



# AJ&K DATA REPORTING GAPS STUDY



SDGs Support Unit  
Planning & Development Department, GoAJ&K  
Muzaffarabad



## **AJ&K Data Reporting Gaps Study Report**

### **Acknowledgement**

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## List of Abbreviations

AJ&K	Azad Jammu & Kashmir
AJ&K-BoS	Azad Jammu & Kashmir Bureau of Statistics
AJ&KLA	Azad Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly
GoAJ&K	Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir
IAEG-SDGs	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators
LFS	Labor Force Survey
MDG(s)	Millennium Development Goal(s)
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MIS	Management Information System
MOI	Means of Implementation
MoPD&SI	Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives
NNS	National Nutrition Survey
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
P&DD	Planning and Development Department
P&I	Processes & Institutions
PBS	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
PDHS	Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey
PSLM	Pakistan Social Standards and Living Measurements Survey
NNS	National Nutrition Survey
SDG(s)	Sustainable Development Goal(s)
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division

## MESSAGE BY THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY (DEV.) PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, GOAJ&K



It is indeed a matter of great pleasure for me to introduce the valuable Data Reporting Gaps for Sustainable Development Goals in AJ&K. Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir has committed to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. To elaborate, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of global goals aimed at ending poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring prosperity for all. Accurate and timely data is essential for measuring progress towards these goals, identifying areas where action is needed, and tracking the impact of interventions. Data reporting gaps can occur when there is incomplete or inaccurate data, or when data is not reported in a timely manner. This can make it difficult to accurately measure progress towards the SDGs and identify areas where action is needed.

The data gaps report in hand unveils the current data gaps in reporting of SDGs indicators and targets in Azad Jammu & Kashmir. The primary objective of the study is to identify how evidence-based policies might be helpful to improving the living standards of the people of Azad Jammu & Kashmir. The report aims to provide an exhaustive description of the existing and evolving data ecosystem for AJ&K. It also explores the current capacities and determines the data available at the SDGs indicators level while also deep diving into all possible sources of reporting. It provides a basis to develop inclusive and coherent developmental projects and schemes in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The report also supports addressing the need for effective data reporting and governance. This involves establishing clear policies and procedures for managing data, including how it is collected, stored, analyzed, and reported. Effective data governance can help ensure that data is accurate, complete, and consistent, which is essential for making informed decisions and taking action based on data insights.

I would like to appreciate the valuable contributions and efforts made by the Planning and Development Department, GoAJ&K and its SDGs Unit, UNDP Pakistan, and the Federal SDGs Unit, MoPD&SI for bringing this report together. I am also thankful to officials of all departments of AJ&K and other stakeholders who gave their valuable inputs for preparation of this important report. I am very hopeful that the Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir and other stakeholders will capitalize on the findings of this report and integrate the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development to accelerate socioeconomic and environmental development in AJ&K. I assure you that Planning & Development Department is available for any cooperation needed for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

**Fayyaz Ali Abbasi**  
**Additional Chief Secretary (Dev.), GoAJ&K**

## MESSAGE BY THE PRIME MINISTER AZAD GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF JAMMU & KASHMIR



The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the set of economic, social and environment embedded goals that offer a roadmap for equitable, inclusive, and comprehensive governance in development planning. However, the successful achievement on such roadmap depends on the level and availability of consistent, reliable, and sufficient data on SDGs indicators. Such data is used to measure the progress on Agenda 2030 contextualized for countries, states, regions, and provinces.

The report in hand highlights comprehensively the SDGs data reporting aspects for AJ&K. Data reporting gaps can have serious consequences for government agencies, certainly the data reporting gaps can occur when there is incomplete or inaccurate data, or when data is not reported in a timely manner. This leads to lack of progress tracking and erodes public trust in government agencies. Data reporting gaps can hinder progress towards the SDGs by limiting our ability to accurately measure and track progress. It is important to identify these gaps and take steps to address them in order to ensure that we have the data, we need to make informed decisions and take action to achieve the SDGs.

In addition to addressing data reporting gaps, it's important to ensure that the data being reported is relevant and meaningful to the SDGs. This involves engaging stakeholders, including communities and civil society organizations, in the data collection and reporting process to ensure that the data being reported reflects the needs and priorities of those who will be using it. It is also important to invest in capacity building to ensure that data is collected and reported in a way that is consistent with international standards and best practices. I appreciate the efforts of the SDGs Unit, Planning & Development Department for developing such an important report. A special thanks to UNDP Pakistan for their sincere cooperation and technical support for SDGs in AJ&K. Finally, it is important to ensure that the data being reported is accessible and available to all, including marginalized and vulnerable populations, to ensure that no one is left behind in the pursuit of the SDGs.

**Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq**  
**Prime Minister, Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir**

## Executive Summary

In September 2015, 193 countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the set of goals that aim to ensure intergenerational equity so that future generations may live better and improved lives. The foundational stone for the SDGs is “Leaving no one left Behind” through ensuring sustainability. The SDGs are cornered around five main pillars i.e., the five P's: People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace, and Partnership. The SDGs comprise of 17 goals which set the socioeconomic and environmental targets to be achieved by all nation states between 2016 and 2030. The National Assembly of Pakistan adopted the SDGs through a unanimous Resolution in February 2016 and declared SDGs as National Development Agenda. This resolution was then endorsed by the Azad Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly (AJ&KLA) in December 2019, making SDGs the development agenda for AJ&K. To ensure mainstreaming and effective localization of SDGs in Pakistan, dedicated SDG Support Units have been established across the country at the national, provincial and area government levels, including AJ&K.

The report in hand tends to highlight the important area of SDGs related to data. For better and informed decision making, the governments, states, regions, and stakeholders of development planning rely on the data acquired through survey and administrative sources. In this regard, the current document unveils the status of the SDGs data by its availability, quality and reliability, frequency of data and following international standards of data collection, analysis, and dissemination. The whole exercise would reveal prevailing data gaps for SDGs monitoring and reporting in AJ&K.

Extensive secondary data collection is completed annually by the AJ&K Bureau of Statistics (AJ&K-BoS) across multiple sectors and from all relevant departments/institutions in AJ&K to compile the administrative data bank for developing “AJ&K Statistical Yearbook” and “AJ&K At A Glance Catalog”. The SDGs Support Unit P&DD has extended support to all the relevant departments to establish data banks on the indicators related to the departments. A detailed list on available SDGs indicators (annexure 5.3) is also presented in this report as well.

The 2030 Agenda on SDGs, due to its ambitious nature, puts a lot of burden on statistical capacities of governments to report on 247 plus indicators if disaggregation also counts. To report on these indicators, a thorough review of national statistical capacities to identify data gaps and provide recommendations to improve statistical capacities for the measurement of progress on SDGs targets and indicators. The review of national and sub-national statistical

capacities with respect to SDGs indicators was started back in 2016 by considering all public data sources including surveys, government publications, and administrative datasets.

The analysis of data ecosystem at the national level lays a strong foundation for the provincial/area governments to further analyze their statistical capacities to ensure efficient and effective data collection on SDGs indicators, applicable at the provincial/area level. In AJ&K, the process started in 2018, where AJ&K SDGs Support Unit and Bureau of Statistics analyzed all public data sources including household surveys, administrative datasets available with different line departments and government publications available at national and state level. The analysis reveals that out of 247 indicators, 145 indicators are applicable to AJ&K and of which 98 are regional, 39 pertain to district level, 01 Global and 07 national Indicators are relevant to AJ&K. Total number of non-relevant indicators for AJ&K are 65 national, 29 Global and 08 regional indicators. Detail of excluded indicators for AJ&K's reporting is also given in this report.

Of the 145 indicators pertaining to AJ&K, 70 indicators are collected from surveys and the remaining 75 indicators through administrative sources. AJ&K has made significant progress on finding data sources for SDGs reporting which is able to set baseline 2014-15 for 112 indicators. Among these 112 indicators, 59 are survey based while 53 indicators are from administrative sources. Data on 33 indicators is still not available of which 11 indicators will be from three survey sources i.e., LFS, PDHS, PSLM. Similarly, 22 indicators from administrative sources are still not available.

The report aims to discuss and deliberate on the key issues of existing and evolving data ecosystem for AJ&K. To this end, it seeks to explore current capacities that determine data availability at the SDGs indicators while also deep diving into all possible sources of reporting.

In addition, this report will serve as a steppingstone in establishing a mechanism for SDGs data flows that enable decision-making authority to identify the areas with slow progress and adopted alternative strategies to bridge data gaps in data availability and reporting in AJ&K.



## Introduction

In September 2015, 193 countries adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Building on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the SDGs comprise of 17 goals which set the socioeconomic and environmental targets to be achieved by all nation states between 2016 and 2030 (Figure 1). These goals are designed to provide a coherent and integrated approach to sustainable development across all levels of governance – local, national, regional, and global. The SDGs offer a long-term approach to global progress with clearly defined responsibilities and encourage the involvement of stakeholders from all walks of life including the government, civil society, academia, private sector, women, youth, international organizations, donor agencies and non-governmental organizations<sup>1</sup>.

**Figure 1: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**



The National Assembly of Pakistan adopted the SDGs through a unanimous Resolution in February 2016 and declared SDGs as National Development Agenda for Pakistan. This resolution was then endorsed by the Azad Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly (AJ&KLA) in December 2019, making SDGs the development agenda for AJ&K. To ensure mainstreaming and effective localization of SDGs in Pakistan, dedicated SDG Support Units have been established across the country at the national and sub-national levels, including AJ&K.

### Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJ&K)

Azad Jammu and Kashmir is in the Himalayan foothills, a long narrow C-shaped wedge between Pakistan and Indian administrated Jammu & Kashmir. In relation to the geographic size of Pakistan and its provinces, AJ&K is a very small State with an area of just 13,297 square

<sup>1</sup> "Framing Sustainable Development Goals, Targets, and Indicators", Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

kilometres. AJ&K comprises 03 administrative Divisions (Muzaffarabad, Poonch and Mirpur), 10 Districts, 34 Sub-Divisions (Tehsils), 284 Union Councils, and 1,769 Villages/Mouzas<sup>2</sup>. The population of AJ&K is 4.179 million, 82.64% population is rural, and 17.36% population lives in urban areas. The population annual growth rate of AJ&K is 1.61% and population density per square km is 319<sup>3</sup>. Few statistics set the context of the data reporting gap study in which literacy rate of AJ&K is 78%, Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 L.B) is 47, Maternal Mortality Rate (per 100,000 L.B) is 104 and Life expectancy at birth is 67.34. The unemployment rate in AJ&K is 10.7%<sup>5</sup> which is very high as compared to the national average i.e., 6.4%<sup>6</sup>. The economy of AJ&K is generally dependent on subsistence agriculture, livestock rearing, informal sector, tourism, small/cottage industry, hydro power, services, Government jobs, and foreign remittances. Besides natural resources, AJ&K also has high quality human resources in the form of an educated and trained population which is expected to increase with the establishment of new universities and research centres. AJ&K plays an important role in the geography and economy of Pakistan. As the region has three major rivers i.e., the Neelum, the Jhelum and the Poonch and numerous streams which are critical for water resources and hydropower generation in Pakistan. Moreover, AJ&K has abundant natural resources in the form of forests, mountains and freshwater ecosystems which boost tourism in the region and provide direct and indirect source of employment. Furthermore, the law-and-order situation is better throughout AJ&K which provides peaceful environment to tourists and an opportunity for private sector investment. All these factors have effectively contributed to the socio-economic and environmental development of the State.

### **Strengthening of Institutional Structure for SDGs Implementation in AJ&K**

In Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJ&K), a dedicated SDGs Support Unit has been operational at the Planning and Development Department (P&DD) since July 2018 with the technical and financial support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives (MoPD&SI). P&DD, GoAJ&K has also established SDGs Section at P&DD with regular staff in September 2021.

The SDGs Support Unit performs following functions:

1. Ensures that all plans, policies, strategies, actions, and resource allocations in AJ&K are aligned with SDGs.
2. Supports GoAJ&K in strengthening SDGs monitoring and reporting.
3. Ensures that financing flows are increasingly aligned with the 2030 Agenda.
4. Applies innovative approaches to accelerate progress on priority SDGs.

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<sup>2</sup> AJ&K Statistical Yearbook 2021

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>5</sup> Unemployment Rate AJ&K, Labor Force Survey (LFS) 2017-18.

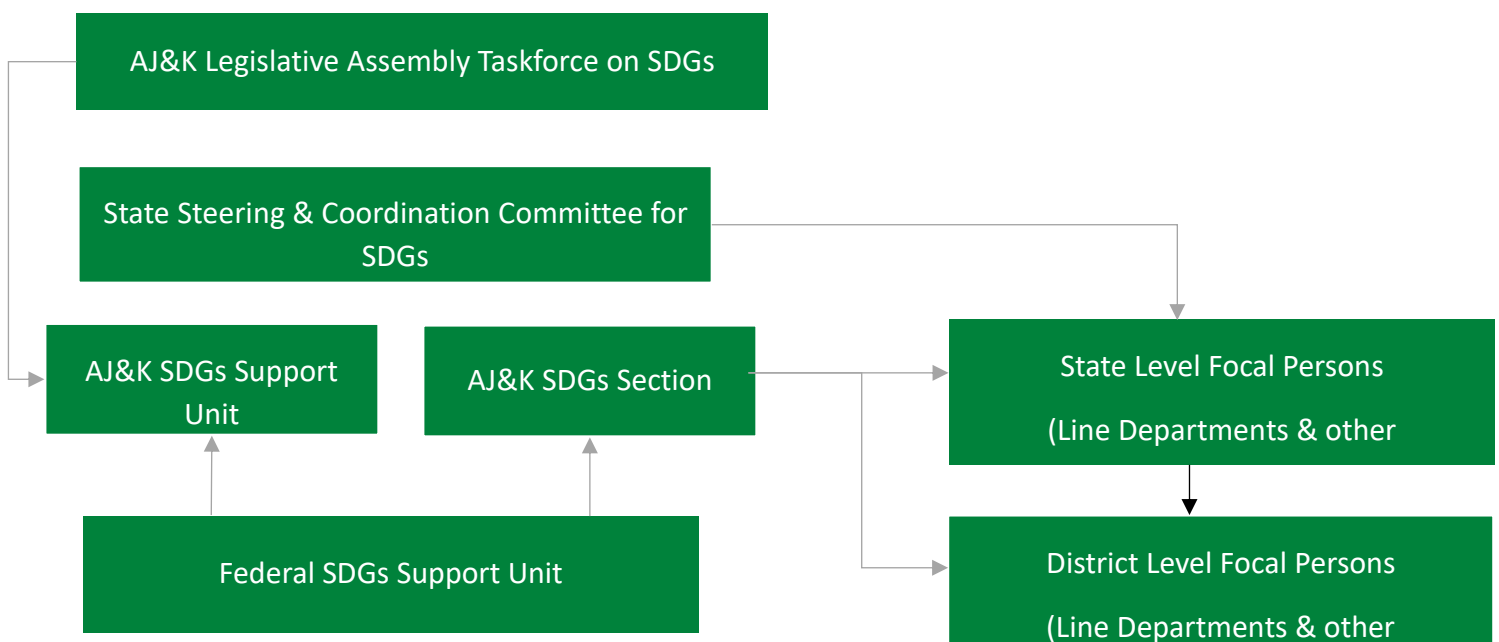
<sup>6</sup> Unemployment Rate Pakistan, World Development Indicators. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.ZS?locations=PK>  
Retrieved on 12/03/2023.

To improve institutional mechanisms, legislative and progress oversight of SDGs in AJ&K, the AJ&K Legislative Assembly Taskforce on SDGs has been established in April 2019, which convenes regular meetings to review the progress on SDGs. The taskforce has also requested all MLAs to consider relevant SDGs while allocating resources to their constituencies. The AJ&K Legislative Assembly taskforce on SDGs further established two thematic working groups on SDGs at AJ&K Legislative Assembly in February 2020. After formation of new Government in AJ&K in August 2021, AJ&K Legislative Assembly Taskforce on SDGs was reconstituted in January 2022.

To provide strategic and policy guidance in planning, operation, and implementation of SDGs ‘State Steering and Coordination Committee for SDGs’ was established in AJ&K in January 2019. The Committee is headed by the Additional Chief Secretary (Dev.) and relevant Secretaries are the members of this committee.

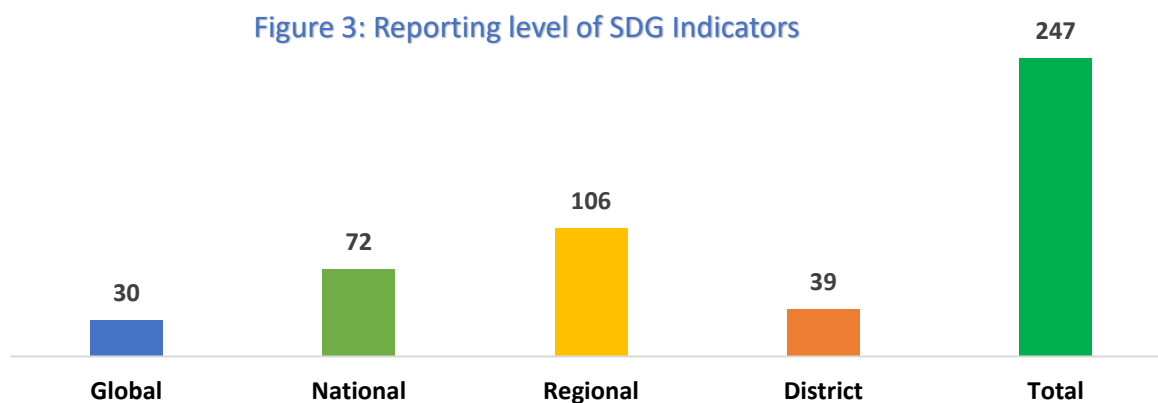
Additionally, to improve departmental coordination and for close liaison, different line departments have nominated SDGs focal persons. P&DD has established four thematic working groups for SDGs comprising of government officials and representatives from academia, civil society, media, NGOs, persons challenged with disability, women, youth, private sector etc. Moreover, SDGs focal persons have been nominated by Government line departments and other stakeholders from each district of AJ&K and regular meetings are convened with the district focal persons.

**Figure 2: Institutional arrangement for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**



### 1.1 SDG Targets & Indicators

The 17 SDGs provide a broad outlook on the ambitions for global development in economic, social and environment domains. To streamline the process, these goals were divided into 169 targets and 247 indicators as global, national, provincial, regional, and district level indicators<sup>7</sup> (Figure 3).



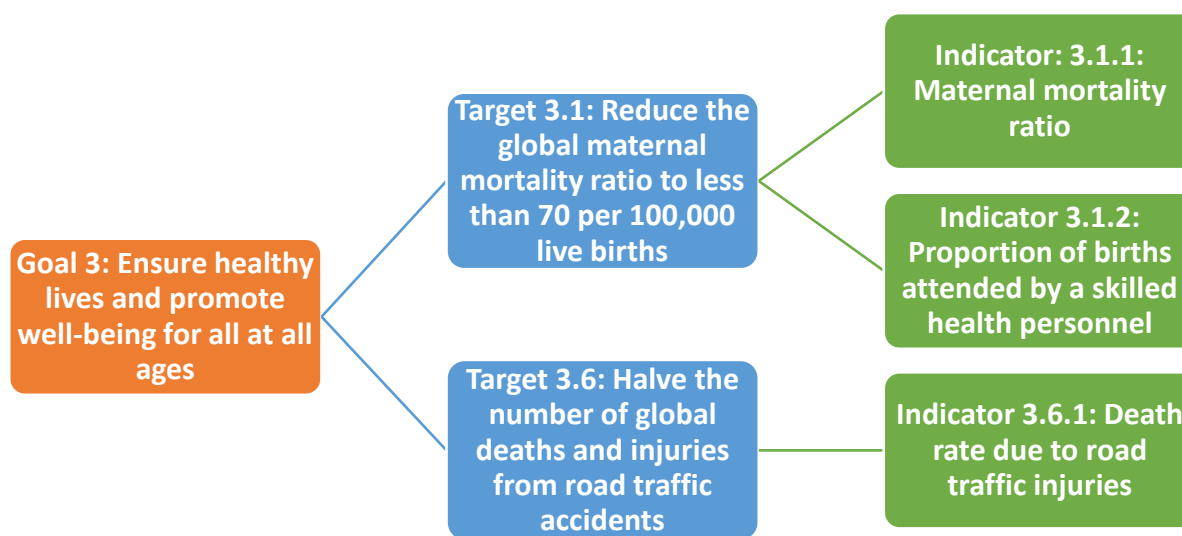
*Source: SDGs Toolkit*

The SDGs targets are action-oriented, specific, are either quantitative or qualitative in nature and provide greater clarity on the associated goals. Quantitative SDGs targets explicitly set a numerical goal such as Target 3.6: “By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents” or imply a numerical value, for example, Target 6.1: “By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all”. On the other hand, qualitative targets are broader in nature and do not have specific numerical values or associated timeframes for implementation such as Target 13.1: “Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries”. These are the goals which are often complementary in nature and will help achieve other quantitative goals. The SDG indicators are for the monitoring progress against associated targets and have disaggregation by demographics such as sex, age, socioeconomic status, region, disability, etc. Some indicators are specific, referring to global or national contexts and may not be applicable at the sub-national level. Some indicators are specific to country classification like targets related to developing countries and least developed countries, small island developing States and developed countries. For example, Goal 3 states that efforts should be made to ‘ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages’; it is further specified via thirteen targets which are labelled as 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 etc. These targets are then classified into one or more indicators categorized as 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and so on. The hierarchy for SD goals, targets and indicators is shown in Figure 4.

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<sup>7</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/>

Figure 4: Hierarchy for SDGs: Goal, Targets, and Indicators



AJ&K SDGs framework provides goal wise categorization of SDGs targets based on short-, medium- and long-term targets (Table 1). AJ&K SDGs framework was developed by taking four steps i.e., desk review, consultations, data analysis and categorization of the targets which were streamlined across five critical pathways such as governance, social service delivery, economy, environment, and inequalities. It is also pertinent to mention that the total targets relevant to AJ&K are 98. Out of which, 58 are related to social, 24 are related to economic and 16 are related to environmental dimension of the SDGs. Furthermore, among these 98 targets, there are 33 short-term, 45 medium-term and 20 long-term targets. The goals related to short-term targets need instant action, medium term goals are stretched over a certain period of time and require consistent policy support whereas long term targets need an incubation period along with significant reforms.

**Table 1: Goal-wise Categorisation of the SDGs Targets in the AJ&K**

Timeline	Description of Goal	SDG	Targets	Detail <sup>8</sup>	Strategy
<b>Short-term (2024)</b>	Good Health & Well-being	3	<b>Total: 33</b> Social: 25 Economic: 07 Environmental: 01	These goals require immediate action as targets can be achieved in the short run.	Given the limited timeframe, concurrent action must be taken on these goals, with a review in 2026 to assess progress and possible revision.
	Quality Education	4			
	Affordable and Clean Energy	7			
	Sustainable Cities and Communities	11			
	Partnerships for the Goals	17			
<b>Medium-term (2026)</b>	No Poverty	1	<b>Total: 45</b> Social: 21 Economic: 11 Environmental: 13	These goals require somewhat extended time period and consistent policy support.	
	Zero Hunger	2			
	Clean Water and Sanitation	6			
	Decent Work and Economic Growth	8			
	Responsible Consumption and Production	12			
	Climate Action	13			
<b>Long-term (2030)</b>	Gender Equality	5	<b>Total: 20</b> Social: 12 Economic: 06 Environmental: 02	These goals need an incubation period and require significant reforms.	Results from the review may require acceleration of action for these goals up to 2030.
	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	9			
	Reduced Inequalities	10			
	Life Below Water	14			
	Life on Land	15			
	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	16			

*Source: AJ&K SDGs Framework 2022*

<sup>8</sup> Summary for the National Economic Council (NEC), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) National Framework, Planning Commission, MoPD&SI, March 2018.

## Custodian Organizations for SDGs

To ensure data quality and effective monitoring, the custodian agencies have been assigned to support the compilation and verification of country data and metadata to the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)<sup>9</sup>. These organizations are also responsible for setting global standards and developing methodologies for monitoring the SDGs. Custodian agencies include United Nations (UN) bodies and other international organizations such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Currently, there are 46 custodian agencies responsible for the 247 SDG indicators. In some instances, an individual agency is responsible for a particular indicator while for others, multiple custodians may be assigned the same indicator. For example, Indicator 1.b.1 on pro-poor spending has UNICEF as the sole custodian whereas Indicator 5.1.1 on legal frameworks for gender equality has three custodian agencies – UN Women, the World Bank, and the OECD Development Centre (Table 2). A detailed map of custodian organizations and SDGs indicators is attached as Annex B.

**Table 2: Custodian Organizations for SDGs**

Custodian Org	SDGs Indicators	Custodian Org	SDGs Indicators	Custodian Org	SDGs Indicators	Custodian Org	SDGs Indicators
WHO	20	IRENA	2	FAO, UNEP-WCMC	1	National Government	1
FAO	19	UNWTO	2	UNIDO, IEA	1	UNSD, IEA, IRENA	1
UNESCO-UIS	15	UNSD	2	WTO	1	IPU, UN Women	1
World Bank	13	OECD, UNDP	2	UNODC, UNCTAD	1	UN Women, World Bank, OECD Development Centre	1
UNEP	13	IUCN	2	FAO, UNEP	1	UN-Habitat, UNSD	1
ILO	11	OECD, UNEP, World Bank	2	UNSD, IEA	1	UNAIDS	1
UNDRR	11	UNODC, CITES	2	World Bank, UN-Habitat	1	UNHCR	1
OECD	9	UNDP	2	UNSD, UNICEF	1	UNCCD	1

<sup>9</sup> United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Statistics Division, 2021.

UNICEF	8	UNSD, UNEP	2	CBD-Secretariat, UNEP	1	IPU, UNDP	1
UN-Habitat	7	DESA/FFDO	2	WHO, UN-Habitat, UNSD	1	UNCTAD	1
UNODC	7	WHO, OECD	2	OECD, IRENA	1	UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNODC	1
OHCHR	5	IOC-UNESCO	2	WHO, World Bank	1	WHO, WHO-FCTC	1
IMF	4	DESA	2	UNESCO-IHP, UNECE	1	ILO, World Bank	1
ITU	4	UNFPA	2	UNIDO, World Bank	1	UN-DOALOS, FAO, UNEP, ILO, other UN-Oceans agencies	1
UNIDO	4	UNSD, UN Women	1	ILO, UNICEF	1	ITC, UNCTAD, WTO	1
UNFCCC	4	ICAO, ITF-OECD	1	TBD	1	World Bank, UNODC	1
UNICEF, WHO	6	WHO, UNODC	2	UNESCO-UIS, ITU	1	UNEP, UNCTAD	1
PARIS21	3	OECD, UNCTAD	1	UNODC, UNODA	1	UNEP-CTCN	1
UNEP-WCMC, UNEP, IUCN	3	UNDP, OECD, UNODC	1	UN Women, OECD, UNDP	1	UNEP, Ramsar	1
WTO, ITC, UNCTAD	3	DESA Population, IOM	1	IOM	1	CBD-Secretariat	1

## 1.2 Existing Data and Monitoring Mechanism for SDGs

Successful implementation and achievement of the 2030 Agenda requires planning, coordination, and monitoring of development outcomes. Therefore, availability of timely, reliable, and accurate data plays an important role in achieving desired results. The primary responsibility of reporting on SDGs lies with the National Statistical Office (NSO) in collaboration of national and sub-national governments. Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) is the custodian agency of SDGs reporting and provincial statistical bureaus/organizations are



all work in collaboration. AJ&K-BoS is the custodian agency for SDGs reporting in AJ&K. AJ&K-BoS obtains data of national level surveys including PSLM, HIES, LFS etc. from PBS and produces reports relating to the socio-economic outlook of the State of Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

The government of AJ&K has made efforts over the past few years to improve its statistical capacity and ensure timely generation and dissemination of available administrative and survey data. One key initiative has been the establishment of the AJ&K Bureau of Statistics (AJ&K BoS) at P&DD, GoAJ&K which has helped streamline the process of administrative data collection, compilation, and publication as well as dissemination of key survey results. Currently, the AJ&K-BoS has two annual publications - the 'AJ&K Statistical Yearbook' and 'AJ&K At a Glance' brochure.

AJ&K SDG Support Unit at P&DD has played a crucial role in developing and maintaining a database of SDGs statistics, including providing support to line departments on data collection, reporting, and quality assurance. It has been working closely with 28 government line departments and the AJ&K-BoS to develop, maintain and update the database on SDGs indicators.

Extensive data sources are used for SDGs reporting in AJ&K including national surveys such as Pakistan Social Standards and Living Measurements Survey (PSLM), Labor Force Survey (LFS), Pakistan Demographic and Health Survey (PDHS), National Nutrition Survey (NNS) and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) obtain from Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Government of Pakistan, and other agencies. In addition, administrative sources such as data from government line departments as well as dashboards and Management Information Systems (MIS) for health and education are also routinely used.

## Methodology

### 2.1 Goals and Objectives of the Study

The primary objective of the study is to identify how evidence-based policies might be helpful to improve the lives of ordinary people in Azad Jammu & Kashmir through informed decision making in economic, social, environmental, governance and political dimensions to achieve the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals.

Given the fact that one of the most significant challenges to development is the non-availability of data, this report attempts to address this exact obstacle. The purpose of the work is to provide an analytical base from which the government can realize the importance of the evidence-based policy interventions to improve the opportunities for the State's residents through extending employment, rising incomes, lowering health expenditures, higher education and enhancing skills, better social services delivery, governance, and partnerships development in AJ&K.

The use of statistical data in general and related to SDGs targets and indicators in specific, provides a basis to develop inclusive and coherent developmental projects and schemes through which the government can access additional capital and technical resources by approaching donors, private investors, and other stakeholders for support with implementation of the policy recommendations. The study will also identify the reporting departments responsible for calculating the required indicator in AJ&K. The reduction in the data gap is crucial to be able to reach the ambitious SDGs targets in 2030. The process of collecting and disseminating data accurately and regularly is a central component for evidence-based policing, and good data plays a fundamental role in achieving the required progress on SDGs.

The report aims to provide a detailed description of the existing and evolving data ecosystem for AJ&K. To this end, it seeks to explore current capacities and determine data availability at the SDGs indicator levels while also deep diving into all possible sources of reporting. It presents a factual picture of existing reporting gaps in the region by coding different indicators based on their availability – allowing policy makers to efficiently prioritize and complete data collection.

In addition, this report will serve as a steppingstone in establishing a mechanism for the flow of data on SDGs, highlight areas with slow progress and identify strategies that can be used to bridge gaps in data reporting in AJ&K.

### 2.2 SDGs Data Coding

To enable a detailed and holistic discussion of the data landscape, the 247 SDGs indicators have been analyzed across various dimensions and corresponding codes have been assigned to each category in the data matrix. These codes were allotted after multiple intensive

discussions where each indicator was examined meticulously. A detailed description of each code is presented below.

### 2.2.1 Identifying Relevant Indicators

The SDGs are universal with relevance to both developed and developing countries. Resultantly, the framework includes targets and indicators that are relevant and need reporting at the global, national, and sub-national levels. Even at the sub-national level, SDGs indicators can either be reported at the provincial government’s level or can be further bifurcated at the district/local levels. Out of 247 indicators, only 145 indicators pertain to AJ&K on different levels of reporting as shown in Table 3.

**Table 3: Level of Reporting for SDG Indicators**

Level	Description	AJ&K Relevant Indicators
<b>Global</b>	Indicators that need reporting at the global level only.	01
<b>National</b>	Indicators that need reporting at the national level will later be combined for global reporting.	07
<b>Regional</b>	Indicators that need reporting at the AJ&K State level will be later used for reporting at the national level.	98
<b>District</b>	Indicators that need reporting at the district level which will then be aggregated at the AJ&K level.	39
<b>Total</b>		<b>145</b>

### 2.2.2 Reporting Status

After determining the relevance of the indicators in the context of AJ&K, further categorization was done to determine which of the relevant indicators will be reported for AJ&K based on existing status and challenges associated with data availability. If the chances to report the indicator are low in the current data landscape, the indicator was categorized as “not reporting” for AJ&K, otherwise the indicator was labelled as “reporting”. This is based on the methodology established by the Federal SDGs Unit, MoPD&SI in 2018.

### 2.2.3 Administrative and Survey Data

SDGs indicators can either be reported through surveys or via institutional/administrative data. Household surveys are conducted by government statistical organizations or by private institutions, and some surveys are conducted more regularly than others. Institutional or administrative data, on the other hand, is usually collected by government line departments for regular monitoring and planning purposes.

## 2.2.4 Relevant Departments

All SDGs indicators are assigned to relevant government line departments to encourage effective flow of data collection and regular reporting. This codification would ensure government departments' knowledge of their data reporting responsibilities and enable them to generate, report and update statistics accordingly.

Although an indicator can be relevant to more than one line department, each indicator was aligned with the single most relevant department for simplicity. There may be cases where different institutions contribute to reporting on a single indicator such as indicator 1.3.1 (*Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable*) on social protection where multiple government agencies provide data.

Furthermore, in case of administrative data, associated line departments would have to generate and report the required information; however, when the indicators are survey-based, the relevant departments will only have to report data and use survey sources to monitor progress.

## 2.2.5 Federal Government's Data Rules 2020 and Selection of Sources

To ease the reporting process for SDGs at the national and sub-national levels, the Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiative has devised data rules to streamline the collection and generation of data and to ensure reliability and transparency. In selecting sources for data reporting attention was paid to the authenticity of data, the required level of disaggregation and the relative frequency for availability of updated statistics.

The data rules are as follows<sup>10</sup>:

1. The indicator must be calculated using reliable Government data sources. Data generated by private entities will not be accepted in the presence of Government data.
2. For national level reporting of indicators, administrative or survey data collected at the national level will be given preference over an indicator calculated using a provincial survey.
3. Data collected and reported by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) will be the first choice for any indicator.
4. Pakistan Social and Living Standard Measurement (PSLM) Survey will be the preferred source to all other sources of data as it is sampled data designed to capture the SDGs.

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<sup>10</sup> The data rules have been listed as stated in the presentation and accompanied document by the Federal SDG Unit, Mo PD&SI titled 'Data Flows and Reporting on SDGs' in April 2020.

5. Census or population data will be preferred to sampled data if it is authentic and reliable.

These rules have been adopted for SDGs data generation in AJ&K as well.

It has been observed that there is a huge overlap on SDGs data availability through household surveys, with data on some indicators available from more than one source. For instance, the indicator 1.2.2 on multidimensional poverty has three sources including PSLM, MICS and Annual MPI report. Similarly, data on indicator 1.4.2 can be acquired from PSLM, HIES or Board of Revenue. Another indicator 7.1.1 data can be acquired from PSLM, PDHS or MICS. The data of indicator 8.7.1 on child labor can be obtained from LFS, Child labor survey or MICS. For optimal utility, three sources were added under the reporting landscape – (i) preferred source, (ii) first alternative and (iii) second alternative, following the below preferential order:

1. National survey conducted by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).
2. National survey conducted by any other government agency.
3. National survey conducted by any organization and owned by the government.
4. Provincial survey conducted by the provincial government.
5. Provincial survey conducted by any organization and owned by the government.

As there is negligible overlap in the administrative data collected by different government line departments, the above categorization will not be applicable for the indicators being reported through administrative data.

## 2.2.6 Effort Level Required for SDGs Data Availability

The SDGs indicators were also analyzed to determine the extent and type of effort required to ensure reporting on a regular basis. The effort level was classified into four broad categories described in Table 4.

**Table 4: Effort Required for SDG Indicators**

Effort	Description
<b>No Effort</b>	Data is available for at least one point and no efforts are required to establish a baseline.
<b>Computations Required</b>	Data is not readily available, and some computations are required to report data (by aggregating, disaggregating, or computing from raw data).
<b>Minor Efforts</b>	Data is currently not available but can be made available by adding specific questions or a separate module to an existing survey.
<b>Major Efforts</b>	Data is not currently available, and a new survey tailored to the indicator needs to be designed.

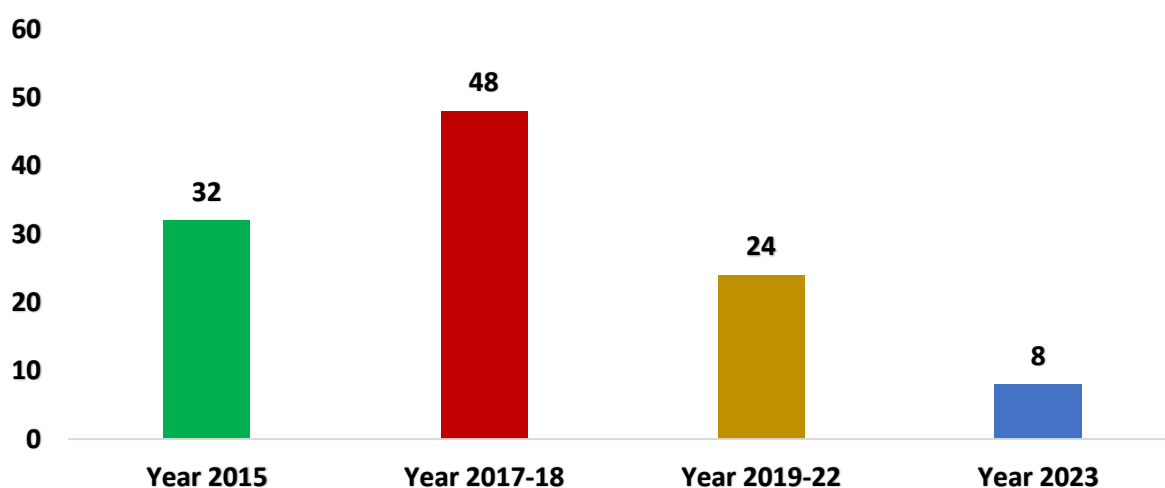
## Key Findings of Data Analysis

The current chapter presents the progress on SDGs reporting in AJ&K and highlighted the number of SDGs relevant indicators with established baseline. It also graphically presents the situation analysis of the data available for number of indicators and the data that need to be collected from admin and survey sources. The chapter also tabulated the availability of indicators from administrative and survey sources that specifically pertains to government line departments. Lastly, the chapter also presents the effort levels required for reporting of SDGs indicators along with preferred data sources.

### 1.3 Progress on SDGs Reporting

In 2015, at the onset of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, data was only available for 32 indicators out of 145 pertaining to AJ&K. However, by the end of 2021, this number had increased to 83 indicators and up to 112 indicators at the beginning of 2023. However, despite positive progress, there are still numerous challenges to data availability for SDGs in AJ&K, especially at the district level. With continuing efforts of the SDGs Support Unit and line departments, in collaboration with development partner organizations, the baseline has now been established for 112 SDGs indicators in AJ&K (Figure 6). It is pertinent to mention that AJ&K has baseline data on few indicators from the years 2008, 2010 and 2011 from NNS, AJKDHS, and PSLM earlier versions due to non-availability of the latest data to establish the baseline for year 2015.

Figure 6: Number of SDGs Indicators with Established Baseline



## 1.4 AJ&K Goal-wise Relevant Indicators

Figure 7: AJ&K SDGs Relevant Indicators

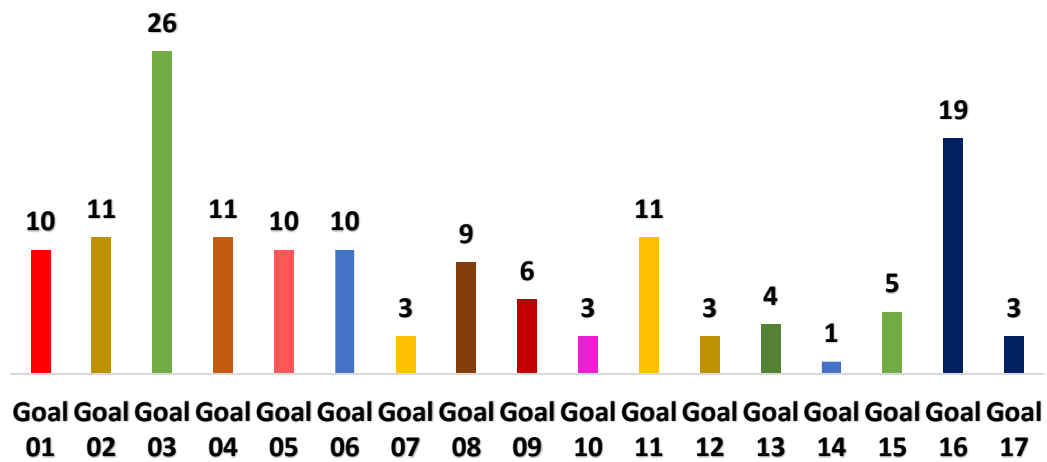
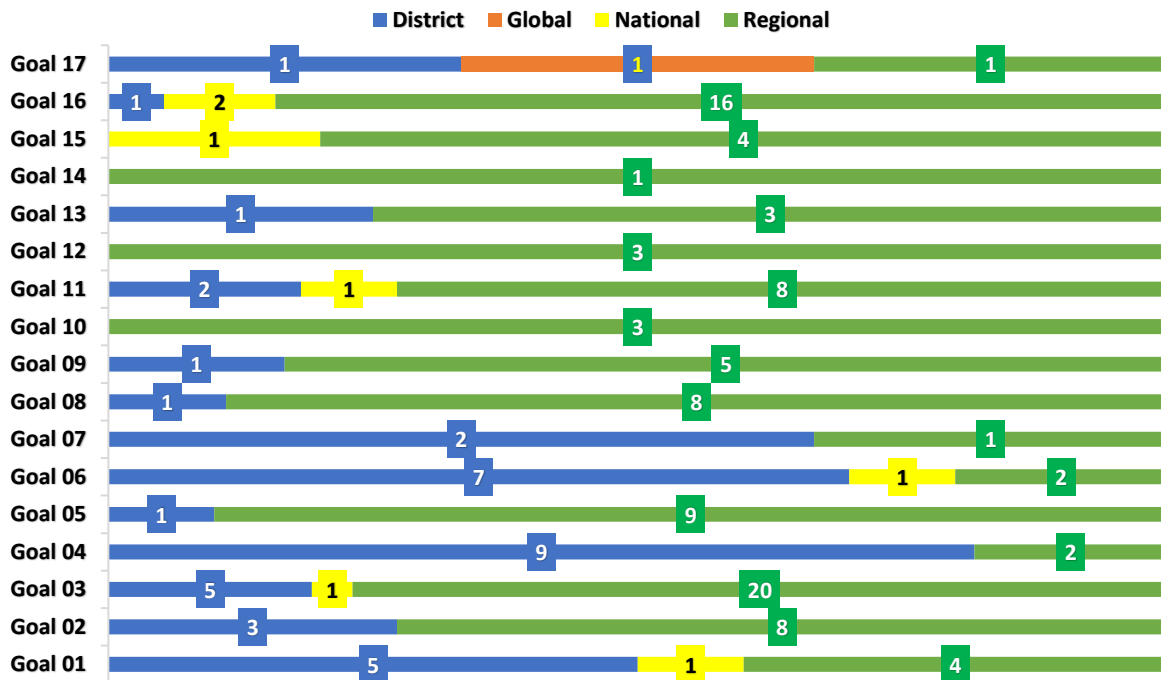


Figure 7 presents goal-wise relevant indicators of SDGs in AJ&K. The total indicators pertaining to AJ&K are 145 out of 247. It is evident from the figure that the highest number of indicators relevant to AJ&K are in Goal-3, followed by Goal-16, Goal-2, Goal-4, Goal-11 and so on.

## 1.5 Global/National/Regional/District

There are 247 SDGs indicators in the global SDGs framework from which 30 indicators are to be reported at the global level whereas national governments must report on the remaining 217 indicators as per their circumstances. Out of 217 nationally relevant SDGs indicators, the Government of AJ&K needs to report on 145 indicators and only 39 of them are required to be reported at the district level in AJ&K (Figure 8).

Figure 8: AJ&K SDGs Reporting Level

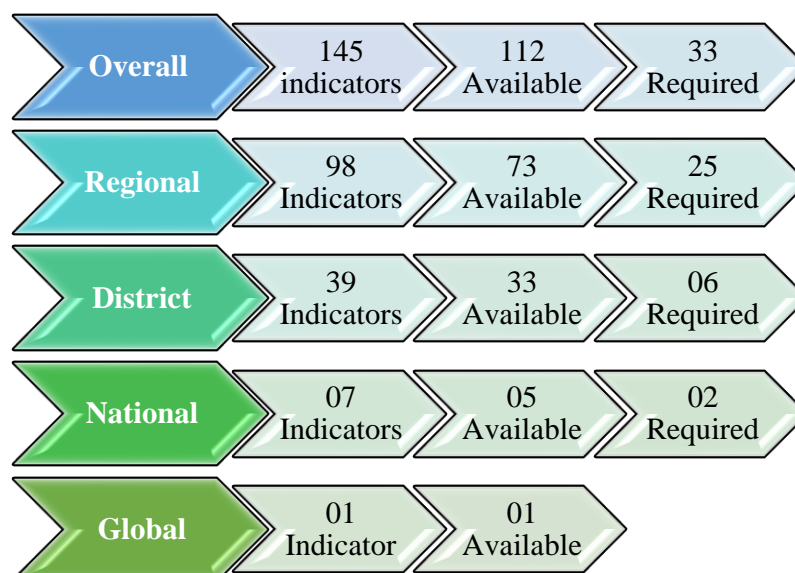


### 1.6 Total Available and Required Indicators

This section presents the statistics on 145 SDGs indicators, from which data on 112 indicators is available. The data on rest of the 33 indicators is still required (data to be collected) for AJ&K of which 22 indicators are from administrative source and 11 indicators are from survey source (LFS, PDHS, PSLM). Table 5 shows the required (missing data) indicators to be reported from the administrative sources and Table 6 shows the data from survey sources. In terms of data availability, AJ&K, statistical capacities over the period have improved. The latest AJ&K MICS 2021 has been great support in providing data on 33 SDGs indicators at district level. At the regional (i.e., AJ&K State) level, the data for 73 indicators is available against 98 indicators, at district level data of 33 indicators is available against 39 indicators and at national level the data for 05 indicators is available against 07 indicators (Figure 9). A further comprehensive information on the available SDGs indicators is attached as annexure 5.3.



**Figure 9: Total Available and Required SDGs Indicators in AJ&K**



Extensive secondary data collection is completed annually by the AJ&K-BoS from multiple sectors and all departments/institutions in AJ&K. SDGs Support Unit P&DD has a detailed list of available SDGs indicators as well. AJ&K-BoS needs to ensure that statistics offices are adequately resourced for effective data collection and analysis.

**Table 5: Required SDGs Indicators from Administrative Source**

Indicator	Source	Department
1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/ rural)	Admin	P&DD
2.3.1 Volume of production per labor unit by classes of farming/ pastoral/ forestry enterprise size	Admin	Agriculture
6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management	Admin	LG&RDD
11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements, or inadequate housing	Admin	PP&H
14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels	Admin	Fisheries
6.4.1 Change in water-use efficiency over time	Admin	LG&RDD

6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources	Admin	LG&RDD
6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time	Admin	EPA
6.a.1 Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan	Admin	P&DD
3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution	Admin	Health
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)	Admin	Health
3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning	Admin	Health
3.d.2 Percentage of bloodstream infections due to selected antimicrobial-resistant organisms	Admin	Health
6.3.1 Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated	Admin	LG&RDD
6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality	Admin	EPA
6.b.1 Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management	Admin	LG&RDD
11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate	Admin	P&DD
11.3.2 Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically	Admin	P&DD
12.8.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment	Admin	Education (E&S)
13.3.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment	Admin	Education (E&S)
16.3.3 Proportion of the population who have experienced a dispute in the past two years and who accessed a formal or informal dispute resolution mechanism, by type of mechanism	Admin	Police

16.5.2 Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months	Admin	Law
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**Table 6: Required SDGs Indicators from Survey Source**

Indicator	Source	
2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment	PSLM/HIES	Health
3.8.2 Proportion of population with large household expenditures on health as a share of total household expenditure or income	PSLM/HIES	Health
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	PSLM/HIES	P&DD
10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	PSLM/HIES	P&DD
5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location	LFS	Labor
5.a.1 (a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure	PSLM/HIES	Agriculture
9.5.2 Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants	LFS	Higher Education
11.7.2 Proportion of persons victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months	PDHS	Police
16.2.3 Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 years who experienced sexual violence by age 18	PDHS	Social Welfare
5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence	PDHS	Women Development
16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group	PSLM/MICS	P&DD

### 1.7 Goal-wise Data Availability in AJ&K

Figure 10 shows the Goal wise SDGs indicators available in AJ&K and the number of the indicators that are required so far. As evident from Figure 10, most of the indicators are available in the case of AJ&K.

Figure 10: Goal-Wise Available Indicators

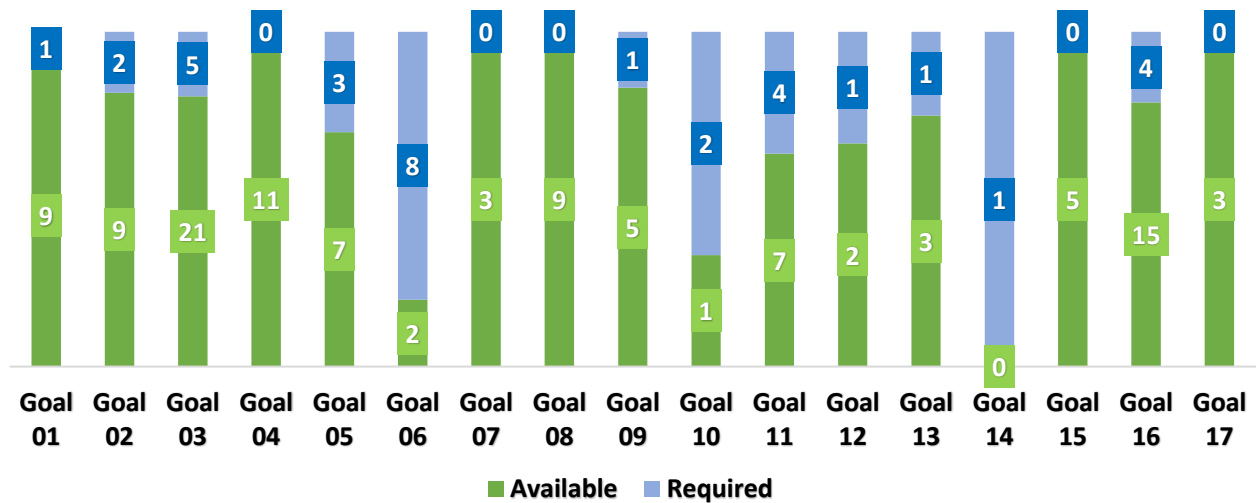


Figure 11: Goalwise Available & Required Data





### 1.8 Administrative and Survey Data Sources

The data on SDGs indicators can be acquired from both admin and survey sources. The admin sources generate data on 70 indicators (48%) of the 145 SDGs indicators pertaining to AJ&K, while 75 indicators (52%) of the data can be reported through surveys. All the indicators in SDG 12 to SDG 15 can be reported through administrative data whereas indicators in other SDGs need a mix of administrative and survey-based data for reporting purposes (Figure 12/13).

Figure 12: Data Sources

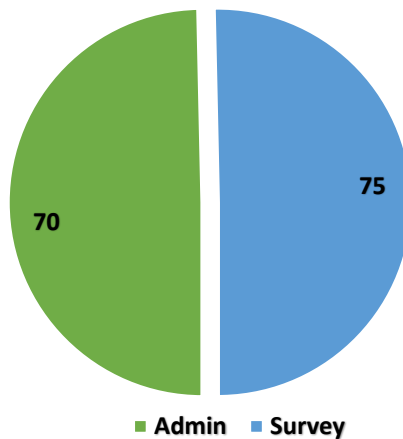
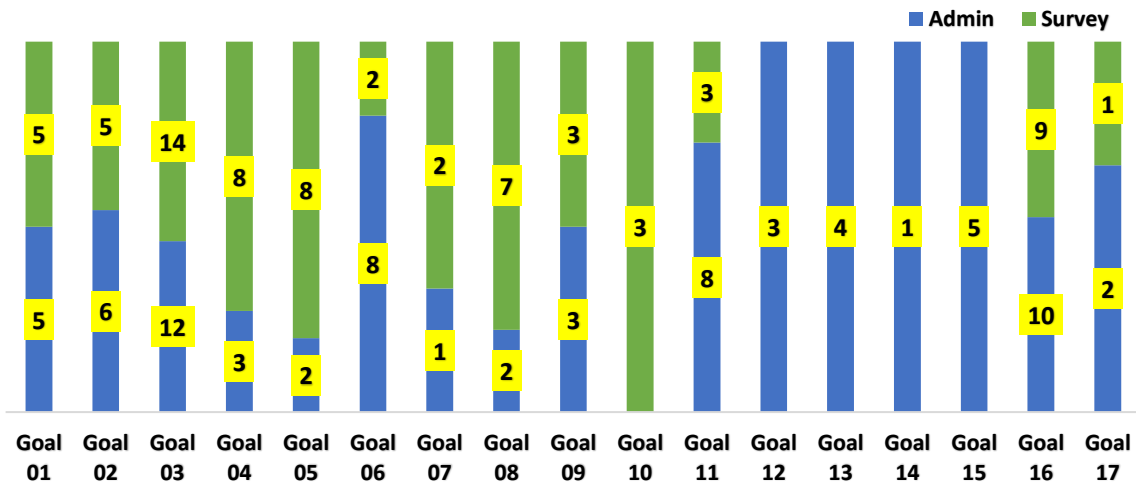


Figure 13 presents the goal-wise type of data reporting through the administrative and survey sources on SDGs indicators in AJ&K. Survey sources includes PSLM, HIES, LFS, NNS, PDHS and MICS data, whereas admin data can be obtained from relevant departments including Planning and Development Department, Health, Agriculture, Livestock, Wildlife and Fishers, Industries, Tourism, Youth, Sports and Culture, Environment Protection Agency AJ&K, State Disaster Management Authority, Communication and Works, IT Board, Board of Revenue and others (for more information, see section 3.9).

Figure 13: Goal Wise Data Reporting Sources

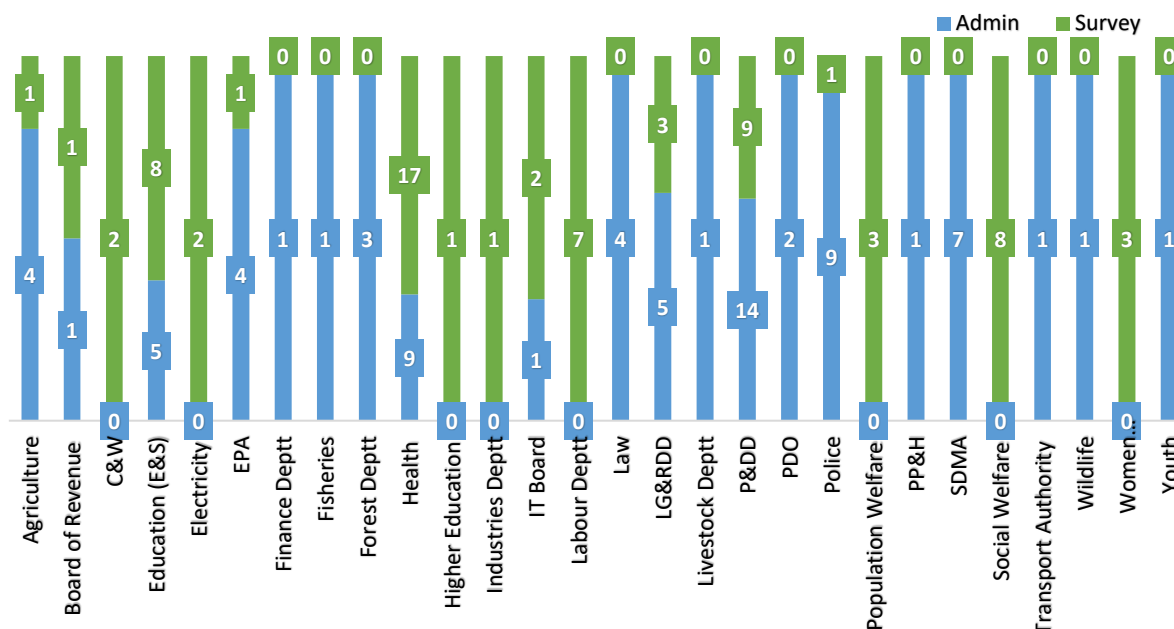


### 1.9 Relevant Department for SDG indicators

There are 26 indicators directly related to the Health Department out of which 09 indicators can be reported through administrative data while the remaining 17 can be reported through various surveys including PDHS, PSLM and MICS. Similarly, the Planning & Development Department reports on 23 SDGs indicators out of which 14 can be reported through

institutional data whereas 09 indicators need survey-based data for reporting. Similarly, the agriculture department is reporting on 05 indicators out of which 04 indicators need administrative data and remaining 01 indicator needs to be reported through survey data. Figure 14 presents a quick glimpse of the department - wise SDGs indicators.

Figure 14: SDGs Administrative Data Reporting



### 1.10 Availability Status (Fully, partially, not available)

Out of 145 SDGs indicators relevant to AJ&K, data is fully available against 106 SDGs indicators, partially (the indicator with more than one sub-category) available against 06 indicators, while 33 indicators are not available. SDG- 3, SDG-6, SDG-11, and SDG-16 are the top four goals with the highest number of indicators where data is not available for reporting/progress tracking. SDG 4, 7, 8, 15 and 17 are the goals where data is available on all indicators (Table 7).

Table 7: Matrix of the Data Availability for SDG Indicators in AJ&K

SDG	Total Targets Relevant to AJ&K	Total Indicators Relevant to AJ&K	Data Availability for the Indicators		
			Fully Available	Partially Available	Not Available
SDG 01	6	10	9	0	1
SDG 02	6	11	9	0	2
SDG 03	13	26	21	0	5
SDG 04	9	11	10	1	0
SDG 05	8	10	6	1	3
SDG 06	7	10	2	0	8



<b>SDG 07</b>	2	3	3	0	0
<b>SDG 08</b>	7	9	9	0	0
<b>SDG 09</b>	4	6	4	1	1
<b>SDG 10</b>	4	3	1	0	2
<b>SDG 11</b>	7	11	6	1	4
<b>SDG 12</b>	5	3	1	1	1
<b>SDG 13</b>	2	4	3	0	1
<b>SDG 14</b>	1	1	0	0	1
<b>SDG 15</b>	7	5	5	0	0
<b>SDG 16</b>	9	19	14	1	4
<b>SDG 17</b>	1	3	3	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>33</b>

### 1.11 Effort level required for reporting at the regional/district level.

Amongst the 145 AJ&K's relevant SDGs indicators, there are 33 indicators where data is not available for at least one point and efforts are required to establish the baseline and progress tracking. The computation of these indicators pertains to different levels of effort. Out of 33 indicators, 22 indicators are required to be reported through institutional data. To ensure computation and reporting on these

indicators, relevant line departments would need technical support from P&DD and other development partner organizations for designing a mechanism for collection of data. An overview of the effort level for generating the data on missing indicators by type of data is presented in Figure 16. It is evident that most of these indicators are related to administrative data sources, therefore the respective departments need to put efforts into data generation and computation of the missing indicators.

Figure 15: Efforts Level

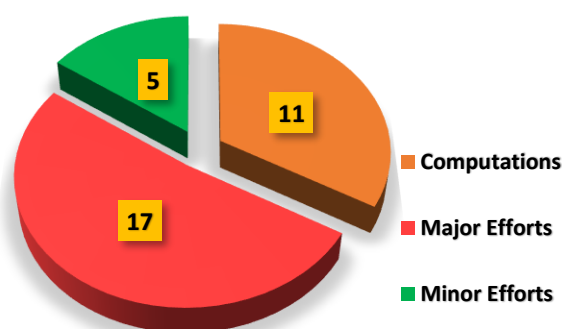
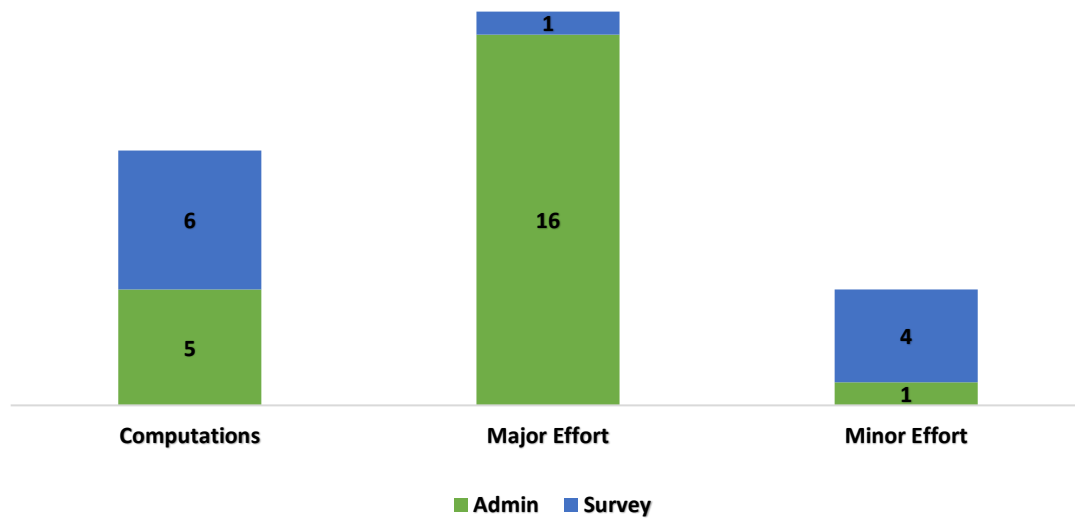


Figure 16: Effort Level by Type of Data



### 1.12 Preferred Data Source

The Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiative has devised data rules to streamline the collection and generation of data and to ensure reliability and transparency (section 2.2.5). In AJ&K data for 75 indicators can be obtained from administrative sources, whereas for the 70 survey-based indicators, PSLM/HIES is considered as a preferred data source on 32 SDGs indicators whereas the Labor Force Survey (LFS) is the preferred data source on 11 indicators, therefore combining these two sources, data on 43 SDGs indicators can be obtained from Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. The Pakistan Demographic Health Survey (PDHS) is considered as the preferred data source of 12 SDGs indicators whereas provincially conducted Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) is considered as the preferred data source for 9 SDGs indicators. The National Nutritional Survey (NNS) is the preferred data source for 4 SDGs indicators. Similarly, the Pakistan Maternal Mortality Survey (PMMS), and the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) survey are the preferred data sources on one SDGs indicator each.

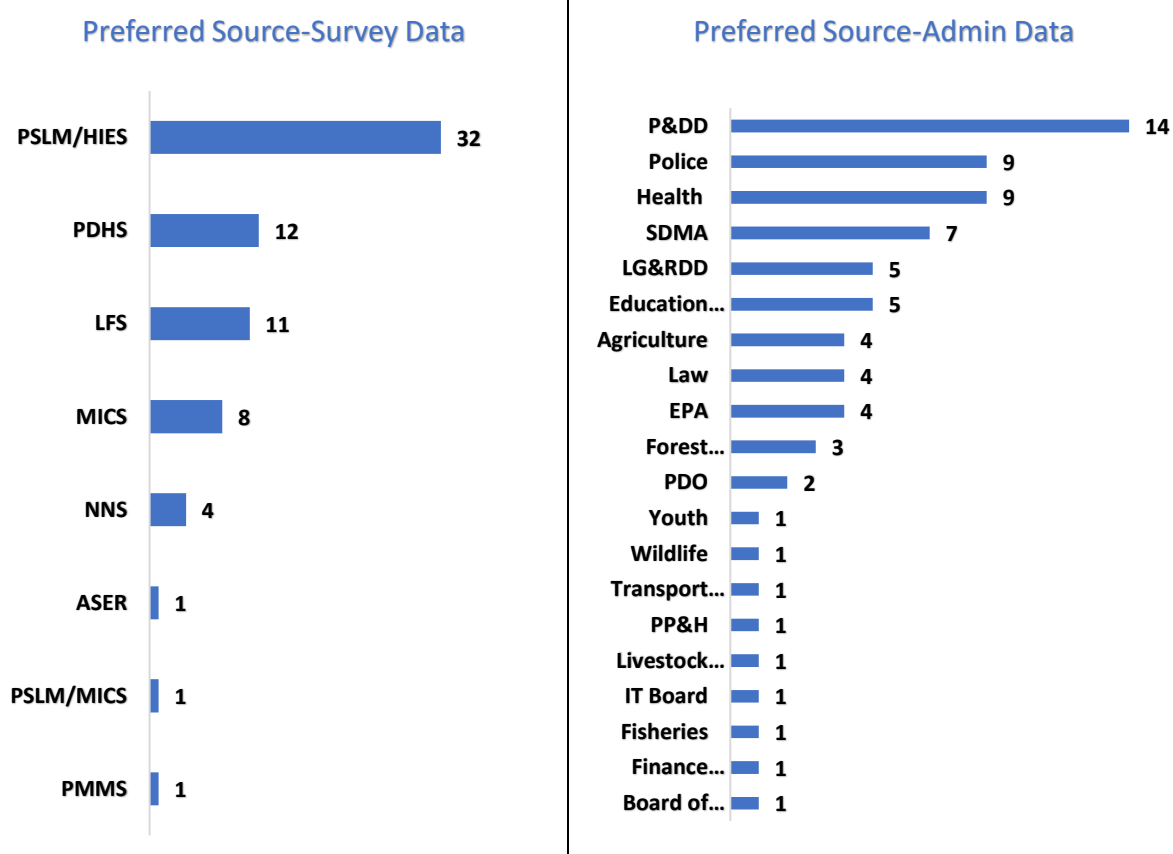


Figure 17: Preferred SDGs Data Reporting Sources

Table 8 below presents a quick glimpse of the departments and their relevant SDGs indicators along with the data type and source of surveys.

Table 8: Departments, Data Type and Relevant SDGs Indicators

Sr.#	Department	Data Type	SDGs Indicator
1	Agriculture	Admin	2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.4.1, 2.5.1
		Survey (PSLM/HIES)	5.a.1
2	Board of Revenue	Admin	11.5.2
		Survey (PSLM/HIES)	1.4.2
3	Communication & Works	Survey (PSLM/HIES)	9.1.1, 11.2.1
4	Education (E&S)	Admin	4.a.1, 4.7.1, 4.c.1, 12.8.1, 13.3.1
		Survey (PSLM/HIES, MICS)	4.1.2, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.5.1, 4.6.1, 4.1.1, 4.2.1,

5	Electricity	Survey (PSLM/HIES)	7.1.1, 7.1.2
6	EPA	Admin	6.3.2, 6.6.1, 11.6.2, 12.4.2
		Survey (PDHS)	11.6.1
7	Finance	Admin	17.1.2
8	Fisheries	Admin	14.4.1
9	Forest	Admin	15.1.1, 15.2.1, 15.3.1
10	Health	Admin	3.4.1, 3.5.1, 3.9.1, 3.9.2, 3.9.3, 3.b.3, 3.c.1, 3.d.1, 3.d.2
		Survey (PLSM, NNS, PMMS, PDHS, MICS)	2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 3.a.1, 3.b.1
11	Higher Education	Survey (LFS)	9.5.2
12	Industries	Survey (LFS)	9.2.2
13	IT Board	Admin	9.c.1
		Survey (PSLM/HIES)	5.b.1, 17.8.1
14	Labor Department	Survey (LFS)	5.4.1, 8.3.1, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.6.1, 8.7.1, 8.8.1
15	Law	Admin	5.1.1, 5.5.1, 16.5.1, 16.5.2
16	Local Government & Rural Development	Admin	6.3.1, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 6.5.1, 6.b.1
		Survey (PSLM/HIES, PDHS)	6.1.1, 6.2.1, 16.9.1
17	Livestock	Admin	2.5.2
18	Planning & Development Department	Admin	1.1.1, 1.a.2, 1.b.1, 2.a.2, 3.b.2, 6.a.1, 8.10.1, 9.a.1, 11.3.1, 11.3.2, 11.7.1, 15.a.1, 16.6.1, 17.14.1
		Survey	1.2.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 8.10.2, 10.1.1, 10.2.1, 10.3.1, 16.6.2, 16.7.2
19	Power Development	Admin	7.b.1, 12.a.1
20	Police	Admin	3.4.2, 3.6.1, 16.1.1, 16.1.2, 16.2.2, 16.3.2, 16.3.3, 16.4.2, 16.10.1
		Survey (PDHS)	11.7.2

<b>21</b>	Population Welfare	Survey (PSLM/HIES, PDHS)	3.7.1, 3.7.2, 5.6.1
<b>22</b>	Physical Planning & Housing	Admin	11.1.1
<b>23</b>	State Disaster Management Authority	Admin	1.5.1, 1.5.4, 11.5.1, 11.b.1, 13.1.1, 13.1.2, 13.1.3
<b>24</b>	Social Welfare	Survey (PSLM/HIES, PDHS, MICS)	1.2.2, 5.2.1, 16.1.3, 16.1.4, 16.2.1, 16.2.3, 16.3.1, 16.b.1
<b>25</b>	Transport Authority	Admin	9.1.2
<b>26</b>	Wildlife	Admin	15.4.1
<b>27</b>	Women Development	Survey (PDHS, LFS)	5.2.2, 5.3.1, 5.5.2
<b>28</b>	Youth Department	Admin	8.b.1

Table 9 shows the total percentage of the data relevance, the total percentage of data availability, the total percentage of the data that is not available so far, along with total percentage of data sources as below:-

Description	Indicators	Percentage
Data Relevance	145 out of 247	58.7%
Data Available	112 out of 145	77.2%
Data Not Available	33 out of 145	22.7%
Data Sources	Admin 75	51.7%
	Survey 70	48.2%
Survey Sources	32 out of 70	45.7%
PSLM		
PDHS	12 out of 70	17.1%
LFS	11 out of 70	15.7%
MICS	08 out of 70	11.4%
NNS	04 out of 70	5.7%
PMMS	01 out of 70	1.4%
ASER	01 out of 70	1.4%

## 4. Way Forward

### a. Role of Line departments

The role of line departments is crucial in establishing a reliable progress tracking system on SDGs indicators in AJ&K. Currently, the departments either do not have Management Information Systems (MIS) or the systems are not being utilized for reporting on SDGs even where they exist. While analyzing the data gaps, a significant overlap has also been observed in the institutional data being collected by various line departments. The reliability of the institutional data is also a challenging issue and requires cross-validation before using it for reporting on SDGs. In addition, there hardly exists a mechanism for the flow of data to a central system from where data can be used for central planning by departments like the Planning and Development Department.

To address these shortcomings, each of the line department needs a well-established MIS linked with an integrated MIS housed at the Planning & Development Department. This integrated MIS at the P&DD can further be linked with the SDGs Dashboard at the MoPD&SI Level.

### b. Role of Custodian Organizations

Custodian organizations can facilitate all key stakeholders, particularly line departments. The line departments are involved in reporting on SDGs in building their capacities as well as in strengthening the management information systems for reporting purposes. A series of capacity building workshops can be conducted on the Metadata Analysis of SDGs indicators as well as in general to enhance the government's statistical pool of experts on SDGs. The departments need both technical and financial support from custodian organizations in strengthening the monitoring and progress tracking system on SDGs in AJ&K.

### c. Role of National Statistical Office and Regional Offices

A centralized data management system will ensure both the quality of data available and the provision of the data to all stakeholders which will enable the process of evidence-based policymaking in AJ&K. AJ&K-BoS can lead the process of data integration and management which will resultantly improve the reporting process on SDGs as well as on other key development indicators. Therefore, AJ&K IT Board can be brought into action for the development of an initial Management Information System for the line departments connected to the central management information server hosted at P&DD.

### d. Role of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) in facilitating AJ&K Government

To fill in the gap for availability of data, SDG Support Unit AJ&K has coordinated closely with the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) to get the micro data of PLSM and LFS. There may be a

proper institutional mechanism for analysis of these data sets which PBS collects for AJ&K on regular intervals.

PBS can play a pivotal role by making the descriptive statistics of PSLM, HIES, and LFS readily available for the provincial stakeholders which will strengthen the overall process of evidence-based policymaking in AJ&K. The line departments in AJ&K do not have the needed capacity to analyze the raw data, which makes the role of PBS in facilitating these departments more critical. Since PBS has the capacity, it can provide brief reports for AJ&K on the surveys it conducts at regular intervals with minor efforts which will consequently improve the reporting on SDGs and will strengthen evidence-driven policymaking and planning in AJ&K. However, if the statistical officers of AJ&K can get a training chance at PBS on annual basis to keep them updated in terms of latest research techniques, methods, methodologies, and software learning related to data analysis will produce exponential results for data driven policing in AJ&K.

#### **e. Establish data reporting mechanism on SDGs**

SDGs Support Unit at P&DD is currently in the process of establishing a mechanism for the line departments to share data on SDGs. A matrix including relevant SDGs indicators along with the methodology of estimation has been shared with line departments. However, this will also require detailed training of the statistical persons within line departments on estimation methodology. Such a mechanism shall be a great source of maintaining the quality assurance of the data collected and analyzed in SDGs perspective for achieving the targets of 2030 Agenda. Furthermore, for achieving SDGs target requires a movement away from business-as-usual with more dependence on innovation and recalibration of the development planning through establishing a central database and collection mechanism for informed decision making and policing in AJ&K.

#### **f. Alignment of future surveys with SDGs**

Currently, SDGs are not fully integrated within the existing surveys. Moving forward, AJ&K-BoS and SDG Support Unit needs to work closely with relevant custodial organizations and other relevant stakeholders for conducting surveys align to fulfil the data requirements of SDGs indicators and to avoid repetition of the same indicators in various surveys. In several household data sets, a similar SDGs indicator data has been generated, this produces significant similarity that needs to be reduced to ensure efficient utilization of scarce resources.

#### **g. The Role of Big Data and Civil Society Organizations**

Since, the civic society is another important stakeholder in the SDGs agenda. The important role of these organization is to advocate, be a service provider and a watchdog over the issues pertaining to society, economy, environment, and governance. These organizations can help

to ensure that the big data is used to benefit society, rather than just a select few, by advocating for equitable access to data and promoting the use of data to address social, economic, and environmental challenges. Additionally, the civil society organizations can help to build capacity within communities to collect and use data, which can help to ensure that data is collected and analyzed in a way that is relevant and meaningful to the stakeholders involved. Specifically in terms of SDGs, these organizations can play their role in conducting micro level research studies on the SDGs thematic areas, where the data is available through admin or survey sources or by conducting new surveys. This practice will help in supporting the enhanced evidence-based policy making at government's end. On the one hand, the data collected by the government departments get a chance of validation and on the other hand, the civic participation in research and development will help boosting the overall level of knowledge in the society leading to rising awareness and actions to the early achievement of the SDGs targets for Agenda 2030 in AJ&K.

#### **h. Role of Academia**

Academia can play a significant role in minimizing data reporting gaps for SDGs and its progress. According to a publication by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Thematic Research Network on Data and Statistics (TReNDS), academia can help build innovative and inclusive national data systems for SDGs by providing technical assistance, capacity building, and research<sup>11</sup>. Academia can contribute to research and data collection. Academics can conduct research on specific SDG targets, develop methodologies, and collect data to fill existing gaps. This includes conducting surveys, interviews, and field studies to gather relevant information. Secondly, academics can use their expertise in data analysis to process and interpret complex datasets related to the SDGs. They can employ statistical techniques, econometric models, and other analytical tools to extract meaningful insights from available data. Thirdly, academia can contribute by organizing workshops, seminars, and training programs to enhance the skills of policymakers, researchers, and data practitioners in collecting, analyzing, and reporting SDGs-related data. Such initiatives can help bridge the knowledge gap and improve reporting mechanisms.

Collaboration and partnerships are another important aspect in minimizing the data reporting gaps. Academics can collaborate with governments, international organizations, and non-profit entities working on SDGs to strengthen data reporting mechanisms. By pooling resources, expertise, and networks, academia can actively contribute to data collection, analysis, and reporting processes. Lastly, academics can provide evidence-based policy support and recommendations to enhance data reporting for SDGs. Their research findings and expert opinions can inform policymakers and key stakeholders about gaps in the current reporting mechanisms and suggest strategies to address them effectively.

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<sup>11</sup> <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/sdsn-publication-identifies-four-steps-to-fight-sdg-data-gaps/>



## 5. Annexures

### 5.1 Annex A: List of Repeated SDG Indicators

Sr #	Indicators	Detail
1	7.b.1, 12. a.1	Installed renewable energy-generating capacity in developing countries (in watts per capita).
2	8.4.1, 12.2.1	Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP.
3	8.4.2, 12.2.2	Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP.
4	10.3.1, 16. b.1	Proportion of the population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months is based on a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law.
5	10.6.1/16.8.1	Proportion of members and voting rights of developing countries in international organizations.
6	13.2.1, 13. b.1	Number of countries with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans, strategies as reported in adaptation communications and national communications.
7	15.7.1, 15. c.1	Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked.
8	15.a.1, 15. b.1	(a)Official development assistance on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; and (b) revenue generated and finance mobilized from biodiversity-relevant economic instruments.
9	1.5.1, 11.5.1, 13.1.1	Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population.

Sr #	Indicators	Detail
10	1.5.3, 11.b.1, 13.1.2	Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.
11	1.5.4, 11.b.2, 13.1.3	Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies.
12	4.7.1, 12.8.1, 13.3.1	Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national educational policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment.

## 5.2 Annex B: Custodian Organizations & SDGs Indicators Map

Custodian Org	SDGs Indicator	Custodian Org	SDGs Indicator	Custodian Org	SDGs Indicator	Custodian Org	SDGs Indicator
CBD-Secretariat	15.6.1	IUCN	15.5.1	UNEP, Ramsar	6.6.1	UNODC, UNCTAD	16.4.1
CBD-Secretariat, UNEP	15.9.1	National Government	1.2.2	UNEP, UNCTAD	12.6.1	UNODC, UNODA	16.4.2
DESA	3.7.1, 3.7.2	OECD	1.a.1, 2.a.2, 3.b.2, 10.b.1, 4.b.1, 8.a.1, 9.a.1, 17.2.1, 17.9.1	UNEP-CTCN	17.7.1	UNODC, WHO	16.1.1
DESA Population, IOM	10.7.2	OECD, IRENA	7.a.1	UNEP-WCMC, UNEP, IUCN	14.5.1, 15.1.2, 15.4.1	UNSD	8.1.1, 17.19.2

<b>DESA/FFDO</b>	10.6.1, 16.8.1	OECD, UNCTAD	17.3.1	UNESCO-IHP, UNECE	6.5.2	UNSD, IEA	7.3.1
<b>FAO</b>	2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.4.1, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.a.1, 2.c.1, 14.4.1, 14.6.1, 14.b.1, 15.1.1, 5.a.1, 5.a.2, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 15.4.2, 15.2.1	OECD, UNDP	17.15.1, 17.16.1	UNESCO-UIS	4.1.2, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.5.1, 4.6.1, 4.a.1, 9.5.1, 16.10.2, 4.1.1, 4.7.1, 4.c.1, 9.5.2, 11.4.1, 12.8.1, 13.3.1	UNSD, IEA, IRENA	7.2.1
<b>FAO, UNEP</b>	12.3.1	OECD, UNEP, World Bank	15.a.1, 15.b.1	UNESCO-UIS, ITU	4.4.1	UNSD, UN Women	5.4.1
<b>FAO, UNEP-WCMC</b>	14.7.1	OHCHR	16.a.1, 16.10.1, 16.b.1, 10.3.1, 16.1.2	UNFCCC	13.2.1, 13.2.2, 13.b.1, 13.a.1	UNSD, UNEP	12.4.2, 12.5.1
<b>ICAO, ITF-OECD</b>	9.1.2	PARIS21	17.18.2, 17.18.3, 17.9.1	UNFPA	5.6.1, 5.6.2	UNSD, UNICEF	16.9.1
<b>ILO</b>	13.1, 5.5.2, 8.2.1, 8.3.1, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.6.1, 8.8.1, 10.4.1, 8.8.2, 8.b.1	TBD	1.a.2	UN-Habitat	1.4.1, 11.1.1, 11.2.1, 11.7.1, 11.a.1, 11.3.1, 11.3.2	UNWTO	8.9.1, 12.B.1
<b>ILO, UNICEF</b>	8.7.1	UN Women, OECD, UNDP	5.c.1	UN-Habitat, UNSD	11.6.1	WHO	2.2.3, 3.1.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.4.1, 3.6.1, 3.8.1, 3.c.1, 3.d.1, 7.1.2, 11.6.2, 3.5.2, 3.3.5, 3.4.2, 3.9.1, 3.9.2, 3.9.3, 3.b.3, 3.d.2

<b>ILO, World Bank</b>	10.7.1	UN Women, World Bank, OECD Development Centre	5.1.1	UNHCR	10.7.4	WHO, OECD	6.a.1, 6.b.1
<b>IMF</b>	8.10.1, 10.5.1, 17.1.1, 17.1.2	UNAIDS	3.3.1	UNICEF	3.2.1, 3.2.2 1.b.1, 4.2.1 5.3.1, 16.2.3 5.3.2, 16.2.1	WHO, UN-Habitat, UNSD	6.3.1
<b>IOC-UNESCO</b>	14.a.1,14.3.1	UNCCD	15.3.1	UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNODC	5.2.1	WHO, UNICEF	3.b.1, 6.1.1, 6.2.1
<b>IOM</b>	10.7.3	UNCTAD	17.5.1	UNICEF, WHO	2.2.1 2.2.2 3.1.2	WHO, UNODC	3.5.1
<b>IPU, UN Women</b>	5.5.1	UN-DOALOS, FAO, UNEP, ILO, other UN-Oceans agencies	14.c.1	UNIDO	9.2.1, 9.2.2, 9.b.1	WHO, WHO-FCTC	3.a.1
<b>IPU, UNDP</b>	16.7.1	UNDP	16.6.2, 16.7.2	UNIDO, IEA	9.4.1	WHO, World Bank	3.8.2
<b>IRENA</b>	7.b.1,12.a.1	UNDP, OECD, UNODC	16.3.3	UNIDO, World Bank	9.3.2	World Bank	1.2.1, 7.1.1, 9.1.1, 10.1.1, 10.2.1, 10.4.2, 10.c.1, 16.6.1, 17.3.2, 17.4.1, 8.10.2,

							17.13.1, 17.17.1
<b>ITC, UNCTAD, WTO</b>	10.a.1	UNDRR	1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3, 1.5.4, 11.5.1, 11.5.2, 11.b.1, 11.b.2, 13.1.1, 13.1.2, 13.1.3	UNOD C	16.1.3, 16.3.2, 11.7.2, 16.1.4 16.2.2, 16.3.1 16.5.1	World Bank, UN- Habita t	1.4.2
<b>ITU</b>	5.b.1, 9.c.1, 17.6.1, 17.8.1, 15.8.1	UNEP	6.5.1, 12.4.1, 12.c.1, 12.1.1, 12.7.1, 14.2.1, 17.14.1, 6.3.2, 8.4.1, 8.4.2 12.2.1, 12.2.2 14.1.1	UNOD C, CITES	15.7.1, 15.c.1	World Bank, UNOD C	16.5.2
<b>WTO</b>	2.b.1	WTO, ITC, UNCTAD	17.10.1, 17.11.1, 17.12.1				

### 5.3 Annex B: Goal wise Available Indicators Map

SDGs	Available Indicators
<b>Goal 1</b>	1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 1.4.2, 1.5.1, 1.5.4, 1.a.2, 1.b.1
<b>Goal 2</b>	2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 2.3.2, 2.4.1, 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.a.2
<b>Goal 3</b>	3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 3.5.1, 3.6.1, 3.7.1, 3.7.2, 3.8.1, 3.a.1, 3.b.1, 3.b.2, 3.b.3, 3.c.1, 3.d.1
<b>Goal 4</b>	4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.5.1, 4.6.1, 4.a.1, 4.c.1
<b>Goal 5</b>	5.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.3.1, 5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.6.1, 5.b.1

<b>Goal 6</b>	6.1.1, 6.2.1
<b>Goal 7</b>	7.1.1, 7.1.2, 7.b.1
<b>Goal 8</b>	8.3.1, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.6.1, 8.7.1, 8.8.1, 8.10.1, 8.10.2, 8.b.1
<b>Goal 9</b>	9.1.1, 9.2.2, 9.a.1, 9.c.1
<b>Goal 10</b>	10.3.1
<b>Goal 11</b>	11.2.1, 11.5.1, 11.5.2, 11.6.1, 11.6.2, 11.7.1, 11.7.2, 11.b.2
<b>Goal 12</b>	12.4.2, 12.a.1
<b>Goal 13</b>	13.1.1, 13.1.2, 13.1.3
<b>Goal 14</b>	14.4.1
<b>Goal 15</b>	15.1.1, 15.2.1, 15.3.1, 15.4.1, 15.a.1
<b>Goal 16</b>	16.1.1, 16.1.2, 16.1.13, 16.1.4, 16.2.1, 16.2.2, 16.3.1, 16.3.2, 16.3.3, 16.4.2, 16.5.1, 16.6.1, 16.6.2, 16.9.1, 16.10.1, 16.b.1
<b>Goal 17</b>	17.1.2, 17.14.1, 17.8.1