

# VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW KAZAKHSTAN



on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda  
for Sustainable Development







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Dear reader!

We are honored to present to you the second Voluntary National Review of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The first Voluntary National Review was presented in 2019.

During these 3 years, a lot has happened not only in Kazakhstan but all over the world. This Review is intended to reflect the main achievements, challenges, and emerging issues, as well as lessons learned during this period in Kazakhstan.

In 2015, participating in the UN Summit, we had high expectations for the practical results of the implementation of the goals of this Agenda.

Kazakhstan had a fairly good starting position due to the high level of SDGs principles integration into national programs and strategies.

Today, when the world is facing such new global challenges, like climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, and political and economic instability, the issue of sustainable development is becoming significant not only for the UN member states but for the entire global community.

We acknowledge that situations related to the pandemic and geopolitical challenges have led to a slowdown in the process of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. At the same time, these challenges have made it necessary to maintain a decent level of well-being for the country's population, which sets the vector for active progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The coronavirus pandemic has altered the country's economy, but timely taken measures allowed to improve the situation. Even though in 2020, there was a decline in the annual growth rate of GDP per capita, at the end of 2021, the economy of Kazakhstan continued its systematic recovery and showed a GDP growth of 4.1%. The measures taken allowed to maintain a low unemployment rate in the country at 4.9%. The average per capita cash income of the less well-off 40% of the population showed annual growth.

Restoring the previous pace of countries' growth will require rapid and well-coordinated steps. We must take a critical look at progress towards achieving the Global Agenda. We are preparing for continuous and responsible work. Therefore, cooperation at all levels is very important. The process of preparing this Review brought together all interested stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs in Kazakhstan.

Government agencies had overall responsibility for the work, but other stakeholders were also involved to present their assessment of the progress of the SDGs in the country. Among them are representatives of scientific institutions, civil society, business, academia, and international organizations.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the development of this Review. We have worked to create a comprehensive and transparent document that considers the views of representatives of different categories of the population. It is necessary to note the technical and financial support provided by the UN Joint SDG Fund and the UN country team.

It was important for us to identify the priority goals which are important to the population of our country. Therefore, along with the 5 goals recommended by the UN, the Review provides an in-depth analysis of 4 more priority Sustainable Development Goals for the country.

In this Voluntary National Review, we are also proud to present the results of the Development Finance Assessment, gender analysis, Rapid Integrated Assessment of strategic and policy documents, as well as budget programs. The Review focuses on the contribution of the business sector and civil society to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Following the 2030 Agenda confirms our commitment to retain and increase resources for future generations.

Kazakhstan has been and remains a strong supporter of the UN Sustainable Development Goals aimed at inclusive economic growth and responsible consumption of resources.

Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan  
A.A. Smailov

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIC	Agro-Industrial Complex
ASPR RK	Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan
AIFC	Astana International Financial Centre
BAT	Best Available Technique
CSHI	Compulsory Social Health Insurance
CEPEJ	European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice
CRIRSCO	Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards
CBT	Climate Budget Tagging
CIT	Corporate Income Tax
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CA	Central Asia
CHR	Commissioner for Human Rights
DFA	Development Finance Assessment
ESG	Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance
EU	European Union
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GFSI	Global Food Security Index
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GRP	Gross regional product
GSP	Guaranteed Social Package
GHG	Greenhouse gases
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
HEI	Higher education institution
HPP	Hydroelectric power plant
HCS	Housing and communal services
ICT	Information and Communication Technology



INFF	Integrated National Financing Framework
KASE	Kazakhstan Stock Exchange
LEA	Local Executive Authority
LSI	Laws and Statutory Instruments
LLDC	Landlocked Developing Countries
LE	Life Expectancy
MW	Minimum Wage
MES RK	Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan
MCI	Monthly Calculation Index
MMR	Maternal Mortality Ratio
Media	Mass media
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NED	National Educational Database
NPS	National Planning System
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PIAAC	Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies
PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PRC	Peoples Republic of China
RIA	Rapid Integrated Assessment
RES	Renewable energy sources
R&D	Research and Development
RK	Republic of Kazakhstan
RSE	Republican State Enterprise
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
SME	Small and Medium Entrepreneurship
SPNR	Specially Protected Natural Reservations
SPP	Solar Power Plant
SMW	Solid Municipal Waste
SDGs	UN Sustainable Development Goals

TSA	Targeted Social Assistance
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
UNT	Unified National Testing
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USA	United States of America
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
VPA	Vienna Programme of Action
VNR, Review	Voluntary National Review
VAT	Value Added Tax
WHO	World Health Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation
WPP	Wind power plant



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# INTRODUCTION



The year 2021 marked the 30th anniversary of Kazakhstan's independence. Over the years, Kazakhstan has established itself as a mature, democratic state with stable state institutions and a competitive economy. Kazakhstan has ensured domestic political, inter-ethnic and interconfessional stability. In addition, the country is fully integrated into the world trade and economic system and has proven itself to be a reliable partner. Kazakhstan has emerged as the economic leader of the Central Asian region. It has also established itself in the international arena as a credible and stable state with a multifaceted and balanced foreign policy course.

External environmental factors mean that adjustments are necessary in all areas of the country's development and require appropriate measures from the state. Nevertheless, the global goal of the republic remains the same: Kazakhstan must become one of the 30 most developed countries in the world until 2050.

Since the first days of independence, Kazakhstan has paid special attention to sustainable development. The need for a transition to the principles of sustainable development was noted in 2012 in the Message of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan "Strategy "Kazakhstan-2050".



"...The changes taking place in the world under the influence of the protracted global crisis do not frighten us. We are ready for them. Now our task, while preserving everything we have achieved during the years of sovereignty, to continue sustainable development in the twenty-first century....

....It is fundamentally important for us to rethink our attitude towards our natural riches. We must learn to manage them properly, accumulating revenues from their sale in the treasury, and most importantly, to transform our country's natural riches into sustainable economic growth as efficiently as possible..."

*Strategy "Kazakhstan-2050": new political course of the established state, December 14, 2012.*



Economic growth in today's environment requires more progressive mechanisms. Therefore, Kazakhstan, like other UN member states, reaffirmed its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015.

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, Kazakhstan has continued its gradual transition to sustainable development.

A legal framework has been formed to allow for the integration of the SDGs into the country's strategic planning, and a list of national SDG indicators has been approved.

The principles of sustainability and inclusiveness form the basis of the new National Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan 2025. The localization of strategic goals will be ensured through national projects and regional development programs.

In recent years, the country has begun the transition from top-down state-building, which was extremely effective during the early statehood period, to bottom-up democracy. The government of Kazakhstan seeks to strengthen its commitment to democracy and promote greater citizen participation in governance.

For example, direct elections of rural akims were introduced. This provided a much greater opportunity for citizens to participate in the decision-making process.

In line with the concept of the "Hearing State," the Administration of President K. Tokayev has launched four packages of essential democratic reforms since 2019 in order to strengthen human rights, rule of law and fight against corruption. The President has proposed the introduction of a 30 percent quota for women and youth on the electoral lists of the final parliamentary parties.

As part of the implementation of the global Agenda 2030, the main goal of the country is to further improve the efficiency of the state, transparency and competitiveness of the political process.

It is well known that the COVID-19 pandemic has threatened the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. On the other hand, this situation served as an unprecedented signal for action by the government, businesses, and citizens. COVID-19 revealed a high degree of inequality and exposed exactly the problems that formed the basis of the Agenda 2030. Therefore, it is important to analyze the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in a systematic way and discuss perspectives and challenges.

In 2019, Kazakhstan presented its First Voluntary National Review at the UN High-Level Political Forum. Three years later, Kazakhstan hereby presents the Second Voluntary National Review (the Review).



This Review expresses a willingness of the Government to take serious action to implement the 2030 Agenda by implementing the institutional mechanisms, tools, and plans that already exist or need to be created.

The second Voluntary National Review is a kind of assessment of progress and a demonstration of implementation of the goals set for the republic in the previous issue of the Voluntary National Review. The Review was prepared with financial support of the UN Joint SDG Fund.

The cover page of each section of the Review illustrates one of the art objects of the Sustainable Development Goals installations. Each of the art objects represents one of the global goals, revealing its relevance and offering possible solutions. For the production of exhibition items, the author used natural and innovative synthetic fabrics that cause the least damage to the environment. The Installation was created by a local ecodesigner and commissioned by UNDP.

## 1

# METHODOLOGY AND REVIEW PROCESS

Methodology for the Review formation is based on guidance prepared by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

## Parties that participated in the development of the Review

The process of preparing the Review was multifaceted, involving a wide range of stakeholders. Coordinating role in preparation of the Review was performed by the Sustainable Development Goals Coordination Council (Coordination Council) and Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as a working body of the Coordination Council, with active participation of interagency working groups.

In preparing the Review, the Government of Kazakhstan adhered to the underlying principle of the 2030 Agenda to “Leave no one behind.” Based on this principle, a wide range of people were involved in the preparation of the Review through discussions and retreats in all regions of the country. More than 2,500 citizens of the country from among representatives of local executive bodies, representatives of civil society, independent experts, persons with disabilities, pensioners, representatives of the academic community, youth (schoolchildren and students), representatives of the private sector, international organizations and other stakeholders, took part in the discussion of the draft Review.

The Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan (BNS ASPR RK) collected statistical data and prepared an annex to the Review which reflects the dynamics of SDG indicators in Kazakhstan.

The organization of expert discussions, development of the main theses and summary of the Review was carried out by Economic Research Institute JSC.

The process of preparing the Review consisted of several stages.

## Review preparation stages

The starting point in the preparation of the Review was the instruction of the Chairman of the Coordination Council, represented by the First Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan in 2021, to develop a detailed plan for the preparation of the Review. At this stage, the meeting of the Monitoring Committee for the Sustainable Development Goals established in 2021 to monitor the achievement of SDGs and implement the instructions of the Coordination Council, clarified the representatives of the five working groups the main provisions of the practical UN guidance tool for the development of the second Review. After the responsible bodies and deadlines for preparing the Review were determined, the structure of the Review was agreed with all government agencies and members of the working groups, followed by the necessary information collection.

At the presentation of the First Review in 2019, Kazakhstan made a number of commitments to further implement the SDGs in the country. Consequently, the chapters in this Review provide an analysis of the country's achievement of the SDGs within three years since the presentation of the First Review, reflecting the remaining problems in implementing the SDGs and the challenges ahead for the country, as well as the obstacles posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.



The Review reflects in separate chapters the most important initiatives undertaken by the country on SDG budgeting gender analysis, assessment of financial flows to integrate the SDGs and their objectives in the strategic and budgetary planning of the country.

On February 16 this year, the first discussion of the draft Review in the format of a Round Table started in Kazakhstan. The event was organized by the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan jointly with the United Nations Development Programme and Economic Research Institute JSC, with the support of the UN Joint SDG Fund. The Round Table was held in a hybrid format, with the participation of representatives of central and local government agencies, non-governmental organizations of Kazakhstan, the business community, international organizations and academic experts.

The process of preparing the Review was accompanied by extensive information support in the media, both at national and regional levels. The seminars were covered by local TV channels and print media.



### Interview with a participant of the “Mission 2030” Business Game in Shymkent

“Today’s seminar is being held for us to understand what our people currently have and don’t have to eradicate poverty. This is my first seminar of this type. I am very much looking forward to a bright future.

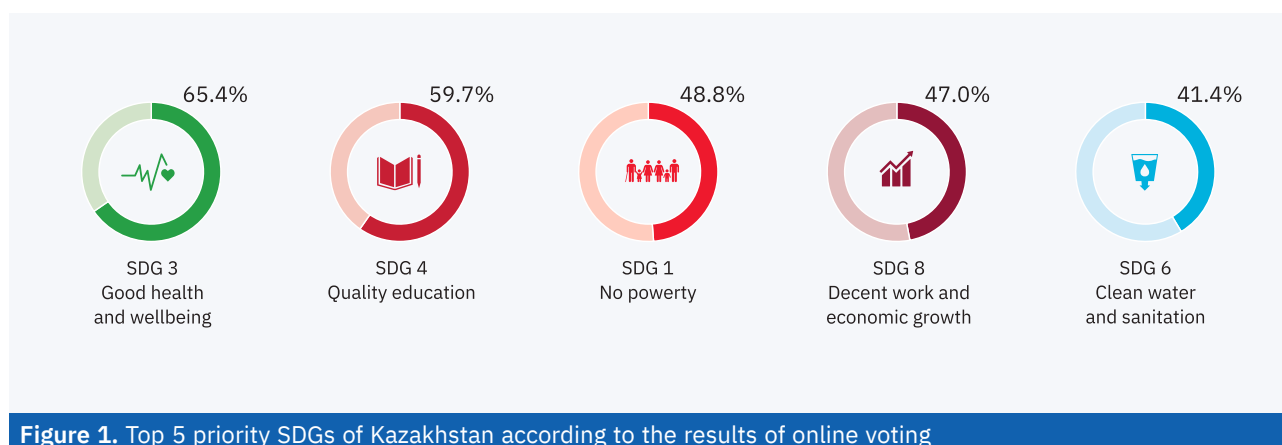
State agencies and young people are participating in the seminar today. They say young people are the future; they are in majority today. And it is through them that we will progress towards our goals.”

Information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmFneQWzPmA>



To identify priority areas for the implementation of SDGs in 17 regions of the country during workshops, voting was conducted among representatives of the LEAs, citizens and all stakeholders. Based on the results of seminars in the regions, Kazakhstani people selected the Top 5 SDGs for Kazakhstan:

1. **SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being;**
2. **SDG 4 Quality Education;**
3. **SDG 1 No Poverty;**
4. **SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation;**
5. **SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth** (Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** Top 5 priority SDGs of Kazakhstan according to the results of online voting

A more detailed analysis is also provided for selected national priority SDGs. The draft Review, like each individual chapter, went through an open public discussions in 30 micro-groups, with the participation of representatives of state bodies and international organizations, the civil sector and independent experts. A more detailed analysis is also provided for selected national priority SDGs.

Each stage of the Review preparation was coordinated with the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

## Sources of information and its coordination in preparation of the Review

The initial informational base for the preparation of the Review was the National Reports published annually, reports of state bodies, analytical materials of development institutes and research organizations, statistical data, etc.

The experience and approaches of other countries in achieving the SDGs were considered during the direct formation of abstracts of the chapters in this Review. UN agency reports, international agreements such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement, and others were studied. In addition, examples for the implementation of sustainable development were presented from private companies, business entities after discussions in micro-groups, as well as examples posted in the public domain.

The most relevant conclusions and challenges for individual SDG targets identified during the Mission 2030 Business Game in the regions are reflected in the Review.

During the Review preparation statistical data was verified using various methods. The analysis conducted on its basis, as well as the conclusions drawn, were agreed with representatives of government agencies, NGO representatives, experts in certain sectors, and other stakeholders.

## Barriers

Due to the discrepancy between the period of publication of statistical data and the period of the Review preparation, a number of analyzed indicators is missing at the national and international level.

# 2

## OPPORTUNITIES AND PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVING THE FINANCING OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN KAZAKHSTAN

### Development Finance Assessment – a tool for mobilizing financial resources to achieve the SDGs.

Financial resource capacity is a key factor in the implementation of the global Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Kazakhstan is one of the few countries that has begun work on implementing the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF).

Today, the INFF is helping the country strengthen its planning processes and overcome existing barriers to financing sustainable development and achieving the SDGs at the country level.

In Kazakhstan, activities in this area were launched in 2020 as part of the UN Joint Programme on aligning policy and financing with SDGs with financial support from the UN Joint SDG Fund.

The study into the feasibility of implementing the INFF began with the Development Finance Assessment (DFA). The DFA was conducted in two stages. The first stage of the DFA was conducted at the national level. The second stage of the DFA was conducted at a local, regional level. The second stage was conducted in the pilot mode, so three regions of the country were selected: one industrial region; one agricultural region; one city of republican status, where the service sector is actively developing.

The DFA provided an opportunity to clarify some of the limitations to accelerate progress towards the achievement of SDGs.

The following are the key findings of the DFA:

## 1. The total amount of financing gap is not defined

Identification of the most significant gaps in funding and prioritizing policy responses requires an understanding of the scale of resources needed to achieve national sustainable development priorities and the SDGs. Determining the total amount of financial resources that need to be mobilized to implement the National Development Plan

of the RK until 2025, would help accelerate the achievement of the objectives of the Agenda 2030. Formulating a clear long-term vision of resource needs and their strategic allocation could support more stable budgetary practices and long-term financial sustainability.

## 2. Growing pressure on expenses associated with COVID-19

Kazakhstan demonstrated its ability to provide a rapid and proportionate crisis response to sustain its economy during the pandemic, largely funded by discretionary transfers from the National Fund and international borrowing. Introduction of INFF can help find

a compromise between short-term economic development priorities and the need to quickly rebuild the country's budget reserves and national savings to protect against future potential crises.

## 3. The stagnation of total funding available

The situation and prospects the development of financing in Kazakhstan have changed significantly over the past decade. The total amount of available financing for development has remained the same and is even decreasing as a percentage of GDP. Its composition is gradually shifting towards greater reliance on private finance. This requires the development

of a funding approach that clearly defines the government's approach to the maximization of private investment, both domestic and foreign.

Government revenues remain a major component of development financing, but they are well below their potential.



## 4. SDG principles are not integrated into the budget process

SDGs, their targets and indicators are not taken into account in the budget process. This makes it very difficult and time-consuming to monitor how public policies and spending

contribute to sustainable development, thereby undermining the accountability of public spending. This appears to be due to the lack of demand for a budget for SDGs.

## 5. Weak integration of SDG principles into monitoring

Kazakhstan demonstrates a good understanding of the vision of results, but the country needs to continue improving its systems for results-based budgeting, implementation and monitoring. In terms of SDGs monitoring and reporting, this points to three important areas of improvement to accelerate progress toward the achievement of SDGs:

1) Direct incorporation of nationalized SDG targets and indicators into the NPS and its performance monitoring system,

2) Meaningful integration of the main actors and flows of the private sector into the vision of sustainable development by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan,

3) Strengthening the control of the private sector over its contribution to sustainable development. Progress in these areas will provide the necessary impetus for Kazakhstan to achieve the SDGs.

## 6. Limited public participation in the budget process

There are formal rules and mechanisms to facilitate the participation of civil society and business in decision-making, but civil society and private sector input into development planning and budgeting by the

authorities remains limited. The existing SDG management system can be strengthened to create a more regular and effective mechanism of public-private consultations.

## 7. Lack of accountability of key development actors

State-owned enterprises play an important role in the implementation of development programs financed by the state or international development partners, as well as in the provision of public services. Their high presence, though declining, undermines

the development of a strong domestic private sector and impedes the attraction of international investment. This represents a compromise between accelerating the growth of the private sector and maintaining efficient public services of quality.

## 8. There is great potential for non-governmental organizations and the charity sector

The activities of non-governmental organizations are developing in the regions, but a common base of the financial flows of NGOs is not formed.

Sources of funding can be both international private financial flows and sponsorship.

Charity has been growing rapidly in recent years, especially during the spread of the

COVID-19 pandemic. However, the amount of charitable funding is not recorded at all and is not consolidated in a single database. The formation of a database of nonprofit financial flows would allow the identification of development finance potential and consolidation of general funds to assess the need for real development finance.

# Integrating the principles of sustainable development into strategic planning in Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan's results-based state planning system contributes to accelerating the country's progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

A new state planning system has been in effect since 2021<sup>1</sup> (Figure 2). Essence of the updated system is that documents of the State Planning System should contain indicators of the SDGs. For these purposes, national SDG indicators have also been approved in 2021.

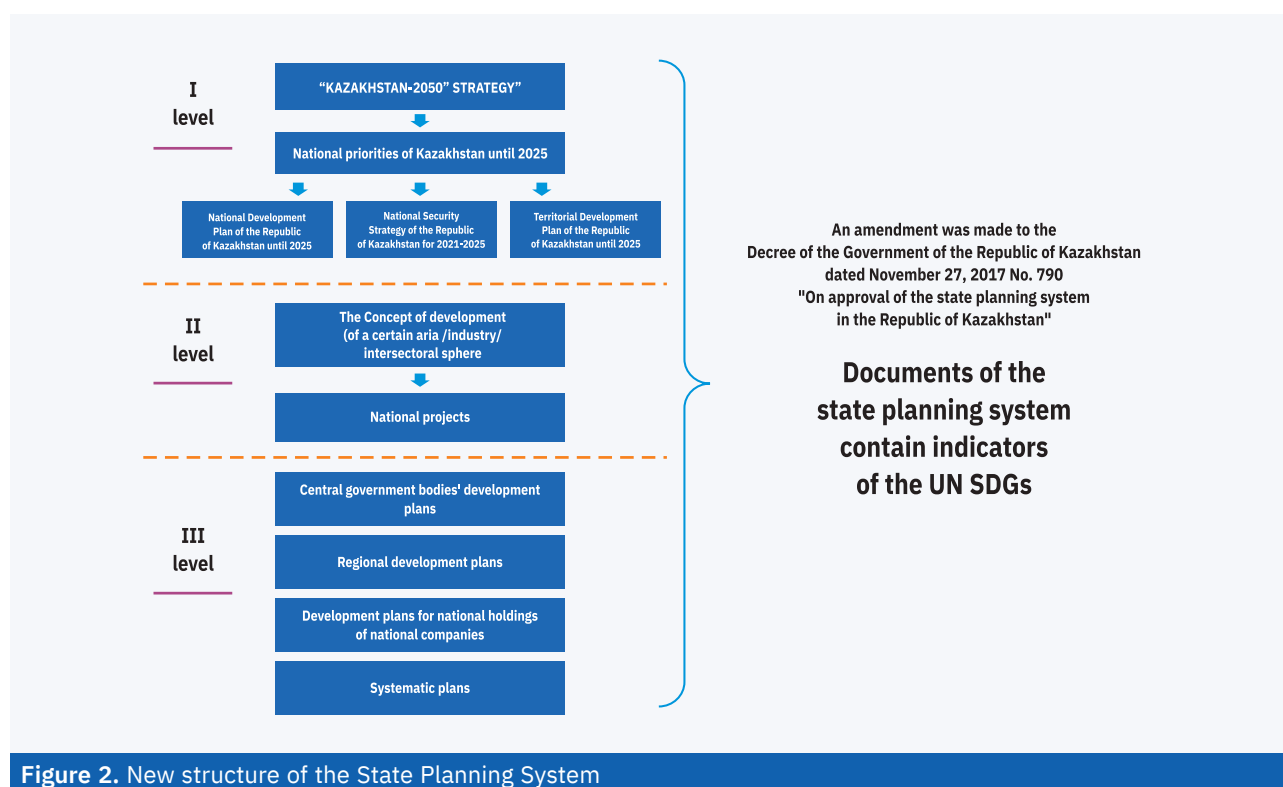


Figure 2. New structure of the State Planning System

The existing strategic and program documents can be paralleled by individual SDG targets and indicators. Such documents are: National Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2025, National Security Strategy of the Republic of Kazakhstan,

Territorial Development Plan, national projects, regional development plans. In some cases, measures to implement the SDGs are also contained in the development plans of regional large companies, in particular, transnational companies.

<sup>1</sup> Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 790 "On approval of the State Planning System in the Republic of Kazakhstan" dated November 29, 2017, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P1700000790>

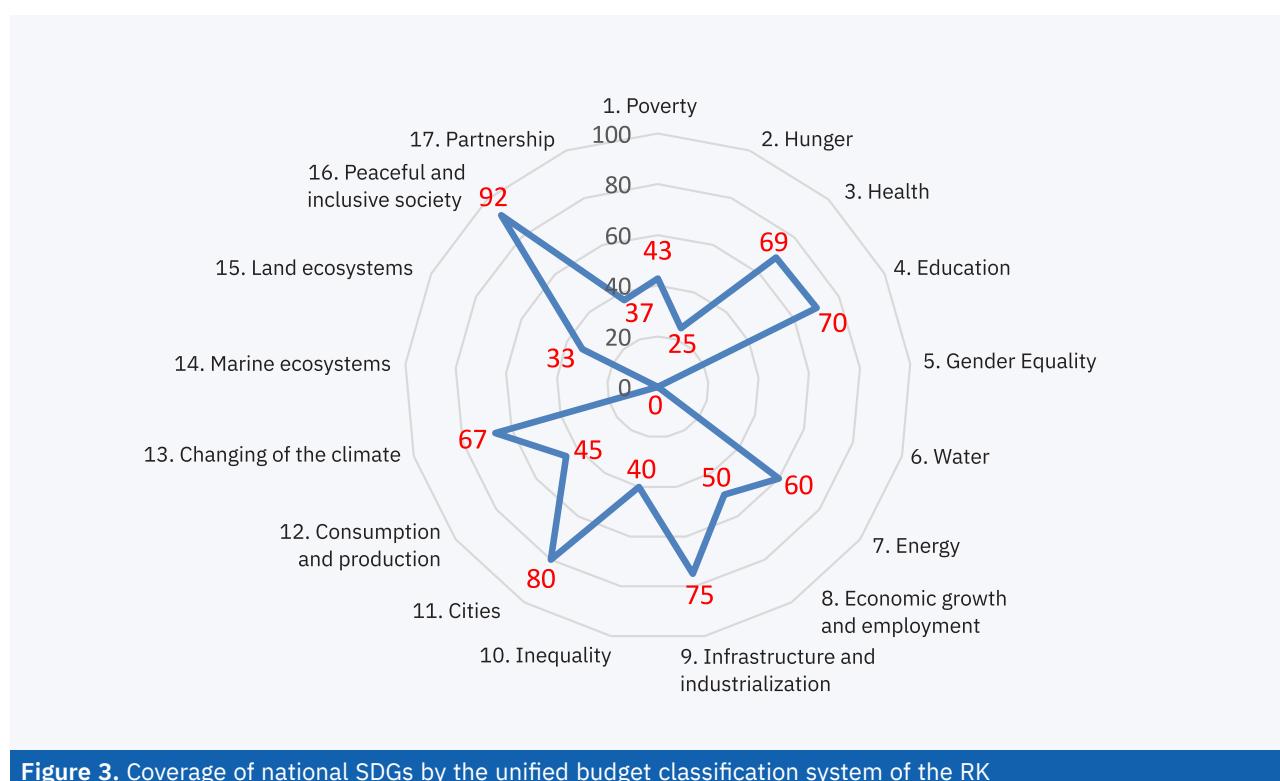
# Prospects for the development of SDG-aligned budget planning

The coherence of the state planning system with budgetary processes is important to ensure the sustainable development. Funding all SDG targets with “Leave no one behind” actions helps accelerate progress on the achievement of the country’s Sustainable Development Goals. The budget is the mechanism for channelling funds to finance specific activities.

So far, Kazakhstan is at the initial stage of integrating the Sustainable Development

Goals into budget planning. In order to assess the level of coverage of the SDGs in the state budget, a Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) of budget programs was conducted with the expert support of the UN Development Programme in Kazakhstan.

The aggregate marking results for all 12 functional groups, coverage of SDG targets by budget programs are 46% (77 out of 167 national SDG targets) and are presented in Figure 3.



**Figure 3.** Coverage of national SDGs by the unified budget classification system of the RK

The analysis showed that the highest level of compliance of budget programs is with SDG 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (92%), SDG 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities (80%), SDG 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (75%), SDG 4. Quality Education (70%), SDG 3. Good Health and Well-being (69%) and SDG 13. Climate Action (67%).

The average level of compliance of budget programs is observed with SDG 7. Affordable and Clean Energy (60%), SDG 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth (50%), SDG 12. Responsible Consumption and Production (45%), SDG 1. No Poverty (43%) and SDG 10. Reduced Inequality (40%).

There is a low level of compliance of budget programs with SDG 17. Partnerships for the Goals (37%), SDG 15. Life on land (33%) and SDG 2. Zero Hunger (25%).

But the levels of compliance of budget programs with the SDGs cannot be taken as an indicator of the coverage of Sustainable Development Goals with financial resources. In order to cover the SDGs with budget funds, the work is ongoing on the RIA of Budget Programs.

A Climate Budget Tagging (CBT) was also carried out within the framework of the RIA. The purpose of this paper is to determine the scale of climate finance needed to combat climate change, as well as to explore the possibilities of integrating the principles of climate finance into the budget planning system in Kazakhstan.

The effective allocation of budgetary funds, considering the principles of the SDGs, requires an analysis that highlights the gender problems of different categories of the population. A step-by-step process is carried out in Kazakhstan to take into account all the needs of different categories of the population at budget planning. With the support of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), a mechanism of child-focused budgeting has been developed. This tool will be used when conducting an assessment of child well-being.

As part of this Review, experts from the Economic Research Institute JSC conducted gender analysis in the areas of education (additional education and technical and vocational education), health care (life expectancy, some common diseases) and social protection (employment of people with disabilities) in different regions of the country.



## Gender Analysis in Education

There are trends showing a certain gender imbalance in education, which is recommended to consider in the planning and implementation of strategic and program documents.

Almost all of the identified trends are characteristics of all regions of the country in different variations and ratios.

The development of additional education is one of the priority tasks of state educational policy. Increased enrollment of children in

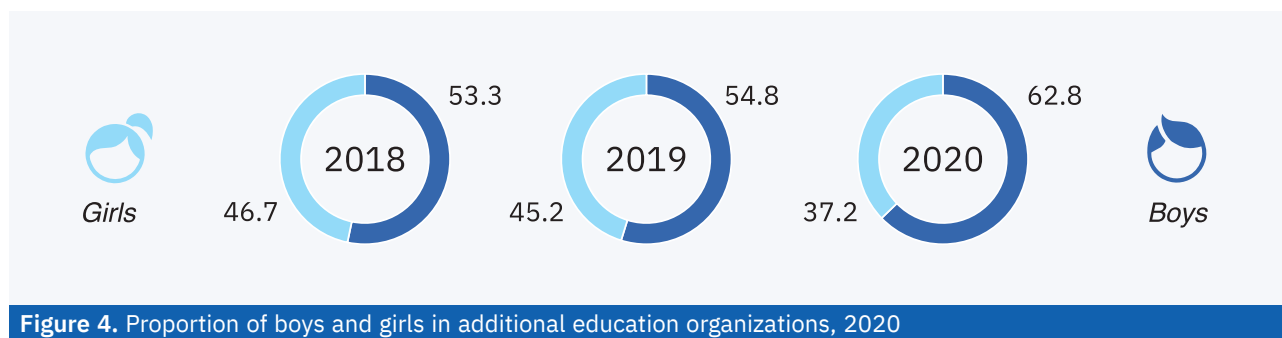
additional education is reflected in the strategic documents of the country. It is also provided for in local budget programs. However, these documents do not take gender aspects into account. Therefore, a gender analysis was conducted to determine the level of gender differentiation in additional education organizations. For the same purpose, the ratio of women to men in technical and vocational educational organizations was analyzed by areas of study and some specialties.

### Additional Education

According to the latest data, in 2020 in Kazakhstan, there were 1,272 organizations of additional education in which 28.6% of children from the total number of students in general education schools of the country were employed.

In all regions of the country, as well as in the country as a whole, the ratio of boys to girls in general education schools is on average 51:49. However, there is a significant gender imbalance among children in additional education organizations. So, while in 2018 the share of girls was 46.7%, in 2020 it dropped to 37.2% (Figure 4).

One significant reason for the low enrollment of girls is the low prevalence of various sports and creative activities, especially in small towns and rural areas, which would be more attractive to girls. These sports sections include rhythmic gymnastics, sport dance, handball, track and field athletics and tennis.

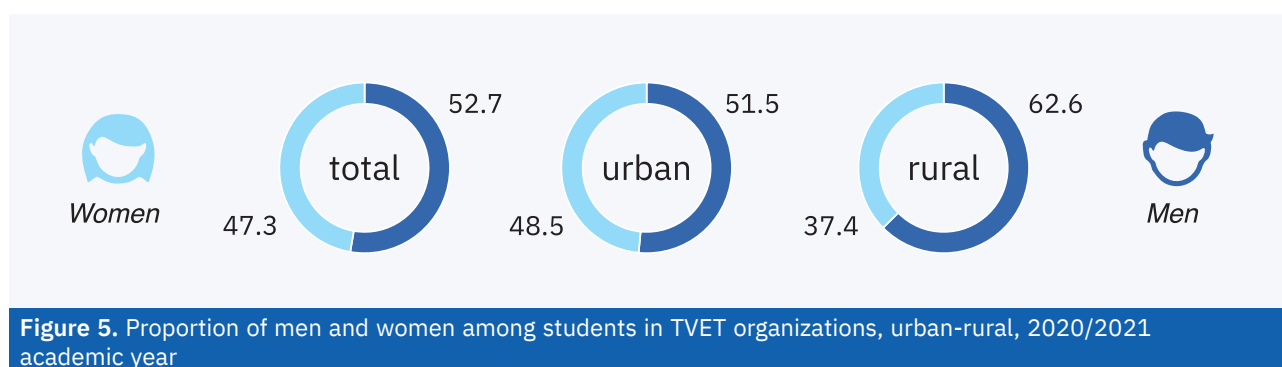


Source: National Collection of Statistics of the Education System of the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2021

It should be noted that since 2021 in Kazakhstan, there is per capita financing for state sports and creative activities. This funding mechanism will probably contribute not only to increasing the enrollment of children in additional education, but will also reduce the gender imbalance in this area.

## Technical Vocational Education and Training

At the beginning of 2020/2021 academic year, there were 477.5 thousand people studying in Kazakhstan in Technical Vocational Education and Training Organizations, of whom 226.1 thousand, or 47.3%, were women. In all regions of the country, with the exception of the Almaty region, men outnumber women among Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) students. A more significant gender gap is observed in rural TVET organizations (Figure 5). This gender imbalance in rural areas is largely due to the predominance of agricultural occupations, which are unattractive to women.



Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

The country's technical and vocational education and training organizations train specialists in 15 areas of training. There are significantly more men than women in 10 areas of training, especially in such areas as "Transportation" (95.5% of men), "Energy. Electricity" (90.4%) and "Metallurgy and Mechanical Engineering" (86.5%), where almost all specialties are traditionally "male". In other areas of training, women prevail: "Medicine, Pharmacy" – 77.5% of women; "Education" – 72.1%; "Art and Culture" – 68.3%; "Metrology, Standardization and Certification" – 68.2%; "Service, Economics and Management" – 66.4%. However, in some areas of training, there are some specialties where men outnumber women. For example, there are 15.6 thousand students in the area of "Education" in the specialty "Physical Education and Sports", of whom 82.3% are men and 17.7%, women.

At the beginning of the 2020/2021 academic year, the Medical, Pharmacy major accounted to 17.8 percent of all TVET students nationwide (85.1 thousand students). Most students are trained in Nursing (41.8%) and General Medicine (38.5%). The number of male students prevails only in two specialties: "Orthopedic Dentistry" – 80.5% and "Dentistry" – 65.8%. In the rest, the proportion of women is significantly higher. Nursing, Pharmacy, and Laboratory Diagnostics, with 93.8%, 89.2%, and 88.8% of women, respectively, are traditionally "female" specialties.

In such areas as "Agriculture, Veterinary Medicine and Ecology" there are 19 specialties. At the beginning of the 2020/2021 academic year, the number of students enrolled in this area of education was 33.3 thousand, or 7% of all students in the TVET system of the country. This area of education is one of the unpopular among women. In 16 specialties there are more men than women. In some of them, the proportion of men exceeds 90%. The number of female students prevails only in such specialties as "Agricultural Ecology" (68.0% of women), "Plant Science" (65.5%) and "Hydrology and Meteorology" (52.0%).

In 2020, there were 146.1 thousand TVET graduates nationwide, of whom 86.7 thousand (59.3%) were employed and 19.4 thousand (13.3%) went on to higher education and colleges. Among male graduates, the share of those employed was 58.5%, while among women it was slightly higher, 60.2%. Accordingly, there is no noticeable gender gap in the employment of graduates.

In some specialties the proportion of male graduates employed was noticeably higher, and, conversely, there are specialties after graduation in which women are more likely to be employed than men.

In general, there are the following disparities between women and men in technical and vocational education and training in all regions of the country:

- the proportion of men is greater than the proportion of women among students in TVET, especially in rural areas,
- there is a significant gender disparity in some areas of education and training,
- some specialties remain traditionally “male” or “female”,
- significant gender differentiation is also observed in the employment of graduates in certain professions.

## Gender Analysis in Health Care

One of the main integral indicators of the state of health of the population and quality of healthcare system is life expectancy at birth (LEB). In Kazakhstan, over the period from 2009 to 2019, the LEB increased by 4.8 years (from 68.4 to 73.2 years). However, in 2020, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, it dropped by 1.8 years (from 73.2 to 71.4 years)<sup>2</sup>.

The gender difference in life expectancy at birth remains significant. On average, it is 8.4 years, but in some regions it reaches almost 10 years.

One of the main reasons for the gender difference in LEB is behavioral factors, especially health factors.

There is gender differentiation in almost all types of morbidity and causes of death, due to different biological and social factors.

In many regions of the country, the incidence of malignant neoplasms among women is noticeably higher than among men. As of 2020, the national incidence rate for women was 22.0% higher than for men. It should be noted that some regions with high rates of cancer have a small gender difference.

The most common types of malignant neoplasms in men are lung and bronchial cancer, stomach cancer, colorectal cancer, and prostate cancer, and in women, breast cancer, cervical cancer, colorectal cancer, and ovarian cancer<sup>3</sup>.

There remains a marked gender imbalance in the rates of mortality from neoplasms. While men’s cancer rates were lower than women’s, men’s cancer mortality rates exceeded (by 21.7% at national level) the corresponding women’s mortality rates.

<sup>2</sup> Data of Bureau of National Statistics of the ASPR RK

<sup>3</sup> Cancer Service Indicators of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2019, <https://onco.kz/o-rake/ponimanie-raka/statistika-raka/>

In many regions of the country, there is a significant gender differentiation in the incidence of active tuberculosis.

While the average case of tuberculosis among men is 51% higher than among women in the country, men are almost three times ahead of women in terms of mortality from tuberculosis. The gender difference is more significant in some regions.

In 2020, the incidence of iodine deficiency diseases per 100,000 people in Kazakhstan was 106.6 cases and decreased by 33.6% compared to 2017.

It should be noted that according to statistics, iodine deficiency diseases are more common among urban residents than among rural ones. Nationally, the urban indicator in question is almost six times higher than the rural one.

Conclusions on gender analysis in health care by region:

- the incidence of malignant neoplasms among women is higher than among men almost in all regions of the country,
- if cancer rates among men were lower than those among women, male neoplasm mortality rates were higher than the corresponding female mortality rates,
- in many regions of the country, there is a significant gender differentiation in the incidence of active tuberculosis,
- while the average incidence of tuberculosis among men was 51% higher than among women in the country, men are almost three times ahead of women in terms of mortality from tuberculosis,
- the incidence of diseases associated with iodine deficiency is characterized by significant regional and gender differentiation.

## Gender analysis of employment of persons with disabilities

At the beginning of 2022, there were 696.8 thousand persons with disabilities living in Kazakhstan, including 417.8 thousand of working age (60%), 180.7 thousand of pensionable age (26%), 98.3 thousand children aged under 18 (14%). Of the total number of persons with disabilities, 56% are men and 44% are women.

State policy in the area of social protection of people with disabilities is aimed at their full integration into society and at overcoming barriers, so that this category of the population can live, work and study on an equal basis with others, freely participate in society, make certain decisions, etc.



A National Plan to ensure the rights and improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities until 2025 is being implemented<sup>4</sup>.

Creating conditions for employment of persons with disabilities plays an important role in employment policy. Much work is being done in Kazakhstan to integrate people with disabilities into society and involve them in the labor market. There is a number of projects and programs in the country that implement measures to ensure employment of persons with disabilities. “Enbek” State Program for the development of productive employment and entrepreneurship in 2017-2021 was one of the main programs until 2022. Within the framework of the “Enbek” Program, persons with disabilities, along with other vulnerable segments of the population, were given the right to priority participation in active measures to promote employment of the population.

In 2021, 18.4 thousand people with disabilities were employed, or 90.6 percent of those who applied to employment centers (20.3 thousand). 10.4 thousand people with disabilities were employed in permanent jobs and 8.1 thousand in temporary jobs (social jobs, youth practical training, public works).

A quota of 2-4% of jobs for persons with disabilities (not including jobs in heavy work and work in harmful and hazardous conditions) was also established, under which 5.8 thousand persons with disabilities were employed.

“Ten Qogam” centers were launched in 17 regions. Such centers have been successfully operating in Nur-Sultan and Almaty since 2020, providing persons with disabilities with psychological and legal support and employment assistance.

For a better selection of professions and assistance in finding employment, the Atlas of Professions for Persons with Disabilities has been developed (it consists of 432 combinations by type of disability and includes about 3.0 thousand professions).

At the end of 2021, the employment rate for persons with disabilities was 24.8% of the able-bodied population (104.0 thousand out of 417.8 thousand). By 2025, this figure is planned to reach 30%.

However, it should be noted that the main planning and budgeting documents, under which the employment of persons with disabilities is implemented, do not take gender factors into account.

In general, the gender analysis showed that the budgeting policy is gender-neutral.

For a more effective social policy in Kazakhstan, there is a growing need to incorporate a gender perspective into strategic plans and budget programs. The need for gender analysis increases accordingly.

<sup>4</sup> Decree of RK Government dated 28.05.2019 “On approval of the National Plan On Enforcement of Rights and Quality of Life Improvement of People with Disabilities in the Republic of Kazakhstan through 2025” <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P1900000326>

## 3

## PRIORITY GOALS THROUGH THE EYES OF KAZAKHSTANIS

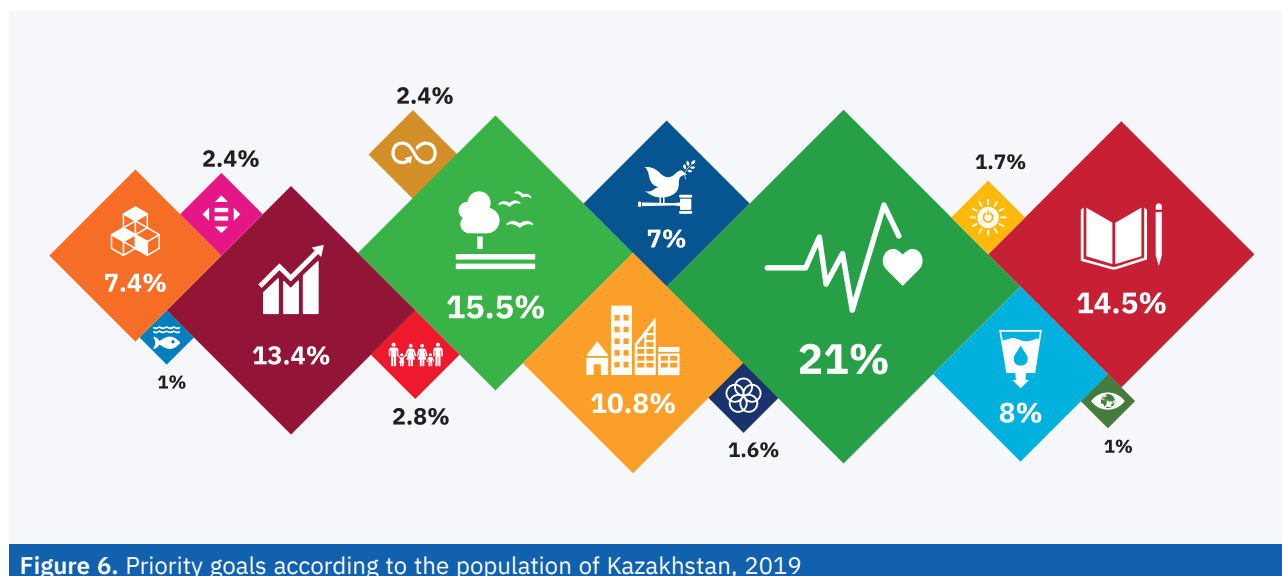
Kazakhstan adheres to the basic principle of the SDGs, **“Leave No One Behind”**.

In the first half of 2022, seminars in the format of “Mission – 2030” Business Game were held in all regions of the country to raise public awareness and identify priorities for sustainable development.

Similar seminars were held in 2019. Periodically organized seminars allow not only to take into account the opinions of different categories of the population, but also to understand how their views on the priorities of the region’s development are changing.

The results of “Mission – 2030” Business Game, conducted by experts of Economic Research Institute JSC in 2019, revealed that the Top 5 priority goals in 2019 were the following:

- **SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being;**
- **SDG 4 Quality Education;**
- **SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth;**
- **SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities;**
- **SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation** (Figure 6).



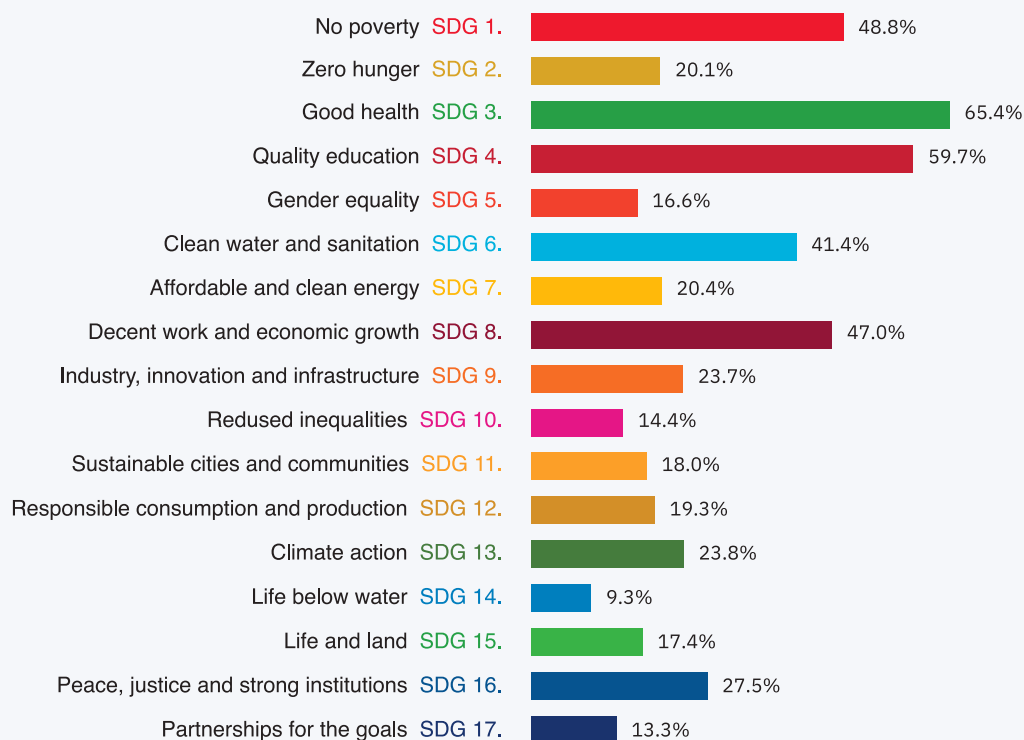
**Figure 6.** Priority goals according to the population of Kazakhstan, 2019

Source: Analysis by experts from Economic Research Institute JSC

Three years later, “Mission – 2030” Business Game was repeated in all 17 regions of the country during preparation for this Review. The event allowed for the active involvement of the public and stakeholders in the preparation of the Review. Representatives of local executive bodies, civil society, independent experts, persons with disabilities, pensioners, academics, young people (schoolchildren and students), and representatives of the private sector were involved in the process of discussing the draft Review. Activities were carried out with technical and financial support from UN agencies: UNDP, the UN Resident Coordinators Office, and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

In order to identify priority SDGs for submission of more detailed information to the VNR, the following goals were voted on during the seminars, as a result of which the participants identified the following priority goals in the Review:

- **SDG 1 No Poverty;**
- **SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being;**
- **SDG 4 Quality Education;**
- **SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation;**
- **SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth** (Figure 7).



**Figure 7.** Priority goals according to the population of Kazakhstan, 2022

Source: Analysis by experts from Economic Research Institute JSC

The results of the voting showed that, first, after a three-year period, residents identified generally similar SDGs as in 2019. Issues that ensure well-being of the population – clean water, health, education, employment and economic growth, remain in the foreground of the population.

Second, in the country regions, the relevant SDGs identified by participants as priorities did not correspond to the VNR 2022 UN SDGs, which limits a more detailed analysis of the situation on implementation of SDGs.

The event allowed not only to identify relevant goals, but also to identify more urgent tasks in each region of the country. According to the participants of the event, the following objectives are ranked among the Top 5 urgent SDG objectives at the country level:

- **objective 3.8** “Ensure universal health coverage”,
- **objective 6.3** “Improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating waste dumping, etc.”,

- **objective 4.4:** “Substantially increase the number of young people and adults with in-demand skills”,
- **objective 8.3** “Promote development-oriented policies that foster productive activities, creation of decent jobs, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation”,
- **objective 11.6** “Reduce the negative environmental impact of cities”.

A comparative analysis of the results of the Review for 2019 and 2022 shows that there is a change in the opinions of the population on the actual objectives of the SDGs in the regions.

For example, in 2019 there were the following relevant objectives in the East Kazakhstan Region (EKR) on:

- ensuring universal health coverage (**Objective 3.8**),
- increasing the number of young people and adults with in-demand skills (**Objective 4.4**),
- ensuring the development and implementation of strategies to promote sustainable tourism (**Objective 8.9**).

However, the residents of EKR determined their most urgent objectives in 2022 to be:

- poverty eradication (**Objective 1.b**);
- increasing agricultural productivity and income of small-scale food producers (**Objective 2.3**);
- reduction of premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (**Objective 3.4**).

There is also a tendency to shift the priorities of the SDGs in the large megalopolis of the country - Almaty. So, while in 2019 the priority was given to objectives on:

- creating and improving educational institutions that are child, disability, and gender sensitive (**Objective 4.a**),
- development of quality, reliable, sustainable and stable infrastructure (**Objective 9.1**),
- supporting and encouraging the active participation of all people in social, economic, and political life of the country (**Objective 10.4**).

In 2022, the residents of Almaty placed emphasis on the objectives:

- increasing healthcare financing, development of professional training and retaining of healthcare personnel (**Objective 3.c**);
- developing policies that foster the creation of decent jobs (**Objective 8.3**),
- reducing the negative environmental impact of cities (**Objective 11.6**).

The Sustainable Development Goals are a universal tool for achieving and tracking sustainable development of the country in the process of implementation. Analysis of priority SDGs in the country regions has demonstrated this fact that the Sustainable Development Goals are changing under influence of external and internal factors, which indicates the need for work to identify actual SDG targets among the population on a systematic basis.



# 4

## ROLE OF PRIVATE SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals mark a fundamental shift in the global agenda, the practical implementation of which will depend on the degree of engagement by Governments, the non-governmental sector and private sector. In many areas of sustainable development in Kazakhstan, there is the involvement of civil society and business representatives.

## Private sector

The UN Sustainable Development Goals set ambitious tasks for the private sector to solve the following problems: inclusive economy, diminishing natural resources, environmental degradation, and full implications of climate change. Paragraph 28 of the 2030 Agenda<sup>5</sup> gives the private sector an important role in helping to change unsustainable production and consumption patterns.

Kazakhstani entrepreneurs have accepted the challenge noted in the Agenda 2030 and have begun to actively engage in the localization of the SDGs.

As it is known, many companies in Kazakhstan are working to solve environmental, social and economic problems. Agenda 2030 is a universal strategic framework for business cooperation with the Government of the RK, clients, non-governmental organizations, society at large, and even competitors.

Business activities in the country can be roughly divided into 3 types:

**Large businesses listed on the Kazakhstan Stock Exchange.** Kazakhstan has institutionally created conditions for the promotion of socio-economic and environmental projects as part of the publication of non-financial information for the public, Government of the RK and portfolio investors. Thus, the Kazakhstan

Stock Exchange (KASE) is one of 32 exchanges of the world that distribute a methodology (introduced on December 1, 2016) for reporting on ESG criteria (environmental, social responsibility and corporate governance), and one of the 18 exchanges of the world that promote ESG criteria through training<sup>6</sup>. This opens up opportunities to attract portfolio investment in the economy (in particular, from international institutional investors), as well as the development of new financial instruments, such as sustainable development bonds (ESG bonds<sup>7</sup>).

In 2020, certain parts of the ESG Reporting Methodology became mandatory for disclosure by KASE listed companies. As a result, at the end of 2020, 77 out of 154 listed companies of the Exchange disclosed information according to ESG criteria in their annual reports.

Currently, the official list of KASE has 7 issues of ESG bonds, including verified ones: 3 issues of “green” bonds totaling about KZT 34.0 billion and 4 issues of social bonds totaling KZT 43.4 billion. Among the Exchange’s issuers of ESG bonds there are: Asian Development Bank, Damu Entrepreneurship Development Fund JSC, Eurasian Development Bank.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on September 25, 2015, “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. - [https://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=R](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=R)

<sup>6</sup> Kazakhstan Stock Exchange JSC: Methodology for preparation of ESG Report: Turning Formality into Advantage - [https://kase.kz/files/presentations/ru/KASE\\_ESG\\_KASE\\_rus.pdf](https://kase.kz/files/presentations/ru/KASE_ESG_KASE_rus.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Sustainable Development Bonds (ESG Bonds) are designed to finance environmental, environmental protection and social projects and include green bonds, social bonds and other bonds issued to finance sustainable development projects

As one of the strategic objectives of KASE for 2022-2024, the development of ESG financing is envisaged as one of the promising and necessary areas of development of the debt capital market.

**Large Kazakhstani and transnational companies** - are actively working to improve the economy, environment and social well-being of the population as a corporate social responsibility. For example, CCI Kazakhstan, a producer of soft drinks, uses stormwater and wastewater and treats wastewater at its facilities at almost 100%. CCI Kazakhstan has the most effective water management system within the entire regional group of companies. CCI Kazakhstan's water reclamation and conservation projects return up to 1.8 billion liters of water to the environment annually. This is about three times the volume of water the company uses to make Coca-Cola drinks in Kazakhstan. From 2010 to 2020, Coca-Cola has invested more than USD 1 million in water restoration in Kazakhstan. This has saved more than 10 billion liters of water. In 2021, CCI Kazakhstan's water consumption ratio was 1.56 (l/l). The goal is to reduce this ratio to 1.37 (l/l) in 2030. In 2021, the volume of recycled and reused water in CCI Kazakhstan was 75,838 m<sup>3</sup>. In addition, CCI Kazakhstan conducted the 7th season of "3.2.1.Start!" project to empower young people. In 2021, a record number of about 300 applications



were received and more than 2,500 students were reached through hackathons<sup>8</sup>. The 15 winners of the project "3.2.1. Start!" have already received cash grants to implement their ideas.

<sup>8</sup> Hackathon (from the English, hacker and marathon, "hacker marathon") - a competition of programmers, designers and other participants from IT industry, where teams create temporarily a prototype of product that solves a particular business problem



Figure 8. Electric bus produced by SaryarkaAvtoprom LLP

Another striking example of environmental conservation and cost savings for an enterprise is the case of SaryarkaAvtoprom LLP, a manufacturer of electric buses in the Kazakhstan market. It is well known that the largest cities of Kazakhstan lead in the atmospheric pollution index, and transport is one of the main sources of pollution. That is why the decision to introduce environmentally friendly public transport was prompted by the increased air pollution in the largest cities.

The first electric buses began rolling off the assembly line in August 2018; the main supplier of electric buses in Kazakhstan is SaryarkaAvtoprom LLP from Kostanai. The company has localized the production of two brands of electric buses from the world leaders in this sector: Yutong and

Ankai. It is noteworthy that Yutong is a world leader in the production of buses, including electric buses.

The advantage of SaryarkaAvtoProm LLP electric buses is that for every 1 km in Kazakhstan, the electric bus spends KZT 18, and the diesel counterpart, KZT 90-100. On average, an electric bus consumes 1 kW of electricity per kilometer. A diesel bus consumes 400 ml of fuel. In addition, electric buses are cheaper to operate as they do not have complicated mechanisms; there is no need to change oil, filters, drive belts; there are no processes for maintenance and repair of the fuel system or gearbox. In addition, the electric bus is a gadget platform for the integration of Internet technology.





Beeline Kazakhstan does a lot of work to support young people. For the fourth year, Beeline Kazakhstan has held a competition for the best digital project among Enactus students (from 2021 - also for schoolchildren), through which more than 200 projects have been submitted. The best ideas receive cash grants for further development and undergo a business incubator program. In addition, there is a project, “Beeline Bootcamp” - a week-long intensive course for students of Kazakhstani universities, which prepares them for a career in the digital and IT-industry and significantly increases their chances of employment.

**Small and medium enterprises (SMEs), as well as various Funds, also play an important role in promoting social projects.**

Given the importance of developing sustainable and inclusive entrepreneurship among SMEs, the Government of Kazakhstan developed and adopted the Law “On Social Entrepreneurship”<sup>9</sup> in 2021.

More than 500 companies in the country now classify themselves as socially<sup>10</sup> responsible and perform important tasks to address issues of inequality, poverty reduction, environmental improvement and quality of education.

<sup>9</sup> Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan no.52-VII ZRK dated June 24, 2021 “On Introduction of Amendments and Additions to Some Statutory Acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the Issues of Entrepreneurship, Social Entrepreneurship, and Obligatory Social Medical Insurance”, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z2100000052>.

<sup>10</sup> News on the website of Atameken NCE: “How to get on the register of social entrepreneurs, found out in eastern Kazakhstan?” - <https://atameken.kz/ru/news/46673-kak-popast-v-reestr-social-nyh-predprinimatelej-vyyasnyali-v-vostochnom-kazahstane>

One good example of the implementation of socially important projects is the work of the Sustainable Rural Development Fund (the Fund). The Fund, with the support of business and civil society, is implementing a sustainable development strategy in four rural areas along social, economic and environmental lines. For example, the Fund analyzes the condition

of remote rural schools (about 75% of the country's schools are rural). According to the analysis, the quality of education and provision of educational equipment in rural schools lagged behind urban schools. Therefore, with the support of entrepreneurs and civil society, work is underway to modernize rural schools.



Figure 9. Equipping rural schools by Sustainable Rural Development Fund in East Kazakhstan Region



Thus, supplying modern conditions, the contribution of the business sector of Kazakhstan to sustainable development can be considered one of the important factors in strengthening corporate sustainability and the economy as a whole.

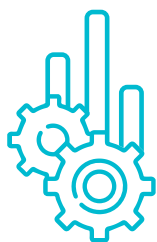
## Civil Society

Civil society is called upon to encourage governments, the business sector, and international organizations to invest in sustainable development, as well as to uphold the principles and values of human rights and social justice.

In Kazakhstan, civil society is actively involved in the implementation of the Sustainable

Development Agenda, and assists the Government of the RK in implementing important socio-economic measures through **expert and analytical support**, carries out **outreach work** with the population, and promotes **partnerships for sustainable development** in addressing pressing issues within society.

### *Expert and Analytical Support*



In fulfilling the tasks of public participation in the decision-making process, civil society institutions participate in the public councils established under the executive bodies at central and local levels. Civil society also has a large number of professional experts who advise government agencies to find joint solutions and help in the preparation of important documents of the country, which can include the First and Second Reviews of Kazakhstan.

### *Awareness-raising activities*



Civil society institutions disseminate relevant information and necessary knowledge to the population through the media, various platforms, social networks, etc. This work is especially important in promoting the sustainable and inclusive development of society, where the principle of “Leave no one behind” requires that the voice of every person is heard, to involve them in the promotion of the 2030 Agenda.

To take into account the views of civil society on socially significant issues, the Concept of Civil Society Development in the Republic of Kazakhstan<sup>11</sup> was adopted, developed in conjunction with non-governmental organizations and international experts.

<sup>11</sup> Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 390 dated August 27, 2020 // On approval of the Concept of Civil Society Development in the Republic of Kazakhstan, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U2000000390>



## Partnerships for Sustainable Development



Civil society institutions implement many projects that meet the goals and objectives of sustainable development. Thus, civil society has worked hard to promote socio-economic well-being, gender equality, reduction of inequality and development of an inclusive society, improvement of environment, promotion of the principles of the “hearing state,” and partnership for sustainable development.

Partnerships for sustainable development cover such important areas as the development of national and regional projects/programs in the area of socio-economic and environmental well-being, global and regional projects/programs implemented with foreign partners, aimed at adapting social innovative technologies and best practices in the world.

As of 2021, the number of registered civil society representatives increased from 100 to 22,000. More than 5,000 of them are active, ready to be reliable partners with the state in solving socially significant problems, implementing state projects and programs, analyzing and evaluating their significance and necessity.

Civil sector and business have begun to engage actively in localization of SDGs. The project “Malenkaya strana” (eng. Little Country) for children with disabilities is being implemented in Atyrau region, while in the Kyzylorda region, the village named after Nagi Ilyasov is called by many an oasis of the Kyzylorda desert. The village has an equipped sports complex, community center, fountains, local supermarket, paved roads, beautiful and clean streets lit by street lamps.

“ANA UYI” Project can be presented as an example of a successful civil society case study, which aims to prevent mothers from abandoning their babies and keeping children with their birth families. Over seven years, the “ANA UYI” Project has proven its relevance and effectiveness. “ANA UYI” prevented 69% of mothers from potentially abandoning their newborn

babies. 4,280 babies stayed with their mothers and did not end up in orphanages. In addition, in 2016 a project was launched – “Center for Supporting Girls Graduated from Orphanages,” because 17% of the mentees of the “ANA UYI” Project are graduates of orphanages. The main task of this Center is to help mothers who find themselves in difficult situations.



Figure 10. “ANA UYI” in Nur-Sultan

The private sector and civil society not only have a critical role to play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, they also have great opportunities in relation to their implementation. Thus, according to the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals will be accompanied by an unprecedented increase in innovation, which, in turn, will lead to significant growth of the global economy. In particular, in value terms, the annual market opportunity for businesses to participate in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals is estimated at USD 12 trillion<sup>12 13</sup>. In addition, achieving the SDGs by 2030 will lead to the creation of 380 million additional jobs, which will have a positive impact on the socio-economic well-being of people.

However, the issue of consolidation of sustainable projects of entrepreneurs and the civil sector, which together can open up opportunities for Kazakhstan to attract domestic and international partners, best practices and additional funding, remains unresolved in the country.



<sup>12</sup> WBCSD is a leading global CEO-led community of more than 200 of the world's leading sustainability companies working together to accelerate the systemic transformation needed for a zero, cleaner and more equitable future

<sup>13</sup> CEO Guide to the Sustainable Development Goals - <https://www.wbcsd.org/contentwbc/download/3877/51694/1>

# 5

## ASSESSMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS ACHIEVEMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

### 5.1. Analysis of the achievement of the objectives of the First Voluntary National Review of Kazakhstan

The First Voluntary Review identified the main directions along which Kazakhstan continued to work towards sustainable development in the medium term. These tasks are different from those set to achieve each of the SDGs, and represent more of a methodological, institutional, legislative, and educational focus.

Over the three-year period, the following was achieved in these areas:

- *Regarding the SDG indicators until 2030:* the state planning system of the Republic of Kazakhstan has introduced requirements on the need to consider national SDG indicators in the development of strategic and program documents. In 2021, the 5th meeting of the SDG Coordination Council approved a list of national SDG indicators (262 indicators). Each responsible government agency has calculated projected values up to 2030 regarding all current indicators.
- *Regarding the localization of the SDGs:* the COVID-19 pandemic has made its own adjustments to the implementation of this direction. Nevertheless, during the lockdown period, events were held to localize the SDGs in an online format, such as training seminars, roundtables, etc. During the period of relaxation of quarantine measures, in the fall of 2021, roadshows were held around the country. In the first half of 2022, work continued on localizing the SDGs. Seminars in regional centers and cities of national importance were conducted in two directions:
  1. training seminars for local executive agencies (LEAs) on nationalization and localization of SDCs in Kazakhstan,
  2. discussion of the draft of the Second Voluntary National Review on the SDGs for regional residents.

LEAs' staff actively participated and shared their experience and expertise in the area of SDG-related projects. The problems and prospects of localizing the SDGs in each region were discussed. It is important to note that sustainable development initiatives are being implemented in the regions.

- *Regarding the harmonization of budget planning with the SDGs:* several activities have been carried out in this area.

Firstly, in 2020, the SDGs Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) was launched with the support of the United Nations Joint SDG Fund.

Secondly, a Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) of budget programs of the Unified Budget Classification of the country was carried out. The RIA showed the correlation of budget expenditures with the objectives of sustainable development and the amount of budget funds allocated to them.

Thirdly, a mechanism for budgeting for children has been developed as part of the Child Well-Being Index methodology in Kazakhstan.

Lastly, a pilot project on gender responsive budgeting was implemented using the example of Akmola region. A methodology for gender responsive budgeting was developed within the framework of this project, which can later be used to form a consolidated gender responsive budget.

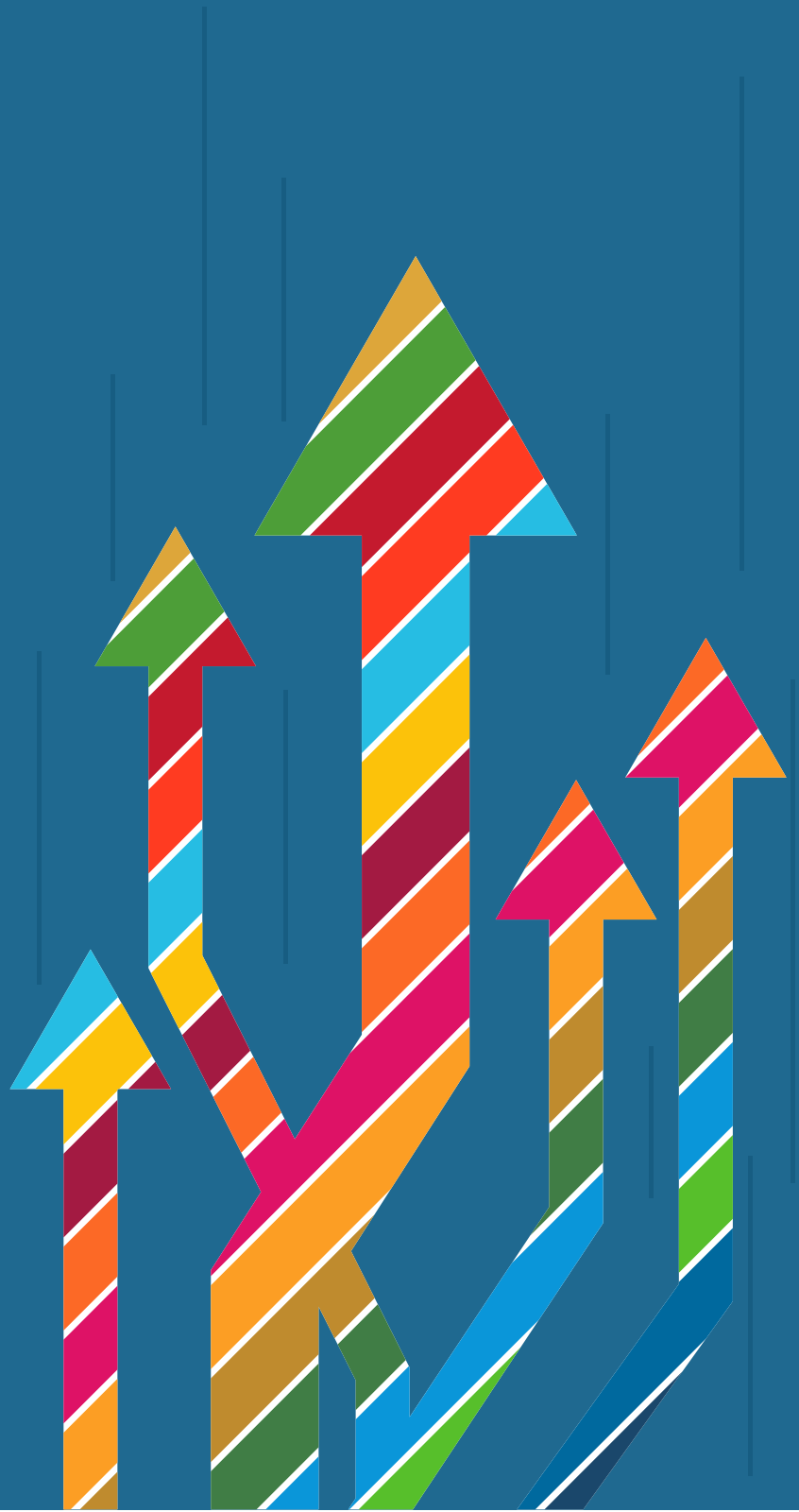
- *Regarding the specific characteristics of Kazakhstan regions:* in 2019, 2022, seminars were held in all regions of the country in a business game format. As a result, a portrait of each region has been compiled.
- *Regarding the effectiveness of local and regional institutional arrangements:* work on this area is in its initial stage of implementation.
- *Regarding the dialogue of all stakeholders:* the work in this area is carried out systematically within the framework of the five interagency working groups: “People”, “Planet”, “Prosperity”, “Peace” and “Partnership”. It should be noted that each working group includes representatives of government agencies, NGOs, and international organizations. The SDG Council was created on the basis of the SDGs Secretariat in order to build a dialogue with business structures. In addition, the SDGs Secretariat has concluded a number of memorandums on cooperation in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.

The cooperation aims to carry out joint activities and projects to develop green and sustainable development policy, research and financing, to promote partnerships with non-governmental organizations, and to share knowledge aimed at raising awareness and sector-wide understanding of sustainable projects.

- *Regarding the interaction with Central Asia and international partners:* systematic work is being carried out in this area with the support of the UNDP and the EU. The launch of the regional SDG platform for Central Asian countries in November 2021 was one of the most significant events. The main goal of the Platform is to work with governments and civil society in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan to achieve the SDGs, integrating country-level efforts regionally through the SDGs monitoring and financing process.



## 5.2. Progress towards Sustainable Development Goals





**1** NO  
POVERTY



The installation demonstrates the modern digital world in the image of a child, where wires reflect mental, physical and digital connections.

Key message: Poverty must be eradicated in a step-by-step manner through joint efforts.



## SDG 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere

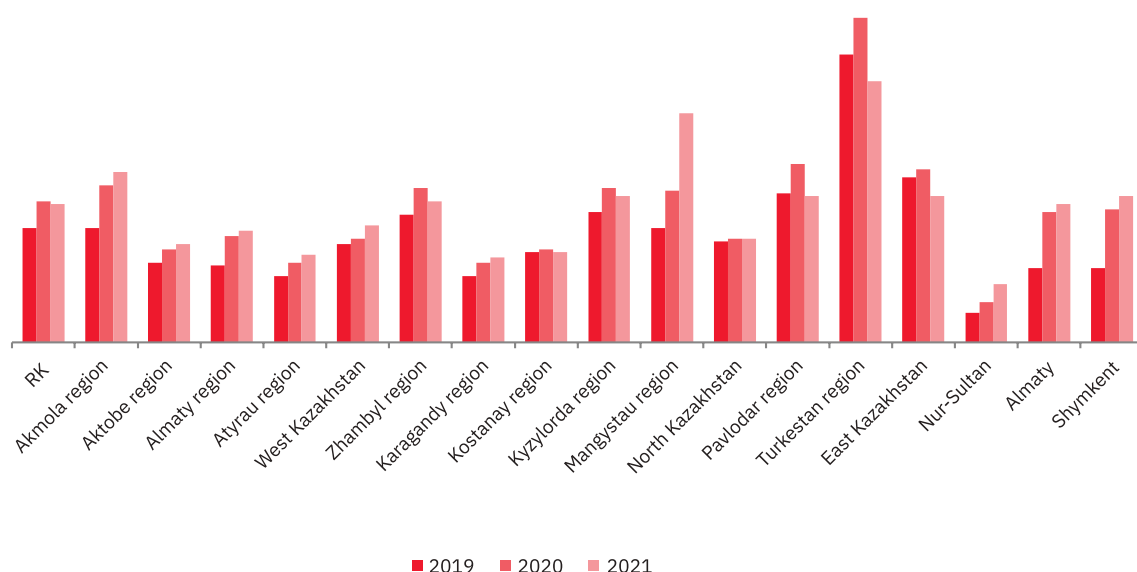
### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In 2022, the “Program to increase the income of the population until 2025” Comprehensive Plan was adopted.
- Targeted social assistance is assigned on a quarterly basis.
- The period of examination of a family’s financial situation is carried out by the district commission for up to 7 days.
- Children from low-income families are given a guaranteed social package.
- Families with many children receive an allowance regardless of their level of financial income.

The consequences of COVID-19 caused significant human suffering in Kazakhstan. The pandemic hit hard in the retail, hospitality, wholesale and transportation sectors, which account for about 30 percent of employment and are mostly concentrated in urban areas. However, the most significant increase in poverty is expected in rural areas, which may intensify inequality in Kazakhstan.

### Policies to Reduce Poverty and Increase Income of the Population

Kazakhstan provides various types of assistance to low-income citizens aimed at reducing poverty. In 2019, the proportion of the population with incomes below the minimum subsistence level in the republic was 4.3%, and in 2021 this figure increased by 0.9 p.p. to 5.2%. The largest percentage is noted in the Turkestan and Mangistau regions, where the proportion of the population with incomes below the minimum subsistence level in 2021 was 9.8% and 8.6% respectively. The lowest indicator was registered in Nur-Sultan (2.2%) and Karaganda region (3.2%) (Figure 11).



**Figure 11.** Proportion of the population with incomes below the minimum subsistence level by region in the dynamics for three years, %

Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the ASPR RK

During the period under review, the amount of the minimum subsistence level has also increased, from KZT 29.3 thousand in 2019 to KZT 37.3 thousand in 2021<sup>14</sup>.

In order to overcome difficult life situations and to encourage able-bodied citizens to participate in active employment measures, the state has built a comprehensive model of support for citizens. To expand coverage to low-income families, the criterion for social assistance was raised to 70% of the minimum subsistence level effective from April 1, 2019. By the end of 2019, 2,177,200 people were covered by such assistance. The basic principle of social assistance remains the mandatory participation of able-bodied family members in employment measures and conclusion of a social contract with them.<sup>15</sup> In this case, unconditional cash assistance is provided to families with no able-bodied members or to families whose able-bodied members cannot participate in employment assistance measures for objective reasons.

In order to support households in which the monthly average per capita income does not exceed 70% of the regional subsistence minimum, the state supports such families in the form of payment of TSA. The TSA for low-income citizens provides for unconditional and conditional cash assistance payments.

<sup>14</sup> On the amount of social payments from January 1, 2021 ([www.gov.kz](http://www.gov.kz))

<sup>15</sup> According to the official data of the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan



In 2020, changes were made to the approach of the TSA provision. In particular, a new state benefit was introduced for large families with four or more minor children. The current TSA system has also been modernized. In particular, the quarterly assignment of TSA was resumed, the requirements for able-bodied recipients of TSA and the institution of divisional inspector commissions was strengthened. In order to increase the effectiveness of their work, the period for conducting a survey of the financial situation of the family was increased from three to seven days. The definition of competence for establishing the criteria for determining the need for TSA was provided, and the grounds for refusal to assign TSA were supplemented when the divisional inspector commissions provided a conclusion that the family was not in need of assistance.

Between 2019 and 2021, the number of TSA recipients decreased 2.2 times from 468.3 thousand to 198.4 thousand families, or from 2,177.2 thousand people to 990.5 thousand people. Including unconditional cash assistance decreased 1.7 times, from 253.2 thousand people to 146.8 thousand people, and conditional cash assistance decreased 2.3 times, from 1.9 million people to 843.7 thousand people.



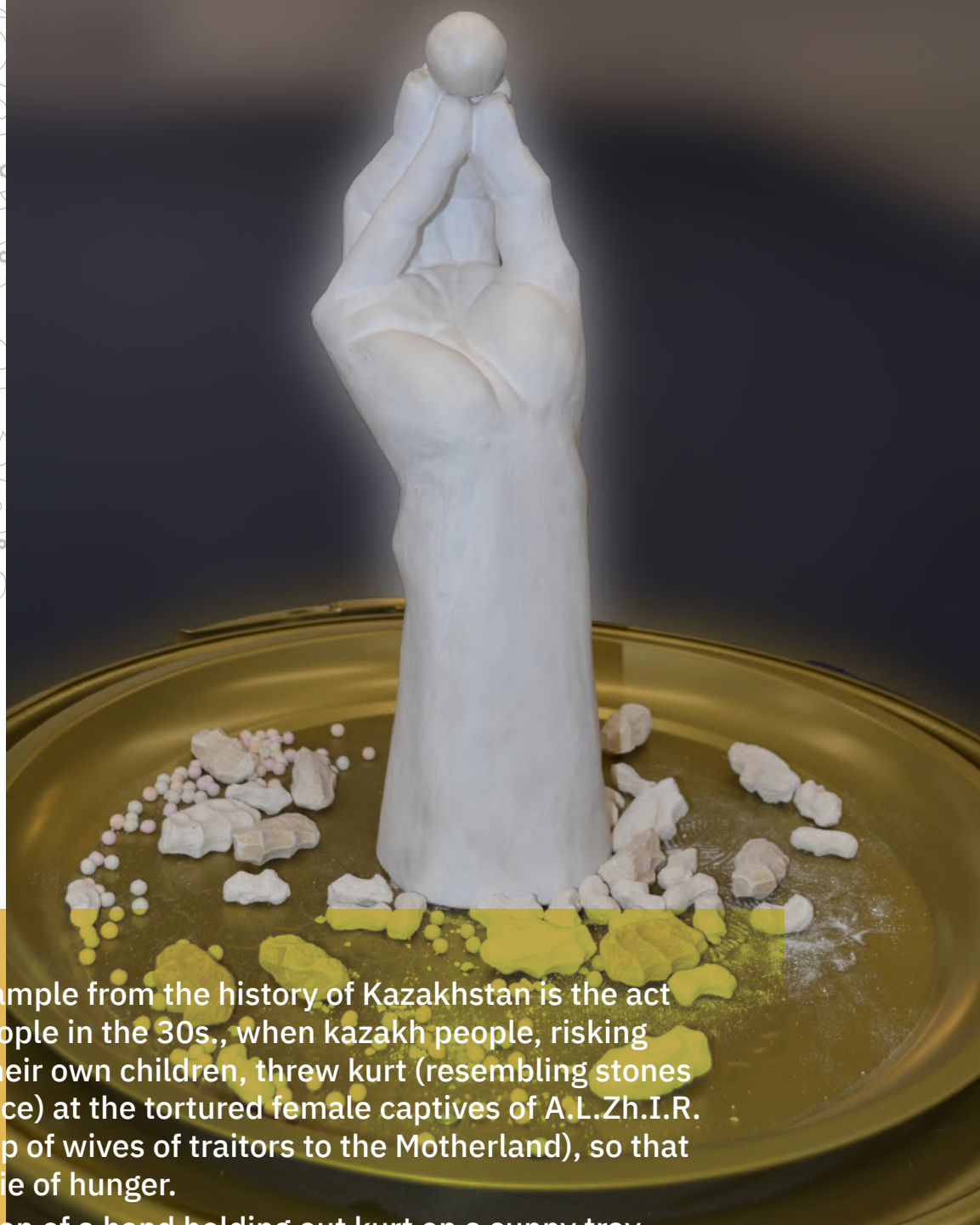
The Guaranteed Social Package (GSP) is provided for children from low-income families who receive targeted social assistance. For pre-school children, the GSP is provided in the form of food kits and hygiene supplies, and for schoolchildren – in the form of free meals at the place of education, reduced fare on city public transport, provision of school uniforms and accessories.

### Next steps on the SDG 1 implementation:

- Implementation of the Program to increase the population's income until 2025.
- Development and adoption of the Social Code to improve and develop social security policy and legislation, and to bring them into conformity with international standards and recommendations.
- Increasing minimum social standards, considering budget possibilities and international norms.
- Effective work on opening centers for working with low-income families and families with many children and women from among the families with many children.



2 ZERO  
HUNGER



A striking example from the history of Kazakhstan is the act of Kazakh people in the 30s., when kazakh people, risking the lives of their own children, threw kurt (resembling stones from a distance) at the tortured female captives of A.L.Zh.I.R. (Akmola camp of wives of traitors to the Motherland), so that they do not die of hunger.

The installation of a hand holding out kurt on a sunny tray recalls the heroic act of the Kazakhs.





## SDG 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- Over the past 3 years, Kazakhstan has improved its ranking in the Global Food Security Index by 16 positions and ranked 41st in 2021.
- In 2021, the Concept of development of the Agro-Industrial Complex until 2030 and the National Project for development of the Agro-Industrial Complex for 2021-2025 were adopted.

One of the fundamental principles for lifting people out of poverty and underdevelopment is the elimination of hunger, improved nutrition, and increased agricultural productivity.

In Kazakhstan, hunger has been completely eliminated. However, there are problems with the prevalence of poor nutrition, although this indicator remains at a consistently low level. Ensuring food security is one of the important conditions for ensuring national security of the country.

According to the Global Food Security Index (GFSI), Kazakhstan ranked 54th in the category of food availability, 35th in food availability and economic sufficiency, and 38th in food quality and security.<sup>16</sup>

Ensuring food security depends on effective measures for sustainable agricultural development. An important priority for Kazakhstan is to increase agricultural production. At present, in the changed conditions of the external environment, the development of the food industry of Kazakhstan is particularly relevant.

In Kazakhstan, food production grew by 1.9% to KZT 2.2 trillion. In 2021, the growth of production in the processing of fruits and vegetables was 154.6%, while there was a decrease in the production of flour and cereal products, starches and starch products and vegetable and animal oils and fats (94.7% and 96.4%, respectively).<sup>17</sup>

It should be noted that in 2021 the volume of gross agricultural production decreased by 2.4% to KZT 7.4 trillion. The reason for decline was the abnormal drought in some regions of the country; as a result, the volume of crop production decreased by 6.7%. At the same time, there was a 3.6% increase in livestock production.

<sup>16</sup> Global Food Security Index, <https://impact.economist.com/sustainability/project/food-security-index/>

<sup>17</sup> Ate from the Report on "Results of agricultural development for 2021 and plans for the coming period"

The advantages of domestic agricultural production such as the availability of vast areas of land, economic purity of products (must be enclosed in proper packaging and properly labeled in accordance with regulatory documents), excess labor resources and others – should be used in the production of competitive food products. However, it should be noted that for Kazakhstan, serious threats to global food security are soil erosion and loss of fertility.

**In 2021, it was produced:**

- 2.4 million tons of oilseed crop at a yield of 8.3 dt/ha.
- 332.2 thousand tons of sugar beets at a yield of 275.5 dt/ha.
- 503.8 thousand tons of rice at a yield of 52.1 dt/ha.
- 4.0 million tons of potatoes at a yield of 207.4 dt/ha.
- 5.4 million tons of vegetables in open ground, 256.5 thousand tons of vegetables in protected ground at a yield of 268.0 dt/ha.
- 2.8 million tons of gourds at a yield of 252.7 dt/ha.

There are 114.0 million hectares of agricultural land in Kazakhstan, of which 29.3 million hectares (26% of land) are eroded.<sup>18</sup>

In order to systematically address the issue of involving agricultural land in production turnover,

a standard was adopted in January 2022, which provides for a reduction in the period of forced withdrawal of unused agricultural land from 2 years to 1 year and introduction of a new mechanism of state control. As well, tax rates were increased from 10 to 20 times on unused agricultural land to create conditions for economic coercion of land users. As practice shows, as a result of such actions, land users often voluntarily return land in order not to pay higher taxes.

In order to protect agricultural lands, their rational use, prevention of retirement from agricultural turnover, as well as restoration and improvement of soil fertility, the Rules for the rational use of agricultural lands were adopted.

To determine the rational use of agricultural land, data from monitoring the use of agricultural land provided for peasant or farmer households and agricultural production are used.

At the same time, space monitoring and remote sensing are used to strengthen state control over the use and protection of land.

A pilot project on space monitoring was launched in 2020 in Akmola, Kostanay, East Kazakhstan and Mangistau regions. In these 4 regions, 8.3 million hectares of unused land were identified, of which 0.7 million hectares were arable and 7.6 million hectares were grazing lands.

Since 2021, space monitoring has been carried out throughout the country.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Consolidated Analytical Report on State and Use of Lands of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2021

<sup>19</sup> Official data of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

The next criterion in ensuring food security is an economic availability of food. High volatility of food prices reduces economic availability of food for the population, thereby creating a threat of hunger for low-income strata. Inflation is rising, and food is becoming more expensive.

According to national statistics, share of food products in structure of household monetary expenditures was 53%<sup>20</sup>. This confirms the fact that the majority of Kazakhstan citizens spend most of their income on food.

Causes of food inflation are very different. One of the factors is prices on foreign markets. Also, since the beginning of the year, prices have increased due to difficulties in the supply of product. Most of the population is not ready for shocks and is vulnerable to deterioration of the economic situation in the country due to low level of income and high expenses (primarily for food). Responding to these threats, in April 2022, the Kazakhstan Government approved a Comprehensive Plan to Increase Incomes of the Population until 2025<sup>21</sup>, in which one of the important measures is an implementation of measures to import substitution of the domestic market with basic food products. In addition, to ensure food security, the Government has developed a Plan of measures for 2022-2024. The Plan provides for measures to ensure physical accessibility, economic security and measures to ensure the safety and quality of products.

Guaranteed daily availability of healthy food for every person is a priority in the development of food security. However, the country still has a malnutrition problem which leads to abrosia and stunting, obesity, and anemia.

According to a sample household survey, in 2020 the proportion of the population whose dietary energy intake was below the minimum acceptable level was 4.4% (in 2019 – 4.1%). In rural areas, this indicator exceeded the urban level by 0.2%.<sup>22</sup>

The difference between rural and urban areas indicates a more nutritious food composition in rural areas. In the daily diet, according to the composition of nutrients in consumed food products, more than half – 51.9% are carbohydrates (bread products and cereals), fats and proteins (meat and meat products, eggs and dairy products) – 35.5% and 12.6% respectively.

<sup>20</sup> Structure of monetary expenditures of surveyed households <https://stat.gov.kz/official/industry/64/statistic/7>

<sup>21</sup> Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 218 “On approval of the Comprehensive Plan “Program for Increasing Incomes of the Population until 2025” dated April 14, 2022, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2200000218>

<sup>22</sup> The next criterion in ensuring food security is an economic availability of food. High volatility of food prices reduces economic availability of food for the population, thereby creating a threat of hunger for low-income strata. Inflation is rising, and food is becoming more expensive

Due to the increasing prevalence of obesity and its associated health consequences, urgent action is needed to prevent and control childhood obesity. It should be noted that meals for schoolchildren are not properly organized in many existing school canteens. The assortment of food products is monotonous; there are practically no fermented milk products, fruits and natural fruit and vegetable juices. In order to resolve this issue, the state must ensure the organization of proper nutrition for all children with full control by the public.

Currently, the issues of obesity prevention are being actively promoted in Kazakhstan. One of the main directions of the National Project “Quality and affordable healthcare for every citizen “Healthy Nation” is to increase the proportion of Kazakh citizens leading a healthy lifestyle. It is expected that as a result of active measures from the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, obesity among children aged 0 to 14 years will significantly decrease by 2025 (90 children per 100,000 population).

Kazakhstan is striving to form a competitive force in the world market with the environmentally friendly production of agricultural products necessary to maintain and develop the level of food security, maintain soil fertility and provide a healthy diet for all segments of the population.

## Next steps on the SDG 2 implementation:

- Ensuring food security and improving product quality.
- Conducting an analysis of the use of modern technologies in optimizing business and technological processes in the agricultural sector.
- Implementation of the practice of digital monitoring of prices for socially significant food products on a systematic basis.
- Creation of an integrated information platform that will allow the analysis of all factors affecting the yield and the market situation.
- Increasing the income of rural residents through the formation of 7 large ecosystems in the country and the implementation of investment projects.
- Ensuring economic access to healthy nutrition for all segments of the population.
- Formation of effective systems of land use and water use for the production of agricultural products.
- Providing schoolchildren with various integrated approaches to nutrition in accordance with the nutritional standards developed by the Kazakh Academy of Nutrition.



### 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Despite the progress in healthcare, there are still inequalities in access to health services and especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The installation represents a healthy person who sits in the Lotus position with a blooming flower instead of a head.

The atmosphere of health is a screen made of metal frame, the “walls” of which are filled with rags of fabrics soaked in a essential oils succus. The mannequin holds a jar with the words “WELL-BEING”.



## SDG 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- Kazakh scientists have developed an inactivated type of QazVac vaccine to combat coronavirus infection.
- Birth rate growth by 7.5% (from 21.77 per 1000 births in 2019 to 23.41 in 2021).
- Decrease in infant mortality by 0.6% (from 8.40 per 1000 births in 2019 to 8.35 in 2021).
- Decrease in mortality from malignant neoplasms by 7.7% (from 79.30 per 100,000 population in 2019 to 73.17 in 2021).
- 15% reduction in tuberculosis mortality (from 2.0 per 100,000 population in 2019 to 1.7 in 2021).

Over a three-year period, the healthcare system of Kazakhstan has withstood the enormous burden associated with the global challenge – the control of COVID-19.

2020 has been a turning point in all areas of life. The coronavirus infection has changed the way people live and has shown that healthcare is of the greatest value, which requires constant attention and strengthening. The Government of Kazakhstan has come together to control COVID-19 and has done a lot of work to restore the healthcare sector. In general, medicine in Kazakhstan has experienced several qualitative changes over the past 3 years, one of which was a confident step towards financial support for medical workers.

During the pandemic and in order to improve the image and status of service, ability to respond to global and national threats, powers of the Chief State Sanitary Doctors at all levels were strengthened, the Law on Biological Safety was approved.<sup>23</sup>

Since February 2021, more than 27 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been delivered to the country. The population has access to 5 types of vaccines, including vaccines approved by the World Health Organization. On November 22, 2021, revaccination started.

During the coronavirus pandemic, the digitalization of the healthcare sector was improved. In particular, digital programs were created: the COVID-19 Control Center, the Unified Integration Portal (PCR research), the Vaccination module, Ashyq mobile applications, within the framework of the EAEU “I travel without COVID-19”.

<sup>23</sup> Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 122-VII ZRK “On biological safety of the Republic of Kazakhstan” dated May 21, 2022, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z2200000122>





The project “Dashboard of COVID-19 indicators” was implemented to monitor indicators to stabilize the situation related to the spread of COVID-19. As part of the automation of the process of collecting and recording the results of laboratory tests for COVID-19, a Unified data repository for PCR studies for COVID-19 was created.

A centralized record of PCR tests for COVID-19, conducted by all laboratories, regardless of the form of ownership, for epidemiological surveillance of the infection throughout the country, has been provided. To date, 139 out of 165 laboratories have been integrated with the Unified Integration Portal of the RSE “National Center for Expertise” and work on integration continues.

The Government monitors the coverage of the population with preventive vaccinations within the framework of the national vaccination calendar, and ensures the optimal level of vaccination coverage of children of target ages (more than 95%). In order to control and monitor the country’s vaccinated population, the Vaccination module has been implemented, where information on vaccinated citizens is entered into a single database. The Electronic Vaccination Passport has been implemented in the eGov mobile application.



A unified republican database of medicines with access for the population (the Database) has been created, developed by domestic IT developers of Medical information systems with the support of National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan “Atameken”. The database aggregates data on pharmacies and distributors. Today, about 1,200 pharmacies and 8 distributors are connected.

Kazakhstan is one of the few countries where a domestic vaccine against COVID-19 has been developed.

## Kazakh vaccine QazVac

QazVac (QazCovid-in) was developed by specialists from the Research Institute for Biological Safety. QazVac is an inactivated vaccine, purified, concentrated, with the addition of an aluminum hydroxide adjuvant. The technology for the development of the Kazakh vaccine has been time-tested, and all its components are reliable, because tested in the development of other vaccines.

The inactivated vaccine platform is well known and safe.

Most people received all components earlier as part of other vaccines. The only new component is an inactivated virus.

The inactivated vaccine is considered traditional, it is more effective, the technology for its preparation is not so complicated, and it is safer than other types of vaccines. That is why Kazakh scientists chose an inactivated type of vaccine to create QazVac (QazCovid-in).

A significant contribution to control coronavirus infection during the pandemic was made by the volunteer movement, which was reinforced by the announcement of the Year of the Volunteer in Kazakhstan in 2020. During the pandemic, representatives of volunteer organizations provided special assistance to control coronavirus by organizing free hot meals for medical personnel, purchasing expensive drugs, organizing the distribution of medicines, and providing transport for medical workers. Individual volunteers have provided support for healthcare workers by providing education for their children, providing medical facilities with oxygen concentrates worth KZT 450 million, and raising funds to purchase masks and gloves for doctors involved in measures to control COVID-19.

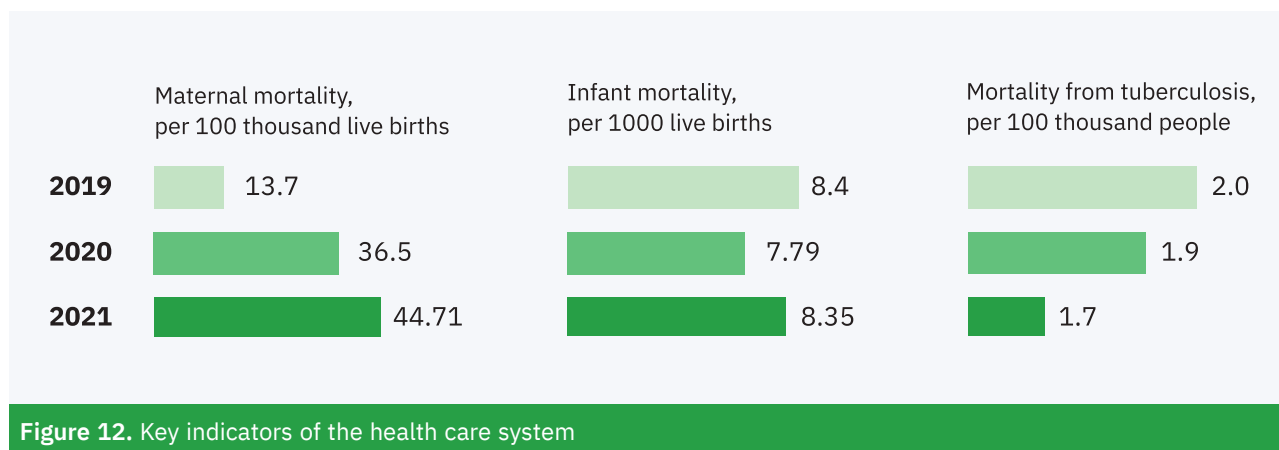
To continue financial support and motivation of medical workers, since October 1, 2021, new surcharges have been established for certain categories of positions in the healthcare system for work in anti-epidemic measures in the fight against COVID-19 coronavirus infection and risk of its infection

by risk groups: High risk in a 7-fold amount – KZT 123,879 of the basic official salary (infectious hospitals); Medium risk in a 5-fold amount of BOS – KZT 88,485 (laboratories); Low risk in a 3-fold amount of BOS – KZT 53,091 (others). This norm ensures equal pay for equal conditions of infection risk.

## Reducing the Maternal Mortality Rate

The issues of protection of motherhood and childhood have an important political significance, indicated both in international and national documents. At the end of 2021, the total number of women of childbearing age increased by 100,639 compared to the previous year and amounted to 4,646,646 people. Accordingly, there was an increase in the number of pregnant women and childbirth, as well as the birth rate of children. Over the past 5 years, the country has seen an increase in the birth rate by 7.2%; the number of children born has increased by 15%. However, there has also been an increase in the maternal mortality rate (MM). In 2021, compared to 2020, the maternal mortality ratio increased by 22.6% and amounted to 44.71 per 100,000 live births (Figure 12). At the same time, the MM rate, excluding mortality from COVID-19, was 13.4 per 100,000 live births, which is lower than the MM rates before the pandemic (2018 – 13.9; 2019 – 13.7; 2020 – 15.9 per 100,000 live births).

In the structure of the causes of maternal death, extragenital diseases accounted for 82%: the main share (86%) was occupied by pneumonia and coronavirus infection, 14% were diseases of the cardiovascular, nervous, endocrine systems, gastrointestinal tract and oncological diseases. The greatest number of maternal losses was noted among multiparous (82%) and in the postpartum period (85%). By age categories, women aged 30-35 years prevail – 30%, in the active reproductive age (from 30 to 39 years) 55% died. Mortality was higher among urban women – 64%, rural – 36%. In terms of social status, the largest number was noted among housewives – 58%.



Source: Ministry of Healthcare of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Also in 2021, there was an increase in the incidence of coronavirus infection COVID-19 among women of childbearing age and pregnant women by 2.5 times compared to 2020 (2021 – 26,050, in 2020 – 10,259). In intensive care units, there were 2.4 times more pregnant women with severe coronavirus infection. 61 patients with total lung disease were connected to an extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) machine, which is 4.5 times more than in 2020. Severely ill patients were not vaccinated.

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan monitors and takes systematic measures to reduce the mortality of pregnant women. One of the measures was to conduct an analysis of each case of maternal death, undertaken by an expert group including teaching staff from six medical universities as well as two republican centers.

Other measures to reduce morbidity and mortality of pregnant women were measures to increase coverage of pregnant women with individual and interdisciplinary perinatal care, improvement of the standard of obstetric and gynecological care organization, development and approval of the Roadmap for Further Improvement of Medical Care for Pregnant and Maternity Patients in Postpartum Period in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2022-2025 and others.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>24</sup> According to the information system “Register of pregnant women and women of childbearing age”

## Reducing the mortality of newborns and children under 5 years

In the republic, the infant mortality rate at the end of 2021 increased by 7.2% and amounted to 8.44 per 1,000 live births vs. 7.79 for the same period in 2020. One of the reasons for the growth of the indicator was the high congestion of the healthcare system during the pandemic.

To improve the health of children and reduce infant mortality, a number of systemic measures are being implemented in the country. In particular, for the timely detection of diseases and developmental disorders, 4.4 million children were given preventive examinations, more than 900 thousand young children were screened, and up to 90.7% of the child population was immunized against 12 infectious vaccine-controlled diseases. 523 child development rooms have been organized for counseling on issues of early childhood care. In 2020, 877,869 children with 96 diseases were covered by free medicines. As per the recommendation of UNICEF to support breastfeeding, 33 medical organizations were awarded the status of “Baby Friendly Hospital”, and 85.6% of children were exclusively breastfed.

## Measures to reduce the epidemics of AIDS and tuberculosis

In the Republic of Kazakhstan, the HIV/AIDS epidemic control is one of the priority areas of public health. The country is systematically implementing measures aimed at reducing the spread of HIV infection and providing universal treatment to all people in need who are living with HIV, in order to fulfill the international commitment “Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Ending Inequality and Setting the Path to Eliminate AIDS by 2030 year.” With the adoption of the new Code of Public Health and other by-laws, legislative regulation of the issues of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of HIV infection has been ensured.

Kazakhstan has had some success in preventing the spread of HIV infection. All modern methods of treating HIV infection and the main drug regimens recommended by WHO are used in the republic. Over the past 5 years, the effectiveness of the treatment has increased from 59% to 84%. Significant progress has been made in Kazakhstan in preventing mother-to-child transfer of HIV infection and the risk of perinatal transmission has decreased from 1.5% in 2016 to 0.6% in 2020 (against the WHO recommendation of no more than 2%).

It should be noted that the effectiveness of HIV/AIDS control is also associated with adequate support from civil society. There are 39 non-governmental organizations in the republic that are actively involved in the development, implementation and evaluation of preventive measures and measures for the care and support of people living with HIV/AIDS. The state provides for annual budgetary financing as part of the social procurement.

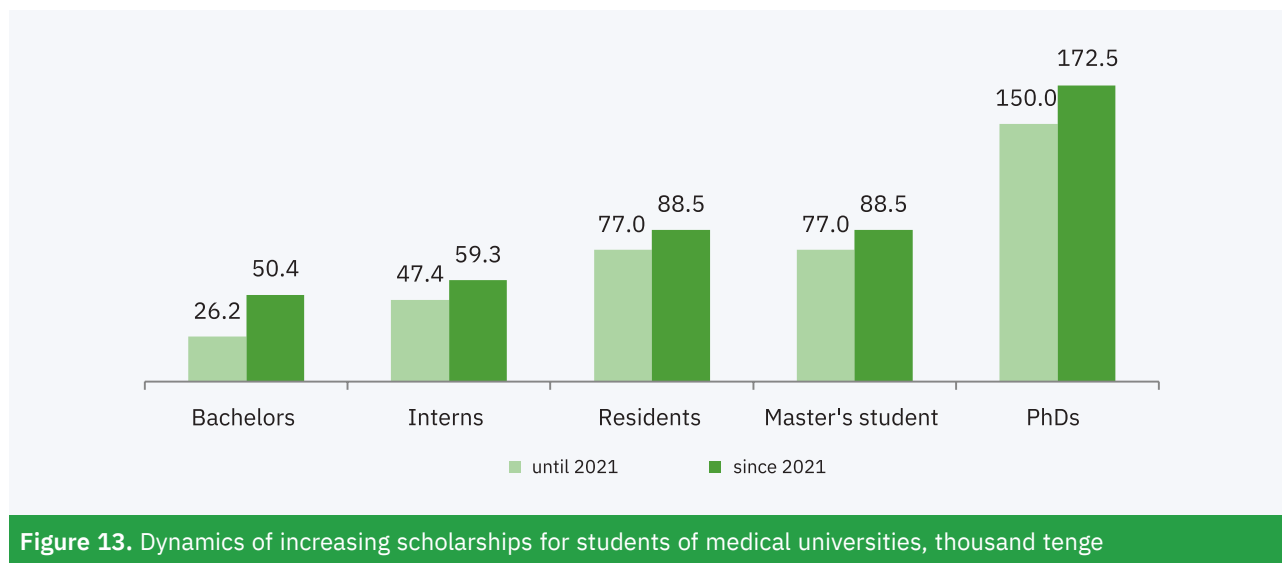
Measures to improve the epidemiology of tuberculosis were carried out in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan to Control Tuberculosis in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2014-2020. With the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan, a significant improvement in all epidemiological indicators has been achieved, the structure of anti-tuberculosis organizations has been improved and reformed, and the latest world methods for detecting, diagnosing and treating tuberculosis have been introduced. As a result of the measures taken, there has been a decrease in incidence by 21.7% (2019 – 45.6 per 100 thousand population, 2020 – 35.7 per 100 thousand population) and mortality by 5% (2019 – 2 per 100 thousand population, 2020 – 1.9 per 100 thousand population) from tuberculosis.

As a result of increased access to antiretroviral therapy, there has been a halving of AIDS deaths from 16% per 100,000 people living with HIV in 2011 to 8% per 100,000 people in 2021.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>25</sup> According to the Electronic Case Tracking System for HIV

## Personnel policy in the healthcare system

In 2021, in order to develop the health workforce training system, a number of measures were taken and amendments were made to the Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated February 7, 2008 No. 116 “On approval of the Rules for the appointment, payment and amount of state scholarships to students in educational organizations”. As a result of this, scholarships for medical students were increased (Figure 13).



**Figure 13.** Dynamics of increasing scholarships for students of medical universities, thousand tenge

Source: Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Since 2021, the cost of grants for the training of medical workers has been increased – 4,685 grants have been allocated according to the plan (the number of grants allocated will increase annually and by 2025 will be more than 5 thousand). In order to staff healthcare organizations with qualified personnel, the state provides resettlement benefits for young professionals who go to work in rural areas, which in 2021 have been increased from 70 to 100 MCI. A transition to international standards for the training of medical personnel is also envisaged (a mechanism has been developed to amend the state compulsory standard of education in medical and pharmaceutical specialties).

Special attention is paid to increasing the income of medical personnel. Doctors and nursing staff are fully covered by salary increase. Therefore, the salary increase affected more than 74 thousand doctors and more than 173 thousand nursing staff. Over the past 3 years, annual increase in the average salary of a doctor is 30%:



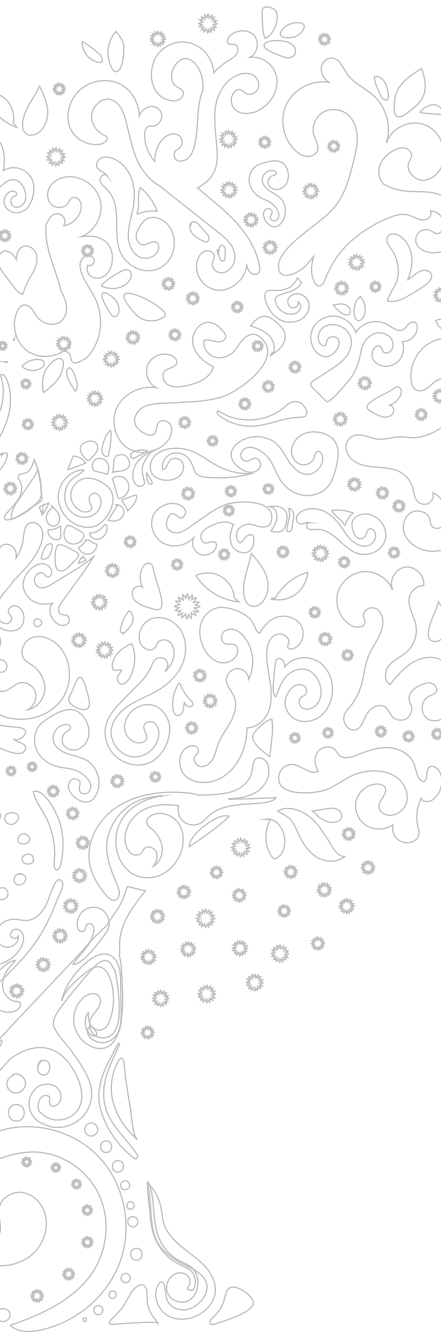
- in 2019, the average salary of a doctor was KZT 189.3 thousand, in 2020 it increased to KZT 246.1 thousand;
- in 2021, the increase amounted to KZT 320.0 thousand or 30%;
- in 2022, the increase amounted to KZT 415.9 thousand or 30%.

In general, the coronavirus pandemic has brought both barriers and opportunities for the country. During the pandemic, pharmaceutical companies not only restructured their work in the face of new restrictions, but also worked to find medicines for COVID-19 and develop vaccines.

### Next steps on the SDG 3 implementation:

- Implementation of the Laws “On biological safety of the Republic of Kazakhstan”.
- Adoption of the Law providing for professional liability insurance of medical workers.
- Adoption of the Health Development Concept until 2026.
- Adoption of the Law on the transfer of the medical service of the penitentiary system to the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- Implementation of the National Project “Quality and affordable healthcare for every citizen “Healthy Nation”.

## 4 QUALITY EDUCATION



An educated person radiates light and has many facets of his inner world. This idea is embodied by a mannequin made of a metal frame, almost completely covered with small mirror pieces.



## SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- The Law on Inclusive Education was adopted.
- 96.6% of schools are connected to broadband Internet at a speed of 4 Mb/s or more, educational information resources are actively developing i.e. BilimLand, Kundelik, BilimAL, I-mektep, Mektep-EDU.
- From 2020 to 2023, the salary of teachers is increased by 25% annually, and students of pedagogical specialties are paid increased scholarships.
- 100% of colleges have access to over 30 information platforms.

The education of a preschool child is a stable foundation for the development of its skills and abilities. In this regard, in Kazakhstan, the state policy in the system of preschool education and training is one of the priorities. It is aimed at ensuring accessibility and creating equal starting opportunities for obtaining a quality education for children from different social groups, population and gender.

Starting from the current academic year, all preschool organizations are introducing a new model of child development based on the principle of “learning through play”, which allows children to form important life skills in a game format.

In the field of **primary and secondary education**, work is underway to reduce the gap in the quality of education between regions, urban and rural schools. Thus, 95% of rural schools will be modernized by 2025. At the end of 2021, 1015 schools were modernized. Work is underway to eliminate three-shift schools through

### In 2021:

- 539 preschool organizations were opened for 53,804 places.
- 98.9% of children aged 3-6 and 86.9% of children aged 2-6 are covered by pre-school education and training.
- 100% of kindergartens are provided with video surveillance.
- mandatory certification of teachers in preschool institutions was introduced with an increase in salaries upon successful completion of the National Qualification Test.

the construction of new schools or the redistribution of students to nearby schools. However, at the beginning of the 2021-2022 academic year, their share was 1.8% or 137 schools.<sup>26</sup>

It is regrettable to note that Kazakhstani schoolchildren are more likely to be bullied (32%) compared to their peers in OECD countries (average – 23%).

#### **In 2021:**

- 121 public, 152 private schools and 4 schools through public-private partnership were put into operation.
- 100% of city schools have switched to per capita funding.
- 99.2% of schools have warm toilets.
- the project “Reading School” is being implemented (replenishment of the book fund of schools with 13 million books).

In order to form an active citizenship, strengthen patriotic education at school, the coverage of students in socially significant movements is expanding i.e. the debate movement, school and student self-government, military-patriotic clubs, youth movements (“Green Economy”, “My Motherland, My City /village”, “Zhas Ulan”, etc.).

Additional education covers 2,211,595 school-age children (64% of the total contingent). At the same time, more than half of the children

involved in additional education participate in school camps and clubs.<sup>27</sup> In extracurricular organizations over a three-year period, the level did not exceed 30% of schoolchildren, including 61% in the city and 39% in the village.<sup>28</sup>

In order to increase the accessibility of sports and creative sections, from 2021, the norm for placing a state educational order for additional education of children by local executive bodies has been legislatively fixed. By analogy with the positive result in the field of preschool education (an increase in the number of kindergartens by 10 times in 10 years), this mechanism should increase the coverage of children with additional education in a short time without high costs.

<sup>26</sup> News on the website of “Institute for Economic Research” JSC: The problem of shortage of secondary schools in Kazakhstan - [https://economy.kz/en/Novosti\\_instituta/id=3222](https://economy.kz/en/Novosti_instituta/id=3222)

<sup>27</sup> The concept of education development of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2025. - <https://legalacts.egov.kz/npa/view?id=12629438>

<sup>28</sup> Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan, National Collection “Statistics of the education system of the Republic of Kazakhstan”, 2019, 2020 and 2021 - <https://stat.gov.kz/edition/publication/month>

## Analysis of the content of Kazakhstani education, Curriculum Content Mapping, OECD

The following competencies are widely represented in the content of Kazakhstani education i.e. critical thinking and problem solving, data literacy and forecasting, ICT literacy and global competencies, student proactivity, group work, reflection and cooperation. At the same time, the least developed competencies are financial literacy, entrepreneurship and

computational thinking. In this regard, an updated model curriculum has been introduced, providing the possibility of early profiling of students in grades 7-9, in grades 10-11 a single set of prof. subjects, which predetermines the transition to a 12-year model of education in accordance with the best international practices.

*Source: Concept for the Development of Education in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2025.*

In the field of **vocational and higher education**, work continues to ensure high-quality and barrier-free access to TVE, as well as expanding access to higher education. New challenges related to COVID-19 have actualized the need to restart the current situation in the TVE system. It has become fundamentally important to search for new management approaches, support private initiatives and provide an opportunity not only to restore the regular format of education, but also distance learning.

As part of the “Free Technical and Vocational Education for All” project, more than 300,000 young people received their first working specialty free of charge. Colleges are given academic independence, which allows them to determine the content of educational programs together with employers.

From September 1, 2021, all colleges that provide training under the state order have switched to per capita funding. This made it possible to regulate the competence of the parties and the procedure for financing the educational process and the educational environment. The rate of expenses of the educational process for inclusive education has been doubled.

The connection between the regional labor market and the education system is tracked through the employment of graduates within six months after graduation. The employment of TVE graduates over the past 3 years has increased by only 3.9%, amounting to 72%.



The most important aspect of reforming higher education is the introduction of multiple UNTs and conditional enrollment in universities. Activities in the system of higher education were marked by the adoption of the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On the expansion of academic and managerial independence of universities.” In terms of quality assurance, the majority of educational programs (73.3%) are accredited by national quality assurance providers. 8.2% of educational programs have international accreditation. However, according to the Graduate Skills indicator, Kazakhstan ranks 95th among 141 countries in the GCI-2019, and the results of the PIAAC International Adult Skills Assessment showed that higher education does not sufficiently develop adult competencies compared to OECD countries. The development of cooperation between universities and employers within the framework of academic policy can improve the situation in this direction.



Despite systematic work in the field of education, a number of challenges may arise in the future related to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the quality of education for “lockdown children”. Thus, according to the forecasts of the World Bank, the education system around the world will suffer from the consequences of the pandemic for several more decades. For example, in the countries of Central Asia alone, the economic losses from the pandemic will amount to at least \$ 44 billion,<sup>29</sup> and will also lead to an increase in functional illiteracy among children who will not be able to use reading, writing and math skills to fully participate in society. One of the solutions to this issue is the development of inclusive education.

<sup>29</sup> The World Bank “COVID-19 Pandemic May Result in a Long-term Human Development Crisis in Central Asia, Warn World Bank Experts” - <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/08/05/covid-19-pandemic-may-result-in-long-term-human-development-crisis-in-central-asia-warn-world-bankexperts>



In 2021, the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan signed the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On Inclusive Education” (the Law), which provides for responsibility on the part of school leaders that do not create conditions for children with special educational needs. The law also aims at improving the regulatory framework for inclusive and special education, which will bring it into line with the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, it provides for the establishment of state guarantees in the field of education in terms of providing persons with special educational needs with conditions for their self-improvement and continuation of lifelong learning at all levels of education.

The norms of the Law provide for the formation of a psychological and pedagogical support service and the regulation of the creation of special conditions for the psychological and pedagogical support of children with special educational needs. The placement of the state educational order for special psychological and pedagogical support for children with disabilities will begin on September 1, 2022.

Kazakhstan pays close attention to creating favorable conditions for teachers and stimulating their professional growth. In 2019, the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On the Status of a Teacher” was adopted, which, first of all, is aimed at increasing the salary of a teacher by 2 times in 4 years. New surcharges have been introduced for mentoring, a master’s degree, as well as for maintaining sports sections, surcharges for class management and checking notebooks have been significantly increased.

Measures have been taken to reduce the load. In 2020, a system for rationing the work of teachers was developed, and from 2021, a transition was made from an 18-hour to a 16-hour workload for school teachers. Along with financial incentives, the status of a teacher is significantly strengthened by other types of support. Councils on issues of pedagogical ethics and protection of the rights of teachers have been created, an annual republican competition “The Best Teacher” is being held. Despite the annual graduation of specialists in the field of education, the problem of attracting highly qualified teachers to rural areas still remains.

Over the past 3 years, conditions have been created for beginners and young teachers. In order to attract talented young people and to carry out a qualitative selection of applicants for pedagogical specialties, the UNT threshold score for admission has been increased from 50 to 75 points.

The scholarship for bachelors studying in pedagogical areas of training has been increased. Over the past 3 years, the number of teaching staff in the country has reached almost half a million people. In 2020, 9,220 young professionals joined the ranks of teachers, in 2021 – 11,800 people.

Taking into account the increase in the status of a teacher, as well as the growth in the number of children in the future, it is necessary to improve the material and technical base of schools and build new schools that meet modern requirements. Therefore, the instrument of public-private partnership (PPP) in the field of education is a good opportunity to address this issue.

In order to attract investment in the field of education, the legislative framework is improved every year, and, accordingly, favorable conditions are created for private investors. Thus, in 2021, 54% (or 722 units) out of 1,340 PPP contracts concluded are in the education sector.<sup>30</sup> More than half of PPP projects in the education sector are preschool organizations.<sup>31</sup>



<sup>30</sup> Official information resource of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan: Interview on PPP development in Kazakhstan: state, trends and prospects - <https://primeminister.kz/ru/news/interviews/intervyu-o-razvitie-gchp-v-kazahstane-sostoyanie-tendencii-i-perspektivy-1053646>

<sup>31</sup> Official website of Kazakhstan Public-Private Partnership Center JSC - <https://kzppp.kz/projects>

## Case “BINOM Free Public School”

BINOM School is a new brand for the introduction of advanced methods in the Kazakhstani general education process. In 2021, 4 schools of this format will be opened in Nur-Sultan. Education is organized on the basis of the domestic model and advanced international systems of Finland, Great Britain and South Korea. The project is being implemented on the basis of PPP by the innovative construction holding BI Group together with the Akimat of the city of Nur-Sultan. Each educational institution is designed for 4,000 children in two shifts. Among the advantages of BINOM new generation schools:

- the best teachers. The selection of teachers for BINOM takes place on the largest Internet platform Jumys Smart Nation, which allows reaching more than 270 thousand teachers from all regions of the country and selecting the best teachers,
- free education under international programs of the leading countries of the world,
- comfortable learning environment for children with special educational needs (elevators for students with limited mobility, ramps, lifts, adjustable height tables and desks, tactile stripes and much more),
- each BINOM school with an area of more than 22 thousand square meters has full functional and academic equipment: 9 advanced laboratories in physics, chemistry, biology, nano- and biotechnologies, a cinema hall for 100 seats, co-working areas for teachers and children, a TV studio, game rooms, smart classes, a 3D printer for creative experiments, robotics classrooms, metal and wood carving workshops, Speaking Club, TedxBinom, as well as a library that contains more than 5 thousand popular publications of Kazakhstani and foreign writers.

The digitalization of education is carried out in stages. This process began with an inventory of available information resources and the launch of the process of transforming the information system “National Educational Database” (NEDB) into a single data warehouse for the education system. Thus, the NEDB contains information on 20,000 educational organizations with more than 3 thousand indicators.

According to the NEDB, as of the end of April 2022, 7,525 secondary schools in the country are connected to the Internet at a speed of 4 Mb/s or more (or 99.4% of the total number of secondary schools). Most urban schools in Kazakhstan or 73.5% are connected to speeds above 10 Mbps, in rural areas 50% of secondary schools are connected to speeds above 4–10 Mbps (for more details, see Table 1).

**Table 1.** Internet speed in the Republic of Kazakhstan in the context of city / village as of April 26, 2022

Regions	Total	Up to 4 Mbps		Up to 10 Mbps		Above 10 Mbps	
		City	Village	City	Village	City	Village
RK	7569	87	1135	518	2624	1676	1485
Akmola region	568	5	55	22	248	73	161
Aktobe region	427	4	93	11	77	127	114
Almaty region	800	4	120	26	217	83	346
Atyrau region	217	0	8	26	70	59	51
West Kazakhstan	382	2	52	6	166	67	89
Zhambyl region	487	4	21	14	161	97	188
Karagandy region	527	6	133	54	110	174	44
Kostanay region	495	1	47	20	283	84	59
Kyzylorda region	326	1	14	23	203	59	25
Mangystau region	173	1	1	15	42	50	63
Pavlodar region	370	0	3	2	151	93	119
North Kazakhstan	474	0	78	11	195	52	137
Turkestan region	969	32	193	69	560	46	58
East Kazakhstan	677	10	317	68	141	105	31
Nur-Sultan	149	5	-	21	-	123	-
Almaty	319	10	-	41	-	268	-
Shymkent	209	2	-	89	-	116	-

Source: National Education Database (NEDB)

Educational information resources are actively developing, which have not only automated the educational process, but also offer educational organizations various kinds of online educational content. Schools have the right to independently choose content that meets their requirements. In addition, through the portal “Electronic Government” automated public services for the acceptance of documents in kindergartens, schools, colleges and universities. Automation of business processes simplifies document flow, reduces the queue at public service centers and the costs of citizens for collecting documents (about 1 billion tenge per year). An online.edu.kz platform was also created for posting video lessons by teachers (educational content was formed from 24 thousand digital resources, including 13,757 video lessons, 4,005 electronic textbooks, 6,338 additional materials).

The educational system of Kazakhstan meets modern challenges and implies the availability of high-quality preschool education, school and additional education for everyone, the opportunity to gain new professional skills in college and university, and develop research and creative competencies.

### Next steps on the SDG 4 implementation:

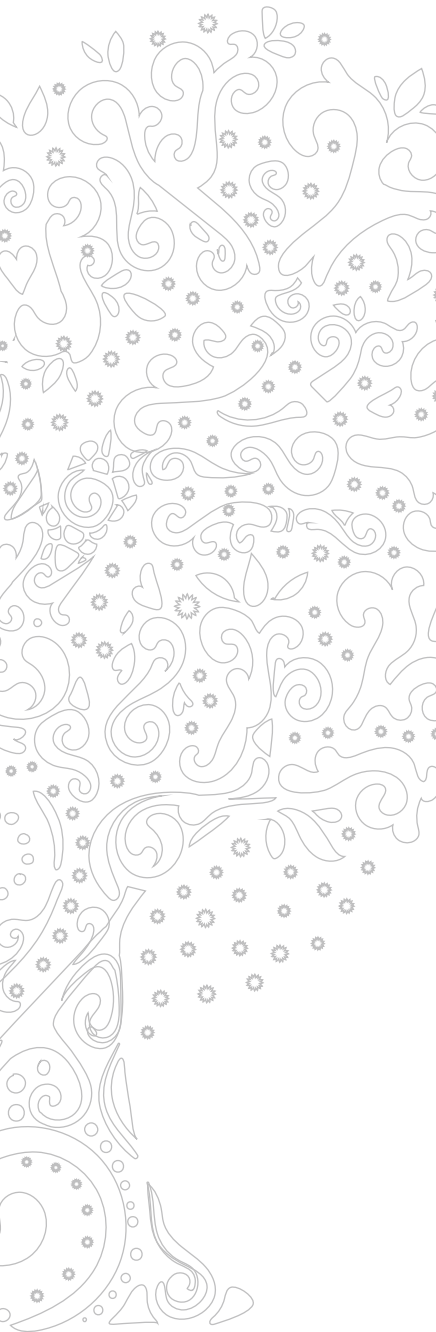
- Increasing the coverage of children with quality pre-school education and training.
- Reducing the gap in the quality of education between regions, urban and rural schools in Kazakhstan (PISA), as well as increasing the coverage of children with additional education.<sup>32</sup>
- Providing schools with a comfortable, safe and modern educational environment through the construction of new and modernization of existing schools.
- Continued work to improve the conditions for inclusive education.
- Providing affordable and high-quality technical and vocational education by providing young people with free education in colleges in popular specialties.
- Increasing the competitiveness of Kazakhstani universities by increasing the share of international educational programs, as well as opening 5 branches of reputable foreign universities in Kazakhstan by 2025 (2 of which will be with a vocational bias).<sup>33</sup>
- Attracting the best teachers to labor-deficient regions and rural schools.

<sup>32</sup> National Project “Quality Education “Educated Nation” - <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000726>

<sup>33</sup> Science of Kazakhstan website: by 2025, it is planned to open 5 branches of foreign universities in Kazakhstan - [https://nauka.kz/page.php?page\\_id=1001&lang=1&news\\_id=9153&new](https://nauka.kz/page.php?page_id=1001&lang=1&news_id=9153&new)



5 GENDER  
EQUALITY



The creative unity of opposites is demonstrated by Installation in the Yin Yang style. A mannequin with a multi-faceted parametric face reflects both male and female genders, which emphasizes their equality.





## SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In 2021, Kazakhstan became an official member of two global coalitions: action to combat gender-based violence and advance economic justice and law.
- The law introduced a mandatory quota of 30% for women and youth in electoral party lists, as well as in the distribution of deputy mandates.
- The list of jobs limiting the work of women is legally canceled.
- There are 31 family support centers in the regions.
- Women's entrepreneurship development centers have been opened in all regions of the country.
- Responsibility and penalties for violence against children have been strengthened.

Kazakhstan has made significant progress in building a society with equal rights and equal opportunities. Our country is a member of the UN Human Rights Council for 2022-2024, where the gender equality agenda and the empowerment of women is a priority.

Kazakhstan is close to gender parity in access to primary and secondary education and occupies a leading position in the world in this indicator. In the annual UN Human Development Report 2020 on the Gender Development Index, Kazakhstan ranks 51 among 189 countries of the world and is included in the group of countries with high equality in HDI achievements between men and women.<sup>34</sup>

The legal and institutional framework for ensuring gender equality has been formed in the country. The legislative level provides for the elimination of discrimination against women and the promotion of equal rights and opportunities for men and women.<sup>35</sup>

In 2016, the Concept of Family and Gender Policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030 was approved. In 2021, this Concept was updated taking into account modern challenges. It reflects such issues as the problem of early marriage, reproductive health issues, prevention of domestic violence, issues of women's economic empowerment, insufficient representation of women at the decision-making level, etc.<sup>36</sup>

<sup>34</sup> Human Development Report 2020

<sup>35</sup> Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan No.597 "On further actions of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of human rights" dated June 9, 2021 // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U2100000597>

<sup>36</sup> Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 853. "On Amendments to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 384 "On approval of the Concept of Family and Gender Policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030" dated December 6, 2016" dated April 1, 2022 // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U2200000853#z5>

To identify the factors influencing family and demographic policy, research is conducted on a systematic basis. Since 2019, the Kazakhstan Families national report has been published annually. The Women and Men of Kazakhstan statistical collection is published annually, which contains dynamic series of gender indicators in recent years.

At the end of 2021, Kazakhstan adopted a Plan for the implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, 2122, 2242, 2467 (the Plan), adopted by the UN Security Council.<sup>37</sup> In accordance with the Plan, women diplomatic personnel will be involved in international negotiations and consultations on issues of disarmament and non-proliferation of weapons and international security. On the basis of the Peacekeeping Training Center (KAZCENT), it is planned to train female military advisers on gender issues and the protection of civilians and children.

## **Reproductive health and elimination of violence against women and girls**

In the country, special attention is paid to the issue of creating conditions for protection of reproductive health of men and women. In comparison with 2016, number of organizations with women's consultations and obstetric and gynecological offices increased by 14% in 2020. There is a decrease in registered cases of artificial termination of pregnancy from 17.3 cases per 1,000 women of reproductive age in 2016 to 15.7 in 2020.

Share of births attended by qualified medical personnel was 99.4%.

According to the indicator "paid maternity leave in Kazakhstan", Kazakhstan is on the 26th place in the world.<sup>38</sup>

In 2020, the Head of State, in his Message to the People of Kazakhstan, instructed the Government to launch a special program "Ansagan Sabi". In 2021, about 3,000 pregnant women were registered, about 360 children were born, 7,000 women underwent in vitro fertilization (IVF) within the framework of the "Ansagan Sabi" program.

<sup>37</sup> Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 24, 2021 No. 935 "On approval of the Action Plan for the implementation of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106, 2122, 2242, 2467, adopted by the United Nations Security Council, on equal and full participation of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, ensuring peace and security, preventing violence against women, raising awareness, strengthening interaction with civil society on conflict prevention and protection of women for 2022-2025"

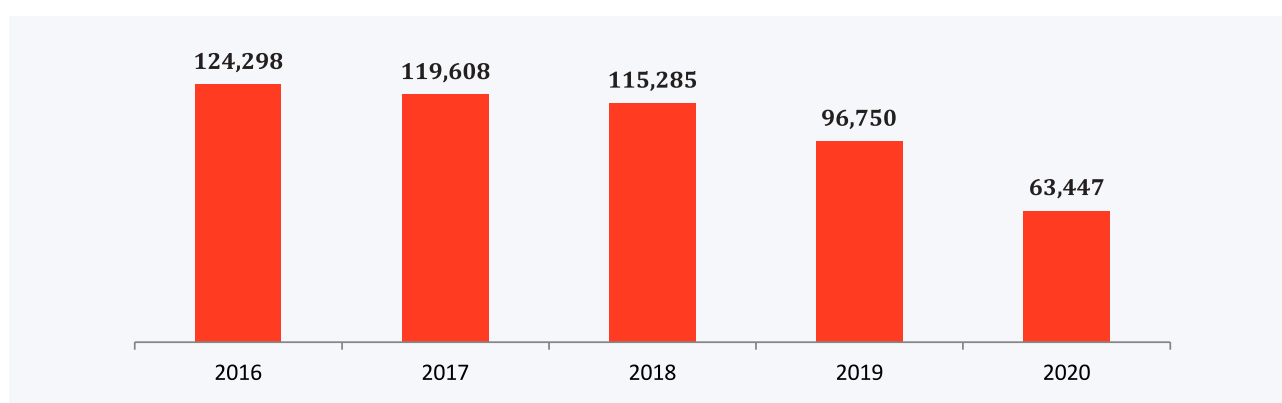
<sup>38</sup> On approval of the Concept of family and gender policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030 // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U2200000853#z5>

Prevention and combating violence against women is one of the most important priorities of the country.

In 2009, Kazakhstan adopted the Laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On prevention of domestic violence” and “On state guarantees of equal rights and equal opportunities for men and women”.

In 2020, the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan came into force, providing for increased responsibility for domestic violence.

During 2016-2020, a number of registered crimes against women decreased by 2 times (Figure 14).



**Figure 14.** Number of registered crimes against women in 2016-2020, units

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Also during this period, the number of registered facts of violence against children decreased by 30.7%.

There are 36 crisis centers in the regions of the country (31 have shelters). In crisis centers, survivors of violence are provided with free medical and social, social and legal, social and psychological services, as well as services of temporary shelters.

During quarantine period related to COVID-19, an increase in domestic violence was recorded. In 2020, number of people who applied to crisis centers for violence amounted to 3,544 people. For the period of quarantine due to pandemic, a reserve from the hotel fund (more than 200 places) was created for victims of violence in all regions for temporary adaptation.<sup>39</sup>

Information and educational campaigns “16 days against violence towards women” are held annually in all regions.

<sup>39</sup> On approval of the Concept of family and gender policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030 // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U2200000853#z5>

Activities of family support resource centers have been organized. The centers provide psychological, social, legal and other necessary assistance to every family in a difficult life situation.

Kazakhstan is taking active measures to counteract violence against women and crimes against the sexual integrity of minors. Since 2020, rape and violent acts of a sexual nature have been transferred from average category to serious category.<sup>40</sup>

In this direction, special attention is paid to personnel issues. In 2021, the full-time number of inspectors for juvenile affairs and units for protection of women from violence has been increased by almost 2 times. Now such positions are available in every city and district police authority. This made it possible to provide qualified assistance to women and children in a timely manner and ensure protection of their rights. Also, taking into account the specifics, specialization of female investigators has been introduced to investigate violent crimes of a sexual nature against women and minors.

Currently, the National Bureau of Statistics, with support of UN Women and the UN Population Fund, is conducting a national survey on prevalence of violence against women and girls. Kazakhstan is the only country in Central Asia that conducts such a survey.

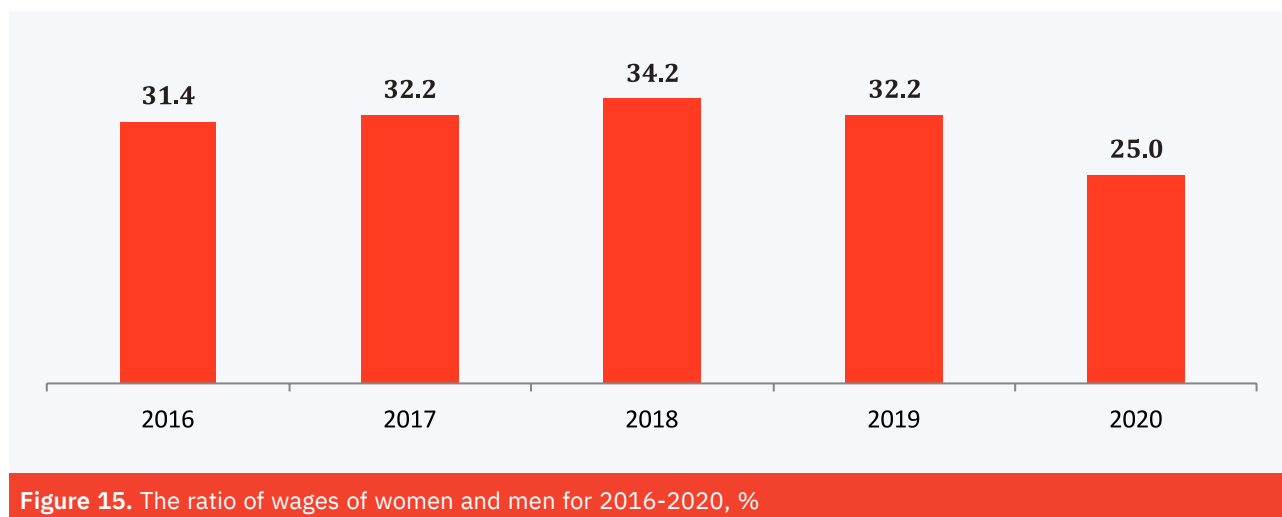
## **Expanding opportunities for women to participate in socio-economic and political life**

Kazakhstani labor market is characterized by high female employment, skilled workers and low unemployment. At present, almost half of employees (49.1%) are women. However, women's wages are noticeably lower. Women are mainly employed in such spheres of activity as education, healthcare, social services, culture, where the payment is much lower. While men mostly work in the fields of industry (oil and gas, mining, manufacturing), transport and construction, in which wages are higher than the national average.<sup>41</sup>

A significant wage gap by type of economic activity was observed in the arts, entertainment and recreation sector (37.2%) and the financial and banking sector (35.1%). In 2020, compared to previous years, the gender wage gap in the country slightly improved and amounted to 25.0% (Figure 15).

<sup>40</sup> According to the amendments to the Criminal Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, adopted by the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 27, 2019 "On amendments to certain legislative acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on improving criminal, criminal procedure legislation and strengthening the protection of individual rights" // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z1900000292>

<sup>41</sup> Data from the Bureau of National Statistics of the ASPR RK



Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Government of the country continues to take measures aimed at reducing the income gap. In 2021, amendments were made to the Labor Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan regarding abolition of the list of jobs where the use of women's labor is prohibited.<sup>42</sup> This measure will not only allow women to realize their potential in professions previously inaccessible to them, but can also help reduce the imbalance in labor-deficient industries.

Unpaid home care and work are one of the most important factors affecting women's participation in the labor market. Almost all over the world, women spend much more time on unpaid domestic work, and Kazakhstan is no exception. According to the 2018 sample survey, share of time spent by women on unpaid housework and care was 17.7%, which is almost 3 times more than men.<sup>43</sup>

In Kazakhstan, as well as in many countries of the world, during quarantine due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was an increase in workload in the field of unpaid work. Also, the service sector, wholesale and retail trade, agriculture, real estate transactions, and other areas where women predominate have suffered greatly. Therefore, the Government of the country has taken measures for social support, including social payments for citizens who lost their income during quarantine.

<sup>42</sup> Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 12, 2021 "On amendments and additions to certain legislative acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on social protection of certain categories of citizens" // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z2100000067>

<sup>43</sup> Data from the Bureau of National Statistics of the ASPR RK

One of the important initiatives to strengthen the role of women in the social and economic development of the country is the opening in all regions of the country of centers for the development of women's entrepreneurship (Centers) as part of a joint project of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme "COVID-19 Solidarity Fund for Kazakhstan" ("Solidarity Fund"). The centers are a platform for non-financial support for women entrepreneurs and women with entrepreneurial initiative, where they can receive a range of services to stimulate start-ups, increase the economic activity of existing businesses, and take part in training programs and events. The first Centers were opened in three regions in November 2021. Until mid-April 2022, 1,305 women received services through 17 women's entrepreneurship development centers. The total number of services rendered amounted to 3,027 units.<sup>44</sup>



<sup>44</sup> Information on the activities of the Centers for the Development of Women's Entrepreneurship in the framework of the project «COVID-19 Solidarity Fund for Kazakhstan» as of April 15, 2022

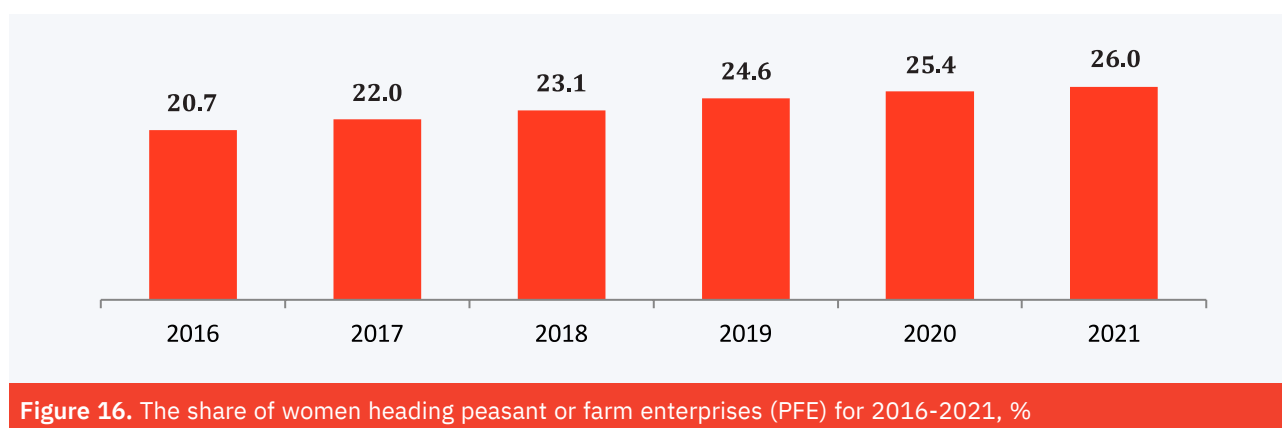


As part of the Solidarity Fund project, the One Village-One Product (OVOP) project was launched in four pilot regions: Zhambyl, West Kazakhstan, Kostanay and Mangystau. The goal of the OVOP project is to activate rural communities by developing unique products that have market appeal and, as a result, contribute to sustainable development and poverty reduction.

The project is based on the cooperation of fellow villagers, mostly women, to create unique local products using local resources. OVOP is seen as an auxiliary tool for creating permanent jobs and expanding the geography of successfully completed projects in other regions.

As of January 1, 2021, the share of operating small and medium-sized enterprises (the SMEs) headed by women was 43.3%. Women-led SMEs account for 31.1% of jobs in this sector.<sup>45</sup>

The proportion of women heading peasant or farm enterprises is increasing every year. If their share in 2016 was 20.7%, in 2021 it increased to 26.0% (Figure 16).



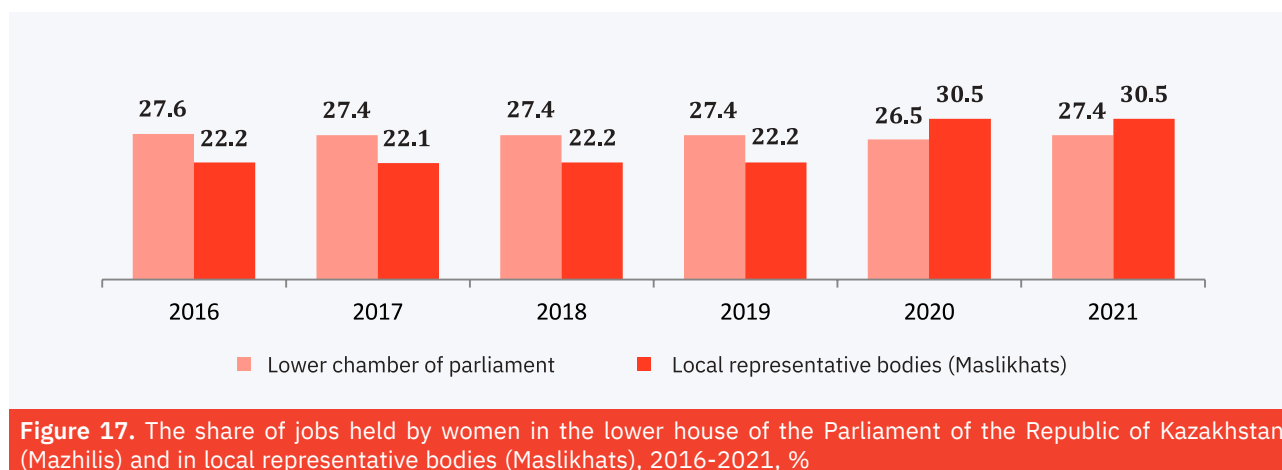
Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Important shifts are taking place in the participation of women in the public and political life of the country. From 2020, a mandatory quota of 30% for women and youth in the electoral party lists is provided at the legislative level.<sup>46</sup> As a result, after the elections to the Mazhilis of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan of the seventh convocation, which took place in January 2021, the proportion of women among the deputies of the Mazhilis reached 27.4%.

<sup>45</sup> Data from the Bureau of National Statistics of the ASPR RK

<sup>46</sup> Constitutional Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated May 25, 2020 "On additions to the Constitutional Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On Elections in the Republic of Kazakhstan" <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z20000000335>

In 2020-2021, the share of jobs occupied by women in local representative bodies (Maslikhats) also increased and amounted to 30.5%. From 2016 to 2019, it was at the level of 22% (Figure 17).



Source: Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan

As of January 1, 2021, the share of women among all civil servants in the country was 55.5%. At the same time, the proportion of women among political civil servants was 8.9%, the proportion of women in the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan was 9%.<sup>47</sup>

In 2020, women made up 8.7% of the total number of akims of regions, the capital, cities of republican significance and their first deputies. Share of women among akims of the cities that are administrative centers of regions accounted for 2.3%.

The judicial system of the country is characterized by the highest representation of women. In 2020, their share among the judges of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan was 48.0%, and the share of women judges was 51.0%.

There is an increase in the share of women in the quasi-public sector at the decision-making level from 23.6% in 2018 to 36.1% in 2020. At the same time, the proportion of women in management bodies in the technical, industrial direction is much lower - 30%.<sup>48</sup>

<sup>47</sup> Digest "Women and men of Kazakhstan", 2021

<sup>48</sup> On approval of the Concept of family and gender policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2030 // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U2200000853#z5>

Another important area of women's leadership and participation in decision-making is civil society. There are 22,398 NGOs in Kazakhstan, more than 500 operate in family and gender policies area and make important contributions to women's empowerment. Women lead 8,220 NGOs (36.7%). There is an active national network of women's leadership schools with almost 70 NGOs. In all 17 regions of the country there are "Clubs of Women Politicians".<sup>49</sup>

Despite the problems wherein the high gender gaps and imbalances are recorded, the country has achieved some success. There has been notable progress in prevention of domestic violence, and women's economic and political opportunities are expanding.

<sup>49</sup> Beijing+25 Review: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in SPECA Countries, 2020

### Next steps on the SDG 5 implementation:

- Strengthening the institution of the family through the formation of family relations based on equal partnership between men and women, equal sharing of parental responsibility for the upbringing, education and development of children, care and support for the elderly.
- Increasing the availability and targeting of state social support to families.
- Prevention of domestic violence against children and women.
- Strengthening the institution of gender equality.
- Women's economic and political empowerment.
- Promoting gender education and increasing women's participation in peace and security.
- Consideration of the gender budgeting in the budgets formation.

## 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



The transparent mannequin of the installation symbolizes cleanliness and sanitation, which is mired in plastic waste (a cape with hanging threads with waste). The mannequin is filled with clean water, as the main attribute of sanitation.



## SDG 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In 2019, the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources was founded, and the Water Council was established under the leadership of the Prime Minister.
- Within the framework of the State Programs for the Development of Regions until 2020 and Nurly Zher for 2020–2025, 1,058 water supply and sanitation projects were implemented over 3 years.
- In 2019–2021, 2,784 km of water channels were repaired, 189.5 thousand hectares of irrigated land were put into circulation.

According to the World Resources Institute, Kazakhstan is classified as a country with a medium-high level of water stress.<sup>50</sup>

The total fresh water reserves of Kazakhstan are estimated at 429 km<sup>3</sup>. The actual average long-term river resources are 102.3 km<sup>3</sup>/year, of which 54.5 km<sup>3</sup>/year is local runoff, 51.5 km<sup>3</sup>/year come from the Central Asian states, the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China (of which 3.70 are return resources).<sup>51</sup>

The distribution of water resources across the country is uneven: the eastern and southeastern regions are the most prosperous, while central Kazakhstan is the least prosperous. The most dependent on the inflow of water from adjacent territories are the southern, southeastern and western regions of the country. The uneven distribution of river water resources throughout the country makes it impossible to count on the available free resources of river runoff.

Providing the population with drinking water is carried out, first of all, through access to the central water supply. In the country, access to water supply services is estimated on average at the level of 96% of the population. In particular, at the end of 2021, in cities, the share of the population using water supply services organized in compliance with safety requirements amounted to 98.1%, in villages – 93%. A significant increase in the period 2019-2021 by 5.8 percentage points compared to 2018 is due to systematic work in this direction.

<sup>50</sup> World Resources Institute, <https://www.wri.org/data>

<sup>51</sup> Official data of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, <https://legalacts.egov.kz/npa/view?id=12660451>



The share of the population covered by wastewater treatment in cities of republican significance and regional centers is at the level of 79.3%. In order to ensure access to high-quality drinking water, the country is working on the construction and reconstruction of group water pipelines and hydraulic structures. In the period from 2019-2021, 13 facilities for the construction and reconstruction of group water pipelines were put into operation, water supply was improved in 69 rural settlements and 4 cities.<sup>52</sup>

Nevertheless, the issue of providing high-quality water is relevant for almost all regions of the country - western, central and southern. This is also confirmed by the results of voting to determine the priority goals of sustainable development, according to the population of the country. 41.4% of those who took part in the voting marked SDG 6 “Clean Water and Sanitation” as a priority.

In general, the share of water bodies with good water quality in the republic is 30.8%. There has been a significant increase in good quality water bodies in recent years, from 7.4% in 2016 to 30.8% in 2020. However, there are still regions that do not have access to good quality water.<sup>53</sup>

At the end of 2021, out of 106 water bodies studied, 36 rivers and reservoirs have the worst water quality, including 28 water bodies have such a high level of pollution that the water of these rivers and reservoirs is unsuitable for either domestic use or industry (> 5 class quality).<sup>54</sup> Salt ions (magnesium, chlorides, calcium, sulfates), biogenic and organic compounds (ammonium ion, COD, total phosphorus, phosphates, total iron), heavy metals (cadmium, manganese, lead), phenols, suspended solids.<sup>55</sup>

In Kazakhstan, all aquatic, coastal and wetland ecosystems experience significant periodic fluctuations in water levels and salinity, while important lake ecosystems continue to disappear from the landscape of Kazakhstan.<sup>56</sup>

<sup>52</sup> From the Inquiries on the results of the activities of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2019, 2020 and 11 months of 2021

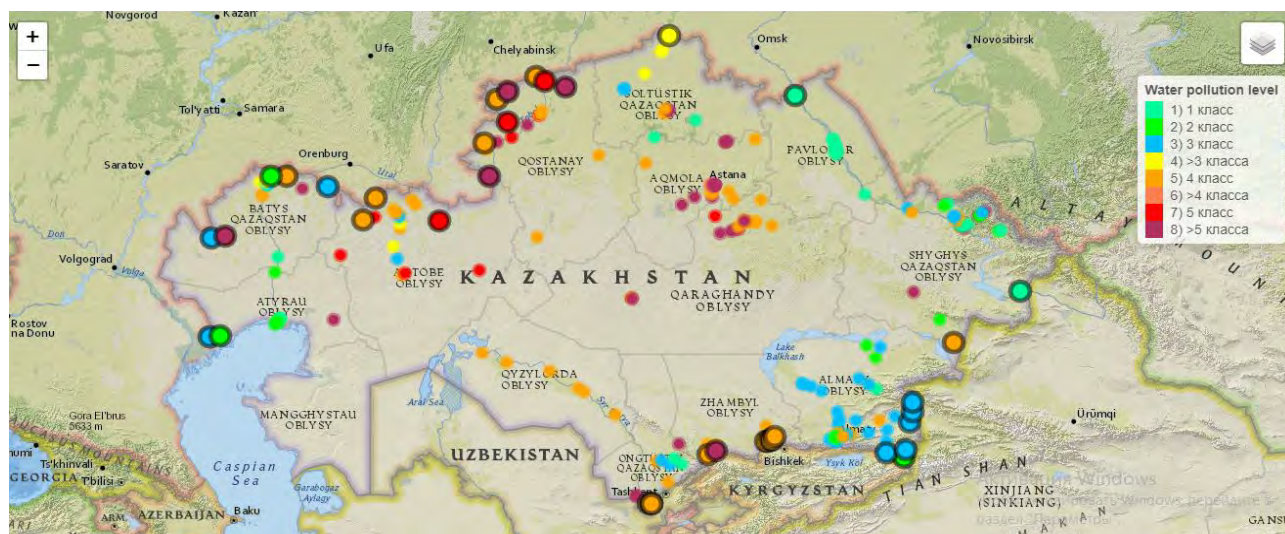
<sup>53</sup> 2016-2020 Sustainable Development Goals in Kazakhstan. Statistical Book. Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Bureau of National Statistics

<sup>54</sup> Information bulletin on the state of the environment for 2021, RSE “Kazhydromet” MEGPR, <https://www.kazhydromet.kz/ru/ecology/ezhemesyachnyy-informacionnyy-byulleten-o-sostoyanii-okruzhayuschey-sredy/2021>

<sup>55</sup> Information bulletin on the state of the environment of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2021, Kazhydromet RSE MEGPR, <https://www.kazhydromet.kz/ru/ecology/ezhemesyachnyy-informacionnyy-byulleten-o-sostoyanii-okruzhayuschey-sredy/2021>

<sup>56</sup> Kazakhstan Review of impact of environmental activities. UNECE 2019





Note: Class 1 - water is suitable for all types of water use;  
 Class 2 - water is suitable for fish breeding, recreation, irrigation, industry;  
 Class 3 - water is suitable for recreation, irrigation, industry;  
 Class 4 - water suitable for irrigation and industry;  
 Class 5 - water is suitable only for certain types of industry;  
 Class 6 - water is unsuitable for all types of water use.

Figure 18. Surface water quality monitoring in the Republic of Kazakhstan, October 2021

Source: official website of RSE "Kazhydromet", <https://www.kazhydromet.kz/ru>

The adverse change in the flow of major rivers as a result of climate change is becoming an increasingly important issue for Kazakhstan. In some river basins, there is an increase in the degree of aridity and a decrease in the availability of water resources. During the summer period, river flow in the country depends on the melting of glaciers, especially in the south, but at the same time increases the risk of floods. An increase in extreme weather events associated with heavy precipitation is expected to have side effects on water quality through an increased risk of pollutants from the industrial, agricultural and mining sectors entering water bodies.<sup>57</sup>

Increasing the efficiency of water use means increasing the productivity of water in the implementation of the economic activities of society. For the period from 2016 to 2019, an average increase in water use efficiency of 8% was achieved, from 6.84 to 7.38 US dollars per 1 m<sup>3</sup> of water used.<sup>58</sup> If the current situation of the use of water resources in the sectors of the economy

<sup>57</sup> Kazakhstan Review of impact of environmental activities. UNECE 2019

<sup>58</sup> 2016-2020 Sustainable Development Goals in Kazakhstan. Statistical Book. Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan. Bureau of National Statistics

and the population persists, by 2030 there is a risk of a decrease in the pace of socio-economic development due to water shortage. According to experts, by 2040 Kazakhstan may face a shortage of water resources in the amount of 50% of the need.<sup>59</sup>

The current state of water accounting is characterized by the lack of operational water accounting, irregular measurements, and the use of outdated methods for measuring water flow using water metering rods and hydraulic turntables, which, as a result, leads to irrational and inefficient distribution of water. In Kazakhstan, systematic work is being carried out in this area. Within the framework of the National Project “Green Kazakhstan”,<sup>60</sup> it is planned to reduce water losses during irrigation by 4 km<sup>3</sup> by 2025; the National Project for the Development of the Agro-Industrial Complex provides for measures to introduce water-saving irrigation technologies until 2025 on a total land area of 450 thousand hectares.

Water use efficiency in all sectors is directly ensured by technical solutions and systemic digitalization of water management infrastructure. Since 2019, a number of measures have been taken in this direction. A pilot project was implemented in the south of Kazakhstan, in the Turkestan region, based on the digitalization of irrigation water consumption and automation of technological processes. The canal provides irrigation water to 328 agricultural producers with an area of irrigated land of 3,628 hectares. For 2022-2025, measures are envisaged to digitalize water accounting for 212 main and inter-farm irrigation canals located in the south of Kazakhstan, including automation of 119 main most efficient and economically significant main and inter-farm irrigation canals with a total water intake of 6 km<sup>3</sup>.<sup>61</sup>

The prospects for increasing the efficiency of irrigated agriculture are inseparable from the widespread use of water-saving irrigation technologies. In 2021, the area of irrigated land whereon the water-saving technologies have been introduced amounted to 258.0 thousand hectares.<sup>62</sup>

<sup>59</sup> Information platform Elorda.INFO, <https://elorda.info/raznoe/10398-kazakhstanu-grozit-defitsit-vodnykh-resursov-k-2040-godu/>

<sup>60</sup> Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 12, 2021 “On approval of the Green Kazakhstan national project”, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000731>

<sup>61</sup> Official website of the Republican State Enterprise on the right of economic management “Kazvodkhoz” of the Committee for Water Resources of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, <https://www.qazsu.kz/ru/automation/>

<sup>62</sup> Official data of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan



The total volume of water withdrawal is on average 25 km<sup>3</sup>/year, in the structure of the balance of water resources, the highest average annual level of consumption falls on agriculture – 64.5% of the total water withdrawal, industry – 24.7%, utilities – 4% and 6.7% – for other needs (see table 2).<sup>63</sup>

**Table 2.** Indicators of water withdrawal and loss in the main sectors of the economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2018-2020, km<sup>3</sup>

	2018		2019		2020	
	withdrawal	loss	withdrawal	loss	withdrawal	loss
Agriculture	15.8	3.03	15.8	2.7	15.5	3.1
Industry	5.5	0.18	5.7	0.15	5.8	0.15
Utilities sector	0.89	0.15	0.93	0.14	0.95	0.15
Other	2.61	0.34	2.67	0.31	2.35	0.3

<sup>63</sup> National report on the state of the environment and on the use of natural resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2020



The average annual water withdrawal for agriculture is 15.7 km<sup>3</sup>, of which 77% is used for regular irrigation on an area of 1.4 million hectares, and the remaining 3.71 km<sup>3</sup> is distributed between firth irrigation, hayfield flooding, agricultural water supply and pasture watering. 98.79% of water is taken from surface sources. At the same time, losses during water supply average 18.2% of the withdrawn water, and taking into account losses in the fields due to outdated irrigation systems and methods – 38%.<sup>64</sup>

In order to manage the supply and demand for water, water use limits have been approved by basins and regions until 2025, and provisions have been introduced to ration water use in the context of individual water users. In general, in Kazakhstan, the water use limit is 28.6 km<sup>3</sup> annually, including domestic and industrial needs – 7.5 km<sup>3</sup>, agriculture – 17.5 km<sup>3</sup>, environmental needs and others - 3.4 km<sup>3</sup>.<sup>65</sup>

Water resources management in Kazakhstan is carried out in a complex manner, based on the basin principle. According to the hydrographic principle, 8 river water management basins have been identified. Eight basin councils have been created from among local government bodies and representatives of water users, including public associations and their associations.<sup>66</sup>

Most of the transboundary rivers have agreements on water sharing. As of 2020, all 20 transboundary rivers with the Russian Federation, People's Republic of China – 6 rivers out of 24, with the Kyrgyz Republic – 8 rivers out of 15, with the Republic of Uzbekistan – 1 river out of 2 transboundary rivers are covered by hydrogeological monitoring. The percentage of the surface area of transboundary basins covered by existing cooperation mechanisms is 63.2%.<sup>67</sup>

In order to improve the water supply and meliorative condition of irrigated lands through the reconstruction of irrigation and drainage systems, projects are being implemented with the involvement of loans from the Islamic Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the World Bank.<sup>68</sup>

<sup>64</sup> Concept for the Development of the Water Resources Management System of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2021-2025, draft, <https://legalacts.egov.kz/npa/view?id=12660451>

<sup>65</sup> Water use limits by basins and regions (cities of republican significance, capitals) for 2016-2025, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1600014252>

<sup>66</sup> Improving the efficiency of river basin management. Problems in the field of water management and recommendations. UNECE 2017

<sup>67</sup> Report of the Republic of Kazakhstan on global target indicator SDG 6.5.2. The second reporting cycle. Link to the document: [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/Kazakhstan\\_2ndReporting\\_SDG652-WatConv\\_2020\\_web.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/Kazakhstan_2ndReporting_SDG652-WatConv_2020_web.pdf)

<sup>68</sup> Background information on the activities of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources, for 11 months of 2021

On a systematic basis, work is underway to develop cooperation with neighboring countries (Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Russia and China) on issues of water diplomacy, as well as measures to minimize water losses during its transportation.

Cooperation with neighboring states in the field of transboundary rivers is carried out within the framework of the existing Agreements on the use and protection of transboundary rivers, and is one of the priority areas. The implementation of the norms of agreements with neighboring states is carried out within the framework of the established intergovernmental Joint Commissions and working groups.

In the process of implementation of the above-mentioned Agreements, there is a constant exchange of hydrological data, common measurement standards are being developed, and a transparent database on river basins is being created. Issues of joint management of hydropower facilities, reconstruction of individual obsolete structures, construction of mudflow protection structures have been resolved.

### Blue Peace Index

15th place of Kazakhstan (53.2 points out of 100) among 32 countries:

- 8th place (57.5 points) in the “Policy and legal framework” component.
- 17th place (59.7 points) in the Institutions and Participation component.
- 18th place (41.7 points) in the component “Water resources management tools”.
- 15th place (45.9 points) in the Infrastructure and Financing component.
- 12th place (61.0 points) in the “Context of Cooperation” component.

In the field of water diplomacy, aimed at supporting and strengthening regional cooperation in the field of sustainable water resources management, the Blue Peace Central Asia (BPCA) initiative is being implemented. The initiative also aims to support effective water resource management in a water-food-energy nexus from the local to the regional level, including the management of risks associated with climate change impacts.

The main problem of water resources management is related to the reduction of water resources, primarily due to climate change, the dependence of water flow from transboundary rivers on the policies of neighboring countries, a high degree of deterioration of water management infrastructure (up to 80%), insufficient automation and digitalization of distribution processes and water accounting, as well as anthropogenic pollution of water resources.

At the same time, Kazakhstan has a number of strengths - the presence of water legislation, water management infrastructure that allows for the regulation of water resources, and mechanisms for subsidizing the introduction of water-saving technologies.

### Next steps on the SDG 6 implementation:

- Approval of the new Water Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- Assessment and forecast of water resource potential, creation of a system of information and analytical support for water management based on cadastres of water bodies and water use.
- Development of water management infrastructure, economic incentives for water conservation.<sup>69</sup>
- Implementation of information centralization of water management infrastructure.

<sup>69</sup> National Project “Green Kazakhstan” dated October 12, 2021





**7** AFFORDABLE AND  
CLEAN ENERGY



The installation in the image of a golden-colored man with a ball-shaped head and a perforation on the top of his head symbolizes the growth of electricity consumption, that every action of modern man is connected with energy. This resource should be accessible to everyone, but has to be eco-friendly



## SDG 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In 2019-2021, the share of renewable energy increased by 75% and amounted to 4.2 billion kWh.
- Since 2019, 46 new renewable energy facilities have started generating electricity.
- In 2020, 3 “green bonds” worth more than USD 33 mln were placed on Kazakh stock exchanges to stimulate renewable energy development.
- In 2021, 146 projects totaling KZT 51.3 billion were implemented, of which 39 projects were completed or an additional 149 thousand people received access to natural gas and level of gasification of the population amounted to 57.67%.

As it is known, Kazakhstan ranks 9th in the world with 2.7 million km<sup>2</sup>, with a low population density (6.8 people/km<sup>2</sup>). The sharply continental climate (temperature range is 100 degrees Celsius: in summer the temperature reaches +50 and in winter to -50 degrees Celsius) creates difficulties in the development of renewable energy sources in the country. Despite the difficulties, 100% of the country’s population has access to electricity. Thus, Kazakhstan ahead of schedule completed the task of providing universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy supply. The country has made international commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As part of the Paris Climate Agreement, Kazakhstan pledged to increase the share of renewable energy sources to 15% by 2030, to 50% by 2050 (taking into account alternative sources), and by 2060 the country declared carbon neutrality. As a result of these works, more than 9 billion tons of carbon dioxide will be prevented from entering the atmosphere.<sup>70</sup> Currently, the structure of electricity generation in Kazakhstan is as follows: coal – 69%; gas – 20%; HPP – 7.4%; RES – 3.6%.

<sup>70</sup> News on online.zakon.kz: “The President spoke at the international conference on achieving carbon neutrality” - [https://online.zakon.kz/Document/?doc\\_id=39748611&pos=4;-116#pos=4;-116](https://online.zakon.kz/Document/?doc_id=39748611&pos=4;-116#pos=4;-116)

## Coal-fired electricity generation

Electricity in Kazakhstan is generated by over 200 power plants of various forms of ownership. Power plants are divided into power plants of national importance, industrial and regional purposes. The total installed capacity of power plants in Kazakhstan as of January 1, 2021 is 23,957.3 megawatts (MW), the available capacity of power plants was 19,004.0 MW. The annual maximum electrical load in 2020 was recorded on December 14 at 19:00 Nur-Sultan time and amounted to 15,826.0 MW. Electricity production in 2020 in Kazakhstan amounted to 108.6 billion kilowatts per hour.

The transition to carbon neutrality in Kazakhstan by 2060 will require a profound transformation of the entire energy sector, including primary energy production (oil, coal, peat, shale, natural gas, waste, hydropower, biomass, wind, solar and geothermal energy), transportation, transformation into secondary energy (electricity, heat, gasoline, diesel, hydrogen, biofuels), transmission and distribution, final demand for energy services in transport, buildings and industry, as well as fugitive emissions from the extraction, transportation and distribution of primary energy. The transition to a carbon-free energy system will consist of three main elements that will lead to a fundamental transformation of the energy sector:

1. decarbonization of primary energy supplies;
2. decarbonization of electricity and heat production;
3. decarbonization and high-efficiency end use of energy in buildings, transport and industry.

## Gas industry of Kazakhstan

Natural gas is an important tool in Kazakhstan's arsenal to control climate change. Kazakhstan has the richest gas resources; the country ranks 22nd in the world and 3rd among the CIS countries (after Russia and Turkmenistan) in terms of natural gas reserves. Approved recoverable reserves amount to 3.8 trillion m<sup>3</sup>, including associated gas – 2.2 trillion m<sup>3</sup>, free gas – 1.6 trillion m<sup>3</sup>.

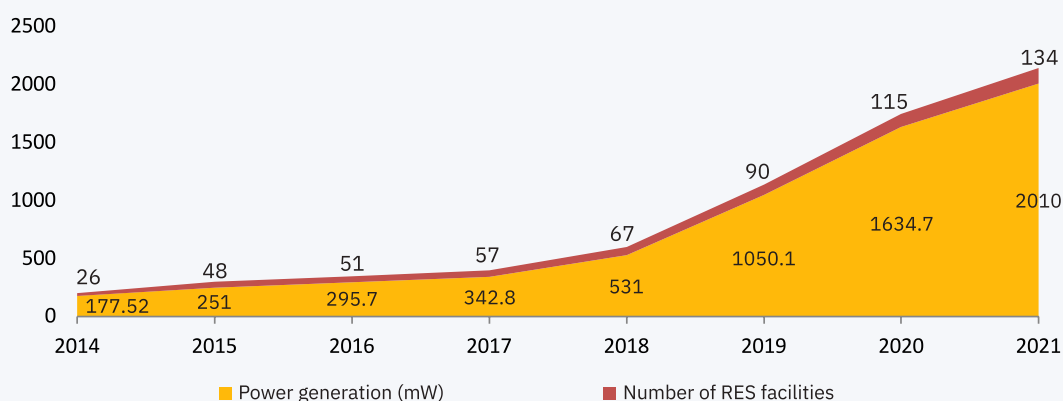
Despite the promise of using natural gas to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, there are a number of restrictions in the country that can slow down the development of the industry. According to its structure, the produced gas in the Republic of Kazakhstan is mainly associated petroleum gas, and its

production volumes directly depend on the dynamics of oil production. Given relatively high gas processing costs and low domestic selling prices, most natural gas producers prefer to re-inject gas into the reservoir for enhanced oil recovery rather than sell gas domestically. Thus, a “paradox” is created, on the one hand, it is required to gasify the country and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, on the other hand, there are no economic incentives for selling natural gas to the domestic market.

## Development of renewable energy sources

Territorial and climatic features of the country limit the potential for the development of RES. The country creates legislative and economic incentives for the country’s transition to “green” energy. Thus, since 2009, a system of state support for the development of renewable energy sources has been in operation.

The introduction of market mechanisms for selecting renewable energy projects has created conditions for reducing the average price of electricity from wind and solar power plants to a level comparable to gas generation projects. Due to the ongoing work, the number and capacity of renewable energy facilities is growing every year. Thus, according to the results of 2021, the generation of electric energy by renewable energy facilities amounted to about 4.2 billion kWh, and according to the results of the Q1 2022 – 933.07 million kWh.



**Figure 19.** Number of renewable energy facilities and their capacity in dynamics (Q1, 2022)

Source: Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan





## Measures to support the production of RES electricity

In accordance with the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On Supporting the Use of RES”, clean energy producers are provided with the opportunity to sell the generated electricity from RES in the public network, at special rates through the Settlement and Financial Center for RES Support.<sup>71</sup> This, in turn, guarantees the purchase of electricity from renewable energy sources. Renewable energy producers are exempted from paying for the services of energy transmission organizations for the transmission of electrical energy, a priority has been determined for renewable energy sources in the transmission of electricity through networks. These state support measures in the form of a guaranteed purchase of electricity make it possible to stimulate the development of renewable energy sources. To obtain the above support measures, RES projects are implemented through auctions.

International auctions for 2018-2021 were held in electronic format for RES projects with a total capacity of 1,705 MW. Moreover, it should be noted that the maximum reduction in the auction price was for SPP – 62.8%, WPP – 37.9%, HPP – 24.7% and BioPP – 0.28%.

<sup>71</sup> The official website of the “Settlement and Financial Center for the Support of RES” - <https://rfc.kegoc.kz/>



RES projects are included in the list of priority investment projects in Kazakhstan, therefore they have a number of investment preferences:

- exemption from customs duties;
- exemption from VAT on imports;
- state in-kind grants;
- exemption from property tax;
- exemption from land tax;
- exemption from CIT and others.<sup>72</sup>

### Next steps on the SDG 7 implementation:

- Continued gasification of the regions, covering the private sector and individual residential buildings.<sup>73</sup>
- Strengthening the requirements for producers and consumers of traditional energy sources in the sector of increasing the efficiency and modernization of the technologies and production facilities used, reducing the burden on the environment and the health of citizens (meeting the requirements of sustainable economic development).
- Increasing the share of RES in total electricity generation.<sup>74</sup>
- Gradual reduction in the volume of fossil fuels burned, the transition to the use of electricity and heat instead of direct burning of fossil fuels, as well as increased use of natural gas and renewable energy sources.

<sup>72</sup> Report of PWC LLP: “Renewable energy market in Kazakhstan: potential, challenges and prospects” (First issue, May 2021) <https://www.pwc.com/kz/en/assets/pdf/esg-dashboard-final-5.pdf>

<sup>73</sup> Official information resource of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan: “The government considered the issue of gasification of settlements” - <https://primeminister.kz/ru/news/pravitelstvo-rassmotrelo-vopros-gazifikacii-naselennyh-punktov-24103439>

<sup>74</sup> The National Project “Sustainable economic growth aimed at improving the well-being of Kazakhstanis”. - <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000730>

**8** DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



The image of a woman in a wheelchair demonstrates that it is necessary to promote inclusive economic growth and provide decent job for all people, regardless of age, gender and physical ability.



## SDG 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- The National Action Plan for the implementation of the President's Address to the People of Kazakhstan dated March 16, 2022 "New Kazakhstan: the Path of Renewal and Modernization" is being implemented.
- The National Development Plan for 2020-2025 was approved.
- Implementation of the Employment Roadmap for 2020-2021 created jobs for 239 thousand people.
- A memorandum was signed with the International Social Security Association on the promotion of the Concept of "Zero Injuries - Vision Zero".

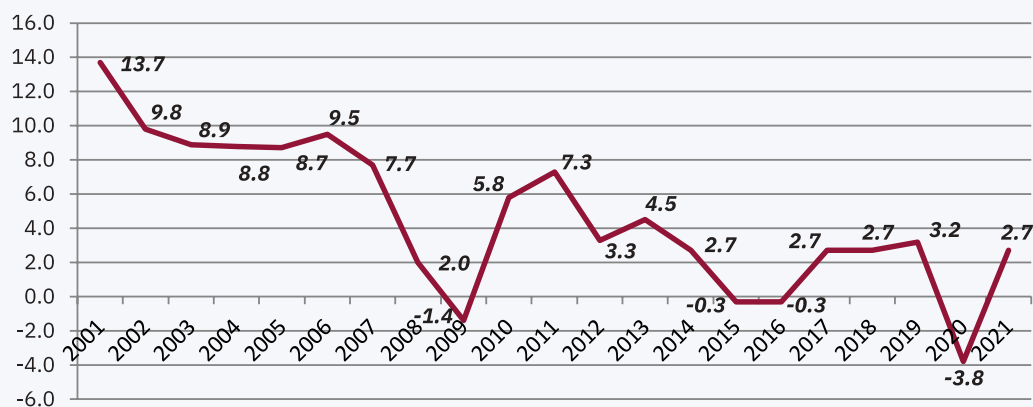
For 30 years of independence, Kazakhstan has implemented large-scale transformations in the socio-economic system of the country, which ensured the formation of market relations and the consistent integration of the country into the world economy.

As a result of internal transformations, Kazakhstan currently has one of the largest economies in Central Asia and is a full-fledged participant in the global economic system.

### Sustainable economic growth

The pandemic of coronavirus infection in 2020-2021 has made its own adjustments to the economy of all countries, including Kazakhstan.

The consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic turned out to be more devastating for the economy than the crises of 2008 and 2015. World Bank experts call 2020 the most difficult year for Kazakhstan's economy over the past two decades. In 2021, the Kazakhstan economy continued its systematic recovery and showed a 6.5% increase in GDP per capita (Figure 20). There was positive growth in the real sector and the service sector, high investment growth in non-mining sectors, maintaining a positive trade balance.



**Figure 20.** Annual growth rate of GDP per capita in Kazakhstan, %<sup>75</sup>

Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

The anti-crisis measures of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan were aimed at restoring the economy and supporting small and medium-sized businesses. The priority within the framework of the “anti-crisis package” was the social sphere.

#### During the pandemic:

As part of the Comprehensive Plan to Restore Economic Growth, KZT 4.4 trillion (USD 10 billion, or 6-7% of GDP) was allocated to increase the availability of healthcare, cash payments to those who lost their earnings and to support businesses.

During the period of the state of emergency in the republic, the country’s GDP decreased by 2.5%. The annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person was 2.5% lower in 2020 compared to 2019.

In connection with the emerging socio-economic risks and challenges, in order to preserve the sustainable development of the country, a national plan was developed within the framework of the Address of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan “New Kazakhstan: the Path of Renewal and Modernization” dated March 16, 2022, which provides:

- rapid response in the Situation Center mode to the problems of domestic business;
- measures to prevent shortages and rising food prices;
- to implement a comprehensive package of priority anti-crisis measures, including those providing for the stability of the national currency.<sup>76</sup>

<sup>75</sup> Dynamic tables. National accounts. <https://stat.gov.kz/official/industry/11/statistic/8>

<sup>76</sup> On measures to implement the Address of the Head of State to the People of Kazakhstan “New Kazakhstan: Path of Renewal and Modernization” dated March 16, 2022 <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U2200000847>

The new reality requires structural transformations from the state, and currently the country has formed a new economic course aimed at leveling the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and developing factors to accelerate economic growth. Kazakhstan intends to ensure sustainable economic growth based on the principles of inclusiveness by 2025.

## **Development of economic diversification and transition to a “green economy”**

As part of the systemic reforms in the country, a course is being implemented to build a diversified and innovative economy through the formation of competitive domestic enterprises. The reforms are aimed at reasonable protection of strategically important industries with accelerated adaptation of system-forming enterprises to new post-crisis realities. Economic diversification is the main goal of the National Project “Sustainable economic growth aimed at improving the well-being of Kazakhstanis for 2021-2025”.

Kazakhstan has identified as a priority an increase in the production of export-oriented products in the manufacturing industry to USD 9.1 billion. An increase in labor productivity by 20.6% to the level of 2019.<sup>77</sup>

Since 2010, Kazakhstan has been gradually implementing a policy of industrial and innovative development aimed at creating a high-performance and export-oriented manufacturing industry.

By the end of 2020, the volume of production in the manufacturing industry increased by 4.1% compared to 2019.

The production of new types of products has been mastered: freight and passenger cars, electric locomotives, trucks, cars and buses, transformers, X-ray equipment, LED lamps, titanium ingots and slabs. During the pandemic, the production of innovative drugs for the treatment of multiple sclerosis, the dissolution of a blood clot in myocardial infarction, insulin for the treatment of diabetes mellitus, for the treatment of rare diseases was established.<sup>78</sup>

The growth rates of Kazakhstan’s manufacturing industry over the past 10 years (2020 to 2010) have increased due to the metallurgical industry (by 47.2%), non-ferrous metallurgy (by 82.7%), food (by 34%), production of non-metallic mineral products (by 78%), chemical industry (by 70.2%).

<sup>77</sup> National Project “Sustainable economic growth aimed at improving the welfare of Kazakhstanis” // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000730> .

<sup>78</sup> The Concept of industrial and innovative development of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2021-2025 dated December 20, 2018 (as amended by the Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 30, 2021 No. 965).





Considering current realities, in order to further deepen industrialization, Kazakhstan faces the tasks of qualitative growth of the manufacturing industry, focused on meeting the primary needs of the population, both in food and non-food products, ensuring uninterrupted operation and development of the domestic production complex, and thereby increasing the self-sufficiency of the country's economy.

To achieve this goal, it is necessary to eliminate restrictions in the development of industrialization. One of the main problems is the low level of production capacities of manufacturing enterprises. So, in Q2 2021, only 30.5% of enterprises were loaded at the level of 70%. The use of imported raw materials and components that are not produced on the territory of Kazakhstan has no further prospects for localization. There is a high degree of equipment wear (electricity supply, gas supply, steam and air conditioning – 73.1%; mining and quarrying – 66.6%; agriculture – 41.9%, in the manufacturing industry – 39%).



The changed external conditions and budgetary constraints caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the fall in oil prices create the need for reform of the agro-industrial complex.

Grain production is one of the strategic sectors of the republic, on the condition of which the country's food security, income and employment of the population, the development of related industries (livestock, poultry, food and processing industry) depend.

The problem of grain production is the monoculture of wheat. The measures taken in recent years to diversify crop production have contributed to an increase in the acreage of grain crops (barley, oats, corn for grain). Grain forage crops are important for providing the livestock industry with high-quality feed, and feed mills with the necessary components.

Each modernization strategy of Kazakhstan defines clear guidelines for building a sustainable and effective economic model based on the country's transition to the "green" path.

The course of the new model of economic growth of Kazakhstan is aimed at increasing productivity, complexity and technological efficiency of the economy, the development of fair competition, human capital, investment in a new type of education, "greening" the economy, environmental protection. Kazakhstan is at the center of important geographical and economic interests. The development of diversification will give impetus to the development of basic industries – agro-industrial complex, transport and logistics, construction sector, etc.

## Creation of decent jobs<sup>79</sup>

Citizens are supported within the framework of program documents. Since 2020, an Employment Roadmap has been implemented to provide jobs and wages to citizens during the crisis. 239 thousand people were employed, aimed at implementing 6.7 thousand projects of social, engineering and transport infrastructure, housing and communal services and improvement of settlements throughout the country.

<sup>79</sup> Employment data is provided by the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Within the framework of the State Program “Enbek”, 651 thousand citizens were covered by measures to promote employment, of which 402 thousand people were provided with permanent employment. Owing to the measures taken, it was possible to maintain the unemployment rate in the country at the level of 4.9%.

The development of women’s entrepreneurship is a recognized global trend in economic development. World studies demonstrate a direct relationship between the dynamics of GDP growth and the level of development of women’s entrepreneurship.

According to the economic forecast of the World Economic Forum, the total world gross product may increase by USD 5.3 trillion by 2025, if women’s economic participation increases by 25% over the same period.

The number of businesswomen in Kazakhstan is growing from year to year, but they often face numerous problems when running a business. This is primarily a lack of funding, as well as a lack of competencies and information.

State support to ensure broad access to financial resources, the development of women’s business in general is currently being carried out through the State business support and development program “Business Roadmap – 2025”, as well as through the tools of the Damu Entrepreneurship Development Fund (Damu) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).<sup>80</sup>

In modern conditions, at the same time, the needs for the development of markets for social, information and educational services, those areas that are most characteristic of women’s entrepreneurship, are increasing.

Many self-employed women would like to start their own business. For the country, it is an additional resource for economic growth, improving the level of the social sphere, creating new jobs and increasing self-employment.

Persons with disabilities, along with other vulnerable segments of the population, are covered by employment promotion measures as a priority.

The Center for Vocational Rehabilitation of People with Disabilities, established by UNDP in Kazakhstan and the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan, attracted 102 volunteers (16 UN volunteers, 73 civil society volunteers and 13 online volunteers) to support the Center’s activities to provide employment opportunities for people with disabilities. To do this, local national volunteers with experience in career guidance, social work, psychology, legal issues and coaching work in cooperation with the Ministry and the capital akimat. Owing to this cooperation, 160 people with disabilities have applied for employment,

<sup>80</sup> According to UN Women.

88 of them have been employed, 7 have started an internship, 57 people have completed advanced training, 13 have opened their own business, 12 are undergoing treatment and rehabilitation, the rest are being assisted in finding their dream job.

There is a positive situation in the labor market among young people in Kazakhstan. Thus, over the past 5 years, the share of NEET youth in Kazakhstan has decreased from 8.7% to 6.9%. And even against the background of the pandemic, the share of unemployed and non-studying youth tended to decrease (-0.2% compared to 2020), which partly reflects the successful implementation of the state youth policy in the field of education and employment.

In turn, the main reasons for finding Kazakh youth in the NEET status are household management, family or personal circumstances and health status.

Persons with disabilities, along with other vulnerable segments of the population, are covered by employment promotion measures as a priority.

## Promoting reliable and safe working conditions

As a result of comprehensive measures taken by state bodies and employers in the field of occupational safety and health, positive dynamics in creating safe working conditions is generally maintained.

The country is implementing an Action Plan to ensure safe work until 2025.

By the end of 2021, the level of occupational injuries (accident rate per 1,000 people) has been reduced to 0.22.

In order to use a modern professional risk management system, more than 2.8 thousand enterprises of the country have implemented occupational safety and health standards.

At the enterprises of the republic, 16 thousand production councils have been created and operated, whose tasks include organizing inspections of working conditions at workplaces with the participation of more than 21 thousand technical labor protection inspectors.

Together with the Federation of Trade Unions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the socially important project “People’s Control” is being implemented. The project provides for the involvement of people with disabilities as “people’s controllers”. Currently, 164 enterprises of the republic have implemented the “People’s Control” project.

**In 2021:**

- The level of victims is 2.4% lower than in 2020 (1467 – 2021, 1503 – 2020).
- The death toll is 2.4% lower compared to 2020.
- The largest number of people were affected in the mining and metallurgical complex – 19.1% and the construction industry – 11.3%.
- 56 officials were dismissed from their posts until violations were detected.
- 1088 accident materials were sent to law enforcement agencies, 102 criminal cases have been initiated.

In 2021, the list of prohibited professions for women was abolished in Kazakhstan.<sup>81</sup> The Labor Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan<sup>82</sup> has been amended by deleting the article “list of jobs where the use of women’s labor is restricted”.

As part of the launch of the new hr.enbek.kz portal, the “Online Labor Adviser” functionality was introduced in 2021. An employer can turn to a service that will replace a real labor inspector for him and will check the

correctness of planned or completed procedures in an interactive mode. If violations are detected, the employer will be offered recommendations and specific actions that should be taken in order to eliminate them.

## Sustainable tourism

Due to the situation related to COVID-19, restrictive and quarantine measures had a devastating impact on the tourism industry worldwide. In Kazakhstan, according to the results of 2021, there was an increase in outbound tourism by 22.2% (3,501.4 thousand people), but positive dynamics in domestic tourism was recorded.<sup>83</sup>

But active work on the development of the industry continues. In 2021, a new Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On Tourism Activities” was adopted.

The general policy of the state to improve the tourist climate allowed to expand the list of visa-free countries to 74, cancel migration cards and registration of foreigners for a period of up to 30 days. Penalties for violation of the visa and migration regime were humanized.

<sup>81</sup> Law “On Amendments and Additions to Certain Legislative Acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Social Protection of Certain Categories of Citizens”, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z2100000067>.

<sup>82</sup> Labor Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated November 23, 2015, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/K1500000414>

<sup>83</sup> According to official data of the Ministry of Culture of RK

## Next steps on the SDG 8 implementation:

- Increasing the productivity and complexity of the economy, developing competencies, as well as attracting private capital.
- Continuation of the course of economic diversification and creation of high-performance new jobs.
- Continuation of the course on digitalization of all sectors of the economy.
- Stimulating the development of sustainable tourism.





The modern man is inextricably linked with technology and his future lies in technological progress. It is symbolic that the mannequin is covered with a metal frame made of wire and filled with various elements of a computer, printer and other equipment.



## SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- The volume of transit container traffic increased by 60%.
- In the UN rating for 2020 on the development of e-government, Kazakhstan took the 29th place, and the 11th place in the world in terms of the quality of online services.
- The term of state funding of scientific, scientific and technical projects and programs has been increased from 3 to 5 years.
- The number of organizations engaged in R&D increased from 396 to 438 in 2021.

The formation of a developed transport and logistics infrastructure is one of the strategic objectives of the country and a source of economic growth.

The pandemic has changed and complicated the work of the transport and logistics chain around the world. In Kazakhstan, this was particularly reflected in the decrease in transport mobility of the population and passenger turnover.

By the end of 2021, the number of passengers transported decreased by 3 times compared to the period before the pandemic. There are no significant decreases in cargo transportation and cargo turnover, in 2021 the indicators retained the volumes of the previous year.

Currently, the country faces the task of effectively integrating into all regional and global transport chains. The key document for the implementation of transport and logistics policy was the State Program “Nurly Zhol” for 2020-2025. By 2025, it is planned to increase to 100% the share of roads of republican significance in the regulatory state, the share of local roads – up to 95%.

Kazakhstan has established the formation of an innovative economy as one of the national priorities. In 2021, the key benchmarks for strengthening the country’s innovation and technological systems were identified. It should be noted that the high share of the state in the economy greatly hinders the industrial and innovative development of the country, measures are required to support private initiatives and expand the opportunities of small and medium-sized businesses.

Thus, the share of small and medium-sized businesses in the economy is slightly more than 30%, and the share of the state and quasi-public sector is more than 60%.<sup>84</sup>

## Industrialization and ICT

Kazakhstan is a promising and attractive market for doing business: favorable location, transport potential, stable economy, developed infrastructure.

The industrialization policy is purposefully implemented within the framework of the third five-year plan of the State Program of Industrial and Innovative Development. It is aimed at accelerating the diversification of the economy and the development of industries with higher added value.

In 2020, 201 projects totaling KZT 916.8 billion were launched with the creation of about 18.6 thousand permanent jobs. In 2020, the share of manufacturing GVA to GDP was 13.1% compared to 2019 (11.4%).

As part of a set of anti-inflationary measures for 2022-2025, a number of measures will be implemented in the republic to keep prices for the energy sector, for rail transportation. In addition, the comprehensive plan provides for an analysis of the loading of idle and operating capacities of TCF and furniture industry enterprises.

Acceleration of the pace of development of the country's economy and improvement of the quality of life of the population is ensured, among other things, through the use of digital technologies. For the period of 2018 to 2021, the State Program "Digital Kazakhstan" was implemented in Kazakhstan, which contributed to the digitalization of the economy and the creation of a digital industry.

It should be noted that the pandemic has also accelerated the development of digital technologies in transport logistics. Since 2020, paper permits for transportation have been canceled, and the issue of a complete transition to paperless document management in transport has also been initiated.

<sup>84</sup> The direct investment market in Kazakhstan. – May, 2019, <https://assets.kpmg/content/dam/kpmg/kz/pdf/2019/09/KPMG-Private-Equity-Market-in-Kazakhstan-RUS-2019.pdf>





The formation of Kazakhstan as a modern country with effective public administration through digital transformation, making decisions based on reliable data is being implemented on the basis of the National Project “Technological breakthrough through digitalization, science and innovation” for 2021-2025.

## Activation of scientific research and introduction of innovations

The country is making considerable efforts to introduce innovations, develop innovative infrastructure, and stimulate scientific activity. Directions and specific measures for the development of innovative potential have been approved at the strategic and legislative levels.

In 2021, in addition to the national priority for the formation of an innovative economy, a direction has been established to strengthen the innovation ecosystem.<sup>85</sup>

In December 2021, the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan on Industrial Policy was adopted.<sup>86</sup> New elements of the formation of an effective innovation and technology policy have been introduced, such as industry centers of

<sup>85</sup> Decree of the Head of State on the National Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2025 (Decree No. 521 of February 26, 2021) // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U1800000636>

<sup>86</sup> Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated December 27, 2021 No. 87-VII “On Amendments and Additions to Some Legislative Acts of the Republic of Kazakhstan on industrial policy” // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z2100000087>

technological competence, technology platforms, an innovation observatory, etc. There is an advisory body under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan – the Technology Policy Council, which implements the overall coordination and development of the main approaches to the formation of innovation policy and support for the technological development of the country.

The relationship between business and science is important for the development of innovative potential. Within the framework of the joint project of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan with the World Bank “Stimulating productive innovations”, 55 innovative projects worth KZT 10 billion have been implemented since 2018. For the first time in Kazakhstan, the grant program “Consortia of the manufacturing sector” was implemented within the framework of this project.

Achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals is inextricably linked to inclusion. In 2019, a competition was held under the grant program “Consortia of Inclusive Innovations”. 8 projects were financed and implemented for a total amount of about KZT 1.07 billion, the amount of co-financing from grantees amounted to 19.1% of the total amount of allocated grants.

Financing innovation is often associated with a high degree of risk. In this regard, since 2021, work has been underway to create an Early Financing Venture Fund in the country, within which innovative projects and startups receive an additional opportunity to co-finance at an early stage of their own innovation development.

Innovative infrastructure continues to develop in the republic. The autonomous Cluster Fund “Park of Innovative Technologies” implements tasks for the innovative development of the real sector of the economy, including the search for innovative solutions to emerging challenges and problems of enterprises.

Since 2019, there have been positive developments in the field of science. The term of state funding of scientific, scientific and technical projects and programs has been increased from 3 to 5 years. In 2020-2021, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan held 5 competitions for grant and 2 competitions for program-targeted financing. In 2021, 1,336 projects and 59 scientific and technical programs of Kazakhstani scientists in 10 priority areas were funded as part of grants.<sup>87</sup> The number of researchers in 2021 amounted to 21.6 thousand people. The number of organizations engaged in R&D increased from 396 to 438 units in 2021.<sup>88</sup>

<sup>87</sup> Official data of the Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

<sup>88</sup> Data from the Bureau of National Statistics of ASPR RK, <https://stat.gov.kz/official/industry/24/statistic/7>

A new type of science financing has been introduced – financing of scientific organizations engaged in fundamental scientific research. This change gives scientific organizations the opportunity to create a more favorable environment for scientists, preserve human resources and attract new people to science.<sup>89</sup>

Gender professional stereotypes continue to influence women's career choices. The representation of women in STEM professions (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) remains low. However, the situation has been changing in recent years and, according to statistics, in the 2020-2021 academic year, women were represented at the higher education level in the group of specialties "Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics" with a student population of 14,771, 69.8% respectively. In the same academic year, 47.4% of women were at the level of technical and vocational education; 53.2% were at the level of higher education.

Innovations, including the digital economy, are becoming a determining factor in the country's sustainable economic growth, which will contribute to improving living standards and achieving social stability without increasing the burden on the environment.

<sup>89</sup> Instruction of the Head of State Law "On Science" dated February 18, 2011 No. 407-IV // [https://online.zakon.kz/Document/?doc\\_id=30938581](https://online.zakon.kz/Document/?doc_id=30938581)

### Next steps on the SDG 9 implementation:

- creating conditions for stimulating the international competitiveness of enterprises.
- reforming the transport and logistics sector and improving connectivity.
- ensuring the full functioning of the updated system of state management of innovation and technological development, including the activation of new elements of the innovation system (industry centers of technological competence, technology platforms, innovation observatory, etc.).
- continuing the strengthening of state support measures for innovation activities.



**10** REDUCED  
INEQUALITIES



The installation demonstrates the existing inequality in the world (metal sphere), which is mainly expressed in relation to the female gender. Women need more effort to maintain their balance. The installation is a reference to the work of Pablo Picasso “The Girl on the ball”, 1905.



## SDG 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- The size of the minimum wage has been increased from KZT 42.5 thousand to KZT 60 thousand.
- The average per capita monetary incomes of the least affluent 40% of the population showed annual growth.
- The wage ratio of women and men has significantly improved (the ratio in 2018 was 34.2%, in 2020 – 25%).
- Work continues to create a barrier-free environment for low-mobility groups of the population. As of January 1, 2021, 99.8% of the social infrastructure facilities from among the certified ones became available.
- A roadmap has been approved within the framework of the project office “Creating opportunities for economic activity among persons with disabilities”.
- Migration Service Centers were opened and the principle of “one window” was introduced in the registration of labor patents.

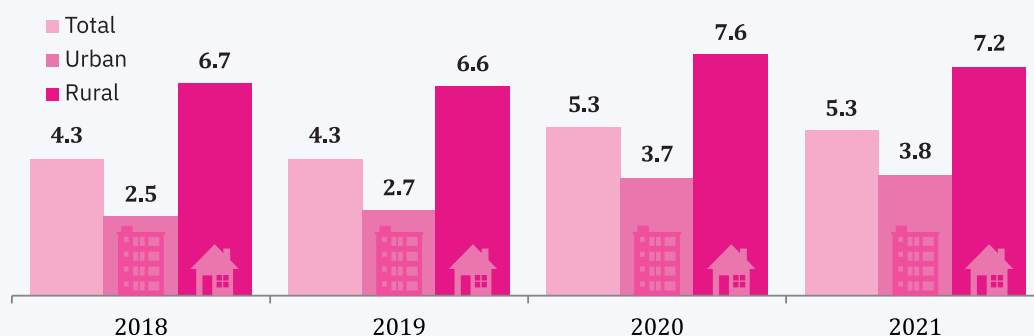
Reducing the level of inequality and increasing the level of well-being of the population is one of the key problems of the modern world, as it hinders inclusive development, poverty reduction and undermines the cohesion of society. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated existing inequalities, affecting the poorest and most vulnerable segments of society around the world the most.

### Increasing income of the population and reducing inequality in society

Improving the level and quality of life of the population, increasing its well-being is one of the priority tasks of Kazakhstan’s development. The policy of inclusive economic growth is being actively implemented, aimed at a fair distribution of benefits and opportunities for all members of society.

The state of emergency imposed in the country and quarantine measures due to the COVID-19 pandemic have affected the incomes of the population of Kazakhstan. The growth of unemployment, the general level of prices for goods and services led to an increase in the number of people living below the poverty line.

If, according to the survey, the share of the population with incomes below the subsistence minimum in 2018 and 2019 was 4.3%, then in 2020 it increased to 5.3% (see Figure 21). In 2021, compared to 2020, their share decreased to 5.2%. Income differentiation in urban and rural areas also decreased slightly. In urban areas, the share of the population with incomes below the subsistence minimum was 3.8%, and in rural areas – 7.2%.

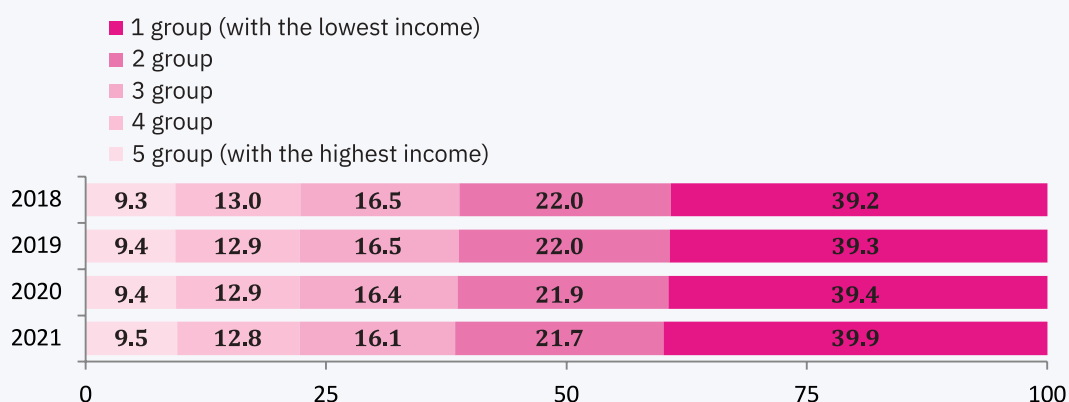


**Figure 21.** The share of the population with incomes below the subsistence minimum (poverty level) for 2018-2021, %

Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

The depth of poverty and the severity of poverty in 2021 were 0.8% and 0.2%, respectively (in 2018 – 0.7% and 0.2%, respectively).

In 2021, the distribution of income of the population by 20 percent groups (quintiles) has changed slightly compared to previous years (Figure 22). At the same time, the ratio of 20% of the most and 20% of the least well-off population remains almost at the same level (the fund ratio) and amounted to 4.2 times. The ratio of 10% of the most and 10% of the least well-off population (the fund ratio) remains at the level of 6 times.

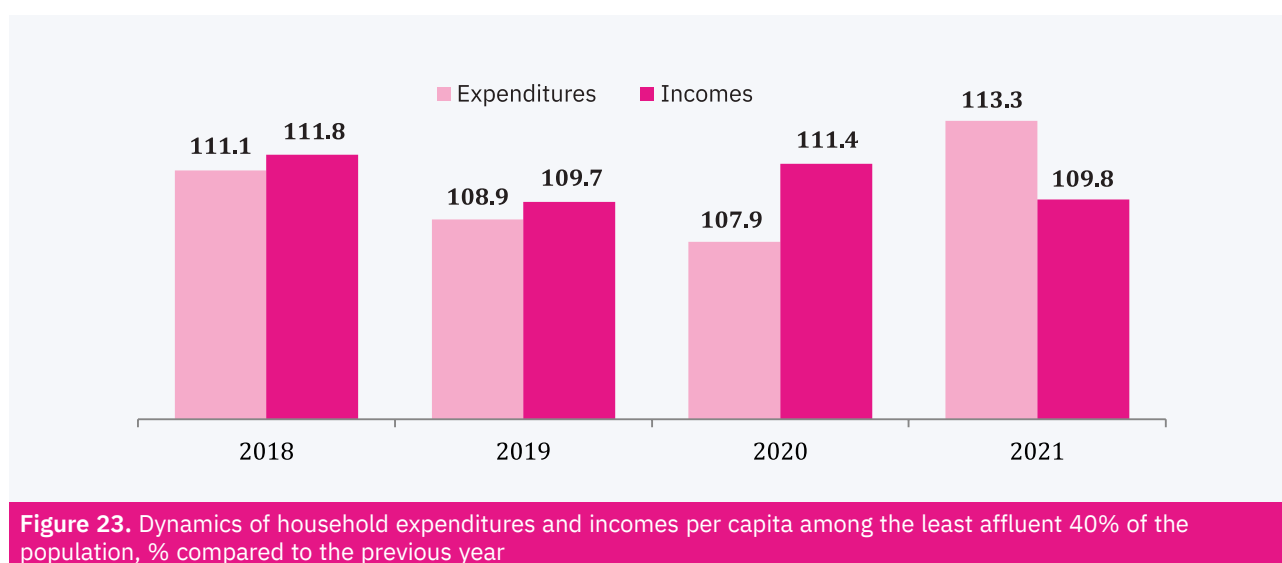


**Figure 22.** The share of income of the population by 20 percent (quintile) groups of the population for 2018-2021, %

Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Increasing the income share of the least affluent 40% of the population to 27.0% by 2025 is one of the key national indicators of the National Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2025.<sup>90</sup>

Over the period 2018-2020, the dynamics of the average per capita monetary income of the least affluent 40% of the population was positive and increased by 42.7% (Figure 23). The share of income of the least affluent 40% of the population in the total income of the population shows an increase after a slight decrease. If in 2020 they accounted for 22.28% of the total income of the population, then in 2021 – 22.30%.<sup>91</sup>



Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

In order to improve the socio-economic situation in the country, the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan is taking systematic measures. National projects provide target indicators to reduce income inequality. For example, by 2025, it is planned to increase the real monetary income of the population to 27.1% of the level of 2019 (in 2019 prices)<sup>92</sup> and reduce the share of the rural population with incomes below the subsistence minimum to 6.5%.<sup>93</sup>

<sup>90</sup> National Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2025, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U1800000636>

<sup>91</sup> Data from the Bureau of National Statistics of the ASPR RK

<sup>92</sup> The National Project "Sustainable economic growth aimed at improving the well-being of Kazakhstanis"

<sup>93</sup> National Project on Entrepreneurship Development for 2021-2025

In May 2020, during the initial period of the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, a comprehensive plan to recover economic growth by the end of 2021 was adopted to support the economy and the social sphere.<sup>94</sup> Additional measures of social assistance and support were provided to the population, especially from socially vulnerable categories.

Since the declaration of the state of emergency in March 2020, volunteers have provided assistance to more than 1,258.0 thousand people in a difficult life situations (war and labor veterans, lonely elderly, vulnerable social groups, large and low-income families). More than 93 thousand food packages and 5.5 million medical masks were distributed. In order to ensure public control, a group of volunteers and activists created the group “Public Control”, consisting of 397 volunteers<sup>95</sup>.

Since January 1, 2022, the minimum wage has been increased from KZT 42.5 thousand to KZT 60 thousand. Thus, the increase in the minimum wage was 41%. In accordance with the Labor Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, employers are obliged to provide employees with wages at a level not lower than the minimum wage. This measure will lead to an increase in cash incomes of 1.7 million people. In addition, the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan is taking consistent measures to increase the level of wages of public sector employees. Thus, since 2020, the salary of teachers has been gradually increasing, by 2023 it will increase by 2 times. In 2021, a phased increase in the salaries of medical and social workers has begun, as a result, their salaries will also increase by 2 times within 3 years.

From January 1, 2022, a phased increase in salaries of other categories of civil servants will begin by an average of 20% annually in the 2022 to 2025. As a result, their salary will increase by 2 times within 4 years.

In Kazakhstan, in recent years, there has been a decrease in gender wage inequality. The ratio of the average salary of women relative to men increased from 65.8% in 2018 to 75.0% in 2020. Accordingly, the gender gap has decreased to 25%.

The country pays special attention to the issues of support for persons with disabilities. The National Plan for Ensuring the Rights and Improving the Quality of Life of Persons with Disabilities until 2025 has been approved and is being implemented.

<sup>94</sup> Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On approval of a comprehensive plan to restore economic growth by the end of 2021” dated May 20, 2020 <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2000000307#z0>

<sup>95</sup> According to the Ministry of Information and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan



**In 2021:**

- 18.4 thousand persons with disabilities were employed, or 90.6% of those who applied to Employment Centers.
- the employment rate of persons with disabilities has increased to 24.8% (in 2020 – 23.3%) of the able-bodied.

Work continues to create a barrier-free environment for low-mobility groups of the population. Since 2020 on the information portal “Social protection of persons with disabilities” ([inva.gov.kz](https://inva.gov.kz)) there is a map of accessibility of facilities by region, which contains information about the adaptability of more than 35 thousand social infrastructure facilities in the country.

Since the beginning of 2021, a Social Services Portal has been fully launched, providing persons with disabilities the right to choose rehabilitation equipment or services, taking into account need, quality and choice directly from the supplier.<sup>96</sup>

Since 2022, according to legislative amendments, when distributing deputy mandates in the Majilis of the Republic of Kazakhstan, persons with disabilities have been included in the number of quota categories, except for women and youth<sup>97</sup>.



<sup>96</sup> Social Services Portal, <https://aleumet.egov.kz/>

<sup>97</sup> Constitutional Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On Amendments and Additions to Certain Constitutional Laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan” dated February 7, 2022 // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z2200000105#z11>

In April 2022, the Comprehensive Plan “Program for increasing incomes of the population until 2025” was approved, covering measures to curb inflation, ensure employment, increase the level of wages of certain categories of citizens and other measures.

## Safe migration and mobility of people

Migration policy in the country is carried out within the framework of the Concept of Migration Policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan adheres to the strategy of temporary migration to involve foreign workers, optimal resettlement of citizens on the territory of the republic, as well as long-term permanent migration in relation to repatriates arriving in the country.



Kazakhstan is an active participant in the global labor market and is one of the preferred destinations for immigrants from Central Asia.

At the end of 2018, Kazakhstan was among the countries that voted for the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Legal Migration. In the context of the implementation of its provisions, work has been intensified to improve migration legislation, simplify the visa regime, the procedure for issuing invitations, entry and registration of visiting foreign citizens, and modernize the visa and migration portal.

The country is implementing a set of measures to optimize the migration regime. In 2018 and 2019, Migration Service Centers were opened and the principle of “one window” was introduced in the registration of labor patents.

In order to create a legal basis for the return of illegally staying migrants, readmission agreements have been concluded with 17 countries, including a number of Western European states, Russia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

Since 2020, registration of foreigners staying in the country for up to 30 days has been canceled. The duty to inform the migration service is assigned to the receiving party.

The issue of entry visas is organized directly at international airports. A mechanism for issuing electronic visas (“e-Visa”) has been introduced, according to which foreigners can receive them without contacting the country’s embassies abroad, which significantly saves time and travel expenses.

New approaches are also applied to the issues of internal labor mobility. Measures are being implemented to relocate citizens from labor-surplus to labor-deficient regions of the country. During the period 2017-2021, within the framework of the State Program for the Development of Productive Employment and Mass Entrepreneurship for 2017-2021 “Enbek”, about 33.8 thousand people (25.7 thousand immigrants, 8.1 thousand Kandases) were resettled in the northern regions of the country, half of them are people of working age. Since 2022, this event has been carried out within the framework of the National Project “Strong regions – the driver of the country’s development”.

Reformatting of assistance to displaced persons is being carried out. Reformatting the provision of assistance is aimed at attracting employers. In addition, as an additional incentive for migrants, the amount of benefits provided to them has been increased by 2 times. In February 2021, a special service for migrants started working at the Electronic Labor Exchange. The exchange displays the passport of each receiving settlement, which indicates all its social infrastructure, current vacancies, and measures of state support for resettlement.


## Next steps on the SDG 10 implementation:

- Bringing the income share of the least affluent 40% of the population to 27% of the total income of the population by 2025.
- Reducing income inequality between urban and rural populations, as well as among regions.
- Reducing the gender wage gap.
- Ensuring the active participation of persons with disabilities in social, economic and political life.
- Legislative, institutional and scientific support of the country's migration policy.
- Granting access to basic socio-economic rights to refugees and asylum seekers on the territory of the Republic of Kazakhstan, on an equal basis with foreigners permanently residing during their stay on the territory of Kazakhstan.





## 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



The installation of a bench in the form of a chest filled with clay, building materials and urban garbage symbolizes modern cities. On the bench there is a notebook, where children's dreams of the cities of the future are drawn (clean cities, with a developed infrastructure for leisure). This installation is interactive – anyone can sit down, scroll through the album and leave their notes.



## SDG 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In 2019-2021, the number of people living in emergency homes decreased 2.7 times, to 25.3 thousand people.
- In 2019, a new Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On the Protection and Use of Objects of Historical and Cultural heritage” was adopted.
- Cycling infrastructure is actively developing in large cities of the country.
- Turkestan was officially recognized as the spiritual capital of the Turkic world at the summit of the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States.
- In all regions, the proportion of local roads in good and satisfactory condition increases annually.

Currently, Kazakhstan is the most urbanized country in Central Asia. According to forecasts, by 2025 the share of the urban population will be 62.6%.

### Housing provision

Government measures taken in 2019-2021 aimed at ensuring universal access to adequate, safe and affordable housing are yielding positive results.

During the period 2017-2021, within the framework of state support measures, housing conditions were improved by about 165 thousand citizens who were granted preferential loans through the housing savings system and social housing. In addition, for the period 2019-2021, 3,713 citizens were issued housing certificates by local executive bodies in the amount of KZT 3.8 billion to cover part of the down payment on mortgage housing loans.



The total annual area of commissioned residential buildings increased by 36.8%, from 12.5 million m<sup>2</sup> at the beginning of 2019 to 17.1 million m<sup>2</sup> in January-December 2021. The number of apartments in commissioned residential buildings increased by 33.2%, from 113.5 thousand to 151.2 thousand apartments, respectively. As a result, the indicator of housing security per resident increased by 5.9%, from 21.9 m<sup>2</sup> to 23.2 m<sup>2</sup> (Figure 24).



Source: Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

In total, there are 5,541.9 thousand dwellings in the housing stock, including 3,754.5 thousand dwellings (250.3 million m<sup>2</sup>) in the urban housing stock, and 1,787.4 thousand dwellings (137.5 million m<sup>2</sup>) in the rural housing stock. Over a three-year period, the housing stock of the republic increased by 8.8%.

#### In 2021:

- The share of the total area of the entire housing stock equipped with water supply is 98.2%.
- The share of the total area of the entire housing stock equipped with sewerage is 72.5%.

In 2021, the number of people living in emergency homes decreased 2.7 times compared to 2019 (69,389 to 25,343 people). A significant decrease was achieved in Almaty.<sup>98</sup> In the whole country, 1,801 residential buildings in disrepair have been registered, which is 0.7% of the total number of residential buildings.

<sup>98</sup> Statistical data of the Bureau of National Statistics of the ASPR RK



## Protection and preservation of the world cultural and natural heritage

In order to preserve and popularize the historical and cultural heritage in the republic, the Rukhani Zhangyru program is being implemented. Work is underway to improve the infrastructure of historical and cultural objects of the regions. Within the framework of the project “Sacred Geography of Kazakhstan”, work is underway to create a single belt of sacred lands of the country. As a result of the work carried out on the complete systematization of historical sites, 256 objects of national significance and 575 objects of local significance were formed.<sup>99</sup>

In 2021, 13 scientific archaeological and applied research projects were implemented. For the first time, the Standards of prices for implementation of scientific and restoration work on historical and cultural monuments have been approved. This year, 60 archaeological works were carried out on monuments, 29 historical and cultural monuments were covered by scientific and restoration works.

Active work continues on the reconstruction of the historical center in Turkestan. Restoration, conservation and reconstruction covered 9 historical and cultural objects, of which four, the work has been completed. The museification of the center “Uly Dala Eli” and the museum “Khoja Ahmed Yasawi” was carried out, and a memorial complex to the Kazakh Khans was built.



<sup>99</sup> Report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2020-2024

The historical and cultural complex “Zhoshy Khan” was built, the territory of the Ulytau Museum-reserve was improved, the construction of the visit centers “Saraishyk”, “Gaukhar ana”, “Ordabasy” and “Sauran” was started.

All proposed historical reconstructions and archaeological works are coordinated with UNESCO representatives.

## Reducing the negative environmental impact

Certain results have been achieved in Kazakhstan to reduce the negative environmental impact of cities. Since January 2018, a mobile application has been launched that allows monitoring the quality of atmospheric air for 8 pollutants in 45 settlements of Kazakhstan. Since 2021, Kazhydromet RSE has started monitoring the ozone content in the atmospheric air in Nur-Sultan and Almaty and other regional and industrial centers.

To reduce the emission of pollutants into the atmosphere by large industrial enterprises that have a major impact on the environment, environmental protection measures, modernization and reconstruction work are carried out. As a result of the measures taken, there is a noticeable decrease in emissions of pollutants into the atmosphere. In 2021, 16 industrial enterprises actually emitted 655.2 thousand tons of pollutants into the atmospheric air, which is 18.5% less than planned (plan: 803.8 thousand tons).

Work is being carried out on the development of passenger public transport, gasification of settlements, control of standards of toxicity and smokiness of vehicles, etc.

According to sample surveys of households, the satisfaction of the population with the purity of the air and the quality of drinking water has slightly improved. If in 2018 41.4% of respondents noted that they were satisfied with the purity of the air, then in 2021 their share reached 44.8%. Satisfaction with the quality of drinking water for the specified period of time increased from 42.6 to 44.1%<sup>100</sup>.

One of the important aspects of sustainable urbanization is the disposal of municipal solid waste. In Kazakhstan, the share of processing and disposal of solid municipal waste to their formation increases annually. If in 2016 it was only 2.6%, in 2021 it reached 21.1%. The highest rate among the regions is observed in the city of Nur-Sultan (75%). The provision of waste collection and disposal services to the population has also improved: in 2016 – 66.4%,

<sup>100</sup> Statistical data of the Bureau of National Statistics of the ASPR RK

**In 2021:**

- The share of processing and disposal of solid household waste to their formation is 21.1%.
- The provision of waste collection and disposal services to the population is 82.0%.
- The share of landfills that meet environmental requirements and sanitary standards is 20.0%.

in 2021 – 82.0%. In the major cities of the country – Nur-Sultan and Almaty – 100% coverage of the population is provided with services for the collection and removal of SMW.

According to the results of 2021, the number of SMW disposal facilities in the republic amounted to 3,007. Landfills that comply with environmental and sanitary standards amounted to 603 units.

## Providing cities with environmentally sustainable transport and social infrastructure

Kazakhstan pays special attention to the development and promotion of the use of ecological modes of transport. In several major cities of Kazakhstan (Almaty, Nur-Sultan, Shymkent, etc.), public transport is represented by modern buses with hybrid, diesel or gas engines; there are also buses that are fully powered by electricity. It is expected that by 2030, all urban passenger transport will be switched to environmentally friendly fuels. In 2020, measures were taken to develop urban passenger transportation by road, including those aimed at reducing the utilization rate for buses, servicing urban routes running on gas-powered fuel or with electric motors.<sup>101</sup> In large cities of the country, cycling infrastructure is actively developing, the length of bike lanes and bike paths is growing, and the network of bike rental stations is expanding.

In all regions, the proportion of local roads in good and satisfactory condition increases annually. The highest rates are observed in Mangystau and Zhambyl regions (95% in each region).

Since 2019, in order to create “walking distance” of facilities (social, leisure, provision of public services, etc.) for the population, work has been carried out within the framework of a joint order of the central state bodies on the approval of a system of regional standards.<sup>102</sup>

<sup>101</sup> A set of measures for the development of urban passenger transportation by road in the Republic of Kazakhstan, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/R2000000146>

<sup>102</sup> System of regional standards for settlements, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1900018592>

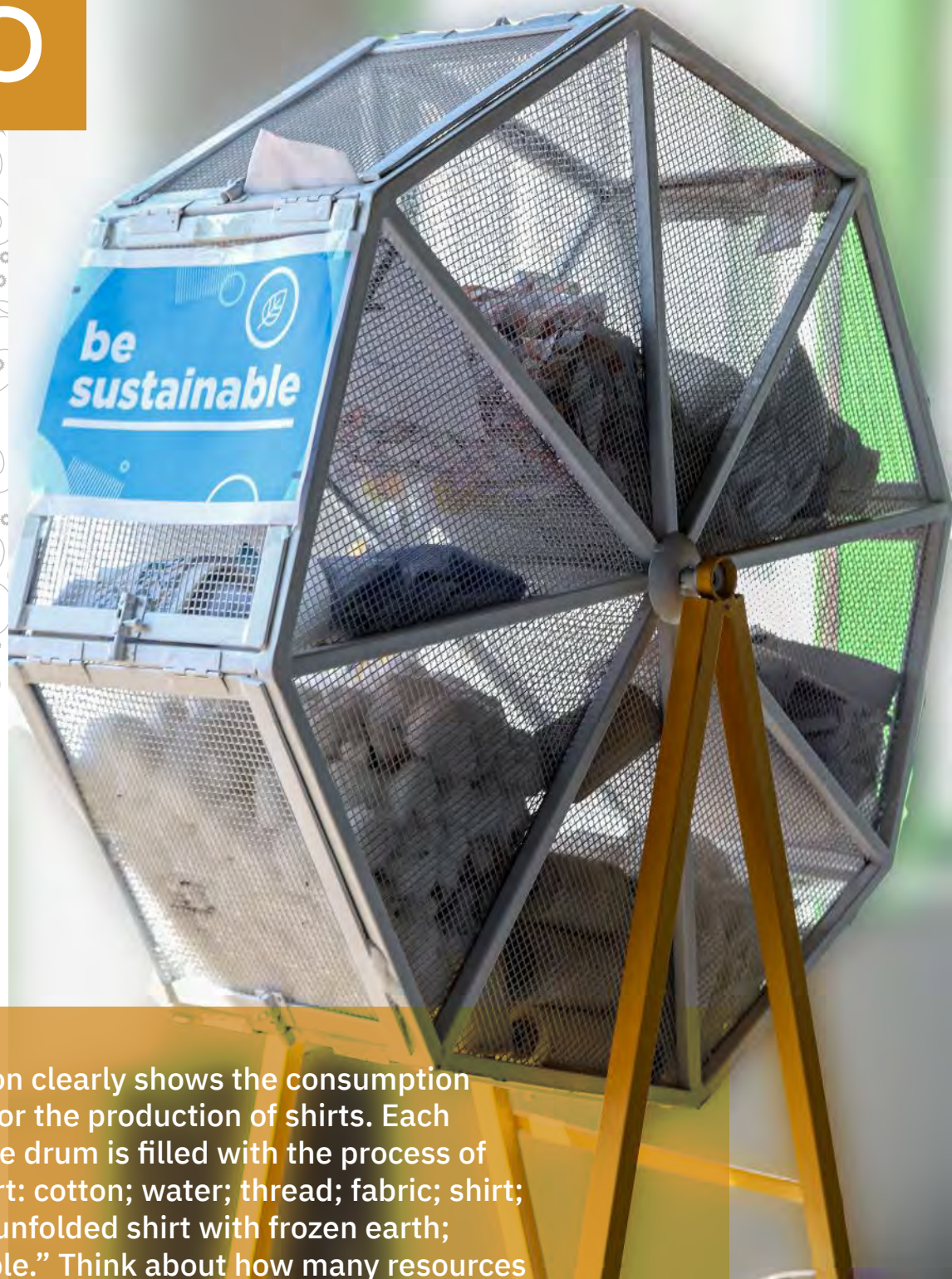


## Next steps on the SDG 11 implementation:

- Improve housing and communal conditions of the population.
- Increase public access to water supply and sanitation services (National Project “Strong regions – the driver of the country’s development”).
- To continue work on the protection and preservation of the world cultural and natural heritage.
- Activate the development of environmentally friendly public transport.
- Increase the area of green spaces in the urban environment.
- To ensure an annual increase in the share of recycling and disposal of solid household waste.
- Strengthen the work on separate collection and sorting of solid household waste.



12 RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION



The installation clearly shows the consumption of resources for the production of shirts. Each segment of the drum is filled with the process of creating a shirt: cotton; water; thread; fabric; shirt; ruined shirt; unfolded shirt with frozen earth; "Be sustainable." Think about how many resources are spent on your clothes! Will it be recycled?



## SDG 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- Waste management, production and consumption were improved:
  - Licensing of enterprises engaged in the processing and disposal of hazardous waste.
  - Notification procedure for garbage collection organizations.
  - Installation of GPS sensors on garbage collection vehicles.
- The National Project “Green Kazakhstan” was approved (10.2021), which includes the task “Sustainable waste management”.

Sustainable consumption and production is a holistic approach to minimizing the negative impact on the environment from consumption and production systems while simultaneously improving the standard of living for everyone.<sup>103</sup>

### Resource saving

Ensuring the transition to rational consumption and production models in Kazakhstan is represented by separate elements along the value chain in agriculture, energy, metallurgical sector, water conservation and water efficiency, as well as the regeneration of resources from solid municipal waste (SMW).

Adoption of the conceptual framework for transition to a green economy<sup>104</sup> and implementation of the country’s Strategic Development Plan until 2050<sup>105</sup> laid the foundation for transition to a circular economy, that is, a concept aimed at transition from depletion to regenerative use of materials. Elements in this direction are being worked out in Kazakhstan, so two bioethanol production plants are operating in the North Kazakhstan and Zhambyl regions, and the issue of introducing principles of circular economy in cities is also being considered.

<sup>103</sup> Definition of the UNEP AMR in 2011

<sup>104</sup> Decree of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On the Concept for transition of the Republic of Kazakhstan to a green economy” dated May 30, 2013, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U1300000577>

<sup>105</sup> Message of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan “Kazakhstan-2050” Strategy : a new political course of the established state” dated December 14, 2012, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/K1200002050>



### International accreditation of domestic organic producers

38 farms and 19 processors of certified organic products received certificates of conformity of foreign CAB for the production of organic products. In addition, the Organic Producers Union ALE (63 operators, 192 thousand hectares certified, 26 types of products) are members of the International Federation of the Movement for Organic Agriculture (IFOAM).

Agriculture has the greatest potential for the development of rational production. According to the calculations of international organizations,<sup>106</sup> 46% of the arable land used in Kazakhstan (11.5 million hectares) and 70% of pastures are suitable for organic farming and animal husbandry according to the ecological state. At the moment, more than 300 thousand hectares of 22 million hectares of land cultivated in agriculture are under organic crops.<sup>107</sup>

The requirements for the production of organic products are established by the Rules of Production and turnover of organic products. For the development of the export of organic products, it is planned to subsidize 50% of the costs of agricultural producers for the certification of organic production. In 2020, Kazakhstan exported organic products worth USD 12.5 million.

Special attention is paid to the issues of exploration and extraction of minerals. Legislative regulation is fixed by the Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On Subsoil and Subsoil Use”; Uniform Rules on Rational and Integrated Use of Subsoil have also been approved.<sup>108</sup>

To consider the state of the mineral resource base in Kazakhstan, the state balance of mineral reserves is maintained,<sup>109</sup> the transition to the international reporting standards CRIRSCO on solid mineral reserves has been carried out.

To increase the responsibility of subsurface users, all subsurface users must develop Associated Gas Utilization Programs indicating the volumes of extraction, utilization (processing) and combustion of gas. The validity of the volumes of gas extraction, processing and combustion is approved by the authorized body. As a result, in 2020, the volume of associated gas flared amounted to 0.39 billion m<sup>3</sup> or 0.7% of the total volume of gas production for the year, which is 2.7 times less than in 2017 (1.043 billion m<sup>3</sup>).

<sup>106</sup> FiBL and IFOAM, THE WORLD OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. STATISTICS & EMERGING TRENDS»

<sup>107</sup> Official information of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

<sup>108</sup> Order of the Minister of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated 15.06.2018 No. 239 “On Approval of Uniform Rules for Rational and Integrated Use of Subsoil”, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V1800017131#z19>

<sup>109</sup> The function of the Geology Committee of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan



## Waste management

The state policy of Kazakhstan is aimed at introducing separate waste collection, the development of the waste processing sector with the production of recyclable products with the attraction of investments, including through public-private partnership.

Solid waste processing in Kazakhstan has been increasing over the past few years, reaching the level of 21.1% by the end of 2021 (2019 – 14.9%, 2020 – 18.3%). The share of recycled and disposed industrial waste in 2021 amounted to 38.23% (in 2019 – 34%, in 2020 – 36.02%).<sup>110</sup> However, it is not enough to fulfill the obligations under the Paris Agreement and achieve strategic goals.

Separate waste collection and sorting is being implemented both in large cities and in districts. Currently, out of 204 cities and districts, separate collection at different stages has been implemented in 134 (65.7%), and sorting – in 96 (47%) localities. The largest number of enterprises is concentrated in Aktobe (29), Kostanay (28) and Karaganda (20) regions.<sup>111</sup>



Enterprises that have facilities of categories I and II, as well as carrying out operations with waste, necessarily develop Waste Management Programs.

<sup>110</sup> Report “Background information on the activities of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources”, for 2019, 2020 and 11 months of 2021

<sup>111</sup> Ibid

## Responsible consumption and production by companies

More and more companies are striving to follow the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the COVID-19 pandemic has served as an impetus for development in this direction. For companies interested in competitiveness, compliance with the principles of sustainable development has become a necessity. In Kazakhstan, the quasi-public sector and business entities are actively stimulated to implement the ESG principles (environmental friendliness, social responsibility and corporate governance). At the moment, 77 out of 150 companies listed on KASE have included the disclosure of ESG information in their annual reports, and this number continues to grow.<sup>112</sup>

### Responsible production by domestic companies

**Aktobe Ferroalloy Plant** processes slag, sludge and dust of gas-purifying ferroalloy furnaces into more than 20 types of building materials: sand, crushed stone, metallurgical chrome briquettes, wall and foundation blocks, etc. The production volume reaches several tens of thousands of tons per month. The processed raw materials are used in their own production and sold to large oil companies.

**ECO Products Group LLP** is the first and only innovative domestic commodity producer that produces fully biodegradable products: bio-bags, bio-gloves, bio-containers and cutlery. Composition - 100% vegetable raw materials.

In order to promote green technologies and support businesses to increase the competitiveness of the economy and reduce the negative impact on the environment, an International Center for Green Technologies and Investment Projects has been established.

The transition of enterprises to integrated environmental permits of Category I facilities is envisaged, subject to the introduction of the best available technologies (BAT). For the development of BAT reference books, a comprehensive technological audit of the main pollutant enterprises is carried out.

## Sustainable public procurement and finance

Kazakhstan, by forming and implementing the state policy in the field of public procurement, always strives to improve procurement procedures in all aspects:

- **Environmental aspect** (*green procurement, environmental protection, renewable energy sources, minimum emissions and disposal*);

<sup>112</sup> Speech by the Vice-Minister A. Kuantayrov at the Second Eurasian Congress, <https://dknews.kz/ru/ekonomika/209185-perspektivy-vnedreniya-esg-principov-v-kazahstane>

- **Economic aspect** (supplier selection based on the criterion of the entire life cycle cost, innovation, SME support);
- **Social aspect** (support for the disabled and other categories of citizens with disabilities).

Owing to the ongoing work, some of the principles of sustainable procurement have already been introduced into the public procurement system of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Thus, progressive norms of sustainable development of public procurement are legislatively fixed in terms of choosing a supplier based on the criterion of the entire cost of the life cycle and concluding contracts on the service model of service (result-oriented contracts).

### Pilot issue of multi-currency eco-cards

**The Eurasian Environmental Fund** (Fund), together with the Eurasian Bank and Mastercard, launched a pilot project to issue multicurrency eco-cards made of recycled plastic. According to eco-cards, the Bank sends 0.5% of non-cash transactions to the Fund for the implementation of eco-projects. In addition, the bank is working on the installation of the first NFC posters in Kazakhstan (eco-posters), which allow you to transfer funds for tree planting with one touch of a payment card of any Kazakh bank.

In 2021, the conceptual apparatus for “green finance”, “green bonds”, “green loans”, “green projects” and “green taxonomy” was introduced. Accompanying norms were approved in the Entrepreneurial Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, specifying measures of economic stimulation of business in the use of green financial instruments.

An important milestone on the way to introducing the sustainable and responsible development bond market in 2020 was the debut issue of green bonds of the Damu Entrepreneurship Development Fund

on the AIFC exchange platform (AIX). Thus, the volume of green and social bonds issued on the AIFC Stock Exchange (AIX) amounted to USD 90 million (KZT 38.6 billion), and the total market for sustainable finance (including green and social bonds on AIX and the Kazakhstan Stock Exchange, as well as green loans) has grown to more than USD 250 million (KZT 110.4 billion) at the end of 2021. At the same time, the total volume of labeled green loans reached USD 66 million (KZT 28.5 billion).

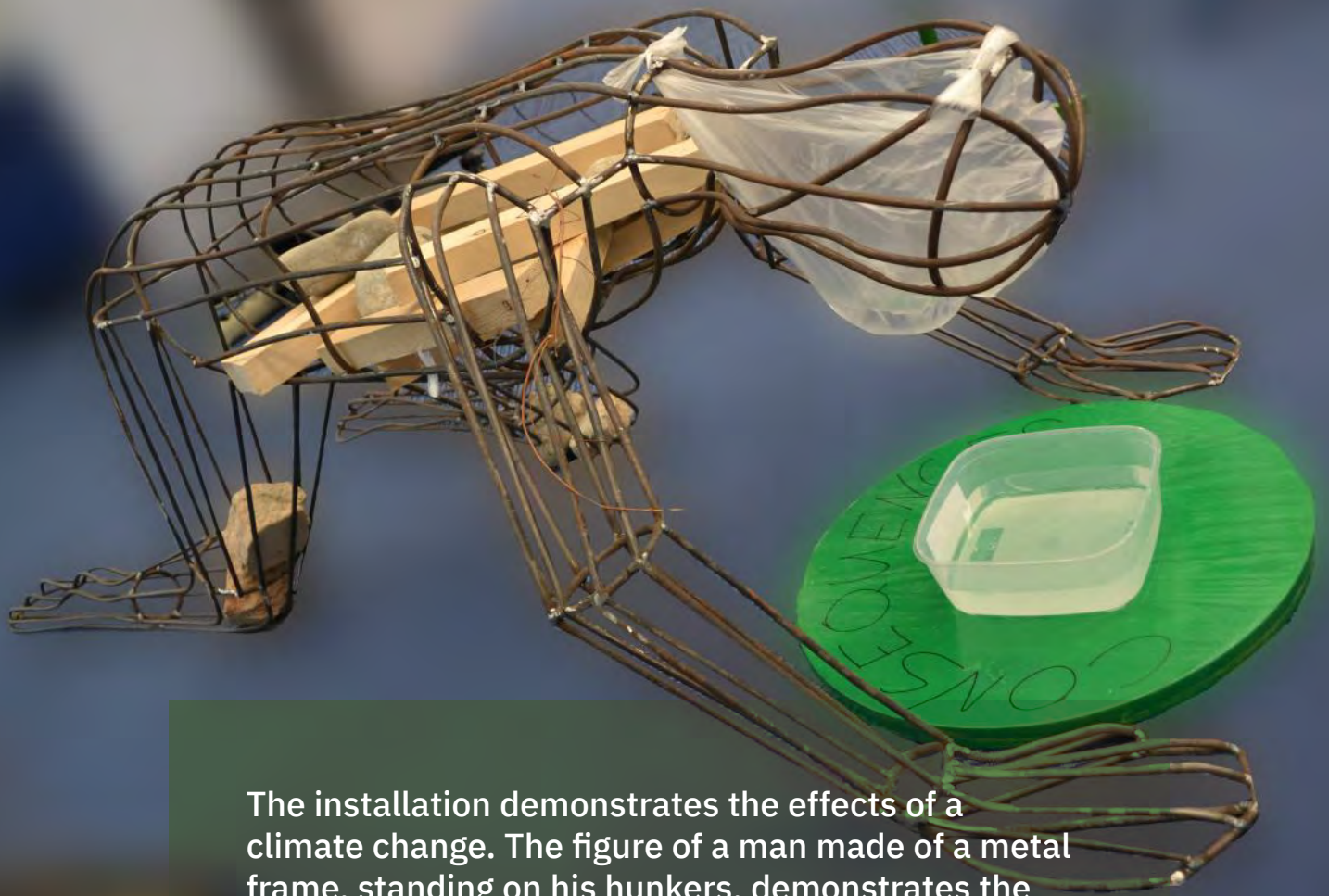
## Next steps on the SDG 12 implementation:

- Consideration of the possibilities of implementing a rating reflecting information about companies that comply with the principles of responsible attitude to the environment, social responsibility and quality of corporate governance.
- Popularization of tools and infrastructure for the issuance of sustainable development bonds, “green” bonds and social bonds.
- Creation of a National Geological Survey based on the development of an industry-specific SDI.





13 CLIMATE ACTION



The installation demonstrates the effects of a climate change. The figure of a man made of a metal frame, standing on his hunkers, demonstrates the helplessness of man in the face of a climate change. On top of the mannequin there are ice cubes that melt and run down the rocks, destroying everything. A niche is provided for collecting water, where the word “consequences” floats.



## SDG 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In July 2021, a new Environmental Code was adopted.
- In 2021, the development of the “Strategy for achieving carbon neutrality of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2060” was launched. The strategy provides for significant reforms in all sectors of the economy with an emphasis on energy, manufacturing, agriculture and forestry, transport, housing and communal services.
- Within the framework of the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26, November 1-12, 2021), Kazakhstan joined the Declaration on Forests and Land Use.

Natural disasters and abnormal weather events have become more frequent in the world. The climate crisis is the most serious challenge facing humanity.

Over the past 30 years, the number of climate-related natural disasters has increased 3 times. According to the UN, since 2000 1.23 million people have died and 4.2 billion people were affected by droughts, floods and forest fires.<sup>113</sup>

According to the data of the World Meteorological Organization, 2020 was one of the three warmest years in the history of observations.<sup>114</sup> In addition to warming, there is also an imbalance of all natural systems, which leads to a change in the precipitation regime, temperature anomalies and an increase in the frequency of extreme events such as floods and droughts.

Climate changes are already being felt in Kazakhstan, but they are taking place more slowly than in countries close to big water. Climate changes in Kazakhstan, due to its geographical location and vast territory, are heterogeneous both by territory and by seasons of the year. As a result, these changes may have both negative and positive effects on the biophysical systems, economic activity and social sphere of the country.

According to experts, 75% of the territory of Kazakhstan is at high risk of natural disasters, such as landslides, mudslides, floods, extreme temperatures, earthquakes, forest and steppe fires. For example, in Almaty region, floods may occur more often in mountain regions,

<sup>113</sup> Oxfam’s Response to the IPCC’s Sixth Assessment Report (WEAR 6) Published on August 9, 2021 <https://www.oxfam.org/en/press-releases/oxfam-reaction-ipccs-sixth-assessment-report-wgi-ar6>

<sup>114</sup> Data from the website of The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) <https://www.unicef.org/kazakhstan/%D1%83%D1%81%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%B9%D1%87%D0%B8%D0%B2%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D1%8C-%D0%BA-%D0%B1%D0%B5%D0%B4%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B2%D0%B8%D1%8F%D0%BC>



because glaciers and snow melt faster. This creates a threat of overflow of mountain rivers. On the other hand, warming leads to lack of water in lowland rivers.

Kazakhstan's climate policy is based on two main components:

- Countries' policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to contribute to curbing global temperature growth within 1.5 degrees from pre-industrial levels;
- The policy of countries on adaptation to climate change to reduce the negative impact of climate change on water, forests, biodiversity, agriculture, etc.



## Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

In 2016, Kazakhstan undertook a voluntary contribution to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 15% from 1990 levels until 2030.

Kazakhstan is one of the largest sources of GHG emissions in the world. The intensity of greenhouse gas emissions in the country is 0.57 tons per USD 1,000 GDP.

Kazakhstan is on the 11th place in the world ranking of countries in terms of carbon intensity of GDP by the end of 2018, is in the Top 15 countries in terms of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita.<sup>115</sup> Thus, the carbon footprint of a resident of Kazakhstan is 14,360 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per year, when the global average is 5 tons per inhabitant.<sup>116</sup>

Figure 25 shows the dynamics of greenhouse gas emissions in the republic for 2010-2020.

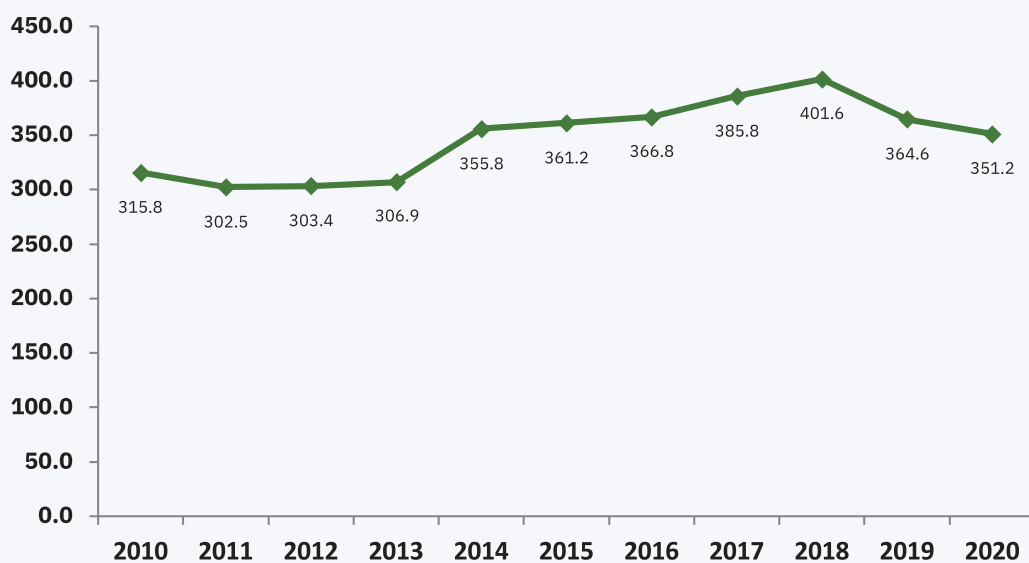


Figure 25. Dynamics of greenhouse gas emissions in Kazakhstan for 2010-2020, million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent

Source: UNFCCC Secretariat (UN Climate Change) <https://unfccc.int/ghg-inventories-annex-i-parties/2022>.

<sup>115</sup> Data of the EY Global Organization [https://www.ey.com/ru\\_kz/climate-change-sustainability-services/is-your-business-ready-for-expected-increase-in-carbon-regulation](https://www.ey.com/ru_kz/climate-change-sustainability-services/is-your-business-ready-for-expected-increase-in-carbon-regulation)

<sup>116</sup> Data of the Center "Promotion of Sustainable Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan" - <https://csd-center.kz/baza-znaniy/chtotakoe-uglerodnyy-sled-i-zachem-opredelyat-ego-pri-provedenii-ocen.html>

As can be seen from Figure 25, there is an annual increase in emissions – from 302 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent in 2011 to 401 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent in 2018. Since 2018, emissions have been reduced to 351 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent in 2020. The largest contribution to the volume of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is made by energy, and coal from energy carriers; the share of coal in the generation of emissions is increasing at an intensive pace. At the same time, Kazakhstan has great potential to reduce its ecological footprint as a global source of emissions. There are 134 RES facilities with an installed capacity of 2,010 MW in Kazakhstan: 40 WPP (684 MW); 49 SPP (1,038 MW); 40 HPP (280 MW); 5 BPP (8 MW). By the end of 2021, the volume of electricity from RES amounted to 4.2 billion kWh or 3.69% of the total electricity, which is 30% more than in 2020.

Over the past 6 years, the installed capacity of renewable energy facilities has grown almost 11 times – from 178 MW in 2014 to 2,010 MW in 2021. 59 RES projects with a capacity of 1,400 MW are planned to be commissioned by 2025. The transition from coal and oil to gas and renewable energy sources will reduce GHG emissions.

Currently, the country has established work on state regulation of greenhouse gas emissions. The impact of the results of the COP-26 Climate Conference in Glasgow on the low-carbon development of Kazakhstan was assessed. Measures to minimize them are being worked out, a conceptual vision for the functioning of a key element of the transition to carbon neutrality is defined. The transition to carbon neutrality will require large-scale investments in new and state-of-the-art low-carbon and carbon-free technologies.

As part of the state regulation of GHG, a carbon budget has been developed for the period 2022-2025 based on a reduction in carbon quotas by at least 1.5% annually from the level of the carbon budget of the previous year.

One of the main instruments of the market mechanism for reducing GHG emissions and achieving commitments under the Paris Agreement is the emissions trading system (ETS). In order to improve the national ETS, work is underway to bring Kazakhstan's ETS closer to the ETS of the European Union. The convergence of the two systems will allow Kazakhstan's carbon market to enter the international market.

According to the Environmental Code, large enterprises will implement the best available technologies (BAT) within 10 years in accordance with the environmental efficiency program. For this period, they will be exempt from payment for emissions. The transition to the BAT for existing enterprises will be phased.



The National Project “Green Kazakhstan” provides for measures to improve the quality of atmospheric air with indicators for reducing emissions of pollutants into the atmosphere from stationary sources in large cities by industrial enterprises up to 57%. It is also planned to increase the carbon absorption potential by planting over 2 billion trees by 2025.

In 2021, GTC Green Technology Hub Ltd. (Hub) was established. The Hub is a subsidiary of the Center for Green Finance of the Astana International Financial Center, created to support green and socially significant startups and support enterprises to achieve carbon neutrality in the Republic of Kazakhstan and Central Asia. The hub is engaged in the development of green projects, provides services for technological and environmental audit of industrial enterprises, organization of technology transfer financing and post-technological support.

## Climate change adaptation measures

Adaptation to climate change is considered as one of the key elements of the policy to combat climate change in Kazakhstan. For the first time, the legislation introduced norms on adaptation to climate change in priority sectors: water resources, agriculture, forestry and disaster risk reduction. Chapter 22 of the adopted Environmental Code is devoted to issues of public administration in the field of adaptation to climate change. The Rules for the organization and implementation of the process of adaptation to climate change have been approved.<sup>117</sup>

The adaptation process includes 7 stages: vulnerability assessment, planning, development of measures, implementation of measures, monitoring of the effectiveness of measures, reporting and adjustment of measures.

Based on the results of the vulnerability assessment, it will be possible to take into account the impact of climate change in the development of strategic and policy documents, and to include the necessary measures of adaptation to climate change at the national and local levels.

<sup>117</sup> Approved by the Order of the Minister of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated June 2, 2021 No. 170 Rules for the organization and implementation of the process of adaptation to climate change <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/V2100022974>

There are 925 potentially dangerous areas exposed to floods in the republic, of which 189 settlements are threatened by meltwater. Guided by the provisions of the Sendai Program, Kazakhstan has revised the system of providing anti-settlement and anti-landslide protection of settlements. The provisions of the Sendai Program<sup>118</sup> are concrete action plans to strengthen the adaptive capabilities of countries, increase resilience and reduce disaster risk in the face of climate change. The Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Kazakhstan, together with the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, is developing a database for accounting for losses from natural disasters of Desinventar Sendai. Meanwhile, Kazakhstan needs assistance in introducing information received online using space technologies into the activities of predictive, emergency and rescue services.

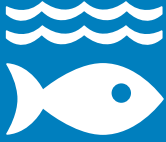
Kazakhstan demonstrates its interest in actively participating in adaptation to global climate change. Successful adaptation to global climate change depends not only on public policy, but also on the active, continuous involvement of other participants in this process, including national, regional, international organizations, representatives of the public and private sectors, and civil society.

<sup>118</sup> Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for 2015-2030 [https://www.unisdr.org/files/43291\\_russiansendaiframefordisasterri.pdf](https://www.unisdr.org/files/43291_russiansendaiframefordisasterri.pdf)

## Next steps on the SDG 13 implementation:

- Cooperation with international organizations on low-carbon development of Kazakhstan and the national climate adaptation plan. Fulfillment of voluntarily assumed obligations under the Paris Agreement.
- Continuation of the development and transfer of “Green technologies” that meet modern standards of climatic suitability and energy efficiency.
- Implementation of targeted decarbonization measures in 7 sectors of the economy: energy, agriculture and forestry, industrial sector, utilities sector, coal industry, waste management sector and transport sector.
- Providing the necessary financial resources for climate mitigation measures through the inclusion of actions to adapt to the effects of climate change in strategic and program documents.
- Strengthening the infrastructure for countering natural emergencies.
- Implementation of space monitoring for all types of natural emergencies (floods, mudslides, landslides, earthquakes, steppe and forest fires, hurricane winds).
- Increase investments in renewable energy sources, increase energy efficiency and reduce waste.
- Conducting additional research to obtain a more accurate picture of climate change in the region, including its mountainous territories.
- Creating conditions for attracting foreign investors to the country’s climate projects.

14 LIFE  
BELOW WATER



The installation demonstrates the harmful anthropogenic impact on the marine ecosystem: the transparent structure of the fish carcass is filled with plastic waste (bottles, bags, glasses, etc.)



## SDG 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In 2021, the Law “On Ratification of the Protocol on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context to the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea” was adopted.
- In 2021, the National Project “Green Kazakhstan” was approved, within the framework of which it is planned to build 9 reservoirs for the purpose of water resources management.

Kazakhstan, being the largest landlocked country in the world, is also located at the farthest distance from the world ocean (about 3,750 km). However, this circumstance should not affect the country’s vision of solving the problems of the seas, lakes and other water resources.

There are 2 seas and 4,024 lakes in Kazakhstan. The size of most of them does not exceed the mark of 1 km<sup>2</sup>. The largest seas and lakes of the country include: the Caspian and Aral Seas, as well as Lakes Balkhash, Zaisan, Alakol, Tengiz and Seletengiz. According to topographical scientists, the total surface size of the seas and lakes of Kazakhstan exceeds the mark of 45 thousand km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>119</sup> One of the greatest environmental disasters of mankind is the shallowing of the Aral Sea, once the 4th largest lake in the world. Currently, most of the Aral Sea has dried up and clearly demonstrates the perniciousness of human influence on the planet. On the site of the Aral Sea, we are witnessing the greatest ecological catastrophe created by human hands. On the bottom of the retreating sea, a sandy-salt desert - Aralkum was formed. Every year, millions of tons of a poisonous mixture of dust, salt and pesticides rise from the dried bottom of the Aral Sea, which is carried away by winds over long distances, which makes the problem of the region a problem of the whole world.

<sup>119</sup> Data of the Visit Kazakhstan information portal - <https://visitkazakhstan.kz/ru/about/58/>





## The Aral Sea in 1960

Of particular concern is the deterioration of the living conditions of the local population of the Aral Sea region, which has led to an increase in morbidity and mortality. Thus, during the survey of the Kazakh population living in the Aral Sea region, almost 70% of people had health abnormalities for environmental reasons, in particular, oncological diseases increased 15-20 times.<sup>120</sup>

<sup>120</sup> Article "Actual ecological problems of aquatic ecosystems of Kazakhstan" D.B. Dzhusupova, Doctor of Biological Sciences, Professor of the Department of Geography, Ecology and Tourism, Kazakh National Pedagogical University named after Abai - <https://ecogofond.kz/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/CA.D.370-Aktualnye-jekologicheskie-problemy-vodnyh-jekosistem-Kazahstana.pdf>



### Ecological consequences of the Aral sea drying up:

- in place of the dried-up sea, the Aralkum sand-salt desert was formed, covering 55 million hectares.
- 75 million tons of dust, salt and pesticides rise annually from the bottom of the dried sea, which are spread over a distance of up to 400 km.
- 11 species of fish, 60 species of animals and plants have disappeared.
- the number of endangered animal species has increased (12 species of mammals and 26 species of birds).

## The Aral Sea in 2022

The process of climate change creates additional risks for saving the Aral Sea, in particular, there is a difficulty in the availability of water resources throughout Central Asia. It is expected that due to climate change in the near future, global average annual temperatures will increase, and the average annual precipitation will decrease. Thus, according to the forecasts of the World Bank on the level of “water stress” in the agricultural sector, Kazakhstan will be most affected by climate change, since the level of water stress is more than 80%.

As a result of an increase in temperature, evaporation from the soil will increase, which will reduce the availability of water for plants and the groundwater level, and increase the risk of drought in the country. In addition, rising temperatures affect the hydrological situation, as warm air is able to retain more water vapor, which can lead to more intense downpours and an increased risk of flooding. In addition to the Aral Sea, there is a risk of shallowing of other large bodies of water on the territory of the country – the Caspian Sea and Lake Balkhash. So, according to the estimates of Matthias Prange, Thomas Wilke & Frank P. Wesselingh in the scientific journal “Communications Earth & Environment”,<sup>121</sup> as a result of climate change by the end of the XXI century, the level of the Caspian Sea may decrease by 9-18 meters, which means that the area of the reservoir is likely to be reduced by 3 times.

To address the current climate challenges, Kazakhstan has begun work on the country’s transition to a more resource-saving water technologies, the conservation of fish species, the development of commercial fish farming, strengthening environmental protection measures, functional and territorial zoning of protected areas and other measures.

In 2021, water intake in the country amounted to 24.9 km<sup>3</sup>, of which 14.7 km<sup>3</sup> of water was used for agriculture, inefficient use of water is 3 km<sup>3</sup>. At the same time, as of January 1, 2022, the area covered by water-saving technologies in the republic amounted to 258.8 thousand hectares.

The development of fisheries are one of the current issues in Kazakhstan. Therefore, in 2021, the implementation of the Fisheries Development Program until 2030 was launched.<sup>122</sup> The Fisheries Committee of MEGNS RK<sup>123</sup> has been established, whose competence includes, among other things, issues of conservation of fish resources and other animal species.

<sup>121</sup> The other side of sea level change (Matthias Prange, Thomas Wilke & Frank P. Wesselingh) - <https://www.nature.com/articles/s43247-020-00075-6>

<sup>122</sup> Fisheries Development Program until 2030 - <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000208>

<sup>123</sup> Website of the Fisheries Committee of the MEGNS RK - <https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/fishery?lang=kk>

### *Fight against poaching is one of the priorities*

As part of the control and inspection activities of the interregional basin fisheries inspections in 2021, 6,235 violations were detected and suppressed, more than KZT 85.2 million of fines were imposed, compensation for damage in the amount of more than KZT 72.7 million was requested.

Along with this, work is underway to tighten legislation in terms of strengthening responsibility for poaching, as well as for the manufacture, use, sale and storage of prohibited fishing gear. Together with the Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations and Aerospace Industry of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the issue of creating an information system for traceability of fish and fish products through a service model of informatization is being worked out.

In 2021, 48.9 thousand tons of fish were caught from fishery reservoirs. Along with this, 14.9 thousand tons of commercial fish were grown, which is 5.9 thousand tons more than in 2020. In turn, the availability of raw materials made it possible in 2021 to process and export fish products in the amount of 25.1 thousand tons for USD 46 million. At the same time, measures for artificial reproduction and stocking of reservoirs with juvenile fish are carried out annually. So, in 2021, fish-breeding enterprises have grown 74.4 million pieces of juveniles of valuable fish species, including 8 million pieces of sturgeon, in factory conditions and released into the natural habitat.

More than 500 thousand holes have been drilled to prevent fish from dying in fishery reservoirs in the winter period of 2020-2021 in order to improve gas exchange. In addition, in 2021, work was carried out to rescue more than 85.2 million juvenile fish from frozen and laced reservoirs, as well as from rice checks.

Within the framework of the project “Ensure safety, conservation and development of fish stocks of the Northern Aral Sea region”, a new fish protection device operating on the basis of an acoustic fish repelling system has been installed at the Kokaral dam. According to the scientific organization, the installed fish protection device allows to save up to 4 thousand tons of fish per year from death.



Measures are being taken to preserve the Caspian seal. According to the study “Collapse of Marine Mammals as a result of anthropogenic impact”<sup>124</sup>, the number of seals in the Caspian Sea from the beginning of the XX century to 2005 decreased from 1.2 million individuals up to 104 thousand – by 91%.

Since 2008, the Caspian seal has a protected status of “Endangered” in the Red List of the International Union for Conservation of Nature. The Caspian seal was listed in the Red Book of Azerbaijan in 1993 and Turkmenistan in 2011. In 2020, the Caspian seal is listed in the Red Book of Kazakhstan.

A joint Kazakh-Russian research program of the Caspian seal in the waters of the Northern Caspian Sea for 2019-2023 has been approved.

In 2021, a Joint Action Plan of Russia and Kazakhstan for the conservation of the Caspian seal population for 2021-2026 was signed as part of the implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan on cooperation in the field of environmental protection.

In 2019, a Center for the Study and Rehabilitation of the Caspian seal was opened in Kazakhstan.

<sup>124</sup> Collapse of a Marine Mammal Species Driven by Human Impacts (Harkonen et al., 2012) - [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/231743055\\_Collapse\\_of\\_a\\_Marine\\_Mammal\\_Species\\_Driven\\_by\\_Human\\_Impacts](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/231743055_Collapse_of_a_Marine_Mammal_Species_Driven_by_Human_Impacts)





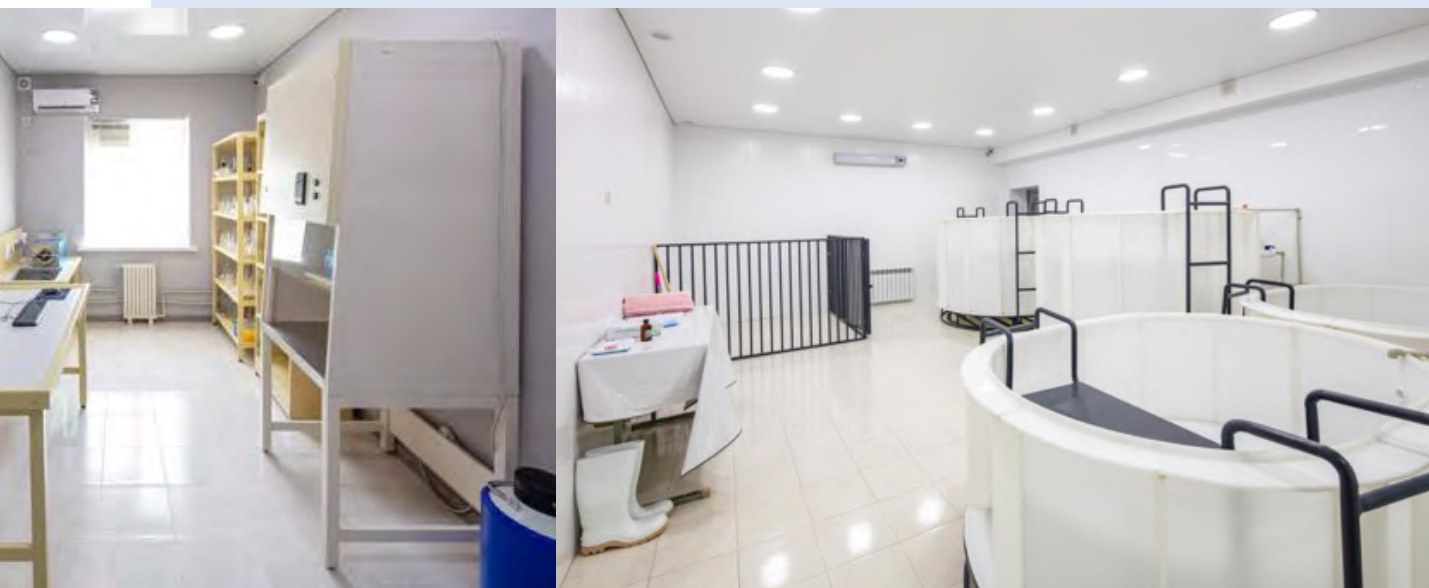
## Case “Caspian Seals Research and Rehabilitation Center”

The principal mission of the Center is preservation of the unique endemic population of Caspian seals in the Kazakhstani part of the Caspian sea and solving of a whole range of tasks, arising out of it:

- Research and development. Obtaining up-to-date information on Caspian seals and monitoring of ecological setting of the Caspian sea. With this view, a laboratory has been equipped with the state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment in the Center, based on which a data bank will be generated through sampling of blood and tissues of alive and fallen animals by performing microbiological, toxicological, and genetic studies.
- Rehabilitation. The Center will be engaged in treatment and rehabilitation of sick and injured seals with subsequent release of healthy animals to their natural habitat.

Apart from the specialist team delivering the first aid, veterinary physicians, zoologists, ecologists and volunteers will be engaged in this work.

- International and educational activities. The Caspian sea is a treasure of five countries - Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Iran, and Azerbaijan. It is impossible to achieve the goal of saving and preserving the population of the Caspian sea by the efforts of one country only. Joint efforts of all countries and overall coordination of activities are required for that. The Caspian Seals Research and Rehabilitation Center in Aktau is planning to have an active cooperation with similar centers of foreign countries. Furthermore, workshops and training courses on training of volunteers and specialists in the field of Caspian seals population protection and rescue will be carried out at the premises of the Center.



## Next steps on the SDG 14 implementation:

- Preservation of an environmental balance of the territory around lake Balkhash, Aral and Caspian seas, increasing the green planting, introduction of effective technologies for careful attitude towards water, reduce irrigation losses.<sup>125</sup>
- Increasing the volume of the North Aral sea by 35%.
- Strengthening of control over the poaching at Aral and Caspian seas.<sup>126</sup>
- Strengthening of control over the shady turnover of fishery resources.
- Creating state natural reserve for preserving the population of the Caspian seals.

<sup>125</sup> National Project “Green Kazakhstan” - <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000731>

<sup>126</sup> Strategic measures to combat desertification in the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2025 - <https://ecogofond.kz/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/opustinivanie.pdf>



15 LIFE  
ON LAND



A mannequin in clothing made from recycled materials encourages us to think about the ecosystem of the land, and start its preservation with ourselves – by abandoning clothing, production of which adversely affects fauna and flora.



## 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

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In 2021, the National Project “Green Kazakhstan” was approved, and its objectives include development of specially protected natural reservations, preservation of biological diversity.
- State National Natural Park Ulytau with total area of 58.9 thousand hectares has been established. It is the 14th national park in the country.
- Differentiated system of technologies for reclamation of salt earth has been developed.

Preservation of ecosystems and biodiversity within the huge territory of Kazakhstan is one of the key challenges for transfer to the sustainable growth principles. At the moment, Kazakhstan has a huge diversity of various ecosystems – these are forests, mountain systems, wooded steppes and steppes, deserts and semi-deserts.

Mountainous territories stretch along the southern and south-eastern borderlands of the republic for about 2.5 thousand km. Insular low-hill terrains are located in Central and Western Kazakhstan – Karkaralinskoye, Ulatau, Mugodzhary and others.

The area of specially protected natural reservations (hereinafter – SPNR) is almost 244 thousand km<sup>2</sup>.

Semi-desert and desert zones occupy the southern half of lowland Kazakhstan – about 50% of territory of the republic. Among them, more than 70% fall upon desert zone.<sup>127</sup>

Kazakhstan is characterized by low amount of woodland, steppe, semi-desert and desert sceneries prevail within it.

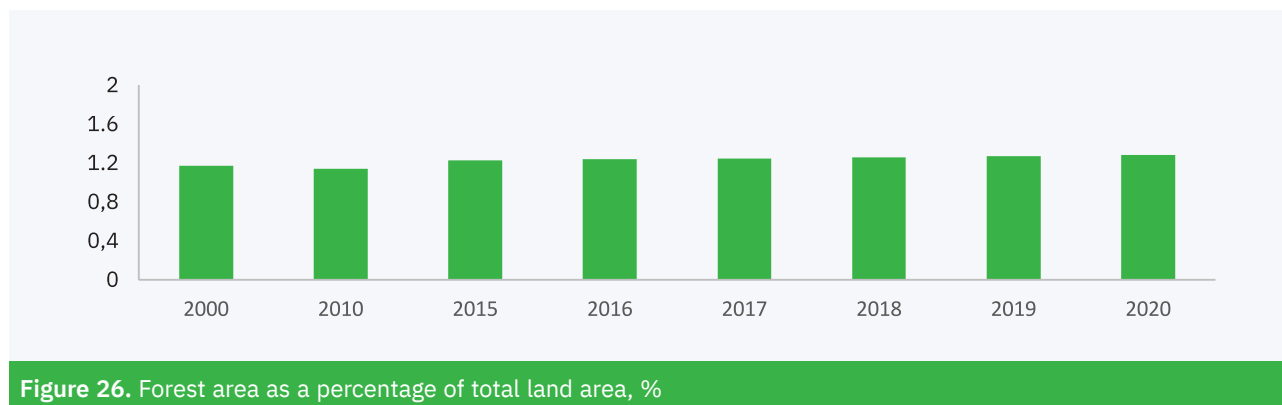
### Ecosystems of Kazakhstan

Forests in Kazakhstan are located extremely unevenly. They are mainly in the northeast and southeast of the republic, in the mountains of Altai and Tien Shan. Total area of state forestry fund as at 01.01.2022 is 30,552.5 thousand hectares and occupies 11.2% of territory of the republic.

<sup>127</sup> Data from the consolidated analytical report on the state and use of the lands of the Republic of Kazakhstan 2021, <https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/land/documents/details/291911?lang=ru>



Kazakhstan may be called a sparsely wooded country as the forested area is 5% according to the national statistics. However, according to the international data, the area of forests in per cent of total dry land area is 1.28% and almost has not changed since 2000 (Figure 26).



Such discrepancies in forest area from total land area are possibly associated with various methods of calculation and assessment.

Currently, comprehensive plans of forest rehabilitation and forest cultivation for 2021-2025 are being implemented. In 2021, 138.3 mln. trees were planted. 33.9% of forest area are within the statutorily established, protected areas.

10 state natural reserves, 14 state national natural parks, 6 state natural reserves, 50 state natural sanctuaries, 5 state conservation areas, 25 state natural monuments, 7 state botanical gardens (including 1 state dendrological park) of republican significance.

To increase the volumes of forest rehabilitation and forest cultivation in 2021-2025, the Headquarters for coordination of actions of forest and nature protection institutions have been established.

Haloxylon deserts occupy a huge territory of the country (more than 5 mln. hectares) and are classified as a forestry fund. Complex measures to preserve haloxylon are being taken in the country. Thus, in 2020, in Almaty, Zhambyl, Kyzylorda, and Turkestan regions, about 5.2 thousand hectares of haloxylon seedling were planted. In 2021, haloxylon was planted on 100 thousand hectares on the dehumidified bottom of the Aral sea.

Forest fires and illegal felling, as well as occurrence of forest pest and disease centers are topical issues of forestry. In order to enhance protection of the conifer underwood, 178 checkpoints have been organized throughout the republic. In 2021, 20,855 surprise inspections were carried out, notably,

229 cases of illegal felling of forest totalling 9,779.8 m<sup>3</sup> were identified. Damage was KZT 152,708.5 thousand. To preserve the forests, a total ban on fell of haloxylon forests in Kazakhstan, fir woods on the sections of state forestry fund of the East Kazakhstan region has been put in 2013 to 2023.

Almost 800 wildland fires and combustions took place over July 2021. This is due to the fact that in July 2021 the ambient temperature throughout the country exceeded the norm by 1-2 degrees, and there was a precipitation deficit.

Over the last years, a trend to increasing forest area is observed in Kazakhstan thanks to the efforts, aimed at forest conservation and their restoration.

Kazakhstan is mainly a steppe country. The steppe occupies the territories of seven regions and accounts for 26% of the entire territory of Kazakhstan. At the moment, steppes are the least protected type of ecosystems in Kazakhstan, and their representation in the system of specially protected natural reservations of the country is not sufficient.

Semi-deserts, being a transition zone between the steppe and desert, occupy 12% of area of the entire country. Deserts occupy a wide band (500-700 km) from the Caspian sea to the foothills and account for 44%. Phenomena like takir and shor are specific to the deserts of Kazakhstan. Takir is drying of earth to the extent that cracks occur, forming a mosaic pattern. Shor is a bottom of desiccated water reservoir, covered with salt. Total area of degraded lands in Kazakhstan is about 2/3 of the country territory (Aral and Caspian regions, as well as northern regions, where grain crops were raised).

Erosion is one of the most dangerous types of land degradation, causing destruction of soil and loss of their fertility. According to the data from the qualitative characteristics of lands, more than 90 mln. hectares of eroded lands and lands at risk of erosion are registered in the Republic of Kazakhstan, among them actually eroded are 29.3 mln. hectares. Those exposed to wind erosion in the republic are 24.2 mln. hectares, or 11.3% of agricultural lands.

Eroded lands comprise one of the largest amelioratory groups, having negative impact on the quality of lands and their productivity.

Wind erosion manifests itself as deflation of sand and automorphic soils, salt lakes, and dust storms. Most actively manifested are erosion processes on the vast massifs of Kyzylkums, Muyunkums, Bolshoy and Maly Barsuk, Saryishikotrau, in the regions, located in desert, semi-desert, and steppe zones. The largest share of eroded agricultural lands (more than 30% of their total area) is located in Almaty, Atyrau, and Turkestan regions. The smallest proportion of eroded lands (up to 5%) in the composition of agricultural lands

is registered in Akmola, Karagandy, Kostanay, and North Kazakhstan regions. In terms of protection of land resources, works on recultivation of disturbed lands in development of open pits, ash dumps, on reclamation of overburden rocks for production of ballast are being carried out in the country.

Territory of our country is characterized by high droughtiness, the problem is particularly acute for degradation and desertification. In 2021, it manifested itself as droughts in Kyzylorda, Mangistau, and West Kazakhstan regions, when the grazing lands were exposed to degradation in the form of destruction of natural grasslands, which resulted in livestock mortality and death of wild animals.

It should be noted that at the moment, the bottleneck for the development of studies on evaluation of Kazakhstan territory susceptibility to the degradation and desertification processes is their insufficient financial provision.

## Flora and fauna of Kazakhstan

Thanks to its geographical extent and contrast in habitats, Kazakhstan is known for its great variety of fauna and flora. For a number of reasons, multiple species of animals and plants are at risk. Some populations are more stable, others are on the brink of extinction.

835 species of vertebrate animals, including mammals, birds, reptiles (49), amphibians (12), fishes, inhabit the territory of the republic.

**Table 3.** Number of endangered species and protected species, units<sup>128</sup>

	Mammals	Birds	Fishes
Total number of species	178	489	156
Endangered species, including	31	49	16
critically endangered species	5	16	9
Species in dangerous condition	22	18	6
Vulnerable species	4	15	1
Number of protected species	40	57	18

**Multiple representatives of fauna are under special protection.** Snow leopard or Unce, tугai red deer, goitered gazelle, mufﬂon or Kazakhstani argali, caracal, wild manul cat, red dog are referred to vanishing or rare specially protected species, inhabiting the territory of Kazakhstan.

<sup>128</sup> Statistical Digest Environment Protection in the Republic of Kazakhstan, 2016-2022.



*“Saiga is one of brands, showpiece of Kazakhstan, a major part of its population inhabits around here. Many scientists of international level call the rescue of saiga “Kazakh miracle”, as, according to them, there is no other precedent in the world that it was saved, when it was literally on the verge of extinction, few animals were left only.”*

**Alexey Grachyov, Institute of Zoology of MES RK.**

At present, annual increase in the number of rare hoofed animals and saigas is observed. Based on the results of accounting in 2021, saiga population reached 842 thousand animal units. Herewith, the critical threat for the saigas remains to be poaching.

To increase the number of animals, artificial reproduction of fauna is carried out along with the protective measures. 31,583 houbara bustards and 711 hawks have been released in the nature of Kazakhstan since 2009. According to the practical observations, the survival percentage in the natural environment is less than 50%.

Reduction in number of certain species of birds must be noted. Populations of saker falcons are decreasing as they are illegally imported to Arab countries.

As estimated by independent experts, approximately 58 thousand predatory birds (61% of them are eagles) die on high-voltage power lines (HVPL) every year in Kazakhstan. Particularly distinct losses take place in the period of

seasonal migrations as the migratory paths of Eurasian migratory birds pass through the regions with thick network of HVPL.<sup>129</sup> Diurnal and nocturnal birds of prey are at risk. In this view, it is necessary to make amendments and additions to LSI on the issues of prevention of birds death at HVPL.

Kazakhstan is endowed with rich fishery water fund and favorable conditions for intensive development of fish farming and fishery. Up to 156 fish species inhabit the water basins of Kazakhstan. There are 20 water reservoirs of international and republican significance on the territory of the republic, which are divided into 373 sections, among them 223 sections are assigned to 127 users.

In the period of spring spawning, a ban is set on fishery in the places and within terms depending on natural and climatic peculiarities. In this view, interregional basin inspections of fish farm strengthen control and supervision over the satisfaction of restrictions and bans in the period of spawning.

To preserve the fish resources of natural reservoirs, measures are taken annually on their artificial breeding and stocking of juvenile fishes of valuable fish species. 74.4 mln. juvenile fishes have already been bred and released to natural habitat, including 8.0 mln. sturgeon. Nevertheless, prevailing of fishing over fish breeding is observed, which builds up dependence on natural climatic and other factors.

It is difficult to control natural reservoirs and fish-farming capacities due to great number of reservoirs and fish plots, insufficient monitoring of condition and use of aquatic biological resources.

In spite of works, conducted to preserve fauna and flora, biodiversity at specially protected natural reservations, the main problem remains to be weak material and technical resources and their inadequate financing.

<sup>129</sup> Data of the Public Fund “Biodiversity research and conservation center” <https://www.acbk.kz/article/default/view?id=359>



## Next steps on the SDG 15 implementation:

- Preserving the integrity of natural ecosystems, unique natural complexes and other natural heritage assets.
- Financial support of measures on prevention of land desertification process and maintenance of their favorable and stable condition.
- Introduction of new, current methods of control over the land use processes.
- Opening of State National Park “Merke”.
- Realization of projects on “Pilot-based Afforestation and Reforestation of Degraded Forest Areas in the Border area between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan”.
- Addressing the issues on creation and introduction of informational system of fish and fish products traceability (development of IS program).
- Increasing the material and technical resources of SPNR and continuous training of employees to raise qualification in biology and ecology.
- In terms of legislation, consolidation of regulations on continuity of environmental training and education starting from the youngest preschool age.

16

PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



The installation embodies justice and purity of thought. A mannequin in a judge-like robe symbolizes legality, a silver-white color represents peace, and a ball with inscriptions about justice instead of a head symbolizes the aura of a person and his right thoughts.



## SDG 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

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- In 2021, the President of RK signed the RK Law “On Abolition of the Death Penalty”.
- Kazakhstan joined the optional protocol of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- In 2022, Kazakhstan Child Wellbeing Index was approved.
- Paper confirmation on 28 public services has been cancelled.
- Kazakhstan increased its position in the Corruption Perception Index (2017 - 31 points, 2021 - 37 points).
- Kazakhstan rose by 45 positions in the Anti-Money Laundering Index (Basel AML Index).
- Holding of the Referendum on amendments to the RK Constitutional Charter with capture of amendments in the Presidential powers, work of the Parliament and other.

Good implementation of SDG 16 is evidenced in the achievement of the entire 2030 Agenda with multiplicative effect.

### Protection of human rights

Kazakhstan is a member of more than 70 multilateral universal international treaties in the field of human rights, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and 8 human rights advocacy conventions of the UN.<sup>130</sup>

The Government of the country adopted several action plans, development programs in the field of human rights, with the help of which reform of legislation, institutional development and improvement of the practice of application are aimed at approximation to international standards. 2021 Plan of Priority Measures for Human Rights stipulates measures such as improvement of interaction mechanisms with the treaty bodies and special procedures of the UN, non-governmental organizations, liquidation of discrimination against women, enforcement of rights of trafficking survivors, citizens with disabilities and survivors of torture, as well as rights to freedom of association and expression.

Mandate of the Human Rights Ombudsman (HRO) have been consolidated by creating regional representative offices. Under the jurisdiction of HRO functioning is the National Preventive Mechanism on Prevention of Torture and Abusive Treatment (NPM). Activity of NPM is based on the model “Ombudsman+”. In 2019, special institutions, providing special social services, including that for children, were added as well.

<sup>130</sup> Annual human rights report of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Nur-Sultan 2021.

## Protection of children's rights

Keeping to the international commitments, Kazakhstan implements the policy on ensuring and protecting the children's rights to the full extent, paying special attention to the children with disabilities and special needs, deprived of parental care, children from multi-child and low-income families.

### De-institutionalization of orphanages

Implemented allowed reducing the number of children, raised in the orphanages, as well as the level of recurring orphanhood.

Over the period of 2019-2021, the number of children, fostered in the orphanages, reduced by 488 people, number of orphanages – by 16 units.

In 2019, norms, regulating the activity of organizations, rendering assistance in foster care, as well as requirements to their accreditation, compulsory training of potential adoptive parents, were introduced.<sup>131</sup> Kazakhstan also implements successful policy of de-institutionalization, aimed at placing of children into care to families and retaining of children in birth families.<sup>132</sup> But issue on placing of children aged under 3 and children with disabilities into institutions remains pressing.

In 2019, in Kazakhstan, procedure for registration of children, born in healthcare organizations, whose parents do not have proofs of identity, was regulated, and 1,500 entries has been already made under this procedure. However, the issue of registration of children, born outside the healthcare organization, from undocumented parents, has not been solved yet.

Supported by UNICEF the project has been realized, aimed at improvement of position of migrant children, protection of their rights and best interests, ensuring safety and access to social and educational services.

### Year 2022 has been declared as the Children's Year

67 events have been planned in the realization of the Children's Year, including:

- introduction of the institution of professional foster families;
- introduction of special packages "White Internet" with "cleared" content for children and adolescents;
- introducing of the position of regional children's rights ombudsman on a voluntary basis.

<sup>131</sup> Report on the situation of children in RK 2019, <https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/bala/documents/details/44230?lang=ru>

<sup>132</sup> The fifth and sixth consolidated periodic reports on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the Republic of Kazakhstan, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000942>

Within the framework of humanitarian operations “Zhusan” and “Rusafa”, Kazakhstan brings its citizens back from the conflict zones, mainly from Syria and Iraq. More than 700 Kazakhstanis, including 189 women and 520 children (among them 37 are orphans) have been brought back to the native country.

To date, the problems in the field of children’s rights protection in the country remain relevant: lack of efficiency of available enforcement mechanisms of children’s rights and interests, high risk of poverty, prevalence of family disadvantages, violence towards children, and growing incapacitation among children. According to the international evaluations of the system for prevention and protection of children’s rights, issues on strengthening the system of children’s protection on central and regional levels are less than fully resolved in Kazakhstan. Coverage with needs for prevention, support and rehabilitation for child victims of violence is not fully ensured as well.

To address these issues, work on strengthening of the institution of Children’s Rights Ombudsman is being conducted through introduction of regional representative offices. 9 documents aimed at protection of children’s rights are being actualized, including those on rendering early stage aid to the children with disabilities, combating domestic violence and abuse of children, prevention of crimes committed against the sexual inviolability of minors, and others.

In 2022, Kazakhstan Child Wellbeing Index was approved, which will provide an opportunity to track the effectiveness of the national policy on betterment of children, as well as methods for budget for children was developed.

## Equal access to justice

Work on optimization of judicial procedures and simplification of access to justice is conducted in Kazakhstan on an ongoing basis. In 2020, formal interlocutory judgements were excluded, a number of action proceedings was switched to summary proceedings, requirements on application of electronic means of communication when notifying the trial participants were established, settlement mechanisms were introduced. Entrepreneurs have an opportunity of consideration of disputes under English Law in the court of the Astana International Financial Center.

A number of pilot client-oriented projects has been successfully tested and implemented in local courts: “Night court”, “Family Court”, “Mediator Judge”, “Conciliation Centers” and others. Judicial examination of cases regarding evident and indisputable RTIs within 3-day period outside regular hours (18 to 22 hours) has been adopted within the framework of the pilot project



### Digitalization of judicial procedure

IT-technologies are being effectively introduced in the Kazakhstan's judicial procedure, up to 92% lawsuits are filed electronically.

Electronic judgement halls have been created in all courts

SMART-assistants of the judge – robot, which prepares the draft judicial acts regarding indisputable cases and those not requiring judicial discretion.

“Smart-sot IT justice” is a community, where one can quickly get answers to the questions of judicial administering: court registry, IT-support and others.

In order to avoid misunderstanding of the court ruling made – the judge, which considered the high-profile case, explains the essence of the decision, made by them, live on Facebook platform.

“Night Court”. It allowed reducing the time for obtaining the insurance payouts by the affected people from 100 to 15 days.

Introduction of mediator judge in the civil proceedings allowed increasing the share of conciliation procedures: 2019 – 15%, 2020 – 32%, 2021 – 34%. 65.7% of civil cases have been considered in one court session, 15.8% – in two court sessions, more than one third - under the simplified procedure, i.e., without summoning the trial participants.

Reforms of recent years allowed making the justice of Kazakhstan one of the accessible and quick in the world, which is confirmed by the indicators of periodic report of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ).

Criminal field is also approaching the international standards of the developed countries. Guarantees of the rights of people, involved in criminal orbit, are being strengthened.

The new three-tier model of criminal proceeding is being introduced on a phased basis, which implies clear delineation of authority and areas of responsibility between the bodies of pre-trial investigation, prosecutor's office, and court.

Within the framework of modernization, starting December 31, 2020, the procurators endorse key procedural decisions of the bodies of pre-trial investigation, involving the human rights and freedoms, for all criminal cases.

### Kazakhstan in CEPEJ Report:

- Average duration of civil and economic disputes – 32 days / European average – 201 days.
- Case and Trial Processing Index – 9.1 points / European average – 7.5 points.
- Use of information and communication technology in courts – 9.23 points, 4th among the countries involved in the CEPEJ assessment.

In 2021, almost 420 thousand decisions passed through the prosecutor's filter, herewith, unjustified involvement of more than 3 thousand people into criminal proceedings was prevented.

Since 2022, the second stage of transfer to the new model has been realized, which implies drafting of crime bill by the prosecutors on cases on particularly grave offences. Going forward, since 2023, the prosecutors will draw up the crime bills on cases on corruption-related crimes, since 2024 – on all categories of cases.

In order to increase the promptness and transparency in law enforcement activities, digital technologies are being widely adopted, measures on automation of criminal and administrative proceedings, inspection assignment, processing of filings are being taken. For instance, in 2021, 77% of criminal cases were investigated in electronic format (178 thousand out of 230 thousand cases).

## Violence and murders

Law enforcement bodies make focused efforts to prevent murders. Set of organization and practical measures, stipulated by the 2019-2022 Roadmap on countering intentional homicides, is being taken. Due to measures being taken, over the last 3 years, the number of victims of intentional homicide (per 100 thousand people) reduced by 14% (from 624 to 536).

MIA together with international experts take graduated measures to form the police service model. The service model is aimed at joint activity of all the subjects of prevention (akimats, police authorities, prosecutor's office, healthcare, education, justice, social protection, culture and sports, anti-corruption service, mass media) and society in 3 areas:

- walking distance, aimed at maximum simplification of access to the police for the citizens;
- prevention of offences by timely elimination of potential hazards;
- close collaboration with the population through hands-on assistance directly on the part of local community in the resolution of problems of offence prevention.

Special attention is paid to the issues of combating the human trafficking in cooperation with the international non-governmental organizations and law enforcement bodies of foreign countries. Within the framework of 2019-2023 Multinational Program of Cooperative Measures on Combating Crime,<sup>133</sup> crime-prevention operation “STOP traffic” is carried out on a quarterly basis.

Since 2021, the Action plan on prevention, averting and combating crimes, related to human trafficking, has been implemented.<sup>134</sup> Hot line on combating the human trafficking “11616” functions, with the help of which concrete facts of human trafficking have been identified.

Awareness campaigns are conducted together with the non-governmental organizations to raise the public awareness.

COVID-19 pandemic worsened the situation with domestic violence and human traffic. The number of registered crimes under article “Human trafficking” has also increased during the pandemic. In 2020, 43 cases were recorded, which is 6 times higher than in 2019 and 3 times higher than in 2018. Predominantly, falling a victims to human trafficking and exploitation are vulnerable social groups – people from low-income, single-parent families, children from dysfunctional families or without parents’ oversight, migrants with undefined status.

## Corruption and bribery

Anti-corruption policy of Kazakhstan is being improved on a continuous basis, with the consideration of the community demands, national practices, and best international practices.

Consistent and comprehensive approach is ensured through realization of Anti-Corruption Strategy of RK for 2015-2025. In 2019, RK Anti-Corruption Agency, accountable to the President of RK, was established. Scope of measures to fight corruption with priority in preventive tools has been developed.<sup>135</sup>

On the Civil Service, transition to a “career” model has been ensured, principles of meritocracy through mechanisms of open competitive selection, promotion based on competence have been introduced. Ethic boards function, measures of financial control have been improved. In 2021, civil servants, persons equated to them, as well as their spouses, within the framework of the universal declaration, provided “entrance” declarations, recording all their assets.

<sup>133</sup> By the Resolution of the Heads of CIS States Council dated September 28, 2018.

<sup>134</sup> Decree of RK Government no.94 dated 24.02.21, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000094>

<sup>135</sup> RK Law On Combating Corruption dated 18.11.2015, <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/Z1500000410>

### Anti-corruption enlightenment and wide preventive work

Anti-corruption enlightenment is implemented by educational, volunteer and information measures.

For instance, coordination of activities of state bodies in combating corruption has been successfully implemented by active introduction of project management and offices of “Adaldyk alany”. Besides, anti-corruption media projects in republican mass media such as “AntikorNews”, “AntikorLive” and “Antikor.kz”, has been successfully realized. Thanks to the volunteer project “Adal komek”, the Agency has taken measures to raise the legal literacy of citizens, legal assistance to vulnerable social groups in addressing of vital issues has been rendered as well. Employees of the Agency, practicing lawyers, advocates, notaries, students, master’s students, PhD students, academics of law departments of higher educational institutions acted as volunteers, they regularly held free consultations for the population. 11,000 people got clarifications during the project <https://e-gazet.kz/obshestvo/volonterskij-proekt-adal-komek-pomog-11-tyis-kazaxstanczam>

### Scientific anti-corruption assessment

In 2021, following the results of anti-corruption assessment, 3,669 LSIs were adopted, in which the developing agencies took into consideration 54% of expert recommendations (5,715 out of 10,589).

Sanctions for the convicted of grave and corruption-related offences, as well as of corruption of judges, law enforcement personnel, bribe-givers and bribery intermediaries have been ratcheted up. With regards to the civil servants, deputies of the RK Parliament and judges, restriction on opening and possessing accounts in foreign banks, located abroad, has been introduced. A lifelong ban on employment to civil service and to entities of quasi-public sector is stipulated for the people, who committed corruption-related crime.

One of the most important statutory novelties of 2020 was re-introduction of anti-corruption review of draft laws and statutory instruments (LSI).

Despite the measures taken, high request for ensuring justice and equality of rights continues to persist in the society. There are problems, related to the transparency of budgeting process, public procurements, introduction of full-scale public control, digitalization of government machine, etc.

In this view, in 2022, 2022-2026 Concept of Anti-Corruption Policy of RK was approved. This legal act is aimed at transferring from combating the impacts to systemic elimination of preconditions for corruption. Key initiatives: introducing responsibility for the unfounded enrichment, introduction of the institution of financial investigation (follow the money), criminalization of promise/suggestion of bribe, integrity check, systemic measures to increase transparency of budgeting process, procurements, reducing state participation in economy.

## Prevention of illicit financial flows

One of the mechanisms of reducing the illicit financial flows, detection and recovery of stolen assets is the system of countering legalization (laundering) of illegal earnings and financing of terrorism (AML/CFT).

Within the framework of this work, in 2020-2021, a number of statutory amendments was adopted. The central focus of amendments is aimed at harshening punishment of the subjects of financial monitoring for breaching the RK Law on AML/CFT; application of targeted financial sanctions with regards to the spread of weapons of mass destruction; application of risk-based approach when carrying out inspections of the subjects of financial monitoring and enhancing international cooperation in the part of sharing information on AML/CFT.

Interagency board in AML/CFT has been established to coordinate the measures on risk assessment. Additional measures of due diligence of the public officials and their close family members have been introduced.

Such measures are aimed at elimination of cases when conscientious businessmen are involved in financial investigations and organization of effective control over the implementation of transboundary transactions.

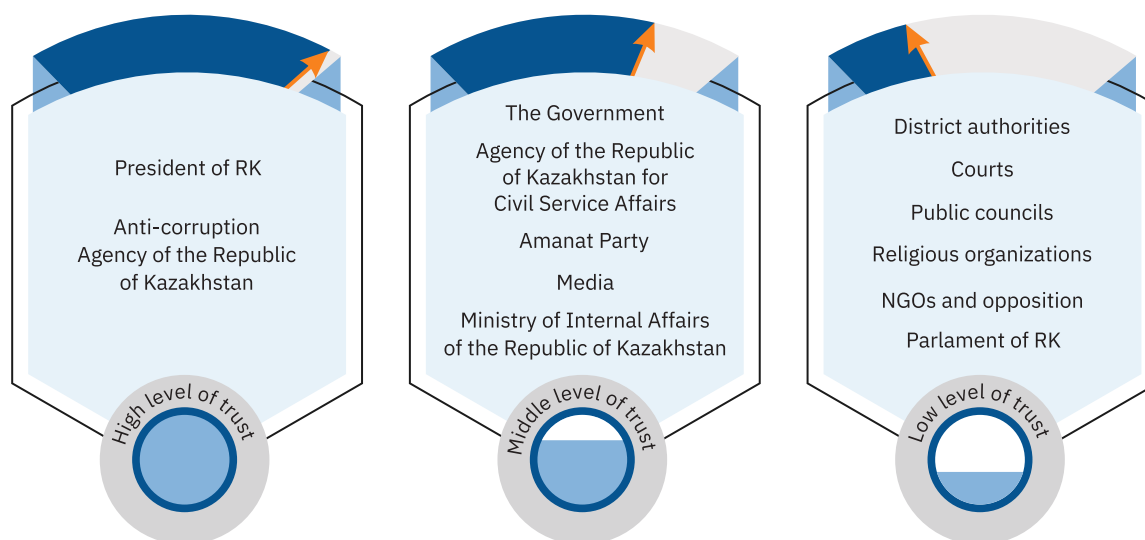
## Effective institutions and access to information

In 2021, the Development roadmap of public administration in RK was approved, which is based on the principles of “hearing”, effective, accountable, professional, and pragmatic state.

At the moment, Kazakhstan proceeded to the 5th stage of the public administration system reform, aimed to fulfill the demands of population and business, effectiveness of quasi-public sector, independence of local governance.

To find new talents, guided by public interests, the Presidential youth talent pool (PYTP) is formed. Based on the results of two contests in 2019 and 2021, 350 succession candidates were selected, 230 (66%) of which are employed at various positions in state authorities and companies of quasi-public sector.



**Level of trust in institutions\***

\* According to the Transparency Kazakhstan sociological survey

Area of no interest is access to information. According to investigation of the UN “Electronic government – 2020”, Kazakhstan is evaluated as “very high” in the Open Government Development Index (OGDI).

A number of measures on building meaningful societal conversation has been taken: conducting reporting meetings with the population, personal reception of citizens, establishing community councils. “Open government” portal functions with components of “open data”, “open budgets”, “open LSIs”, “open dialogue”. In 2020, Single platform of government agencies’ web-resources (gov.kz) was launched, which became a single access point to official public sector information.

In 2020, institution of authorized people (subdivisions) on the issues of access to information was introduced. RK Government developed and approved the Consolidated list of government agencies’ open data.

In 2021, annual report to the Head of the State on the status of information access area in Kazakhstan was prepared for the first time. This report will be prepared on an annual basis.

Thus, systemic work on building peaceful and open society, ensuring access to justice, and creating effective institutions at all levels is carried out in Kazakhstan.

## Next steps on the SDG 16 implementation:

- Generating national corruption perception index.
- Introducing extraterritorial jurisdiction.
- Extension (enhancement) of responsibility of the information owners, as well as legislative consolidation of monitoring and control mechanisms in the field of access to information.
- Retooling of radio broadcasting field and development of domestic information space.
- Ensuring rights and interests protection of refugees' and stateless persons' children, ensuring safety and access to social and educational services.
- Ensuring birth statement in case of delivery outside the healthcare organization and lack of parents' documents of identification.
- Joining the Optional protocol of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, related to the messaging procedure.





17 PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS







## SDG 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

### WHAT HAS CHANGED IN THREE YEARS:

- Concept of foreign policy of RK for 2020-2030 has been approved.
- Regional platform for sharing knowledge with regards to SDGs for the Central Asian countries has been launched.
- Kazakh agency of international development “KazAID” has been established, centralized official development assistance has been implemented.

Steady, comprehensive, and all-sided partnerships at all levels are key to successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

COVID-19 pandemic and the worst global economic slowdown since the Great Depression, caused by it, had negative impact on the plans on SDGs realization of all member-countries. Global assessments are indicative of annual financing shortage of USD 2.5 tln. for investments, aimed at rendering assistance to the developing countries in achievement of SDGs, which gives evidence of dependence of the cooperation and resources for the purposes of development. The level of aid of the contributing countries keeps decreasing secondary to the armed conflicts. Sanctional opposition of the Western economies and Russian Federation has negative impact on the promotion of growth and trade of the regional countries.

With this in mind, Kazakhstan takes significant steps within the framework of national and international cooperation, capacity building, innovations, alternative methods of financing, and, namely, official development assistance (ODA) to overcome difficulties in pursuing SDGs.

The President of the Republic of Kazakhstan K. Tokayev personally participated in a number of High-level events, convened by Canada, Jamaica, and the UN in 2020-2021 on financing for development, aimed at working out of specific global measures in response to economic and human-induced consequences of COVID-19. Standing in as a global Chairperson of the group of Land-Locked Developing Countries (LLDCs), K. Tokayev suggested a range of innovative measures, aimed at resolution of this issue, such as freezing the



debt repayment by the poorest countries and replacement by international financial institutions of debt obligations with obligations to finance national health system.

## **Global partnership within the group of Land-Locked Developing countries**

LLDCs specifically heavily suffered from the COVID-19 pandemic, which seriously damaged the trade and supply chains. Lack of surface access to the sea, remoteness and isolation from worldwide markets significantly increase transit and sales expenses of LLDCs (2 times higher than in seafaring countries), inhibit access to the markets of other countries, reduce their competitive capacity, have a detrimental effect on economic and social development of LLDCs, and lead to their extreme dependence of transit countries. It should be noted that 32 LLDCs with total population of about 510 mln. people (more than 7% of world population) take only 1% of worldwide export of goods.

Being the largest among LLDCs, in 2003, Kazakhstan organized the First UN Conference on LLDCs in Almaty, during which 2003-2014 Almaty Programme of Action for LLDCs has been adopted, which recognized the special needs of LLDCs in the field of development and trade and suggested ways to ensure them for the first time ever. As a follow-up to this document a 2014-2024 Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs (VPA) was developed. It is a complex document, aimed at resolution of key problems of LLDCs in the field of development. Chairmanship of Kazakhstan in LLDCs fell within the commencement of the Decade of Action on SDGs and the second phase of implementation of the 2014-2024 Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs.

Kazakhstan is the largest country among LLDCs. Significant is the fact that chairmanship of Kazakhstan in LLDCs fell within the commencement of the Decade of Action on SDGs and the second phase of implementation of the 2014-2024 Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs. In the course of chairmanship, Kazakhstan actively facilitated the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Land-Locked Developing Countries (2014-2024) and UN Sustainable Development Goals through enhanced and coordinated cooperation of the group countries with the transit countries, UN agencies, and other stakeholders on a regional basis.

One of the priorities of Kazakhstani chairmanship became building of a closer coordination between three groups of vulnerable countries (Least Developed Countries, LLDCs, and Small Island Developing States, 91 countries in total) to increase their authority and visibility on a global level, as well as to give momentum to the progress in realization of the aforementioned documents.

Equally important focus area of the chairmanship is enhancing coordination of LLDCs with the transit countries, UN agencies, and other stakeholders (international financial institutions, private sector, and academia), in particular, in regional dimension.

The specified measures were outlined in the Roadmap for Accelerated Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs, adopted by the initiative of Kazakhstan in September 2020. The document is focused on joining efforts and improvement of coordination of all stakeholders for the accelerated implementation of the LLDCs objectives development for the period until 2024. The World Bank and various UN structures (UNDP, UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), International Trade Center (ITC), and World Trade Organization (WTO), and others) expressed their willingness to participate in the implementation of this Roadmap.

Thus, productive work of Kazakhstan within the framework of chairmanship in LLDCs allowed to remarkably increase the authority of LLDCs group and general awareness of the UN management, diplomatic corps, and international organizations on particular vulnerability of LLDCs.

Progress in implementation of the specified actions will be reviewed in the course of the 20-years review of Almaty Programme of Action (“Almaty+20”) and 10-years review of VPA in 2024.

## Cooperation in North-South and South-South

In spite of general reducing trend in the amount of official development assistance, Kazakhstan is building global and regional partnership in this field. Over the last 20 years, Kazakhstan allocated more than USD 600 mln. to the foreign countries for the purposes, similar to the official development assistance. In a short period of time, Kazakhstan has advanced from the aid receiver to international contributor, which cooperates with the contributing countries the to help other countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan achieve development goals.

One of key factors, which characterize the commitment of the country to the development of partnership and international cooperation, is creation of Kazakhstan agency of international development “KazAID”, which was established in December 2020. The goal of creating KazAID is rendering centralized official development assistance for further integration of the country into the system of regional and international liaison, creating favorable

external conditions for successful implementation of development strategies and programs, consolidation of peace, regional and global safety.

Considering the importance of participation of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the global dialogue and coordination in ODA, the Decree of the President of RK on approval of major public policies of the Republic of Kazakhstan in ODA for 2021-2025 was adopted.<sup>136</sup> Kazakhstan pursues consistent policy on rendering assistance to foreign countries. So, total amount of official development assistance, rendered by Kazakhstan to foreign countries under bilateral and multilateral channels in 2019 was USD 34.21 mln. Out of this amount, assistance was provided in the form of commodity aid and educational grants to the countries of Central Asia (USD 639,397), developing countries of Asia (USD 1,037,676), Far East and Asia countries (USD 54,848), other developing countries (USD 22,859,000).

In particular, significant support was provided to the countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan. Market of Afghanistan traditionally takes significant share in the export of grain and flour from Kazakhstan, however, over the last three years, political events in Afghanistan affected trading relationship between the countries. Problems occurred with the payment of goods due to close-down of interbank transactions, as well as problems with car placing out of concern for their integrity and recoverability. Afterwards, these problems were solved, among other things, in lieu of development of new instrument of subsidy within the AIC concept.<sup>137</sup>

In order to develop international cooperation in ODA, purposeful partnership links have been established with key donors and international development institutions, such as Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV), US Agency for International Development (USAID), Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID), Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), and others.

<sup>136</sup> Decree of the President of RK No.625 "On approval of major public policies of the Republic of Kazakhstan in ODA for 2021-2025", <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U2100000625>

<sup>137</sup> <https://primeminister.kz/ru/news/press/v-ramkah-porucheni-glavy-gosudarstva-prorabatyvayutsya-novye-podhody-po-subsidirovaniyu-v-apk-erbol-karashukeev-3084927>

## On interaction with the World Trade Organization

Republic of Kazakhstan acknowledges great importance to cooperation with WTO, which is quite pertinent in the current conditions of trade and sanctions wars. From the moment our country joined this organization, growth in foreign investment to the main sectors of national economy is observed. Following the results of 2021, the growth of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) gross inflow, compared to the same period of last year, was 37% and equals USD 23.7 bln.

Being a Chairperson-in-Office of the 12th Ministerial Conference (MC-12) of WTO (will be held on June 12, 2022 in Geneva), Kazakh party is actively involved in negotiation process on achievement of significant results of MC-12, which include completion of negotiations on grant agreements for fishery and agriculture, as well as decisions on reformation of WTO and trade measures in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

It should be noted that restrictions, introduced due to COVID-19 pandemic, adversely affected the development of all global commercial-and-economic system, having breached the supply chains of essential commodities, as well as medical preparations and equipment.

In this view, Kazakhstan joined various international initiatives of WTO, such as “trade and health”, not posing restrictions on procurement, carried out by the UN World Food Program for humanitarian goals, “Trade and economic stability”, and others, aimed at fight with COVID-19 and its consequences.

Despite a range of positive changes in international relations, there are some challenges, restricting further development of global trade. Thus, presence of “black” economy may be noted, which, by various estimates, exceeds 20% of GDP,<sup>138</sup> low proportion of PPP projects (including that with foreign companies), as well as raw-material orientation and commodity dependence (84% of export falls within oil, gas and metals).<sup>139</sup>

## UN Center for SDGs for Central Asian and Afghanistan

To strengthen the partnership on promotion of SDGs at the regional level, the work is continued on institutionalization of the Regional UN Center in Almaty with a focus on Sustainable Development Goals. The regional center is intended to facilitate the coordination of the development agenda in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

<sup>138</sup> On approval of the 2021 – 2023 Integrated Action Plan to Combat Gray Economy <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/P2100000644>

<sup>139</sup> <https://stat.gov.kz/official/industry/31/statistic/6>

Kazakhstan's initiative is aimed at enhancing the approach "One UN" for UN agencies, improvement of their coordination at the regional level, as well as facilitating the improvement of cooperation between the organizations of UN system and Governments of Central Asia and Afghanistan through taking complex measures to promote Agenda 2030 and support needs and priorities of the countries.

In August 2020, Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2021-2025 was executed between Kazakhstan and the UN. UN Framework Programme on Sustainable Development Cooperation is the main tool for achievement of Agenda 2030 by consolidation of key resources of strategic partners – UN institutions, executive departments, representatives of civil society and private sector.

Priorities of the Framework Programme were determined in the course of multilateral consultations with the representatives of state institutions, civil society, and academia. The main idea is that Agenda 2030 should be achieved with the participation of the entire population of Kazakhstan, including women, youth, people with special needs – everything for us not to leave someone behind.

Creation of the Regional center is entirely in line with the reforms, carried out by the General Secretary A. Guterres, aimed at strengthening the effectiveness and relevance of UN structures in the light of objectives, faced by the modern world. At the moment, 18 UN structures, having regional and subregional status, are located in Almaty (UNDP, IOM, UNESCO, UNEP, UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOHCHR, UNODC, UNESCAP, UNHCR, UNISDR, UNOCHA, WHO, UNDSS, UNDGC, UN WOMEN, FAO). Besides in August 2021, in Almaty, temporary remote office of UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) was opened, which let Almaty become one of the most important logistics and humanitarian center on assistance to Afghanistan.

SDGs may not be successfully achieved without inclusive participation of citizens, public institutions. Non-profit organization, as an interlink between the state and population, significant potential not only for implementation, but also for encouraging the government to respond to the demands of the society in achievement of SDG objectives in a more active way. The role of NPOs in social monitoring of SDGs realization is no less important.

Since 2021, the Civil Alliance has been performing social monitoring of the process of SDGs realization in Kazakhstan on a regular basis. NGOs explain the residents, principally, vulnerable social groups, the importance of implementation of SDG objectives, which address the most relevant issues, related to the problems of unemployment, poverty, environment, quality of education, healthcare, provision with safe drinking water, and other equally



important topics. Monitoring of all socially important projects for NGOs for compliance with SDGs is performed. Hereby, NGOs, being involved in the process of SDGs realization, facilitate the social cohesion, strengthening of dialogue between the state, civil society, business community, international organizations, and other stakeholders.

In cooperation with UNDP and Asian Development Bank (ADB), in 2019, the work on establishing a national SDG platform was performed, which combined more than 1,500 representatives of public and private sectors, of national and local levels to facilitate the dialogue, which will endorse efforts on implementation of Agenda 2030 in Kazakhstan.

In July 2021, UNDP and European Union Delegation to Kazakhstan signed a contribution agreement to start implementation of a project on setting-up a Regional knowledge-sharing SDG Platform for Central Asian countries.

During the launch of the Regional platform in November 2021, representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan spoke on approaches of the countries to the achievement of national priorities on SDGs, on problems, successes, expectations on SDGs realization.

SDG Platform will support Central Asian countries to track and adjust key socio-economic policies by monitoring SDG progress and contribute to coordination of effort in assessing national financial gaps using the INFF methodology.

## **Mobilization of volunteering for the development purposes**

On December 30, 2016, the Law No.42-VI ZRK “On Volunteering” was adopted. Since the beginning of declaring 2020 as the Volunteer Year, the number of voluntary organizations in the country increased 3-fold, and at the moment, there are more than 600 of them. During the pandemic about 1 mln. Kazakhstanis joined the volunteer movement, and help was rendered to more than 1.5 mln. of our citizens in the form of food baskets, sets of life essentials, personal protective equipment.

Nationwide project “Birgemiz” was realized, which covered more than 70,000 volunteers in support of children and youth, fallen on hard times, medical volunteering, eco-volunteering, preserving material and immaterial historic cultural heritage, social volunteering, volunteering in the field of emergency situations, and online volunteering. Guidelines were created in 8 priority areas, training courses for coordinators of volunteering activities, single information line, over the period of existence of which 2,500 applications were processed.

In order to implement the initiative of the President of RK on declaring the International Year of Volunteers Mobilization in the UN, articulated on the 75th session of the UN General Assembly (September 21, 2020), the Concept of the International Year has been prepared and background work on its implementation has been started, the Resolution of the International Year of Volunteers Mobilization for development purposes has been developed as well.

### Next steps on the SDG 17 implementation:

- Enhancing mutually beneficial cooperation of Kazakhstan and OECD for subsequent development of OECD standards in the republic by aligning the country policies with the OECD standards and preparing application to join the organization in 2025.
- Continuing the work within the framework of main directions of state policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of ODA for 2021-2025.
- Continuing active interaction of Kazakhstan with the international organizations, authorities and structures, in order to extend the partnership in priority areas of RK's foreign policy in accordance with the approved Concept of RK foreign policy for 2020-2030, as well as in the issues of recovering after COVID-19 pandemic.



# NEXT STEPS

This Voluntary National Review allowed to assess the progress from the moment of publishing the first Review, and identify the challenges.

Despite of the influence of internal and external factors, related to COVID-19 and geopolitical situation in the world, the principal goal of ensuring sustainable development remains unchanged for Kazakhstan.

Evolvement of Kazakhstan as a developed country requires active continuation of transformation of all the components of current life-activity model of state, population and business.<sup>140</sup> Therefore, the Government of RK makes it its mission to restart the set of systemic reforms, rethink the role of the state.

Resolution of the set objective will be based on the following principles:

- fair distribution of benefits and responsibilities;
- leading role of private enterprises;
- fair competition, opening markets for a new generation of entrepreneurs;
- productivity growth, increasing the complexity and technology of the economy;
- human capital development, investment in a new type of education;
- “greening” the economy, environmental protection;
- adoption by the State of informed decisions and responsibility for them to society.

The following important directions were determined for further implementation of SDGs:

- ensure full integration of nationalized SDG indicators into the documents of the state planning system;
- advance work on localization of SDG targets and indicators considering national priorities of the country and the principle “Leave no one behind”;
- upgrade the strategic planning system of Kazakhstan, considering the principles and structures the Integrated National Financing Framework;

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<sup>140</sup> National Development Plan of the Republic of Kazakhstan through 2025 // <https://adilet.zan.kz/rus/docs/U1800000636>

- consider possibilities of integration of SDG budgeting principles, including climate finance and gender analysis, into the budgeting process in Kazakhstan;
- cover all regions of the country with the Development Finance Assessment;
- continue to improve the effectiveness of local and regional institutional mechanisms that promote and facilitate the implementation of the SDGs;
- continue the dialogue between the state, civil society, business community, international organizations, and other stakeholders to ensure their qualitative participation with the purpose of maximizing SDG results;
- maintain effective regional cooperation with Central Asian countries and other international partners.





Maintain effective regional interaction with countries of the Central Asia and other international partners

Continue dialogue between the state, civil society, business community, international organisations, etc.



Enhance the SDGs localisation



Integrate the SDGs indicators into public planning system documents



Assess development financing in the regions



Introduce the SDGs budgeting principles



# CONCLUSION

In the period, when COVID-19 pandemic introduces serious adjustments to the economic development of countries, evaluation of Sustainable Development Goals' achievement becomes urgent.

We consider the work, carried out within the framework of VNR preparation, as an integral part of nationalization and localization of SDGs in Kazakhstan.

The process of Review preparation was accompanied by large-scale discussion both on national and regional levels.

Draft Review has been considered through open public discourse in 17 regions of the country, in 30 micro-groups with the participation of the representatives of state bodies and international organizations, civil sector, and independent experts.

Each stage of the Review preparation was accompanied by coordination with the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

By virtue of this document, all stakeholders, including the ministries, non-governmental organizations got recommendations and directions for further actions.

At present, institutional architecture for facilitating SDGs achievement is introduced and works efficiently.

Legal framework, which ensures coverage of sustainable development goals by the documents of state planning system, is formed in the republic.

By all means, Kazakhstan has done a lot of work over the past 3 years on the way to sustainable development, but the latest geopolitical events and pandemic slowed down these rates. At the same time, on a local level, significant attention is paid to the issues of sustainability.

Preparation of this Review has also allowed discovering the possibilities of identifying the needs in financial, human and other resources, required for the effective realization of SDGs in Kazakhstan. In this view, it is important to square the set objectives with the availability of resources. This factor will be considered in realization of measures on SDGs in short and long run.

It is worth noting that the Review is an effective tool, thanks to which Kazakhstan has not only determined the status and progress on SDGs, but also identified the scope of objectives, which lie ahead.

Preparation of the second Voluntary National Review allowed Kazakhstan to analyze the achievement of SDGs in the country over the three-years period from the moment of the first presentation of the Review, determining outstanding problems in SDGs realization, and forthcoming challenges of the country, as well as obstacles, caused by COVID-19 pandemic.

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# STATISTICAL ANNEX

According to recommendations of the UN Statistical Commission, a significant role is given to official statistics in process of implementing SDGs, in connection with which the Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan is actively involved in the process of implementing SDGs and is making significant efforts to provide high-quality data for monitoring goals and relevant objectives of the Development Agenda-2030.

On the basis of the UN global system of indicators, the Bureau of National Statistics of ASPR of the Republic of Kazakhstan has formed a national list of SDG indicators in close interdepartmental cooperation with government bodies responsible for SDGs implementation, non-governmental sector and international institutions. It includes indicators proposed for monitoring at the global level, as well as indicators reflecting national development priorities.

Currently, national list of SDG indicators includes 262 indicators, 190 of which are UN global indicators and 30 national indicators are proposed to replace global ones as an alternative (proxy). In addition, 42 additional indicators reflecting national priorities for sustainable development have been proposed in process of consultations with national stakeholders.

For further implementation of sustainable development priorities in the state planning system, 87 relevant SDG indicators were identified, information on which is reflected in this document – Statistical Annex to the Second Voluntary National Review of Kazakhstan.

More details on each SDG indicator can be found on the National SDG Reporting Platform (<https://kazstat.github.io/sdg-site-kazstat/>), posted on official Internet resource of the Bureau of National Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan in “Monitoring of SDGs 2030” section.

The National SDG Reporting Platform is a tool for reporting and disseminating SDG data at the national and global levels. It is a single center for collecting and summarizing information about current situation on achievement of SDGs, which is presented by the state bodies responsible for implementation of SDGs.



## NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS INDICATORS UP TO 2030

### Group “People”

#### Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>2.2. By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons</i>									
2.2.3	Prevalence of anemia among pregnant women aged 15–49 years	Incidence of anemia among pregnant women aged 15–49 years	%		38.3	30.7	27.0*	Ministry of Healthcare of the RK	*Data for 2020
<i>2.3. By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment</i>									
2.3.1	Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size	Labour productivity in agriculture	thousand tenge		1 242.3	2 076.6	3 334.8	BNS ASPR	Preliminary data for 2021
<i>2.c. Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility</i>									
2.c.1	Indicator of food price anomalies		index		0.1	0.1	2.0*	FAO	*Data for 2020

### Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
3.1. By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100 000 live births									
3.1.1	Maternal mortality ratio		per 100 000 live births	total	12.5	13.9	44.7	Ministry of Healthcare of the RK	Preliminary data for 2021
				urban	11.9	14.9	-		
				rural	15.3	10.1	-		
3.2. By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1000 live births									
3.2.1	Under-five mortality rate		per 1 000 births	total	12.04	10.11	10.04	BNS ASPR	
				urban	11.78	9.56	11.99		
				rural	12.37	10.90	7.27		
				boys	13.35	11.64	10.90		
				girls	10.64	8.48	9.13		
3.2.2	Neonatal mortality rate		per 1 000 births	total	5.61	4.58	5.11	BNS ASPR	
				urban	6.23	4.89	6.45		
				rural	4.84	4.13	3.20		
				boys	6.41	5.32	5.43		
				girls	4.76	3.79	4.78		

3.3. By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases									
3.3.1	Number of new HIV infections per 1000 uninfected population, by gender, age and population group		per 1 000 uninfected population	total	0.14	0.17	0.18	Ministry of Healthcare of the RK	
				urban	0.18	0.22	0.24		
				rural	0.08	0.10	0.10		
				men	0.16	0.22	0.25		
				women	0.11	0.13	0.13		
3.3.1.1		New HIV diagnoses in people infected through injecting drug use	persons		768	877	815	Ministry of Healthcare of the RK	
3.3.2	Tuberculosis incidence per 100 000 population		per 100 000 persons	total	58.5	48.2	36.0	Ministry of Healthcare of the RK	Preliminary data for 2021
				urban	63.2	50.2	-		
				rural	52.1	45.3	-		
3.4. By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being									
3.4.1	Mortality attributed to cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases		%	total	21.12	19.28	21.80	BNS ASPR	
				men	29.40	27.09	29.50		
				women	14.38	12.92	15.30		
3.6. By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents									
3.6.1	Death rate due to road		per 100 000	total	15.16	13.20	12.01	BNS ASPR	

	traffic injuries		population	urban	13.0	11.49	10.04		
				rural	17.97	15.58	14.87		
				men	23.38	20.02	18.18		
				women	7.47	6.8	6.19		
<i>3.9. By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination</i>									
3.9.3	Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning		per 100 000 population	total	3.73	2.77	1.69	BNS ASPR	
				urban	4.02	2.84	1.74		
				rural	3.37	2.67	1.61		
				men	5.25	3.89	2.47		
				women	2.32	1.72	0.95		
<i>3.b. Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and noncommunicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all</i>									
3.b.3	Proportion of health facilities that have a core set of relevant essential medicines available and affordable on a sustainable basis	Proportion of health facilities that have a core set of relevant essential medicines to patients under dispensary treatment	%		55.0	61.0	47.1*	Ministry of Healthcare of the RK	*Data for 2020

## Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
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									
v	Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex	Proportion of children and youth graduating from primary school/at least the minimum level of i) reading literacy, by sex	%		98	-	-	Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	PIRLS 2016 results
		Proportion of children and youth graduating from secondary school who have achieved at least the minimum level of i) reading literacy, by sex			58.7	35.8	-		PISA results
		Proportion of children and youth graduating from primary school who have achieved at least a minimum level of ii) numeracy (mathematics)			96.0	-	-		TIMSS (4th grade) results
		Proportion of children and youth graduating from primary school who have achieved at least a minimum level of ii) numeracy (mathematics)	%		91.0	-	-		TIMSS (8th grade) results
		Proportion of children and youth graduating from secondary school who have achieved at least a minimum level of ii) numeracy (math literacy), by sex			67.8	51.0	-		PISA results



4.2. By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and preprimary education so that they are ready for primary education									
4.2.2.1		Readiness level among preschool children	%	total	90.8	-	-	BNS ASPR	According to the data of the Multi-indicator Cluster Survey in 2015
				urban	90.6	-	-		
				rural	90.9	-	-		
				men	91.1	-	-		
				women	90.4	-	-		
4.5. By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations									
4.5.1.1		Share of preschool organizations that have created conditions for the upbringing and education of children with special educational needs	%		9.1	20.1	40.8	Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	
4.5.1.2		Share of schools that have created conditions for inclusive education	%		21.8	60.0	81.7	Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	
4.5.1.3		Share of TVE organizations that have created equal conditions and barrier-free access for students with special educational needs	%		15.0	30.1	48.4	Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	
4.5.1.4		Share of university organizations that have created equal conditions and barrier-free access for teaching students with special educational needs, percentage	%		12.0	50.0	100.0	Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	

<i>4.a. Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all</i>									
4.a.1.1		Proportion of classrooms equipped with modern equipment in secondary education organizations of a total number	%		-	*10.9	67.1	Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	*Data for 2019
4.a.1.2		Proportion of three-shift schools	%		1.2	1.8	2.4	Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	
4.a.1.3		Proportion of schools in disrepair	%		0.9	0.4	0.5	Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	

## Goal 5. Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications, by education level

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>5.2. Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation</i>									
5.2.1.1		Decrease in registered cases of domestic violence against women	%		-20.9*	-26.8	-48.0	Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RK, Committee on Legal Statistics and Special Accounts of the General Prosecutor's Office of the RK	*Data for 2017
5.2.1.2		Decrease in registered facts of violence against children	%		-22.7*	-18.7	-20.0	Ministry of Internal Affairs of the RK, Committee on Legal Statistics and Special Accounts of the General Prosecutor's Office of the RK	*Data for 2017

## Group “PROSPERITY”

## Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services									
7.1.2	Proportion of population with access to electricity	Provision of regional needs for uninterrupted power supply	%		42.98	49.68	57.67	Ministry of Energy of the RK	
7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix									
7.2.1	Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption	Share of electricity produced by renewable energy sources in the total volume of electricity production	%	Taking into account large hydroelectric power plants	10.3	10.2	11.0*	BNS ASPR, Ministry of Energy of the RK	*Data for 2020
				Excluding large hydroelectric power plants	0.77	1.30	3.69		
7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency									
7.3.1	Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP	Energy intensity of GDP	toe per thousand USD in 2010 prices		0.42	0.37	0.32*	BNS ASPR	*Data for 2020
7.b By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support									
7.b.1.1		Share of enterprises implementing an energy efficiency system	%		9.70	49.96	34.70*	Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the RK	*Data for 2020

## Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries</i>									
8.1.1	Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita		% by 2005		148.9	156.6	159.7	BNS ASPR	Preliminary data for 2021
<i>8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services</i>									
8.3.1.1		Share of unproductively employed in the total number of employed	%	total	3.9	2.2	2.0	BNS ASPR	
				men	4.4	2.3	2.3		
				women	3.4	2.2	1.8		
				urban	2.5	1.1	1.3		
				rural	5.9	3.9	3.0		
				15 year	43.9	40.4	48.5		
				16-24 year	5.0	2.4	2.5		
				25-28 year	3.6	2.0	1.7		
				29-34 year	3.7	1.9	1.7		
				35-44 year	3.6	2.0	1.7		
				45-54 year	3.9	2.1	2.0		
				55-64 year	3.8	3.7	2.7		



8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value									
8.5.1	Average hourly earnings of employees, by sex, age, occupation and persons with disabilities	Average hourly earnings by sex, age, foreign economic activity and regions	tenge	total	880	959	1 303	BNS ASPR	Sample survey of enterprises
				men		1 122	1 427		
				women		785	1 179		
				15 year		...	...		
				16-24 year		577	847		
				25-28 year		764	1 030		
				29-34 year		961	1 163		
				35-44 year		1 102	1 258		
				45-54 year		977	1 215		
				55-64 year		951	1 163		
				65 and older		1 159	1 218		
8.5.2	Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Unemployment rate by sex, age	%	total	5.1	4.9	4.9	BNS ASPR	Sample survey of employment of the population
				men	4.4	4.3	4.2		
				women	5.9	5.4	5.5		
				urban	5.0	4.9	4.9		
				rural	4.9	4.8	4.8		
				15 year	...	...	...		

				16-24 year	4.2	3.7	3.7		
				25-28 year	4.6	4.0	3.8		
				29-34 year	7.6	7.0	6.9		
				35-44 year	4.5	4.3	4.4		
				45-54 year	4.6	4.2	4.4		
				55-64 year	5.4	5.6	5.7		
<i>8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training</i>									
8.6.1	Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training		%	total	7.9	6.0	5.0	BNS ASPR	Sample survey of employment of the population
				men	6.0	5.2	3.9		
				women	9.7	6.8	6.1		
				urban	6.6	5.4	4.6		
				rural	9.6	6.9	5.7		
<i>8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment</i>									
8.8.1	Fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries per 100,000 workers, by sex and migrant status	Occupational injury rate	per 1000 employees		0.33	0.25	0.22	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population of the RK, Local authorities	
		Level of occupational fatal injuries among workers	per 1000 workers		0.05	0.03	0.03	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population of the RK, Local authorities	

8.8.2	Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status	The share of enterprises covered by the system of collective bargaining relations among large and medium-sized enterprises	%		93.1	94.4	98.1	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population of the RK, Local authorities	
<i>8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products</i>									
8.9.1.1		IFO GVA generated directly in tourism	as a % of the previous year		115.3	107.2	49.5*	BNS ASPR	*Data for 2020
<i>8.b By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization</i>									
8.b.1	Existence of a developed and operationalized national strategy for youth employment, as a distinct strategy or as part of a national employment strategy	The share of young people employed in permanent jobs, of those who applied to employment centers	%		77.0	59.30	64.30	Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population of the RK, Local authorities	

## Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries</i>									
9.2.1.1		Growth in labor productivity in the manufacturing industry	% of the previous year		97.3	104.7	104.9	BNS ASPR	Preliminary data for 2021
9.2.1.2		Growth in exports of manufacturing products	% of the previous year		76.4	101.1	127.5	Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the RK	Preliminary data for 2021
<i>9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities</i>									
9.4.1	CO <sub>2</sub> emission per unit of value added	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions per GDP	kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq / int dollar		0.85	0.86	0.74*	BNS ASPR, Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	*Data for 2020
<i>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</i>									
9.5.1	Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP	Domestic spending on R&D as a percentage of GDP	%		0.17	0.12	0.13	BNS ASPR	Preliminary data for 2021
9.5.1.1		Share of business expenses in total R&D expenses	%		40.1	42.9	35.0	BNS ASPR, Committee on Science under the Ministry of Education and Science of the RK	
9.5.2	Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants	Number of research specialists (full-time equivalent) performing R&D	people per 1 000 000 inhabitants		778	668	630	BNS ASPR	Preliminary data for 2021

<i>9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities</i>									
9.b.1	Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added	Share of GVA of medium-tech and high-tech industries in the total volume of GVA	%		1.2	1.4	2.1	BNS ASPR	Preliminary data for 2021
<i>9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020</i>									
9.c.1	Proportion of population covered by a mobile network, by technology		%	GSM standard (percentage of coverage of the population with a cellular network)	96.6	96.6	98.0	BNS ASPR	Sample survey on the use of ICT by households
				UMTS standard (percentage of coverage of the population with a 3G cellular network)	72.7	87.9	93.4		

## Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average									
10.1.1	Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population		% compared to previous year	Household spending per capita	103.7	110.5	113.0	BNS ASPR	
				Household income per capita among the population	105.5	110.2	111.4		
				Household spending per capita among the bottom 40 percent of the population	103.1	111.1	113.3		
				Household income per capita among the bottom 40 percent of the population	103.6	111.8	109.8		
10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality									
10.4.1	Labour share of GDP		%		32.2	30.5	30.9	BNS ASPR	Preliminary data for 2021
10.5 Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations									
10.5.1	Financial Soundness Indicators	Government debt to GDP ratio	%		22.1	24.9	27.4	Ministry of Finance of the RK	Preliminary data for 2021
10.5.1.1		State budget deficit	million tenge		-915 704.8	-833 072.3	-2 806 150.2*	Ministry of National Economy of the RK	*Data for 2020



10.a Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements									
10.a.1	Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero-tariff	Share of commodity items provided to the least developed countries and developing countries to which tariff preferences are applied	%		21.4	21.8	22.4	Ministry of trade and integration of the RK	

## Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons</i>									
11.2.1.1		Share of local roads in good and satisfactory condition	%	Akmola	66.0	70.3	82.0	Local authorities, Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the RK	
				Aktobe	46.3	53.0	66.0		
				Almaty	77.6	78.1	89.0		
				Atyrau	47.0	54.0	70.0		
				West Kazakhstan	26.0	28.7	39.0		
				Zhambyl	74.0	80.1	95.0		
				Karaganda	74.5	76.0	89.0		
				Kostanay	62.0	66.0	80.0		
				Kyzylorda	62.0	63.5	75.0		
				Mangistau	84.0	92.0	95.0		
				Pavlodar	76.0	80.0	90.0		
				North Kazakhstan	53.0	61.0	74.0		
				Turkestan	77.0	71.2	87.0		
				East Kazakhstan	76.0	78.1	89.0		
				Nur-Sultan	71.1	76.0	x		

				Almaty	65.0	70.0	x		
				Shymkent	40.4	53.7	x		
11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries									
11.3.1	Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate	Provision of housing per resident	sq.m.	total	21.0	21.9	23.2	BNS ASPR, Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the RK	Information system “Statistical register of housing stock”
				urban	23.5	24.2	25.5		
				rural	17.8	18.6	18.8		
11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage									
11.4.1	Total per capita expenditure on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by source of funding (public, private), type of heritage (cultural, natural) and level of government (national, regional, and local/municipal)	The share of historical and cultural monuments of republican significance, on which scientific and restoration work has been carried out, of the total number of historical and cultural monuments of republican significance	%		14	12	4.4	Ministry of Culture and Sports of the RK	
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									
11.6.1	Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed in controlled facilities out of total municipal waste generated, by cities	Providing the population with services for the collection and removal of waste	%		66.4 (2016 year)	80.0	82.0	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Local authorities	

11.6.1.1		Share of recycling and disposal of municipal solid waste to their generation	%		1.8	11.5	21.1	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Local authorities	
11.6.1.2		Share of landfills that meet environmental and sanitary requirements	%		15.0 (2016 year)	17.5	20.0	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Local authorities	
11.6.2	Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM <sub>2.5</sub> and PM <sub>10</sub> ) in cities (population weighted)	Average annual concentration of suspended particles PM <sub>2.5</sub> and PM <sub>10</sub> in the atmospheric air (mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) in cities where observations are made	mg/m <sup>3</sup>	<b>Suspended particles RM-2.5</b>				Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Local authorities	
				Nur-Sultan	-	0.02	0.036		
				Kokshetau	-	0.0023	0.038		
				Stepnogorsk	0.006	-	0.0179		
				Borovoe	0.026	0.048	0.0377		
				Shchuchinsko-Borovoye resort area	0.074	0.02	0.0272		
				Sarybulak village	-	0.01	-		
				Aktobe	0.018	0.017	0.1257		
				Almaty	-	0.015	0.036		
				Taldykorgan	-	-	0.06		
				Atyrau	0.014	0.01	0.088		
				Kulsary	-	-	-		
				Ust-Kamenogorsk	-	-	0.025		
				Ridder	-	-	-		

				Semey	0.024	0.025	-		
				Glubokoe village	0.0175	0.0328	0.019		
				Zyryanovsk	-	0.00001	-		
				Taraz	-	-	0.03		
				Zhanatas	0.011	0.017	0.002		
				Karatau	0.003	0.037	-		
				Chu	0.023	0.038	0.002		
				Korday village	0.02	0.005	-		
				Uralsk	-	0.023	0.004		
				Aksay	-	-	-		
				Beresovka village	0.0078	-	-		
				Yanvarcevo village	0.011	-	-		
				Karaganda	0.06	0.11	0.152		
				Balkhash	0.0338	-	0.09		
				Zheskazgan	0.002	-	-		
				Saran	0.0272	0.017	-		
				Temirtau	-	-	0.036		
				Kostanay	-	-	0.1		
				Rudny	-	-	-		

				Karabalyk village	0.0131	0.01	-		
				Arkalyk village	-	-	0.0105		
				Zhitikara village	-	-	0.0042		
				Lisakovsk	-	-	0.0033		
				Kyzylorda	-	0.01	0.0013		
				Akay village	-	-	-		
				Toretam village	-	-	-		
				Aktau village	0.016	0.009	0.01		
				Zhanaozen village	-	-	-		
				Beyneu village	0.017	0.005	-		
				Pavlodar village	0.016	0.0046	0.01		
				Ekibastuz	0.015	0	-		
				Aksu	-	-	-		
				Petropavlovsk	0.009	0.01	0.002		
				Shymkent	0.019	0.04	0.023		
				Turkestan	-	-	-		
				Kentau	0.011	0.006	-		
				<b>Suspended particles RM-10</b>					



				Nur-Sultan	0.056	0.02	0.047		
				Kokshetau	0.1156	0.004	0.047		
				Stepnogorsk	0.0184	-	0.0196		
				Borovoe	0.029	0.05	0.0385		
				Shchuchinsko-Borovoye resort area	0.076	0.02	0.0283		
				Sarybulak village	-	0.01	-		
				Aktobe	0.049	0.028	0.098		
				Almaty	0.06	0.03	0.047		
				Taldykorgan	0.241	-	0.041		
				Atyrau	0.043	0.022	0.0083		
				Kulsary	0.033	-	0.0021		
				Ust-Kamenogorsk	0	0.04	0.028		
				Ridder	0	0.04	0.019		
				Semey	0.021	0.03	0.01		
				Glubokoe village	0.0347	0.03	0.028		
				Zyryanovsk	-	0.00003	0.002		
				Taraz	0.045	0.028	0.035		
				Zhanatas	0.034	0.03	0.004		

				Karatau	0.005	0.06	0.06		
				Chu	0.082	0.06	0.001		
				Korday	0.052	0.011	0.011		
				Uralsk	0.0626	0.01	0.01		
				Aksay	0.035	0	0.008		
				Berezovka	0.0244	-	-		
				Janvartsevo	0.0238	-	-		
				Karaganda	0.053	0.11	0.16		
				Balkhash	0.0357	-	0.16		
				Zhezkazgan	0.005	-	0.09		
				Saran	0.0421	0.02	0.0667		
				Temirtau	0	-	0.063		
				Kostanay	0.085	0.04	0.05		
				Rudny	0.016	0	0		
				Karabalyk village	0.0298	0.02	0.03		
				Arkalyk	0.06	0.012	0.0146		
				Zhitikara	0.02	0.033	0.0086		
				Lisakovsk	0.007	0.026	0.0059		
				Kyzylorda	0.029	0.0054	0.0142		

				Akay village	0.0002	-	-		
				Toretam village	0.0006	0	0		
				Aktau	0.063	0.032	0.1		
				Zjanozen	0.046	0	0.02		
				Beyneu	0.0807	0.011	0.06		
				Pavlodar	0.039	0.0066	0.04		
				Ekibastuz	0.022	0.0057	0.02		
				Aksu	0.023	-	0.02		
				Petropavlovsk	0.012	0.01	0.006		
				Shymkent	0.057	0.053	0.036		
				Turkestan	0.149	-	-		
				Kentau	0.007	0.008	0		

## Group “Planet”

## Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all									
6.1.1	Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	Access of the population to water supply services, percentage	%	city	87.0	94.5	98.1	Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the RK	
				village	51.5	59.9	93.0		
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									
6.2.1	Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water	Coverage of the population with wastewater treatment, percent	%	city	-	68.7	75.7	Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the RK	
				village		8.6	...		
6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally									
6.3.1	Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated	The share of treated wastewater by complete biological treatment (including post-treatment) in the total volume of wastewater passed, percent	%		82.6	79.7	73.2	BNS ASPR RK	
6.3.2	Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality	Share of water bodies with good water quality, percentage	%		9.3	3.6	31.77	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Ministry of Healthcare of the RK	

6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity									
6.4.1	Change in water-use efficiency over time	Dynamics of changes in water use efficiency by types of economic activity, USD in 2015 prices/m <sup>3</sup>	USD in 2015 prices/m <sup>3</sup>	Water use efficiency	7.970	7.200	7.380	BNS ASPR RK, Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Ministry of Agriculture of the RK	*Data for 2019
				Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	0.038	0.035	0.039		
				manufacturing	9.296	11.511	11.519		
				other activities	69.206	31.367	31.354		
				Change in water use efficiency (growth rate relative to the previous year), percent	-14.2 (base year 2016)	17.5	2.5		
				Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	-2.6 (base year 2016)	6.1	11.4		
				manufacturing	-14.1 (base year 2016)	3.1	-0.2		
				other activities	-66.9 (base year 2016)	87.0	0.0		
6.4.2	Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources		%		30.01 (base year 2016)	32.65	32.62	BNS ASPR RK, Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	*Data for 2019

6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate									
6.5.1	Degree of integrated water resources management, percent		%		30.0 (base year 2017)		46.0	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	*Data for 2020
6.5.2	Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation, percent		%		73.0 (base year 2016)		63.2*	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	Data is published every 3 years *Data for 2020
6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes									
6.6.1	Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time	Water quality	%	Turbidity, percentage	5.36*	...	5.36**	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	Statistics prepared by UNEP based on Earth observations and simulations  * Base year 2017  **Data as of May 27, 2022
			amount	Affected, number	3 out of 56*	...	3 out of 56**		
		Lakes and Rivers	%	Permanent water dynamics	-9.86*	...	-9.17**		
			km <sup>2</sup>		-14 936.00*	...	-15 651.02**		
			%	Seasonal water dynamics	147.99*	...	86.35**		
			km <sup>2</sup>		24 589.00*	...	21 874.52**		
		Reservoirs	%	Minimum water extent dynamics	-0.62*	...	-1.84**		
			km <sup>2</sup>		-38.00*	...	-113.89**		
			%	Maximum water extent dynamics	-0.15*	.....	-0.47**		
			km <sup>2</sup>		-10.00*	...	-31.65**		
		Wetlands	km <sup>2</sup>	Wetlands	20 859.63*	...	20 859.63**		
		Mangroves	km <sup>2</sup>	Mangroves	none*	...	none**		



6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management									
6.b.1	Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management	Share of basin councils that have rules and procedures for citizen participation in water management, percentage	%		100.0 (base year 2017)	100.0	100.0	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the RK (Committee on construction, housing and utilities services)	

## Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment</i>									
12.4.1	Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste, and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement		%	a) Basel Convention	33.3	-		Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Ministry of Foreign affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan	
				b) Rotterdam Convention	41.2	-			
				c) Stockholm Convention	33.3	-			
				d) Montreal Protocol	100.0	-			
12.4.2	a) Hazardous waste generated per capita and	Hazardous waste generation (all hazard levels) per capita, tons per capita	tons per capita	total	14.34	8.20	7.40*	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	*Data for 2020
	b) proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment			Of which: hazardous waste ("red" and "amber" hazard levels) per capita, kg per capita	4 161.2	226.0	182.8*		

12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse									
12.5.1	National recycling rate, tons of material recycled	The share of processing and disposal of production waste to their generation, percentage	%		23.12	32.20	38.23	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	
12.5.1.1		Proportion of recycling and disposal of municipal solid waste to their generation, percentage	%		1.80	11.51	21.10	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Local authorities	

## Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries</i>									
13.1.2	Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030				The Ministry for Emergency Situations of the RK has been the national coordinator for the implementation of this program since 2017			Ministry for Emergency Situations of the RK	

## Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>14.3 Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels</i>									
14.3.1	Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations	Average pH value of seawater measured at an agreed group of representative sampling stations (Caspian Sea)			8.14	8.26	7.45	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	
<i>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</i>									
14.5.1	Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas	The share of the state protected area of the northern part of the Caspian Sea, lake ecosystems from the total share of specially protected natural areas (SPNA), percentage	%		2.67 (base year 2017)	2.67	2.67	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	
<i>14.7 By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism</i>									
14.7.1	Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries	Share of "Fisheries and aquaculture" in GDP, percent	%		0.2	0.2	0.2*	BNS ASPR RK, Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	Preliminary data for 2021

## Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements</i>									
15.1.1	Forest area as a proportion of total land area, percent		%		4.6	4.7	5.0	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Ministry of Agriculture of the RK	
15.1.2	Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	Share of specially protected natural areas, percent	%		9.3	9.6	9.6	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	
<i>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</i>									
15.2.1	Progress towards sustainable forest management	The area of the territory covered with forest, thousand hectares	thousand hectares		12 652.4	12 933.1	13 635.3	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK	
		Ground biomass reserves in forests	million m <sup>3</sup>		412.2	428.6			
		Change in net forest area	thousand hectares		25.4	29.6	318.4		



		Percentage of forest area located in legally protected areas	%		100.0	100.0	100.0		
		Proportion of forest area for which a long-term plan has been developed	%		100.0	100.0	100.0		
<i>15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world</i>									
15.3.1	Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area	Area of eroded lands as part of agricultural land as a percentage of the total land area, thousand ha	thousand hectares		29 320.1	29 320.1	29 320.1	Ministry of Agriculture of the RK	
<i>15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development</i>									
15.4.1	Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity, percent		%		19.4	19.8	18.2	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the RK, Local authorities	

## Group “Peace”

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

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
<i>16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere</i>									
16.1.1	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100 000 population, by sex and age	Number of victims of intentional homicides, per 100 000 people	per 100 000 people	total	4.9	4.4	3.0	BNS ASPR	
				men	7.2	6.5	4.6		
				women	2.9	2.5	1.4		
				0-17 year	0.9	0.6	0.1		
				18-24 year	5.8	5.1	2.1		
				25-54 year	8.6	9.2	5.9		
				55-59 year	9.2	6.3	5.2		
				60 and older	4.9	4.9	3.7		
16.1.4	Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live	Percentage of people who feel safe or insecure when walking alone on the street in their area	%	total	100.0	100.0	100.0	BNS ASPR	Sample survey “The level of public confidence in law enforcement agencies”.  Data for 2016, 2019 and 2021
				in complete safety	42.4	49.6	58.8		
				safe enough	48.7	42.8	38.1		
				not safe	8.9	5.4	2.3		
				not safe at all		0.9	0.4		
				difficult to answer		1.2	0.4		

16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children									
16.2.2	Number of victims of human trafficking per 100 000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	Number of victims of human trafficking per 100 000 people	per 100 000 people		2.5	1.3	1.1	Committee on the legal statistics and special accounts of the state office of public prosecutor of Republic of Kazakhstan, BNS ASPR	
16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all									
16.3.3.2		Level of trust in law enforcement agencies, by agency	percentage	the prosecutor's office can be trusted				BNS ASPR	Sample survey "The level of public confidence in law enforcement agencies".  Data for 2016, 2019 and 2021
				completely agree	-	45.9	37.7		
				partially agree	-	43.4	27.3		
				partially disagree	-	1.6	3.0		
				totally disagree	-	1.0	1.7		
				never encountered this structure	-	8.1	30.3		
				the police can be trusted					
				completely agree	-	38.3	41.0		
				partially agree	-	51.2	33.6		
				partially disagree	-	3.3	4.3		

				totally disagree	-	2.3	2.2		
				never encountered this structure	-	4.9	18.9		
				The anti-corruption service can be trusted					
				completely agree	-	25.3	25.1		
				partially agree	-	39.9	26.3		
				partially disagree	-	2.2	2.8		
				totally disagree	-	1.6	1.8		
				never encountered this structure	-	31.0	44.0		
				To the Economic Investigation Service can be trusted					
				completely agree	-	24.4	21.6		
				partially agree	-	35.7	23.3		
				partially disagree	-	1.6	2.2		
				totally disagree	-	1.2	1.1		
				never encountered this structure	-	37.1	51.7		

16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms									
16.5.1	Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months		%		34.2	13.3	13.7	ACA	

## Group “Partnership”

## Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Code	Global indicator	National indicator	Measurement unit	Desaggregation	2015	2018	2021	Data source	Note
17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources									
17.3.1.3		The ratio of gross inflow of direct investments into Kazakhstan from foreign direct investors to GDP	%		8.33	2.23	9.98*	BNS ASPR, Ministry of National economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan	*Data for 2020
17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development									
17.14.1	Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development		In order to increase the coherence of policies in the field of sustainable development, in November 2018, under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Coordinating Council was established to promote the Sustainable Development Goals in the Republic of Kazakhstan.  In order to carry out effective monitoring, SDG Monitoring Committee was established in June 2021 under the leadership of the Ministry of National economy. Working groups are also actively working, which consist of representatives of state bodies, international and non-governmental organizations of the Republic of Kazakhstan.					Ministry of National economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan	
17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries									
17.16.1	Number of countries reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the sustainable development goals		In order to increase the coherence of policies in the field of sustainable development, in November 2018, under the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Coordinating Council was established to promote the Sustainable Development Goals in the Republic of Kazakhstan.  In order to carry out effective monitoring, SDG Monitoring Committee was established in June 2021 under the leadership of the Ministry of National economy. Working groups are also actively working, which consist of representatives of state bodies, international and non-governmental organizations of the Republic of Kazakhstan.					Ministry of National economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan	



# ORGANIZATIONS THAT PARTICIPATED IN PREPARATION OF A VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW

## GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Secretariat of the National Commission for Women Affairs, Family and Demographic Policy under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Secretariat of the National Commission for Women, Family and Demographic Policy

National Center for Human Rights of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Supreme Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan

General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan

National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Anti-Corruption Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Agency for Civil Service Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Agency for Regulation and Development of Financial Market of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Financial Monitoring Agency of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Healthcare of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Information and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population

Ministry of Culture and Sports the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Trade and Integration of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry for Emergency Situations of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations and Aerospace Industry of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Committee for Children Rights Protection of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Fisheries Committee of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Forestry and Wildlife Committee of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Land Administration Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Akimat of Akmola region

Akimat of Aktobe region

Akimat of Almaty region

Akimat of Atyrau region

Akimat of West Kazakhstan region

Akimat of Zhambyl region

Akimat of Karagandy region

Akimat of Kostanay region

Akimat of Kyzylorda region

Akimat of Mangystau region

Akimat of Pavlodar region

Akimat of North Kazakhstan region

Akimat of Turkestan region

Akimat of East Kazakhstan region

Akimat of Nur-Sultan

Akimat of Almaty

Akimat of Shymkent

## NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS:

Astana Invest IC

Biodiversity Research and Conservation Center Public Fund

Civil Society Development Association (ARGO)

Civil Alliance of Kazakhstan

Enactus Kazakhstan National Office

Green Academy Research and Education Center

International Green Technologies & Investments Center

Kameda Public Fund

Sustainable Rural Development Fund

## OTHER ORGANIZATIONS:

AIFC Green Finance Center

Applied Economics Research Centre LLP

Center for Study of Human Rights, Inclusion and Civil Society of the Eurasian

Center for Support of Civil Initiatives

Economic Research Institute JSC

Ecolomist LLP

Institute of Applied Research of the Public Administration Academy under the President of RK

JV CCI Kazakhstan LLP

Kazakhstan Stock Exchange JSC

Kazakhstan Engineering NC

KaR-Tel LLP

National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan “Atameken”

PWC LLP

S.Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical University

Siberian Environmental Center LLC

SaryarkaAutoProm LLP

QazTrade Trade Policy Development Center JSC

Technological University

Company brand AIKEN

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

European Union Delegation in Kazakhstan

ESCAP Sub-regional Office for North and Central Asia

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

SWITCH-Asia Project

United Nations in Kazakhstan

UN Development Program in Kazakhstan

UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in Kazakhstan

UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Kazakhstan

UN Women in Kazakhstan

UN Volunteers Programme in Kazakhstan



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