

# Mapping the oil and gas industry to the Sustainable Development Goals: An Atlas

## A summary

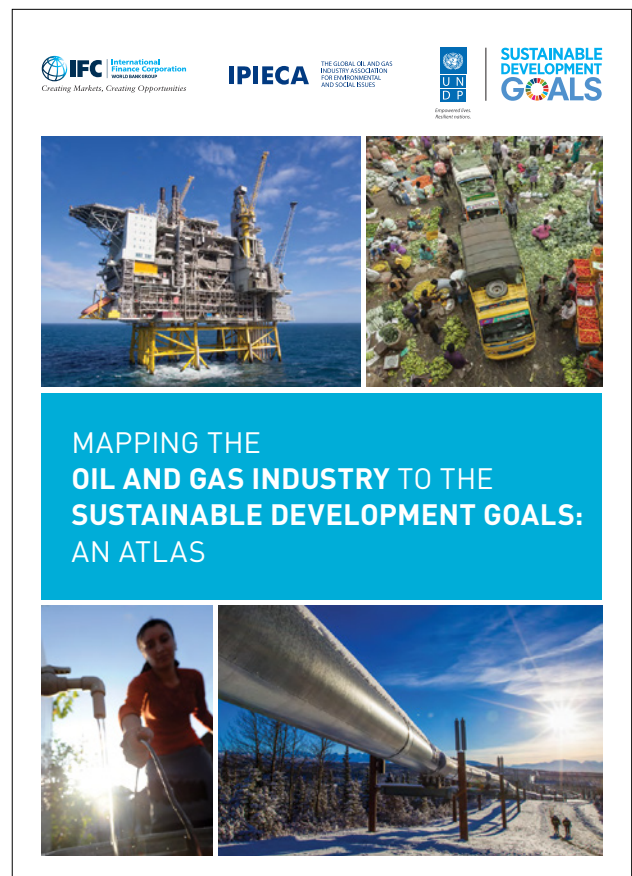
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its 17 goals, represents the world’s plan of action for overcoming poverty while protecting the planet and ensuring that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) emphasize that economic growth needs to be accompanied by social fairness and environmental sustainability.

Achieving the SDGs by 2030 will require collaboration among governments, non-governmental organizations, development partners, the private sector and communities. Governments have the primary responsibility to prioritize and implement approaches to meeting the SDGs. However, the private sector and civil society will play a critical role in the implementation of national plans and in support of delivery. The oil and gas industry is committed to responsible and sustainable business, as well as serving as an essential partner to support governments to meet the challenge of achieving the SDGs.

## THE ATLAS

*Mapping the oil and gas industry to the Sustainable Development Goals: An Atlas* explores the links between the oil and gas industry and the SDGs and seeks to facilitate a shared understanding of how the industry can most effectively support the achievement of the SDGs. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and IPIECA partnered to develop this *Atlas*. The three organizations represent distinct yet complementary perspectives on the public-private sector spectrum.

*The Atlas* presents the SDGs goal by goal, focusing on the contribution the industry can make by integrating it into core business operations and by identifying opportunities for oil and gas companies to collaborate with other stakeholders. It presents examples of good practice in the industry, alongside existing knowledge and resources on sustainable development that could help the industry make useful contributions. For each of the Goals, case studies of innovative and sustained efforts by companies are presented. These include local initiatives that contribute to socio-economic, and environmental challenges; global programmes that raise awareness of negative impacts and solutions to mitigate those; and investments in infrastructure, research and technology.



## KEY MESSAGES

- The SDGs are interlinked and indivisible, requiring approaches that ensure synergies and manage trade-offs between economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability.
- Meeting the SDGs will therefore require cooperation and collaboration between governments, the private sector and civil society. Success will require coordinated solutions and business strategies from all parties.
- Integrating the SDGs into core business activities can generate the most significant contributions to the Goals. For companies, integrating the Goals into business can bring greater efficiencies, cost savings and competitiveness, and can enhance the industry's social licence to operate.
- The oil and gas industry has the potential to contribute to all 17 SDGs, by enhancing its positive contributions or by avoiding or mitigating negative impacts.
- Oil and gas are key pillars of the global energy system and as such are drivers of economic and social development.
- The industry contributes to sustainable development in several additional ways, including: generating direct and indirect jobs; enabling development of advanced technologies and products through investment in research and development (including investment in environmental innovations); building critical infrastructure; contributing tax and other types of revenue to governments; and encouraging local content and entrepreneurship with associated capacity building benefits.
- Some of the goals present specific challenges for the industry, notably SDG 13 on climate action. Meeting the aims of the Paris Agreement implies a transformation of the energy system over the course of this century. The global challenge is to ensure access to energy, while moving towards net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the second half of this century. Enhanced access to affordable reliable energy is essential for the growth of strong economies, sustained improvements in the quality of life, and the eradication of poverty.
- The Atlas emphasizes that the oil and gas industry must be a key part of the solution to address climate change and it presents a number of actions that could contribute to the energy transition. Throughout this transition, oil and gas will continue to be an important part of the broad energy mix needed to deliver modern energy products and services.

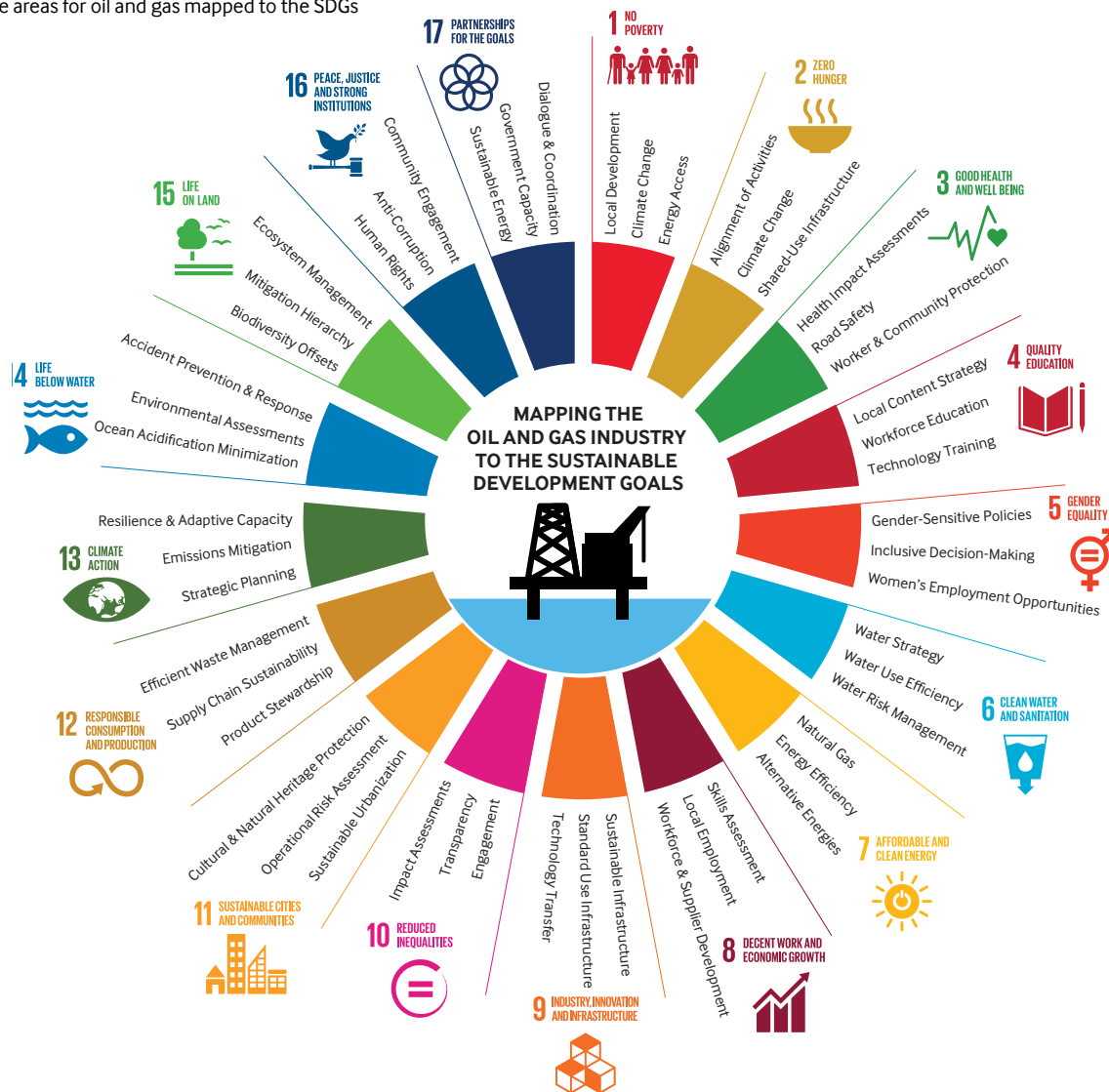


## THE OIL AND GAS INDUSTRY HAS THE POTENTIAL TO CONTRIBUTE TO ALL SDGs

The SDGs provide a good framework to look at industry's contribution to sustainable development, and where it can have an impact. The oil and gas industry can foster economic and social development by providing access to affordable energy, opportunities for decent employment, business and skills development, increased fiscal revenues, and improved infrastructure.

The diagram on page 3 shows the most important ways the oil and gas industry can contribute across all SDGs, either by enhancing its positive contributions or by avoiding or mitigating negative impacts.

Key issue areas for oil and gas mapped to the SDGs



## THE SCOPE AND NATURE OF TYPICAL OIL AND GAS ACTIVITIES POINT TO SOME SDGs WHERE THERE ARE PARTICULARLY STRONG OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTRIBUTE

As companies embark on addressing the SDGs, each need to do its own individual analysis to understand how its business can make an impact. A company's specific roles, impacts, and contributions to the SDGs will depend on the local context, the resource itself, the phase of oil and gas activities, and the input received from local communities and other stakeholders. *The Atlas* has identified some SDGs where the industry can make important contributions. These are:

- Affordable and reliable energy (SDG 7).
- Climate action and life on land and in water (SDGs 13, 14 and 15).
- Economic development and innovation (SDGs 8 and 9).
- Health and access to clean water (SDGs 3 and 6).



## ABOUT UNDP

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

## ABOUT IFC

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Working with more than 2,000 businesses worldwide, we use our capital, expertise, and influence to create markets and opportunities in the toughest areas of the world. In FY16, we delivered a record \$19 billion in long-term financing for developing countries, leveraging the power of the private sector to help end poverty and boost shared prosperity. For more information, visit [www.ifc.org](http://www.ifc.org).

## ABOUT IPIECA

IPIECA is the global oil and gas industry association for advancing environmental and social performance. It develops, shares and promotes good practice and knowledge through industry collaboration. IPIECA convenes a large portion of the global oil and gas industry across the value chain and is the industry's principal channel of communication with the United Nations.

Through its member-led groups and executive leadership, IPIECA brings together the collective expertise of oil and gas companies and associations. Its unique position within the industry enables its members to contribute effectively to the sustainable development agenda.

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