

SDG 17: Partnerships

for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development



FACTS AND FIGURES

- In 2023, ODA by DAC member countries amounted to \$223.7 billion, or 0.37% of their combined GNI. This marks a 1.8% realterm increase from 2022 and a 47% rise from 2015, representing the fifth consecutive year of record-high ODA.
- The annual SDG investment gap in developing countries is now \$4 trillion
- Global FDI flows in 2023 reached an estimated \$1.37 trillion, a marginal increase over 2022, mainly due to higher values in a few conduit economies. Excluding these, global FDI flows were 18% lower
- In 2023, remittance flows to low- and middle-income countries reached an estimated \$669 billion, reflecting a normalization of flows following the post-pandemic robust growth.
- About 60% of low-income countries are at high risk of debt distress or already experiencing it. Increasing borrowing costs have and will continue to divert scarce resources from critical development needs such as poverty reduction, climate action, health and education..
- In 2023, 67% of the global population, or 5.4 billion people, were online, marking a 4.7% increase from 2022. The growth rate has returned to pre-pandemic levels after a surge during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Fixed-broadband subscriptions grew steadily, averaging a 6.4% annual increase from 2015 to 2023, reaching 19 per 100 inhabitants in 2023 globally. Despite this, fixed connections are rare in low-income countries due to high costs and lack of infrastructure.
- In 2023, **163 countries** implemented national statistical plans, up from 143 in 2019, with **109 fully funded**.
- International support for data and statistics development surged to \$799 million in 2021, a 14% increase from 2020 and 44% from 2015.



To learn more about global progress on the 17 SDGs, click <u>here</u> to read the latest Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024.



WHERE WE STAND

- Developing countries face a \$4 trillion annual investment gap to achieve the SDGs. Foreign direct investment flows to developing countries have decreased while gains in remittances and ODA have been modest. The Secretary-General has urged countries to support an SDG Stimulus of \$500 billion annually to address this shortfall.
- External debt stock levels remain unprecedentedly high for developing countries, with about 60% of lowincome countries at high risk of debt distress or already experiencing it.
- In 2023, 5.4 billion people worldwide were online, mark a 69% increase in internet coverage from 2015. Investment in infrastructure and affordable internet access is crucial for inclusive development, particularly in low-income regions.
- In a landscape of declining international cooperation and rising geopolitical tensions, strengthened global partnerships and enhanced cooperation are urgently needed to address widening financing gaps, reinforce post-pandemic recovery, and promote sustainable development, particularly in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and other vulnerable countries.

SPOTLIGHT

SDG STIMULUS LEADERS GROUP

In the <u>Political Declaration</u> adopted at the 2023 SDG Summit, Member States welcomed the Secretary-General's efforts to address the SDG financing gap through an <u>SDG Stimulus</u> and promise to advance its proposals in a timely manner. At the closing of the SDG Summit, the Secretary-General announced the creation of a Leaders Group to deliver a set of clear steps to unlock the additional finance. UN DESA, in consultation with UNDP and UNCTAD, will continue to support the follow-up processes in this regard.

The SDG Stimulus identifies three areas of action: tackling the high cost of debt and rising risks of debt distress; massively scaling up affordable long-term financing, especially through multilateral development banks (MDBs), by at least \$500 billion per year; and expanding contingency financing to countries facing liquidity constraints. The 2023 G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration also welcomed the initiative.

The SDG Stimulus Leaders Group has been convened by the UN Secretary-General to advocate at the highest level for equipping developing countries with the financial resources they require to invest in the SDGs. The membership of the Leaders Group includes Heads of State and Government of Barbados, Brazil, Canada (co-chair), France, India, Italy, Jamaica (co-chair), Kenya, South Africa, and Spain. Its inaugural meeting took place on Wednesday 5 June 2024 in New York.

To learn more, visit the SDG Stimulus website.



At the 2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum, four SDG Action Segments were organized in collaboration with key partners from the UN system and beyond around the SDGs under in-depth review at 2024 HLPF, demonstrating how innovative partnerships could be scaled up to drive SDG implementation while highlighting their crucial role in fostering collaborative action across stakeholders and sectors. >>>LEARN MORE



- The Power of Data High-Impact Initiative aims to launch 50 national data partnerships to boost government decision making, accelerate digital transformation agendas, and open up new economic and developmental opportunities, unlocking the data dividend for the SDGs. An Implementation Group, technical comprised of representatives participating countries and UN entities (including UN DESA, UNFPA, and CCS-UN), will define the principles of effective investment in data, mobilize funding for national data partnerships, track progress through commissioned reports, and share best practices across partnerships A Secretariat, run by the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, will monitor progress, coordinate stakeholders, and share best practices.
- ITU, through the Partner2Connect Digital Coalition (P2C), announced the mobilization of USD 4.8 billion dollars in investment commitments toward global connectivity at the Information Society (WSIS)+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024, bringing the total P2C pledges aimed at closing the digital divide to USD 50.96 billion, over half the USD 100 billion goal set for 2026.
- The AI for Good initiative, organized by ITU in partnership with 40 UN Sister Agencies and co-convened with Switzerland, aims to identify practical applications of AI to advance the SDGs and scale those solutions for global impact. The United Nations Activities on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Report showcases AI cases and projects across the UN system that contribute to the SDGs.
- UN Trade and Development's <u>Transforming4Trade initiative</u> aims to help countries foster economy-wide productive capacities and achieve structural economic transformation. It serves as a platform for formulating and implementing Holistic Productive Capacities Development Programmes to address multiple development challenges through new generation policies, particularly in vulnerable countries.
- Through the collaborative efforts of around 70 partners from the UN, multilateral organizations, universities, civil society, academia and the private sector, <u>UN SDG:Learn</u> provides a unique gateway that empowers individuals and organizations through an informed decision when selecting among a wealth of SDG-related learning products and services that are currently available.

^{*} This is not an exhaustive list of UN system actions to implement the Sustainable Development Goals. For more information, please visit

