Insights for Turkmenistan's 2019 Voluntary National Review

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Having formally adopted 17 SDGs, 148 targets and 187 indicators to be implemented until 2030, the Government of Turkmenistan (GoT) is committed to advancing the 2030 Agenda and is currently working on integration of SDG targets and indicators into national programmes and plans of actions, as well as on design of an SDG monitoring system with technical assistance from UN.

Out of 187 indicators adopted by the GoT, 113 are global indicators adopted without adjustments, 45 are global indicators adopted with adjustment and 29 are nationally defined indicators (Figure 1).

Turkmenistan will provide its first voluntary national report to the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2019. This short document was extracted from the *Baseline Assessment for Child-related SDG indicators in Turkmenistan* to support and inform the report development, focusing on six goals that will be the theme of the 2019 report.

The assessment was developed by UNICEF in close consultation with the State Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan as the first endeavour to look into availability, recentness and disaggregation of data to serve as baselines for SDG indicators, focusing primarily on child-related indicators. This sub-group includes 55 indicators accounting for 29 per cent of all indicators adopted by Turkmenistan.

Six goals are tracked by 65 indicators, of which 25 are child-related (Figure 2). It is exactly child-related indicators that the remainder of the document will focus on.
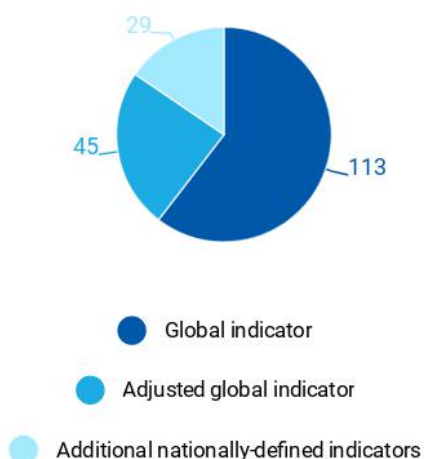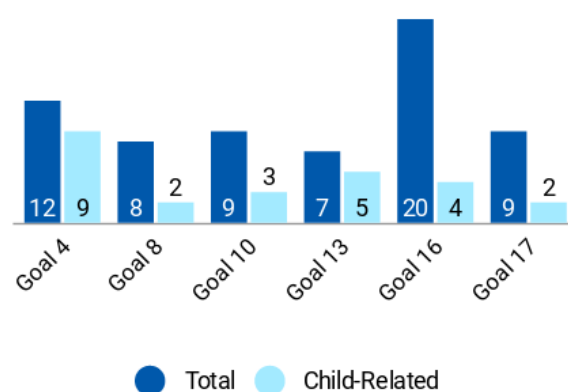
Figure 1. Indicators adopted by Turkmenistan

Figure 2. Indicators adopted by Turkmenistan for six goals and their relevance to children

- Global indicator
- Adjusted global indicator
- Additional nationally-defined indicators

	Goal 4	Goal 8	Goal 10	Goal 13	Goal 16	Goal 17
Total	12	8	9	7	20	9
Child-Related	9	2	3	5	4	2

Total Child-Related

#EVERYCHILD

GOAL 04 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Achieving inclusive and quality education for all reaffirms the belief that education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development. This goal ensures that all girls and boys have access to quality early learning, care, pre-school and pre-primary education, and complete free primary and secondary schooling by 2030. It also aims to provide equal access to affordable vocational training, to eliminate gender and wealth disparities, and achieve universal access to quality higher education.

Indicators	Availability of data	Disaggregation of available data
4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people: (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving, at least, a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics.	✘	✘
4.2.1 Percentage of children aged 3 to 4 who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being.	✔	✔
4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age)	✔	✔
4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated	*Limited*	*Limited*
4.6.1 Percentage of population in a given age group achieving, at least, a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills.	*Limited*	*Limited*
4.7.1 Percentage of 15-year old students enrolled in secondary school demonstrating, at least, a fixed level of knowledge across a selection of topics in environmental science and geoscience.	✘	✘
4.a.1 Proportion of schools with access to: (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)	✘	✘
4.a.1.a Proportion of schools meeting international quality and inclusive education standards	✔	✘
4.c.1 Percentage of teachers in (i) pre-primary (ii) primary (iii) secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level	✘	✘

TARGET 4.2 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

Only 19% of children aged 3 to 4 are developmentally on track in literacy-numeracy (**Indicator 4.2.1**)

91% of children aged 3 to 4 are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being (**Indicator 4.2.1**)

*Figure 3. Participation rate in organised learning by wealth quintile (**Indicator 4.2.2**)*
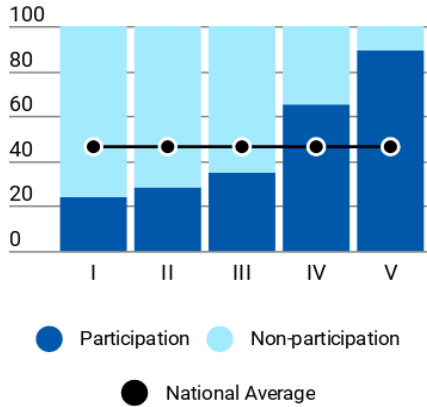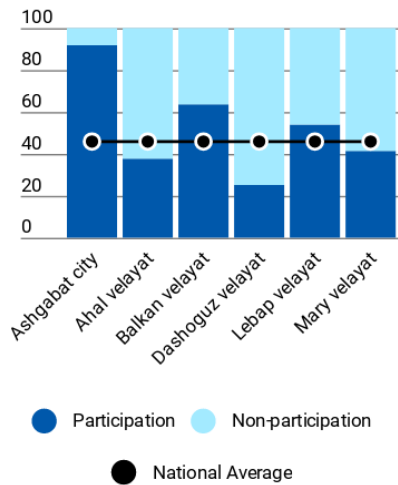

- Participation
- Non-participation
- National Average

*Figure 4. Participation rate in organised learning by region (**Indicator 4.2.2**)*

- Participation
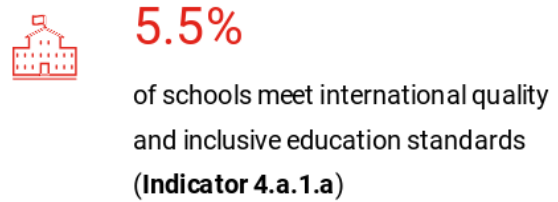- Non-participation
- National Average

TARGET 4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

0.95 Gender parity index for the last 2 years of schooling (**Indicator 4.5.1**)

0.98 Gender parity index in organized learning (**Indicator 4.5.1**)

TARGET 4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.

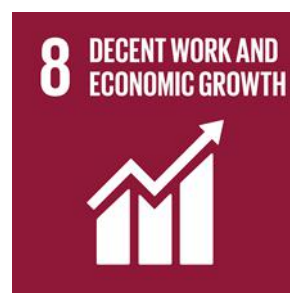99.6% of women aged 15-24 are literate (**Indicator 4.6.1**)

TARGET 4.A Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

5.5% of schools meet international quality and inclusive education standards (**Indicator 4.a.1.a**)

GOAL 08 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

The SDGs promote sustained economic growth, higher levels of productivity and technological innovation. Encouraging entrepreneurship and job creation are key to this, as are effective measures to eradicate forced labour, slavery and human trafficking. With these targets in mind, the goal 8 is to achieve full and productive employment, and decent work, for all women and men by 2030.

Indicators	Availability of data	Disaggregation of available data
8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-29 years) not in education, employment or training	✘	✘
8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour	✔	✔

TARGET 8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms

0.3% of children aged 5-17 years are engaged in child labour (**Indicator 8.7.1**)

GOAL 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries

Income inequality is a global problem that requires global solutions. This involves improving the regulation and monitoring of financial markets and institutions, encouraging development assistance and foreign direct investment to regions where the need is greatest. Facilitating the safe migration and mobility of people is also key to bridging the widening divide.

Indicators	Availability of data	Disaggregation of available data
10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population	✘	✘
10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income	✘	✘
10.3.1 Number of appeals/ complaints from citizens per 100,000 people	✘	✘

Although data on three child-related indicators under Goal 10 are not available, there are surveys on household income/consumption and, therefore, Indicators 10.1.1 and 10.2.1 can be relatively easily calculated when the reporting begins.

For Indicator 10.3.1, Ombudsman's report can be used. First such report was prepared in 2017, stating 439 complaints for three quarters in 2017 with 254 being in a written form.

GOAL 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Helping more vulnerable regions, such as land locked countries and island states, adapt to climate change must go hand in hand with efforts to integrate disaster risk measures into national strategies. It is still possible, with the political will and a wide array of technological measures, to limit the increase in global mean temperature to two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. This requires urgent collective action.

Indicators	Availability of data	Disaggregation of available data
13.1.1 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies	✓	⊘
13.1.1.a Number of strategies and plans reflecting issues of disaster risk reduction (DRR)	✗	⊘
13.1.2 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	✗	✗
13.3.1 Number of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into primary, secondary and tertiary curricula and study programmes	✓	⊘
13.3.1.a Number of educational institutions that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into study programmes	✓	✗

TARGET 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Draft national strategy exists
(**Indicator 13.1.1**)

TARGET 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

DRR integrated into school curriculum
(**Indicator 13.3.1**)

1852

Educational institutions have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into study programmes (**Indicator 13.3.1.a**)

GOAL **16** **Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**

Without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance, based on the rule of law - sustainable development is not realistic. The SDGs aim to significantly reduce all forms of violence, and work with governments and communities to find lasting solutions to conflict and insecurity. Strengthening the rule of law and promoting human rights is key to this process, as is reducing the flow of illicit arms and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.

Indicators	Availability of data	Disaggregation of available data
16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population	✓	✗
16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month	✓	✗
16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18	✗	✗
16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	✓	✓

TARGET 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

4

victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population (**Indicator 16.1.1**)

TARGET 16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

37%

of children aged 1-17 years experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month (**Indicator 16.2.2**)

Data on experiences of sexual violence are not available in Turkmenistan (**Indicator 16.2.3**).

TARGET 16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration

99.6%

of children under 5 years of age have their births registered with a civil authority (**Indicator 16.9.1**)

GOAL 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Coordinating policies to help developing countries manage their debt, as well as promoting investment for the least developed, is vital to achieve sustainable growth and development. The goal 17 aims to enhance North-South and South-South cooperation by supporting national plans to achieve all the targets. Promoting international trade, and helping developing countries increase their exports, is all part of achieving a universal rules-based and equitable trading system that is fair and open, and benefits all.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Indicators	Availability of data	Disaggregation of available data
17.18.1 Proportion of child-related SDG indicators adopted by Turkmenistan, for which a baseline is available, including proxies	*Limited*	⊘
17.18.2 Build capacity in order to increase the availability of high-quality, relevant and reliable data	✓	⊘

TARGET 17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data

73%

Proportion of child-related SDG indicators adopted by Turkmenistan, for which a baseline is available, including proxies **(Indicator 17.18.1)**

Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys are to be conducted in Turkmenistan in 2019 **(Indicator 17.18.2)**

Sectoral management information systems in health and education are being developed or initial discussions started **(Indicator 17.18.2)**

Overview of Data Availability

Out of 25 child-related indicators of the six goals, there are only 11 indicators for which data are available, including proxies, while data are limited for 3 other indicators and not available at all for the remaining 11 indicators (Figure 5). Data are scarce at the disaggregated level as well with only one third of indicators having at least limited disaggregation available (Figure 6).

Figure 5. Data availability for child-related indicators to track the six goals
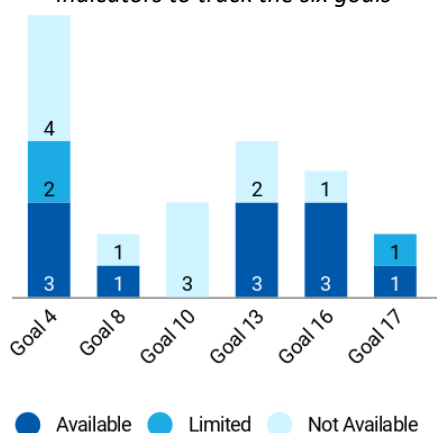

Figure 6. Disaggregated data availability for child-related indicators to track the six goals