



Forum:	4 th Committee of the General Assembly
Issue:	Finding measures to ensure the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals during the Covid-19 pandemic
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Description of the issue

In general, the issue is about finding measures how to ensure the Sustainable Development Goals during Covid-19.

The corona pandemic made many things difficult for us, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The goal is to ensure sustainability in times of Corona, which is especially difficult to achieve for poorer countries because they do not have the necessary funds or an unstable economy in general. There are 17 different sustainable development goals and it is the task of the member states of the United Nations to find measures to ensure these 17 development goals.

The 2030 Agenda, approved by the United Nations at the end of 2015, discusses the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. While these seventeen goals -with their 169 targets- seek to improve the living conditions and conservation of the environment especially in developing countries, they also include expected improvements for developed countries.

In order to achieve the SDGs by the year 2030 it is necessary to follow up the implementation of the SDGs. There are United Nations official initiatives such as the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, which monitors the activity of countries and regions in the work of implementing the SDGs and also records the information.

The global achievement of the goals is determined by the SDG Index and Dashboard, a scale from 0 to 100, where 0 is the worst level of implementation and 100 means full compliance with the targets. For example, the Scandinavian countries such as Sweden and Denmark, are at the top of the ranking. Sweden has 84.5, Denmark 83.9, Norway 82.3 and Finland 81. Countries, which are ranked lowest, are mostly African countries. like the Central African Republic (26.1),



Liberia (30.5), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (31.3) or Niger (31.4). All in all, 193 countries are part of the sustainable development goals.

Background information

Covid-19, or corona, is a disease which appeared on 31 December 2019 for the first time in China. The deadly virus received the name SARS-CoV-2 and is known for its typical symptoms such as cough, fever and runny nose. However, several other symptoms are also possible, such as a disorder of the sense of smell and / or taste, sore throat, shortness of breath, headache, and body aches as well as general weakness. Until 29.06.2021 3.73 million people have died from Covid-19 (<https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/1103240/umfrage/entwicklung-der-weltweiten-todesfaelle-aufgrund-des-coronavirus/> June 7th, 2021)

Goal 1: No poverty

SDG 1 is to: "End poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030.

The goal has seven targets and 13 indicators to measure its progress. The five "outcome targets" are: eradication of extreme poverty; reduction of all poverty by half; implementation of social protection systems; ensuring equal rights to ownership, basic services, technology, and economic resources; and the building of resilience to environmental, economic, and social disasters. The two targets related to "means of achieving" SDG 1 are mobilization of resources to end poverty: and the establishment of poverty eradication policy frameworks at all levels.

Goal 2: Zero hunger (No hunger)

SDG 2 is to: "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture" by 2030

SDG 2 has eight targets and 14 indicators to measure progress. The five "outcome targets" are: ending hunger and improving access to food; ending all forms of malnutrition; agricultural productivity; sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices; genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals; investments, research and technology.



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Goal 3: Good health and well-being

SDG 3 is to: "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages".

SDG 3 has 13 targets and 28 indicators to measure progress toward targets. The first nine targets are "outcome targets". Those are: reduction of maternal mortality; ending all preventable deaths under 5 years of age; fight communicable diseases; ensure reduction of mortality from non-communicable diseases and promote mental health; prevent and treat substance abuse; reduce road injuries and deaths; grant universal access to sexual and reproductive care, family planning and education; achieve universal health coverage; and reduce illnesses and deaths from hazardous chemicals and pollution.

Goal 5: Gender equality

SDG 5 is to: "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls".

Through the pledge to "Leave No One Behind", countries have committed to fast-track progress for those furthest behind, first. SDG 5 aims to grant women and girls equal rights, opportunities to live free of discrimination including workplace discrimination or any violence. This is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Goal 13: Climate action

SDG 13 is to: "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy".

The targets cover a wide range of issues surrounding climate action. There are five targets in total. The first three targets are "output targets": Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related disasters; integrate climate change measures into policies and planning; build knowledge and capacity to meet climate change. The remaining two targets are "means of achieving" targets: To implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change; and to promote mechanisms to raise capacity for planning and management. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

Goal 17: Partnership for the goals

SDG 17 is to: "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development". This goal has 19 outcome targets and 24 indicators. Increasing international cooperation is seen as vital to achieving each of the 16 previous goals. Goal 17 is included to assure that countries and organizations cooperate with each other instead of competing against each other. Developing multi-stakeholder partnerships to share knowledge, expertise, technology, and financial support is seen as critical to overall success of the SDGs. The goal encompasses improving north–south and south-south cooperation, and public-private partnerships which involve civil societies.



What are the social, political and economic concerns?

The biggest concern is how to get all the money, during the pandemic, to ensure the progress of all 17 sustainable development goals.



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The economy suffered the most from the Corona pandemic, as in many countries working in offices and workshops was restricted, transportation was limited and it was no longer possible to go to clubs or to go shopping. A large part of the money must be put into SDG 1, the development goal "no poverty". The aim of the idea of the United Nations is to help out those, who suffered from the corona pandemic. Unfortunately, this neglects other Goals because there is not enough money. For example SDG 5, "Gender Equality". Due to the corona pandemic, the progress of the fight for equality has suffered a set back. The coronavirus outbreak exacerbates existing inequalities for women and girls across every sphere, from health and the economy to security and social protection. The emission of CO₂ has decreased in the past months. This is a result of the suspended travel and transport due to COVID

How is the issue affecting society in general and especially in the regions it takes place?

A lot has happened on SDG13, the SDG on climate action. A worldwide movement has been founded in 2018 by the young climate activist Greta Thunberg. Every Friday the young people as well as the adults take to the streets and demand climate targets from the politicians, which must be adhered to. From this movement further movements have been founded and the people, including many politicians, have taken it to heart to stand up for the climate and to protect it. However, it annoyed a lot of people that they could no longer demonstrate due to the corona pandemic, and this made people feel as if they were no longer being heard.

Why are we searching for a solution (why is it necessary)?

It is very important to find measures to ensure the progress of the sustainable development goals during the pandemic, especially in poorer countries. Since the Corona pandemic, many countries have not been able to ensure the progress, they don't have the financial means to do so. The European countries, especially in the Scandinavian regions, manage to do this, but in certain countries, such as African countries, this is very difficult, as they are sometimes very poor. It is very important that every country achieves these goals, because they aim to end poverty and hunger all over the world, to combat inequalities within and between countries, to realize human rights for all and to achieve gender equality and self-determination for all women and girls.

Glossary



- **SDG** = Sustainable Development Goal
- **Defecation** = emptying the stomach
- **Goals** = A goal is an ambition that you pursue, that you want to achieve. As an example: In 2030 we want to have stopped world hunger
- **Targets** = A target is something that you pay attention to. For example: We want to end world hunger through donations

How to prepare as a delegate

To have fruitful debates, all delegates need to be well prepared and know his/her topics. As this research report only gives a short outlook on the topic, please do further research on Finding measures to ensure the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals during the Covid-19 pandemic. You can follow the Link <https://sdgs.un.org/goals> and click on the different goals to have look at statistics concerning all the goals. Have a look on how your own country will do to ensure the progress of sustainable development goals during corona and what they have done in the past. All delegates are required to write at least one draft resolution and two/three position papers so that all topics of the forum are covered. Please send your position papers and resolutions to your chair by XX.XX.2021. Remember that every paper sent in after the deadline will not be corrected by us.

UN resolutions regarding the topic

<https://www.un.org/depts/german/gv-sonst/a69-700.pdf>

<https://www.un.org/depts/german/gv-sonst/a68-202.pdf>

Useful links

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals> (video)

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/2030agenda-sdgs.html>



Sources

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