

# English text

## SDG in Iceland

In March 2017, the Icelandic government decided to appoint a working group of the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources, the Ministry of Welfare, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs and Statistics Iceland, which would manage the analysis, implementation and promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals. In order to ensure the involvement of all the ministries in the work, a contact group was also formed, comprised of representatives of other ministries, as well as an observer from the Association of Local Authorities in Iceland.

In the autumn of 2018, the working group was reorganised and now consists of representatives from all ministries, the Association of Local Authorities in Iceland and Statistics Iceland, as well as observers from the Youth Council for the SDGs and the UN Association in Iceland. The representative of the Prime Minister's Office is chairman of the group and the Foreign Ministry's representative vice-chairman.

According to the government's decision, the principal task of the working group initially was to analyse the status of the targets for the SDGs, draft a status report with proposals on prioritisation of targets for the government, and set forth proposals for future arrangements and procedures in connection with the implementation of the goals in Iceland. In particular, the SDG working group was to look at how to integrate the implementation of the SDGs with government policy and planning and how to work on implementation of the goals in cooperation with domestic stakeholders.

Following the submission of the status report in the summer of 2018 and the adoption of the 65 priority targets, the working group has worked systematically on implementing the SDGs, with emphasis on the priority targets. The working group also handles international cooperation on the goals and has overseen the preparation of the first VNR to the United Nations High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). (Heimsmarkmiðin, 2020)

## Priority targets

The UN Sustainable Development Goals consist of 17 objectives and 169 targets, as well as 232 indicators. Most of the 169 targets are applicable to Iceland, but to varying degrees. It soon became clear that in order to achieve measurable results in the implementation of the targets in Iceland, they had to be prioritised in order to improve efficiency and oversight in policy formulation and planning. It should be mentioned, however, that the priority targets do not exclude work on implementing other targets. The aim is to implement all the targets that apply to Iceland, and a good number of them have already been implemented. In those cases, emphasis will be placed on doing even better and, at the same time, sharing Iceland's experience and expertise with other nations of the world.

The first steps taken to prioritise the targets were to evaluate what data existed in Iceland on each indicator and its quality. It was important that the data be internationally comparable and that the related indicators be clearly defined. In July 2017, the Institute for Sustainability Studies (ISS) at the University of Iceland was entrusted with evaluating the data collection that had already taken place. The objective of this project was to prepare two reports, firstly, an assessment of the quality of the data collected by the SDG working group and, secondly, to make proposals on behalf of the Institute on methodology for prioritising the SDGs in Iceland. Work then proceeded based on the proposals presented in the second report, following a so-called "Criteria-Based Framework". The goals were evaluated using four criteria: conformity with the government coalition platform, connection to Icelandic reality, access to data and distance to target, using a specific scale; however, the weighting of the criteria differed in the calculations. Following consultations with government experts, 65 targets were given priority in the government's work in implementing the SDGs in Iceland and in international cooperation for the next few years. (Heimsmarkmiðin, 2020)

- [Iceland's Priority Targets 2018-2020](#)

## VNR 2019

Iceland's first national status report for the SDGs was published in June 2018 and provides insight into Iceland's position vis-à-vis the targets in both the domestic and international arena. Iceland's first Voluntary National Review (VNR) report on Iceland is based to a considerable extent on that work (Heimsmarkmiðin, 2020).

### Summary from the VNR Report

Iceland is fully committed to the implementation of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development both nationally and internationally. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been integrated into government policy on social, economic and environmental affairs, with a particular emphasis on building a peaceful and just society, free from fear and violence. Domestically, the Government aims to identify and better serve marginalised groups in society and to build partnerships to address the large environmental footprint of modern lifestyle. Iceland is still a net contributor to climate change, but heads for carbon-neutrality at the latest in 2040. Internationally, Iceland shares its expertise in gender equality, land restoration and the use of sustainable natural marine and energy resources through its international cooperation, contributing to global progress on SDGs 5, 7, 13, 14 and 15. The promotion of human rights for all, including LGBTI persons, is a cornerstone in Iceland's foreign policy and its international development cooperation – in line with Agenda 2030 and the Government's domestic priorities. In particular, Iceland has been a vocal champion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, a key driver for the achievement of the SDGs.

#### *Process*

An inter-ministerial working group leads the work of the Icelandic government towards implementing the SDGs. It has mapped Iceland's position for all 169 targets and specified 65 priority targets that will guide the authorities in implementing the goals in the coming years. Data has been gathered for 70 of the indicators for the SDGs, which are based on a defined methodology, but more work remains to strengthen the statistical foundation of the SDGs in Iceland. The SDGs serve as guiding principles in Iceland's development cooperation, as the government's main goal in development work is to reduce poverty and hunger and to promote general welfare based on gender equality, human rights, and sustainable development. New initiatives aim to build public-private partnerships in international development cooperation, as the SDGs will not be met unless the private sector is a part of the solution. Strong emphasis has been placed on integrating the SDGs into the government's five-year fiscal strategy. Linking SDG targets directly to specific government policy objectives offers an opportunity to map the means of implementation of specific targets, estimate funding allocation for the SDGs at any given time and anticipate potential synergies and trade-offs. Additionally, efforts are being made to actively involve local authorities in their important role in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

#### *Inclusion*

The government acknowledges that implementing the SDGs will require a concerted effort by many different stakeholders. Therefore, the government has focused on consultation and cooperation on the implementation of the goals, both internationally as well as nationally. The Icelandic Youth Council for the SDGs gives young people a platform to express their voice to policy makers. Children have the right to have their views heard and child participation is crucial for the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Iceland's VNR report was made available in the government's electronic consultation portal to invite the opinions of various parties. This feedback was taken into account in writing the final report. Further and more effective consultations with various stakeholders is planned on a regular basis.

#### *Challenges*

Iceland is a Nordic welfare state with a relatively high standard of living. For ten consecutive years, Iceland has been ranked both the world's most peaceful country and the one with the greatest gender equality.

Despite real success in many areas, Iceland still faces a variety of challenges and has a way to go before achieving some of the SDG targets. The VNR report attempts to give a clear picture of Iceland's main challenges for each of the 17 goals, with the aim of identifying marginalised groups, such as immigrants and persons with disabilities, in order to leave no groups or individuals behind. Climate change is one of the major challenges in Iceland as well as responsible consumption and production. The VNR sets out the next phase of Iceland's implementation of the SDGs, including the ambitious government's Climate Action Plan, which is an example of a co-ordinated policy laid out by seven ministers in consultation with various stakeholders (Government of Iceland, 2019)

## SDG 11 in Iceland status

Below is the status on Goal 11 in Iceland (Government of Iceland, SDG, 2020)

Home / Goal 11			
<p><b>11.1.1</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing</p>	<p><b>11.2.1</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities</p>	<p><b>11.3.1</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate</p>	<p><b>11.3.2</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically</p>
<p><b>11.4.1</b> <span>Exploring data sources</span></p> <p>Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)</p>	<p><b>11.5.1</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population</p>	<p><b>11.5.2</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Direct economic loss in relation to global GDP, damage to critical infrastructure and number of disruptions to basic services, attributed to disasters</p>	<p><b>11.6.1</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities</p>
<p><b>11.6.2</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)</p>	<p><b>11.7.1</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>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</p>	<p><b>11.7.2</b> <span>Exploring data sources</span></p> <p>Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months</p>	<p><b>11.a.1</b> <span>Exploring data sources</span></p> <p>Proportion of population living in cities that implement urban and regional development plans integrating population projections and resource needs, by size of city</p>
<p><b>11.b.1</b> <span>Reported online</span></p> <p>Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030</p>	<p><b>11.b.2</b> <span>Exploring data sources</span></p> <p>Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies</p>	<p><b>11.c.1</b> <span>Exploring data sources</span></p> <p>Proportion of financial support to the least developed countries that is allocated to the construction and retrofitting of sustainable, resilient and resource-efficient buildings utilizing local materials</p>	

# Icelandic text

## Heimsmarkmiðin á Íslandi

Heimsmarkmið Sameinuðu þjóðanna um sjálfbæra þróun voru samþykkt af fulltrúum allra aðildarríkja Sameinuðu þjóðanna í september árið 2015. Markmiðin, sem gilda á tímabilinu 2016-2030, eru 17 talsins með 169 undirmarkmið og taka bæði til innanlandsmála sem og alþjóðasamstarfs á gildistímanum. Aðalsmerki heimsmarkmiðanna er að þau eru algild og því hafa aðildarríkin skuldbundið sig til þess að vinna skipulega að innleiðingu markmiðanna bæði á innlendum og erlendum vettvangi út gildistíma þeirra.

Heimsmarkmiðin eru samþætt og órjúfanleg og mynda jafnvægi milli þriggja stöða sjálfbærrar þróunar; hinnar efnahagslegu, félagslegu og umhverfislegu. Þá fela þau einnig í sér fimm meginþemu sem eru mannkynið, jörðin, hagsæld, friður og samstarf. Aðalinntak markmiðanna er jafnframt að engir einstaklingar eða hópar verði skildir eftir. Því er mikilvægt að ríki horfi ekki eingöngu til meðaltala við mælingar á árangri sínum heldur nálgist innleiðingu markmiðanna á heildstæðan hátt. Heimsmarkmiðin eru margþætt og metnaðarfull og krefjast skipulagðrar vinnu af hálfu stjórnvalda en einnig þátttöku og samstarfs ólíkra hagsmunaaðila. Þá eru innri tengsl og samþætt eðli markmiðanna afar þýðingarmikil fyrir framkvæmd þeirra. Óhætt er að fullyrða að ef þjóðum heims tekst að ná markmiðunum innan gildistíma áætlunarinnar þá mun líf allra og umhverfi hafa batnað til mikilla muna árið 2030 (Heimsmarkmiðin, 2020).

## Forgangsmarkmið ríkisstjórnarinnar

Ríkisstjórnin samþykkti í júní 2018 að forgangsraða 65 af 169 undirmarkmiðum heimsmarkmiða Sameinuðu þjóðanna við innleiðingu þeirra á Íslandi. Forgangsraðunin tekur mið af stjórnarsáttmála ríkisstjórnarinnar auk þess sem þeim markmiðum var forgangsraðað sem krefjast mestrar vinnu af hálfu stjórnvalda til að þeim megi ná fyrir árið 2030.

Forgangsmarkmiðin endurspeglu áherslur stjórnvalda við innleiðingu markmiðanna næstu árin. Þau útiloka þó ekki að unnið verði að innleiðingu annarra markmiða, sér í lagi þeirra sem vel eru á veg komin. Þá verður jafnframt lögð áhersla á að miðla reynslu og þekkingu Íslands til annarra þjóða heimsins.

[Sjá nánar í stöðuskýrslu verkefnastjórnar heimsmarkmiðanna](#)

[Forgangsmarkmið ríkisstjórnarinnar](#)

## Heimsmarkmið 11 Sjálfbærar borgir og samfélög

Fyrir neðan má sjá stöðu markmiðs nr. 11 (Government of Iceland, SDG, 2020)

## 11.1.1

Birt

Hlutfall íbúa í þéttbýli sem búa í fátækrahverfum, óformlegu húsnæði eða óviðunandi húsnæði.

## 11.2.1

Birt

Hlutfall íbúa með auðvelt aðgengi að almenningssamgöngum, eftir kyni, aldri og fötludum einstaklingum.

## 11.3.1

Birt

Hlutfall milli landnýtingar og fólksfjölgunar.

## 11.3.2

Birt

Hlutfall borga með beinu þátttökuferli fyrir íbúa við skipulag og stjórnun þéttbýlis, með reglubundnum og lýðræðislegum hætti.

## 11.4.1

Verið að kanna gagnalindir

Heildarútgjöld (opinberra aðila og einkaaðila) á mann sem varið er til varðveislu, verndunar og friðunar allrar menningar- og náttúruarfleifðar, eftir tegund arfleifðar (menningararfleifð, náttúruarfleifð, blönduð arfleifð og arfleifð á heimsminjaskrá UNESCO), tegund stjórnvalda (landsstjórn, svæðisstjórn og sveitarstjórn), tegund fjármögnunar (rekstrarútgjöld/fjárfestingar) og tegund einkafjármögnunar (gjafir í fríðu, óhagnaðardrífinn einkageiri og kostun).

## 11.5.1

Birt

Fjöldi dauðsfalla, týndra einstaklinga og fólks sem orðið hefur fyrir beinum áhrifum af völdum hamfara á hverja 100.000 íbúa.

## 11.5.2

Birt

Beint efnahagslegt tap af völdum hamfara í tengslum við verga landsframleiðslu á hnattræna visu, skemmdir á þýðingamiklum innviðum og trúflanir á veitingu grunnþjónustu.

## 11.6.1

Birt

Hlutfall fasts úrgangs frá þéttbýli sem er safnað saman með reglubundnum hætti og er fargað með viðunandi hætti sem hlutfall af heildarmagni fasts úrgangs í þéttbýli, eftir borgum.

## 11.6.2

Birt

Árlegt meðalgildi fingerðs ryks (þ.e. PM2,5 og PM10) í borgum (vegið m.v. íbúafjölda).

## 11.7.1

Birt

Meðalhlutfall uppbyggðra svæða í borgum sem eru opin svæði til almennrar notkunar fyrir alla, eftir kyni, aldri og fötludum einstaklingum.

## 11.7.2

Verið að kanna gagnalindir

Hlutfall einstaklinga sem eru þolendur líkamlegrar eða kynferðislegrar áreitni, eftir kyni, aldri, fötlun og staðsetningu verknaðar, á síðastliðnum 12 mánuðum.

## 11.a.1

Verið að kanna gagnalindir

Hlutfall íbúa sem búa í borgum sem komið hafa til framkvæmda áætlunum um þróun í þéttbýli og svæðisbundna þróun þar sem mannfjöldaspár og auðlindanotkun hefur verið samþætt, eftir stærð borgar.

## 11.b.1

Birt

Fjöldi landa sem hafa samþykkt og komið til framkvæmda innlendum áætlunum um að draga úr áhrifum hamfara í samræmi við Sendai-rammaáætlunina um forvarnir gegn náttúruvá 2015-2030.

## 11.b.2

Verið að kanna gagnalindir

Hlutfall sveitarstjórna sem hafa samþykkt og komið til framkvæmda staðbundnum áætlunum um að draga úr áhrifum hamfara í samræmi við innlendar áætlanir um það.

## 11.c.1

Verið að kanna gagnalindir

Hlutfall fjárstuðnings til þeirra landa, sem eru skemmt á veg komin í þróun, sem úthlutað er til byggingar og endurbóta á varanlegum, álagsþolnum og auðlindanýtnum byggingum úr byggingarefnum af svæðinu.