

News Release: Social Progress Imperative and Global Citizen

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WORLD SCORES C+ & HAS “A LONG WAY TO GO” TO MEET THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS - PEOPLE’S REPORT CARDS

(00:01, Sept 19th 2016, US Eastern) The People’s Report Cards—a major new initiative designed to help citizens hold their governments to account over progress towards the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—are published today. Issued a year after the UN launched the SDGs, the People’s Report Cards cover a total of 222 countries, providing individual grades for each country’s progress towards the SDG targets for 2030.

People’s Report Card - 2016

The People’s Report Card is designed to give you a sense of how your country, and all countries, are going at achieving the Global Goals for Sustainable Development. It’s based on three big questions - Do you feel safe? Do you feel healthy? Do you feel free?

Country: The World

Overall Grade: C+

TARGET: EVERY COUNTRY TO ACHIEVE THE GLOBAL GOALS AND SCORE AN A BY 2030.

Basic Needs:	Wellbeing:	Opportunity:
Nutrition and Basic: B-	Access to Basic Knowledge: B+	Personal Rights: C-
Medical Care: C-	Access to Information and Communications: B-	Personal Freedom and Choice: C+
Water and Sanitation: C-	Health and Wellness: C+	Tolerance and Inclusion: D
Shelter: C-	Environmental Quality: D+	Access to Advanced Education: B-
Personal Safety: C+		





Powered by the Social Progress Index. To see more report cards and methodology: www.globalcitizen.org/peoplesreportcard

Powered by the Social Progress Index and hosted by international advocacy organisation Global Citizen, the People’s Report Cards provide a snapshot about how individual nations are performing. They produce an aggregate (population-weighted) score for the entire world. To meet the UN’s ambitious goals, the world needs to score an A grade by 2030 but is currently only scoring only a C+.

The People’s Report Cards use data from the 2016 Social Progress Index, which captures a diverse cross-section of social progress measures that overlap with the SDGs.

How do nations perform?

A total of ten nations score A grades including Sweden, Finland and Austria. From the G7 nations, however, it's only Canada and the UK which achieve the top grade. France, Germany, the US and Japan score A- with Italy managing only a B+. **“It’s clear that even among rich countries there is still room for improvement. In fact while Canada and the UK each earn an A grade, when you look under the hood of our data there is still some room for improvement. No nation can be complacent about meeting the SDGs,”** said Michael Green, Executive Director of the Social Progress Imperative.

People’s Report Card - 2016

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Country: India

Overall Grade: D+

TARGET: EVERY COUNTRY TO ACHIEVE THE GLOBAL GOALS AND SCORE AN A BY 2030.

Basic Needs: D+	Wellbeing: C	Opportunity: D+
Nutrition and Basic Medical Care: C-	Access to Basic Knowledge: B	Personal Rights: C-
Water and Sanitation: D-	Access to Information and Communications: B-	Personal Freedom and Choice: C-
Shelter: D-	Health and Wellness: D+	Tolerance and Inclusion: B
Personal Safety: C	Environmental Quality: D-	Access to Advanced Education: C

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Citizens in the BRICS countries—expected to be the engines of global growth in coming decades—can use the People’s Report Cards to hold their leaders to account to ensure these nations are also engines of social progress. All five BRICS need to make significant improvements to meet the UN’s 2030 target. Brazil scores highest with a B-, followed by China, South Africa and Russia (C+) and India with a D+.

The world’s poorest performers—with the furthest journeys to go in order to meet the Global Goals—are identified as Afghanistan, Angola, the Central African Republic, Chad and Yemen, all of which score a D-. **“The People’s Report Cards don’t just enable citizens to hold their national governments accountable for promises made to advance wellbeing in their own country. Our hope is that people will use them to lobby policy-makers across the world so that no nation is left behind, particularly those currently registering low grades,”** added Michael Green.

Global Citizen is hosting the People’s Report Cards at GlobalCitizen.org/PeoplesReportCard. Amy Agnew, Global Citizen’s Europe Director said, **“12 months ago, the world came together and agreed on an ambitious blue-print to build a sustainable future. Global Citizen is so proud to host the People’s Report Cards; not only are we helping to inform Global Citizens about how the world is progressing**

in hitting this target, but we are also able to signpost people to specific campaign actions on the issues that they care about most to help drive forward this agenda.”

How have the grades on the People’s Report Cards been calculated?

- The targets required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are translated into a Social Progress Index score. Country performance on the Social Progress Index is then benchmarked against these targets.
- Achieving the SDG targets is given an A grade. Country scores are then calibrated against the A grade.
- This enables us—in a relatively simple way—to assess how countries are currently doing and how far off they are to meeting the Global Goals.
- We’ve created both an overall grade for each country as well as a detailed report card on how countries are doing on specific issues, such as water and sanitation, access to basic knowledge etc.

“A year ago, the leaders of the world made a promise to the seven and a half billion people on this planet that their lives—our lives—will get a lot better over the next 15 years. And so the Sustainable Development Goals were born. It is our job, as global citizens, to hold our leaders to that promise. That is why today we are empowering people by launching the People’s Report Cards—a simple and easy way for every citizen in every country to see how their country is performing against the Global Goals” said Michael Green in a presentation at the Social Good Summit today. **“What’s more, by combining all the results of this year’s People’s Report Cards we can see how the world is performing overall. To meet the Global Goals the world needs to score an A grade, we have a long way to go, registering a distinctly average C+.”**

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Notes to editors:

About Global Citizen:

Global Citizen is a social action platform for the global generation who are passionate about learning and taking action on the world’s biggest issues. Global Citizen works in partnership with and supports some of the most effective organizations working to achieve the Global Goals and end extreme poverty. Committed to providing the most interesting stories, effective actions and powerful campaigns, Global Citizen aims to reach and recruit the largest possible number of people who care about global issues.

The People’s Report Cards

They can be found here: <http://www.globalcitizen.org/peoplesreportcard>

About the Social Progress Imperative

The Social Progress Imperative’s mission is to improve the lives of people around the world, particularly the least well off, by advancing global social progress by: providing a robust, holistic and innovative measurement tool—the Social Progress Index (SPI); fostering research and knowledge-sharing on social progress; and equipping leaders and change-makers in business, government and civil society with new tools to guide policies and programs. The SPI is being used extensively by Governments and businesses around the world to measure the social progress of states, cities and communities. The European Commission released an [SPI for Europe](#) in February 2015. Learn more at <http://socialprogressimperative.org>.

Financial Support

The Social Progress Imperative is registered as a nonprofit organization in the US, and is grateful to our partners—Deloitte Touche

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What is social progress?

Social progress is defined as the capacity of a society to meet the basic human needs of its citizens, establish the building blocks that allow citizens to improve their lives, and create the conditions for individuals and communities to meet their full potential.

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