



United Nations
Global Compact



EUROPEAN PRIVATE SECTOR

SDG STOCKTAKE 2026

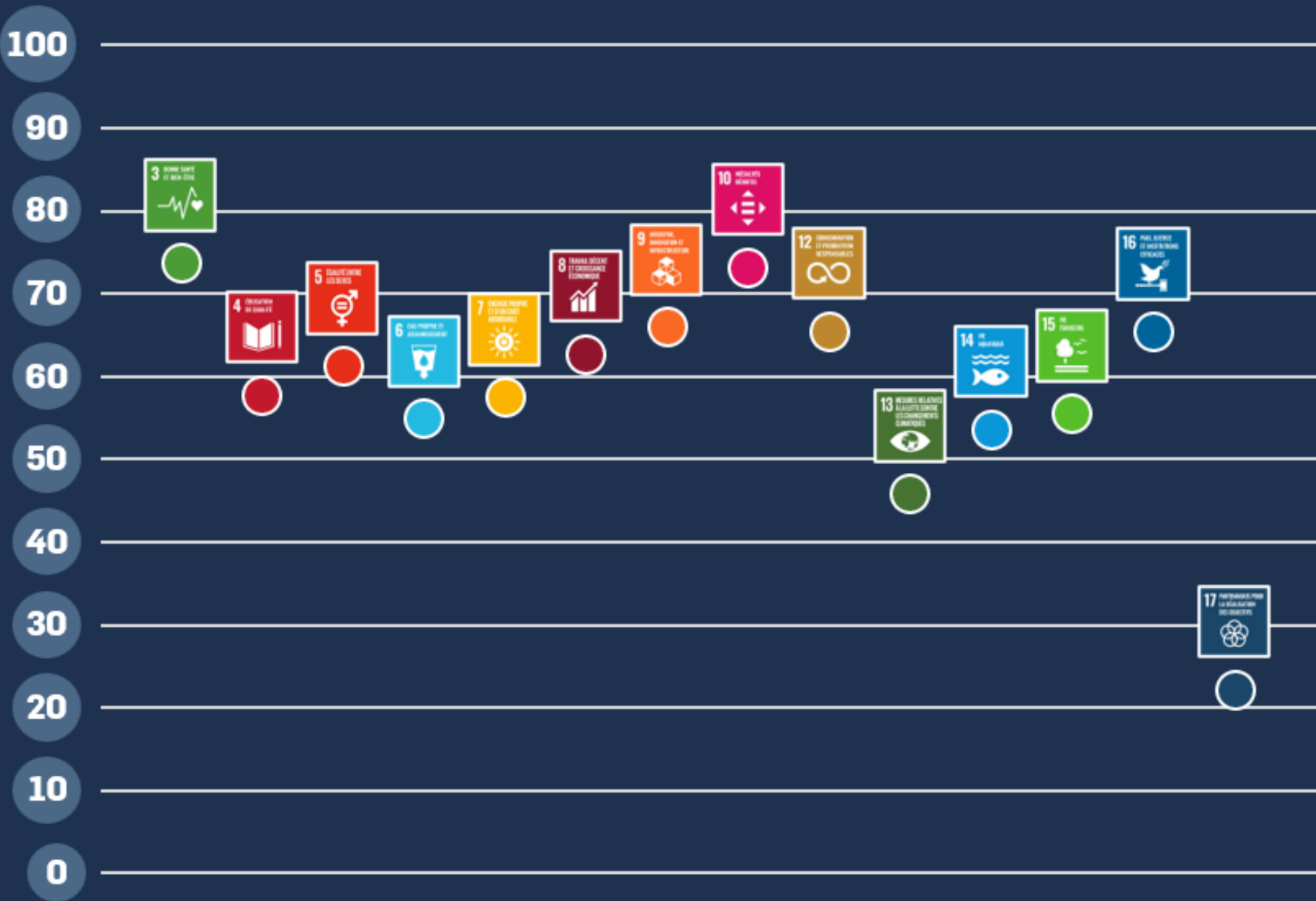
Analyzing the level of contribution of 5,973 companies in 21 countries.



CONTRIBUTION FROM EUROPEAN UNGC COMPANIES ON SDGS IS TANGIBLE, BUT REMAINS UNEVEN.

The calculated overall average SDGs contribution score of all participating European companies reaches 58.2 out of 100.

This score reflects the aggregated indicators for all analyzed SDGs, and all countries within the scope of the study.



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SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being has the highest contribution score (73.6).



Anti-corruption measures are also well established, as demonstrated by the score for SDG 16 (65.3).



The score for SDG 13 – Climate has fallen to 45.8.

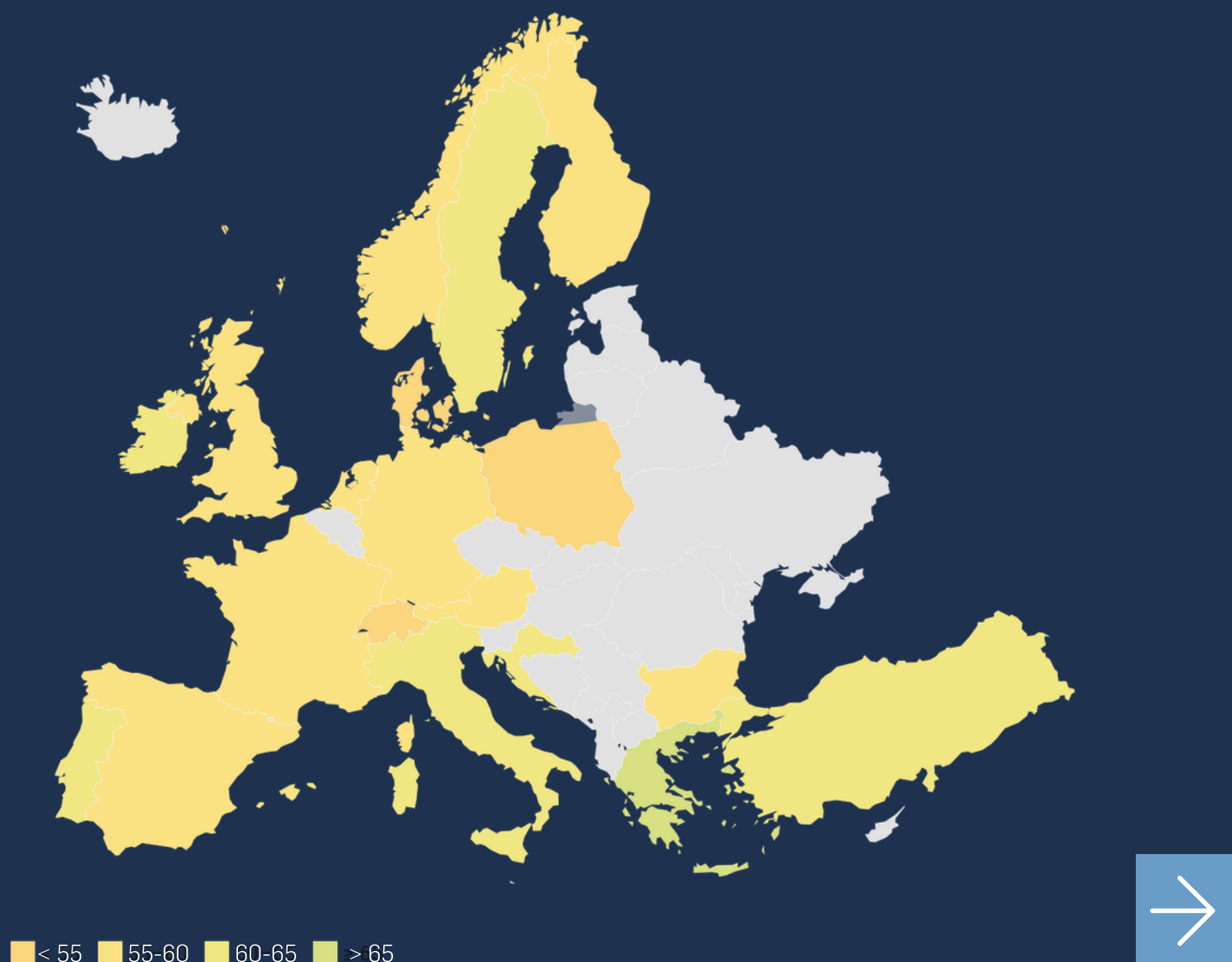


SDG 17 – Partnerships scores the lowest (22.1), indicating that businesses still have little incentive to engage in multi-stakeholder partnerships, particularly public-private ones.



THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN COUNTRIES ARE SMALL, SUGGESTING THAT SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORKS ARE NOW SHARED ACROSS EUROPE, WITH SIMILAR EXPECTATIONS.

The highest overall contribution scores were recorded for companies in Greece (67.3), Turkey (63.9) and Italy (62.8), in contrast to lower scores in Poland and Denmark (51.7) and in Switzerland and Liechtenstein (54.6).



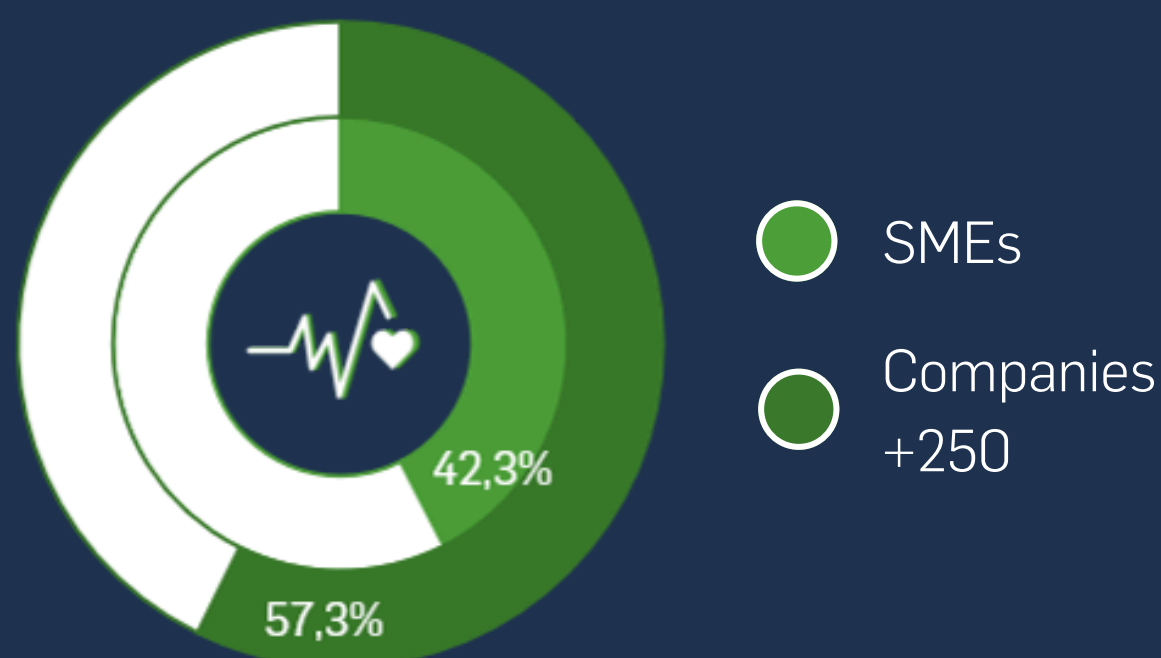
HIGHER SCORES ON SOCIAL ISSUES THAN ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION IS WELL INTEGRATED.

The progress made on social goals can be partly explained by the fact that social regulations were introduced earlier in Europe.

SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being – tops the list, showing that occupational health and safety practices and healthcare provision are now well established.

European industrial companies participating in the Global Compact contribute more to the environmental SDGs than those in the services sector, particularly in relation to climate action and the circular economy.

PERCENTAGE OF COMPANIES WHOSE COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT OFFERS MORE FAVOURABLE HEALTH INSURANCE TERMS THAN THOSE REQUIRED BY LAW



PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS ARE NOT WIDESPREAD AMONG GLOBAL COMPACT COMPANIES

The lower score for SDG 17 reflects not so much a lack of commitment as a characteristic of the goal itself: its achievement relies on structured forms of collaboration that not all businesses are in a position to implement, particularly SMEs.

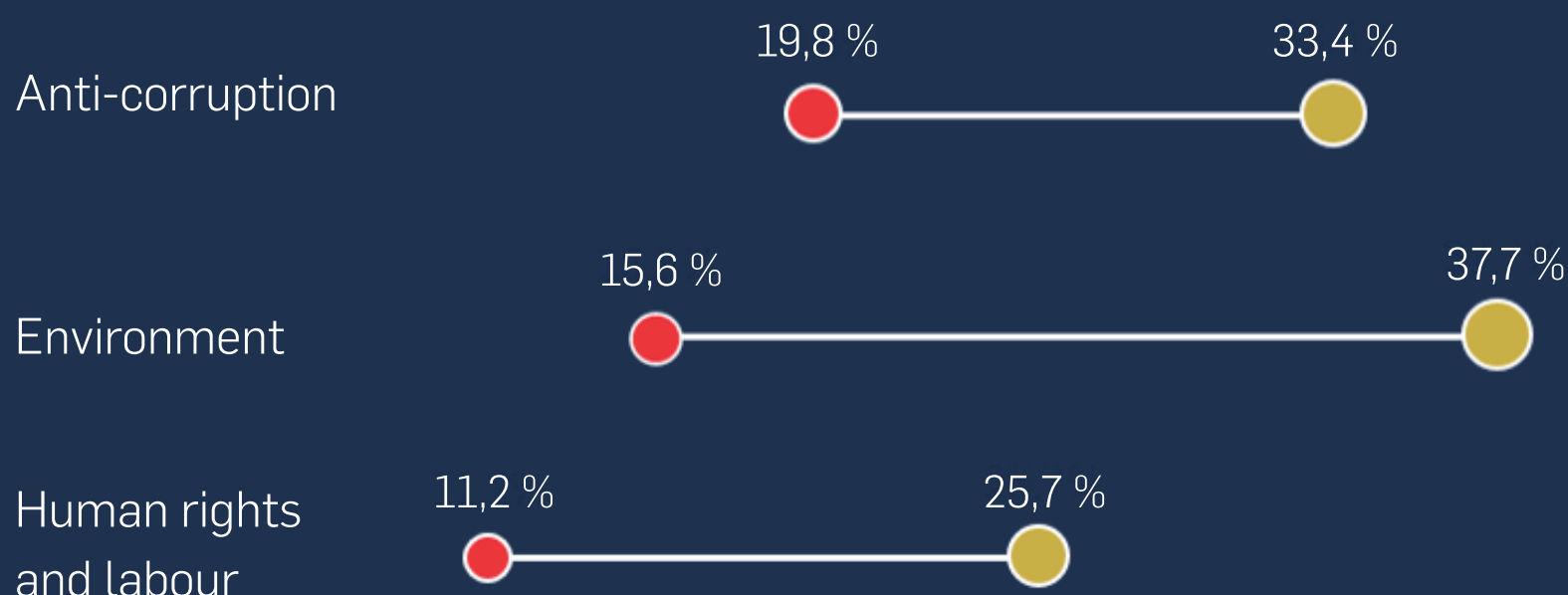
Nevertheless, public-private partnerships remain essential to achieving the SDGs, particularly for mobilising the appropriate level of financial support for robust and sustainable projects.



PERCENTAGE OF COMPANIES THAT HAVE WORKED WITH PUBLIC BODIES OR UNDERTAKEN COLLECTIVE ACTION

● SMEs

● Companies +250

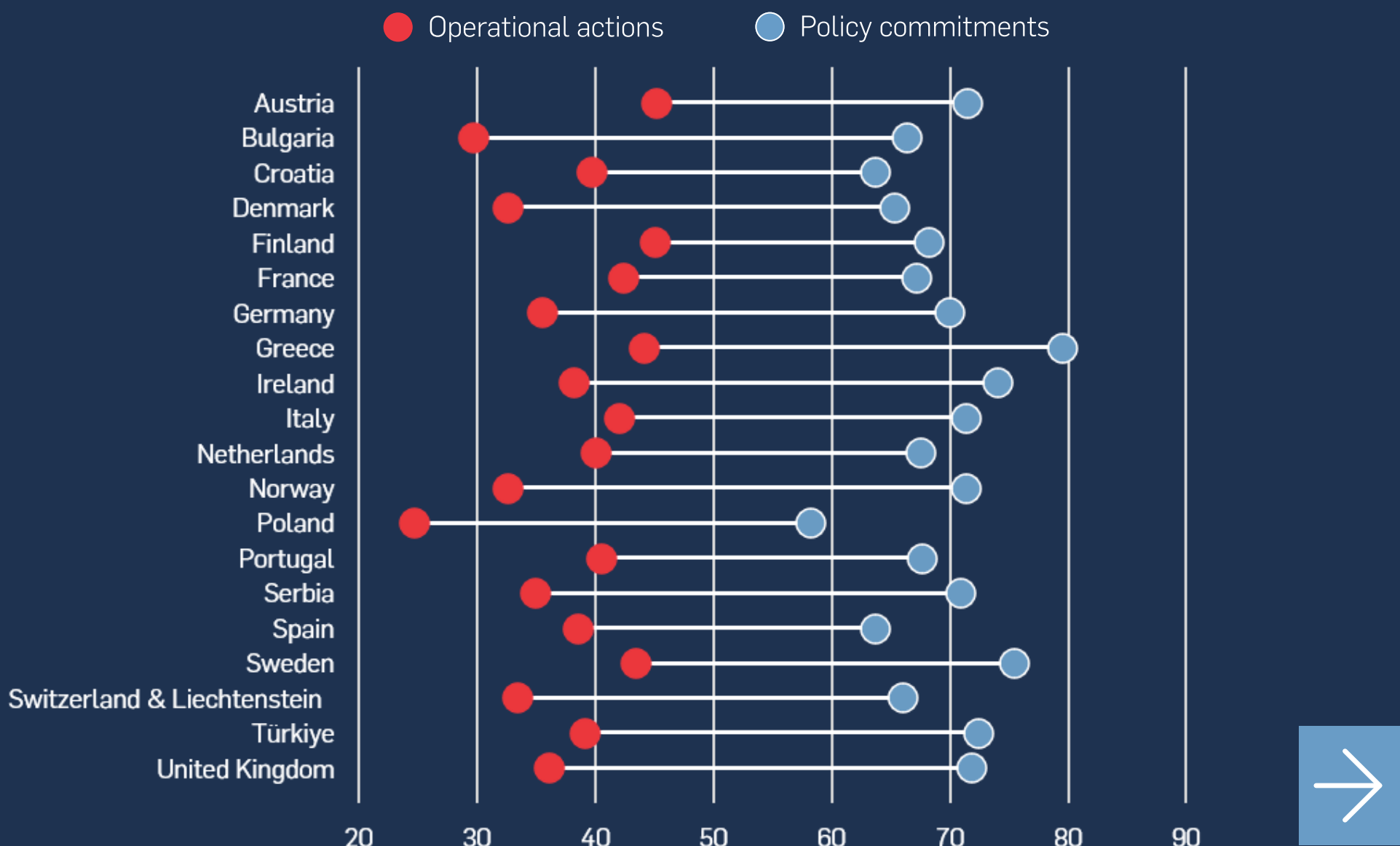


THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE SDGS IS BASED PRIMARILY ON ENGAGEMENT POLICIES AND PREVENTION MEASURES

Most companies now have prevention policies and measures in place, but still struggle to translate these into concrete actions and to measure their effectiveness.

These challenges are particularly pronounced for SMEs (56 per cent of respondents) and in relation to social issues. Employee training on sustainability also needs to be strengthened.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE COMMITMENT POLICIES AND THE OPERATIONAL ACTIONS OF EUROPEAN COMPANIES SIGNATORIES TO THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES



RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EUROPEAN PRIVATE SECTOR

On the basis of these findings, the European Global Compact National Networks that contributed to this study issue four recommendations for the European private sector:

Systematically measure progress across all areas of sustainability

Make adaptation to climate change a priority for all sectors

Engage in more multi-stakeholder and public-private partnerships

Create more training opportunities on sustainability issues for all employees and suppliers





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READING THE COMPLETE STUDY.**

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