



ADDRESSING SDG ACCELERATION AND POLICY SUPPORT:

DRIVERS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
IN GEORGIA

7-8 MAY, 2019, KACHRETI AMBASSADORI HOTEL

Georgia has undertaken measures to adapt the 2030 Agenda to national circumstances, defining **95 nationalized targets for the 17 global goals.**

The UN has conducted an assessment of how national and sub-national policies (strategies, action plans, regulatory acts, budgets) are aligned with the SDGs.

The alignment exercise scanned 55 national and subnational strategies and the national budget Basic Data and Directions document for 2017-2020 (2019 -2022 budgeting cycle).

The complexity analysis built on the results and captured interlinkages, synergies and trade-offs between and across the targets.

The desk research was conducted during February-April 2019 and involved a multi-agency team of UN staff and specialist consultants.

1.

**ALIGNMENT OF NATIONAL
POLICIES WITH THE
AGENDA 2030**

2.

**“5PS” OF THE SDGS
IN THE NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

3.

**INSTITUTIONAL
LANDSCAPE OF THE
SDGS**

4.

**VERTICAL AND
HORIZONTAL COHERENCE**

5.

**NATIONAL VERSUS LOCAL
ALIGNMENT OF THE SDGS IN
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

6.

**NATIONAL FINANCING
FOR THE SDGS**

7.

**THE SDG
COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS**

8.

CONCLUSIONS

1. ALIGNMENT OF NATIONAL POLICIES WITH THE AGENDA 2030

Integration of nationalized SDGs into development planning of Georgia is very high:

THE **37** NATIONAL STRATEGIES
COVER **93** PER CENT OF
NATIONALIZED SDG TARGETS

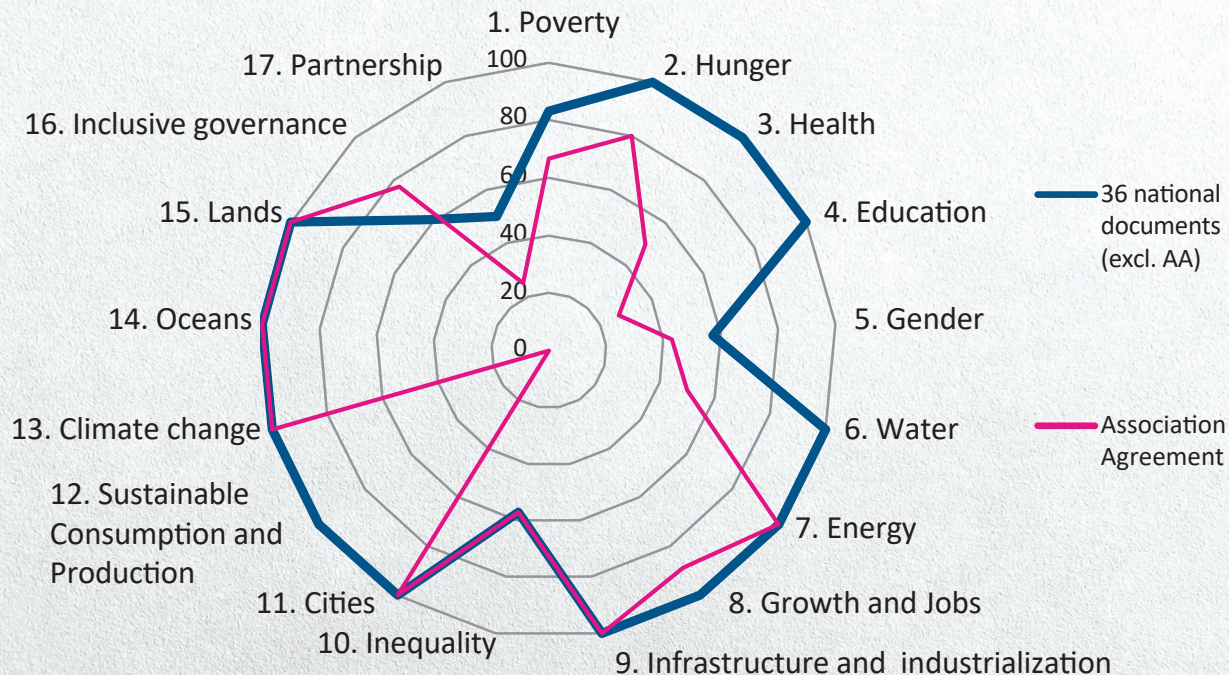
HOWEVER, THE EU-GEORGIA ASSOCIATION
AGREEMENT (AA) ALONE COVERS **63%** OF
TARGETS, AND IF EXCLUDED, OVERALL COVERAGE
DROPS BY **8%** IN POVERTY (SDG 1), GENDER (5),
INEQUALITY (10) AND PEACE (16) GOALS

LONG-TERM STRATEGIES,
INCLUDING THE AA COVER, **77%**
OF THE NATIONALIZED SDG TARGETS

Considerable gaps in alignment are observed in the
following SDGs and associated targets:



Alignment of key development planning documents of Georgia with national SDGs

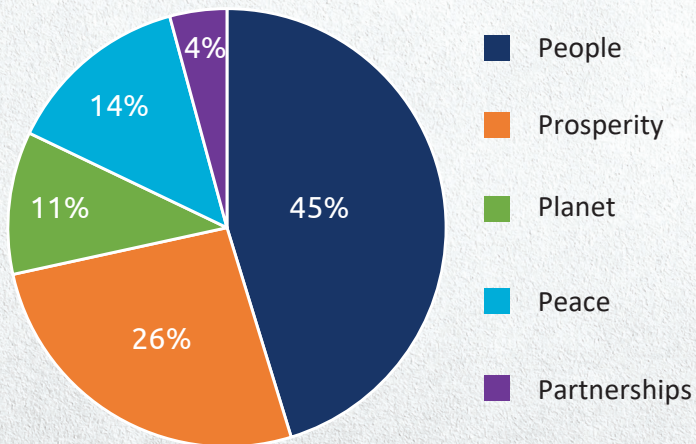


2. “5PS” OF SDGs IN THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The SDGs can be grouped into five thematic Clusters



Distribution of 5 "Ps" of SDGs across 37 planning and regulatory documents of Georgia



3. INSTITUTIONAL LANDSCAPE OF SDGS

Agenda 2030 requires substantial and coordinated efforts

across and within all national institutions and bodies.

The following ministries play the strongest role of *integrating the agenda* by contributing to the *implementation of the majority of the nationalized SDG targets*:

- ▶ Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development;
- ▶ Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs;
- ▶ Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture;
- ▶ Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport.



are covered through an **integrated approach** by most institutions, regardless of their sectoral profile.



are only **integrated under the implementation of the EU Association Agreement (AA)**, and not through the government strategies/policies.

Some goals are not well integrated across the national agencies and institutions.

For example, the implementation of the SDG 3 (health) is highly concentrated in one policy document and is almost exclusively implemented by one institution (Ministry of Health).

4. VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL COHERENCE

The RIA assessment revealed six targets which are **not mainstreamed** into national Agenda 2030.

- 5.b Technologies for empowerment
- 10.c Remittance transaction costs
- 16.b Non-discriminatory laws and policies
- 16.9 Legal identity for all
- 17.8 Capacity building for data
- 17.19.1. Measurements of progress

Five of these are **“means of implementation”**, targeting the capacity and institutional support needed to achieve the SDGs. The Government and development partners should consider the implications of not having enough institutional support structures to achieve Agenda 2030.

Strategies with best coverage of the nationalized SDG targets (out of 96)



5. NATIONAL VERSUS LOCAL ALIGNMENT OF THE SDGS IN THE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

MAPS also assessed 18 sub-national strategies and plans. In most cases, sub-national planning documents prioritize the same SDG targets, regardless of the local geographic, economic or development profile.

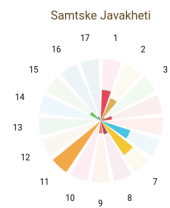
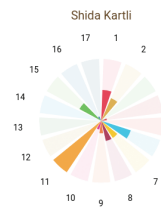
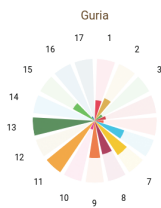
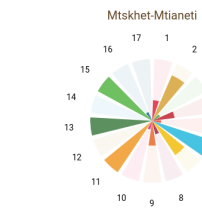
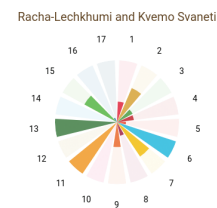
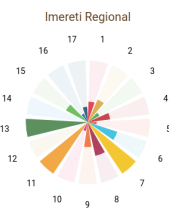
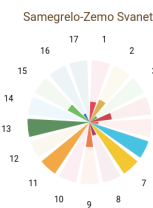
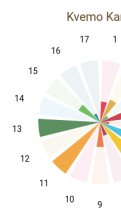
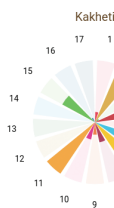
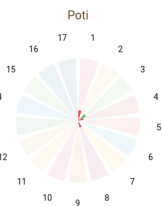
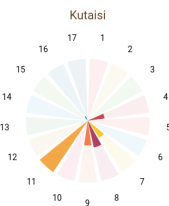
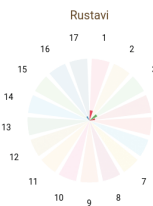
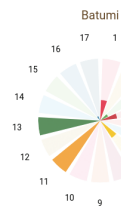
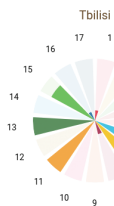
Best integrated targets across regions are: 1.3. Social protection, 7.1. Access to energy, 8.3. Development-oriented policies, 8.9. Sustainable tourism, and 11.6. Environmental impact of cities.

This suggests that the strategies do not sufficiently capture local specificities and priorities. None of the sub-national documents cover SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and 14 (Life below water).

Tbilisi strategic and planning documents also have a weak coverage in the “People” group.

Cities

Regions



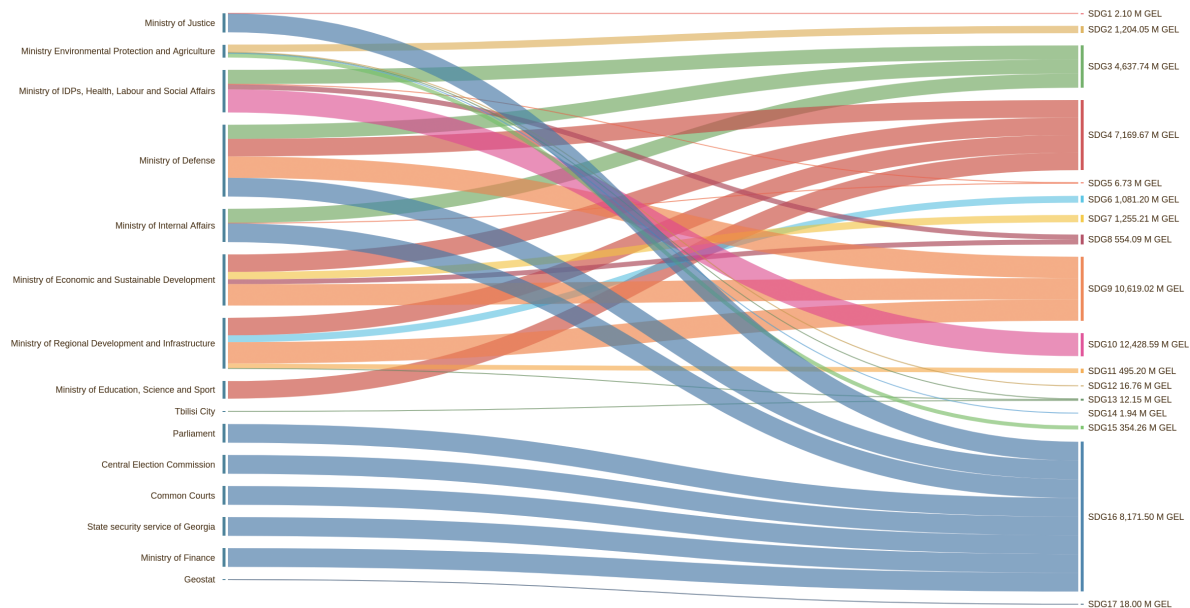
6. NATIONAL FINANCING FOR SDGS

An analysis of the Basic Data and Directions (BDD) document for 2017-2020 (2019 -2022 budgeting cycle) identified the distribution of programmed budgets against the SDGs.

State funding exists for all SDGs but some (SDG 5, 13, 14) do not figure in the BDD. In these cases, institutional reports/other commitments were used to estimate the financing amounts.

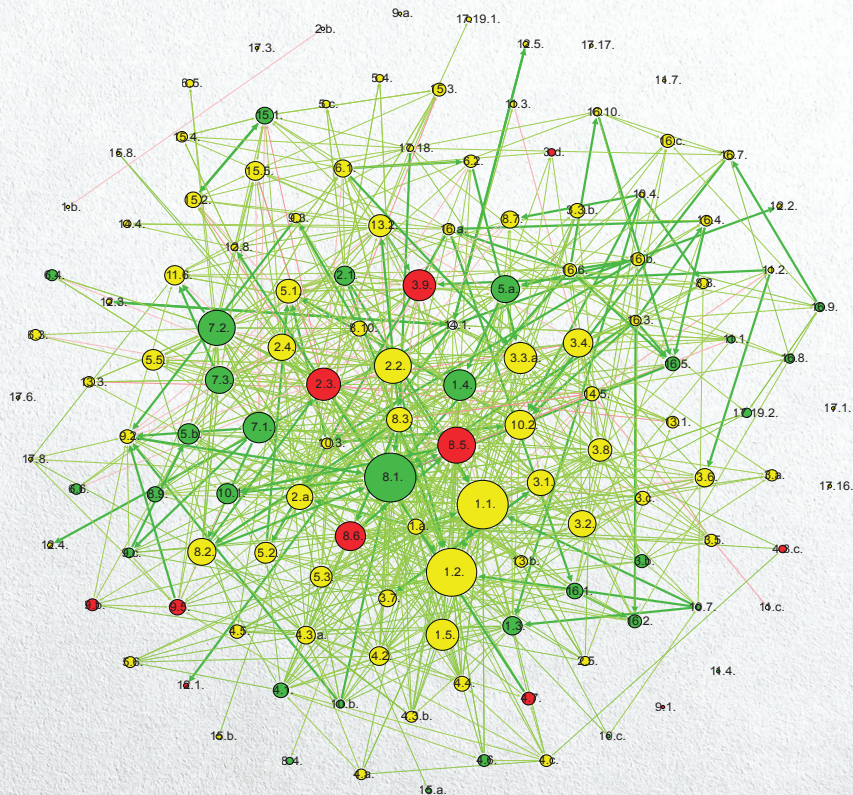
Peace (SDG 16), Education (4) and Infrastructure (9) clearly represent national priorities as they constitute the largest amounts of the programmed budget.

However, for Poverty (1) Gender (5), and the “Planet” goals (6, 12, 13, 14, 15), the programmed amounts only make up around 3% of the total programmed funds.



7. THE SDG COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS: ACCELERATORS, GAPS AND TRADEOFFS

SDGs are an interconnected agenda. The 'complexity' analysis assessed interactions between targets and identified those that are highly connected. Such targets can play an influential role and can serve as 'acceleration points.'



7.1 Examples of strongly influential targets: Potential acceleration or bottleneck points

Green Targets: Achieved and close to achievement. Leverage point.		Yellow targets: On good track. Potential leverage point, and risk of becoming a bottleneck.		Red targets: Poor progress, serious efforts required. Bottleneck points.	
8.1. Economic growth p.c.	+378	1.1. Extreme poverty \$1.25	376	8.5. Full employment	-271
7.2. Renewable energy	+265	1.2. National poverty	370	2.3. Agricultural productivity	-240
1.4. Equal rights for resources	+227	2.2. Malnutrition	265	3.9. Pollution and contamination	-230
7.1. Access to energy	+225	1.5. Resilience of the poor	231	8.6. Youth unemployment	-212
5.a. Reforms for equal rights	+197	3.3.a. Communicable diseases	231	9.5. Technological research	-101
7.3. Energy efficiency	+195	10.2. Inclusion of all	213	4.7. Knowledge and skills for Sustainable Development	-79
5.b. Technologies for empowerment	+142	3.4. Non-communicable diseases	206	9.b. Domestic R&D	-72
10.1. Growth bottom 40	+140	8.2. Economic productivity	196	4.3.c. Access to education for inmates	-35

8. CONCLUSIONS

The potential acceleration points are targets of **Economic growth** and **Access to energy**. Targets that could provide strong enabling role are **Equal access to resources** and **Sustainable tourism**. They are highly influential in achieving other targets, but many of these are not well integrated across the government.

The potential weak points are targets related to **Agricultural productivity** and the **Employment targets (especially youth employment)**. **Environmental** and **Pollution** targets are also underperforming. All of these have strong linkages with other targets. If not addressed, they can pull the entire development agenda of Georgia backwards.

An assumption can be made that Georgia may be suffering from 'jobless' growth with little decent employment and other opportunities being provided to youth and other groups. The '**Leave no one behind**' agenda should be considered as the highest priority for achieving the SDGs.

Planetary SDG targets should be integrated into economic, social and other policies. A 'new growth' model which considers climate change and environment should be discussed.

