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Abbreviations and Acronyms

Acronym / Term	Definition
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
CDs	Communicable Diseases
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DCC	Development Coordination Committee
DIME Taskforce	Development Indicator Monitoring and Evaluation Taskforce — responsible for monitoring KDP and SDG progress
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
ECCE	Early Childhood Care and Education
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GCF	Green Climate Fund
IFMIS	Integrated Financial Management Information System
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
KDP	Kiribati Development Plan
KIT	Kiribati Institute of Technology
KPA	Key Priority Area
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
KTC	Kiribati Teachers College
KV20	Kiribati Vision 20
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
MCO	Multi-Country Office
MHMS	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
MWYSSA	Ministry of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NEPO	National Economic Planning Office
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NHSP	National Health Strategic Plan
NIIP	National Infrastructure Investment Plan
NSO	National Statistics Office
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PALM	Pacific Australia Labour Mobility Scheme
PPPs	Public–Private Partnerships
RERF	Revenue Equalization Reserve Fund
RSE	Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals

Acronym / Term	Definition
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SOEs	State-Owned Enterprises
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene



Foreword

It is my privilege to present Kiribati's 2026 Voluntary National Review (VNR), reaffirming our nation's enduring commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the principle of leaving no one behind. This report reflects our collective efforts to advance sustainable development in alignment with the Kiribati Development Plan 2024–2027 and our long-term national vision for a resilient, healthy, secure, and prosperous Kiribati.



As a Small Island Developing State, Kiribati continues to face profound and interconnected challenges, particularly the impacts of climate change, geographic isolation, economic vulnerability, and increasing pressures on essential services and infrastructure. Yet, despite these challenges, the resilience of the I-Kiribati people remains strong. Through national leadership, community solidarity, and the continued support of our development partners, we have made meaningful progress across key areas including education, health, infrastructure, renewable energy, governance, climate resilience and economic growth.

This VNR highlights both our achievements and the realities that continue to constrain sustainable development in vulnerable island states. It also underscores the importance of strengthened partnerships, innovative financing, institutional capacity building, and inclusive approaches that ensure opportunities and services reach all communities, particularly those in the outer islands and vulnerable populations.

Kiribati remains steadfast in its commitment to sustainable development, climate action, and regional and global cooperation. We call upon the international community to continue supporting Small Island Developing States in addressing the escalating and destructive impacts of climate change and in advancing a fair, inclusive, and resilient future for all. Together, through shared responsibility and collective action, we can accelerate progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'T' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Teuea Toatu, PhD (ANU)

Honourable Vice President and Minister of Finance and Economic Development
Government of Kiribati

1.0 Introducing Kiribati

1.1 Overview

Kiribati is a small island nation in the central Pacific Ocean, made up of 33 coral atolls and islands spread over 3.5 million square kilometres of ocean, but with a total land area of only about 800 square kilometres. Located roughly halfway between Hawaii and Australia, it is divided into three island groups: the Gilbert, Phoenix, and Line Islands. Despite significant challenges particularly climate change and geographic isolation Kiribati remains committed to sustainable development and national progress. Uniquely, it spans all four hemispheres and lies in the GMT+14 time zone, making it the first country to welcome the New Year.

1.2 KDP and SDG Integration

The Kiribati Development Plan (KDP) is a four-year national strategic framework that guides the country's development toward the long-term vision of a sustainable, healthy, wealthy, and peaceful nation. The current KDP 2024–2027 focuses on six Key Priority Areas: human resource development, economic growth and hardship alleviation, health, environment and resilience, governance, and infrastructure and sustainable energy. Through a coordinated and locally driven approach, the KDP aims to strengthen human capacity, promote inclusive economic growth, improve service delivery, and build environmental resilience while aligning national priorities with global development goals.¹

KDP 2024–27 KPA	Aligned SDGs	Rationale
KPA 1: Human Resource Development	SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 8	Strengthen education and workforce development by improving school infrastructure and access, enhancing teacher quality and welfare, promoting inclusive and safe learning environments, expanding TVET and professional training, and building public sector capacity through strategic workforce planning.
KPA 2: Economic Growth & Hardship Alleviation	SDG 1, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10	Promote inclusive growth, job creation, and poverty reduction through economic diversification, specifically through development initiatives in fisheries and tourism.
KPA 3: Health	SDG 3, SDG 6, SDG 9	Improve healthcare systems and overall population wellbeing, with a strong focus on preventing and managing non-communicable diseases

¹ Refer to Annex 1 for more details.

KDP 2024–27 KPA	Aligned SDGs	Rationale
		(NCDs) and reducing infant mortality, where Kiribati ranks among the highest in the region.
KPA 4: Environment & Resilience	SDG 2, SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 14, SDG 15	Strengthen environmental resilience by addressing atoll vulnerabilities, protecting ecosystems, promoting sustainable resource use and farming, improving land planning, and preserving cultural heritage through better data, community engagement, and traditional knowledge.
KPA 5: Governance	SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 9, SDG 11, SDG 16	Strengthen governance by updating inclusive laws, reforming institutions around people's needs, improving timely access to justice, and enhancing mediation and arbitration to reduce case backlogs.
KPA 6: Infrastructure & Sustainable Energy	SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 9, SDG 11	Improve essential infrastructure and services by ensuring safe water and sanitation, strengthening resilient transport and buildings, expanding renewable and reliable energy, and enhancing connectivity, technology, and access to e-services.

1.3 Structural Barriers

Kiribati faces major challenges across economic development, health, education, and climate change, including high youth unemployment and limited access to services. The government addresses these through the KDP, focusing on human resources, economic growth, and health.²

Geographically, Kiribati's development is constrained by its remote location, scattered islands across a vast ocean, limited natural resources, and low-lying land. These factors increase the cost of transport, infrastructure, and service delivery, while heightening vulnerability to climate change and sea-level rise. The economy depends largely on fisheries (especially tuna) and copra, supported by aid and remittances. Government revenue relies heavily on fishing licenses, creating vulnerability to environmental changes, alongside a strong reliance on foreign aid from key development partners including Australia, China, New Zealand, and others.

Kiribati has a population of approximately 120,000, mostly in the Gilbert Islands, with South Tarawa as the capital. Despite serious environmental threats to livelihoods and food security, strong cultural traditions and community resilience remain central to I-Kiribati life.³

² KNSO and SPC, Kiribati Labour Market Monograph 2023–2024 Report, 2025

³ KNSO and SPC, Kiribati Labour Market Monograph 2023–2024 Report, 2025

1.4 Enabling Conditions

The enabling environment in Kiribati's KDP 2024–2027 is grounded in strong, locally driven institutions and governance systems that promote accountability, transparency, and effective service delivery. It emphasizes coordinated national planning and budgeting processes, supported by robust monitoring, evaluation, and data systems to ensure evidence-based decision-making and track progress against national priorities. Central to this is strengthening public sector capacity, improving policy and legal frameworks, and ensuring that development efforts are inclusive, people-centred, and aligned with long-term national priorities and regional and international frameworks.

A key component of this enabling environment is the role of partnerships particularly with development partners, as well as communities, civil society, and the private sector. These partnerships support financing, technical assistance, and capacity building, helping to address resource and capability constraints. At the same time, investments in infrastructure and digital connectivity enhance access to services, information, and economic opportunities across the islands. Together, these elements create the conditions necessary for effective, coordinated, and sustainable implementation of the KDP and the broader national development agenda.



2.0 Methodology

2.1 Overview of Approach

The 2026 VNR assesses Kiribati's progress on the SDGs since 2018 and against the KDP 2024–2027, while strengthening SDG integration across government and society and sharing key progress, challenges, and opportunities. It uses a multi-layered analytical approach, including SDG–KDP alignment, global indicators, and Leave No One Behind (LNOB) analysis, supported by qualitative insights and available statistical data.

The report was developed through a coordinated national process led by the DIME (Development Indicators Monitoring and Evaluation) Taskforce, informed by national frameworks such as the KDP and KV20, and validated through technical review and Cabinet approval. Co-financed by the Government of Kiribati, UNESCAP, and the UN Micronesia Multi-Country Office, the VNR also served as a capacity-building exercise, strengthening SDG awareness and highlighting gaps in implementation across institutions and communities.

2.2 Objectives of the 2026 VNR

- To assess Kiribati's progress against the SDGs since the last VNR in 2018.
- To assess the nation's progress against its current national development plan, KDP 2024–2027.
- To strengthen alignment and integration of SDGs at all levels of governance and society.
- To share progress, success stories, major constraints, and opportunities for engagement with the SDG community.

2.3 Process and Stakeholder Engagement

The development of the VNR was a joint national effort led by the DIME Taskforce, incorporating inputs from a broad range of stakeholders including:

- Ministries and State-Owned Enterprises
- Island Councils (Mayors and Clerks)
- Members of Parliaments
- The Kiribati Chamber of Commerce and Industries
- Civil Society Organizations

Key national and international frameworks, including the KDP and KV20, were consulted to inform the analysis. The report underwent a structured validation process led by the DIME Taskforce, followed by review by Permanent Secretaries and final approval by Cabinet. The process was co-financed by the Government of Kiribati, UNESCAP, and the UN Micronesia Multi-Country Office (MCO).

2.4 Analytical Framework and Tools

The following multi-layered frameworks were applied throughout the review:

- SDG–KDP alignment matrices to track national progress
- Global SDG indicators
- Integrated analysis of national progress against KDP indicators
- LNOB analysis for Kiribati (2025)

Qualitative insights from government officials and communities are included alongside available, though limited, statistical data.

2.5 Outcomes and Learning

The VNR process served both as a monitoring tool and a capacity-building exercise for government officials and stakeholders consulted throughout. It provided an opportunity to identify gaps in SDG integration across non-government institutions and communities, while also raising awareness of the SDGs and their connection to national development planning.

The process also enabled Kiribati to assess its mid-term progress against the current KDP, highlighting areas of achievement as well as those requiring further attention and investment.

A critical learning emerging from the review is the importance of strengthening the availability, quality, and timeliness of disaggregated data to improve SDG tracking and inform more responsive policy interventions. This will require enhanced coordination across data-producing agencies, strengthened institutional capacity for data collection and analysis, investment in digital data management systems, and the establishment of regular data-sharing mechanisms across sectors. Continued support for statistical capacity development, together with strengthened partnerships with development partners, will be essential to building a more robust national data ecosystem capable of supporting effective implementation, monitoring, and reporting of sustainable development progress.



3.0 Policy and Enabling Environment

3.1 Expanding National Ownership of SDGs

Kiribati has expanded national ownership of the SDGs by embedding them within its national development systems rather than treating them as a separate agenda. The KDP was developed through an inclusive, whole-of-government and whole-of-island approach, involving the three arms of Government; the Executive (ministries), the Judiciary and the Legislator (Parliament), as well as consultations with communities, NGOs, faith-based organizations, SOEs, and the private sector. Strengthening the DIME Taskforce and building capacity in results-based planning has further enabled government officials to effectively apply and monitor development outcomes aligned with SDG priorities.

In addition, SDG-aligned priorities are integrated into national frameworks through alignment with Kiribati Vision 20 (KV20) and the KDP results matrix, ensuring implementation is driven by national priorities. The integration of planning and budgeting through NEPO reinforces this ownership by requiring ministries to align projects, performance, and funding with KDP priorities⁴.

3.2 Institutionalizing Public Engagement and Multi-Stakeholder Participation

In Kiribati, national awareness of the SDGs exists but remains moderate and uneven. Awareness is generally higher within government institutions, particularly among ministries involved in planning, monitoring, and reporting through the KDP and the DIME Taskforce. However, community-level awareness is more limited, as development priorities are often communicated through national plans (such as the KDP and KV20) rather than being explicitly framed as SDGs.

Despite limited community awareness, the Government ensures that national development initiatives are aligned with the SDGs, effectively institutionalizing them indirectly through existing systems and frameworks.

3.3 Integrating SDGs into National Planning and Budgeting Frameworks

Although the SDGs are not explicitly referenced in the KDP, its development process ensured alignment with regional and international frameworks, including the 2030 Agenda. To strengthen the link between resources and priorities, NEPO has integrated planning and budgeting within the KDP, enhancing efficiency, accountability, and responsiveness. This approach ensures that budgets are guided by KDP and ministry strategic plans, with funding decisions based on alignment, performance against KPIs, and clear project justification. Ministries are required to link proposals to their strategic

⁴ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

and operational plans, while NEPO monitors progress and provides annual reports to inform budget decisions and Cabinet oversight.

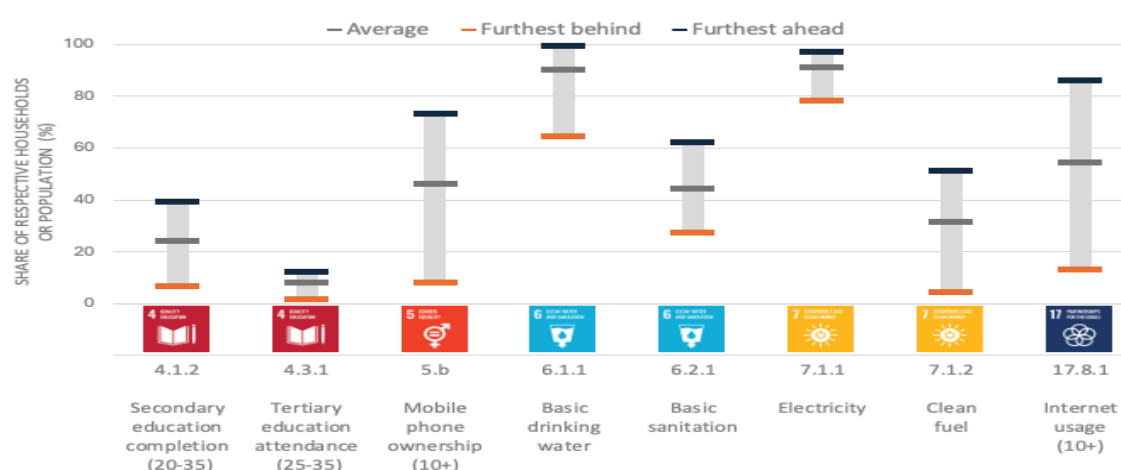
3.4 Ensuring Inclusion and Leaving No One Behind

The ESCAP Leave No One Behind (LNOB) analysis for Kiribati highlights persistent inequalities across several SDG areas, despite notable progress in access to some essential services. While access to electricity and basic drinking water exceeds 90% nationally, significant disparities remain in sanitation, clean cooking fuel, digital connectivity, education, employment, and food security.⁵

The analysis identifies women, youth, persons with disabilities, poorer households, and populations residing in rural and remote outer islands as among the groups most at risk of being left behind. Women continue to experience disparities in internet access, employment opportunities, and economic participation, while youth face ongoing challenges related to education, skills development, and employment pathways. Persons with disabilities experience higher rates of chronic disease, exposure to climate-related disasters, and inadequate living conditions.

The report emphasizes the important role of social protection systems in reducing poverty and vulnerability. Existing initiatives including the Senior Citizens Allowance (SCA), Disability Support Allowance (DSA), and Support Fund for the Unemployed (SFU) have contributed positively to social wellbeing. ESCAP simulations demonstrate that expanded universal social protection measures could significantly reduce poverty levels in Kiribati. The findings underscore the need for continued investment in social protection, digital inclusion, climate resilience, and equitable service delivery.⁶

Figure 1: LNOB analysis for Kiribati 2025



⁵ ESCAP, Overview of “Leaving No One Behind” Situation in Kiribati, 2025

⁶ ESCAP, Overview of “LNOB”, 2025

3.5 Strengthening Institutional Capacity and Monitoring Systems.

The DIME Taskforce plays a central role in monitoring both the KDP and SDG progress in Kiribati. Formerly known as the SDG Taskforce, it serves the following key functions:

Function	Description
Monitoring and Reporting	Tracks progress of KDP implementation using key performance indicators (KPIs), many of which are aligned with SDGs.
Data Coordination	Works with ministries and the National Statistics Office to collect, validate, and manage development data.
Results Framework Management	Develops and maintains the KDP results matrix, ensuring indicators reflect national priorities and SDG commitments.
Performance Review	Assesses sector progress, identifies gaps, and supports evidence-based decision-making.
Capacity Building	Strengthens understanding of results-based management, indicators, and monitoring systems across government.
Policy Alignment	Ensures coherence between KDP, Kiribati Vision 20, and global frameworks such as the SDGs.

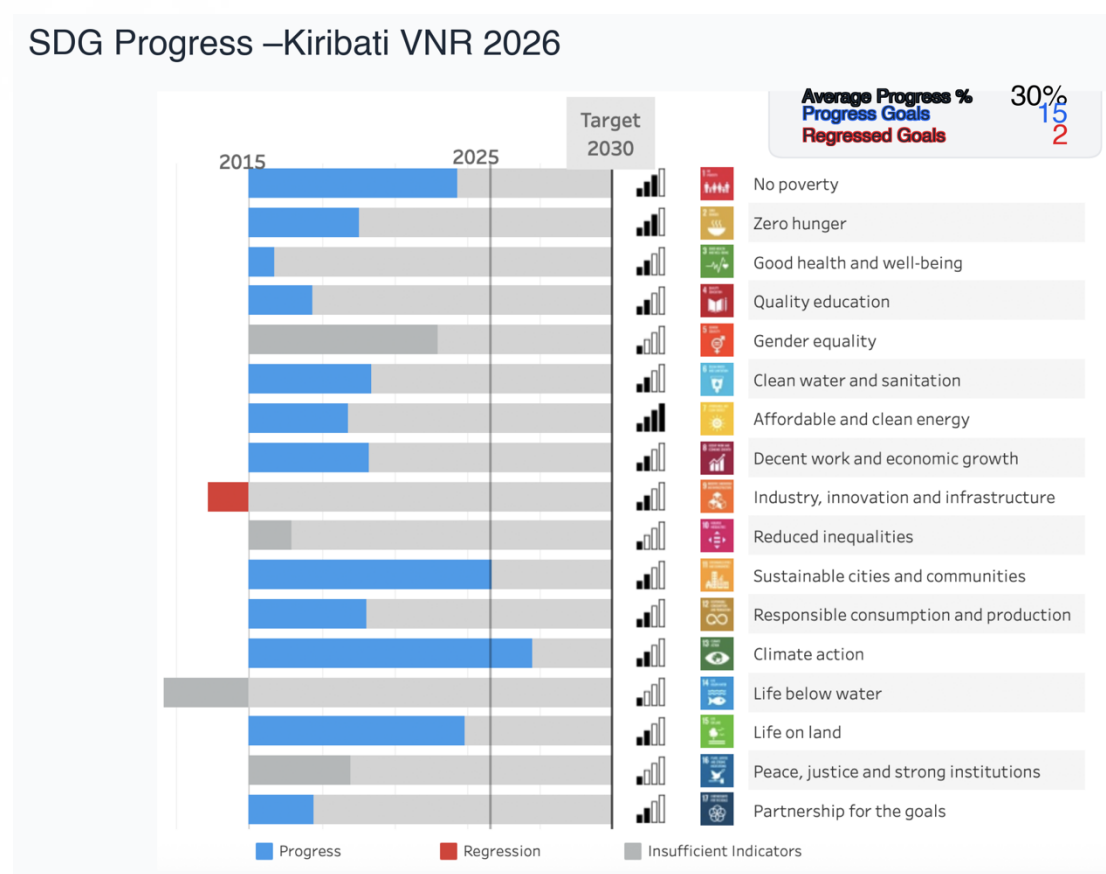


4.0 Progress on Goals and Targets

4.1 Overview of National Progress

As indicated in Figure 2, Kiribati's progress towards achieving the SDGs has been mixed but generally positive. Most goals have recorded improvements since 2015, with the strongest gains observed in SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 15 (Life on Land). However, regression has been observed in SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) and SDG 14 (Life Below Water), highlighting areas requiring greater attention. While data gaps continue to constrain a comprehensive assessment of progress, data availability and reporting are gradually improving⁷.

Figure 2: Kiribati's overall Progress by SDG and KPA Goals



4.2 Review of National Progress across SDGs Aligned to the KDP

This section presents an assessment of Kiribati's development progress, beginning with a qualitative review of implementation under the **Kiribati Development Plan (KDP)**, which provides an overview of current national development achievements and

⁷ ESCAP, *SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025*, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026.

progress. It then examines Kiribati's performance against the **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators**, providing an assessment of progress at the indicator level. The section further highlights key success stories, identifies persistent challenges and their underlying causes, and outlines strategic priorities to accelerate progress moving forward.

It is important to note several cross-cutting constraints that continue to affect the country's capacity to effectively monitor, assess, and report progress under the VNR process. These include:

- Limited availability of reliable and disaggregated data to support comprehensive monitoring and reporting;
- Capacity gaps in aligning national development indicators with the global SDG indicator framework;
- Reliance on qualitative national-level reporting, particularly through KDP indicators, where quantitative data remains limited; and
- Challenges in systematically measuring and reporting progress against SDG indicators, due to data, technical, and institutional constraints.

This assessment therefore draws on both **qualitative progresses reported at the national level through the KDP framework** and **available evidence against SDG indicators** to provide an integrated review of Kiribati's development progress.

4.2.1 KPA 1: Human Resource Development

KDP Progress

Human resource development remains central to Kiribati's sustainable development agenda. The Government continues to prioritise investment in people ensuring that all citizens can lead healthy, productive, and fulfilling lives while advancing the recognition of skills and qualifications as a foundation for inclusive growth and reduced inequalities⁸.

KPA 1 recorded an overall progress score of 63%, reflecting steady gains across education access, learning outcomes, and youth participation. Positive improvements were recorded in net enrolment rates, literacy and numeracy proficiency, and youth engagement in education and training programmes. National Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions; including the Kiribati Institute of Technology (KIT) and the Marine Training Centre (MTC) continued to strengthen vocational and technical education opportunities through expanded programme delivery, enhanced training capacity, and broadened workforce development initiatives, demonstrating Kiribati's commitment to building a skilled, resilient, and globally competitive workforce.

⁸ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

Progress against aligned SDG indicators

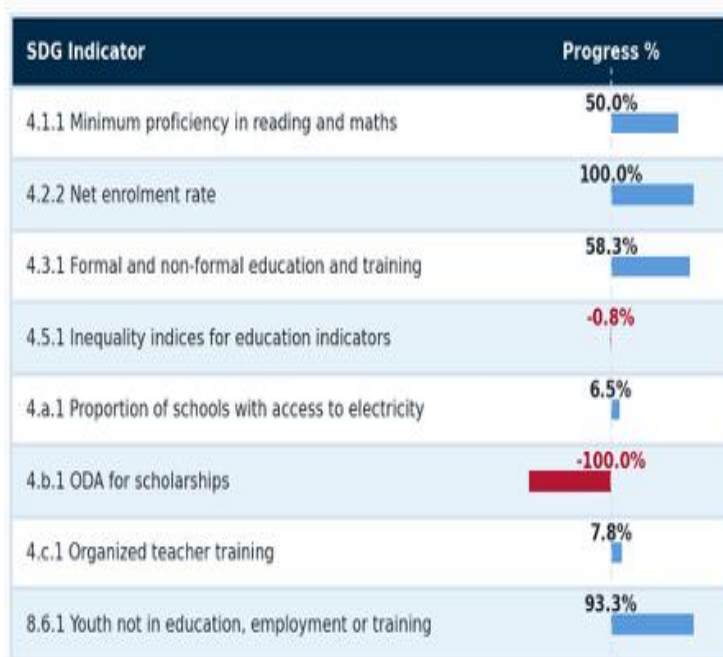
KPA 1 achieved an overall progress score of 26.9%, reflecting steady gains in education access, learning outcomes, and youth participation. Positive improvements were observed in net enrolment, literacy and numeracy proficiency, and youth engagement in education and training. However, continued attention is required to address constraints relating to teacher training, school infrastructure, and external scholarship support. These findings underscore the importance of strengthening education quality, expanding learning infrastructure, and securing sustainable financing for tertiary and vocational opportunities⁹.

Figure 3: KPA1 overall progress against SDG indicators

KPA 1: Human Resource Development (SDG 4 & SDG 8)

Quality Education & Decent Work and Economic Growth

Overall Progress %: 26.9%



⁹ ESCAP, *SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025*, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

Success Story

Kiribati has made significant progress in expanding access to quality education through sustained investments in education infrastructure across all levels of the system. Between 2018 and 2026, six new schools were established, including primary, junior secondary, and senior secondary institutions, improving access to education and reducing barriers faced by students, particularly those from outer island communities.

Further progress was achieved through the Kiribati Education Improvement Programme (KEIP), which rehabilitated 28 primary schools and delivered substantial improvements to learning environments through the construction of new classrooms and the renovation of existing facilities. At the post-secondary level, the establishment of the Learning Hub at the Kiribati Teachers College and the Youth Learning Centre at the Kiribati Institute of Technology (KIT) expanded opportunities for further education and skills development¹⁰.

These investments have strengthened the accessibility, quality, and inclusiveness of the education system, while enhancing opportunities for lifelong learning and skills development. They also contribute to the development of a skilled and productive workforce, supporting Kiribati's long-term development priorities and progress towards SDG 4 (Quality Education).



¹⁰ DFAT and Government of Kiribati, *KEIP 2011–2023*

Key Implementation Challenges and Proposed Mitigation Strategies

Key Challenge	Root Cause	Strategic Response
Limited school access and participation	Growing population placing pressure on education infrastructure, financial barriers, and geographic isolation of outer islands	Construct and renovate schools (including WASH facilities); expand Model Inclusion Schools; upgrade educational facilities to ensure full accessibility, including the provision of necessary reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities; improve student transportation; introduce school meal programs; enforce Free and Compulsory Education Policy; expand no-quota scholarship schemes.
Low student learning outcomes and teacher capacity gaps	Limited teaching resources, gaps in teacher training and professional development, and weak monitoring of learning outcomes	Strengthen Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for teachers and school leaders; improve teacher welfare and service conditions; expand internet connectivity; strengthen the Kiribati Teachers College; implement Teacher Registration Regulations.
Unsafe and non-inclusive school environments	Bullying, discrimination, and limited counselling and student support services	Train educators in inclusive teaching practices and conflict resolution; strengthen anti-bullying school policies like zero tolerance policy; promote student-led safe school initiatives; strengthen school counselling services.
Limited support for students with disabilities and special learning needs	Lack of trained teachers, teacher aides, sign language interpreters, and inclusive learning resources. There is also lack of financial support to employ the required number of teacher aides.	Provide inclusive teaching materials and assistive tools; expand Model Inclusion Schools; recruit additional teacher aides; provide sign language interpreters; promote inclusive access to TVET programs.
Limited access to skills training and	Capacity constraints in training institutions, limited programs for school leavers,	Expand TVET access through outer island training centres; strengthen

Key Challenge	Root Cause	Strategic Response
employment pathways for youth	and high youth unemployment	youth bridging programs; expand professional training in nursing, police, and maritime fields; develop new programs in renewable energy, ECCE, and life skills; Strengthening national and quality assurance frameworks to elevate Kiribati qualifications and streamline accreditation
Weak public service capacity and performance management	Skills gaps, limited training opportunities, fragmented HRD data, and ineffective performance appraisal systems	Expand training opportunities for civil servants; conduct skills gap analysis; strengthen workforce data systems; improve performance appraisal mechanisms; develop a Public Service Workforce Strategy.

4.2.2 KPA 2: Economic Growth and Hardship Alleviation

KDP Progress

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted Kiribati's economy, resulting in the country's first economic contraction in over a decade. In 2020, real GDP declined by 1.5%, while real GDP per capita fell from AUD 2,656 in 2019 to AUD 2,575. This decline was driven by prolonged border closures, which reduced fishing revenues by 20%. The tourism sector was severely disrupted, and although labour mobility programmes continued, they operated under significant restrictions, contributing to reduced remittance flows¹¹.

Economic recovery began in 2023, supported by the resumption of infrastructure projects, supportive fiscal policies, and the reopening of borders. Fishing revenues recovered to 71% of pre-pandemic levels, while tourism activities resumed, contributing 3.5% to GDP. Social protection programming was expanded to include the Support Fund for the Unemployed (SFU), contributing to a 75% reduction in poverty, while labour mobility programmes restarted, increasing remittance inflows by 10% and helping sustain steady economic growth, with GDP growth remaining positive at 3.3% in 2023 and 4.6% growth in 2024.¹²

¹¹ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

¹² Government of Kiribati, Kiribati National Statistics Office (KNSO) and Pacific Community (SPC), Household Income and Expenditure Survey, 2025

Progress against aligned indicators

KPA 2 recorded comparatively lower progress with a regression of 40.7% reflecting ongoing structural economic challenges. While modest improvements were observed in manufacturing activity, these were offset by declines in real GDP per capita, underscoring Kiribati's continued exposure to external shocks and its narrow productive base. Accelerating economic diversification, strengthening private sector participation, and enhancing resilience to external economic pressures remain important priorities for sustained progress. The above trend reflects long-term comparisons against the 2015 baseline, which indicate some regression over the reporting period. However, short-term comparisons against the 2020 baseline show encouraging signs of progress¹³.

Figure 4: KPA 2 overall progress against SDG indicators

KPA 2: Economic Wealth and Hardship Alleviation (SDG 8 & SDG 9)

Decent Work and Economic Growth & Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Overall Progress %: -40.7%

SDG Indicator	Progress %
8.1.1 Real GDP per capita growth rate	-100.0%
9.2.1 Manufacturing value added	18.7%
9.2.2 Manufacturing employment	-98.5%
9.a.1 ODA for infrastructure	-100.0%
9.c.1 Population covered by mobile networks	85.0%



¹³ Refer to Annex 2 on Kiribati progress trends to SDG indicators

Success Story

Kiribati made notable progress in promoting inclusive economic growth and reducing poverty during the review period. GDP growth increased from 3.3 per cent in 2019 to 4.6 per cent in 2024, while the national poverty rate declined significantly by 75%, with an estimated 19,000 people moving out of poverty. This progress was supported by expanded social protection measures and copra subsidy, increased wages and benefits, and the recovery of key economic sectors, including fisheries, tourism, and trade¹⁴.

Economic resilience was further strengthened through expanded labour mobility opportunities, growing remittance inflows, and continued support from development partners. Investments in infrastructure and public services also contributed to improved livelihoods, enhanced economic opportunities, and strengthened resilience to external shocks. Collectively, these efforts have supported more inclusive and sustainable development outcomes and contributed to progress towards SDGs 1, 8, and 10.



¹⁴ Kiribati National Statistics Office (KNSO) and Pacific Community (SPC), Kiribati Labour Market Monograph 2023–2024 Report, 2025

Key Implementation Challenges and Proposed Mitigation Strategies

Key Challenge	Root Cause	Strategic Response
Limited Economic Diversification and Trade Imbalance	Heavy reliance on fisheries and copra, limited domestic production, small private sector, and high import dependency.	Promote value-added production in fisheries, coconut, and agriculture; expand aquaculture; strengthen trade agreements; support SME development and access to credit; simplify business regulations.
Underdeveloped Tourism and Foreign Investment Potential	Weak tourism infrastructure, limited marketing, small domestic market, and complex investment processes.	Develop niche tourism products (cultural tourism, eco-tourism, diving, birdwatching); improve tourism facilities and service standards; strengthen investment promotion; encourage PPPs and improve land access for investors.
Narrow Government Revenue Base and Fiscal Vulnerability	Heavy dependence on fishing license revenues and external funding, weak tax compliance, and limited SOE returns.	Strengthen tax reforms and revenue collection; introduce digital tax and customs systems; improve SOE financial performance; strengthen RERF management.
Limited Employment Opportunities and Livelihood Vulnerability	High youth unemployment, limited domestic job opportunities, and high poverty levels.	Expand overseas labour mobility programs (PALM, RSE); strengthen skills development and pre-departure training; maintain social protection programs; expand support for vulnerable groups.
Limited Access to Finance and Development Funding	Low financial inclusion, limited access to credit for businesses, and reliance on development assistance	Expand microcredit and youth entrepreneurship programs; strengthen financial inclusion and microfinance institutions; improve coordination with development partners; align external funding with national priorities.

4.2.3 KPA 3: Health

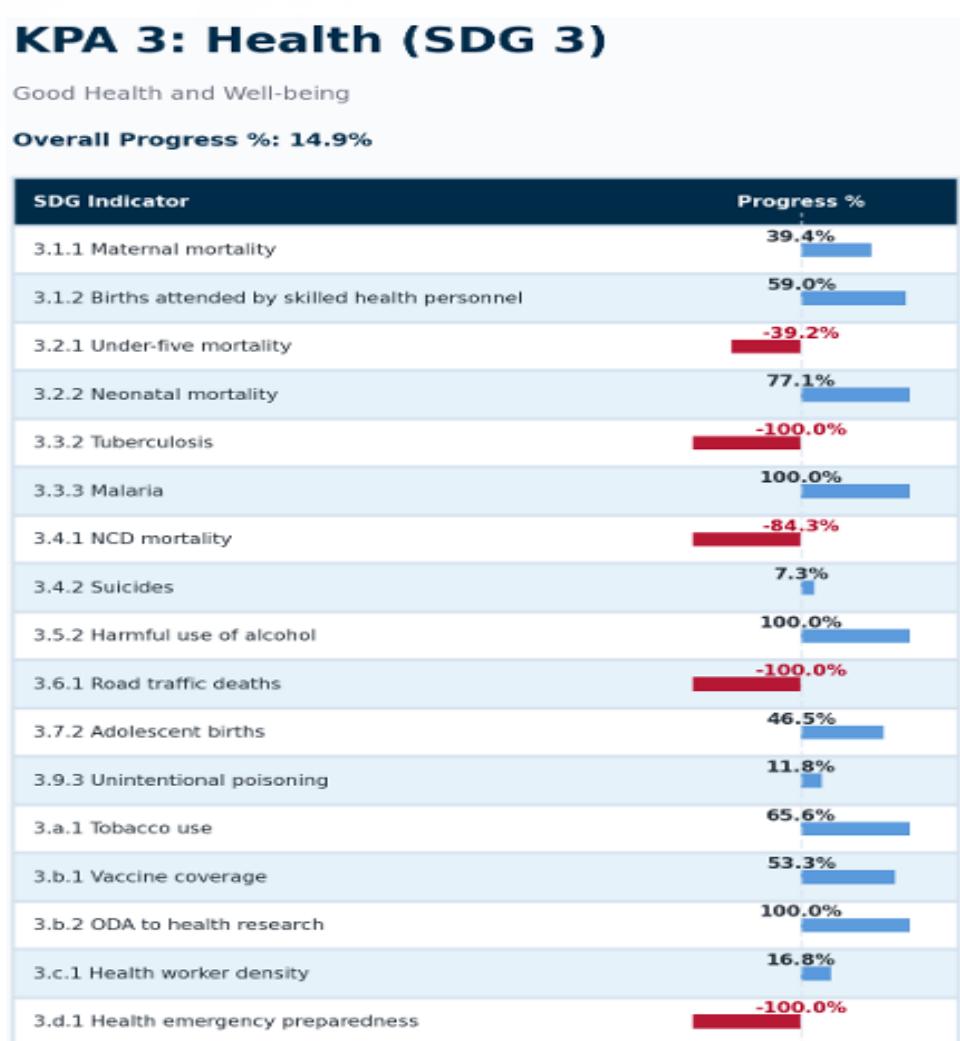
KDP Progress

KPA 3 was monitored through **14 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**, comprising **12 under the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS)** and **2 under the Ministry of Women, Youth and Sports and Social Affairs (MWYSSA)**. Overall, **5 of the 14 KPIs (35.7%) were achieved**, while **9 indicators (64.3%) remain unmet**, highlighting the need for accelerated action across the sector. The **MHMS achieved 5 of its 12 KPIs (41.7%)**, while **MWYSSA achieved 1 of its 2 KPIs (50%)**. These results underscore that health, and wellbeing outcomes are influenced by a wide range of socioeconomic, environmental, and behavioural determinants, requiring coordinated, multi-sectoral responses that extend beyond the health sector alone to address underlying structural challenges and achieve sustainable progress.

Progress against aligned SDG indicators

KPA 3 recorded an overall progress score of 14.9%, demonstrating modest and mixed but encouraging progress across key health outcomes. Notable achievements were recorded in malaria control, reductions in harmful alcohol use, expanded immunisation coverage, and improvements in neonatal health outcomes. At the same time, challenges remain in tuberculosis control, non-communicable disease prevention, emergency preparedness, and road safety. Continued investment in health system strengthening, targeted preventive interventions, and enhanced public health resilience will be essential to sustain progress. Continuing to strengthen referral mechanisms and associated services between Ministries, for example for disability and gender based violence cases¹⁵.

Figure 5: KPA 3 overall progress against SDG indicators



¹⁵ ESCAP, *SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025*, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

Success Story:

The opening of the new hospital facility in January 2025 marked a significant milestone in improving healthcare service delivery in Kiribati. The facility has strengthened access to quality healthcare services in South Tarawa, particularly in maternal and child health, while providing a safer, modern, and climate-resilient environment for both patients and healthcare workers. Serving an estimated 63,000 residents, the facility has helped reduce overcrowding and improve the quality and accessibility of essential health services.

The new hospital has also expanded national healthcare capacity through increased clinical space, upgraded medical infrastructure, and enhanced service delivery capabilities. In addition, it has strengthened the resilience of the health sector by improving preparedness and response to climate-related hazards and emergencies, helping to ensure the continuity of critical health services during times of crisis. These investments contribute to improved health outcomes and support Kiribati's progress towards achieving SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) and strengthening resilience under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



Key Implementation Challenges and Proposed Mitigation Strategies

Key Challenge	Root Cause	Strategic Response
Slow progress in achieving health KPIs and SDG targets	Limited human and financial resources in the health sector; capacity constraints in health facilities and workforce	Strengthen health workforce development and training; improve health system planning and resource allocation; expand partnerships with development partners.
High burden of NCDs and Communicable Diseases	Unhealthy lifestyles and limited preventive health awareness; limited community-based health promotion programs	Strengthen health promotion and preventive programs; promote healthy lifestyles through community engagement; expand screening and early detection services.
Poor maternal, infant, and adolescent health outcomes	Limited access to reproductive health services and family planning; low awareness of reproductive health practices	Strengthen maternal and reproductive health services; expand family planning programs and health education; improve access to skilled birth attendants.
Limited health infrastructure and workforce capacity	Insufficient health facilities and trained healthcare workers; geographic dispersion across islands	Expand health infrastructure; increase recruitment and training of healthcare workers; improve service delivery in outer islands.
Health outcomes influenced by social and environmental determinants	Limited access to clean water, sanitation, housing, and transport; poverty, food insecurity, and limited employment	Strengthen cross-sector collaboration; integrate health considerations into national development planning; promote community-based health and wellbeing programs.

4.2.4 KPA 4: Environment and Resilience

KDP Progress

Efforts to strengthen environmental management, protection, sustainability and resilience-building, sustainable agriculture and livestock development, land management administration, and the preservation of cultural heritage remain closely aligned with national legislation, policies, and strategic frameworks that promote sustainable and resilient development. These frameworks increasingly integrate the interlinked challenges of biodiversity loss, pollution, climate change, and disaster risk management into national development planning, while ensuring the preservation and safeguarding of cultural values, identity, heritage, and traditional knowledge for current and future generations. At the same time, targeted efforts are being advanced to address the growing risks of cultural erosion and to strengthen the role of traditional knowledge in supporting resilience and sustainability outcomes¹⁶.

Progress in cultural preservation and sustainability has recorded an overall achievement rate of 60%, reflecting notable gains in the protection of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge systems that contribute to biodiversity conservation and climate resilience. Key achievements include the completion of museum and cultural heritage preservation, protection, and management policies and legislative frameworks, as well as progress in addressing institutional gaps through the development of policies and legal instruments to safeguard traditional knowledge and cultural expressions. These efforts support environmental conservation, strengthen resilience to climate change, and promote cultural assets as a source of sustainable economic value, including through the provision of cultural information to support the tourism sector and promote cultural tourism development.

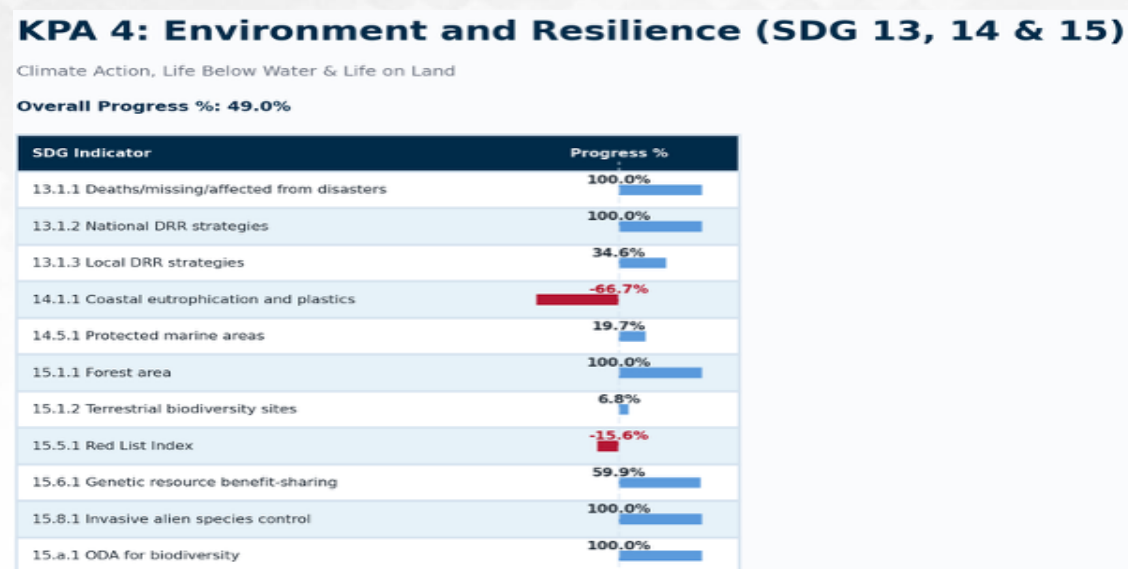
Progress against aligned SDG indicators

KPA 4 highest overall progress score of 49%, reflecting significant gains in climate change resilience, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity conservation and management, and environmental governance. Important advancements were achieved in disaster preparedness, invasive species management, and biodiversity financing. Continued efforts will be required to address terrestrial and marine pollution and biodiversity pressures to ensure the long-term sustainability of environmental protection measures¹⁷.

¹⁶ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

¹⁷ ESCAP, *SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025*, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

Figure 6: KPA 4 overall progress against SDG indicators



Success Story

Kiribati has made important progress in strengthening environmental governance and waste management systems. The amendment of the Environment Act 2025 enhanced the legal and institutional framework for pollution prevention, waste management, and environmental protection, providing a stronger foundation for sustainable resource management.

Building on these reforms, a new Material Recovery Facility (MRF) was established and became operational in 2025 with support from development partners. The facility currently processes

selected waste streams for offshore recycling, including aluminium cans, PET plastic bottles, and used lead-acid batteries. Preparatory work is also underway to expand operations to include electronic waste, such as discarded mobile phones and laptops.

These initiatives represent a significant step towards reducing environmental pollution, improving waste recovery and recycling practices, and

advancing Kiribati's transition towards more sustainable and climate-resilient waste management systems, contributing to the achievement of SDGs 11, 12, 13, and 14.



Key Implementation Challenges and Proposed Mitigation Strategies

Key Challenge	Root Cause	Strategic Response
Weak governance and coordination for climate change, DRM, and environmental management	Limited institutional capacity, fragmented coordination across ministries, and weak integration of climate risks into national planning	Strengthen institutional and technical capacity; improve inter-ministerial coordination; mainstream climate and disaster risks into policies and budgeting; strengthen legal and policy frameworks; promote community participation.
Limited disaster preparedness and resilience to climate change and natural hazards	Weak early warning systems, limited disaster preparedness, and insufficient risk assessments	Strengthen multi-hazard early warning systems; improve disaster preparedness training; develop community-based response plans; conduct hazard mapping and vulnerability assessments; explore disaster risk financing.
Environmental degradation, pollution, and weak waste management	Limited waste management infrastructure, weak monitoring and enforcement, and low public awareness	Improve waste collection, recycling, and disposal systems; strengthen environmental monitoring and enforcement; promote public awareness on waste management practices; embedding foundational environmental and waste management education across primary and secondary curricula, complemented by advanced sustainability specialization at the tertiary level.
Degradation of ecosystems and natural resources	Environmental pressures, limited conservation management, and inadequate monitoring systems	Strengthen biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management; support community-based natural resource management; implement mangrove planting and coastal protection programs.
Low agricultural productivity and food security risks	Climate change impacts, limited irrigation and water access, and limited technical support for farmers	Promote climate-smart agriculture and resilient crop varieties; strengthen farmer training; improve irrigation systems; strengthen the capacity of the Agriculture and Livestock Division.

Key Challenge	Root Cause	Strategic Response
Weak land administration and planning systems	Limited technical capacity, outdated land policies, and insufficient land information systems	Strengthen land administration and survey capacity; improve land information systems; update land-use plans and legislation; improve coordination across land management authorities.
Limited documentation and protection of cultural heritage and values	Insufficient resources for cultural mapping and limited community engagement	Expand cultural mapping programs; strengthen community-based protection of cultural and historical sites; conduct national studies on cultural values; strengthen partnerships with communities, CSOs, and Island Councils.

4.2.5 KPA 5: Governance

KDP Progress

Good governance is essential to safeguarding the rights and freedoms of all I-Kiribati, as enshrined in the Constitution. The Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary form the foundation of Kiribati's democratic system, operating independently to uphold accountability, transparency, and the rule of law. Guided by KV20 Pillar 4, the Government remains committed to strengthening legal frameworks, institutional capacity, judicial services, and legislative transparency, in alignment with ratified international conventions¹⁸.

Significant progress has been made toward building a corruption-free society. The enactment of the Leaders Code of Conduct in 2016, the establishment of the Leadership Commission in 2018, and its further strengthening in 2021 represent important milestones in institutionalising accountability and ethical leadership across the public sector. Kiribati also continues to advance access to justice and promote good governance at both national and regional levels, including through its leadership under the Te Ieniwa Vision, a regional commitment to strengthening integrity, transparency, accountability and anti-corruption efforts¹⁹.

The establishment of the Kiribati Women and Children's Crisis Centre has played a critical role in strengthening the protection framework for vulnerable groups. The increase in reported cases of gender-based violence, while concerning, is indicative of growing awareness, increased trust in reporting mechanisms, and improved access to support services — reflecting the positive impact of sustained advocacy, institutional outreach, and survivor-centred service delivery.

¹⁸ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

¹⁹ Pacific Unity Against Corruption (PUAC), *Te Ieniwa Vision: Pacific Unity Against Corruption*, adopted by Pacific Leaders, 2020

Progress against SDG aligned indicators

KPA 5 recorded an overall progress score of 28%, reflecting moderate but meaningful progress, particularly in public financial management and institutional representation. Improvements in government expenditure efficiency indicate strengthened fiscal governance, while partial gains were made in institutional inclusiveness. Further efforts are needed to strengthen national human rights mechanisms and continue advancing transparency, accountability, and institutional effectiveness²⁰.

Figure 7: KPA 5 overall progress against SDG indicators

KPA 5: Governance (SDG 16)

Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Overall Progress %: 28.0%

SDG Indicator	Progress %
16.6.1 Government expenditure	66.7%
16.7.1 Representation in public institutions	17.3%
16.a.1 National Human Rights institutions	0.0%



²⁰ ESCAP, *SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025*, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026.

Success Story

Governance reform has been a key enabler of sustainable development in Kiribati, supporting stronger institutions, improved accountability, and more effective public service delivery. Between 2016 and 2025, a total of 121 Acts were enacted or amended, reflecting the Government's commitment to strengthening the legal and regulatory frameworks that underpin national development.

These reforms have delivered benefits across multiple sectors. Amendments to public financial management legislation have strengthened transparency, accountability, and fiscal oversight, while environmental legislation has enhanced environmental protection and waste management. Reforms in the health and education sectors have also supported improvements in service delivery and strengthened the rights and wellbeing of citizens.

Collectively, these legislative reforms have contributed to more effective and responsive governance systems, creating an enabling environment for sustainable development and supporting progress across multiple Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). The reforms demonstrate Kiribati's continued commitment to building inclusive, accountable, and resilient institutions that serve the needs of all I-Kiribati.



Key Implementation Challenges and Proposed Mitigation Strategies

Key Challenge	Root Cause	Strategic Response
Weak legal and institutional frameworks for good governance	Outdated legislation, limited institutional capacity, and gaps in alignment with international standards	Review and update laws and policies to align with international standards; strengthen legal institutions; streamline institutional reforms; promote access to justice through mediation and arbitration.
Limited judicial capacity and case backlogs	Shortage of judges, lawyers, and courthouses; geographical barriers; limited human resources	Strengthen judicial capacity and human resources; expand court infrastructure; implement case management systems; promote alternative dispute resolution (ADR).
Weak accountability and transparency in public institutions	Limited oversight capacity, weak follow-up on audit findings, and gaps in financial management systems	Strengthen oversight institutions such as the Public Accounts Committee and Kiribati Audit Office; improve compliance with audit recommendations; strengthen IFMIS and public financial management.
Limited digital governance and data systems	Incomplete integration of digital systems, limited data sharing, and weak data security frameworks	Implement digital government systems across ministries; establish a national portal and integrated data-sharing platforms; strengthen data security and monitoring; expand e-government services.
Inefficient public service delivery and high public complaints	Weak service standards, limited customer service capacity, and institutional inefficiencies.	Strengthen people-centred service delivery; provide training in customer service and public administration; improve public service standards and accountability.
Corruption risks and weak anti-corruption mechanisms	Limited resources for anti-corruption institutions, lack of whistleblower protection, and weak inter-agency coordination	Strengthen anti-corruption institutions; establish whistleblower protection frameworks; improve coordination among oversight agencies; strengthen legal penalties and enforcement.
Limited public awareness and participation in governance	Low awareness of governance principles and limited citizen engagement mechanisms	Conduct public awareness and governance advocacy programs; promote civic education; strengthen mechanisms for public participation and access to information.
Weak compliance with labour and workplace standards	Limited labour inspections, low awareness of labour laws, and limited institutional capacity	Strengthening labour inspection systems and enforcement; increase awareness of labour laws; build institutional capacity to support decent and inclusive work environments.

4.2.6 KPA 6: Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy

KDP Progress

Infrastructure is a key driver of development in Kiribati, supporting economic growth and service delivery. To guide long-term investment, the Government launched the National Infrastructure Investment Plan (NIIP) 2023–2033, which assesses national infrastructure needs across sectors. A Maintenance Policy is also being developed to ensure the efficient use of maintenance funds and the sustainability of government assets.²¹

While Kiribati still lags some Pacific countries in infrastructure development, progress has been made in recent years, including improved access to renewable energy and water and sanitation services. Geographic isolation, climate vulnerability, and limited transport connectivity continue to increase the cost of infrastructure and public service delivery²².



Progress against aligned SDG indicators

KPA 6 achieved an overall progress score of 31.9%, demonstrating modest progress across water and sanitation, electricity access, renewable energy capacity, transport connectivity, and digital connectivity. Notable gains were recorded in mobile network coverage and external support for infrastructure development. However, continued investment is required to address sanitation coverage gaps, wastewater treatment limitations, transport connectivity challenges, and the transition toward renewable energy adoption to strengthen service delivery and infrastructure resilience²³.

²¹ Government of Kiribati (NEPO/MFED) and Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility (PRIF), Kiribati National Infrastructure Investment Plan 2022–2032, 2023.

²² Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

²³ ESCAP, *SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025*, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

Figure 8: KPA 6 overall progress

KPA 6: Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy (SDG 6, 7 & 9)

Clean Water, Affordable Energy & Industry

Overall Progress %: 31.9%

SDG Indicator	Progress %
6.1.1 Safely managed drinking water	16.8%
6.2.1 Open defecation and handwashing	10.3%
6.3.1 Wastewater safely treated	7.3%
6.a.1 ODA to water and sanitation	100.0%
7.1.1 Access to electricity	28.7%
7.1.2 Reliance on clean energy	6.9%
7.2.1 Renewable energy share	-31.4%
7.3.1 Energy intensity	37.6%
7.a.1 Support for clean energy	56.9%
7.b.1 Renewable electricity capacity	54.9%
9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume	10.1%
9.c.1 Mobile network coverage	85.0%

Success Story

Kiribati has made important progress in strengthening water security and climate resilience through investments in alternative water supply infrastructure. The establishment of two desalination plants in South Tarawa, at McKenzie Point in Bikenibeu and Betio, has increased the country's capacity to provide safe and reliable drinking water in the face of growing climate and environmental pressures.

The McKenzie Point Desalination plant is currently operational and supplying potable water to communities through the Public Utilities Board (PUB), while the Betio plant has been completed and is awaiting final clearances. These investments help reduce reliance on vulnerable freshwater lenses and enhance the resilience of water supply systems to the impacts of climate change, including drought, saltwater intrusion, and increasing water demand. As a result, they contribute to improved water security and support progress towards SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 13 (Climate Action)²⁴.



²⁴ Government of Kiribati, Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy, Semi-Annual Safeguards Monitoring Report, 2026

Key Implementation Challenges and Proposed Mitigation Strategies

Key Challenge	Root Cause	Strategic Response
Limited access to safe drinking water and sanitation	Insufficient water infrastructure, unreliable supply, high desalination costs, and population pressure in South Tarawa	Expand rainwater harvesting and water tank distribution; increase desalination capacity; expand reticulated water systems; install solar-powered water pumps; implement sanitation projects including sewer systems and communal toilets.
Weak and climate-vulnerable building infrastructure	Limited enforcement of building standards and inadequate climate-resilient design	Enforce the Building Act and Building Code; promote climate-resilient building designs; strengthen inspection and maintenance of government buildings; streamline approval processes.
Poor inter-island connectivity and transport services	Inadequate ports, wharves, shipping services, and coastal infrastructure; high development costs	Construct and upgrade ports and wharves; develop seawalls, bridges, culverts, and causeways; improve shipping services; strengthen coastal protection and climate adaptation infrastructure.
Underdeveloped land transport infrastructure	Aging road networks and limited funding for upgrades and maintenance	Implement road rehabilitation projects in South Tarawa and outer islands; upgrade causeways and feeder roads; enforce vehicle import regulations; improve traffic management and road safety.
Limited and vulnerable air transport infrastructure	Poor runway conditions and limited airport infrastructure in outer islands	Upgrade international and domestic airport infrastructure; rehabilitate outer island runways; construct new airports where required; strengthen aviation safety and service reliability.
Insufficient and unreliable energy supply	Heavy reliance on fossil fuels, limited generation capacity, and infrastructure constraints	Expand solar PV and battery storage systems; distribute solar home systems in outer islands; increase electricity grid coverage; install additional generators and fuel storage facilities.
Weak ICT infrastructure and connectivity	Geographic dispersion of islands, reliance on costly satellite links, and limited digital literacy	Expand broadband and mobile network coverage; strengthen submarine cable connectivity; invest in climate-resilient ICT infrastructure; promote digital literacy programs.
Limited access to government information and digital services	Fragmented systems and lack of centralized digital platforms	Implement the Digital Government Master Plan; establish the Digital Transformation Office; develop interoperability frameworks; expand online government services and public digital access.



4.3 Conclusion and Priority Goals

Kiribati's pathways forward focus on strengthening systems and resilience across all sectors to support sustainable, inclusive development aligned with national priorities and global commitments.

Key Priorities:

- Expand equitable access to quality education, healthcare, and essential services
- Strengthening human and institutional capacity across all sectors
- Diversifying the economy and improving employment opportunities
- Improve infrastructure, transport, energy, and digital connectivity
- Enhance climate change adaptation and disaster resilience
- Protect and sustainably manage natural resources and cultural heritage
- Strengthening governance, accountability, and public service delivery
- Advance digital transformation and access to e-government services
- Promote inclusive development, particularly for vulnerable groups and outer island communities



5.0 Progress against the Five SDG Thematic Areas

The selected SDGs indicate moderate overall progress, with strongest performance recorded in SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), while SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) reflects slower progress due to structural and financing constraints. Across all five goals, international partnerships, external financing, and institutional, technical, human (workforce) and financial resources strengthening remain central to sustaining progress and addressing remaining implementation gaps.

5.1 SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Kiribati has made steady progress towards **SDG 6**, achieving an overall progress rate of **33.6%**. The strongest performance was recorded in **Official Development Assistance (ODA) for water and sanitation**, which achieved full progress. Moderate gains were also recorded in access to safely managed drinking water services, improvements in sanitation and hygiene practices, and wastewater treatment. These achievements reflect continued national investment and strengthened partnerships to improve water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) outcomes across communities.

Significant efforts have been made to strengthen **WASH services in schools, health facilities, and local communities**, contributing to improved public health outcomes and greater resilience to climate-related risks. The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) has continued to prioritize water security, sanitation infrastructure, and hygiene promotion as essential components of preventive healthcare and disease control²⁵.

Figure 9: Kiribati's overall progress in SDG 6

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water

Overall Progress %: 33.6%

SDG Indicator	Progress %
6.1.1 Safely managed drinking water services	16.8%
6.2.1 Open defecation and handwashing	10.3%
6.3.1 Wastewater safely treated	7.3%
6.a.1 ODA to water and sanitation	100.0%

Persistent Challenges

- Limited access to safely managed water and sanitation services, particularly in the outer islands, due to inadequate infrastructure and uneven service coverage.
- Limited technical capacity and the absence of domestic laboratory facilities for **carbon and nitrate testing** continue to constrain routine water quality monitoring, requiring costly overseas sample analysis.

²⁵ ESCAP, *SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025*, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

- Insufficient and unsustainable financial resources limit regular water quality assessments, infrastructure maintenance, and service expansion across all island groups.
- Weak wastewater treatment and sanitation systems continue to pose environmental and public health risks.
- Water security remains highly vulnerable to climate change impacts, including prolonged drought, saltwater intrusion, and contamination of freshwater sources.
- Coordination and institutional capacity constraints continue to limit integrated water resource planning and effective sector-wide management²⁶.

Strategic Priorities

- Strengthen investment in water and sanitation infrastructure to expand equitable access and improve service reliability nationwide.
- Establish domestic water quality testing capacity, including a **portable laboratory facility**, to reduce reliance on overseas analysis and improve monitoring efficiency.
- Enhance technical capacity through sustained professional training and institutional knowledge retention mechanisms.
- Strengthen inter-agency coordination among **Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy (MISE), Ministry of Environment Lands and Agricultural Development (MELAD), and MHMS** through integrated planning, resource sharing, and data management systems.
- Improve wastewater treatment systems and promote community-level sanitation and hygiene practices.
- Scale up climate-resilient water resource management measures, including **rainwater harvesting, groundwater protection, and drought preparedness**.
- Mobilize sustainable domestic and external financing to support long-term sector resilience and development²⁷.

5.2 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Kiribati has made moderate progress towards achieving SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, recording an overall progress rate of **25.6 per cent**. Notable achievements have been made in expanding access to electricity and securing international support for clean energy initiatives, reflecting continued efforts to improve energy accessibility and sustainability across the country. Positive trends have also been observed in renewable electricity generation capacity per capita and energy efficiency indicators, demonstrating gradual improvements in the energy sector.

²⁶ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

²⁷ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

Despite these encouraging developments, the overall contribution of renewable energy to the national energy mix remains relatively low. This suggests that while important foundations have been established through infrastructure investments and development partner support, further efforts are needed to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy technologies. Continued investment in solar, wind, and other renewable energy solutions, alongside strengthening energy infrastructure and storage systems, will be critical to reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels, enhancing energy security, lowering energy costs, and building resilience to climate change. Advancing these priorities will be essential for Kiribati to achieve universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy by 2030²⁸.

Figure 10: Kiribati's overall progress against SDG 7

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable energy

Overall Progress %: 25.6%

SDG Indicator	Progress %
7.1.1 Access to electricity	28.7%
7.1.2 Reliance on clean energy	6.9%
7.2.1 Renewable energy share	-31.4%
7.3.1 Energy intensity	37.6%
7.a.1 International support for clean energy	56.9%
7.b.1 Renewable electricity capacity per capita	54.9%

Persistent Challenges

- Continued heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels increases Kiribati's vulnerability to external price volatility and supply disruptions. This underscores the need to assess emerging clean energy technologies, such as electric vehicles (EVs), while ensuring their suitability and alignment with the unique capacities and infrastructural realities of low-lying atoll island settings. The enabling environment required to support the adoption of such technologies must be carefully evaluated and contextualized.
- Renewable energy deployment remains limited, particularly in remote and outer island communities, constraining equitable access to sustainable energy services.
- High infrastructure development, operation, and maintenance costs continue to limit the expansion and long-term sustainability of renewable energy systems.

²⁸ ESCAP, SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

- Limited technical expertise and institutional capacity constrain the effective implementation, operation, maintenance, and sustainability of renewable energy initiatives.
- Insufficient energy storage capacity and grid infrastructure continue to restrict wider renewable energy integration, accessibility, and dissemination across the country²⁹.

Strategic Priorities

- Accelerate investment in renewable energy infrastructure, particularly solar energy systems, to expand access in outer islands and underserved communities.
- Undertake comprehensive feasibility assessments and a full inventory of alternative clean energy technologies suitable for Kiribati's low-lying atoll context, to determine technical viability, resource requirements, and the enabling conditions necessary for effective adoption and long-term sustainability.
- Strengthen national energy infrastructure through grid modernization and expanded battery storage systems to improve reliability and support greater renewable energy integration.
- Promote energy efficiency measures across public institutions, households, and the commercial sector to reduce overall energy demand and improve system resilience.
- Build and retain local technical capacity for the installation, operation, maintenance, and long-term management of renewable energy technologies.
- Strengthen partnerships with development partners to mobilize financing, facilitate technology transfer, and secure technical assistance to support Kiribati's transition to sustainable and resilient clean energy systems³⁰.

5.3 SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

SDG 9 recorded comparatively lower performance with overall progress of **-16.9 per cent**, reflecting ongoing structural challenges in industrial development and infrastructure financing. Strong gains were observed in mobile network coverage, indicating improvements in digital connectivity and communication access. Moderate progress was also recorded in passenger and freight transport and manufacturing value added. However, limited progress in manufacturing employment and infrastructure-related ODA highlights persistent constraints in industrial expansion and infrastructure investment³¹.

²⁹ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

³⁰ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

³¹ ESCAP, SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

Figure 11: Kiribati's overall progress against SDG 9

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure and foster innovation

Overall Progress %: -16.9%

SDG Indicator	Progress %
9.1.2 Passenger and freight volume	10.1%
9.2.1 Manufacturing value added	18.7%
9.2.2 Manufacturing employment	-98.5%
9.a.1 ODA for infrastructure	-100.0%
9.c.1 Population covered by mobile networks	85.0%

Persistent Challenges

- Limited economic diversification and trade imbalance, driven by heavy reliance on fisheries and copra, and a small private sector.
- Weak and climate-vulnerable infrastructure, including transport, buildings, and coastal systems.
- Limited connectivity and high costs of service delivery due to geographic dispersion of islands.
- Underdeveloped transport systems, especially inter-island shipping, roads, and air infrastructure.
- Limited and unreliable energy supply, with heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels.
- Weak ICT infrastructure and digital connectivity, particularly in outer islands.
- Small and underdeveloped industrial base, with limited value-added production and private sector growth.
- High infrastructure development and maintenance costs constrained by limited financial and technical capacity³².

Strategic Priorities

- Promote private sector growth and value-added production in fisheries, coconut, and agriculture.
- Expand aquaculture and sustainable marine resource industries.
- Strengthen and enforce climate-resilient infrastructure systems.
- Improve integrated, climate-resilient connectivity across islands.
- Scale up renewable energy and strengthen national energy systems.
- Expand resilient ICT infrastructure and digital connectivity nationwide.
- Enhance financing, partnerships, and technical capacity for infrastructure development³³.

³² Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

³³ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

5.4 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

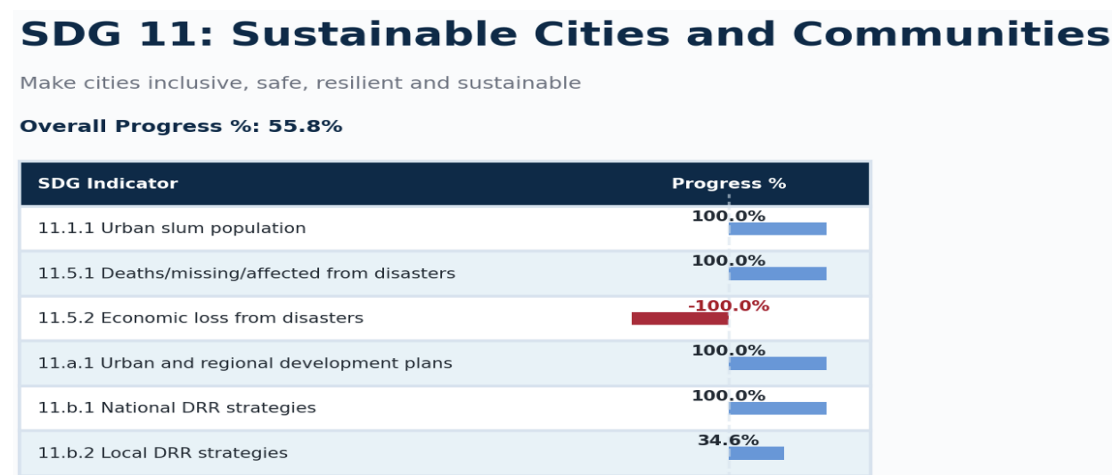
In the context of low-lying atoll nations such as Kiribati, where land area is limited and settlements are concentrated within narrow strips of land, the entirety of the capital island should be considered equivalent to the definition of city. This reflects the unique geographic and demographic realities of Kiribati, where urban development, service delivery, and infrastructure planning must be considered across the full extent of densely populated atoll environments.

SDG 11 recorded the strongest overall performance among the five selected goals, with an average progress rate of **55.8 per cent**. Significant progress was achieved in environmental management, urban planning, resilience-building, disaster risk reduction, and efforts to reduce exposure to environmental hazards and disaster-related impacts. These gains reflect the positive contribution of national and local policy frameworks aimed at strengthening environmental sustainability, enhancing disaster preparedness, and building resilience across communities in Kiribati³⁴.

Progress under this goal has also been supported by continued investment in resilient social infrastructure, particularly at the primary health care level, which remains central to advancing Universal Health Coverage and sustaining service delivery to ensure communities continue to receive quality care. Strengthening primary health care services has improved local-level preparedness and responsiveness, enabling more accessible and reliable essential services while enhancing community resilience to climate-related and environmental shocks.

These efforts are complemented by ongoing initiatives to strengthen service delivery systems, improve infrastructure resilience, and promote integrated planning approaches that support healthier, safer, and more sustainable communities.

Figure 12: Kiribati's overall progress against SDG 11



³⁴ ESCAP, SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

Persistent Challenges

- Geographic dispersion across widely dispersed islands continues to increase infrastructure development and service delivery costs.
- Gaps in waste collection and disposal services persist across urban centres and outer island communities.
- Landfill infrastructure remains vulnerable to damage from extreme weather events, affecting operational sustainability and environmental protection.
- Limited land availability constrains landfill expansion and the effective management of growing waste volumes, particularly in densely populated urban areas.
- Traditional land tenure arrangements continue to present challenges in identifying and securing suitable sites for waste disposal infrastructure in the outer islands.
- Uneven access to reliable water, sanitation, transport, and energy services continues to affect service equity and urban resilience.
- Frequent power disruptions and continued dependence on imported fossil fuels constrain energy reliability and sustainability.
- Weak ICT infrastructure, limited connectivity, and low digital literacy continue to hinder digital transformation and service delivery efficiency.
- Limited financial resources, technical capacity, and high infrastructure costs constrain implementation and long-term system sustainability.
- High exposure to climate change and environmental risks continues to threaten infrastructure resilience and sustainable urban development³⁵.

Strategic Priorities

- Strengthen inter-agency coordination and collaboration between **MELAD, Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs (MCIA), and local Councils** to improve integrated waste and pollution management systems.
- Increase investment in climate-resilient infrastructure and strengthen maintenance systems to improve service reliability and long-term sustainability.
- Expand equitable access to reliable water, sanitation, and sustainable energy services, including renewable energy generation and grid improvements.
- Prioritize resilient transport infrastructure development to strengthen national connectivity and improve accessibility across island communities.
- Strengthen ICT infrastructure and digital connectivity to support inclusive digital transformation and enhance public service delivery.
- Mobilize sustainable financing and strengthen development partnerships to support critical infrastructure development and urban resilience initiatives.
- Build institutional and technical capacity to improve implementation effectiveness, operational sustainability, and service delivery outcomes.
- Strengthen disaster preparedness through integrated planning, early warning systems, and risk-informed decision-making to reduce disaster-related losses and enhance national resilience³⁶.

³⁵ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

³⁶ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

5.5 SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

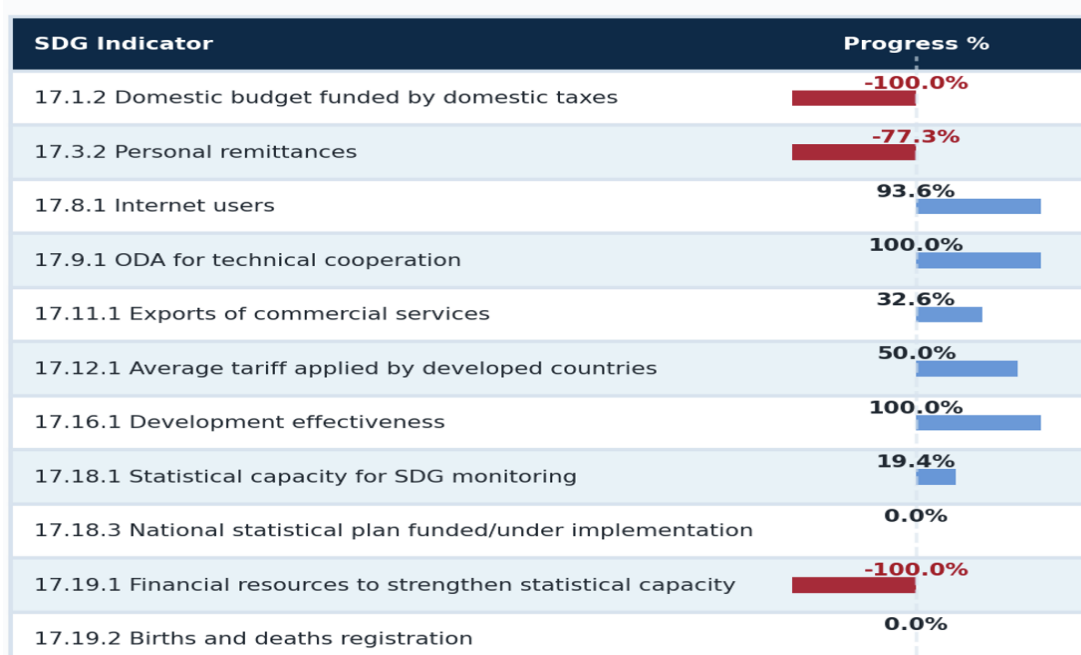
Progress under SDG 17 reflects mixed outcomes and overall progress of **10.7 per cent**. Strong performance was recorded in development effectiveness, technical cooperation, internet access, and international support mechanisms, demonstrating the value of partnerships in advancing national development priorities. Moderate gains were also observed in statistical capacity for SDG monitoring. However, challenges remain in domestic resource mobilization, financial resources for statistical strengthening, and remittance-related indicators. Continued efforts to strengthen financing mechanisms and national statistical systems will be critical to support evidence-based implementation and monitoring of the SDGs³⁷.

Figure 13: Kiribati's overall progress against SDG 17

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen means of implementation and global partnerships

Overall Progress %: 10.7%



Persistent Challenges

- Limited technical and institutional capacity.
- Weak project delivery and coordination across stakeholders.
- Heavy reliance on ODA and external funding.
- Weak private sector development and narrow revenue base.
- Geographic isolation and high service delivery costs.
- Weak data and monitoring systems and climate vulnerability³⁸.

³⁷ ESCAP, SDG Profile: Kiribati 2025, Tableau Public dashboard, 2026

³⁸ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

Strategic Priorities

- Strengthen institutional and human capacity through training and technical assistance.
- Improve whole-of-government coordination and project management systems.
- Strengthen public financial management and domestic revenue mobilization.
- Promote PPPs, joint ventures, and private sector development.
- Leverage international and regional partnerships for service delivery and climate finance.
- Strengthen data systems, monitoring frameworks, and climate-resilient planning.
- Regular convening of the Development Partners Forum should be prioritized to strengthen coordination, enhance development partner engagement, and improve alignment with national development priorities³⁹.

³⁹ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

6.0 Emerging Challenges

Kiribati faces interconnected challenges including severe climate change impacts, geographic isolation, economic vulnerability, population pressures, human capacity gaps, health burdens, inadequate infrastructure, and institutional constraints all of which limit sustainable and inclusive development.

These challenges are deeply interconnected. Climate change exacerbates economic vulnerability and infrastructure needs, while geographic isolation intensifies service delivery and governance constraints. Addressing them requires an integrated, cross-sectoral approach, which is central to Kiribati's development initiatives.

6.1 Climate Change and Environmental Threats

Climate change remains the most critical challenge for Kiribati. Rising sea levels, coastal erosion, and saltwater intrusion are already affecting freshwater supplies, agriculture, and settlements. Increased frequency and intensity of storms further threaten infrastructure and livelihoods. These impacts not only pose significant risks to natural resources, food and water security, but also risk long-term displacement, loss of cultural heritage, and reduced economic opportunities.

Climate change also contributes to marine ecosystem degradation, coastal pollution, and increasing pressure on limited land resources, further affecting fisheries, biodiversity, food security, and community resilience⁴⁰.

6.2 Geographic Isolation and Dispersion

Kiribati's widely scattered islands across a vast ocean area create significant logistical and economic challenges. Delivering basic services such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure to remote outer islands is costly and complex. This results in unequal access to opportunities and services, reinforcing regional disparities and limiting inclusive development.

6.3 Economic Vulnerability and Limited Diversification

Kiribati's economy remains highly dependent on a narrow range of revenue sources, particularly fisheries revenues from fishing license fees and financial support from development partners. While these sources have provided important fiscal stability and enabled significant public investment, the concentration of revenue streams leaves the economy highly vulnerable to external shocks. Changes in global economic conditions, fluctuations in tuna stocks and migration patterns linked to climate change, and uncertainties in development assistance can have substantial impacts on government revenues and economic performance.

Furthermore, there is also heightened vulnerability to external shocks due to an increasing reliance on international labour mobility and remittances to support

⁴⁰ NSO, HIES 2024/25, Natural Disasters and Climate Change Fact Sheet

household incomes. Moreover, structural dependency on imported food, fuel, and commodities exacerbates economic susceptibility to global inflationary pressures, volatile commodity prices, and maritime shipping disruptions.

6.4 Rapid Population Growth and Urbanization

Population growth, especially in South Tarawa, is placing increasing pressure on already limited land, housing, water, sanitation, and public services. Overcrowding contributes to health risks, environmental degradation, and social challenges. At the same time, outer islands may experience underdevelopment as people migrate toward urban centres.

Rapid urbanization also contributes to informal settlements, growing youth unemployment, increased waste management challenges, and pressure on already limited land sources in South Tarawa⁴¹.

6.5 Human Capacity Constraints

Kiribati faces ongoing challenges in developing a skilled and productive workforce. Gaps in education quality, limited access to higher education and TVET, and weak alignment between skills and labour market needs contribute to unemployment and underemployment, particularly among youth. Capacity limitations within the public sector also affect service delivery and policy implementation.

6.6 Health Challenges

Kiribati continues to face a **double burden of disease**, NCDs and communicable diseases posing significant challenges to population health and placing considerable strain on the national health system. The high prevalence of NCDs is largely driven by lifestyle-related risk factors, including poor dietary practices, tobacco use, physical inactivity, and excessive consumption of alcohol and kava.

At the same time, communicable diseases remain a persistent public health concern, driven by factors such as poor personal hygiene practices, overcrowding, limited access to clean water and sanitation, low vaccination coverage, malnutrition, constrained access to health care services, travel and migration patterns, environmental conditions, limited health education, and weaknesses in public health systems.

These challenges are further compounded by limited healthcare infrastructure, workforce shortages, maternal and child health concerns, and emerging health risks. Together, these interconnected pressures underscore the need for strengthened primary health care systems, expanded preventive health interventions, improved

⁴¹ Government of Kiribati, KDP 2024-2027, 2024

health promotion and education, and sustained investment in resilient and equitable health service delivery across Kiribati⁴².

6.7 Infrastructure and Service Gaps

Significant gaps remain in essential infrastructure, including water supply, sanitation, transport, energy, and ICT. Many systems are not climate-resilient, increasing vulnerability to environmental shocks. Limited connectivity also restricts access to markets, information, and services, particularly in remote areas.

6.8 Governance and Institutional Capacity

While progress has been made, challenges remain in coordination, policy implementation, and performance management across government institutions. Limited data availability and monitoring systems can hinder evidence-based decision-making. Strengthening transparency, accountability, and institutional effectiveness is essential for delivering development outcomes.

6.9 Geopolitical Risks

The ongoing global fuel crisis poses an emerging risk for Pacific Island nations, where heavy reliance on imported oil amplifies the impact of supply chain disruptions and rising fuel prices. For Kiribati, these global geopolitical tensions, inflation, and soaring shipping costs create severe economic uncertainty. These interconnected external shocks drive up the costs of transport, electricity, and infrastructure development, while directly threatening food security and escalating the overall cost of public service delivery.

⁴² NSO, HIES 2024-25, Health Report

7.0 Delivering Results: Strengthening Kiribati's Capacity to Implement the 2030 Agenda

Kiribati is committed to achieving its KDP priorities and SDG commitments through strong collaboration across all levels of government, society, and the private sector. This section examines the enabling conditions while identifying key constraints and opportunities for improvement.

7.1 Financing Development Initiatives

With limited financial resources, Kiribati continues to strengthen and diversify its development financing through several key measures:

- Expanding diplomatic relations to increase support from development partners.
- Building national capacity to access major funding sources such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF).
- Strengthening tax laws and improving revenue collection.
- Enhancing public financial management, including the introduction of Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS).
- Establishing and strengthening coordination mechanisms such as the Development Coordinating Committee (DCC) and DIME Taskforce to ensure prioritization, efficient resource allocation, and alignment with national and international priorities.

7.2 Human and Institutional Capacity

Human resource gaps continue to constrain implementation, with high staff turnover, workforce shortages, and limited technical capacity undermining Kiribati's ability to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

To address these challenges, Kiribati is strengthening coordination and capacity through:

- Improved education policies to expand access from preschool to Year 12, including a no-quota scholarship policy for eligible students studying locally
- An active Human Resource Planning Committee to align national skill needs with scholarship allocation
- Targeted training and capacity-building programs delivered by government ministries, local institutions (KIT, MTC, Kiribati Teachers College - KTC), and development partners

7.3 Data and Digital Systems

To strengthen official statistics and data-driven planning across Government, it is recommended that all ministries and relevant agencies ensure access to training in official statistics, supported by greater Government investment in dedicated data and statistics personnel across all public institutions. The National Statistics Office (NSO) and relevant development partners should provide targeted capacity-building support to line ministries on the development of proxy indicators, with the objective of strengthening alignment between KDP and SDG indicator frameworks and improving

the design of indicators that measure meaningful outcomes and impacts on beneficiaries rather than simply tracking the number of activities delivered.

Line ministries should strengthen their internal data systems to ensure that all relevant data is systematically captured, stored, and maintained in a single, accessible repository, with the source of each figure clearly recorded to enable rapid verification and build confidence in reported results. The DIME Taskforce should convene regularly throughout the reporting cycle, operating to clear timelines and firm data submission deadlines, so that data collection proceeds in a steady and structured manner rather than being compressed close to the reporting date. Data collection and validation should commence early in each cycle and be updated on a rolling basis throughout the year, ensuring that the reporting process draws on current, verified data rather than figures compiled under time pressure.

7.4 Integration of SDGs into National Frameworks and Communities

The Government ensures alignment between national priorities and the SDGs through the development of the KDP and Sector Strategic Plans. However, awareness of the SDGs is largely concentrated among those directly involved in these processes, while community-level awareness remains limited. Communities are nonetheless indirectly engaged through consultations during national planning processes.

There is an opportunity to strengthen SDG integration and awareness across government, the private sector, and civil society by leveraging existing consultation mechanisms, such as those used in the development of the KDP.

8.0 Kiribati's Quantum Leap Forward

8.1 Key Findings from the VNR Process

The process of developing Kiribati's second VNR provided an important opportunity to reflect on the formulation and implementation of national development plans. While awareness of the SDGs remains limited at the community level, the development of the KDP has ensured strong alignment between national priorities and the SDGs, enabling individuals and communities to contribute to SDG commitments through their everyday activities and development initiatives across all levels of society.

At the institutional level, while Government Ministries demonstrate general awareness of the SDGs, capacity gaps were identified in aligning ministry-level indicators with SDG indicators and in designing activities that effectively contribute to both their respective KDP indicators and the broader SDG framework.

The review process also highlighted the need to place greater emphasis on SDG integration in the development of the next KDP, particularly through more inclusive and coordinated whole-of-government consultation processes to strengthen alignment, ownership, and implementation across all sectors.

Other Key Findings:

- Coordination challenges: Gaps in multi-sector coordination among government ministries can delay implementation, particularly in the outer islands.
- Limited financial resources: Persistent funding constraints affect the delivery of critical services and infrastructure, such as safe and functional schools and health clinics in outer island communities.
- Geographic dispersion: The dispersal of islands increases the difficulty and cost of delivering essential services nationwide.
- Human resource constraints: There is a strong need to upskill the workforce to effectively plan, implement, monitor, and sustain development initiatives.
- Limited capacity to collect, manage, and utilize reliable data also hinders progress tracking and evidence-based decision-making.

8.2 Strategic Priorities for 2026–2030

Kiribati's strategic priorities focus on strengthening resilience and promoting inclusive development. The government remains committed to:

- Expanding equitable access to quality education, healthcare, and essential services, especially for vulnerable groups and outer island communities.
- Investing in human and institutional capacity to strengthen implementation, improve public service delivery, and address data gaps through enhanced monitoring and evaluation systems, strengthened data collection and reporting mechanisms, improved inter-agency coordination, and targeted technical capacity development for data management and indicator alignment.
- Pursuing economic diversification through fisheries value addition, tourism development, private sector growth, and employment creation.

- Building climate-resilient infrastructure, expanding renewable energy, improving transport systems, and expanding digital connectivity to support a more sustainable and connected future.

8.3 International Cooperation Needs

International cooperation continues to play a vital role in supporting Kiribati's sustainable development efforts and addressing challenges arising from geographic isolation, limited land resources, and high vulnerability to climate change. Through partnerships with development partners, international financial institutions, regional organizations, and technical agencies, Kiribati is implementing transformative infrastructure investments that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, the Doha Programme of Action (DPoA), and the priorities outlined in the Kiribati Development Plan (KDP) 2024–2027. Key flagship projects include:

- i. Kiribati National Ports Development Programme (Betio and Kiritimati Ports)
- ii. Land Reclamation Programme
- iii. South Tarawa Water Security and Desalination Programme
- iv. Outer Islands Infrastructure Project (OIIP)
- v. Renewable Energy Transition Programme
- vi. Climate Resilience and Coastal Protection Programme

These flagship projects contribute to progress across SDGs 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, and 17, while illustrating the important role of international cooperation in supporting Kiribati's sustainable development, climate resilience, and economic development.

8.4 Enabling Implementation

The following cross-cutting priorities are essential for effective implementation of Kiribati's development agenda:

- Strengthened whole-of-government coordination: Strengthen integrated planning frameworks, improve inter-ministerial collaboration, and enhance partnerships with SOEs and development partners to ensure efficient implementation, especially in outer islands.
- Improved financing and resource mobilization: Mobilize external financing and strengthen partnerships with development partners, prioritize high-impact investments, and improve resource allocation and maintenance planning.
- Enhanced equitable service delivery across dispersed islands: Invest in resilient and integrated transport and ICT infrastructure, expand decentralized service delivery, and adopt scalable, island-specific solutions to improve access.
- Strengthened human capacity and data systems: Build technical capacity through training and skills development, strengthen institutional capacity, and improve data systems and digital platforms to support monitoring, planning, and evidence-based decision-making.

8.5 Charging Our Course to 2030

As Kiribati looks towards 2030, it does so with a clear understanding of both the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. While significant progress has been achieved across a number of SDGs and KDP priorities, persistent structural constraints, including geographic isolation, limited resources, capacity challenges, and

the accelerating impacts of climate change, continue to affect the pace and scale of development progress.

The findings of this VNR reaffirm that sustainable development in Kiribati requires a whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach, underpinned by strong institutions, evidence-based decision-making, and inclusive partnerships. Guided by the KDP 2024–2027 and KV20, Kiribati remains committed to advancing the 2030 Agenda and ensuring that no one is left behind.

Achieving these ambitions will require sustained national leadership, strengthened resilience, enhanced access to financing, technology transfer, and capacity development, as well as continued support from development partners and the international community. Through collective action, strengthened partnerships, and the resilience of its people, Kiribati remains committed to building a more inclusive, sustainable, and climate-resilient future for present and future generations.

— *End of Report* —

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Annex 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – The KDP At A Glance

The Kiribati Development Plan 2024 - 2027 is the third development plan to implement the Kiribati Vision 2016 - 2036 of a sustainable healthier, wealthier and peaceful nation. It focusses on the same six Key Priority Areas (KPAs) used in the former KDP 2020 - 2023 with refinement to the KPAs noting the last KDP were more target oriented rather than focusing on the broader priority areas.

1. KPA 1: Human Resource Development
2. KPA 2: Economic Wealth and Hardship Alleviation
3. KPA 3: Health
4. KPA 4: Environment and Resilience
5. KPA 5: Governance
6. KPA 6: Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy

The plan was developed through extensive consultations and marks the second time Kiribati nationals have taken the lead, fully engaging in its formulation and finalization.

KPA 1: Human Resource Development

Human Resource Development (HRD) in Kiribati focuses on enhancing the skills, knowledge, and competencies of the workforce to support national development goals beginning with early education. It encompasses education, training, and capacity-building initiatives aimed at improving employment opportunities, productivity, and economic growth.

- a. Early Education to University Level – Covering preschool through to higher education, this stage is crucial for establishing a strong foundation in lifelong learning, behavior, and health.
- b. Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) – Targeting school leavers and disengaged youth, TVET provides practical skills to enhance employment opportunities.
- c. Capacity building for civil servants – Strengthening the skills and competencies through education and training in Kiribati as well as overseas.

While early education lays the groundwork for labor market participation, continuous learning through professional attachments, further training, and diverse experiences is essential for long-term individual and national progress. By integrating all three stages early education, TVET, and civil service development—Kiribati can maximize the potential of its most valuable assets: its people, resources, and economy.

Despite efforts, Kiribati faces multiple HRD challenges: limited access to quality education, underdeveloped TVET systems, lack of inclusion for special needs students, low teacher performance, and insufficient capacity-building for civil servants. Additionally, the absence of a strategic workforce plan hinders effective service delivery and long-term economic growth.

Key strategies to overcome the identified issues:

1. Facilitate and assist student enrolment at all grade levels.
2. Enhancing student performance and teacher quality.
3. Foster an inclusive and violence-free school environment.

4. Identify students with special needs and ensure they have access to education in mainstream schools.
5. Strengthen and provide pathways for accessible formal and informal training opportunities.
6. Equip professionals and the public/private workforce to be qualified, competent, knowledgeable, and trustworthy.
7. Strengthen and enhance HRD systems/strategies that promote continuous learning and address current and future skill gaps.
8. Improve and strengthen public sector performance management.
9. Develop a strategic workforce plan for the public service.

This holistic approach to human resource development ensures that every individual, from early childhood to professional life, has the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to Kiribati's economic and social progress.

KPA 2: Economic Growth and Hardship Alleviation

Kiribati faces considerable economic challenges, including slow economic growth, a rapidly expanding population, and geographic isolation from major trade routes. Additionally, the economy relies on a limited production base, primarily centered on fishing and copra or coconut, making it vulnerable to external shocks and market fluctuations.

These challenges have led to sluggish per capita income growth, low productivity, and heightened marginalization, making Kiribati increasingly vulnerable. Environmental factors, particularly climate change, further exacerbate these issues. The limited size of the private sector places an excessive burden on the Government, which operates under severe revenue constraints. As a result, economic growth has remained insufficient to support the expanding population, leading to high unemployment rates, especially among youth.

Key strategies to overcome the identified issues:

1. Maximize and diversify sustainable income streams and access to viable ocean resources and sustainable revenue resources.
2. Foster and strengthen sustainable tourism and cultural industry development.
3. Promote product development and diversification through Value-Added Processing.
4. Create a favorable and sustainable business environment for both private and foreign investment.
5. Strengthen and improve the collection of existing revenue sources.
6. Enhance the management of the Sovereign Wealth Fund known as the Reserve Equalization Reserve Fund (RERF).
7. Maintain existing overseas employment markets while securing new domestic and international job opportunities.
8. Providing targeted subsidies and social protection measures.
9. Empowering women, youth, and the informal sector.
10. Strengthen access to financial instruments and improve aid coordination.

KPA 3: Health

Providing quality health services across Kiribati remains a challenge due to rapid population growth, inadequate health infrastructure, a shortage of skilled healthcare workers, unhealthy dietary habits, and limited awareness of preventive measures.

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) continue to be a major public health concern, driven by high tobacco use, excessive alcohol consumption, poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, obesity, high blood pressure, elevated blood glucose, and high cholesterol levels, all of which are behavioral risk factors. These health issues not only strain the healthcare system but also increase vulnerability to diseases such as COVID-19.

Key strategies to overcome the identified issues:

1. Strengthen partnerships through a multi-sectoral approach to address non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
2. Enhance initiatives and create an enabling environment to tackle NCD risk factors.
3. Improve the prevention, detection, and management of targeted communicable diseases (CDs).
4. Strengthen the prevention, detection, and management of targeted neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).
5. Improve the availability, accessibility, and quality of maternal and newborn care during pregnancy, delivery, and the postpartum period.
6. Reduce the burden of child malnutrition by addressing comorbidities, promoting exclusive breastfeeding, and ensuring appropriate complementary feeding.
7. Enhance workforce planning, development, and retention strategies.
8. Support the construction of new healthcare facilities and the maintenance and upgrading of existing ones.
9. Promote a violence-free, healthy lifestyle among women, youth, and people with disabilities.
10. Support the expansion of existing healthcare services and the introduction of new ones.
11. Strengthen mechanisms for preventing and responding to gender-based violence (GBV).
12. Implement preventative programs for mental health, accidents, and suicide prevention.

KPA 4: Environment and Resilience

Global climate change-driven sea level rise, saltwater intrusion, and more frequent and intense storms pose a significant threat to the people and natural environment of the Republic of Kiribati, making it one of the most highly vulnerable countries to climate change impacts. Locally, we face environmental degradation of our islands and surrounding ocean, including escalating unmanaged non-biodegradable waste, increased pollution, biodiversity and habitat loss due to invasive species, unsustainable resource extraction, and unsustainable land use. These challenges have economic, cultural, and social repercussions, including decreased food security, disassociation from cultural practices, and reduced scope for sustainable livelihoods tied to natural resources.

Rebuilding and safeguarding Kiribati's natural environment by protecting biodiversity, ecosystem functions, and sustainably managing ecosystem services linked to the economy, cultural heritage, and society is critical to national survival. KPA 4 focuses on ensuring development actions build environmental resilience to climate change impacts. Through the KDP and associated policies (e.g., KIEP, KJIP), and with support from all levels, Kiribati will build a strong foundation for environmental resilience. We are committed to preserving our sovereignty, cultural identity, heritage, and way of life, while ensuring development promotes environmental, cultural, and economic resilience to external threats.

Key strategies to overcome the identified issues:

1. Focus on removing, reducing, and managing the atoll vulnerabilities and local environmental threats, and building and enhancing key drivers for environmental resilience to minimize current and future impact associated with climate change, natural and human – induced hazards, and disaster risks.
2. Strengthen, improve and enhancing the protection, conservation, sustainable management, and restoration of ecosystems and natural resources, while strengthening their resilience and adaptive capacities to climate change, environmental degradation and other environmental stressors.
3. Strengthen and integrate domestic farming systems guided by traditional ecological knowledge, to ensure access to a consistent supply of healthy and nutritious food, utilizing sector-specific approaches do not compromise, and where possible build, environmental resilience to climate change impacts.
4. Strengthen land administration and planning policies and practices, including efficient land allocation for diverse purposes, to build a dynamic, environmentally sustainable urban economy while supporting rural development and environmental.
5. Strengthen and improve data and information about historical and cultural heritages through Cultural Mapping in Kiribati.
6. Protecting and preserving cultural and historical sites and war relics from climate change impacts and other development and social activities through collaboration with stakeholders and incentives for site owners.
7. Understanding and documenting diversity in cultural values to support meaningful investment and to protect and preserve Cultural Heritage.

KPA 5: Governance

The Government of Kiribati aims for a corrupt-free society through the strengthening of its legislative and regulatory frameworks, as well as ensuring effective enforcement and compliance with these frameworks. This includes enhancing the independence of institutions to promote good governance and eliminate corruption.

Key strategies to overcome the identified issues:

1. Strengthen and enhance legal sectors and institutions.
2. Improve accountability and transparency.
3. Enhance institutional service delivery with a focus on people-centered services.
4. Promote and advocate for good governance.

All aspects of good governance are essential to defending the fundamental liberties and rights guaranteed by the Constitution to every Kiribati citizen. It is built on a democratic society supported by the three arms of government; the executive, legislative and judicial branches. The people are at the center of these interdependent but separate institutions.

KPA 6: Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy

As a small island developing state, Kiribati faces significant challenges in infrastructure development. Despite notable improvements in recent years, this KDP recognizes the ongoing need for increased investment to enhance transport and connectivity, coastal protection and land reclamation, sanitation, water systems, and communications infrastructure.

Key strategies to overcome the identified issues:

1. Ensure safe drinking water sources and proper sanitation.
2. Provide safer and more effective building infrastructure.
3. Develop, upgrade, and maintain marine and coastal infrastructure.
4. Develop, upgrade, and sustain land transport infrastructure.
5. Enhance air transport infrastructure.
6. Improve renewable energy supply in compliance with the Energy Act and Regulation.
7. Strengthen the grid power supply in Kiribati in accordance with the Energy Act and Regulation.
8. Enhance appliances' compliance with Energy Act and Regulation.
9. Improve access to communication technologies and connectivity.
10. Enhance access to quality information and e-services for all citizens, government agencies, and external stakeholders.

Common Issues, Strategies, Outcomes and Key Performance Indicators

In developing the Kiribati Development Plan (KDP), four key elements were identified to shape the various sectors:

1. Common Issues – Shared challenges across sectors that need to be addressed.
2. Common Strategies – Coordinated approaches to tackle these challenges.
3. Common Outcomes – Desired results that align with national development goals.
4. Common Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) – Metrics to measure progress and effectiveness.

We refer to **Common Issues as Key Priority Areas (KPA)**. During consultations with ministries, stakeholders, non-government organizations (NGOs), and civil society organizations (CSOs), various issues were identified. These issues were categorized into similar groups and recognized as gaps hindering desired development. As a result, they have been prioritized based on urgency and impact, ensuring that efforts are focused on the most critical areas for national progress.

To address the common issues identified as KPAs, realistic **Common Strategies** were developed based on ministries' strategic plans. The Kiribati Development Plan (KDP) aligns its framework with achievable goals that correspond to each ministry's activities. Just as the Common Issues were identified through consultation, the Common

Strategies were designed to be inclusive and broadly applicable across sectors. However, specific activities to achieve these priorities are not detailed within the KDP itself but are instead outlined in the respective ministry strategic plans.

Outcomes are the desired results that reflect progress toward achieving national development goals. They serve as benchmarks for measuring success and ensuring that policies, strategies, and initiatives contribute effectively to the country's long-term growth and sustainability.

The **Key Performance Indicator (KPI)** is a critical metric used to **measure progress and key achievements** toward specific objectives. KPI's help track the effectiveness of strategies and ensure that development efforts are aligned with national goals.

The KDP is a short-term plan towards fulfilling the long-term plan of the Government, of the KV-20. There will be a total of four KDPs; making this current KDP 2024 – 2027 the third plan towards realizing the full objective of the long-term vision of Government, laid out in the KV-20 plan and aligned with the recent approved Rawannawi Declaration.

Annex 2: Recent trends of Kiribati progress against SDG indicators

Goal	Indicator ID	Series Description	Unit		Value		Trend
Goal 1	1.1.1	Proportion of the population living below the international poverty line	percentage		0.04 (2023)		n/a
	1.2.1	Population living below the national poverty line	% of population	Total	5.5 (2023)		n/a
				Urban	4.2 (2023)		n/a
				Rural	7.4 (2023)		n/a
	1.4.1	Population using basic drinking water services	% of population	Total	74.3 (2020)	75.7 (2022)	
				Urban	86.9 (2020)	87.9 (2022)	
				Rural	58.6 (2020)	59.5 (2022)	
		Population using basic sanitation services	% of population	Total	44.3 (2020)	45.2 (2022)	

				Urban	48.1 (2020)	48.1 (2022)	
				Rural	39.5 (2020)	41.3 (2022)	
	1.5.1	Deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters	Per 100,000 population		0 (2020)	0 (2025)	
		Directly affected persons attributed to disasters	Per 100,000 population		11.9 (2020)	0 (2025)	
	1.5.2	Direct economic loss attributed to disasters	Million US dollars		0.03 (2020)	0 (2025)	
	1.5.3	Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework	Index		0.93 (2020)	0.93 (2021)	
	1.5.4	Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies	Percentage		17.4 (2020)	26.1 (2021)	
	1.a.1	Official development assistance grants for poverty reduction, by recipient countries	% of GNI		4.2 (2020)	2.7 (2023)	
	1.a.2	Proportion of total government spending on essential services	Percentage	Education	12.5 (2020)	13.5 (2023)	
				Health	11.1 (2020)	10.4 (2023)	

				Social Protection	1.3 (2020)	16.8 (2023)	
Goal 2	2.1.1	Malnutrition (children under 5 years)	% of population		2.6 (2020)	2.4 (2024)	
	2.1.2	% of population in severe or moderate food insecurity	% of population		41 (2020)	44 (2024)	
	2.2.1	Children moderately or severely stunted	% of children under 5		14.8 (2020)	14.7 (2024)	
	2.2.2	Children moderately or severely overweight	% of children under 5		1.9 (2020)	2.1 (2024)	
		Percentage of Low Birth Weight	Percentage		8.1 (2020)	6.7 (2024)	
	2.2.3	Prevalence of anaemia in women	% of female aged 15-49	Total	25.5 (2020)	26.9 (2023)	
		Prevalence of anaemia in women		Non-pregnant	25.2 (2020)	26.8 (2023)	
		Prevalence of anaemia in women		Pregnant	29.5 (2020)	29.4 (2023)	
	2.4.1	[PROXY] Progress toward productive and sustainable agriculture, current status score	Scores		2.6 (2020)	2.6 (2023)	

	2.4.1 proxy	Percentage of land area utilised in agriculture farming (coconut only and agroforestry)	Percentage		0.03 (2024)	0.04 (2025)	
	2.5.1	Number of local breeds kept in the country	Number		2 (2020)	2 (2025)	
		Number of transboundary breeds (including extinct ones)	Number		8 (2020)	8 (2025)	
	2.a.1	Agriculture orientation index for government expenditures	Index		0.04 (2020)	0.05 (2023)	
	2.a.2	Official flows (disbursements) for agriculture, total, by recipient	Million 2022 US dollars		6.4 (2020)	7.4 (2023)	
	2.c.1	Indicator of Food Price Anomalies (IFPA), by Consumer Food Price Index	Index		0.6 (2020)	-0.2 (2023)	
	2	Life Expectancy at Birth	Age	Male	66.8 (2020)	64.2 (2024)	
		Life Expectancy at Birth		Female	76.2 (2020)	72.4 (2024)	
Goal 3	3.1.1	Maternal mortality	Deaths per 100 000 live births		90.4 (2015)	79.8 (2023)	
	3.2.1	Infant mortality rate	Deaths per 1,000 live births	Total	29.3 (2020)	27.0 (2024)	

		Under-five mortality, rate	Deaths per 1,000 live births	Male	46.5 (2015)	43.7 (2023)	
				Female	37.7 (2015)	35.5 (2023)	
				Total	47.9 (2020)	45.4 (2024)	
				Male	63.6 (2015)	59.5 (2023)	
				Female	54.0 (2015)	50.5 (2023)	
	3.2.2	Neonatal mortality rate	Deaths per 1,000 live births		23.6 (2015)	22.4 (2023)	
Goal 4	4.1.1	Minimum proficiency for end primary, both sexes	Percentage	Numeracy	72 (2021)		n/a
				Literacy	26 (2021)		n/a
	4.2.2	Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age)	Percentage		97.7 (2020)		n/a
	4.3.1	Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months	% of population	Total	8.6 (2020)	12.2 (2023)	

				aged 15-24	26.0 (2020)	38.7 (2023)	
				aged 25-64	1.4 (2020)	2.4 (2023)	
		Proportion of 15-24 year-olds enrolled in vocational education	Percentage	Total	1.4 (2021)	1.3 (2023)	
	4.5.1	Gender parity index of teachers in education who are trained	Female-to-male ratio	Pre-primary	2 (2020)	1.2 (2024)	
				Primary	0.99 (2020)	1.04 (2024)	
				Lower secondary	1.01 (2020)	1.05 (2024)	
				Secondary	1.05 (2024)		n/a
				Upper-secondary	1.07 (2020)	0.98 (2024)	
	4.a.1	Schools with access to basic drinking water	Percentage	Primary	96.9 (2020)	74.2 (2024)	
				Lower secondary	100 (2020)	80.6 (2024)	

		Schools with access to computers for pedagogical purposes	Percentage	Upper-secondary	94.7 (2020)	100 (2024)	
				Primary	22.7 (2020)	29.9 (2024)	
				Lower secondary	62.5 (2020)	54.8 (2024)	
				Upper-secondary	78.9 (2020)	90 (2024)	
		Schools with access to electricity	Percentage	Primary	69.1 (2020)	87.6 (2024)	
				Lower secondary	96.9 (2020)	77.4 (2024)	
				Upper-secondary	94.7 (2020)	100 (2024)	
		Schools with access to internet for pedagogical purposes	Percentage	Primary	7.2 (2020)	13.4 (2024)	
				Lower secondary	46.9 (2020)	71.0 (2024)	
				Upper-secondary	78.9 (2020)	100 (2024)	

		Schools with access to single-sex basic sanitation	Percentage	Primary	74.2 (2020)	72.2 (2024)		
				Lower secondary	71.9 (2020)	58.1 (2024)		
				Upper-secondary	94.7 (2020)	95 (2024)		
		Schools with basic handwashing facilities	Percentage	Primary	59.8 (2021)	88.7 (2024)		
				Lower secondary	62.5 (2021)	61.3 (2024)		
				Upper-secondary	89.5 (2021)	70 (2024)		
	4.b.1	Official flows for scholarships, total, by recipient	Million 2022 US dollars			3.6 (2020)	2.4 (2023)	
	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications	Percentage	Pre-primary	Total	97.8 (2020)	93.2 (2024)	
					Male	75 (2024)		n/a
					Female	97.8 (2020)	93.7 (2024)	

			Percentage	Primary	Total	90.3 (2020)	89.4 (2024)	
					Male	91.3 (2020)	86.1 (2024)	
					Female	90.1 (2020)	90.0 (2024)	
			Percentage	Upper-secondary	Total	82.7 (2020)	87.3 (2024)	
					Male	82.4 (2020)	84.3 (2024)	
					Female	83.0 (2020)	89.0 (2024)	
			Percentage	Secondary	Total	67.9 (2020)	62.3 (2024)	
					Male	65.0 (2020)	60.3 (2024)	
					Female	69.6 (2020)	63.5 (2024)	
			Percentage	Upper-secondary	Total	46.6 (2020)	37.8 (2024)	

					Male	44.6 (2020)	38.3 (2024)	
					Female	48.2 (2020)	37.5 (2024)	
Goal 5	5.5.1	Seats held by women in national parliament	% of seats			6.5 (2020)	11.1 (2025)	
	5.5.2	Women in managerial positions (15+)	% of seats			43.4 (2020)	49 (2024)	
	5.b.1	Gender parity index of individuals using a mobile cellular telephone	Female-to-male ratio			0.74 (2023)		n/a
		Mobile phone ownership	% of population (10+)			46 (2024)		n/a
Goal 6	6.1.1	Population using an improved drinking water source	% of population	Total	88 (2024)		n/a	
				Urban	95 (2024)		n/a	
				Rural	81 (2024)		n/a	
		Proportion of households using improved drinking water services by season	% of households	Wet season	81 (2025)		n/a	
				Dry season	79 (2025)		n/a	
		Population using safely managed drinking water	% of population	Total	14.3 (2020)	15.1 (2024)		

	6.2.1			Urban	20.4 (2020)	20.9 (2024)	
				Rural	6.7 (2020)	7.0 (2024)	
		Population practicing open defecation (%)	% of population	Total	34.2 (2020)	32.4 (2024)	
				Urban	21.0 (2020)	20.0 (2024)	
				Rural	50.9 (2020)	49.7 (2024)	
		Population using safely managed sanitation services	% of population	Total	24.1 (2020)	24.6 (2024)	
				Urban	25.3 (2020)	25.3 (2024)	
				Rural	22.7 (2020)	23.7 (2024)	
		[Proxy] Proportion of population living in households with safely managed sanitation facilities (Source: UN Women 2025 Gender Environmental Survey)	% of population	Total	37 (2025)		n/a
				Male	37 (2025)		n/a

				Female	37 (2025)		n/a
		Proportion of population living in households where sanitation facilities are poorly illuminated, lack a lock, or are shared with other households	% of population	Total	80 (2025)		n/a
				Male	80 (2025)		n/a
				Female	81 (2025)		n/a
		Population with basic handwashing facilities on premises	% of population	Total	62.0 (2020)	62.2 (2024)	
				Urban	64.7 (2020)	64.7 (2024)	
				Rural	58.6 (2020)	58.6 (2024)	
	6.3.1	Safely treated domestic wastewater	Percentage		30.8 (2020)	32.9 (2024)	
	6.a.1	Official development assistance (total gross disbursement) for water supply and sanitation, by recipient	Million 2022 US dollars		5.4 (2020)	5.8 (2023)	
	Goal 7	7.1.1	Access to electricity (SDG)	% of population	Total	91 (2020)	91 (2024)
Rural					94.3 (2020)	95 (2024)	

				Urban		88.4 (2020)	87 (2024)	
		Access to electricity	% of population	Grid	Total	55 (2025)		n/a
					Rural	4 (2025)		n/a
					Urban	85 (2025)		n/a
	7.1.2	Population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technologies for cooking	% of population	Total		11.9 (2020)	16.4 (2023)	
				Rural		1.7 (2020)	2.2 (2023)	
				Urban		19.6 (2020)	25.7 (2023)	
		Proportion of households by person in charge of gathering cooking fuel	% of population	Male		41 (2025)		n/a
				Female		32 (2025)		n/a
				Nobody fetches fuel/Don't know		27 (2025)		n/a
		Proportion of households by person in charge of cooking	% of population	Clean	Male	15 (2025)		n/a
					Female	85 (2025)		n/a

				Unclean	Male	11 (2025)		n/a
					Female	89 (2025)		n/a
	7.2.1	Renewable energy share of total final energy consumption, renewables (SDG)	% of total final energy consumption			42.2 (2020)	41.9 (2022)	
	7.3.1	Energy intensity level of primary energy (SDG)	Megajoules per unit of GDP in 2021 PPP			4.9 (2020)	4.4 (2022)	
	7.a.1	International support for clean energy and renewable energy	Million 2021 US dollars			12.9 (2020)	0.1 (2023)	
	7.b.1	Renewable electricity capacity, total	Watts per capita			25.5 (2020)	24.2 (2023)	
Goal 8	8.1.1	GDP per capita growth rate (2015 US dollars, average annual)	% change per capita per annum			-3.2 (2020)	1.1 (2023)	
	8.3.1	Proportion of informal employment, by sector and sex - 19th ICLS	% of population	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Total	92.5 (2020)		n/a
					Male	93.4 (2020)		n/a
					Female	87.8 (2020)		n/a
			% of population	Non-agriculture	Total	42.9 (2020)		n/a
					Male	38.1 (2020)		n/a

					Female	47.1 (2020)		n/a
	Domestic material consumption	Intensity	Kg per 1 USD (2015) GDP			3.0 (2020)	2.8 (2023)	
		Total	Tons per capita			5.3 (2020)	5.4 (2023)	
	Unemployment rate - 13th ICLS (15+ years)	% of labour force aged 15+				11 (2020)	3 (2024)	
	Unemployment rate (15+)	% of population	Rural			3 (2024)		n/a
			Urban			3 (2024)		n/a
8.6.1	Not in Employment, Education, Training (NEET)	% of population aged 15-24				54 (2020)	33 (2024)	
8.8.2	Level of national compliance with labour rights	Score from 0 (better) to 10 (worse) compliance with labour rights				1.2 (2020)	0.7 (2023)	
8.a.1	Aid for trade, total official flows (commitments), by recipient	Million 2022 US dollars				78.8 (2020)	27.1 (2023)	
8.b.1	National strategy for youth employment	Scores				0 (2023)	1 (2024)	

Goal 9	9.1.2	Air transport freight	Million ton-km		0 (2020)	0.3 (2022)	
		Air transport passengers carried	Million passenger-km		9.4 (2020)	12.8 (2022)	
	9.2.1	GDP by activity: Manufacturing	% of GDP (2015 USD)		5.3 (2020)	4.6 (2024)	
			2015 US dollars per capita		93.4 (2020)	95.0 (2024)	
	9.2.2	Manufacturing employment as a % of total employment (15+)	% of population	Total	13 (2024)		n/a
				Rural	16 (2024)		n/a
				Urban	12 (2024)		n/a
	9.a.1	Total official flows for infrastructure, by recipient	Million 2022 US dollars		3.0 (2020)	28.1 (2023)	
	9.c.1	Population covered by mobile network	% of population	At least 3G	72.1 (2020)	75 (2023)	
				At least 4G	53.3 (2020)	65 (2023)	

				At least 5G	0 (2020)	0 (2023)	
Goal 10	10.2.1	Population living below 50 percent of median income	% of population		13 (2024)		n/a
	10.7.4	Population who are refugees, by country of origin	Number of people		0 (2021)	5 (2024)	
	10.a.1	Tariff lines applied to imports with zero-tariff, all products	Percentage		64.3 (2020)	69.9 (2023)	
	10.b.1	FDI inflows	Million US dollars		2.6 (2020)	2.2 (2023)	
		Total assistance for development (ODA+OOF+private), by recipient	Million US dollars		58.0 (2020)	97.5 (2023)	
Goal 11	11.1.1	Urban population living in slums	% of urban population		5.6 (2020)	5.9 (2022)	
	11.5.1	Deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters	Per 100,000 population		0 (2020)	0 (2025)	
		Directly affected persons attributed to disasters	Per 100,000 population		12 (2020)	0 (2025)	
	11.5.2	Direct economic loss attributed to disasters	Million US dollars		0.03 (2020)	0 (2025)	

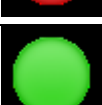
	11.a.1	National urban policies/regional development plans that respond to population dynamics; ensure balanced territorial development; and increase local fiscal space	Yes (1)/No (0)		1 (2020)	1 (2023)	
	11.b.1	Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework	Index		0.93 (2020)	0.93 (2021)	
	11.b.2	Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies	Percentage		17.4 (2020)	26.1 (2021)	
Goal 12	12.2.2	Domestic material consumption	Total	Kg per 1 USD (2015) GDP	3.0 (2020)	2.8 (2023)	
			Intensity	Tons per capita	5.3 (2020)	5.4 (2023)	
	12.3.1	Food waste, total	Kg per capita		102 (2022)		n/a
	12.4.1	Hazardous waste and other chemicals, average Basel/Montreal/Stockholm/Rotterdam convention compliance	Percentage		70 (2020)	45 (2025)	
	12.a.1	Renewable electricity capacity, total	Watts per capita		25.5 (2020)	24.2 (2023)	
	12.b.1	Implementation of standard accounting tools to monitor the economic and environmental aspects of tourism	SEEA tables	Number	0 (2020)		n/a
			Tourism Satellite	Number	0 (2020)		n/a

			Account tables				
Goal 13	13.1.1	Deaths and missing persons attributed to disasters	Per 100,000 population		0 (2020)	0 (2025)	
		Directly affected persons attributed to disasters	Per 100,000 population		12 (2020)	0 (2025)	
	13.1.2	Score of adoption and implementation of national DRR strategies in line with the Sendai Framework	Index		0.93 (2020)	0.93 (2021)	
	13.1.3	Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national DRR strategies	Percentage		17.4 (2020)	26.1 (2021)	
	13	Proportion of population whose dwelling unit or land is located in high environmental-risk areas	% of population	Total		88 (2025)	n/a
				Urban	Male	90 (2025)	n/a
					Female	91 (2025)	n/a
				Rural	Male	84 (2025)	n/a
					Female	84 (2025)	n/a
		Proportion of population exposed hazards in the past 12 months who were able to access and understand early warning information	% of population	Total		36 (2025)	n/a
				Male		37 (2025)	n/a

				Female		35 (2025)	n/a
		Proportion of population exposed to hazards in the past 12 months who put precautionary measures in place for disaster preparedness	% of population	Total		69 (2025)	n/a
				Male		67 (2025)	n/a
				Female		72 (2025)	n/a
		Proportion of population who decreased food intake as a result of climate change	% of population	Double adult HH without children	Total	24 (2025)	n/a
					Male	26 (2025)	n/a
					Female	23 (2025)	n/a
				Double adult HH with children	Total	20 (2025)	n/a
					Male	18 (2025)	n/a
					Female	22 (2025)	n/a
				Single adult HH with children	Total	28 (2025)	n/a
					Male	28 (2025)	n/a
					Female	27 (2025)	n/a
					Total	13 (2025)	n/a

				Single adult HH without children	Male	11 (2025)	n/a
					Female	15 (2025)	n/a
		Proportion of the population who put in place coping strategies to deal with income and/or food shortages as a result of climate change	Preserved food	Total	30 (2025)	n/a	
				Male	25 (2025)	n/a	
				Female	35 (2025)	n/a	
			Ate less	Total	21 (2025)	n/a	
				Male	19 (2025)	n/a	
				Female	22 (2025)	n/a	
			Searched for additional sources of income	Total	12 (2025)	n/a	
				Male	12 (2025)	n/a	
				Female	13 (2025)	n/a	
		Proportion of population with access to information on the effects of climate change	Information on Increase in Temperature	Total	44 (2025)	n/a	
				Male	43 (2025)	n/a	
				Female	44 (2025)	n/a	

			Information on Salinization	Total	29 (2025)	n/a
				Male	27 (2025)	n/a
				Female	30 (2025)	n/a
		Proportion of population who attributed health ailments to the effects of climate change	Physical health effected	Total	33 (2025)	n/a
				Male	41 (2025)	n/a
				Female	28 (2025)	n/a
			Mental health effected	Total	25 (2025)	n/a
				Male	26 (2025)	n/a
				Female	26 (2025)	n/a
Goal 14	14.1.1	Chlorophyll-a deviations, remote sensing	Percentage	2.5 (2020)	0.1 (2022)	
	14.5.1	Proportion of marine key biodiversity areas covered by protected area status	Percentage	32.9 (2020)	32.9 (2024)	
Goal 15	15.1.1	Forest area	% of land area	1.5 (2020)	n/a	

	15.1.2	Important sites for terrestrial biodiversity	Percentage	40 (2020)	40 (2024)	
	15.5.1	Red list index total	Index	0.76 (2020)	0.74 (2024)	
	15.6.1	International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA), contracting party	Yes (1)/No (0)	1 (2020)	1 (2024)	
		Leg., admin./policy framework reported through Online Reporting Sys. on Compliance of the Int. Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food&Agriculture	Yes (1)/No (0)	0 (2020)	0 (2024)	
		Legislative, administrative and policy framework reported to the Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-House	Yes (1)/No (0)	0 (2021)	0 (2024)	
		Nagoya Protocol, country party	Yes (1)/No (0)	1 (2021)	1 (2024)	
		Reported number of Standard Material Transfer Agreements (SMTAs) transferring plant genetic resources for food and agriculture to the country	Number	5 (2020)	6 (2024)	
	15.8.1	Legislation, Regulation, Act related to the prevention of introduction and management of Invasive Alien Species	Yes (1)/No (0)	1 (2020)	1 (2022)	
		National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) targets alignment to Aichi Biodiversity target 9 set out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity	Yes (1)/No (0)	1 (2020)	1 (2022)	

	15.9.1	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans, no national target reflecting Aichi Biodiversity Target 2	Yes (1)/No (0)		1 (2022)			
	15.a.1	Official development assistance for biodiversity, total, by recipient	Million 2022 US dollars		5.2 (2020)	4.1 (2023)		
	15.b.1	Official development assistance for biodiversity, total, by recipient	Million 2022 US dollars		5.2 (2020)	4.1 (2023)		
Goal 16	16.5.1	Prevalence rate of bribery, total	Percentage		64(2021)		n/a	
	16.6.1	Primary government expenditures as share of original approved budget	Percentage		82.1 (2020)	100.8 (2022)		
	16.7.1	Proportions of positions in the public service compared to national distributions	Ratio	Female	0.8 (2020)		n/a	
				Male	1.2 (2020)		n/a	
		16.7.1	Women's representation in parliament (from the age of eligibility), Lower Chamber or Unicameral	Ratio (women's share in parliament over share in total population)		0.13 (2021)	0.21 (2025)	
			16.7.1	Young members representation in parliament (from the age of eligibility to 45), Lower Chamber or Unicameral	Ratio (age group's share in parliament over share in total population)		0.37 (2021)	0.36 (2024)
	16.a.1	Countries with National Human Rights Institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles	0 = No status; 1 = Status B, partially compliant; 2 = Status A, fully compliant		0 (2020)	0 (2024)		

Goal 17	17.1.2	Domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	Percentage	27.0 (2020)	19.4 (2023)	
	17.3.1	FDI inflows	% of GDP	1.2 (2020)	0.8 (2023)	
		Gross receipts by developing countries of mobilised private finance (MPF) - on an experimental basis	Million US dollars	0.036 (2021)		n/a
		Gross receipts by developing countries of official concessional sustainable development loans	Million US dollars	0 (2020)	0 (2023)	
		Gross receipts by developing countries of official sustainable development grants	Million US dollars	54.9 (2020)	98.4 (2023)	
		Gross receipts by developing countries of private grants	Million US dollars	0.1 (2022)		n/a
	17.3.2	Personal remittances received	% of GDP	6.7 (2020)	4.2 (2023)	
	17.6.1	Fixed-broadband subscriptions	Per 100 population	0.15 (2020)	0.04 (2023)	
	17.7.1	Total trade of tracked Environmentally Sound Technologies	Current United States dollars	5,504,212 (2020)	7,151,263 (2021)	
	17.8.1	Individuals using the Internet	% of population	88 (2023)		n/a

	17.9.1	Official development assistance (gross disbursement) for technical cooperation, total	Million 2022 US dollars	11.7 (2020)	20.6 (2023)	
	17.10.1	Most-favoured nation, worldwide weighted tariff-average, all products	Percentage	0 (2020)	0.00037 (2023)	
		Preferential rate, weighted mean, all products	Percentage	0 (2020)	0.00037 (2023)	
	17.11.1	Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global merchandise exports	% of world merchandise exports	0.00005 (2020)	0.00008 (2023)	
		Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global services exports	% of world services exports	0.00022 (2020)	0.00014 (2023)	
	17.12.1	Most-favoured nation, average tariff applied by developed countries, all products	Percentage	3.42 (2020)	3.41 (2023)	
		Preferential rate, average tariff applied by developed countries, all products	Percentage	0.20297 (2020)	0.20299 (2023)	
	17.13.1	Annual GDP growth	Percentage	-0.6 (2020)	4.1 (2023)	
		Annual growth of exports of goods and services	Percentage	-33.6 (2020)	9.9 (2023)	
		Annual growth of households and NPISHs final consumption expenditure	Percentage	-4.4 (2020)	5.4 (2022)	

		Annual growth of imports of goods and services	Percentage	-18.2 (2020)	2.1 (2023)	
		Annual growth of the general government final consumption expenditure	Percentage	-6.5 (2020)	27.7 (2022)	
		Annual growth of the gross capital formation	Percentage	-7.3 (2020)	11.6 (2022)	
		Annual inflation, consumer prices	Percentage	2.6 (2020)	9.3 (2023)	
		Cash surplus/deficit as a proportion of GDP	Percentage	24.5 (2020)	-1.5 (2023)	
		Current account balance	% of GDP	31.9 (2020)	-1.8 (2023)	
		DEC alternative conversion factor	In local currency unit per United States dollar	1.45 (2020)	1.51 (2023)	
		Foreign direct investment, net inflows, as a proportion of GDP	Percentage	1.2 (2020)	1.8 (2023)	
		GDP growth rate (2015 US dollars, average annual)	% change per annum	-1.5 (2020)	2.7 (2023)	
		Merchandise trade as a proportion of GDP	Percentage	63.6 (2020)	117.1 (2023)	

		Portfolio investment, net	Balance of Payments, current United States dollars	2,057,072 (2020)	3,548,248 (2023)	
		Tax revenue as a proportion of GDP	Percentage	21.3 (2020)	18.3 (2023)	
	17.18.1	Data Infrastructure performance index (Statistical Performance Indicators Pillar 5)	Index	15 (2020)	35 (2023)	
		Data Sources performance index (Statistical Performance Indicators Pillar 4)	Index	23.9 (2020)	30.2 (2023)	
		Open Data Inventory (ODIN) Coverage Index	Index	36.3 (2024)		n/a
	17.18.3	National statistical plan under implementation	Yes (1)/No (0)	0 (2020)	0 (2024)	
	17.19.1	Resources made available to strengthen statistical capacities in developing countries	Million US dollars	0.09 (2020)	0.26 (2022)	
		Births registration data at least 90% complete	Yes (1)/No (0)	0 (2020)	0 (2021)	
		Deaths registration data at least 75% complete	Yes (1)/No (0)	0 (2020)	0 (2021)	
		Latest population and housing census conducted (year: value=1)	Yes (1)/No (0)	1 (2020)	1 (2025)	