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

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% real-term 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.

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 low-income countries at high risk of debt distress or already experiencing it.
- In 2023, 5.4 billion people worldwide were online, marking 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.
In the Political Declaration adopted at the 2023 SDG Summit, Member States welcomed the Secretary-General’s efforts to address the SDG financing gap through an **SDG Stimulus** 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.