



The implementation of the SDGs through EU international partnerships

***Towards the first EU Voluntary Review
at UN HLPF 2023***



Policy Forum on Development - Briefing on SDGs
8 June 2022

1) SDGs in important Commission initiatives at central level: the SDGs in the von der Leyen Commission



The SDGs in the von der Leyen Commission: overview

- The **von der Leyen's (VdL) Commission** has significantly **stepped up** the integration of SDGs in the policy-making of the Commission, including :
 - Political Guidelines (e.g. European Semester)
 - Mission letters
 - Commission Work Programmes
 - Key initiatives (e.g. Green Deal Communication: "The Green Deal is an integral part of this Commission's strategy to implement the **SDGs**").
- **Commission Work Programmes** in VdL Commission:
 - CWP 2020: "Our compass will be the **2030 Agenda**. We will put the **SDGs** at the heart of our policymaking. They will guide our work across all sectors, , and will show our commitment to sustainable development at home and abroad".
 - CWP 2021: "Our action will remain guided by the **2030 Agenda** and its **SDGs**".
 - CWP 2022: "The green and digital ambitions of the Commission and their social and fair dimensions, together with its focus on the **SDGs** ... will be more prominent in our evaluations, impact assessments and consultations... It will send a strong message that the EU is leading on the implementation of global commitments, as set out in the **2030 Agenda** and its **SDGs**".

« Delivering on the SDGs - A comprehensive approach» (2020)

- The SWD “[Delivering on the UN's SDGs – A comprehensive approach](#)” (November 2020) was presented to College by President von der Leyen.
- It lays down a **whole-of-government** approach to implement the SDGs in the Commission.



- It includes an important **external** section, incl. **reporting**.

- It combines **VdL priorities** and **the SDGs**.



- This is relevant for the pursuit of **INTPA priorities**, which are based on those of VdL.

The SDGs in the European Semester

- The European **Semester** is integrating the SDGs (Political Guidelines, Mission Letters)
- Strong **SDG** push from the [Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy 2020](#)
- The [Eurostat annual monitoring report on SDGs](#) will now be part of the Semester, from spring 2022.



- The recent [Annual Sustainable Growth Survey 2022](#): “The **SDGs** will be further integrated into the European Semester”.
- **MS** spring reports **track** progress towards **SDGs** at national level with Eurostat SDG indicators.

Social Scoreboard for GERMANY	
SOCIAL SCOREBOARD	SDGs
Early leavers from education and training (% of population aged 18-24)	4 Quality Education
Youth NEET (% of population aged 15-24)	5 Gender Equality
Gender employment gap	5 Gender Equality
Income quintile ratio (S80/S20)	10 Reduced Inequalities
At risk of poverty or social exclusion (in %)	8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
Employment rate (% of population aged 20-64)	8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
Unemployment rate (% active population aged 15-74)	8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
Long-term unemployment rate (% active population aged 15-74)	8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
GDHI per capita growth	8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
Net earnings of a full-time single worker earning AW	8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
Impact of social transfers (other than pensions) on poverty reduction	1 No Poverty
Children aged less than 3 years in formal childcare	3 Good Health and Well-being
Self-reported unmet need for medical care	3 Good Health and Well-being
Individuals' level of digital skills	4 Quality Education

ANNEX E: PROGRESS TOWARDS THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

GERMANY

Assessment of Germany's short-term progress towards the SDGs ⁽⁵²⁾

Table E.1 shows the data for Germany and the EU-28 for the indicators included in the EU SDG indicator set used by Eurostat for [monitoring progress towards the SDGs in an EU context](#) ⁽⁵³⁾. As the short-term trend at EU-level is assessed over a 5-year period, both the value at the beginning of the period and the latest available value is presented. The indicators are regularly updated on the [SDI dedicated section](#) of the Eurostat website.

Table E.1: Indicators measuring Germany's progress towards the SDGs

SDG / Sub-theme	Indicator	Unit	Germany				EU-28			
			Starting		Latest		Starting		Latest	
			year	value	year	value	year	value	year	value
SDG 1 – No poverty										
	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion	% of population	2013	20.3	2018	18.7	2013	24.6	2018	21.9
	People at risk of income poverty after social transfers	% of population	2013	16.1	2018	16.0	2013	16.7	2018	17.1
	Severely materially deprived people	% of population	2013	5.4	2018	3.1	2013	9.6	2018	5.8
	People living in households with very low work intensity	% of population aged 0 to 59	2013	9.9	2018	8.1	2013	11.0	2018	8.8
	In-work at-risk-of-poverty rate	% of population aged 18 or over	2013	8.6	2018	9.1	2013	9.0	2018	9.5
Basic needs	Population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation or rot in window frames or floor	% of population	2013	13.1	2018	13.4	2013	15.6	2018	13.9
	Self-reported unmet need for medical care	% of population aged 16 or over	2013	1.6	2018	0.2	2013	3.7	2018	2.0
	Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household	% of population	2012	0.0	2017	0.0	2013	2.2	2018	1.7
	Population unable to keep home adequately warm	% of population	2013	5.3	2018	2.7	2013	10.7	2018	7.3
	Overcrowding rate	% of population	2013	6.7	2018	7.4	2013	17.0	2018	15.5
SDG 2 – Zero hunger										
	Obesity rate	% of population aged 18 or over	2008	15.8	2014	16.9	2014	15.9	2017	15.2
	Agricultural factor income per annual work unit (AWU)	EUR, chain linked volumes (2010)	2012	31 146	2017	33 443	2012	14 885	2017	17 304
	Government support to agricultural research and development	million EUR	2014	728.2	2019	905.6	2013	3 048.6	2018	3 242.5
	Area under organic farming	% of utilised agricultural area	2013	6.0	2018	7.3	2013	5.7	2018	7.5

The SDGs in the revised Better Regulation



The SDGs in the BR Communication (29.04.21)

- Main improvements of the revised Better Regulation include the integration of SDGs:
 - Mainstream the United Nations' sustainable development goals³ (SDGs) to help ensure that every legislative proposal contributes to the 2030 sustainable development agenda; and ensure that the 'do no significant harm' principle is applied across all policies in line with the European Green Deal oath;
- Improved analysis and reporting of impacts: also in relation to SDGs:

To ensure this, we will identify relevant UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) for each proposal and examine how the initiative will support their achievement⁵⁸. Links to the SDGs will be included throughout evaluations and impact assessments.

The SDGs in the Better Regulation toolbox

- Every impact assessment has to report in a table identifying relevant SDGs
- For the preferred option, the table needs to show the assessment of progress towards the identified SDG targets, and describe possible synergies and trade-offs between specific SDGs.

III. Overview of relevant Sustainable Development Goals – Preferred Option(s)		
Relevant SDG	Expected progress towards the Goal	Comments
e.g. SDG no. 4 – quality education	Increase in the participation in early childhood education from 94.8% in 2018 to 98% in 2025	
e.g. SDG no. 7 - affordable and clean energy, 12 - responsible consumption and production, 13 - climate	Expected increased energy efficiency of microwave ovens will save 1.2 TWh of energy over the next 5 years contributing positively to SDG no. 7 (affordable and clean energy) and SDG no. 13 (climate) but due to increased turnover of devices may negatively affect SDG no. 12 (responsible consumption and production).	The trade-off will be mitigated by introducing requirements for recyclability of components and availability of spare parts for 7-years after the end of production.

- All BR tools on impacts are organised by SDGs.

Impact on	Key questions	SDG
Climate (Tool #36)	• Does the option affect the emission of greenhouse gases (e.g. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, etc.) into the atmosphere? • Does the option affect economic incentives set up by market based mechanisms (MBMs) created by Union law (e.g. first and second round incentives and price signals under the EU's Emission Trading System)? • Does the option affect the emission of ozone depleting substances (CFCs, HCFCs etc.)? • Does the option affect our ability to adapt to climate change?	 
Air quality (Tool #36)	• Does the option have an effect on emissions of acidifying, eutrophying, photochemical or harmful air pollutants that might affect human health, damage crops or buildings or lead to deterioration in the environment (soil or rivers etc.)?	 

- All BR tools recommend SDG indicators,

6. RELEVANT SDG INDICATORS

To track progress in this field, the SDG indicators below can be a useful methodology, though the list should not be considered exhaustive.

Relevant SDG indicators	SDGs
<i>EU indicators:</i> • Area under organic farming • Ammonia emissions from agriculture • Exposure to air pollution by particulate matter • Population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household • Population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment • Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers • Nitrate in groundwater • Phosphate in rivers • Water exploitation index • Primary & final energy consumption • Energy productivity	  

The new Tool#19 on SDGs

✓ Implements and details the requirement in the BR Communication and Guidelines on assessing SDGs in:

- Impact Assessment (problem definition, objectives, policy options-baseline, impact analysis, monitoring arrangements)
- Policy evaluations and fitness checks
- Policy proposals – explanatory memorandum

TOOL #19. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

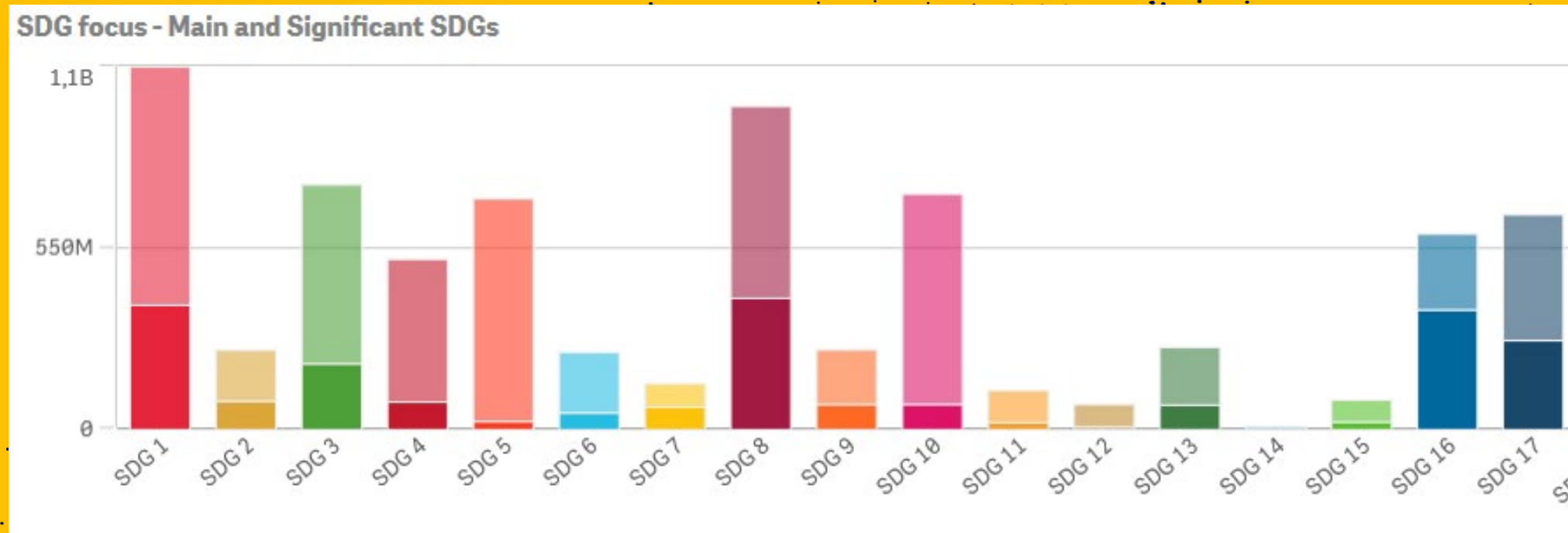
1. POLICY CONTEXT AND SDGs FRAMEWORK

The UN established its [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) in 2015. It sets out a framework to steer sustainable development globally via a [set of 17 sustainable development goals \(SDGs\) and 169 targets](#). The SDGs cover **environmental, economic and social aspects**, and are relevant for the Commission's system of better regulation that aims to mainstream the sustainable developments goals into the policymaking process, so that every legislative proposal contributes to the 2030 sustainable development agenda of the UN²⁰⁶.



- Use of relevant SDG indicators.
- Recommends for the whole Commission the use of the SDG mapper electronic tool (developed by JRC upon request by INTPA)

2 - SDG implementation in INTPA and international partnerships



Policy frame for SDG work in INTPA

- The SDGs are highlighted in **key initiatives** in the VdL Commission relevant to INTPA work, and should be made visible in their follow-up and implementation:
 - [Green Deal](#) Communication: The Green Deal is an integral part of this Commission's strategy to implement the **SDGs**.
 - [Towards a comprehensive Strategy with Africa](#) Communication: Strengthened partnership contributes to the shared effort by EU and Africa to implement the **2030 Agenda** by deepening cooperation in key areas: green transition; digital transformation; sustainable growth and jobs; peace and governance; migration and mobility.
 - [A new EU-US agenda for global change](#) Communication: The EU and the US should continue to support and speed up implementation of the UN **2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development as a matter of joint priority.
 - [Multilateralism](#) Communication: With the **SDGs** as guiding framework, EU will focus on strategic priorities and build on alliances with like-minded partners... The EU will promote global agendas such as, the UN **2030 Agenda** and its **SDGs**... The global recovery must be green, digital, inclusive, just, and sustainable. It must be geared towards the **SDGs**.
 - [Covid-19 Response](#) Communication: EU global response to COVID-19 integrates strategic objectives the EU has set itself as regards the environment and climate, and stresses that the crisis is a reminder that the full implementation of the **2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development.
 - [Global Gateway](#) Communication: It is fully aligned with the UN's **2030 Agenda** and its **SDGs**. Global Gateway is a strategy to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport, and to strengthen health, education and research systems across the world.

Integration of SDGs in the new Consensus

Integrate
systematically the
social, economic
and environmental
dimensions of
**sustainable
development**



Address the crucial
nexus
with external
policies

Migration Security



Humanitarian Climate



Coordinate better
between EU institutions
and Member States



Focus on results and
development effectiveness



Think beyond ODA: domestic
resources, private sector
investment, sound policies



Ensure Policy Coherence
for Development

Integration of **SDGs** in the new EU external instrument (**Global Europe**)

- **Objectives:**

Art 3.1: contribute to the promotion of multilateralism, the achievement of the international commitments and objectives that the Union has agreed to, in particular the **SDGs**

- **Thematic programming**

Art 4.3: thematic programmes shall encompass actions linked to the pursuit of the **SDGs** at global level;

Art. 4.5: shall support global and trans-regional initiatives aimed towards achieving internationally agreed goals, in particular the **SDGs**

- **Programming principles:**

Art 8.8: Programmes and actions shall address interlinkages between the **SDGs**, to promote integrated actions and co-benefits.

- **Results and monitoring:**

Art 12.3: indicators shall be based on internationally agreed targets and indicators, in particular those set out for the **SDGs**

Art 41: indicators, in line with the **SDGs** indicators

- **EFSD+:**

... in support of the objectives of the Instrument and in line with the **SDGs**

- **Annexes I-V:**

Multiple references to **SDGs**,

- **Annex VI on Key Performance indicators:**

In accordance with **SDGs**...

- **Recitals:**

Multiple references to **SDGs** – e.g. 6, 10, 17, 19, 36, 47, 49, 54, 63, 64,

Integrating SDGs upstream: MIPs, AAPs, ADs

- SDG implementation is integrated **upstream**: in the design of **Multiannual Indicative Programmes (MIPs)**, Action Documents, Team Europe initiatives, etc.
- Programming guidelines:

2. EU support per priority area and proposals of Team Europe Initiatives (max. 8 pages)

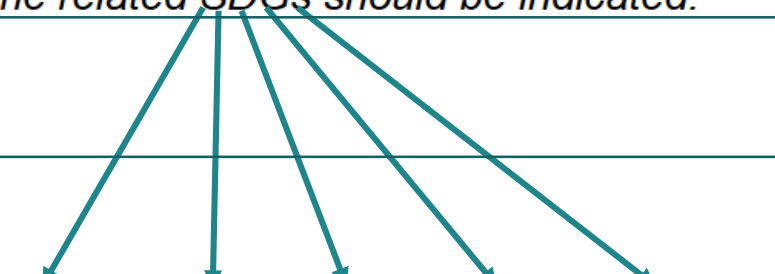
2.1. Priority area 1 (max. 2 pages)

This section should include a more detailed description of the EU's support for each of the selected priority area, specifying the specific objectives, expected results and where possible targets, and the main indicators to measure results. The related SDGs should be indicated.

- Example: MIP Pakistan:

2.2. Priority area 2 –Human Capital

Priority Area 2 – Human Capital – will contribute to **SDG 1**, **SDG 4**, **SDG 5**, **SDG 8**, **SDG 10**



- Action document (AD) template :

4. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDG (1): Other significant SDGs (up to 9) and where appropriate, targets:
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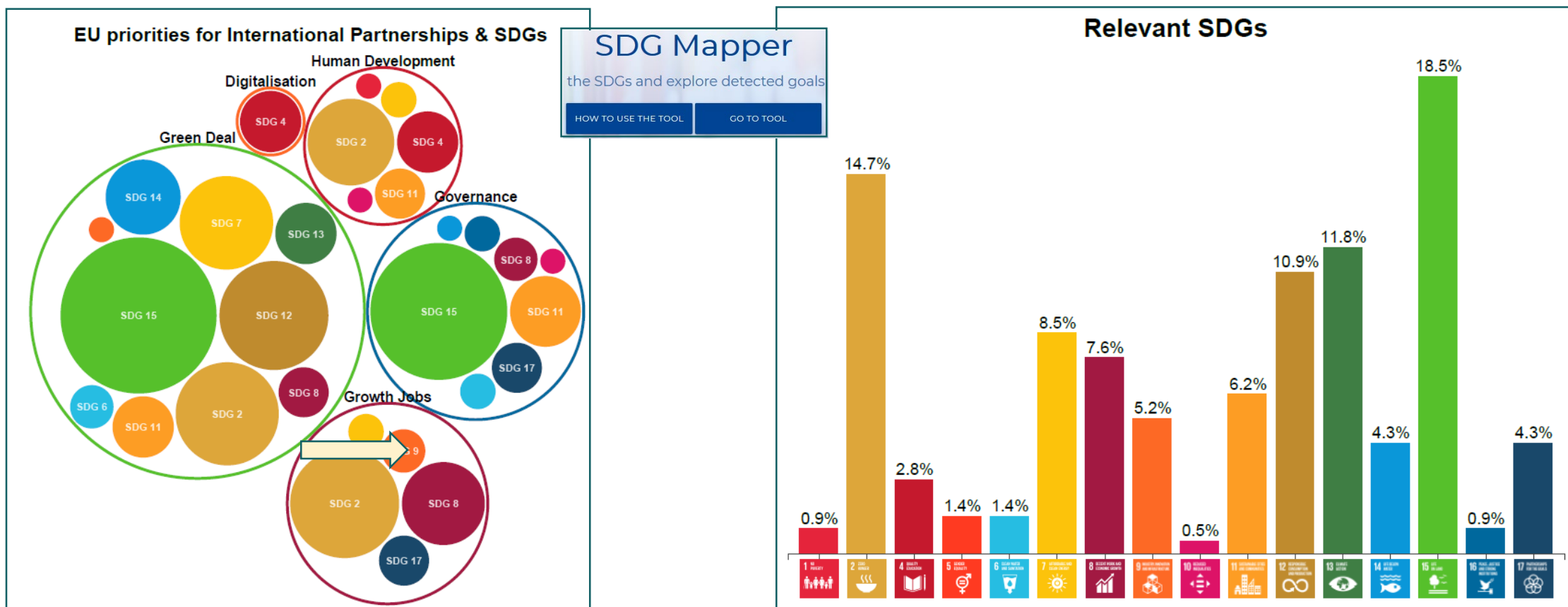


European
Commission

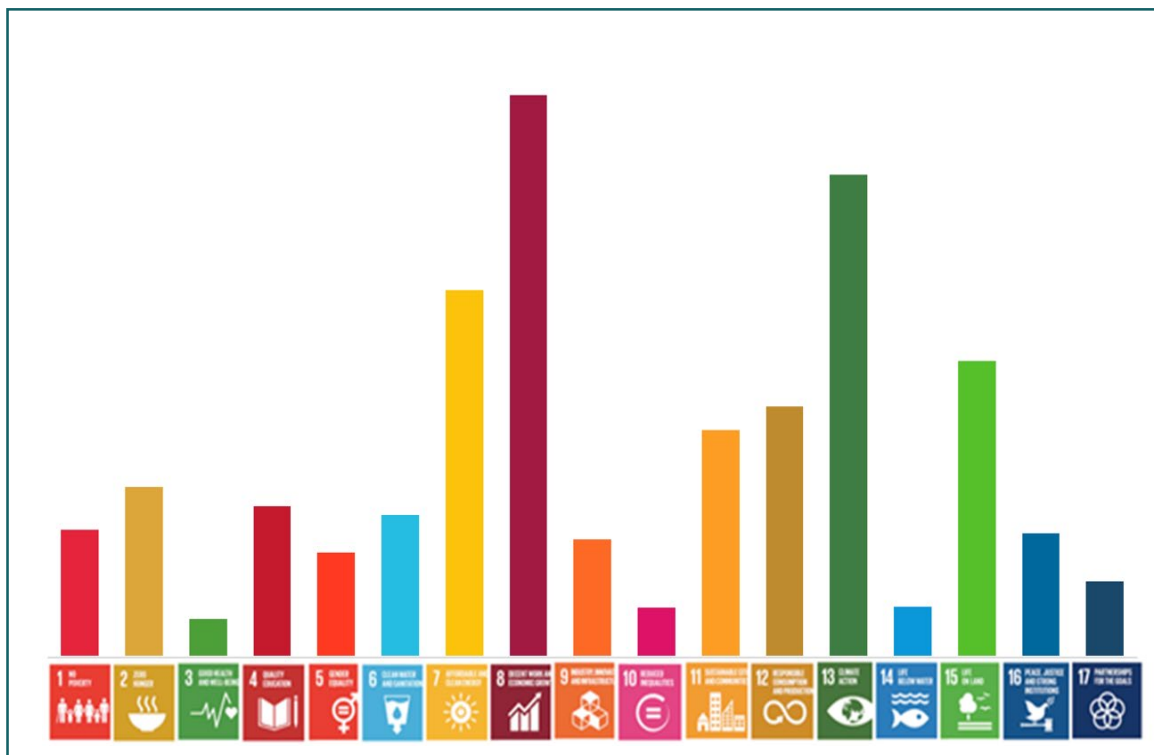


The new SDG Mapper Tool – used for the MIPs/TEIs

- Upon request by INTPA, JRC has recently created an online app: the [SDG mapper](#).
- Users in INTPA and DELs can access the tool, upload a (draft) document (MIP, TEI, AD...) and see which SDGs are relevant – easily and in real time.
- It is accessible to Member States and stakeholders (with EU Login).
- Example : SDG mapping of a **TEI** (ASEAN Green), combining **EU priorities** with relevant SDGs (bubble chart) and **relevant SDGs** (bar chart).



Assessments with the SDG mapper: SDGs in Team Europe initiatives



SDGs in the Global Europe Results Framework (1)

- A results framework responding to several needs: EU priorities, INTPA strategic plan, Global Europe – and also SDG commitments



SDGs in the Global Europe Results Framework (2)

Annex 2: List of Level 1 and 2 GERF indicators

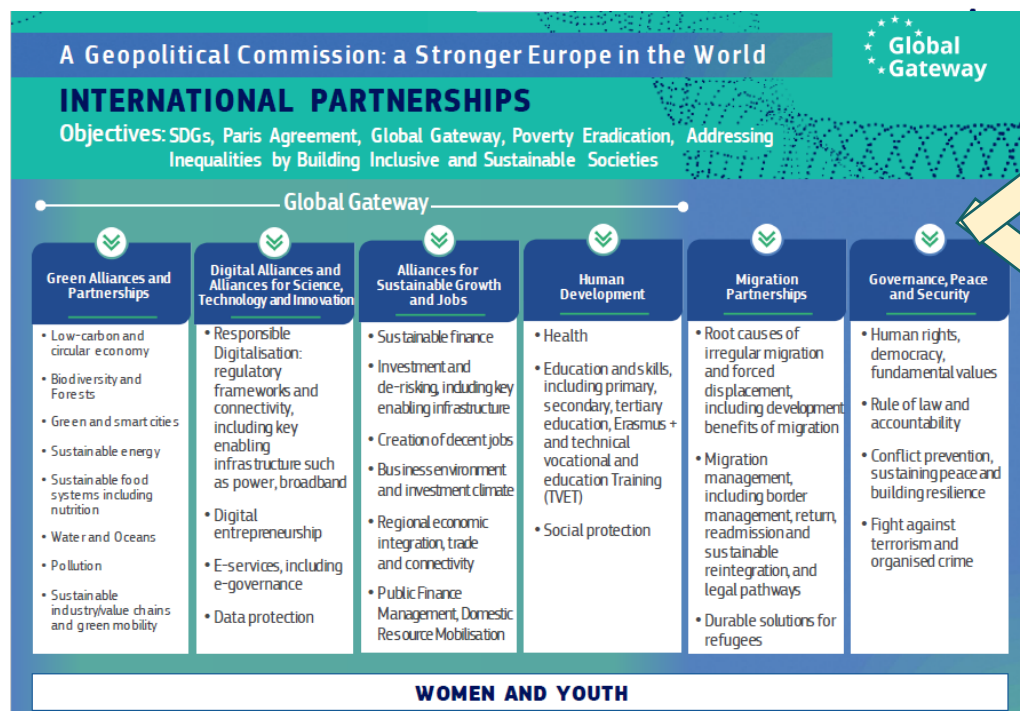
STRATEGIC PRIORITY	SDG	LEVEL 2 INDICATORS	LEVEL 1 INDICATORS
Green Deal	2	GERF 2.1 Number of smallholders reached with EU-supported interventions aimed to increase their sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land [NDICI-Global Europe][SP]†	GERF 1.1 SDG 2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status*
Green Deal	2	GERF 2.2 Areas of agricultural and pastoral ecosystems where sustainable management practices have been introduced with EU support (ha) [SP][EFSD]†	GERF 1.1 SDG 2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status*
Green Deal	7	GERF 2.3 Number of people with access to electricity with EU support through: (a) new access, (b) improved access [SP][EFSD]‡	GERF 1.2 SDG 7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity

Annex 6: SDG Mapping

ID	LEVEL 2 INDICATORS	RELATED SDG TARGET	OTHER RELEVANT SDG TARGETS
1	Number of smallholders reached with EU-supported interventions aimed to increase their sustainable production, access to markets and/or security of land	2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment	1.4 equal rights to economic resources; 1.5 resilience; 2.1 access to food, 2.2 malnutrition; 2.4 sustainable agriculture; 5.a equal rights for women to resources, 8.4 resource efficiency.

SDGs in the Annual Report 2021

The structure of the Annual Report is aligned with EU priorities and integrates the respective SDGs – Example for the chapter on International Partnerships:



3. INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS – THEMATIC OVERVIEW

Working together towards the SDGs and results achieved with EU support (*“chapeau” explaining the approach*).

3.1. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Introduction (Main achievements)

- *Human development*

Main developments & Selected Results:

- No poverty (SDG 1)
- Good health and well-being (SDG 3)
- Quality education (SDG 4)
- Gender equality (SDG 5)
- Clean water and sanitation (SDG 6)

3.2. GREEN DEAL

Introduction (Main achievements)

- *Biodiversity and Forests*
- *Green and smart cities*
- *Sustainable energy*
- *Sustainable agriculture and nutrition*
- *Circular economy*
- *Water and Oceans*
- *Pollution*

Main developments & Selected Results:

- Zero hunger (SDG 2)
- Affordable and clean energy (SDG 7)
- 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)



SDG reporting in INTPA

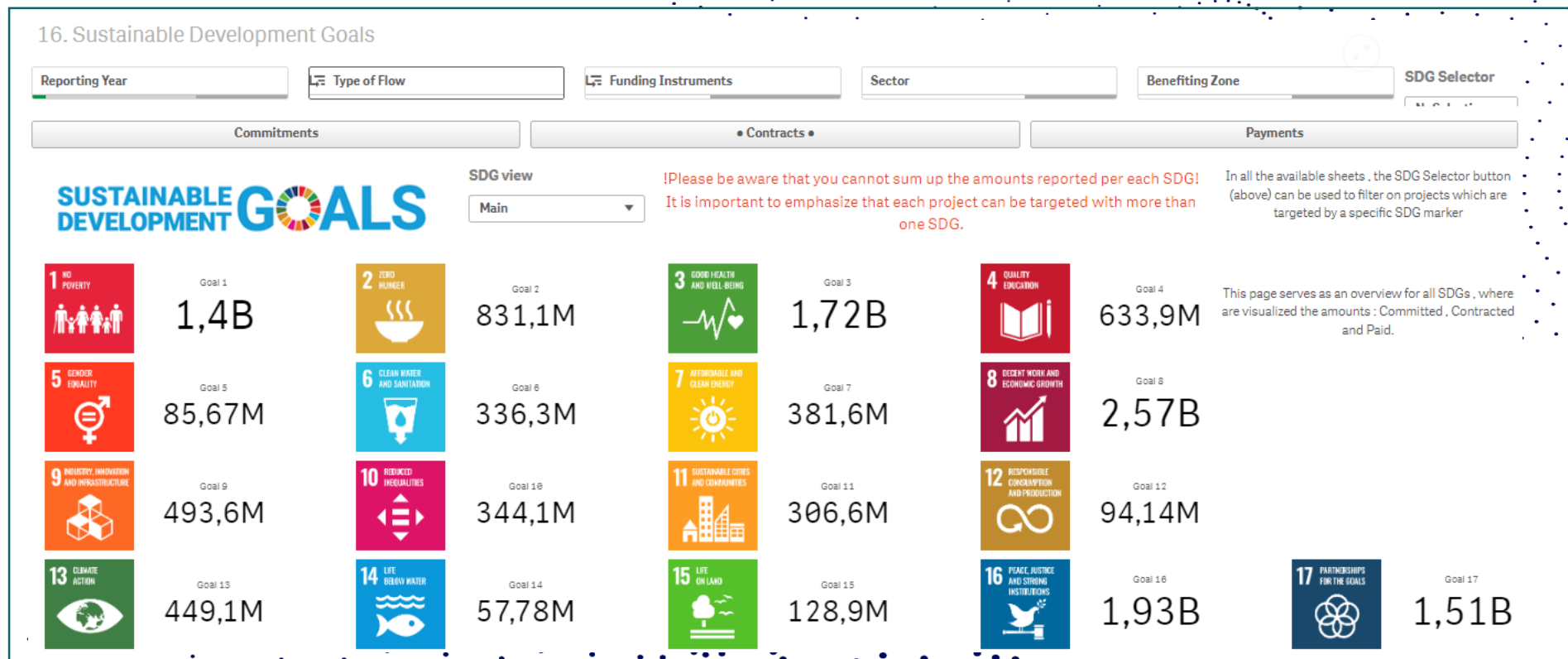
- Consistent with **OECD**, INTPA has a system for **reporting** for ODA that includes an **SDG field**.
- This SDG reporting information is aggregated and shown in a range of INTPA **reports**, in particular our **Annual Reports**.

The screenshot displays a web-based reporting interface titled "SDGs, General policy objectives, Rio Convention and Internal markers". It provides instructions for reporting on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for DEVCO and NEAR projects. The interface is divided into several sections for selecting different types of markers:

- Main Sustainable Development Goals:** A dropdown menu currently showing "SDG 03: Good Health and Well-being".
- Significant Sustainable Development Goals:** A dropdown menu currently showing "SDG 06: Clean Water and Sanitation".
- General policy objectives:** A list of objectives including Participation development/good governance, Aid to environment, Gender equality, Trade Development, Reproductive, Maternal, New born and Child Health, Disaster Risk Reduction, Inclusion of persons with disabilities, and Nutrition.
- Rio Convention markers:** A list of markers including Biological diversity, Combat desertification, Climate change mitigation, and Climate change adaptation.
- Internal markers:** A list of markers including Digitalisation and COVID response.

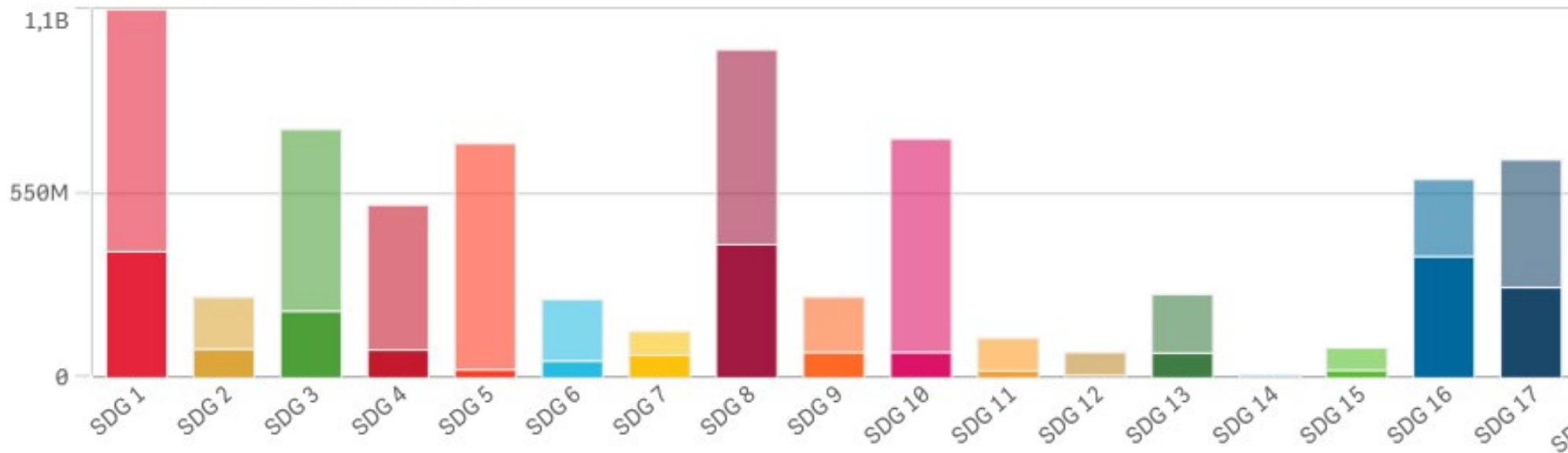
A central dropdown menu is open, listing all 17 SDGs from "SDG 01: No Poverty" to "SDG 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal". A mouse cursor is pointing at "SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities". To the right of the SDG list, there are three radio buttons labeled "Main objective", "Secondary objective", and "Tertiary objective", with the "Main objective" button being selected.

SDGs in INTPA Statistical Dashboard



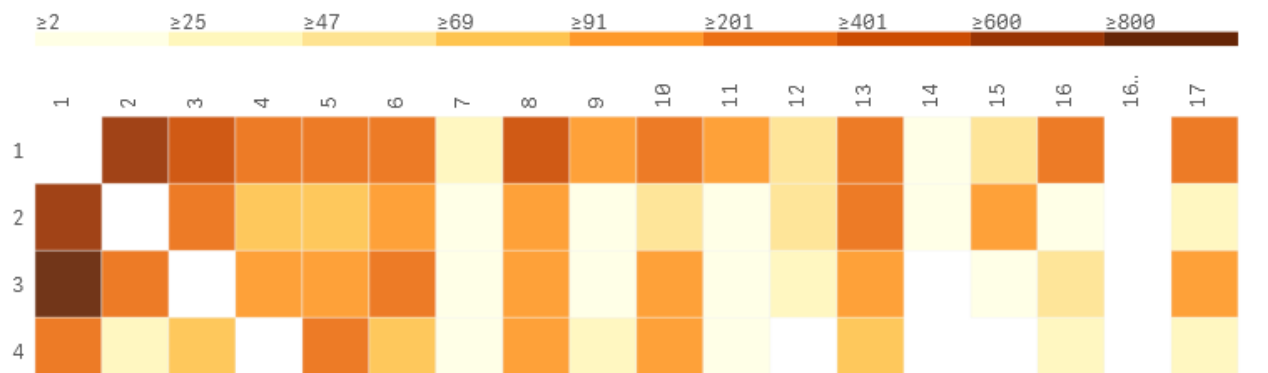
Next Annual Report will include new graphs on SDG reporting

SDG focus - Main and Significant SDGs



Relationship between SDGs

The y-axis shows the Main SDG and is shown with its linked Significant SDGs on the x-axis. The colour indicates the number of times this connection occurs.



3 – Towards the first EU Voluntary National Review at UN HLPF 2023 – internal and external SDG implementation and policy coherence



**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Main features UN HLPF 2022

- Theme: “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda”
 - SDGs under review: SDG4 education, SDG5 gender, SDG14 oceans, SDG15 biodiversity, SDG17 means of implementation
 - Commissioner’s participation and EU high level side event.
-
- Ministerial Declaration for 2022 HLPF
 - EU Key Messages – under negotiation in Council WP on the 2030 Agenda
 - Council conclusions on SDGs and education for sustainable development
 - EP resolution on SDGs

Towards the first EU Voluntary Review at UN HLPF 2023

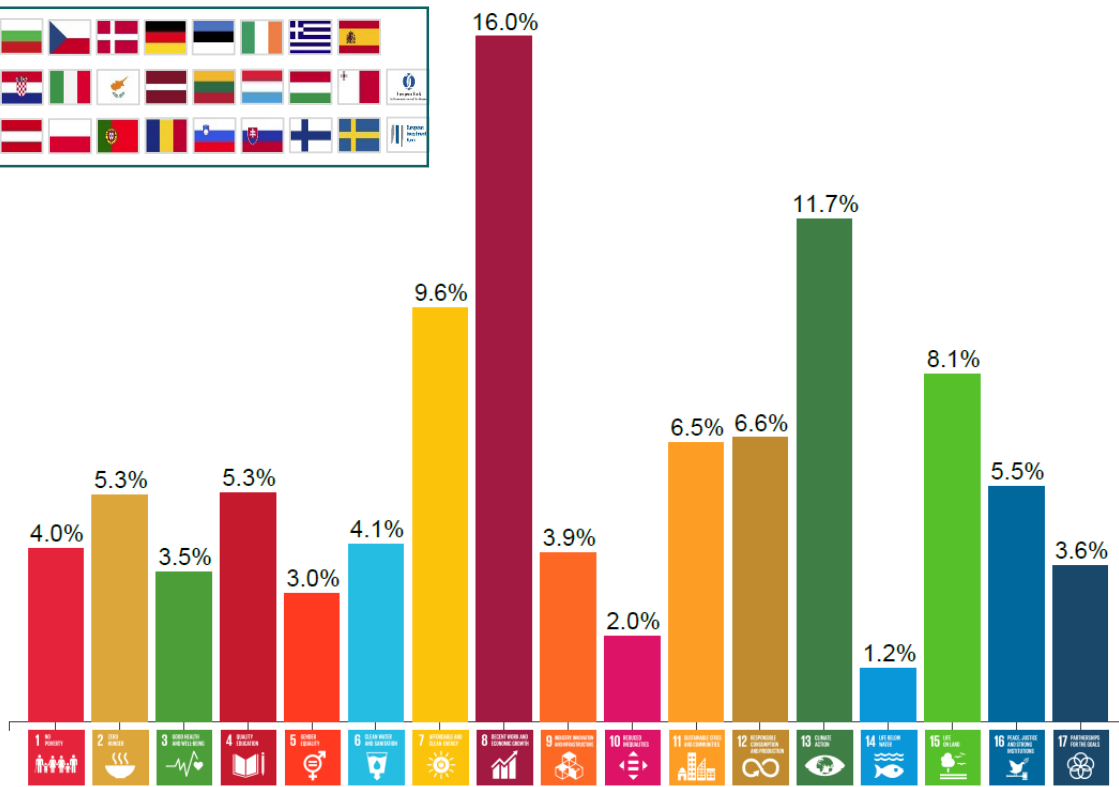
- The **EU Voluntary Review ('EUVR')** should be a document of **political** significance, **comprehensive** in scope in terms of policy priorities.
- It should reflect the **collective** effort of the **EU and its Member States** to SDG implementation.
- It should also address **governance/institutional** issues (e.g. Better Regulation and policy coherence for sustainable development), **monitoring and reporting** issues, and involve consultation with **stakeholders**.
- It should address (1) **internal** action on SDGs, (2) **external** action on SDGs, and (3) the **internal/external coherence** (spill-overs including on partner countries).
- Within this broad scope, the **external part** of the EUVR will **integrate** planned multi-year reporting commitments:
 - **Joint Synthesis Report (JSR)** of the implementation of the Consensus by EU and Member States, thereby projecting the **Team Europe** approach globally at the UN, and
 - **Policy Coherence for Development** (impacts on developing countries).
- **Questionnaire** sent to **Member States** on their contribution to the SDGs.

The 2023 EU VNR: presenting at global level how EU international partnerships contribute to the SDGs

- Some examples: **Team Europe initiatives** and **Global Gateway**

Showing at the UN the contribution of **TEIs** to the SDGs (illustration using infographic from the SDG mapper)

Relevant SDGs



Showing at the UN the contribution of **Global Gateway** to the SDGs (illustrative graph based on corporate SDG infographic)

Relevant SDGs

