

# Pakistan's Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals:

## A Decade in Review (2015-2024)

# SDGs







The Future Grows from What We Sustain Today

Minhaj University Lahore



# Patron's Message

I am pleased to highlight that Pakistan has taken substantial steps in enhancing its efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030, however, the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) depends on coordinated efforts of both the public and private sectors.

We, as a community, must know the importance of the Sustainable Development as it creates a balance between the current needs and the future needs through protecting limited natural resources, combating poverty, preventing resource depletion and inequality for future generations. Progress towards the SDGs is inherently dependent on the collective commitment of government institutions, academia, civil society, and the private sector. Such collaborative efforts are essential not only for accelerating national development but also for fostering regional growth and stability.

Although, Pakistan adopted SDGs as a national development agenda in 2016 and has made considerable progress in SDGs since its initiation, sincere efforts are needed for its successful implementation.

I commend the efforts of the team of the Center of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), Minhaj University Lahore, for this comprehensive and insightful review report. I believe, this report will strengthen collaboration among key stakeholders, and contribute meaningfully to accelerating Pakistan's progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Prof. Dr. Hussain Mohi Ud Din Qadri**

Patron,

Center of Economic Planning and Development  
(CEPD)





## Vice Chancellor's Message

The review report on, Pakistan's Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: A Decade in Review (2015-2024), has been prepared by the Centre of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), Minhaj University Lahore, is a voluntary review report and acts as a timely wake-up call for the policymakers to enhance their efforts in achieving the SDG Agenda 2030.

Pakistan demonstrates commendable progress in SDGs such as Quality Education, Clean Water and Sanitation, and Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, with 58.8 percent of SDGs on track, we face formidable challenges in SDGs Zero Poverty, No Hunger, Gender Equality, and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. The decline in Pakistan's global SDG ranking from 115th in 2015 to 140th in 2023, despite modest improvements in our SDG score, underscores the urgency of accelerated, coordinated action.

This report distinguishes itself through methodological rigor and regional contextualization. By analyzing 51 carefully selected indicators across all seventeen SDGs and benchmarking Pakistan's performance against our South Asian counterparts Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka we provide policymakers with actionable intelligence to recalibrate national development strategies. The comparative analysis reveals that while our neighbors have improved both their scores and rankings, Pakistan's relative position has deteriorated, signaling the need for systemic reforms in governance, institutional quality, and policy consistency.

Minhaj University Lahore, through its constituent bodies including the Minhaj Welfare Foundation, Minhaj Education Society, and the Centre for Research and Innovation in Maritime Affairs, has steadfastly contributed to advancing the SDG Agenda 2030. Our commitment extends beyond rhetoric to tangible interventions providing quality education without gender discrimination, establishing medical camps for vulnerable populations, ensuring access to clean water, transitioning to renewable energy through solar installations, and conducting empirical research that informs evidence-based policymaking.

I commend the CEPD team, under the visionary leadership of Dr. Hussain Mohi Ud Din Qadri and Dr. Khurram Shahzad, for preparing this progress report. This report embodies the spirit of intellectual excellence and social responsibility that defines Minhaj University Lahore. It is my earnest hope that this analysis will catalyze meaningful dialogue among stakeholders and inspire decisive action toward realizing the promise of the 2030 Agenda. Let this report serve as both mirror and compass reflecting our current realities while guiding us toward a more just, prosperous, and sustainable future for all Pakistanis.

**Prof. Dr. Sajid Mehmood Shahzad**  
Vice Chancellor,  
Minhaj University Lahore



## Director's Message

Academic institutions play a pivotal role in advancing the SDG agenda by producing knowledge, developing human capital, and fostering informed public discourse. Minhaj University Lahore and the Center of Economic Planning and Development are fulfilling their roles in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals through research, policy engagement, and community outreach. By aligning academic inquiry with national development priorities, the university seeks to contribute meaningfully to sustainable and inclusive development at both national and regional levels.

As the 2030 deadline approaches, sustained commitment, collaboration, and innovation will be essential to translating policy intent into measurable development outcomes. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a comprehensive and universally accepted framework for advancing inclusive growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability. In this context, Pakistan's Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: A Decade Review (2015–2024) offers a timely and policy-relevant assessment of Pakistan's progress since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda as a national development framework.

This review aims to support informed decision-making by highlighting development gaps, policy priorities, and opportunities for accelerating progress. It also reinforces the importance of academic institutions in advancing the SDG agenda through research, education, and community engagement.

**Prof. Dr. Khurram Shahzad**

Director,  
Center of Economic Planning and Development  
(CEPD)

# FOREWORD

In 2015, the United Nations called on the global community to take cooperative action to secure our common future. It is a roadmap for achieving the universal and all-encompassing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The 17 SDGs constitute a collective promise to the downtrodden to rise above poverty, access quality education and health services, end gender discrimination, protect the planet & global environment, preserve natural resources, and safeguard against adverse impacts of climate change. Worldwide, achieving the SDGs will be transformative, warranting novel, urgent, and concerted endeavours through institutional action and effective governance.

The report titled: Pakistan's Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: A Decade in Review (2015-2024) is a timely evaluation of progress across 51 selected indicators denoting the 17 SDGs, aiming to assess the alignment of national policies with the SDGs. It depicts the status of progress after a decade since the inception of the SDGs, with reference to Pakistan and other regional countries. This is a commendable effort by Minhaj University and its Associated Institutes, as the report documents its contributions to advancing the SDGs through multi-pronged activities, including raising awareness through seminars and webinars and providing practical assistance.

However, the report highlights a critical impediment to a comprehensive performance evaluation of the SDGs: data scarcity and their limited and inconsistent availability.

The results in the report reveal Pakistan's satisfactory performance on several SDG indicators in the Social sector, including Quality Education, Clean Water and Sanitation, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Reduced Inequalities, and Responsible Consumption and Production whereas very critical economic indicators like No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions are lagging

behind and warrant government's urgent consideration.

Pakistan's very low global ranking on the SDGs (140<sup>th</sup> out of 193 UN member states) is highly concerning, given that only five years remain until the 2030 target. It is therefore imperative that policymakers and all citizens of Pakistan do their utmost to avoid adding another embarrassment after the failed attempt to meet the Millennium Development Goals in 2015.

I am sure this report will act as a wake-up call for all of us as a nation.

**Prof. Dr. Samina Khalil**

Sustainable Development Economist

Former Director,

Applied Economics Research Center (AERC)

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Center of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), Minhaj University, Lahore acknowledges and extends its sincere appreciation to all the team members who made a noteworthy contribution in “Pakistan’s Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: A Decade in Review 2015-2024”. CEPD expresses its profound gratitude to the Patron and Director of CEPD for their invaluable guidance which made the successful completion of this report possible.

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# Contents

Executive Summary	4
List of Figures:	5
List of Tables:	6
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	8
1.1 Objectives	8
1.2 Key Findings of the report	12
CHAPTER TWO: Progress of SDGs in South Asian Countries	13
2.1 Introduction:	13
2.2 Group wise SDGs performance	39
CHAPTER THREE: Status of Pakistan's Progress on Sustainable Development Goals	42
3.1 INTRODUCTION	42
3.2 Current Status of Pakistan's Progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	49
CHAPTER FOUR: Role of Minhaj University and its Associated Institutes in Sustainable Development Goals	67
4.1 INTRODUCTION	67
4.2 Minhaj Welfare Foundation (MWF)	67
4.3 Minhaj Education Society (MES)	72
4.4 Aghosh Orphan Care Home	78
4.5 Center of Economic Planning and Development	78
4.6 Centre of Research and Innovation in Maritime Affairs (CRIMA)	86
Bibliography	90
Appendix: SDGs Targets	92



# Executive Summary

The Sustainable Development Goals a global framework, are crucial for achieving balanced and inclusive growth and development. These goals address the most important socioeconomic issues confronting humanity on the globe. In 2015, 736 million people were living on less than \$1.90 a day. Similarly, 1.6 billion people in 2015 lived in multidimensional poverty, 54 percent, more than half of these are from South Asia (OPHI, 2015). The situation in other basic services, education, health, and hygiene was not free from gaps. These gaps led to the initiation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the United Nations in 2015.

Pakistan's Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: A Decade in Review (2015-2024) is a voluntary review report on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Pakistan. The Sustainable Development Goals report evaluates the performance of Pakistan on SDGs for the period 2015-2024, to know if the public policies are aligned with the targets of SDGs or not. The key objectives of the report are to gauge the current status of SDGs progress in Pakistan, to determine Pakistan's position regarding SDGs progress in South Asia, and to evaluate the contribution of Minhaj University to SDGs progress in Pakistan. To assess the progress of SDGs in Pakistan, a total of 51 indicators has been taken in this report, representing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals for Pakistan and SAARC countries. These indicators were selected based on data availability and consistency over the review period.

Key findings of our report depict that 58.8 percent of the total SDGs are on track, 29.4 percent of the total SDGs indicate a moderate improvement, and 11.8 percent of the total SDGs are deteriorating in Pakistan. It is interesting to note that our findings show that Pakistan's progress in SDGs is 58.8 percent, which is almost equal to the progress of 57 percent presented by UNDP for Pakistan in the SDG report 2025, which

endorses the sample of indicators selected for assessment of SDGs performance in this report. The top five best performing SDGs in Pakistan are: Quality Education, Clean Water and Sanitation, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Reduced Inequalities, and Responsible Consumption and Production. The bottom five SDGs are: No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Pakistan is among the countries who are on the track of progress with a progress score of 59 percent in SAARC region, but in terms of SDG ranking it slipped to 140th position in 2023 from 115th position in 2015. The SAARC countries Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka improved their ranking by improving their SDG score except Pakistan as per the SDG progress report published by the UNDP. It clearly depicts the story of SDGs progress in Pakistan.

Minhaj University Lahore and its associated institutes have played an important role in assisting the country in meeting the 2030 Agenda of UNDP through their active engagement by organizing seminars and webinars, conducting empirical research and research projects, and providing other basic education, health, sanitation, and safe drinking water services.

It is concluded, although Pakistan has made a commitment to meet the SDGs target by 2030 and has shown progress in some SDGs, but we as a nation, are largely performing poorly in meeting the targets by the deadline. Poor governance, low quality of institutions, the effects of climate change, and inconsistent policies continue to impede effective implementation. To improve access to justice, we need to ensure the merit-based, politically free appointment of judges; similarly, to promote peace in the country, merit-based policies should be implemented, and conflicts be settled through dialogue.

## List of Figures

**Figure 1.1:** Status of the progress of SDGs and Indicators in Pakistan (%)

**Figure 1.2:** SDG Scores (SAARC Countries)

**Figure 1.3:** SDG Ranking (SAARC Countries)

**Figure 2.1:** Performance of SDGs Indicators in South Asian Countries

**Figure 2.2:** SDGs Wise Performance in SAARC Countries (Trends of Indicators)

**Figure 2.3:** Countries are on track SDGs

**Figure 2.4:** Countries are Moderately Improving SDGs.

**Figure 2.5:** Countries are Stagnating SDGs.

**Figure 2.6:** Countries are Decreasing SDGs.

**Figure 3.1:** Pakistan Ranks and Score in SDGs

**Figure 3.2:** Pakistan's SDGs Indicator Performance, 2015-2024

**Figure 3.3:** 51 Indicators Performance

**Figure 3.4:** Top 5 Best performing SDGs in Pakistan

**Figure 3.5:** Bottom 5 SDGs in Pakistan

**Figure 3.6:** Sustainable Development Goal Wise Performance (Trends of Indicators)

**Figure 4.1:** Minhaj Research contribution

## List of Tables

<b>Table 2.1:</b>	Status of SDGs Progress of SAARC Countries (%)
<b>Table 2.2:</b>	SDG 1: No Poverty
<b>Table 2.3:</b>	SDG 2: Zero Hunger
<b>Table 2.4:</b>	SDG Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
<b>Table 2.5:</b>	SDG 4: Quality Education
<b>Table 2.6:</b>	SDG 5: Gender Equality
<b>Table 2.7:</b>	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
<b>Table 2.8:</b>	SDG 7: Affordable and clean Energy
<b>Table 2.9:</b>	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
<b>Table 2.10:</b>	SDG Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
<b>Table 2.11:</b>	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities
<b>Table 2.12:</b>	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
<b>Table 2.13:</b>	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
<b>Table 2.14:</b>	SDG 13: Climate Action
<b>Table 2.15:</b>	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Table 2.16:</b>	SDG15: Life on Land
<b>Table 2.17:</b>	SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
<b>Table 2.18:</b>	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
<b>Table 3.1:</b>	SDG No. 1: “No Poverty”
<b>Table 3.2:</b>	SDG No. 2: “Zero Hunger”
<b>Table 3.3:</b>	SDG No. 3: “Good Health and Well-being”
<b>Table 3.4:</b>	SDG No. 4: “Quality Education”
<b>Table 3.5:</b>	SDG No. 5: “Gender Equality”
<b>Table 3.6:</b>	SDG No. 6: “Clean Water and Sanitation”
<b>Table 3.7:</b>	SDG No. 7: “Affordable and Clean Energy”
<b>Table 3.8:</b>	SDG No. 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
<b>Table 3.9:</b>	SDG No. 9: “Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure”
<b>Table 3.10:</b>	SDG No. 10: “Reduced Inequalities”
<b>Table 3.11:</b>	SDG No. 11: “Sustainable Cities and Communities”



**Table 3.12:** SDG No. 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

**Table 3.13:** SDG No. 13: “Climate Action”

**Table 3.14:** SDG No. 14: “Life below Water”

**Table 3.15:** SDG No. 15: “Life on Land”

**Table 3.16:** SDG No. 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

**Table 3.17:** SDG No. 17: Partnerships for the Goals

**Table 4.1:** Research Papers

**Table 4.2:** Webinars Conducted by Center of Economic planning and Development (CEPD) on SDGs

**Table 4.3:** Summary of Webinars conduct on Sustainable Development Goals

**Table 4.4:** CRIMA contribution in SDGs

# CHAPTER ONE:

## Introduction

Sustainable development has gained greater importance due to the world's growing problems, including poverty, inequality, resource depletion, and climate change. In 2015, 736 million people were living on less than \$1.90 a day. Similarly, 1.6 billion people in 2015 lived in multidimensional poverty, 54 percent, more than half of these are from South Asia (OPHI, 2015). In 2017, 63 percent of the World's hungry lived in South Asia (UNDP, 2025). The situation in other basic services, education, health, and hygiene was not free from gaps. These gaps led to the initiation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the United Nations in 2015. These seventeen goals aim to address global issues such as poverty eradication, hunger elimination, gender equality, quality education, and other basic needs.

As a decade is over and 5 years are left to achieve the SDGs targets set by the UNDP, it is imperative to know the status of the progress of the SDGs in Pakistan. The Center of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), Minhaj University Lahore, has prepared this report, which presents the progress that Pakistan has made on the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) since the launch of this program in 2015. This report also includes a comparison of Pakistan's progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with that of other Asian countries, allowing us to assess Pakistan's position in the region regarding SDGs progress. The report also includes a picture of the efforts and achievements made by Minhaj University, Lahore, to assist the Government of Pakistan in meeting the SDGs target by 2030. This report also has the analysis of SDGs progress in four groups. The objectives of this report are presented in the following table

### 1.1 Objectives

#### Objectives of the SDGs Progress Report

- To gauge the status of SDGs progress in Pakistan.
- To locate the position of Pakistan's SDGs progress in South Asia.
- To evaluate the contribution of Minhaj University in SDGs progress in Pakistan
- To analyze the progress of SDGs by making four groups: Economy and Production, Social Welfare, Democracy and Sustainability, Environment.

The United Nations Development Program, in its 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Sustainable Development Goals report 2025, painted the picture of global progress in this way.

*“On average globally, the SDGs are far off track. At the global level, none of the 17 goals is currently on course to be achieved by 2030. Conflicts, structural vulnerabilities, and limited fiscal space impede SDG progress in many parts of the world. But while only 17 percent of the targets are on track to be*

*achieved worldwide, most UN member states have made strong progress on targets related to access to basic services and infrastructure, including mobile broadband use (SDG 9), access to electricity (SDG 7), internet use (SDG 9), under-5 mortality rate (SDG 3), and neonatal mortality (SDG 3)."*

**UNDP SDG Report 2025, 10th edition**

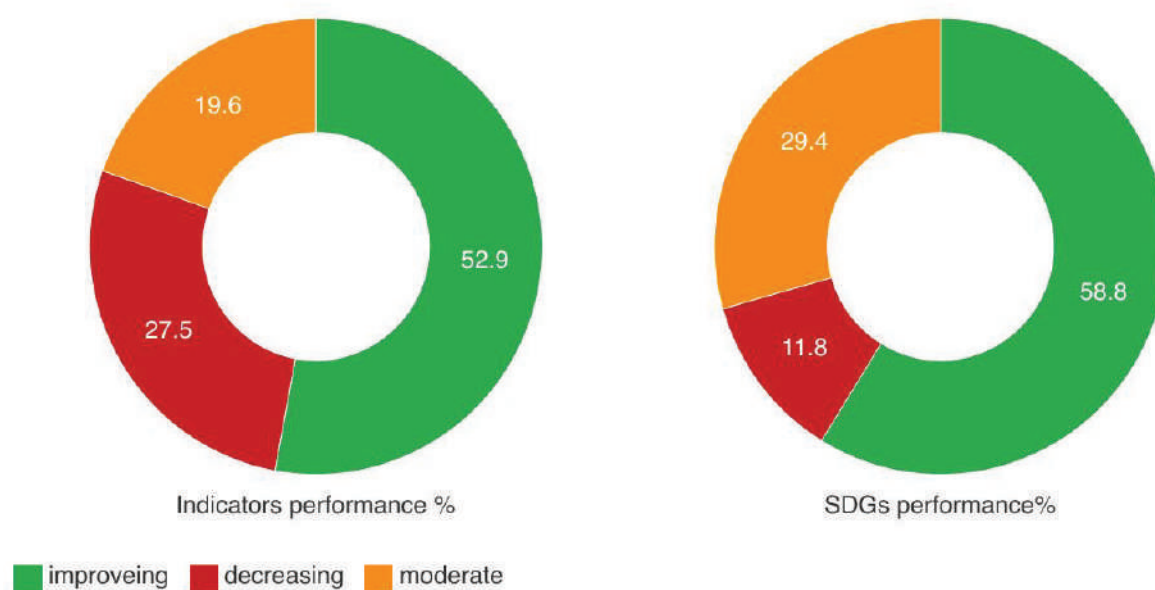
Although, these seventeen sustainable development goals have 169 targets and 231 indicators, but we have selected three indicators for each SDG goal. These indicators have been selected based on their importance, relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the availability of reliable data for the years 2015,2016,2022, 2023, and 2024. But for convenience we have used the period 2015-2024 in this review report.



To assess the progress of SDGs in Pakistan, a total of 51 one indicators have been taken in this report, representing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals for Pakistan. Key findings of our report depict that out of these 51 indicators, 27 are on track, 10 indicators show moderately improving, and 14 indicators are decreasing. That means 52.9 percent are shown to be on track, 19.6 percent are moderately improving, and 27.5 percent are decreasing in Pakistan. SDGs performance in Pakistan depicts that 10 SDGs are on track, 5 SDGs exhibit a moderately improving, and 2 SDGs have shown a decreasing trend. That means out of the total 17 SDGs, 58.8 percent of the total SDGs are on track, 29.4 percent of the total SDGs indicate a moderate improving, and 11.8 percent of the total SDGs are decreasing.



**Figure 1.1: Status of the progress of SDGs and Indicators in Pakistan (%)**



It is interesting to note that our assessment shows that Pakistan’s progress in SDGs is 58.8 percent; this progress is almost equal to the progress of 57 percent evaluated by the UNDP for Pakistan in the SDG report 2025, which endorses the sample of indicators selected for assessment of SDGs performance in this report. This minor difference may be due to the sample size.

In Pakistan top five best performing SDGs are SDG 4; Quality Education, SDG 6; Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 9; Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG10; Reduced Inequalities and SDG12; Responsible Consumption and Production. Bottom 5 SDGs needing immediate attention from the authorities are SDG1; No Poverty, SDG2; Zero Hunger, SDG5; Gender EqualitySDG8; Decent work and Economic Growth, and SDG 16; Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

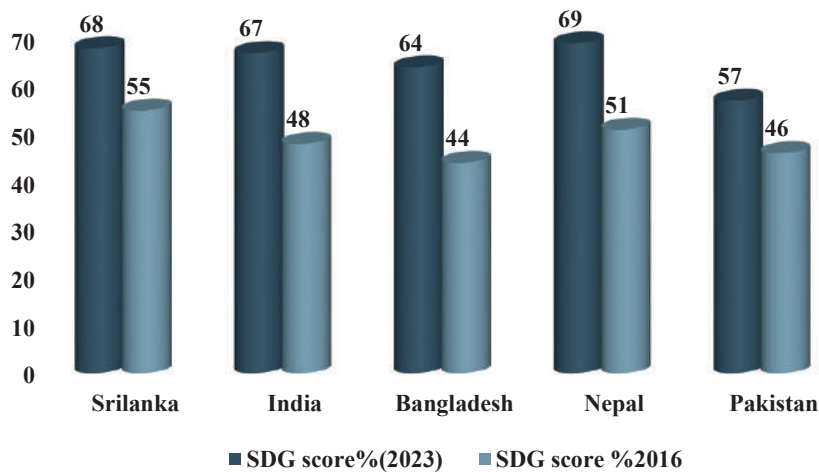
Inclusion of other South Asian countries allowed us to assess Pakistan’s position in the region regarding SDGs progress. Availability of data allowed us to take only four other countries from this region Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka for the purpose of comparison with Pakistan. The South Asia region has almost 2 billion people, which is 25 percent of the global population. Countries of this region are also in the race to achieve the SDGs targets set by the UNDP by 2030.

The SDG ranking on the basis of SDGs performance made by the countries is available in the Sustainable Development Report 2025. According to this report, between 2016 and 2023, Nepal has improved his ranking from 103 to 85 by improving his SDG core from 51 to 69. Sri Lanka has also improved his ranking from 97 to 93 by improving his SDG score from 55 to 68 during this period. In 2023, India is ranked at 99 by improving his ranking from 110, he improved his SDG score from 48 to 67. Similarly, Bangladesh is ranked at 114th in 2023 by improving his ranking from 118 with improvement in his SDG score from 44 to 64.

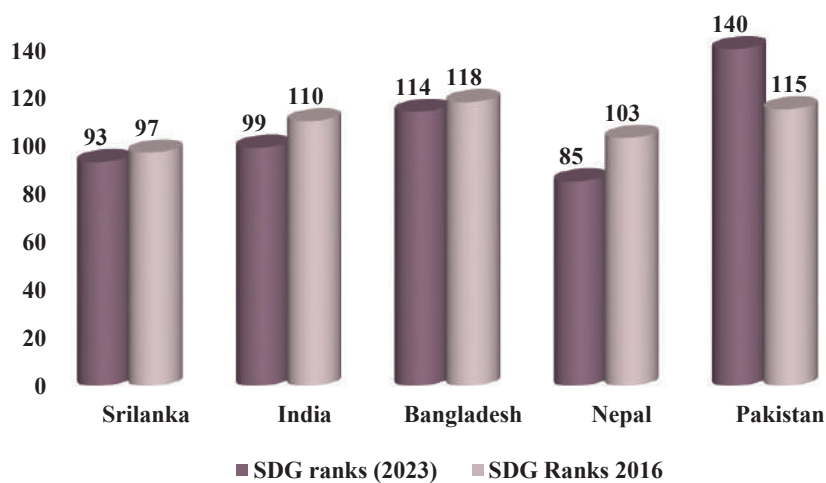
Although SDG score of Pakistan increased to 57 from 46 during this period but its ranking dropped to 140<sup>th</sup> in 2023 from 115<sup>th</sup> in 2016. Every country during this period improved his ranking as well as SDG score except Pakistan. Although there is a minor improvement in SDG score of Pakistan in these ten years but the drop in ranking depicts the complete picture of Pakistan's performance. Pakistan is lagging behind in South Asia due to poor performance in the SDGs indicators. High population growth rate, political and economic instability, terrorism, various natural disasters, expensive energy and climate changes are among the major hindering factors in achieving the targets. Moreover, COVID-19 also caused a major hindrance in achieving the SDGs targets during this period.

These five South Asian countries constitute a major portion of Asia's population, which means that their combined success or failure will substantially affect the accomplishment of the SDGs agenda 2030.

**Figure 1.2:SDG Scores (SAARC Countries)**



**Figure 1.3:SDG Rankings (SAARC Countries)**



In line with Pakistan's national agenda, Minhaj University Lahore (MUL) and its associated institutes have endorsed the vision of facilitating Sustainable Development Goals through the provision of quality education without gender inequality in light of SDGs; Goal 4, quality education, and Goal 5, gender equality. Minhaj University Lahore and its associated institutes have been playing their role in creating awareness about Sustainable Development Goals by conducting webinars, seminars, and workshops. Center of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), Minhaj University Lahore is organizing webinars and seminars on the Sustainable Development Goals. Minhaj University Lahore has converted to solar panels to fulfill the need for electricity, keeping in view the SDG goal 7, renewable energy.

## 1.2 Key Findings of the report

KEY FINDINGS OF THE REPORT	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the period of this report, 58.8 % of the SDGs are on track, 29.8% are moderately improving, whereas 11.8% are deteriorating.</li> <li>• The top 5 best performing SDGs in Pakistan are: Quality Education, Clean Water and Sanitation, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Reduced Inequalities, and Responsible Consumption and Production.</li> <li>• The bottom 5 SDGs needing attention in Pakistan are: No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions</li> <li>• Pakistan is among the countries who are on the track of progress with a progress score of 59 percent in SAARC region, but in terms of SDG ranking it slipped to 140<sup>th</sup> position in 2023 from 115<sup>th</sup> position in 2015.</li> </ul>	

*“With just five years to reach the Sustainable Development Goals, we need to shift into overdrive.”*

***Antonio Guterres***

***Secretary General, United Nations***

This report's assessment of the SDGs goals outlines that even though the SDGs have benefited millions of people, progress is remarkable slow in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.



## CHAPTER TWO:

### Progress of SDGs in South Asian Countries

#### 2.1 Introduction:

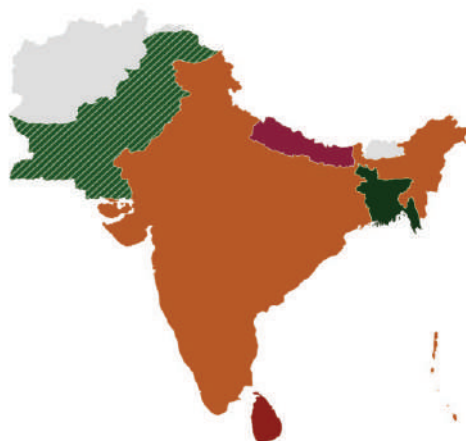
This chapter reviews the progress of sustainable development goals of the South Asian countries and compares it with that of Pakistan to know its position in this region. The South Asia region has almost 2 billion people, which is 25 percent of the global population. Countries of this region are also darting in the race to achieve the SDGs targets set by the UNDP by 2030.

**Figure 2.1: Performance of SDGs indicators in South Asian Countries:**

#### On Track

■ Bangladesh 50.98% ■ India 44.13% ■ Nepal 50.98% ■ Pakistan 52.9% ■ Sri Lanka 49.01%

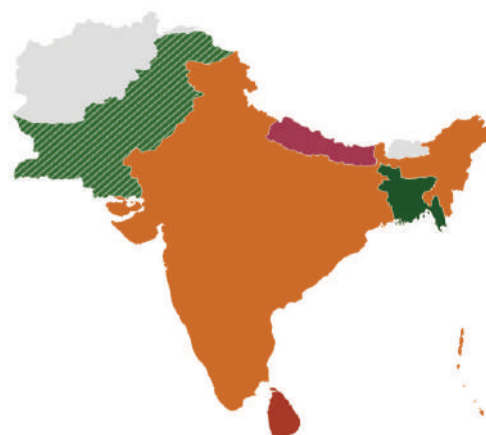
/// Pakistan



#### Moderately Improving

■ Bangladesh 5.88% ■ India 19.6% ■ Nepal 11.76% ■ Pakistan 19.6% ■ Sri Lanka 17.64%

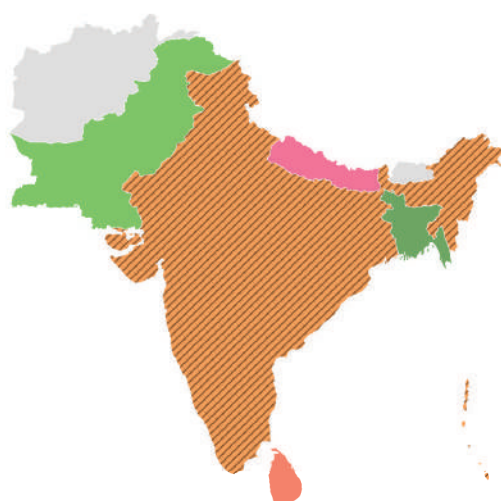
/// Pakistan



#### Decreasing

■ Bangladesh 33.34% ■ India 34.31% ■ Nepal 27.46% ■ Pakistan 27.50% ■ Sri Lanka 19.6

/// India



#### Stagnating

■ Bangladesh 9.8% ■ India 1.96% ■ Nepal 9.8% ■ Pakistan 0% ■ Sri Lanka 13.75%

/// Sri Lanka



Data constraint allowed selecting only four countries from this region: Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka for comparison of the SDGs of these countries with Pakistan. These five South





















































































Asian countries constitute a major portion of Asia's population, which means that their combined success or failure will substantially affect the accomplishment of the SDGs Agenda 2030.

































































































**Table 2.1: Status of SDGs Progress of SAARC Countries (%)**

<i><b>Countries</b></i>	<i><b>On Track</b></i>	<i><b>Moderately Improving</b></i>	<i><b>Stagnant</b></i>	<i><b>Decreasing</b></i>
<i><b>Bangladesh</b></i>	59	6	6	29
<i><b>India</b></i>	41	24	0	35
<i><b>Nepal</b></i>	59	18	5.9	18
<i><b>Pakistan</b></i>	59	29	0	12
<i><b>Sri Lanka</b></i>	59	24	12	5.9

The performance of these South Asian countries regarding Sustainable Development Goals is mixed; most of the countries have shown good performance and are on the track of improvement except India. Bangladesh's performance improved in 10 SDGs, declined in 5 SDGs, and showed moderate improvement in 1 SDG and remained stagnant in 1 SDG. India's performance improved in 7 SDGs, declined in 6 SDGs, and showed moderate improvement in 4 SDGs. The progress of SDGs in Nepal improved in 10 SDGs, declined in 3 SDGs, and showed moderate improvement in 2 SDGs and remained stagnant in 1 SDG. Similarly, Pakistan is on the track of improvement in 10 SDGs, 5 SDGs exhibit moderate improvement, and the performance of 2 SDGs has declined. Sri Lanka's performance improved in 10 SDGs, declined in 1 SDG and showed moderate improvement in 4 SDGs and remained stagnant in 2 SDGs.

**Figure 2.2: SDGs Wise Performance in SAARC Countries (Trends of Indicators)**

On Track 		Moderately Improving 		Stagnating 		Decreasing 
SDGs	Indicators	Bangladesh	India	Nepal	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
<b>1 NO POVERTY</b> 	Poverty headcount ratio at \$3.00 a day (2021 PPP) (% of population)					
	Multidimensional poverty headcount ratio (World Bank) (% of population)					
	Poverty Gap at \$3.00 a Day (2021 PPP) %					
<b>2 ZERO HUNGER</b> 	Prevalence of undernourishment (% of population)					
	Prevalence of overweight (% of children under 5)					
	Prevalence of stunting, height for age (% of children under 5)					
<b>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</b> 	Current Health Expenditure (% of GDP)					
	Maternal Mortality per 100,000 births					
	Neo-Natal Mortality per 1000 live births					
<b>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</b> 	Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above)					
	Lower secondary completion rate, total (% of relevant age group)					
	Primary completion rate, total (% of relevant age group)					
<b>5 GENDER EQUALITY</b> 	Labor force participation rate, female (% of female population ages 15+)					
	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%)					
	Global Gender Gap (Index and Ranking)					

<b>6</b> CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION 	People using at least basic drinking water services (% of population)					
	People using basic sanitation services (% of population)					
	Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources					
<b>7</b> AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	Renewable energy consumption (% of total final energy consumption)					
	Access to electricity (% of population)					
	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of population)					
<b>8</b> DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	GDP growth (annual %)					
	GDP per capita growth (annual %)					
	Unemployment, total (% of total Labor force) (modelled ILO estimate)					
<b>9</b> INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	Individuals using the Internet (% of population)					
	Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP)					
	Statistical performance indicators (SPI): Pillar 5 data infrastructure score (scale 0-100)					
<b>10</b> REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	Account ownership at a financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider, poorest 40% (% of population ages 15+)					
	Refugees under the mandate of the UNHCR by country or territory of origin					
	Average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country (%)					
<b>11</b> SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	Urban population (% of total population)					
	Internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disasters (number of cases)					
	Population living in slums (% of urban population)					



<b>12</b> RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of population)	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, rural (% of rural population)	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
	CPIA policy and institutions for environmental sustainability rating (1=low to 6=high)	→	↶	→	→	↑
<b>13</b> CLIMATE ACTION 	Total greenhouse gas emissions excluding LULUCF	↶	↶	↶	↶	↑
	Internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disasters (number of cases)	↶	↑	↶	↶	↑
	Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from Transport (Energy) (Mt CO2e)	↶	↶	↶	↑	↶
<b>14</b> LIFE BELOW WATER 	Marine protected areas (% of territorial waters)	↑	→	→	→	→
	Fish species, threatened	↶	↶	↶	↶	↶
	Terrestrial and marine protected areas (% of total territorial area)	↑	→	→	↑	→
<b>15</b> LIFE ON LAND 	Forest area (% of land area)	→	→	→	↶	→
	Terrestrial protected areas (% of total land area)	↶	→	→	↑	→
	Carbon dioxide (CO2) net fluxes from LULUCF forest land (Mt CO2e)	→	↑	→	→	→
<b>16</b> PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism: Estimate	↑	↑	↑	→	↶
	Control of Corruption: Estimate	↶	→	→	↶	→
	Rule of Law: Estimate	↑	↑	↑	↑	↶
<b>17</b> PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	Foreign direct investment, net inflows (% of GDP)	↶	↶	→	→	→
	Exports of goods and services (% of GDP)	↶	↑	↶	→	→
	Tax revenue (% of GDP)	↶	↶	↑	↶	↶

Data sources: WDI 2025, Global Gender Gap Report 2015, 2024.

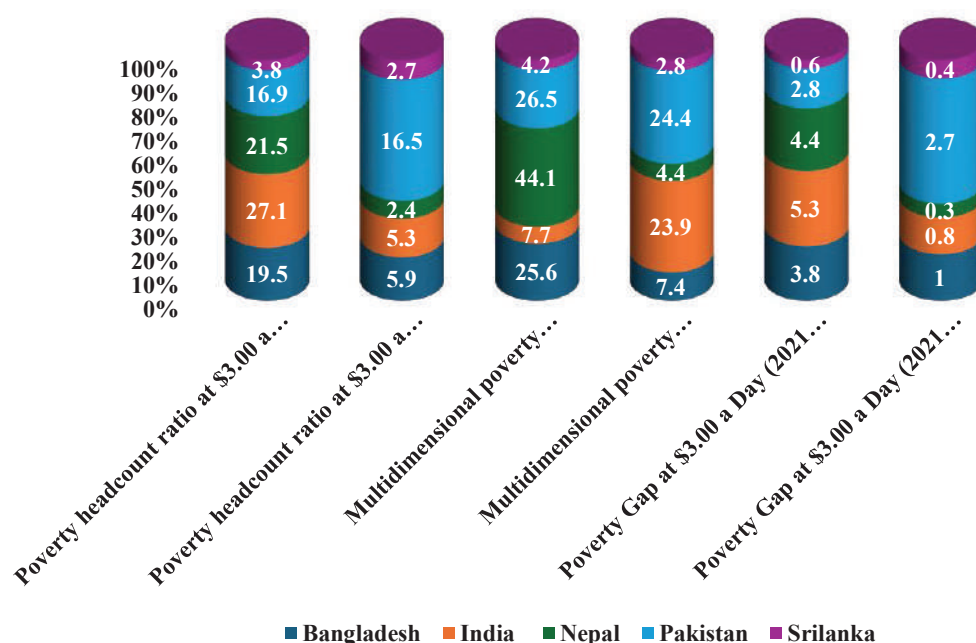
## Status of SDGs progress in SAARC Countries:

**Table 2.2: SDG 1: No Poverty**

Countries	Years	Poverty headcount ratio at \$3.00 a day (2021 PPP) (% of population)	Multidimensional poverty headcount ratio (World Bank) (% of population)	Poverty Gap at \$3.00 a Day (2021 PPP) %
<i>Bangladesh</i>	2015	19.5	25.6	3.8
<i>Bangladesh</i>	2022	5.9	7.4	1.0
<i>India</i>	2015	27.1*	7.7*	5.3*
<i>India</i>	2022	5.3	23.9	0.8
<i>Nepal</i>	2015	21.5*	44.1	4.4*
<i>Nepal</i>	2022	2.4	4.4	0.3
<i>Pakistan</i>	2015	16.9	26.5	2.8
<i>Pakistan</i>	2022	16.5	24.4**	2.7**
<i>Sri Lanka</i>	2015	3.8	4.2	0.6
<i>Sri Lanka</i>	2022	2.7**	2.8**	0.4**

\*means 2010 and \*\* means 2022

### SDG 1: No Poverty



Pakistan showed moderate improvement in poverty headcount ratio, multidimensional poverty headcount ratio and poverty gap. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka have significantly improved in poverty headcount ratio, multidimensional poverty headcount ratio and

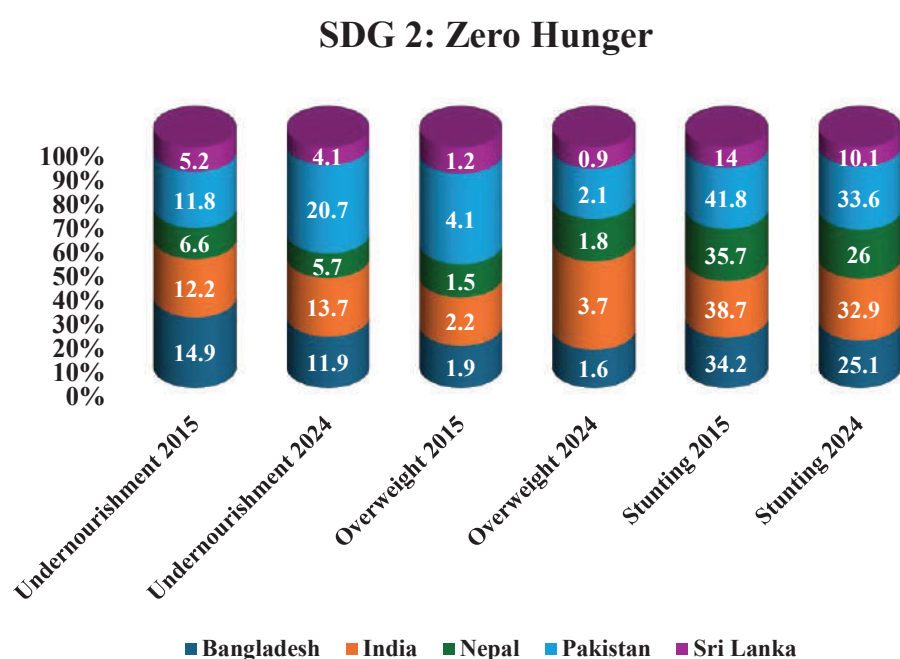
poverty gap. India improved in poverty headcount ratio and poverty gap but worsened in multidimensional poverty headcount ratio.

Over the last decade, Pakistan showed moderate improvement in this SDG1 as compared to SAARC countries. The reduction in poverty from 2015 to 2022 is because of increased labor incomes and shifted to non-agricultural sector in Pakistan. The high food prices and energy prices also hindered in achieving the target 2030 of SDG1 in Pakistan.

**Table 2.3: SDG 2: Zero Hunger**

Countries	Years	Prevalence of undernourishment (% of population)	Prevalence of overweight (modeled estimate, % of children under 5)	Prevalence of stunting, height for age (modeled estimate, % of children under 5)
Bangladesh	2015	14.9	1.9	34.2
Bangladesh	2024	11.9*	1.6	25.1
India	2015	12.2	2.2	38.7
India	2024	13.7 *	3.7	32.9
Nepal	2015	6.6	1.5	35.7
Nepal	2024	5.7*	1.8*	26.0*
Pakistan	2015	11.8	4.1	41.8
Pakistan	2024	20.7*	2.1	33.6
Sri Lanka	2015	5.2	1.2	14.0
Sri Lanka	2024	4.1*	0.9	10.1

*\* Means 2022*



Pakistan has worsened in prevalence of undernourishment and prevalence of overweight but showed moderate performance in prevalence of stunting. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka improved significantly, they improved in prevalence of undernourishment, prevalence of overweight and prevalence of stunting. India and Nepal has worsened in prevalence of overweight but improved in prevalence of undernourishment and prevalence of stunting.

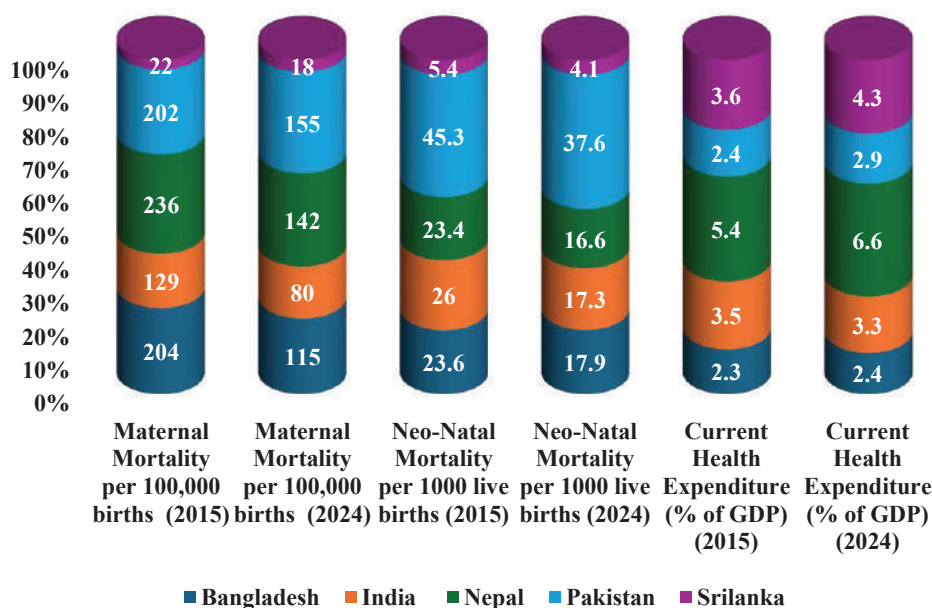
Pakistan showed poor performance in this SDG as compared to SAARC countries. The problem is affordability and cost of food. Millions of people in Pakistan faced extreme to moderate food insecurity.

**Table 2.4: SDG Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being**

Countries	Years	Current Health Expenditure (% of GDP)	Maternal Mortality per 100,000 births	Neo-Natal Mortality per 1000 live births
Bangladesh	2015	2.3	204	23.6
Bangladesh	2024	2.4*	115	17.9
India	2015	3.5	129	26
India	2024	3.3*	80	17.3
Nepal	2015	5.4	236	23.4
Nepal	2024	6.6*	142*	16.6*
Pakistan	2015	2.4	202	45.3
Pakistan	2024	2.9*	155	37.6
Sri Lanka	2015	3.6	22	5.4
Sri Lanka	2024	4.3*	18	4.1

*\* Means 2022*

### SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being





Pakistan showed moderate improvement in current health expenditure, while significantly improved in maternal mortality and neo-natal mortality. The SAARC countries like Nepal and India improved in current health expenditure, maternal mortality and neo-natal mortality while Bangladesh and Sri Lanka improved moderately in current health expenditure, maternal mortality and neo-natal mortality.

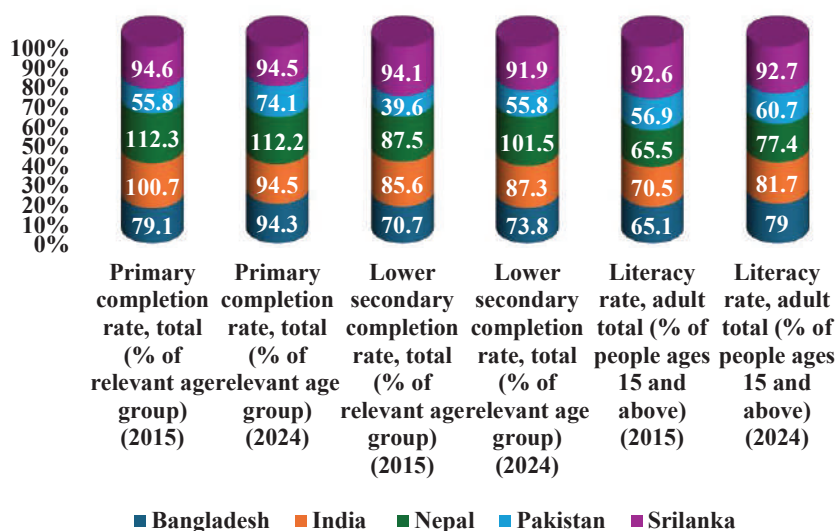
Over the last decade, Pakistan has improved well in this SDG as compared to SAARC countries. The devastating death toll of maternal mortality in Covid pandemic reached to maximum due to unavailability of vaccines and inadequate health facilities

**Table 2.5: SDG 4: Quality Education**

Countries	Years	Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above)	Lower secondary completion rate, total (% of relevant age group)	Primary completion rate, total (% of relevant age group)
Bangladesh	2015	65.1	70.7	79.1
Bangladesh	2024	79.0*	73.8	94.3
India	2015	70.5	85.6	100.7
India	2024	81.7	87.3	94.5
Nepal	2015	65.5	87.5	112.3
Nepal	2022	77.4	101.5	112.2
Pakistan	2015	56.9	39.6	55.8
Pakistan	2024	60.7	55.8	74.1
Sri Lanka	2015	92.6	94.1	94.6
Sri Lanka	2024	92.7	91.9	94.5

\* Means 2022

### SDG 4: Quality Education



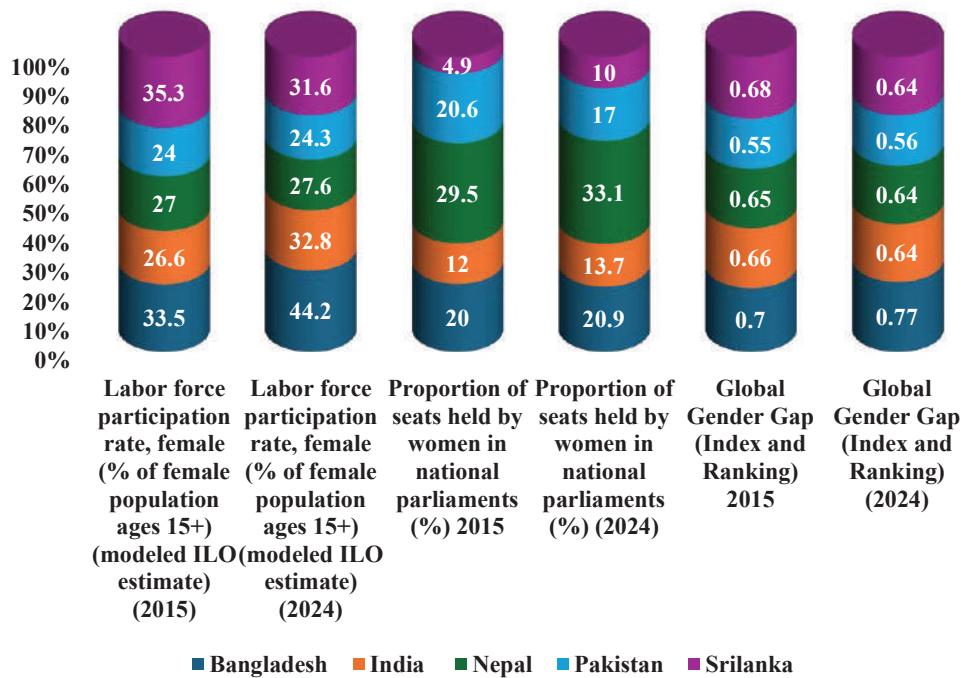
Pakistan moderately improved in literacy rate, while significantly improved in lower secondary completion rate and primary completion rate. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh significantly improved in literacy rate and primary completion rate but showed moderate improvement in lower secondary completion rate. India moderately improved in literacy rate and lower secondary completion rate but stagnant in primary completion rate. Nepal showed slight progress in literacy rate, primary completion rate and lower secondary completion rate. Sri Lanka remained stagnant in literacy rate, primary completion rate and lower secondary completion rate. Over the last decade, Pakistan has shown significant improvement in this SDG as compared to the SDG of SAARC countries. The policy reforms, enhanced investment and interventions needed to bridge the gaps in education system which makes access to quality education for all.

**Table 2.6: SDG 5: Gender Equality**

<b>Countries</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Labor force participation rate, female (% of female population ages 15+) (modeled ILO estimate)</b>	<b>Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%)</b>	<b>Global Gender Gap (Index and Ranking)</b>
Bangladesh	2015	33.5	20.0	0.70 (64/145)
Bangladesh	2024	44.2	20.9	0.77 (24/148)
India	2015	26.6	12.0	0.66 (108/145)
India	2024	32.8	13.7	0.64 (131/148)
Nepal	2015	27.0	29.5	0.65 (110/145)
Nepal	2024	27.6*	33.1*	0.64 (125/148)
Pakistan	2015	24.0	20.6	0.55 (144/145)
Pakistan	2024	24.3	17.0	0.56 (148/148)
Sri Lanka	2015	35.3	4.9	0.68 (84/145)
Sri Lanka	2024	31.6	10.0	0.64 (130/148)

*\* Means 2022*

## SDG 5: Gender Equality



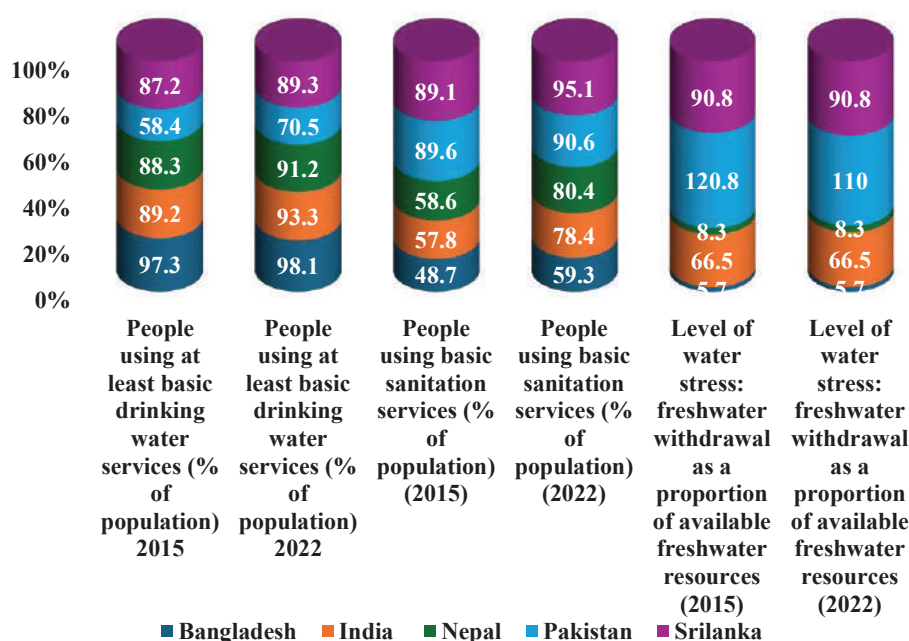
Pakistan showed slight performance in labor force participation rate for female while worse in proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and improved moderately in global gender gap. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh improved well in female labor force participation rate, proportion of seats held by women in parliaments and global gender gap. India and Nepal showed moderate improvement in female labor force participation rate and proportion of seats held by women in parliaments, but the value of global gender gap decreased which indicates improvement in gender equality. Sri Lanka remains stagnant in proportion of seats held by women in parliaments but the value of global gender gap index decreased showing improvement, but female labor force participation has worsened.

Over the last decade, Pakistan has shown slight improvement in this SDG as compared to the SDG of SAARC countries. The gender disparities are the major issue in Pakistan. A decline in proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments clearly indicates that gender disparity still exists.

**Table 2.7: SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation**

Countries	Years	People using at least basic drinking water services (% of population)	People using basic sanitation services (% of population)	Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources
Bangladesh	2015	97.3	48.7	5.7
Bangladesh	2024	98.7	67.6	5.7
India	2015	89.2	57.8	66.5
India	2024	95.7	83.3	66.5
Nepal	2015	88.3	58.6	8.3
Nepal	2024	93.6	86.0	8.3
Pakistan	2015	58.4	89.6	120.8
Pakistan	2024	90.6	71.8	110.0
Sri Lanka	2015	87.2	89.1	90.8
Sri Lanka	2024	90.2	95.3	90.8

**SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation**



Pakistan improved significantly in basic drinking water services and basic sanitation services, and recorded marginal improvement in level of water stress. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka India and Nepal have improved well in basic drinking water services, and basic sanitation services while remains stagnant in level of water stress.

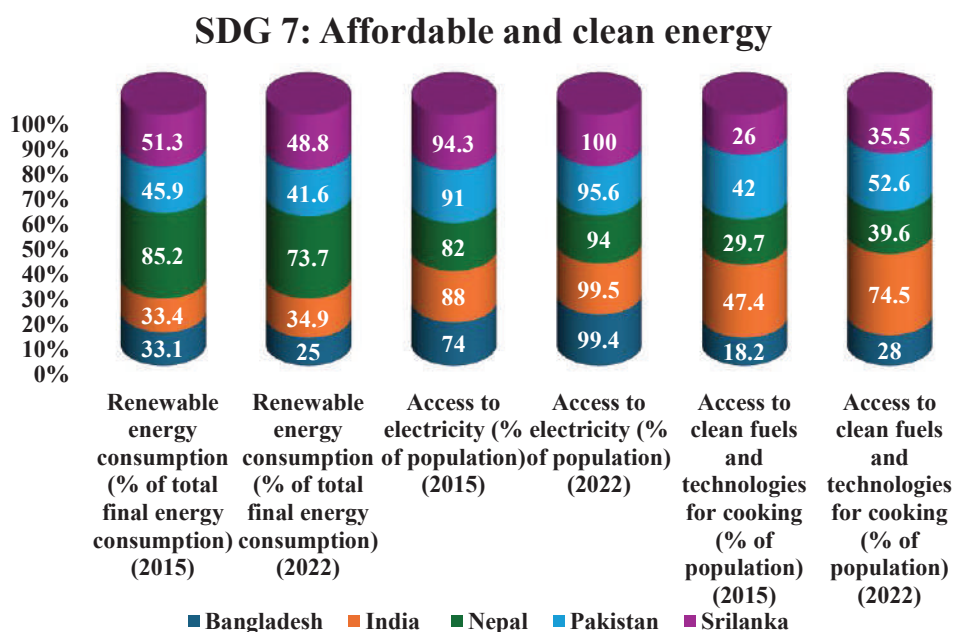


Pakistan has improved marginally in this SDG as compared to SDG of SAARC countries. The absence of awareness on the importance of water security, sustainable management of fresh water resources and recycling of unused water may hinder to meet by 2030 of SDG 6 in Pakistan.

**Table 2.8: SDG 7: Affordable and clean Energy**

Countries	Years	Renewable energy consumption (% of total final energy consumption)	Access to electricity (% of population)	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of population)
Bangladesh	2015	33.1	74.0	18.2
Bangladesh	2023	25.0	99.5	28.4*
India	2015	33.4	88.0	47.4
India	2023	34.9	99.5	76.7*
Nepal	2015	85.2	82.0	29.7
Nepal	2023	73.7	94	42.7*
Pakistan	2015	45.9	91.0	42.0
Pakistan	2023	41.6	95.6	54.9*
Sri Lanka	2015	51.3	94.3	26.0
Sri Lanka	2023	48.8	100.0	35.4*

*\* Means 2021*



Pakistan showed significant improvement in access to electricity services and access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, while worsened in renewable energy consumption. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka have improved in access to electricity services

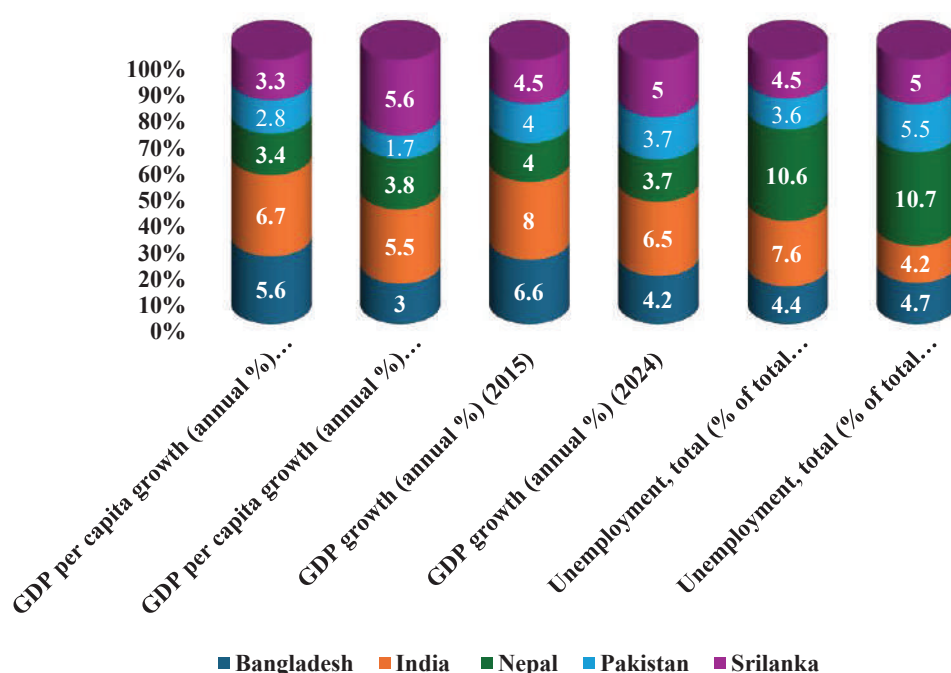
and access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking but situation in renewable energy consumption has deteriorated except India which has shown moderate improvement.

Pakistan has improved moderately in this SDG as compared to SDG of SAARC countries. The major concerned of energy sector of Pakistan is dependence on imported fossil fuels and oil products. Instead of renewable energy consumption, Pakistan depends upon imported fossil fuels and oil products. This is a big challenge in meeting the target by 2030 of SDG 7 in Pakistan.

**Table 2.9: SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Countries	Years	GDP growth (annual %)	GDP per capita growth (annual %)	Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate)
Bangladesh	2015	6.6	5.6	4.4
Bangladesh	2024	4.2	3.0	4.7
India	2015	8.0	6.7	7.6
India	2024	6.5	5.5	4.2
Nepal	2015	4.0	3.4	10.6
Nepal	2024	3.7	3.8	10.7
Pakistan	2015	4.0	2.8	3.6
Pakistan	2024	3.7	1.7	5.5
Sri Lanka	2015	4.5	3.3	4.5
Sri Lanka	2024	5.0	5.6	5.0

**SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

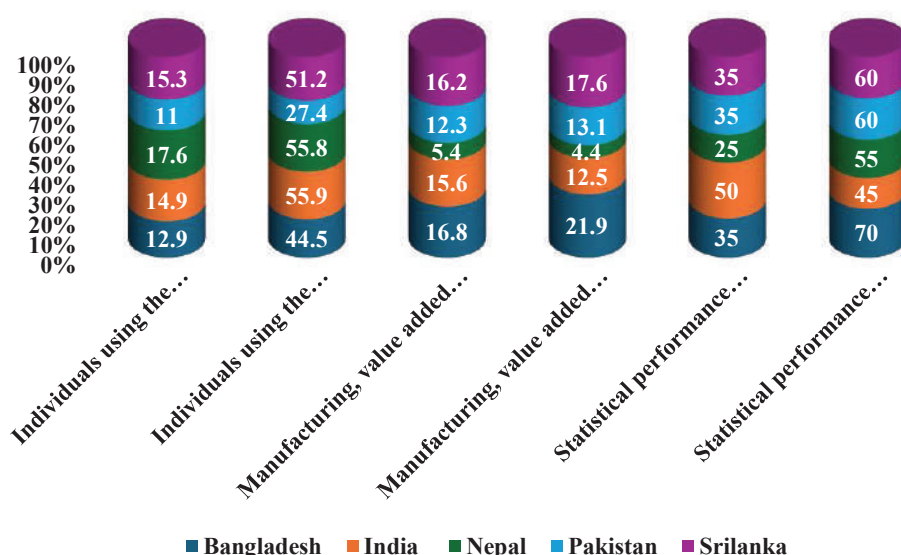


Pakistan has worsened in GDP growth, GDP growth per capita and unemployment. Almost all the indicators of this SDG in Bangladesh has worsened. Same is the case for India except a slight improvement in unemployment situation. GDP growth rate in Sri Lanka and Nepal has declined, unemployment has increased but growth rate of GDP per capita has increased. Performance of Pakistan is lagging behind in this SDG comparatively weaker then SDG of SAARC countries.

**Table 2.10: SDG Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**

Countries	Years	Individuals using the Internet (% of population)	Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP)	Statistical performance indicators (SPI): Pillar 5 data infrastructure score (scale 0-100)
Bangladesh	2015	12.9	16.8	35.0
Bangladesh	2024	44.5	21.9	70.0
India	2015	14.9	15.6	50.0
India	2024	55.9	12.5	45.0
Nepal	2015	17.6	5.4	25.0
Nepal	2024	55.8	4.4	55.0
Pakistan	2015	11.0	12.3	35.0
Pakistan	2024	27.4	13.1	60.0
Sri Lanka	2015	15.3	16.2	35.0
Sri Lanka	2024	51.2	17.6	60.0

### SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure



Pakistan improved significantly in individuals using internet and in statistical performance indicators (SPI), while moderately improved in manufacturing value added. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have significantly improved in individuals using internet, manufacturing

value added and SPI. Nepal improved in individuals using internet and SPI but declined in manufacturing value added. India remains worse in individuals using internet, manufacturing value added and SPI.

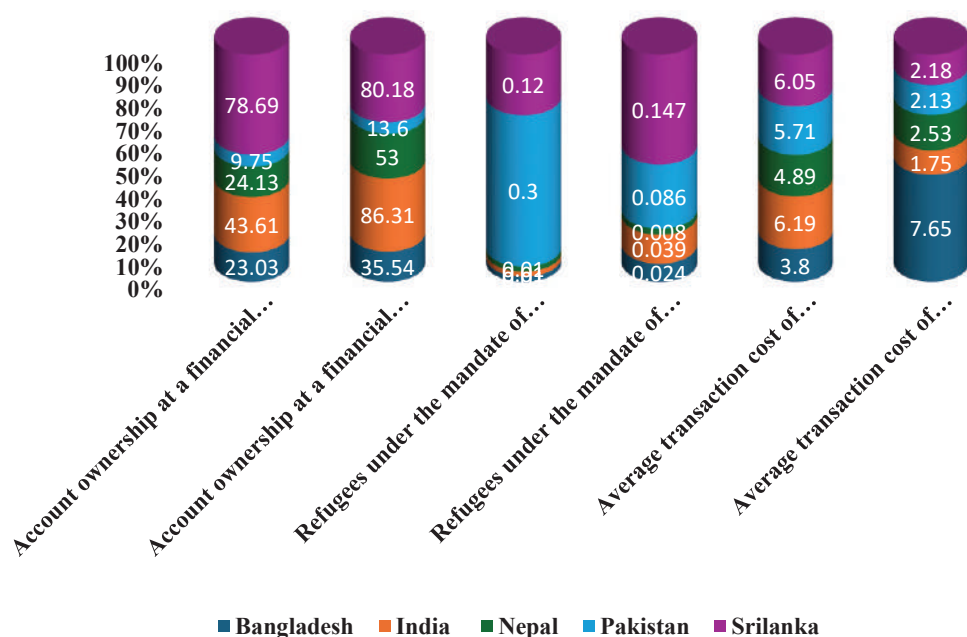
**Table 2.11: SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities**

Countries	Years	Account ownership at a financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider, poorest 40% (% of population ages 15+)	Refugees under the mandate of the UNHCR by country or territory of origin	Average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country (%)
Bangladesh	2015	23.03	10868	3.80
Bangladesh	2024	35.54	24126	7.65
India	2015	43.61	9882	6.19
India	2024	86.31	39303	1.75
Nepal	2015	24.13	9051	4.89
Nepal	2024	53.00	7840	2.53
Pakistan	2015	9.75	297886	5.71
Pakistan	2024	13.60	86285	2.13
Sri Lanka	2015	78.69	121427	6.05
Sri Lanka	2024	80.18	147033	2.18

Pakistan improved significantly in account ownership at a financial institution, refugees under the mandate of the “UNHCR” and average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh improved in account ownership at a financial institution but performed worse in refugees under the mandate of the UNHCR and average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country. India improved in account ownership at a financial institution and average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country. Nepal improved well in account ownership at a financial institution, refugees under the mandate of the UNHCR and average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country. Sri Lanka moderately improved in account ownership at a financial institution, declined in refugees under the mandate of the UNHCR and improved in average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country. Pakistan has improved significantly in this SDG as compared to progress of SAARC countries.



## SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

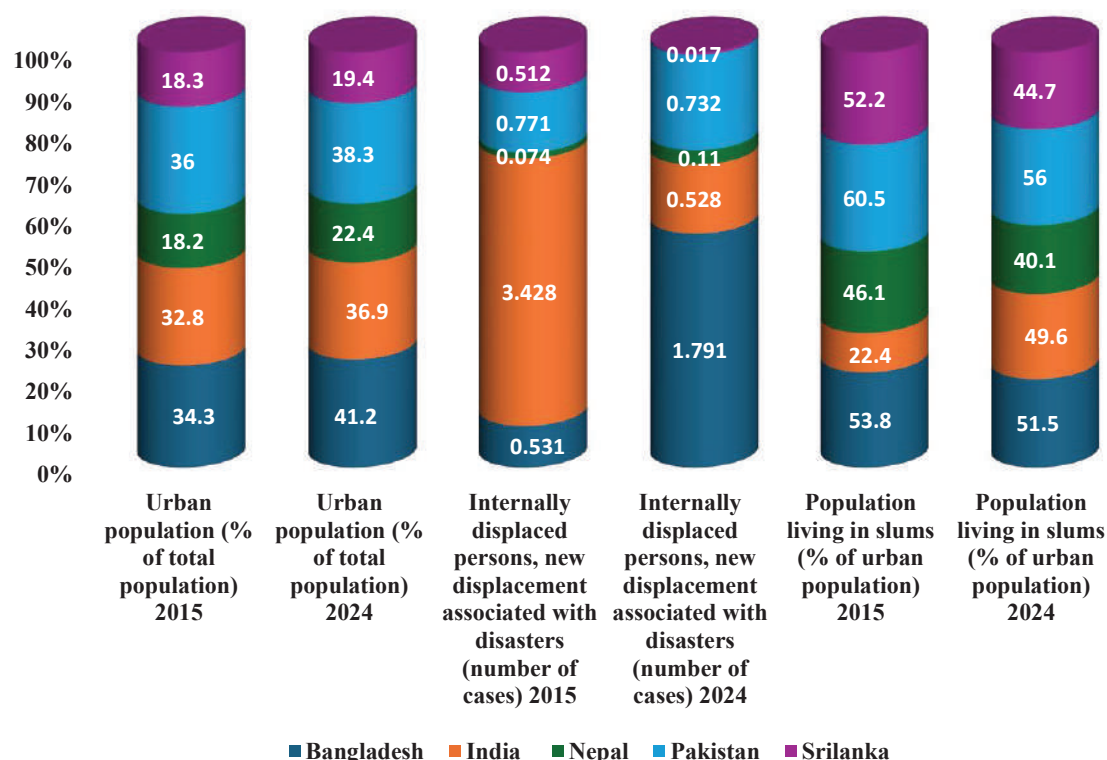


**Table 2.12: SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities**

Countries	Year	Urban population (% of total population)	Internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disasters (number of cases)	Population living in slums (% of urban population)
Bangladesh	2015	34.3	531,000.0	53.8
Bangladesh	2024	41.2	1,791,000.0	51.5*
India	2015	32.8	3,428,000.0	22.4
India	2024	36.9	528,000.0	49.0*
Nepal	2015	18.2	74,000.0	46.1
Nepal	2024	22.4	110,000.0	40.1*
Pakistan	2015	36.0	771,000.0	60.5
Pakistan	2024	38.3	732,000.0	56.0*
Sri Lanka	2015	18.3	152,000.0	52.2
Sri Lanka	2024	19.4	17,000.0	44.7*

\* Means 2022

## SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities



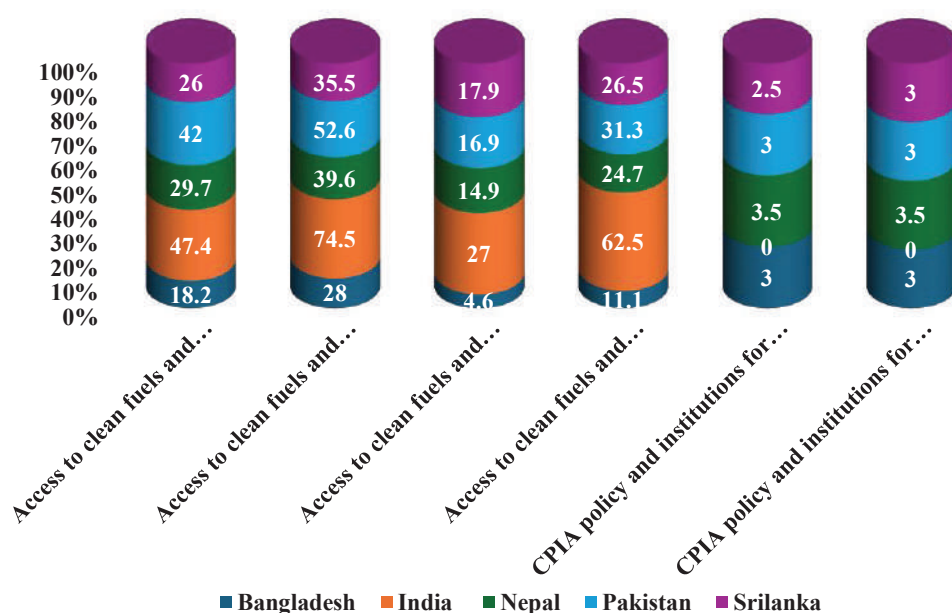
Pakistan improved moderately in urban population and population living in slums while worse in internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disasters. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh, remains stagnant in urban population, internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disasters but moderately improved in population living in slums. India improved in urban population but improved in internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disasters and worse in population living in slums. Pakistan has recorded moderate improvement in this SDG as compared to SAARC countries.

**Table 2.13: SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**

Countries	Years	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of population)	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, rural (% of rural population)	CPIA policy and institutions for environmental sustainability rating (1=low to 6=high))
Bangladesh	2015	18.2	4.6	3.0
Bangladesh	2022	28.0	11.1	3.0*
India	2015	47.4	27.0	n/a
India	2022	74.5	62.5	n/a
Nepal	2015	29.7	14.9	3.5
Nepal	2022	39.6	24.7	3.5*
Pakistan	2015	42.0	16.9	3.0
Pakistan	2022	52.6	31.3	3.0*
Sri Lanka	2015	26.0	17.9	2.5
Sri Lanka	2022	35.5	26.5	3.0*

*\*Means 2024*

### SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production



Pakistan has significantly improved in access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking and access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking in rural areas while improved moderately in CPIA policy and institutions for environmental sustainability rating. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh, improved in access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking and access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, rural but remains stagnant in CPIA assessment. India and Nepal improved

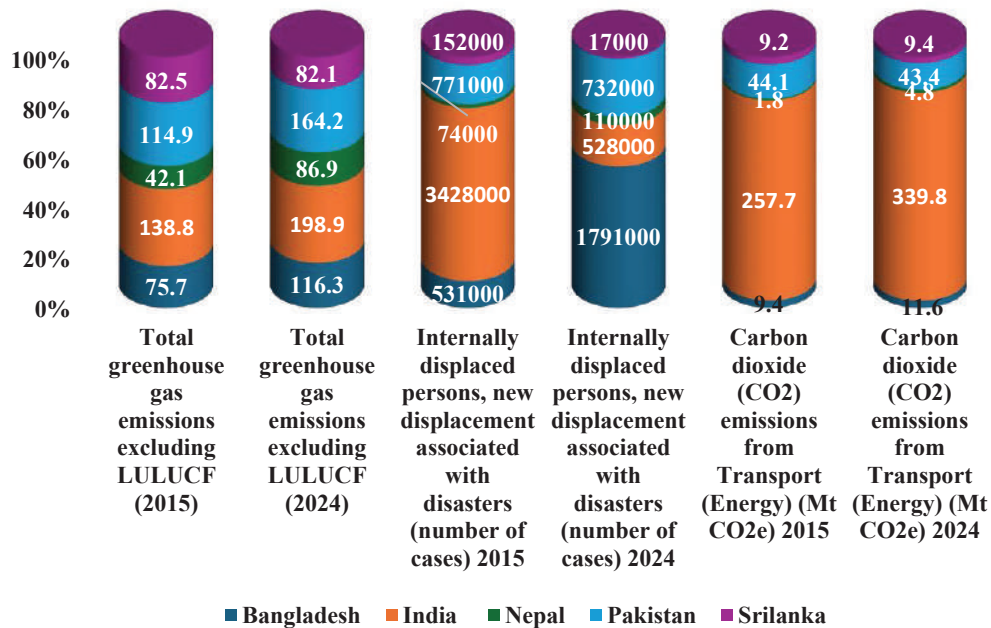
well in access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking and access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, rural but CPIA not assessed in India while Nepal remains stagnant in CPIA assessment. Sri Lanka improved well in access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking and access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking, rural and CPIA assessment.

Pakistan advanced in this SDG as compared to SAARC countries. In Pakistan, demand for energy, food, water, and other resources was increased, which resulted in resource depletion, pollution, environmental degradation and climate change. This made current development pattern unsustainable in Pakistan.

**Table 2.14: SDG 13: Climate Action**

Countries	Years	Total greenhouse gas emissions excluding LULUCF	Internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disasters (number of cases)	Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) emissions from Transport (Energy) (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> e)
Bangladesh	2015	75.7	531,000.0	9.4
Bangladesh	2024	116.3	1,791,000.0	11.6
India	2015	138.8	3,428,000.0	257.7
India	2024	198.9	528,000.0	339.8
Nepal	2015	42.1	74,000.0	1.8
Nepal	2024	86.9	110,000.0	4.8
Pakistan	2015	114.9	771,000.0	44.1
Pakistan	2024	164.2	732,000.0	43.4
Sri Lanka	2015	82.5	152,000.0	9.2
Sri Lanka	2024	82.1	17,000.0	9.4

## SDG 13: Climate Action



Pakistan has worsened in total greenhouse gas emissions and internally displaced persons, while moderate improvement in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from transport. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh, has worsened in total greenhouse gas emissions, internally displaced persons, and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from transport. India remains worse in total greenhouse gas emissions and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from transport but slightly improved in internally displaced persons. Nepal has also worsened in total greenhouse gas emissions, internally displaced persons and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from transport. Sri Lanka moderately improved in total greenhouse gas emissions and in internally displaced persons but worsened in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions from transport. Pakistan progress has worsened in this SDG as compared to SAARC countries.

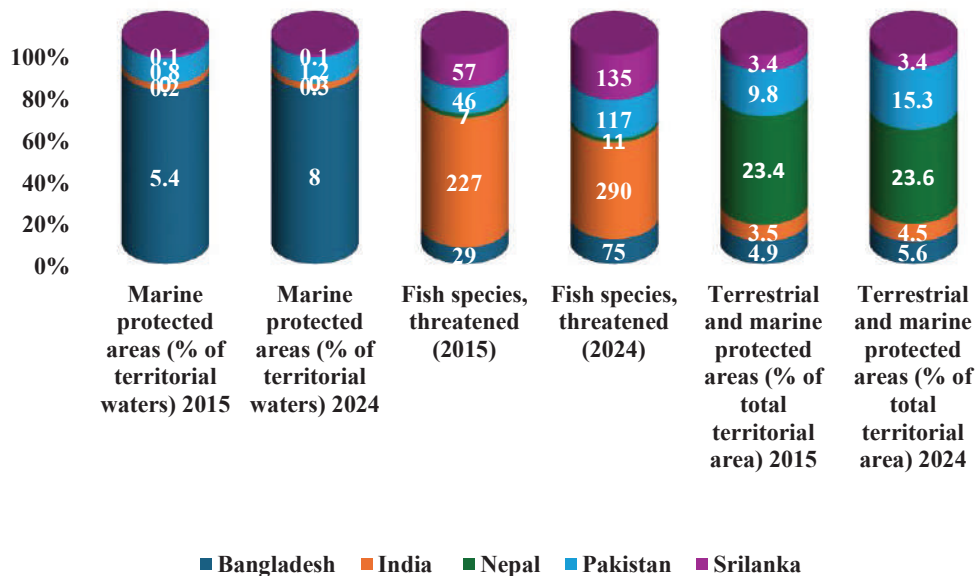


**Table 2.15: SDG 14: Life Below Water**

Countries	Years	Marine protected areas (% of territorial waters)	Fish species, threatened	Terrestrial and marine protected areas (% of total territorial area)
Bangladesh	2015	5.4	29.0**	4.9
Bangladesh	2024	8.0	75.0*	5.6
India	2015	0.2	227.0*	3.5
India	2024	0.3	290.0*	4.5
Nepal	2015	n/a	7.0**	23.4
Nepal	2024	n/a	11.0*	23.6
Pakistan	2015	0.8	46.0**	9.8
Pakistan	2024	1.2	117.0*	15.3
Sri Lanka	2015	0.1	57.0**	3.4
Sri Lanka	2024	0.1	135.0*	3.4

**\*\*Means 2018 & \*Means 2022**

### SDG 14: Life Below Water



In marine protected areas and in terrestrial and marine protected areas, Pakistan significantly advanced but worsened in fish species threatened. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh improved in marine protected areas and terrestrial and marine protected areas but worsened in fish species, threatened. India moderately improved in marine protected areas and in terrestrial and marine protected areas but worsened in fish species, threatened. Nepal showed slight improvement in marine protected areas and terrestrial and marine protected areas but worsened in fish species, threatened. Sri Lanka

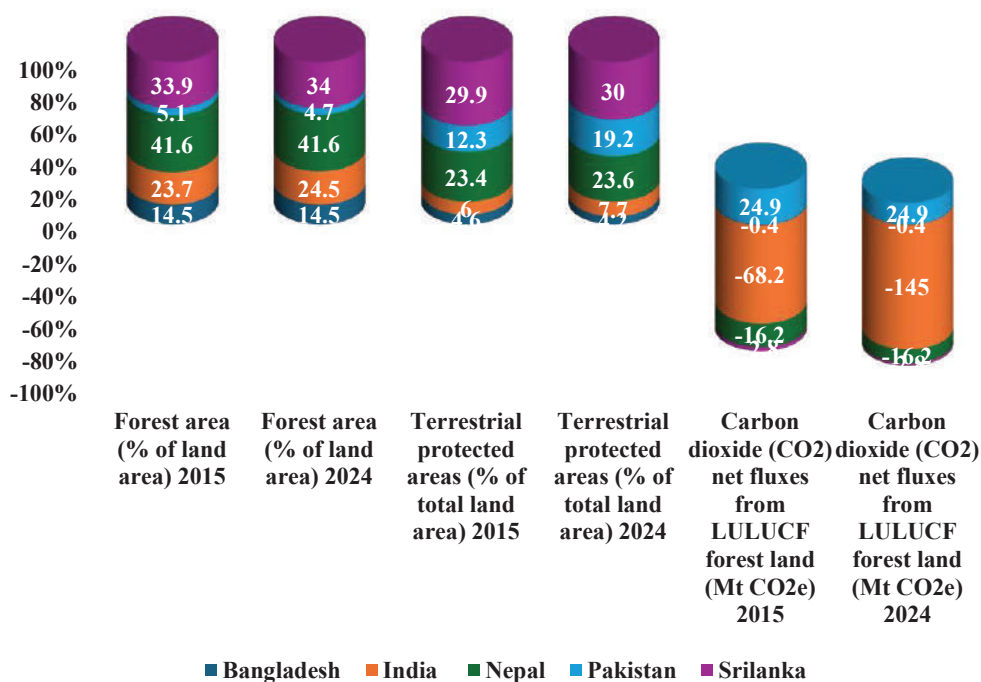
remained stagnant in marine protected areas and terrestrial and marine protected areas but worsened in fish species, threatened.

Pakistan has moderately improved in this SDG as compared to the SDG of SAARC countries. The inadequate water storage capacity and floods affected livelihood and change the climate. The climate change in turn creates water challenges that affect marine life and productivity.

**Table 2.16: SDG15: Life on Land**

Countries	Years	Forest area (% of land area)	Terrestrial protected areas (% of total land area)	Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) net fluxes from LULUCF forest land (Mt CO <sub>2</sub> e)
Bangladesh	2015	14.5	4.6	-0.4
Bangladesh	2024	14.5	4.2	-0.4
India	2015	23.7	6.0	-68.2
India	2024	24.5	7.7	-145.0
Nepal	2015	41.6	23.4	-16.2
Nepal	2024	41.6	23.6	-16.2
Pakistan	2015	5.1	12.3	24.9
Pakistan	2024	4.7	19.2	24.9
Sri Lanka	2015	33.9	29.9	-2.8
Sri Lanka	2024	34.0	30.0	-2.8

### SDG 15: Life on Land



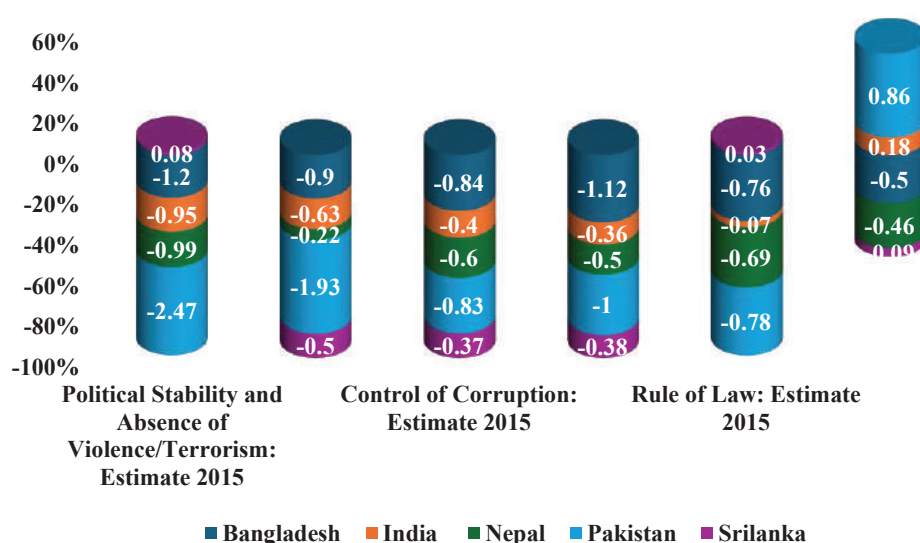
Pakistan's performance was recorded as poor in forest area, while significant improvement in terrestrial protected areas and remains stagnant in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) net fluxes. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh remain stagnant in forest area and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) net fluxes but in terrestrial protected areas performed poorly. India improved well in forest area, terrestrial protected areas and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) net fluxes. Nepal remains stagnant in forest area and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) net fluxes but moderately improved in terrestrial protected areas. Sri Lanka moderately improved in forest area and terrestrial protected areas but remains stagnant in carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) net fluxes.

Pakistan performed well in this SDG as compared to the SDG of SAARC countries. The issue of deforestation in Pakistan persists due to over population and increased in urbanization. This creates environmental pollution that is harmful for life on land and affect livelihood and productivity.

**Table 2.17: SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions**

Countries	Years	Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism: Estimate	Control of Corruption: Estimate	Rule of Law: Estimate
Bangladesh	2015	-1.20	-0.84	-0.76
Bangladesh	2024	-0.90	-1.12	-0.50
India	2015	-0.95	-0.40	-0.07
India	2024	-0.63	-0.36	0.18
Nepal	2015	-0.99	-0.60	-0.69
Nepal	2024	-0.22	-0.50	-0.46
Pakistan	2015	-2.47	-0.83	-0.78
Pakistan	2024	-1.93	-1.00	0.86
Sri Lanka	2015	0.08	-0.37	0.03
Sri Lanka	2024	-0.50	-0.38	-0.09

## SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



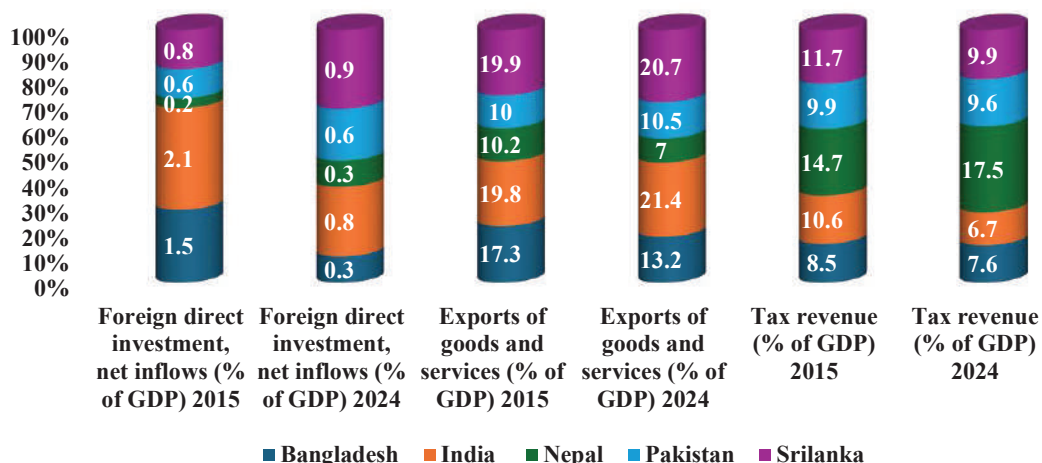
Pakistan has improved in political stability and absence of violence/terrorism and rule of law but corruption has increased. The SAARC countries like Bangladesh, improved in political stability and absence of violence/terrorism and rule of law but cannot control corruption. India improved in political stability and absence of violence/terrorism and rule of law but showed minor control over corruption. Nepal also improved in political stability and absence of violence/terrorism and rule of law but control of corruption has declined slightly. Sri Lanka has shown poor performance in political stability and absence of violence/terrorism and rule of law but remains stagnant in control of corruption.

**Table 2.18: SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals**

Countries	Years	Foreign direct investment, net inflows (% of GDP)	Exports of goods and services (% of GDP)	Tax revenue (% of GDP)
Bangladesh	2015	1.5	17.3	8.5
Bangladesh	2024	0.3	10.4	7.6*
India	2015	2.1	19.8	10.6
India	2024	0.6	21.1	6.7
Nepal	2015	0.2	10.2	14.7
Nepal	2024	0.1	7.6	17.5*
Pakistan	2015	0.6	10.0	9.9
Pakistan	2024	0.7	10.3	9.6
Sri Lanka	2015	0.8	19.9	11.7
Sri Lanka	2024	0.7	19.8	9.9

*\*Means 2021*

## SDG 17: Partnerships for all goals



Exports of goods and services has increased in Pakistan but tax revenue as percentage of GDP has declined slightly. FDI remains stagnant during this era. FDI in Bangladesh has declined, along with the percentage of GDP of exports of goods and services and tax revenue. In India FDI and tax revenue as percentage of GDP also fell, but exports of goods and services improved. Nepal moderately improved in foreign direct investment and in tax revenue as percentage of GDP but exports of goods and services has fallen.

The performance of Pakistan has worsened in this SDGs as compared to the other South Asian countries. Financial constraints, poor quality of institutions, climate changes are one of the key challenges Pakistan is confronting. Weak governance as well as policy gaps strengthened the issues like economic instability and inadequate institutional frameworks. This may be the big an obstacles in achieving the target of SDG 17 in Pakistan by 2030.

Among the selected SAARC countries, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka are on the track of improvement while India is improving moderately but Pakistan is lagging behind to the SAARC countries. Pakistan is among the countries who are on the track of progress with a progress score of 59 percent in SAARC region, but in terms of SDG ranking it slipped to 140<sup>th</sup> position in 2023 from 115<sup>th</sup> position in 2015. The SAARC countries Bangladesh, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, all improved their ranking by improving their SDG score except Pakistan as per the SDG progress report published by the UNDP. It clearly depicts the story of SDGs progress in Pakistan. Rigorous efforts are need to meet the SDGs targets set by the 2030 Agenda of UNDP.



## 2.2 Group wise SDGs performance

We have grouped all SDGs into four groups to analyze their performance

Group	Topic	SDG				
Group 1	Economy and Production	SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 8	SDG 9	SDG 10
Group 2	Social Welfare	SDG 3	SDG 4	SDG 5	SDG 6	SDG 11
Group 3	Democracy and Sustainability	SDG 16			SDG 17	
Group 4	Environment	SDG 7	SDG 12	SDG 13	SDG 14	SDG 15

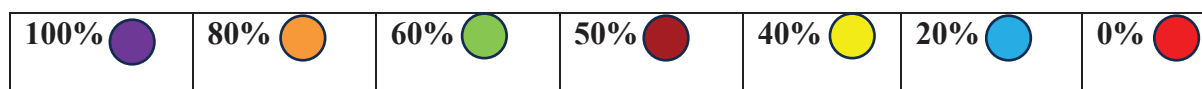






























































Figure 2.3 Countries are On Track SDGs (%)

Groups	Bangladesh	India	Nepal	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
Economy and Production					
Social Welfare					
Democracy and Sustainability					
Environment					





















**Figure 2.4 Countries are Moderately Improving SDGs (%)**

Groups	Bangladesh	India	Nepal	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
Economy and Production					
Social Welfare					
Democracy and Sustainability					
Environment					

**Figure 2.5 Countries are Stagnating SDGs (%)**

Groups	Bangladesh	India	Nepal	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
Economy and Production					
Social Welfare					
Democracy and Sustainability					
Environment					

**Figure 2.6 Countries are Decreasing SDGs (%)**

Groups	Bangladesh	India	Nepal	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
Economy and Production					
Social Welfare					
Democracy and Sustainability					
Environment					

(1) The seventeen SDGs were categorized into four groups; Economy and Production, Social Welfare, Democracy and Sustainability, and Environment. (2) The four level were analyzed on the bases of their progress 2015 to 2025; on track SDGs, moderately improving SDGs, stagnating SDGs, and decreasing SDGs. (3) Performance of these four groups is displayed in the above figures. (4) Sri Lanka leads in Economy and Production group but performing poorly in Democracy and Sustainability group. Nepal and Bangladesh have shown balanced progress in this category, whereas India overall performed poorly due to weak progress of Social Welfare and Environment groups. Pakistan performed reasonably well in Economy and Production, and in Social Welfare group but has shown poor progress in Democracy and Sustainability as well as Environment groups. In the second category of moderately improving SDGs all the countries performed poorly. In the third and fourth category the trend was similar to second category.

Overall, based on the assessment of all these four groups, Bangladesh stands at first position, Nepal and Pakistan at second position while India and Sri Lanka stand at bottom or at third position.

## CHAPTER THREE:

### Status of Pakistan's Progress on Sustainable Development Goals

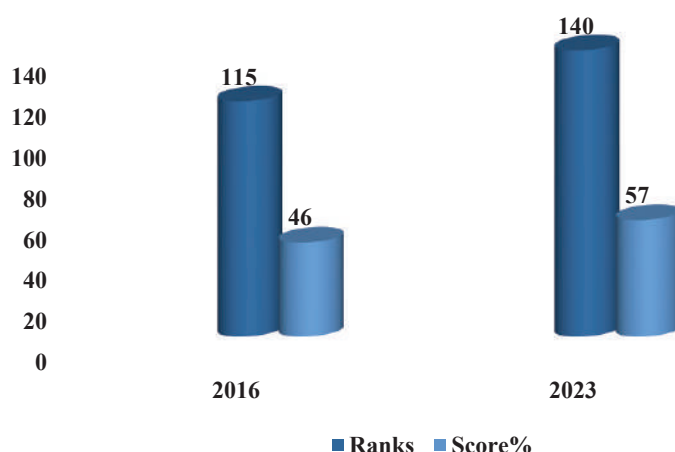
#### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter reviews Pakistan's progress in reaching the SDGs targets. It pinpoints the areas of success and failure and draws attention to the underlying causes of results. Each SDG's indicators show Pakistan's current position in fulfilling its commitment. The indicators have been selected based on their importance, relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the availability of reliable data. This chapter also highlights the key challenges and ongoing difficulties the country faces in achieving its SDG targets.

To assess the progress on the SDGs in Pakistan, a total of 51 indicators has been taken in this report, representing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals for Pakistan. Of these 51 indicators, 27 are performing well, 10 indicators show moderate-level improvement, and 14 indicators are deteriorating. That means 52.9 percent are shown to be on the track of progress in Pakistan, 19.6 percent are moderately improving, and 27.5 percent are deteriorating. SDGs performance in Pakistan depicts that 10 SDGs are improving, 5 SDGs exhibit a moderate improvement, and 2 SDGs have shown a deteriorating trend. That means out of the total 17 SDGs, 58.8 percent of the total SDGs are on track, 29.4 percent of the total SDGs indicate a moderate improvement, and 11.8 percent of the total SDGs are deteriorating.

It is interesting to note that this assessment highlights Pakistan's progress in SDGs is 58.8 percent, which is almost equal to the performance of 57 percent shown by UNDP in the SDG report 2025, which endorses the sample of indicators selected for assessment of SDGs performance in this report. In the SDG Index, Pakistan earned a score of 46 percent in 2016, ranking it 115<sup>th</sup> in the world regarding progress on the SDGs. But Pakistan's ranking dropped to 140<sup>th</sup> with a score of 57 percent, reflecting the deterioration in the government's performance toward meeting the SDG targets.

**Figure3.1:Pakistan Ranks and Score in SDGs**



**Figure 3.2: Pakistan's SDGs Indicator Performance (2015-2024)**

<b>SDG 1: No Poverty</b> Food Insecurity 2015: 0.9      2024: 10.10      ↑ Poverty Headcount 2015: 16.9      2024: 16.5      ↓ MPI Poverty 2015: 38.8      2024: 30.5      ↓	<b>SDG 2: Zero Hunger</b> Undernourishment 2015: 11.8      2024: 20.7      ↑ Child Stunting 2015: 41.8      2024: 33.6      ↓ Overweight Children 2015: 4.1      2024: 2.1      ↓	<b>SDG 3: Good Health</b> Maternal Mortality 2015: 202      2024: 155      ↓ Neonatal Mortality 2015: 45.3      2024: 37.6      ↓ Health Spending 2015: 2.49      2024: 2.9      ↑
<b>SDG 4: Quality Education</b> Primary Completion 2015: 55.79      2024: 74.14      ↑ Secondary Completion 2015: 39.6      2024: 55.82      ↑ Adult Literacy 2015: 56.98      2024: 60.7      ↑	<b>SDG 5: Gender Equality</b> Women in Parliament 2015: 20.59      2024: 17.04      ↓ Female Labor Force 2015: 23.98      2024: 24.26      ↑ Gender Gap Index 2015: 0.559      2024: 0.567      ↑	<b>SDG 6: Clean Water</b> Water Management 2015: 50      2024: 63      ↑ Basic Sanitation 2015: 58.43      2024: 70.53      ↑ Safe Water 2015: 43.47      2024: 50.6      ↑
<b>SDG 7: Clean Energy</b> Clean Cooking 2015: 42      2024: 52.6      ↑ Electricity Access 2015: 91      2024: 95.6      ↑ Renewable Energy 2015: 45.9      2024: 41.6      ↓	<b>SDG 8: Economic Growth</b> GDP Growth 2015: 4.22      2024: 3.23      ↓ GDP Per Capita 2015: 2.77      2024: 1.69      ↓ Unemployment 2015: 3.57      2024: 5.47      ↑	<b>SDG 9: Innovation</b> Internet Users 2015: 11      2024: 27.38      ↑ Manufacturing 2015: 12.3      2024: 13.11      ↑ R&D Spending 2015: 0.22      2024: 0.16      ↓
<b>SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities</b> Financial Inclusion 2015: 9.75      2024: 13.6      ↑ Remittance Cost 2015: 5.71      2024: 2.13      ↓ Refugees 2015: 0.3      2024: 0.086      ↓	<b>SDG 11: Sustainable Cities</b> Disaster Impact 2015: 0.25      2024: 0.15      ↓ Transport CO2 2015: 44.07      2024: 43.37      ↓ Urban Population 2015: 36      2024: 38.4      ↑	<b>SDG 12: Responsible Consumption</b> Clean Cooking Rural 2015: 16.9      2024: 31.3      ↑ Clean Cooking Total 2015: 42      2024: 52.6      ↑ Environment Rating 2015: 3      2024: 3      →
<b>SDG 13: Climate Action</b> Disaster IDPs 2015: 1.0      2024: 0.73      ↓ Transport CO2 2015: 44.07      2024: 43.37      ↓ GHG Per Capita 2015: 1.99      2024: 2.15      ↑	<b>SDG 14: Life Below Water</b> Protected Areas 2015: 9.8      2024: 15.3      ↑ Marine Protected 2015: 0.8      2024: 1.2      ↑ Threatened Fish 2015: 46      2024: 117      ↑	<b>SDG 15: Life on Land</b> Protected Sites 2015: 12.3      2024: 17.9      ↑ Forest Management 2015: 65.3      2024: 73.5      ↑ Forest Area 2015: 5.1      2024: 4.7      ↓
<b>SDG 16: Peace &amp; Justice</b> Political Stability 2015: -2.47      2024: -1.93      ↑ Rule of Law 2015: -0.78      2024: -0.86      ↓ Corruption Control 2015: -0.83      2024: -1.0      ↓	<b>SDG 17: Partnerships</b> FDI Inflows 2015: 0.6      2024: 0.7      ↑ Exports 2015: 10      2024: 10.4      ↑ Tax Revenue 2015: 9.9      2024: 9.6      ↓	

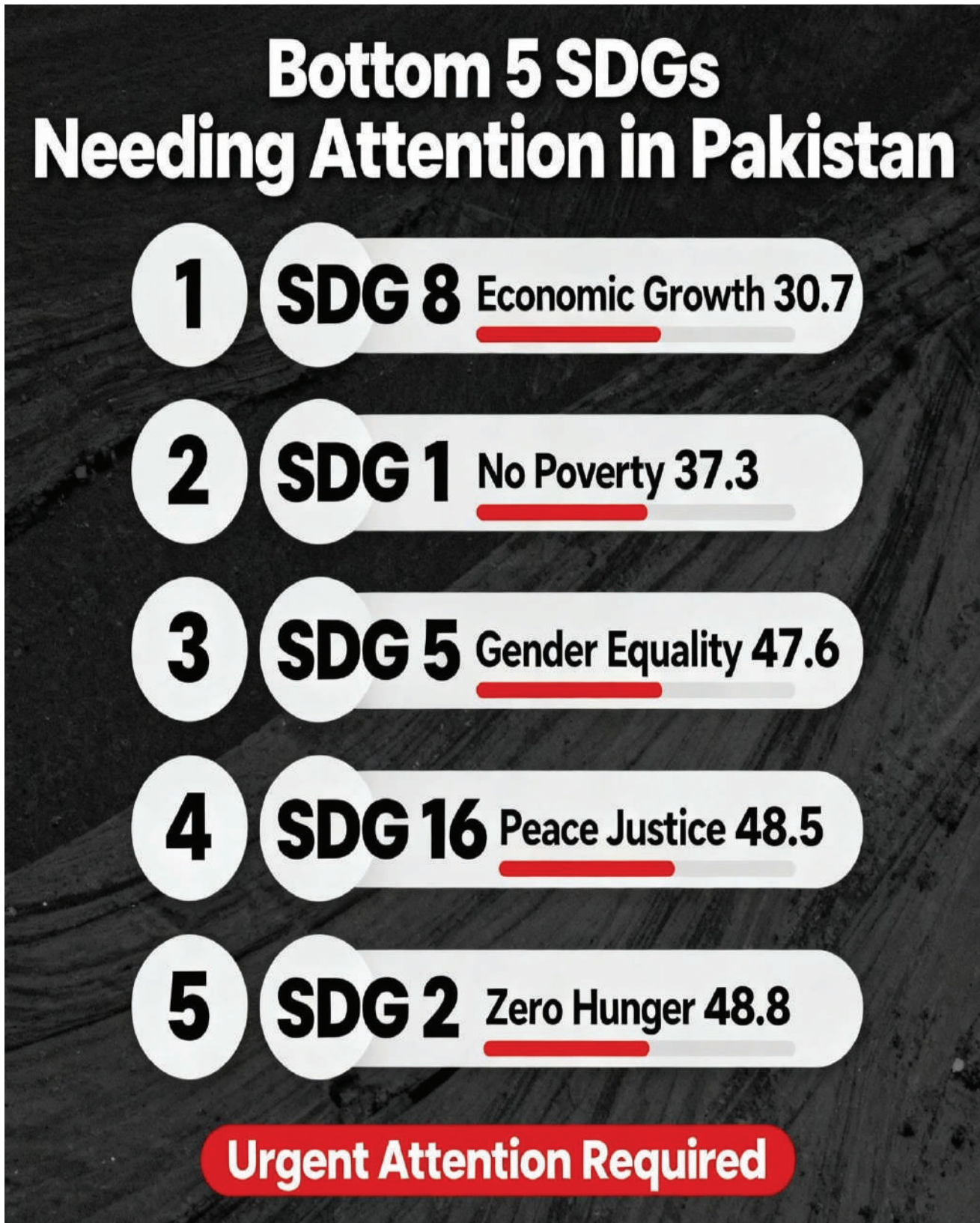


Figure 3.3: Top 5 Best performing SDGs in Pakistan





























# Top 5 Best Performing SDGs in Pakistan





























Figure 3.4: 5 Bottom SDGs in Pakistan



















**Figure 3.5: Sustainable Development Goal Wise Performance (Trends of Indicators)**

On Track 	Moderately Improving 	Stagnating 	Decreasing 
SDGs	Indicators		Progress
<b>1 NO POVERTY</b> 	Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the population (%)		
	Poverty headcount ratio at \$3.00 a day (2021 PPP) (% of population)		
	Poverty (MPI Estimates, % of total population)		
<b>2 ZERO HUNGER</b> 	Prevalence of undernourishment (% of population)		
	Prevalence of overweight (modeled estimate, % of children under 5)		
	Prevalence of stunting, height for age (modeled estimate % of children under 5)		
<b>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</b> 	Current health expenditure (% of GDP)		
	Maternal mortality ratio (modeled estimate, per 100,000 live births)		
	Mortality rate neonatal (per 1000 live births)		
<b>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</b> 	Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above)		
	Lower secondary completion rate, total (% of relevant age group)		
	Primary completion rate, total (% of relevant age group)		
<b>5 GENDER EQUALITY</b> 	Labor force participation rate, female (% of female population ages 15+) (modeled ILO estimate)		
	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%)		
	Global Gender Gap (Index and Ranking)		
<b>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</b> 	People using at least basic sanitation services (% of population)		
	People using safely managed drinking water services (% of population)		
	Degree of Integrated water resources management (0-100%)		



<b>7</b> AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	Renewable energy consumption (% of total final energy consumption)	
	Access to electricity (% of population)	
	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of population)	
<b>8</b> DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	GDP growth (% annual)	
	GDP per capita growth rate (% annual)	
	Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate)	
<b>9</b> INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	Individuals using the internet (% of population)	
	Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP)	
	Research and development (% of GDP)	
<b>10</b> REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	Account ownership at a financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provide, poorest 40% (% of population ages 15+)	
	Refugees under the mandate of the UNHCR by country or territory of origin	
	Average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country (%)	
<b>11</b> SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	Urban Population, (% of total population)	
	Affected persons attributed to disasters (per 100,000 population)	
	Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) emissions from Transport (Energy)(MtCO <sub>2</sub> e)	
<b>12</b> RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of total population)	
	Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of rural population)	
	CPIA policy and institutions for environmental sustainability rating (Scale 1-6), 1 =weak, 6=strong performance	
<b>13</b> CLIMATE ACTION 	Total greenhouse gas emissions excluding LULUCF per capita (t CO <sub>2</sub> e/capita)	
	Internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disaster (number of cases in millions)	
	Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) emissions from Transport (Energy)(MtCO <sub>2</sub> e)	

<b>14</b> LIFE BELOW WATER 	<i>Marine protected areas (% of territorial waters)</i>	
	<i>Fish species, threatened (no of species)</i>	
	<i>Terrestrial and marine protected areas (% of total territorial area)</i>	
<b>15</b> LIFE ON LAND 	<i>Forest area (percentage of land area)</i>	
	<i>Progress towards sustainable forest management (tones/Ha)</i>	
	<i>Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type (%)</i>	
<b>16</b> PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	<i>Political Stability and Absence of Violence /Terrorism: Estimate (-2.5 to +2.5)</i>	
	<i>Control of Corruption: Estimate(-2.5 to +2.5)</i>	
	<i>Rule of Law: Estimate (-2.5 to +2.5)</i>	
<b>17</b> PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	<i>Foreign Direct Investment, net inflows (% of GDP)</i>	
	<i>Tax Revenue (% of GDP)</i>	
	<i>Exports of Goods and Services (% of GDP)</i>	

Data sources: WDI2025, PES2025, FRA 2025, NDMA 2025, Global Gender Gap Report 2015, 2024, MOWR (pk).

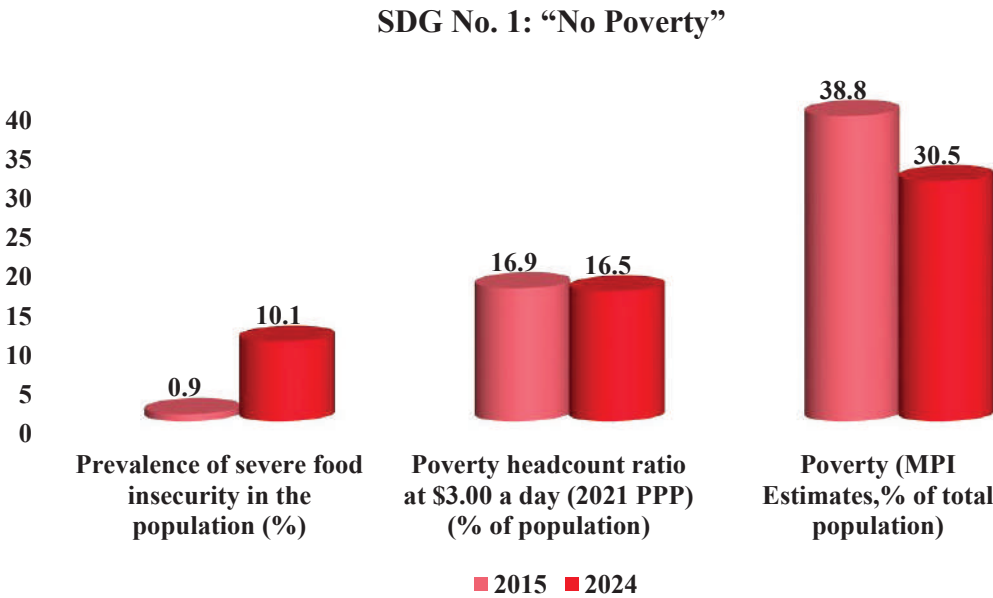


3.2Current Status of Pakistan’s Progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Three indicators has been selected for each Sustainable Development Goal based on the relevance, importance, and availability of data to evaluate the progress of SDGs.

Table 3.1: SDG No. 1: “No Poverty”

Indicators	2015	2023
Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the population (%)	0.90	10.10
Poverty headcount ratio at \$3.00 a day (2021 PPP) (% of population)	16.9	16.5
Poverty (MPI Estimates, % of total population)	38.8	30.5



The key indicators reflecting Pakistan’s progress under SDG 1, “No Poverty,” are displayed in above table 3.1. Prevalence of severe food insecurity has increased from 0.90 percent of the total population to 10.10 percent of the total population between the period of 2015 and 2023, showing insufficient access to food availability. The rise in food insecurity can be a result of several factors, like adverse impacts of climate change, such as droughts and floods specifically affecting vulnerable communities.

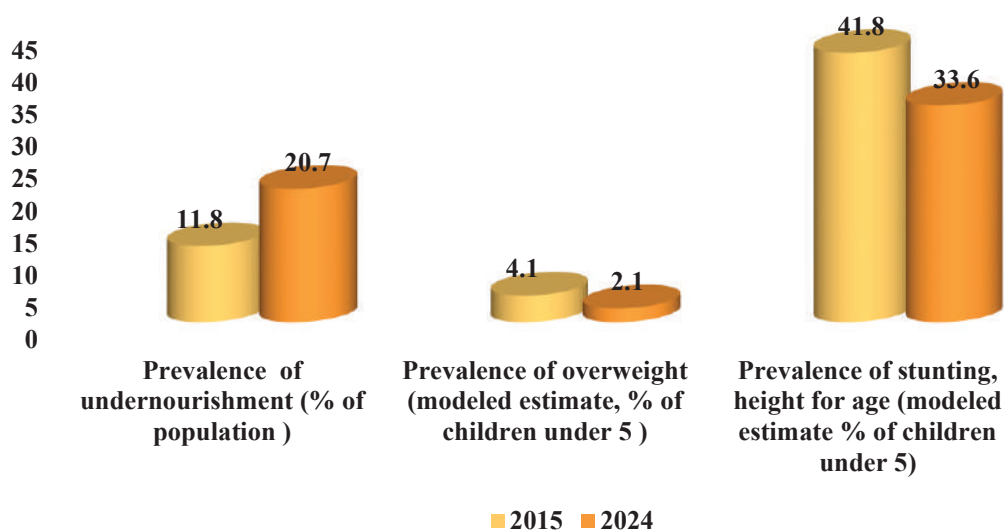
The poverty headcount ratio has reflected a declining pattern, as it declined from 16.9 percent in 2015 to 16.5 percent in 2023, showing marginal progress. Similarly, poverty (MPI) dropped from 38.8 percent to 30.5 percent, showing a slight improvement.

Summing up, the data reflect that Pakistan has moderately progressed in the reduction of income-based poverty. While swelling food insecurity points to widening food inequalities that hamper inclusive growth. However, significant improvement is required to meet the SDG targets by 2030.

**Table 3.2: SDG No. 2: “Zero Hunger”**

Indicators	2015	2024
<b>Prevalence of undernourishment (% of population)</b>	11.80	20.70
<b>Prevalence of overweight (modeled estimate, % of children under 5)</b>	4.10	2.10
<b>Prevalence of stunting, height for age (modeled estimate % of children under 5)</b>	41.80	33.60

### SDG 2: “Zero Hunger”



The table 3.2 represents the status of SDG 2,” No Hunger,” in Pakistan for the base year 2015 and for the year 2024. The figures of “Prevalence of Undernourishment” indicate that it has increased between 2015 -2024. It was 11.80 percent of the total population in the former year and 20.70 percent in the latter one, moving further away from its target by 8 percent. In Pakistan, this situation is alarming, as it shows that a growing number of people are suffering from undernourishment.

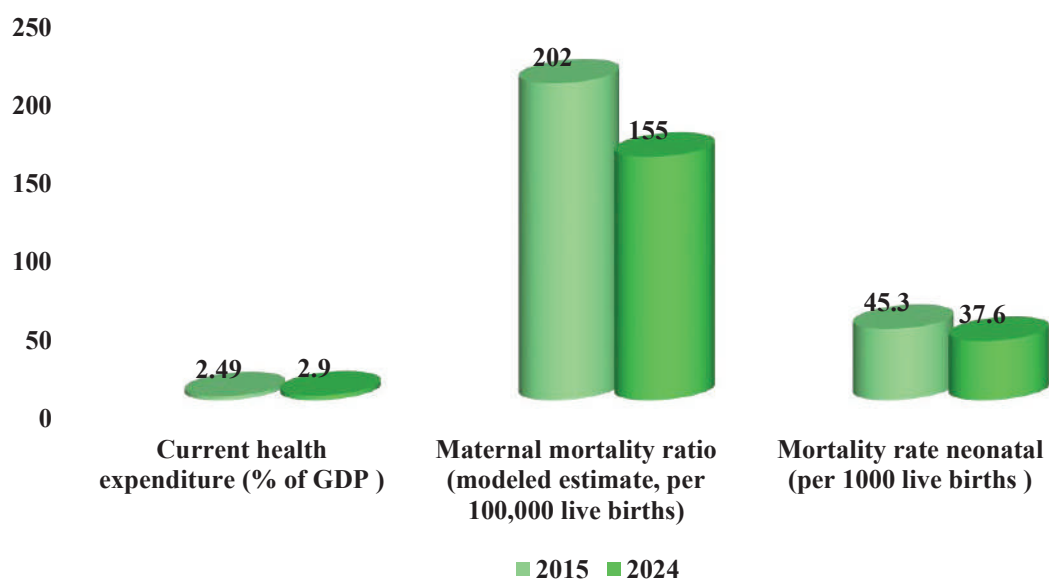
The prevalence of overweight affecting children under the age of five seems to be under control, since it declined from 4.10 percent in 2015 to 2.10 percent in 2024. This improvement suggests that efforts to reduce malnutrition seem to be effective.

Lastly, the prevalence of stunting seems to be decreasing, highlighting progress in reducing malnutrition among children under 5 in Pakistan. These indicators exhibit a slight improvement in SDG 2, but the rate of improvement is too slow to meet the global target by 2030. Effective strategies and efforts are needed to meet the global targets set by the UNDP.

**Table 3.3: SDG No. 3: “Good Health and Well-being”**

Indicators	2015	2023
Current health expenditure (% of GDP)	2.49	2.90
Maternal mortality ratio (modeled estimate, per 100,000 live births)	202.00	155.00
Mortality rate neonatal (per 1000 live births)	45.30	37.60

### SDG 3: “Good Health and Well-being”



The 3.3 table shows the change in the selected health indicators under SDG 3, “Good Health and Well-being,” between 2015 and 2023. The current health expenditure has increased from 2.49 percent in 2015 to 2.90 percent in 2023, showing a marginal rise in spending for the health sector but during this period almost 60 million people had increased to population. This marginal increase in health expenditure is not enough to meet the SDG target by 2030.

The maternal mortality ratio also shows a declining trend in Pakistan. The number has reduced from 202 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2015 to 155 in 2023, likely indicating improvements in getting access to skilled birth attendants. Likewise, the neonatal mortality rate drops

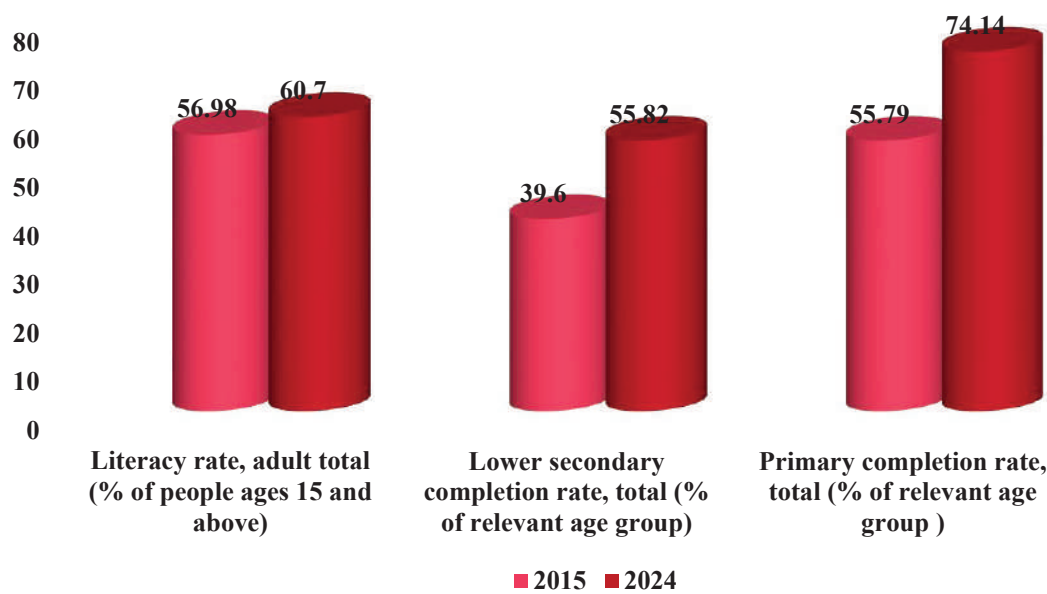
from 45.30 to 37.6 deaths per 1000 live births, indicating healthier newborns with increased survival rates, most likely due to improved immunization coverage.

Overall, these trends reflect the moderate progress of Pakistan's health sector under SDG 3, but further efforts are needed to meet the SDG target.

Table 3.4: SDG No 4: “Quality Education”

Indicators	2015	2024
Literacy rate, adult total (% of people ages 15 and above)	56.98	60.70
Lower secondary completion rate, total (% of relevant age group)	39.60	55.82
Primary completion rate, total (% of relevant age group)	55.79	74.14

SDG 4: “Quality Education”



The 3.4 table illustrates the indicators under SDG 4, showing the progress of inclusive and equitable access to education for all. The adult literacy rate was 56.98 percent in 2015 and increased to 60.7 percent in 2024. The primary completion rate has risen remarkably to 74.14 percent in 2024 as compared to 55.79 percent in 2015, indicating improvements in getting access to primary education and reducing dropouts.

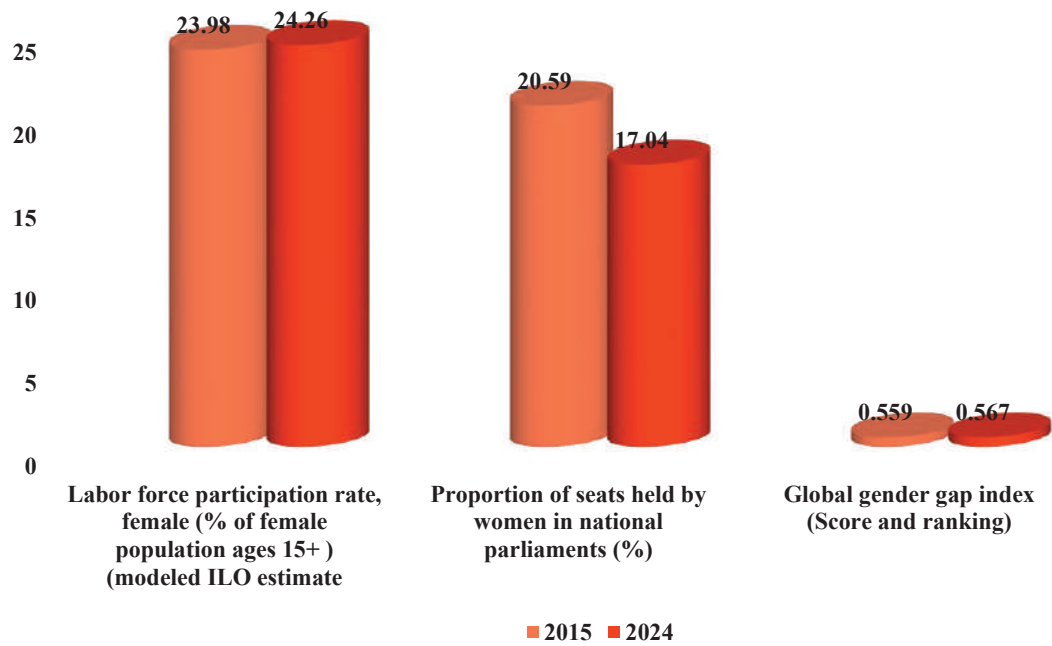
Similarly, the rate of lower secondary education has expanded from 39.60 percent in 2015 to 55.82 percent in 2024, indicating a larger number of students moving beyond the primary education

level. The expanding primary education level reveals progress in education access and participation, while the lowering literacy rates suggest challenges of ensuring quality and inclusiveness in education. The data present a mixed picture, but most indicators have improved, indicating a positive path towards SDG 4.

Table 3.5: SDG No. 5: “Gender Equality”

Indicators	2015	2024
Labor force participation rate, female (% of female population ages 15+) (modeled ILO estimate)	23.98	24.26
Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	20.59	17.04
Global gender gap index (Score and ranking)	0.559 (144/145)	0.567(148/148)

SDG 5: “Gender Equality”



The 3.5 table highlights the progress of selected indicators under SDG 5 for Pakistan. The female labor participation rate shows a slight level of improvement from 23.98 percent in 2015 to 24.26 percent in 2024, indicating a minor progress in women’s inclusion in economic participation. This slow rise might point towards cultural barriers such as workplace discrimination, limited access to education, and norms restricting women’s employment.

In contrast, a decline is seen in seats held by women in national parliaments, which was 20.59 in 2015 and 17.04 in 2024. This reveals the challenges for women’s political empowerment. The decrease could indicate socio-political barriers that hinder women’s representation.

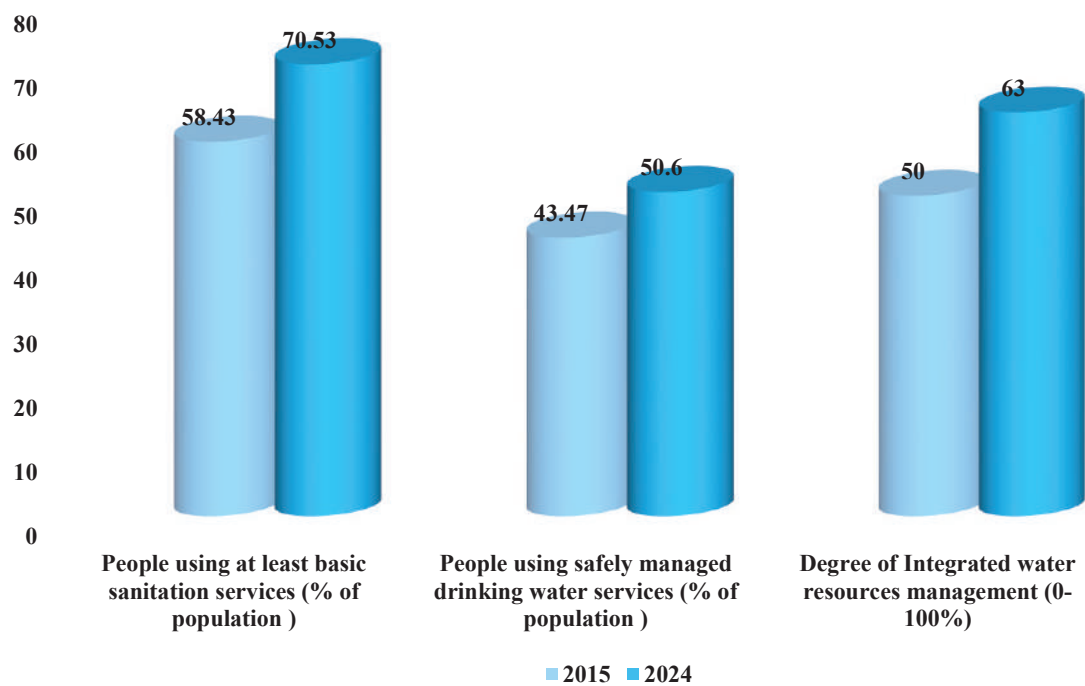
The global gender gap index shows improvement in score from 0.559 in 2015 to 0.567 in 2024, but slipped to last place in terms of global ranking.

Overall, the table shows a minor improvement in female labor force participation. However, the decreasing parliamentary presence signifies the uneven nature of women’s empowerment. Furthermore, the gender gap index highlights the importance of the issue of gender inequality; therefore, we need to design judicious policies to address this issue.

**Table 3.6: SDG No. 6: “Clean Water and Sanitation”**

Indicators	2015	2024
People using at least basic sanitation services (% of population)	58.43	70.53
People using safely managed drinking water services (% of population)	43.47	50.60
Degree of Integrated water resources management (0-100%)	50.00	63.00

**SDG 6: “Clean Water and Sanitation”**





The 3.6 table displays indicators showing Pakistan’s progress under SDG 6, “Clean Water and Sanitation." The basic sanitation services available to people have increased to 70.53 percent in 2024 from 58.43 percent in 2015. This advancement in numbers suggests that progress is being made in hygiene awareness and better implementation of sanitation programs.

Similarly, the number of people experiencing safe managed drinking water services has expanded during this period from 43.47 percent to 50.60 percent of the total population, which shows improvement in this SDG 6.

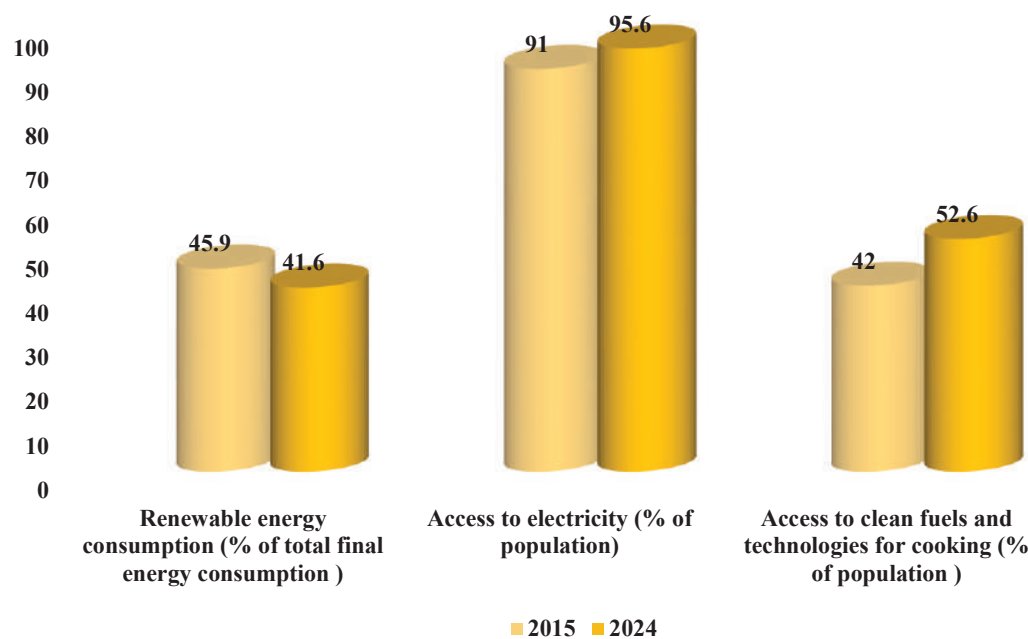
Moreover, the degree of integrated water resources management in 2015 was at 50 percent, whereas in 2024 the figure had escalated to 63 percent. The above table demonstrates improvements in access to clean drinking water, sanitation, and better management of water resources.

The aggregate picture of SDG 6 depicts that the economy is making progress at a moderate pace. But there is a need for greater investment to expand access to these basic services for the maximum population to meet the SDG 6 target by 2030.

**Table 3.7: SDG No. 7: “Affordable and Clean Energy”**

Indicators	2015	2024
Renewable energy consumption (% of total final energy consumption)	45.90	41.60
Access to electricity (% of population)	91.00	95.60
Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of population)	42.00	52.60

**SDG 7: “Affordable and Clean Energy”**

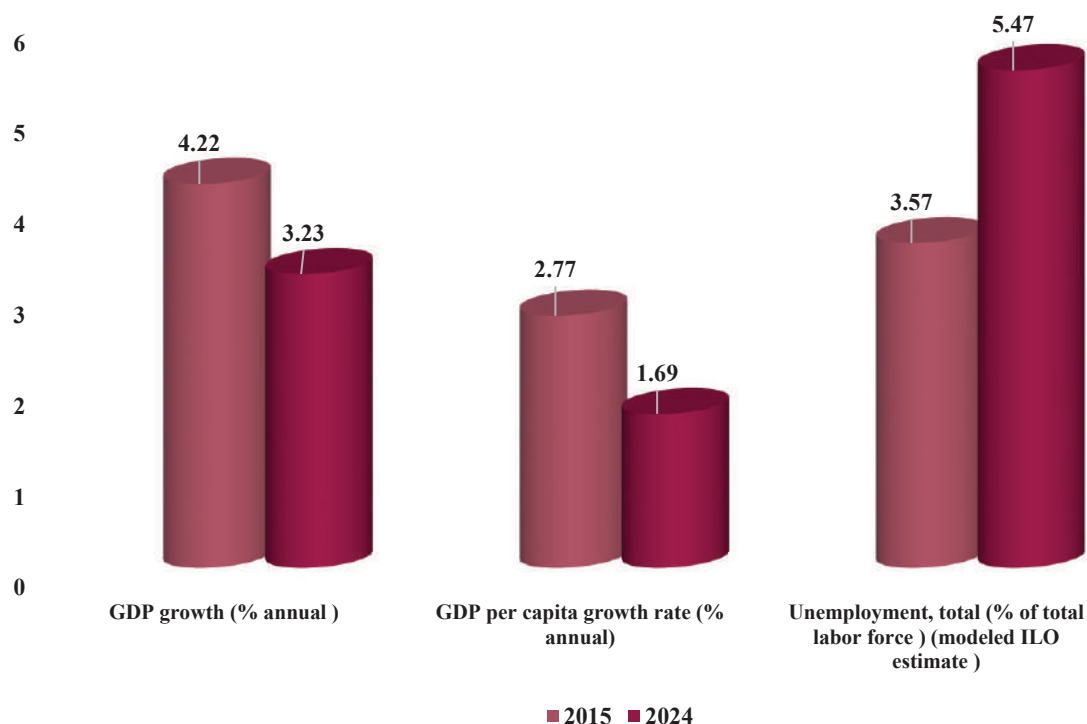


Key indicators related to SDG 7:” Affordable and Clean Energy,” are presented in 3.7 table. The renewable energy consumption has a declining pattern, such as 45.90 percent in 2015 to 41.60 in 2024. This decreasing trend may indicate Pakistan’s growing need for high energy demand, which is surpassing its renewable capacity for meeting it. This undermines the need for more robust investments towards renewable energy to maintain energy demand and environmental sustainability. On the contrary, access to electricity has improved from 91.00 percent in 2015 to 95.60 percent in 2024. Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking has also risen from 42.00 in 2015 to 52.60 in 2023, showing steady advancement to cleaner energy use in households; however, nearly half of the population is still suffering from energy poverty. Collectively, the indicators present a mixed but hopeful picture. Policies focused on energy investment will be crucial to meet the target set by 2030 for SDG 7.

**Table 3.8: SDG No. 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Indicators	2015	2024
GDP growth (% annual)	4.22	3.23
GDP per capita growth rate (% annual)	2.77	1.69
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate)	3.57	5.47

### SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth



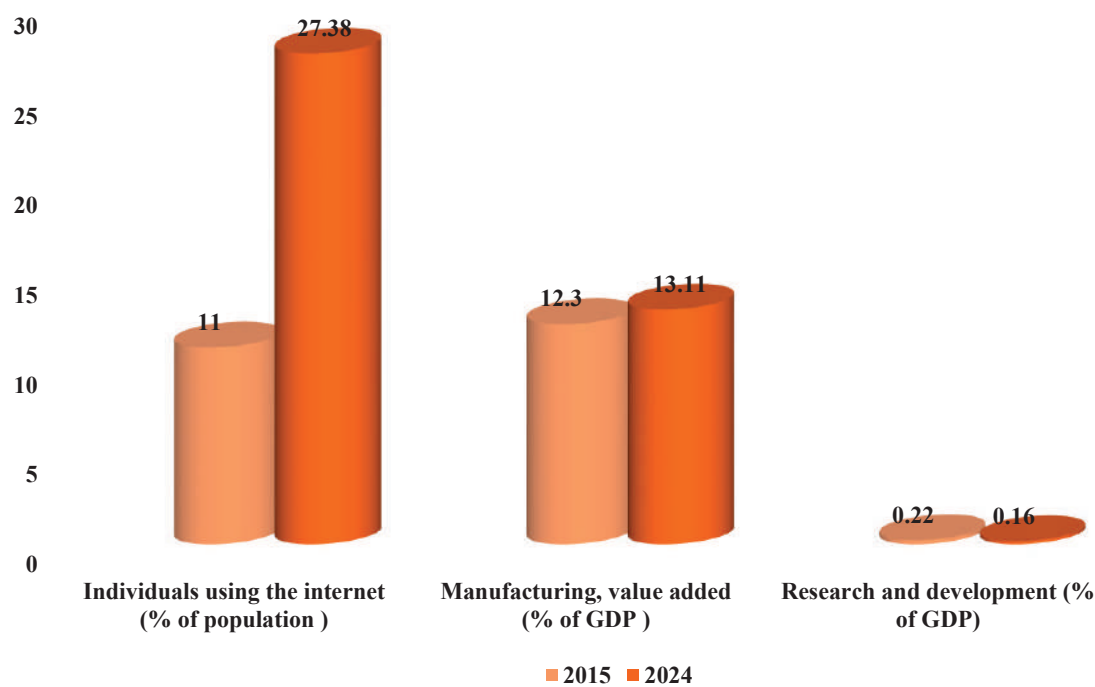
Pakistan’s progress toward SDG 8 is reflected in the key indicators shown in 3.8 table. The GDP growth rate in Pakistan declined to 3.23 percent in 2024, down from 4.22 percent in 2015, indicating a slowdown in economic momentum. The same trend is observed in the growth rate of GDP per capita. The unemployment rate has increased to 5.47 percent from 3.57 percent during this period, indicating that job creation has not kept up with the growing labor force.

Overall, the performance of SDG 8 seems unsatisfactory. The GDP growth rate and unemployment rate highlight the challenges government needs to tackle.

**Table 3.9: SDG No. 9: “Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure”**

Indicators	2015	2023
Individuals using the internet (% of population)	11.00	27.38
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP)	12.30	13.11
Research and development (% of GDP)	0.22	0.16

**SDG 9: “Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure”**



The 3.9 table displays the indicators that represent the progress of SDG 9, “Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure,” in Pakistan. The indicator “Individuals using the internet” has sharply risen from 11 percent in 2015 to 27.38 percent in 2023, this reflects a fast escalation in digital expansion and

mobile broadband services. Additionally, it highlights the country's efforts to participate in the digital economy, characterized by widespread smartphone access and enhanced connectivity infrastructure.

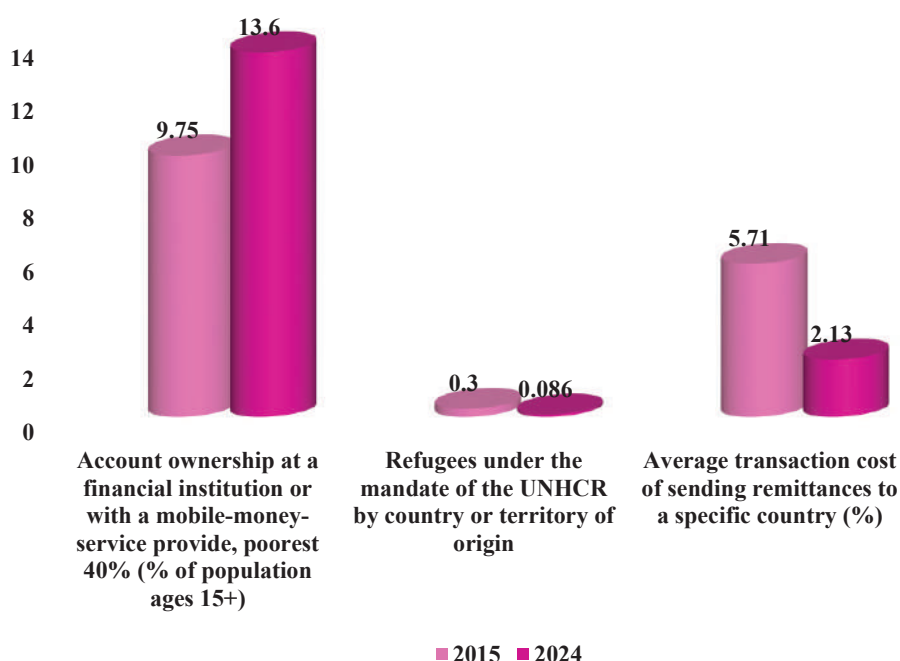
The manufacturing sector has shown an increasing trend, though a slight one. Share of this sector has increased from 12.30 percent of GDP in 2015 to 13.11 percent of GDP in 2023. A major challenge that the industrial sector is facing is the shortage of energy and the unjust imposition of taxes.

Conversely, the expenditure on research and development has declined from 0.22 percent of GDP in 2015 to 0.16 percent of GDP in 2023. This illustrates lessening efforts towards innovation and scientific progress. The decrease may suggest insufficient funding towards research and institutions in Pakistan, which could hinder the country's competitiveness and upgradation.

**Table 3.10: SDG No: 10 “Reduced Inequalities”**

Indicators	2015	2024
Account ownership at a financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider, poorest 40% (% of population ages 15+)	9.75	13.60
Refugees under the mandate of the UNHCR by country or territory of origin(millions)	0.30	0.086
Average transaction cost of sending remittances to a specific country (%)	5.71	2.13

### SDG 10 “Reduced Inequalities”

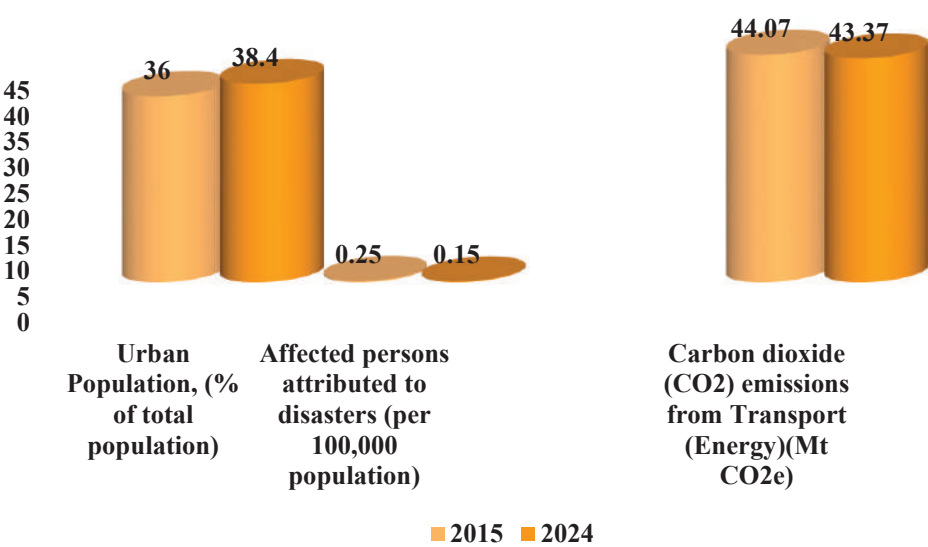


Account ownership at a financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider for the poorest 40 percent has increased from 9.75 percent to 13.60 percent showing more access to the poorest class during this period. Similarly, the figures refugees have also shown improvement. Average transaction cost of sending remittances has also declined between 2015 and 2024. SDG 10 has shown improvement in the selected indicators.

**Table 3.11: SDG No. 11: “Sustainable Cities and Communities”**

	2015	2024
Urban Population, (% of total population)	36.0	38.4
Affected persons attributed to disasters (per 100,000 population)	0.25	0.15
Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions from Transport (Energy) (Mt CO2e)	44.07	43.37

**SDG 11: “Sustainable Cities and Communities”**



Pakistan’s progress toward SDG 11 is presented in 3.11 table. The proportion of the urban population has increased from 36 percent in 2015 to 38.37 percent in 2024, indicating a slight rise, possibly due to increasing rural-urban migration. Metropolitan areas are considered hubs for ideas, human, and economic development.

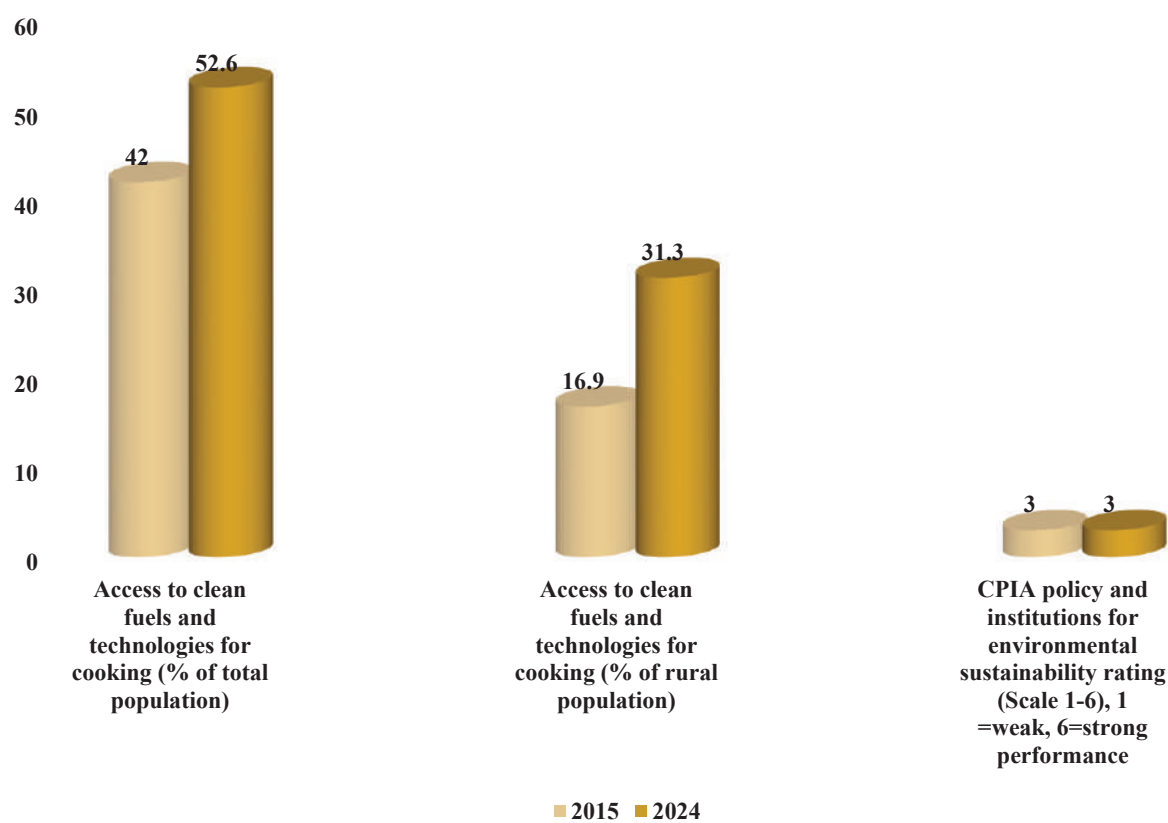
Similarly, there is a modest improvement in the number of people affected by disasters per 100,000. In 2015, the rate was 0.25, and it declined to 0.15 in 2024. This trend supports SDG 11, which focuses on reducing the adverse impacts of disasters on people and communities. Likewise, transportation-associated carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions have decreased from 44.07 million tons to

43.37 million tons. The decline indicates a minor improvement. Together, these metrics show a slight progress toward reaching target of SDG 11.

Table 3.12: SDG No. 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Indicator	2015	2024
Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of total population)	42	52.6
Access to clean fuels and technologies for cooking (% of rural population)	16.9	31.3
CPIA policy and institutions for environmental sustainability rating (Scale 1-6), 1 =weak, 6=strong performance	3.0	3.0

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production



The 3.12 table presents the progress of SDG 12. Access to clean fuels and cooking technologies has increased from 42 percent of the total population in 2015 to 52.6 percent of the total population in 2024. This shows a slight improvement; hence, people are using better fuel for cooking. Similarly, this indicator for the rural population also illustrates a significant improvement. CPIA policy and institutions for environmental sustainability indicator measures the effectiveness in protecting the

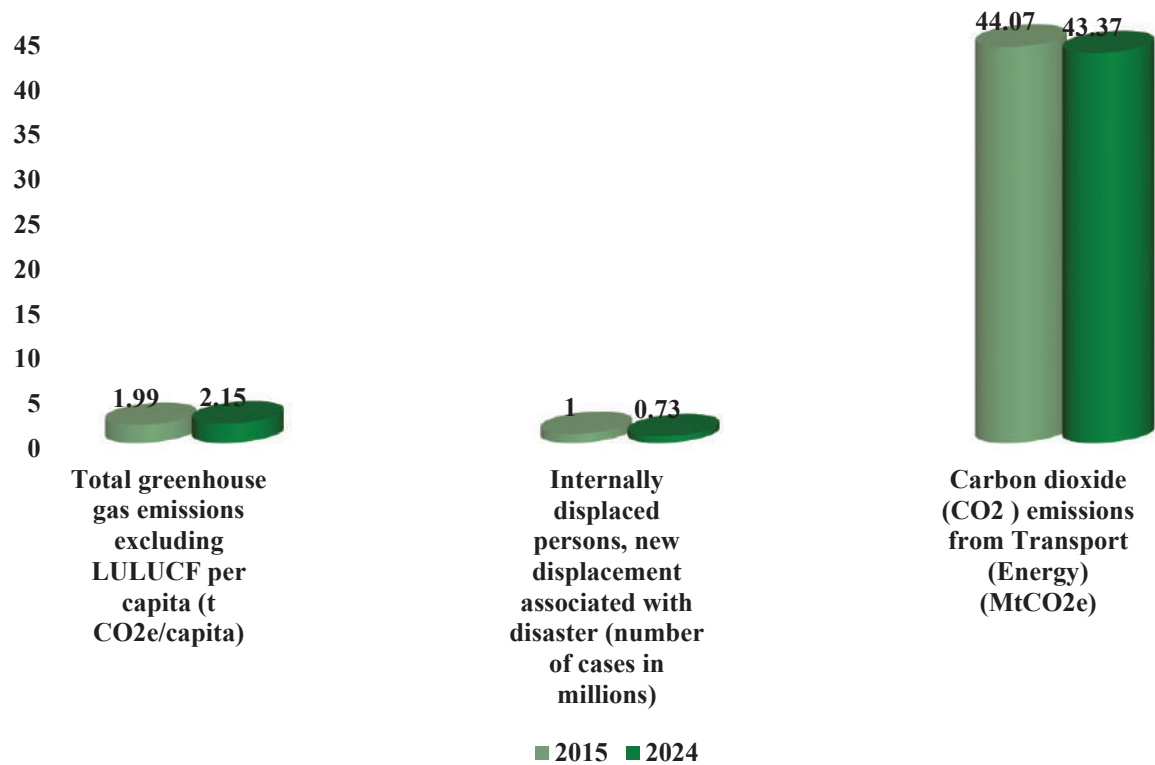


environment through responsible consumption and production, but it is stagnant at 3, showing moderate level for Pakistan.

Table 3.13: SDG No. 13 “Climate Action”

Indicator	2015	2024
Total greenhouse gas emissions excluding LULUCF per capita (t CO <sub>2</sub> e/capita)	1.99	2.15
Internally displaced persons, new displacement associated with disaster (number of cases in millions)	1.00	0.73
Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) emissions from Transport (Energy) (MtCO <sub>2</sub> e)	44.07	43.37

SDG 13: “Climate Action”



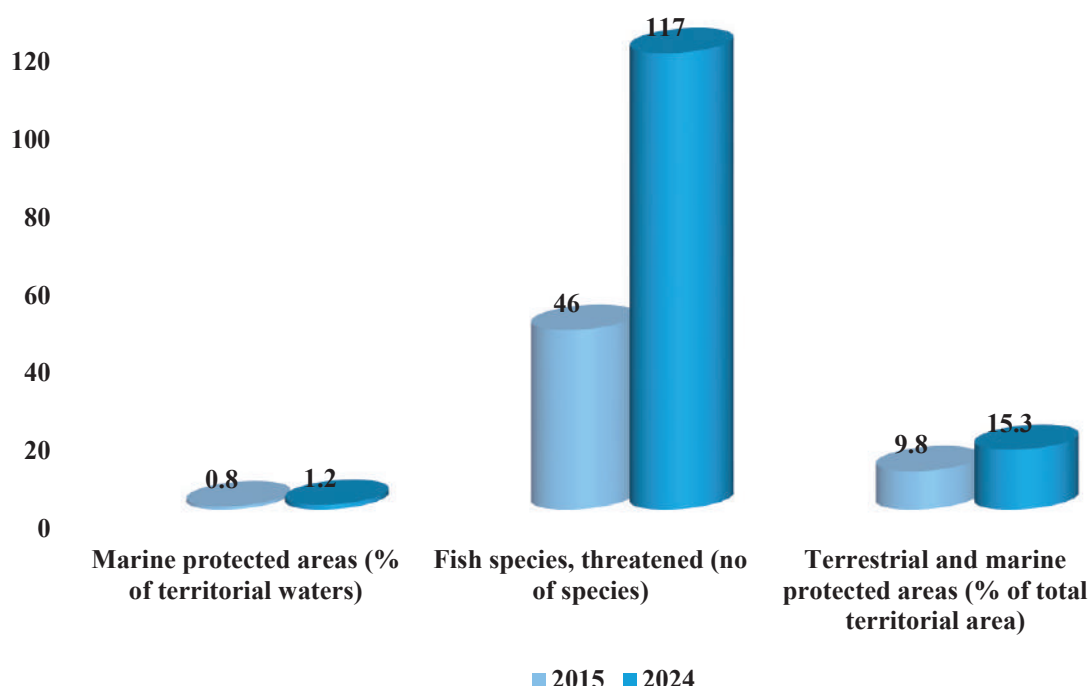
The 3.13 table shows the progress of SDG 13. The indicator for total greenhouse emissions excluding LULUCF per capita have increased, the value was recorded at 1.99 t CO<sub>2</sub> e/capita in 2015 and 2.15 t CO<sub>2</sub> e/capita in 2024, showing the deteriorating situation of environment in Pakistan. The effects of disaster on individuals being forced to displace, the number of cases has been reduced to 0.73 million in 2024 from 1 million in 2015, showing improvement.

Moreover, upon reviewing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from transport in Pakistan, CO<sub>2</sub> emission has declined from 44.07 (MtCO<sub>2</sub> e) in 2015 to 43.37 (MtCO<sub>2</sub> e) in 2024. Coordinated efforts are needed to meet the target of SDG 13 by 2030.

**Table 3.14: SDG No.14 “Life below Water”**

Indicator	2015	2024
Marine protected areas (% of territorial waters)	0.80	1.20
Fish species, threatened (no of species)	46	117
Terrestrial and marine protected areas (% of total territorial area)	9.8	15.3

### SDG 14 “Life below Water”



The table 3.14 illustrates the conservation and sustainable management of ecosystems for marine and coastal areas, representing the progress of SDG 14 in Pakistan. The number of fish species threatened has increased from 46 in 2018 to 117 in 2024, indicating the deterioration of this sector. The marine protected area has increased from 0.80 percent to 1.20 percent, indicating a sign of minor improvement in the life below the water. Last but not least, the percentage of terrestrial and marine protected areas significantly increased from 9.8 percent in 2015 to 15.3 percent in 2024.

The above discussion concludes that efforts are being made to strengthen the protection of the ecosystem, but to fully improve this sector, rigorous efforts are required because the share of the fisheries sector in GDP was 0.39% in 2015, which has declined to 0.31 in 2024.

**Table 3.15: SDG No. 15: “Life on Land”**

Indicator	2015	2024
Forest area (percentage of land area)	5.1	4.7
Progress towards sustainable forest management (tones/Ha)	65.3	73.5
Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type (%)	12.3	17.9

### SDG 15: “Life on Land”

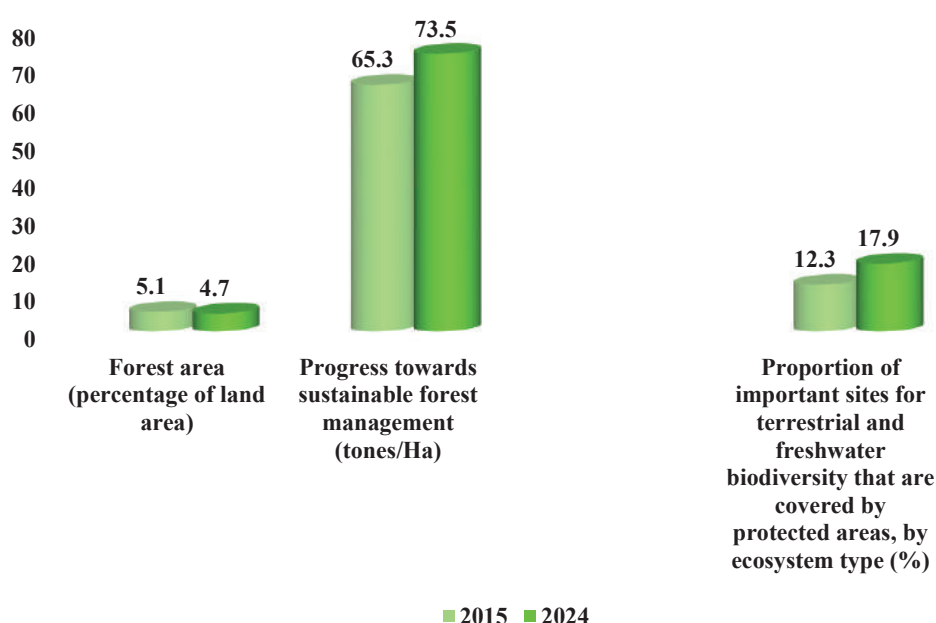


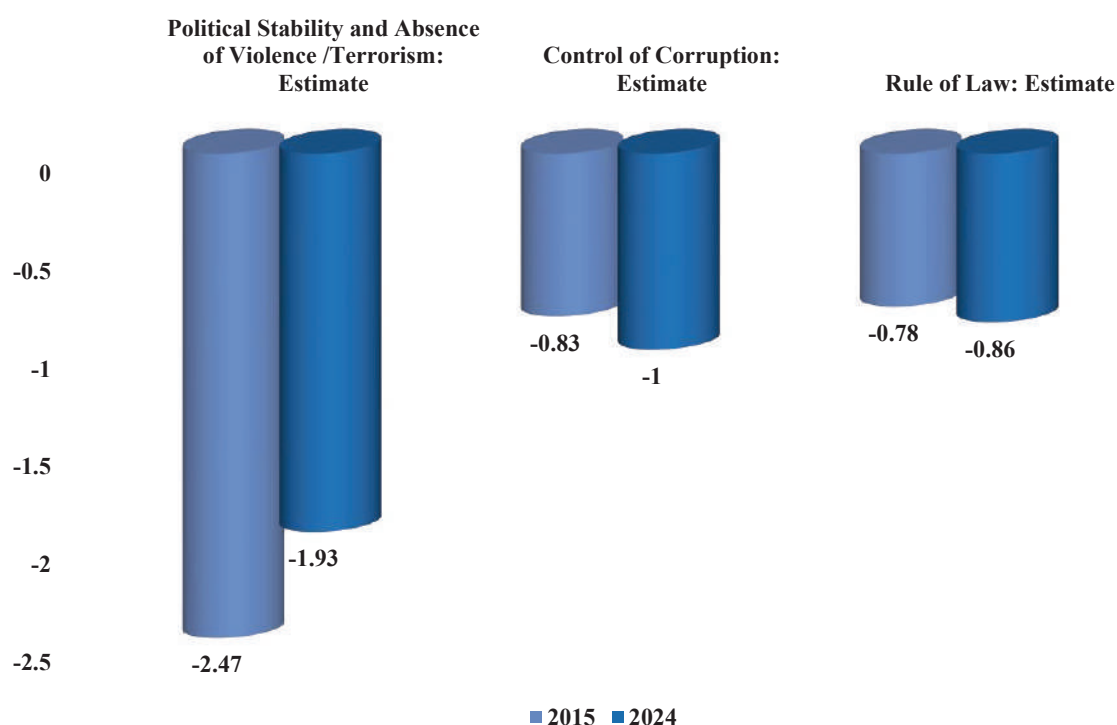
Table 3.15 depicts the progress of SDG 15. The forest area is important to regulate the climate and supply important ecosystem services like clean air, water, and soil. The forest area covering land has decreased from 5.1 percent in 2015 to 4.7 percent in 2024, which indicates increasing deforestation and worsening the life on land. Some countries have set 25 percent forest area of the total land. However, when looking at the progress towards sustainable forest management practices, it improved from 65.3 tons/Ha in 2015 to 73.5tons/Ha in 2024, which reflects better forest health.

The proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity covered by protected areas has moved up from 12.3 percent in 2015 to 17.9 percent in 2024, an increase in biodiversity conservation through protected areas. Although better forest management and protection for biodiversity are evident, the decline in forest proportion calls for coordinated efforts.

**Table 3.16: SDG No. 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions**

Indicator	2015	2024
<b>Political Stability and Absence of Violence /Terrorism: Estimate</b>	-2.47	-1.93
<b>Control of Corruption: Estimate</b>	-0.83	-1.00
<b>Rule of Law: Estimate</b>	-0.78	-0.86

### SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions



The 3.16 table depicts the indicators under SDG 16 “Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions”. The Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism indicator shows minor improvement from -2.47 in 2015 to -1.93 in 2024. Control of Corruption shows that corruption and bribery have increased in the country from -0.83 in 2015 to -1 in 2024. The same is true of the “Rule of Law”; the estimate was -0.78 in 2015, which has deteriorated to -0.86 in 2024.

This SDG 16 depicts the deteriorating picture of Peace, Justice, and Institutions in the country. To improve access to justice, we need to ensure the merit-based, politically free appointment of judges; similarly, to promote peace in the country, merit-based policies should be implemented and conflicts be settled through dialogue.

**Table 3.17: SDG No.17: Partnerships for the Goals**

Indicator	2015	2024
Foreign Direct Investment, net inflows (% of GDP)	0.6	0.7
Tax Revenue (% of GDP)	9.9	9.6
Exports of Goods and Services (% of GDP)	10.0	10.4

### SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

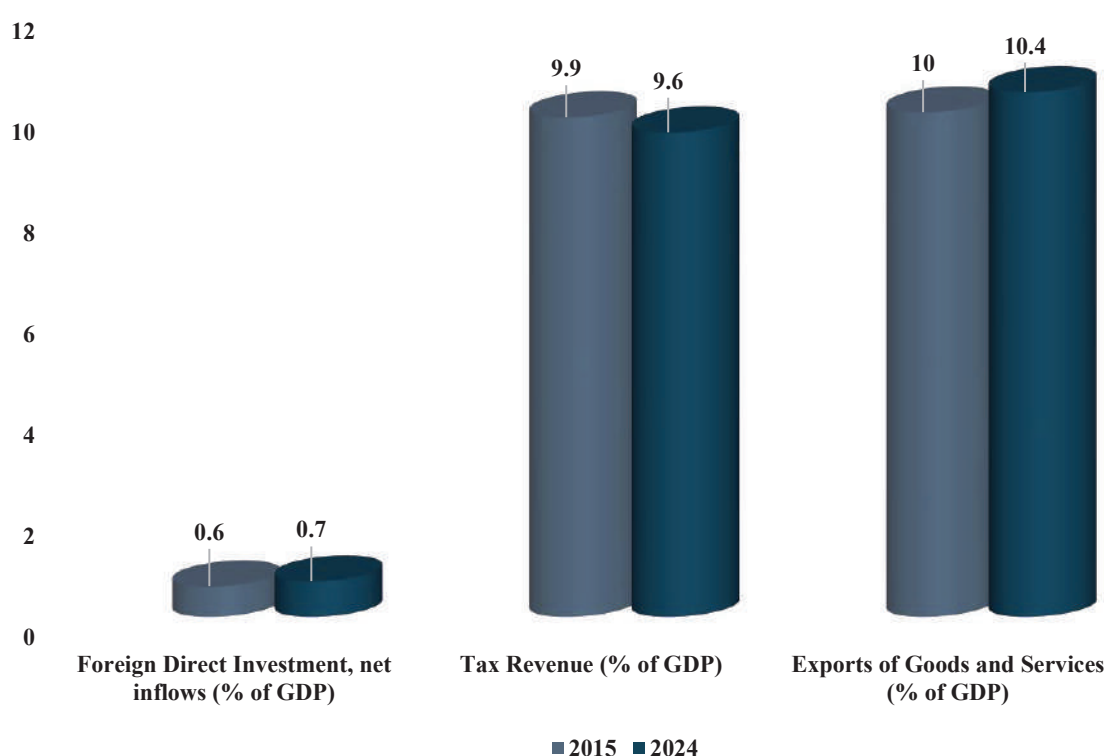


Table 3.17 shows indicators for SDG 17, “Partnerships for the Goals.” Despite various efforts able to increase FDI to 0.7 percent of GDP from 0.6 percent of GDP during this period. Similarly, tax revenue declined from 9.9 percent of GDP in 2015 to 9.6 percent of GDP in 2024 depicting the deteriorating picture of SDG 17. Exports as a percentage of GDP have shown a small increase from 10 percent of GDP to 10.4 percent of GDP during this period. This study conclude that rigorous efforts are required to meet the targets set by UNDP of SDG 17 by 2030.

Although Pakistan made a commitment to meet the SDGs target by 2030 and has shown progress in some SDGs, but we are largely performing poorly in meeting the targets by the deadline. Poor governance, low quality of institutions, the effects of climate change, and inconsistent policies continue to impede effective implementation.

To improve access to justice, we need to ensure the merit-based, politically free appointment of judges; similarly, to promote peace in the country, merit-based policies should be implemented, and conflicts settled through dialogue. To ensure inclusive and sustainable progress and to achieve the SDGs targets set by UNDP, collective efforts are needed between government institutions and the private sector.



## **CHAPTER FOUR:**

### **Role of Minhaj University and its Associated Institutes in Sustainable Development Goals**

#### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the summary of numerous activities conducted by Minhaj University Lahore and its associated institutes in achieving the targets of Sustainable Development Goals. Minhaj University Lahore demonstrates its commitment to sustainable development goals (SDGs) initiated by the UNDP in 2015 through the regular publication of journals, research papers, research reports and empirical research on various research projects related to SDGs to help the government of Pakistan in achieving the targets of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. These publications, seminars, and webinars create awareness at national level in advancing the SDGs' progress in Pakistan.

#### **4.2 Minhaj Welfare Foundation (MWF).**

In 1989, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri founded Minhaj Welfare Foundation as the humanitarian division of MQI. The foundation concentrates on reducing poverty, healthcare, education, disaster relief and clean water initiatives. It has various welfare programs to facilitate widows, underprivileged families, and orphans. Furthermore, is highly responsive to disasters and natural catastrophes. As it exists only to serve humanity.



## NO POVERTY

**Minhaj Welfare Foundation** is playing a vital role in achieving the targets of Sustainable Development Goals in Pakistan. Below pictures demonstrate the efforts of Minhaj Welfare Foundation. Minhaj Welfare Foundation provides food assistance to needy individuals affected in Pakistan, Lebanon and India with an aim to alleviate poverty in Pakistan and other countries in the world.







## ZERO HUNGER

**Minhaj Welfare Foundation** is contributing towards reducing the hunger in Pakistan and to meet the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 2 “Zero Hunger” agenda of 2030. This foundation establishes free food camps in different backward areas to help people vulnerable to food insecurity.



### 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



#### GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Founder of the **Minhaj Welfare Foundation**, Prof.Dr. Tahir-ul-Qadri, is at a medical facility camp organized by the Minhaj Welfare Foundation, where a professional doctor is checking his blood pressure. The purpose is to emphasize the importance and awareness of promoting good health and well-being in the society. Minhaj Welfare Foundation built an educational complex in Khanewal city for girls. This educational complex facilitated 5000 girls from school to college in the last 5 years with boarding facilities.





**The Minhaj Welfare Foundation** regularly organizes medical camps where dedicated professional doctors provide health facilities to the vulnerable and unassisted peoples. These efforts hold a pivotal position for achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 3 “Good Health and Well Being” in Pakistan.



### 4.3 Minhaj Education Society (MES).

In the year 1994, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri established Minhaj Education Society. It operates a chain of Pakistani schools, to offer quality education. It aims at equipping students to become academically and socially responsible. The Minhaj University Lahore is one of the leading universities in Pakistan committed in providing the higher education and contributes to achieve the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 4 “Quality Education”. The Minhaj University Lahore offers more than 150 programs across various disciplines and extends multiple scholarship opportunities to support students. These include the Dr. Tahir-ul-Qadri Scholarship, Merit-Based Scholarships, Semester-Based Scholarships, Sports Scholarship, Lump Sum Fee Payment Discounts, and Organization-Based Fee Concession. All these initiatives reflect Minhaj University Lahore’s dedication to ensuring inclusive and equitable access to education, thereby advancing the objectives of SDG 4 in Pakistan.

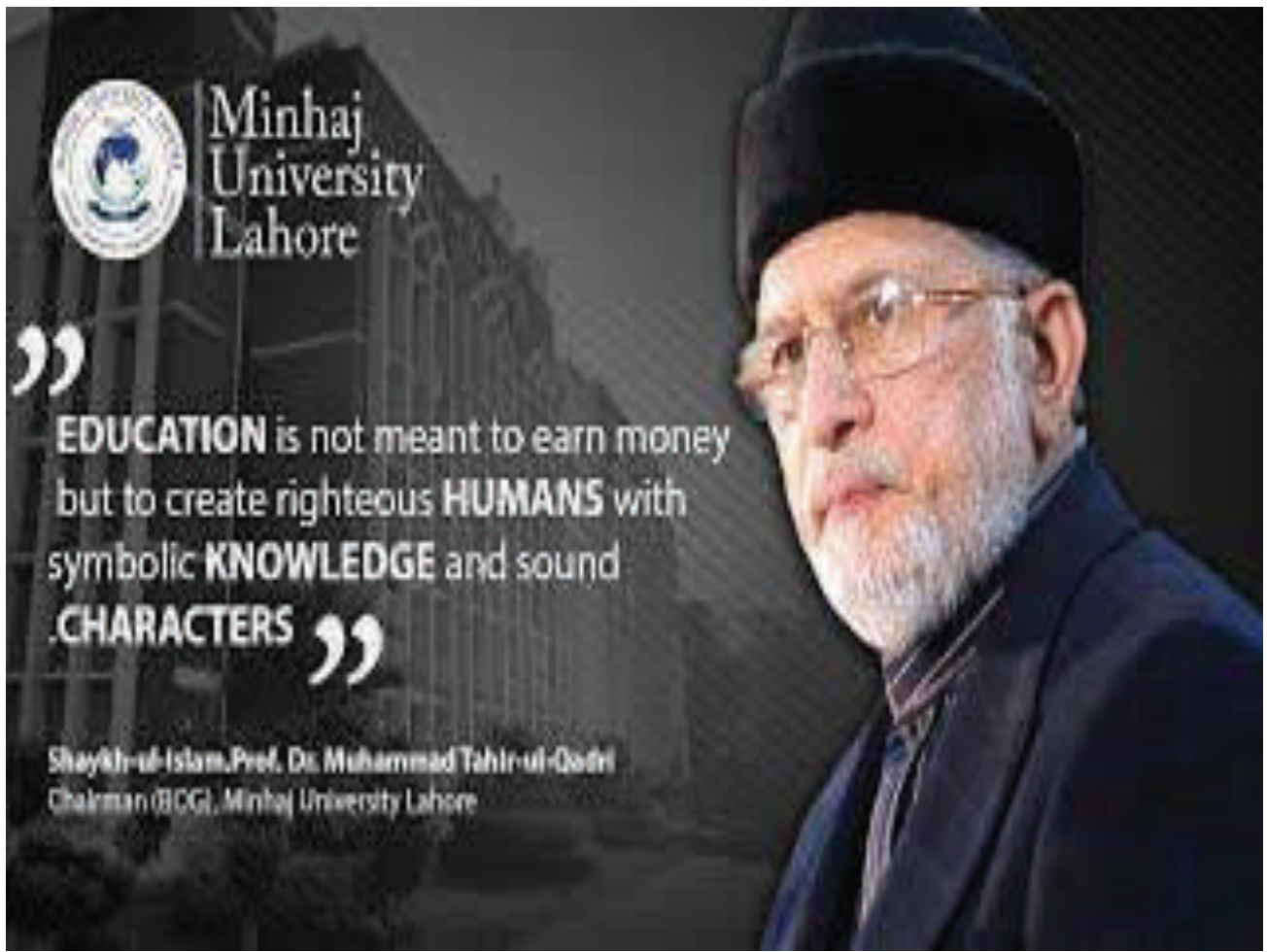


#### Quality Education

**Minhaj Education Society** contributes towards education and creates awareness at the national level in Pakistan. More than 600 educational institutions, both English and Urdu mediums, are educating the youth under Minhaj Education Society. This step helps the government to meet the targets of SDG 4 quality education in Pakistan. The Foundation actively supports educational initiatives. It provides monthly financial assistance to students at Aghosh Grammar School, Lahore, by regularly paying their school fees. In addition, the Foundation supports students from various other schools by assisting them with educational expenses. Currently, the Foundation has 14 education donors, supporting 31 educational beneficiaries.









## Gender Equality

**Minhaj -ul -Quran International** initiated Women Development Project to reduce gender inequality and empower women in the society by establishing technical education & computer centers for women; providing sewing machines to widows so that they can earn a living. Minhaj Welfare Foundation launched “Our Girls Our Future” Campaign. The objective of this campaign was to launch literacy clubs for girls, trained mentors, and facilitated access to education, health, and decision making for girls and teenage girls from diverse backgrounds.







## Clean Water and Sanitation

**Minhaj Welfare Foundation** also ensures access to clean drinking water, especially for vulnerable people which are affected by disasters and residing in isolated area where people face lack of clean drinking water, and sanitation. MWF installs water pumps for poor communities to fulfill their needs of clean drinking water and sanitation. MWF is contributing in achieving the target of Sustainable Development Goal 6, Clean Water and Sanitation, on the both at national and international levels.



Clean water pump installation in Marenbo, Kenya by the **Minhaj Welfare Foundation**.





### Affordable and Clean Energy

All institutions of Minhaj have installed solar panels in all campuses to promote Sustainable Development Goal , Affordable and Clean Energy.

The purpose of this initiative is to convert conventional electricity sources into renewable and clean energy, and reduce energy cost to make

the environment clean.



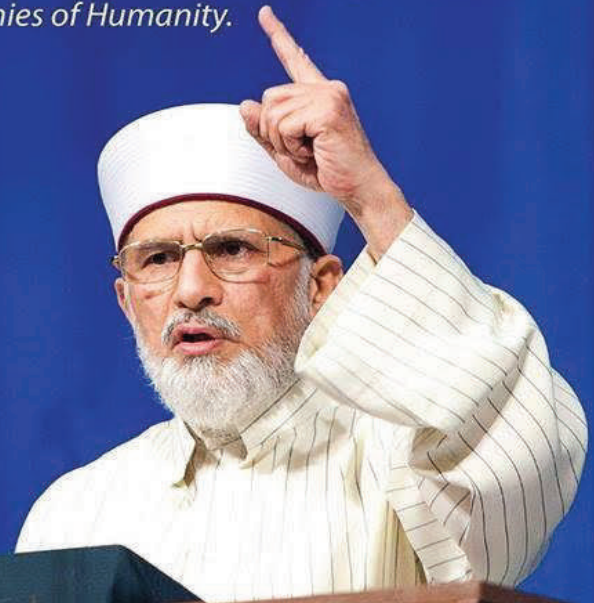
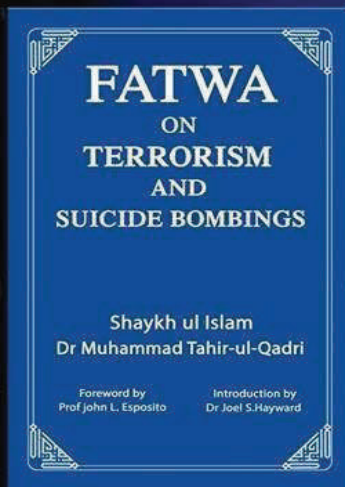


## Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

In 2010, Dr. Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri issued a comprehensive 600-pages Fatwa on Terrorism and Suicide Bombings. *Terrorists are enemies of Islam and are enemies of Humanity. (Dr. Tahir-ul-Qadri)*

# ISLAM CONDEMNS TERRORISM

*I strongly condemn every act and form of Terrorism without any if's or but's. Islam considers the killing of one innocent person as the killing of entire humanity. Terrorists are not representatives of Islam & Terrorists have nothing to do with Islam. Terrorists are totally against the Quran & Terrorists are totally against the Sunnah of Holy Prophet (Peace be upon Him). Terrorists are defaming the image of Islam. Terrorists are enemies of Islam and are enemies of Humanity.*



*Authored by Dr Muhammad Tahir-ul-Qadri*



#### 4.4 Aghosh Orphan Care Home

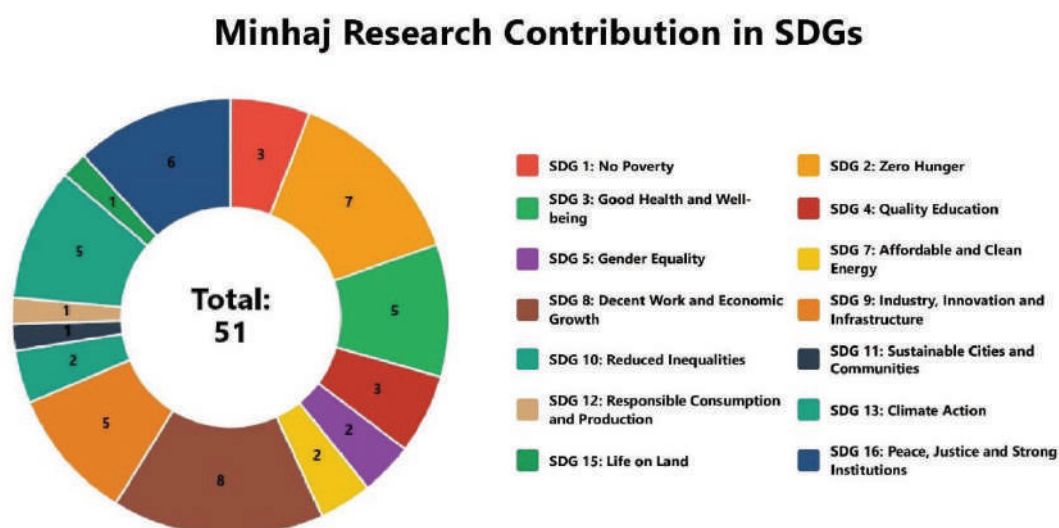
Aghosh Orphan Care Home is a humanitarian activity of Minhaj-ul-Quran International, which was developed in 2013 to support and take care of the orphan kids in their entirety. Aghosh Orphan Care Home provides a safe and supportive atmosphere, which guarantees access to SDG1 No Poverty, SDG 3 Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 5 Gender Equality, and SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth. Aghosh Orphan Care Home focuses on empowering children through the intellectual, moral, and social development of children so that they can be confident, responsible and self-reliant members of the society.

Minhaj University Lahore sponsors students of Aghosh Orphan Care Home in different programs which also promotes various SDGs. Presently enrolled students in BS and M.Phil. programs are 40 and 18, respectively, whereas 60 students are Alumni in the BS programs.

#### 4.5 Center of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD)

The Center of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), Minhaj University Lahore, works to improve economic decision-making by identifying policy challenges and designing and advising on high-impact policy reforms based on empirical evidence. CEPD conducts empirical research, surveys, analytics, and advisory services with a special focus on Pakistan. It is believed that the academic-industry proximity is crucial for innovation, efficiency, and long-term growth. The CEPD facilitates interaction between faculty, entrepreneurs, scholars, students, and industry to improve research opportunities, academic excellence, and market-based solutions to complex problems. The Centre offers advisory services to businesses and industries to assist them in exploring new markets and increasing productivity. The CEPD uses a variety of online forums, including blogs, social media interactions, and webinars, to disseminate research information.

**Figure 4.1 Minhaj Research contribution**





**Table 4.1: Research Papers**

Following is the detail of research papers published by School of Economics and Finance, and Center of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD) on the issues related to SDGs.

<b>SDG 1 - No Poverty</b>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>Journal Name and Year</b>
Effect of institutional and financial development on poverty and income inequality	Journal of Excellence in Management Sciences (2024)
Effect of Institutional and Financial Development on Poverty and Income Inequality in Pakistan	Journal of Excellence in Management Sciences (2024)
Effect of institutional and financial development on poverty and income inequality in Pakistan	Journal of Excellence in Management Sciences (2024)
<b>SDG 2 – Zero Hunger</b>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>Journal Name and Year</b>
Exploring the Determinants of Food Insecurity in Pakistan	Journal of Management Science Research Review (2025)
Effects of remittances on household food insecurity in Pakistan	International Journal of Agricultural Extension (2024)
Agricultural Extension Services Utilization & Satisfaction	Int. Journal of Agriculture Innovations (2024)
Unravelling the Complexities of Agricultural Productivity in Pakistan: A Focus on Determinants	Iranian Economic Review (2024)
Social Safety Net Programs and Food Insecurity in Pakistan	Social & Economic Studies Vol. 2 (2023)
Effect of safety net program on household food insecurity	Journal of Policy Research (2023)
Analysis of food demand patterns of Sindh Province, Pakistan	Pakistan Journal of Applied Economics (2018)
<b>SDG 3 – Good Health</b>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>Journal Name and Year</b>
Economic Impact of Covid 19 on Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan	International Journal of Management Research and Emerging Sciences (2024)
Impact of Climate Change on Health Cost: A Case Study of Lahore, Pakistan	International Journal of Contemporary Issues in Social Sciences (2024)
The Value of Environment Health Risks and Wage Compensation: Evidence from Pakistan	Forman Journal of Economic Studies (2023)

How Immigration Affects the Health and Subjective Well-being: Evidence from Destination Countries.	Journal of Applied Economics & Business Studies (JAEBS) (2022)
Medicine affordability and accessibility: A case of the low and middle-income group of Gujranwala district	International Journal of Management Research and Emerging Sciences (2022)

SDG 4 – Quality Education	
Title	Journal Name and Year
Academic Needs of Madaris in 21st Century: A Study of Madaris in Tehsil Minchinabad, District Bahawalnagar, South Punjab	Inverge Journal of Social Sciences (2025)
Unlocking Pakistan's Youth Potential: Youth Development & SDGs	Journal of Professional Research in Social Sciences (2022)
Education and countering violent extremism: a case study of schools in Pakistan	Journal of Education and Social Science (2015)

SDG 5 - Gender Equality	
Title	Journal Name and Year
Determinants of women's labor force participation	Int. Journal of Social Sciences Bulletin (2024)
Hereditary Burden or Blessing? Educational Attainment of Mothers to Daughters in Pakistan	Pakistan Economic and Social Review (2023)

SDG 7 - Clean Energy	
Title	Journal Name and Year
The Impact of Fossil Fuel Subsidies and Renewable Energy Deployed on CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions: A Cross-National Study of the Panel of Developed and Developing Economies	Forman Journal of Economic Studies (2025)
Repercussions of environmental policy stringency on carbon, energy & productivity	Environmental Science and Pollution Research (2024)

SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth	
Title	Journal Name and Year
Impediments to Financial Inclusion in South Asia	Journal of Management Science Research Review (2025)
Unequal resilience: determinants of financial resilience in South Asia	Journal of Economic Impact (2025)
Determinants of Financial Inclusion in South Asia	Int. Journal of Advanced Social Studies (2025)
Exploring the hot spots and global trends in Takaful research through bibliometric analysis based on Scopus database (2001-2022)	Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (2024)

Financial Inclusion, Sustainability, and Financial Wellbeing	IGI Global (2024)
Economics of Nations during Austerity; Does Government Size Matter?	Iranian Economic Review (2024)
Sikh pilgrimage tourism in Pakistan: Obstacles and the way forward.	Revista Turismo & Desenvolvimento (RT&D)/Journal of Tourism & Development (2023)
Effect of Economic Policy Uncertainty on Exchange Rate Volatility in Pakistan	Bulletin of Business and Economics (BBE) (2023)

SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	
Title	Journal Name and Year
Islamic bonds (sukuk) a safe haven for investors? Truth or myth?	Journal of Islamic Accounting and Business Research (2024)
Determining Competitiveness of Pakistan Sports Goods Industry Using Revealed Comparative Analysis Authors	International Journal of Management Research and Emerging Sciences (2023)
Digital divide in Pakistan: barriers to ICT adoption	Bulletin of Business and Economics (BBE) (2023)
Digital divide in Pakistan: barriers to ICT usage	Journal of Economic Impact (2022)
An RCA analysis of textiles and clothing in Pakistan, India and Bangladesh	Lahore School of Economics * (2015)

SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities	
Title	Journal Name and Year
Current Discussions in Islamic Microfinance Research and Future Agendas: A Bibliometric Study Based on Scopus Database	Journal of Islamic Economics and Finance (JIEF)(2023)
The Impact of the Digital Divide on Wage Gaps among Individuals in Pakistan	Journal of Policy Research (JPR) (2022)

SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities	
Title	Journal Name and Year
An Application of Contingent Valuation Method for Reduction in Risk of Premature Mortality due to Air Pollution: A Case Study of Gujranwala, Pakistan	Empirical Economic Review (2023)

SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption & Production	
Title	Journal Name and Year

Wealth, Wisdom, and the Will to Protect: An Examination of Socioeconomic Influences on Environmental Behavior	Social Indicators Research (2025)
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SDG 13 - Climate Action	
Title	Journal Name and Year
Pro-Environmental Behaviors & Environmental Protection	Journal of Social Sciences Advancement (2024)
Role of Post-Materialist Values in Environmental Protection	Contemporary Journal of Social Science Review (2024)
Do Climate Changes influence the Agriculture Productivity in Pakistan? Empirical Evidence from ARDL Technique.	Forman Journal of Economic Studies (2022)
Impacts of Monetary Policy and Exchange Rate on Green Investment in Pakistan	Elementary Education Online (2020)
Environmental Kuznets Curve and SO <sub>2</sub> Emission in Pakistan	Research Journal of Environmental and Earth Sciences (2014)

SDG 15 – Life on Land	
Title	Journal Name and Year
Diversity, morphology, distribution and population of amphibian fauna in district Jamshoro and Larkana Sindh-Pakistan	Journal of Entomology and Zoology studies (2015)

SDG 16 – Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions	
Title	Journal Name and Year
Unravelling Structural Underdevelopment: Is Governance Quality the Key?	Journal of Policy Research (2024)
Current Corruption Indices: Assessing Reliability and Relevance	Journal of Policy Research (2024)
The Role of Democracy Aspirations in the Well-being of Individuals	Journal of Excellence in Social Sciences (2024)
Tax Evasion in Pakistan's Digital Era: An Analysis of Drivers from World Value Survey	Business Review of Digital Revolution (2023)
Foreign, Political and Financial Influences on Religious Extremism: A Study of Madrassas in Punjab, Pakistan	Counter Terrorist Trends and Analyses (2018)
Terrorist Rehabilitation: A New Frontier in Counter-terrorism	World Scientific (2015)

**Table 4.2: Webinars Conducted by Center of Economic Planning and Development (CEPD) on SDGs.**

Webinar title	Related to SDGs
Establishing the Nexus between sustainability, Environmental and Climate change Economics (2024)	SDG 13 (Climate Action)
Inflation Outlook in 2024 & Role of Central Bank	SDG 8 (Economic Growth),
The financial Crisis in Pakistan (2023)	SDG 8 (Economic Growth)
Fundamentals of Monetary Policy and last MPC's Decision (2023)	SDG 8 (Economic Growth)
Challenges to Pakistan's Economy (2022)	SDG 8 (Decent Work & Economic Growth)
Challenges to Pakistan's Manufacturing Industry: A Discussion (2022)	SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure)
A Comparison between Economics Education in the West and Pakistan (2022)	SDG 4 (Quality Education)
Discussion on the 23 <sup>rd</sup> IMF program of Pakistan's (2022)	SDG 8 (Economic Growth)

**Table 4.3: Summary of Webinars conduct on Sustainable Development Goals**

NO	TITLE OF SDG	SUGGESTIONS	HELD ON
<b>SDG.1</b>	NO POVERTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To end multidimensional poverty, we need to design consolidated policies that address education, health, employment, and living standards, together, rather than individually. When these dimensions are improved then poverty will significantly be reduced.</li> <li>▪ Climate adaptation and natural resource management are vital so greater efficiency over this area leads to poverty reduction.</li> </ul>	5 <sup>th</sup> August 2024
<b>SDG. 2</b>	ZERO HUNGER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improving food security system is essential for reducing the hunger and malnutrition to significant levels by promoting sustainable agriculture with modern technologies and fair distribution systems.</li> <li>▪ Leveraging technology like drones, sensors, and data analytics helps in optimizing the farming practices and increase yields substantially which leads to reduction in hunger.</li> </ul>	7 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
<b>SDG. 3</b>	GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increasing the healthcare financing for the country's growing healthcare needs and addressing socioeconomic determinants of health, such as poverty, education, and gender inequality, targets of SDG3 can be achieved.</li> <li>▪ Government should adopt policies that strengthen the healthcare system's resilience to climate change by improving water and sanitation, reducing air pollution and promoting climate-friendly health initiatives.</li> </ul>	14 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
<b>SDG. 4</b>	QUALITY EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The adoption of alternative teacher recruitment methods, to address staffing shortages and stress the importance of continuous professional development programs, to enhance teaching effectiveness, leads to quality education.</li> <li>▪ The targeted investments in infrastructure, curriculum development, and teacher training to bridge the gaps in education. This will enhance the quality education.</li> </ul>	20 <sup>th</sup> December2024
<b>SDG. 5</b>	GENDER EQUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Multi-faceted approach to overcoming barriers to gender equality: education and awareness, economic empowerment, policy reforms, cultural change, bridging the digital divide, strengthening legal frameworks, and social and institutional support are included in multifaceted approach.</li> <li>▪ Legal and institutional barriers, weak enforcement of laws, judicial and institutional biases, and underrepresentation in leadership roles are included in barriers to improve Gender Equality.</li> </ul>	9 <sup>th</sup> January 2025
<b>SDG. 6</b>	CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By increasing the water use efficiency across all sectors, the aim is to address the water scarcity, and reduce the number of people affected by it which leads to improvement in clean water and sanitation.</li> <li>• The community participation will be needed to strengthen the role of local communities in water and sanitation management.</li> </ul>	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2025
<b>SDG. 7</b>	AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pakistan is an energy-poor country and currently faces energy poverty. Although, it is a key aspect for economic growth, job creation, and poverty reduction, it is not being used efficiently</li> </ul>	10 <sup>th</sup> February 2025



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Affordable and clean energy plays an important role in economic growth and social progress. Policies are needed which can provide affordable and clean energy.</li> </ul>	
<b>SDG. 8</b>	DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Per capita economic growth must be equitable, inclusive and long-term. The target of annual growth rate of real GDP per capita is set at 7 percent for least developed countries by 2030. Only judicious policies can help to meet this target.</li> </ul>	17 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
<b>SDG. 9</b>	INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing need for smart infrastructure and industrial upgrades in Pakistan to improve resource efficiency and adopt clean and environmentally sound technologies.</li> <li>The major innovations driving Pakistan forward were propelling smart infrastructure, renewable energy integration, intelligent transportation, smart water management, and green buildings.</li> </ul>	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
<b>SDG. 10</b>	REDUCED INEQUALITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender inequality was highlighted as a persistent challenge, with limited progress in women's access to quality education and employment opportunities. Closing these gaps by increasing top marginal tax rates, strengthening wealth and inheritance taxes, and implementing progressive taxation systems.</li> <li>Anti-discrimination measures, including robust legal frameworks to ensure equal opportunities irrespective of race, gender, disability, and age.</li> </ul>	24 <sup>th</sup> June 2025
<b>SDG. 11</b>	SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The role of building sustainable cities and the role of communities in achieving the global goal is important because the world's population is constantly increasing, and to accommodate everyone, we need to build sustainable cities.</li> <li>An intelligent urban planning is needed for the creation of safe, affordable, and resilient cities.</li> </ul>	25 <sup>th</sup> July 2025
<b>SDG. 12</b>	RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaging students in circular economy initiatives not only supports sustainable practices but also provides them with hands-on learning experiences that strengthen their research and innovation skills.</li> <li>Fundamental research and applied research, along with gathering data on material flows and waste generation, are essential which leads to responsible consumption and production.</li> </ul>	31 <sup>st</sup> July 2025
<b>SDG. 13</b>	CLIMATE ACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The common threats, such as rising temperature and extreme weather, can be tackled through mitigation practices like reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>Transition towards green energy, climate-smart agriculture for managing water effectively, urban transformation, and technological innovation were some of these that ensure a sustainable and resilient economy towards harsh climatic conditions.</li> </ul>	26 <sup>th</sup> September 2025,
<b>SDG. 14</b>	LIFE BELOW WATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The opportunities regarding SDG 14 in Pakistan are the development of the blue economy, the establishment of marine protected areas, the circular economy &amp; waste reduction, innovation in science and technology, climate action synergies, international cooperation &amp; financing, and community-led conservation efforts.</li> <li>Key initiatives regarding SDG no. 14 are: policies promoting sustainable marine operations, zero waste and pollution reduction initiatives, promoting climate-resilient coastal ecosystems, integrating traditional and scientific knowledge, contributing to the global goal of 30 percent ocean protection by 2030, and strengthening international ocean governance.</li> </ul>	3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025

<b>SDG. 15</b>	<b>LIFE ON LAND</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pathways to unlock the future, such as Sustainable Land Management: agroforestry, crop rotation, and regenerative agriculture. Protected Areas: ecological corridors and effective management.</li> <li>▪ Community-Based Conservation: empower local communities and policy and innovation: align with UNCCD, CBD, and SDG 15.</li> </ul>	6th October 2025
<b>SDG. 16</b>	<b>PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Backlog of cases and delays in justice delivery; inadequate judicial resources and infrastructure; weak public trust and legitimacy; and overcrowded and poorly managed prisons leads to declining SDG 16.</li> <li>▪ The main implementation barriers are a number of factors, including resistance from entrenched interests, budgetary constraints, competing policy priorities, and instability of reform initiatives due to frequent government changes. If overcome then leads to peace, justice and strong institutions.</li> </ul>	14th October 2025
<b>SDG. 17</b>	<b>PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote access to eco-friendly technologies for developing countries on fair and preferential terms.</li> <li>▪ Enhance International support for targeted capacity-building to achieve the SDGs.</li> </ul>	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025

The events presented above provided the platform for knowledge sharing on the challenges of Sustainable Development Goals, as well as provided suggestions to address the challenges related to Sustainable Development Goals faced by the government of Pakistan. It is concluded that Minhaj ul Quran International and its institutes, Minhaj University and Minhaj Welfare Foundation, have played an important role in assisting the country in meeting the 2030 Agenda of UNDP through their active engagement by organizing these events.

#### **4.6 Centre of Research and Innovation in Maritime Affairs (CRIMA)**

CRIMA is an educational and research institute based in Minhaj educational institutions. It deals with the research of the maritime, innovation, and policy. The center undertakes conferences and research projects. CRIMA subsidizes maritime education and industry development. It has the mission of achieving the SDG 6 clean water and sanitation, SDG 14 Life below water and making a contribution to the national economy. CRIMA organized both international and national conferences, seminars and webinars on SDGs 6 and 14 to create awareness and suggestion for policy makers. CRIMA also published Research papers on SDG 6 and 14.

**Table 4.4 CRIMA contribution in SDGs**

Event Name	Topic	SDGs
<b>Seminars</b>		
<b>Seminar 1</b>	Seminar on “World Water Day”	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
<b>Seminar 2</b>	Seminar on “World Aquatic Animal Day”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 3</b>	Seminar on “Socioeconomic & Environmental Partnership in Sustainable Development Goals and Challenges for Pakistan”	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
<b>Seminar 4</b>	Seminar on “No Poverty	SDG 1: No Poverty
<b>Seminar 5</b>	Seminar on “World Water Day”	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation SDG13: Climate Action SDG14: Life Below Water SDG 15: Life on Land
<b>Seminar 6</b>	Seminar on “Maritime: Challenges and Opportunities for Pakistan”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 7</b>	Seminar on “Maritime. Affairs and Afghanistan”	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
<b>Seminar 8</b>	Seminar on “Marine Pollution: A Challenge to 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Pakistan”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 9</b>	Seminar on “Maritime Innovative Learning”	SDG 4: Quality Education
<b>Seminar 10</b>	Seminar on “World Ocean Day”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 11</b>	Seminar on “Shocking Ocean Statistics: Threat to Marine Life, Ocean and Humanity”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 12</b>	Seminar on “Coral Reefs and World Mangrove Day”	SDG 14: Life Below Water SDG 15: Life on Land
<b>Seminar 13</b>	Seminar on “Politics of the Indian Ocean and CPEC”	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
<b>Seminar 14</b>	Seminar on “Policy Measures Amid Global Recession and the Role of CPEC”	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
<b>Seminar 15</b>	Seminar on “Indus Dolphin”	SDG 14: Life Below Water SDG 15: Life on Land
<b>Seminar 16</b>	Seminar on “After Effects of Pakistan’s Flood 2022 on Arabian Sea”	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation SDG13: Climate Action SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 17</b>	Seminar on “Hazardous Effects of Pesticides on Marine Environment”	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production SDG14: Life Below Water

<b>Seminar 18</b>	Seminar on “The Story of Pakistan Navy Submarine HANGOOR”	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
<b>Seminar 19</b>	Seminar on “An Introduction to the Maritime Doctrine of Pakistan”	SDG14: Life Below Water SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
<b>Seminar 20</b>	Seminar on “Plastics Biodegradation by Marine Microorganism”	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 21</b>	Seminar on “World Ocean Day”	SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 22</b>	Seminar on “Coral Reefs Awareness”	SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 23</b>	Seminar on “The Role of Pakistani Navy in War of September 1965”	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
<b>Seminar 24</b>	Seminar on “World Maritime Day”	SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 25</b>	Seminar on “Security of Gwadar Port and CPEC”	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
<b>Seminar 26</b>	Seminar on “The Look South Policy; Understanding Pakistan’s Blue Economy Potential: A Crucial Exploration of Pakistan’s Economic Future”	SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 27</b>	Seminar on “Geopolitical Opportunity for Pakistan – World Ocean Day”	SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 28</b>	Seminar on “Plastic Free Planet World’s Environment Day”	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
<b>Seminar 29</b>	Seminar on “Sustainable Plastic Waste Management”	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
<b>Seminar 30</b>	Seminar on “Fisheries and Its Importance for the Developing Economies”	SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Seminar 31</b>	Seminar on “Indus Water Treaty”	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
<b>Seminar 32</b>	Seminar on “Entrepreneurial and research opportunities within the Fisheries sector of Pakistan”	SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Poster</b>		
<b>Poster 1</b>	“Poster Presentation on SDG-2 and SDG-14”	SDG 2: Zero Hunger SDG14: Life Below Water
<b>Podcast</b>		
<b>Podcast 1</b>	Podcast on “Every Drop Counts”– Water Conservation for Climate Action”	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation SDG13: Climate Action SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
<b>Workshop</b>		
<b>Workshop</b>	Workshop on “SDG 1 – 17”	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals
<b>Roundtable Discussion</b>		
<b>Round Table Discussion 1</b>	Roundtable Discussion on “Gender Equality and Minority Rights”	SDG 5: Gender Equality
<b>Round Table Discussion 2</b>	Roundtable Discussion on “SDGs 1 No Poverty”	SDG1: No Poverty
<b>Webinars</b>		
<b>Webinar 1</b>	Webinar on “Maritime Security and Regional Stability: UN 2030 Agenda”	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
<b>Webinar 2</b>	Webinar on “Deep Sea Mining Promise or Peril for our Oceans Future”	SDG 14: Life Below Water

<b>Webinar 3</b>	Webinar on “International Day of Women in Maritime”	SDG 5: Gender Equality
<b>Webinar 4</b>	Webinar on “Mangroves: Guardians of the Coastline”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Webinar 5</b>	Webinar on “Protecting Our Waters, Preserving Our Freedom: Maritime Sustainability for an Independent Pakistan”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Webinar 6</b>	Webinar on “Sustainable Seas: Climate, Fisheries, and Halal Standards”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Webinar 7</b>	Webinar on “Sharks and the Blue Economy: Balancing Maritime Tourism, Conservation, and Sustainability”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>Webinar 8</b>	Webinar on “The Unstoppable Deluge: Floods, Cloudbursts, and Climate Extremes in Pakistan”	SDG 13: Climate Action
<b>Webinar 9</b>	Webinar on “SDGs 14 (Life Below Water) and Safeguarding Freshwater Resources and Marine Ecosystems”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>National Conferences</b>		
<b>National Conference 1</b>	National Conference on “Decade of Ocean Future Vision and Passed Reflection”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>National Conference 2</b>	National Conference on “Pakistan’s Maritime Strategy in the Changing Geopolitical Dynamics of the Indian Ocean”	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
<b>National Conference 3</b>	National Conference on “The Hong Kong Convention: Transforming Ship Recycling for a Safer Environment”	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
<b>National Conference 4</b>	National Conference on “Water and Ocean Governance: Bridging the Blue Economy and Sustainable Water”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>International Conferences</b>		
<b>International Conference 1</b>	International Conference on “Sustainable Ocean for All Harnessing the Benefits of Ocean for Pakistan Economy”	SDG 14: Life Below Water
<b>International Conference 2</b>	International Conference on “Sea of Opportunity: Enhancing Maritime Transportation and Global Connectivity”	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
<b>International Conference 3</b>	International Conference on “Navigating Legal Waters: Upholding Maritime Law and Governance”	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions
<b>International Conference 4</b>	International Conference on “Water for the Future; Navigating the Green and Blue through sustainable water conservation”	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

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## Appendix: SDGs Targets

SDGs	Targets
SDG 1: No Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, currently measured as people living on less than \$1.25 a day.</li> <li>○ 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.</li> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul>
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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.</li> <li>○ 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.</li> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul>
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.</li> <li>○ By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births.</li> <li>○ By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births.</li> </ul>
SDG 4: Quality Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.</li> <li>○ By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.</li> <li>○ By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.</li> </ul>
SDG 5: Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.</li> <li>○ Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.</li> <li>○ Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women</li> </ul>
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.</li> <li>○ Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.</li> <li>○ By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity.</li> </ul>
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ By 2030, enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology.</li> <li>○ By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency.</li> </ul>
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries.</li> <li>○ By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.</li> <li>○ Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavor to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production, with developed countries taking the lead.</li> </ul>
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020.</li> <li>○ Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.</li> <li>○ Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets.</li> </ul>
SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions in order to deliver more effective, credible, accountable and legitimate institutions.</li> <li>○ Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes.</li> <li>○ By 2030, reduce to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5 per cent.</li> </ul>
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.</li> <li>○ By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.</li> <li>○ By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations.</li> </ul>
SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries.</li> <li>○ By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.</li> <li>○ Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities.</li> </ul>

SDG 13: Climate Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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 &amp;nbsp;</li> <li>○ Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.</li> <li>○ Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.</li> </ul>
SDG 14: Life Below Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.</li> <li>○ By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation.</li> <li>○ By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information.</li> </ul>
SDG 15: Life on Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements.</li> <li>○ By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.</li> <li>○ By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.</li> </ul>
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.</li> <li>○ Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms.</li> <li>○ Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.</li> </ul>
SDG 17: Partnerships For the Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection.</li> <li>○ Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries.</li> <li>○ Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020.</li> </ul>

***Source: United Nations: Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Sustainable Development***



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