

Sustainable Development Goals Tracker

GERMANY 2025

Voluntary National Review





Germany VNR 2021
Report

The Federal Government

12 July 2016

Report of the German Federal Government
to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2016

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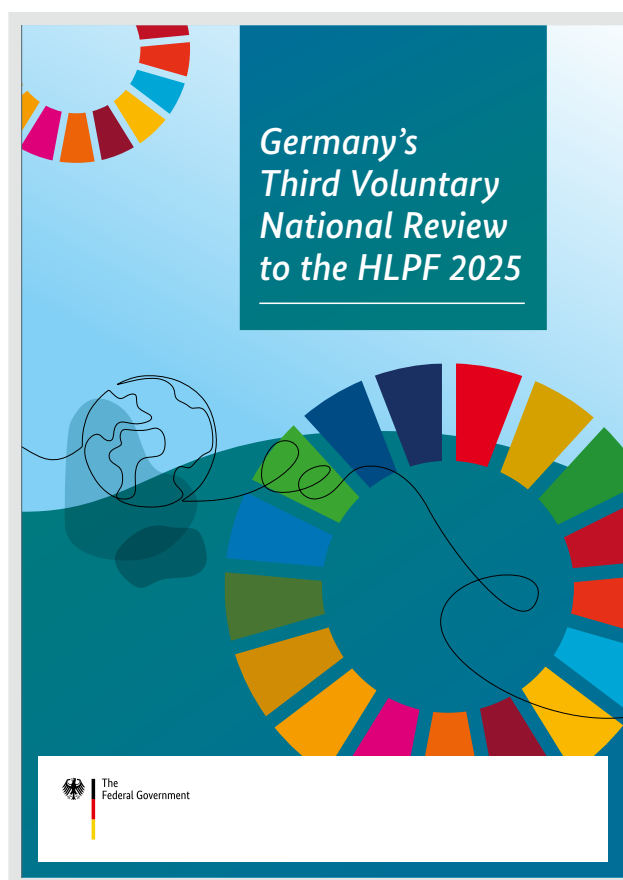
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Germany VNR 2016
Report



Germany VNR 2025
Report



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Germany

2025

Voluntary National Review (VNR)

VNRs Submitted: 3 (75%)



SDGs Achieved: 1 (6%)



SDGs On-Track: 9 (53%)



SDGs Off-Track: 7 (41%)



SDGs No Progress: 0 (0%)

Introduction

Germany's 2025 **Voluntary National Review (VNR)** is based on the German Sustainable Development Strategy (GSDS) 2025, and provides a comprehensive account of national Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) implementation. The report is organised around six “areas of transformation” and five cross-cutting policy levers, highlighting concrete actions and initiatives. It emphasises a whole-of-government approach, stakeholder engagement through dialogues, citizens’ assemblies, Voluntary Local Reviews, and updated governance mechanisms such as inter-ministerial transformation teams. Key achievements include expanding renewables to 54.4% of electricity in 2024, meeting the 0.7% official development assistance (ODA) target in 2023 (€35.05 billion; 0.82% of Gross National Income (GNI), and launching strategies such as the GSDS 2025 revision and the Food & Nutrition Strategy 2024. At the same time, the VNR acknowledges areas needing urgent attention, including climate emissions, pollution, and resource consumption. Overall, Germany demonstrates solid progress on many SDGs, although several targets remain off track, highlighting the need for strengthened policies and investment (**United Nations, 2025a; United Nations, 2025b**).



VNR Framework Approach to assess Germany's Progress Towards the 2030 Agenda

A VNR is a self-assessment process through which the United Nation's (UN) Member States review and report on their progress in implementing the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and its **17 SDGs**. These reviews are **voluntary, country-led, and inclusive**, allowing each nation to share experiences, identify challenges, and highlight best practices.

VNRs are essential because they promote accountability and transparency in the implementation of the SDGs, allowing countries to demonstrate their commitment and progress openly. They help governments track progress, identify gaps, and strengthen policies, ensuring that national development strategies remain aligned with the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, VNRs facilitate knowledge sharing among nations by enabling the exchange of experiences, innovations, and lessons learned. They also encourage multi-stakeholder participation, bringing together government institutions, civil society, the private sector, and academia in a collaborative effort to advance sustainable development. Finally, the VNRs serve as the foundation for the UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) reviews, providing evidence-based insights that guide global discussions on accelerating progress towards achieving the SDGs.

Objectives of VNRs

- Assess a country's progress towards achieving the SDGs.
- Identify key challenges and barriers to implementation.
- Share lessons learned and innovative approaches.
- Mobilise support, partnerships, and policy coherence for sustainable development.

Methodology to Measure VNRs Progress

VNRs assess development performance using quantitative and qualitative data, aligning national priorities with SDGs targets. Countries use available indicators and national statistics to evaluate whether they are:

- Achieved, on-track, moderately off-track, seriously off-track or no progress.
- Facing data gaps or methodological challenges.

Due to incomplete or inconsistent data, some assessments rely on proxy indicators or qualitative descriptions of progress. Each SDG is rated on a **0-5 scale** to measure Germany's progress towards the **2030 Agenda**.

- 0 – No Progress:** No measurable progress or data available.
- 1 – Severely Off-Track:** Very little advancement; major gaps persist.
- 2 – Off-Track:** Limited progress with minimal improvement.
- 3 – Moderately Off-Track:** Some progress achieved, but key challenges remain.
- 4 – On-Track:** Noticeable progress made; close to achieving the target.
- 5 – Achieved:** Goal fully met with sustained performance and monitoring in place.

This scale helps to quantify Germany's SDG performance, showing where strong progress exists and where further policy actions are needed. VNRs are vital tools for evaluating and accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda. They enable countries to reflect on achievements, recognise shortcomings, and strengthen collective action for a more sustainable and equitable world.

Explanation of Analysis (Applied to Germany’s SDG Report)

This analysis applies the *VNR framework* to Germany’s SDG Report. Initially, the report was processed using an AI tool to extract, summarise, and categorise data related to the 17 SDGs. The AI provided preliminary insights into Germany’s progress, challenges, and measurable indicators. Following the AI review, the information was cross-verified by two independent human experts to ensure factual accuracy, contextual relevance, and alignment with the official UN SDG indicators. This validation step strengthened the reliability of the data interpretation.

Finally, a team of SDG experts conducted an in-depth qualitative and quantitative analysis to identify key challenges, potential solutions, and policy-level recommendations. The comprehensive approach, integrating AI-driven insights with expert validation, provides a balanced, evidence-based assessment of Germany’s progress towards achieving the economic growth, highlighting strategic areas for improvement, innovation, and sustainability.

Overall Progress

Table 1 presents Germany’s progress across the 17 SDGs, with ratings assigned to each goal based on the report’s findings. The ratings reflect the extent of progress made, highlight areas where challenges have been addressed, and identify those that remain unresolved.

Table 1. SDG Progress Scoring

Score: 4		1 NO POVERTY 
Justification	- Germany’s GSDD 2025 frames social justice and the reduction of poverty as central to a fair transformation and to “leave no one behind”.	
Challenges	- The VNR highlights persistent pockets of poverty and the need to address social inclusion, with particular attention to groups at risk of exclusion. Relative poverty and income inequality persist despite overall prosperity.	
Progress/ Solutions	- The 2025 Strategy and related measures show policy alignment to reduce poverty; the VNR notes advances in social protection design.	
Unsolved Challenges	- Vulnerable groups still face risks of social exclusion and unequal access to opportunities.	

Score : 3		2 ZERO HUNGER 
Justification	- Sustainable agricultural and food systems are one of Germany’s six areas of transformation, recognising food security, biodiversity and climate links. - Germany ensures food security and promotes sustainable, healthy diets through national strategies.	
Challenges	- Transforming agricultural practices, reducing negative spillovers and tackling environmental pressures on food systems are named as core challenges. - Rising obesity rates and uneven diet quality remain key health concerns.	
Progress/ Solutions	- Germany cites the Food and Nutrition Strategy and the National Strategy on Biological Diversity 2030 as concrete policy frameworks. - The 2024 Food and Nutrition Strategy with 90 measures supports sustainable farming and healthy eating.	

Unsolved Challenges	- The VNR indicates ongoing issues in shifting agricultural incentives and meeting biodiversity targets. Shifting consumer behaviour and reducing food waste still require greater effort.
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3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Score: 3	
Justification	- The VNR emphasises strengthening public and global health (One Health approach) and resilient health systems as part of social well-being.
Challenges	- Rising health risks from climate change, long-term care pressures and antimicrobial resistance are identified challenges. - Ageing population, mental health issues, and climate-related health risks persist.
Progress/Solutions	- Reorganisation of the Federal Centre for Health Education into the Federal Institute of Public Health (BIÖG), the Pact for the Public Health Service, the Health Literacy Roadmap 2024 and the Climate Pact for Health are listed as recent advances.
Unsolved Challenges	- The VNR signals remaining gaps in long-term care provision and workforce resilience.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Score: 4	
Justification	- Education for sustainable development is treated as essential to build transformation skills and social participation. Germany prioritises inclusive, quality education and lifelong learning for sustainable development.
Challenges	- Integrating Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) across all education levels and reducing early school-leaving remain challenges.
Progress/Solutions	- The VNR cites the 2025 “Quality Education for All” strategy, the Curriculum Framework on Global Development (expansion to upper secondary finalised) and a school competition with 33,000 participating pupils as evidence of action.
Unsolved Challenges	- The VNR flags early school-leaver rates among the off-track indicators in the year 2023. - Regional disparities and skill mismatches still hinder equal learning outcomes.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Score: 3	
Justification	- Gender equality is mainstreamed in the GSDS 2025 and the VNR stresses its importance for a socially fair transformation. - Germany upholds gender equality and LGBTQIA+ rights as core to social justice and inclusion.
Challenges	- Closing the gender pay gap, preventing gender-based violence and embedding gender equality across policy areas are underlined challenges. - The gender pay gap and unequal leadership representation remain persistent.
Progress/Solutions	- The Management Positions (Gender Equality) Act sets a mandatory 30% quota on supervisory boards for listed/fully co-determined companies; the GSDS target goes further to 40% by 2030 and companies covered have already reached 38.5%. - Legal reforms, the 4 th Gender Equality Report, and higher female board participation show advancement.

Unsolved Challenges	- Despite legislative progress, the VNR names the gender pay gap and integration of gender-impact tools (gender budgeting, impact assessment) as outstanding issues to be mainstreamed further. - Gender-based violence and pay equity gaps continue to hinder full equality.
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6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Score: 4	
Justification	- Water management and local stakeholder engagement (e.g., National Citizens' Dialogue on Water) are highlighted as essential for sustainable wellbeing. - Germany ensures universal access to safe, affordable water through strong national policies.
Challenges	- Ensuring heat-resilient water systems and equitable local water governance are noted challenges. - Groundwater nitrate pollution and nutrient runoff threaten water quality.
Progress/Solutions	- The VNR points to stakeholder processes and local Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) that include water governance. - The 2023 National Water Strategy promotes sustainable water use and wastewater management.
Unsolved Challenges	- Persistent agricultural pollution keeps water quality targets moderately off-track. The report recommends improved monitoring and local funding mechanisms.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Score : 3	
Justification	- Energy transition and climate action form a major transformation area in Germany's GSDS 2025. - Expanding grid capacity and ensuring energy security remain key issues.
Challenges	- Rapidly scaling renewable energy, grid integration and balancing industrial/transport demands are described as key obstacles.
Progress/Solutions	- The VNR documents policy measures on renewable expansion and climate action programmes (e.g., Action Plan on Nature-based Solutions and Climate Action Programme 2023) as progress markers. - Renewables reached 54.4% of electricity in 2024, targeting 80% by 2030 and neutrality by 2045.
Unsolved Challenges	- Delays in grid expansion and coal phase-out by 2038 may slow full transition. - The VNR flags that emissions reductions in transport, energy and industry remain difficult.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Score : 4	
Justification	- Germany promotes decent work through fair wages, strong labour rights, and social protection. - Decent work is emphasised in GSDS 2025.
Challenges	- Ensuring decent work across sectors, just transition in structural change and labour market inequalities are listed challenges.

Progress/ Solutions	- Low unemployment and inclusion of collective bargaining in the GSDS show solid advancement. - The VNR reports inclusion of collective bargaining coverage in GSDS indicators and ongoing social dialogue mechanisms (e.g., State Secretaries' Committee, stakeholder commissions).
Unsolved Challenges	- Skill gaps and labour market inequality still hinder full inclusive growth. The VNR highlights that some employment-related targets remain off-track.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Score: 4	
Justification	- Research, innovation and digitalisation are a cross-cutting lever in the GSDS 2025 to enable sustainable industrial transformation. - Germany drives sustainable growth through innovation, R&D, and modern infrastructure.
Challenges	- Decarbonising industry, scaling clean technologies and avoiding negative spillovers from supply chains are major challenges. - Digital infrastructure gaps and uneven regional connectivity persist.
Progress/ Solutions	- Strong investment in green innovation, energy-efficient buildings, and the “Deutschland-Ticket” mark clear gains. - Germany advances research for sustainable transformation, digital product passports and innovation policies.
Unsolved Challenges	- Digital upgrades and industrial decarbonisation still require faster implementation. - The VNR notes that spillover recording remains nascent and that further progress is needed to align industrial policy with global sustainability responsibilities.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Score: 3	
Justification	- The GSDS 2025 places emphasis on social cohesion and reducing inequalities domestically and internationally. - Germany maintains strong social welfare and inclusion policies, aiming to “leave no one behind”. - Efforts focus on reducing income, education, and opportunity inequalities, alongside social integration programmes.
Challenges	- Inequalities in income, access to services and negative spillovers to partner countries are persistent challenges.
Progress/ Solutions	- Policy measures addressing inclusion, improved social protection, and the integration of decent work.
Unsolved Challenges	- Moderate progress in closing inequality gaps despite policy measures. - The VNR underlines remaining gaps in measuring and addressing cross-border spillovers that exacerbate inequalities abroad.



Score: 4

Justification	- Germany prioritises sustainable urban development, guided by the New Leipzig Charter (2020), focusing on climate resilience, integrated planning, and energy-efficient public infrastructure. - Municipalities are described as central actors for SDG implementation; Germany has submitted 18 VLRs.
Challenges	- Urban land-take (new settlement and transport land use) and financing sustainable local infrastructure are highlighted challenges.
Progress/Solutions	- Germany supports local action (SKEW, RENN hubs), local reporting frameworks (BNK) used by ~30 local authorities and 265 municipalities signed a local sustainability declaration; 18 VLRs were submitted to the HLPF.
Unsolved Challenges	- Land take currently averages 52 hectares per day (the GSDS 2025 target is to limit to below 30 hectares per day by 2030 and net zero by 2050); this remains a major unsolved issue. - Ongoing need to improve housing affordability and ensuring inclusive access across all cities and regions.



Score: 4

Justification	- Germany leads in recycling and resource efficiency, guided by a National Circular Economy Strategy, aiming to reduce per capita raw material use. - The circular economy is a named transformation area; resource productivity is central to sustainable consumption.
Challenges	- Absolute consumption remains high and recycled material in consumption is low (~13%). - Reducing primary resource use, plastic pollution and problematic product lifecycles are core challenges.
Progress/Solutions	- Recycling rates are the highest worldwide and policies support decoupling resource use from growth. - The National Circular Economy Strategy, National Bioeconomy Strategy and improvements in raw material productivity (average annual increases cited for 2000-2010 ~1.6% and 2010-2018 ~1.0% per year).
Unsolved Challenges	- The VNR stresses that more must be done to scale circular markets and to reduce negative spillovers from German consumption. - Full circularity is not yet achieved despite strong policy momentum.



Score: 4

Justification	- Climate action is a top priority for Germany, targeting 65% Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reductions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2045. - Climate action is a primary transformation area and the VNR stresses socially equitable greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
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Challenges	- Transport, energy, and industry sectors face major emission reduction difficulties. - Crises such as the pandemic and energy shocks add pressure. - Large emission reductions are still required in transport, energy and industrial sectors; aligning social fairness with carbon pricing and structural change is challenging.
Progress/ Solutions	- The VNR refers to carbon pricing instruments, Climate Action Programme 2023 and nature-based solutions (Action Plan ANK 2023) as steps taken. - Renewable energy expansion and carbon pricing Emissions Trading System (ETS) support cost-effective emission cuts.
Unsolved Challenges	- The VNR notes greenhouse gas reduction targets remain difficult. - Targets are still distant, and continued effort is needed to remain on track.



Score: 3

Justification	- The VNR addresses pollutant-free environment actions and Germany's international commitments to marine protection. - Germany aims to protect marine and freshwater ecosystems, focusing on reducing nutrient runoff and supporting marine conservation.
Challenges	- Marine biodiversity, pollutant loads and transboundary impacts of production/consumption are key challenges.
Progress/ Solutions	- Germany reports implementation of international environmental agreements and pollutant-reduction measures to protect marine ecosystems. - Policies promote marine conservation and adherence to international maritime laws.
Unsolved Challenges	- The VNR indicates that more work is needed to quantify and reduce negative spillovers affecting marine ecosystems. - Stricter fertiliser regulation and intensified measures are still needed.



Score: 4

Justification	- Biodiversity and land-use are covered under the Food and Nutrition Strategy and the National Strategy on Biological Diversity 2030.
Challenges	- Land take and soil sealing threaten terrestrial ecosystems; balancing development and conservation is a major issue. - Habitat loss and land take continue to threaten biodiversity.
Progress/ Solutions	- The VNR documents the Biodiversity 2030 Strategy and specific measures; however, it reports that land take currently averages 52 hectares per day. - Ecosystem restoration, expansion of protected areas, and promotion of organic farming (30% by 2030) show policy advancement.
Unsolved Challenges	- The target to limit land take below 30 hectares per day by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050 remains unmet. - Biodiversity decline persists, and intensified efforts are needed to meet the SDG's targets.

Score: 3	
Justification	- Good governance, rule-making, participatory processes and accountability are foundational in the GSDS and VNR.
Challenges	- Maintaining strong participatory institutions across federal, land and municipal levels and ensuring transparency in governance remain challenges.
Progress/ Solutions	- The VNR highlights institutional arrangements (State Secretaries' Committee, Council for Sustainable Development, Parliamentary Advisory Council) and broad stakeholder engagement including citizens' assemblies and commissions.
Unsolved Challenges	- The VNR notes the need to increase transparency of processes and to strengthen channels between governance structures and civil society; precise measures of institutional performance are held in the indicators and stakeholder contributions.

Score: 5	
Justification	- Germany prioritises international co-operation, development assistance, and multilateral engagement to support global sustainability.
Challenges	- Addressing negative spillovers of German production and finance on partner countries and ensuring fair global partnerships are central challenges.
Progress/ Solutions	- Germany cites the Supply Chain Due Diligence Act (LkSG) entering into force in 2023 and forthcoming transposition of the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) as steps to strengthen corporate responsibility; it also references international peer-learning and multilateral diplomacy. - ODA reached 0.82% of GNI in 2023, climate finance mobilisation is strong (~€10 bn/year), and Germany actively participates in global SDG processes.
Unsolved Challenges	- The VNR states that spillover measurement is nascent and that thresholds and scope of legal instruments leave some negative externalities unaddressed.

Source: (United Nations, 2025a; United Nations, 2025b).

Major Challenges

- **Climate and environmental targets:** Germany is lagging on greenhouse gas reductions and pollution control. The 2023 Off-Track Report highlights GHG cuts in transport and energy, as well as pollutant-free environment targets, as “*jeopardised*”. High nitrate pollution in water and chemicals such as PFAS demand stricter regulation.
- **Sustainable agriculture and food:** Intensive farming affects multiple SDGs. Achieving nitrate and eutrophication targets depends on fertiliser reforms. Balancing climate-neutral agriculture with economic viability requires consensus, as agreed through federal Commissions.
- **Resource consumption and circular economy:** Although raw material productivity is improving, overall consumption remains high. Recycled materials account for only 13% of use. Implementing the National Circular Economy Strategy is essential for **SDG 12** and **15**, but progress needs to accelerate.
- **Social disparities:** Off-track issues include the gender pay gap, obesity, and educational inequality. Ensuring “*leave no one behind*” remains difficult, particularly for migrants, low-income households, and persons with disabilities, including accessibility in transport.

- **Governance and multi-level co-ordination:** Effective local implementation remains challenging. Municipalities face funding shortfalls and structural burdens. A “fresh start” and sufficient local investment are emphasised, together with the need for cross-ministerial co-ordination and long-term commitment beyond legislative cycles.
- **External crises and spillovers:** Crises such as the pandemic, energy price shocks, and global conflicts have slowed progress and increased costs, notably affecting the poor. Germany also recognises the spillover effects of its high consumption: it ranks 4th overall but 146th on the spillover index due to embodied emissions from imports. Addressing these impacts requires international measures, including Carbon Border Adjustments, and global co-operation.

Key Lessons Learned

- **Use market instruments and social safeguards:** Germany highlights its carbon pricing system (cap-and-trade) as an effective tool for cutting emissions at minimal cost, while recycling revenue into social support. Combining carbon pricing with direct relief such as electricity subsidies and housing grants balances equity with climate ambition.
- **Adopt integrated, cross-sector strategies:** Horizontal co-ordination in agriculture, such as the fertiliser ordinance, simultaneously advances water quality, biodiversity, and climate goals. The National Water Strategy (2023) demonstrates effective cross-sector planning, while multi-stakeholder commissions, such as Future of Agriculture and Borchert, build consensus on food-system reforms. Other countries can replicate these participatory approaches to align farmers, consumers, and policy-makers.
- **Invest in circular economy frameworks:** Germany’s National Circular Economy and Bio-economy Strategies aim to double material productivity and reduce raw material use. Promoting secondary material markets and eco-design helps decouple growth from resource consumption. Structured strategies like these provide a model for other nations to codify circular policies.
- **Measure and mitigate spillovers:** Germany stresses tracking global impacts of domestic consumption. The Spillover Index and EU Carbon Border Adjustment help internalise emissions from imports. Adding national SDG indicators on household resource use and supply-chain labour rights shows the value of designing policies that minimise negative externalities.
- **Set clear targets on land use:** With ongoing land loss (52ha/day versus a 30ha/day goal), Germany emphasises a circular land economy. Updated strategies include soil sealing metrics, strict land-consumption targets, land quotas, urban densification, and brownfield redevelopment, offering lessons for sustainable land management elsewhere.
- **Strengthen governance, data, and participation:** Germany promotes adaptive governance through inter-ministerial transformation teams and evidence-based policies backed by reliable statistics. Societal acceptance is key, achieved through communication, stakeholder dialogue, and shared visions. Cross-departmental working groups, open SDG data, and inclusive consultations, including youth, provide practical lessons for SDG governance in other countries.

Notable Contribution

- **January 2025:** The German Sustainable Development Strategy was revised, establishing GSDD 2025, titled “*Transformation gemeinsam gerecht gestalten*”.

- **July 2023:** The Federal Statistical Office published the Off-Track Indicators Report, finding 33 of 75 tracked sustainability indicators “jeopardised”.
- **2023:** Germany adopted the National Water Strategy and launched the Action Plan for Nature-based Solutions (ANK) with 69 measures. A low-cost Deutschland-Ticket was also introduced, attracting 1 million new public-transit passengers within months.
- **2023:** The Sustainable Development Report SDG Index ranked Germany 4th globally, while the companion Spillover Index placed it 146th.
- **2023:** Germany met the 0.7% ODA/GNI target for the fifth time (previously 2016, 2020-22), disbursing €35.05 billion (0.82% of GNI) in official development assistance. The 2024 target is projected at 0.67%.
- **2024:** Renewable energy accounted for 54.4% of Germany’s electricity consumption.
- **2030 Targets (GSDS 2025):** Achieve 80% renewables in power, exit coal by 2038, reach climate neutrality by 2045, limit new land take to under 30 ha/day, achieve net-zero (circular) land use by 2050, and reach 30% organic farmland.
- **2045:** Germany’s updated target year for greenhouse gas neutrality.

Recommendations

- **Accelerate greenhouse gas reductions:** Germany should step up emission cuts in transport, energy, and industry. Carbon pricing and renewable energy expansion provide effective tools to achieve climate targets while maintaining cost efficiency.
- **Strengthen resource efficiency and circular economy:** Policies must be scaled up to reduce raw material consumption and increase recycling. Implementing circular economy frameworks will help decouple economic growth from environmental impact.
- **Promote sustainable agriculture and food systems:** Agriculture policies should continue addressing nitrate pollution and eutrophication, while supporting climate-friendly and economically viable farming practices. This ensures environmental protection alongside food security.
- **Address social inequalities:** Targeted interventions are needed to reduce the gender pay gap, tackle obesity, and improve educational access. These measures will help ensure no one is left behind in the transition to sustainable development.
- **Enhance governance and co-ordination:** Strengthening local governance, improving cross-ministerial co-ordination, and promoting inclusive stakeholder participation are vital to implement SDGs effectively and ensure policies are well-aligned at all levels.
- **Monitor and mitigate international spillovers:** Germany should continue tracking the global impacts of domestic consumption and trade, adopting measures such as responsible sourcing and Carbon Border Adjustments to minimise negative effects on other countries.

Conclusion

Germany's 2025 VNR presents a country advancing steadily on the SDGs, with strong performance in renewable energy, social welfare, education, health, and international co-operation, yet facing clear gaps in climate action, environmental protection, social equality, and sustainable consumption. Nearly half key indicators were off-track in 2023. The GSDS 2025 sets refined targets and governance measures, emphasising data-driven policies, inclusive dialogue, carbon pricing for equitable emissions reductions, circular-economy implementation, and biodiversity protection. Overall, Germany demonstrates solid progress while recognising remaining challenges and committing to strengthened sustainability governance and accelerated action to close gaps before 2030.

Reference

United Nations (2025a): Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2025. Available at: <https://hlpf.un.org/2025>

United Nations (2025b): *Germany Voluntary National Reviews 2025*. High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Available at: <https://hlpf.un.org/countries/germany/voluntary-national-review-2025>

Report Team

- Professor Allam Ahmed (**Leader**)
- Professor Arshi Naim (**Senior Researcher**)
- Alaeddine Boubaker (**Data Analysis**)
- Omer Suliman (**AI Analyst**)
- Nada Yousry (**Graphic Design**)
- James Aun (**Video Production**)
- Kumar Kaurav (**Web Master**)

The SDG Tracker (SDGT) is a global research initiative, developed under the auspices of the World Association for Sustainable Development (WASD), designed to systematically analyse and score the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) submitted by United Nations member states. The SDGT aims to enhance global accountability, promote transparency, provide evidence-based insights for policymakers, and facilitate cross-country comparison and benchmarking, with all its comprehensive findings made publicly available on the dedicated SDGs Tracker Platform. For more information about this report and/or any other activities of the initiative, please contact us: director@sdgstracker.org.



WASD COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

WASD is delighted to be working very closely with various United Nations Agencies, most specifically with the UN Joint Inspection Unit (JIU). Both JIU and WASD are inspired by the conviction that the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (SD) and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide the momentum for renewed UN engagement with the public and private sectors.

In 2018, WASD collaborated with JIU on the UN project **Strengthening policy research uptake in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, aimed at reviewing the policy research uptake in service of the 2030 Agenda for SD. For the first time in its 52 year history, the UN (aided by WASD) officially consulted academics and researchers from all over the world on the policy research uptake in the UN.

In 2019, WASD also worked very closely with the UN JIU to undertake a UN system-wide review of policies, programmes, and platforms to support learning and enhancing the adequacy of training policies in the UN. The report **Policies and platforms in support of learning: towards more coherence, coordination, and convergence** was launched officially on 28 October 2020 at the opening of WASD's Online Learning Conference.

These various initiatives and events with the UN JIU have encouraged WASD to launch its **Sustainable Development Goals Tracker (SDGT)**.



Sustainability Tracker

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