

Case study for *Road Map on statistics for SDGs 2.0*

EU: Development of an SDG regional indicator set

Description	<p>The REGIONS2030 project, developed by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) with the support of the European Parliament, aims to enhance the regional monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the European Union. Building on previous initiatives on local SDG monitoring, and the EU SDG indicator set established by Eurostat, REGIONS2030 addresses the need for a more comprehensive and localized framework to track sustainable development progress in the regional level in Europe. The project engaged 10 European regions to fill existing data gaps and refine the methodologies for regional SDG monitoring by developing a tailored indicator set. This set is intended to align with both regional priorities and broader EU sustainability goals, ensuring that regions have access to the tools they need to effectively measure and track progress toward the 2030 Agenda.</p>
Advantages	<p>By developing a set of tailored indicators, the project enabled European regions to track their specific progress towards the SDGs, ensuring data-driven decision-making. The collaborative approach, involving input from both the JRC, DG REGIO and EUROSTAT, fostered localized solutions that align with regional priorities while remaining consistent with broader European and global frameworks. Additionally, the project provided a flexible model that other European regions can adopt, enhancing regional capacity to monitor, assess, and achieve sustainability targets. Ultimately, the project supports the EU's sustainability agenda by creating a coherent and adaptable framework for long-term regional development.</p>
Challenges	<p>The main challenges to achieving the SDGs at the regional level include the complex interconnectedness of the goals, which often requires simultaneous progress on multiple fronts, making coordination difficult. Data availability and quality present another challenge, as regions face issues with inconsistent or outdated data, often due to limited statistical capacity at the regional level. Furthermore, Europe's regional diversity complicates the standardization of approaches, with administrative differences and varying degrees of decentralization hindering effective SDG implementation. Finally, interpreting the data to track SDG progress is challenging due to regional variations and difficulties in establishing benchmarks and communicating results effectively.</p>
Future steps	<p>The REGIONS2030 project and findings will be continued in the form of a European Parliament funded preparatory action with the participation of European regions. Building on the experiences and findings of REGIONS2030, the core objectives of the preparatory action (2030 CATALYSTS) are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expand the currently established regional SDG indicators and discuss/validate the expanded set with relevant stakeholders and local authorities• Analyse complementarities and interlinkages between SDG indicators and policies with particular attention to the regional level

**More
information**

- Inform EU, national and regional policy making developing relevant policy recommendations

Website of final report:

<https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC135594>

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Individual reports for regions participating in the project, and their monitoring practices, indicators and data:

- Pop, D., Monitoring the SDGs in North-West Romania region, Romania, Stamos, I. editor(s), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2023, doi:10.2760/457691, JRC134400
- Koutsomarkos, N., Monitoring the SDGs in Western Macedonia region, Greece, Stamos, I. editor(s), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2023, doi:10.2760/570811, JRC134405
- Quintanilla Cabañero, A., Monitoring the SDGs in Andalusia region, Spain, Stamos, I. and Vega Rapun, M. editor(s), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2023, doi:10.2760/1223, JRC134397
- Abreu, J., Monitoring the SDGs in Centro region, Portugal, Stamos, I. editor(s), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2023, doi:10.2760/34277, JRC134393
- Osés-Eraso, N., Monitoring the SDGs in Navarre region, Spain, Stamos, I. and Vega Rapun, M. editor(s), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2023, doi:10.2760/446514, JRC134398
- Lella, L., Monitoring the SDGs in Piedmont region, Italy, Stamos, I. editor(s), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2023, doi:10.2760/595669, JRC134399
- Mrozowska, S., Monitoring the SDGs in Pomorskie region, Poland, Stamos, I. and Vega Rapun, M. editor(s), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2023, doi:10.2760/137116, JRC134402
- Armenise, M., Monitoring the SDGs in Puglia region, Italy, Stamos, I. and Vega Rapun, M. editor(s), Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2023, doi:10.2760/611303, JRC134403.