



The European Commission and the SDGs



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European Commission (DG INTPA)
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Political Guidelines of Commission President Ursula von der Leyen ('VdL')

POLITICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE NEXT EUROPEAN COMMISSION 2019-2024

I will refocus the European Semester into an instrument that integrates the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



Mission Letters



Each Commissioner will ensure the delivery of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals** within their policy area. The College as a whole will be responsible for the overall implementation of the Goals.

- You will ensure Europe's external financial assistance promotes the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the **Sustainable Development Goals** within it.



The European Green Deal



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European Green Deal Communication

- “The **Green Deal** is an **integral part of this Commission’s strategy to implement** the United Nation’s 2030 Agenda and the **sustainable development goals**, and the other priorities announced in President von der Leyen’s political guidelines”.
- “As part of the Green Deal, the Commission will **refocus the European Semester** process of macroeconomic coordination **to integrate the United Nations’ sustainable development goals**, to put sustainability and the well-being of citizens at the centre of economic policy, and **the sustainable development goals at the heart of the EU’s policymaking and action**”.



The European Semester cycle and Eurostat annual reports on SDGs



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European Semester and the SDGs

- Starting from 2010, European Semester is annual integrated **surveillance cycle** for the coordination of **Member States'** economic, employment and social policies, and to address imbalances and other challenges. Has also increasingly covered environmental issues.
- VdL Commission from November 2019 put the **SDGs** at the heart of EU's policy making. Semester process adapted accordingly to explicitly integrate the SDGs.
- **Eurostat's** Annual Monitoring Report on Progress towards the **SDGs** will be used to inform the work of the European Semester.



Eurostat annual reports on SDGs





Commission Work Programmes under VdL (2020 and 2021)



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An Union that strives for more - and SDGs

“Our **compass** will be the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In this spirit, we will put the United Nations **Sustainable Development Goals at the heart of our policymaking**.

They will **guide our work** across all sectors, both in our **internal and external action**, and will show our commitment to sustainable development at home **and abroad**.

As part of this, we will refocus the European Semester by integrating the Sustainable Development Goals and **put forward our approach to the overall governance and implementation of the goals**”

The Commission Work Programme and its priorities

Commission Work Programme

Narrative on SDG: our compass, at the heart of our policymaking, guide our work across all sectors



Headline ambitions of the Commission: political priorities

A European Green Deal

A Europe fit for the digital age

An economy that works for people

A stronger Europe in the world

Promoting our European way of life

A new push for European democracy



“Delivering on the UN’s SDGs – A comprehensive approach” – Commission SWD(2020) 400



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“Delivering on the UN’s SDGs – A comprehensive approach” – Commission 2020

- It highlights how the headline ambitions of the Commission contribute to the SDGs in a concrete manner.



An example of how a leading COM/VdL priority contributes across the SDGs

European Green Deal

“The Green Deal is an integral part of this Commission’s strategy to implement the UN 2030 Agenda and the SDGs”

CLIMATE ACTION

- European Climate Law (Q1,2020)
- European Climate Pact (Q3,2020)
- The 2030 Climate Target Plan (Q3,2020)
- New EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (Q4,2020)
- New EU Forest Strategy (Q4,2020)

CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION

- Circular Economy Action Plan (Q1,2020)
- Consumer empowerment for the green transition (Q4,2020)
- Farm to Fork Strategy (Q1,2020)

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

- EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (Q1,2020)
- 8th Environmental Action Programme (Q2,2020)
- Chemicals strategy for sustainability (Q3,2020)

ENERGY & MOBILITY

- Strategy for smart sector integration (Q2,2020)
- Renovation wave (Q3,2020)
- Offshore renewable energy (Q4,2020)
- Strategy for sustainable and smart mobility (Q4,2020)

FINANCING

- European Green Deal Investment Plan (Q1,2020)
- Just Transition Fund (Q1,2020)
- Renewed Sustainable Finance Strategy (Q3,2020)



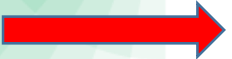
European Commission

Delivering on the UN's SDGs – A comprehensive approach” – Commission 2020

- In the Commission, implementation of the SDGs is being taken forward holistically, through internal and external actions, focusing on delivering concrete actions that will bring tangible progress in a range of areas.
- The Commission seeks **policy coherence for sustainable development**. This includes promoting a **whole-of-government** approach – and ensuring political oversight and coordination efforts and at all levels, from global to local, for SDG implementation, taking into account the **interlinkages** between the SDGs.



Delivering on the UN's SDGs – A comprehensive approach” – Commission 2020

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- Through its **external action**, the document underlines the Commission's commitment to contributing to the implementation of the SDGs globally.
 - Externally, the Commission's **reporting** tools allow to report each project and programme against several SDGs (including the principal SDG and other relevant interlinked SDGs).
 - With regard to the **COVID-19 pandemic**, the Commission highlights the importance of the SDGs providing us with an opportunity to build back better together. The EU will act together with its MS, plus European development banks, as **Team Europe**.
 - The Commission calls for a **global recovery initiative**, linking investment and debt relief to the SDGs. The purpose is to ensure a green, digital, just and resilient recovery which brings countries closer to achieving the SDGs.



Better Regulation 2021: Integrating the SDGs

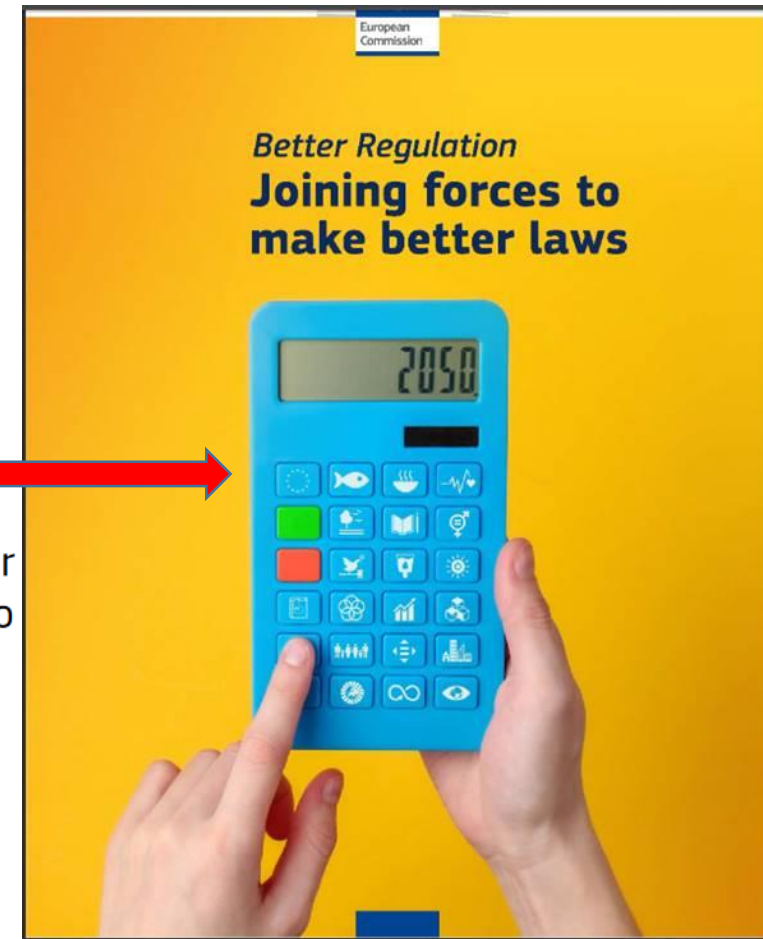


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Communication « Better Regulation: Joining forces to make better laws »

- Communication on Better Laws (29 April 2021)
 - Mainstream the United Nations' sustainable development goals³ (SDGs) to help ensure that every legislative proposal contributes to the 2030 sustainable development agenda; and ensure that the 'do no significant harm' principle is applied across all policies in line with the European Green Deal oath;

To ensure this, we will identify relevant UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) for each proposal and examine how the initiative will support their achievement⁵⁸. Links to the SDGs will be included throughout evaluations and impact assessments.
- New Better Regulation Guidelines (3 November 2021)
- Imminently: revised BR Toolbox, including new tool#19 on SDGs.



New Better Regulation Guidelines (3 November 2011)

- Key concepts and principles
 - A comprehensive approach: covering all relevant economic, social and environmental impacts.
 - A coherent approach: consistency with high-level and long-term policy objectives, by incorporating the SDGs
- Impact assessments
 - The Commission's impact assessment system follows an integrated approach that assesses the environmental, social and economic impacts of a range of policy options thereby mainstreaming sustainability into Union policy-making and the implementation of the SDGs.
 - Key questions: impacts: The analysis will involve identifying relevant SDGs and – if feasible – how the initiative contributes to their implementation.
 - Final IA report must contain: assessment of the impacts on the relevant SDGs.
- Legislative initiatives.
 - The explanatory memorandum will include a summary of the IA process, including: Assessment of the contribution to progress towards relevant SDGs
- Evaluations
 - Expected outcomes: Wherever possible, it should include a reference to the SDGs that the intervention aimed to address



Main activities on the external implementation of the SDGs



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Main aspects of the new Consensus on development



People



Planet



Prosperity



Peace



Partnership

Integrate
systematically the
social, economic and
environmental
dimensions of
sustainable
development



**Address the crucial
nexus
with external policies**

Migration Security




Humanitarian Climate

**Address cross-cutting
elements**


 youth


 gender equality

 mobility and migration

 sustainable energy
and climate change

 investment and trade

 good governance,
democracy, the rule of
law and human rights

 innovative engagement
with advanced
developing countries

 mobilising and using
domestic resources



Implementing the Consensus



Coordinate better between EU institutions and Member States, more joint programming



Focus on results and development effectiveness



Think beyond ODA: domestic resources, private sector investment, sound policies



Ensure Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development



Work with all stakeholders to make a difference



Differentiated better tailored partnerships with a broader range of partner countries



New EU instrument for cooperation 2021-2027

- [Regulation](#) (EU) 2021/947 establishing the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe

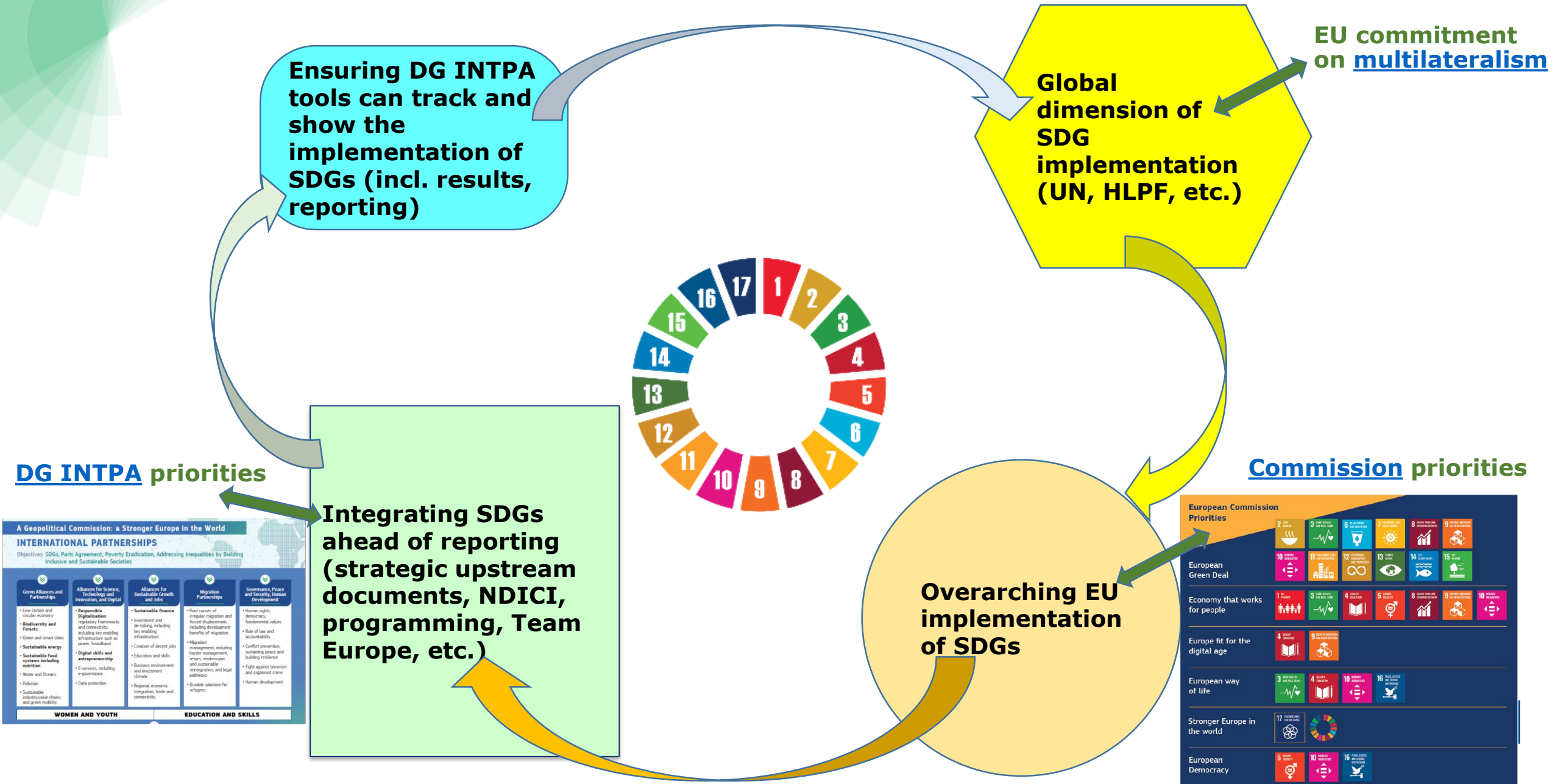
Article 3

Objectives of the Instrument

1. The general objectives of the Instrument are to:
 - (b) contribute to the promotion of multilateralism, the achievement of the international commitments and objectives that the Union has agreed to, in particular the SDGs, the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement;



Main areas of action on SDGs in DG INTPA: the 'SDG clock'



SDG reporting in development cooperation policy

- Consistent with the OECD, the EU system for financial reporting includes a new SDG field. It allows for multiple SDGs, in a qualitative manner, to show interlinkages between SDGs.

SDGs, General policy objectives, Rio Convention and Internal markers

For DEVCO and NEAR (except IPA II domain), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the C (AD) approved by the Quality Review Group (QRG).

Main Sustainable Development Goals

Significant Sustainable Development Goals

General policy objectives

Rio Convention markers

Internal markers

SDG 03: Good Health and Well-being

SDG 06: Clean Water and Sanitation

SDG 01: No Poverty

SDG 02: Zero Hunger

SDG 03: Good Health and Well-being

SDG 04: Quality Education

SDG 05: Gender Equality

SDG 06: Clean Water and Sanitation

SDG 07: Affordable and Clean Energy

SDG 08: Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG 09: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

SDG 10: Reduced Inequality

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

SDG 13: Climate Action

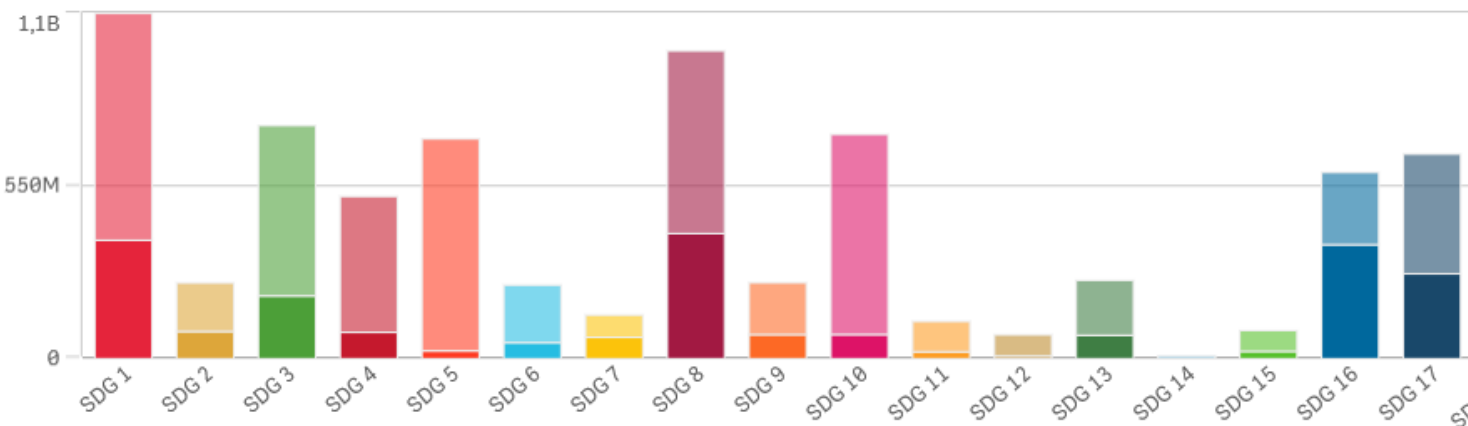
SDG 14: Life Below Water

SDG 15: Life on Land

SDG 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

SDG 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal

SDG focus - Main and Significant SDGs



- The integration of SDGs in the design of our external actions and reporting is now supported by an electronic tool, the **SDG mapper**, developed by the JRC for INTPA based on its KnowSDGs platform. It will now be used across the Commission for Better Regulation purposes. It is open to stakeholders (registered in EU log in).



The SDG Mapper tool

(<https://knowsdgs.jrc.ec.europa.eu/sdgmapper>)


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KnowSDGs

Policy mapping Interlinkages Models for SDGs Footprint calculator SDG Mapper

Home > SDG Mapper > Assessment example of Team Europe Initiatives > Overview

Assessment example of Team Europe Initiatives



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Input Documents

- LatinoAmerica_and_Caribbean_TEI Brazil Framework for Sustainable Investment and Recovery.pdf
- Asia_and_Pacific_TEI Cambodia Build back better - Green energy and industrial value chains.pdf
- Africa_TEI Cabo Verde - To Green Cabo Verde.pdf

DG INTPA EU Political Priorities & SDGs

SDGs Detected

SDG References Tracker

DG INTPA's EU Political Priorities & SDGs represented with a Bubble chart.

Main SDGs Detected:

SDG References Tracker searches for any Agenda 2030 references in the text.

Report

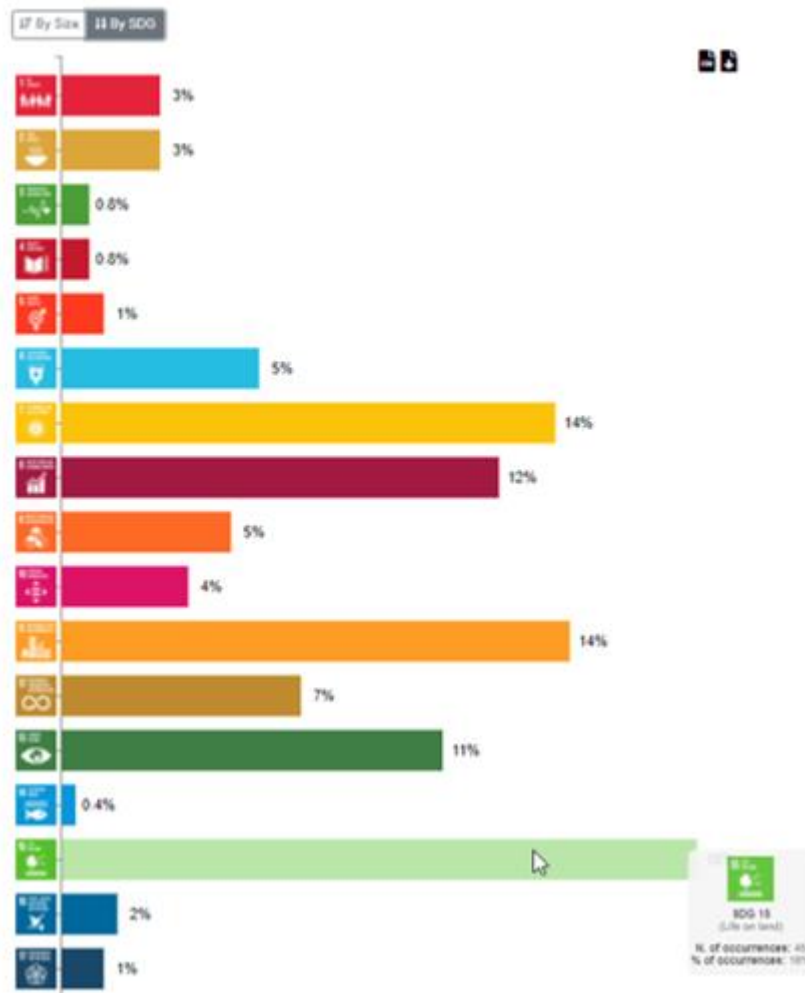
Download Raw Results

Generated report page with option to download report in PDF.

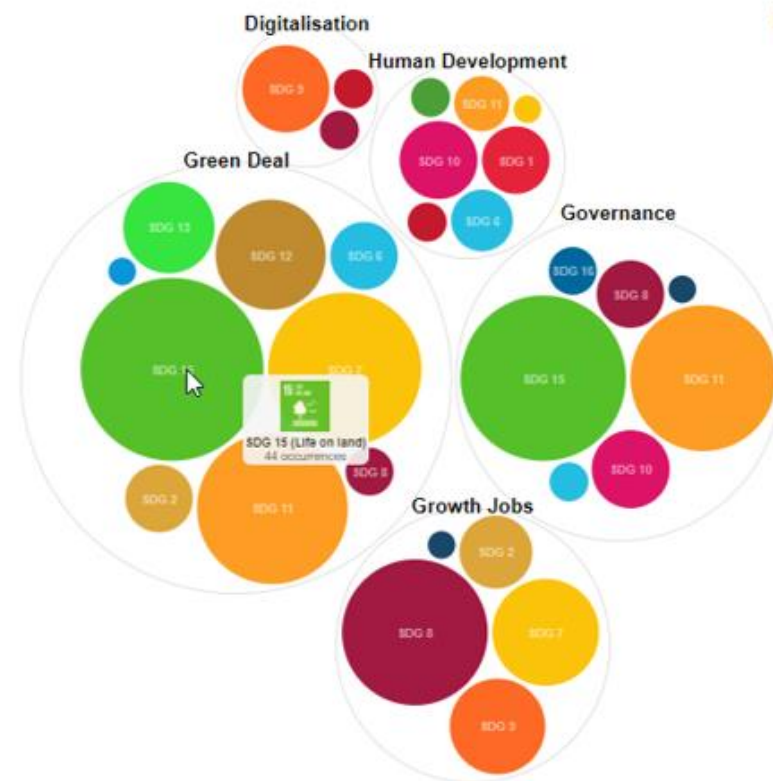
Download zip file with all results in excel spreadsheets.

SDGs Detected

SDG Goals and number of occurrences.



INTPA EU Political Priorities



Thank you for your attention



[Commission \(SG\) https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/international-strategies/sustainable-development-goals_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/international-strategies/sustainable-development-goals_en)

[DG INTPA https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/sustainable-development-goals_en](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/sustainable-development-goals_en)

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[SDG mapperhttps://knowsdgs.jrc.ec.europa.eu/sdgmapper/](https://knowsdgs.jrc.ec.europa.eu/sdgmapper/)

[Eurostat https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi)