**Estimating the SDG Financing Gaps in Turkmenistan**

**In April 2024, the Steering Committee of the UN Cooperation Framework for 2021-2025 endorsed conducting the SDG gaps analysis jointly by UN country team in Turkmenistan, the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan and the Statistics Committee of Turkmenistan.** The aim of the SDG gaps analysis was setting the national targets where absent, identify key areas of acceleration and risks, assess the financing gaps in meeting [National Commitments to SDG Transformation in Turkmenistan](https://sdgs.un.org/national-commitments-sdg-transformation/22302), announced at the SDG Summit in 2023[[1]](#footnote-1) in alignment with the national priorities of socio-economic development.

The SDG gaps analysis resulted with estimates[[2]](#footnote-2) that Turkmenistan would require **46.1 billion manats (USD 13 billion)** in additional government funding during 2026–2030 to achieve its **national SDG transition targets**. This translates to **2.8% of GDP annually** during 2026–2030. To meet **globally set SDG targets**, the financing gap increases to **5.5% of GDP annually**.

*SDG financing gaps in 2026-2030 to reach targets for national commitments to SDG transitions*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *SDG transition* | *National level targets* | | *Global level targets* | |
| *Financing gap, million manats* | *% of GDP on average per year* | *Financing gap, million manats* | *% of GDP on average per year* |
| Jobs and social protection | 6 119 | 0.37 | 13 087 | 0.79 |
| Food security and water management | 5 431 | 0.33 | 9 921 | 0.60 |
| Education | 3 507 | 0.21 | 4 039 | 0.25 |
| Green energy transition | 5 579 | 0.34 | 14 699 | 0.89 |
| Digital connectivity | 6 275 | 0.38 | 10 817 | 0.66 |
| Climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution | 8 657 | 0.53 | 9 473 | 0.58 |
| Universal health coverage | 7 935 | 0.48 | 24 397 | 1.48 |
| Peace and security | 2 640 | 0.16 | 4 126 | 0.25 |
| **Total** | **46 143** | **2.8** | **90 559** | **5.5** |

*Source: Expert assessment of UN consultants and UNCT in Turkmenistan as part of the* [*2024 Common Country Analysis*](https://turkmenistan.un.org/en/289766-common-country-analysis-2024-update)

**Summary of Findings:**

1. **Breakdown by Development Dimensions**:
   * **Social Dimension**: 1.23% of GDP annually (44% of total financing gap).
   * **Economic Dimension**: 1.05% of GDP annually (37% of total gap).
   * **Environmental Dimension**: 0.53% of GDP annually (19% of total gap).
2. **Per Capita Costs**:  
   The estimated additional cost of achieving national SDG targets is **USD 373 per person annually**, while achieving global targets would require additional **USD 733 per person annually** during 2026–2030.
3. **Risks and Challenges**:
   * The financing gap could increase to **8% of GDP annually** if economic growth slows due to reduced hydrocarbon revenues and economic imbalances.
   * Limited data availability and public spending transparency hinder more comprehensive assessments of financing needs.
4. **Key Recommendations**:
   * **Conduct joint policy dialogues (**[**Hard Talks**](https://www.mfa.gov.tm/en/news/4355)**)** developing actionable recommendations for advancing Turkmenistan’s SDG transitions.
   * Improve **social safety nets** and **environment protection frameworks**.
   * Strengthen **industrial and innovation policies** designing government measures to restructure and diversify the economy.
   * Implement **Public Financial Management (PFM) reforms** to consolidate financial resources.
   * Develop and implement an **Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF)** to mobilize and align resources for SDG financing.
   * Explore innovative financing mechanisms, such as **green bonds**, **blended finance tools**, **pooled funding** and **public-private partnerships (PPPs)**.

The UN emphasizes that addressing the SDG financing gaps is critical for Turkmenistan to achieve its National Commitments to SDG Transformation and sustain progress toward the 2030 Agenda.

**Reference**

UN Common Country Analysis, 2024, see <https://turkmenistan.un.org/en/289766-common-country-analysis-2024-update>

1. SDG Summit 2023, see [sdgs.un.org/national-commitments-sdg-transformation/22302](https://sdgs.un.org/national-commitments-sdg-transformation/22302) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The report was discussed with the Government at a dedicated side event at the Turkmenistan Investment Forum (September 2024) <https://turkmenistan.un.org/en/282893-un-agencies-host-side-event-integrated-national-financing-frameworks-financing-sustainable>, and at UNSDCF Steering Committee meeting in December 2024. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)