



Sustainable Development Goals in Turkmenistan



Strengthening research and studies for improved quality of SDG statistics in Central Asia



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Sustainable Development Goals in Turkmenistan



- On September 20, 2016, the Government of Turkmenistan adopted 187 SDG indicators
- Turkmenistan became the first country in the region and one of the few countries that first adapted the SDG indicators to the National Development Programs.
- On September 1, 2017, the Scientific and Methodological Center on Sustainable Development Goals was opened at the institute. Among the objectives of the Center are training on the implementation of the SDGs, the preparation of educational programs and their implementation in secondary and higher educational institutions, the development of methodological tools for the SDGs.
- A matrix has been developed to identify the departments responsible for each SDG indicator, broken down by the elements of the measurement system.
- Elements of the measurement system:
 - Methodology Development
 - Data collection
 - Data processing
 - Database creation
 - Analysis / Initial Report
 - Preparation of SDG reports for national and international reporting / user systems

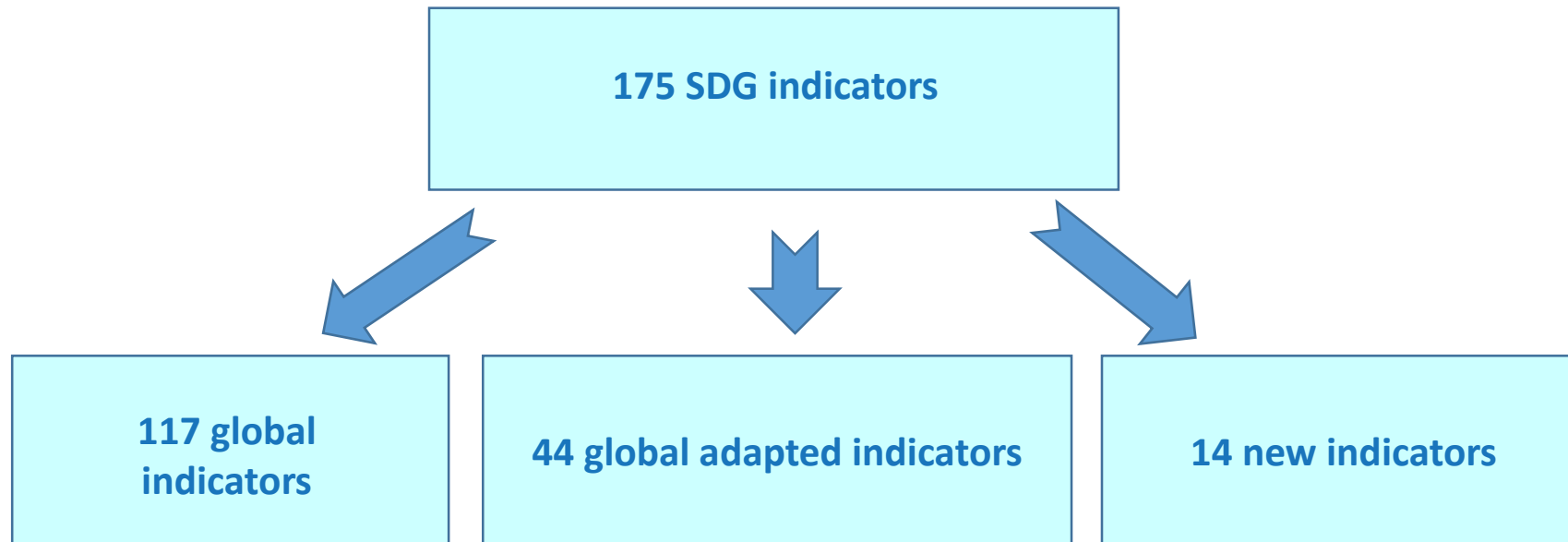


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On August 16, 2018, the following changes were made to the national system of indicators for SDG's of Turkmenistan:

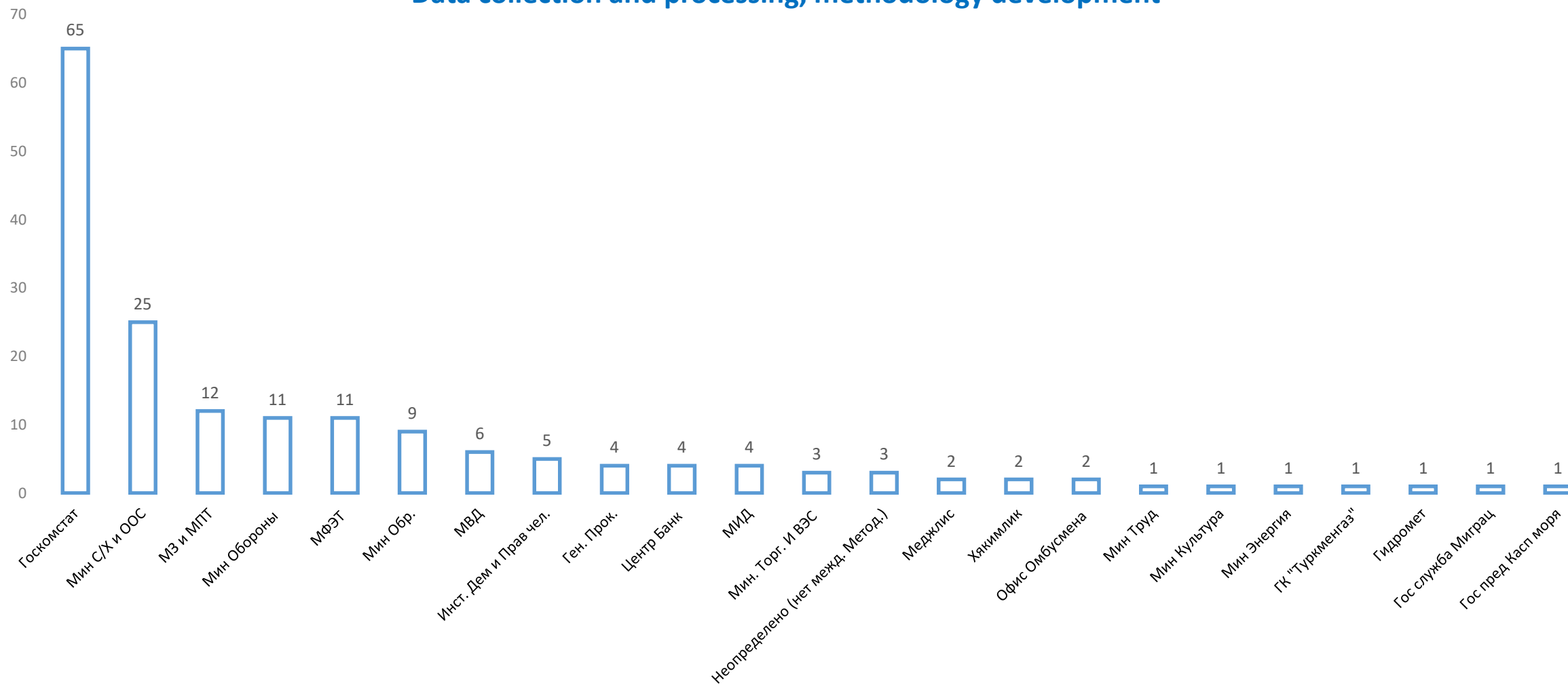
- 15 indicators excluded
- 14 indicators changed
- 3 indicators added





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Number of SDG indicators by responsible ministry departments Data collection and processing, methodology development





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Turkmenistan is one of the first countries in the region to host a high-level UN mission to implement, accelerate and support the implementation of the SDGs in Turkmenistan (hereinafter MAPS Mission). As part of the mission, four major SDG implementation issues were addressed:

- ❖ The implementation of sustainable development goals and objectives in national, sectoral and regional development programs;
- ❖ Identification of priority sectors or (accelerators) in which the implementation of the SDGs will have a positive impact on the achievement of all the SDGs in a country.
- ❖ Associated with the need to secure funding for the Sustainable Development Goals and Objectives, in order to implement the Development Financing Action Plan adopted at the International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- ❖ Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of the basic principle of the Global Agenda 2030? “Do not leave anyone behind.”



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Turkmenistan works to strengthen coordination and implementation of the SDGs

Working groups are created at the level of heads of departments of ministries and departments of Turkmenistan

The Group Potential for the implementation of the Partnership Program for Development (RDP) 2016-2020.

1. Qualitative data and progress monitoring
2. High-quality inclusive social services
3. Climate change and energy efficiency
4. Employment, economic diversification and trade
5. Governance and rule of law





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Turkmenistan is constantly working on the development of improved and statistical capacity

- Methodological support
- Collection and evaluation of baseline data and support for the development of a SDG database
- Preparatory work for the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey-MICS 2019
- Development of institutional capacity of the State Committee on Statistics
- Development of a data management information system (health and education sector)

With the support of UNDP, WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank



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In process of a Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the High Level Political Forum in New York, July 18, 2019.

Turkmenistan officially adopted all 17 Sustainable Development Goals and adapted them to national plans and strategies for socio-economic development.

The Government of Turkmenistan is preparing the first VNR. This is an opportunity to strengthen national policies to achieve sustainable development in the country.

The 2030 Agenda is the country's main strategy, which will allow to deepen the social orientation of the existing national policy, as well as to achieve a balanced development of the country in three dimensions - social, economic and environmental. Turkmenistan applies an integrated approach to their implementation, as reflected in the Voluntary National Review.



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Achievements of Turkmenistan since the adoption of the SDGs

Social Policy Results Improved

Market transformations have gained new momentum

Enhanced adaptation and mitigation measures

Positive indicators remain in providing the population with affordable and high-quality medical services and education; improving the health care system, educational reform

The socially oriented course of economic growth and the greening of economic sectors, the rational use of natural resources and effective adaptation to climate change continue

The inclusiveness of national reforms is carried out, as well as ensuring equality of opportunities and the full participation of women in the economic, political and cultural life of the country

A working group has been set up consisting of deputy heads of ministries and departments, public organizations, educational and scientific institutions that are involved in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs, as well as their further integration into the national, sectoral and regional development programs of the country

The process of preparing the NED was accompanied by the full participation of all stakeholders, following the principle of “leaving no one behind,” and reflects the vision of public organizations and civil society, the private sector and youth, and is also the result of productive interaction between Turkmenistan and the UN system



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Turkmenistan's next steps in implementing the SDGs

Turkmenistan remains consistently committed to building peace-loving societies by protecting human rights and its dignity, disarmament and non-proliferation, promoting global and regional cooperation through the development of a regional interaction framework, and coordination of interaction in addressing global challenges. In order to address water and environmental issues in Central Asia, Turkmenistan will continue to work on the development of a UN Special Program for the Aral Sea Basin

A key component in the implementation of the Agenda is the provision of financing for development. Turkmenistan is improving its public finance system, including through fiscal regulation in order to mobilize domestic resources. At the same time, it is important to complement the increase in domestic resources with international assistance. Being committed to solving the problem of financing sustainable development, it is important to promote cooperation with the participation of the UN system, the Bretton Woods institutions and international development banks, and also provide access to concessional and innovative financing for middle-income countries



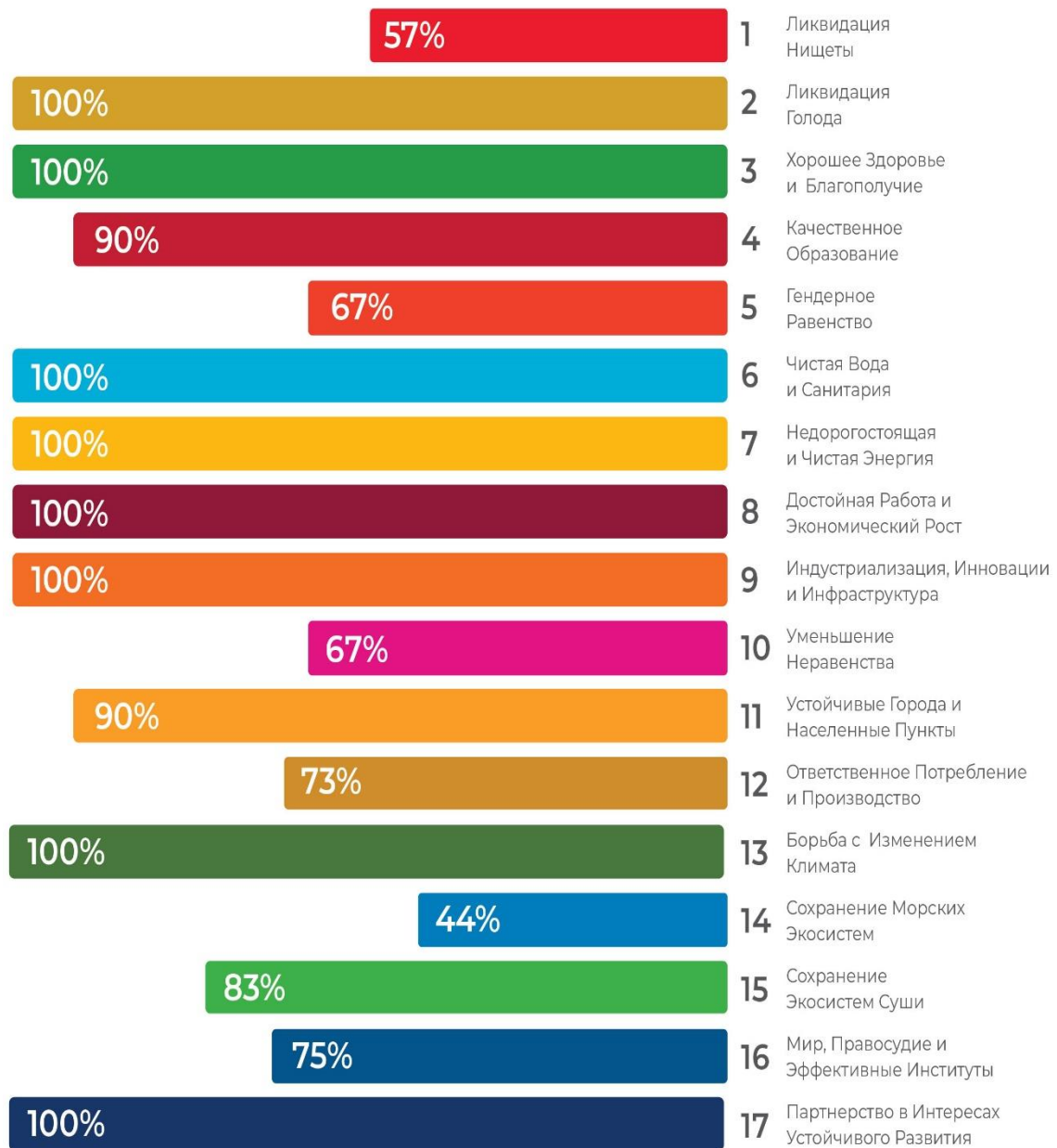
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- The National Program for the Socio-Economic Development of Turkmenistan by 2030 and the Presidential Program for Social and Economic Development for the period 2019-2025 are aimed at achieving sustainable development and ensure consistent implementation of the SDGs as one of the main priorities.
- Turkmenistan adopted 17 SDGs, 148 targets, of which 121 were identified without changes and 27 were adjusted for national priorities, as well as 175 indicators. A quick comprehensive assessment revealed that from the 148 accepted targets, 124 targets, or 84%, correspond to or conditionally correspond to the existing policy of Turkmenistan.
- The coordinating body of the Working Group is the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan.
- The State Committee on Statistics of Turkmenistan is responsible for the methodology of state and departmental statistics, the collection of state reports and the coordination of data collection, and the creation and maintenance of the SDG database.



The level of SDG Implementation in Turkmenistan





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- For the preparation of the VNR, an Interdepartmental Working Group has been established, composed of representatives of government agencies with the active participation of UN agencies, academic and private sectors, and public organizations.
- The VNR is based on the recommendations of the Guidelines for the preparation of voluntary national reviews developed by the Division for Sustainable Development of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- The book by President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov titled “Turkmenistan Towards Achieving Sustainable Development Goals” contributed to the preparation of this Review, highlighting the steps and actions taken by Turkmenistan to achieve sustainable development goals and objectives.
- Turkmenistan took into account the experience and examples of voluntary national surveys of other countries and, with the support of the UN Country Team, under the leadership of the Permanent Coordinator, actively participated in the VNR training events organized by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the UN Economic Commission for Europe and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific



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Classification of indicators

Level of indicators	Number of indicators	%
Level I: a conceptually well-defined indicator based on internationally recognized methodology and standards, and data provided by countries on a regular basis: data are available from at least 50 percent of countries and 50 percent of the population in each region to which this indicator applies	69	39,5
Level II: a conceptually well-defined indicator based on an internationally recognized methodology and standards; however, data are not regularly reported by countries.	72	41,1
Level III: this indicator is not yet based on an internationally recognized methodology or standards, although such a methodology or standards are currently being developed or will be developed or tested in the future.	31	17,7
Have a multi-level classification	3	1,7
Total indicators	175	100



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On October 1, 2018, the United Nations Office in Turkmenistan, the SDG Center and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan launched the SDG month in Ashgabat.

The event was attended by heads of agencies and UN staff, national partners, students and civil society, it was held at the Institute of International Relations under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, which houses the Learning and Resource Center for SDGs.

The events included awareness raising trainings on the SDGs, a seminar on financing the Global Agenda, student debates, a UN model, and a SDG dance festival. In October, there was also a presentation of the “Young Ambassadors of the SDGs” competition and a number of other events.

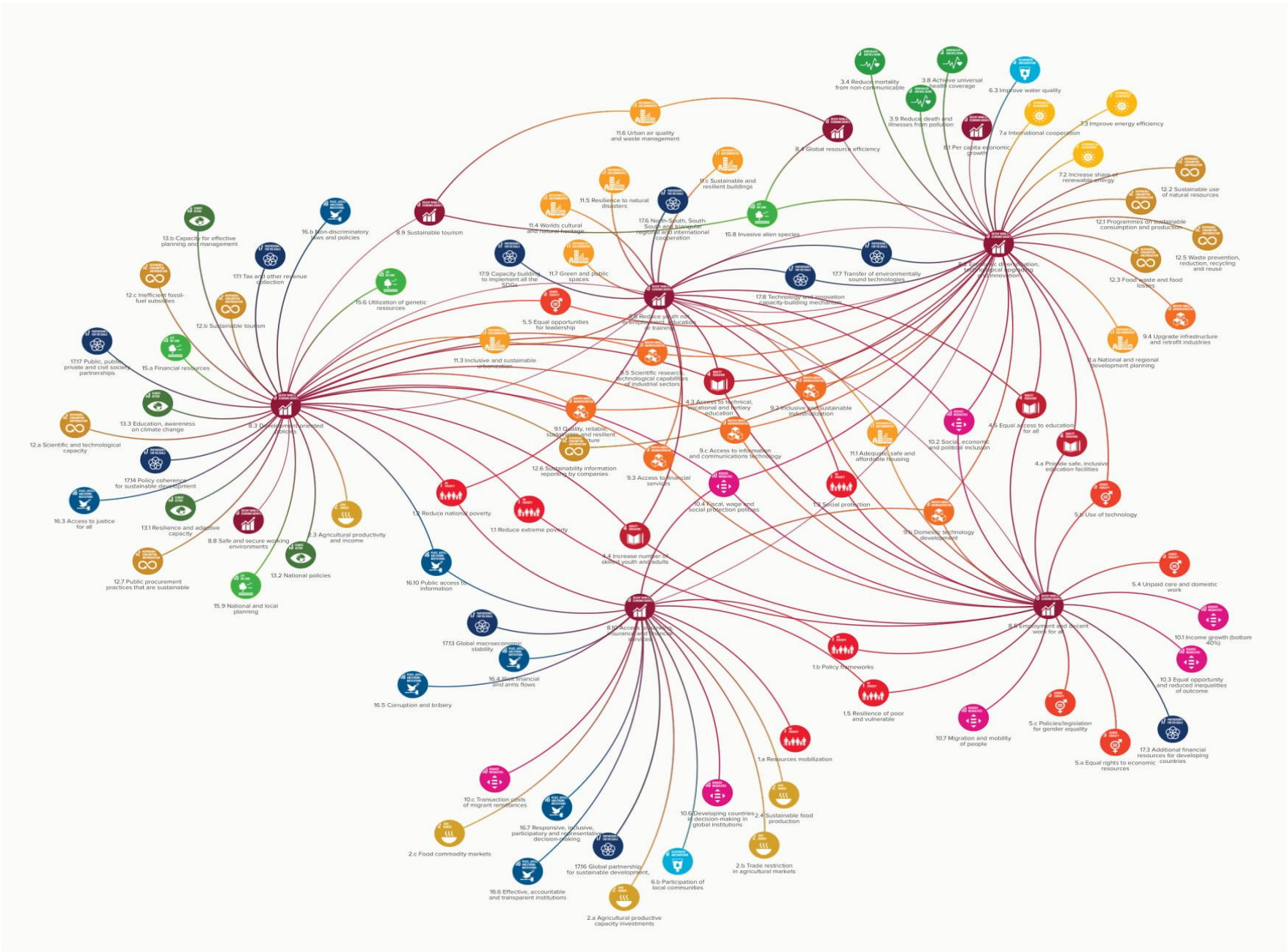
Among the selected 17 young ambassadors of the goals of sustainable development are students and young teachers of higher educational institutions of Turkmenistan, representatives of international organizations. The role of the SDG Ambassador is to contribute to the development of society and the world around it, and to contribute to its own development as an individual.

At the end of February 2019, a seminar was held on “Applying a systems thinking approach and integrating the SDGs into national planning” with the participation of ESCAP international experts. The seminar was attended by heads of international organizations working in Turkmenistan, as well as representatives of ministries, departments and public organizations of Turkmenistan.

The training workshop consisted of four sessions, during which presentations were made on the application of innovative techniques in developing sustainable strategies for analyzing and processing information on achieving the SDGs. Also at the seminar, the interrelationships of the tasks were identified, infographics were made, which will be included in the VNR itself.

For example, the interrelationship of SDG 8.

Linking of SDG 8 with other Sustainable Development Goals





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Conclusion

- Turkmenistan has a strong social policy, has achieved positive results in this area, in particular, in the field of health and education
- Identified the need to strengthen state policy in the economic sphere in the context of the country's transition to market relations, as well as in the creation of a sustainable financing mechanism for the SDGs
- Turkmenistan will continue to work closely with international organizations and UN agencies to further integrate the SDGs into national plans and update sectoral and regional plans and strategies.
- Turkmenistan will continue to collect comprehensive, disaggregated and reliable data and create a SDG database



Thank you for attention!