

TABLE 5

REPORTING ON SDGs: DESCRIPTION OF MAIN FORWARD-LOOKING MEASURES AND THEIR ESTIMATED IMPACT

SDG	List of main contributing measures	Estimated impact of the measures (qualitative and/or quantitative)
1.No poverty	1. Introduction of National Minimum Wage.	<p>As of January 1st 2023, statutory minimum wage has been in effect in Cyprus. It has been set at €885 upon recruitment and it rises to €940 after 6 months of continuous employment at the same employer. However, some parameters still need to be regulated for a smoother and more distinct system. It is expected that the minimum wage introduction will have overall positive effects from a socioeconomic perspective.</p> <p>According to the 2021 Cystat median and average, the starting salary of €885 corresponds to 55% and 43% and €940 to 58% and 45% of median and mean respectively.</p>
	2. Pension System Reform.	<p>Social dialogue on the reform of the pensions system started in July 2021 in the Labour Advisory Body. The government's aim is to modernize the pension system in order to tackle existing</p>

		<p>problems and provide adequate income replacement for all. In Oct.2022 the Government signed an agreement for technical cooperation with ILO on the pension Reform. The first deliverable - a policy direction report was submitted in January 2023.</p>
	<p>3. Guaranteed Minimum income (basic needs, housing and allowance for disability).</p>	<p>Ongoing action</p> <p>GMI: For 2022 approximately €108,217 mln were provided for 21,846 beneficiaries.</p> <p>GMI-Housing: For 2022 approximately €10,618mln were provided for 3,603 beneficiaries.</p> <p>GMI-disability: For 2022 approximately €44,994 mln were provided for 10,539 beneficiaries.</p>
	<p>4. New Scheme supporting pensioners with low income</p>	<p>Ongoing action</p> <p>The New Scheme was established by a Ministerial decision No.94.078, dated 30.11.2022.</p> <p>The aim is to provide cash benefit addressed to pensioners' households whose total annual income is below the poverty threshold.</p> <p>Households with at least one person who</p>

		<p>receives: Pension from the Social Insurance Fund (Statutory, Incapacity, Widow etc.), Social Pension, or Pension from any occupational pension scheme applicable in Cyprus.</p> <p>The entitlement to receive support is decided on a household basis. Only a generic scheme is applicable.</p> <p>The minimum resource is decided based on the annual poverty threshold as estimated in the EU SILC (European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions) survey conducted by Eurostat.</p> <p>For 2022 approximately €90.785 mln where provided for 36.305 beneficiaries.</p>
2.Zero hunger	1. Cyprus Common Agricultural Policy Strategic Plan for the period 2023–2027 is currently under preparation. The provisions under the new CAP require an enhanced Green Architecture and the consideration of Farm to Fork Strategy of the EU.	Contribution towards sustainable food production, sustainable farm management and environmentally and climate-friendly practices and methods.
	2. Agri-environmental measures and eco-schemes will be introduced in order to significantly reduce Cyprus' underperformance in sustainable agriculture (e.g. promoting practices that reduce the need for pesticides, increased budget for organic farming, together with significant higher target for land under organic, measures that include the substitution of	

	chemical fertilisers).	
	3. National plan to introduce healthy eating courses for school-aged children.	Encourage healthy eating habits.
3.Good health and well-being	1. Treatment interventions for substance use disorders.	100% coverage of the interventions that include pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services.
	2. Operation of a National Air Quality Monitoring Network which consists of nine monitoring stations fully equipped with automatic real time instruments measuring the pollutants covered by the relevant EU Air Quality Directive.	Warning the public and especially the vulnerable groups (children, the elderly and patients) and the workers working in open spaces in case of high pollutants concentration in the atmosphere.
	3. National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS and the management and control of TB are in place.	Monitoring and control of the diseases
4.Quality education	1. Re-operation of the STEM education programme in nine All-Day Optional schools (Primary Education).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Digital skills development. •Scientific literacy development. •Increase the participation of girls in STEM Education.
	2. Training programmes for young people aged 15-29 not in education, employment, or training (NEETs) to acquire basic knowledge and skills.	2021-2027: 2.800 beneficiaries, budget €5,0mln.
	3. Literacy Program (running in all Gymnasiums). (Secondary Education).	Support on functional literacy, while also preventing school and social exclusion.
	4.The provision of second chance education and lifelong learning is taking place with the functionality of five Evening Schools, which are addressed to adolescent students (Secondary Education).	The Evening Schools include literacy programs, which support adolescent students develop a basic body of knowledge in the subjects of Greek Language, Mathematics and English.

	5. Training programmes in digital skills for people over the age of 55.	Training of at least 2.550 people by the end of 2025.
	6. A very innovative project the project “PEDIA-Creating almost Zero Energy Schools” aims to improve the quality of life of students and teachers in schools by transforming school buildings to almost zero energy schools. The Ministry of Education (Unit of EESD and Technical Services) in collaboration with the Cyprus Energy Agency, captures, within this project, the Sustainability in schools holistically. It’s the first time that is pursued the school buildings to become an integral part of the learning process. The creation of green roofs, the installation of passive cooling and heating systems as well as the use of automation and smart technologies, apart from improving the quality of life in the school, will contribute qualitatively to the upgrading of the learning process.	Fifty-five schools from all educational levels will become sustainable and almost zero energy school. 20 million invested by the Horizon 2020 and the resilient and recovery fund of the EU. The impact is that the school building itself will be a source of learning and a dynamic field for providing first hand experiences for SDGs to the students and the teachers. Additionally, improving the quality of school buildings we aim to create more healthy, environmental and climate resilient schools.
	7. The Ministry of Education, Sport and has revised the National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development under the title “Education for Sustainable Development and green transition 2030”. The revised National Strategy is fully aligned with the global agenda 2030 as well as with the other international and regional policies in the field (EU Green Deal, new implementation framework of the UNECE Strategy 2021-2030, EU learning for environmental sustainability, UNESCO ESD2030), and seeks to implement, in an integrated, systemic, concrete and long-term horizontal measures, the 2030 Agenda in formal, non-formal and in-formal education.	The impact of the Strategy is multilayer: To strengthen the structures for supporting, implementing, monitoring and updating the Strategy. To infuse SDGs in curricula of all education levels in an interdisciplinary way. To establish a holistic school approach at all levels of education through the promotion of pedagogical methods, educational tools, [changes in the building infrastructure and equipment of schools (green technologies), which will contribute to their sustainable transformation. To review the professional development programmes for teachers, managers and

		<p>educational staff and to strengthen their content knowledge, teaching and methodology of of SDGs.</p> <p>To further strengthen non-formal learning and to extend the programs of the Governmental Network of Environmental Education Centers to the civil society.</p> <p>To empower the position of Cyprus in international and regional organizations that working in in the fields of Education for Sustainable Development, strengthen its participation in international networks, transfer expertise and promote its policies at the level of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, and use national and European financial instruments for the implementation of its policies on SDGs.</p>
5.Gender equality	1. STEAM and STEM education projects and also training at the school level and centrally promote the participation of girls in technology related activities.	Increase in the number of girls engaging into technology related activities.
	2. Operation of The Women’s House, an interdisciplinary centre, where professionals from various disciplines and state officials including Clinical Psychologists, Social Workers, and specially trained Police Officers work together.	In the context of the implementation of the obligations arising from the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, the Council of Ministers by its Decision, No. 88.585 and dated 27/11/2019, approved the implementation of a relevant proposal for the operation of the Women's House

		<p>which has begun its operation since 01/12/2020 under the supervision of the Social Welfare Services. The Women's House operates as a multidisciplinary center, friendly to victims of violence, where professionals from various specialties and State Officials, such as Social Workers, specially trained members of the Police, and others, work under the same roof / structure in order to provide protection and specialized support to victims of violence. Specifically, the Women's House provides the following services to women as well as to their dependent children, victims of violence, including women immigrants or refugees regardless of their migrant or refugee status. The management of the Women's House was assigned with a state subsidy by the State Aid Plan of the Deputy Ministry of Social Welfare to the Association for the Prevention and Confrontation of Violence in the Family.</p>
	<p>3. Re-organisation of the work of the inspectorate mechanism, so that inspections on the implementation of the Equal Pay Legislation are more targeted and clearly linked to sectoral and occupational segregation, including review of the investigation procedures and of compliance means.</p>	<p>-Better performance of the inspection mechanism -Unjustified pay differences will be more easily identified and will reveal the extend and true nature of differences in pay in</p>

		different sectors and occupations -Investigation results will be more easily translated to the corrective actions needed.
	4. The Interdepartmental Committees for Gender Equality of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth has revised the Strategic Plan for Gender Equality (2023-2026). The revised Strategic Plan includes goals, activities and actions that emphasize the inclusion of gender equality in a) educational issues, b) teachers' professional learning and in-service training of Ministry officials and c) the empowerment of the role of families in promoting gender equality	The impact of the strategy to create culture of gender equality and provide equal opportunities in learning.
6.Clean water and sanitation	1. Water Resource Management Reform under RRP.	
	2. Creation of District Organizations for Local Administration under New legal framework for Local Authorities Reform.	Ensure the cooperation and joint effort of all stakeholders in the water sector (Government, Water Supply and Sewerage Boards, Local Authorities).
	3. Approval of the 10-year National Investment Plan in the Water sector of Cyprus.	Economies of scale will be achieved which will lead to the improvement and development of water infrastructures.
7.Affordable and clean energy	1. Installation of thermal insulation on roofs of existing houses and/or installation of photovoltaic system (PV) with the net metering method, of solar water production systems of water use in houses, expansion of PV and the optional installation of smart meters in homes for the plugging-in and charging of electric or hybrid vehicles.	Reduce energy consumption, increase energy efficiency and RES production and promote electromobility.
	2. Reduced prices on electricity tariffs, financial incentives for upgrading the energy efficiency of their houses and/or installation of PV with the net metering method.	Protection of vulnerable consumers. The Government of Cyprus adopted various temporary support measures to cushion the impact of energy price

		<p>inflation on households and businesses, as follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced a 10% discount on the electricity bill of all consumer tariffs from November 2021 to February 2022, providing from the Electricity Authority of Cyprus. • Reduced the VAT rates on electricity consumption for households customers, from 19% to 9% (with a higher reduction for vulnerable households customers to 5%), and • Provides subsidy for the increasing cost of electricity consumption (June 2022- Sept. 2022), based on tiered support in order to encourage energy saving at the same time and is applied for invoices of the period Sept 2022-June 2023. For the implementation of this measure, the Government is providing payments to the Electricity Authority of Cyprus.
	3. Electricity interconnection between Cyprus, Crete, and Israel (Euroasia Interconnector).	Energy security, Transition to green economy, increase of RES penetration.
	4. New legislation was put into force to enable the use of LPG as a fuel for cars (Autogas). This legislation is supplemented with legislation for the safety considerations and aspects of LPG fueling stations as well as the premises where LPG fueled cars are inspected, serviced, converted, etc.	<p>Creation of a new economic sector. e.g. technicians, inspectors, etc. who deal with Autogas.</p> <p>Possible reduction of hazardous for the environment emissions due to the</p>

		conversion of cars by using LPG instead of conventional fuels.
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth	1. New ambitious Long-Term Economic Strategy (LTES) has been recently finalised, aiming for a new growth model.	Transform Cyprus into a productive, green, and digitalized economy, resilient to external shocks, and at the same time encompassing a fair and inclusive society.
	2. The operation of four mobile units of Public Employment Service (PES) for NEETs (announced 7/2022).	The development and operation of mobile units of PES will promote outreach activities for NEETs in all districts of Cyprus with the purpose to minimize the risks of social exclusion and increasing the opportunities for their integration in the labour market.
	3. Adoption of legislation regulating telework.	Telework as a flexible working arrangement will be regulated. Legally binding rights for employees will lead to increased use of telework which will lead to increased participation and flexibility in the labour market. The government plans to submit before the House of Representatives a bill regulating telework by the end of June 2023.
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	1. Adoption of a National Digital Strategy developed through four portfolios, each one addressing the challenges, gaps, and impediments of the sector, namely, the Digital Government, Digital Infrastructure, Digital Economy, and Digital Society Portfolio.	Cyprus aims to become a fit-for-the-future society and knowledge-based economy enabled by digital and emerging technologies that will drive economic prosperity and competitiveness and

		position the country as a resilient player in the European digital economy and a regional science and high-tech hub. The Digital Strategy 2020-2025 is currently under implementation.
	2. Development and adoption of the national R&I. Strategy 2030.	Support the R&I ecosystem, enhance links between policymaking and implementation, , facilitate the commercialization of research results and address societal challenges, with emphasis to the green and digital transitions.
	3. New Industrial Strategy.	Enhance the Cyprus circular economy model.
10. Reduced Inequalities	1. Set up of an inspection mechanism – Equality Law.	Safeguard the enforcement of the Equality Law. Inspections also investigate issues relating to undeclared and illegal work.
	2. Vocational orientation and training to third country nationals.	Facilitate integration of third country nationals in the labour market.
	3. Integration measures targeting the education sector. The Greek language courses for adults and minors as well as mediation services in schools.	Improve language skills and promote inclusion in society.
	4.The Interdepartmental Committees for the Integration of Students with Migrant Background of the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth has submitted the new Action Plan 2023-2025 for the integration of students with migrant background. The new action plan includes actions and activities covering the five pillars in focus (mapping migrant student population, reception of new arrivals, teaching Greek as a second language, teachers’ professional learning and	The impact of the strategy is to create opportunities and conditions for smooth integration and educational inclusion for student with migrant background.

	intercultural dimension in curricula and school life) Special emphasis is given to language learning both through teaching Greek as a second language as well as through content-based in other subjects (e.g.CLIL).	
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities	1. Enhancement of sustainable modes of transport (public transport, cycling, pedestrians, disable people).	Accessibility and attractiveness of the favorable sustainable modes of transport and reduction of the greenhouse gas emission footmark of the transport sector.
	2. Smart city strategy coordinated by the newly established Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy includes strategic sustainable urban planning and ‘Smart Cyprus’ actions. At the present time, the three priorities, as indicated by the main municipalities of Cyprus are smart parking, smart lighting and smart waste collection management solutions.	Improve quality of life for citizens and special groups of people and encourage modal shift.
	3. Three local government reform bills approved in March 2022 aim at creating more efficient local authorities. Changes include reducing the number of municipalities from 30 to 20 and the clustering of local councils. The new administrative system is due to take effect in 2024.	The new laws guarantee the administrative and financial autonomy of municipalities to make them economically viable; empower local councils to pool resources for communal services such as garbage collection, public transport and street cleaning; and allow for the creation of district clusters to run services including water supply and waste management.
12. Responsible Consumption and Production	1. Municipal Waste Management Plan 2022-2028. According to the above Plan, a Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) scheme must be in place by end of June 2024 in all local	Increase in the separate collection of municipal waste and of preparation for reuse and recycling to 55% by 2025, 60%

	<p>authorities aiming in the separate collection of municipal waste. To this end, by the end of December 2023 the local authorities must develop Local Action Plans for the prevention and management of municipal waste.</p>	<p>by 2030 and 65% by 2035, reduction in waste generation as well as reduction in the landfill of waste.</p> <p>The implementation of the PAYT scheme will enhance the separate collection of municipal waste, the increase for reuse and recycling, the reduction in waste generation and the reduction in the landfill of waste.</p>
	<p>2. Waste Prevention Programme 2023-2029.</p>	
	<p>3. Action Plan for the Circular Economy 2021-2027 Separate collection of municipal waste.</p>	
<p>13. Climate Action</p>		
<p>13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning</p>	<p>1. Climate Change is integrating within Environment and Sustainable Development curricula and the inclusion in schools' sustainable environmental policy mitigation and adaption measures such as greening the school environment, green technologies, waste management.</p>	<p>The creation of a sustainable school which will provide a healthy, environmental and resilient school environment for all.</p>
	<p>2. Long Term Strategy for Climate Change- The national long-term strategy for low carbon development has been approved by the Council of Ministers in September 2022</p>	<p>Implementing the strategy is expected to boost investment, net exports and have a positive impact on positive finances in the long-run.</p>
	<p>3. Introduction of natural gas via LNG import infrastructure and possibly domestic resources as well as the EuroAsia Interconnector project for the electricity interconnection between Cyprus, Israel and Crete.</p>	<p>Increase of renewable energy penetration, improvement of conditions for demand response via network modernisation and regulatory changes and full implementation of a competitive electricity market and achievement of energy security.</p>
	<p>4. Publication of the Scientific Progress Report for Climate Change Education and Outreach in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East Countries (Ministry of Education –Unit of</p>	<p>The report provides a holistic view of Climate Change Education integration in diverse education systems and in all levels</p>

	Education for Environment and Sustainable Development)	and forms of education. It helps countries to learn from each other and take remedial measures for improving the performance of Climate Change Education in teaching and learning in formal, non-formal and in-formal education (pre-primary till lifelong) and in research.
14. Life Below Water	1. Cyprus has designated marine areas under various protection regimes. These include six Natura 2000 areas, one Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI), four Marine Protected Areas with fisheries restrictions, six Marine Protected Areas, six areas with Artificial Reefs that are strictly fisheries no-take zones, one offshore Fisheries Restriction Area, and one additional offshore area which was proposed as a Natura 2000 area.	Sustainable Management and Protection of Marine and Coastal Ecosystems.
	2. Actions that deal with the increase of scientific knowledge, enhancement of the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, such as surveys on sensitive benthic habitats (e.g. deep sea) and species (e.g. cetaceans).	Identification of new sensitive habitats to be protected and increase of knowledge on sensitive species.
	3. Revision of the national management plan, in regard to harvesting and overfishing, illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices.	Monitoring of Harvesting, Overfishing, Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing.
15. Life On Land	1. EU Biodiversity Strategy.	Good Conservation Status of habitats and Species.
	2. National Biodiversity Strategy.	
	3. Implementation of Habitats and Birds Directives.	
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	1. Action Plan for Gender Mainstreaming in Foreign Policy has been drawn up.	Promote the rights of women and girls everywhere.
	2. The newly established Independent Authority against	To undertake all necessary initiatives

	Corruption is considered the dedicated entity for promoting integrity and preventing and combatting corruption.	and actions to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of the actions of the public service, the broader public sector and the private sector in the prevention and fight against corruption, as well as to ensure, in the best and most efficient way, the implementation, progress, monitoring and evaluation of the National Strategy against Corruption.
	3. The law on Prevention and Combating of Trafficking and Exploitation of Persons and the Protection of Victims.	Protection and promotion of the rights of the victims, including support and protection of child victims of trafficking.
17. Partnerships for the Goals	1. Participation in various European Projects for capacity building activities is providing expertise on how to integrate SDGs in Higher Education curricula in South Africa, Asia and Middle East countries (Unit of Education for Environment and Sustainable Development).	Awareness and information regarding SDGs implementation in various regions. Exchange of experiences, ideas and good practices. Visibility of the Cyprus policies on ESD and contribution on the formation of policies of other countries. Common language of communication, share vision and joint work for common tasks.
	2. Cyprus has doubled its funding for post-graduate scholarships for academically eligible students from developing and other third countries.	From €150,000 in 2022 to €300,000 in 2023.
	3. Cyprus provides development assistance to third countries, including, over the recent past, Jordan, Palestinian Authority, Kenya and Zimbabwe through bilateral programmes.	Impact on gender equality, health and children welfare (current budget approx. €1,000,000).
	4. Cyprus has a leading role in developing partnerships between countries for integrating the SDGs. More particularly Cyprus is chairing the UNECE ESD Steering Committee, which includes 56 Member States and the ESD Mediterranean Committee, which	Impact on regional collaboration and partnerships for SDGs in regional level. Development of bilateral and multilateral

	<p>includes 22 Member States. Through the two regional strategies that has been approved at the highest level at the 9th Ministerial Meeting for Environment or Europe, that organized by the Republic of Cyprus and the UNECE the countries in the two regions under the Cyprus leadership and Chairing in the two Committees committed that they will work together for integrating in a most effective way the SDGs in the two regions by implementing: a) The UNECE Countries the new implementation framework for the UNECE ESD Strategy 2021-2030 and b) the Mediterranean Countries the revised ESD Mediterranean Action Plan 2030.</p>	<p>networks on issues of common interest. Joint vision, exchange of expertise, framing policies on ESD and SDGs through common understanding and consensus.</p>
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