

# Sustainable development in the European Union

Overview of progress towards  
the SDGs in an EU context

2019 edition



EUROSTAT  
SUPPORTS THE SDGs



eurostat 

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# Sustainable development in the EU

Sustainable development has been at the heart of European policy for a long time, firmly anchored in the European Treaties. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015, have given a new impetus to global efforts to achieve sustainable development. The EU has fully committed itself to delivering on the 2030 Agenda, as outlined in the reflection paper 'Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030' <sup>(1)</sup>. Regular monitoring of progress towards the SDGs in an EU context is essential for this purpose.

<sup>(1)</sup> European Commission (2019), *Reflection paper: Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030*, COM(2019)22.

## EU SDG indicator set

This regular monitoring is based on the EU SDG indicator set, developed in cooperation with a large number of partners and stakeholders. The indicator set comprises 99 indicators distributed over the 17 SDGs. Thirty-seven of these are multi-purpose indicators and monitor more than one goal.



## Monitoring progress towards the SDGs in an EU context

This brochure presents a statistical overview of the most recent trends of the EU SDG indicators over a five-year period ('short term'); the specific years depend on data availability for the individual indicators. It shows EU progress towards the SDGs for the individual indicators and also presents the average progress for each of the

17 SDGs, based on the mean score of the selected indicators for the respective goal, including the multi-purpose indicators <sup>(2)</sup>. Studies and reports that consider current status rather than progress, different indicators or different time spans may come to different conclusions.

## How has the EU progressed towards the SDGs?

On average, over the respective last five-years of available data — based on the mean scores of the selected indicators — the EU has made progress towards almost all goals. Progress in some goals has been faster than in others, and within goals, movement away from the sustainable development objectives also occurred in specific areas. A more detailed description of individual indicator trends can be found in the 17 thematic chapters of this brochure.

Over the most recent five-year period, the EU seems to have made good progress in improving the living conditions of its citizens. This improvement refers to gains in both actual and perceived health (SDG 3), reductions in certain dimensions of poverty and social exclusion (SDG 1), and increases in the quality of life in cities and communities (SDG 11). These favourable trends can be seen against the background of an improving economic situation in the EU over the past five years, as shown by some clearly favourable trends in the EU's labour market (SDG 8).

The growing economic activity in the EU, however, has not always been accompanied by favourable developments in the use of natural resources

and its negative environmental impacts, as exemplified by the trends for SDG 7 'Affordable and clean energy', SDG 12 'Responsible consumption and production', SDG 13 'Climate action' and SDG 15 'Life on land'.

In the area of education (SDG 4), the EU has already met two of its six benchmarks for 2020, and is close to meeting two other goals. The EU has also made progress in supporting developing countries, for example, through financial flows and trade (SDG 17). Trends were mixed in the area of sustainable agricultural production and its environmental impacts (SDG 2). Developments in the goals on gender equality (SDG 5) and other forms of inequalities (SDG 10) were also mixed, with both growing and declining inequalities in different topic areas. A slight movement away from sustainable development objectives was visible in the EU's innovation and transport performance, monitored by the indicators of SDG 9.

In the case of the three remaining goals — SDG 6 'Clean water and sanitation', SDG 14 'Life below water' and SDG 16 'Peace, justice and strong institutions' — trends cannot be calculated due to insufficient data over the past five years.

<sup>(2)</sup> For a more detailed description of the approach for assessing EU progress towards the SDGs, see the introduction chapter (section 3.3) and Annex III in the 2019 edition of the EU SDG monitoring report.


## Overview of EU-28 progress towards the SDGs over the past 5 years, 2019

(Data mainly refer to 2012–2017 or 2013–2018)



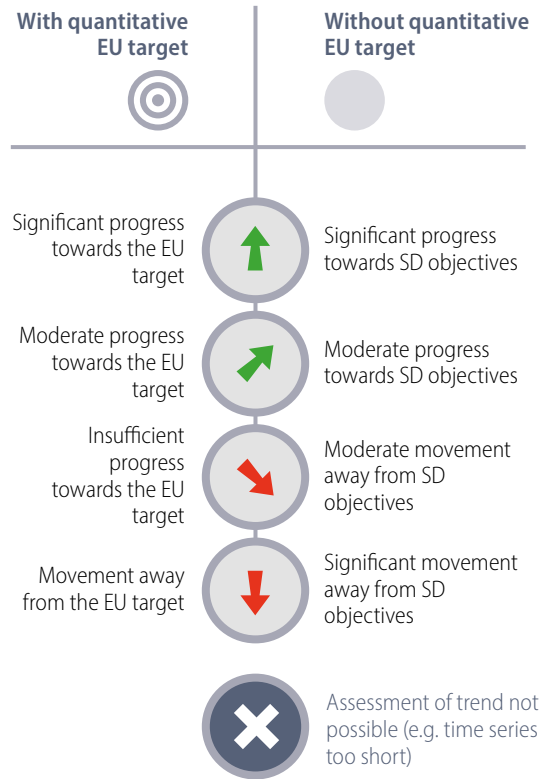
(\*) Due to lack of time series for more than 25% of the indicators

## EU indicator trends

The following thematic chapters present short-term indicator trends for each of the 17 SDGs. These trends are assessed following specific quantitative rules. For indicators with quantitative EU targets, the brochure assesses their progress towards those targets. This applies to 16 out of the 99 indicators, mainly in the areas of climate, energy consumption, education, poverty and employment. Indicators with an associated quantitative EU target are marked with the following symbol .

Target values for each indicator are listed in the Annex. All other indicators are analysed according to the direction and speed of change.

The assessment of indicator trends is presented visually in the form of arrows. The direction of the arrows shows whether an indicator has moved towards or away from the sustainable development objectives. Depending on the presence or absence of a quantitative EU target, the indicators are assessed differently. The following presentation illustrates the different cases.



Eurostat's publication '[Sustainable development in the European Union — 2019 monitoring report on progress towards the SDGs in an EU context](#)' describes the methodology applied and provides a detailed analysis of progress for the individual indicators.

## The 2019 EU SDG communication package

The brochure is part of an EU SDG communication package which comprises a number of products:



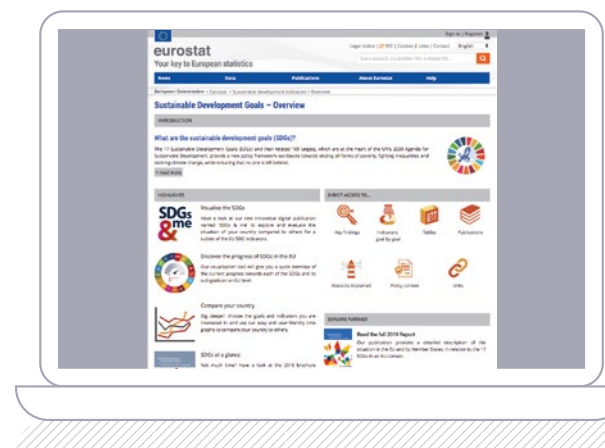
### Interested in obtaining all the details?

The [2019 EU SDG monitoring report](#) provides a detailed description of EU progress towards the 17 SDGs in an EU context.



### Curious why the SDGs matter to you?

The 2019 EU SDG digital publication '[SDGs & me](#)' presents the SDGs in a visual and personalised way, based on a selection of indicators across all 17 SDGs.



### Looking for the full overview of all Eurostat SDG products and direct access to all Eurostat SDG publications, indicators, key findings, data and much more?

Eurostat SDG dedicated section (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi/overview>).

# 1 NO POVERTY



**SDG 1** calls for an end to poverty in all its forms, including extreme poverty. It envisions shared prosperity and at least a basic standard of living and social protection benefits for all people, including the poorest and most vulnerable. In order to empower people to raise themselves out of poverty, SDG 1 seeks to ensure equal rights and access to economic and natural resources as well as technology, property and basic and financial services. It also calls for supporting communities affected by conflict and climate-related disasters and emphasises policy commitment and mobilisation of resources as essential levers for accelerating poverty eradication.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in alleviating multidimensional poverty and in ensuring that the basic needs of EU citizens are met.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 1, assessment of short-term trends



(<sup>1</sup>) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

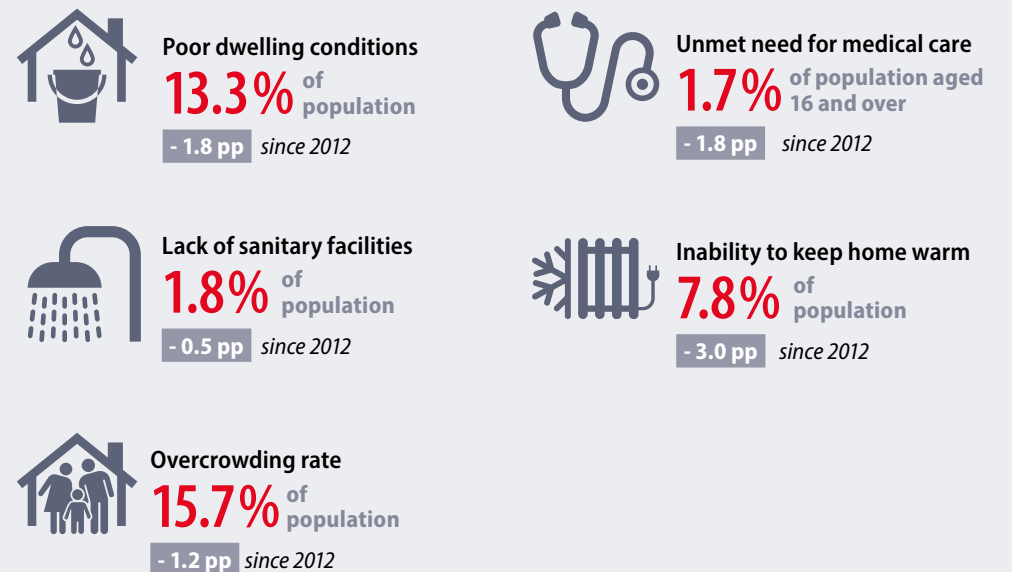
## MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY

in 2017



## BASIC NEEDS

in 2017



Source: Eurostat (Online data codes: [sdg\\_01\\_10](#), [sdg\\_01\\_20](#), [sdg\\_01\\_30](#), [sdg\\_01\\_40](#), [sdg\\_01\\_41](#), [sdg\\_01\\_60](#), [sdg\\_03\\_60](#), [sdg\\_06\\_10](#), [sdg\\_07\\_60](#) and [sdg\\_11\\_10](#))

## 2 ZERO HUNGER



**SDG 2** seeks to end hunger and malnutrition, and to ensure access to safe, healthy and sufficient food. Sustainable and resilient food production systems are a key factor in achieving this SDG. Implementing sustainable agricultural practices can help ensure future food security in a scenario of increasing demand and a changing climate. Realising these objectives is largely dependent on increased investment in rural infrastructure and agricultural research and development. However, even with favourable increases in agricultural production, food security and improved nutrition will be elusive for many if price distortions in world agricultural markets persist. Policy makers have a role to play in promoting sustainable production systems and ensuring proper functioning of food commodity markets and access to market information.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in fighting against malnutrition, fostering sustainable agricultural production and reducing the environmental impacts of agricultural production.

### Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 2, assessment of short-term trends



(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

### MALNUTRITION



**Obesity rate in 2017**  
**15.2%** of population aged 18 or over  
 -0.7 pp since 2014

### SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION



**Agricultural factor income in 2018**  
**120.7** Index, 2010 = 100  
 + 8.8 index points since 2013



**Government support to agricultural R&D in 2017**  
**EUR 3228 million**  
 + 9.5 % since 2012



**Organic farming in 2017**  
**7.0%** of utilised agricultural area  
 + 1.4 pp since 2012

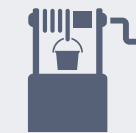


**Gross nitrogen balance in 2015**  
**51** kg per hectare  
 + 4.1 % since 2010

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION



**Ammonia emissions from agriculture in 2016**  
**3.6** million tonnes  
 + 2.2 % since 2011



**Nitrate in groundwater in 2015**  
**18.3 mg** NO<sub>3</sub> per litre  
 - 2.7 % since 2010



**Soil erosion by water in 2012**  
**5.2%** of the total non-artificial erosive area  
 - 0.8 pp since 2000



**Farmland bird index in 2016**  
**83.7** Index, 2000 = 100  
 - 2.7 index points since 2011

Source: Eurostat (Online data codes: sdg\_02\_10, sdg\_02\_20, sdg\_02\_30, sdg\_02\_40, sdg\_02\_50, sdg\_02\_60, sdg\_06\_40, sdg\_15\_50 and sdg\_15\_60)



# 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



**SDG 3** aims to ensure health and well-being for all at all ages by improving reproductive, maternal and child health; ending the epidemics of major communicable diseases; and reducing non-communicable and mental diseases. SDG 3 also calls for reducing behavioural (drugs and alcohol abuse, tobacco) as well as environmental health risk factors (chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination). The main prerequisites for meeting these objectives are universal health coverage; access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and to safe, affordable and effective medicines and vaccines for all. Other crucial steps for addressing persistent and emerging health issues that SDG 3 emphasises are support for research and development of vaccines and medicines, increased health financing and health workforces in developing countries, and strengthened capacity for early warning and management of health risks.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in enabling EU citizens to live healthy lives, by monitoring health determinants, causes of death and access to health care.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 3, assessment of short-term trends



(<sup>1</sup>) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

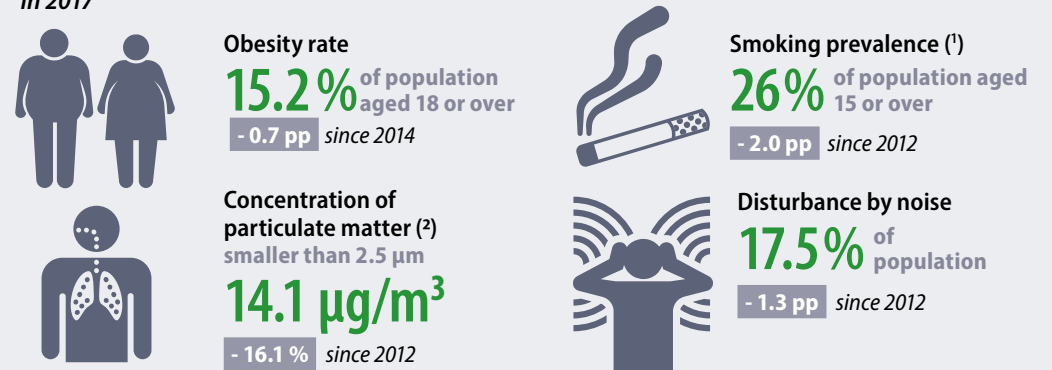
## HEALTHY LIVES

in 2017



## HEALTH DETERMINANTS

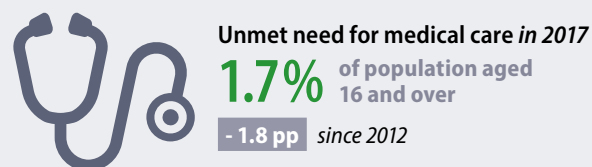
in 2017



## CAUSES OF DEATH



## ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE



(<sup>1</sup>) 2012 data excluding Croatia.

(<sup>2</sup>) It should be noted that although the average concentrations of fine particulate matter have decreased during the past five years, the overall adverse health impacts of urban population exposure to air pollution by particulate matter PM<sub>2.5</sub> remain significant. The annual mean for fine particulate matter continues to be above the World Health Organization's recommended level.

Source: Eurostat (Online data codes: [sdg\\_03\\_10](#), [sdg\\_03\\_20](#), [sdg\\_02\\_10](#), [sdg\\_03\\_30](#), [sdg\\_11\\_50](#), [sdg\\_11\\_20](#), [sdg\\_03\\_40](#), [sdg\\_03\\_41](#), [sdg\\_08\\_60](#), [sdg\\_11\\_40](#) and [sdg\\_03\\_60](#))

# 4 QUALITY EDUCATION



**SDG 4** seeks to ensure access to equitable and quality education through all stages of life. In addition to formal qualifications, SDG 4 aims to increase the number of youths and adults having relevant skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship. Furthermore, SDG 4 envisions the elimination of gender and income disparities in access to education. The achievement of universal literacy and numeracy and the acquisition of knowledge and skills to promote sustainable development are also considered crucial for empowering people to live independent, healthy and sustainable lives. To accelerate progress with all these objectives, SDG 4 calls for building and upgrading educational facilities, expanding the number of higher education scholarships available to developing countries and increasing the supply of qualified teachers.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in basic education, tertiary education and adult education.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 4, assessment of short-term trends



(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## BASIC EDUCATION



**Early leavers from education in 2018**  
**10.6%** of population aged 18 to 24  
 - 1.3 pp since 2013

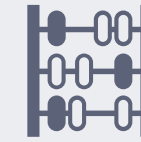


**Early childhood education in 2017**  
**95.4%** of children between 4 and the starting age of compulsory education  
 + 1.5 pp since 2012

**Underachievement in reading, maths and science in 2015**  
 % of 15-year-old students who fail to reach level 2 in PISA



**19.7%**  
 + 0.2 pp since 2009



**22.2%**  
 - 0.1 pp since 2009



**20.6%**  
 + 2.9 pp since 2009



**Not in employment, education or training in 2018**  
**12.9%** of population aged 15 to 29  
 - 3.0 pp since 2013

## TERTIARY EDUCATION

in 2018



**Tertiary educational attainment**  
**40.7%** of population aged 30 to 34  
 + 3.6 pp since 2013



**Employed recent graduates**  
**81.6%** of population aged 20 to 34 who completed ISCED 3–8  
 + 6.2 pp since 2013

## ADULT EDUCATION



**Adult learning in 2018**  
**11.1%** of population aged 25 to 64  
 + 0.4 pp since 2013

Source: Eurostat (Online data codes: [sdg\\_04\\_10](#), [sdg\\_04\\_30](#), [sdg\\_04\\_40](#), [sdg\\_08\\_20](#), [sdg\\_04\\_20](#), [sdg\\_04\\_50](#) and [sdg\\_04\\_60](#))



# 5 GENDER EQUALITY



**SDG 5** aims at achieving gender equality by ending all forms of discrimination, violence and any harmful practices against women and girls in the public and private spheres. It also recognises the importance of universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights for combating gender inequality. SDG 5 calls for equal rights, recognition and value of unpaid care and domestic work, and access to economic and natural resources, technology, basic and financial services, and property for women. It also calls for their full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of political and economic decision-making. The adoption of sound policies and legislation to promote gender equality are seen as essential for eliminating gender discrimination and fostering women's empowerment in all societal spheres, as is the enhanced use of enabling technologies.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in abating gender-based violence and in fostering gender equality in education, employment and leadership positions.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 5, assessment of short-term trends



(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



Physical and sexual violence in 2012  
**8%** of women aged 15 to 74

## EDUCATION

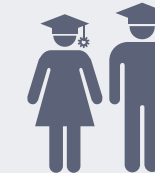
in 2018



Gender gap for early leavers from education  
**3.3 pp** to the disadvantage of men  
- 0.1 pp since 2013



Gender gap for tertiary educational attainment  
**10.1 pp** to the disadvantage of men  
+ 1.6 pp since 2013



Gender gap for employed recent graduates  
**3.3 pp** to the disadvantage of women  
- 1.1 pp since 2013

## EMPLOYMENT



Gender employment gap in 2018  
**11.6 pp** to the disadvantage of women  
- 0.1 pp since 2013



Gender pay gap in 2017  
**16.0%** of average gross hourly earnings of men  
- 1.4 pp since 2012

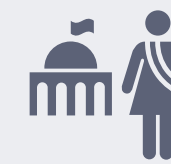


Inactivity due to caring responsibilities in 2018  
**31.7%** of inactive women aged 20 to 64  
+ 2.2 pp since 2013



**4.6%** of inactive men aged 20 to 64  
+ 0.6 pp since 2013

## LEADERSHIP POSITIONS



Women in national parliaments in 2019  
**30.7%** of seats  
+ 3.5 pp since 2014



Women in senior management in 2018  
**26.7%** of board members  
+ 8.9 pp since 2013

Source: Eurostat (Online data codes: sdg\_05\_10, sdg\_04\_10, sdg\_04\_20, sdg\_04\_50, sdg\_05\_20, sdg\_05\_30, sdg\_05\_40, sdg\_05\_50 and sdg\_05\_60)

# 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



**SDG 6** calls for ensuring universal access to safe and affordable drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, and ending open defecation. It also aims at improving water quality and water-use efficiency and encouraging sustainable abstraction and supply of freshwater. Protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems such as forests, mountains, wetlands and rivers is essential for mitigating water scarcity, as is the implementation of integrated water resources management. More international co-operation is also needed to support developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, and to help local communities improve water and sanitation management.

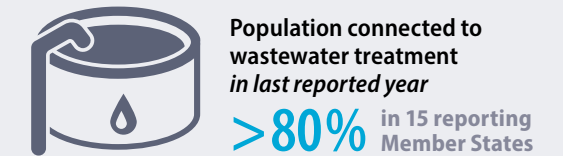
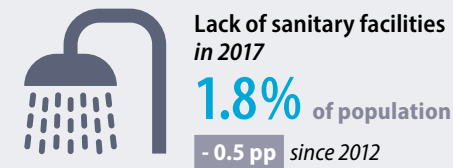
The EU focuses on monitoring progress in sanitation efforts, in improving water quality and in increasing water use efficiency.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 6, assessment of short-term trends

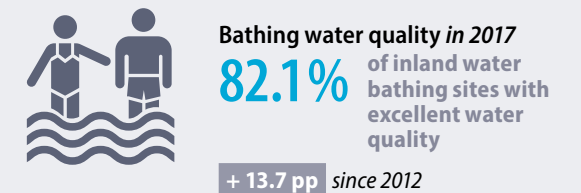
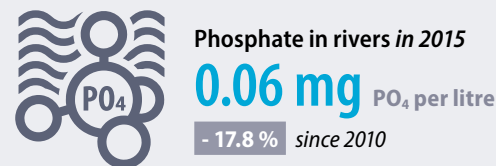
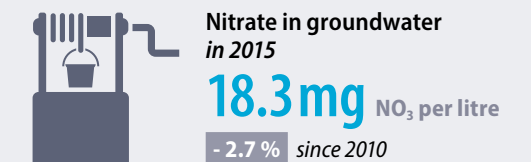
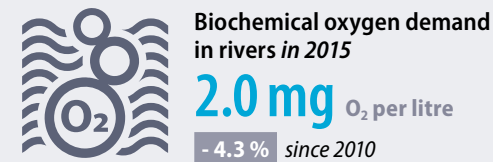


(<sup>1</sup>) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

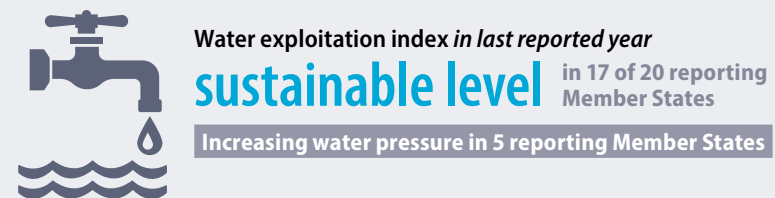
## SANITATION



## WATER QUALITY



## WATER USE EFFICIENCY



Source: Eurostat (Online data codes: sdg\_06\_10, sdg\_06\_20, sdg\_06\_30, sdg\_06\_40, sdg\_06\_50, sdg\_14\_40 and sdg\_06\_60)

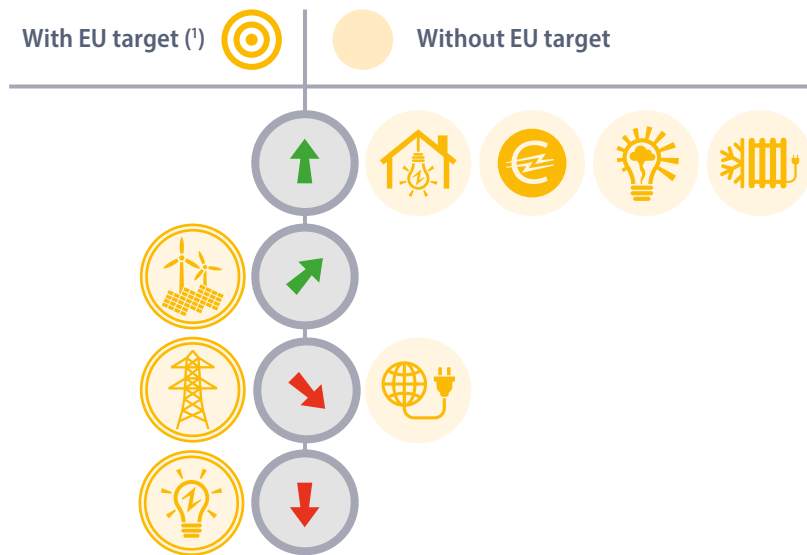
# 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



**SDG 7** calls for ensuring universal access to modern energy services, improving energy efficiency and increasing the share of renewable energy. Energy is central to nearly every major challenge and opportunity the world faces today. Be it for jobs, security, climate change, food production or increasing incomes, access to energy for all is essential. To accelerate the transition to reliable and sustainable energy systems, countries need to facilitate access to clean energy research, promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean and affordable energy technology. Enhanced international cooperation is also necessary for expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology for energy services in developing countries.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in reducing its energy consumption, in securing sustainable energy supply and in improving access to affordable energy.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 7, assessment of short-term trends



(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## ENERGY CONSUMPTION

in 2017



Primary energy consumption  
**1562 Mtoe**  
- 1.7 % since 2012



Final energy consumption  
**1123 Mtoe**  
+ 1.1 % since 2012



Energy consumption in households per capita  
**563 kgoe**  
- 5.1 % since 2012



Energy productivity  
**EUR 8.3** per kgoe  
+ 10.7 % since 2012



GHG emissions intensity of energy consumption (!)  
**86.6** Index, 2000 = 100  
- 5.2 index points since 2012

## ENERGY SUPPLY

in 2017



Share of renewable energy  
**17.5%** of gross final energy consumption  
+ 2.8 pp since 2012



Energy dependency  
**55.1%** of imports in total energy consumption  
+ 1.4pp since 2012

## ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE ENERGY



Inability to keep home warm in 2017  
**7.8%** of population  
- 3.0 pp since 2012

(!) 2017 data based on preliminary GHG inventories published in EEA report 'Annual European Union greenhouse gas inventory 1990-2017 and inventory report 2019'.

Source: Eurostat (Online data codes: sdg\_07\_10, sdg\_07\_11, sdg\_07\_20, sdg\_07\_30, sdg\_13\_20, sdg\_07\_40, sdg\_07\_50 and sdg\_07\_60)

# 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



**SDG 8** recognises the importance of sustained economic growth and high levels of economic productivity for the creation of well-paid quality jobs and the achievement of global prosperity. SDG 8 calls for providing opportunities for full and productive employment and decent work for all while eradicating forced labour, human trafficking and child labour and promoting labour rights and safe and secure working environments. SDG 8 draws particular attention to creating opportunities for youths who are not in education, employment and training in order to prevent future erosion of skills and job discouragement. SDG 8 also foresees enhanced international cooperation to support growth and decent employment in developing countries through increased Aid for Trade, development-oriented policies and a global strategy for youth employment.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in fostering sustainable economic growth, in increasing employment and in providing decent work opportunities.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 8, assessment of short-term trends



(1) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH



Real GDP per capita  
in 2018  
**EUR 28 200**  
+ 9.7 % since 2013



Investment share of GDP  
in 2018  
**21%** of GDP  
+ 1.4 pp since 2013



Resource productivity  
in 2017  
**EUR 2.1** per kg DMC  
+ 7.6 % since 2012

## EMPLOYMENT

in 2018



Employment rate  
**73.2%** of population  
aged 20 to 64  
+ 4.8 pp since 2013



Not in employment,  
education or training  
**12.9%** of population  
aged 15 to 29  
- 3.0 pp since 2013



Long-term  
unemployment rate  
**2.9%** of active  
population  
- 2.2 pp since 2013



Inactivity due to caring  
responsibilities  
**21.9%** of inactive population  
aged 20 to 64  
+ 1.5 pp since 2013

## DECENT WORK



People killed in accidents  
at work in 2016  
**1.7** per  
100 000 employees  
- 16.6 % since 2011



In work at-risk-of-poverty rate  
in 2017  
**9.4%** of population aged  
18 or over  
+ 0.5 pp since 2012

Source: Eurostat (Online data codes: [sdg\\_08\\_10](#), [sdg\\_08\\_11](#), [sdg\\_12\\_20](#), [sdg\\_08\\_30](#), [sdg\\_08\\_20](#), [sdg\\_08\\_40](#), [sdg\\_05\\_40](#), [sdg\\_08\\_60](#) and [sdg\\_01\\_41](#))

# 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



**SDG 9** calls for building resilient and sustainable infrastructure, which supports sustainable development and human well-being. SDG 9 promotes inclusive and environmentally sound industrialisation as a core driver for ending poverty and improving standards of living of all people. SDG 9 also recognises the importance of technological progress and innovation for finding lasting solutions to social, economic and environmental challenges. It calls for fostering innovation by enhancing scientific research and technology development, and by upgrading technological capabilities of the industrial sector. In order to foster innovation and entrepreneurship, SDG 9 also seeks to increase access to financial services for small-scale enterprises and to bridge the digital divide by increasing access to information and communication technologies.

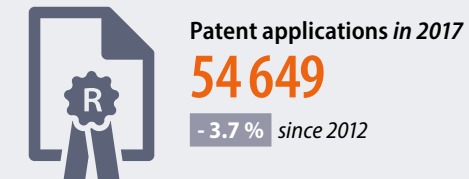
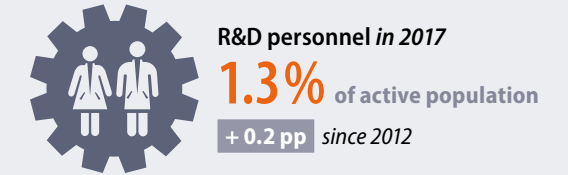
The EU focuses on monitoring progress in strengthening R&D and innovation and in fostering sustainable transport.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 9, assessment of short-term trends

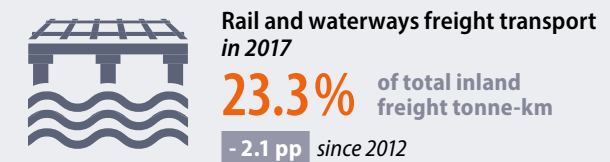
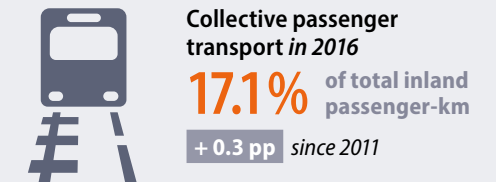
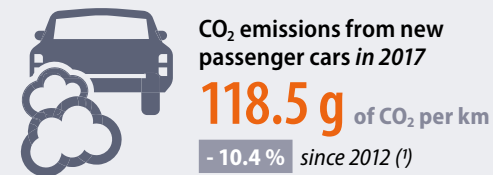


(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## R&D AND INNOVATION



## SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

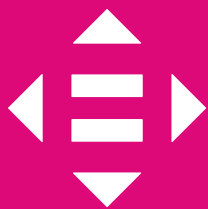


(!) 2012 data excluding Croatia.

Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: [sdg\\_09\\_10](#), [sdg\\_09\\_30](#), [sdg\\_09\\_20](#), [sdg\\_09\\_40](#), [sdg\\_12\\_30](#), [sdg\\_09\\_50](#) and [sdg\\_09\\_60](#))



# 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



**SDG 10** calls for increasing the income of the bottom 40% of the population and reducing inequalities due to income, sex, age, disability, race, class, ethnicity, religion and opportunity. It also aims to improve the regulation and monitoring of financial markets and institutions. SDG 10 addresses between-country inequalities by encouraging development assistance and foreign direct investment to the regions with the greatest need, promoting the implementation of the principle of special and differentiated trade treatment for developing countries and the representation of developing countries in decision-making in global economic and financial institutions. SDG 10 seeks to promote social inclusion globally through the facilitation of safe, orderly and regular migration and the reduction of transaction costs of migrant remittances.

The EU focuses on monitoring the progress in reducing inequalities within and between countries and in promoting safe migration and social inclusion.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 10, assessment of short-term trends



(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## INEQUALITIES WITHIN COUNTRIES

in 2017



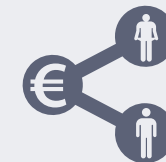
**Income poverty**  
**16.9%** of population  
+ 0.1 pp since 2012



**At-risk-of-poverty gap**  
**24.1%** distance to poverty threshold  
+ 0.7 pp since 2012



**Income distribution**  
**5.1** income quintile share ratio  
+ 0.1 points since 2012



**Income share of bottom 40% of population**  
**21.1%** of income  
- 0.1 pp since 2012

## INEQUALITIES BETWEEN COUNTRIES



**Disparities in GDP per capita in 2017**  
**40.6%** variation coefficient  
- 0.9 pp since 2012



**Disparities in disposable household income in 2017**  
**26.1%** variation coefficient  
- 4.8 pp since 2012



**Financing to developing countries in 2017**  
**EUR 155 billion**  
+ 4.9 % since 2012



**Imports from developing countries in 2018**  
**EUR 1 014 billion**  
+ 24 % since 2013

## MIGRATION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION



**Asylum applications in 2018**  
**1 144** per million inhabitants

Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: sdg\_01\_20, sdg\_10\_30, sdg\_10\_41, sdg\_10\_50, sdg\_10\_10, sdg\_10\_20, sdg\_17\_20, sdg\_17\_10 and sdg\_10\_60)

# 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



**SDG 11** aims to renew and build cities and other human settlements in a way that they offer opportunities for all, with access to basic services, such as energy, housing, transportation, green public spaces, while improving resource use and reducing environmental impacts. SDG 11 envisions cities as environmentally resilient human settlements, which drive sustainable development, stimulate innovation and foster community cohesion and personal safety. SDG 11 calls for safeguarding the world's cultural and natural heritage and supporting positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas. It also stands for enhanced international cooperation and support to least developed countries for building sustainable and resilient buildings.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in enriching the quality of life in cities and communities, in fostering sustainable mobility and in alleviating adverse environmental impacts.

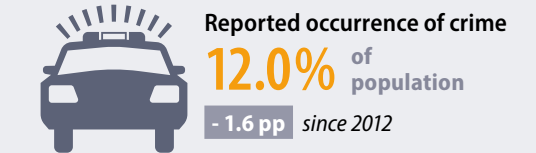
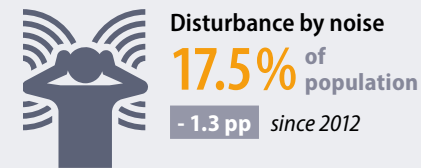
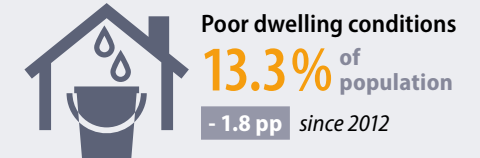
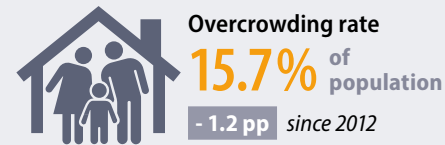
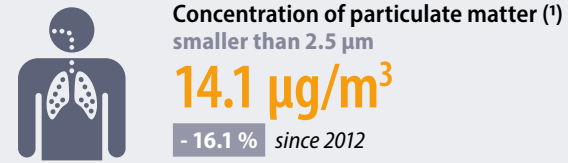
## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 11, assessment of short-term trends



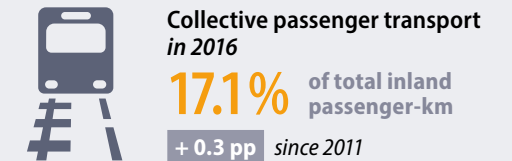
(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## QUALITY OF LIFE IN CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

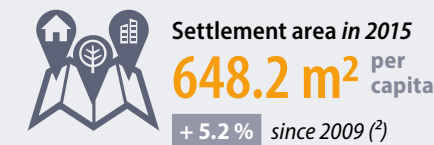
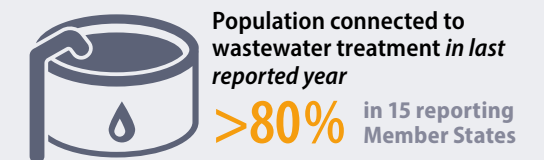
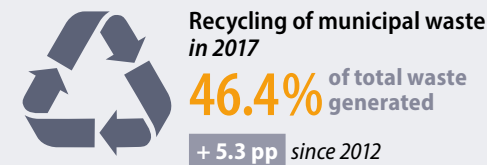
in 2017



## SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY



## ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS



(1) It should be noted that although the average concentrations of fine particulate matter have decreased during the past five years, the overall adverse health impacts of urban population exposure to air pollution by particulate matter PM<sub>2.5</sub> remain significant. The annual mean for fine particulate matter continues to be above the World Health Organization's recommended level.

(2) EU aggregate not including Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Malta and Romania.

Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: [sdg\\_11\\_50](#), [sdg\\_11\\_10](#), [sdg\\_01\\_60](#), [sdg\\_11\\_20](#), [sdg\\_16\\_20](#), [sdg\\_11\\_40](#), [sdg\\_09\\_50](#), [sdg\\_11\\_60](#), [sdg\\_06\\_20](#) and [sdg\\_11\\_31](#))

# 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



**SDG 12** calls for the adoption of sustainable practices and sustainability reporting by businesses; promotion of sustainable procurement practices; environmentally aware lifestyles of consumers; development of new technologies and production and consumption methods by researchers and scientists and others. SDG 12 envisions sustainable consumption and production, which uses resources efficiently, reduces global food and other waste, and disposes of toxic waste and pollutants safely. It also highlights the importance of strengthening scientific and technological capacity in developing countries to move to sustainable patterns of consumption and production and developing tools to monitor sustainable tourism.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in decoupling environmental impacts from economic growth, in decreasing energy consumption and in tackling waste generation and management.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 12, assessment of short-term trends



(<sup>1</sup>) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## DECOUPLING ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS FROM ECONOMIC GROWTH

in 2017



Consumption of toxic chemicals

**68.6** million tonnes toxic to the environment  
- 14.5 % since 2012

**219.7** million tonnes toxic to health  
- 3.0 % since 2012



Resource productivity

**EUR 2.1** per kg DMC  
+ 7.6 % since 2012



Energy productivity

**EUR 8.3** per kgoe  
+ 10.7 % since 2012



CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from new passenger cars

**118.5 g** of CO<sub>2</sub> per km  
- 10.4 % since 2012 (<sup>1</sup>)

## ENERGY CONSUMPTION

in 2017



Primary energy consumption

**1562 Mtoe**  
- 1.7 % since 2012



Final energy consumption

**1123 Mtoe**  
+ 1.1 % since 2012



Share of renewable energy

**17.5%** of gross final energy consumption  
+ 2.8 pp since 2012

## WASTE GENERATION AND MANAGEMENT

in 2016



Circular material use

**11.7%** of material use  
+ 1.1 pp since 2011



Generation of waste

**1772** kg per capita  
+ 3.3 % since 2012



Recycling rate

**57%** of total waste treated  
+ 2 pp since 2012

(<sup>1</sup>) 2012 data excluding Croatia.

Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: [sdg\\_12\\_10](#), [sdg\\_12\\_20](#), [sdg\\_07\\_30](#), [sdg\\_12\\_30](#), [sdg\\_07\\_10](#), [sdg\\_07\\_11](#), [sdg\\_07\\_40](#), [sdg\\_12\\_41](#), [sdg\\_12\\_50](#) and [sgd\\_12\\_60](#))

# 13 CLIMATE ACTION



**SDG13** seeks to implement the commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and further operationalising the Green Climate Fund. It aims to strengthen countries' resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters by integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation measures into national strategies, policies and planning. This also requires improved education, awareness-raising and capacity on climate change mitigation and adaptation. As the poorest and most vulnerable people are affected the most by climate change impacts, SDG 13 calls specifically for raising capacity for climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in climate mitigation efforts, in reducing climate impacts and in supporting climate action.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 13, assessment of short-term trends



(¹) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## CLIMATE MITIGATION

in 2017



**Greenhouse gas emissions (¹)**  
**78.3** Index, 1990 = 100  
 - 3.7 index points since 2012



**GHG emissions intensity of energy consumption (¹)**  
**86.6** Index, 2000 = 100  
 - 5.2 index points since 2012



**Primary energy consumption**  
**1562 Mtoe**  
 - 1.7 % since 2012



**Final energy consumption**  
**1123 Mtoe**  
 + 1.1 % since 2012



**Share of renewable energy**  
**17.5%** of gross final energy consumption  
 + 2.8 pp since 2012



**CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from new passenger cars**  
**118.5 g** of CO<sub>2</sub> per km  
 - 10.4 % since 2012 (²)

## CLIMATE IMPACTS



**Near surface temperature deviation in the decade 2009–2018**

**Global: 0.91** °C deviation, compared to 1850–1899 average  
**European: 1.61**



**Climate-related economic losses in 2017**  
**EUR 12.1 billion**



**Ocean acidity in 2016**  
**8.06 pH** value  
 - 0.1 % since 2011

## SUPPORT TO CLIMATE ACTION



**Climate-related expenditure in 2017 (³)**  
**EUR 20.4 billion**

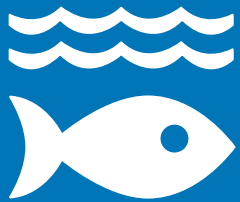
(¹) 2017 data based on preliminary GHG inventories published in EEA report 'Annual European Union greenhouse gas inventory 1990–2017 and inventory report 2019'.

(²) 2012 data excluding Croatia.

(³) Data refer to EU-28, the European Commission and the European Investment Bank.

Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: [sdg\\_13\\_10](#), [sdg\\_13\\_20](#), [sdg\\_07\\_10](#), [sdg\\_07\\_11](#), [sdg\\_07\\_40](#), [sdg\\_12\\_30](#), [sdg\\_13\\_30](#), [sdg\\_13\\_40](#), [sdg\\_14\\_50](#) and [sdg\\_13\\_50](#))

# 14 LIFE BELOW WATER



**SDG 14** aims to conserve oceans and ensuring their sustainable use by implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS. This includes the safeguarding of marine and coastal ecosystems, conserving at least 10% of coastal and marine areas as well as preventing and reducing marine pollution and the impacts of ocean acidification. The conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources also requires an end to overfishing, destructive and/or illegal fishing practices and the abolition of fisheries subsidies, which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing. SDG 14 seeks to increase economic benefits to small-island developing states and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources and to provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets. It also highlights the importance of increasing scientific knowledge, research capacity and marine technology for improving ocean health.

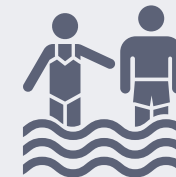
The EU focuses on monitoring progress in ensuring healthy oceans, in advancing marine conservation and in fostering sustainable fisheries.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 14, assessment of short-term trends



(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## OCEAN HEALTH



**Bathing water quality in 2017**  
**86.3%** of coastal bathing sites with excellent water quality  
 + 4.1 pp since 2012



**Ocean acidity in 2016**  
**8.06 pH** value  
 - 0.1% since 2011

## MARINE CONSERVATION



**Surface of marine sites designated under Natura 2000 in 2018**  
**551 899 km<sup>2</sup>**  
 + 119.4 % since 2013

## SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

in 2017



**Trends in fish stock biomass (!)**  
**136** Index, 2003 = 100  
 + 26 index points since 2012



**Overfishing (!)**  
**42.7%** of fish stocks  
 - 10.3 pp since 2012

(!) Data refer to the North-East Atlantic and adjacent seas.  
 Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: [sdg\\_14\\_40](#), [sdg\\_14\\_50](#), [sdg\\_14\\_10](#), [sdg\\_14\\_21](#) and [sdg\\_14\\_30](#))



# 15 LIFE ON LAND



**SDG 15** seeks to protect, restore and promote the conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial, inland water and mountain ecosystems. This includes efforts and financial resources to sustainably manage forests and halt deforestation, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, halt biodiversity loss and protect threatened species. SDG 15 also calls for sharing the benefits from the utilisation of genetic resource and promoting access to such resources as well as reducing the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems. Integration of ecosystem and biodiversity values into planning processes and poverty-reduction strategies and international cooperation for combating poaching and trafficking of protected species are also seen as a priority for protecting life on land.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in improving the status of ecosystems, in decelerating land degradation and in preserving biodiversity.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 15, assessment of short-term trends



(<sup>1</sup>) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## ECOSYSTEM STATUS

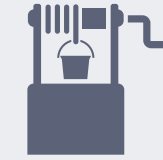
in 2015



**Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers**

**2.0 mg** O<sub>2</sub> per litre

- 4.3 % since 2010



**Nitrate in groundwater**

**18.3 mg** NO<sub>3</sub> per litre

- 2.7 % since 2010



**Phosphate in rivers**

**0.06 mg** PO<sub>4</sub> per litre

- 17.8 % since 2010



**Forest area (<sup>1</sup>)**

**41.9%** of total land area

+ 2.6 pp since 2009

## LAND DEGRADATION



**Settlement area in 2015**

**648.2 m<sup>2</sup>** per capita

+ 5.2 % since 2009 (<sup>1</sup>)



**Soil erosion by water in 2012**

**5.2%** of the total non-artificial erosive area

- 0.8 pp since 2000



**Soil sealing index in 2015**

**104.2** index, 2006 = 100

+ 2.6 index points since 2009

## BIODIVERSITY



**Surface of terrestrial sites designated under Natura 2000 in 2018**

**784 252 km<sup>2</sup>**

- 0.5 % since 2013



**Common bird index in 2016**

**93.3** Index, 2000 = 100

- 1.8 index points since 2011



**Grassland butterfly index in 2017**

**74.1** Index, 2000 = 100

+ 1.9 index points since 2012

(<sup>1</sup>) EU aggregate not including Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Malta and Romania.

Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: [sdg\\_06\\_30](#), [sdg\\_06\\_40](#), [sdg\\_06\\_50](#), [sdg\\_15\\_10](#), [sdg\\_11\\_31](#), [sdg\\_15\\_50](#), [sdg\\_15\\_41](#), [sdg\\_15\\_20](#), [sdg\\_15\\_60](#) and [sdg\\_15\\_61](#))

# 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



**SDG 16** intends peaceful and inclusive societies based on respect for human rights, protection of the most vulnerable, the rule of law and good governance at all levels. It also envisions transparent, effective and accountable institutions, which promote non-discriminatory laws and policies, combat corruption, bribery and organised crime and prevent violence, terrorism and crime. SDG 16 calls for responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making, with an enhanced role of developing countries in institutions of global governance. To achieve peace, justice and inclusion, countries, communities and civil society need to work together to implement lasting solutions to reduce violence, deliver justice, combat corruption and ensure inclusive participation at all times.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in ensuring peace and personal security, in promoting access to justice and in increasing trust in institutions.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 16, assessment of short-term trends



(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## PEACE AND PERSONAL SECURITY



Homicide rate in 2015  
**0.7** per 100 000 inhabitants  
- 0.2 per 100 000 since 2010



Reported occurrence of crime in 2017  
**12.0%** of population  
- 1.6 pp since 2012



Physical and sexual violence in 2012  
**8%** of women aged 15 to 74

## ACCESS TO JUSTICE



Expenditure on law courts in 2017  
**EUR 50 975 million**  
+ 5.4 % since 2012



Perceived independence of judiciary in 2019  
**56%** of population perceived it very good or fairly good

## TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS

in 2018



Corruption Perceptions Index  
Member States perceptions range from **42–88**  
Score scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean)



Citizens' confidence in EU institutions

European Parliament  
**48%** of population  
+ 9 pp since 2013

European Commission  
**43%** of population  
+ 8 pp since 2013

European Central Bank  
**41%** of population  
+ 7 pp since 2013

Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: [sdg\\_16\\_10](#), [sdg\\_16\\_20](#), [sdg\\_05\\_10](#), [sdg\\_16\\_30](#), [sdg\\_16\\_40](#), [sdg\\_16\\_50](#) and [sdg\\_16\\_60](#))

# 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



**SDG 17** calls for a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under WTO and the implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access for all least developed countries. It also highlights the importance of global macroeconomic stability and support to developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability. Enhanced support to developing countries to increase the availability of quality statistical data and develop measures of progress on the SDGs is also seen as essential for delivering on the sustainable development objectives. SDG 17 also aims at establishing global partnerships for sustainable development between governments, the private sector and civil society, which are built upon principles and values, a shared vision and shared goals that place people and the planet at the centre.

The EU focuses on monitoring progress in strengthening global partnership and in improving the financial governance in the EU.

## Indicators measuring EU progress towards SDG 17, assessment of short-term trends



(!) Indicators assessed against a quantitative policy target. See Annex for target values.

## GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP



Official development assistance in 2018 (!)  
**0.47%** of gross national income (GNI)  
 + 0.1 pp since 2013



Financing to developing countries in 2017  
**EUR 155 billion**  
 + 4.9 % since 2012



Imports from developing countries in 2018  
**EUR 1 014 billion**  
 + 24 % since 2013

## FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE WITHIN THE EU



General government gross debt in 2018  
**80.0 %** of GDP  
 - 5.8 pp since 2013



Environmental taxes in 2017  
**6.1%** of total tax revenues  
 - 0.2 pp since 2012

(!) Data refer to EU-28, including EU institutions.  
 Source: Eurostat (Online data sources: [sdg\\_17\\_10](#), [sdg\\_17\\_20](#), [sdg\\_17\\_30](#), [sdg\\_17\\_40](#) and [sdg\\_17\\_50](#))

# Annex

## EU SDG indicators assessed against quantitative EU targets

Code	Name	Target value	Target year	SDGs
sdg_01_10	Risk of poverty or social exclusion	- 20 million	2020	1
sdg_04_10	Early leavers from education	< 10 %	2020	4
sdg_04_20	Tertiary educational attainment	≥ 40 %	2020	4
sdg_04_30	Early childhood education	≥ 95 %	2020	4
sdg_04_40	Underachievement in reading, maths and science	< 15 %	2020	4
sdg_04_50	Employment rate of recent graduates	≥ 82 %	2020	4
sdg_04_60	Adult learning	> 15 %	2020	4
sdg_07_10 sdg_07_11	Primary and final energy consumption	+ 20 % efficiency	2020	7 12 13
sdg_07_40	Share of renewable energy	≥ 20 %	2020	7 12 13
sdg_08_30	Employment rate	≥ 75 %	2020	8
sdg_09_10	R&D expenditure	≥ 3 %	2020	9
sdg_11_40	People killed in road accidents	- 50 % of 2010	2020	3 11
sdg_11_60	Recycling of municipal waste	≥ 60 %	2030	11
sdg_12_30	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from new passenger cars	≤ 95 g CO <sub>2</sub>	2021	9 12 13
sdg_13_10	Greenhouse gas emissions	- 20 % of 1990	2020	13
sdg_17_10	Official development assistance	≥ 0.7 %	2030	17

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- at the following standard number: +32 22999696 or
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