

KEY MESSAGES

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition

**EMBARGOED UNTIL
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REPORT [WEBPAGE](#)



➤ **Halfway to 2030, the promises enshrined in the SDGs are in peril.**

The SDGs are in peril. The world has entered an age of polycrisis and hard-earned SDG progress is threatened by the climate crisis, conflict, gloomy global economic outlook and lingering COVID-19 effects. *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023: Special Edition* sounds the alarm and urgently calls for redoubled efforts to get the Goals back on track.

➤ **Sounding the Alarm: The world faces big misses across the Goals by 2030 in the absence of significant acceleration.**

The number of people living in extreme poverty rose for the first time in a generation with the onset of COVID-19. For the first time in three decades, progress in key areas such as childhood vaccination and income inequality between countries has reversed. If present trends persist, by 2030, a staggering 575 million people will remain trapped in extreme poverty and 84 million children will be out of school. It will take nearly 300 years to close gender gaps in legal protection, eliminate discriminatory laws and end child marriage.

➤ **We are at war with ourselves and nature.**

The climate crisis is worsening as greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise. Global temperature is likely to reach the critical 1.5 °C tipping point above pre-industrial levels by 2035. Heat waves, droughts, flooding and wildfires have become far too frequent. Rising sea levels are already threatening hundreds of millions of people in coastal communities.

➤ **Developing countries and the world's poorest and most vulnerable are bearing the brunt.**

The report shows that while the lack of SDG progress is universal, it is often the world's poorest and most vulnerable people who are bearing the brunt of the consequences. Developing countries are also disproportionately affected, all while their voice is not fairly represented in the global governance architecture and in international financial institutions. This must change.

➤ **We must make the next seven years count – achieving the SDGs depends on it.**

We can still turn things around. Since 2015, there has been improvements in key areas, including poverty reduction, child mortality, electricity access and the battle against certain diseases. If strong political will is matched with the technologies and resources and knowledge now available, we can enable a breakthrough to a better future. The report inspires hope by showcasing the progress the world has made and the potential for further advancements.

➤ **We must enact a Rescue Plan for People and Planet.**

We must be ambitious – to match the scope of the challenges ahead. Fundamental shifts in commitment, solidarity, financing and action are needed to put us back on track. In September, the SDG Summit must mobilise the political commitment our world needs to get the Goals back on track. It will also be an opportunity for all of us – citizens, civil society, the private sector – to advocate for urgency, ambition and action to realize the Goals.

➤ **Data drive effective solutions for SDG achievement.**

Timely, high-quality disaggregated data are essential. Strengthening data ecosystems is critical to understanding where we stand and what needs to be done to achieve the SDGs.

➤ **The 2030 Agenda remains the clearest blueprint of humanity's highest aspirations.**

The SDGs are a blueprint for a more resilient, peaceful and inclusive future. When historians write about the twenty-first century, they will judge leaders and policymakers by whether they have succeeded in transforming this blueprint into reality. It is now up to all of us to ensure that the Global Goals are achieved – in full and on time.

