

Review of: "Appraisal of the UN Sustainable Development Goals: A Look Back and a Way Forward"

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A timely manuscript on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) just as the world started the second half of the SDGs period (**Kenny, 2023**). The author has well used the available literature to appraise the SDGs. The section on *Potential Scenarios for the SDGs Beyond 2030: A Glimpse into the Future* has captured well the current world situation in scenario 2 as global conflicts continue (**Alterman, 2024; Cohen & O'Brien, 2024**), infectious diseases continue to challenge our health systems and population health – e.g., cholera outbreaks (**World Health Organization, 2024**) and Mpox (**Abubakar, et al., 2024; Harris, 2024; Taylor, 2024**). The discussions, calls to action, and consensus during the 79 United Nations General Assembly (79-UNGA) (**United Nations General Assembly, 2024**) and the side meeting dubbed “Summit for the Future” (**United Nations, 2024**) match well with the first scenario.

Apart from the excellent work done by the author, there are very few areas I would like to suggest to the author to look at and improve further as follows:

Abstract

- First line (*This study aimed to assess the progress made on the SDGs, explore remaining challenges, and analyze the future*), I suggest to the author to replace the SDGs with the following: “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”.

Introduction

- Second paragraph on page 2/10
 - First line (*Appraising progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is crucial for several reasons. It allows us to*), I suggest to the authors to replace ‘UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)’ with its abbreviation SDGs.

SDGs with Limited Progress

2. Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

- Second paragraph on page 3/10 – fifth line (*away from long-term development goals. Resource Inefficiencies have occurred. Even with available resources,*), I suggest to the author to edit to start with a small “i”.
- Third paragraph on page 3/10 – fourth line (*sustainable development goals. Conflicts divert resources away from crucial areas like healthcare, education, and*), I suggest to the author to replace “sustainable development goals” with

its abbreviation SDGs.

- Second paragraph on page 4/10 – first sentence (*To addressing these challenges will require investing in education campaigns that effectively communicate the goals and their benefits to diverse communities is essential (UNESCO, 2018)*), I suggest to the author to:
 - Replace “To” with “Therefore;
 - Delete “*is essential*”.

Current State of Affairs for the SDGs: A Snapshot

- Opening paragraph – second line (*challenges. Data and reports from the UN Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023 (UN DESA, 2023) are used as*), I suggest to the author to replace “UN Sustainable Development Goals” with its abbreviation SDGs.

A Call for Global Commitment to a Sustainable Future

- First paragraph on page 9/10 – first line (*The state of our planet and the well-being of humanity hang in the balance. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*), I suggest to the author to replace “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” with its abbreviation SDGs.

In conclusion, the author has worked very well on a topic of paramount importance for a better future of our planet, as well as current and future generations. The call to action for all by the author provides pertinent actions for everyone.

Investments in technologies (**Mateko, 2024; Sharma, et al., 2024; World Health Organization & International Telecommunication Union, 2024;**), clean energy (**World Bank Group, 2024**), and education in schools is essential (**Kumar, et al., 2023**).

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