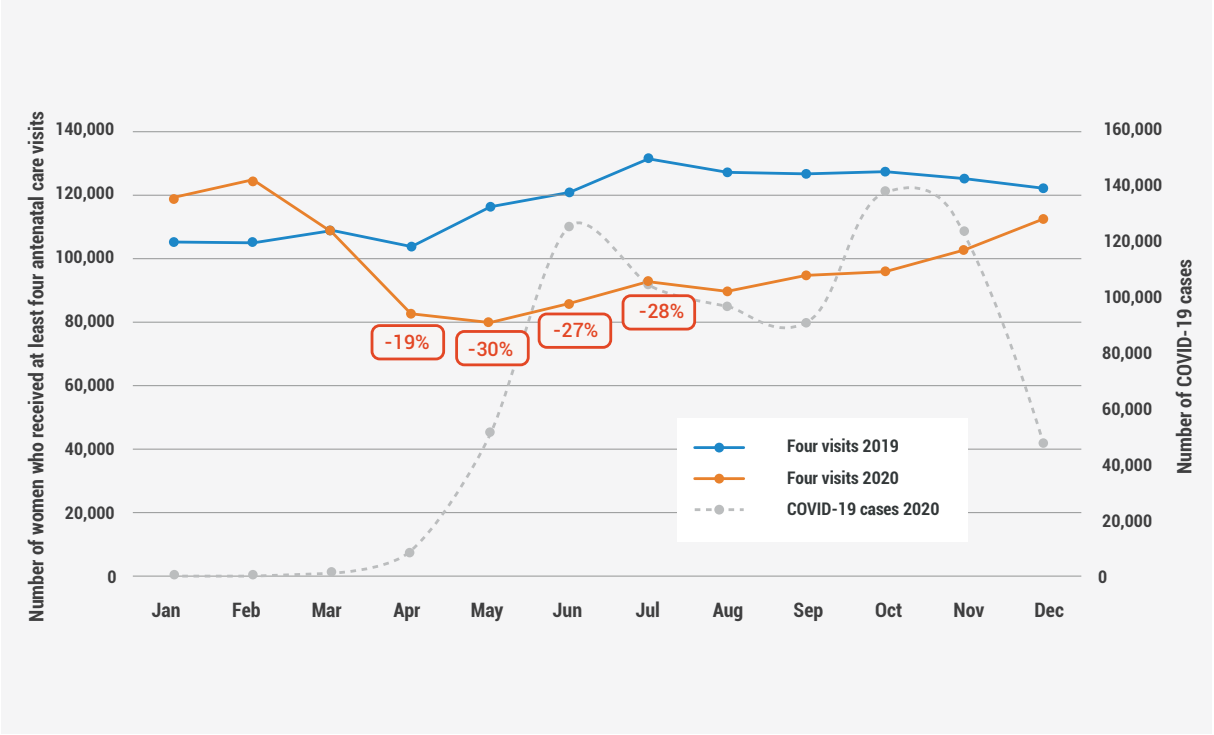
Figure 3.6 Percentage increase or decrease in average search volume for help-seeking keywords before and during the COVID-19 pandemic in selected Asia-Pacific countries



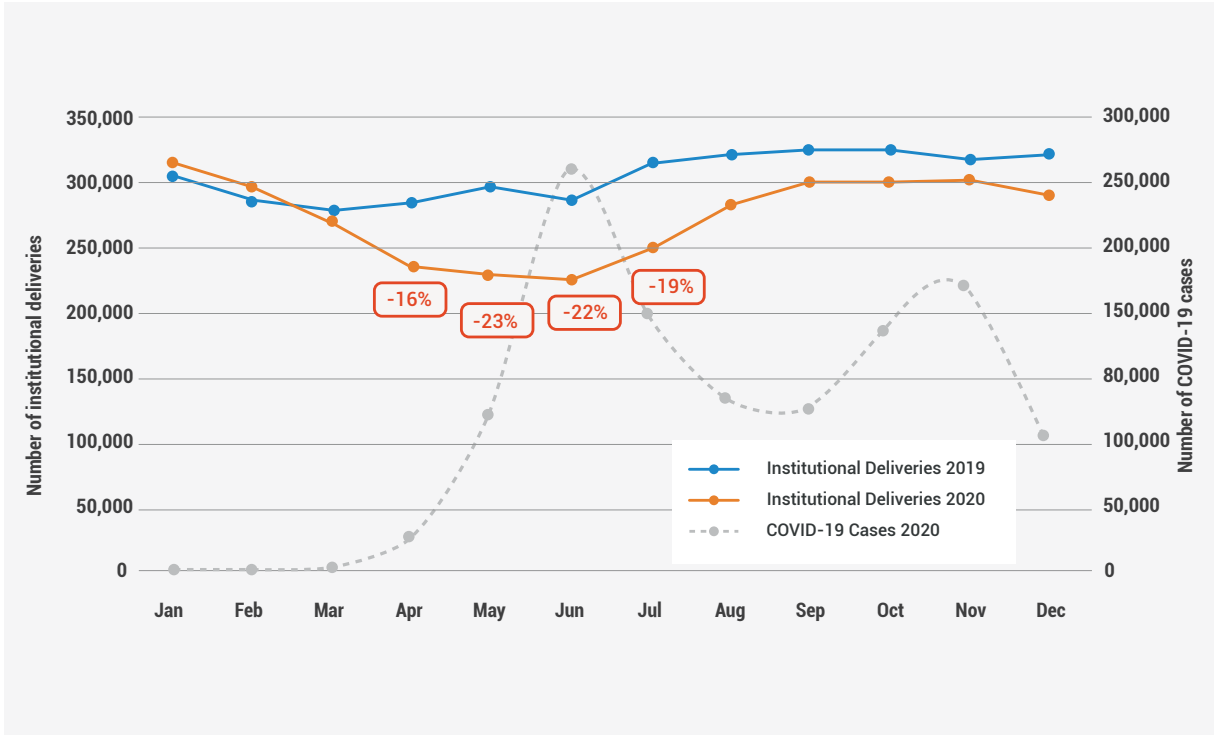
Source: Quilt.AI, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), "COVID-19 and Violence against Women: The evidence behind the talk, Insights from big data analysis in Asian countries" (2021). Available at https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/publications/covid-19-and-violence-against-women-evidence-behind-talk.

Figure 3.7 COVID-19 impact on utilization of maternal health services in selected Asia-Pacific countries, 2019 and 2020

(a) Number of women who received at least four antenatal care visits



(b) Number of deliveries in health facilities



Source: National health management information systems databases for Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Papua New Guinea, 2019 and 2020.
Note: Percentage decrease by month relative to the 2019 baseline.

Major decreases in maternal health services utilization were observed, particularly in the first half of 2020 when COVID-19 started to spread among all countries and government responses often included strict lockdowns and closures of services (**figure 3.7**). Government response measures, the fear of infection among the public and a consistent diversion of health-care professionals and financial resources to COVID-19 response contributed to a decrease in **demand** for, **access** to and **utilization** of key health services in all countries.

Disproportionate impact of climate change on women

Rural women in Asia and the Pacific play a large role in rural economies and are, therefore, disproportionately impacted by climate change. In some countries, such as the Lao People's Democratic Republic, nearly 64 per cent of employed women are engaged in agriculture.[19] Similarly, in Nepal and Bangladesh, the shares of women in agriculture employment are 60 and 50 per cent, respectively.[20] Changing weather patterns will affect agricultural production and yields, but access to drinking water and firewood for cooking may also become limited. This is likely to increase women's burden and time spent on unpaid work. A large share of the women live in households that primarily use wood for cooking, up to 72 per cent in Cambodia and 59 per cent in Myanmar. Also, women and girls in 67 per cent of households in Viet Nam are responsible for water collection. Women in agriculture, forestry and fishing are also more likely than women in non-agricultural sectors to engage in the informal sector (the rate is 1.6 times higher in Brunei Darussalam).

3.4 Refugees and migrants

Goal 10 and the impact of the pandemic

With 109 refugees per 100,000 population as of mid-2021, the Asia-Pacific region hosts 19 per cent of the world's total refugee population. Two countries in Asia (Afghanistan and Myanmar) rank among the top five countries of origin for refugees worldwide, and two other countries (Pakistan and Bangladesh) are among the top 10 countries hosting the largest refugee populations. In a year-on-year comparison, the refugee population in Asia and the Pacific has steadily declined since 2017. Nevertheless, the number of refugees and asylum seekers has likely seen an upward trajectory since mid-August 2021, given recent events in Afghanistan. Pandemic-related closures of borders and restrictions on movement have made it considerably more difficult for people fleeing war and persecution to find safety outside their countries of origin. At the peak of the pandemic in 2020, some 28 countries in the region had closed their borders, and only eight States granted exceptions for people seeking asylum (a number that eventually doubled to 16 by the end of 2020).[21] As a result of lockdowns and border closures, the number of refugees registered in Asia and the Pacific by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) dropped by 76 per cent[22] in 2020 compared to 2019. This mirrors global trends as

[19] Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and UN Women, "ASEAN Gender Outlook" (2021). Available at https://data.unwomen.org/publications/asean-gender-outlook.

[20] See www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/726556/ado2021-update-theme-chapter.pdf.

[21] Latest data available on border closures is as of end 2020.

[22] Of those, 58 per cent are attributable to the impacts of COVID-19 and the remaining 18 per cent are attributable to the conclusion of a large-scale registration exercise in Bangladesh.

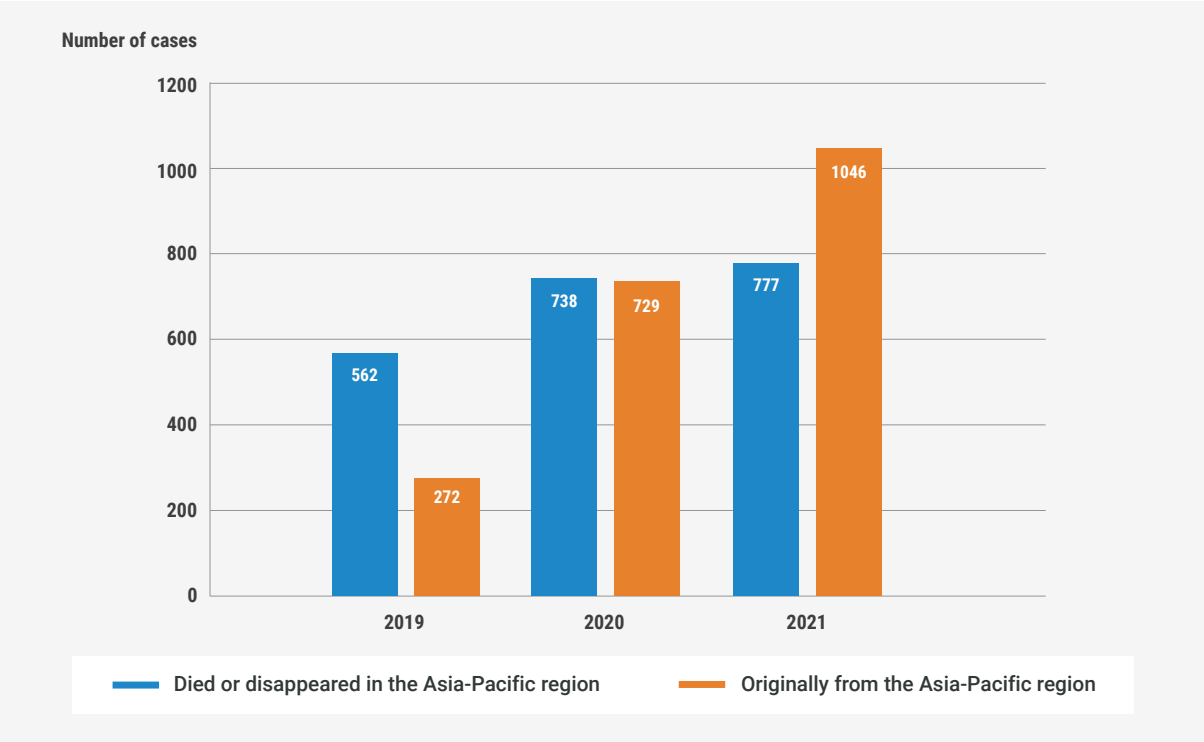
refugee registration numbers around the world fell to their lowest levels since 2012.

Country case studies show that the pandemic has disproportionally impacted the livelihoods of refugees. For example, in Malaysia, 80 per cent of refugees reported a loss of income due to the pandemic.[23] Some 86 per cent of refugees in Pakistan said they needed to take out a new loan or borrow money by other means,[24] and 68 per cent of refugees in Tajikistan reported that they had to skip paying rent.[25] The loss of income has been attributed to the fact that refugees, especially refugee women, are likely to work in sectors heavily affected by COVID-19. Thus an already vulnerable population is disproportionally affected by the socioeconomic consequences of the pandemic.

Deaths and disappearances during migration

The reported deaths and disappearances of migrants in the Asia-Pacific region increased substantially between 2019 and 2021 (**figure 3.8**).[26] Deaths and disappearances of migrants originally from Asia and the Pacific follow a similar trend. The observed increase of deaths and disappearances in 2020 and 2021 was mainly driven by migrants who originated from Afghanistan and Myanmar, notably, nearly 700 deaths of Afghan migrants were documented in 2021.

Figure 3.8 Recorded deaths and disappearances during migration, 2019–2021



Source: International Organization for Migration (IOM) Missing Migrants Project. Available at https://missingmigrants.iom.int/

[23] UNHCR, 2021, "Malaysia: Post-Distribution Monitoring of COVID-19 Cash-Based Intervention. September 2020". Available at https://microdata.unhcr.org/index.php/catalog/520.

[24] UNHCR, 2021, "Pakistan: Post-Distribution Monitoring of Cash-Based Intervention, November 2020". Available at https://microdata.unhcr.org/index.php/catalog/458.

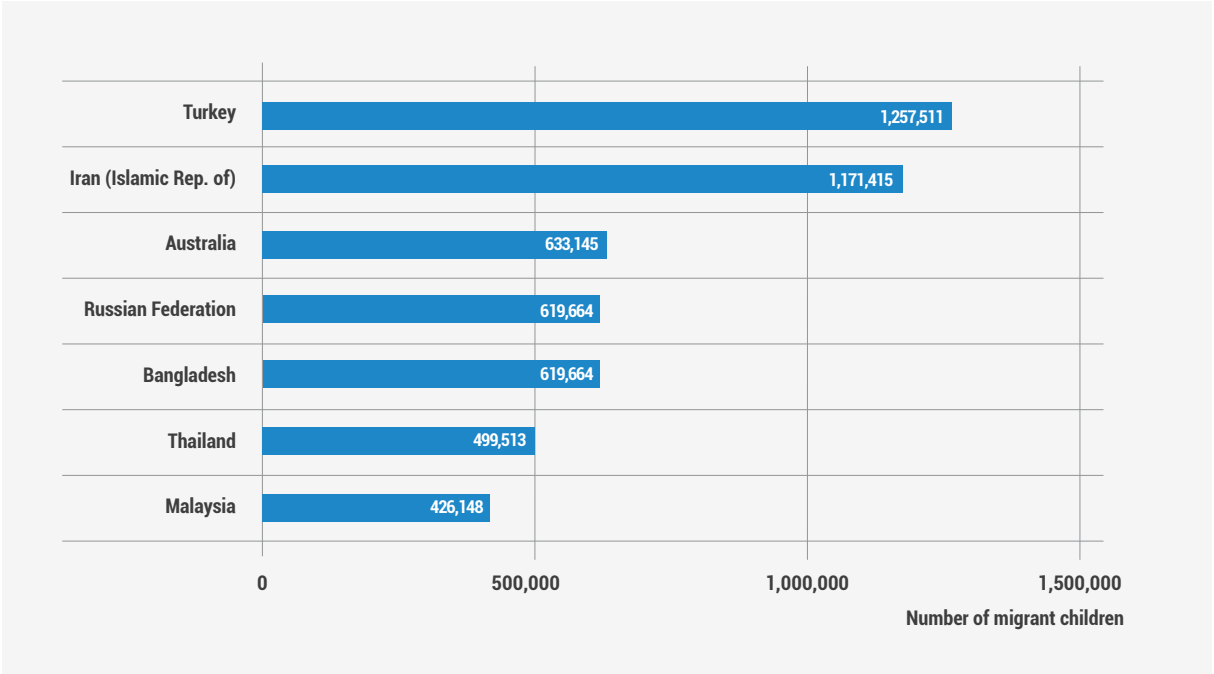
[25] UNHCR, 2021, "Tajikistan: Post-Distribution Monitoring of Cash-Based Intervention, April 2021". Available at https://data.humdata.org/dataset/unhcr-tjk-2021-cbi-pdm.

[26] Data updated as of 1 March 2022 were included in the assessement.

Child migrants and refugees

According to 2020 international migration estimates, approximately 7.8 million child migrants (below 18 years of age) live in Asia-Pacific countries, which is 22 per cent of all child migrants worldwide. Of those, 4.0 million are boys, and 3.8 million are girls. In 2020 there were about 760,000 more child migrants than in 2015. In 2020, more than two thirds of all child migrants in Asia and the Pacific lived in seven countries (**figure 3.9**).

Figure 3.9 Asia-Pacific countries with the largest number of child migrants, 2020



Source: UNICEF estimates based on International Migrant Stock 2020 data from the Population Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

Several countries in the region face serious challenges due to child refugees (both accompanies and unaccompanied). According to 2020 estimates, 2.9 million child refugees (1.5 million boys and 1.4 million girls) live in Asia and the Pacific, which is approximately 30 per cent of the global estimate of 10.0 million child refugees. The actual number of child refugees in the region may be much higher, as data are not available for all countries.[27] Approximately 95 per cent of all child refugees in the region live in three countries: Bangladesh, Pakistan and Turkey.[28]

3.5 Persons with disabilities

Impacts of the pandemic

Rapid assessments conducted in a number of countries in the region have revealed that persons with disabilities experienced difficulties in accessing health care and essential support services, and they experienced financial hardship during the pandemic.

Access to social protection benefits

In Asia-Pacific countries with available data, only 21.6 per cent of persons with severe disabilities obtain disability cash benefits. The coverage rate of disability cash benefits stands at only 6.8 per cent in South Asia. In half of the countries with data in the region, less than 50 per cent of persons with severe disabilities receive disability cash benefits. The proportion of coverage is less than 10 per cent in India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Pakistan, Philippines and Turkey).[29]

Persons with disabilities in the labour market

Persons with disabilities have a lower employment-to-population ratio than persons without disabilities across Asia-Pacific countries with disability-disaggregated data, except for Timor-Leste (**figure 3.10**). In addition, a higher proportion of adults with disabilities engaged in informal work and a higher share of youth with disabilities were neither enrolled in school nor employed compared to their counterparts without disabilities.[30]

Findings from localized rapid assessments have suggested that the COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted the employment situation of persons with disabilities. For example, in the Philippines, the pandemic affected the employment of 70 per cent of surveyed persons with disabilities.[31] In Viet Nam, 30 per cent of persons with disabilities lost their employment due to the pandemic.[32] Further data collection and disaggregation is required to understand the impact of COVID-19 on persons with disabilities.

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[27] Data on child refugees are not available for more than 50 per cent of the ESCAP countries.

[28] UNICEF estimates based on UNHCR, 2020, *Global Trends 2020*, p. 19.

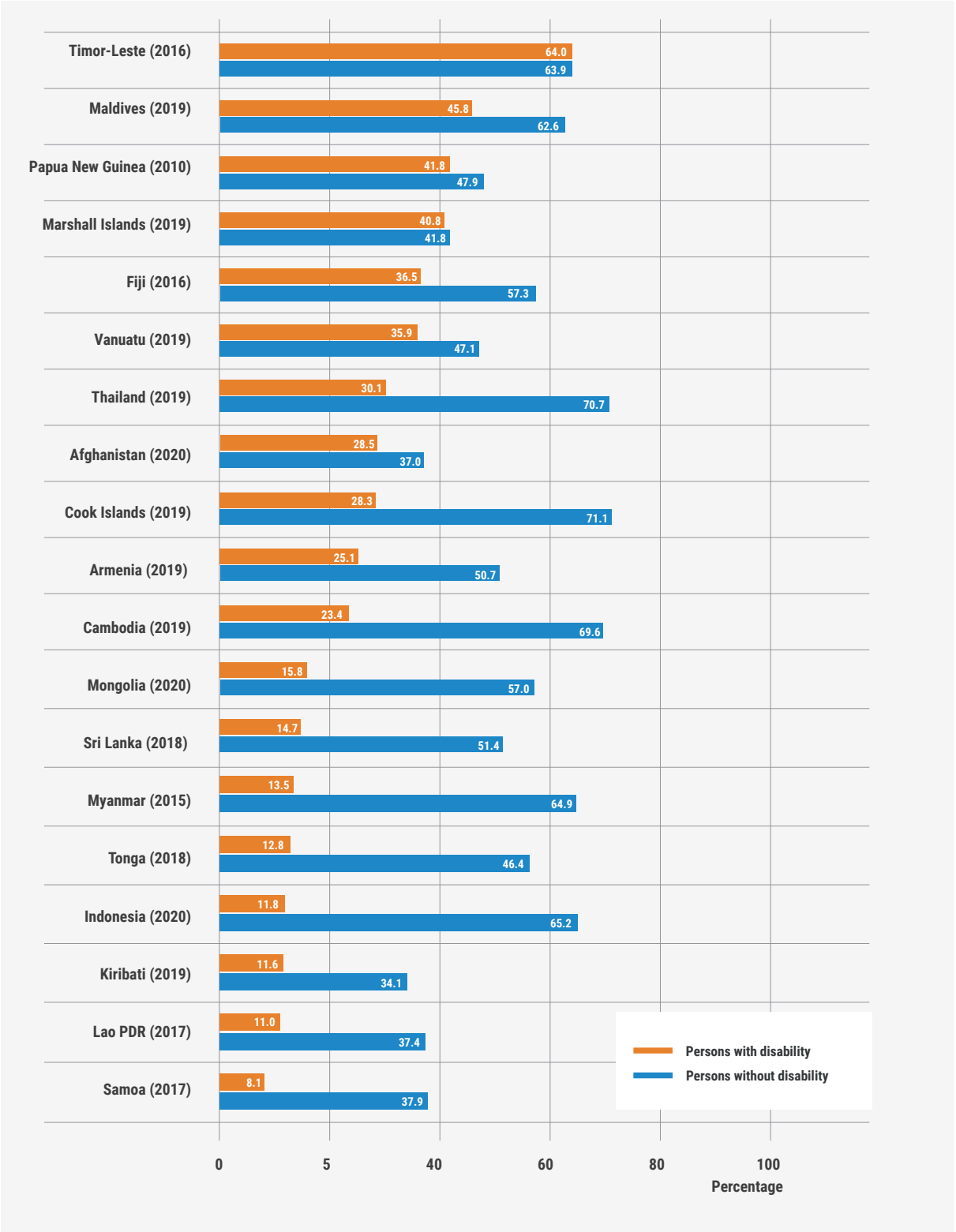
[29] International Labour Organization (ILO), 2021, *World Social Protection Report 2020-22: Social Protection at the Crossroads In Pursuit of a Better Future*, Geneva. Note that the grouping of countries and territories differ between ESCAP and ILO.

[30] Sophie Mitra and Jaclyn Yap, 2021, *The Disability Data Report 2021*. Disability Data Initiative. Fordham Research Consortium on Disability: New York.

[31] Jacqueline Veronica Velasco et al., 2021, "COVID-19 and persons with disabilities in the Philippines: A policy analysis", Health Promotion Perspectives, vol. 11, No .3, August.

[32] United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Viet Nam, "Rapid Assessment of the Socio-economic Impact of COVID-19 on Persons with Disabilities in Viet Nam," (Hanoi, 2020).

Figure 3.10 Employment-to-population ratios by disability status in selected Asia-Pacific countries, latest available year



Source: ESCAP analysis based on data from ILOSTAT. Available at https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/ (accessed on 23 November 2021).

Children with disabilities

Globally and in Asia and the Pacific, reliable data on children with disabilities were not available until UNICEF published the report "Seen, counted, included: Using data to shed light on the well-being of children with disabilities" in November 2021.[33] According to the report, 107.5 million (9.1 per cent) children aged 0–17 years in South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific[34] are living with disabilities. Compared to their peers without disabilities, children with disabilities are 53 per cent more likely to have symptoms of acute respiratory infection, they are 34 per cent more likely to be stunted, 49 per cent more likely to have never attended school, 33 per cent more likely to be out of lower-secondary school, and 25 per cent less likely to attend early childhood education. Adolescents (15–17 years of age) with disabilities are 41 per cent more likely to feel discriminated against and 51 per cent more likely to feel unhappy compared to adolescents without disabilities.

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed and exacerbated barriers to basic services and life-saving information for children with disabilities. In Malaysia, 44 per cent of persons with disabilities[35] could not access the services they needed, and 34 per cent wanted more child-friendly and accessible information. Similarly, in the Philippines, major concerns cited by nearly 40,000 survey respondents included the inability to access essential services, specifically education services and learning resources (52 per cent), child development services (51 per cent), habilitation and rehabilitation services (49 per cent), and general health services (43 per cent).[36]

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[33] The report is available at https://data.unicef.org/resources/children-with-disabilities-report-2021/.

[34] For UNICEF regions, refer to https://data.unicef.org/regionalclassifications/.

[35] UNICEF Malaysia, "COVID-19 Impact on Children with Disabilities Survey" (2020).

[36] Among 39,534 respondents, 6,698 directly represented children with disabilities, mainly parents and family members. See UNICEF, "Situation of Children with Disabilities in the Context of COVID-19: Results of a Rapid Online Survey in the Philippines", Council for the Welfare of Children, Sub-committee on children with disabilities (2021). Available at www.unicef.org/philippines/reports/situation-children-disabilities-covid-19.

3.6 Older persons

Impacts of the pandemic

According to rapid assessments in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines, approximately half of the respondents had limited access to their regular medication as a result of COVID-19. Forty-one per cent of respondents reported that access to health-care facilities was reduced because of the pandemic.[37]

The pandemic also negatively impacted the mental health of older persons. According to preliminary surveys, 42 per cent of older persons felt depressed due to the overall situation related to COVID-19, with more women than men feeling depressed. Isolation, neglect, denial of resources and physical abuse have also been major concerns. Fifty-one per cent of older men and 32 per cent of older women felt that they were at higher risk of emotional abuse as a result of COVID-19 than they were before.[38]

Low social protection coverage

In the Asia-Pacific region, 16 countries have achieved universal coverage with some form of pension (**figure 3.11**). Yet, in 20 countries, less than half of all older people receive some form of pension, which means that more than half of the older population is vulnerable to poverty. Research has shown that older persons who receive an income are at lower risk of being abandoned, and they are able to meet basic nutrition and health needs through their pensions.[39]

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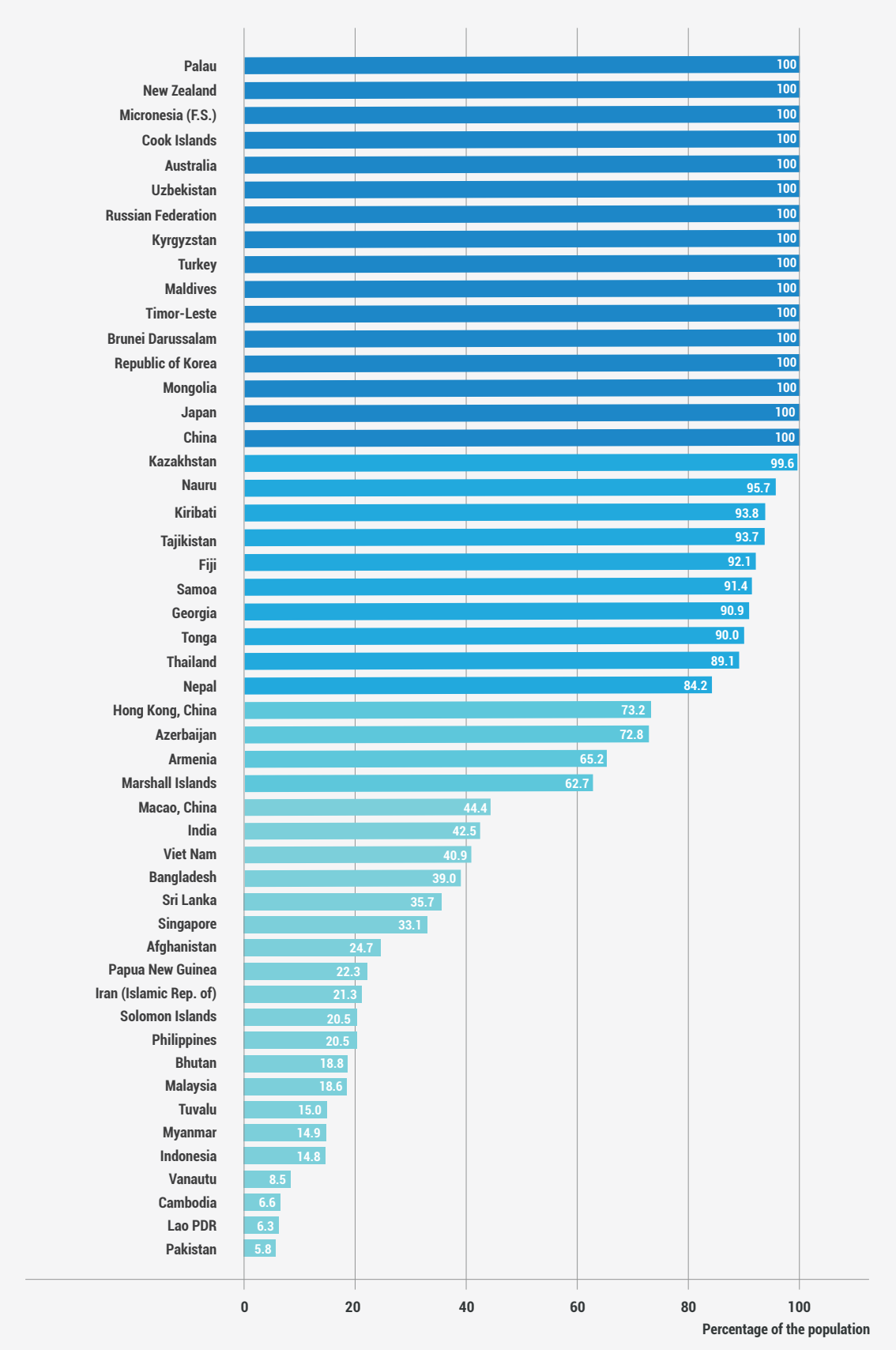
[37] HelpAge International, "COVID-19 Rapid Needs Assessments of Older People", Asia-Pacific, July 2020.
[38] Ibid.
[39] HelpAge International, "Why Social Pensions are Needed Now", October 2006.

Figure 3.11 Proportion of the population above the statutory pensionable age receiving a pension in the Asia-Pacific region, latest year



Source: ESCAP Statistical Database. Available at https://dataexplorer.unescap.org/ (accessed 31 January 2022).

Note: Data are for 2020 unless otherwise indicated.

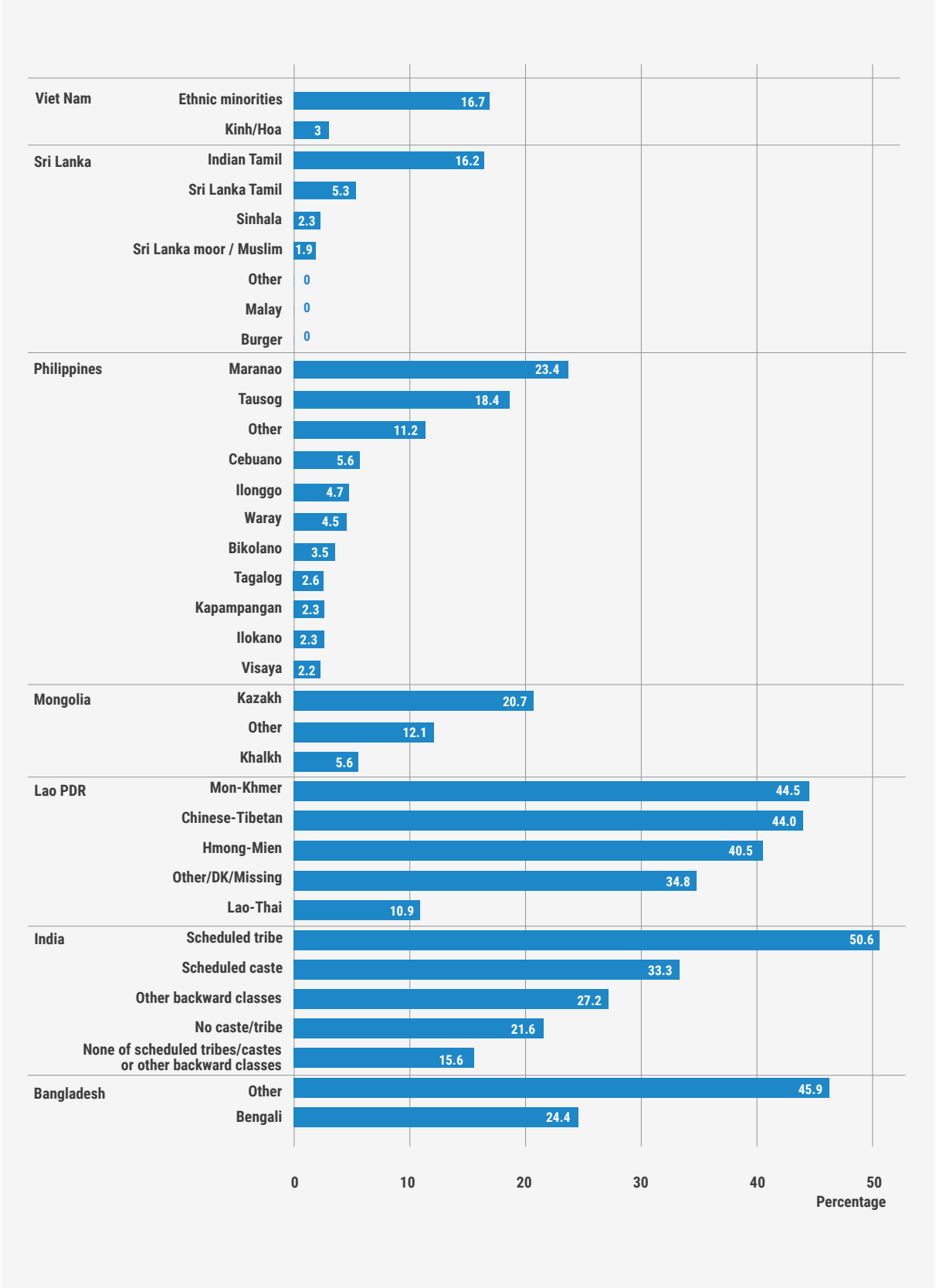
3.7 Multiple vulnerabilities for the poor

Multidimensional poverty by race, caste and ethnic group

The multidimensional poverty headcount varies by country and by population group within countries. It is, in particular, more diverse across ethnic and racial groups than by subnational regions. According to the 2021 estimates[40], the Asia-Pacific region is home to half of the worldwide total 1.3 billion multidimensionally poor people living in 109 countries. In seven Asia-Pacific countries with disaggregated data, there is a significant disparity in the incidence of multidimensional poverty across race, caste and ethnic group (**figure 3.12**). The incidence is higher in India and the Lao People's Democratic Republic than in the other countries. But even in countries with low levels of poverty, inequality is high. For instance, in the Philippines, the incidence of poverty among Maranao people is more than 10 times that among Visaya, Ilokano or Kapampangan populations. In Sri Lanka, multidimensional poverty ranges from none among the Burger and Malay to more than 16 per cent among Indian Tamil. On the other hand, in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the difference is about four times, ranging from 10.9 per cent among Lao-Tai to 44.5 per cent among Mon-Khmer. In India, the poverty headcount varies by a little more than threefold, from 15.6 per cent among none of the scheduled tribes/ castes or other backward classes to 50.6 per cent among scheduled tribes. Hence, achieving Goal 1 of the 2030 Agenda will not be possible without focusing on hard-to-reach groups, minorities and indigenous populations who are at risk of being left behind even in countries with a low level of poverty.

[40] UNDP and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiatives, "Unmasking disparities by ethnicity, caste and gender" (New York, 2021). Available at http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/2021_mpi_report_en.pdf.

Figure 3.12 Multidimensional poverty headcount by caste and ethnicity in selected Asia-Pacific countries (percentage)



Source: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), *The 2021 Global Multidimensional Poverty Index.* Human Development Reports, 2021. Available at http://hdr.undp.org/en/2021-MPI.

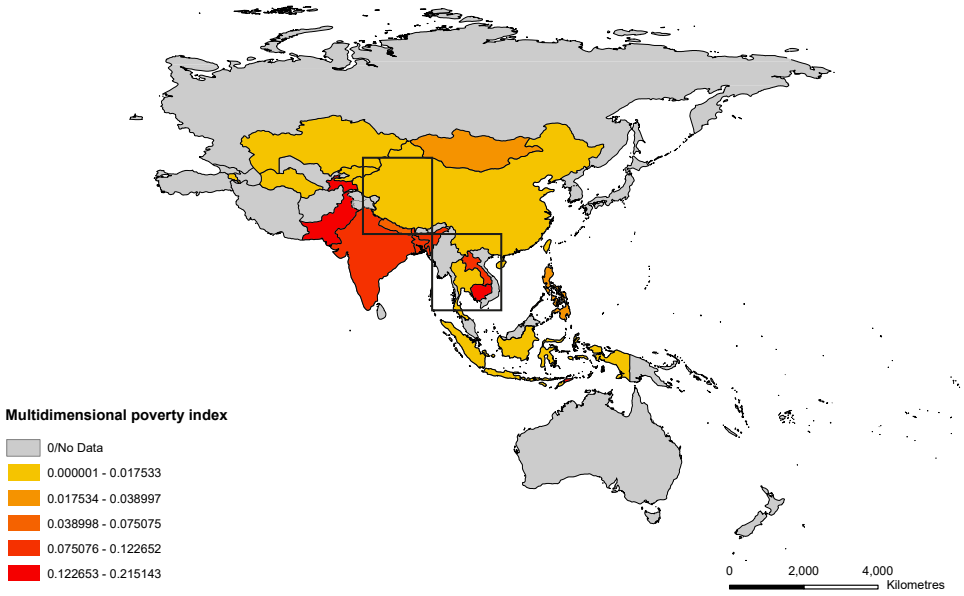
Socioeconomic impacts of natural disasters

While there has been a substantial decline in loss of life from disasters in the past decade, ESCAP has estimated that since 1970, natural hazards in the region affected 6.9 billion people and killed more than 2 million.[41] In terms of forecasted climate change impacts, ESCAP has estimated total annual average losses from multiple hazards under the worst-case scenario (8.5 representative concentration pathway (RCP)) to be around $1.4 trillion. Data show that areas with high rates of multidimensional poverty are also areas with high exposure to climate related natural as well as biological hazards (**figure 3.13**). The overlaps of poverty with extremely high exposure to natural and biological hazards lead to cascading risks and cyclical and intergenerational poverty, which can negatively affect the achievement of the SDGs.

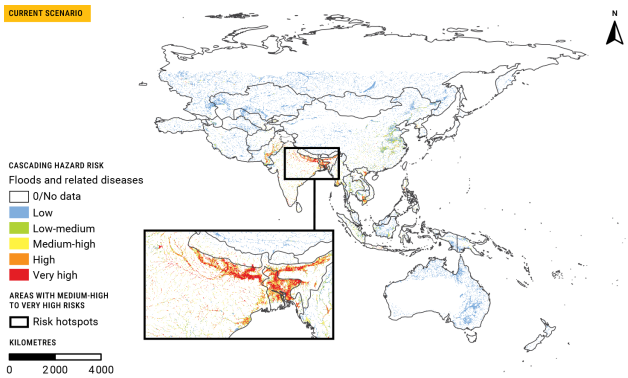
[41] See www.unescap.org/kp/2021/asia-pacific-disaster-report-2021.

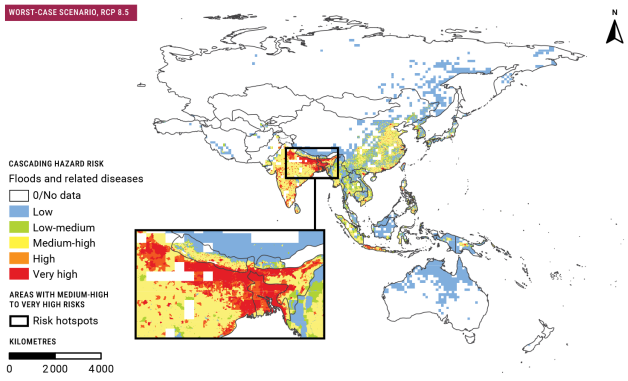
Figure 3.13 Linkages between multi-dimensional poverty incidence and hazard hotspots for current and worst-case climate scenarios

Multi-dimensional Poverty Index, 2021

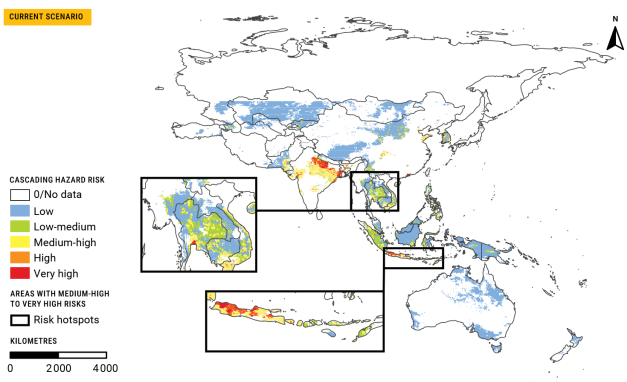


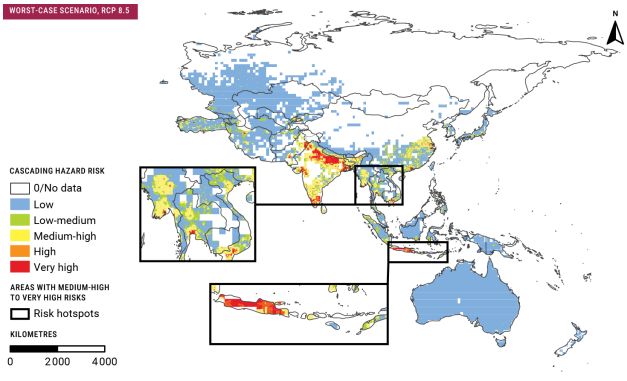
Population exposure to floods and related diseases under current and worst-case climate scenarios in South and South-West Asia





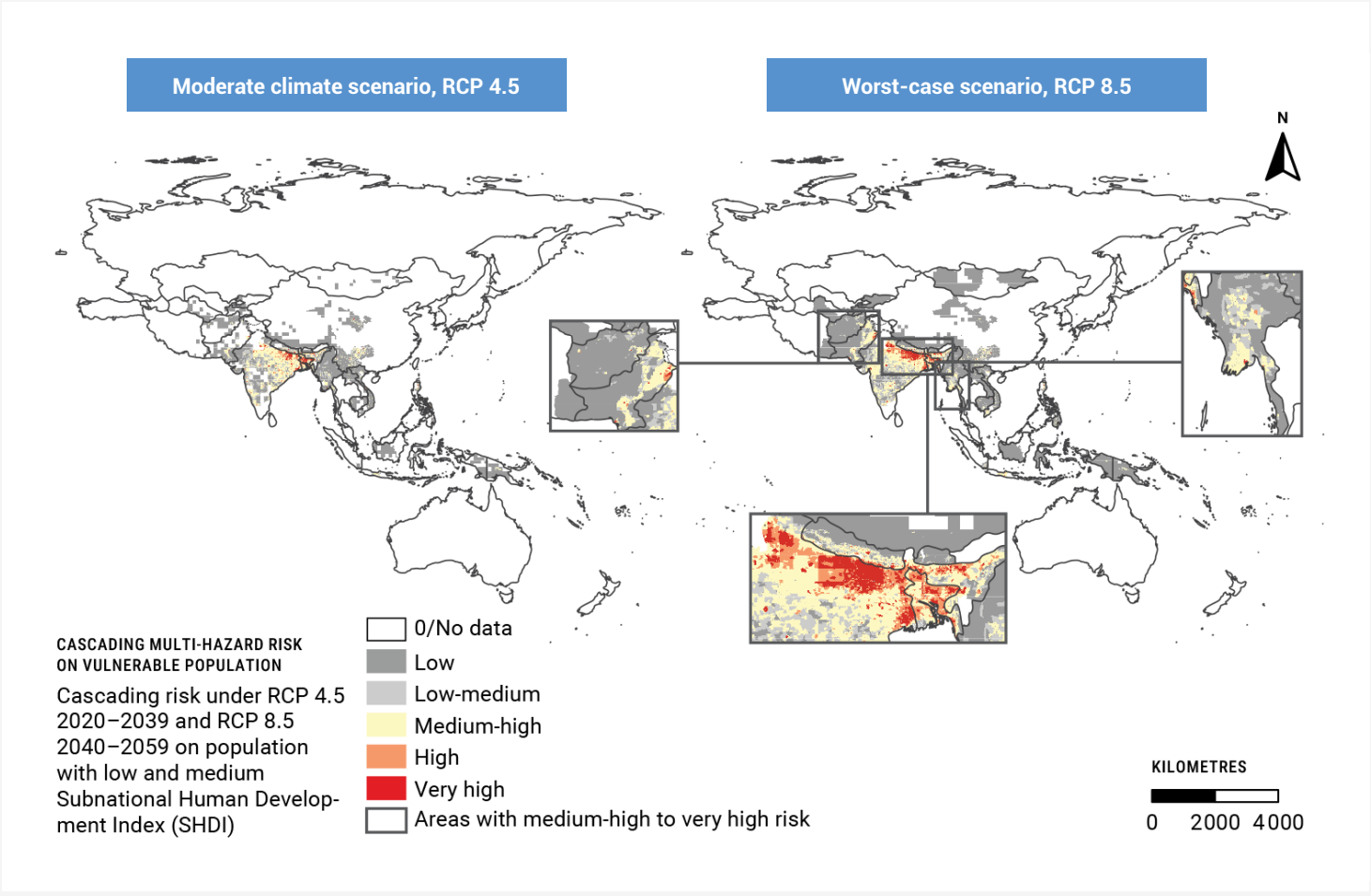
Population exposure to droughts and related diseases under current and worst-case climate scenarios in South and South-East Asia





ESCAP analysis also shows that populations with lower scores on the Human Development Index are at increased risks from multiple natural and biological hazards under moderate (RCP 4.5) and severe (RCP 8.5) climate change scenarios. The poor populations at the greatest risk under RCP 8.5 live in Bangladesh, India and Nepal in South and South-West Asia; Myanmar, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Philippines in South-East Asia; Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan in North and Central Asia; China in East and North-East Asia; and Papua New Guinea in the Pacific. The top five countries at the greatest increased risk between 2020 and 2040 are Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bhutan, Myanmar and Cambodia (**figure 3.14**).

Figure 3.14 Risk of climate related hazards for populations with lower levels of human development under two climate scenarios

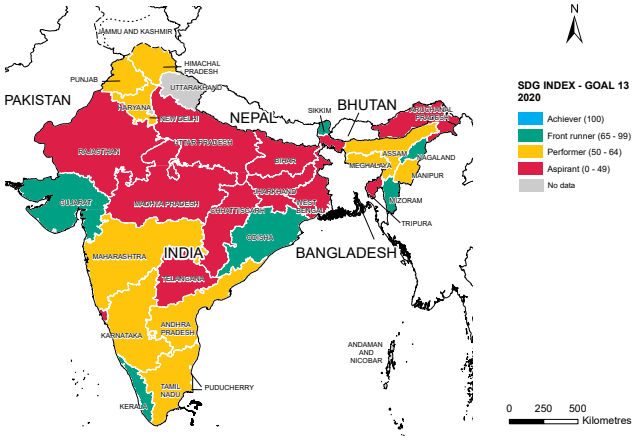


Box 3.2 Relationship between climate related hazard risks and SDGs in India

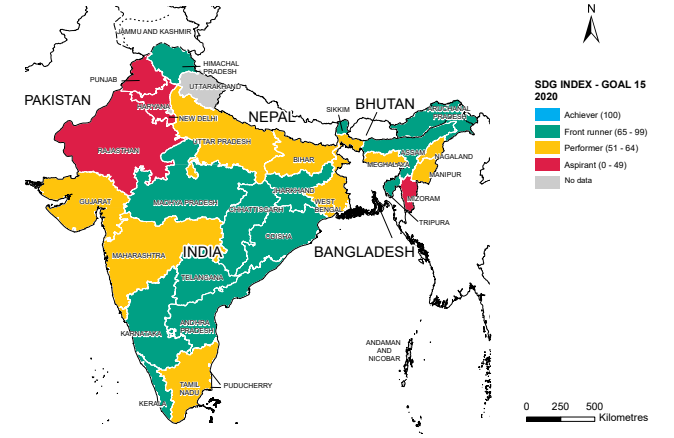
Climate related hazards and their subsequent risks impact the achievement of SDGs in India, particularly goals related to climate action (Goal 13), life on land (Goal 14) and life below water (Goal 15).The SDG India Index, the first Government-led measure of SDG progress at the subnational level in the world, is a valuable data source. ESCAP has analysed the correlation between SDG India Index and progress on Goals 13 and 15. The results show areas with slower progress on Goals 13 and 15 are also disaster risk hotspots with high multi-hazard risks from floods, drought and heatwaves under the climate change scenarios of the 4.5 and 8.5 representative concentration pathway (RCP). The hotspots are intensifying under 8.5 RCP and could further impact the achievement of the SDGs.

Hotspots of climate and disaster risks and SDG deceleration in India.

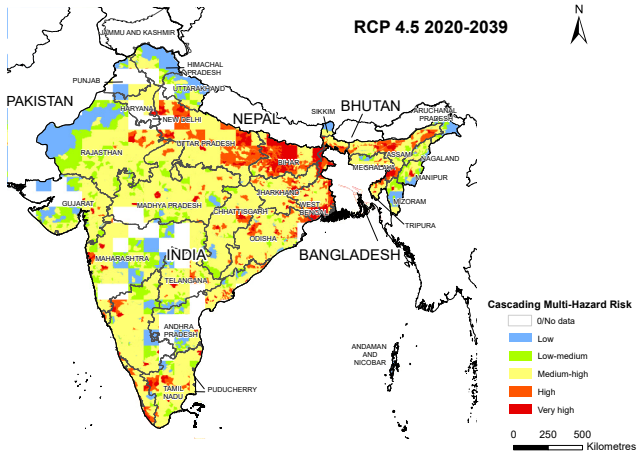
India SDG Index 2020 - Goal 13



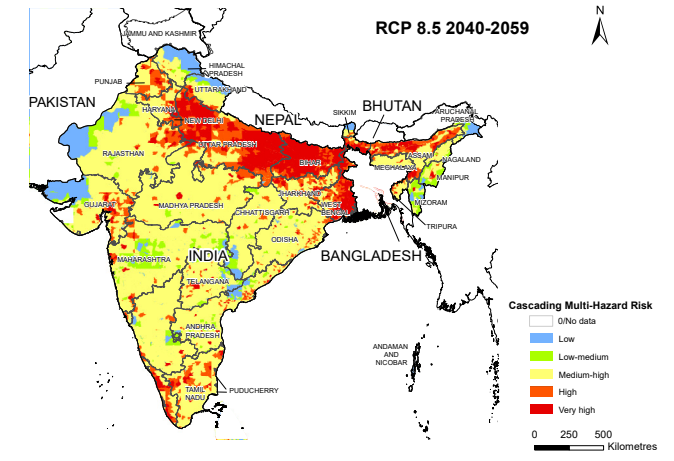
India SDG Index 2020 - Goal 15



Multi-hazard risks from climate-related disasters and diseases under current scenario



Multi-hazard risks from climate-related disasters and diseases under worstcase (RCP 8.5) scenario

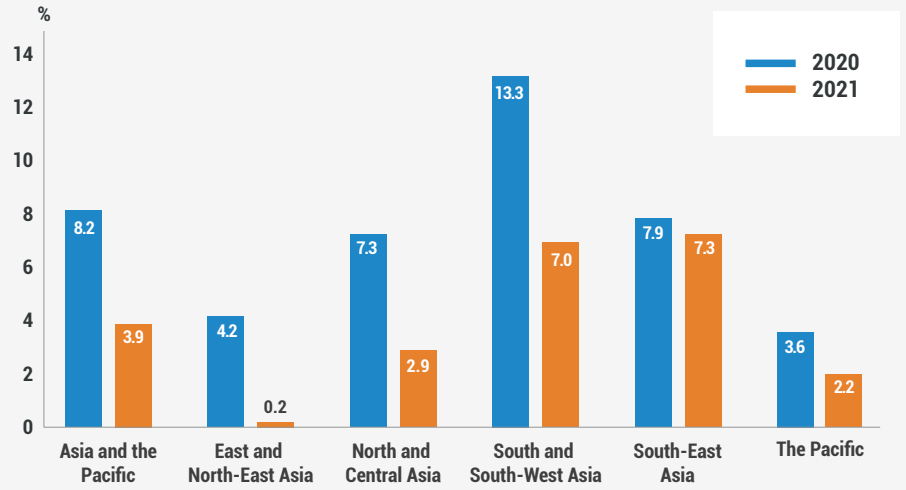


Impact of the pandemic on working hours and jobs

The especially harsh impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on certain population groups are a consequence of their pre-existing vulnerability within labour markets. Workers and enterprises without strong attachments to labour markets – in terms of years of experience/operation, the size of establishment, the capacity for collective bargaining and protection under labour laws and social protection services – are those that suffer the largest impacts of crises, past and current, in terms of working hours, income losses and employment opportunities in the formal sector.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has estimated that the Asia-Pacific region lost 8.2 per cent of working hours in 2020 relative to the fourth quarter of 2019 (**figure 3.15**), which is equivalent to 155 million full-time workers (assuming a 48-hour work week).[42] Even though the situation improved slightly in 2021, working hour losses have continued, and working hours are expected to remain 3.9 per cent below the 2019 benchmark. The two subregions that experienced the highest working hour losses in 2021 are South-East Asia (7.3 per cent) and South and South-West Asia (7.0 per cent).

Figure 3.15 Estimated working hour losses in 2020 and 2021 compared to the fourth quarter of 2019



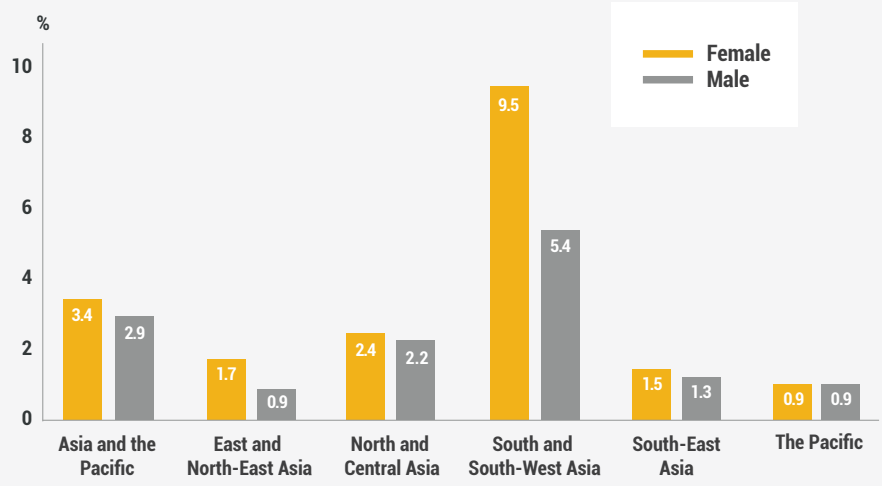
Source: ILOSTAT, ILO modelled estimates, October 2021.

[42] The regional and subregional figures exclude data for American Samoa, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Northern Mariana Islands, Niue, Nauru, Palau and Tuvalu. Because of differences in regional groupings between ESCAP and ILO, the data points on working hours, employment and unemployment, which are presented here, differ from those of the original sources: ILO, "ILO Monitor on COVID-19 and the World of Work", 8th ed., 27 October 2021; ILO, "World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2022", 17 January 2022.

Employment in the region declined by an estimated 62 million jobs between 2019 and 2020.[43] Regional unemployment increased from 96 million in 2019 to 115 million in 2020, pushing the unemployment rate (SDG indicator 8.5.2) up from 4.5 to 5.5 per cent. Also, in 2021, the regional unemployment rate is estimated to have remained at an elevated 5.0 per cent, which is considerably higher than before the crisis. Many more workers have moved into inactivity or have remained in employment on significantly reduced hours. Among the inactive are many women who lost work or voluntarily left work when household and care responsibilities increased during periods of lockdown.

The rate of employment loss among women in 2020 in the Asia-Pacific region was 3.4 per cent, compared to 2.9 per cent for men (**figure 3.16**). Employment of young people shrank by as much as 8.4 per cent, compared to 2.3 per cent for adult employment (**figure 3.17**). The number of youth not in employment, education or training has been driven up in some countries of the region (indicator 8.6.1). A heavier impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on employment of women relative to men and youth relative to adults has been found in nearly all subregions.

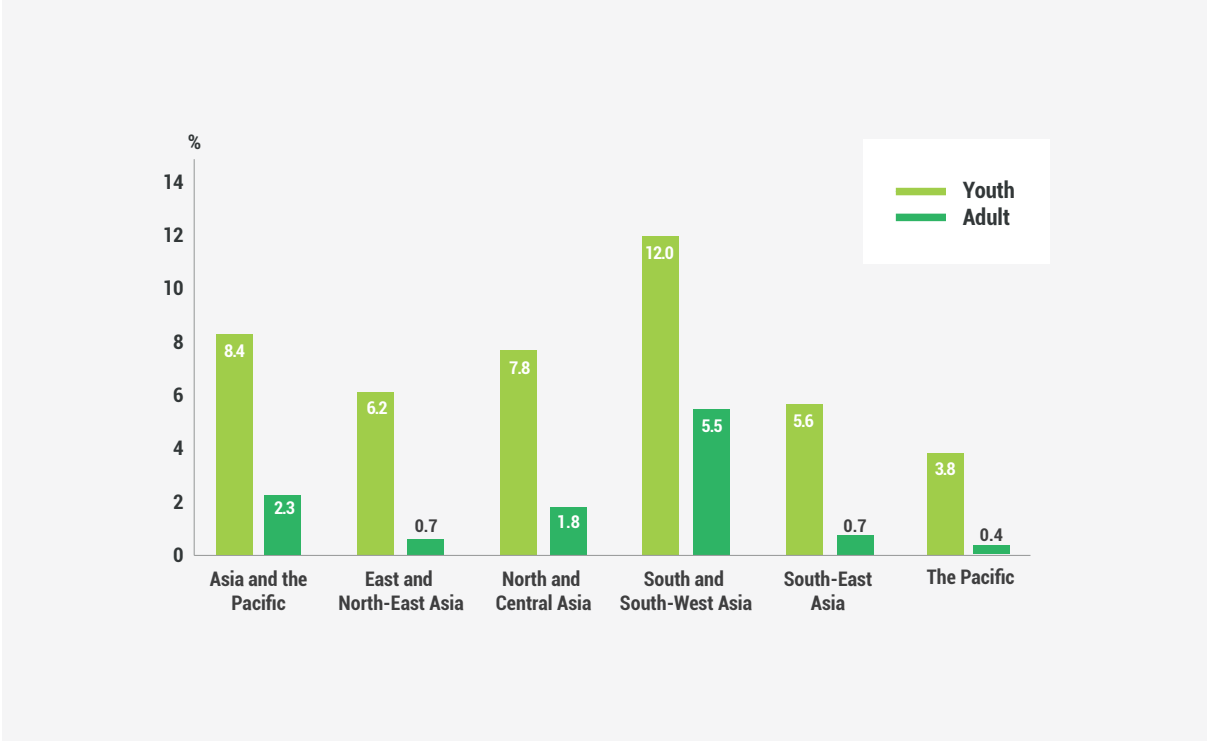
Figure 3.16 Estimated employment losses by sex in Asia-Pacific subregions in 2020 compared to 2019



Source: ILOSTAT, ILO modelled estimates, November 2021.

[43] ILOSTAT, ILO modelled estimates, November 2021.

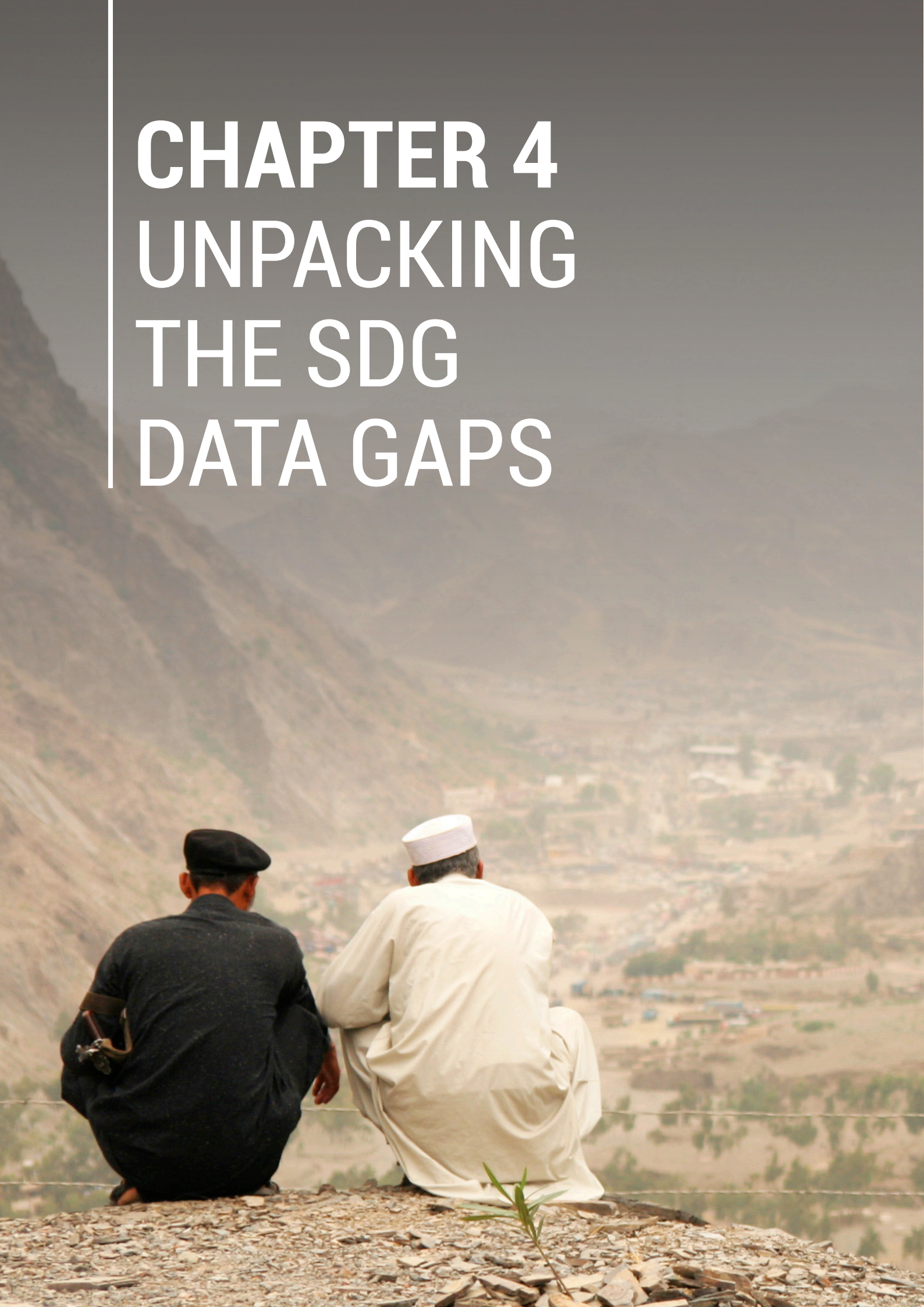
Figure 3.17 Estimated employment losses by age group in Asia-Pacific subregions in 2020 compared to 2019



Source: ILOSTAT, ILO modelled estimates, November 2021.

Small and medium-sized enterprises have also suffered disproportionately during the crisis, given their limited capacity to access government support measures and a weaker ability to maintain workers compared to large enterprises.

CHAPTER 4
UNPACKING THE SDG DATA GAPS



The present chapter offers an overview of data availability to monitor the SDGs at the national and regional levels in the Asia-Pacific region. The analysis is based on data available on the Global SDG database. The chapter also provides an analysis of where data is lacking for SDGs monitoring and potential sources for filling the gap.

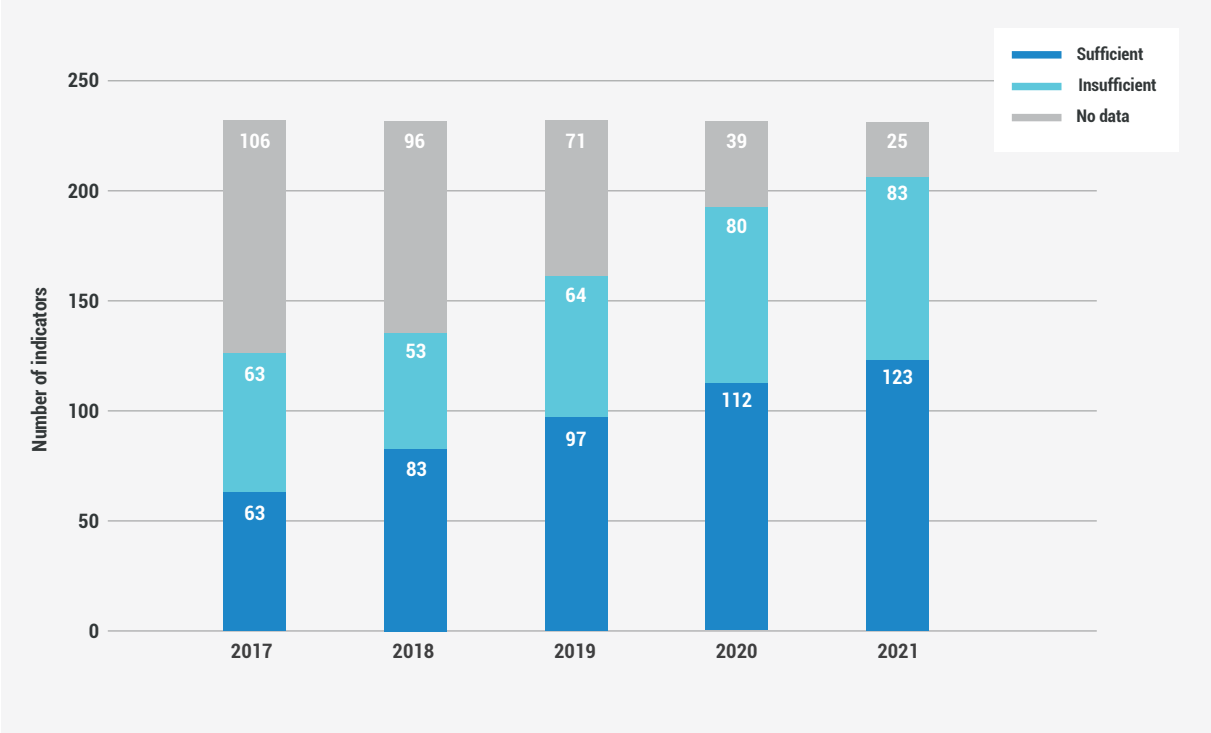
4.1. Is there enough data to track progress on the SDGs?

The availability of data in Asia and the Pacific has sharply increased since the first benchmark in 2017, the number of indicators with sufficient data has almost doubled since then (**figure 4.1**). This trend testifies to the increase in the strength of the national statistical systems in the region in response to the monitoring demands of the 2030 Agenda.

Half of the countries and territories in Asia and the Pacific have reached the standard of data sufficiency for progress assessment – at least two data points since 2000 – for 123 indicators, more than half of the 231 indicators in the global indicator framework. Another 83 indicators have some data points, indicating that their compilation has started in some countries and territories, but they do not have enough data yet.

For the first time, more than half of the 231 SDG indicators have sufficient data in Asia-Pacific.

Figure 4.1 Data availability for SDG indicators in Asia-Pacific region, 2017–2021



As of 2021, the 25 indicators listed in **table 4.1** have no data at the national level. These indicators are classified as follows:

- Seven indicators are compiled at global or local levels, thus they are not suitable for monitoring at national and regional levels;
- Seventeen indicators rely on surveys or national mechanisms that are under implementation;
- One indicator, 17.18.1 on the statistical capacity for SDG monitoring, does not yet have an approved methodology from the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators.

Table 4.1 Indicators without national-level data, 2021

1.b.1 Pro-poor public social spending	**2.4.1** Area under productive and sustainable agriculture	**5.2.2** Violence against women (by non-intimate partner)	**10.7.1** Recruitment cost borne by employees	**11.2.1** Convenient access to public transport
11.3.1 Land consumption rate	**11.3.2** Civil society participation in urban planning and management	**11.4.1** Expenditure on preservation of cultural and natural heritage	**11.6.1** Urban solid waste collected	**11.7.1** Urban open space for public use
11.7.2 Physical or sexual harassment	**13.2.1/13.b.1** Climate change special support to LDCs and SIDS	**13.a.1** Developed countries commitment of $100 billion	**14.2.1** National EEZ managed using ecosystem-based approaches	**14.3.1** Average marine acidity
15.7.1/15.c.1 Poached or illicitly trafficked wildlife	**16.1.2** Conflict-related deaths	**16.3.3** Formal or informal dispute resolution	**16.4.1** Illicit financial flows	**16.6.2** People satisfaction with public services
16.7.2 Population trust in decision-makig	**16.10.1** Violence against journalists, trade unionists and human rights advocates	**17.5.1** Investment promotion regimes for LDCs	**17.7.1** Funding for environmentally-sound technologies	**17.18.1** Statistical capacity for SDG monitoring

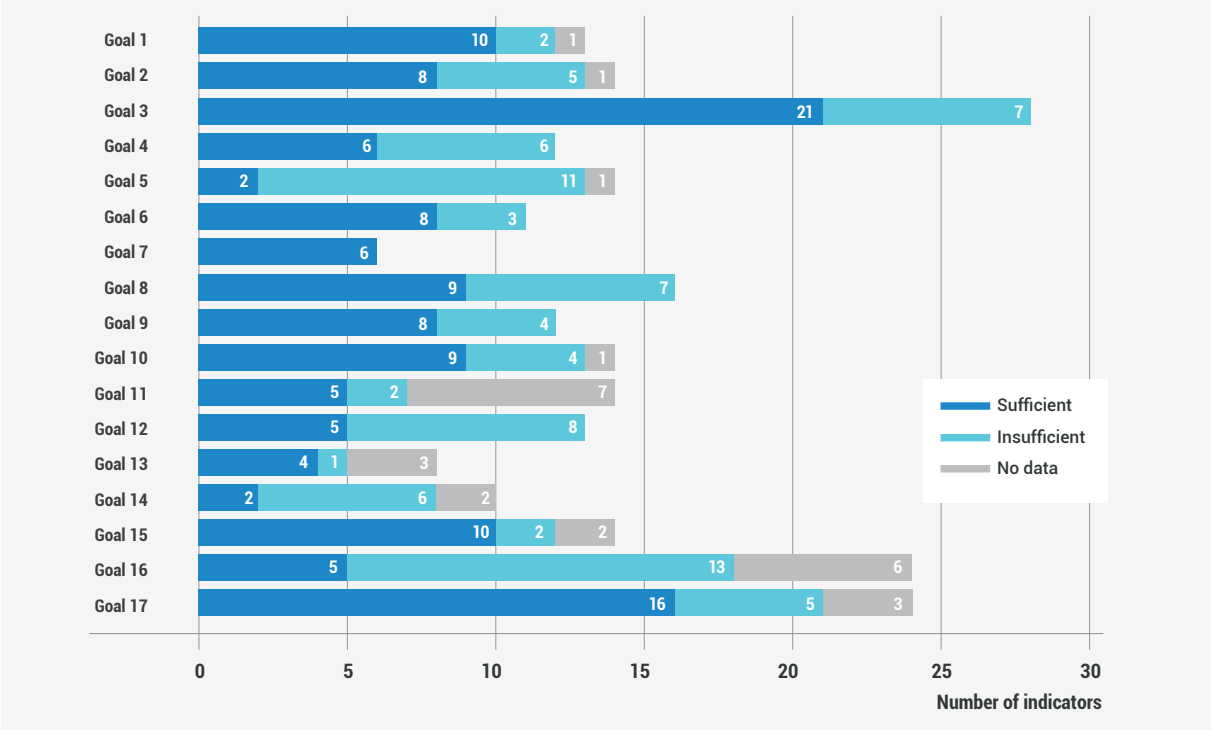
Colour key	Under IAEG-SDGs review	Data compiled at global or local levels	Others

More than half of the indicators without data are under two goals (SDGs 11 and 16), calling for greater attention in filling data gaps in these goals. These 25 indicators, together with the 83 indicators with insufficient data, represent 47 per cent of all SDG indicators. Without high-quality, timely, and disaggregated data for these indicators, navigating the implementation of the 2030 targets will be myopic at best.

Most SDG indicators with no data available at national level are in Goals 11 and 16.

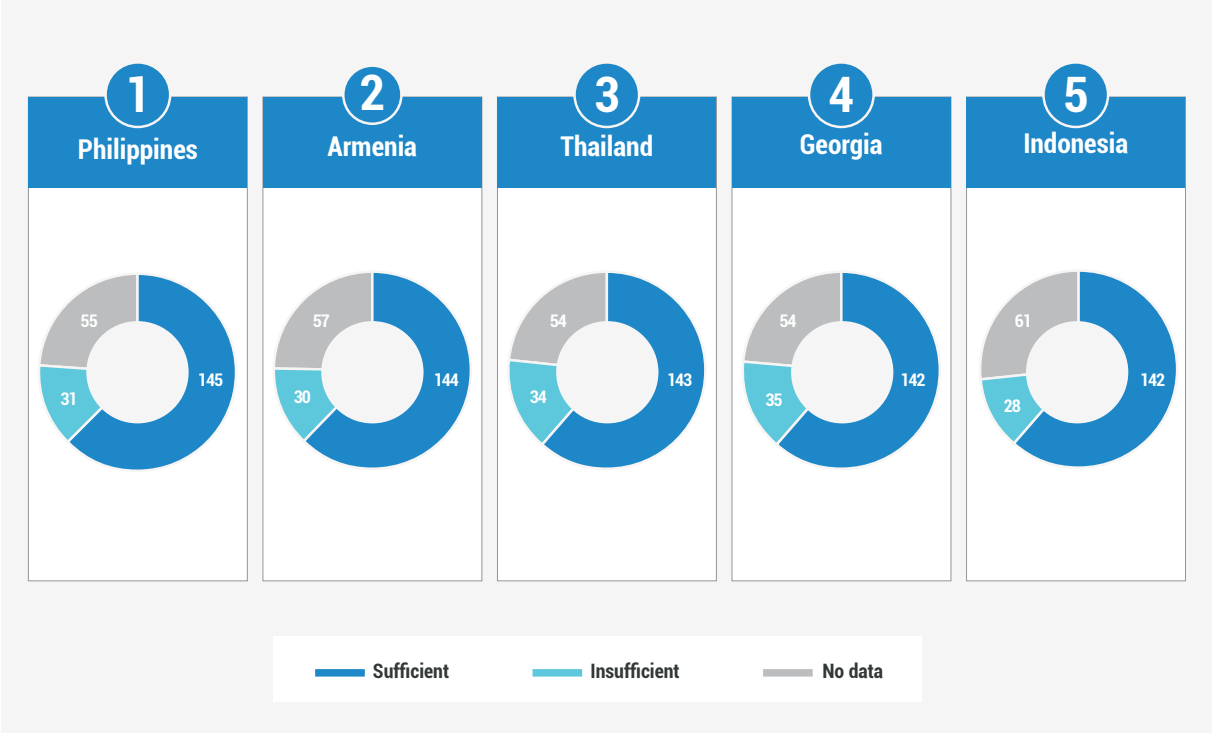
Proportional to the number of indicators in each goal, the largest gaps are found in goals related to the environment (Goals 11, 12, 13, and 14) as well as Goal 5 on gender equality and Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions (**figure 4.2**).

Figure 4.2 Data availability for indicators of the 17 SDGs in the Asia-Pacific region, 2021



The levels of data availability vary across the 58 countries and territories of the region. The top five countries in the region for data availability are the Philippines, Armenia, Thailand, Georgia and Indonesia, where approximately 75 per cent of the indicators have data (**figure 4.3**). On the other side of the spectrum, 16 countries or territories still report data for less than 50 per cent of the indicators.

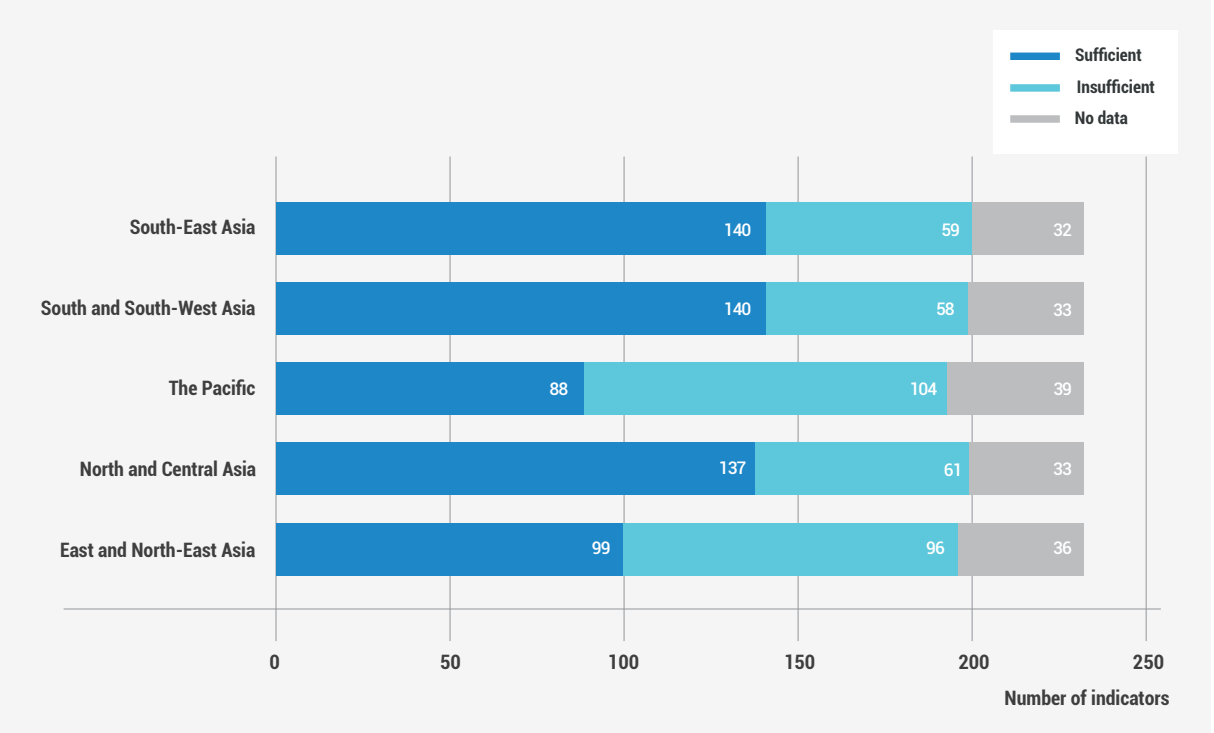
Figure 4.3 Top five countries in the Asia-Pacific region with most data available for SDG indicators, 2021



While some countries have data for an increasing number of SDG indicators, others are lagging behind.

Comparing the Asia-Pacific subregions, East and North-East Asia and the Pacific have data for fewer indicators. The number of indicators with insufficient data shows that data availability is concentrated in only a few countries in these subregions, thus data availability is insufficient to produce an accurate subregional picture (**figure 4.4**).

Figure 4.4 Data availability for SDG indicators by subregion in Asia-Pacific, 2021



Further analysis of data availability by country or territory and by subregion is found on the Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway[44].

4.2. Why do data gaps exist?

The SDG indicators are compiled from many sources at local, national and international levels. To better understand where there are gaps and link them with data sources, ESCAP has analysed how the indicators are produced and categorized the respective sources (Table 4.2).

[44] https://data.unescap.org

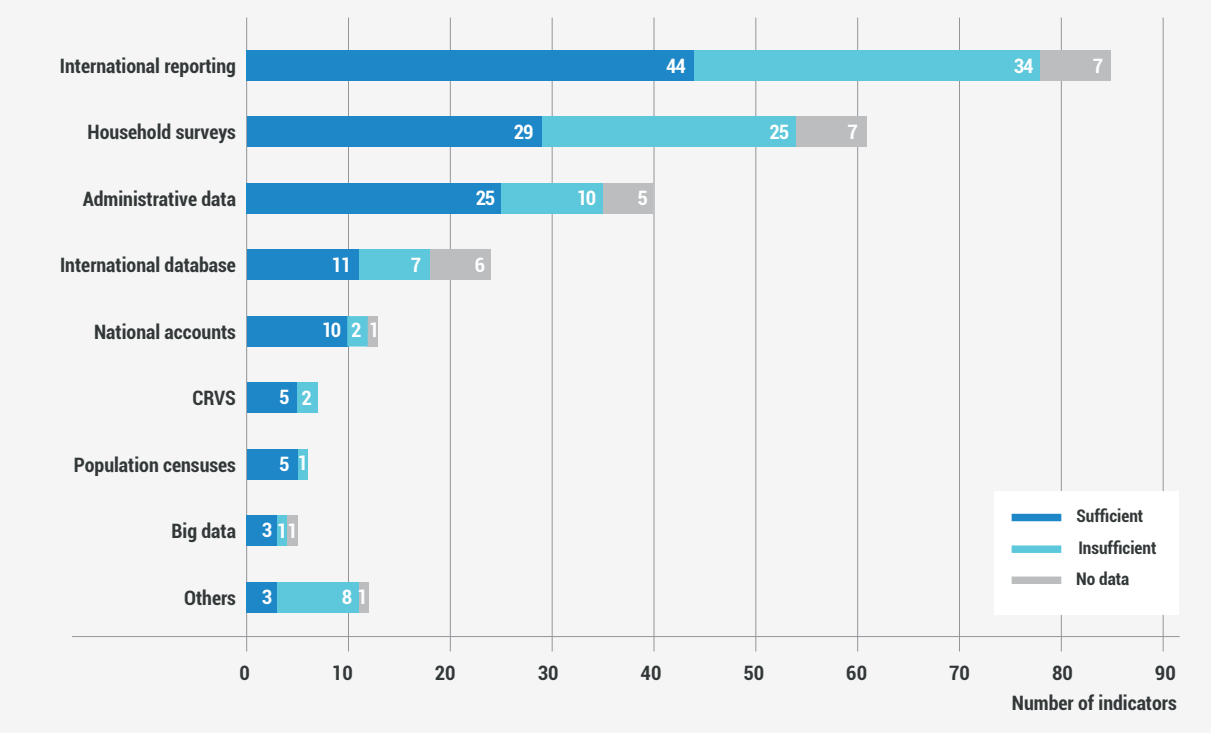
Table 4.2 Categorization of data sources of SDG indicators

Source type	Description
Household survey	Such as Multiple indicator cluster surveys (MICS), demographic and health surveys (DHS), labour force surveys (LFS), living standards measurement study (LSMS), household income and expenditure survey (HIES)
Administrative data	Data collected by government agencies for administrative purposes
Population census	National population and housing censuses
National accounts	Systems of national accounts
CRVS	Civil registration and vital statistics
Big data	Such as Web-scraping, mobile phone data, social media data, scanner data, satellite imagery data
International reporting	Data reported to international agencies by national focal points/coordinators but not necessarily compiled and officially published at the national level. The data could come from multiple sources at national or subnational levels.
International database	Data compiled and monitored by international agencies directly. For example, a custodian agency may compile an indicator based on data collected through a global questionnaire or data directly collected by the agency and verified by countries.
Others	Based on agriculture, enterprise and individual surveys; price data

The majority of SDG indicators come from three main sources (**figure 4.5**): household survey, national administrative data, and international reporting – a collaboration between custodian and national agencies. Therefore, strengthening SDG reporting relies on the following:

1. Increased cooperation between custodian agencies and national statistical systems to produce indicators that are internationally reported;
2. Increased investments in regular household surveys with corresponding questions and modules;
3. Increased data integration and coordination at national level to harness administrative data.

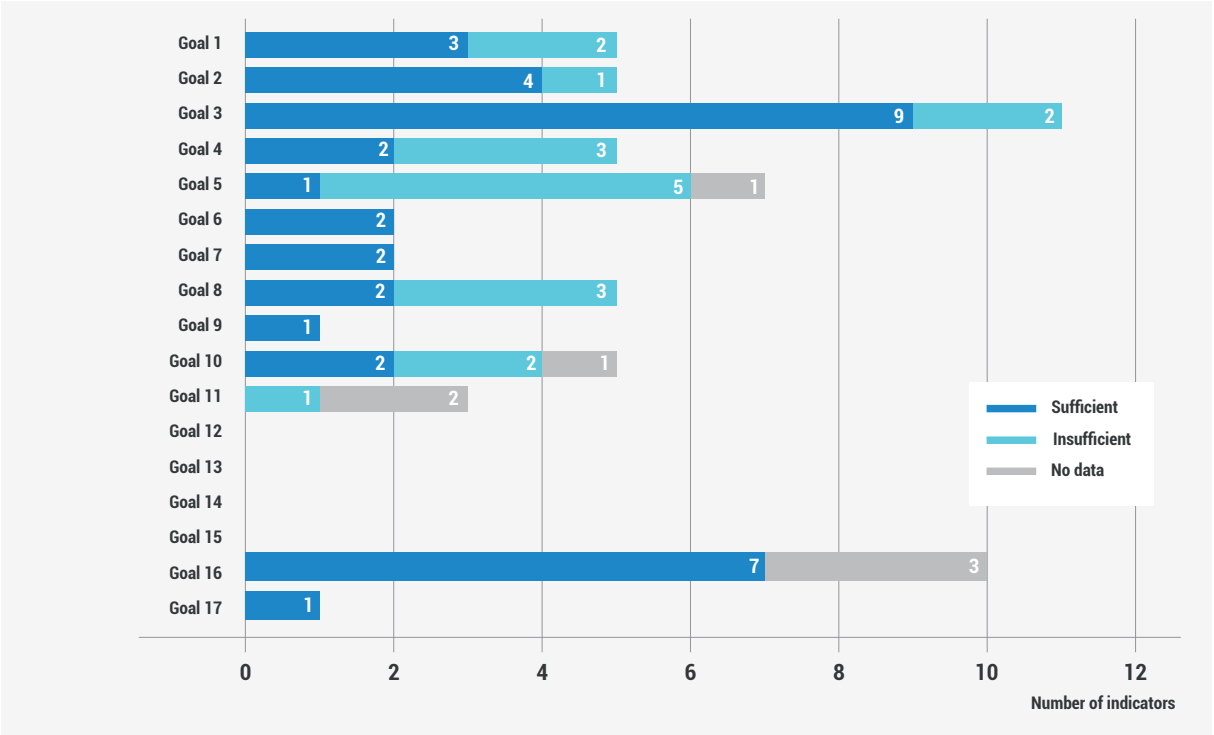
Figure 4.5 Availability of data for indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals by main source of data, 2021



Note: More than one main source may exist for some indicators, thus some indicators are counted twice. For instance, one indicator may be compiled from household survey data in some countries and from the population and housing census data in other countries. Both sources are included in the table.

Household surveys are a fundamental pillar of the SDGs as the primary data source for a quarter of the SDG indicators. They need to be expanded, however, to provide data for indicators, especially under Goal 5 and Goal 16, where data are insufficient (**figure 4.6**), and for 7 out of 25 indicators with no national data (**table 4.1**). This can be achieved by adding modules to existing surveys and ensuring the routine collection of data that are needed to monitor SDG indicators. Due to the restrictions imposed to contain the pandemic, many national statistics offices in the region have postponed surveys and censuses. Although the justification is reasonable, the delayed data collection will impact the monitoring of SDG progress.

Figure 4.6 Availability of data from household surveys for each of the Sustainable Development Goals, 2021



Box 4.1 Time-use surveys to monitor gender gaps in unpaid care and domestic work

Indicator 5.4.1 measures the time spent by women and men on unpaid care and domestic work. Data availability for this indicator is scant in the Asia-Pacific region. Among 58 countries and territories in the region, just 21 have produced at least one data point since 2000. Of these, only 10 have produced two or more data points

The recommended schedule for time-use surveys is 5–10 years, though only a few countries worldwide produce data with such frequency. The expense and complexity of administering time-use surveys – the main statistical source for data on unpaid care and domestic work – is one reason for limited data availability. In low- and middle-income countries, measurement and operational challenges are exacerbated by low literacy rates and/or low ownership or use of time pieces. A lack of rigorous evidence on the relative performance of alternative time-use measurement strategies is a further constraint on uptake.

Despite the challenges, demand for national and regional level time-use data has undergone a resurgence in recent years, as awareness of potential policy applications has grown. In addition to quantifying gender-based inequalities in burdens of unpaid care and domestic work, time-use data permit a fuller analysis of the contribution of unpaid work to national economies while also enabling the monitoring of transitions from household provision of services to market-based provision.*

The lack of regular time-use data coupled with a heterogeneity of country practices in time-use measurement creates challenges in calculating regional aggregates, but existing estimates highlight that, in all countries with available data, women allocate more time to unpaid care and domestic work than men, whereas men allocate on average more time to paid work.** Data on indicator 5.4.1 from selected countries is provided in the figure 4.7.

There have been coordinated efforts to advance the production of time-use statistics in the region and internationally. The Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics, convened by the United Nations Statistical Commission, is developing guidance to operationalize standard classification*** and modernize the collection of time-use data. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) supports the improved measurement of supervisory care through cognitive testing and piloting. Also, at the international level, the International Labour Organization (ILO) has launched a multi-country pilot project to evaluate alternative strategies for embedding time use measurement within national labour force surveys.****

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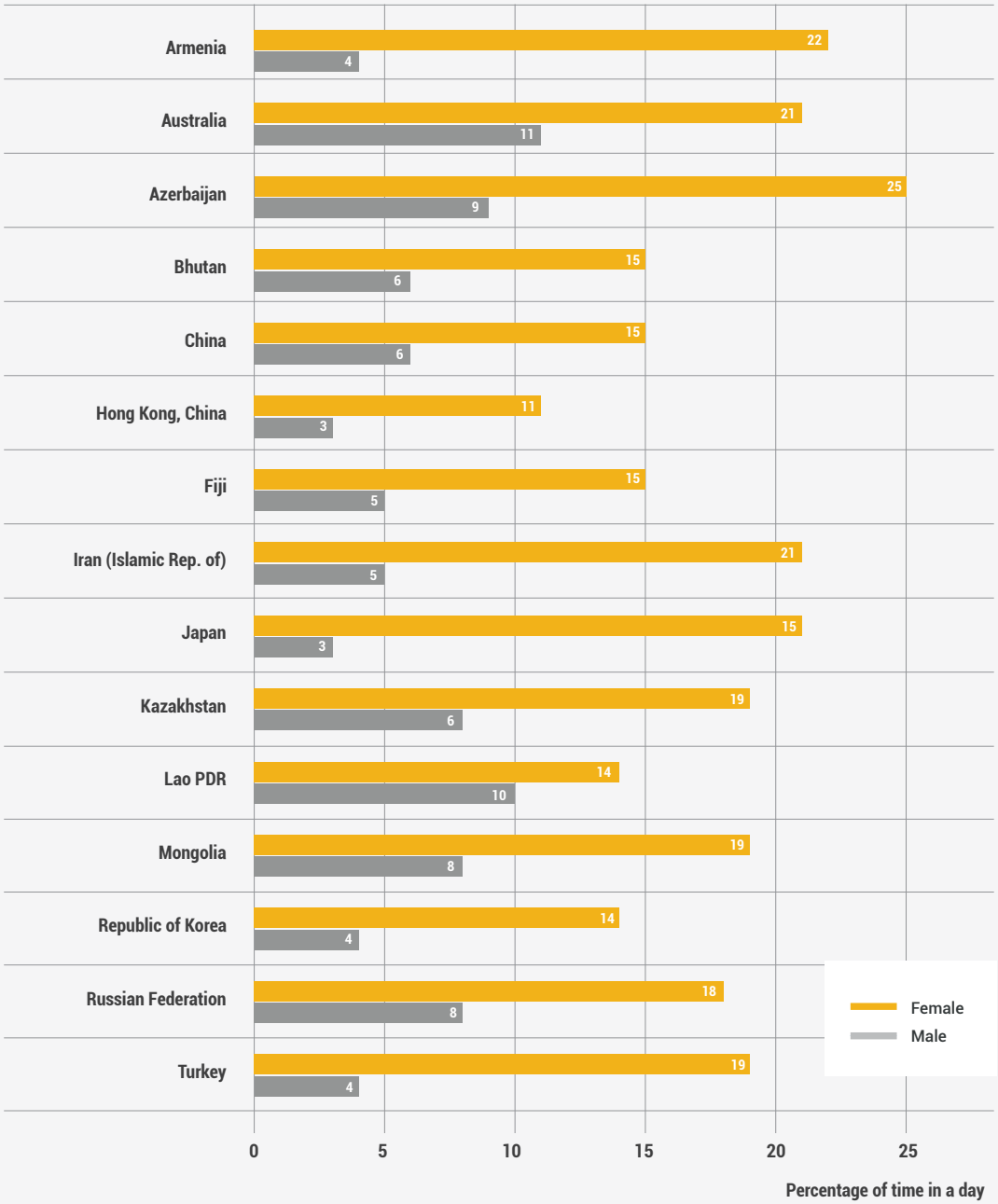
* For a detailed audit of the relevance of time-use data to policy issues raised by each of the Goals, see ESCAP, "Harnessing Time Use Data for Evidence-Based Policy, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Beijing Platform for Action: A resource for data analysis" (2021). Available at www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/knowledge-products/Harnessing_Time-Use_Data_ESCAP.pdf.

** United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, "Time spent in unpaid work; total work burden; and work-life balance" (2020). Available at https://worlds-women-2020-data-undesa.hub.arcgis.com/apps/undesa::time-spent-in-unpaid-work-total-work-burden-and-work-life-balance/explore.

*** United Nations Statistics Division, "Time Use Statistics: International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics (2016)" (10 March 2017). Available at https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/time-use/icatus-2016/.

**** The pilot is part of the ILO programme of work to operationalize the standards concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization, according to resolution I of the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians. For more details, see ILO "LFS modular time use measurement project Closing the gender data gap on unpaid domestic and care work" (2021). Available at www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/publication/wcms_821251.pdf.

Figure 4.7 Time spent on unpaid domestic chores and care work (SDG 5.4.1), by sex in selected countries in Asia and the Pacific (latest available year)



Source: Global SDG database.
Note: Due to different survey methods, caution should be used for cross-country comparison.

Box 4.2 Data on Goal 16 needed urgently to develop evidence-based policies for citizen safety and inclusion

The Asia and the Pacific region faces considerable challenges in monitoring Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 to understand the key elements of crime, violence, access to justice and the rule of law. Only 5 of the 24 indicators have two or more data points for most of the region since 2000, while 6 of the indicators have no national data whatsoever. This bleak outlook results from the following factors:

- Insufficient technical capacity within national statistical systems;
- Low prioritization for data collection, analysis and dissemination;
- Ineffective inter-agency collaboration.

Moreover, definitions – particularly of crime and criminal justice – are not standardized, and limited data disaggregation hinders analysis and understanding. While national population surveys are required for several indicators, their implementation is not widespread in the region.

To face these challenges, the Centre of Excellence for Statistics on Crime and Criminal Justice in Asia and Pacific, a joint project between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crims (UNODC) and Statistics Korea (KOSTAT), embarked on a combined effort with UNODC, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to enhance regional data capacity on Goal 16, including a comprehensive regional training in 2021.* A follow-up training is planned for the Pacific in 2022.

There are further examples in the region of initiatives to improve data availability and quality. In Kazakhstan and the Maldives, SDG monitoring is integrated into national strategies inclusive of crime and criminal justice statistics. The Republic of Korea is making significant progress implementing the comprehensive International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes**, while North and Central Asian countries are making significant efforts to implement national Crime Victimisation Surveys***.

* https://www.sdg16hub.org/regional-training-measure-sdg-16-asia
** https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/statistics/crime/ICCS/ICCS_English_2016_web.pdf
*** https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Crime-statistics/Manual_on_Victimization_surveys_2009_web.pdf

Box 4.3 Data Collection on Violence against Women and COVID-19

To support the unprecedented global interest in measuring the impact of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on gender-based violence, the kNOwVAWdata initiative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), partnered with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to develop the resource, Decision tree: Data Collection on Violence against Women and COVID-19.* The initiative highlighted the need to prioritise women's safety over data collection. The following are the three fundamental guiding principles for such data collection:

- Understand the reasons to collect the data and establish how the data will be used.
- As long as survivors may be confined at home with their abusers, population-based surveys are unsafe, and they may result in more violence and poor-quality data.
- The collection of violence-related data via mobile phone or online is not well tested and remains unfeasible for most countries.

* The Decision Tree was produced in 15 languages and is available at https://asiapacific.unfpa.org/en/resources/decision-tree-data-collection-violence-against-women-and-covid-19.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Technical notes

Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress assessment is based on the global indicator framework for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2017. Data used in the report are sourced from the Global SDG Indicators Database maintained by Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. When sufficient data on a defined SDG indicator are not available, the report uses additional indicators from internationally recognized sources. The indicators are available on the ESCAP SDG Gateway Data Explorer[45] along with the information on country groupings and definitions.[46] Average values of indicators at the regional and subregional levels are used instead of weighted aggregates to avoid bias towards bigger countries or economies.[47] This section provides basic information on the methods used for SDG progress assessment. More detailed discussions are provided on the Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway (https://data.unescap.org/).

Selection of indicators

Indicators are selected based on two criteria:

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

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

Measures for tracking progress

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

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

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

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

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[45] See https://dataexplorer.unescap.org/.

[46] See https://data.unescap.org/stories/escap-database.

[47] See https://data.unescap.org/resource-guides/progress-assessment-methodology.

Current Status (CS) Index

Given a specified SDG target value TV for each indicator I, the values for the current year (Icv) and the year 2015 (I0) can be used to measure the progress made since 2015, in relation to the progress needed to reach the SDG target by 2030. The Current Status Index is constructed.

A metric is developed for each indicator to measure the progress made (represented by the blue bar in figure 1.2), as compared with the entire progress needed from 2015 to 2030. Denoting indicator values for 2015 and the current year by I0 and Icv and the target value for 2030 by TV, and setting the normalized values of the index at 0 and 10 for no progress and full achievement, respectively, the current status index is calculated as:

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

in which

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

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

For parity indicators, the value is:

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

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

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

Anticipated Progress (AP) Index

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

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

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

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

Aggregation

In total, 134 indicators are used to compute the Current Status Index for SDG progress assessment in 2021. Of these, however, 4 indicators did not provide sufficient data for 2030 predictions and were not used for Anticipated Progress Index calculations. When more than one variation for an indicator exists (for example health worker density), all variants are used in calculations. Each variant of an indicator is weighted such that the sum of the weights under each indicator is 1. Finally, a weighted average of the progress indices is computed as a progress index for that indicator.

Disaggregated statistics

Disaggregation by sex, location or combination of age and sex was available for 31 indicators. To take disaggregated statistics into account, a vulnerable group for each indicator was identified as the group that had made slower progress than the entire reference population. For instance, if the unemployment rate has decreased by 3 per cent since 2015 among an entire labour force population and this rate is 4 per cent among males and 2.5 per cent among females, then the female group is considered vulnerable. Under each series, the progress is measured as average of progress in vulnerable group and the reference population. By counting for vulnerable groups, progress on each series is adjusted for the progress by the most vulnerable group.

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

Extrapolation methods

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

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

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

$$w_i = \frac{(t - t_1)}{(t - t_i)} \quad (t1 < ti < t_n)$$

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

Setting regional target values

Of 169 SDG targets, only 30 per cent have specific (implicit or explicit) target values. For the rest, this report sets target values using a "champion area" approach. This is based on what has been feasible in the past and optimizes the use of available data. The idea is to identify the top performers in the region and set their average rate of change as the region's target rate. If we imagine all the top performers for one specific indicator as belonging to one hypothetical area, this can be labelled as the region's champion area whose rate of change equals the average for the top performers. This can then be considered the target rate for the region. In other words, if the region as a whole can perform as well as its champion area over the 15 years from 2015 to 2030, we should expect to achieve the target value. Subsequently, the universal target value for the region can be derived by applying the rate of change in the champion area to the regional value in the base year. In this report, the regional value is the average value of the indicator over all countries for which data are available. In cases where application of champion area was not possible, the top five performers were identified based on the latest available data the average value for those five countries was used as regional target.

Evidence strength - sufficiency of indicators at goal level

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

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

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

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

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

Annex 2: Countries in The Asia-Pacific region and subregions

The following table provides the regional and subregional groupings of ESCAP member States and associate members used in this analysis.

REGION: ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

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

SUBREGION: EAST AND NORTH-EAST ASIA

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

SUBREGION: NORTH CENTRAL ASIA

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

SUBREGION: THE PACIFIC

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

SUBREGION: SOUTH-EAST ASIA

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

SUBREGION: SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST ASIA

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

Annex 3: Indicators used for progress assessment

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

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

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
GOAL 1			
International poverty	SDG	1.1.1 Proportion of population living on less than US$1.90 a day, % of employment [by sex, age and employment status]	0
National poverty	SDG	1.2.1 Percentage of population living below the national poverty line [by urbanization]	(0.4)
Social protection	SDG	1.3.1 Population covered by, % of target population - Social assistance programmes, poorest quintile - Social insurance programmes, poorest quintile - Unemployment benefit - Pension - Work injury	 87.2 31.3 100 100 100
Access to basic water and sanitation services	SDG	1.4.1 Population using basic drinking water and sanitation services, % [by urbanization]	100
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, per 100,000 population	0
Economic loss from disasters	SDG	1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters, million US$	0
Score of adoption and implementation of national disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies	SDG	1.5.3 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies	SDG	1.5.4 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies, %	100
Official development assistance (ODA) grants for poverty reduction (least developed countries (LDCs))**	SDG	1.a.1 ODA grants for poverty reduction (in LDCs), % of gross national income	(2)
Government spending on education and health	SDG	1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services, % of government expenditure - Education - Health	 (2) (3.3)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
GOAL 2			
Prevalence of undernourishment	SDG	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment, % of population	0
Moderate or severe food insecurity in the population	SDG	2.1.2 Moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, % of population [by sex]	(0.4)
Prevalence of stunting	SDG	2.2.1 Children moderately or severely stunted, % of children under 5	(0.6)
Prevalence of malnutrition	SDG	2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition, % of children under 5 moderately or severely overweight, moderately or severely wasted	5
Prevalence of anaemia in women	SDG	2.2.3 Prevalence of anaemia in women, % of women [by pregnancy status]	(0.5)
Cereal yield	FAO	2.3.P1 Cereal yield, kg per hectare	5500
Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture	FAO	2.4.P1 GHG emissions from agriculture, tons per 1,000 (2015) US$ gross domestic product (GDP) from agriculture	(0.6)
Plant and animal breeds with sufficient genetic material stored	SDG	2.5.1 Breeds for which sufficient genetic resources are stored, number - Plants - Animals, regional total	 (1.5) 101
Local breeds at risk of extinction	SDG	2.5.2 Local breeds at risk as share of local breeds with known level of extinction, number	0
Agriculture orientation index	SDG	2.a.1 Agriculture orientation index	1
Flows to agriculture sector (LDCs) **	SDG	2.a.2 Official flows to the agriculture sector by recipient (in LDCs), million 2019 US$	(2)
Consumer food price index ††	SDG	2.c.1 Consumer food price index	±0.5
GOAL 3			
Maternal mortality	SDG	3.1.1 Maternal mortality, deaths per 100,000 live births	70
Births attended by skilled health personnel	SDG	3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel, % of live births	100
Under-5 mortality	SDG	3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate, deaths per 1,000 live births [by sex] - Under 5 - Infant	 25 (0.4)
Neonatal mortality	SDG	3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate, deaths per 1,000 live births	12
HIV infections	SDG	3.3.1 New HIV infections, per 100,000 population [by age and sex]	0
Tuberculosis	SDG	3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence rate, per 100,000 population	0
Malaria	SDG	3.3.3 Malaria incidence rate, per 1,000 population at risk	0
Interventions against neglected tropical diseases	SDG	3.3.5 People requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases, 1,000 people	0

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
Cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease	SDG	3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases, probability (%) [by sex]	(0.67)
Suicides	SDG	3.4.2 Suicide, per 100,000 population [by sex]	(0.48)
Harmful use of alcohol	SDG	3.5.2 Alcohol per capita consumption, litres per annum	(0.67)
Road traffic deaths	SDG	3.6.1 Road traffic deaths, per 100,000 population	(0.3)
Family planning satisfied with modern methods	SDG	3.7.1 Demand for family planning satisfied with modern methods, % of women of reproductive age	100
Adolescent births	SDG	3.7.2 Adolescent fertility rate, live births per 1,000 women aged 15-19	(0.37)
Essential health services coverage	SDG	3.8.1 Universal health coverage, index	100
Household expenditures on health	SDG	3.8.2 Population with large household expenditure on health, % of population - More than 10% - More than 25%	 (0.82) (0.78)
Unintentional poisoning	SDG	3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning, per 100,000 population [by sex]	(0.25)
Tobacco use	SDG	3.a.1 Prevalence of current tobacco use, % of population aged 15 and above [by sex]	(0.58)
Population covered by all vaccines in national programme	SDG	3.b.1 Target population with access to vaccines, % of population, 3 doses vaccination against diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DPT3); pneumococcal conjugate 3rd dose vaccination (PCV3); measles (MCV2)	100
ODA to medical research and basic health sectors (LDCs) **	SDG	3.b.2 ODA to medical research and basic heath sectors (in LDCs), total gross disbursement, by recipient, million 2019 US$	(2)
Health worker density	SDG	3.c.1 Health worker density, per 10,000 population - Dentistry personnel - Nursing and midwifery personnel - Pharmaceutical personnel - Physicians	 (5.4) (2.4) (4.5) (3.1)
Health capacity and emergency preparedness	SDG	3.d.1 International Health Regulations average of 13 components, index	100
GOAL 4			
Minimum proficiency in reading and maths	SDG	4.1.1 Minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics for lower secondary, % [by sex]	90
Completion rate **	SDG	4.1.2 Completion rate in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary, % [by sex, urbanization, income/wealth quantile]	100
Net enrolment rate (pre-primary)	SDG	4.2.2 Adjusted net enrolment rate (one year before the official primary entry age), % [by sex]	100
Formal and non-formal education and training	SDG	4.3.1 Proportion of 15- to 24-year-olds enrolled in vocational secondary education, % [by sex]	(2.4)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
Prevalence of anaemia in women	SDG	2.2.3 Prevalence of anaemia in women, % of women [by pregnancy status]	(0.5)
Adults who completed primary or secondary education	UNESCO	4.4.P1 Educational attainment, % of population aged 25 and above [by sex] - Completed primary education or higher - Completed upper secondary education or higher	 100 91
Inequality indices for education indicators	SDG	4.5.1 Gender parity indices, female-to-male ratio - Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age) - Teachers in pre-primary, primary, lower secondary, and upper secondary education who are trained - Completion rate in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary [by gender, urbanization, wealth quintile] - Adult literacy rate	1
Adult literacy	UNESCO	4.6.P1 Adult literacy rate, % of population aged 15 and above [by sex]	100
Proportion of schools offering basic services	SDG	4.a.1 Schools with access to electricity, computers for pedagogical purposes, basic drinking water, internet for pedagogical purposes, single-sex basic sanitation, in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels, %	100
ODA for scholarships (LDCs) **	SDG	4.b.1 Volume of ODA flows for scholarships (in LDCs), million 2019 US$	(2)
Organized teacher training	SDG	4.c.1 Trained teachers in pre-primary, primary, lower secondary and upper secondary education, % [by sex]	100
GOAL 5			
Gender parity in labour force participation	ILO	5.1.P1 Labour force participation (aged 25+), female-to-male ratio	1
Gender parity in mean years of schooling	SDG§	5.1.P2 Mean years of schooling (aged 25+), female-to-male ratio	1
Gender parity in youth labour force	SDG§	5.1.P3 Not in employment, education, training, female-to-male ratio	1
Seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments	SDG	5.5.1 Seats held by women in national parliament, % of seats	30.9
Proportion of women in managerial positions	SDG	5.5.2 Women share of employment in managerial position, %	50
GOAL 6			
Safely managed drinking water services	SDG	6.1.1 Population using safely managed drinking water, % of population [by urbanization]	100
Open defecation and handwashing	SDG	6.2.1a Population practicing open defecation, % of population [by urbanization] 6.2.1b Population with basic handwashing facilities on premises and using safely managed sanitation services, % of population [by urbanization]	0 100
Water use efficiency	SDG	6.4.1 Water use efficiency, US$/m3	(2.9)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
Water stress	SDG	6.4.2 Total freshwater withdrawal, % of total renewable water per annum	(0.91)
Integrated water resources management	SDG	6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation, %	100
Permanent water body extent	SDG	6.6.1 Area change, % - Lakes and rivers permanent water area change - Mangrove total area change	 0 0
ODA to water and sanitation (LDCs) **	SDG	6.a.1 ODA to water and sanitation (in LDCs), million 2019 US$	(2)
Policies and procedures for participative water and sanitation management	SDG	6.b.1 Countries with procedures in law or policy for participation by service users/communities in planning programme: rural drinking-water supply, water resources planning and management 10 = clearly defined; 5 = not clearly defined; 0 = N/A Countries with users/communities participating in planning programmes in rural drinking-water supply, water resources planning and management, 3 = high; 2 = moderate; 1 = low; 0 = N/A	10 3
GOAL 7			
Access to electricity	SDG	7.1.1 Access to electricity, % of population [by urbanization]	100
Reliance on clean energy	SDG	7.1.2 Population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies, % of population	100
Renewable energy share	SDG	7.2.1 Renewable energy share, % of total final energy consumption	(2.8)
Energy intensity	SDG	7.3.1 Energy intensity, megajoules per unit of GDP in 2017 purchasing power parity	(0.91)
International support for clean and renewable energy (LDCs) **	SDG	7.a.1 International support for clean energy and renewable energy (in LDCs), million 2018 US$	(2)
Renewable electricity capacity	SDG	7.b.1 Renewable electricity capacity, kW per capita	(5.2)
GOAL 8			
Real GDP per capita growth rate	SDG	8.1.1 Real GDP per capita growth rate (2015 US$, average annual), % change per capita per annum - In LDCs - In all countries	 7 0
Real GDP per employed person growth rate	SDG	8.2.1 Real GDP per employed person (in LDCs), % change per annum - In LDCs - In all countries	 5.3 0
Vulnerable employment	ILO	8.3.P1 Vulnerable employment, % of total employment [by sex]	(0.71)
Material footprint	SDG-UNEP	8.4.1 Material footprint - kg per 1 US$ (2010) GDP - Tons per capita	 (0.64) (0.82)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
Domestic material consumption	SDG	8.4.2 Domestic material consumption - Intensity, kg per 1 US$ (2010) GDP - Tons per capita	 (0.42) (0.81)
Unemployment rate	SDG	8.5.2 Unemployment rate, % of labour force [by sex, age]	(0.26)
Youth not in education, employment or training	SDG	8.6.1 Not in employment, education, or training, % of population aged 15-24 [by sex]	(0.65)
Occupational injuries	SDG	8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injury, cases per year per 100,000 workers	0
Compliance with labour rights	SDG	8.8.2 Level of national compliance with labour rights, score from 0 (better) to 10 (worse)	0
Commercial bank branches and automated teller machines	SDG	8.10.1 Access to banking, insurance and financial service, per 100,000 adults - Number of automated teller machines (ATMs) - Number of commercial bank branches	 200 42
Adults with a bank account	SDG	8.10.2 Adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank, % of population [by sex]	100
Aid for Trade (LDCs) **	SDG	8.a.1 Total official flows (commitments) for Aid for trade by recipient (in LDCs), million 2019 US$	(2)
National strategy for youth employment	SDG	8.b.1 National strategy for youth employment, scores 1-3	3
GOAL 9			
Passenger and freight volume	SDG-World Bank	9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume - Air transport freight, million ton-km - Container port traffic, maritime transport, million twenty-foot equivalent unit	 (1.5) (2.2)
Manufacturing value added	SDG	9.2.1 GDP by activity: Manufacturing, - % of GDP - 2015 US$ per capita	 (1.3) 820
Manufacturing employment	SDG	9.2.2 Manufacturing employment, % of total employment	(2)
Small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit **	SDG	9.3.2 Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit, %	38.3
Carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions per unit of manufacturing value added	SDG	9.4.1 CO2 emissions per unit of manufacturing value added, kg per 1 US$ (2015) GDP	(0.57)
Research and development expenditure	SDG	9.5.1 Gross domestic expenditure on research and development, % of GDP	(2.6)
Number of researchers	SDG	9.5.2 Researchers, full-time equivalents, per million inhabitants	3000
Total official flows for infrastructure (LDCs) **	SDG	9.a.1 Total official flows for infrastructure, by recipient (in LDCs), million 2019 US$	(2)
Medium and high-tech industry value added	SDG	9.b.1 Medium and high-tech industry value added, % of total value added	(1.7)
Population covered by a mobile network	SDG	9.c.1 Population covered by at least 2G, 3G and 4G mobile networks, % of population	100

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
GOAL 10			
Population living below 50 percent of median income	SDG	10.2.1 Population living below 50 % of median income, % of population	(0.4)
Labour income share of GDP	SDG-ILO	10.4.1 Labour income share of GDP, % of GDP	(1.2)
Gini index	SDG-World Bank	10.4.2 Income equality coefficient, Gini index	29.5
Deaths and disappearances recorded during migration	SDG	10.7.3 Deaths and disappearances recorded during migration, number of people	0
Refugees by country of origin	SDG	10.7.4 Population who are refugees, by country of origin, per 100,000 population	0
Tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff (LDCs) **	SDG	10.a.1 Tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff, all products (in LDCs), %	(1.2)
Total resource flows for development (LDCs and Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members) ** SDG, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development		10.b.1 Total assistance for development, by recipient (in LDCs), by donor (in DAC members), million US$ - Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows (in LDCs), % of GDP	(2) (1.5)
Remittance costs **	SDG	10.c.1 Remittance cost as a proportion of the amount remitted, %	3
GOAL 11			
Urban slum population **	SDG	11.1.1 Urban slum population, % of urban population	(0.5)
Road traffic deaths	SDG§	11.2.P1 Road traffic deaths, per 100,000 population	(0.41)
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, number	0
Economic loss and affected infrastructure and services from disasters	SDG	11.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters, million US$, and damaged critical infrastructure and disruptions to basic services attributed to disasters, number	0
Concentration of PM2.5 (fine particulate matter)	World Bank	11.6.2 Annual mean concentration of PM2.5 (urban), micrograms per m3	(0.73)
Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies	SDG	11.b.1 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies	SDG	11.b.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies in line with national DRR strategies,%	100

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
GOAL 12			
Material footprint	SDG-UNEP	12.2.1 Material footprint - kg per 1 US$ (2010) GDP - Tons per capita	 (0.64) (0.82)
Domestic material consumption	SDG	12.2.2 Domestic material consumption - Intensity, kg per 1 US$ (2010) GDP - Tons per capita	 (0.42) (0.81)
Compliance with hazardous waste conventions	SDG	12.4.1 Compliance with hazardous waste conventions, average of Basel/Montreal/Stockholm/Rotterdam conventions, %	100
Hazardous waste generated	SDG	12.4.2 Hazardous waste generated, kg per capita, kg per 1 US$ (2015) GDP, 1,000 tons	(0.5)
National recycling rate	SDG	12.5.1 Electronic waste recycling, kg per capita	(4)
Renewable energy capacity	SDG-IRENA	12.a.1 Renewable electricity capacity, kW per capita	(5.2)
Standard accounting tools to monitor tourism impact	SDG	12.b.1 Implementation of standard accounting tools to monitor the economic and environmental aspects of tourism, number - Tourism Satellite Account tables - System of environmental-economic accounting tables	 7 4
Fossil-fuel subsidies	SDG	12.c.1 Fossil-fuel pre-tax subsidies (consumption and production), % of GDP	0
GOAL 13			
Deaths/missing/affected from disasters	SDG	13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters, number	0
Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies	SDG	13.1.2 Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework, index	1
Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies	SDG	13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies, %	100
GHG emissions	SDG-UNFCC	13.2.2 GHG emissions without land use, land-use change and forestry, million tons of CO2 equivalent	(1)
GOAL 14			
Chlorophyll-a deviations	SDG	14.1.1 Beach litter per square km, number Chlorophyll-a deviations, remote sensing, %	0 0
Protected marine areas	SDG	14.5.1 Proportion of marine key biodiversity areas covered by protected area status, %	(2.5)
Sustainable fisheries	SDG	14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP, % of GDP	(1.3)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
GOAL 15			
Forest area	SDG	15.1.1 Forest area, % of land area	(1.2)
Sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity	SDG	15.1.2 Important sites that are covered by protected areas, % - For fresh water biodiversity - For terrestrial biodiversity	 (2.5) (2.8)
Sustainable forest management	SDG	15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management - Forest area net change rate, % - Forest area with a long-term management plan, % - Forest area within legally established protected area, % - Forest certified under an independently verified certification scheme - Above ground biomass in forest, tons per hectare	 0.7 (1.3) (1.4) 7.8 (1.1
Sites for mountain biodiversity	SDG	15.4.1 Important sites for mountain biodiversity, %	(2.5)
Mountain Green Cover Index	SDG	15.4.2 Mountain Green Cover Index	100
Red List Index	SDG	15.5.1 Red List Index total, index	1
Frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources ††	SDG	15.6.1 Frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits from genetic resources, yes (1)/no (0), number of countries or territories - International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, contracting party - Legislative, administrative and policy framework or measures reported through Online Reporting System on Compliance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture - Legislation, regulation, act related to the prevention of introduction and management of Invasive Alien Species	58
Prevention or control of invasive alien species	SDG	15.8.1 Legislation, Regulation, Act related to the prevention of introduction and management of Invasive Alien Species, yes (1)/no (0), number of countries or territories National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan targets alignment to Aichi Biodiversity target 9 set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, yes (1)/no (0), number of countries or territories	58 58
ODA for biodiversity (LDCs and DAC members) **	SDG	15.a.1 Total ODA for biodiversity by recipient (in LDCs), by donor (in DAC members), million 2019 US$	(2)
ODA for biodiversity (LDCs and DAC members) **	SDG	15.b.1 Total ODA for biodiversity by recipient (in LDCs), by donor (in DAC members), million 2019 US$	(2)

Indicator short name	Source	Indicator	Target (rate)
GOAL 16			
Intentional homicides	SDG	16.1.1 Victims of intentional homicide, number [by sex]	(0.6)
Detected victims of human trafficking	SDG	16.2.2 Detected victims of human trafficking, number	0
Unsentenced detainees	SDG	16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees (pre-trial), number	0
Bribery **	SDG	16.5.2 Bribery incidence (business asked for bribery), %	(0.14)
Government expenditure	SDG	16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as share of original approved budget, %	100 ±15
National Human Rights Institutions ††	SDG	16.a.1 National Human Rights Institutions compliance score (0: compliant; 1=not fully compliant; 2: non-compliant; 3: no application for accreditation) with the Paris Principles	0
Internally displaced persons **	UNHCR	16.b.P1 Internally displaced persons, 1,000 people	0
GOAL 17			
Tax revenue	SDG	17.1.1 Government revenue (budgetary central government), % of GDP	(1.5)
Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	SDG	17.1.2 Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes, % of GDP	(1.2)
ODA from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)-DAC †† **	SDG	17.2.1 ODA from OECD-DAC members, % of gross national income - To LDCs - To all countries	 0.2 0.7
FDI inflows (LDCs) **	UNCTAD	17.3.1 FDI inflows (in LDCs), % of GDP	(1.5)
Personal remittances (LDCs) **	SDG	17.3.2 Personal remittances received (in LDCs), % of GDP	(1.3)
Debt service	SDG	17.4.1 Debt service, % of exports of goods, services and primary income	0.8
Fixed Internet broadband subscription	SDG	17.6.2 Fixed-broadband subscriptions, per 100 population	32
Internet users	SDG	17.8.1 Internet users, % of population	100
ODA for technical cooperation	SDG	17.9.1 ODA (gross disbursement) for technical cooperation, million 2019 US$	(2)
Worldwide weighted tariff-average	SDG	17.10.1 Tariff rate for LDCs under most favoured nation and preferential rate, all products, %	0
Exports of commercial services (LDCs) **	SDG-WTO	17.11.1 Exports from LDCs for commercial services and merchandise, % of world services exports	(2)
Average tariff applied by developed countries (LDCs) **	SDG	17.12.1 Average tariff rate for LDCs applied by developed countries under most-favoured nation and preferential rate, all products, %	0

Commitment to public-private and civil society partnerships	SDG	17.17.1 Commitment to public-private partnerships for infrastructure, million 2019 US$	(2)
National statistical legislation	SDG	17.18.2 National statistical legislation exists and complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, yes (1)/no (0), number of countries or territories	58
National statistical plan funded/under implementation	SDG	17.18.3 National statistical plan fully funded and under implementation, yes (1)/no (0), number of countries or territories	58
Births and deaths registration	SDG	17.19.2 Births registration data at least 90% complete, and deaths registration data at least 75% complete, number of countries or territories	58

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

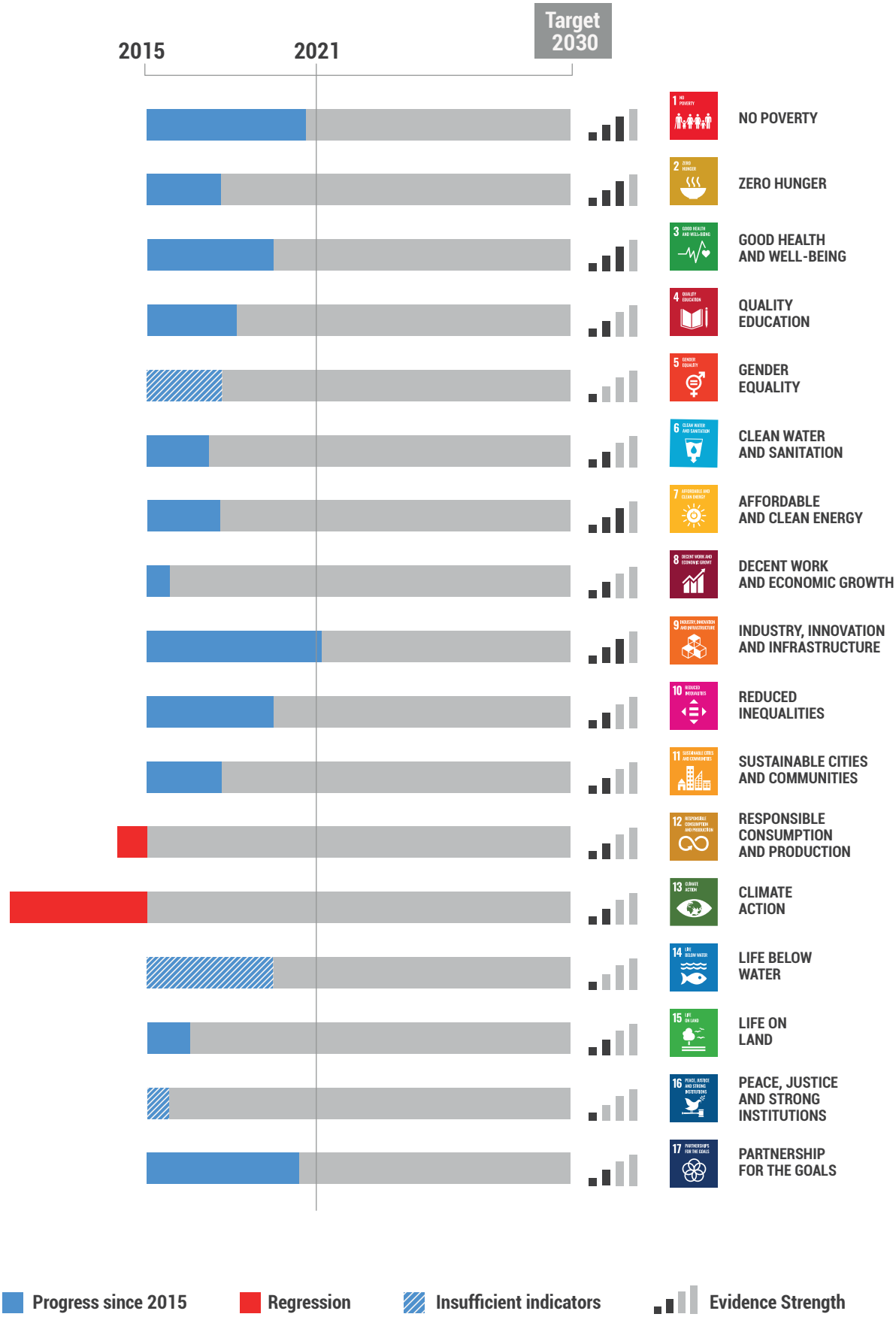
** Indicator not used for subregional progress assessment due to lack of data.

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

Annex 4: Subregional graphs

East and North-East Asia

Snapshot of SDG progress in East and North-East Asia, 2021



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

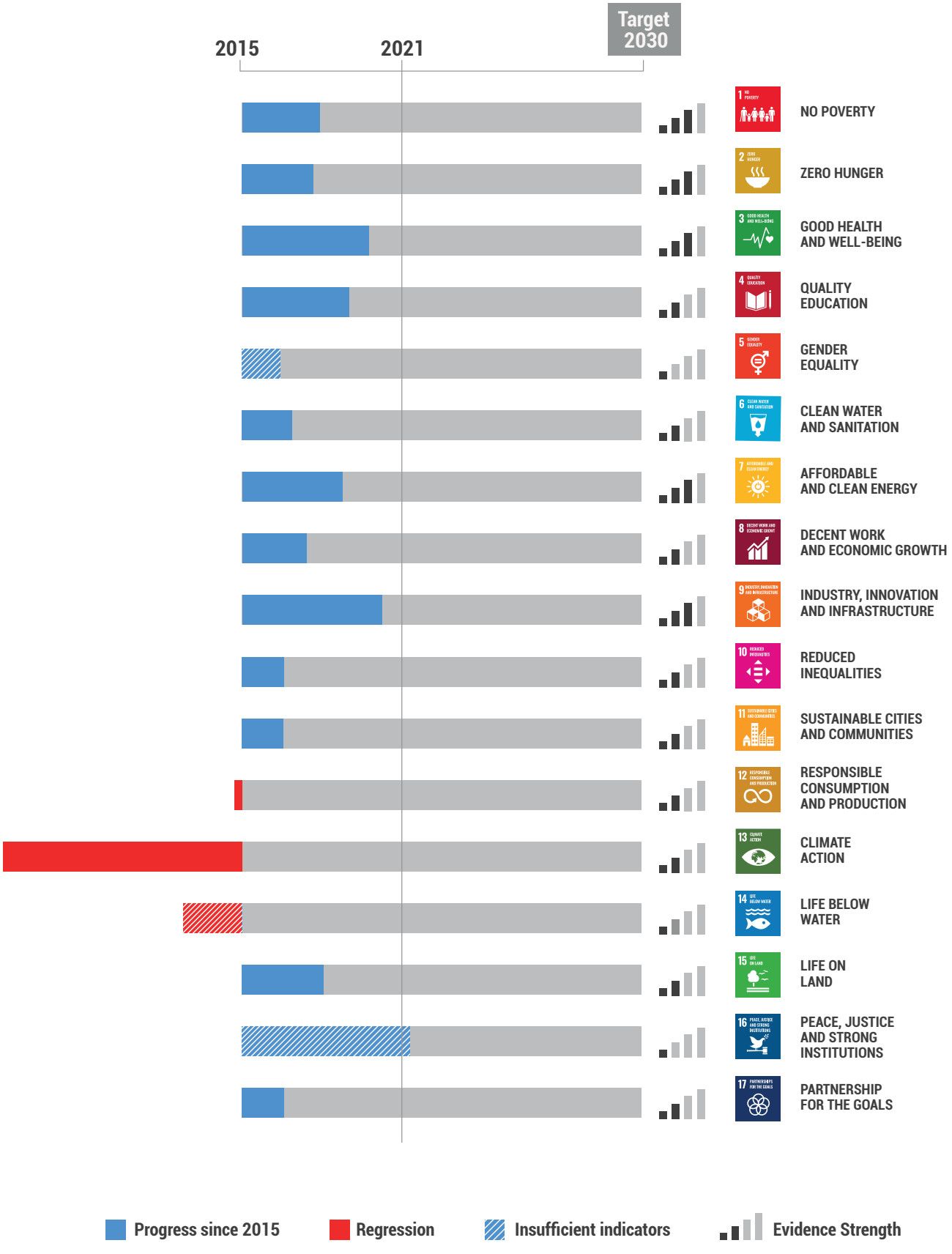
PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
- 16.1 Reduction of violence & related deaths
- 16.3 Justice for all
- 16.2 Human trafficking
- 16.4 Illicit financial and arms flows
- 16.5 Corruption and bribery
- 16.6 Effective institutions
- 16.7 Inclusive decision-making
- 16.8 Inclusive global governance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

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

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

North and Central Asia

Snapshot of SDG progress in North and Central Asia, 2021



Anticipated progress on SDG targets in North and Central Asia

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

ZERO HUNGER
- 2.2 Malnutrition
- 2.3 Small-scale food producers
- 2.4 Sustainable agriculture
- 2.5 Genetic resources for agriculture
- 2.a Investment in agriculture
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- 2.c Food price anomalies

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
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- 3.4 NCD & mental health
- 3.5 Substance abuse
- 3.6 Road traffic accidents
- 3.7 Sexual & reproductive health
- 3.8 Universal health coverage
- 3.a Tobacco control
- 3.b R&D for health
- 3.c Health financing & workforce
- 3.d Management of health risks

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

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- 5.5 Women in leadership
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- 5.a Equal economic rights
- 5.b Technology for women empowerment
- 5.c Gender equality policies

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

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

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

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

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

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

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
- 12.4 Managing chemicals & wastes
- 12.a Support for R&D capacity for SD
- 12.b Sustainable tourism monitoring
- 12.2 Sustainable use of natural resources
- 12.c Fossil-fuel subsidies
- 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

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

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

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

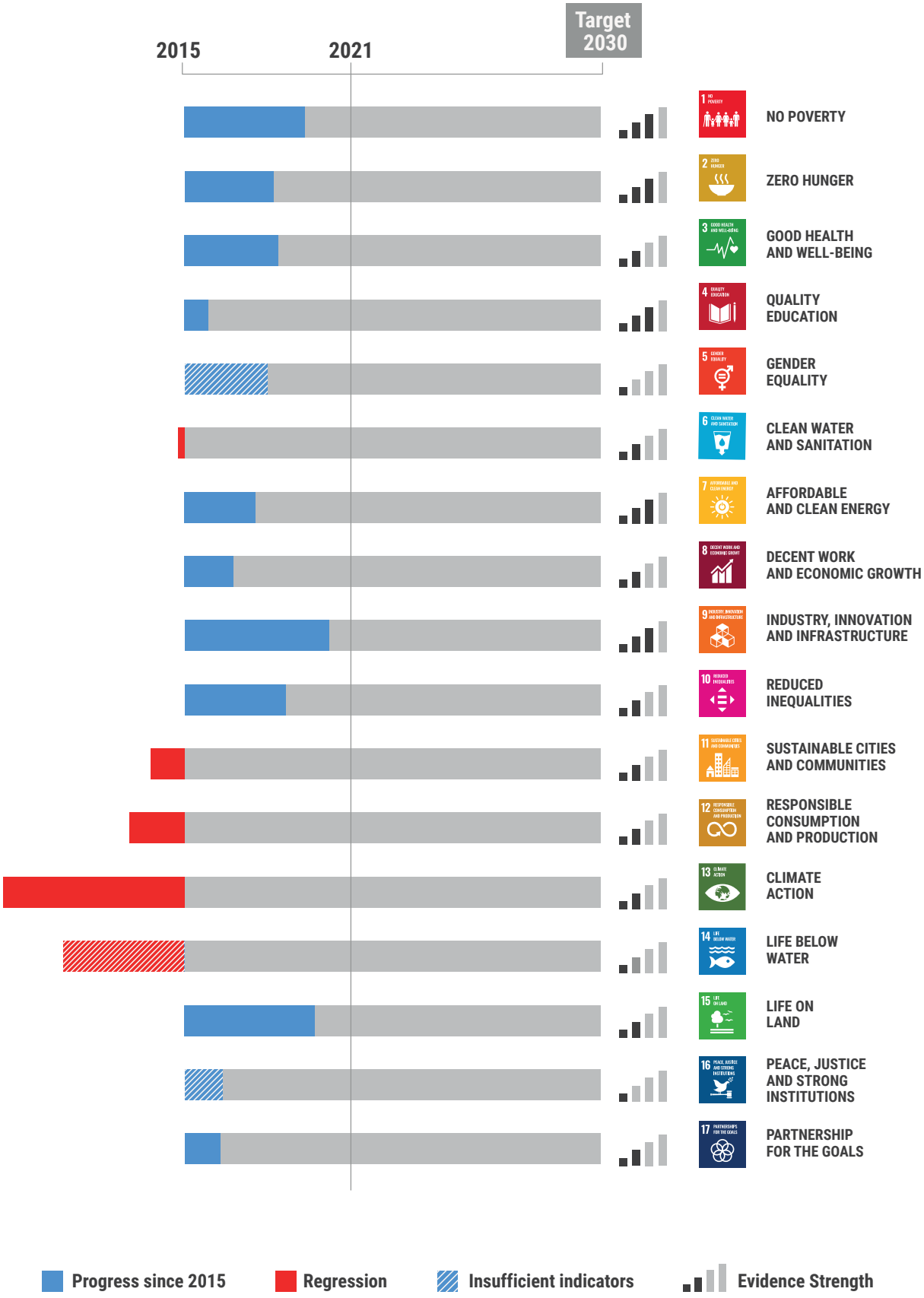
LIFE ON LAND
- 15.1 Terrestrial & freshwater ecosystems
- 15.2 Sustainable forests management
- 15.4 Conservation of mountain ecosystems
- 15.5 Loss of biodiversity
- 15.8 Invasive alien species
- 15.3 Desertification and land degradation
- 15.6 Utilization of genetic resource
- 15.7 Protected species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

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

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

South-East Asia

Snapshot of SDG progress in South-East Asia, 2021



Anticipated progress on SDG targets in South-East Asia

NO POVERTY

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

ZERO HUNGER

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

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

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

QUALITY EDUCATION

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

GENDER EQUALITY

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

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

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

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

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

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

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

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

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

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

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

CLIMATE ACTION

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

LIFE BELOW WATER

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

LIFE ON LAND

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

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

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

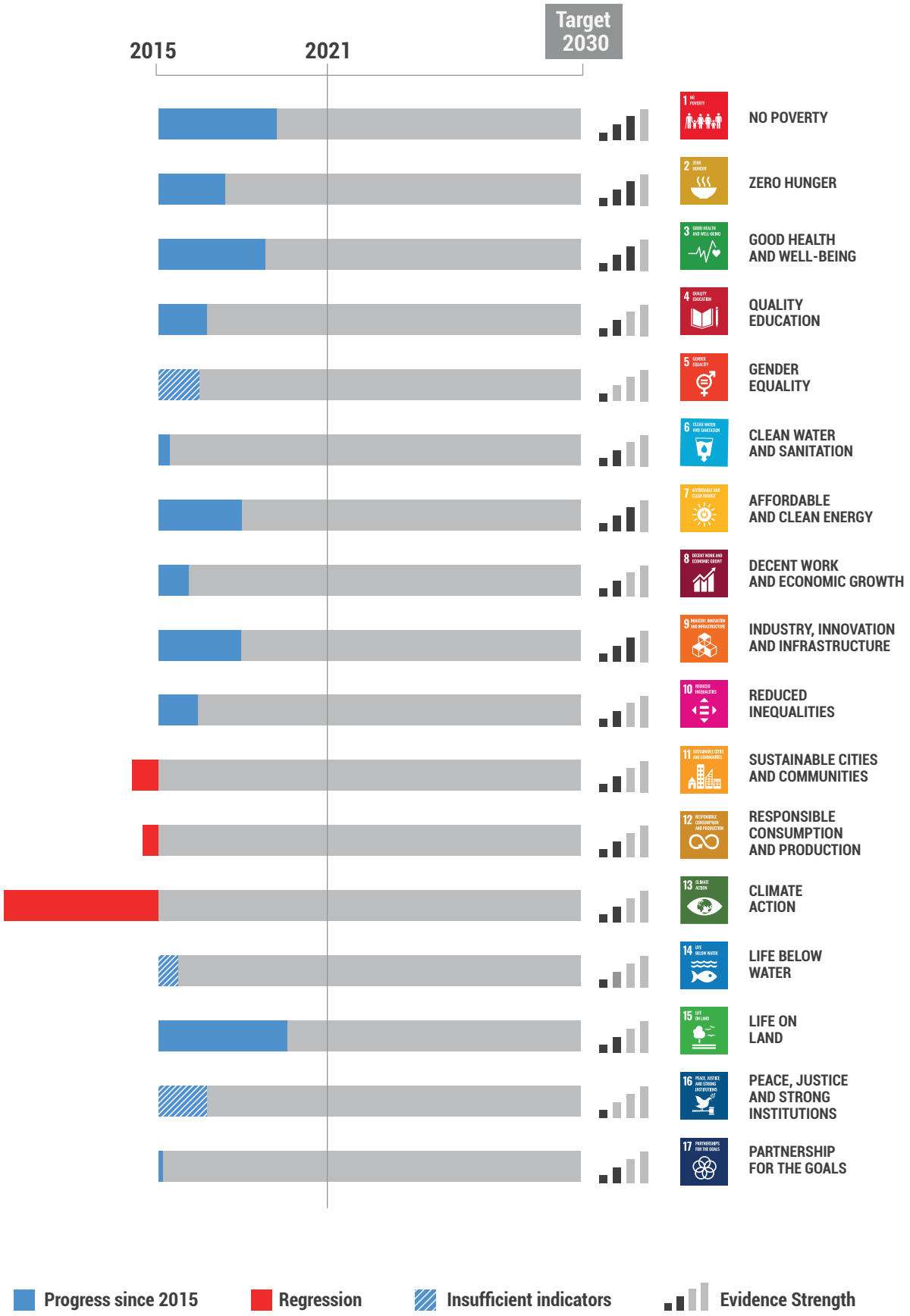
PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

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

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

South and South-West Asia

Snapshot of SDG progress in South and South-West Asia, 2021



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

NO POVERTY

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

ZERO HUNGER

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

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

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

QUALITY EDUCATION

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

GENDER EQUALITY

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

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

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

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

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

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

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

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

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

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

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

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

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

CLIMATE ACTION

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

LIFE BELOW WATER

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

LIFE ON LAND

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

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

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

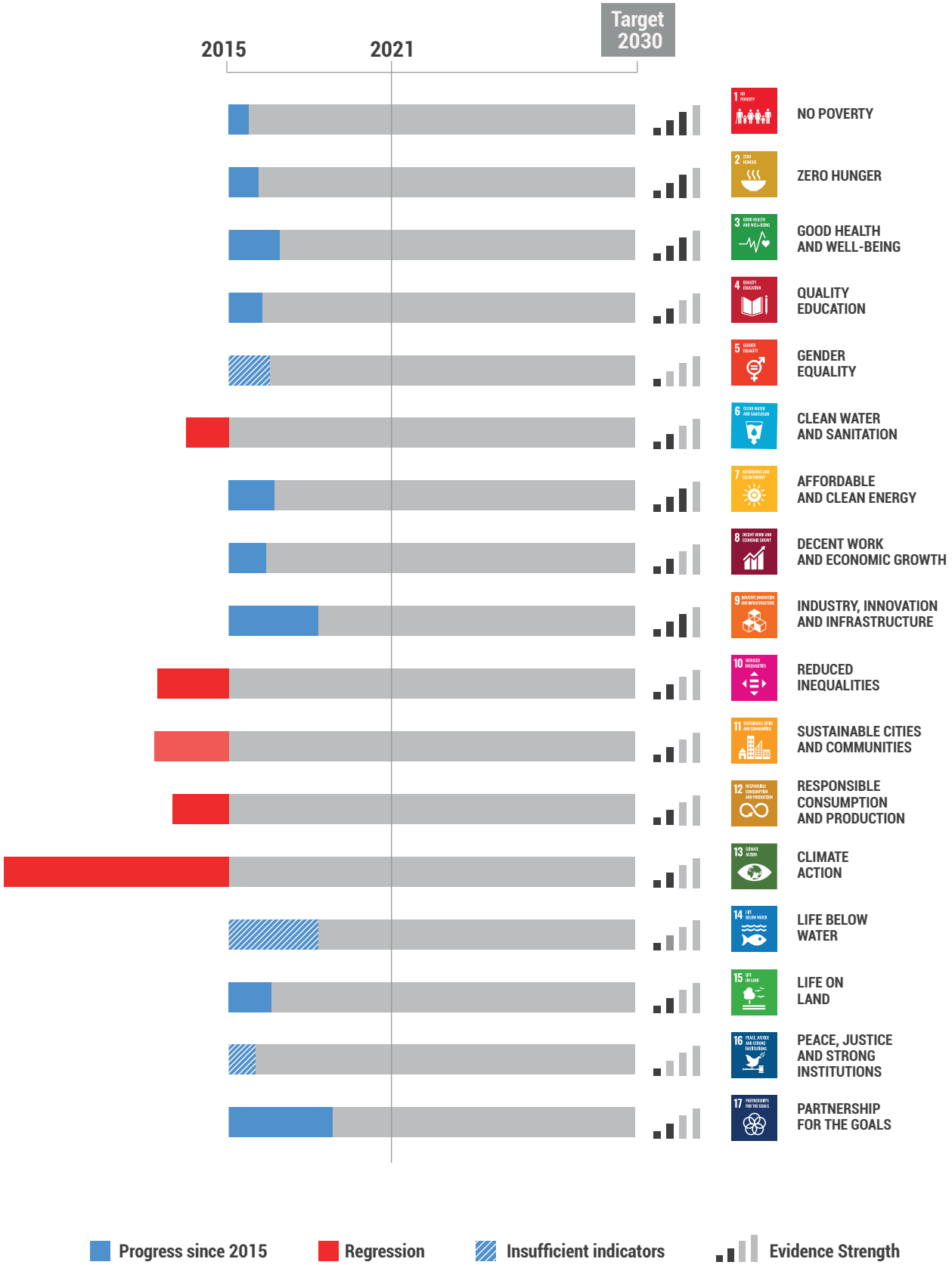
PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

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

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

The Pacific

Snapshot of SDG progress in Pacific, 2021



Anticipated progress on SDG targets in Pacific

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
- 8.1 Per capita economic growth
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- 8.9 Sustainable tourism
- 8.a Aid for Trade
- 8.b Strategy for youth employment

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

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
- 12.4 Managing chemicals & wastes
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- 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.c Fossil-fuel subsidies

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

LIFE BELOW WATER
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- 14.6 Fisheries subsidies
- 14.a Research capacity & marine technology
- 14.b Small-scale artisanal fishing
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- Cannot be measured

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

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

PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS
- 17.17 Partnerships (public, private, CSO)
- 17.1 Tax & other revenue collection
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- 17.8 Capacity building for ICT
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- 17.14 Policy coherence for SD
- 17.15 Respect country's policy space
- 17.16 Global partnership for SD

Annex 5: D-Index

To obtain the D-Index, inequalities in access among all possible groups generated by variables are calculated using the formula below:

$$D = \frac{1}{2\bar{p}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_i \, |p_i - \bar{p}|$$

where β_i is the weighted sampling proportion of the group i, (sum of β_i equals 1), $\bar{p}$ is the average access rate in the country and p_i is the level of access of population group *i* and takes values from 0 to 1. There are n groups, which are defined using the interactions of the circumstances selected for the analysis. In the case of an opportunity where three circumstances were considered: wealth (two groups), residence (two groups) and education (four groups), covering the entire sample population, this calculation produces 16 groups (2x2x4). The interactions between these groups form each population group *i* and are used to calculate the D-Index. The index is therefore a weighted average of the absolute difference of most and least advantaged population groups from the average access rate in the country ($\bar{p}$).

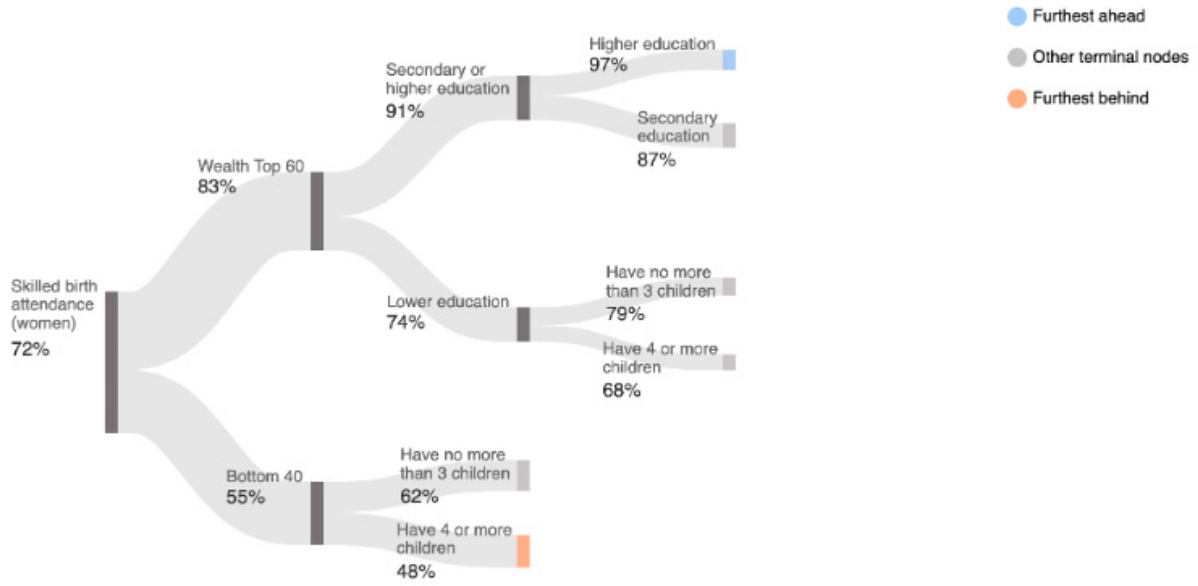
Annex 6: Identifying the furthest behind using cart analysis

The classification and regression tree (CART) is used to identify the furthest behind groups, as illustrated by the example of access to skilled birth attendance in Pakistan (2017).

Disaggregating factors (circumstances):

1. Household wealth (belonging to the bottom 40 per cent or the top 60 per cent of the wealth distribution)
2. Education level (none, primary, secondary or higher)
3. Number of children below the age of 5
4. Residence (rural or urban)
5. Marital status (single, currently/formerly married or in union)

Classification tree highlighting differences in women's access to skilled birth attendance among different groups in Lao People's Democratic Republic, 2017



Source: ESCAP calculations, using data from the 2017 DHS for Pakistan. More classification trees are available at: https://lnob.unescap.org/.

The tree begins with the average rate of access to skilled birth attendance for the country (72 per cent). The algorithm determines the first split into branches (wealth in this case) and estimates the incidence among the bottom 40 per cent and top 60 per cent of the wealth distribution. The algorithm continues the same process until the furthest behind and furthest ahead groups are identified at two ends of the initial branches. The furthest behind group consists of women who are in the bottom 40 and have four or more children under 5, only half (48 per cent) of whom had access to skilled birth attendance during their last birth.

Source: ESCAP "Leaving no one behind: A methodology to identify those furthest behind in accessing opportunities in Asia and the Pacific", Working Paper, No. 2021/01 (Bangkok, 2021). Available at: www.unescap.org/resources/leaving-no-one-behind-methodology-identify-those-furthest-behind-accessing-opportunities.

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This report analyses progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Asia and the Pacific and its five subregions. It also examines inequalities and vulnerabilities among different population groups. It assesses gaps which must be closed to achieve the goals by 2030 and leave no one behind. This assessment is designed to ensure the region's actions remain on target and shortcomings are addressed as they arise. It is a resource for all stakeholders involved in prioritization, planning, implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

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