2024
Africa Sustainable Development Report

Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions

African Union

ECA

UNDP

2024

Africa Sustainable Development Report

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Jointly produced by

The African Union, African Development Bank, United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

FOREWORD

From unprecedented levels of global conflict in almost 80 years to an urgently worsening climate, from the challenges posed by the post-COVID-19 pandemic recovery to a dire cost-of-living crisis plunging millions into poverty and hunger, the global community seems to be ensnared in a 'crisis loop'.

While numerous advanced economies are bracing for a 'soft landing' in 2024, many developing economies across the globe and especially in Africa are grappling with the burden of servicing high levels of debt, double-digit inflation rates, and a severe lack of access to crucial development and climate financing. Despite two decades of advancement, disparities in the Human Development Index, which gauges a nation's health, education and standard of living, are widening between nations at the pinnacle of the index and those at the bottom, with many of the latter located in Africa.

Against this backdrop, the 2024 Africa Sustainable Development Report (ASDR) utilizes unique country perspectives and evaluates the advancements made by African countries in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063. The report reflects the commitment of the United Nations system, the African Union, and the African Development Bank to support the implementation of the two Agendas in Africa, by taking stock of progress and actionable solutions by member states. Together, these agendas present a cohesive vision and platform for a unified multilateral and regional response to the ongoing global crises that have disproportionately affected African economies. Of the 51 targets of the Sustainable Development Goals scrutinized in the report, Africa is progressing positively in 3 and is regressing in 8 while stagnating on the rest.

The year 2024 is particularly significant for the two Agendas as the 2030 Agenda has crossed the midpoint of its implementation while Agenda 2063 has entered the first year of the Second Ten Year Implementation Plan. In this plan (2024–2033), a deliberate choice has been made to focus efforts on ensuring that every African Union member state attains at least middle-income status (Moonshot 1); Africa is more integrated and connected (Moonshot 2); public institutions are more responsive (Moonshot 3); Africa resolves conflicts peacefully (Moonshot 4); African cultural values are explicit and promoted (Moonshot 5); African citizens are more empowered and more productive (Moonshot 6); and Africa is a strong and influential global player (Moonshot 7).

The report calls for renewed commitment and advocacy by development partners to implement the African Union–United Nations Development Framework for implementing the Agenda 2063 and 2030 Agenda, as well as for closer integration and domestication of the Second Ten Year Implementation Plan of the Agenda 2063 and 2030 Agenda in national development plans. It underlines the pressing need for the reform of the global financial architecture – including increased access to finance and debt relief measures – to ensure that all countries can invest in key areas like the just energy transition. The report notes that global reforms must encompass amplification of the African continent's voice and representation in global financial institutions and decision-making forums. Domestically, expanding the tax base, addressing debt vulnerabilities, deepening capital markets and curbing illicit financial flows will be vital to attract new investments. It also underlines the importance of prioritizing 'catalytic investments' – including food systems, education, social protection and the restoration of our natural environment – to accelerate progress on both agendas.

The Summit of the Future in 2024 and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in 2025 are among the platforms that can enhance multilateral cooperation and reshape global financing and investment frameworks. In doing so, they can empower countries across Africa to proactively play their part in addressing global challenges like climate change, which demand bold solutions that bridge international divides.

The United Nations system, the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank remain steadfast in our commitment to supporting countries and communities in advancing the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

By catalysing actions that are changing the daily lives of people across the continent, both Agendas are a driving force behind a greener, more sustainable and more inclusive Africa that is now manifesting before our eyes.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACS	African Centre for Statistics
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
AfDB	African Development Bank
AI	Artificial intelligence
ASDR	Africa Sustainable Development Report
AUC	African Union Commission
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
DRR	Disaster risk reduction
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
EGM	Expert Group Meeting
GDP	Gross domestic product
ML	Machine learning
NEPAD	New Partnership For Africa's Development
ODA	Overseas development assistance
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

Guide for readers

What is this report?

The Africa Sustainable Development Report (ASDR) is an annual publication that tracks the implementation status of the two complementary global and regional long-term development frameworks: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Agenda 2063.

Who prepared this report?

Since 2017, the ASDR has been produced by the African Development Bank, the African Union, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The 2024 ASDR is the seventh in the report's series.

The report benefited from consultations conducted during an expert group meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 19 to 20 April 2024. The purpose of the meeting was to review, provide feedback, and officially approve the draft report. The expert group comprised focal points for the 2030 Agenda / Agenda 2063 from African countries, as well as officials from United Nations organizations.

How is the focus of the report determined?

The report aligns with the theme and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are centred by the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) every year. In line with the 2024 session of the HLPF, this current report focuses on Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere; Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels; and Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

This report also monitors the progress of Agenda 2063 goals. To this end, the goals of Agenda 2063 related to the five mentioned SDGs are also monitored (see table 1). The report provides analysis for each of the five SDGs, targets and indicators, and related Agenda 2063 goals, targets and indicators.[1] Data limitations however prevent the analysis of all targets and indicators of the two Agendas.

This year, the report also notes how the "High 5s" of the African Development Bank complements the two Agendas in transforming and achieving development in Africa. Progress in related High 5s – Feed Africa complementary to SDG 2 on Zero Hunger and Integrate Africa complementary to SDG 17 on strengthening partnerships – is highlighted.

1 Tables in this report highlight SDG targets and indicators and associated Agenda 2063 targets and indicators. The mapping of the two Agendas draws on analysis carried out under the ECA's Integrated Planning and Reporting Toolkit software, which has the SDGs and Agenda 2063 goals, targets and indicators built in. See iprt.uneca.org for more information.

Table 1
ASDR 2024 focus SDGs and related goals of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Goal 1: A high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens Goal 2: Environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities
SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	Goal 3: Healthy and well-nourished citizens Goal 5: Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production
SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	Goal 7: Environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities
SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	Goal 11: Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law entrenched Goal 12: Capable institutions and transformed leadership in place Goal 13: Peace, security and stability is preserved Goal 14: A stable and peaceful Africa Goal 17: Full gender equality in all spheres of life Goal 18: Engaged and empowered youth and children
SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	Goal 19: Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful coexistence Goal 20: Africa takes full responsibility for financing her development

Who should read this report?

1. Stakeholders engaged in policy discussions about the execution of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. They encompass government officials, intergovernmental group representatives, civil society members, NGO representatives, media professionals, academics and business representatives.
2. Regional analysts and national specialists seeking to uncover key concerns that necessitate additional investigation and devise methodologies to assess a country's progress in attaining the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

Where do the data come from?

The report draws on data from a number of sources, including data made available in the Global SDG Indicators Database of the United Nations.

For SDG progress assessment, indicators are selected based on the availability of two or more data points for more than 40 percent of the countries in the respective country groupings. Data for countries in the African region were drawn from the Global SDG Indicators Database maintained by the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), available at https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/.

Lessons based on country experiences are also provided throughout the report to provide insights into how countries are working towards achieving the two Agendas. These experiences were provided by country experts.

How to interpret the results?

Readers are advised to consider the following while reviewing the findings of this report:

- The results in this report cannot be compared with previous reports due to the use of a separate set of SDG indicators[2] and updated historical data. Changes are also made annually to incorporate new data as they become available.
- Each country is given equal weight in the analysis. The progress of the region, as well as its subregions, is shown without considering the population size, economy or land area of the component countries. The assessment of progress towards targets is based on regional and subregional averages, where each country is given equal weight.
- Two different measures are used in the analysis:[3]

1. The Current Status Index provides a goal-level snapshot of progress and an analysis of where the African region stands on each goal. It was based on the progress made since 2015 in relation to the progress needed during 2015 to 2030. In other words, how much progress has been made since 2015?
2. The Anticipated Progress Index provides a dashboard of expected progress by 2030 at the level of SDG targets and indicators and an assessment of how likely the region is to achieve individual SDG targets given the pace of progress. It measures the gap between the projected and targeted progress by 2030. That is to say, how likely will the target be achieved by 2030?

How is the report organized?

The report is organized into seven main chapters. In addition to this reader's guide, it has an executive summary which provides key messages and policy recommendations from the report. It also has an introductory chapter which provides a high-level summary of the goal-level achievement of the five SDGs under consideration at the continent and regional levels since 2015. The next five chapters drill down and look at the prospects and progress of each of the five SDGs and related Agenda 2063 goals. The final chapter distils conclusions and policy recommendations based on the analysis.

2 Each year, the ASDR focuses on five SDGs. Except for SDG 17, which is measured every year, the remaining four change annually in line with the SDGs under review under the HLPF.

3 Detailed explanations on the methodology are included in the annex.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 Africa Sustainable Development Report (ASDR) reviews the status of the implementation of the two Agendas in Africa and offers policy recommendations to facilitate their attainment. As in previous years, the 2024 report aligns with the theme and corresponding Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) selected for any particular year. In this context, the SDGs under review by the 2024 HLPF focus on ending poverty (Goal 1); eliminating hunger (Goal 2); combating climate change (Goal 13); promoting peaceful societies (Goal 16) and strengthening global partnerships (Goal 17). Each SDG is analysed in relation to the corresponding goal of the African Union Agenda 2063.

The findings of the report highlight the need for Africa to accelerate progress on SDGs 1, 2 and 17, reverse the negative trend on climate action (Goal 13) and strengthen statistical systems to track performance particularly on good governance (SDG 16), where data limitations abound and inhibit performance tracking. For Africa, less than 6 percent of the 32 measurable SDG targets are on track to be achieved by 2030. Of the remaining measurable targets, 21 need achieving in the region and the negative trends for 8 need to be reversed. Overall, data gaps prevent a full picture of the continent's performance.

KEY FINDINGS

1. Ending poverty in all its forms everywhere

Modest progress in poverty reduction offset by multiple crises in recent years

Since 2000, Africa has made steady and significant progress in reducing the proportion of the population living below the poverty line. However, multiple crises, including COVID-19, have offset these gains, causing economic contraction and increased poverty. In 2020, an estimated 55 million Africans were pushed into poverty, and as at 2022, Africa accounted for more than half (54.8 percent) of people living in poverty worldwide. The share of the population living below the national poverty line increased from 33.3 percent in 2013 to 38 percent in 2023, well short of the 23 percent target value for 2023 set by the Agenda 2063. Africa's unemployed poor population (31.09 percent) is also higher than the world average (6.38 percent).

Social protection in Africa is inadequate in coverage, fragmented and largely informal

Social protection systems in Africa are fragmented and inadequate in coverage, with only a 17.4 percent of the population covered by formal social protection systems compared with the global average of 46.9 percent. However, with ramped up efforts, countries like Botswana exceed the global average with national and rural social protection coverage rates of 57.7 percent and 68.3 percent, respectively.

Modest increase in access to drinking water services and basic sanitation services

Access to drinking water in Africa increased, on average, from 68.7 percent in 2015 to 72.9 percent in 2022. Access in Southern (90.2 percent) and North Africa (93 percent) are however comparable to the world average of 91.2 percent based on 2022 figures. With respect to basic sanitation services, access in Africa increased less than 1 percentage point annually over the 2015–2022 period, rising from 46.9 percent in 2015 to 52 percent in 2022. Except for North Africa (93 percent), access to basic sanitation services in Africa was lower than the world average (81 percent) in 2022.

2. The state of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition

Alarming increase in the number of people facing hunger, undernourishment and stunting

The number of people experiencing hunger in Africa increased by 11 million: rising from 270.6 million in 2021 to 281.6 million in 2022; and by a staggering 61 million since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The adverse trend in hunger has been associated with drought and conflict resulting in increased food insecurity, undernourishment and stunting. The prevalence of undernourishment increased from 19.4 percent in 2021 to 19.7 percent in 2022, while 1 out of every 3 children (under five years of age) is stunted as of 2022. Sixty percent of Africa's population experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in 2022, up from 45.5 percent in 2015. Similarly, in 2022, 80 percent of Africa's population was unable to afford healthy food while an estimated 145 million children, under 5 years, experienced food poverty.

Investments and official development assistance (ODA) to the agricultural sector have experienced a downturn in most subregions

Globally, the agricultural share of government expenditure decreased by approximately 2.13 percentage points between 2015 and 2021. In Africa, this reduction was even more pronounced at about 2.69 percentage points during the same period. East Africa exhibited a significant reduction of 3.58 percentage points. Recent declines in ODA flows to the agriculture sector may explain this trend. ODA to agriculture in Africa increased over the 2015–2020 period but declined in 2021 from US$5.98 billion to US$4.673 billion in constant prices.

3. Combating climate change and its impacts

Africa remains the lowest per capita contributor of global carbon emissions, but is highly vulnerable to its impacts

Africa accounts for less than 4 percent of global carbon emissions, but it highly exposed to its impacts. Approximately 52 percent of African countries have been impacted by climate change. More than 110 million were directly affected by climate, weather, and water-related hazards resulting in an estimated $8.5 billion in economic damages in 2022.

Notable strides taken in combating climate change at the strategic policy level but integrating strategies into plans remain limited

All but two countries have ratified the Paris Agreement with ambitious nationally determined contributions to climate action (NDCs). Twenty-one African countries have developed and submitted national adaptation plans out of a total of 53 submissions by developing countries globally. A further eight countries have submitted long-term low emissions development strategies out of a total of 68 global submissions. However, little progress has been made from 2015 to 2022 in adopting and implementing policies to reduce disaster risks, including the updating and domestication of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction into the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction. Only 29 of 54 African countries have established national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, reflecting little progress in policy adoption since 2015.

Climate finance mobilized on the continent is far below the target of $100 billion per year

About $2.8 trillion ($277 billion annually) is needed between 2020 and 2030 to implement Africa's NDCs. By 2020, total annual climate finance flows to Africa from domestic and foreign sources accounted for only $29.5 billion or 11 percent of the total need. Climate finance to Africa is highly concentrated in 10 countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, Mozambique, South Africa and Tunisia) accounting for 60 percent of climate finance flows.

4. Promoting good governance

Corruption remains a significant challenge across many African countries

According to the 2023 Corruption Perceptions Index, most African nations are either stagnant or failing to make progress in the fight against corruption. For instance, the proportion of persons who reported to have paid a bribe to a public official at least once or were asked for a bribe in the preceding 12 months increased from 9.5 percent in 2013 to 31.4 percent in 2021. Nevertheless, some African countries have instituted legislative and regulatory measures to address the challenge. Malawi, for instance, established the integrity committee for every public institution, coordinated by the anti-corruption bureau, and commits at least 1 percent of budget from each institution to the integrity committee.

Conflict related deaths have halved in the past decade, yet pockets of disputes and wars persist
The number of armed conflicts in Africa increased 37 percent, (from 75 to 98) during the 2015–2022 period, representing about 53.8 percent of global conflicts (182). Despite the high and rising number of conflicts, conflict-related deaths per 100,000, dropped 86 percent from 202 in 2013 to 28 in 2023, which is well ahead of the Agenda 2063 target of 101 by 2030.

High illicit financial flows obstruct financing of the two Agendas
The total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows remains substantial and continues to undermine efforts to achieve the two Agendas. Illicit outflows from developing countries reached approximately $1.3 trillion in 2020, while illicit inflows amounted to around $1.1 trillion during the same period. As at 2019, Africa was losing about $88.6 billion, representing 3.7 percent of its GDP annually in illicit financial flows.

5. Strengthening partnerships for sustainable development

Domestic resource mobilization in Africa remains below global averages
Average tax revenue as a percentage of GDP in African countries stands at 16 percent, compared with 34 percent in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries. However, government revenue as a percentage of GDP has increased from 2018. Several countries are introducing tax administration and policy reforms to improve revenue generation. For example, Rwanda increased its tax-to-GDP ratio from 12.3 percent in 2010 to 16.7 percent in 2021 through the digitization of tax services.

ODA to Africa falls short of 0.7 ODA to GNI target
ODA to Africa in 2023 increased by 2 percent in real terms compared with 2022. However, the ODA total represents 0.37 percent of DAC donors' combined GNI for the second consecutive year, which is below the longstanding United Nations target of 0.7 ODA to GNI. Only five DAC members met or exceeded this target in 2021. Additional ODA is needed to meet the growing financing gap for the SDGs in Africa, estimated at $1.3 trillion per year.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows to Africa have stagnated in recent years
FDI inflows to Africa have stagnated in recent years, reaching $83 billion in 2021, the same level as 2020 but below the 2014 peak of $91 billion. Macroeconomic instability, weak infrastructure and fragmented markets continue to hinder investment attraction. However, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is expected to generate new FDI opportunities.

Persistent debt distress across Africa leads to development distress
Africa's public debt ratio is stabilizing at around 60 percent of GDP in 2023. However, many African countries still face high borrowing costs, tight financing constraints and ongoing debt vulnerabilities. As of 30 April 2024, 20 out of 38 low-income countries in Africa were either in debt distress or at a high risk of distress.

Gaps remain in Africa's statistical systems despite some progress
Africa has made progress in strengthening statistical systems, but key challenges include limited financial and human resources, weak administrative data systems and inadequate data dissemination. In 2022, only 26 African countries had national statistical plans that were fully funded. Weak statistical systems are undermining evidenced based policymaking in support of vulnerable groups. Existing data shows that only 27 countries have comprehensive systems to track and make budgetary allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment.

1. Key recommendations

Accelerating the achievement of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises requires sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions. African countries are advised to:

- **Advocate for scaled-up access to concessionary development financing** in the context of reforms to the global financial architecture.
- **Undertake forward-looking debt sustainability analyses** to avert debt vulnerabilities and sustain funding for key social services (i.e. health, education, social protection) and productive investments that prioritize people-centred development to advance sustainable development.
- **Implement comprehensive economic and institutional reforms to enhance efficiency and optimal use of resources** by prioritizing investments in physical and human capital, as well as skills and technology adoption, which will be key in alleviating poverty.
- **Strengthen climate information services and early warning systems** to ensure more agile responses to climate related hazards. Strengthening weather and hydro-meteorological observation networks and early warning systems is also crucial, alongside updating regional strategies for disaster risk reduction.
- **Fully implement AfCFTA** by supporting local industries and regional value chains, thereby driving economic integration and growth across the continent

CHAPTER 1

Regional overview

Key messages

- 2024 is a pivotal year for global development, marking the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the start of the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan for Agenda 2063. Progress towards these agendas in Africa has faced setbacks due to the ‘polycrisis’, including climate change impacts, COVID-19 and conflicts.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on African economies, leading to a decline in gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and an increase in poverty levels. Structural factors like global supply chain disruptions and commodity price collapses worsened these economic challenges.
- Internal and external conflicts remain significant obstacles to Africa’s development, impacting economic growth and social well-being. Climate change exacerbates these issues, worsening food insecurity and poverty across the continent.
- These multiple crises and shocks continue to challenge governments’ aspirations to achieving the two Agendas calling for resilient, innovative and sustainable solutions.
- Despite the challenges, Africa remains the second-fastest growing region globally, with real GDP growth expected to rise to 3.7 percent in 2024 and 4.3 percent in 2025, and 17 African economies projected to grow by more than 5 percent in 2024.
- While progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa has been slow, there are areas of improvement. Good progress has been achieved in combating climate change at the strategic level.
- Accelerated efforts are needed, particularly in climate action, poverty alleviation, and good governance, to meet the 2030 targets.
- Data limitations remain a challenge for tracking progress on SDGs 13 (climate action) and 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions), requiring enhanced data-collection and monitoring efforts.

1.1. Introduction

2024 marks a significant point for the global 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. The 2030 Agenda has passed the midpoint of its implementation and Agenda 2063 is embarking on the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan (see table 2) after a decade of implementing the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan. However, progress towards achieving the two Agendas in Africa has slowed and even reversed in certain areas over the past few years, primarily due to the cumulative effects of the 'polycrisis'. This includes the adverse impacts of climate change-induced shocks, the lingering consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ripple effects of transnational wars and internal conflicts.

Table 2
Agenda 2063's Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan – moonshots and corresponding aspirations

Moonshots	Aspirations
1 – Every African Union member state attains at least middle-income status	1 – A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
2 – Africa is more integrated and connected	2 – An integrated continent, politically united, based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's renaissance
3 – Public institutions are more responsive	3 – An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
4 – Africa resolves conflicts peacefully	4 – A peaceful and secure Africa
5 – African culture and values are explicit and promoted	5 – Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics
6 – African citizens are more empowered and more productive	6 – An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential offered by African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children
7 – Africa is a strong and influential global player	7 – An Africa that is a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner

The compounding effects of multiple crises and global uncertainty have tested the resilience of African countries and continue to take their toll on Africans and their economies. Growth and inflationary trends in advanced countries are projected to improve at a faster rate than in developing countries, widening the divergence in recovery between the two country groupings (International Monetary Fund [IMF], 2024a). Although every nation has been affected, every country encounters unique obstacles at varying degrees of severity. Figure 1 displays the average GDP per capita growth between 2020 and 2022, providing insights into the economic progress of countries throughout a period of multiple crises.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected economies across the world and in Africa, many of which are still recovering from its effects. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted African economies more than the global financial crisis and it is anticipated to have lasting consequences on key drivers of growth, trade and capital flows. In an unprecedented reversal, African countries encountered an estimated 6 percent decline in per capita GDP (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa [ECA], 2023), and an additional 55 million people were pushed into poverty in 2020 alone. It further caused job losses and reduced income and limited the ability of households to manage risks (ECA, 2021a).

The Economic Report on Africa noted that several structural factors restricted the capacity of African countries to manage shocks induced by the COVID-19 pandemic (ECA, 2021a). Many countries were impacted by the slowdown in global demand, supply chain challenges and the collapse in commodity prices which resulted in lower net financial inflows and poorer export performance. Countries were further affected by limited investment, fragile fiscal situations, high debt, longstanding crises and political instability.

Global, regional and internal conflicts have also emerged as a significant obstacle to achieving the two Agendas in Africa. For example, the war in Ukraine hindered recovery from COVID-19, with the countries depending on grains, oil and fertilizer from Russia and Ukraine being hit the hardest. This caused a rise in food insecurity and increased inflationary pressures, pushing many vulnerable people into poverty. All but 10 African countries have experienced higher inflation rates since the outbreak of the war between the Russian Federation and Ukraine (ECA, 2023).

While Africa has witnessed a decrease in wars compared with the 1990s, they remain prevalent in the region, impacting almost 30 percent of African nations in 2019. Since the mid-2000s, there has been a renewed occurrence of armed conflict across the continent. The study shows that countries that had experienced intensive conflict from 1996 to 2022 recorded, on average, a 20 percent reduction in annual economic growth and a 2.5 percent decrease in their social outcome scores (ECA, 2024a).

Climate change is aggravating and impacting economies and livelihoods. The State of Climate Change in Africa Report (World Meteorological Organization, 2023) noted that the extreme weather events were worsening conflict, displacement, poverty and food insecurity. Losses and damages from the impacts of climate change continue to rise.

Multiple crises and shocks continue to challenge governments' aspirations to achieving the two Agendas (see box 1), calling for resilient, innovative and sustainable solutions.

> *2024 marks a significant point for the global 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want.*

Box 1: Shocks present a grave risk to progress – Malawi

In Malawi, COVID-19 led to around 1.6 million people temporarily falling into poverty. In 2023, Cyclone Freddy hit 15 districts, destroying lives, livelihoods and infrastructure. The same period witnessed a severe dry spell in the northern region of Malawi, which negatively affected crop production. The Russia-Ukraine conflict further disrupted global supply chains and increased the cost of essential commodities like fertilizer, causing macroeconomic instability and affecting production and the trade balance. A cholera outbreak also disrupted the implementation of the Malawi Vision 2063 First 10-Year Implementation Plan interventions. Macroeconomic challenges also resulted in narrowing fiscal space and affected the servicing of unsustainable debts, availability of foreign currency and fuel.

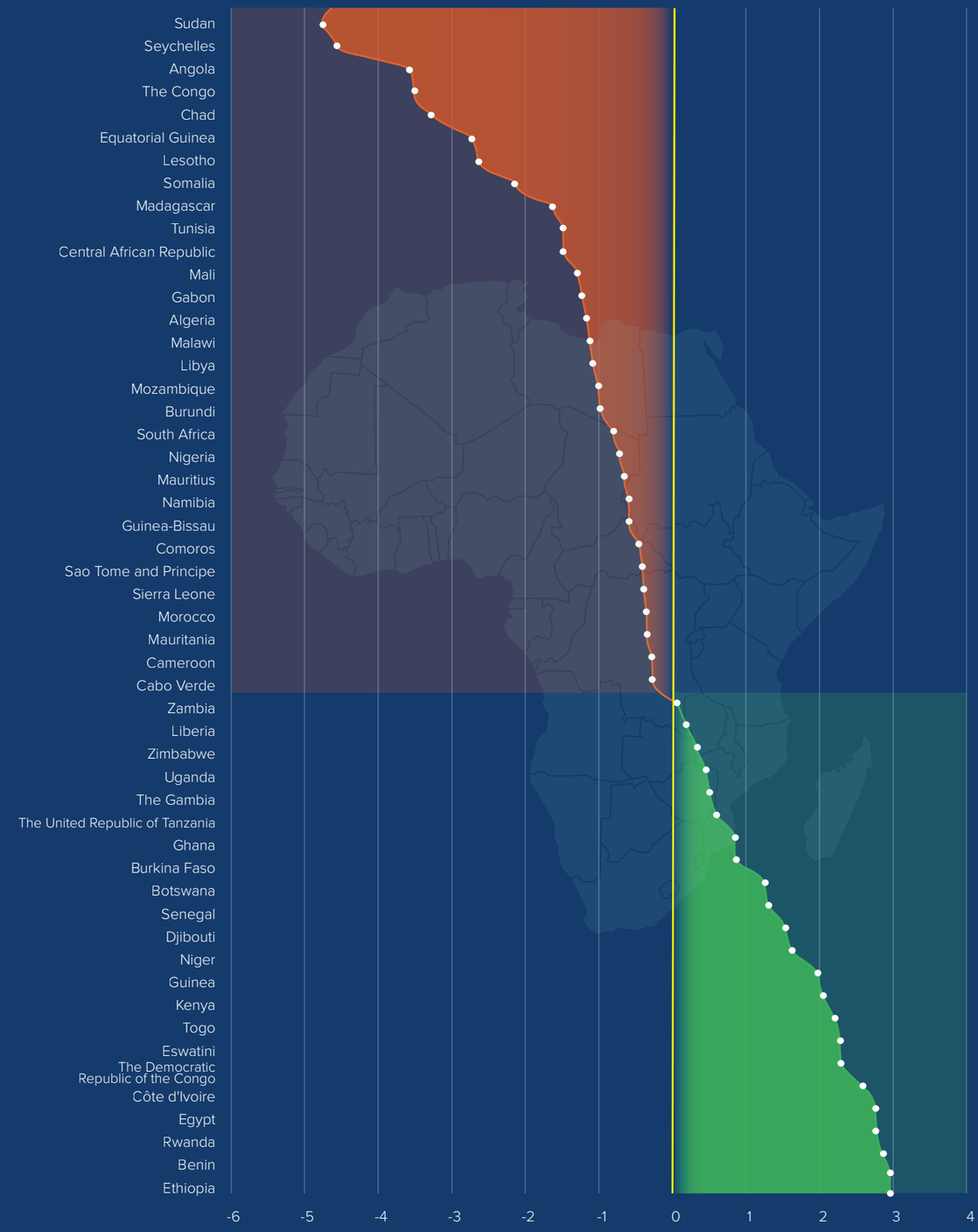
Source: Report from Malawi (2024).

Despite multiple shocks, the continent remains the second-fastest growing region in the world, and many African countries on the recovery path. Indeed, Africa's real GDP growth is expected to increase to 3.7 percent in 2024 and 4.3 percent in 2025, surpassing the expected global average. Seventeen African economies are projected to grow by more than 5 percent in 2024. Nevertheless, the recovery is slow and fragile necessitating greater resilience for African countries against future shocks (African Development Bank Group, 2024).

> *Multiple crises and shocks continue to challenge governments' aspirations to achieving the two Agendas (see box 1), calling for resilient, innovative and sustainable solutions.*

Figure 1:

GDP per Capita Growth
over 2020–2022 (Average Annual %)

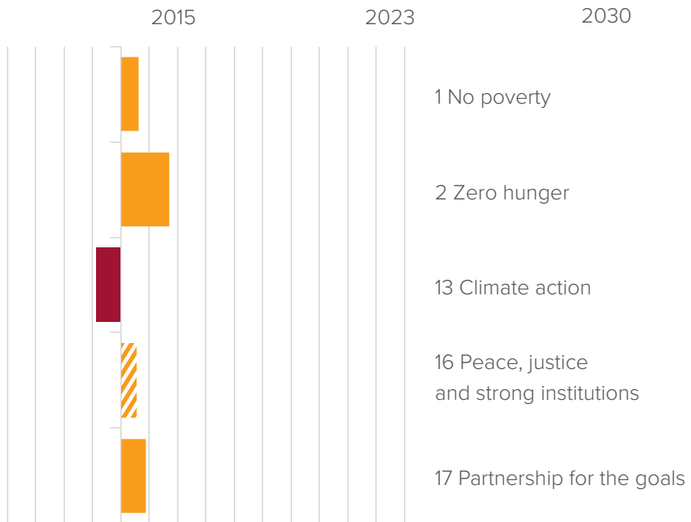


Source: ECA computations using data from the World Development Indicators (World Bank Group, no date).

1.2. Progress at the goal level

Analysing Africa's progress from 2015 to the target year of 2030 for the achievement of the SDGs, progress reports shows that Africa is unlikely to achieve any of the five goals analysed in this report (figure 2). Because of weak climate policies, the continent is regressing on climate action. Progress on SDGs 1, 2 and 17 needs to accelerate. While good progress has been achieved in combating climate change at the strategic level, integrating strategies into development planning frameworks remains limited. Only 29 African countries have national and local disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies in place. Acceleration is needed to achieve the goals on poverty (SDG 1), hunger (SDG 2), partnerships (SDG 17) and good governance (SDG 16). However, insufficient data are available to track and analyse progress on SDG 16.

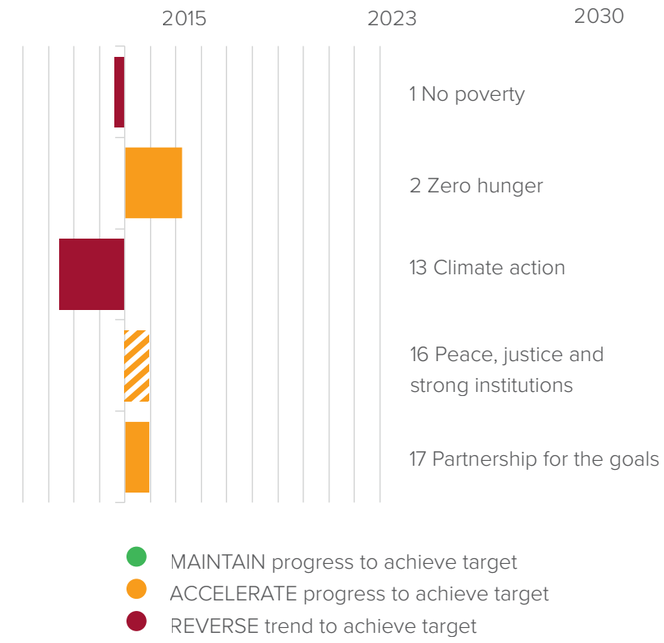
Figure 2: Progress on SDGs 1, 12, 13, 16, and 17 – Africa



Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for goals with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for goals with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing goals.

Source: ECA computations from SDG Global Database, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) (2024a).

Figure 3: Progress on SDGs 1, 12, 13, 16, and 17 – Central Africa



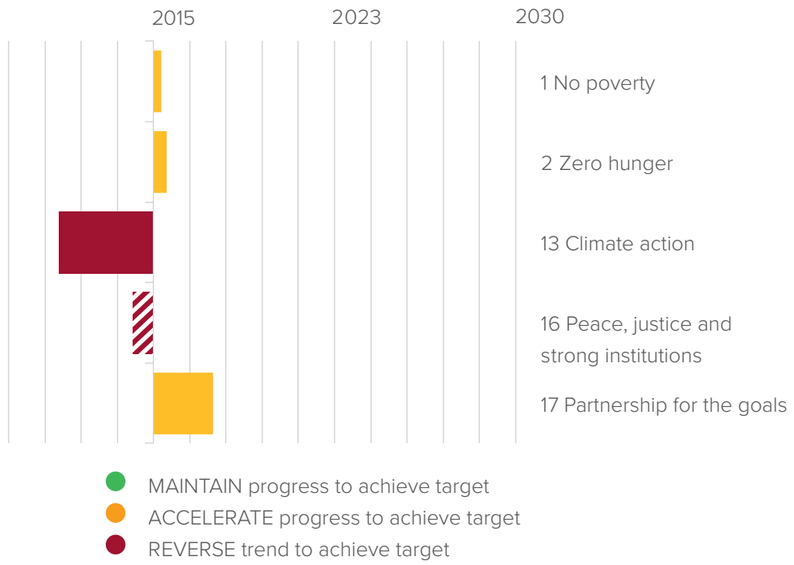
Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for goals with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for goals with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing goals.

Source: ECA computations from SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024a).

A subregional analysis of Africa's performance on the five mentioned SDGs provides insights on the continent's performance (See figures 3–6). East and Central Africa are the only regions that regressed on climate action (SDG 13). Nevertheless, the other subregions require accelerated efforts to meet the climate action goal. With respect to the other goals, Central Africa is the only region regressing on poverty (SDG 1), North Africa regressed on the zero hunger goal (SDG 2), while East Africa regressed on peace and security (SDG 16), although the data gaps are significant for this indicator. West and Southern Africa did not regress on any of the goals but both subregions are unlikely to achieve any of the five focus goals by 2030 without accelerated action.

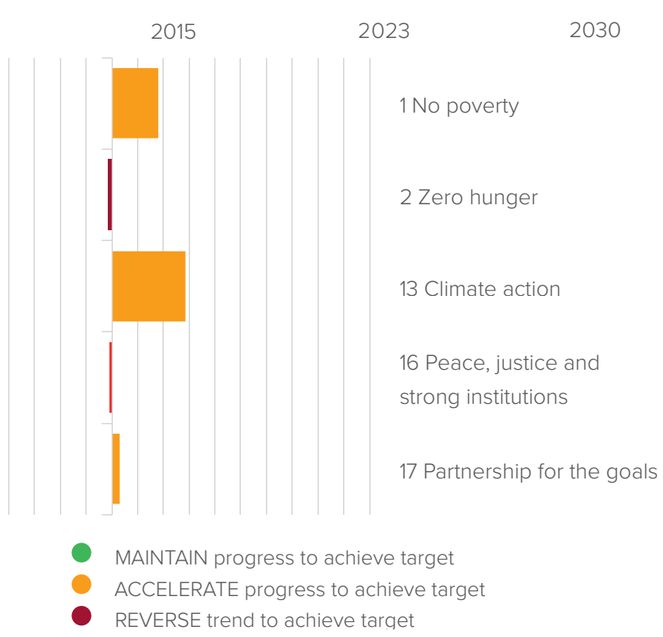
> *Acceleration is needed to achieve the goals on poverty (SDG 1), hunger (SDG 2), partnerships (SDG 17) and good governance (SDG 16).*

Figure 4: Progress on SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17 – East Africa



Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for goals with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for goals with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing goals.
Source: ECA computations from SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024a).

Figure 5: Progress on SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17 – North Africa



Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for goals with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for goals with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing goals.
Source: ECA computations from SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024a).

Figure 6: Progress on SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17 – Southern Africa

Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for goals with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for goals with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing goals.
Source: ECA computations from SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024a).

Figure 7: Progress on SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17 – West Africa

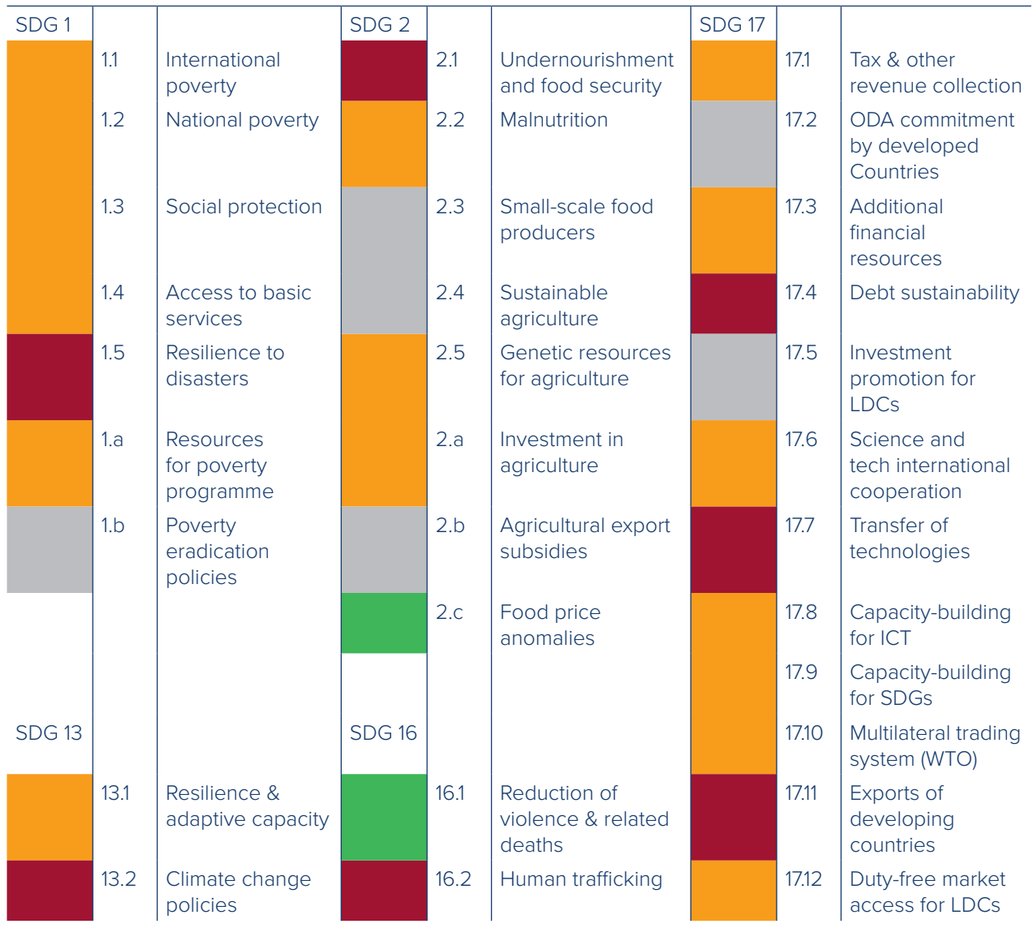
Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for goals with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for goals with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing goals.
Source: ECA computations from SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024a).

1.3. Progress at the target level

Out of the 51 targets of SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17, 32 targets are measurable (see figure 8). However, less than 6 percent of the measurable targets are on track to be achieved by 2030. These include targets 2.c. (food price anomalies), 16.1 (reduction of violence and related deaths), and 17.19 (statistical capacities). Of the remaining measurable targets, the region needs to accelerate progress towards achieving 21 and reverse negative trends for 8. Data insufficiency, with 19 targets not measured, prevents a full picture of the progress on the continent. SDG 13 on climate change and SDG 16 have the greatest data limitations. The next five chapters analyse the progress and prospects of each of these SDGs and their related Agenda 2063 goals.

Figure 8: Africa dashboard – Action that must be taken by African countries on the SDG targets in order to achieve them by the 2030 deadline, SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17

Africa – Dashboard



Notes: UNFCCC = United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; WTO = World Trade Organization; SD = sustainable development; CSO = civil society organizations.

Source: ECA computations from SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024a).

CHAPTER 2

Sustainable Development Goal 1
– End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Key messages

- SDG 1 centralizes social protection systems and resilience-building to climate-related events and shocks as keys to combating poverty. Understanding the nature, nuances and dimensions of poverty will support more impactful policymaking.
- Despite significant efforts made to reduce income poverty during the implementation of the first decade of Agenda 2063, there was an increase in the population living under the national poverty line. This is due to lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and other ongoing global crises.
- Poverty reduction progress varies across African regions, with East and West Africa facing higher poverty rates. Southern and North Africa show comparatively lower poverty incidence.
- Extreme child poverty remains a critical issue in Africa, with 70 percent of the world's extremely poor children living on the continent. Targeted strategies are needed to combat this.
- Women are disproportionately affected by poverty in Africa. There is a need for more gender-sensitive policies and investments to accelerate poverty eradication.
- Africa's social protection landscape contributes to resultant poverty levels and leaves many people vulnerable to shocks. Several African countries are making efforts to expand social protection coverage. Examples include Egypt's Takaful and Karama Programme, Botswana's comprehensive social safety nets, and Morocco's initiatives to universalize social protection including health insurance and family allowances.
- From 2015 to 2022, all regions recorded an increase in access to basic sanitation services, while almost all regions saw varying increases in the proportion of the population using basic drinking water services. Additionally, enabling access to secure land and housing is crucial to reducing poverty.
- Official Development Assistance (ODA) plays a critical role in supporting poverty reduction efforts in Africa. ODA to Africa has seen a rise over the years in absolute terms but remains well below Africa's financing needs.

Table 3
Sustainable Development Goal 1 and related goals of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Sustainable Development Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Goal 1: A high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens Goal 2: Environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities

2.1. Progress and prospects for the achievement of Goal 1 and Related Goals of Agenda 20630

SDG 1 has 7 targets and 13 indicators. SDG 1 views poverty in a holistic form and is concerned with the quality of a person's daily life. Goal 1 of Agenda 2063 similarly calls for a high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for Africans. SDG 1 centralizes social protection systems and resilience-building to climate-related events and shocks as keys to combating poverty. It pushes for equal rights to economic resources and access to basic services for all people, while recognizing the need for developing sound pro-poor policies and mobilizing resources to implement programmes to end all forms of poverty (DESA, 2023).

SDG 1 closely aligns with Goals 1, 2 and 17 of Agenda 2063, and other SDGs including 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages), 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all), 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) and 8 (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all). As such, SDG 1 highlights the multidimensional nature of poverty. Poverty can be extreme and persist over long periods (i.e. can be chronic or dynamic). People move in and out of poverty due to consumption volatility, which arises from exposure to risks induced by shocks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and an inability to insure against these risks (i.e. transient) (ECA, 2021a). Structural factors such as a lack of education, being located in remote or rural areas, lack of access to adequate infrastructure like health services and an undiversified economy are key drivers of chronic poverty (Sugiharti *et al.*, 2023). On the other hand, ill health, disasters, price increases, lack of savings, low income and unemployment drive transient poverty and vulnerability (ECA, 2021a). Understanding the nature of poverty and vulnerability and developing policy options to address the different types is important. Progress in the achievement of SDG 1 will facilitate the attainment of these other goals and vice versa.

A critical challenge in achieving SDG 1 in Africa is that the overall gains in poverty reduction since 1990 have been upended in the last few years by COVID-19, which slowed, disrupted or temporarily reversed progress across the targets. In Africa, it caused an economic contraction of 3.2 percent and pushed an additional 55 million into poverty in 2020. It further caused job losses, reduced income and limited households' ability to manage risks (ECA, 2021a).

Recovery from the pandemic has been uneven and incomplete. Its effects linger and continue to be aggravated by ongoing global crises, which are inhibiting economic growth in Africa. This includes an increase in fiscal deficit and debt distress. Africa's fiscal deficit increased from 4.8 percent of GDP in 2021 to 5.2 percent of GDP in 2022, while 22 countries were already in debt distress or at a high risk of external debt distress in 2022 (ECA, 2021b; World Bank, 2023). As at 2023, three countries had defaulted on their debt repayment (Reuters, 2023). These fiscal pressures have limited public expenditure on key development outcomes (United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF], Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, 2022). As a result, with less than seven years to go for implementing the 2030 Agenda, Africa is falling short of meeting most of the SDG 1 targets by 2030.

This is not to say that there has been no progress in certain areas, but many targets are either slowly progressing or regressing. This chapter highlights the progress and prospects in the achievement of SDG 1 and associated Goals of Agenda 2063 in Africa, to promote an understanding of the status quo and enable discourse on what needs to be done to achieve these goals.

2.1.1. Eradicate extreme poverty for all

Table 4
SDG Target 1.1 and Indicator 1.1.1 and related Target 1.7 and Indicator 1.7.7 of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 1.1: By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than US$2.15 a day using 2017 prices Indicator 1.1.1: Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)	Target 1.7: Reduce 2013 levels of poverty by at least 30% Indicator 1.7.7: Percent of population living below the national poverty line by sex

Modest progress in poverty reduction offset by multiple crises in recent years

Since the 2000s, Africa has made steady and significant progress in reducing the share of the population living below the international (extreme) poverty line, offset at $2.15 per day in 2017 prices. Using this measure, figure 9 shows that poverty levels in Africa fell from 31.9 percent in 2015 to 29.8 percent in 2019.[4] Nevertheless, in 2022, Africa accounted for more than half (54.8 percent) of people living in poverty worldwide (ECA, 2023). Following the outbreak of COVID-19 an estimated 55 million people were pushed into poverty in just one year (UNECA, 2021a). Again, 23 of the 28 countries with extreme poverty rates of above 30 percent are in Africa (McLachlan and Aitkens, 2022).

Similarly, despite significant efforts made to reduce income poverty during the implementation of the first decade of Agenda 2063, there was an increase

4 Latest comparable data available.

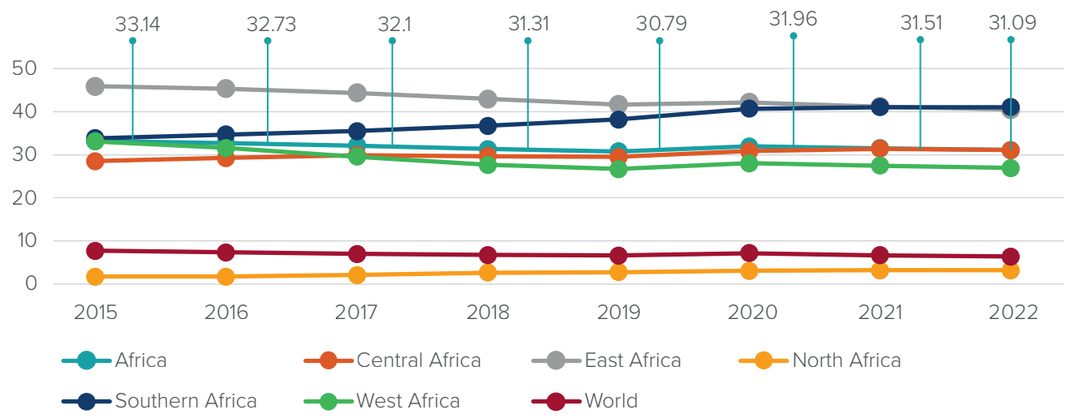
in the population living under the national poverty line, rising from the base line figure of 33.3 percent in 2013, to 38 percent in 2023. This falls short of the 23 percent planned value for 2023 (African Union, 2023).

Uneven progress in poverty reduction across regions and groups

Poverty reduction in Africa has been uneven across regions and groups, with many countries lagging behind. As shown in the ECA issues paper on fostering recovery and transformation in Africa to reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities (ECA, 2022), levels of absolute poverty have increased by 74 percent since 1990. East and West Africa account for about 73 percent of the impoverished people on the continent. Southern and North Africa, on the other hand, had the lowest number of people living in poverty.

> *Understanding the nature of poverty and vulnerability and developing policy options to address the different types is important.*

Figure 9: Employed population falling below the international poverty line, 2015–2022[5]



Notes: Data for Africa is shown.

Source: DESA (2023).

Box 2: Decent Life "Hayah Karima" initiative in Egypt

In 2019, Egypt launched the "Decent Life - Hayah Karima" initiative, for the main purpose of improving the quality of life of the rural communities (DESA, 2024b). It is remarkable both in terms of its financial commitment and the vast number of beneficiaries, accounting for 58 percent of the nation's population. Given the initiative's central role in achieving sustainable development objectives, this project was recognized in the DESA SDGs Acceleration Actions platform as one of the main accelerators for achieving SDGs in July 2020. In July 2021 the initiative received recognition as an "international best practice" and was included in the United Nations SDG Good Practices platform. Following the initiative's national success, Egypt launched the "Decent Life for a Climate Resilient Africa" initiative during the twenty-seventh Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP).

Source: Government of Egypt (2024).

Gainful employment is a pathway to improving living standards (ILO, 2019a). Tunisia, for example, has launched an economic empowerment and entrepreneurship promotion programme (see box 3). As figure 9 shows, however, the proportion of the employed poor in Africa that falls below the international poverty line is higher than the proportion for the world.

North Africa has the lowest proportions among African subregions and falls slightly below the global proportion. However, this seemingly positive outcome must be assessed against the background of one of the lowest (together with the Middle East subregion) rates of female participation in the labour force worldwide.

Box 3: Tunisia's national programme for economic empowerment and entrepreneurship promotion for vulnerable groups

As part of the fight against poverty, reducing inequalities, ensuring decent and sustainable employment for all, and preserving the dignity of the poor, the Tunisian Government has envisioned the establishment of a national programme for economic empowerment and entrepreneurship promotion for vulnerable groups. This new programme aims at coordinating, rationalizing and targeting interventions from various programmes and mechanisms implemented by different ministries to enhance their impact and scale up the existing successful experiences.

To this end, a study for evaluating programmes and projects aiming to promote economic empowerment and initiative for vulnerable groups and their impacts was launched in 2023. The study involves inventorying all economic empowerment and initiative promotion programmes targeting vulnerable groups; creating a map of all available support mechanisms (initial and continuous training, information, awareness, private mentoring, active employment and financing schemes, etc.); developing a mapping of economic empowerment programmes implemented by ministries, international technical and financial partners, and civil society; assessing the impact of these programmes on the economic and social reality evolution of target groups; identifying and highlighting successful experiences, effective programmes and best practices to share and replicate.

The study identified 111 programmes, including 73 programmes implemented within the framework of international cooperation, which include the new national programme for women's entrepreneurship and gender-sensitive investment "Raidat", aiming primarily to support women's private initiatives,

5 The ECA Dashboard does not have the "world" data; the "world" data here come from the United Nations SDG Dashboard.

especially innovative women and girls in promising sectors in priority areas and densely populated popular neighbourhoods. This five-year programme extends until 2025 with the goal of creating 3,000 women-led projects, averaging 600 projects per year.

The economic empowerment programme for poor and low-income groups benefiting from the social security programme and disabled persons: this programme finances individual projects or joint ventures between two or more members of the same family or different families. Thirty percent of the funds will be allocated to persons with disabilities.

The economic integration project for vulnerable groups "Moubaderoun", funded by the World Bank, aims to create 5,200 projects and approximately 9,200 direct jobs, particularly benefiting persons with specific needs, graduates and women caring for children.

The "JEUN'ESS" project, implemented by the International Labour Organization (ILO) office in Tunisia in partnership with the Ministry of Economy and Planning and funded by the European Union, aims to create 140 social and solidarity economic enterprises. Additionally, funding lines have been reserved for these economic empowerment and entrepreneurship promotion programmes for vulnerable groups.

Source: Government of Tunisia (2024).

2.1.2. Reduce poverty in all its dimensions

Table 5
SDG Target 1.2. and Indicator 1.2.2 and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 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 Indicator 1.2.2: Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	Target 1.7: Reduce 2013 levels of poverty by at least 30% Indicator 1.7.7: Percent of population living below the national poverty line by sex
	Target 1.8: Reduce poverty among women by at least 50% Indicator 1.8.8: Reduce poverty among women by at least 50%

Extreme child poverty is increasingly becoming an African phenomenon

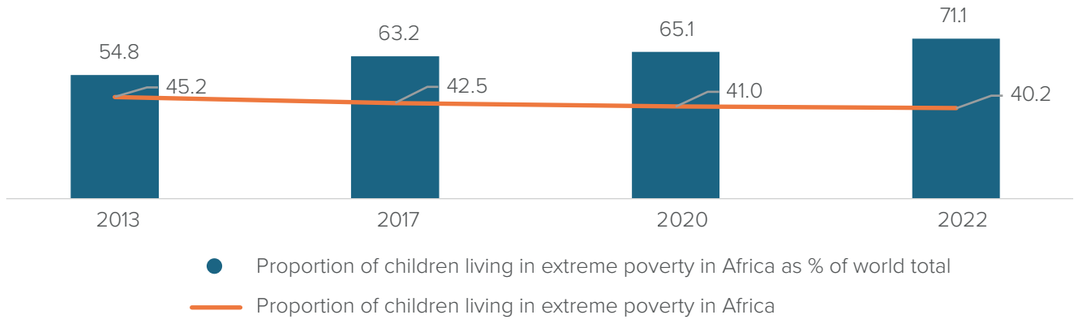
Poverty covers different dimensions of life and can have disparate effects across genders and age groups. Poverty could be understood in terms of material poverty: clothing, food, energy, water, sanitation, shelter and the quality and outcomes of health, education and work. The quality of relationships, use of time, access to adequate family planning and having the voice to express concerns and views all constitute aspects of non-material poverty (Australian National University, Crawford School of Public Policy, no date).[6]

The multidimensional poverty index (MPI) measures deprivations in education, health and standard of living that affect people's lives and well-being. The Global MPI 2023 report shows that across the 110 countries studied, 1.1 billion were poor and nearly half (47.8 percent or 534 million) lived in East, West, Central and Southern Africa subregions. Poverty distribution also showed that 84 percent of the 1.1 billion lived in rural areas. Again, children under the age of 18 make up over half (566 million) of the poor population, with about 54.1 percent (306 million) living in Africa (without North Africa), according to UNDP (2023a).

Child poverty is particularly disconcerting. On the one hand, progress has been observed in the number of children living in extreme poverty (i.e. children living in extremely poor households), which declined from 45 to 40 percent between 2013 and 2022, using the US$2.15 poverty line. According to a report by UNICEF (Hague, van Ufford, and Muchabaiwa, 2023, p. 7), "it is critical to note that children are significantly more likely to live in poverty than adults. While 40 percent of children in Africa live in extreme poverty, for adults the figure is 29.1 percent, meaning a child is 25 percent more likely to live in extreme poverty than an adult. In terms of numbers, this means that while there are 174.6 million adults living in extreme poverty in Africa, there are 237 million children living in extremely poor households."

Seventy percent (7 out of 10) of the world's extreme poor children are concentrated in Africa, making extreme child poverty increasingly an African phenomenon. This emphasizes the immediate need for targeted strategies to combat child poverty in Africa (Hague, van Ufford and Muchabaiwa, 2023; Salmeron-Gomez *et al*., 2023).

Figure 10: Child poverty in Africa has declined, yet most of the world's children in poverty live in Africa



Source: Salmeron-Gomez *et al.* (2023).

Gender disparities occur among adults. 94.4 million women compared with 79.8 million men live in extreme poverty in Africa (Hague, van Ufford and Muchabaiwa, 2023). In Ghana, sex-disaggregated data showed that 47.7 percent of women-headed households compared with 40.6 percent of men-headed households lived in multidimensional poverty (UN-Women and DESA, Statistics Division, 2023).

6 The Individual Measure of Multidimensional Poverty outlines fourteen areas of life through which poverty can be measured. For more information on each of these 14 dimensions, see https://immp.crawford.anu.edu.au/content/dimensions-poverty.

2.1.3. Implement social protection systems and measures for all

Table 6
SDG Target 1.3 and Indicator 1.3.1 and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

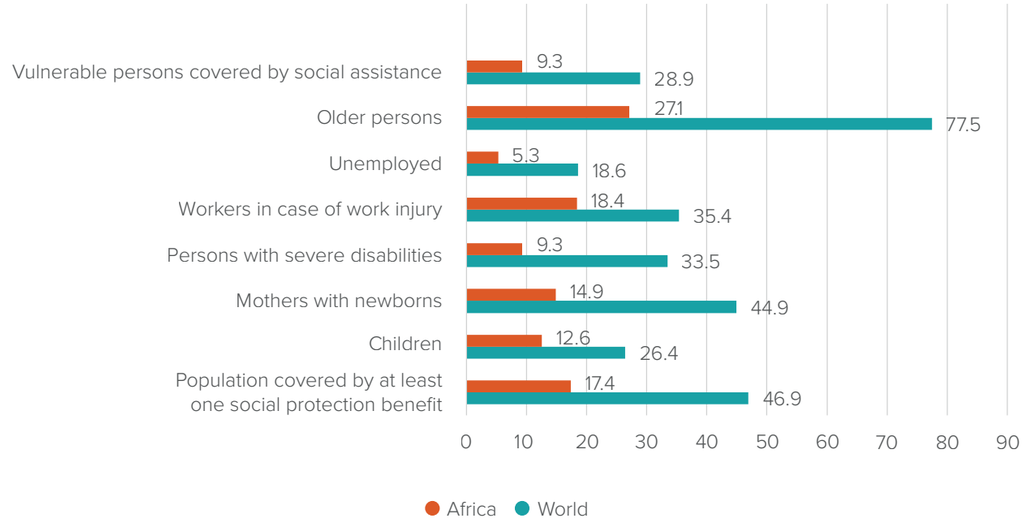
2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 1.3: Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable Indicator 1.3.1: Proportion of the population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and vulnerable	Target 1.12: At least 30% of vulnerable populations including persons with disabilities, older persons and children provided with social protection Indicator 1.12.14: Percentage of eligible population covered by social protection floors/systems, disaggregated by sex, composed of the following: Percentage of older persons receiving a pension Indicator 1.12.15: Percentage of households with children receiving child support Indicator 1.12.16: Percentage of working-age persons without jobs receiving support Indicator 1.12.17: Percentage of persons with disabilities receiving benefits. Indicator 1.12.18: Percentage of women receiving maternity benefits at childbirth Indicator 1.12.19: Percentage of workers covered against occupational injury Indicator 1.12.20: Percentage of poor and vulnerable people receiving benefits

Social protection in Africa is inadequate, fragmented and largely informal

Social protection[7] is crucial in supporting individuals and communities facing economic hardships and ensuring that they have access to essential services, resources and opportunities. In Africa, social protection coverage remains fragmented, inadequate and characterized by underinvestment. Informal social protection mechanisms, encompassing arrangements and actions carried out by individuals or groups, which are neither guided by nor contravene formal legal legislations, are prevalent in Africa (Oduro, 2010). Africa's social protection landscape contributes to resultant poverty levels and leaves many people vulnerable to shocks.

In Africa, formal social protection – i.e. actions taken by public or private sector arrangements having legal backings – remains low. The ILO World Social Protection Report 2020–2022 shows that as at 2020, only an estimated 17.4 percent of the African population is covered by formal social protection (receiving at least one social protection benefit), as opposed to the world average of 46.9 percent (ILO, 2021a). The continental coverage for child benefits is low at 12.6 percent. Further, only 27.1 percent of the older population (defined as people aged 65 and above) receives any form of social protection, compared with the global average of 77.5 percent. Social protection coverage for persons with severe disabilities (9.3 percent), maternity benefits (14.9 percent) and unemployed persons (5.3 percent) is also low (ILO, 2021b).

Figure 11: Effective social protection coverage, global and regional estimates, by population group, 2020 or latest available year (percent)

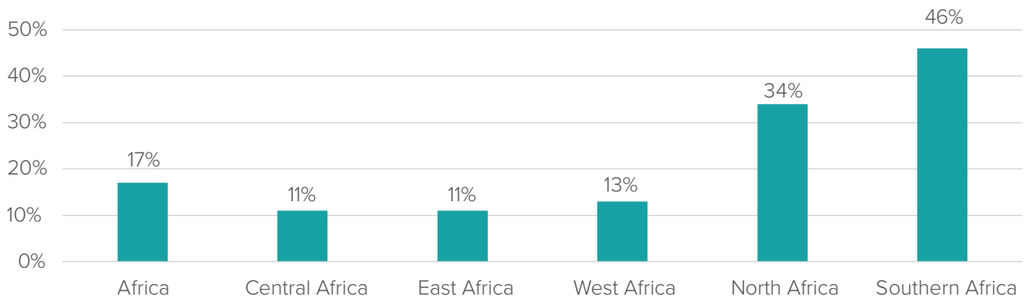


Source: ILO (2021b, p. 48, figure 2.4).

7 ILO (2021b, p. 9) defines social protection or social security as "the set of policies and programmes designed to reduce and prevent poverty and vulnerability across the life cycle. Social protection includes nine main areas: child and family benefits, maternity protection, unemployment support, employment injury benefits, sickness benefits, health protection, old-age benefits, disability benefits and survivors' benefits. Social protection systems address all these policy areas by a mix of contributory schemes (mainly social insurance) and non-contributory tax-financed schemes (universal/categorical schemes and social assistance)."

Disparities are also evident across regions. In considering population receiving at least one social protection cash benefit, Southern Africa had the highest coverage at (65 percent), followed by North Africa (34), West Africa (13), Central Africa (11) and East Africa (11), at the onset of the pandemic (ILO, 2021a). Note that the amount of assistance provided is often insufficient to make an impact on poverty (ECA, 2022). Further, integration of income support schemes (unemployment insurance, social assistance) with active labour-market policies (training) is almost completely absent on the continent.

Figure 12: Population receiving at least one social protection cash benefit, 2020



Source: ILO (2021a).

Efforts are being made to deliver sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for integrated implementation of the SDGs. The polycrisis of the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical wars, internal conflicts and climate change has exposed the fragility of social protection systems and intensified the need for durable ones. In response to COVID-19 and its impact on poverty, governments across the world did ramp up social protection, often through digital means (DESA, 2022). Indeed, expansion of the social protection system on the continent has gained significant awareness and broad political support. Agenda 2063 calls for countries to raise spending on social protection from the current 2 percent to 5 percent of GDP by 2063 (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development [OECD], 2017) and to extend coverage to informal workers and to rural areas. The Abidjan Declaration calls for African countries to progressively extend social protection coverage (ILO, 2019b). Box 4 highlights social protection initiatives being taken across the continent.

Box 4: Examples of social protection initiatives in Africa

Egypt – Takaful and Karama Programme

The Takaful and Karama cash transfer programme was inaugurated in 2015. To achieve substantial coverage of the most vulnerable and prevent the most in need from sliding into poverty, Egypt massively scaled up its social protection programmes and safety nets. Takaful ("solidarity") is a conditional family income support programme, while Karama ("dignity") is an unconditional cash transfer for the most vulnerable.

Social protection in Botswana

In the spirit of leaving no one behind, Botswana is committed to investing in social safety nets to protect its vulnerable population. For instance, the national coverage for social protection nets in Botswana stands at 57.7 percent, while that of rural areas is 68.3 percent. The programmes include school feeding, vulnerable group feeding, old age pensions, needy student packages, an orphan care programme and a disability package programme, among others. Botswana is also committed to public health and well-being. As such, 98 percent of the population uses safely managed drinking water services, thanks to continuous investments in water infrastructure across the country.

Universal social protection in Morocco

The universalization of social protection is considered a unique societal project, whose parameters and foundations have been defined by King Mohammed VI of Morocco as follows: By the end of 2022, expand the basic mandatory medical coverage so that 22 million additional beneficiaries can access basic mandatory health insurance; universalize family allowances, benefiting about 7 million school-aged children during the years 2023–2024; broaden the base of enrolment in pension systems by integrating about 5 million active individuals with no retirement coverage by the end of 2025; universalize compensation for job loss for those in stable employment by the end of 2025.

From this perspective, significant progress has been made in the generalization of basic Mandatory Health Insurance (AMO) for all citizens, with a coverage rate nearing 90 percent of the population. This development is due to 1) the launch of AMO for non-salaried workers (known as AMO-TNS) following the publication of implementing texts, and 2) the launch on 1 December 2022 of the basic AMO scheme for individuals unable to pay contributions (known as AMO Tadamon, or "solidarity".)

Thus, by the end of 2023, the total number of beneficiaries of AMO-TNS amounts to 3.85 million and that of AMO Tadamon to 10.3 million, including 6.7 million dependants.

To address the complexity of targeting and managing social programmes, a new system of universal targeting and identification has been adopted by developing the National Population Registry and the Unified Social Registry. The latter serves as a lever to restructure the targeting system for low-income households eligible through a scoring system. This system allows this category to benefit from social assistance programmes, notably AMO Tadamon.

Senegal – National Family Security Scholarship Program

In Senegal, the National Family Security Scholarship Program, a social protection safety net built on a monetary allocation system, aims at improving the living conditions of impoverished families in order to help eradicate poverty and ensure dignity for citizens. The programme aims to allocate a Family Security Scholarship of CFAF 25,000 per quarter to vulnerable households with the concurrent deployment of a set of measures promoting behavioural changes for human development across the national territory.

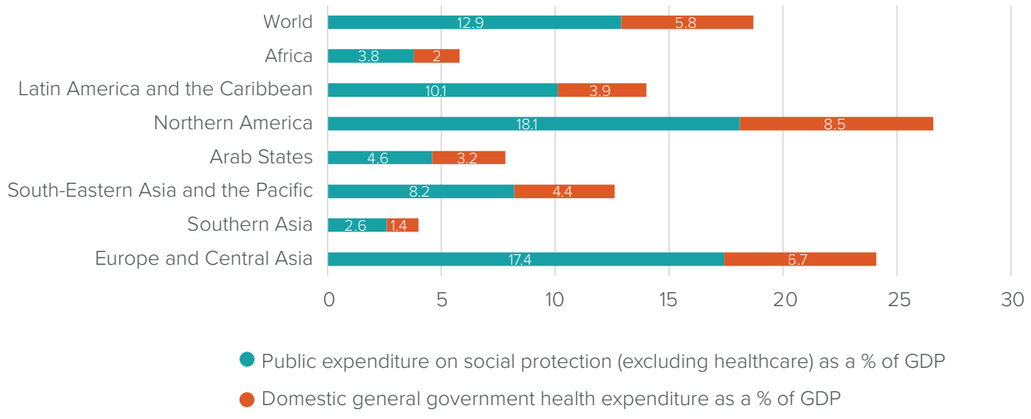
The programme was launched in 2013 with the objective of enrolling 300,000 households by 2017. At the start of the programme in 2013, households with children aged 6–12 were the primary target. This priority target was expanded in 2015 to include households caring for children aged 0–5 years and elderly persons aged 60 and over to avoid excluding a segment of the poor population in need of social aid. Women are the main managers of the allowances provided to these families. In 2022, the number of beneficiary households was estimated at 315,626. In 2023, the National Family Security

Scholarship Program entered its consolidation phase with an increase in the nominal transfer amount from CFAF 25,000 to CFAF 35,000. To ensure better targeting of interventions within the framework of social safety nets, a unified national registry has been established to allow the most vulnerable households to access benefits in an equitable and transparent manner.

Source: Reports from countries.

Despite the political commitment to ramping up social protection in Africa, expenditure continues to lag behind world averages and greater investment is needed to achieve SDG social protection targets. As a percent of GDP, the world average expenditure on social protection, excluding health care is 12.9 percent, while Africa's average is 3.8 percent. Average public health expenditure is only 2 percent of GDP, or around one third of the world's 5.8 percent average (figure 13).

Figure 13: Public social protection spending in Africa and other regions



Source: ILO (2021b, figure 2.10).

> *Since the 2000s, Africa has made steady and significant progress in reducing the share of the population living below the international (extreme) poverty line, offset at $2.15 per day in 2017 prices.*

2.1.4. Ensure equal rights to economic resources and basic services

Table 6
SDG Target 1.4., Indicators 1.4.1 Indicator 1.4.2 and related Target and Indicator of Agenda 2063

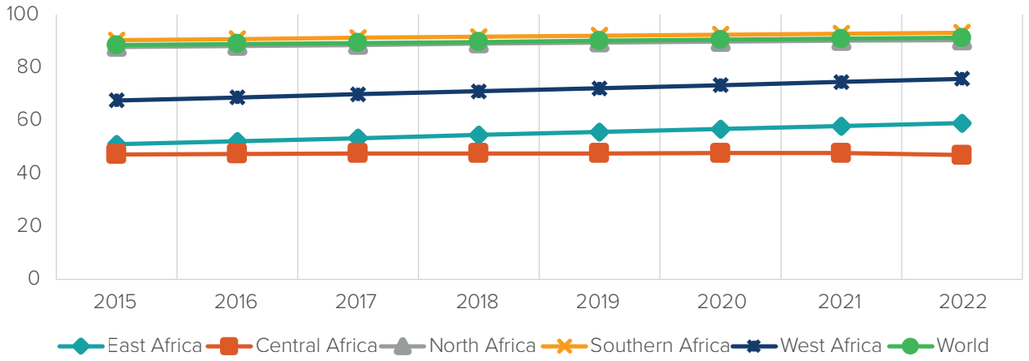
2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 1.4: By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance Indicator 1.4.1: Proportion of the population living in households with access to basic services Indicator 1.4.2: Proportion of the total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure	Target 1.24: At least 70% of the population indicates an increase in access to quality basic services (water, sanitation, electricity, transportation, internet connectivity) Indicator 1.24.37: Percent of population who indicate increase access to quality basic services

Modest increase in access to drinking water services

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation services is a human right and is fundamental to dignity, health, prosperity (United Nations Water, 2024) food security and prospects of making a living (Asian Development Bank, 2006). Optimistically, all regions, except Central Africa saw varying increases in the proportion of the population using basic drinking water services between 2015 and 2022 (see figure 14). In 2022, the average of all five regions with access to drinking water was 72.9 percent.[8] Southern and North Africa with averages of 90.2 percent and 93 percent in 2022, were close to the world average of 91.2 percent in the same year.

8 This is an unweighted average.

Figure 14: Proportion of population using basic drinking water services, 2015–2022 (percentage)



Source: DESA (2023).

About half of the continent's population had access to basic sanitation services in 2022

All regions recorded an increase in access to basic sanitation services from 2015 to 2022. In 2022, 52 percent of the population had access to basic sanitation services.[9] With the exception of North Africa (93 percent), access to basic sanitation services across the different regions fall lower than the world average (81 percent). The lowest proportions of the population using basic sanitation services were recorded in Central and East Africa with about 27 percent in both regions.

Many residents in Africa live in informal, illegal or unplanned settlements

Enabling access to secure land and housing is crucial to reducing poverty. Many residents in Africa live in informal, illegal or unplanned settlements. Others lack legally recognized documentation that prove security of tenure, while others do not perceive the rights to their land as secure. Indeed, "a person or household can be said to have secure tenure when they are protected from involuntary removal from their land or residence by the State, except in exceptional circumstances, and then only by means of a known and agreed legal procedure, which must itself be objective, equally applicable, contestable and independent" (Durand-Lasserve, 2014, p. 12). Morocco and Nigeria for example are working to ensure access to housing for low- and middle-income families.

9 This is an unweighted average.

Figure 15:

All regions recorded an
increase in access to basic sanitation services
from 2015 to 2022.

In 2022, the average of all five regions showed that

52% **of the population had access to basic sanitation services.**

Box 5: Improving access to adequate housing for low- and middle-income households

Morocco – Direct Social Assistance Programme

In 2024, Morocco launched the implementation of the direct aid programme for the acquisition of the main residence (2024–2028), which aims to directly support the purchasing power of households, through direct financial assistance to the buyer. The amounts of direct assistance are set based on the sale price of the housing. This new aid mechanism, which came into effect in January 2024, is expected to have significant social and economic impacts. It aims to eradicate unsanitary housing, thus providing decent living conditions for many households while strengthening the purchasing power of low-income and middle-class families.

Nigeria – Social Housing Project

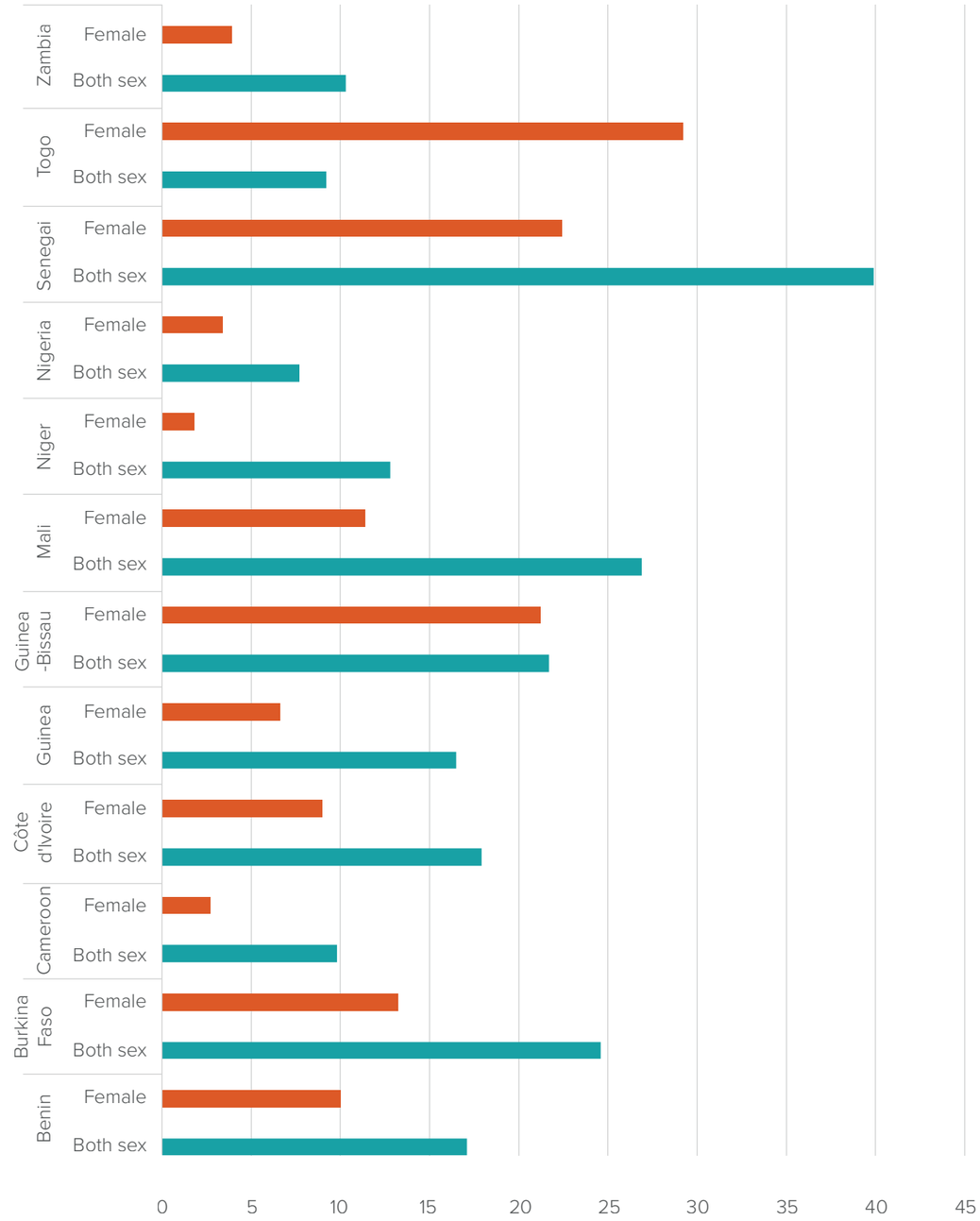
Registered in 2017 and commencing operations in 2018, the Family Homes Funds is one of Africa's largest housing funds focused on affordable homes for Nigerians on low income. The organization is a social housing initiative promoted by the Federal Government of Nigeria as part of its Social Intervention Programme, with initial shareholding by the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Nigeria Sovereign Investment Authority. By the first quarter of 2024, it had financed 55 projects across 12 States, completed 8,146 homes, had another 7,576 under construction, invested an estimated ₦69.4 billion and created 84,478 jobs.

Source: Report from Morocco; Family Homes Funds (2024).

Data on this indicator is extremely poor. However, most recent data show that in many countries, out of the total adult population, the proportion of people with legally recognized documentation of their right to land is less than 25 percent, with the exception of Mali and Senegal. Across the observed countries, the female population possessing this documentation is even lower for most countries, apart from Togo where it is higher (see figure 16).

> *Africa accounted for more than half (54.8 percent) of people living in poverty worldwide.*

Figure 16: Proportion of people with legally recognized documentation of their right to land out of total adult population, by sex (%) (2018)



Source: DESA (2024b).

2.1.5. Increase resilience to extreme events, shocks and disasters

Table 8
SDG Target 1.5 and related Target and Indicator of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 1.5: By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	Target 5.5: Increase the proportion of farm, pastoral and fisher households that are resilient to climate- and weather-related risks to 30%
	Target 7.11: Reduce deaths and property loss from natural and human-made disasters and climate extreme events by at least 30%

Climate change is harming African economies and ecosystems

African countries are highly vulnerable to climate change and currently the least able to cope with its ensuing negative impacts. Climate change is harming ecosystems, economies, contributing to food insecurity, migration, displacement and fuelling conflict over already scarce resources. A 2023 report noted that more than 110 million Africans were directly affected by climate-, weather- and water-related hazards, with an estimated $8.5 billion in ensuing economic damages in 2022 (United Nations Water, 2023). An ECA report projects that negative climate change impacts will lead to decreasing GDP per capita, and that both West Africa and East Africa will face a potential loss of up to 15 percent of their GDP by the year 2050 (ECA, no date). The box below highlights Morocco's experience with disaster and measures taken for reconstruction and rehabilitation.

Box 6: Morocco's earthquake disaster and reconstruction efforts

In September 2023, Morocco was hit by the most powerful earthquake in its contemporary history, suffering widespread material damage and a heavy human toll. The catastrophe was as devastating as it was unexpected, primarily affecting vulnerable parovinces of the country. Following the earthquake, the Moroccan Government mobilized all its means to meet the expectations of the local population with the necessary speed and efficiency.

In this context, a programme for the general reconstruction and rehabilitation of all the affected areas was launched, initially to identify the damaged buildings, accompanied by the creation of a special fund for managing the effects of the earthquake, dedicated to financing the rehabilitation and reconstruction of housing completely or partially collapsed, supporting orphans and vulnerable individuals, covering basic needs (food, shelter, etc.) and providing direct monthly financial assistance of 2,500 dirhams to affected households for one year.

Source: Report from Morocco.

2.1.6. Mobilize official development assistance (ODA) grants for poverty reduction

Table 9
SDG Target 1.a. and Indicator 1.a.1 and related Target of Agenda 2063

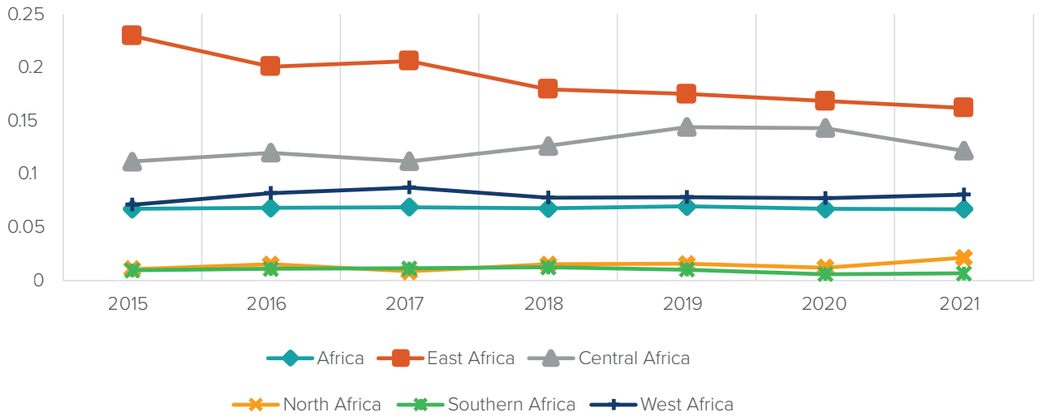
2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 1.a: Ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions Indicator 1.a.1: Total ODA grants from all donors that focus on poverty reduction as a share of the recipient country's GNI	Target 1.7: Reduce 2013 levels of poverty by at least 30%

Notable increase in ODA observed worldwide, but mostly to Ukraine

ODA grants have significantly contributed to improving living conditions and alleviating poverty in developing countries. Worldwide, ODA reached its highest point of $223.7 billion in 2023, a 1.8 percent increase in real terms from $211 billion in 2022. The rise was mainly attributed to assistance provided to Ukraine, humanitarian relief and contributions made to international organizations (OECD, 2024a). In 2023, initial data indicate that the net bilateral ODA flows from members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) to Africa amounted to $42 billion. This represents a 2 percent rise in real terms compared with 2022. There was an 11.0 percent decrease that year relative to 2021 explained in part by the reduced spending on activities related to COVID 19 (OECD, 2024b).

> *Expansion of the social protection system on the continent has gained significant awareness and broad political support. Agenda 2063 calls for countries to raise spending on social protection from the current 2 percent to 5 percent of GDP by 2063.*

Figure 17: Official development assistance grants for poverty reduction (percent of GNI), 2015–2021



Source: DESA (2023).

ODA grants specifically for poverty reduction in Africa ranged from about 0.06 to 0.07 percent of the GNI of African countries between 2015 and 2021 (figure 17). Of the subregions, East Africa received the highest proportion of ODA grants for poverty reduction, followed by Central Africa and West Africa.

2.1.7: Pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies

Table 10
SDG Target 1.a. and Indicator 1.a.1 and related Target of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 1.b: Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions	Target 1.8: Reduce poverty among women by at least 50%
Indicator 1.b.1: Proportion of government recurrent and capital spending to sectors that disproportionately benefit women, the poor and vulnerable groups	Indicator 1.8.8: Reduce poverty among women by at least 50%

Limited data constraining measurement of targeted government spending for vulnerable populations

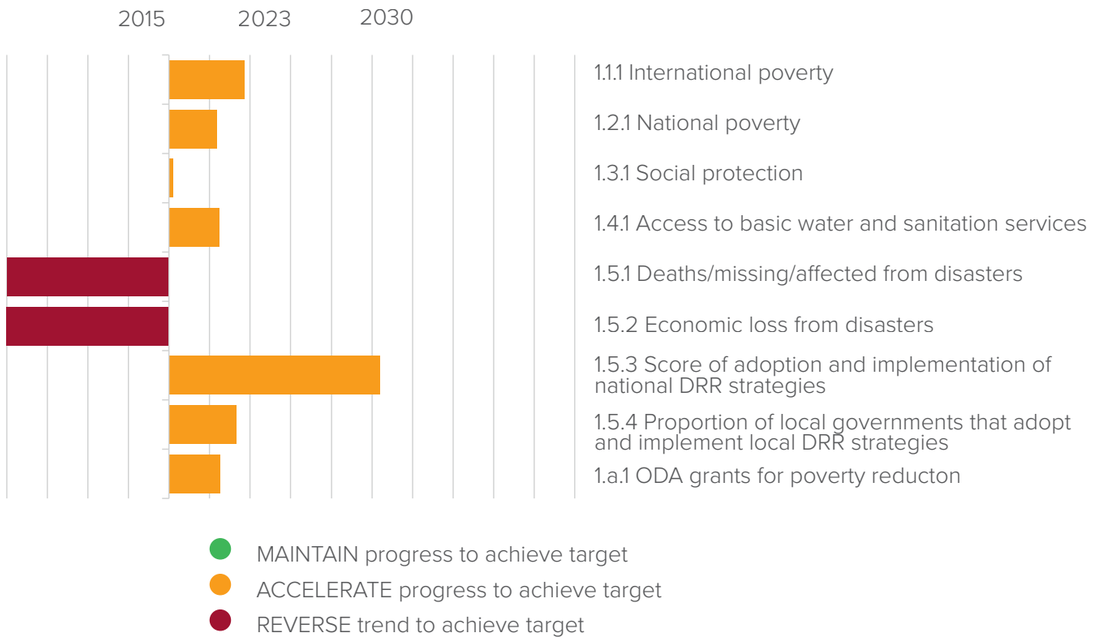
Data on indicator 1.b.1 are limited with only a few data points available worldwide (DESA, 2024b).[10] On one hand, this may lend credence to the fact that governments need to do more to improve pro-poor and gender-sensitive strategies including in their expenditure and monitoring patterns. Existing data show that only 27 countries have comprehensive systems to track and make budgetary allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment (UN-Women and DESA, Statistics Division, 2023).

2.2. Conclusions

At varying degrees, African countries need to accelerate progress to achieve many of the indicators for SDG 1 (see figure 18). Concerted efforts need to be made to reverse the trend for indicators on "deaths /missing/ affected by disasters" as well as economic loss from disasters.

10 United Nations statistics showed 31 observations from 2000 to 2023 for Indicator 1.b.1 on proportion of government spending in health, direct social transfers and education which benefit the monetary poor, with most data points coming from the United Kingdom.

Figure 18: Action that must be taken on Goal 1 indicators for African countries to achieve the Goal 1 targets by 2030



Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for indicators with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for indicators with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing indicators.

Source: ECA computations from SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024a).

Generally, data before the COVID-19 pandemic show that poverty rates in Africa had declined before 2020. However, the pandemic, coupled with the polycrisis of the Russia-Ukraine war, internal conflicts and climate change have had an adverse effect on the progress achieved. Today, Africa accounts for more than half of the global poor population. Child poverty also needs particular attention, as 7 out of 10 children living in extreme poverty are in Africa. Again, despite modest progress achieved, the proportion of working poor and the proportion of the population without access to water and sanitation services in Africa exceed the global averages.

Formal social protection systems are crucial to prevent, manage, or overcome situations that have an adverse effect on individuals' well-being. COVID-19 exposed gaps in the social protection systems while spurring governments to roll out social protection schemes. Significant political commitment and awareness exist among African governments to deploy effective social protection systems, but expenditure on social protection remains lower than global averages.

ODA has also been essential in supporting African countries in addressing poverty. ODA to Africa has also seen a rise over the years in absolute terms but remains well below Africa's financing needs. In terms of GDP, it has barely changed (from 0.3 percent of GDP in 2010 to 0.37 percent of GDP in 2022. Moreover, countries have access to more financing at affordable rates to attain development objectives, which underscores the need for innovative financing approaches.

African countries remain highly vulnerable to climate change and are the least able to cope with its negative impacts. Climate-resilient mitigation and adaptation strategies are imperative to reducing adverse climate effects.

Finally, reporting on SDG 1 and the related goals of Agenda 2063 would be strengthened with the availability of quality, disaggregated data. Understanding the nature, nuances and dimensions of poverty will support more impactful policymaking. For example, data and analysis on child monetary poverty enabled awareness generation on the imperativeness of focusing on child poverty. Similar data on poverty among women or on multidimensional aspects of gender poverty would enable better interventions to be developed.

The 2023 UN-Women Snapshot reports that gender-disaggregated data globally are scarce. Indeed, only 42 percent of countries have poverty data disaggregated by sex and 20 percent of countries producing MPI disaggregated indicators by sex or sex of the head of household (UN-Women and DESA, Statistics Division, 2023). An innovative study done in the Latin American region can be instructive and beneficial for use in Africa. Using the case of 10 Latin American countries, the study calculated MPI across five thematic areas and 10 indicators. These included health and care services, education level and household composition, economic autonomy, access to ICT, and housing and access to basic services.[11] The study estimated that 28 percent of women in the countries analysed were multidimensionally poor. Again, in many instances, subregional analysis was hindered by a lack of data.

Member states thus need to strengthen their national statistical capacities to produce quality, timely and internationally comparable data and statistics, particularly in the context of the SDGs and Agenda 2063, to monitor and review progress and evaluate the effectiveness of programmes.

> *"ODA grants have significantly contributed to improving living conditions and alleviating poverty in developing countries."*

11 Indicators included lack of health insurance, lack of access to child-care services, low educational level, single-mother-headed household with high dependency, unfavourable labour conditions, non-income earner woman, lack of access to internet, digital overcrowding in the household, inadequate housing conditions and lack of access to basic services.

CHAPTER 3

Sustainable Development Goal 2
– State of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition

Key messages

- Key challenges for SDG 2 include soil productivity, climate change impacts and post-harvest losses.
- Enhancing soil productivity through integrated fertility management and local fertilizer production presents opportunities to improve agricultural yields and resilience against external market fluctuations.
- Addressing climate challenges requires urgent adaptation measures including resilient crop varieties, water management strategies and sustainable land-use practices.
- Efforts to reduce post-harvest losses through improved infrastructure and technologies are critical for enhancing food security.
- The increases in hunger and food insecurity across Africa highlight a need for immediate and targeted interventions to ensure access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food for all, particularly vulnerable populations.
- Despite making progress, Africa continues to face challenges in reducing the prevalence of child stunting, with persistent regional disparities. Efforts to tackle stunting must intensify to safeguard future generations' health and unlock Africa's full socio-economic potential.
- Addressing the gaps in productivity and income between small-scale and large-scale food producers is crucial for achieving sustainable agricultural productivity and enhancing livelihoods across the continent.
- Preserving genetic biodiversity of seeds, plants, and animals is important for enhancing food security in Africa amidst climate change threats.
- African agriculture faces declining investment, threatening sustainable growth and food security. Increased international cooperation and investment in rural infrastructure, research, and technology are critical. Initiatives like the African Development Bank's "Feed Africa" and UNDP's climate-smart agriculture projects are vital for transforming food systems and building resilience against climate change.
- Stabilizing food prices and ensuring timely market information are needed for improving food security and nutrition across the continent.

Table 11
SDG 2 and related goals of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	Goal 1: A high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens Goal 3: Healthy and well-nourished citizens Goal 5: Modern agriculture for increased productivity and production Goal 7: Environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities

3.1. Progress and prospects for the achievement of SDG 2 and related goals of Agenda 2063

SDG 2 of the 2030 Agenda strives to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. In Africa, ending hunger remains a paramount objective embedded in both regional and national development agendas. With eight targets (including three for implementing means) and 14 indicators, SDG 2 intertwines with the aspirations of Agenda 2063 of the African Union across four goals (see table 10).

Africa's inability to fully realize SDG 2 emerges from a nexus of structural and technical impediments to both food supply and demand. Moreover, the continent grapples with the adverse impacts of multiple reinforcing shocks, including drought, desert locusts, COVID-19, conflicts, civil insecurity and inflation. These shocks severely disrupt various development initiatives and disproportionately affect the livelihoods of marginalized groups.

Three key challenges can be highlighted to characterize Africa's agriculture system challenges: soil productivity, climate change impacts and post-harvest losses.

Fostering soil productivity

Africa can feed itself if its soil becomes more productive. Differences in food productivity can be explained in large part by differences in Africa's soil management as well as shocks. One major reason for land degradation in the African region relates to ineffective soil management. An estimated 6 million hectares of productive land are lost every year as a result of declining agricultural practices and land degradation. Feeding the soil thus requires both replacing nutrients and better soil management. Enhancing Africa's soil productivity is a linchpin in achieving food security and sustainable agriculture. Integrated soil fertility management, coupled with improved fertilizer accessibility and affordability, holds promise in bolstering soil health and crop yields. Africa imports 95 percent of its fertilizer, reflecting heavy reliance on external sources. Leveraging the continent's abundant mineral and hydrocarbon reserves for local fertilizer production presents a strategic opportunity to bolster domestic agricultural capacities and resilience against external market fluctuations (UNDP, 2023b).

Box 7: Botswana's Temo Letlotlo programme

Botswana has recently adopted a productivity-output, reward-based, agro-ecological programme called Temo Letlotlo. Its main aim is to improve food security in the country. The two components of the programme are:

- **The Household Food Security component** assists microscale farmers with 100 percent subsidy and targets farmers with no wage or whose monthly income threshold is no higher than P2,500 ($180). Under this component, microscale farmers will be capacitated through input supplies to grow enough crops to meet their household food security needs. This has high potential to reduce poverty and improve household nutrition.

- **The National Food Security component** targets individual small-, medium- and large-scale farmers, groups and clusters. Farmers will be provided with prime-rate seasonal loans through the National Development Bank to purchase seasonal inputs. Farmers acquiring seasonal loans through the programme will be required to purchase the weather-based Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme to mitigate the risks associated with crop loss. However, farmers with alternative funding have an option to purchase the Agricultural Credit Guarantee Scheme. This component will produce grain on a commercial basis marketed through the Botswana Agricultural Marketing Board and other various channels to meet national food security needs and ultimately export surplus.

Source: Report from Botswana.

Navigating climate challenges

Escalating climate threats are jeopardizing Africa's agricultural productivity and food security. Climate projections suggest an exacerbation of extreme weather events, including droughts, floods and heatwaves. Such events disrupt farming activities, exacerbate land degradation and escalate food insecurity, particularly in vulnerable regions (United Nations Secretary-General, 2023). Climate change is a real and increasing threat to Africa's agriculture. In East Africa, the increasing frequency of drought is already becoming evident. Since 1999, poor rainy seasons have happened every 2 to 3 years, compared with once every 5 to 6 years pre-1999.

Increasing temperatures and rainfall pattern changes are leading to an increase in the intensity and frequency of extreme weather occurrences on the continent, with grave impacts. Indeed, natural disasters including droughts and floods have increased at a faster pace in Africa compared with the rest of the world. In 2020, 1.2 million Africans were displaced by floods and tropical storms – more than twice the amount of people displaced by violent conflict (White, 2021). A Carbon Brief analysis of disaster records finds that extreme weather events in Africa have killed at least 4,000 people and affected a further 19 million since the start of 2022 (Dunne, 2022).

The International Panel on Climate Change projects that Africa will experience a combination of warming and increased heavy precipitations. This pattern is expected to lead to a "dry gets drier and wet gets wetter" scenario. Wet regions along the equator are forecast to witness a 30 percent increase in rainfall, while already dry regions will experience a 20 percent decrease. These changes will exacerbate prolonged periods of drought and flooding across the continent. Recent droughts and floods in East Africa displaced millions, escalating acute food insecurity. In the Greater Horn of Africa alone, nearly 61 million people face acute

food insecurity, with 11.5 million children under 5 experiencing acute malnutrition (World Health Organization, 2023).

As for agriculture, the International Panel on Climate Change reports a 34 percent reduction in agricultural productivity growth since 1961 due to climate change, surpassing declines in any other region. Future warming will further strain food systems by shortening growing seasons and increasing water stress. A global warming of 2°C above pre-industrial levels will lead to yield reductions for staple crops, with a projected 9 percent decline in maize yield in West Africa and a 20–60 percent decline in wheat yield in Southern and North Africa compared with 2005 yields.

To mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change on food systems and livelihoods, the continent must urgently prioritize climate adaptation measures, including resilient crop varieties, water management strategies and sustainable land-use practices.

Tackling post-harvest losses

High levels of post-harvest losses compound Africa's hunger challenge. Estimated at 100 million metric tonnes annually (African Union Commission, 2018), these losses underscore the urgency of improving post-harvest management practices. Investment in infrastructure, technologies, handling techniques and market linkages is imperative to minimize food waste and enhance food security. The full operationalization of the African Union Post-Harvest Loss Management Strategy is paramount in addressing this issue and advancing progress towards achieving zero hunger.

In confronting Africa's hunger challenge, concerted efforts are required to address structural barriers, enhance resilience against shocks and foster sustainable agricultural practices. By harnessing innovation, strengthening regional cooperation and mobilizing resources effectively, Africa can chart a path towards a food-secure and prosperous future for its people.

3.1.1. End hunger and improve access to food

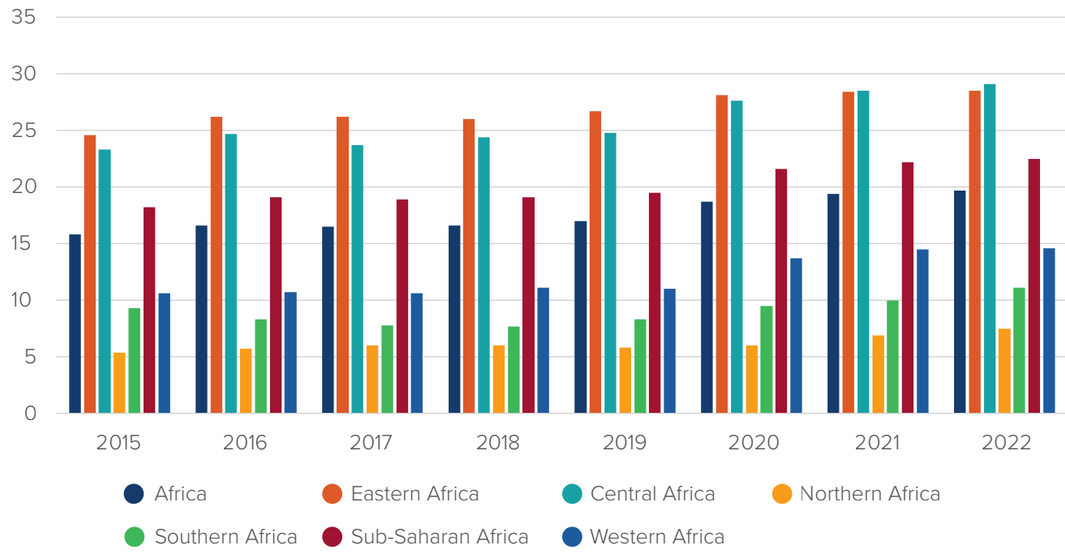
Table 12
SDG Target 2.1, Indicators 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 2.1: By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round Indicator 2.1.1: Prevalence of undernourishment Indicator 2.1.2: Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale	Target 1.10: Reduce 2013 levels of proportion of the population who suffer from hunger by at least 80% Indicator 1.10.10: Share of households having less than two meals a day Indicator 1.10.11: The share of population living below minimal level of daily dietary energy
	Target 5.9: End hunger in Africa Indicator 5.9.11: Hunger ended in Africa

Alarming increase in the number of people facing hunger and undernourishment

The number of people facing hunger has increased by 11 million since 2021 (from 270.6 million in 2021 to 281.6 in 2022) and by a staggering 61 million surge since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. The prevalence of undernourishment, a measure of chronic hunger, increased from 19.4 percent in 2021 to 19.7 percent in 2022 (figure 19). The Central Africa and East Africa subregions experience the highest proportion of undernourished people, with 29.1 percent and 28.5 percent of the population undernourished, respectively. This distressing hunger crisis is anticipated to significantly worsen by 2030.

Figure 19: Prevalence of undernourishment in Africa increased from 15.8 percent in 2015 to 19.7 percent in 2022 (%)

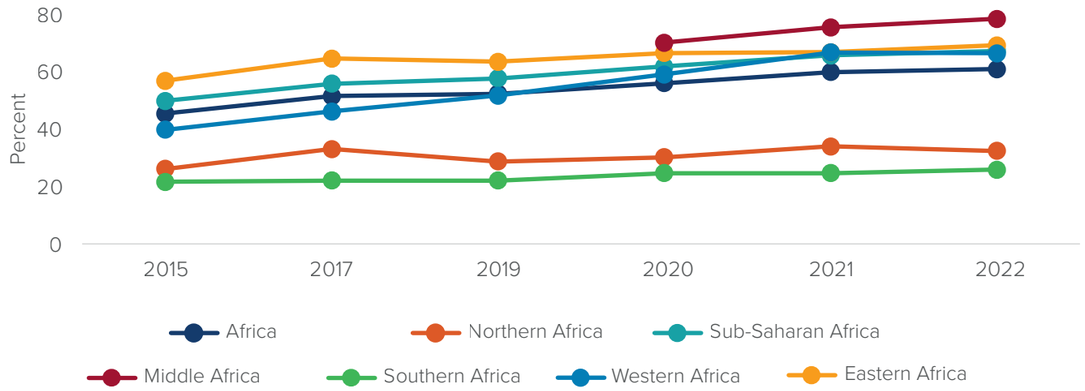


Source: ECA, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, African Union Commission and World Food Programme (2023).

Increase in prevalence of food insecurity

The prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in Africa in 2021 stood at 57.9 percent, showing a 2-percentage-point increase over that of 2020 and a 5.5-percentage-point increase prior to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic (figure 20). The rise in the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the region, particularly prominent in East Africa and Central Africa subregions, is attributed to a combination of factors including but not limited to major droughts, conflict and civil unrest, high levels of inflation (food, fuel and fertilizers) and general economic slowdown in many countries in these subregions.

Figure 20: Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in Africa increased from 45.3 percent in 2015 to 57.9 percent in 2021



Source: ECA (2024b).

> *By harnessing innovation, strengthening regional cooperation and mobilizing resources effectively, Africa can chart a path towards a food-secure and prosperous future for its people.*

3.1.2. End malnutrition

Table 13
SDG Target 2.2, Indicators 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

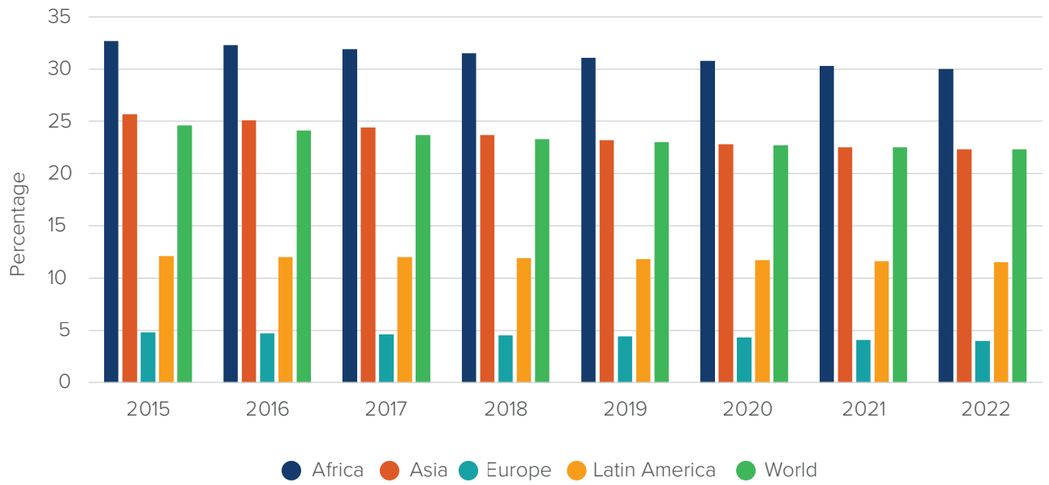
2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 2.2: By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons Indicator 2.2.1: Prevalence of stunting (height for age < 2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age Indicator 2.2.2: Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)	Target 1.11: Reduce stunting in children to 10% and underweight to 5% Indicator 1.11.12: Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 Indicator 1.11.13: Prevalence of underweight among children under 5
	Target 3.7: Reduce 2013 level of prevalence of malnutrition by at least 50% Indicator 3.7.13: Percent of population below minimum level of dietary and energy consumption
	Target 3.8: Reduce stunting to 10% Indicator 3.8.14: Percent of children under age 5 who are stunted
	Target 5.9: End hunger in Africa Indicator 5.9.11: Hunger ended in Africa
	Target 5.10: Elimination of child under nutrition with a view to bring down stunting to 10% and underweight to 5% Indicator 5.10.12: Percent of children stunted Indicator 5.10.13: Percent of underweight children

Prevalence of stunting in Africa remains alarmingly high

Globally, there has been a marginal decline in the prevalence of stunting among children under 5, including in Africa. The prevalence of stunting in Africa remains alarmingly high, despite a decline from 34 percent in 2012 to 30 percent in 2022 (see figure 21). This figure is significantly higher compared with other regions such as Europe (4 percent), Latin America (11.5 percent) and Asia (22 percent). Furthermore, the absolute number of children affected by stunting increased from 61 million in 2012 to 63 million in 2022. The pace of progress in reducing stunting, measured by the Annual Average Rate of Reduction, remains insufficient, at a mere 1.3 percent in 2022 (UNICEF, WHO and World Bank, 2023).

The persistently high prevalence of stunting in Africa raises concerns about the continent's future human capital and its potential for economic transformation. With such a large proportion of children affected by stunting, Africa faces challenges in harnessing its full productive capacity to drive sustainable development and realize its economic ambitions. Addressing stunting is critical not only for improving the health and well-being of African children but also for unlocking the continent's socio-economic potential.

Figure 21: Proportion of children moderately or severely stunted in Africa decreased constantly from 32.7 percent in 2015 to 30 percent in 2022 (%)



Source: DESA (2023).

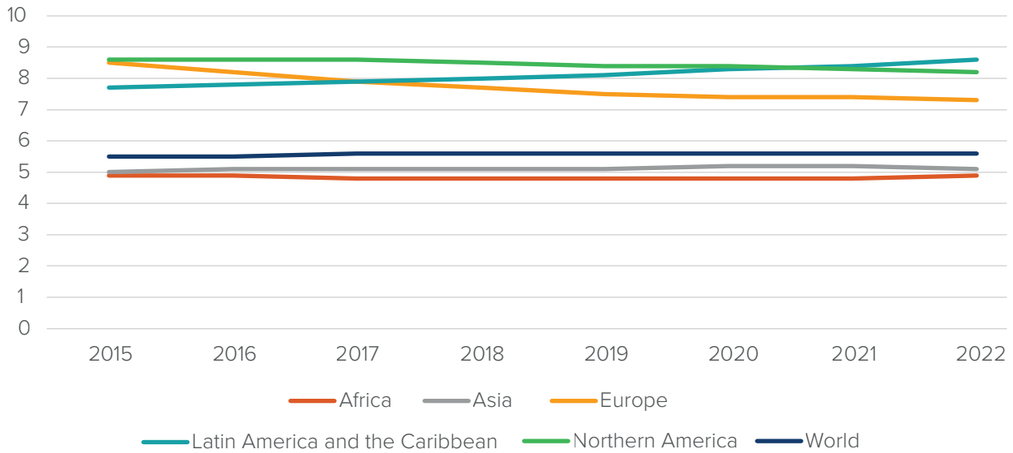
Regional disparities persist in the prevalence of stunting in Africa. East Africa continues to grapple with a high prevalence of child stunting, standing at a staggering 32.6 percent in 2022, the highest among African regions, despite a slight improvement compared with the 36.8 percent recorded in 2015. Notwithstanding the strides, Africa accounts for the highest prevalence of stunting compared with other regions.

Figure 22:

Africa has the lowest number of moderately or severely overweight children

The proportion of children moderately or severely overweight under 5 is globally stable, including in Africa. The region of Latin America is seeing an increasing trend in children overweight (figure 23). In Africa, the proportion of children moderately or severely overweight under 5 was the lowest in the world (4.9 percent) in 2022 compared with other regions such as Latin America (8.6 percent), North America (8.2 percent) and Europe (7.3 percent).

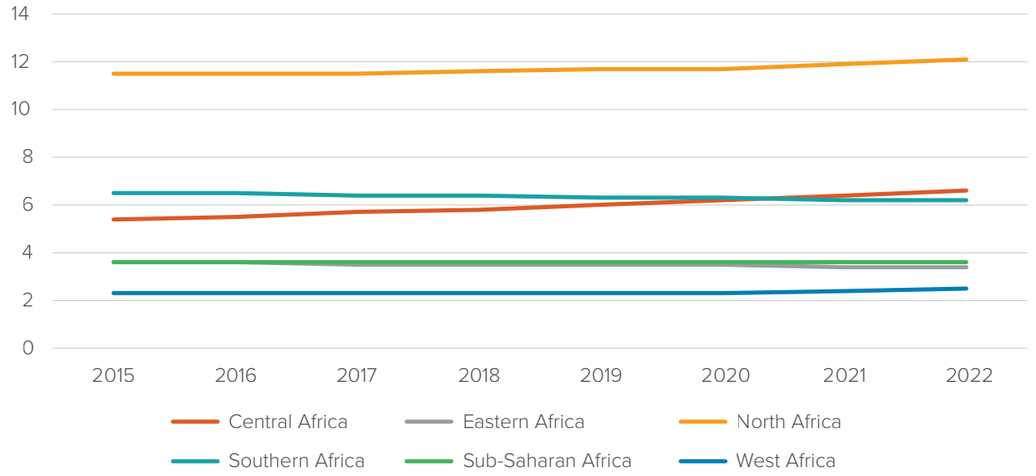
Figure 23: Proportion of children moderately or severely overweight stable in Africa at a lower rate compared to the rest of the world



Source: DESA (2023).

In Africa, Southern Africa, Central Africa and North Africa have the highest proportion of overweight children, while West Africa has the lowest (figure 24). The causes of children's overweight in Southern Africa, Central Africa and North Africa include a notable shift towards high-calorie, nutrient-poor foods that are high in sugar, salt and fat. This shift is due to increased urbanization and the availability of processed and fast foods that are replacing traditional diets. Urbanization has also led to more sedentary lifestyles. With the rise in technology use, children spend more time indoors on screens and less time being physically active. There is a growing perception in some African societies that a higher body weight is a sign of health and wealth. This can contribute to overfeeding in children. Moreover, in some urban areas, households with higher incomes may have easier access to processed foods. There is a need for increased awareness and advocacy for healthy eating habits and the importance of physical activity.

Figure 24: Proportion of children moderately or severely overweight is driven up by North and Southern Africa



Source: ECA (2024b).

3.1.3. Increase agricultural production and income

Table 14
SDG Target 2.3, Indicators 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 2.3: By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, Indigenous Peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment Indicator 2.3.1: Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size Indicator 2.3.2: Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and Indigenous status	Target 5.2: Double agricultural total factor productivity Indicator 5.2.3: Agricultural total production and productivity doubled Indicator 5.3.4: Percent increase of youth and women participating in integrated agricultural value chain
	Target 5.3: Increase youth and women participation in integrated agricultural value chains by at least 30% Indicator 5.2.3: Agricultural total production and productivity doubled Indicator 5.3.4: Percent increase of youth and women participating in integrated agricultural value chain

Box 8: Morocco's flagship strategy, Green Generation 2020–2030

Morocco places great emphasis on food security and sustainable agriculture. Notable progress has been made under the Green Generation 2020–2030 strategy, building on the successes of the Green Morocco Plan, which notably enhanced agricultural growth and sustainability. Advancements include the expansion of water-saving irrigation techniques from 450,000 hectares in 2015 to 750,000 hectares in 2022, and the growth of multi-risk climate agricultural insurance coverage from 679,674 hectares in 2014 to over 1 million hectares by 2022. Additionally, soil conservation efforts have introduced sustainable practices such as extensive plantations, crop conversions to more drought-tolerant and profitable varieties, diversified cropping systems, transitions to organic farming, and optimized pesticide and fertilizer use.

Source: Report from Country, 2024

Significant disparities in productivity between small- and large-scale agricultural producers

Small-scale food producers consistently experience lower productivity compared with their larger-scale counterparts. However, the scarcity of data on their productivity and incomes poses a challenge in tracking global trends. An analysis of available data from nine African countries highlights significant disparities between large- and small-scale producers (ECA, 2024c). On average, the productivity of small-scale producers is approximately half to thrice as low as that of large-scale producers. Similarly, the average annual income of small-scale producers trails behind that of larger-scale producers, typically by a factor of two. This income gap tends to widen over time, particularly in countries like Ethiopia, Malawi, Nigeria and Senegal.

Structural differences between small- and large-scale food producers in Africa often lie in land ownership and size. Small-scale producers typically work on family-owned plots of land less than 2 hectares. These farms are often fragmented and scattered. Large-scale producers usually operate on vast tracts of land, often spanning hundreds or even thousands of hectares, which may be owned or leased. Capital investment and infrastructure also play a key role: small-scale farms have lower capital investment and limited access to modern farming equipment, storage facilities and irrigation systems, while small-scale producers often have limited access to inputs like high-quality seeds, fertilizers and pesticides, and to services like financing and insurance. The landscape is also changing, with efforts to bridge the gap between small- and large-scale producers through initiatives that promote sustainable practices, improve market access and increase the use of technology at all scales.

While the productivity levels between male and female small-scale food producers are generally similar, women consistently earn lower incomes than men. This underscores a significant gender pay gap in the small-scale food production sector. Women's unequal status in society and agrifood systems perpetuates their vulnerability to hunger. Nearly half (49 percent) of women in agriculture work as contributing family workers, receiving little to no pay, compared with 17 percent of men. Women are also less likely to own or have secure tenure rights over agricultural land in 40 of the 46 countries with available data. Gender gaps in land ownership range from under 1 percentage point in Ethiopia and Kenya to over 50 percentage points in Côte d'Ivoire and Niger. This lack of ownership, combined with limited access to assets and agricultural inputs, leads to a gender gap in land productivity, with female-managed farms of the same size as male-managed farms producing 24 percent less (UN-Women and DESA, Statistics Division, 2023).

3.1.4. Genetic biodiversity of seeds, plants and animals preservation

Table 15
SDG Target 2.5, Indicators 2.5.1 and 2.5.2 and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 2.5: By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed Indicator 2.5.1: Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities Indicator 2.5.2: Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk,	Target 7.4: Genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives including other socioeconomically as well as cultural valuables species are maintained Indicator 7.4.5: Diversity index (proportion of genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives including other socioeconomically as well as cultural valuables species maintained)

Urgent need to safeguard agricultural biodiversity and ensure food security

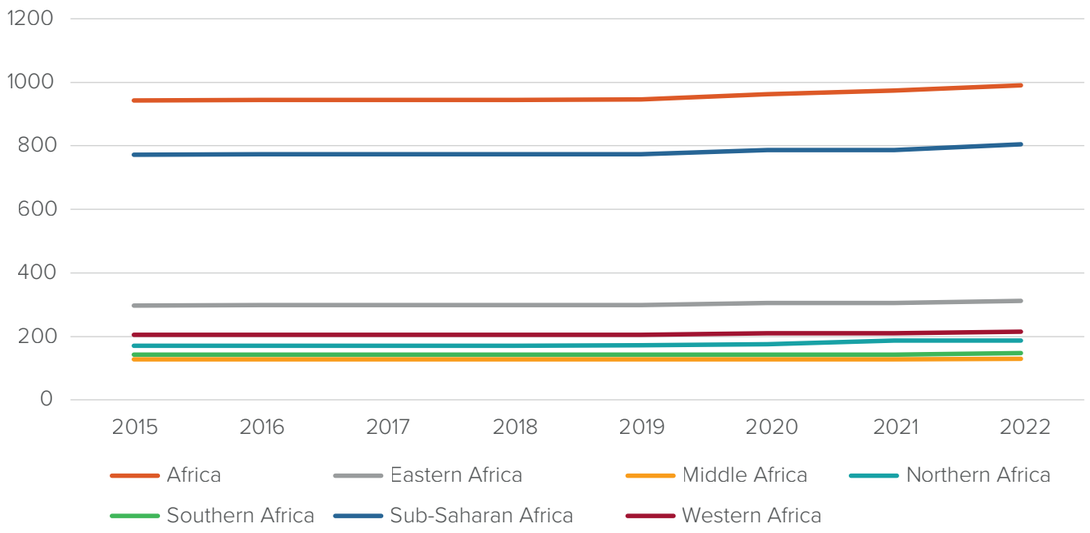
Accelerating the global response to the escalating threat of climate change is paramount in safeguarding crop and crop-associated diversity. Despite witnessing significant net increases in gene bank holdings from 2016 to 2021, Africa's efforts to preserve crop diversity in compliant ex situ facilities have fallen short of effectively addressing the mounting threats (ECA, 2024c).

> *Accelerating the global response to the escalating threat of climate change is paramount in safeguarding crop and crop-associated diversity.*

Biodiversity is critical for food security in Africa. Biodiversity allows for a variety of foods to be grown and consumed, contributing to nutritional security. In Africa, where malnutrition is a significant issue, a variety of food species can provide a more balanced diet. Diverse ecosystems are more resilient to climate change and extreme weather events such as droughts, floods and temperature fluctuations. African food systems, often at the mercy of such conditions, can be more robust when they include a range of species with different tolerances to environmental stresses. Biodiversity can reduce the spread of pests and diseases. Monocultures, where a single crop is grown extensively, can be more vulnerable to pests and diseases, which can spread quickly and decimate crops. A variety of crops can break the pest and disease cycle and reduce the reliance on chemical pesticides, which can have harmful environmental effects. Biodiversity can help maintain soil fertility and structure, which is critical for sustainable agriculture. Practices such as crop rotation and intercropping – growing different crops in close proximity – can improve soil nutrients and prevent soil degradation. The genetic diversity within traditional varieties and indigenous species of crop and livestock can be a valuable resource for breeding programmes, providing genes that confer resistance to diseases and environmental stresses. This is a crucial asset for adapting to future challenges and ensuring food security.

In Africa, biodiversity is also closely linked to cultural identity and traditional knowledge systems. Indigenous crops and animals are often part of cultural heritage and practices, including traditional medicine. Preserving this biodiversity is important for maintaining cultural diversity and food sovereignty. Focusing on SDG Indicator 2.5.1 (animal), the reduction of endangered breeds is unlikely to be substantial in the near future. Therefore, countries must intensify their efforts to adequately conserve genetic material. In 2022, Africa maintained only 991 local animal breeds being kept in the country, a significantly lower figure compared with the global total of 7,686 breeds (see figure 25). As at 2023, the figures reveal an alarming reality: only 2 percent (18 out of 805) of local and 9.2 percent (35 out of 270) of transboundary breeds in the continent have sufficient genetic material stored for preservation (ECA, 2024c). Enhanced preservation measures are urgently needed to safeguard agricultural biodiversity and ensure food security in the face of climate change.

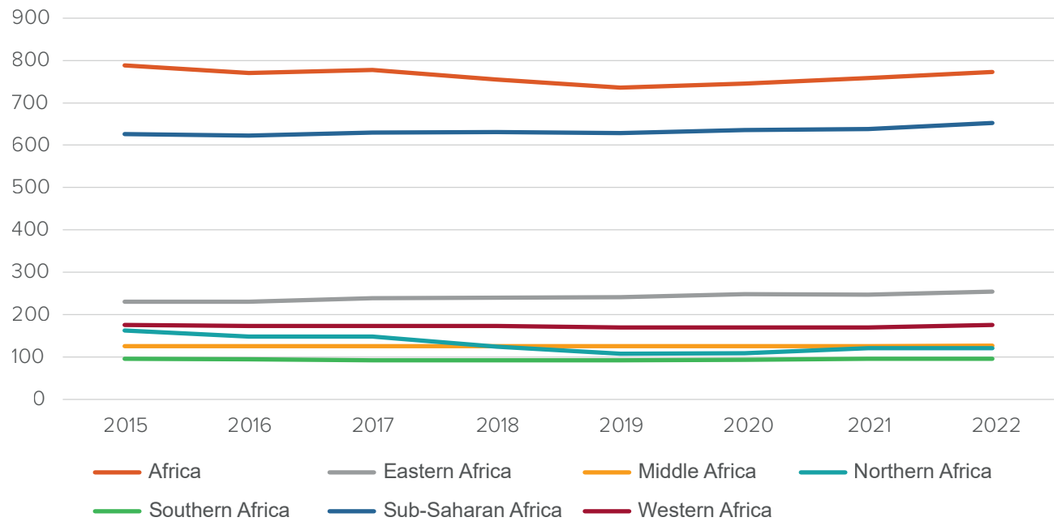
Figure 25: Number of local breeds kept in the country (animal)



Source: DESA (2023).

While a consistent or declining proportion of endangered breeds may be viewed as a positive sign of progress towards the target, it is essential to recognize that we are still far from guaranteeing the genetic diversity of farmed and domesticated animals. Additionally, the limited availability of updated data in many countries poses a challenge to conducting a comprehensive evaluation of global and regional outcomes. Despite this limitation, the latest data indicate a minor decrease in Southern Africa, while other regions across the continent have either maintained stability or seen slight increases.

Figure 26: Number of local breeds with unknown risk status is slightly increasing in Africa – from 755 in 2018 to 773 on 2022



Source: DESA (2023).

3.1.5. Increase investment to enhance agricultural productivity and correct trade distortions

Table 16
SDG Targets 2.a and 2.b, associated Indicators and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

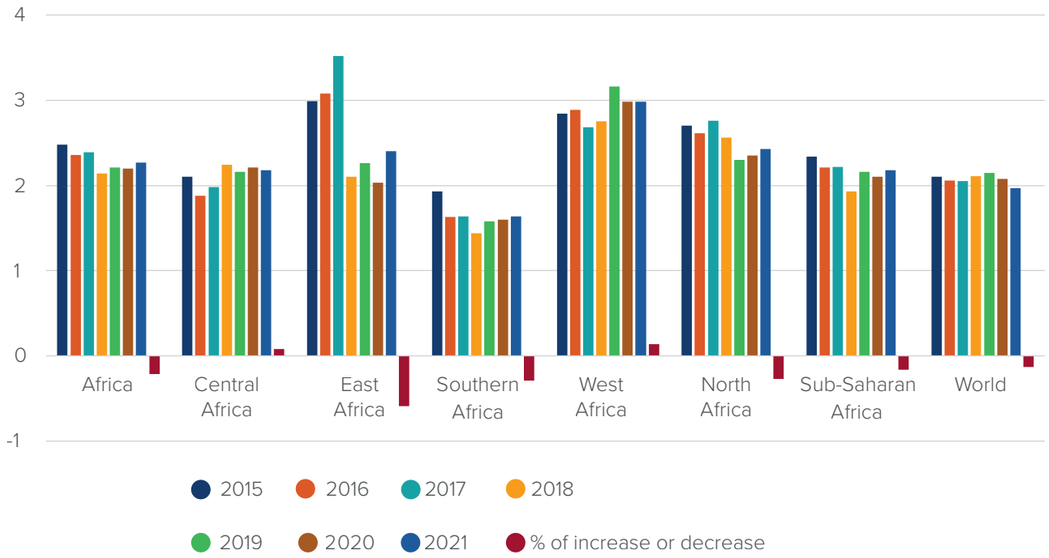
2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 2.a: Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries Indicator 2.a.1: The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures Indicator 2.a.2: Total official flows (ODA plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector	Target 5.1: Allocate a minimum of 10% annual public expenditure to agriculture and grow the sector by at least 6% per annum Target 5.2: Double agricultural total factor productivity
Target 2.b: Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round Indicator 2.b.1: Producer support estimate Indicator 2.b.2: Agricultural export subsidies	Target 4.14: Level of intra-African trade in agricultural commodities is increased by at least 100% in real terms Target 5.8: Triple intra-African trade of agricultural commodities and services
Target 2.c: Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility Indicator 2.c.1: Indicator of food price anomalies	

Investments and ODA to the agricultural sector has experienced a downturn in most subregions

Investment in the agriculture sector across Africa has experienced a downturn, with the exception of West Africa. Agriculture is the backbone of many African economies, and both public and private spending play a crucial role in fostering agriculture-led growth and transforming food systems.

Globally, the agricultural share of government expenditure decreased by approximately 2.23 percentage points between 2015 and 2021. In Africa, this reduction was even more pronounced, amounting to about 2.69 percentage points during the same period. East Africa exhibited a particularly significant reduction of 3.58 percentage points (figure 27).

Figure 27: Agricultural share of government expenditure (%) declined from 2015 to 2021 globally and in Africa[12]



Source: ECA (2024b).

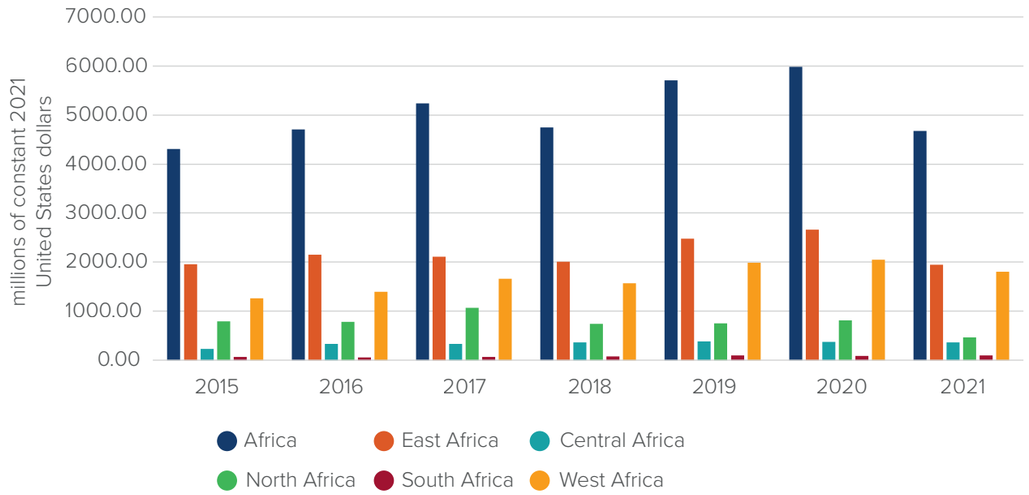
ODA allocated to the agriculture sector has shown a consistent upward trend from 2015 to 2020. However, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic marked a turning point in 2021, signalling a shift in this trajectory.

East Africa emerges as the primary recipient of ODA flows for the agricultural sector, with West Africa following closely behind. By comparison, Central and Southern Africa receive the lowest amounts of ODA.

> *Agriculture is the backbone of many African economies, and both public and private spending play a crucial role in fostering agriculture-led growth and transforming food systems.*

12 The ECA Dashboard does not have “world” data; the “world” data here is from the United Nations SDG Dashboard.

Figure 28: Total official flows (disbursements) for agriculture have been increasing in Africa from 2015 to 2020 (millions of constant 2021 United States dollars)



Source: DESA (2023).

The African Development Bank's strategic priority "Feed Africa" complements SDG 2 and Agenda 2063 goals 3 and 5. The African Development Bank has been working with countries to bring about agricultural transformation through its Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation programme. UNDP has also been working with partners to improve food security in the continent (see box 9).

"Agriculture employs an estimated 2.5 billion people worldwide. It contributes about one fifth of all greenhouse gas emissions and is a primary cause of biodiversity loss. It is both a main cause of climate crisis and a solution to it."

Box 9: Transforming food and agriculture by UNDP – Creating food security while fighting climate change

For smallholder farmers struggling to feed their families, resilient agriculture and smarter food systems can support nations in preparing for, responding to and recovering from the multiplying crises that could result in 300,000 people starving every day, cost our economy trillions of dollars and push millions back into poverty.

In partnership with national governments, over 40 international organizations and NGOs, donors and United Nations organizations (the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme, UNICEF and World Food Programme), UNDP's vision is to transform food and agriculture to be more resilient, equitable, inclusive and environmentally, socially and economically sustainable.

Agriculture employs an estimated 2.5 billion people worldwide. It contributes about one fifth of all greenhouse gas emissions and is a primary cause of biodiversity loss. It is both a main cause of climate crisis and a solution to it.

Transforming agriculture into a solution means that, when disasters hit – be they droughts or the locust plague in East Africa that threatens food security for 13 million people – children will not starve to death, and together, as a global community we can achieve zero hunger and zero poverty by 2030.

Over the past 12 years, UNDP climate change adaptation projects have supported more than 4.8 million smallholder farmers in building climate-smart agriculture, incorporating new techniques in water harvesting, crop and income diversification, developing markets for climate-resilient crops, improved land management and weather insurance.

With $701 million in funding from the Adaptation Fund, Global Environment Facility and Green Climate Fund, over 853,000 hectares of agricultural land have been restored in 46 countries.

UNDP does not tackle climate change or food security as standalone issues. Our approach improves productivity, profitability and sustainability from farm to fork.

This means reducing agricultural emissions and encouraging renewable energy, integrated pest-management and livelihoods diversification. It means making better decisions on land management with improved data and climate information to ensure transparency and consistency. It means greening value chains from farms to urban areas. It means climate-resilient agricultural practices. It means improving storage while limiting carbon output with green approaches to transport and refrigeration. It means helping farmers rethink the way they do business, reach markets, process goods and adapt their enterprises and livelihoods to the unique realities of the 21st Century.

3.1.6. Adopt measures to ensure proper functioning food commodity markets

Table 17
SDG Targets 2.c and Indicator 2.c.1

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 2.c: Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility Indicator 2.c.1: Indicator of food price anomalies.	N/A

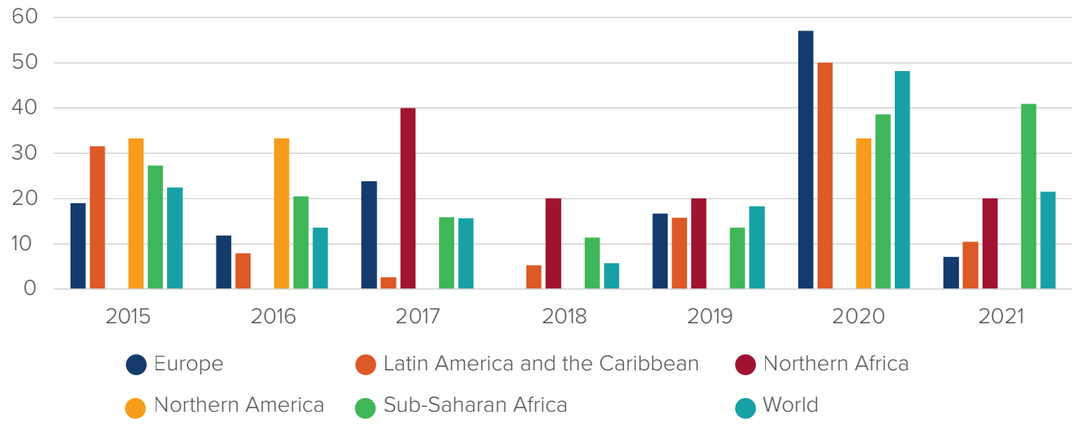
Heightened upward pressure on food prices impacting household purchasing power

In Africa, various domestic factors such as adverse weather conditions and conflicts in central Sahelian countries, currency depreciation, political instability and production shortfalls in East Africa have contributed to heightened upward pressure on food prices. In 2021, 20 percent of countries in North Africa recorded abnormally high to moderately high food prices. The corresponding figure for the rest of Africa of 40.9 percent was twice that for North Africa (figure 29).

Given the predominantly low-income profile of households in Africa, the increasing trend of food prices has significantly impacted household food purchasing power. This has led to a shift towards less healthy alternatives and a reduction in the quantity of food consumed due to limited resources. These factors have adversely affected nutrition outcomes and hinder the attainment of SDG 2. As a result, the number of Africans unable to afford healthy food has risen to approximately 80 percent of the population in 2022 (ECA, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, African Union Commission and World Food Programme, 2023), with an estimated 145 million children under 5 living in food poverty on the continent.

Globally, following the food and energy price crises driven by the COVID-19 pandemic, all regions experienced a spike in prices in 2020.

Figure 29: Proportion of countries recording abnormally high or moderately high food prices marked by COVID-19 impacts in 2020



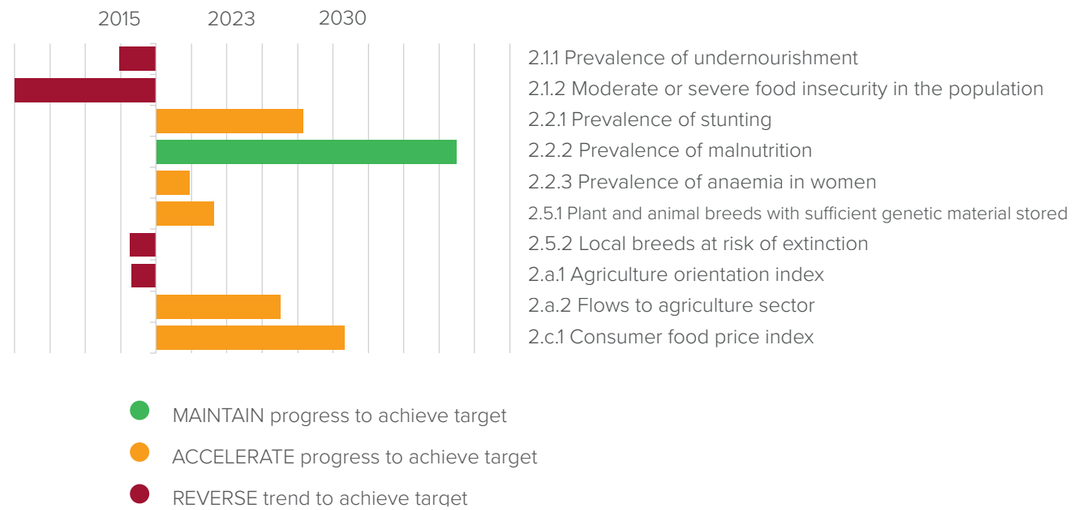
Notes: Data is incomplete for some regions.

Source: DESA (2023).

3.2. Conclusions

The current trajectory indicates that Africa is not on track to achieve SDG 2 by 2030, underscoring the need for a re-evaluation of development strategies (figure 30).

Figure 30: Actions that must be taken on Goal 2 indicators for African countries to achieve the Goal 2 targets by 2030



Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for indicators with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for indicators with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing indicators.

Source: ECA computations from the SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024b).

Many African countries lack robust policies and institutions to support sustainable agricultural practices and equitable access to resources. Weak regulatory frameworks hinder progress towards achieving food security and creating an enabling environment for both business and public services.

Inadequate infrastructure, including roads, storage facilities and irrigation systems, restricts agricultural productivity and market access, leading to inefficiencies in agricultural value chains and increased post-harvest losses.

Climate change poses significant challenges to Africa's food security. Extreme weather events like droughts and floods disrupt agricultural production, emphasizing the need for resilient farming practices.

Limited access to technology and funding hinders the adoption of innovative agricultural practices, preventing the sector from reaching its full potential.

The interconnected nature of challenges such as poverty, malnutrition and environmental degradation requires coordinated efforts across multiple sectors. Lack of collaboration hampers progress in transforming agrifood systems.

Limited progress has been made in areas such as securing land rights, empowering women, promoting agricultural mechanization and strengthening regional value chains, hindering the agricultural sector's growth.

For meaningful progress to be made, a more effective and holistic approach is necessary. Africa must prioritize implementing and refining policies and institutions to support sustainable agricultural practices and equitable access to resources, ensuring the right to food for all. Investments in infrastructure are crucial to improve agricultural value chains and reduce post-harvest losses.

Strategies such as climate-smart agriculture and sustainable farming practices should be implemented to mitigate the impact of extreme weather events on agricultural production.

Partnerships, technological advancements, precision agriculture and innovative financing mechanisms can revolutionize the agricultural sector, boosting productivity and efficiency. The Nairobi Declaration's (African Union, 2023c) call for immediate action to secure the promised $100 billion annually in climate finance is crucial for fostering climate resilience in Africa. This funding could significantly bolster economies against climate shocks. Further, the commitment to develop policies that draw investment into green growth could boost private sector engagement in agrifood value chains. Prioritizing nutrition within the climate finance framework – as urged by the African Union Nutrition Champion at COP 28 (African Development Bank Group, 2023) through the position paper "From Commitment to Action" – is essential.

Africa must prioritize implementing and refining policies and institutions to support sustainable agricultural practices and equitable access to resources, ensuring the right to food for all.

Addressing interconnected challenges requires coordinated efforts across sectors, including agriculture, health, education and social welfare.

Securing land rights, empowering women, facilitating the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), fostering agri-entrepreneurship and strengthening regional value chains are essential. Agro-industrialization initiatives, like agro-parks, can add value to agricultural products, create employment and promote inclusive economic growth.

By prioritizing these strategies, Africa can accelerate progress towards achieving SDG 2, ensuring food and nutrition security for all. Concerted efforts from governments, civil society, the private sector and development partners are needed to transform the agricultural sector and build a resilient, sustainable food system for future generations.

CHAPTER 4

Sustainable Development Goal 13
– Climate action

Key messages

- Despite challenges of reduced agricultural productivity, disrupted supply chains, and fiscal revenue losses, Africa remains committed to global climate goals, focusing on resilience-building and sustainable development amidst escalating climate impacts.
- Africa, accounting for 17 percent of the global population and less than 4 percent of global emissions, is the most disproportionately impacted region from the adverse impacts of climate change, while having a very low adaptive capacity.
- Only 29 African countries have adopted national and local disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies aligned with global frameworks. Closing this gap requires stronger governance, risk assessment, public awareness, and integration of DRR into development planning at all levels.
- Africa has ratified the Paris Agreement and updated its nationally determined contributions (NDCs), demonstrating significant commitment to climate action.
- Agriculture and energy sectors are central to Africa's climate strategies, highlighting their critical roles in economic growth and inclusivity. Improving project safeguards and mainstreaming climate resilience across sectors will be essential to effectively mitigate climate impacts and enhance resilience.
- Ongoing initiatives aim to improve data collection, underscoring the importance of continuous efforts to effectively mainstream climate change education across the continent.
- Africa faces a significant shortfall in climate finance, receiving only a fraction of the $100 billion annually pledged by developed countries. Current finance flows are highly concentrated in a few countries and dominated by public sources.
- The continent has made significant strides in climate change planning, updating their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) since COP 26. Additionally, 21 African countries have submitted national adaptation plans.

Table 18
Sustainable Development Goal 13 and related goals of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	Goal 7: Environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities

4.1. Progress and prospects for the achievement of SDG 13 and related goals of Agenda 2063

There is a global consensus that climate change presents significant challenges and impacts across Africa. Despite the continent's relatively low contribution to global cumulative greenhouse gas emissions, Africa is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Climate change has increased the vulnerability of the continent's diverse ecosystems and socio-economic systems. The impact of climate change is reflected in agricultural productivity loss, disruptions in production and supply chains, and revenue losses from trade, especially for countries whose economies heavily depend on climate-sensitive sectors such as agricultural commodities exports.

Although the full impact is yet to be estimated, Africa could lose up to 20–30 percent of its fiscal revenue (IMF, 2023). This will likely reduce capacities to use public financial flow in development finance and their abilities to services their debts for African countries. National budget constraints would also limit African countries' capacities to use public financial resource as catalytic capital in financing their development needs including in building their national and sectoral resilience towards climate risks as well as their pathways towards low-carbon economies.

Again, while the full impact of current climate impacts is yet to be evaluated, future projections indicate that African countries' exposure to climate physical risks will increase as well as the likelihood of their impact. Historical scenario research shows that as at 2022, among the African countries, 7.3 percent are very highly impacted by climate risks, 11.5 percent are highly impacted, 27.7 percent are moderately impacted, and 33.5 percent have experienced relatively low impact (Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre, 2023). This is driven by an increase in countries' exposure to climate-related physical risks. Overall, 20.4 percent of African countries were found to be very highly exposed to climate-related physical risks, with 11.1 percent experiencing high exposure to climate extremes, 27.8 percent moderate exposure, 33.3 percent low exposure, and 7.4 percent very low exposure. However, assessments of coping capacity, including institutional capacity in disaster risk management and physical-social infrastructure, indicate that 20.4 percent of African countries lack very high coping capacity, while 46.3 percent have high coping capacity and 18.5 percent have moderate coping capacity. As a result, 25.9 percent of African countries are very highly vulnerable to climate-related physical risks, 40.7 percent are at high risk, 22.2 percent are at moderate risk, and 7.4 percent are at low risk. Africa by 2050 will experience a 30 percent revenue loss from the agricultural sector, resulting in a rise in poverty of between 20 and 30 percent compared with a scenario without climate change (Adom, 2024).

Looking at the subregional level, the Sahel region is likely to be the most affected region in the world because of rapid socio-economic and biophysical transformation (annual population growth of 3.2 percent to 3.6 percent recorded between 2010 and 2020 projected to 1.8 percent to 2.8 percent between 2020 and 2040 (OECD Sahel and West Africa, 2021), and shrinking of natural resources including land and water resources), and relatively poor institutional adaptive capacities. The region is dependent on rain-fed agriculture and is regularly hit by droughts and floods, experiencing enormous consequences for people's food security associated with conflict. The Sahel region is recognized as one of the major ecologically threatened hotpots (Institute for Economics and Peace, 2023).

Even in temperatures below 1.5°C (above pre-industrial levels), the western Sahel region will experience the strongest drying, with a significant increase in the maximum length of dry spells. Central Africa is expected to see a decrease in the length of wet spells and a slight increase in heavy rainfall. West Africa has been identified as a climate change hotspot, with climate change likely to lessen crop yields and production, with resultant impacts on food security. The western part of Southern Africa is set to become drier, with increasing drought frequency and the number of heatwaves towards the end of the 21st Century.

Article 2 is the heart of the Paris Agreement on climate change; it sets the objectives. Article 2.1(a) urges a global response to limit the increase in the global average temperature to 1.5°C (2.7°F) above pre-industrial levels to reduce the risks and impacts of climate change. Article 2.1(b) outlines the need to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, build resilience and pursue low greenhouse gas development. Article 2.1(c) points out that we need to make finance flows consistent with these objectives if we are ever going to attain them. Finally, Article 2.2 outlines the context these articles should be pursued under, including the principles of equity, common-but-differentiated responsibility, and respective capabilities and national circumstances (United Nations, no date).

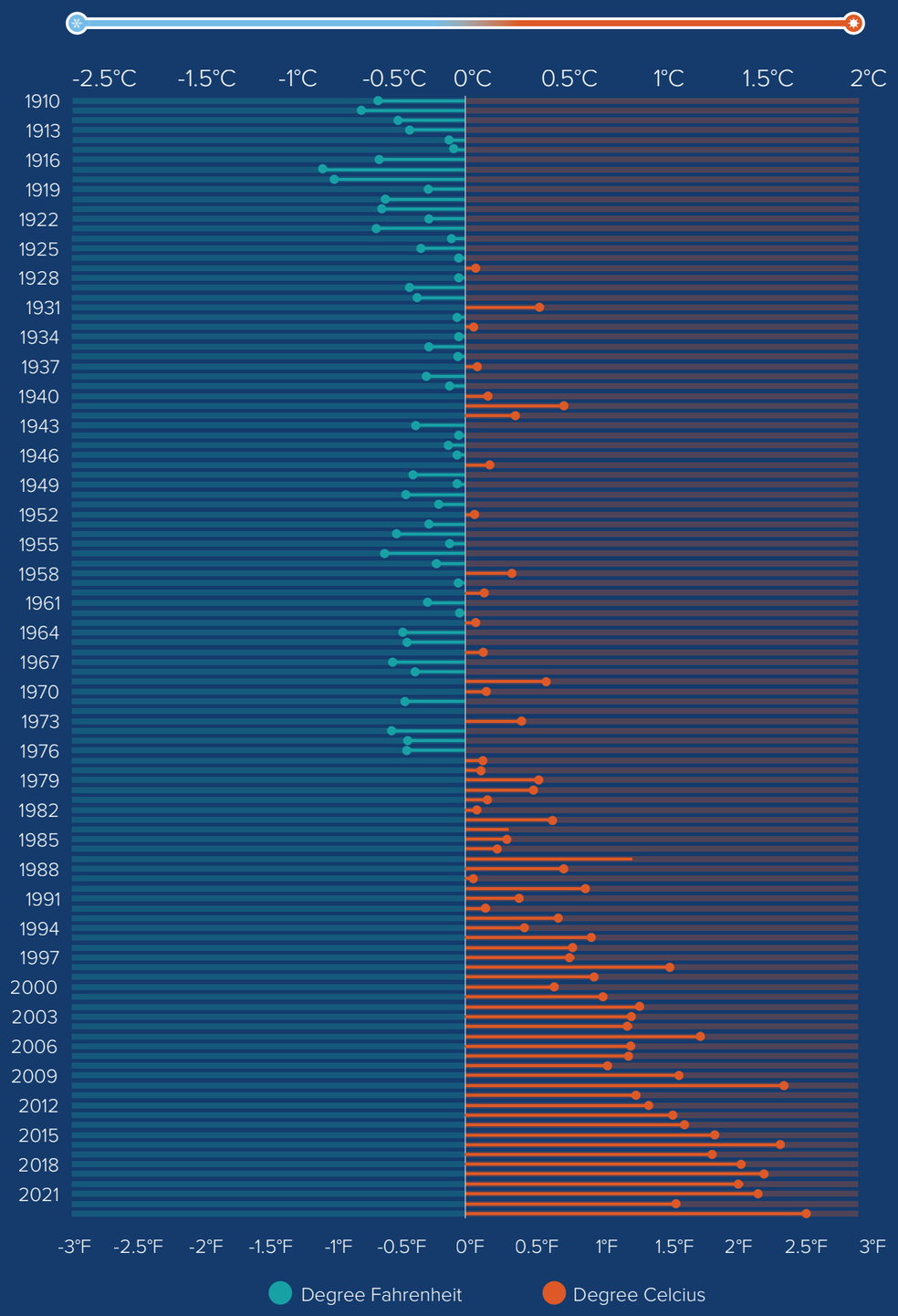
Greenhouse gas emissions continue to rise globally, putting Africa more at risk of missing its development objectives. Records show that 2023 was the warmest year on record: the global surface temperature registered 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.[13] It was also the warmest year for Africa, which also registered warming levels of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The State of the Climate in Africa 2022 report shows that, by 2022, Africa had warmed by 0.88°C above the 1961–1990 average, and that during the 1991–2022 period the continent experienced an average rate of warming +0.3°C per decade, compared with +0.2°C per decade for the period 1961–1990 (World Meteorological Organization, 2023). Africa is experiencing significantly high and continuous warming, also shown by the rapidly increasing temperature anomalies on the continent over the past two decades – as figure 31 shows.

The latest science from the Adaptation Gap Report 2023 is clear: low levels of mitigation and adaptation are increasing climate-related losses and damages. The report noted that the 55 most climate-vulnerable economies alone have already experienced losses and damages of more than $500 billion in the last two decades. Considering that Africa constitutes the majority (33) of the 46 least developed countries worldwide, and with 9 of the 10 countries ranked as most vulnerable to climate disruptions globally being in Africa, the continent has borne the brunt of losses and damages from climate change.

13 See: https://climate.copernicus.eu/global-climate-highlights-2023.

Figure 31:

Average temperature anomalies across Africa, 1910 to 2023



Source: Environmental Information (2024).

For Africa, the COP 28 outcomes build from the outcomes of the Africa Climate Summit that held on the theme of "Green Growth and Climate Finance Solutions for Africa and the World" and was convened under the auspices of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government and hosted by Kenya. The Africa Climate Summit was preceded by the Eleventh Climate Change and Development in Africa conference that served as the technical segment of the summit under the same theme, as well as the Africa Climate Talks, which are both flagship events of the ClimDev-Africa initiative. ClimDev-Africa is a joint programme of the African Union Commission, ECA and African Development Bank, is implemented in partnership with the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance and was mandated by the Summit of the African Union in 2009 to support African countries to foster a common and coordinated response to climate change throughout the continent.

SDG 13 calls on all governments and stakeholders to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, while acknowledging the UNFCCC as the primary international intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response. Specifically, SDG 13 outlines initiatives to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacities; integrate climate measures into policies and planning; build knowledge and capacity; protect life on land; and promote mechanisms to raise capacity for planning and management. Agenda 2063's Goal 7 drives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource management; water security; and climate resilience and natural disaster preparedness.

SDG 13 identifies three targets and two supplements with eight indicators to track progress in addressing the challenges of climate change. SDG 13 aligns closely with Goal 7 of Agenda 2063 – environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities. Whereas SDG 13 articulates five targets with associated indicators, Goal 7 of Agenda 2063 encompasses a range of relevant strategic intervention areas, including climate resilience and natural disaster preparedness and prevention, that altogether focus on adaptation. Notwithstanding the fact that Agenda 2063 prioritizes adaptation, it nonetheless signals an overarching commitment to participating in global efforts for climate change mitigation.

> *Despite the continent's relatively low contribution to global cumulative greenhouse gas emissions, Africa is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.*

This section assesses progress on responding to climate change through the implementation of the various global and regional initiatives. Monitoring SDG 13 in the African context focuses on the indicators related to DRR and the development of policies, strategies and action plans that contribute to achieving the climate change objectives of the development goals. The trends for the other themes (mitigation), however, are less monitored/assessed due to various issues related to data availability.

4.1.1. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters

Table 19
SDG Targets 13.1, associated Indicators and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries	Target 7.11: Reduce deaths and property loss from natural and human-made disasters and climate extreme events by at least 30%
Indicator 13.1.1: Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	Indicator 7.11.14: Percent of countries with early detection system and disaster management plans at the level of villages/communities
Indicator 13.1.2: Number of countries that adopt and implement national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	
Indicator 13.1.3: Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local DRR strategies in line with national DRR strategies	

Climate change, aggravates the impacts of existing diverse crises

While extreme events are natural, climate change is worsening their occurrence and impacts. Africa, accounting for 17 percent of the global population and less than 4 percent of global emissions, is the most disproportionately impacted region from the adverse impacts of climate change, while having a very low adaptive capacity. These adverse impacts include increasingly more frequent and intense extreme events (droughts, floods and heatwaves), irregular seasons, shifts in agro-ecological zones, and loss of biodiversity. These impacts can, in turn, result in reduced agricultural productivity, landslides, infrastructure damage, human insecurity and displacement, armed conflict and the spread of vector-borne diseases.

The African Sahel remains plagued by intersecting economic, environmental, political and humanitarian crises. The security situation is marked by terrorism and violent extremist groups. Intercommunal tensions frequently boil over, fuelled by conflict over dwindling natural resources. The impacts of climate change, including long-term stress and sudden shocks, are acting as a threat multiplier. With funding from the Global Environment Facility's Least Developed Countries Fund and support from UNDP, the Government of Mali launched a project in 2023 focused on climate security and sustainable management of natural resources in the central regions. The project involves strategies that will combat land degradation and restore land productivity, helping vulnerable communities adapt to climate change and promoting peacebuilding (UNDP, 2023c).

African countries are incurring substantial losses and damages from the adverse impacts of climate change. Estimates show that African countries lose on average 5 percent of GDP per year owing to the adverse impacts of climate change, increasing to up to 15 percent in some cases, while some countries are diverting up to 9 percent of their budgets, unplanned, to respond to more frequent and intense extreme weather events caused by climate change. Climate change drives inequality and creates and prolongs poverty traps, with children and adolescents particularly exposed. At COP 27, loss and damage was a key discussion point, and the negotiations ended in a historic agreement to establish a United Nations-sponsored loss and damage fund to help developing countries that are "particularly vulnerable" to the effects of climate change. Additionally, a group of African insurers committed to creating the African Climate Risk Facility, pledging to provide $14 billion of cover for Africa's climate risks by 2030, while European countries also pledged $246 million towards risk management. This target has three indicators: deaths and injuries from natural disasters, national disaster risk management and local disaster risk management.

Average disaster-related mortality in Africa reached its peak in 2023 compared with the number recorded in the last two decades

Indicator 13.1.1 measures mortality rates, internally displaced persons, missing persons and the total number of persons affected by natural disasters and economic impacts. Globally, there is an increase in natural disasters. According to the 2023 Emergency Events Database report, 399 disasters were recorded globally in 2023 alone, compared with 369 between 2002 and 2022. The disasters occurring in 2023 were dominated by floods (164), storms (139), earthquakes (32), mass movements (wet) (24), wildfires (16), extreme temperatures (10) and droughts (10). Of the} 399 recorded extreme events, 60 occurred in the African region, representing 15 percent. However, the induced impact is relatively high in Africa. Of the total 86,473 deaths related to disasters recorded in 2023, compared with 64,148 deaths for the period 2003–2023, 24.6 percent occurred in Africa, with Libya (12,350), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2,970), Morocco (2,948), Malawi (1,209), and Nigeria (275) among the top 10 affected countries in the world.[14] Meanwhile, the 93.1 million affected in 2023 is nearly 10 times the combined total of 175.5 million people impacted from 2003 to 2022 – 13.5 percent were recorded in Africa. The United Republic of Tanzania (2.9 million), Somalia (2.5 million) and Malawi (2.35 million) fall among the top 10 countries with a highly affected population.[15] The economic impact also varies across regions. Of the $202.7 billion in economic losses recorded in 2023, compared with $196.3 billion for the period 2003–2022, the economic loss in Africa is estimated at $13.7 billion. This is significantly high compared with an equivalent of 1 percent loss for the period 2003–2022. Morocco ($7 billion) and Libya ($6.2 billion) are among the top 10 countries with significant economic losses.[16] This highlighted the variation of natural disaster exposure, impacts and resilience gaps across African countries.

Only 29 African countries have national and local disaster risk reduction strategies

Little progress has been made from 2015 to 2022 in adopting and implementing DRR policies. This includes the updating and integrating of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction into the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction which was developed in 2004. The strategy aims to contribute to the attainment of sustainable development and poverty eradication by facilitating the integration of DRR into development plans and policies. Specifically, the strategy aims to:

14 Disaster-related deaths from Storm Daniel in Libya; severe flooding and landslides from torrential rainfall in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; a magnitude 6.8 M_w earthquake in Morocco; Cyclone Freddy in Malawi; and floods in Nigeria.

15 Affected population by flood in the United Republic of Tanzania and Somalia; and Cyclone Freddy in Malawi.

16 Economic losses resulting from the earthquake in Morocco and storm in Libya.

1. increase political commitment to DRR
2. improve identification and assessment of disaster risks
3. enhance knowledge management for DRR
4. increase public awareness of DRR
5. improve governance of DRR institutions
6. integrate DRR into emergency response management

The African Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction was followed globally by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, which seeks to achieve substantial reductions in disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health as well as in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of individuals, businesses, communities and countries from 2015 to 2030. The Sendai Framework outlines seven clear targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks. These include:

1. understanding disaster risk
2. strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk
3. investing in disaster reduction for resilience
4. enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and "building back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

The Sendai Framework extends beyond the integration of DRR into emergency response, emphasizing measures to ensure the sustainability of DRR initiatives and enhancing long-term resilience to natural disasters and climate risks as key drivers of disaster risks. Therefore, updating the African Regional Strategy and its implementation at the country level is crucial, including the provision of a clear framework for financing natural disaster risks and climate change adaptation.

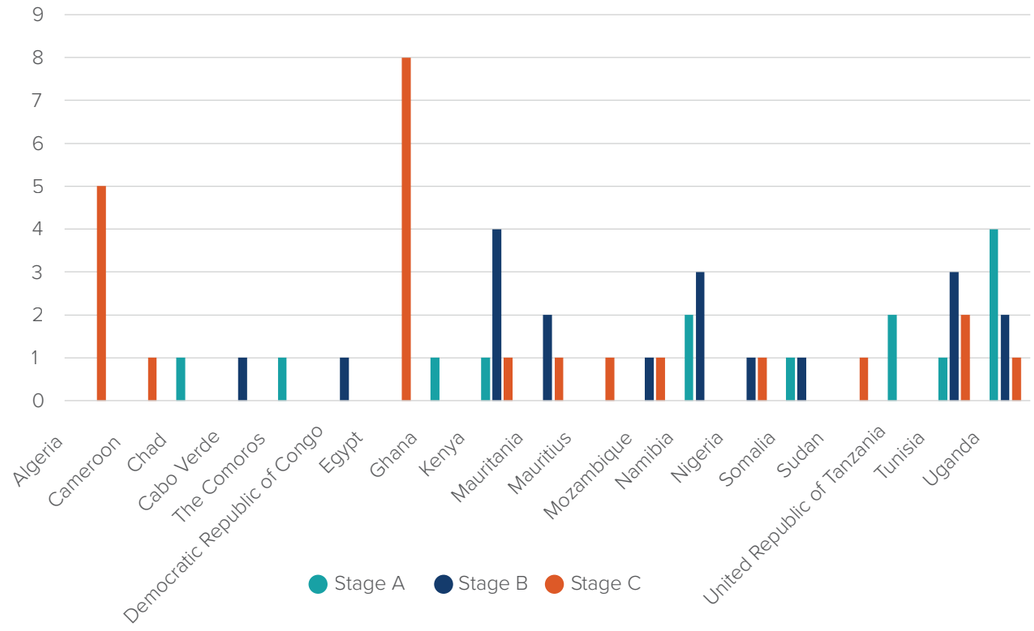
The Sendai Framework Monitor data show that the number of countries in Africa having national and local DRR strategies remains fairly low at 29 African countries, compared with 126 out of 195 countries having national DRR strategies and 102 countries having local DRR strategies. The lack of appropriate guidance at the African regional and country levels to enhance the domestication of the Sendai Framework can be attributed to the level of DRR and climate change risk management across Africa countries. Information is still lacking on the efforts implemented at the level of local governments in line with national risk management strategies. Unlike in many other parts of the world, most of Africa's population is expected to live in cities. This rapid urbanization means that African cities will be on the front lines of dealing with the impacts of climate change and managing disaster risks. The integration of DRR frameworks into city-level planning, including spatial planning, is slowly picking up in Africa: 56 cities across 20 African countries are participating in the Making Cities Resilient 2030 initiative road map initiated by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (figure 32). The 56 cities fall into three categories: stage A (cities know better);[17] stage B (cities plan better);[18] and stage C (cities have a robust DRR framework).[19] Egypt contains the largest number of cities under stage C. Twenty-eight of these cities in Africa have reported to have developed and adopted local DRR strategies.

17 Stage A focuses on enhancing cities' understanding of risk reduction and resilience. Stage A cities are committed to moving along the resilience pathway by developing and implementing DRR and resilience strategy. They will do this first by raising awareness around DRR and resilience and, second, by bringing relevant city actors and the public on board with the city's plans for DRR and resilience

18 Stage B cities will initially focus on improving assessment and diagnostic skills, increasing alignment among local, national and regional strategies, and improving early-stage strategies and policies. Stage B cities may have had some early successes and momentum towards achieving DRR, sustainability and resilience improvements, and have some form of strategy to address disasters but may not yet incorporate risk reduction or preventive measures.

19 Cities in this stage have a relatively robust DRR, resilience and sustainability plan in place and may be in the early stages of implementation or already working towards mainstreaming the DRR/resilience strategy and activities across their government structure. Stage C aims to support cities in the implementation of risk reduction and resilience actions.

Figure 32: Mapping of African countries participating in the Making Cities Resilient 2030 initiative



Source: Author's analysis using United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Making Cities Resilient 2030 dashboard data.

4.1.2. Integrate climate change measures into policy and planning

Table 20
SDG Targets 13.1, associated Indicators and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning Indicator 13.2.1: Number of countries with nationally determined contributions (NDCs), long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the UNFCCC Indicator 13.2.2: Total greenhouse gas emissions per year	Target 7.11: Reduce deaths and property loss from natural and human-made disasters and climate extreme events by at least 30% Indicator 7.11.14: Percent of countries with early a detection system and disaster management plans at the level of villages/communities

Limited integration of climate change and disaster risk into development strategies

Africa has taken notable steps in combating climate change, especially at the strategic policy level. All but two countries have ratified the Paris Agreement with ambitious NDCs to climate action. In 2020, parties to the Paris Agreement were required to submit the first revision of their NDCs in 2020. By February 2024, 45 African countries had submitted updated NDCs, with 23 having more ambitious targets in their updated versions (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, no date). At the national level, several countries have set up multiple dedicated climate change laws and policies. Twenty-one African countries have developed and submitted national adaptation plans out of a total of 53 submissions for developing countries globally. A further 8 countries have submitted long-term low-emission development strategies, out of a total of 68 global submissions.

The agricultural and energy sectors are prioritized in 70 percent of Africa's climate commitments in the NDCs. These sectors stand out as catalytic to socio-economic growth because of their potential to enhance economic inclusivity (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2020).

Climate change and disaster planning in African countries are limited by the relatively low mainstreaming of institutional capacity, including safeguarding framework, into policy and project planning. While policy and strategy safeguards are limited to national and local policy development guidelines, the integration of climate change and disaster risk into policies and development strategies in African countries is limited. Additionally, incorporating climate change and disaster risks into project safeguards is largely restricted to the environmental and social impact assessment framework, which is not adequately designed to mainstream these issues.

Box 10: Climate and disaster risk planning in Egypt

In Egypt, the institutional arrangements and climate and disaster risks mainstreaming have been effective in enhancing the country's climate change and disaster risk management capacity.

Egypt has several government agencies responsible for managing climate and disaster risks. These include the Ministry of Environment, which oversees environmental policies and climate change adaptation efforts, the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, which manages water-related issues including flood management, and the General Authority for Meteorology, which is responsible for monitoring weather patterns and issuing early warnings for extreme weather events.

National DRR strategy: Egypt has developed a DRR strategy to enhance its resilience to natural hazards. This strategy outlines measures for disaster preparedness, response and recovery, and involves coordination among various government ministries and agencies.

Early warning systems: Egypt has invested in early warning systems to alert communities about potential disasters such as floods, storms, and heatwaves. These systems help reduce the impact of disasters by providing timely information to authorities and the public, allowing for appropriate preparedness and response measures.

Infrastructure development: The Egyptian Government invests in infrastructure projects aimed at reducing the vulnerability of communities to climate and disaster risks. This includes building flood defences, improving drainage systems and constructing resilient buildings and infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events.

Community engagement: Engaging local communities in climate and disaster risk management is essential to effective resilience-building efforts. Egypt promotes community participation in decision-making processes, disaster preparedness training and awareness-raising activities to empower communities to cope with climate-related challenges.

Overall, Egypt's institutional arrangements and financing mechanisms play a crucial role in enhancing the country's resilience to climate change and natural disasters, protecting lives, livelihoods and infrastructure, and promoting sustainable development.

Africa remains the lowest per capita contributor to global carbon emissions

Africa represents 17 percent of the global population and yet it accounts for less than 4 percent of global carbon emissions. South Africa, Nigeria and North African countries account for most of Africa's emissions (figures 35 and 36).

Africa's per capita carbon emissions of 1 tonne compare favourably to North America's (15 tonnes), G20 countries' (6.14 tonnes), East Asia and the Pacific's (6.61 tonnes), and the European Union's (6.25 tonnes). Even in terms of greenhouse gases from all sources and all uses, Africa's per capita share remains the lowest.

Figure 33: Total greenhouse gas emissions (megatonnes)

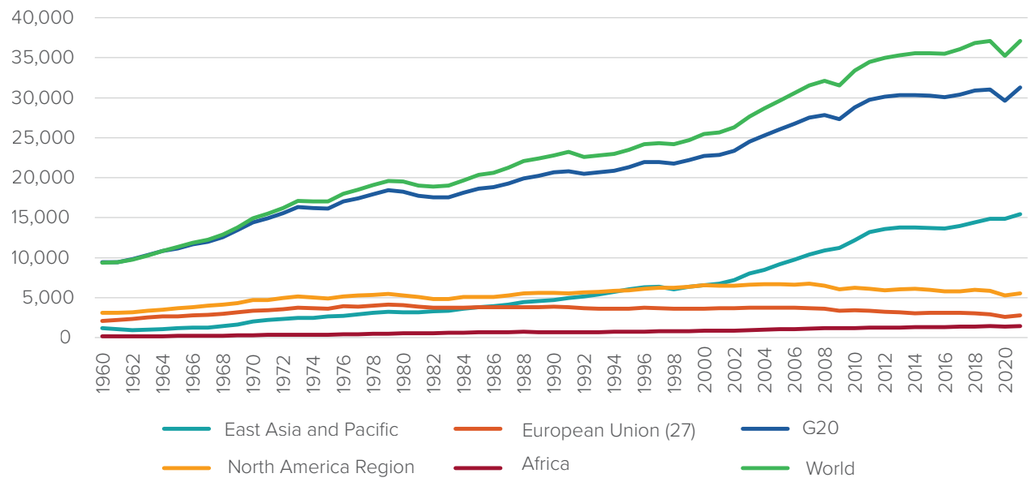
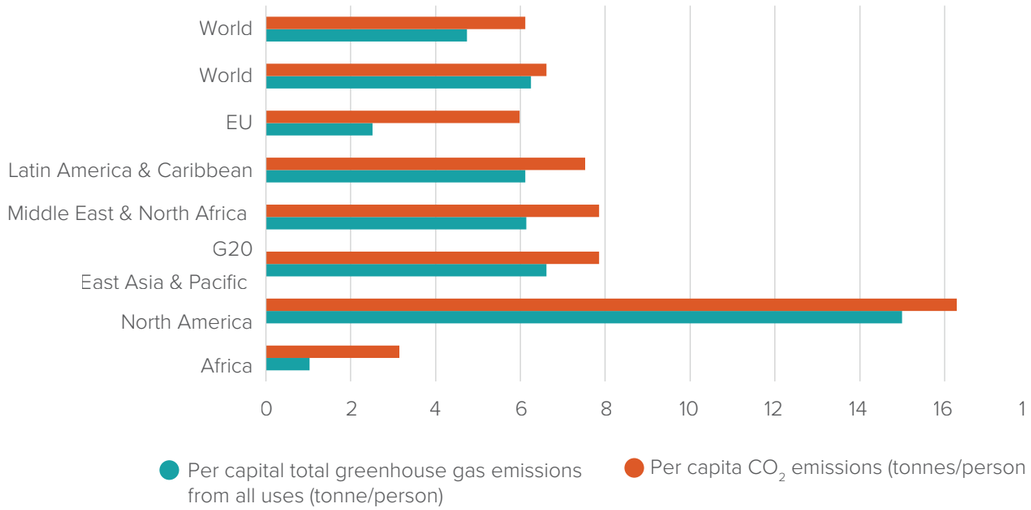


Figure 34: Per capita total greenhouse gas emissions and per capita CO_2 emission



4.1.3. Promote education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity

Table 21
SDG Targets 13.2, associated Indicators and related Target and Indicator of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning Indicator 13.3.1: Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment	Target 7.11: Reduce deaths and property loss from natural and human-made disasters and climate extreme events by at least 30% Indicator 7.11.14: Percent of countries with an early detection system and disaster management plans at the level of villages/ communities

Select countries are mainstreaming sustainable development into national education policies and curricula with data limitations inhibiting proper analysis of progress assessment

Improving education, awareness-raising, human and institutional capacity is a crucial measure for fighting climate change. Indicator 13.3.1 measures the extent to which global citizenship education and education for sustainable development are mainstreamed into national education policies, curricula, teacher education and student assessment. Algeria, Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi and Mauritius are recorded as mainstreaming global citizenship and sustainable development in teacher education, while six countries, Algeria, Eritrea, Lesotho, Mozambique, Uganda and Zimbabwe, have confirmed the inclusion of climate change in their national curriculum for primary level, with an additional two (South Africa and Malawi) in the pipeline.

The data for this target are limited but improving. Several initiatives across Africa are under way to improve data availability. These include (i) the Global Action Plan on Education for Sustainable Development, developed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (2018), to generate and scale up action at all levels of education with a view to promoting sustainable development and (ii) the United Nations Alliance on Climate Change Education, Training and Public Awareness, which brings together a number of agencies of the United Nations system, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, ILO, UNFCCC, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, UN-Women and the World Health Organization.

4.1.4. Mobilize climate finance of $100 billion per year

Table 22
SDG Target 13.a and Indicator 13.a.1

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 13.a: Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country Parties to the UNFCCC to a goal of mobilizing jointly $100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible Indicator 13.a.1: Amounts provided and mobilized in United States dollars per year in relation to the continued existing collective mobilization goal of the $100 billion commitment through to 2025	N/A

Climate finance mobilized on the continent is far below target of $100 billion per year

The United Nations estimates that Africa requires $7 billion to $15 billion annually by 2030 to enhance adaptation to climate change and that, by 2050, climate impacts could cost African countries $50 billion annually under a 2°C warming scenario. However, the climate finance goal of $100 billion per year has not materialized for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, even though this quantum of finance is far below what is needed. The Climate Change Policy Initiative Report on the Climate Finance Landscape in Africa (2022) indicates that Africa requires $2.8 trillion ($277 billion annually) between 2020 and 2030 to implement its NDCs under the Paris Agreement. The African Group of Negotiators on climate change estimates that, up to 2030, Africa needs $65 billion to $86.5 billion per year for adaptation alone. The Adaptation Gap Report 2022 revealed that Africa received $11.4 billion (39.3 percent) of the $29 billion public finance flows for adaptation to developing countries in 2020. This represents 44.6 to 33.5 percent of its adaptation financing needs. Overall the quantity and quality of current climate finance available remains highly contested: Oxfam estimates that climate finance delivered to developing countries may be as little as a quarter of what is officially reported. The continent lacks the fiscal space to fill the climate finance gap because of elevated debt vulnerabilities. Africa's average debt-to-GDP ratio was estimated to be 59.5 in 2023 and projected to be 58.3 in 2024 (IMF, 2024b). Debt service obligations continue to swell: 20 out of 38 low-income countries in Africa are either in debt distress or at high risk of distress as at April 2024 (IMF, 2024c; OECD, 2024b).

Climate finance to Africa is concentrated in a few countries

Climate finance to Africa is not only well below its needs but is highly skewed to a few countries. Sixty percent of climate finance in Africa is concentrated in 10 countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Tunisia). Eighty-six percent of climate finance in Africa comes from public sources, while the remaining 14 percent from private sources. Annual climate finance flows are concentrated in energy ($9.4 billion), agriculture, forestry, other land use, fishery ($4.6 billion), water and wastewater ($2.6 billion), transport ($2.6 billion) and building ($1.3 billion).

Public concessional finance dominates Africa's climate finance landscape

Overall, the continent's climate finance is dominated by public concessional finance, which is insufficient in scale to address Africa's climate finance gap. The exception is the Green Climate fund commitments to Africa, which are roughly 50/50 between public and private sector resources. This is relatively high compared with other regions such as the Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, which have private sector shares of 30 percent and 22 percent respectively.

Box 11: Climate Finance Initiatives – The Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program (African Development Bank Group, no date-a)

The Africa Adaptation Acceleration Program is a programme implemented in partnership with the Global Center on Adaptation, to mobilize $25 billion to scale up and accelerate climate adaptation actions across Africa. The programme comprises four bold and transformative pillars: i) **climate-smart digital technologies for agriculture and food security** to build resilient food systems in Africa through associated data-driven agricultural and financial services for over 30 million farmers; ii) **African infrastructure resilience accelerator** to close the infrastructure gap in key sectors such as water, transport, energy and waste management, and achieve sustainable development in the face of climate change; iii) **empowering youth for entrepreneurship and job creation in climate adaptation and resilience** to unlock $3 billion in financing for the youth; support 10,000 youth-led small and medium-sized enterprises (50 percent women) in climate resilience; and build capacity for 1 million youth on climate adaptation for job creation; and iv) **innovative financial initiatives for Africa** to close the adaptation finance gap by implementing innovative instruments that tap into the green investment markets and increase financial flows for adaptation.

Climate finance overlooks the exposure and vulnerabilities of children to climate-related hazards

Climate finance and action that overlooks the specific exposure and vulnerability of children weakens the efficacy of climate change response measures and risks contributing to adverse social outcomes and deepening inequalities. In the last 15 years, only 2.4 percent of multilateral climate financing has been allocated to projects that are child-responsive.

4.1.5. Increase capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management

Table 23
SDG Target 13.b and Indicator 13.b.1 and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 13.b: Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities Indicator 13.b.1: Number of least developed countries and small island developing States with NDCs, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the UNFCCC	N/A

All small island developing States and least developed countries have submitted at least a first NDC

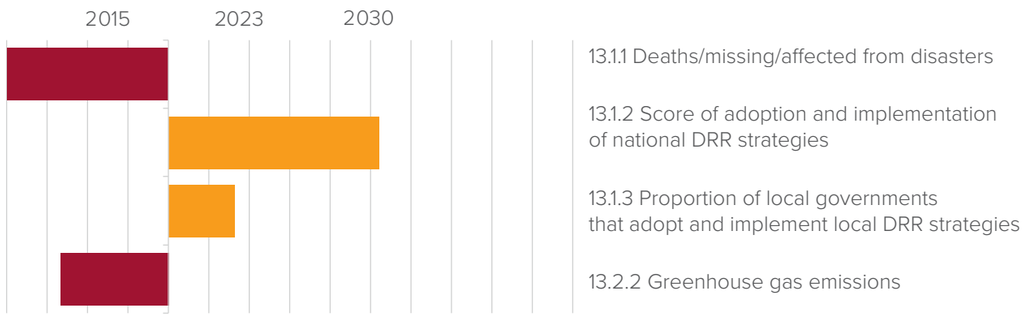
Gradually, African countries are making good progress towards strengthening their response capacities to climate change by enhancing management planning, establishing policies and exerting effort towards getting ahead of addressing the climate change crisis. However, these efforts have also been challenged by limited resources. Africa has made considerable progress in updating

NDCs since COP 26, but the development of long-term low-emission development strategies remains slow. Indeed, eight countries submitted revised NDCs, bringing the total updated NDCs to 47 in Africa. These new NDCs have higher levels of ambition and quality. All African small island developing States and least developed countries have submitted at least a first NDC, and most of them have submitted their first revised NDCs. Twenty-one African countries have submitted national adaptation plans, with fourteen of these countries being least developed countries (out of Africa's 33 least developed countries).

4.2. Conclusions

The current trajectory indicates that progress needs to be accelerated, and in some instances the current trend needs to be reversed in order for Africa to achieve SDG 13 (figure 35).

Figure 35: Actions that must be taken on SDG 13 indicators for African countries to achieve the 13 targets by 2030



Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for indicators with sufficient progress, and the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for indicators with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing indicators.

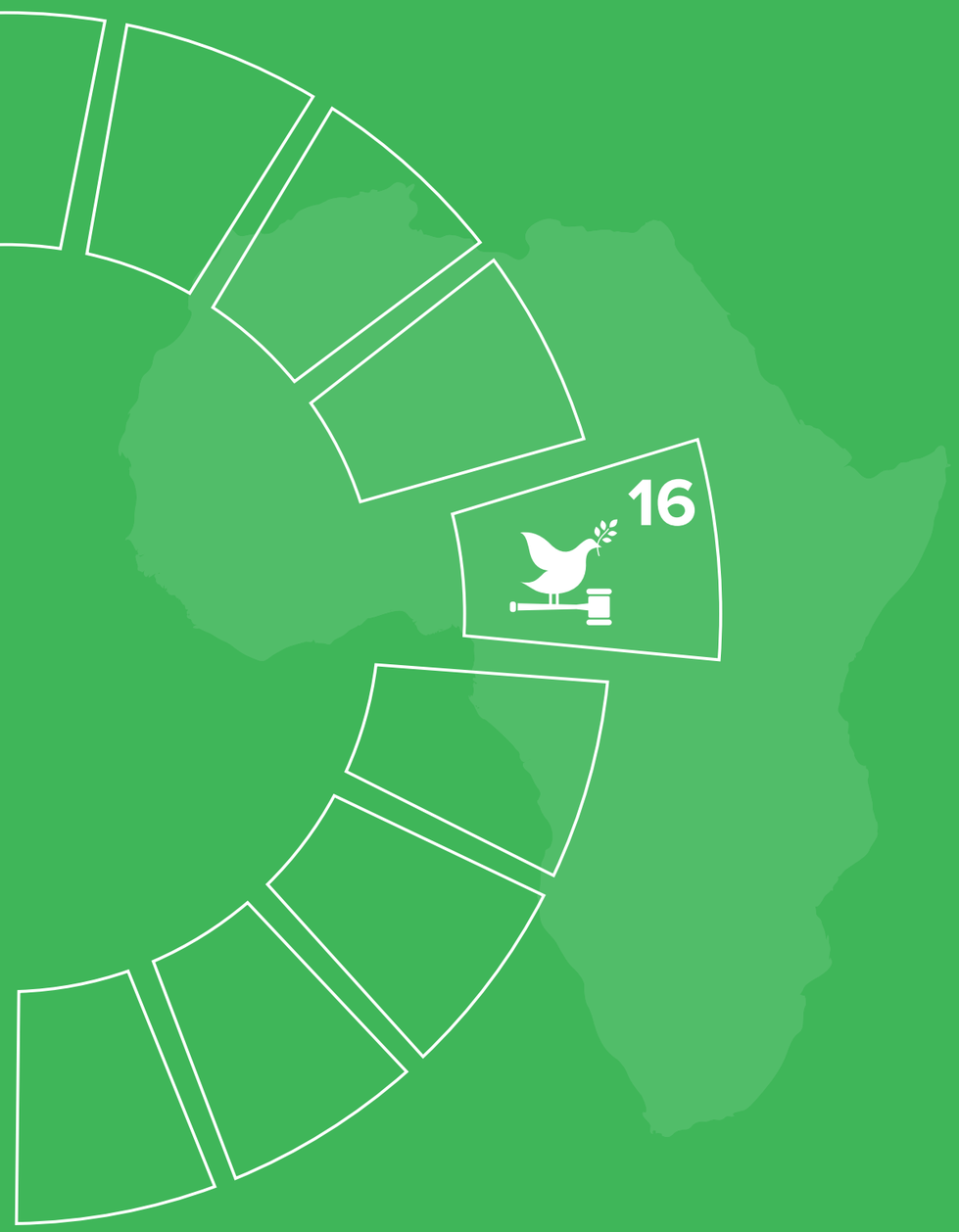
Source: ECA computations based on data from the SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024b).

The spatial distribution of climate risks varied across region in Africa due to the variation of climatic zone. The level of institutional capacity and physical and social infrastructure required to sustainably manage climate change and disaster risks is relatively low in Africa and varied across regions and localities within countries. Further, relatively low progress has been made in enhancing climate and disaster risk management planning at country and city planning. Progress towards enhancing climate information services is relatively low, limiting African countries' capacity in climate vulnerability assessments and identifying technically feasible and cost-effective resilience measures.

- The Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction is yet to be integrated into national, subnational and sectoral levels, and alignment with the Sendai Framework is relatively weak.
- Innovative blended climate and disaster risk financing instruments are needed to scale up climate financing in Africa.
- Climate action in Africa is gaining increased attention at different levels with a focus on climate finance, adaptation and resilience, carbon markets and policy implementation. While most countries have ratified their first round of NDCs, up to 72 percent of these NDCs lack investment plans, which are critical to converting plans into investments and making them capable of attracting implementation resources from a diverse set of economic players – State, non-State, formal, informal, individual and institutional. In addition, most of these commitments – on average up to 70 percent, are classified as "conditional" – which means that their implementation is predicated on international support, which has plateaued and, in some instances, stagnated.

The global drive for urgent climate action through net-zero emissions presents Africa with the opportunity to leverage the AfCFTA and its abundant clean energy resources to be at the centre of the global electrification agenda while industrializing in a resource efficient way.

> *Climate action in Africa is gaining increased attention at different levels with a focus on climate finance, adaptation and resilience, carbon markets and policy implementation.*



CHAPTER 5

Sustainable Development Goal 16
– Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development

Key messages

- Africa faces persistent challenges with high homicide rates, gender disparities in violence, and conflict-related deaths. Several African countries have made strides in reducing violence through policing and justice reforms, crime prevention efforts, and stable governance and social programmes.
- The percentage of women and girls experiencing sexual and physical violence in Africa has significantly decreased, due to increased education, awareness campaigns, economic empowerment and comprehensive support services for survivors.
- African children experience the highest reported proportion of physical punishment and psychological aggression by caregivers. Legislative reforms, public awareness campaigns, support for caregivers and promotion of positive parenting practices are crucial.
- Addressing the issue of the increased number of unsentenced detainees in sub-Saharan Africa requires comprehensive reforms in the legal and judicial systems.
- Illicit financial flows (IFFs) significantly undermine global efforts to achieve the SDGs by draining substantial resources from developing countries. IFFs requires robust national, regional, and international cooperation to strengthen regulatory frameworks, enhance transparency and bolster law enforcement efforts.
- There is considerable variation among African countries in terms of government expenditures as a proportion of their original budgets.
- Corruption remains a significant challenge, but measures are being implemented to address it.
- There have been fluctuations in reported cases of enforced disappearances targeting human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists. Efforts are needed to prevent such violations, ensure accountability and support victims and their families.
- Africa has experienced a notable increase in the proportion of countries with independent national human rights institutions (NHRIs) compliant with the Paris Principles, surpassing the global average in 2021, reflecting improved governance and international recognition of human rights standards.

Table 24
SDG 16 and related goals of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
SDG 16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	Goal 11 – Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law entrenched Goal 12 – Capable institutions and transformed leadership in place Goal 13 – Peace, security and stability is preserved Goal 14 – A stable and peaceful Africa Goal 17 – Full gender equality in all spheres of life Goal 18 – Engaged and empowered youth and children

5.1. Progress and prospects for the achievement of SDG 16 and related goals of Agenda 2063

SDG 16, which has 12 targets and 23 indicators, recognizes the fundamental importance of peace, justice and strong institutions in achieving sustainable development. It is crucial for ensuring stability, reducing violence, combating corruption and promoting the rule of law, which are all essential for fostering sustainable development and prosperity. Achieving SDG 16 is essential for advancing SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (climate action). Overall, the achievement of SDG 16 not only directly contributes to promoting peace, justice, and strong institutions but also has ripple effects across various other goals and aspirations of Agenda 2063, ultimately contributing to holistic and sustainable development.

Reporting on SDG 16 presents unique challenges in terms of data availability. One of the main challenges is the qualitative nature of many of the targets under this SDG, such as reducing violence, ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms. These aspects are inherently difficult to measure, and the data that do exist is often fragmented and inconsistent across different countries and regions. Additionally, the sensitive nature of the data related to justice and strong institutions can lead to underreporting or reluctance from governments to share information. This lack of comprehensive and reliable data hampers the ability to accurately assess progress and implement policies that could address the issues SDG 16 aims to solve. Moreover, the need for data disaggregation to capture the experiences of marginalized groups adds another layer of complexity, making it challenging to paint a complete picture of the global situation regarding peace, justice and strong institutions.

5.1.1. Reduce all forms of violence and death rates

Table 25
SDG Target 16.1, associated Indicators and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 16.1 – Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere Indicator 16.1.1 – Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age Indicator 16.1.2 – Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause Indicator 16.1.3 – Proportion of population subjected to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months Indicator 16.1.4 – Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live after dark	T12.5 – Reduce local conflicts to zero by 2020 I12.5.5 – The number of local conflicts that occurred in a year
	T13.1 – Level of conflict emanating from ethnicity, all forms of exclusion, religious and political differences is at most 50% of 2013 levels I13.1.1 – The number of conflicts emanating from ethnicity, all forms of exclusion, religious and political difference

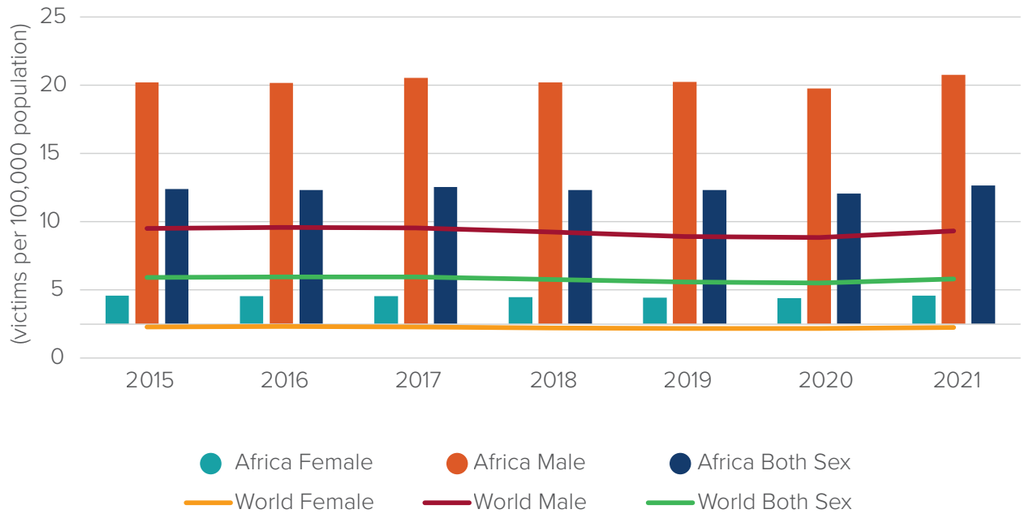
Male homicide rates are higher than female rates, while women continue to be disproportionately affected by domestic killings

Overall, the global homicide rate has seen a slight decrease over the years, from 5.92 per 100,000 population in 2015 to 5.79 in 2021. Both male and female homicide rates globally have followed this downward trend, although male rates are consistently higher than female rates. Globally, male homicide rates are notably higher than female rates, which is consistent with long-standing trends. In 2021, out of the 458,000 homicides reported, 19 percent were women and girls, while 81 percent were men and boys. On the other hand, women continue to be disproportionately affected by domestic killings (UNODC, UNHCR and UNDP, 2023).

In Africa as a whole, the homicide rate per 100,000 people has remained relatively stable, ranging from 12.37 in 2015 to 12.66 in 2021. Male homicide rates are consistently higher than female rates across the continent, with rates of 20.75 percent (men and boys) to 12.66 percent in 2021 (women and girls).

Overall, while there are fluctuations in homicide rates over the years and differences between regions and genders, the data suggest a persistent challenge with regards to reducing homicide rates, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, and addressing gender disparities in violence (UNODC, UNHCR and UNDP, 2023).

Figure 36: Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex



Source: DESA (2023).

Several countries in Africa have been working towards achieving SDG 16, particularly reducing violence. While progress may vary across nations, some countries have made strides in this direction.

Rwanda has made significant strides in reducing violence and promoting reconciliation. The Government has implemented various measures, including community policing, justice reforms and reconciliation programmes, contributing to a significant decrease in violence-related deaths (UNDP, 2020).

Equally, Botswana, with its stable governance, has low crime rates compared to many other African nations. The Government's investment in law enforcement, crime prevention programmes and community-based initiatives has helped maintain public safety and reduce violence-related deaths (World Bank, 2021).

Mauritius is another country with relatively low levels of violence and high levels of peace compared to other African countries. The country's stable governance, investment in education and social welfare programmes have contributed to maintaining peace and reducing violence-related deaths (Institute for Economics & Peace, 2021).

Several factors limit the progress of countries in significantly reducing all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere. These include socio-economic disparities, weak legal frameworks, inadequate law enforcement, cultural norms that condone violence, and insufficient investment in preventive measures. Additionally, armed conflicts, political instability, and lack of access to education and employment opportunities exacerbate the situation. To address these challenges, a multifaceted approach that addresses underlying causes, strengthens institutions, and promotes peaceful and inclusive societies is required.

Conflict-related deaths have halved in the past decade, yet pockets of disputes and wars persist

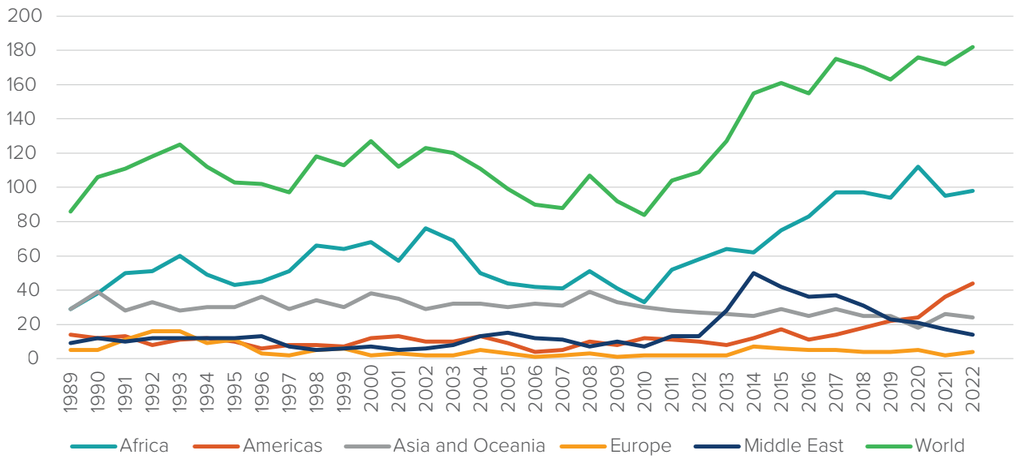
Over the past decade, the world has experienced a rise in the number of armed conflicts (see figure 37). Armed conflicts here constitute interstate, intrastate, extra-systemic, non-state conflicts, and one-sided violence that were ongoing that year (Uppsala Conflict Data Program, 2023). Africa stands out with relatively high numbers of conflicts compared to other regions over the past two decades. In 2022, Africa's armed conflicts (98) constituted about 53.8 percent of global conflicts (182).

> *Peace and security remain part of Africa's priorities, since they are prerequisites for sustainable growth and resilient development.*

Notwithstanding the high number of conflicts, the continent has seen a fall in the number of conflict-related deaths. Agenda 2063's First Ten-Year Implementation Plan set a target of having 101 conflict-related deaths per 100,000 by 2030. Substantial progress was achieved as the figure dropped drastically from 202 in 2013 to 27.93 by 2023. This improvement aligns with the generally peaceful security situation observed across the continent in recent years, albeit with some exceptions in certain areas. Moreover, individual countries have taken specific actions to maintain peace and stability. For instance, the Kenyan Government established peace committees at both the county and cross-border levels to support peace and security initiatives. Additionally, the Nyumba Kumi initiative promotes community policing at the household level to combat crime and enhance peace and security (African Union, 2023a).

On the other hand, in 2022, Africa witnessed significant conflict-related fatalities, painting a sobering picture of the human cost of these conflicts. These developments highlight the severe impact of conflict on human life across the continent. The economic impact of violence also surged by 17 percent, amounting to $17.5 trillion or 13 percent of global GDP (African Union, 2023a).

Figure 37: Number of conflicts worldwide in 1989–2022, by region



Source: Our World in Data (2023).

Despite the progress made from 2013 to 2020, it is crucial to address the pockets of insecurity that persist. These challenges not only hinder socio-economic development, but also pose a threat to the progress achieved, risking both lives and livelihoods (African Union, 2023a).

Significant increase in conflict-related civilian casualties from 2021 to 2022

The number of civilian fatalities directly linked to 12 of the world's most lethal conflicts surged by 53 percent between 2021 and 2022, marking the first uptick since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda in 2015. A minimum of 16,988 civilians lost their lives, with women accounting for one in every five victims. The escalation in the use of heavy weaponry and explosive ordnance, including indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks, climbed from 13 percent in 2021 to 39 percent in 2022, indicating a notable shift in conflict dynamics. Central, East, West, Southern Africa and Europe together represented 90 percent of these fatalities, with 4 out of 10 deaths occurring specifically in Ukraine. While Africa excluding North Africa witnessed a 23 percent rise in conflict-related casualties, other regions also experienced an increase in deadly incidents targeting civilians (UNODC, UNHCR and UNDP, 2023).

Inadequate progress in the African Union's campaign to "Silence the Guns" in Africa

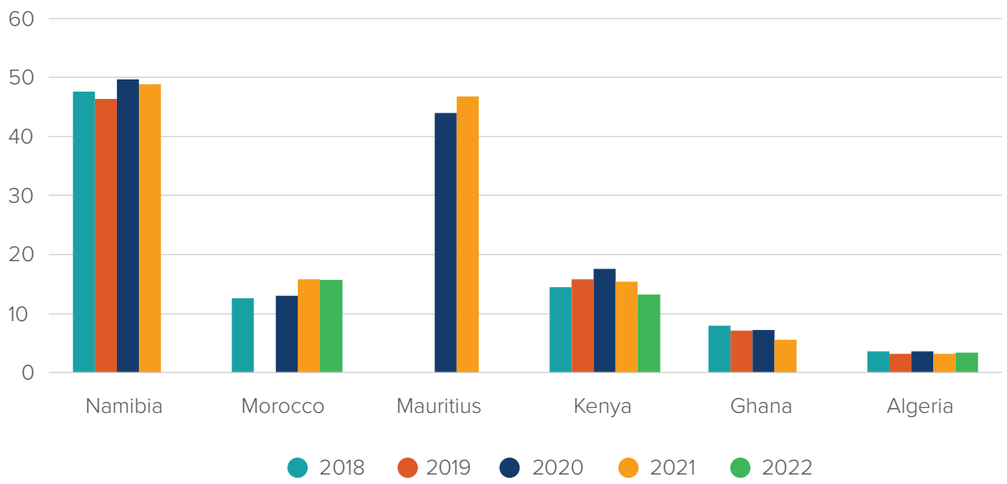
This campaign seeks to end all wars, violent conflicts, human rights abuses and humanitarian catastrophes on the continent, while also preventing genocide. Various conflicts and challenges have persisted beyond 2020. Peace and security remain part of Africa's priorities, since they are prerequisites for sustainable growth and resilient development. The African Union continues to work towards peacebuilding efforts through various mechanisms and initiatives, acknowledging that achieving lasting peace and security is an ongoing process that requires sustained commitment and collaboration from all stakeholders. As reported in the Second Continental Report on the Implementation of Agenda 2063, the continent registered a reduction of 57 percent in the number of armed conflicts, against an expected target of 100 percent reductions from 2020 onward (AUC and AUDA-NEPAD, 2022).

Notable decline in the percentage of women and girls experiencing sexual and physical violence

Africa saw a notable decrease in the percentage of women and girls experiencing sexual and physical violence, declining from 41.6 percent in 2013 to 21.2 percent in 2021. Likewise, the percentage of girls and women aged 15–49 who underwent female genital mutilation or cutting decreased from 38 percent to 27 percent, achieving progress of 70 percent towards Agenda 2063's 2021 target of 23 percent (AUC and AUDA-NEPAD, 2022).

Data on sexual violence is limited. Availability for six countries – Algeria, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco and Namibia – show that Mauritius and Namibia have the highest percentage of sexual violence per 100,000 people. At 3.45 percent in 2022, Algeria recorded the lowest percentage.

Figure 38: Sexual violence by country (%) (2019–2021)



Source: Author's elaboration based on data from UNODC.

The reduction in the percentage of women and girls experiencing sexual and physical violence in Africa is attributed to a multifaceted approach towards addressing gender-based violence. There has been an increased emphasis on education and awareness campaigns that challenge patriarchal norms and stereotypes, which are often at the root of gender-based violence. Additionally, efforts to improve economic conditions and empower women financially have also played a crucial role, as poverty is a significant factor that increases vulnerability to violence. The health sector's involvement in providing comprehensive care and support services for survivors of violence has been vital in both prevention and response. Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic, despite initially causing a surge in violence against women, also led to heightened global awareness and accelerated actions to protect women and girls from violence.

Furthermore, the role of international organizations and local NGOs in advocating for women's rights and providing support services cannot be overlooked. These entities have been instrumental in pushing for policy changes, offering legal aid, and creating safe spaces for women and girls. The collective action of Governments, civil society and international partners towards achieving gender equality and empowering women has been central to this progress.

It is important to note that while these factors have contributed to the decline in violence, the issue remains prevalent and requires ongoing commitment and effort to completely eradicate it. Continued vigilance and sustained efforts are necessary to ensure that the gains made are not reversed, and that the rights and dignity of women and girls are upheld across the continent.

About a third of the global population do not feel safe walking alone at night in their neighbourhoods

The perception of safety is crucial as it affects how individuals interact with their surroundings, health, and consequently, quality of life. The fear of crime can negatively influence well-being and lead to reduced contacts with the public, trust, and engagement with the community, thus representing an obstacle to development. According to the Global Progress Report on SDG 16, about 69 percent of the world's population report feeling safe walking alone at night in the area in which they live, a proportion that has remained stable from 2016 to 2021. Across all regions, women feel less safe and more vulnerable than men (UNODC, UNHCR and UNDP, 2023).

5.1.2. End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

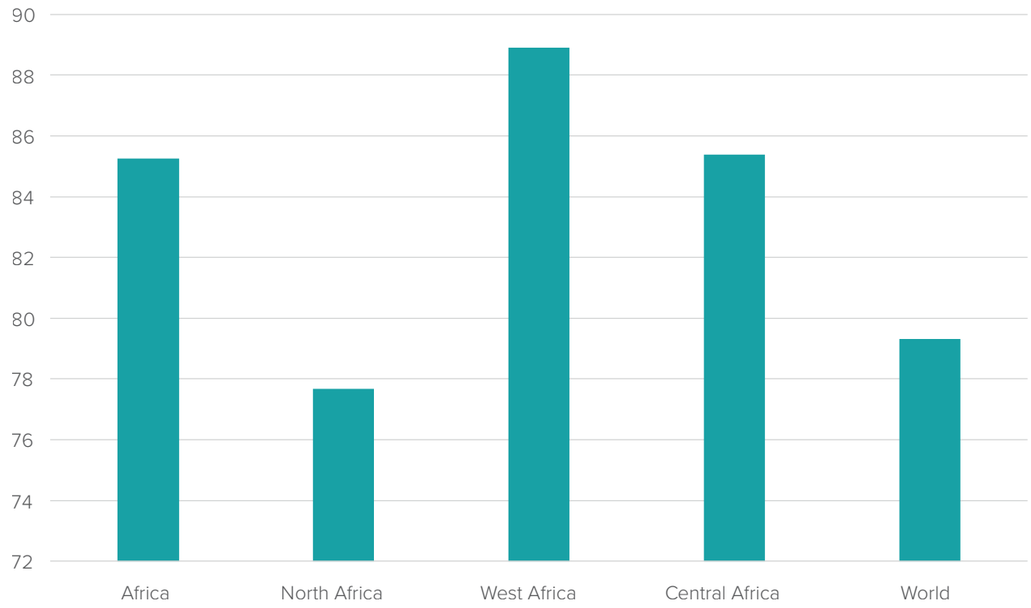
Table 26
SDG Target 16.2 and Indicator 16.2.1, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T16.2 – End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children I16.2.1 – Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month	T17.7 – Reduce 2013 levels of violence against women and girls by at least 20%
	T18.5 – End all forms of violence, child labour exploitation, child marriage and human trafficking

African children experience the highest reported proportion of physical punishment by caregivers

Globally, 79.3 percent of children aged 1–14 years experienced physical punishment and/or psychological aggression from caregivers in 2022, compared to 85.25 percent in Africa. West Africa has the highest reported proportion, with 88.9 percent of children experiencing such treatment from caregivers. East Africa follows closely behind, with 87.7 percent of children reported to have experienced physical punishment and/or psychological aggression. High proportions of children experiencing such treatment underscore the urgent need for interventions to protect children's rights and ensure their safety and well-being. Addressing this issue requires multifaceted approaches, including legislative reforms, public awareness campaigns, support for caregivers, and provision of alternative disciplinary methods that promote positive parenting practices.

Figure 39: Proportion of children aged 1–14 years who experienced physical punishment and/or psychological aggression from caregivers in last month (% of children aged 1–14 years) in 2022



Note: Data are unavailable for Southern Africa.

Source: ECA (2024b).

5.1.3. Promote the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice

Table 27
SDG Target 16.3 and Indicator 16.3.2, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T16.3 – Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all I6.3.2 – Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population	T11.1 – At least 70% of the people believe that they are empowered and are holding their leaders accountable I11.1.1 – Percentage of people who believe that they are empowered to hold their leaders accountable
	T11.7 – Zero tolerance for unconstitutional changes in government is the norm I11.7.8 – Number of protests against unconstitutional change in government; number of unconstitutional or undemocratic changes done on the continent
	T11.9 - At least 70% of the people perceive the judiciary to be independent and deliver justice on fair and timely basis I11.9.10 - Percentage of citizens who believe that the judiciary is independent I11.9.11 - Percentage of citizens who believe that the judicial system renders righteous judgements I11.9.12 - Percentage of citizens who believe that the judiciary makes judgements in a timely manner
	T11.10 - At least 70% of the people perceive they have free access to justice I11.10.13 - Percentage of people who perceive they have free access to justice
	T11.11 - At least 70% of the people perceive the entrenchment of the culture of respect for human rights, the rule of law and due process I11.11.14 - Percentage of citizens who believe that the culture of respect for human rights is rooted I11.11.15 - Percentage of citizens who believe that the rule of law is established I11.11.16 - Percentage of citizens who believe that procedures are followed
	T12.2 - At least 70% of the public acknowledge the relevance and good functioning of the legislature as a key component of democracy I12.2.2 - Proportion of the population who acknowledge the relevance and good functioning of the legislature as a key component of the democracy

Observable gradual increase in the number of unsentenced detainees in sub-Saharan Africa

About 50 percent of prisons worldwide are overcrowded. Globally, the proportion of unsentenced detainees has shown a slight upward trend, from 29.59 percent in 2015 to 30.79 percent in 2021. While the percentage is lower compared to sub-Saharan Africa, it still reflects a significant number of individuals awaiting trial in prison systems worldwide.

In Africa, the proportion of unsentenced detainees as a percentage of the overall prison population has generally increased over the years, from 34.8 percent in 2015 to 36 percent in 2022 (see figure 40). This indicates a persistent issue of lengthy pre-trial detentions and backlogs in the judicial system, which can contribute to overcrowding in prisons and prolonged legal uncertainty for individuals awaiting trial. Lengthy pre-trial detention can infringe upon individuals' human rights, including the right to a fair and speedy trial, as enshrined in international human rights instruments. This is further contributing towards overcrowding in prisons, exacerbating issues related to sanitation, health care and security for both detainees and staff.

Addressing the issue of unsentenced detainees requires comprehensive reforms in the legal and judicial systems, including measures to expedite trial proceedings, promote alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenses and enhance legal aid services for indigent defendants. In addition, strengthening oversight mechanisms and ensuring compliance with international standards on the treatment of detainees are also critical components of efforts to reduce pre-trial detention rates.

Figure 40: Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population, 2015–2022

Source: UNODC.

5.1.4. Reduce illicit financial flows, strengthen the recovery of stolen assets and combat organized crime

Table 28
SDG Target 16.5 and Indicator 16.4.1

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T16.4 – By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets, and combat all forms of organized crime I16.4.1 – Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current $)	N/A

High illicit financial flows obstruct financing of the two Agendas

Illicit financial flows (IFFs) pose significant challenges to global efforts to achieve the SDGs. These flows consist of illegally earned, transferred or utilized money across borders, often involving activities such as corruption, tax evasion, money laundering and illegal trade. IFFs deprive countries of much-needed revenue that could otherwise be invested in infrastructure, health care, education and poverty reduction initiatives. This undermines efforts to achieve SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 4 (quality education), and SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth). Some forms of IFFs, such as illegal logging, wildlife trafficking and illegal fishing, contribute to environmental degradation and biodiversity loss. This undermines efforts to achieve SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 14 (life below water) and SDG 15 (life on land).

The total value of inward and outward IFFs remains substantial and continues to undermine efforts to achieve the SDGs. A report by Global Financial Integrity (2014) estimated that illicit outflows from developing countries reached approximately $1.3 trillion in 2020, while illicit inflows amounted to around $1.1 trillion during the same period.

A report on the governance performance in Africa notes that IFFs “erode the revenue for public investment and social spending, hence weakening governance and institutions” (African Peer Review Mechanism and African Governance Architecture, 2019). Furthermore, citing a report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the African Peer Review Mechanism notes that Africa loses about US$88.6 billion, representing 3.7 percent of its GDP annually in IFFs. In 2021, the High-level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity for Achieving the 2030 Agenda (the FACTI Panel) remarked that IFFs drain resources from sustainable development, and as well worsen inequalities, fuel instability, undermine governance, and damage public trust (African Union, 2023a).

Addressing the issue of IFFs requires coordinated efforts at the national, regional and international levels, including enhanced regulatory frameworks, improved transparency and accountability measures, strengthened law enforcement, and increased international cooperation. By combating IFFs, countries can unlock resources to advance sustainable development and build more inclusive, resilient and prosperous societies (Global Financial Integrity, 2014).

5.1.5. Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

Table 29
SDG Target 16.6 and Indicator 16.6.1, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T16.6 – Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels I16.6.1 – Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)	T11.3 – At least 70% of the public perceive elections are free, fair and transparent I11.3.4 – Percentage of people who believe that the elections are free, fair and transparent; the rate of participation of elections
	T11.4 – Accredited electoral observers certify elections to be free and fair I11.4.5 – Percentage of the accredited electoral observers who certify elections to be free and fair
	T12.1 – At least 70% of the public acknowledge the public service to be professional, efficient, responsive, accountable, impartial and corruption-free I12.1.1 – Percentage of citizens who recognize that utilities are professionals (effective, responsive, accountable, impartial and honest)
	T12.2 – At least 70% of the public acknowledge the relevance and good functioning of the legislature as a key component of democracy I12.2.2 – Proportion of the population who acknowledge the relevance and good functioning of the legislature as a key component of the democracy
	T12.3 – All local governments have full administrative and institutional capacities and appropriate fiscal powers I12.3.3 – The number of local governments to develop and execute their development plans

Wide variation among countries in expenditures as a proportion of the original budget

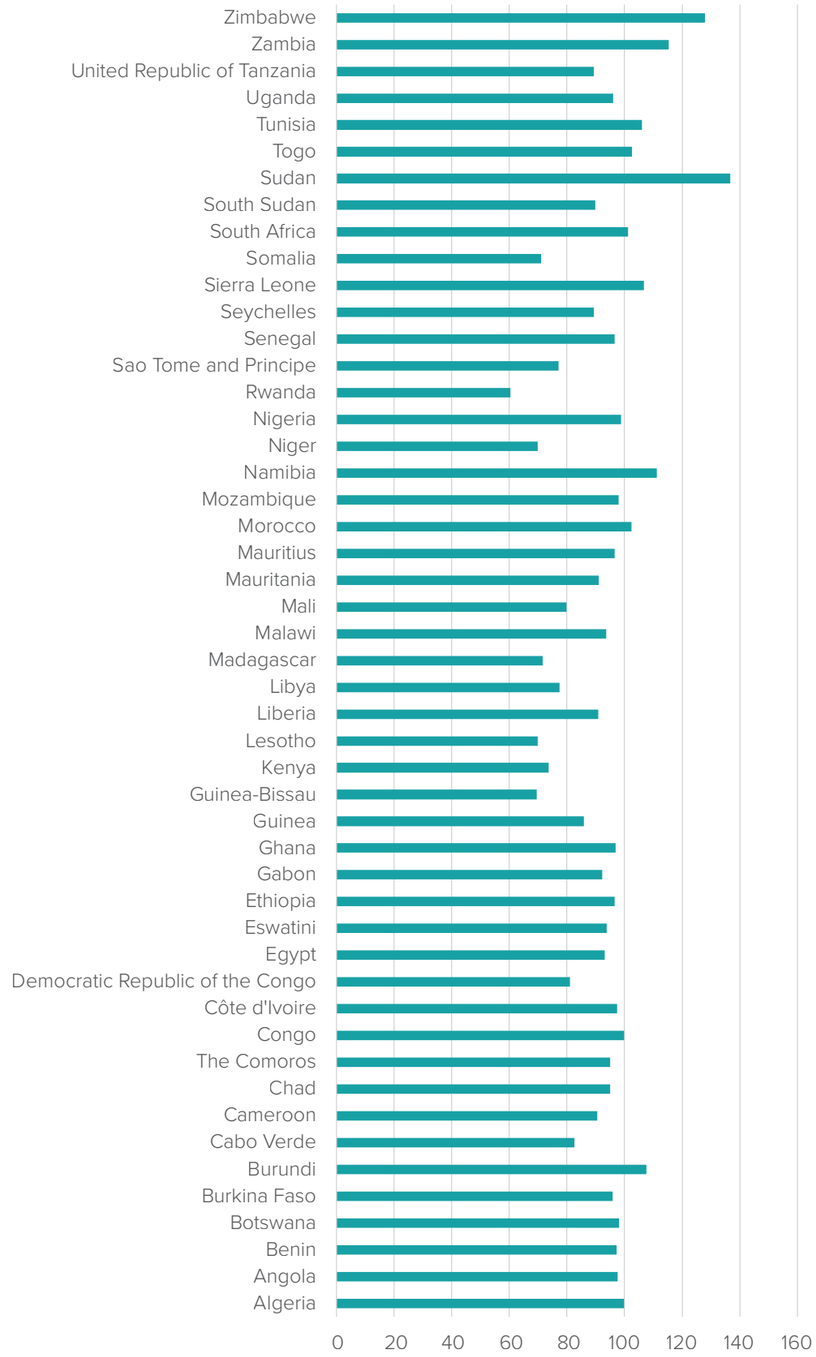
This indicator provides insights into how government resources are allocated and utilized across different sectors, reflecting the priorities and commitments of a nation towards achieving sustainable development. It is essential for transparency and accountability in public financial management, enabling stakeholders to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of government spending. According to the recent available data from each of the countries, expenditures as a proportion of the original budget vary widely across countries. Several countries, such as Sudan, Zimbabwe and Zambia, have very high expenditure levels compared to their original budgets. This may indicate issues with fiscal discipline, budget planning or economic challenges leading to overspending. Countries like Algeria, Angola, Benin and Botswana have expenditure levels ranging from around 90 to 100 percent of their original budgets. While still relatively high, these countries appear to have better control over their expenditures compared to the high-expenditure countries. On the other hand, countries like Rwanda, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, and Lesotho have lower expenditure levels, ranging from around 60 to 80 percent of their original budgets. This could indicate either conservative fiscal policies or challenges in executing planned expenditures (DESA, no date).

> *By combating IFFs, countries can unlock resources to advance sustainable development and build more inclusive, resilient and prosperous societies (Global Financial Integrity, 2014).*

High expenditure levels relative to the original budget may lead to fiscal imbalances, debt accumulation and macroeconomic instability if not properly managed. On the other hand, low expenditure levels could indicate underinvestment in critical sectors or inefficiencies in budget execution.

Policymakers in countries with high expenditure levels may need to focus on improving fiscal discipline, enhancing budget transparency and strengthening oversight mechanisms to ensure sustainable public finances. Conversely, countries with low expenditure levels may need to prioritize investments in key sectors while ensuring efficient use of resources.

Figure 41: Government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (most recent years)



Source: DESA (no date).

Note: The data are based on the availability of the most recent data, meaning that the year may be different for each country.

Corruption remains a significant challenge across many African countries

Corruption globally presents a complex and pervasive issue that significantly impacts socio-economic development. The 2023 Corruption Perceptions Index by Transparency International, which ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption, reveals that over two thirds of countries score below 50, highlighting serious corruption problems globally.

The report further indicates that most African nations are either stagnant or failing to make progress in the fight against corruption. It ranks many African countries poorly in terms of perceived levels of corruption with most African countries scoring below 50 out of 100, indicating high levels of perceived corruption.

The proportion of persons who reported to have paid a bribe to a public official at least once or were asked for a bribe in the preceding 12 months increased from 9.5 percent in 2013 to 31.4 percent in 2021. This weak performance calls for greater efforts to strengthen operationalization of the norms of the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and the African Charter on Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration in the management of public affairs (AUC and AUDA-NEPAD, 2022).

The weak performance at continental level notwithstanding, many African countries put legislative and regulatory measures in place to establish and maintain strong institutions and transformative leadership at all levels.

> *Africa has shown a consistent increase in the proportion of countries with independent NHRIs in compliance with the Paris Principles.*

Senegal, for example, created a national office to fight against corruption and fraud in 2014, to enhance legal frameworks and capacity-building. The country also adopted strategies for public procurement and for anti-corruption, and increasingly modernizing the legal system. Tunisia established anti-corruption body to formulate policies on fighting against corruption and protecting whistleblowers. Namibia is domesticating the SDGs, Agenda 2063 and other development agendas on the continent into their national development plans. Specifically, they established a framework of engagement for civil societies, implemented an open-door policy at grassroots level, and established policies on methodologies for public institutions to work with civil society activists. Malawi established an integrity committee for every public institution, coordinated by an anti-corruption bureau, and commits at least 1 percent of the budget from each institution to the integrity committee (DESA, 2024c).

5.1.6. Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making

Table 30
SDG Targets 16.7 and 16.7.1, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T16.7 – Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels I16.7.1 – Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national distributions	T11.1 – At least 70% of the people believe that they are empowered and are holding their leaders accountable I11.1.1 – Percentage of people who believe that they are empowered to hold their leaders accountable
	T11.3 – At least 70% of the public perceive elections are free, fair and transparent I11.3.4 – Percentage of people who believe that the elections are free, fair and transparent; the rate of participation of elections
	T11.6 – All reporting obligations with respect to compliance of African Union shared instruments are met by 2017 I11.6.7 – Percentage of reporting obligations with respect to compliance to African Union shared instruments met
	T11.8 – African Charter on Democracy is signed, ratified and domesticated by 2020 I11.8.9 – Percentage of countries signed, ratified and integrated
	T12.2 – At least 70% of the public acknowledge the relevance and good functioning of the legislature as a key component of democracy I12.2.2 – Proportion of the population who acknowledge the relevance and good functioning of the legislature as a key component of the democracy
	T17.5 – Increase gender parity in decision-making positions at all levels to at least 50/50 between women and men I17.5.12 – Gender parity index in political and managerial

Notable rise in women empowerment in several countries countered by the setback in representation of women in some other countries

Africa has witnessed progress in several aspects aimed at empowering women and increasing their involvement in key policy and implementation processes. Notably, there was a rise in the proportion of women holding seats in national parliaments, regional and local bodies. This figure reached 35 percent in 2023, a significant rise from 21 percent in 2013, surpassing the targeted 30 percent. Yet despite these positive strides, it's important to acknowledge that certain African countries experienced setbacks in the representation of women in national parliaments, regional and local bodies. This often correlated with token appointments in less impactful positions, rather than influential roles in policymaking and community-driven solutions (African Union, 2023a).

The progress mentioned earlier can largely be attributed to commitments and initiatives by select African Union member states such as Egypt, Kenya, Mauritius and Rwanda. For instance, in Egypt, the proportion of women in the national Parliament and regional and local bodies rose from 14.9 percent in 2014 to 27.41 percent in 2020. Egypt also launched initiatives like the Women's Empowerment Campaign in partnership with organizations like Care Egypt Foundation and Microsoft, aimed at fostering women's contributions to social, economic and human capital development. Additionally, Egypt initiated the African Women Leadership Program in collaboration with local and regional partners.[20]

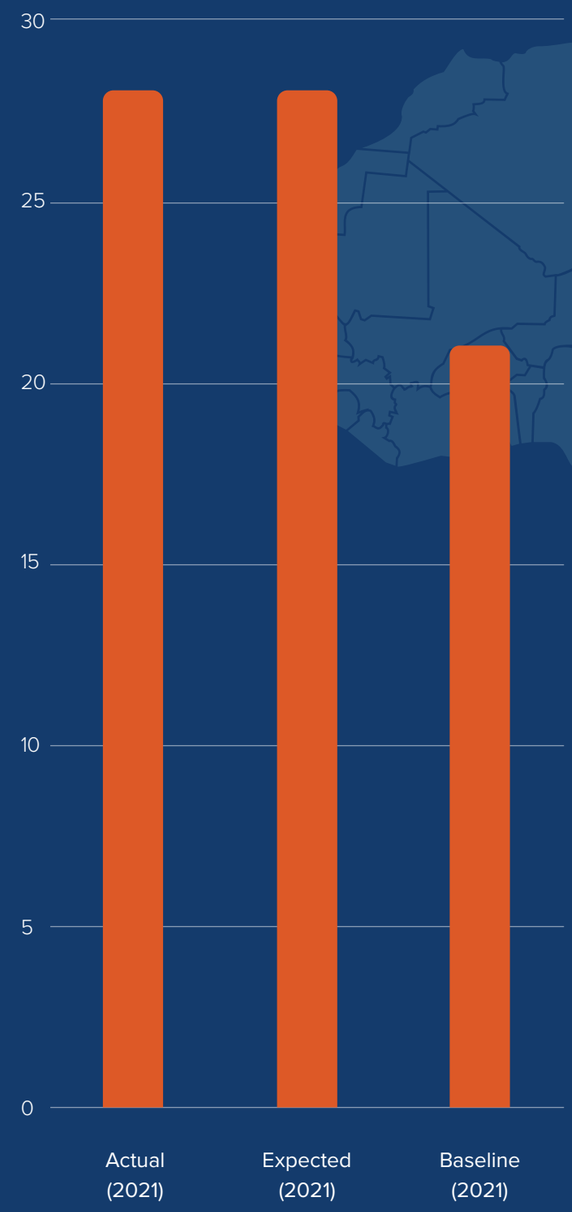
Rwanda also saw an increase in the proportion of women parliamentarians and women in regional and local bodies from 41.9 percent in 2013 to 45.5 percent in 2021, supported by constitutional provisions emphasizing equality and legal instruments such as the National Gender Policy. Similarly, Mauritius witnessed a rise in women parliamentarians from 11.6 percent in 2014 to 20 percent in 2020. In Côte d'Ivoire, the constitution ensures equal opportunities between men and women within elected assemblies and enforces a minimum quota of 30 percent women candidates. Equatorial Guinea experienced an increase in the proportion of seats held by women in Parliament due to government efforts including the implementation of national policies and action plans for promoting gender equality. In Kenya, there was a notable increase in the proportion of seats held by women in politics, rising from 9.4 percent in 2013 to 31.5 percent in 2019, with significant achievements in both the National Assembly and Senate (African Union, 2023a).

> *Africa has witnessed progress in several aspects aimed at empowering women and increasing their involvement in key policy and implementation processes.*

20 Data received from African Union Member States.

Figure 42:

Proportion of Seats held by women in national parliaments, regional and local bodies in Africa



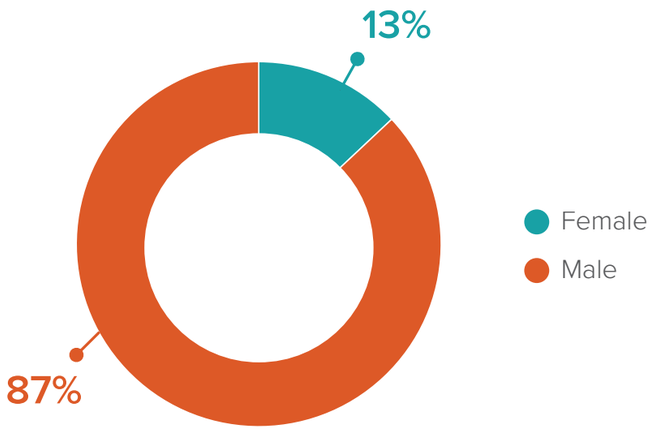
Source: Data received from African Union member States.

Action needed to encourage youth representation and greater gender equality in politics

The majority of speakers in parliaments across Africa are above the age of 46, with 13 percent of them women and 87 percent men (IPU Parline, no date). This raises questions about generational representation and whether the perspectives of younger citizens are being adequately reflected in parliamentary discussions. It is crucial for national parliaments to balance experience with diversity, ensuring that all age groups have a voice in shaping policies that affect their futures.

Furthermore, the predominance of male leadership within national parliaments may influence the legislative priorities and policies, potentially leading to a lack of representation for issues that disproportionately affect women. This imbalance can also perpetuate gender stereotypes and hinder efforts towards gender equality. There is therefore need to implement measures to increase the representation of women in parliamentary leadership roles through affirmative action policies and targeted recruitment efforts, in addition to encouraging greater youth participation in politics by creating platforms for young leaders to engage in parliamentary processes and decision-making.

Figure 43: Percentage of parliamentary speakers of lower chambers by sex



Source: Author's elaboration on the basis of data from IPU Parline database (no date).

5.1.7. Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms

Table 31
SDG Targets 16.10 and Indicator 16.10.1, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T16.10 – Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements I16.10.1 – Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months	T11.2 – At least 70% of the people perceive that the press/information is free and freedom of expression pertains I11.2.2 – Percentage of people who perceive that there is freedom of the press I11.2.3 – Percentage of people who believe that there is free access to information

Africa accounted for about 10 percent of cases of global enforced disappearances from 2015 to 2021[21]

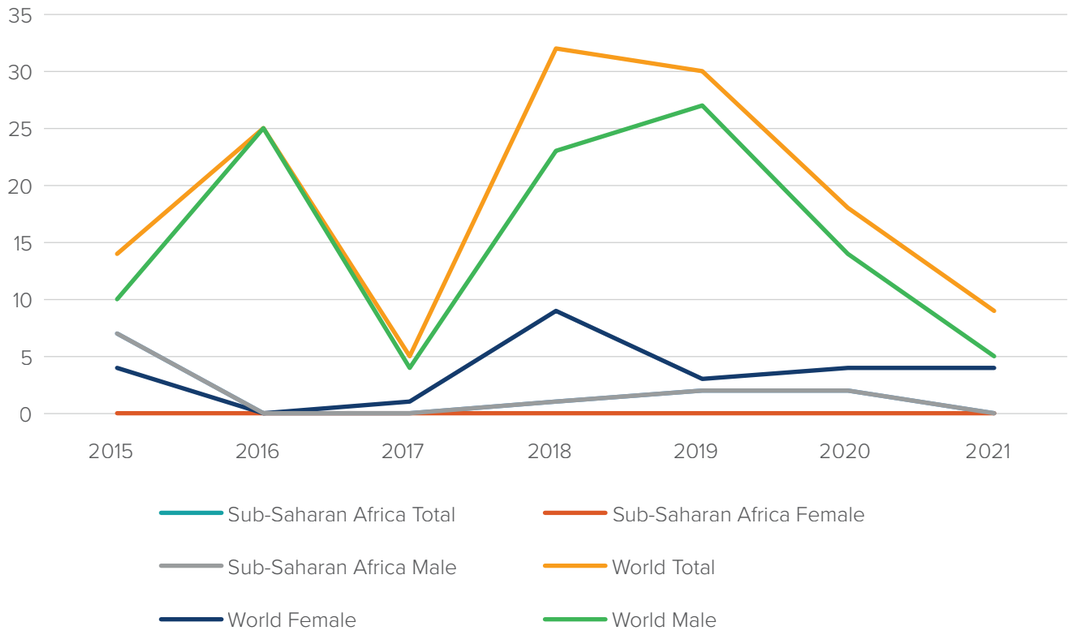
Enforced disappearance is a grave violation of human rights and often indicative of broader issues related to freedom of expression, civil liberties and political repression. Between 2015 and 2021, globally, there were 133 cases of enforced disappearance of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists across the African regions excluding the North Africa region for which data is unavailable, there were a total of 12 cases of enforced disappearance recorded during the same period.

Globally, there were fewer cases of enforced disappearance reported for women and girls compared to men and boys. On the continent, all cases of enforced disappearance were attributed to individuals identified as male. No cases were reported for women and girls.

21 No available data for North Africa

Globally, there were fluctuations in the number of reported cases over the years, with a notable increase in 2018 and 2019 followed by a decline in 2020 and 2021. On the continent, there was a peak in reported cases in 2018, with one case of enforced disappearance in the past 12 months, followed by a decrease in subsequent years to zero cases in 2020 and 2021. This highlights the prevalence of enforced disappearances targeting human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists, particularly among men. Governments, international organizations and policymakers should prioritize efforts to prevent enforced disappearances, ensure accountability for perpetrators, and provide support for victims and their families. In addition, civil society organizations, media outlets and trade unions play a crucial role in raising awareness, documenting cases, and advocating for justice and accountability.

Figure 44: Number of recorded enforced disappearances of human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists, by region and sex in the past 12 months



Notes: Data for North Africa are not available.

Source: Author's elaboration based on data from the United Nations SDG dashboard.

5.1.8. Strengthen relevant national institutions to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime

Table 32
SDG Target 16.a and Indicator 16.a.1, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

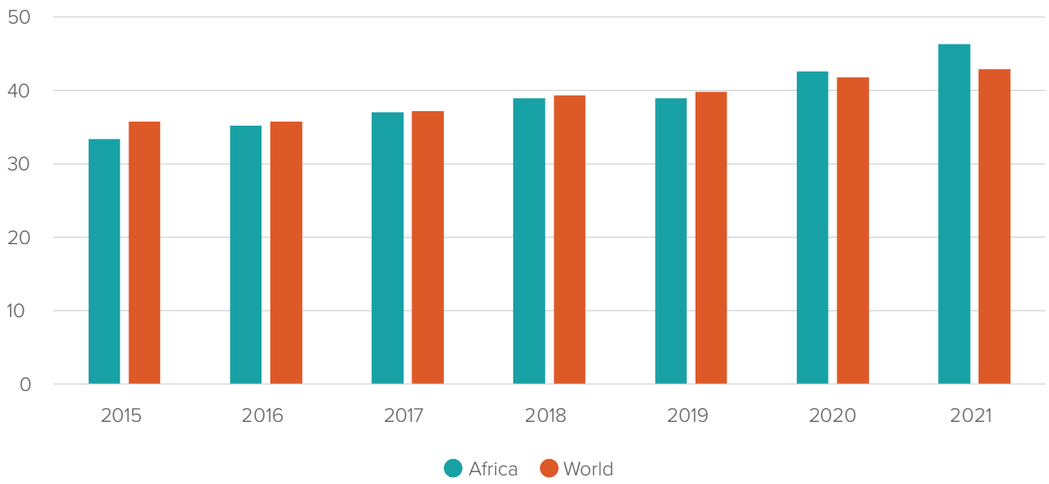
2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T16.a – Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime I16.a.1 – Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles	T12.3 – All local governments have full administrative and institutional capacities and appropriate fiscal powers I12.3.3 – The number of local government to develop and execute their development plans

Rise in the number of countries with independent national human rights institutions in Africa

Globally, the proportion of countries with independent national human rights institutions (NHRIs) in compliance with the Paris Principles has steadily increased over the years. Africa has shown a consistent increase in the proportion of countries with independent NHRIs in compliance with the Paris Principles, with a particularly significant jump from 2020 to 2021. In 2021, Africa's proportion of compliant countries (46.3 percent) exceeded that of the world (42.9 percent), indicating a remarkable improvement and potentially a shift in regional dynamics (see figure 45).

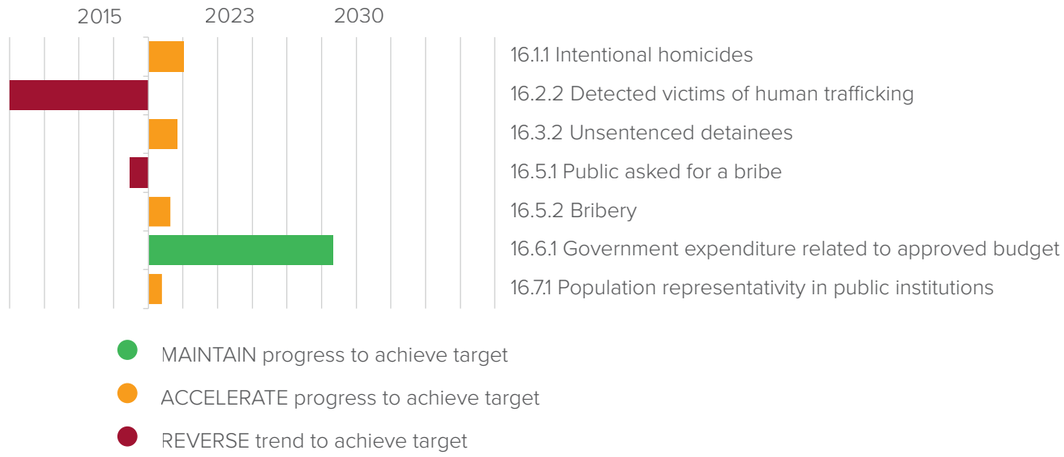
The global increase in the proportion of countries with independent NHRIs adhering to the Paris Principles is attributed to several factors. Firstly, there is a growing recognition of the importance of human rights on the international stage, which has been bolstered by advocacy from the United Nations and other stakeholders. Secondly, there is increased pressure from civil society groups and human rights activists on Governments to establish or reform NHRIs to ensure their independence and effectiveness. Thirdly, the process of globalization has facilitated the exchange of ideas and best practices regarding human rights governance, encouraging States to align with international standards. Additionally, there are practical benefits for countries to have accredited NHRIs, such as enhanced credibility and influence in international forums, as well as potential access to international aid and support.

Figure 45: Percentage of countries with NHRI in compliance with Paris Principles



Source: Author's elaboration based on data from the United Nations SDG Dashboard and ECA (2024b).

Figure 46: Actions that must be taken on SDG 16 indicators for African countries to achieve the SDG 16 targets by 2030



Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for indicators with sufficient progress, where the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for indicators with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing indicators.

Source: ECA computations based on data from the SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024b).

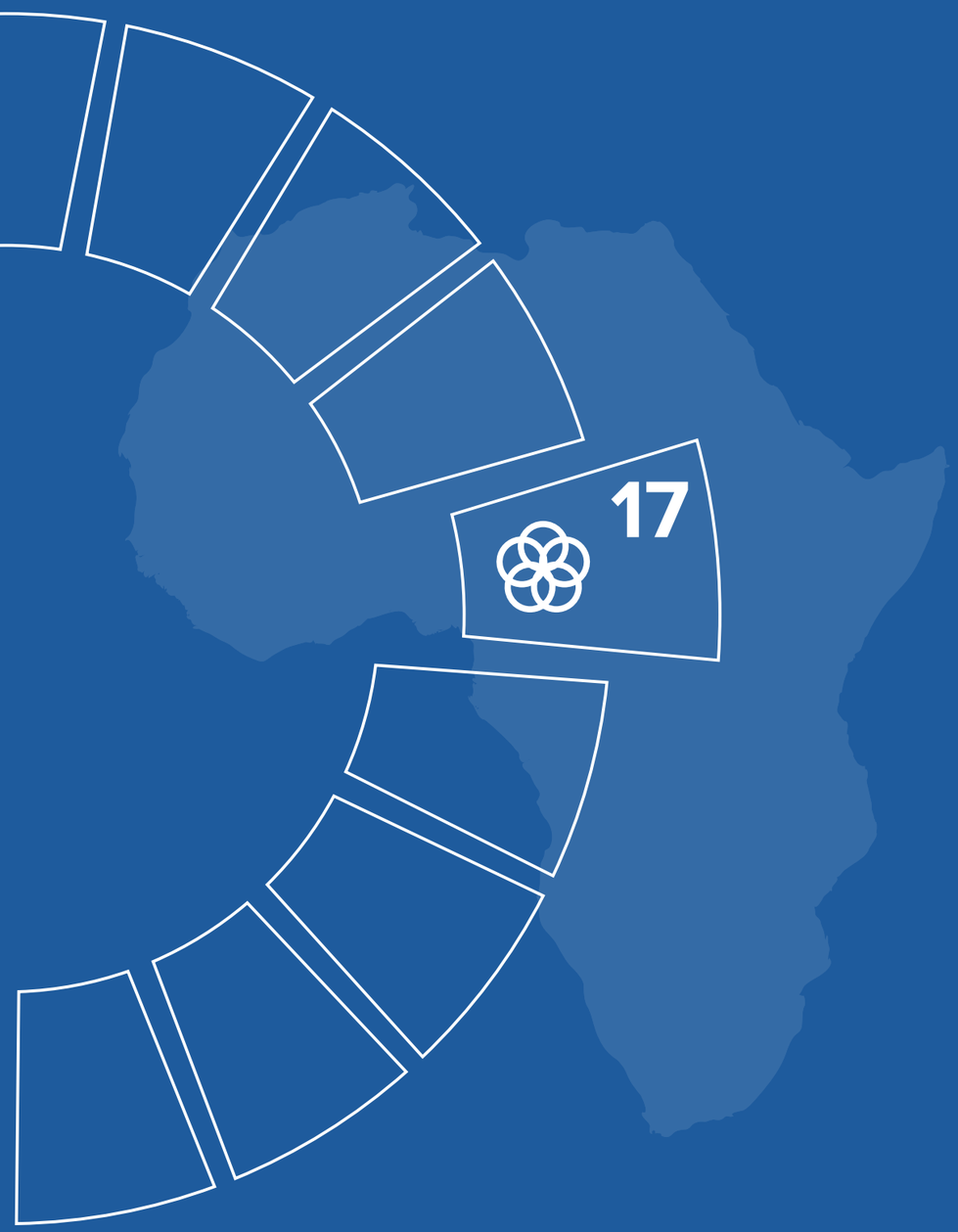
5.2. Conclusions

The journey towards achieving SDG 16 and the corresponding Agenda 2063 goals has been marked by both progress and challenges. The current trajectory indicates that progress needs to be accelerated and, in some instances, the current trend needs to be reversed in order for Africa to achieve SDG 16 (see figure 46).

> *Despite the setbacks, such as increased conflict-related civilian deaths and persistent inequality, there is a collective resolve to strengthen institutions, uphold human rights and ensure justice for all.*

The commitment to fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies is unwavering, as evidenced by the concerted efforts of Governments, civil society and international organizations. Despite the setbacks, such as increased conflict-related civilian deaths and persistent inequality, there is a collective resolve to strengthen institutions, uphold human rights and ensure justice for all.

The path forward requires a reinforced dedication to collaboration, innovation and accountability. As the global community continues to navigate the complexities of these ambitious goals, the spirit of resilience and shared responsibility will be pivotal in surmounting the obstacles and realizing the vision of a harmonious and prosperous future for all.



CHAPTER 6

Sustainable Development Goal 17
– Partnerships for sustainable development

Key messages

- Domestic resource mobilization in Africa remains relatively low, with disparities across the regions. Recent tax reforms have led to slight increases and initiatives like Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) have helped boost tax revenues.
- Official development assistance (ODA) to Africa increased by 2 percent in 2023, but it remains well below the 0.7 percent United Nations target.
- FDI inflows to Africa have stagnated and are hindered by macroeconomic instability and infrastructure deficits. However, the AfCFTA presents new FDI opportunities, and initiatives like the European Commission-AfDB partnership are mobilizing resources for development.
- Africa's public debt ratio stabilized around 60 percent of GDP in 2023, but high borrowing costs and tight financing constraints persist. About half of Africa's low-income countries are in debt distress or at high risk.
- Significant progress has been achieved in advancing science, technology and innovation (STI) across Africa, marked by an increase in national STI policies and expanded internet coverage.
- International support for capacity-building in Africa is prioritized through innovative methods like e-learning and peer learning. Initiatives such as Rwanda's AI-driven e-learning platforms and South Africa's use of machine learning in education are enhancing collaboration and technical cooperation across the continent.
- The AfCFTA agreement was signed by all 54 African countries to create a single continental market for goods and services, but challenges in implementation such as limited productive capacities, infrastructure gaps and non-tariff barriers persist.
- African countries are strengthening policy coherence to enhance macroeconomic stability, integrating the SDGs and Agenda 2063 into national development plans, and fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development.
- Innovative approaches are increasingly being adopted for data-collection, to continue the progress made in strengthening statistical systems.

Table 33
SDG 17 and related goals of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
SDG 17 – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development	Goal 19 – Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful coexistence Goal 20 – Africa takes full responsibility for financing her development

6.1. Progress and prospects for the achievement of SDG 17 and related goals of Agenda 2063

SDG 17 focuses on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development. It is closely aligned with Agenda 2063 Goal 19 on Africa as a major partner in global affairs and peaceful coexistence, and Goal 20 on Africa taking full responsibility for financing her development.

Africa has made some progress on SDG 17 and the related Agenda 2063 goals, but significant gaps remain. Strengthening cooperation and mobilizing the necessary means of implementation in finance, technology, capacity-building, trade and systemic issues will be critical to accelerate progress on all the SDGs and Agenda 2063 more broadly.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the importance of global partnership and cooperation. It has also exacerbated existing development challenges and created immense fiscal pressure on African Governments. Domestic resource mobilization has been constrained while debt vulnerabilities have worsened. Access to concessional finance and private investment has been limited. Digital divides persist, hindering technology adoption and innovation. Capacity limitations have impacted policy implementation. Trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have affected industrial productivity and export growth. Moreover, data gaps make it difficult to track progress and inform targeted policies and investments (UNECA, 2023).

At the same time, new opportunities are emerging. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) can boost intra-African trade and regional integration. Leveraging domestic resource mobilization, capital markets and innovative financing instruments presents scope to increase development finance. International cooperation on science, technology and innovation (STI) is expanding. Capacity-building support is increasingly adopting digitally enabled and peer learning approaches. Investments in digital and physical infrastructure can enhance connectivity and industrialization. Strengthening data systems and statistical capacity can improve SDG monitoring (African Union and AUDA-NEPAD, 2022).

6.1.1. Strengthen domestic resource mobilization

Table 34
SDG Target 17.1 and Indicator 17.1.1, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

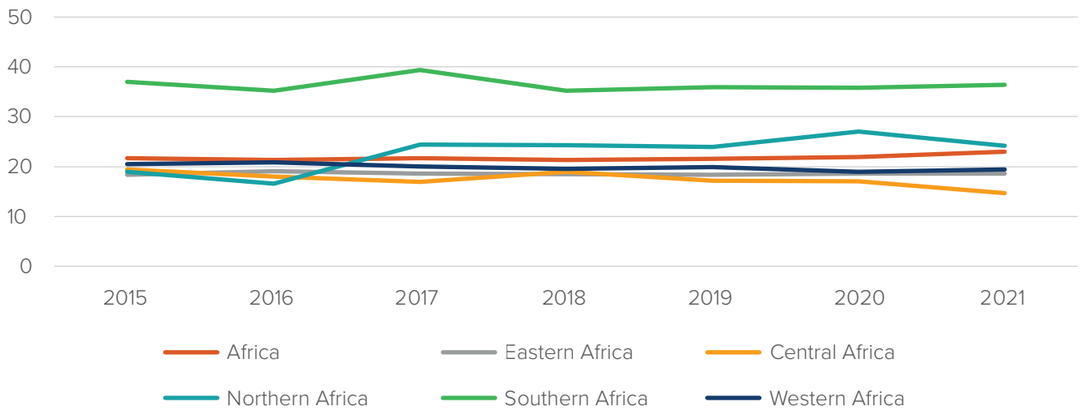
2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 17.1 – Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection Indicator 17.1.1 – Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source Indicator 17.1.2 – Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	Target 20.1 – National capital market finances at least 10% of development expenditure Target 20.2 – Tax and non-tax revenue of all levels of Government should cover at least 75% of current and development expenditure Indicator 20.2.5 – Share of the recurrent and development expenditure funded by tax and non-tax revenue Target 20.3 – Proportion of aid in the national budget is at most 25% of 2013 level Target 20.4 – Additional financial resources mobilized from multiple sources Indicator 20.4.8 – Percentage volume of remittances ($/GDP)

Domestic resource mobilization in Africa is low compared with global averages

Domestic resource mobilization (Target 17.1) in Africa remains relatively low. Average tax revenue as a percentage of GDP stands at 16 percent, compared to 34 percent in OECD countries. However, Africa's trend for government revenues as a percentage of GDP has been slightly increasing since 2018 (figure 47). Several countries are introducing tax administration and policy reforms to improve revenue generation. For example, Rwanda increased its tax-to-GDP ratio from 12.3 percent in 2010 to 16.7 percent in 2021, through measures like digitizing tax services (World Bank, 2023).

> *Macroeconomic instability, infrastructure deficits and fragmented markets continue to hinder investment attraction. However, the AfCFTA is expected to generate new FDI opportunities.*

Figure 47: Government revenue as % of GDP in specific African regions (2015–2021)



Source: United Nations SDG Indicators Database (DESA, no date).

1. **North Africa's Increase:** North Africa shows a significant and steady increase in government revenue as a percentage of GDP, especially noticeable from 2016 to 2020. This might indicate a growing public sector or improved tax collection efficiency in the region.
2. **Stability in Southern Africa:** Southern Africa exhibits a relatively stable trend, with government revenue as a percentage of GDP remaining high compared to the other regions. This stability suggests a consistent economic structure and effective fiscal management.
3. **Variability in Central Africa:** Central Africa displays notable variability and a general decline in the latter part of the period. The decline could reflect economic challenges, changes in government revenue collection, or fluctuations in the overall size of the economy.
4. **East Africa's consistency:** East Africa shows a consistent trend, with slight fluctuations but generally maintaining a stable level of government revenue as a percentage of GDP. This suggests a steady economic environment in terms of government revenue proportion.
5. **Slight decrease in West Africa:** West Africa shows a slight decreasing trend since 2016. This suggests stagnation in efforts for mobilizing more government revenue.

The diversity in these trends highlights the different economic dynamics at play in each region, influenced by factors like political stability, economic policy, resource management and external economic influences.

Concerning country specifics, there are some key trends. Lesotho, Seychelles and South Africa had the highest average government revenues as a percentage of GDP at approximately 49.86, 36.86 and 36.65 percent respectively. For Lesotho, a significant portion of its government revenue comes from the Southern African Customs Union, making its revenue high relative to GDP. Lesotho's economy benefits from customs, excise duties and other trade-related taxes. Seychelles has a well-developed tourism sector that contributes significantly to its GDP and government revenue. The country has also diversified its economy into sectors like fishing, agriculture and small-scale manufacturing, which have helped increase its revenue. With a more diverse and industrialized economy, South Africa has multiple streams of government revenue, including mining, manufacturing, services and a well-established tax system. This diversity helps maintain a high revenue relative to GDP.

Somalia, Sudan and Ethiopia had the lowest average government revenue as a percentage of GDP at about 9.38, 9.79 and 10.23 percent respectively. Somalia has faced long-term political instability and conflict, which severely affects its economic structure and capacity to generate government revenue. The lack of a stable, centralized Government for many years has hindered the development of a robust tax system and economic infrastructure. In Sudan, economic challenges have been exacerbated by political instability, loss of oil revenues following South Sudan's secession in 2011, and ongoing internal conflicts. These factors have constrained the Government's ability to generate revenue. Ethiopia, while having a growing economy, faces multiple challenges in its quest to reach middle-income status. In addition, a significant portion of the economy being in the informal sector, which is not effectively taxed.

Box 12: Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) and partners pass $1 billion milestone in additional tax revenues for developing countries

TIWB is a joint OECD-UNDP initiative that deploys qualified experts in developing countries across Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean to help build tax capacity in the areas of audit, criminal tax investigations and the effective use of automatically exchanged information. TIWB assistance has led to increased domestic resource mobilization in some of the least developed countries.

During the fifth virtual TIWB Governing Board meeting on 27 April 2021, co-chaired by the OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría and UNDP's Administrator Achim Steiner, participants celebrated the mobilization of more than $1 billion in additional tax revenues for developing countries, with nearly three times that amount in total tax assessments.

The TIWB initiative now counts 42 completed and 45 ongoing programmes worldwide. Demand remains strong for TIWB audit assistance, in addition to pilot programmes focused on criminal tax investigations and the effective use of automatically exchanged financial account information.

Different regions show distinct trends in how the proportion of their domestic budgets funded by domestic taxes has evolved. This reflects varying economic conditions, tax policies and administrative capacities across the regions:

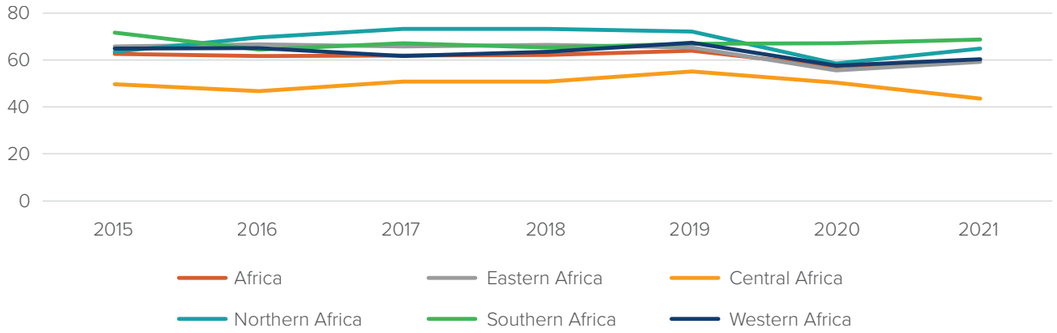
1. **North Africa's increase:** North Africa shows a noticeable increase in the proportion of the domestic budget funded by domestic taxes from 2015 to 2019, followed by a sharp decline in 2020, due to economic impacts from the global shock of the COVID-19 pandemic, and then a recovery in 2021.
2. **Central Africa's volatility:** Central Africa exhibits the most volatility, with significant fluctuations in the proportion of the domestic budget funded by domestic taxes. This could indicate instability in revenue collection or varying budgetary needs and structures.
3. **Southern Africa's stability:** Southern Africa stands out for its relative stability and an upward trend, indicating a consistent ability to fund its budget through domestic taxes, which may suggest stronger fiscal management or economic conditions.

4. **East Africa's decline in 2020:** Like many other regions, East Africa faced a decline in 2020, which aligns with the global economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by a slight recovery in 2021.

5. **West Africa's variability:** West Africa has followed a variable path since 2015 with some improvement from 2017 to the COVID-19 shock in 2020.

6. **Overall impact of 2020:** Almost all regions experienced a decline in 2020, reflecting the widespread economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on domestic revenue generation.

Figure 48: Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes (2015–2021), by region



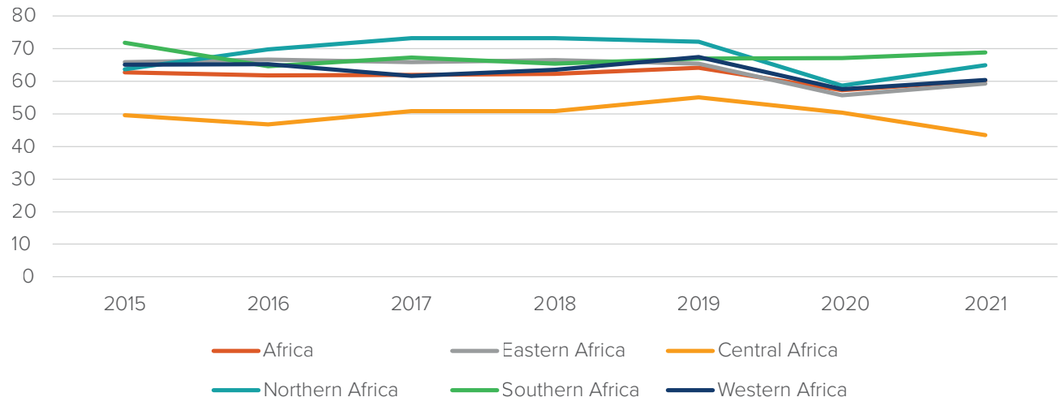
Source: United Nations SDG Indicators Database (DESA, no date).

Looking at the country level, **Burkina Faso** and Eswatini have performed well with effective tax policies and administration that enable higher domestic tax mobilization. **Madagascar** has a narrower economic base, but effective tax collection mechanisms within its existing industries.

Morocco was able to increase its domestic resource to 23.7 percent of its GDP, supported by tax revenues representing 85.4 percent of these revenues. The share of the budget financed by taxes reached 62 percent in 2023.

Conversely, **Botswana** may have seen a relative decline due to factors such as changes in diamond revenues, which have a significant impact on its economy. **Equatorial Guinea** and the **Central African Republic** face challenges due to their economic structures, governance issues and the impact of external economic shocks.

Figure 49: Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes (2015–2021), select countries



Source: United Nations SDG Indicators Database (DESA, no date).

6.1.2. Fully implement official development assistance commitments

Table 35
SDG Target 17.2 and Indicator 17.1.2, and related Target of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
Target 17.2 – Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 percent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA)/ gross national income (GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 percent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 percent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries Indicator 17.1.2 – Net ODA, total and to least developed countries, as a proportion of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) donors' GNI	Target 20.3 – Proportion of aid in the national budget is at most 25% of 2013 level

Official development assistance to Africa increased in 2023 but falls short of 0.7 ODA to GNI target

Though ODA to Africa in 2023 increased by 2 percent in real terms compared with 2022 (OECD, 2022b), the ODA total, which stands at 0.37 percent of DAC donors' combined GNI for the second consecutive year, is still below the longstanding United Nations aim of 0.7 ODA to GNI (OECD, 2024). Only five DAC members met or exceeded this target in 2021. Additional ODA is needed to meet the growing financing gap for the SDGs in Africa, estimated at $1.3 trillion per year (ECA, 2020).

> *Enhancing regional and international cooperation on STI can accelerate the achievement of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.*

6.1.2. Strengthen non-domestic resource mobilization

Table 36
SDG Target 17.3 and related Targets of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T17.3 – Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources	T20.1 – National capital market finances at least 10% of development expenditure T20.3 – Proportion of aid in the national budget is at most 25% of 2013 level T20.4 – Additional financial resources mobilized from multiple sources

FDI inflows to Africa have stagnated in recent years

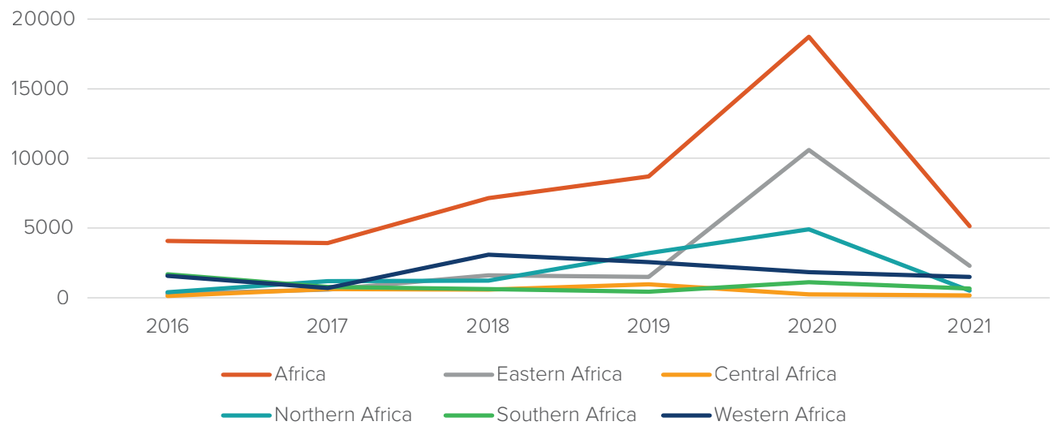
Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows to Africa have stagnated in recent years, reaching $83 billion in 2021, the same level as 2020, but below the 2014 peak of $91 billion. Macroeconomic instability, infrastructure deficits and fragmented markets continue to hinder investment attraction. However, the AfCFTA is expected to generate new FDI opportunities (UNCTAD, 2022).

Figure 50 illustrating the gross receipts by developing countries of mobilized private finance (MPF) from 2016 to 2021 in different regions of Africa, reveals several interesting regional trends:

1. **Sharp increase in 2020:** There was a notable sharp increase in MPF receipts across several regions in 2020. This spike could be attributed to various factors, including increased investment flows into developing countries, most likely as part of the global response to economic challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. **East Africa's significant growth:** East Africa shows a remarkable rise in MPF receipts, especially in 2020, highlighting the region's growing attractiveness to private finance mobilization. This could reflect increased investor confidence in East Africa's market potential and economic policies.
3. **Variability across regions:** The chart shows significant variability in the amount of MPF across different African regions. While some regions exhibit substantial increases, others show more modest growth, indicating differing levels of development, investment climate and access to international capital.
4. **Recovery and decline patterns:** After the sharp increase in 2020, there was a noticeable decline in 2021 for Africa as a whole and specific regions such as East Africa, suggesting that the spike in MPF receipts might have been temporary or influenced by specific events such as the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. **Consistent growth in North Africa:** North Africa shows a consistent growth pattern over the years, indicating a steady increase in MPF. This could be due to stable economic policies, investment in infrastructure, and strategic positioning as a gateway between Africa and Europe.
6. **Southern Africa's fluctuations:** Southern Africa demonstrates fluctuations in MPF receipts, with a peak in 2016, followed by a decline and then a modest recovery. These fluctuations might reflect changes in investment patterns, economic conditions and sectoral strengths in the region.
7. **West Africa's fluctuations:** In West Africa, there has been a declining trend since 2018.

These trends highlight the dynamic nature of MPF in developing countries, underscoring the importance of investment climate, economic stability and policies in attracting private finance.

Figure 50: Gross receipts by developing countries of MPF (2016–2021)

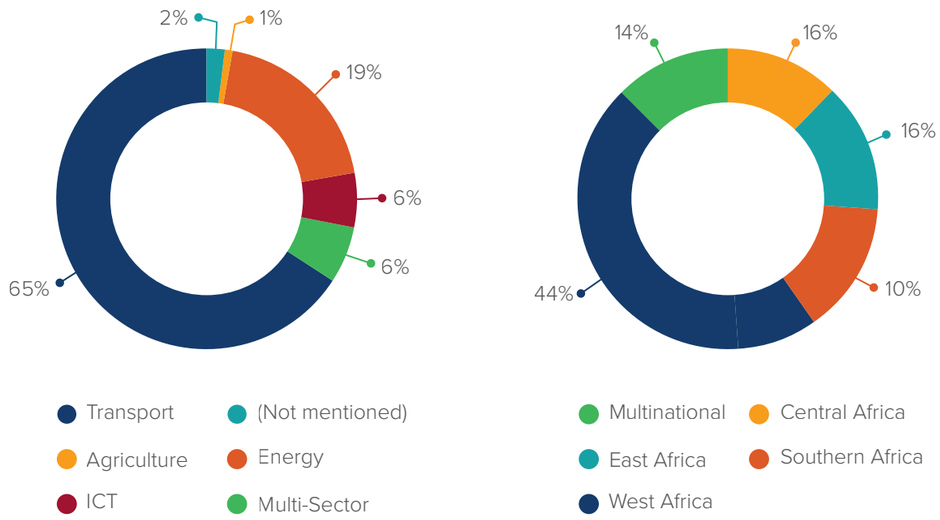


Source: United Nations SDG Indicators Database (DESA, no date).

Multilateral development banks like the AfDB have continued to lead in resource mobilization to improve development outcomes on the continent (see box 13).

One significant partnership is that between the European Union and the AfDB which has provided financing across many sectors including transport, agriculture, energy and ICT.

Figure 51: European Commission-AfDB co-financing partnership ongoing projects by sector and by region (2022)



Box 13: European Commission-AfDB Co-Financing Facility (AfDB Group, no date b)

In 2015, multilateral development banks were charged with the ambitious task of mobilizing resources to achieve the SDGs. The partnership between the European Union and AfDB is premised upon this vision and that of the African Union's Agenda 2063 strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years. To build on their mutual visions, the AfDB and the European Union have entered into a strategic partnership, which is vital to accelerating the implementation of continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development. The AfDB's Ten-Year Strategy for 2013–2022 and its High 5 priority areas reflect the aspirations of the African continent to bring about environmentally sustainable growth that is also economically empowering and inclusive.

At the sixth African Union-European Union summit, which took place in Brussels on 17–18 February 2022, the AfDB was identified by the European Union as one of its key partners to deliver its €150 billion Africa-Europe Global Gateway Investment Package. The partnership has resulted in the development of a co-financing facility to support sovereign and non-sovereign operations (AfDB Group, no date c). As an accredited partner of the European Commission in Africa, the AfDB is able to leverage the Commission's concessional resources to deliver more impact in the AfDB's regional member countries. The European Commission's blending facility forms part of the European Union Neighbourhood Development and International Cooperation Instrument, specifically the Africa Investment Platform. The facility deploys a number of instruments, including technical assistance, grants, equity and guarantees. These instruments enable the AfDB to deliver blended finance transactions in areas where they are most needed in the energy, transport, climate and small and medium enterprise sectors. With a current active portfolio of €840 million, the European Commission-AfDB Co-Financing Facility is the AfDB's largest grant co-financing arrangement, currently providing valuable and transformative grant investments from the European Union to the AfDB's regional member countries. The transport sector takes the lion's share, followed by energy, ICT, multi-sector, water/environment and agriculture.

The European Commission and AfDB have been collaborating with beneficiary countries, regional economic communities, the private sector and civil society organizations.

The 35 ongoing projects under the European Commission-AfDB Co-Financing Facility portfolio are set to transform, in a lasting and indelible way, the life and socio-economic landscape of the beneficiary countries and populations, while giving a tremendous boost to the achievement of the AfDB's High 5s.

6.1.3. Debt sustainability and investment promotion

Table 37
SDG Target 17.4 and associated Indicators

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T17.4 – Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress I17.4.1 – Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services	N/A
T17.5 – Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries I17.5.1 – Number of countries that adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries	N/A

Persistent debt distress across Africa

Africa's public debt ratio is broadly stabilizing at around 60 percent of GDP in 2023, according to the IMF (2024b). However, many African countries face high borrowing costs, tight financing constraints and ongoing debt vulnerabilities. As of April 2024, 20 out of 38 low-income countries in Africa were either in debt distress or at high risk of distress (IMF, 2024c). Several African countries have recently (since 2020) defaulted on their sovereign bonds, including Ethiopia, Ghana and Zambia, and are currently restructuring their debt under the G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatments.

Repeated shocks, including COVID-19 and the Russia-Ukraine war, have exacerbated debt vulnerabilities across the region, increasing the demand for fiscal support. Adapting to these challenges requires domestic reforms and external support. Continued tightening in fiscal policy is necessary, but it must minimize harm to economic development. Monetary policy should focus on price stability, complementing fiscal efforts and supporting growth if inflation eases. Targeted reforms that broaden funding sources and diversify the economy are crucial to adapt to a high interest rate environment and build resilience. Recognizing that domestic reforms will take time to yield results, there is an urgent need for African countries to mobilize funding at lower costs, including from international partners. This support can help alleviate immediate financing constraints and provide the necessary resources for long-term sustainable growth.

6.1.4. Expand STI

Table 38
SDG Targets 17.6, 17.7 and 17.8 and associated Indicators, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T17.6 – Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to STI and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism I17.6.1 – Number of science and/or technology cooperation agreements and programmes between countries, by type of cooperation I17.6.2 – Fixed internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed	T19.1 – National infrastructure for African networked space research and exploration in place
	T19.2 – National systems/infrastructure for research and development are fully functional
T17.7 – Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed I17.7.1 – Total amount of approved funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies	N/A
T17.8 – Fully operationalize the technology bank and STI capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular ICT I17.8.1 – Proportion of individuals using the internet	T1.20 – Access and use of electricity and internet is increased by at least 50% of 2013 levels T4.16 – At least 1% of GDP is allocated to STI research and STI-driven entrepreneurship development T10.5 – Double ICT penetration and contribution to GDP T10.6 – Realize at least 70% increase in broadband accessibility by 2020 T10.7 – Digital broadcasting is achieved as the norm by 2016 T19.1 – National infrastructure for African networked space research and exploration in place T19.2 – National systems/infrastructure for research and development are fully functional

Rising number of STI policies and increased internet coverage, but research and development expenditure remains low

Enhancing regional and international cooperation on STI can accelerate the achievement of the SDGs and Agenda 2063. The number of African countries with national STI policies increased from 48 percent in 2019 to 55 percent in 2022. However, research and development expenditure remains low at 0.42 percent of GDP, compared to the global average of 1.72 percent. Expanding intra-African research networks and leveraging the diaspora can boost the continent's STI capabilities (UNESCO, 2022).

Promoting the development, transfer and dissemination of environmentally sound technologies is essential for green industrialization in Africa. Facilitating technology transfer, strengthening intellectual property rights regimes and fostering public-private partnerships can accelerate technology adoption in key sectors like energy, agriculture and manufacturing (UNECA, 2022).

Progress on operationalizing the technology bank and STI capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries has been slow. The United Nations Technology Bank for least developed countries, established in 2016, aims to strengthen the STI capacity of least developed countries and to facilitate technology transfer. As of 2022, the United Nations Technology Bank had undertaken technology needs assessments in eight African least developed countries and was supporting the development of national STI policies (United Nations Technology Bank, 2023).

All regions exhibit a steady increase in the proportion of individuals using the internet (see figure 52). This reflects broader global trends in digital adoption and increased accessibility of internet services.

1. **Regional disparities:** There is a clear disparity in internet usage between regions. North Africa and Southern Africa have significantly higher percentages of internet users compared to Central, East, and West Africa. This indicates varying levels of infrastructure, economic development and policy focus on digital access.

2. **Rapid increase in Central Africa:** Although starting from a lower base, Central Africa shows a rapid increase in internet usage, especially from 2018 onward. This could suggest successful initiatives to expand internet access or improve telecommunications infrastructure.

3. **Steady rise in North Africa:** North Africa shows not only the highest internet usage but also a steady and strong growth pattern, indicating ongoing improvements and stable development in digital connectivity.

4. **Acceleration after 2019:** The data indicate an acceleration in the growth of internet usage across all regions after 2019, which may be related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting increase in digital activities such as online work, education and commerce.

5. **West Africa's notable progress:** West Africa shows notable progress, with the percentage of internet users more than doubling from 2015 to 2022, highlighting significant strides in digital adoption.

6.1.5. Enhance international support for capacity-building

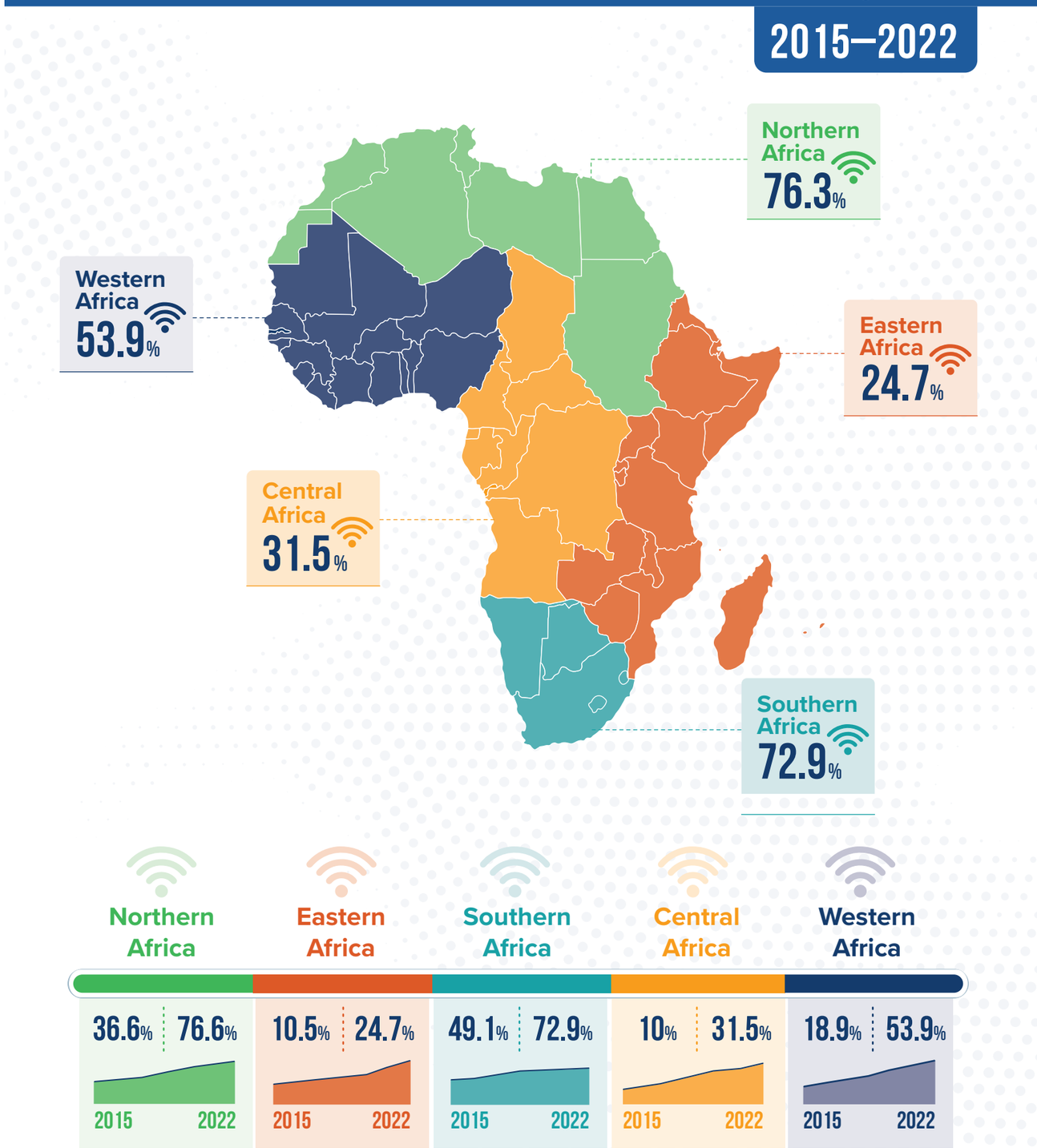
Table 39
SDG Target 17.9 and Indicator 17.9.1, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T17.9 – Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the SDGs, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation I17.9.1 – Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries	T20.3 – Proportion of aid in the national budget is at most 25% of 2013 level I20.3.7 – Resources raised through innovative financing mechanisms as a percentage of national budget

Extensive support for capacity-building observed often through innovative approaches

Enhancing international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building remains a priority, given Africa's large capacity gaps. Development partners are increasingly adopting innovative approaches to capacity development, such as e-learning, peer learning and experiential training. For instance, AUDA-NEPAD provided online training on agribusiness development to over 10,000 African youth in 2022 (AUDA-NEPAD, 2023). Encouraging South-South cooperation and establishing innovation hubs are effective strategies for fostering collaboration, technical cooperation and creativity in capacity development. African nations have increasingly recognized the importance of peer learning and best practices. Triangular approaches, involving countries from the Global North, further facilitate technology transfer.

Figure 52:
Increase in the proportion of **individuals using the Internet**



Source: United Nations SDG Indicators Database (DESA, no date).

In 2023, through the Africa regional collaborative platform (RCP), United Nations agencies and the African Union provided capacity-building support to several African on policies and technical advice for different SDGs. Issues regarding subregional cross-border and transboundary challenges, education, food systems, AFCFTA implementation, jobs and social protection, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, energy access and affordability, empowering African youth, and data and statistics for the SDGs have been addressed through multi-partner approaches coordinated by the United Nations system to 37 African countries.

UNECA, DESA and the European Union Joint Research Centre (JRC) are supporting various countries in developing STI road maps for the SDGs. The five pilot countries for this initiative include Ethiopia, Ghana and Kenya, alongside India and Serbia. Additionally, five more African countries – Gambia, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia and Seychelles – are currently preparing their STI road maps with the support of the European Union JRC.

Rwanda's successful implementation of universal health care through community-based health insurance has inspired other countries to adopt similar models. Ghana and Kenya's experiences in mobile money and financial inclusion have been shared with neighbouring countries, promoting economic growth and financial accessibility across borders. Innovation hubs and incubators across Africa have emerged as centres for creativity and capacity-building, driving progress.

Emerging technologies like artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning are powerful tools for upskilling and reskilling. These technologies offer potential to revolutionize capacity-building in Africa by personalizing training, optimizing health care, making agriculture smarter, enhancing energy efficiency and stimulating economic growth.

Rwanda partners with tech companies to deploy AI-driven e-learning platforms, significantly enhancing education and workforce development. In South Africa, initiatives like the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences use machine learning to promote mathematical and scientific education, equipping students with critical skills. Furthermore, thriving AI-driven startups across Africa address local challenges, from health monitoring to agricultural optimization and financial inclusion.

6.1.6. Promote universal and equitable trading

Table 40
SDG Targets 17.10, 17.11 and 17.12 and associated Indicators, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T17.10 – Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda. I17.10.1 – Worldwide weighted tariff-average.	N/A
T17.11 – Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020 I17.11.1 – Developing countries and least developed countries' share of global exports	T19.3 – Increase 2013 level of exports by 20% in real terms I19.3.5 – Finished and semi-finished products as a proportion of total exports I19.3.6 – Export diversification index (by product, by market, by destination [intra and intercontinental])
T17.12 – Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access I17.12.1 – Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States	N/A

Most countries have signed the AfCFTA, but implementation challenges persist

Progress has been made in promoting a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory, and equitable multilateral trading system. As of June 2023, all 54 African countries had signed the AfCFTA agreement, which aims to create a single continental market for goods and services. However, implementation challenges persist, including limited productive capacities, infrastructure gaps and non-tariff barriers (AUC, 2023).

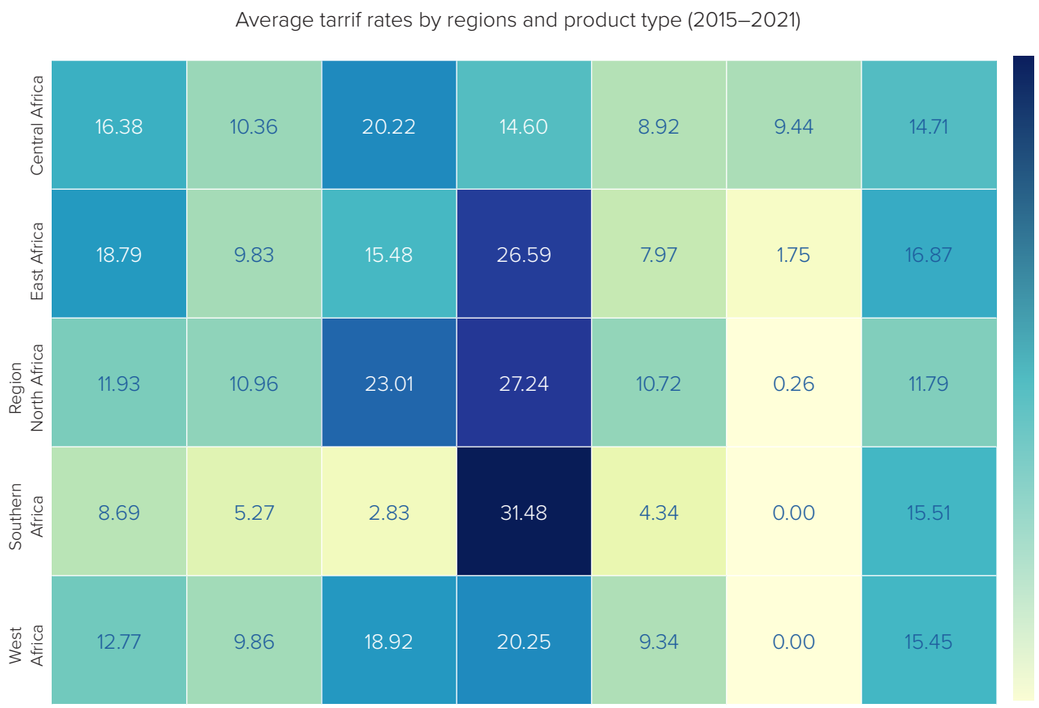
The heat map (figure 53) visualizes the average tariff rates by region and product type for the years 2015–2021. Each cell represents the average tariff for a particular product type in a specific region, with the colour intensity indicating the tariff level. This visualization helps identify which regions have higher or lower tariffs for different product categories, providing insights into trade policy and market accessibility in Africa. Some trends show:

1. **Product-specific tariff patterns:** Different product categories have distinct tariff patterns across the regions. For example, clothing (CLO) and agricultural products (AGR) tend to have higher tariffs compared to other product categories. This might reflect protective measures for local industries or efforts to promote self-sufficiency in these sectors
2. **Regional variations:** There is noticeable regional variation in tariff rates. East Africa, for example, shows relatively high tariffs across several product categories, which might indicate a more protectionist trade policy, or the presence of trade barriers. In contrast, other regions like North Africa exhibit lower tariffs in several categories, suggesting more open trade policies.
3. **Sector-specific protection:** High tariffs in certain sectors like agriculture and clothing across various regions suggest a trend of protecting sectors that are likely significant for local economies and employment. These sectors are often subject to higher tariffs to protect domestic producers from foreign competition.

4. **Variability within regions:** The variability of tariffs within a single region across different product types indicates targeted trade policies aimed at balancing between protecting domestic industries and promoting trade liberalization.

5. **Trade policy implications:** The observed tariff rates provide insights into the trade policy stance of different regions, with some opting for more protectionist measures, while others lean towards more liberalized trade frameworks.

Figure 53: Average tariff rates by region and product type (2015–2021)



Source: United Nations, 17.10.1, SDG Indicators Database

Africa's share of global exports remains below the 3 percent Agenda 2063 target

Africa's share of global exports remains low at around 2.5 percent in 2022, below the 3 percent Agenda 2063 target. Exports are concentrated in primary commodities, with limited value addition. Boosting intra-African trade, developing regional value chains and diversifying exports are key to improving export performance (UNCTAD, 2023). Furthermore, African countries continue to trade more with the rest of the world than among themselves (ECA and United Nations, Economic and Social Council, 2023).

Figure 54 illustrates the share of global merchandise exports for various regions in Africa from 2015 to 2023. All regions also show upward and downward trends in their contributions over the observed period, with a noticeable decline in 2000.

In terms of regional disparities, there are some interesting trends:

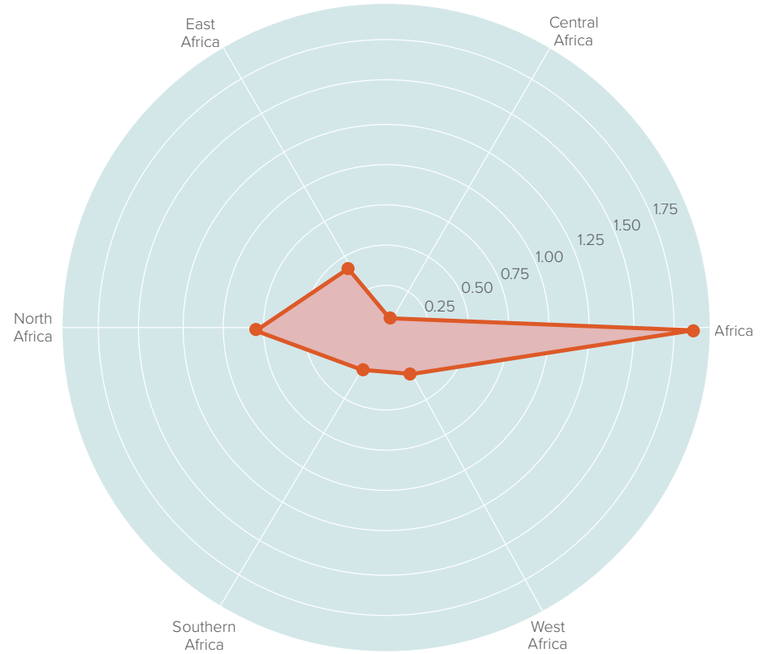
1. **North Africa's prominence:** North Africa stands out with a relatively higher percentage of global merchandise exports compared with other regions, suggesting it has a comparatively more developed trade sector or trade ties.

2. **Southern Africa's performance:** Southern Africa has the second highest percentage in the region indicating a moderate performance in global merchandise exports.

3. **Central Africa's position:** Central Africa shows the third highest percentage in the region, surpassing East and West Africa.

4. **East versus West Africa:** East Africa and West Africa have the lowest contributions, with West Africa doing a little better than East Africa.

Figure 54: Africa's share of global merchandise exports (%) (2015–2023)



Notes: No data for West Africa in 2023.

Source: United Nations SDG Indicators Database (DESA, no date).

The proportion of African least developed countries' exports admitted duty-free and quota-free has increased but remains below the global average. In 2022, 66 percent of exports from African least developed countries were admitted duty-free, compared to 78 percent globally. Full implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access for least developed countries, as committed in SDG target 17.12, can boost their exports (World Trade Organization, 2023).

6.1.7. Strengthen systemic, policy and institutional coherence

Table 41
SDG Targets 17.13, 17.14, 17.15, 17.16 and 17.17 and associated Indicators, and related Targets and Indicators of Agenda 2063

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T17.13 – Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence I17.13.1 - Macroeconomic dashboard	N/A
T17.14 – Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development I17.14.1 – Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development	N/A
T17.15 – Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development I17.15.1 – Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by providers of development cooperation	N/A
T17.16 – Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the SDGs in all countries, in particular developing countries I17.16.1 – Number of countries reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the SDGs	T20.5 – Effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships encouraged and promoted I20.5.10 – Number of PPP and civil society partnership projects
T17.17 – Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships I17.17.1 – Amount of United States dollars committed to public-private and civil society partnerships	T20.5 – Effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships encouraged and promoted I20.5.10 – Number of PPP and civil society partnership projects

African countries are strengthening policy coherence and implementing policies to enhance macroeconomic stability

Enhancing global macroeconomic stability is crucial for sustainable development in Africa. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the continent's vulnerability to external shocks. African countries are implementing various policies to build resilience, such as diversifying economies, strengthening domestic resource mobilization and attracting countercyclical financing (IMF, 2023).

> *Innovation hubs and incubators across Africa have emerged as centres for creativity and capacity-building, driving progress.*

Enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development and respecting each country's policy space and leadership are important for effective SDG implementation. African countries are mainstreaming the SDGs and Agenda 2063 into national development plans and strengthening institutional coordination mechanisms. Development partners are also increasingly aligning their support with national priorities (UNDP, 2022). In parallel, there is evidence that most African countries are aligning their national development plans to the SDGs and the African Union Agenda 2063. However, an analysis of national development plans of African countries, using UNECA's Integrated Planning and Reporting Tool, finds that they tend to be more aligned with the SDGs than with Agenda 2063.

Box 14: African countries' alignment of SDGs and Agenda 2063 into national development plans

African countries have endeavoured to align SDGs with their respective medium-term national development plans and longer-term vision documents. Though most countries have only attempted to do this exercise at the goal level. For example, Ghana's Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework, also known as Agenda for Jobs II: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All (2022–2025), has established a linkage between its policy objectives and the SDGs, Agenda 2063 and the ECOWAS Regional Action Plan. In addition, Malawi aims to achieve the majority of the SDGs by 2030 as a milestone of the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan of Malawi Vision 2063.

In addition, many African countries have carried out quantitative exercises to examine how aligned the SDGs and Agenda 2063 are with their existing national plans. UNECA has developed the Integrated Planning and Reporting Toolkit in 2017 to assist African countries in integrating the goals and aspirations of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 into their national development plans, track, and report on the progress made on both agendas. Using the 14 plans[22] that have been analysed with the toolkit, analysis shows that African countries are on average 65 percent aligned with SDGs and 59.22 percent aligned with Agenda 2063. With the exception of Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Sierra Leone, findings show that countries are more aligned with the SDGs than Agenda 2063. Furthermore, alignment tends to be stronger on the levels of goals, followed by targets and then indicators.

Source: ECA (2023).

Progress has been made in enhancing multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development. Initiatives like the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation are promoting mutual accountability and aligning development cooperation with the SDGs. At the national level, many African countries have established SDG coordination structures that engage various stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and academia (Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, 2022).

> *Africa's share of global exports remains low at around 2.5 percent in 2022, below the 3 percent Agenda 2063 target.*

22 The countries include Botswana, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, SADC, Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, Uganda (National Development Plans II and III), and Zambia.

6.1.8. Strengthen statistical systems, monitoring and accountability

2030 Agenda	Agenda 2063
T17.18 – By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts	T19.4 – National statistical system fully functional
T17.19 – By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement GDP, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries	T19.4 – National statistical system fully functional

Gaps remain in Africa's statistical systems, though some progress has been made

The availability of high-quality, timely and disaggregated data (Target 17.18) is essential for SDG monitoring and evidence-based policymaking. Africa has made progress in strengthening statistical systems, but gaps remain. In 2022, only 26 African countries had national statistical plans that were fully funded. Key challenges include limited financial and human resources, weak administrative data systems and inadequate data dissemination (PARIS21, 2023).

African countries are increasingly adopting innovative approaches to data collection and analysis, such as using mobile phone surveys, earth observation and citizen-generated data. For example, Kenya used mobile phone surveys to monitor the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 and inform response measures (World Bank, 2022).

> *Furthermore, thriving AI-driven startups across Africa address local challenges, from health monitoring to agricultural optimization and financial inclusion.*

Building on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development (Target 17.19) is crucial for assessing SDG performance. Africa has made progress in developing regional indicator frameworks, such as the Africa RCP on SDGs and the Africa Sustainable Development Report. These initiatives aim to harmonize SDG monitoring and reporting at the regional level (UNECA, 2023).

6.2. Conclusions

Africa has made some progress on SDG 17 and the related Agenda 2063 goals, but significant gaps remain. The current trajectory indicates that progress needs to be accelerated, and in some instances the current trend needs to be reversed in order for Africa to achieve SDG 17 (see figure 55).

Strengthening domestic resource mobilization, attracting private investment, enhancing debt sustainability and leveraging innovative financing instruments are key to mobilizing resources for the SDGs. Expanding regional and international cooperation on STI, facilitating technology transfer and building STI capacities can accelerate innovation for sustainable development. Enhancing international support for capacity-building, especially in least developed countries, is crucial for effective SDG implementation.

Boosting intra-African trade through the AfCFTA, developing regional value chains and diversifying exports can improve Africa's trade performance. Enhancing global macroeconomic stability, policy coherence and multi-stakeholder partnerships are important systemic issues for SDG achievement.

Strengthening statistical systems and leveraging innovative data solutions are essential for SDG monitoring and evidence-based policymaking. Building on existing regional initiatives to harmonize SDG reporting can improve accountability and peer learning.

Accelerating progress on SDG 17 will be critical for Africa to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. It requires concerted efforts by all stakeholders – Governments, development partners, the private sector, civil society and academia – to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Figure 54:

Actions that must be taken on Goal 17 indicators for

African countries to achieve the Goal 17 targets by 2030

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

REVERSE

- 17.4.1 Debt service
- 17.1.2 Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes
- 17.7.1 Funding for of environmentally-sound technologies
- 17.11.1 Exports of commercial services
- 17.12.1 Average tariff applied by developed countries
- 17.15.1 Use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools in development cooperation

ACCELERATE

- 17.17.1 Commitment to public-private and civil society partnerships
- 17.10.1 Worldwide weighted tariff-average
- 17.9.1 ODA for technical cooperation
- 17.8.1 Internet users
- 17.6.1 Fixed Internet broadband subscription
- 17.3.1 FDI inflows
- 17.3.2 Personal remittances

MAINTAIN

- 17.19.1 Financial resources to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries

Notes: The figures are colour-coded to denote expected progress. Green is used for indicators with sufficient progress, where the target is likely to be achieved at the current pace. Yellow is used for indicators with insufficient progress to meet the target by 2030, and red is used for regressing indicators.

Source: ECA computations from the SDG Global Database (DESA, 2024b).

CHAPTER 7

Advancing the achievement of the Agendas in times of multiple crises

Key messages

- Reinforcing the achievement of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 in Africa amidst multiple crises requires sustainable and resilient solutions, including innovative approaches to adaptation and growth.
- Prioritizing sustainable development and the 2030/2063 Agendas is crucial. This involves focusing on human rights-based debt reforms and fostering economic growth through comprehensive reforms and the strategic use of natural resources.
- Efforts must focus on social and economic empowerment, equitable access to basic services, and robust poverty financing systems to achieve SDG 1 and Agenda 2063 goals.
- Improving agricultural infrastructure, promoting sustainable farming practices, facilitating access to agricultural inputs, encouraging agribusiness development, and enhancing social safety nets are crucial for achieving SDG 2 and Agenda 2063 food security goals.
- Enhancing climate information services, vulnerability assessments, weather observation systems, and early warning systems is essential. Strengthening institutional frameworks and developing innovative insurance products are critical steps to addressing climate change and building resilience.
- Strengthening legal frameworks, promoting good governance, investing in conflict prevention, fostering inclusive societies, empowering marginalized groups, and enhancing institutional capacity are vital for achieving SDG 16 and Agenda 2063 goals.
- Prioritizing domestic resource mobilization, scaling up ODA with improved allocation, creating an enabling environment for private investment, enhancing STI capacity-building, implementing AfCFTA effectively, strengthening national statistical systems, and enhancing South-South cooperation are key to sustainable development in Africa.

Reinforcing the achievement of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises requires sustainable, resilient and sometimes innovative solutions. These solutions do not necessarily have to be novel, but they should enable countries to remain resolute, adapt, grow and thrive amidst shocks and uncertainty, both now and in the future. This chapter provides recommendations that will enable the achievement of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 in Africa, especially for the goals under consideration.

7.1. Cross-cutting recommendations

Renewed and continued commitment to sustainable development and the 2030 and 2063 Agendas is imperative. In the face of multiple crises and uncertainty, countries must ensure that no one is left behind.

Adequate development financing cannot be underestimated. Applying a human rights lens to the reform of the international debt architecture is vital for poverty reduction and for advancing human rights as well as the 2030 and 2063 Agendas. Tackling the high cost of debt, reducing interest rates and addressing high levels of debt servicing that crowd out investment in the SDGs, undertaking debt sustainability analyses informed by the need for fiscal space to secure access to health, education and social protection, and debt restructuring that prioritizes human rights are important steps to reduce poverty.

Stimulating long-term economic growth is also important to elevate incomes and expand job opportunities for the poor. Furthermore, implementing comprehensive economic and institutional reforms to resource utilization, while investing in physical and human capital, skills, and technology adoption, will be key in alleviating poverty. To this end, it is important to leverage Africa's vast natural resources, particularly minerals which are essential for the global transition to green economies. The AfCFTA also needs to be leveraged to boost economic growth.

Recognizing and investing in the six transitions identified by the United Nations as critical for accelerating progress on the SDGs. They transitions include food systems, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education, jobs and social protection, and climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and would be imperative to drive the attainment of the two Agendas.

Increased awareness of Agenda 2063. Agenda 2063 and indeed the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan must be well communicated and domesticated by various stakeholders. While many are aware of the SDGs, awareness of the continental Agenda is less known which reduces implementation.

The two Agendas must be integrated into planning and financial frameworks. Countries that have committed to the two Agendas need to domesticate them by integrating the goals, targets and indicators within their planning frameworks, for example national development plans, and also their budgets. This is based on the premise that what is not planned for and budgeted for is rarely implemented.

Peer learning and experience-sharing about what is working well in other countries and how it can be scaled up to inform the strategies in other countries will be imperative for the achievement of the two Agendas.

Investment in strengthening statistical systems is imperative. Many targets and indicators of the two Agendas are not monitored due to lack of data. National statistical systems will benefit from enhanced capacity development, coordination across national and subnational agencies gathering available data, and innovative approaches to gathering and analysing data.

7.2. Addressing poverty in all its dimensions

In general, concerted efforts must be made by countries to achieve SDG 1 and its related Agenda 2063 goals. Social and economic empowerment is imperative for vulnerable groups and investments in improving assistance systems by strengthening the targeting of eligible households while taking advantage of new technologies and data availability, for example through unique social registers, is key.

Investment in equitable access to basic services including education, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene services, and in high-value-added industries, for example through public-private partnerships, could reduce poverty by increasing productivity and expanding livelihood opportunities. Adopting a human rights-based approach[23] to water and sanitation will be imperative in ensuring that everyone including children, women, men, refugees, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples have access (United Nations Water, 2023).

To address child poverty, it is essential that there are equitable policy solutions based on accountability and good governance ensuring that national resources are allocated and spent on programmes and in sectors that directly benefit children, including key areas such as early childhood development and social protection. Further research and analysis are required to understand the diverse policy portfolios countries require to address child poverty and scale them up to achieve the SDG 1 targets.

Poverty financing is a crucial tool in the fight against poverty. With adequate poverty financing, African countries can provide social protection to vulnerable people, expand their expenditure on health and education, support small and micro-enterprises, and create job opportunities. Poverty financing is a comprehensive approach that should cover all aspects of poverty, including income poverty, human poverty and social exclusion. At present, poverty financing in Africa suffers from underinvestment and underreporting.

There are two types of poverty financing systems in Africa: informal and formal. The informal system is particularly prevalent in rural areas, and includes social self-groups, rotating savings and credit associations, family- and community-based support platforms, labour exchange, sharecropping, oxen-sharing, and mutual aid for costly occasions such as weddings, baptisms and funerals. This system, based on trust and social capital, is an essential safety net for the poor. The formal system includes financial institutions such as banks, microfinance institutions and government-run poverty alleviation programmes.

The formal system is not limited to cash or in-kind contributions, and price subsidies should also be considered. However, the formal system is often inaccessible to the poor due to high interest rates, collateral requirements and bureaucratic hurdles.

Policymakers must prioritize acknowledging, organizing and formalizing the informal financial system for the benefits it offers to be fully utilized. Formalizing the informal system can lead to better access to credit, savings and insurance services for the poor. Additionally, expanding formal poverty financing should be a top priority for African countries to end poverty by 2030. With adequate investment and formalization, poverty financing can provide a safety net for the poor, promote economic growth and help African countries achieve their development goals.

A well-developed social protection system is an integral component of any anti-poverty, pro-growth agenda for the region, and the expansion and integration of more comprehensive social protection systems in Africa must remain a high-

23 The human rights-based approach is a conceptual framework based on international human rights standards and operationally directed to protecting and promoting human rights in the process of human development. "It seeks to analyse inequalities which lie at the heart of development problems and redress discriminatory practices and unjust distributions of power that impede development progress and often result in groups of people being left behind" (United Nations Sustainable Development Group, 2024).

level priority. Support is needed to assist countries to design and implement effective social security systems, including child grants, unemployment benefits, pensions and health care coverage, which are anchored in international labour standards, such as the International Labour Organization's Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102), and the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), underpin efforts at ensuring comprehensive and adequate social protection throughout people's lives.

Informal social protection institutions have substituted and sometimes complemented formal state social protection institutions. It is necessary to interrogate how the informal institutions can better complement formal social protection systems and the sustainability of informal systems in the long run, especially in the context of rapid global changes and multiple crises.

Developing and implementing already developed climate-resilient strategies is vital. Investing in climate-resilient seeds and agricultural practices will also be crucial to improving food security. Leveraging abundant natural resources and international climate financing markets can enable greener economic expansion and contribute to development funds respectively. Efforts should also be made to understand the role of environmental factors such as cyclones, floods and droughts and their impacts on affected populations, in the view of formulating adequate interventions.

Finally, addressing the underlying governance and institutional factors that contribute to poverty and inequality is critical. Countries should focus on strengthening institutions for good governance, peace, and security. Addressing underlying socio-economic issues including poverty, inequality, unemployment, underemployment, and other grievances which exacerbate conflicts and increase vulnerabilities, should also be prioritized.

7.3. Addressing food insecurity and empowering smallholder farmers

African countries can make significant progress towards achieving SDG 2 and related Agenda 2063 goals by implementing various measures to address food insecurity and empower smallholder farmers.

Addressing food insecurity

African nations can build resilient and sustainable food systems, address food insecurity, and promote agricultural productivity by implementing practical recommendations in key aspects:

- **Strengthen agricultural infrastructure:** Investing in agricultural infrastructure, including irrigation systems, roads, storage facilities and market access points, is essential to boosting agricultural productivity and efficiency. Improved infrastructure helps reduce post-harvest losses, ensures efficient supply chains and facilitates access to markets, benefiting both producers and consumers. Expanding irrigation projects to include drip irrigation systems for smallholder farms, communal irrigation projects and training programmes on efficient water use, will increase agricultural productivity and stability. Constructing and upgrading local storage facilities with support to cooperatives for building shared storage units and implement post-harvest management training, will help to reduce post-harvest losses. Furthermore, developing rural roads and transportation networks to connect farmers to markets by partnering with private entities to create logistical hubs will streamline the distribution of agricultural goods.
- **Promote sustainable farming practices:** Adopting sustainable farming practices, such as crop rotation, intercropping and agroforestry, can enhance soil fertility, reduce environmental degradation and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Climate-smart agriculture, including drought-resistant crops and efficient water management techniques with mulching and rainwater harvesting, is crucial for building resilience to extreme weather events. The adoption of agroecological approaches will need training programmes for farmers on agroecological methods and their benefits. The introduction of climate-smart agricultural practices will require Governments to develop extension services to teach farmers these practices and offer incentives for their adoption.
- **Facilitate access to agricultural inputs:** Ensuring access to high-quality seeds, fertilizers and other agricultural inputs is vital for increasing productivity. Governments and development partners should support programmes that provide these resources to smallholder farmers at affordable prices, along with training on their effective use. Governments should provide subsidies or vouchers for high-quality seeds, fertilizers and tools, reducing barriers to entry for smallholders while partnering with NGOs to distribute these resources effectively. Establish regional seed banks that store and distribute quality seeds to farmers, ensuring a consistent supply. Support programmes that encourage seed saving and exchange among communities.
- **Encourage agribusiness development:** Promoting agribusiness entrepreneurship can help diversify economies and create job opportunities. Initiatives such as agro-parks and processing centres can add value to agricultural products, generate employment and foster inclusive economic growth. Developing agro-parks that bring farmers, processors and traders together can facilitate collaboration and value addition. These parks can provide shared facilities and services, including training and marketing support. Establishing incubators that nurture agri-entrepreneurs, offer mentorship, business development services, funding opportunities and partnerships with private sector players to provide networking opportunities is also key.
- **Empower women and youth in agriculture:** Women and youth play a critical role in African agriculture and its future yet face significant barriers to asset ownership, inputs and resources. Policies and programmes that empower women and youth, including securing land rights, providing training and improving access to assets, can boost productivity and food security. Implementing policies that secure land rights for women, including formalizing ownership through land registration, offering legal support is key. Providing training programmes for women and aspiring youth farmers on agricultural techniques, business management and leadership skills, will ensure they can contribute fully to the sector and its future development.
- **Strengthen social safety nets:** Expanding social safety nets, including food assistance programmes and nutrition education, is essential to protect vulnerable populations from hunger and malnutrition. These programmes should be integrated with broader development strategies to address the root causes of food insecurity. Develop and expand food assistance programmes for vulnerable populations, including school feeding programmes and community food banks, and ensure these programmes integrate nutritional education components can also aid the fight against malnutrition, undernutrition and overnutrition. Implementing conditional cash transfer programmes that provide funds to low-income families, contingent on their participation in activities that support food security such as attending nutrition workshops, will also be beneficial.

By implementing these recommendations, African nations can reduce food insecurity, promote sustainable agriculture and make meaningful progress towards achieving SDG 2, ensuring food and nutrition security for all.

Empowering smallholder farmers

Africa's reliance on smallholder farmers to feed its burgeoning population is undeniable (World Economic Forum, 2022). Yet these farmers often lack the necessary support to thrive amidst daily challenges. Political commitment at the highest levels of government is vital to unlocking the potential of smallholder farmers in rural Africa. Tailored financial, technical, investment and technological solutions can revolutionize farming practices and reshape perceptions of agriculture's role. Integrating smallholder farmers into policy, investment, financing and innovation ecosystems is essential to ensure development interventions reach those who need them most. Figures indicate that with adequate support, smallholder farmers can significantly contribute to addressing food insecurity and poverty challenges in the continent.

As the global business landscape evolves rapidly, Africa must adapt to claim its place in the global economy. Digital technologies and innovations play a crucial role in modernizing financial flows, information exchange, soil fertility mapping and land mapping for investment. They reduce transaction costs and risks, while providing a platform for youth engagement in business and inclusion of smallholder farmers in modern agriculture.

African countries stand to benefit from the opportunities presented by the AfCFTA. Implementing the AfCFTA agreement can significantly improve food access and reduce the cost of food by shortening supply chains and cutting logistics costs.

To empower smallholder farmers in Africa to achieve SDG 2 and associated Agenda 2063 goals, key practical recommendations are proposed:

- **Secure land rights:** Governments should implement policies that provide secure tenure and formalize land ownership for smallholder farmers, particularly women. This can include land registration programmes, legal assistance and land reform initiatives. Governments should also encourage community-based land management systems and empower local communities to make decisions on land use, land use allocation, and dispute settlements.
- **Enhance financial inclusion:** Expanding access to financial services, including microfinance, loans and insurance, can help farmers invest in their businesses, manage risks and expand their operations. Innovative financing mechanisms, such as blended finance and diaspora bonds, can provide additional funding sources for agricultural development. Promoting microfinance institutions and cooperatives to offer loans to smallholder farmers can provide needed resources for investment in inputs, machinery and other necessities, while providing financial literacy programmes can help farmers to manage these resources effectively. Develop crop insurance schemes to protect farmers from losses due to weather events or market fluctuations. Partner with international organizations to offer subsidized insurance products.
- **Support market development:** Improving market access for smallholder farmers and agribusinesses is key to ensuring stable incomes and reducing poverty. This includes strengthening regional markets, developing value-added industries, creating policies that support fair trade practices and price stability, and investing in road and transport infrastructure to facilitate the movement of agricultural goods and services. Encourage agribusiness development through tax incentives and grants for processing facilities that add value to raw agricultural products. This helps to diversify income streams and stabilize earnings. Foster cooperative networks that enable smallholder farmers to pool resources, market their products collectively, and negotiate better prices. Provide training on cooperative management and market access strategies. Initiatives like the AfCFTA can strengthen intra-African trade, reducing reliance on global markets and enhance regional economic integration. Cooperation on agricultural policies, research and development can further boost food security.
- **Climate-smart agriculture:** Introduce drought-resistant crops and climate-resilient farming techniques, helping smallholders adapt to changing weather conditions and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Encourage agroecological practices including crop rotation, intercropping and agroforestry, to improve soil fertility, reduce environmental degradation and support long-term sustainability. NGOs should work closely with smallholder farmers, offering technical assistance, training programmes and access to funding opportunities, fostering a supportive ecosystem. Governments and the private sector should collaborate to create programmes and incentives that support smallholder farmers, including grants, tax breaks and public-private partnerships.

7.4. Addressing climate change and its impacts

While relatively low progress has been made in enhancing climate and disasters risk management planning at country and city planning, it is urgent to:

- Enhance climate information services across African countries. Climate information services are crucial in improving climate vulnerability assessments and identification of technically feasible and cost-effective resilience measures.
- Enhance vulnerability assessment and mapping at national, subnational/catchment and sectoral levels.
- Strengthen weather and hydro-meteorological observation networks and early warning systems.
- Update the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risks Reduction at the national, subnational and sectoral levels, to enhance alignment with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Develop national and sectoral climate change and disaster risks safeguard guidelines beyond environmental and social impact assessments.
- Reinforce institutional arrangements for climate change and disaster risk management.
- Enhance the development of innovative insurance products for climate and disaster risk management in key vulnerable sectors such as infrastructure, water, agriculture and health sector.
- Engage in capacity-strengthening to access adequate finance. This will enable highly vulnerable countries and communities to grow sustainably and progress towards a more sustainable and resilient future. Furthermore, climate literacy and green skills development should be prioritized. Children and young people will need to employ "adaptive capacity" techniques to live in a climate change-impacted world, and this capacity needs to be developed from an early age. Education and skills enhancement are crucial for children and young people to prepare themselves for their future, so that they can also contribute to making it more sustainable.
- In addition, Africa needs to invest in low-carbon, climate-resilient social services particularly for vulnerable groups such as women, children and elders. This offers a huge opportunity to promote low-carbon development and much-needed adaptation advances in Africa. The transition to a green and blue economy must also be accelerated. Africa has been engaging in green and blue economy transitions, with the main purpose to achieve economic and environmental benefits through reduced ecological costs and resource consumption with an efficient flow of urban/regional green resources. Finally, access to technological innovation to support productive and service sectors (agriculture, industry, fishing, mining and services) should be prioritized.

7.5. Strengthening governance institutions and outcomes

To expedite the attainment of SDG 16- and Agenda 2063-related goals, African countries should:

- **Strengthen legal frameworks:** Governments should strengthen legal frameworks to protect human rights, promote the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice for all citizens. This includes enacting and enforcing laws that protect marginalized groups, prevent discrimination, and address issues such as corruption and impunity.
- **Promote good governance:** Good governance is essential for building effective and accountable institutions. Policies should focus on promoting transparency, accountability and participation in decision-making processes at all levels of government. This may involve implementing anti-corruption measures, enhancing public sector efficiency and improving public service delivery.
- **Invest in conflict prevention and peacebuilding:** Efforts to promote peace and prevent conflicts should be prioritized. This includes investing in conflict prevention strategies, supporting peacebuilding initiatives, and addressing the root causes of violence and instability. Conflict-sensitive development programming can help mitigate the risks of conflict and promote sustainable peace.
- **Foster inclusive societies:** Policies should aim to foster inclusive societies where all individuals, regardless of background or identity, have equal rights and opportunities. This involves promoting social cohesion, tolerance and respect for diversity, as well as addressing the underlying drivers of social exclusion and inequality.
- **Empower marginalized groups:** Special attention should be given to empowering marginalized and vulnerable groups, including women, children, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, and refugees. Policies should promote their participation in decision-making processes, address the barriers they face in accessing justice and services, and ensure their rights are protected and upheld.
- **Build capacity and collaboration:** Strengthening the capacity of institutions and fostering collaboration between government agencies, civil society organizations and other stakeholders is crucial for achieving SDG 16. This includes investing in training and capacity-building programmes for government officials, promoting multi-stakeholder partnerships, and leveraging technology and innovation to enhance institutional effectiveness and service delivery.

By implementing these policy recommendations, governments and other stakeholders can work towards achieving SDG 16 and building peaceful, inclusive and just societies for sustainable development.

7.6. Strengthening partnerships for sustainable development

Domestic resource mobilization: African countries should prioritize reforms to strengthen their domestic resource mobilization. This includes:

- Investing in digitizing tax administration systems to reduce tax evasion and improve collection efficiency. For example, Rwanda's electronic billing system has significantly increased VAT compliance.
- Implementing progressive taxation measures, including taxing luxury goods and wealth assets, to ensure a fair distribution of the tax burden. For instance, South Africa introduced a wealth tax on high-net-worth individuals.
- Leveraging digital payment platforms to simplify tax payments and increase compliance. Ghana's e-Tax platform allows individuals and businesses to file and pay taxes online, improving compliance rates.

Scaling up ODA and improving its allocation: Development partners should scale up ODA to Africa, particularly for least developed countries, in the following areas:

- Funding projects that enhance productive capacities, infrastructure and human capital development. For example, the Global Partnership for Education has supported educational initiatives in least developed countries such as Burkina Faso, boosting literacy and skill development.
- Funding initiatives to improve roads, energy access and communication infrastructure, stimulating economic growth and employment opportunities.
- Supporting social protection, health care and educational programme to advance skills and knowledge and human capital development.

Enabling environment for private investment: African countries should create an enabling environment for private investment by:

- Simplifying business registration processes and reducing bureaucratic hurdles, making it easier for entrepreneurs to start and grow businesses.
- Establishing one-stop shops for investors, offering streamlined services such as permits, licences and legal assistance. For example, the Ethiopian Investment Commission provides a single point of contact for investors.
- Introducing mechanisms like investment guarantees and insurance against political risks, attracting private capital to projects in key sectors. The Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency has provided such support for projects in countries including Nigeria.

STI capacity-building: The international community should enhance support for Africa's STI capacity-building by:

- Facilitating partnerships between African institutions and global technology firms, such as Huawei's Seeds for the Future programme, which offers training in ICT skills to African students.
- Encouraging collaborative research projects between African universities and international research institutions. The African Academy of Sciences, in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, has funded research into health and agricultural technologies.
- Providing grants and funding for African startups and research centres to innovate and develop solutions to local challenges, such as the Tony Elumelu Foundation's entrepreneurship programme, which supports African startups.

AfCFTA implementation: African countries should fully implement the AfCFTA by:

- Enacting measures that facilitate intra-African trade, such as harmonizing tariffs and regulations, reducing barriers at borders, and simplifying customs procedures.
- Supporting local industries through incentives and policies that encourage domestic manufacturing and value addition, such as Ethiopia's industrial parks initiative, which has attracted international companies to set up manufacturing facilities.
- Promoting regional value chains that leverage the strengths of different African countries. For example, the East African Community is working to develop value chains in sectors such as textiles and agriculture.

- Expediting the finalization of the AfCFTA index which is designed to track implementation of the initiative.

Strengthening national statistical systems: African Governments, development partners and stakeholders should invest in national statistical systems by:

- Training local statistical agencies in data collection and analysis techniques, enhancing the quality and accuracy of national data. The AfDB's Statistical Capacity Building programme offers such support.
- Leveraging new technologies such as mobile surveys and geospatial analysis to gather comprehensive data on key indicators.
- Promoting open data platforms to share statistical information with the public, fostering transparency and informed decision-making. The African Union's Statistics Division offers an open data portal, with comprehensive statistics on various sectors.

Enhance South-South cooperation: African countries need to forge and strengthen partnerships through South-South and triangular cooperation.

ANNEX

SDGs assessment: Methodology and data availability assessment

Methodology

- **Selection of the indicators**

Data used in this analysis are compiled from the SDG global database as per the latest update of March 2024 (DESA, 2024b). Indicators are selected based on the availability of two or more data points for more than 40 percent of the countries in the corresponding region or subregion. Accordingly, out of the 83 indicators under SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17, we have used 54 indicators having sufficient data to track the progress.

- **Measures for tracking progress**

As mentioned above, two principal measures are used to assess regional and subregional progress towards the SDGs:

A. The **Current Status Index** measures progress towards achieving a specific SDG target since 2015.

B. The **Anticipated Progress Index** measures the gap between predicted value of the indicator and specified target value and gives an indication of how likely it is for the target values to be achieved by 2030.

Both indices are constructed at the level of sub-indicator (series, disaggregation or subcomponents of an indicator) and can be aggregated at indicator, target and goal levels.

- **The Current Status Index**

Given a specified SDG target value for each indicator, the indicator values for the current year and 2015 can be used to construct a metric that measures the progress made since 2015, in relation to the progress needed for the SDG target by 2030.

Denoting indicator values for 2015 and the current year by I0 and Icv and the target value for 2030 by TV, and setting the normalized values of the indicator at 2015 and 2030 at 0 and 10 respectively, the Current Status Index is calculated as:

$$I_{cv}^{N} = \frac{I_{cv} - I_0}{|TV - I_0|} \times D \quad in\ which$$

$$D = \begin{cases} 10 & increasing\ is\ desirable \\ -10 & decreasing\ is\ desirable \end{cases}$$

when desirable direction is clear.

For parity indicators, the value is:

$$I_{cv}^{N} = \begin{cases} 10 - \frac{|TV - I_{cv}|}{|TV - I_0|} \times 10 & if \quad |TV - I_{cv}| \leq \quad |TV - I_0| \\ \frac{|I_{cv} - I_0|}{|TV - I_0|} \times (-10) & Otherwise \end{cases}$$

The Current Status Index is normalized to be in the interval [-10;10]. When the average overall normalized values under each goal provide an index range between 0 and 10, it means that the region/subregion has progressed. Negative values indicate that the region/subregion has regressed. Moreover, if the current value of an indicator has already reached or exceeded the target value, the index is automatically set to 10.

- **The Anticipated Progress Index**

This index compares the predicted (anticipated) progress with the targeted progress. By predicting the indicator value for the target year and benchmarking the predicted value against the target value, we can identify how close we can get to the target by the end of the target year (2030), assuming the previous pace of progress.

Denoting the predicted value of the indicator I for the target year by It, and value in the base year by *Ib*, one can approximate the progress gap by P when no regression has occurred, and by *100 - P* when indicator value has regressed since the base year. If desirable direction is clear from the target, the value of *P* is defined as:

$$P = \frac{|TV - I_t|}{|TV - I_b|} \times 100$$

In the case of parity indicators, we consider no regression has occurred if

$$|TV - I_t| \leq |TV - I_b|.$$

The Anticipated Progress Index only needs to be calculated for indicators that are not expected to achieve the target. Indicators for which the predicted value has already reached or is expected to reach the target by 2030, or exceeded the achievement level, are automatically classified as “will be achieved”, and the Anticipated Progress Index is set to 0.

Based on expected progress, the value of *P* ranges from 0 to 100. If there is a predicted regression from the current level, *P* will be greater than 100.

P may be interpreted as the extra effort or acceleration needed to meet the target when the value is less than or equal to 100, and *100 – P* is the size of regression when it is greater than 100. Indicators are classified into three predefined achievement levels:

$$\begin{cases} 0 \leq P \leq 10 & (\textit{Will meet the target with current rate or minor extra effort}) \\ 10 < P \leq 100 & (\textit{Need to accelerate the current rate of progress to achieve the target}) \\ P > 100 & (\textit{Regression or no progress expected}) \end{cases}$$

Aggregation

The average of the progress indexes is calculated to measure the overall progress at the region/subregion level. When more than one variation for an indicator exists (for example indicator 17.10.1; worldwide weighted tariff-average, most-favoured-nation status, by type of product [percent]), all variants are used in calculations. Each variant of indicator is weighted such that the sum of the weights under each indicator is 1. Finally, a weighted average of the progress indices is computed as progress index for that indicator.

Target values

Indicator number	Series description	Target
	SDG 1	
1.1.1	Proportion of population below international poverty line (%)	0
1.1.1	Employed population below international poverty line, by sex and age (%)	0
1.2.1	Proportion of population living below the national poverty line (%)	(0.5)
1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of population covered by at least one social protection benefit, by sex (%)	(2.7)
1.3.1	[ILO] Proportion of population above statutory pensionable age receiving a pension, by sex (%)	(6.8)
1.3.1	[World Bank] Proportion of population covered by social assistance programmes (%)	(86.9)
1.4.1	Proportion of population using basic drinking water services, by location (%)	100
1.4.1	Proportion of population using basic sanitation services, by location (%)	100
1.5.1	Number of directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (number)	0
1.5.1	Number of deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (number)	0
1.5.2	Direct economic loss attributed to disasters relative to GDP (%)	0
1.5.3	Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework	1
1.5.4	Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies (%)	100
1.a.1	ODA grants for poverty reduction, by recipient countries (percentage of GNI)	(2)
1.a.2	Proportion of total government spending on essential services, education (%)	20
	SDG 2	
2.1.1	Prevalence of undernourishment (%)	0
2.1.1	Number of undernourished people (millions)	0
2.1.2	Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity (%)	0
2.1.2	Number of moderately or severely food insecure people (thousands of people)	0
2.1.2	Prevalence of severe food insecurity (%)	0
2.1.2	Number of severely food insecure people (thousands of people)	0
2.2.1	Proportion of children moderately or severely stunted (%)	(0.6)
2.2.2	Proportion of children moderately or severely wasted (%)	5
2.2.2	Proportion of children moderately or severely overweight (%)	5

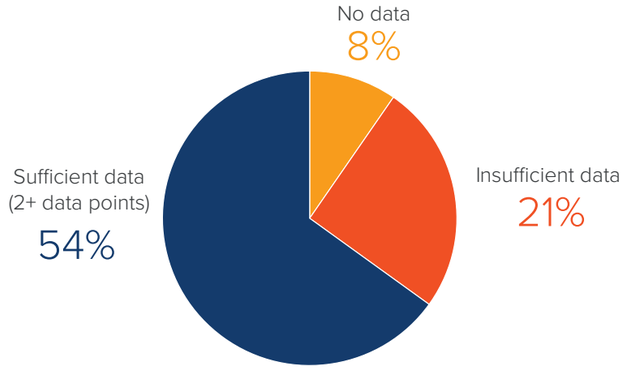
2.2.3	Proportion of women aged 15-49 years with anaemia (%)	(0.5)
2.2.3	Proportion of women aged 15-49 years with anaemia, non-pregnant (%)	(0.5)
2.2.3	Proportion of women aged 15-49 years with anaemia, pregnant (%)	(0.5)
2.5.1	Number of local breeds kept in the country	(1.5)
2.5.1	Number of local breeds for which sufficient genetic resources are stored for reconstitution	(1.5)
2.5.1	Number of transboundary breeds for which sufficient genetic resources are stored for reconstitution	(1.5)
2.5.1	Plant genetic resources accessions stored ex situ (number)	(1.5)
2.5.2	Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk as a share of local breeds with known level of extinction risk (%)	0
2.5.2	Number of local breeds with unknown risk status (number)	0
2.a.1	Agriculture orientation index for government expenditures	1
2.a.2	Total official flows (disbursements) for agriculture, by recipient countries (millions of constant 2020 United States dollars)	(2)
2.c.1	Indicator of food price anomalies, by Consumer Food Price Index	0.5
	SDG 13	
13.1.1	Number of directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (number)	0
13.1.1	Number of deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population (number)	0
13.1.2	Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework	1
13.1.3	Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies (%)	100
13.2.2	Total greenhouse gas emissions without land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) for non-Annex I Parties (Mt CO_2 equivalent)	(0.6)
	SDG 16	
16.1.1	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex (victims per 100,000 population)	(0)
16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking, by age and sex (number)	0
16.2.2	Detected victims of human trafficking, by age and sex (per 100,000 population)	0
16.3.2	Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population (%)	0
16.5.1	Prevalence rate of bribery, by sex (%)	0
16.5.2	Bribery incidence (% of firms experiencing at least one bribe payment request)	(0.1)
16.6.1	Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget (%)	100
16.7.1	Ratio for female members of parliaments (ratio of the proportion of women in parliament in the proportion of women in the national population with the age of eligibility as a lower bound boundary), lower chamber or unicameral	1
16.7.1	Ratio for female members of parliaments (ratio of the proportion of women in parliament in the proportion of women in the national population with the age of eligibility as a lower bound boundary), upper chamber	1
16.7.1	Ratio of young members in parliament (ratio of the proportion of young members in parliament (age 45 or below) in the proportion of the national population (age 45 or below, with the age of eligibility as a lower bound boundary), lower chamber or unicameral	1
	SDG 17	
17.1.1	Total government revenue (budgetary central government) as a proportion of GDP (%)	33
17.1.2	Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes (% of GDP)	(2.9)
17.10.1	Worldwide weighted tariff-average, most-favoured-nation status, by type of product (%)	0
17.10.1	Worldwide weighted tariff-average, preferential status, by type of product (%)	0
17.11.1	Developing countries and least developed countries' share of global merchandise exports (%)	(2)
17.11.1	Developing countries and least developed countries' share of global services exports (%)	(2)
17.11.1	Developing countries and least developed countries' share of global merchandise imports (%)	(2)
17.11.1	Developing countries and least developed countries' share of global services imports (%)	(2)
17.12.1	Average tariff applied by developed countries, most-favoured nation status, by type of product (%)	0
17.12.1	Average tariff applied by developed countries, preferential status, by type of product (%)	0
17.15.1	Proportion of project objectives in new development interventions drawn from country-led result frameworks – data by recipient (%)	100
17.15.1	Proportion of results indicators drawn from country-led results frameworks – data by recipient (%)	100
17.15.1	Proportion of results indicators which will be monitored using government sources and monitoring systems – data by recipient (%)	100
17.15.1	Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by providers of development cooperation – data by recipient (%)	100
17.17.1	Amount of United States dollars committed to public-private partnerships for infrastructure, million $ real	(2)
17.19.1	Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries (current United States dollars)	(2)
17.3.1	FDI inflows (millions of United States dollars)	(2)
17.3.2	Volume of remittances (in United States dollars) as a proportion of total GDP (%)	(5.2)
17.4.1	Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services (%)	(0.2)
17.6.1	Fixed broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed (per 100 inhabitants)	13.03
17.7.1	Amount of tracked imported environmentally sound technologies (current United States dollars)	(4.1)

17.7.1	Total trade of tracked environmentally sound technologies (current United States dollars)	(3.8)
17.8.1	Proportion of individuals using the internet (%)	100
17.9.1	Total ODA (gross disbursement) for technical cooperation (millions of 2020 United States dollars)	(2)

1. Data availability assessment

The analysis used the global database of SDGs as last updated in March 2024. This assessment covers SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17. According to the assessment Africa suffers from a clear data gap. Out of the 83 indicators framed under the five selected SDGs, only 54 indicators (65 percent) have sufficient data to be used for the assessment, where sufficient data mean at least two data points for at least 40 percent of countries on the continent. Meanwhile, 29 indicators have insufficient data, including 8 indicators which have no data at all for any African countries.

Figure 56: Number of indicators according to data availability in Africa, 2024

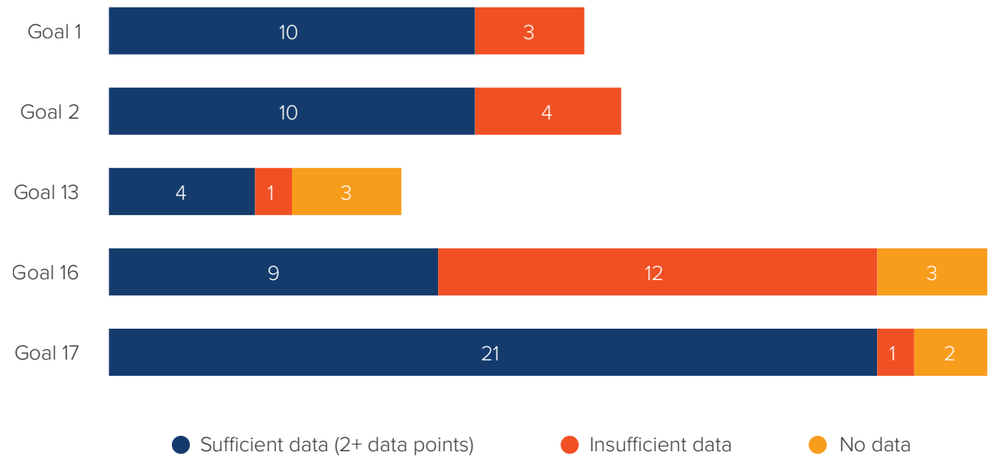


Source: African Centre for Statistics, ECA (2024b).

At the goal level, one can notice that SDG 16 suffers more from a data gap, where 15 indicators out of its 24 indicators have insufficient data, including 3 which have no data for any African country.

In addition, 50 percent of the indicators under SDG 13 have insufficient data.

Figure 57: Number of indicators according to data availability by SDGs, 2024



Source: African Center for Statistics, ECA (2024b).

Data gap is a major challenge for the continent: 50 percent of the indicators under the five selected SDGs do not have sufficient data for 15 African countries and almost one third of the indicators have insufficient data for 51 African countries. Moreover, data gap varies across countries, as the percentage of indicators with sufficient data ranges between 29 percent and 69 percent. For instance, South Africa, Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana and Niger are in a better position than their counterparts, where sufficient data (at least two data points) are available for 65 percent or more of indicators. While Equatorial Guinea, Libya, South Sudan and Eritrea suffer the most from data gap, where data is insufficient for more than 40 percent of the indicators.

The table below provides the country composition of the subregional groupings used in the analysis. The listed country groupings align with the UNECA Data for Development Portal. It is important to note that the country compositions of each subregion vary depending on the data source. For the exhaustive list of countries, visit the sources mentioned in the report.

Box 15: List of countries under each subregion

Central Africa	East Africa	North Africa	Southern Africa	West Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa
Cameroon	Burundi	Algeria	Angola	Benin	Angola
Central African Republic	Comoros	Egypt	Botswana	Burkina Faso	Benin
Chad	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Libya	Eswatini	Cabo Verde	Botswana
Congo	Ethiopia	Mauritania	Lesotho	Côte d'Ivoire	Burkina Faso
Equatorial Guinea	Eritrea	Morocco	Malawi	Gambia	Burundi
Gabon	Djibouti	Sudan	Mauritius	Ghana	Cabo Verde
Sao Tome and Principe	Kenya	Tunisia	Mozambique	Guinea	Cameroon
	Madagascar		Namibia	Guinea-Bissau	Central African Republic
	Rwanda		South Africa	Liberia	Chad
	Seychelles		Zambia	Mali	Comoros
	Somalia		Zimbabwe	Niger	Congo
	South Sudan			Nigeria	Côte d'Ivoire
	Uganda			Senegal	Democratic Republic of the Congo
	United Republic of Tanzania			Sierra Leone	Djibouti
				Togo	Equatorial Guinea
					Eritrea
					Eswatini
					Ethiopia
					Gabon
					Gambia
					Ghana
					Guinea
					Guinea-Bissau
					Kenya
					Lesotho
					Liberia
					Madagascar
					Malawi
					Mali
					Mauritius
					Mozambique
					Namibia
					Niger
					Nigeria
					Rwanda
					Sao Tome and Principe
					Senegal
					Seychelles
					Sierra Leone
					Somalia

	South Africa
	South Sudan
	Sudan
	Togo
	Uganda
	United Republic of Tanzania
	Zambia
	Zimbabwe

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