

ASEAN SDG INDICATORS PROGRESS REPORT 2025



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one identity
one community

ASEAN SDG INDICATORS PROGRESS REPORT 2025

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

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ASEAN SDG Indicators Progress Report 2025

Jakarta: ASEAN Secretariat, September 2025

338.927

1. ASEAN – Statistics – Data Collection
2. Sustainable Development Goals – Indicators



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ASEAN SDG INDICATORS PROGRESS REPORT 2025

**The ASEAN Secretariat
Jakarta**

FOREWORD

With fewer than six years remaining to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ASEAN is at an important stage of its journey. Since their adoption by the United Nations in 2015, sweeping economic, technological, environmental, and social shifts have transformed both the global and regional landscape. These changes have not only tested our adaptability, but also opened new opportunities to strengthen resilience, foster innovation, and advance our shared vision of an inclusive, sustainable, and prosperous ASEAN Community.

The *ASEAN SDG Indicators Progress Report 2025* provides a timely and evidence-based assessment of regional progress since the 2016 baseline, drawing on the most up-to-date data from ASEAN Member States. As we move closer to the 2030 deadline, this report serves not only as a comprehensive statistical update but also as a strategic tool to guide our collective efforts. It highlights areas where notable progress has been made, while also identifying those areas where urgent and concentrated action is required. Encouraging trends can be seen across several goals, yet persistent gaps remain—especially where progress has been slowed or even reversed.

Accelerating this momentum will require sustained collaboration among ASEAN Member States, underpinned by the continued strengthening of national statistical systems. Effective regional cooperation—grounded in evidence-based, well-aligned policies—will be critical to overcoming shared challenges and ensuring that no one in our region is left behind.

I thank the dedicated efforts of the Working Group of SDG Indicators of the ASEAN Community Statistical System and ASEANstats at the ASEAN Secretariat for producing this important report and in advancing our collective capacity for SDG monitoring. This publication reflects our shared commitment to evidence-based policymaking and regional collaboration. Looking ahead, let this report serve not only as a record of progress, but also as a call to action—to deepen cooperation, strengthen partnerships, and accelerate progress toward achieving the SDGs across ASEAN.



DR. KAO KIM HOURN

Secretary-General of ASEAN

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The ASEAN Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Progress Report 2025 was prepared by the ASEAN Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (WGSDGI) comprising representatives of all ASEAN Member States (AMS) and the Statistics Division of the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEANstats). This Report benefitted from the input and cooperation of the various ministries, departments and agencies of the AMS, whose data were compiled by the following agencies:

- Department of Economic Planning and Statistics, Brunei Darussalam
- National Institute of Statistics, Cambodia
- BPS – Statistics Indonesia, Indonesia
- Lao Statistics Bureau, Lao PDR
- Department of Statistics, Malaysia
- Central Statistical Organization, Myanmar
- Philippines Statistics Authority, Philippines
- Department of Statistics, Singapore
- National Statistics Office, Thailand
- National Statistics Office, Viet Nam

And the contributions of the following individuals:

Adrian A. Cerezo, Ahmad Zafarullah Abdul Jalil, Anang Laksono, Bernadette Buning Balamban, Binh Nguyen, Budsara Sangaroon, Driesch Lucien Cortel, Elvis Wang, Erna Yulianingsih, Estee Amanda Tan, Fuziah Md Amin, Hanik Aulia, Hataichanok Puckcharern, Hsiu Chin Tang, Karna Mandarawata, Khamkhounheuan Phimphanh, Lay Chhan, Md Adib Bahzi Majid, Mochamad A. Soeharto, Muchammad Romzi, Nabihah Adanan, Nguyen Dinh Khuyen, Nur Alham Othman, Nur Indah Kristiani, Nyaung Tai, Phonesaly Souksavath, Som Bony, Sri Wardhani Bakri, Sueka Putra, Suraya Hani Mohamad Ashi, Thaliya Wikapuspita, Tika Meilaningsih, Tran Thi Thuy Linh, Wun Chau, Yuet Mei Wong, Zar Kyi Win.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACSS	ASEAN Community Statistical System
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AHAF	ASEAN-Help-ASEAN Framework
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AMS	ASEAN Member States
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ATMs	Automatic Teller Machines
AWE	Academy Women Entrepreneurs
BNCCP	Brunei Darussalam National Climate Change Policy
BPS	Badan Pusat Statistics
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CSO	Central Statistical Organisation
DOS	Singapore Department of Statistics
DOSM	Department of Statistics Malaysia
DTP	Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FCTC	Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
FIES	Food Insecurity Experience Scale
GDP	Gross Domestic Products
GIF	Global Indicator Framework
GPI	Gender Parity Index
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLPF	High-level Political Forum

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

HPB	Health Promotion Board
IAEG-SDGs	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFPA	Indicator of food price anomalies
IMC	Inter-Ministry Committee
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KBA s	Key Biodiversity Areas
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
MEB	Malaysian Education Blueprint
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOE	Ministry of Education
MP	Malaysia Plan
MPD	Mobile Positioning Data
MSE	Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment
MVA	Manufacturing Value Added
MW	Mega Watt
NAP	National Action Plan
NCD s	Non-communicable diseases
NETR	National Energy Transition Roadmap
NSO	National Statistics Office
NSS	National Statistical Systems
PSN	Pusat SDG Negara
RLI	Red List Index
RM	Ringgit Malaysia
SAE	Small Area Estimation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

SF-MST	Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism
SGX	Singapore Exchange
SMEs	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SNCC	Special National Coordination Committee
S&T	Science and Technology
TOE	Tonnes of Oil Equivalent
TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
TWG	Technical Working Group
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
USD	United States Dollar
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review
VSR	Voluntary Subnational Review
WGGI	Working Group on Geospatial Information
WGSDGI	ASEAN Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators
WHO	World Health Organisation
WOG	Whole-of-Government
WTO	World Trade Organisation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The ASEAN SDG Indicators Progress Report 2025 aims to provide information on the current status of the selected SDG indicators in comparison with the baseline period to show the progress made during the period of 2016 to 2023. Based on the trend growth, the report provides an assessment on whether each indicator is on track to meet its target by 2030 (see Annex 1 on the targets).

The report has four sections. Section I outlines how the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) has supported the monitoring of regional integration and evidence-based policy making by enhancing the provision of ASEAN statistics, including the SDG indicators. It also highlights the release of the ASEAN SDG Indicators Progress Report 2025 and how it is expanded from the Baseline Report 2020. It is followed by Section II, the main part of the report, discussing key findings on the progress made in all 17 goals during 2016 to 2023. The third section consists of the Country Progress Reports on the progress and challenges faced by AMS in data collection at the national level. Section IV concludes the report, highlighting the key insights and overarching conclusions. There are also annexes on technical notes and data tables for users to better understand, interpret and use the report for their intended purposes.

Trend Assessment

The ASEAN SDG Indicators Progress Report 2025 covers all 17 goals and 68 corresponding targets. Each target is represented by one or more indicators, forming a total of 80 unique indicators (165 indicators including sub-indicators and repeated indicators that appear under two or three different targets).

ASEAN has made progress in all 17 goals in the last seven years. However, only 15 targets were met or were on track to be achieved by 2030. These are from Goal 1 No Poverty, Goal 3 Good Health and Well-being, Goal 5 Gender Equality, Goal 7 Affordable and Clean Energy, Goal 10 Reduced Inequalities, Goal 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, Goal 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and Goal 17 Partnership for the Goals. Meanwhile, the other 32 targets from 15 goals (except Goal 7 Affordable and Clean Energy, Goal 12 Responsible Consumption and Production) were found to make fair progress and need acceleration. The other 21 targets under 14 goals (except Goal 5 Gender Equality, Goal 14 Life Below Water and Goal 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), unfortunately, were found to have only minimal progress, stagnation or regression.

Due to insufficient data availability, 101 other targets of global SDG are not covered in this report. Aggregate figures for these indicators could not be established since only a limited number of AMS reported the data.

Key findings on the progress of ASEAN SDG Indicators:

No poverty. During the period of 2016 to 2023, ASEAN has successfully reduced the proportion of the population living below the poverty line from 13.3% to 10.8%, which is likely to meet the required target by 2030. Unfortunately, the number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters per 100,000 population increased from 2,921 in 2016 to 6,386 in 2023. While the proportion of government spending on health to total government spending rose from 7.7% in 2016 to 12.1% in 2023, the proportion of government spending on education fell from 17.8% to 13.9%.

Zero hunger. The rate of undernourishment has slightly improved in ASEAN, decreasing from 7.3% in 2016 to 6.5% in 2023, corresponding to the reduction of the proportion of individuals who experienced moderate or severe food insecurity, from 16.5% to 15.7%, respectively. The aggregate indicator of food price anomaly (IFPA) of ASEAN was 1.4 in 2023, an unexpected situation after having it at 0.1 in 2016, which indicates that the food prices in the region have become abnormally high and more volatile over the years.

Good health and well-being. Notable progress was made in reducing maternal mortality, with the regional maternal mortality ratio declining from 234.5 per 100,000 live births in 2016 to 164.3 in 2023. This is aligned with the increase in the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel in ASEAN which increased modestly from 91.0% in 2016 to 93.1% in 2023, indicating overall progress in improving maternal healthcare services, which may have contributed to the regional achievement of an average under-five mortality rate of 22.6 per 1,000 live births and a neonatal mortality rate of 11.0 per 1,000 live births in 2023.

Quality education. The overall completion rate for primary education in ASEAN has seen a slight drop, declining from 90.7% in 2016 to 89.3% in 2023. In the same period, the progress for lower secondary education only improved slightly from 81.7% to 81.8%. Meanwhile, upper secondary education has shown fair progress, with completion rates rising from 68.6% to 71.4%.

Gender equality. Among women aged 20-24 years, the proportion of those who were married or in a union before age 18 has dropped from 12.4% in 2016 to 9.7% in 2023. At the same time, the proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments, as an important indicator of political gender equality, increased modestly from 18.8% to 19.9%.

Clean water and sanitation. The proportion of the population in ASEAN with access to safely managed drinking water increased modestly from 41.5% in 2016 to 44.0% in 2023. Similarly, the rise in the proportion of the population with access to safely managed sanitation services remained slow, from 54.5% to 56.5% in the same period. Meanwhile, access to basic hygiene services has improved from 77.5% to 84.4%.

Affordable and clean energy. Overall, in the period of 2016 to 2023, the proportion of population in ASEAN with access to electricity has shown significant progress, increasing steadily from 88.5% to 95.7%. In contrast, the region's proportion of renewable energy in total final energy consumption has declined modestly from 21.2% in 2016 to 20.4% in 2023.

Decent work and economic growth. In 2023, the ASEAN aggregate of annual gross domestic product (GDP) per capita growth was at 2.9%, somewhat slower compared to the 3.8% in 2016. This is similar to the annual growth of real GDP per employed person in ASEAN, which slowed down from 3.0% in 2016 to only 1.6% in 2023. In the same period, informal employment as a proportion of total employment in ASEAN recorded a decrease from 63.7% to 61.5%, while the proportion of informal employment in the non-agriculture sector increased from 56.7% in 2016 to 58.5% in 2023. On decent work, the reduction of the unemployment rate in ASEAN was marginal, from 3.9% to 3.8%, while the youth unemployment rate decreased significantly from 11.2% to 8.5%. On expanding access to financial services, the proportion of adults with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider increased from 60.5% in 2016 to 76.4% in 2023.

Industry, innovation and infrastructure. Between 2016 and 2023, ASEAN recorded strong growth in passenger movement, from 4.5 billion to 8.2 billion for road transport, and slower growth for rail transport from 2.6 billion to 2.8 billion. For freight movements, rail freight volumes grew significantly from 66.7 million tonnes to 98.8 million tonnes, and sea freight volumes rose from 2.0 billion tonnes to 2.1 billion tonnes. In the same period, ASEAN experienced notable progress in terms of inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, indicated by an increase in manufacturing value added (MVA) per capita, from USD 901.3 to USD 1,072.3 (in constant 2015 USD), share of manufacturing employment, from 13.6% to 14.4% of total employment and share of medium and high-tech industry value added

in total manufacturing output from 38.0% to 41.6%. However, a slight decline was recorded in the proportion of small-scale industries to total industry, ratio of R&D expenditure to GDP and the number of researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants.

Reduced inequalities. ASEAN has witnessed an increasing growth rate of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40% of the population, from 5.2% in 2016 to 5.8% in 2023, and a decreasing labour share of GDP from 48.7% to 46.7%. Related to special treatment for developing countries, the ASEAN aggregate for the proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero tariffs was 59.3% in 2016 and 63.9% in 2023.

Sustainable cities and communities. Although the majority of AMS have adapting and implementing national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and local disaster risk reduction strategies which are in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies, the number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters per 100,000 population increased from 2,921 in 2016 to 6,386 in 2023.

Responsible consumption and production. As of 2023, eight out of ten AMS have reported compliance with reporting obligations under at least one international environmental agreement related to hazardous waste and other chemicals, which is improve from 2016. Thankfully, ASEAN recorded a rise in installed renewable energy-generating capacity, growing from approximately 60.1 watts per capita in 2016 to 74.9 watts per capita in 2023.

Climate action. In the period of 2016 to 2023, AMS continued their adaptation and implementation of national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 as well as relevant local disaster risk strategies, and they also have nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications.

Life below water. Overall, the coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas in ASEAN has shown notable progress, increasing from 3.2% in 2016 to 4.4% in 2023.

Life on land. The percentage of forest areas in ASEAN slightly increased from 45.6% in 2016 to 45.7% in 2023. Meanwhile, in the same period, the Red List Index (RLI) of the region showed a marginal decrease from 0.76 to 0.75.

Peace, justice and strong institutions. The proportion of unsentenced detainees declined during the period of 2016 to 2023, from 28.8% to 27.6% of the total prison population. On the aspect of effective institutions, primary government expenditure as a proportion of the original approved budget increased from 95.3% to 97.5%.

Partnership for the goals. During the period of 2016 to 2023, ASEAN total government revenue as a proportion of nominal GDP has decreased slightly from 16.2% to 15.7%, and the proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes decreased from 67.5% to 59.6%. At the same time, the number of fixed internet broadband subscriptions increased from 5.7 to 11.8 per 100 population, and the proportion of individuals using the internet also increased from 50.6% to 82.0%. In terms of statistical capacity, nine of ten AMS have conducted population censuses in the last ten years, only three AMS have achieved 100% birth registration, and five AMS have achieved 100% death registration.

Key highlights of national progress, efforts, challenges and way forward in data collection:

Progress and Efforts

AMS have generally managed to improve coverage in their data collection and reporting as shown by their ability to collect and disseminate more SDG indicators over time. Strengthened national coordination and data integration mechanisms, implementation of supporting policies and efforts in utilising alternative sources played important roles in enabling each country to improve data availability. Engagement and partnerships with relevant international agencies and involvement in relevant initiatives have contributed to capacity enhancement of AMS. Consequently, overall data collection and dissemination were successfully upgraded.

Remaining Challenges

Inter-agency coordination and cooperation is an important factor in enhancing the capacity of the national statistical system, not only for improving data availability but also for ensuring data quality and enabling more effective data dissemination. Despite the improvement in the coverage of indicators, data for some SDG indicators has yet to be made available. Existing collaborations need to be further strengthened and more institutions may need to be involved, including non-government institutions.

Limited human and financial resources remain crucial issues that hamper AMS in conducting proper data collection or, in some cases, hinder them from collecting the data. Within limited data sources, methodological and estimation skills are essential. Unfortunately, the majority of AMS are struggling to make relevant skills available in a short time. Meanwhile, limitations in financial sources pose difficulties in conducting additional surveys, advancing human capacity and upgrading technological resources.

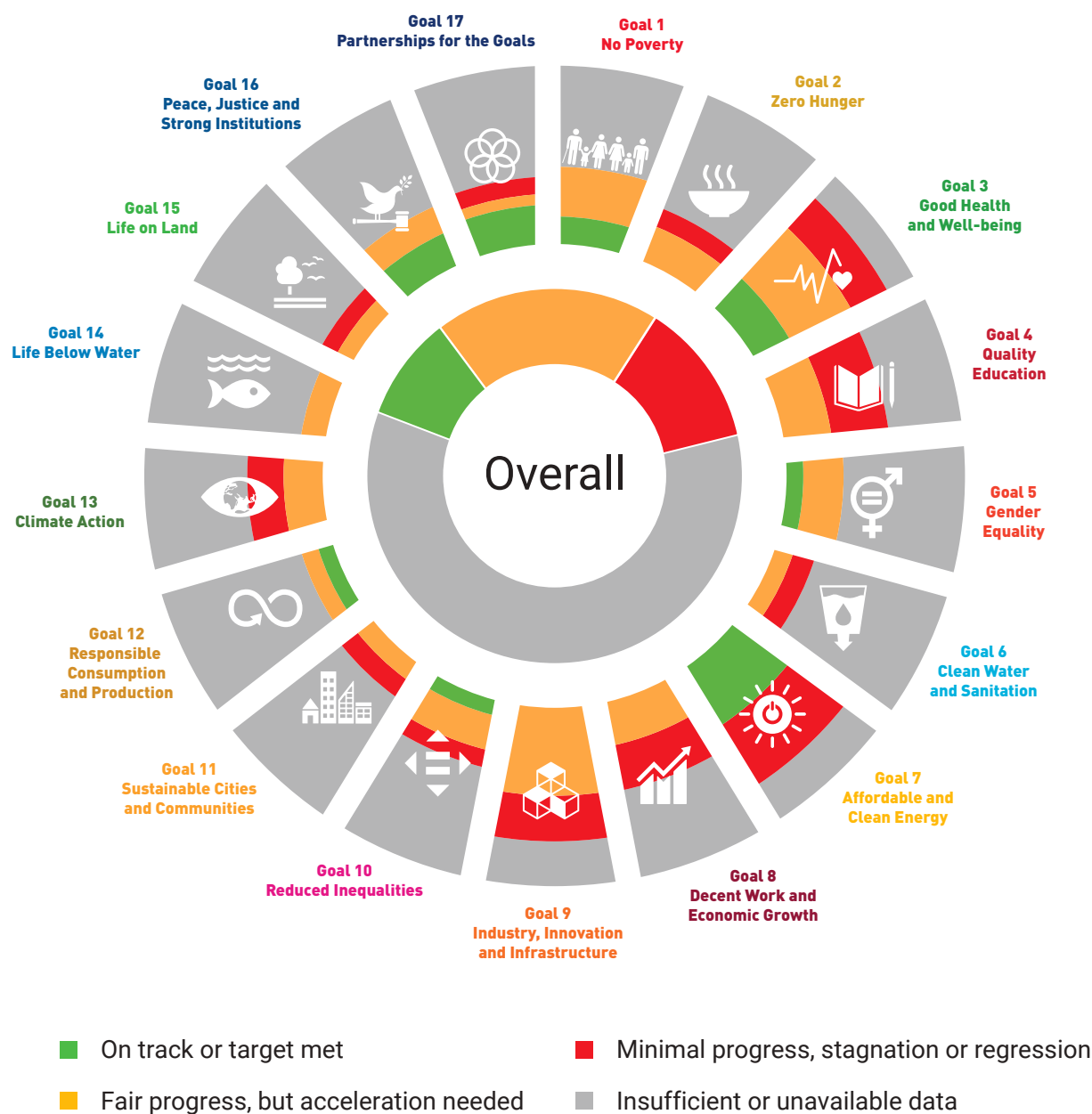
Another challenge is related to data integration and quality assurance. Utilisation of multiple data sources produced by various agencies led to differences in concept, definition, time reference and frequency of the collected data. Some coordinated mechanisms may be needed to improve the relevancy and harmonisation of data with the global SDG indicator framework.

Way Forward

AMS, led by NSOs as the coordinating body in the national statistical system will need to continually strengthen national coordination by ensuring involvement and participation of all stakeholders in compiling data on SDG indicators. Relevant supporting policies and mechanisms should be introduced. This includes policies to resolve, or at least to minimise, the issues related to the unavailability of sufficient resources.

Increasing awareness and efforts for utilising alternative data sources and proxy indicators will also help to address the unavailability of indicators. Implementation of the ASEAN-Help-ASEAN Framework (AHAF), in combination with training and technical assistance provided by development partners and international organisations, will need to be continued, strengthened and better aligned with the needs of AMS. Active participation in the WGSDGI and other regional bodies as well as in international events would also provide AMS with more insights, knowledge and opportunities to enhance capacity which will contribute to improve data availability and quality.

ASEAN SDG Progress based on assessed targets by Goals







INTRODUCTION



INTRODUCTION

Since its establishment in 2011, the ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) has committed to develop and enhance the provision of ASEAN statistics to support monitoring of ASEAN integration and evidence-based policy making in the region. In implementing its initiatives and activities, ACSS is guided by the ACSS Strategic Plan 2016-2025, and later by the ACSS Action Plan 2026-2030, along with its annual work plans and the ACSS Code of Practice. ACSS's main objectives are to strengthen the institutional environment, foster partnerships, and enhance the sustainability of ACSS; to improve the response to greater ASEAN data needs; to enhance dissemination, communication, visibility, and use of ASEAN Statistics; and to bridge the gaps towards sustainable development of ASEAN Statistics.

In 2017, the ACSS, in cooperation with the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and relevant institutions within the National Statistical Systems (NSSs) in ASEAN started to discuss and review the SDG indicators adopted at the United Nations Statistical Commission 48th Session in New York in March 2017. The ASEAN Working Group on SDG Indicators (WGSDGI) was set up in 2018 to decide on the set of ASEAN SDG indicators to be adopted. Focal points in each AMS were appointed to collate the country data and submit to ASEANstats for collation.

In 2020, the WGSDGI released the Baseline Report on SDG indicators. A total of 67 SDG indicators was selected from an initial list of 134 SDG indicators following a quality assessment based on four dimensions: (1) relevance; (2) consistency checks or coherence in terms of (i) concepts and definitions, (ii) methods, (iii) coverage and (iv) timeliness or frequency of data; (3) credibility in terms of data source; and (4) completeness of country entries or the number of countries that are able to provide the data. The Baseline Report was well received by the users as it provided information on the SDG performance in each AMS and in the ASEAN region.

Since then, the WGSDGI has sought to improve data availability to include more data relevant to the goals and targets of the SDG. To report the progress in achieving the global agenda as well as to support policy making at the national and regional levels, WGSDGI has now put up the ASEAN SDG Indicators Progress Report 2025.

The Progress Report presents the data for the ASEAN region and each AMS over the period from 2016 to 2023. The aim is to measure the progress of each SDG indicator in comparison with the situation in 2016 and provide an indication of whether the indicators are likely to meet the corresponding targets by 2030 based on their trends.

In terms of coverage, this Progress Report is more extensive than the Baseline Report. It covers all 17 goals of the SDG, comprising 80 unique indicators (165 indicators including sub-indicators and repeated indicators that appear under two or three different targets), compared to 14 goals comprising 45 unique indicators (67 indicators including sub-indicators and repeated indicators) covered in the Baseline Report. However, despite the improvement in the coverage of goals and indicators, data availability at the overall ASEAN level remains an issue because many of the indicators are not available in all ten AMS.

The report includes information on the AMS initiatives, efforts and progress in terms of data collection, governance and inter-agency cooperation at the national level. Data visualisation and technical notes are included to assist users in understanding and interpreting the data correctly.

The data dashboard, details on the SDG indicators by each goal and the country report are presented in the last part of the report, while the tables and technical notes are given in the Annexes.



ASEAN SDG PROGRESS BY GOALS





1 NO POVERTY



Goal 1

NO POVERTY

Goal 1 calls for an end to poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030. It also aims to ensure social protection for the poor and vulnerable, increase access to basic services and support people harmed by climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters. This report will discuss ASEAN's achievement in reducing the share of population living below poverty line, building resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situation and ensuring mobilisation of resources to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions.

National Poverty

SDG Target 1.2 aims to reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions by 2030. This target emphasizes the need to measure and reduce poverty using national definitions. Specifically, SDG 1.2 requires reporting on the proportion of men, women and children living below national poverty line. Measuring this indicator is important because poverty has far-reaching negative impacts on individuals, communities and economies. Reducing poverty has a positive ripple effect on many other aspects of development.

Based on the available relevant data for the period of 2016 to 2023 ASEAN has successfully reduced the proportion of population living below poverty line from 13.3% to 10.8%, and it is

likely to meet the required target of a decreasing trend by 2030.

Figure 1.1. Proportion of population living below the national poverty line (%)



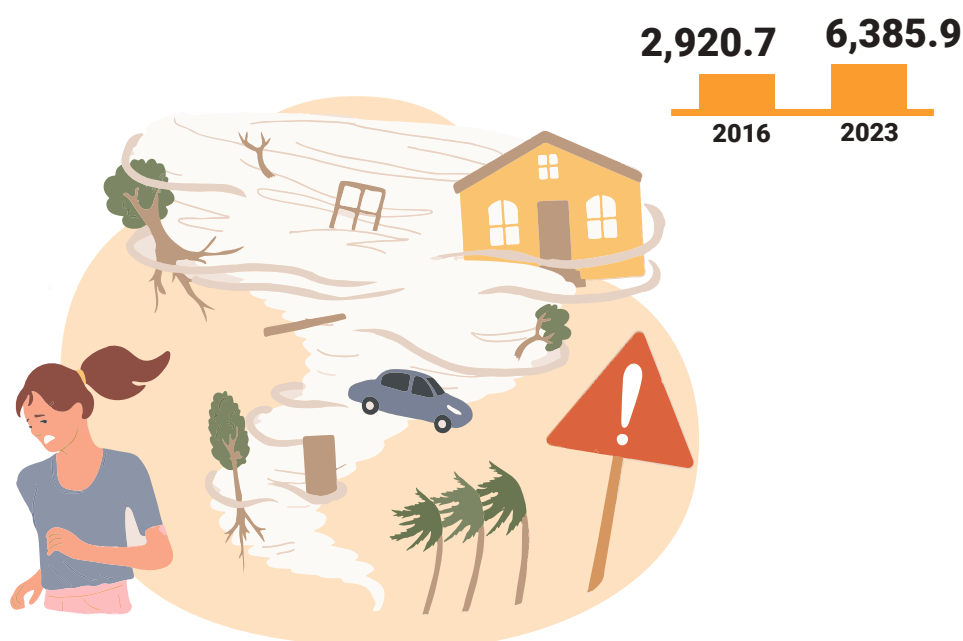
Resilience to disaster

Since the poor have a higher probability to be more vulnerable and exposed to climate-related events as well as other economic, social and environmental shocks, measuring and building their resilience is crucial to protect them from disasters, improve their ability to cope with crises and ultimately contribute to a more sustainable and equitable future. Unfortunately, the progress in this area has not been adequate, as indicated by the increasing number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters

per 100,000 population from 2,921 in 2016 to 6,386 in 2023.

However, the region has been showing efforts and commitment to improve the situation. The majority of AMS has been adapting and implementing national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the local disaster risk reduction strategies are in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies.

Figure 1.2. Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters per 100,000 population (in person)



Resources for poverty programmes

ASEAN commitment in intensifying their efforts in implementing programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions is also shown by the increasing proportion of government spending on health to total government spending from

7.7% in 2016 to 12.1% in 2023. However, in the same period, AMS faced challenges in increasing the proportion of government spending on education. Instead, regionally, the figure for the latter decreased from 17.8% to 13.9%.

Figure 1.3. Proportion of total government spending on education and health (%)





2 ZERO
HUNGER



Goal 2

ZERO HUNGER

Goal 2 aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030. Under-nutrition, hidden hunger and overweight threaten the survival, growth and development of children and young people. Well-nourished children are better able to grow and learn, to participate in their communities and to be resilient in the face of disease, disaster and other emergencies. Furthermore, they will potentially be able to be productive in supporting the well-being of the economy.

Undernourishment and food security

The rate of undernourishment, defined as an estimate of the proportion of a population, where daily energy consumption from food is not enough to meet the energy levels needed for a normal, active and healthy life, was slightly improved in ASEAN, decreasing from 7.3% in 2016 to 6.5% in 2023. This was in accordance with the reduction of the proportion of individuals who experience moderate or severe food insecurity, from 16.5% to 15.7%, respectively.

Despite the progress made in ensuring food security of their population, AMS may need to enhance their efforts to speed up the pace of improvement in both indicators since the data shows only slight improvement in the period of seven years. It is still a major challenge to completely end hunger in the region.

Figure 2.1. Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU) and Moderate or Severe Food Insecurity (%)



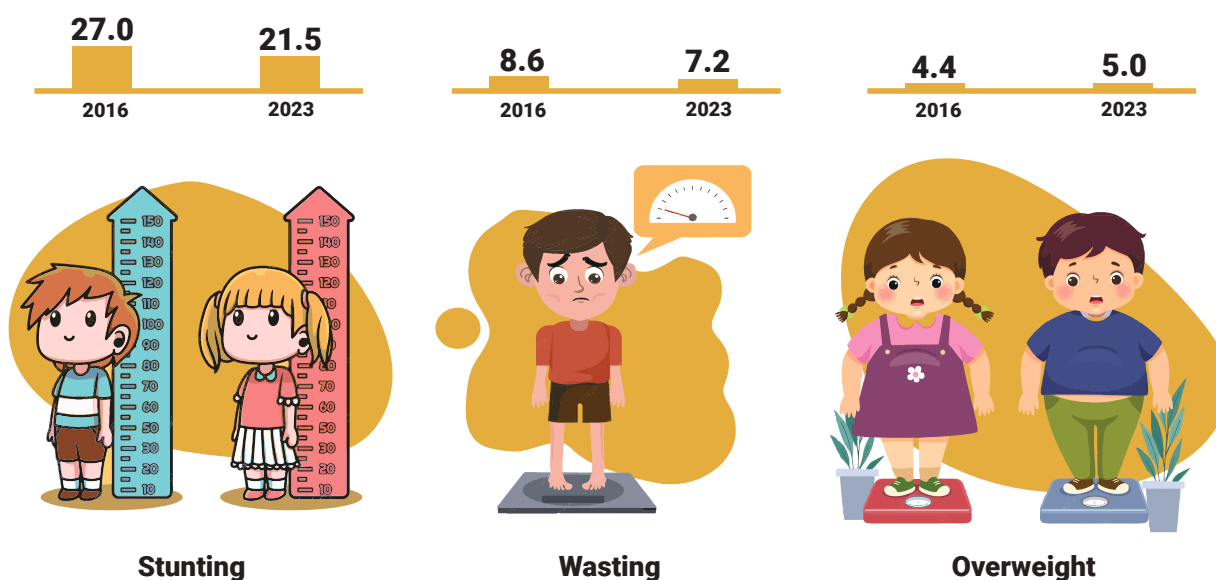
Malnutrition

ASEAN has made some achievements in their efforts in reducing malnutrition of children in the region. Stunting, defined as children whose height is less than minus two times standard deviation of the World Health Organisation (WHO) child growth standard in their respective age, is considered as one of the main indicators to measure the rate of malnutrition. In the period of 2016 to 2023, prevalence of stunting among children under-five in the region decreased from 27.0% to 21.5%. Similar improvement was also observed in the indicator on wasting (children whose weight is less than minus two times standard deviation of the WHO child growth

standard in their respective age), where the prevalence of wasting among children under-five in ASEAN reduced from 8.6% in 2016 to 7.2% in 2023.

However, in another measure of overweight, the situation has not improved. The prevalence of overweight children under-five (those with weight above two times standard deviation of WHO child growth standard) increased slightly, from 4.4% in 2016 to 5.0% in 2023, indicating a worsening situation of malnutrition, possibly among children who were not in hunger.

Figure 2.2. Prevalence of stunting, wasting and overweight among children under 5 years of age (%)



Food price anomalies

Stability of food prices is also an important factor which could affect people's ability in obtaining food. The indicator of food price anomaly (IFPA) directly evaluates the increase of food price in a given month during several years, taking into account the nature of the seasonal agricultural markets and inflation, so that it can answer the question of whether the price changes are categorised as abnormal or not within a certain period. Calculated using the data of six AMS, the aggregate IFPA of ASEAN was 1.4 in 2023, an unexpected situation after having it at 0.1 in 2016. This indicates that the food prices in the region have become abnormally high and more volatile over the years.

Figure 2.3. Indicator of food price anomalies (Index)





3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Goal 3

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Health is the foundation of a good life and Goal 3 aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. This goal encompasses a comprehensive range of targets, including reducing maternal and child mortality, strengthening health systems, addressing communicable and non-communicable diseases and improving mental health. Progress towards Goal 3 not only improves individual lives but also contributes to greater productivity, resilience and equity across societies.

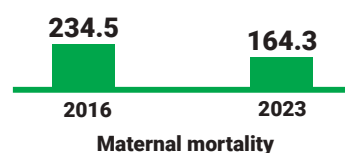
Maternal Mortality

Maternal mortality remains a major concern in global health and is a key indicator to measure health system effectiveness. It is defined as the death of a woman during pregnancy, childbirth, or within 42 days of delivery due to pregnancy-related causes. Recognising its importance, one of the targets under Goal 3 is to reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births by 2030.

ASEAN has made notable progress in reducing maternal mortality, with the regional maternal mortality ratio declining from 234.5 per 100,000 live births in 2016 to 164.3 in 2023. This reflects improvements in maternal healthcare services and a growing emphasis on reproductive health. Five AMS, namely Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand, have already met the target, with the maternal mortality ratio below 70 per 100,000 live births. Nevertheless,

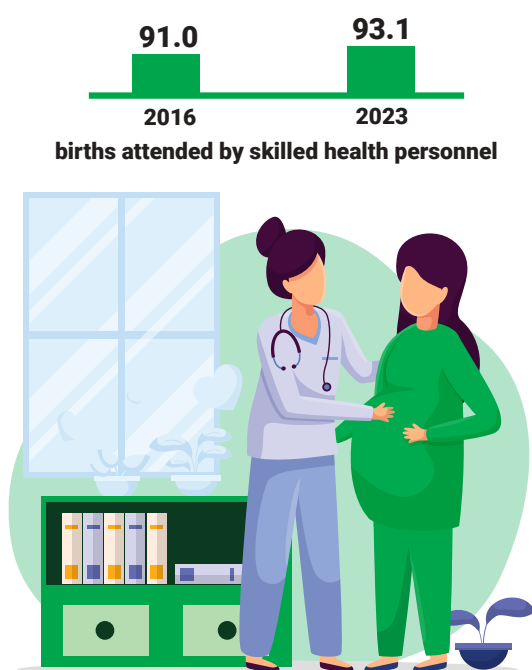
the maternal mortality ratio of other AMS were still far from achieving the target, highlighting the urgent need for accelerated and sustained efforts to close this gap.

Figure 3.1. Maternal mortality ratio (Number per 100,000 live births)



Another indicator to track the progress towards the target on reducing the maternal mortality ratio is the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel. The presence of skilled health personnel during child labour is important for the survival of both mother and newborn. Achieving the target of this indicator would help towards reducing maternal and infant mortality and morbidity.

Figure 3.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)



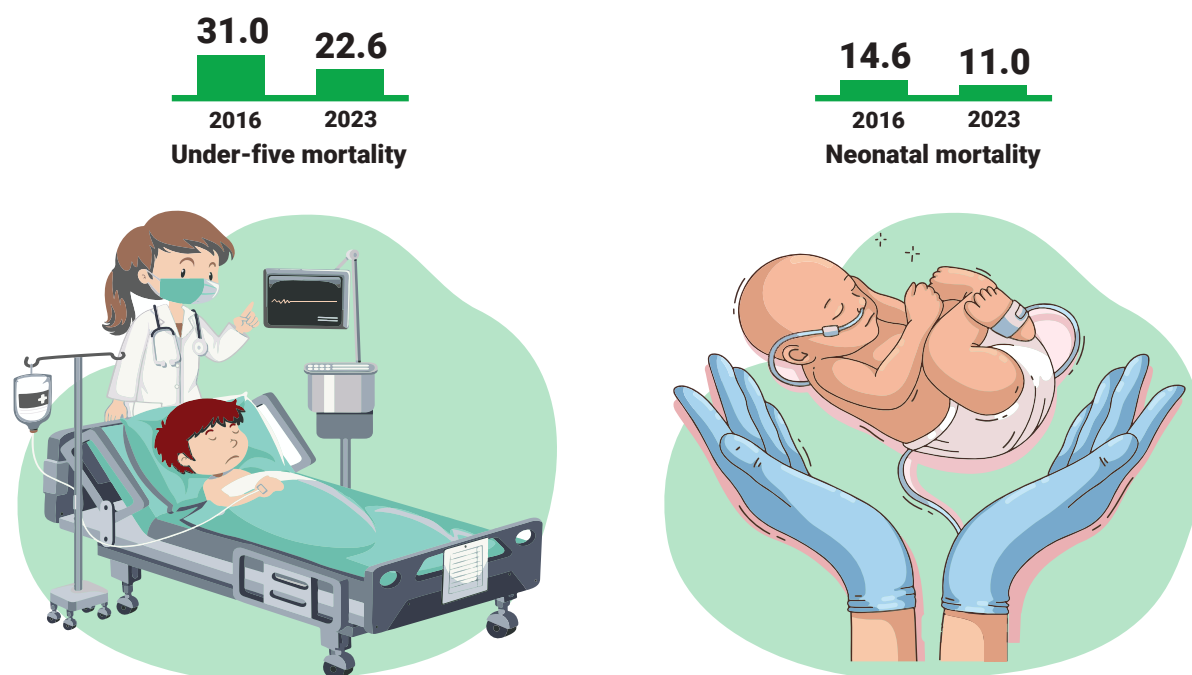
The proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel in ASEAN increased modestly from 91.0% in 2016 to 93.1% in 2023, indicating overall progress in improving maternal healthcare services. Nonetheless, disparities in progress persist among AMS. In 2023, Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Singapore, and

Thailand consistently reported the highest rates, each exceeding 99.0%, highlighting the strength of their healthcare systems and the broad availability of skilled professionals during childbirth. In contrast, Myanmar and Lao PDR recorded the lowest proportions at 77.5% and 79.8%, respectively, underscoring remaining gaps in access to quality maternal care. Bridging these disparities will require targeted and accelerated efforts to ensure that all women across the region have access to skilled care during delivery.

Child mortality

SDG Target 3.2 aims to end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years age and sets ambitious targets of reducing neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-five mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births. This target reflects the global commitment to ensuring that every child has the best possible start in life, regardless of where they are born.

ASEAN has successfully met the targets set for child health, with the region achieving an average under-five mortality rate of 22.6 per 1,000 live births and a neonatal mortality rate of 11.0 per 1,000 live births in 2023. These accomplishments demonstrate the region's progress in reducing child mortality and improving healthcare access. Despite these successes, few AMS still face considerable

Figure 3.3. Under-five and neonatal mortality rate (Number per 1,000 live births)

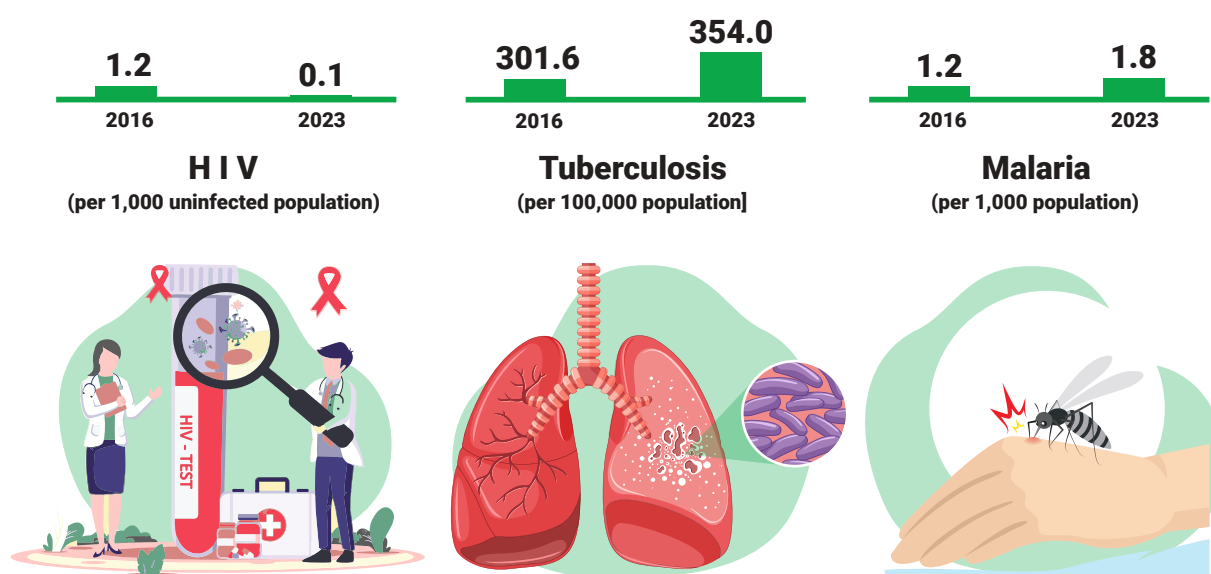
challenges in achieving the targets. Continued collaboration and focused efforts are essential to ensure that all children in the region benefit from these advancements.

Communicable diseases

One of the key targets of Goal 3 is to end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, which have long been among the world's leading causes of illness and death. These infectious diseases not only claim millions of lives each year but also place a heavy burden on health systems and hinder social and economic development. In line with the global SDG framework, ASEAN remains strongly committed to achieving this target.

Between 2016 and 2023, the rate of new HIV infections in the region declined significantly from 1.2 to just 0.1 per 1,000 uninfected population. This remarkable reduction reflects strengthened prevention programmes, wider access to antiretroviral therapy, targeted awareness campaigns and improved testing and treatment services across the region. However, progress in tackling tuberculosis and malaria has shown signs of regression. The incidence rate of tuberculosis increased from 301.6 per 100,000 population in 2016 to 354.0 per 100,000 population in 2023. Similarly, malaria incidence rose from 1.2 to 1.8 per 1,000 population over the same period. These setbacks highlight persistent challenges and underscore the need for enhanced collaboration and increased investment in resilient health

Figure 3.4. New HIV infections (Number per 1,000 uninfected population), Tuberculosis incidence (Number per 100,000 population) and Malaria incidence (Number per 1,000 population)

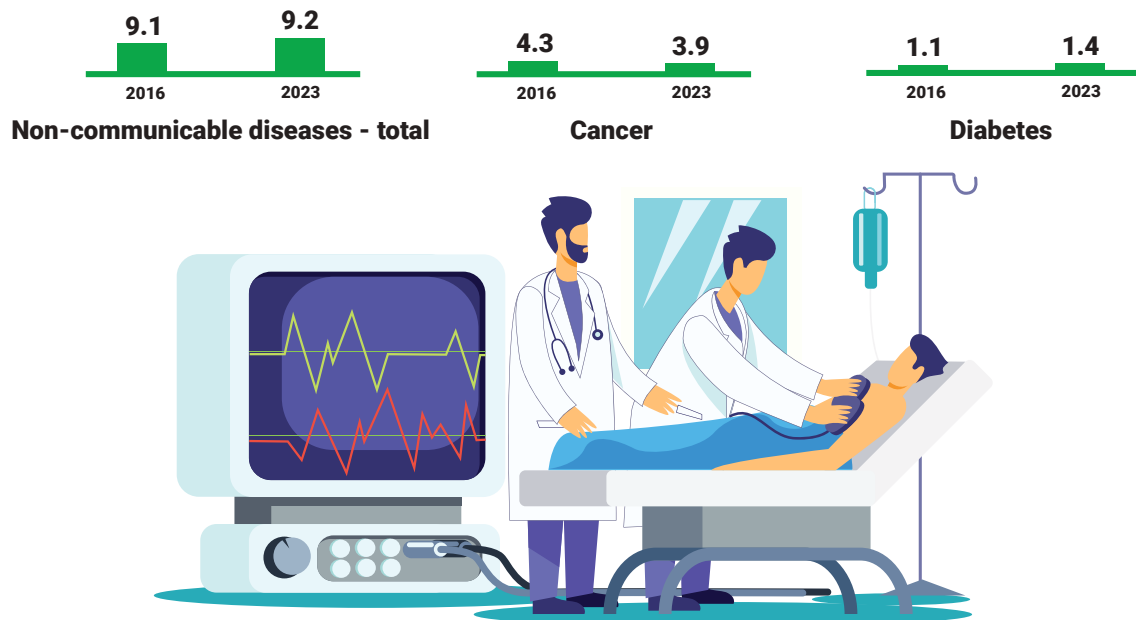


systems to reverse these trends and accelerate progress towards the 2030 targets.

Non-communicable diseases

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes and chronic lung conditions are now the leading causes of death worldwide. SDG Target 3.4 aims to reduce premature deaths from these diseases by one-third by 2030 through prevention, treatment and promotion of mental health and well-being. Two indicators have been defined to track progress towards this target, however, sufficient data are only available for one of them which measures the progress on mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease.

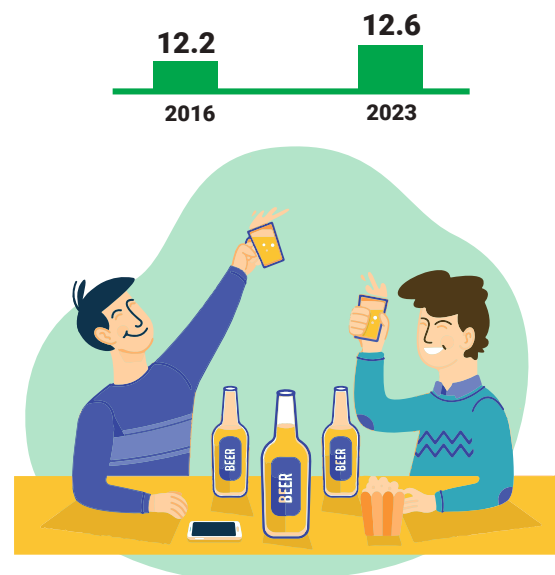
In ASEAN, the overall progress towards reducing premature mortality from NCDs, specifically the above-mentioned diseases has been limited. The total mortality rate attributed to these four major NCDs slightly increased from 9.1% in 2016 to 9.2% in 2023, indicating marginal regression and the region was not yet on track to meet SDG Target 3.4. Progress has been most notable in reducing mortality attributed to cancer, with the cancer-related mortality rate declining from 4.3% in 2016 to 3.9% in 2023. However, this positive trend was offset by increases in mortality from other NCDs, most notably diabetes. The mortality rate attributed to diabetes rose from 1.1% in 2016 to 1.4% in 2023, signalling growing concerns about rising obesity rates, sedentary lifestyles and gaps in diabetes management.

Figure 3.5. Mortality rate attributed to non-communicable diseases (%)

Harmful use of alcohol

Strengthening the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including harmful use of alcohol, is essential for achieving broader health and development goals and ensuring safer and more resilient societies. Excessive alcohol consumption is linked to a wide range of health conditions, including liver disease, mental health disorders, cancer and cardiovascular problems. It is also a major risk factor for road injuries, violence and other social harms.

The trend of alcohol consumption in ASEAN showed a slight but concerning regression, with per capita consumption rising from 12.2 litres in 2016 to 12.6 litres in 2023. Even modest increases in consumption can lead to higher

Figure 3.6. Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol

rates of alcohol-related harm, including chronic diseases, accidents and violence. Therefore, the trend underscores the urgent need for comprehensive strategies that combine public education, community-level prevention and stronger policy enforcement to reverse this trajectory.

Road traffic accidents

Every year, road traffic accidents result in significant human and economic loss. Recognising this burden, SDG Target 3.6 sets a clear goal to halve the number of deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents by 2030. Road safety is not only a public health priority but also a critical development issue that affects productivity, infrastructure and social well-being.

Despite the mixed progress across AMS, ASEAN has made some progress in reducing road traffic fatalities, with the regional death rate decreasing from 15.2 per 100,000 population in 2016 to 14.2 in 2023. This modest decline signalled fair progress towards SDG Target 3.6. However, the current pace of improvement remains inadequate to meet the target within the timeline. Accelerated and coordinated efforts are needed to improve road safety infrastructure, enforce traffic laws and promote safer driving behaviours across all AMS.

Figure 3.7. Death rate due to road traffic injuries
(Number per 100,000 population)

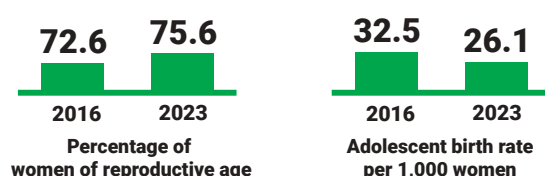


Sexual and reproductive health

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are essential components of overall health and well-being. Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health is not only a health priority but also a fundamental human right. SDG Target 3.7 emphasizes the need for accessible, affordable and high-quality reproductive health care services, including family planning, information and education, for all individuals by 2030. This target is crucial for reducing maternal and infant mortality, preventing unintended pregnancies and enabling individuals, especially women and adolescents, to make informed choices about their reproductive lives.

ASEAN has seen steady progress in improving access to modern contraceptive methods, where the percentage of women (aged 15-49 years old) whose need for family planning is satisfied with modern methods increased from 72.6% in 2016 to 75.6% in 2023. This upward trend indicates growing awareness, availability and utilisation of modern contraceptive options across the region. Despite this improvement, the pace of progress remains insufficient to achieve universal coverage by 2030 and accelerated actions are needed such as strengthening health infrastructure, removing cultural and financial barriers and promoting inclusive sexual and reproductive health education to ensure that no one is left behind.

Figure 3.8. Percentage of women of reproductive age and adolescent birth rate per 1,000 women



The adolescent birth rate (aged 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group is another key indicator used to assess the reproductive health status of adolescents and young women. It reflects the number of live births per 1,000 adolescent girls aged 15-19 years within a given year and serves as an important measure of access to sexual and reproductive health information, education and services.

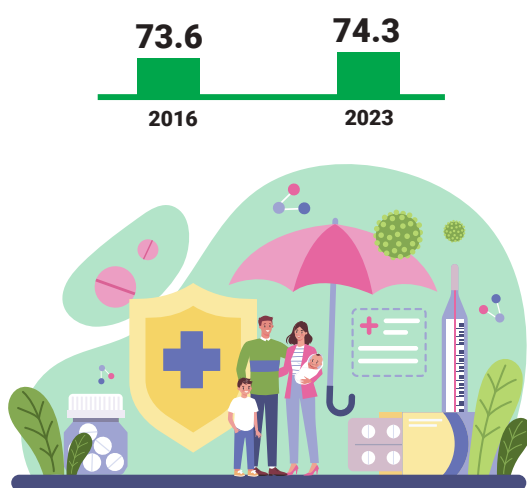
The adolescent birth rate in ASEAN has significantly decreased from 32.5 per 1,000 women in 2016 to 26.1 in 2023, marking substantial progress in the region's reproductive health outcomes. The declining adolescent birth rate signals improvement in the empowerment of young women, greater reproductive autonomy and stronger health systems that support the well-being of adolescents. This progress also indicates that ASEAN is on track to meet the SDG target for this indicator.

Universal Health Coverage

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is a cornerstone of the global health and development agenda, aiming to ensure that all individuals and communities have access to the health services they need without suffering financial hardship. As part of SDG Target 3.8, UHC calls for equitable access to quality essential health services and affordable essential medicines and vaccines. One of the indicators to measure the progress towards UHC is coverage of

essential health services. The Service Coverage Index is measured on a scale from 0 (worst) to 100 (best) based on the average coverage of essential services including (1) reproductive, maternal and newborn and child health; (2) infectious diseases; (3) non-communicable diseases; and (4) service capacity and access.

Figure 3.9. Coverage of essential health services (Index)



The coverage of essential health services index has shown only minimal progress in ASEAN, with the regional average improving slightly from 73.6 in 2016 to 74.3 in 2023, indicating a slow pace toward achieving the SDG target of 100% coverage. This modest increase suggests that while some gains have been made, the region as a whole still faces significant challenges in ensuring that essential health services are universally available and equitably delivered. The available data also reveals a diverse picture across AMS, with varying levels of advancement in essential health service coverage. To bridge

these gaps and reach the SDG target, more focused national strategies and stronger regional cooperation are needed to ensure inclusive, high-quality health care for all.

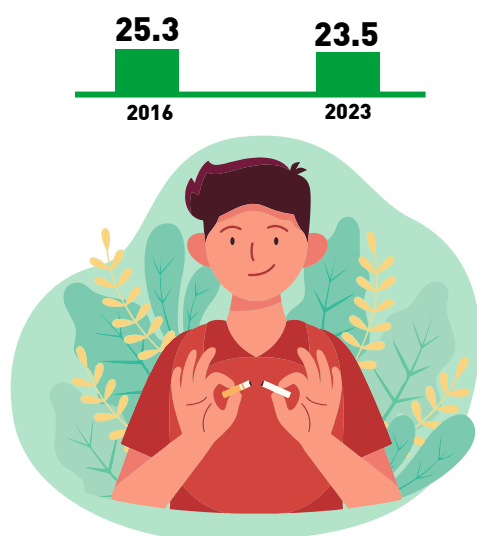
Tobacco control

Tobacco use remains one of the leading preventable causes of death and disease globally, contributing to a wide range of NCDs, including cardiovascular disease, cancer and respiratory illness. In recognition of its health and economic impacts, one of the targets under Goal 3 is to strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) in all countries. This treaty outlines comprehensive strategies, from taxation and marketing restrictions to smoke-free environments and support for cessation, to curb tobacco use and promote healthier societies as part of a broader development agenda.

ASEAN has made modest progress in reducing the age-standardised prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older, a key indicator for monitoring tobacco control and tracking progress towards SDG Target 3.a. Between 2016 and 2023, the regional average declined from 25.3% to 23.5%, indicating a gradual shift in behaviour and improved implementation of tobacco control measures in the region. While this downward trend is encouraging, the pace of decline

remains relatively slow, highlighting the need for stronger enforcement and scaling up effective tobacco control strategies.

Figure 3.10. Age-standardised prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older (%)



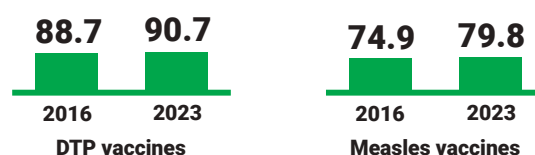
Vaccination

Vaccination is one of the most effective public health interventions for preventing infectious diseases and reducing child mortality. It plays a critical role in strengthening health systems, improving population resilience and supporting broader development goals. Within the framework of the SDGs, Target 3.b calls for supporting the R&D of vaccines and medicines for diseases that primarily affect developing countries, as well as ensuring access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines. Progress on vaccination coverage, especially among children, is a key indicator

for this target, reflecting how well countries are ensuring equitable, timely and affordable access to essential immunisation services for all segments of the population.

ASEAN has made good progress in expanding immunisation coverage, particularly for key childhood vaccines such as DTP (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis) and measles. Between 2016 and 2023, DTP vaccine coverage increased from 88.7% to 90.7%, reflecting improved outreach and delivery of routine immunisation services across the region. Similarly, measles vaccine coverage rose from 74.9% to 79.8% over the same period. While these achievements are promising, the pace of progress remains modest and disparity persists across AMS, more targeted strategies and accelerated efforts

Figure 3.11. Proportion of the target population covered by DTP containing vaccines (3rd dose) and Measles containing vaccines (2nd dose) (%)



are needed to achieve universal immunisation coverage.

Health worker density

Health worker density is a critical indicator measuring the strength and capacity of a country's health system. Adequate numbers of trained and equitably distributed health professionals, such as doctors, nurses and midwives, dentists and pharmacists, are essential to delivering quality care, achieving UHC and responding to public health emergencies. Monitoring health worker density helps assessing the progress towards the Target 3.c of SDGs which aims to substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries.

Between 2016 and 2023, ASEAN has made notable progress in strengthening its health workforce, as reflected in the increasing density of key health professionals per 10,000 population. The number of medical doctors rose from 6.7 per 10,000 population in 2016 to 8.0 in 2023, while the density of nursing and midwifery personnel grew from 27.3 to 30.5 during the same period. Smaller but still positive increases were also seen in the number of dentists per 10,000 population that increased from 1.1 in 2016 to 1.4 in 2023 and the density of pharmacists that rose from 2.2 to 2.9 during the same period. Overall, the increases across all categories suggest that ASEAN is moving in the right direction, but continued and coordinated investment is essential to close remaining gaps and build a resilient and inclusive health workforce for the future.

Figure 3.12. Density of medical doctors, nursing and midwifery personnel, dentists, and pharmacists (Number per 10,000 population)





4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Goal 4

QUALITY EDUCATION

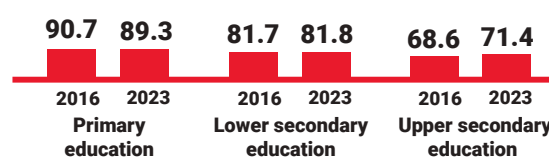
Education is a fundamental human right and a critical driver of sustainable development. It empowers individuals with the knowledge, skills and values needed to lead productive lives, participate fully in society and contribute meaningfully to economic growth and innovation. Goal 4 is centred on the vision of ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all. The goal comprises a broad set of targets that address key dimensions of education, including universal primary and secondary education, early childhood development, equal access to technical and vocational training, elimination of gender disparities and improvement in learning outcomes. It also promotes global citizenship, digital literacy and safe, inclusive learning environments.

Effective learning outcomes

Ensuring that all children complete primary and secondary education is fundamental for building inclusive and resilient societies. Completion rates serve as a key indicator for measuring progress toward this goal, which reflects the proportion of children and adolescents who successfully finish each level of schooling. Completion rates are important for assessing not only access to education but also retention and progression within the education system.

The overall completion rate for primary education in ASEAN has seen a slight regression, declining from 90.7% in 2016 to 89.3% in 2023. This downward trend is a concern, as it suggests that a portion of children are not reaching the end of

Figure 4.1. Completion rate in primary, lower secondary and upper secondary education (%)



their primary education, which may impact their readiness for further schooling and foundational skill development. The most significant decline was observed in Myanmar, which also reported the lowest primary completion rate, with only around 40.0% of children completing primary school.

For lower secondary education, progress was minimal, with the completion rate inching up only slightly from 81.7% in 2016 to 81.8% in 2023. While this indicates a degree of stability, it also reflects stagnation in addressing the barriers that prevent students from staying in school during adolescence.

Furthermore, upper secondary education has shown fair progress, with completion rates rising from 68.6% in 2016 to 71.4% in 2023. This improvement points to gradual success in retaining older students and supporting their transition through the final stage of basic education. However, the completion rate remains relatively low compared to primary and lower secondary levels, suggesting that more work is needed to expand access, address dropout rates and better ensure that students can complete a full cycle of schooling.

Early childhood development

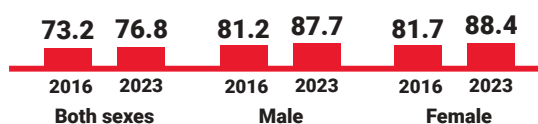
Early childhood development sets the foundation for lifelong learning, health and well-being. The early years, from birth to age five, are a critical

period of rapid brain development, during which children form the cognitive, emotional and social skills that shape their future success. Ensuring that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education is important for building school readiness and supporting cognitive and social development. The participation rate in organised learning one year before the official primary entry age is a key indicator of how well education systems are reaching children during this formative stage.

ASEAN's progress in the participation rate in organised learning one year before the official primary entry age has been steady, with the regional average rising from 73.2% in 2016 to 76.8% in 2023. This growth underscores the region's continued efforts to improve early childhood education and its recognition of the importance of early learning in shaping future academic success. However, while the increase is commendable, further investments and policy reforms remain crucial to ensure that all children, regardless of their background, have access to organised learning before entering primary school.

Although data availability for the breakdown by sex was more limited, the available figures showed that both males and females have experienced fair progress, with increases in participation rates from 2016 to 2023. The participation rate for males increased from 81.2% to 87.7%, while females saw a rise

Figure 4.2. Participation rate in organised learning (one year before the official primary entry age) (%)



from 81.7% to 88.4%. This indicates that both genders have benefited from improved access to organised learning during early childhood, reflecting positive developments across the region. Notably, females have achieved both a higher participation rate and a slightly greater overall increase compared to males over the same period. Nevertheless, the gender gap remains small and both boys and girls were making almost equal progress.

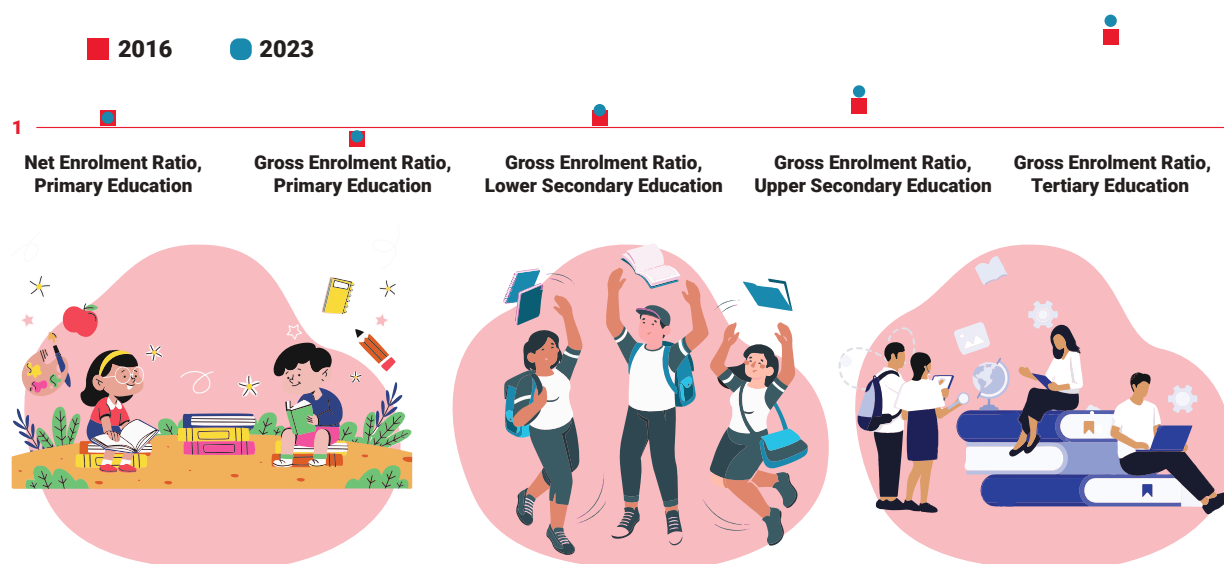
Equal access to education

Achieving gender parity in education is a fundamental step towards creating more inclusive and equitable societies. It ensures

that girls and boys, women and men, have equal opportunities to access, participate in and benefit from all levels of education. Eliminating gender-based disparities not only promotes fairness but also contributes to broader social and economic development.

On average, the Gender Parity Index (GPI) for net enrolment in primary education showed near parity, increasing slightly from 1.002 in 2016 to 1.004 in 2023, indicating sustained equitable access with a slight advantage for girls. While the increase appears negligible, it calls for continued attention to prevent the emergence of broader gender disparities. In contrast, the GPI for the corresponding gross enrolment rose from 0.985 to 0.988 over the same period, remaining below parity and reflecting a slight male advantage. This suggests that while girls are more likely to be enrolled at the appropriate age, boys are slightly more represented in total enrolment figures, possibly due to higher rates of late entry or grade repetition. These contrasting patterns underscore the multifaceted nature of achieving gender parity in education, highlighting the need to simultaneously address both equitable access and smooth progression to ensure that all students, regardless of gender, can benefit from inclusive and high-quality education systems.

In lower and upper secondary education, the gender parity slightly favoured girls. The GPI for gross enrolment in lower secondary education increased from 1.005 in 2016 to 1.023 in 2023,

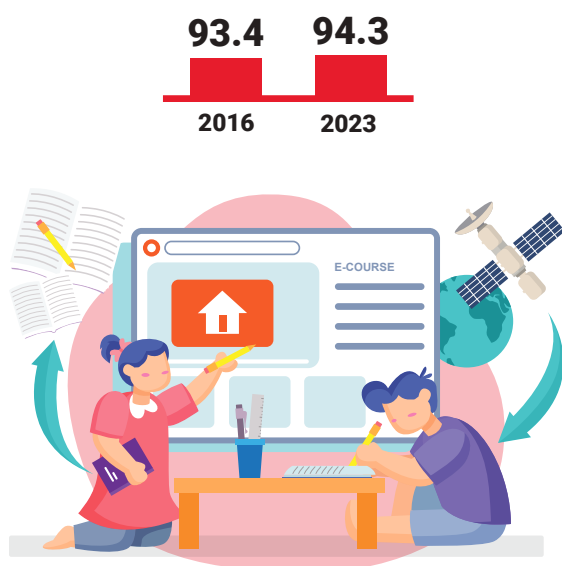
Figure 4.3. Gender Parity Index (GPI) in education

while in upper secondary education, it rose from 1.028 to 1.076. This trend suggests growing female advantage in enrolment during the secondary years. The most notable disparity is observed in tertiary education, where the GPI for gross enrolment was already high and further increased from 1.240 in 2016 to 1.252 in 2023. This continued growth indicates a strong and widening female advantage in higher education participation across the region. While this reflects positive outcomes for women, it also calls attention to the need to address barriers that may be affecting male participation at the post-secondary level.

Adult literacy

Adult literacy forms the foundation of lifelong learning and is essential to fostering individual

empowerment, economic opportunity and sustainable human development. Measuring adult literacy rates helps assess progress in providing equitable access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities. It reflects how well countries are equipping their populations with essential skills to navigate an increasingly knowledge-driven world. ASEAN has made fair progress in improving adult literacy over the past seven years, with the regional literacy rate increasing from 93.4% in 2016 to 94.3% in 2023. While this improvement signals progress towards universal literacy, the relatively slow pace of growth indicates that more targeted efforts are needed to accelerate progress, especially for marginalised populations who remain at risk of being left behind. ASEAN must step up efforts to reach the last mile, through flexible, accessible and community-based literacy programmes.

Figure 4.4. Adult literacy rate (%)

Education facilities

Safe, inclusive and effective learning environments are essential for quality education. Ensuring that schools are equipped with appropriate infrastructure, such as clean drinking water, electricity, internet access, gender-sensitive sanitation and accessible facilities for learners with disabilities, helps promote equity, encourage attendance and improve learning outcomes. Investments in such education facilities reflect a commitment to inclusive and lifelong learning for all.

Between 2016 and 2023, ASEAN demonstrated steady progress in enhancing the basic infrastructure of primary and secondary schools. School's access to electricity has improved across all levels, with an increase from 78.9% to 85.3% in primary schools and

from 86.9% to 89.3% in secondary schools, while upper secondary schools achieved near universal coverage at 98.0%. Water, sanitation and hygiene indicators have also shown positive trends. The proportion of primary schools with access to basic drinking water rose significantly from 80.6% in 2016 to 91.4% in 2023 and access to basic handwashing facilities improved from 78.6% to 84.3% in the same period. Similar improvements were observed in secondary schools, where access to basic handwashing facilities improved from 83.7% to 85.1%.

Despite this progress, some areas remain a concern. Access to computers for pedagogical purposes in primary schools declined slightly from 69.0% in 2016 to 65.3% in 2023, highlighting a potential area of concern as digital literacy becomes increasingly vital in modern education. The relatively slow pace of change in access to single-sex sanitation facilities (from 82.0% to 84.7%) suggests the need for more targeted interventions, especially to meet the needs of girls. These mixed results underscore the importance of maintaining a balanced focus on both traditional infrastructure and emerging digital needs in school environments.

Qualified teachers

A well-qualified teaching workforce is fundamental to the delivery of quality education. SDG Target 4.c directly addresses this need

by calling for a commitment to substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries. Enhancing teacher quality not only supports academic achievement but also equips students with the skills needed to adapt in a rapidly changing world.

Based on the available data from 2016 to 2023, ASEAN's progress towards SDG Target 4.c on increasing the proportion of qualified teachers shows mixed results across education levels. At the primary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels, the proportion of teachers with minimum required qualifications remained consistently high and even improved slightly in some areas. Lower secondary teachers increased from 95.7% in 2016 to 96.4% in 2023 and upper secondary teachers from 97.0% to 97.2% in the same period, reflecting strong capacity-building and professional standards

at these levels. Primary school figures also remained robust; however, there was a slight regression from 95.3% in 2016 to 94.6% in 2023. While the decline is minimal, it should be considered as a point of concern given the foundational role of primary education in shaping student learning outcomes. Sustained attention is needed to ensure qualification levels do not slip further.

In contrast, the proportion of qualified pre-primary teachers declined significantly from 92.0% in 2016 to 85.3% in 2023. This regression is especially concerning, particularly given the critical role of early childhood education in laying the foundation for lifelong learning. The decline underscores the urgent need for targeted policies and sustained investment in teacher qualification programmes, recruitment and retention within the pre-primary sector to reverse the trend and ensure strong learning foundations for all children.

Figure 4.5. Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications (%)





5 GENDER
EQUALITY



Goal 5

GENDER EQUALITY

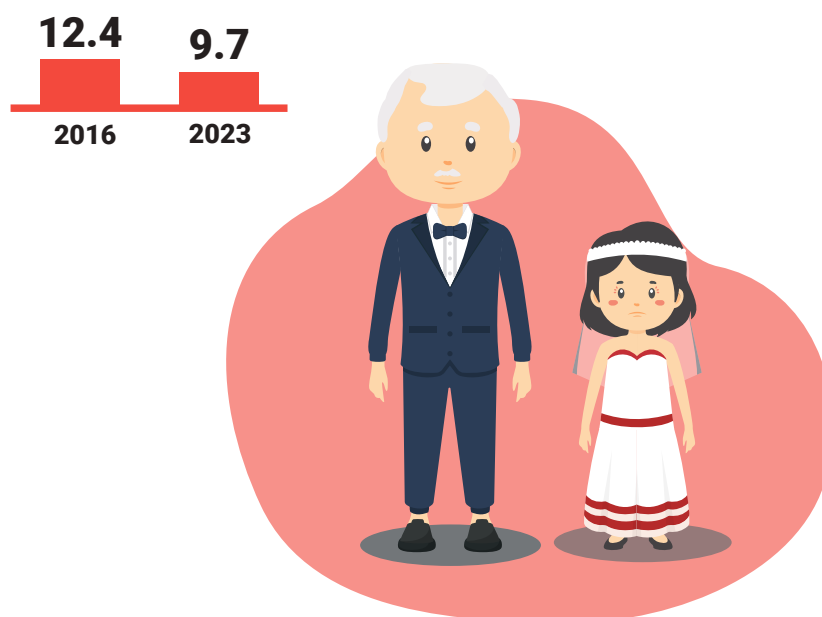
Advancing gender equality remains key to achieving sustainable and inclusive development, including within the ASEAN region. The full participation of women and girls in social, economic and political life is not only a matter of human rights but also a driver of prosperity, resilience and social cohesion. Goal 5 underscores the global commitment to achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls, recognising that such empowerment is a prerequisite for progress across all dimensions of development. In the context of ASEAN, efforts to close gender gaps and eliminate discriminatory practices are essential for ensuring that the benefits of growth and integration are equitably shared.

Goal 5 includes a comprehensive set of targets to address a wide range of issues, among others, eliminating harmful practices such as child marriage and female genital mutilation, full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life and the use of technology to empower women.

Early marriage

SDG Target 5.3 aims to eliminate all harmful practices, including child, early and forced marriage. Early marriage is often driven by entrenched gender norms, poverty, limited access to education and social pressure. Girls who marry early are more likely to drop out of school, experience early and high-risk pregnancies, face increased vulnerability to domestic violence and remain economically dependent. These outcomes contribute to a cycle of disadvantages that affect not only individuals but also families and communities.

The indicator on proportion of women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before the age of 18 is one of the key measures to track the progress in eliminating early marriage. ASEAN as a region has achieved substantial progress over the period of seven years. The prevalence of child marriage among women in this age group has dropped from 12.4% in 2016 to 9.7% in 2023, reflecting a positive trend towards eliminating this harmful practice across the region.

Figure 5.1. Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 18 (%)

Women in leadership

Women's leadership matters, not only as a matter of rights, but also as a driver of more responsive and inclusive societies. SDG Target 5.5 underscores this by calling for full and effective participation of women in decision-making processes across political, economic and public spheres.

The proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments is an important indicator of gender equality in political decision-making. In ASEAN, this share rose modestly from 18.8% in 2016 to 19.9% in 2023. While this marks a fair step forward, the pace of progress remains relatively slow and uneven across AMS.

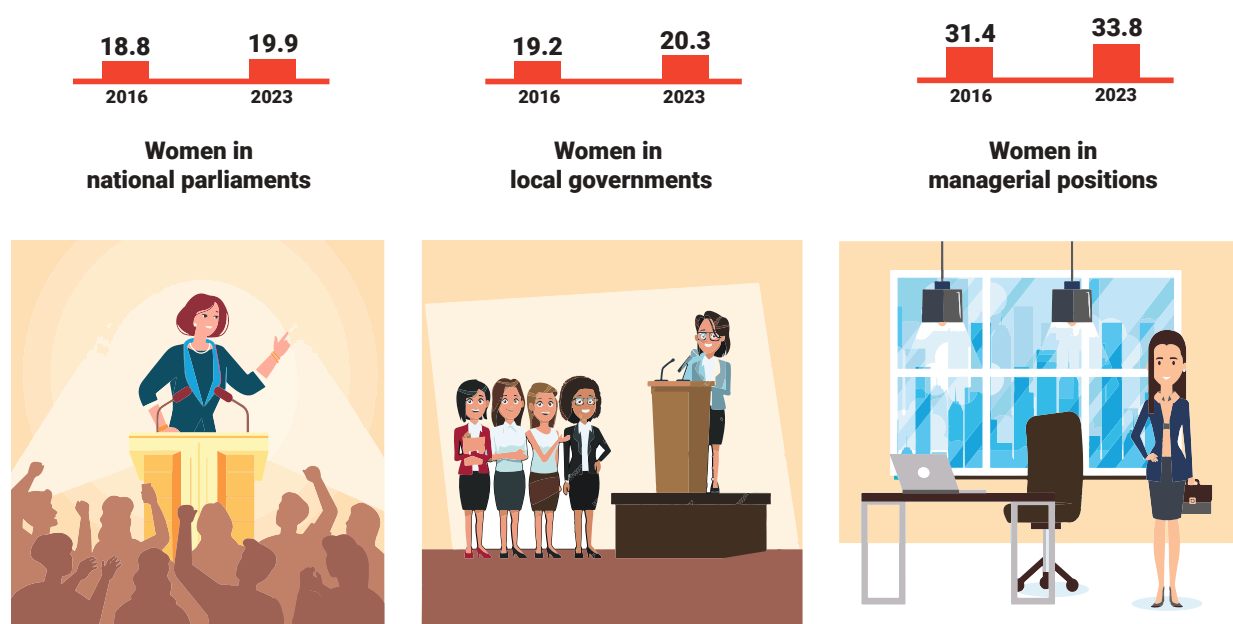
The nearly one-percentage-point increase over seven years highlights that while awareness and efforts are growing, accelerated actions, including implementing legislative quotas, gender-sensitive electoral reforms and leadership development for women, are essential to create more inclusive and representative governance across the region.

Another important measure of gender inclusivity is the proportion of seats held by women in local government, which reflects women participation at the grassroots level where policies and services often have the most direct impact on communities. Available data showed women's

representation in local government increased modestly from 19.2% in 2016 to 20.3% in 2023. This mirrors the pace of change seen in national parliament and reflects ongoing, though limited, progress. The gradual improvement suggests that while some positive steps have been taken, advancing gender parity in local governance is required. Accelerated and targeted strategies are needed such as tailored leadership development for women at the local level, capacity-building initiatives and inclusive policy reforms.

Additionally, women's representation in managerial positions is essential for achieving workplace equality. Across ASEAN, more women are stepping into leadership roles and helping to shape the future of work. Based on available data from seven AMS, the share of women in managerial positions rose from 31.4% in 2016 to 33.8% in 2023. This progress signals a positive shift towards more inclusive workplaces and growing recognition of women's leadership capabilities across the region.

Figure 5.2. Women participation in national parliaments, local governments and managerial positions (%)



Technology for women empowerment

Mobile phone ownership is more than a matter of connectivity, it is a gateway to financial services, digital literacy, education and participation in the digital economy. Under SDG Target 5.b, which calls for greater use of enabling technology to promote the empowerment of women, the GPI on mobile phone ownership provides valuable insight into how equitably this technology is shared between women and men.

The GPI for mobile phone ownership in ASEAN increased from 0.93 in 2016 to 0.95 in 2023, indicating gradual but positive progress towards more equal access to mobile technology between women and men. The region is moving in the right direction with more women are gaining access to mobile phones. However, gender disparity remained, with mobile phone ownership still higher among men than women.

To close the remaining gap, ASEAN must continue to remove digital barriers and ensure that no woman is left behind in the region's digital transformation.

Figure 5.3. GPI of Individuals who own a mobile telephone (index)





6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Goal 6

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene are fundamental human rights and critical determinants of health, well-being and sustainable development. Water is also essential for economic activities such as agriculture, industry and energy production, making integrated water resource management a key priority. Limited access to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services poses a significant threat to public health and contributes to the persistence of poverty, particularly among vulnerable and marginalised communities. Goal 6 of the sustainable development agenda aims to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Due to limited data availability, only the progress of two out of the eight targets under Goal 6 will be discussed in this report. These targets are achieving universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all (6.1) and access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all (6.2).

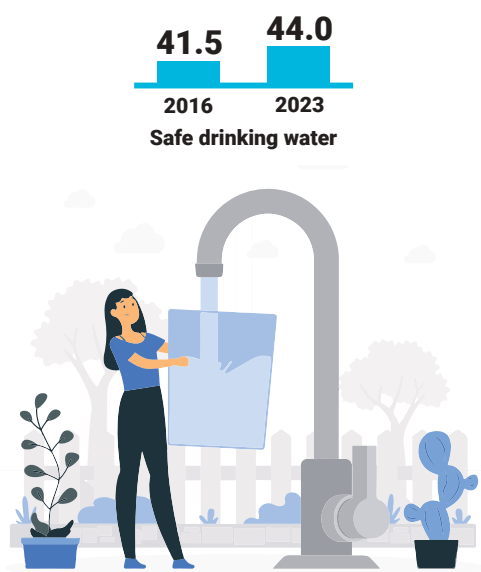
Safe drinking water

The proportion of the population using safely managed drinking water services is defined as the proportion of the population using an improved drinking water source which is accessible on premises, available when needed and free from faecal and priority chemical contamination. 'Improved' drinking water sources include piped supplies, boreholes and tubewells, protected dug wells, protected springs, rainwater, water kiosks and packaged and delivered water.

The goal of SDG Target 6.1 is to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030. However, progress in ASEAN as a region remains relatively slow. The proportion of the population in ASEAN with access to safely managed drinking water increased only modestly from 41.5% in 2016 to 44.0% in 2023. While this upward trend reflects some improvement, it remains far from the target of 100%. Accelerating progress towards this target will require enhanced investment in

water infrastructure, improved water quality monitoring, stronger regulatory enforcement and inclusive policies by prioritising vulnerable and marginalised populations.

Figure 6.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)



Overall, all AMS are able to provide basic drinking water services to all or nearly all of their population. However, access to safely managed drinking water varies significantly across countries. In 2023, Singapore achieved universal access, while Malaysia was close to meeting the target, with 95.2% of its population covered. In contrast, several other AMS continue to face challenges, with only about 30.0% to 60.0% of their populations having access to safely managed drinking water. Meanwhile, relevant data are not available for Brunei Darussalam, the Philippines and Thailand.

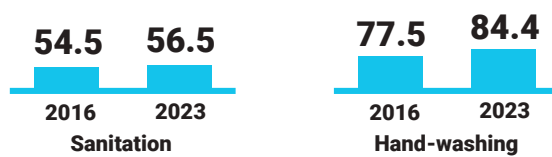
Access to sanitation and hygiene

The proportion of the population using safely managed sanitation services refers to those using improved sanitation facilities that are not shared with other households, where excreta are either safely disposed of on-site or transported and treated off-site. Meanwhile, the proportion of the population with basic hygiene services is defined as those with access to a handwashing facility with soap and water available at home.

Similar to safely managed drinking water services, progress in providing safely managed sanitation services across ASEAN remains relatively slow. Over the past seven years, the proportion of the population with access to such services increased only marginally—from 54.5% in 2016 to 56.5% in 2023. This remains significantly below the target, indicating a pressing need for accelerated and coordinated actions to improve access across the region.

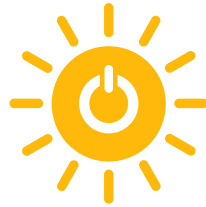
Meanwhile, access to basic hygiene services in ASEAN has improved over time, increasing from 77.5% in 2016 to 84.4% in 2023. While this improvement is encouraging, it still falls short of universal coverage and further acceleration is needed to ensure all populations have access to basic hygiene facilities.

Figure 6.2. Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services (%) and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water (%)





7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Goal 7

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

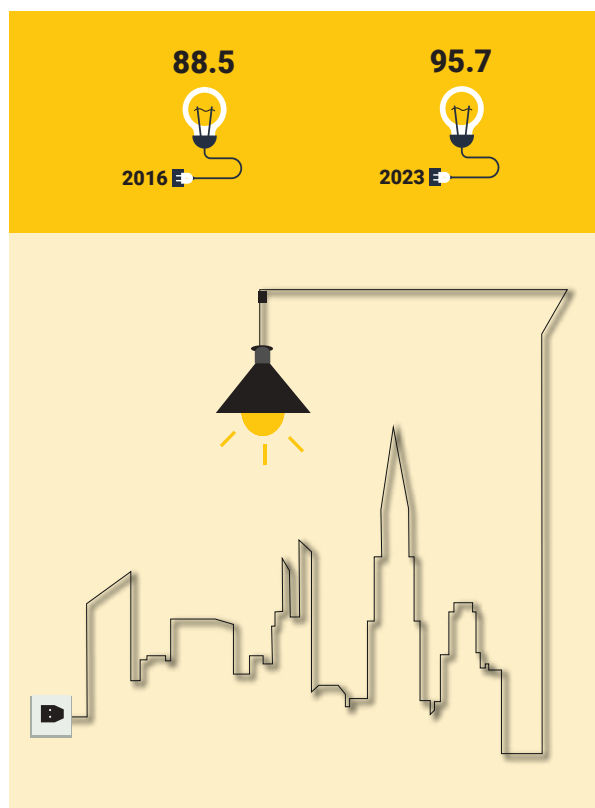
Access to energy is a fundamental human need and a critical catalyst for economic and social development. Without reliable, affordable and sustainable energy, progress in health, education, poverty reduction and economic growth is severely hindered. Recognising this, Goal 7 underscores the urgent need to expand access to modern energy services, particularly for vulnerable and underserved populations. At the same time, Goal 7 calls for accelerating the transition toward renewable energy sources and enhancing energy efficiency across all sectors. These efforts are essential not only for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate change but also for promoting inclusive economic opportunities, improving livelihoods and strengthening resilience.

Access to energy services

One of the key indicators used to monitor progress towards achieving universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services is the proportion of the population with access to electricity. Electricity access is a cornerstone of development, enabling economic empowerment, improving social well-being and enhancing overall quality of life. This indicator offers a clear measure of how effectively countries are extending modern energy services to their populations. Disparities in access reflect differing levels of development and infrastructure capacity, highlighting the urgency of narrowing energy gaps.

The proportion of people in ASEAN with access to electricity has shown significant progress and remains on track towards achieving universal coverage in the region. Between 2016 and 2023, access rates increased steadily from 88.5% to 95.7%, reflecting strong regional commitment to expanding modern energy services. This upward trend underscores the effectiveness of national electrification programs and infrastructure investments across the region.

Figure 7.1. Proportion of population with access to electricity (%)



While the region as a whole is approaching universal electricity coverage, targeted efforts remain necessary to close the remaining gaps and ensure that access is inclusive, reliable and sustainable. Brunei Darussalam and Singapore have consistently maintained full (100%) electricity access, while the majority of other AMS reported coverage exceeding 90.0% in 2023, an encouraging sign of steady progress across the region. However, Myanmar still faces considerable challenges, with access to electricity remaining below regional averages, signalling an urgent need for accelerated action.

Renewable energy

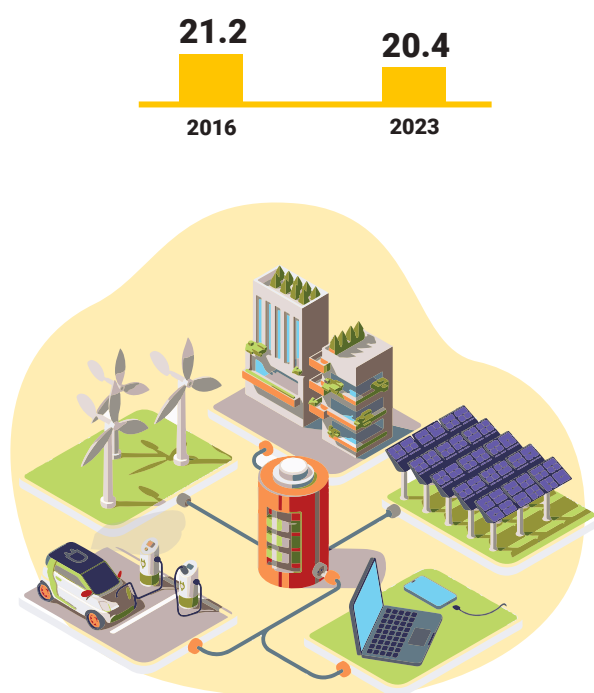
Renewable energy generally refers to energy sources that are naturally replenished and therefore not depleted through consumption. These include energy derived from hydro, wind, solar, solid and liquid biofuels, biogas, geothermal sources, marine energy and renewable waste. Unlike fossil fuels, renewable energy sources offer a sustainable path forward, minimising long-term environmental impact. The share of renewable energy in total energy consumption focuses on the amount of renewable energy actually consumed rather than the capacity for renewable energy production.

Based on data reported by nine AMS, renewable energy accounted for 20.4% of the region's total final energy consumption in 2023. Unfortunately, this represents a modest decline from 21.2% recorded in 2016, signalling a slight regression in the region's overall progress towards expanding the use of sustainable energy sources. The decline, though relatively small, serves as a critical reminder that current efforts may be insufficient to meet long-term energy and climate goals.

Over the seven-year period from 2016 to 2023, the share of renewable energy in total final energy consumption varied across AMS, reflecting a mixed trajectory in the region's transition towards sustainable energy. Half of the AMS recorded an increase in the proportion

of renewables in their energy mix, indicating progress in adopting cleaner energy sources. Conversely, the other AMS experienced a decline, suggesting challenges in maintaining or scaling up the integration of renewable energy during the same period. To ensure the region remains on track to meet its renewable energy target, coordinated efforts are needed to strengthen policy implementation, accelerate investment in renewable energy infrastructure, enhance energy efficiency and address the capacity gap.

Figure 7.2. Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption (%)

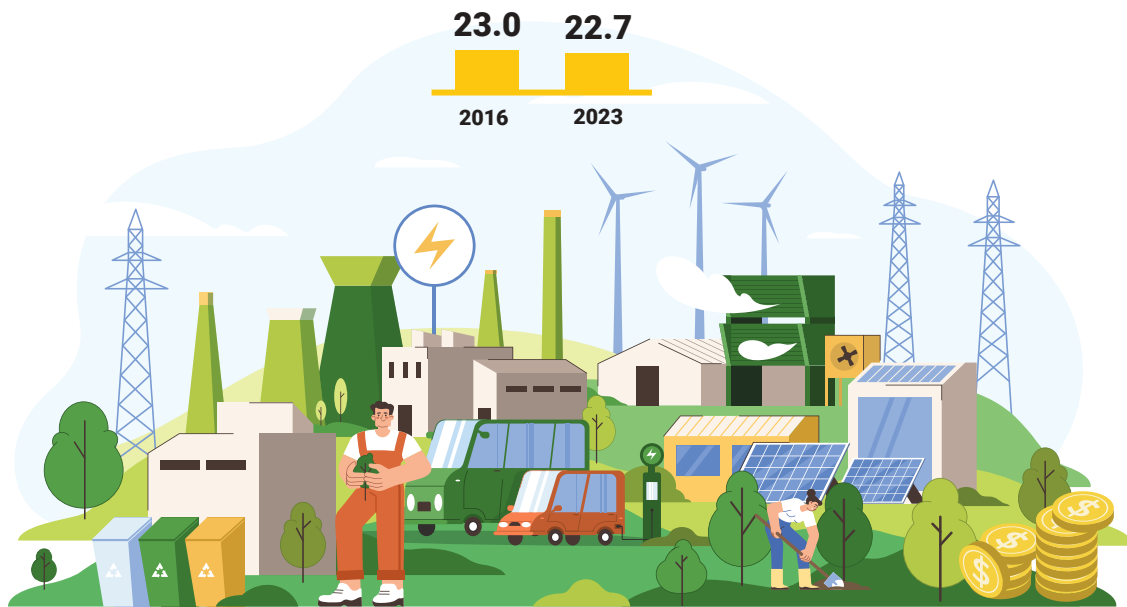


Energy efficiency

Energy intensity, which is defined as the energy supplied to the economy per unit value of economic output, serves as an indication of how much energy is used to produce one unit of economic output. It is an inverse proxy of the efficiency with which an economy is able to use energy to produce economic output. GDP is the measure of economic output and for the purposes of uniformity, the GDP used is GDP at constant prices 2010 USD. A lower ratio indicates that less energy is used to produce one unit of output.

Despite varying levels of progress among AMS, ASEAN recorded a gradual improvement in energy intensity between 2016 and 2023. On average, energy intensity decreased from 23.0 to 22.7 tonnes of oil equivalent (TOE) per thousand 2010 USD of GDP. This downward trend indicates progress in the region's overall energy efficiency, suggesting that less energy is required to generate the same level of economic output compared to the baseline year 2016. However, while this progress is in the right direction, its pace remains relatively slow and acceleration is needed in scaling up energy efficiency measures across sectors to achieve deeper reduction in energy intensity.

Figure 7.3. Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP (TOE / thousand 2010 USD)





8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Goal 8

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

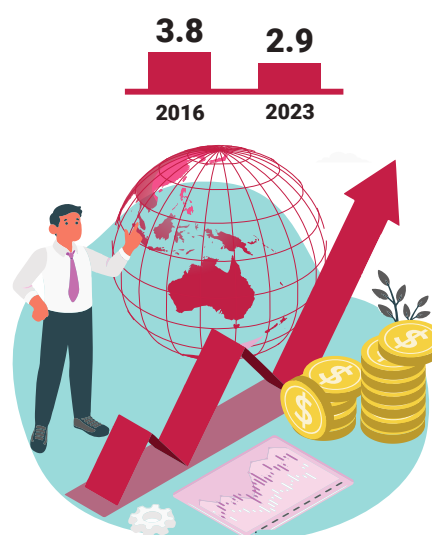
The goal of SDG 8, the Decent Work and Economic Growth, aims to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. It addresses various aspects of the workforce, including equal pay, safe working conditions and the protection of workers' rights. The goal also emphasizes the elimination of child labour, the eradication of forced labour and the promotion of sustainable tourism as a means of economic development.

Based on the data available in AMS, this report will discuss several aspects including economic growth, productivity, informal employment, unemployment and access to financial institutions.

Per capita economic growth

Growth of GDP per capita reflects an increase proportional to the growth of nominal GDP and population. It provides an indication of economic level of individuals in a country. In 2023 the ASEAN aggregate of GDP per capita growth was recorded at 2.9%. Although this figure still showed an improvement in GDP from the previous year, the pace was somewhat slower compared to the growth in 2016 (3.8%). It suggests the need to speed up GDP growth to be faster than the current pace of population growth.

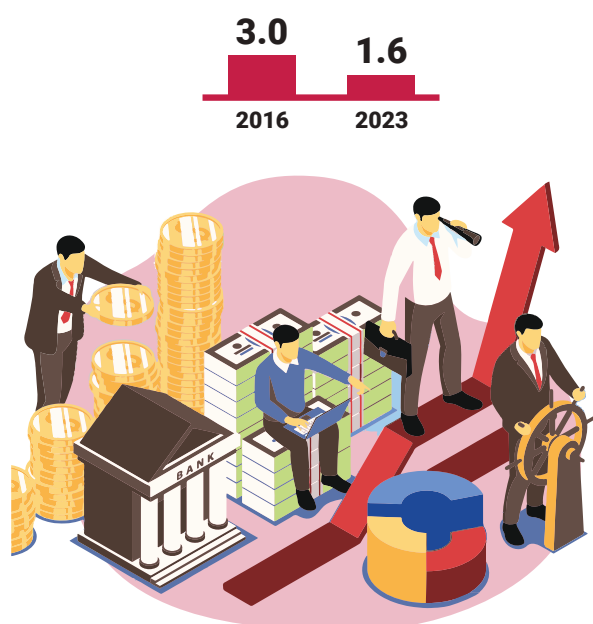
Figure 8.1. Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita (%)



Economic productivity

The slower pace of per capita GDP growth was in line with the pace of growth of labour's productivity. At the aggregate level, the annual growth of real GDP per employed person in ASEAN slowed down from 3.0% in 2016 to only 1.6% in 2023. This signals the lower outputs produced with the same amount of resources and efforts of the labour. From another perspective, it could indicate the needs of technological advancement, better capacity building and improved management practices in the economy for obtaining higher productivity so that it will drive higher economic growth.

Figure 8.2. Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person (%)

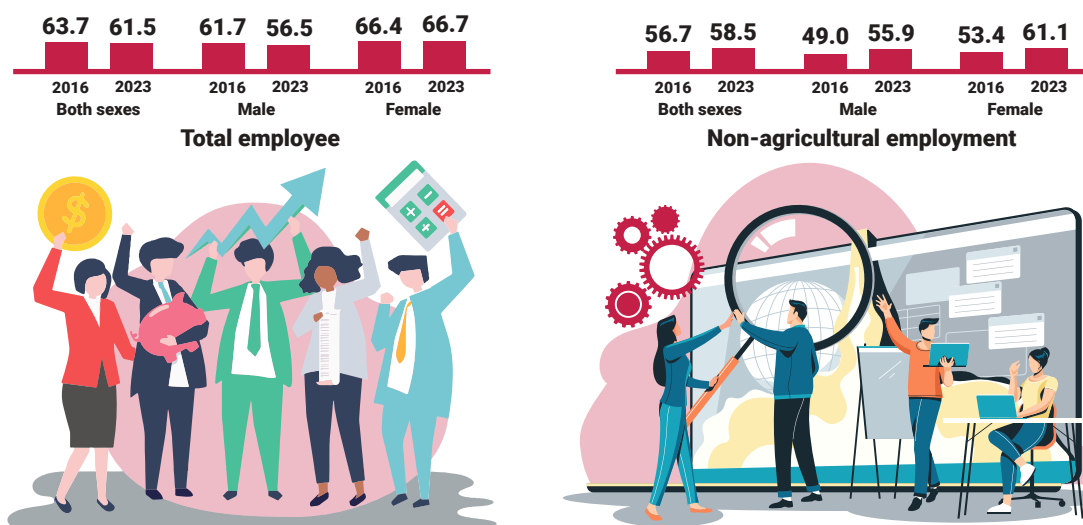


Formalisation of SMEs

Informal employment, while providing a crucial entry point for many entrepreneurial activities, also presents several challenges. It can act as a springboard for individuals with limited skills to gain experience and potentially transition to formal work, as well as allowing them to create their own businesses. However, it is often women characterised by low wages, lack of social protection and job insecurity, which can pose challenges to economic productivity and poverty reduction and limit opportunities for advancement. The proportion of informal employment in total employment is used to track the progress towards the SDG Target 8.3 on formalisation and growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The proportion of informal employment in total employment in ASEAN recorded a minor increase for females, from 66.4% in 2016 to 66.7% in 2023. However, the corresponding proportion for males decreased from 61.7% to 56.5% in the same period, resulting in a decrease from 63.7% to 61.5% for both sexes.

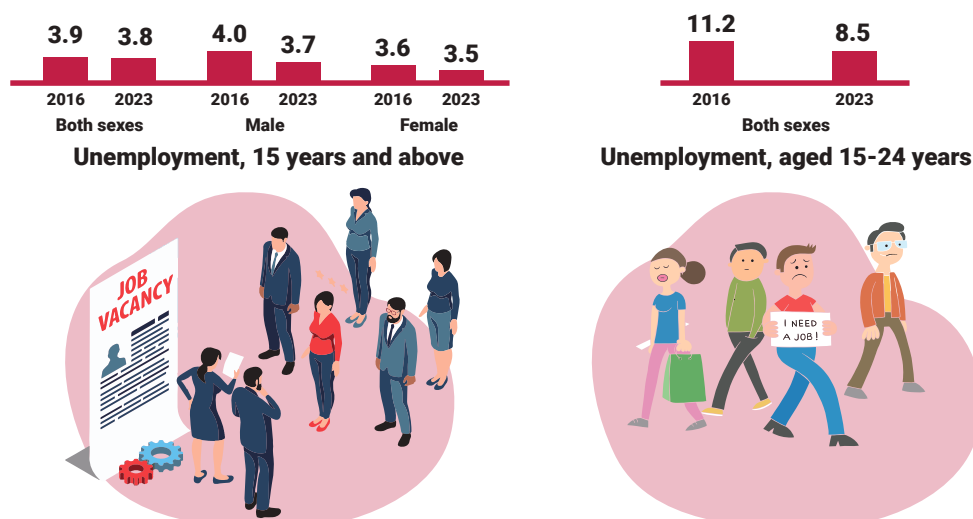
Different trends were found when focusing on non-agricultural employment. During 2016 to 2023 the proportion of informal employment increased for both male and female with relatively similar percentage-point difference, from 49.0% to 55.9% for male, and from 53.4% to 61.1% for female.

Figure 8.3. Proportion of informal employment (%)

Full employment and decent work

One of the targets under Goal 8 is to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men. In this regard, unemployment rate for population aged 15 years and above is used as indicator. Unfortunately, based on the aggregate figures of AMS, ASEAN

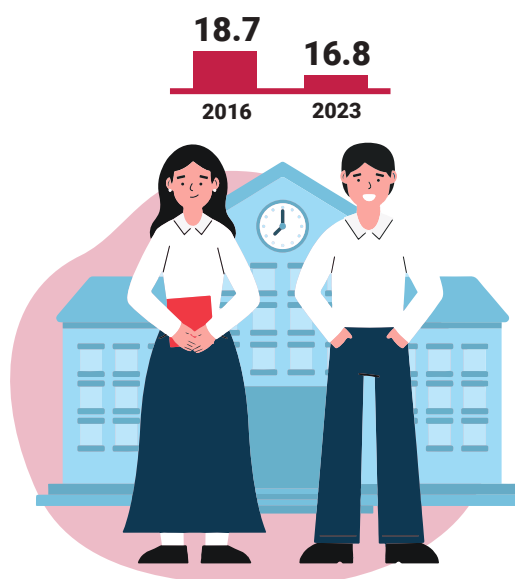
recorded only minor reduction in unemployment rate with males having larger percentage-point decrease (from 4.0% in 2016 to 3.7% in 2023) compared to females (3.6% in 2016 to 3.5% in 2023). With this relatively slow progress, it is very difficult for ASEAN to achieve full employment by 2030. Furthermore, the unemployment rate was higher for youths (aged 15-24 years), 11.2% in 2016 and 8.5% in 2023.

Figure 8.4. Unemployment rate (%)

Youth participation

Youth participation is also important for supporting economic and social development in a country. Instead of being supportive, unproductive youth will turn to be a burden for countries in implementing their development policies. Despite having a reduction during the period of 2016 to 2023, the proportion of youths not in employment, education and training in ASEAN remained less ideal (18.7% and 16.8%, respectively).

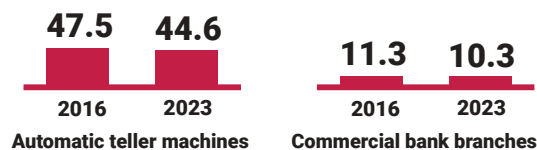
Figure 8.5. Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training (%)



Access to financial services

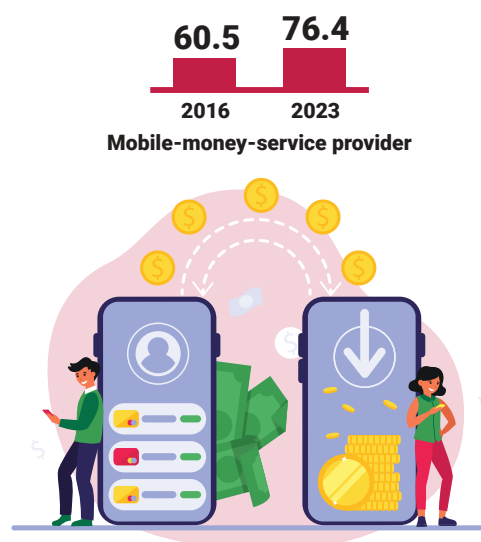
Another focus of Goal 8 is on strengthening financial institutions and expanding access to banking, insurance and financial services for all. This is to recognise the crucial role of financial inclusion in driving economic growth and fostering a more equitable society. As one of relevant indicators in this area, five AMS experienced a decline in the number of automatic teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults, resulting in a decline of aggregate ASEAN figures from 47.5 in 2016 to 44.6 in 2023.

Figure 8.6. Number of commercial bank branches and ATMs per 100,000 adults (Number per 100,000 adults)



Similar situation was also observed for the number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults. It decreased from 11.3 to 10.3 in the same period. These decreasing trends however could be the result of the increasing digitalisation of banking services, such as the case in Singapore. However, notable progress was made in another aspect of financial services, which is the proportion of adults with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider. The data recorded an increase in this indicator, from 60.5% in 2016 to 76.4% in 2023. This shows not only the expanding access to financial services but also the improvement in their capacity in covering more people in the economy.

Figure 8.7. Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider (%)





9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Goal 9

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

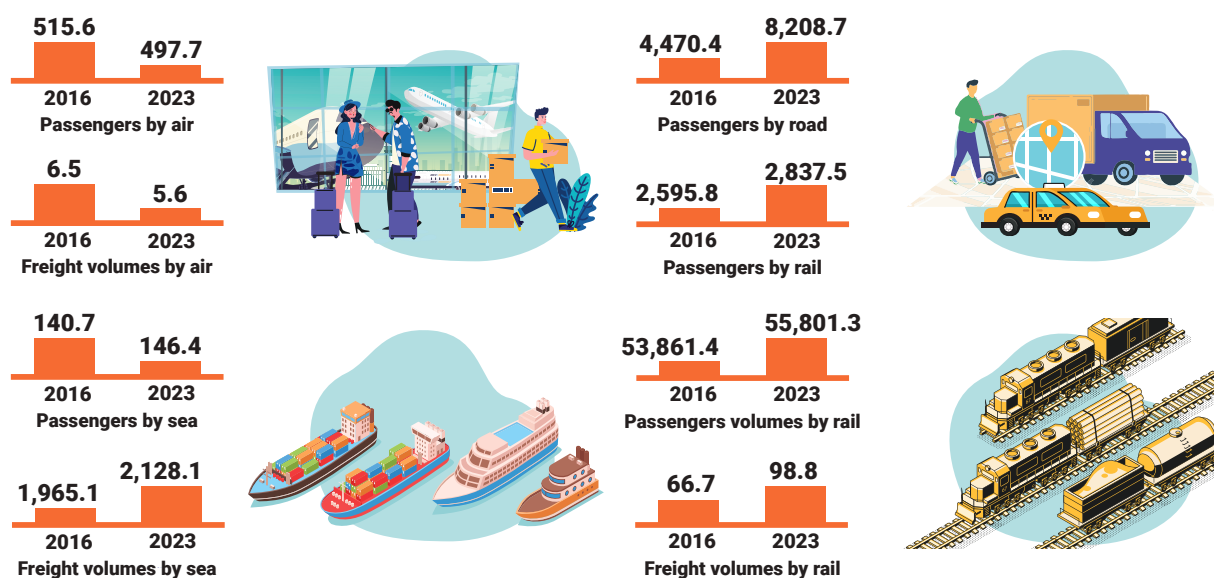
Goal 9 encompasses three important aspects of sustainable development: infrastructure, industrialisation and innovation. These elements are fundamental to economic progress and improving the quality of life, especially in developing countries. Infrastructure provides the backbone for society, connecting people to markets, services and opportunities. Industrialisation, when inclusive and sustainable, creates jobs, fosters technology transfer and enhances economic diversification. Innovation drives solutions to global challenges such as climate change, environmental degradation and inequality. Through investment in research, the promotion of sustainable technologies and support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), countries can accelerate growth while ensuring it is inclusive and resilient.

Infrastructure development

Infrastructure development plays a foundational role in stimulating economic growth, reducing inequalities, strengthening competitiveness and enhancing regional integration. In ASEAN, the expansion of quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure is important for improving access to markets, services and opportunities, especially in rural and less-connected areas. Recognising this, the ASEAN Master Plan on Connectivity includes physical infrastructure as one of its core components, aiming to close infrastructure gaps across the region. One way to assess progress in infrastructure development is by tracking passenger and freight volumes, which reflect the efficiency and capacity of transport systems to support the movement of

people and goods. It also helps track regional connectivity progress and supports policy planning in line with broader development and integration goals, such as those set out in the ASEAN Master Plan on Connectivity.

Between 2016 and 2023, ASEAN's transport sector witnessed strong growth in passenger movement, particularly in road transport. The number of road passengers nearly doubled from 4.5 billion to 8.2 billion, highlighting grown intensity in regional connectivity and everyday mobility. Rail transport also showed steady growth, with passenger numbers increasing from 2.6 billion to 2.8 billion and passenger volumes (i.e., passenger-kilometre) rising by

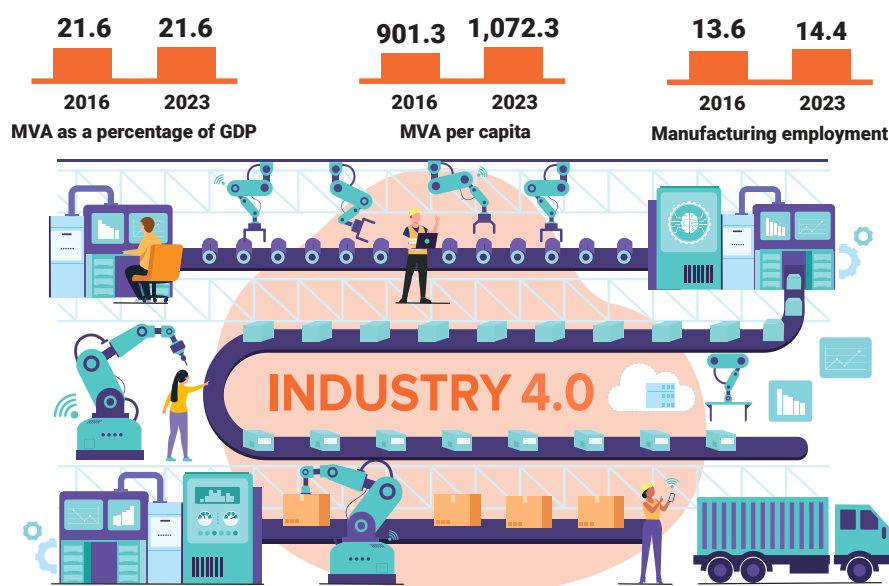
Figure 9.1. Passengers (in million persons) and Freight Volumes (in million tonnes) by mode of transport

3.6%, indicating both increased usage and potentially longer travel distances. In contrast, air transport saw a slight decline in passenger numbers, possibly reflecting changes in travel behaviour post-pandemic or increased use of alternative modes.

Freight movement trends present a mixed picture. Rail freight volumes grew substantially, increasing almost twofold from 66.7 million tonnes to 98.8 million tonnes, suggesting an increasing shift towards rail for its efficiency and environmental benefits. Sea freight volumes also rose from 2.0 billion tonnes to 2.1 billion tonnes, reaffirming maritime transport's central role in regional trade. However, air freight declined from 6.5 million tonnes to 5.6 million tonnes, which may reflect shifts in logistics strategies or economic factors affecting high-cost transport options.

Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation

Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation is a key driver of economic transformation, job creation and technological advancement. Efforts in strengthening the industrial sector not only contribute to higher productivity and income levels but also support the transition towards more diversified and resilient economies. This priority is reflected in the global commitment to significantly increase industry's share of employment and GDP by 2030, particularly in least developed and developing countries. To monitor progress toward this goal, key indicators used are MVA as a percentage of GDP, MVA per capita and manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment. The share of MVA in GDP reflects the role of manufacturing in the

Figure 9.2. MVA as a percentage of GDP (%), MVA per capita (USD) and manufacturing employment (%)

economy and a country's national development in general. MVA per capita is the basic indicator of a country's level of industrialisation adjusted for the size of the economy.

The share of MVA in GDP remained relatively stable at 21.6% in 2016 and 2023. This suggests resilience in manufacturing activity and a steady contribution to the broader economy. More notable is the growth in MVA per capita, which increased from USD 901.3 to USD 1,072.3 (in constant 2015 USD). This reflects both increased productivity and the sector's growing economic value per individual, pointing to gains in efficiency and possibly the adoption of higher value-added manufacturing processes. The increase in manufacturing employment, from 13.6% to 14.4% of total employment, also suggests progress towards more inclusive industrialisation, as a larger share of the

workforce is now engaged in the sector. These trends show modest but positive movement towards the goal of strengthening industry's role in economic growth and employment.

Small-scale industry

Access to financial services is essential for the growth and resilience of small-scale industries, which play a vital role in driving employment, innovation and inclusive economic development. Recognising their contribution, global efforts under the sustainable development agenda aim to enhance the integration of small-scale enterprises into value chains and markets by improving their access to affordable credit, banking services and other forms of financial support. Limited access to finance remains a key barrier for many small businesses, hindering

their ability to expand, adopt new technologies and compete in wider markets. The proportion of small-scale industries in total industry is often used as an indicator to monitor progress towards this target, which reflects the extent to which smaller enterprises are participating in and benefiting from industrial growth.

On average, the proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added in ASEAN declined slightly from 12.2% in 2016 to 11.5% in 2023. This marginal decrease suggests that while small-scale industries remain an important part of the industrial landscape, their relative contribution to overall industry value added has weakened over time. This trend may reflect ongoing challenges in accessing finance, technology and markets, which can hinder the competitiveness and scalability of smaller enterprises. Continued monitoring of

this indicator is essential to understand whether small businesses are being left behind or just changing as the industry grows.

Research and development

SDG Target 9.5 under Goal 9 promotes increased investment in R&D as a foundation for innovation, technological advancement and sustainable industrial growth. It encourages both public and private sectors to raise R&D spending and strengthen the research workforce. Progress is tracked using two indicators, R&D as a proportion of GDP, which reflects the financial commitment to scientific innovation and number of researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants.

Over the past seven years from 2016 to 2023, both the average R&D expenditure as a proportion of GDP and the number of researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants in ASEAN experienced slight declines. R&D expenditure decreased marginally from 1.007% of GDP in 2016 to 1.005% in 2023. Meanwhile, the number of researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants dropped from 1,010.3 to 990.3 over the same period. These figures suggest a relatively stable trend in R&D investment and human resources, indicating that while the commitment to R&D remains consistent, there may be underlying challenges in sustaining or improving research capacity relative to population growth and economic changes.

Figure 9.3. Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added (%)

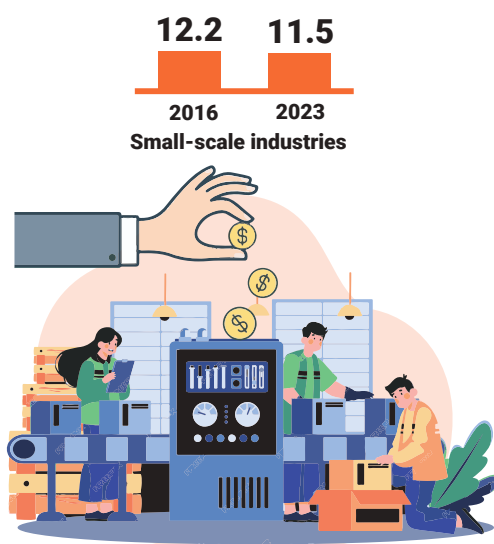
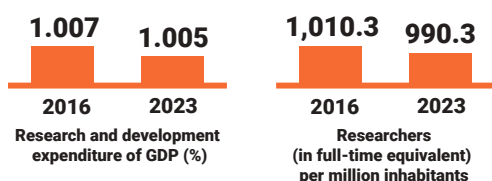


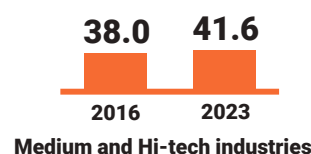
Figure 9.4. Research and development related indicators

Domestic technology development

Promoting domestic technology development, research and innovation is one of the key drivers for advancing regional industrial capacity. Strengthening the medium and high-tech (MHT) industry is essential to remain competitive in global markets. Monitoring the share of MHT industry value added in the total manufacturing output helps assess how effectively countries are moving up the value chain and transitioning toward a more innovative-led economy.

The proportion of MHT industry value added in total manufacturing increased from 38.0% in 2016 to 41.6% in 2023, reflecting a positive shift toward more technology-intensive manufacturing across the region. This progress

is encouraging, as it signals growing innovation capacity and industrial upgrading. However, further acceleration is needed to ensure that domestic industries remain globally competitive and play a more substantial role in driving sustainable economic growth.

Figure 9.5. Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added (%)

Access to ICT and Internet

Mobile network coverage is a key enabler of digital connectivity, offering individuals and communities access to information, services, and opportunities. In line with SDG Target 9.c, which calls for universal and affordable internet access in least developed countries, expanding mobile infrastructure is critical for bridging the digital divide. Tracking progress in this area

helps assess how well countries are meeting this global commitment and fostering inclusive development.

ASEAN has made strong progress in expanding mobile network coverage between 2016 and 2023. The proportion of the population covered by mobile network increased from 91.6% to 97.6%, indicating substantial improvements in digital connectivity across the region. This expansion reflects ongoing efforts by AMS to ensure broader access to mobile-based services and information.

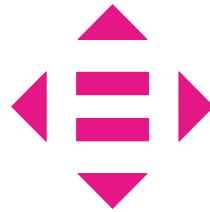
Disaggregated by network type, the data show varying degrees of progress. Coverage by at least 2G network increased significantly from 90.7% in 2016 to 98.6% in 2023, nearing universal coverage. In contrast, at least 3G network coverage remained relatively stable, with a marginal decrease from 94.7% to 94.6%, indicating shifting from at least 3G networks towards newer technologies. The most notable improvement occurred in at least 4G coverage, which rose sharply from 81.1% to 96.1%, highlighting a regional transition towards faster and more capable mobile infrastructure.

Figure 9.6. Proportion of population covered by a mobile network (%)





10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Goal 10

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

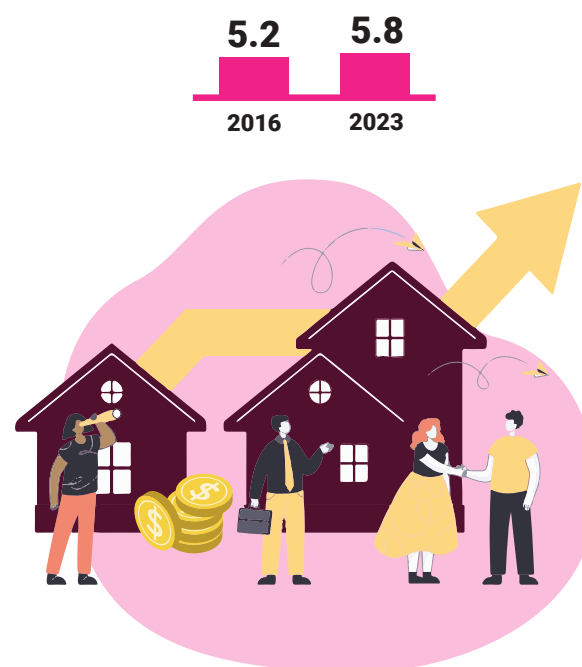
Inequality is a major obstacle to sustainable development and poverty reduction. High inequality could cause much human potential unrealised, damage social cohesion, hinder economic activity and undermine democratic participation. Goal 10, Reduced Inequalities, recognises this issue and aims to diminish disparities within and among nations, promoting social, economic and political inclusion. It focuses on reducing income inequalities, as well as inequalities based on age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity and other statuses.

Income growth

To help monitor progress towards ensuring that the poorest segments of the population are benefiting from economic growth at a rate faster than the overall population, the growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40% of the population are tracked.

ASEAN has witnessed the increasing growth rate of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40% population, from 5.2% in 2016 to 5.8% in 2023. Although this is good news, the growth is actually modest. It needs to be accelerated for better ensuring that population in that specific group would escape from poverty. It would be feasible considering three AMS (Cambodia, Philippines and Thailand) recorded a change in the growth rates by at least 3 percentage points during the same period.

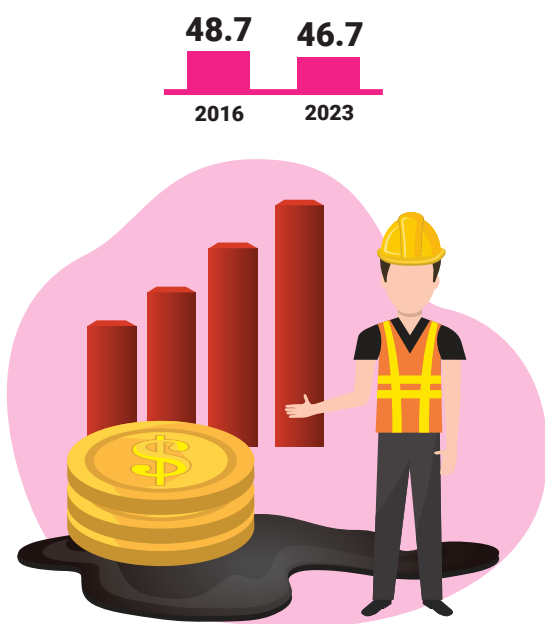
Figure 10.1. Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 percent of the population (%)



Labour share of GDP

Another indicator to monitor Goal 10 is the labour share of GDP, defined as the proportion of GDP that goes to the total compensation of employees. It is a key indicator of income distribution and can reveal whether the benefits of economic growth are being shared equitably. This provides a measure of income distribution and helps policymakers to design strategies for more equitable and inclusive economic growth.

Figure 10.2. Labour share of GDP (%)



The global labour share of GDP has been on a decreasing trend. ASEAN has experienced similar situation too. The aggregate figure of ASEAN labour share of GDP in 2023 was 46.7%, which was lower compared to 48.7% in 2016. This implies the gains from economic growth

are not being shared equally between workers and capital owners. Among the ten AMS, only in Philippines experienced an increase from 33.9% to 35.5%.

Inclusive global governance

Goal 10 also emphasizes the need for developing countries to have a stronger voice and representation in global decision-making, especially in international economic and financial institutions. It specifically targets to ensure developing countries have a more prominent voice in decision-making bodies at the international level. This means greater representation and influence in notable international organisations and global economic and financial institutions.

In this regard, ASEAN has been maintaining their good representation and influence internationally. During the period of 2016 to 2023, at least nine of ten AMS have membership and voting rights in well recognised international organisations such as United Nations General Assembly, International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank, International Finance Corporation, Asian Development Bank (ADB) and World Trade Organisation (WTO). This shows ASEAN influence at global level which may contribute significantly to the implementation and achievement of sustainable development in the region.

Goal 10 also focuses on minimising disparities within and between countries, and it is directly related to tariff lines through trade agreements. Specifically, the proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero tariffs, highlights the impact of trade policies on reducing inequalities.

Although ASEAN shows an increase in this indicator during the period of 2016 to 2023,

the improvement was modest rate. Based on data of eight AMS, the aggregate figure for the proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero tariffs was 59.3% in 2016 and 63.9% in 2023. It would be a challenge for the region to improve this significantly by 2030, particularly considering only Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR and Singapore reported proportions above 70.0%, while the rest of AMS reported below 60.0%.



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Goal 11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Goal 11 of the SDG aims to transform cities and human settlements into inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable places by 2030. It emphasizes the importance of making cities accessible and equitable for all residents, including those facing vulnerability or marginalisation. One of the targets is to reduce the risks of natural disasters and other emergencies, ensuring that cities are resilient to climate change and other threats.

Resilience to disasters and disaster risk management policies

As discussed in the section of Goal 1, ASEAN recorded an increasing number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters per 100,000 population from 2,921 in 2016 to 6,386 in 2023.



However, the region has been showing their efforts and commitment to improve the situation with the majority of AMS adapting and implementing national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the local disaster risk reduction strategies are in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies.

These efforts and commitment may need to be strengthened and better managed, particularly with the existence of other challenges such as rapid urbanisation and increasing resource demands. The expected development programmes include ensuring access to adequate housing, safe and affordable transport and green public spaces, while also promoting sustainable resource management and cultural heritage preservation.



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Goal 12

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

The prevailing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are hastening the depletion of natural resources and contributing to various environmental crises, including climate, nature and biodiversity loss, pollution and waste. Goal 12, which focusses on responsible consumption and production, aims to tackle this urging issue by encouraging sustainable practices for the production, utilisation and management of goods and services. Shifting towards sustainable consumption and production patterns is not only vital for safeguarding the planet but also for building resilient economies and improving quality of life for present and future generations.

Although Goal 12 comprises 11 targets, progress can only be measured for two of them due to limited data availability. The two measurable targets focus on achieving the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all forms of waste throughout their life cycle (12.4) and enhancing support to developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity for transitioning towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production (12.a). Strengthening data collection and reporting frameworks is essential to enable a more accurate and complete assessment of regional progress towards Goal 12.

Managing chemicals and wastes

As of 2023, eight out of ten AMS have reported compliance with reporting obligations under at least one international environmental agreement related to hazardous waste and chemicals. This figure remains consistent with that of 2016, reflecting a stagnation in progress and highlighting the need to intensify efforts and ensure full compliance across all ten AMS.

Other indicators used to track progress towards environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes are hazardous waste generated per capita and the proportion of hazardous waste treated. However, the data for these two indicators are insufficient and hence they are not included in this Progress Report.

Figure 12.1. ASEAN countries meet their commitments and obligations to international multilateral environmental agreements

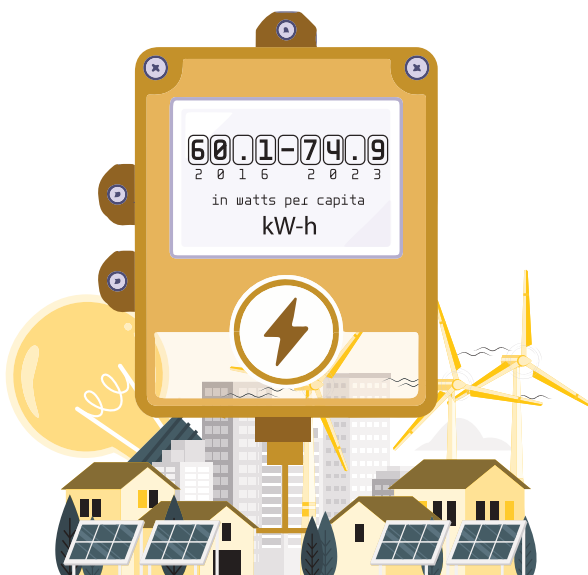
8 AMS have met reporting obligations for at least one hazardous waste or chemical agreement



Renewable energy - generating capacity

As part of Goal 7 and Goal 12, renewable energy-generating capacity reflects the extent to which countries are investing in cleaner, more efficient energy infrastructure as a means of supporting sustainable development. Renewable energy plays a vital role in reducing environmental pressures associated with energy production, such as greenhouse gas emissions, resource depletion and pollution. Increasing per capita renewable energy capacity not only contributes to climate action but also strengthens the foundation for more responsible consumption and production systems.

Figure 12.2. Installed renewable energy-generating capacity in developing countries (in Watts per capita)



The infrastructure and technologies required to supply modern and sustainable energy services cover a wide range of equipment and devices that are used across numerous economic sectors. One major part of the energy supply chain that can be readily measured is the infrastructure used to produce electricity. Renewable energy-generating capacity measures the installed capacity of power plants that generate electricity from renewable energy sources.

ASEAN, as a region and through the collective efforts of its member states, has shown impressive progress in scaling up electricity generation from renewable energy sources. All AMS reported an increase in total installed renewable energy capacity between 2016 and 2023. At the regional level, ASEAN recorded a significant rise in installed renewable energy-generating capacity, growing from approximately 60.1 watts per capita in 2016 to 74.9 watts per capita in 2023, indicating that the region is broadly on track to meet its target in renewable energy development.



13 CLIMATE ACTION



Goal 13

CLIMATE ACTION

Goal 13, Climate Action, is a call to urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. It emphasizes the need for both mitigation (reducing greenhouse gas emissions) and adaptation (preparing for and adjusting to the impacts of a changing climate). This goal recognises that climate change is a global challenge with far-reaching consequences, impacting all areas of human life and requiring collective action. Due to its impact on various aspects of human life, including food security, water resources and human health, climate action is closely linked to other SDGs.

Goal 13 has five targets to be achieved by 2030 covering a wide range of issues surrounding climate action. These include targets to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity towards climate change-related disasters, to integrate climate change measures into national policies and planning, to build knowledge and capacity, to implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and to promote mechanisms to raise capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management. Unfortunately, sufficient relevant data were only available for the first two targets.

Resilience to disaster and climate change policies

As discussed in the sections of Goal 1 and Goal 11, ASEAN seems to face hard challenges in enhancing its resilience and adaptive capacity towards climate-related disasters. Despite continued efforts and commitment shown by AMS, marked by AMS' adaptation and implementation of national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 as well as relevant local disaster risk

strategies, the number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters per 100,000 population, unfortunately, still rose from 2,921 in 2016 to 6,386 in 2023.

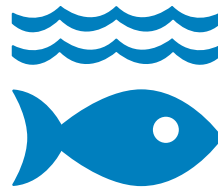
Acknowledging such hard challenges, AMS kept their consistency to integrate climate change measures into policies and planning. It was shown by the fact that in the period of

2016 to 2023 majority of AMS had nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the UNFCCC. Such strategies may involve strengthening the country's capacity to

withstand natural disasters, including by improving infrastructure, early warning systems and emergency preparedness, and, at the same time, educating and encouraging people to promote behaviour that contributes to the risk reduction related to natural disaster.



14 LIFE
BELOW WATER



Goal 14

LIFE BELOW WATER

SDG 14 on Live Below Water aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. Healthy oceans and seas are essential to human existence and life, regulating the climate and providing food, livelihoods and economic opportunities for millions of people. Nonetheless, they face growing threats from pollution, overfishing, habitat destruction and the effects of climate change.

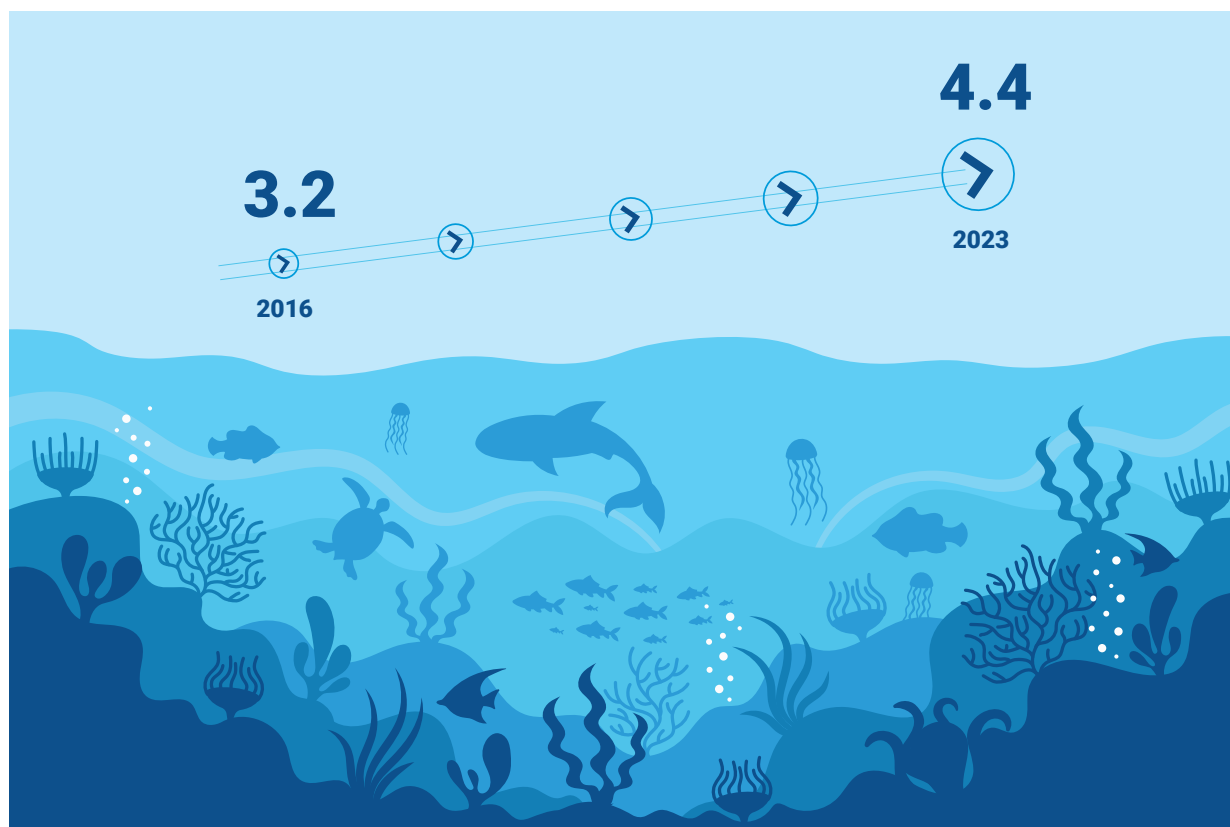
Ten targets have been defined which consist of reducing marine pollution (14.1), protecting and restoring ecosystems (14.2), reducing ocean acidification (14.3), sustainable fishing (14.4), conserving coastal and marine areas (14.5), ending subsidies contributing to overfishing (14.6), increase the economic benefits from sustainable use of marine resources (14.7), increase scientific knowledge (14.a), supporting small scale fishers (14.b) and implementing and enforcing international sea law (14.c). Unfortunately, the lack of sufficient data hinders the effective monitoring of progress towards these targets in ASEAN. Out of the ten indicators defined by the UN, only one indicator is currently available with the required data that meet the criteria set for the inclusion in measuring progress.

Conservation of coastal areas

Overall, the coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas in the region has shown notable progress, increasing from 3.2% in 2016 to 4.4% in 2023. Although the increase of more than 1 percentage point over seven years reflects steady efforts by countries and stakeholders to advance marine conservation and align with

global biodiversity goals, it also highlights the need for accelerated action towards the global target to conserve at least 10% of coastal and marine areas. Reaching this target will require sustained policy attention, enhanced resource mobilisation and improved enforcement of marine protected area management.

Figure 14.1. Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas (%)





15 LIFE
ON LAND



Goal 15

LIFE ON LAND

Healthy ecosystems play a crucial role in supporting life by offering food and water, regulating climate and maintaining the natural balance that is vital for every human being. Nevertheless, deforestation and forest degradation and the extinction of species pose significant risks to the well-being of future generations. Goal 15 calls for action to protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems. It emphasizes the need to manage forests sustainably, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt the loss of biodiversity. Owing to the availability of data, this report will focus solely on the progress of two specific targets: ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services (15.1) and reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species (15.5).

Terrestrial & freshwater ecosystems

Forest area coverage

Forests provide essential environmental, social and economic benefits, including conserving biodiversity, regulating the global climate and sustaining livelihoods. Monitoring forest areas is essential for identifying trends in deforestation and land use change, which informs efforts to enhance the protection and restoration of ecosystems. The development of forest areas in AMS over the seven years has shown variation. While some countries succeeded in expanding their forest coverage, others faced slight deforestation. Overall, the progress in the

regional forest coverage has been minimal, with the percentage of forest areas in ASEAN at 45.7% in 2023, barely changing from 45.6% in 2016. This stagnation underscores the urgent need to accelerate efforts towards achieving the target, involving scaling up reforestation programmes, raising public awareness about the critical importance of sustainable land stewardship and fostering stronger regional cooperation to more effectively safeguard forest ecosystems for the future.

Protected area coverage of key biodiversity areas

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are critical sites that play a significant role in ensuring the global persistence of biodiversity across terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. Protecting these vital areas is essential for halting biodiversity loss and promoting the sustainable, long-term use of natural resources across all ecosystems. Despite their importance, the average coverage of protected KBAs in ASEAN has remained modest. Over the past seven years, this coverage has seen a slight increase, rising from 30.8% in 2016 to 33.0% in 2023, indicating progress, yet underscoring the continued and accelerated actions needed for more effective conservation strategies and stronger protection efforts.

Loss of biodiversity

The RLI is used to track the progress towards the SDG target to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt biodiversity loss and prevent the extinction of threatened species. The RLI reflects genuine shifts in the number of species moving between extinction risk categories, as defined by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red

List of Threatened Species. The index ranges from a value of 1, indicating that all species are categorised as 'Least Concern' (not at risk of extinction), to 0, representing a situation where all species are classified as 'Extinct'.

According to the RLI, the risk of species extinction in the ASEAN region stood at 0.75 in 2023, showing a marginal decrease from 0.76 in 2016. Although the overall change is minimal, it remains a concerning sign of biodiversity loss. Almost all AMS experienced slight declines, highlighting the ongoing challenges in halting species extinction across the region.

Figure 15.1 Red List Index





16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Goal 16

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

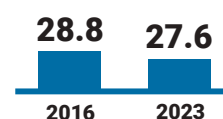
Goal 16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions. This goal is crucial since it recognises that peace, justice and strong institutions are essential for sustainable development and the achievement of other SDGs. Various targets are expected to be achieved under this goal covering several aspects including peace and security, access to justice, strong and effective institutions, respect for human rights, combating corruption and organised crimes, reducing violence, promoting inclusive participation and strengthening the rule of law. However, this report will only cover a few of them due to limited data availability in AMS.

Justice for all

Access to justice is a key component of fair, humane, effective, inclusive and efficient criminal justice, so all groups in society can equally enjoy their rights. It is important to build societies and allow them to grow. It is also closely linked to legal empowerment which enables people to make better use of the law and legal services in the protection of their rights. Barriers to justice could potentially reinforce poverty and have a great and negative economic impact.

One indicator used to measure this target is the number of unsentenced detainees as proportion of overall prison population and ASEAN has shown improvement for this indicator. The proportion of unsentenced detainees has

Figure 16.1. Unsentenced detainees as proportion of overall prison population (%)



reduced during the period of 2016 to 2023, from 28.8% to 27.6% of total prison population.

Effective institutions

Building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels is essential for promoting good governance and ensuring that policies are implemented effectively so that they will meet their objectives as part of support to sustainable development.

Figure 16.2. Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget (%)



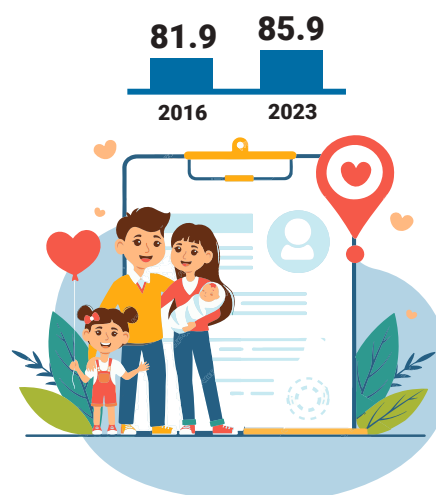
Government expenditure is one indicator for measuring the effectiveness of government institutions in implementing their policies. The data from AMS showed that, on average, the proportion of primary government expenditures to original approved budget increased from 95.3% in 2016 to 97.5% in 2023. It indicates

that the policy implementation in the region was better planned, better managed and better executed.

Legal identity

Legal identity is essential for ensuring everyone has access to basic services, participating in economic and social activities and exercising citizenship rights. Furthermore, the absence of legal identity could cause the person to be in discrimination and exclusion. The proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with civil authority is one of indicators used to measure the progress in this area. The AMS data from the period of 2016 to 2023 showed improvement achieved by ASEAN as the proportion increased from 81.9% to 85.9%.

Figure 16.3. Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with civil authority (%)





17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Goal 17

PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

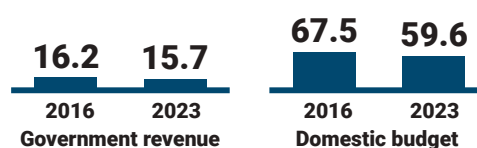
SDG 17, Partnership for the Goals, recognises that sustainable development requires a collective effort, not just individual actions. It emphasizes the crucial role of collaboration in achieving sustainable development and highlights the need for revitalised global partnerships involving governments, the private sector, civil society and relevant systems. This goal has 17 targets to be achieved by 2030, broken down into five categories: finance, technology, capacity building, trade and systemic issues. Unfortunately, due to limited available data, this report discusses only some of those categories.

Tax and other revenue collection

The first target of Goal 17 is to strengthen domestic resource mobilisation, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection. Improvement in government revenue and domestic budget would enable a country to enhance the planning, implementation and monitoring of their policies and programs for sustainable development.

During the period of 2016 to 2023, ASEAN total government revenue as proportion of nominal GDP has decreased slightly from 16.2% to 15.7%, although the figures increased in five out of ten AMS. Meanwhile, the proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes also decreased in the same period, from 67.5% to 59.6%. While it could indicate the increase

Figure 17.1. Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP (%) and Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes (%)



of external support to the region, which means improved global partnership, it also shows degradation of internal capacity to implement sustainable development programmes. This issue could expand and impact other aspects if not handled properly.

Science and Technology (S&T) international cooperation and capacity building for ICT

In this era of globalisation, technology is being seen as a significant factor to support individuals' and societies' capacity in inter-connecting with others, enhancing capacities and enabling wider access to economic opportunities. Higher level of technological knowledge and utilisation would contribute to achieving higher level of wealth.

In the last seven years, ASEAN recorded notable improvement in terms of people's access to high quality internet as indicated by the increasing number of internet broadband subscriptions per 100 population, from 5.7 in 2016 to 11.8 in 2023. At the same time, the proportion of individuals using internet also increased from 50.6% to 82.0%.

Figure 17.2. Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (Number per 100 inhabitants)

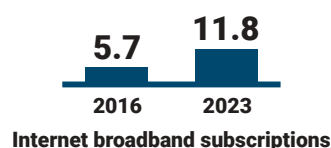
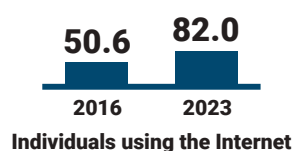


Figure 17.3. Proportion of individuals using the Internet (%)



ASEAN's share to global trade

SDG 17 recognises that international trade can be a powerful driver of economic growth, poverty reduction and sustainable development. Specifically, it promotes a multilateral trading system and increasing shares of developing countries to global exports and imports. In this regard, ASEAN performed well both in merchandise and services trade. Total ASEAN merchandise exports in 2023 reached USD 22.5 trillion, and accounted for 8.0% of total global

exports. This share was higher compared to 7.4% in 2016. The share of ASEAN merchandise imports also recorded similar progress in the same period, increasing from 6.9% to 7.4%.

Meanwhile, ASEAN services trade had also moved in the same direction with increasing shares to global exports and imports. The share of ASEAN services exports to global exports raised from 6.6% in 2016 to 6.9% in 2023, while its share of imports increased more from 6.4% to 7.1%.

Figure 17.4. Share of global merchandise and services exports and imports (%)



Global macroeconomic stability and statistical capacity

To support the progress monitoring of sustainable development, data on macroeconomic indicators have been made available for policy agencies in AMS. National statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics is also available and implemented in all AMS along with their national statistics plan which is fully funded and implemented.

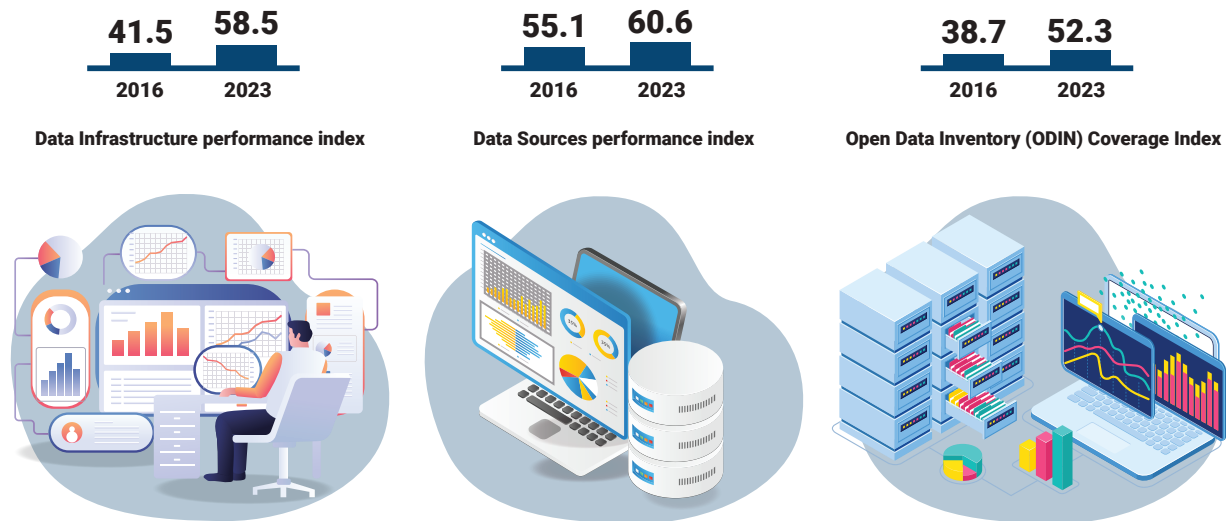
Meanwhile, nine of ten AMS have conducted population census in the last ten years enabling them to compile demographic and social indicators. However, only three AMS have achieved 100% birth registration and five AMS have achieved 100% of death registration.

In term of general statistical performance, by assessing the Statistical Performance Indicators (SPI), an open-source framework for assessing the performance of statistical systems in five pillars (data use, data services, data products, data sources and data infrastructure) and the

efforts to improve them, ASEAN had shown some progress during 2016 to 2023. The Data Infrastructure Performance Index rose in all AMS during the period, resulting a regional-average increase from 41.5 in 2016 to 58.5 in 2023. At the same time, the average of Data Source Performance Index also improved from 55.1 to 60.6. These indicated that improvements had been made in the statistical systems of AMS which positively affected the regional statistical system in ASEAN.

As a result, the coverage and openness of data published by national statistical authorities in AMS had improved as well. Currently, all AMS had been included in the assessment of Open Data Inventory (ODIN), a global open data index developed by Open Data Watch to measure the coverage and openness of official statistics. Although some improvements were needed in some of AMS, the average ODIN scores of AMS increased from 38.7 in 2016 to 52.3 in 2023, indicating that official statistics in the region had covered more data and had been made easier to be accessed by users.

Figure 17.5. Statistical performance (index)





COUNTRY PROGRESS REPORT



BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Brunei Darussalam with an estimated population of 455,500 in 2024, has been resolutely committed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) since 2015. Its economy based mostly on oil and gas exports determines its SDG trajectory. The report emphasises that Brunei Darussalam's continued efforts in promoting equity and sustainability are closely aligned with the national vision outlined in Wawasan Brunei 2035, showcasing both significant achievements and ongoing challenges in key development areas.

Progress in SDG Data Collection

Brunei Darussalam has made steady progress in institutionalising SDG monitoring frameworks:

1. National Coordination Mechanisms

- Establishment of the Special National Coordination Committee (SNCC) on SDG in 2021, which consists of representatives from government ministries and statutory bodies to oversee SDG development and advancement for Brunei Darussalam.
- The SNCC coordinates data collection and information on SDG across ministries, ensuring alignment with global indicators.

- Currently, SNCC is supported the SDG Technical Working Group (TWG) focusing on data monitoring and statistical matters related to SDG indicators.
- To accelerate SDG implementation, additional committees were established, namely the SDGs Transformation Sub-Committee, the Food System Working Group, the Sustainable Consumption and Production Working Group, and the SDG Advocates Group.

2. Integration with National Policies

- The SDG is aligned with the aspirations of Wawasan Brunei 2035, providing a complementary framework to advance the nation's long-term development objectives.
- Sector-specific strategies have been formulated by government ministries to support national priorities and advance SDG implementation. For instance, the Brunei Darussalam National Climate Change Policy (BNCCP) integrates SDG targets into environmental and economic planning.

3. Statistical Capacity

- Adoption of international standards (e.g., UN Global Indicator Framework) ensures comparability with global datasets.

4. Data Coverage

- In 2023, Brunei Darussalam achieved 61% coverage of targeted indicators (103 out of 169). This marks a 16% improvement compared to 2022.

5. Partnerships and Capacity Building

- Brunei Darussalam actively engages in international collaboration through platforms like ASEAN and UNDP to strengthen partnerships and technical capacity. Domestically, initiatives like the SDG Youth Dialogue and Sustainability Week 2024 promote youth and community involvement, encouraging inclusive participation and awareness on sustainable development.

6. Digital Innovations

- Brunei Darussalam is enhancing government services and accessibility through digital tools like the *BruHealth* app and digital census platforms, improving real-time data for health (SDG 3) and public service access (SDG 16).

Key Achievements

Brunei Darussalam presented its Second Voluntary National Review (VNR) on 18 July 2023 at the 2023 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development. Among notable progress in several key areas such as:

1. Health and Well-being (SDG 3)

Brunei Darussalam has made significant progress in advancing health outcomes under SDG 3 by leveraging a strong healthcare system, preventive care programmes and data-driven policymaking.

Key accomplishments include:

- Hospitalisation, medications and specialist care are fully subsidised, ensuring equitable access to essential health services for citizens and stateless permanent resident.
- Near-universal healthcare coverage, with life expectancy at 76.2 years (2023).
- The country's health infrastructure provides 100% geographic coverage through a network of modern hospitals, clinics and health centres, reaching even rural areas.
- High immunisation rates (over 95.0%) and low maternal mortality.
- Skilled birth attendance: 100% of births are attended by trained professionals.
- Under-five mortality rate: Reduced to 8.6 deaths per 1,000 live births (2023), one of the lowest in ASEAN.
- Malaria: Brunei Darussalam has been malaria-free since 1987.

2. Quality Education (SDG 4)

Brunei Darussalam prioritises education in line with Wawasan Brunei 2035, aiming to build a skilled workforce and advancing

SDG 4 through inclusive, equitable and lifelong learning opportunities.

- a. Literacy rate of 97.2% (2023), supported by free education and vocational training programmes.
- b. 100% enrollment in primary education: Achieved since 2010, with near-universal attendance in secondary education (98.0% enrollment in 2023).
- c. Girls constitute 52.0% of primary and 55.0% of tertiary students (2023).
- d. Lifelong learning is integrated into education reforms like the National Education System for the 21st Century and emphasised in the Digital Economy Masterplan 2025 that offers adult education, vocational training and TVET programmes.

3. Gender Equality (SDG 5)

Brunei Darussalam is committed to gender equality and women's empowerment, showing progress in economic inclusion and education in line with SDG 5, backed by data-driven policies and cultural change.

- a. Women constitute 52.0% of the public sector workforce (2023).
- b. Female enrollment in tertiary education surpassed males at 59.0% in 2023, while females accounted for 58.0% of total graduates.
- c. Funded programmes are available such as Academy Women Entrepreneurs (AWE), Micro-Grant for Empowerment

and Special Underprivileged Mothers and the Empowerment Entrepreneurship Development Programme.

4. Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7)

Brunei Darussalam is transitioning its energy sector by expanding its energy mix and adopting cleaner solutions, aligning with SDG 7 to ensure sustainability and long-term energy security.

- a. Brunei Darussalam's second large-scale solar plant in Seria, with 7,000 panels and a 3.3 megawatts-peak (MWp) capacity, began delivering power in March 2021, highlighting the country's advancing renewable energy efforts.
- b. The country continues a diverse energy subsidy framework to ensure affordability, bolster economic resilience and support sustainable growth.
- c. Brunei Darussalam has achieved 99.9% national electrification with the completion of the Mukim Sukang project, demonstrating its strong commitment to providing reliable electricity access to even the most remote areas.
- d. The country maintains one of the highest clean cooking adoption rates globally, with 99.9% of the population utilising LPG and electricity.

Challenges in SDG Data Collection

Despite progress, Brunei Darussalam faces the following challenges:

1. Limited Data Disaggregation

- Gaps in disaggregated data by gender and disability may limit the ability to measure progress equitably, particularly for vulnerable groups.

2. Environmental Data Gaps

- Weak monitoring of marine ecosystems (SDG 14) and biodiversity (SDG 15) due to limited technical expertise and funding.
- Reliance on fossil fuels complicates tracking renewable energy adoption (SDG 7).

3. Capacity Constraints

- Shortage of skilled data professionals and statisticians and inconsistent data systems across ministries.

demands sustained commitment, but Brunei Darussalam's strategic vision and resilience provide a strong foundation for achieving the SDGs. The country's achievements reflect its holistic approach to the SDGs, integrating policy coherence, data-driven governance and cross-sector collaboration.

CAMBODIA

Cambodia has strong commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the 2016-2030 Agenda, including the adaptation of these goals to the national context, specifically the addition of a goal focused on landmine clearance. Cambodia submitted its inaugural Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2019, highlighting the nation's development progress and its showcase. In the 2023 VNR, the second VNR for Cambodia, prepared with target submission to the HLPF in June 2023. The SDGs have been incorporated into national policymaking through various national frameworks. This strong commitment to the SDGs has enabled Cambodia to improve its performance, with 72.9% of all indicators now on track or ahead, a rise from 48.8% in the previous report. Moreover, efforts have been made to enhance data collection for tracking SDGs, now encompassing information on 193 indicators/sub-indicators, compared to 148 in the earlier VNR.

Conclusion

The ongoing challenges in data granularity, environmental reporting and technical capacity highlight the need for urgent action, including addressing data gaps, building local expertise, advancing the green transition and strengthening regional and international collaboration to accelerate progress. While the journey to 2030

The progress in SDGs has positively impacted the well-being of the Cambodian population, with notable advancements in areas such as poverty reduction (SDG 1: 8 out of 9 indicators on track), quality education (SDG 4: 11 out of 16 indicators on track), and gender equality (SDG 5: 11 out of 16 indicators on track), among others.

Cambodia remains committed to the principle of “leave no one behind” (LNOB), striving to ensure that marginalized and vulnerable populations benefit from progress towards the SDGs. Between 2014 and 2022, significant advancements have been made, particularly for those who are most disadvantaged, such as improvements in access to basic sanitation and clean drinking water.

SDG 1: End Poverty in All its Forms Everywhere

The progress on SDG 1 is impressive, with all indicators on track except for one sub-indicator that lacks data for assessment. Available statistics indicate that prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Cambodia experienced a significant reduction in its poverty rate. Specifically, this rate fell from 26.3% to 17.8% between 2014 and 2019. During the same timeframe, poverty rates in Phnom Penh and other urban and rural areas decreased from 6.8%, 18.5% and 30.2% in 2014 to 4.2%, 9.6%, and 22.8% in 2019, respectively.

Moreover, access to banking and financial services for the general population has steadily

improved. The percentage of adults with access to formal financial services rose from 59% in 2015 to 63.0% in 2019, and further to approximately 67.0% in 2022, slightly exceeding expectations. This trend reflects the successful implementation of action plans by the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC, 2023).

SDG 2: End Hunger, Achieve Food Security and Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture

The progress on SDG 2 has been moderate, largely due to the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU) experienced a slight increase from 6.0% to 6.3% between 2019 and 2020, reversing the consistent decline from 8.5% that had been observed from 2015 to 2017. Additionally, the rate of moderate or severe food insecurity rose from 46.6% in 2019 to 50.0% in 2020, primarily due to supply chain disruptions and limited food access during critical phases of the pandemic.

Data from the CDHS indicates significant progress in reducing stunting among children under five, which decreased from 32.0% in 2014 to 22.0% in 2021/2022. However, there has been no improvement in the prevalence of wasting in this age group, remaining steady at 10.0% from 2014 to 2021/2022. The proportion of children under five classified as overweight or obese has doubled, increasing from 2.0% in 2014 to 4.0% in 2021/2022.

SDG 3: Ensure Healthy Lives and Promote Well-being for All Ages

Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, progress has been notable, with most indicators on track. Life expectancy increased from 62 years in 2008 to 76 years in 2021/2022. The rates of under-five and neonatal mortality decreased from 35 and 18 to 16 and 8 per 1,000 live births, respectively, between 2014 and 2021/2022. During the same timeframe, maternal mortality also declined from 170 to 154 per 100,000 live births.

The National AIDS Authority has developed and launched the 5th National Comprehensive and Multi-Sectoral Strategic Plan for HIV and AIDS (NSPV) for 2019 to 2023. In 2022, there were an estimated 1,400 new HIV infections (0.08 per 1,000 of the uninfected population). Cambodia is committed to achieving the 95-95-95 target by 2025 and is making good progress. Although only 86% of the estimated 76,000 individuals living with HIV knew their status by the end of 2022, 99% of these individuals were receiving antiretroviral treatment, and 98% achieved viral suppression. In 2021, Cambodia was removed from the global list of 30 high-burden countries for tuberculosis. The incidence of malaria decreased from 1.95 per 1,000 population in 2019 to just 0.24 in 2022, with no reported malaria deaths since 2018.

Approximately half of the deaths from noncommunicable diseases (NCDs)-which now account for 67.0% of total deaths are attributed

to cardiovascular disease (CVD), chronic respiratory diseases, diabetes, and cancer. The mortality rates from these four major NCDs in individuals aged 30 to 70 remain below target levels. Tobacco use has continued to decline. However, challenges remain due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukraine invasion, and climate change, which have adversely affected health, mobility, production, and economic stability.

SDG 4: Ensure Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Promote Lifelong Learning Opportunities for All

The progress on SDG 4 is notable, with 65% of its indicators on track despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Primary education completion rates rose from 82.7% in 2018 to 91.7% in 2022, while lower secondary education completion rates increased from 46.5% to 56.5% during the same period. However, the proportion of Grade 1 students who participated in Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs decreased from 65.0% in 2018 to 55.8% in 2022.

The Gender Parity Index (GPI) for the Gross Enrollment Rate (GER) in both lower and upper secondary education rose from 1.09 in 2018 to 1.17 in 2022. Additionally, the adult literacy rate improved from 83.5% in 2018 to 87.8% in 2022. These accomplishments are the result of collaborative efforts from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, development partners, and various stakeholders, facilitated by the implementation of the Education Strategic

Plan 2019-2023 and the Education, Youth, and Sport Reform Strategy 2018-2023.

To accelerate the implementation of SDG 4, several initiatives have been launched. One significant program is Volunteers for My Community (VMC), a national youth volunteer initiative led by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) that spans 25 provinces. Established in 2019 and expanded from a pilot project to a national program in 2021, VMC engages over 500 youths each year, both in-school and out-of-school, to initiate and carry out projects that benefit their communities.

SDG 6: Ensure Availability and Sustainable Management of Water and Sanitation for All

The advancement of SDG 6 is notable, with 75.0% (9 out of 12) of the target indicators successfully met as planned. Meanwhile, 16.7% are off track, and 8.3% lack sufficient data for assessment. This progress is primarily due to improved access to safe water sources and sanitation, in fact; The Cambodia's household survey, CSES reveals a steady increase in access to essential services: in 2021, approximately 87.0% of households had access to an "improved water source," which rose to 89.2% in 2023. Similarly, access to improved sanitation increased from about 88.0% in 2021 to 90.4% in 2023. In urban areas, the improvement in access to clean water is largely attributed to the Ministry of Industry, Science, Technology and Innovation (MISTI),

which has implemented a water subsidy policy to assist low-income households.

Another key advancement in SDG 6 is the increased proportion of safely treated wastewater from both industries and municipalities, which has exceeded targets. The government has enacted policies and regulations to enhance sustainable water management and conservation, including the establishment of a National Water Resource and Management Policy aimed at promoting efficient and equitable water usage while protecting water resources and ensuring the sustainability of water systems.

SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All

The advancement of SDG 7 is consistent, with all indicators showing positive progress. Over the past decade, Cambodia's power system has seen significant growth in demand, with peak demand increasing at an average annual rate of 19.0%, rising from 508 MW in 2012 to 2,026 MW by 2021. The investment in the power sector is on the rise. By the end of 2022, the country had established high-voltage transmission lines totaling 3,953.7 kilometers and 63 substations across 25 cities and provinces. Cambodia's total installed power capacity reached 3,464.7 MW, which includes 1,331.7 MW from hydropower, 28.6 MW from biomass, 436.8 MW from solar PV, 642.6 MW from fuel oil, and 1,025 MW from

coal, along with 1,030.8 MW imported from Viet Nam, Thailand, and Lao PDR. As of the end of 2022, Cambodia had issued 471 licenses for electricity distribution and development, covering electricity supply networks in 14,151 villages, which represents 99.9% of all villages in the country.

Another significant milestone for SDG 7 is the granting of public and private distribution licenses to 471 zones, allowing for the investment and development of electricity supply networks that span 14,151 villages, accounting for 99.9% of the total nationwide. Among these licensed villages, 98.3% have been electrified, with 99.2% receiving power from the national grid, while the remainder is supplied through imports or small diesel generators.

INDONESIA

The implementation of the SDGs in Indonesia has entered its seventh year, following the enactment of Presidential Regulation Number 59/2017, which was subsequently updated by Presidential Regulation Number 111/2022 concerning the Implementation of SDGs. Under the mandate of the regulation, Indonesia has mainstreamed the targets and indicators of the SDGs to the National Development Plan, localized the SDGs at the subnational level and developed the SDGs Roadmap towards 2030.

The SDGs implementation engages a wide range of stakeholders, including the government and parliament, philanthropic and business societies, civil society organizations and media, as well as academia and experts, throughout the processes of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and reporting. To ensure a shared understanding and interpretation of each SDG indicator among all stakeholders, the National SDGs Metadata has been established. This metadata also serves as a reference for measuring Indonesia's progress in achieving the SDGs, enabling comparisons both internationally and across provinces and districts/cities within the country. The metadata document is structured into four interrelated parts, namely the Social Development Pillar, the Economic Development Pillar, the Environmental Development Pillar and the Legal and Governance Development Pillar.

The Progress

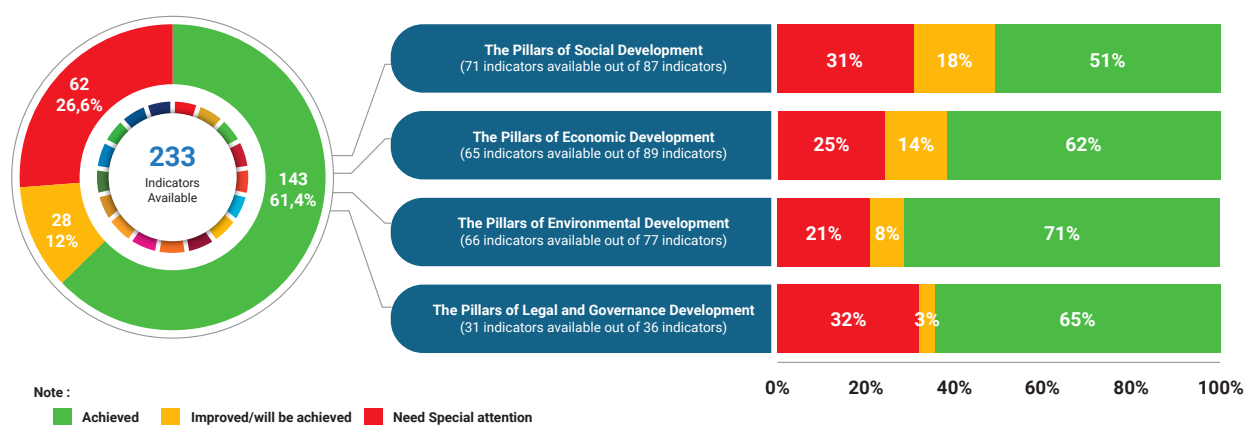
The progress of the SDGs in Indonesia remains significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which emerged in March 2020. This global crisis has hindered progress across various SDG dimensions, slowing overall development. In response, the government has undertaken a range of efforts aimed at controlling the pandemic and revitalizing the economy, with a focus on mitigating its social, cultural and economic repercussions. Nonetheless, in his address at the 2023 SDGs

Annual Conference, the President underscored that, while the challenges to meeting SDG targets have intensified due to the pandemic, it remains imperative to maintain the targets. As such, innovation, the adoption of novel strategies and bold breakthroughs are critical to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs.

Figure 1 illustrates Indonesia's progress toward the SDGs in 2023, based on an analysis of 233 SDG indicators for which data is available in the national metadata. Of these indicators, 143 indicators or 61.4 percent have achieved the 2023 targets established in the 2021-2024 National Action Plan. Furthermore, 28

indicators or 12 percent exhibit a positive trend and are expected to be achieved. Nevertheless, particular attention must be directed towards the remaining 26.6 percent, or 62 indicators, which are at risk of not meeting the established targets and require urgent acceleration measures to realign with the set objectives. Across the four national SDG development pillars, more than half of the indicators within each pillar have been successfully attained. The Environmental Development pillar has the highest proportion of achieved indicators, whereas the Legal and Governance Development pillar exhibits the largest share of indicators that necessitate targeted intervention.

Figure 1. The Progress of Indonesia SDGs Indicators, 2023¹



¹ There are 4 indicators whose achievements cannot be assessed because the data has only been available for 1 year.

The Challenges and The Innovations in SDGs Data Provision

Accurate, timely and disaggregated data is inevitably essential for the implementation of the SDGs, providing the foundation for plan and decision making, progress tracking and efficient resource allocation. However, the availability of such data remains a significant challenge in the implementation of the SDGs. As of 2023, there are 52 indicators for which data is unavailable, thereby hindering progress assessment for that year. Consequently, innovation is required to strengthen both basic and sectoral statistical data systems to enable more comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs. In Indonesia, SDG indicator reporting data is derived from basic statistics produced by BPS-Statistics Indonesia, along with sectoral statistics provided by various ministries or institutions.

The provision of basic statistics by BPS-Statistics Indonesia is facilitated through periodic censuses and surveys. BPS-Statistics Indonesia employs two strategic approaches in order to strengthen the availability of basic statistics, including the initiation of new surveys and the enhancement of existing surveys by incorporating additional questions and expanding the areas of exploration. For instance, the data collection activities conducted by BPS-Statistics Indonesia in 2023, including the comprehensive Agricultural Census 2023,

successfully produced indicators 2.3.1 and 5.a.1. Furthermore, the addition of eight questions related to food insecurity experiences in the National Socio-Economic Survey (Susenas) led to the generation of indicator 2.1.2, pertaining to the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES). Additionally, the exploration of household consumption data from the Susenas Consumption Module contributed to the production of indicator 2.1.1, which measures the Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU).

The paradigm for the provision of SDG indicator data has evolved from reliance on traditional census and survey data sources to the incorporation of innovative methods, such as big data, statistical modeling and machine learning. For instance, indicators 8.9.1.(a) and 8.9.1.(b) regarding tourist visits, have been derived from the use of Mobile Positioning Data (MPD). Furthermore, ongoing efforts are being made to explore new data sources. In 2023, BPS-Statistics Indonesia conducted a study on the application of geospatial and satellite data for regional classification based on the Degree of Urbanization. This initiative supports the provision of data for indicators 11.1.1* and 11.3.1* as outlined by UN Habitat. In addition to that, the study of the use of Small Area Estimation (SAE) has been consistently conducted in support of more granular data, such as the study on the use of SAE to estimate the poverty rate at the sub-district level in 2021.

On the other hand, sectoral statistics constitute to around 59.0% of the total Indonesia SDGs Indicators. The provision of sectoral statistics still faces several challenges, including time lags in data reporting, which are carried out in stages from districts/cities to provinces and ultimately the central level; the dynamics of updating or revising achievement data due to changes in concepts, definitions, and calculation methods across years; and the data validation and verification process.

Strengthening the provision of SDG data requires strategic collaboration and cohesive coordination among governmental bodies and non-governmental entities. Priority areas for enhancement include the optimization of administrative data sources, the consolidation of data collection resources and infrastructure, the adoption of emerging data technologies and the development of advanced models for disaggregation and small-area analysis. In addition, expanding multi-stakeholder engagement—encompassing civil society organizations (CSOs), the private sector, the media and international partners—is critical to ensuring a comprehensive, reliable and sustainable SDG data ecosystem.

LAO PDR

I. Key Achievement

Since adopting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Lao PDR has made meaningful progress across several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), demonstrating a firm commitment to inclusive and sustainable development. The government has taken significant steps to integrate the SDGs into national development planning, most notably through the localization of the SDG framework into 18 Lao-SDGs—including a nationally specific goal on unexploded ordnance (UXO)—and the alignment of these goals with the 8th and 9th National Socio-Economic Development Plans (NSEDPs). The performance of Lao PDR on the SDGs can be assessed through its national SDG monitoring framework, which includes 257 indicators—some aligned with the global SDG indicators. As of 2023, data were available for 188 of these national indicators, with 158 providing sufficient information to establish a trend. This marks a significant improvement from 2017, when only 130 indicators had available data. Here are some keys achieving that we highlighted:

SDG1: Poverty Reduction - Lao PDR has made significant progress in poverty eradication, with the proportion of people living below the national poverty line (based on consumption)

declining from 33.5% in 2003 to 18.6% in 2018. Multidimensional poverty—which captures deprivations beyond monetary measures—also showed improvement, dropping from 40.4% in 2012 to 23.1% in 2018. However, persistent inequalities, the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, continued inflationary pressures (with inflation reaching 23% in 2022), and limited investments in social protection due to constrained government resources continue to pose significant challenges to sustaining poverty eradication efforts. Between 2013 and 2018, each 1.0% increase in income—measured by GDP per capita—in Lao PDR led to only a 0.84% reduction in monetary poverty. In comparison, global studies estimate the average growth elasticity of poverty at 2.5%. In more unequal countries, this effect drops to around 0.6%, while in more equal societies, it can reach up to 4.3%. Lao PDR's rising inequality, reflected in the Gini coefficient increasing from 36.0 in 2013 to 38.8 in 2018, has therefore constrained the pace of poverty reduction.

SDG2: Hunger Eradication - Lao PDR has recognized the vital role of agriculture as a key livelihood source for the poor and has increased investment in the sector. Government budget allocation to agriculture rose from 1.02% in 2017 to 1.49% in 2020. According to FAO, agriculture's value added as a share of GDP also grew slightly from 16.2% to 16.48% over the same period. In addition, total official flows for agriculture (in constant 2021 USD) increased from USD 75.9 million in 2015 to USD 89.6 million in 2021.

SDG 5: Gender Equality - Progress on gender equality in Lao PDR has been driven by the implementation of the National Action Plans on Gender Equality and on the Prevention of Violence Against Women (2021-2025), which focus on enhancing women's participation, safety, health, and economic opportunities, alongside awareness-raising campaigns and capacity building initiatives that promote legal rights and entrepreneurship. These efforts have contributed to steady progress toward SDG 5, with improvements in legal frameworks, 27.5% representation of women in the National Assembly, and near parity in education and labor force participation—reflected in female-to-male ratios of 0.93 for mean years of schooling and 0.91 for labor participation. However, challenges persist, including data gaps on gender-based violence, unequal access to resources, and pay disparities, with only 37.7% of gender-related SDG indicators currently available. To address these issues, ongoing initiatives like the UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2022-2026 aim to tackle structural barriers and advance gender-responsive development.

SDG 13: Climate Action - Lao PDR has made notable progress toward Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action, by implementing comprehensive policies and strategies to combat climate change. The updated National Strategy on Climate Change toward 2030 outlines goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing resilience and integrating climate considerations into

national development plans. Despite these efforts, challenges such as limited public awareness, insufficient climate financing and vulnerability to climate-induced disasters persist. To address these issues, the government is focusing on strengthening institutional capacities, improving data collection and promoting sustainable practices across sectors.

SDG16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions -

Achieving the 2030 Agenda requires coordinated action and strong institutions. By aligning goals, sharing resources and fostering partnerships, stakeholders—from government to civil society—can accelerate progress toward the SDGs. Effective institutions ensure policy coherence, support inclusive participation and promote innovation through shared best practices. In Lao PDR, inclusivity is encouraged through near gender parity in public service and monitored ethnic representation. Resilient institutions also help absorb shocks and maintain progress. With low levels of violence and mechanisms for public feedback in place, Lao PDR is building a foundation for sustainable and equitable development. Cooperation, accountability and participation remain key to success.

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals have played a vital role in advancing sustainable development in Lao PDR. The government has worked closely with UN agencies, international financial institutions and bilateral donors to mobilize resources, provide technical assistance and coordinate efforts across

sectors. These partnerships have strengthened institutional capacity, encouraged data innovation and promoted inclusive stakeholder engagement in the SDG process. Lao PDR actively engages in bilateral, regional and global cooperation. Collaboration with neighboring countries—China, Thailand, and Viet Nam—centers on economic and infrastructure projects, such as the Vung Ang seaport with Viet Nam. The government also partners with organizations like the World Bank, ADB and various UN bodies to support progress in health, education, governance, climate resilience and infrastructure. Public-Private Partnerships are being promoted to enhance service delivery in areas such as urban development, transport and tourism, with enabling regulations underway. At the regional level, Lao PDR participates in the Greater Mekong Subregion framework to strengthen connectivity in transport, energy and trade. Domestically, coordination platforms are being developed to involve the private sector and civil society in policy consultation, planning and monitoring. Engagement with local communities, NGOs and international actors remains central to addressing development challenges. South-South and triangular cooperation also present opportunities for peer learning, knowledge exchange and targeted support to reach underserved populations.

II. Challenges on SDGI data collection

Despite notable progress in institutionalizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within national frameworks, Lao PDR continues to face significant and persistent challenges in the collection, availability and use of data for SDG indicator (SDGi) monitoring. These challenges have implications for evidence-based policymaking, international reporting and the country's ability to assess progress toward the 2030 Agenda.

1. Limited Data Coverage and Availability

A fundamental challenge has been the limited availability of data for many SDG indicators. As of 2024, Lao PDR is able to report on fewer than half of the global SDG indicators on a regular basis. Many indicators remain unmeasured due to the absence of relevant data sources, underdeveloped administrative systems, or lack of national methodologies aligned with international standards. Particularly affected are Tier II and Tier III indicators, which require specialized data collection techniques or cross-sectoral data integration.

2. Weaknesses in Administrative and Sectoral Data Systems

Administrative data systems in several key sectors—such as education, health, agriculture, labor and justice—remain underdeveloped and fragmented. Data

collection practices often vary across ministries and provinces, leading to inconsistencies in reporting and difficulties in producing nationally representative datasets. Furthermore, most administrative records are not fully digitized, limiting real-time data access and analysis.

3. Insufficient Data Disaggregation

Another significant limitation is the lack of disaggregated data by sex, age, ethnicity, disability status and geographic location. Without such disaggregation, it is difficult to apply the “leave no one behind” principle and to monitor inequalities in development outcomes. This is particularly critical in Lao PDR, given the country's ethnic diversity and significant rural–urban disparities.

4. Capacity Constraints

The capacity of national and sub-national institutions to manage, analyze and report SDG data remains limited. The Lao Statistics Bureau (LSB) and line ministries continue to face shortages of qualified statisticians, data analysts and IT specialists. Frequent staff turnover and limited training opportunities have affected institutional memory and technical continuity. This has constrained the ability to produce high-quality, timely and policy-relevant data.

5. Financial and Resource Limitations

SDGi data collection activities are often hindered by insufficient and unpredictable

financing. While some large-scale surveys such as the Lao Expenditure and Consumption Survey (LECS) and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) have been supported through donor funding, national budget allocations for routine statistical activities remain limited. This has led to irregular data collection cycles and reduced sustainability of data systems.

6. Coordination and Governance Challenges

There is a need for stronger coordination among institutions involved in SDG monitoring. Although mechanisms such as the National SDG Secretariat and technical working groups have been established, their operational effectiveness is constrained by overlapping mandates, limited inter-agency data sharing and unclear roles in data stewardship. Coordination between central and provincial agencies also requires strengthening to ensure consistent data quality and coverage.

These challenges underscore the urgent need for sustained investment in national statistical capacity, modernization of administrative data systems and enhancement of coordination mechanisms. Addressing these constraints is essential to enable timely, reliable and disaggregated reporting on SDG progress and to support informed policy decisions at both national and sub-national levels.

MALAYSIA

Malaysia has expressed its commitment to support and implement the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September 2015. SDG implementation in Malaysia is structured into three phases with each phase lasting for five years between 2016 to 2030. SDG implementation in Phase I and Phase II was aligning with the Eleventh Malaysia Plan (11MP) and the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (12MP), while Phase III will be implemented in line with the Thirteenth Malaysia Plan (13MP).

The National SDG Council was established as the main decision-making body to spearhead the implementation of SDG in Malaysia. The Council is supported by the SDG Steering Committee to monitor the progress of SDG implementation at the local level while the SDG Technical Committee tasked to formulate SDGs Roadmap, set target and monitor progress, identify issues and report to the National SDGs Council and SDG Steering Committee. Meanwhile, the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM) has been tasked as the Focal Point in the development of SDG indicators, responsible for coordinating data collection and compilation from various line ministries and agencies. In September 2022, the Pusat SDG Negara (PSN) was set up to monitor the progress and implementation of all SDG-

related programmes and also act as the main secretariat to the national SDG governance.

Malaysia has been appointed as a member of Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG) from 2019 until 2021 and the membership has been extended to 2023. Malaysia has participated actively in all the IAEG-SDG meetings to provide input and feedback of the Sustainable Development Goals. During the Thirteenth Meeting of the Expert Group in Bangkok on November 2022, Malaysia has been invited to present on Data Disaggregation for SDG Monitoring in Malaysia. Furthermore, Malaysia also was invited to UN Expert Group Meeting on Harnessing Data by Citizens for Public Policy and SDG monitoring to share Malaysia experience on the engagement in the development of SDG indicators.

As a member of IAEG-SDG, Malaysia has also volunteered in the Working Group on Geospatial Information (WGGI) since 2020. The sub-working group for metadata was established in 2020 to conduct an in-depth review aimed at enhancing metadata quality, improving data transmission and supporting the effective implementation of indicators across countries. Since joining the group in 2019, Malaysia has assessed 47 metadata entries from 2021 to February 2023. Malaysia volunteered to join the Task Team on Sustainable Tourism, established in 2022,

with the goal of developing a detailed proposal for sustainable tourism indicators to monitor Target 8.9. As part of its contributions, Malaysia provided feedback during the consultation on the draft Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism (SF-MST).

Malaysia has made remarkable progress in collecting and reporting data for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). In 2018, only 99 SDG indicators were available in Malaysia. However, continuous efforts to improve data readiness have yielded significant results, with the number increasing to 196 indicators (79.0%) out of 248 indicators (including 7 not relevant indicators) by 2023. Furthermore, the introduction of the National SDG Progress Monitoring System (SDG Dashboard) in 2018 has enhanced data accessibility through an interactive platform that displays SDG trends and indicators.

Malaysia's SDG efforts are documented through the Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) submitted to the UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development in 2017 and 2021, with the next VNR scheduled for submission in 2025. Additionally, Malaysia is also committed to localising the SDG by tracking the progress of SDG implementation at the sub national and local level which are documented through the publication of Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) and the production of Voluntary Subnational Reviews (VSR).

SDG Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

The Malaysian Education Blueprint (MEB) 2013-2025 aligns closely with the aspirations and vision of SDG 4, which seeks to establish an equitable, high-quality education system that guarantees every student access to the best possible education, regardless of their background or disabilities. The Ministry of Education (MOE) has made quality education for all a top priority, with intellectual and character development serving as the foundation for its holistic education initiatives in Malaysia. This commitment is reflected in key achievements, including an average completion rate of 99.0% for primary, lower secondary and upper secondary education between 2021 and 2023. Additionally, the proportion of qualified teachers averaged 98.0% at the primary education and 99.0% at the secondary education during the same period.

The MEB 2013-2025 underscores the importance of digital education transformation in fostering technological literacy among students. Between 2019 and 2023, the proportion of youth and adults possessing information and communication technology (ICT) skills exhibited a consistent upward trend across various skill categories. However, the percentage of schools equipped with computers or digital devices for teaching has shown fluctuations. After achieving full coverage (100%) in 2020, the proportion subsequently declined, particularly in primary schools.

A modest increase was observed in 2022, but this was followed by another decline in 2023.

The challenges faced in maintaining stable and continuous technology access in schools highlight the need for stronger maintenance and financial strategies. Furthermore, enhancing student access to computers and digital learning tools requires greater effort. Without consistent maintenance and adequate funding, the vision of digital education may remain unfulfilled. In alignment with this vision, the National Digital Education Policy 2030 (DPDN 2030) was established to guarantee broad access to technology for both students and teachers. Therefore, the successful implementation of DPDN 2030 and MEB 2013-2025 depends on clear maintenance strategies and effective financial management to ensure Malaysia achieves its digital education goals by 2030.

SDG Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

In Malaysia, the proportion of women in such positions rose from 23.8% in 2022 to 25.4% in 2023, signalling progress in advancing female leadership. The proportion of parliamentary seats held by women in Malaysia rose from 14.8% in 2022 to 16.1% in 2023 in the Senate, while their representation in the House of Representatives remained unchanged at 13.5% during the same period. Meanwhile, the proportion of seats held by women in Local Authority Council has increased from 18.6% in 2022 to 19.7% in 2023.

Although progress has been made, challenges like gender biases, limited access to opportunities and work-life balance issues still restrict women's full participation in leadership roles. The redevelopment of the National Women's Policy (DWN) and the Women's Development Action Plan (PTPW) 2025-2030 marks the policy designed specifically to empower women in Malaysia. DWN 2025-2030 will introduce a new focus on four key priority areas: economy, leadership, security and well-being. Its implementation will enhance Malaysia's role as a progressive nation advocating women's rights, gender diplomacy and economic empowerment.

SDG Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Energy is a fundamental driver of Malaysia's socio-economic development, powering industries, businesses and communities. As the country moves towards achieving SDG Goal 7, which aims to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, significant progress has been made. As of 2022, 99.7% of the population had access to electricity, reflects Malaysia's commitment to providing equitable and reliable energy services.

Energy efficiency is another crucial aspect of SDG7, measuring energy intensity based on primary energy consumption relative to GDP. While lower intensity signals efficiency,

Malaysia's energy intensity rose from 67.9 toe per RM million GDP in 2021 to 68.5 toe in 2022, highlighting inefficiencies in energy use and increased costs.

Malaysia also faces ongoing challenges in achieving universal electricity access and improving energy efficiency, both crucial for the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (2021-2025) and global sustainability efforts. To address this, Malaysia launched the National Energy Policy 2022-2040 (DTN) in 2022 and the National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR) in 2023 to drive the transition to greener energy. Key strategies under the Twelfth Malaysia Plan include smart-grid development, stricter energy regulations and incentives for conservation, supporting the goal of doubling energy efficiency improvements by 2030, as outlined in SDG7.

SDG Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Sustainable economic development is a key component of SDG Goal 8, which aims to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. One of the primary indicators measuring economic performance is the annual growth rate of real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita. The pandemic negatively impacted the economy, with Malaysia's economic growth moderated to

1.4% in 2023, a significant decline from the 8.5% recorded in the previous year. This slowdown is attributed to factors like subdued external demand, a weaker construction sector and a stagnant manufacturing sector.

The unemployment rate decreased to 3.4% in 2023 compared to 3.9% in 2022. Meanwhile, the proportion of youth not in education, employment or training recorded an increased to 10.2% in 2022 compared to 9.3% in the previous year.

The Twelfth Malaysia Plan (2021-2025) highlights the need to boost industrial competitiveness, advance technology and innovation, and expand access to high-quality employment for sustainable economic growth. Given the decline in GDP per capita growth, Malaysia must focus on enhancing labour productivity and ensuring economic resilience through comprehensive policies. A key strategy involves strengthening the digital economy and increasing participation in high-value industries, aiming to promote stable GDP growth by prioritizing digital transformation and workforce upskilling.

MYANMAR

The United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was introduced in 2015, is a global call to action to eradicate poverty, preserve the environment and better the lives and prospects of everyone, everywhere. In integration the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through its national development strategy, Myanmar committed at the end of 2015 to accelerate enhance its efforts to achieve sustainable development.

Myanmar's efforts to achieve the SDGs

SDG Data Assessment Report: Readiness of Myanmar's Official Statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals (May 2016); SDG Awareness Handbook; and SDG Indicator Baseline Report: Measuring Myanmar's Starting Point for the Sustainable Development Goals (August 2017) representsomeofthepublicationsthat have been produced by the Central Statistical Organization (CSO), Ministry of Planning and Finance. Since official data and statistics were not available for all SDG indicators at the time of producing the Baseline Report, many of the indicators were brought together from international sources. Through rounds of consultations with all relevant government departments and agencies, the CSO has compiled and presented the Sustainable Development Goals Progress

Report 2022 in order to track progress after five years and provide accurate data and statistics that reflect the current situation in terms of achieving SDGs. Data for additional indicators has been developed using the SDG metadata framework in comparison to the Baseline Report 2017 and in this Progress Report, indicators are updated whenever available using data from national sources. The report shows that 175 SDG indicators (71.0%) are available, while 72 indicators (29.0%) are not available among the total indicators of 247.

Myanmar endorsed the National Indicator Framework in June 2021. NIF includes 281 indicators for 28 MSDP techniques, with an average of 10.04 indications per approach. The NIF is composed of 59% national indicators and 41% SDG indicators.

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

The goal aims to improve reproductive, maternal and child health; putting an end to the HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and neglected tropical disease epidemics; decreasing environmental and non-communicable diseases; achieving universal health coverage. Under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Myanmar has committed to achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030. The plan is to have a Basic Essential Package of Health Services (EPHS) by 2020, an intermediate EPHS by 2025, and a comprehensive EPHS by 2030.

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

The goal aims to ensure universal access to quality education and opportunities for lifelong learning. The Ministry of Education (MOE) has developed the National Education Strategic Plan NESP (2016-2021) to provide a detailed roadmap for comprehensive and phased education reforms to be undertaken over the years. On 12 May 2023, the government enacted the Myanmar Private Education Law. This law outlines the procedures for registering private education institutions and managing academic measures for both teachers and students. It aims to produce qualified student youths, particularly at the basic education level.

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

The goal aims to build resilient, inclusive and sustainable infrastructures; encourage inclusive and sustainable industrialisation; expand access to markets and financial services; upgrade all industries and infrastructures for sustainability; improve industrial technology research and development; and ensure that all people have access to information and communications technology. For the purpose of improving regional connectivity, the National Transport Master Plan (NTMP 2014-2030) intends to modernize ports, airports, railroads and roadways. Connecting Myanmar to ASEAN

and BRI (China's Belt and Road Initiative) corridors is the main goal of the NTMP.

The Digital Economy Development Committee (DEDC 2020) aims to increase digital financial services, e-governance and internet access. The DEDC promotes IT education and ICT entrepreneurs by implementing initiatives like the Myanmar Digital Economy Roadmap.

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

The goal aims to combat climate change and its impact by acting immediately. The 2019 Climate Change Policy of Myanmar includes climate adaptation and mitigation into national planning, emphasizing energy efficiency, sustainable agriculture and disaster risk reduction (DRR). The policy is supported by the Myanmar Climate Change Strategy 2018-2030 and the Climate Change Master Plan 2018-2030, which provide implementation frameworks.

In line with the Paris Agreement, the Myanmar Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (MCCSAP 2016-2030) provides a framework for addressing the effects of climate change in Myanmar. It aims to advance climate-resilient infrastructure development, forest conservation and conversion to renewable energy sources. It targets 30% of the country's land area to be designated as Reserved Forest or Protected Public Forest Area and 10% to be included in the protected area system by 2030.

Myanmar will initiate the process of its National Adaptation Plans and aims to build resilience of all its vulnerable communities and ecosystems, identifying and promoting the right community-based and ecosystems-based adaptation measures, taking a sectoral approach. The key sectors as identified in the Myanmar Climate Change Strategy to build Myanmar's socio-economic resilience are agriculture, natural resources, health, disaster risks and urban planning. Education, training and research will also be key pillars to enhance local capacities and knowledge to understand and deal with the impacts of climate change.

Myanmar's National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC) is responsible for disaster preparedness, response and rehabilitation. Its activities include developing policy, overseeing foreign aid, planning relief efforts and conducting search and rescue operations. After the March 28, 2025, earthquake, the NDMC is actively working to ensure the safety and well-being of those affected, coordinating various efforts to address the immediate and long-term impacts of the disaster. The government has carried out prompt investigations into devastations and rescue works as earliest as possible and will continue for accessing disaster relief and humanitarian aids.

Challenges

The challenges in compiling SDG indicators include data gaps, capacity constraints and the need for alignment between global requirements and national needs, along with issues like coordination of national statistical systems within and a lack of funding to conduct surveys.

CSO efforts towards monitoring and measuring SDGs

An important aspect of achieving goals is to keep track of the progress made. Statistical agencies in all countries will be responsible for reporting regularly to the international level about the progress achieved in each country. For Myanmar, the CSO is the lead agency in charge of SDG indicator monitoring. In monitoring SDG implementation, CSO has to try to make a key focus on disaggregated data. At the same time, the indicators are necessary to be comparable with other countries. The SDGs progress report will benefit the conduct of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) of Myanmar. The SDG progress report provides a measure of how much extra effort is needed to meet the target by the end of the target year 2030, assuming the pace of progress is sustained.

PHILIPPINES

Introduction

The next five years will be crucial as most countries, including the Philippines, will need to accelerate efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. To know whether the country is geared towards the 2030 targets, it is important that statistics are available for evidence-based decision making.

The Philippine Statistical System (PSS), after conducting rigid assessments, is currently monitoring the 17 SDGs and 97 targets with 158 indicators anchored on the global SDG indicator framework. Updated data on these indicators are regularly posted in the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) website through the SDG Watch. Additionally, the country has adopted the SDG measures developed by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) to track the progress of each indicator. These measures are also disseminated on the PSA website.

Meanwhile, the PSS continuously review and improve its national SDG indicator framework to ensure continuous policy relevance and to enhance the statistical quality of the indicator

set. The following PSA Board² resolutions were recently approved and adopted:

- a. PSA Board Resolution No. 10, series of 2023, "Approval and Adoption of the Amendments on the Refined List of Philippine Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Indicators".
- b. PSA Board Resolution No. 08 Series of 2024, "Approving and Adopting the Methodology in Estimating Sustainable Development Goal 16.10.1".

Prior to this, in an effort to monitor SDG at the local level, the PSS adopted and approved the Core Regional SDG Indicators (CoRe-SDGs) through PSA Board Resolution No. 12, series of 2019, that is consistent with the national indicator framework. This resolution identified 72 SDG indicators to monitor 14 goals, and 42 targets at the regional level. Similar to the monitoring at the national level, 15 out of the 17 PSA regional offices also maintain SDG Watch and pace of progress in their respective websites.

Efforts on SDG Data Collection and Monitoring

Recognizing that PSS has a decentralized statistical system in which data production is

generated by different government agencies, with PSA as the coordinating body and designated as the official repository of the SDG indicators, PSA established SDG focal points in the different data source agencies to facilitate the regular SDG monitoring.

Further, to facilitate the regular data collection of updates from these agencies, the PSA, in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), developed an SDG data platform where the different agencies can submit data updates online. The platform was launched in September 2024, and it aims to facilitate the submission of data for more timely release of statistical products without sacrificing accuracy.

In addition to the regular SDG reporting, the PSA also led activities that aims to address SDG data gaps and the challenge of disaggregation. The following are some of the statistical activities which were developed to respond to issues on availability, timeliness, relevance and reliability of statistics for monitoring the Philippines SDG indicators:

- a. **The Philippine Statistical Development Program (2023-2029)³ in Addressing SDG Data Gaps** – This contains priority statistical development programs of the government, which includes, but not limited

² PSA Board is the Philippine's highest policymaking body on statistics matters.

³ PSDP is the counterpart of the National Strategy for the Development in the Philippines. It is a mechanism for setting directions, thrusts and priorities of the PSS in the medium term for the generation and dissemination of statistical information for policy and decision-making for the government, private sector and general public.

to, activities that address SDG data gaps. It also has a chapter mainly focused on SDG monitoring, provides a strategic plan for the development and improvement in the monitoring of the achievement of the SDG in the country.

- b. Lower SDG Geographic Disaggregation for Ensuring Nowhere is Left Behind** – Although national figures provide the country's overall position in the achievement of the SDGs, geographic disaggregation gives the glimpse of the unique challenges and disparities encountered within the country. Further, this would be helpful in targeting and identifying priority areas where focused activities, policies, projects and programs can be implemented. The following are some of the developments:

- **Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS)**⁴ – Integration of questions in the CBMS to generate 17 SDG indicators to be monitored at the community-level (city/municipal-level) with the concepts, definition and method of computation, consistent with the national SDG indicators; and

- **Functional Literacy, Education, and Mass Media Survey (FLEMMS)**⁵ – Increase in the sample size to generate reliable national, regional, province and highly urbanized city-level estimates from the previous round's regional-level only.

- c. Sectoral Disaggregation for Counting the Uncounted** – To ensure no segment of the population is overlooked in the data collection and analysis, specific sectors or groups are captured in the surveys and censuses. Relative to this, the Philippines was able to include Washington Group Short Set of Questions on Disability which focuses on functional limitations (i.e. seeing, hearing, walking or climbing stairs, remembering or concentrating, self-care, and communication) for the following surveys and censuses:

- CBMS;
- Census of Population and Housing (CPH) / Census of Population (POPCEN)⁶; and
- Labor Force Survey (LFS)⁷;

⁴ CBMS is a local-level data collection tool used to gather and monitor socio-economic information in communities to provide accurate and timely information for local government units (LGUs), policymakers, and other stakeholders.

⁵ This survey is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of how well individuals can use literacy skills in their daily lives, the state of education, and the influence of mass media in the country.

⁶ This census collects information on the population and housing conditions in the Philippines.

⁷ This survey provides essential information about the country's employment situation, such as the number of employed, unemployed, and underemployed persons, as well as other labor-related statistics.

In addition, questions on ethnicity were also added in the January round of the Labor Force Survey. This will make possible the generation of poverty and labor related indicators with disaggregation by ethnicity.

- d. Frequency of the Conduct of Surveys** – Shortening the interval of the following surveys were implemented to consider emerging trends and improve policy development.
- FIES – conduct from every three years to every two years;
 - LFS – from quarterly to monthly data collection; and
 - National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS)⁸ – conduct of survey every three years from every five years.

Further, to ensure developments in addressing data gaps in SDG indicators, the Philippines takes advantage of its existing mechanism. Regular discussion of the SDGs in the different Interagency Committees (IAC) on Statistical Matters coordinated by PSA are being conducted to resolve concerns, including SDG indicator methodological developments, among others.

The country is now preparing for the 2025 Voluntary National Review (VNR)⁹ and in line with the focused SDG goals for this year's VNR,

the following indicators are being discussed and potentially for inclusion in the country's indicator framework this year:

Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

- 3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio which is scheduled to be presented for approval and adoption of the PSA Board by 3rd quarter of 2025.
- 3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders.
- 3.b.2 Total net official development assistance to medical research and basic health sectors.
- 3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution.
- 3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness.

Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

- Concept and methodology for estimating mean time use on unpaid care and domestic work to generate indicator 5.4.1 is being discussed.
- 5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone is currently being reviewed and for possible discussion in relevant IACs.

⁸ This survey collects data on a wide range of demographic and health-related issues in the Philippines.

⁹ VNR is country-led report which assess and present the status of the country's efforts in implementing SDGs.

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

- a. 8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment.
- b. 8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of employee is being reviewed for discussion in the IAC.

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

- a. 14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels.
- b. 14.2.1 The Philippines used ecosystem-based approaches to managing marine areas.
- c. 14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas.
- d. 14.6.1 Degree of implementation of the Philippines in international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.
- e. 14.b.1 Degree of application of the Philippines in a legal/regulatory/policy/institutional framework which recognizes and protects access rights for small-scale fisheries.
- f. 14.c.1 The Philippines making progress in ratifying, accepting and implementing through legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean-related instruments that implement international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention

on the Law of the Sea, for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources.

Other Goals

Also, the following indicators are with ongoing discussions for review of relevant IACs:

- a. 2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size.
- b. 2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status.
- c. 2.5.2 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk of extinction.
- d. 2.a.1 The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures.
- e. 2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies.
- f. 4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills.
- g. 10.7.4 Proportion of the population who are refugees.
- h. 12.3.1 (a) Food loss index and (b) food waste index.

Actual Policy Use of SDG Data

The SDG Watch and pace of progress serve as useful reference in the implementation of the following policies and programs:

- a. Sin Tax Law¹⁰ – financing programs, activities, and projects (PAPs) in relation to indicators lagging behind based on the SDG pace of progress generated by PSA.
- b. Regional SDG Catch Up Plan – supplementing the gaps of current government initiatives in accelerating efforts on SDGs, specifically in regressing SDG indicators based on the regional SDG Pace of Progress.

The achievement of the SDGs is not the sole responsibility of the government. Everyone can have their share and contribute. And so, it is imperative to involve all stakeholders – governments, civil society, private sector, and citizens (whole-of-nation approach) in the effort to achieve the SDGs. Our part in the PSS is to ensure that accurate and relevant information on the SDG status of the country is made available to everyone and understandable to all.

¹⁰ Twenty (20) percent of collection from the excise tax on alcohol, tobacco products, and vapor products will be used as fund for accelerating the achievement of the SDG indicators pursuant to Section 9 of Republic Act No. 11467.

SINGAPORE

Introduction

Singapore's efforts on implementation of the SDGs are coordinated by the Inter-Ministry Committee on SDGs (IMC-SDG), co-chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment (MSE). The Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) plays an active role in this whole-of-government (WOG) effort, together with the relevant policy and data source agencies, in periodically reviewing and updating the data tracked under the UN Global Indicator Framework (GIF), in collaboration with the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), and the UN-designated custodian agencies.

Progress in Data Collection and Reporting

Singapore's data under the GIF are primarily disseminated via DOS's [SingStat SDG Webpage](#) launched in September 2019. The proportion of SDG indicators with data for Singapore has more than doubled from 24% (58 out of 244 indicators) in 2019 to 61% (152 out of 248 indicators) in 2024, driven by concerted efforts to improve data collection.

Chart: Number of Indicators with Available Data by Goal, December 2024

Note: Non-grey coloured squares denote indicators with available data, while grey squares denote indicators that are not applicable to Singapore or where data are not available.

WOG Approach in Collaboration with Various Government Agencies

With the help of the IMC-SDG members, DOS has established a network of data and policy agencies' focal points to provide the required data series for the SDG indicators and support the country consultations and requests from the custodian agencies and IAEG-SDGs.

For example, for SDG 4.1.2 "Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education)", DOS worked with the Ministry of Education to develop the new data series based on highest qualification attained. During the UN Development Programme's Goal 16 country consultation, DOS provided statistical support and advice to the relevant agencies to compile the data for SDG 16.7.1 "Proportions of positions in national and local

institutions, including (a) the legislatures; (b) the public service; and (c) the judiciary, compared to national distributions, by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups". DOS also partnered with several agencies in developing a new data series to support the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) country consultation for SDG 5.a.2 "Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control".

Besides responding to custodian agencies' data requests, Singapore also participated in the IAEG-SDGs' 2025 Comprehensive Review and submitted several proposals to revise or replace selected GIF metadata/indicators, to improve SDG data availability globally. For example, since data for SDG 4.6.1 "Proportion of population in a

given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex” was unavailable for many countries, Singapore proposed to replace this indicator with UNESCO Institute of Statistics indicator on “Youth/adult literacy rates” which had a higher data availability. This proposal was accepted by IAEG-SDGs and endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission at the 56th session meeting in March 2025.

Leveraging on UN SDG Global Database

For some SDG indicators where the data source agencies do not have the data, Singapore leveraged on the custodian agencies’ data published in the UNSD SDG Global Database where appropriate.

To illustrate, since the Monetary Authority of Singapore did not have the data for SDG 10.c.1 “Remittance costs as a proportion of the amount remitted”, DOS explored the existing data series from the SDG Global Database in 2021 and noted that the series pertaining to the country average remittance costs of sending US \$200 in a corridor for one of the sub-indicators was not found in the Global Database. After consulting UNSD and the custodian agency, World Bank, an additional data series was subsequently included in the Global Database for available countries.

Identifying Appropriate Proxy Indicators

For indicators where source agencies did not have data as per the GIF metadata, alternative

or proxy data were identified for reporting on the SingStat SDG Webpage, along with notes on the different coverage.

For instance, as the Singapore Health Promotion Board (HPB) tracks the obesity prevalence among Primary 1 students, the data series is provided as a proxy for SDG 2.2.2 “Prevalence of malnutrition – overweight (weight-for-height > +2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age (%)”. SDG 12.6.1 “Number of companies publishing sustainability reports” is another example where DOS has sourced for non-government proxy data on “Number of eligible SGX-listed issuers that have published sustainability reports” from the *SGX Sustainability Reporting Review* jointly published by Singapore Exchange (SGX) and the Centre for Governance and Sustainability at the Business School of the National University of Singapore.

Challenges

The broad scope of the SDG indicators – spanning environmental, social, and economic domains – requires extensive inter-agency coordination between DOS, IMC-SDG, and the policy and data source agencies. It requires aligning policy direction and data needs, harmonising available data to international standards and assessing the suitability of the data obtained from various sources.

Challenges in Data Collection

Given manpower and resource constraints, agencies have to prioritise the use of resources in achieving policy goals. For example, for SDG 2.1.1, 2.2.1, and 2.2.2(a) relating to undernourishment, stunting and malnutrition (wasting), Singapore takes an integrated approach to maintain low levels of undernourishment, stunting and wasting, which comprises initiatives headed by the Ministry of Health and HPB, in partnership with various government agencies, healthcare clusters, schools, parents and caregivers to support children in all aspects of health, including healthier diet and physical activity. Hence data for these indicators are not routinely collected.

For some indicators with disaggregation, not all the disaggregated sub-indicators have available data. For SDG 4.c.1 “Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications, by education level”, Singapore does not disaggregate the secondary school teacher data by lower secondary and upper secondary levels as secondary school teachers could teach both levels.

Data sourced from custodian agencies may be limited by the time frequency of surveys conducted for the SDG indicators. For instance, Singapore’s data for SDG 4.3.1 “Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex” could only be sourced from the Programme for the International

Assessment of Adult Competencies Survey of Adult Skills, administered by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development about every 10 years.

Harmonising Datasets with GIF Metadata

If the GIF metadata are revised by IAEG-SDGs, the changes would be reviewed to assess whether the existing data can be updated to align with the revised coverage, concepts and methodology where possible, taking into account the local context and circumstances.

Taking SDG 4.4.1 “Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill” as an example, the type of skills disaggregation underwent a few rounds of changes in terms of definition and coverage. Prior to 2020, there were only nine computer-related activities tracked under the indicator, before the ICT skills coverage was expanded and new categories were introduced in 2020 and 2023, culminating in the current 21 skills categories. This requires regular monitoring of the GIF metadata developments to ensure that the compiled and disseminated data were up to date.

However, there are instances where the SDG data from Singapore data source agencies use a methodology that differs from the GIF metadata to reflect more accurately national circumstances. For example, for SDG 14.3.1 “Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling

stations”, Singapore’s data source agency, National Environment Agency, adopts another internationally recognised standard pH measurement.

Moving Forward

DOS will strive to improve data availability and reporting by collaborating with relevant stakeholders to compile data for the SDG indicators. Where data are not available, alternative proxy data will be explored where feasible. DOS will also keep abreast of the latest developments in SDG implementation and learn from the experiences of other countries. This includes engaging in peer learning through the ASEAN Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (WGSDGI) and participating in the ASEAN-Help-ASEAN Framework (AHAF) sharing sessions.

continuous economic development, social justice and sustainable natural resources—guided by the principles of good governance. The SDGs are integrated across all six strategic areas of the National Strategy and aligned with 23 master plans, serving as a critical framework for sustainable national development.

The 13th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2023-2027) further reinforces the SDGs as a central principle. To drive forward the 2030 Agenda, Thailand has established the National Committee for Sustainable Development (NCSD), chaired by the Prime Minister. This mechanism ensures that national policies and strategies are holistically balanced across economic, social and environmental dimensions, in accordance with international agreements and address both present and future needs.

THAILAND

1. Institutions and policies to implement SDGs in Thailand

Thailand’s commitment to sustainable development is deeply embedded in its National Strategy (2018-2027), which aims to ensure national security, citizen well-being,

2. Implementation, Monitoring and evaluation of SDGs

Six Key Dimensions of Thailand’s SDG Implementation Strategy:

1. Raising Awareness Government agencies and stakeholders have conducted public campaigns to raise awareness of the SDGs, including video series, websites, social media outreach, academic forums, and exhibitions tailored to various target groups.

2. Linking the SDGs with National Planning
A Cabinet Resolution on 4 December 2017 endorsed a three-tiered planning structure:

- Level 1: National Strategy.
- Level 2: Master Plans and related sectoral strategies.
- Level 3: Action Plans and Operational Plans.

This structure enables SDG goals and targets to be translated into implementable actions across government agencies, aligned with the master plan (Y) and national strategy (Z) through integrated and contextualized approaches.

3. Institutional Mechanism for SDG Implementation The NCSD oversees SDG policy coordination and monitoring. It is supported by a secretariat housed within the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council (NESDC) and four subcommittees:

- SDG Promotion under the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy.
- Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- Private Sector Engagement.
- Youth Participation.

The NCSD also includes a working group on SDG localization and implementation.

- At the operational level, SDG focal agencies (Custodian 1 or C1) lead coordination and reporting on each of the 17 goals, while target-level custodians (Custodian 2 or C2) ensure the implementation and reporting of the 169 SDG targets, including alignment with national indicators.
- At the local level, Thailand emphasizes SDG localization in partnership with multiple stakeholders, consistent with SDG 17 on global partnerships. The Ministry of Interior serves as the lead agency, with provincial governors coordinating efforts in collaboration with civil society, academia, and the private sector.

4. Action for Achieving the SDGs

- National Roadmaps for each SDG have been developed by lead agencies, incorporating the causal relationship model (XYZ) and value chain analysis to ensure goal alignment with national development plans.
- SDG Localization efforts focus on integrating local contexts into planning and implementation.

Thailand has completed two Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs), with active leadership from local governments and the Ministry of Interior.

5. Partnerships for Development

Multi-stakeholder partnerships are critical to inclusive SDG implementation. Examples include:

- The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) mandates ESG disclosures in annual reports (Form 56-1 One Report), including data on GHG emissions, human rights and provident funds.
- Promotion of action learning and action research for inclusive problem-solving.
- Engagement of children and youth in SDG learning and advocacy through programs led by government, private sector, academia and civil society.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

Progress on the SDGs is regularly reported to the NCSD. Each goal and target are tracked using a color-coded performance status system based on statistical and qualitative evidence, supplemented by case studies and success stories.

3. Progress in Data Collection and Reporting

Monitoring and Evaluation of SDG Progress through Indicator Data

Thailand places strong emphasis on monitoring and evaluating progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the use of indicator data. This includes the development of databases, improvement of indicator data quality and dissemination of data for tracking and evaluation purposes. In February 2025, Thailand's SDG Dashboard (<https://sdgdashboard.nesdc.go.th/>) as a public platform for visualizing progress across SDG targets, ensuring that citizens and stakeholders can easily access up-to-date information.

To assess data availability, both UN-aligned indicators and proxy indicators are classified into five categories:

1. Complete indicators – with both baseline data (from 2015 or the closest available year) and a 2030 target, allowing for full progress assessment.
2. Incomplete indicators – typically lacking a clearly defined target.
3. Indicators with no data – unavailable for monitoring purposes.
4. Non-applicable indicators – deemed irrelevant to Thailand's context.
5. Pending indicators – awaiting submission from responsible agencies.

Trend Assessment Methodology for the 2025 VNR

Thailand presented its first and second Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2017 and 2021, respectively. The third VNR will be submitted in 2025. As part of this process, Thailand is refining its SDG Indicator Framework to reflect national development contexts. Proxy indicators and context-specific metrics are also being considered.

For this VNR, the National Statistical Office (NSO) provided the primary dataset, applying guidance from the *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2024: Technical Note for Progress Assessment* by the UN Statistical Division. This framework was adapted to suit Thailand's national context, assessing progress based on the "trend to target" approach, while also factoring in relevant national contexts such as policy changes, economic conditions, and external crises.

The evaluation process involved:

- Collection of 248 SDG indicators from relevant agencies spanning 2015-2024.
- Categorization by data availability:
 - Indicators with sufficient data
 - Indicators under development
 - Indicators with no data
- Alignment verification with UN metadata to distinguish between global and proxy indicators.

Only indicators with at least two years of data and a clearly defined trend direction (increase or decrease) were used for progress assessment. The desired direction (Desirable Direction) was based on:

- UN-defined directions for global indicators (as outlined in the Technical Note annex).
- Proxy indicators assessed by analyzing data trends and indicator definitions (e.g., access to clean water should increase; poverty rate should decrease).

Indicator Trend Assessment Process

The trend analysis for each indicator used the Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR), calculated from the baseline year to the most recent year. Indicators were assessed using color-coded categories based on CAGR values and desired direction.

4. Limitations and Challenges in Assessing SDG Indicator Data

1. Data availability for certain indicators and variations in definitions and methodologies within the national context.
2. Data availability for certain indicators and variations in definitions and methodologies within the national context.

3. Data availability for certain indicators and variations in definitions and methodologies within the national context.

5. Recommendations for Enhancing SDG Indicator Monitoring

1. Capacity Building and Awareness
Continuously enhance knowledge and statistical literacy among personnel involved in data production and use. This ensures effective use of statistical data and information for analysis, planning and decision-making aligned with SDG targets. Support from international organizations for technical assistance should be encouraged.
2. Development of New Indicators and Data Integration
Improve the coverage of SDG indicators across dimensions, including spatial disaggregation and relevant classifications. Key to this is the integration of administrative data from multiple sources, enabling a more holistic and cost-effective approach to development planning. Efforts should also promote the use of alternative data sources, such as civil registration, remote sensing and big data, particularly for cross-cutting issues. Ensuring data quality and reliability in

these emerging areas remains a critical challenge.

3. Statistical Standardization and Data Quality

Enhance the quality and standardization of statistical data across agencies to ensure consistency in definitions and classifications. Encourage adoption of international statistical standards and develop systematic, standardized data dissemination formats to enable efficient linkage and broader use of data across government, private sector and civil society.

VIET NAM

The 2030 Agenda and SDGs are the guiding principles in Viet Nam's strategies and policies. Viet Nam is committed to focusing all resources and mobilizing the participation of all ministries, sectors, localities, organizations, communities and people to successfully implement the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.

1. Institutions and policies to implement SDGs in Viet Nam

In order to implement its international commitments, Viet Nam issued the

National Action Plan for the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development (NAP) in May 2017. General policies for the implementation of the SDGs in Viet Nam have been issued in a synchronous manner. Accordingly, the Government and the Prime Minister have issued Resolutions and Directives on SDGs to promote and make the implementation of SDGs a regular and periodically reported task. The Roadmap for the Implementation of SDGs to 2030 and the Set of Statistical Indicators for SDGs in Viet Nam have been issued to create a basis for monitoring, supervising and evaluating the implementation of SDGs. Guidelines for monitoring and evaluating SDGs and Guidelines for integrating SDGs into the 5-year and annual socio-economic development plans have also been issued, creating a basis for ministries, sectors and localities in implementing SDGs.

Policies in sectors/areas have comprehensively integrated SDGs, better integrating vulnerable groups such as the poor, ethnic minorities, children, and women to ensure “No one is left behind” and at the same time aiming towards global goals/commitments on environmental protection, natural resources, biodiversity and climate change response in the process of national development.

2. Monitoring, supervision and evaluation of SDGs

Monitoring and evaluating the SDGs is a key content in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Viet Nam and has become an annual task with the participation of ministries, sectors, relevant agencies, social organizations, non-governmental organizations, and UN agencies in Viet Nam. Accordingly, Viet Nam has issued a set of sustainable development statistical indicators of Viet Nam (including 158 indicators in 2019 and revised to 145 indicators in 2025).

Viet Nam also issued the Roadmap for implementing Viet Nam’s SDGs to 2030. The Roadmap is a basis for ministries, sectors and localities to develop specific targets in the 5-year and annual socio-economic development plans and is a measure to assess the level of achievement of SDGs at the time points of 2020, 2025, 2030.

To report on the implementation of the SDGs, Viet Nam has developed periodic monitoring reports as follows:

- Report on the assessment of the SDGs implementation annually.
- Periodic national reports on implementation of the SDGs (2020).

- National review of voluntary implementation of the SDGs (VNR) (2018, 2023).
- SDG reports by topic.

3. Key Achievements

Viet Nam presented its Second Voluntary National Review (VNR) on 14 July 2023 at the 2023 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development. Among notable progress in several key areas such as:

Viet Nam has made remarkable progress towards SDG 1, SDG 6, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 16 and SDG 17. Continuing to be on track for SDG 1, the multidimensional poverty rate declined from 9.2% to 3.2% between 2016-2023. Important achievements were evident for SDG 6 with 98.6% of households using improved water sources in 2023 (from 93.4% in 2016). Expanded investments in infrastructures, export-oriented industrialization and enabling environment for innovation of enterprises contributed to progress in SDG 9. Continued progress was made for SDG 10 through job creation, expansion of social protection coverage, and enhanced support for vulnerable groups, especially in coping with the COVID-19 negative impacts. Improvements were made for SDG 16, with the rate of

population and organizations showing their satisfaction with public services increased from 80.9% to 87.2% between 2017-2021. After approximately three decades of global and regional integration, being a pro-active and responsible member of the international community, Viet Nam has secured solid improvements under SDG 17. Viet Nam needs to maintain the pace of progress and achieved attainments of these SDGs.

For the remaining SDGs, Viet Nam has made important progress. SDG 3 continues to be improved with reduction of child mortality and 92.0% of the population having health insurance in 2022. For SDG 4, the rate of transition from primary to lower secondary schools was 99.9% and the percentage of students graduating from lower secondary schools was 98.1% in 2022. Regarding SDG 7, the percentage of households with access to electricity was 99.7% in 2023. Viet Nam stands out for fast recovery from COVID-19 pandemic with the GDP growth rate of 5.1% in 2023 while maintaining a low unemployment rate of 2.3% in 2023 (SDG 8). The country progressed towards SDG 11 with the percentage of population living in temporary houses declining from 2.6% to 0.9% between 2016-2022. Viet Nam continues to advance SDG 13 through the Net Zero commitment that has been integrated into relevant policies. However, Viet Nam still faces

multiple challenges and therefore needs to accelerate the SDG implementation further. In particular, Viet Nam will prioritize addressing malnutrition among ethnic minority children (SDG 2). Extra efforts will be put into improving health and well-being, the expansion of essential healthcare services for all people, especially for vulnerable populations such as the older people and ethnic minorities (SDG 3). Viet Nam will also advance SDG 4 toward equitable access to quality education, especially for vulnerable groups. Combating harmful social norms on gender and gender biased sex selection will be the key to accelerate SDG 5. Increasing renewable energy and boosting energy efficiency will be the focus for SDG 7. Viet Nam will continue to prioritize inclusive growth, decent jobs, and enhance labour productivity to further progress SDG 8. In addition, Viet Nam will make extra efforts in addressing environmental issues in both urban and rural areas (SDG 11); promoting sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12); mobilizing resources for disaster risk management and climate change mitigation and adaptation (SDG 13); preserving life below water (SDG 14); protecting biodiversity and improving ecosystem services (SDG 15).

4. Difficulties and challenges in implementing SDGs in Viet Nam:

- Lack of financial resources.
- Coordination between levels and sectors in the public sector is still weak, failing to attract strong participation from businesses, social organizations and communities.
- The current situation lacks data, especially by disaggregation and target groups, especially vulnerable groups (such as children, people with disabilities, etc.), to be able to consider multi-dimensionally and fully evaluate the implementation of the principle of “leaving no one behind” of the 2030 Agenda.

5. Recommendations

To successfully implement the 2030 Agenda, Viet Nam will continue to: (1) Prioritize investment in human resource development, science and technology, innovation and continue to perfect the synchronous and modern economic and social infrastructure system to improve productivity, promote the green and circular economy, increase resilience to natural disasters and climate change; (2) Complete and improve the quality of socialist-oriented market economic institutions; enhance the effectiveness and efficiency

of policy implementation through public administration reform and promote the participation of vulnerable groups in the decision-making process; (3) Promote reform of the social security system to increase community resilience and support vulnerable groups; (4) Maintain macroeconomic stability, support recovery after COVID-19, mobilize and effectively use financial resources for sustainable development; (5) Improve data availability to increase the effectiveness of monitoring and evaluation of SDG implementation; (6) Mobilize the participation of all stakeholders and work with all partners to achieve sustainable development goals for all by 2030.

With high determination and political commitment, Viet Nam believes that it will successfully implement the 2030 Agenda towards a safer and better life for today's generation and future generations, not only for the Vietnamese people but also for the common interests of all humanity. Viet Nam is committed to continuing to promote its role as a responsible member of the international community, actively contributing to common efforts so that no individual or country is left behind in this process. Viet Nam wishes to continue to accompany all partners to realize sustainable development goals for all.



CONCLUSION



CONCLUSION

The ASEAN SDG Indicators Progress Report 2025 highlights the region's commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. It provides a comprehensive regional overview on progress made, challenges encountered and areas requiring further attention. The report also underscores ASEAN's efforts in fostering sustainable development through collective efforts, regional cooperation and targeted interventions. While significant achievements have been made, persistent challenges and gaps remain, necessitating accelerated action and enhanced collaboration.

Progress of SDG Indicators

ASEAN has made notable strides in several SDG goals, reflecting its commitment to sustainable development. During the period of 2016-2023 good progress was recorded in reducing poverty, improving health outcomes, advancing gender equality, expanding access to education and increasing energy access. These achievements highlight the effectiveness of regional policies, programs, and initiatives aimed at addressing critical development challenges.

However, it is acknowledged that progress had been uneven across goals. While some areas, such as poverty reduction and gender

equality, are on track, others, such as climate resilience, food security, and renewable energy adoption, require significant acceleration. At the same time, challenges such as the increasing impact of climate-related disasters, persistent inequalities and slow transitions to sustainable energy systems underscore the need for targeted interventions and stronger regional cooperation.

These disparities are important to be addressed to ensure that all goals are met by 2030. A renewed focus on areas where progress has been slow or regressive, particularly in combating climate change, ensuring food security and addressing non-communicable diseases. Prioritising these areas may help ASEAN to build a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable future.

Data Collection and Reporting

ASEAN has made commendable progress in enhancing its data collection and reporting mechanisms, both at national and regional level. The establishment and strengthened collaboration of the ASEAN Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (WGSDGI) has facilitated better coordination and data sharing among Member States

and contributed to the development and enhancement of ASEAN SDG indicators database managed by the ASEANstats. Efforts to align national statistical systems with global standards have improved the availability and quality of data, enabling more accurate monitoring of SDG progress. Several Member States have also adopted innovative approaches, such as digital platforms and alternative data sources, to enhance data collection and reporting.

Despite these advancements, significant challenges persist. Data gaps remain a critical issue, with insufficient data available for many global SDG targets. Limited disaggregation of data by gender, age and other key dimensions hampers the ability to assess progress for vulnerable populations. Variations in data collection methodologies across Member States affect the comparability and consistency of regional data. Additionally, resource constraints, including limited financial and technical capacity, continue to hinder the development of robust statistical systems in some countries.

To address these challenges, ASEAN must prioritize the following actions:

1. **Strengthen Statistical Capacity:** Invest in building the technical and institutional capacity of national statistical systems to ensure timely, reliable and disaggregated

data. Also, Foster greater collaboration among Member States through initiatives like the ASEAN-Help-ASEAN Framework (AHAF) to share best practices, provide technical assistance and harmonize data collection methodologies.

2. **Leverage Technology and Innovation:** Utilise digital tools, big data and alternative data sources to bridge data gaps and improve the efficiency of data collection and reporting processes.
3. **Promote Multi-Stakeholder Engagement:** Engage relevant government agencies, private sector, civil society and international organizations to mobilize resources, enhance data availability and ensure inclusive monitoring of SDG progress.
4. **Improve Data Disaggregation:** Improve the collection of disaggregated data to better understand and address the needs of marginalized and vulnerable populations.

Final Thoughts

The ASEAN SDG Indicators Progress Report 2025 serves as a valuable tool for assessing the region's progress toward the 2030 Agenda. While ASEAN has made significant achievements, the report highlights the

need for sustained commitment, innovative solutions and collective action to address persistent challenges. By strengthening national and regional statistical systems, fostering inter-agency cooperation and prioritising inclusive development, ASEAN

would be able to ensure that no one is left behind in its journey toward a sustainable future. This remains within reach, provided that all stakeholders work together to accelerate progress and overcome remaining obstacles.



ANNEXES



ANNEX 1. LIST OF SELECTED INDICATORS WITH RESPECTIVE TARGET, ASEAN AGGREGATE VALUE AND PROGRESS STATUS*

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
1	1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions					
	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, both sexes, Total (%)	decrease	13.3	10.8		
	1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters					
	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters per 100,000 population (Number per 100,000 population)	decrease	2,920.7	6,385.9		
	1.5.3 ASEAN countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.8	0.9		
	1.5.4 ASEAN countries that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.7	0.7		
	1.a Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions					
	1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on education (%)	increase	17.8	13.9		
	1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on health (%)	increase	7.7	12.1		
2	2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round					
	2.1.1 Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU) (%)	decrease	7.3	6.5		
	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), total (%)	decrease	16.5	15.7		

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
2	2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons					
	2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting (height-for-age < -2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age (%)	decrease	27.0	21.5		
	2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition – wasting (weight-for-height < -2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age (%)	decrease	8.6	7.2		
	2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition – overweight (weight-for-height > +2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age (%)	decrease	4.4	5.0		
	2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility					
	2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies (Index)	between -0.5 to +0.5 (Index)	0.1	1.4		
3	3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births					
	3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio (Number per 100,000 live births)	< 70 per 100,000 live births	234.5	164.3		
	3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	100	91.0	93.1		
	3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births					
	3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate (Number per 1,000 live births)	≤ 25 per 1,000 live births	31.0	22.6		
	3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate (Number per 1,000 live births)	≤ 12 per 1,000 live births	14.6	11.0		

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
3	3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases					
	3.3.1	Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, Both Sexes, All Ages (Number per 1,000 uninfected population)	0	1.2	0.1	
	3.3.2	Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population (Number per 100,000 population)	0	301.6	354.0	
	3.3.3	Malaria incidence per 1,000 population (Number per 1,000 population)	0	1.2	1.8	
	3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being					
	3.4.1	Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease, total (%)	decrease	9.1	9.2	
	3.4.1	Mortality rate attributed to cancer (%)	decrease	4.3	3.9	
	3.4.1	Mortality rate attributed to diabetes (%)	decrease	1.1	1.4	
	3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol					
	3.5.2	Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol	decrease	12.2	12.6	
	3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents					
	3.6.1	Death rate due to road traffic injuries (Number per 100,000 population)	7.6	15.2	14.2	
	3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes					
	3.7.1	Percentage of women of reproductive age (15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (%)	100	72.6	75.6	
	3.7.2	Adolescent birth rate aged 15-19 years per 1,000 women in that age group (Number per 1,000 women)	decrease	32.5	26.1	
	3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all					
	3.8.1	Coverage of essential health services (Index)	100	73.6	74.3	

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
3	3.a Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate					
	3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older (%)	decrease	25.3	23.5		
	3.b Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all					
	3.b.1 Proportion of the target population covered by DTP containing vaccines (3 rd dose) (%)	100	88.7	90.7		
	3.b.1 Proportion of the target population covered by Measles containing vaccines (2 nd dose) (%)	100	74.9	79.8		
	3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States					
	3.c.1 Density of medical doctors (Number per 10,000 population)	increase	6.7	8.0		
	3.c.1 Density of nursing and midwifery personnel (Number per 10,000 population)	increase	27.3	30.5		
	3.c.1 Density of dentists (Number per 10,000 population)	increase	1.1	1.4		
	3.c.1 Density of pharmacists (Number per 10,000 population)	increase	2.2	2.9		
4	4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes					
	4.1.2 Completion rate in primary education (%)	100	90.7	89.3		
	4.1.2 Completion rate in lower secondary education (%)	100	81.7	81.8		
	4.1.2 Completion rate in upper secondary education (%)	100	68.6	71.4		
	4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education					
	4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), both sexes (%)	100	73.2	76.8		

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
4		4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), Male (%)	100	81.2	87.7	
		4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), Female (%)	100	81.7	88.4	
		4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations				
		4.5.1 Gender Parity Index (GPI) Net Enrolment Ratio, Primary Education	1.0 index	1.002	1.004	
		4.5.1 Gender Parity Index (GPI) Gross Enrolment Ratio, Primary Education	1.0 index	0.985	0.988	
		4.5.1 Gender Parity Index (GPI) Gross Enrolment Ratio, Lower Secondary Education	1.0 index	1.005	1.023	
		4.5.1 Gender Parity Index (GPI) Gross Enrolment Ratio, Upper Secondary Education	1.0 index	1.028	1.076	
		4.5.1 Gender Parity Index (GPI) Gross Enrolment Ratio, Tertiary Education	1.0 index	1.240	1.252	
		4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy				
		4.6.1 Adult literacy rate (%)	100	93.4	94.3	
		4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all				
		4.a.1 Proportion of primary schools with access to (a) electricity (%)	100	78.9	85.3	
		4.a.1 Proportion of upper secondary schools with access to (a) electricity (%)	100	96.0	98.0	
		4.a.1 Proportion of secondary schools with access to (a) electricity (%)	100	86.9	89.3	
		4.a.1 Proportion of primary schools with access to (c) computer for pedagogical purposes (%)	100	69.0	65.3	
		4.a.1 Proportion of primary schools with access to (e) basic drinking water (%)	100	80.6	91.4	
		4.a.1 Proportion of primary schools with access to (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities (%)	100	82.0	84.7	
		4.a.1 Proportion of primary schools with access to (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions) (%)	100	78.6	84.3	

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
4		4.a.1 Proportion of secondary schools with access to (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions) (%)	100	83.7	85.1	
	4.c By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States					
		4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in pre-primary school with the minimum required qualifications (%)	increase	92.0	85.3	
		4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in primary school with the minimum required qualifications (%)	increase	95.3	94.6	
		4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in lower secondary school with the minimum required qualifications (%)	increase	95.7	96.4	
		4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in upper secondary school with the minimum required qualifications (%)	increase	97.0	97.2	
5	5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation					
		5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 18 (%)	decrease	12.4	9.7	
	5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life					
		5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	increase	18.8	19.9	
		5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in local governments (%)	increase	19.2	20.3	
		5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions (%)	increase	31.4	33.8	
	5.b Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women					
	5.b.1 GPI of Individuals who own a mobile telephone, both sexes (%)	1	0.93	0.95		
6	6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all					
		6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	100	41.5	44.0	
	6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations					
		6.2.1 Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services (%)	100	54.5	56.5	

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
6		6.2.1 Proportion of population using (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water (%)	100	77.5	84.4	
		7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services				
7		7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity (%)	100	88.5	95.7	
		7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix				
		7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption (%)	increase	21.2	20.4	
		7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency				
		7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP (TOE / thousand 2010 USD)	decrease	23.0	22.7	
		7.b By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support				
8		7.b.1 Installed renewable energy-generating capacity in developing countries (in Watts per capita)	increase	60.1	74.9	
		8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 percent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries				
		8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita (%)	increase	3.8	2.9	
		8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors				
		8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person (%)	increase	3.0	1.6	
		8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services				
		8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, Both Sexes (%)	decrease	63.7	61.5	
		8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, Male (%)	decrease	61.7	56.5	
		8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in total employment, Female (%)	decrease	66.4	66.7	
		8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agricultural employment, Both Sexes (%)	decrease	56.7	58.5	
		8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agricultural employment, Male (%)	decrease	49.0	55.9	

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
8		8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agricultural employment, Female (%)	decrease	53.4	61.1	
		8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value				
		8.5.2 Unemployment rate, both sexes, ages 15 years and above (%)	decrease	3.9	3.8	
		8.5.2 Unemployment rate, male, 15 years and above (%)	decrease	4.0	3.7	
		8.5.2 Unemployment rate, female, 15 years and above (%)	decrease	3.6	3.5	
		8.5.2 Unemployment rate, both sexes, aged 15-24 years (%)	decrease	11.2	8.5	
		8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training				
		8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training (%)	decrease	18.7	16.8	
		8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all				
		8.10.1 Number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults (Number per 100,000 adults)	increase	11.3	10.3	
		8.10.1 Number of automatic teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults (Number per 100,000 adults)	increase	47.5	44.6	
		8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider (%)	increase	60.5	76.4	
9		9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all				
		9.1.2 Number of passengers (1) by air (Thousands)	increase	515,603	497,683	
		9.1.2 Number of passengers (2) by road (Thousands)	increase	4,470,419	8,208,664	
		9.1.2 Number of passengers (3) by rail (Thousands)	increase	2,595,774	2,837,492	
		9.1.2 Number of passengers (5) by sea (Thousands)	increase	140,685	146,385	
		9.1.2 Passenger volumes (8) by rail (Million Passenger-kilometer)	increase	53,861	55,801	
		9.1.2 Freight volumes (1) by air (Thousands tonnes)	increase	6,460	5,634	

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
9		9.1.2 Freight volumes (3) by rail (Thousands tonnes)	increase	66,670	98,834	  
		9.1.2 Freight volumes (5) by sea (Thousands tonnes)	increase	1,965,149	2,128,139	  
		9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries				
		9.2.1 Manufacturing value added as a percentage of GDP (constant 2015 USD) (%)	increase	21.6	21.6	  
		9.2.1 Manufacturing value added per capita (constant 2015 USD) (in USD)	increase	901.3	1,072.3	  
		9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment (%)	increase	13.6	14.4	  
		9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets				
		9.3.1 Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added (%)	increase	12.2	11.5	  
		9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending				
		9.5.1 Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP (%)	increase	1.007	1.005	  
		9.5.2 Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants (Number per 1,000,000 population)	increase	1,010.3	990.3	  
		9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities				
		9.b.1 Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added	increase	38.0	41.6	  
		9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020				
		9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by a mobile network (%)	increase	91.6	97.6	  
		9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by at least a 2G mobile network (%)	increase	90.7	98.6	  
		9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by at least a 3G mobile network (%)	increase	94.7	94.6	  
		9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by at least a 4G mobile network (%)	increase	81.1	96.1	  

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
10	10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 percent of the population at a rate higher than the national average					
	10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 percent of the population (%)	increase	5.2	5.8		
	10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality					
	10.4.1 Labour share of GDP (%)	increase	48.7	46.7		
	10.6 Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions					
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, United Nations General Assembly (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	majority rule ≥6	0.9	0.9		
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, International Monetary Fund (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, International Finance Corporation (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	1.0		
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, Asian Development Bank (1= Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, World Trade Organization (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, United Nations General Assembly (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	0.9		
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, International Monetary Fund (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
	10.6.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	0.9		

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
10		10.6.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, International Finance Corporation (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	1.0	  
		10.6.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, Asian Development Bank (1= Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	0.9	  
		10.6.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, World Trade Organization (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	0.9	  
	10.a Implement the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, in accordance with World Trade Organization agreements					
		10.a.1 Proportion of tariff lines applied to imports from least developed countries and developing countries with zero-tariff (%)	increase	59.3	63.9	  
11	11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations					
		11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters per 100,000 population (Number per 100,000 population)	decrease	2,920.7	6,385.9	  
	11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels					
		11.b.1 ASEAN countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.8	0.9	  
		11.b.2 ASEAN countries that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.7	0.7	  

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
12	12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment					
	12.4.1 ASEAN countries meet their commitments and obligations to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste and other chemicals, in transmitting information as required by at least one of the relevant agreements (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.7	0.8		
	12.a Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production					
	12.a.1 Installed renewable energy-generating capacity in developing countries (in Watts per capita)	increase	60.1	74.9		
13	13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries					
	13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters per 100,000 population (Number per 100,000 population)	decrease	2,920.7	6,385.9		
	13.1.2 ASEAN countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.8	0.9		
	13.1.3 ASEAN countries that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.7	0.7		
	13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning					
	13.2.1 ASEAN countries with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.7	0.7		
14	14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information					
	14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas (%)	>=10%	3.2	4.4		

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
15	15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements					
	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area (%)	increase	45.6	45.7		
	15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas (%)	increase	30.8	33.0		
	15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species					
	15.5.1 Red List Index (RLI)	1	0.76	0.75		
16	16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all					
	16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as proportion of overall prison population (%)	decrease	28.8	27.6		
	16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels					
	16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget (%)	100	95.3	97.5		
	16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance					
	16.8.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, United Nations General Assembly (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	majority rule ≥6	0.9	0.9		
	16.8.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, International Monetary Fund (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
	16.8.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
	16.8.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, International Finance Corporation (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	1		
	16.8.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, Asian Development Bank (1= Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
	16.8.1 ASEAN countries membership in international organizations, World Trade Organization (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		1	1		
16.8.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, United Nations General Assembly (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	0.9		0.9			

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
16		16.8.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, International Monetary Fund (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		1	1	  
		16.8.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	0.9	  
		16.8.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, International Finance Corporation (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	1	  
		16.8.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, Asian Development Bank (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	0.9	  
		16.8.1 ASEAN countries voting rights in international organizations, World Trade Organization (1 = Yes, 0 = No)		0.9	0.9	  
	16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration					
		16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with civil authority (%)	100	81.9	85.9	  
17	17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection					
		17.1.1 Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP (%)	increase	16.2	15.7	  
		17.1.2 Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes (%)	increase	67.5	59.6	  
	17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism					
		17.6.1 Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (Number per 100 inhabitants)	increase	5.7	11.8	  
	17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology					
		17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the Internet (%)	increase	50.6	82.0	  
	17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020					
		17.11.1 ASEAN's share of global merchandise exports (%)	increase	7.4	8.0	  

Goal	Target	Indicator name	Target/ Trend	ASEAN Aggregate		STATUS
				2016	2023	
17		17.11.1 ASEAN's share of global merchandise imports (%)	increase	6.9	7.4	
		17.11.1 ASEAN's share of global services exports (%)	increase	6.6	6.9	
		17.11.1 ASEAN's share of global services imports (%)	increase	6.4	7.1	
		17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence				
		17.13.1 Macroeconomic Dashboard (data on macroeconomic indicators are available to policy agencies in AMS) (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	1	1	
		17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts				
		17.18.1 Data Infrastructure performance index (Statistical Performance Indicators Pillar 5) (Index)	increase	41.5	58.5	
		17.18.1 Data Sources performance index (Statistical Performance Indicators Pillar 4) (Index)	increase	55.1	60.6	
		17.18.1 Open Data Inventory (ODIN) Coverage Index	increase	38.7	52.3	
		17.18.2 ASEAN countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	1	1	
		17.18.3 National statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.9	1.0	
		17.19 By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries				
		17.19.2 ASEAN countries that have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	1	0.9	
		17.19.2 ASEAN countries that have achieved 100 percent birth registration (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.3	0.3	
		17.19.2 ASEAN countries that have achieved 80 percent death registration (1 = Yes, 0 = No)	1	0.4	0.5	

* The methodology for the progress assessment and legend for the colour codes are given in Annex 2.

ANNEX 2. TECHNICAL NOTES

Data used in this report are sourced from the submission of ASEAN Member States (AMS) through the Working Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (WGSDGI). The detailed data and metadata are available on ASEANstats website at <https://data.aseanstats.org/>.

Selection of indicators

Data and metadata assessments were conducted to select indicators to be included in this report. The first assessment is quality assessment (data consistency check) which is based on the following key dimensions:

- uniformity or consistency of **concepts and definitions** with the global definition;
- consistency in **methodologies** among the AMS including units of measurement;
- coherence in geographic **coverage** and age groupings;
- **timeliness** and coherence in availability of data;
- **credibility** of the data source.

Each dimension was assigned a score of either “0” or “1” for each indicator as follows:

“0” – dimension totally not consistent with the global standard;

“1” – dimension completely consistent with the global standard or with a slight deviation from the global standard;

NR – is assigned to dimensions where AMS has no response and is assigned a zero score.

An average of the scores obtained from all AMS on all 5 dimensions for each indicator resulted in an overall quality/consistency score of the indicator for inclusion in the publication. A minimum average score of 0.6 was set for this purpose.

The second assessment focuses on data availability, applying several key criteria to ensure consistency and comparability. Firstly, the data must be available for at least six AMS, with a minimum of two data points, specifically for the years 2016 and 2023. If data for these reference years are not available, the assessment allows for the use of data from the nearest available years as an estimate. In cases where no national data are available, ASEANstats may utilise relevant data from the SDG Global Database (<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/database>) for ASEAN-level aggregation, with prior agreement from the respective countries.

Methodology for data aggregation at ASEAN regional level

When indicators are ratios or proportions, aggregates are computed using weights according to the denominator of the ratio or proportion. In cases where there are missing data, aggregates for groups of countries should be treated as “approximations of unknown totals or average values”. The methodology for generating an aggregate value for ASEAN depends on the **absolute levels or proportions at the country level of the specific indicator (either provided as levels or ratios or proportions)**. For some indicators, the weight or denominator is simply the total population. For other indicators, the denominator may refer to either of the following: (a) total number of live births; (b) total employed; (c) total land area; (d) total number of schools by level of education; (e) total women of a particular age group; (f) total number of members of Parliament; (g) total number of employed persons in managerial positions; (h) total number of teachers by level of education, etc.

The following general formula was used in the calculation of the ASEAN aggregates:

$$G = \frac{\sum C_i \times P_i}{\sum P_i} \times 100\%$$

Where:

C_i = ratio or proportion in country i

P_i = denominator of the ratio or proportion
in country i

Methodology for progress assessment

Each selected indicator and target is colour-coded to reflect the current level of progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda. The methodology applied in this report is primarily adapted from the UN Statistics Division's (UNSD) SDG Progress Chart 2023 Technical Note. In cases where an indicator comprises more than one data series, such as SDG 3.c.1 on health worker density, which includes separate figures for doctors, nurses, dentists, and pharmacists, all relevant sub-indicators are incorporated into the calculations. However, for indicators that are disaggregated by categories such as sex, only the overall (total) data series is used in the assessment.

1. Trend assessment at indicator level

The trend assessment or “trend to target” measure uses three categories to classify the likelihood of achieving the target:

- **Score 3 - on track or target met:** “The target has already been achieved or is on track to be achieved by 2030.”
- **Score 2 - fair progress, but acceleration needed:** “To date there has been some progress towards the target, but moderate or significant acceleration is needed to achieve the target by 2030.”
- **Score 1 - stagnation or regression:** “There is either minimal progress or regression from the baseline.”

An “insufficient data” designation is given to indicators if there is no data or not sufficient data available from the AMS submission.

The assessment gives a score to each of the selected series. The scoring methodology distinguishes between series that have 2030 numerical targets and those without such targets.

a. Series in indicators with 2030 target values

For series that have 2030 target values and at least two different data points (one for the baseline and one for the latest year), a score is assigned through calculations.

First, calculate the actual compound annual growth rate ($CAGR_a$) between the baseline year (b) and the latest year (t) for which data are available:

$$CAGR_a = \left(\frac{v_t}{v_b} \right)^{\frac{1}{t-b}} - 1$$

Next, use the $CAGR_a$ from the previous step to extrapolate the expected value (v_{2030e}) for the series in 2030, assuming that the current rate of progress is maintained:

$$v_{2030e} = v_t \times (1 + CAGR_a)^{2030-t}$$

Lastly, assign a score to the series based on the criteria below:

- 3 if $\frac{v_{2030e}-v_b}{v_{2030}-v_b} \geq 0.95$
- 2 if $0.10 \leq \frac{v_{2030e}-v_b}{v_{2030}-v_b} < 0.95$
- 1 if $\frac{v_{2030e}-v_b}{v_{2030}-v_b} < 0.10$

Where:

b is the baseline year (e.g.2016)

t is the latest year with available data (e.g.2023)

v_b is the baseline value in year b

v_t is the current value in the latest year t

v_{2030} is the target value in 2030

v_{2030e} is the expected value in 2030

When $v_b = v_{2030}$ – that is to say, the baseline value is equal to the 2030 target value – the ratio $\frac{v_{2030e}-v_b}{v_{2030}-v_b}$ is undefined because $v_{2030} - v_b = 0$. In these rare cases, the scoring is manually set to “3” since the target is already achieved.

b. Series in indicators without numerical target values

A score is assigned to series with no 2030 target values, and which have at least two data points, through the calculation of the compound annual growth rate.

First, calculate the actual compound annual growth rate ($CAGR_a$) between the baseline (b) and the latest year (t) for which data are available:

$$CAGR_a = \left(\frac{v_t}{v_b} \right)^{\frac{1}{t-b}} - 1$$

Next, assign a score to the series based on the criteria below:

If an increase in value is desirable	If a decrease in value is desirable
• 3 if $CAGR_a \geq 0.02$ • 2 if $0.005 \leq CAGR_a < 0.02$ • 1 if $CAGR_a < 0.005$	• 3 if $CAGR_a \leq -0.02$ • 2 if $-0.02 < CAGR_a \leq -0.005$ • 1 if $CAGR_a > -0.005$

2. Trend assessment at target level

When two or more indicators are used to assess the progress of one target, the arithmetic mean of the indicators is used. Series scores are aggregated into indicator scores, which are in turn aggregated into target scores based on the following criteria:

Mean Score	Band	Trend towards Target	Color Code
2.5 to 3	3	On track or target met	
1.5 to <2.5	2	Fair progress, but acceleration needed	
1 to <1.5	1	Stagnation or regression	

The list of indicators with respective target, ASEAN aggregate value and progress status is in **Annex 1** of this report.

ANNEX 3. NATIONAL SDG PROGRESS OF ASEAN MEMBER STATES

COUNTRY	LINK
Brunei Darussalam	https://www.sdgbrunei.gov.bn/national-progress/
Cambodia	https://sustainabledevelopment-cambodia.github.io https://camstat.nis.gov.kh
Indonesia	https://sdgs.bappenas.go.id/dashboard
Lao PDR	https://rtm.org.la/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Third-Voluntary-National-Review-Report_-Lao-PDR.pdf https://www.lsb.gov.la/sdg/en/reporting-status/
Malaysia	https://www.dosm.gov.my/portal-main/article/sustainable-development-goals#indicators https://newss.statistics.gov.my/newss-portalx/ep/epFreeDownloadContentSearch.seam?contentId=199210&actionMethod=ep%2FepFreeDownloadContentSearch.xhtml%3AcontentAction.doDisplayContent&cid=2870453 https://ekonomi.gov.my/sites/default/files/2024-09/SDG_Roadmap_for_Malaysia_Phase2_%282021-2025%29_0.pdf
Myanmar	https://csostatat.gov.mm/FileUpload/cso/FileDownload/SDGs%20Progress%20%20Report%202022.pdf
Philippines	https://psa.gov.ph/infographics?field_sector_value=Sustainable+Development+Goals
Singapore	https://www.singstat.gov.sg/find-data/sdg/sdg-progress-tracker
Thailand	https://share.google/vnj9HZreChP3HxNMT https://share.google/qsPM4aAhF3vNekkyZ https://hlpf.un.org/countries/thailand/voluntary-national-review-2025 https://sdgdashboard.nesdc.go.th/
Viet Nam	https://fileportalcms.mpi.gov.vn/TinBai/VanBan/2023-08/VNR_Full_Final(EN).pdf



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