



# SDG implementation in G20 countries

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**South Africa**

# South Africa – UNSDSN SDG Index Ranking

South Africa

**Global Rank: 99 (out of 149)**

## Key challenges for South Africa:

SDG 1 No poverty

SDG 2 Zero hunger

SDG 3 Good health & well-being

SDG 4 Quality education

SDG 6 Clean water & sanitation

SDG 7 Affordable & clean energy

SDG 8 Decent work & economic growth

SDG 9 Industry, innovation & infrastructure

SDG 10 Reduced inequalities

SDG 12 Responsible consumption & production

SDG 13 Climate action

SDG 14 Life below water

SDG 15 Life on land

SDG 16 Peace & justice, strong institutions

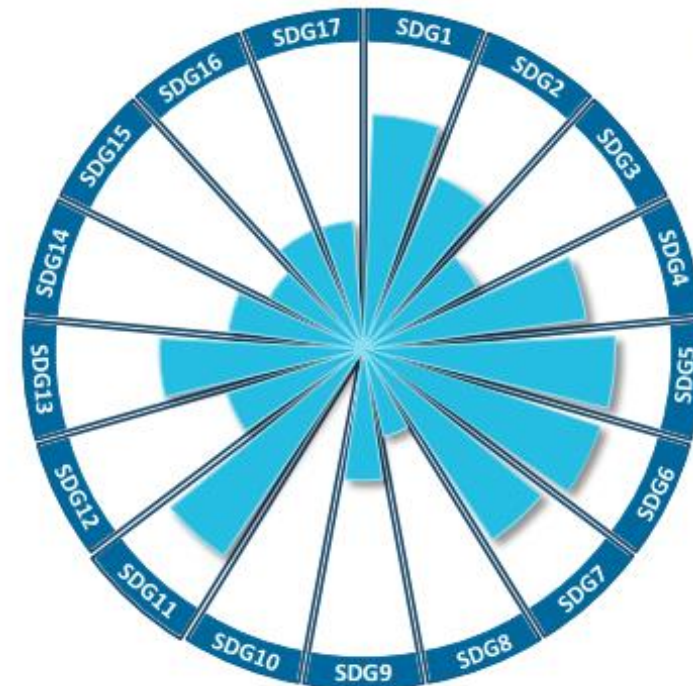
Source: SDG Index & Dashboard Global Report, Country Profiles, July 2016  
BertelsmannStiftung and Sustainable Development Solutions Network

OVERALL SDG PERFORMANCE	Global rank	Score or value	Regional average
SDG Index	99 (of 149)	53.8 /100	42.5 /100

## Comparison with other development metrics

Human Development Index, 2014	116 (of 188)	0.67 /1	0.5 /1
Subjective Wellbeing, 2015	103 (of 149)	4.6 /10	4.2 /10
GDP per capita, PPP, 2015	75 (of 149)	US\$ 13197	US\$ 4613
Global Competitiveness Ind., 2016	49 (of 140)	4.4 /10	3.6 /10
Environmental Perf. Index, 2016	81 (of 180)	70.5 /100	53.1 /100

## AVERAGE PERFORMANCE BY SDG





# South Africa

- Issued a National Development Plan 2030 back in 2013 after broad consultations with different stakeholder groups including business
- Main elements include:
  - Long-term plans of departments to be aligned with the NDP to identify areas where policy change will be needed
  - Govt to engage with all sectors allowing them to contribute to implementation & remove obstacles
  - NDP to shape budget allocation
  - Improvement of public services & key role for local govts in doing so
  - Evidence-based monitoring & evaluation
  - Championed by the President & Deputy President

# South Africa

- Primary challenges identified in NDP:
  - Too few people work
  - Poor education for black people
  - Poorly located, inadequate & under-maintained infrastructure
  - Spatial divides hobble inclusive development
  - Unsustainably resource intensive economy
  - Uneven & poor quality public health system
  - High level of corruption
  - A divided society



# South Africa

- Main objectives:
  - Eliminate poverty
  - Reduce inequalities
  - Improve quality of education, skills development & innovation to raise employment
  - Deepen democracy
  - Build economic capability to bring a step change in performance to boost growth



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- Critical actions going forward:
  - A social compact to reduce poverty & inequality, raise employment & investment.
  - Broadening access to employment, strengthening the social wage, improving public transport & raising rural incomes.
  - Professionalising public service, strengthening accountability, improving coordination & prosecuting corruption.
  - Boosting private investment in labour-intensive areas, competitiveness & exports, with adjustments to lower the risk of hiring younger workers.
  - An education accountability chain, with lines of responsibility from state to classroom.



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- Critical actions going forward (cont'd):
  - Phase in national health insurance, with a focus on upgrading public health facilities, producing more health professionals & reducing the relative cost of private health care.
  - Public infrastructure investment at 10 % of GDP, financed through tariffs, public-private partnerships, taxes & loans and focused on transport, energy & water.
  - Interventions to ensure environmental sustainability & resilience to future shocks.
  - New spatial norms & standards – densifying cities, improving transport, locating jobs where people live, upgrading informal settlements & fixing housing market gaps.
  - Reduce crime by strengthening criminal justice & improving community environments.



# South Africa

- While NDP is broadly aligned with the SDGs, there are challenges around capacity-building & implementation particularly in the areas of:
  - food security & sustainable agriculture,
  - gender,
  - green industrialisation,
  - labour rights & working conditions,
  - social, political, economic inclusion & equality of access to opportunities.



# South Africa– Examples of what business can do

- Collaborate with the government to support its long-term strategy to increase employment by **providing vocational training & community-based entrepreneurship skills**. The South African NDP foresees a tax incentive to employers to reduce the initial cost of hiring young labour-market entrants.
- Invest in R & D to support government plans to **improve resource efficiency & boost innovation to drive sustainable & inclusive growth**. For ex, the high domestic cost of broadband internet connectivity has been a major hindrance to development in Africa. Innovative solutions allowing South Africans to acquire & use knowledge more effectively will help scale up development efforts.



- In South Africa, about 70% of the population is expected to live in cities by 2030 with significant implications for planning & delivery of basic services. Work with national & local authorities in **developing & implementing sustainable infrastructure projects** to promote **compact urban development** providing people easier access to public services, education, work & business opportunities.
- South Africa's NDP highlights the importance of **investing in hydroelectric & other clean energy sources** in southern Africa. Support national efforts to reduce emissions by **developing & deploying low carbon technologies** across your supply chains.