

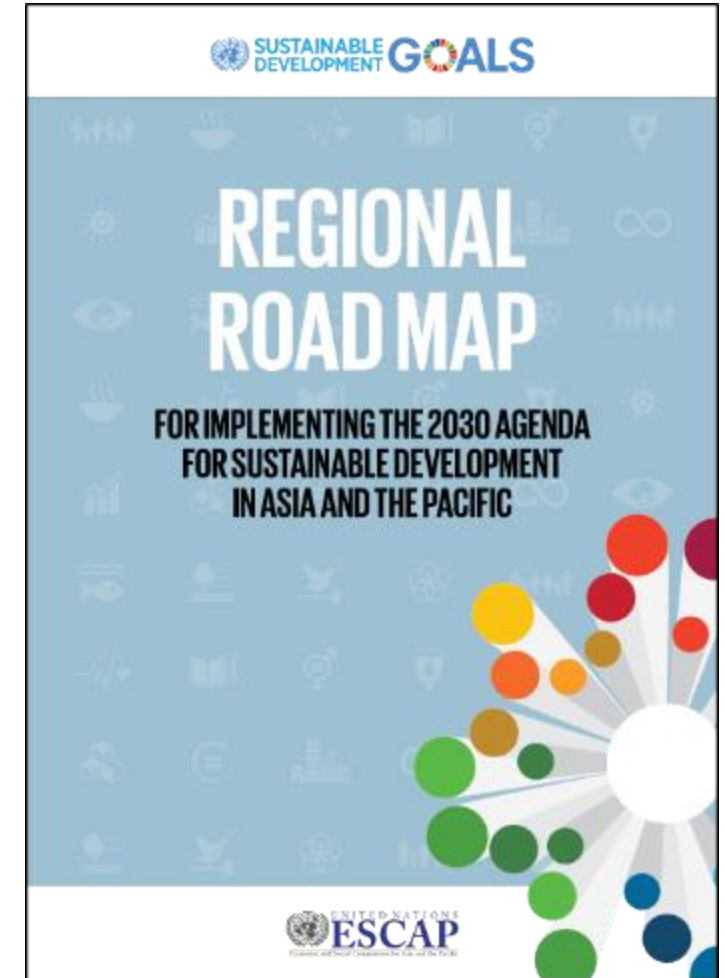


Moving forward on Natural Resource Management in Asia and the Pacific in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

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Natural Resource Management in the Regional Roadmap



- One of the 6 Thematic Issues in the Roadmap
- NRM is intimately linked with SDGs 2,6,7,12,13,14 and 15 but supports many others SDGs (1,5,11, etc.) as humankind's livelihoods, nutrition and economic opportunities all fundamentally depend upon utilizing the terrestrial and marine resources and ecosystems of our planet.
- The region's continuing survival and prosperity depends on managing these resources to be sustainable.

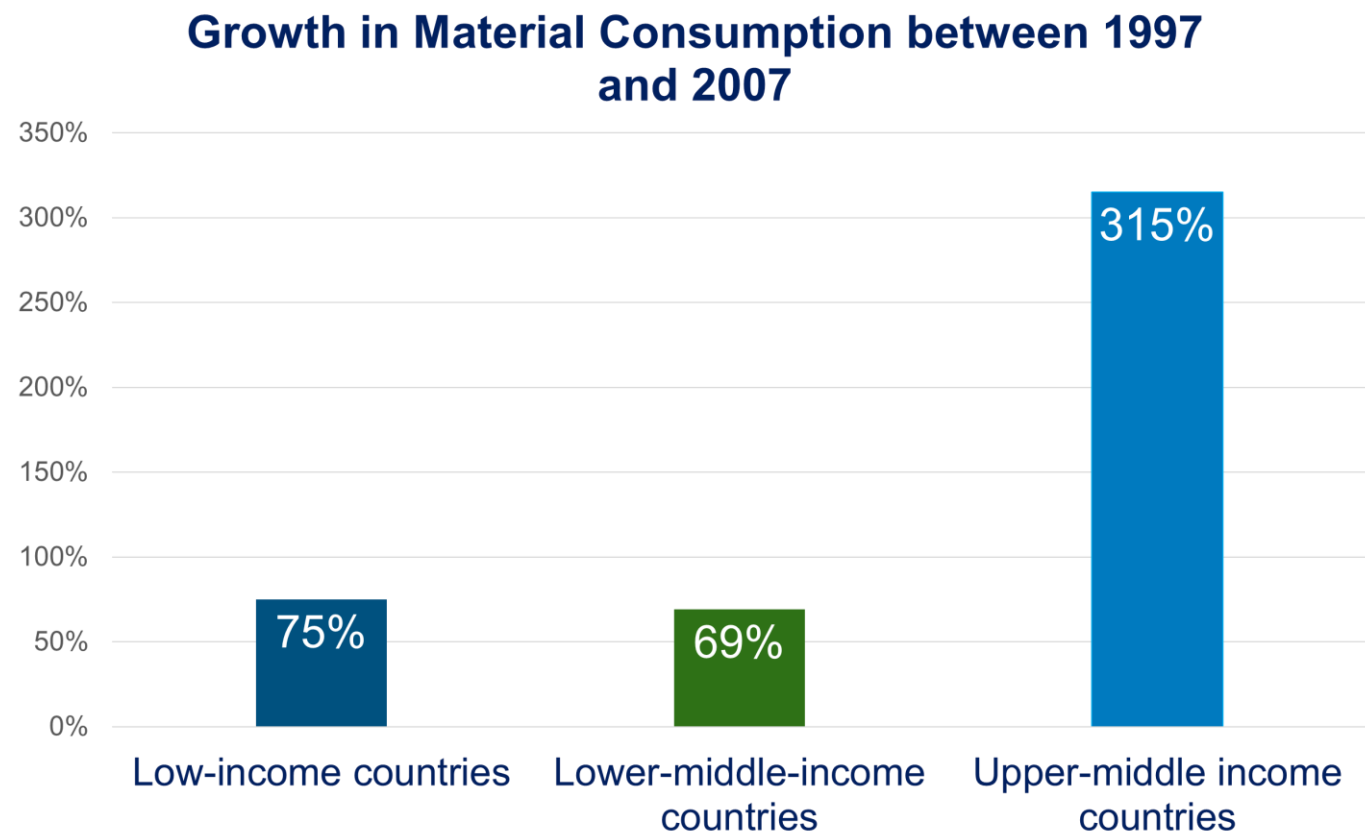
Opportunities for regional cooperation:

- Promote policies and strategies with respect to resource efficiency and environmentally sound technologies
- Share experiences and cooperate on management of natural resources including oceans and seas with a view to increasing food security, conserving the environment, protecting biodiversity and enhancing the welfare of the community
- Develop and share best practices related to increasing agricultural productivity, sustainable agriculture, food security and rural welfare whilst reducing negative environmental impacts and degradation of ecosystems.



Performance of Asia and the Pacific on Natural Resource Management

Unsustainable resource use – regional challenges



In 2017, the region accounted for 65% of global domestic material consumption and 59% of the global material footprint (almost double the global average)

Between 1990 and 2017, there was *virtually zero improvement* on resource intensity in the region

Unsustainable resource use – regional challenges



From 1990 – 2014:

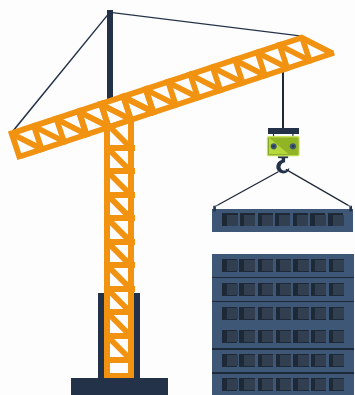
Average energy intensity declined

Energy demand x 2



In 2016:

29 of 48 countries qualified as water insecure

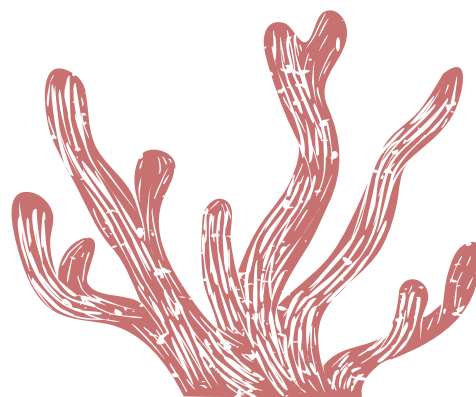


Ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss – regional challenges

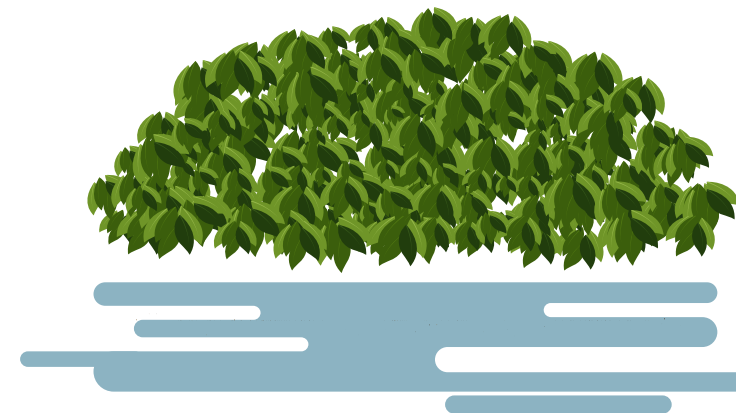


Over 135,000 km of natural forest area was lost from 2000-2015

10.6% of the world's total natural forest loss

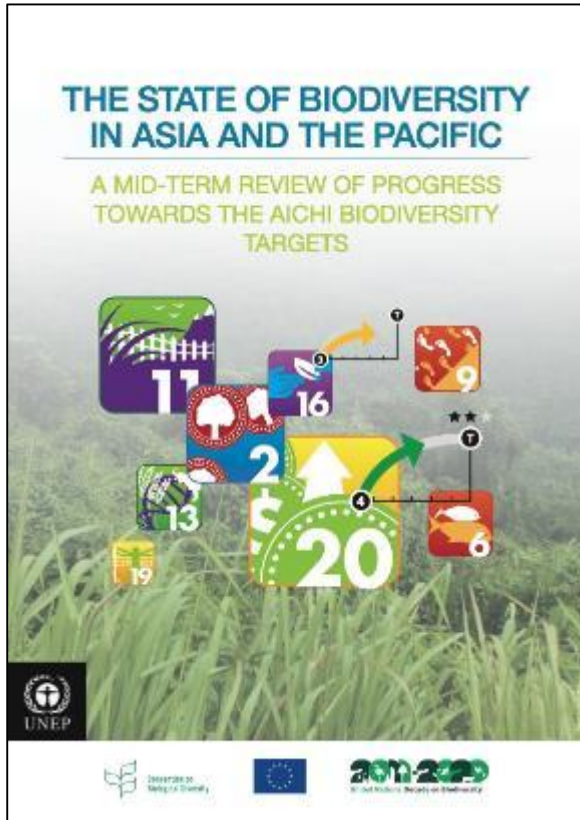


Over 40% of coral reefs lost,
80% currently at risk

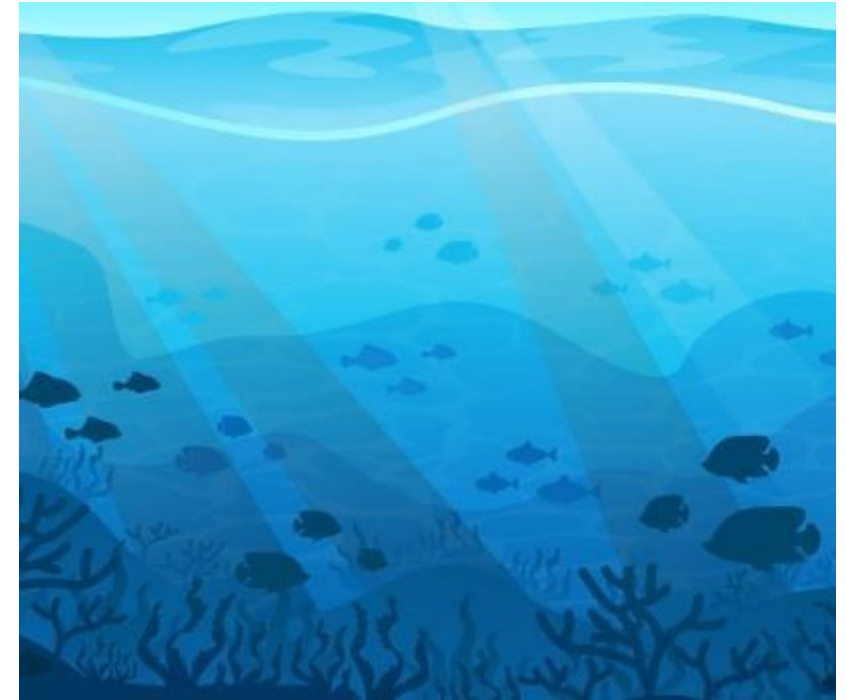


Over 60% of coastal mangroves lost

Ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss – regional challenges



In 2014, the region recorded the world's highest number of threatened species



Territorial waters under protection increased between 2000 and 2016 but numbers are still falling short of targets to preserve marine biodiversity

Pollution and waste – regional challenges



70% of urban wastewater
is discharged into
ecosystems



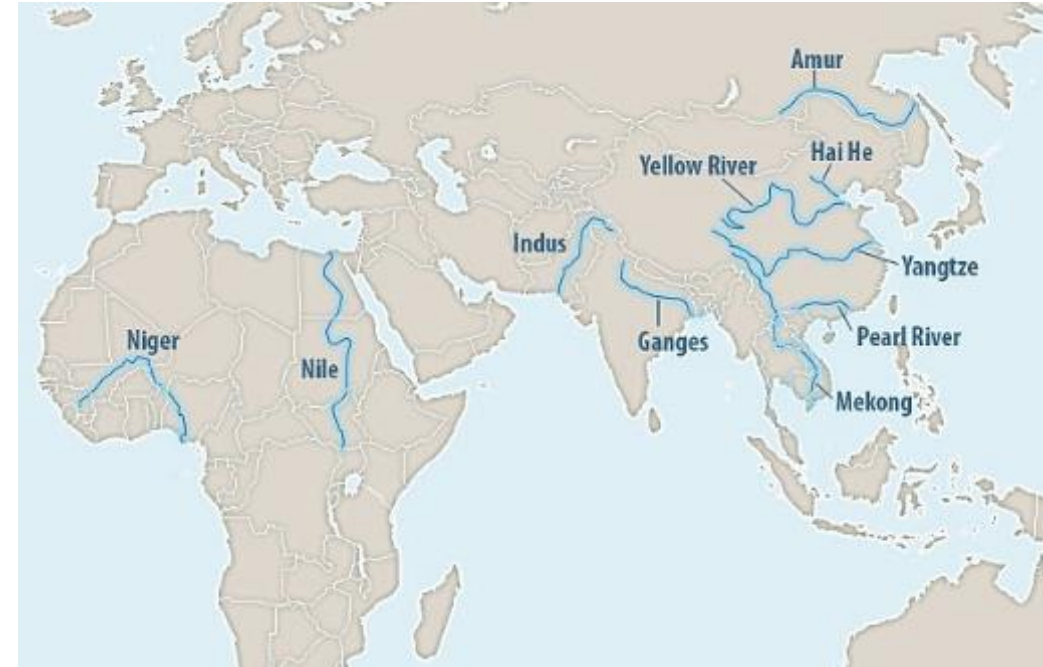
80-90% of wastewater
remains untreated

Pollution and waste – regional challenges



Cities generate 1.37 million tons of municipal solid waste a day, of which up to 90% is leaked into the environment

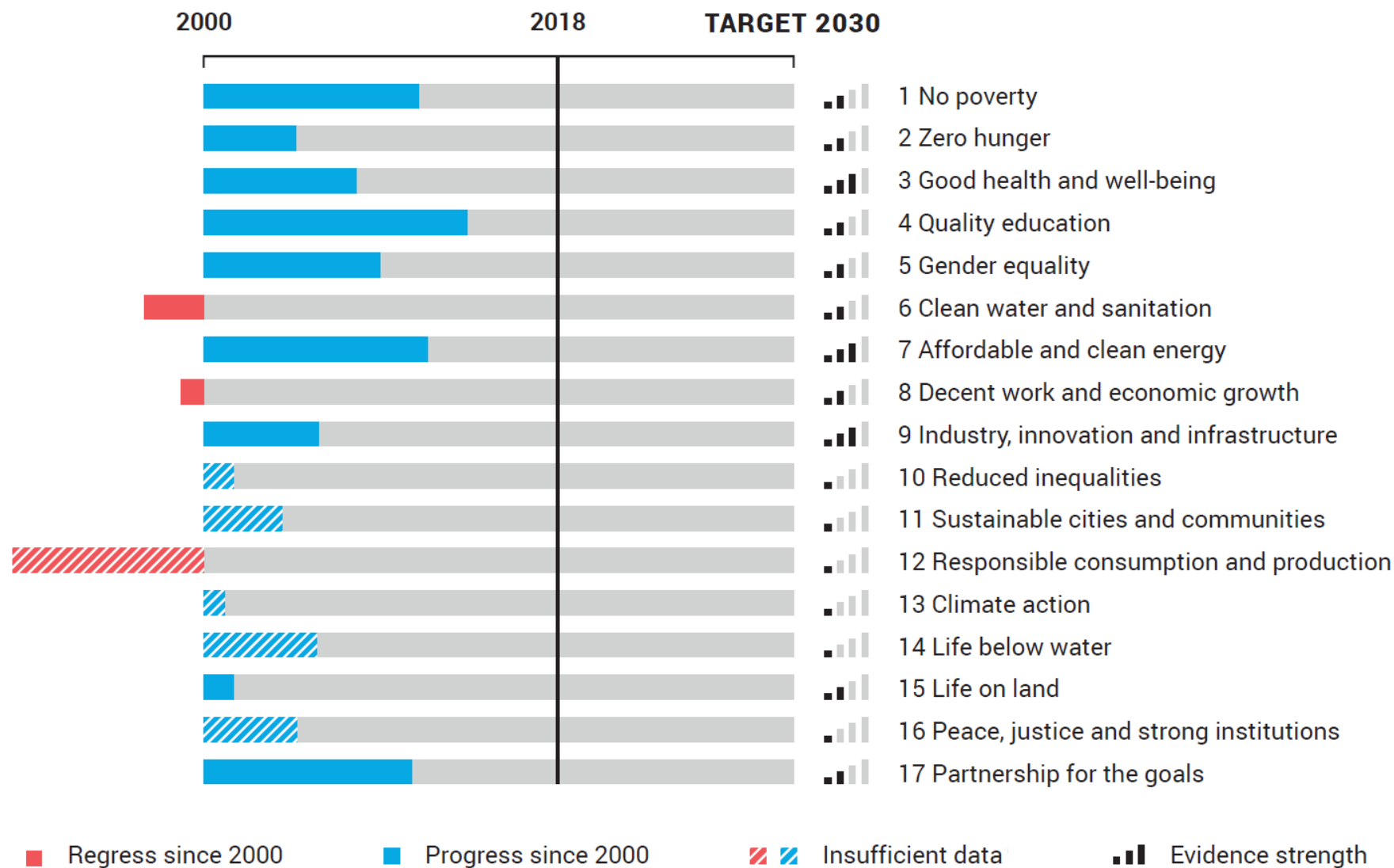
With a business-as usual path, solid waste volumes will double by 2025



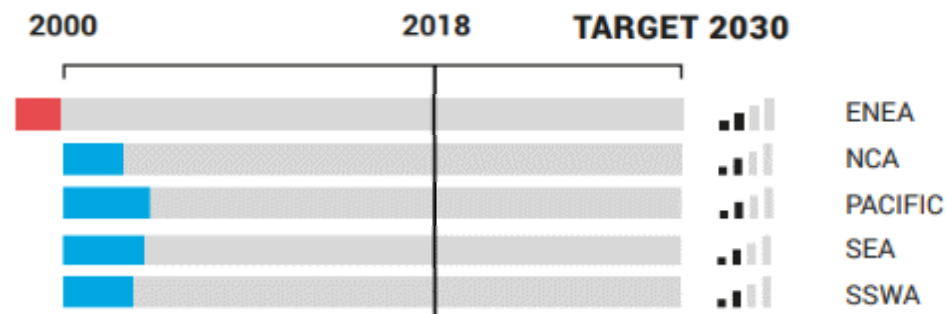
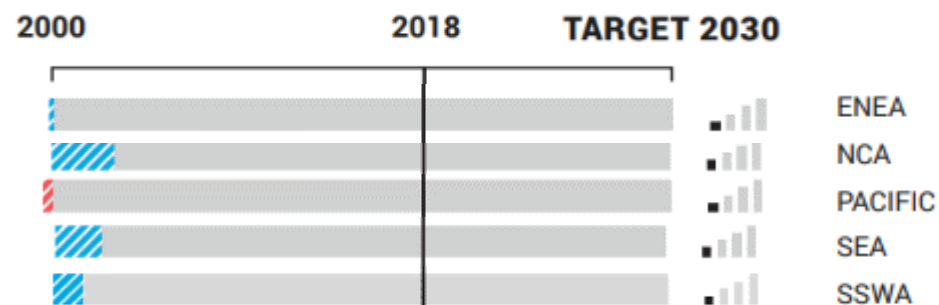
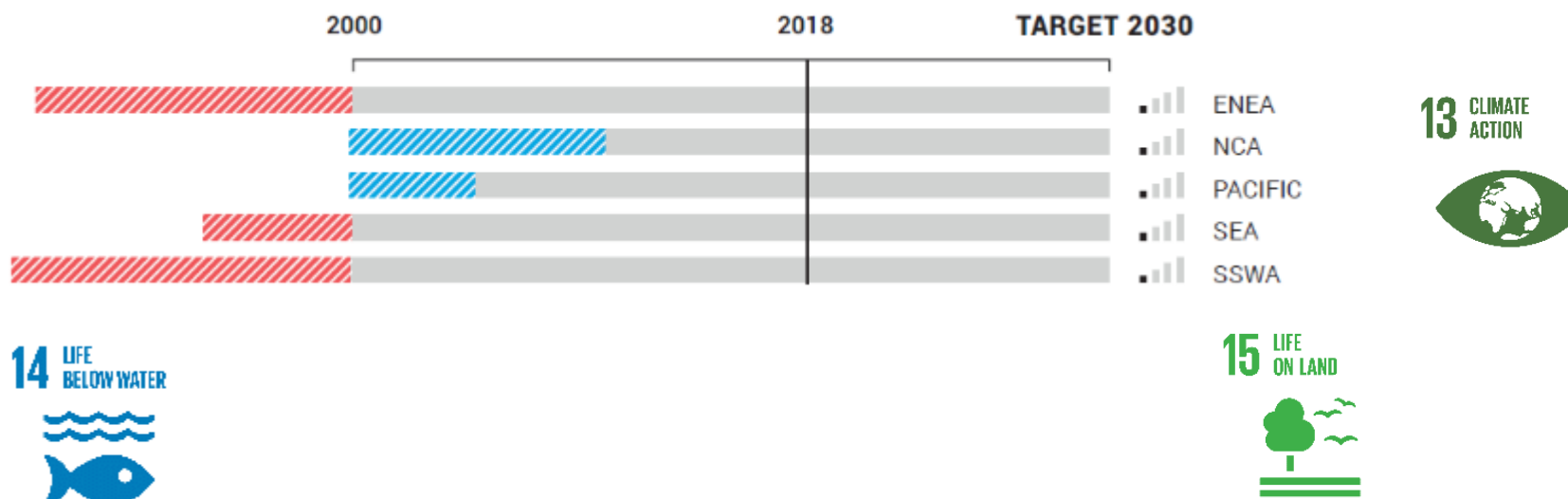
8 out of 10 major rivers transporting plastic into the ocean are located in Asia

Asian countries are responsible for up to 60% of plastic leakage

Insufficient progress across Asia and the Pacific

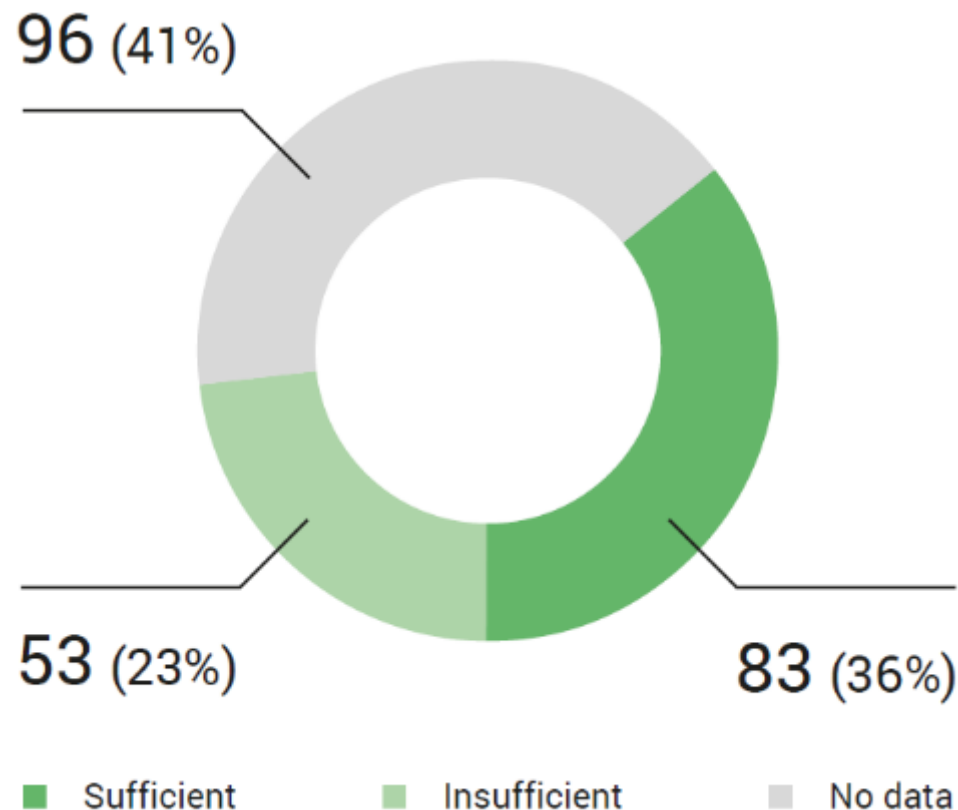


Limited progress on environment



Availability and quality of data and statistics

Sufficient data for only 36% of the SDG indicators in Asia-Pacific



GOAL 6

- 6.1 Safe drinking water
- 6.2 Sanitation & hygiene
- 6.4 Water-use efficiency
- 6.6 Water-related ecosystems
- 6.3 Water quality
- 6.5 Water resources management
- 6.a Int. cooperation on water & sanitation
- 6.b Participation of local communities

GOAL 14

- 14.5 Conservation of coastal areas
- 14.2 Marine & coastal ecosystem
- 14.1 Marine pollution
- 14.3 Ocean acidification
- 14.4 Destructive fishing
- 14.6 Fisheries subsidies
- 14.7 Marine resources in SIDS
- 14.a Research capacity & marine technology
- 14.b Small-scale artisanal fishers
- 14.c Implementing international law

GOAL 12

- 12.2 Sustainable use of natural resources
- 12.4 Managing chemicals & wastes
- 12.1 Sustainable consumption & production
- 12.3 Food waste & losses
- 12.5 Reducing waste generation
- 12.6 Sustainability information reporting
- 12.7 Public procurement practices
- 12.8 Information on SD
- 12.a Capacity (scientific & technological)
- 12.b Monitor sustainable tourism
- 12.c Fossil-fuel subsidies

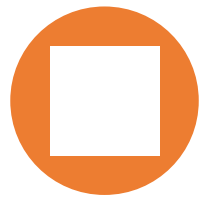
GOAL 15

- 15.2 Forests management
- 15.4 Mountain ecosystems
- 15.1 Terrestrial & inland freshwater
- 15.5 Loss of biodiversity
- 15.3 Desertification
- 15.6 Utilization of genetic resource
- 15.7 Protected species
- 15.8 Invasive alien species
- 15.9 National & local planning
- 15.a Financial resources
- 15.b Resource mobilization
- 15.c Trafficking of protected species

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

What does it take to achieve the
Natural Resource Management-
related SDGs in Asia and the
Pacific?

It requires shifts in implementation strategies and a focus on means of implementation



Regional
cooperation



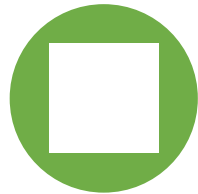
Data and
Statistics



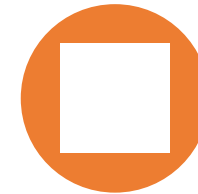
Technology



Policy
coherence



Partnerships



Finance



Capacity building



Priorities for policy action



- Governance to address complex competing water uses. Promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- Innovative and creative financial strategies: innovative and creative financing strategies (i.e. water bonds), co-investment, investment in natural ecosystems
- Education and Training
- Transboundary approach
- Innovation
- National monitoring systems
- Integrated SDG 6 planning and implementation

- Unifications of approaches:
- Integrated circular economy approach
- Strengthen capacity building, technical and financial support
- Enhance stakeholder involvement:
- Monitoring systems and indicators
- Develop 10YFP programmes
- Unify the framework of the SDGs
- Encourage corporate change through policy tools



Priorities for policy action



- **Strengthening policy coherence** in implementation efforts
- **Regional cooperation** to address the transboundary dimensions
- **Strengthen the existing regional ocean governance and scientific development mechanisms;**
- **Establish regional ocean partnerships**
- **Support ecosystem-based approaches**
- **Support the UN proposal for an International Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) (I)**
Promising innovations at the national level

- **Address the information deficit**
- **Mobilize resources** from private and global funds including payments for ecosystems services
- **Increase stakeholder engagement and awareness**
- **Strengthen sustainable land management** and biodiversity management in production landscapes
- **Mainstream biodiversity** across government sectors
- **Implement priorities identified at the first Asia-Pacific Ministerial Summit on the Environment:**
regional cooperation, governance, institutions, protecting natural capital, etc.

A few examples

Integration tools

- Reviewing existing institutional architecture and mandates to determine their relationship with the 17 SDGs;
- Assessing the impacts of policies and identifying effective policy interventions (leverage points) for impactful investment and use of scarce resources; and
- Stakeholder mapping and engagement in collectively developing the aspirational qualitative vision for societal change.



Integrating empowerment and inclusion approaches into climate actions can

- hasten transition to renewable energy
- widen uptake of climate-smart agricultural practices
- create climate-resilient communities
- remove obstacles to realizing green economy benefits



Ensure that the scope of climate actions integrates participation and voice and rights-based approaches



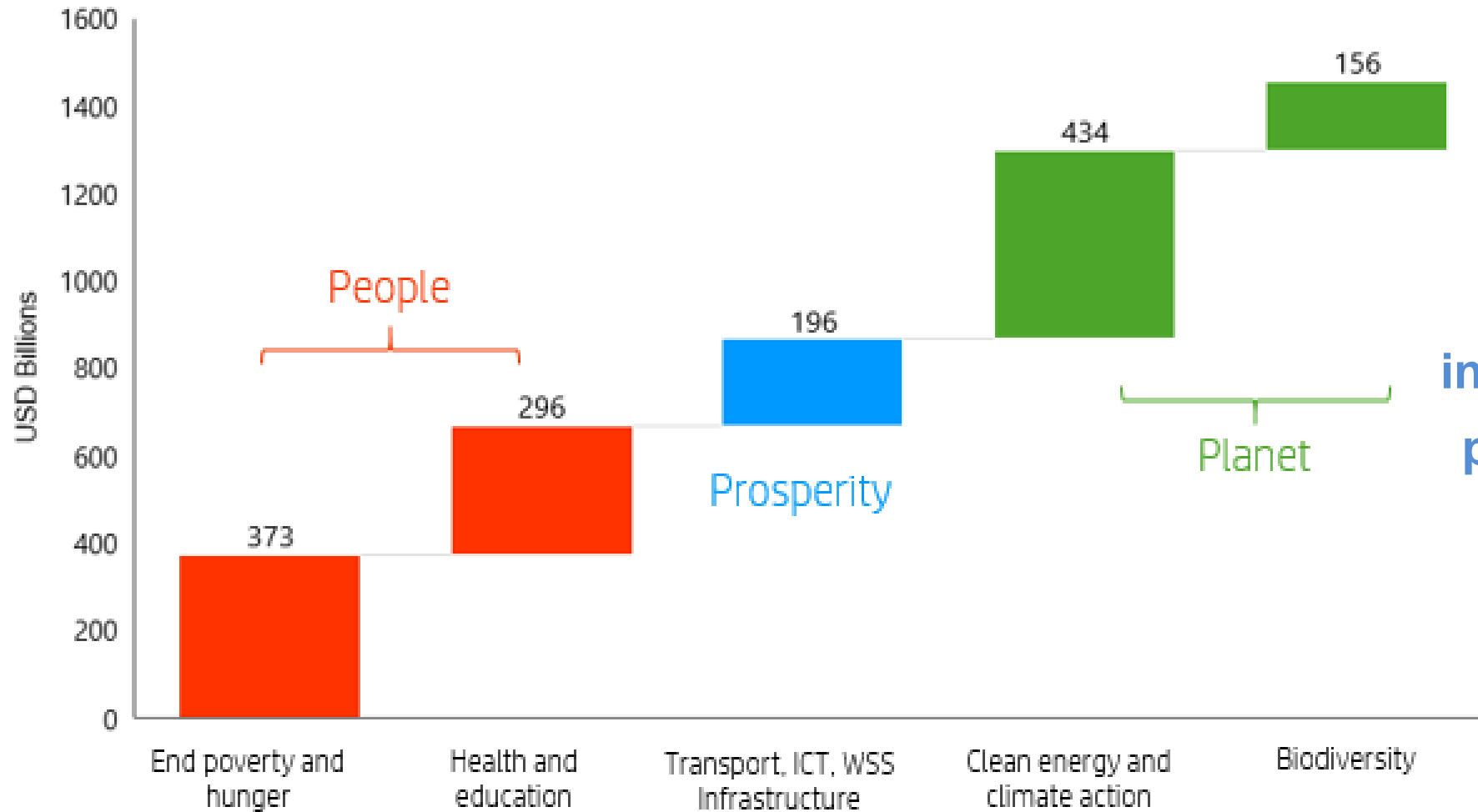
Realign the institutional structure for decision-making on climate action to ensure that the groups most affected by the impacts of climate change have adequate representation and voice.



Promote context-specific research and disaggregated data to identify emergent vulnerabilities and tailor climate actions to meet diverse societal needs.

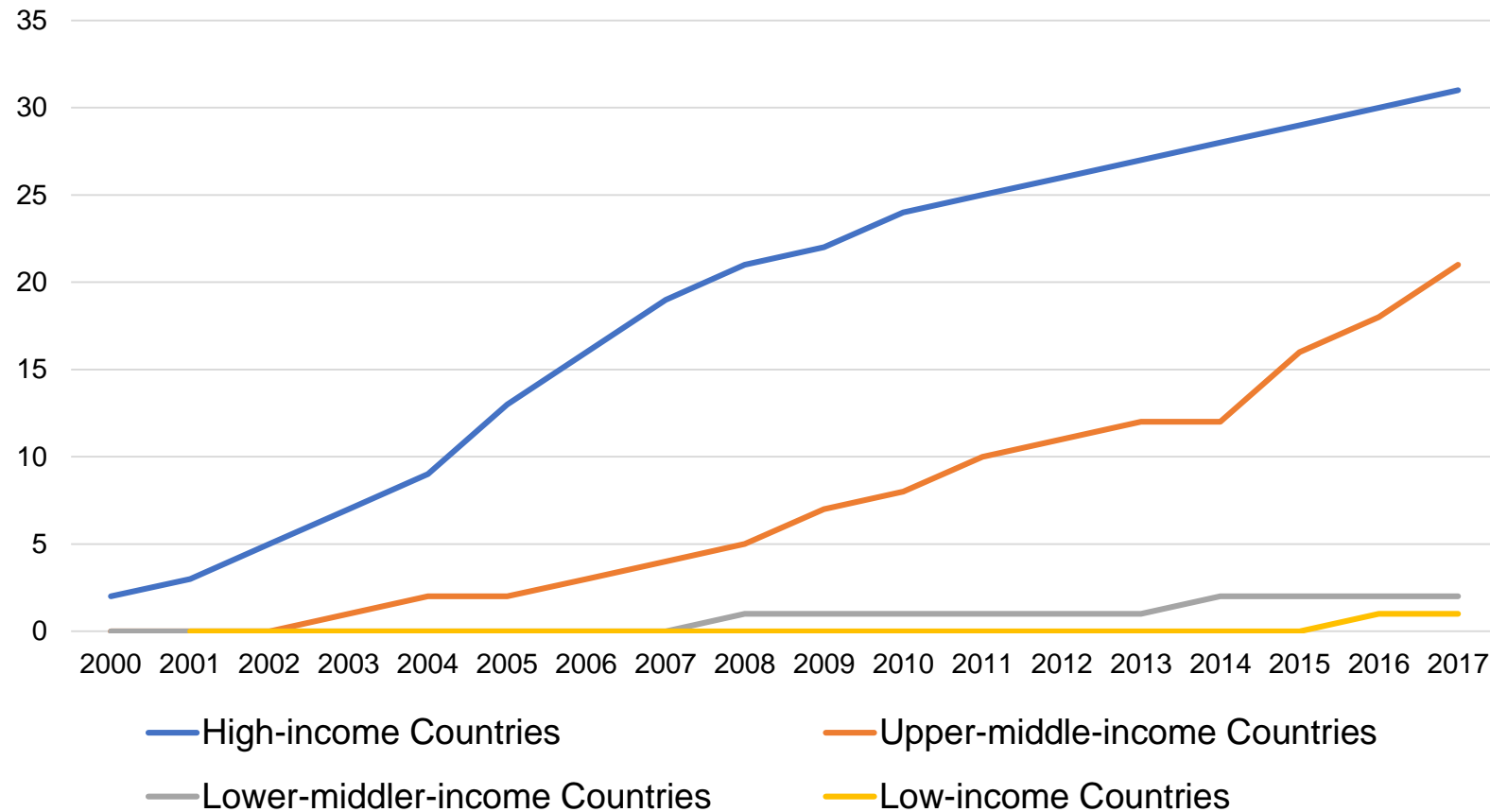
Source: ESCAP, ADB and UNDP 2019. Accelerating progress. An empowered, inclusive and equal Asia and the Pacific

Ensuring adequate finance for the Goals



Asia-Pacific needs to invest \$1.5 trillions more per year to achieve the 2030 Agenda

Bridging disparities on science, technology and information across countries



Significant digital divide can undermine regional growth and leave countries with special needs behind



sdghelpdesk.unescap.org

Thank you !