

FAQs

Global Sustainable Development Report, 2022

Q. Why is this in News?

A. Recently, the global Sustainable Development Report, 2022 was released.

- India was ranked **121 out of the 163 countries**. It was ranked 117 in 2020 and 120 in 2021.
- Earlier, in February 2022, the Prime Minister addressed the **The Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI) World Sustainable Development Summit**.

Q. What is a Sustainable Development Report?

A.

▪ About:

- It is a **global assessment of countries' progress** towards achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals**.
- It is published by a group of independent experts at the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)**.
 - SDSN was launched in 2012 to **mobilize global scientific and technological expertise** to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
 - Following their adoption, **SDSN is now committed to supporting the implementation of the SDGs** at national and international levels.

▪ Ranking:

- Countries are ranked by **their overall score**.
- The overall score measures the total progress towards achieving all **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)**
- The score can be interpreted as a **percentage of SDG achievement**.
- A score of 100 indicates that all SDGs have been achieved.

▪ Performance of the Countries:

- The 2022 SDG Index is **topped by Finland, followed by three Nordic countries –Denmark, Sweden and Norway**.
- East and South Asia is the region that progressed most on the SDGs since their adoption in 2015.
- Bangladesh and Cambodia are the two countries that progressed most on the SDGs since 2015.
- By contrast Venezuela has declined the most on the SDG Index since their adoption in 2015.

FAQs

Q. What are the key Highlights of the Report?

A.

▪ About World:

- Multiple and simultaneous health, climate, biodiversity, geopolitical and military crises are major setbacks for sustainable development globally.
- The SDG Index world average has **slightly decreased in 2021 for the second year in a row**, largely due to the impact of the pandemic on SDG1 (No Poverty) and SDG8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and poor performance on SDG11-15 (climate, biodiversity, and sustainable urban development goals).
- Besides their **massive humanitarian costs, military conflicts – including the war in Ukraine** – have major international spill overs on food security and energy prices, which are amplified by the climate and biodiversity crises.

▪ About India:

- **India's Preparedness Worsened:**
 - India is **not placed well to achieve the United Nations-mandated Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)** and its preparedness has worsened over the years in comparison with other countries.
- **Major Challenges:**
 - The country **continues to face major challenges in achieving 11 of the 17 SDGs**, which has pushed down its global ranking on SDG preparedness.
 - **Ensuring decent work (SDG 8)** has become more challenging.
 - According to the report, India is on track to achieving SDG 13 on climate action.
 - However, **The State of India's Environment, 2022** flagged that the country was facing major challenges in this area.
 - India's performance on climate action — (SDG) 13 — **has slipped from 2019-2020.**
 - This decline in India's overall performance is primarily due to eight states — Bihar, Telangana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Jharkhand — whose scores have dipped under SDG 13 in the two years.
- **Progress Made:**
 - The progress in around 10 of these goals is similar to those in 2021.
 - These include SDG 2 on ending hunger, SDG 3 on good health and well-being and SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation.

FAQs

Q. What are the Recommendations?

A.

- **New partnerships and innovations should be Scaled-up:**
 - New partnerships and innovations that emerged during the **Covid-19 pandemic**, including in scientific cooperation and data, should be scaled-up to support the SDGs.
- **Science and Technological Innovations:**
 - **Science, technological innovations, and data systems can help identify solutions** in times of crises and can provide decisive contributions to address the major challenges of our times.
 - These call for **increased and prolonged investments in statistical capacities**, Research & Development and education and skills.
- **Increasing Investment:**
 - Achieving the SDGs is **fundamentally an investment agenda** in physical infrastructure (including **renewable energy**, digital technologies) and human capital (including health, education).
 - Yet the **poorest half of the world lacks market access to capital** on acceptable terms.
 - Poor and vulnerable countries have been hit hard by the multiple crises and their spill overs.

Q. What are Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)?

A.

- The **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** also known as the Global Goals, were **adopted by the United Nations in 2015** as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.
- The 17 SDGs are integrated—they recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability.
- Countries have committed to prioritize progress for those who're furthest behind. The SDGs are designed to end poverty, hunger, **Acquired ImmunoDeficiency Syndrome (AIDS)** and discrimination against women and girls.