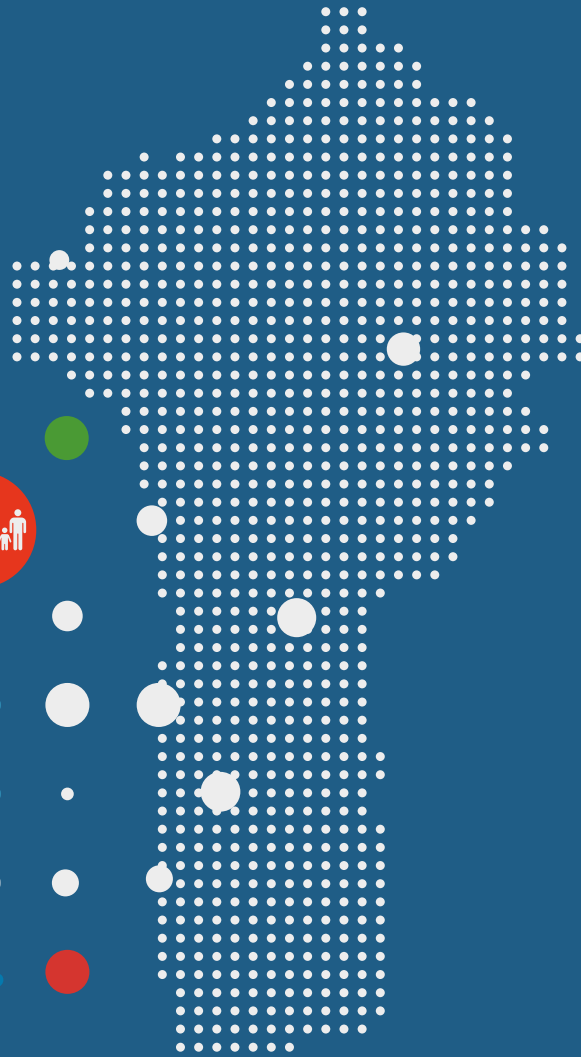
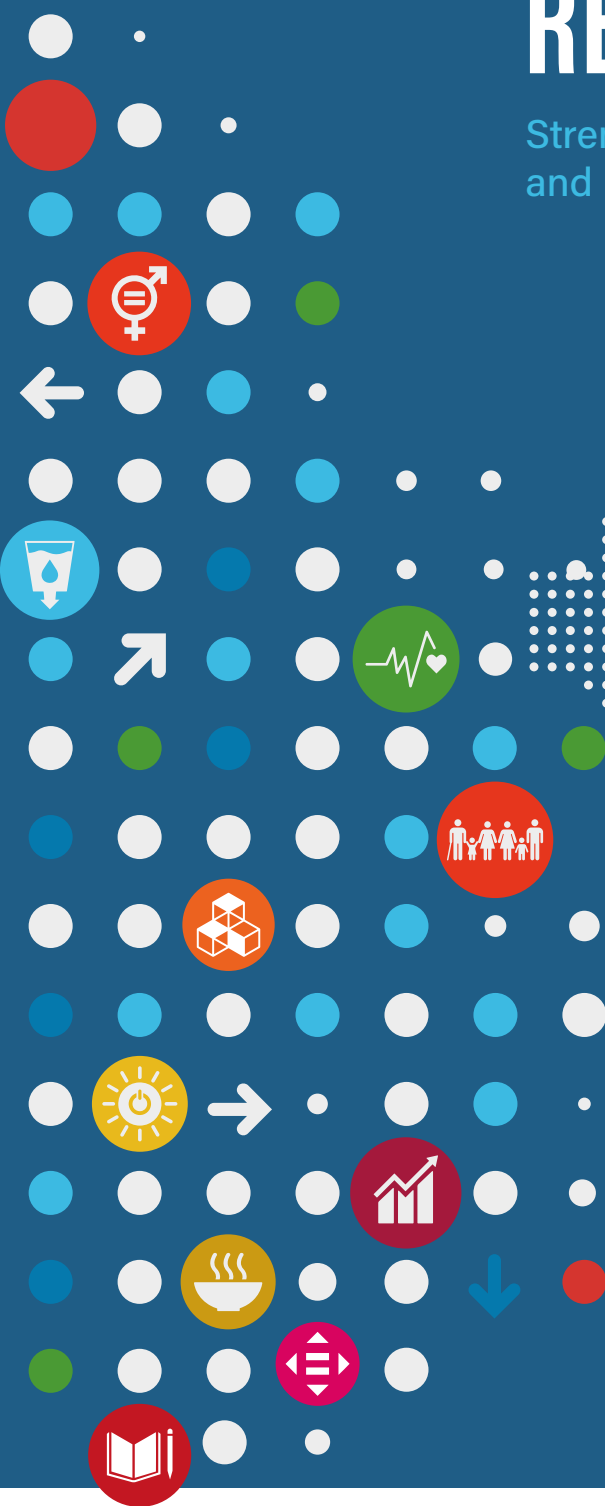


BENIN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2023

Strengthening Human Capital
and Reducing Inequalities



July 2023

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The opinions expressed in this report do not reflect the views of any organization, agency, or program of the United Nations or the Government of Benin. It was prepared by a team of independent experts from the SDSN Secretariat and is based on the methodology of the Sustainable Development Report published by SDSN since 2016.

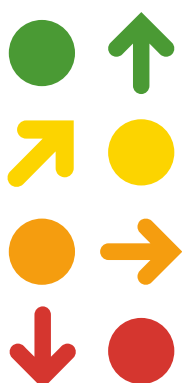
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An online interactive dashboard and all the data used in this report are available at: benin.sdgindex.org and www.sdgindex.org.

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BENIN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2023

Strengthening Human Capital
and Reducing Inequalities



Foreword

As part of its commitment to achieving the United Nations 2030 Agenda, Benin launched an inaugural Eurobond issue in July 2021, dedicated to the exclusive financing of projects that will have a major impact on the achievement of the SDGs. The Eurobond is worth €500 million and has a maturity of 12.5 years.

In order to support the national system, the country has established a partnership with the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) to assess the progress and efforts made by the Beninese government and to carry out a comparative analysis with other countries in the sub-region, particularly those of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

As a reminder, the first report under this partnership, published in July 2022, presented the state of play and the trends of the SDGs in Benin, as well as an analysis of its policies to achieve them through the “Six Transformations” framework¹, inspired by the work of Sachs et al. (2019). The report shows that our country is halfway to achieving the SDGs. The report also shows that Benin is ranked among the countries with a strong political commitment to achieving the SDGs. The same applies to the Government Action Program (PAG), which addresses the vast majority of the challenges associated with the SDGs.

In this 2023 edition of the report, we have focused the analysis on the central theme of “strengthening human capital and reducing inequalities”, which are the objectives of Transformation 1 (education, gender and inequality) and Transformation 2 (health, well-being and demography). This choice is in line with the social orientation of the PAG (2021-2026) through its pillar no. 2 “Improving the social well-being of the population”. By way of illustration, the share of expenditure with social spending represents 45.6 percent of the General State Budget for the year 2023. In addition, almost half of the expenditure of the SDG Eurobond has been allocated to education and health programs, as well as support for youth and women’s employment.

The current context, marked by various health and security crises as well as the Russian-Ukrainian war, is threatening countries’ progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. There are undoubtedly threats to human capital, as well as risks of accelerating inequalities within populations.

Through this central theme of the SDSN 2023 report for Benin, we are suggesting an in-depth analysis of the progress made by the country and the gaps that still need to be filled in the social sectors (education, health, etc.), in order to establish targeted adaptation of our policies in response to various exogenous shocks.

More than ever, we are committed to better meeting the needs of our populations, particularly those of the most vulnerable.

Romuald WADAGNI

Minister for the Economy and Finance, Minister of State

1 The work of Sachs et al (2019) offers a strategic framework for achieving the SDGs, grouping them through major “Six Transformations”, namely (1) education and skills, (2) health and wellbeing, (3) clean energy and industry, (4) sustainable use of land and oceans, (5) sustainable cities and (6) digital technologies.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ANPS	National Agency for Social Protection
ARCH	Human Capital Strengthening Insurance Program
BGE	General Budget of the State
CDA-ODD	Ten-Year Framework for Action to Accelerate the Implementation of the SDGs
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
CNO	National Orientation Committee
CNS	National Statistics Council
CSPSE-CDA	Technical Steering, Monitoring, and Evaluation Sectoral Committees
CTPSE	Technical Steering, Monitoring, and Evaluation Committee
DGCS-ODD	Directorate-General for Coordination and Monitoring of the SDGs
DPAF	Directorates of Programming, Administration and Finance
DPBEP	Multi-Year Budgetary and Economic Programming Document
DPP	Programming and Forecasting Directorate
DPPD	Multi-Year Expenditure Planning Document
CFAF	African Financial Community Francs
IMF	International Monetary Fund
HLPF	United Nations High-Level Political Forum
GRED	Group for Research and Studies on Sustainable Development
INStaD	National Institute of Statistics and Demography (formerly INSAE)
LOLF	Organic Law on Finance Laws
MAEC	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
MDC	Ministry of Development and Coordination of Government Action (formerly MPD)
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
MEMP	Ministry of Pre-school and Primary Education
MESTFP	Ministry of Secondary and Technical Education and Vocational Training
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys
MPD	Ministry of Planning and Development
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
SDGs/ODD	Sustainable Development Goals
ILO	International Labour Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
PAG	Government Action Program
PAP	Annual Performance Program
PC2D	Growth Program for Sustainable Development
PCSS-ODD	Joint Statistical Support Project for Monitoring the 2030 Agenda
NDP	National Development Plan
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
PTA	Annual Work Plan
SDR	Sustainable Development Report
SGSI	Information Systems Management Services

SIG-ODD	Integrated Management System for Sustainable Development Goals
SI-ODD	SDG indexes monitoring
SNDS-3	National Strategy for the Development of Third Generation Statistics
NSS	National Statistics System
SWEDD	Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend Project
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

Executive Summary

The “Benin Sustainable Development Report 2023” is the second in a series of reports produced as part of the partnership between the Government of Benin and the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) ([box 1](#)). This edition was prepared by the SDSN’s newly created SDG Transformation Centre.

This report aims to present the performance and trends of the SDGs in Benin, as well as an analysis of its policies to achieve them through the “Six Transformations” framework (Sachs et al. 2019). In a poly-crisis context (consequences of COVID-19, geopolitical instabilities and climate change) where the world is no longer making progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Sachs et al. 2023), Benin faces the challenge of pursuing its economic and social development while ensuring that no one is left behind.

Benin is giving priority to developing human capital and reducing inequalities in its pursuit of the SDGs, with 45.6 percent of its national budget and 49.8 percent of the SDG Eurobond expenditure dedicated to social spending ([section 2.2](#)).

This edition therefore focuses its analysis of the “Six Transformations” on transformation 1 (education, gender and inequalities) and transformation 2 (health, well-being and demography), which aim to improve human capital and reduce socio-economic and gender inequalities.

The report shows the following performance and trends for the SDGs:

- Benin is halfway to achieving the SDGs with a score of 54.4 out of 100, above the population-weighted average for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), across all 17 SDGs.
- Benin is achieving SDGs 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and 13 (Climate Action).
- Although major challenges remain to achieving most of the SDGs in the sub-region, Benin is making moderate progress on SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).
- At the current pace of progress, and although challenges remain, Benin is well on the way to achieving SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by 2030.
- In Benin, the decreasing trends in SDG 7 (Clean and Affordable Energy) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) should be monitored.

At the sub-national level, the “leave no one behind” indexes² highlight the following observations:

- Benin’s highest performance is on the dimension of inequality of income and wealth, with a score of 67.8 out of 100 for Benin as a whole. However, this dimension has the most pronounced disparities between departments, as measured by the average deviation of index scores. The gap between the most advanced department and the least advanced, which is 52.1 index points, is also the highest of the four indexes.
- The dimension in which Benin performs least well is accessibility and quality of services, with a score of 44.2 out of 100. This is also the dimension in which disparities, as measured by the average deviation of index scores, are smallest between departments. As for the gap between the most advanced department and the least advanced, it is 41.3 index points.
- Gender equality scored 60.4 out of 100 nationally. Moreover, this is the dimension for which there is the least difference between the most advanced department and the one with the lowest score (33.9 index points).
- Benin’s score on the poverty and material deprivation index is 52.0 out of 100, and the gap between the most advanced department and the least advanced department is 48.3 index points.

The data used in these analyses come from international sources to facilitate comparisons with other ECOWAS countries, as well as from national sources for the subnational analysis. However, as in other developing countries, missing data and delays in statistical production do not allow timely and accurate measurement of the progress and efforts made by Benin. Therefore, our analysis of the government’s efforts, in terms of public policies and investment, provides additional information to assess Benin’s performance.

The 2023 Sustainable Development Report once again places Benin among the countries with “strong commitment” to the SDGs, ranked 5th out of the 74 countries worldwide, highlighting the Government’s commitment and efforts in implementing the 2030 Agenda. The analysis of performance on the “Six Transformations” highlights the significant progress and persistent challenges in achieving the targets for education, health and reducing socio-economic and gender inequalities. Among the most significant areas of progress, we can underline the reduction in poverty and inequality; and among the remaining challenges we can mention - despite some progress - the maternal, neonatal and under-5 mortality rates.

The analysis of the institutional framework for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Benin has revealed the strong institutional capacities for the achievement of the SDGs. Since 2016, Benin has appropriated the SDGs to domesticate the goals and adopt a coherent development strategy. The country has a cross-cutting institutional apparatus and strong political will, that could enable it to achieve significant results in the years to come. Analysis of the policies and legislation in force, through the SDG transformations dashboards, also shows how this government commitment is manifesting itself. The government continues to put in place policies to transform education, health, and reduce socio-economic and gender inequalities that target the challenges facing the country and could help accelerate Benin’s progress towards achieving the SDGs.

² The “leaving no-one behind” indexes cover four dimensions of disparity: accessibility and quality of public services, poverty and material deprivation, gender inequality, and income and wealth inequalities.

Box 1. Cooperation between SDSN and the Government of the Republic of Benin

As part of its ongoing efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, the Government of Benin issued its first SDG “Eurobond” in July 2021, exclusively dedicated to financing projects with high impact on achieving the SDGs. It is within this framework that the Government of the Republic of Benin called upon the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), recognized for its independent expertise, to assist in the monitoring and evaluation of the progress and efforts made by the country. This technical partnership involves two main channels: i) SDSN’s scientific expertise, notably with the SDG indexes and dashboard, and ii) local scientific expertise through the development of a national SDSN network. The solutions deployed under this partnership have three objectives:

- ➔ Use the best available indicators to track countries’ performance and progress on the SDGs.
- ➔ Identify key data gaps, and areas for research.
- ➔ Promote integrated solutions by tracking and discussing commitments, strategies, and implementation mechanisms to achieve the SDGs.

In addition to the publication of the Benin Sustainable Development Report 2023, this second year of partnership with the Government of Benin will conclude with the launch of the SDSN Benin network. The network is co-hosted by the University of Abomey-Calavi and the Directorate of Research and Strategic Studies of the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Source: Authors



PART



Indexes and Dashboards

Part 1.

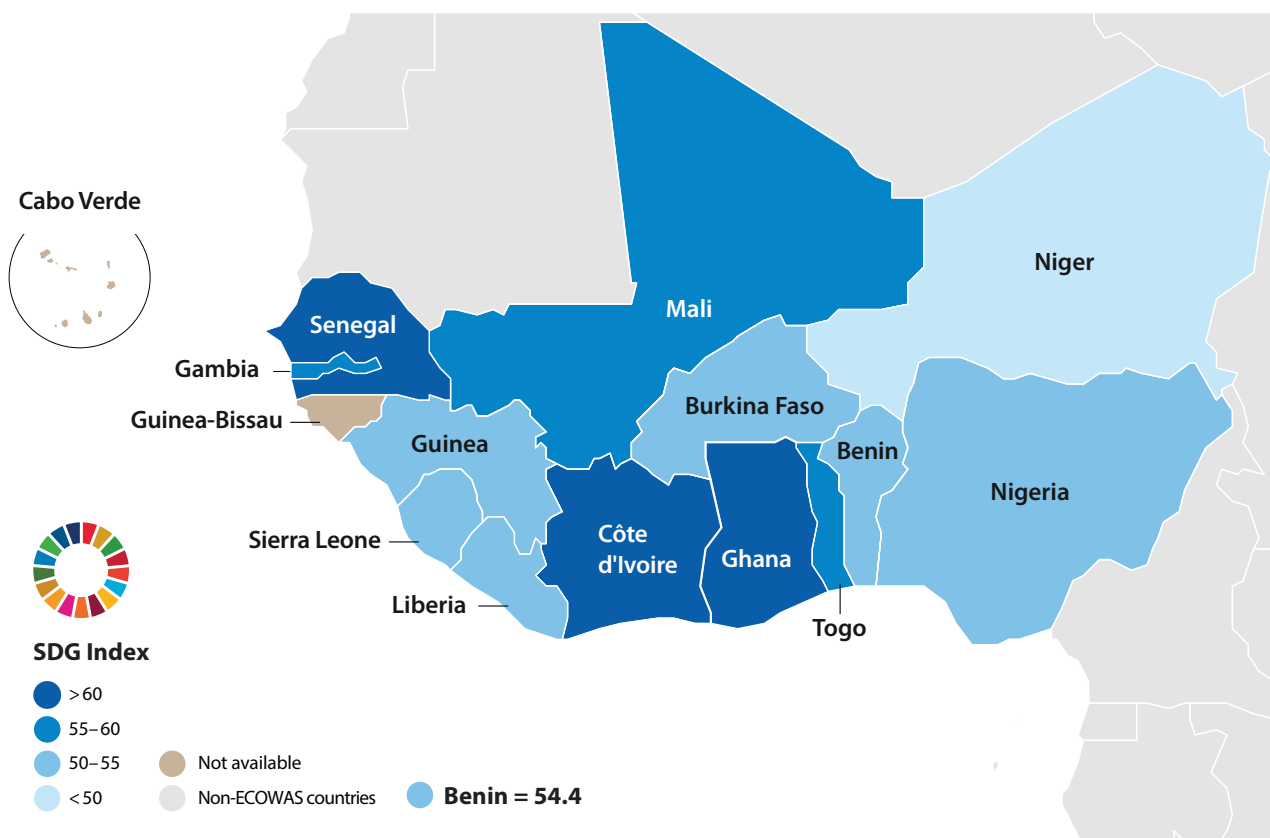
Indexes and Dashboards

1.1 SDG index and dashboard

The index and dashboards are based on a set of international indicators for which data is available for Benin and other ECOWAS countries. Benin is compared to its neighbors in order to contextualize its performance and trends in achieving the SDGs. To ensure the relevance of the analysis, indicators from the global SDG Index that were not a useful measure for Benin or had insufficient coverage were omitted. Likewise, a few additional indicators were included to reflect priorities specific to

Benin and West Africa. The indicators and methodology are also updated with each new edition, to obtain the most accurate and up-to-date results. Thus, the results of this report are not comparable to the findings of the global Sustainable Development Report (SDR) nor to the Africa report, nor to the previous edition of the Sustainable Development Report for Benin.

Figure 1. Benin and ECOWAS Member States SDG Index



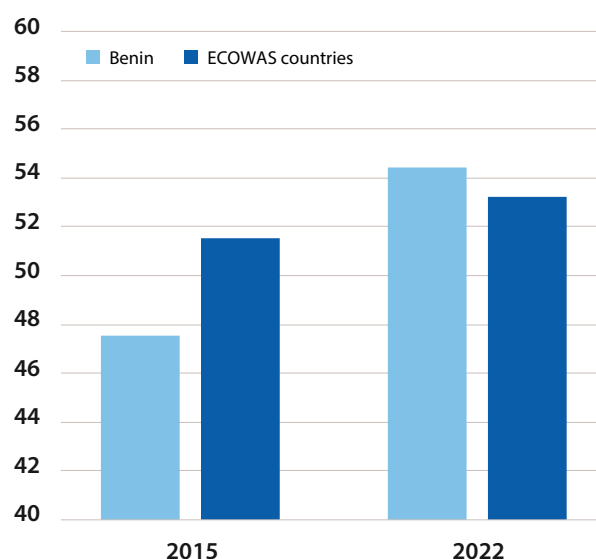
Source: Authors' calculations.

Benin scored 54.4 out of 100 for the entire set of 17 SDGs. Thus, Benin is above the population-weighted regional (53.2 out of 100).

Analysis of the evolution of the SDG index scores illustrates the dynamic that Benin has experienced since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. Benin's SDG index score has risen sharply since 2015, by an average of 1.0 points per year, exceeding the score for the sub-region as a whole. Factors contributing to this sharp rise in Benin's SDG index score include: a significant reduction in poverty (Figure 25) and income inequality (Figure 24); and access to antiretroviral therapy for people living with HIV, which rose by 75.0 percent between 2015 and 2021 (part 2.2). In comparison, the ECOWAS score increased by only 0.2 points per year on average between 2015 and 2022. It is important to emphasize that the overall scores hide the disparities in performance across the 17 SDGs. Details of performance by goal and indicator are available in the country profiles section, in the annex to the report.

The SDG Dashboard summarizes each country's performance on the 17 goals. While the SDG Index score is based on all indicators for each goal, the dashboard is based only on the two indicators for each goal on which the country is performing the worst. This "tough" scoring approach emphasizes the need to implement all dimensions of the SDGs because good performance on one indicator cannot compensate for poor performance on another. A detailed explanation of this methodology can be found in [annex A.3](#)

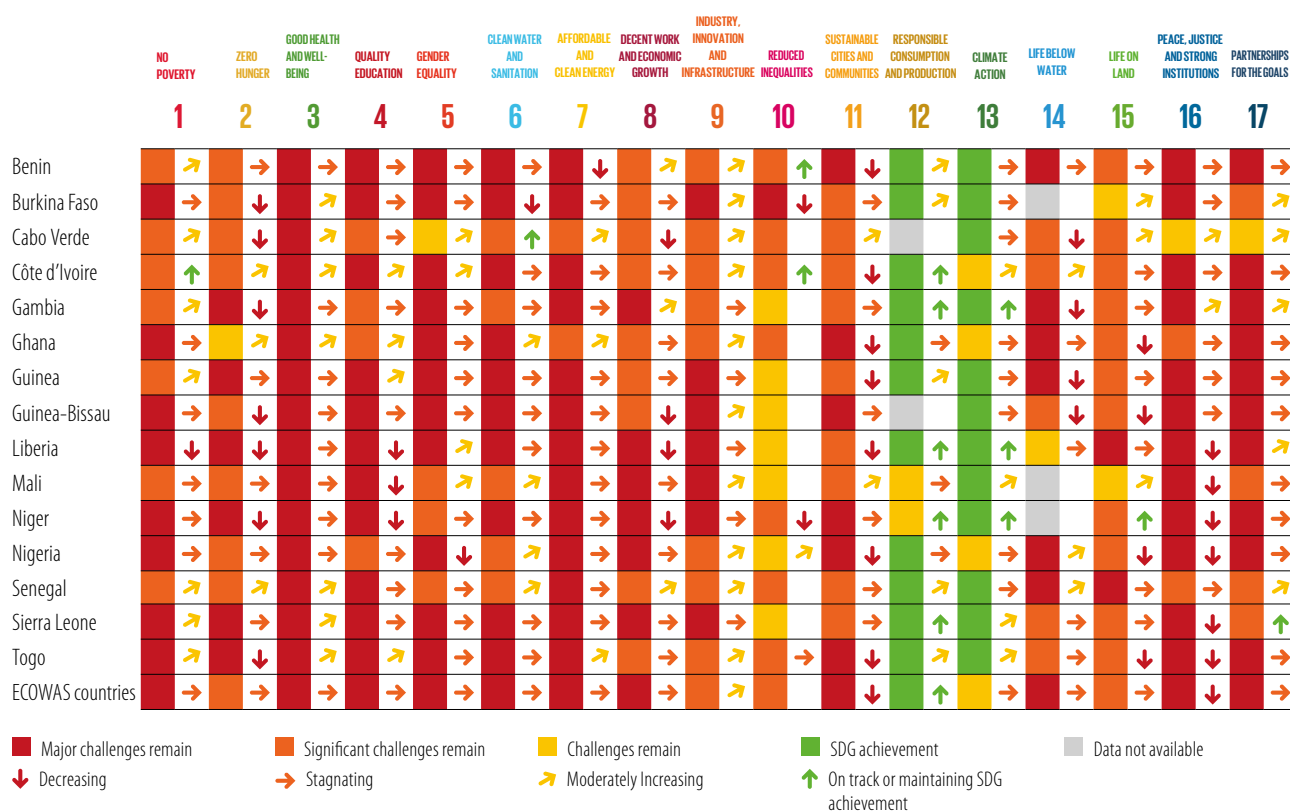
Figure 2. SDG Index score, 2015 - 2022



Source: Authors' calculations.

Note: ECOWAS average weighted by population.

Figure 3. SDG Dashboards for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

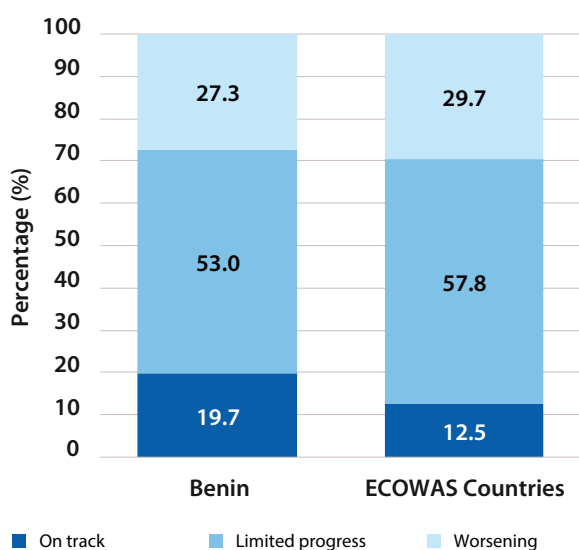


Source: Authors' calculations. See annexes for details of the methodology and indicators used.

Significant challenges to the achievement of many of the SDGs remain in Benin, as in the rest of the sub-region. Like most ECOWAS countries, Benin is achieving SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). It should be noted that Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria are the only countries in the sub-region for which challenges remain for the attainment of SDG 13 for Climate Action.

The trends' analysis allows for a better appreciation of the efforts made by Benin since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. Benin and the sub-region are making limited progress towards their targets, with 53.0 percent and 57.8 percent respectively showing moderate improvement or stagnation. The proportion of targets with declining trends is lower in Benin (27.3 percent) than in ECOWAS (29.7 percent). Benin also shows more encouraging trends than the sub-region for almost 19.7 percent of targets, compared with an ECOWAS average of 12.5 percent (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Status of achievement of SDG targets (%)



Source: Authors' calculations

Note: ECOWAS average weighted by population. 66 indicators for Benin and 64 indicators for the ECOWAS weighted average, taken into account in the analysis.

Although the countries of the sub-region are stagnating or even regressing in terms of progress towards achieving SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), Benin, together with Senegal and the Gambia, is making progress on this goal. Benin has made moderate progress on SDGs 1 (No Poverty), 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), and 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). Although challenges remain for achieving SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), Benin is on track to meet the goal.

Benin is the only country in the sub-region with a declining trend for SDG 7 (Clean and Affordable Energy). In fact, despite the affordability and improved access to electricity, Benin needs to make progress in terms of the sustainability of its energy production sources in order to reverse the trend on this SDG. Like the majority of ECOWAS countries, the trend is also downwards for SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) in Benin. Efforts must therefore be increased to improve these trends and achieve these goals by 2030.

The trend is stagnant for the evolution of SDG 13 (Climate Action) in Benin.

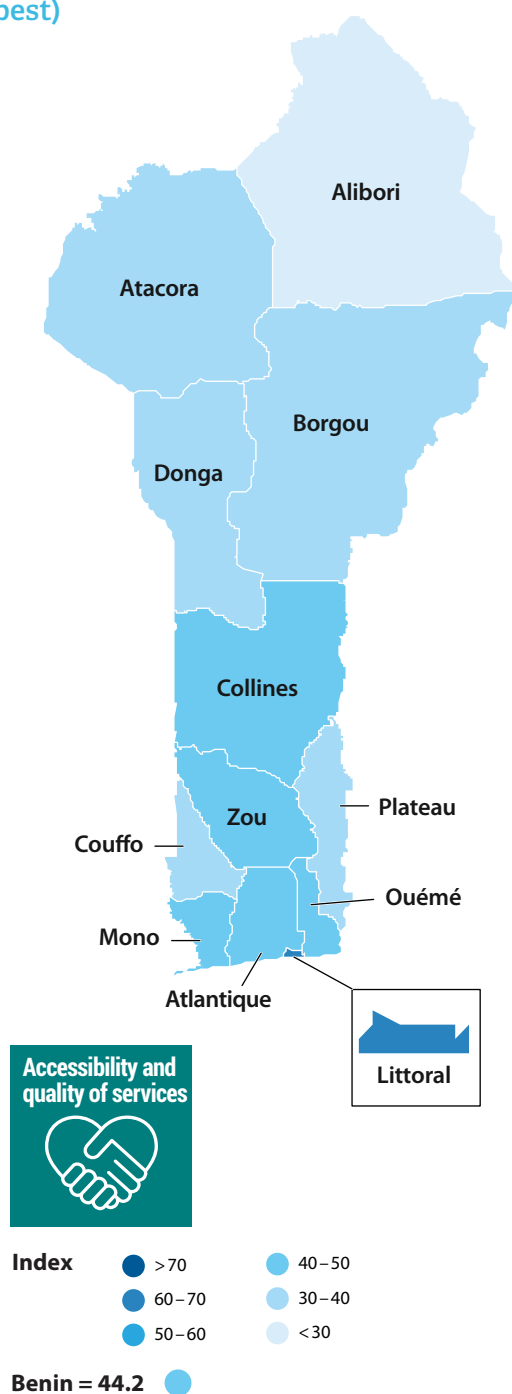
In order to achieve this goal by 2030, the country must ensure that it maintains sustainable development of its industries. As in the majority of ECOWAS countries, Benin's progress towards the other SDGs is also stagnant. Efforts must be intensified in order to improve them, particularly the SDGs for which major challenges remain: SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and SDG 17 (Partnership for the Goals).

Analysis of the SDG Index and Dashboards provides insight into Benin's performance and progress in terms of achieving the 2030 Agenda. On the other hand, it is important to note that these purely statistical tools do not allow us to take the full measure of Benin's efforts. Indeed, some data are not recent enough to reflect the current situation of a country, as there may be a delay of 3 to 4 years in national and international statistics. Also, development policies require several years before their results are visible. In order to fill these gaps, the present report also carries out an analysis of the country's commitment and current policy efforts (Parts 2 and 3), making it possible to assess the country's potential developments, in the hope that the commitment and policies implemented by the stakeholders will be successful.

1.2 "Leave No One Behind" index and dashboard

The fundamental principle of the 2030 Agenda is to "leave no one behind". This principle urges countries to achieve the SDGs for all population groups and across the whole country. For this report, indexes based on forty-five indicators, nine more than the 2022 edition, were calculated at the level of Benin's twelve departments. These indexes cover four dimensions of disparity: access to quality public services (17 indicators), poverty and material deprivation (11 indicators), gender equality and the status of women in society (14 indicators), and income and wealth inequalities (3 indicators). Thus, these indexes allow for an analysis of the performance of the departments in achieving the leave no one behind principle. For this edition, the sub-national analysis has been enriched with a dashboard and trends, making it possible to observe performance, the pace of progress and measure the efforts needed to "leave no one behind" by 2030.

Figure 5. Accessibility and Quality of Services Index, score from 0 (worst) to 100 (best)



Source : Calculs des auteurs à partir des données fournies par l'INStAD.

This analysis complements the analysis of the SDG Indexes and Dashboards comparing Benin and ECOWAS (Part 1). Again, it is important to note that these results do not allow for an appreciation of the full extent of Benin's

efforts. Most of the national data are not recent enough to reflect the current situation in the departments. Also, the development policies put in place by the Government and local governments (departments and municipalities) require several years before their results are visible.

All the indicators and national data used were provided by Benin's National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INStAD). The most recent data were used to produce the indexes. The methodology, indicators and data sources used are detailed in [annex A.3](#) of the report.

Accessibility and quality of services

The dimension of accessibility and quality of services covers public services such as health and education services, as well as access to drinking water and sanitation, electricity, Internet, and civil registry.

This is the area in which Benin and its departments perform least well. The country must keep up its efforts to guarantee access to and quality of public services across its entire territory. Littoral is the department with the best public services, with a score of 67.9 out of 100, while Alibori is below the national average, with a score of 26.5 out of 100. Despite a significant gap between the best and worst performing departments, the accessibility and quality of services has the lowest average deviation between Benin's departments.

The indicators of access to health and education services illustrate the mixed performance of Benin's departments in terms of accessibility and quality of public services. Geographical access to health centres is relatively easy in all departments, with an average journey time of around 20 minutes nationwide in 2019. Nevertheless, apart from the Littoral, Benin's departments face challenges in terms of human and material resources. For example, in 2021, the proportion of births attended by qualified health personnel was 98.7 percent in Littoral, well above the national level of 80.8 percent. There is also a considerable gap with the department of Couffo, where only 48.0 percent of births were attended by qualified health personnel.

In terms of access to education, major challenges remain, particularly when it comes to primary and secondary school enrolment. Littoral is the department with the highest net primary school enrolment rate, at 92.4 percent in 2021, compared with 49.8 percent in Alibori.

Apart from the department of Ouémé, which is well on the way to universal primary school enrolment, trends in this indicator are stagnant or even declining in some departments.

The challenges are even greater for secondary education. In the Littoral department, which performs best on this indicator, only 62.5 percent of children of secondary school age are enrolled, and 18.7 percent in Alibori, which has the lowest net secondary enrolment rate of all Benin's departments. Moreover, trends are decreasing in all of the country's departments.

As for access to drinking water, a current national priority, the proportion of the population with access is over 75 percent in most departments in 2021. However, only 42.6 percent of the population had access in Alibori. The Littoral department is far ahead, with 99.8 percent of its population having access to drinking water.

Benin also faces significant challenges in terms of access to and use of sanitation services. Although Littoral is Benin's best-endowed department, in 2021 only 34.1 percent of its population use safely managed sanitation services. In Atlantique, the second-largest department, only 7.7 percent of the population use safely managed sanitation services. Some departments, such as Atacora and Alibori, have usage rates of less than 1.0 percent.

Significant disparities remain between departments in terms of access to electricity. By 2021, Littoral had nearly 89.8 percent of its population with access to electricity, far better served than Donga, where the rate is 65.5 percent. Plateau is the least well-endowed department, with only 35.7 percent of its population having access to electricity. Trends are improving for the majority of departments, and could even enable some of them, such as Donga, Zou and Collines, to provide universal access to electricity by 2030.

Territorial disparities are least pronounced in terms of access to civil registry, with the departments performing the best.

In 2021, the proportion of children under 5 registered with the civil registry ranged from 84.1 percent in Borgou to 97.2 percent in Littoral. The trends are therefore broadly on track for universal access to civil registry for children.

Eradicating poverty and material deprivation

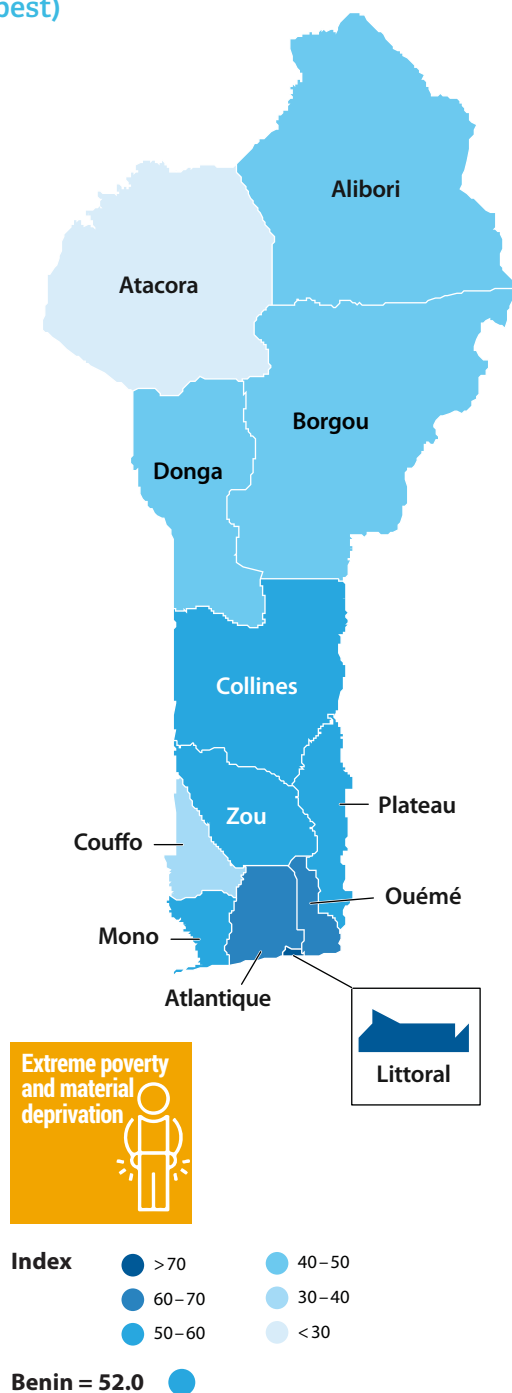
In addition to the various indicators of poverty, nutrition and access to financial services from the previous edition of the report, the poverty and material deprivation index incorporates new indicators on the issue of child labor.

As with the accessibility and quality of services, there are significant territorial disparities in terms of poverty and material deprivation. Littoral has the highest score in the country (75.4 out of 100). The worst performing department in terms of poverty and material deprivation is Atacora, with a score of 27.1 out of 100.

The poverty rate at the \$1.90 per day threshold (SDG target 1.1) is an important indicator in the fight to eradicate poverty on a global scale. In 2019, the Littoral is on track to eliminate extreme poverty at the \$1.90 per day threshold. Only 1.6 percent of its population lives on less than \$1.90 per day. Ouémé also shows an extreme poverty rate of only 3.9 percent of its population. In contrast, departments such as Borgou and Atacora have high poverty rates, with respectively 34.6 percent and 33.3 percent of their populations living below the extreme poverty line.

Benin-wide, the proportion of the population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (SDG target 11.1) is very low, and trends are improving in almost all departments. At national level, only 1.3 percent of the population lives in inadequate housing, and the highest rate is only 4.4 percent in Alibori in 2021.

Figure 6. Index of poverty and material deprivation, score from 0 (worst) to 100 (best)



Source: Authors' calculations based on data from INStAD.

Between 2013 and 2017, food insecurity in Benin decreased. Although challenges persist at national level, with 9.6 percent of the population still facing food insecurity in 2017, the country is well on track to limiting

food insecurity by 2030. Some departments, such as Littoral and Donga, are already performing well, with respectively 1.5 percent and 5.3 percent of the population facing food insecurity in 2017. Trends on this indicator need to be monitored in some departments, such as Collines and Zou, where they are getting worse. Efforts must be intensified to improve the situation in Atacora, where the prevalence of food insecurity remained high in 2017, at around 23.6 percent.

The deteriorating trends in the prevalence of wasting and stunting in children under the age of 5 should be monitored. In particular, the prevalence of stunting is the indicator for which Benin's departments all face major challenges. Littoral, which is the least affected department, has an already high prevalence of stunting, at around 22.6 percent in 2021, and the trend has been deteriorating since 2014. The departments of Borgou and Plateau are the most affected by stunting, with respectively 48.7 percent and 48.3 percent of children under 5 affected.

The action against child labor must continue, in order to ensure that it is drastically reduced. Trends are positive for the majority of departments on the indicator measuring child labor among children aged 5 to 11, but some challenges remain. In 2021, Couffo is the worst performing department, with 31.8 percent of children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour a week. The Atlantique department is the least affected by child labor among children aged 5 to 11, with 3.1 percent of children involved in an economic activity. However, this age group is not sufficient to describe the context. In fact, children aged 5 to 11 are less affected by child labor than those aged 12 to 14. The decrease in child labor among 12–14-year-olds involved in an economic activity for more than 14 hours a week is significant in all departments between 2014 and 2021, and presents even greater challenges than for the younger age group. Apart from Littoral, where the percentage does not exceed 6.8 percent, all the other departments face major challenges, particularly Atacora, where 67.0 percent of children aged 12 to 14 are involved in an activity for less than 14 hours a week. The phenomenon is also increasing in several departments, including Collines.

Gender equality and the status of women

The gender equality dimension measures the performance of Benin and its departments in terms of the status of women in society. This dimension takes

into account indicators of socio-economic inequality (education, employment and poverty) and access to health, including sexual and reproductive health. A new indicator enriches the analysis by providing data on violence against women.

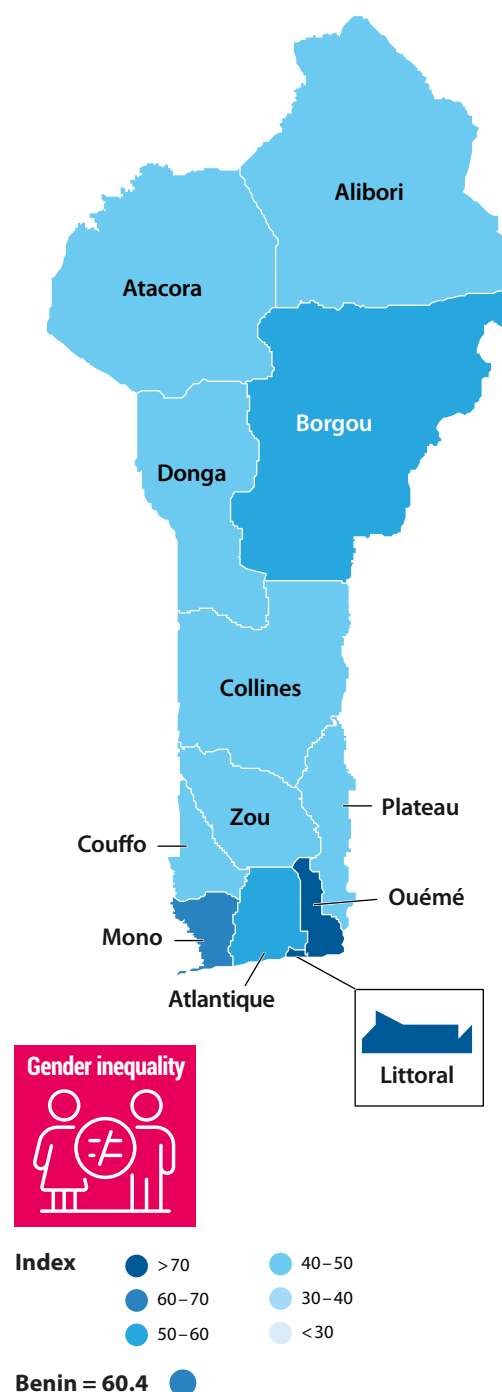
Gender equality is the dimension for which there is the least disparity between the most advanced department and the one with the lowest score. Littoral is the best performing department, with a score of 76.3 out of 100, closely followed by Ouémé with a score of 74.1 out of 100. Alibori is the department with the lowest score (42.4 out of 100).

The gap in primary school enrolment between girls and boys is relatively small in Benin. In 2021, in Borgou, the best-performing department on this indicator, more girls than boys are enrolled (102.5 percent in 2021). In Alibori, the net enrolment rate for girls is 73.1 percent of that for boys, making it the department with the lowest primary school parity, followed by Couffo, where the net enrolment rate for girls is 87.2 percent of that for boys. The other departments are closer to achieving parity, with a net enrolment rate for girls of at least 92.8 percent of that for boys. Trends should be monitored in Alibori, Plateau, Atlantique and Mono, where they are deteriorating. The disparities between departments are more marked in secondary education. While Borgou has a higher net secondary school enrolment rate for girls than for boys (107.2 percent in 2021), the net enrolment rate for girls is 65.1 percent of that for boys in Zou. The downward trend in Collines needs to be reversed to ensure gender equality at school.

Women participate as much as men in the labor force in most of Benin's departments. Only Mono, Alibori and Donga face serious challenges, with women's participation in the labor force amounting to 55.7 percent, 61.9 percent and 64.3 percent respectively of that of men in 2018.

Efforts to empower women and improve their status must continue, particularly in Atacora, where 45.4 percent of women aged between 20 and 24 were in union before the age of 18 in 2021 (SDG target 5.3). In comparison, 10.1 percent of women aged between 20 and 24 were in union before the age of 18 in the Littoral department. Trends are deteriorating in most departments. In addition, all the departments have a low proportion of modern family planning methods in use. In 2021, only 28.9 percent

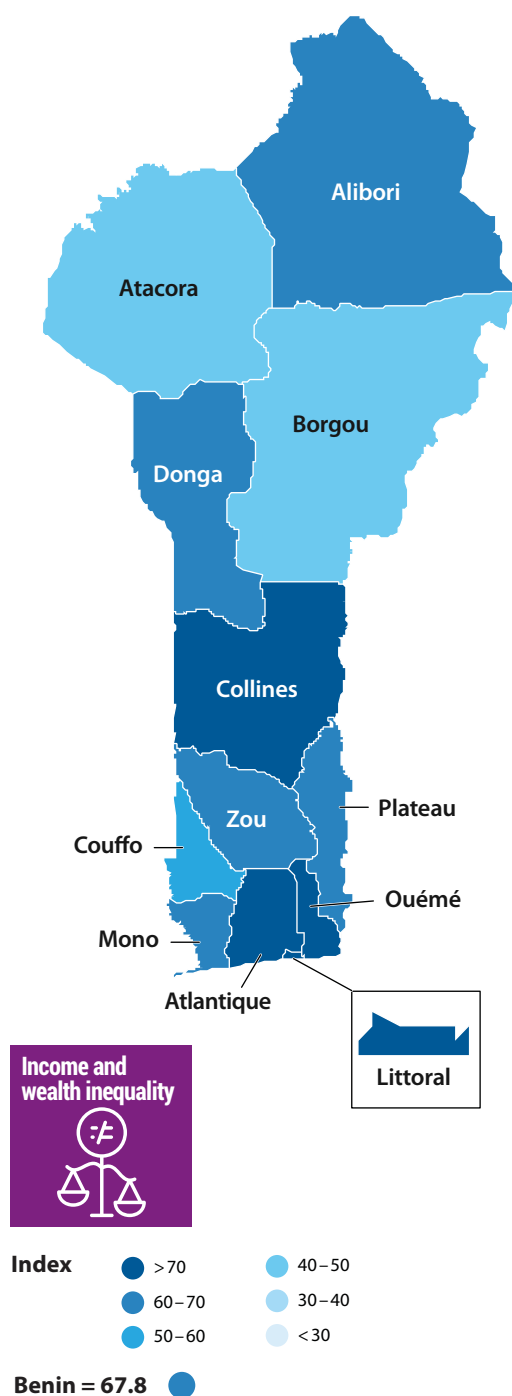
Figure 7. Gender equality index, score from 0 (worst) to 100 (best)



Source: Authors' calculations based on data from INStAD.

of women of childbearing age were using modern family planning methods in Alibori, compared with Couffo, which is the department lagging furthest behind on

Figure 8. Income and wealth inequality index, score from 0 (worst) to 100 (best)



Source: Authors' calculations based on data from INStAD.

this indicator, with only 6.5 percent using modern family planning methods.

Apart from Alibori, where there has been a moderate improvement, the other departments show stagnant or even decreasing trends in this indicator, and disparities persist. Furthermore, women’s exposure to domestic violence is a major challenge for Benin. In 2018, Zou was the department with the lowest rate of physical domestic violence, with 11.8 percent of women aged 15-49 in a union or breaking up a union being victims. Alibori is the department in which women are the most victims (30.6 percent in 2018). In terms of sexual domestic violence, Donga is the department least affected, with 4.1 percent of women victims, compared with 12.4 percent in Collines, the department where sexual domestic violence against women was the highest in 2018.

Reducing income and wealth inequality

Income and wealth inequality at the sub-national level is measured using the Gini coefficient. In order to provide a more refined analysis of income and wealth inequality, the index takes into account the proportion of people living on less than half of the median income (SDG indicator 10.2.1), and the proportion of people living on more than 50 percent less than the average income.

Income and wealth inequality is the “leave no one behind” index with the most pronounced disparities between departments, particularly in terms of the gap between the best-performing department and the one with the lowest score. Ouémé is the department with the lowest income inequality, with a score of 93.9 out of 100, while Borgou is the worst performer, with a score of 41.7 out of 100. However, this dimension is the one for which Benin has the highest score (67.8 out of 100) among the dimensions of “leaving no one behind”.

For the proportion of people living on less than half the median income, Borgou has the highest proportion, representing 23.2 percent of the population in 2019, compared to Littoral and Ouémé, which had a very low proportion of their population in this situation of poverty (1.1 percent and 1.7 percent, respectively), and which were the only departments whose performance will enable the achievement of target 10.2.2.

With regard to the proportion of people living with an income more than 50 percent below the average income, Atacora is the worst performing department with 41.4 percent of the population in this situation in 2019. The departments of Littoral, Ouémé and Atlantique have lower proportions of people living in this situation, with

respectively 2.0 percent, 5.8 percent and 13.5 percent of their population living on incomes more than 50 percent below the average. On the other hand, Littoral is the most unequal department in the country in 2019, with a Gini index of 0.382 out of 1. Zou also faces major challenges in reducing income inequality as measured by the Gini index, with a coefficient of 0.356 out of 1.

1.3 Statistics for sustainable development in Benin: issues and priorities

The 2030 Agenda emphasizes the importance of reliable data and statistics. Targets 17.18 (improve the availability of reliable data) and 17.19 (further develop measures of progress) of the SDGs explicitly call on countries to strengthen their statistical capacity. Access to reliable, timely, comprehensive data disaggregated by income level, gender and other dimensions is essential to monitor progress and support political decision-making.

Halfway through the 2030 Agenda, there are still major gaps in data production and discrepancies in international statistics. Of the 231 official SDG indicators, 225 have internationally established calculation methodologies. However, data for a third of the indicators (77) is still not regularly produced in many countries, and 6 indicators do not yet have established methodologies at global level (UNSD, 2022). For this reason, SDSN supplements the official sources taken from the databases of international organizations with data from less traditional sources³ that help to increase the availability and timeliness of data to monitor the SDGs (annex A.3.1). In addition, the SDG index produced by SDSN includes some data from estimates that are based on models such as the poverty headcount ratios provided by the World Poverty Lab, thus providing more up-to-date data.

The database of global SDG indicators, managed by the United Nations, shows the availability of data for monitoring the SDGs on a country-by-country basis. Benin has an average of 29.7 percent data availability (Figure 9), the same as the average for the sub-region.

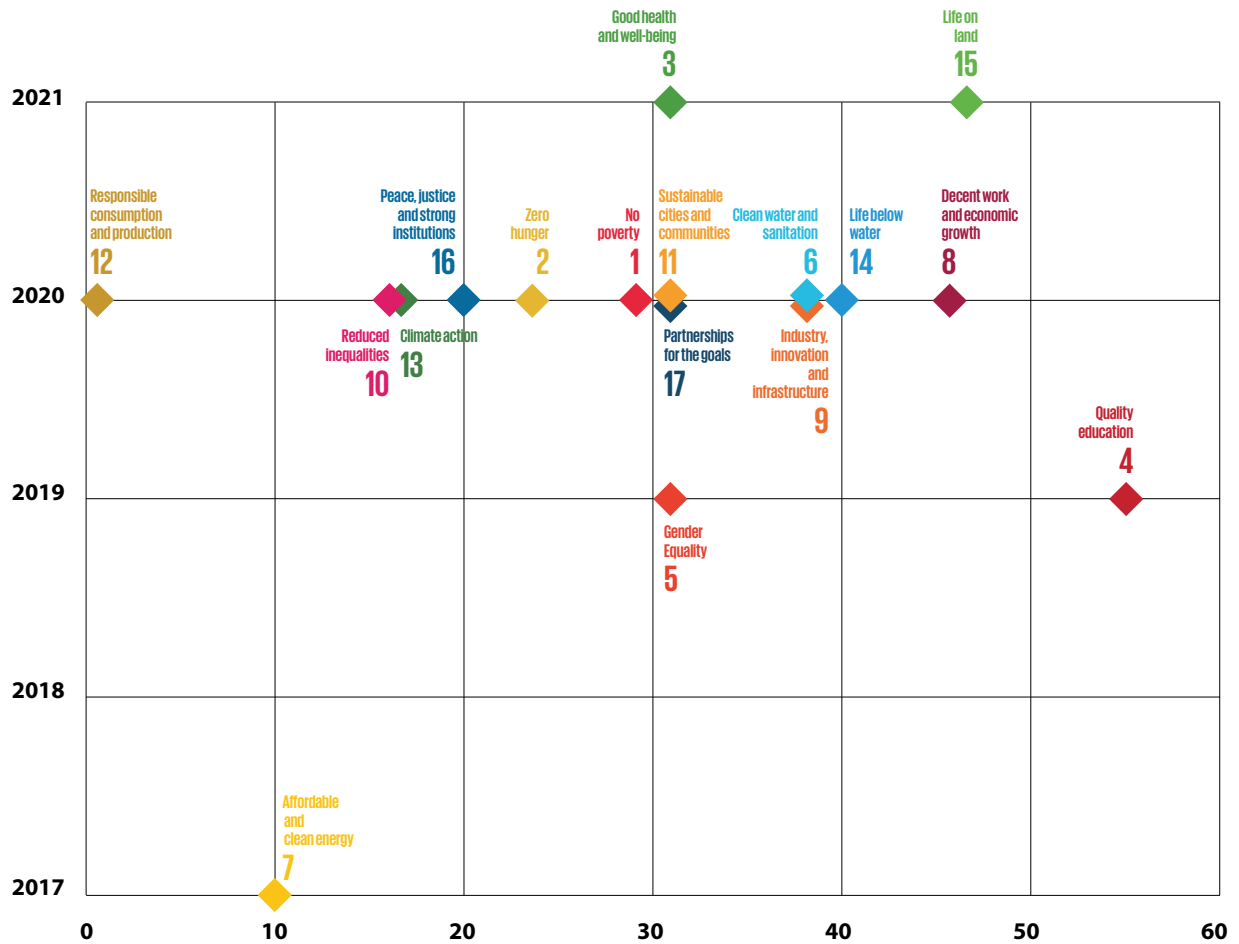
For Benin, when data is available, it is generally quite recent. The average reference year is 2020. With 54.6 percent of data available, SDG 4 (quality education) has the best coverage. However, it is also one of the SDGs

with the least recent average reference year (2019). Besides being among the goals with the poorest data availability, SDG 7 (Clean and affordable energy) has the least recent update, with an average reference year of 2017. SDG 12 (Responsible consumption and production) has the greatest lack of data, only 4.5 percent, despite having recent reference years.

Unfortunately, the current capacity to conduct data collection and processing operations does not allow for optimal monitoring of the SDGs in Benin. The main limitations of the national statistical system, listed in the National Strategy for the Development of Third Generation Statistics (SNDS-3), are the quantitative and qualitative insufficiency of human, material and financial resources, compounded by a lack of coordination between the stakeholders in the national statistical system. It is also necessary to step up efforts to collect and disseminate the data and information produced, in particular by enhancing the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and geographic information systems (GIS). Recognizing these challenges, efforts are being made to improve the monitoring of the SDGs and, more broadly, the national statistical system. Following the conclusions of SNDS-3, Benin has begun to strengthen its statistical capacity (MEF, 2022c), to achieve the objectives of SNDS-3 by 2023. In addition, Joint Statistical Support Project for Monitoring the 2030 Agenda (PCSS-ODD) is intended to complement the SNDS-3 by specifically focusing on monitoring the SDGs.

³ Data from surveys, civil society organizations, peer-reviewed journals and geographic information systems (GIS).

Figure 9. Availability of data (%) and average reference year for official SDG indicators in Benin (2023)



Note: Data availability is measured on the basis of indicators and series produced by the country, for all the SDG targets defined by the United Nations, excluding data obtained from modeling, estimates or produced for global monitoring. The average reference years are calculated by defining the most recent year per data series, then aggregated by official indicator, then by SDG, using an arithmetic mean.
 Source: Authors' analysis based on the United Nations (Global SDG Indicators Database), consulted in February 2023.

PART

2

The “Six Transformations” for the SDGs in Benin

Part 2.

The “Six Transformations” for the SDGs in Benin

2.1 Benin’s performance in achieving the “Six Transformations”

The Six Transformations Framework

The 17 SDGs and their 169 targets describe the goals to be achieved by 2030. However, they do not specify how governments should organize themselves to achieve them. Drawing on the work of Sachs et al. (2019), this report proposes to study transformation 1 (education, gender and inequality) and transformation 2 (health, well-being and demography), which aim to improve human capital and reduce inequality, to help define an operational strategy for the SDGs in Benin ([parts 2.2](#) and [3.2](#)).

In order to design effective strategies to achieve the SDGs, governments and other stakeholders need to determine how to organize interventions —such as improved policies, public and private investments, and regulations—and how to deploy them for the SDGs. Given the interconnected nature of the framework and the links between goals and targets, it is not recommended to adopt 17 strategies to achieve the SDGs.

The core of the “Six Transformations” is to recognize that the 17 SDGs can be achieved through six major transformations focused on: (1) education, gender and inequality (2) health, well-being and demography, (3) clean energy and industry, (4) sustainable use of land and oceans, (5) sustainable cities, and (6) digital technologies ([Figure 10](#)).

Figure 10. The Six SDG Transformations



Source: Sachs et al., 2019



1. Education, Gender, and Inequality

The first transformation covers investments in education (early childhood development, primary and secondary education, vocational training and higher education), social protection systems and labor standards, and R&D.

It directly targets SDGs 1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10, and reinforces other SDG outcomes.



2. Health, Well-being, and Demography

This transformation includes interventions to ensure Universal Health Coverage (UHC), promote healthy behaviors, and addresses social determinants of health and wellbeing.

It directly targets SDGs 2, 3, and 5 with strong synergies into many other goals.



3. Energy Decarbonization and Sustainable Industry

This transformation groups investments in energy access; the decarbonization of electricity, transport, buildings, and industry; and curbing industrial pollution.

It directly targets SDGs 3, 6, 7, 9, 11-15, and reinforces several other goals.



4. Sustainable Food, Land, Water and Oceans

Interventions to make food and other agricultural or forestry production systems more productive and resilient to climate change must be coordinated with efforts to conserve and restore biodiversity and to promote healthy diets while significantly reducing food loss and waste. Important trade-offs exist between these interventions.

This broad transformation directly promotes SDGs 2, 3, 6, and 12-15 and reinforces many other SDGs.



5. Sustainable Cities and Communities

Cities and other communities require integrated investments in infrastructure, urban services, and resilience to climate change.

These interventions naturally target SDG 11 and they also contribute directly to goals 6, 9. Virtually all SDGs are indirectly supported by this transformation.



6. Harnessing the Digital Revolution for Sustainable Development

If managed well, digital technologies, such as artificial intelligence and modern communication technologies can make major contributions to achieving virtually all SDGs.

The Six Transformations are underpinned by two fundamental principles. Each transformation must be designed, implemented, and monitored to “leave no one behind,” a principle that aims to enhance justice, equity, and social inclusion. This principle applies in particular to public services such as health and education infrastructure services (transportation, water, sanitation, energy), and the use of environmental resources.

The second principle is to ensure “circularity and decoupling”. In other words, achieving the SDGs requires a change in consumption and production patterns to decouple environmental resource use and pollution from growth and human well-being. Each transformation must be designed, implemented and monitored to reduce the ecological footprint by promoting circularity of flows, reuse, recycling, more sustainable materials, and more efficient use of natural resources. Good governance and the absence of conflict are essential conditions for achieving the “Six Transformations”.

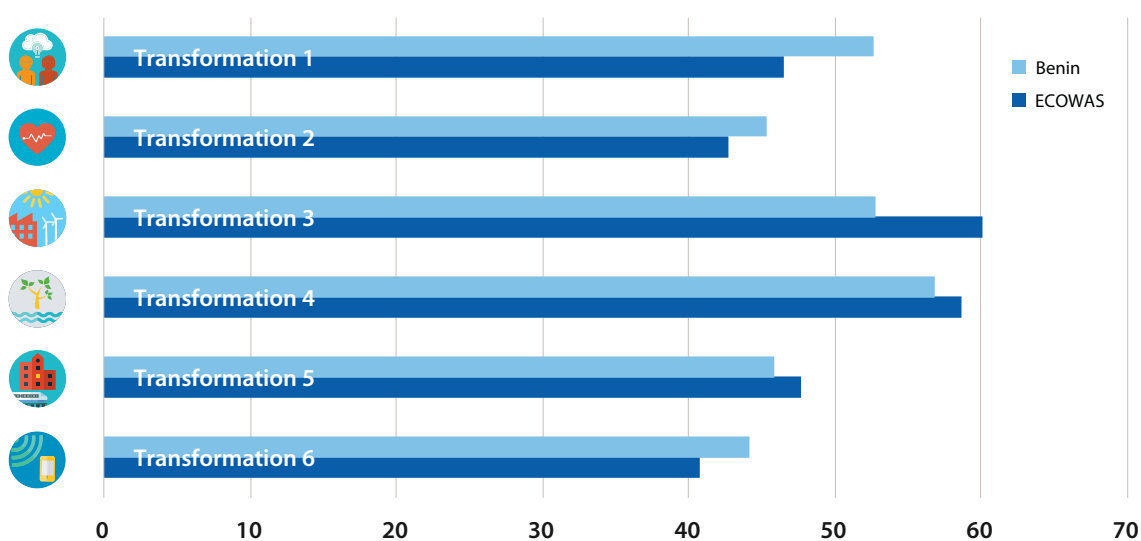
The concept of transformation for the SDGs can help frame a narrative that is operational and easy to communicate. By bringing together key synergies as well as trade-offs, the transformations provide an action plan for ministries, businesses, and civil society to achieve the SDGs.

Performance on the “Six Transformations”

The indicators presented in the SDG Index and Dashboards (part 1) for Benin and ECOWAS countries have been reorganized around the SDGs’ Six Transformations (Figure 11). Benin scores higher than the sub-regional average for transformation 1 (education, gender and inequality), transformation 2 (health, well-being and demography), and transformation 6 (digital revolution for sustainable development). For transformation 3 (energy decarbonisation and sustainable industry), transformation 4 (sustainable food, land, water and oceans), and transformation 5 (sustainable cities and communities), Benin is below the ECOWAS average.

The analysis of the “Six Transformations” produced for the previous edition of this report showed that the measures and policies implemented through the Government Action Program (PAG 2021-2026) target consistently Benin’s challenges in achieving the SDGs. The present report continues and deepens this analysis for transformation 1 (education, gender and inequalities) and transformation 2 (health, well-being and demography), which aim to improve human capital and reduce socio-economic and gender inequalities.

Figure 11. Performances on the Six Transformations, score from 0 (worst) to 100 (best)



Note: See table A1 in the annex for details of the indicators used. ECOWAS average weighted by population. Source: Authors’ calculations.



2.2 Transformations 1 & 2: Building Human Capital and reducing inequalities

COVID-19, the war in Ukraine and the climate crisis: threats to human capital and accelerators of inequality

The world has not made any progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) since the COVID-19 pandemic (Sachs et al. 2023). Because of its health emergency, the COVID-19 pandemic endangered human life and worsened the development of human capital. It is estimated that the pandemic alone could lead to a loss of human capital equivalent in magnitude to the gains of the past decade (World Bank, 2020).

The current context is one of slowing global economic growth. The most recent projections suggest a growth rate of 2.8 percent in 2023, compared with the growth rates seen at the start of the economic recovery following COVID-19, estimated at 6.3 percent in 2021 and 3.4 percent in 2022 (IMF, 2023b).

Despite the efforts made to regain pre-crisis momentum, the war in Ukraine is adding constraints and uncertainty to an unfavorable context for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In addition to weakening global geopolitical stability, the war is also intensifying the inflation that the pandemic has already caused on a global scale, thereby worsening the economic situation and the lives of the most vulnerable populations. In 2022, inflation has been estimated at around 8.7 percent, notably due to the war in Ukraine, despite already high prices in the context of COVID-19. Projections for 2023 call for inflation of 7.0 percent (IMF, 2023b); the immediate concern for governments is the rise in food and energy prices, which is exacerbating social tensions. Developing countries, particularly those in sub-Saharan Africa, could be hardest hit. The economic recovery of the region has been slowed, with a growth rate of 3.6 percent expected in 2023, following a rate of around 4.8 percent in 2021 and 3.9 percent in 2022 (IMF, 2023b).

Rising food and energy prices are threatening the most vulnerable populations, while governments are facing a tightening of debt conditions, an increase in debt and a deterioration in their fiscal position.

Besides these crises, the world is facing climate change, the effects of which are becoming increasingly visible and amplifying their impact. In addition to the loss of human life directly linked to climatic disasters, this crisis is weakening health and food security, and leading to the displacement of populations. The development of human capital is under threat, and the most vulnerable populations are on the front line of these crises, thus exacerbating socio-economic inequalities.

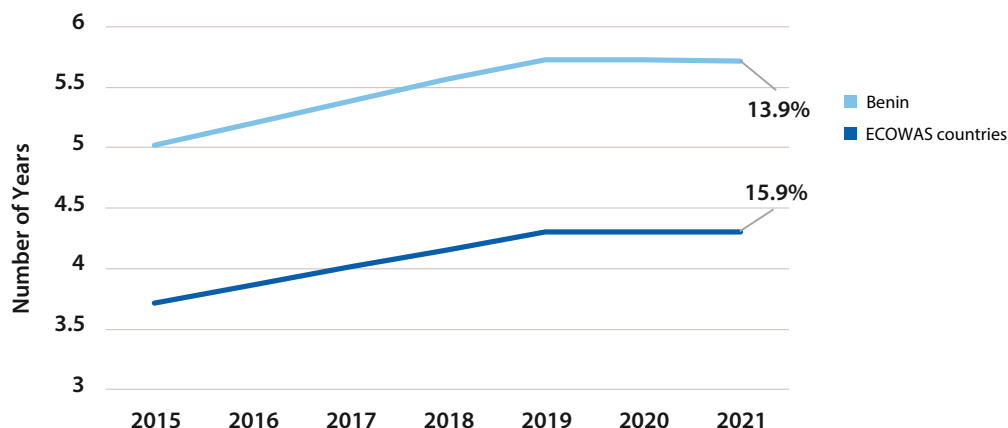
Benin is suffering from this multi-crisis context and is facing the challenge of sustaining its economy, protecting the most vulnerable populations and ensuring social cohesion. According to IMF estimates for April 2023, the country is showing dynamic growth, with a growth rate of 7.2 percent in 2021, 6.0 percent in 2022 and a forecast growth rate of around 6.0 percent for 2023. Consumer prices are also expected to rise by around 3.0 percent in 2023 (IMF, 2023a)⁴. In its pursuit of the SDGs, Benin is giving priority to issues relating to the development of human capital and the reduction of inequalities. Indeed, expenditure with a social dimension will account for 45.6 percent of the national budget in 2023, a share that has doubled since 2016 (MEF, 2022b). In addition, 49.8 percent of the expenditure of the SDG Eurobond is allocated to programs relating to education, health, and support for employment and financial inclusion (MEF, 2022a). Part 2.2 of this report aims to analyze the evolution of key indicators used to measure the state of human capital and the reduction of inequalities. The policies that have been implemented to develop human capital and address the context presented in section 2.2 will be the focus of section 3.2.

2.2.1 Human Capital Development

Improving human capital is the objective of Transformation 1 (education, gender and inequality) and Transformation 2 (health, well-being and demography). Developing human capital means ensuring universal access to quality education, putting in place social protection systems, improving labor standards, promoting research and development (R&D) and providing universal access to health ([part 2.2.2](#)). There are synergies between these three main areas of human

4 The INStAD estimates predict a growth rate of around 6.3 percent in 2023; the DGE projections predict a growth rate of almost 6.5 percent and inflation of around 2.0 percent in 2023.

Figure 12. Average years of schooling, 2015-2021



Note: ECOWAS average weighted by population. Percentages represent growth rates in the average number of years of schooling between 2015 and 2021.

Source: Authors’ calculations based on data from UNDP (2022).

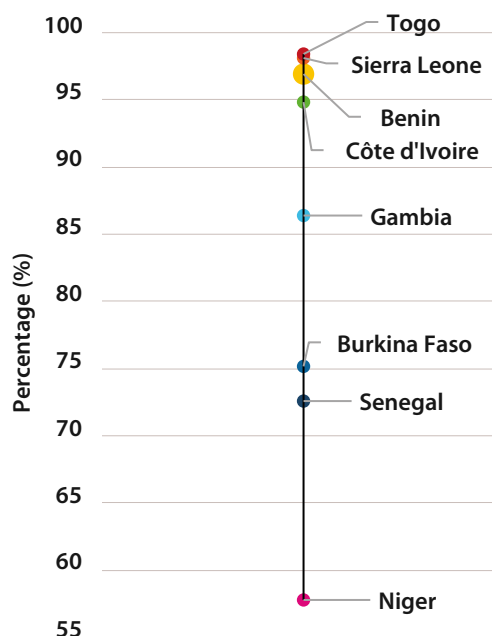
capital transformation, which have a positive mutual influence.

Education and training

The development of human capital depends on education, particularly in Benin, where almost half of the population is under the age of 15 (INStAD, 2022). Benin’s education system requires some changes if it is to be both qualitative and accessible to all. The average number of years of schooling gives an idea of the average level of education of Benin’s population. It has increased from around 3.7 years in 2015 to almost 4.3 years in 2021, an increase of 15.9 percent (UNDP, 2022). This increase is faster than that of ECOWAS, with an increase of 13.9 percent over the same period. However, the gap between Benin and ECOWAS has not narrowed over time (Figure 12).

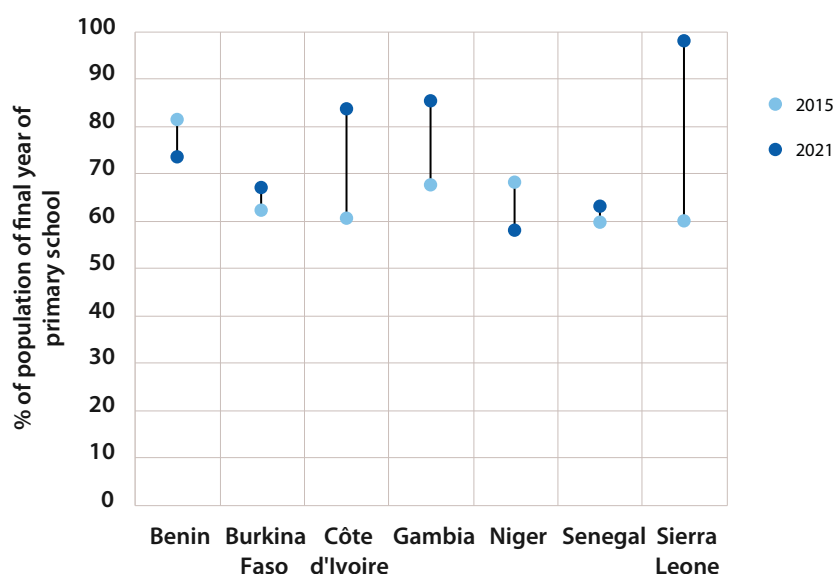
Benin has a higher net primary school enrolment rate than most ECOWAS countries (Figure 13). Nearly 96.9 percent of children of primary school age are enrolled. Nevertheless, like Niger, Benin experienced a drop in the primary education completion rate between 2015 and 2021. Among the countries in the sub-region for which data is available, Benin is the only country whose performance is declining on this indicator. The primary education completion rate in Benin fell from 81.1 percent in 2015 to 73.5 percent in 2021 (Figure 14).

Figure 13. Net primary school enrolment rate (%), 2021



Source: Authors’ calculations based on data from UNESCO (2022).

Figure 14. Primary education completion rate (% of population of final year of primary school), 2015-2021



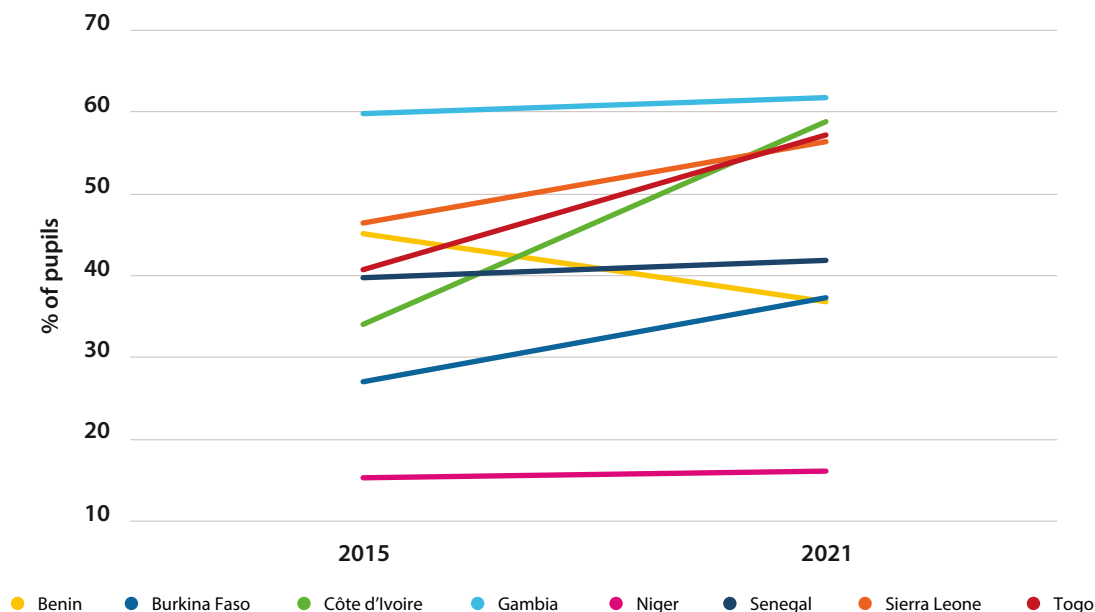
Source: Authors' calculations based on data from UNESCO (2022).

This downward trend in the completion rate is also evident in lower secondary education. Benin is the only ECOWAS country, among those for which data is available, to record a lower rate than in 2015. Benin had a completion rate of 45.1 percent in 2015, higher than several countries in the sub-region, whereas it will be only 36.8 percent in 2021 (Figure 15). The study conducted by the International Consortium for Education Development (CIDE) on the causes of the deterioration in the main primary and secondary education indicators in Benin suggests that this phenomenon could be explained by high drop-out rates, partly linked to a rise in repetition rates. Migration between neighboring communes and with neighboring countries is also a likely factor in this sharp fall in secondary school

completion rates. The outflow of pupils caused by these migrations could artificially increase drop-out rates, as pupils could not be considered as being either graduates or repeaters (CIDE, 2022).

As the average number of years of schooling (Figure 12) is measured for the population aged 25 and over, changes in this indicator illustrate the progress made in the past. Primary and lower secondary completion rates are measured for the current school-age population. Therefore, recent trends in these completion rates (Figure 14 and Figure 15) call for vigilance, in order to maintain the progress made in the education sector.

Figure 15. Lower secondary completion rates (%), 2015-2021

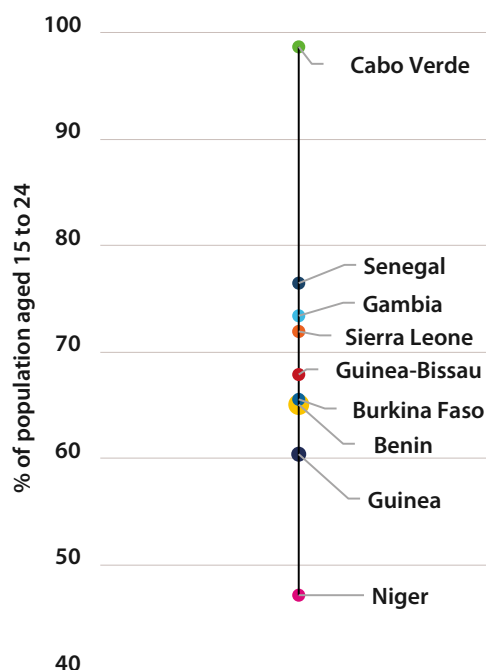


Note: This indicator is not one of the indicators used for the SDG index. Source: Authors' calculations based on data from UNESCO (2022).

In terms of literacy, Benin has made significant progress, which could be linked to the policies pursued by the government, particularly through PAG I (2016-2021), the implementation of which has led, among other things, to the creation of literacy centers and village libraries. Thus, despite a lower literacy rate among young people (aged 15 to 24) than in many ECOWAS member countries (Figure 16), Benin will record a sharp increase in this rate between 2018 and 2021. In three years, the country will have gone from a youth literacy rate of around 60.9 percent in 2018 to 65.0 percent in 2021 (UNESCO, 2022).

Finally, a change in education and vocational training is needed, in particular to match the workforce to the needs of the labor market. It is within this framework that reforms are being carried out by the Government of Benin, in order to promote technical and vocational education and training. The National Strategy for Technical and Vocational Education and Training over the period 2019-2025, currently being implemented by the Agency for the Development of Technical Education (ADET), aims to: increase the intake capacity and quality of technical and vocational education and training; improve the employability of learners; and improve the governance of technical and vocational education and

Figure 16. Literacy rate (% of population aged 15-24), 2021



Source: Authors' calculations based on data from UNESCO (2022).

training. The strategy also sets, as its target, to increase the proportion of pupils in technical and vocational courses to 70 percent of all pupils and students in Benin (MESTFP, 2019). The transformation of the education and training system must also take account of the brain drain. The country must be able to benefit from the impacts and spin-offs of the policies implemented to develop human capital. To achieve this, the transformation of the context of employment, entrepreneurship and support for research and development (R&D) is complementary to that of education.

Decent employment, entrepreneurship, research and development

The improvement of labor standards, entrepreneurship and research and development (R&D) depend in part on human capital and help to improve it. The fight against forced labor, modern slavery and child labor, the development of higher education, funding mechanisms for science and entrepreneurship (public and private), innovation clusters and the promotion of entrepreneurship, among others, are determining factors for decent employment, entrepreneurship and R&D.

Benin is one of the best equipped ECOWAS countries in terms of guaranteeing fundamental labor rights, just after Senegal and Côte d’Ivoire (World Justice Project, 2022). Intensifying measures to improve labor standards would enable the country to consolidate its performance in the transformation of human capital. In this context, the government must implement measures to combat

discrimination, modern slavery and child labor, the eradication of which is provided for in the 2030 Agenda. In fact, in 2018, around 24.8 percent of the population aged between 5 and 14 was still involved in child labor (UNICEF, 2022); and 5.5 per 1,000 inhabitants were victims of modern slavery (Walk Free Foundation, 2018).

The data available does not allow us to measure Benin’s progress in terms of entrepreneurship and R&D. However, the government’s stated ambition to create an environment conducive to entrepreneurship and R&D offers some long-term prospects. Benin’s ambition is to become a center for innovation in Africa, notably through the creation of Sèmè City ([box 2](#)).

Box 2. Sèmè City: The International City of Innovation and Knowledge

Sèmè City is a project whose three fundamental pillars are advanced training, scientific research and support for entrepreneurs. Sèmè City’s missions are: i) to train a highly qualified, competitive and experienced young generation; ii) to support and promote project leaders who will transform Benin and Africa; iii) to promote scientific research so that it meets everyday challenges; iv) to develop cutting-edge infrastructures to facilitate ideation, prototyping and scaling up; and v) to attract multinationals, institutions and other professionals from the world of innovation.

With Sèmè City, Benin aims to become a regional platform for contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. In particular, it will contribute to SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities).

Three campuses are operational:

- ➔ Sèmè One: a 3,500 m² building with 970 m² of training space and 375 m² of co-working space for entrepreneurs and incubators;
- ➔ Sèmè Two (Sèmè City Open Park): built from recycled shipping containers, this 600 m² facility offers unprecedented opportunities for learning, design and digital manufacturing, as well as access to rapid prototyping and 3D printing tools;
- ➔ Sèmè Three (TinIMA Agblangandan): a community center built entirely from recycled bricks and plastics for young people aged 8 to 18 from disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Urban planning and architectural studies for the construction of the main campus in Ouidah on a 336-hectare site are under way. It will be able to accommodate up to 33,000 students, entrepreneurs, researchers and innovators from Benin, the sub-region and elsewhere. Eventually, by 2032, this campus will be a scale-up of the existing campuses, integrating a range of education, training, research and entrepreneurship programs covering a multitude of business sectors.

This flagship government project has already had a number of positive impacts in terms of education, employment and entrepreneurship. More than 800 direct and indirect jobs have already been created. More than 1,600 people have benefited from the training and research courses offered by Sèmè City. More than 1,000 entrepreneurs have benefited from capacity-building, incubation and acceleration programs, with projects at various stages of maturity. 500 entrepreneurs received start-up financing, notably thanks to the partnership with the Tony Elumelu Foundation and the UNDP. On completion, by 2032, it is estimated that the Sèmè City project will have generated more than 100,000 direct and indirect jobs, at least a third of which will be self-employment and 40 percent of which will be filled by women by 2030.

Source: Authors

2.2.2 Health, well-being and demography

The health and well-being of the population are at the heart of human capital development. Improving the coverage of essential health services and the norms and behaviors that promote well-being are a priority for Benin. The country must have a high-quality healthcare system throughout the country, capable of responding to the pressure of its demography, which could reach more than 16 million inhabitants by 2030, according to INStAD estimates.

Life expectancy at birth in Benin has increased by around 6.8 years since the 2000s, from 56.6 to 63.4 years, slightly above the ECOWAS average of 63.2 years in 2019. Nonetheless, this change has been less significant than that of the sub-region, where life expectancy at birth, which was around 53.9 years in 2000, has increased by almost 9.4 years (Figure 17). In order to continue this improvement, Benin needs to step up its efforts to improve the coverage of health services. The Government of Benin has made strengthening the healthcare system a strategic objective, for which it is planning and making major investments over the period 2021-2026, covered by PAG II (part 3.2).

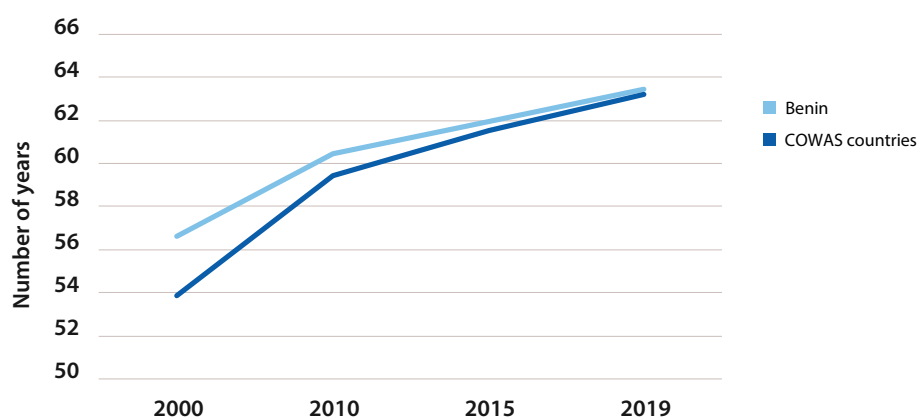
Health coverage and access to quality services

Benin’s score on the health services coverage index, which measures the coverage, capacity and accessibility of essential health services, was 38.0 out of 100 in 2019, below the sub-regional average of around 43.3 out of 100 (WHO, 2021). Benin’s progress on this index is also less significant than that achieved by ECOWAS countries. Between 2015 and 2019, Benin’s score rose by 1 point, compared with an average of almost 3.6 points in the sub-region.

Benin must continue its efforts to make health accessible to all. Performance on the indicators used to measure access to healthcare is mixed, with some results being encouraging and some falling far short of the objectives that need to be achieved to promote good health and well-being of the population.

The country faces major challenges in terms of child health, as do several ECOWAS countries. For instance, although it is above the sub-regional average in terms of infant vaccination, with around 68.0 percent having received the 2 vaccines recommended by the WHO in 2021, the government needs to get closer to the target of 100 percent vaccination rate, following the example of Ghana (Figure 18). The situation is similar for malaria, where the mortality rate remains high. According to the latest available data in Benin, in 2018, the proportion of children under 5 who were suffering from fever and who were treated with appropriate antimalarial medication

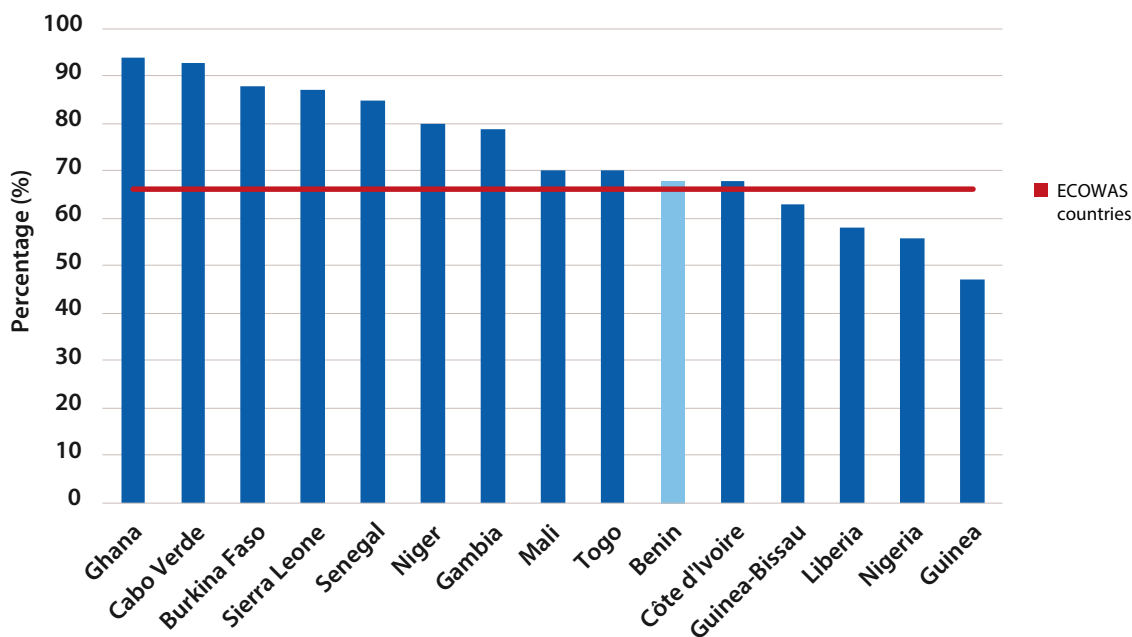
Figure 17. Life expectancy at birth (number of years), 2000-2019



Note: ECOWAS average weighted by population.

Source: Authors' calculations based on data from WHO (2020).

Figure 18. Surviving infants vaccinated with 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%), 2021



Note: ECOWAS average weighted by population.
 Source: Authors’ calculations based on data from WHO and UNICEF (2022).

was only 37.0 percent, below that of Burkina Faso, for example, with 79.4 percent in the same year (USAID, 2023).

The challenge of family planning, which is a question of reproductive health, gender equality and demographic transition, should also be highlighted. It is estimated that in 2023, around 34.9 percent of women of childbearing age (15-49) in Benin are able to meet their demand for access to modern family planning methods, compared with an average of 45.3 percent of women in the ECOWAS region (UNDESA, 2023). Major efforts are needed, in Benin and in the sub-region, to ensure universal access to modern family planning methods and to reproductive health in general.

Finally, Benin has better coverage of chemotherapy for neglected tropical diseases (68.5 percent) than the average for ECOWAS countries (34.6 percent) in 2021. Nevertheless, Benin must pursue its efforts to maintain this coverage, and raise it to the historically high levels of 100 percent and 93.8 percent in 2014 and 2015 (WHO, 2023).

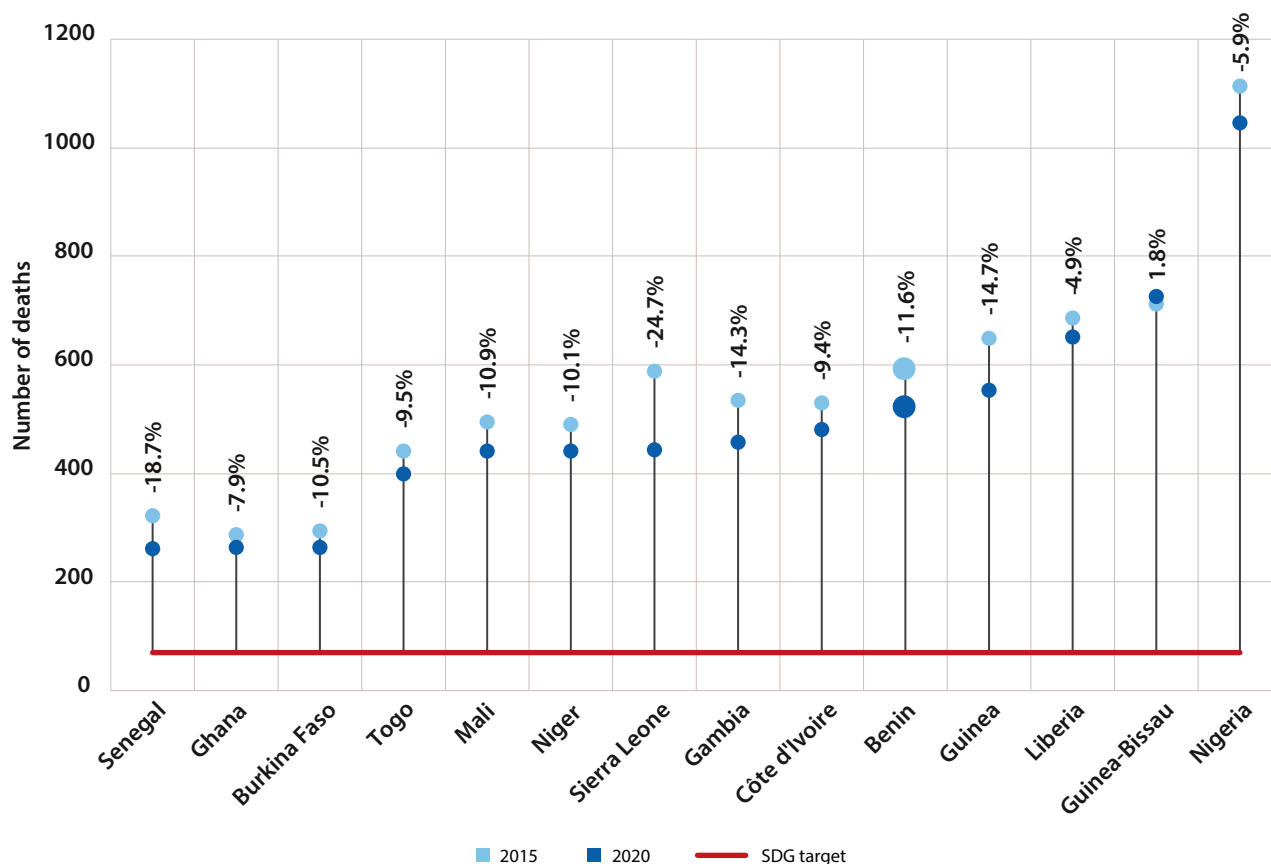
Benin’s performance is encouraging in terms of access to qualified health personnel for childbirth. Although it

dates from 2018, the percentage of births attended by trained personnel, which is 78.1 percent in Benin, is well above the sub-regional average of 55.8 percent (UNICEF, 2023).

More recent data could possibly point to a higher proportion of births attended by qualified health personnel in Benin, thus explaining the encouraging trends in maternal mortality (Figure 19).

There have been significant improvements in access to antiretroviral therapies for HIV. Despite very low HIV incidence rate (per 1,000 uninfected people), the fight against this disease continues to be a public health objective. This is reflected in the sharp increase in the proportion of people living with HIV and receiving antiretroviral therapy, which is estimated at 75.0 percent between 2015 and 2021 (UNAIDS, 2022). A similar dynamic has been observed for tuberculosis. Benin, which was already one of the countries with the lowest incidence rates in ECOWAS, will see this rate fall by 11.7 percent between 2015 and 2021 (WHO, 2022).

Figure 19. Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births), 2015-2020



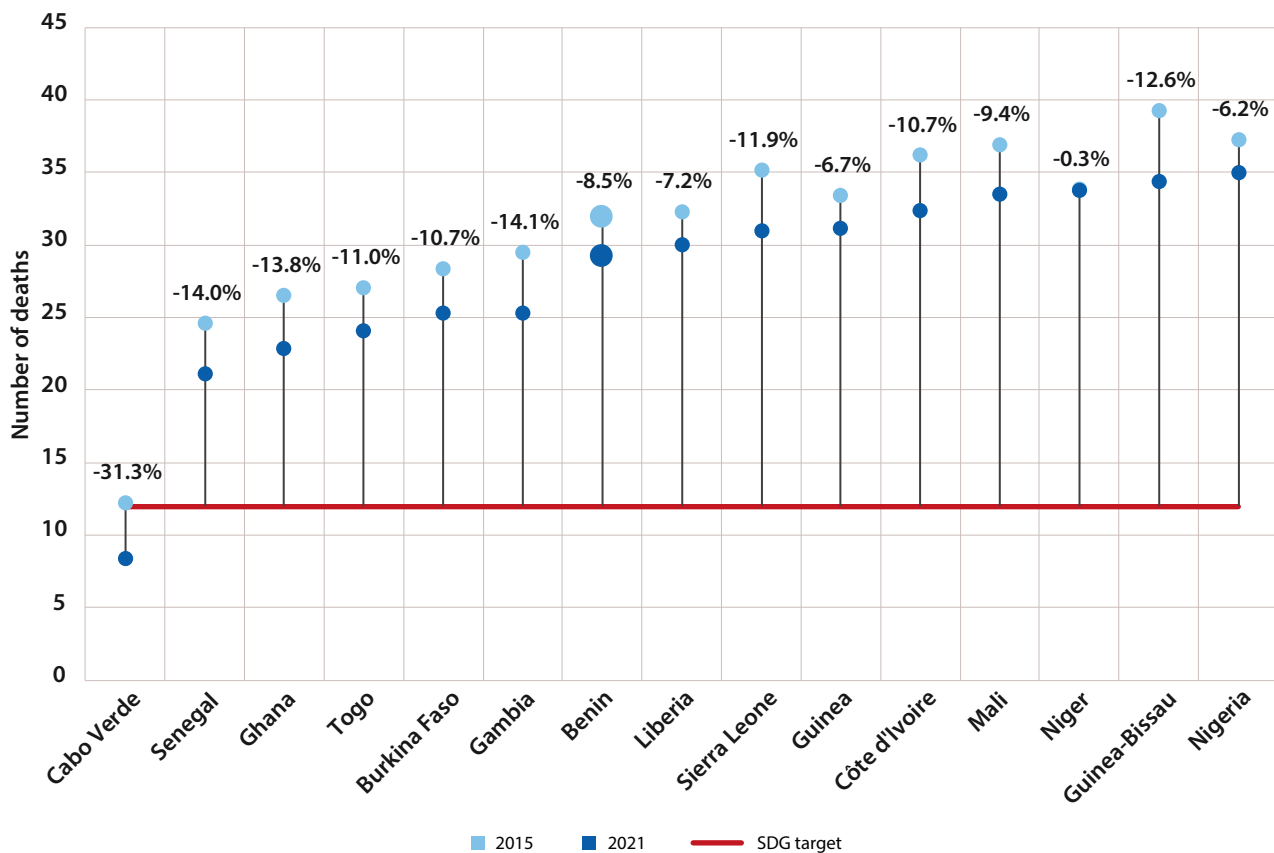
Note: Percentages correspond to growth rates between 2015 and 2020. For example, the maternal mortality rate fell by 11.6 percent in Benin between 2015 and 2020.

Source: Authors’ calculations based on data from WHO, et al (2023).

Maternal, neonatal and under-five mortality rates are indicators used to analyze the quality of a national health system. Benin is making progress on all three indicators.

However, like the other ECOWAS countries, Benin needs to accelerate its progress in order to exceed the performance thresholds required to achieve the targets (Figure 19, Figure 20, and Figure 21).

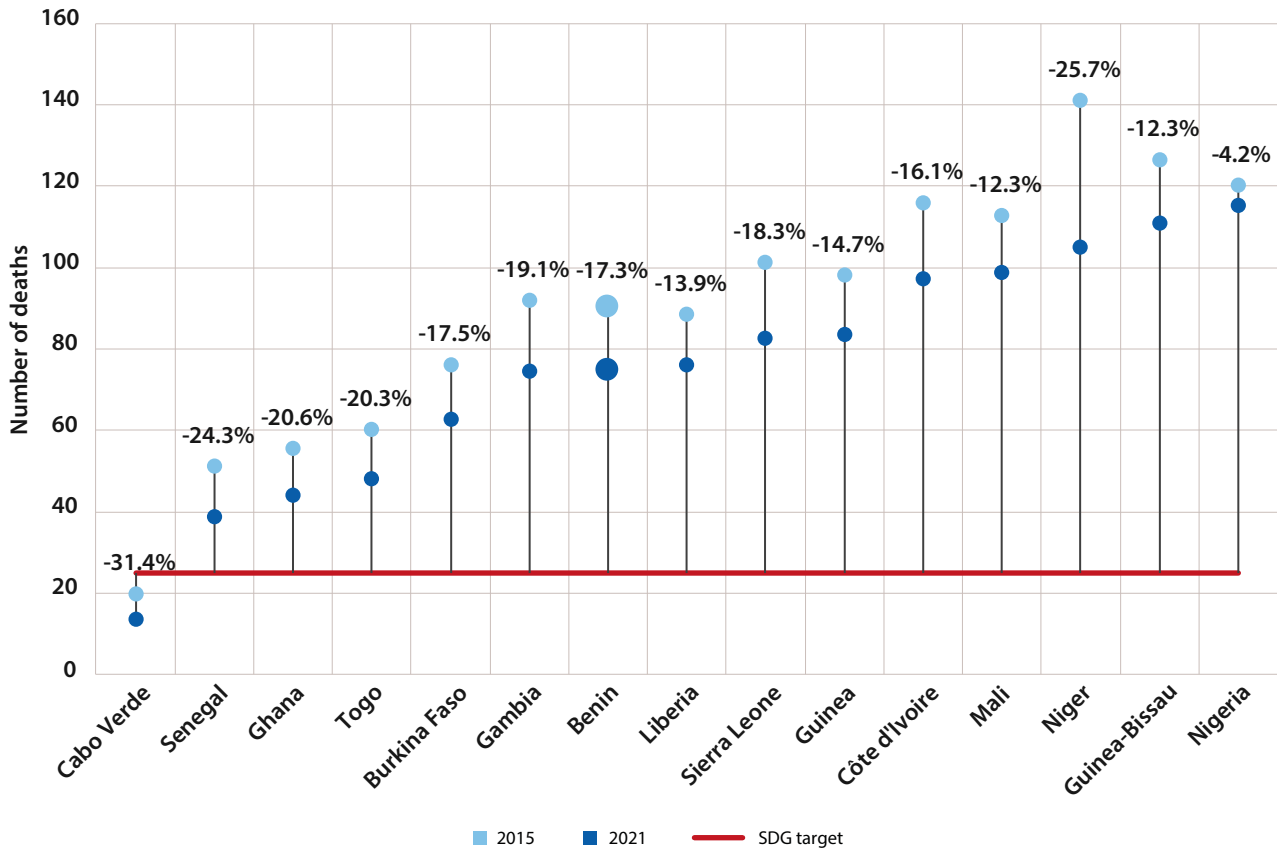
Figure 20. Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births), 2015-2021



Note: Percentages correspond to growth rates between 2015 and 2021. For example, the neonatal mortality rate fell by 8.5 percent in Benin between 2015 and 2021.

Source: Authors’ calculations based on data from UNICEF, et al (2023).

Figure 21. Under-5 years of age mortality rate (per 1,000 live births), 2015-2021



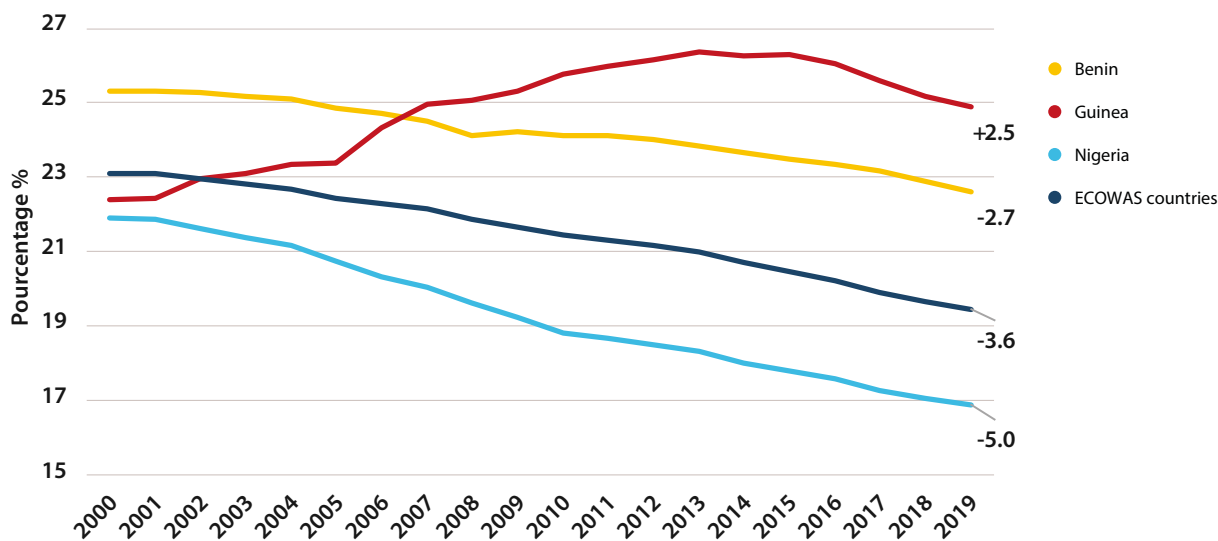
Note: Percentages correspond to growth rates between 2015 and 2021. For example, the under-5 years of age mortality rate fell by 17.3 percent in Benin between 2015 and 2021.
 Source: Authors' calculations based on data from UNICEF, et al (2023).

Social determinants of health and well-being

Non-communicable diseases are the leading cause of death worldwide. In addition to genetic and physiological factors, non-communicable diseases result from risk factors caused by people’s behavior and living environments. These risk factors include smoking, harmful use of alcohol, poor diet, lack of physical activity and other environmental factors such as pollution (WHO, 2022). Changes in social norms and lifestyle are therefore determining factors for the health and social well-being of the population.

Significant progress still needs to be made to reduce the mortality rate caused by cardiovascular diseases, cancers, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases. Between 2000 and 2019, the ECOWAS population saw a fall in the mortality rate associated with these non-communicable diseases. Benin is following the regional trend and has managed to improve, with a drop of around 2.7 percentage points, unlike countries such as Guinea, where the rate has increased by almost 2.5 percentage points. Nevertheless, Benin has not caught up with the sub-region, which has widened the gap from around 2.2 percentage points in 2000 to 3.1 points in 2019. Benin’s efforts must therefore be directed towards accelerating the decline in mortality caused by non-communicable diseases, following the example of Nigeria (Figure 22).

Figure 22. Mortality rate caused by a cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or a chronic respiratory disease (% of population aged 30 to 70), 2000-2019



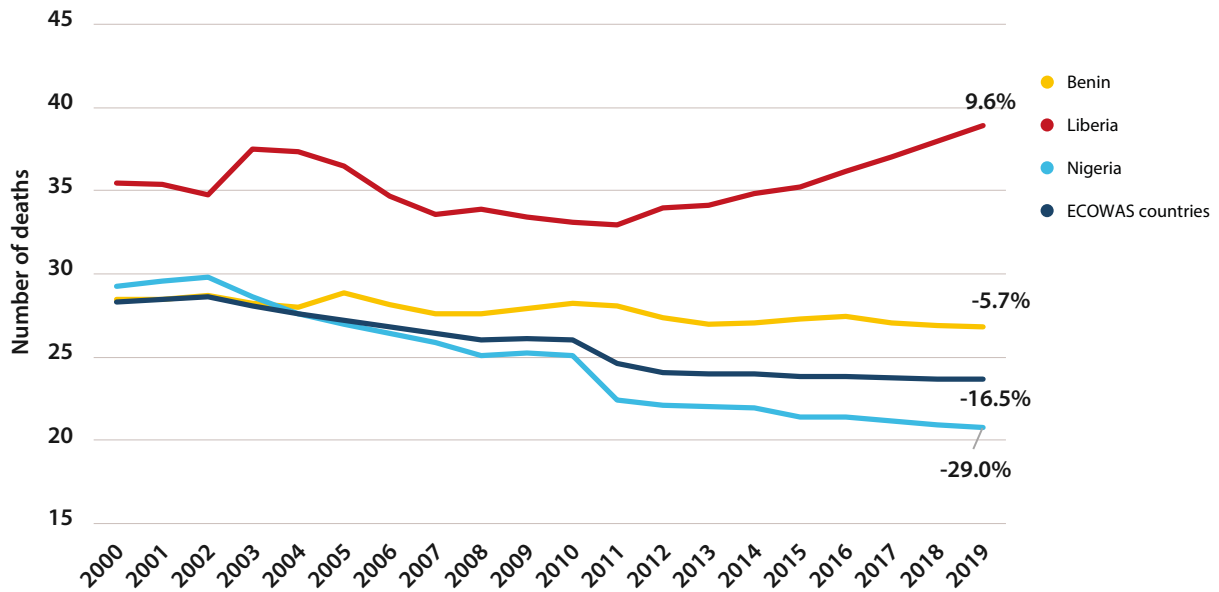
Note: ECOWAS average weighted by population. Percentages correspond to growth rates between 2000 and 2019. For example, the mortality rate due to a cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or a chronic respiratory disease fell by 2.7 percent in Benin between 2000 and 2019. Source: Authors’ calculations based on data from WHO (2021).

Benin has a legislative framework governing the sale and consumption of products that are harmful to health, such as tobacco and alcohol (part 3.2). Tobacco use is also low in Benin, with only 4.9 percent of the population aged over 15 smoking in 2019 (WHO, 2022). As for the consequences of poor diet, such as obesity, these can be limited by transforming food systems (transformation 4: sustainable food, land, water and oceans) and increasing physical activity. Through PAG II (2021-2026), the Government of Benin is implementing measures that will make it possible to meet part of the population’s needs (part 3.2).

The environment in which people live is a determining factor for their health and well-being (transformation 5: sustainable cities and communities). By reducing pollution and road accidents, we can improve people’s health and well-being.

The pollution-related mortality rate was 201.8 per 100,000 inhabitants in Benin, above the ECOWAS average of 179.7 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants in 2016. Although the availability of data does not make it possible to observe recent changes in pollution-related mortality, efforts must be directed towards reducing pollution and improving the health system, whose role is to mitigate the effects of pollution on health. The road mortality rate in Benin has decreased by 5.7 percent since 2000, reaching 26.8 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2019, well below the highest road mortality rate in ECOWAS (38.9 per 100,000 inhabitants in Liberia, in 2019). However, efforts to reduce road mortality in Benin must be stepped up in order to narrow the gap with the sub-region, where the road mortality rate is 23.7 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2019 (Figure 23).

Figure 23. Road mortality rate (per 100,000 inhabitants), 2000-2019



Note: ECOWAS average weighted by population. Percentages correspond to growth rates between 2000 and 2019. For example, the road mortality rate fell by 5.7 percent in Benin between 2000 and 2019.

Source: Authors' calculations based on data from WHO (2021).

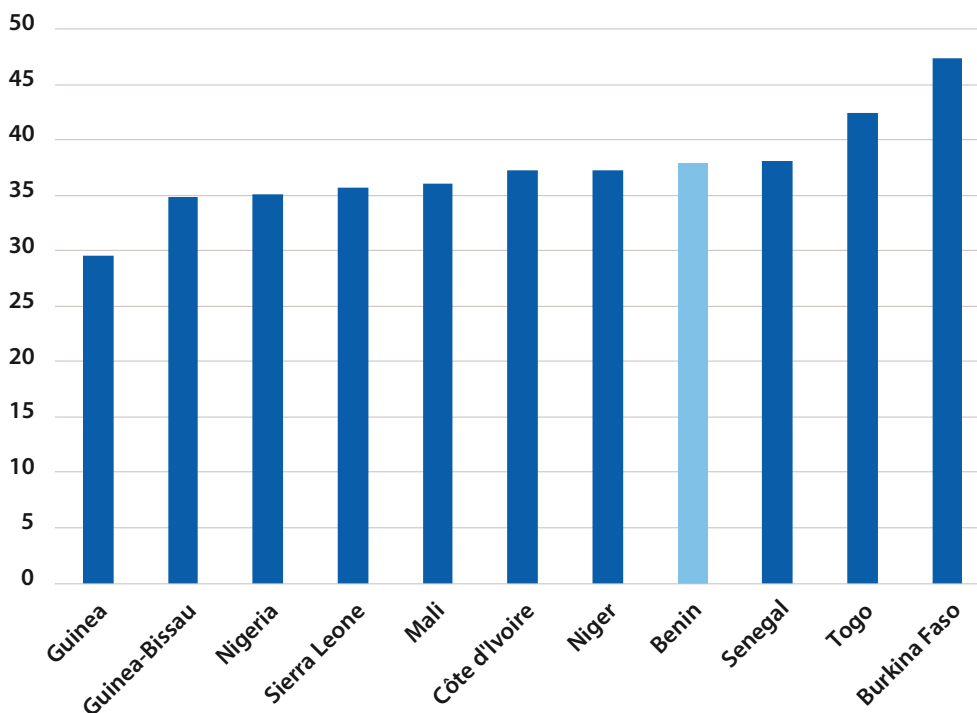
2.2.3 Fight against inequalities

The fight against inequality underpins the SDGs through the principle of “leaving no one behind”. Thus, although specifically addressed in SDG 5 (gender equality) and SDG 10 (reducing inequalities), the fight against inequalities is a compass for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. As a result, Transformation 1 (education, gender and inequality) aims to promote socio-economic and gender equality.

The most recent data from international sources do not allow a sub-regional comparison of possible developments in terms of reducing income inequality. Benin and most ECOWAS countries still have considerable room for progress towards a more egalitarian socio-economic context (Figure 24). However, Benin has recorded a very sharp reduction in socio-economic inequalities measured by the Gini coefficient and the Palma ratio⁵, by 10.0 points (or 20.9 percent) and 1.3 points (or 43.8 percent) respectively, between 2015 and 2018. This considerable progress gives reason to hope that Benin could reach the targeted performance thresholds that guarantee a more egalitarian society.

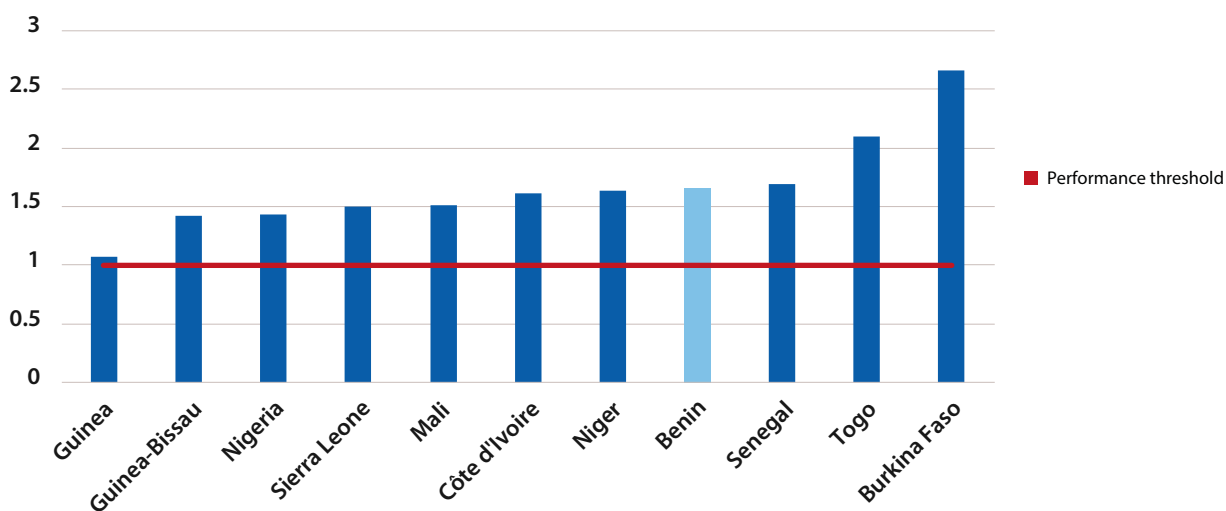
5 Definition given in annex, table A.1.

Figure 24.a Income inequality: Gini coefficient, 2018



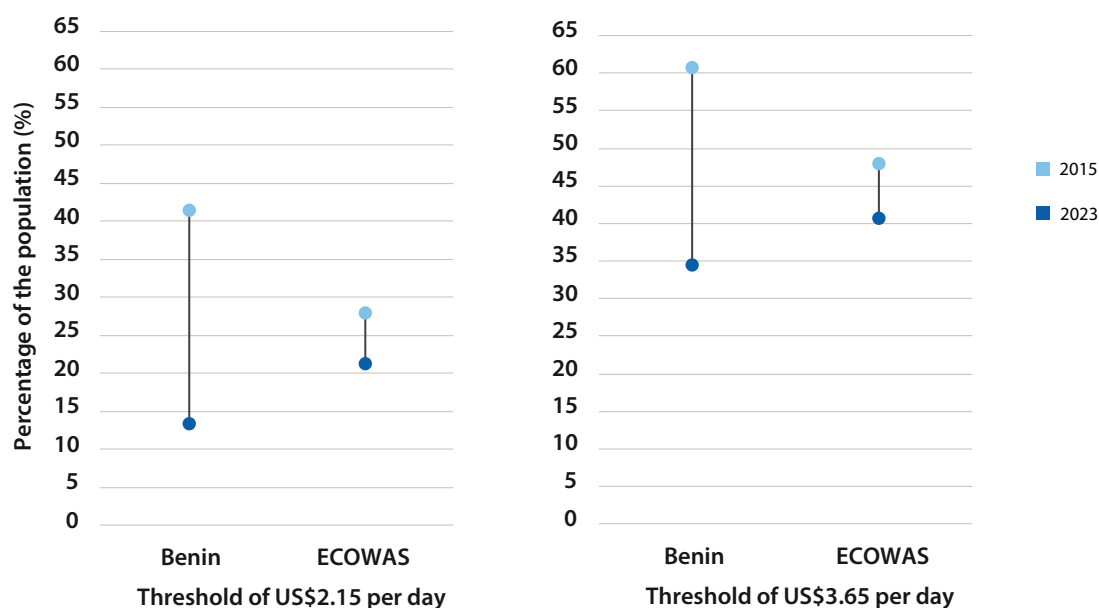
Source: Authors' calculations based on data from World Bank (2022).

Figure 24.b Income inequality: Palma ratio, 2018



Note: The Palma ratio performance threshold was set at 1 by Doyle and Stiglitz (2014). A Palma ratio of 1 means that the incomes of the richest 10 percent do not exceed the incomes of the poorest 40 percent.

Sources: Authors' calculations based on data from OECD & UNDP (2022).

Figure 25. Ratio of population living below the poverty line (PPP 2017, in %), 2015-2023

Note: ECOWAS average weighted by population.

Source: Authors' calculations based on data from World Data Lab (2023).

The proportion of the population living below the poverty line has fallen sharply in Benin since 2015. It is estimated that the proportion of the population living on less than USD 2.15 per day fell by 67.6 percent in Benin between 2015 and 2023, well above the average fall recorded in the sub-region. A reduction of 43.1 percent is also estimated at the poverty line of USD 3.65 per day (Figure 25)⁶. Therefore, this significant progress in terms of poverty reduction has a direct impact on the reduction of socio-economic inequalities, and could be reflected in the reduction of income inequalities.

In addition to socio-economic inequalities, which are also reflected geographically (part 1.2), there are also challenges in terms of gender equality. Gender equality is a cross-cutting challenge in terms of education and health - including sexual and reproductive health, as well as representation in public and private decision-making positions.

Considerable efforts are needed in Benin to promote gender equality in education. In 2019, the average

number of years of study for women is 60.9 percent of that for men, while it is 71.8 percent on average in ECOWAS countries (UNESCO, 2022). The measures of the Government of Benin to finance all or part of girls' school fees are designed to improve gender equality in access to education (part 3.2).

Furthermore, the representation of women in public decision-making positions in Benin could be improved. Women represent only 8.4 percent of the country's national parliament in 2021. Benin is therefore one of the countries in the sub-region where women are least represented in national parliaments in 2021 (Figure 26). As pointed out earlier, the policies implemented take several years to give results, and the data from international sources are sometimes not recent enough to show these results. In fact, the proportion of women in the national parliament is estimated for 2023 at around 26.6 percent (29 out of 109) according to national sources (National Assembly, 2023). This increase can be explained by the application of law no. 2019-43 on the electoral code⁷, which guarantees greater participation of women in the

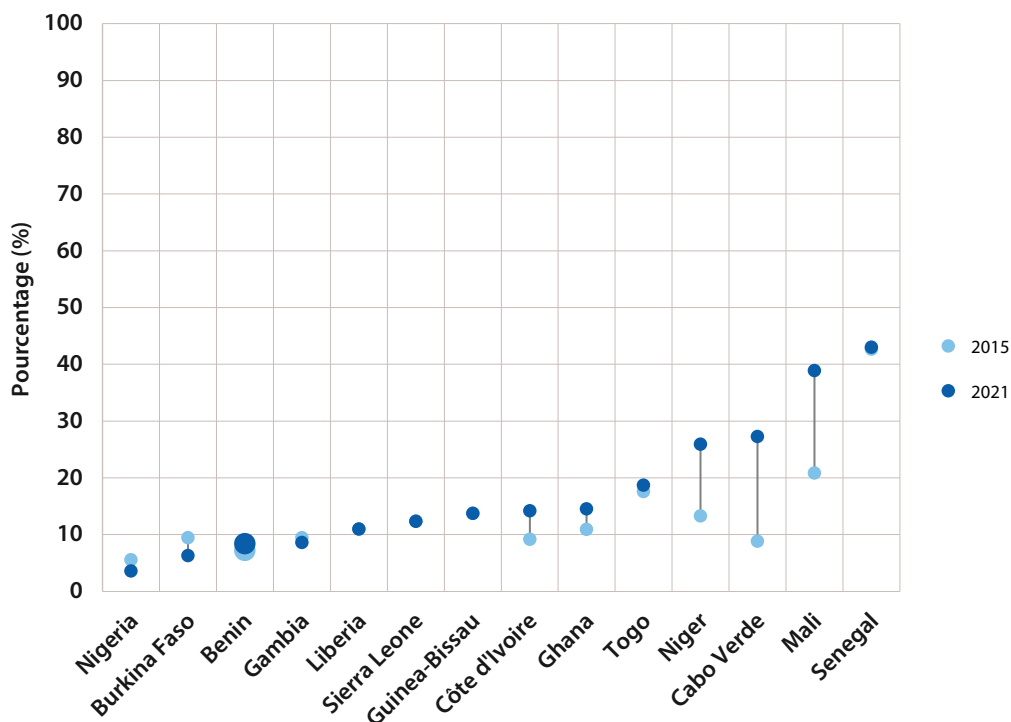
⁶ The poverty lines of \$1.90 and \$3.20 per day have been revised by the World Bank to \$2.15 and \$3.65 per day respectively (Jolliffe et al. 2022).

⁷ Articles 144 and 145 of Act no. 2019-43 of 15 November 2019 on the electoral code.

national parliament, with one seat exclusively reserved for women in each of the country’s 24 electoral districts. The ratio of women’s participation rate to men’s participation rate in Benin is well above the ECOWAS average, and contrasts positively with the other indicators

used to measure gender equality. In 2022, Benin is one of the countries with the highest ratio, with a female participation rate representing around 81.5 percent of that of men, compared with an average of 78.8 percent in the sub-region (ILO, 2022).

Figure 26. Seats held by women in national parliaments (%), 2015-2021



Source: Authors’ calculations based on data from the Inter-Parliamentary Union (2022).

PART

3

**Political efforts and
commitments to the SDGs**

Part 3.

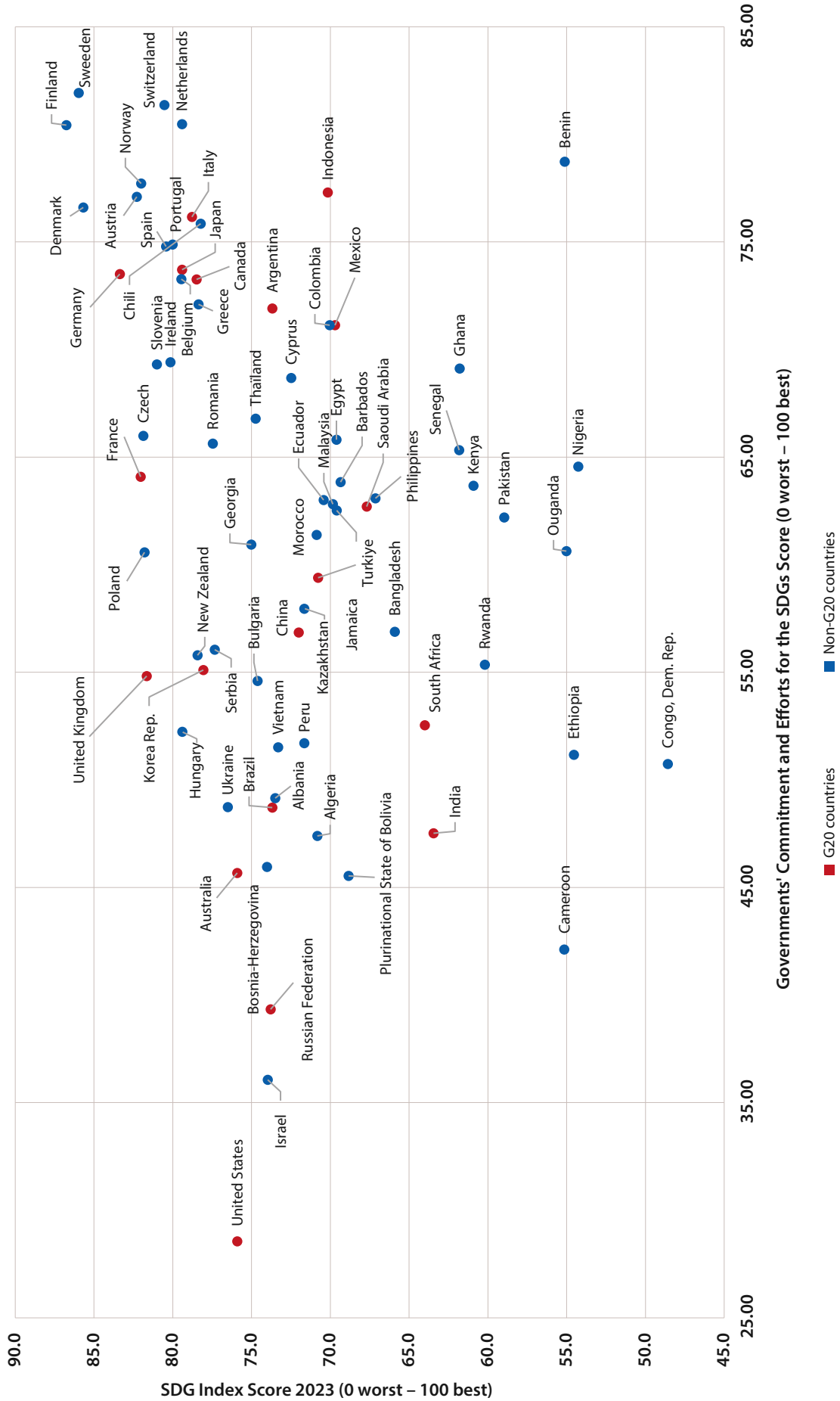
Political efforts and commitments to the SDGs

3.1 Commitment and government effort for the 2030 Agenda

Each year since 2018, the SDSN analyzes governments' efforts to achieve the SDGs. The information is collected through a survey that covers six broad categories of analysis: (1) high-level government statements, (2) action plans, (3) statistical monitoring, (4) budget, (5) coordination for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and as well as a variable category, this year (6) the inclusion of international externalities ("spillovers") in the country's Voluntary National Report. The data is collected and analyzed in close partnership with the global SDSN network, and the results are sent to the Permanent Mission to the United Nations for comments and corrections before publication. This qualitative analysis of commitment and effort complements the quantitative analysis in the previous sections.

The survey conducted for the 2023 edition of the Sustainable Development Report (Sachs et al. 2023) includes 74 countries, 14 more than the 2022 edition. The analysis of "government commitment and efforts towards the SDGs, in relation to the SDG index score" once again classifies Benin as a country with "a strong political commitment". Its ambitious and robust national goals, strategies and plans are critical to transforming the SDGs into an actionable agenda. Benin scored 78.7 out of 100 for its political efforts and commitments to the SDGs, which could help the country achieve significant SDG outcomes in the coming years. Benin is thus ranked 5th out of 74 countries worldwide.

Figure 27. Score of governments' commitment and efforts towards the SDGs, compared to the SDG Index Score



Source: Sustainable Development Report, 2023. Authors' analysis. Details on the methodology and indicators used are available on the following website: www.sdindex.org. Note: The data for Ukraine reflects the situation prior to February 2022, as many data points have not been updated since then.

High-level commitment to achieving the SDGs

Official speeches, as well as the preparation of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), are relevant elements for measuring governments' commitment to the SDGs. Since 2016, the Government of Benin has been expressing its will and commitment to achieving the SDGs. At the United Nations General Assembly in September 2016, President Patrice Talon stated that Benin was "capable of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as long as it receives adequate support" (United Nations, 2016). Since then, Benin has presented three VNRs to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2017, 2018 and 2020, illustrating the Government's determination and efforts to make progress on the 2030 Agenda. Through President Patrice Talon's address to the United Nations General Assembly in September 2022, Benin has once again affirmed its commitment to achieving the SDGs ([MAEC, 2022](#)).

Integrating the SDGs into government planning

One year after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs in 2015, Benin had already begun the process of appropriating the SDGs, which enabled it to select 49 priority SDG targets⁸ for the country, and to domesticate the indicators for these priority targets. The National Development Plan (NDP, 2018-2025) and its first short- and medium-term operational document, the Growth Program for Sustainable Development (PC2D), were drawn up around the themes of the SDGs and the priority targets selected. The same applies to the Government Action Programs (PAG I, 2016-2021; and PAG II, 2021-2026). In order to support national plans and strategies that are already anchored in the SDGs, Benin has also adopted the Ten-Year Framework for Action to Accelerate the Implementation of the SDGs (CDA-ODD, 2021-2030), which serves as a roadmap for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Benin. Finally, Benin has put in place a framework document for its first SDG bond issue, which is a further step in the process of integrating the 2030 Agenda into all public action of Benin.

SDGs monitoring

80 indicators from the international framework for monitoring the SDGs were identified to be associated with the 49 SDG priority targets for Benin. After putting these international indicators into context, 164 indicators were selected for monitoring the SDGs in Benin (MPD and UNICEF, 2020). According to the latest work of the SDG task force (INStad and DGCS-ODD) in 2021, 126 indicators are available, 8 indicators can be calculated with additional effort without changing the current statistical system, and 30 cannot. More data is needed, and the use of digital technologies should be encouraged to contribute to decision-making. In 2020, the DGCS-ODD launched the Integrated Management System for the SDGs ([SIG-ODD](#)), which aims to centralize and disseminate all the information available for monitoring the SDGs, including at local level. This platform was upgraded in 2022 to include additional functionalities enabling local data to be taken into account. The monitoring of the SDGs at national level is carried out through the "Rapport national de suivi de la mise en oeuvre des ODD" produced by the DGCS-ODD, every year since 2017⁹. Benin is also enhancing its monitoring at local level, notably through the establishment of voluntary local reviews and the organization of a National Forum on the SDGs (FNODD) ([Box 3](#)).

The budget

The SDGs require long-term investments (Sachs, Lafortune, Cattaneo, and Fabregas, 2023). Benin's efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda are in line with its stated political commitment ([Box 4](#)). The SDGs are taken into account in the 2023 national budget. In addition to being considered in the general narrative of official national budget documents, the SDGs have a specific budget line. The implementation of the SDGs in Benin requires the operationalization of the main planning documents for national policies, through the Multi-year Budgetary and Economic Programming Document (DPBEP), which serves as the basis for drawing up the budget. The sectoral plans drawn up by the ministries extend the overall planning, which places the achievement of the SDGs at the heart of public policy. Work is underway to finalize the methodology for analyzing the budget's sensitivity to the SDGs, with the aim of producing an SDG labeling of the various budget items in the next Finance Act. Since 2018, the DGCS-ODD has been conducting annual analyzes of

8 To these must be added the targets for the means of implementation of SDGs 1 to 16, as well as the targets of SDG 17.

9 The reports are available on the Integrated Management System for the SDGs ([SIG-ODD](#)).

Box 3. The role of local authorities in achieving the SDGs: focus on Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)

Local authorities, at the forefront of the delivery of public services, play an important role in achieving the SDGs. 60 percent of achieving the priority targets depends on local authorities (OECD, 2020). For this reason, it is important that they position themselves as key players in the implementation of the SDGs alongside central government.

With regard to the role of local authorities, governments have shown a willingness to report on the progress made towards the SDGs by the communities. This commitment stems from the ministerial declaration of the 2017 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), which stressed “the need to take appropriate measures for the localization and communication of sustainable development goals at all levels, from national level to community and grassroots level” (ECOSOC, 2017).

In Benin, the Communes-Government consultative framework (Figure 28) on the SDGs is responsible for informing and raising the awareness of the communes on the appropriation, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs at local level. It enables the actions taken by the government to be shared with the town halls. This consultative framework makes it possible to appreciate local dynamics and how they are taken into account in the reports produced by the DGCS-ODD, and serves as an advocacy lever for actions in favor of the SDGs in the communes.

Just like the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), the Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) are a process by which a municipality assesses and presents the progress and problems it is encountering in achieving the spatial targets of the SDGs and the commitment to “leave no one behind”. For the first VLRs experiment in Benin, in 2022, 4 communes out of 41 were randomly selected, by category, in order to carry out their VLRs. These are the communes of Nikki, Bassila, Avrankou and Abomey-Calavi. The VLRs highlight the importance of data availability at local level, as well as updating the distribution of roles in the implementation of the SDGs. These reviews are endorsed by reports that served as inputs for the first edition of the National Forum on the SDGs (FNODD) in Benin, held from May 30 to June 1, 2023 in Cotonou. This forum served as a melting pot for lessons learned and good practices among local stakeholders. The central theme of the 1st edition of the FNODD is: “Building resilience to accelerate local action in favor of the SDGs”. The VLR reports of the participating communes are in the process of being published.

For the preparation of VLR reports and the organization of the FNODD, an institutional framework has been established that takes into account the main actors classified according to 4 levels of intervention: the Steering Committee (SC), the Technical Committee (TC), the Permanent Secretariat (PS) and the Focal Unit (FU). The Focal Unit is at the heart of VLR reporting under the supervision of the mayor of the commune, supported by the Departmental Director in charge of Development. This unit brings together the Executive Secretary, local elected representatives, decentralized State structures, NGOs, opinion leaders, Technical and Financial Partners (TFPs), Heads of Planning and Statistics Departments and any other competent persons indicated by the candidate communes.

Source: Directorate General for Coordination and Monitoring of the SDGs (DGCS-ODD)

Box 4. Budget sensitivity to the SDGs

Benin is committed to supporting sustainable development and helping to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Every year since 2015, the Beninese government has pursued its efforts to appropriate, integrate, prioritize and implement the SDGs in its public policies through its projects and programs.

The construction of the State budget around public policies, in particular budget programs, makes it easier to understand the orientation of public action towards the priority targets of the SDGs. The budgeting process, coordinated by the Directorate General for Budget, is aligned with the budget cycle, from planning to monitoring and assessment, and covers all seventeen of the SDGs. At the start of each budget year, since 2018, tools for analyzing actions and activities in relation to the priority targets of the SDGs and their indicators are implemented in the formats of the various budget instruments (DPBEP, DPPD, PAP, etc.) and in the public financial information and management system (système d'information et de gestion des finances publiques, SIGFP), in order to make proposals for better alignment of budgets with the SDGs. The process includes:

- The inclusion in budget notes or circulars of guidelines that are sensitive to the SDGs;
- Trying to mark or code budget activities according to their contribution to the SDG targets during the budget formulation phase to support budget decision-making;
- The establishment of a clear reference framework for gender mainstreaming in all phases of the planning, programming, budgeting and monitoring-evaluation chain;
- Strengthening the monitoring and reporting systems for budget expenditure on the SDGs by securing the indicators and priority targets in the performance framework of budget programs;
- Strengthening accountability for budgets that are aligned with the SDGs and drawing up an analysis report on gender and climate issues as an annex to the finance act, as well as analyzing the budget's sensitivity to the SDGs;
- Establishing the national framework for integrated financing.

Despite these considerable efforts, there is a need for budgetary allocations to the SDGs to be further strengthened by putting in place an approach and new tools to produce information on the SDGs, including priorities, targets and progress towards the goals. These mechanisms should include a wide range of stakeholders, such as ministries, civil society organizations and the private sector, who play an active role in the formulation, monitoring, reporting and accountability of policies and budgets related to the SDGs.

Source: Directorate-General of the Budget (DGB)

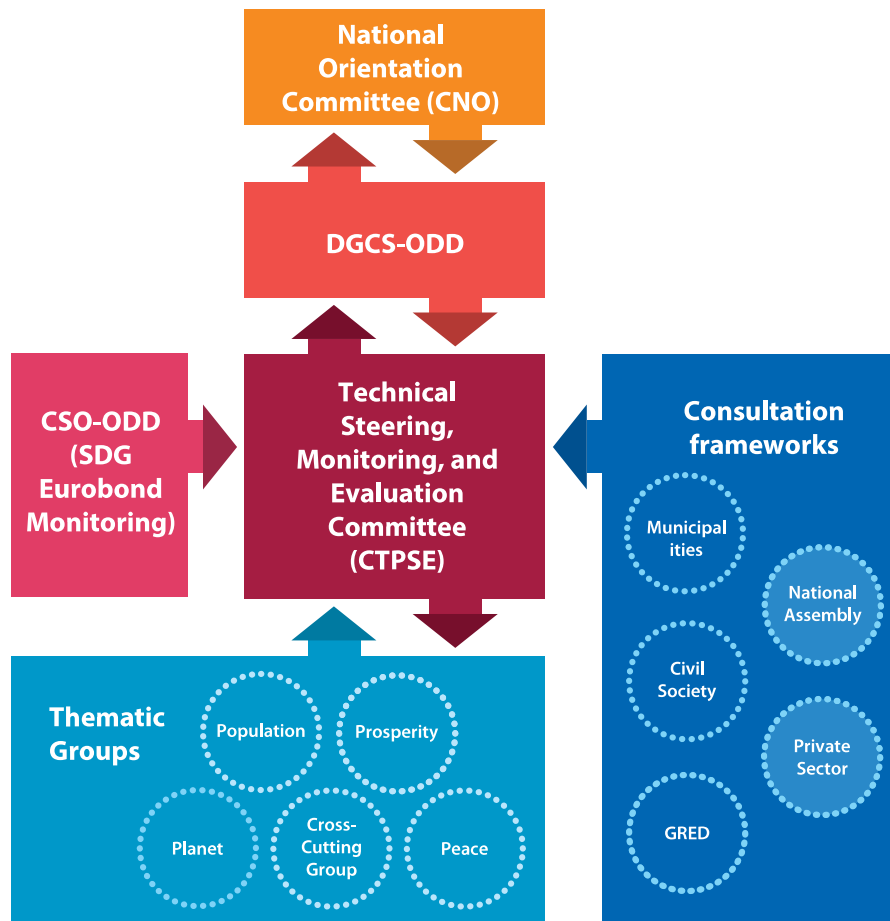
the sensitivity of the ministries' Annual Work Plans (PTA)¹⁰ to the SDGs. These reports make it possible to account for each ministry's contribution to achieving the SDGs.

Coordination mechanism for monitoring and implementing the 2030 Agenda

Benin has an institutional mechanism in place to ensure coordination of the implementation and monitoring-evaluation of the SDGs. The DGCS-ODD plays a key role in organizing this mechanism. In particular, its role is to provide the secretariat for the National Orientation Committee (CNO), which is at the head of this institutional mechanism and ensures the coherence of sustainable development policies at national level.

The DGCS-ODD is also responsible for chairing the Technical Steering, Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (CTPSE), which coordinates the implementation of the SDGs by putting the CNO's guidelines into practice. The DGCS-ODD is also responsible for the secretariats of the various technical committees. In addition to this institutional mechanism, the SDG Bond Monitoring Unit (CSO-ODD) has been set up within the Ministry of Economy and Finance to monitor the commitments made to investors as part of Benin's SDG issues.

Figure 28. Flow chart of the institutional mechanism



Notes: Since the 2022 edition of the “Sustainable Development Report for Benin”, the consultation frameworks for the private sector and the National Assembly have been formalized; the ministerial orders governing their establishment have been submitted for validation. The cross-cutting thematic group deals with data, finance, communication, financing through SDG bonds, etc.
Source: Authors and DGCS-ODD.

10 The Annual Work Plans (PTA) of the ministries put into operation the Multi-Year Expenditure Planning Document (DPPD) and the sectoral plans.

International externalities

When the consequences of an action are not reflected in market prices and are therefore not internalized by consumers and producers, this action is considered to generate an externality, which may be negative or positive (Sachs et al. 2017). Negative externalities generate problematic situations since they are not accompanied by economic incentives (high prices, for example) to stop or compensate for the said action. In the case of international or cross-border externalities, the actions of one country or economic actors can help or hinder the efforts of another to achieve the SDGs. Negative externalities include those related to international trade, with some countries relocating their CO₂ emissions by importing high-carbon products (such as cement or steel) from abroad. The disparity between performances on the SDG index and the international externalities index is proportional to incomes: low-income countries tend to generate relatively very few negative international externalities, while rich countries generate significant negative externalities (Sachs et al. 2017). It is therefore not surprising that the Voluntary National Reviews of Benin (VNRs), presented in 2017, 2018 and 2020 at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), do not take this dimension into account, because the country has little or no negative impacts internationally.

3.2 Scorecards for SDG transformations: policy monitoring

The statistical analysis presented in the first part of the report cannot on its own indicate whether a country is on track to achieve the SDGs. In fact, the data relating to results tends to show significant time lags and may not reflect the policies and investments put in place by governments, which produce results in the medium and long term.

In this report, we propose to explore the policies, the legal, regulatory and investment conditions necessary to achieve the SDGs through the SDG transformations scorecards, focusing on the central theme of transformation 1 (education, gender and inequality) and transformation 2 (health, well-being and demography). These scorecards complement the SDG index and the analysis of performance indicators, which are based on results data. The scorecards make it possible to highlight the policy frameworks in place, particularly within the Government Action Program (PAG 2021-2026), to compare them internationally, and to better measure the government's response, given the challenges facing the country.

This exercise may have several limitations. Firstly, internationally comparable indicators and policy measures are generally less available than international data on outcomes. Secondly, some indicators are based on more qualitative methods. As a result, government efforts need to be interpreted in the light of national challenges and contexts. For example, the absence of an advanced cybersecurity policy is of less importance in a country where Internet access is low. Thirdly, the effective implementation of government policies is not always guaranteed. The existence of a law on paper or a budgetary commitment does not necessarily translate into reality. Fourthly, there are fewer internationally agreed targets or thresholds. The thresholds identified in the scorecards have been defined using internationally defined targets (continental or global); otherwise using expert judgment (Sachs et al. 2023) and careful examination of the distribution of data.

Finally, the projects and reforms planned by the Government are as numerous as the challenges to which they provide solutions. For this reason, the analysis of the policies does not claim to list them exhaustively, but only to highlight the efforts and progress made, and to help identify the priorities for the continued implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Benin.



3.2.1 Transformation 1: Education, Gender, and Inequality

Education

Education contributes to the eradication of extreme poverty and inequality, stimulates economic growth and innovation, and fosters a decent work environment. African countries are aware of the current challenges and the transformational potential of education, and are stepping up their efforts to transform their education systems.

The Incheon Declaration on Education¹¹, adopted in 2015, calls for universal access to 12 years of free primary and secondary education, including 9 years of compulsory education (UNESCO, 2015). For the time being, Benin's current legislation provides 6 years of free education and makes the same number of schooling years mandatory, as do Guinea and Liberia. The average for ECOWAS countries is 9 years of compulsory education and 9 years of free education. The entire sub-region is still a long way from the 12-year threshold.

Nevertheless, it is important to stress that Benin has undertaken reforms that guarantee more years of free schooling for girls, thus facilitating their access to education. Since 2013, girls have been exempted from paying school fees up to the first cycle of general secondary education in state schools¹². Since February 2023, this measure has been extended to girls in upper general secondary education in 20 of Benin's least-favored communes¹³. Since 2012, Benin's technical high schools have also received financial support from the Government. As a result of this measure, a third of the tuition fees of girls enrolled in industrial science and technology field (STI)¹⁴ has been subsidized in 2021 and 2022. Extending free education to all primary and secondary education (general, technical and vocational), as well as to all communes and all pupils (girls and boys), would enable Benin to achieve the targets set by the Incheon Declaration on Education and Agenda 2030, as well as the ambitions of Agenda 2063.

In addition, the Integrated National School Feeding Program (PNASI), which has been implemented since

2017, provides further leverage in strengthening children's access to and retention in school. Since the start of the 2022-2023 school year, the PNASI has provided universal coverage of school canteens in primary schools (Republic of Benin, 2021a). This policy helps to combat the nutritional deficiencies that affect children's ability to learn.

Government expenditure is at the heart of the transformation of education. Planned public spending on education represents around 18.6 percent of the total budget in Benin in 2021, slightly below the 20.0 percent target set by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. But this target is well above the 11.1 percent allocated on average by ECOWAS countries. The PAG 2021-2026 reflects the government's commitment to investing in education. Nearly 992 billion CFA francs have been earmarked, representing 8.3 percent of the total budget for PAG II, of which 269 billion CFA francs (27.1 percent of the amount earmarked for education in PAG II) are available to continue the projects of PAG I (2016-2021) and implement the new projects planned by PAG II (2021-2026) for the education sector.

These resources are used, notably, to build and rehabilitate physical infrastructure, and to develop and improve the quality of education. In addition, the main category to benefit from the allocation of resources under Benin's first SDG obligation, amounting to €500 million, is "expanding education services and improving pupil and student care capacities", which accounts for 40.9 percent of the total amount in the portfolio.

Reducing socio-economic and gender inequalities

The establishment of social safety nets and tax policies will help reduce socio-economic inequalities and develop human capital. These policies need to be complemented by anti-discriminatory measures, particularly with regard to gender, improved labor standards and measures designed to put an end to all forms of modern slavery, human trafficking and child labor. The scorecard provides indicators on the commitments made by countries to reduce inequalities and on the inclusion of the gender equality principle in legislation.

11 Included in target 4.1 of the SDGs.

12 Order no. 013/MESFTPRIJ/DC/SGM/DRFM/DESG/SA of February 18, 2013 (MESTFP, 2022a).

13 Memorandum No. 049/MESTFP/DC/SGM/DPAF/DESG/SOSP/SA of February 13, 2023 (MESTFP, 2023).

14 Order 2012 n°449/MESFTPRIJ/DC/SGM/DRFM/DPP/SA of October 9, 2012 (MESTFP, 2021 and 2022b).

Governments use tax policies as a way to reduce inequalities by mobilizing domestic resources, which are then invested in public goods and services, particularly those targeting the most disadvantaged populations.

Nevertheless, tax measures must mobilize sufficient resources without burdening the poorest populations or risking capital flight. OXFAM's tax policy score (worst 0 - 1 best) is used to measure the effectiveness of tax policies in reducing inequality. Benin is very close to the regional average of 0.80, with a score of 0.79 out of 1 in 2021.

Policies aimed at reducing socio-economic inequalities must be complemented by policies aimed at guaranteeing gender equality. The Gender Equality Score in the Law, produced by the World Bank (Women, Business and the Law) assesses the laws and regulations affecting women's economic opportunities. Benin is one of the best performing countries in the sub-region in 2023, with a score of 83.8 out of 100, well above the average score of 70.6 for ECOWAS countries. Thanks to the reforms undertaken by the government since October 2021, Benin is one of 18 countries worldwide whose score has improved. Benin has prohibited gender-based discrimination in access to credit with Order 2022 no. 2349-5 ([World Bank, 2023](#)). Increasing government efforts to ensure gender equality in access to economic opportunities could allow Benin to continue to improve its score. Efforts are also being pursued in the public sector, particularly in the national parliament, for which Law No. 2019-43 on the electoral code provides for a seat reserved exclusively for women in each of the 24 electoral districts. As a result, there will be at least 24 women out of 109 seats in the national parliament, representing a minimum of 22.0 percent women.

The Government of Benin is taking action to eradicate child labor. In April 2023, the Ministry of Labor and the Civil Service, and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Microfinance launched the national campaign "Zero tolerance to child labor in high-prevalence sectors in Benin". Its aim is to raise awareness and mobilize the population in the fight against child labor, to increase inspections and controls in areas of economic activity, and to take action against the perpetrators and accomplices of economic exploitation of children. This initiative helps to ensure that the legislation in force,

which prohibits any form of exploitation or abuse of children, is enforced (Republic of Benin, 2023b). Benin is one of the few countries in the sub-region to have ratified Social Security Convention No. 102 (ILO, 1952). It is important to note that only 12 African countries¹⁵ - including Benin and five other ECOWAS countries - and only 63 countries worldwide have ratified and brought into force this convention, which guarantees a minimum standard of social protection (ILO, 2023). Thus, since 2019, Benin has been applying: Part V, old-age benefit; Part VI, employment injury benefit; Part VII, family benefit; Part VIII, maternity benefit; Part IX, invalidity benefit; and Part X, survivors' benefit (in the event of the death of a family member), as provided for in Convention No. 102 on social security. Nevertheless, the score assigned by the World Bank (CPIA Africa 2022) to Benin's social protection policies and labor market regulations is slightly below the regional average. In 2021, Benin's score is 3 on a scale of 1 to 6, compared with an ECOWAS average of 3.6 ([World Bank, 2022](#)).

The Government of Benin is putting in place measures that could also allow the country to improve the current context in terms of social protection and the reduction of socio-economic and gender inequalities. These measures are grouped together in the "social protection" action package, for which six projects are planned for a total investment of CFAF 339 billion, amounting to 2.8 percent of the provisional PAG II budget. The mobilized resources will be used mainly for the Human Capital Strengthening Insurance Program (ARCH) managed by the National Agency for Social Protection (ANPS), accounting for 54.3 percent of the actions planned for social protection.

The ARCH program, financed entirely by the national budget, is the main instrument for implementing Benin's social protection strategy. It will provide one-stop access to health insurance, training, micro-credit and pension insurance. The most vulnerable populations currently benefit from health insurance, which is fully covered for the extremely poor. Eventually, the program will also provide partial health insurance cover for the non-extremely poor. Around 867,944 extremely and non-extremely poor people have a biometric card giving access to social security (ANPS, 2023), i.e., almost 80.2 percent of those identified and enrolled¹⁶. Law no. 2022-17 of October 19, 2022¹⁷ makes health insurance mandatory for everyone

15 The convention will enter into force in Comoros on July 28, 2023.

16 PAG II reports that 1,082,013 people have been identified and enrolled in the Administrative Census for Population Identification (RAVIP).

17 Amending law no. 2020-37 of February 3, 2021 on the protection of human health in the Republic of Benin.

living in Benin from January 2023. Workers in the informal sector are also covered by the social protection framework provided by the ARCH program.

In addition to this social protection program, the Government aims to implement a project to support the socio-economic integration of vulnerable people such as children, the disabled, the elderly and disaster victims. This project includes the creation of around a hundred child care and protection centers, the inclusion of socio-educational classes in 80 percent of schools and the protection of 250,000 households living in extreme poverty through social safety nets. As an extension of its social policy, the Government, at its Council of Ministers meeting on June 21, 2023, took a series of measures to promote the integration of people with disabilities (Republic of Benin, 2023a). In addition to the Sahel Women's Empowerment and Demographic Dividend (SWEDD) project, the government plans to implement two projects promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. The first involves strengthening and creating facilities for social and gender protection, while the second aims to provide care for victims of gender-based violence. The implementation of these policies and programs could enable Benin to improve its score for social protection policies and labor market regulations in future editions of the World Bank's CPIA Africa.

Finally, the Government, through the National Microfinance Fund (FNM), wants to increase the supply of its microcredit program known as "Alafia", particularly through the digital channel, and give low-income populations, women and young people access to credit of between CFAF 30,000 and CFAF 100,000. The Government's ambition is also reflected in the credit component of the ARCH program, which offers trained craftspeople access to credit at subsidized rates.



3.2.2 Transformation 2: Health, Well-Being, and Demography

Target 3.8 of the SDGs on universal health coverage (UHC), which consists of access to the full range of quality health services, from prevention to treatment and palliative care, is at the heart of Transformation 2. In 2019, the health services coverage index is low across ECOWAS. With an average score of 43.3 out of 100, the sub-region is not even halfway to reaching the target of 100. Benin, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Niger and Sierra Leone are below this


regional average. All ECOWAS member countries must step up their efforts to achieve universal health coverage.

Target 3.c of the SDGs calls on governments to increase the health budget. In 2001, the Abuja Declaration had already set a target of at least 15 percent for health in the state budget (OAU, 2001). In 2022, the average share allocated to health in the national budgets of ECOWAS countries was only 6.4 percent, well below this commitment. Along with Mali, Nigeria and Senegal, Benin is one of the countries below the average, with a share of 5.5 percent.

Target 3.d of the SDGs also defines the objective of "strengthening the capacity of all countries for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks". The poor performances on SDG 3, as well as the context of the Ebola and COVID-19 epidemics, highlight the need for ECOWAS countries to improve their preparedness for health crises. The Global Health Security Index, which measures the ability of countries to prepare for epidemics and pandemics, gives Benin a score of 25.4 out of 100 in 2021, below the average score of 34.4 out of 100 in the sub-region (Table 2). Furthermore, the self-assessment of the National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS) 2019-2021, completed in September 2022, shows that the country has not achieved the objectives it set itself for improving its health system (Ministry of Health, 2022). Aware of this challenge, the National Primary Health Care Agency (ANSSP) is carrying out the Operational Plan for Health Security (Plan Opérationnel de Sécurité Sanitaire, POSS 2023), whose objective is to enhance the country's capacity to deal with health emergencies. This plan includes the targets set by the National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS) 2019-2021, with the aim of achieving them, and thus improving the scores of the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) of the International Health Regulations (IHR) carried out in 2017, by the end of 2023 (Ministry of Health, 2022). At the same time, the implementation of Benin's National Community Health Policy (CNLS-TP, 2020a and 2020b) to reinforce community health services, which are on the front line against epidemics and pandemics, will complement this effort.

Transformation 2 also includes policies and measures to improve well-being and the quality of life. Changes in social norms and behaviors promote healthy lifestyles through improved hygiene, reduced consumption of tobacco, alcohol and other harmful substances,

Table 1. Transformation 1: Education, Gender, and Inequality

	Years of Free education in Law (#, 2021, UNESCO)	Years of Compulsory education in Law (#, 2021, UNESCO)	Education in % of national budget – 2021* (%, 2022, OXFAM & DFI)	Tax Policies (score 0–1, 2022, OXFAM & DFI)	Social Security Convention No. 102 (minimum standard) (February 2023, ILO)	Social protection score, CPIA (Score 1–6, 2021, World Bank)	Women, Business and the Law (Score 0–100, 2023, World Bank)
ECOWAS countries							
Benin	6.0	6.0	18.6	0.79	√	3.0	83.8
Burkina Faso	10.0	10.0	22.3	0.71	X	3.0	82.5
Côte d'Ivoire	10.0	10.0	18.3	0.76	X	3.0	95.0
Cabo Verde	8.0	10.0	15.1	0.69	√	4.0	86.3
Ghana	9.0	11.0	13.7	0.79	X	3.5	75.0
Guinea	6.0	6.0	11.9	0.76	X	3.0	73.8
Gambia	9.0	9.0	16.5	0.77	X	2.5	69.4
Guinea-Bissau	NO DATA	9.0	9.3	0.76	X	2.5	42.5
Liberia	6.0	6.0	13.9	0.41	X	3.0	81.3
Mali	12.0	9.0	17.7	0.92	X	3.0	63.8
Niger	NO DATA	NO DATA	13.5	0.83	√	3.0	56.9
Nigeria	9.0	9.0	5.7	0.83	X	4.0	66.3
Senegal	11.0	11.0	20.4	0.73	√	3.5	72.5
Sierra Leone	9.0	9.0	19.8	0.76	√	3.0	72.5
Togo	5.0	10.0	17.5	0.94	√	3.0	81.9
ECOWAS countries	9.0	9.2	11.1	0.80	6 out of 15	3.6	70.6
Ambitious	≥ 12 years old	≥ 9 years	≥ 20.0%	≥ 0.8	In force	≥ 5	≥ 90
Moderately ambitious	≥ 9 years old	N/A	≥ 15.0%	≥ 0.5	N/A	≥ 3.5	≥ 70
Less ambitious	under 9 years old	Under 9 years old	under 8.0%	Under 0.5	Not in force	under 3.5	under de 70

Notes: The ECOWAS average is weighted by population. Details on definitions, data sources and thresholds are available at benin.sdgindex.org. *A different source was used by OXFAM & DFI for Nigeria (UNESCO). Source: Authors' calculations.

and less risky behaviors such as unprotected sex. The Transformation 2 dashboard shows the measures that governments have put in place to limit the harmful use of tobacco and alcohol, which are key factors in the fight against non-communicable diseases (SDG target 3.4).

The WHO identifies taxes on tobacco as the most effective way of reducing consumption, and as a way of generating additional revenue that can be used to finance public spending on health (WHO, 2021). Benin

and Guinea have introduced taxes representing 10 percent of the price of the most best-selling cigarettes in 2020. The WHO recommendation on this tax proposes a tax of 75 percent, leaving all ECOWAS countries a significant scope for increasing taxes on tobacco. However, these low taxes on tobacco can be explained by the fact that smoking is not a public health priority in these countries. In fact, in 2019, only 4.9 percent of the population aged over 15 were tobacco smokers in Benin and the ECOWAS countries (WHO, 2022). With regard to


alcohol, Benin is one of the five ECOWAS countries to have adopted a national policy governing the marketing and consumption of alcohol (WHO, 2018).

The Government of Benin plans to invest CFAF 441 billion in health, equivalent to 3.7 percent of the provisional PAG II budget, over the period 2021-2026. These resources will cover the establishment of a medical transport system incorporating the emergency medical service (SAMU), the construction and equipping of academic hospitals, health infrastructure, and a national laboratory for quality control of health products and water. Other projects under PAG II (2021-2026) include improving the supply and training of healthcare professionals, and digitalizing healthcare services, notably with a solution for the management and traceability of pharmaceutical products.

The PAG II projects aimed at promoting sports above all boost the country's events and tourism. However, like the institutionalization of sports classes in secondary schools throughout the country, which was completed as part of PAG I (2016-2021), projects to promote sports could also help to meet the population's needs in terms of social well-being and health. Nearly CFAF 208 billion will be earmarked to fund actions aimed at developing sports in Benin. The government has planned to build and rehabilitate a large number of sports facilities which, if made accessible to the entire population, could contribute to the fight against non-communicable diseases¹⁸, which are one of the main causes of mortality worldwide. On the other hand, although Benin's priority SDG targets include these, the PAG does not explicitly mention specific actions aimed at reducing behavioral risk factors such as smoking, alcoholism, poor diet and unsafe sexual practices that lead to the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

18 In particular cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases, cancers and diabetes, which account for 80 percent of all premature deaths caused by non-communicable diseases (WHO, 2022).

Table 2. Transformation 2: Health, Well-Being, and Demography

	UHC, health services coverage Index (score 0-100, 2019, WHO)	health as % of national budget - 2021* (%, 2022, OXFAM & DFI)	Taxes on the best-selling cigarette brand (% of price) (%, 2020, WHO)	Adoption of a written national policy on alcohol (September 2018, WHO)	Global health security index: Preparedness for pandemics (score 0-100, 2021, NTI & Johns Hopkins)
ECOWAS countries					
Benin	38.0	5.5	10.0	√	25.4
Burkina Faso	43.0	11.6	44.0	X	29.8
Côte d'Ivoire	45.0	6.2	35.0	√	31.2
Cabo Verde	69.0	9.3	19.0	√	34.1
Ghana	45.0	7.5	32.0	√	34.3
Guinea	37.0	7.4	10.0	X	26.8
Gambia	48.0	9.4	49.0	X	28.7
Guinea-Bissau	37.0	7.8	NO DATA	X	21.4
Liberia	42.0	15.2	57.0	X	35.7
Mali	42.0	5.5	28.0	X	29.0
Niger	37.0	4.6	32.0	√	28.7
Nigeria	44.0	5.6	37.0	X	38.0
Senegal	49.0	5.7	38.0	X	32.8
Sierra Leone	39.0	10.4	23.0	X	32.7
Togo	44.0	7.0	41.0	X	27.8
ECOWAS countries	43.3	6.4	34.5	5 out of 15	34.3
Ambitious	≥ 80	≥ 15.0%	≥ 75%	National policy or prohibition	≥ 80
Moderately ambitious	≥ 60	≥ 8.0%	≥ 40%	Subnational policy	≥ 50
Less ambitious	Under 60	Under 8.0%	Under 40%	No policy	Under 50

Notes: The ECOWAS average is weighted by population. Details on definitions, data source, and thresholds are available at benin.sdgindex.org. *A different source was used by OXFAM & DFI for Nigeria (WHO, 2019).

Source: Authors' calculations.

Box 5. Benin's situation with regard to internationally set public investment targets for education and health

Putting in place sufficient resources to operationalize the formulated public policies depends in particular on the level of the mobilized resources and the priorities that the State defines for a budget year. Since 2016, Benin has undertaken reforms designed to ensure that resources are mobilized in order to provide sufficient funding for its public policies, which are set out in the Government Action Program (PAG) and implemented in the various sectors. To this end, the Government is striving to respect the agreements on the principles of allocating resources to the investments to which it is committed. These frameworks provide for the allocation of a proportion of the total government expenditure to key sectors such as education, health, agriculture and others. For example, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), spending on the health sector should account for 10 percent of the total expenditure of the State budget. This rate is raised to 15 percent by the Abuja Declaration, to which Benin has committed itself. In terms of education, it is the Incheon Agreement that sets out the proportion of the State budget to be allocated. It sets a percentage of between 15 percent and 20 percent of total government expenditure, or between 4 percent and 6 percent of gross domestic product (GDP).

	Achievements						Forecasts
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Education expenditure (as a % of State budget expenditure)	14.91	17.20	19.24	15.72	16.04	14.92	18.92
Health expenditure (as a % of State budget expenditure)	5.66	6.84	6.74	10.72	6.10	8.80	8.14

Source: DGB, April 2023

Health is a key issue for the government, which invests in this sector to ensure quality services for the population. These efforts in terms of expenditure in this area are set out in the table above.

Over the period 2017 to 2022, expenditure ratios are close to but below the 10 percent recommended by the WHO, and well below the 15 percent threshold set out by the Abuja Declaration. The score of 10.72 percent achieved in 2020 is the result of the resources devoted to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The relatively low level, with an average of 7.52 percent over the period 2017-2022, is explained by the reforms aimed at restoring the sector before major investments are made over the three-year period 2024-2026, to ensure better health for the people of Benin.

The government intends to continue its efforts in allocating resources to education to maintain the trend through flagship actions planned for the three-year period 2024-2026. As for the health sector, measures have also been taken to strengthen and improve the rate at which resources are allocated to the sector.

Source: Directorate General for Budget (DGB)

ANNEXES

Methodology and Tables of Indicators

A.1.

Interpreting the SDG Index and Dashboard results

This Sustainable Development Report describes Benin's progress toward the SDGs and indicates areas that require more rapid progress. The overall SDG index score and the scores for individual SDGs can be interpreted as a percentage of optimal performance. Therefore, the difference between any score and the maximum value of 100 is the distance in percentage points that a country must overcome to reach optimum SDG performance. The same indicators are used for all countries in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), to generate comparable SDG indices and dashboards.

The SDG Dashboards provide a visual representation of each country's performance on the 17 SDGs. The "traffic light" color scheme (green, yellow, orange, and red) illustrates how far a country is from achieving a particular goal.

Trends in the SDG dashboards indicate whether a country is on track to achieve a particular goal by 2030, based on recent performance of individual indicators. They are based on past annual growth rates since 2015, which are extrapolated to 2030. Indicator trends are then aggregated at the goal level to give an appraisal of how well the country is progressing towards that SDG.

This section provides a brief summary of the methods used to compute the SDG Index and Dashboards. The methodology used is the same as in the "Sustainable Development Report". A detailed methodology document is available online (Lafortune et al. 2018). The European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) conducted an independent statistical audit of the methodology and results in 2019, examining the conceptual and statistical coherence of the index structure. Their audit and additional data tables are available on our website, www.sdgindex.org

Due to time lags in international statistics, this year's edition does not capture most of the multiple impact that the war in Ukraine, and other geopolitical and security crises that have emerged over the past 12 to 18 months have had on the SDGs.

A.2.

Main limitations

Due to changes in indicators and refinements in methodology, the SDG Index rankings and scores from one edition cannot be compared with results from previous editions. However, Part 1 provides time series for the SDG Index, calculated retrospectively using that year's indicators and methods, which allows for comparable results over time. The full time series for the SDG Index can be downloaded online.

Despite our best efforts to identify data for the SDGs, several indicator and data gaps persist at the international level (Refer to table 5.2 of the methodological annex of the 2022 SDR). To ensure maximum data comparability, we only use data from internationally comparable sources. These sources may adjust national data to ensure international comparability. As a result, some data points presented in this report may differ from data available from national statistical offices or other national sources. Moreover, the length of international organizations' validation processes can lead to significant delays in publishing some data. National statistical offices may therefore have more recent data for some indicators than what is presented in this report.

A.3. Methodology

This Sustainable Development Report for Benin provides a comprehensive assessment of how far we are from achieving the targets, based on the most recent data available covering all 15 ECOWAS countries. This year's report includes 81 indicators, which are from the 2023 Sustainable Development Report, and to which 14 indicators relevant to Benin and the rest of ECOWAS have been added.

The following sections provide an overview of the methodology for indicator selection, normalization, and aggregation and for generating indications on trends. Additional information including raw data, additional data tables, and sensitivity tests are available online.

A.3.1. Data selection

Where possible, this Report uses official SDG indicators endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission. Where there are data gaps or insufficient data available for an official indicator, we include other metrics from official and unofficial providers. Five criteria for indicator selection were used to determine suitable metrics for inclusion in the report:

1. Relevance and applicability to a broad range of country settings.
2. Statistical adequacy: the indicators selected represent valid and reliable measures.
3. Timeliness: the indicators selected are up to date and published on a reasonably prompt basis.
4. Coverage: data must be available for at least 80 percent of the ECOWAS Member States with a population greater than one million people¹⁹.
5. Measurability of distance to targets: optimal performance can be determined.

Data sources

The data included in this Report come from a mix of official and non-official sources. Most of the data (around two-thirds) come from international organizations (including the World Bank, OECD, WHO, FAO, ILO, UNICEF and others) which have extensive and rigorous data validation processes. Other data sources (around a third) come from less traditional statistics: including household surveys (Gallup World Poll); civil society organizations and networks (such as Oxfam, Tax Justice Network, World Justice Project, Reporters sans Frontières, and others); and peer-reviewed journals and geographic information systems (GIS). These data from non-official sources complement other data sources and help to increase the availability and timeliness of data for the key indicators and targets of the SDGs. The complete list of indicators and data sources can be found below ([Table A.1](#)).

A.3.2 Missing data and imputations

The objective of this report is to accompany the country in monitoring and evaluating its progress and efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda, based on available and robust data. To minimize bias due to missing data, the SDG Index only includes countries that have data for at least 80 percent of the indicators included in the report. Cabo Verde was not included in the comparison of the SDG indices due to insufficient data availability. Cabo Verde and Guinea-Bissau had 23.4 percent and 21.3 percent missing data respectively for all indicators. Both countries have nevertheless been retained in dashboards ([Part 1](#)) and the Six Transformations analysis ([Parts 2 and 3](#)).

Considering that many SDG priorities lack widely accepted statistical models to impute country-level data, missing data was imputed or modeled only in a few exceptional instances. The list of indicators for which imputations were performed is available online.

¹⁹ There is one exception to this rule: Children involved in Child Labor.

A.3.3 Method for constructing the SDG Index and Dashboards

The procedure for calculating the SDG Index comprises three steps: (i) establish performance thresholds and remove extreme values from the distribution of each indicator; (ii) rescale the data to ensure comparability across indicators (normalization); (iii) aggregate the indicators within and across SDGs.

Establishing performance thresholds

To make the data comparable across indicators, each variable was rescaled from 0 to 100 - with 0 denoting the worst possible performance and 100 describing the optimum. Rescaling is usually very sensitive to the choice of limits and to extreme values (outliers) at both ends of the distribution. These outliers can become unintended thresholds and introduce spurious variability to the data. Consequently, the choice of upper and lower bounds can affect the relative ranking of countries in the index.

The upper bound for each indicator was determined using a five-step decision tree:

1. Use absolute quantitative thresholds in SDGs and targets: e.g., zero poverty, universal school completion, universal access to water and sanitation, full gender equality.
2. Where no explicit SDG target is available, apply the principle of “leave no one behind” in setting the upper bound to universal access or zero deprivation.
3. Where science-based targets exist that must be achieved by 2030 or later, use these to set the upper bound (e.g., zero greenhouse gas emissions from CO₂, as required by 2050 at the latest to stay at 1.5°C, 100 percent sustainable management of fisheries).
4. For all other indicators, use the average of the top 5 performing countries.

These principles interpret the SDGs as “stretch targets” and focus attention on the indicators on which a country is lagging. The lower bound was defined at the 2.5th

percentile of the distribution. Each indicator distribution was censored, so that all values exceeding the upper bound scored 100, and values below the lower bound scored 0.

Normalization

After establishing the upper and lower bounds, variables were transformed linearly to a scale between 0 and 100 using the following rescaling formula for the range [0; 100]:

$$x' = \left(\frac{x - \min(x)}{\max(x) - \min(x)} \right) \times 100$$

where x is the raw data value; \max/\min denote the upper and lower bounds, respectively; and x' is the normalized value after rescaling.

The rescaling equation ensured that all rescaled variables were expressed as ascending variables (i.e., higher values denoted better performance). In this way, the rescaled data became easy to interpret and compare across all indicators: a country that scores 50 on a variable is halfway towards achieving the optimum value, while one with a score of 75 has covered three-quarters of the distance from worst to best.

Weighting and aggregation

Several rounds of expert consultations on earlier drafts of the SDG Index made it clear that there was no consensus across different epistemic communities on assigning higher weights to some SDGs over others. As a normative assumption, we therefore opted to give fixed, equal weight to every SDG, reflecting the commitment of policymakers to treat all SDGs equally as part of an integrated and indivisible set of goals. To improve their SDG Index score, countries need to place attention on all goals, albeit with a particular focus on those they are furthest from achieving and where incremental progress might be expected to be fastest.

To compute the SDG Index, we first estimate a country's scores on each goal using the arithmetic mean of its scores on the goal indicators. These scores are then averaged across all 17 SDGs to obtain the SDG Index score. Various sensitivity tests are made available online, including Monte Carlo simulations and comparisons of arithmetic mean versus geometric mean at both the Index and goal levels. Monte Carlo simulations call for

prudence in interpreting small differences in the Index scores and rankings between countries, as they may be sensitive to the weighting scheme used.

Dashboards

We introduced quantitative thresholds for each indicator, to group countries into a “traffic light” table. Thresholds have been established via statistical techniques supported by various rounds of consultations with experts since 2016.

Averaging across all indicators for an SDG might hide areas of policy concern if a country performs well on most indicators but faces serious shortfalls on one or two metrics within the same SDG (often called the “substitutability” or “compensation” issue). This applies particularly to high-income and upper-middle-income countries that have made significant progress on many SDG dimensions but may face serious shortfalls on individual variables.

As a result, the SDG Dashboards focus exclusively on the two variables on which a country performs worst. To this end, the indicator values were first rescaled from 0 to 3 according to their comparison with the thresholds. Values below the red threshold were rescaled (using a min-max formula) from 0 to 1, where 0 corresponds to the lower bound and 1 to the red threshold value. Values above the green threshold were rescaled from 2 to 3, where 2 is the green threshold value and 3 is the upper bound. Values between these two thresholds were similarly rescaled and, for all indicators, the yellow/orange threshold was set at the value halfway between the red and green thresholds (1.5 after rescaling). Each interval between 0 and 3 is continuous. We then took the average of the two rescaled variables for which the country performed worst to identify the rating of the goal. A red rating is applied only if the two worst-performing indicators obtain a red score. Similarly, to obtain a green rating, both indicators must be green. If the country has less than 50 percent of the indicators available for a goal, the color of the dashboard for that goal is grey. The quantitative thresholds used to generate the dashboards are available in the online Codebook. You can also find out more about the thresholds and the reasons for choosing the optimum values in the methodology section of the Sustainable Development Report.

SDG Trends

Using historic data, we estimate how fast a country has been progressing towards an SDG and determine whether – if extrapolated into the future – this pace will be sufficient to achieve the SDG by 2030. For each indicator, SDG achievement is defined by the green threshold set for the SDG Dashboards. The difference in percentage points between the green threshold and the normalized country score denotes the gap that must be closed to meet that goal. To estimate trends at the indicator level, we calculated the linear annual growth rates (annual percentage improvements) needed to achieve the target by 2030 (from 2015–2030), which we compared to the average annual growth rate over the most recent period since the adoption of the SDGs in 2015 (for example, 2015–2020). Progress towards achievement on a particular indicator is described using a four-arrow system (Figure A.1). Figure A2 illustrates the methodology graphically. Since these calculations require time series data, indicators with only one or very few data points over time could not be used for these analyses. The list of indicators used to generate trend indications is available in the online Codebook.

To estimate the overall trend for an SDG, each trend indicator was assigned a value on a scale of 0 to 4 according to its growth rate. Indicators with declining growth rates were rescaled (using a min-max formula) from 0 to 1, where 0 corresponds to the worst decline recorded by an indicator across countries and 1 corresponds to absolute stagnation over time (growth rate of 0). Increasing growth rates were similarly rescaled into intervals of 1 to 2, 2 to 3 and 3 to 4, where 2 corresponds to half the growth rate needed to reach the green threshold, 3 corresponds exactly to the growth rate needed to reach the green threshold and 4 to the highest growth rate among countries for a given indicator.

Each of the four intervals between 0 and 4 is continuous. The trend for an SDG has been calculated as the arithmetic mean of all the rescaled values of the trend indicators for that goal. An average between 0 and 1 corresponds to a “decreasing” trend, between 1 and 2 to a “stagnating” trend, between 2 and 3 to a “moderately improving” trend, and finally between 3 and 4 to a “on track” trend. Overall target trends have not been calculated for countries that do not have a goal-level dashboard.

Since the projections are based on past growth rates over several years, a country might have observed a decline

in performance in the past year (for instance due to the impact of COVID-19) but still be considered as being on track. This methodology emphasizes long-term structural changes over time since the adoption of the SDGs in 2015, rather than focusing on annual changes that may be cyclical or temporary. This year, we have refined the methodology by assigning an orange arrow to countries

that currently exceed the target for an indicator, but have declined since 2015. This is because, if the downward trend continues, the country may no longer meet the SDG target in the future.

Figure A.1 The Four-arrow system for denoting SDG trends

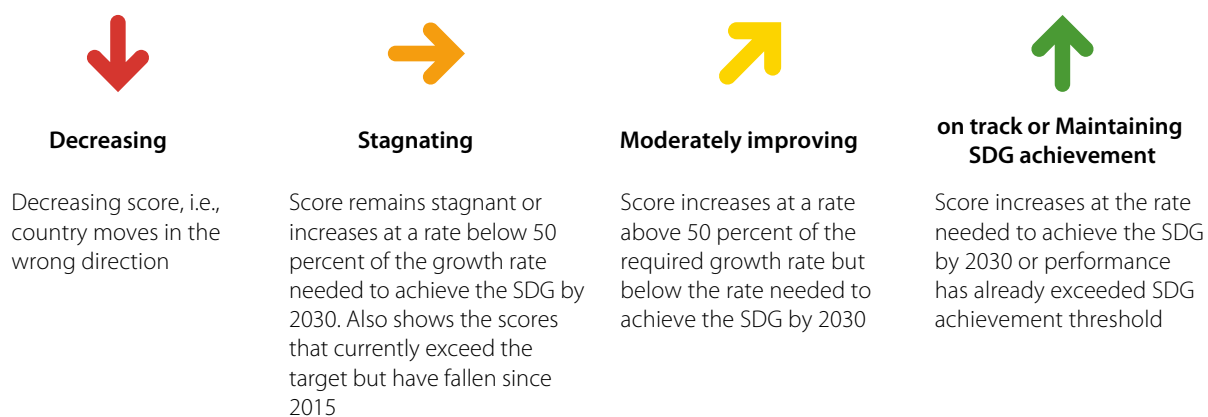
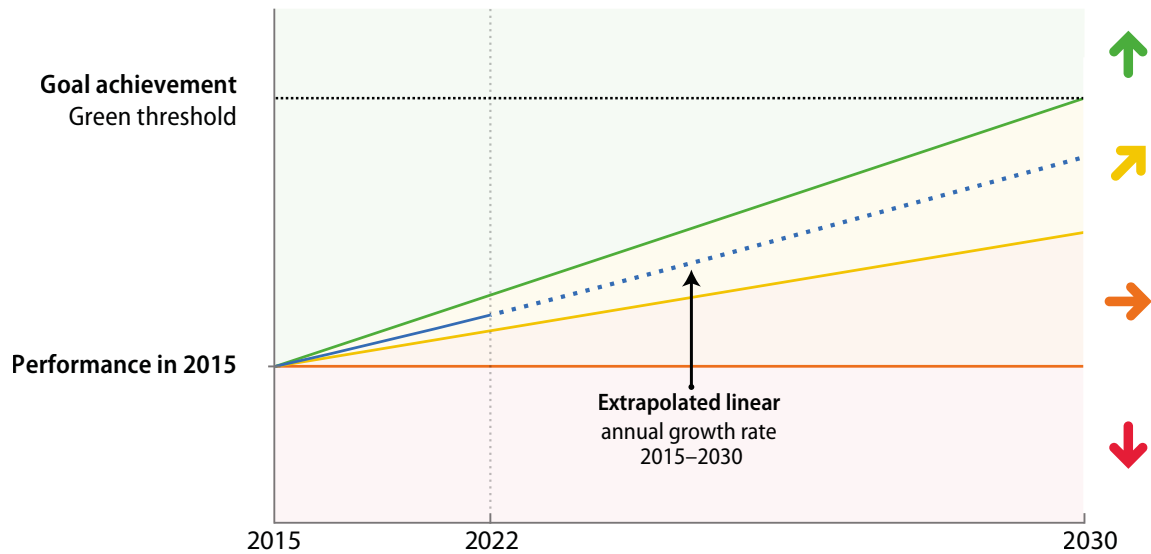


Figure A.2 Graphic representation of the methodology for SDG trends

Source : Authors.

Status of SDG targets

In this year's edition, we present an assessment of the status of the SDG targets (Figure 4). To carry out this assessment, we only use trend indicators, as time series data is required to calculate rates of progress.

Where the past rate of progress is sufficient to meet the target by 2030, corresponding to the green "on track or maintaining SDG achievement" arrow, the indicator is considered to be a target on track. Indicators for which past rates of progress are insufficient to achieve the SDG target, corresponding to the orange "stagnation" or yellow "moderately improving" arrows, are considered to be making limited progress. Finally, indicators heading in the wrong direction, with the red "decreasing" arrow, are considered to be worsening. Indicators for which a country has already achieved the target but whose score has fallen since 2015 are also considered to be worsening.

Table A.1 Indicators included in the report for the SDG index and dashboards**Legend**

[a] Indicator not from the Sustainable Development Report; added for relevance to Benin and ECOWAS.

[b] Indicator used for the figures in the analysis of Transformations 1 and 2 ([part 2.2](#)).

SDG	Transformation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
1	1	[b]	Poverty headcount ratio at \$2.15/day (2017 PPP, %)	2023	World Data Lab	Estimated percentage of the population that is living under the poverty threshold of US\$2.15 a day. Estimated using historical estimates of the income distribution, projections of population changes by age and educational attainment, and GDP projections.
1	1	[b]	Poverty headcount ratio at \$3.65/day (2017 PPP, %)	2023	World Data Lab	Estimated percentage of the population that is living under the poverty threshold of US\$3.65 a day. Estimated using historical estimates of the income distribution, projections of population changes by age and educational attainment, and GDP projections.
1	1	[a]	Proportion of population living below the national poverty line	2019	World Bank	Percentage of the total population living below the national poverty line
2	1		Prevalence of undernourishment (%)	2020	FAO	The percentage of the population whose food intake is insufficient to meet dietary energy requirements for a minimum of one year. Dietary energy requirements are defined as the amount of dietary energy required by an individual to maintain body functions, health and normal activity.
2	1		Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 years of age (%)	2022	UNICEF et al.	The percentage of children up to the age of 5 years that are stunted, measured as the percentage that fall below minus two standard deviations from the median height for their age, according to the WHO Child Growth Standards.
2	1		Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 years of age (%)	2022	UNICEF et al.	The percentage of children up to the age of 5 years whose weight falls below minus two standard deviations from the median weight for their age, according to the WHO Child Growth Standards.
2	2		Prevalence of obesity, BMI \geq 30 (% of adult population)	2016	WHO	The percentage of the adult population that has a body mass index (BMI) of 30kg/m ² or higher, based on measured height and weight.
2	4		Cereal yield (tons per hectare of harvested land)	2021	FAO	Cereal yield, measured as tons per hectare of harvested land. Production data on cereals relate to crops harvested for dry grain only and excludes crops harvested for hay or green for food, feed, or silage and those used for grazing.
2	4	[a]	Fertilizer consumption (kg per hectare of arable land)	2020	FAO	The amount of nutrients used per unit of arable land. Fertilizers cover nitrogen, potassium and phosphate fertilizers (including ground rock phosphate). Traditional nutrients - animal and plant manures - are not included. For data dissemination purposes, FAO has adopted the concept of a calendar year (January to December). Some countries compile fertilizer data on a calendar year basis, while others are compiled on a semi-annual basis. Arable land includes land defined by FAO as land under temporary crops (double-cropped areas are counted once), temporary grassland for mowing or grazing, land under market or kitchen gardens, and land temporarily fallow. Land abandoned as a result of shifting cultivation is excluded.

SDG	Transformation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
3	2	[b]	Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)	2020	WHO et al.	The estimated number of women, between the age of 15-49, who die from pregnancy-related causes while pregnant or within 42 days of termination of pregnancy, per 100,000 live births.
3	2	[b]	Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	2021	UNICEF et al.	The number of newborn infants (neonates) who die before reaching 28 days of age, per 1,000 live births.
3	2	[b]	Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	2021	UNICEF et al.	The probability that a newborn baby will die before reaching age five, if subject to age-specific mortality rates of the specified year, per 1,000 live births.
3	2		Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	2021	WHO	The estimated rate of new and relapse cases of tuberculosis each year, expressed per 100,000 people. All forms of tuberculosis are included, including cases of people living with HIV.
3	2		New HIV infections (per 1,000 uninfected population)	2021	UNAIDS	Number of people newly infected with HIV per 1,000 uninfected population.
3	2	[a]	People living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy (%)	2021	UNAIDS	Percentage of people undergoing antiretroviral treatment among all the people living with HIV.
3	2	[a]	Proportion of children under 5 with fever who are treated with appropriate anti-malarial drugs (%)	2021	USAID	Percentage of children aged 0–59 months who were ill with a fever in the two weeks before the survey and who received any anti-malarial drugs during that time.
3	2	[a]	Malaria mortality rate (per 100 000 population)	2021	WHO World Malaria Report 2022	Number of adults and children who have died due to malaria in a specific year, expressed as a rate per 100 000 population.
3	2	[a]	Coverage of Preventive Chemotherapy for Neglected Tropical Diseases (%)	2021	WHO	Coverage is calculated as the number of people in need of PC and treated out of population requiring PC.
3	2	[b]	Age-standardized death rate due to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory disease in adults aged 30–70 years (%)	2019	WHO	The probability of dying between the ages of 30 and 70 years from cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory diseases, defined as the percent of 30-year-old-people who would die before their 70th birthday from these diseases, assuming current mortality rates at every age and that individuals would not die from any other cause of death (e.g. injuries or HIV/AIDS).
3	2		Age-standardized death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	2019	WHO	Mortality rate that is attributable to the joint effects of fuels used for cooking indoors and ambient outdoor air pollution.
3	2	[b]	Traffic deaths (per 100,000 population)	2019	WHO	Estimated number of fatal road traffic injuries per 100,000 people.
3	2	[b]	Life expectancy at birth (years)	2019	WHO	The average number of years that a newborn could expect to live, if he or she were to pass through life exposed to the sex- and age-specific death rates prevailing at the time of his or her birth, for a specific year, in a given country, territory, or geographic area.
3	2		Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 19)	2018	WHO	The number of births per 1,000 females between the age of 15 to 19.

SDG	Transformation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
3	2		Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	2020	UNICEF	The percentage of births attended by personnel trained to give the necessary supervision, care, and advice to women during pregnancy, labor, and the postpartum period, to conduct deliveries on their own, and to care for newborns.
3	2	[b]	Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	2021	WHO and UNICEF	Estimated national routine immunization coverage of infants, expressed as the percentage of surviving infants, children under the age of 12 months, who received two WHO-recommended vaccines (3rd dose of DTP and 1st dose of measles). Calculated as the minimum value between the percentage of infants who have received the 3rd dose of DTP and the percentage who have received the 1st dose of measles.
3	2		Universal health coverage (UHC) index of service coverage (worst 0-100 best)	2019	WHO	Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population). The indicator is an index reported on a unitless scale of 0 to 100, which is computed as the geometric mean of 14 tracer indicators of health service coverage.
4	1		Participation rate in pre-primary organized learning (% of children aged 4 to 6)	2021	UNESCO	Participation rate in organized learning one year before the official primary entry age measured by the adjusted net enrollment rate in organized learning.
4	1	[b]	Net primary enrollment rate (%)	2021	UNESCO	The percentage of children of the official school age population who are enrolled in primary education.
4	1	[b]	Lower secondary completion rate (%)	2021	UNESCO	Lower secondary education completion rate measured as the gross intake ratio to the last grade of lower secondary education (general and pre-vocational). It is calculated as the number of new entrants in the last grade of lower secondary education, regardless of age, divided by the population at the entrance age for the last grade of lower secondary education.
4	1	[a] [b]	Mean years of schooling (years)	2021	UNDP	Average number of completed years of education of a country's population, excluding years spent repeating individual grades.
4	1	[b]	Literacy rate (% of population aged 15 to 24)	2021	UNESCO	The percentage of youth, aged 15 to 24, who can both read and write a short simple statement on everyday life with understanding.
5	2		Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods (% of females aged 15 to 49)	2020	UNDESA	The percentage of women of reproductive age whose demand for family planning has been met using modern methods of contraception.
5	1		Ratio of female-to-male mean years of education received (%)	2021	UNESCO	The mean years of education received by women aged 25 and older divided by the mean years of education received by men aged 25 and older.
5	1		Ratio of female-to-male labor force participation rate (%)	2022	ILO	Modeled estimate of the proportion of the female population aged 15 years and older that is economically active, divided by the same proportion for men.
5	1	[b]	Seats held by women in national parliament (%)	2021	IPU	The number of seats held by women in single or lower chambers of national parliaments, expressed as a percentage of all occupied seats. Seats refer to the number of parliamentary mandates, or the number of members of parliament.

SDG	Transformation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
5	1	[a]	Women in ministerial positions (%)	2023	IPU - UN Women	Percentage of women in ministerial positions, reflecting appointments up to 1 January 2017.
6	5		Population using at least basic drinking water services (%)	2020	JMP	The percentage of the population using at least a basic drinking water service, such as drinking water from an improved source, provided that the collection time is not more than 30 minutes for a round trip, including queuing.
6	5		Population using at least basic sanitation services (%)	2020	JMP	The percentage of the population using at least a basic sanitation service, such as an improved sanitation facility that is not shared with other households.
6	4		Freshwater withdrawal (% of available freshwater resources)	2019	FAO	The level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources is the ratio between total freshwater withdrawn by all major sectors and total renewable freshwater resources, after taking into account environmental water requirements. Main sectors, as defined by ISIC standards, include agriculture, forestry and fishing, manufacturing, electricity industry, and services. This indicator is also known as water withdrawal intensity.
6	5		Anthropogenic wastewater that receives treatment (%)	2020	EPI	The proportion of wastewater that undergoes at least primary treatment in each country, multiplied by the proportion of the population connected to a wastewater collection system.
6			Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m ³ H ₂ O eq/capita)	2018	UNEP	Water scarcity is measured as water consumption weighted by scarcity indices. In order to incorporate water scarcity into the virtual water flow calculus, water use entries are weighted so that they reflect the scarcity of the water being used. The weight used is a measure of water withdrawals as a percentage of the existing local renewable freshwater resources.
7	3		Population with access to electricity (%)	2020	SE4All	The percentage of the population who has access to electricity.
7	3		Population with access to clean fuels and technology for cooking (%)	2020	SE4All	The percentage of the population primarily using clean cooking fuels and technologies for cooking. Under WHO guidelines, kerosene is excluded from clean cooking fuels.
7	3		CO ₂ emissions from fuel combustion per total electricity output (MtCO ₂ /TWh)	2019	IEA	A measure of the carbon intensity of energy production, calculated by dividing CO ₂ emissions from the combustion of fuel by electricity output. The data are reported in Megatons per billion kilowatt hours.
7	3		Renewable energy share in total final energy consumption (%)	2019	IEA, IRENA, UNSD, WB, WHO	The share of renewable energy in the total final energy consumption. Renewable energy includes hydro, solid biofuels, liquid biofuels, biogases, modern biomass, wind, solar, geothermal, tide/wave/oceans and renewable municipal waste. It does not include traditional biomass — local solid biomass resources (e.g. wood, charcoal, dung, agricultural residues) used in low-income households that do not have access to modern cooking fuels or technologies.
7	3	[a]	Consumer affordability of electricity (scale 0 to 100)	2021	ESMAP	In RISE, electricity is considered affordable if annual expenditure on 30 kWh per month is at most 5 percent of GNI per household of the bottom 20 percent of the population.

SDG	Transformation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
8		[a]	5-year average GDP Growth per capita (%)	2021	World Bank	Five-year moving average (e.g., in 2020: average of 2020-2016) of the annual percentage growth rate of GDP per capita based on constant local currency. GDP per capita is gross domestic product divided by mid-year population. GDP at acquisition price is the sum of the gross value added of all resident producers in the economy, plus taxes on products and minus subsidies not included in the value of products. It is calculated without deductions for depreciation of fabricated assets or for depletion and degradation of natural resources.
8		[a]	Employment-to-population ratio (%)	2023	ILO	The employment-to-population ratio is the proportion of a country's working-age population that is employed. Employment comprises all persons of working age who during a specified brief period, such as one week or one day, were in the following categories: a) paid employment (whether at work or with a job but not at work); or b) self-employment (whether at work or with an enterprise but not at work).
8	1		Victims of modern slavery (per 1,000 population)	2018	Walk Free Foundation (2018)	Estimation of the number of people in modern slavery. Modern slavery is defined as people in forced labor or forced marriage. It is calculated based on standardized surveys and Multiple Systems Estimation (MSE).
8	6		Adults with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider (% of population aged 15 or over)	2021	Demirguc-Kunt et al. (2018)	The percentage of adults, 15 years and older, who report having an account (by themselves or with someone else) at a bank or another type of financial institution, or who have personally used a mobile money service within the past 12 months.
8	1		Fundamental labor rights are effectively guaranteed (worst 0–1 best)	2021	World Justice Project	Measures the effective enforcement of fundamental labor rights, including freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the absence of discrimination with respect to employment, and freedom from forced labor and child labor.
9	6		Population using the internet (%)	2021	ITU	The percentage of the population who used the Internet from any location in the last three months. Access could be via a fixed or mobile network.
9	6		Mobile broadband subscriptions (per 100 population)	2021	ITU	The number of mobile broadband subscriptions per 100 population. Mobile broadband subscriptions refer to subscriptions to mobile cellular networks with access to data communications (e.g. the Internet) at broadband speeds, irrespective of the device used to access the internet.
9	5		Rural population with access to all-season roads (%)	2022	SDSN (2023), based on Workman, R. & McPherson, K., TRL (2019)	Proportion of the rural population that lives within 2 km of an all-season road. An all-season road is one that is motorable throughout the year but may be temporarily unavailable during inclement weather.
9	5		Logistics Performance Index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1-5 best)	2018	World Bank	Survey-based average assessment of the quality of trade and transport related infrastructure, e.g. ports, roads, railroads and information technology, on a scale from 1 (worst) to 5 (best).
9			Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	2021	Scimago Journal Rank	Number of citable documents published by a journal in the three previous years (selected year documents are excluded). Exclusively articles, reviews and conference papers are considered.

SDG	Transformation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
10	1	[b]	Gini coefficient	2018	World Bank	The Gini coefficient measures the extent to which the distribution of income among individuals or households within an economy deviates from a perfectly equal distribution.
10	1	[b]	Palma ratio	2018	OECD & UNDP	The share of all income received by the 10% people with highest disposable income divided by the share of all income received by the 40% people with the lowest disposable income.
11	5		Proportion of urban population living in slums (%)	2020	UN Habitat	Population living in slums is the proportion of the urban population living in slum households. A slum household is defined as a group of individuals living under the same roof lacking one or more of the following conditions: access to improved water, access to improved sanitation, sufficient living area, housing durability, and security of tenure.
11	5		Annual mean concentration of particulate matter of less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5) ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	2019	IHME	Air pollution measured as the population-weighted mean annual concentration of PM2.5 for the urban population in a country. PM2.5 is suspended particles measuring less than 2.5 microns in aerodynamic diameter, which are capable of penetrating deep into the respiratory tract and can cause severe health damage.
11	5		Access to improved water source, piped (% of urban population)	2020	WHO and UNICEF	The percentage of the urban population with access to improved drinking water piped on premises. An "improved" drinking-water source is one that, by the nature of its construction and when properly used, adequately protects the source from outside contamination, particularly fecal matter.
12	5		Electronic waste (kg/capita)	2019	UNU-IAS	Waste from electrical and electronic equipment, estimated based on figures for domestic production, imports and exports of electronic products, as well as product lifespan data.
12	3		Production-based SO ₂ emissions (kg/capita)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2020)	SO ₂ emissions associated with the production of goods and services, which are then either exported or consumed domestically.
12			SO ₂ emissions embodied in imports (kg/capita)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2020)	Emissions of SO ₂ embodied in imported goods and services. SO ₂ emissions have severe health impacts and are a significant cause of premature mortality worldwide.
12	4		Production-based nitrogen emissions (kg/capita)	2018	Oita et al. (2016)	Reactive nitrogen emitted during the production of commodities, which are then either exported or consumed domestically. Reactive nitrogen corresponds to emissions of ammonia, nitrogen oxides and nitrous oxide to the atmosphere, and of reactive nitrogen potentially exportable to water bodies, all of which can be harmful to human health and the environment.
12			Nitrogen emissions embodied in imports (kg/capita)	2018	Oita et al. (2016)	Emissions of reactive nitrogen embodied in imported goods and services. Reactive nitrogen corresponds here to emissions of ammonia, nitrogen oxides and nitrous oxide to the atmosphere, and of reactive nitrogen potentially exportable to water bodies, all of which can be harmful to human health and the environment.
12	5		Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	2021	UN Comtrade	The average annual amount of plastic waste exported over the last 5 years expressed per capita.
13	3		CO ₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO ₂ /capita)	2021	Global Carbon Project	Emissions from the combustion and oxidation of fossil fuels and from cement production. The indicator excludes emissions from fuels used for international aviation and maritime transport.

SDG	Transformation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
13			CO ₂ emissions embodied in imports (tCO ₂ /capita)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2020)	CO ₂ emissions embodied in imported goods and services.
13	3		CO ₂ emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports (kg/capita)	2021	UN Comtrade	CO ₂ emissions embodied in the exports of coal, gas, and oil. Calculated using a 5-year average of fossil fuel exports and converting exports into their equivalent CO ₂ emissions. Exports for each fossil fuel are capped at the country's level of production.
14	4		Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	2022	Birdlife International et al.	The mean percentage area of marine Key Biodiversity Areas (sites that are important for the global persistence of marine biodiversity) that are protected.
14	4		Ocean Health Index: Clean Waters score (worst 0-100 best)	2022	Ocean Health Index	The clean waters sub-goal of the Ocean Health Index measures to what degree marine waters under national jurisdictions have been contaminated by chemicals, excessive nutrients (eutrophication), human pathogens, and trash.
14	4		Fish caught by trawling or dredging (%)	2019	Sea Around Us	The percentage of fish caught by bottom trawling, a method of fishing in which industrial fishing vessels drag large nets (trawls) along the seabed. This indicator is the sum of the series for bottom trawling, shrimp trawling, and dredging.
14	4		Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	2019	Sea around Us	The percentage of fish that are caught only to be later discarded.
14			Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2012)	Threats to marine species embodied in imports of goods and services.
15	4		Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	2022	Birdlife International et al.	The mean percentage area of terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas (sites that are important for the global persistence of biodiversity) that are protected.
15	4		Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	2022	Birdlife International et al.	The mean percentage area of freshwater Key Biodiversity Areas (sites that are important for the global persistence of biodiversity) that are protected.
15	4		Red List Index of species survival (worst 0-1 best)	2023	IUCN and Birdlife International	The change in aggregate extinction risk across groups of species. The index is based on genuine changes in the number of species in each category of extinction risk on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.
15	4		Permanent deforestation (% of forest area, 3-year average)	2021	Curtis et al. (2018)	The mean annual percentage of permanent deforestation over the last 3-year period. Permanent deforestation refers to tree cover removal for urbanization, commodity production and certain types of small-scale agriculture whereby the previous tree cover does not return. It does not include temporary forest loss due to cuttings within the forestry sector or wildfires. Since data on tree cover gains are not available, the annual net loss cannot be calculated, thus the indicator is an estimate for gross permanent deforestation.
15			Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	2018	Lenzen et al. (2012)	Threats to terrestrial and freshwater species embodied in imports of goods and services.
16		[a]	Absence of Armed Conflict (worst 0-100 best)	2021	Ibrahim Index of African Governance	This indicator measures the number of violent events in both state-based and non-state based conflicts as well as instances of non-state-based conflict within a country's territory.

SDG	Transformation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
16	2		Population who feel safe walking alone at night in the city or area where they live (%)	2022	Gallup	The percentage of the surveyed population that responded "Yes" to the question "Do you feel safe walking alone at night in the city or area where you live?"
16			Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	2022	UNODC	Unsentenced prisoners as a percentage of overall prison population. Persons held unsentenced or pre-trial refers to persons held in prisons, penal institutions or correctional institutions who are untried, pre-trial or awaiting a first instance decision on their case from a competent authority regarding their conviction or acquittal.
16			Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0 - 1 best)	2021	World Justice Project	Measures whether administrative proceedings at the national and local levels are conducted without unreasonable delay.
16			Expropriations are lawful and adequately compensated (worst 0 - 1 best)	2021	World Justice Project	Measures whether the government respects the property rights of people and corporations, refrains from the illegal seizure of private property, and provides adequate compensation when property is legally expropriated.
16	6		Birth registrations with civil authority (% of children under age 5)	2020	UNICEF	The percentage of children under the age of five whose births are reported as being registered with the relevant national civil authorities.
16	6		Corruption Perceptions Index (worst 0-100 best)	2022	Transparency International	The perceived levels of public sector corruption, on a scale from 0 (highest level of perceived corruption) to 100 (lowest level of perceived corruption). The CPI aggregates data from a number of different sources that provide perceptions of business people and country experts.
16		[a]	Accountability & Transparency (worst 0-100 best)	2021	Ibrahim Index of African Governance	Assesses institutional and civic check and balances, absence of undue influence on government, disclosure of financial and judicial information, as well as the accessibility of this information.
16	1		Children involved in child labor (% of population aged 5 to 14)	2019	UNICEF	The percentage of children, between the age of 5-14 years old, involved in child labor at the time of the survey. A child is considered to be involved in child labor under the following conditions: (a) children 5-11 years old who, during the reference week, did at least one hour of economic activity or at least 28 hours of household chores, or (b) children 12-14 years old who, during the reference week, did at least 14 hours of economic activity or at least 28 hours of household chores. We assumed 0% child labor for high-income countries for which no data was reported.
16	6		Press Freedom Index (worst 0-100 best)	2023	Reporters sans frontières	Degree of freedom available to journalists in 180 countries and regions, determined by pooling the responses of experts to a questionnaire devised by RSF.
16			Access to and affordability of justice (worst 0-1 best)	2021	World Justice Project	Measures the accessibility and affordability of civil courts, including whether people are aware of available remedies; can access and afford legal advice and representation; and can access the court system without incurring unreasonable fees, encountering unreasonable procedural hurdles, or experiencing physical or linguistic barriers.

SDG	Trans-formation	Notes	Indicateur	Reference Year	Source	Description
17		[a]	Tax revenue (% GDP)	2020	IMF	Tax revenues are compulsory transfers to the central government for public purposes. Certain compulsory transfers, such as fines, penalties, and most social security contributions, are excluded. Refunds and corrections of erroneously collected tax revenues are treated as negative revenue. It is reported as a percentage of GDP.
17			Government spending on health and education (% of GDP)	2021	UNESCO	The sum of public expenditure on health from domestic sources and general government expenditure on education (current, capital, and transfers) expressed as a percentage of GDP. This indicator is based on the World Bank health and education spending datasets, sourced from WHO & UNESCO respectively. Values are carried forward for both health and education, but a value in a given year is only reported if at least one data point is a real observation (not carried forward).
17			Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0-100 worst)	2021	Tax Justice Network	The Corporate Tax Haven Score measures a jurisdiction's potential to poach the tax base of others, as enshrined in its laws, regulations and documented administrative practices. For countries with multiple jurisdictions, the average value across the jurisdictions was assigned to the country.
17	6		Statistical Performance Index (worst 0-100 best)	2022	World Bank	The Statistical Performance Index is a weighted average of the statistical performance indicators that evaluate the performance of national statistical systems. It aggregates five pillars of statistical performance: data use, data services, data products, data sources, and data infrastructure.

A.3.4 “Leave No One Behind”

The SDG index methodology has been used to calculate indices for Benin’s 12 departments, covering the different forms of disparity that need to be considered in order to “leave no one behind”: inequalities in access to public services, extreme poverty and material deprivation, gender inequalities and inequalities in income and wealth. Only the lower bound for the normalization of indicators has been changed. For each indicator, it corresponds to the lowest value (“worst value”) among Benin’s departments.

The data used were provided by Benin’s National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INStaD) and come from their statistical production as well as from the statistical services of the ministries. Table A.2 contains the full list of indicators used, by category.

It should be noted that the data sources provided by the INStaD, noted as EDSB, EHCVM-1 (2018/2019), MICS and ERI-ESI correspond respectively to: the Benin Demographic and Health Survey (2011/2012 and 2017/2018); the Harmonized Survey of Household Living Conditions, 1st edition (2018/2019); the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (2014 and 2021); and the Integrated Regional Survey of Employment and the Informal Sector (2018).

Table A.2 Indicators for the "Leave no one behind" analysis

Category	Indicator	Year of reference	Source	Description
Accessibility and quality of services	Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	2021	MICS	Percentage of births attended by personnel trained (physician, nurse, or midwife) to supervise, and provide care and counseling to women during pregnancy, labor, and the postnatal period, and to deliver and care for newborns.
	Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	2021	Annuaire des Statistiques Sanitaires	The number of inhabitants per available hospital bed.
	Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2021	Annuaire des Statistiques Sanitaires	The number of doctors and nursing personnel per 10,000 inhabitants.
	Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	2021	MICS	Percentage of children under 5 who had fever in the 2 weeks preceding the survey and who had received an ACT (or other first-line treatment in accordance with national policy).
	Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	2018	EDSB	Percentage of children aged 12 to 23 months who had received all the basic vaccinations at any time prior to the survey.
	HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	2018	EDSB	Percentage of the population aged 15-49 who know where to go for an HIV test; who have taken an HIV test once; who have received the results of their last HIV test; and who have taken a test in the last 12 months and received the results.
	Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	Average access time in minutes to a health center.
	Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	2021	MICS	Percentage of household members with an improved source of drinking water on site, free of E. coli and available when needed.
	Population with access to electricity (%)	2021	MICS	The proportion of the population that uses electricity from one of the following sources: SBEE power, generator, and solar power.
	Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	2021	MICS	The net enrollment rate in primary education is an indicator that provides information on the total enrollment of the legal age population in primary education, expressed as a percentage of the officially school-age population at the same level for a given school year.
	Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	2021	MICS	The net enrollment rate in secondary education is an indicator that provides information on the total enrollment of the legal age population in secondary education, expressed as a percentage of the officially school-age population at the same level for a given school year.
	Median number of years of schooling	2021	MICS	The number of years of schooling is obtained by summing the years (or grades) of schooling of the population at the primary, secondary, and tertiary levels. The median number of years of schooling is the number of years of schooling that divides the population into two equal parts.

Category	Indicator	Year of reference	Source	Description
Accessibility and quality of services	Number of students per primary school teacher	2022	Annuaire statistique de l'enseignement primaire	The number of students enrolled in primary school divided by the number of primary school teachers.
	BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	2020	MESFTP	The number of students who passed the baccalaureate is related to the number of students who sat for the exam.
	Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority (%)	2021	MICS	The percentage of children under 5 who were registered at the civil registry.
	Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	2021	MICS 2021	The percentage of the population aged 15-49 having already used the internet.
Poverty and material deprivation	Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	The percentage of the population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day.
	Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	Percentage of the population living in income and non-income poverty.
	Population living below the national poverty line (%)	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	Percentage of the national population that is unable to meet its food and non-food needs as represented by the poverty line.
	Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	2021	MICS	Proportion of children whose weight-to-age is more than two standard deviations below the median of the reference (moderately or severely emaciated) or those who are more than three standard deviations below the median (severely emaciated).
	Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	2021	MICS	Proportion of children whose height-to-age is more than two standard deviations below the median of the reference population, thus considered small for their age and classified as moderately or severely stunted.
	Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	2017	AGVSA	Proportion of households suffering from food insecurity.
	Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	2021	MICS	Proportion of children aged 5 to 11 who, in the seven days preceding the survey, were involved in an economic activity for at least one hour.
	Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	2021	MICS	Proportion of children aged 12 to 14 who, in the seven days preceding the survey, were involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours.
	Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	2021	MICS	Proportion of children aged 12 to 14 who, in the seven days preceding the survey, were involved in an economic activity for at least 14 hours.
	Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	2021	MICS	Percentage of the number of people living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing to the total number of people living in these areas.
Gender equality	Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	2019	EHCVM1 (2018-2019)	Percentage of the population 15 years old and older with a bank account.
	Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	2021	MICS	Ratio of the net primary enrollment rate for girls to the net primary enrollment rate for boys.
	Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	2021	MICS	Ratio of the net secondary enrollment rate for girls to the net secondary enrollment rate for boys.
	Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	2021	MICS	Ratio of the median number of years of schooling for girls to the median number of years of schooling for boys.

Category	Indicator	Year of reference	Source	Description
Gender equality	Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	2020	MESFTP	Ratio of the BAC success rate for girls to the BAC success rate for boys. (This is the ratio of the urban BAC success rate to the rural BAC success rate).
	Women/men parity index: HIV testing coverage	2018	EDSB	Ratio of the percentage of women aged 15-49 who know where an HIV test can be done to the percentage of men aged 15-49 who know where an HIV test can be done.
	Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	2018	EDSB-5 (2017/2018)	Proportion of women aged 15-49 in union or in a broken union who have been physically abused by their husband or ex-husband after the age of 15.
	Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced sexual violence (%)	2018	EDSB-5 (2017/2018)	Proportion of women aged 15-49 in union or in a broken union who have been physically abused by their husband or ex-husband after the age of 15.
	Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	2021	MICS	Represents the share of the population of women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18.
	Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	2021	MICS	Percentage of women of reproductive age who are using some form of modern contraception.
	Women/men parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	Ratio of the percentage of women living on less than \$US 1.90 per day to the percentage of men living on less than \$US 1.90 per day.
	Women/men parity index: population living in any form of poverty	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	Ratio of the percentage of women living in all forms of poverty to the percentage of men living in all forms of poverty.
	Women/men parity index: population living below the national poverty line	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	Ratio of the percentage of women living below the national poverty line to the percentage of men living below the national poverty line.
	Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	2018	ERI-ESI	Ratio of the female labor force participation rate to the male labor force participation rate.
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	2021	MICS	Ratio of the percentage of women using the Internet to the percentage of men using the Internet.	
Income and wealth inequality	Gini coefficient	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	The Gini index (or coefficient) is a synthetic indicator for reporting the level of inequality for a given population.
	Population living on less than half the median income (%)	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	The percentage of people living in households that spend, per capita, less than half of the median per capita expenditure on household final consumption.
	Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	2019	EHCVM1 (2018/2019)	The percentage of people living in households that spend, per capita, more than 50% less than the average per capita expenditure on household final consumption.

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Databases

This list covers only the 14 indicators specific to this report (Annex A.1) and the additional data references (not taken from SDR 2023) used in the “Six Transformations” analysis, as well as data provided by the INStAD for the “Leave no one behind” sub-national analysis. For the rest of the indicators, see SDR 2023

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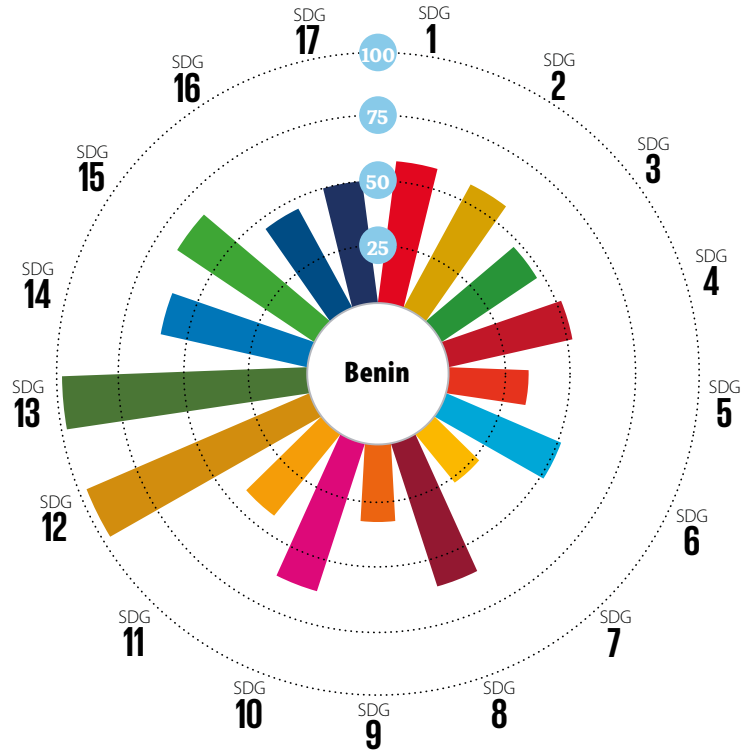
Country Profiles

Benin

Overall Performance



Performance by SDG



SDG Dashboards and Trends

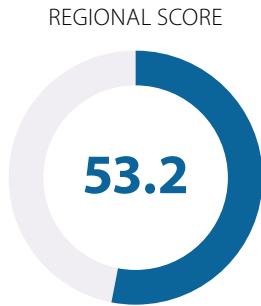


- Major challenges remain
- Significant challenges remain
- Challenges remain
- SDG achieved
- Information unavailable
- Decreasing
- Stagnating
- Moderately improving
- On track or maintaining SDG achievement

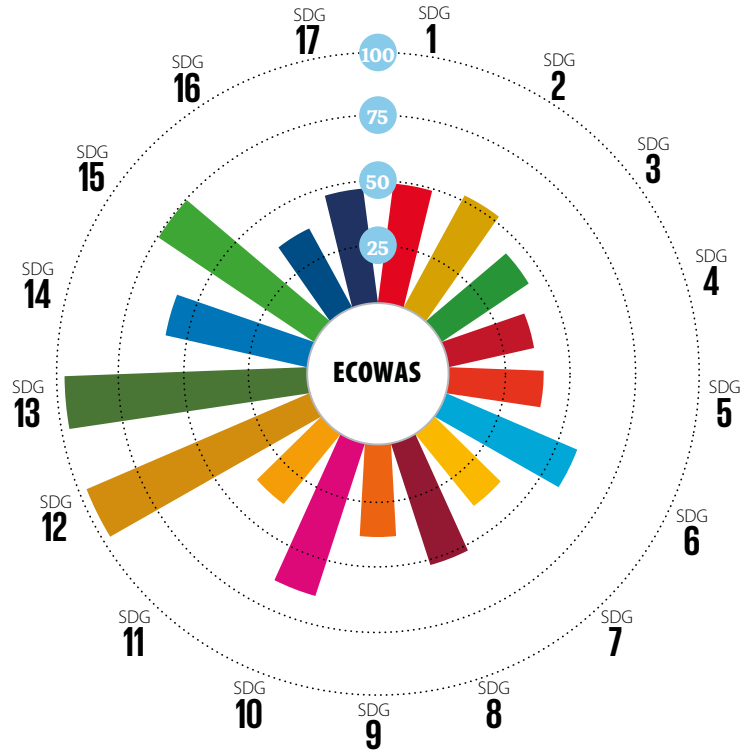
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
SDG 1 – No Poverty				
Poverty headcount ratio living on less than \$2.15/day (PPP 2017. %)	13.4	2023	■	↑
Poverty headcount ratio living on less than \$3.65/day (PPP 2017. %)	34.6	2023	■	→
Proportion of the population living below the national poverty line (%)	38.5	2019	■	→
SDG 2 – Zero Hunger				
Prevalence of undernourishment (%)	7.4	2020	■	→
Prevalence of stunting (height/age) in children under 5 years of age (%)	30.4	2022	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 years of age (%)	5.0	2018	■	■
Prevalence of obesity. BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	9.6	2016	■	→
Cereal yield (tonnes per hectare of harvested land)	1.4	2021	■	→
Fertilizer consumption (kg per hectare of arable land)	40.2	2020	■	↑
SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being				
Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)	522.6	2020	■	→
Neonatal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	29.2	2021	■	→
Mortality rate, under-5 (per 1,000 live births)	83.5	2021	■	→
Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100,000 population)	53.0	2021	■	→
New HIV infections (per 1,000 uninfected population)	0.14	2021	■	↑
People living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy (%)	84.0	2021	■	↑
Proportion of children under five years old with fever, who are treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	37.0	2018	■	■
Malaria mortality rate (per 100,000 population)	85.8	2021	■	→
Coverage of preventive chemotherapy for neglected tropical diseases (%)	68.5	2021	■	↓
Age-standardized death rate due to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory disease in adults aged 30–70 years (%)	22.6	2019	■	→
Age-standardized death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100,000 population)	201.8	2019	■	■
Traffic deaths (per 100,000 population)	26.8	2019	■	→
Life expectancy at birth (years)	63.4	2019	■	→
Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1,000 females aged 15 to 19)	108.0	2016	■	■
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	78.1	2018	■	■
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	68.0	2021	■	→
Universal health coverage (UHC) index of service coverage (worst 0 – 100 best)	38.0	2019	■	→
SDG 4 – Quality Education				
Participation rate in organized pre-primary education (% of children aged 4 to 6)	84.8	2018	■	■
Net primary enrollment rate (%)	96.9	2021	■	→
Lower secondary completion rate (%)	36.8	2021	■	↓
Mean years of schooling (years)	4.3	2021	■	→
Literacy rate (% of population aged 15 to 24)	65.0	2021	■	■
SDG 5 – Gender Equality				
Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods (% of females aged 15 to 49)	28.0	2017	■	→
Ratio of female-to-male mean years of education received (%)	60.9	2021	■	→
Ratio of female-to-male labor force participation rate (%)	81.5	2022	■	→
Seats held by women in national parliament (%)	8.4	2021	■	→
Women in ministerial positions (%)	17.4	2023	■	→
SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation				
Population using at least basic drinking water services (%)	65.4	2020	■	→
Population using at least basic sanitation services (%)	17.0	2020	■	→
Freshwater withdrawal (% of available freshwater resources)	0.98	2019	■	■
Anthropogenic wastewater that receives treatment (%)	9.6	2020	■	■
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m3/capita)	462.6	2018	■	■
SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy				
Population with access to electricity (%)	41.4	2020	■	→
Population with access to clean fuels and technology for cooking (%)	4.0	2020	■	↓
CO ₂ emissions from fuel combustion per total electricity output (MtCO ₂ /TWh)	34.1	2019	■	↓
Renewable energy share in total final energy consumption (%)	8.0	2019	■	↓
Consumer affordability of electricity (scale 0 to 100)	78.3	2021	■	■
SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth				
5-year average GDP Growth per capita (%)	3.0	2021	■	↑
Employment-to-population ratio (%)	61.5	2023	■	↓
Victims of modern slavery (per 1,000 population)	5.5	2018	■	■
Adults with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider (% of population aged 15 or over)	48.6	2021	■	↑
Fundamental labor rights are effectively guaranteed (worst 0–1 best)	0.60	2021	■	■
SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure				
Population using the internet (%)	34.0	2021	■	→
Mobile broadband subscriptions (per 100 population)	33.4	2021	■	↑
Rural population with access to all-weather roads (%)	63.5	2022	■	■
Logistics Performance Index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.5	2018	■	→
Articles published in academic journals (per 1,000 population)	0.07	2021	■	→

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities				
Gini coefficient	37.8	2018	■	↑
Palma ratio	1.7	2018	■	■
SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities				
Proportion of urban population living in slums (%)	67.9	2020	■	→
Annual mean concentration of particulate matter of less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM _{2.5}) (µg/m ³)	41.9	2019	■	↓
Access to improved water source, piped (% of urban population)	48.6	2020	■	↓
SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production				
Electronic waste (kg/capita)	0.81	2019	■	■
Production-based SO ₂ emissions (kg/capita)	0.68	2018	■	■
SO ₂ emissions embodied in imports (kg/capita)	0.47	2018	■	■
Production-based nitrogen emissions (kg/capita)	11.0	2018	■	→
Nitrogen emissions embodied in imports (kg/capita)	3.5	2018	■	↑
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	0.01	2021	■	↑
SDG 13 – Climate Action				
CO ₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO ₂ /capita)	0.61	2021	■	→
CO ₂ emissions embodied in imports (tCO ₂ /capita)	0.16	2018	■	→
CO ₂ emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports	0.00	2021	■	■
SDG 14 – Life Below Water				
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	0.00	2022	■	→
Ocean Health Index: Clean Waters score (worst 0–100 best)	15.2	2022	■	↓
Fish caught by trawling (%)	0.50	2019	■	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	0.00	2019	■	→
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.00	2018	■	■
SDG 15 – Life on Land				
Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	66.7	2022	■	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	0.00	2022	■	→
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.91	2023	■	↑
Permanent deforestation (% of forest area, 3-year average)	0.16	2021	■	→
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.02	2018	■	■
SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions				
Absence of Armed Conflict (worst 0-100 best)	97.1	2021	■	→
Population who feel safe walking alone at night in the city or area where they live (%)	55.0	2022	■	→
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	62.3	2017	■	■
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0 - 1 best)	0.41	2021	■	■
Expropriations are lawful and adequately compensated (worst 0 - 1 best)	0.51	2021	■	■
Birth registrations with civil authority (% of children under age 5)	85.6	2018	■	■
Corruption Perception Index (worst 0–100 best)	43.0	2022	■	→
Accountability & Transparency (worst 0-100 best)	42.4	2021	■	↓
Children involved in child labor (% of population aged 5 to 14)	24.8	2018	■	■
Press Freedom Index (best 0–100 worst)	52.4	2023	■	↓
Access to and affordability of justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.48	2021	■	■
SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals				
Tax revenue (% of GDP)	10.6	2019	■	→
Government spending on health and education (% of GDP)	3.9	2020	■	→
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	0.00	2021	■	■
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	62.6	2022	■	↑

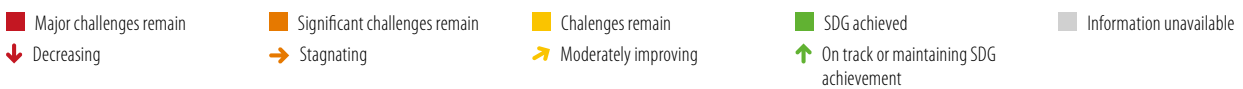
Overall Performance



Performance by SDG



SDG Dashboards and Trends



	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
SDG 1 – No Poverty				
Poverty headcount ratio living on less than \$2.15/day (PPP 2017. %)	21.3	2023	■	→
Poverty headcount ratio living on less than \$3.65/day (PPP 2017. %)	40.7	2023	■	→
Proportion of the population living below the national poverty line (%)	40.2	2019	■	■
SDG 2 – Zero Hunger				
Prevalence of undernourishment (%)	12.0	2020	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting (height/age) in children under 5 years of age (%)	29.4	2022	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 years of age (%)	7.4	2022	■	■
Prevalence of obesity. BMI ≥ 30 (% of adult population)	8.7	2016	■	→
Cereal yield (tons per hectare of harvested land)	1.6	2021	■	→
Fertilizer consumption (kg per hectare of arable land)	28.7	2020	■	↑
SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being				
Maternal mortality rate (per 100.000 live births)	733.9	2020	■	→
Neonatal mortality rate (per 1.000 live births)	31.8	2021	■	→
Mortality rate. under-5 (per 1.000 live births)	94.7	2021	■	→
Incidence of tuberculosis (per 100.000 population)	167.2	2021	■	→
New HIV infections (per 1.000 uninfected population)	0.31	2021	■	↑
People living with HIV receiving antiretroviral therapy (%)	81.0	2021	■	↑
Proportion of children under five years old with fever. who are treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	61.6	2021	■	■
Malaria mortality rate (per 100.000 population)	79.0	2021	■	→
Coverage of preventive chemotherapy for neglected tropical diseases (%)	34.6	2021	■	↓
Age-standardized death rate due to cardiovascular disease. cancer. diabetes. or chronic respiratory disease in adults aged 30–70 years (%)	19.5	2019	■	→
Age-standardized death rate attributable to household air pollution and ambient air pollution (per 100.000 population)	179.7	2019	■	■
Traffic deaths (per 100.000 population)	23.7	2019	■	→
Life expectancy at birth (years)	63.2	2019	■	→
Adolescent fertility rate (births per 1.000 females aged 15 to 19)	109.9	2018	■	■
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	56.5	2020	■	■
Surviving infants who received 2 WHO-recommended vaccines (%)	66.2	2021	■	→
Universal health coverage (UHC) index of service coverage (worst 0 – 100 best)	43.4	2019	■	→
SDG 4 – Quality Education				
Participation rate in organized pre-primary education (% of children aged 4 to 6)	47.5	2021	■	→
Net primary enrollment rate (%)	73.4	2021	■	→
Lower secondary completion rate (%)	46.4	2021	■	→
Mean years of schooling (years)	5.7	2021	■	→
Literacy rate (% of population aged 15 to 24)	72.5	2021	■	■
SDG 5 – Gender Equality				
Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods (% of females aged 15 to 49)	39.6	2020	■	→
Ratio of female-to-male mean years of education received (%)	71.8	2021	■	→
Ratio of female-to-male labor force participation rate (%)	78.8	2022	■	→
Seats held by women in national parliament (%)	10.8	2021	■	→
Women in ministerial positions (%)	15.3	2023	■	↓
SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation				
Population using at least basic drinking water services (%)	73.5	2020	■	→
Population using at least basic sanitation services (%)	35.9	2020	■	→
Freshwater withdrawal (% of available freshwater resources)	8.0	2019	■	■
Anthropogenic wastewater that receives treatment (%)	0.80	2020	■	■
Scarce water consumption embodied in imports (m3/capita)	271.1	2018	■	■
SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy				
Population with access to electricity (%)	53.2	2020	■	→
Population with access to clean fuels and technology for cooking (%)	13.9	2020	■	→
CO ₂ emissions from fuel combustion per total electricity output (MtCO ₂ /TWh)	4.2	2019	■	→
Renewable energy share in total final energy consumption (%)	6.3	2019	■	→
Consumer affordability of electricity (scale 0 to 100)	87.8	2021	■	■
SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth				
5-year average GDP Growth per capita (%)	0.44	2021	■	↓
Employment-to-population ratio (%)	58.8	2023	■	→
Victims of modern slavery (per 1.000 population)	5.3	2018	■	■
Adults with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider (% of population aged 15 or over)	44.9	2021	■	→
Fundamental labor rights are effectively guaranteed (worst 0–1 best)	0.52	2021	■	■
SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure				
Population using the internet (%)	47.9	2021	■	↑
Mobile broadband subscriptions (per 100 population)	43.0	2021	■	→
Rural population with access to all-weather roads (%)	70.0	2022	■	■
Logistics Performance Index: Quality of trade and transport-related infrastructure (worst 1–5 best)	2.4	2018	■	↓
Articles published in academic journals (per 1.000 population)	0.06	2021	■	→

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities				
Gini coefficient	37.0	2018	■	■
Palma ratio	1.6	2018	■	■
SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities				
Proportion of urban population living in slums (%)	47.7	2020	■	→
Annual mean concentration of particulate matter of less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5) (µg/m ³)	65.1	2019	■	↓
Access to improved water source. piped (% of urban population)	36.9	2020	■	↓
SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production				
Electronic waste (kg/capita)	1.7	2019	■	■
Production-based SO ₂ emissions (kg/capita)	0.81	2018	■	■
SO ₂ emissions embodied in imports (kg/capita)	0.53	2018	■	■
Production-based nitrogen emissions (kg/capita)	10.5	2018	■	↑
Nitrogen emissions embodied in imports (kg/capita)	2.3	2018	■	↑
Exports of plastic waste (kg/capita)	0.08	2021	■	■
SDG 13 – Climate Action				
CO ₂ emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production (tCO ₂ /capita)	0.53	2021	■	→
CO ₂ emissions embodied in imports (tCO ₂ /capita)	0.16	2018	■	→
CO ₂ emissions embodied in fossil fuel exports	586.9	2021	■	■
SDG 14 – Life Below Water				
Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity (%)	18.2	2022	■	→
Ocean Health Index: Clean Waters score (worst 0–100 best)	32.4	2022	■	↓
Fish caught by trawling (%)	13.6	2019	■	↑
Fish caught that are then discarded (%)	4.2	2019	■	↑
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.01	2018	■	■
SDG 15 – Life on Land				
Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity (%)	72.4	2022	■	→
Mean area that is protected in freshwater sites important to biodiversity (%)	69.7	2022	■	→
Red List Index of species survival (worst 0–1 best)	0.88	2023	■	→
Permanent deforestation (% of forest area. 3-year average)	0.58	2021	■	↓
Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity threats embodied in imports (per million population)	0.03	2018	■	■
SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions				
Absence of Armed Conflict (worst 0-100 best)	43.1	2021	■	↓
Population who feel safe walking alone at night in the city or area where they live (%)	54.7	2022	■	↓
Unsentenced detainees (% of prison population)	58.0	2022	■	■
Timeliness of administrative proceedings (worst 0 - 1 best)	0.37	2021	■	■
Expropriations are lawful and adequately compensated (worst 0 - 1 best)	0.50	2021	■	■
Birth registrations with civil authority (% of children under age 5)	58.0	2020	■	■
Corruption Perception Index (worst 0–100 best)	29.9	2022	■	↓
Accountability & Transparency (worst 0-100 best)	46.4	2021	■	↓
Children involved in child labor (% of population aged 5 to 14)	28.8	2019	■	■
Press Freedom Index (best 0–100 worst)	55.9	2023	■	↓
Access to and affordability of justice (worst 0–1 best)	0.53	2021	■	■
SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals				
Tax revenue (% of GDP)	8.0	2020	■	↓
Government spending on health and education (% of GDP)	3.4	2021	■	→
Corporate Tax Haven Score (best 0–100 worst)	5.0	2021	■	■
Statistical Performance Index (worst 0–100 best)	60.9	2022	■	→

Department Profiles

Benin



	Score	Rating	Trend
Accessibility and quality of services	44.2	■	→
Extreme poverty and material deprivation	52.0	■	→

	Score	Rating	Trend
Gender inequality	60.4	■	→
Income and wealth inequality	67.8	■	

Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	80.8	2021	■	→
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	2157.3	2021	■	↓
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2073.8	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	31.8	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	56.6	2018	■	→
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	54.3	2018	■	→
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	20.3	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	77.0	2021	■	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	5.2	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	56.5	2021	■	→
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	75.3	2021	■	→
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	37.3	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	1.6	2021	■	→
Number of students per primary school teacher	40.1	2022	■	→
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	67.7	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	92.6	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	25.1	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	18.7	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	18.2	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	38.5	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	8.3	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	36.5	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	9.6	2017	■	↑
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	16.0	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	31.5	2021	■	↓
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	11.6	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	1.3	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	7.1	2019	■	■

Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.94	2021	■	↓
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.90	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.24	2021	■	→
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	1.0	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	1.1	2018	■	↑
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	19.5	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	8.8	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	27.5	2021	■	↓
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	16.9	2021	■	→
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	1.0	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	1.0	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.0	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.86	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.51	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.35	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	11.0	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	23.9	2019	■

■ Major challenges remain
↓ Decreasing

■ Significant challenges remain
→ Stagnating

■ Challenges remain
→ Moderately improving

■ SDG achieved
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement

■ Information unavailable



	Score	Rating	Trend
Accessibility and quality of services	26.5	■	➔
Extreme poverty and material deprivation	44.5	■	➔

	Score	Rating	Trend
Gender inequality	42.4	■	➔
Income and wealth inequality	69.6	■	

Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	71.2	2021	■	➔
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	3742.0	2021	■	↓
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	3299.8	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	25.6	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	47.2	2018	■	➔
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	46.7	2018	■	↑
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	10.0	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	42.6	2021	■	↓
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	0.48	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	44.6	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	49.8	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	18.7	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	0.00	2021	■	➔
Number of students per primary school teacher	47.2	2022	■	➔
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	60.0	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	93.4	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	6.9	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	20.5	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	11.7	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	42.1	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	14.7	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	41.1	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	8.0	2017	■	↑
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	25.3	2021	■	➔
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	32.3	2021	■	➔
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	26.3	2021	■	➔
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	4.4	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	1.1	2019	■	■

Gender Inequality

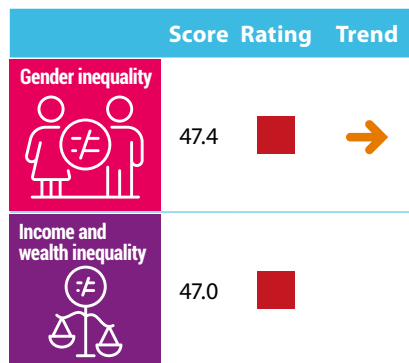
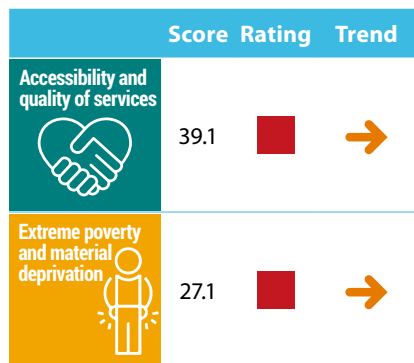
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.73	2021	■	↓
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	1.0	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	-	-	■	■
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	0.94	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	1.1	2018	■	↑
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	30.6	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	7.9	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	41.7	2021	■	➔
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	28.9	2021	■	➔
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	1.2	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	0.96	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.1	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.62	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.59	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.28	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	12.5	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	28.6	2019	■

■ Major challenges remain
 ■ Significant challenges remain
 ■ Challenges remain
 ■ SDG achieved
 ■ Information unavailable
↓ Decreasing
 ➔ Stagnating
 ➔ Moderately improving
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement

Atacora



Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	87.3	2021	■	➔
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	1453.9	2021	■	➔
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2400.3	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	23.0	2021	■	➔
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	70.5	2018	■	↑
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	59.0	2018	■	↑
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	22.3	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	56.8	2021	■	↓
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	0.35	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	56.0	2021	■	↑
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	65.7	2021	■	↓
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	19.0	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	0.00	2021	■	➔
Number of students per primary school teacher	48.2	2022	■	↓
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	60.9	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	93.7	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	12.2	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	33.3	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	39.3	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	60.5	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	7.9	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	46.4	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	23.6	2017	■	➔
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	25.5	2021	■	➔
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	67.0	2021	■	↓
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	11.8	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	1.8	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	2.6	2019	■	■

Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.97	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.73	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.00	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	0.99	2020	■	➔
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	0.88	2018	■	↓
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	23.3	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	8.2	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	45.4	2021	■	↓
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	15.0	2021	■	↓
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	1.0	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	1.0	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.0	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.85	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.40	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.30	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	22.0	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	41.4	2019	■

■ Major challenges remain
↓ Decreasing

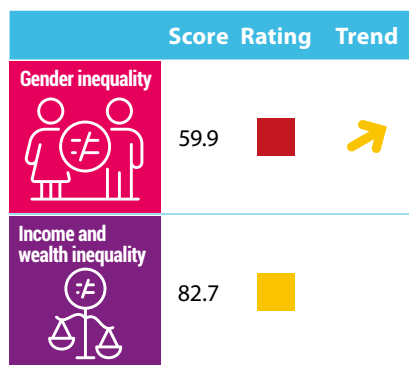
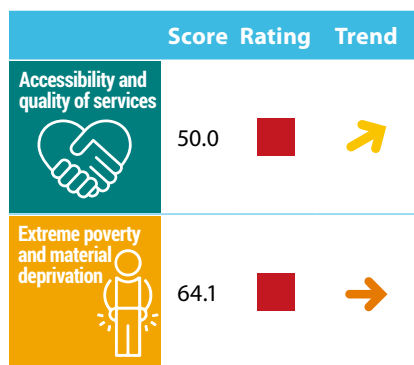
■ Significant challenges remain
➔ Stagnating

■ Challenges remain
➔ Moderately improving

■ SDG achieved
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement

■ Information unavailable

Atlantique



Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	90.7	2021	■	↓
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	3274.6	2021	■	↑
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2300.4	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	29.8	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	59.9	2018	■	↑
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	62.4	2018	■	➔
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	30.0	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	85.3	2021	■	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	7.7	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	61.0	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	81.4	2021	■	↓
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	45.5	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	2.7	2021	■	➔
Number of students per primary school teacher	36.0	2022	■	➔
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	73.3	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	95.7	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	34.0	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	10.6	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	9.9	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	29.7	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	11.7	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	27.2	2021	■	➔
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	7.4	2017	■	➔
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	3.1	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	22.3	2021	■	➔
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	2.5	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	1.9	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	13.0	2019	■	■

Gender Inequality

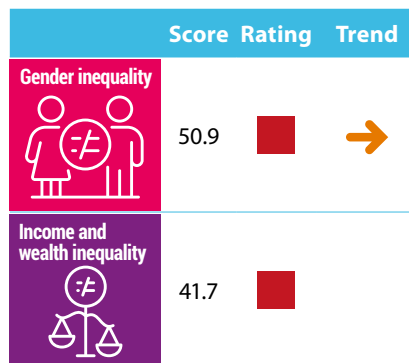
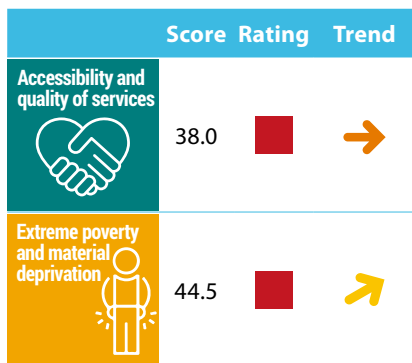
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.94	2021	■	↓
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.98	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.49	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	1.0	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	1.2	2018	■	↑
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	20.9	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	7.8	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	20.6	2021	■	↓
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	17.5	2021	■	➔
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	1.1	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	1.1	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.0	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.95	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.42	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.34	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	5.1	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	13.5	2019	■



Borgou



Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	73.0	2021	■	↑
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	1838.7	2021	■	↓
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2018.9	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	49.2	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	40.7	2018	■	↓
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	46.6	2018	■	→
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	16.2	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	73.3	2021	■	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	7.4	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	49.8	2021	■	→
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	58.8	2021	■	→
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	25.8	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	0.00	2021	■	→
Number of students per primary school teacher	32.4	2022	■	↑
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	61.0	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	84.1	2021	■	→
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	23.4	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	34.6	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	22.4	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	53.3	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	6.1	2021	■	→
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	48.7	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	7.9	2017	■	↑
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	17.6	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	28.2	2021	■	↓
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	19.3	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	0.04	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	6.2	2019	■	■

Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	1.0	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	1.1	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.00	2021	■	■
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	1.0	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	0.73	2018	■	↓
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	18.8	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	11.8	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	36.6	2021	■	→
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	11.4	2021	■	↓
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	0.98	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	0.97	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	0.99	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.56	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.65	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.35	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	23.2	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	40.2	2019	■

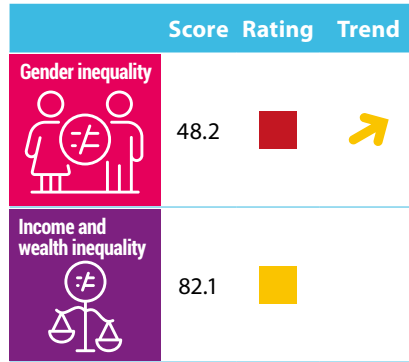
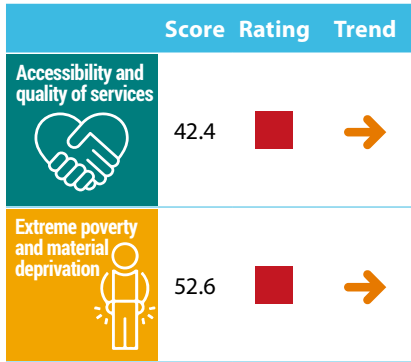
■ Major challenges remain
↓ Decreasing

■ Significant challenges remain
→ Stagnating

■ Challenges remain
→ Moderately improving

■ SDG achieved
↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement

■ Information unavailable



Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	85.7	2021	■	➔
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	4169.7	2021	■	↓
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	3105.7	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	36.7	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	68.2	2018	■	➔
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	51.0	2018	■	➔
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	21.3	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	88.9	2021	■	➔
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	1.2	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	65.0	2021	■	↑
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	81.4	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	34.6	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	2.1	2021	■	➔
Number of students per primary school teacher	45.0	2022	■	➔
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	54.7	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	91.9	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	22.7	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

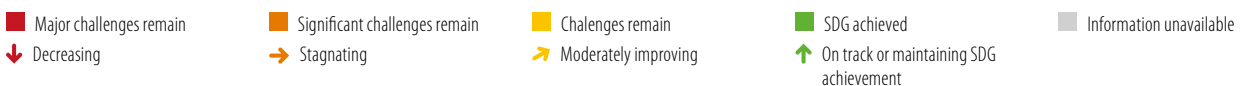
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	11.7	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	12.2	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	25.6	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	7.6	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	26.1	2021	■	➔
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	15.3	2017	■	↓
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	29.8	2021	■	➔
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	47.2	2021	■	↓
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	24.4	2021	■	➔
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	0.00	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	3.0	2019	■	■

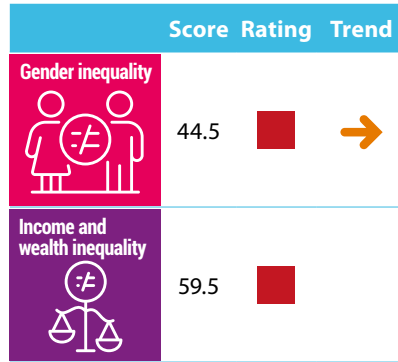
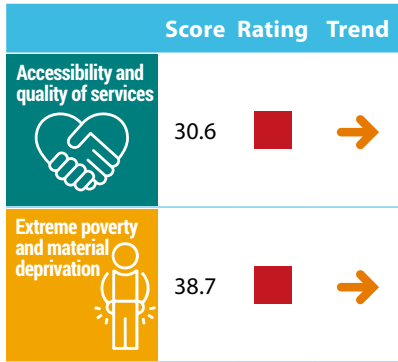
Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.96	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.75	2021	■	↓
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.30	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	0.99	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	1.5	2018	■	↑
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	20.3	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	12.4	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	22.2	2021	■	➔
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	28.4	2021	■	➔
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	1.1	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	0.96	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.1	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.94	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.28	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.31	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	5.6	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	17.6	2019	■





Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	48.0	2021	■	↓
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	3439.7	2021	■	→
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	4434.2	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	13.3	2021	■	→
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	40.1	2018	■	→
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	59.5	2018	■	↓
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	19.7	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	73.4	2021	■	→
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	1.5	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	47.7	2021	■	→
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	75.9	2021	■	→
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	31.2	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	0.86	2021	■	→
Number of students per primary school teacher	53.8	2022	■	↓
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	58.2	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	88.7	2021	■	→
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	17.7	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

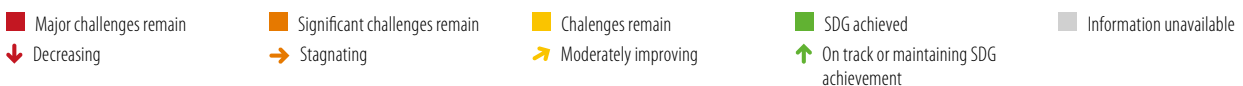
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	27.0	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	29.7	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	52.3	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	4.5	2021	■	→
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	34.2	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	16.2	2017	■	↑
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	31.8	2021	■	→
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	42.5	2021	■	↓
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	23.0	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	2.2	2021	■	→
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	1.5	2019	■	■

Gender Inequality

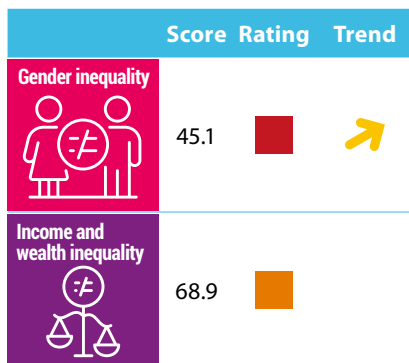
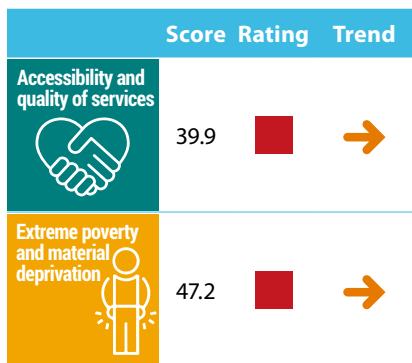
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.87	2021	■	→
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.73	2021	■	→
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.00	2021	■	→
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	1.0	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	0.74	2018	■	↓
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	14.6	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	11.3	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	23.8	2021	■	↓
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	6.5	2021	■	↓
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	0.97	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	1.0	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.0	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.96	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.18	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.29	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	15.6	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	37.0	2019	■



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Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	77.1	2021	Major challenges remain	Decreasing
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	2876.8	2021	Major challenges remain	Decreasing
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2553.5	2021	Major challenges remain	Decreasing
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	42.7	2021	Challenges remain	Increasing
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	61.9	2018	Major challenges remain	Decreasing
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	50.9	2018	Challenges remain	Decreasing
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	29.3	2019	Challenges remain	Information unavailable
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	59.4	2021	Challenges remain	Stagnating
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	1.4	2021	Major challenges remain	Information unavailable
Population with access to electricity (%)	65.5	2021	Challenges remain	Increasing
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	68.5	2021	Challenges remain	Decreasing
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	24.0	2021	Major challenges remain	Decreasing
Median number of years of schooling	0.04	2021	Major challenges remain	Stagnating
Number of students per primary school teacher	37.7	2022	Major challenges remain	Moderately improving
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	60.9	2021	Challenges remain	Increasing
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	95.4	2021	Challenges remain	Increasing
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	31.7	2021	Challenges remain	Information unavailable

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	19.7	2019	Challenges remain	Information unavailable
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	16.3	2019	Major challenges remain	Information unavailable
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	43.3	2019	Challenges remain	Information unavailable
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	11.7	2021	Challenges remain	Decreasing
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	31.1	2021	Major challenges remain	Stagnating
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	5.3	2017	SDG achieved	Increasing
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	29.4	2021	Major challenges remain	Stagnating
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	39.3	2021	Major challenges remain	Decreasing
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	21.2	2021	Major challenges remain	Moderately improving
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	0.10	2021	SDG achieved	Increasing
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	2.3	2019	Major challenges remain	Information unavailable

Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.95	2021	Challenges remain	Moderately improving
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.77	2021	Major challenges remain	Stagnating
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.00	2021	Major challenges remain	Stagnating
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	0.98	2020	SDG achieved	Increasing
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	1.2	2018	SDG achieved	Increasing
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	19.4	2018	Challenges remain	Information unavailable
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	4.1	2018	Challenges remain	Information unavailable
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	32.8	2021	Challenges remain	Decreasing
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	10.7	2021	Major challenges remain	Stagnating
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	1.1	2019	Major challenges remain	Information unavailable
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	0.98	2019	SDG achieved	Information unavailable
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.1	2019	Major challenges remain	Information unavailable
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.64	2018	Challenges remain	Information unavailable
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.49	2021	Major challenges remain	Information unavailable

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.32	2019	Challenges remain
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	10.9	2019	Challenges remain
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	26.7	2019	Challenges remain

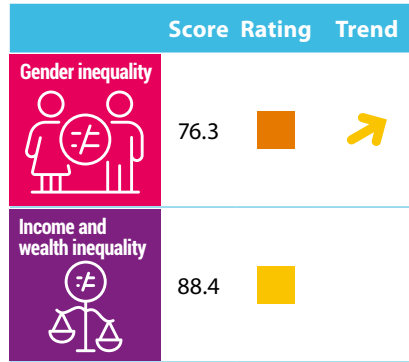
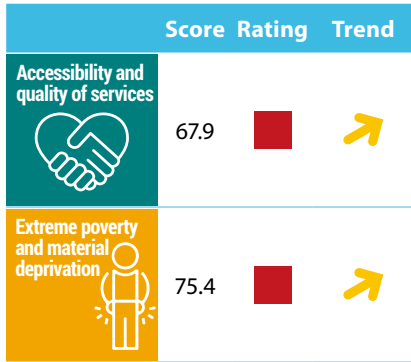
Major challenges remain
Decreasing

Significant challenges remain
Stagnating

Challenges remain
Moderately improving

SDG achieved
On track or maintaining SDG achievement

Information unavailable



Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	98.7	2021	■	↑
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	664.3	2021	■	↑
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	675.4	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	26.3	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	66.7	2018	■	➔
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	75.9	2018	■	↑
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	12.5	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	99.8	2021	■	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	34.1	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	89.8	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	92.4	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	62.5	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	5.6	2021	■	➔
Number of students per primary school teacher	45.7	2022	■	↓
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	77.5	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	97.2	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	69.1	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

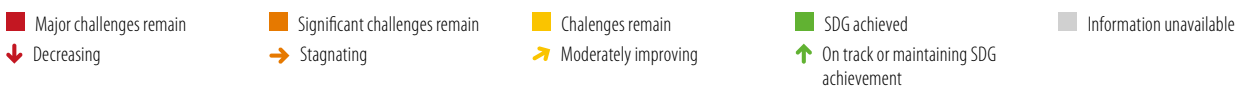
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	1.6	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	11.5	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	18.9	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	8.0	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	22.6	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	1.5	2017	■	➔
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	5.0	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	6.8	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	7.7	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	0.09	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	22.9	2019	■	■

Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.97	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.90	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.69	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	1.0	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	0.97	2018	■	↓
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	16.3	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	6.1	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	10.1	2021	■	➔
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	23.1	2021	■	➔
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	0.85	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	0.82	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	0.89	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.96	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.85	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.38	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	1.1	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	2.0	2019	■



	Score	Rating	Trend
Accessibility and quality of services	47.9	■	➔
Extreme poverty and material deprivation	51.2	■	➔

	Score	Rating	Trend
Gender inequality	64.7	■	➔
Income and wealth inequality	69.0	■	



Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	78.4	2021	■	➔
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	1938.5	2021	■	↓
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2026.6	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	31.8	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	70.6	2018	■	↑
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	65.8	2018	■	↑
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	28.7	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	81.1	2021	■	➔
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	1.8	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	44.0	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	88.1	2021	■	↓
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	40.9	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	2.5	2021	■	➔
Number of students per primary school teacher	34.4	2022	■	➔
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	67.1	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	96.5	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	13.4	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	20.2	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	30.3	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	43.0	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	7.2	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	32.8	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	6.6	2017	■	↑
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	14.7	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	26.3	2021	■	➔
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	7.6	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	3.5	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	4.0	2019	■	■

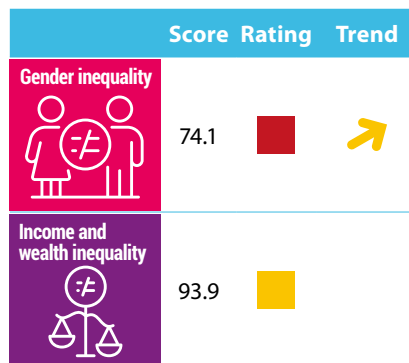
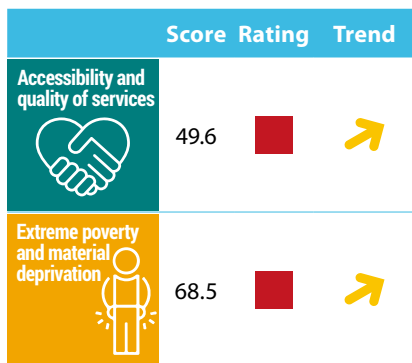
Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.97	2021	■	↓
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	1.0	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.47	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	1.0	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	0.81	2018	■	↓
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	20.0	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	8.3	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	33.0	2021	■	↓
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	18.2	2021	■	➔
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	0.96	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	1.0	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.0	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.89	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.97	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.32	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	10.7	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	28.2	2019	■

- Major challenges remain
- Significant challenges remain
- Challenges remain
- SDG achieved
- Information unavailable
- ↓ Decreasing
- ➔ Stagnating
- ➔ Moderately improving
- ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement



Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	94.3	2021	Yellow	Green Up
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	3183.6	2021	Red	Red Down
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	1835.8	2021	Red	Red Down
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	34.3	2021	Orange	Green Up
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	71.0	2018	Orange	Green Up
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	40.4	2018	Red	Red Down
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	14.0	2019	Green	Grey
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	80.7	2021	Yellow	Yellow Arrow
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	2.4	2021	Red	Grey
Population with access to electricity (%)	62.4	2021	Red	Yellow Arrow
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	92.4	2021	Yellow	Green Up
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	56.0	2021	Red	Red Down
Median number of years of schooling	3.3	2021	Red	Yellow Arrow
Number of students per primary school teacher	43.8	2022	Red	Red Down
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	68.5	2021	Orange	Green Up
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	96.5	2021	Yellow	Green Up
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	17.9	2021	Red	Grey

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	3.9	2019	Yellow	Grey
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	9.8	2019	Orange	Grey
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	18.3	2019	Yellow	Grey
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	5.7	2021	Yellow	Red Down
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	33.9	2021	Red	Red Down
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	8.1	2017	Yellow	Red Down
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	5.9	2021	Yellow	Green Up
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	25.4	2021	Red	Yellow Arrow
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	3.7	2021	Yellow	Green Up
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	0.7	2021	Green	Green Up
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	9.1	2019	Red	Grey

Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.96	2021	Yellow	Yellow Arrow
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.90	2021	Yellow	Green Up
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.63	2021	Orange	Green Up
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	1.0	2020	Green	Green Up
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	2.4	2018	Green	Green Up
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	15.2	2018	Orange	Grey
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	8.7	2018	Red	Grey
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	16.2	2021	Yellow	Yellow Arrow
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	15.3	2021	Red	Yellow Arrow
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	0.90	2019	Green	Grey
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	0.87	2019	Green	Grey
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	0.97	2019	Green	Grey
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.93	2018	Green	Grey
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	1.3	2021	Green	Grey

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.31	2019	Yellow
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	1.7	2019	Green
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	5.8	2019	Green

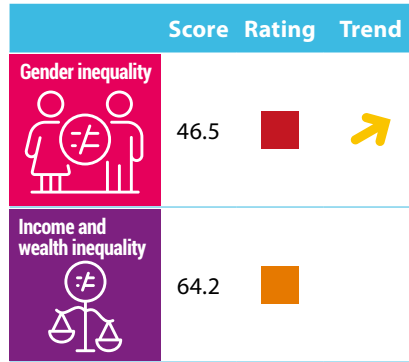
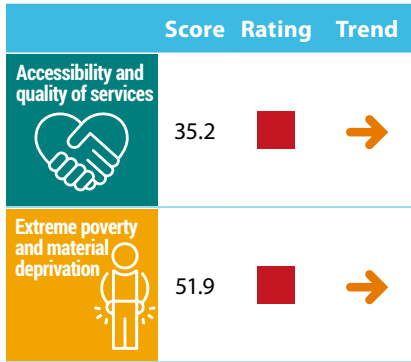
Red Square: Major challenges remain
Red Down Arrow: Decreasing

Orange Square: Significant challenges remain
Yellow Arrow: Stagnating

Yellow Square: Challenges remain
Yellow Arrow: Moderately improving

Green Square: SDG achieved
Green Up Arrow: On track or maintaining SDG achievement

Grey Square: Information unavailable



Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	84.4	2021	■	➔
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	6351.7	2021	■	↓
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2893.6	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	50.9	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	29.0	2018	■	↓
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	45.6	2018	■	➔
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	22.2	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	88.8	2021	■	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	4.8	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	35.7	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	70.3	2021	■	↓
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	33.1	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	0.06	2021	■	↓
Number of students per primary school teacher	40.9	2022	■	➔
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	66.7	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	94.7	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	11.8	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

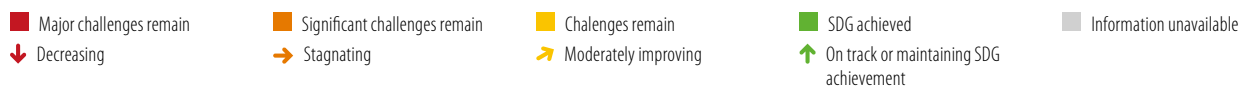
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	22.3	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	23.4	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	42.8	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	6.9	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	48.3	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	9.1	2017	■	↓
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	7.2	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	35.4	2021	■	➔
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	1.1	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	2.5	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	3.5	2019	■	■

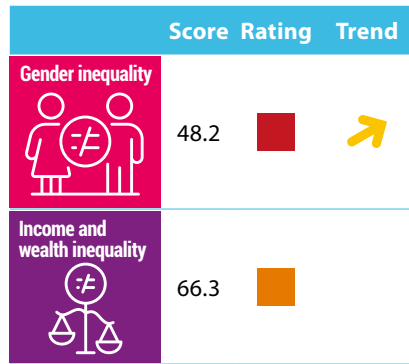
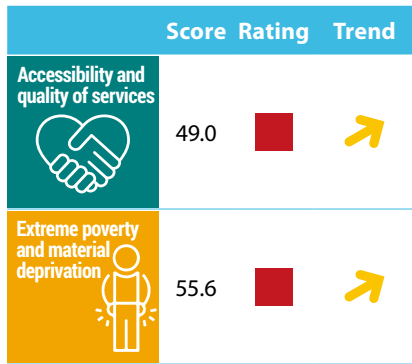
Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.93	2021	■	↓
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.85	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.00	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	0.93	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	1.1	2018	■	↑
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	16.7	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	12.3	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	28.5	2021	■	↓
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	9.1	2021	■	↓
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	1.0	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	1.2	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.0	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	1.0	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.27	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.33	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	13.4	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	27.8	2019	■





Accessibility and quality of services

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	84.2	2021	■	➔
Number of inhabitants per hospital bed	1875.4	2021	■	➔
Number of inhabitants per health personnel (doctors and nurses)	2386.1	2021	■	↓
Children under 5 with fever treated with appropriate antimalarial medication (%)	42.5	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated (%)	68.0	2018	■	↑
HIV testing coverage (% of populations aged 15-49 who know where to get an HIV test)	59.9	2018	■	➔
Average journey time to the health center (in minutes)	21.3	2019	■	■
Households using improved drinking water sources (%)	85.7	2021	■	↑
Population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	5.3	2021	■	■
Population with access to electricity (%)	60.5	2021	■	↑
Net enrollment ratio in primary education (%)	85.4	2021	■	➔
Net enrollment ratio in secondary education (%)	38.0	2021	■	↓
Median number of years of schooling	2.1	2021	■	➔
Number of students per primary school teacher	40.7	2022	■	➔
BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate (%)	68.4	2021	■	↑
Children under 5 who were registered by a civil registration authority	89.3	2021	■	↑
Population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet (%)	32.3	2021	■	■

Extreme Poverty and Material Deprivation

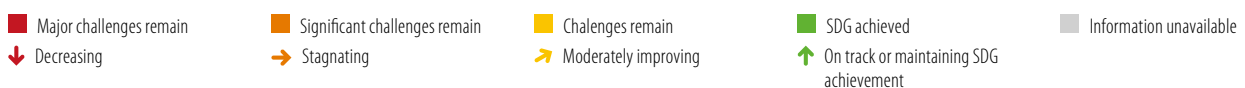
	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day (%)	22.0	2019	■	■
Population of all ages living in any form of poverty (%)	11.6	2019	■	■
Population living below the national poverty line (%)	39.8	2019	■	■
Prevalence of wasting in children under 5 (%)	6.4	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of stunting in children under 5 (%)	40.3	2021	■	↓
Prevalence of food insecurity (%)	11.7	2017	■	↓
Children aged 5 to 11 involved in an economic activity for at least one hour (%)	12.9	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for less than 14 hours (%)	20.8	2021	■	↑
Children aged 12 to 14 involved in an economic activity for 14 hours or more (%)	7.6	2021	■	↑
Urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)	0.14	2021	■	↑
Population 15 years old and older with a bank account (%)	4.6	2019	■	■

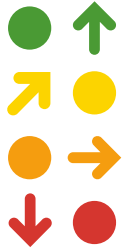
Gender Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating	Trend
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in primary school	0.95	2021	■	↑
Girl/boy parity index: net enrollment rate in secondary school	0.65	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: median number of years of schooling	0.37	2021	■	➔
Girl/boy parity index: BAC (baccalaureate or high school final examination) success rate	1.0	2020	■	↑
Women/men Parity Index: HIV testing coverage	1.3	2018	■	↑
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	11.8	2018	■	■
Women aged 15-49 currently in union or in a broken union who have experienced physical violence (%)	6.5	2018	■	■
Women aged 20-24 who were married or in union before age 18 (%)	26.0	2021	■	➔
Women of reproductive age (15-49) using modern family planning methods (%)	20.5	2021	■	➔
Women/men Parity index: population living on less than \$US 1.90 per day	1.1	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living in any form of poverty	1.2	2019	■	■
Women/men Parity Index: population living below the national poverty line	1.0	2019	■	■
Ratio of women to men labor force participation rate	0.85	2018	■	■
Women/men parity index: population aged 15-49 who have already used the internet	0.19	2021	■	■

Income and Wealth Inequality

	Value	Year	Rating
Gini coefficient	0.36	2019	■
Population living on less than half the median income (%)	11.1	2019	■
Population living with incomes more than 50% below average income (%)	24.9	2019	■





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