**Work with us**

The Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets report will continue to evolve, and we welcome your views on how it can best support national implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Further collaboration may include:

- Support in preparing voluntary national reviews (VNRs) for the High Level Policy Forum
- Seminars or workshops for national experts and officials on the methodology and measurement tool
- Support in designing national measurement frameworks for monitoring SDGs
- Detailed country-level analysis, including country profiles; breaking down the data for different population groups; forecasting future performance and identifying trends; and/or mapping the transboundary impacts of the SDGs

**Interested in further information?**

Contact us at: wellbeing@oecd.org

https://doi.org/10.1787/a8caf3fa-en
The 2030 Agenda, approved by world leaders in the September 2015 United Nations Resolution 70/1, sets out an ambitious plan of action for people, the Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership (the “5Ps”) with an overarching objective to leave no one behind. At the core of the Agenda is a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 targets.

**The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

- **1: No poverty**
- **2: Zero hunger**
- **3: Good health and well-being**
- **4: Quality education**
- **5: Gender equality**
- **6: Clean water and sanitation**
- **7: Affordable and clean energy**
- **8: Decent work and economic growth**
- **9: Industry innovation and infrastructure**
- **10: Reduced inequalities**
- **11: Sustainable cities and communities**
- **12: Responsible consumption and production**
- **13: Climate action**
- **14: Life below water**
- **15: Life on land**
- **16: Peace and justice strong institutions**
- **17: Partnerships for the goals**

The SDGs establish a universal agenda, relevant to all countries. Nevertheless, the 169 targets are intended to be aspirational, adapted by governments to fit national circumstances. Implementation of the Agenda requires navigating a complex data landscape, with 244 indicators on the UN Inter-Agency and Expert Group’s (IAEG) Global Indicator List.

**OECD support for the SDGs**

In 2016, the OECD Council endorsed an Action Plan on the SDGs. As part of this plan, the OECD “Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets” report aims to assist member countries with their national implementation, measurement, and data prioritisation for the 2030 Agenda. First published as a pilot in 2016, a second edition was released in June 2017, and a third edition in May 2019.

The report uses a unique methodology for assessing the distance that OECD countries need to travel to meet the SDG targets. It draws on the UN IAEG Global Indicator List, and uses publicly available data from OECD and UN SDG Databases.

**Distance from SDG targets – OECD Average**

Based on the data available in early 2019, the report covers 105 of the 169 targets. On average, OECD countries are closest to reaching targets on goals relating to Energy, Cities, and Climate, and furthest from Gender Equality, Reducing Inequality, Food and Institutions. However, the analysis also highlights important data gaps, which if addressed could change these results significantly: goals on Oceans, Sustainable Production, Cities and Reducing Inequality have 40% or fewer targets covered. Health, Infrastructure and Education have the best data coverage, with 90% or more targets captured by at least one indicator.

**New features for the 2019 edition**

The latest edition features improved indicator, target and country coverage, and new analyses. Trends since 2005 are assessed for 76 indicators, used to examine whether OECD countries are moving towards or away from 63 of the targets. Transboundary impacts (beyond countries’ borders) are embodied in 97 of the 169 targets, and indicators are identified for 31 of these targets.

**Ongoing work**

**Leaving no one behind**

A new working paper adapts our report methodology to assess the distance to the SDG targets for children and young people (https://doi.org/10.1787/5e53b12f-en). An analysis of distance to the SDG targets by gender is also underway.

**Measuring transboundary impacts**

A forthcoming working paper will deepen our measurement and analysis of transboundary aspects within the 2030 Agenda. This will enable a better understanding of how action on the SDGs will affect other countries, as well as shared global resources.

**Expanding to non-OECD countries**

A methodology for measuring distance to the SDG targets will be developed for non-OECD countries. For further details, see contact information on the back page.