



Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Secretary-General's Progress Report on the Sustainable Development Goals

High-Level Political Forum | 10 July 2023

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Halfway to 2030, the promises enshrined in the SDGs are in peril



The world has entered an **age of polycrisis**. Hard-earned SDG progress is threatened by:



Conflict



Climate crisis



Gloomy global economic outlook



Lingering COVID-19 effects

The world could face big misses across the Goals by 2030



COVID-19 caused the **first rise in extreme poverty in a generation**. If current trends continue, by 2030:



575 million people will remain trapped in extreme poverty



84 million children will be out of school



2 billion people will still use polluting fuels for cooking



It will take **nearly 300 years** to close gender gap in legal protection

We are at war with ourselves and nature



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.

The world's poorest and most vulnerable are hardest hit



The world's poorest and most vulnerable people are bearing the brunt of the lack of SDG progress.

Developing countries also face disproportionate impacts and lack fair representation in the **global governance architecture** and in **international financial institutions**.

Some important development gains show it is possible to get the SDGs back on track

Since 2015, there has been progress in various areas, including:



Extreme poverty has **fallen substantially** in the past few decades



133 countries already met under-5 mortality SDG target



800 million people connected to electricity between 2015 and 2021



5.3 billion people now have access to the Internet (2022)



Global AIDS-related deaths have been **cut by half** since 2010

We must make the next seven years count



We can still turn things around - but the clock is ticking.

Strong political will – matched with the technologies, resources and knowledge now available – can enable a breakthrough to a better future.



The 2030 Agenda is humanity's highest aspirations.

The SDGs are a blueprint for a more resilient, peaceful and inclusive future. It is now up to all of us to ensure that the Global Goals are achieved – in full and on time.



We must enact a Rescue Plan for People and Planet.

Fundamental shifts in commitment, solidarity, financing and action are needed to put us back on track.

The world must deliver a Rescue Plan for People and Planet

1 Transformative action

Heads of State and Government need to renew their commitment to seven years of accelerated, sustained and transformative action to deliver on the promise of the SDGs.

2 Leave no one behind

Governments must advance concrete, integrated and targeted policies to eradicate poverty, reduce inequality and end the war on nature – with particular focus on women and girls and the most vulnerable.

3 SDG delivery

National and sub-national capacity, accountability and public institutions must be strengthened to deliver accelerated SDG progress.

4 An SDG Stimulus

Member States are urged to endorse and deliver \$500 billion per year in accessible, affordable and long-term financing for countries requiring assistance between now and 2030.

5 UN Development System

Member States must continue to boost the capacity of the UN development system – and of multilateralism more generally – to address SDG gaps and emerging global challenges.



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Unless we act now, the 2030 Agenda will become an epitaph for a world that might have been.

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António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations