

PRESS RELEASE

Progress on the Philippine Sustainable Development Goals based on the SDG Watch posted on 27 January 2023 ^{1 2}

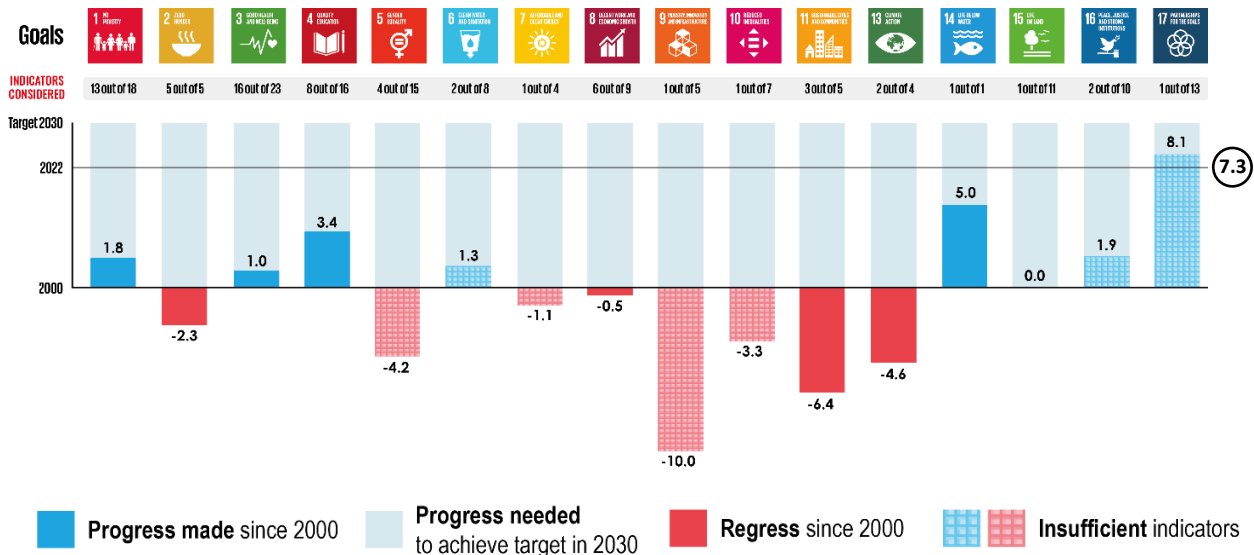
Date of release: 14 June 2023
Reference No. 2023 – 191

Progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) remains as big challenge in the Philippines as most of the country’s gains in the past have been reversed by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

A. How much progress has been made since 2000³?

Based on the Current Status Index⁴ (CSI), progress was observed in Goals 1, 3, 4 and 14 since 2000, although still short compared to the expected progress for 2022. Meanwhile, Goals 2, 8, 11 and 13 regressed since 2000. It may be noted that among the goals, only Goal 17 surpassed the 2022 line. This pace of progress, however, was only based on one out of the 13 indicators under this goal, which may not be sufficient to conclude for the pace of progress for Goal 17. (Figure 1)

Figure 1. Snapshot of the Pace of Progress at the Goal Level Based on the Current Status Index



¹ Full details of the results of SDG pace of progress can be found in the infographics.

² Please note that one must be cautious when comparing pace of progress from the previous round or previous year as the pace of progress is affected by the number of indicators with updates and available disaggregation. This is in line with the mantra of SDGs to leave no one behind.

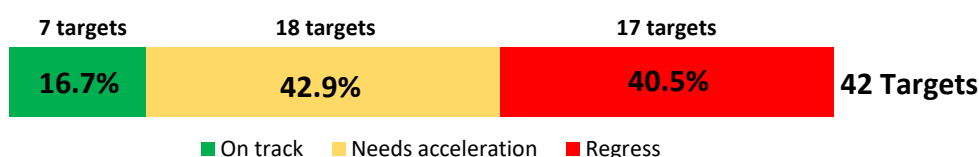
³ The length of each bar shows how much the country has progressed since 2000. If the bar reaches or crosses the 2022 line, the country has made the expected progress for year 2022. However, whether a Goal can be achieved by 2030 depends not only on the distance traveled so far, but also on the pace of progress going forward.

⁴ The Current Status Index is a measure developed by UNESCAP that assesses the current stage of progress by creating a linkage between the progress made since the baseline in relation to the progress needed by 2030. It requires at least two data points since 2000 and the 2030 numerical target. It provides the progress at the goal level.

B. How likely will the 2030 nationally-determined numerical targets⁵ be achieved by 2030?

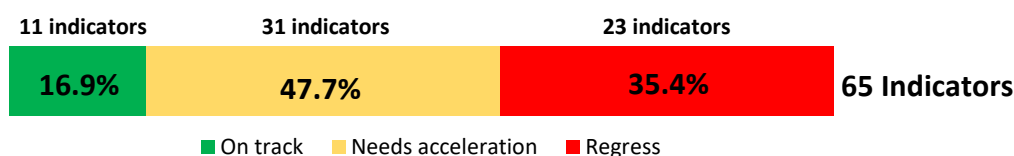
Based on the results of the Anticipated Progress Index⁶, 16.7 percent of the targets with measurable progress are on track, 42.9 percent requires accelerated efforts to achieve them, while the remaining 40.5 percent of the SDG targets require exponential acceleration of its pace in order to reverse the downtrend so as to achieve the goal in 2030. (Figure 2)

Figure 2. Frequency and Percentage of Targets with Pace of Progress based on the Anticipated Progress Index



In like manner as in the SDG target level, 16.9 percent of the indicators that met the data requirements are on track while almost half or 47.7 percent of the indicators with measurable progress need acceleration. On the other hand, 35.4 percent needs reversal of the trend. (Figure 3)

Figure 3. Frequency and Percentage of Indicators with Pace of Progress based on the Anticipated Progress Index



C. Assessment of Data Availability

For this year, there was an increase in the number of indicators that satisfied the data requirements for the computation of the pace of progress for Goal 15: Life on Land and four other estimates at the target and indicator level namely the following:

Targets	Indicators
1.2: By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age
3.a: Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate.	3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older

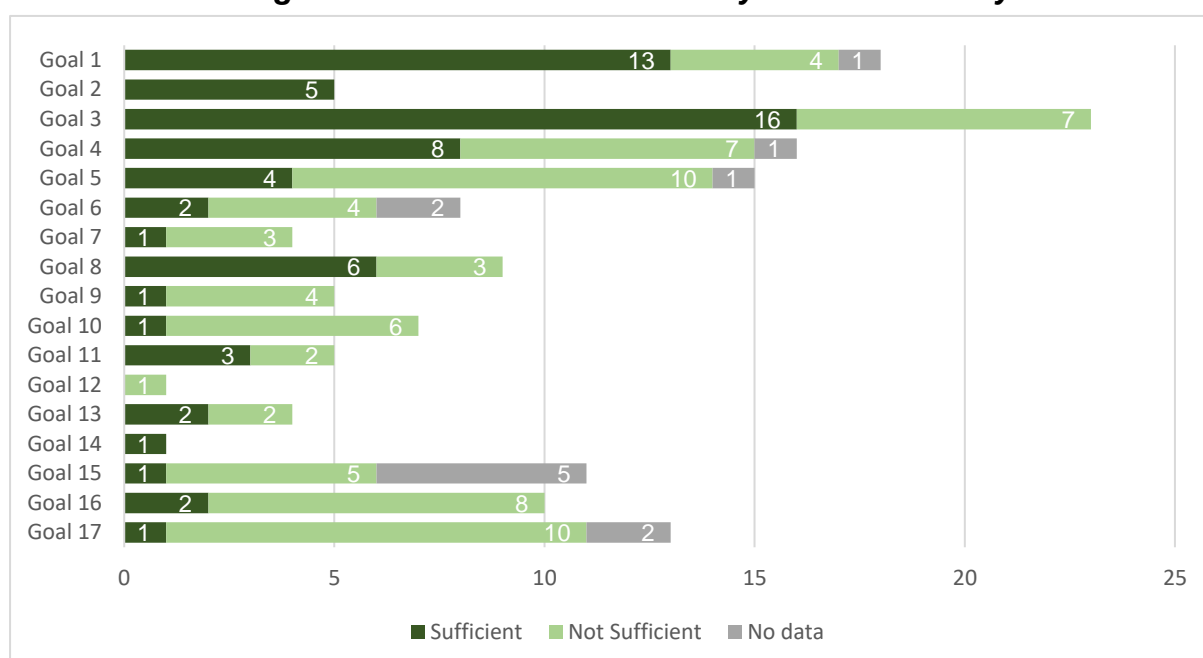
⁵ Numerical targets were determined through the SDG Target Setting Workshops organized by the National Economic and Development Authority, in collaboration with the Philippine Institute for Development Studies, and in consultation with the various government agencies and stakeholders. These targets were determined in 2019.

⁶ The Anticipated Progress Index is a measure that provides how much extra effort is needed to meet the target by 2030, assuming the pace of progress is sustained. It requires at least three data points since 2000 and the 2030 numerical target. It provides progress at target and indicator level.

8.6: By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education, or training	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment, or training
10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status	10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 percent of median income, by age
15.1: By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area

However, there are still more than half or 56.8 percent of the indicators for which estimates for the pace of progress cannot be generated. We hope to have data availability on these in the next report in the future. (Figure 4)

Figure 4. Number of Indicators by Data Availability⁷



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⁷ Sufficient indicator means that the indicator satisfied the data requirement to be able to generate the pace of progress; Not sufficient indicator indicates that it lacks the required data points and/or 2030 numerical target; and No data indicator entails that the indicator does not have data since the beginning of the data collection or cannot be generated as it is not applicable in the country set-up.