

A BETTER AFGHANISTAN FOR A BETTER WORLD

Sustainable Development Goals are the world's development plan – a set of 17 measurable objectives agreed by 193 countries to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect the planet – and all to be achieved by 2030.

In Afghanistan, these “Global Goals” have been refined to fit the local context and align with the government national priorities and development frameworks.

The resulting Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals (A-SDGs) are a blueprint for the government, the international community, the private sector and civil society to realise transformative and lasting change.

Robust mechanisms are in place to coordinate efforts at all levels of government and across different agencies and stakeholders. Monitoring of results is carried out by the National Statistics Information Agency across 112 targets with 178 indicators.

The challenges are immense – from security to poverty; from migration to discrimination, climate change, energy shortages, unemployment and governance – but the A-SDGs are a clear guide for Afghanistan to guarantee a better future for Afghans.

KEY PLAYERS

- *Ministry of the Economy*: lead agency for coordinating and managing A-SDGs.
- *A-SDGs Executive Committee*: oversight activities of government institutions, national and international stakeholders towards A-SDGs implementation.
- *The Executive Committee Technical Working Groups*: (1) security and governance; (2) agriculture and rural development; (3) education, health and social protection; and (4) economic growth and infrastructure.



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THE AFGHANISTAN SDGs



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Security and Governance



Agriculture and Rural Development



Education, Health, Environment and Social Protection



Economic Growth and Infrastructure



Security and good governance are ends in themselves and a prerequisite for achieving other SDGs. They must go hand-in-hand because strong institutions require improved security to flourish.

But the difficulties are formidable. The ongoing anti-government insurgency results in more than 10,000 civilian casualties every year, hospitals and schools are regularly attacked and damaged, and more than 1 million Afghans are currently displaced. At the same time, corruption and limited capacity inhibit the provision of government services, equitable justice and opportunities for democratic participation.



More than 12 million Afghans are food insecure and about 71% of the population lives and works in rural areas, so agriculture and rural development are key to eliminating hunger and improving livelihoods.

Challenges include decades of conflict and underfunding, which have devastated infrastructure and prevented the adoption of new skills and technologies, as well as recurring floods and droughts exacerbated by climate change.



A healthy mind in a healthy body – and in a healthy environment, protected from discrimination and abuse. These are basic human rights for all citizens as well as mutually reinforcing goals.

Today in Afghanistan, about 3.5 million children are out of school, more than 12 million people have no access to health services, and millions face discrimination, forced marriage and sexual violence.



New skills, new crops, and new technologies. New bridges, roads, and businesses. Improved access to markets and more women involved the workplace. There are many keys to unlocking growth – especially for the 54.5% of Afghans currently below the poverty line.

There are many obstacles, too. They include all the challenges already listed on this page, because no SDG stands alone.

But nor does Afghanistan. Together, working side-by-side, we can achieve the Global Goals.