

COMMONWEALTH MEMBER STATES'

Progress Towards The

2030 UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (UN SDGs)

INTRODUCTION

[The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), adopted by all UN Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for achieving equitable and sustainable development and calls for continued action to achieve peace and prosperity by 2030. The 2030 Agenda builds on decades of work in developing and developed countries and is elaborated under 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 169 targets and 230 indicators (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>).

The UN, among other things, actively promotes and monitors global implementation of SDGs and publishes detailed progress reports and statistics. The recently launched 2025 SDG Report shows that ten years after the adoption of the SDGs, progress remains alarmingly off-track, with less than 20% of targets projected to be achieved by 2030. Yet, global averages mask stark disparities across regions and countries in SDG progress. Despite these challenges, commitment remains high among the majority of UN Member States.

This paper draws on the 2022 and 2025 UN data to assess the overall progress related to SDGs in Commonwealth member states in the aftermath of the global pandemic and a major retreat by some leading aid donors.

OVERVIEW OF SDGs PROGRESS IN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES SINCE 2022

Table 1 provides a summary of the overall performance and global ranking of **42 Commonwealth countries** for whom SDG Index Score¹ is available², with a focus on their performance between 2022 and 2025.

Table 1: Commonwealth Countries' SDG Index Score Change between 2022-25

No.	2025 SDG Index Rank	Commonwealth Country	2025 SDG Index Score %	SDG Index Score Change since 2022
1.	11	United Kingdom	81.85	+1.25
2.	24	Malta	79.29	+2.49
3.	25	Canada	79.17	+1.47
4.	28	New Zealand	78.96	+0.66
5.	36	Australia	77.88	+2.28
6.	53	Maldives	73.96	+2.96
7.	56	Cyprus	73.76	-0.44

¹ The SDG Index score ranks the UN's 193 member states by their overall score that measures their total progress towards achieving all 17 SDGs. A score of 100 indicates all SDGs have been achieved.

² SDG Index Score and ranking are unavailable for 14 Commonwealth small states whose data collection and reporting are incomplete due to factors that include lack of financial, human, statistical and IT resources that are necessary for robust data collection systems to track SDG progress effectively.

No.	2025 SDG Index Rank	Commonwealth Country	2025 SDG Index Score %	SDG Index Score Change since 2022
8.	63	Fiji	72.94	+0.04
9.	69	Singapore	71.54	-0.16
10.	76	Mauritius	70.33	+1.93
11.	81	Jamaica	69.82	+0.82
12.	82	Barbados	69.65	-0.65
13.	84	Malaysia	69.52	-0.88
14.	92	Brunei Darussalam	67.97	+0.87
15.	93	Sri Lanka	67.92	-2.08
16.	98	Belize	66.99	+1.29
17.	99	India	66.95	+6.65
18.	102	Guyana	66.28	+2.38
19.	103	Gabon	65.58	+2.78
20.	104	Namibia	65.53	+2.83
21.	106	The Bahamas	65.19	Data unavailable ³
22.	109	Botswana	64.51	+3.11
23.	111	South Africa	64.11	+0.41
24.	114	Bangladesh	63.88	-0.32
25.	120	Ghana	63.13	-0.27
26.	122	Rwanda	62.31	+2.91
27.	123	Kenya	61.93	+0.93
28.	126	Trinidad & Tobago	60.60	+0.20
29.	128	Sierra Leone	59.41	+6.41
30.	129	Togo	59.23	+3.63
31.	130	The Gambia	58.45	-1.75
32.	133	Cameroon	57.81	+2.31
33.	135	Tanzania	57.74	+0.34
34.	136	Eswatini	57.50	+2.90
35.	139	Malawi	57.12	+3.82
36.	140	Pakistan	56.97	-2.33
37.	142	Uganda	55.84	+0.94
38.	143	Lesotho	55.64	+0.54
39.	146	Zambia	54.77	+0.57
40..	147	Nigeria	54.68	+0.48
41.	151	Mozambique	53.75	+0.15
42.	152	Papua New Guinea	53.44	-0.16

(Source: UN Sustainable Development Reports 2022 and 2025)

The following **14 Commonwealth small states** in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific are not ranked in the SDG index because their data is incomplete: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Kiribati, Nauru, Samoa, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

ANALYSIS OF COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES' PERFORMANCE BETWEEN 2022-25

Table 1 data shows that while Commonwealth countries remain committed to the 2030 Agenda, their progress towards the achievement of SDGs is mixed. Since 2022, **31 Commonwealth countries have recorded improvements** in their overall progress towards SDGs. In the order

³ Data for The Bahamas was included for the first time in 2025 as its data collection and monitoring systems improved.

of their SDG Index score and ranking these are: United Kingdom, Malta, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Maldives, Fiji, Mauritius, Jamaica, Brunei Darussalam, Belize, India, Guyana, Gabon, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Rwanda, Kenya, Trinidad and Tobago, Sierra Leone, Togo, Cameroon, Tanzania, Eswatini, Malawi, Uganda, Lesotho, Zambia, Nigeria, Mozambique.

Broken down regionally, in the order of their SDG Index score and rank, 18 member countries in Africa, 3 in Asia, 2 in Europe, 5 in the Caribbean and Americas and 3 in the Pacific are represented as follows: **Africa** - Mauritius, Gabon, Namibia, Botswana, South Africa, Rwanda, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Togo, Cameroon, Tanzania, Eswatini, Malawi, Uganda, Lesotho, Zambia, Nigeria, and Mozambique. **Asia** – Maldives, Brunei Darussalam, India. **Europe** - United Kingdom, Malta; **Caribbean and Americas** – Canada, Jamaica, Belize, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, **Pacific** - New Zealand, Australia, Fiji.

Only India and Sierre Leone improved their performance by more than 5%. **Ten member countries whose performance has regressed** between 2022-2025 include: Cyprus, Singapore, Barbados, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Ghana, The Gambia, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea, with Sri Lanka and Pakistan having lost more ground.