

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID), supported by Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD), has compiled the People Scorecard (PSC) report, which presents the perceptions of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) regarding the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Indonesia in 2025.

The report was developed using Rapid Assessment Procedures (RAP) in accordance with the People Scorecard (PSC) toolkit formulated by A4SD. Data collection employed a mixed-method approach, consisting of an online survey completed by 46 CSO representatives in Indonesia and a focused group discussion (FGD) attended by 11 CSOs.

The online survey was divided into two sections. In the first section, CSOs responded to open-ended questions about the implementation of the SDGs in Indonesia, including achievements and key challenges from their perspective. In the second section, CSOs provided scores for the progress of each target within the 17 SDGs, adopted from the National Action Plan (RAN) for SDGs 2021–2024.

Overall, CSOs demonstrated a high level of understanding of the National Action Plan (RAN) for SDGs (89.13%), while awareness of the Regional Action Plan (RAD) for SDGs at the local level was slightly lower (69.57%). This reflects the challenges of decentralization in Indonesia, where geographic and cultural diversity hinders the equitable dissemination of information.

Regarding engagement, the survey results indicated a positive trend, with 86.95% of CSOs implementing SDG-related programs. This engagement is driven by the RAN and RAD, as well as multi-stakeholder collaborations that motivate organizations from various sectors (government, NGOs, academia) to contribute to issues such as poverty alleviation, education, and environmental conservation. However, the PSC survey also highlighted key constraints faced by CSOs in promoting SDG implementation, including limited budgets (80.43%), lack of engagement information (65.21%), and policy advocacy challenges (56.52%). Budget constraints create a complex cycle that limits education, communication, and participation.

CSOs emphasized that the government should prioritize efforts to advance SDG achievement, particularly in the areas of multi-stakeholder collaboration (91.30%), budget allocation (71.73%), and inclusivity (65.21%). Multi-stakeholder collaboration is deemed critical and must be supported by inclusivity to uphold the principle of “Leave No One Behind,” especially ensuring representation of vulnerable groups and public communication that enhances community awareness. Additionally, adequate budgeting and regulations are essential structural drivers.

Following the 2021 Voluntary National Review (VNR), Indonesia recorded progress in several SDG priorities, such as a reduction in poverty from 10.14% (2021) to 9.03% (2024), improved access to healthcare and education services, and stronger multi-stakeholder collaboration through initiatives like the SDG Center. However, many respondents were unaware of progress beyond poverty and stunting, reflecting inadequate socialization and uneven information dissemination at the community level.

Qualitatively, CSOs identified significant challenges in achieving Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 2 (Zero Hunger), Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), Goal 4 (Quality Education), Goal 5 (Gender Equality), Goal 10 (Reduced Inequalities), Goal 13 (Climate Action), and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the

Goals). In remote regions such as East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) and Papua, high poverty rates (26.8% in Papua, far above the national average of 9.6%), persistent stunting, and unequal healthcare services remain critical issues.

Indonesia faces difficulties in meeting its greenhouse gas emission reduction commitments under the Paris Agreement, which targets a 31.89% unconditional reduction and a 43.2% reduction with international support by 2030. Although policies like the FOLU Net Sink 2030 exist, implementation is hampered by reliance on fossil fuels (particularly coal), deforestation due to food estate projects, and poor waste management. Corruption, weak law enforcement, and contradictory policies (e.g., prioritizing environmentally harmful industries) exacerbate emissions, with the forestry sector alone contributing half of the national total.

SDG implementation oversight in Indonesia is coordinated by (National Development Planning Agency) Bappenas through the National SDG Secretariat and the National Coordination Team for SDGs. The oversight mechanism is designed to be multi-stakeholder, involving government, academia, the private sector, CSOs, and media, as stipulated in Presidential Regulation No. 59 of 2017. However, the process is often normative and top-down, resulting in symbolic rather than substantive non-governmental involvement.

Persons with disabilities were the most frequently cited marginalized group, followed by women and girls, the elderly, small-scale farmers, children, and indigenous communities. Other groups, such as people living with HIV/AIDS, ethnic and religious minorities, migrants/refugees, and LGBTIQ+ individuals, were also mentioned, while youth were cited least frequently. Although persons with disabilities are the most commonly identified vulnerable group, government programs and infrastructure provision have given them relatively significant attention.

The analysis revealed that SDG-related publications in Indonesia are perceived as varied. Some respondents noted positive efforts through government channels, social media, and NGOs, such as the UN’s “ActNow” campaign and the sdgs.bappenas.go.id platform. However, the majority considered publications limited, ineffective, and uneven, particularly in underdeveloped, remote, and border (3T) regions. A clear knowledge gap exists between academics and the general public, exacerbated by technical language that is difficult to understand.

CSO scoring of progress for each target within the 17 SDGs, adopted from the RAN SDGs 2021–2024, is ranked from lowest to highest as follows:

Goal	Description	Score	Progress Level
Goal 1	No Poverty	7.36	Very Low Progress
Goal 10	Reduced Inequalities	10.08	Very Low Progress
Goal 15	Life on Land	10.53	Very Low Progress
Goal 14	Life Below Water	11.43	Very Low Progress
Goal 16	Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	11.67	Very Low Progress

Goal	Description	Score	Progress Level
Goal 8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	11.68	Very Low Progress
Goal 6	Clean Water and Sanitation	12.42	Very Low Progress
Goal 2	Zero Hunger	12.50	Very Low Progress
Goal 11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	13.57	Very Low Progress
Goal 7	Affordable and Clean Energy	14.67	Very Low Progress
Goal 12	Responsible Consumption and Production	17.14	Very Low Progress
Goal 17	Partnerships for the Goals	17.85	Very Low Progress
Goal 9	Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	18.35	Very Low Progress
Goal 13	Climate Action	21.33	Low Progress
Goal 5	Gender Equality	21.79	Low Progress
Goal 4	Quality Education	24.28	Low Progress
Goal 3	Good Health and Well-Being	25.56	Low Progress

Based on the quantitative PSC analysis, CSOs assessed the achievement of SDG targets in Indonesia under the National Action Plan for SDGs 2021–2024 as generally experiencing “Very Low Progress,” with an average score of 13.72%. This represents a decline compared to 2024 (27% “Low Progress”) and 2022 (39% “Low Progress”). Of the 17 SDG goals, four demonstrated “Low Progress”: Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-Being, 25.56%), Goal 4 (Quality Education, 24.28%), Goal 5 (Gender Equality, 21.79%), and Goal 13 (Climate Action, 21.33%), while the remaining 13 goals showed “Very Low Progress.”

Based on these findings, INFID recommends the following:

1. The government should prioritize three goals assessed as having “Very Low Progress” by CSOs: Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and Goal 15 (Life on Land).
2. Strengthen and expand SDG communication and campaigns at the local level using local languages aligned with community values, rather than relying solely on technical or project-based language.
3. Enhance funding effectiveness by conducting evaluations and audits of funding schemes.
4. Prioritize goals with multiplier effects to accelerate overall SDG progress in Indonesia.