

Global Plan to Finance the UN Sustainable Development Goals Urgently Needed Says New SDSN Report

Paris, 02 June 2022 - Today, the Sustainable Development Report (SDR), including the SDG Index and Dashboards which track progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), was released. The report shows that multiple and simultaneous international crises have halted progress on the universal goals adopted by all UN member countries during the historic 2015 summit.

“Fifty years after the first UN Conference on the human environment in Stockholm in 1972, the bedrock SDG principles of social inclusion, clean energy, responsible consumption, and universal access to public services are needed more than ever to respond to the major challenges of our time. Poor and vulnerable countries are being hit particularly hard by multiple health, geopolitical and climate crises and their spillovers. To restore and accelerate SDG progress, we need global cooperation to end the pandemic, negotiate an end to the war in Ukraine, and secure the financing needed to achieve the SDGs,” says **Prof. Jeffrey D. Sachs**, President of the SDSN and first author of the report.

Citation details:

Sachs, J., Lafortune, G., Kroll, C., Fuller, G., Woelm, F. (2022). From Crisis to Sustainable Development: the SDGs as Roadmap to 2030 and Beyond. Sustainable Development Report 2022. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

The report can be downloaded for free here:

Website: <https://www.sdgindex.org/>

Data visualization: <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/>

For the second year in a row, the world is no longer making progress on the SDGs.

Multiple and simultaneous health, climate, biodiversity, geopolitical and military crises are major setbacks for sustainable development globally. The SDG Index world average has slightly decreased in 2021 for the second year in a row, largely due to the impact of the pandemic on SDG1 (No Poverty) and SDG8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and poor performance on SDG11-15 (climate, biodiversity, and sustainable urban development goals). Besides their massive humanitarian costs, military conflicts – including the war in Ukraine – have major international spillovers on food security and energy prices, which are amplified by the climate and biodiversity crises. They also crowd out space for long-term thinking and investments. Peace, diplomacy, and international cooperation are fundamental conditions for the world to progress on the SDGs towards 2030 and beyond.

The 2022 SDG Index is topped by Finland, followed by three Nordic countries –Denmark, Sweden and Norway – and all top 10 countries are European countries. Yet even these countries face major challenges in achieving several SDGs. Overall, East and South Asia is the region that progressed most on the SDGs since their adoption in 2015. Bangladesh and Cambodia are the two countries that progressed most on the SDGs since 2015. By contrast Venezuela has declined the most on the SDG Index since their adoption in 2015.

A global plan to finance sustainable development is urgently needed.

Achieving the SDGs is fundamentally an investment agenda in physical infrastructure (including renewable energy, digital technologies) and human capital (including health, education). Yet the poorest half of the world lacks market access to capital on acceptable terms. Poor and vulnerable countries have been hit hard

by the multiple crises and their spillovers. Rising budget pressures, increased military spending and major shifts in strategic priorities, especially in European countries, might squeeze development funds available to support sustainable development globally. In this context, the report presents a *five-point plan* for financing the SDGs globally. It underlines the key role of the G20, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to expand SDG financing globally.

At mid-point on the way to 2030, policy efforts and commitments for the SDGs vary greatly.

At mid-point on the way to 2030, the integration of the SDGs into policies, regulations, budgets, monitoring systems, and other government policies and procedures still varies greatly across countries. Among G20 member states, the United States, Brazil, and the Russian Federation exhibit the least support for the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. By contrast, Nordic countries demonstrate relatively high support for the SDGs, as do Argentina, Germany, Japan and Mexico (all G20 countries). Some countries, such as Benin and Nigeria, for example, have large gaps in their SDG Index yet also earn relatively high scores for their policy efforts. Interestingly, Benin and Mexico have both issued SDG Sovereign Bonds in recent years to scale up their sustainable development investments.










For the second time since their adoption in 2015, UN Member States will meet in September 2023 on the side-line of the UN general Assembly for the SDG Summit to define priorities for restoring and accelerating SDG progress by 2030 and beyond. Ambitious and sound national targets, strategies, and plans are crucial to turning the SDGs into an action agenda.

Other findings of the Sustainable Development Report 2022:

- Rich countries generate negative **international spillovers** notably through unsustainable consumption. The 2022 international Spillover Index included in this report underlines how rich countries, generate negative socioeconomic and environmental spillovers, including through unsustainable trade and supply chains.
- New partnerships and innovations that emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic, including in scientific cooperation and data, should be scaled-up to support the SDGs. **Science, technological innovations, and data systems** can help identify solutions in times of crises and can provide decisive contributions to address the major challenges of our times. These call for increased and prolonged investments in statistical capacities, R&D, and education and skills.

Since 2015, the SDR provides the most up-to-date data to track and rank the performance of all UN member states on the SDGs. The report was written by a group of independent experts at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), led by its President, Prof. Jeffrey Sachs. The report is produced by SDSN, published by Cambridge University Press, and co-funded by Bertelsmann Stiftung.

2022 SDG Index ranking and score

	Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score	
	1	Finland	86.5	42	Bulgaria	74.3	
	2	Denmark	85.6	43	Cyprus	74.2	
	3	Sweden	85.2	44	Thailand	74.1	
		4	Norway	82.3	45	Russian Federation	74.1
		5	Austria	82.3	46	Moldova	73.9
	6	Germany	82.2	47	Costa Rica	73.8	
		7	France	81.2	48	Kyrgyz Republic	73.7
		8	Switzerland	80.8	49	Israel	73.5
		9	Ireland	80.7	50	Azerbaijan	73.5
		10	Estonia	80.6	51	Georgia	73.4
	11	United Kingdom	80.6	52	Fiji	72.9	
	12	Poland	80.5	53	Brazil	72.8	
	13	Czech Republic	80.5	54	Argentina	72.8	
	14	Latvia	80.3	55	Vietnam	72.8	
	15	Slovenia	80.0	56	China	72.4	
	16	Spain	79.9	57	North Macedonia	72.3	
	17	Netherlands	79.9	58	Peru	71.9	
	18	Belgium	79.7	59	Bosnia and Herzegovina	71.7	
	19	Japan	79.6	60	Singapore	71.7	
	20	Portugal	79.2	61	Albania	71.6	
	21	Hungary	79.0	62	Suriname	71.6	
	22	Iceland	78.9	63	Ecuador	71.5	
	23	Croatia	78.8	64	Algeria	71.5	
	24	Slovak Republic	78.7	65	Kazakhstan	71.1	
	25	Italy	78.3	66	Armenia	71.1	
	26	New Zealand	78.3	67	Maldives	71.0	
	27	Korea, Rep.	77.9	68	Dominican Republic	70.8	
	28	Chile	77.8	69	Tunisia	70.7	
	29	Canada	77.7	70	Bhutan	70.5	
	30	Romania	77.7	71	Turkey	70.4	
	31	Uruguay	77.0	72	Malaysia	70.4	
	32	Greece	76.8	73	Barbados	70.3	
	33	Malta	76.8	74	Mexico	70.2	
	34	Belarus	76.0	75	Colombia	70.1	
	35	Serbia	75.9	76	Sri Lanka	70.0	
	36	Luxembourg	75.7	77	Uzbekistan	69.9	
	37	Ukraine	75.7	78	Tajikistan	69.7	
	38	Australia	75.6	79	El Salvador	69.6	
	39	Lithuania	75.4	80	Jordan	69.4	
	40	Cuba	74.7	81	Oman	69.2	
	41	United States	74.6	82	Indonesia	69.2	

Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score
83	Jamaica	69.0	124	Rwanda	59.4
84	Morocco	69.0	125	Pakistan	59.3
85	United Arab Emirates	68.8	126	Senegal	58.7
86	Montenegro	68.8	127	Cote d'Ivoire	58.4
87	Egypt, Arab Rep.	68.7	128	Ethiopia	58.0
88	Iran, Islamic Rep.	68.6	129	Syrian Arab Republic	57.4
89	Mauritius	68.4	130	Tanzania	57.4
90	Bolivia	68.0	131	Zimbabwe	56.8
91	Paraguay	67.4	132	Mauritania	55.8
92	Nicaragua	67.1	133	Togo	55.6
93	Brunei Darussalam	67.1	134	Cameroon	55.5
94	Qatar	66.8	135	Lesotho	55.1
95	Philippines	66.6	136	Uganda	54.9
96	Saudi Arabia	66.6	137	Eswatini	54.6
97	Lebanon	66.3	138	Burkina Faso	54.5
98	Nepal	66.2	139	Nigeria	54.2
99	Turkmenistan	66.1	140	Zambia	54.2
100	Belize	65.7	141	Burundi	54.1
101	Kuwait	64.5	142	Mali	54.1
102	Bahrain	64.3	143	Mozambique	53.6
103	Myanmar	64.3	144	Papua New Guinea	53.6
104	Bangladesh	64.2	145	Malawi	53.3
105	Panama	64.0	146	Sierra Leone	53.0
106	Guyana	63.9	147	Afghanistan	52.5
107	Cambodia	63.8	148	Congo, Rep.	52.3
108	South Africa	63.7	149	Niger	52.2
109	Mongolia	63.5	150	Yemen, Rep.	52.1
110	Ghana	63.4	151	Haiti	51.9
111	Lao PDR	63.4	152	Guinea	51.3
112	Honduras	63.1	153	Benin	51.2
113	Gabon	62.8	154	Angola	50.9
114	Namibia	62.7	155	Djibouti	50.3
115	Iraq	62.3	156	Madagascar	50.1
116	Botswana	61.4	157	Congo, Dem. Rep.	50.0
117	Guatemala	61.0	158	Liberia	49.9
118	Kenya	61.0	159	Sudan	49.6
119	Trinidad and Tobago	60.4	160	Somalia	45.6
120	Venezuela, RB	60.3	161	Chad	41.3
121	India	60.3	162	Central African Republic	39.3
122	Gambia, The	60.2	163	South Sudan	39.0
123	Sao Tome and Principe	59.4			



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About SDSN

The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) mobilizes scientific and technical expertise from academia, civil society, and the private sector to support practical problem solving for sustainable development at local, national, and global scales. The SDSN has been operating since 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General. The SDSN is building national and regional networks of knowledge institutions, solution-focused thematic networks, and the SDG Academy, an online university for sustainable development.