



# **SDG MOMENT AND LOCALIZING THE 2030 AGENDA: LESSONS FROM THE ZIMBABWE SDG INSIGHTS REPORT**

# PREPARING FOR THE 2023 SDG SUMMIT

“ **What is needed now is a surge in commitment from governments and stakeholders to take implementation to the next level... At the Summit, I urge world leaders to convey a National Commitment to SDG Transformation.** ”

UN Secretary-General, António Guterres Letter to Member States, 3 April 2023



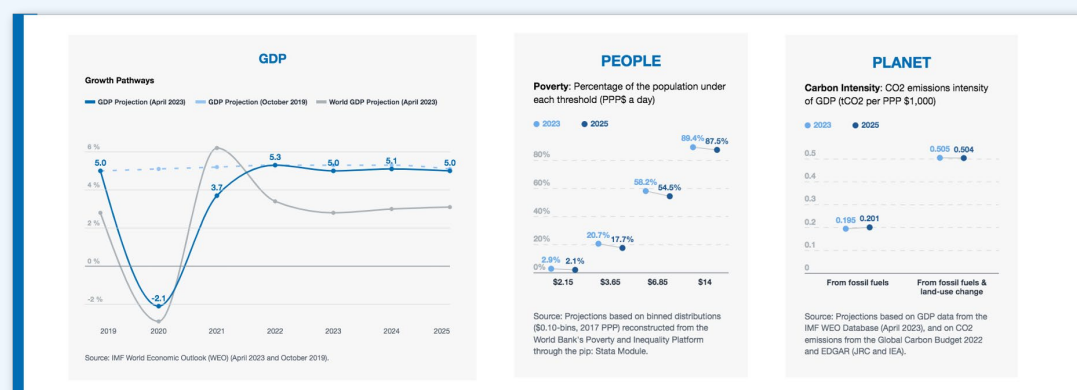
“ **Countries can draw on global and regional level tools such as the [SDG Push Diagnostic](#) and its national 'Integrated SDG Insights' report developed by IDP.** ”

SDG Summit Guidance Note on National Commitments, May 2023

# NAVIGATING THE INSIGHTS

## ✓ SDG MOMENT

Assesses challenges and opportunities in national growth trajectories with insights on environmental sustainability and inclusiveness.



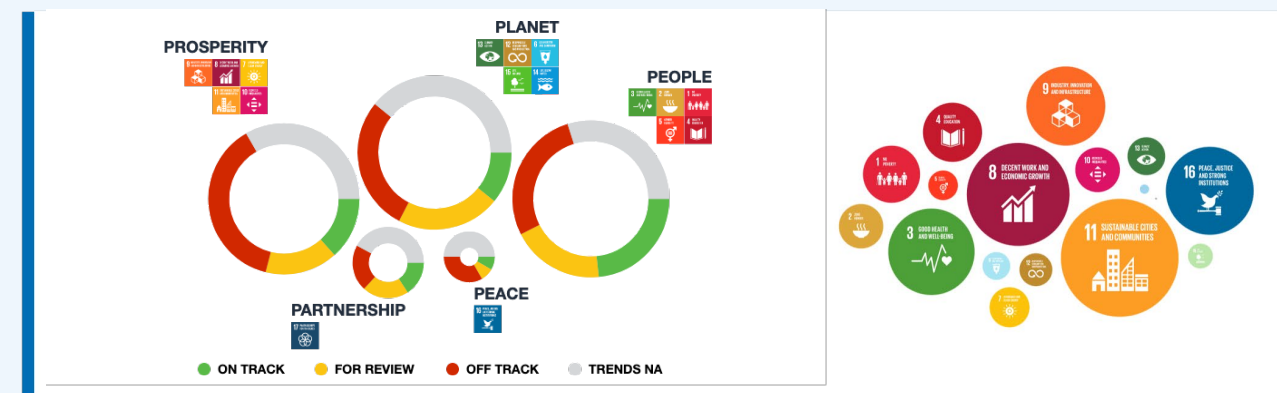
## ✓ INTERLINKAGES

Maps synergies and trade-offs for the most relevant SDG targets (informed by trends and priorities, cognizant of constraints) to chart policy pathways with biggest multiplier effects.



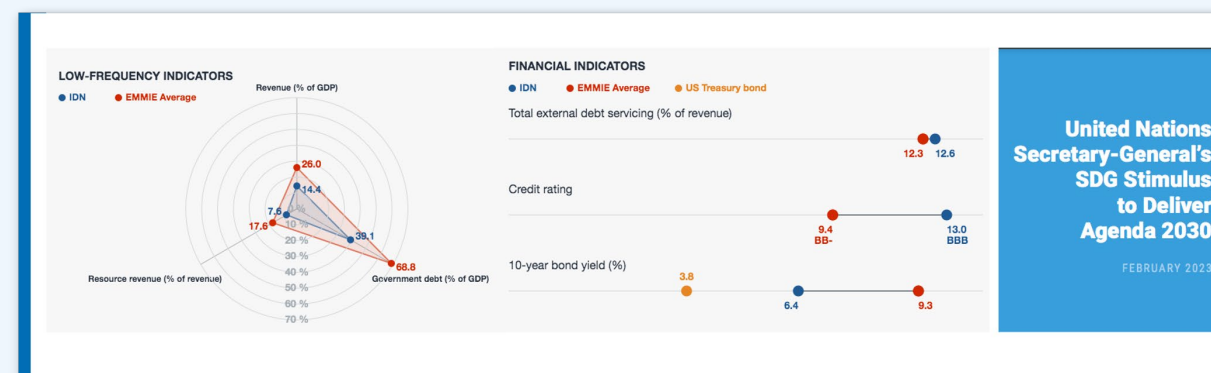
## ✓ TRENDS AND PRIORITIES

Utilizes official UN statistics to assess SDG progress, and custom-built machine learning to synthesize national priorities & align to the SDGs.



## ✓ FINANCE & STIMULUS

Provides insight into indicators of fiscal and financial stress with options (INFF) for stimulus and other means to accelerate progress.



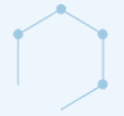
**“ The insights delivered something unique --not a statistical gaps report or evaluation of development impact-- but a playbook, exploring both the strategies and tactics needed to advance SDG pathways.**

## **The ‘development we want’ is often held hostage by the ‘growth we get’.**

- 1** The ‘growth we get’ is often fossil-fuel driven, debt-fueled and frequently unjust. The default trajectory is seeding further economic, social, political, and environmental turmoil and divergence.
- 2** The ‘development we want’, is based on mutually reinforcing forces for human and planetary well-being and is emerging through bold choices and courageous leadership.
- 3** The ecosystem needed to enable this transformation involves lifting fiscal/financial constraints, but also strengthening institutional effectiveness, justice and governance.

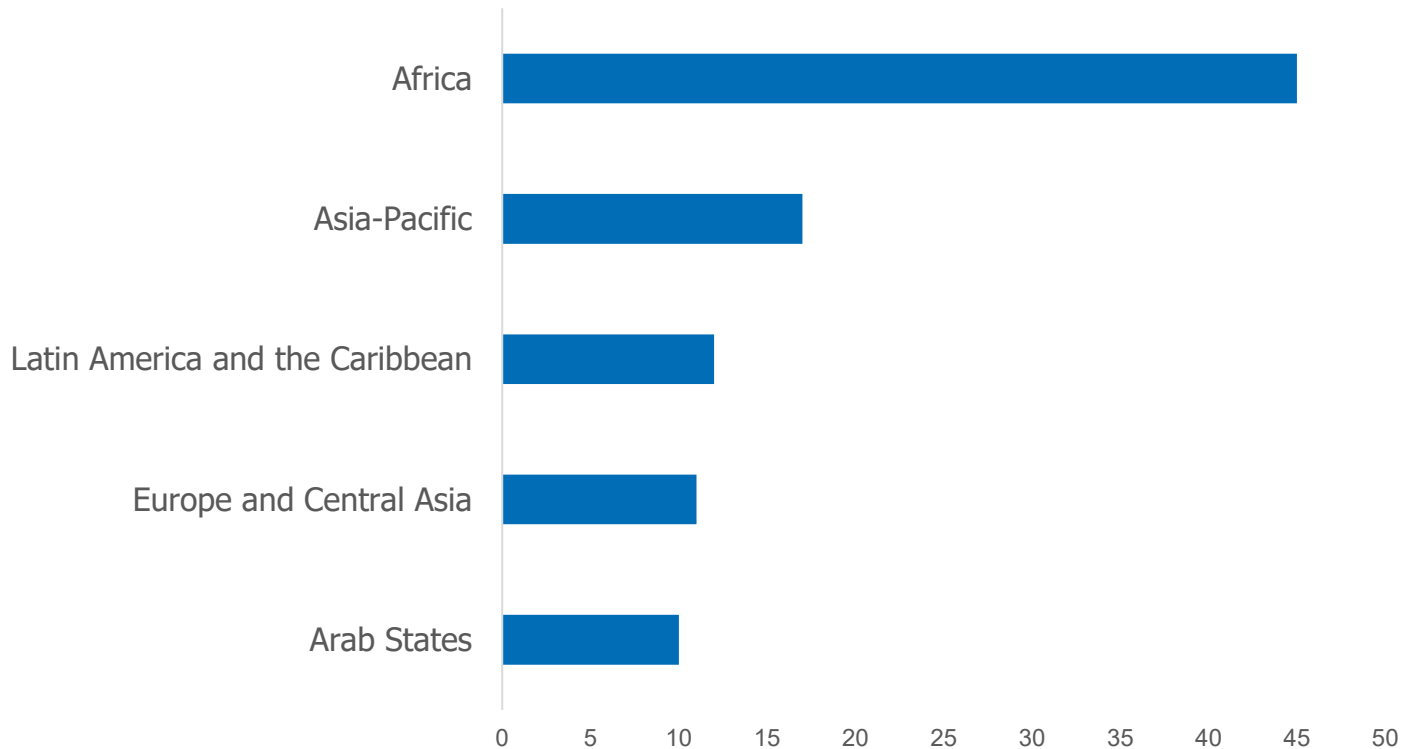
This first-of-its kind playbook supports government to prepare for the SDG Summit and implement the second half of the 2030, as well as points to macro- and micro-patterns that will endure beyond 2030.

# INTEGRATED SDG INSIGHTS: COUNTRY COVERAGE



# 95

**Reports  
across all  
regions**



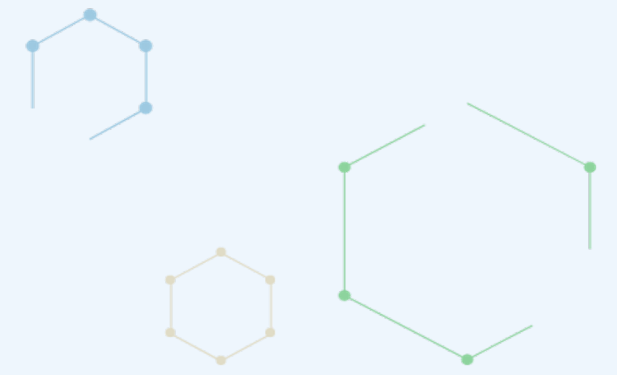
# 44

**Reports  
across the  
Africa  
region**

- Angola
- Benin
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cabo Verde
- Cameroon
- CAR
- Chad
- Comoros
- Côte d'Ivoire
- DRC
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Gambia
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Guinea Bissau
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nigeria
- Republic of Congo
- Rwanda
- Sao Tome and Principe
- Senegal
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe



# META ANALYSIS: EMERGING PATTERNS IN THE REPORTS



While **"there is no trade-off between poverty and climate"** is the common refrain, most reports illustrate that growth/jobs/distributive in the present, will triumph deep decarbonization in the future.



After three years of mitigating crises, we are witnessing **"bread and butter"** moments for future development: jobs + social protection + cities + capable states.



**"Debt overhang is here and it is damaging future development prospects for human development."** Countries are scrambling to service debt and leverage future investments at the same time.

# GROWTH, CARBON AND POVERTY



## GROWTH

Post pandemic, the economies of the 44 countries recovered at annual growth rates of more than 4 percent, on average, and are projected to continue expanding at annual rates of between 4 and 4.5 percent during the period 2023-2025.



## CARBON

This positive economic outlook is accompanied by an increase of carbon emissions (total tonnes). The pre-pandemic level was recovered in 2022 and since then total emissions from fossil fuel usage are expected to continue rising at annual rates of between 4 and 5 percent, and between 1 and 2 percent when also considering land-use change.

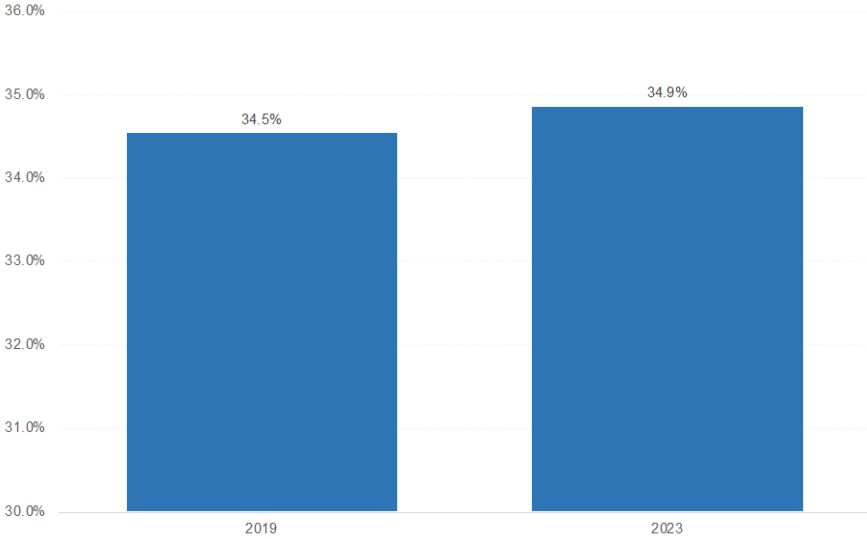
Further, the fossil carbon intensity of GDP has remained virtually unchanged at around 0.20 tonnes per \$1,000 (2017 PPP)



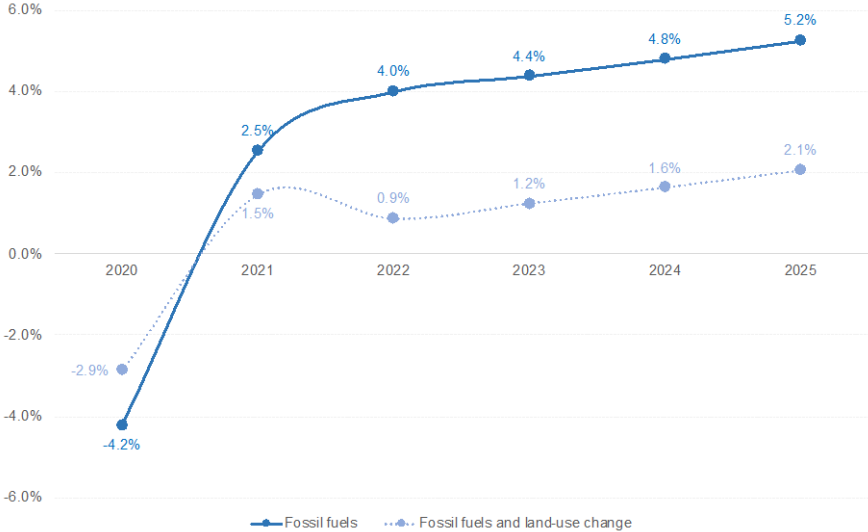
## POVERTY

The positive economic outlook post-pandemic is not expected to exert a noticeable effect on reducing poverty. People living on less than \$2.15 a day is expected to only increase by 0.4% between 2019 and 2023. This highlights the urgency to address distributional challenges to accelerate SDG progress.

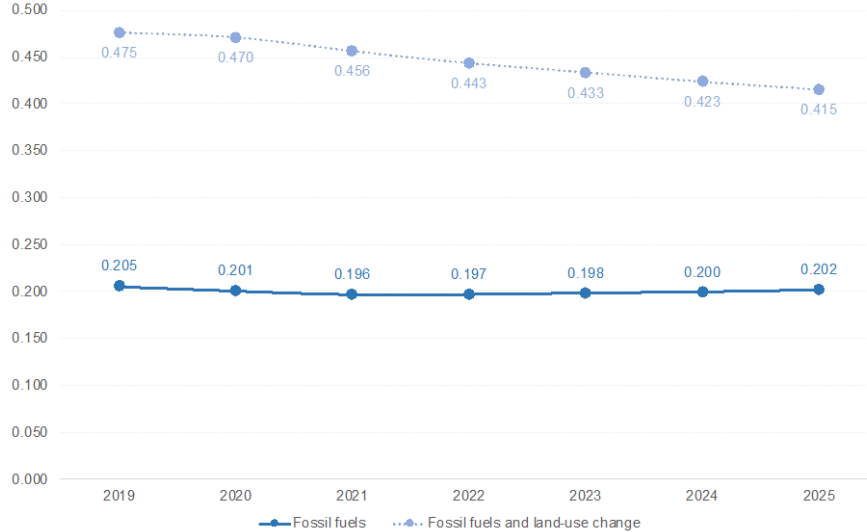
Incidence of poverty at \$2.15 a day (% of the population in 44 countries)



Annual growth rates of carbon emissions



Carbon emissions intensity of GDP (tonnes of CO2 per \$1,000 at 2017 PPP)

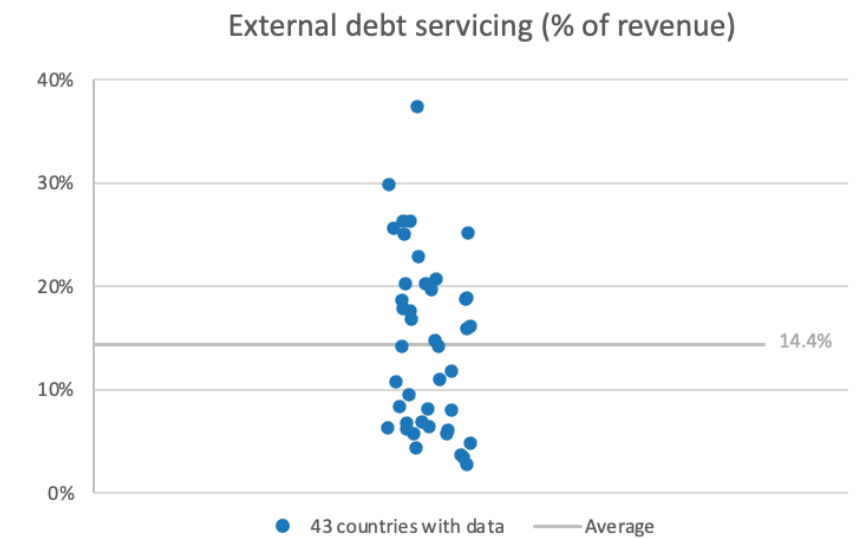
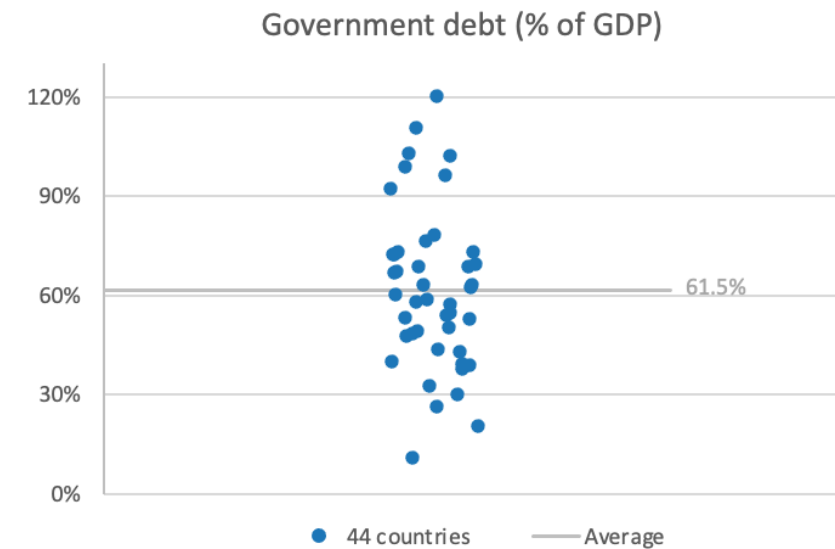


# FISCAL AND FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS

## ✓ DEBT

Twenty-one of the analysed countries struggle with above-average government debt of more than 61.5% of GDP.

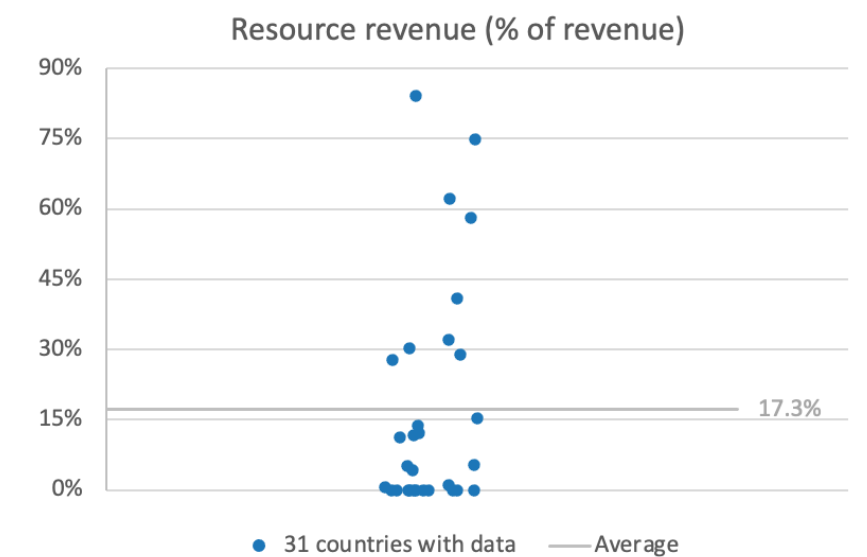
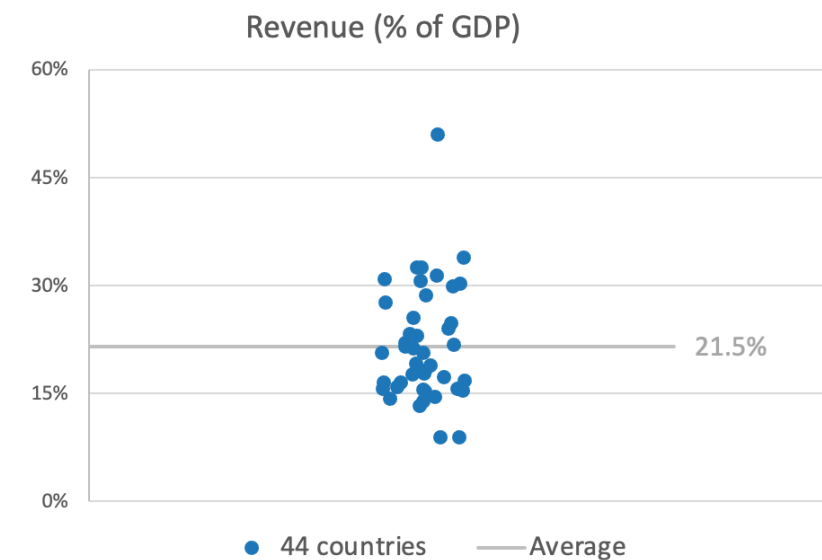
Countries need to spend on average 14.4% of their revenue on external debt servicing rather than being able to invest in sustainable development.<sup>1</sup>



## ✓ REVENUE

The analysed countries collect on average 21.5% of GDP in revenue. Thirty-five countries face particular challenges in raising sufficient resources to invest in national priorities (less than 30% of GDP).

On average, 17.3% of said revenue stems from natural resources.<sup>2</sup> Four countries are particularly dependent on natural resources and collect more than half of their revenues from the latter.



<sup>1</sup> Data on external debt servicing is available for 43 of the 44 analysed countries.

<sup>2</sup> Data on the natural resources share of revenue is available for 31 of the 44 analysed countries.



# SDG Push Insight Report – Zimbabwe

## SDG Interlinkages

- SDG target 8.5: Full employment and decent work with equal pay
- SDG target 9.1: Develop sustainable, resilient and inclusive infrastructures
- SDG target 11.1: Safe and affordable housing
- SDG target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions

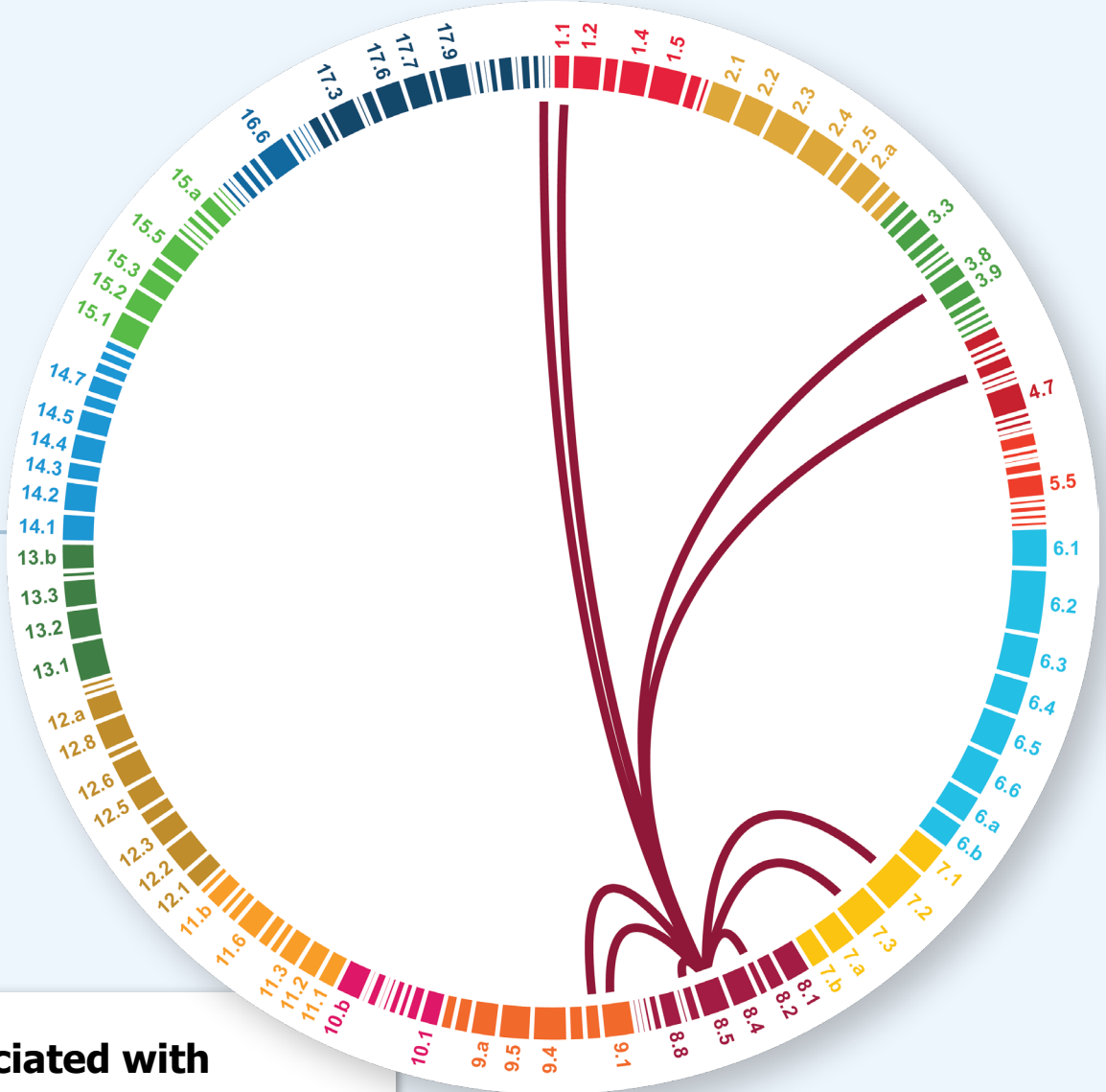
# SDG INTERLINKAGES: DRIVING PROGRESS ACROSS GOALS

Our insights look across national policy priorities to uncover where investment in one SDG can unlock progress on others. These clusters are an essential tool to pinpoint **the combination of policy choices that can rebalance social, environmental, and economic achievements.**

## Decent work for all can drive SDG progress.

The most powerful policy combinations and co-investments in the region include:

- Eradicating extreme poverty
- Achieving universal health coverage
- Increasing the number of people with relevant skills for financial success
- Increasing renewable energy and improve energy efficiency
- Promoting policies to support job creation, growing enterprises, and youth employment, education and training
- Developing sustainable, resilient and inclusive infrastructures, and promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization
- Strengthening science, technology and innovation capacity



**For Zimbabwe, this is associated with progress through infrastructure investments** and reinforces the goal of building resilient infrastructure (9.1) and promoting inclusive industrialization (9.2).

# SDG INTERLINKAGES: DRIVING PROGRESS ACROSS GOALS

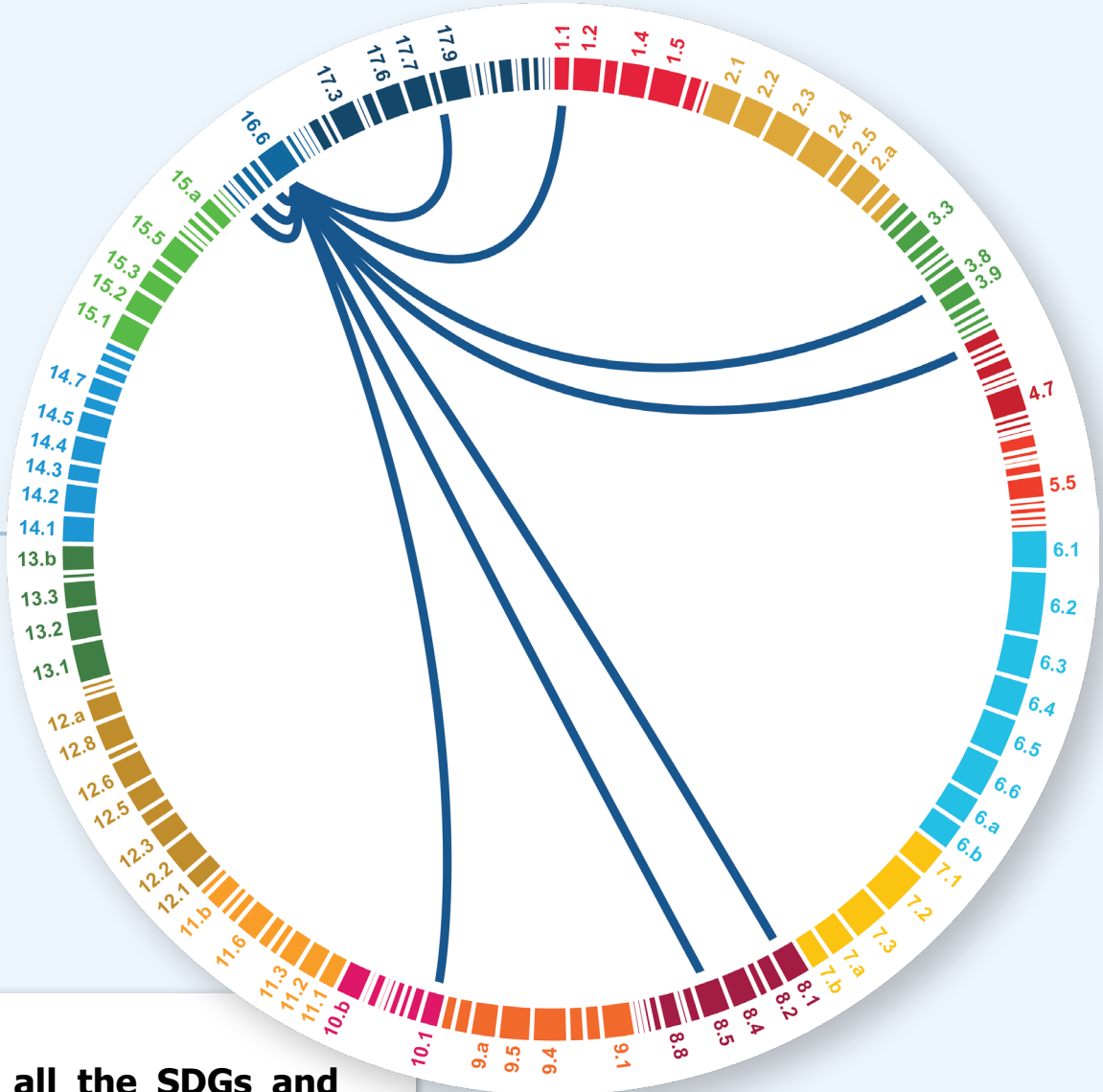
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**Effective and accountable institutions** are a driver of societal well-being.

The most powerful policy combinations and co-investments in the region include:

- Eradicating extreme poverty
- Achieving universal health coverage
- Free primary and secondary education
- Increasing renewable energy and improve energy efficiency
- Sustainable economic growth as well as full employment and decent work with equal pay
- Reducing income inequalities
- Reducing violence everywhere and promoting the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice
- Strengthening science, technology and innovation capacity

**SDG 16.6 is an enabler for all the SDGs and Agenda 2030.** E.g., progress on SDG 16.6 will enhance economic growth (SDG 8). SDG 16.6 will improve education outcomes (SDG 4) and in turn progress on SDG 4 will promote a culture of peace, justice and inclusion.



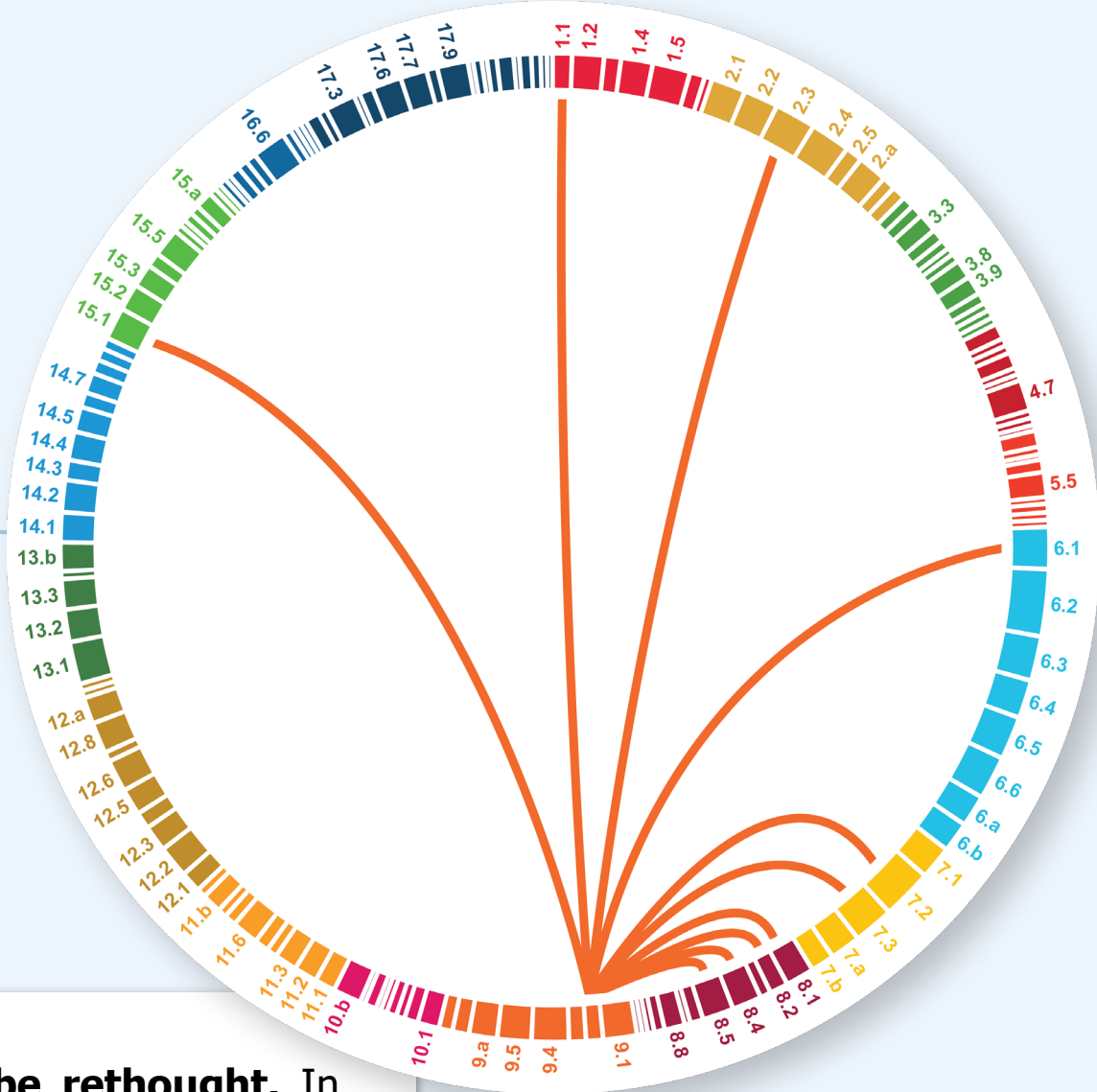
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**A functioning and resilient infrastructure** is the foundation of every successful community.

The most powerful policy combinations and co-investments in the region include:

- Eradicating extreme poverty
- Doubling the productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers
- Safe and affordable drinking water
- Sustainable economic growth, improve economic productivity and resource efficiency, and promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization
- Developing sustainable, resilient and inclusive infrastructures
- Conserving and restoring terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems



**Public services need to be rethought.** In Zimbabwe, digital public infrastructure should be seen as platforms that deliver goods and services for the advancement of society and the SDGs

# WHAT CAN WE DO TO RESCUE THE SDGs?

- Pursue growth that meets people's and planetary needs
- Harnessing the power of data for progress on the SDGs| Filling data gaps with non-traditional data sources and methods. Non-traditional data sources, especially big data, citizen science, and Earth Observations, are being more frequently used to improve data gaps. Big data, or large volumes of high velocity, complex, and variable data, can improve the timeliness and relevance of SDG indicators without compromising their impartiality and methodological soundness
- Localize the SDGs, and integrate community needs into national and local policy processes
- Align national/local budgets and planning instruments with the 2030 Agenda
- Whole government and whole society to the implementation of SDG will have a positive impact on other SDGs, and co-financing (or investment) on other SDGs|Drawing inspiration from the 'moonshot' programmes that led to the historic moon landing in 1969, economist Mariana Mazzucato highlights the importance of creating structures that foster collaborative, mission-oriented thinking, and a shared sense of purpose.





**EXPLORE FURTHER**  
**[SDGPUSH.UNDP.ORG](https://sdgpush.undp.org)**

**[data.undp.org/sdg-push-diagnostic/](https://data.undp.org/sdg-push-diagnostic/)**

