

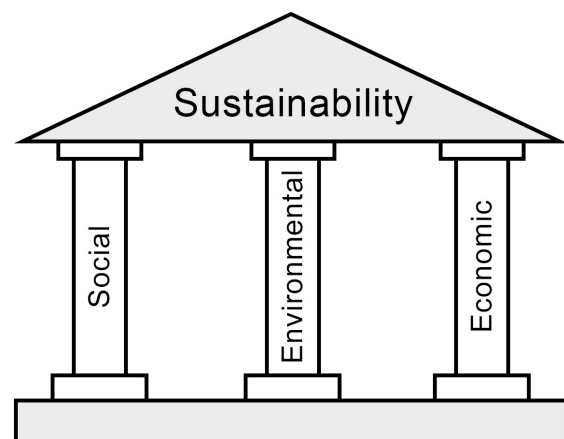
Agenda 2030: an introduction

The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** is an action programme for the prosperity of the planet signed in September 2015 by the governments of the 193 UN member countries. It incorporates 17 Sustainable Development Goals into a large action programme and 169 “targets”, i.e. indicators to help countries plan their policies, measure their progress, find gaps and report the results to the international community. The official launch of the Sustainable Development Goals was at the beginning of 2016, leading the world on the path to be taken over the next 15 years: all the countries, in fact, are **committed** to achieving the 17 goals by 2030.

■ What do we mean by “goals”?

The Development Goals follow up the results of the Millennium Development Goals • that preceded them and represent common goals on a set of important development issues: the fight against poverty, eradicating hunger and combating climate change, to name but a few. ‘Common goals’ means that they concern all countries and all individuals: no one is excluded from them, nor should they be left behind along the necessary path to bring the world on the path to sustainability.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) must be achieved globally by all UN member countries ••. This means that every country is called to make its contribution to join these



great challenges. Incentives will also have to be found to encourage non-governmental **stakeholders** to participate actively in sustainable development.

■ The three dimensions of a sustainable development

Sustainable development is defined as a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the possibility for future generations to meet their needs.

In order to achieve a sustainable development, it is important to harmonise three key elements, which can be considered as the **pillars** of a sustainable growth:

- **economic growth:** productivity, business activity, tax **burden** and employment;
- **social inclusion:** social equity, human rights, health, belief and dignity;
- **environmental protection:** resources **depletion**, waste management, natural resources, air and water pollution.



burden: *carico*
to commit: *impegnarsi*
depletion: *esaurimento*
pillar: *pilastro*
stakeholder: *investitore*

In 2000, the Millennium Declaration identified eight fundamental values essential to international relations. The Millennium Development Goals set targets for realising these values around the world by 2015 and served as the focus for UN work throughout the period.

Palestine, Taiwan, Kosovo and Vatican City are not UN members.

1 Write questions to the following answers.

1.
They are indicators that help countries plan their policies, measure progress, find gaps and report the results to the international community.
2.
They are expected to achieve the 17 goals of the programme of the Agenda.
3.
It means that the 17 goals concern all countries and all individuals of the planet.
4.
It means that the development must meet the needs of the present without compromising the possibility for future generations to meet their needs.
5.
It comprises productivity, business activity, tax burden, and employment.
6.
They are included in social inclusion.

2 Read the text and fill in the gaps with the missing words.

steps • societies • human • poverty • plan • resources • challenge • development • planet • generations

Transforming our World

This 2030 Agenda is a **1.** of action for people, planet, and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognise that eliminating **2.** in all its forms, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global **3.** and an indispensable requirement for sustainable **4.** We are resolved to free the **5.** race from the tyranny of poverty and want to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the transformative **6.**

which are urgently needed to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path. We are determined to protect the **7.** from degradation, through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural **8.** and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future **9.** We are determined to create peaceful, just, and inclusive **10.** which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.

Adapted from: <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

3 **PAIR WORK** In pairs, discuss about the following points.

1. In your opinion, why is the Agenda so focused on the sustainability of the goals?
2. How can any individual contribute to the achievement of the goals?
3. Why is social inclusion one the main pillars?
4. Do you think your country is doing a good job in the achievement of the goals? Explain your answer.

