

Reflections on the Summit of the Future

Astra Bonini
Chief, Integrated Policy Analysis Branch
UN DESA/Division for Sustainable Development
Goals



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

Summit of the Future: Reimagining multilateralism to address long-term challenges



Addressing emerging and future challenges

- *Our Common Agenda*, was released in 2021 with a vision for the future of global cooperation.
- It was a response to Member States' request on the 75th anniversary of the UN for recommendations to address current and future challenges.
- The report warned of a world on the brink of breakdown where business as usual is not an option.
- It called for a fundamental rethink of political, economic, social and environmental systems to deliver more fairly and sustainably for all.
- This would require renewed trust and solidarity and a reinvigorated multilateral system to deliver on existing goals while preparing for new threats and opportunities.



The role of “Twin Summits”

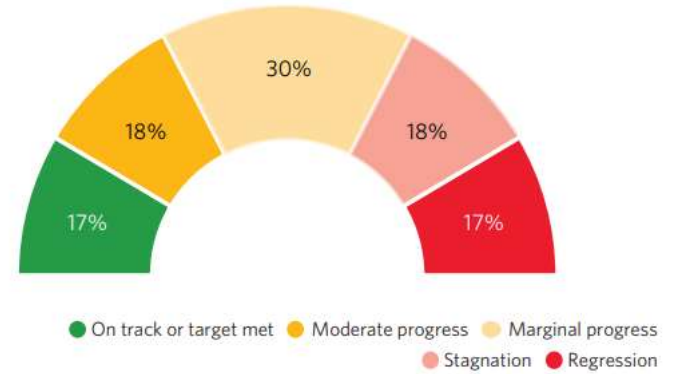
- The SDG Summit in 2023 and the Summit of the Future in 2024 had a common objective of **creating conditions for a sustainable, equitable and inclusive future**.
- SDG Summit focused on **high-impact initiatives** to regain momentum and **rescue the SDGs** against a backdrop of debt, slow pandemic recovery, multiple conflicts, and the triple planetary crisis.
- The Summit of the Future focused on global action and making frameworks of **multilateralism fit for the future**.
- The Summit also focused on finding concrete solutions to **challenges that emerged or grew after 2015**.



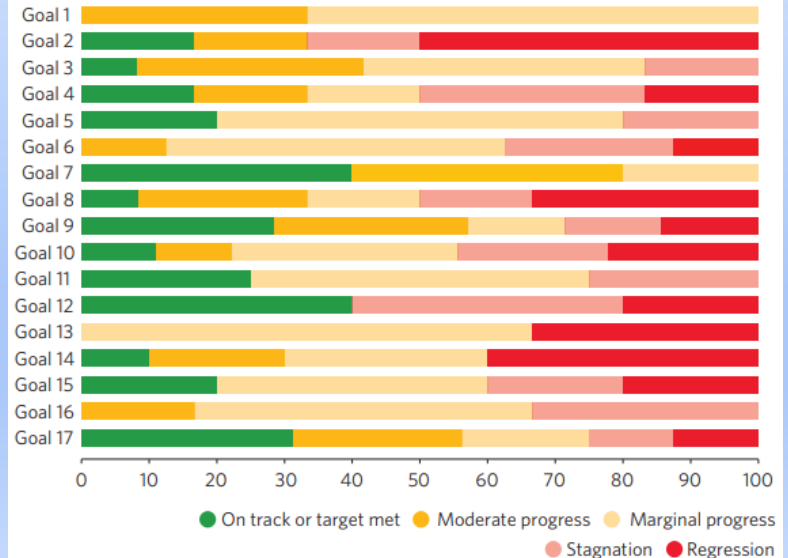
SDG progress is off track with 6 years to 2030

- With six years to 2030, only about 17% of SDG targets with data are on track.
- Close to half are moderately or severely off track.
- Over a third have stalled or regressed below the 2015 baseline.
- By 2030, 590 million people may still live in extreme poverty if current trends persist.
- 122 million more suffered from hunger in 2022 compared to 2019.
- Forcibly displaced people reached unprecedented 120 million in May 2024.
- The Paris Agreement is off track, 2023 was warmest year on record with carbon dioxide levels continuing to rise.
- Vast numbers of species worldwide are threatened with extinction.

Overall progress across targets based on 2015–2024 global aggregate data



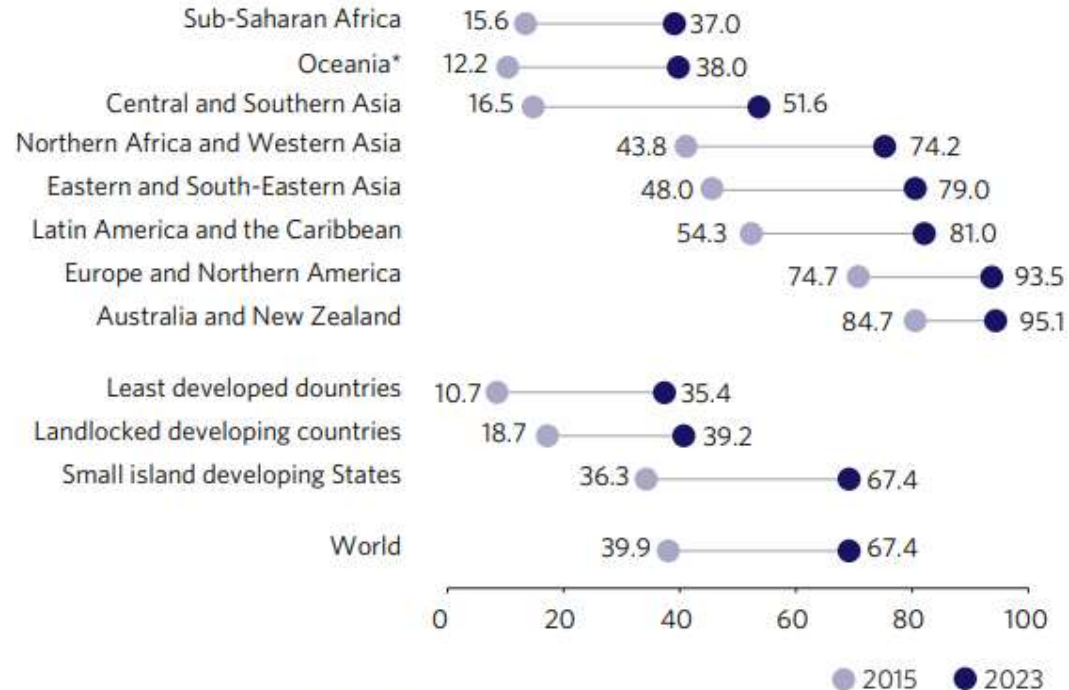
Progress assessment for the 17 Goals based on assessed targets, by Goal (percentage)



Areas of progress – some risk being left behind

- The number of **people lacking electricity access fell** from 958 million in 2015 to 685 million in 2022, but 10 million more lack electricity than in 2021 due to population growth.
- Global capacity to generate electricity from **renewable energy has grown** at 8.1 per cent annually for the past five years.
- **Internet access increased** by about 70 per cent in just eight years (2015-2023). But women fall behind men and growth is slowing.
- For the first time, **more than half of the world's population are covered by social protection**. But 3.8 billion people are unprotected from life's challenges and the impacts of climate change.

Proportion of individuals using the Internet, 2015 and 2023 (percentage)



* Excluding Australia and New Zealand.

Summit of the Future outcomes chart a new course forward

Pact for the Future comprising 56 Actions across five chapters:

1. Sustainable development and financing for development
2. International peace and security
3. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation
4. Youth and future generations
5. Transforming global governance

Global Digital Compact with 5 objectives:

1. Close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals
2. Expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all
3. Foster an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that respects, protects and promote human rights
4. Advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches
5. Enhance international governance of artificial intelligence for the benefit of humanity

Declaration on Future Generations with 32 guiding principles, commitments and actions.



**OUR
FUTURE
HANGS**

breakthrough

peace

together

or

or

or

**IN
THE
BALANCE.**

breakdown

conflict

apart

The world has a choice to make.



Summit of
the Future
Our Common Agenda

THANK YOU