





A visual approach
to the United Nations
2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development
and its 17 Sustainable
Development Goals



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Editor

Thomas Schulz, FSO

Contents & Support

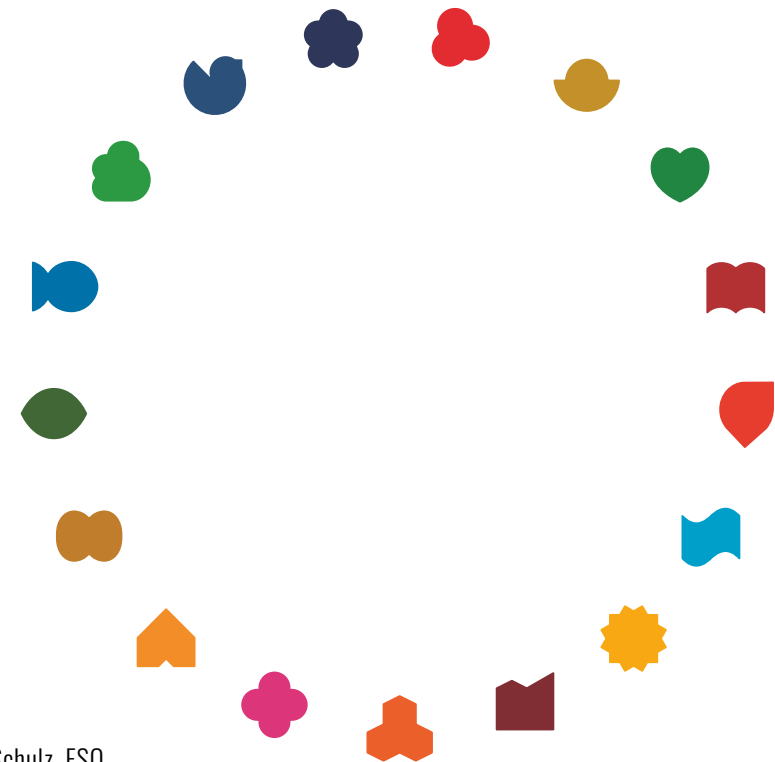
International and National Affairs, FSO
Unlocking the Power of Data Initiative

Data & Design

Superdot Studio, Basel

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Dear readers, dear participants in the UN World Data Forum

Why do we need good data? Data, that is accurate, valid, complete and consistent? Because good data serves as a solid foundation upon which sound, effective decisions can be built and consolidated. Without it, decisions may be based on faulty assumptions, leading to poor outcomes and loss of trust. In a world where sustainability has become a question of survival and information overload clouds our vision, trustworthy statistics can often be decisive in helping make sense of what is going on in the world. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will only be deemed successful if its achievements can be measured against reliable criteria. Data and statistics are important to measure progress and to help achieve goals.

Since their adoption in 2015, the SDGs have established themselves as important guiding principles. In many countries and in an international context, people and organisations are guided by these goals.

The second edition of the book you hold in your hands is an impressive outcome of years of work by the UN Statistical Commission in cooperation with the national data and statistics systems and international organisations. It offers a wealth of data and indicators on the state of our world. They provide an accurate picture of the global situation. This is especially important today, as fake news and misinformation too often shape our debates and undermine our democracy.

This publication invites you to visually explore the world of sustainability. You may find the numbers it presents fascinating but also disturbing. And you will notice that although the facts speak soberly, they encourage us to act.

This book also demonstrates the importance of data literacy. Visualisations are a very effective means of communicating data, empowering individuals and organisations to make decisions based on empirical evidence – not on intuition, prejudice, or guesswork.

The more complex the challenges, the more important international cooperation becomes. The UN World Data Forum 2024, hosted by the Republic of Colombia, is an indispensable platform not only for governments but also for other stakeholders like the private sector and NGOs.

The more we all cooperate, the better the data will become – and the better our decisions will be.

Simply collecting data does not make the world a better place – but it is an indispensable prerequisite for doing so.

Federal Councillor and Head of the Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA),



Elisabeth Baume-Schneider



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

In September 2015, the Member States of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The 2030 Agenda applies to all countries – in the North and the South – and sets out the priorities for sustainable development.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with their 169 targets, form the core of the 2030 Agenda. They balance the economic, social and ecological dimensions of sustainable development, and place the fight against poverty and sustainable development on the same agenda for the first time with the ‘5 Ps’: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership. Today, the 2030 Agenda is a social contract between societies and states, which forms a framework at local, regional, national and multinational levels.



The United Nations World Data Forum 2024

The Fifth United Nations World Data Forum (UNWDF) 2024 is an event of global importance directly related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It provides a platform for discussion between different communities of data producers and users. Bringing these parties together and harnessing the power of technology and other innovative tools, they are both essential to fulfil the data demands of the 2030 Agenda. Also open to representatives of the economy, science, media, national statistical offices, as well as other administrations and fields, this community can engage in a productive dialogue and identify ways to better mobilise the necessary resources for data development.

About this book and the SDG Experience Website

For the implementation of the 3rd UN World Data Forum in Berne, the Swiss Confederation has established a distinct sustainability concept, with the aim of ensuring that the Forum was as sustainable as possible. The focus of the concept was on the environmental dimension – especially on the reduction of the CO₂ emissions. However, it was important to follow the general approach of sustainable development that respects all three dimensions: economic, social and ecological. Since the event in 2021, the sustainability concept has been incorporated into our office policies and applied to many following events, but also to our publications.

It is within this continued approach that we present this second book in the 'SDGraphical series' to the visitors of the 5th UNWDF: it intends to visually depict major developments in the 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an attractive way – true to the motto that a good statistical graphic often says more than 1000 data entries.



The graphs aim to encourage again the visualisation of data and statistics in order to monitor progress towards the 2030 Agenda Goals and targets. As you can see, despite individual setbacks, the overall development over the last few decades has been truly positive in many areas.

We hope you enjoy reading the book and seeing some of the SDG indicators in a new form. The book in itself has been produced as sustainably and environmentally friendly as possible. So, once you have read it, please pass it on to a friend or a partner in the spirit of sustainability, and let us continue working together on making our planet a better place for all.

Please also visit our new 'SDG Experience' website and quiz, which allows you to interactively experience the data and graphics of this book.



www.sdgexperience.ch

About the graphs

A graph is indeed worth a thousand numbers. It was therefore our wish to express the rich data treasures around the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in this book primarily through graphs. With little text to explain the context and a focus on visual representations, some essential SDG indicators are thus brought closer to the conference participants and readers – in an attractive and accessible way.

Each selected indicator is presented through three graphs: The introductory graph gives an overview of the current data situation in the World (where do individual countries stand in the implementation of each goal and compared to the overall target direction?), while the following ones compare, in an almost portrait-like manner, numbers from Switzerland and Colombia – the host countries of the 3rd and the 5th UN World Data Forum. These are partly supplemented by further dimensions available in the data sets such as development over time, or regional aspects and benchmarks.



Thanks to its immediate clarity, the abacus method was chosen as a uniform method of representation for these two last graphs. This approach was developed in the 1920s in the course of the Viennese 'Bildstatistik' and has been experiencing a revival in statistical visualisation for some years now – also Online. It pictures a number of simple, easy-to-understand geometric figures that each correspond to a respective value. The figures are arranged in blocks and allow large data sets to be summarised into easily manageable and countable subsets, giving the reader an immediate appreciation.

Graphs are clear, simplifying and can be grasped quickly. These are both their advantages and disadvantages at the same time. For readers interested in the details of the statistical bases, the corresponding references to the databases and sources are given at the end of the book.

Please do also note the target direction in each graph. These can fluctuate and point upwards, downwards, or towards the centre of the graph – depending on the formulation of the respective target.

Choice of indicators and structure of the book

The book's limited space and the equally limited time available for the readers to absorb information, require a selection and limitation of the topics in such a project. There must be a balance between presenting as many interesting subjects from the database as possible while remaining straightforward, relevant and consumable. With this in mind, we decided to select and present only one indicator per SDG. This results in 17 chapters, which of course do not have to be read in any particular order. Follow your interests, browse and discover as you like!

Each of the chosen indicators points to a significant development in a goal. In order to have been selected, they must be easy to understand, i.e. without large statistical footnotes and methodological explanations in the graph. Finally – and this must be the pragmatic insight of any such work – the data availability and the technical parameters for the graphs to be implemented have always and above all else the greatest influence on the selection of the indicators.



Topics can only be depicted if the underlying data are available and graphically suited to the selected data visualisation method. Thus, the data for our visualisations had to be quantitative (countable) in nature and available as relative data sets (as parts of 100% or another relation, e.g. as a share in the total population). Furthermore, they had to allow for temporal and regional differentiations as well as covering at least two thirds of the world in data availability.

The book cannot claim to be complete, nor to provide a conclusive overview of all SDGs. It is primarily intended to entertain (or let's say 'infotain') readers, to raise awareness of the goals, and to point spotlights on the individual indicators, which will encourage further study of the topic and the data. With this in mind, and a new book experience that will long be remembered both visually and haptically, we wish you a stimulating read and exciting new insights!

The team behind the book

1 NO
POVERTY

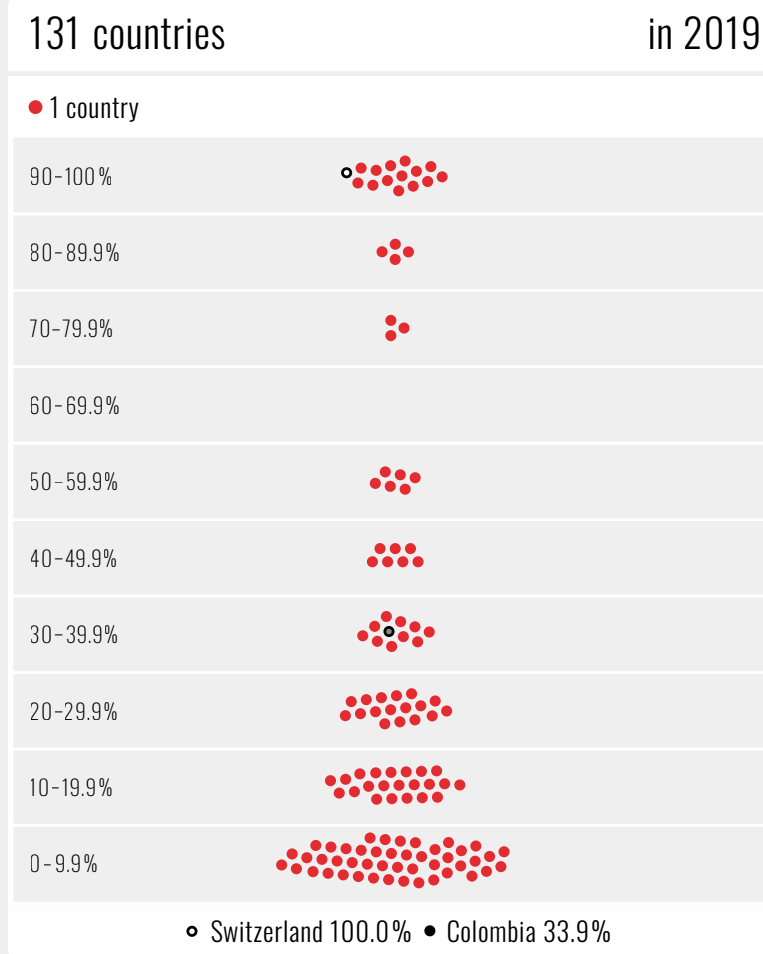


SDG 1 is to  end poverty in all its forms everywhere . The goal has 7 targets and 13 indicators to measure progress.

The SDGs are a bold commitment to finish what we started, and end poverty in all forms and dimensions by 2030. This involves targeting the most vulnerable, increasing basic resources and services, and supporting communities affected by conflict and climate-related disasters.

While the number of people living in extreme poverty dropped by more than half between 1990 and 2015, many are still struggling for the most basic human needs. The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent shocks from 2020 to 2022 have hampered global efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. The global extreme poverty rate increased in 2020 for the first time in decades, setting back progress by three years. Since then, recovery has been uneven, with low-income countries lagging behind. The global working poverty rate slightly increased to 7.7% in 2020 before declining to 6.9% in 2023. This indicates a consistent downward trend in working poverty worldwide since 2015. In 2023, only 28.2% of children aged 0 to 15 globally received child cash benefits, up from 22.1% in 2015. This left 1.4 billion children without social protection coverage. Significant regional variations were evident, and despite a near doubling of coverage from 4.5% in 2015 to 8.7% in 2023, low-income countries were still far from universal coverage.

Proportion of the vulnerable population receiving social assistance cash benefits



▲
Target direction

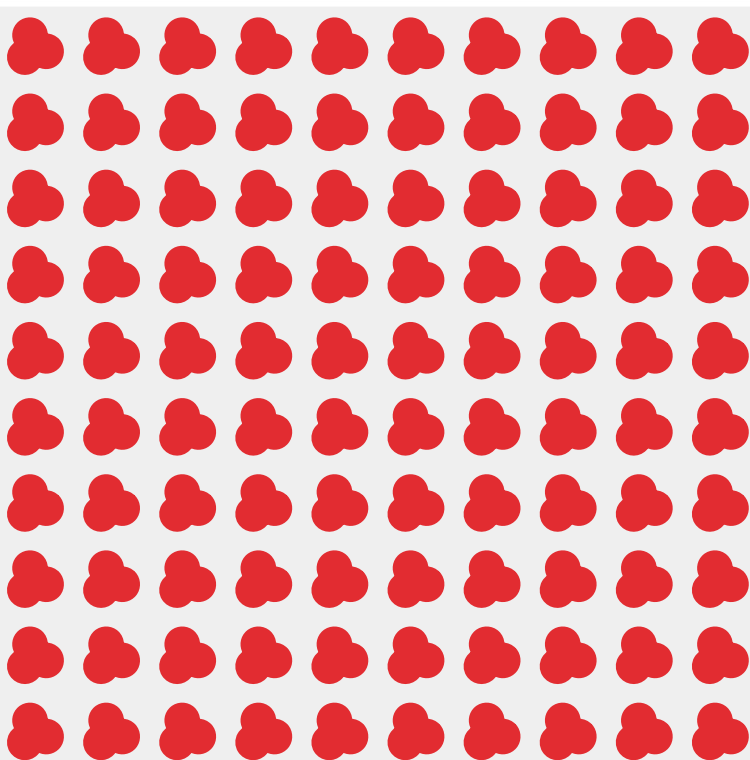
Proportion of the vulnerable population receiving social assistance cash benefits

Switzerland

100.0% in 2019

☄ = 1% of the vulnerable population

+0.0% since 2015



Target direction ▲

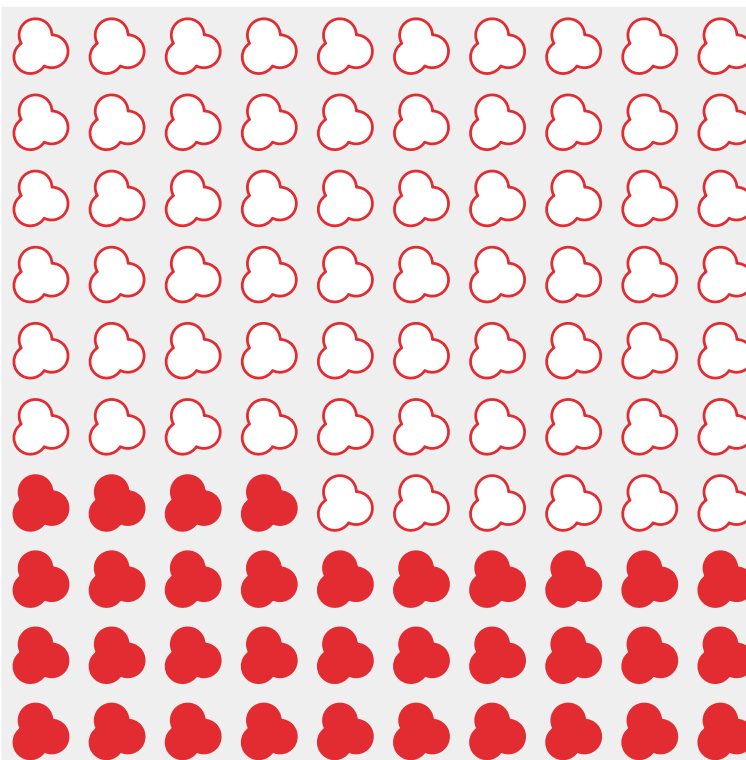
Target 1.3 – Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable (SI_COV_VULN)

Colombia

33.9% in 2019

☄ = 1% of the vulnerable population

+19.8% since 2015



Target direction ▲

2 ZERO
HUNGER



SDG 2 is to 🍲 end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture 🍲. SDG 2 has 8 targets and 14 indicators to measure progress.

This SDG aims to end all forms of hunger and malnutrition by 2030, making sure that all people – especially children – have sufficient and nutritious food all year. This involves promoting sustainable agriculture, supporting small-scale farmers and equal access to land, technology and markets. It also requires international cooperation to ensure investment in infrastructure and technology to improve agricultural productivity.

The number of undernourished people has dropped by almost half in the past two decades because of rapid economic growth and increased agricultural productivity. Many developing countries that used to suffer from famine and hunger can now meet their nutritional needs. Central and East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean have all made huge progress in eradicating extreme hunger. However, after rising sharply in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, global hunger and food insecurity remained persistently high and almost unchanged for three years. In 2023, about 733 million people faced hunger, and 2.33 billion people experienced moderate to severe food insecurity. Despite progress, 148 million children under age 5 suffered from stunting, i.e., impaired growth, in 2022. If current trends persist, one in five children under age 5 will be affected by stunting in 2030. From 2015 to 2022, the volume of aid for agriculture provided to developing countries increased by 47.2%, from \$12.3 billion to \$18.1 billion (in constant 2022 prices).

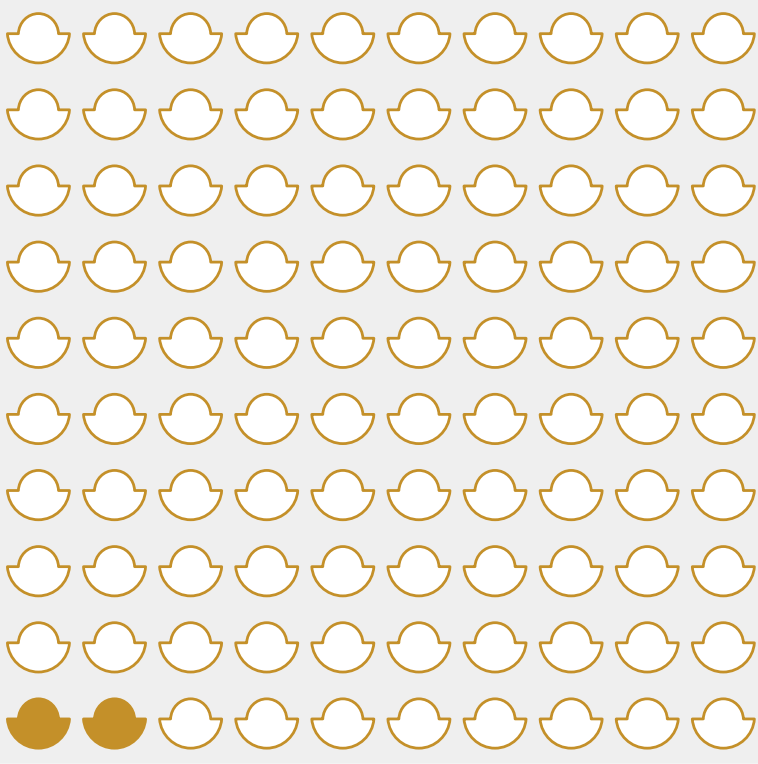
Proportion of the adult population experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity



Proportion of the adult population experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity

Switzerland 2.1% in 2021

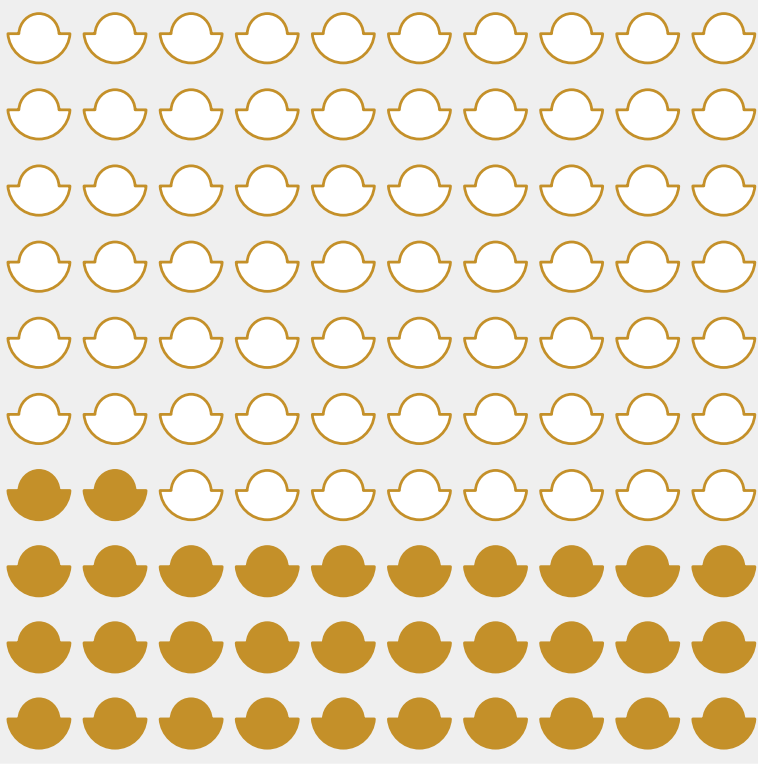
● = 1% of the adult population -2.7% since 2015



Target 2.1 – By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round (AG_PRD_FIESMS)

Colombia 31.6% in 2021

● = 1% of the adult population +11.6% since 2015



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

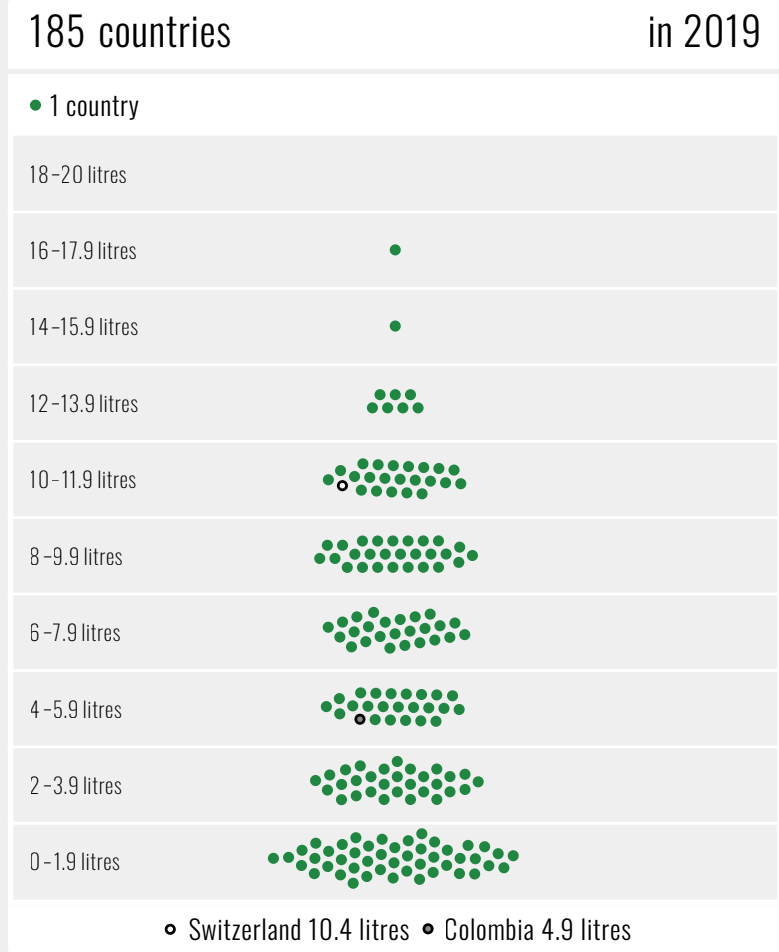


SDG 3 is to ♥ ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages ♥. SDG 3 has 13 targets and 28 indicators to measure progress toward targets.

Good health is essential to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda reflects the complexity and interconnectedness of the two. It takes into account widening economic and social inequalities, rapid urbanization, threats to the climate and the environment, the continuing burden of HIV and other infectious diseases, and emerging challenges such as non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Universal health coverage will be integral to achieving SDG 3, ending poverty (SDG 1) and reducing inequalities (SDG 10).

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly affected global health, reversing steady progress in life expectancy over the past two decades. Prior to the pandemic, global life expectancy rose consistently, from 66.8 years in 2000 to 73.1 years in 2019, reflecting years of improvements in health and related areas. COVID-19 swiftly reversed this positive trend, with global life expectancy plummeting to 71.4 years by 2021, back to the level of 2012. Global under-5 deaths reached a historic low of 4.9 million in 2022, down from 9.9 million in 2000 and 6.0 million in 2015. The global neonatal mortality rate fell to 17 deaths per 1000 live births in 2022, a 44% reduction since 2000 and a 12% reduction since 2015. If all countries met the target for under-5 mortality, an estimated 9 million lives could be saved by 2030. The proportion of the population lacking essential health services fell by approximately 15% between 2000 and 2021. Yet minimal progress after 2015 left about 4.5 billion people without coverage in 2021, especially in rural and poorer populations.

Alcohol per capita* consumption within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol

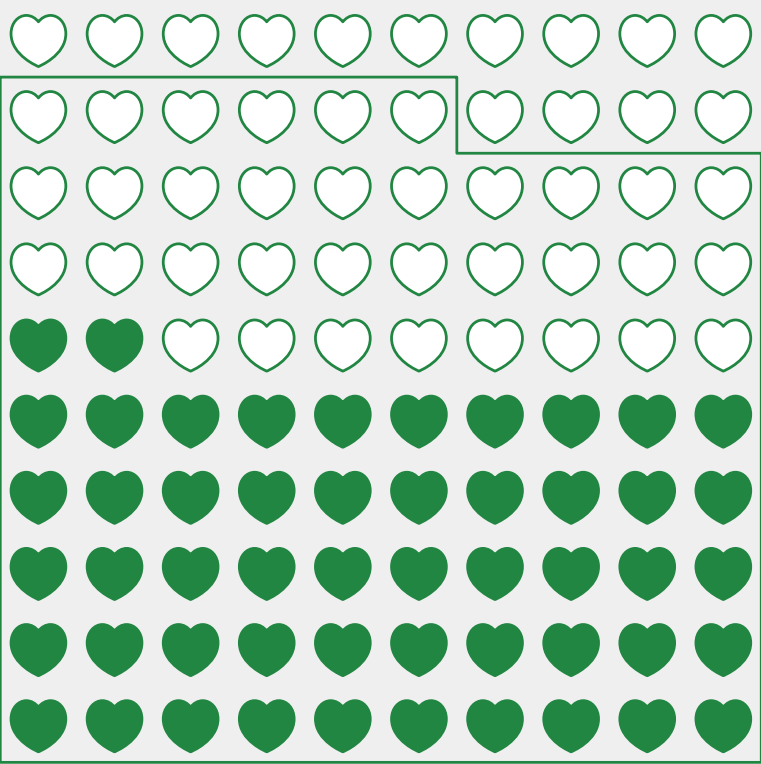


*aged 15 years and older

Alcohol per capita* consumption within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol

Switzerland 10.4 litres in 2019

♥ = 0.2 litres -2.1 litres since 2000



— Europe 17.1 litres in 2019

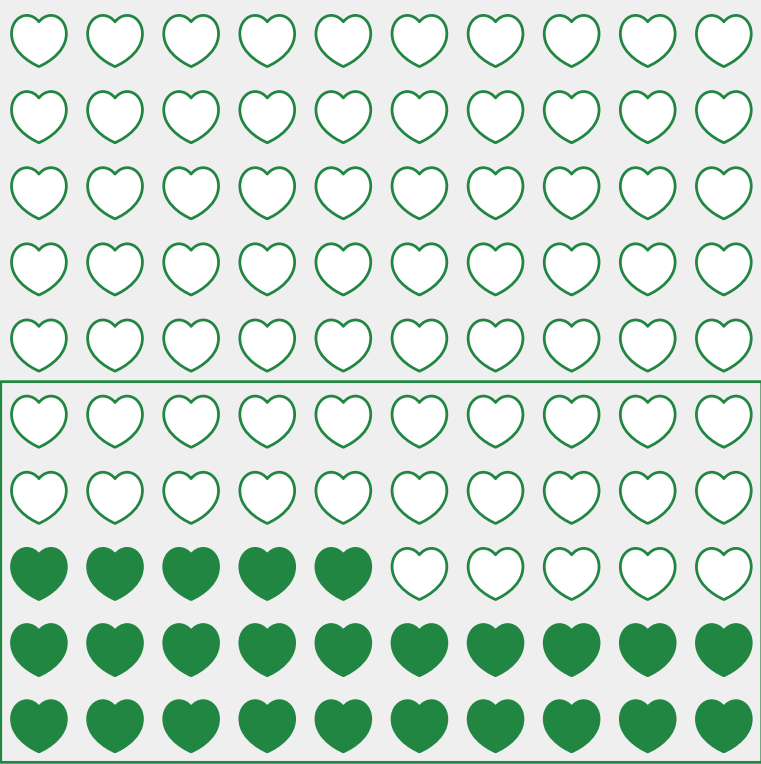
▼ Target direction

*aged 15 years and older

Target 3.5 – Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol (SH_ALC_CONSPT)

Colombia 4.9 litres in 2019

♥ = 0.2 litres -0.4 litres since 2000



— Latin America and the Caribbean 9.9 litres in 2019

▼ Target direction

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



SDG 4 is to 📖 ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all 📖. SDG 4 has 10 targets and 12 indicators to measure progress.

Achieving inclusive and quality education for all reaffirms the belief that education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development. This goal ensures that all girls and boys complete free primary and secondary schooling by 2030. It also aims to provide equal access to affordable vocational training, to eliminate gender and wealth disparities, and achieve universal access to a quality higher education.

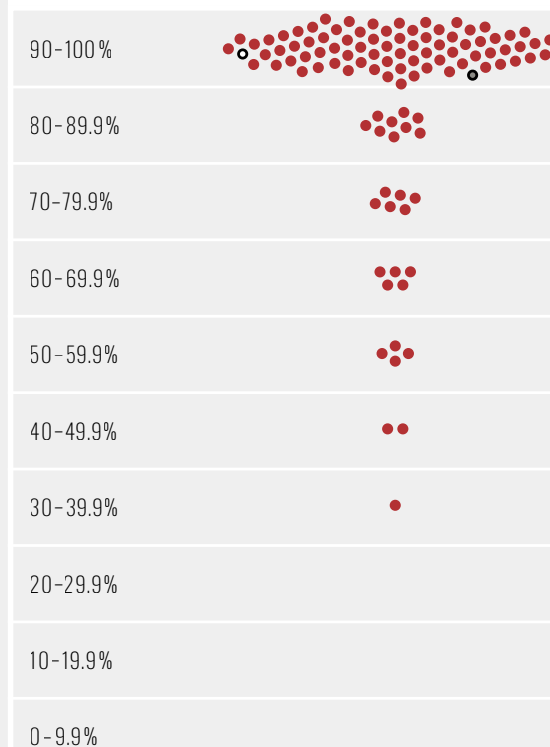
Since 2000, there has been enormous progress in achieving the target of universal primary education. The total enrollment rate in developing regions reached 91% in 2015, and the worldwide number of children out of school has declined by almost half. There has also been a considerable increase in literacy rates, and many more girls are in school than 20 years before. However, progress towards Goal 4 has been slow since 2015, with only 58 % of students worldwide achieving a minimum proficiency in reading by 2019. Recent assessments reveal a significant decline in math and reading scores in many countries, highlighting a set of factors beyond the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on global education. Between 2021 and 2022, the growth rate in schools' Internet access for pedagogical purposes doubled globally and even tripled in some regions. Significant disparities remained, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, where less than a third of primary schools and about half of secondary schools had access to electricity, hindering the use of technology.

Completion rate of primary school*

107 countries

in 2020

• 1 country



• Switzerland 99.7% • Colombia 93.5%

Target direction ▲

*ISCED level 1e

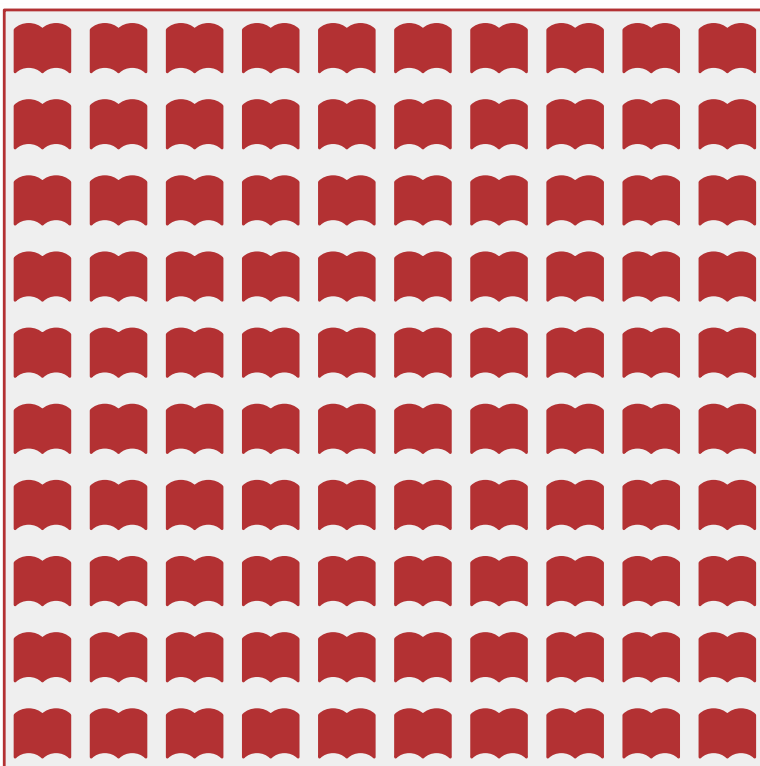
Completion rate of primary school*

Switzerland

99.7% in 2020

📖 = 1% of the population

+ 0.0% since 2000



— Europe 99.6% in 2020

Target direction ▲

*ISCED level 1e

Target 4.1 – By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes (SE_TOT_GPI)

Colombia

93.5% in 2020

📖 = 1% of the population

+ 11.9% since 2000



— Latin America and the Caribbean 92.5% in 2020

Target direction ▲

5 GENDER EQUALITY

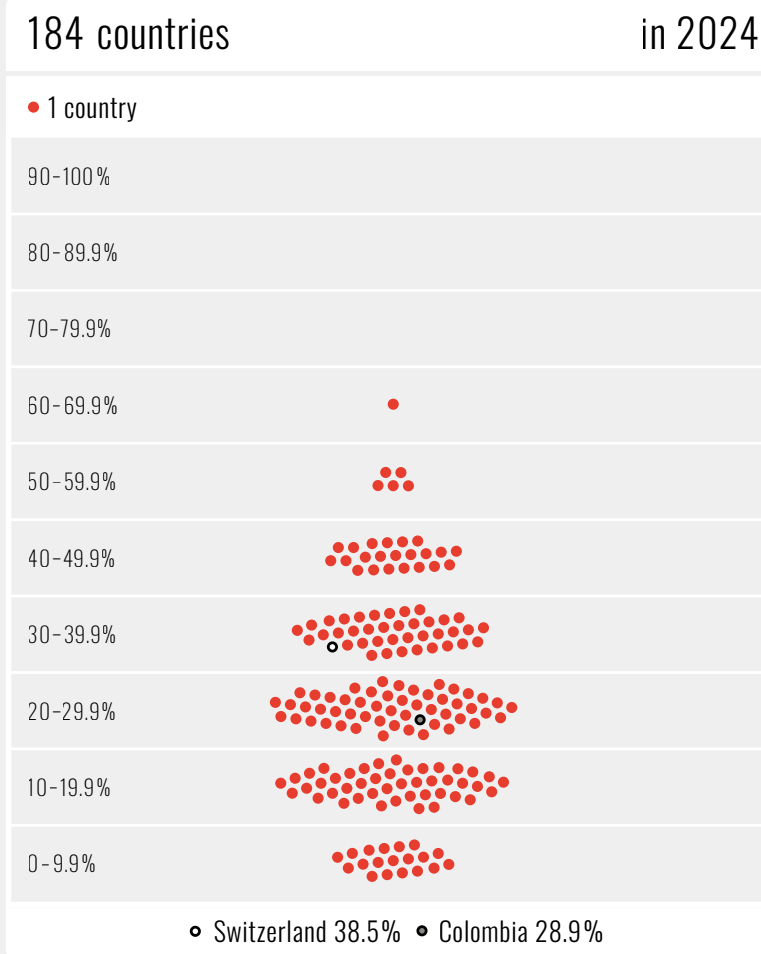


SDG 5 is to  achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls . SDG 5 has 9 targets and 14 indicators to measure progress.

It is vital to give women equal rights to land and property, sexual and reproductive health, and access to technology and the internet. Today there are more women in public administration than ever before, but encouraging more women leaders will help achieve greater gender equality.

There has been progress over the last decades: More girls are going to school, fewer girls are forced into early marriage, more women are represented in parliament or are holding positions of leadership, and laws are being reformed to advance gender equality. Despite these gains, many challenges remain: discriminatory laws and social norms remain pervasive, parity in managerial roles will take 176 years at current rates of change, one in five girls still marry before age 18, and a staggering 230 million girls and women have been subjected to female genital mutilation. Despite variations across regions and country-specific differences, women in general perform most unpaid domestic and care work. This disproportionate burden is amplified in lower-income households, contributing to poverty, inequality and precariousness, including by limiting labour-market participation. On average, each day, women spend 2.5 times more hours on unpaid domestic and care work than men.

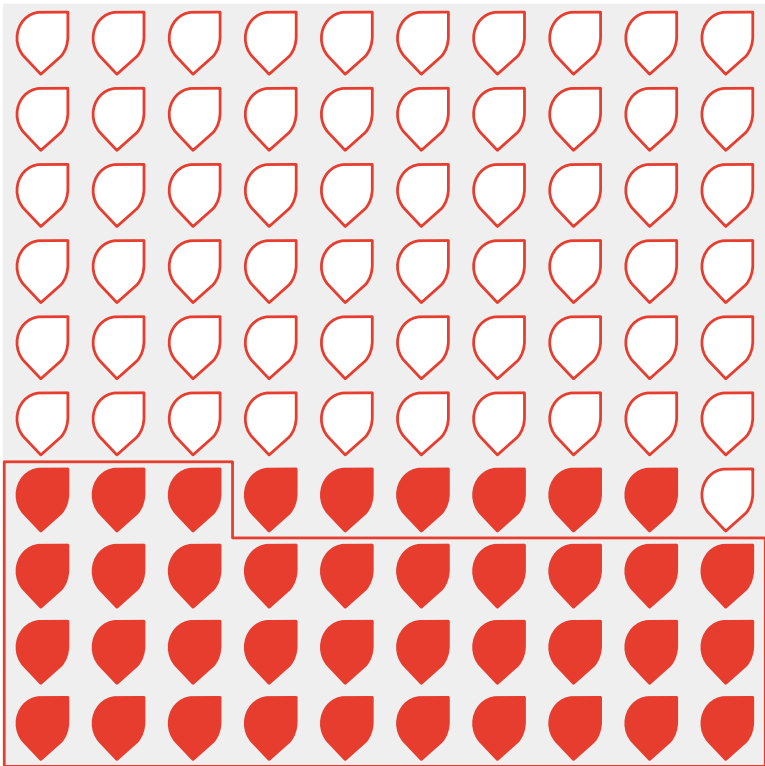
Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments



Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments

Switzerland 38.5% in 2024

♥ = 1% of all seats +16.0% since 2000

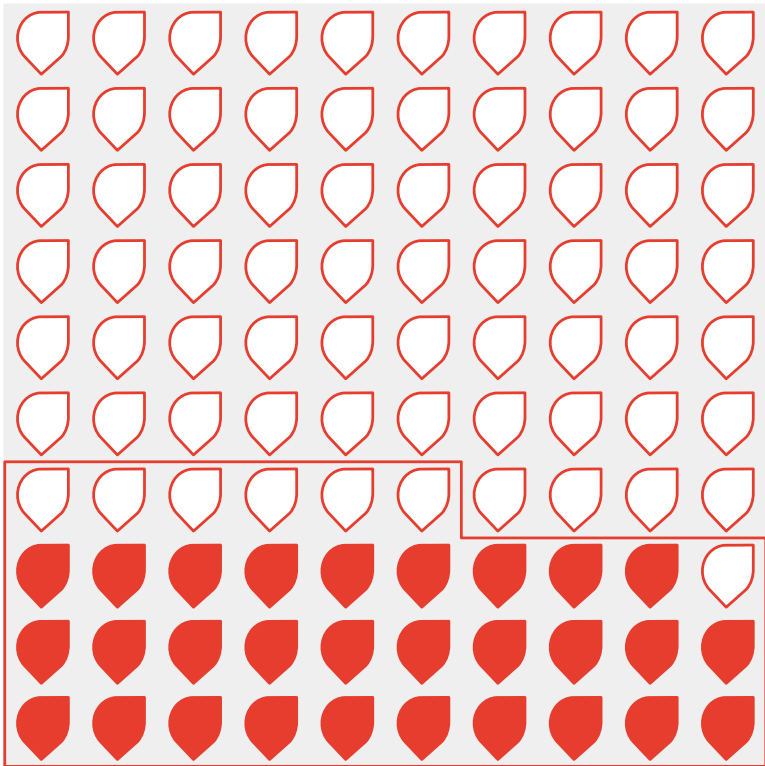


— Europe 32.9% in 2024

Target 5.5 – Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life (SG_GEN_PARL)

Colombia 28.9% in 2024

♥ = 1% of all seats +17.1% since 2000



— Latin America and the Caribbean 35.8% in 2024

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



SDG 6 is to  ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all . SDG 6 has 8 targets and 11 indicators to measure progress.

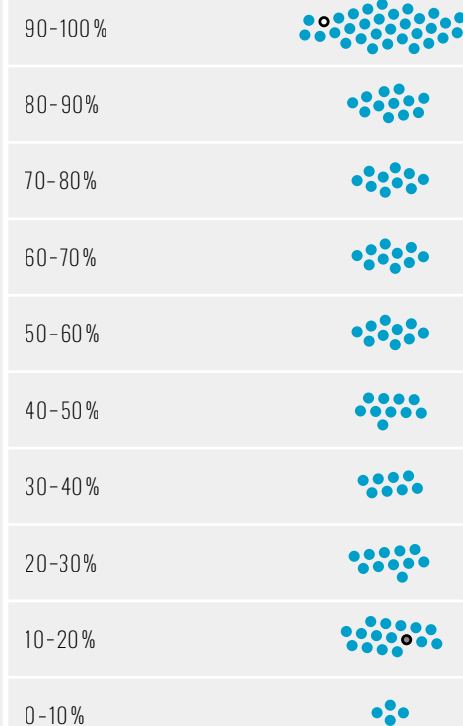
The supply of drinking water and access to sanitary facilities is a fundamental prerequisite for a decent life and for sustainable development worldwide. Ensuring the supply of drinking water and sanitation worldwide is key for the 2030 Agenda.

In 2022, roughly half the world's population experienced severe water scarcity for at least part of the year. One quarter faced 'extremely high' levels of water stress. Climate change worsens these issues, posing significant risks to social stability. Between 2015 and 2022, the proportion of the population using safely managed drinking water increased from 69% to 73%. Shares with safely managed sanitation rose from 49% to 57% and with basic hygiene services from 67% to 75%. Global water use efficiency increased from \$17.4/m³ in 2015 to \$20.8/m³ in 2021, a 19% increase in efficiency. Efficiency improved in all economic sectors. Agriculture saw the greatest rise, at 36%, followed by industry at 31% and services at 6.3%.

Proportion of population using a safe sanitation system

125 countries in 2022

• 1 country



• Switzerland 100% • Colombia 18%

Target direction ▲

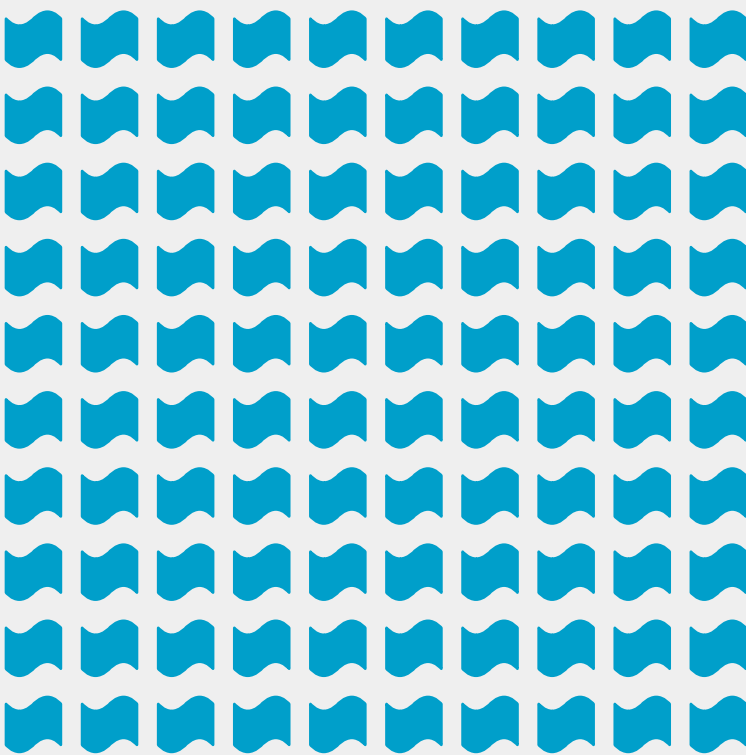
Proportion of population using a safe sanitation system

Switzerland

100% in 2022

🚽 = 1% of the total population

+1% since 2000



Target direction ▲

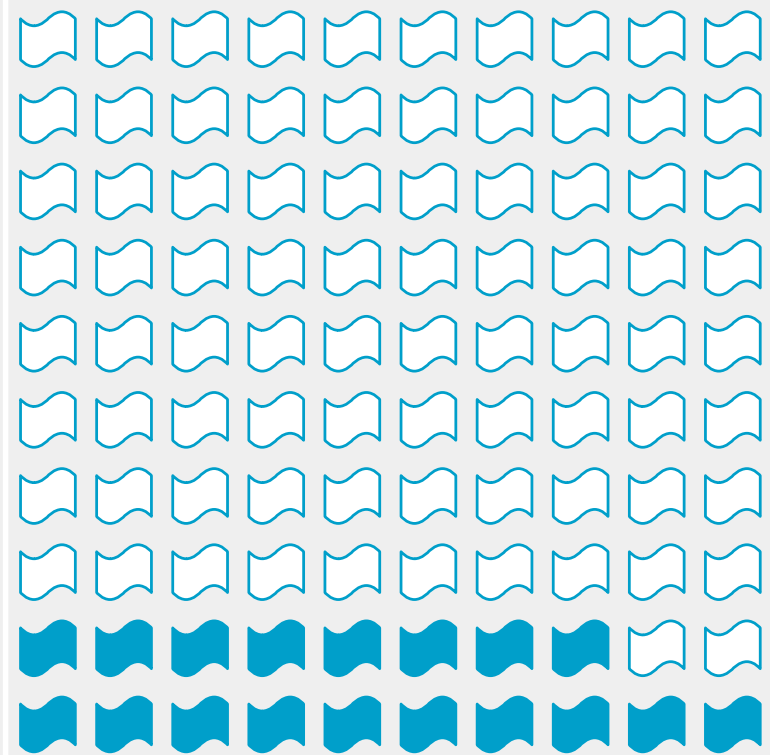
Target 6.2 – By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations (SH_SAN_SAFE)

Colombia

18% in 2022

🚽 = 1% of the total population

+3% since 2000



Target direction ▲

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



SDG 7 is to  ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all . The goal has 5 targets to be achieved by 2030 and 6 indicators measure the progress.

Investing in solar, wind and thermal power, improving energy productivity and ensuring energy for all is vital if we are to achieve SDG 7 by 2030. Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology to provide clean and more efficient energy in all countries will encourage growth and help the environment.

Considerable strides have been made in achieving sustainable energy targets. The number of people lacking access to electricity dropped from 958 million in 2015 to 685 million in 2022. The number without clean cooking fuels declined from 2.8 billion to 2.1 billion over the same period. Global capacity to generate electricity from renewable energy has begun expanding at an unprecedented rate, a trend expected to continue. However, recent events, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, have disrupted progress, including by exacerbating already insufficient international financial flows for clean energy in developing countries. Without a change in course, an estimated 660 million people will still lack electricity access and around 1.8 billion will go without clean cooking fuels and technologies by 2030.

Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption

191 countries

in 2021

• 1 country

90-100%



80-89.9%



70-79.9%



60-69.9%



50-59.9%



40-49.9%



30-39.9%



20-29.9%



10-19.9%



0-9.9%



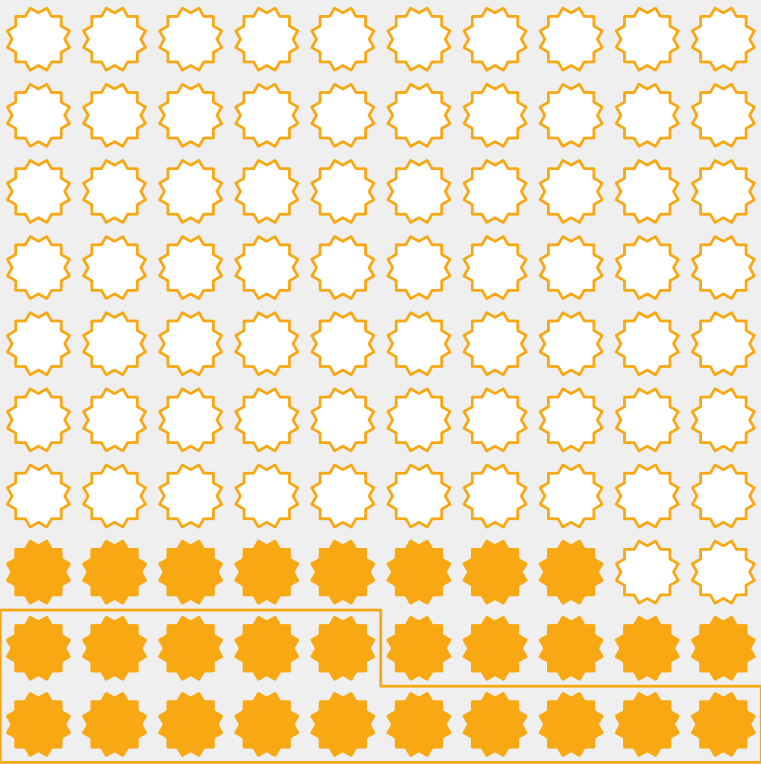
• Switzerland 27.7% • Colombia 29.7%

Target direction ▲

Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption

Switzerland 27.7% in 2021

☀ = 1% of the total energy consumption +9.5% since 2000

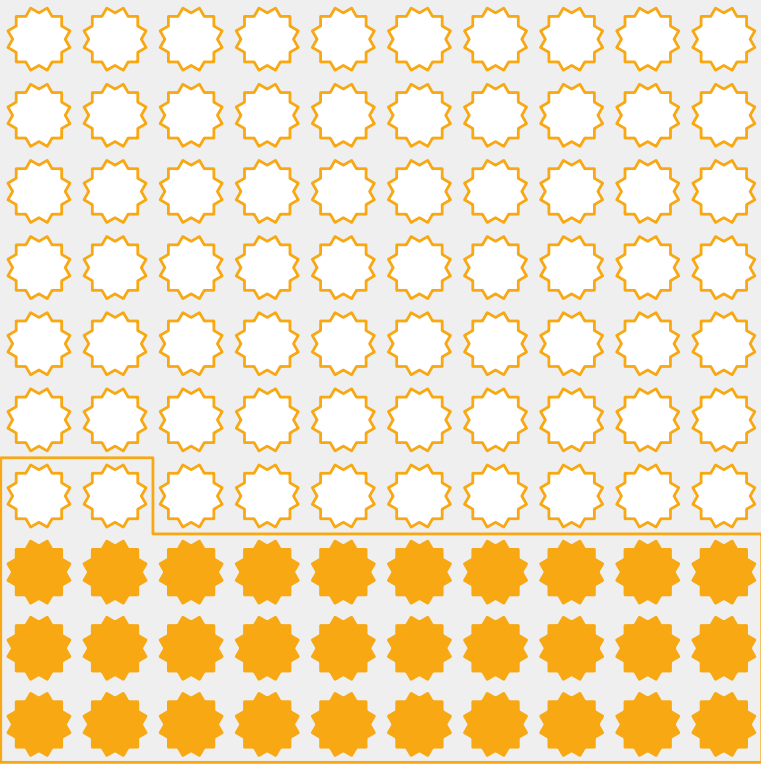


— Europe 15.3% in 2021

Target 7.2 – By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix (EG_FEC_RNEW)

Colombia 29.7% in 2021

☀ = 1% of the total energy consumption +1.8% since 2000



— Latin America and the Caribbean 32.3% in 2021

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



SDG 8 is to  promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all . SDG 8 has 12 targets and 16 indicators.

The SDGs promote sustained economic growth, higher levels of productivity and technological innovation. Encouraging entrepreneurship and job creation are key to this, as are effective measures to eradicate forced labour, slavery and human trafficking. With these targets in mind, the goal is to achieve full and productive employment, and decent work, for all women and men by 2030.

Over the past 25 years, the number of workers living in extreme poverty has declined dramatically, despite the lasting impact of the 2008 economic crisis and global recession. In developing countries, the middle class now makes up more than a third of total employment – a number that has almost tripled between 1991 and 2015. Global unemployment hit a historic low of 5% in 2023 yet persistent roadblocks remain in achieving decent work. Women and youth face higher unemployment rates. Informal employment poses a significant global challenge, with over 2 billion workers in informal jobs lacking social protection in 2023. In the LDCs, and in sub-Saharan Africa and Central and Southern Asia, nearly 9 in 10 workers are informally employed. Alarmingly, over one in five young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET). Compliance with fundamental labour rights has deteriorated.

Proportion of youth not in education, employment or training*

84 countries

in 2022

• 1 country

90-100%

80-89.9%

70-79.9%

60-69.9%

50-59.9%

40-49.9%

30-39.9%

20-29.9%

10-19.9%

0-9.9%

• Switzerland 9.7% • Colombia 24.4%

Target direction
▼

*aged 15-24 years

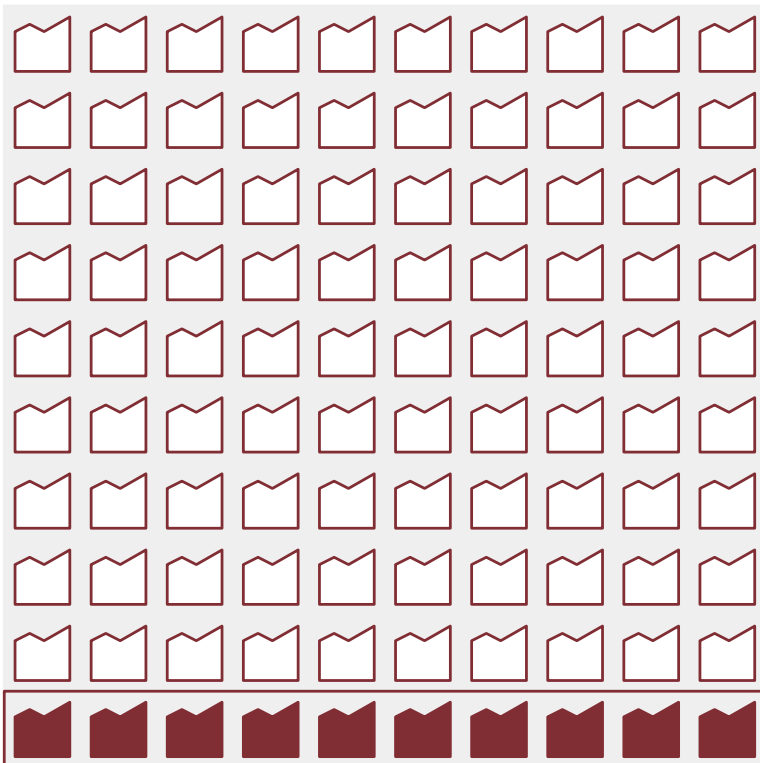
Proportion of youth not in education, employment or training*

Switzerland

9.7% in 2022

📄 = 1% of the youth population

+3.0% since 2002



— Europe 10.3% in 2022

▼ Target direction

*aged 15–24 years

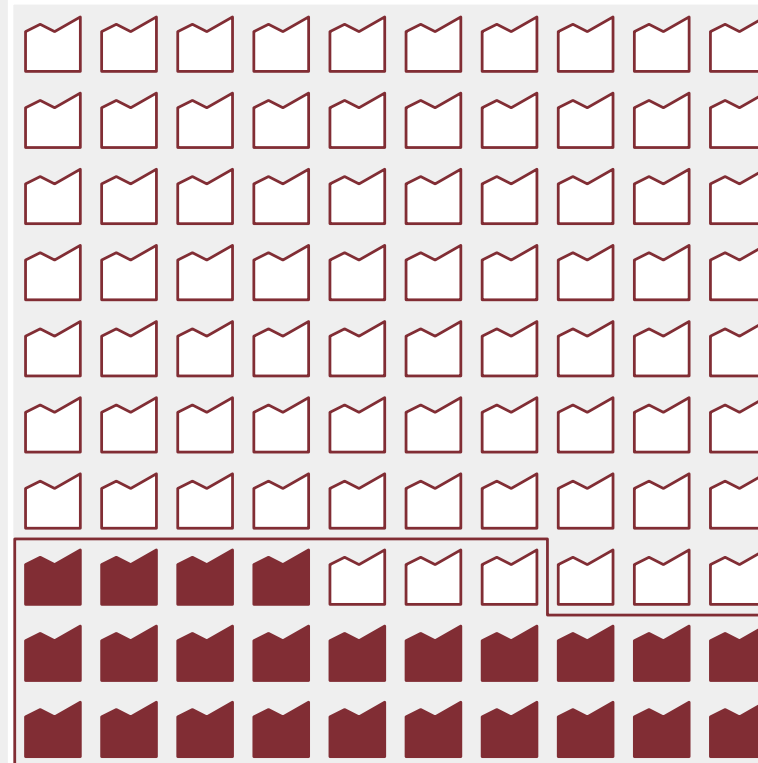
Target 8.6 – By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training (SL_TLF_NEET)

Colombia

24.4% in 2022

📄 = 1% of the youth population

-5.5% since 2002



— Latin America and the Caribbean 26.7% in 2022

▼ Target direction

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



SDG 9 is to  build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation . SDG 9 has 8 targets, and progress is measured by 12 indicators.

With over half of the world population now living in cities, mass transport and renewable energy are becoming ever more important, as are the growth of new industries and information and communication technologies. Technological progress is also key to finding lasting solutions to both economic and environmental challenges, such as providing new jobs and promoting energy efficiency. Promoting sustainable industries, and investing in scientific research and innovation, are all important ways to facilitate sustainable development.

Since 2022, manufacturing sector growth has plateaued at around 2.7%, a level expected to persist into 2024 due to the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical tensions. Small enterprises continue to face hurdles such as limited access to credit, especially in sub-Saharan Africa and the LDCs; only around 17% has access to loans or credit lines. In terms of communications infrastructure, in most developing countries, mobile broadband (3G or above) is the main way – and often the only way – to connect to the Internet. Around 95% of the global population now has this form of access. Bridging the ‘coverage gap’ for the remaining 5% poses significant challenges. In 2023, global CO₂ emissions from energy combustion and industrial processes increased by 1.1% to an unprecedented 37.4 gigatons. At the same time, emissions per unit of GDP consistently decreased, dropping 11.5% from 0.29 kilograms per dollar (purchasing power parity) in 2015 to 0.25 in 2021. Progress in reducing emissions intensity to cut global emissions overall has been insufficient.

Share of gross domestic product* spent on research and development



Target direction ▲

*GDP

Share of gross domestic product* spent on research and development

Switzerland

3.20% in 2019

🏠 = 0.05% of the total GDP

+0.94% since 2000



— Europe 1.98% in 2019

Target direction ▲

*GDP

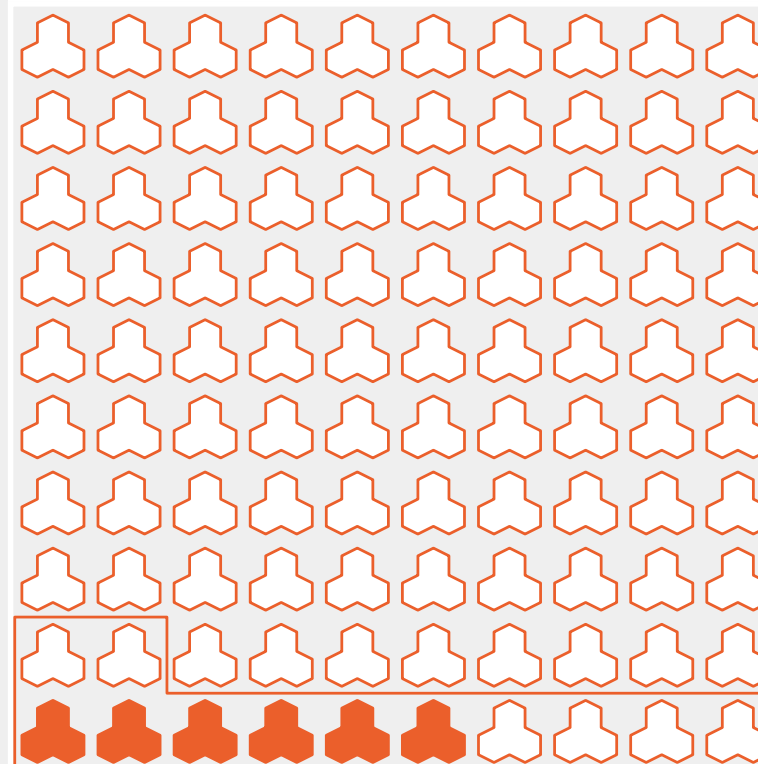
Target 9.5 – Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending (GB_XPD_RSDV)

Colombia

0.32% in 2019

🏠 = 0.05% of the total GDP

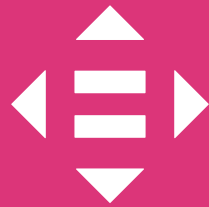
+0.19% since 2000



— Latin America and the Caribbean 0.60% in 2019

Target direction ▲

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



SDG 10 is to  reduce inequality within and among countries . This goal has 10 targets and 14 indicators to measure progress.

Reducing inequalities and ensuring that no one is left behind are integral to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Reducing inequalities requires global solutions. This involves improving the regulation and monitoring of financial markets and institutions, encouraging development assistance and foreign direct investment to regions where the need is greatest. Facilitating the safe migration and mobility of people is also key to bridging the widening divide.

Since 2000, two thirds of countries with data have reduced the proportion of their population living on less than half the median income. This trend continued during the pandemic. Data from 82 countries, representing 70 % of the world's population, indicate a slight decline in the proportion of people living below half the median income post-2019 compared to 2015–2019, dropping from 12.8 to 12.1%. Social assistance programmes, particularly in wealthier countries, largely explain reduced inequality during the pandemic. Workers' wages have not kept pace with productivity, and labour's share of GDP has resumed its long-term decline. This negative trend implies that rising labour productivity has not fully translated into higher labour compensation. At the same time, a historic reversal is threatening improvements in inequality among countries. The economies of half the world's most vulnerable countries have been growing at slower rates than those of wealthy countries. In 2023, a tragic milestone occurred as it became the deadliest year on record for migrants, with 8177 fatalities documented. The majority of deaths occurred on routes taken by migrants affected by crises.

Share of GDP that goes to pay workers, as opposed to share that goes to capital*



*e.g. owners, investors, banks

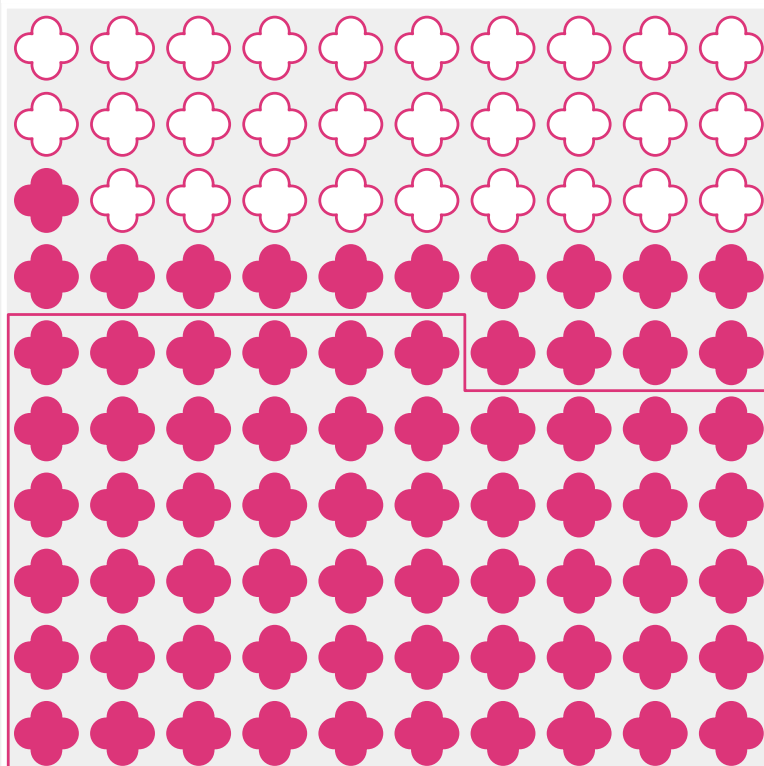
Share of GDP that goes to pay workers, as opposed to share that goes to capital*

Switzerland

70.5% in 2021

✿ = 1% of the total GDP

+1.2% since 2004



— Europe 56.3% in 2021

*e.g. owners, investors, banks

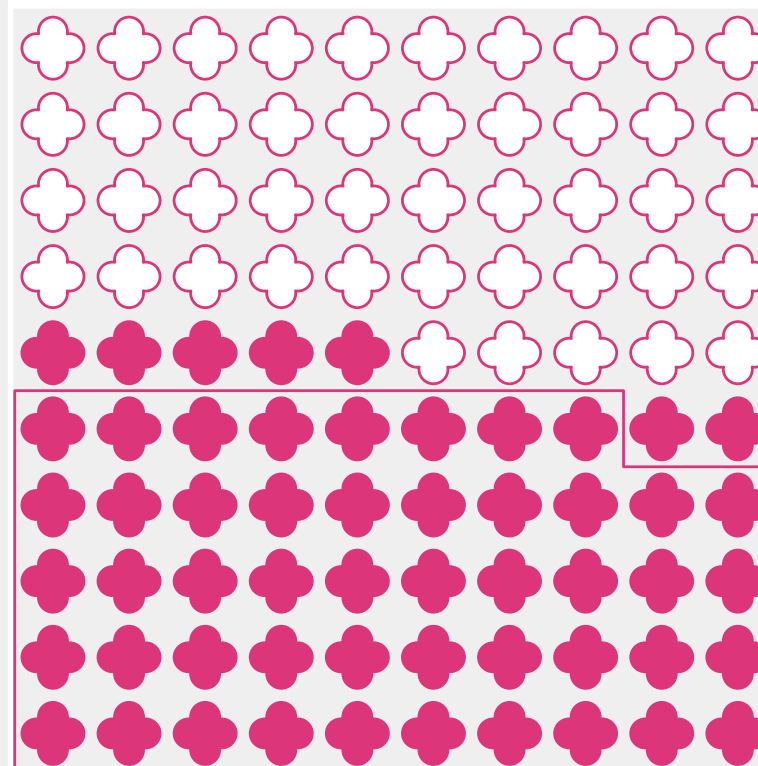
Target 10.4 – Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality (SL_EMP_GTOTL)

Colombia

54.7% in 2021

✿ = 1% of the total GDP

+4.4% since 2004



— Latin America and the Caribbean 47.8% in 2021

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

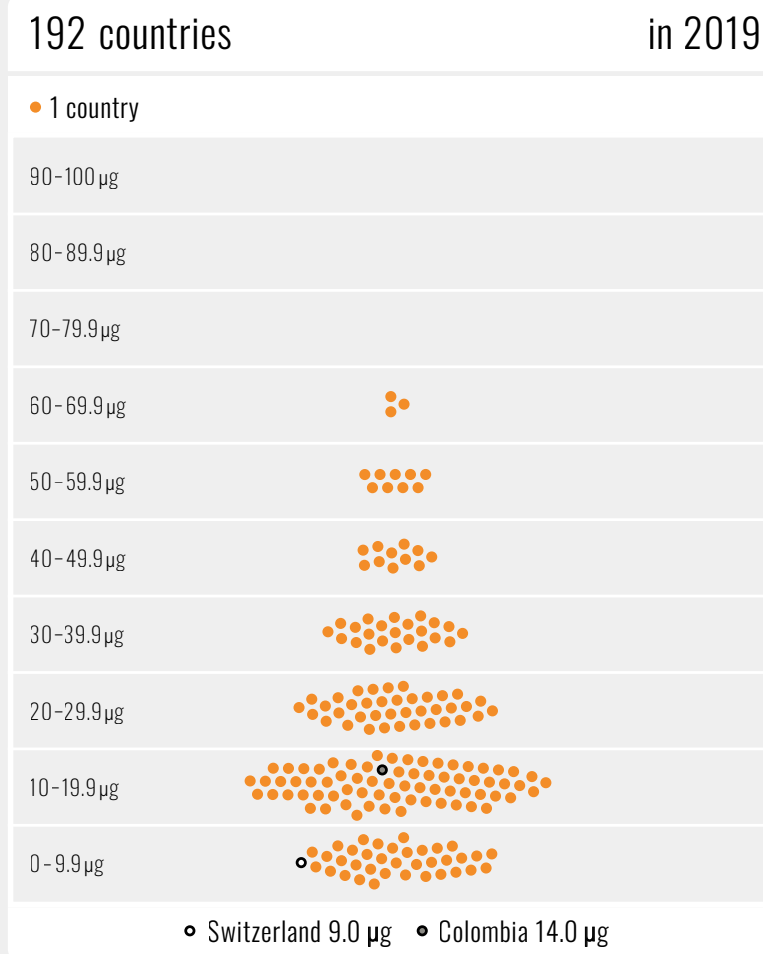


SDG 11 is to 🏠 make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable 🏠. SDG 11 has 10 targets to be achieved, and this is being measured with 15 indicators.

Making cities sustainable means creating career and business opportunities, safe and affordable housing, and building resilient societies and economies. It involves investment in public transport, creating green public spaces, and improving urban planning and management in participatory and inclusive ways.

Over half the world's population currently resides in cities, yet urban areas confront myriad complex challenges. In 2022, 24.8% of the urban population lived in slums or informal settlements, slightly lower than 25% in 2015 but higher than 24.2% in 2020. The total slum population was 1.12 billion in 2022, 130 million more than in 2015, marking a reversal from the consistent decrease observed from 2000 to 2020. While air pollution levels have declined in most regions, they are still significantly higher than the recommended air quality guidelines for public health protection. Improved air quality monitoring has been instrumental in confirming regional successes and informing policy decisions. Many cities worldwide lack adequate urban transit infrastructure. Only 6 in 10 urban residents have convenient access to public transit, based on data collected in 2023 from 2039 cities in 188 countries. The shortfall is particularly problematic in the LDCs, where less than 4 in 10 urban residents have accessible public transportation options, compared to 8 in 10 in more affluent regions.

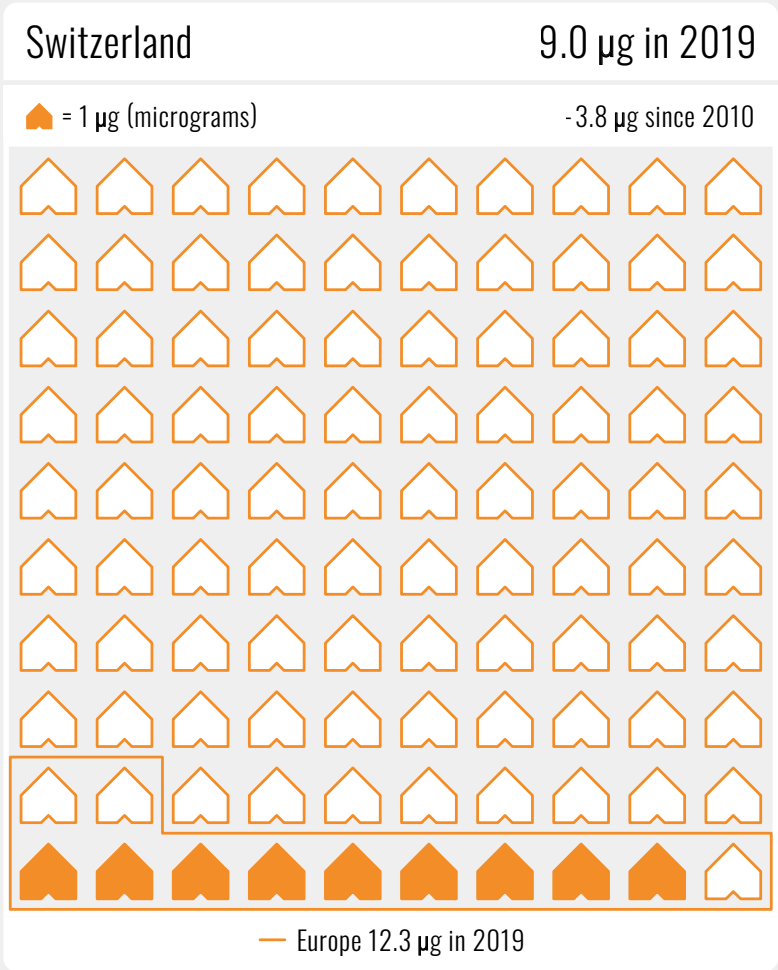
Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter in cities*



*weighted by population, in micrograms per cubic metre

Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter in cities*

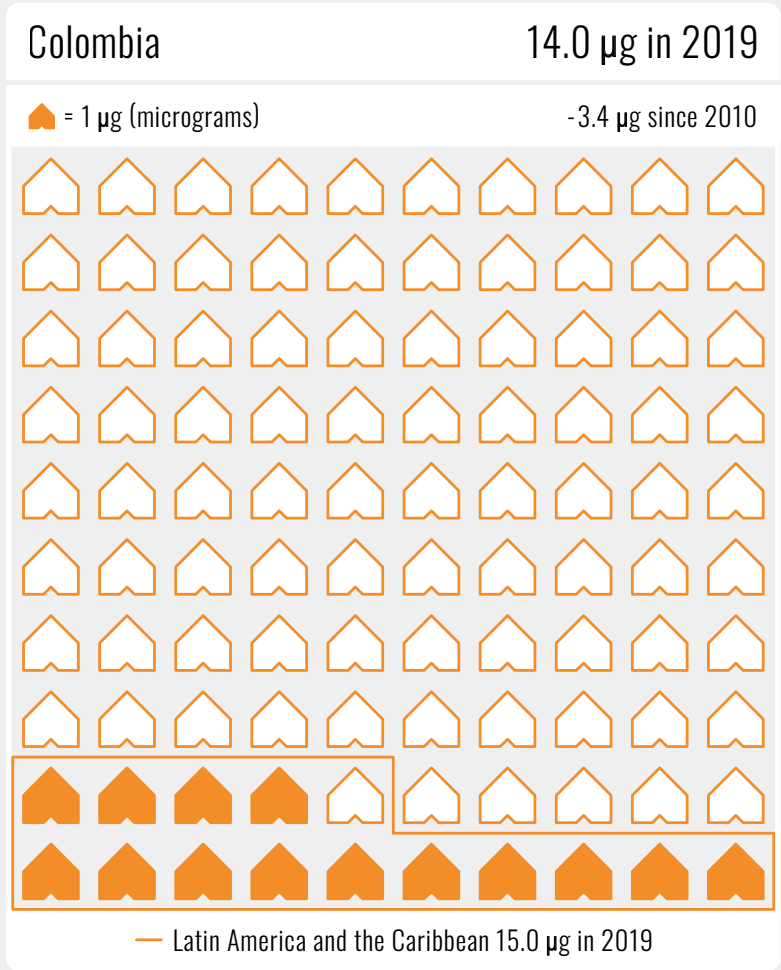
Target direction
▼



*weighted by population, in micrograms per cubic metre

Target 11.6 – By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management (EN_ATM_PM25)

Target direction
▼



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



SDG 12 is to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. SDG 12 has 11 targets and 13 indicators to measure progress.

The efficient management of the shared natural resources, and the way how toxic waste and pollutants are disposed, are important targets to achieve this goal. Encouraging industries, businesses and consumers to recycle and reduce waste is equally important, as is supporting developing countries to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption by 2030. Worldwide consumption and production rest on the use of the natural environment and resources in a way that continues to have destructive impacts on the planet.

In 2021, 13.2% of food produced globally was lost after harvest and during transport, storage, wholesale and processing. An alarming 19% of all food at the retail or consumption stage was wasted in 2022, totalling 1.05 billion metric tons of all food available to consumers. E-waste generation rose from 6.3 to 7.8 kilograms per capita from 2015 to 2022, reaching a total of 62 million metric tons of e-waste in 2022. Only 1.7 kilograms per capita was collected and managed in an environmentally sound manner. However, there is a positive trend in the development of national instruments and strategies aimed at supporting Goal 12. From 2019 to 2023, 62 Member States and the European Union reported 516 policy instruments to accelerate the transition to sustainable consumption and production patterns. Moreover, in 2021–2022, 73% of sampled companies published sustainability reports, triple the share in 2016, with growth in all regions.

Food waste per capita in kilograms at retail, public and household level

191 countries in 2022

• 1 country

225–250 kg



200–224.9 kg



175–199.9 kg



150–174.9 kg



125–149.9 kg



100–124.9 kg



75–99.9 kg



50–74.9 kg



25–49.9 kg



0–24.9 kg

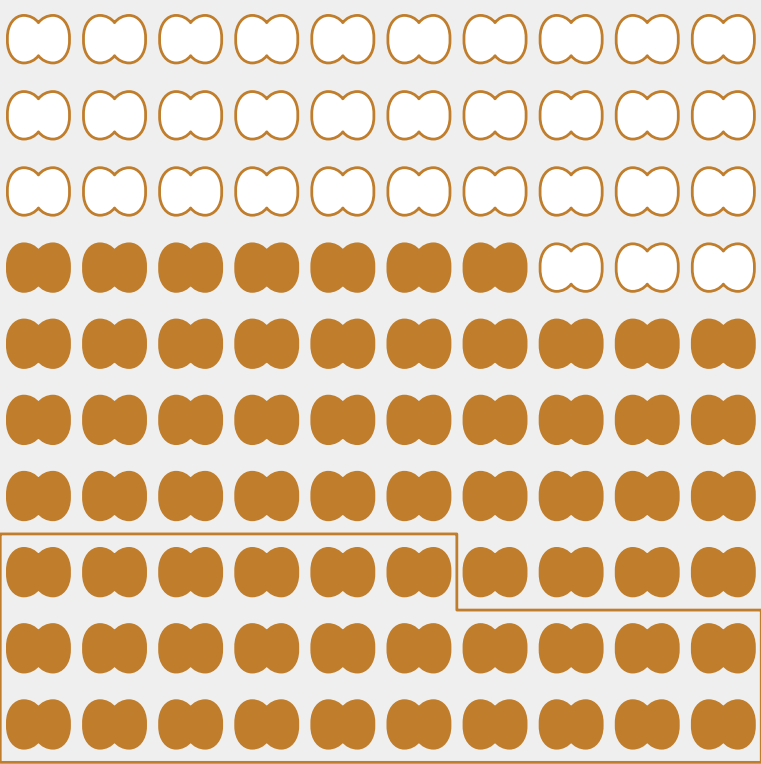
• Switzerland 167.4 kg • Colombia 137.0 kg

Target direction ▼

Food waste per capita in kilograms at retail, public and household level

Switzerland 167.4 kg in 2022

🍷 = 2.5 kg food waste per capita +42.7 kg since 2019

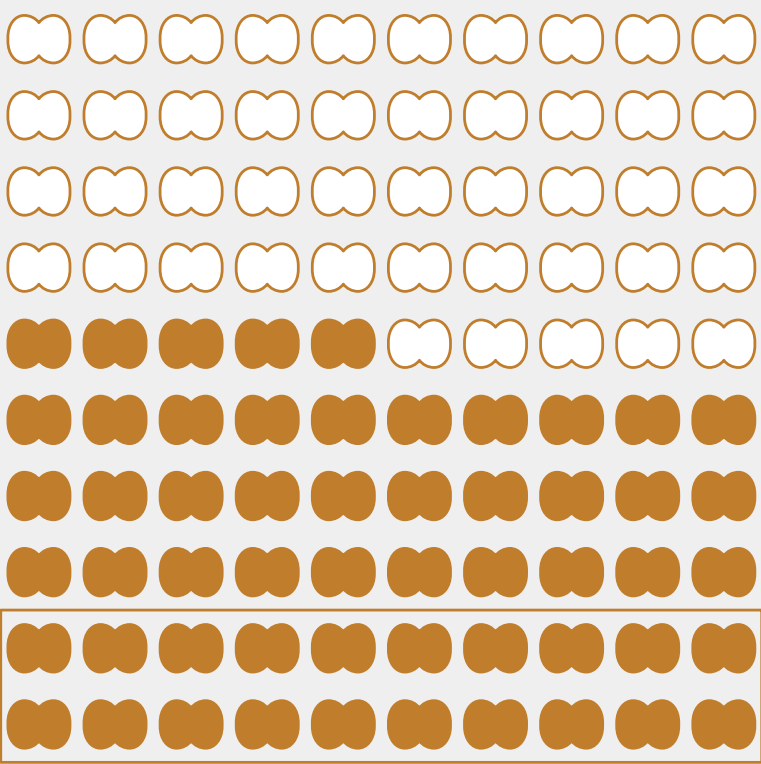


— Europe 66.2 kg in 2022

Target 12.3 – By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses (ER_FFS_CMPT_PC)

Colombia 137.0 kg in 2022

🍷 = 2.5 kg food waste per capita +22.9 kg since 2019



— Latin America and the Caribbean 49.4 kg in 2022

13 CLIMATE ACTION



SDG 13 is to ● take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts ●. SDG 13 has 5 targets and 8 indicators.

Climate change is a key challenge with regard to sustainable development. The warming of the earth's atmosphere is triggering changes in the global climate system that threaten the livelihoods of large sections of the population in less developed countries, while infrastructure and certain economic sectors in particular are vulnerable to the risks of climate change in developed regions.

In 2022, global greenhouse gas emissions reached a new record of 57.4 gigatons of CO₂ equivalent, according to the United Nations Environment Programme's Emissions Gap Report 2023. About two thirds of emissions comprised CO₂ from fossil fuel combustion and industrial processes. Except transportation, emissions from all major sectors have rebounded since the pandemic and now exceed 2019 levels. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) confirmed that 2023 was the hottest year on record, with global average temperatures soaring to approximately 1.45°C above pre-industrial levels. The 10 warmest years in the 174 years with records have all occurred during the last decade. There is currently only a 14% chance of limiting warming to 1.5°C, underscoring the urgency of immediate, accelerated action to significantly cut emissions this decade. According to the WMO, recorded disasters increased fivefold over the past 50 years, driven partly by human-induced climate change. However, improved preparedness, including early warning systems and evacuation measures, have significantly reduced disaster mortality in recent years.

Total greenhouse gas emissions without land use and forestry*

128 countries

in 2017

• 1 country

180 M tons and more



160–179.9 M tons



140–159.9 M tons

120–139.9 M tons



100–119.9 M tons



80–99.9 M tons



60–79.9 M tons



40–59.9 M tons



20–39.9 M tons



0–19.9 M tons



• Switzerland 48.2 M tons • Colombia 171.0 M tons

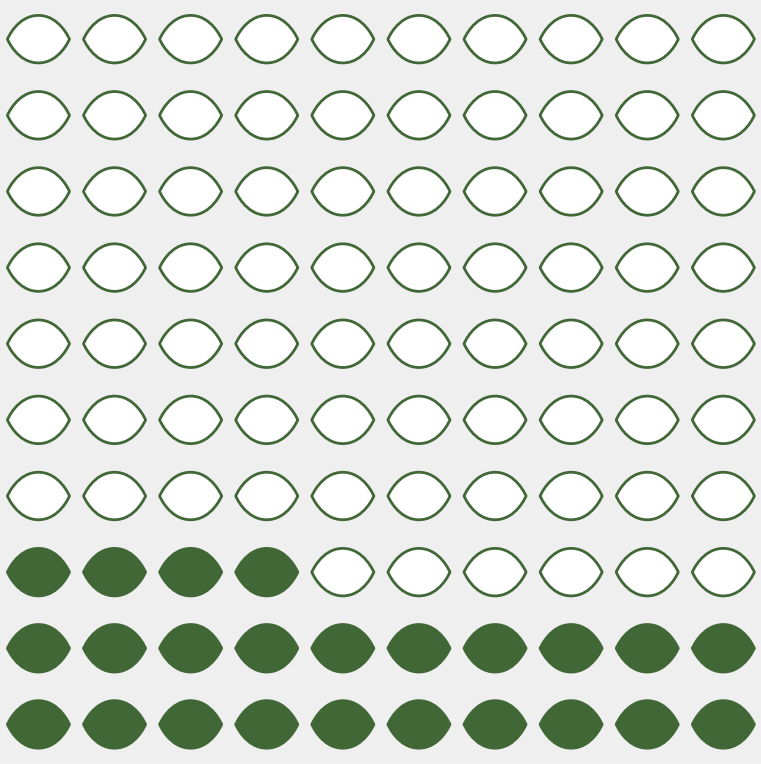
Target direction
▼

*in million (M) tons

Total greenhouse gas emissions without land use and forestry*

Switzerland 48.2 M tons in 2017

● = 2 M tons of greenhouse gas emissions -5.6 M tons since 2007

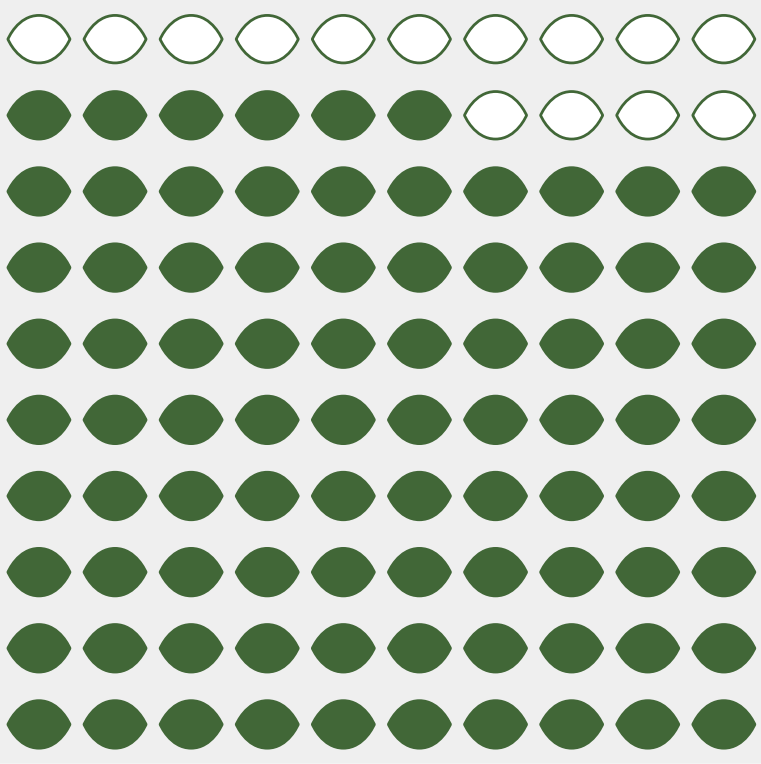


*in million (M) tons

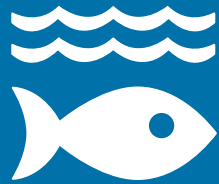
Target 13.2 – Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning (EN_ATM_GHGT_(N)AIP)

Colombia 171.0 M tons in 2017

● = 2 M tons of greenhouse gas emissions +32.0 M tons since 2007



14 LIFE
BELOW WATER

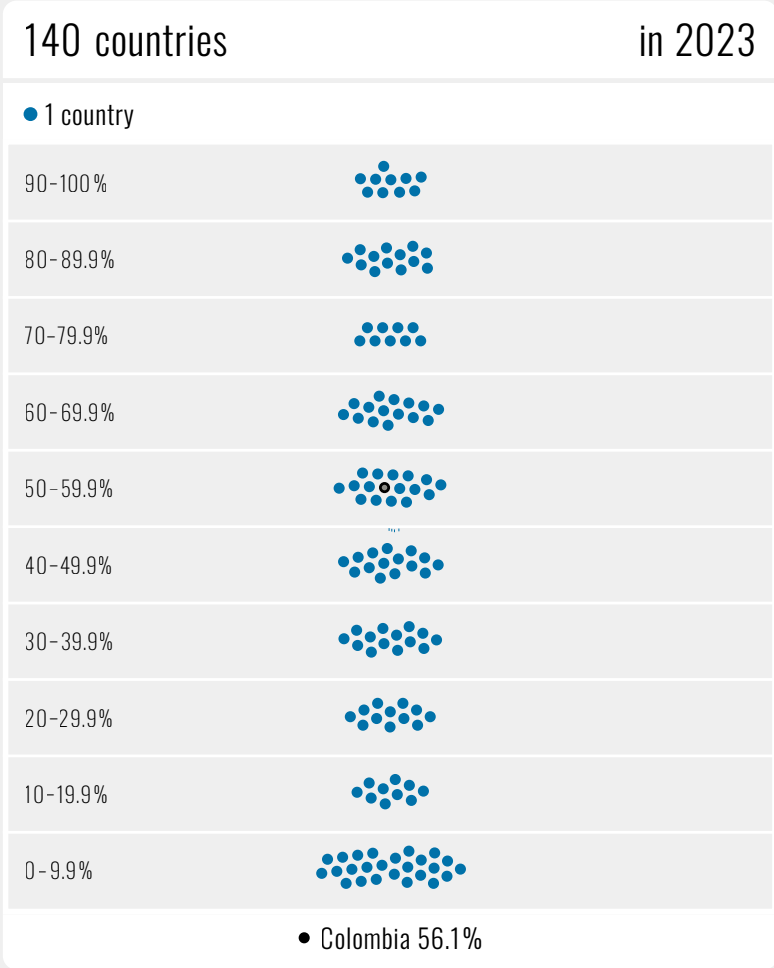


SDG 14 is to  conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development . This SDG has 10 targets and 10 indicators.

The SDGs aim to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution, as well as reduce the impacts of ocean acidification. Enhancing conservation and the sustainable use of ocean-based resources through international law will also help mitigate some of the challenges facing our oceans. The ocean drives global systems that make the Earth habitable for humankind. Our rainwater, drinking water, weather, climate, coastlines, much of our food, and even the oxygen in the air we breathe, are all ultimately provided and regulated by the sea.

More than 3 billion people rely on the ocean for their livelihoods. The sustainability of global fishery resources declined from 90.0% in 1974 to 64.6% in 2019 and further to 62.3% in 2021, due to overfishing, pollution, poor management and other factors. The value added of fisheries and aquaculture rose by 10% from 2019 to 2021. The contribution of sustainable fisheries to GDP declined 5.4% in 2021, however, mainly due to the expansion of other economic sectors and the declining sustainability of several fish stocks in some regions. Several countries that depend heavily on fisheries for livelihoods and food security, however, have seen positive developments. As of May 2024, there are 18200 marine protected areas and 199 other effective, area-based conservation measures covering over 29 million square kilometres or 8.12% of the ocean. This represents a more than tenfold increase in marine protected area coverage since 2000.

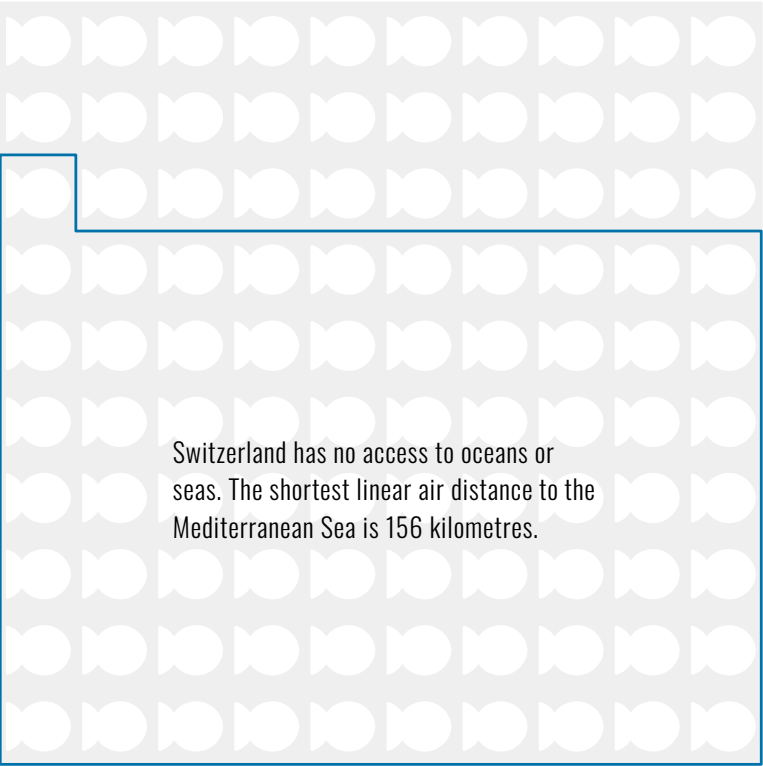
Proportion of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas* covered by protected areas



Proportion of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas* covered by protected areas

Switzerland

 = 1% of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas



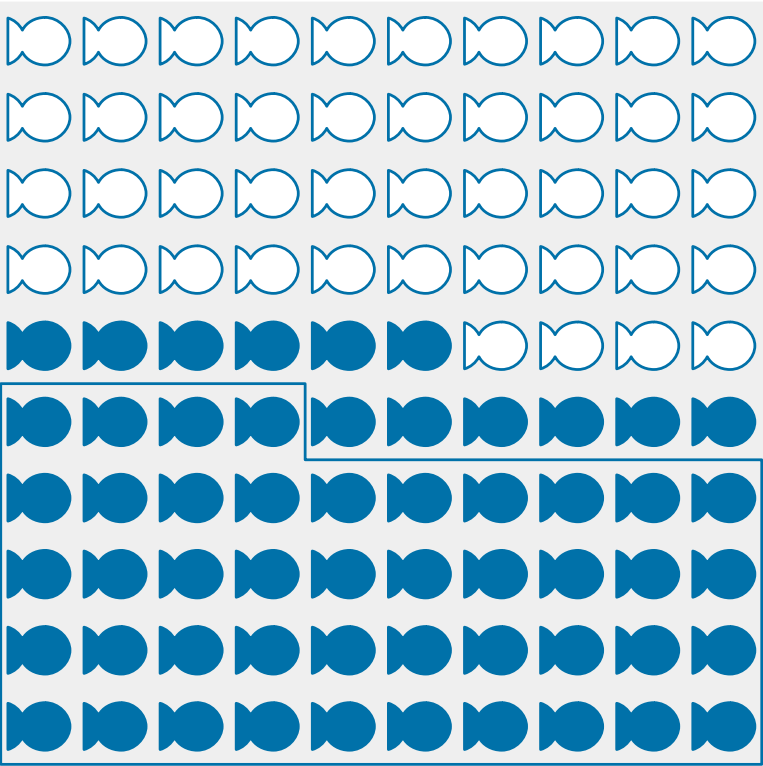
— Europe 71.2% in 2023

Target 14.5 – By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information (ER_MRN_MPA)

Colombia

56.1% in 2023

 = 1% of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas +23.0% since 2000



— Latin America and the Caribbean 44.0% in 2023

*KBAs

15 LIFE
ON LAND

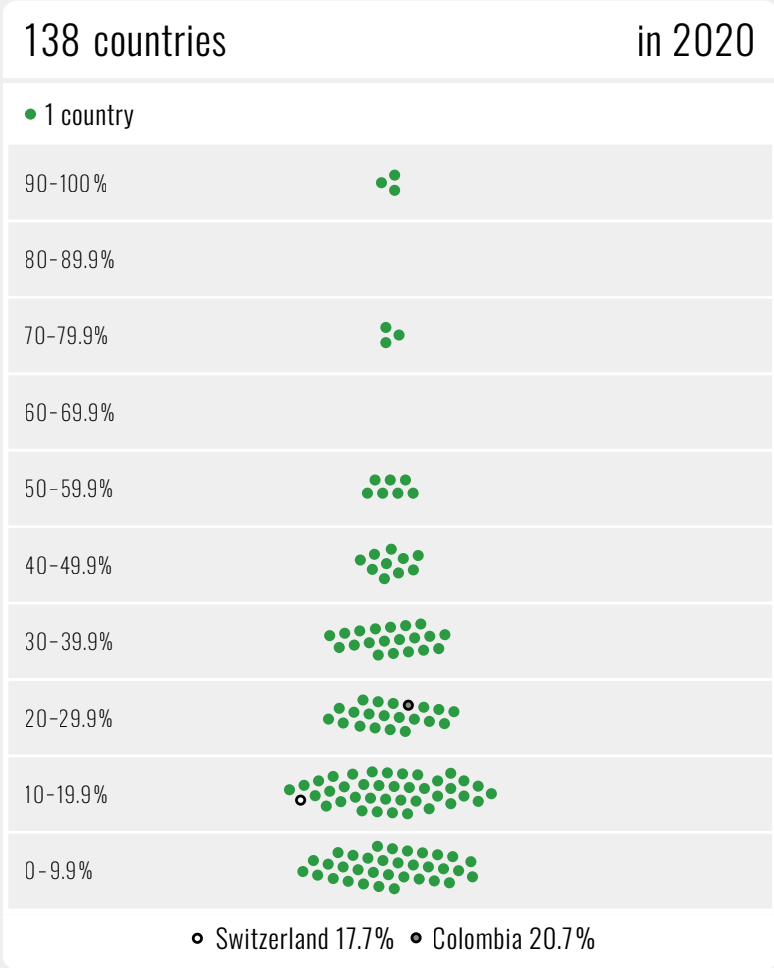


SDG 15 is to 🌳 protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss 🌳. For this goal, 12 targets and 14 indicators was established.

A number of actions must be taken to reduce the loss of natural habitats and biodiversity, which are part of the world's heritage and support global food and water security, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and peace and security.

Between 2000 and 2020, the proportion of forest cover decreased from 31.9 to 31.2 % of total land area, resulting in net forest area losses of nearly 100 million hectares. Agricultural expansion drove almost 90 % of global deforestation. Global biodiversity faces ongoing threats, evidenced by a 12 % deterioration in the Red List Index between 1993 and 2024. Over 44 000 species, or 28 % of almost 160 000 assessed species, are currently threatened. They include 70 % of cycads and 41 % of amphibians. Illegal wildlife trade persists worldwide despite two decades of concerted action at international and national levels and poses a significant threat to global biodiversity, endangering a wide range of terrestrial and marine species. Illegal trade has affected around 4 000 plant and animal species in 162 countries and territories from 2015 to 2021.

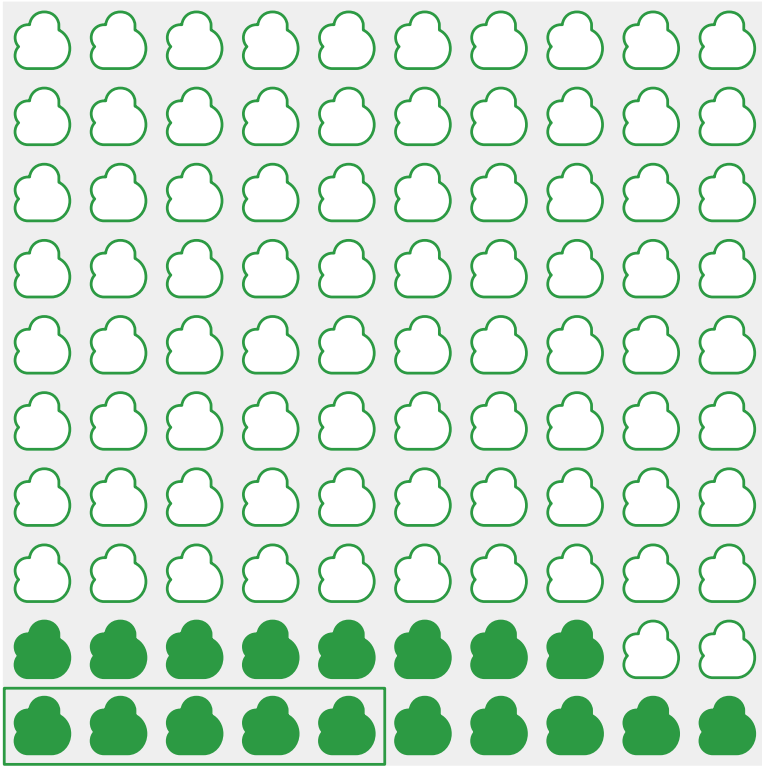
Proportion of forest area under a long-term sustainable management plan



Proportion of forest area under a long-term sustainable management plan

Switzerland 17.7% in 2020

🌳 = 1% of all forest areas +0.0% since 2015

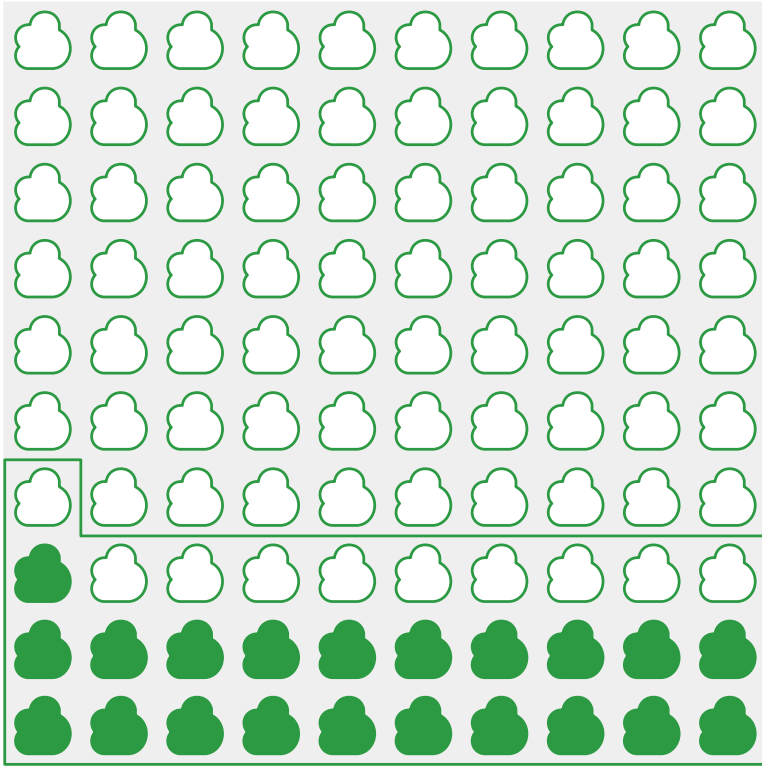


— Europe 4.5% in 2020

Target 15.2 – By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally (AG_LND_FRSTMGT)

Colombia 20.7% in 2020

🌳 = 1% of all forest areas +0.3% since 2015



— Latin America and the Caribbean 31.3% in 2020

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



SDG 16 is to  promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels . SDG 16 has 12 targets and 24 indicators to measure progress.

This SDG aims to significantly reduce all forms of violence, and work with governments and communities to end conflict and insecurity. Promoting the rule of law and human rights are key to this process, as is reducing the flow of illicit arms and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.

In 2023, civilian casualties in armed conflicts surged by a staggering 72%, the steepest rise since 2015. For the second consecutive year, the number of civilians killed in conflict rose dramatically, reversing a downward trend from 2016 to 2019. The number of forcibly displaced people reached an unprecedented 120 million in May 2024. The global homicide rate gradually decreased from 5.9 victims per 100 000 population in 2015 to 5.5 in 2020. If this pattern persists, the rate is projected to be 5.1 per 100 000 population by 2030, an overall decrease of just 13% since 2015. In 2023, 320 human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists in 40 countries were killed, down from 448 cases in 36 countries in 2022, based on cases recorded by national human rights institutions and the United Nations. Conflict zones saw a sharp increase in the killings of journalists and media workers, with 40 lives lost, reversing a downward trend since 2017.

Number of victims of intentional homicide, per 100 000 population

108 countries in 2021

• 1 country

90 victims and more

80-89.9 victims

70-79.9 victims

60-69.9 victims

50-59.9 victims

40-49.9 victims

30-39.9 victims

20-29.9 victims

10-19.9 victims

0-9.9 victims

• Switzerland 0.5 victims • Colombia 25.7 victims

Target direction ▼

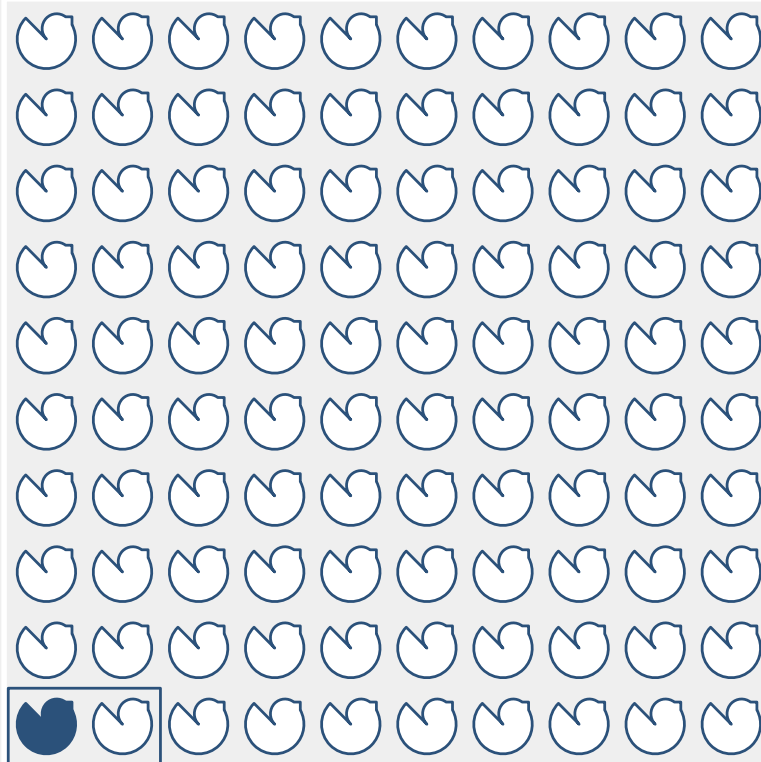
Number of victims of intentional homicide, per 100 000 population

Switzerland

0.5 victims in 2021

👤 = 1 victim

-0.5 victims since 2000



— Europe 2.2 victims in 2021

▼ Target direction

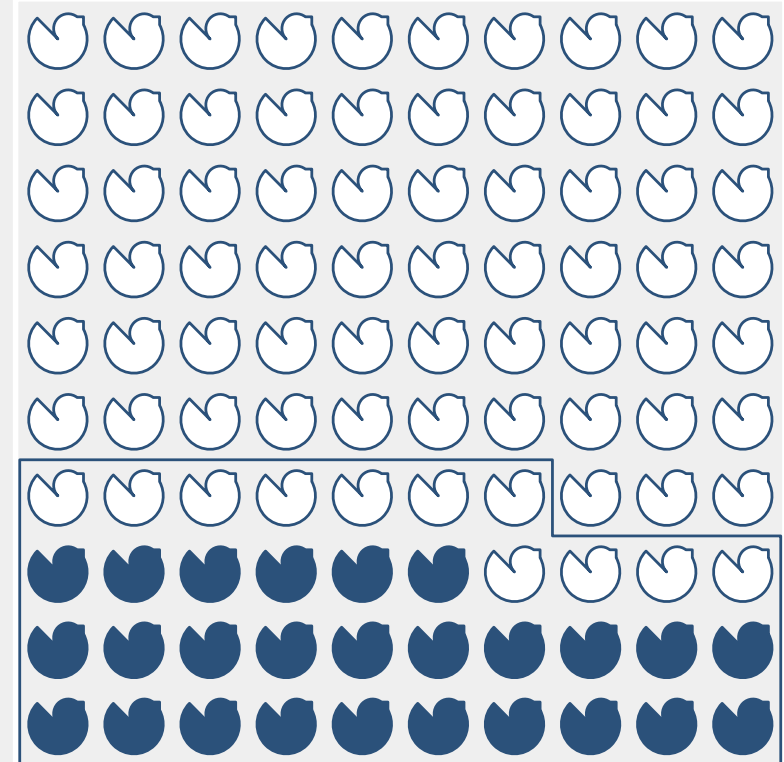
Target 16.1 – Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere (VC_IHR_PSRC)

Colombia

25.7 victims in 2021

👤 = 1 victim

-42.0 victims since 2000



— Latin America and the Caribbean 36.6 victims in 2021

▼ Target direction

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

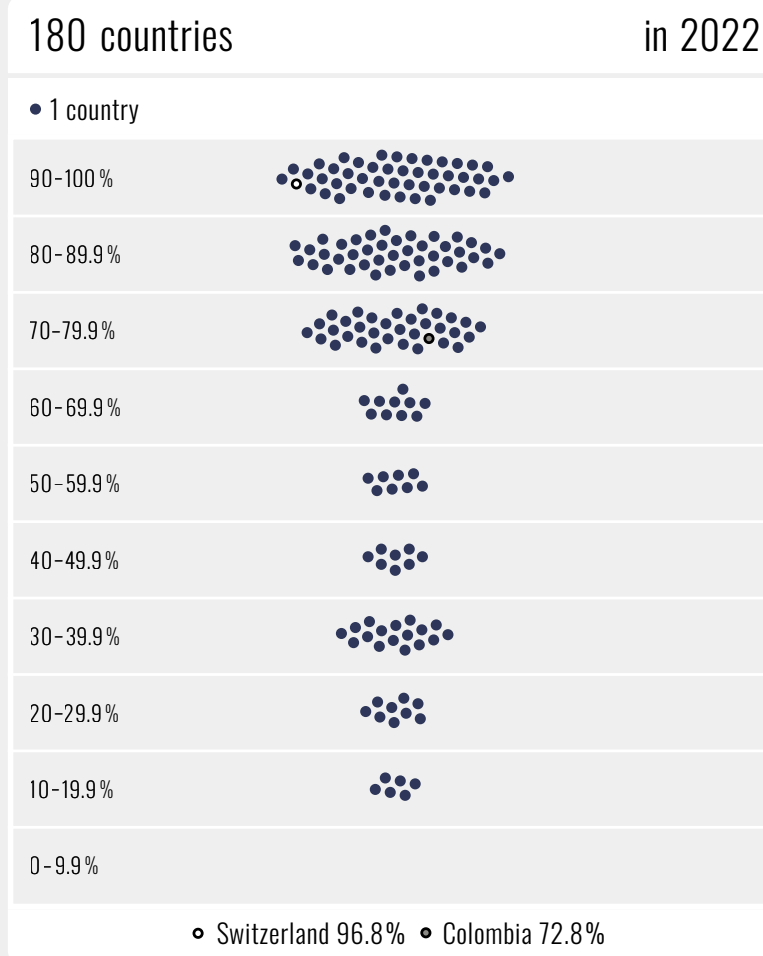


SDG 17 is to 🌐 strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development 🌐. This goal has 19 targets and 24 indicators.

This goal aims to enhance North-South and South-South cooperation by supporting national plans to achieve all 17 SDGs. Promoting international trade, and helping developing countries increase their exports is all part of achieving a universal rules-based and equitable trading system that is fair and open and benefits all.

In 2023, the annual SDG investment gap in developing countries was estimated at about \$4 trillion, with over half, or \$2.2 trillion. The current investment gap is 60% higher than the \$2.5 trillion estimated in 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of high-quality, timely and disaggregated data for informed decision-making. International support for data and statistics development has increased, reaching \$799 million in 2021, 14% above 2020 and 44% above 2015. Funding gaps remain a major issue, particularly in Africa and the LDCs, where only a fraction of plans is fully funded. This resource insufficiency threatens the resilience of statistical systems and risks leaving vulnerable populations behind. Addressing these challenges requires more funding, mainstreamed data activities and strategic planning aligned with emerging development priorities. The United Nations organized five UN World Data Forums – including the Forum in Medellín in 2024. This supports the measurement of the progress made of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the implementation of the 169 targets.

Proportion of the population using Internet



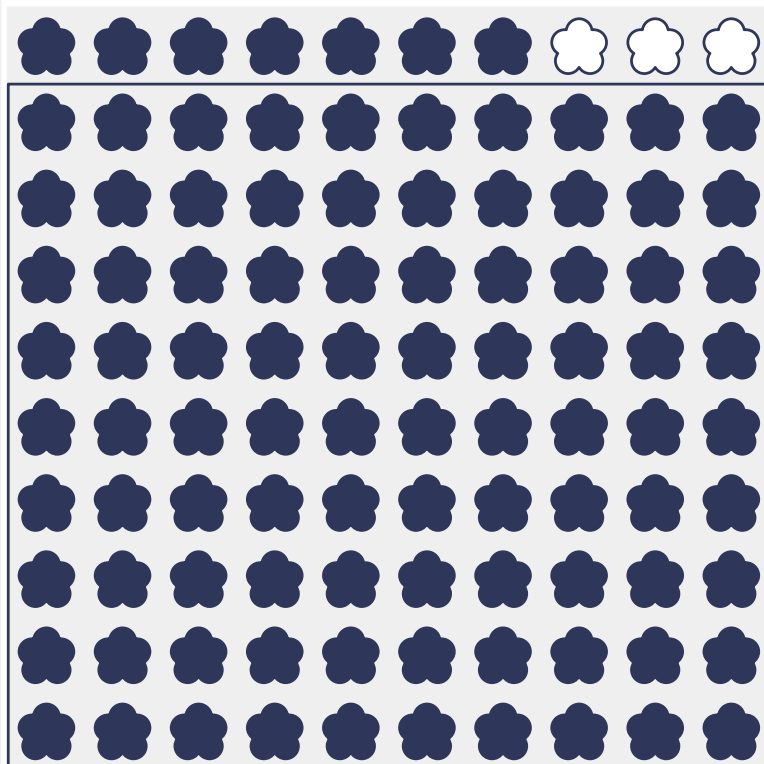
Proportion of the population using Internet

Switzerland

96.8% in 2022

🌸 = 1% of the total population

+49.7% since 2000



— Europe 89.5% in 2022

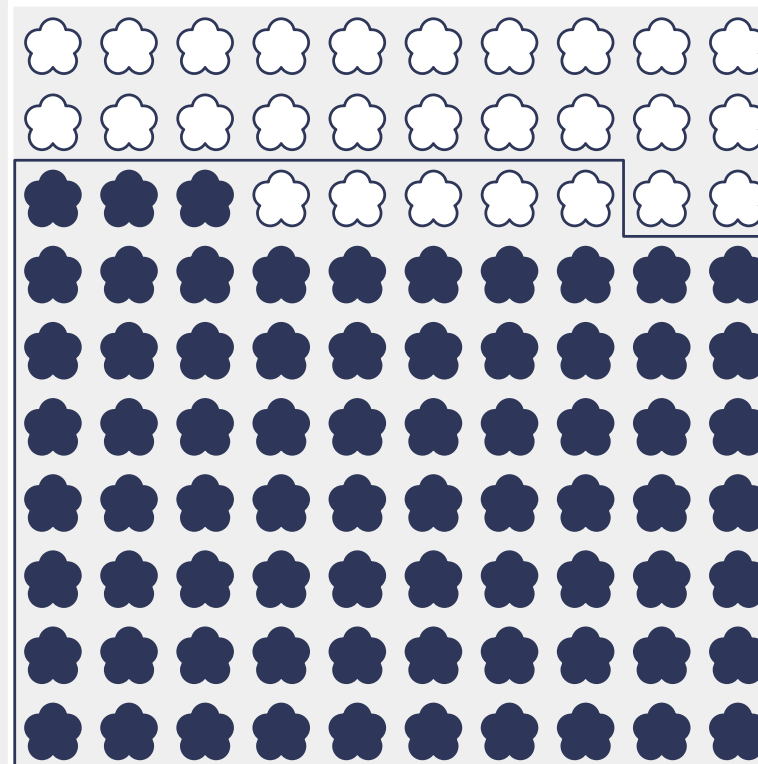
Target 17.8 – Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology (IT_USE_ii99)

Colombia

72.8% in 2022

🌸 = 1% of the total population

+70.6% since 2000



— Latin America and the Caribbean 77.6% in 2022

Text sources to goal descriptions 1–17

Goal 1

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Goal 2

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/hunger/> (19.08.2024), <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals/zero-hunger> (19.08.2024) and the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024

Goal 3

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/health/> (19.08.2024), <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals/good-health> (19.08.2024) and the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024

Goal 4

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Goal 5

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Goal 6

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Goal 7

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Goal 8

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Goal 9

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Goal 10

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/inequality/> (19.08.2024), <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals/reduced-inequalities> (19.08.2024) and the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021

Goal 11

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Goal 12

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Goal 13

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Goal 14

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/oceans/> (19.08.2024), <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals/below-water> (19.08.2024) and the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021

Goal 15

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Goal 16

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Goal 17

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/globalpartnerships/> (19.08.2024), <https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals/partnerships-for-the-goals> (19.08.2024) and the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024

Data sources to graphics 1–17

All data published in this book and used for the graphs were taken from the United Nations Global SDG database, for the compilation of which we are very grateful in such a project. This global platform provides access to world-wide comparable open data compiled through the UN System in preparation for the Secretary-General's annual report on 'Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals'. Link: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal>

The latest available data was used for the book. All data as shown was downloaded from the database between June 4, 2024 and September 4, 2024. The reference years selected from the individual data sets are indicated in the respective visualisations. Listed below are the original statistical sources or institutions responsible for collecting each of the data sets used.

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Goal 1

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Indicator 1.3.1 Proportion of the vulnerable population receiving social assistance cash benefits

Source: International Labour Organization (ILO) – ILO estimates based on country data compiled through the ILO Social Security Inquiry (SSI)

Goal 2

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Indicator 2.1.2 Proportion of the adult population experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity

Source: Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), with data collected through the Gallup World Poll; National Entity (for some countries)

Goal 3

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages

Indicator 3.5.2 Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol

Source: World Health Organisation (WHO) – WHO Global Information System on Alcohol and Health (GISAH)

Goal 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Indicator 4.1.2 Completion rate of primary school (ISCED level 1e)

Source: Publicly available data from Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS), and national household surveys and censuses.

Goal 5

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Indicator 5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments

Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) – the database on Women in National Parliament

Goal 6

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Indicator 6.2.1 Proportion of population using a safe sanitation system

Source: World Health Organisation (WHO) / United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene

Goal 7

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Indicator 7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption

Source: UN Statistics Division – Energy Balances; International Energy Agency (IEA) – World Energy Balances

Goal 8

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Indicator 8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training

Source: National household surveys or Populations censuses (individual countries)

Goal 9

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Indicator 9.5.1 Share of gross domestic product (GDP) spent on research and development

Source: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics; National surveys (for some countries)

Goal 10

Reduce inequality within and among countries

Indicator 10.4.1 Share of GDP that goes to pay workers, as opposed to share that goes to capital (e.g. owners, investors, banks)

Source: International Labour Organization (ILO) – ILO modelled estimates (ILOSTAT)

Goal 11

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Indicator 11.6.2 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter in cities weighted by population, in micrograms per cubic meter

Source: World Health Organisation (WHO)

Goal 12

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Indicator 12.3.1 Food waste per capita in kilograms at retail, public and household level

Source: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); International organisations using country data from different sources; Data provided by national governments, including National Statistical Offices (NSOs), Ministries of Environment and other relevant organizations.

Goal 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Indicator 13.2.2 Total greenhouse gas emissions without land use and forestry

Source: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC); The Global Carbon Project (GCP)

Goal 14

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Indicator 14.5.1 Proportion of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) covered by protected areas

Source: BirdLife International; International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN); United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)

Goal 15

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Indicator 15.2.1 Proportion of forest area under a long-term sustainable management plan

Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) – Global Forest Resources Assessment

Goal 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Indicator 16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide, per 100 000 population

Source: World Health Organization (WHO); United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE); Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); Organization of American States (OAS); National surveys (for some countries)

Goal 17

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Indicator 17.8.1 Proportion of the population using internet

Source: National Statistical Institutes (NSI) and Telecommunications institutions

Notes





This book gives you exciting insights into the progress of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Some central indicators of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – on poverty, health, inequality, innovation or peace and security – are visualised in a fresh and innovative way. This second edition was realised for the 5th UN World Data Forum, which took place in Medellín, Colombia, from 12–15 November, 2024.

In addition to the book edition, discover also our interactive SDG Experience and SDG Quiz.



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