



Measuring the SDGs: an initial picture for the Netherlands



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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Explanation of symbols

Empty cell	Figure not applicable
.	Figure is unknown, insufficiently reliable or confidential
*	Provisional figure
**	Revised provisional figure
2015–2016	2015 to 2016 inclusive
2015/2016	Average for 2015 to 2016 inclusive
2015/'16	Crop year, financial year, school year, etc., beginning in 2015 and ending in 2016
2013/'14–2015/'16	Crop year, financial year, etc., 2013/'14 to 2015/'16 inclusive

Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the separate figures.

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Foreword

In 2015, the members of the United Nations (UN) adopted an agenda for sustainable development. All 193 members of the UN signed up to an ambitious package of goals: the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This commits the UN members, including the Netherlands, to eliminate poverty and hunger, to protect human rights and to promote gender equality. In total, the package includes 17 goals for the period 2015–2030. To monitor progress, the UN has drafted a list of indicators: the Sustainable Development Goals Indicators. This publication shows which of these indicators can be measured by CBS (Statistics Netherlands) based on available statistics and which indicators require additional efforts or observations to be made.

Currently, one third of the indicators can be measured using the available data; therefore, for many indicators, data must still be collected. This publication serves as a starting point for a broad public debate between parties including NGOs, policy analysis organisations, knowledge institutes and ministries about how progress in the area of SDGs can and should be measured in the Netherlands.

The global picture that arises from the SDG measurements is that in many SDG domains for which figures are available, progress is being made in the Netherlands. This is in particular the case in the economic field, but also with respect to the constitutional state and institutions and in some areas of health and education. However, there are domains in which the Netherlands scores less well. For example, the Netherlands still emits high levels of greenhouse gases per inhabitant and therefore was ranked 25 (of 28) in the European Union (EU) in 2014; furthermore, the proportion of renewable energy with respect to the total energy consumption is still very low: 5.9 percent in 2015; and the healthy life expectancy of Dutch women is relatively low compared to that in other European countries (ranked at 20 of 28 in 2014). Other domains in which the Netherlands scores less well concern income inequality between men and women and feelings of discrimination. The same applies to nature and biodiversity, the environmental pressure the Netherlands exerts on other countries, sustainable food production, waste, water and sustainable fishery. Finally, the Netherlands has an average score within the EU with respect to the number of people who have completed higher education, R&D expenditure, and the number of patent applications submitted. The pursuit of sustainable development is an aspect of the pursuit of well-being in the broadest sense. Within this framework, the parliamentary Temporary Committee on a Broad Definition of Welfare recently made several recommendations. One is the recommendation to transform the Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands, as published in 2009, 2011 and 2014, into a *Monitor Brede Welvaart* (Monitor of Well-being). The set of Sustainable Development Goals Indicators described in this publication may in the future become one of the building blocks of such a Monitor. Therefore, this year, this special report about SDGs replaces the Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands.

Director-General

Dr T.B.P.M. Tjin-A-Tsoi

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1.

Introduction

This publication is an initial exploration of the measuring of indicators for the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CBS (Statistics Netherlands) aims to encourage a debate between policy makers, researchers and societal and business community partners about how to construct a Dutch national SDG report and about where the Netherlands stands in measuring the SDG indicators.

At the end of September 2015, all members of the United Nations adopted on a future agenda for sustainable development. Leaders of all 193 governments, including the Netherlands, signed an ambitious package of goals, the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs). These goals refer to the period 2015–2030.

The core of the 2030 agenda consists of 17 goals, elaborated in 169 sub-goals. The governments of the member states bear responsibility for their implementation and the monitoring of progress. To do so, it has been agreed that the data required for monitoring will be reported by the countries, with an important role for the national statistics offices of these countries.

After establishing the ambition, in 2016 work was done under the aegis of the UN to design a measuring system for reporting the progress made towards the SDGs. The Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (UN, 2016a) gives an initial set of indicators that are required for the monitoring.



Source: United Nations.

This publication is the first CBS exploration of measuring the SDG indicators for the Netherlands. As such, it forms a starting point for a broad public debate between parties including NGOs, policy assessment organisations, knowledge institutes, ministries and other organisations about how progress in the Netherlands in the area of the SDGs can and should be measured.

The picture that arises from the first SDG measurements is that the Netherlands is making progress, but that there are important points of concern, particularly with respect to climate, energy and inequality. Various critical remarks might be made about this conclusion. In the first place, only one third of the SDG indicators appear to be directly measurable for the Netherlands. Many other indicators are still to be developed.

There is still considerable national and international discussion about how exactly the SDG indicators should be measured and data will have to be collected to be able to measure the indicators. Therefore, this is still a major task for the Netherlands.

An important aspect here is the national strategy regarding the SDGs in the Netherlands, which is still under development. For many SDGs and sub-goals, national ambitions and targets are still lacking. The Dutch national strategy will give focus to the measuring system and determine which indicators must be developed first. In addition, in the course of time, the UN's list of indicators will regularly be amended at the UN level. Therefore, there is ample room for future improvement and amendment of SDG monitoring in the Netherlands.

Lastly, a picture that is sketched out based on the SDGs is an incomplete picture of the actual situation in the Netherlands with respect to sustainability (Smits and Eding, 2015). The SDGs do not make trade-off relationships visible between the economy, the environment and society. There are relatively many input indicators, while there should be more emphasis on outcome indicators. In the SDGs, less attention seems to be given to 'later': what impact will our present actions have on our children? The same applies to the extent to which a country occupies the resources of other countries, 'elsewhere'.

The Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands, comprising the CBS indicators report and exploratory studies by the policy research and analysis agencies (CBS/CPB/PBL/SCP, 2014), offers a framework that covers the entire theme of sustainability (referred to as the CES measuring system). The limited attention given to the dimensions 'later' and 'elsewhere' argue for integrating the SDG indicators in the CES measuring system. The Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands was not published in 2016. However, its indicators have recently been updated and made available via the CBS website.¹⁾ Instead of the Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands, CBS published this report on SDG indicators, as one of the building blocks for the monitor's possible successor. This will be a *Monitor Brede Welvaart* (Monitor of Well-being), which will be compiled at the request of the government. The collaboration with the policy research and analysis organisations will be continued for this new Monitor.

¹⁾ <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/visualisatie/2016/11/duurzame-ontwikkeling>

2.

Sustainable development

The UN's SDG indicators are one of the milestones in a long-lasting debate about measuring sustainable development and well-being. Gross domestic product (GDP) is too limited an indicator to be able to measure whether a country is on a sustainable development path. Various international and national initiatives argue for multiple indicators, in addition to GDP, to gain a picture of developments and trade-offs across the full extent of the economy, the environment and society.

2.1 Measuring sustainable development and well-being

The UN's proposed set of SDG indicators (UN, 2016a) fits in an on-going discussion concerning measuring prosperity and well-being, referred to as the 'Beyond GDP' discussion. Important milestones in this discussion are the report entitled *Our Common Future* from the Brundtland Commission (WCED, 1987), the *Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Progress* (Stiglitz, Sen and Fitoussi, 2009) and the recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians (UNECE, 2014), referred to as the CES indicators. In addition, the recommendations of the Temporary Committee on a Broad Definition of Welfare (*Tijdelijke commissie Breed welvaartsbegrip*) (House of Representatives, 2016b) fit within this framework. Extensive descriptions of these developments can be found in Smits and Hoekstra (2011) and House of Representatives (2016b).

Nationally and internationally, statisticians and others are involved in measuring sustainable development and well-being. For instance, a recent CBS publication that fits in this development is the Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands (CBS/CPB/PBL, SCP, 2014), which has an indicators section (produced by CBS) and an explorations section (produced by the policy assessment organisations). There are also the CBS publications *Kwaliteit van Leven in Nederland* (van Gaalen and Kazemier, 2015), *Welzijn in Nederland* (Moonen and Stroucken, 2015) and *Green Growth in the Netherlands* (CBS, 2015b). Internationally, various statistical reports have been published, including *How's Life?* (OECD, 2015) and *Sustainable Development in the European Union* (Eurostat, 2015).

2.2 The Brundtland report

In the report *Our Common Future* (WCED, 1987), the Brundtland Commission explores social (and sustainable) developments from the perspective of justice. This report explores the intra-generational distribution of well-being within the current generation (in particular the distribution of well-being between the rich and the developing countries) and the inter-generational perspective, where the focus is on whether the current generation is not exhausting too many of the resources, which could threaten future generations' pursuit of well-being. According to the Brundtland Commission, a development is only sustainable if both the intra- and inter-generational justice requirements are met.

The concept of sustainability originates from ecology: the sustainable use of a fish stock or a forest means that no more fish or wood is taken from the stock than its natural growth. This means that future generations will be able to continue to use natural resources and the environment. According to the Commission, poverty forms a practical obstruction to the sustainable use of the physical environment, and nature conservation and economic development must be integrated for sustainable development. Here the Brundtland Commission arrives at the following definition of sustainable development: *Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present (generation) without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.* CBS' Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands 2014 added to this definition: *both here and in other parts of the world.*

So sustainable development mainly deals with the question of whether our quality of life here and now does not place too great a burden on the possibilities for people elsewhere and in the future to have a sufficient quality of life.

2.3 The Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi report

In 2009, the *Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress* published a report under the guidance of Stiglitz, Sen and Fitoussi. The Commission found that financial economic policy and socio-economic policy is based on an incorrect and too limited set of data. GDP, the frequently used indicator for economic growth, is not the correct indicator to use when economic development and social progress is concerned. The authors of the report therefore argue to move from a system that measures economic production – well-being in the narrow sense – to a system that measures prosperity in the broad sense.

Well-being in the broadest sense has many aspects. The Commission identified eight dimensions. Here not only the current situation is important but also how it is experienced. Both objective and subjective indicators are important for these dimensions. Lastly, the Commission emphasises, in a way similar to the Brundtland Commission, the relationship between the present and the future. Developments now can detrimentally affect the well-being of future relationships. The measuring system must make this relationship visible.

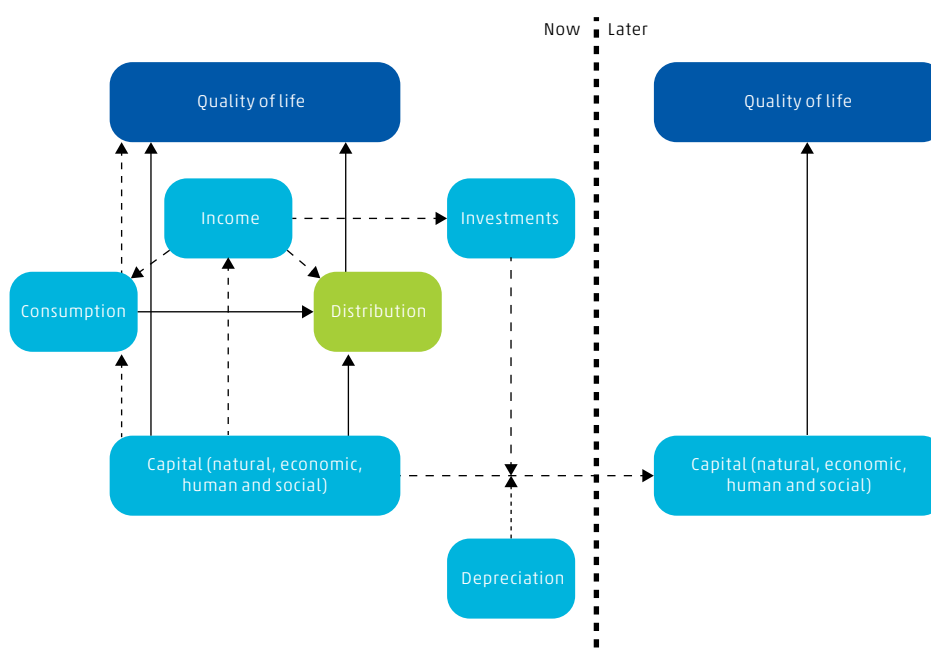
2.4 The framework of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES)

Led by CBS, an international task force of statisticians worked on a framework for measuring sustainable development using internationally accepted and harmonised data. This framework was finally accepted and endorsed by at least 60 countries during the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in 2014 (UNECE, 2014).

The CES measuring system is among other things underpinned by a capital approach. This theoretical underpinning is based on the work of Smits and Hoekstra (2011). A systematic inventory is made of the status of the quality of life 'here and now' and how this quality of life influences vital resources or capital. This concerns not only natural resources, but expressly also economic, human and social capital. Excessive depletion of these resources could, after all, impede the quality of life of future generations ('later'). In addition, the degree to which the choices made put pressure on other countries is measured ('elsewhere'). Within such a framework, it is clear that there can be a trade-off, for instance between economic growth and CO₂ emissions, the pressure a country puts on developing countries by importing their resources and energy, or the decision to invest in education for future generations.

The CES framework

A society has various resources available that can be used to generate prosperity and well-being: economic capital (machinery and buildings), human capital (labour, education, health), natural capital (natural resources, biodiversity and climate) and social capital (social networks and trust). These resources are required to maintain prosperity and well-being and as such the quality of life of the population.



The use of capital by the present generation will affect the availability of capital later, and as such the quality of life of future generations. The figure above shows these important trade-off relationships. Sustainable development implies that the present generation in its pursuit of well-being will also ensure that sufficient capital remains available for future generations. This applies in particular to natural capital, because this is a critical form of capital: without natural capital, people could not survive.

The three pillars of the CES framework (quality of life, resources and pressure on other countries) are in line with the Brundtland definition for sustainable development, the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi report and the SER recommendations on sustainable development (SER, 2010). The indicator system applied in the Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands is more or less identical to the CES measuring system.

2.5 Parliamentary Committee on a Broad Definition of Welfare

The fact that gross domestic product (GDP) increasingly (and unjustifiably) is equated to welfare and progress (WRR, 2013) was the reason for the Dutch Parliament to investigate what GDP actually does and does not measure, and the role GDP plays in policy making and political decision making. In addition, the temporary committee that was tasked with this investigation was asked to investigate whether it would be useful to develop other indicators in addition to GDP to clarify welfare and well-being in a broad sense and, if the answer to this question was yes, to identify which indicators should be developed and how they could be used. In a memorandum to this committee, CBS mapped out the strengths and weaknesses of GDP and what CBS is already doing to develop criteria to measure welfare and well-being in the broad sense (Smits, 2015).

After thorough research and after having heard a large number of experts, the committee found that GDP is a solid and usable indicator, but is indeed a too limited indicator to measure welfare or well-being in its broad sense (House of Representatives, 2016b; see also the thematic edition of the *Tijdschrift Milieu* (2016) on the theme Green Welfare). The committee recommended implementing the CES indicators for a statistical description of well-being. The committee considered the Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands in its current form to be of insufficient use for the political debate. Among other things, the committee wants to see an attractive and accessible presentation, more recent data and publication at fixed times in the parliamentary process. Therefore, it recommended developing this monitor into a Monitor of Well-being. For the visual presentation, it recommended using the OECD's Better Life Index as a source of inspiration.

In June 2016, a Parliamentary debate was held on the committee report that contained the recommendation to produce an annual Monitor of Well-being to be developed by CBS for the annual Accountability Debate in May. A clear parliamentary majority accepted the report. This report was then sent to the cabinet with the request to respond to it and the recommendations it included.

3.

**The UN goals
for sustainable
development**

At the end of 2015, the members of the United Nations reached agreement on an agenda for sustainable development. This comprises an ambitious package of goals: Sustainable Development Goals. Throughout the world, these SDGs are viewed as one of the main policy themes for the coming 15 years. The first SDG indicator reports have now been published. These measure where the countries currently stand. However, various critical remarks were also voiced about the SDGs, as they do not explain the trade-offs between the various goals.

3.1 The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs

In September 2015, the leaders of the governments of the 193 member states of the United Nations adopted an historic agreement concerning the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN, 2015). The 17 goals for sustainable development (SDGs, also referred to as Global Goals) apply to the period 2015–2030 and are the successors to the Millennium Goals. In 2000, the world leaders adopted the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were to halve the major problems in the poorest developing countries in 15 years. The goals covered the domains of poverty, hunger, primary education, environment (including drinking water and sanitation), gender inequality, child and maternal mortality and mortality resulting from communicable diseases.

While the millennium goals mainly focused on alleviating poverty in developing countries, the 2030 agenda is a broad sustainability agenda for all countries, therefore also for western countries including the Netherlands. The agreements made are not legally binding but are a best-effort obligation. Countries are called on to translate the global SDGs into national goals and policy and to commit to doing everything possible to contribute to justice, safety and prosperity in the world. Currently, the Dutch government is developing initiatives designed to lead to a national SDG strategy (House of Representatives, 2016a; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2016).

Translating the global SDGs into national goals for 2030 comprises establishing any new goals for themes for which the Netherlands has formulated no or only partial policy goals, and updating the current goals for 2030. Incidentally, it must be pointed out that the list of sustainability goals is the outcome of a political negotiation process and therefore does not contain all relevant themes. For instance, there are no clear goals regarding knowledge capital, which is in particular of major importance for western countries.

3.2 The first SDG indicator reports

Mid-July 2016, two reports were published that compare the starting position of various countries (including the Netherlands) for achieving the SDG targets.

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) published the report entitled Measuring distance to the SDGs targets (Boarini et al., 2016). This is a pilot report that uses extensive 'country performance reviews' and general studies. The OECD assessed the starting position of the Netherlands based on half of the sub-goals as being 'very good'.

At almost the same time, the Bertelsmann Stiftung and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) published the SDG Index & Dashboards (Sachs et al., 2016). This report determines for 149 countries the efforts still required to achieve the SDG targets. In the final rating, the Netherlands takes 8th place, based on one third of the SDG indicators.

These publications show that the Netherlands is performing well on themes including health, decent work, economic growth and drinking water/sanitation. The points where improvements can be made include the air quality along busy urban roads and around cattle farms, the proportion of women in leadership positions, the proportion of renewable energy and sustainability in production and consumption.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

1. **End poverty in all its forms everywhere**
 2. **End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture**
 3. **Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages**
 4. **Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**
 5. **Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**
 6. **Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all**
 7. **Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**
 8. **Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all**
 9. **Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation**
 10. **Reduce inequality within and among countries**
 11. **Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**
 12. **Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**
 13. **Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**
 14. **Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development**
 15. **Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**
 16. **Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**
 17. **Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**
-

3.3 Some reservations about the SDGs

Even so, there are more critical remarks to be heard about the SDGs and the UN's proposed set of indicators (Smits and Eding, 2015). In contrast to the CES indicators, the UN goals lack a clear theoretical foundation. Trade-off relationships, as made visible in the CES measuring system, are not directly visible for the SDGs. For instance, not all capital indicators that are of essential importance when monitoring the inter-generational aspect (the relationship between the present and the future, see the text on the CES framework) of sustainability are found on the UN list. In addition, no footprint indicators have been included that indicate the degree to which production and consumption activities in one country put pressure on the rest of the world.

The ICSU/ISSC (2015) report investigates the SDG indicator set from a more scientific viewpoint. The report states that of the indicators, only 29 percent are fully defined with metadata, that 54 percent need to be specified and that 17 percent require significant efforts to arrive at international harmonisation. A review of the indicator set should mainly focus on consistency with existing international agreements and processes, implementation possibilities and measurability.

Furthermore, the report gives a number of concrete recommendations, including the formulation of a collective main goal that binds the underlying 17 goals together, an increased focus and the further specification (where possible) of the goals. When establishing the SDG indicators, the initial intention was to develop 17 main indicators for the various sustainability goals. However, there still proved to be a lack of political support to do so. The large number of SDG indicators and the limited attention given to the dimensions of 'later' and 'elsewhere' argue for the integration of these indicators into the CES framework.

4.

Indicators for monitoring the SDGs

The first exploration into the measurement of SDG indicators shows that for the Netherlands, only one third of the SDG goal indicators are directly measurable. Many other indicators still need to be developed, and therefore this is a major task for the Netherlands. A number of additional and alternative indicators have been used for this publication, which gives a preliminary picture of the status of the Netherlands.

4.1 Measuring SDG indicators

An important question is how to monitor the extent to which the Netherlands and other countries are on the right track to realising the set goals. The SDG agreement recognises that the national statistics institutes are anticipated to and must play an important role. When establishing the SDGs, it was emphasised that it is important to have an internationally harmonised database of indicators. This is because it must be possible to compare the data of countries and regions. In the past two years, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG) drew up the first list of 230 unique indicators (UN, 2016a).¹⁾ The Netherlands, represented by CBS, is one of the three EU members in this group. The list was adopted during the 47th session of the UN Statistical Commission in March 2016 as a pragmatic starting point that will be subject to refinement and improvements in due course.²⁾ The list was once more endorsed in July 2016 in the ministerial statement after the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development that took place under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council of the UN (UN ECOSOC, 2016).

Many researchers at various international organisations have now published the first preliminary indicator reports that, for the first time, assess and compare western countries with respect to the sustainability of their development. Prominent examples are Kroll (2015) and the reports described in Chapter 3: Sachs et al. (2016) of Bertelsmann Stiftung and Boarini et al. (2016) of the OECD. Furthermore, the UN (2016b) has published an initial report that compares regions of the world. The underlying data for this report contain data for the individual countries. All of the reports mentioned above contain data for the Netherlands; however, the reports do not focus on the Netherlands. Moreover, they do not specifically compare EU countries (as CBS does in this publication) but many more countries (OECD countries and UN members). The picture thus soon arises that the Netherlands is performing relatively well. Moreover, developments in the Netherlands over time have not been made visible. In addition, the national strategy for SDGs in the Netherlands will include the country's own priorities and therefore focus on monitoring the associated indicators.

CBS therefore investigated the availability of data for the SDG indicators specifically for the Netherlands. The first provisional results are presented in the statistical annex. It shows the currently available statistical information for the Netherlands for at least some of the 230 indicators on the UN list. In this exploration, CBS limited itself to the

¹⁾ Some indicators are used for more than one SDG (see <http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/>)

²⁾ <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2016/03/un-statistical-commission-endorses-global-indicator-framework/>

192 'goal' indicators in the 126 sub-goals (1.1, 1.2, 1.3 etc., see UN, 2016a). In any case, the Netherlands must measure its current status (goals).

The other indicators are referred to as the 'means of implementation' indicators in the other 43 sub-goals (1a, 1b, 2a etc.). These are the means that should be employed to achieve the goals. CBS has not carried out initial measurements for these 'means of implementation' indicators. Many indicators on the SDG list (including the 'means of implementation' indicators) mainly describe inputs or policy drivers, while the list contains relatively few real outcome indicators. The CES measuring system focuses on such outcome indicators.

Here it should once more be stated that for many SDG indicators the exact definition and metadata are still missing and that there is still a long way to go to full international harmonisation. This has consequences for how CBS chose the indicators at this stage. In the SDG framework, countries also have the freedom to measure alternative or supplementary indicators for the SDGs in reports at the national and regional level. These may be indicators that replace SDG indicators for which no national data are (yet) available, but also SDG indicators for which countries themselves think that an alternative or supplementary indicator can shine a different or better light on the (possibly country-specific) outcome in a certain SDG goal. Other researchers also used alternative and supplementary indicators, even the UN statisticians themselves (see UN, 2016b).

What makes the information demands even bigger and more complex is that the basic principle of the 2030 Agenda is that a goal has only been achieved if nobody in the population has been left behind (the 'leave no one behind' principle). To be able to measure this, a distinction must be made between individuals in the population. This implies disaggregation of indicators, breakdowns into various groups (by gender, educational level, age, disability, etc.). For many of the available indicators, not all of the desired breakdowns are available. A second, international, aspect of the 'leave no one behind' principle is that countries do not lag behind other countries. In particular for developing countries, there is a major shortage of the information required to be able to measure the SDG indicators. In this respect, these countries will need the support of other countries, including the Netherlands.

4.2 First stocktaking for the Netherlands

As indicated above, CBS has made explored which of the 192 SDG indicators are directly available nationally (at CBS) and internationally (for instance at the OECD and Eurostat) for the Netherlands, and which still need to be developed. Table 4.2.1 gives a brief overview of the measured and non-measured indicators per SDG. It appears that for the Netherlands, information is only currently available for one third of the SDG indicators (column c in table 4.2.1). This seems a small percentage, but comparable countries

including Germany and the US score approximately the same in this area. For developing countries, probably even less information will be available. Even so, the Netherlands is also faced with a major task to develop the remaining indicators.

For many SDG indicators, how exactly they should be measured is still being discussed. For this report, it was decided to include indicators which are not the same as the SDG indicators proposed by the UN in terms of exact definition, but which are very close, as measurements of official indicators. Examples are the mathematical and reading skills of young people (SDG indicator 4.1.1), and labour productivity (SDG indicator 8.2.1). The official UN list specifies using the percentage of young people that have a certain level of skill (4.1.1) as the indicator; however, here it was decided to use the average test score as the indicator, because this makes a clearer distinction between EU countries than percentages. If required, the same data source can be used to calculate the defined percentage of young people (that have achieved a certain minimum score). For labour productivity (8.2.1), GDP per working person is requested. Here, GDP per worked hour has been taken. Again, the same data source can also be used, if required, to calculate GDP per working person.

CBS also proposed a number of alternative and supplementary indicators for this report. Sometimes an alternative, replacement indicator is used where no recent data were available for the official SDG indicator. In a few cases, an alternative indicator is presented for an SDG that has actually already been achieved, and in principle no longer needs to be measured. However, the alternative indicator concerned proves interesting as it can shine a different light on the goal. Examples of this are SDG indicators 9.2.1 and 9.2.2, the value added and employment of the manufacturing industry. Here the value added of and employment in the environmental sector are presented as an alternative. With all alternative indicators, another almost 20 percent of the 192 SDG indicators can be covered to obtain the initial picture (column d in table 4.2.1).

In addition, CBS added a number of indicators to already measured SDG indicators to provide information about multiple dimensions of the goal concerned. Examples are the poverty gap for sub-goal 1.2, life satisfaction for sub-goal 3.4, higher educated population for sub-goal 4.3, and health and education for SDG 5 goals (gender equality). Also, for people who have less to spend than the national poverty line, information about how much less they earn 'on average' than the poverty line (poverty gap) has been added to the requested information about the percentage of people below the poverty line.

Various SDG indicators have two sub-indicators. In the main, these are found at SDG 4 (measurements of various skills including mathematics and reading) and SDG 5 (measurements for both men and women). All additional supplementary indicators and sub-indicators are shown in column f of table 4.2.1.

Using the official measurements (column c) and the alternative measurements (column d), this study is able to measure more than half (99) of the 192 SDG indicators in one way or another. With the supplementary indicators and the sub-indicators, the total number of presented measurements is 129 (column g).

4.2.1 Number of SDG indicators measured and not measured

	Number of indicators in official list	Target achieved or not relevant for the Netherlands (not measured)	Measured as official indicator	Measured as alternative indicator	Indicators to be developed; some difficult to quantify	Extra indicators and sub-indicators	Total measured (incl. extra indicators and sub-indicators)
	a=b+c+d+e	b	c	d	e	f	g=c+d+f
SDG							
1 No poverty	9	2	1	0	6	1	2
2 Zero hunger	9	4	1	2	2	2	5
3 Good health and well-being	21	4	11	1	5	4	16
4 Quality education	8	0	3	4	1	5	12
5 Gender equality	10	1	4	2	3	5	11
6 Clean water and sanitation	9	5	3	0	1	2	5
7 Affordable and clean energy	4	0	2	1	1	0	3
8 Decent work and economic growth	15	1	12	0	2	1	13
9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure	9	1	4	4	0	2	10
10 Reduced inequalities	8	1	4	1	2	0	5
11 Sustainable cities and communities	11	0	3	3	5	0	6
12 Responsible consumption and production	10	0	4	4	2	1	9
13 Climate action	5	0	0	1	4	2	3
14 Life below water	7	0	1	3	3	1	5
15 Life on land	11	2	2	2	5	2	6
16 Peace, justice and strong institutions	21	4	6	5	6	0	11
17 Partnerships for the goals	25	9	3	2	11	2	7
Total (absolute)	192	34	64	35	59	30	129
Total (relative)	100%	18%	33%	18%	31%		

For details, see the tables for each SDG in the statistical annex. Explanation of columns (a)–(g):

- According to the official list (UN, 2016a).
- A number of SDG targets have very likely been realised, and some indicators are not relevant for the Netherlands. Therefore they have not been measured. For example, SDG indicator 1.1.1 Proportion of the population below the international poverty line (target achieved), or SDG indicator 15.4.1 Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity (not relevant).
- As defined in the official list (UN, 2016a).
- In the case of a number of SDG indicators that could not directly be measured, were difficult to quantify or for which the target had already been achieved, an alternative indicator is presented that may be relevant. These are not included in columns (b) and (e).
- These SDG indicators have not been measured, but preferably should be. Some of them are difficult to quantify, giving rise to discussion about whether and how they should be measured.
- Indicators added by CBS include, for example, satisfaction with life for SDG indicator 3.4.2 and healthy life expectancy and higher education levels for SDG 5; examples of sub-indicators are reading and mathematics proficiency for SDG indicator 4.1.1, measurements for both men and women for SDG 5, and biological and chemical surface water quality for SDG indicator 6.3.2.

As some goals have already been realised for the Netherlands and some goals are irrelevant for the country, these have not been measured (column b), although the Netherlands is required to report on these internationally. Examples of indicators for which it is very probable that the goals have already been achieved are the proportion of the population that live below the international poverty line of 1.90 dollars a day, therefore 0 percent (sub-goal 1.1) or the proportion of the population that has access to safe drinking water, therefore 100 percent (sub-goal 6.1). Indicators that are clearly irrelevant for the Netherlands are, for instance, the SDG indicators 15.4.1 and 15.4.2 concerning the protection of biodiversity in mountainous regions, but also the incomes of small food producers (2.3.2), because this in fact concerns small farmers in developing countries.

The SDG indicators for which no data are yet available have still to be developed. In Dutch national SDG reports, alternative indicators (column d) can continue to be used, but for reports for the UN, the SDG indicators concerned must be measured. In addition, almost one third of the SDG indicators on the list (column e) have not yet been measured at all. In total, almost half of the SDG indicators (columns d+e) are still waiting to be effectively measured.

Selection of indicators

The criteria to be used to select and measure the SDG indicators are a subject of discussion in their own right. For this initial investigation, the following is taken into consideration:

- **Measurement of the SDG indicator as it is included in the list. The objective of the subject inventory is to investigate where there are measurable indicators for the official SDG indicators, irrespective of whether the SDG indicator concerned is substantively or politically relevant for the Netherlands.**
- **If it is very plausible (based on various quantitative and qualitative sources) that the Netherlands has already realised the goal or that the indicator is irrelevant for the Netherlands, the indicator has not been measured, even if data are sometimes available. For a limited number of indicators, an alternative indicator is presented that can shine another light on the goal.**
- **Alternative indicators must give a picture of the position of the Netherlands with respect to the goal concerned, whether or not approximately. Sometimes, additional indicators have been added to give a more complete picture, or to supplement missing themes.**
- **All the indicators measured preferably meet each of the following criteria:**
 - **They have a relationship with the SDG (relevant)**
 - **They can show clear differences between countries (distinguishing)**
 - **They can be measured directly (availability of data is a characteristic)**
 - **They meet the requirements for statistics (quality). By far the majority of the indicators measured for this report come from official statistical sources (usually CBS, Eurostat, OECD and the World Bank), with some exceptions.¹⁾**

¹⁾ Indicators are preferably used that come from official systems for which international agreements exist with respect to harmonisation, including National Accounts, Environmental Accounts and Labour Accounts.

It must always be borne in mind in this respect that the official SDG indicators are themselves not definite, that there is still much discussion about their exact measurement, and that they will be amended and refined in due course, as indicated by the UN Statistical Commission in March 2016. In addition, no political decision has been taken regarding the way of implementation (and with it the prioritising, monitoring and indicators) of the SDGs in the Netherlands. The Dutch national SDG strategy will provide direction to the measuring system. Moreover, this publication has monitored how the Netherlands scores compared to 15 years ago and compared to other EU countries, but not compared to the established policy targets for every SDG sub-goal. This is because these national targets are mostly still missing. All of this leaves room for future amendments to the SDG list of indicators and the measurement of these indicators for the Netherlands. The indicators and measurements presented in this report are expressly a starting point for SDG monitoring.

5.

Where does
the Netherlands
stand?

The overall picture resulting from the SDG measurements is that in many respects the Netherlands is doing well, in particular in the economic field, but that there are some points of concern. The Netherlands is bottom of the EU ranking for greenhouse gas emissions per capita. In addition, the proportion of renewable energy is also still very low, and attention must be paid to economic and social inequality.

5.1 A starting point

The most notable aspect of the current position of the Netherlands within the European Union is that the picture varies, not only between the 17 SDGs but also within the SDGs themselves (see Annex). Sometimes, the Netherlands scores high in the 'EU ranking', other times rather low, but it can often be found somewhere in the middle. Therefore, an analysis must be done at the level of the various SDG sub-goals. The picture can also vary within these sub-goals, depending on the indicator used. Moreover, quantitative indicators cannot clarify everything about a certain goal and cannot measure all of its aspects. Indicators serve as the starting point for further policy analysis and exploration by, for instance, the policy analysis agencies (CPB, PBL and SCP). For instance, this year, PBL published an initial study focused on the living environment-related SDG (Lucas et al., 2016). It is then up to the policy makers to set priorities and choose between the policy options and instruments. This report does not monitor the indicators with respect to the formulated concrete policy targets of the SDG sub-goals concerned. These Dutch national targets must still be adopted politically. Therefore, based on the measured indicators, this chapter only sketches trends in the Netherlands since 2000 and the current position of the Netherlands in the European Union.

5.2 Overall picture

The overall picture that arises from the SDG measurements is that in many respects the Netherlands is doing well. This is in particular the case in the economic field, but in terms of also regarding the constitutional state and institutions, and in some areas of health and education:¹⁾

- **Economy and labour:** the level of gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and per hour worked (8.1 and 8.2), the resource efficiency (8.4), the median gross earnings per hour (8.5): on balance, all have risen in the past 15 years and are high when compared to other EU countries. However, unemployment (8.5) has risen markedly, though it is still slightly below average when compared to other EU countries. Working conditions have improved substantially in terms of the falling number of work-related fatal and non-fatal incidents involving injuries (8.8).
- **Peace, justice and institutions:** the Netherlands has an average to high score when compared to other EU countries with respect to murder and victims of crime, and both indicators show a downward trend (16.1 and 11.7). A clear majority of the population feel safe in their own neighbourhood (16.1). The number of registered crimes is

¹⁾ For every theme, the sub-goals concerned are shown between brackets.

falling, the number of detainees remains stable (16.3). The Dutch are relatively infrequently faced with corruption (16.5). Government expenditure on security rose in the past years, and is high when compared to other EU countries (16.6). In general, the confidence in institutions is also relatively very high and has remained stable (16.6). The turnout for parliamentary elections is relatively high, although there is growing political disaffection (16.7).

- **Health and well-being:** maternal mortality is low to average when compared to other EU countries and is steadily falling (3.1 and 3.2). This also applies to premature mortality from non-communicable diseases including cancer (3.4). The number of smokers and the number of new cases of HIV and hepatitis B is also falling (3.3 and 3.5). On balance, healthy life expectancy has risen in the past period (3.4). The suicide rate is relatively low in the Netherlands, although the number of suicides has increased (3.4). The score on satisfaction with life in the Netherlands is high when compared to other EU countries and very stable (3.4). Furthermore, the mortality rate due to traffic accidents is relatively low (3.6), although the mortality rate from air pollution is slowly rising (3.9).
- **Skills and lifelong learning:** participation in lifelong learning is relatively high when compared to other EU countries (4.3). With respect to the skills learned through education, the Dutch score very high compared to other EU countries (4.1, 4.4, 4.6 and 4.7). However, the trends are sometimes negative or stable. There is a risk that the Netherlands will be overtaken by other countries in this respect.
- **Assistance to developing countries:** the support given by the Dutch government and private parties to developing countries is, seen internationally, rather high; however, government assistance has been falling for years, while private party support is rising (17.2 and 17.3). Transfers of money by foreigners working in the Netherlands to their home countries are increasing and are very high compared to other EU countries (17.3).

On the other hand, there are also a number of important points of concern where a relatively low EU ranking is combined with a trend that appears to be in the opposite direction than the goal, or that is developing only slowly:

- **Climate and energy:** the Netherlands emits a relatively high amount of greenhouse gases per capita (13.2), and the greenhouse gas intensity of the economy is only average within the EU (13.2 and 9.4). The Netherlands consumes high volumes of fossil fuel when compared to other EU countries, and the share of renewable energy in total domestic energy consumption is still very low (7.1–7.3).
- **Inequality:** in 2015, more people were living below the national poverty line than in 2006, and the poverty gap has grown since 2012 (1.2).
The existing gender inequalities in various domains should not exist in a developed country such as the Netherlands (SDG 5). In particular, life expectancy of women is relatively low in relation to the EU. Lastly, social inequality is experienced (feelings of discrimination, 10.3).
- **Nature and the environment:** the Netherlands exerts a relatively high environmental pressure on other countries, particularly developing countries (17.11). Furthermore, the Dutch food production system is not very sustainable (2.4 and 12.1). The Netherlands also generates a relatively large amount of waste and the recycling ratio is average (11.6, 12.3–12.5). The quality and withdrawal of fresh water, clean coastal waters and sustainable fishery are important points of attention (6.3, 6.4, 14.1 and 14.7). Lastly, the natural habitat and biodiversity on land in the Netherlands are under considerable pressure compared to other EU countries (15.1, 15.3 and 15.5).

- **Education and knowledge:** education, skills and knowledge development and diffusion are important conditions to continue to participate in a rapidly changing world and sustainable development. For the proportion of people who have achieved a high education level (higher vocational education and university), the Netherlands has an average score, while in a number of other EU countries this proportion has grown more rapidly in the past 15 years (4.3). Lastly, expenditure on R&D and the number of patent applications are around the EU average (9.5).

This initial picture is based on information that is currently available and shows that the Netherlands is progressing well in the international context, according to the SDG indicators. This picture also corresponds to the findings in the reports of among others Kroll (2015), Sachs et al. (2016) and Boarini et al. (2016). However, the SDG figures also indicate that for a number of themes the Netherlands still has a relatively poor score, also compared to the rest of Europe, in particular in the areas of climate, energy and inequality.

However, as already noted in Chapter 4, there are still on-going discussions about how exactly the SDG indicators should be measured and many indicators are not yet available. This being the case, this is expressly an initial picture. Chapter 3 also stated that the SDGs lack a framework in which trade-off relationships are made visible, as is the case in the CES framework. Therefore, only monitoring SDGs does not result in a complete picture of the actual position of a country with respect to sustainability (Smits and Eding, 2015). The Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands 2014 already indicated concerns about the use the Netherlands makes of natural resources, in particular those of developing countries (the 'elsewhere' dimension), and the sustainability of quality of life for the benefit of future generations in the Netherlands (the 'later' dimension).

5.3 Developments by SDG

SDG 1 No poverty

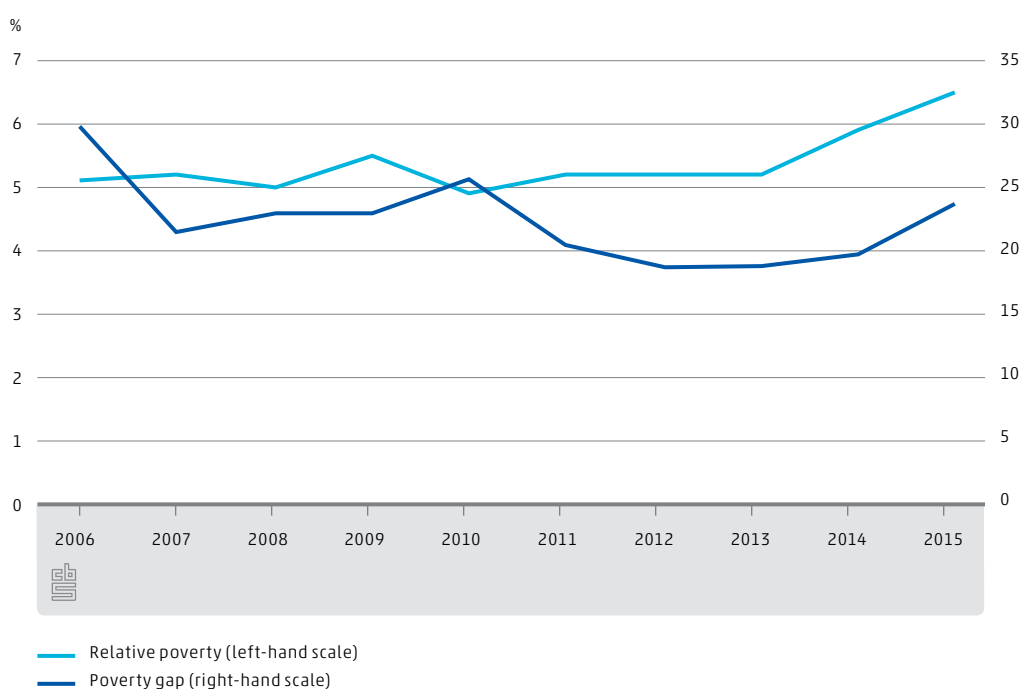
- **Poverty** (1.1 and 1.2): extreme poverty or the daily struggle to physically survive (living on less than 1.90 dollars a day, which is the internationally accepted poverty line) does not exist in the Netherlands. In principle, every citizen has a home, can obtain food, can dress him/herself adequately and has access to medical care. However, relative poverty does exist: some people do not have sufficient income to achieve the minimum consumption level recognised in the Netherlands. The proportion of the Dutch population with an income below the critical income threshold used here (50 percent of the median income in the Netherlands²⁾) was relatively small in 2015 when compared to other EU countries. However, in part as a result of the recent economic crisis, the percentage of people at risk of poverty in the Netherlands rose from 5 to 6.5 percent between 2006 and 2015, according to provisional figures, while the goal focuses on decreasing the risk of poverty. Moreover, the intensity of the poverty problem has increased: the median income of the people at risk of poverty dropped from almost 19 percent below the critical threshold in 2012 to almost 24 percent below the threshold in 2015. Compared to 25 other EU countries

²⁾ According to Eurostat, 50 percent of the median income in the Netherlands was around 10,000 euros in 2015.

in 2015, the poverty gap in the Netherlands is somewhat larger than average, and puts the Netherlands in 15th position of 26 countries.

On-going national and international discussions about the definition and measurement of poverty have yet to result in a consensus about this SDG indicator. International SDG reports (Sachs et al., 2016; Boarini et al., 2016) choose to use the threshold of 50 percent of the median income, as is used here. Other measures are available for income poverty. EU reports are based on 60 percent of the median income. CBS (2015a) delineates the risk of income poverty based on the low-income line. Through time, this line represents a fixed level of purchasing power, which allows the development of poverty to be seen consistently. The level of the low-income line has been established in the past at the subsistence level (supplementary benefit level). The SCP (2016) poverty line is based on budget boundaries that indicate how much money a single person needs for unavoidable or very necessary expenditures. No international comparisons are available for these relative poverty lines.

5.3.1 Risk of poverty in the Netherlands¹⁾



SDG 2 Zero hunger

- **Nutrition and obesity (2.2):** there is hardly any malnutrition or food insecurity in the Netherlands. However, many people are overweight. The proportion of the Dutch population aged 20 and who are overweight (a BMI of 25 or more) rose steadily from just below 45 percent in 2000 to more than 50 percent in 2015. When compared to 14 other EU countries in 2014, the proportion of people aged 15 and older who were overweight was still acceptable, although being overweight is a clear problem in all these countries, including the Netherlands.

- **Sustainable food production** (2.3 and 2.4): Dutch food production is very high, but the Netherlands achieves a very low score with respect to the sustainability of this production. The proportion of organic agriculture as a percentage of the total agricultural land rose slightly between 2000 and 2014, from 1.6 to 2.7 percent. Although surplus nitrogen in Dutch soil has fallen over time, intensive Dutch agriculture still contributes excessive nitrogen to the nitrogen surplus in an international context. The phosphorous surplus has been reduced to almost zero, which has also improved the position of the Netherlands in the EU. It should be noted that it is difficult to compare national nitrogen and phosphor surpluses of different countries.³⁾

SDG 3 Good health and well-being

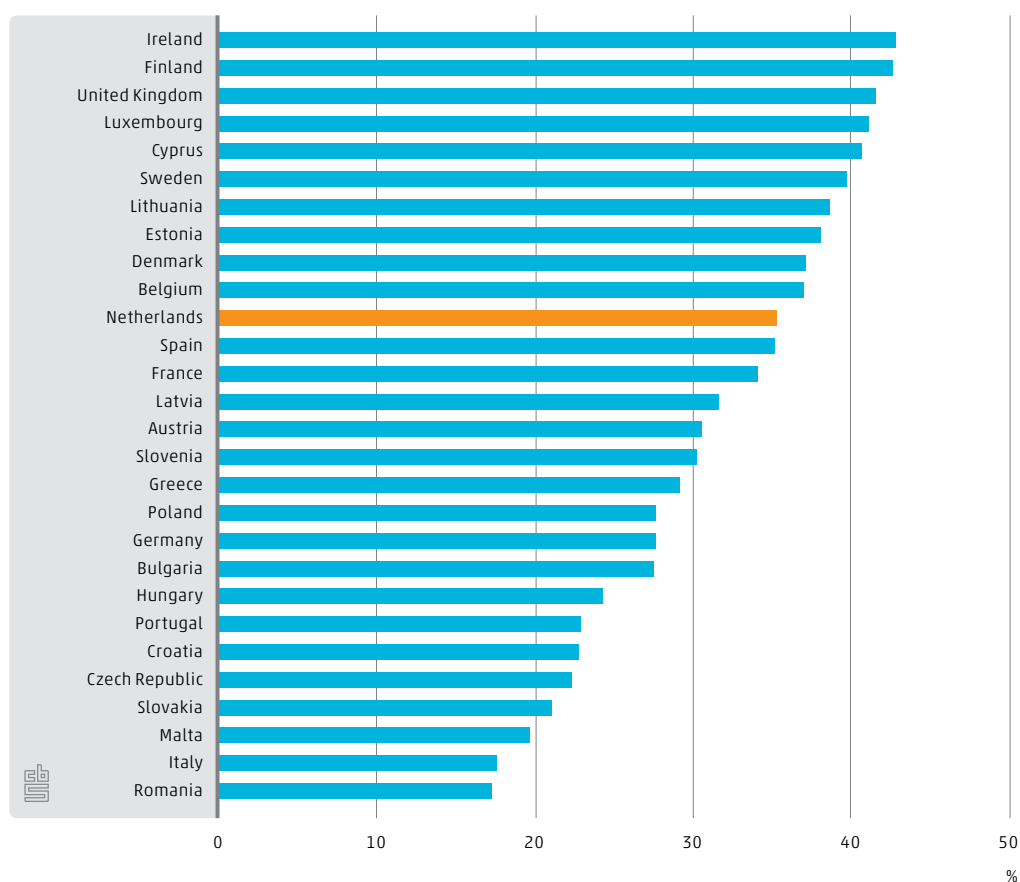
- **Mothers and young children** (3.1 and 3.2): maternal mortality, neonatal mortality and under-five mortality is low to average when compared to other EU countries. Dutch mortality rates are falling, in particular the maternal and the under-five mortality rates (both halved between 2000 and 2015). There are and were relatively few teenage pregnancies in the Netherlands. In addition, normally, skilled health personnel are available at births.
- **Premature mortality due to physical causes** (3.4 and 3.5): the Dutch position on premature mortality from non-communicable diseases including cancer is rather good, and the mortality rate slowly fell in the Netherlands (from 622 per 100,000 in 2000 to 565 in 2015). There were somewhat fewer smokers in the Netherlands than the average of the other EU countries in 2014. Their number dropped from almost one third of the Dutch population aged 12 and older in 2000 to just under a quarter in 2015. The proportion of heavy drinkers remained stable at approximately 12 percent between 2012 and 2015. The number of new cases of HIV and hepatitis B is also falling. The healthy life expectancy of Dutch men was average within the EU in 2014, but that of Dutch women was relatively low. For both genders, healthy life expectancy rose by more than three years between 2000 and 2014 and then dropped slightly in 2015.
- **Mental well-being** (3.4): the number of suicides in the Netherlands is relatively low, but it has risen. In 2000, there were 9.4 suicides per 100,000 of the population, in 2007 this had dropped to 8.3, to rise again to 11 in 2015. The score for satisfaction with life in the Netherlands is high when compared to other EU countries, and is very stable.
- **Mortality due to external causes** (3.6 and 3.9): the Netherlands sees relatively few road traffic deaths. The number has fallen strongly, from 73 per million inhabitants in 2000 to 37 in 2015, although this figure was even lower in 2014 (34). For deaths due to air pollution, OECD figures for 2010 rank the Netherlands somewhere in the middle,. According to the figures from the '*Compendium voor de Leefomgeving*' on premature death due to particulate matter and ozone, the number of deaths in the Netherlands rose from 87 per million inhabitants in 2009, to 95 in 2013.
- **Access to healthcare** (3.8): relatively few Dutch people report that their medical care needs cannot be satisfied because it would be too expensive. Between 2005 and 2013, the percentage varied between 0.1 and 0.2, it rose slightly to 0.4 in 2014. It should be noted in this respect that the published figures are up to 2014, the year before reforms in long-term healthcare were implemented in the Netherlands.

³⁾ The proportion of land in the Netherlands dedicated to agriculture is large and its use is intensive, while many other countries also have a lot of extensive agricultural lands. They can use this to distribute their surplus over a larger area (CBS, 2014).

SDG 4 Quality education

- **Early childhood development** (4.2): participation in pre-primary education by 3 and 4 year-olds in the Netherlands is just above the EU average. Participation in pre-primary education of 3 year-olds is average when compared to other EU countries.
- **Access to education** (4.3): for the Netherlands, it is relevant to consider the knowledge the population has accumulated through education. The percentage of the Dutch population aged 25–64 who have completed higher education exceeded 35 percent in 2015. This means that the Netherlands scores just above average in the EU. Although this percentage has clearly risen since 2001 (when it was just over 24 percent), in a number of other EU countries the rise has been larger, with the result that the Netherlands is now lower in the EU ranking. Lastly, participation in lifelong learning has increased, from just over 15 percent of the population aged 25–64 in 2000 to almost 19 percent in 2015. This ranks the Netherlands high within the EU.
- **Skills** (4.1, 4.4, 4.6 and 4.7): skills that are learned through education are important for participating in further technical and vocational education, for the labour market, in society and for sustainable development. The Dutch have a very high score for all these skills when compared to other EU countries. However, the trends are sometimes negative or stable. There is a risk that the Netherlands will be overtaken by other countries in this respect.

5.3.2 Population with higher education (25–64 yrs) in the EU, 2015

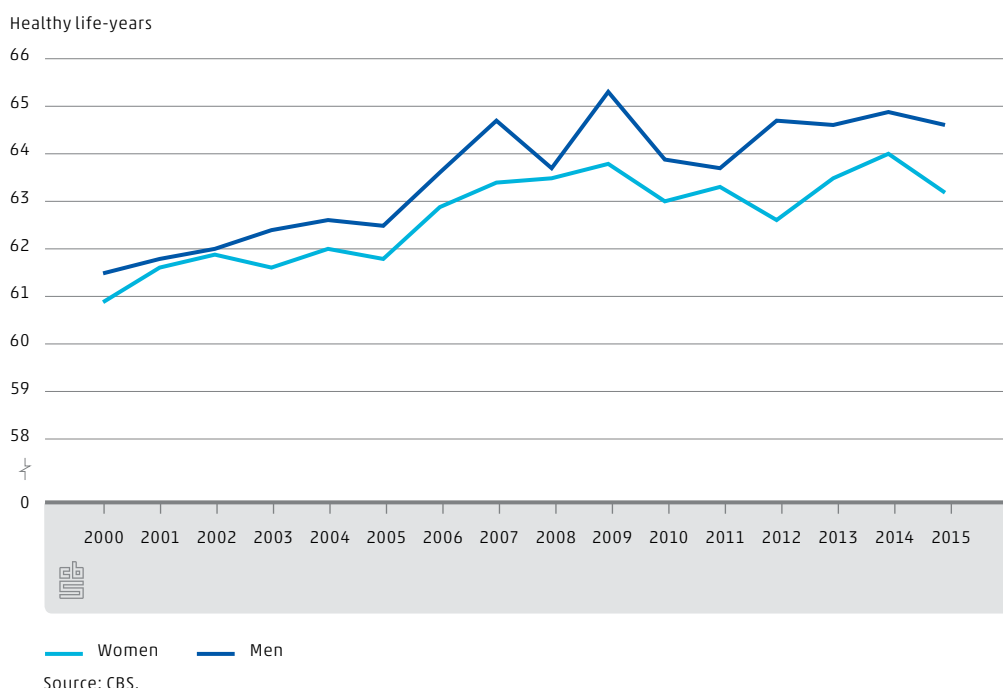


Source: Eurostat.

SDG 5 Gender equality

- **Discrimination of and violence to women** (5.1 and 5.2): on average, in 2014 women earned 16 percent less per hour than men. Compared to other EU countries, the Netherlands ranks below average. Even when occupational differences, career interruptions and part-time working are taken into account, there still is an unexplained difference in remuneration. However, the difference has fallen by almost 9 percentage points since 2000. Lastly, women in the Netherlands appear to face violence in their private lives relatively more than women in other countries (in 2012). However, the question here remains how women in different countries perceive violence and whether they can or dare report it.
- **Unpaid work and domestic work** (5.4): relatively more Dutch women work part-time (over three-quarters of working women) than women in other EU countries. The Dutch percentage difference between men and women who work part-time is very large. However, Dutch men have shifted to part-time work a little more in the past 15 years. Moreover, many women who work part-time would like to work more hours if the opportunity arises.
- **Social and economic influence** (5.5): the proportion of women in national parliament and local government in the Netherlands is high when viewed internationally and remains stable. However, relatively few women hold management positions compared to other EU countries (the Netherlands ranks somewhere in the middle), and this proportion is even falling, according to OECD figures: from 4.7 percent in 2011 to 3.8 percent in 2014.
- **Human capital:** human capital that women contribute also includes their health and education. Female healthy life expectancy at birth in the Netherlands in 2015 was more than one year lower than for men. The difference has fluctuated a little since 2000, but has always been to the disadvantage of women. On balance, their healthy life expectancy rose by less between 2000 and 2015 (just over 2 years) than that of men (3 years). Within the EU in 2014, the healthy life expectancy of Dutch women is relatively low, while that of Dutch men ranks somewhere in the middle. The proportion of women with a higher level of education is just a fraction lower (35.0 percent in 2015) than that of men (35.7 percent). This still ranks Dutch women somewhere in the middle within the EU, while Dutch men rank relatively high. Since 2000, the proportion has risen for both women (then 18.6 percent) and men (22.6 percent), although for women this has apparently not been enough to keep up with their foreign peers.

5.3.3 Healthy life expectancy in the Netherlands



SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation

- **Access to water** (6.1 and 6.2): in principle, everybody in the Netherlands has access to clean and affordable drinking water and sanitation.
- **Water quality** (6.3): in the Netherlands, the percentage of bodies of water for which the chemical quality of the surface water is considered to be good was reasonably high when compared to other EU countries in 2009, while the Netherlands scored very poorly on biological quality. However, between 2009 and 2015, the chemical quality fell markedly, while the biological quality rose only slightly from 3.1 to 4.8 percent of surface water with good biological quality.
- **Water withdrawal** (6.4): surface water and ground water withdrawal has fallen slightly from 714 cubic metres per inhabitant in 2004 to 641 in 2012, resulting in a little less pressure on the water environment. However, compared to other EU countries, in 2012, the Netherlands still withdrew a great deal of fresh water from the environment.⁴⁾

SDG 7 Affordable and clean energy

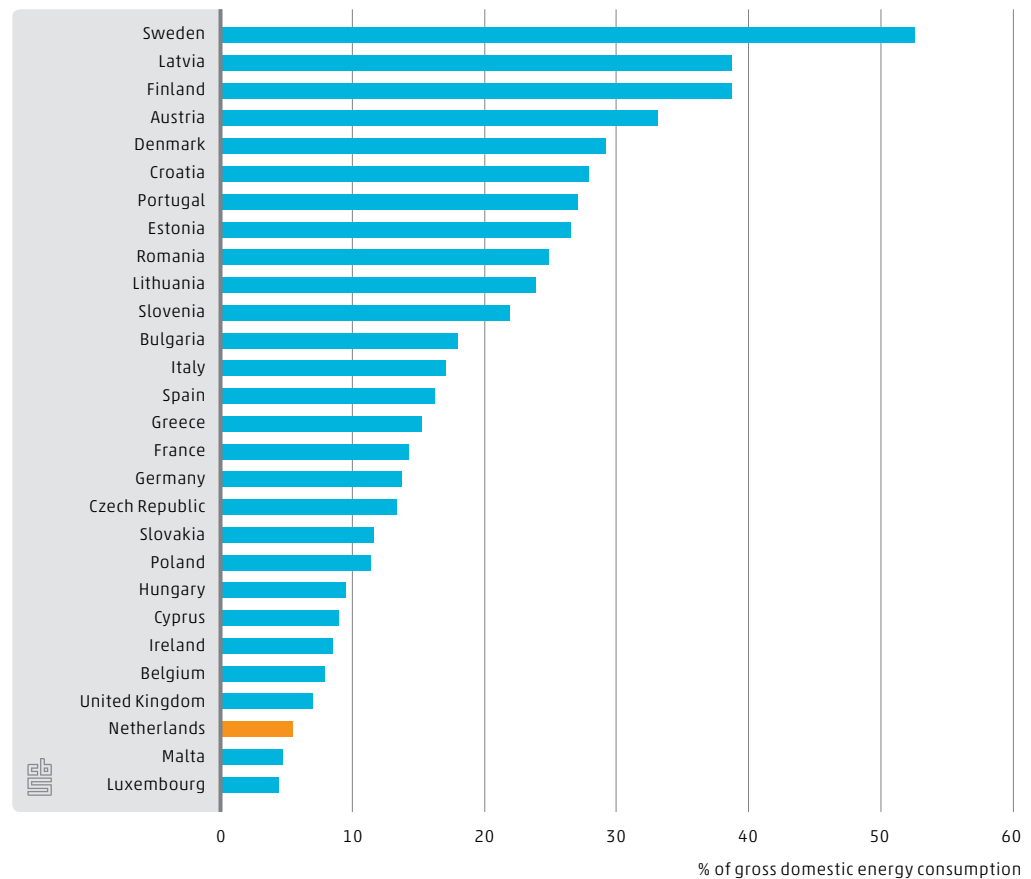
- **Energy consumption and energy efficiency** (7.1 and 7.3): access to reliable and affordable energy services including electricity and natural gas is organised effectively in the Netherlands. Gross domestic energy consumption has fallen, in particular due to a reduction in industrial consumption. However, consumption in the Netherlands is still very high when compared to other EU countries. Although energy efficiency, in terms of the energy intensity of the economy,

⁴⁾ The publication of SDG indicators 6.4.1 and 6.4.2 is planned (see Annex).

has improved over time, in an international perspective the Netherlands has an average position.

- **Renewable energy** (7.2): the proportion of renewable energy in total domestic energy consumption has risen in recent years, from 1.6 percent in 2000 to 5.8 percent in 2015. The rise is mainly accounted for by increases in consumption of wind, solar and geothermal energy, and less by an increase in consumption of energy from biomass. Within the EU, the Netherlands comes almost last in the ranking with respect to the proportion of renewable energy

5.3.4 Share of renewable energy in the EU, 2014



Source: Eurostat.

SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth

- **Economic growth and labour productivity** (8.1 and 8.2): gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and per hour worked have both risen since 2000. Although fluctuations were seen after the financial crisis of 2008, recently these values have been improving. The Netherlands is ranked high in the EU for these indicators. The fact that labour productivity is so high while relatively few hours are worked implies that every hour worked in the Netherlands generates more value added than in many other countries.

- **Resource efficiency** (8.4): considering the resources and semi-manufactured products required to produce products, it can be seen that the material footprint of the Netherlands has become larger, while the aim is to reduce it. Resources productivity (GDP per unit domestic consumption of resources) has risen, which implies that increasingly fewer resources are being consumed. Seen internationally, the Netherlands has high resource productivity. However, CBS has always had its doubts about this indicator.
- **Decent work** (8.5, 8.6 and 8.8): median gross earnings per hour in the Netherlands are rising steadily and are high when considered internationally. The unemployment rate has risen substantially in the past 15 years, but is still slightly below average compared to other EU countries. There are relatively few young people in the Netherlands who do not participate in any way in education, work or training schemes (4.7 percent of the 15–24 age group in 2015). This number has also remained stable over time. In terms of the number of fatal and non-fatal incidents involving work-related injuries, working conditions have improved considerably since 2008. Relatively few work-related deaths occur in the Netherlands; however, the level of non-fatal work-related accidents is still a little above average when considered internationally, and as a result the Dutch ranking is relatively low in this respect.
- **Sustainable tourism** (8.9): tourism in the Netherlands as a percentage of GDP and of the total employment rate is rising; however, tourism is much more important as a source of income for developing countries than for the Netherlands. In the Netherlands, sustainable tourism issues are more about the pressure of tourism on the population and the environment in the major cities, including Amsterdam, and coastal areas.
- **Access to financial services** (8.10): the majority of the Dutch population have at least one account at a financial institution or bank, many of them online. Internationally, the Netherlands scores high here. However, the number of automated teller machines per 100,000 inhabitants has fallen strongly and is very low when compared to other EU countries. It seems that many transactions are done online and by using debit cards.

SDG 9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure

- **Roads and transport** (9.1): the density of the road network in the Netherlands is high: more or less everyone can be reached by road. Assuming that less transport activity means less economic activity, the fall in passenger and freight transport (with respect to GDP) since 2000 is unfavourable. On the other hand it can be positive for the environment as it is associated with a fall in transport emissions, but this is not what this target intends (good infrastructure for economic development). Within the EU, the volume of Dutch passenger transport with respect to GDP has a relatively low ranking, and freight transport is ranked somewhere in the middle.
- **Environmental sector** (9.2): the Netherlands has long passed the industrialisation phase; however, the focus could be moved to increasing the role of companies that aim to make the economy more sustainable. The value added of the environmental sector as a percentage of GDP rose from 1.8 percent in 2001 to 2.2 percent in 2014. The environmental sector share of employment rose from 1.7 percent in 2001 to 1.9 percent in 2014.

- **Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)** (9.3): the share of SMEs in the value added of the real economy is stable over time (more than 60 percent), and average when compared to other EU countries in 2013. The proportion of SMEs that consider access to financing as being the main problem (almost 13 percent) was relatively high in the Netherlands in 2015 when compared to other EU countries. This percentage was approximately the same in 2011 (12 percent), rose to over 19 percent in 2013 before falling again.
- **Greenhouse gases** (9.4): the greenhouse gas intensity of the Dutch economy was average in the EU in 2013. It has slightly fallen since 2000, as greenhouse gas emissions have decreased somewhat (see SDG 13) while on balance economic activity has risen.
- **Innovation** (9.5): the trend for R&D expenditure (as a percentage of GDP) and the number of patents (per million inhabitants) is stable, but for both indicators the Netherlands' EU ranking was somewhere in the middle in 2014. This while knowledge development and diffusion are important in a rapidly changing world and for sustainable development. The number of researchers is increasing and internationally, the Netherlands has a reasonably high score in this area.

SDG 10 Reduced inequalities

- **Income inequality and poverty** (10.1 and 10.2): according to the Palma ratio, which has been quite stable since 2000, Dutch income inequality is low compared to other EU (2013). The Palma ratio is defined as the richest 10 percent of the population's share of gross national income divided by the poorest 40 percent's share. The lower the Palma ratio, the better it is for the poorest 40 percent. It should be noted that the various measures for income inequality may give a different picture: the poverty gap, for example, which has increased since 2012 (see sub-goal 1.2), and the 80/20 ratio (income of the 20 percent richest divided by the income of the 20 percent poorest). Moreover, as indicated for SDG 1, the group of people who are at risk of poverty is relatively small in the Netherlands (6.5 percent in 2015), although it appears to have grown since 2006.
- **Protection of labour** (10.4): the contrast between labour and capital can be measured by the proportion of labour (wages and social security employee payments) in the GDP. This proportion has remained rather stable in the Netherlands since 2000 (around 50 percent) and is internationally in the higher range.
- **Social inequality** (10.3): more and more people in the Netherlands report feelings of discrimination (approximately 7 percent of the population in 2002 to more than 9 percent in 2014). In this context it should be noted that the questions in the underlying survey on feelings of discrimination among people in the Netherlands have changed in the course of time. Compared to other EU countries, in 2014 feelings of discrimination appear to be more widespread than average.
- **Migration policy** (10.7): the Netherlands scored 61 (out of 100) on the migration integration policy index (MIPEX) in 2014. This is a rather good score compared to the 27 other EU countries. However, since 2010 (score 69), the Dutch score has decreased and the most recent score (2014) was before the large influx as a result of the refugee crisis.

SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities

- **Housing and urbanisation** (11.1 and 11.2): more and more people in the Netherlands feel that their house is too small: 3.3 percent of the population in 2015, up from 1.9 percent in 2005), although this is certainly not a bad score in international terms. The urbanisation rate in the Netherlands is very high, measured in area per inhabitant. The Netherlands is a densely populated country, and will remain that way.
- **Protection of cultural and natural heritage** (11.4): government expenditure on environmental protection and culture has remained stable in the past 15 years: just under 2 percent of GDP), and is relatively high compared to other EU countries.
- **Environment and safety in cities** (11.6 and 11.7): the volume of municipal waste per inhabitant has fallen since 2000, but the Netherlands still generated a relatively large amount of waste in 2014 compared to other EU countries. Emissions of particulate matter (PM10) in cities has fallen from approximately 30 micrograms per cubic metre in 2000 to just over 21 in 2013, and compared to other EU countries, things seem to be going well. This is a national figure, though; emissions at certain locations in the Netherlands are still high. Lastly, the proportion of victims of crime in the Netherlands has fallen somewhat (from 19.8 percent in 2012 to 17.6 percent in 2015). In 2014, the Netherlands ranked somewhere in the middle in Europe.

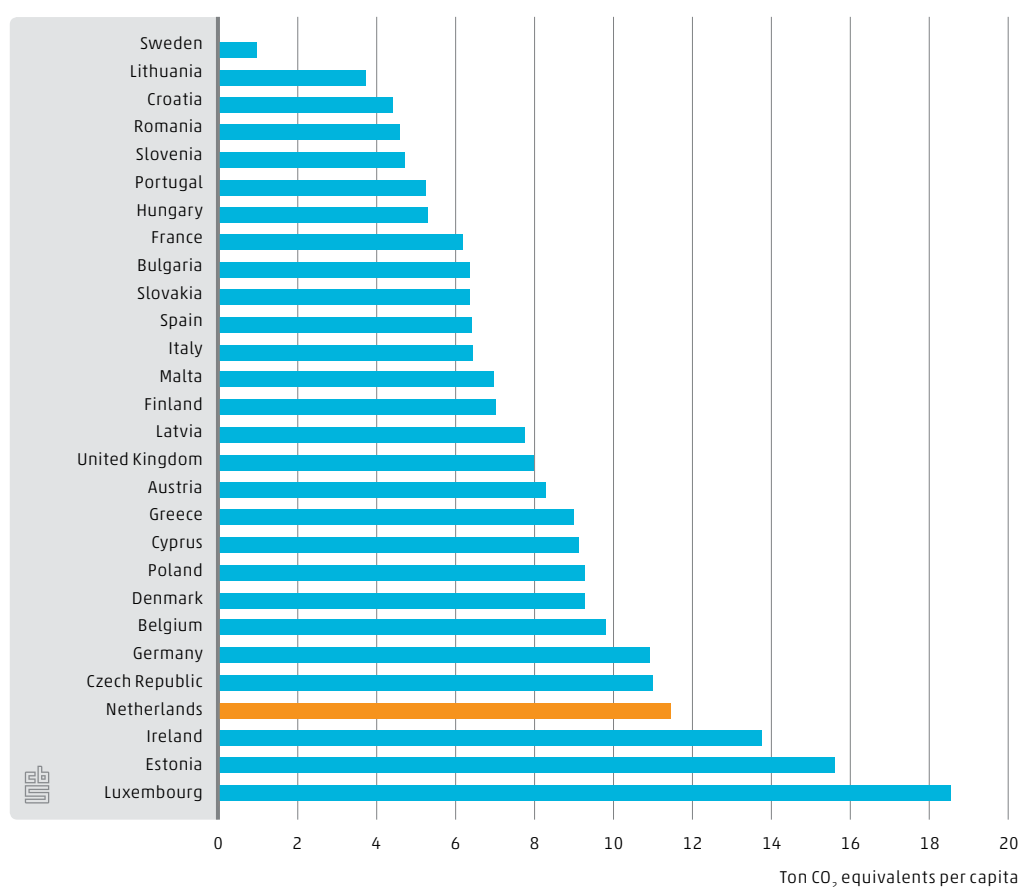
SDG 12 Responsible consumption and production

- **Sustainable production and use of natural resources** (12.1 and 12.2): as indicated in SDG 2, the proportion of organic agriculture is rising slowly, but the Netherlands is still ranked low within the EU. SDG 8 already shows that the Dutch material footprint has increased. However, per capita domestic consumption of resources has fallen, and seen internationally, the Netherlands consumes relatively few resources.
- **Food waste, hazardous waste and recycling** (12.3, 12.4 and 12.5): food-related waste (animal waste, mixed food waste and vegetable waste) has decreased somewhat since 2004, but compared to other EU countries, the Netherlands still generates a rather large amount per capita. On balance, the volume of hazardous waste per capita rose between 2004 and 2012, with the strongest rise between 2004 and 2006. Compared to other EU countries, in 2012 the Netherlands produced a lot of hazardous waste. Useful re-use (recycling and back-filling) as a percentage of total hazardous waste after treatment has risen somewhat, seen over the long term. The strong rise between 2004 and 2006 was in part nullified between 2006 and 2012. The Netherlands had an average EU ranking in 2012 for useful use of hazardous waste, and ranked in the middle range for recycling of municipal waste in 2014, although this is improving.
- **Corporate social responsibility** (12.6): based on the number of the top 100 companies in the Netherlands that published a corporate social responsibility annual report, knowledge and awareness of Dutch companies is increasing: 26 of the top 100 in 2002 to 80 in 2015). The Dutch position is average in the EU.
- **Knowledge concerning sustainable development** (12.8): sustainable production and consumption also starts with the knowledge and skills of young people. The PISA score for scientific skills of Dutch young people was quite high in 2012 compared to that of young people in other EU countries. However, the Dutch PISA score has remained stable since 2006 and the position of Dutch young people has fallen since then (see also SDG 4).

SDG 13 Climate protection

- **Greenhouse gas emissions** (13.2): the climate conference in Paris in December 2015 led to an agreement, which although not legally binding, has resulted in more political commitment. The urgency to rapidly reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases is increasing. Dutch emissions of greenhouse gases have fallen steadily from 14.2 tons of CO₂ equivalent per capita in 2000 to 11.5 in 2014. However, CO₂ emissions per capita are still rising (from 6.8 tons of CO₂ per capita in 2000 to 7.4 in 2013). Seen internationally, the Netherlands had relatively high greenhouse gas emissions per capita (in 2014) and CO₂ emission per capita (2013).

5.3.5 Total greenhouse gas emissions per capita in the EU, 2014



The greenhouse gas intensity of the economy has fallen slowly from 0.41 kg CO₂ equivalent per euro GDP in 2000 to 0.30 in 2014. Compared to other EU countries, the Netherlands ranked somewhere in the middle in 2014.

SDG 14 Life below water

- **Marine pollution and environmental protection of sea and coastal areas** (14.1 and 14.5): nitrogen efficiency in soil (which influences water-related ecosystems, including coastal waters) has actually improved in the Netherlands, but seen internationally it is still only average. According to the Clean Water Index, the water

itself has not become cleaner since 2012 when it scored 46, to fall to 45 in 2015; the Netherlands has a rather low score compared to other EU countries. In relative terms the Netherlands is doing a lot to protect its marine and coastal areas and has been in (shared) first place in the EU since 2012, according to the Lasting Special Places Index. Even so, there are indications that there may be some threats in this area, for instance proposed plans for coastal development.

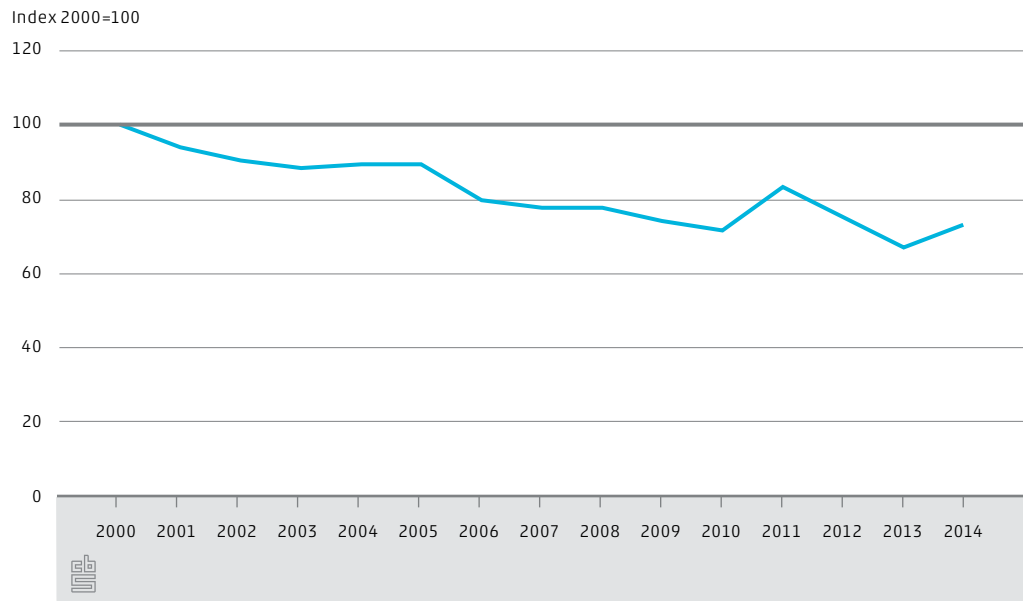
- **Overfishing and sustainable fishery** (14.4 and 14.7): there has been a rise in sustainable levels of fish stocks in the North Sea. In 2000, three of the five food fish species were above the sustainable level, in 2015 this was four of five. Sustainable fishery has improved somewhat since 2012 according to the Food Provision Index (from 54 to 56 in 2015).⁵⁾ However, the Netherlands ranked within EU countries in 2015.

SDG 15 Life on land

- **Protection of nature and forests** (15.1 and 15.2): natural habitats in the Netherlands are under pressure. The proportion of forested and nature areas in the total land area of the Netherlands is stable (nature) or even increasing (forest). However, conservation of plant and animal species under the European Habitat Directive is increasingly less favourable: in 2006, the share of species scoring 'favourable' was still 25.5 percent, while in 2012, this had dropped to 22.8 percent. Seen internationally, in 2012, the Netherlands had a rather low ranking for both forested and nature areas, and for conservation.
- **Effect on land, soil and biodiversity** (15.3 and 15.5): although phosphorus and nitrogen surpluses in soil have decreased, the Netherlands still had a low EU ranking with respect to nitrogen in 2014. Biodiversity has remained stable since 2000 according to the Red List Index. However, according to the index for farmland birds, diversity has fallen since 2000 (from 100 to 72.94 in 2014), and the Netherlands was ranked somewhere in the EU middle in 2005. Conservation (see 15.2) is also relevant for biodiversity and indicates that the Netherlands was low in the international ranking in 2012.

⁵⁾ The Food Provision Index consists of two sub-goals: sustainable sea food harvesting for commercial purposes, and sustainable cultivation of food in the sea. The more sea food that is harvested or cultivated sustainably, the higher the score on the Food Provision Index.

5.3.6 Farmland bird index for the Netherlands



SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions

- **Violence** (16.1): the Netherlands has an average to favourable score compared to other EU countries for registered victims of intentional homicide, victims of crime and feeling safe. These indicators also show an improving trend: 1.1 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants in 2000, down to 0.7 in 2014. Crime victims fell from 19.8 percent of the population in 2012 to 17.6 percent in 2015, while in 2015 just over 80 percent of the population felt safe in their own neighbourhood at night.
- **Child abuse and human trafficking** (16.2): figures concerning child abuse are unavailable. However, a rough approximation is the percentage of young people aged 15–17 who say they have a high risk of being abused. In 2012, this was 3.0 percent; it rose to 3.8 percent in 2013 before falling to 2.6 percent in 2015. The number of reports of human trafficking rose from 3.5 per 100,000 inhabitants in 2006 to 10.2 in 2012, to fall to 7.8 in 2015. However, the question is whether it is possible to detect all cases of human trafficking. Although the Netherlands was at the bottom of the EU ranking in 2014, recognition and registration may be better in the Netherlands than in other countries, which could in part explain the unfavourable position.
- **Constitutional state, corruption and institutions** (16.3, 16.5 and 16.6): the number of registered crimes is falling; the number of detainees remains stable, and is relatively low compared to other EU countries. The Dutch are relatively infrequently faced with corruption and this is stable according to the Corruption Index of Transparency International. Lastly, institutions only work if they are invested in and if they are trusted. Government expenditure on security (as a percentage of GDP) has, on balance, risen in the past 15 years, but it was only slightly higher than the EU average in 2014. trust in institutions in general is also relatively high (in 2014) and has remained stable.

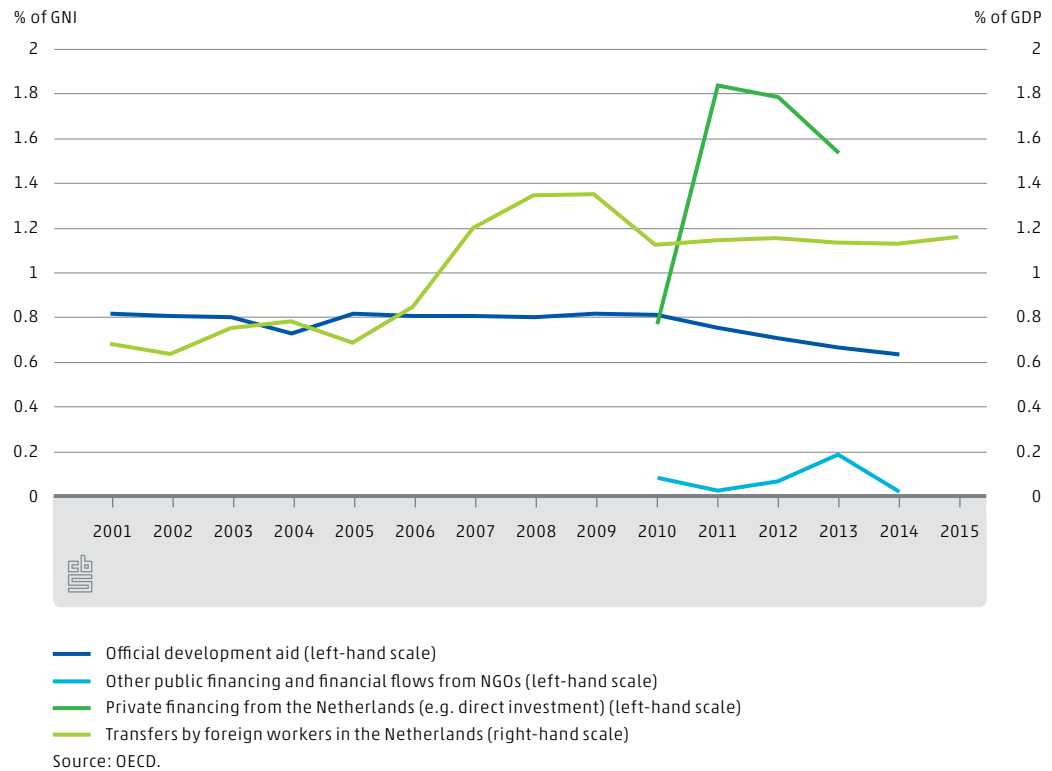
- ***Influence on political decision-making and fundamental freedoms*** (16.7 and 16.10): the influence citizens have (or think they have) on decision-making can in part be measured by the number of people who vote in parliamentary elections. In this respect, the Dutch ranking is still reasonably high, while the trend is stable. More recently, there have been indications of growing political disaffection and discussions about democratic renewal. However, the Netherlands is one of the freest societies in the world in the political sense, in terms of civil rights and freedom of the press. There is hardly any government repression or arrests of, for instance, journalists, trade union members or human rights lawyers.

SDG 17 International cooperation

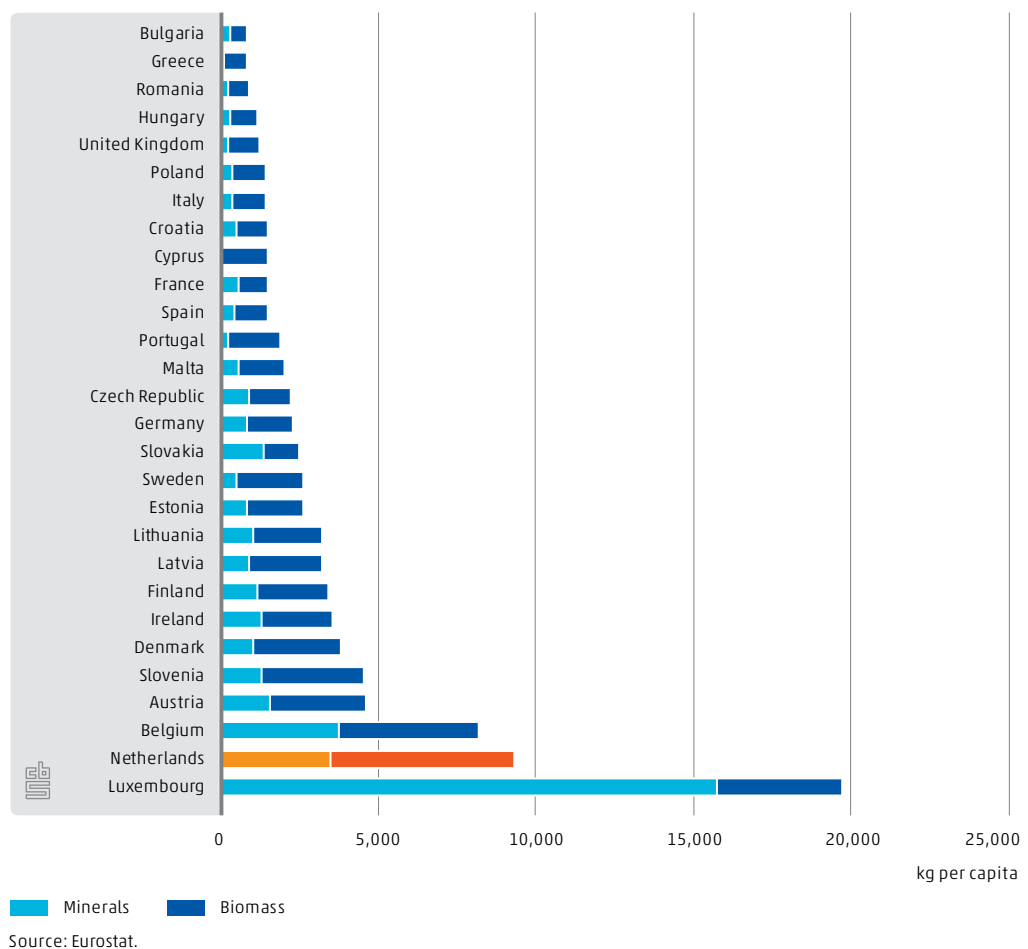
- ***Assistance to developing countries*** (17.1, 17.2 and 17.3): government assistance to developing countries is financed from its revenues. In terms of GDP percentage these revenues are stable and about average in the EU. In an international perspective, Dutch development assistance is rather high (0.64 percent of GDP in 2014) but has been decreasing for a number of years now (0.84 percent in 2000). Other government financial support and support from NGOs was very limited in 2014 (0.02 percent of GDP), but has been higher (0.08 percent in 2010 and 0.19 percent in 2013). This put the Netherlands in an average position internationally in 2014. In 2013, private financial flows accounted for 1.5 percent of GDP (up from 0.8 percent in 2010), allowing the Netherlands to take a leading role among EU countries in 2013. Transfers from foreigners working in the Netherlands to their own countries are rising: from 0.76 percent of GDP in 2000 to 1.11 percent in 2014, very high compared to transfers of foreign workers in other EU countries in 2014.
- ***Trade with developing countries*** (17.11): in terms of euros per capita, total Dutch imports from developing countries have risen and are very high in an international perspective. The question is of course what these imports comprise: high-quality products or semi-manufactured products, which benefit income and employment in developing countries; or resources, whose extraction may affect the environment in these countries. The Netherlands imports relatively large volumes of resources, including agricultural resources, and energy from developing countries. The carbon footprint resulting from Dutch consumption, i.e. the environmental pressure that the Netherlands exerts on other countries, was relatively high compared to other EU countries in 2007.⁶⁾ At 7.7 tons of CO₂ equivalents per capita in 2014 it has increased somewhat since 2010, when it was 7.1 tons.

⁶⁾ A more recent international comparison is not possible, because data from other countries are not yet available.

5.3.7 Development aid and transfers from the Netherlands



5.3.8 Imports of minerals and biomass in the EU, 2015



6.

Next steps for monitoring SDGs

The picture that arises from the initial SDG measurements is that the Netherlands is making progress, but that there are important points of concern. Various critical remarks can be made about this conclusion. In the first place, many indicators still need to be developed. In the second place, no concrete policy targets have been adopted for the Netherlands. Lastly, the SDGs do not make trade-off relationships visible and little attention is paid to the prosperity effects for future generations and for other countries.

This report gives a first impression of how the SDG indicators suggested in UN context can also be established for the Netherlands. This first provisional overview is based on information that is currently available and shows that according to the SDG indicators the Netherlands is doing well in an international context and. This impression agrees with the findings as presented in, for instance, the Bertelsman reports (Kroll, 2015; Sachs et al., 2016) and the recent OECD study (Boarini et al., 2016). However, the SDG figures also indicate that for a number of themes, the Netherlands still has a relatively poor score, also compared to the rest of Europe, in particular in the domains of climate, energy and inequality.

It should be emphasised that this is a first estimate of how the Netherlands is progressing with respect to the SDGs. At the time of writing, information is available for only 33 percent of the total list of SDG indicators established by the UN. Therefore, in the future more data will be needed to describe the full extent of the SDG agenda. More will have to be invested in research and data collection. Knowledge institutions, policy analysis agencies, universities, and other public organisations which have an interest in a certain SDG often have their own data in these domains. Together with them, we shall have to look at how to elaborate the Dutch national SDG report. Furthermore, we shall have to disaggregate numerous indicators by population group (ethnicity, level of income, gender, etc.) in order to fulfil the 'leave no one behind' criterion that is the focus of the post-2015 agenda.

Moreover, a public process must be started in which various stakeholders discuss how the SDG agenda can be implemented and monitored in the Netherlands. This process will undoubtedly result in new supplementary indicators, or in redefining existing sustainability indicators. Although the coordinator of the implementation of Global Goals at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will play a central role here, CBS also aims to contribute where possible. The first national SDG report for the Netherlands is scheduled for mid-2017. In the international field, the UN's Inter-agency and Expert group on SDG Indicators (IAEG) has worked on and will continue to develop and improve the SDG indicator set in 2016 and 2017. CBS represents the Netherlands in the IAEG.

The process of implementing and monitoring the SDGs will also include formulation of the Dutch national targets for the SDG sub-goals. This publication has monitored how the Netherlands scores compared to 15 years ago and compared to other EU countries, but not compared to the targets. The reason for this is that these national targets still have not been set. In order to implement the SDGs in the Netherlands, political consensus must be reached concerning long-term ambitions, which must then be translated into concrete national targets for 2030 (see Lucas et al., 2016).

Lastly, consideration must be given to how themes, including well-being and sustainability, can best be described, and how their relationship with the SDGs can be clearly communicated. The UN list of indicators plays an important role here. The fact that global leaders have adopted this agenda for the years to 2030 is of course of major significance. It is also important for indicators to be developed for each of the 169 sub-goals, to allow progress to be monitored across the entire scope of the SDG agenda.

However, this agenda, which is inevitably the result of a process of long political negotiations and accompanying compromises, also has its limitations. Therefore, just monitoring the SDGs will not result in a complete picture of how a country is actually progressing with respect to sustainability (see Smits and Eding, 2015). Indicators concerning the rate at which a society is exhausting vital resources, for example, are hardly included in the SDG indicator set. The SDGs seem to pay less attention to the 'later' dimension: what impact do our present actions have on our children. The same applies for how a country uses resources from other countries (e.g. the footprint indicators). In addition, many indicators on the SDG list mainly describe inputs or policy drivers while the list contains relatively few real outcome indicators. Establishing (national) targets and describing progress on SDGs in the wider context of measuring well-being and sustainable development will help to substantiate the Dutch national SDG report further.

Indeed, the picture will be more complete if the set of SDG indicators is embedded in the CES framework, or in any case, is compared to it. This international measuring system, endorsed by 60 countries, is the basis of the Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands and covers the entire scope of the sustainability theme. The measurements of the SDG indicators in the international reports and in this publication paint the picture that the Netherlands is currently doing relatively well. There are important points of concern including emissions of greenhouse gases, a small share of renewable energy and inequality. However, the trade-off aspect is missing. The Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands 2014 already brought across the message that there are concerns about the use the Netherlands makes of natural resources, in particular those of developing countries (the 'elsewhere' dimension), and maintaining quality of life for future generations in the Netherlands (the 'later' dimension).

By embedding the SDG indicators in the CES framework, it is not only possible to describe the progress made on the various SDGs, but also to include in the review themes that are outside scope of the SDG agenda or that can only partially be described. Alongside the dedicated SDG reports, therefore, CBS will describe the global goals for sustainable development within the CES framework in its Sustainability Monitor of the Netherlands or its forthcoming Monitor of Well-being.

Statistical annex

1 No poverty – End poverty in all its forms everywhere

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators					
1.1 Eradicate extreme poverty					
1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line	[1]				
1.2 Reduce the proportion of people of all ages living in poverty					
1.2.1 Proportion of population living below national poverty line					
At-risk-of-poverty rate	[a]	% of population at risk of poverty, i.e. with an income below the critical threshold (= 50% of the median income of the population)	2015	6.5	2015 3 (26)
At-risk-of-poverty gap	[b]	difference between the median income of people at risk of poverty and the critical threshold (= 50% of median income of the total population) expressed as % of the critical threshold.	2015	23.7	2015 15 (26)
1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	[2]				
1.3 Social protection systems and measures for all					
1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems	[2]				
1.4 Equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services					
1.4.1 Proportion of the population living in households with access to basic services	[2]				
1.4.2 Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land	[1]				
1.5 Reduce vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic shocks					
1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	[2]				
1.5.2 Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)	[2]				
1.5.3 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies	[2]				

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>
(English translation forthcoming)

2 Zero hunger – End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

			Netherlands		EU ranking	
	Unit		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
2.1 End hunger and ensure access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food						
2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment	[1]					
2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population	[1]					
2.2 End all forms of malnutrition						
2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age	[1]					
2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)						
Overweight population	[b]	% of population aged 20 years and older [*]	2015	50.3	2014	5 (14)
2.3 Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers						
2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit	[a]	mln euros per 1,000 labour years	2015	182.9	2015	2 (28)
2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers	[1]					
2.4 Ensure sustainable food production systems						
2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture						
Organic agriculture	[b]	% of agricultural land	2014	2.7	2014	24 (28)
Phosphorus surplus in soil	[b]	kg phosphorus per hectare	2014	0.0	2014	9 (25)
Nitrogen surplus in soil	[b]	kg nitrogen per hectare	2014	129.9	2014	24 (26)
2.5 Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species						
2.5.1 Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities	[2]					
2.5.2 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not-at-risk or at an unknown level of risk of extinction	[2]					

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

[*] For EU ranking: % of population aged 15 years and older.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland> (English translation forthcoming)

3 Good health and well-being - Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

		Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
			year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
3.1 Reduce the global maternal mortality ratio						
3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio	[a]	per 100,000 live births	2015	3.5	2014	4 (12)
3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	[1]					
3.2 End preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age						
3.2.1 Under-5 mortality rate	[a]	per 1,000 live births	2015	3.8	2015	14 (28)
3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate	[a]	per 1,000 live births	2014	2.2	2014	8 (18)
3.3 End the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis and other communicable diseases						
3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections	[a]	number of new diagnoses per 100,000 population	2015	4.1		
3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence	[2]					
3.3.3 Malaria incidence	[1]					
3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence	[a]	number of new diagnoses per 100,000 population	2015	1.3		
3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases	[1]					
3.4 Reduce premature mortality from non-communicable diseases and promote mental health and well-being						
3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to non-communicable diseases	[a]	per 100,000 population	2015	565	2013	6 (19)
Healthy life expectancy for women	[b]	years (at birth)	2015	63.2	2014	20 (28)
Healthy life expectancy for men	[b]	years (at birth)	2015	64.6	2014	12 (28)
3.4.2 Suicide mortality rate	[a]	per 100,000 population	2015	11.0	2013	5 (19)
Satisfaction with life	[b]	average value on scale 0-10	2014	7.6	2014	4 (18)
3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol						
3.5.1 Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmaceutical, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders	[2]					
3.5.2 Harmful use of alcohol, defined according to the national context as alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older)	[a]	% heavy drinkers (6 or more units per day)	2015	12.3		
Smoking	[b]	% of population aged 12 years and older [*]	2015	24.6	2014	7 (17)
3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents						
3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries	[a]	per million population	2015	36.7	2013	6 (16)
3.7 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes						
3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	[2]					
3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate	[a]	per 1,000 women in the same age group (16-19 years) [**]	2015	2.8	2014	2 (28)
3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all						
3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services	[1]					
3.8.2 Number of people covered by health insurance or a public health system per 1,000 population						
Self-reported unfulfilled health care needs because these are too expensive	[b]	%	2014	0.4	2014	5 (28)

3 Good health and well-being - Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (end)

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
3.9 Substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination					
3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution					
Deaths attributed to ambient air pollution	[a]	per million population	2013	95.4	2010 11 (20)
3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)	[2]				
3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning	[2]				

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

[*] For EU ranking: % of population aged 15 years and older.

[**] For EU ranking: per 1,000 women in the age group 15-19 years.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>

(English translation forthcoming)

4 Quality education - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking		
		year	value	year	position	
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
4.1 Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes						
4.1.1 Proportion of children achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics at the end of primary and at the end of lower secondary education						
Numeracy skills among young people	[a]	average PISA score	2012	523	2012	1 (27)
Literacy skills among young people	[a]	average PISA score	2012	511	2012	5 (27)
4.2 Ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education						
4.2.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being						
Participation in pre-school and early childhood education	[b]	% of 3-5 year-olds in pre-school and early childhood education	2013	94.1	2013	9 (21)
4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age)						
Participation in pre-school education	[b]	% of 3 year-olds in pre-school education	2012	83.4	2012	12 (26)
4.3 Ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university						
4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months						
Adults with higher education level	[b]	% of 25-64 year-olds with higher education	2015	35.3	2015	11 (28)
4.4 Substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship						
4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill						
Computer skills	[b]	% of 16-74 year-olds who carried out 5 or 6 of 6 computer-related activities	2014	27.0	2014	16 (28)
Internet skills	[b]	% of 16-74 year-olds who carried out 5 or 6 of 6 internet-related activities	2013	21.0	2013	3 (28)
Problem-solving skills in a technological setting	[b]	% of 16-64 year-olds who scored 2 or 3 for every skill level of problem-solving in a technological setting	2015	40.6	2015	2 (11)
4.5 Eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training						
4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict affected, as data become available)						
4.6 Ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, literacy and numeracy						
4.6.1 Percentage of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills						
Literacy skills in the population	[a]	average PIAAC score (16-64 years)	2015	284	2015	2 (17)
Numeracy skills in the population	[a]	average PIAAC score (16-64 years)	2015	280	2015	2 (16)

4 Quality education - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (end)

		Netherlands		EU ranking	
	Unit	year	value	year	position
4.7 Ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development					
4.7.1 Extent to which global citizenship education and education for sustainable development are mainstreamed at all levels in national education					
Science skills among young people	[b] average PISA score	2012	522	2012	5 (26)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>

(English translation forthcoming)

5 Gender equality - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

			Netherlands		EU ranking	
	Unit		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
5.1 End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere						
5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex						
Income inequality	[b]	% difference in hourly wage (women compared to men)	2014	16.1	2014	18 (26)
5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation						
5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner	[a]	% of women reporting abuse by partner when aged 15 years or older	2012	25.0	2012	22 (28)
5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner	[a]	% of women reporting sexual abuse by person other than their partner when aged 15 years or older	2012	12.0	2012	27 (28)
5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation						
5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18	[2]					
5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15–49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting	[2]					
5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate						
5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work						
Women working part-time	[b]	% of working women	2015	76.9	2015	1 (28)
Men working part-time	[b]	% of working men	2015	26.5	2015	1 (28)
5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life						
5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments	[a]	% of seats	2015	37.3	2015	6 (23)
5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions	[a]	% of all women	2014	3.8	2014	13 (23)
5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action						
5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15–49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care	[2]					
5.6.2 Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee women aged 15–49 years access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education	[1]					
Health						
Healthy life expectancy for women	[b]	years	2015	63.2	2014	20 (28)
Healthy life expectancy for men	[b]	years	2015	64.6	2014	12 (28)
Education						
Women with higher education	[b]	% of women aged 25–64 years who have completed tertiary education	2015	35.0	2015	15 (28)
Men with higher education	[b]	% of men aged 25–64 years who have completed tertiary education	2015	35.7	2015	6 (28)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland> (English translation forthcoming)

6 Clean water and sanitation - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

			Netherlands		EU ranking	
	Unit		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
6.1 Achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all						
6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	[1]					
6.2 Achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations						
6.2.1 Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water	[1]					
6.3 Improve water quality by reducing pollution, increasing recycling and safe reuse globally						
6.3.1 Proportion of wastewater safely treated	[1]					
6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality						
Chemical quality of surface water	[a]	% of good quality water	2015	39.0	2009	6 (21)
Biological quality of surface water	[a]	% of biologically good quality water [*]	2015	4.8	2009	19 (19)
6.4 Substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater						
6.4.1 Change in water-use efficiency over time	[a]	euros/m³ [***]				
6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources	[a]	% [**]				
Surface water withdrawal and groundwater extraction	[b]	m³ per capita	2012	641	2012	16 (19)
6.5 Implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate						
6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0-100)	[1]					
6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation	[1]					
6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes						
6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time	[2]					

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

[*] Definition used for EU ranking: % of bodies of water complying with the norm for excellent or good ecological quality.

[**] Source data for [a] available for 2009 and 2014 [a], publication foreseen in 2017.

[***] Source data for [a] available for 2003-2014 [a], publication foreseen in 2017.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland> (English translation forthcoming)

7 Affordable and clean energy - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators					
7.1 Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services					
7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity					
Gross domestic energy consumption	[b]	kg oil equivalents per capita	2015	4,303	2014 23 (28)
7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	[2]				
7.2 Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix					
7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption	[a]	% of domestic energy consumption	2015	5.9	2014 26 (28)
7.3 Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency					
7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP					
Energy intensity of the economy	[a]	kg oil equivalents per 1,000 euros of GDP (prices of 2005)	2014	120.3	2014 11 (28)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland> (English translation forthcoming)

8 Decent work and economic growth - Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

			Netherlands		EU ranking	
	Unit		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth						
8.1.1 Gross domestic product	[a]	euros per capita (prices of 2010)	2015	38,745	2015	5 (28)
8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity						
8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person	[a]	GDP (euros, adjusted for PPP) per hour worked	2013	45.8	2013	4 (25)
8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises						
8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment	[2]					
8.4 Improve progressively global resource efficiency in consumption and production						
8.4.1 Material footprint	[a]	kg per capita	2012	20,160		
8.4.2 Domestic material consumption	[a]	euros per kg [*]	2015	3.4	2015	4 (28)
8.5 Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all						
8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities						
Median gross earnings	[a]	euros per hour [**]	2015	26.5	2014	4 (15)
8.5.2 Unemployment rate	[a]	% of labour force	2015	6.9	2015	11 (28)
8.6 Substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training						
8.6.1 Proportion of youth not in education, employment or training	[a]	% of population aged 15–24 years	2015	4.7	2015	1 (28)
8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms						
8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age	[2]					
8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers						
8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries						
Fatal injuries as a result of work-related accidents	[a]	standardised incidence	2014	1.0	2014	1 (26)
Non-fatal injuries as a result of work-related accidents	[a]	standardised incidence	2014	1,394	2014	16 (26)
8.8.2 Increase in national compliance of labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation	[1]					
8.9 Devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism						
8.9.1 Tourism direct GDP	[a]	% of GDP	2014	3.7		
8.9.2 Number of jobs in tourism industries						
Employment in tourism industries	[a]	% of total employment	2014	5.8		
8.10 Encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all						
8.10.1 Number of automated teller machines (ATMs)	[a]	per 100,000 adults	2014	50.6	2014	24 (27)
8.10.2 Account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider	[a]	% of population aged 15 years and older	2014	99.3	2014	4 (28)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

[*] Definition used for EU ranking: pps per kg.

[**] CBS figures include government sector. Figures for EU ranking exclude government sector.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>
(English translation forthcoming)

9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure - Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

			Netherlands		EU ranking	
	Unit		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure						
9.1.1 Proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road	[1]					
9.1.2 Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport						
Passenger transport	[a]	Volume in relation to GDP, 2005 = 100	2014	90.8	2014	23 (28)
Freight transport	[a]	Volume in relation to GDP, 2005 = 101	2014	88.7	2014	13 (28)
9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization						
9.2.1 Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita						
Value added attributable to environment industries	[b]	% of GDP	2014	2.2		
9.2.2 Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment						
Employment in environment industries	[b]	% of total employment	2014	1.9		
9.3 Increase access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises to financial services						
9.3.1 Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added						
Value added attributable to small and medium-sized enterprises	[b]	% of value added of SMEs in total value added of the non-financial sector	2013	61.3	2013	11 (21)
9.3.2 Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit						
Demand for credit of small and medium sized enterprises	[b]	% of SMEs reporting that access to credit is biggest problem	2015	12.9	2015	22 (28)
9.4 Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable						
9.4.1 CO ₂ emission per unit of value added						
Greenhouse gas intensity of the economy	[a]	kg CO ₂ equivalents per euro GDP (prices of 2010)	2014	0.3	2014	12 (28)
9.5 Encourage innovation and substantially increase the number of research and development workers						
9.5.1 Research and development expenditure	[a]	% of GDP	2015	1.8	2014	10 (28)
9.5.2 Researchers	[a]	fte per million inhabitants	2013	4,303	2013	7 (27)
Patent applications	[b]	number per million inhabitants	2014	136	2014	10 (26)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>
(English translation forthcoming)

10 Reduced inequalities - Reduce inequality within and among countries

			Netherlands		EU ranking	
	Unit		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
10.1 Progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population						
10.1.1 Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population						
Income inequality (Palma ratio)	[a]	richest 10% of population: poorest 40% of population	2014	0.97	2013	6 (21)
10.2 Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all						
10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income						
At-risk-of-poverty rate	[a]	% of population at risk of poverty, i.e. with an income below the critical threshold (= 50% of the median income of the population)	2015	6.5	2015	3 (26)
10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities						
10.3.1 Proportion of the population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed						
Perceived discrimination	[a]	% of population who describe themselves as being part of a group that is discriminated against	2014	9.2	2014	14 (18)
10.4 Adopt fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality						
10.4.1 Labour share of GDP	[a]	% of GDP (incl. wages and social protection transfers)	2015	49.0	2015	6 (28)
10.5 Improve the regulation and monitoring of global financial markets and institutions and strengthen the implementation of such regulations						
10.5.1 Financial Soundness Indicators	[2]					
10.6 Ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions						
10.6.1 Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations	[1]					
10.7 Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people						
10.7.1 Recruitment cost borne by employee as a proportion of yearly income earned in country of destination	[2]					
10.7.2 Number of countries that have implemented well-managed migration policies						
Migrant integration	[b]	MIPEX scale 0–100	2014	61	2014	6 (28)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland> (English translation forthcoming)

11 Sustainable cities and communities - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators					
11.1 Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing					
11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing					
Cramped housing	[b]	% of population in housing that is too small	2015	3.3	2015 2 (15)
11.2 Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, notably by expanding public transport					
11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport	[2]				
11.3 Enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization					
11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate					
Area per inhabitant	[b]	m² per capita	2015	2,450	2015 27 (28)
11.3.2 Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operates regularly and democratically	[2]				
11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage					
11.4.1 Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage					
Government expenditure on environmental protection and cultural services (COFOG)	[b]	% of GDP	2015	1.9	2014 2 (28)
11.5 Significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses caused by disasters, including water-related disasters					
11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	[2]				
11.5.2 Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global GDP, including disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services	[2]				
11.6 Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities					
11.6.1 Urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge	[a]	kg per capita	2015	563	2014 19 (25)
11.6.2 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (PM10) in cities	[a]	microgram PM10 per m³	2013	21.2	2013 9 (24)
11.7 Provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces					
11.7.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all	[2]				
11.7.2 Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment					
Crime victim rate	[a]	% of population who have been victim of a criminal offence	2015	17.6	2014 11 (17)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland> (English translation forthcoming)

12 Responsible consumption and production - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators					
12.1 Implement the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns					
12.1.1 Number of countries with sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plans or SCP mainstreamed as a priority or a target into national policies					
Organic agriculture	[b]	% of agricultural land	2014	2.7	2014 24 (28)
12.2 Achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources					
12.2.1 Material footprint	[a]	kg per capita	2012	20,160	
12.2.2 Domestic material consumption	[a]	ton per capita	2015	11.3	2015 4 (17)
12.3 Reduce global food waste along production and supply chains					
12.3.1 Global food loss index					
Animal waste, mixed food waste and vegetable waste	[b]	kg per capita	2012	677	2012 27 (28)
12.4 Achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle					
12.4.1 Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste, and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement	[2]				
12.4.2 Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment					
Hazardous waste	[a]	kg per capita	2012	290	2012 22 (28)
Recycling and reuse of hazardous waste	[a]	% of total hazardous waste	2012	57.8	2012 12 (27)
12.5 Substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse					
12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled					
Recycling of municipal waste	[b]	% of total municipal waste	2014	23.7	2014 12 (26)
12.6 Encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle					
12.6.1 Number of companies publishing sustainability reports					
Social corporate responsibility in annual reporting	[a]	% of the 100 largest companies that include social corporate responsibility in annual reports	2015	80.0	2015 8 (18)
12.7 Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities					
12.7.1 Number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies and action plans					
12.8 Ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles					
12.8.1 Extent to which global citizenship education and education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in national education					
Science skills among young people	[b]	average PISA score	2012	522	2012 5 (25)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

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13 Climate action – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

			Netherlands		EU ranking	
	Unit		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries						
13.1.1 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies	[2]					
13.1.2 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	[2]					
13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning						
13.2.1 Number of countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, national communication, biennial update report or other)						
Total greenhouse gas emissions	[b]	ton CO ₂ equivalents per capita	2014	11.5	2014	25 (28)
Historical CO ₂ emissions	[b]	ton CO ₂ per capita	2013	7.4	2013	13 (17)
Greenhouse gas intensity of the economy	[b]	kg CO ₂ equivalents per euro GDP (prices of 2010)	2014	0.3	2014	12 (28)
13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning						
13.3.1 Number of countries that have integrated mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning into primary, secondary and tertiary curricula	[2]					
13.3.2 Number of countries that have communicated the strengthening of institutional, systemic and individual capacity-building to implement adaptation, mitigation and technology transfer, and development actions	[2]					

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>

(English translation forthcoming)

14 Life below water – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators					
14.1 Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds					
14.1.1 Index of coastal eutrophication (ICEP) and floating plastic debris density					
Nitrogen use efficiency	[b]	input/output ratio of nitrogen [*]	2014	1.4	2014 16 (26)
Clean water index (component of ocean health index)	[b]	score on standardized index	2015	45	2015 16 (21)
14.2 Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems					
14.2.1 Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches	[2]				
14.3 Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification					
14.3.1 Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations	[2]				
14.4 Effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing					
14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels	[a]	number out of 5 fish species caught for consumption purposes within sustainable level	2015	4	
14.5 Conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas					
14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas					
Lasting special places index (component of ocean health index)	[b]	score on standardized index	2015	100	2015 1 (23)
14.6 Prohibit and eliminate subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing					
14.6.1 Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing	[2]				
14.7 Increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources					
14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a percentage of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries					
Food provision index (component of ocean health index)	[b]	score on standardized index	2015	56	2015 18 (23)

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

[*] Netherlands: excluding emissions into air through manure and crops. For EU ranking: including emissions into air through manure and crops.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland> (English translation forthcoming)

15 Life on land – Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators					
15.1 Ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services					
15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area					
Natural and forest areas	[a]	forest and natural land as a % of total area [*]	2012	11.8	2012 25(27)
15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas					
State of sites in terms of conservation	[b]	% scoring 'favourable'	2012	22.8	2012 19 (26)
15.2 Promote implementation of sustainable management of forests					
15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management	[2]				
15.3 Combat desertification and restore degraded land and soil					
15.3.1 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area					
Phosphorus surplus in soil	[b]	kg phosphorus per hectare	2014	0.0	2014 9 (25)
Nitrogen surplus in soil	[b]	kg nitrogen per hectare	2014	129.9	2014 24 (26)
15.4 Ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems					
15.4.1 Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity	[1]				
15.4.2 Mountain Green Cover Index	[1]				
15.5 Reduce the degradation of natural habitats and halt the loss of biodiversity					
15.5.1 Red List Index	[a]	1950 = 100	2015	61.8	
Farmland bird index	[b]	2000 = 100 [**]	2014	72.9	2005 8 (17)
15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources					
15.6.1 Number of countries that have adopted legislative, administrative and policy frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits	[2]				
15.7 End poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna					
15.7.1 Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked	[2]				
15.8 Prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species					
15.8.1 Proportion of countries adopting relevant national legislation and adequately resourcing the prevention or control of invasive alien species	[2]				
15.9 Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts					
15.9.1 Progress towards national targets established in accordance with Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020	[2]				

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

[*] For EU ranking: forest as a % of total area.

[**] For EU ranking: % change from trend curve.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>
(English translation forthcoming)

16 Peace, justice and strong institutions – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking		
		year	value	year	position	
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators						
16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere						
16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide	[a]	per 100,000 population	2014	0.7	2013	5 (28)
16.1.2 Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population	[2]					
16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence	[a]	% of population victim of violence in last 12 months	2015	17.6	2014	11 (17)
16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live						
Feeling safe	[a]	% of population who feel safe	2015	80.5	2015	6 (22)
16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children						
16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month						
Risk of abuse	[b]	% 15–17 year-olds who perceive risk of abuse to be high	2015	2.6		
16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking	[a]	per 100,000 population	2015	7.8	2014	27 (28)
16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18	[2]					
16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all						
16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization						
Registered crime	[a]	number per 1,000 population	2015	57		
16.3.2 Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population						
Number of detainees	[b]	per 100,000 population	2014	70.9	2014	4 (25)
16.4 Significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime						
16.4.1 Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows	[2]					
16.4.2 Proportion of seized small arms and light weapons that are recorded and traced, in accordance with international standards and legal instruments	[2]					
16.5 Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms						
16.5.1 Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to, or were asked for a bribe by public officials						
Civilians experiencing corruption	[a]	score on Corruption Perceptions Index	2015	87	2015	4 (28)
16.5.2 Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to, or were asked for a bribe by public officials	[2]					
16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels						
16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget						
Government expenditure on safety and security	[b]	% of GDP	2015	1.5	2014	11 (28)
16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services						
Trust in institutions	[b]	% of population who trust institutions	2014	52.8	2014	3 (18)

16 Peace, justice and strong institutions – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (end)

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels					
16.7.1 Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions compared to national distributions	[2]				
16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive					
Voter turnout rate	[b]	2012	74.6	[*]	10 (28)
16.8 Broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance					
16.8.1 Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations	[1]				
16.9 Provide legal identity for all, including birth registration					
16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority	[1]				
16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements					
16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates	[1]				
16.10.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information	[1]				

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

[*] Most recent available election turnout figures

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>

(English translation forthcoming)

17 Partnerships for the goals – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
SDG targets, indicators and alternative indicators					
17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization					
17.1.1 Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source					
Revenues of Dutch government as source for development assistance	[b] % of GDP	2015	43.2	2015	14 (28)
17.1.2 Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	[1]				
17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments					
17.2.1 Net official development assistance	[a] % of GNI	2014	0.6	2014	5 (28)
17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources					
17.3.1 Foreign direct investments (FDI), official development assistance and South-South Cooperation as a proportion of total domestic budget					
Other public financing in developing countries and financial flows from NGOs	[a] % of GNI	2014	0.02	2014	6 (14)
Private financing from the Netherlands in developing countries	[a] % of GNI	2013	1.5	2013	1 (14)
17.3.2 Volume of remittances	[a] % of GDP	2015	1.2	2015	5 (25)
17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability					
17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services	[2]				
17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries					
17.5.1 Number of countries that adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries	[2]				
17.6 Enhance regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology, innovation and knowledge-sharing					
17.6.1 Number of science and/or technology cooperation agreements and programmes between countries	[2]				
17.6.2 Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants,	[1]				
17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries					
17.7.1 Total amount of approved funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies	[2]				
17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017					
17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the Internet	[1]				
17.9 Support national plans in developing countries to implement all the SDGs					
17.9.1 Dollar value of financial and technical assistance committed to developing countries	[2]				
17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system					
17.10.1 Worldwide weighted tariff-average	[1]				
17.11 Increase the exports of developing countries					
17.11.1 Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports					
Total Dutch imports from least developed countries	[b] euros per capita	2015	287.9	2015	2 (28)
Carbon footprint of Dutch consumption resulting from imports	[b] ton CO ₂ per capita [*]	2014	7.7	2007	22 (27)

17 Partnerships for the goals - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development (end)

	Unit	Netherlands		EU ranking	
		year	value	year	position
17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries					
17.12.1 Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States	[1]				
17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability					
17.13.1 Macroeconomic Dashboard	[1]				
17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development					
17.14.1 Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development	[2]				
17.15 Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development					
17.15.1 Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by providers of development cooperation	[2]				
17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development					
17.16.1 Number of countries reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the sustainable development goals	[2]				
17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships					
17.17.1 Amount committed to public-private and civil society partnerships	[2]				
17.18 Enhance capacity-building support to developing countries to increase the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data					
17.18.1 Proportion of sustainable development indicators produced at the national level in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	[2]				
17.18.2 Number of countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	[1]				
17.18.3 Number of countries with a national statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation	[1]				
17.19 Build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement GDP, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries					
17.19.1 Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries	[2]				
17.19.2 Proportion of countries that have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; have achieved 100 per cent birth and 80 per cent death registration	[1]				

[a] Official SDG indicator measured; [b] Alternative indicator.

[1] The Netherlands has realised or almost realised target; or target is not relevant for the Netherlands; [2] To be developed; maybe difficult to quantify.

[*] For EU ranking: ton CO₂-equivalents per capita.

For metadata on the indicators, see: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/publicatie/2016/44/meten-van-sdgs-een-eerste-beeld-voor-nederland>
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Abbreviations

BMI	Body Mass Index
CBS	Statistics Netherlands
CDIAC	Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center
CES	Conference of European Statisticians
CH ₄	Methane (greenhouse gas)
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide (greenhouse gas)
COFOG	Classification of the Functions of Government
CPB	Netherlands Bureau voor Economic Policy Analysis
DAC	Development Assistance Committee of the OECD
DMC	Domestic Material Consumption
EBCC	European Bird Census Council
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
EEA	European Environmental Agency
ESA	European System of Accounts
ESS	European Social Survey
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FPOS	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
GDP	Gross domestic product
GNI	Gross national income
ha	Hectare
HFC	Hydro fluorocarbon (greenhouse gas)
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
IAEG-SDG	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators
ICEP	Index of Coastal Eutrophication
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICSU/ISSC	International Council for Science, in partnership with the International Social Science Council
ICT	Information and communication technology
IDEA	International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
kg	Kilogram
KPMG	international auditing and consultancy organisation
KRW	Framework guideline for water
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
m ²	square metre
m ³	cubic metre
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MDN	Netherlands Sustainability Monitor
MF	Material Footprint
MIPEX	Migrant Integration Policy Index
SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
mln	Million
SCR	Social corporate responsibility
N ₂ O	Nitrous oxide (greenhouse gas)
NEET	Not in employment, education or training
NEM	Ecological Monitoring Network

NGO	Non-government organisation
NL	Netherlands
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PBL	Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
PFC	Perfluorocarbon (greenhouse gas)
pH	Acidity
PIAAC	Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies
PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment
PM ₁₀	Fine particles with a diameter of 10 micrometres or less
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
PPS	Purchasing Power Standard
R&D	Research and Development
RIVM	National Institute for Public Health and the Environment
SCP	Netherlands Institute for Social Research, or
SCP	Sustainable consumption and production
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDSN	Sustainable Development Solutions Network
SER	Social and Economic Council of the Netherlands
SF ₆	Sulphur hexafluoride (greenhouse gas)
UN	United Nations
UNECE	European economic commission of the United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
VVM	Network of environmental professionals
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WODC	Research and Documentation Centre of the Ministry of Security and Justice
WRR	Netherlands Scientific Council for Government Policy

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