



UN-HABITAT



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Progress in Monitoring SDG Indicators

in the Field of Sustainable Urban Development
in the **Republic of Serbia**

2023



UNITED NATIONS
SERBIA



PROGRESS IN MONITORING SDG INDICATORS IN THE FIELD OF SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA, 2023

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Young children dressed up in traditional handmade folk costumes outfit from the Republic of Serbia holding Serbia flags, walking trough national street festival parade. © Shutterstock/Dragan Mujan



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Foreword



The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda is a universal framework of the UN member states that contains 17 goals, 169 targets and a total of 248 indicators related to future social, environmental, economic and cultural development in accordance with the principles of sustainability.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maimunah".

Maimunah Mohd Sharif
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)



The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), responsible for facilitating the *United Nations Systemwide Strategy for Sustainable Urban Development*¹ and focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements within the United Nations Development System, actively promotes the implementation of the *New Urban Agenda* and the urban dimensions of the *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)* outlined in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Serbia (UN RCO) fosters collaboration among UN agencies, funds and programmes to enhance the efficiency and impact of the UN Country Team (UNCT). The UN RCO leads the implementation and monitoring 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, closely aligning with the efforts of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS). Since 2016, the UN RCO Serbia has been actively cooperating with the Statistical Office to improve the availability of SDG data, using the knowledge and expertise of UN agencies guardians of specific SDGs.

Since 2016, UN Resident Coordinator Office in Serbia has been actively engaged in a partnership with statistical office of the Republic of Serbia to enhance the availability of SDG related data, leveraging the knowledge and expertise of specific United Nations agencies responsible for individual SDGs. The national monitoring of SDGs in the Republic of Serbia falls under the purview of the statistical office. Drawing from their extensive experience in handling data within Serbia, the statistical office is a valuable partner well-equipped with substantial capacities and previous knowledge to monitor the implementation of SDGs in Serbia. At the global level, effective cooperation, both horizontally and vertically, is essential for successful monitoring of developmental initiatives.

1 United Nations System-wide Strategy on Sustainable Urban Development, <https://unscebe.org/united-nations-system-wide-strategy-sustainable-urban-development>

Aerial dronw wiew of city Uzice, town in Serbia, Balkans, Europe.
© Shutterstock/Adam Radosavljevic



Selective blur on old senior women having a break on a bench discussing during a summer evening on Kneza Mihailova, the main pedestrian street of Belgrade, Serbia. © Shutterstock/BalkansCat



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Introduction

Evidence-based policy formulation and decision-making are crucial for sustainable development. Alignment with SDG indicators ensures comparability and clearer insight into challenges and accomplishments, guiding development efforts in an optimal direction. Therefore, this publication aims to contribute to an improved quality of life in Serbia by monitoring global trends at national and local levels, ultimately bolstering sustainable development towards our common future.

The 2023 edition of a series of publications, jointly prepared by the SORS and the UN RCO, is technically supported by UN-Habitat. It focuses on tracking the progress of SDG indicators within sustainable urban development. Aligned with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, it follows a joint effort initiated in 2021 with the publication “Progress in Monitoring of Environment related SDG Indicators in the Republic of Serbia,” prepared by SORS, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the UN RCO.

In this latest edition, the focus is on examining the findings stemming from the analysis of forty-six specific SDG indicators identified within the Global Urban Monitoring Framework². Of these, special attention was given to seven indicators associated with sustainable urban development. Interestingly, when the analysis commenced in August 2023, data for these seven indicators were notably missing from the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia’s database. The report details the availability statuses of these indicators at the conclusion of the project.

The groundwork for this publication involved a workshop held in June 2023, orchestrated collaboratively by the UN-Habitat, the UN RCO and SORS. During this session, stakeholders were introduced to the Global Urban Monitoring Framework, and the roadmap for the publication was laid out.

² UN-Habitat (2022), Global Urban Monitoring Framework <https://unhabitat.org/the-global-urban-monitoring-framework>

Aerial view the House of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and Danube river by night. © Shutterstock/Predrag Mladenovic



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Towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient, and Sustainable Cities and Communities in Serbia

Box 1 National Report of the Republic of Serbia to the Habitat III Conference³



BELGRADE, SEPTEMBER 2014

In 2016, the Republic of Serbia submitted a State of Urban Development Report to the Habitat III conference convened in Quito, Ecuador where the New Urban Agenda was adopted and endorsed by the Resolution of the UN General Assembly in December the same year. This report was a collaborative effort involving the Ministry of Construction, Transport, and Infrastructure, along with the national association of local self-government units, known as the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities of Serbia. This participation carried forward Serbia's historical involvement in Habitat conferences, echoing the tradition from previous instances like Habitat I in 1976 held in Vancouver during Serbia's period within the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Habitat II in 1996 held in Istanbul during Serbia's time within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia from 2010 to 2020 included a segment dedicated to Urban Development. This focus gained momentum following significant milestones such as the adoption of the Leipzig Charter by the European Union in 2007, the United Nations' New Urban Agenda in 2016, and the European Union's Urban Agenda in the same year. Subsequently, the Republic of Serbia formulated its inaugural National Urban Policy within a Strategy endorsed by the Government in 2019, aligning with these global and regional urban development frameworks. Furthermore, the European Union's adoption of the New Leipzig Charter occurred in 2020, adding to the evolving landscape of urban development policies.

Box 2 Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia⁴



In 2019, the Government of the Republic of Serbia introduced the Strategy for Sustainable Urban Development until 2030, marking the inaugural formulation of the National Urban Policy within a dedicated document. This Strategy encompasses a vision, an overall goal, and five distinct objectives focused on urban economy, structures, social well-being, climate change, and urban governance. To track progress, three indicators monitor the overall goal, while forty indicators specifically oversee the five objectives. Out of the total forty-three urban development indicators outlined in this strategy, twelve align with the SDG indicators, with ten stemming from SDG 11 and two from SDG 6.

3 Republic of Serbia (2016), National Report of the Republic of Serbia to the Habitat III Conference (<https://habitat3.org/wp-content/uploads/Habitat-III-Report-Republic-of-Serbia-EN.pdf>)

4 Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia until 2030 and its Action Plan <https://www.mgsi.gov.rs/cir/dokumenti/urbani-razvoj>



4



Monitoring of SDGs in Serbia

In the Republic of Serbia, SORS assumes the responsibility of monitoring the SDGs. Collaborating with various institutions, SORS undertakes several key tasks:

- Generating SDG indicators sourced from data collected by SORS.
- Gathering data or existing indicators from other state institutions.
- Securing permissions from relevant state bodies to utilize indicators published in the UN database.

Each SDG goal is delegated to a designated SORS employee responsible for monitoring and coordinating efforts with other stakeholders. The data is released on a quarterly basis. All indicators and pertinent data are made available through:

- A dedicated web page for SDG monitoring and publication.
- A dissemination database.
- An open data platform specifically for SDGs.

Notably, the indicators proposed by the National Spatial Plan and the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy had not been previously tested, leading to the absence of base values for all indicators. Out of one hundred and six indicators in the National Spatial Plan, between 2011 and 2018, calculations and presentations were completed for seventy-five indicators. Similarly, among the forty-three urban development indicators outlined in the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy, thirty-seven were calculated and featured in the Action Plan. Currently, an ex-post analysis is underway to assess the implementation of the Sustainable Urban Development Strategy.

Voluntary National Review

The Prime Minister of Serbia introduced the first Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2019⁵, providing a comprehensive overview of the country's progress toward achieving the SDGs. The report highlighted Serbia's commitment to addressing economic, social, and environmental challenges. It emphasized the significance of the VNR as a tool for transparently sharing experiences, successes, and lessons learned. Serbia's dedication to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda understands the use of the VNR process to enhance policy coherence and promote sustainable development at the national level, hereby harmonizing national priorities with relevant chapters of the pre-accession negotiations with the European Union.

To date, the Government of Serbia, supported by the UNCT in Serbia is considering the preparation the second edition of the VNR.

⁵ Government of the Republic of Serbia (2019), Voluntary National Review of the Republic of Serbia on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (<https://sdgs.un.org/documents/serbia-vnr-report-2019-24420>)



Voluntary Local Reviews

The global trend of Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) has gained momentum, witnessing the publication of 250 VLRs since 2016, and the ongoing surge in engagement with this process. In June 2023, during the United Nations Habitat Assembly's second session, UN Member States sanctioned the inaugural Resolution on Localizing the SDGs⁶, demonstrating a commitment to reinforcing local and national capabilities in data and reporting for SDGs, which encompasses VLRs. Within this context, VLRs have emerged as pivotal instruments for advancing SDG Localization, enabling local and regional governments worldwide to track and report on SDG advancements. Yet, VLRs extend beyond mere reporting; they have proven effective in fostering multi-stakeholder ownership of SDGs, promoting evidence-based policymaking, and fortifying multilevel governance. By evaluating SDG indicator values at the local level, these reviews offer a comprehensive assessment of the developmental status of local territories, strengthening overall local data landscapes. Consequently, VLRs furnish well-informed recommendations for transformative actions in pursuit of SDG attainment.

To amplify the potential of VLRs, UN-Habitat has introduced the Action-oriented VLR Methodology. These action-oriented VLRs not only evaluate but expedite sustainable development starting from grassroots levels. They build on evidence by taking substantive steps to ensure inclusivity, steering us closer to a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future for all. This involves tailored approaches addressing urban and regional challenges, capacity enhancement for Local and Regional Governments (LRGs), advocacy, bolstering sub-national data environments, and establishing enduring partnerships with various government and non-governmental stakeholders such as academia, industry, or local communities.

As part of a regional project on "Voluntary Local Reviews: evidence for greener, resilient, and sustainable urban recovery in Eastern European and Central Asian countries in transition," coordinated by UN-Habitat and jointly executed with key international partners in 2023⁷, the City of Niš has initiated preparations for Serbia's inaugural VLR.

6 UN-Habitat (2023), Resolution on the Localization of the Sustainable Development Goals (<https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2023/06/2310565e.pdf>)

7 United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), SA), UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

Box 3 Voluntary Local Review Niš, Serbia

The inception of the Republic of Serbia's inaugural VLR commenced in 2023 for the City of Niš.

Niš's VLR aligns with the UN-Habitat Action-Oriented VLR Methodology, which leverages the VLR process and its outcomes to craft strategic recommendations for future planning, action, and policy development. A dedicated local team, led by the Niš city administration, has been assembled on-site. Beyond the project team's efforts, stakeholders from various sectors, national institutions, academia, youth, and more, actively contribute to validating the VLR's findings and recommendations.

Concurrently, Niš's city administration has established a Monitoring Unit within the local government, a commendable initiative aimed at ensuring efficient coordination during the VLR development. This step not only supports the efficient development of the VLR in Niš but also fosters potential for enhancing the local government's capacity, ensuring the sustainability and recurrence of the VLR process.

In October 2023, the UN-Habitat project team visited Niš, engaging with the VLR team, the Monitoring Unit, and other sections of the local government. Furthermore, meetings were convened with entities like the Ministry of Construction, Transportation, and Infrastructure, the UNRCO, the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities, and various stakeholder groups. These meetings aimed to discuss VLR development and foster collaboration among all stakeholders involved in the process.

Currently, the local team, collaborating with the Monitoring Unit, is actively engaged in the second phase of the VLR process, conducting a situation analysis that involves data gathering and examination. An initial study encompassing national/local plans, existing documents containing indicators, SDG indicators, the Global Urban Monitoring Framework, and diverse VLR guidelines has been carried out. The team is now focused on identifying, prioritizing, collecting, and analyzing data.

The VLR's preliminary selection of SDGs for analysis includes SDGs 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 16, and 17. The presentation of initial findings of Niš's VLR is envisaged for the 2024 edition of the Serbia National Urban Forum to be held in the City of Niš.

Crowd of people in Knez Mihailova Street (Kneza Mihaila) – Belgrade, Serbia. © Shutterstock/Bobica10



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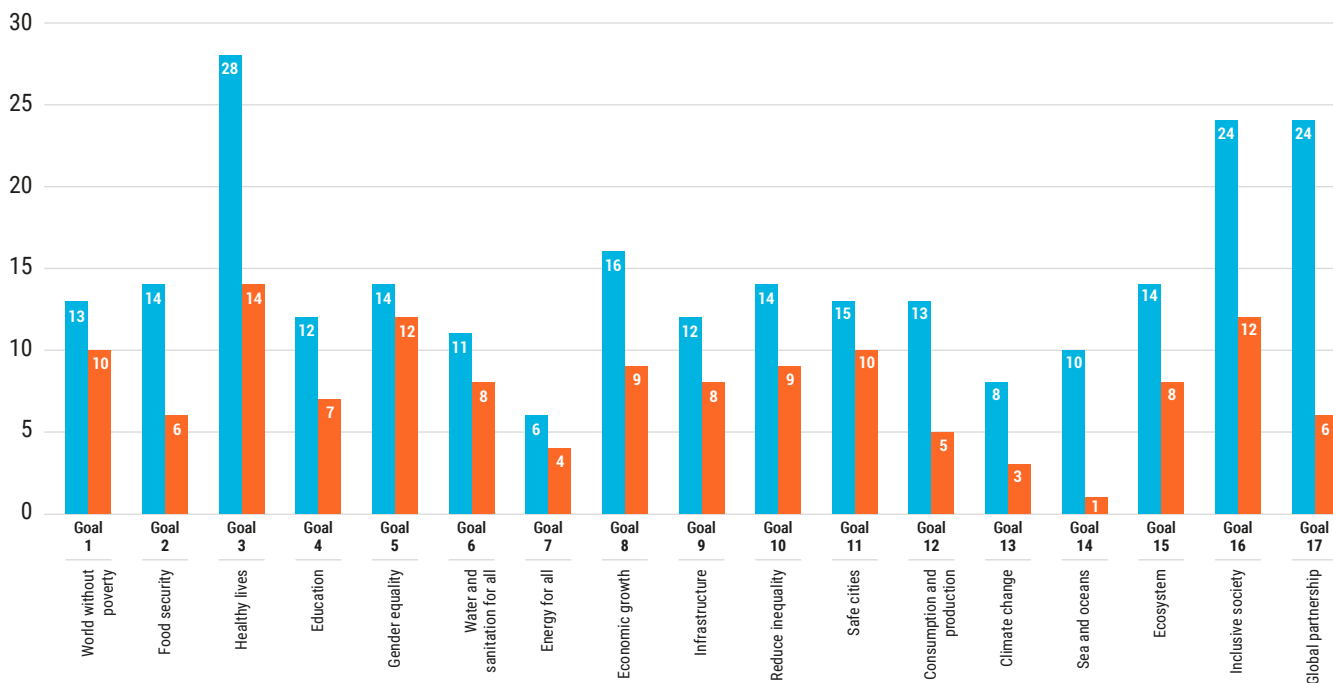


Overview of SDG Indicators in Serbia

The examination centers on forty-six SDG indicators recognized as pertinent to sustainable urban development, as identified by SORS, the Ministry of Construction Transport and Infrastructure, and the UN RCO during the June 2023 conference. This analysis unfolded in three distinct phases:

- During the First Phase, the analysis confirmed the relevance of all forty-six SDG indicators concerning sustainable urban development to the Republic of Serbia.
- The Second Phase concentrated on the seven SDG indicators within sustainable urban development lacking data in the SORS database for the Republic of Serbia.
- The Third Phase involved reviewing the data for SDG indicators related to sustainable urban development, evaluating their progress toward the goals targeted for achievement by 2030.

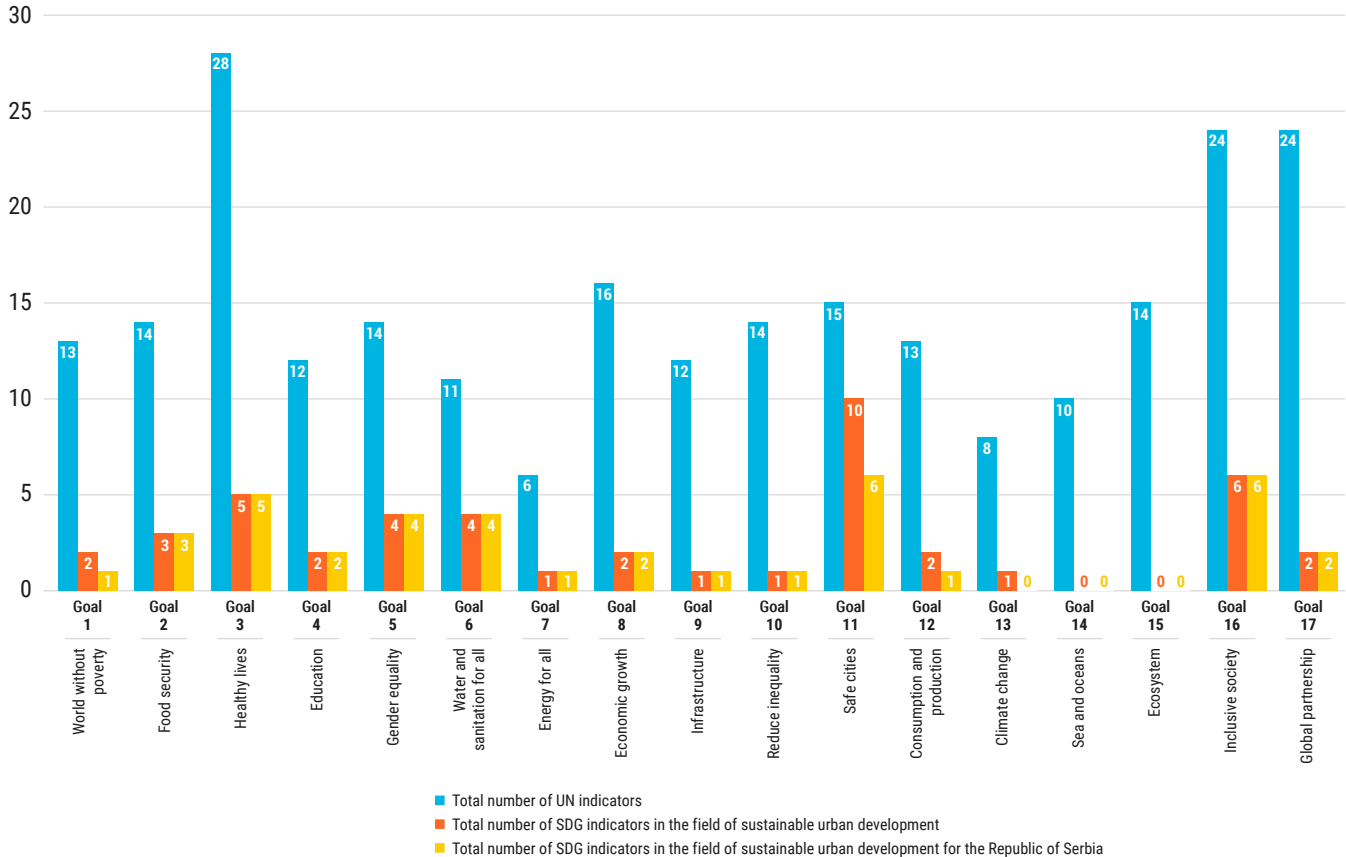
Chart 1: Availability of sustainable development indicators by individual Sustainable Development Goals, SORS SDG portal, August 2023



■ Total number of UN indicators
 ■ Total number of SDG indicators for the Republic of Serbia available on the SORS portal

The chart shows the total number of 248 UN SDG indicators and 132 SDG indicators for Serbia available in the SORS database in August 2023.

**Chart 2: Availability of SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development, SORS
SDG portal, August 2023**



The chart shows the total number of SDG indicators, total number of indicators that are related to sustainable urban development, and how many indicators related to sustainable urban development were available in SORS databases in August 2023. It indicates one missing indicator in SDG 1, four missing indicators in SDG 11, one missing indicator in SDG 12 and one missing indicator in SDG 13.

Niš Fortress is a fortress in the city of Niš, Serbia. It is a complex and important cultural and historical monument.
© shutterstock/Nenadmil



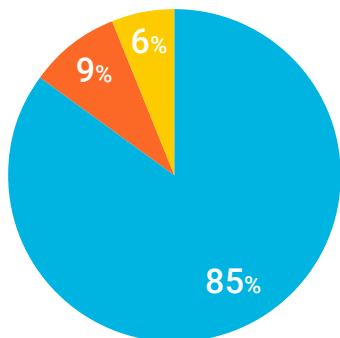


Phase 1

Confirming that all forty-six SDG indicators related to sustainable urban development are relevant to the Republic of Serbia.

Out of the total number of SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development, thirty-nine are available on the SORS website. As for the remaining seven indicators, the UN database (<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal>) provides data for the Republic of Serbia for four indicators, while no data is available for three indicators.

Chart 3: Availability of SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development in the UN and SORS databases, August 2023

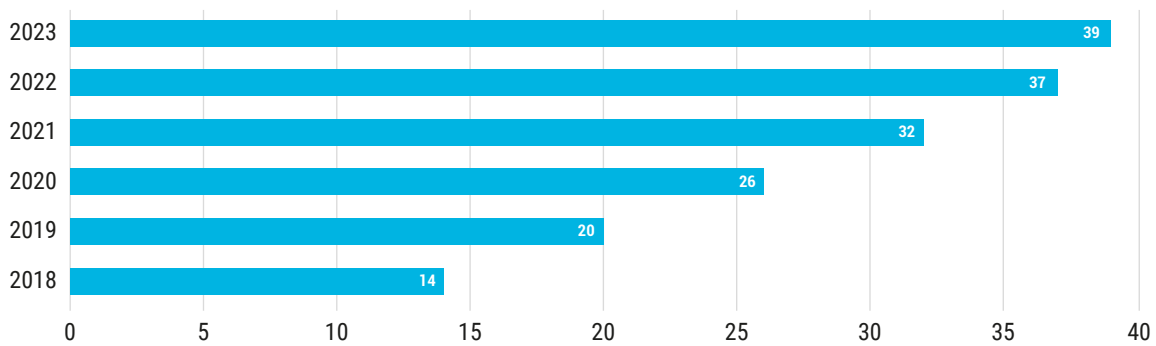


- SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development available in the SORS database
- SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development available in the UN database
- Unavailable SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development

The chart shows the percentage of SDG indicators related to sustainable urban development that are available in SORS databases, percentage of SDG indicators related to sustainable urban development that are not available in SORS databases but exist in the UN database and the percentage of SDG indicators related to sustainable urban development that are not available (1.4.2, 11.3.2 and 13.2.2). The case of the indicator 11.1.1 is specific and it will be described in the phase two of this analysis.

Since the initiation of SDG monitoring by SORS, there has been consistent advancement in gathering data on SDG indicators within sustainable urban development. The collaboration with institutions responsible for generating SDG indicator data has consistently been satisfactory, maintaining a high level of cooperation throughout.

Chart 4: Number of SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development since the beginning of SDG monitoring



The chart shows the progress of SORS in acquiring SDG indicators related to sustainable urban development since 2018. The progress was steady from 2018 to 2021 with six additional indicators every year and it slightly slowed down with additional five indicators in 2022 and two additional indicators until August 2023.



Phase 2

Analysis of SDG indicators related to sustainable urban development that are not available in the SORS database

The assessment conducted during Phase 2 of the project relied on evaluating the credibility of SDG indicators and their sources within sustainable urban development in the UN database. All relevant and reliable data sources as well as accessible publications were utilized in this evaluation. Additionally, SORS staff communicated with proficient experts from international organizations and domestic data producers.

Basic information regarding the four SDG indicators present in the UN database but not yet transposed to the SORS database are as follows:



11.2.1. Proportion of the population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

Throughout the 2022 Census of Population, Households, and Dwellings, SORS gathered individual-level data, reaching as specific as house numbers. In compliance with the Law on the 2022 Census of Population, Households, and Dwellings, SORS does not share this data with other institutions for processing, but may utilise them for internal usage in indicator calculations. Presently, data regarding the locations of public transport stops remains inaccessible. Discussions with the Ministry of Construction, Transport, and Infrastructure led to a proposal for launching a pilot project to compute this indicator specifically within the City of Niš.



11.3.1. Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate

The SORS plan was to calculate this indicator once the population grid for the Republic of Serbia is constructed according to the DEGURBA⁸ methodology, based on the 2011 Census and 2022 Census data.



11.7.1. Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

The UN-Habitat Urban Indicators Database website⁹ allows users to access 2020 indicator values for nine urban areas in Serbia: Belgrade, Borča, Zrenjanin, Kragujevac, Kikinda, Niš, Novi Pazar, Novi Sad, and Požarevac. Moreover, the Public Space Profile¹⁰ for the Municipality of Priština which was prepared by UN-Habitat in 2017, shares valuable insights into approaches and methodologies used for relevant public space indicators.

During 2023, the Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities conducted a survey across 78 local government units. One query within the survey focused on determining the "Share (%) of green spaces in the building area of the urban settlement – seat of the LGU (parks, tree alleys, and other developed green areas maintained, for instance, by a public utility enterprise)". The absence of the international definition of public open spaces in national legislation has led to varying interpretations of this concept. This divergence poses a challenge that requires future attention to enable consistent data comparison among urban areas nationally and internationally. In its Global Public Space Toolkit¹¹, UN-Habitat offers a comprehensive definition of public open spaces encompassing parks, gardens, playgrounds, public beaches, riverbanks, waterfronts, streets (like avenues, boulevards), squares, plazas, pavements, passages, galleries, bicycle paths, municipal markets, and publicly accessible sports facilities (excluding cemeteries).

*Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999) on the situation relating Kosovo.

8 The *DEGURBA* methodology is used for constructing a population grid (with a grid cell area of 1 km²) based on a combination of geographic contiguity and population density. A population grid enables the classification of local administrative units, such as settlements, municipalities, metropolitan municipalities, cities etc. into one of the three categories.

9 United Nations Human Settlements Programme – UN-Habitat, Urban Indicators Database, web portal, <https://data.unhabitat.org>

10 United Nations Human Settlements Programme – UN-Habitat, 2017, Public Space Profile Priština, <https://unhabitat.org/public-space-profile-pristina>

11 United Nations Human Settlements Programme – UN-Habitat, 2015, Global Public Space Toolkit, <https://unhabitat.org/global-public-space-toolkit-from-global-principles-to-local-policies-and-practice>



12.8.1. Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment

The data for this indicator is collected via a questionnaire officially delivered by the UN to the country. In the UN database, the request to show the value for the Republic of Serbia returns the note “NaN”, indicating that additional research of the methodology and data is needed, which is why the indicator value is unavailable.

Basic information on the three SDG indicators that are not included in neither the SORS database nor the UN database:



1.4.2. Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognized documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure

Data collection for this particular indicator involves a questionnaire that remained incomplete within the Republic of Serbia. During a workshop orchestrated by SORS in June 2023, potential avenues for gathering indicator data were discussed. Security of tenure stands as a pertinent subject within the Republic of Serbia, entailing specific nuances. Institutions identified as pivotal in this regard encompass: the Ministry of Construction, Transport, and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Water Management, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, the Republic Geodetic Authority, and the Agency for Restitution. International entities such as UN-Habitat, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the World Bank have proposed recommendations for computing this indicator.



11.3.2. Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operates regularly and democratically

The Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities (SCTM) is presently engaged in data collection for the computation of this indicator. In November 2021, the inaugural Participation Index assessment took place through self-evaluation. A condensed version of the participation assessment questionnaire was employed across a sample of thirty-four towns and municipalities, spanning across thirty-six distinct urban planning documents. This survey was conducted online and generated the baseline average value for the Participation Index. Subsequently, during the summer of 2023, the second assessment of the Participation Index was conducted. This time, professional evaluators utilized both the abridged and comprehensive questionnaires across a sample comprising nineteen towns, municipalities, and one metropolitan municipality, covering thirty urban planning documents.

13

CLIMATE ACTION



13.2.2. Total greenhouse gas emissions per year

In late 2021, the Law on Climate Change was enacted, specifying the requirement for relevant regulations and rulebooks to be formulated within a two-year timeframe. Drafts of these regulations and rulebooks have been submitted to the Government for assessment, awaiting final adoption. The Serbian Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) is responsible for computing this indicator. SEPA conducts annual data calculations for this indicator; however, publication is withheld until the regulations and rulebooks linked to the Law on Climate Change are officially adopted. It is anticipated that all data will become available following the adoption of the regulations and rulebooks.

Among the available SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development, there are four that include specific circumstances, namely:



11.1.1. Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing

The indicator 11.1.1 gained specificity upon its inclusion in the UN database between April and August 2022, with data available for 2016 and 2018 sourced from UN-Habitat. The Ministry of Construction, Transport, and Infrastructure granted approval to SORS to publish this indicator on the SORS SDG indicators portal. However, the indicator was later removed from the UN database due to a revision in the method of data collection.

In line with the UN definition, slums are deficient segments within settlements characterized by inadequate housing conditions. This determination relies on five criteria: water supply, access to sanitation facilities, sufficient living area, structural quality/durability of housing units, and security of tenure. Within the Republic of Serbia, substandard settlements encompass numerous individual buildings or structures with inadequate housing conditions. They are identified based on several criteria: access to essential communal infrastructure (such as water supply, sewage, electrical networks, and roads), the quality of construction materials, security of tenure (legitimacy of residential buildings and coverage by spatial/urban plans), and the classification of a settlement as determined by the local self-government unit. Typically, these settlements are inhabited by the Roma population, although they may also house underprivileged communities of other ethnicities. A database has been established in the Republic of Serbia listing five-hundred and ninety four substandard settlements primarily inhabited by Roma communities.



The concept of “informal settlements” encompasses zones with unlawfully constructed structures in the Republic of Serbia, aligning with international literature’s definition. A 2017 census of these illicit structures identified approximately two million units lacking building permits.¹² This registry has not undergone comprehensive updates in the last six years, despite some structures having been regularized within this period. The Republic of Serbia is a participant in the 2004 Vienna Declaration concerning Informal Settlements in South Eastern Europe.

Inadequate housing criteria extend beyond slum assessments, incorporating considerations of affordability, accessibility, and cultural elements. Security of tenure, a crucial factor in assessing slums, informal settlements, and inadequate housing, is also covered in SDG indicator 1.4.2. The 2022 Census is expected to yield fresh data relevant to housing-related issues.



9.3.1. Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added

The SORS team obtained data from the UN database; as of August 2023 it has been made available on the SORS website. The latest data available for this indicator dates back to 2020.

¹² Inventory of illegally built structures, accessible on the website of the competent ministry, <https://www.mgsi.gov.rs/cir/ozakonjenje>

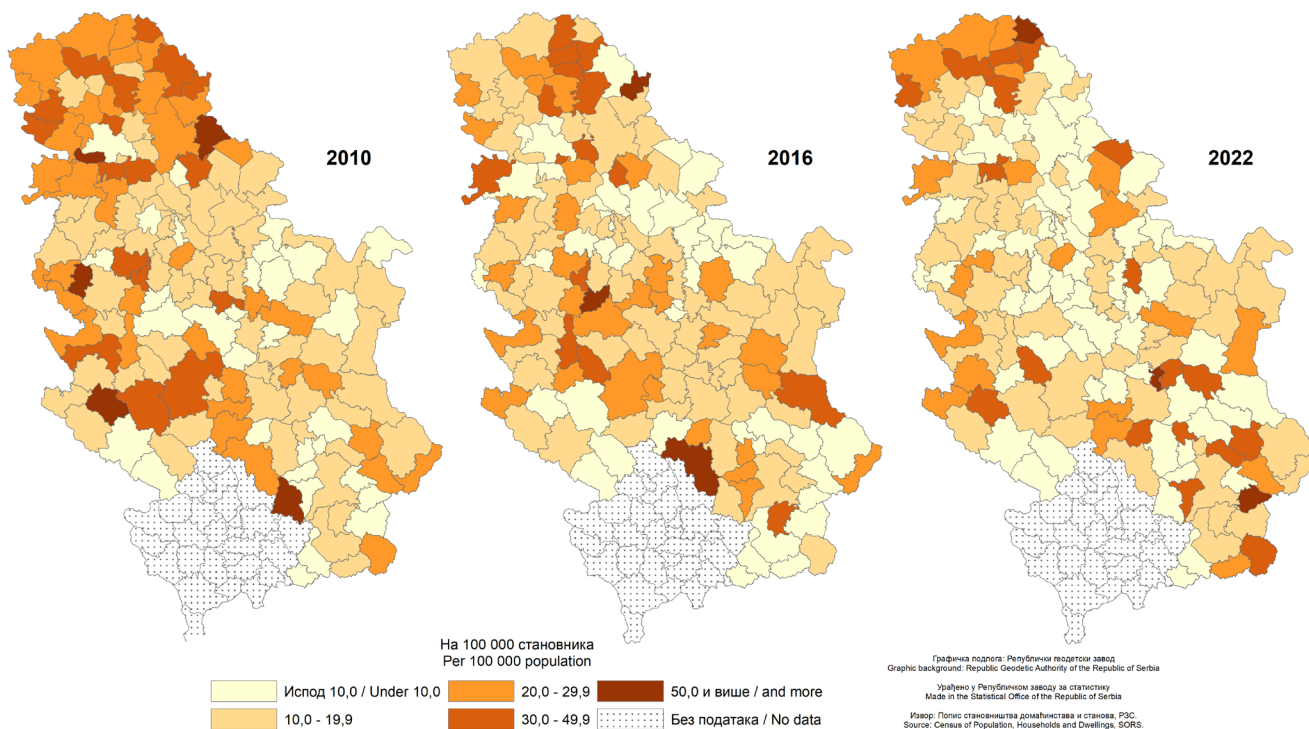


3.4.2. Suicide mortality rate

Information pertaining to indicator 3.4.2 is accessible at the municipal level.

Map 1: Indicator 3.4.2 data illustration by thematic maps for 2010, 2016 and 2022, by municipality

3.4.2. Стопа смртности услед самоубиства у Републици Србији, по општинама и градовима
3.4.2. Suicide mortality rate in the Republic of Serbia, by municipalities and cities



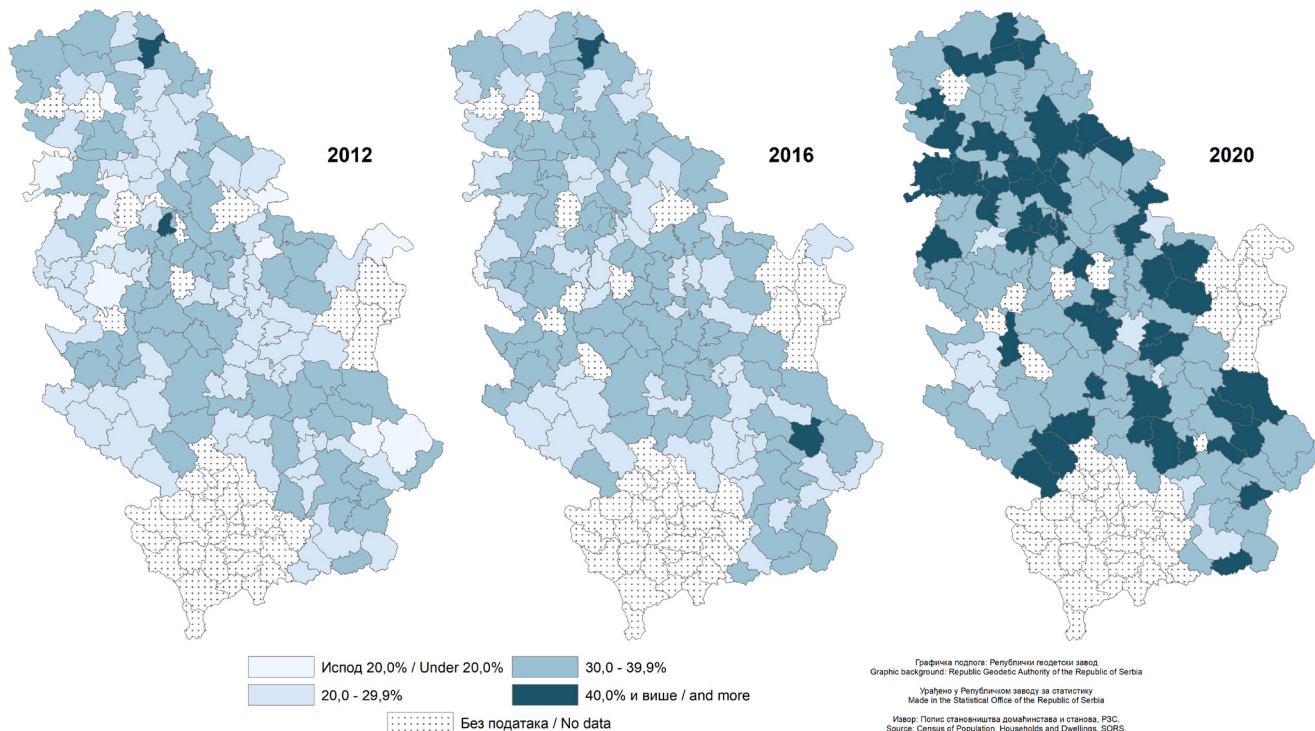


5.5.1b. Proportion of women in local governments

Information for indicator 5.5.1b is accessible at the municipality level in the SORS database, segmented by the years corresponding to local government elections. This data, collected during these elections, covers all municipalities. However, due to variations in election schedules or repetitions in some local government units, presenting comprehensive data for the entire Republic of Serbia by election years is not feasible.

Map 2: Indicator 5.5.1b data illustration by thematic maps for 2012, 2016 and 2020, by municipality

5.5.1b. Удео жена у локалним самоуправама у Републици Србији, по општинама и градовима
5.5.1b. Proportion of women in local governments in the Republic of Serbia, by municipalities and cities





Phase 3

Review of SDG indicator data related to sustainable urban development and progress towards expected achievement by 2030

Annually, in close partnership with Prof. Marija Babović, PhD, and backed by the German Development Cooperation (GIZ), SORS releases the “Progress Report on the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 in the Republic of Serbia”. Initiated in 2020, the inaugural report aimed to outline Serbia’s advancements towards accomplishing SDGs, aligning with the principles outlined in the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda; within paragraph 79, member states are urged to “conduct routine and inclusive assessments of progress towards SDGs at national and subnational tiers, driven by and tailored to each country.”



This section showcases the approach used to depict the outcomes from the previously issued reports regarding the advancements in attaining SDGs by 2030 in the Republic of Serbia, particularly within the realm of sustainable urban development.

To simplify the representation of progress toward SDGs, the subsequent symbols were employed:

- ✓ Target value achieved ↑ Significant progress ↓ Significant regression ↗ Moderate progress ↘ Moderate regression
- ↗ ↘ Inconsistent trends – one (sub)indicator shows progress, while another one indicates regression
- ✗ Trend calculation not possible (due to short data series, indicator type, absence of change, lack of data and so on)

Table 1: Progress towards the target values of SDG indicators in the field of sustainable urban development, 2020–2022

SDG	Indicator	2020	2021	2022	SDG	Indicator	2020	2021	2022
1	1.4.1		✗	↗	7	7.2.1	✗	↗	↑
2	2.1.2	↓	↗ ↘	↓	8	8.6.1	↑	↑	↑
2	2.2.2a	↑	↑	↑	8	8.7.1	↘	✗	✗
2	2.2.2b	↑	↑	↑	10	10.7.2	✗	✗	✗
3	3.2.1	✓	✓	✓	11	11.5.1	✗	✗	✗
3	3.4.1	↗	↘	↗	11	11.6.1	↓	✗	✗
3	3.4.2	↑	↑	↑	11	11.6.2	✗	✗	✗
3	3.6.1	✗	✗	✗	11	11.a.1	✗	✗	✗
3	3.7.2	↑	↑	↑	11	11.b.2	✗	✗	✗
4	4.1.2	✗	✗	✗	12	12.4.2	✗	✗	↑
4	4.3.1	↗ ↘	↗ ↘	↗ ↘	16	16.1.1	✗	✗	↑
5	5.1.1	✗	✗	✗	16	16.1.3	✗	✗	✗
5	5.2.1	✗	✗	✗	16	16.1.4	✗	✗	✗
5	5.4.1	↑	✗	✗	16	16.3.1	✗	✗	✗
5	5.5.1b	↑	↑	↑	16	16.5.1	✗	✗	✗
6	6.1.1	✗	↗	↗	16	16.9.1	✓	✓	✗
6	6.2.1a	✗	✗	↗	17	17.6.1	✗	↑	↑
6	6.2.1b	✗	✗	↗	17	17.8.1	↑	↑	↑
6	6.3.1	↑	↑	↑					

Numerous institutions in the Republic of Serbia have actively collaborated with SORS, jointly working on the computation and adaptation of SDG indicators related to sustainable urban development, and preparing them for publication. SORS has established a well-defined procedure for readying SDG indicators for release. Upon receiving the data request, the originating institution's representative uses a provided Excel template to submit the data. SORS then assumes responsibility, conducts thorough data verification, and engages in additional consultations with experts from relevant institutions if needed. Only after completing these steps and adhering to the prescribed procedures can the indicator data be published on the SORS SDG portal.

Efforts to enhance statistical capacities for generating SDG-relevant statistics in sustainable urban development will persist, with a particular focus on acquiring data for missing indicators and exploring options for indicator localization. Key events for discussing various urban development topics include World Urban Fora and National Urban Fora. Most relevant to this publication the Twelfth Session of the World Urban Forum in November 2024 in Cairo, Egypt and the Serbian Second National Urban Forum in April 2024 in the City of Niš. These fora will serve as platforms to discuss and amplify themes related to urban monitoring and the localization of SDGs.

As the coordinator in monitoring process of SDG indicators, SORS will continue to collaborate with all pertinent data generators and international organizations. This collaboration aims to ensure the accessibility of SDG indicators in sustainable urban development and monitor progress towards the established goals of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Links

SORS website (Serbian) – <https://www.stat.gov.rs/#>

SORS website (English) – <https://www.stat.gov.rs/en-US/>

2030 Agenda (Serbian) – <https://sdg.indikatori.rs/media/1574/agenda-2030-srp.pdf>

2030 Agenda (English) – <https://sdg.indikatori.rs/media/1575/agenda-2030-eng.pdf>

SDG profile Republic of Serbia (Serbian) – http://devinfo.stat.gov.rs/diFiles/diProfili/SDG_Srbija_cir.pdf

SDG profile Republic of Serbia (English) – http://devinfo.stat.gov.rs/diFiles/diProfili/SDG_Serbia.pdf

SORS SDG portal (Serbian) – <https://sdg.indikatori.rs/sr-Cyrl/>

SORS SDG portal (English) – <https://sdg.indikatori.rs/en-US/>

SORS open data for SDG (language can be changed to English via the menu in the top right corner of the web page) –

<https://opendata.stat.gov.rs/odatasdgun/?id=sr-lat>

SORS documents related to SDG (Serbian) – <https://sdg.indikatori.rs/sr-Cyrl/dokumenti>

SORS documents related to SDG (English) – <https://sdg.indikatori.rs/en-US/dokumenti>

2020 Progress Report on the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 in the Republic of Serbia (bilingual)

– https://sdg.indikatori.rs/media/1622/izvestaj-o-napretku-u-ostvarivanju-ciljeva-odrzivog-razvoja-do-2030-godine-u-srbiji_sr-i-en-2020.pdf

2021 Progress Report on the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 in the Republic of Serbia (bilingual)

– https://sdg.indikatori.rs/media/1623/izvestaj-o-napretku-u-ostvarivanju-ciljeva-odrzivog-razvoja-do-2030-godine-u-srbiji_sr-i-en-2021.pdf

2022 Progress Report on the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 in the Republic of Serbia (bilingual)

– https://sdg.indikatori.rs/media/1624/izvestaj-o-napretku-u-ostvarivanju-ciljeva-odrzivog-razvoja-do-2030-godine-u-srbiji_sr-i-en-2022.pdf

United Nations Human Settlements Programme – UN-Habitat. The Global Urban Monitoring Framework (English)

– <https://unhabitat.org/the-global-urban-monitoring-framework>

DEGURBA methodology (English)

– <https://www.oecd.org/regional/applying-the-degree-of-urbanisation-4bc1c502-en.htm>

Sustainable Urban Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia until 2030 (Serbian)

– <https://www.mgsi.gov.rs/cir/dokumenti/urbani-razvoj>

National Report of the Republic of Serbia to the Habitat III Conference (bilingual)

– <https://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/preparatory-process/national-participation/serbia>

New Urban Agenda (Serbian and 32 other languages)

– <https://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda>



Gold Gondola in operations during summer day at Zlatibor, Serbia. © Shutterstock/Goran Vrhovac



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