



Simulação das Nações Unidas Para Secundaristas 2020

Guia de Estudos Online

High Level Political Forum

1. The High Level Political Forum

1.1 Historical background

The United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) was established in 2012 during the United Nations (UN) Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), "The Future We Want". Also, this conference established the 2030 Agenda, with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The format and organizational aspects of the Forum are outlined in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution 67/290 of 2013.

Before the establishment of HLPF in 2012 and its first meeting in 2013, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), which had met annually since 1993, was the one to ensure effective follow-up of sustainable development. In 2003, the Commission greatly advanced the sustainable development agenda within the international community, with 8 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The CSD and the 8 MDGs were each the base to the creation and establishment of HLPF and the 17 SDGs.

The UNGA Resolution 67/290 determines annually HLPF meetings, under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)¹ for eight days and under the General Assembly every four years, for two days and encourages countries to submit voluntary annual reviews for each meeting, so they can discuss effective ways to achieve the 2030 Agenda goals. However, despite holding annual sessions since 2013, the first HLPF meeting in which countries submit their voluntary annual reviews happened in 2016. These first three years were mostly about building and understanding the procedure to be adopted in the following meetings. Also, each year HLPF has the main theme and usually, it is chosen 6 main SDGs to discuss and review.

The HLPF's meeting of 2016, "Ensuring that no one is left behind", was the first one to have the voluntary review system implemented, in which 22 countries showed its reviews, and there were thematic reviews of progress and ideas on each SDG, including cross-cutting² issues. Since then, more countries showed its reviews annually until 2019's meeting,

¹ The UN Charter established ECOSOC in 1945 as one of the six main organs of the United Nations.

² "linking traditionally separate or independent parties or interests". Collins Dictionary. Available at <<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english/cross-cutting>>





“Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”. In it, 47 countries have volunteered to present their national voluntary reviews to the HLPF, which 7 of them for the second time. This year the meeting happened under the auspices of the ECOSOC and the General Assembly and they reached the conclusion of the first cycle of the HLPF that represents a critical opportunity to understand and review how the HLPF has delivered on its functions to promote and support the implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and to reflect on opportunities to strengthen the HLPF in the future.

1.2 Mandate

The High Level Political Forum is, more than anything, a caucus gathering of high-level policy and decision makers from each member of the United Nations. It is a platform for parties to discuss public policies aiming to promote and enable the three dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental sustainability. The HLPF does not have any enforcement system to oblige countries to comply with its recommendations, so their implementation depends on the level of commitment of each country. Still, countries are encouraged to find common solutions for shared issues, especially considering HLPF attendees are policy makers with relevant decision powers within their own countries (UNGA, 2013).

The Forum’s meetings happen under the auspices of (i.e. with the support of) the UN General Assembly and the UN Economic and Social Council. Meetings under the ECOSOC happen annually and are usually attended by minister-level representatives. The Forum’s annual meetings generally have a specific topic of discussion and produce a negotiated ministerial declaration, which is an outcome document that reflects the collective views of the member states. The declaration provides an outline of where the countries stand regarding the Sustainable Development Goals and where they should be heading (UNGA, 2013).

On the other hand, meetings under UNGA happen every four years and gather parties’ Heads of State and Heads of Government. During such meetings, a negotiated political declaration is produced. This document provides “high-level guidance and expedite action and results” (UN, [s.d.]), carrying an important political weight.

This year’s annual meeting of ECOSOC will gather ministers from 30 members of the United Nations and will reflect upon SDG 12, “Responsible Production and Consumption”. More specifically, the Forum will have the task to answer how to make sustainable development a profitable choice for companies. Delegations are encouraged to propose creative solutions and bring their domestic experiences when tackling this issue.





1.3 Composition

HLPF's composition goes according to the General Assembly's resolution in 2013 n° 67/290. This resolution states that all meetings of the Forum shall provide the full participation of all State Member of the United Nations - 193, in total - and also State members of specialized agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and many other agencies. Since this edition is an annual ministerial meeting, delegations will be chiefed by ministers and other high-level policy makers from each party.

2. Sustainable development

Sustainable development, SD, is a wide concept that many times lacks a single and formal definition. However, the United Nations has specified it as the "*development that meets the needs of present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*" (UN, [s.d.]). With that said, SD can be described as an attempt to conciliate the environmental resources available with the needs of production today and tomorrow.

Ecological conditions constrain the usage of natural resources, which are, as a rule, scarce (for instance, oil, coal, steel, arable land and fresh water). Understanding Economics as the field of knowledge dedicated to the study of the allocation of scarce resources (MANKIW, 2017), sustainability should be a core theme in the economic discussion.

For that, the UN created the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as a complex agenda which aims to harmonize economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection. These three elements refer to a holistic perspective of what means to act in favor of sustainability and development.

In this sense, the 12th goal seeks to "ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns" (UN, 2016) by minimizing natural resources and toxic materials used, as well as material footprint left in all production and consumption chains. This goal can be considered the main economic target of the agenda.

In a capitalist system, the decision of whether a firm should produce or not, is based on the maximization of its profit (MANKIW, 2017, p. 248). Therefore, for a company to embody sustainable development, defined as a strategy that guarantees natural resources are sufficient for future generations, it is crucial that SD is made lucrative somehow. It is possible to influence a firm's perception of profitability through several ways, the most known being by creating *incentives*.





Sustainable production may offer companies several sources of competitive advantages and lucrative opportunities. De Brito and Berardi (2010) stress that efficient resource management and waste reduction are sustainable strategies that can reduce the companies' costs and improve its profitability. A greener, meaning a more sustainable approach, attitude can also allow enterprises to differentiate their products and improve their access to markets with stronger regulations (ibid.).

Despite that, sustainability is not always seen as lucrative to an enterprise. Some market characteristics can constrain the ability to ensure a sustainable way of production such as *externalities*, *path dependence* and *economies of scale*. Looking at these topics may enlighten our perspective of how to achieve a comprehensive SD.

Expanding the notion of the economic system beyond the capitalist one, it is possible to recognize different courses to achieve a SD. Local communities' approach to environmental resources exploitation does not have profit as its primary objective, but is linked to perceptions of the cycles of nature, and the social and cultural reproduction of the people (PEREIRA; DIEGUES, 2010, loc. cit.).

A more "modern" approach to this issue is the *collaborative economy*, which also does not have profit as a goal and is built in cooperation between individuals to share their capabilities. Both perspectives move away from the notion of profitability and show that natural resources protection and production needs do not necessarily have to be seen in opposition.

Even though our society is inserted in a capitalist market oriented dynamic, taking the possibilities inside and outside this system in consideration can elucidate new paths to achieve a sustainable development agenda. Therefore, it is necessary to think about the private sector, the government's and society's role within this process to reform or even reinvent some production notions.

3. How economic phenomena shape sustainable development

This section intends to highlight five important concepts in Economics that might help delegates better address issues around sustainable development: incentives, externalities, path-dependence, economies of scale and collaborative (or sharing) economies. Each of these concepts presents an underlying phenomenon that might enable or challenge sustainable development. With these in mind, delegates are expected to find creative solutions and policy shortcuts for promoting sustainable production and development.





3.1 How incentives shape sustainable development

According to Mankiw (2018), an incentive is something, a reward or a punishment, that influences behavior. From a Mainstream Economics perception, rational people respond to incentives because they make decisions by analyzing costs and benefits. The government uses incentives to encourage its citizens to act responsibly. For example, speeding tickets discourage people from choosing to speed and encourage them to drive slowly.

On the market, price acts as an incentive to consumers and producers. The former reacts by changing their consumption options or amount demanded of goods. And the latter gets greater benefits from production when prices increase or vice-versa. Therefore, if there is a tax incentive, which means reducing a tax of certain good, for example, it encourages consumers to spend more money on said item and producers to increase the amount of the product on the market.

Some examples of incentives directly related to sustainable development strategies are green taxes and the cap-and-trade system. The first approach, also known as environmental taxes, intends to tax harmful behavior to the planet's health, they are based on the "polluter pays" principle.

The cap-and-trade system reduces emissions by setting a limit on pollution and creating a market. A cap is set on the total amount of certain greenhouse gas that can be emitted by installations; it is reduced over time so that total emissions fall. The total amount of the cap is split into allowances that companies receive or buy. The trade part is a market for companies to sell and buy allowances; this gives companies flexibility, encourages them to cut pollution faster and rewards innovation. The world's first and biggest carbon market is the European Union emissions trading system (EU ETS).

3.2. How externalities shape sustainable development

Externality is an economic concept that describes when costs or benefits affect a person – or multiple ones - who is not involved in the decision-making process (MCGLASSON, 2020). Most importantly, externalities happen when such costs and benefits are not reflected in prices. That is, the price does not capture the benefit or the cost to third parties caused by the production outcome (either a good or a service). Externalities can either be negative or positive (*ibid.*): a negative externality occurs when a decision or activity imposes costs on anyone not involved in making that decision. A positive externality, on the other way, happens when these actions impose benefits on anyone not involved in it (*ibid.*).





When talking about sustainable production and consumption, due mainly to thermodynamics, high population density and scarce space, externalities are unavoidable, and often those are negative. This happens often because of how waste is mostly inevitable and pollution is usually present (VAN DEN BERGH, 2010, p. 2048).

In spite of all the factors mentioned, externalities are something that can be dealt with and minimized, in a way that sustainability prevails. With that said, states and companies sometimes attempt to reduce negative environmental externalities. Those often come in enforcements and incentives of the government to internalize the so-called “sustainability’s obstacles”, through changes in the supply chain and product usage (DING, LIU, ZHENG, 2016). Without the effort to internalize the externalities, the losses of trying to clean and restore the environment can be significant (*ibid.*).

An example of a way to internalize the negative externality is through imposing taxes on the producers of the externality. Another example is between a local community and a company with non-sustainable practices near a river. If the local community has the river as a central factor in their daily life, and the company is polluting the river, a way to internalize this externality is through the company paying for the waste eliminated in the water. This is illustrated through the Coase Theorem, which says that if agents, with well-defined property rights, affected by externalities can negotiate, they can reach an agreement in which the externalities' welfare losses will be internalized (PEREIRA, 2009).

3.3. How path dependence shapes sustainable development

Path dependence represents a phenomenon that occurs when "choices made at the beginning play a constraintion effect over the future development because of its tendency for inertia, blocking or difficultating subsequent changes" (BERNARDI, 2012, our translation). In other words, path dependence simply means that the historical process matters, that is, the choices you made first have influence all the way to the future.

For example, it is known that since the mid XX century, the Brazilian government has privileged highways over railways as the principal means of transport (RODRIGUES, 2011). The greatest amount of investment was put in expanding the accesses to highways and many car automakers were consolidated in the country.

Path dependence, therefore, explains why nowadays it is even harder to change the majority of highways over railways, even if the latter are proven to be more efficient than the first. The choices made at the beginning, that privileged cars over trains, restrain the ability to





expand the rail network once building new kilometers of highways is immensely more easy and cheap than building a rail network virtually from zero.

This process can be observed in many SD's issues. When a certain industry or country has already made huge investments in a specific product or process, changing it in the future becomes even harder. This can be observed in means of transport, energy sources, supply chains, regulatory marks, among others ongoing systems.

3.4. How economies of scale shape sustainable development

Economies of scale exist when the average cost of production declines as the amount of goods (or services) produced increases. Firms that display such behavior are said to have increasing returns to scale. This may occur because costs of production have a fixed component and a variable component. While variable costs change according to the volume of goods or services produced, fixed costs do not depend on that. Increasing returns to scale emerge as the burden of fixed costs is distributed among a larger number of units produced as the output increases, which brings down the average cost of production (MANKIW, 2017).

On the matter of sustainable development, the existence of economies of scale presents both an opportunity and a challenge. On one hand, increasing returns to scale allows firms and countries to produce goods and services using less resources, reducing the waste. For instance, it is usually believed that local food systems are less environmentally-damaging than mainstream food systems.

However, comparing both systems in the region of Flanders in Belgium, Van Hauwermeiren *et al* (2007) found that, relatively to the volume of goods produced, local producers consume more energy and emit more carbon dioxide than industrial agriculture. That is, energy consumption and carbon dioxide emission, per kilogram of good produced, is smaller in mainstream food systems than in local food systems.

Economies of scale explain the main difference between local producers and industrial agriculture. Large producers have access to more competitive transportation. "Bigger trucks with a higher load factor result in less energy usage per Kg of transported product (VAN HAWERMEIREN *et al*, 2007, p. 38). Mainstream producers also have large storage facilities and processing plants, which enable them to distribute the fixed costs related to these production phases among a larger number of goods (VAN HAWERMEIREN *et al*, 2007).

On the other hand, large firms that exploit increasing returns to scale often impose larger and harsher negative impacts on the places where they operate. Herman Daly (1992) has been one of the most important critics of large scale production. According to Daly,





optimizations based on economies of scale do not take into account the limits imposed by input scarcity and waste disposal on a global scale (DALY, 1992). Newman and Dale (2009) also underline that large scales can overwhelm ecological support systems, imposing significant losses not only to the local environment in which they take place, but likely to the globe as a whole.

In addition, Curtis (2003) stresses that gains from economies of scale are usually overestimated. When economies of scale exist, gains decrease the larger the size of production. That is, the gains from jumping from a small-sized production system to a medium-sized one are larger than the gains from jumping from a medium-sized production system to a large-sized one. Gains do exist, but they are smaller. Therefore, a large increase in scale present gains that might be only slightly superior to smaller increases in scale. Curtis (2003) also argues that economies of scale are hard to identify. Public subsidies usually create the false impression that some industries have increasing returns to scale and what is thought to be an economy of scale is actually a sector that receives large support from the government (CURTIS, 2003).

3.5. How collaborative economies shape sustainable development

Collaborative Economy is a field of Economic Studies which tries to rethink the pillars from current society and economy. The main points of divergence are the definitions of the economic individual and the characteristics of the resources. The Classic Economy sees the resources as scarce and the individuals as self-interested, or selfish, and moved by incentives. Collaborative Economy sees the abundance of resources and understands individuals as autonomous, which allows him or her to be part of something bigger than its own interests, and also individual moved by the activity itself and not by the result of it or any incentive around it. (VRABIE, 2014)

The problem of distribution of resources supports the Collaborative view that resources are less scarce than predicted by orthodox economic theory. For instance, about 815 million people of the 7.6 billion people in the world, or 10.7%, were suffering from chronic undernourishment (hunger) in 2016, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The classic economic view analyzes such phenomena as due to scarcity. Not everyone can have access to regular meals, nourishment food is scarce as the natural competition. The Collaborative view analyzes it as a fake scarce, since it is estimated that 1.3 billion tonnes of food is wasted globally each year, which equals to about one third of all food produced for human consumption, according to FAO.





Then, how can the Collaborative Economy make the difference? It tries to bring efficiency to society day-by-day. One case it's the Uber company, in the taxi industry. In 2016, over 72 millions cars were produced, even though not everyone can afford one or even need one, so now people can share it and gain with it. This idea was unimaginable 20 or 30 year ago (WORLDOMETERS, 2020). Another is Airbnb, in the room rental services, which allows and makes it easy for property owners to earn some income by renting out their entire homes or just some spare rooms to travelers. Also Crowdfunding services, which help people or initiatives to borrow money with numerous individuals, that is, they compose collectively fund loans. For example Indiegogo, which initially focused exclusively on raising money for independent films but since 2008 it accepts projects from any category , such as scientific resources, small business or even renovations (SMITH, 2019). Likewise peer-to-peer marketplaces (P2P), where individuals directly transact business or cooperate in production with each other with little to no intermediation by third parties, such as OLX or Poshmark (CHAPPELOW, 2018)

So, mostly, the Collaborative Economy tries to approach individuals by replacing the mediation between them made by big companies, now made by technology (FRANKENFIELD, 2018). Now, the collaborative or sharing economy will become a major part of the global economy, it is estimated to grow from \$14 billion in 2014 to \$335 billion by 2025, so the upcoming issue around this topic is regulation (YARAGHI, RAVI. 2016). Many countries are trying to develop a system or trying to understand how those initiatives can be regulated, so the state can guarantee they are safe and can charge taxes and without harm to the business itself, according to research Sarah Light, Wharton professor of legal studies and business ethics, the problem is

[...] things that were once considered local in nature are beginning to have an impact nationwide. [...] When you have the scaling up that Airbnb or Uber and Lyft have created, these are potentially national issues in scope. (LIGHT, 2017)

4. Glossary

Profit: is a measure of its sales revenue minus its costs.

Bond: is a promise of future payment offered by the bond issuer to the bond buyer in exchange for money in the present. In other words, it is a kind of loan. Governments and corporations can both issue bonds.

Sales revenue: how much money one receives after selling their production.

Costs: how much money one has to pay for their supplies.





Stakeholder: a person with an interest or concern in something, especially a business.

G.D.P: Gross Domestic Production

Green bond: it's a way for governments to finance projects considered sustainable.

Private Benefit: Benefit to the decision-maker.

Social Benefit: Private benefit (benefit to the decision-maker) plus external benefit (benefit to others).

Private Cost: Cost to the decision-maker.

SDG: Sustainable Development Goals

Social Cost: Private cost (cost to the decision-maker) plus external cost (cost to others).

Sustainable public procurement: According to the United Nations (2015), it is a process in which public organizations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities. It generates benefits not only to the organization, but also to society and the economy, whilst significantly reducing negative impacts on the environment.

5. Countries

Africa	
Country	Links
<p>Botswana</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Botswana has had one of the most lasting democratic regimes in the African continent. In addition to its stable institutions and low records of human rights violations and corruption, Botswana thrives economically (BBC, 2018). The country's GDP per capita has been consistently growing since its independence and, as of 2018, Botswana was considered an upper-middle income country, with a GDP per capita comparable to Brazil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Botswana country profile (Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa) http://www.gaboronedeclaration.com/botswana Botswana's Success: Good Governance, Good Policies, and Good Luck (Article by Lewin, 2011) https://drive.google.com/file/d/129Svj7sr1etzdlddbcb_wkDb0njuxdGw/view?usp=sharing Botswana Strategy for Economic Diversification and Sustainable Growth



(WORLD BANK, 2020).

- The secret for Botswana’s success lies in its mining industry, the country being the greatest producer of diamonds in the world ([BBC, 2018](#)).
- However, the country's reliance on its natural wealth has casted doubt on its capacity of maintaining a sustainable and lasting growth ([LANGE, WRIGHT, 2004](#)). According to Basdevant ([2008 apud LEWIN, 2011](#)), Botswana’s diamond industry will be depleted by 2029. To absorb this impact, the country has implemented a policy of fostering savings and investments, with domestic savings surpassing 40% of GDP.
- In 1995, Botswana’s government started relocating local communities (the “San people” or “bushmen”) living in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. The government argued that bushmen’s livelihood, based on agriculture and cattle raising, was incompatible with the Reserve's purpose of protecting wildlife. However, some argued that the government’s actual intentions were relocating bushmen from one of the largest diamond fields in the world, freeing space for mining industry

<https://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/sites/default/files/downloads/policy-database/A%20Strategy%20for%20Economic%20Diversification%20and%20Sustainable%20Growth.pdf>

- Survival calls for end to Botswana’s Bushman “apartheid” (Survival International)
<https://www.survivalinternational.org/news/11163>
- Botswana Bushmen: Modern life is destroying us (BBC)
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-24821867>
- Sustainable development in mineral economies: the example of Botswana (Article by Lange and Wright, 2004)
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HjmXeqCE0yv2PPnL_T4N9vifSEnc1fy2/view?usp=sharing



<p>(BBC, 2014). Botswana’s Supreme Court ruled bushmen had the right to stay at the reserve, but the government kept its controvert relocation policy, triggering appeals from international NGOs (BBC, 2017) .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2012, Botswana hosted the 2012 Summit for Sustainability in Africa. The ten countries present during the summit signed the Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa, an international initiative to promote sustainable development in Sub-Saharan Africa. The declaration innovatively proposed the inclusion of natural capital into “national accounting and corporate planning and reporting” (GDSA, 2020). 	
<p>Chad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chad is ranked 161 of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Rank. (Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019) • In 2018, the National Coordination of the SDGs was created in the country (CNSODD). (Ministère De L'economie Et De La Planification Du Développement, 2019) • Petroleum is the only hydrocarbon that Chad consumes. Traditional wood fuel is the primary source of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chad Country Strategic Plan (2019 - 2023) https://www.wfp.org/operations/td01-chad-country-strategic-plan-2019-2023 • SDG Country Profile (Chad) https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/tcd • Chad’s Energy Profile https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/20496/Energy_profile_Chad.pdf?sequence=1&isAllo



<p>total energy consumption in the country. (Energy Information Administration, 2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2017, a study made by the Ministry of Economy and Development Planning called "Vision 2030, the Chad that we want" reflected the will and decision of most High Authorities of the Republic of Chad to build long-term development through three National Plans for Development (PND 2017-2021, PND 2022-2026 and PND 2027-2030). The main objective is to make Chad an emerging country by 2030. (Ministère De L'economie Et De La Planification Du Developpement, 2017) Chad's main obstacles for sustainable development are: structural development challenges, high prevalence of food insecurity and malnutrition, gender inequalities, vulnerability to climate and weather-related crises and displacements driven by conflicts and insecurity in neighbouring countries (WFP, 2018) 	<p>wed=y</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chad's page on HLPF's website https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=1553&menu=3170 The World Bank in Chad https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/chad/overview#4
<p>Egypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's the 26th country that emits the most CO2 in the world and the 2nd 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary National Review (2016) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/10738egypt.pdf



<p>in Africa. (Global Carbon Project, [s.d.])</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to the World Bank, Egypt is losing 1.5% of its GDP — \$5.7 billion a year — by not recycling and utilising its waste (HAMMAD, 2019). • In December 2015, a national inter-ministerial committee was established to follow up on the implementation of the SDGs (The National Committee for Monitoring the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal). (Egypt, 2016) • Egypt is ranked 92 of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Index (SACHS et al., 2019). • Egypt intends to increase the supply of electricity generated from renewable sources to 20% by 2022 and 42% by 2035 (Privacy Shield Framework, [s.d.]). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SwitchMed Magazine: Egypt https://switchmed.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/National-Supplement-EN-Egypt-1.pdf • National Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production https://www.greenindustryplatform.org/sites/default/files/downloads/resource/National%20Action%20Plan%20for%20Sustainable%20Consumption%20and%20Production%20%28SCP%29%20In%20Egypt%20%282015%29.pdf • Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/egypt • The World Bank in Egypt https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/egypt/overview
<p>Kenya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya is ranked 125 of 162 on the 2019 SDG Global Index. (Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019) • SDG 12, “Responsible Consumption and Production”, alongside SDG 13, “Climate Action”, are considered by the Sustainable Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG Country Profile (Kenya) https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/ken#goal-12 • Summary of the Voluntary National Report for Kenya during High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development Goals



Solutions Network the only two SDGs that Kenya has achieved ([Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019](#)).

- The main challenges for the implementation of the SDGs in Kenya are: inadequate disaggregated data, high stakeholder expectations and inadequate funding for SDGs. ([Kenya, 2017](#))
- The obstacles to improve sustainable consumption even more and production in Kenya are inadequate physical and social infrastructure in slums and informal settlements, rapid urbanization, rapid population growth and proliferation of informal settlements ([Ministry of Devolution and Planning, 2017](#)).
- Kenya has a development blueprint called “The Kenya Vision 2030” which aims to transform Kenya into a newly industrialized, middle-income country providing a high quality of life to all its citizens by 2030 in a clean and secure environment. In 2015, each one of the 17 SDGs was mapped with Vision 2030 Second Medium Term Plan (MTP) objectives to ensure the global development framework and its implementation are directly linked towards achieving both Vision 2030

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/14998Kenya.pdf>

- Kenya’s Partnerships and Commitments on the HLPF <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/kenya>
- The World Bank in Kenya <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/kenya>
- Local Communities in Kenya <https://www.iwgia.org/en/kenya.html>



<p>and SDGs (Kenya, 2017), (Kenya Vision 2030 [s.d.]).</p>	
<p>Mozambique</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It's the 137th country that emits the most CO2 in the atmosphere (GLOBAL CARBON ATLAS, [s.d.]). ● Domestic material consumption seems constant over time with a slight increase from 2.15 to 2.44 metric tons <i>per capita</i> between 2000 and 2017. (UN, [s.d.]). ● 19.47% of the national GDP comes from natural resources rent, such as “oil rents, natural gas rents, coal rents (hard and soft), mineral rents, and forest rents”. (WORLD BANK, [s.d.]). ● Biofuels and waste are Mozambique's main energy supply (IEA, [s.d.]). ● Mozambique has a series of projects under the Integrated Landscape Management Portfolio (ILM) that promotes integration between local communities and management of natural resources (WORLD BANK, [s.d.]). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mozambique's sustainable profile http://www.gaboronedeclaration.com/mozambique ● Mozambique in the 12th SDG https://www.mz.undp.org/content/mozambique/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-12-responsible-consumption-and-production.html ● Mozambique integration between sustainability and poverty eradication https://www.unenvironment.org/pt-br/node/20773 ● Mozambique's partnerships in the SDG https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/mozambique ● Mozambique's green growth policy development https://www.un-page.org/mozambique's-green-growth-policy-development
<p>Nigeria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nigeria's federalist structure, while limiting the national influence of any single ethnic group, has inflamed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nigeria on the 2019 SDG Global Index. https://github.com/sdsna/2019GlobalIndex/blob/master/country_profiles/



<p>ethnic conflict within states and local communities (HANSON, Stephanie.2007).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2011, the Nigerian security landscape has been consistently shaped by the war against Boko Haram terrorist group in the northern states. This adds to a lasting crisis in the oil-rich Niger Delta (CAMPBELL, Johnson; HARWOOD, Asch.2018). • The oil activity accounts for about 10% of the country's GDP, 70% of government revenue and more than 83% of the country's total export earnings. Nigeria is the world's 8th oil exporter, and its oil reserves are estimated at about 35 billion barrels (OPEC, 2019). • Another key sector of the Nigerian economy is agriculture, which employs 36% of the workforce and contributes about 21.2% of GDP (NORDEA,2020). • Nigeria Ranks 4th Deadliest Globally Air (HANSON, 2007). 	<p>Nigeria_SDR_2019.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seria a Nigéria um estado falho? (CIERCO, Teresa; BELO, Antonio. 2016) https://www.scielo.br/scielo.php?pid=S0103-33522016000300121&script=sci_arttext&tlng=pt • National Voluntary Review (2017) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/16029Nigeria.pdf • Gender Responsive Entrepreneurial Economy of Nigeria https://vc.bridgew.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?referer=https://scholar.google.com.br/&httpsredir=1&article=1294&context=jiws • Oil Industry in Nigeria and the environmental concerns https://www.shell.com.ng/sustainability/environment.html • Local community and the environment http://www.obafemio.com/uploads/5/1/4/2/5142021/environmental_issues_in_yoruba_religion.pdf • Is sustainability good for business? https://theconversation.com/why-businesses-in-nigeria-need-to-take-sustainable-finance-seriously-77048
<p>South Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Africa is ranked 113 of 162 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary National Review (2019) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org





<p>countries on the 2019 SDG Global Index. (SACHS et al., 2019).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● South Africa is the 13th country that emits the most CO2 in the world and the 1st in Africa (Global Carbon Project, [s.d.]).● A national coordinating mechanism has been established for national engagements and reporting on the 2030 Agenda, in alignment with the National Development Plan (NDP) (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, 2019).● Some challenges faced by South Africa to promote sustainable production and consumption are: lack of reliable information and data, low cost of resources - leading to wasteful and inefficient patterns -, shortage skills needed for research, limited funding and inadequate consumer awareness (South Africa, [s.d.]).● 90% of an estimated 59 million tonnes of general waste produced in South Africa in 2011 ended up in landfills, while only 10% was recycled (South Africa, 2018).	<p>g/content/documents/23402RSA_Voluntary_National_Review_Report_The_Final_24_July_2019.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The World Bank in South Africa https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/southafrica/overview● National Framework for Sustainable Development in South Africa https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201409/nationalframeworkforsustainabledevelopmenta0.pdf● Country Report 2019 http://www.statssa.gov.za/MDG/SDGs_Country_Report_2019_South_Africa.pdf● Sustainability in South Africa https://www.environment.gov.za/sites/default/files/reports/environmentoutlook_chapter2.pdf
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America	
Country	Links



Brazil

- Brazil invested in different initiatives to educate its citizens about sustainability and sustainable production and consumption, in campaigns such as “Consumo Consciente de Embalagem”, “Saco é um Saco”, “Vamos Tirar o Planeta do Sufoco” and “Separe o Lixo e Acerte na Lata” ([MINISTÉRIO DO MEIO AMBIENTE, 2014](#)).
- Brazil is the 14th country that emits the most CO₂ in the world and the 1st in South America ([Global Carbon Project, \[s.d.\]](#)).
- Brazil is ranked 57 of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Index and there are significant challenges to achieve goal 12 ([SACHS et al., 2019](#)).
- According to a WWF survey, Brazil produces 11.3 million tons of plastic waste, but only 1.28% is reinserted in the industry ([BLUE VISION BRASKEM, 2019](#)).
- In 2016, the National Commission for the Sustainable Development Goals was created as the main institutional governance mechanism for fostering dialogue, engagement and integration of the initiatives carried out by subnational entities and civil society ([SUSTAINABLE](#)
- Voluntary National Review
https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15806Brazil_English.pdf
- The World Bank in Brazil
<https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/brazil/overview>
- Plano de Ação para Produção e Consumo Sustentáveis
<https://www.mma.gov.br/publicacoes/responsabilidade-socioambiental/category/90-producao-e-consumo-sustentaveis.html?download=936:plano-de-acao-para-producao-e-consumo-sustentaveis-no-brasilvolume-1>
- Publicações Sobre Produção e Consumo Sustentáveis
<https://www.mma.gov.br/responsabilidade-socioambiental/producao-e-consumo-sustentavel/estudos-em-pcs.html>
- Projeto PNUMA: Produção e Consumo Sustentáveis
https://www.mma.gov.br/images/arquivos/responsabilidade_socioambiental/producao_consumo/Estudos_em_PCS/entrega-produto-4-iniciativas-brasil-final.pdf





<u>DEVELOPMENT GOALS. [s.d.]</u>	
<p>Canada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 59.3% of the country's electricity supply is from hydroelectricity (CANADA, [s.d.]; IEA, [s.d.]). ● Domestic material consumption slowly decreased from 32.4 to 28.8 metric tons <i>per capita</i> between 2000 and 2017, but it is still at a high level (UN, [s.d.]). ● It's the 11th country that emits the most CO2 in the atmosphere (GLOBAL CARBON ATLAS, [s.d.]). ● Only 1.73% of the national GDP comes from natural resources rent (WORLD BANK, [s.d.]). ● Its most important export is petroleum oil (ATLAS OF ECONOMIC COMPLEXITY, [s.d.]). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Canadian future energy plan https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/20717#S1 ● Canadian action to integrate indigenous people in infrastructure projects https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2019/08/canada-increasing-indigenous-participation-in-energy-infrastructure-projects.html ● Canadian environmental indicators https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-indicators.html ● Canadian support to the most prominent electric car battery company in the country https://www.globenewswire.com/news-release/2020/05/06/2028167/0/en/Nano-One-Receives-3M-in-Non-Dilutive-Funding-from-the-Province-of-British-Columbia.html ● Energy Excellence Award https://www.jwnenergy.com/article/2020/4/energy-excellence-awards-leading-industry-accelerators-advancing-solutions-methane-emissions-industry-sustainability/
<p>Chile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chile's lack of efficient regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chile is one of the 7 countries which have published their 2nd National



<p>allows most of its mining waste to be discharged over the sea (CARRERE, Michelle.2018).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The country is an associated member of Mercosur and the Andean Community of Nations and a full member of APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation; Andean Community South American organization; MERCOSUL). • Chile’s key activity sectors include mining (specially coal), manufactured products and agriculture (NORDEA.2020). • The 2018 World Air Quality Report by GREENPEACE reveals that Chile has 34 of the 46 most air-polluted South American cities (TeleSUR,2016). 	<p>Review. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15776Chile.pdf ; https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23507Informe_Nacional_Voluntario_CHILE_Junio_2019_final_1.pdf;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects and partnerships. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/partners/?id=12 • Chile’s Environmental Betrayal. https://nacla.org/news/2019/10/03/chile-climate-change-escaz%C3%BA • IMPROVEMENTS IN THE QUALITY OF BASIC EDUCATION Chile’s experience. https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/9067.pdf • Chile on the 2019 SDG Global Index. https://github.com/sdsna/2019GlobalIndex/blob/master/country_profiles/Chile_SDR_2019.pdf
<p>Mexico</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade openness granted Mexico one of the most industrialised economies of Latin America. The country is a major oil producer and has a resilient manufacturing sector. • Despite several improvements that gradually reverted migrant flows to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mexico country profile (ODS): https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/mexico • Mexico country profile (OECD): https://www.oecd.org/mexico/ • Mexico’s 2018 Voluntary Review for the HLPF: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/20122VOLUNTARY_NATIONAL_REPORT_060718.pdf



the US, poverty and inequality remain a challenge for Mexicans authorities. The country heavily relies on fossil fuels for energy sourcing, putting much more importance to the role of oil in the Mexican economy (“MEXICO”, 2018; CIA, 2020).

- Assembly plants (usually called “maquiladora”) account for a significant share of Mexico’s industrial capacity. Despite facing a current crisis due to migration of operations to China, maquiladoras provide employment relief for the Mexican population.
- However, since their arrival in the 1970s, maquiladoras have been accused of environmental harming and poor conditions of labor. The North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation, signed alongside NAFTA, introduced some sustainable relief in maquiladoras’ production system, but problems around environmental and occupational practices still linger (VELÁZQUEZ et al, 2006).
- Current president López-Obrador has been accused of dismantling the country’s project for sustainable energy sourcing and privileging the national oil producer company

- How Mexico City is fighting climate change and creating bankable opportunities:
<https://blogs.worldbank.org/ppps/how-mexico-city-fighting-climate-change-and-creating-bankable-opportunities>
- Economic Development and Industrial Performance in Mexico post-NAFTA (article by MORENO-BRID, 2007):
<https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/courses/files/jcmoreno.pdf>



<p>PEMEX, increasing Mexico's reliance on mineral fuels - especially oil (STILLMAN, 2020).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mexico's growing production of avocado has also raised several challenges to the country's sustainable production. The crop explosion has led to increasing deforestation and water shortages in the state of Michoacán. These issues are expected to increase as avocado production expands to other parts of Mexico (MONDRAGÓN; LÓPEZ-PORTILLO; 2020). • Mexico is ranked 78 out of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Rank (SACHS et al, 2019). 	
<p>Paraguay</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paraguay is among the poorest countries in South America, with about one quarter of its population living below the poverty line. • Its economy highly relies on energy production, mainly due to the shared hydroelectric power plants with Brazil and Argentina. More importantly, Paraguay is highly dependent on agriculture: despite its small size, the country is the fifth largest soy producer in the world (CIA, 2020b; "PARAGUAY", 2018). • The fast expansion of soy fields in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paraguay country profile (ODS): https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=874&menu=3170 • Paraguay country profile (CEPAL) (in Spanish): https://observatorioplanificacion.cepal.org/es/paises/paraguay • Paraguay's 2018 Voluntary Review for the HLPF (in Spanish): https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/19877IVN_ODS_PY_2018_book_Final.pdf • National Development Plan (in Spanish): https://observatorioplanificacion.cepal.org/sites/default/files/plan/files/ParaguayPlanNacionaldeDesarrollo2030.pdf • To grow, eat and sell: modernizing agriculture in Paraguay:



Paraguay during the early 2000s raised several issues around sustainable agriculture.

Environmental impacts include “increased deforestation, water pollution, soil degradation, loss of agro-biodiversity, and health problems associated with increased use of pesticides and herbicides” (GARCÍA-LOPEZ; ARISPE, 2010, p. 196). Growing soy fields have contributed to reduce the area covered by forests from 85% of Paraguay’s territory to 8% (DEMARCO, 2018).

- Such fast expansion has also produced social impacts, such as “peasant displacements, loss of livelihoods, increased rural conflicts, and loss of food security and sovereignty” (GARCÍA-LOPEZ; ARISPE, 2010, p. 196). There is evidence that, in the early 2000s, “assassinations and false arrests were used to intimidate farmers and indigenous communities into giving up their land to [foreign] companies” (DEMARCO, 2018).
- Paraguay is ranked 86 of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Rank (SACHS et al, 2019).
- In 2014, to promote sustainable development and production, the

<https://www.unops.org/news-and-stories/stories/to-grow-eat-and-sell-modernizing-agriculture-in-paraguay>

- Saying No to Soy: The Campesino Struggle for Sustainable Agriculture in Paraguay (Article by HOWARD, 2009):

<https://monthlyreview.org/2009/06/01/saying-no-to-soy-the-campesino-struggle-for-sustainable-agriculture-in-paraguay/>



<p>Paraguayan government launched the National Development Plan: Paraguay 2020. The plan is heavily inspired by UN’s SDG’s and has three main axes: poverty reduction and social development, inclusive economic growth and the country’s international projection. To achieve each of these objectives, the plan is divided in 12 different strategies (“PLAN...”, 2020; OECD, 2018).</p>	
<p>Peru</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Peru, more than 18 thousand tons of waste are generated every day and almost 90% of it is not recycled (ALMOST ..., 2018). • The SDG fund is contributing to establish an inclusive value chain in the production of certain grains, in order to try to improve the conditions of producers (SDGF, 2017). • According to Elisa Tonda, Head of the Consumption and Production unit in UN Environment's Economy Division, Peru is seen as a leader when it comes to promoting exchange of experiences about sustainable production and consumption. (GIZ, 2016). • Peru is the 54th country that emits the most CO2 (Global Carbon Project, [s.d.]). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary National Review https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15856Peru.pdf • Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/peru • The World Bank in Peru https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/peru/overview • Advance Sustainable Consumption and Production in Peru - Contributing to Low Carbon Development https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/initiative/advance-sustainable-consumption-and-production-peru-contributing-low-carbon-development • Achieving Sustainable Development Goal 12: an exploratory study on sustainable consumption in Lima,





<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peru is ranked 51 of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Index. (SACHS et al., 2019)	<p>Peru</p> <p>https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/9560/33076f52d58c53ba2e82bc86b1dbacf46742.pdf</p>
<p>United States of America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It's the second country that emits the most CO2 in the atmosphere (GLOBAL CARBON ATLAS, [s.d.]).• Decreasing domestic material consumption is one of the most important targets of the 12th SDG. In this direction, the USA has rapidly decreased its consumption from 29.65 to 18.6 metric tons <i>per capita</i> between 2000 and 2017 (UN, [s.d.]).• There's a resolution in the US congress that proposes a Green New Deal, in reference to the american economic policy after the 1929 crisis. This project aims to conciliate climate change actions and societal problems by creating high paying jobs in green investments. (FRIEDMAN, 2019).• 36% of the country's energy supply is from petroleum (EIA, [s.d.]).• The U.S. has withdrawn from the Paris Agreement (USA, [s.d.]).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report on Environmental Indicators https://cfpub.epa.gov/roe/indicators.cfm• American profile in the Atlas of Economic Complexity https://atlas.cid.harvard.edu/countries/231• Policy Issues on climate and environment https://www.state.gov/policy-issues/climate-and-environment/• Indigenous peoples in the USA https://www.iwgia.org/en/usa.html• American leadership on the SDG https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2019/10/14/american-leadership-on-the-sustainable-development-goals/



Asia	
Country	Links
<p>Bangladesh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On one hand, Bangladesh holds one of the largest rural populations in the world. Agriculture is responsible for about 40% of jobs and household income tends to seasonally vary according to harvest (CIA, 2020; BBC, 2019). • On the other hand, Bangladesh is deeply integrated into global supply chains and is a key country for the garment industry, its densely populated territory being the main reason for such specialization (CIA, 2020; BBC, 2019). • Bangladesh's openness and increasing role in the garment industry played an important role in poverty reduction, but they have also posed deep challenges for the country's sustainable growth (CIA, 2020; BBC, 2019). • The development of Bangladeshi readymade garment industry has entailed several human rights abuses in the country: “restrictions on the union rights of workers, forced labour, discrimination, child labour, lack of criminal justice, insufficient wages that amount to living in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bangladesh country profile (ODS) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/bangladesh • Bangladesh: Employment and Environmental Sustainability Factsheet http://www.oit.org/wcm/assetmgr/publication/publication/wcms_627801.pdf • Clean and green Bangladesh: A goal that can be achieved, https://blogs.worldbank.org/endpovertyinsouthasia/clean-and-green-bangladesh-goal-can-be-achieved • Bangladesh set to disappear under the waves by the end of the century (Belfast Digital) https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/environment/bangladesh-set-to-disappear-under-the-waves-by-the-end-of-the-century-28392995.html • How microfinance has reduced rural poverty in Bangladesh https://www.ifpri.org/blog/how-microfinance-has-reduced-rural-poverty-bangladesh



poverty and safety hazards at work” ([JALAVA, 2015, p. 2](#)). Despite having acceded to several treaties on these matters and having enforcing instruments to cope with these challenges, there is still a huge lack of compliance ([JALAVA, 2015](#)).

- Bangladesh is heavily dependent on fossil fuels, which supply about 97% of its energy consumption. The country also faces problems of energy shortage, which are deeply related to Bangladesh’s underdeveloped electrical network. Such lack of infrastructure has deeply hampered the development of Bangladesh’s manufacturing.
- Diversifying its sources of energy could be a solution for the country to tackle simultaneously both problems of energy shortage and high dependence on fossil fuels ([CIA, 2020](#)).
- Bangladesh ranks 116 of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Rank. Despite this placement, the country is considered to have fully achieved the Sustainable Development Goal 12, which stands for “Sustainable Development and Production”. However, one must read this result carefully. The measurements for this achievement



<p>are given in terms per capita, what might not correctly depict the reality, considering the country's poverty, densely populated territory and shortages of infrastructure (SACHS et al, 2019).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the country's most successful policies for sustainable development has been fostering microfinance. Since the 1970s, the Bangladeshi government has supported NGOs and enterprises, such as the Grameen Bank, to offer small loans to small and informal activities with low returns, what is called microfinance. Such small credit operations have displayed significant impacts in poverty reduction, enabling borrowers to diversify their activities and boosting their income (KHANDKER, 2005). 	
<p>China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's the country that emits the most CO2 in the atmosphere (GLOBAL CARBON ATLAS, [s.d.]). • Decreasing domestic material consumption is the most important target of the 12th SDG, but China is going in the opposite way and increased rapidly its consumption from 9.18 to 24.9 metric tons <i>per capita</i> between 2000 and 2017. (UN, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China's green opportunity https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/sustainability/our-insights/chinas-green-opportunity • Chinese leadership in sustainability https://jingdaily.com/can-china-become-a-leader-in-sustainability/ • Sustainable investment in China https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/89e6937d-56de-4d4e-a1c2-30767eadbc21/IFC_Breif_China_online.pdf



<p>[s.d.].</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.49% of the national GDP comes from natural resources rent (WORLD BANK, [s.d.]). • China is the number one coal consumer in the world since it is the most important energy supply of the country (CHINA POWER, [s.d.]; IEA, [s.d.]). • Chinese entities issued more than \$30 billion worth of bonds that met international "green" definitions, maintaining its second place position just behind the United States (MORRIS, 2019). 	<p>?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-89e6937d-56de-4d4e-a1c2-30767eadbc21-jqewzeV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinese SDG profile https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/china • China's environmental crisis https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/chinas-environmental-crisis
<p>India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's the 3rd country that emits the most CO₂ in the atmosphere (GLOBAL CARBON ATLAS, [s.d.]). • Domestic material consumption has slowly increased from 3.67 to 5.53 metric tons <i>per capita</i> between 2000 and 2017, but is still at a slow international level (UN, [s.d.]). • 2.14% of the national GDP comes from natural resources rent (WORLD BANK, [s.d.]). • Its main energy supply is coal (IEA, [s.d.]). • The biggest challenge for Indian entities to participate in Green Bond 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian climate action tracker https://climateactiontracker.org/countries/india/ • Indian SDG profile https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/india • Indian resources and energy institute https://www.teriin.org • India's challenge in waste management https://www.downtoearth.org.in/blog/waste/india-s-challenges-in-waste-management-56753 • India's profile in the Encyclopaedia Britannica https://www.britannica.com/place/India





<p>issuances in foreign currencies is the high cost of hedging and low sovereign credit ratings (USAID, 2015).</p>	
<p>Iran</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iran’s textile industry is the second most important after the oil sector (NORDEA, 2020). • Iran is the world’s seventh highest emitter of carbon dioxide (SHARIFI, Kian, 2020). • It remains a deeply troubled country as it struggles to come up from underneath recently lifted international sanctions due to Iran's nuclear-related activities (MANFREDA, Primož). • Iran is the world’s third largest practitioner of gas flaring, after Russia and Iraq, wasting over 17bn cubic metres of gas last year via flares (WORLD BANK). • The number of women graduating from Iran’s universities is overtaking the number of men, promising a change in the job market and, with it, profound social change (BAKTIARI, Bahman, 2009). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iran on the 2019 SDG Global Index. https://github.com/sdsna/2019GlobalIndex/blob/master/country_profiles/Iran%2C%20Islamic%20Republic%20of_SDR_2019.pdf • Cleaning the Air of Tehran, One Bus at a Time. http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/267071563886365000/pdf/Technological-Assessment-Economic-Analysis-and-International-Best-Practices.pdf • Iran’s documents and reports at HLPF. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/iran • Green Movement in Iran. https://www.elaw.org/green-movement-in-iran • Human rights achievements in the Islamic Republic of Iran. https://en.mehrnews.com/news/132095/Iran-made-remarkable-progress-in-social-development
<p>Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan is ranked 15 of 162 countries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The World Bank in Japan



<p>on the 2019 SDG Global Index (SACHS et al., 2019)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It's the 5th country that emits the most CO₂ in the world and the 3rd in Asia. (Global Carbon Project, [s.d.]) ● Domestic material consumption has decreased from 12.4 metric tons per capita to 9 from 2000 to 2017 (UN, [s.d.]). ● Japan's main energy sources are gas and coal (together they add up to 67%). However, the country is increasingly producing energy from renewable sources, which now make up 19% of the electricity mix – the G20 average is 25%. (CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY, 2019) ● Japan approved the 4th Fundamental Plan for Establishing a Sound Material-Cycle Society in 2018, making an effort to achieve a circular economy, where the waste is minimized, and is also incentivizing the citizens to recycle. (SHIZUME, 2020) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/japan ● Voluntary National Review (2017) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/16445JapanVNR2017.pdf ● Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=420&menu=3170 ● Economic Aspects of Sustainable Development in Japan https://www.un.org/esa/agenda21/natlinfo/countr/japan/eco.htm ● Climate Action Tracker https://climateactiontracker.org/countries/japan/
<p>South Korea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It's the 8th country that emits the most CO₂ in the atmosphere (GLOBAL CARBON ATLAS, [s.d.]). ● Decreasing material consumption is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Korean SDG profile https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/republicofkorea ● Green growth in Korea https://www.oecd.org/greengrowth/greengrowthinactionkorea.htm



<p>the main target of the 12th SDG. South Korea has timidly reduced its consumption from 15.75 to 11.32 from 2000 to 2017 (UN, [s.d.]).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.03% of the national GDP comes from natural resources rent (WORLD BANK, [s.d.]). • South Korea was the world's biggest green bond source (CHO, 2019). • South Korea recycles 95% of its food waste (GALCHEN, 2020). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Korean climate action tracker https://climateactiontracker.org/countries/south-korea/ • Korean green new deal https://www.climatechangenews.com/2020/04/16/south-korea-implement-green-new-deal-ruling-party-election-win/ • Korean energy supply data https://www.iea.org/countries/korea
<p>Thailand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thailand is ranked 40 of 162 on the 2019 SDG Global Rank (Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019). • Thailand has been guided since 2002 by the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP), a mindset that promotes sustainability and provides guidelines for inclusive, balanced and sustainable development (Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform, 2020) • The development approach based on SEP is in conformity with the core principle of the 2030 Agenda and can serve as an approach to support the realization of the SDGs. (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UN, 2017) • SEP and SDGs have been integrated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG Country Profile (Thailand) https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/tha • Main Message for Thailand's Voluntary National Review https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15604Thailand.pdf • Sustainable Development Goals in Thailand https://thailand.opendevlopmentmekong.net/topics/sustainable-development-goals/#return-note-1854-11 • Thailand Sustainable Consumption and Production Roadmap 2017-2036 https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/sites/default/files/thailand_sustainable_consumption_and_production_roadmap.pdf • Thailand's Partnerships and





<p>in the 20 – Year National Strategy Framework and the 12th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2017 – 2021). As a result, plans and budgeting of all government agencies will be in line with SEP and SDGs. (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UN, 2017)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thailand’s main mechanism responsible for sustainable development is the National Committee for Sustainable Development (CSD), chaired by the Prime Minister. The CSD has 37 members, including 16 members from the public sector, 3 academics, 2 from the private sector, 2 from civil society, and 4 independent experts on sustainable development (SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT UN, 2017).• In Thailand, despite strict laws and policies to regulate industries and protect consumers, implementation of the SD2 12 remains a big challenge. The massive scale of the tourism industry itself also makes monitoring difficult (EKACHAI, SUKHSVASTI; [s/d.].	<p>Commitments on the HLPF https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=30022&nr=428&menu=3170</p>
<p>Turkey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Turkey is the 15th country that emits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voluntary National Review (2019) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org



<p>the most CO2 and the 3rd in the Middle East. (Global Carbon Project, [s.d.]).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey has made progress regarding waste treatment infrastructure, however 90% of municipal waste is sent to landfills, and only a small quantity is recovered (OECD, 2019). • Since 1996, the concept of sustainable development has been a part of the National Development Plans, providing a strong base towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, Turkey stands at an advanced level, however, further work is needed for SDG1, SDG2, SDG12, SDG13 and SDG14 (Turkey, 2019). • Turkey consumes its natural resources faster than the speed they can renew themselves, this shows that the population has a unsustainable lifestyle (Global Footprint Network, [s.d.]). • Turkey is ranked 79 of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Index (SACHS et al., 2019). 	<p>g/content/documents/23862Turkey_VNR_110719.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The World Bank in Turkey https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/turkey/overview • Report on Turkey’s Initial Steps Towards the Implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development http://www.surdurulebilirkalkinma.gov.tr/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/2030_Raporu.pdf • Turkey’s Sustainable Development Report https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/9641/-Turkeys_Sustainable_Development_Report-2012Turkey_SustainableDevelReport_2012.pdf.pdf?sequence=3&amp%3BisAllowed= • Shaping Sustainable Consumption and Production Agenda in Turkey: A Study on Economic Instruments to Support SDG 12 http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/857581507661696274/pdf/P162463-AAA-Finalize-Output-doc.pdf
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Europe	
Country	Links



<p>Germany</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Germany is the 6th country that emits the most CO₂. (Global Carbon Project, [s.d.]) • Germany is the world's leading nation for recycling (GERMANY ..., 2017). • The International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety has been funding climate and biodiversity projects in developing countries, emerging economies and countries in transition since 2008, along with projects to implement the SDGs (Germany, 2016). • Germany is one of the world's most sustainable industrialised nations. (SUSTAINABLE ..., [s.d.]) • Germany is ranked 6 of 162 countries on the 2019 SDG Global Index (SACHS et al., 2019). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary National Review (2016) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/10686HLPF-Bericht_final_EN.pdf • The World Bank in Germany https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/germany/overview • National Programme on Sustainable Consumption https://www.bmu.de/fileadmin/Daten_BMU/Pool/Broschueren/nachhaltiger_konsum_broschuere_en_bf.pdf • The Ten Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/dsd/dsd_aofw_ni/ni_pdfs/NationalReports/germany/scp.pdf • German Sustainable Development Strategy https://www.bundesregierung.de/resource/blob/998220/418554/b428f6c54e1dc6f829da02325648fd2f/2017-04-12-kurzpapier-n-en-data.pdf?download=1
<p>France</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France is the largest agricultural power in the European Union (NORDEA, 2020). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France on the 2019 SDG Global Index. https://github.com/sdsna/2019GlobalIndex/blob/master/country_profiles/France_SDR_2019.pdf





<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Although the reduction in industrial production has improved air quality in France since the 1990s, an increase in transportation infrastructure has caused the emissions produced from that sector to remain constant (SMITH, Brett. 2018).• To improve air quality by reducing and selecting the car use, drivers in Paris must display an anti-pollution sticker in their vehicles or face fines by the French authorities (WILLSHER, Kim. 2017).• In recent years, the French government has aggressively pursued the embrace of clean technology. Many French corporations have also been aggressively acquiring clean technology companies in the United States and other countries (KANELLOS, Michael. 2012).• France has announced the introduction of an ecological tax on all airline tickets. The fee is estimated to collect around 180 million euros annually and it will be used to finance less polluting transport projects (Deutsche Welle, 2020).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• France about the SDG 12. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/fr-ench-foreign-policy/development-assistance/the-international-development-agenda/article/sdg-12-responsible-consumption-and-production• Climate Transparency. https://www.climate-transparency.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/BROWN-TO-GREEN_2018_France_FINAL.pdf• National Voluntary Review (2016) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/10620France%20SDG%20-%20Executive%20Summary.pdf• Water Quality https://borgenproject.org/water-quality-france/• 11 French Eco Initiatives. https://www.completefrance.com/living-in-france/utilities-services/11-french-eco-initiatives-1-5780987
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Italy And Agenda 2030 At A Glance:



- Italy is ranked 30 of 162 on the 2019 SDG Global Rank. ([Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019](#))
- Italy has set up a network of “Schole Futuro” or schools of the future which teach and practice environmental and social sustainability. ([Istituto Scholé Futuro, 2020](#))
- Italy has a National Strategy for Sustainable Development (SNSvS). It is considered as a strategic reference framework for sectoral and territorial policies in Italy, drawing an important role for institutions and civil society in the long implementation process, which will continue until 2030. ([Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare, 2017](#)).
- 52% of Italy’s private sector is considered “not sustainable” ([FATTIBENE, SARTORI; 2018](#)).
- According to the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development Alliance (ASviS), the 2019 Italian Budget Law fails to present an integrated vision of the various policies for sustainable development, a widely supported objective backed by over 80% of Italians ([Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development, 2019](#)).

https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/16285Italy_Main_Message_HLPF_2017.pdf

- A survey about what italians think about sustainability:
<https://www.enelgreenpower.com/stories/a/2019/07/sustainability-survey-italians>
- Executive Summary of the 2019 Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS) Report
https://asvis.it/public/asvis2/files/Rapporto_ASviS-2019_EXECUTIVE_SUMMARY_ENG.pdf
- The National Strategy for Sustainable Development
<https://pcnitalia.mise.gov.it/index.php/en/2-non-categorizzato/2035938-sustainable-development-goals>
- SDG Country Profile (Italy)
<https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/ita>



Russia

- Russia is the world's second largest producer of natural gas and the third largest producer of petroleum, but also one of the main producers and exporters of diamonds, nickel and platinum. ([Nordea, 2020](#))
- Income inequality is a similarly profound obstacle to progress in Russia, with some reports suggesting that Russia's wealth gap is the worst in the world ([World Inequality database](#)).
- The country also has come under fire for its civil rights issues. It faced allegations of corruption and it also became a battleground for LGBT rights ([GAN, 2017](#); [HRW, 2020](#)).
- Russia's Energy Strategy to 2030 is to set a renewables-based power generation target of 2.5% by 2020. Also, a package of normative legal acts has been drawn up to support the development of renewable energy in the wholesale market ([IRENA, 2017, page 25 to 31](#)).
- Russia is considering banning foreign companies from taking a lead role in designing and building the country's green energy infrastructure, which could increase costs and make the process even harder ([MOSCOW, TIMES 2019](#)).
- Russia in Search of Sustainability <https://www.ipsos.com/en/flair-russia-2020-search-sustainability>
- Report on Sustainability <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1043natrepeng.pdf>
- Russia on the Global SDG Index (2019) https://github.com/sdsna/2019GlobalIndex/blob/master/country_profiles/Russian%20Federation_SDR_2019.pdf
- Key messages on water, growth and sustainability https://www.siwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Paper_Kaliningrad_ENG_Final2.pdf (Pages 7-8)
- Russian Green Finances <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/103531540924946297/pdf/131516-PN-P168296-P164837-PUBLIC-Green-finance-Note.pdf> (pages 7-19)
- BRICS Ministers Commit to Urban Environmental Management, Global Climate and Biodiversity Issues. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/brics-ministers-commit-to-urban-environmental-management-global-climate-and-biodiversity-issues/>

Spain

- Spain is ranked 21 of 162 on the 2019 SDG Global Rank ([Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019](#)).
- On 29 June 2018, the Council of Ministers of Spain approved the Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. With that, the Government and the society of Spain resolved to make the 2030 Agenda a national project ([Ministry of Foreign Affairs, \[s/d.\]](#)).
- There's a High Level Group with the Government of Spain. They're the governance and leadership of the 2030 Agenda in the country. The Group is chaired by the Vice President of the Government and composed of: 9 Ministers, 20 Secretaries of State, The High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, The Ambassadorat-Large and The High Commissioner for combating child poverty ([Ministry of Foreign Affairs, \[s/d.\]](#)).
- According to the Sustainable Development Report 2019, when analysing each indicator of the SDG 12 in Spain, the performances were considered either decreasing or stagnating ([Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019](#)).
- Promoting Sustainability in Spain <https://impakter.com/promoting-sustainability-spain-cristina-gallach/>
- The Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC) <http://www.cprac.org/en/about-us/scp/rac>
- Covid-19 threatens new crisis for Spain's recovering economy <https://www.fdiintelligence.com/article/77249>
- SDG Country Profile (Spain) <https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/esp>
- Spain's Partnerships and Commitments on the HLPF <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/spain>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spain created in 2013 the “Fondo ODS”, the first fund created within the framework of the UN specifically for the implementation of the SDGs. Currently, the fund has changed into the “Joint SDG Fund”, a mechanism of the United Nations established to address the challenges of our time, generously supported by the Government of Spain (Joint SDG Fund, [s/d.]) 	
<p>United Kingdom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2019, the UK was ranked 13 out of 162 countries on the SDG Global Rank. Despite this good overall performance, the country still struggles to fully achieve Responsible Production and Consumption (SDG 12), as the UK is highly dependent on foreign supply chains that pose important threats to sustainable development (SACHS et al, 2019). Due to its reliance on foreign sourcing, supporting and fostering development abroad plays an important role in the UK's strategy for sustainable development. In 2015, the parliament passed a bill obligating the UK government to spend the equivalent to 0.7% of its 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> United Kingdom country profile (SGD): https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/memberstates/unitedkingdom Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals/implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals--2 Statistics on International Development: Provisional UK Aid Spend 2019: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statistics-on-international-development-provisional-uk-aid-spend-2017/statistics-on-international-development-provisional-uk-aid-spend-2017 UK aid: tackling global challenges in the National Interest (document by



GNI in Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) ([LUNN; BOOTH, 2016](#)).

- Though the UN has long established this target for countries, the UK became a frontrunner in turning it binding ([QUINN, 2017](#)).
- The Department for International Development (DFID) manages most of the UK's ODA. In short, DFID manages all ODA that is destined to least-developed economies, promoting prosperity and poverty reduction in these regions (["ABOUT..."](#), n.d.).
- On the other hand, the Prosperity Fund is a cross-government fund destined to middle-income countries. In 2019, it received £1.2bn from the UK's budget for ODA, representing only a small part of British aid overseas. Nonetheless, the fund has a strategic role of financing several programmes that contribute to achieving SDGs in host countries. The Prosperity Fund also "looks to create opportunities for international business including UK companies as a result of this economic growth, as a secondary benefit" ([HMG, 2020](#)).

HMT, 2015):

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/478834/ODA_strategy_final_web_0905.pdf

- Global Resource Initiative Taskforce: Final recommendations report 2020 (report by DEFRA, 2020):
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/881395/global-resource-initiative.pdf



Oceania	
Country	Links
<p>Australia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia ranked 20th on progress towards the SDG's in the world – behind Canada and many European countries but ahead of the United States (THWAITES., 2016). • Australia has some of the world's highest carbon emissions per person, the country rates poorly on the clean energy and climate change goals (COX, 2019). • Coal Mining in Australia produces more emissions than its entire domestic economy. (MORTON, 2019) • The excellent Health Care system of Australia contributes to 7% of its total greenhouse gas emissions (FANZCA, Eugenie Kayak. 2020). • Australia's renewable energy is growing, at a per capita rate, almost three times faster than the next fastest country, Germany. (STOCKS, BLAKERS, BALDWIN, 2019). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary National Review (2018). https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/20470VNR_final_approved_version.pdf • Australia's economic activities and partners. economic activity; https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-are-the-biggest-industries-in-australia.html • Australia on the SGD Global Index 2019. https://github.com/sdsna/2019GlobalIndex/blob/master/country_profiles/Australia_SDR_2019.pdf • Foreign Affairs - partnership. http://www.mikta.org/?ckattempt=1 • Environmental concerns. https://www.environment.gov.au/nod/e/13078
<p>New Zealand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Zealand is ranked 11 of 162 on the 2019 SDG Global Rank 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG Country Profile (New Zealand) https://country-profiles.unstatshub.or



[\(Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019\).](#)

- In 2018 New Zealand increased its Official Development Assistance (ODA) in response to the 2030 Agenda and the sustainable development finance needs of developing countries. They will be allocating additional NZ\$714 in over four years ([New Zealand, 2019](#)).
- The challenges tackled by New Zealand mostly are: maintaining community-agreed ecological limits for freshwater quality and mitigating agricultural greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining their export-led economy ([New Zealand, 2019](#)).
- The Resource Management Act (RMA) 1991 is the main piece of legislation that sets out how New Zealand shall manage their environment.
- It is based on the principle of sustainable management. This involves considering effects of activities on the environment now and in the future when making resource management decisions ([Ministry for the Environment, 2018](#)).
- New Zealand's clean green image is a key attractor of international

[g/https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/nzl](https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/nzl)

- New Zealand's Voluntary National Review 2019 Main Messages. https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/22910New_Zealand_SDGs_VNR_Key_Messages_16_May_FINAL.pdf
- Sustainable development and New Zealand <https://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/about-us/protecting-people-and-environment-briefing-incoming-minister-environment-3>
- New Zealand and Sustainable Development Goals <https://www.sdg.org.nz/>
- The Shape of New Zealand's post-Covid-19 economy <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/news/2020/04/the-shape-of-new-zealands-post-covid-19-economy>





visitors and the foundation of their tourism sector (New Zealand, [s/d.]).	
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6. Questions to be addressed by delegates

1. How to engage traditional communities in the production process?
 - a. How can they contribute?
 - b. How can companies contribute to them?
2. What can the High Level Political Forum do to reduce waste generation?
 - a. How can the Forum contribute to a better management of chemicals and waste in general?
3. How can the High Level Political Forum encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices?
4. What strategies can be developed to educate and inform people about sustainable development?
 - a. How to bring awareness to a more sustainable lifestyle?
5. In which ways can countries use their natural resources in an efficient and sustainable way?
6. What can the High Level Political Forum do to ensure a more sustainable form of tourism that promotes local culture and products?
7. How can countries support others to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity?
8. Do the greatest economies avoid the “Green Economy”?
 - a. If so, which mechanisms can help them to change?

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