



Generalitat de Catalunya
Government of Catalonia



The 2030 AGENDA: transform Catalonia, improve the World

The implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda in Catalonia



1. Catalonia's commitment towards the 2030 Agenda

1.1. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development

Concern for the welfare of people and the need for a high-quality environment have been a key part of the international policy agenda since the formation of the United Nations. Many wide-reaching initiatives have been developed over recent decades to meet these challenges.

One of the most significant was the approval in 2000 of the **Millennium Declaration** to eradicate extreme poverty around the world. The United Nations identified 8 major goals for 2015, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), aimed at helping the most disadvantaged countries to develop. This was the first United Nations global agenda to set quantified targets for a specific date, which were pursued during the first years of the twenty-first century, with mixed results.

In 2012 the process of reviewing the MDGs and preparing a new agenda began. In the same year, the Rio Summit on Sustainable Development, held on the twentieth anniversary of the historic Earth Summit, approved the document ***The future we want***, establishing global social and environmental priorities.

Although these two processes began in parallel, they were brought together and merged into a single proposal which was extensively discussed at international level with the broad participation of all involved in the processes of the United Nations. The result was the Sustainable Development Goals, which were formally adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015 with the approval of the document ***Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development***.



1. Catalonia's commitment towards the 2030 Agenda

1.2. The Sustainable Development Goals

The document *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* contains **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and 169 specific targets to be met by 2030 and sets out the international development agenda for the next fifteen years.

The new agenda for sustainable development is based on five fundamental ideas:

- A sense of the **urgent need** to achieve the SDGs, i.e. to tackle the challenges and threats facing the sustainability of our planet.
- The SDGs and associated targets' **potential for bringing about a change** to our current approach to the sustainability of the planet.
- The **global and universal nature** of the SDGs and the targets associated with each of them, which must be applicable to every country, albeit taking their current situation as the starting point.
- The **indivisible nature** of the SDGs and the targets associated with each of them, which must be met as a whole, taking an integrated approach so that no target is ignored.
- **Balancing all the aspects of sustainability** (economic, social and environmental) so that no one aspect is prioritised over the others.

The SDGs tackle five areas of critical importance (the so-called 5 Ps): **planet, prosperity, people, peace, and partnership**, covering areas such as poverty, inequality, food security, health, sustainable consumption and production, growth, jobs, infrastructures, the sustainable management of natural resources, the oceans and climate change, as well as gender equality, peace, social inclusion, access to justice and responsible institutions. These are crucial issues at the international level but also at the national and local levels.



1. Catalonia's commitment towards the 2030 Agenda

1.3. The commitment of the Catalan Government

The declaration signed in New York in September 2015 encourages all the member states of the United Nations General Assembly to draw up, as soon as possible, ambitious national responses on the application of the Agenda. Effectively, to promote the application of the 2030 Agenda in their own countries.

The Government of Catalonia, via the [Government Plan for the current legislature](#), approved in April 2016, pledged to:

- ❖ Preparing a National Sustainable Development Goals Plan to ensure the 2030 Agenda is implemented in Catalonia.
- ❖ Developing an integrated system of targets and indicators related to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals as they apply to Catalonia.

The strategy involves all departments and is coordinated by International Department through: the Advisory Council for Sustainable Development, the Directorate-General for Multilateral and European Affairs, the Directorate-General for Development Cooperation, and its Technical Office.

A first draft of the strategy was delivered on [7th July 2017](#).



2. Localizing SDGs: an overall strategy for 2030 Agenda implementation

2.1. An expert report on localising SDGS in Catalonia

Previous In September 2016 the Advisory Council for Sustainable Development (CADS) launched the report '[The 2030 Agenda: Transform Catalonia, Improve the World](#)', which identifies key elements for localising the SDGs in Catalonia. It was approved by the Members of the CADS in a plenary session held on 27 September 2016, the first anniversary of the approval of the 2030 Agenda by the United Nations.

This report is not intended to represent a Government Plan for the application of the 2030 Agenda, but rather to identify the challenges contained in each SDG so that the Government can prepare a plan.



Concretely, the report:

- Includes a preliminary International and European diagnosis for every SDG.
- Contains a target-by-target Catalan diagnosis.
- Identifies the overall challenges that need to be addressed in Catalonia for every SDG (except SDG 17 given its instrumental nature).

The report was elaborated by the members of the council with the contribution of more than 60 external experts and stakeholders.



2. Localizing SDGs: an overall strategy for 2030 Agenda implementation

2.2. An overall strategy to integrate the UN 2030 Agenda and Catalan public policies

On 14th February 2017, the Government officially decided to design an overall strategy for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Catalonia.

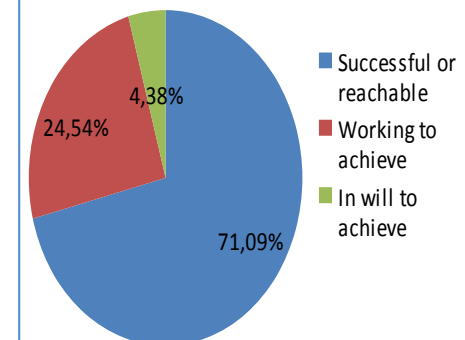
It makes an alignment between the 2030 Agenda targets and all public policies in Catalonia.

The strategy contains **over 750 commitments** to implement the UN Agenda targets in Catalonia (to take place **inside and outside Catalonia**).

- **71 %** are included in the existing regulation and planning, so they are reachable by 2030.
- **25 %** are included in the forthcoming regulation and planning, so we are working to achieve them.
- **4 %** are not included in the existing and forthcoming regulation and planning, so they are political commitments with the will to achieve them by 2030.

It sets **deadlines** and specifies the **departments in charge** for each commitment.

Catalonia's Government Commitments to achieve 2030 Agenda





2. Localizing SDGs: an overall strategy for 2030 Agenda implementation

2.3. Examples of some commitments included in the 2030 Agenda implementation strategy



Universal Guaranteed Minimum Income



Gender Equality Observatory



Development of 3 laws:

- Climate Change (approved)
- Food Waste
- Agriculture Land



Increasing efficiency in the use of natural resources



Catalan Law on universal access to public health



A new maritime program, based on an innovative governance system and a strong scientific basis



3. Breaking silos for a successful 2030 Agenda Implementation

3.1. Inter-departmental coordination architecture

On 14th February 2017, the Government officially decided to design an overall strategy for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Catalonia and established the institutional architecture to make this strategy possible: .

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMISSION: composed by the secretary generals of all departments and chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Institutional Relations and Transparency

Functions:

- To coordinate elaboration of the National Plan to ensure consistency and monitor compliance with the 17 SDGs in the Agenda.
- To approve the final Plan proposal to be delivered to the Government.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE: composed by all departments (represented by director generals and/or chiefs of their technical offices).

Function:

- To develop the National Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda



3. Breaking silos for a successful 2030 Agenda Implementation

3.2. Working groups on SDGs

The Technical Committee operates on the basis of 17 inter-departmental groups working on the 17 SDGs.

Every SDG working group is composed of technical representatives of the departments with competences related to the specific SDG. It is coordinated by the ministry which holds the most of the competences.

This methodology has contributed to promote synergic work, boosting holistic visions and positive working dynamics that show a quick cultural change in public administration.

It also contributes to the assumption of shared responsibilities on sustainable developments goals and actions, raising awareness of those ministries traditionally not involved in sustainability.





3. Breaking silos for a successful 2030 Agenda Implementation

3.3. SDGs coordinator departments



Labour, Social Affairs
and Families



Agriculture,
Livestock, Fisheries
and Food



Health



Education



Presidency



Territory and
Sustainability



Business and
Knowledge



Vice-presidency and
of the Economy and
Finance



Business and
Knowledge



Vice-presidency and
of the Economy and
Finance



Territory and
Sustainability



Territory and
Sustainability



Territory and
Sustainability



Agriculture,
Livestock, Fisheries
and Food



Territory and
Sustainability



Justice



Transparency and
Foreign and Institutional
Relations and Affairs



4. The dissemination of the 2030 Agenda in Catalonia

The High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

The HLPF is the main United Nations platform on sustainable development and it has a central role in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the global level.

From May to June 2017 the Catalan Government organized **6 seminars** focused on the SDGs to be analysed at the 2017 HLPF.



The seminars were opened by ministers and high-level government representatives. All included keynotes speeches by recognized experts and roundtables with stakeholders.

Videos, summaries and presentations of each seminar are available at cads.gencat.cat

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