

WORLD GOVERNMENTS SUMMIT 2024

in collaboration with

SDGs IN ACTION





# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The General Secretariat of the National Committee on SDGs organizers of the SDGs in Action at the World Governments Summit extend heartfelt thanks to the global leaders who participated in the XDGs 2045: Navigating the Future of Our World - Ministerial Roundtable on February 12, 2024. This pivotal gathering not only acknowledged progress towards the SDGs but also delved into critical elements of future global development agendas under Chatham House Rules. Your invaluable insights and recommendations were instrumental in the creation of this report, and for that, we are immensely grateful. Your unwavering dedication and commitment to the 2030 Agenda are profoundly appreciated, as is your eagerness to initiate the development of the next stages of the next global development agenda.

We also wish to express our gratitude to the leadership of the World Governments Summit for the pivotal platform that convenes a global network of decision-makers. This unique forum is vital for exploring the challenges and opportunities presented by the 2030 Agenda and for forging the global partnerships necessary to shape the future of our world.

To our readers, thank you for your time and engagement with this report. We hope it serves as a source of inspiration for strengthened actions towards the SDGs and fosters a consensus on advancing the next global development agenda.



## TABLE OF **CONTENTS**

- 6 **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** 
  - XDGS 2045: NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD
- INTRODUCTION 8
- 10 BEYOND 2030: ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE **DEVELOPMENT**
- 12 CHAPTER 1

ACHIEVING SDGS: PROGRESS, CHALLENGES, AND BEST PRACTICES THROUGH THE LENS OF THE 5P'S

- 14 PEOPLE
- 22 PLANET
- **28 PROSPERITY**
- 34 PEACE
- **40 PARTNERSHIPS**
- 44 CHAPTER 2

KEY THEMES FROM THE XDGS 2045 MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE 2024

**52** CHAPTER 3

CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A POST-2030 AGENDA

- 54 CHALLENGES FOR A POST-2030 AGENDA
- 56 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A POST-2030 AGENDA
- **60** CHAPTER 4

HIGH-LEVEL COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE XDGS 2045 MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLES (2023 AND 2024)

- 62 2023 OUTCOMES: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD
- 62 2024 OUTCOMES: NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF OUR WORLD
- **66** CHAPTER 5

SDGS IN ACTION AT WORLD GOVERNMENTS SUMMIT

- 77 CONCLUSION
- **79** APPENDICES
- **80** OVERVIEW OF THE SDGS IN ACTION AT WORLD GOVERNMENTS SUMMIT



Agenda, our focus remains on fostering a competitive and knowledge-driven economy. The UAE is dedicated to leveraging innovation and strategic partnerships to address emerging global challenges, ensuring that we continue to contribute effectively to both our national prosperity and global sustainable development.

#### **His Excellency**

#### **Abdulla Nasser Lootah**

Deputy Minister of Cabinet Affairs for Competitiveness and Knowledge Exchange Vice Chair of the UAE Committee on Sustainable Development Goals

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# XDGs 2045: Navigating the Future of Our World

In a pivotal era where global sustainability challenges loom large, the 'XDGs 2045: Navigating the Future of Our World' report serves as a foundational element to propel our collective journey beyond the 2030 Agenda. The report, which draws on the findings of the 2024 Ministerial Roundtable conducted at the SDGs in Action event at the World Governments Summit, is critical for global leaders throughout the world as they plan for an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable future.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) continues to promote the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by fostering a global debate that not only assesses progress but also actively influences future phases of global development. As the world approaches the 2030 deadline, the need to develop a post-2030 agenda becomes essential. The "XDGs" paradigm described in this discourse is an ambitious yet feasible approach to tackling urgent global concerns through a lens of increased inclusion and collaboration.

This year's roundtable highlighted the transition of SDGs into XDGs, in which the emphasis shifted from specific goals to an integrated global vision that considers the complexities of a fast-changing world. The report discusses several important areas, including climate resilience, technology inclusion, economic inequality, and health crises challenges that need cross-cutting solutions and unwavering international cooperation.

This report streamlines the roundtable discussions into practical ideas, highlighting the XDGs as an essential platform for not just maintaining the momentum of the SDGs, but also expanding and adapting them to suit increasing global needs. The report's suggestions and frameworks seek to accelerate action across several sectors, assuring a future in which sustainable development is not a choice but a fundamental principle for global prosperity and equality - beyond 2030.

As we move forward, the "XDGs 2045" report is an urgent call to action for all stakeholders to recommit to global collaboration, dedicated to leaving no one behind. It explores avenues to initiate the development of an inclusive global agenda spanning 2030 to 2045. This report is a strategic roadmap designed to inspire and mobilize collective action, ensuring that our future endeavors are well-informed, impactful, and inclusive. We are tasked with the immense duty of defining and shaping the next phase of global progress, transforming the vision stated in this report into reality.

# INTRODUCTION

In 2015, the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit was an important moment in global history, bringing together 193 Member States and world leaders in New York to commit to an ambitious agenda for global prosperity, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion. This historic accord resulted in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a collection of 17 goals aimed at addressing the world's most pressing issues, such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and peace and justice. The SDGs, as a comprehensive framework for global action, serve as a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet today and in the future.

Within this global endeavor, the UAE has emerged as a key player, facilitating international dialogue and action on sustainable development. The UAE has not only reiterated its commitment to the 2030 Agenda through creative forums such as the World Governments Summit's (WGS) SDGs in Action but has also played a crucial role in driving global action toward the achievement of these goals. The platform at the WGS has evolved into an important venue for international cooperation, bringing together participants from all over the world to participate in meaningful dialogue and form partnerships for effective sustainable development solutions.

As we approach the two-thirds mark of the 2030 Agenda, it is essential to assess and evaluate accomplishments, tackle growing challenges, and navigate the future. This necessity sets the setting for the Ministerial Roundtable on "XDGs: Navigating the Future of Our World," a significant

forum to address the direction of global development beyond 2030. The "XDGs" idea is an examination of a post-2030 agenda—a broader vision for sustainable development that builds on the SDGs while also adapting to the changing global landscape. The discussion provided an important opportunity for global leaders to reflect on lessons learned, identify gaps in existing efforts, and ideate on a future global development that is inclusive, resilient, agenda sustainable. The insights and recommendations from this roundtable are intended to significantly influence strategies and frameworks that will lead international development efforts beyond 2030, paving the way for a future in which no one is truly left behind.

This report, which is driven by the deliberations and findings of the XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtable, seeks to build on the first edition of the XDGs 2045 Shaping the Future of Our World<sup>1</sup> report (launched at the WGS SDGs in Action 2024) to outline a trajectory beyond the 2030 Agenda. The forementioned report captures the collective knowledge and commitments articulated during this global leaders' ministerial roundtable, offering a high-level assessment of the history of global development agendas, the commitments and progress towards the 2030 Agenda, the global status (as of April 2023), and imperatives for ensuring a sustainable and inclusive future for all. We anticipate not only a continuation, but an evolution of our shared goals, emphasizing the importance of an innovative and adaptive global development agenda capable of addressing the complexities of our fast-changing world.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UAE SDGs reports. (2024, February). Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre (FCSC). https://fcsc.gov.ae/en-us/Pages/SDGs/Reports.aspx



# BEYOND 2030: ENVISIONING THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## Background of the 2045 XDGs

Building on the impact of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the world's leadership recognizes the need to increase global prosperity in an inclusive manner. As the 2030 deadline approaches, the spotlight shifts to developing a visionary post-2030 model. The 10th edition of the WGS ignited discussions about a critical question: What comes after the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs)? Building on the legacy of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the current SDGs, the WGS SDGs in Action introduced the concept of XDGs 2045 in 2023. The XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtable at the WGS SDGs in Action acknowledged the progress made towards the SDGs, especially in recovering years post COVID-19, and participants reconfirmed their commitment to the global goals. However, with the 2030 deadline approaching, the need for a future roadmap became clear. During the 11th edition of the WGS SDGs in Action, the second edition of the XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtable united an additional number of global leaders to deliberate on the future that we want post-2030.



Recognizing the limitations of a one-size-fits-all approach, the discussions highlighted the importance of developing an inclusive, multi-stakeholder-oriented plan. The XDGs 2045 constitute a forward-thinking effort to provide the groundwork for a comprehensive global development agenda beyond 2030. With an emphasis on inclusive, multi-stakeholder engagement, the XDGs 2045 strive to be ambitious, sustainable, and realistic through a number of strategies:

- Enhancing SDG achievements by bringing together global leaders at the World Governments Summit annually, to share best practices and continue inspiring action towards the global goals.
- Launching accelerator programs to address both current and emerging global challenges, exemplified by the Global Councils on SDGs. Established at the 2018 World Governments Summit, this network of global leaders and experts enhances collaboration across the SDGs. The third cohort, set for 2024, will concentrate on leveraging ministerial leadership to expedite progress towards the 2030 Agenda.
- Fostering a collaborative environment to fulfill various, cross-sectoral demands, with the goal of creating a more inclusive future for all.
- Harnessing insights from global experts across diverse sectors to create a strong foundation for the XDGs 2045.
- The World Governments Summit' SDGs in Action aspires to serve as a critical venue for igniting future global prosperity, kick-starting the creation of this new agenda.

This holistic strategy seeks to lead and inspire global action toward a common, flourishing future by diverse international perspectives to develop a practical and actionable agenda.



# ACHIEVING SDGS: PROGRESS, CHALLENGES, AND BEST PRACTICES THROUGH THE LENS OF THE 5P'S

XDGs 2045: Navigating the future of our world

# **Chapter 1:**

# **ACHIEVING SDGS: PROGRESS,** CHALLENGES, AND BEST PRACTICES THROUGH THE LENS OF THE 5P'S

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its 17 goals and 169 targets, established a bold vision for a more just, prosperous, equitable, and sustainable planet. While achieving each goal by 2030 remains ambitious, tremendous progress has been achieved within different countries and target specific context. In context of the five (5) P's of the Sustainable Development Goals, a framework to understand the interconnectedness of the global goals, the following sections will focus on challenges and a selection of best practices of countries participating in the UAE's Government Exchange Experience Programme (with credit to the respective focal points for sharing the information and allowing for it to be published in this report).



#### **People**

Investing in people lies at the heart of the SDGs. The people category includes the first five goals of the SDGs.



#### **Challenges:**

- **1. Poverty Reduction:** The World Bank² reported that from 1990 to 2015 the global poverty rate fell by more than half. However, the COVID-19 pandemic had a reversed impact on the reduction of poverty that saw more than 700 million people falling back into extreme poverty. By 2022, extreme poverty levels had returned to pre-pandemic figures in most countries, yet 712 million people, or 9% of the world's population, were still living in extreme poverty, an increase of 23 million from 2019³. With recovery uneven and low-income countries particularly lagging, the goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030 is increasingly out of reach. The share of the world's working population living in poverty decreased from 8.4% in 2015 to 6.9% in 2023, but nearly 241 million workers remained in extreme poverty. Effective poverty reduction now requires enhanced spending efficiency, prioritization of impactful programs, and support for initiatives like microfinance to break the poverty cycle⁴.
- 2. Food Security: According to the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2025<sup>5</sup>, the prevalence of undernourishment (SDG 2.1.1) remained relatively consistent from 2021 to 2022, yet it continues to surpass levels observed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, around 9.2% of the global population, or an estimated 691 to 783 million people, faced hunger, with the midpoint estimate at approximately 735 million. This marks an increase of 122 million people experiencing hunger compared to 2019, reflecting persistent challenges in achieving zero hunger (SDG 2) amidst economic instability and global crises. Nearly 60% of countries worldwide experienced significant increases in food prices in 2022 due to conflicts and disrupted supply chains. With nearly 1 in 10 people facing hunger and 2.4 billion experiencing moderate to severe food insecurity, achieving zero hunger by 2030 requires intensified efforts to transform food systems towards sustainability, resilience, and equity<sup>6</sup>. Additionally, accelerating improvements in diets, nutrition, health, and hygiene is crucial to reduce chronic undernutrition and meet the SDG target.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Saavedra, P., & López-Calva, L. F. (2022, October 17). Stepping up the fight against extreme poverty. World Bank Blogs. <a href="https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/developmenttalk/stepping-fight-against-extreme-poverty">https://blogs.worldbank.org/en/developmenttalk/stepping-fight-against-extreme-poverty</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Poverty | Overview. (2024, April). World Bank. <a href="https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/overview">https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/poverty/overview</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Organization, F. &. A. (2023). The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI) 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

- **3. Healthcare Challenges:** The Sustainable Development Goals Special Edition report 2023 as well as the latest report on Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals suggested that global health has seen mixed progress. While advancements have been made in reducing under-5 mortality, with the rate dropping to 37 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2022 from 6.0 million in 2015, maternal mortality remains a significant issue, marginally declining from 227 to 223 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births between 2015 and 2020<sup>7</sup>. Approximately 800 women still die daily in childbirth, predominantly in sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia, which accounted for around 87% of global maternal deaths in 2020<sup>8</sup>. Achieving the SDG 3 targets by 2030 will require substantial investment and focused efforts to strengthen health systems and ensure access to essential services across all regions.
- 4. Education Disparities: The World Economic Forum<sup>9</sup> reported that, since 1820, global literacy has made incredible strides, jumping from a mere 12% to a remarkable 87%. This means nearly nine in ten people worldwide can now read and write. Developed nations are close to achieving universal literacy, with rates around 99%. However, significant regional inequalities persist. Some regions face much lower literacy rates, averaging around 66% of the population. Women are also disproportionately affected, with a global literacy gap of a few percentage points compared to men. The Secretary General's report<sup>10</sup> highlights that only 58% of students worldwide achieved minimum proficiency in reading by the end of primary school in 2019, and many countries are regressing in lower secondary education outcomes. Completion rates for upper secondary education have increased from 53% in 2015 to 59% in 2023, but progress has slowed. Challenges such as teacher shortages, high student-teacher ratios, and inadequate training, particularly in regions like sub-Saharan Africa, impede further progress. Accelerating progress towards SDG 4 is crucial as it will have a catalytic impact on achieving the overall 2030 Agenda.
- 5. Failing Gender Equality: The UN Secretary-General's special edition report on the SDGs¹¹ suggested that dreams of achieving gender equality by 2030 are fading fast. Not a single global indicator for gender equality has been met. Shockingly, it could take up to 286 years to close the gap in legal protection for women. Representation in leadership roles paints a similarly bleak picture: 140 years for equal representation in workplaces and 47 years for equal seats in parliaments. Progress is similarly slow in other areas, with women's participation in managerial positions predicted to take 176 years to reach parity. Despite some reductions in harmful practices like child marriage and female genital mutilation, these are not decreasing fast enough to match population growth. Many women still lack control over their sexual and reproductive health, and violence against women continues. As of January 2024,¹², women held only 26.9% of seats in national parliaments worldwide, a modest increase from 22.3% in 2015. Gender equality in local governments is slightly better at 35.5%, but women held only 27.5% of management positions in 2022, down from 28.5% in 2021. To address these issues, strong political will and comprehensive policy changes are essential, including challenging biased social norms, eliminating harmful practices, and changing discriminatory laws.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> United Nations Statistics Division. (n.d.). — SDG indicators. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This is how much global literacy has changed over 200 years. (2023, February 28). World Economic Forum. <a href="https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/09/reading-writing-global-literacy-rate-changed/">https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/09/reading-writing-global-literacy-rate-changed/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals: towards a rescue plan for people and planet: Report of the Secretary-General (Special Edition). (2023). In United Nations (A/78/80-E/2023/64). <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2023/secretary-general-sdg-report-2023--EN.pdf">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2023/secretary-general-sdg-report-2023--EN.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>



# ALBANIA Digital Agenda 2022-2026



#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

Albania's Digital Agenda 2022–2026 outlines several objectives, one of which is encapsulated in SDG 4: Digital Education and Skills: Transforming learning and teaching. Adapting and integrating digital technology is essential not only for communication, administration, and management but is also a valuable asset in supporting learning and teaching. As demonstrated by the COVID-19 pandemic, digital learning methodologies have been adopted by nearly all educational institutions. As a result, these institutions have been compelled to embrace the digital educational challenge.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Albania's Digital Agenda 2022–2026: <a href="https://akshi.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/vendim-2022-06-01-370-Agjenda-Digjitale-e-Shqiperise-22-26-dhe-plani-i-veprimit.pdf">https://akshi.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/vendim-2022-06-01-370-Agjenda-Digjitale-e-Shqiperise-22-26-dhe-plani-i-veprimit.pdf</a>

The National Agency for Information Society (NAIS) is leading the innovative Smart Labs initiative, aimed at integrating a network of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) laboratories throughout the pre-university education system. This ambitious project is set to unfold in three distinct phases:

#### Pilot **Implementation**

In this phase, Smart Labs were established in 100 schools. This stage is characterized by several key developments:

- The formulation of a pioneering first-grade curriculum that integrates ICT and coding principles.
- Comprehensive training sessions for teachers, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to navigate and utilize the Smart Labs effectively.
- The provision and installation of essential ICT equipment in 100 Smart Labs, setting the groundwork for an enhanced learning environment.

**Expansion and** 

Building upon the groundwork laid in Phase 1, this phase aims to extend the Smart Labs initiative to an additional 200 schools (ongoing in 2024), with efforts focusing on:

- The creation of comprehensive ICT curricula for the second and third grades, broadening the educational impact.
- A series of targeted training programs for teachers and school principals, designed to ensure the effective delivery of the ICT curriculum and the sustainable management of the Smart Labs.
- Equipping 216 Smart Labs with the latest ICT equipment, further solidifying the infrastructure necessary for this educational advancement.

The final phase marks the project's expansion to approximately 600 other schools, spanning pre-university education (both in primary and secondary education), with specific goals including:

- The distribution of Smart Lab equipment to schools, ensuring widespread access to modern ICT tools.
- The development and enhancement of teacher training programs, alongside initiatives to strengthen the management capabilities of school principals.
- A comprehensive review and revision of the ICT curricula to align with contemporary educational needs and technological advancements.
- A focus on educational reform, particularly targeting 25 collective schools and 35 high schools with less than 81 infrastructure.

students, aiming to significantly uplift ICT education and

Curriculum **Development** 

**Broad Implementation** and Educational Reform

PHASE

Through these phased implementations, the Smart Labs initiative by NAIS is poised to revolutionize ICT education within Albania's pre-university system, laying a solid foundation for future generations to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

#### Key results and impact

Healthcare and Education Reforms: Albania has been investing in healthcare and education reforms aimed at improving access and quality for its citizens. These efforts contribute to SDGs 3: Good Health and Well-being and SDG 4: Quality Education: focusing on the 'People' aspect by enhancing the population's education levels.

Investing in the digitalization of pre-university education, such as creating smart labs, implementing ICT curricula, and training teachers and school principals, constitute to several positive effects on economic growth in the future. Some of these outcomes could include:

- Workforce Readiness: By equipping students with these skills from a young age, Albania can create a more skilled and adaptable workforce.
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship: A strong foundation in digital skills can foster innovation and entrepreneurship among students. As they become more proficient in using technology and understanding its applications, they may be more likely to develop new ideas, start businesses, and contribute to economic growth.
- Job Creation: As Albania's education system evolves to prioritize digital skills, there will likely be an increased demand for professionals in the fields of education technology, software development, data analytics, and more. This can lead to job creation and reduce unemployment rates over time.
- Lifelong Learning and Continuous Improvement: The emphasis on digitalization in education encourages a culture of lifelong learning and continuous improvement. As technology continues to evolve, students who are taught to adapt and learn new skills will be better prepared to navigate future challenges and opportunities in the economy.







#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

In 2023, the Georgian Agency for Innovation and Technology (GITA), under the Prime Minister's initiative, launched "Do IT in Georgia" project with the goal of training and certifying 5,000 IT specialists in high-demand skills such as Programming, Design, IT project management, and Quality Assurance (QA). With USAID support, GITA established a web platform enabling accredited training providers to upload courses. Citizens over 16 can select courses, undergo examinations, and receive government grants to cover training expenses. This initiative not only enhances the quality of education but also fosters decent work opportunities and strategic partnerships. Through successfully launching the first phase, 1,046 students, including 46 with disabilities, have already been engaged, furthering the contribution to SDGs such as SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Do IT in Georgia: <u>www.doit.gov.ge</u>



Achieving SDGs: Progress, Challenges, and Best Practices Through The Lens of the 5p's

#### **Key results and impact:**

Since the launch in October 2023, "Do IT in Georgia" has made significant strides in contributing to various SDGs. With over 12,000 applications received for 82 courses from 9 providers, the initiative directly advances SDG 4: Quality Education by broadening access to skills training in vital IT fields. The involvement of private sector IT companies as training providers underscores the importance of SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, fostering collaboration between government and industry to achieve common objectives. Moreover, by including 46 students with disabilities through special scoring, the initiative promotes inclusive education, aligning with the principle of leaving no one behind, a fundamental aspect of the SDGs. Additionally, providing 1,000 and 2,000 Georgian Lari (GEL) vouchers to 1,046 students supports SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth by enhancing skill development and employability, thus contributing to poverty reduction and economic empowerment within the community.



#### **Planet**

Protecting our Planet is the responsibility of every person on earth. The goals related to planet include:



#### **Challenges:**

- 1. Stalled water progress: Despite strides made, billions still lack safe water and sanitation. Current progress falls short, requiring a sixfold increase for water, fivefold for sanitation, and threefold for hygiene to reach everyone by 2030. In 2022, 2.2 billion people were without access to safely managed drinking water and 3.5 billion lacked access to safely managed sanitation<sup>15</sup>. Between 2002 and 2021, droughts affected more than 1.4 billion people<sup>16</sup>. Water scarcity persists, with roughly half of the world's population experiencing severe water scarcity for at least part of the year and one quarter facing 'extremely high' levels of water stress. Conflicts and climate change further complicate matters, posing significant risks to social stability. Transboundary river and lake basins, home to approximately 40% of the world's population, are shared by 153 countries, yet less than a fifth have operational arrangements for cooperation in place for all their transboundary waters. To get back on track, increased investment, innovation, and collaboration across sectors are crucial for a more holistic approach to water management<sup>17</sup>. Achieving SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation necessitates coordinated global action on integrated water management, addressing climate change impacts, and better management of shared waters.
- 2. Wasteful habits, sustainable solutions: Global resource use is deeply uneven, with high-income countries consuming 10 times more materials per person than low-income ones. Food waste is a major problem, with 19% of global food wasted in 2022, totaling 1.05 billion tons, of which household waste accounts for 60%<sup>18</sup>. This waste generates significant greenhouse gas emissions and costs over \$1 trillion annually, while 783 million people suffer from hunger. The crisis of unsustainable consumption and production patterns is exacerbating climate change, nature loss, and pollution. Despite improvements in some areas, public funding for fossil fuel subsidies hit a record high of \$1.53 trillion in 2022, reversing the previous declining trend and impeding the transition to net-zero emissions<sup>19</sup>. Addressing this issue is crucial, yet only nine out of 193 countries included food waste in their Nationally Determined Contributions as of 2022. To achieve SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, we urgently need policies that encourage sustainable practices, reduce resource and fossil fuel use, foster innovation, conserve energy, cut emissions, and advocate for a circular economy approach.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Water and Sanitation - United Nations Sustainable Development. (n.d.). United Nations Sustainable Development. <a href="https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/">https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Yinuo. (2024, March 22). Press Release | Water crises threaten world peace (report). United Nations Sustainable Development. <a href="https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2024/03/un-world-water-development-report/">https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2024/03/un-world-water-development-report/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> With 783 million people going hungry, a fifth of all food goes to waste. (2024, March 27). UN News. <a href="https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/03/1148036">https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/03/1148036</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

- **3. Weather warnings:** Climate action plans are failing to keep pace with the escalating climate crisis. Extreme weather events are already impacting every region, and rising temperatures will only worsen these dangers. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) stresses the need for drastic cuts in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 to limit warming<sup>20</sup>. In 2023, climate records were shattered, marking the warmest year on record according to the World Meteorological Organization, with global temperatures rising to 1.45°C, dangerously close to the 1.5°C lower limit of the Paris Agreement. Despite some reductions in emissions in developed countries, greenhouse gas concentrations reached record levels in 2022 and continued to rise in 2023. Carbon dioxide levels are now 150% above pre-industrial levels. Urgent and transformative action, not just plans, is required to build climate resilience and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050<sup>21</sup>. Without significant change, we face catastrophic consequences. Achieving SDG 13: Climate Action demands immediate global action for drastic reductions in greenhouse gas emissions this decade.
- 4. Ocean crisis deepens: Our oceans are in crisis. Pollution, warming, acidification, and overfishing (¾ of fish stocks depleted) are taking a heavy toll²². While some progress has been made with marine protected areas and sustainable fishing practices, it's far from enough. Oceans cover over 70% of the Earth's surface and provide food and livelihoods for more than 3 billion people, while also combating the effects of climate change. However, alarming trends from declining fish stocks, marine pollution, ocean acidification, and habitat destruction threaten marine ecosystems and the livelihoods of coastal communities worldwide. Urgent global action is needed to address these challenges through increased funding for research, stronger conservation efforts, pollution reduction, and tackling climate change. The first binding international agreement to specifically target illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, the Agreement on Port State Measures, now covers 102 States, representing 63% of the world's coastal States²³. Urgent global action increased funding for research, stronger conservation efforts, and tackling climate change is needed to save this vital ecosystem.
- **5. Nature in crisis:** Our land and wildlife face a triple threat: climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss. Forests are disappearing, and species are vanishing at alarming rates. While some progress has been made in sustainable practices, it hasn't been enough. SDG 15: Life on Land underscores the critical importance of biodiversity as humanity's life-support system. However, the relentless depletion of forests, coupled with an alarming rate of species extinction and stagnation in safeguarding key biodiversity areas, jeopardizes our ecosystems. The world's forest area continues to decline, with the proportion of forest cover to total land area decreasing from 31.9% in 2000 to 31.2% in 2020<sup>24,25</sup>, driven primarily by agricultural expansion accounting for nearly 90% of global deforestation. Despite notable progress towards sustainable forest management and an increase in the proportion of forests under management plans and protected areas, recent conflicts have caused a significant decline in certified forest areas. Addressing these global environmental challenges requires a fundamental change in how we interact with nature, intensified efforts to fulfill global environmental and biodiversity commitments, and achieving the ambitious goals set for 2030 and 2050.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> The evidence is clear: the time for action is now. We can halve emissions by 2030. — IPCC. (2022, April 4). IPCC. <a href="https://www.ipcc.ch/2022/04/04/ipcc-ar6-wgiii-pressrelease/">https://www.ipcc.ch/2022/04/04/ipcc-ar6-wgiii-pressrelease/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2024. (2024). In FAO eBooks. https://doi.org/10.4060/cdo683en

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Goal 15 | Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (n.d.). <a href="https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal15">https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal15</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>





#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

ASAN Appeal is a mobile application that facilitates the resolution of infrastructure problems (e.g., road potholes, broken streetlights, or malfunctioning traffic signals) by allowing citizens to easily identify and report issues to the authorities. Using its user-friendly interface, citizens can submit appeals related to issues of public concern, indicate their locations on a map, and provide supplementary documents (e.g., images or videos) for more information.<sup>26</sup> The system operators then process the appeals by categorizing and forwarding them to the appropriate public institutions, all while enabling users to monitor the progress of the issue resolution. By enabling direct communication between citizens and authorities, ASAN Appeal eliminates bureaucratic hurdles usually associated with the process of filing complaints, thereby ensuring transparency and efficiency. The application's inclusivity extends to persons with disabilities, offering accessibility options. Overall, ASAN Appeal finds applications in numerous areas and helps Azerbaijan advance towards SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 15: Life on Land.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the establishment of the "ASAN application" information system:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> The South-South Matchmaker Vol. III (page 48): <a href="https://ssn4psi.com/research/the-south-south-matchmaker-vol-iii-2021-2022-best-practices/">https://ssn4psi.com/research/the-south-south-matchmaker-vol-iii-2021-2022-best-practices/</a>



Achieving SDGs: Progress, Challenges, and Best Practices Through The Lens of the 5p's

#### **Key results and impact:**

The trial phase of the ASAN Appeal took place in 2022, initially implemented in Sumgait and Baku, Azerbaijan. The statistics for the given period indicate that over 2500 appeals were submitted to the system, 95% of which have been successfully resolved by the relevant institutions.

Following the trial stage, the application became accessible for all citizens to download and use. Since the app has gone public, the number of users has been increasing by 30% annually. While representing an innovative measure in the achievement of SDG 9: Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure, the ASAN Appeal has also brought about positive changes in the achievement of SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 15: Life on Land. By using the application and engaging in problem resolution with authorities, ASAN Appeal serves to increase civic engagement by reducing the distance between citizens and the government. Additionally, the operation of ASAN Appeal incentivizes public institutions to become more transparent and efficient in their work. Every year, the State Agency presents a report to the Office of the President detailing the application's performance, highlighting institutions that utilize it most effectively

The issues resolved through ASAN Appeal have thus far contributed to the government's efforts in building a sustainable community, where each citizen plays a proactive role in improving their environment. Fostering a collaborative process of improvement between citizens and governments.





#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

The Sustainable Seychelles Brand<sup>28</sup>, introduced in 2023, builds upon the foundation of the 2017 Seychelles Sustainable Tourism Label (SSTL).<sup>29</sup> Recognized by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC), this program advocates for eco-conscious practices within Seychelles tourism. It emphasizes sustainability across various aspects such as electricity, water, energy, waste management, and human resources. Operating on three core pillars—monitoring and certification, sensitization and awareness, and education and training—the initiative assigns hotels recognition levels ranging from blue to gold based on their sustainable endeavors. Gold signifies full certification, while other levels reflect varying degrees of commitment towards achieving sustainability goals. Given Seychelles' susceptibility to climate change, this initiative aligns with SDG 12 on responsible consumption and production. By promoting sustainable tourism, the Sustainable Seychelles Brand aims to mitigate environmental impacts and bolster Seychelles' environmental and economic resilience.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Sustainable Seychelles: <a href="https://tourism.gov.sc/?ova\_sev=sustainable-seychelles">https://tourism.gov.sc/?ova\_sev=sustainable-seychelles</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Seychelles Sustainable Tourism Label (SSTL) Achieves GSTC Recognition: <a href="https://www.gstcouncil.org/seychelles-sustainable-tourism-label-sstl-achieves-gstc-recognition/">https://www.gstcouncil.org/seychelles-sustainable-tourism-label-sstl-achieves-gstc-recognition/</a>



Achieving SDGs: Progress, Challenges, and Best Practices Through The Lens of the 5p's

#### Key results and impact:

- Currently, 24 percent of all hotels rooms in Seychelles are certified under the Sustainable Seychelles Brand, demonstrating a growing commitment to sustainability.
- Out of the total 794 accommodation establishments in the inner islands, 22 tourism accommodations, have embraced the Sustainable Seychelles Certification.
- There are ongoing initiatives to extend certification to additional tourism operators, such as restaurants and tour guides.
- Promotion of sustainable tourism practices in Seychelles, attracting environmentally conscious tourists.
- Encouragement of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures within the tourism industry, vital for Seychelles' vulnerability to climate impacts.
- Long-term benefits include reduced environmental footprint, enhanced community engagement, and resilience against climate change effects.



#### **Prosperity**

This section explores progress towards achieving affordable and clean energy (SDG 7), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), industry, innovation, and infrastructure (SDG 9), reduced inequalities (SDG 10), and smart and sustainable cities (SDG 11).



#### **Challenges:**

- 1. Off-track energy: The world is falling short on sustainable energy goals. Despite a rise in renewable energy use (30% of electricity)<sup>30</sup>, 660 million people will still lack electricity by 2030, and nearly 2 billion will rely on polluting fuels for cooking. The Secretary General's report highlights that in 2022, global electricity access declined for the first time in a decade due to COVID-19 and geopolitical conflicts, leaving 685 million people without access—an increase of 10 million from 2021<sup>31</sup>. Sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 83% of this deficit. While Central and Southern Asia reduced their gap significantly, challenges in heating, transport, and declining international funding for clean energy persist. To achieve universal access to energy by 2030, we need to expedite electrification efforts, boost investments in renewable energy, enhance energy efficiency, and establish supportive policies and regulatory frameworks. Current trends indicate that without significant changes, 1.8 billion people will still lack access to clean cooking solutions by 2030<sup>32</sup>. Accelerating electrification, boosting renewables, and improving efficiency are crucial to achieve 'energy for all' by 2030.
- 2. Youth jobs lag recovery: Global economic threats are mounting. Growth is slowing, pushing more workers into informal jobs. While overall unemployment is down, young people face tougher challenges. Despite a rise in financial inclusion (76% with bank accounts in 2021)<sup>33</sup>, a financial system overhaul is needed to address debt, uncertainty, and youth employment. The Secretary General's report<sup>34</sup> highlights that progress towards SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth faces challenges from COVID-19 aftermath, trade tensions, rising debts in developing nations, conflicts, and geopolitical strains, collectively threatening global economic growth. While labor markets have shown resilience, uneven pandemic recovery, declining protection of labor rights, and emerging vulnerabilities erode social justice prospects. In 2023, the global unemployment rate dipped to a historic low of 5.1% but is projected to rise slightly in 2024. Women and youth continue to experience higher unemployment rates compared to their male and adult counterparts. The global NEET (not in education, employment, or training) rate for young people was 21.7% in 2023, a significant decrease since 2020, yet expected to persist through 2025. Achieving SDG 8 mandates policies fostering economic growth with a focus on social justice and inclusive employment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> IEA (2023), World Energy Outlook 2023, IEA, Paris <a href="https://www.iea.org/reports/world-energy-outlook-2023">https://www.iea.org/reports/world-energy-outlook-2023</a>, License: CC BY 4.0 (report); CC BY NC SA 4.0 (Annex A)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>33</sup> World Bank Group. (2024). The Global Findex Database 2021. In World Bank. https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/globalfindex

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

- **3. LDCs lag behind:** Global manufacturing's post-pandemic recovery is uneven. Growth slowed significantly in 2022 (3.3%) compared to 2021 (7.4%)<sup>35</sup>. Least developed countries (LDCs) are far behind targets for increasing manufacturing's share of GDP by 2030. High-tech industries are showing strong growth, yet since 2022, the manufacturing sector has faced stagnation due to geopolitical instability, inflation, logistical challenges, rising energy costs, and a broader global economic slowdown. Despite some progress in reducing CO2 intensity in manufacturing, these efforts fall short of 2030 target values. To expedite progress towards SDG 9, priority must be given to accelerating the green transition, strategically prioritizing sectors, and addressing inequalities in digital and innovation sectors. The global manufacturing value added per capita rose by 16% from 2015 to 2023. Manufacturing employment has fluctuated, declining to 14.1% in 2022, with significant regional disparities<sup>36</sup>. Achieving SDG 9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure requires urgent and coordinated efforts to enhance industrial infrastructure, foster innovation, and ensure inclusive and sustainable industrialization across all regions.
- 4. Global divide: While pre-pandemic trends showed income inequality narrowing within some countries, COVID-19 may have reversed that progress. The pandemic also caused the largest increase in inequality between countries in 30 years. Discrimination remains pervasive, with one in six people facing it globally, with women and people with disabilities particularly disadvantaged. The UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, estimated in 2023 that approximately 117.2 million people will experience forced displacement or statelessness<sup>37</sup>. The Secretary General's report highlights that while incomes of the poorest 40% of the population have generally grown faster than the national average in many countries, financial transfers during the pandemic boosted shared prosperity. However, the gap in per capita income growth between the poorest and richest countries has widened over the past five years. In 2023, a record high of 35.8 million refugees was reported, and over 8,000 migrant deaths were recorded globally. Addressing both within- and between-country inequality necessitates equitable resource distribution, investment in education and skills development, implementation of social protection measures, combating discrimination, supporting marginalized groups, and fostering international cooperation for fair trade and financial systems<sup>38</sup>. Achieving SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities requires urgent action to create inclusive policies that address systemic inequalities and promote social and economic justice for all.
- **5. Rising urban challenges:** With over half the world already in cities, and a projected 70% by 2050, urban areas face growing pressure. A staggering 1.1 billion people live in slums, with double that number expected in the next 30 years<sup>39</sup>. While disaster preparedness has improved, challenges like limited access to public transportation (only half in 2022) and a lack of green spaces remain. The Secretary General's report<sup>40</sup> emphasizes that cities are grappling with rising urban poverty levels, insufficient public transport, rapid city expansion, and threats to critical infrastructure and basic services. In 2023, data from 2,039 cities across 188 countries showed that 6 out of 10 urban residents globally have convenient public transport access, with significant disparities between developed and developing regions. Additionally, 106 countries reported having local disaster risk reduction strategies, with 72% of local governments specifying such strategies. Building sustainable and inclusive cities requires urgent investments in critical infrastructure, affordable housing, efficient transportation, and green spaces to create resilient urban environments. Achieving SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities necessitates prioritizing these areas to ensure sustainable urban development for all.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> United Nations Statistics Division. (n.d.-b). - SDG indicators. https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/goal-09/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Global Appeal 2023. (n.d.). Global Focus. <a href="https://reporting.unhcr.org/globalappeal-2023">https://reporting.unhcr.org/globalappeal-2023</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> United Nations Statistics Division. (n.d.-c). - SDG indicators. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/goal-11/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/goal-11/</a>

<sup>4</sup>º Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/





#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

Albania is actively engaged in the ongoing effort to revolutionize the delivery of public services. It is steadfast in its commitment to continue reshaping the perspectives of both citizens and businesses regarding digital public services, recognizing the necessary shift towards this inevitable new mode of communication with state institutions. In terms of impact, this translates to:

- Reducing the costs of receiving services
- Simplification of bureaucratic procedures
- Reduction of time to receive services,
- Improvement of transparency and quality of service provision.

The Albanian government, championing the transition from traditional offline services to online platforms, has successfully introduced the e-Albania platform as a notable achievement. The platform continues to contribute to a positive perception of the state and at the same time, plays a fundamental role in rebuilding citizens' trust in public institutions. It acts as a single point for the provision of public services of government institutions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> United Nations Statistics Division. (n.d.-c). - SDG indicators. https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2023/goal-11/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> e-Albania portal: <u>https://e-albania.al/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Agjencia Kombëtare e Shoqërisë së Informacionit: https://akshi.gov.al/

#### **Key results and impact:**

In 2013, the e-Albania platform commenced its journey with only 14 online services catering to 49,738 registered users, comprising primarily 49,721 citizens and 17 businesses. Since its inception, e-Albania has undergone a remarkable transformation, evolving into a comprehensive digital ecosystem facilitating access to public services. Today, there are 1237 electronic services on e-Albania, around 95% of all public services. In 2013, there were only 49,738 registered users on the platform, while today there are 3 million citizens and businesses that have made over 30 million applications for public services.

Since September 2017, when the electronic seal was legitimized, the e-Albania portal enables the download of administrative documents (such as certificates, attestations etc.) with legal value 24/7, making these documents available at any hour of the day and on any day of the week. In 6 years (September 2017 - December 2023) 34 million documents were generated:

Today (April 2024), citizens can access a wide range of state services through e-Albania. These include obtaining personal and property certificates, paying monthly bills, accessing health services, receiving court and insurance certificates, and utilizing various other essential services. Citizens no longer need to go to the state offices for his problems. e-Albania has saved citizens and businesses 1010 years of waiting in lines to receive e-sealed documents and about 12 million EUR in their pockets, from the removal of fees for these documents that are provided free of charge in their electronic version. It is estimated that around EUR 65 million of work time costs have been saved for citizens and business employees just by the real-time downloading of e-sealed documents (if we consider that to receive a document once, the person had to be absent from work for an hour on average). If fuel or parking expenses are calculated, these values would multiply several times.

The e-Albania governmental portal is connected to the Governmental Interoperability Platform (Government Gateway - GG), which is the core architecture that enables the interconnection of electronic registers with each other and the exchange of real-time data in a safe and reliable manner, guaranteeing electronic services for citizens, businesses, and public administration. 60 electronic systems are connected to the Governmental Interoperability Platform and exchange data in real time, compared to 60 electronic public administration systems at the end of. 68% of the fields in the application forms on e-Albania are filled automatically by the interaction and exchange of data between systems. There is also an increase in the number of transactions performed on the Governmental Interoperability Platform (GG), where over 270 million transactions are counted for the year 2023.

The year 2022 marked a fundamental change in the provision of public administration services to citizens and businesses. Since May 2022, for all public services applied through e-Albania, the response and final administrative document are provided exclusively online, completely avoiding direct physical contact between citizens, businesses, and public institutions. In these terms, the government decided to reduce by three times the number of front desks in the country.

The only front desks that are still serving citizens offline are those providing services that need the physical presence of the citizen (marriage procedure, application for a passport/ID card where the fingerprints are required, etc.) or vehicle (inspections services). By reducing the number of counters, the government is aiming to save time, money, tackle corruption and avoid long queues for citizens and businesses. The civil employees who worked at front desks are still serving citizens and businesses, but in the back offices, through the electronic system.





#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

MyAccount is an ambitious leap forward for Kurdistan towards a cashless society by digitizing the payroll process of 1M+ public sector beneficiaries by 2025Q1, resulting in a digitally empowered and inclusive financial environment.<sup>43</sup>

MyAccount is onboarding over 1 million citizens to bank accounts and installing over 1,000 new ATMs. This initiative aims to increase deposit rates, thereby boosting lending in the economy (SDG 9). As a result, a significant positive impact on the annual GDP growth (SDG 8) is anticipated. Vulnerable groups, such as the disabled and elderly, will especially benefit from the convenience of receiving money directly into their bank accounts, eliminating the need for long, monthly queues (SDG 10).<sup>44</sup>

Through an innovative approach, involving training and establishing a specialized team of over 200 agents, successfully driving the transition on the ground as it has supported over 230k citizens get bank accounts to-date.<sup>45</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Official MyAccount website contains details on the enrollment process, our bank partners, guide to finding ATMs, and a program schedule: <a href="https://myaccount.gov.krd/en/">https://myaccount.gov.krd/en/</a>

<sup>44</sup> H.E. PM Barzani authored an article summarizing the MyAccount program and progress to-date in October 2023: <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/myaccount-initiative-charting-future-digital-finance-masrour-barzani/">https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/myaccount-initiative-charting-future-digital-finance-masrour-barzani/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> MyAccount has received positive press coverage since its launch. Examples include:

<sup>• &</sup>quot;KRG launches digital banking system": https://www.rudaw.net/english/kurdistan/12102023

<sup>• &</sup>quot;250,000 civil servants registered to MyAccount: KRG official": https://www.kurdistan24.net/en/story/34373-250,000-civil-servants-registered-to-MyAccount:-KRG-official

#### **Key results and impact:**



#### Boosting GDP through higher financial inclusion

- An increased annual GDP growth rate (SDG Target 8.1)
- Increased digitization of the country's payments infrastructure will also lead to higher levels of economic productivity (SDG Target 8.2)



#### Increasing access to financial services and products

- Increased bank account penetration from <%2 to ~%35-30 by 2025 (SDG Target 8.10), giving citizens access to new financial products
- Over 1000 ATMs rolled out across Kurdistan Region of Iraq (SDG Target 8.10)
- Increased current bank deposits will drive an increase in domestic credit to the private sector (SDG Target 9.3)



#### Improving social equality and inclusion

- Beneficiaries today must queue up in-person every month— digital payments will eliminate this need, particularly benefiting elderly and disabled (10.2)
- Women benefit from the increased convenience and safety of digital payments (10.3)



#### **Peace**

This section focuses on promoting peaceful societies (SDG 16).



#### **Challenges:**

- 1. Peace progress stalled: Global peace efforts are backsliding. Conflict-related civilian deaths surged over 50% in 2022, with displaced people reaching a record 108.4 million 2.5 times higher than a decade ago . These figures, coupled with the rise in homicides, paint a grim picture. Structural inequalities and human rights abuse further stall progress towards peaceful and just societies (SDG 16). The Secretary General's report highlights that global forced displacement exceeded 110 million people as of May 2023, with civilian casualties experiencing the highest spike since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. Between 2022 and 2023, civilian casualties increased by 72%, with over 33,400 civilians killed in conflict by 2023. Women and children are particularly affected, with four out of every ten civilians killed being women and three in ten being children. Persistent threats to human security underscore the need to restore trust and strengthen global peace and security frameworks. Achieving SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions requires rebuilding trust, addressing structural inequalities, strengthening institutions, and renewing global peace and security frameworks to respond to the desperate pleas for peace from countless voices worldwide.
- 2. Hidden trafficking horror: Human trafficking remains a hidden yet widespread crime, with detected victims representing only a fraction of the actual number. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), between 2017 and 2021, approximately 450,000 victims were identified worldwide. Despite an 11% decrease in the number of detected victims in 2020, this reduction is attributed more to limited movement and operational constraints due to the COVID-19 pandemic rather than a genuine decline in trafficking activities. The Secretary General's report highlights higher prevalence rates of sexual violence for women (3.0%) compared to men (0.8%). Data from 53 countries between 2010 and 2022 shows that victims of physical assault and robbery report their victimization more frequently (36% and 45%) than victims of sexual assault (17%). Achieving SDG 16.2 requires intensified global action to prevent trafficking, protect victims, and prosecute traffickers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Global Trends Forced Displacement in 2022. (2022). In The UN Refugee Agency. <a href="https://www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2023-06/global-trends-report-2022.pdf">https://www.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/2023-06/global-trends-report-2022.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> UNODC launches 2022 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons. (n.d.). United Nations: UNODC Country Office Nigeria. <a href="https://www.unodc.org/conig/en/stories/unodc-launches-2022-global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html">https://www.unodc.org/conig/en/stories/unodc-launches-2022-global-report-on-trafficking-in-persons.html</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

Achieving SDGs: Progress, Challenges, and Best Practices Through The Lens of the 5p's





#### **AZERBAIJAN**

# The State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the "ASAN service"



#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

The State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the "ASAN service" model were established in 2012 as an essential part of comprehensive institutional reforms in public administration. "ASAN service" represents a unique one-stop-shop model for facilitating public service delivery, promoting the application of innovative solutions, and allowing citizens to access over 400 services, offered by 15 public and 30 private organizations, under one roof. Created to maximize citizen satisfaction, the model allows for the transparent, accountable, and efficient provision of public services. Currently, there are 27 "ASAN service" centers operating throughout the country and 10 specially equipped mobile buses and a train, delivering essential public services directly to locals. "ASAN service" stands as a leading provider of full public service integration and optimization, streamlining bureaucratic processes and facilitating business operations. To date, over several countries have adopted and replicated the "ASAN service" model and the State Agency has concluded over 20 agreements with various countries and organizations, including Uganda, Uzbekistan, Indonesia, UAE etc.<sup>50</sup>

 $<sup>^{50}</sup>$  Smart Villages in Azerbaijan:

<sup>•</sup> https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/690171628250042188/pdf/Smart-Villages-in-Azerbaijan-A-Framework-for-Analysis-and-Roadmap.pdf

<sup>•</sup> Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development – Vol. 4: https://unsouthsouth.org/2022/08/31/good-practices-in-south-south-and-triangular-cooperation-for-sustainable-development-vol-4-2022/

United Nations Public Service Award Winners: <a href="https://publicadministration.un.org/unpsa/innovation-hub/Winners/2015-Winners/ASAN-Service">https://publicadministration.un.org/unpsa/innovation-hub/Winners/2015-Winners/ASAN-Service</a>

<sup>• &</sup>quot;ASAN xidmet" (ASAN Service): <a href="https://old.astanacivilservicehub.org/en/peer-learning-alliance-on-public-service-delivery-2/asan-xidm%C9%99t">https://old.astanacivilservicehub.org/en/peer-learning-alliance-on-public-service-delivery-2/asan-xidm%C9%99t</a>

<sup>•</sup> The South–South Matchmaker Vol. III (page 48): <a href="https://ssn4psi.com/research/the-south-south-matchmaker-vol-iii-2021-2022-best-practices/">https://ssn4psi.com/research/the-south-south-matchmaker-vol-iii-2021-2022-best-practices/</a>

#### **Key results and impact:**

"ASAN service" model includes streamlined pu-blic service delivery, increased accessibility, transparency, and citizen satisfaction.

- 1) Currently "ASAN service" centers in total have received over 72 million citizen applications. The substantial volume of citizen applications received by "ASAN service" centers underscores their pivotal role as essential hubs for public service delivery and citizen engagement.
- 2) Citizen feedback is always recorded and analyzed for continuous service enhancement. This is done through numerous exit polls, tabs on corporate websites, complaints kiosks, call centers, and even pages on social media. As of now, the citizen satisfaction rate constitutes 99.8%. This fosters the restoration of trust among citizens in governmental institutions.
- 3) "ASAN service" is a two-time winner of the United Nations Public Service awards and received the title of "Best Government Service in the World," granted to it as part of the UAE's "Global Government Excellence Award" program.

The remarkable outcomes have translated into tangible impacts contributing to the SDGs.

- 1) By consolidating services and promoting innovative solutions, "ASAN service" centers have significantly reduced bureaucratic hurdles, saving time and resources for citizens and play an irreplaceable role in the realization of human rights.
- 2) Recognizing that not everyone may have access to traditional "ASAN service" centers, the mobile "ASAN service" buses and trains provides the opportunity to receive essential public services directly at the door, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all citizens.
- 3) Through innovative public-private partnerships, "ASAN service" centers drive competition among service providers, optimizing performance and fostering a conducive environment for SDG 17 attainment.
- 4) "ASAN service" model's international replication demonstrates the scalability and potential to catalyze global partnerships for sustainable development, amplifying its impact on SDG implementation worldwide.

The resulting enhanced efficiency, accountability and transparency directly contribute to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals by fostering collaboration between government, private sector, and civil society to improve public service delivery and governance.



#### **GEORGIA**

### **Mobile Public Service Hall**



#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

Within the framework of this initiative, specialized vehicles have been deployed to ensure that rural residents can readily access the services they require without the need to visit branches of Public Service Hall.

Through the implementation of this project, the accessibility landscape for rural populations has undergone a significant transformation concerning public and private services. Those who previously resided at a considerable distance from a branch of a Public Service Hall and were compelled to relocate to access services, often requiring travel from one municipal center to another, can now conveniently receive the full range of state services at their very doorstep. This initiative has, therefore, succeeded in equating the opportunities for access to services between the rural and urban populations.

Furthermore, this pioneering project not only redefines the landscape of service availability but also stands out as a cost-effective endeavor. It remarkably reduces both utility and infrastructure costs when compared to traditional branches.

g SDGs: Progress, Challenges, Through The Lens of the 5p's

Another notable facet of the Mobile Public Service Hall pertains to their vital role in times of force majeure events. In the event of branch disruptions, these mobile units are strategically positioned on the periphery of the affected branch to ensure the continuous delivery of services. In such cases, service provision continues seamlessly, and customers experience no disruption in the services they require.

#### **Key results and impact:**

In accordance with the principles outlined in SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, it is recognized that institutions that operate outside the framework of legitimate laws are susceptible to arbitrary conduct and abuse of power, thereby diminishing their ability to effectively deliver public services to all members of society. The Mobile Public Service Hall represents a tangible commitment to realizing the core transformative aspiration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its accompanying SDGs, particularly the overarching aim of leaving no one behind.





#### **Partnerships**

This section highlights the importance of partnerships in achieving the SDGs.



#### **Challenges:**

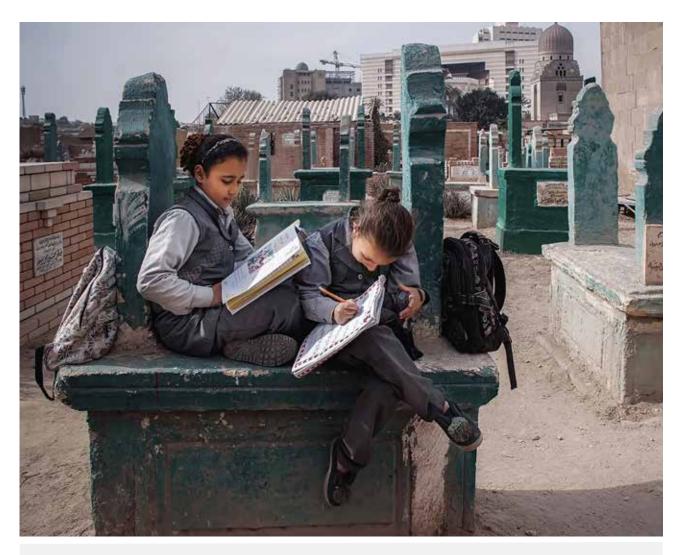
- **1. Cooperation needed:** Developing countries face a perfect storm. COVID-19 has pushed external debt to record highs, while inflation and rising interest rates squeeze budgets<sup>51</sup>. Official aid is increasing but mostly directed at refugees and conflict areas. Progress on internet access has slowed, widening the digital divide. The Secretary General's report highlights that global partnerships for sustainable development are crucial, encompassing finance, technology, trade, and data. Despite some progress, a \$4 trillion annual investment gap for developing countries to achieve the SDGs remains. External debt stock for low- and middle-income countries decreased slightly to \$9.0 trillion in 2022 but remains at unprecedentedly high levels<sup>52</sup>. Achieving SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals requires urgent debt relief, financial assistance, and technology access, along with sustained collaboration and enhanced international cooperation to overcome these challenges.
- 2. Uneven trade recovery: Global trade rebounded sharply after the pandemic's blow, reaching a record \$32 trillion in 2022<sup>53</sup>. However, the growth is slowing down (12.3% in 2022 compared to 24.8% in 2021) due to weakening economic conditions. While trade in goods and services both increased, LDCs haven't benefited as much. Their share of global exports remains low (1.1% in 2022) and fell short of the target to double it by 2020. The Secretary General's report highlights that global partnerships for sustainable development are crucial, encompassing finance, technology, trade, and data. Despite mixed trends in financial resource mobilization, internet connectivity, and statistical systems, a \$4 trillion annual investment gap for developing countries to achieve the SDGs remains. Fixed-broadband subscriptions grew at an average annual rate of 6.4% from 2015 to 2023, reaching 19 subscriptions per 100 inhabitants globally. However, fixed connections are nearly non-existent in low-income countries due to high prices and lack of infrastructure. Approximately 67% of the world's population, or 5.4 billion people, were online in 2023, showing a 4.7% growth since 2022<sup>54</sup>. Achieving SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals requires sustained collaboration, enhanced international cooperation, and targeted efforts to bridge the digital divide and support trade in developing nations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> World Bank Open Data. (n.d.). World Bank Open Data. https://data.worldbank.org/indicator

<sup>5</sup>º Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Global trade set to hit record \$32 trillion in 2022, but outlook increasingly gloomy for 2023. (2022, December 13). UNCTAD. <a href="https://unctad.org/news/global-trade-set-hit-record-32-trillion-2022-outlook-increasingly-gloomy-2023">https://unctad.org/news/global-trade-set-hit-record-32-trillion-2022-outlook-increasingly-gloomy-2023</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. (2024). In United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs. United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs. <a href="https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/</a>

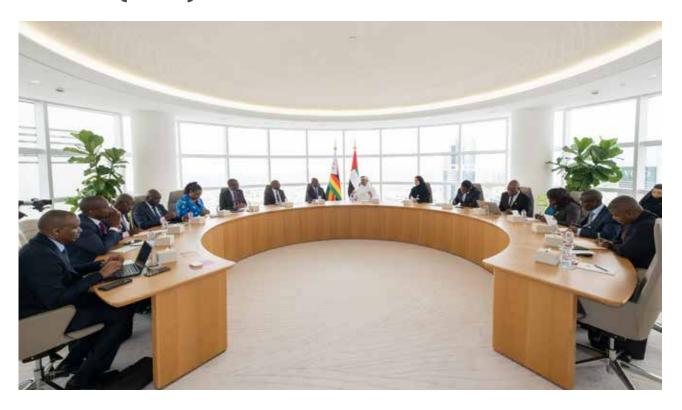


**3. Vulnerable data:** Global funding for data and statistics plummeted by over \$100 million between 2018 and 2020, with Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding dropping by more than 20%. While funding bounced back to \$799 million in 2021, representing a 14% increase from 2020 and a 44% increase from 2015, it remains insufficient to meet the needs. This funding gap disproportionately hurts vulnerable countries struggling to implement national statistical plans. The Secretary General's report highlights that in 2023, 159 countries and territories had national statistical legislation compliant with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, up from 132 in 2019. Additionally, 163 countries and territories implemented national statistical plans in 2023, an increase from 143 in 2019, with 109 of these plans fully funded. Achieving SDG 17 requires sustained investment in data and statistics, especially for vulnerable countries, to ensure comprehensive and accurate data collection and analysis.



#### **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

# **Government Exchange Experience Programme** (GEEP)



#### **Summary of the Best Practice**

The Government Exchange Experience Programme (GEEP) stands as a flagship initiative by the United Arab Emirates Government, under the visionary leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai. GEEP represents the UAE's commitment to building international connections and supporting sustainable development across the world. GEEP, founded on the UAE's substantial achievements in government excellence and economic growth, provides a dynamic platform for knowledge sharing and advancement across diverse government sectors. By embracing best practices and continuous innovation, GEEP cooperation models in sculpting a robust framework for governments around the globe, aligning perfectly with SDG 17 which emphasizes the importance of partnerships for achieving broad-scale goals. GEEP operates through a series of structured workstreams which include Government Services, Government Excellence, Government Accelerators, and several others, each tailored to enhance governance and accelerate progress towards global objectives. <sup>55</sup>

<sup>55</sup> Government Experience Exchange Programme: https://www.governmentexchange.gov.ae/en

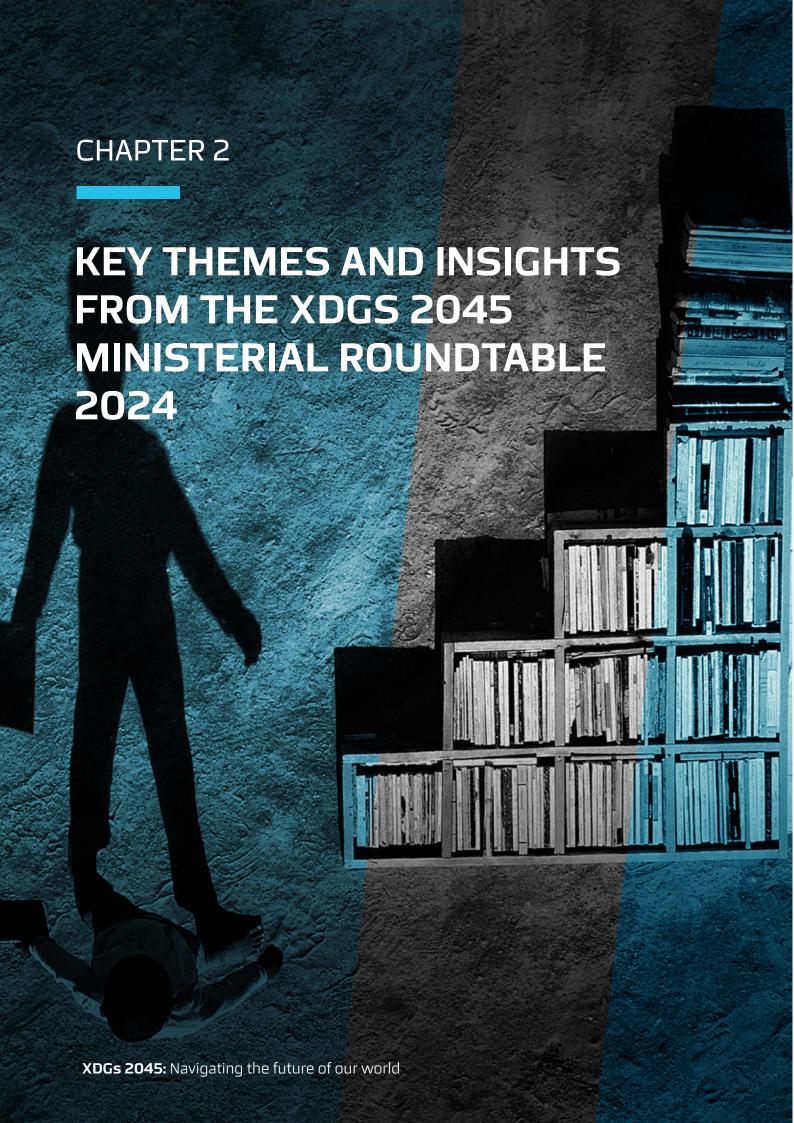
GEEP's methodology is a blend of direct interactions, such as leadership sessions, working group, policy designing workshops, field visits, and digital engagements, including online sessions, ensuring a comprehensive learning and exchange environment. This model not only breaks geographical barriers but also fosters economic, societal, and cultural openness, contributing to a collaborative international community. The UAE, through GEEP, actively extends its legislative and policy frameworks which continuously evolved to promote sustainable national development and share its rich reservoir of knowledge with the world. This initiative offers an action driven opportunity to countries aiming to enhance their governmental operations and achieve holistic development. By engaging with GEEP, governments worldwide can leverage the UAE's pioneering experiences in areas such as the Government Excellence Model, Government Competitiveness, and the innovative One Million Coders program. Such partnerships are invaluable for realizing shared objectives and enhancing the quality of life on a global scale, making GEEP an essential endeavor for future-focused government collaboration.

#### **Key results and impact:**

GEEP has demonstrated significant global impact and tangible outcomes in enhancing government efficiency and cooperation across borders, which includes the following results and impact:

- Global Participation and Impact: GEEP has successfully engaged with more than 35+ countries, showcasing the universal appeal and effectiveness of the UAE's governmental expertise. This wide participation underscores GEEP's role as a cornerstone in international governmental collaboration and development.
- Extensive Scope of Workstreams: GEEP offered more than 100 diverse workstreams, covering a broad spectrum of governmental functions from service delivery to innovation and competitiveness. Each workstream is designed to address specific aspects of public administration, ensuring targeted and impactful interventions.
- Initiatives and Projects: A total of 400+ initiatives have been implemented under the umbrella of GEEP in the partnered countries. These initiatives span various domains of governance and public sector modernization, contributing to a comprehensive upliftment of administrative competencies among participating countries.

- Training and Development: GEEP has provided over 30+ million training hours, a testament to its commitment to capacity building and continuous learning. This extensive training has equipped government officials with the skills needed to drive change and foster development within their respective governments.
- Workshops and Direct Engagements: More than 3500 workshops were conducted, facilitating direct experience exchange and engagement among government officials. These workshops serve as a platform for interactive learning and shared experiences, enhancing the practical understanding of the principles and practices discussed.
- Trainee Engagement: GEEP has trained more than 3.2 million individuals, highlighting its extensive reach and profound impact on enhancing the capabilities of government personnel. This large number of trainees reflects the high demand and relevance of the training provided, contributing significantly to the global enhancement of public administration skills.



## **Chapter 2:**

## KEY THEMES AND INSIGHTS FROM THE XDGS 2045 MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE 2024

Acknowledging the importance of the 2030 Agenda, and with a scope that exceeds any previous international programs, these goals not only seek to eradicate poverty and ensure prosperity, but also to promote the sustainability of our planet and the inclusion of all individuals in the process. Recognizing the importance of these objectives, the UAE has actively contributed to the advancement of this agenda through many initiatives including the 'SDGs in Action' at the World Governments Summit.

With a theme titled 'XDGs 2045: Navigating the Future of Our World', the 11th edition of the World Governments Summit's SDGs in Action build on the solid foundation, set since 2016, with the goal of moving beyond conversation to tangible initiatives that solve today's and tomorrow's critical concerns. This gathering of global leaders from government, the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and financial institutions aimed to create a robust, inclusive, and sustainable global development agenda for after 2030. The Ministerial Roundtable's key deliberations were framed by the guiding question, 'How would the global agenda look like after 2030?' and the necessity for a renewed global commitment following the 2030 deadline.

The key themes and insights delivered from this Ministerial Roundtable are as follows (in alphabetical order):

#### **Key Themes and Insights**

- Challenges and Adaptability: The discussions underscored the importance of recognizing and adapting to the diverse challenges nations face in achieving the SDGs. Insights emphasized the necessity of resilient systems that can endure economic shocks, catastrophes from Mother Nature, and societal changes. Policies and strategies must be adaptable in order to respond quickly to developing issues while remaining on track to achieve the established objectives. The necessity for strong emergency planning and response structures were also emphasized, ensuring that communities can recover and thrive sustainably following catastrophes.
- Climate Adaptation and Mitigation: The discussions emphasized the urgent need for strong climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives. Insights highlighted the significance of incorporating climate resilience into all aspects of development planning, from agricultural and water resources to urban design and energy systems. Mitigation initiatives included lowering greenhouse gas emissions through cleaner energy solutions and carbon capture technology, as well as adaptation measures such as improving flood barriers and droughttolerant crops. The importance of international collaboration to exchange technology, experience, and financing in these areas was also emphasized.
- Collaboration and Global Partnerships: The discussion underlined the significance of forging international partnerships in order to address global concerns. Roundtable participants advocated for a collaborative structure that facilitates information exchange, resource pooling, and coordinated action across nations. The discussions also highlighted the need to leverage global partnerships to enhance the capacities of developing nations, ensuring they have access to the technology, funding, and knowledge needed to achieve their sustainability goals.

- Cultural and Social Norms: The influence of cultural and social norms on sustainable development strategies was of particular focus. Insights focused on the necessity of culturally sensitive approaches that respect and incorporate traditional knowledge and practices into modern sustainability efforts. It was emphasized that shifting social norms to accept sustainable behaviors might be difficult, but it is critical for long-term success. Strategies such as communitybased education, local leaders' engagement in advocacy, and media campaigns were identified as successful approaches for shifting beliefs and actions toward a more sustainable living.
- Heritage and Indigenous Knowledge: The integration of heritage and indigenous knowledge was deemed as critical in developing successful and sustainable development strategies. The discussions revealed that indigenous and local groups frequently have a thorough grasp of their ecosystems, which may provide important insights into sustainable resource management. discussions emphasized the need of protecting cultural places and practices, and they pushed for policies that include indigenous rights and knowledge into national and international sustainability strategies.
- Economic and Financial Strategies: Economic and financial policies are critical for encouraging the private and governmental sectors to invest in sustainable development. The roundtable examined novel financing methods, such as green bonds, sustainable investment funds, and public-private partnerships, which may help support SDG initiatives. Insights additionally addressed the significance of incorporating sustainability into corporate governance and financial reporting, pushing firms to embrace sustainable practices not only for compliance, but as a vital component of their business models.

- Education and Capacity Building: Education and capacity building were emphasized as essential components for accomplishing the SDGs. Insights highlighted a strong emphasis on incorporating SDG subjects into school curriculum at all levels, hence raising public awareness and comprehension of sustainability challenges. Capacity development includes training policymakers, corporate leaders, and community activists in sustainable practices, ensuring they have the skills and expertise to effect change. Discussions also included the role of digital platforms in distributing educational information, as well as the significance of lifelong learning in adapting to new sustainability issues.
- Ethics and Values in SDGs: Ethical concerns are critical in guiding the SDGs' implementation to achieve fair and equitable development. Insights emphasized the need to uphold high ethical standards in all SDG-related activities, from policy creation to project execution, to ensure that actions are transparent, inclusive, and equitable. Discussions centered on the importance of global governance frameworks in sustaining these principles and resolving dilemmas of ethics in resource distribution, technological application, and environmental protection.
- Extended Goals and Long-Term Planning: The group of experts recommended expanding the vision beyond the initial 2030 deadlines, focusing on longer-term goals that account for future global conditions and requirements. Insights stressed the need to anticipate new trends and potential problems while developing This includes incorporating strategy. sustainability into all elements of planning and governance, fostering sustainable practice innovation, and prioritizing investments in infrastructure and technology with long-term advantages.
- Inclusivity in Technology and Accessibility:
   Ensuring that advancements in technology are inclusive and accessible to all parts of society has been identified as a vital component of sustainable development. Insights explored the problems and potential for bridging

- the digital gap, particularly in underserved populations and underdeveloped nations. Key areas of debate were the significance of making new technologies accessible and userfriendly, as well as governments' responsibility in fostering digital inclusion through laws and initiatives that improve access to technology.
- **Intersectoral Coordination: Effective** collaboration has been intersectoral acknowledged as essential to solving the interrelated issues of sustainable development. The conversations revealed the need for systems that allow collaboration across sectors and levels of government, as well as between governments, NGOs, academia, international organizations, and private sectors. Such coordination ensures that policies are holistic and synergistic, by applying the talents and resources of multiple sectors to produce more comprehensive and sustainable outcomes.
- Legal and Regulatory Frameworks: Robust legal and regulatory frameworks were acknowledged as essential for the successful implementation and application of initiatives. Discussions emphasized importance of open, transparent regulations that encourage sustainable behaviors and penalize noncompliance. Insights also highlighted the need to harmonize international rules and standards in order to enhance international cooperation and avoid discrepancies in the implementation of sustainable development principles.
- Metrics and Accountability: Establishing clear metrics and accountability methods is critical for tracking progress and ensuring SDG commitments are met. The discussion importance emphasized the of accessible, and trustworthy data for evaluating the effectiveness of SDG initiatives. Insights stressed the creation of standardized indicators for measuring progress throughout the world, as well as specialized measurements for specific regional and national situations. Furthermore, the importance of third-party audits and citizen participation in monitoring government and business acts was considered as a way to improve accountability.

- Multi-Generational Engagement and Legacy Planning: The importance of multi-generational participation highlights the significance of engaging the perspectives of all age groups, particularly young, in planning and decisionmaking. Insights emphasized that legacy planning should include not just present sustainability concerns, but also future generations' goals and challenges. Educational initiatives that encourage envisioning the future, forward-thinking and adaptive legislation, and community planning that considers the longterm environmental and social implications of growth were among the strategies mentioned.
- Practical Implementation of SDGs: The focus on practical implementation addressed the need to transform ambitious goals into actionable steps that have a direct impact on communities. Key takeaways included the need to have clear, quantifiable goals and adopt localized methods that take into account the distinct socioeconomic and cultural settings of different places. The discussions also emphasized the importance of government in building enabling environments by enacting supporting rules and regulations that encourage private sector engagement and community participation.
- Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs): Public-Partnerships are essential Private harnessing the skills and resources of both sectors to achieve the SDGs. The roundtable discussed successful case studies in which PPPs have resulted in innovative solutions complicated development concerns. Clear partnership structures, risk-sharing procedures. and ensuring that collaborations are aligned with public interests and sustainable development goals are among the insights presented. It was also underlined that PPPs have the ability to expedite technical developments and infrastructure development in support of the SDGs.
- Renewable Energy and Sustainability: The
  discussions highlighted the importance of
  speeding the transition to renewable energy in
  order to reduce the effects of climate change and
  secure global energy sustainability. Insights
  underlined the importance of comprehensive
  policies that encourage renewable energy

- investment, promote innovation in energy storage and efficiency, and eliminate obstacles to clean technology adoption. The integration of renewable energy solutions into urban design and infrastructure projects was emphasized in order to develop sustainable cities that can withstand environmental difficulties.
- Resilience and Crisis Management: Building resilience against environmental, social, and economic crises is critical for sustainable development. The discussions highlighted the necessity of including resilience into design and construction to ensure that infrastructure, communities, and economies can resist and recover rapidly from shocks. The importance of technology in improving resilience, such as improved prediction tools and more efficient resource management, was also discussed.
- Technology and Innovation: Technology and innovation have been cited as key facilitators of the SDGs. The discussions provided insights into how to use cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence, big data, and the Internet of Things (IoT) to improve resource management efficiency, data collection and monitoring of SDG progress, and foster innovations that drive sustainable growth. The importance of laws that support research and development, safeguard intellectual property, and ease the adoption of sustainable technology across various industries was also emphasized.
- Youth and Inclusivity: Recognizing the critical role of youth in driving future change, the roundtable discussion focused on ideas for engaging young people more actively in the SDG process. Insights highlighted the construction of educational programs and platforms that provide youngsters with the skills and information they need to contribute to long-term development. Furthermore, the necessity of ensuring inclusion by addressing gender imbalances and including marginalized groups in decision-making was emphasized, advocating a comprehensive approach to sustainability that benefits all sectors of society.



As we conclude the chapter on 'Key Themes and Insights from the XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtable 2024', it becomes apparent that the discussions not only re-emphasized the commitments made under the 2030 Agenda, but also aimed to extend these efforts into the future with greater ambition. Throughout the roundtable, a wide range of global leaders, politicians, and practitioners presented their perspectives and ambitions, creating a diverse collection of ideas aimed at forging a more sustainable and equitable future. These discussions have highlighted the importance of concrete plans and collaborative efforts that cross borders, sectors, and generations, all while adjusting to the changing global landscape shaped by technological advancements and shifting geopolitical factors. This synthesis of knowledge and strategy serves not only as a blueprint for future global commitments, but also as a call to action for all stakeholders to renew their efforts and innovate beyond traditional approaches in order to address the problems of tomorrow's world. As we move forward, it becomes evident that our collective journey toward sustainable development is both a continuous struggle and a changing opportunity, needing firm dedication and innovative solutions from all corners of the world.







# CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A POST2030- AGENDA



## CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A POST-2030 AGENDA

In order to develop an in-depth narrative on the post-2030 agenda, with a spotlight on the SDGs, it is critical to comprehend both the anticipated challenges and the strategic solutions for addressing these issues. The information gathered could help in developing policies and initiatives that can pave the way to a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future. As we delve deeper into this discussion, we must acknowledge the importance of our collaborative efforts in developing a world in which the objectives for sustainability, inclusion, and progress are not just aspirations, but tangible realities.

The following challenges have been identified during the XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtable (in alphabetical order):

#### Challenges for a post-2030 Agenda

- 1. Achieving Synergies between SDGs (and future development agendas): While the Sustainable Development Goals are intended to be interconnected, developing effective synergy between them is a complicated problem. For instance, SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy has a direct influence on SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being and SDG 13: Climate Action. Developing policies and activities that target numerous goals at the same time can result in more long-term and effective results. This necessitates integrated planning and a comprehensive approach to policymaking that takes into account the economic, environmental. and social components simultaneously, now and in the future.
- 2. Climate Change: Climate change continues to be one of our most important concerns, threatening global environmental, social, and economic stability. The consequences, such as severe weather occurrences, rising sea levels, and shifting climatic zones, necessitate immediate and comprehensive actions that exceed present pledges. This problem needs aggressive climate action, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting sustainable land use and forest management, and investing heavily in renewable energy. Furthermore, resilience and adaptation methods must be incorporated into national development plans to reduce the impact of climate-related catastrophes on vulnerable populations.
- **3. Digital Divide:** The digital divide is a substantial limitation to social and economic growth, affecting both individuals and communities, especially in disadvantaged and distant locations. Many people are unable to participate in the global digital economy, obtain online education, or use e-government

- services because they do not have access to the internet or digital technology. Bridging this gap necessitates significant investment in digital infrastructure, particularly in rural and underprivileged regions, as well as education and training initiatives to enhance digital literacy. Governments and private sector partnerships must work together to ensure that digital innovations are accessible and helpful to everyone, not just to a select few.
- 4. Economic Disparities: Economic disparities, both within and between nations, impede equitable growth and stability. discrepancies result in unequal access to resources, education, healthcare, and opportunities. Bridging this gap is critical to promoting inclusive growth and social harmony. Strategies for reducing economic gaps include increasing access to excellent education, implementing fair trade practices, fostering inclusive economic growth through assistance for small and medium-sized businesses, and strengthening social safety nets to protect those who are economically disadvantaged.
- 5. Energy Insecurity: Energy insecurity remains a significant worldwide issue, impacting both developed and developing countries. This issue concerns not just the availability of energy, but also its cost and sustainability. Many places continue to rely on nonrenewable energy sources, which are both ecologically harmful and economically volatile. The move to renewable energy sources is critical, but it demands significant investment and innovative thinking. Furthermore, energy infrastructure must be able to resist and react to the effects of climate change and rising global demand.

- 6. Food Security: Climate change, water scarcity, and geopolitical instability are all creating significant risks to food security. The difficulty is not just to produce enough food, but also to make it available and affordable to all. To stabilize food markets and efficiently distribute resources, advancements in agricultural technology, improved water management methods, and international collaboration are required. Addressing food security entails reducing food wastage and improving farming techniques to make them more sustainable and environmentally friendly.
- **7. Forced Displacement:** The rising number of involuntarily displaced people, which has topped 114 million worldwide, offers an enormous challenge to sustainable development. Conflicts, climate change, and economic instability are all driving up displacement, resulting in major humanitarian disasters. Addressing this issue would need not just emergency relief efforts, but also strategies for the future centered on conflict resolution, climate adaptation measures, and economic assistance to stabilize regions most affected by displacement. The international community must strengthen collaborative efforts to identify sustainable solutions that include integration, repatriation, and relocation choices for displaced people.
- 8. Health Crises: The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the world's vulnerability to health crises and the necessity for strong health systems capable of reacting effectively. Future problems will include not just possible pandemics, but also the rising burden of noncommunicable diseases and the impact of environmental deterioration on public health. Strengthening health infrastructure, providing access to important medications and

- vaccinations, and strengthening international health cooperation are all critical for readiness and response. Health education and the promotion of healthy behaviors are also important for disease prevention and public health resilience.
- **9. Technological Disruption:** While advancements intechnology are good, they may also destabilize economies and communities, particularly in terms of job displacement caused by automation and artificial intelligence. The goal is to use technology to create new employment possibilities and boost economic activity while simultaneously enacting regulations that help workers transition into new positions. Educational systems must evolve to produce skills relevant to the changing labor market, and lifelong learning should be promoted. Furthermore, ethical concerns in technology deployment must be addressed to guarantee that technical advancement does not worsen inequality or undermine society values.
- 10. Urbanization: Rapid urbanization introduces multiple challenges, particularly in developing nations where infrastructure and services may be unable to keep up with growing demand. Overcrowding, pollution, and inadequate housing are all noticeable challenges in rapidly expanding urban settings. To overcome these issues, we need sustainable urban design and smart city solutions such as efficient public transportation, sustainable housing, and green areas. Furthermore, policies that encourage balanced regional development can relieve pressure on cities by making other regions more appealing and feasible for living and doing business.

The following recommendations have been identified during the XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtable (in alphabetical order):

#### Recommendations for a post-2030 Agenda

- 1. Climate Action: To reduce the negative consequences of climate change, efforts to increase climate action must be intensified. This involves reinforcing responsibilities to minimize greenhouse gas emissions under international accords such as the Paris Agreement. Investments in climate resilience and adaptation techniques are required to safeguard vulnerable populations from the consequences of extreme weather occurrences. This suggestion underlines the significance of conservation efforts to safeguard biodiversity and natural habitats, which are critical for preserving ecological balance and supporting life on Earth.
- **2. Enhance Digital Connectivity:** Bridging the digital divide is essential for guaranteeing equal access to information, education, and economic opportunities. This includes improving broadband infrastructure underdeveloped areas, making access more affordable, and encouraging digital literacy among all age groups. Governments may collaborate with tech businesses to advance these efforts, ensuring that digital technology innovations are available to all. Policies should also prioritize cybersecurity and privacy protections while encouraging the use of digital technology in education, healthcare, and government services.
- 3. Foster Economic **Equality:** Economic imbalances must be addressed by policies that promote economic equality and inclusive growth. This involves improving access to highquality education and healthcare, promoting job creation in new industries, and enacting tax and welfare changes that redistribute income more equitably. Policies promoting gender equality and the empowerment of underprivileged populations are also essential for creating inclusive economic growth. Additionally, international financial institutions and governments should collaborate to give financial assistance and debt relief to developing nations.

- **4. Investments in Renewable Energy:** The transition to sustainable energy systems is critical for addressing climate change and achieving long-term economic stability. Renewable energy investments, such as solar, wind, and hydropower, should be increased. This includes financing for R&D to increase energy efficiency and lower expenses. Furthermore, regulations and incentives that stimulate both public and private sector investment in renewable energy can help accelerate the transition away from fossil fuels. Building a strong infrastructure to facilitate the integration and distribution of renewable energy inside national networks is also critical.
- 5. Legislative and Policy Reforms: Advocating for and executing extensive legislative and policy reforms is required to achieve long-term sustainability aspirations. This involves updating environmental legislation, labor laws, and corporate governance standards to reflect today's reality and concerns. Legislation should also prioritize social justice and equality, ensuring that all citizens have access to the resources and opportunities necessary for success. International collaboration is required to align policies across borders, particularly in sectors such as commerce, the environment, and human rights.
- 6. Leverage Technology for the SDGs (and future **development agendas):** Technology plays an important role in accomplishing the SDGs by delivering efficient and scalable solutions. For example, artificial intelligence may be used in healthcare to diagnose diseases and in agriculture to monitor crops. Mobile technology can help people have access to banking services and communicate better amid disasters. Governments should promote policies that stimulate innovation while making technology advancements available to all segments of society, particularly rural and underprivileged regions. As technology evolves, it should also be utilized to identify futuristic responses to potential challenges.



- 7. Promote Sustainable Agriculture: Ensuring global food security through sustainable methods is an important goal. This necessitates advancements in agricultural systems that boost produce while conserving resources. Precision agriculture, new seed types, and efficient water management may all increase while minimizing environmental output effects. Small-scale farmers can benefit from education, market access, and financial services to increase agricultural output and sustainability. Furthermore, global trade policies should encourage fair and sustainable farming methods in order to stabilize food prices and supplies.
- 8. Public Health Infrastructure: Building a strong public health infrastructure is crucial for efficiently managing current and future health crises. This involves boosting investment in health facilities, technology, and workforce training to ensure that health-care providers are ready to handle increased patient loads during pandemics or other health emergencies. Strengthening global health networks to allow for faster exchange of information and resources can improve the overall response to health hazards. Furthermore, boosting preventive healthcare via public education about diet, physical activity, and cleanliness might help to minimize the prevalence of chronic illnesses.
- **9. Strengthen Global Partnerships:** The global challenges demand worldwide solutions, and enhanced international cooperation is essential. Partnerships must be inclusive, bringing together not just governments but also the private sector, civil society, academia, and international organizations. This cooperation should center on sharing information, technology, and resources to address concerns like climate change, health crises, and economic inequities. Enhanced global governance systems can promote better coordination and execution of global initiatives, ensuring that all countries, particularly nations with limited resources, receive the assistance they require to achieve their goals.
- 10. Urban Planning: As urban populations increase, effective urban planning becomes increasingly important for ensuring sustainable development. This involves developing smart cities that use technology to maximize resources such as water, energy, and transportation. To decrease environmental effects while improving quality of life, urban planning should promote natural areas, efficient public transit, and sustainable housing. Investment in infrastructure for pedestrian and bicycle lanes, as well as regulations encouraging mixed-use development, can help to minimize congestion and pollution. Furthermore, planning should be adaptive to account for the possible effects of climate change.



## Challenges and Recommendations for a Post2030-Agenda

Almost two-thirds of the 2030 Agenda has been completed (2015-2024), and as we approach the 2030 deadline, it is crucial to acknowledge and learn from our shared past. The urgency to commence in developing a new global development agenda cannot be overstated, providing sufficient amount of time to deliberate and create a development agenda that is truly inclusive, implementable, and achievable. The challenges identified at the XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtable show the wide range of challenges to our common future, including climate change, economic inequities, the widening digital gap, and health crises. These difficulties need swift, innovative, and inclusive solutions that address not only the symptoms but also the underlying causes, with a strategic, long-term perspective.

The comprehensive concepts offered provide a vision for action that is both ambitious and practical. They advocate for a transformational approach to resource management, technological engagement, and equitable growth. This time in history requires a shift away from traditional techniques and toward a collaborative, integrated approach to policymaking that brings together various stakeholders from across the world.

There is an urgent need for us to begin developing the post-2030 development agenda today, not tomorrow. The longer we wait, the more fragmented the landscape will become. As a result, it is critical that we begin this journey with a commitment to increased collaboration, inventive problem-solving, and the unrelenting pursuit of a sustainable, inclusive future that leaves no one behind. Allow this report to serve not only as a call to action, but also as a fundamental guide that motivates and drives us toward commencing the construction of the future development agenda, for our time to define the next period of global advancement has arrived.





## HIGH-LEVEL COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE XDGS 2045 MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLES (2023 AND 2024)

The XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtables for 2023 and 2024 organized by The General Secretariat of the National Committee on SDGs, emphasized global leadership and strategic thinking on SDGs. While both sessions emphasized the importance of developing a forward-thinking, inclusive, and sustainable global development agenda beyond 2030, each offered its own set of topics and insights that reflect the changing global landscape and complexities.

#### 2023 Outcomes: Shaping the Future of our World

- Focus Areas: The discussion focused on social investments, environmental sustainability, and economic growth as a basis for global development goals beyond 2030.
- **Key Insights:** The discussions highlighted the complexity of SDGs and the need for fewer, more focused targets to enhance implementation. Leadership, collaborations, and new finance solutions were underlined as key factors in boosting global prosperity.
- Implementation Challenges: The complex nature of the SDGs limits understanding of interconnected targets, underlining the need for simplicity to assess progress more effectively.

#### 2024 Outcomes: Navigating the Future of our World

- Focus Areas: The discussions included cultural heritage, indigenous knowledge, technological inclusion, and crisis management, among additional topics.
- **Key Insights:** The focus was on practical execution, expanding targets beyond 2030, and improving measurement and accountability. Policies must be adaptable and resilient in order to achieve long-term development.
- Implementation Challenges: Additional implementation challenges, like bridging the digital gap, resolving economic inequities, and boosting renewable energy programs, have been identified as crucial for future agendas.



## Key differences between the 2023 and 2024 XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtables

#### Focus and Approach to Global Development:

- 2023: The focus was on establishing basic goals for future agendas, drawing significantly on lessons learned from the MDGs and SDGs. The discussion focused on developing a post-2030 agenda that simplifies and streamlines the goals in order to ensure better implementation and tracking.
- **2024:** The emphasis shifted to real execution of these goals, with a strategic focus on adjusting to emerging global challenges. This featured a larger and more dynamic conversation about fore sighting future requirements and building resilience and flexibility into policies and initiatives.

#### • Technological Integration:

- **2023:** Technology was largely highlighted as a support tool for improving the effectiveness of current SDG frameworks, with an emphasis on applications in education and employment development.
- **2024:** A move toward using modern technologies like artificial intelligence, big data, and the IoT to meet the SDGs. The emphasis was on making these technologies inclusive and accessible, demonstrating a forward-thinking approach to employing technology for sustainability.

#### Engagement and Inclusion:

- **2023:** The roundtable discussion focused on high-level leadership and partnerships, linking global leaders' pledges to community-based efforts. It emphasized the significance of global collaboration, but from a top-down perspective.
- **2024:** Broadened the scope to encompass multigenerational participation, highlighting the need of incorporating cultural and social norms into sustainability activities. There was a major emphasis on actively engaging young people and marginalized groups in the SDG process, indicating a more grassroots approach.

#### Scope of Challenges and Solutions:

- **2023:** Emphasized the complexity of the SDGs and argued for a more concentrated approach with fewer, achievable goals. The emphasis was on simplifying and clarifying the goals in order to improve comprehension and implementation.
- 2024: Addressed a broader set of growing concerns, including the digital gap, economic inequities, and renewable energy efforts. The discussions focused on developing comprehensive resilience and crisis management methods to address these broad concerns.

#### Consistent themes across the 2023 and 2024 XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtables

- Sustainability and Global Partnership: Both years highlighted the need for sustainable development and global partnerships. The necessity of international cooperation and resource pooling in achieving the SDGs remained a key subject.
- **Economic Strategies:** Economic sustainability through innovation, investment, and skilled workforce development was a constant theme throughout both years. The roundtables stressed the importance of solid economic underpinnings for achieving the SDGs.
- **Climate Change and Environmental Concerns:** The need to tackle climate change and incorporating environmental sustainability into all parts of development planning was often emphasized. Both roundtables highlighted these as critical issues that needed urgent and ongoing action.
- **Education and Capacity Building:** Education was emphasized as a critical component in both debates, with a continued emphasis on incorporating SDG topics into educational institutions to increase awareness and comprehension across all age groups.
- **Leadership and accountability:** The necessity for decisive leadership and strong accountability procedures was emphasized throughout both sessions. Discussions centered on the need of clear measurements and accountable governance in ensuring development and adherence to the SDG goals.

The XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtables in 2023 and 2024 presented a thorough and dynamic discussion on the global sustainable development agenda, emphasizing the importance of a collaborative and forward-thinking approach. Both roundtables remained committed to sustainability, global collaborations, economic strategies, climate action, education, and responsible leadership while also broadening their emphasis to address rising global issues. The 2023 roundtable provided a fundamental perspective, emphasizing the simplicity and emphasis of goals acquired from past learnings whereas the 2024 roundtable expanded the topic of debate to include more dynamic solutions such as technology innovation and inclusion, with the goal of equipping global development strategies with the flexibility and resilience required for the future.





## SDGS IN ACTION AT THE WORLD GOVERNMENTS SUMMIT

The UAE has been a passionate advocate of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, introducing its innovative 'SDGs in Action' platform at the World Governments Summit. This initiative highlights the importance of global cooperation in accomplishing the 17 SDGs. Positioned outside the traditional venues of the UN General Assembly and High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), the 'SDGs in Action' platform serves as a catalyst, shape-shifter, and innovative hub for sharing best practices, laying future-oriented foundations, and forging bilateral and multilateral partnerships to boost global prosperity.

Since its inception at the World Governments Summit in 2016, 'SDGs in Action' has represented innovation and swift advancement toward the Global Goals. The platform has launched a number of initiatives, including the Global Councils on SDGs, an interdisciplinary global network of leaders and youth. In the past two-years, the SDGs in Action formed Ministerial Roundtables to commence discussions on the importance of establishing platforms to deliberate and drive the foundational work for the next global development agenda in a post-2030 world.





The World Governments Summit has consistently served as a pivotal platform for global leaders from governments, private sectors, academia, and civil society to address the world's most pressing challenges since its inception in 2013. The World Governments Summit shape the future of governments, and as we envision the future of the SDGs in Action at the 12th edition of the World Governments Summit, we aim to deliver a watershed moment, concentrating on the commencement in developing a comprehensive, high-level work plan. This plan will aim to support the framework for efficiently using global resources to advance the 2030 Agenda, bringing together important stakeholders from many sectors to guarantee an inclusive and proactive approach.

With the blessing of the United Nations and in partnership, we aim to host the first formal XDGs 2045 Summit in February 2025. The summit's goal will be to provide the foundation for a post-2030 development agenda that will benefit current and future generations alike.

Reading the first XDGs 2045 report will provide you with insights into the fundamental parts of the high-level working plan, such as stakeholder identification, resource allocation, and the creative acceleration initiatives that will propel this ambitious agenda. Join us in creating a sustainable and inclusive future.

#### SDGs in Action Forum 2024

Leveraging the momentum from previous "SDGs in Action" Forums organized by the UAE General Secretariat of the National Committee on SDGs at the World Governments Summit 2024 witnessed the launch of the latest iteration of this critical platform. This timely convening comes as the world grapples with accelerating progress on the SDGs amidst a confluence of crises impacting economic, social, and environmental spheres. Recognizing the centrality of climate change in these challenges, Themed "XDGs 2045: Navigating the Future of our World" the SDGs in Action Forum 2024 placed a particular focus on its multifaceted relationship with the SDGs, both in terms of its adverse impacts, potential solutions, and futuristic approach. Below is a high-level summary of the forum's main sessions in line with the theme of XDGs 2045:



Opening Address

**H.E. Levan Davitashvili**First Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia

The opening address delivered by H.E. Levan Davitashvili, First Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development, highlighted the importance of international cooperation in advancing the SDGs amid complex global challenges. Georgia is committed to aligning national with the SDGs and working towards the localization of the SDGs; however, challenges remain.

Starting the opening address, H.E. Levan Davitashvili highlighted the significance of international cooperation, exemplified by initiatives like the World Governments Summit, in advancing the SDGs. International cooperation is especially vital as the world confronts increasingly complex and transboundary challenges, among them climate change, economic disparities, public health crises and geopolitical tensions. Amid these multifaceted challenges, the pursuit of SDGs becomes not only a national duty but a shared responsibility that transcends borders. The Government of Georgia recognizes the importance of achieving the SDGs for reaping social, economic, and environmental benefits. The long-term benefits of implementing the SDGs promotes

prosperity and job creation, improves private sector competitiveness and new business opportunities, and maintains ecological boundaries through scaling clean energy, sustainable transport, and green products. Supported by advancements in smart technology and increasingly efficient processes, the implementation of SDGs ensures that no one is left behind.

Georgia moves forward with SDGs implementation, with a focus on bridging remaining gaps and improving equality. In this regard, H.E. Levan Davitashvili provided a brief overview of Georgia's efforts in implementing the SDGs and highlighted the way forward. The Government of Georgia works towards incorporating the SDGs within national goals and aligning them with the country's strategic priorities. Currently, 17 SDGs and 93 targets have been identified as national priorities within Georgia's specific context. The implementation of these targets is overseen through the identification of more than 200 indicators for tracking the country's progress. In 2022, Georgia submitted the second National Voluntary review (VNR), and current efforts are guiding Georgia's upcoming submission of its third VNR. Despite making progress in achieving the SDGs, Georgia is determined to further reduce social and economic inequalities by following main policy directives aiming at improving health systems, ramping up social protection, creating high-value end jobs, supporting SMEs, ensuring access to affordable and sustainable energy, and enhancing economic inclusion.

In recent years, Georgia has made strides in economic growth powered by the implementation of structural reforms, as highlighted by H.E. Levan Davitashvili, which helped boost resilience and stability in the face of economic crisis. However, challenges remain in Georgia's labour market, particularly in relation to qualifications and skills mismatch. Tackling these challenges is key to reducing unemployment in support of poverty eradication efforts by the Government of Georgia. Protecting the most vulnerable in society is a national priority accounted for by adopting social safety net measures, including targeted social assistance programs, increasing social benefits, and indexation of pensions. Eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities are both long-standing objectives requiring long-term investment in human capital in the form of increased quality of education and training and cost-effectiveness of education spending.

Technological advancements aids in absorbing shocks in different sectors. Vital sectors like healthcare, telecommunication and agriculture can leverage technology to make positive impact in society. Innovation serves as a catalyst for economic prosperity and aids in addressing intricate global challenges. Georgia, as H.E. Levan Davitashvili stressed, recognizes the impact

of innovation and technology and therefore is pursuing the implementation of a national broadband development strategy to bridge digital divides, reduce digital inequality and foster digital economy.

Considering the transboundary nature of global challenges, a coordinated and collaborative international approach becomes imperative. Georgia, vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, works on aligning its national policies with the SDGs. Recognizing the far-reaching impact of such challenges underscores the significance of concerted collaboration. Fulfilling these objectives necessitates a green transition focused on energy savings and efficiency. Georgia has already initiated efforts to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable energy, signalling a proactive stance towards sustainable development.

On a national level, Georgia is mainstreaming the SDGs in municipalities, tailored to local contexts and drawing from best practices. The government of Georgia is committed to localizing the goals in all 65 municipalities by 2025 to ensure meeting the targets by 2030.

In conclusion, H.E. Levan Davitashvili emphasized that in the pursuit of the SDGs, paramount importance should be placed on "leaving no one behind". The road to sustainable development is one that must be travelled together with the aim of building a world that respect the dignity of every individual, preserve the planet for future generations, and ensure prosperity for all.



#### **Keynote Address**

COP28 to COP29: Impactful Partnership for Climate Action

#### H.E. Mukhtar Babayev

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Republic of Azerbaijan, COP29 President

This session, delivered by H.E. Mukhtar Babayev, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Republic of Azerbaijan, COP29 President, highlighted the critical need for intensified efforts to achieve the SDGs. Climate change action was emphasized as a central component, with COP29, to be hosted in Azerbaijan, as a pivotal platform to strengthen international collaboration and achieve shared climate objectives.

H.E. Mukhtar Babayev stressed the significance of accelerating progress towards achieving the SDGs. The gravity of the situation was highlighted – with only 12% of the SDGs on track for achievement by 2030. A strong emphasis was placed on the need for collective action and renewed efforts to accelerate progress. Addressing climate change is a critical component of the SDGs.

The UAE consensus reached at UNFCCC 28th Conference of Parties (COP28) held in Dubai in 2023, has laid the groundwork for global climate action for the coming years. It established a clear path for global climate action, with ambitious targets set for emission reduction, renewable energy deployment, and adaptation funding for developing countries. Continuing the momentum for climate action, Azerbaijan was selected as a host for COP29. H.E. Mukhtar Babayev affirmed Azerbaijan's commitment to aligning preparation for COP29 with the global efforts addressing climate change.

Azerbaijan has seen economic transformation

evident in the three-fold increase in GDP and substantial reduction in poverty. Recently, the implementation of the SDGs received a boost through the establishment of a national coordination council for sustainable development which focuses on economic growth, social issues, and environmental issues, in addition to monitoring and evaluating progress on SDGs. Building on this momentum, Azerbaijan outlined its national climate targets, aiming for renewables to constitute 24% of energy generation capacity by 2026 and 30% by 2030. Additionally, a 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 was declared as a national goal.

The urgency of scaling up climate action at both national and international levels was stressed by H.E. Mukhtar Babayev. Collaboration was identified as the key to success, with COP29 offering a crucial platform for fostering partnerships with the international community, organizations, and civil society.

The concluding remarks underscored the vital interdependence of the SDGs. Environmental gains are integral to achieving broader development goals. However, reaping these benefits requires an inclusive approach, fostering global dialogue and cooperative action.



**Keynote Address** 

Data as a Catalyst: Navigating Geopolitical Tensions Towards Sustainable Development

**H.E. Paula Ingabire**Minister of ICT and Innovation,
Republic of Rwanda

The Keynote address was delivered by H.E. Paula Ingabire, Minister of ICT and Innovation, Republic of Rwanda, in which she explored the pivotal role of data and technology-based approaches in navigating the complex challenges hindering progress towards the SDGs.

A critical concern highlighted was the impact of conflict and transboundary issues on achieving the SDGs. Conflict not only disrupts progress but can eradicate hard-earned gains. H.E. Paula Ingabire presented statistics demonstrating that despite overall progress, many countries, particularly those in the African continent, are still lagging behind. The challenge is not just to maintain momentum but to accelerate progress, particularly in SDG 4: Quality Education where millions of children and young people in the world lack basic literacy and numeracy skills.

Data-driven approaches were presented as a key tool for addressing these concerns. Rwanda's experience in localizing the SDGs served as an example. By adapting the global goals to their unique context, Rwanda ensures that policies and strategies address the specific needs of local communities, leading to more effective and sustainable interventions. Data plays a crucial role

in this process. Decision-making and planning informed by data allow for tailored strategies that directly serve the needs of local communities. Furthermore, data empowers agility and real-time decision-making, enabling swift responses to emerging challenges and capitalization on new opportunities. While transitioning to such an agile approach presents its own challenges, the potential benefits outweigh the costs.

Looking beyond the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Rwanda aims to pave the way for a sustainable future beyond this set deadline. This necessitates a deep understanding of each country's unique circumstances and opportunities. H.E. Paula Ingabire advocated for regional integration, investment in technology and innovation, and promoting inclusive economic growth.

Strengthening governance, prioritizing education and skills development, climate action, and environmental sustainability were highlighted as crucial factors. Overcoming challenges such as infrastructure deficits and political instability and ensuring sustainable mechanisms will require collaboration, innovation, and regional cooperation.



#### SDGs in Action at World Governments Summit

By leveraging a budding technology sector, Rwanda identified the most vulnerable communities and devised inclusive strategies that address economic challenges and create decent jobs.

Central to tailoring these strategies is datadriven decision-making. Reliable, timely, and comprehensive data empowers Rwanda not only to address current needs but also to anticipate future challenges and opportunities.

H.E. Paula Ingabire shared examples of how Rwanda utilizes data. The most prominent of these examples is Imihigo which is a tool that promotes accountability and transparency by presenting targets to the public during both planning and reporting phases. It also helps the government learn from successes and failures, allowing for adjustments in future efforts.

Another example where data plays a pivotal role is scenario planning. This approach helps Rwanda address complex challenges like food security and unemployment, considering the interdependence of these issues. Scenario planning allows for understanding current realities, setting future goals, and anticipating potential obstacles.

Data-driven approaches to decisions making was also exemplified in how Rwanda plans for Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Rwanda uses data to determine optimal locations for new health posts, maximizing access to healthcare services.

H.E. Paula Ingabire concluded the session with four key takeaways from Rwanda's experience dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts. First, the pandemic has significantly impacted SDG progress, necessitating a rapid recovery. Second, resilient economies are crucial to minimize vulnerability to external shocks. Third, digitalization plays a vital role in accelerating SDG achievement, a lesson underscored by the pandemic. Fourth, the pandemic highlighted interdependencies between sectors, emphasizing the need for integrated planning.



#### **Keynote Address**

#### **Egypt's Green Initiatives**

#### H.E. Amb. Hisham Badr

Assistant Minister for Strategic Partnerships, Excellence and Initiatives National Initiative for Smart Green Projects (NISGP) National Coordinator, Egypt

In this session, H.E. Amb. Hisham Badr, Assistant Minister for Strategic Partnerships, Excellence and Initiatives National Initiative for Smart Green Projects (NISGP) National Coordinator, Egypt, explored the National Initiative for Smart Green Projects (NISGP), a groundbreaking program launched by Egypt in 2022 to accelerate the country's transition towards a green economy. The initiative emerged following Egypt's hosting of the 27th UNFCCC's Conference of the Parties (COP27), reflecting a national commitment to sustainable development.

NISGP operates on a core principle of inclusivity. It serves as a platform connecting various stakeholders, including government agencies, businesses, startups, NGOs, and individuals. This collaborative approach facilitates project implementation and fosters green initiatives nationwide.

The focus of NISGP lies in "smart green projects." To ensure clarity, the initiative provides a clear definition of both "green" and "smart" within the context of project proposals. Additionally, a set of specific criteria is provided to help participants develop successful projects. These criteria emphasize factors like replicability, empowerment and equality, impact, and feasibility.

To create an inclusive environment for all, NISGP established six distinct project categories for participation: large-scale projects, medium-scale projects, small-scale projects, startups, gender-

related projects, and projects from non-profit organizations.

Recognizing the need to empower potential participants, NISGP prioritized capacity building. Numerous online training sessions, workshops, and seminars were conducted in collaboration with strategic partners. These sessions equipped participants with the knowledge and expertise necessary to develop and drive sustainable projects.

Educational platforms like universities, youth centres, and training centres were also utilized to spread awareness about the initiative and its goals.

The initiative has witnessed remarkable success. Over two rounds, it received a staggering 12,000 project submissions. Across both rounds, 3817 qualified projects from all 27 Egyptian governorates were received. Notably, these projects covered a wide range of green development areas, including waste management, climate adaptation, energy, and sustainable agriculture.

A rigorous evaluation process was conducted to select winning projects. Ultimately, 18 projects were awarded financial support in each round. Importantly, these projects were also connected with financial institutions to facilitate further funding opportunities.



#### SDGs in Action at World Governments Summit

Beyond financial support, NISGP facilitated the engagement of winning projects in major international climate conferences, including COP27 in Egypt and COP28 in Dubai.

A key strength of NISGP is its bottom-up approach. By empowering local communities to develop solutions, the initiative fosters a sense of ownership and promotes local ownership of the green agenda. Additionally, the program serves as a catalyst for mobilizing global finance to fund green projects in Egypt.

Looking towards the future, NISGP aims to instil a mindset of possibility, encouraging young people to view climate challenges as opportunities for innovation. Despite its young age, the initiative has already demonstrably achieved significant positive impacts, including:

- Increased awareness about green initiatives across all governorates.
- Provided a comprehensive framework to connect project developers with funding entities.
- Cultivated a culture of innovation and fostered a mindset for action in the face of climate change.
- Extended collaborative efforts and partnerships across various sectors.
- Developed capacities across different regions, particularly in technology and climate action.

The session concluded by highlighting the initiative's impact on achieving the SDGs. By promoting green technology and fostering innovative solutions, NISGP directly addresses global challenges while simultaneously boosting Egypt's economy and strengthening societal resilience. Finally, H.E. Amb. Hisham Badr presented examples of award-winning projects, detailing their journey from initial idea to international recognition.



#### **Closing Remarks**

#### H.E. Mrs. Emine Erdoğan

Spouse of the President of the Republic of Türkiye, Chair of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board of Eminent Persons on Zero Waste, Waste Wise Cities Global Champion, Republic of Türkiye.

H.E. Mrs. Emine Erdoğan, Spouse of the President of the Republic of Türkiye, delivered impactful closing remarks emphasizing the critical need for a global shift towards sustainable consumption practices and international collaboration to address pressing environmental challenges and achieve the SDGs.

Mrs. Erdoğan underscored the stark reality: living beyond the Earth's finite resources through unsustainable growth and consumption patterns is generating excessive waste and harming ecosystems and human health. However, she offered a beacon of hope, highlighting that conscious consumption driven by awareness of resource limitations and waste generation can significantly contribute to solving waste and pollution challenges. She championed responsible production and consumption as the cornerstone for ensuring both human and environmental well-being.

The importance of collective action was a central theme throughout the closing remarks. Mrs. Erdoğan recognized the crucial role of environmental volunteers equipped with sustainability knowledge and a shared sense of responsibility. Their informed choices, such as abandoning single-use plastics and embracing composting, were presented as powerful examples of positive action on the individual level. She further emphasized the transboundary nature of environmental challenges, such as climate change. Addressing these issues, she argued, necessitates a collective global effort, as solutions benefit not just individual nations but entire regions and the planet as a whole.

The importance of composting was specifically highlighted as a means to reduce landfill waste and enhance food security. Mrs. Erdoğan further underscored the shared humanity and responsibility embedded within the SDGs and the principle of

"leaving no one behind." She pointed to the world's stark contradictions, where some face poverty and hunger while others waste food. The significant threat that air, land, and water pollution pose to the health and well-being of future generations was also addressed.

The closing remarks served as a powerful call to action, urging a shift towards a "green" and circular economy that promotes sustainable production and consumption patterns. In this context, Mrs. Erdoğan introduced Türkiye's Zero Waste project, an initiative she spearheads, and which is further supported by the newly established Advisory Board of Eminent Persons on Zero Waste.

The message of unity and collective effort resonated throughout the closing statement. Mrs. Erdoğan stressed that addressing the waste challenge transcends the capabilities of individual nations and requires a unified global effort. The detrimental impacts of waste, including air pollution, rising temperatures, and plastic pollution in oceans, were cited as stark reminders of the problem's global scope. International cooperation and collective efforts were emphasized as essential elements in combating global challenges and achieving the SDGs.

The closing remarks concluded with a focus on practical solutions and empowering future generations. Examples of everyday actions that can promote sustainable living under resource constraints were provided, including recycling, rainwater collection, composting, and embracing sustainable practices in daily life. The paramount importance of equipping future generations with the skills and knowledge to champion sustainability was also stressed. Finally, Mrs. Erdoğan acknowledged the crucial role of environmental volunteers in supporting the global sustainability agenda.



#### Key Takeaways from the SDGs in Action Forum

The world faces a significant challenge in achieving the SDGs by the 2030 target date. The lingering effects of the global pandemic, coupled with rising inflation, cost-of-living pressures, environmental and economic turmoil, ongoing conflicts, natural disasters, and regional instability, have all taken a heavy toll on progress towards these critical objectives. In light of these daunting challenges, there is an urgent need for a renewed and concentrated effort to accelerate progress on the SDGs. This can only be achieved through enhanced international cooperation, open dialogue, and a commitment to sharing knowledge and best practices. The SDGs in Action Forum serves as a vital platform for fostering such collaboration.

#### **Conclusion**

As we approach the twilight of the 2030 Agenda, the imperative to envision and embark on a new developmental trajectory for the succeeding years up to 2045 cannot be overstated. The collective journey thus far has laid a robust foundation of shared goals and aspirations. However, the evolving global landscape, marked by unprecedented environmental, social, and technological changes, calls for an innovative and adaptive approach to sustainable development. The 'XDGs 2045' report is not just a continuation but an expansion and deepening of our global commitment to a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable future.

We must recognize that, although the ambition of a global agenda provides a unifying direction, the varying difficulties and particular situations of different regions need the adoption of a global vision in conjunction with regional development goals. This strategy allows for a dual route in which a global vision establishes overall targets and principles, while regional agendas modify these goals to local realities and possibilities. By doing so, we can guarantee that global plans are properly customized to fit unique requirements, optimizing impact and encouraging regional ownership of sustainable development objectives.

#### Call to Action:

- Initiate Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues: Governments, private sectors, civil society, academia, and international organizations must work together to create a comprehensive global vision that represents their joint goals for the future beyond 2030. These discussions should attempt to align global objectives with regional interests, ensuring that no region falls behind.
- Strengthen Regional Capabilities: Invest in developing and improving regional capacity for designing, implementing, and monitoring development plans. This comprises technology improvements, policymaking knowledge, and financial methods customized to specific regional circumstances.
- Encourage Inclusive Governance: Involve local communities, indigenous peoples, and marginalized groups in decision-making. Their own knowledge and experiences are crucial when creating successful and fair development methods.
- Accelerate Technological Integration: Use technology not just as a tool, but also as a foundation for fostering creativity when solving difficult development concerns. Support should

- be offered to regions that are lagging in digital transformation to narrow the technological gap and improve global connection.
- Implement Flexible Policy Frameworks: Create policy frameworks that can be adapted to changing situations and address new problems. This adaptability will be critical to ensuring the relevance and efficacy of regional development agendas across time.
- Commit to Sustainable Financing: Use a sustainable financing source like green bonds, climate funds, and creative public-private partnerships to help achieve the XDGs' ambitions. Financial strategy should favor long-term advantages and sustainability over short-term profits.
- Cultivate an Accountability Culture: Establish strong systems for transparency and responsibility while implementing development plans. Regular monitoring, assessment, and public reporting will guarantee that pledges are met and can contribute to increased confidence among all stakeholders.

Finally, as we chart our way toward 2045, let us be guided by a fresh global vision that recognizes the connectivity of our world while also celebrating the uniqueness of its regions. This dual strategy, which combines a global vision with regional goals, will allow us to better manage the challenges of the future. Together, we can build a robust, flexible, and sustainable framework that goes beyond the 2030 Agenda and drives us toward a prosperous future for all. Let us embark on this enormous adventure today, with unwavering dedication and a collaborative spirit, to pave the path of global growth for future generations.



#### XDGs 2045: Navigating the future of our world

#### **APPENDICES**

#### **List of Abbreviations**

HLPF	High-Level Political Forum
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IoT	Internet of Things
GITA	Georgian Agency for Innovation and Technology
QA	Quality Assurance
GEL	Georgian Lari
IPPC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ODA	Official Development Assistance
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
PPPs	Public-Private Partnerships
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
STI	Science, Technology, and Innovation
NAIS	The National Agency for Information Society
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UN	United Nations
WGS	World Governments Summit

#### **Authors**



**Christiaan J. Coetzee**Freelance Consultant

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/christiaan-coetzee/ Email: cjcoetzee6@gmail.com

#### **Country Contributions**

#### Albania

Albania's Digital Agenda 2022-2026

#### Georgia

Do IT in Georgia & Mobile Public Service Hall

#### Azerbaijan

The State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the "ASAN service"

#### The Republic of the Seychelles

The Sustainable Seychelles Brand

#### **Kurdistan Region of Iraq**

MyAccount

#### **United Arab Emirates**

Government Exchange Experience Programme

This report was published under the auspices of the National Committee on SDGs. Special thanks to **Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government** for their support in capturing the outcomes of the SDGs in Action Forum Sessions.

#### Overview of the SDGs in Action at World Governments Summit:

**Under the theme 'XDGs 2045 Navigating the Future of Our World'**, the SDGs in Action focused on showcasing actionable strategies and fostering collaborations to advance the SDGs and build on the 2023 foundation to design a development agenda beyond 2030.

2024

2023

2023

2022

2022

2021

2020

2019

2018

2017

2016

(COP 28 Special Edition) A special edition of SDGs in Action, themed "Future Forward: Empowering Youth for Sustainable Change", focused on educating and equipping youth with skills for sustainability, showcasing global best practices to inspire a prosperous and inclusive future beyond 2030.

(March) Themed 'Scaling New Heights for the Future of Humanity', the SDGs in Action at WGS scaled its impact through multi-purpose and cross border collaborations. Global leaders, including the President of the Seychelles, took part in an action-packed agenda that saw the deliverance of cross-knitting partnerships for a better future for all.

A soft launch of the second term of the Global Councils on SDGs, under the theme 'Galvanizing the Global Acceleration of the SDGs', saw 18 Councils commence with a diverse range of projects and whitepapers, driving a nexus model to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**'Leadership for achieving the goals'** featured a combination of plenary sessions and Global Councils' breakout sessions. It aimed to foster partnerships and cooperation among council members in their respective fields to support the implementation of specific goals.

Under the theme 'Role of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in achieving the SDGs' brought together scientists, experts, government officials and other key stakeholders to identify STI driven solutions to accelerate the implementation of the goals.

Themed 'Redesigning the Future of Our World: 2030 Principles and beyond', the SDGs in Action addressed fundamental challenges to implement the global goals and reshape the future of for generations to come through a diverse network of global leaders from public and private sectors, international organizations, non-government organizations, academia, and civil society. The historical event laid the foundation of building a report to commence in designing the next global development plan.

(January) Expo2020 - Dubai's Global Goals thematic week saw the 'Decade of Action: Accelerate SDG Implementation' segment officially launch of the second cohort of the Global Councils on SDGs. Chairpersons have delivered interjections of the respective work plans to enhance the collaboration of interdisciplinary networks to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The SDGs in Action took to a virtual event due to the novel Coronavirus pandemic. The first term of the Global Councils on SDGs concluded under the theme 'SDGs Global Councils: Preparing for the Decade of Action'.

SDGs in Action saw the launch of an interdisciplinary network dedicated to promoting innovative thinking and creativity in the implementation of the SDGs and 2030 Agenda. The first cohort of 12 Global Councils on SDGs commenced on a 2-year journey, driving global impact and acceleration of the SDGs.

The UAE launched the **'SDGs in Action'** at the **WGS**, to support the global implementation of the SDGs through innovation and partnerships. The SDGs in Action became an integral part of the WGS program, to drive the implementation and accelerate change throughout the years.

WORLD GOVERNMENTS SUMMIT 2024

in collaboration with

SDGs IN ACTION



Email: SDGs@fcsc.gov.ae Email subject: XDGs 2045 | Together, we can!









WWW.UAESDGS.COM | @UAESDGS