Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Ninth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development
Bangkok and online, 28–31 March 2022
Item 2 (b) of the provisional agenda
Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19)
while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda
for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: review of
Sustainable Development Goals 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17

Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2022: Widening
Disparities Amidst COVID-19

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The latest Sustainable Development Goal progress assessment conducted by
the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific shows that achieving
the Goals is increasingly out of reach.

The pace of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in the
Asia-Pacific region is slowing down at a time when acceleration is urgently needed to
recover from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and meet the targets by
2030.

The region has made significant progress on Goal 7 (Affordable and clean
energy) and Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) but has regressed on Goal
13 (Climate action) and Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production). The
region has made little or no progress on Goal 4 (Quality education), Goal 5 (Gender
equality), Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), Goal 8 (Decent work and economic
growth), Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and Goal 14 (Life below
water). Negative trends, including on climate-related targets, may take decades to
reverse.

The region is on track to achieve less than 10 per cent of the measurable targets
by 2030, and achieving the remaining targets requires urgent and rapid acceleration of
progress or reversal of negative trends.

For the first time, more than half of the 231 Sustainable Development Goal
indicators have sufficient data in Asia and the Pacific. However, despite the sharp
increase since 2017, 47 per cent of the indicators still lack data.

As the world continues to deal with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,
there is a clear call to action to embrace the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
and the framework of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals as a road map for
recovery.

The Ninth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development may wish to
provide further guidance on ways to ensure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,
including the Sustainable Development Goals under review, and ways to accelerate its
implementation during the global decade of action for the Goals.
I. Introduction

1. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has the potential to further derail the region’s progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, but the vision and ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are no less critical and relevant today than they were in 2015, as the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Goals provide the most comprehensive road map for recovery.

2. The Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2022\(^1\) on which the present document is based is the sixth in a series of flagship Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) reports\(^2\) providing evidence of the region’s current progress towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and anticipated progress towards the 169 Sustainable Development Goal targets. Based on a progress methodology developed by ESCAP, data from the Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database and contributions from across the United Nations development system, the SDG Progress Report 2022 also assesses inequalities across population groups and subregions and how the COVID-19 pandemic might impact the most vulnerable. In addition, it provides an in-depth assessment of data challenges and data sources for monitoring the Goals.

II. Regional overview

Six years after its adoption, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development slips further and further out of region’s reach

3. Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the expected timeline for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals has been lengthened time and again (see figure I). While the pace of progress in 2017 indicated that the Goals would be achieved by 2052, in 2021, that horizon had slipped further away, to 2065. Continued unsustainable development pathways coupled with the impact and burden of ongoing crises and conflicts may have set the 2030 Agenda back, as limited resources have been further constrained and must be reallocated to adapt to new conditions or replace damaged infrastructure. However, the slowing down of progress could also indicate that the remaining development challenges will be harder to overcome.

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\(^1\) To be launched prior to the Ninth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in Bangkok, from 28 to 31 March 2022.

Figure I
Expected year of achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals according to pace of progress in 2017, 2019 and 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Per cent progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals</th>
<th>Expected year of achievement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>2052, 2057, 2065</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>90</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>119</td>
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</table>

Source: Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2022 (United Nations publication, forthcoming).

Progress on Sustainable Development Goals 7 and 9 has been significant, but negative trends must be reversed, especially on Goals 13 and 12, to keep achievement by 2030 within reach.

4. Figure II provides a snapshot of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals and illustrates that most still require substantial improvement. Progress on Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy) and Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) 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, and the achievement of near-universal coverage of mobile networks and increased official flows for infrastructure development in the least developed countries.
Figure II
Where does Asia and the Pacific stand on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals?

Source: Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2022 (see figure I).

Note: For details on the methodology used to assess progress, see http://data.unescap.org.

5. Negative trends must be reversed, especially on Goal 13 (Climate action) and Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production) to keep the prospect of achieving the Goals by 2030 within reach. For example, the existing evidence on the measurable targets of Goal 13 suggests that greenhouse gas emissions in the region have continued to rise, and natural disasters are having an increasing impact on people and economies. Data show that the amount of fossil-fuel subsidies per unit of gross domestic product, as well as material consumption and the use of materials in production processes, are increasing in Asia and the Pacific, and the region needs to reverse these negative trends to make progress towards its climate targets. The region also needs to strengthen measurement of the impact of human activities (such as tourism) on the environment.

6. Enhancing the ambition in nationally determined contributions to reduce emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change in line with the Paris Agreement could help to put the region on track to limit global warming.
Despite some progress on Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3 and 10, pace of progress is slow or stagnant for majority of Goals

7. The region has made some progress on Goal 1 (No poverty), Goal 3 (Good health and well-being) and Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities), but more must be done to overcome obstacles that cause slow\(^3\) or stagnant\(^4\) progress.

8. There has been little or no progress on Goal 4 (Quality education), Goal 5 (Gender equality), Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth), Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and Goal 14 (Life below water).

9. The assessment of the data shows that 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 that 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.

III. Will the Sustainable Development Goal targets be achieved by 2030?

Of the measurable Sustainable Development Goal targets with sufficient data to be measured, less than 10 per cent on track to be achieved by 2030

10. Out of the 169 targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, 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 (see figure III). The region must significantly accelerate progress on 81 targets while reversing regression on 21 targets. The Goals with the most targets showing significant regressions against the 2015 baseline are Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth) and Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production).

11. While data availability on Sustainable Development Goal indicators has improved year on year, and the picture is getting clearer, significant data gaps remain. Out of 169 targets, 57 cannot be measured because of insufficient data or unclear target values. Gaps in the data have the biggest impact on the measurement of Goal 5 (Gender equality), Goal 14 (Life below water) and Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions).

\(^3\) Defined as less than half of the progress needed to achieve ambitions by 2030.

\(^4\) Defined as less than one third of the progress needed to achieve ambitions by 2030.
Figure III  
Anticipated progress on 169 Sustainable Development Goal targets in Asia and the Pacific by 2030

**GOAL 1**  
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 Poverty programme resources  
1.b Poverty eradication policies

**GOAL 2**  
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 Undernourishment and food security  
2.c Agricultural export subsidies  
2.d Food price anomalies

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

**GOAL 4**  
4.1 Effective learning outcomes  
4.2 Early childhood development  
4.3 TVET and tertiary education  
4.4 Skills for employment  
4.5 Adult literacy and numeracy  
4.a Education facilities  
4.b Scholarships  
4.c Qualified teachers  
4.d Equal access to education  
4.7 SD education

**GOAL 5**  
5.1 Discrimination against women/girls  
5.2 Violence against women/girls  
5.3 Early marriage  
5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work  
5.5 Reproductive health access and rights  
5.a Economic rights  
5.b Tech for women’s empowerment  
5.c Gender equality policies

**GOAL 6**  
6.1 Safe drinking water  
6.2 Access to sanitation and hygiene  
6.3 Transboundary water cooperation  
6.a International cooperation on W&S  
6.b Water use efficiency  
6.b Water-related ecosystems  
6.c Participatory W&S management  
6.d Water quality

**GOAL 7**  
7.a International cooperation on energy  
7.b Access to energy services  
7.c Energy efficiency  
7.d Investing in energy infrastructure  
7.e Share of renewable energy

**GOAL 8**  
8.1 Per capita economic growth  
8.2 Economic productivity and innovation  
8.3 Formalization of SMEs  
8.6 Youth NEET  
8.10 Access to financial services  
8.a Aid for Trade  
8.b Material resource efficiency  
8.c Fully employed and decent work  
8.d Labour rights and safe work environment  
8.e Strategy for youth employment  
8.f Children and forced labour  
8.g Sustainable tourism

**GOAL 9**  
9.a Resilient infrastructure  
9.b Access to ICT and the Internet  
9.c Infrastructure development  
9.d Sustainable/inclusive industrialization  
9.e Small industries’ access to finance  
9.f Sustainable and clean industries  
9.g R&D  
9.h Domestic tech development

**GOAL 10**  
10.a Special and differential treatment (WTO)  
10.b Social/economic/political inclusion  
10.c Fiscal and social protection policies  
10.d Safe migration and mobility  
10.e Resource flows for development  
10.f Remittance costs  
10.g Income growth (bottom 40 per cent)  
10.h Elimination of discrimination  
10.i Regulation of financial markets  
10.j Inclusive global governance

**GOAL 11**  
11.1 Housing and basic services  
11.2 Public transport systems  
11.3 Urban air quality and waste management  
11.b Disaster risk management policies  
11.c Resilience to disasters  
11.d Sustainable urbanization  
11.e Cultural and natural heritage  
11.h Urban green and public spaces  
11.a Urban planning  
11.b Sustainable and resilient buildings

**GOAL 12**  
12.1 Managing chemicals and wastes  
12.2 Support for R&D capacity for SDGs  
12.3 Sustainable use of natural resources  
12.b Sustainable tourism monitoring  
12.c Fossil fuel subsidies  
12.d SCP programmes  
12.e Food waste and losses  
12.f Reduction in waste generation  
12.g Corporate sustainable practices  
12.h Public procurement practices  
12.i SD awareness

**GOAL 13**  
13.a Resilience and adaptive capacity  
13.b Climate change policies  
13.c Climate change awareness  
13.d UNFCCC commitments  
13.e Climate change planning/management

**GOAL 14**  
14.a Marine pollution  
14.b Conservation of coastal areas  
14.c Marine resources for SIDS and LDCs  
14.d Marine and coastal ecosystems  
14.e Ocean acidification  
14.f Sustainable fishing  
14.g Fisheries subsidies  
14.h Research capacity and marine tech  
14.i Small-scale fisheries  
14.j Implementing UNCLOS

**GOAL 15**  
15.a Biodiversity and ecosystem resources  
15.b Resources for forest management  
15.c Terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems  
15.d Sustainable forest management  
15.e Conservation of mountain ecosystems  
15.f Invasive alien species  
15.g Loss of biodiversity  
15.h Desertification and land degradation  
15.i Utilization of genetic resources  
15.j Protected species trafficking  
15.k Biodiversity in national/local planning  
15.l Protected species trafficking (global)

**GOAL 16**  
16.6 Effective institutions  
16.7 Reduction of violence and related deaths  
16.8 Justice for all  
16.9 Corruption and bribery  
16.10 Human trafficking  
16.b Non-discriminatory laws  
16.d Illicit financial and arms flows  
16.e Inclusive decision-making  
16.f Inclusive global governance  
16.g Legal identity  
16.h Public access to information  
16.i Capacity to prevent violence

**GOAL 17**  
17.1 Tax and other revenue collection  
17.2 Additional financial resources  
17.3 Debt sustainability  
17.4 Debt sustainability  
17.5 International cooperation on science/tech  
17.6 Capacity-building for ICT  
17.7 Capacity-building for SIDS  
17.8 Multilateral trading system (WTO)  
17.9 Exports of developing countries  
17.10 Duty-free market access for LDCs  
17.11 Partnerships (public/public-private/CSOs)  
17.12 National statistics availability  
17.13 Statistical capacity  
17.14 ODA commitment by developing countries  
17.15 Investment promotion for LDCs  
17.16 Transfer of technologies  
17.17 Global macroeconomic stability  
17.18 Policy coherence for SD  
17.19 Respect for each country’s policy space  
17.20 Global partnership for SD
Source: Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2022 (see figure I).

Abbreviations: CSO, civil society organization; ICT, information and communications technology; LDC, least developed country; NCD, non-communicable disease; NEET, not in education, employment or training; ODA, official development assistance; R&D, research and development; SCP, sustainable consumption and production; SD, sustainable development; SDG, Sustainable Development Goal; SIDS, small island developing States; SME, small and medium-sized enterprise; TVET, technical and vocational education and training; UNCLOS, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; UNFCCC, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; WTO, World Trade Organization; W&S, water and sanitation.

IV. Progress in Asia-Pacific subregions

At current rates, no Sustainable Development Goals on track to be achieved in all five subregions

12. **East and North-East Asia.** The subregion is on track to achieve Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and is also progressing well on Goal 1 (No poverty) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Notwithstanding the subregion’s status as an economic powerhouse, achieving targets under Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth) remains a serious concern, largely owing to resource use inefficiency. The subregion has regressed on Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and Goal 13 (Climate action).

13. **North and Central Asia.** The subregion is on track to achieve most of the measurable targets under Goal 3 (Good health and well-being), Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions). Concerning trends of regression on Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production), Goal 13 (Climate action) and Goal 14 (Life below water) have continued for the past five years.

14. **South-East Asia.** The region is not on track to achieve any of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 if the current pace of progress is maintained. However, some good progress has been made towards Goal 1 (No poverty), Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) and Goal 15 (Life on land). Goals showing a lack of progress are Goal 4 (Quality education), Goal 8 (Decent work and economic growth) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). There are concerns about regression on Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production), Goal 13 (Climate action) and Goal 14 (Life below water).

15. **South and South-West Asia.** The subregion is not on track to reach any of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Though good progress has been made on some Goals, the pace is slow. The fastest progress has been made towards Goal 15 (Life on land), Goal 1 (No poverty) and Goal 3 (Good health and well-being). Conversely, the subregion is regressing on Goal 13 (Climate action), Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production). The already weak results coupled with the unprecedented effects of COVID-19 will require urgent strategic and concentrated efforts to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda in the subregion.

16. **Pacific.** While the subregion is not on track to achieve any of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, limited progress has been made towards some, including Goal 3 (Good health and well-being), Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy), Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and
infrastructure), Goal 15 (Life on land) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Concerning regression trends have been observed on Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation), Goal 10 (Reduced inequalities), Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities), Goal 12 (Responsible consumption and production) and Goal 13 (Climate action). Poor data availability still hinders progress assessments in the Pacific subregion, especially for Goals 5, 14 and 16.

V. Vulnerabilities and the pandemic: risk of widening disparities

17. Official Sustainable Development Goal data lack adequate disaggregation to facilitate a better understanding of the situation of vulnerable and marginalized groups. The relevant part of the analysis in the SDG Progress Report 2022 uses microdata from household surveys and shows that progress in the region tends to disproportionately exclude entire groups with distinct demographic or socioeconomic characteristics. Those who are furthest behind, including women, rural populations and poorer households, generally face more vulnerabilities. Inequality in access to key opportunities not only undermines efforts to leave no one behind, but is also a violation of human rights and a barrier to social mobility.

A. Children

18. 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 in the enrolment of the adolescent population in lower secondary and upper secondary education. In particular, girl children from the poorest households and rural areas are less likely to be in school. The region is also off track in ensuring that students at various levels achieve learning targets, especially children living in rural areas or poor households. Furthermore, a huge learning loss among students at all levels is expected, owing to school closures during the pandemic, which have contributed to the further deterioration of learning outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region.

19. In 2020, an estimated 8 million children across Asia and the Pacific missed routine vaccinations. This number represents an increase of approximately 2.5 million from 2019 and accounts for two thirds of the global 3.7 million increase in the number of children missing out on routine vaccination in 2020.

20. An estimated 32 million children in Asia and the Pacific are affected by wasting, including 10.4 million children with severe wasting. Projections indicate that globally, COVID-19 may lead to a 9.3 million increase in the number of moderately or severely wasted children in the period 2020–2022.

B. Women

21. Violence against women is highly prevalent in the Asia-Pacific region. Pre-COVID-19 data indicated that 15 to 64 per cent of women experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner over their lifetime. Research in eight Asian countries reveals that Internet searches related to intimate partner violence, such as those using such search terms as “domestic violence signs” and “experiencing sexual violence”, have increased sharply since the COVID-19 pandemic began.
22. Government response measures, a general public fear of infection and a consistent diversion of health-care professionals and financial resources to respond to COVID-19 contributed to a decrease in demand for, access to and utilization of key maternal health services in the region.

23. Women in Asia and the Pacific play a large role in rural economies, are heavily involved in agricultural production and are more likely to engage in the informal sector. As a result, they disproportionately suffer the impacts of climate change.

C. Refugees and migrants

24. 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. In Asia and the Pacific, as elsewhere in the world, COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on refugees. 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 respective countries of origin.

25. While the collection of data on people who died or disappeared while migrating to an international destination was already challenging because of the irregular nature of dangerous migration flows, the COVID-19 pandemic has likely exacerbated the issue by reducing data collection capabilities and by pushing migrants into other migration routes that are monitored even less.

26. Estimates show that in 2020, approximately 7.8 million child migrants and 2.9 million child refugees (below 18 years of age) lived in Asia-Pacific countries. In 2020, there were approximately 760,000 more child migrants than in 2015, and more than two thirds of all child migrants in the region lived in just seven countries. Approximately 95 per cent of all child refugees in the region live in three countries, namely Bangladesh, Pakistan and Turkey. The COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and political uncertainties are likely to further aggravate the refugee crisis in the region.

D. Persons with disabilities

27. In Asia-Pacific countries with available data, only 21.6 per cent of persons with severe disabilities obtain disability cash benefits. The proportion of coverage is less than 10 per cent in India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Pakistan, the Philippines and Turkey.

28. Persons with disabilities have a lower employment-to-population ratio than persons without disabilities in the majority of countries with disability-disaggregated data in the Asia-Pacific region. In addition, a higher proportion of adults with disabilities engage in informal work and a higher share of youth with disabilities are neither enrolled in school nor employed compared to their counterparts without disabilities.
29. According to a recent report by UNICEF, 107.5 million or 9.1 per cent of children 17 years of age and under in South Asia, East Asia and the Pacific are living with disabilities.\(^5\) Compared to their peers without disabilities, children with disabilities are 53 per cent more likely to have symptoms of acute respiratory infection, 34 per cent more likely to be stunted, 49 per cent more likely to have never attended school, 33 per cent less likely to attend lower secondary school and 25 per cent less likely to attend early childhood education.

E. Older people

30. In the Asia-Pacific region, 16 countries have achieved universal pension coverage with some form of pension. However, in 20 countries, less than half of all older persons receive some form of pension, which means that more than half of the older population is vulnerable to poverty. It is extremely important that older persons receive some form of pension to allow them to meet some of their basic needs in uncertain times, when many people lose their incomes.

31. Older persons are the most vulnerable to the pandemic’s direct health impacts and other health impacts. According to rapid assessments in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines, approximately half of the respondents surveyed had limited access to their regular medication as a result of the pandemic. Forty-one per cent of respondents reported that access to health-care facilities was reduced because of the pandemic.

F. Multiple vulnerabilities for the poor

32. According to 2021 estimates,\(^6\) the Asia-Pacific region is home to half of the 1.3 billion multidimensionally poor people living in 109 countries worldwide. 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. In some countries, certain ethnic groups could be 10 times more likely to be multidimensionally poor than other groups.

33. Data show that areas with high multidimensional rates of poverty are also areas with high exposure to climate-related natural and biological hazards. The overlap between poverty and extremely high exposure to natural and biological hazards leads to cascading risks and cyclical and intergenerational poverty, which can negatively affect the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, ESCAP analysis shows that, under moderate and severe climate change scenarios, populations with lower scores on the human development index faced increased risks from multiple natural and biological hazards.


VI. Data challenges for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals in the Asia-Pacific region

Sufficient data achieved for more than half the 231 Sustainable Development Goal indicators in Asia-Pacific region

34. The availability of data for indicators in Asia and the Pacific has sharply increased since the first benchmark assessment in 2017, almost doubling the number of indicators with sufficient data (figure IV).

Figure IV
Data availability for Sustainable Development Goal indicators in Asia and the Pacific, 2017–2021


Notes: Indicators with sufficient data are those with at least one underlying data series with two or more data points since 2000 for at least half the countries in the region; and indicators with insufficient data are those with some data but not enough to qualify for the sufficient category, thus not sufficient for estimating historical trends.

35. In proportion to the number of indicators in each Sustainable Development Goal, the largest gaps are found in those related to the environmental Goals (11–14) and Goal 5 (Gender equality) and Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) (figure V).
Figure V
Data availability for indicators of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in the Asia-Pacific region, 2021

Source: ESCAP calculations based on data from Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway (see figure IV).

36. The majority of Sustainable Development Goal indicator data come from three main sources: household surveys, national administrative data and international reporting, which is a collaboration between custodian and national agencies. Therefore, the strengthening of reporting on the Goals relies on (a) increasing cooperation between custodian agencies and national statistical systems to produce indicators that are internationally reported, (b) investing in regular household surveys with corresponding questions and modules and (c) harnessing administrative data through increased data integration and coordination at the national level.

VII. Conclusions and recommendations

37. Members States may wish to:

(a) Discuss the outcomes of the 2022 assessment of the region’s progress on the 2030 Agenda as summarized in the present document;

(b) Discuss and propose concrete actions in the following areas: (i) regional priorities for sustainable recovery from the pandemic, with the 2030 Agenda as a blueprint; (ii) concrete and collective actions for leaving no one behind; and (iii) strengthening coordination in national statistical systems for evidence-based implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
Annex

List of countries in the ESCAP region and subregions

The following table provides the country groupings that have been used in the analysis contained in the United Nations publication entitled *Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2022*, along with the corresponding countries under each of them.

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<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Countries</th>
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<table>
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<th>Countries</th>
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<tr>
<td>South and South-West Asia</td>
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