

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2015 the United Nations (UN) introduced **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** meant to provide “a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet.” In order to monitor progress toward achieving all of the goals, the UN developed a total of 169 sub-targets and 225 indicators. The SDGs focus on fostering peace, prosperity, and environmental sustainability. However, despite these aspirations, recent reports indicate a bleak outlook, with many of the goals likely to remain unmet by the 2030 deadline set for fulfilling them as challenges in addressing the goals have only been exacerbated by recent challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change.

Education emerges as a crucial avenue for advancing these goals. When students are equipped with an understanding of the SDGs and the global issues at stake, they are more inclined to actively engage in efforts to achieve them. This awareness can be cultivated through direct instruction on the goals or by integrating SDG-related content into existing curricula. However, there remains a lack of educational resources specifically tailored to the SDGs, especially accessible materials for students with disabilities.

Recognizing the geographical dimensions of the SDGs, incorporating maps into educational materials focused on the SDGs can enhance understanding and relevance. Nevertheless, studies reveal disparities in the prominence of different goals within curricula worldwide, reflecting broader discrepancies in political prioritization. Often, socio-economic objectives overshadow environmental concerns in both national and global agendas, underscoring the need for a more balanced approach to sustainable development. To remedy this situation, this tactile guide for users with visual impairments spotlights one of the most important, but least studied SDGs: SDG 6, Clean Water and Sanitation.

“A shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet.”



Source: United Nations

