

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS, Goal 17.

Objective: - to help implement all other sustainable development goals (from 1-16)

GENERAL ABOUT 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Seventeen Sustainable Development Goals are new universal and global goals that United Nations members are expected to use in shaping their programs and policies over the next fifteen years. In August 2015, 193 countries agreed on the next seventeen targets and their 169 associated targets, which will run until 2030. The goals are aimed at creating a better future for people and the planet. The goals are to further build partnerships between countries. All goals are complete and indivisible and, in addition to partnership and peace, are based on three basic dimensions of sustainable development: society, environment and economy.

WHAT IS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

There are many definitions of sustainable development that can be interpreted depending on the perspective. Yet, each definition has a common term balance that refers to meeting the needs of the present generation, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. And while definitions have changed throughout history, the core has remained the same. The difference is that sometimes the focus was more on the environment or social rights.

Today, sustainable development is based on understanding the interconnectedness of its three fundamental components: society, the environment, and the economy. The balance between all three components and its operationalization in practice ensures the long-term development of human society in a preserved environment.

The United Nations is the main organization that provides guidelines for sustainable development.

GOAL 17.

Goal 17 of Sustainable Development aims to help the other 16 goals of sustainable development be successfully implemented and applied in people's daily lives. To achieve this, Goal 17 emphasizes the importance of co-operation and communication between national governments, the private sector, and the local community, but also co-operation between countries. Special emphasis is placed on improving cooperation between the Nordic countries, which cover most of North America, Europe, northern Asia and Australia, and the southern countries, which include South America, Africa and southern Asia.

This goal seeks to strengthen the use of indigenous resources through international assistance. International assistance would function based on giving a share of total national income to developing and underdeveloped countries. Additional aids would come from foreign investors and co-operation with neighboring countries.

Achieving this goal aims to achieve:

- reducing the external debts of poor countries and finding a way to repay existing ones
- improve the exchange of knowledge among the population by introducing faster and more stable internet connections worldwide
- promote a single, equal, and more open market by equalizing the average price of customs duties in the world
- increase the share of the least developed countries in the world in total world exports
- improve overall economic stability in the world

In today's "digitized" world, the Internet is key to many activities, especially after the Covid-19 pandemic. But half of the world's population still does not have access to the Internet. At the end of 2018, only about 20% of the total population of parts of Africa and Oceania had Internet access, compared to about 85% of the total population of Europe and North America. In 2019, one sixth of the population of developing countries had an Internet subscription, while in the least developed countries such a possibility is almost non-existent due to lack of infrastructure. This is precisely one of the key issues yet to be addressed; by introducing communication and information technology in the least developed countries in the world.

THE COVID- 19 PANDEMIC AND THE GOAL 17.

The pandemic has greatly set back this goal. Monetary resources have decreased, and market tensions have increased. Also, there was a decline in domestic and foreign investment, donations, and market exchange in general.

Part of the funds to help developing countries was used to reduce the impact of the pandemic on the global economic situation. From 2021 onwards, the available funds for assistance to developing countries are projected to fall by 20%, and foreign direct investment to fall by 40% so far. In general, the pandemic has disrupted the exchange of market goods so far and slowed market equalization. The previously mentioned harmonization of customs values becomes impossible because there is a new trend of contracting among developed countries, which directly reduces the competitiveness of developing countries.

SITUATION IN CROATIA

2018 The Commission for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid Abroad was established, which is Croatia's basis for assistance to other countries. Priority areas of Croatian assistance are: Southeast Europe (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Montenegro, Kosovo, Northern Macedonia, Serbia), and southern and eastern countries (Jordan, Ukraine, Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria) and other developing countries. Afghanistan, Colombia, Tanzania).

The Platform for International Civic Solidarity of Croatia, established in 2014, serves to promote activities in the field of international development cooperation and humanitarian aid. Numerous conferences were organized to raise awareness of UN goals in the private and academic sectors, and the student community was informed with promotional material.