



*Each chapter concludes with an extensive selection of web resources that are free of access available to a wider audience of practitioners, researchers and students. The function of each resource is concisely explained. This excerpt provides two examples of these resources: resources of chapter 3 (why is progress on SDGs too slow) chapter 10 (how to use power) and chapter 11 (making it functional)..*

### SELECTED WEB RESOURCES (CHAPTER 3)

Throughout this chapter, several boxes have already highlighted numerous relevant databases, knowledge hubs and applications as part of the networked infrastructure that developed in the first cycle of implementation of the SDG-agenda. Here, we have selected several web resources that we consider useful entries for quick access to ‘SDG essentials’ on SDG progress data, key documents and processes, country efforts and news.

- **UN SDG Knowledge Platform:** Knowledge hub of the UN Division for Sustainable Development Goals that provides wide access to information and knowledge for sustainable development. It contains databases, analytical tools and resources, and access to the Voluntary National Review Database (VNRs), inputs to the High Level Political Forum (HLPF), the Partnerships Platform, SDG-related Topics. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>
- **Open SDG Data Hub:** To fully implement and monitor progress on the SDGs, decision-makers everywhere need data and statistics that are accurate, timely, sufficiently disaggregated, relevant, accessible and easy to use. The Open SDG Data Hub promotes the exploration, analysis, and use of authoritative SDG data sources for evidence-based decision-making and advocacy. Its goal is to enable data providers, managers and users to discover, understand, and communicate patterns and interrelationships in the wealth of SDG data and statistics that are now available. Also provides access to the UN Sustainable Development Goals Reports. <http://www.sdg.org/>
- **UN System SDG Implementation database:** the UN family’s repository of actions, initiatives and plans on implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs. It contains information made available by UN system entities. It is searchable, regularly updated and serves as a useful reference tool for learning about what UN system entities have been doing in support of the implementation of the SDGs. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/unsurvey/index.html>
- **UN Acceleration Actions:** A recently created database of voluntarily undertaken initiatives by national governments and any other non-state actors – individually or in partnership – to accelerate SDG implementation. Examples include: announcement of a new or enhanced policy, programme or project related to the achievement of one or more of the 17 SDGs or addressing the interlinked nature of the 2030 Agenda. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgactions>
- **UN Voluntary National Reviews database:** This online review platform is dedicated to compiling information from countries participating in the voluntary national reviews of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Each country page includes, if available, VNRs, statements and

UN webcast from the sessions at HLPF. Can be filtered by year and keyword. Also provides key preparation documents, guidelines, handbooks and synthesis reports.  
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>

- ***Sustainable Development Report***: annual progress reports on transformations to achieve the SDGs compiled by Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Bertelsmann Stiftung. Provides access to online interactive dashboards, country rankings and scores, country profiles and indicator profiles.  
<https://www.sdgindex.org/>
- ***IISD SDG Knowledge Hub***: For daily and free SDG news, expert commentary, includes a searchable database that can be filtered by SDG, issue, global partnership, actor, action and region.  
<https://sdg.iisd.org/news/>

### SELECTED WEB RESOURCES (CHAPTER 10)

- ***GRI Sustainability Disclosure Database***: online application that provides free access to all types of sustainability reports (GRI-based or otherwise) and information on reporting organizations until December 2020 <https://database.globalreporting.org/search/>. GRI's *SDG Target 12.6 Global-Tracker* displays an interactive world map to explore which countries have market regulations, policies or legislation in place with requirements for companies to disclose or report on non-financial factors: <https://database.globalreporting.org/SDG-12-6/Global-Tracker>.
- ***International Trade Centre Sustainability Standards Map***: provides verified information on over 260 standards on environmental protection, worker and labour rights, economic development, quality and food safety, and business ethics. The database can be searched by sector/product, producing region/country, destination region/country, and standard name. It includes private, public and international standards and can be specified to type of mandate, position in the value chain and sustainability theme. Each voluntary sustainability standard (VSS) displayed provides specific information on 'what' the standard is about, 'the requirements' per sustainability area covered and 'how' the standard operates (audits, claims & labelling, support & membership; recognition or compliance with international standards). Information is reviewed and quality-controlled by each participating standard organization. <https://www.sustainabilitymap.org/standards?q=eyJzZWxlY3RIZENsaWVudCI6Ik5PIEFGRklMSUFUSU90In0%3D>.
- ***ITC The State of Sustainable Markets***: displays visualized market trends (e.g. certified area of land; number of certified producers) for certified commodities, specific to 12 major VSS for bananas, cocoa, coffee, cotton, palm oil, soybeans, cane sugar, tea and forest products. Data can be explored per country, by commodity and by VSS. <https://www.sustainabilitymap.org/trends>.
- ***State of Sustainability Initiatives (SSI)***: SSI is an international transparency and capacity-building project that aims to improve strategic planning and sustainable development outcomes related to voluntary sustainability standards. Exponential growth in the demand and supply of standard-compliant products has led to a proliferation of VSSs. SSI publishes independent, evidence-based reports on VSS characteristics, market performance and potential opportunities for VSS to move commodity sectors more effectively towards sustainability. <https://www.iisd.org/ssi/reviews/>.
- ***SEI-SDG Synergies***: free online tool developed by the Stockholm Environment Institute for understanding how groups of policy areas and SDG-targets interact, using systems thinking. SDG Synergies helps to record, visualize and analyse how multiple targets are likely to interact in a given context. Based on a discussion-based scoring process, SDG Synergies develops a cross-impact matrix of target interactions to gain insight into how progress on one might affect progress on the other. The tool can be used to inform strategic decisions about how to prioritize or sequence

implementation of different targets or how best to manage potential trade-offs between them. It can also help to identify what cross-sectoral collaborations would be most productive.  
<https://www.sdgsynergies.org/>

- **SDG-Interlinkages Analysis & Visualisation Tool:** free web tool, developed by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), to visualize the interlinkages between SDG-targets and explore the data for monitoring SDG progress. Relations between relevant targets are quantified for 27 selected countries from East Asia (China, Japan, Mongolia, and Republic of Korea), South Asia (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka), and Southeast Asia (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam), as well as from Africa (Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, South Africa, and Tanzania) based on the target-level indicators and corresponding time series data. <https://sdginterlinkages.iges.jp/visualisationtool.html>; For cross-impact matrices per country on synergies and trade-offs: <https://sdginterlinkages.iges.jp/Dashboards%20and%20Data.html>
- **CSR Risk Check Tool:** quick-scan to identify international CSR risks of business activities upstream and downstream in the value chain (exporting, importing, production facilities in foreign countries). Supports a quick assessment (eight-step ‘due diligence’ roadmap) of what can be done to prevent, reduce and manage them: <https://www.mvorisicochecker.nl/en>. CSR risks per country can also be explored via an interactive world map: <https://www.mvorisicochecker.nl/en/worldmap>
- **SDSN’s Interactive Map and Country Profiles:** Based on its annual Sustainability Development Report, the Sustainable Development and Solutions Network visualizes global developments of countries’ progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Countries’ performance (overall score, ranking and progress per SDG) can be explored via an interactive world map <https://dashboards.sdindex.org/map>. For each of the 193 UN Member States, country profiles provide a more detailed, dashboard overview of trends in their progress on each SDG: <https://dashboards.sdindex.org/profiles>.
- **UN SDG Country Profiles:** Developed by the Statistics Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, this online database provides a country profile (basic characteristics such as population and migration, national account and labour market, trade and balance of payments, environment) as well as visualized longer-term trends on each country’s progress for each of the SDGs: <https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org>.
- **WBA’s SDG2000:** Based on seven systems transformations (social, decarbonization and energy; food and agriculture; circular; digital; urban, financial system) vital to meeting the SDGs by 2030, the World Benchmarking Alliance has identified and listed 2,000 ‘keystone companies’ that are assumed to have a disproportionate influence – and impact – on meeting the SDGs. Five principles guide their identification as potential ‘catalysts for change’. A keystone company (i) dominates global production revenues and/or volumes within a particular sector; (ii) controls globally relevant segments of production and/or service provision; (iii) connects (eco)systems globally through subsidiaries and their supply chains; (iv) influences global governance processes and institutions; (v) has a global footprint, particularly in developing countries. The SDG2000 list can be filtered by transformation, industry, headquarter and region: <https://www.worldbenchmarkingalliance.org/sdg2000/#company-overview>.

### SELECTED WEB RESOURCES (CHAPTER 11)

- **GRI and UN Global Compact:** provide essential tools and guidance for integrating the SDGs into sustainability reporting. Recent tools include: (i) ‘Analysis of the goals and targets’ – a handbook

of indicators to make reporting on the SDGs straightforward and simple to execute; (ii) *‘Integrating the SDGs into corporate reporting: A practical guide’* - a three-step guide to embed the SDGs in existing business and reporting processes; (iii) *‘Linking the SDGs and the GRI Standards’* – shows the disclosures within the GRI Standards that can be used to report on specific SDGs and their targets; (iv) *‘In focus: Addressing investor needs in business reporting on the SDGs’* – a guide to addressing investor needs within reporting. GRI’s resource center provides access to the latest GRI Standards, as well as articles, research and videos supportive to sustainability reporting. <https://www.globalreporting.org/public-policy-partnerships/sustainable-development/integrating-sdgs-into-sustainability-reporting/>

- **International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC):** a global coalition of regulators, investors, companies, standard-setters, the accounting profession, academia and NGOs that promotes sustainability-aligned ‘integrated reporting and thinking’ within mainstream business practice as the norm in public and private sectors. It encourages businesses to align their value creation models with the SDGs and to use relevant metrics. IIRC’s *International Integrated Reporting Framework* (January 2021) guides organizations in bringing together material information about strategy, governance, performance and prospects for value creation, in a way that: (a) reflects the commercial, social and environmental context; (b) enhances accountability and stewardship for the broad base of capitals; and (c) promotes an understanding of their interdependencies. <https://integratedreporting.org/resources/>
- **UNDP’s SDG Impact Standards Enterprises:** are provided as a best practice guide and self-assessment tool for integrating impact management into organizations’ internal management and decision-making processes to optimize their contributions to the SDGs. The Standards are *for all organizations* – regardless of size, geography, sector, profit and non-profit orientation. They are not reporting standards, but ‘practice standards’ that focus on the alignment of internal processes, practices and decision-making in line with achieving sustainable development outcomes. Voluntary, independent assurance against the Standards and an SDG Impact Seal and associated governance are being developed. <https://sdgimpact.undp.org/enterprise.html>. UNDP has also developed SDG Impact Standards for Bond Issuers and Private Equity Funds <https://sdgimpact.undp.org/sdg-bonds.html>; <https://sdgimpact.undp.org/private-equity.html>.
- **The Impact Management Project (IMP):** a public interest forum for building global consensus on measuring, managing and reporting impacts on sustainability, of relevance for organizations that want to manage environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks as well as contribute positively to Global Goals. IMP convenes over 2,000 practitioners (enterprises and investors) and facilitates the IMP Structured Network – a collaboration of 16 global standard-setting organizations (including GRI, GIIN, UNGC, SASB, CDP, WBA, IIRC, OECD, PRI, UNDP) to build consensus on standards in three areas: (i) processes for managing impacts (practice); (ii) frameworks and indicators for measuring and reporting impacts (performance); and (iii) valuation for comparing impacts (benchmarking). Provides resources, examples, worksheets and an extensive ‘impact management’ glossary. <https://impactmanagementproject.com/about/>
- **SDG Compass:** an essential guide for business action on the SDGs, developed by GRI, UN Global Compact and WBCSD. Provides a useful five-step framework for companies, offering guidance on aligning their strategies and measuring and managing contributions to achieve the SDGs. Further, the *‘Inventory of Business Indicators’* searchable database maps around 1600 existing, commonly used, robust and applicable business indicators against the SDGs, <https://sdgcompass.org/business-indicators/>. Furthermore, the *‘Inventory of Business Tools’* provides an overview of 58 business tools that are useful when assessing your organization’s impact on the SDGs, <https://sdgcompass.org/business-tools/>.
- **WBCSD SDG Sector Roadmaps:** a set of guidelines which provide a structured approach that companies can follow as they embark upon SDG road-mapping for their sector. The framework seeks to lead companies through a process of establishing their sector’s current level of SDG

engagement throughout the value chain, identifying the sector's most significant opportunities for impact, and establishing key action items and monitoring systems to chart a course for action. <https://www.wbcsd.org/Programs/People/Sustainable-Development-Goals/SDG-Sector-Roadmaps/Resources/SDG-Sector-Roadmaps>. The WBCSD Business Hub further informs on developments, latest insights and trends on the SDG to support business in navigating their course of SDG action. <https://sdghub.com/>.

- ***The Future-Fit Business Benchmark***: a free business tool designed to understand, set, measure and disclose “real progress toward a flourishing future – and make the SDGs a reality.” The Benchmark is a self-assessment approach which equips companies to manage and improve their social and environmental performance, in alignment with the SDGs. A ‘*Methodology Guide*’, ‘*Positive Pursuit Guide*’, ‘*Implementation Guide*’ and ‘*Action Guide*’ help organizations to analyze opportunities and risks, by quantifying the social and environmental impacts of every day-to-day decisions in a holistic way. The Benchmark consists of 23 ‘Break-Even Goals’ (which all companies must strive to reach) and 24 ‘Positive Pursuits’ (to create and contribute to positive impacts), to assess and communicate the extent of a company’s negative and positive societal contributions. <https://futurefitbusiness.org/benchmark-documents/>.
- ***SDG Action Manager***: a (multi-user) web-based ‘impact management’ tool – developed by B Lab and the UN Global Compact – that enables businesses to identify risks areas, track improvement, access resources, and manage impact on the SDGs throughout their operations, supply chain, business model, and collective action. The ‘SDG Action Manager’ brings together *B Impact Assessment* and the *Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact*, to enable meaningful business action through self-assessment, benchmarking, and improvement. <https://bcorporation.net/help-build-better-world-sdg-action-manager>
- ***UNDP’s Business Call to Action Impact Lab***: helps companies develop an SDG-focused impact framework for data collection, analysis and reporting. Four self-paced modules support companies to drive business value while also delivering impact by understanding, proving, and improving their contributions to the SDGs. Through a step-by-step process, the tool facilitates the process of defining a theory of change linking business operations to the SDGs, designing an SDG impact framework with a plan for collecting data that will allow you to measure, manage and communicate business impact. Case studies illustrate how inclusive businesses are measuring and managing their impact. <https://impactlab.businesscalltoaction.org/>
- ***Science Based Targets Network***: (part of the ‘Global Commons Alliance’) aims to transform economic systems and protect the global commons – air, water, land, biodiversity and ocean – by developing methods (for cities and companies) to set science-based, integrated targets for an *equitable, nature positive, net-zero future*. By developing measurable, actionable, and time-bound objectives based in the best available science, SBTN equips businesses with guidance to move from doing “a little less bad” to “doing its fair share” to maintain the global commons and societal sustainability goals. <https://sciencebasedtargetsnetwork.org/resources/>
- ***IRIS+ Catalog of Metrics***: provides generally accepted core metrics (numerical and qualitative values) aligned to common ‘impact themes’ and the SDGs (at the target level). It can be searched by impact category, specific SDGs, dimensions of impact (what, who, scale, depth, duration contribution), operational impact, environmental or social focus, etc. IRIS+ is the generally accepted system for impact investors to measure, manage, and optimize their impact in a detailed, contextualized, consistent and powerful way. The full catalog is offered as a free, publicly available resource (searchable and downloadable) – managed by the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN) and aligned with over 50 standards bodies to cover diverse industry types and disclosure requirements. IRIS+ can be used by investors, companies, researchers and others to implement and produce data according to any framework, assessment or reporting tool. <https://iris.thegiin.org/metrics/>.

- **The Value Balancing Alliance:** a non-profit alliance of multinational companies, founded in 2019, coming together with a common goal: to create a reliable global impact measurement standard for disclosing positive and negative impacts of corporate activity on people and the environment, and to provide guidance on how these impacts can be integrated into business steering. Companies play a crucial role to enable sustainable and inclusive value creation; it is hence paramount to identify, understand and ultimately manage businesses multiple impacts on society. The alliance is supported by major accounting firms, researchers and academia, in close cooperation with standard-setters. <https://www.value-balancing.com/en/downloads.html>; <https://www.value-balancing.com/en/our-work.html>.
- **Climate Disclosure Project (CDP):** a not-for-profit organization that runs the global disclosure system for investors, companies, cities, states and regions to manage their environmental impacts. CDP works with intergovernmental agencies, governments, business and regional associations, NGOs and financial organizations around the world to drive action for a sustainable economy. In 2020, 9,600+ companies – representing over 50% of global market capitalization – disclosed through CDP on their environmental performance. CDP annually discloses its ‘A List’ of companies and cities that managed to score an ‘A’ on climate change, forests and/or water security actions. <https://www.cdp.net/en/companies/companies-scores>. CDP’s *Open Data Portal* provides access to climate-related datasets (e.g. emissions, climate actions, climate risks) for 812 cities and 131 states and regions: <https://data.cdp.net/>.
- **The Human Rights Guide to the SDGs:** open-access searchable database – developed by the Danish Institute for Human Rights – that demonstrates how the SDGs relate to 35 human rights and labour conventions and more than 50 global and regional human rights instruments. An essential tool to help: (i) understand the linkages between the SDGs and human rights, labour standards and environmental treaties and instruments; (ii) develop a human rights-based approach to sustainable development programming, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting; (iii) understand the linkages between regional and international human rights instruments and environmental treaties <https://sdg.humanrights.dk>.
- **Human rights tools:** The Danish Institute for Human Rights provides an extensive set of business-relevant, instructive tools and guidance instruments aimed at fulfilling responsibilities to protect and promote human rights. Tools include: (i) human rights-related environmental, social and health impact assessments; (ii) country-specific guidance on human rights; (iii) assessments for state-investor negotiations; (iv) Indigenous Navigator Tools Database; (v) due diligence processes; (vi) learning hub on human rights, <https://www.humanrights.dk/tools>, and (vii) ‘Human Rights Indicators for Business’. The HRIB database covers 1,000 indicators that enable companies to assess corporate policies, procedures and practices on human rights; its related ‘*Management of the Human Rights Compliance Assessment (HRCRA) tool*’ provides step-by-step guidance to evaluate whether effective human rights measures are in place in functional areas of management. <https://old.business-humanrights.org/en/platform-for-human-rights-indicators-for-business-hrib>
- **WageIndicator Foundation:** promotes labour market transparency for the benefit of employers, employees and workers worldwide, by sharing and comparing information on wages, labour law and career. It is active in more than 140 countries, includes both the formal and informal sector, and maps the labour market also in countries where information is not on paper or digital. WageIndicator organizes several databases on international comparable ‘minimum wages’, ‘living wages’, actual wages, wages in Collective Agreements, ‘decent work’, and international comparable labour laws. <https://wageindicator.org/salary/wages-in-context>.
- **Better Business Scan:** aims to accelerate measure your starting position in the ‘intention-realization’ gap and advice you on transition routes to be taken to a more sustainable business model. 15-minute tool that generates a free advice report for the user. A dedicated website is available explaining all methods, scientific embeddedness and other projects (research on topics like climate change,

sustainable development (SDGs), student projects, company projects) related to the Better Business  
Scan: [www.betterbusinessscan.org](http://www.betterbusinessscan.org)