













## Progress summary for SDG targets with a 2020 deadline




By the end of 2020, 21 of the 169 Sustainable Development Goal targets will mature. This summary reviews progress made towards those targets at the global level based on available data as of June 2021. It takes stock of how far the world has come in meeting these commitments by mid-2021 and provides an assessment in stoplight colours. Of these 21 targets, 12 are linked to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Therefore, the summary presents separately the biodiversity-linked targets from the other 2020 targets.







Biodiversity-linked SDG targets with a 2020 deadline <sup>1</sup>	Progress	Progress analysis
<p><b>2.5</b> Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, plants and animals for food and agriculture</p>		<p>The world is still far from maintaining the genetic diversity of seeds, plants and animals for food and agriculture. Of the limited number of surveyed local livestock breeds, 74 per cent are deemed at risk of extinction. At the same time, only 203 out of a global total of 7700 local livestock breeds have sufficient material in genebanks to reconstitute the breed in case of extinction.</p> <p>Global holdings of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture in 2020 reached 5.7 million accessions, conserved in 831 genebanks by 114 countries and territories and 17 regional and international research centres. Although the total number of global holdings has grown, the growth rate has decreased over the past ten years reaching its lowest level in 2020.</p>
<p><b>6.6</b> Protect and restore water-related ecosystems</p>		<p>Water-related ecosystems play a fundamental ecological role and provide essential products and services. That said, freshwater ecosystems are changing dramatically. One fifth of the world's river basins are experiencing either rapid increases or decreases in surface water area. Globally, lake-water quality is poor: of the 2,300 large lakes assessed in 2019, nearly a quarter recorded high to extreme turbidity (water cloudiness). High turbidity can adversely impact human and ecosystem health. An assessment of 10 per cent of the world's large lakes in 2019 showed that at least 21 million people, including 5 million children, live within a 5-kilometre radius of lakes with high turbidity.</p> <p>Natural wetlands around the world are in long-term decline. More than 80 per cent are estimated to have been lost since the pre-industrial era. Between 1970 and 2015, inland and marine/coastal wetlands each shrank by approximately 35 per cent, three times the rate of forest loss. The area covered by coastal mangroves declined globally by 4.9 per cent between 1996 and 2016. Efforts to protect and restore water-related ecosystems must be urgently scaled up and accelerated.</p>
<p><b>12.4</b> Responsibly manage chemicals and waste</p>		<p>Information transmitted by Parties to meet their commitments as required by multilateral environmental agreements in the chemicals and waste cluster continues to play an important role, together with other factors in assessing</p>

<sup>1</sup> The full description of the target can be found at <<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>>.





		<p>the level of implementation of these agreements. There is an encouraging trend for the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in meeting their obligations for the information transmission with an average 59 % of Parties transmitting required information over the period 2010-2014 and 62 % Parties transmitting required information over the period 2015-2019. <i>(progress indicated in yellow).</i></p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic has had many implications for chemicals and waste management and the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions. Rapid changes in the amounts and types of chemicals produced and wastes generated as well as adjustments regarding transboundary movements of wastes, in particular COVID-19-related wastes, are expected to impact the transmission of required information, in particular under the Basel Convention. In addition, in 2019, the amount of e-waste generated was 7.3 kilograms per capita with expected growth rate of 0.16 kg per capita annually, while the realized annual growth rate of e-waste recycling in the past decade was 0.05 kg per capita. <i>(progress indicated in red).</i></p>
<b>14.2</b> Protect and restore marine and coastal ecosystems		<p>The global Ocean Health Index appears to have been static over the last eight years. Some regions have low scores on ocean health that are likely worsening.</p>
<b>14.4</b> Restore fish stocks to sustainable levels		<p>Improved regulations, together with effective monitoring and surveillance, have proven successful in reverting overfished stocks to biologically sustainable levels. However, the adoption of such measures has generally been slow, particularly in many developing countries. In thirteen countries that have active assessment and management systems in place, the proportion of fish stock within biologically sustainable levels is higher than the world average of 65.8% based on data collected in 2019.</p>
<b>14.5</b> Conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas		<p>The extent of marine protected areas has increased significantly, with 2020 coverage reaching 7.74% of global coastal waters and oceans. The 10 per cent target set for 2020 may still be met, because several sites planned for designation in 2020 were delayed due to COVID-19.</p>
<b>14.6</b> End subsidies that contribute to overfishing and to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing		<p>Between 2018 and 2020, the average degree of implementation of international instruments to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has improved across the world, with the global score of a composite measure of the degree of implementation of the five principal instruments rising from 3/5 to 4/5. Close to 75 per cent of States scored highly in their degree of implementation of relevant international instruments in 2020 compared to 70 per cent in 2018.</p>
<b>15.1</b> Conserve and restore terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems		<p>In 2020, on average, 43% of each terrestrial Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), 42% of each freshwater KBA, and 41% of each mountain KBA were within protected areas, an increase of around 13-14 percentage points since 2000. However, the progress seems to be plateauing recently, with only a 1 per cent increase over the last five years.</p>
<b>15.2</b> Promote sustainable management of forests, halt deforestation and restore degraded forests		<p>Progress has been made towards sustainable forest management, but forest loss continues at an alarming rate. There was notable progress towards the sustainable management of the world's forest from 2000–2010 to 2010–2020. The area of forest under certification increased or remained stable at the global level and in most regions, as did the proportion of forests in protected areas or under long-term management plans, and the above-ground forest biomass per hectare.</p>

		Although the rate of decline has slowed, the loss of forests globally remains alarming. The proportion of forest area fell from 31.9 per cent of the world's total land area in 2000 to 31.2 per cent in 2020. This translates to a net loss of almost 100 million hectares.
<b>15.5</b> Protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species		The Red List Index of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), which monitors the overall extinction risk for various species, shows a 10 per cent decline since 1993. Among 134,400 species assessed, 28 per cent (more than 37,400 species) are threatened with extinction, including 41 per cent of amphibians, 34 per cent of conifers, 33 per cent of reef-building corals, 26 per cent of mammals and 14 per cent of birds.
<b>15.8</b> Prevent invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems		The overall rate of biological invasions shows no sign of slowing down, with growth in both the number of invasive species and their spread due to increased trade and transport ( <i>progress indicated in red</i> ). However, nearly all countries (98%) have adopted national legislation relevant to the prevention or control of invasive alien species, although there is wide variation in the coverage of this legislation across sectors. The proportion of countries aligning their invasive alien species-related targets with global targets has increased, from 74% in 2016 to 84% in 2020. ( <i>progress indicated in green</i> ).
<b>15.9</b> Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values in governmental planning and accounts		As of March 2021, 89 countries and territories have implemented the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), an increase of 29% from 2017. And 62 countries and territories (or 70%) have integrated the SEEA into their regular statistical production and compile and publish the accounts on a regular basis.

<b>Other SDG targets with a 2020 deadline</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Progress analysis</b>
<b>3.6</b> Halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents		The global mortality rate due to road traffic injuries declined by 8.3% from 18.1 deaths per 100,000 population in 2010 to 16.7 in 2019. Still, road traffic crashes killed about 1.3 million people worldwide in 2019 with 75% of these occurring among boys and men. The death rate was over 3.5 times higher in low-income countries than in high-income countries despite lower rates of vehicle ownership in low-income countries.
<b>4.b</b> Expand the number of scholarships to developing countries, especially LDCs, small island developing States and African countries		Official development assistance for scholarships amounted to \$1.7 billion in 2019, up from \$1.3 billion in 2017. France, Japan, EU Institutions, Saudi Arabia and Turkey accounted for 55% of this total. The largest recipient regions were Asia and Africa and largest beneficiary countries were Indonesia, Syria, Moldova and China.
<b>8.6</b> Reduce the proportion of youth not engaged in employment, education or training		In 2019, more than one in five of the world's youth were not in employment, education or training (NEET), almost unchanged since 2005. Quarterly figures show the rate increased from the fourth quarter of 2019 to the second quarter of 2020 in 42 out of 49 countries with data. Since young women were already twice as likely to be jobless and not in education nor training than young men, and as women have been disproportionately pushed into inactivity during the pandemic, the COVID-19 crisis is likely to worsen the NEET gender gap among youth.

<b>8.b</b> Develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment		Data on indicator 8.b.1 continues to show the commitment of countries for youth employment. In 2020, almost one third of the 107 countries with data have formulated and operationalized a youth employment strategy, while 44 (41.1 per cent) of them have such strategies but did not provide conclusive evidence on their implementation, and just under a quarter of them (24.3 per cent) are in the process of developing one.
<b>9.c</b> Increase access to information and communications technology		The rollout of mobile-broadband networks has been slowing down in 2020. Globally, almost 85 per cent of the population was covered by a 4G network at the end of 2020. Between 2015 and 2020, 4G network coverage increased two-fold globally. However, annual growth has been slowing down gradually since 2017, and the coverage in 2020 was only 1.3 percentage points higher than in 2019.
<b>11.b</b> Implement policies for inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaption to climate change and promote holistic disaster risk management		Significant progress has been achieved towards increasing the adoption and availability of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020, as reported under the Sendai Framework Target E. As of October 2020, there has been a 115% increase in the number of countries with either national or local DRR strategies or both, reaching 103 countries, compared to 48 in 2015. Of these, 74 countries report having both national and local DRR strategies – 100% increase from 37 countries in 2015.
<b>13.a</b> Jointly mobilize \$100 billion annually for developing countries for climate change mitigation		The tracking of progress towards the \$100 billion goal is still in negotiation under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process. Biennial reports from the UNFCCC provide additional information on flows from UNFCCC funds, multilateral development banks, bilateral and other channels in climate finance-specific amounts, as well as amounts estimated to be privately mobilized.
<b>17.11</b> Increase the exports of developing countries and double the share of LDC global exports		The share of LDC exports in global merchandise trade remained constant at 1 per cent in 2019, and over the last decade has stagnated after significant improvements from 2000 to 2010. The target of doubling the share of global LDC exports by 2020 from 2011 (a 2 per cent target) is unlikely to be achieved. For developing countries, the share in world merchandise exports has remained constant at around 45 per cent since 2012.
<b>17.18</b> Enhance capacity-building support to developing countries to increase the availability of timely, quality and disaggregated data		In 2020, 122 countries and territories reported having national statistical legislation that was compliant with the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, up from 111 in 2018. In addition, 132 countries and territories reported implementing a national statistical plan, with 84 having fully funded plans. However, only 4 out of 48 (8%) of LDCs reported having fully funded national statistical plans.

Note:

-  Target is achieved or on track to be achieved
-  Progress has been made, but is insufficient to meet the target
-  No progress or moving away from the target
-  No data or data are insufficient to assess progress

Some targets cover multiple aspects of a development issue. Their assessments are therefore conducted separately and reflected in the bicoloured traffic light.