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2024 Sustainable Development Transformation Forum

2023 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)
and
2024 Summit of the Future

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October 29, 2024



Table of Contents

- I. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
and the Global Sustainable Development
Report (GSDR)
- II. GSDR 2023
- III. 2024 Summit of the Future & The SDGs
Report 2024
- IV. Concluding Remarks



I. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)

**Sustainable Development Goals
(2016-2030): 2030 Agenda**



**Global Sustainable Development Report
(Every 4 years: 2019, 2023)**

Independent Group of Scientists
(IGS) appointed by the UN
Secretary General (SG)

Assessment of SDGs based on
Scientific Evidence and
Science-Policy Interface

Policy Recommendations to the
UN SG & UN Member States

GSDR 2023: Independent Group of Scientists (IGS)

Co-Chairs



Imme Scholz
(Germany;
Sociology,
Sustainable
Development)



J. Jaime Miranda
(Peru;
Medicine,
Epidemiology,
International
Health)



Ambuj Sagar
(India;
International
Policy, Science,
Technology, and
Innovation (STI),
Development)



John Agard
(Trinidad and
Tobago; Ecology,
Environmental
Science)



Kaltham Al -
Ghanim (Qatar;
Sociology,
Women's Studies)



Sergey N. Bobylev
(Russian Federation;
Environmental
Economics,
Sustainable
Development)



Opha Pauline Dube
(Botswana;
Environmental Science,
Climate Change,
Environmental
Resources)

GSDR 2023: IGS



Shirin Malekpour
(Australia; Governance, SDGs)



Jaime C. Montoya
(Philippines; Medicine, Tropical Diseases, Infectious Diseases)



Jiahua Pan
(China; Economics, Urban Environment, Climate Policy)



Åsa Persson
(Sweden; Governance, Climate Change, SDGs)



Nancy Shackell
(Canada; Marine Conservation, Biodiversity)



Ibrahima Hathie
(Senegal; Agriculture, Climate Change, and Youth Employment)



Norichika Kanie
(Japan; Governance, SDGs)



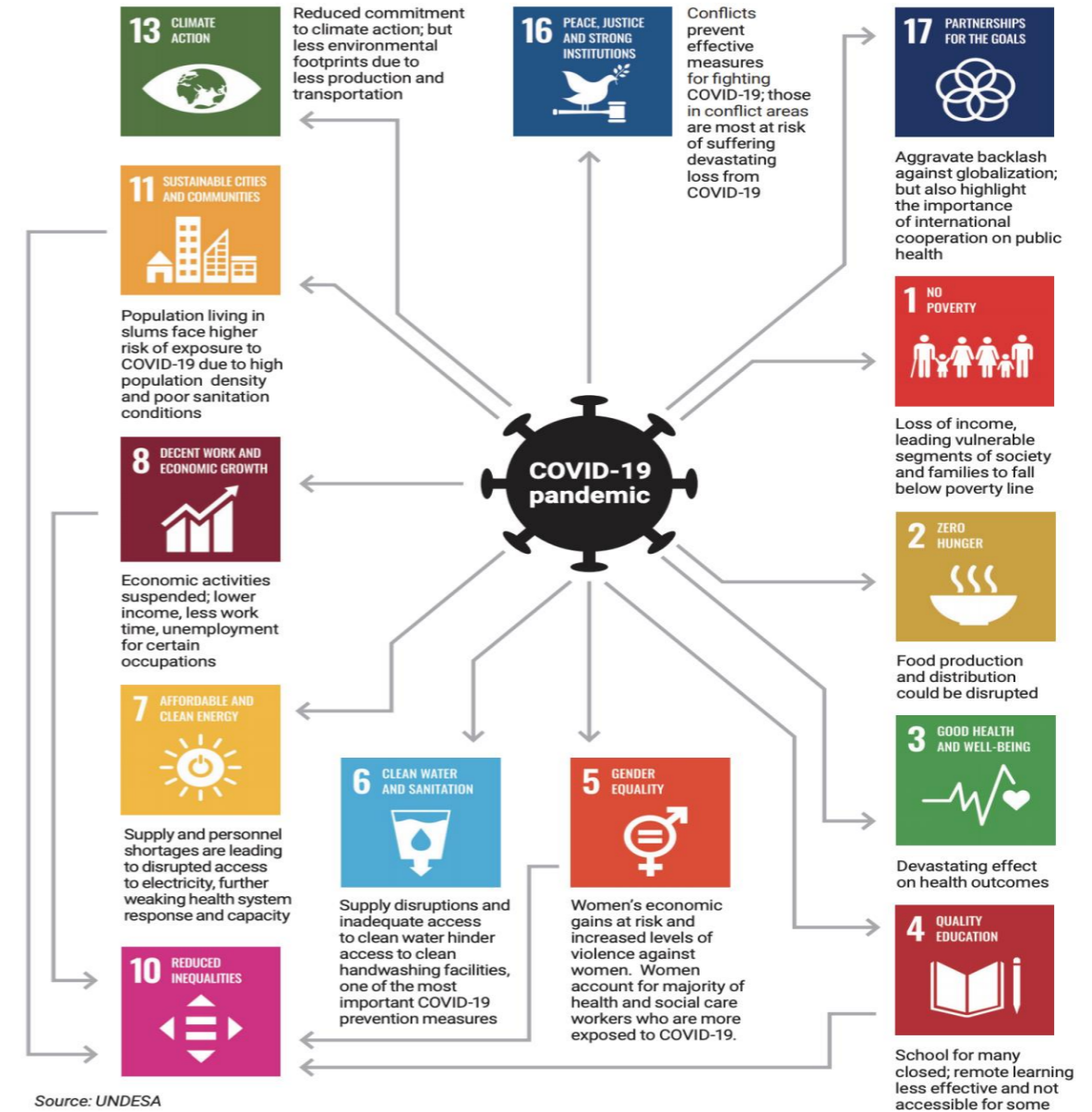
Nyovani Janet Madise
(Malawi; SDGs, Inequality, African Society)

(1) COVID-19 Pandemic

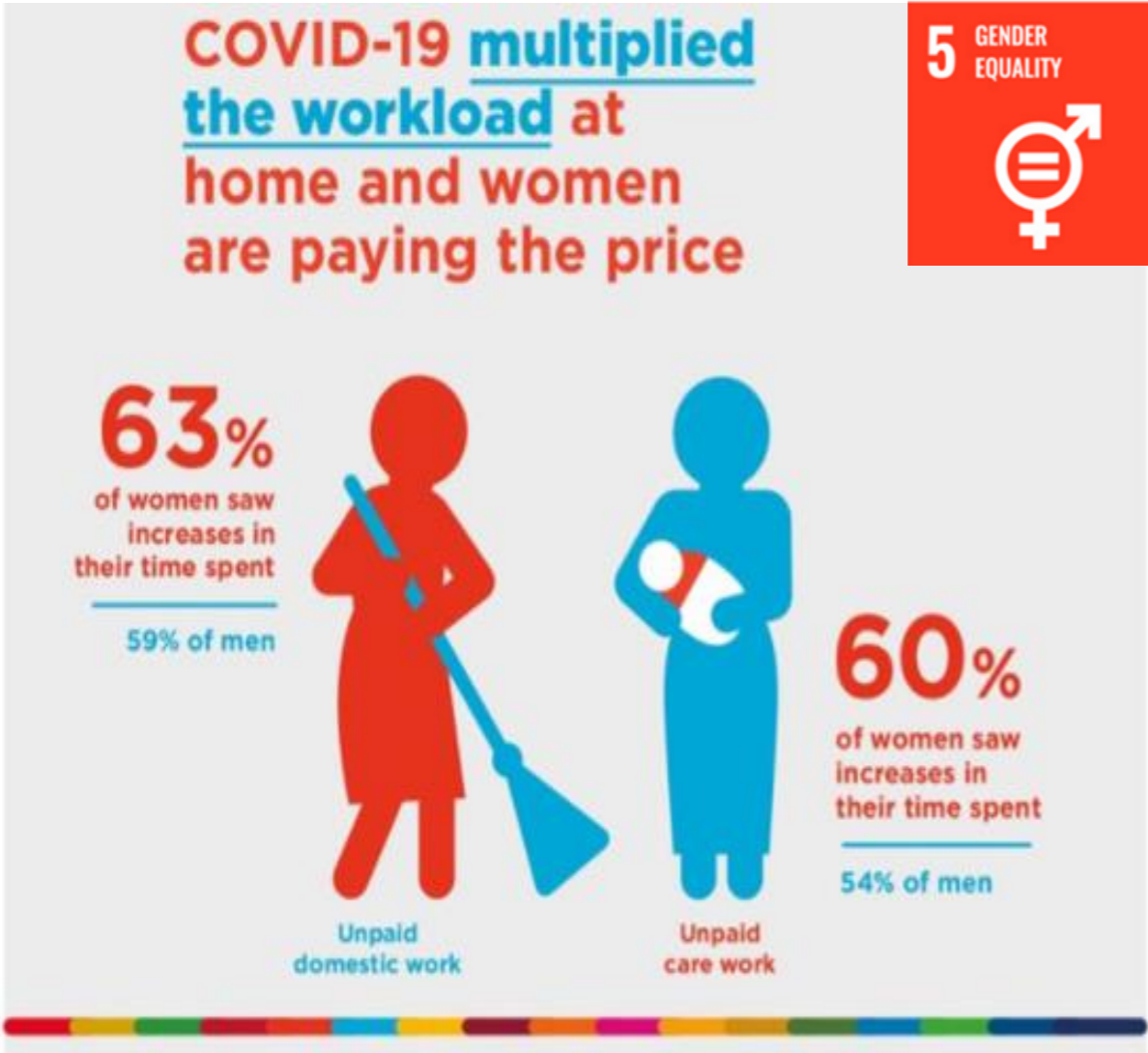
COVID-19 pandemic has interrupted or even reversed the progress of sustainable development

- Prolonged global economic slowdown → adversely impact the implementation of SDGs
- Pandemic affects all SDGs with a **profound** and mostly **negative effect**
- **The most vulnerable**, including **women**, **children**, the **elderly**, and **informal workers** will be hit the hardest

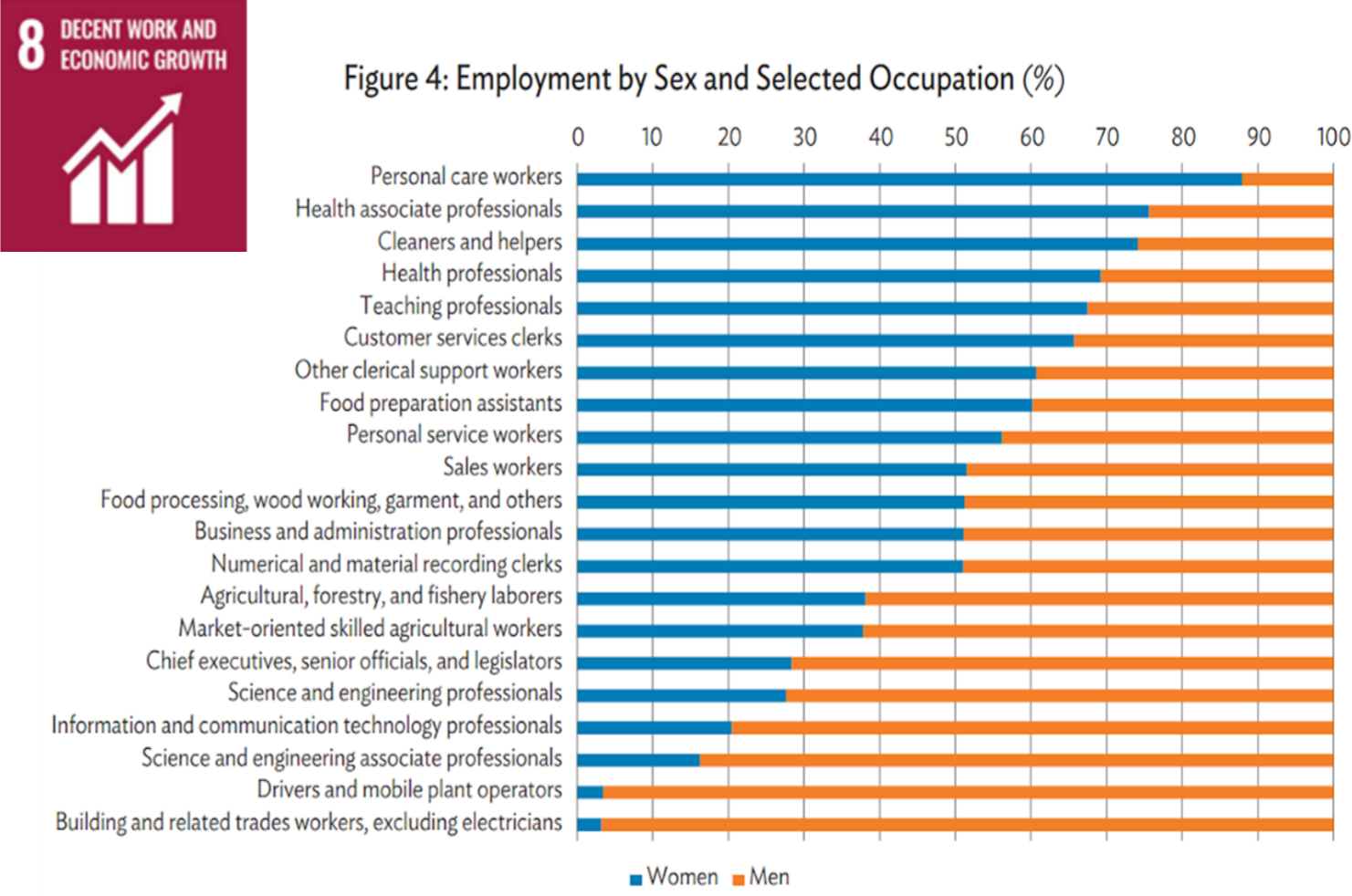
Source: UN (2020)



Gender Gap Exacerbated



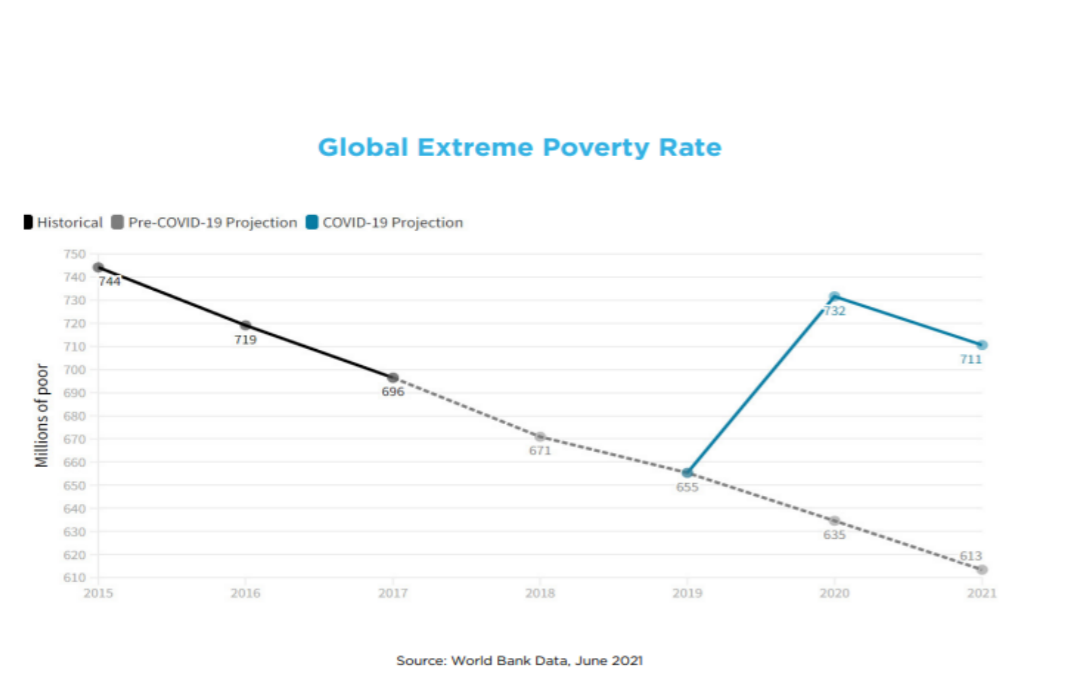
Source: UN Women



Source: International Labour Organization. ILOSTAT. <https://ilostat.ilo.org/these-occupations-are-dominated-by-women/> in <https://www2.deloitte.com/us/en/insights/economy/impact-of-covid-on-women.html>

Extreme Poverty and Health Inequality Exacerbated

Global Extreme Poverty Rate Increased in 2020 for the first time since the 1990s



Health Inequality Increased: Vaccine Access and Vaccine Affordability

High income countries: 1 in 1 people, or

67.92%

have been vaccinated with at least one dose as of Feb 2, 2022.

[WHO](#)

Low income countries: 1 in 9 people, or

11.67%

have been vaccinated with at least one dose as of Feb 2, 2022.

[WHO](#)

Official Development Assistance (ODA) Decreased

ODA 2021

- Mixed: Some countries increased; some decreased
- 2021 ODA's increase also includes the value of donated COVID-19 vaccine doses

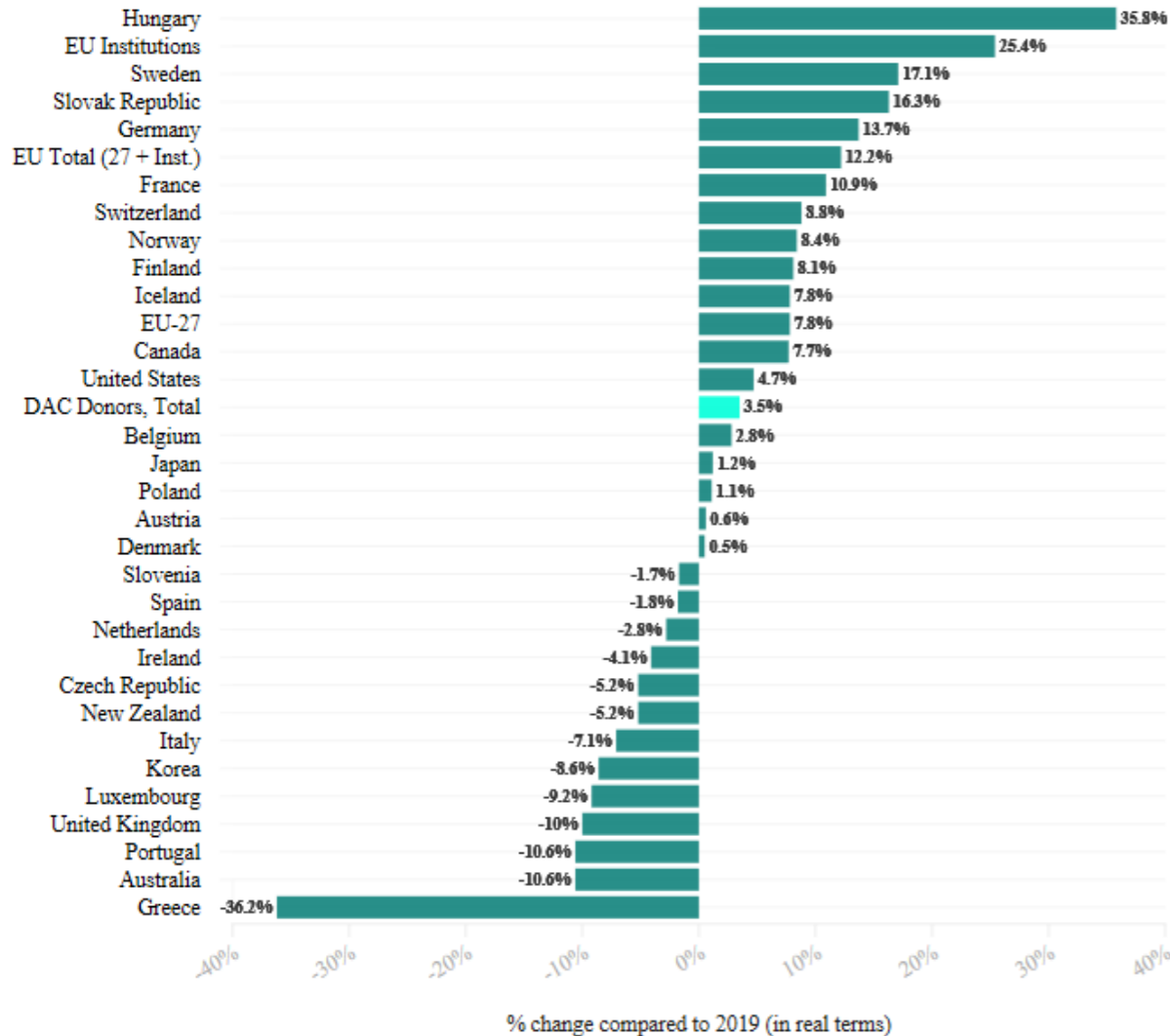
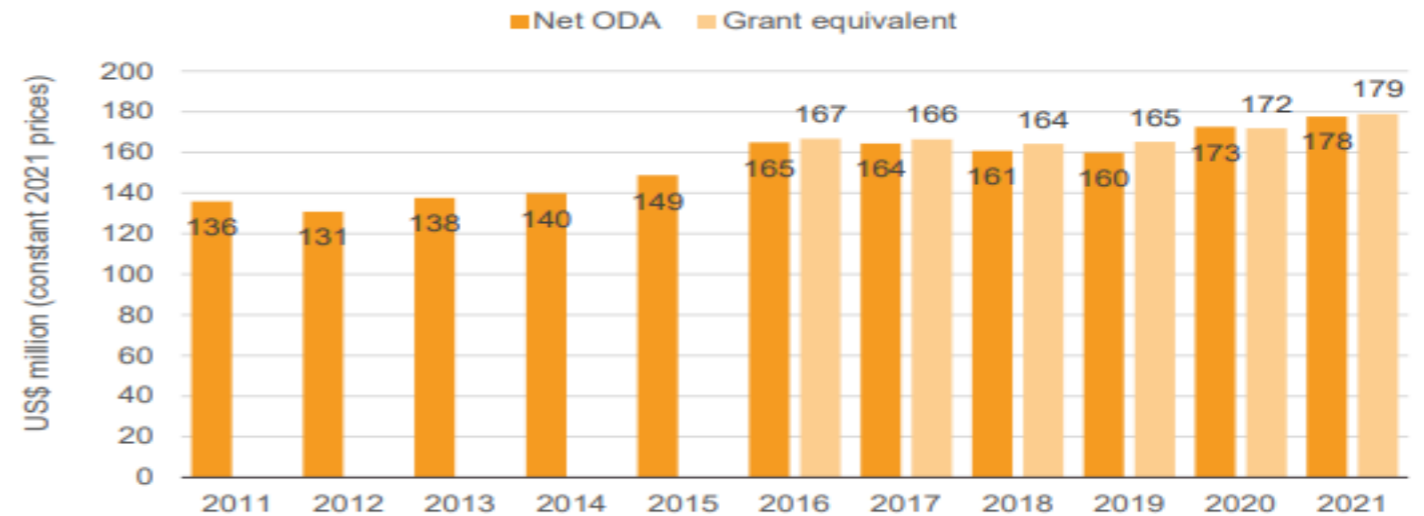


Figure 1: ODA hit a new peak in 2021, mainly driven by the inclusion of donated vaccine doses

Headline ODA for all DAC donors 2011–2021

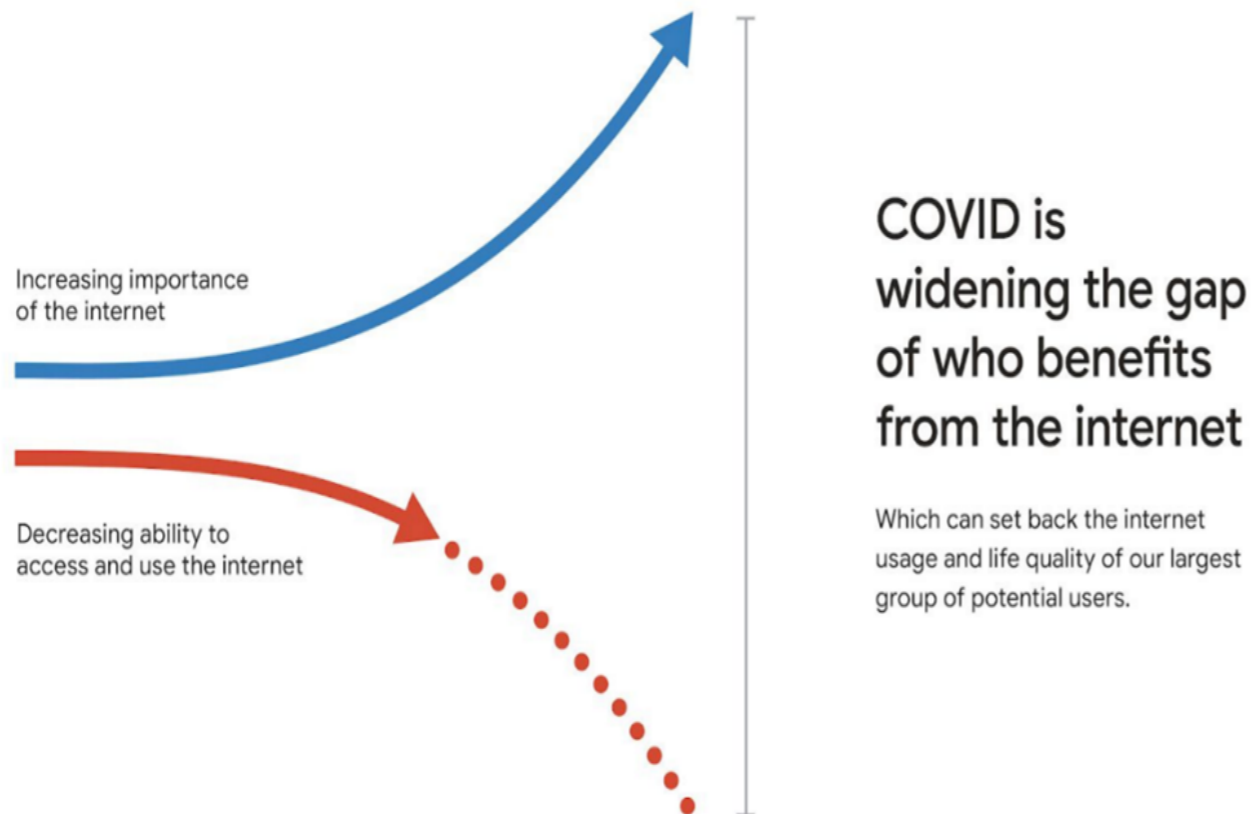


Source: OECD DAC.

Notes: ODA = official development assistance. The chart shows net ODA and grant-equivalent ODA for the years in which they respectively represented headline ODA. The difference between the old (net ODA) and new (grant-equivalent) measure is attributed to the way that ODA loans are accounted for; under the old measure

(2) Fourth Industrial Revolution Deepened

Digital Gap Widened between the Global North and the Global South

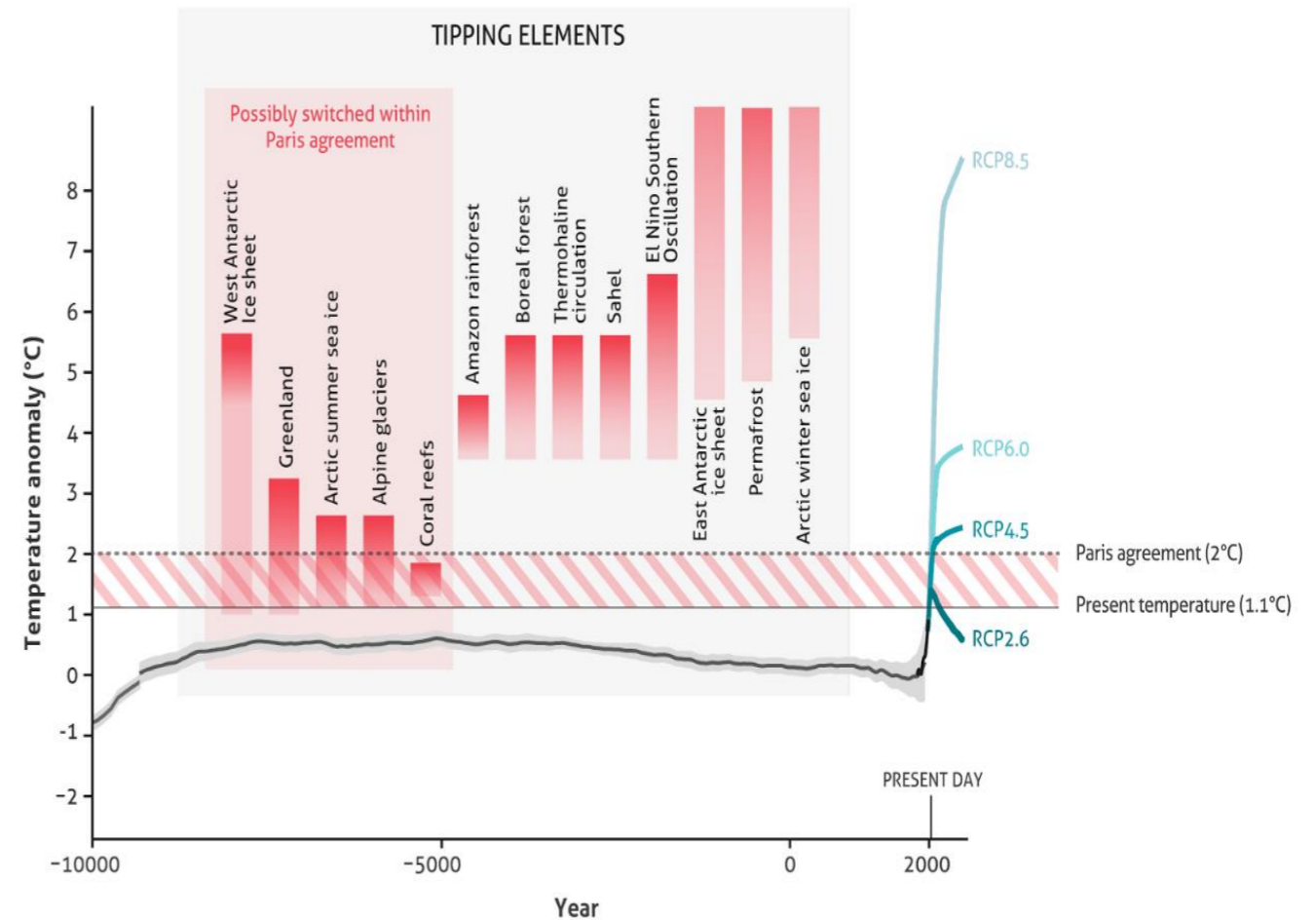


- Customer Interactions that are Digital: 2008 20%, 2019 38%, 2020 58% (McKinsey & Co.)
- **Cost of Internet Use:**
 - Developed Country Consumers: 2% of monthly GNI per capita
 - Developing Country Consumers: 5-6 times more of their income than above. E.g., Zimbabwe: 1 GB 10.06% of GNI per capita
 - Of 46 least developed countries, only 4 have affordable internet (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal)
- **Internet Connectivity:** Became less affordable in 2021 due to decrease in income (Affects developing countries more due to greater economic vulnerability)

Sources: Google Next Billion Users Initiative, Impact of COVID-19 on New Internet Users; McKinsey & Co.; UN Broadband Commission; International Telecommunication Union (ITU); Alliance for Affordable Internet

(3) Climate Change → Climate Crisis

- Global average temperature rose at least 1°C vs. pre-industrial times
- Predicts 3°C increase by 2100
- Increase of natural disasters due to extreme weather
- Growing vulnerability to food and water security
- Climate change is expected to reduce global economic growth by 11-14% by 2050



Sources: UN (2017) “The Climate Crisis – A Race We Can Win” <https://www.un.org/en/un75/climate-crisis-race-we-can-win>
Swiss Re Institute(2021) “The Economics of Climate Change” <https://www.swissre.com/institute/research/topics-and-risk-dialogues/climate-and-natural-catastrophe-risk/expertise-publication-economics-of-climate-change.html>

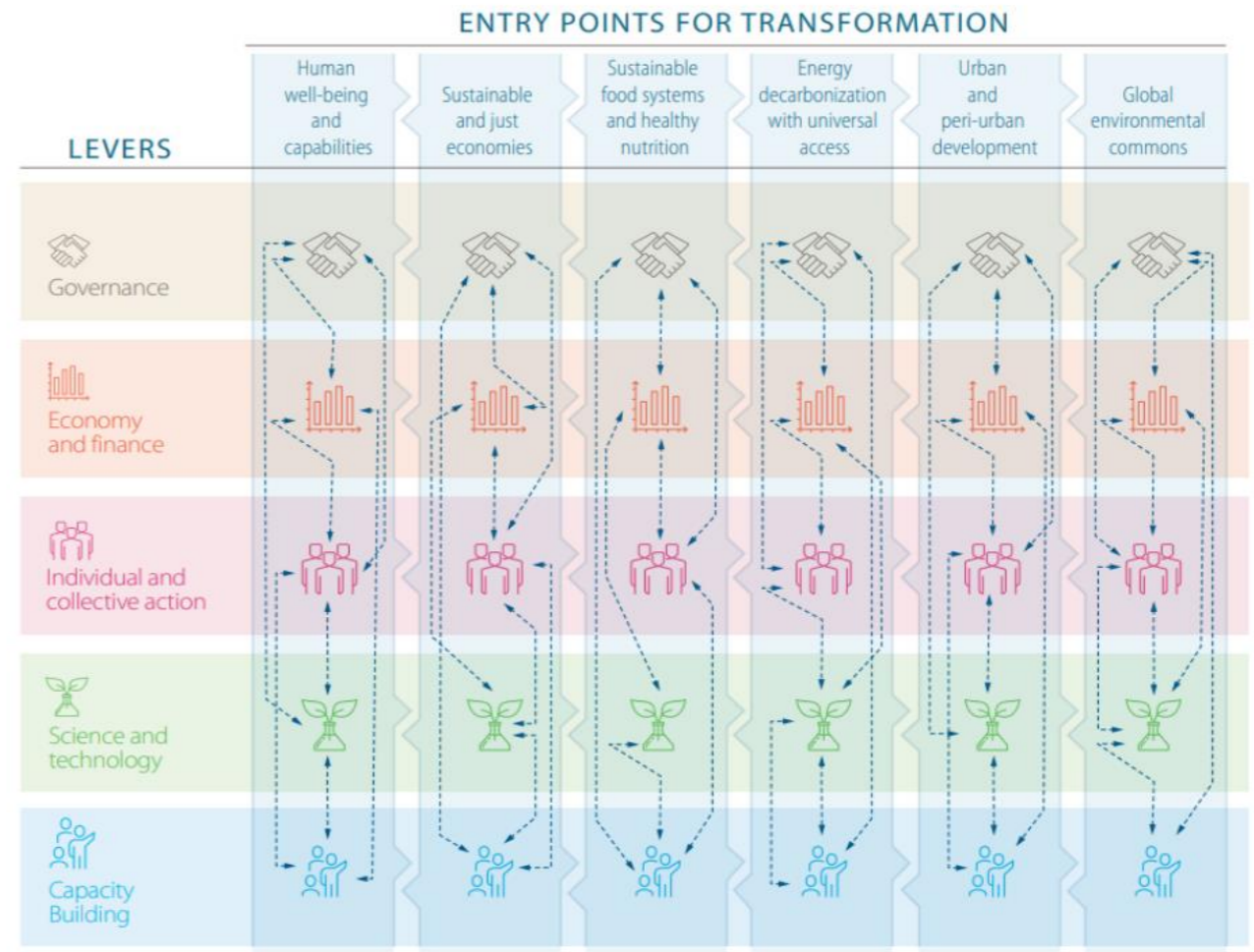
3. Key Findings of 2023 GSDR

(1) From 2019: Integrated and Coherent Approach to Transformation

Entry Points and Levers for Transformation:

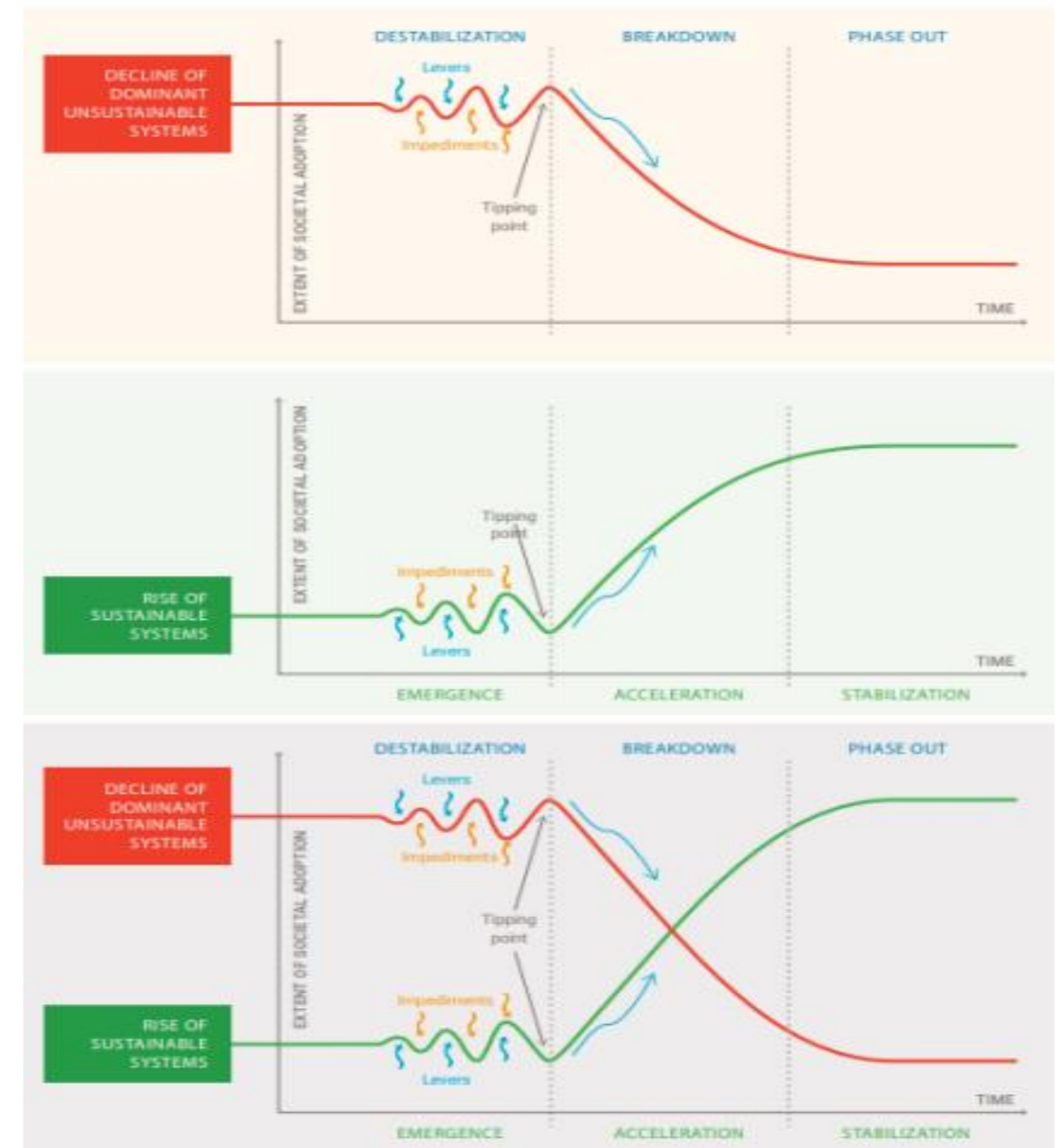
- Take an integrated and coherent approach to implementation to ensure that interventions target priority entry points for systems change
- Trade-offs are managed, and synergies are harnessed
- Entry Points for Transformation: (1) Governance, (2) Economy/Finance, (3) Science and Technology, (4) Individual and Collective Action, **[Newly Added] (5) Capacity Building**

TRANSFORMATIONS TO THE SDGS: ENTRY POINTS AND LEVERS



(2) Process of Change: S-Curve Transformation

1. **Emergence: Innovative ideas** slowly give rise to new technologies and practices
2. **Acceleration:** Innovations gain momentum → reach tipping points beyond which innovation is widely shared and adopted → leading to **rapid, non-linear growth**
3. **Stabilization:** Innovations embedded in daily life become the **New Normal**
 - Working in two directions: The rise in innovative technologies and practices aligned with the SDGs would be mirrored by a decline in unsustainable technologies, institutions and practices (Destabilization → Breakdown → **Phase-Out**)

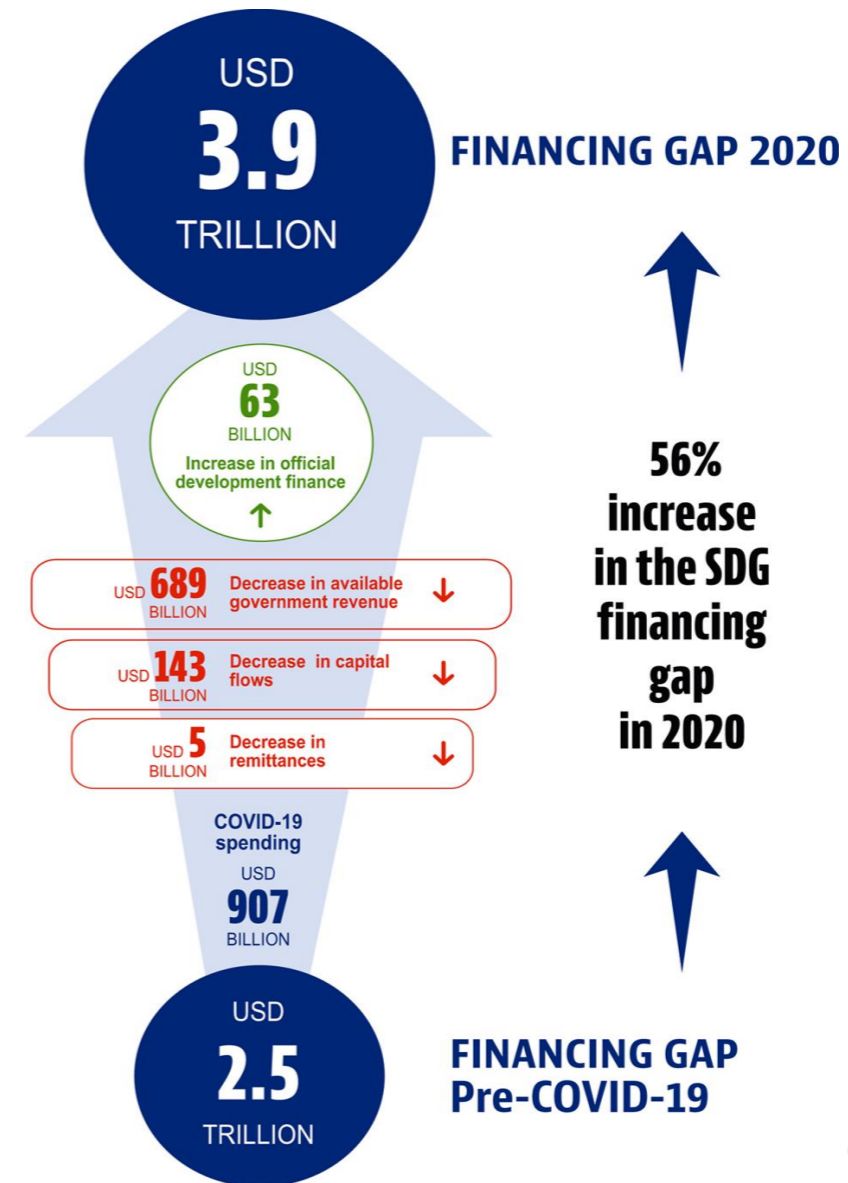


(3) SDGs Financing: Need Innovation, Inclusion, and Partnership

- **SDGs Financing Gap** has increased by 56% due to the pandemic (USD 2.5 trillion) → USD 3.9 trillion (2020)

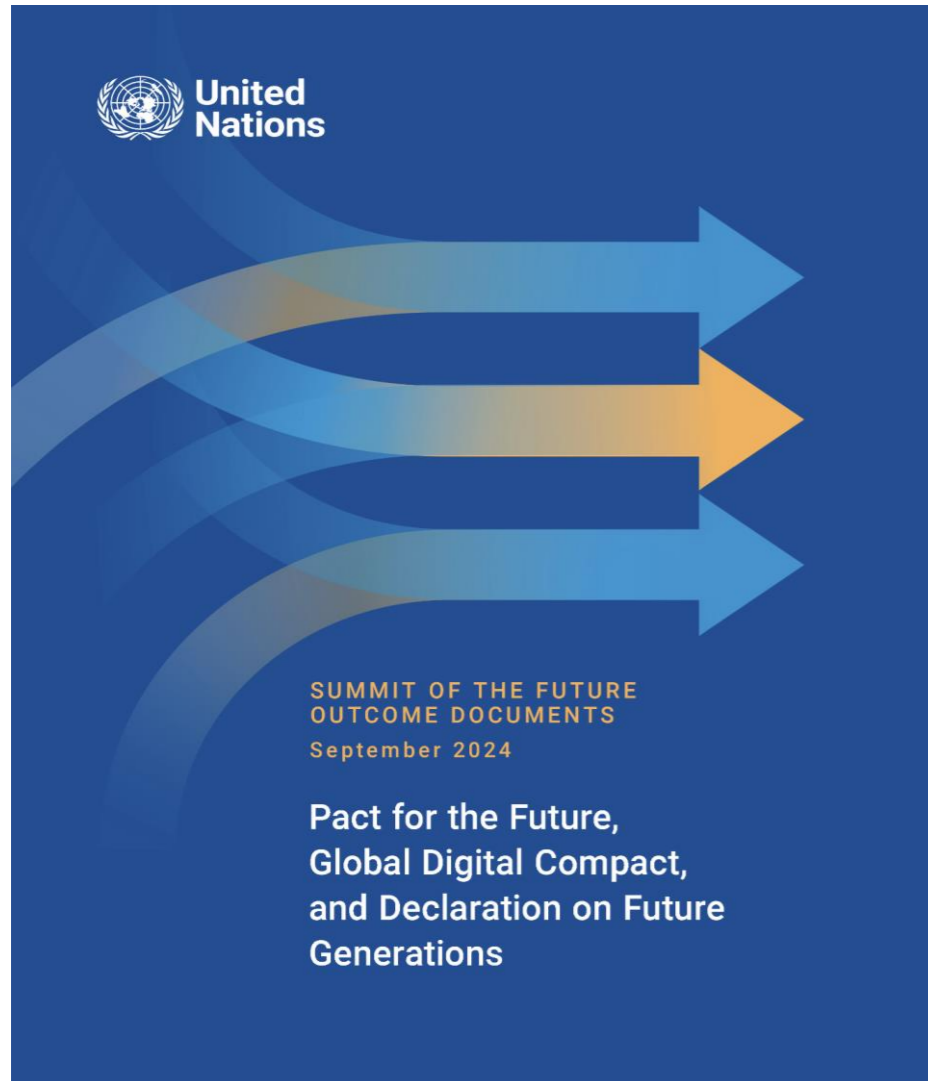
Next Steps for Financing SDGs:

- Governments, multilateral development banks, private finance, philanthropists and others must support the **piloting, prototyping and commercialization of new knowledge**
- Establish strong mechanisms for **knowledge sharing** to address global challenges
- Invest in **empirical research**
- Ensure access to **science-based solutions**
- **SDGs bonds** to **support developing countries**



III. 2024 Summit of the Future & The SDGs Report 2024

1. 2024 Summit of the Future



Pact for the Future, Global Digital Compact, and Declaration on Future Generations

1. Adopted on September 22, 2024
2. **Calls for Multilateralism** that draws on the engagement and expertise of **governments, civil society and other key partners**
3. **The Fourth Industrial Revolution; Digital & Gender Gap; Compounded Gaps between the Global North and the Global South**
4. **Calls to Action: Climate Action; Peace & Human Rights; Reduce Inequality; Bridge the Digital Divide; Ethical Use of Technology; Universal Digital Access**

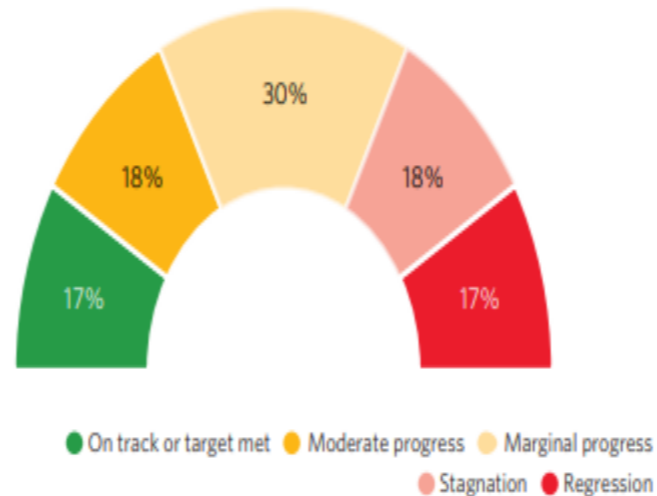
2. The SDGs Report 2024

The Sustainable Development Goals Report
2024

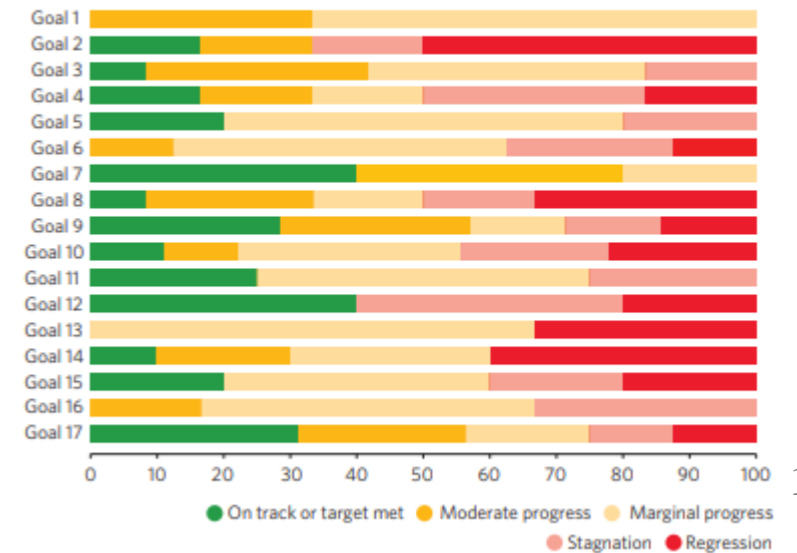


- 1. Current status of the SDGs: Severely off-track
- 2. Only 17% display progress sufficient for achievement by 2030
- 3. 17 % show regression from target: Require immediate action to move back!

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



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



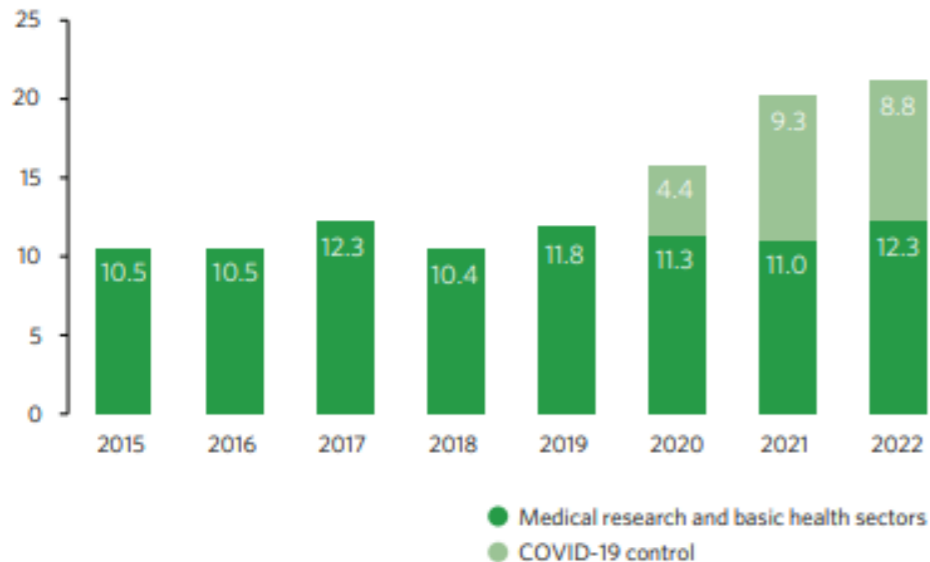
Source: UN (2024) “Sustainable Development Report 2024”

(1) SDG3: Reversal of Progress in Health



Good health
and well-being

Total official development assistance to medical research and basic health sectors, 2015-2022 (billions of constant 2022 US dollars)



1. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected global health, reversing progress in life expectancy over the past two decades with **global life expectancy plummeting to 71.4 years by 2021, back to 2012 level**
2. COVID-19 emerged as a new infectious disease, took a toll on human lives → **share of deaths due to communicable diseases jumped back to the 2005 level (28.1%) in 2021**; share of deaths due to non-communicable diseases decreased to 65.3%
3. Total net official development assistance (**ODA**) for **medical research and basic health sectors has significantly increased** in recent years, **primarily driven by the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.**
4. **Inequalities and emerging threats jeopardize accomplishments,** → need for **sustained efforts and innovative strategies**

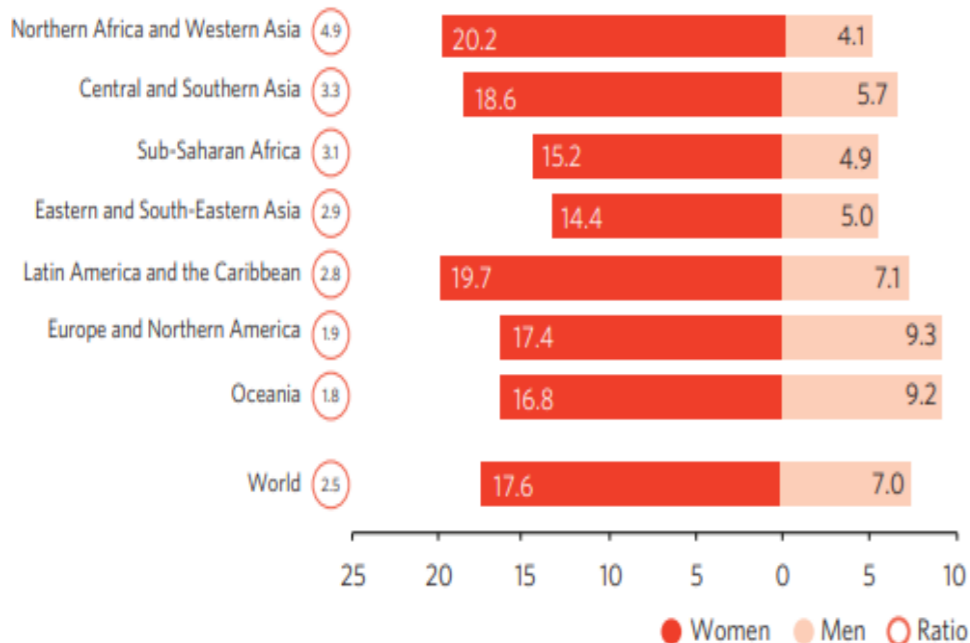
Source: UN (2024) “Sustainable Development Report 2024”

(2) SDG 5: Remaining Challenges for Gender Equality



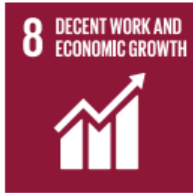
Gender equality

Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work by sex (percentage) and ratio between women and men (bubbles), 2000–2022



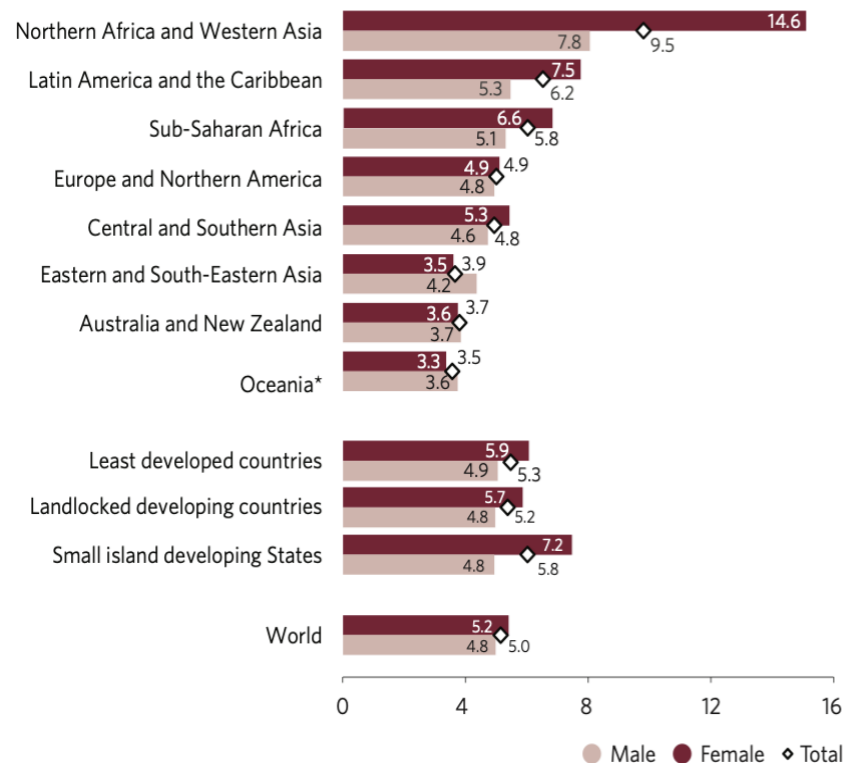
1. Heavy burdens of unpaid domestic and care work trap women in poverty and inequality. On average, each day, **women spend 2.5 times more hours on unpaid domestic and care work than men**
2. Parity in **women's participation in public life remains elusive, and in management positions**, at current rates, **parity will require another 176 years**
3. **Over 230 million girls and women have undergone female genital mutilation**. Some countries have made strides towards ending it, but new estimates show **an increase of 30 million cases compared to eight years ago**

(3) SDG 5: Global Economic Growth Threatened



Decent work and economic growth

Unemployment rate by sex, 2023 (percentage)



* Excluding Australia and New Zealand.

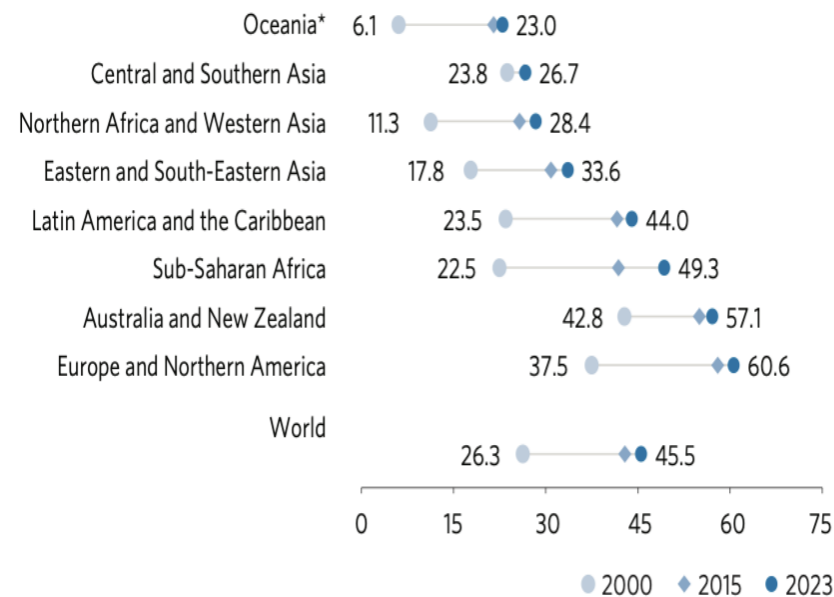
1. Challenges from COVID-19, trade tensions, rising debt in developing countries, conflicts and geopolitical strains → collectively **threaten global economic growth**
2. Global unemployment hit a historic low at 5% in 2023, yet persistent roadblocks remain in achieving **decent work**
3. **Women and youth face higher unemployment rates. Over one in five young people are not in education, employment or training (NEET).**
4. In 2023, **gender unemployment gaps** were similar to those in 2015, with the largest disparities in Northern Africa and Western Asia.

(4) SDG14: Significant Challenges to Oceans



Life below water

Mean proportion of each marine key biodiversity area covered by protected areas, 2000, 2015 and 2023 (percentage)



* Excluding Australia and New Zealand.

Note: The figure for Central and Southern Asia in 2015 was 26.5 per cent.

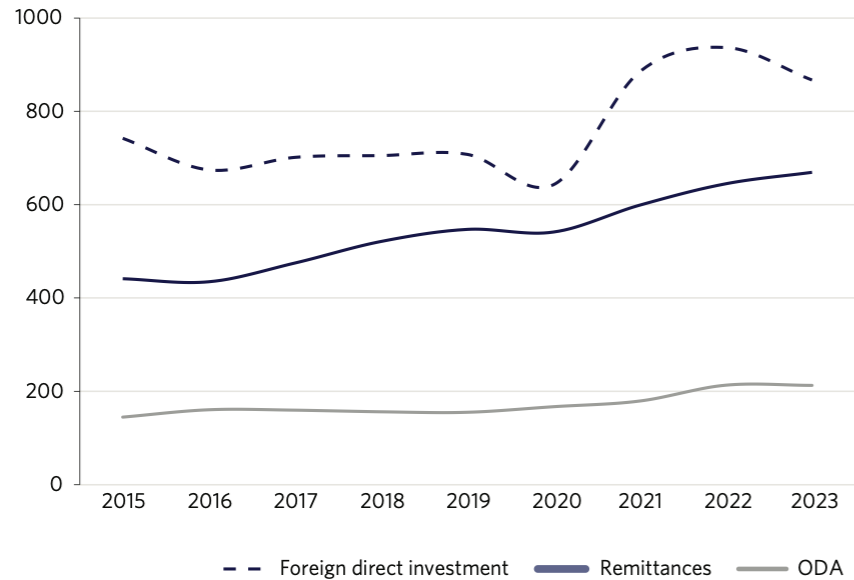
1. **Eutrophication, worsening acidification, declining fish stocks, rising temperatures and widespread pollution** → destroy habitats, diminish biodiversity and threaten coastal communities and the health of marine ecosystems, **vital to over 3 billion people**
2. Since 2000, average protected area coverage of **marine key biodiversity areas has nearly doubled, but growth has stagnated since 2015**
3. According to the World Meteorological Organization, as of April 2024, **sea surface temperatures had reached record highs for 13 consecutive months**. In 2023, ocean heat content soared to its highest level in 65 years; over 90% of the ocean experienced heatwave conditions at some point during the year

(5) SDG 17: Scaling-up of Investments Needed



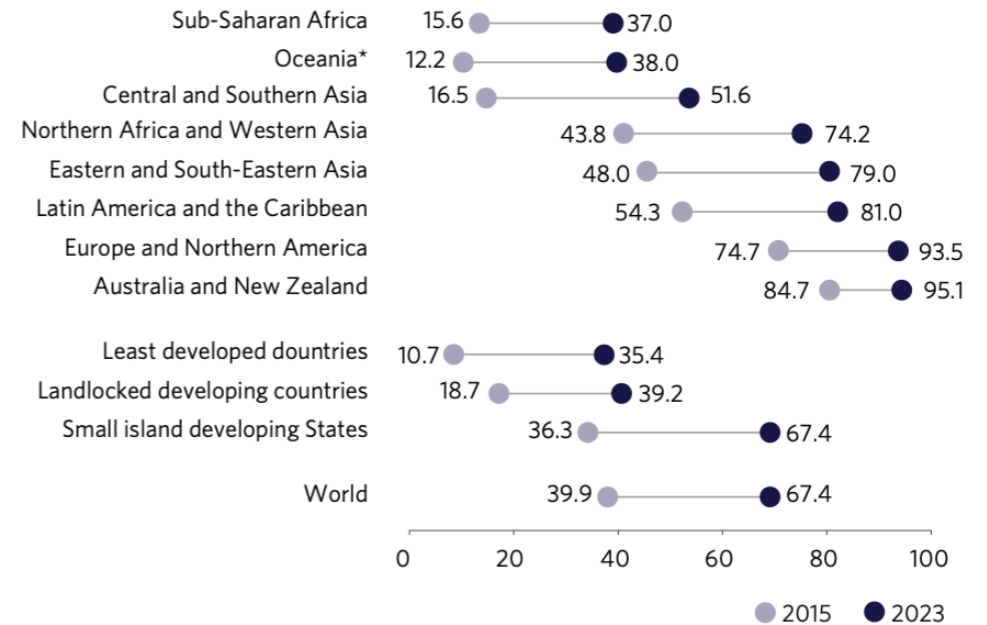
Partnerships for the Goals

Remittances, foreign direct investment and ODA flows to developing countries, 2015-2023 (billions of dollars)



Developing countries face a \$4 trillion annual investment gap to achieve the SDGs. Foreign direct investment flows to developing countries have decreased; gains in remittances and ODA have been modest

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



* Excluding Australia and New Zealand.

Approximately 67% of the world’s population was online in 2023, up 69% from 2015. Investment in infrastructure and affordable Internet access for the **remaining 2.6 billion people is crucial for inclusive development**



IV. Concluding Remarks

1. **GSDR 2019 → GSDR 2023: Pandemic; Climate Change; War; Global Inequality on the Rise**
2. **Broader Multilateral Cooperation and Actions at All Levels are Needed**
3. **Science and Technology for SDGs**
4. **Economic Assistance and Capacity Building for the Global South to achieve the SDGs, to mitigate the effects of Climate Change, and to be better prepared for the next Pandemic → ODA, Human Capacity Building (Higher Education), Public Health for the Global South**
5. **SDGs are still relevant! BUT, we do not have much time left until 2030! We must work together, now, and here!**

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Thank you very much!

