



The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

UN SDG OPEN PEDAGOGY FACULTY FELLOWSHIP

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Agenda



- 01** Introduction to the SDGs
- 02** Historical Background
- 03** Key Principles and Framework
- 04** The 17 Sustainable Development Goals in Detail
- 05** Implementation and Progress
- 06** Conclusion



Introduction to the SDGs

- Adopted by all of the 193 UN Members in 2015
- A call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all
- 17 goals with 169 specific targets to be achieved by 2030
- Builds on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- Represents a global commitment to sustainable development



Historical Background

- Emerged from the Rio+20 Conference (2012)
- Built upon the previous Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015)
- Developed through an unprecedented consultative process
- Formally adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015
- Came into effect on January 1, 2016

THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT

This introduction provides an overview of the UNSDGs' origins.

A GLOBAL FRAMEWORK

The UNSDGs represent a comprehensive plan to achieve a more just and sustainable future for all.

THE ROLE OF EDUCATION

Education is critical in supporting the UNSDG agenda and creating positive change.

Developing the UN SDGs

- In 2013, the General Assembly set up an Open Working Group with 70 member states sharing 30 seats to develop an SDG proposal.
- Engaged over 2 million people in 88 countries, including thematic consultations, national-level activities, and the My World Survey, which collected over 7 million online and 5 million offline votes.
- The Open Working Group proposed the 17 UNSDG goals and 169 targets after 13 sessions.



Key Principles of the UN SDGs



PEOPLE, PLANET, PROSPERITY, PEACE, AND PARTNERSHIP

The pillars of the UNSDGs represent the social, environmental, and economic aspects of progress for all life forms on Earth, emphasizing the need for a balanced and holistic approach to sustainable development.

GOOD GOVERNANCE

The UNSDGs emphasize the importance of responsible leadership and active engagement in both the public and private sectors to achieve sustainable development.

INTERCONNECTEDNESS

The UNSDGs recognize the complex and interconnected nature of natural and social systems, where changes in one system can have far-reaching effects on others.

INTERGENERATIONAL EQUITY

The UNSDGs prioritize fairness and justice for future generations, ensuring that children can grow up in a healthy, well-educated, and sustainable world.



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A Holistic Approach

Social Inequalities

- The UNSDGs address a range of social inequalities, including poverty, hunger, health, education, and gender equality, with the aim of creating a more just and inclusive world.

Natural Environment

- The UNSDGs also focus on protecting and restoring the natural environment, addressing issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and sustainable resource management.

Social and Economic Sustainability

- The UNSDGs promote sustainable economic development and social progress, with a focus on creating resilient communities, sustainable infrastructure, and responsible consumption and production.





Where are we currently?

- Overall Progress: Only 17–18% of SDG targets are currently on track to be achieved by 2030. 2025 SDG Report highlights stalled progress and growing inequities as the 2030 deadline approaches. 48% are making moderate but slow progress, 18% are stagnant, and 17% are worse off today than they were in 2015. (2025)
- Contributing Factors: The slow progress has been attributed to several major disruptions: the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, escalating conflicts, geopolitical tensions, and growing climate chaos have severely hindered progress. Additionally, growing global disparities are evident, with an additional 700–800 million individuals falling into extreme poverty. (2025)
- Recent Trends: A concerning development is that recent assessments show "almost no change" in SDG progress between 2023 and 2024, suggesting that momentum has stalled significantly. (2024)

The Role of Education

- There is strong evidence of the importance of education and learning in supporting the agenda, which is where we come in as educators.
- Education is associated with increased environmental and cultural awareness, concern, and in some contexts, advocacy and action.
- The transformation needed for a cleaner, greener planet requires integrative, innovative and creative thinking, cultivated jointly by schools, governments, civil society organizations and companies.



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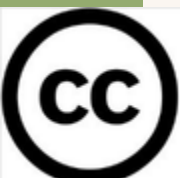
Education Supports the UN SDGs Through Two Approaches:

BEHAVIORAL CHANGE:

- Education facilitates changes in values, world views, and behavior at the individual and community level, as well as society as a whole.
- Ex: The idea that reducing food waste and energy consumption is important for sustainability and that people can reduce food waste and conserve energy at home.

DEVELOPMENT OF AGENCY:

- Education develops competencies, critical learning, knowledge and skills required to address complex sustainability issues.
- Ex: How to create a sustainable school or a carbon-neutral city.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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



Discussion

Why did you choose your SDG?

Is it related to what you teach?

Is it something that interests you personally?

Is it a possible solution to an issue in your area?



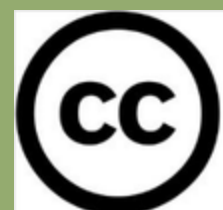
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Questions?



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References

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- [Sustainable Development](#): a strategy for people, planet, and prosperity in UNESCO's Education for People and Planet
- [The 17 Goals](#) from United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- [United Nations](#): 2024 Report Highlights
- [2025 SDG Report](#): Global Progress
- [UNECE Report](#) Reveals "Almost No Change" in SDG Progress from 2024, 2023

Thank
you very
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