



SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Promote sustained, inclusive and economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



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An Overview

Roughly half the world's population still lives on the equivalent of about US\$2 a day. The average annual growth rate of real GDP per capita worldwide has increased year on year, but many countries in the developing world are seeing decelerations in their growth rates.

Employment rates and work conditions must also be considered. Globally, 61% of all workers are engaged in informal employment – potentially missing the greater financial stability that formal employment such as enabling access to housing (SDG 11), and welfare systems (SDG 3 & SDG 16). Gender is also a challenge (SDG 5). The global gender pay gap stands at 23% globally and without decisive action, it will take another 68 years to achieve equal pay. Despite their increasing presence in public life, women continue to do 2.6 times the unpaid care and domestic work that men do.

Growing populations mean that job provision and equity are vital, as well as ensuring that economies, investments and work support wellbeing (SDG 3) and do not harm the environment (SDG 14 & SDG 15).

SDG 8 Keywords

This list is comprised of the Scopus queries generated by Elsevier in order to identify research that supports SDG 8, as part of the assessment undertaken by the global THE Impact League.

economic growth	economic development policy	employment policy	inclusive economic growth
sustainable growth	economic development	economic globalisation	economic productivity
low-carbon economy	inclusive growth	microfinance	microcredit
equal income	equal wages	decent job	quality job
job creation	full employment	employment protection	informal employment
precarious employment	unemployment	precarious job	microenterprise
small / medium enterprise	small / medium entrepreneur	starting entrepreneur	social entrepreneurship
safe working environment	labour market institution	forced labour	child labour
labour right	modern slavery	human trafficking	child soldier
global jobs	living wage / minimum wage	financial access / inclusion	circular economy
inclusive economy	rural economy	Foreign Development Investment	Aid for Trade
trade union	working poor	Not in Education, Employment, or Training	carbon offset
offset project	economic diversification	material footprint	resource efficiency
cradle to cradle and economy	economic decoupling	labour market disparities	sustainable tourism
ecotourism	community-based tourism	tourism employment	access to banking

SDG 8 Targets & Indicators

Consider if your research could support a specific target in order to maximise impact.

TARGETS		INDICATORS	
8.1	Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries	8.1.1	Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita
8.2	Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors	8.2.1	Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person
8.3	Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services	8.3.1	Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex
8.4	Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead	8.4.1	Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP
		8.4.2	Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP
8.5	By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value	8.5.1	Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities
		8.5.2	Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
8.6	By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training	8.6.1	Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training
8.7	Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms	8.7.1	Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age
8.8	Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment	8.8.1	Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status
		8.8.2	Increase in national compliance of labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status
8.9	By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products	8.9.1	Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP and in growth rate
		8.9.2	Number of jobs in tourism industries as a proportion of total jobs and growth rate of jobs, by sex
8.10	Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all	8.10.1	Number of commercial bank branches and automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults
		8.10.2	Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider
8.A	Increase Aid for Trade support for developing	8.A.1	Aid for Trade commitments and disbursement

	countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries	
8.B	By 2020, develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment and implement the Global Jobs Pact of the International Labour Organization	8.B.1 Total government spending in social protection and employment programmes as a proportion of the national budgets and GDP

Useful Links

- [International Labour Organization](#)
- [UN Development Programme](#)
- [Inquiry into the Design of a Sustainable Financial System: Policy Innovations for a Green Economy](#)
- [UN Global Compact](#)
- [Economic and Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific](#)
- [Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia](#)
- [Economic and Social Commission for Africa](#)
- [Economic and Social Commission for Europe](#)
- [Economic and Social Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean](#)
- [IMF – World Economic Outlook](#)
- [UN Capital Development Fund](#)
- [Asian Development Bank](#)