

Accelerating the Sustainable Development Goals In Angola

A Systemic Analysis

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With approximately five years remaining before the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, global progress on more than 50% of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) targets is weak and insufficient; in 30% of the goals, the world has stagnated or regressed. The transformations necessary to achieve the SDGs require significant public and private investments. Countries are facing enormous challenges in achieving the SDGs. In response to this challenge, the Secretary-General of the United Nations launched the SDG Stimulus initiative to boost additional investments for sustainable development, aiming for at least US\$500 billion per year globally.

This project examined the estimated short-term effect of selected policy interventions on achieving the SDGs. The analysis was performed using the iSDG model, a tool based on System Dynamics that allows the study of the interconnections and iterations between the SDGs. Specifically, the model investigates the effect of investments in key areas aligned with the priorities of the 2023-2027 National Development Plan (NDP) and the Long-Term Strategy, Angola 2050.

The results highlight the positive effects of achieving the SDGs through investments in key sectors, including health, education, social protection, agriculture, and access to electricity and water. The simulations indicate that if additional investments were made in those areas, there would be a significant increase in the achievement of the SDGs by 2030. However, achieving some SDG targets requires structural and profound transformations that can only be analyzed from a longer-term perspective.

More specifically, the results point to the following conclusions:

- **SDG Accelerators:** The health, education, social protection, electricity, agriculture, and water and sanitation sectors have been identified as SDG accelerators by 2030. Greater investments in these areas would generate direct benefits and create synergistic effects to accelerate the achievement of other SDGs. Furthermore, some investments generate long-term effects, beyond 2030, as is the case with education. The iSDG model can be used to capture these effects, for example, to test some interventions considered in the Angola 2050 strategy.
- **Development as an Investment Proposal:** Two additional investment scenarios were simulated, at 2% and 5% of GDP each year, between 2024 and 2030. The results indicate that an expansion of investment in critical development areas will significantly accelerate the implementation of the SDGs by 2030. Prioritizing investments in accelerators should be a focus. Notably, additional investments above the current level in SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger) and 6 (Drinking Water and Sanitation)

would have notable positive effects in the short term. These sectors align with those identified in the nationally determined contributions (NDCs) established by the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Investment Map.

- **Development Financing Strategy:** A crucial corollary is the need to increase financing for sustainable development. An integrated financing strategy should be adopted to define concrete actions to mobilize public and private, internal and external resources. Conducting an initial mapping, based on the assumptions of the Medium-Term Fiscal Framework (MTFF) and the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF), could help identify existing gaps and actions needed to increase financing. The integrated financing strategy should address the financing of the NDCs.
- **Data:** The analysis highlighted the need to improve the quality, disaggregation, and frequency of data collection. The lack of statistical information on some SDG indicators limits the ability to model and simulate the trajectory of achieving the goals. The iSDG model can be continuously updated, including results from the Multiple Health Indicator Survey (IIMS) and the Population Census, among others. However, to allow constant monitoring of the SDGs, close coordination between various Ministries and competent departments is crucial. Establishing a task force on SDG data, including all relevant public and private actors, is desirable.

Overall, the iSDG model guides the need to expand investments in critical areas to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs in Angola by 2030. The results are a starting point for defining a national strategy for financing sustainable development.