



IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN AJ&K AND WAY FORWARD



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADP	Annual Development Programme
AJ&K	Azad Jammu and Kashmir
AJK-BoS	Azad Jammu and Kashmir Bureau of Statistics
AJ&KLA	Azad Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly
BISP	Benazir Income Support Programme
CCC	Climate Change Center
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
GoAJ&K	Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
LG&RDD	Local Government and Rural Development Department
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAPS	Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MLA	Member Legislative Assembly
MoPD&SI	Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NNS	National Nutrition Survey
P&DD	Planning and Development Department
PBS	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

FOREWORD

As Azad Jammu & Kashmir enters its 5th year in implementing the SDGs, it is important to improve outreach and take stock of measures that have been undertaken to achieve sustainable development in the State. This report is designed for awareness and advocacy regarding Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that can help parliamentarians, government departments, academia, civil society, media, youth, NGOs, private businesses, and the general public to play an effective role in implementing the SDGs in AJ&K.

The report identifies strategies, mechanisms and partnerships to support the implementation of SDGs more effectively. In addition, it describes the processes and systems through which the SDGs are being institutionalized in AJ&K and analyzes the opportunities and challenges that could appear during the implementation. Moreover, this document also gauges the progress made on SDGs since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and will help develop close liaison with stakeholders such as parliamentarians, government officials and general public.

This document has been prepared through extensive primary and secondary research on SDGs implementation in AJ&K. The latest reliable and authentic socioeconomic and environmental indicators of AJ&K have been referred and considered to ensure a timely and accurate representation of SDGs progress, opportunities and challenges.

I am confident that this report will prove useful for readers in not only understanding the sustainable development agenda but also in finding ways to incorporate the message in personal and professional capacities.

(Dr. Syed Asif Hussain)

Additional Chief Secretary (Dev.)

MESSAGE FROM UNDP

It is indeed a matter of immense pleasure for me to introduce and appreciate the valuable report on 'Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in AJ&K and the Way Forward', prepared by the dedicated team comprising the Planning and Development Department, Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir and the UNDP. This commendable endeavour not only reflects the diligent effort by various stakeholders towards realising the aims and objectives, but also transforms these into deliverable actions aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in line with their development plans as envisaged by the UN.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognise the exemplary leadership of the AJ&K Legislative Assembly, by facilitating the required legislative cover and making the SDGs the 'Development Agenda of AJ&K'.

As Pakistan is striving hard to enhance its pace and progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this report would provide timely insight into the challenges being faced and opportunities that can be harnessed to galvanise action by all segments of society to ensure fruitful application of the 2030 Agenda in AJ&K. Essential to the SDGs is the principle to 'leave no one behind', and it is encouraging to see the commitment of the Government of AJ&K towards the marginalised and vulnerable segments of society, and the steps taken to include their voices in development consultations and planning processes.

A crucial theme identified in this report is the need to build productive partnerships across departments, sectors and institutions to provide the comprehensive, integrated working environment necessary for the successful implementation of the SDG agenda in AJ&K. It also emphasizes the tangible contributions by various line departments in ensuring coordination, data collection, and grassroot-level implementation.

Countries across the globe are using the SDGs as an opportunity to further enhance their capacities in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental development for all segments of society. In the context of AJ&K, aligning finances with SDGs and mapping existing policies would provide the Government better opportunities to stock-take their level of commitment towards ensuring sustainable development in the region. This resultantly would emphasize the need for enhanced allocation towards underdeveloped districts and encourage introduction of policies/ and schemes that address cross-cutting issues such as the environment, gender equality and social protection.

On behalf of the UNDP, I would like to ensure our earnest commitment to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the local, national and international level. I sincerely hope that we can further build on our successful collaboration with the Government of AJ&K to achieve tangible outcomes on sustainable development, with a futuristic vision that can help improve the lives of its masses.



Ignacio Artaza

Resident Representative, UNDP

MESSAGE FROM MINISTRY OF PLANNING DEVELOPMENT & SPECIAL INITIATIVES

Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is an important element of Pakistan's development agenda. National success is dependent on shared purpose, with equal progress made by all regions. This report shows the commendable effort on part of Government of the state of the Azad Jammu & Kashmir (GoAJ&K) to localize the SDGs in line with the national development agenda and to prioritize and ensure sustainable development in the region. It provides a comprehensive assessment of Azad Jammu & Kashmir's (AJ&K) journey in introducing, advocating and implementing the 2030 Agenda to ensure sustainable development in the State.

Though small in size and population, the State of Azad Jammu & Kashmir is blessed with geographical diversity; a predominantly rural economy, comparatively high literacy rate, a burgeoning tourism industry and valuable diaspora can play a pivotal role in sustained socioeconomic development of the region within a short span of time. To capitalise on these advantages, improvement in service delivery, increased role of the private sector in the economy and the impact of climate change require consideration under future development initiatives. Addressing these issues will enable AJ&K to cater for its emerging needs and will ensure sustainable development in the region..

In order to achieve the true essence of SDGs, concerted efforts are required from all relevant stakeholders and I am pleased to put on record that GoAJ&K has developed a robust institutional mechanism to support the implementation process. Active participation by the 'AJ&K Legislative Assembly Taskforce on SDGs' indicates a strong political will to achieve results under this paradigm. Well-informed stakeholders with the capacity to integrate SDGs into local policies and planning processes are an essential element for successful initiatives. Therefore, knowledge generation on SDGs in the context of AJ&K is required to bridge the gap; documents such as this will play an important role in awareness raising and knowledge transmission regarding sustainable development.

I would acclaim the valuable contribution made by the Planning & Development Department, GoAJ&K in preparing the report on 'Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in AJ&K and the Way Forward'. I strongly believe that this would significantly contribute towards achievement of SDGs in AJ&K. I congratulate the Planning and Development Department, GoAJ&K on producing timely report



(Dr. Hassan Muhammad Mohsin)

Chief SDGs Section, MoPD&SI

INTRODUCTION TO SDGs: PAKISTAN'S PERSPECTIVE

1

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), introduced in September 2015, are a global commitment made by 193 nation states around the world to end poverty, ensure prosperity and to protect the planet. The SDGs Agenda focuses action on five different pillars – people, planet, peace, prosperity and partnerships – and complements international laws and other international conventions to foster collaboration across countries. The 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals consists of 17 Goals that are further divided into 169 actionable targets and 244 indicators, setting out qualitative and quantitative objectives for the next 15 years. The SDGs are the yardstick against which the progress of both developing and developed countries will be measured across social, economic and environmental dimensions. SDGs are conceived as interlinked goals that are designed to be tackled collectively. A summary description of SDGs is listed in Annex A.

Figure 1: The Sustainable Development Goals



The SDGs follow from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were the global agenda from 2000 to 2015, focusing primarily on social aspects, including low income, lack of schooling, chronic hunger, gender inequality, lack of access to healthcare as well as issues of water and sanitation. While many countries made significant progress towards the MDGs, others, including Pakistan, struggled to achieve the targets set. Overall, the MDGs were criticized for (i) concentrating only on social issues, (ii) being wholly dependent on foreign aid, (iii) applying only to developing countries and (iv) relying only on official & administrative data. The SDGs framework was designed to respond to these issues, making it broader in scope and more complex than the MDGs through a combination of targets related to socioeconomic and environmental challenges. The SDGs include universal targets that are equally applicable to all countries, envisioning using

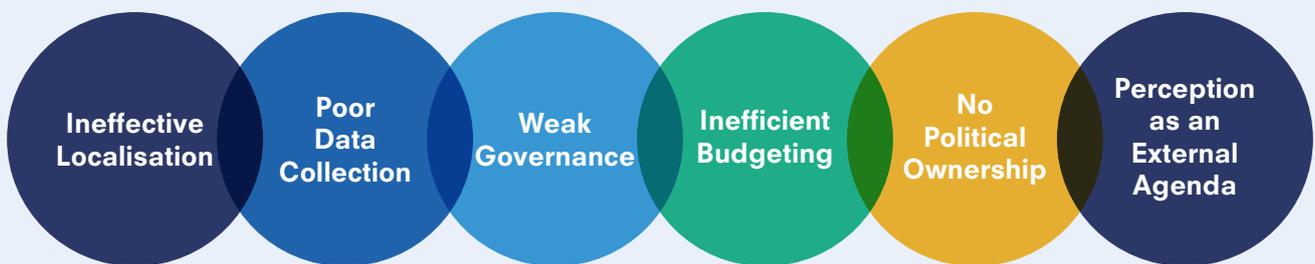
domestic and private sector funding as well as foreign aid to bridge financing gaps and encourage using various data sources – such as official data, administrative data, big data, geospatial data and

open data etc. – for monitoring and evaluation. The framework therefore provides an opportunity for universal, locally-focused, inclusive, integrated and technology-driven development.

Pakistan was one of the first countries to endorse the SDGs in 2015 and in February 2016, the Parliament of Pakistan unanimously approved adopting the SDGs as its national development agenda. In localizing the SDGs, Pakistan has focused on an inclusive process which relies on evidence-based solutions to translate aspirations into objective realities for stakeholders. Following from the national experience of implementing the MDGs, the integration of the SDGs has been localized to the provincial and area level context, with each region taking a lead in the mainstreaming of 2030 Agenda in its territory. Efforts have been made to fully align Pakistan's Vision 2025 with the SDGs framework to provide a long-term, comprehensive strategy for sustainable and inclusive development.

Despite the relatively high growth rate and impressive poverty reduction, Pakistan's progress towards the MDGs was not satisfactory. Of the 16 targets and 41 indicators, time series data was available for 31 indicators and targets were achieved for only three indicators. Moreover, while Pakistan was on track to achieve MDGs targets on 7 indicators, its progress on 24 indicators was off-track. Except for poverty, Pakistan could not register a notable progress on some of the most critical indicators for development such as maternal mortality, infant mortality and school enrolment ratios. Besides, the progress on MDGs was uneven across the various regions of the country.

Figure 2: Issues with MDGs in Pakistan



In the post-MDGs consultations with national stakeholders, it was highlighted that problems in implementation arose due to:

- i. Ineffective localization: MDGs remained a national agenda with limited sub-national policy, planning, budgeting and reporting and monitoring.
- ii. Poor data collection: data collected was not only limited in coverage but also inadequate in tracking progress on MDGs.

- iii. Weak governance and institutional mechanisms: coordination, discussion and debate around issues was not possible due to limitations in the existing system.
- iv. Budget allocation: no comprehensive system existed to track the expenditure on MDGs and its effectiveness.
- v. Limited political ownership: Parliamentarians were not completely involved in the MDGs implementation process.
- vi. External agenda: MDGs also developed a reputation of being enforced by international authorities without sufficient grassroots mobilization or inclusion efforts.

OBJECTIVES OF THE REPORT

3

This report is designed to present an overview of the implementation of SDGs in AJ&K and to assist Azad Jammu & Kashmir Legislative Assembly (AJ&KLA) Members, government departments, civil society, academia, youth, private businesses, marginalized segment of the society and other relevant stakeholders to:

1. Identify strategies, mechanisms and partnerships to support the implementation of SDGs more effectively;
2. Understand the processes and systems through which SDGs are being institutionalized in AJ&K;
3. Gauge the progress on SDGs since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda including AJ&K's governance and implementation mechanisms;
4. Understand the opportunities and challenges present in implementation of the SDGs in AJ&K;
5. Establish and develop close liaison with stakeholders like the Legislative Assembly, government line departments, academia, civil society organizations (CSOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), media, youth, minorities, the private sector etc.

AN OVERVIEW OF SDGs IN AJ&K

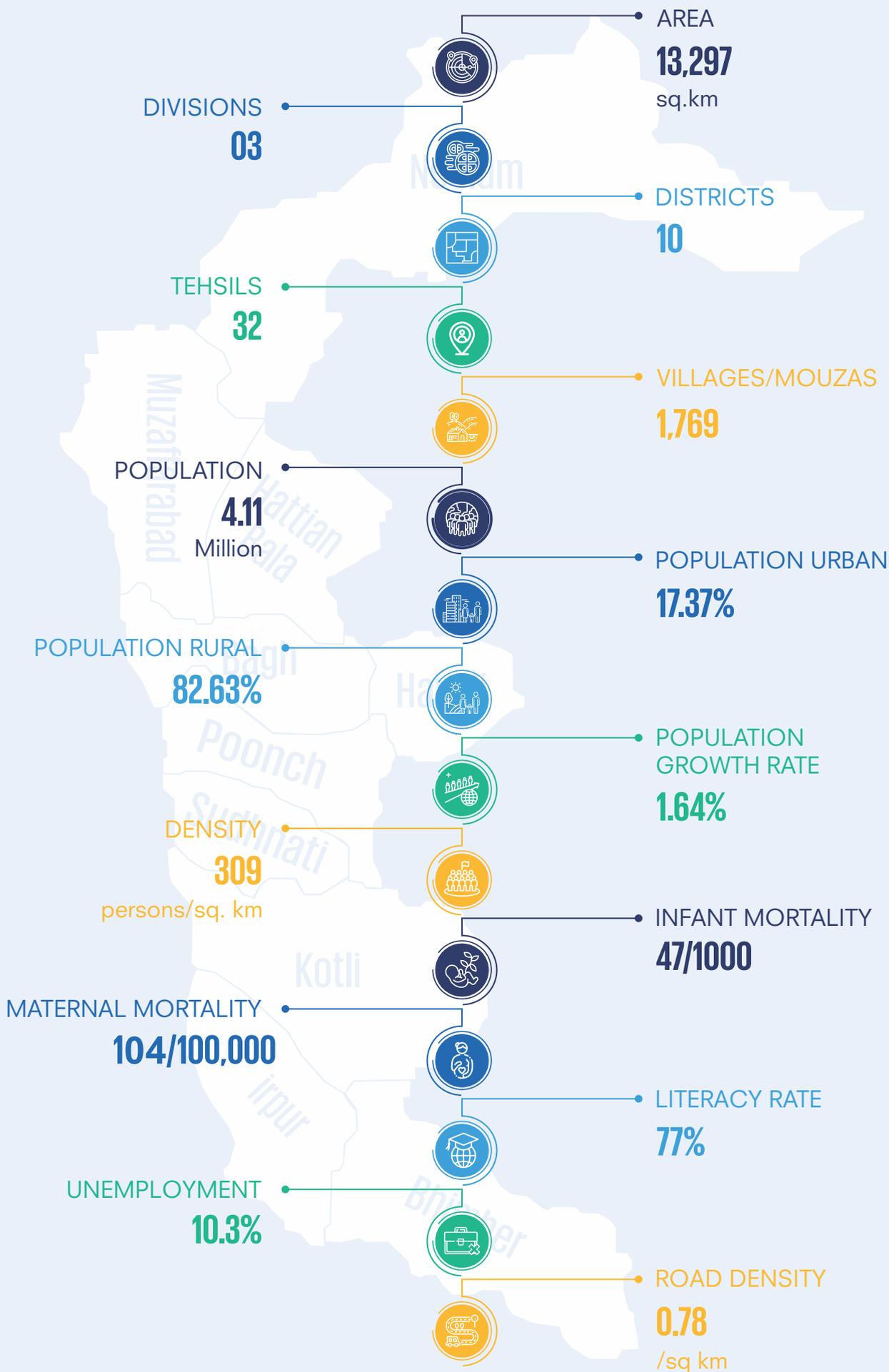
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AJ&K has an area of 13,297 square kilometers¹ and the population is 4.11 million²; however, the population density of AJ&K is high i.e. 309 persons per square km³. The region lies on the Himalayan belt, with the northern districts having a mountainous terrain and the southern districts constituting plains. In AJ&K, 17.37 percent of the population lives in urban areas whereas 82.63 percent lives in rural areas⁴, with a majority depending upon off-farm employment for income. The reasons for low income generation through farming include small land holdings, large rainfed areas, scarcity of cultivatable land and low productivity of mountain ecosystems⁵. AJ&K's economy is based on subsistence agriculture, livestock rearing, tourism, small/cottage industry hydropower, services and Government jobs. Furthermore, remittances play a significant role in the economy of the State. The Government of AJ&K is committed to capitalizing on the viability of tourism, hydropower, agriculture, livestock, and small and medium industry sectors in the region, in light of the principles and targets under the SDGs framework.

AJ&K plays an important role in the geography and economy of Pakistan. As the region is bestowed with three major rivers, the Neelum, the Jehlum and the Poonch, and numerous other streams, it is critical for water resources and generation of hydropower in Pakistan. Moreover, AJ&K has abundant resources in the form of forests, mountains and freshwater ecosystems which have boosted tourism in the region and provided direct or indirect source of employment to 22 percent of the population⁶. Besides such natural resources, AJ&K also has high quality human resources in the form of an educated population with a literacy rate of 77 percent⁷ and emerging university and research centers. Furthermore, the peaceful law and order situation across AJ&K provides an opportunity for private investment, which if exploited can further contribute to the socioeconomic development of the State.

1. AJK at a Glance, AJ&K Bureau of Statistics P&DD, 2019.
2. AJ&K Statistical Yearbook 2019, Bureau of Statistics, P&DD GoAJK.
3. Ibid.
4. Ibid.
5. Study on Producing Skilled Workforce for Potential Economic Sectors in Azad Jammu & Kashmir, GIZ, 2017.
6. Ibid.
7. AJK at a Glance, AJ&K Bureau of Statistics P&DD, 2019.

AJ&K AT A GLANCE



LOCALIZATION OF SDGs IN AJ&K

Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir's (GoAJ&K) approach to development is similar to that adopted in Pakistan - it aims to enhance economic growth while improving human well-being through the sustainable development framework. Therefore, AJ&K's 12th Five-Year Plan has been explicitly linked with the SDGs to ensure proper and continuous implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The current landscape, demographic strengths, environment and governance system of AJ&K provide an excellent opportunity for the implementation of SDGs. This includes an increase in the development budget, alignment of new policies with SDGs and increased awareness about environment and sustainability issues at the governance and grassroots level. AJ&K, however, does recognize the challenges that exist for SDGs implementation including improving cooperation and coordination between departments, institutionalizing data collection, strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems, realigning financing and bringing other stakeholders – including non-government, civil society, private and international organizations – into the conversation to ensure holistic development.

The scope of the 2030 Agenda is wide-ranging, inter-linked and comprehensive. The GoAJ&K needs to strengthen links both horizontally amongst sectors and vertically amongst levels of government departments to achieve the SDGs. One of the reasons why AJ&K could not reap the benefits from the MDGs was the absence of horizontal and vertical linkages between the different tiers of government and line departments. To ensure horizontal coordination in AJ&K, integrated, interdepartmental coordination and multisectoral involvement for implementation of SDGs with a clear awareness strategy is essential. AJ&K is trying to ensure strong institutional linkages and participation of all relevant stakeholders for SDGs. However, coordination is likely to be a pressing challenge both within and across departments in AJ&K.

Given the wider scope of the SDGs and the increased number of targets and indicators, there is dire need for active participation of all key government agencies. Centralized coordination and reporting mechanisms are required to ensure cohesive planning, budgeting, financing, data collection and innovation. There will also be a need to facilitate mutually reinforcing policies across government departments and agencies.

Figure 3: Key Features of SDGs Localization in AJ&K



5.1 INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR SDGs IN AJ&K

The Government of AJ&K is fully committed to implement the SDGs and the Planning and Development Department (P&DD), is playing a central role in all coordination and implementation efforts. Moreover, an AJ&K Legislative Assembly Taskforce on SDGs has been established to facilitate institutionalization of the 2030 Agenda into policies and plans by playing an effective advisory role for the Legislative Assembly Standing Committees and the Cabinet Development Committee, in addition to other policy and planning forums.

Given the design of the SDGs, Legislators can play a crucial role in the supporting and monitoring the implementation of the 17 Goals. The responsibility of legislators emerges through their mandate to make laws, oversee the government and represent people's interests alongside ensuring accountability and institutionalizing the same. Generally, the achievement of the SDG targets would improve the status of indicators of all sectors, stimulating improved service delivery which is at the core of any governance system.

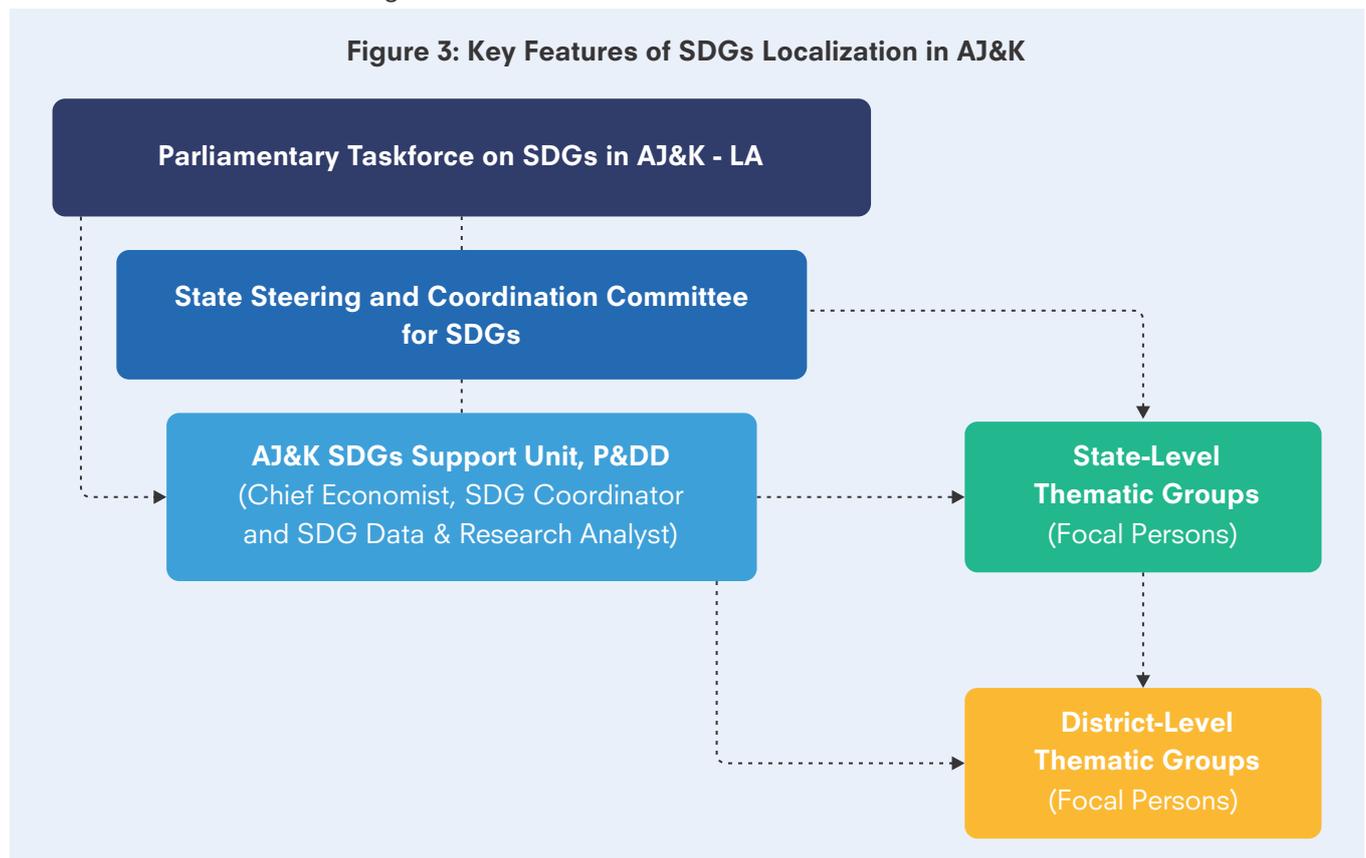
A State Steering Committee for SDGs under the Chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary (Dev), GoAJ&K has also been established - members include all relevant Secretaries and other concerned stakeholders. District SDGs Focal Persons (Government Officers) have been nominated and District Thematic Working Groups have been established in each District to coordinate and oversee activities at the regional level.

The Government of AJ&K, with support from Ministry of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives (MoPD&SI) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has established an SDGs Support Unit at P&DD under the supervision of the Chief Economist and overall policy guidance of the Additional Chief Secretary (Development). The SDG Unit performs the 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.

Stakeholder engagement is an important aspect of SDGs implementation as it can increase awareness about issues at the grassroots level, improve the quality of decision-making and generate public acceptance on implementation of SDGs. From its inception, SDGs Support Unit has established four thematic working groups for engagement on and implementation of SDGs in AJ&K. SDGs focal persons from line departments, representatives from academia, civil society organizations, media, private businesses,

Figure 3: Key Features of SDGs Localization in AJ&K



youth, persons with disabilities, and other relevant stakeholders are part of these thematic working groups. The thematic groups were created keeping in view the SDG indicators and their reporting departments to ensure ease of implementation. Their composition is presented in Table 1 below. The SDGs

Support Unit, P&DD regularly holds meetings or informal consultations with stakeholders to seek inputs on development issues and feedback on SDGs targets and indicators in AJ&K. New modes for participation, to reach the marginalized and the poor, are being considered as part of AJ&K SDGs implementation.

Table 1: Thematic Working Groups on SDGs for AJ&K

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
Elementary & Secondary Education Department	Board of Revenue & State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA)	Agriculture Department	Finance Department
Higher Education Department	Environment Protection Agency (EPA)	Livestock & Dairy Development Department	Law Department
Labour Welfare, Weights and Measures Department & Information Technology Board	Forestry, Wildlife & Fisheries Department	Communication & Works Department (C&W)	Planning & Development Department (P&DD)
Industries, Small Industries Corporation (AKSIC) and AJ&K Technical Education & Vocational Training Authority (TEVTA)	Local Government and Rural Development Department (LG&RDD) and Physical Planning and Housing Department (PP&H)	Health Department & Population Welfare Department	Power Development Organization (PDO) and Electricity Department
Social Welfare and Women Development Department	Tourism & Archeology Department	AJ&K Transport Authority	Police Department

Representatives from NGOs, Academia, Private Sector & Civil Society

5.2 ALIGNING SDGs WITH POLICIES & PLANS

The GoAJ&K understands that in order to successfully localize the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development, the respective goals, targets and indicators need to be properly aligned with the State’s development plans and sectoral strategies. Therefore, Vision 2025 and AJ&K 12th Five-Year Plan have been explicitly linked with the SDGs to ensure proper and continuous implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, the State has also re-aligned its annual development allocations to better address the requirements of the SDGs.

Furthermore, in order to successfully implement SDGs, new policies and plans need to be aligned with the SDGs. For example, Pillar I of Vision 2025 focuses on

ending discrimination against women and providing them with an enabling environment to make contributions to the socioeconomic growth of AJ&K. This aligns with Goal 5 of the SDGs that focuses on achieving gender equality as well as other international commitments such as the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Declaration. Such linkages foster improved governance, coordination and implementation and help avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts. As per AJ&K’s development strategy, there is continuous prioritization of SDGs in the subsequent Five-Year Development Plans until 2030.

5.3 LAWS & SDGs

Laws and regulatory regimes will play a key role in supporting the implementation of the SDGs in AJ&K by building a legal framework that enables pro-poor, gender-sensitive and human rights-based legislation. It is crucial that all proposed legislation be viewed through the lens of sustainable development - to identify whether and how a law promotes, or can be amended to promote, more effective SDGs implementation. In doing so, the relevant stakeholders need to be proactive in facilitating public participation in the law-making process to ensure that the laws reflect and contribute to achieving SDGs in AJ&K.

Certain laws have already been promulgated in AJ&K that can support the implementation of SDGs in the State. Under the work of the Social Welfare Department, important legislation including the AJ&K Child Right Act and the Juvenile Justice Act have been introduced to provide legal cover to the most vulnerable groups in society. Moreover, to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts under Goal 13, AJ&K Climate Change Center has been established at P&DD, a Climate Change Policy has been developed and approved and mainstreaming of environment considerations in development projects is

also being considered. GoAJ&K is also working under the guidelines of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for environmental protection. A

summary description of some laws, policies and actions supporting SDGs in AJ&K is presented in Annex B.



5.4 SDG DATA

In order to ensure laws, budgets and programmes are effectively targeted towards those most in need, stakeholders must be able to access disaggregated data on a range of key issues. In order to institutionalize the process of data gathering, the SDGs targets and indicators were divided across relevant line departments. Excluding targets relevant to global and national contexts, AJ&K has identified 152 indicators that directly pertain to the region. A detailed composition of indicators and their availability is presented in Annex C. Additionally, baselines of indicators for 2030 have been clearly reflected against 23-line departments to ensure realization of SDGs in an effective manner. A breakdown of indicators according to government line departments is listed in Annex D. Target setting for these indicators is currently

in process and will be reflected in the AJ&K SDG Framework.

Extensive secondary data collection is completed annually by the AJK-BoS across multiple sectors and all departments and institutions in AJ&K. SDGs Support Unit P&DD has a detailed list of available SDGs indicators as well. The Departments must ensure that statistics offices are adequately resourced for effective data collection and analysis. They can also support statisticians' efforts to collect and validate data through their own understanding of the demographics and regional needs. Additionally, the Departments can use the data to reorient development planning and ensure effective oversight. Data on some key SDG indicators is presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Progress on some SDGs Indicators from 2015-2018⁸

No.	Indicator	2015	2018
2.1.2	Food Insecurity Scale	39.1%	32%
4.6.1	Literacy Rate	76.6%	76.8%
	Male	88.1%	86.9%
	Female	64.9%	67.3%
5.5.2	Proportion of Women in Managerial Posts	3.4%	8.4%
8.3.1	Informal Sector Employment	70.3%	74.1%
	Male	73.4%	77%
	Female	30.5%	45.8%
7.1.1	Proportion of Population with Electricity	93%	93%
8.5.2	Unemployment Rate	11.2%	10.3%
	Male	9.4%	8.4%
	Female	30.5%	22.6%
15.1.1	Forest Area of Total Land Area	13%	11.6%
3.NT.1	Population Growth Rate	2.7%	1.64%
3.NT.2	Total Fertility Rate	3.75	3.8
3.NT.4	Physicians per 1,000 population	0.20	0.26
3.NT.5	Dentist per 1,000 population	0.017	0.019

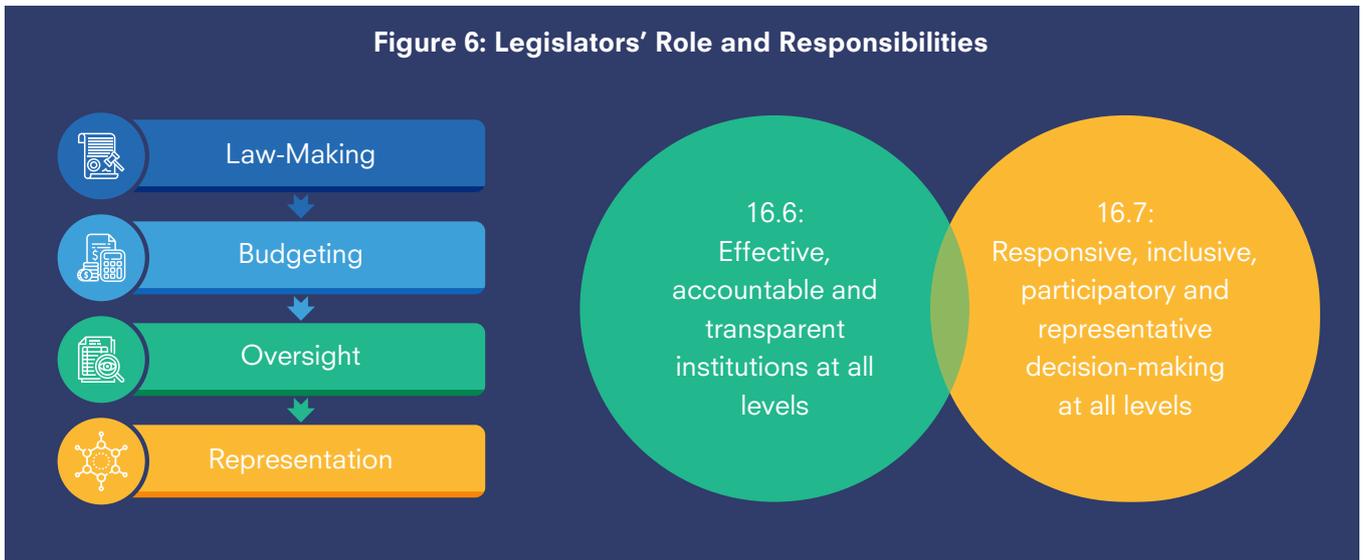
5.5 SDGs & THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF AJ&K

Given the design of the SDGs, Legislators can play a crucial role in the supporting and monitoring the implementation of the 17 Goals. This is especially true in case of Goal 16 which aims to “promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”. The responsibility of legislators emerges through its

mandate to make laws, oversee the government and represent people’s interests, alongside institutionalizing and ensuring accountability. Generally, the achievement of the SDGs targets would improve the status of indicators of all sectors, stimulating improved service delivery which is at the core of any governance system.

8. Data on indicator 2.1.2 is from NNS 2011 (trend) and 2018. Data on indicators 4.6.1, 5.5.2, 8.3.1, 8.3.2, 8.5.2 are from the AJ&K Labor Force Surveys from 2014-15 and 2017-18. Indicator 7.1.1 and 15.1.1 is from AJ&K Statistical Yearbook 2015 and 2019. Figures for 3.NT.1 are projections from the 1998 census for 2015 and projections from the 2017 census for 2018. The data for 3.NT.2 is from MICS (trend). Values for 3.NT.4 and 3.NT.5 are from the AJ&K Statistical Yearbook 2019.

Figure 6: Legislators' Role and Responsibilities



Specifically, Target 16.6 – “effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels” and Target 16.7 – “responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels” require us to consider improving existing processes and system by:

I. Opening parliamentary committees to the public;

- ii. Releasing more parliamentary information;
- iii. Encouraging better outreach by legislators; and
- iv. Implementing strategies to improve the position of women and members of vulnerable and marginalized groups.

KEY INITIATIVES OF SDGs IN AJ&K

6

A number of steps have been undertaken to kickstart SDGs implementation in AJ&K. Some of the major initiatives have been listed below:

1. Mapping of the Annual Development Programmes (ADP) with SDGs

ADP is an organized list with allocation of projects for any specific year and includes all types of Government-funded and Foreign Aided Projects (ongoing and new). In the mapping exercises carried out by the P&DD, the on-going and newly included schemes in ADP were individually mapped against the 17 SDGs, 169 targets and 244 indicators; for simplification and ease of analysis each consolidated project is aligned with only one SDG. These exercises allow GoAJ&K to assess its level of engagement with SDGs, visualize the amount of funding being directed towards specific goals and gauge the targets left unaddressed for a given financial year. The mapping reports then allow the GoAJ&K to redress its steps for the following year and improve the alignment of its development allocation with SDGs. For the year 2018-19, it was observed that AJ&K had allocated a significant portion of its development budget for infrastructure with less allocations to social and environmental sectors.

Table 3: Summary of ADP 2016-17 and 2019-20 Analysis by SDGs Goals

SDGs		Allocation (Million PKR)		Percent Change
		2016-17	2019-20	
1	No Poverty	124.539	400.691	+222
2	Zero Hunger	190.805	270.910	+42
3	Good Health and Wellbeing	573.208	1,017.975	+78
4	Quality Education	1351.090	2774.470	+105
5	Gender Equality	48.000	65.000	+35
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	563.107	1,419.743	+168
7	Affordable and Clean Energy	1235.513	2,129.357	+72
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	382.329	502.410	+31
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	5466.923	12,570.771	+129
10	Reduced Inequalities	12.963	176.055	+1258
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	821.953	2,079.497	+153
12	Responsible Consumption and Production	0.000	12.000	Increase
13	Climate Action	50.000	84.191	+68
14	Life Below Water	54.326	35.000	-35
15	Life on Land	370.067	515.000	+39
16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	334.568	574.803	+71
17	Partnership for the Goals	420.000	15.000	-96

2. Established 4 Thematic Working Groups for SDGs

GoAJ&K is determined that all development plans, policies, and strategies are aligned with the SDGs. Keeping in view the gigantic task, an effective coordination mechanism was needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda. Different line departments have nominated their SDGs focal persons and P&DD has established four thematic working groups for SDGs comprising of government officials and

representatives from academia, CSOs, media, NGOs, marginalized groups, youth, private sector etc. These working groups meet periodically for stocktaking of progress on SDGs. The thematic groups were established based on SDG indicator reporting through precedence set by the Federal SDG Unit in the Data Gap Report.

3. SDGs Baseline Data Gathering and Target Setting

Following the implementation of SDGs in AJ&K, GoAJ&K has taken the initiative for establishing SDGs baseline and performance target setting. A series of consultative sessions were held with relevant line departments to discuss and gather data on SDGs indicators. This is an important contribution of the SDGs Agenda to AJ&K as data on most SDGs indicators was not available. This is the first time that a State level exercise for collecting baseline data has been initiated. All the departments have started

understanding the indicators pertaining to them and the role they can play in developing policies and strategies. The Departments are now realizing the importance of SDGs and have started designing interventions to achieve the relevant SDGs targets and indicators. The 2030 Agenda has allowed GoAJ&K to conduct a review on the availability and authenticity of existing data and highlight areas for further improvement.

4. Research Studies for Mainstreaming SDGs

SDGs Support Unit is conducting analysis and studies of different sectoral plans, policies and strategies to align them with SDGs. The results are used to inform policy makers and planners of the ground realities and the effort required in different sectors to achieve SDGs. For example, the SDGs Support Unit recently conducted localized research into Goals 1 to 10, to

gauge the current standing of AJ&K on respective indicators, highlight areas for improvement and provide broad policy options that can be used by the relevant Sections at P&DD to develop requisite strategies. The results were compiled into reports which are available on the P&DD website.

5. Partnership with AJ&K Bureau of Statistics (AJK-BoS)

SDGs Support Unit is collaborating with AJK-BoS to develop capacity of sectoral institutions including the statistical cells in the Government departments for data collection, reporting and analysis. The SDG Unit

is working closely with AJK-BoS on the review, approval and implementation processes of relevant surveys undertaken in AJ&K to ensure inclusion of SDGs indicators in such projects.

6. Institutionalization of the Social Protection System

To institutionalize the Social Protection System and to break the silos amongst different stakeholders, a coordination mechanism is being established under the umbrella of the Social Welfare & Women Development Department, GoAJ&K. A "Social Protection Management Information System" is also being developed by the Department where the national identity card number will be used as the unique identification number for beneficiaries to ensure

efficiency and avoid any duplication of efforts and resources. Introducing such a system will help determine the steps required to reach the most marginalized and furthest behind in AJ&K, by identifying individuals being left behind as well as reasons for their vulnerability. It will also provide GoAJ&K with the opportunity to collect disaggregated data on vulnerable communities to better plan future development initiatives.

FINANCING OF SDGs

To ensure effective implementation of SDGs and to reach the most marginalized and vulnerable, proper funding and targeted financing is critical. This includes funds from the private sector, Official Development Assistance (ODA), foreign direct investment (FDI) and State revenue generation through taxation etc. It is also necessary to ensure that various sources of revenue are well coordinated to avoid overlap and duplication of resources. Successful implementation of SDGs would require maximizing all available domestic resources to achieve the best possible results. Collaboration with social impact initiatives around SDGs will reduce duplication, create synergies, leverage resources and foster innovation and allow for scaling up of approaches for accelerated progress on SDGs.

7.1 INTERNAL FINANCING

The GoAJ&K is dependent on the Government of Pakistan for budget financing. The overall budget for AJ&K for the financial year 2018-19 was PKR 108.200 billion of which the recurrent budget was PKR 82.700 billion (76 percent) and the development budget was PKR 25.50 billion (24 percent). The table below presents AJ&K budget trend over the last five years. Financing in AJ&K is composed of federal, local and income taxes, AJ&K Departments and Mangla dam water usage charges as well as grant-in-aid by the Federal Government for revenue deficit.

Table 4: ADP for AJ&K from 2014/15 to 2019/20

Sr#	Financial Year	ADP (Million PKR)
1	2014-15	10,500
2	2015-16	11,500
3	2016-17	12,000
4	2017-18	23,280
5	2018-19	25,500
6	2019-2020	24,560

There was a significant increase in the development budget of AJ&K in the fiscal year 2017-18 to PKR 23.28 billion from PKR 12 billion in 2016-17. This rise in the development budget is a great support for addressing the sustainable development needs of the

State and to bridge some of the financing gaps for achieving the 2030 Agenda in AJ&K. A complete breakdown of sector-wise allocation of the development budget 2018-19 is presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Sector-wise Allocation of Development Budget for Year 2019-20⁹

Sector	Allocation (Million PKR)	Percentage
Communication & Works	9,901	40.31
Education	2,670	10.87
Physical Planning & Housing	2,405	9.79
Local Govt & Rural Development	2,355	9.59
Power	2,070	8.43
Foreign Funded Projects	1,343	5.47
Health	750	3.05
Forestry/Fisheries	550	2.24
Industries, Sericulture, Labour & Minerals	528	2.15
Agriculture	419	1.71
Research & Development	265	1.08
Information Technology	235	0.96
Development Authorities	202	0.82
Sports, Youth & Culture	200	0.81
Tourism	200	0.81
Social Welfare & Women Development	150	0.61
Rehabilitation	104	0.43
Civil Defense & Disaster Management	95	0.39
Environment	60	0.24
Information & Media Development	37	0.15
Transport	20	0.08
Total	24,560	100

7.2 EXTERNAL FINANCING

In the financial year 2019-20, foreign aid stood at PKR 1343.423 million or 5.47 percent of the development budget. Most international development assistance in AJ&K focuses on education, hydropower and environment sectors and is distributed through a

combination of grants and loans. Major development partners include the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank, Saudi Fund for Development, Turkish Exim Bank and Chinese Exim Bank.

9. Annual Development Programme 2018-19, P&DD GoAJ&K.

7.3 OTHER SOURCES

An unofficial yet crucial source of financing for AJ&K is remittances. It is estimated that the total volume of remittance for AJ&K in 2017-18 was USD 270.78 million¹⁰. Remittances serve to supplement the income of citizens of AJ&K, create opportunities for investment and entrepreneurship, and improve the socioeconomic conditions of people. SDGs provide a platform for the GoAJ&K to develop a strategic direction for the use of private sector funding.

AJ&K has not yet conducted a financial gap analysis to explore the level of funding required to achieve the SDG targets. Given the recent increase in

development funding, the GoAJ&K's focus is on improving the alignment of the existing budget towards critical sectors in the short-term, with a view to improve funding streams for SDGs in the medium-term. Historically, development programmes have focused on improving social services and service delivery; hence, health, education, electricity/power, water supply, roads and communication have been prioritized. SDGs targets and indicators make the process of streamlining and addressing governance gaps a lot easier. GoAJ&K plans to use the SDGs to identify policy gaps and direct funding towards the most critical sectors on a priority basis.

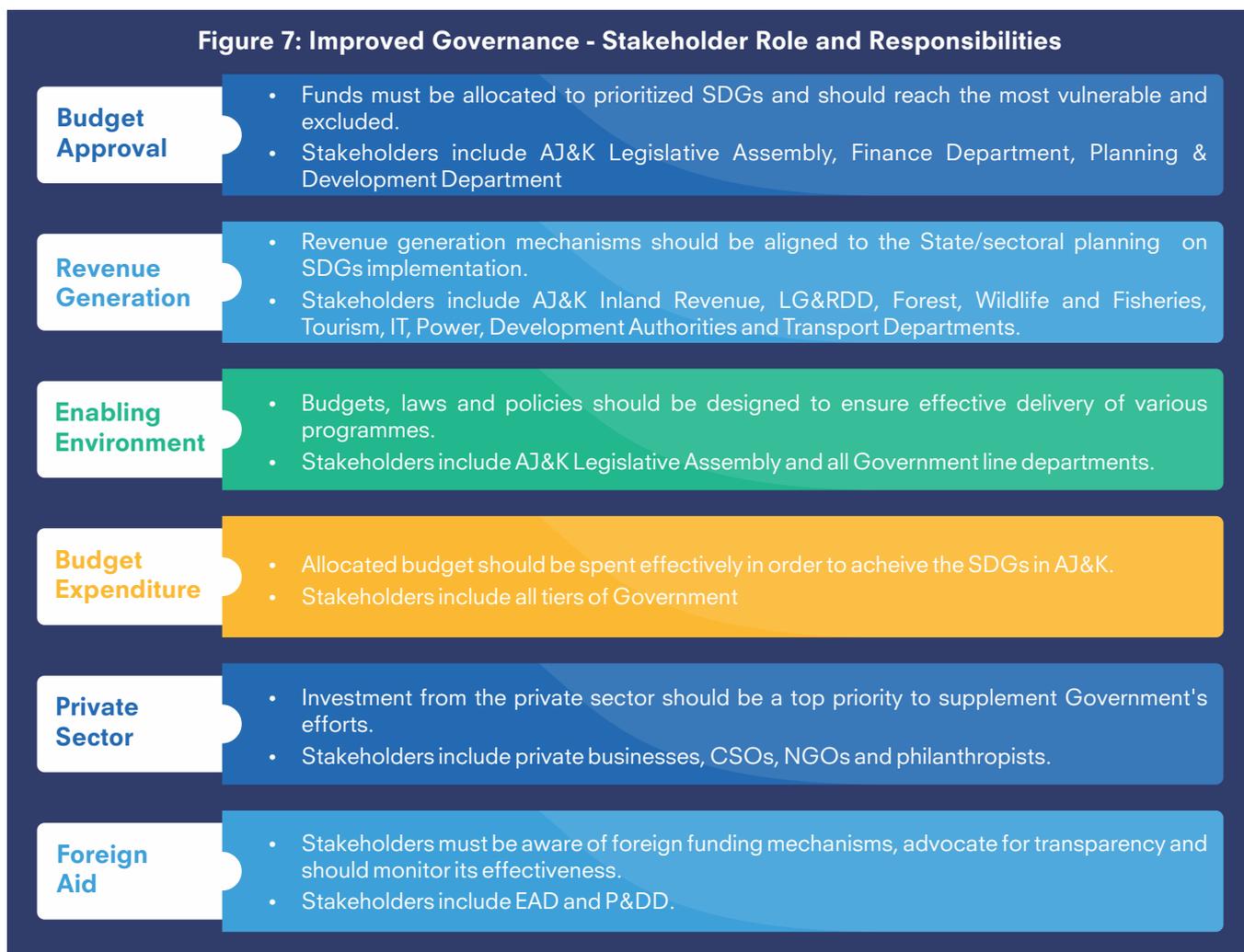
7.4 GOVERNANCE & SDGs FINANCING

The primary responsibility for implementing the 2030 Agenda lies with the participating governments; they are responsible to their citizens for proper planning, and resource mobilization and its effective utilization to achieve the SDGs. Unlike during the era of the MDGs when aid was considered a key source of development financing, "there is broad agreement that domestic resource mobilization should be a key means to finance any post-2015 development framework". Governments have various means of Domestic Resource Mobilization, including taxation, rents from government properties, income via State owned enterprises (SOEs) and royalties from extractive

industries. Among these, taxation is one of the major domestic sources of revenue in most countries. Mobilizing indigenous "resources in the form of taxes is relevant not only with regard to the amount of finance available, but also in terms of governance structures". In recent years, governments have been encouraged to improve "development effectiveness" which require countries to make the most effective use of resources – national revenue and international funding (foreign aid) – to address challenges in introducing sustainable development processes. Improved governance can also help streamline the financing process in multiple ways.

10. AJ&K Baseline data by State Bank of Pakistan - Muzaffarabad, October 2018.

Figure 7: Improved Governance - Stakeholder Role and Responsibilities



In order to facilitate private sector investment, the concerned stakeholders may explore the establishment of a “Social Impact Financing” facility, based on a model of “blended financing” with grants and investment components. Social Impact Financing Facility can play a key role in reducing the SDG funding

gap. The overarching question to consider is whether budget processes stimulate and deliver outcomes within the SDG framework, keeping in mind the overarching goal of ensuring that efforts are “people-centered” and that no-one – especially from marginalized and vulnerable groups – is left behind.

MONITORING & EVALUATION OF SDGs

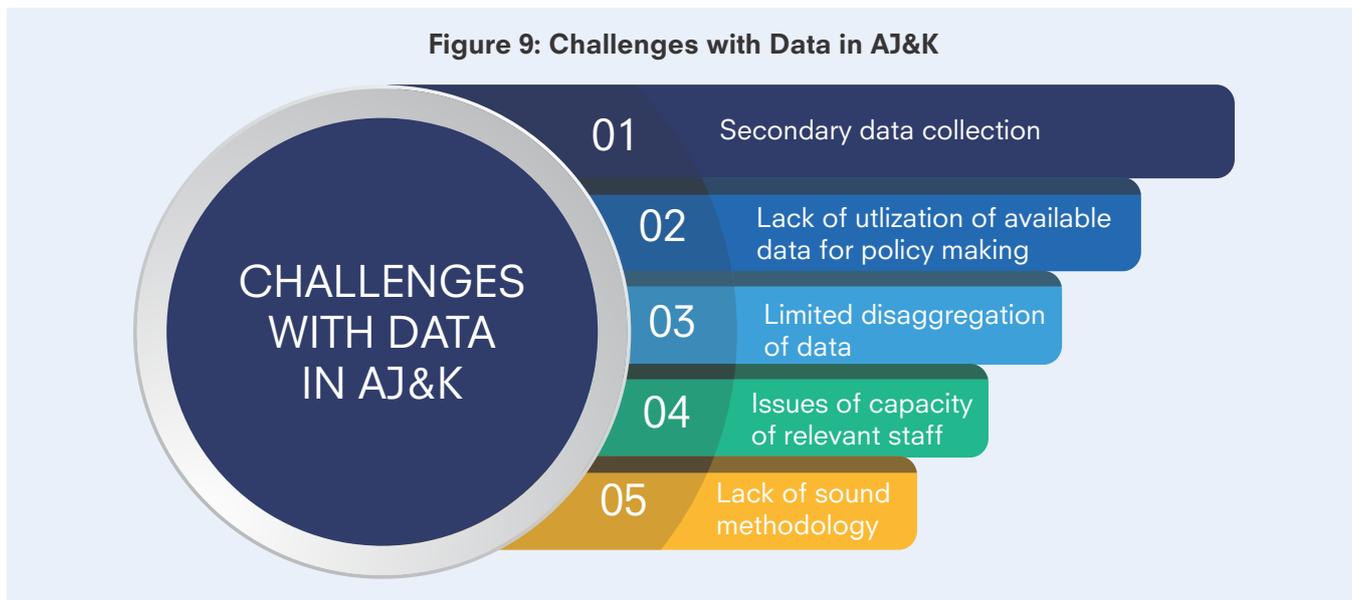
Internal and external monitoring and evaluation (M&E) under the SDGs framework is crucial to ensure accountability in the implemented State policies and programmes to achieve the required goals. Under SDGs, there is a greater focus on quality outcome and addressing distributional issues to ensure adequate adoption of a rights-based approach. Monitoring results is therefore a critical aspect of SDGs implementation. The concerned Departments can also play a crucial role in this process by creating an environment of oversight and accountability (Figure 8). Given their profile, the Departments can bring the SDGs to the attention of the public and the media for awareness and advocacy.

Figure 8: Improved Governance - Stakeholder Role and Responsibilities



Timely availability of necessary statistics is an essential pre-requisite for quality planning to achieve sustainable development. In the last few years AJ&K has made concerted efforts to increase its statistical capacity including the establishment of a Bureau of Statistics at P&DD which has been functional since September 2016. Prior to this, AJ&K faced significant gaps in collection, compilation, processing and dissemination of credible and authentic statistical data.

Figure 9: Challenges with Data in AJ&K



The objective of the AJK-BoS is to produce accurate and quality information with reliable statistics for realistic, efficient and effective planning and operation, to accelerate the development process. AJKBoS is currently focused on secondary data reporting; however, with the implementation of SDGs and increased interest in data availability, the Bureau is also working on implementing household surveys such as Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) and Child Labor Survey through partnerships with international organizations. This will go a long way to generate capacity of AJK-BoS to undertake surveys and analysis independently.

Ownership of AJ&K-BoS by line departments remains a challenge. A major reason for this has been lack of primary data collection by the Bureau, making it a recipient rather than generator of data. Moreover, data collected by departments is not always methodologically sound creating issues regarding authenticity. Regular trainings are being considered in the upcoming development plans to keep the statistical officers in the Bureau updated on latest techniques and survey mechanisms.

Furthermore, data disaggregation in AJ&K currently focuses on standard urban-rural and male-female divides. There is limited collection of district-level data or socioeconomic statistics on vulnerable communities. With awareness regarding local baseline data generation and relevant disaggregations for SDGs, AJK-BoS is planning to report divisional and district level data as well as conduct extensive reporting on children.

Given the importance of regular monitoring and reporting for SDGs, the SDGs Support Unit and AJK-BoS are working closely to develop a harmonious institutional mechanism for data gathering relevant to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. At present, AJK-BoS publishes an annual statistical yearbook which contains an exhaustive list of indicators compiled from various line departments in AJ&K. However, the data is not being used routinely by relevant line departments. The eventual goal is to make the publication relevant for policy makers, development planners and researchers both in the public sector and beyond.

OPPORTUNITIES, CHALLENGES & WAY FORWARD

9

9.1 CHALLENGES & RISKS

GoAJ&K is committed to implementing the 2030 Agenda and all levels of government and stakeholders are working together to achieve the goals and targets. Nevertheless, the State faces certain challenges in SDG implementation. Some major barriers are listed below:

1. Lack of awareness on SDGs still remains a barrier in AJ&K. Discussions with government line departments at the district level, engaging non-government counterparts and the private sector is essential for success.
2. Weak alignment between policies and actions lead to limited change on the ground even in cases where legislation is present. There is a need to improve implementation of policies and laws in the State.
3. Inefficient communication due to a reliance on paper-based communication remains a big barrier to effective change on sustainable development in AJ&K.
4. Lack of coordination between government line departments means plans and projects are designed in silos and implementation is fragmented. SDGs relies heavily on coordination and multiplier effects which require line departments to improve communication.
5. Absence of evidence-based policy making means there is no guarantee of success in scaling-up of certain initiatives or their replicability. Achieving the SDGs rely requires implementation of proven successful strategies to reduce poverty and improve prosperity.
6. Poor data collection remains a central threat to successful implementation. There are 67 indicators for which data is not currently available and data on 58 district-level indicators remains pending. More work needs to be done to establish reliable and regular data collection in AJ&K.

Table 6: Risk Assessment for SDGs in AJ&K

Risks	Assessment	Measures	New Assessment
Lack of political will	High	Developed a coordination mechanism with AJ&K&LA.	Medium
Poor coordination between line departments	High	Introduced focal persons at the State and district level to ensure cooperation.	Medium
Limited institutional and personnel capacity	High	Set-up an SDG Support Unit in P&DD.	Medium
Inability to meet the targets set	High	AJ&K targets have been revised through consultations with line departments.	Medium
Data generation to monitor results	High	Working with Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) and AJ&KBoS to improve data collection through surveys	Medium
Financial viability and sustainability	High	ADP has been aligned with SDGs to ensure sustainability	Medium

9.2 WAY FORWARD

SDGs implementation in AJ&K remains an ongoing process and listed below are some of the steps GoAJ&K plans to undertake in the near future to ensure achievement of the SDGs.

1. Awareness campaigns will continue to remain an important mechanism to engage the wider audience on the core philosophies of the SDGs, including the general public and other stakeholders.
2. AJ&K SDGs Framework is currently under process and will be developed through a bottom-up approach to ensure equal opportunity and involvement of all stakeholders. The final implementation plan will be completed through consultation with local government institutions.
3. Strengthening of institutional mechanisms is a core feature of SDGs implementation and necessary to ensure the 'Whole of Society' approach in AJ&K. This requires a system for regular engagement with NGOs, CSOs, development partners, private businesses, marginalized segment of the society, professional groups, women network, farmers, media, youth, academia, and other stakeholders. Regional/District Committees would also be constituted to ensure SDGs implementation at the grassroot level.
4. Gap analysis of existing laws, rules, regulations and policies is essential as it will help identify areas of improvement and bottlenecks that may create obstacles for SDGs implementation. Successful strategies would require the alignment of the legal framework with the SDGs.
5. Engagement with federal and provincial counterparts will be a crucial component to learn of best practices and discuss lessons from others' experiences. GoAJ&K plans to participate in all major initiatives designed to increase knowledge sharing between different federal, provincial and area governments.
6. Evidence-based policy making has become a gold standard for development work; the GoAJ&K is working towards making evidence-based analysis, research and planning an integral component of its long-term strategic planning and policy making.
7. Alignment of PC-Is with SDGs is another avenue for SDGs implementation in AJ&K. This will require capacity building of planning cells of the line departments of GoAJ&K on result-based management for coherent planning and development strategies.
8. Collaboration with Members of Legislative Assembly (MLA) in AJ&K will be crucial for generating political will, ensuring improved governance mechanisms and for bringing SDGs into the limelight. Engagement of MLAs will also be important for introducing SDG-related legislation and will help in establishing a proper legal framework for SDGs. For this purpose, a Parliamentary Taskforce on SDGs comprising of Members of the AJ&K Legislative Assembly has been constituted at the State level.
9. Development of knowledge sharing platforms is critical for research, innovation and implementation of SDGs in AJ&K. Such platforms can act as a communication tool to highlight analytical insights,

expert opinions, track updates and progress on SDGs periodically. The process can be made more interactive through documentaries, blogs, websites, e-newsletters, print articles, TV reports and giveaways.

10. Private sector engagement through forums, workshops and dialogue on SDGs will be required for advocacy on the 2030 Agenda and to build capacity in the private sector. Businesses need to be encouraged to align their practices with the SDGs as this can be helpful in initiating social impact financing for development initiatives.
11. Strengthening partnership between AJK-BoS and other statistical institutions will go a long way to gathering regular, authentic and credible data on SDGs. It will also help ensure GoAJ&K's statistical capacity required for evidence-based decision making. AJK-BoS in turn can help develop capacity of sectoral institutions, including the statistical cells in the line department of GoAJ&K for data collection, reporting and analysis.
12. Conducting field surveys in AJ&K will be an essential step towards establishing an authentic

baseline for multiple SDGs indicators and for understanding the on-the-ground realities in the State. At present, surveys planned for AJ&K include National Nutrition Survey (NNS), Child Labour Survey, MICS and a disability survey through the Social Welfare Department. The results from such surveys can help improve policies and planning processes while simultaneously strengthening the abilities of AJK-BoS and relevant line department in data generation and data use.

13. International financial flows to AJ&K from countries, INGOs, bilateral and multilateral agencies are required to ensure achievement of the massive SDGs targets. The financing needs and requirements necessitate that GoAJ&K undertake steps to enhance the foreign aid component to address the immediate need of SDGs in AJ&K.

SDGs demand concerted and collective efforts from all relevant stakeholders as well as a strong political commitment at all levels. AJ&K is confident to set the example of leading the implementation of SDGs and achieving the targets set under the 2030 Agenda.

CONCLUSION

It is well recognized that SDGs are interconnected and should be prioritized within State policy and governance mechanisms. Achieving the 2030 Agenda requires AJ&K to make substantial efforts to achieve all goals. As SDG goals and targets are interlinked and their relationship at times conflicting and/or mutually beneficial, strong policy and development planning is required to ensure holistic achievement. This is especially true in cases where achieving one target or goal may hamper the progress for another. Additionally, attention also needs to be paid to how finances are allocated for achieving SDGs. Given the long-term agenda of sustainable development, all GoAJ&K line departments and institutions have been directed to incorporate the SDGs in their planning and implementation processes. The Sustainable Development Goals reflect AJ&K's contemporary understanding that social, economic, and environmental issues cannot be easily segregated as they are intertwined at the global, national as well as at the household level. This interconnectedness in turn highlights the need for cooperation between multiple stakeholders from all walks of life including the Government, civil society, NGOs, international organizations, advocacy groups, academia, think tanks and the private sector. As AJ&K enters its fifth year of SDGs implementation, the goal remains to achieve SDGs targets at par with or much better than other federation units and to exploit our comparative advantages such as a smaller population and geographical area.

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires concerted sustainable efforts and alignment of all public sector investments. Coordinated approaches and efforts, interconnected public-private schemes and combined role of private and public entrepreneurs, are all essential for the successful implementation of the SDG mandate. Cooperation at the political level and support of civil societies, NGOs and international organizations will ensure coherence in implementation and help avoid unnecessary duplication of efforts. Most importantly, SDGs are about inclusivity for everyone, to ensure equitable development of all regions, and this means working towards achieving development for all regardless of cast, creed, religion and/or economic status. A truly inclusive development process will help AJ&K achieve the most from the sustainable development framework while confronting all the challenges and constraints the State faces. AJ&K is confident to set the example of a leading SDGs achiever.

ANNEX A: SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF SDGs

-  **1 NO POVERTY** End poverty in all its forms everywhere. It has 07 targets and 14 indicators.
-  **2 ZERO HUNGER** End hunger achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. It has 08 targets and 13 indicators.
-  **3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. It has 13 targets and 27 indicators.
-  **4 QUALITY EDUCATION** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. It has 10 targets and 11 indicators.
-  **5 GENDER EQUALITY** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. It has 09 targets and 14 indicators.
-  **6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. It has 08 targets and 11 indicators.
-  **7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. It has 05 targets and 06 indicators.
-  **8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. It has 12 targets and 17 indicators.
-  **9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE** Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation. It has 08 targets and 12 indicators.
-  **10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES** Reduce income inequality within and among countries. It has 10 targets and 11 indicators.
-  **11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. It has 10 targets and 15 indicators.
-  **12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. It has 11 targets and 13 indicators.
-  **13 CLIMATE ACTION** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy. It has 05 targets and 08 indicators.
-  **14 LIFE BELOW WATER** Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. It has 10 targets and 10 indicators.
-  **15 LIFE ON LAND** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. It has 12 targets and 14 indicators.
-  **16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. It has 12 targets and 23 indicators.
-  **17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. It has 19 targets and 25 indicators.

ANNEX B: LAWS, POLICIES & ACTIONS SUPPORTING SDGs IN AJ&K

	1 NO POVERTY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Child Rights (Care and Protection) Act 2016 • AJ&K Social Protection Policy (In Process)
	2 ZERO HUNGER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intersectoral Nutrition Strategy for AJ&K (2016-2020) • AJ&K Agriculture Policy (In Process) • AJ&K Livestock Policy (In Process)
	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ&K Health Emergency Services • AJ&K Health Strategy (In Process)
	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ&K Cultural Academy Act 2016 • AJ&K Education Policy (In Process)
	5 GENDER EQUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women Development Strategic Plan 2016-2020
	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Section in PP&H, P&DD 2018 • WASH Policy (In Process)
	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ&K Power Policy 2016 (Adopted from Pakistan Power Policy 2015)
	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AJ&K Cross-LoC Travel and Trade Authority Act 2016 • AJ&K Tourism Policy 2018 (In Process) • AJ&K Investment and Industry Policy 2018 (In Process)
	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ&K Essential Articles (Control Act) 2016 • Azad Jammu and Kashmir Public Procurement Regulatory Authority Act
	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ&K Employees Service Association (Registration and Regulation) Act 2016 • AJ&K Disability Act (Under consideration)
	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ&K Rented Premises Buildings (Inspection and Security) Act 2016 • AJ&K Prohibition of Wall-Chalking and Affixing Hoarding (Amended) Act 2016 • AJ&K Sound Systems (Regulation and Control Act) 2016 • AJ&K Vulnerable Establishment (Management and Security) Act 2016
	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Marriages (Prohibition of Wasteful Expenses) (Amended) Act 2016
	13 CLIMATE ACTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ&K Climate Change Policy 2017 • Environmental Management Framework 2017 • AJ&K Sectoral Strategies for Climate Change as of 2035 • AJ&K Sectoral Action Plan for Climate Change (2019-2030)
	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Wildlife Policy (In Process)

ANNEX B: LAWS, POLICIES & ACTIONS SUPPORTING SDGs IN AJ&K



15 LIFE ON LAND

- AJ&K Forest Policy 2017 (In Process)
- Scientific Forest Management Plans (In Process)



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

- The AJ&K Service Tribunal (Amendment) Act 2016
- The AJ&K Legislative Assembly (Elections) (Amended) Act 2016
- The AJ&K Electoral Role (Amended) Act 2016
- AJ&K Arms and Ammunition Act 2016
- AJ&K Subordinate Judiciary Service Tribunal Act 2016
- AJ&K Legal Practitioners and Bar Counsels (Amended) Act 2016
- Established - AJ&K Task Force and International Treaty/Convention Implementation Cell on Human Rights 2018
- Established - Human Rights Cell at the Central Police Office, Muzaffarabad 2018
- AJ&K Interim Constitution (13th Amendment) Act 2018
- Human Rights Directorate (In Process)



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

- AJ&K Special Economic Zone Act 2016

ANNEX C: LAWS, POLICIES & ACTIONS SUPPORTING SDGs IN AJ&K

SUMMARY STATISTICS



Six indicators from the provincial level have been excluded for AJ&K and one has been added to it, bringing the total number of indicators for AJ&K from 157 to 152. The excluded indicators are on female genital mutilation (5.3.2), transboundary water cooperation agreements (6.5.2), national compliance on labour rights (8.8.2), ODA on infrastructure (9.a.1), overall resource flow (10.b.1) and coastal eutrophication (14.1.1). The additional indicators are on local regions with DRR plans (11.b.1).

IN AJ&K



District level data has so far not been collected. For the 58 indicators at the district level, data is available at AJ&K level for 27 indicators at AJ&K level and not available at all for 31 indicators.

ANNEX D: DEPARTMENT-WISE SDG INDICATORS FOR AJ&K



Higher Education

Nil/01 Indicators



Education (Elementary & Secondary)

01/05 Indicators



Industries

01/02 Indicators



IT Board

01/02 Indicators



Women Development

01/02 Indicators



EPA

03/04 Indicators



Forest

04/04 Indicators



LG&RD

01/01 Indicators



PP&H

01/01 Indicators



SDMA

07/07 Indicators



Tourism

03/04 Available



Agriculture

04/06 Indicators



Health

19/30 Indicators



C&W

Nil/02 Available



Population Welfare

01/08



Labour

04/07



Board of Revenue

02/02 Indicators



Finance

02/02 Indicators



Law

03/08 Indicators



PDO/ Electricity

01/03 Indicators



Police

07/07 Indicators



P&D

12/21 Indicators



Wildlife/ Fisheries

02/07 Indicators



Schools+ Higher

03/07 Indicators



LG&RD+ PP&H

02/05 Indicators



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