WHY DO WE NEED THESE GOALS?

In recent decades, the world has made a lot of progress in many areas thanks to the collaboration between different countries, which is promoted by the United Nations system. For example, fewer people now live in extreme poverty, more children have access to education and many more people have better access to medical care.

But there are still so many challenges left to face, both in Switzerland and all over the world: global warming, unequal distribution of wealth, youth unemployment, etc.

To overcome these challenges, the 193 member states of the United Nations have adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As a result, the key players of every single country (government, private sector, society, individuals) now collaborate to implement the SDGs and improve the world in a sustainable manner.

WHAT EXACTLY IS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

We all have our own particular needs as well as a will continue growing as a person. But how can we do that without compromising the growth and development of others and future generations?

That's what the idea of sustainable development stands for: taking action today while keeping future generations in mind.

Sustainable development strives to be:

- Socially fair: providing all humans with an equal opportunity to live in peace and have access to food, health care and education.
- **Cost-effective**: finding the best possible solutions in the fight against poverty while at the same time meeting our various needs.
- **Ecologically sound:** protecting our planet, its ecosystems and natural resources in an intelligent and responsible manner.

WHY SHOULD WE GET INVOLVED?

Have you ever heard of the domino or snowball effect? That's what happens when one small change causes a chain reaction. To achieve these goals and make our world a better place, the snowball effect is essential: every little bit helps.

We can all play our part in making a change!

SO WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

As an individual, you have the opportunity to make an important impact on the world every single day!

- In Switzerland we use a lot of resources. If everyone in the world used as many resources as the average Swiss person, we would need three entire planets to cover everyone's needs! To solve this problem, we must reduce, repair, reuse and recycle [SDG 12].
- > You could, for example, reduce the amount of electricity you use by turning off any lights you no longer need [SGD 7].
- > You could also choose an environmentally friendly means of transportation, such as walking, cycling or using public transportation [SDG 3 and 11].
- ▶ Whether you're an adult or not, help others by getting involved. You could, for example, volunteer in a local organisation to help newly arrived immigrants learn the local language and integrate [SDG 4 and 16].

Whether it's here or elsewhere, at home, in your school or in your city. there are thousands of simple ways in which you can do your part in helping to create a better world. So get involved!





So that all human beings may live in peace. prosperity and respect for our planet.











All the stakeholders (governments, the private sector, civil society, individuals) must work together to put the other 16 SDGs into action.

A CLOSER LOOK AT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

End poverty in all its forms all over the world.





Fight all forms of violence, corruption, crime and trafficking. Ensure equal access to effective and accountable institutions (judiciary, police, etc.) for all and enable everyone to live in a peaceful and equal society in which their human rights are respected.



Protect, restore and promote ecosystems and their biological diversity while at the same time ensuring that natural resources (wood, minerals, etc.) are used sustainably.



Protect the oceans and seas, particularly their biological diversity (fish, algae, corals, etc.), and use their resources sustainably, for example by regulating fishery.



Take urgent action to fight climate change and its consequences, for example by limiting greenhouse gas emissions.



Produce goods within the limits of the available resources and use them responsibly (reduce, reuse and recycle).



Ensure that living spaces are clean, safe and non-discriminatory, that they are adaptable to change, and that they contribute to the overall well-being by encouraging interpersonal exchanges to take place.



Reduce all forms of inequality (economic, social, etc.) within any single country as well as between the different countries all over the world.





Promote creativity and technological progress in all industries and build sustainable infrastructures (transportation, power, communication, etc.) that ensure the growth and well-being of all.

Ensure that everyone has access to sufficient and healthy food while supporting sustainable agricultural systems that protect the environment as well as small-scale food producers.



Enable all of us to live a healthy life and promote well-being for all.



Enable everyone to access free, high-quality primary and secondary education and increase the available learning opportunities at all ages.



Achieve gender equality by combating discrimination and violence against girls and women and support their active and independent participation in society.



Improve waste water collection and treatment, increase water-use efficiency, protect water resources and ensure access to clean drinking water for all.



Ensure access to energy resources (electricity, heating, etc.) that are reliable, inexpensive and fully drawn from renewable sources (solar, wind, hydro, etc.).



Maintain economic development by promoting modernisation in all sectors and ensure decent jobs for all.

