

# ACATIS FAIR VALUE SPECIAL

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## Achieving the SDGs is out of reach!

It is half-time for the Sustainable Development Goals, and it is already clear that they will not be reached by 2030. A special report that was recently released by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) ([www.sdgindex.org/](http://www.sdgindex.org/)) notes that current efforts by governments, industry, financial markets and civil society are far from adequate. Developments are particularly concerning when it comes to food security, climate protection and the protection of biodiversity. Another worrisome development with regard to achieving the SDGs is that by 2030, the gap between countries with high incomes and countries with low incomes will be larger than at the time the goals were adopted in 2015. Overall, the level of SDG achievement is inadequate for about half of the countries and stagnating to declining for a third; only ten percent are on the road to achieving the goals.

In addition to the segments that are already in the public spotlight, such as climate protection (SDGs 7 and 13) and biodiversity (SDGs 14 and 15), there are other examples that demonstrate the need to counteract this trend:

- SDG 1 – No poverty: Current crises have exacerbated poverty. It is expected that 575 million people will live in extreme poverty in the year 2030. Particularly poverty in the sub-Saharan Africa continues to be a huge problem.
- SDG 10 – Less inequality: The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated inequality, both with regard to health as well as employment and incomes.

- SDG 12 – Sustainable consumption and production: Too many resources are used, with excessive amounts of waste. Plastic waste has grown exponentially and will probably continue to do so.

Ultimately, all societal stakeholders are called upon to do more to counteract this trend through individual and collective action; not just the rich countries of the community of nations, but also industry, the financial markets, science/technological development and society as a whole must generate more effective contributions to finding a solution. One important area is the need to initiate adequate measures with a greater focus on developing countries and emerging economies - measures that take effect directly in these countries rather than mainly helping to improve the situation in developed countries (or the companies located in these countries).

The interim report estimates that USD 4.2 trillion in additional investments will be required after COVID-19. The fact that prior to COVID-19, the additional investment capital was “only” assessed at USD 1.9 to 2.4 trillion means that there is no time to lose. It is worthwhile for all of us to take up this challenge.

Markus Grünewald  
Head of imug rating

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