

SDG AMBITION BENCHMARKS

Translating the SDGs into Benchmarks

The UN Global Compact, in consultation with business leaders and partner organizations, has developed 10 SDG Ambition Benchmarks providing direction for business action on the SDGs. The benchmarks are grounded in the 17 SDGs and the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact.



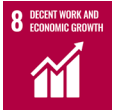







By translating the ambition level of the SDGs into concrete aspirations for business, these benchmarks challenge organizations to set more ambitious goals and targets in the areas in which business has a substantial impact. For example, agriculture uses nearly 70 per cent of global freshwater while half of global water consumption comes from water-stressed basins. By increasing their level of ambition in alignment with the benchmark "Net-positive water impact in water-stressed basins", companies can meaningfully advance Goal 6: "Clean Water and Sanitation".

These benchmarks set the level of business ambition required for the world to deliver on the SDGs by 2030. They are the gateway for companies to move from incremental to transformative action: adopting UN Global Compact established benchmarks rather than benchmarking against the competition or their own past performance. SDG Ambition is an opportunity to stretch and set goals at the level of ambition required to deliver on the SDGs, rather than settling for the level of ambition that currently seems possible to deliver on.

The benchmarks challenge companies to set more ambitious goals and targets in alignment with what is required to achieve the SDGs.

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SDG Ambition Benchmarks

	SDG IMPACT		SCOPE		
	Primary	Additional	Operations	Products & Services	Value Chain
Gender balance across all levels of management		1, 4, 8, 10, 16	■		
Net-positive water impact in water-stressed basins		11, 12, 13, 14, 17	■	■	■
100% of employees across the organization earn a living wage		1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 13	■		■
Zero waste to landfill and incineration		6, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15	■		
Zero discharge of hazardous pollutants and chemicals		3, 6, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17	■		■
100% sustainable material inputs that are renewable, recyclable or reusable		6, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17	■	■	
Science-based emissions reduction in line with a 1.5°C pathway		3, 9, 12, 14, 15	■	■	■
100% resource recovery, with all materials and products recovered and recycled or reused at end of use		6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17		■	■
Land degradation neutrality including zero deforestation		3, 6, 9, 12, 13	■	■	■
Zero incidences of bribery		cross-cutting	■	■	■

NOTES

- These benchmarks are applicable across all industries, and their implementation into business is adaptable, allowing companies to set targets and metrics in the areas that are most material for their industry context.
- **SDG Impact:** Refers to the relevant SDGs that will be impacted by pursuit of the benchmark. The elimination of bribery supports achievement across the SDGs.
- **Scope:** Indicates the suggested boundary of action and impact for the benchmark. While some benchmarks are specific to the supply chain, value chain applicability could comprise everything beyond the four walls of the organization, including product use and disposal.